

# Today At Your Fellowship Monday August 2, 2021

"Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance."



# This Week @ AUUF

Monday 8/2/21

Tuesday 8/3/21 4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting

Wednesday 8/4/21
7-9 pm OWL 201 Parent Meeting
7-8:30 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Saturday 8/7/21

**Sunday 8/8/21** 

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:30 am Live Worship at AUUF & on Zoom

Thursday 8/5/21

Friday 8/6/21 Freethinkers 12 pm At AUUF & on Zoom 10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

12:30- 2 pm The Alliance

2:30-4 pm Worship Associate Meeting

Zoom links for public meetings are always available on the calendar on the <u>AUUF homepage</u>.

# **August Worship Opportunities:**

As we come to the end of our summer services we'll continue to offer a variety of topics, both in-person (with masks) and virtually with Fairbanks Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Worship services will continue to meet at 10:30 am through Labor Day weekend.

# **Freethinkers**

12 pm Friday, August 6
AUUF Social Room and Zoom

# Wear Masks, Think About Ethics by Marie Lundstrom

All these changes just don't quit! Because Covid cases have spiked, we decided Friday to wear masks when meeting in person from now on until we choose not to. We will keep the option of attendance via Zoom, as some prefer that to maskwearing. This pandemic ain't over 'til it's over. When will that ever be? To join via Zoom, go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar for the Freethinkers link.

In Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, Isabel Wilkerson made us aware that caste is not the same as racism; the hierarchy we live in is deeply entrenched in our customs, laws, beliefs, and habits; and we have to decide what we can do to break rigid caste boundaries to free up talent, capability, and growth to make our society richer, fairer, and more honest. A tall order.

Though we are leaving Wilkerson and *Caste*, we aren't going far away as we head into ethical issues with Juan Enriquez's *Right/Wrong: How Technology Transforms Our Ethics* for next Friday, August 6. Read the Intro and Part 1, about 55 pages in hard copy. That's an easy beginning. When more people have books, we may go faster. Ethical decisions turn up every day, just as caste expectations are all around us. We can't get far from our moral heart, can we?



**Click here for past Forum podcasts** 

**Chalice Lighter Grants Assist AUUF's Building** 

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Read the current call letter here.



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AFACT is the focus of the half portion during the month of August! AFACT stands for Anchorage Faith & Action Congregations Together. Their mission is to work from the faith principles of their members, apply those values to community issues, and take democratic action to impact existing social structures for the common good of all citizens, particularly the poor and disenfranchised.

Their primary emphases are:

- train members of participating congregations in leadership through workshops, organizational meetings, one-to-one meetings, and Statewide Leadership Training;
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- ensure that low- and moderate-income persons are included in decision making in the Municipality of Anchorage, especially when these decisions affect their lives or the lives of their families;
- strive for the common good of all the citizens by choosing issues that affect the common good of the members of participating congregations, always aware of the demands of justice, fairness, inclusiveness, and other principles of faith and democracy.

In recent years, AFACT has been involved with issues surrounding healthcare, homelessness, climate change, public safety, and racial justice. Considering AFACT is the face of so many churches, neighborhoods, and cross-sections of our community, the grassroots work that spreads into the Anchorage bowl is real. I recently canvassed with other AFACT committee members in two East Anchorage neighborhoods to get a pulse on how residents perceive their utility costs in conjunction with how future weatherization efforts to their homes could better sustain the environment whilst bringing down utility costs for a win-win. It is evident that this work is essential if groups want to make a quality difference and AFACT is doing this work.

In addition, the organization is creating leaders because of this process. It is a worthwhile focus for the August half potion!

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Gina Molletti Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 admin@anchorageuuf.org
Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, communications@anchorageuuf.org
Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com
Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, rbeachy@alaskalife.net
Office Hours -By Appointment Only

## STAY CONNECTED

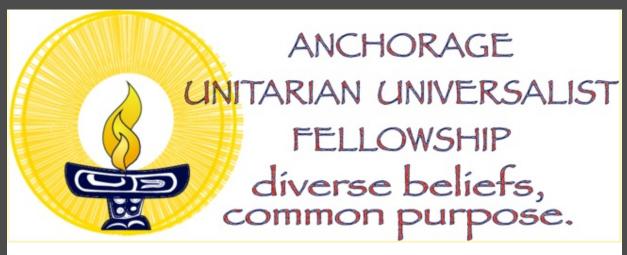




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# Today At Your Fellowship Friday August 6, 2021

# This Sunday @ AUUF

# **Sunday 8/8/21**

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:30 am Live Worship at AUUF & on Zoom

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

12:30-2 pm The Alliance

2:30-4 pm Worship Associate Meeting

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Why I Changed My Mind About the Death Penalty Death Penalty Abolitionist Abe Bonowitz

# **Virtual Forum**

9 am Sunday, August 8

Click here to join on Zoom.
Click here for Speaker's bio.





