



UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

WWW.UUMAN.ORG 11420 CRABAPPLE RD, ROSWELL, GA 30075 770-992-3949

December 2018

Inside this issue:

National Memorial for Peach and Justice	1
Winter Solstice Celebration	2
Upcoming Fifty/Fifty Raffle	2
Notes from the Board	2
Volunteer at NFCC	3
UUMAN & NFCC Holiday	3
Environmental Action at UUMAN	3
UUMAN's Advancing Peace & Justice Journey	4
Recognizing UUMAN Legacy Society Charter Members	4
Sharing the Plate—50/50	5
Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest	5
Life Celebrations	5
A Month of Sundays	4
December Connections	4



National Memorial for Peace and Justice

On Saturday, January 26, we will be chartering a bus (or busses) for a trip to visit the newly-opened National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the nearby Legacy Museum in Montgomery, AL.

This memorial commemorates the victims of the more than 4300 documented cases of lynching in the United States. Both the memorial and museum were conceived by the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI - <https://eji.org/>), an organization that represents incarcerated individuals who may have been wrongly convicted of crimes. EJI will provide free legal representation for any death-row inmate in Alabama.

EJI executive director Bryan Stevenson is the author of the UUA's 2015-2016 common read *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. He also gave the Ware Lecture at the 2017 UUA General Assembly.

In his address at General Assembly, he mentioned that one of the goals of the yet-to-be-opened museum was to share visible reminders of this tragic history between communities around the country and the museum. This sharing can be done primarily in two ways:

- 1) Installation of a historical marker in each county where a confirmed lynching took place. This marker would be provided by the museum and it is identical to a marker already installed at the memorial.
- 2) Soil can be collected at the site of a confirmed lynching and brought to the museum. This soil collection will be displayed at the museum.



After hearing this, I became intrigued at this idea and found a numerical county-by-county listing of lynchings in a document downloaded from the EJI website. According to the document, there was 1 lynching in Forsyth, 1 in Cobb, 3 in DeKalb and 37 in Fulton (the most for any county in Georgia).

Since I live in Cobb, I decided to do some investigating as to the story behind its singular lynching. It turns out that this story was the infamous lynching of a Jewish factory owner Leo Frank who was falsely convicted of the murder of a young girl who worked at his pencil factory.

In August of this year, I attended the unveiling of the historical marker and the dedication of a small park commemorating Leo Frank. This marker is at the northwest corner of Roswell Rd. and I-75.

After our visit to the memorial in January, may we be inspired to facilitate in the sharing of these reminders through a soil collection project. Maybe we could advocate to have a county or individual marker placed in our community.

Hopefully, these markers and the sharing of visible reminders of this tragic history will prevent us from repeating this injustice.

Take care,

Dave





Winter Solstice Celebration

Save Saturday, December 22 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm for UUMAN's annual ceremony celebrating the return of the Light. This year we have a special surprise for the young ones, so we hope they will come.

Arrive starting at 6:30, we will begin when the stars start twinkling. We will head to the sanctuary if it rains. Pot luck to follow. If you are interested in helping, please contact Donna Melcher.



Play the Odds at the Upcoming Fifty/Fifty Raffle

Ready to win that big Mega Millions prize? Yeah, me too. But let's face it the odds are really against us. Come and play a game where the odds are more in your favor. UUMAN will be holding a drawing for a fifty/fifty raffle on December 23. Fifty percent of whatever we raise will be given to holder of the winning ticket. Ticket sales will start at the November Congregational meeting, November 11th. and continue right up to drawing on December 23. Tickets are five dollars apiece or five tickets for \$20.00.

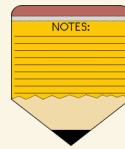
The winning ticket will be drawn by Santa and his trusty elves at our December 23 holiday service.

Proceeds from the raffle will go to boost up our Infrastructure Depreciation Fund.

See one of the Finance Committee Members to purchase tickets.

Colin J. Decker

UUMAN Treasurer



Notes from the Board of Trustees

The Verdict: November Congregational Meeting Was Fun!

by Elizabeth Rohan, UUMAN President

On November 11, 2018, UUMAN held its first semi-annual Congregational Meeting of the 2018-2019 church year. We had a great turnout—52 attendees!! And we had a lot of fun. Evaluation forms indicated overwhelmingly positive response to the meeting. Congregants enjoyed the interactive (and educational) Kahoot! game, getting updates about Board initiatives, celebrating each other's work, and hearing about UUMAN's Advancing Peace and Justice Journey (see related article in this issue). Our next Congregational Meeting is scheduled for May 19th. Come join the fun. We will vote on incoming Board members, so stay tuned!

