

May 2021

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UUMAN's 2nd Hour Faith Development & All-Inclusive Worship

Although this church year has been 100% remote, at the end of May UUMAN will have completed its first year of 2nd Hour Faith Development

which ran from 11:15 – Noon. 2nd Hour Faith Development included religious education not only for children and youth but also for adults as well.

We offered the following adult classes this past year at 11:15:

- History of Social Justice Theologies in UUism
- Prophetic Sisterhood – Liberal Women Ministers of the Frontier
- Theological Plurality in Our Congregations
- Process Theology in Plurality
- UUA Centered Leadership
- Poetry Forum

We also offered the following courses held at other times:

- Not Racist to Anti-Racist
- All Souls United
- Spiritual Wisdom Studies

Because we've been meeting remotely, the shift to 2nd hour Faith Development hasn't felt like a big change, yet once we return to in-person services the change may feel significant.

Nothing is cast in stone, yet to provide more opportunities for new members and visitors to connect to the congregation and for existing members to expand their faith development opportunities, we'd like to continue with this model for the coming 2021-2022 church year.

This means a continuation of 2nd Hour Faith Development beginning at 11:15 and All-Inclusive Worship beginning at 10AM. This modification to our Sunday mornings involves change...and change can sometimes result in some disappointment, discomfort and adaptation.

Some of the discomfiting aspects:

Starting our Sunday mornings ½ hour earlier (yawn!)

Multigenerational, all-inclusive services are more challenging to prepare than adult-only services

Specific programming for our littlest ones outside of All-Inclusive Worship

Some of the advantages:

- After a year of distancing, many of us simply want to be together (i.e. all of us) as a community
- Opportunities for connection and engagement amongst new and existing members over and above traditional Coffee and Conversation (C&C will still exist)
- Easier to get new RE volunteers who didn't want to miss Sunday service or couldn't because they were part of the service (e.g. Choir members, Worship Associates, etc.)
- All ages Choir possibilities
- Children and youth participation in the Sunday service
- All will be available together for post 2nd Hour lunch ministry or potlucks
- Attending worship service now part of children and youth UU experience
- Easy access to adult religious education & potential special guest speakers

To expand membership engagement in UUMAN, this change is something that is worth a try for at least a year. In May 2022 we can evaluate what has been tried and move on from there.

Again, nothing is written in stone. Melinda and I will be discussing this with the Program Council, the Worship Team and will be more than happy to discuss this further with any of you.

Nurture our spirit. Strive for Justice. Transform the world.

~ Dave



Planting the Future - in Progress

You may have already been involved in a *Planting the Future Brainstorming* meeting and given your thoughts and dreams for the future. If not, it's not too late.....but don't delay....

Contact Elizabeth Rohan or Donna Melcher to get your seeds in the ground today. P.S. If you are looking for a summary about this work, please see the [April Newsletter](#) for a complete article.

~ Donna Melcher



UUMAN Sharing the Plate—50/50

Each month, we share our half of our designated 50-50 offering with a non-profit organization. You can donate through Givelify or by mailing your check to UUMAN. If you write a check, write 50-50 on the Memo line.

For this month, Nourish was chosen by our Senior Youth. Started in South Africa by a local girl in 2011, Nourish was created to be a platform that could link conservation needs, issues and ideals with community issues and ideals. Nourish aims at finding integrated sustainable solutions to conservation issues such as poverty, low education standards, lack of food security, and unemployment. Go to <https://www.nourishcovillage.com> to learn more.

~ Michelle Liebergesell



Life Celebrations

We want to commemorate the happy occasions in the lives of our UUMAN members and other friends of UUMAN. We are looking for Naming Ceremonies, Graduations, Marriages, Anniversaries, Retirements, and Birthdays. Please submit the information about your special day, in the month prior to the event, to

membership-tech@uuman.org

Date	Celebration
5/5	Ann C. is celebrating a birthday
	Kurt B. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
5/14	Hannah A. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
5/15	Paula W. is celebrating a birthday
	Thomas S. is celebrating a birthday
5/20	Emmy P. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
	Addy G. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
	Isabella D. is celebrating a birthday
5/22	Lilly C. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
5/23	Grace L. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
5/25	Marjorie P. is celebrating a birthday
5/26	Elizabeth R. and Stephen S. are celebrating their anniversary of 19 years
	Timothy W., Jr. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
5/27	Melane S. is celebrating a birthday
	Rick I. and Paula W. are celebrating their anniversary of 42 years
	Diana L. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday

Coming of Age 2021

On May 23rd we will celebrate six rising 10th graders and two high school seniors Lucia Bralley and Joss Hufnagel. This will be, as always, a very special service and we will be hearing the thoughts of several of these young people.

