



ANCHORAGE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Tuesday
June 1, 2021



Let us arrive as
children to this
huge playground
– the universe.

Roger Bourland

This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

Tuesday 6/1/21

4:30 pm Forum Planning Meeting

Wednesday 6/2/21

7 pm Building & Grounds Meeting

Thursday 6/3/21

10 am HR Committee Meeting

Friday 6/4/21

11:30 am Freethinkers In person

12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Saturday 6/5/21

Sunday 6/6/21

9 am Virtual Forum

RAIS Project Manager Issa Spatrisano
*Refugee Resettlement: The New Way We
Welcome*

10:30 am Chalice Circle in-person at
AUUF

11 am Virtual Worship

Flower Communion
with Rev. Lise

Zoom links for public meetings always
available on the calendar on the [AUUF
homepage](#).

Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, June 5

AUUF Social Room and Zoom

Gene Editing, “Lifting,” May Be Problematic by Marie Lundstrom

We will meet IN PERSON in the Social Room at AUUF next Friday, June 4. It will be a hybrid meeting because we will also connect by Zoom for the Far-Aways and the Can't-Make-Its. It will be great to actually **SEE** folks smile and **HEAR** their views, and not just in a two-inch rectangle on a screen. To connect via Zoom, go to the AUUF website and click on the Calendar for the Freethinkers link.

There will be much to talk about next week, maybe even more than we did on Friday, especially when those of us who are behind in our reading catch up in the book. For example, how do we interpret the term “lifted,” as used by Klara—the genetic enhancement or a trade-off of a disability for “smart” genes? How does Artificial Friend Klara learn? Read through Part 4 in *Klara and the Sun* for June 4. For the following week, June 11, we will finish up by reading Parts 5 and 6.

Four books have so far been suggested for our next read: Michael Ondaatje’s novel *Warlight* (c2018, 304pp). *Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in WWII* (c2021, 560pp) by Daniel James Brown. Isabel Wilkerson’s *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* (c2020, 496pp). *God’s Shadow: Sultan Selim, His Ottoman Empire, and the Making of the Modern World* (c2020, hb+pb ca. 500pp) by Alan Mikhail.

Joy & Sorrows

From Sunday, May 30

AUUF
JOY & SORROWS

From David & Irene O'Brien: Joy for our son Thomas who will be moving into his very first home, a townhouse about 1.5 miles from our house, next week.

From Alix McKee to Everyone: Joy for classes being offered at annual teacher professional development that delve into anti-racism, decolonization, and embracing of identity as a multi-faceted and intersectional experience.

From Denise Martin to Everyone: I'm undergoing a serious eye operation this coming week. Thoughts and prayers as the treatment following it will make it impossible to read anything for some time. I'll be well taken care of, and hopeful that in the long run, I'll have good vision again. Thanks for your thoughts and prayers.

From silverhjellen to Everyone: My joy today is being privileged to watch the Forum this morning and now the Fellowship service—a very meaningful way to acknowledge Memorial Day—thank you all who made this possible

From George - Anchorage to Everyone: The joy of getting to spend time with my nephew & new niece, Ryan & Jasmine, during their honeymoon. Concern for our city and the forward strides we've been privileged to make as a community over the last few years.

AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

Summer Anti-Racism Choose-Your-Own-Learning-Experience Circles

Read, watch, or listen to anything you want! Our summer circles will be a chance to share what we're reading, listening to, and/or viewing independently on our anti-racism journeys. Want suggestions? [Click here](#) for a list of titles AUUF members have appreciated recently and links to even more options.

June 22 6:30pm - 8pm

July 14 6:30pm - 8pm

August 24 6:30pm - 8pm

Location to be announced (Zoom and/or in-person)

Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy
at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Nov 30, 2021

The museum has a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist, Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community.



June's Half Portion for Social Action goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)

Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance & Immigration

Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and respect for unique cultures, history, and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish. RAIS accomplishes this through multiple programs, Reception & Placement which welcomes new refugee arrivals, comprehensive and intensive case management, education & employment services, health programming, and an agricultural program.

Currently, RAIS is serving over 450 clients from 29 different countries. Our caseload includes refugees, asylees, Cuban entrants, and Victims of Trafficking. Around 80% of the RAIS clients live in Anchorage, and 20% of clients live in Wasilla, Delta Junction, and Juneau. RAIS has built innovative ways to serve clients statewide including providing Chromebooks to clients living outside of Anchorage to participate in classes. In FY 2020, RAIS clients that gained employment had an average starting wage of \$14.72 and 94% of clients maintained their employment for at least 90 days.

