



UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

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Stewardship for Us: Next Steps Weekend – February 2-4

The UUMAN Board of Trustees, after consultations with the Program Council, Finance and Stewardship committees,

has contracted with the UUA’s “Stewardship for Us” financial consultants to engage in a “Next Steps Weekend.”

The weekend is described as follows:

The Next Steps Weekend aims to provide UU churches and fellowships with a constructive foundation of reflection, information, and strategies as they plan and forge ahead with stewardship programs and other means of growing their resources. These Weekends are tailored to the specific needs and aims of each church and fellowship....This schedule and the Weekend agenda can be further modified in consultation with UUMAN leadership.

In addition to providing us with specific stewardship advice, after looking at our detailed financial information from the past several years, they will also be able to advise us with financial goalsetting and priorities.

The proposed timeline is as follows (keep in mind that the “liaisons” mentioned below are not our Program Council liaisons; rather, they will be two designated individuals who will facilitate communications between UUMAN and the consultants):

- ⇒ By January 3, 2018: Signed Agreement for Next Steps Weekend Consultancy
- ⇒ January 4, 2018: Planning call with church/ fellowship Next Steps Weekend liaison(s). Weekly calls thereafter, regular email check-ins
- ⇒ By January 12, 2018: Information Gathering – [UUMAN financial and stewardship] documents sent to consultant
- ⇒ Between January 15 and January 26th, 2018:

Preliminary one-on-one phone calls with Minister, Board President, Treasurer, Program Council Chair, Endowment Committee chair, possibly UUA District Representative, others TBD

- ⇒ Weeks of January 7th , through January 28 : Save the date invitations for Next Steps Weekend inserted in church bulletin, newsletter
- ⇒ Weeks of January 14th through January 28th: Liaisons issue special Invitations (emails, calls) to all Committee members and others who will be interviewed on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning; be part of the Saturday, February 3rd luncheon, or participate in the Saturday afternoon stewardship/ endowment campaign review session
- ⇒ January 26th: Finalize and approve structure of Next Steps weekend (Liz and liaisons with Board approval)
- ⇒ Feb 2nd – 4th: Conduct Next Steps Weekend
- ⇒ Feb. 4th: Oral report on Next Steps Weekend Sunday
- ⇒ Feb. 20th: Written report – draft submitted after Next Steps Weekend, will include summary of Next Steps Weekend process, challenges, recommendations, suggested follow-on steps with or without consultant support

Keep in mind that detailed financial and stewardship information will be provided to the consultants however that information will be shared by UUMAN’s Finance Committee Chair only and will be kept confidential with regards to any other UUMAN entities (i.e. no UUMAN members will gain any access to individual information pertaining to pledging, endowment giving, etc.).

See the next page for a tentative schedule for the weekend.

Next Steps Weekend Schedule (Tentative)



State Conference of Citizens' Climate Lobby will be at UUMAN!

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Do you care about climate change? Want to learn what YOU can do about it? Join us for this fabulous opportunity at our very own UUMAN! SAVE the DATE: January 27th, 2018

The Annual State Conference for Georgia

Saturday, January 27th at UUMAN

11420 Crabapple Rd. Roswell, GA 30075

Breakfast and Lunch will be included in registration fee.

This is a wonderfully exciting opportunity for all of us at UUMAN to learn more about how we can live our 7th principle and truly make a difference.

Learn how.....

- To talk to a climate change skeptic
- CCL has helped to recruit Republicans and Democrats to the Climate Solutions Caucus in the US House.
- YOU can make a difference.
- Meet others who care as much as YOU do.

Be on the lookout for sign-up info and ways you can help make this event a successful one for CCL and for UUMAN!

Learn more about CCL here: www.citizensclimatelobby.org

Questions?

HUDSONKD@Bellsouth.net

Kate and Dave Hudson

Citizens' Climate Lobby Roswell-Marietta Chapter Leads

Being Peace – An Adult Enrichment Offering

Being Peace resumes meeting this Sunday, January 7 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. We'll be reading next Pema Chodron's book *The Places That Scare You*, reviewing the preface and 1st chapter this Sunday (about 12 pages). Please come, whether or not you have procured the book.

All are welcome!

