



# UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

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June 2019

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## Update From the May Congregational Meeting

Although nobody comes to church on Sunday mornings eager to do congregational business, with over 50 members in attendance for the past two congregational meetings, we seem to be on our way regarding healthy participation in the inner workings of UUMAN. This is a refreshing sign!

Perhaps the most important aspect of the meeting, aside from the great food and the Kroger receipt prize drawings, was the election of new officers to the Board of Trustees. Bob Popp was elected as Vice President. In this position, after serving as Vice President for a year, he will then become President and then



Vice-President Elect Bob Popp



Secretary Elect Leslie Wolfe

Past President in succeeding years. Leslie Wolfe was also elected as Secretary. She will serve in this role for two years. Their terms will commence at the start of our new fiscal year in July...and we thank them for their dedication to UUMAN and to serve in these roles! Also, special thanks to outgoing Past President Randy Blasch and Secretary Laura Keck!

Board President Elizabeth Rohan facilitated the meeting leading us in a fun, interactive game of Kahoot! This activity provided the Board with some useful information as to how members receive and send UUMAN communications. Transparent communications has been a focus of this Board and information and feedback as to how we can best achieve this moving forward is critical.

Elizabeth then gave an update regarding the progress of our Visioning process. Since December 2018, we have articulated our values (Wonder & Awe, Connection, Love, Courage, Justice) and have incorporated them into a new UUMAN Covenant. In the coming church year we (all of us together) will then be crafting these values into new Mis-

sion and Vision statements. Once the Vision statements are complete, we can then embark on good work of strategic planning and goal setting to help make this vision a reality. (Buckle up!)

Past President Randy Blasch then gave an update regarding the state of repairs of the Fellowship Hall basement. As most of you know, we had a flood in December that required hazmat cleaning, floor removal, French drain replacement, etc. It has been admittedly difficult in working with our insurance company and we have had to be creative in an effort to keep things moving forward. Many UUMAN members have been assisting the Board in the coordination of these repairs that are being done by professionals. THANK YOU!



Special Projects Trustee Jim Nickens then gave a brief overview of the future of the UUMAN-Premo relationship. A task force is being created to explore how Premo School could be accommodated in Discovery Hall as opposed to Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary. (Additional details on this topic can be found in Jim's update below in this newsletter.)

Treasurer Colin Decker gave a financial update showing that due to the highly successful Stewardship Campaign, led by Tanya Romine, we hope to realize approximately \$19K in savings in the coming fiscal year.



Program Council Chair Shelley Nagrani closed the meeting with a recognition of all the volunteers who make UUMAN possible. This list of volunteers is more than one might expect (146 people!!!). THANK YOU! We then adjourned to a volunteer recognition ice cream social.

Copies of the slides shown at the meeting can be found on UUMAN's website: [Slides from Congregational Meeting](#)

Take care,  
Dave



## MUST Ministries Summer Lunches

Each summer, the Youth and members of UUMAN help MUST Ministries provide nutritious lunches to underserved children in six nearby counties. These lunches help fill a gap each summer, since they go to children who would ordinarily be relying on the public school lunch program.

This summer, on **Sunday, June 16** during RE, the children and Youth will help assemble and decorate 100 lunch sacks, while learning about the MUST Summer Lunch Program and the other services that MUST Ministries provides.

UUMAN members will also have a chance to donate supplies and money toward the lunches. In early June, a UUMAN Announcement will go out with a link to sign up to provide the bags, fresh fruit, snacks, and juice boxes. For those of you who are familiar with this program, there is one major change this year. Per health officials, MUST can no longer accept homemade sandwiches. Instead, it will be accepting money donations toward the cost of prepackaged sandwiches to be purchased from a national sandwich company and added to our bags. It takes only 75 cents to purchase each sandwich at the vendor's discounted price. Watch for directions in the upcoming UUMAN Announcement on how to donate toward the \$75 for our sandwiches.

About MUST Ministries – MUST is a faith-based organization, which for 47 years has been dedicated to providing services to individuals and families in crisis, regardless of their beliefs, background, or circumstances. MUST serves the populations in Cobb and Cherokee Counties year-round, providing meals, shelter, emergency assistance and job training to those in need. To find out more, check their website at <http://www.mustministries.org>.

- Valerie Davis

## Discovery Hall & The Premo School

The end of 2018 saw a flood in the basement and The Premo School scrambling for a new space for classroom and other activities. The school moved upstairs and continued operations in Fellowship Hall and The Sanctuary. We all assumed the basement could be put back into use within a few weeks and Premo could move back downstairs. The damage and the remediation process were both more extensive and complicated than originally thought so the timeline stretched out. Disputes with insurance company also slowed down our ability to proceed with repairs. The Premo School finished the spring semester upstairs. The relationship between Premo and UUMAN has survived this stressful period due to the hard work of the rental team and the grace shown by everyone during this period.

Premo has proposed moving into Discovery Hall. With renovations they believe it will be a more suitable space. To that end Premo has obtained a thorough inspection of the building and is developing a plan to paint, repair, landscape, and remodel Discovery Hall. UUMAN will work closely with Premo during the planning phase to make the sure the space is still suitable for our purposes too. An ad hoc committee has been formed with members from the board, operations, rental, ALDT, RE, MCY and program council so all stakeholder are heard. We want to address all concerns or objections at the start of the process so please speak up.