Every year, World Refugee Day is celebrated on June 20th across the globe. We also will be celebrating here in Alaska and welcome you to join us at one of our Zoom Conversations or our in-person "Global Table" event. Information on World Refugee Day events can be found [here](#).



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Today At Your Fellowship

Friday
June 4, 2021

This Sunday @ AUUF on Zoom

Sunday 6/6/21
9 am Virtual Forum

11 am Chalice Circle
In-person at AUUF

11 am Virtual Worship

Zoom links for public meetings always
available on the calendar on the [AUUF
homepage](#).



Refugee Resettlement: The New Way We Welcome
RAIS Project Manager Issa Spatrisano

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, June 6

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker bios.](#)

Virtual Forum topics for June

Our Forums for the four Sundays of June will feature an interesting variety of topics from refugee resettlement, pot, toxic pollutants in the Arctic, and Alzheimer's.

On June 6, *Refugee Resettlement: The New Way We Welcome*

We'll hear from Issa Spatrisano, Project Manager for Catholic Social Services' Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services program about important new developments regarding refugee resettlement in our state and country.

On June 13, *The State of the State's Budding Cannabis Industry*

The president and legislative liaison for the Alaska Marijuana Industry Association, Lacy Wilcox, will speak to us from Juneau about the state of the state's budding cannabis industry.

On June 20, *Seeking Environmental Justice—Clean Air/ Water & Toxic-Free Food*

We will hear from Vi Waghiyi, a Yupik grandmother, member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council. She was born in Savoonga and is an advocate for the people of her homeland, Sivuqaq (St. Lawrence Island and Gambell), and elsewhere in the Arctic who are being seriously impacted by toxic pollutants.

On the final Sunday of the month, June 27, *Resources in Alaska for Dealing with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias*

Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska Executive Director Pam Kelley and Board Member Fred Traber will discuss resources available in our state for dealing with Alzheimer's and related dementias.



Art work by Cynthia Landrum



Flower Communion
with Rev. Lise

Virtual Worship

11 am Sunday, June 6

Find flowers for Flower Communion this Sunday!

Even though we won't be in person, yet, please gather some flowers to share virtually for our UU Flower Communion service this Sunday, June 6. Any flowers, plants, or even twigs are welcome. We'll take some time during our Sunday service to put our flowers on display (Brady Bunch style) so we all can see the variety of colors, smells (imagined), and textures of the beautiful flora that Rev. Capek originally envisioned as representations of the unique and inherent worth of every person in our congregations and the world.

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Worship topics for June

June 6: A celebration of the UU Flower Communion

With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Marty Freeman

This is a uniquely UU ritual as we use flowers as a metaphor for the celebration of our membership's diversity. We're all different and we all have beauty and worth.

June 13: Celebrating Pride Week, Now More than Ever

With Rev. Lise Adams Sherry and Koala Vandruff

As more in our society spread fear regarding difference, we lift higher our values of honoring and loving the inherent worth and dignity of all.

June 20: Parents and Solstice

With Joyce Laine and Cady Lynn O'Brien, worship leaders.

We'll reflect on the different ways we parent as congregants share their own experiences.

June 27: Circle Round for Justice, Healing, and Courage

Ken Winterberger, worship leader.

Come join us for a viewing of the UUA General Assembly Worship Service, hosted by the First Universalist Church of Minneapolis. This is always an enriching service with wonderful music.

AUUF open to groups for meetings

The building is open to groups for meetings - finally! It is so nice to hear voices and see people in person. Please contact Peggy at admin@anchorageuuf.org or 907-248-3737 x1 to reserve space. The library is available now as well as other rooms upstairs and down.



Freethinkers



Library

Join me as we present AUUF's 53rd annual payment-in-lieu of taxes to the Assembly

On June 8th around 5:15 pm, we will honor our Municipality's commitment to protecting our health and the lives of our loved ones, friends, and neighbors during this ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that has already killed almost 200 times more Americans than died in the attacks on 9/11.