Please see this link for the meeting content.

<https://www.uuman.org/2018/11/13/nov-2018-congregational-meeting/>

Below, a few Board members (Randy Blasch, Jim Nickens, Elizabeth Rohan, and Colin Decker) take a break from cleaning up after the Congregational meeting. (Board members not pictured: Laura Keck, Todd Callen, Dave Dunn, and Toniann Read.)



Come Volunteer with us at NFCC on December 15



As most of you know, UUMAN members have been volunteering at North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC) for over 2 years now.

NFCC is a wonderful organization having an enormous positive impact in the lives of many people in the North Fulton area.

Each year, close to 10,000 individuals receive over \$1.5M in emergency financial assistance to remain stably housed; more than 26,000 food pantry orders are filled; and over 1,200 adults attend education classes in workforce readiness and life skills development at NFCC. The assistance allows more than 2,600 families to remain in their home, not in a car, storage shed, or other unsafe living conditions. More than 90% of those receiving assistance are stably housed for 90 days or more after coming to NFCC for help. Community donations and volunteers are vital to continuing our success.

Please join us as we volunteer again at NFCC December 15, from 1-3:30 pm. A Sign Up Genius will follow shortly.

Volunteering feels good!

—Carla Kapeskas

UUMAN & NFCC Holiday Gift Drive

Help families in need have a wonderful Christmas! Please consider donating a new, unwrapped gift, and place it in the big box in our entry foyer. The deadline for donations is 12/14. Please see list below of items in high need. Please contact Sue Greenspon with any questions. Thank you!



Environmental Action at UUMAN

In a recent poll done by George Mason University in March 2018 they determined that 70% of Americans think “Global Warming is Happening” however only 58% believe that it “Is Mostly Human-Caused”! In addition they determined that 41% are “Somewhat Worried” while 21% are “Very Worried”.

There are a couple of ways you can get involved with like-minded individuals within UUMAN if you are worried or concerned about Global Warming or want to get involved in helping our community build a more sustainable world:

Earth Ministry – works as group on a wide range of topics related to the environment including education on food choices and impacts, fun outings like camping and tubing and sponsoring movies on the impacts of climate change on our world. Earth Ministry normally meets the first Tuesday of the month at UUMAN in Discovery Hall at 7pm. The next meeting is December 4th. The January meeting however will be on January 8th. For more information or to get involved come to a meeting or contact earthministry@uuman.org or Gus Hadorn, Earth Ministry chair at gushadorn@gmail.com

Citizens’ Climate Lobby (CCL) – Citizens’ Climate Lobby is a non-profit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. The local Roswell-Marietta CCL chapter normally meets the second Tuesday of the month at UUMAN in Fellowship Hall at 7pm. The next meeting is December 11th. The January meeting however will be on January 15th. For more information or to join CCL please visit citizensclimatelobby.org. To get more involved come to a meeting contact Shannon Holland at crazydiamondchrysalis@gmail.com

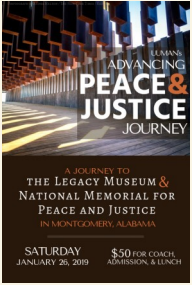
or

contact Wayne Garfinkel at waynegarf@aol.com

To a more sustainable world!

Bob Popp

bpopp@att.net



UUMAN's Advancing Peace & Justice

Don't miss this opportunity to join friends for an unforgettable day trip experience to Montgomery, Alabama on Saturday, January 26 from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM to tour The Legacy Museum & The Na-

tional Memorial for Peace & Justice located at 122 Commerce Street, Montgomery, Alabama.

\$50 Tickets per person include: Comfortable Motor Coach Seat/ Entry Ticket for both Museum & Memorial/ Box Dinner

All UUMAN members and friends who are interested in participating are encouraged to RSVP. A special rate of \$25 per ticket will be reserved for those who find this trip cost prohibitive. Please contact Rev. Dave Dunn for special code prior to ordering tickets.

Parents/Guardians bringing children are strongly recommended to carefully review the website for the museum and memorial due to the sensitive nature of the exhibits.: <https://museumandmemorial.eji.org>

Tickets may be purchased after service in Fellowship Hall through December 16th, or until we fill the bus! We have 20 seats left! Don't delay! :)

Cash/ Check and Credit Card will be accepted.