Meditations on AFACT (Anchorage Faith and Action Congregations Together) Worship leaders: Michele Champion and Cady Lynn O'Brien

# Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

10:30 am Sunday, August 8

With AFACT Community Organizer Megan Davey

Click here to join on Zoom Click here for Speaker's bio.



# **Religious Exploration Chalice Circle**

10:30-11:30 am Sunday August 8

Another fun opportunity to visit Susan and Koala's farm! Families are welcome to meet Susan Moeller at their farm - This is a family visit, not a drop-off. Parents are responsible for their kids. 1820 Logan St, (3 blocks from AUUF) at 10:30 - 11:30 on Sunday for a tour! Contact Rosene for more info.

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Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

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# August 29, 2021

History brought back to life—our Unitarian heritage in Transylvania, Romania Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

Rev. Lise got to go to Romania this summer and while there was able to visit a few historical Unitarian sites. She'll share some of our Unitarian heritage, a few photos, and reflect on the importance of remembering and realizing our past.

# AUUF is OPEN but CAUTION is advised

Wear a Mask - Save a Child

Click here for more info regarding AUUF & COVID.

# **High Speed Dishwasher Training**

11:30 am Sunday, August 8

Our new high-speed commercial dishwasher is now installed and ready to use! Come to a training on how to use it this Sunday at 11:30. If you can't make it, contact Peggy at probinson@ak.net, and I'll schedule an additional time.

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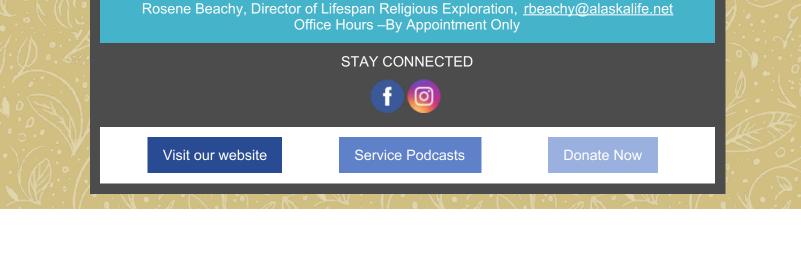
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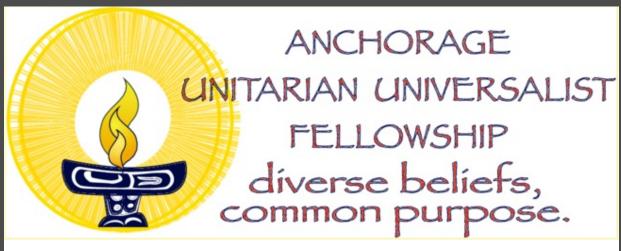
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Today At Your Fellowship

Monday

August 9, 2021

Love is the threshold of another universe.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

# This Week @ AUUF

Monday 8/9/21

Tuesday 8/10/21 2-3:30 pm Hungry Book Club 6-8 pm CYRE Meeting

Wednesday 8/11/21 6-8 pm Safer Congregation Team

**Thursday 8/12/21** 6:30 Board Executive Meeting on Zoom

Friday 8/13/21
12 pm Freethinkers Live at AUUF

**Saturday 8/14/21** 

Sunday 8/15/21

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

What to Expect from the Special Session of the Alaska Legislature Minority Leader of the Alaska Senate Senator Tom Begich

10:30 am Virtual Worship UUFF

Songs of Peace & Justice with Emma's Revolution

Lay Leader: Susan Grace

and on Zoom

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

Zoom links for public meetings are always available on the calendar on the <u>AUUF homepage</u>.

# **Freethinkers**

12 pm Friday, August 13 AUUF Social Room and Zoom

# Back to Masks, But Seeing People In Person Is Still Better

by Marie Lundstrom

I can't say I love the mask-wearing bit—I read some lips, but I depend a lot on facial expressions, which often tell as much as words, and masks make a mumble even worse. However, an in-person discussion is better than Zoom, except that I do miss some things. Much good talk Friday—is there a fundamental ethos among humans? Compassion, maybe? And certainly, the Law of Unintended Consequences is a shaker-upper when it comes to redesigning humans. Read Parts 2 and 3 of Right/Wrong this week. Join us in person, masked, or on Zoom. Go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar for the Freethinkers link.

As we talked about Right/Wrong: How Technology Transforms Our Ethics, some recommendations for reading and viewing came up: Altered Inheritance: CRISPR and the Ethics of Human Genome Editing digs deeper into the issues in Right/Wrong and Klara and The Code Breaker. An older book, from 2011, American Nations: A History of the 11 Rival Regional Cultures of North America, makes some things clear about how we differ culturally in this country and continent. "The Next 30 Digital Years" is a YouTube interview by Stewart Brand of Kevin Kelly, author of What Technology Wants, that Freethinkers read some years ago.

