



UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

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Global Climate Strike and the Green New Deal



On Friday, September 20, over a dozen UUMANites showed up at the Georgia State Capitol to participate in the Global Climate Strike.

This strike, inspired by the Swedish 16-year-old Greta Thunberg, was held around the world and led primarily by youth. In August 2018, Ms. Thunberg began skipping school to protest climate change and she has inspired others to do the same. Greta herself was inspired by the teenagers who had protested gun violence after the Parkland shootings. (Nobody does anything alone...ripples in a pond!)



Greta Thunberg – “School Strike for Climate”



Young UUMANites at the State Capitol

At the Global Climate Strike, many of the young people who spoke at the capitol urged us to become educated and familiar with the talking points of the Green New Deal. They urged us to think for ourselves and not accept mainstream media’s interpretation of this legislation.

The actual Green New Deal House Resolution proposed by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D- NY) can be found at the link below:

<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hres109/BILLS-116hres109ih.pdf>

The principal resolution, taken from the document is summarized as follows:

Resolved—it is the sense of the House of Representatives that it is the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal to:

1. Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions through a fair and just transition for all communities and workers;
2. Create millions of good, high-wage jobs and ensure prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States;
3. Invest in the infrastructure and industry of the United States to sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century
4. Secure for all people of the United States for generations to come:

- 🌍 clean air and water
- 🌍 climate and community resiliency
- 🌍 healthy food
- 🌍 access to nature
- 🌍 a sustainable environment

5. Promote justice and equity by stopping current injustices and preventing future injustices, and repairing historic oppression of indigenous communities, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (referred to in this resolution as “frontline and vulnerable communities”).

So much rich work to do. May we be energized in service to our congregation, our community and our world!

Take care,

Dave



Rep. Ocasio-Cortez



UUMAN's Contingent at the State Capitol

Resolution of Respect



L-R Rev. Melanie Eyre, Kelly Callen, Dillon Callen, James Brown, Donna Melcher, Hope Mays, Michelle and Mike Liebergesell; Not pictured are Keith Goeke, Sally McKenzie, and Elizabeth Norris

On Sept. 9, to the delight of the supporters pictured here, the Roswell City Council approved the Resolution of Respect! (See the [August UU Times](#) for a detailed description of the resolution.) This resolution was written in response to a hate group flyer that was

posted during the 2018 holiday season in the Roswell City Square and the general increase of hate group activity in our country. It affirms the core value of RESPECT for every person in the city and authorizes and encourages the Roswell Police department to act in the case of hate crimes.

Rev. Melanie Eyre (One World Spiritual Center) and Donna Melcher (UUMAN) met with our new Roswell Police Chief, James Conroy to discuss his department's readiness to deal with disrespectful and destructive actions toward targeted groups. Chief Conroy, who was the Chief of Police previously in Dekalb County, has a broad view and sadly plenty of experience with hate activities and was very open to our discussion about the resolution and various education opportunities available from the Southern Poverty Law Center on these groups.

Councilman Matt Tyser remarked that he was happy to cast his vote for the Resolution of Respect (which passed unanimously) and was looking forward to 'What's Next' for the city to encourage this value. I'd have to say that's a very good question because there are so many opportunities to show respect for each other in Roswell. What are your ideas?

—Donna Melcher



Notes from the Board of Trustees

What has the UUA Done for Us Lately?

You might be asking yourself, "What has the UUA done for UUMAN lately?" (while you hear Janet Jackson's song in the back of your head). I'm glad you're curious. Rev. Dr. Hope Johnson (and to a lesser extent, Kathy McGowan) from the UUA has been part of UUMAN's healing and transition process since June 20th, to be precise. As you may know, we had reached out to the UUA on June 7th, but the timing wasn't ideal for a quick response because of General Assembly.

Since June 20th, the UUA has been supportive and extremely responsive.

We've had video calls every 2-3 weeks (for a total of 5 calls to date) and have exchanged many emails and some texts. Over the course of this process, I have trusted Hope and her wisdom. She's worked with many congregations over the years (including one for which she was the minister for 15 years), and she specializes in conflict resolution and multicultural congregational development.