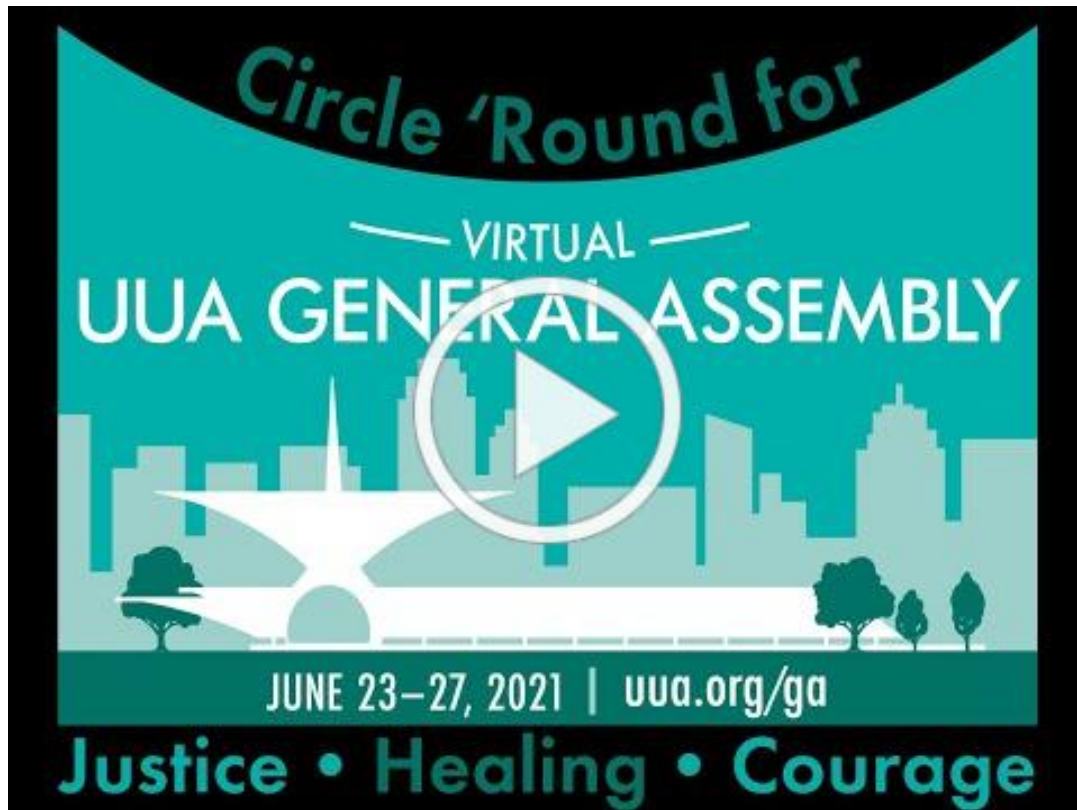
COVID-19 and poisonous political rhetoric have combined to turn our lives upside down ever since we "hunkered down" in March of 2020.

Our Municipality of Anchorage's two Mayors, Assembly, and Muni staff have withstood withering personal attacks for pretty much an entire year. Why? Because they recognized the fragility of Alaska's health care system which is exacerbated by our relative remoteness. They could have buckled under the blistering political assaults, but they did not. They stood true to their oath of office and their charge to protect and defend the health and safety of our residents.

This will be the 53rd time AUUF has presented its annual payment-in-lieu-of-taxes in recognition of our civic duty, but this time it is personal!

Join me on June 8th around 5:15 in the Assembly Chambers when we honor the steadfastness of our two Mayors, our Assembly, and Muni staff with our annual PILOT presentation.

Sid McCausland, President, AUUF Board of Directors



AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

Summer Anti-Racism Choose-Your-Own-Learning-Experience Circles

Read, watch, or listen to anything you want! Our summer circles will be a chance to share what we're reading, listening to, and/or viewing independently on our anti-racism journeys. Want suggestions? [Click here](#) for a list of titles AUUF members have appreciated recently and links to even more options.

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June's Half Portion for Social



Action goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)

Every year, World Refugee Day is celebrated on June 20th across the globe. We also will be celebrating here in

Alaska and welcome you to join us at one of our Zoom Conversations or our in-person "Global Table" event. Information on World Refugee Day events can be found [here](#).

RAIS Family Mentor Program

Family mentors introduce individuals/families to Alaska through day trips or outings so they are comfortable in their new homes. Family mentors add to the community that refugees are missing from their home country, offering their time and friendship. As our newest neighbors begin to rebuild their lives, family mentors help them explore their new community as well as form a meaningful friendship with one another. Our Family Mentorship Program allows both our clients and mentors to engage in a cultural exchange. Outings may include: walking the coastal trail, going to a playground, ice skating, sledding, and more! Outings will also support English Language by learning new words by exploring their surroundings. We are currently looking for Family Mentors in the Wasilla area also.