# A Message from Rev. Lise

# **Happy August Everyone!**

I hope you all have been finding time to relax and recuperate during these summer months. Actually, I hope you find time to rest and recuperate periodically throughout the entire year, not just during the summer months! It's funny isn't it, how we're still on that mindset where summer is the time we take off, and it is for many of us, but the different times of the year often seem to blend into each other anymore. Especially while we were in the midst of the pandemic . . . oh, did I use the past tense there? Wishful thinking, eh?

How are you all doing with the reality of the Delta surge, needing to wear masks indoors again, realizing that this summer won't be quite as we hoped? It's hard, isn't it? Disappointments are difficult, it's part of their definition after all, but I'm still feeling hopeful. Every day more folks are getting vaccinated. Those of us who are vaccinated are less likely to get desperately ill if we do get a breakthrough infection, and we can help protect the rest of our community by wearing masks around children and when inside public places. I guess it comes down to recognizing our frustrations, taking a deep breath, and then getting on with things as best we can. This seems like the most constructive thing we can do, doesn't it? So let's continue to take care of ourselves: get outside, talk with friends and family members, enjoy or start new hobbies, play music and dance, write, sing in the shower, practice gratitude. These are all things we can do to help us cope with the current state of our world, and really shouldn't we be taking care of ourselves in this manner anyway?

And now, a few announcements before I sign off:

- 1. If you want to send me a photograph of something that's important to you for the worship service on August 22, please send it via email by Thursday, August 19.
- 2. Instead of taking the first two weeks off in August for reading and prep time, I'm going to take off Fridays and Saturdays from the first weekend in August (Aug. 6-7) through Labor Day weekend. I just wanted to be around you all a little more during this challenging time so thought I'd spread my reading/prep time out a bit.
- 3. Please remember to wear a mask when you come to the fellowship so we can help protect everyone in our community.
- 4. My office hours for the rest of the summer will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am till 3 pm (usually). Give me a call or email me to make an appointment to talk or walk or something else that's engaging and fun/meaningful. I'm still looking forward to getting to know you all better!

Hang in there, friends. Have courage and be of good cheer. We've got this! And if we don't, someone else does and they can help us get there. That's the beauty of our community.

Blessings, Rev. Lise

# The Forum in August

It's full-on summer, but you can still attend the Forum from (almost) wherever you are because we are still on Zoom, with a great line-up of speakers for the month of August.

On Sunday, **August 15**, State **Senator Tom Begich**, the Minority Leader of the Alaska Senate, will give us a preview of what to expect from the Special Session of the Alaska Legislature set to begin that week. It's hard to understate the importance of the Legislature's issues in this session.

On **August 22**, we will have a return visit from one of the more popular Forum speakers in recent memory—Alaska's **Chief Medical Officer Dr. Anne Zink**. This time she will be talking with us about the "other" epidemic in Alaska, in a presentation called "Fighting the Opioid Crisis While Seeing the Person Behind the Addiction." But if the Covid epidemic is not over by then, she will also take some questions about that as time permits.

If you had to miss either of our speakers for the first two weeks of August, you can catch them on the podcasts Ken Winterberger posts (thanks, Ken). On August 1, we heard from Anchorage attorney Jim Gottstein, founder of Law Project for Psychiatric Rights, talking about "Guardianship Abuses—from Bill Bigley to Britney Spears." And on August 8 the speaker was Abraham Bonowitz, one of the leading organizers in the death penalty abolition movement in the US. Abe is coming to Alaska for the Alaskans Against the Death Penalty's August 19 "Fry Fish Not People" event. His talk to the Forum was called "Why I Changed My Mind About the Death Penalty." Both of these presentations led to some interesting Q&A discussions.

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# **Joy & Sorrows**

# From Sunday Worship August 8

# From Diane Smith:

I feel such joy & relief that my co-mom, Carol Smith, is currently cancer-free, and she looks literally "lighter" as her healing continues in L.A. I was honored to be there with her for the last couple of weeks & my wonderful daughter, Yana.

## From Lucinda Kinard:

Jobe told us of a great easy berry picking spot! and we made our goal before the rains started:)

# From Ingrid Larson:

I've just returned from the National Police & Fire Chaplains Academy, which was intense and a great joy, particularly to represent the UU beliefs in what was mostly a Christian evangelical group of 30+ chaplains, making many friends.

# From Joyce Laine:

I am grateful for AFACT. I feel sad that the enormous needs AFACT addresses exist.

### From Denise Martin:

I'm so grateful for our worship team, and all who have helped create such an inspiring and uplifting service today.

# Vacation time for communications

Hello AUUF,

Kelly Spring here, I have a backlog of vacation hours I promised I'd make an effort to use this summer. So I will be away from the PC starting Tuesday, August 10, and will return to work Wednesday, August 18th. This will be the last TAYF published until Friday August 20th.

As always you can find Zoom links to all public meetings on the AUUF website/ calendar. If you have any communications-related needs during my vacation time please contact Rev. Lise.