Last year the Coming of Age zoom service was one of the highlights of the year for many and this year's promises to not disappoint. After a year of a pandemic what wisdom and insights might have been gained. I can't wait and I hope all will join us. The amazing thing to me is that they have all faithfully attended class on zoom all year long.

Here are some of the bios for our Coming of Age students.

~ Melinda Mischik



Name: **Joaquin Darwin Friedman**, 15 years old.

Sibling: Rowan Paz Friedman, 12.

Father: Sam Friedman

Mother: Carolina Patlis

Current school: Milton, but switching to Innovation Academy (STEM Magnet school) next year.

Interests: running, hiking, weight-lifting, reading, video games, cryptocurrency.



My name is **Jacqueline Greyenbuhl**. I am 15 years old and I like listening to music and hanging out with my friends. I run track for Cambridge High School. I have a 13 year old sister Sasha and 5 year old brother Etienne.



Luc Gore

Sibling: Addy and Kara Gore

Parents: Dave and Jacqueline Gore

School: Walton High School

Interest: Basketball and helping other people



Grace Lattimore is a rising 10th grader. She lives with her sister, Ella Lattimore (13) and her parents, Gary and Jennifer Lattimore, plus three beloved dogs in Roswell. Grace just finished her freshman year at Roswell High school and will be attending the new Innovation Academy in Fulton County next year. Grace is passionate about the environment and enjoys traveling.



Full name: **Joel Stephen Shanahan** (15)

Sibling: Raffaella Shanahan (17)

Parents: Elizabeth Rohan and Stephen Shanahan

School: St. Francis School, Milton

Joel likes to play piano, and he is interested in video games and Pokémon.



Todd Wilson is a homeschooler with a passion for ecology, raising native bees, and being active outdoors. He studies classical guitar, enjoys chess and other board games, and is a member of the Vantage Point Education archery team. His creativity and curiosity lead him to design and make many kinds of things. He lives with his parents, Chris and Denise, in Peachtree Corners.

What is your passion?

There are many reasons that inspire individuals to join a congregation. Some examples are to meet like-minded folks, give back to the community, spiritual growth, religious education for children and adults too to name a few.

Community, growth and development are what we expect to receive when participating in a congregation. Have you ever considered what a congregation expects to receive from you?

Smaller, self-sustaining churches are supported by time, talent and treasure. Our time is needed as volunteers. There is a bevy of committees that need extra hands including Stewardship, Under the Harvest Moon Goods and Services Auction, Outreach, Membership, Communications, MCY, Adult Education, and Worship, etc. There are other volunteer positions that we will need filling when we are together again like Greeters and Ushers.

Think of how important it is for someone entering our church as a visitor to see a smiling face and welcome them with open arms. Greeting provides you a great opportunity to see everyone come through the door on Sunday mornings. It is a fabulous way to get to know the congregation.

Our Coffee House is an extremely popular monthly event. We are really looking forward to getting it back on the calendar and with this, volunteers will be needed for set-up and readying the church for the next morning's Sunday Service. Baked goods are welcomed and are sold during this fabulous music event.

Think of the hospitality that will come alive again. Is hospitality and organizing where you excel? Our hospitality team will need you!

Consider the talents you may have.... social media, marketing, accounting, fundraising, teaching, organizing, art, or project management? See where I am going with this? We all have something to offer! Involvement deepens connection with fellow congregants and the development of the church. Please reach out to membership@uuman.org regarding your areas of interest!

The third leg of involvement in a congregation is treasure. Pledging is our primary source of income and represents 68% of the total.

Our 2021-2022 Dawning of a New Age Stewardship Pledge Drive has come to a successful close. Tremendous charity was provided in pledges. Pledge commitments totaled \$234,900 with an additional \$13,000 in Covid Relief one-time donations. Many of us have not experienced financial hardship thus far during the pandemic but there are many in our congregation who have. The pledge drive requested a one-time Covid Relief donation to assist UUMAN in bridging the gap in hardships experienced by congregants and UUMAN's lost rental and fundraising income due to COVID. This relief fund remains open, and we would welcome donations through Givelify or mailing your donation to UUMAN marked "Covid Relief".

The Board is busy preparing the operating budget for our 2021-2022 fiscal year and we will be presenting this information at the May congregational meeting.

Life Gifting is another way to support UUMAN. Is there a special individual, wedding, birth you would like to memorialize through this program? This can also be done through Givelify. There is an envelope for Life Gifting. Make a notation on your monetary gift I "Memo from Donor" of what your gift represents. A note card will be mailed to this person or family respectfully notifying them of your gift.