For more information on how to volunteer with our Family Mentor program, contact Nichoas Leone, the RAIS Volunteer/ In-Kind Donations Coordinator at nleone@cssalaska.org or 907-339-0488 Ext. 1



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Today At Your Fellowship

Monday
June 7, 2021



Happy Pride Month!

This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

Monday 6/7/21

Tuesday 6/8/21

1:30 pm Hungry Book Club
AUUF Social Room
5:15 pm Presentation of PILOT Check to
Assembly Loussac Library - Assembly
Chambers

Wednesday 6/9/21

6 pm Safer Congregations Team Meeting
on Zoom

Thursday 6/10/21

6:30 pm Board Executive Meeting on
Zoom

Friday 6/11/21

Sunday 6/13/21

8 am-11 WhaleCoast Orientation at
AUUF

9 am Virtual Forum

*The State of the State's Budding
Cannabis Industry*
Lacy Wilcox, President, AMIA

11 am Chalice Circle at AUUF

11 am Virtual Worship

*Celebrating Pride Week, Now More than
Ever With Rev. Lise and Koala Vandruff*

12:30 pm The Alliance

2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting

12 pm Freethinkers On Zoom & AUUF Social Room

2-8 pm WhaleCoast Banquet at AUUF

Saturday 6/12/21

2-4 pm WhaleCoast Orientation Set up at AUUF

Zoom links for public meetings always available on the calendar on the [AUUF homepage](#).



Freethinkers

12 pm Friday, June 11

AUUF Social Room and Zoom

**Meeting in Person Beats Everything!
by Marie Lundstrom**

How grand it is to meet in person! Plus we had two Far-Aways and a Can't-Make- It joining us via Zoom. It was a truly hybrid session, and next week, we may

even have a larger monitor and better speakers so we can be more interactive. Our hybridization worked, though it could be better. But nothing beats meeting as real people! We are signed up for the social room on Fridays at noon from now until whenever, so be there! Or join us via Zoom—go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar and the Freethinkers link will come up.

Discussion issues are involving in Freethinkers whether you've read the current book or not—we had lots of talk Friday about what constitutes “lifting,” or genetic editing for enhancement of intelligence. And the societal “caste” system Klara exists in clearly discriminates based on intelligence, wealth, and connections. Klara is a perceptive entity, but she is not a “real” person, just a robot; therefore she is not valued for her perception, or even for her existence. And of course, there's the issue of Klara's near-religious connection with the sun—what does that mean? Next week, we get to finish Kazuo Ishiguro's ***Klara and the Sun***—read Parts 5 and 6—and find out if Klara is a throwaway, like an old vacuum cleaner, or something more. And what does her existence say about our culture?

We did another thing in this first-time-back get-together—we voted on the next two books to read. First is Isabel Wilkerson's ***Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*** (c2020, 496pp). After that is ***Right/Wrong: How Technology Transforms Our Ethics*** (c2020, 304pp) by Juan Enriquez. The final vote was a tie, so we chose to read both.

Joy & Sorrows

From Sunday Worship June 6

AUUF
JOY & SORROWS

From Joyce Laine: Ongoing concern for family.

Amerika (Fiji) : Joy - living on a bee farm while the owners seek medical treatment in NZ. Sorrow - Covid case numbers in Fiji continue to rise

George - Anchorage : Joy: Planting a dozen White Spruce at Helen's family's cabin yesterday.

From Peggy Robinson : I'm so enjoying having the sun and warmth again!

AUUF open to groups for meetings

The building is open to groups for meetings - finally! It is so nice to hear voices and see people in person. Please contact Peggy at admin@anchorageuuf.org or 907-248-3737 x1 to reserve space. The library is available now as well as other rooms upstairs and down.