Thank you

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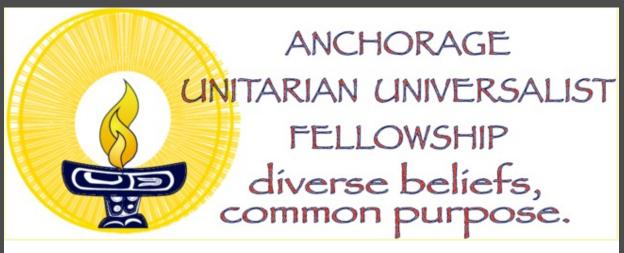




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**Saturday 8/21/21** 

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10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

1-3 pm JR High OWL Class

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Fighting the Opioid Crisis While Seeing the Person Behind the Addiction Alaska's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Anne Zink

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9 am Sunday, August 22

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# A message from Religious Exploration

School has started and the kids are thrilled. We are hoping all of you stay well!

We have talked with many of you about in-person RE classes this fall. There is a variety of thought and comfort levels. After our very successful outdoor Peace Camp week, we realize that many of our traditional indoor things are wonderful outside!

We will be continuing with some outdoor Chalice Circles through August and September until we have a clearer picture of what is happening with the progression of COVID in our community or until it gets too cold!

But in order to bring back classes, we will need RE leaders comfortable with leading classes indoors this winter. Please talk to Rosene if you are willing to be part of the Teaching Team. OWL and COA groups are meeting indoors with masks for vaccinated youth and leaders.

Some fun plans however are being hatched for September with a joyful Homecoming on September 12, beginning outdoors for all ages with our Gathering of the Waters and then the adults continuing indoors. Bring water from special places in your lives that you want to save and protect.

Stay tuned for announcements about September 18 Fall Frolic Day at the Fellowship beginning at 1 pm. Some outdoor fun craft projects, games, and a BBQ culminating with the beautiful experience of floating our lit "Moon Lanterns" on Goose Lake. Fun for all ages - you won't want to miss it. Masking will be required for all events at the Fellowship.

# Office Hours for Congregational Administrator

Hello Everyone!

As I am getting more settled into the role of Congregational Administrator, I am keeping regular office hours of Mon-Thurs, 9am - 1pm (usually). Please call before coming in to make sure I am in the office - you are certainly free to drop by, but may want to check just in case I am out that day.

Thank you all, I am happy to be part of AUUF!

Gina Molletti

# **New office hours for Communications**

Hello AUUF,

I am adjusting my off-site office hours. The best time to reach me is Monday - Friday 9-1 PM- AK time. If you need to communicate with 9-1 PM is the best time to reach me!

Thanks, communications@anchorageuuf.org

# The Annual Rummage Sale is canceled

Due to the continuing concerns of the Delta and other emerging viruses plus the mandates that are in flux daily, the Alliance has canceled the Annual Rummage Sale for this year 2021. The members give thanks to everyone who has been packaging and saving articles to be sold. We realize storage might be a problem for you. Unfortunately, we do not any storage areas at AUUF for rummage sale items.

# July Half-Portion Donation to Planned Parenthood

Thanks to your generosity, we donated \$472 to Planned Parenthood from the Offering donations we received in July. Thank you for your support of the vital services they provide to others in our community!

# A Word About COVID-19 From Your Safer Congregation Team

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The Safer Congregation Team would like to remind all AUUF membership to be aware of CDC's current COVID19 guidelines. CDC provides this guidance for fully vaccinated individuals.

- If you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did before the pandemic.
- To reduce the risk of being infected with the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.
- In general, you do not need to wear a mask in outdoor settings. In areas with high numbers of COVID-19 cases, consider wearing a mask in crowded outdoor settings and for activities with

close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated.

- You might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission:
- If you have a weakened immune system or if, because of your age or an underlying medical condition, you are at increased risk for severe disease.
- If someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.
- If you have a medical condition or are taking medications that weakens your immune system, you may not be fully protected even if you are fully vaccinated. You should continue to take all precautions recommended for unvaccinated people, including wearing a well-fitted mask, until advised otherwise by your healthcare provider.
- If you've had close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative. You should isolate for 10 days if your test result is positive.
- You will still need to follow masking and social distancing guidance at your workplace and local businesses.

Click here for the source info.

# **News of the Community**

Dear Ones.

I've recently been in touch with Ron Rozak and he asked me to convey some sad news to you.

Many of you knew that Marie was experiencing memory challenges. Unfortunately, this last winter she was also diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. To add to this misfortune, her body was unable to cope with the trauma of chemo, so with medical advice, Ron and the family have decided the best option is to move to hospice care.

The good news in all of this is that Ron and Marie are still able to have long weekends at their home in Kenai where Marie continues to enjoy the beach and outdoor life they have there, even if it is mostly in observer mode. Their son Michael is currently living with them and so they get to spend time together. Ron welcomes phone calls from their friends at AUUF and hopes some of you may be able to stop by for a planned visit (they are vaccinated). Please reach out to him at mobile 907.382.2933; he will also monitor text messages.