Do you shop at Kroger or Amazon? You can set up UUMAN as your charity and every purchase you make will make a small donation to UUMAN. For Amazon, please note all purchases will have to be done through Amazon Smile for UUMAN to benefit.

We will soon have new life in our beautiful sanctuary. We will be smiling, laughing and hugging again! I challenge everyone to be more involved in as many ways as possible. Let's be stronger than we have ever been together. Let's welcome the world with our message and love of Unitarian Universalism!

~ Tanya Romine

Treasurer, Board of Trustees



Humans at UUMAN...let's get to know each other even better

On May 23rd, we will once again celebrate our youth and will have six 9th graders sharing some of their beliefs with us at the 10:00 zoom service. I thought we should check in with their teachers who are Jennifer Phillippi and John Patanian. Jennifer and John are very busy with their own families and work but still find time for volunteering when they think it is important.

The Coming of Age Teaching Team:



Hello Jennifer and John,

1. Please introduce yourselves to anyone who may not know you?

John: My wife Miriam and I have two children. Jacob is in 7th grade and Olivia in 5th. We moved to Roswell in October 2011 from Olympia , Washington. I manage a data science team for a contact lens manufacturer. I love to play tennis.

Jennifer: I have been married to Kyle Phillippi for nearly 16 years. We met 10 years prior to that so we have been together for over 25 years! We have two children. Kyson is 13 and currently in 8th grade. Kyra is 11 and currently in 5th grade. Both kids attend High Meadows School but Kyson will transition to Roswell High in the fall. I am the Chief Operating Officer of a small company, Consolidated Risk Solutions, that manages insurance for large construction projects. I love to run, do yoga and read. I am passionate about environmental issues and healthy lifestyles.

2. So what on earth made you think you wanted to teach 8th and 9th graders on ZOOM during a pandemic?

John: I think it is an important for young people to learn UU values and be exposed to different religions and I wanted to do what I can to help lead them.

Jennifer: I feel a real kinship and connection to teenagers, particularly early teens. I remember the ages of 13-16 being some of the most difficult of my life and I have always had a desire to connect with and potentially help kids of that age. Also, I taught my daughter's RE last year so it was my son's turn ☐

3. What has been the most challenging? And has anything surprised you?

John: The Zoom format makes it challenging to connect at times.

Jennifer: Getting the kids to connect and engage. They spend so much time on virtual meetings for school, the last thing that they want to do is participate in another virtual event over the weekend. We try to make the topics interesting and fun, but there is only so much that we can do in a virtual environment.

4. If you could share one bit of wisdom with each of these kids what would that ONE thing be?

Jennifer: While you cannot always control your circumstances, you can control how you interpret and react to each circumstance. How you chose to think about what has happened or is happening creates your reality.

John: That this too shall pass. Life is not always going to be middle school. We will survive this pandemic. It is going to get a lot better.

5. How old were you when you learned that one thing?

Jennifer: Very young. My dad would try to impart this wisdom to me every chance he got.

John: Not that long ago.

6. What does your covid heart yearn for the most?

Jennifer: A return to the lack of awareness or constant thought about germs in the air - feeling safe without wearing a mask. How carefree we used to be when we gathered.

John: To be physically together without masks. Too see those smiles.

~ Melinda Mischik

All in-person Sunday services and any meetings or groups at UUMAN are canceled until further notice. See [this page](#) for more details.

We plan to continue live-streaming Sunday services on [YouTube](#).

May 2021: A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
5/2	<p>Going Back to Abnormal</p> <p>As a congregation in a pandemic, as much as we'd like "to get back to normal," is there a normal to get back to? Has the game changed? Is the pandemic merely a wakeup call? Might we have to adapt and change? Are we willing to adapt and change? Are we willing to turn toward an uncertain future?</p> <p>50/50 Nourish Eco Village</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
5/9	TBA	Lay Led
5/16	<p>Margaret Fuller</p> <p>Unitarian Margaret Fuller was truly a woman ahead of her time. A contemporary to Emerson, Parker and other Transcendentalists, she was every bit their equal. At the New York Tribune, she became the first full-time book reviewer in American journalism and its first female editor. What is her legacy today?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
5/23	<p>UUMAN Rites of Passage</p> <p>Join us for our annual Rites of Passage service. We will honor our Coming of Age youth as they bridge to Youth Group and our senior Youth as the bridge to Young Adults.</p> <p>NO RE; LIVE ZOOM</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
5/30	<p>Hembree Park Service</p> <p>Join us at Roswell's Hembree Park pavilion for an outdoor service. Although we won't be sharing, bring some food and drink for a picnic afterwards.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn

ABOUT THE UUMANTimes: The UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN). We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically on the 22nd of the month preceding the issue date.

Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at newsletter@uuman.org