The first piece of advice Hope offered, I didn't like at the time. I know many of you felt similarly. Hope said that we had work of our own to do before it made sense for her to visit the congregation. At the time, many of us had hoped she'd be able to heal UUMAN's chasm. But Hope stressed that the UUA cannot do the work for us. Conflict resolution (as imperfect as it as we are) is our work to do as a congregation. Hope said we needed "all hearts on deck" as we re-committed to the work of the church and that healing would happen while we worked together and processed feelings together. Specific work of the church we discussed with Hope included:

- Getting the MCY program up and running for the new church year
- Continuing the visioning process
- Celebrating the new church year (which led to a bigger celebration at the ribbon cutting than originally planned)

In subsequent calls, the board and Hope discussed that part of our healing process would also include the workshop planned by Social Justice Committee on Active Hope that I hope many of you attended on 9/29 and the survey on spiritual community satisfaction being developed by the Healthy Congregations Team (HCT) and the Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM). During our most recent call, Hope told us she will come to UUMAN at the right time, for the right reasons. She will also help us process survey responses, if we would like. We are hopeful that the survey responses can help guide what she offers, so please complete it once HCT and COSM send it to your in-box!! We've committed to being in a beloved community valuing love, courage, connection, justice, a sense of wonder and awe, and with transforming our world as our ultimate goal. Moving through conflict is a necessary part of being together, and UUMAN is becoming stronger for engaging in that work—can't you feel it?

(P.S. If you'd like to learn more about Hope's background, please visit: <https://www.uua.org/offices/people/hope-johnson>)

—Elizabeth Rohan, Past President



UUMAN Sharing the Plate—50/50

Once each month we share half of our unpledged offering with a non-profit organization.

Last month, we shared the plate with two recipients, the UU Service Committee Hurricane Dorian Relief Fund and the Refugee Women's Network and the results for both were better than average. The UUSC was given \$625.50 and the Refugee Women's Network received \$457.75.

This month's recipient will be Lost-n- Found Youth which is an Atlanta-based and exists to end homelessness for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) and all sexual minority youth. Go to <https://Infy.org/> to learn more.

Thank you for your contributions!

Michelle Liebergesell

UUMAN's "Share the Plate" Coordinator



Book Sale at UUMAN

Come to the book sale at UUMAN on Saturday, October 12, 10:00 - 1:00, or on Sunday, October 13, following the morning service.

Please donate the books you have read or no longer use. Fiction, cookbooks, children's books, non-fiction are all welcome. You may bring them to UUMAN any time before the sale.

There will be boxes to drop off the books in the Fellowship Hall by the chicken pie table.

Your donations will benefit the effort to update the Cynthia Prescott Library at UUMAN.

Contact Linda Etheridge with questions at l etheridge.1@gmail.com



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

Date	Celebration
10/2	John and Miriam Patanian are celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary!
	Richard Lakes is celebrating a birthday
10/3	Bruce and McPatti Langston are celebrating their 28th wedding anniversary!
10/4	Jacob P. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
10/5	Dillon Langston (who was raised at UUMAN) is turning 26
10/11	Michelle Liebergesell is celebrating a birthday
10/14	Alex Pietch is celebrating a birthday
10/18	Olivia P. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
10/19	Becky Norris is celebrating a birthday
10/22	Jim Saunders and Annette Pate are celebrating their 24th wedding anniversary!
10/23	Jim Saunders and Annette Pate are celebrating the 26th anniversary of the day they met
10/25	Stephen Shanahan is celebrating a birthday
10/28	Ilona Walker is celebrating a birthday
	Jan Wilson and Doug Stump are celebrating their 7th wedding anniversary!
10/29	John Patanian is celebrating a birthday
10/30	Jan Wilson is celebrating a birthday

Help Wanted

There are many ways that you can get involved in support of the UUMAN mission. Here are a some of the current needs:

Greeters

Greeters welcome visitors and everyone that enters UUMAN on Sunday morning prior to service; this is a great way to get to know people; contact if you are interested membership@uuman

Gardeners

Help keep UUMAN's beautiful flower beds and grounds looking great; this job can be done at any time however the Gardening Group does meet periodically and will meet on August 12, August 26, and September 9 at 9am; contact Shelley Nagrani at shelley.nagrani@gmail.com for more information.

Choir

The UUMAN Choir is starting back up after a well-deserved summer break; they are always looking for people interested in singing; contact Alex Pietsch at alexpietsch1189@gmail for more information.

RE Teachers

The fall religious education program for our children and youth has started. If you are interested in getting involved in teaching this fall please email re@uuman.org

Coffee House

Every month on the third Saturday we set up the Sanctuary to have live local music. We need help moving chairs around in the Sanctuary, setting up tables and putting up the backdrop for the show. It takes an hour or less if we have four or more volunteers helping. Contact Phillip Seaver at gtflip@gmail.com if you'd like to help.