Freethinkers



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Sid McCausland, President, AUUF Board of Directors



UUs For A Just Economic Community Webinar: Paul Greenberg

The Climate Diet

Thursday, June 10 at 5pm PT / 6 MT / 7 CT / 8 ET

Join UUs for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC) for their monthly webinar, featuring Paul Greenberg and *The Climate Diet*. How can we eat better for the climate? In this talk bestselling author Paul Greenberg will walk through 13 simple steps you can take to change how you choose, cook, and manage your food. Paul Greenberg writes at the intersection of the environment and technology, seeking to help his readers escape screens and find emotional and ecological balance with their planet. Watch the live stream UUJEC's Facebook Page, or get the Zoom link by signing up for

MORE INFO

AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

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RAIS Moving Team

RAIS is expecting many new refugee arrivals over the next several months, each of whom are in need of a new place to call home in our community. It is RAIS' responsibility to establish a new apartment for each client before they arrive complete with household materials and furniture. It is our goal to have several Moving Teams who are willing to volunteer their time and resources to help transport furniture to apartments. Teams usually consist of 2-3 people although are not limited. Having a large truck or automobile is incredibly helpful, as there is quite a bit of furniture that must be moved into the new apartment. In addition, moving teams can expect to help with some apartment cleaning, stocking cabinets, and making beds. Join our moving team as a hands-on, tangible way to help assist a newly arrived refugee family. Also, it showcases how welcoming we can be here in Anchorage!

For more information on how to volunteer with our Moving Team, contact Nicholas Leone, RAIS Volunteer/ In-Kind Donations Coordinator at nleone@cssalaska.org or 907-339-0488 Ext. 1



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June 11, 2021

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Saturday 6/12/21

2-4 pm WhaleCoast Orientation Set up at AUUF

Sunday 6/13/21

8 am-11 WhaleCoast Orientation at AUUF

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11 am Chalice Circle at AUUF

11 am Virtual Worship

12:30 pm The Alliance

2:30 pm Worship Associate Meeting

2-8 pm WhaleCoast Banquet at AUUF

Zoom links for public meetings always available on the calendar on the [AUUF homepage](#).

Rev. Lise will be on vacation from June 14 to 21 to visit family in Oregon. Please contact Stephanie Koonz if you have any pastoral needs.



The State of the State's Budding Cannabis Industry
Lacy Wilcox, President, AMIA

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, June 13

The State of the State's Budding Cannabis Industry
Lacy Wilcox, President, AMIA

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)
[Click here for Speaker bios.](#)

Happy Pride Month!



Celebrating Pride Week, Now More than Ever

With Rev. Lise, Worship Associate: Koala Vandruff

Music Director: Megan Webb, Director of Lifespan Learning:
Rosene Beachy, AV: Sid McCausland

Virtual Worship

11 am Sunday, June 13

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

Religious Exploration LIVE Chalice Circles

The monthly *Soul Matters* theme for June is “Play”. Will be held outside during the 11 o'clock service (10:30 in July and August). Looking for group leaders to lead Chalice circles in July and August.

Peace Camp

Getting ready for our outdoor week of **UU Peace camp** for first through eighth graders July 12-16. We are looking for several kinds of supplies: old yoga mat/camping pads to cut for “sit- upons” two by fours and other remnant pieces of wood for carpentry projects.

Contact Bev Grogan to donate 317-6353.
Unused children/adult bicycles



Summer Peace Camp - One week

July 12-16, 2021 K-5th grade

The camp features summer fun! Camp is from 9:00 am- 4:00 pm each day. Before (8-9 am) & after care (4:00- 5:00 pm) is also available.

Click the Peace Camp link on the AUUF home page for registration form.

Rev. Lise's Letter

Happy Summer Everyone!

I hope you're all enjoying our nicer weather and finding some time to relax and refresh yourselves. It has been lovely to spend more time outdoors and get to see more and more people in person, hasn't it?

Our big news is that the sanctuary will be officially open for in-person worship on Sunday, June 20, 2021. But please don't plan on automatically coming to worship at AUUF every Sunday after that, because it's complicated . . . like most things these days.

Once again we will be sharing worship services with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks (UUFF). On those Sundays, when UUFF is hosting, worship will be via Zoom only; there won't be an in-person component. The major reason for this is that we still need some AV volunteers to help host our worship. Because of this, we've decided to focus our volunteer resources on the services that AUUF hosts this summer. There have also been some delays on the final bits needed to finish our remodel which has affected our AV set-up as well. (If you're interested in learning or sharing your AV skills please contact Alix McKee at alix@alaskan.com or me at revlise@anchorageuuf.org) Here is our summer worship schedule:

June 20: AUUF in-person and Zoom

June 27: AUUF in-person and Zoom

Starting at 10:30 am

July 3: UUFF Zoom

July 11: AUUF in-person and Zoom

July 18: UUFF Zoom

July 25: UUFF Zoom

August 1: UUFF Zoom

August 8: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 15: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 22: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 29: AUUF in-person and Zoom

September 5: AUUF in-person and Zoom

When you arrive for worship, please wear a mask so we can continue to protect our unvaccinated children who might be present. Rosene will be leading children's RE outside beginning at the same time as worship. We're asking that folks continue to distance at least 3 feet from those not in their home, or otherwise, intentional COVID bubble, while inside. Also, plan to have a coffee hour outside under a tent.