I know we all wish the Rozak family love and peace during this difficult time. Blessings, Rev. Lise

# Thank you AUUF & Please support your new Board Officers

As my term as your Board President concludes, I want you all to know how much your support has meant to me and to our Fellowship. Thank you everyone who has helped sustain AUUF's vitality through these COVID-times.

And now, without further ado...

The Board elected its officers for Fiscal Year 2022 Wednesday evening and they are

President: Peggy Robinson Vice President: Robin Hill Secretary: James Dryden Treasurer: Sid McCausland

Your other Board Members are Don Antrobus, Kathleen Lucich, and Kalen Saxton.

The Board also bid a sad, but grateful farewell to David O'Brien who completed his term

# **Chalice Lighter Grants Assist AUUF's Building**

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Read the current call letter here.



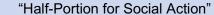
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In recent years, AFACT has been involved with issues surrounding healthcare, homelessness, climate change, public safety, and racial justice. Considering AFACT is the face of so many churches, neighborhoods, and cross-sections of our community, the grassroots work that spreads into the Anchorage bowl is real. I recently canvassed with other AFACT committee members in two East Anchorage neighborhoods to get a pulse on how residents perceive their utility costs in conjunction with how future weatherization efforts to their homes could better sustain the environment whilst bringing down utility costs for a win-win. It is evident that this work is essential if groups want to make a quality difference and AFACT is doing this work.

In addition, the organization is creating leaders because of this process. It is a worthwhile focus for the August half potion!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
at the bottom of the home page.
Enter your donation under







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Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com
Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, rbeachy@alaskalife.net
Office Hours -By Appointment Only

# STAY CONNECTED





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Today At Your Fellowship

Monday

August 23, 2021

Anyone can slay a dragon, she told me, but try waking up every morning & loving the world all over again.
That's what takes a real hero.

**Brian Andreas** 

# This Week @ AUUF

Monday 8/23/21

Tuesday 8/24/21

Wednesday 8/25/21

Thursday 8/26/21 6:30 pm Pastoral Care Team Meeting

Friday 8/27/21
12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

# Sunday 8/29/21

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

I ran a marathon in heels so you would see and hear us Trans. Athlete Justin Dickens

10:30 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF and on Zoom

History brought back to life—our Unitarian heritage in Transylvania, Romania

**Saturday 8/28/21** 

Zoom links for public meetings are always available on the calendar on the AUUF homepage.

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

**1-3 pm JR High Owl Class** AUUF Social Room

# **Freethinkers**

12 pm Friday, August 27 On Zoom

# Can We Do Better? It Depends

by Marie Lundstrom

Friday Freethinker discussions rarely have a dull moment! Juan Enriquez's dancing on ethical issues we know about but hadn't thought of quite the way he portrays them really hit nerves. Ouch! "Cheap, easy, convenient, often trumps ethical." And so it goes. We'll finish the book—read chapters 6,7, and Postscript of *Right/Wrong: How Technology Transforms Our Ethics*—for next Friday, August 27. Join us on Zoom—on the AUUF website, click on Calendar for the link. Enriquez has some conclusions, but is it likely we'll do better? Think about all that plastic you have in your body—your digestive system, your cells. Ouch, 2!

Our next book by Peter Diamandis & Steven Kotler, *The Future is Faster Than You Think: How Converging Technologies Are Transforming Business, Industries, and Our Lives* (c2020, 384pp), will squarely point up the speed of change we are living through, except what will happen in the parts of our lives that don't move that fast, where faster, better, cheaper isn't there yet and may never be? Enriquez touched on that when he brought up *Baumol's Cost Disease*—when costs rise, but productivity does not, unethical behavior is the likely result.

# **President's Message**

I am honored to be elected AUUF's Board President for this year - thank you for your confidence in me to lead you through this year.

We have challenges to work through, and I have confidence we can see our way to resolution on them. They include the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and how it affects our congregation, our operating budget that relies on reserves from prior years to pay our expenses, and the selection of a called minister or initiation of another minister selection process.

On a positive note, we participated in a successful WhaleCoast and are receiving more revenue than expected. Thank you to all the hosts and donors for making it happen! We have received a substantial amount of one-time funds from a few members' estates, and the Board is in the process of considering how to best allocate them for the benefit of the fellowship. Please share thoughts you have with the Board. The RE program offered a wonderful Peace Camp last month, and they are off to a great start with Coming of Age and OWL programs at the building. Our sanctuary remodel is complete, and Audio/Visual upgrades are almost finished. It is wonderful to attend services again in person (albeit with masks and physical distance). Zoom has been a great alternative when we couldn't meet physically, but for many of us, it doesn't satisfy our longing for community. Come join us on Sunday mornings as you feel comfortable. There is plenty of room to spread out.