—Elizabeth Rohan

Recognizing UUMAN Legacy Society Charter Members

Recognizing UUMAN Legacy Society Charter Members - There comes a time when you decide what it means to leave a legacy. For these Charter Members of the UUMAN Legacy Society, it meant making a significant gift to UUMAN. Each one has a vision of the future that includes strengthening UUMAN for the long term and ensuring that a liberal religious choice is always available for Metro Atlanta North.

There will be plenty of other opportunities for giving to the Legacy Fund and over time it will grow. For now we honor our Charter Members that led the way.

There comes a time when you decide what it means to leave a legacy. For these Charter Members of the UUMAN Legacy Society, it meant making a significant gift to UUMAN. Each one has a vision of the future that includes strengthening UUMAN for the long term and ensuring that a liberal religious choice is always available for Metro Atlanta North.

There will be plenty of other opportunities for giving to the Legacy Fund and over time it will grow. For now we honor our Charter Members that led the way.

UUMAN Legacy Society

Charter Members

Rev. Cynthia Prescott

Robert and Rosemary Popp

Beverly T. Jordan

David and Tammy Dunn

Donna J. Melcher

Marc and Carolyn Lee

Dr. Elizabeth A. Rohan and Mr. Stephen Shanahan

Ashok and Shelley Nagrani

Steve Jordan

Laura Elizabeth Keck

Sue and Arnie Moore

Mark and Laurie Wheeler

Ann and Joe Creech

Michelle and Mike Liebergesell

Jan Wilson

Teresa Hager Schiff

Katharine R. and David R. Hudson

Diantha Horton

Tanya Romine and Jim Nickens

Randy Blasch



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.

—Michelle Liebergesell



Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest

Do you have a Christmas sweater that is Ugly, Unfortunate, or Otherwise Problematic? Please wear it to church Sunday December 9 and the Fashion Police, led by Lyn May, will judge you and your sweater. All in good fun, mostly.

- Jim Nickens



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
12/8	Jim Nickens is celebrating a birthday
12/9	Presley C. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
12/13	Dominic Read is celebrating a birthday
12/15	Carole Herman is celebrating a birthday Duco van der Beek is celebrating a birthday
12/17	Joaquin F. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday Bruce Langston is celebrating a birthday
12/18	Karen S. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
12/19	Nick G. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
12/20	Adam Fajardo is celebrating a birthday
12/23	McPatti Langston is celebrating a birthday
12/24	Paul Gellerstedt is celebrating a birthday
12/28	Lachlan K. of the MCY program is celebrating a birthday
12/29	Sue Greenspon is celebrating a big birthday!
12/31	Marty Harvey is celebrating a birthday

A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
12/2	Advent, Hanukkah and Kwanza Today marks the first day of the Christian season of Advent. Hanukkah, beginning Dec 3, commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple. Kwanza begins on Dec 26 and is a celebration of family, community and culture. What can we learn from these three holiday traditions?	Rev. Dave Dunn
12/9	Faith Forward: From Visitor to Leader You may have heard about "Faith Forward" but what is it exactly? Do you feel you know everything about what it means to be a UU (or a member of UUMAN)? Do you feel you've learned it all after our UU101 course? How can we continue to grow as UUs?	Rev. Dave Dunn Faith Forward Team
12/16	The Promise and Practice of Our Faith Listen to the voices of the black lives of UUMAN and Unitarian Universalism. The Promise and the Practice is a celebration of our shared commitment to live into a new chapter in the story of our UU faith. Can we listen? Can we do better?	Rev. Dave Dunn, Toniann Read and Black Lives of UUMAN and Unitarian Universalism
12/23	Service of Seasonal Music Bah humbug Ebenezer Scrooge! Get in the holiday spirit by joining us for a holiday celebration of music and cheer.	Rev. Dave Dunn, Alex Pietsch, Chal- ice Choir and other wonderfully talent- ed musicians
12/24	Christmas Eve Pageant & Service 4:00 PM – Christmas Pageant Join us at 4:00 PM for a special re-telling of the nativity story and a powerful message of inclusion and love – our annual production of "Would You Like to Hold the Baby?" Our pageant is participatory and great fun. There's room in the stable for EVERYONE! 7:00 PM – Candlelight Service Join us at 7:00 PM for a reflective service of music and stories that evoke the spirit of the holiday season, concluding with our traditional singing of Silent Night by candlelight. This service begins at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary, and all are invited.	
12/30	On the Eve of a New Year Please join us for a casual service looking forward to the New Year. Members of the congregation are invited to submit 300-400 word stories of their remembrances of past New Year's Eve; some will be shared during the service.	The UUMAN Wor- ship Team

December Connections

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

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



May there be peace on earth and good will to all!