Our Forum services are going to continue to meet on Sundays at 9 am via Zoom only,

through Labor Day weekend. If you'd like to see the Forum service and come to worship on days we're in-person, one idea is to listen to the last part of Forum on your phone while driving to AUUF.

Folks are also welcome to come to AUUF a little early, with their laptops or phones, hook up to the guest wifi at the fellowship, and attend Forum that way. AUUF is otherwise open for small groups (members or rentals), committee, and team meetings. Just call the office or email admin@anchorageuuf.org to reserve a space. While we are, thankfully, coming out of the worst of our pandemic, we still have a ways to go to settle into our new ways of being. Lots of things continue to be in flux and I hope you're all remembering to give yourself and others grace as we continue to journey through this unprecedented time. A little more care is such a gift, and so appreciated!

Blessings and love, Rev. Lise

Safer Congregations Team

The AUUF Safer Congregation Team (SCT) meets every month; we are 7 members focused on the physical, mental and emotional health and safety of our congregation. After two years of active revision, we have an updated Policy Guidebook. The SCT wants to educate our congregation about our policies and we are sharing "snippets" from the Guidebook. Look for these the third week of every month in the TAYF.

Building Management and Grounds Safety

The SCT and the Buildings and Grounds Team and the Board have some overlap when it comes to the safety of the grounds and the building. As a rule, hazardous conditions, indoors and out, will be addressed between the Board and the Buildings and Grounds Team. This can include snow and ice removal and remediating any hazardous materials such as lead paint and asbestos. The SCT may bring forward concerns to the Board or the Building and Grounds Teams regarding the building safety as it relates to our congregants.

Personal

For the safety of everyone, at no time shall a congregant be alone with an unfamiliar person in the building without another congregant or someone who is trusted to be safe.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Board Meeting Change

AUUF Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, June 15th

Out of consideration for our Whale Coast Hosts, our Board will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 in the Social Room and on Zoom. You may attend in person or [join us on Zoom](#). You may view the [Agenda here](#). This is a one-time change. In July our meeting will return to our customary Third Wednesday schedule.

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The museum has a new exhibition about Black history and culture in Alaska. Informed by conversations with community advisors, including activist and community archivist; Cal Williams, and through the research of UAA's Ian Hartman, the exhibition will include photographs and documents from the Anchorage Museum archives that help tell the stories of the lives and experiences of members of Alaska's Black community.



June's Half Portion for Social Action goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)

Every year, World Refugee Day is celebrated on June 20th across the globe. We also will be celebrating here in Alaska and welcome you to join us at one of our Zoom Conversations or our in-person "Global Table" event. Information on World Refugee Day events can be found [here](#).

Virtual RAIS Partner Conversation

Monday, June 14, noon – 1 p.m.

Livestreamed on CSS Facebook

Hosted by: Issa Spatrisano, RAIS Program Director/State Refugee Coordinator

Guests: Anchorage Community Land Trust, Anchorage Museum, Providence Family Medical Center, and more

Join Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services as we highlight some of our partners in the community that are focused on refugee integration, increasing refugee self-sufficiency, and ensuring that their Alaskan welcome extends beyond the walls of Catholic Social Services. Hear our partner organizations describe how and why refugee integration is a part of their mission, as well as the specific programming they offer to support refugees.

Virtual Refugee Voices Panel

Wednesday, June 16, 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Livestreamed on CSS Facebook

Hosted by: Mahdi Akal, Refugee Congress Delegate of Alaska

Join us to hear directly from refugees resettled to Alaska about their experience of making Alaska home. Former refugee arrivals from Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ukraine, and Russia will share their resettlement experience and provide insight into the journey a refugee takes towards safety here in the United States.

Global Table Pop-Up

Thursday, June 17, 4 – 7 p.m.