I look forward to working with you all during this year! Please feel free to contact me, either by phone or email.

In Fellowship,



# **Joy & Sorrows**

# From Sunday Worship August 22

From Diane Smith:

My daughter, Yana, took the MCAT yesterday - what a joy, and what a nervous mom I am right now!

From Michele Champion: Grateful for a meaningful service this morning. Andrew, thank you for sharing your beautiful voice with us.

From Mel Sikes: I was saddened to learn this morning of the death of local writer and teacher Frank Soos. He was a soft-spoken but powerful person.

From Ingrid Larson-Alexander: Sad to hear Marcia is leaving us, as her music has been so beautiful over the years. Best of luck on your new journey

From Julie L. Becker:

I am thankful for Dr. Zink (and all of the other health care providers) and the Forum for bringing her to us this morning.

From Diane Smith: I'm grieving the loss of my former law school classmate, John Thorsness, who held political views which were the polar opposite from mine, and who was one of the very kindest people ... The U of O Class of 1982 is missing this man.

# A message from Religious Exploration

School has started and the kids are thrilled. We are hoping all of you stay well!

We have talked with many of you about in-person RE classes this fall. There is a variety of thought and comfort levels. After our very successful outdoor Peace Camp week, we realize that many of our traditional indoor things are wonderful outside!

We will be continuing with some outdoor Chalice Circles through August and September until we have a clearer picture of what is happening with the progression of COVID in our community or until it gets too cold!

But in order to bring back classes, we will need RE leaders comfortable with leading classes indoors this winter. Please talk to Rosene if you are willing to be part of the Teaching Team. OWL and COA groups are meeting indoors with masks for vaccinated youth and leaders.

Some fun plans however are being hatched for September with a joyful Homecoming on September 12, beginning outdoors for all ages with our Gathering of the Waters and then the adults continuing indoors. Bring water from special places in your lives that you want to save and protect.

Stay tuned for announcements about September 18 Fall Frolic Day at the Fellowship beginning at 1 pm. Some outdoor fun craft projects, games, and a BBQ culminating with the beautiful experience of floating our lit "Moon Lanterns" on Goose Lake. Fun for all ages - you won't want to miss it. Masking will be required for all events at the Fellowship.

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I know we all wish the Rozak family love and peace during this difficult time. Blessings, Rev. Lise



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Click on the Half-Portion note
at the bottom of the home page.
Enter your donation under
"Half-Portion for Social Action"

# **New office hours for Staff**

Congregational Administrator, Gina Molletti Mon-Thurs, 9 am - 1 pm Please call before coming in to make sure I am in the office. admin@anchorageuuf.org

Communications, Kelly Spring Monday Friday 9-1 PM- AK communications@anchorageuuf.org





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# ANCHORAGE INITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP diverse beliefs, common purpose.

# Today At Your Fellowship Friday August 26, 2021

# This Sunday @ AUUF

Sunday 8/29/21

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:30 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF and on Zoom

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

1-3 pm JR High Owl Class AUUF Social Room Zoom links for public meetings are always available on the calendar on the AUUF homepage.





I Ran a Marathon in Heels So You Would See and Hear Us Trans. Athlete Justin Dickens

**Virtual Forum** 

# 9 am Sunday, August 29

<u>Click here to join on Zoom.</u> Click here for Speaker's bio.





History brought back to life—our Unitarian heritage in Transylvania, Romania With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry

# Sunday Worship Live at AUUF & on Zoom

10:30 am Sunday, August 29

Click here to join on Zoom.

# **Summer Outdoor Chalice Circles**

A Message from Rosene & Religious Exploration

August 29 - The ultimate building challenge! Use some simple, specific supplies to build tall structures.

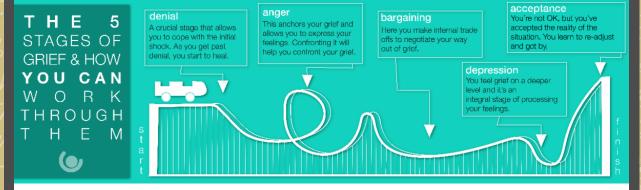
September 5 - No RE group

## Volunteers Needed:

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Please call Rosene to volunteer for RE coverage or being a Coming of Age mentor.

Registration for Elementary Our Whole Lives for 6th & 7th graders is happening now for a class beginning in September. If we don't get enough participants from this age group who missed OWL last year, we will open to 5th graders. Call Rosene to enquire.



# **COVID-19 and the Grief Cycle**

The well-known grief cycle was the leading graphic in an update from UUA on August 19. (This one seemed appropriate for our COVID situation.) It helped me recognize my feelings about this upsurge in COVID transmission rates and having to slide backward in our responses to it. I have gone from denial that it was happening to be angry at those who refused to be vaccinated when they could. I had to decide when to wear masks again and was depressed over the loss of traveling and other activities I was looking forward to. Luckily, I have come back out of it, bought 2 new masks in bright colors and patterns, and again have a mask at the ready when I'm with others. You too?