Peace,

Carolyn Bommarito

FRIDAY, 2/2/2018	
4:30 PM	Arrive at fellowship, meeting with UUMAN liaisons
5:30 PM	Tour of church, buildings and grounds; discussion of space uses and needs with appropriate folks
7:00 PM	Supper with Board of Trustees and Minister (place TBD)
SATURDAY, 2/3/2018	
Meetings with committees, special teams	
9:30 AM	Set up meeting room, set up snacks for the meetings (volunteers)
10:00 AM	Meet with Program Council committees
11:00 AM	Meet with Program Council committees
12:00 PM	Religious Education – adults and children
1:00 PM	Lunch (set-up and clean-up by volunteers) - could be an opportunity to celebrate longstanding members, honor families, meet with other special groups – purpose is to gather information from others and/or also make one or more cohorts feel honored.
2:15 PM	Break
2:30-5:00 PM w/break	Special session with stewardship and endowment groups, Board Pres. and VP, Treasurer, Program Council Chair, and others TBD. Review current financial data, work up feasibility analysis, plan out joint fundraising scenarios: timeline, tasks, case development; identify some next steps.
Sunday, 2/4/2018	
10:30 AM	Consultant attends worship service, shares preliminary summary as part of the service
Post-service	Forum/ Q and A with congregation if desired
2:00 PM	End of the Next Steps Weekend visit

Engaging with skilled financial consultants from time to time is a tool that can be put to good use in an effort to keep the congregation financially sound and responsible. I am confident that the Next Steps Weekend will give us an unprecedented opportunity to take a good, honest look at ourselves and enable us to chart a healthy financial course toward the future.

Take Care,

Dave



Now Can You Hear Us ?

If you have had trouble hearing the service in the past we have good news! We have installed a hearing loop. This technology sends the sound directly to your T Coil enabled hearing aid. Ask your audiologist if your hearing aid has that feature and if it is enabled. We also have two hearing loop receiver pendants for use with earbuds.

P.S. If you know anybody who has stopped attending because they could not hear the service please let them know. This technology works great and the folks who used it for the first time last Sunday were very happy with the results.

Thanks,
Jim Nickens

Faith Forward

Starting on Sunday, January 14, Adult Enrichment is offering a wonderful series called *Faith Forward*. There are eight sessions starting with a Q&A with Rev. Dave, and the sessions will be held about every other Sunday through the end of April. Topics include UU history, membership and congregational life, faith development and more. Because the *Faith Forward* classes overlap a good bit with our UU-101 class, albeit far more deeply, the Membership team will not be offering a UU-101 class during the winter.

The *Faith Forward* classes are designed to be beneficial to long time members as well as newcomers, and we encourage everyone to participate in at least one or more of the classes. For more information about the classes, please contact Dave Hudson, Brian Kohn, or anyone on the Membership Team (membership@uuman.org). You can sign up for the classes using the sign-up sheet at the greeter's desk as well.

Our next New Member Sunday will be February 11, 2018. If you are thinking about becoming a member of UUMAN, please contact the Membership Team and let us know.

—Robbie Kohn

Next Steps Weekend—Annual Stewardship Campaign

By the time you read this article it will be 2018! We will be half way through the UUMAN fiscal year and 1.5 years into my 2 year term as UUMAN's Treasurer. Soon we will begin planning our annual Stewardship campaign where we lay out to the entire congregation the financial needs of UUMAN and ask everyone to decide what UUMAN means to them - through a financial commitment. In order to jump this effort we are bringing in a UU consultant over the weekend of February 2-4, 2018 to help us take stock of where we've been, where we are and where we want to go. Please mark it on your calendars. There will be plenty of opportunities to give your input whether you are a long time member, a new member, or a committee chair.

If you have questions about this, or want to give your input or get involved in our stewardship efforts please contact Tanya Romine, our Stewardship Chair or myself.

Bob Popp
UUMAN Treasurer

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta Course Offering

The History of Unitarians, Universalists and Race.

Sundays January 14 through February 18.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta

1911 Cliff Valley Way NE

Atlanta, Ga. 30329

11:15 AM in room 209-210

Race has been a volatile issue for Unitarians since before the founding of our denomination. This course will provide a historical perspective about how both our Unitarian and Universalist predecessors dealt with this vexing issue. We will examine how the Unitarians and the Universalists dealt with racial justice and outreach to people of color in our history - both what they did right and what they did wrong. By examining our past, we will know better how to face our future.

You are welcome to attend as many sessions as you wish. Each lesson will begin with a brief review of the previous weeks topics so missing a lesson will not necessarily put you behind the class. Honest, open, and non-judgmental discussion will be encouraged. For more information or to request a syllabus contact Jim Kelley at jim.utt@mindspring.com.



UUMAN Sharing the Plate—50/50

Once each month, half of our undesignated plate funds go to a non-profit organization or a worthy cause.