Vision and Mission Statement Progress

by Stephen Seaver



In December, we started working together on a process to help us move from ME to WE in our collective work at UUMAN. The process includes identifying our core values, developing a covenant to guide our work, defining our mission, creating our vision and developing a strategic plan to keep us focused on our shared priorities.

Progress to date:

- ✓ Through 3 congregational meetings and 2 meetings with the youth, we identified 5 core values: wonder/awe, connection,

love, courage, and justice, and we drafted a covenant, based on input from all of these meetings.

- ✓ We have collected feedback after service over the month of April. All of you were asked to provide feedback on the covenant and how you would complete this statement to describe what we do at UUMAN:
 - Because we value wonder/awe, we come together to _____
 - Because we value connection, we come together to _____
 - Because we value love, we come together to _____
 - Because we value courage, we come together to _____
 - Because we value justice, we come together to _____
- ✓ The workgroup synthesized the feedback to create draft mission and vision statements.
- ✓ At a leadership retreat, we gathered additional feedback and used it to create presentable drafts of our mission and vision statements.
- ✓ The ME to WE workgroup is excited to finally be able to present draft versions of the mission and vision statements.

Mission

- Nurture our Spirit
- Strive for Justice
- Transform the World

Vision

UUMAN's vision is to be a sanctuary for all, boldly working toward the day when social, economic, and environmental justice are a reality.

We'd like to emphasize that these statements are still just drafts, and we want feedback from the congregation. While we can't please everyone, we would like to create statements that most people can live with.



If you have any feedback, please feel free to talk with any member of the ME to WE workgroup: Elizabeth Rohan, Miriam Patanian, Bev Jordan, Shelley Nagrani, Merri Beth Stephens, Pat Shea, and Stephen Seaver. We will be available to discuss the statements after service during the month of October.

UUMAN Upcoming Events

Date	Event
10/6 – 10/20	North Fulton Community Charities Warm Coat Drive
11/17– 12/1	North Fulton Community Charities Santa’s Shop Drive
10/26	<p>There is a workday scheduled at UUMAN for Saturday, October 26th, 2019 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm</p> <p>Please come for any part of the 5 hour time slot. We have many jobs to do. Feel free to bring children. There is much that they can contribute, as well.</p> <p>I know that you will come because you love our campus, want to support our hardworking Operations Ministry, and are looking forward to an opportunity to be with people with whom you don't usually get a chance to interact. However, I have an added bonus for you.</p> <p>Everyone who pitches in will get their name entered in a raffle. At 3:00, we will pull the winning ticket. You could win a fabulous prize!!</p> <p>For more information, please contact Shelley Nagrani. shelley.nagrani@gmail.com</p>



UUMAN has entered a new era: the age of anytime, anywhere giving. We are now signed up with Givelify, the mobile giving app for places of worship and charities.

To make your first mobile donation the best experience possible, we recommend you download the Givelify app or **Android** Or **iPhone** before you get to service.

Givelify gives you a beautiful, easy giving experience using your smartphone. There are no frustrating web forms or text-to-give codes to memorize. Even better, it's free to download and use. It's totally safe and secure, and for tax time you have one-tap access to your complete donation records.

Make your offerings, tithes, and gifts to special envelopes right from the palm of your hand. You can give to UUMAN wherever you are. Make us your home place of worship for quick one-tap access.

Want to see how it works? Click this link for a video that shows you all about how to make and track donations. [Givelify Video](#)

A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
10/6	<p>The Beauty of Imperfection</p> <p>Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, begins at sundown on Tuesday. It is the holiest day of the year in Judaism. We return to this holy day year after year because we are imperfect – some might say perfectly imperfect. What might this mean for us?</p> <p>New Member Sunday</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
10/13	<p>The Five Practices of Welcome Renewal</p> <p>In 2019 the UUA will be launching a new Welcoming Congregations renewal program called The Five Practices of Welcome Renewal. The goal of the program is to encourage congregations to practice Welcome every year, year-round.</p> <p>Pride Sunday</p> <p>Multigenerational Service – No RE</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn
10/20	To be announced	Lay Led
10/27	<p>Service of Remembrance</p> <p>Please join us as we remember those who have passed over the course of the year. Let us remember how they have shaped our lives in ways we could not have imagined.</p>	Rev. Dave Dunn

October Connections

Date	Event
<p>Wednesday nights from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.</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. Contact: Annette Pate painting@uuman.org</p>
<p>Weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15. Location of meetings vary.</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>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. 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 Linda Etheridge lletheridge1@gmail.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 preceding the issue date.

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