In Fellowship, Peggy

# Our AUUF Covenant

Together . . .

We seek to be an open and welcoming community. We strive to listen deeply and speak with one another and to our larger community with consideration and respect.

We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care.

Together we are Anchorage Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship.

# \*\*AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner\*\*

BELOVED CONVERSATIONS: a virtual learning program offered by Meadville Lombard Theological School for UUs who are seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice. Several members of the AUUF anti-racism team are planning to take this course and we invite all who are interested to also enroll.

The first phase, called "Within," focuses on the internal work that each of us needs to do as we engage in deeper personal understanding, explorations of race and racism, extracting our souls and spirits from white supremacy culture, and work for racial justice

Deadline for registration: August 31, 2021 Tuition:\$250 - \$350 (see webpage for details) Timeframe: begins Sept 21, goes through Dec. 2021

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If you have other questions, contact Michele Champion at <a href="mailto:akmichelechamp@yahoo.com">akmichelechamp@yahoo.com</a>. Rev Lise participated in this program last year and can answer questions about her experience.

Monthly Book Club: Starting in October we will be reading "Mistakes and Miracles" by Nancy Palmer and Karin Lin. We invite all who are interested to join us as we discuss the book together. The group will meet once each month through April. We will read and discuss one chapter each month.

If you are interested in being part of a group order (through a locally owned bookstore) please contact Michele at akmichelechamp@yahoo.com. You will need to pay her in advance. The cost is \$22.00. The deadline for the group order is September 3rd.

This is how the book is described on the In Spirit UU Book and Gift Shop webpage:

"What calls Unitarian Universalists to create multicultural, antiracist Beloved Community? What do congregations need when they embark on this journey? What common threads run through their stories? Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin—a white minister and a layperson of color—share how five diverse congregations encounter frustrations and disappointments, as well as hope and wonder, once they commit to the journey. Mistakes abound. Miracles of transformation and joy emerge too. Extensively researched and thoughtfully written—with reflection questions at the end of each chapter—Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism will guide readers to apply these stories to their own communities, develop next steps, and renew their commitment to this hard but meaningful work."

Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy

at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Feb 13, 2022 (the date has been extended)

The museum has a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community

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<u>GIna's AUUF office hours Mon-Thurs, 9 am - 1 pm</u>

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, <u>communications@anchorageuuf.org</u> Kelly's remote office hours Friday 9-1 PM- AK

Megan Webb, Music Director, auufmusic@gmail.com

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# STAY CONNECTED





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# Today At Your Fellowship Monday August 30, 2021

Wounding and healing are not opposites. They're part of the same thing. It is our wounds that enable us to be compassionate with the wounds of others.

It is our limitations that make us kind to the limitations of other people. It is our loneliness that helps us to find other people or to even know they're alone with an illness.

Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen

# This Week @ AUUF

Monday 8/30/21

Tuesday 8/31/21

10:30 am Nominating Committee Meeting

Wednesday 9/1/21

7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 9/2/21

Friday 9/3/21

12 pm Freethinkers

Saturday 9/4/21

12 pm A. Kerr Violin Class

Sunday 9/5/21

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

AFL-CIO President Joelle Hall Why Aren't Jobs Unionized Anymore? The PRO Act and the Gig Economy

10:30 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF and on Zoom

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle

**12:30-3 pm JR High Owl Class** AUUF Social Room

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the **AUUF** homepage.

# **Freethinkers**

12 pm, September 3 On Zoom

Faster, Better, Cheaper—What About How We Live?
by Marie Lundstrom

We've finished with *Right/Wrong: How Technology Transforms Our Ethics*. Our Friday discussion brought up some important issues, especially in the criminal justice system, including *Philly D.A.*, a 2021 documentary series on PBS (Independent Lens) about Larry Krasner, recommended by some of us. We talked about house arrest, bail (bonding), rehabilitation, as well as how AI could be making decisions without human input. Which leads right into the focus of our next book, *The Future is Faster Than You Think: How Converging Technologies Are Transforming Business, Industries, and Our Lives* (c2020, 384pp), by Peter Diamandis and Steven Kotler. This new reading venture will squarely point up the speed of change we are living through, except: what will happen in the parts of our lives that don't move that fast, where faster, better, cheaper isn't there yet and may never be? Read the first three chapters, through page 69, for next Friday, Sept 3, on Zoom—go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar for the link.

# **Pastoral Care**

There is an active Pastoral Care Team at our UU Fellowship. Made up of five members and the Minister as a non-voting member, the team seeks to be a compassionate presence for members and friends of AUUF.

The Team calls and visits members and friends when asked. We send cards of hope and joy and we visit people in the hospital (when allowed). In cooperation with the Share the Care Team, we arrange help with errands, meals, and other tasks needed to make life a little easier.