Last year, we gave twelve different 50-50 recipients a total of \$3127.15. The beneficiaries were Black Lives Matter, Child Development Association, Every Woman Works, Chattahoochee Riverkeepers, The Link Counseling Center, Citizens' Climate Lobby, UUMAN's Partner Church Scholarship Travel Fund, Black Hills Unity Concert, International Rescue Committee, Pride School Atlanta, UU Service Committee, and the Eli Project. Thanks for your generosity UUMAN!

This month's recipient will be the Atlanta chapter of the NAACP. Founded Feb. 12, 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest, largest and most widely recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization. Its more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, campaigning for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization. To learn more, go to www.naacpatlanta.org

—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 newsletter@uuman.org

Date	Celebration
1/2	Lily H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/4	Jamie Hagood is celebrating a birthday
1/5	Ev S. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/7	Mia M. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/15	Randy Jue is celebrating a birthday
1/21	Nelson Hagood is celebrating a birthday
	Dharma H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/23	Tammy Dunn is celebrating a birthday
1/24	Donna Melcher is celebrating a birthday
1/29	Dave Dunn is celebrating a birthday

The Rainbow Tree

Thank you for helping make our holiday service project to support Lost N' Found Youth (LNFY) a huge success! We appreciate your generosity. LNFY is a nonprofit working to end the cycle of homelessness among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ+) youth. For more information about LNFY, you may visit: <https://lnfy.org/>

Sheila K. Smith

on behalf of the UUMAN youth



A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
1/7	<p>The Power of Prayer</p> <p>Why should we pray? How can we pray? What is the point of prayer? Are prayers ever answered? Are we supposed to get a response? Prayer is a confusing, confounding topic for many Unitarian Universalists. Might we be able to approach prayer from a new direction?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/14	<p>101 Zen Stories</p> <p>In the early 20th century, Zen monk Nyogen Senzaki compiled a set of koans and parables to help aid his students in the study of Zen in America. What can these puzzling, often humorous stories mean for us?</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn Worship Team
1/21	Multigenerational Faith-In-Action Service	Multigenerational Service Team
1/28	<p>I am a Unitarian Universalist, right?</p> <p>Shelley Nagrani will share her story about trying to figure out what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist, about her struggles to abide by the Seven Principles in a time of fear and doubt, and about her journey which takes her to many places while she remains in her spiritual home.</p>	Shelley Nagrani

January Connections

Date	Event
<p>Wednesday nights from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.</p> <p>Winter session starts 1/10</p>	<p>UUMAN's Painting Group</p> <p>Learn to paint in a relaxed atmosphere (with a glass of red wine if desired). We have easels and tray tables; just bring your paints and a canvas. A portion of the fee goes to UUMAN.</p> <p>Contact: Annette Pate painting@uuman.org</p>
<p>Weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15</p>	<p>Daytimers</p> <p>The Daytimers group discusses contemporary, thought-provoking topics such as current political issues or social trends that may affect everyone at some level. All are invited to attend. For information, contact Dan Ben-David. dan@uuman.org</p>
<p>Third Saturday of the month at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>The Common Grounds Coffee House</p> <p>Connecting people who love to play music with those who love to listen! Doors open at 7:00 pm and the show starts at 7:30 pm. Live music and delicious refreshments, \$5 suggested donation, held in the Sanctuary.</p>
<p>Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. In the Sanctuary</p>	<p>Centering at UUMAN</p> <p>Silent meditation Saturday mornings at UUMAN. Please come at 9:00 for some basic instruction if it is your first time. The meditation itself begins promptly at 9:30. Please be in your seats on time. Those who wish to may stay after for 30 to 45 minutes of discussion about our experiences.</p> <p>For more information, contact Carolyn Bommarito at campoften@aol.com</p>
<p>2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 in Discovery Hall</p>	<p>Circle of Women</p> <p>We aim to develop a warm nurturing circle of trust where we can share ourselves and our lives. Contact Kate Hudson hudsonkd@bellsouth.net or Linda Etheridge lletheridge1@gmail.com</p>
<p>Saturdays , 1-2:30 in the Sanctuary, or Discovery Hall if the Sanctuary is not available. Childcare is available .</p>	<p>Mindfulness Meditation</p> <p>Whether you have been meditating for years or are curious about possibly starting a practice, we offer a peaceful space to sit as well as a time to share and learn in a community of fellow meditators. Contact J. Kevin King at (470) 723-4070 jkevinking@yahoo.com</p>

For more information about other offerings at UUMAN, go to www.uuman.org.

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 proceeding the issue date. Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at newsletter@uuman.org