UUMAN's values and The Premo School's value are complimentary. The board hopes that a strong and lasting relationship with Premo will allow us both to grow together and amplify our missions.

This opportunity also meets many of the existing concerns previously identified with Discovery Hall and will free up resources for maintenance and improvements elsewhere on our campus.

This is an exciting prospect for UUMAN. We want your input and support as we move forward.

- Jim Nickens

## UUMAN Kayak Ministry celebrating Memorial Day on the Chattahoochee River



## India Partner Church News



At our annual partner church dinner in April, a young adult in our congregation, Sophie Davis, gave a slide show presentation on her trip to visit our partner church in the Khasi Hills.

The proceeds from dinner and raffle ticket sales will be used for educational expenses for children in our partner church, Mawsynjri. Thanks to Dan Ben David for donating his cash winnings from the raffle to this cause.

If you are interested in traveling to visit our partner church in the Khasi Hills, there is trip planned for next year as well as a pre-extension trip see the Taj Mahal. For more information, go to

<https://uupcc.org/pilgrimages/pilgrimage-opportunities>

- Michelle Liebergesell



## UUMAN Sharing the Plate—50/50

Once each month, half of our undesignated plate offering is given to a non-profit organization. The other half goes for the work of our congregation. Please consider giving even more generously than usual on these Sundays.

We will be sharing our offering on June 30 with our partner church, Mawsynjri, in the Khasi Hills in NE India.

- Michelle Liebergesell

UUMAN's "Share the Plate" Coordinator



## 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 [communications-chair@uuman.org](mailto:communications-chair@uuman.org)

Date	Celebration
6/6	Harper J. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
	Elizabeth K. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
	Miriam Patanian is celebrating a birthday
6/10	Burk and Merilee Hufnagel are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary!
	Jane Soule is celebrating a birthday
6/11	Marc and Jane Soule celebrate their 42nd anniversary
6/12	Corbin M.-D. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
6/16	Tori S. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
6/18	Jim Saunders is celebrating a birthday
6/19	Ken Fry is celebrating a birthday
	Phillip Seaver and Suzanne Rezelman are celebrating their 26th anniversary!
6/20	Rowan J. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
6/22	Emily K. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
6/23	Judy and Willard Jule are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary
6/24	Marc and Carolyn Lee are celebrating their 29th anniversary
6/27	Bob and Rosie Popp are celebrating their 36th anniversary!

## A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
6/4	<b>Finding Joy in Just About Everything</b>  In a world where it seems we are overloaded with information, lots of seemingly bad news and worries about our future, can we find more joy more often in our lives?	Bruce Langston
6/9	<b>Heaven</b>  This service will explore the idea of heaven from an agnostic point of view. Starting with the new wave band Talking Heads, we will yoke together sources as unlikely as the gospels, Buddhism, and Nietzsche's eternal return to ask how a new understanding of heaven might help us live better lives in the here and now.	Adam Fajardo
6/16	<b>Father's Day</b>  How do you process the grief of your father's death? You blog every day for a year, of course! How does the healing begin? What to do with unfinished business or unfulfilled dreams? A daughter continues her father's legacy and inspires the next generation.	Jennifer Phillippe
6/23	<b>Embracing the Shadow</b>  Focusing on the darker sides of the human psyche which we often seek to deny.	Noël Lemen
6/30	<b>Visit to our Partner Church in the Khasi Hills</b>  Sophie Davis, a Young Adult in the Congregation who UUMAN sponsored to visit our partner church in the Khasi Hills in NE India, and her mother Valerie will be sharing reflections of their trip to visit Mawsynjri this year. Come hear about the experience of a young adult in our congregation who stayed in the village to learn about and share culture with the Khasi villagers.	Sophie and Valerie Davis

## June Connections

Date	Event
<b>Wednesday nights from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.</b>	<b>UUMAN's Painting Group</b>  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. Contact: Annette Pate <a href="mailto:painting@uuman.org">painting@uuman.org</a>
<b>Weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15. Location of meetings vary.</b>	<b>Daytimers</b>  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. <a href="mailto:dan@uuman.org">dan@uuman.org</a>
<b>Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. In the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Centering at UUMAN</b>  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.  For more information, contact Carolyn Bommarito at <a href="mailto:campoften@aol.com">campoften@aol.com</a>
<b>2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 in Discovery Hall</b>	<b>Circle of Women</b>  We aim to develop a warm nurturing circle of trust where we can share ourselves and our lives. Contact Linda Etheridge <a href="mailto:lletheridge1@gmail.com">lletheridge1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Saturdays, 1-2:30 in the Sanctuary, or Discovery Hall if the Sanctuary is not available. Childcare is available.</b>	<b>Mindfulness Meditation</b>  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 <a href="mailto:jkevinking@yahoo.com">jkevinking@yahoo.com</a> (470) 723-4070

*Happy Father's Day!*

*For more information about other offerings at UUMAN, go to [www.uuman.org](http://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 preceding the issue date.

Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at [newsletter@uuman.org](mailto:newsletter@uuman.org)