So please, if you would like to be contacted or if you know someone who might like to be contacted, call Stephanie Koonz, Chair 907-744-2428 or Rev. Lise At the Fellowship Office 907-248-3737.

# **Joy & Sorrows**

# From Sunday Worship August 29

Mel Sikes:

Thoughts for all in Louisiana, that they may find safety in this massive storm.

Lucinda Kinard:

Marie Rozak's birthday is this coming week. joy would be for her to receive tons of cards to light her day!



We said goodbye to our beloved dog, Lolly, last week. It was especially difficult for my son to say goodbye.



# **Summer Outdoor Chalice Circles**

A Message from Rosene & Religious Exploration

August 29 - The ultimate building challenge! Use some simple, specific supplies to build tall structures.

September 5 - No RE group

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\*\*\* If you are interested in being part of a group order (through a locally owned bookstore) please contact Michele at <a href="mailto:akmichelechamp@yahoo.com">akmichelechamp@yahoo.com</a>. You will need to pay her in advance. The cost is \$22.00. The deadline for the group order is September 3rd.

This is how the book is described on the <u>In Spirit UU Book and Gift Shop</u> webpage:

"What calls Unitarian Universalists to create multicultural, antiracist Beloved Community? What do congregations need when they embark on this journey? What common threads run through their stories? Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin—a white minister and a

layperson of color—share how five diverse congregations encounter frustrations and disappointments, as well as hope and wonder, once they commit to the journey. Mistakes abound. Miracles of transformation and joy emerge too. Extensively researched and thoughtfully written—with reflection questions at the end of each chapter—*Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* will guide readers to apply these stories to their own communities, develop next steps, and renew their commitment to this hard but meaningful work."

Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Feb 13, 2022 (the date has been extended)

The museum has a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community

# **Chalice Lighter Grants Assist AUUF's Building**

The Chalice Lighter Program assists the growth and vitality of new and existing UU congregations in the Pacific Northwest with grants to provide vital capabilities. Grants are funded exclusively through contributions from individuals who participate as Chalice Lighters.

Anchorage has been fortunate to receive two Chalice Lighter grants – one for replacing our boiler shortly after buying our building, and the second to help fund our remodeled stage and add the ramp. This most recent grant was for \$28,830!

As part of our agreement in applying for the grant, we committed that at least 30% of our current members will contribute to the Chalice Lighter Program for three years. That is at least 60 AUUF members to assist other UU congregations in improving their facilities or programs. When you become a Chalice Lighter, each year you will receive no more than three call emails or letters. They will ask for your donation of at least \$20. If you prefer to fulfill your annual pledge in one sitting, you may contribute to the Winter and Spring calls in advance when you make your Fall donation.

Please contribute to this year's call, which began July 1. It is easiest to pay the yearly minimum of \$60 per person electronically at PWR-UUA · PNWD Chalice Lighters Giving Page (Iglforms.com). However, other payment schedules are available. For more information: Chalice Lighters | Pacific Northwest District of the UUA (pnwduua.org)

Read the current call letter here.



# **August Half Portion goes to AFACT**

AFACT is the focus of the half portion during the month of August! AFACT stands for Anchorage Faith & Action Congregations Together. Their mission is to work from the faith principles of their members, apply those values to community issues, and take democratic action to impact existing social structures for the common good of all citizens, particularly the poor and disenfranchised.

In recent years, AFACT has been involved with issues surrounding healthcare, homelessness, climate change, public safety, and racial justice. Considering AFACT is the face of so many churches, neighborhoods, and cross-sections of our community, the grassroots work that spreads into the Anchorage bowl is real.

In addition, the organization is creating leaders because of this process. It is a worthwhile focus for the August half portion!

Go to anchorageuuf.org
Click on the Half-Portion note
at the bottom of the home page.
Enter your donation under
"Half-Portion for Social Action"

# Our AUUF Covenant

Together . . .

We seek to be an open and welcoming community. We strive to listen deeply and speak with one another and to our larger community with consideration and respect.

We hold each of us and all of this amazing world worthy of our attention, compassion and care.

Together we are Anchorage Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship.





Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | (907) 248-3737 Minister, Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, 907-248-3737 x2, revlise@anchorageuuf.org

Gina Molletti Congregational Administrator, 907-248-3737 x1 <a href="mailto:admin@anchorageuuf.org">admin@anchorageuuf.org</a> GIna's AUUF office hours Mon-Thurs, 9 am - 1 pm

Kelly Spring, Communications Specialist, <a href="mailto:communications@anchorageuuf.org">communications@anchorageuuf.org</a>
Kelly's remote office hours Friday 9-1 PM- AK

Megan Webb, Music Director, <a href="mailto:auufmusic@gmail.com">auufmusic@gmail.com</a>

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, <a href="mailto:rbeachy@alaskalife.net">rbeachy@alaskalife.net</a>
Office Hours –By Appointment Only



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