Grow North Farm at 3601 Mountain View Drive

Cost: \$30 per ticket

Come to Grow North Farm and celebrate World Refugee Day! Learn about some of the refugee populations in Alaska and fill your belly with a spread of signature dishes from Alaska's refugee community. There will be stations set up from countries around the globe where you'll stop to pick up your dish while also learning about the home countries of refugee arrivals.

Due to the structure of this event, we cannot accommodate vegetarian, gluten-free, and

other dietary restrictions. We ask that you wear a mask whenever you're not actively eating. 100% of ticket sales go to refugee entrepreneurs. Tickets can be purchased at: [Grow North Farm](#) under the "Shop Now" button.



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ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Monday
June 14, 2021

You can discover more
about a person in
an hour of play
than in a year of
conversation.

anonymous



This Week @ AUUF on Zoom

Monday 6/14/21

Tuesday 6/15/21

6:30 pm Board Meeting
Social Room & Zoom

Wednesday 6/16/21

8-9 am Audio Visual Training on Zoom
7-8 pm Audio Visual Training on Zoom

Thursday 6/17/21

Friday 6/18/21

11:30 am Freethinkers Live at AUUF
12 pm Freethinkers on Zoom

Sunday 6/20/21

9 am Virtual Forum

*Seeking Environmental Justice—Clean
Air, Clean Water, and Toxic-Free Food*
Vi Waghiyi, Alaska Community Action on
Toxics

11 am Chalice Circle at AUUF

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF

Stories of Fatherhood
With Worship Associates Joyce Laine and
Cady Lynn O'Brien

Saturday 6/19/21

9 am Audio Visual Training on Zoom

Zoom links for public meetings always available on the calendar on the [AUUF homepage](#).

Rev. Lise on vacation

Rev. Lise is on vacation from June 14 to 21 to visit family in Oregon. Please contact Stephanie Koonz if you have any pastoral needs.

A/V volunteers needed for Sunday Worship

If you're interested in learning or sharing your AV skills please contact Alix McKee at alix@alaskan.com

AUUF Board of Directors will meet on 6:30 pm Tuesday, June 15th

Out of consideration for our Whale Coast Hosts, our Board will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Social Room and on Zoom. You may attend in person or [join us on Zoom](#). You may view the [Agenda here](#). This is a one-time change. In July our meeting will return to our customary Third Wednesday schedule.

Freethinkers

12 pm, June 18

AUUF Social Room and Zoom

Freethinker Foodies Rejoice at In-Person Sessions

by Marie Lundstrom

Rhubarb pecan pie, chocolate chip cookies, and carrot cupcakes! Now that's the kind of Freethinkers accompaniments I remember fondly pre-pandemic, and I'm happy to see them again. Zoom doesn't satisfy sweet-toothed foodies, and I noticed that there were lots of us around the tables chomping on the goodies Friday. Plus, when we get a tale from Wray Kinard about three grizzlies in his yard, he can send around pictures, and we can ooh and aah while chewing. It's great to be back to in-person meetings! And hybridizing with Zoom, we still get Far-Aways in Western Washington rain or sweating in Arizona and a Can't-Make-It-Today driving to Homer. In time, we may get a bigger monitor and better sound, but for now, we have participating voices we would not have had pre-pandemic. It's a good change.

Discussion, as usual, got us down bunny trails, but Klara's story, in Kazuo Ishiguro's ***Klara and the Sun*** appeared to touch us all with sad thoughts of her in the Yard, like an old, tossed-out vacuum cleaner. And yet, we as a species not only throw away perfectly good and working hardware, we also have neglected or thrown away elderlies, disabled persons, physically and mentally ill people, and the homeless. If tales like Klara's, who is clearly an "other," are to mirror us and thus raise our awareness, what have we learned? I identified with Klara, but only up to a point, and that point was her worship of the sun. My understanding of the sun is much different from hers. Does this, then, put me in a different "caste"?

We talked about the societal castes in Klara's world—it will be interesting to learn Isabel Wilkerson's identification of the castes we have in the U.S and elsewhere.

Related to that is a piece in *The Atlantic*, “The Four Americas,” by George Packer. It’s long, and I am still reading it. But the brief teaser note intrigued me enough to suggest it to Freethinkers. Meanwhile, in Isabel Wilkerson’s ***Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents***, read Part 1, which in the hardcover copy is about 35 pages. It doesn’t look like a sleigh ride—much thinking required! Join us Friday in the

Social Room or via Zoom—go to the AUUF website, click on the Calendar, the Freethinkers link will come up.

PILOT presentation 2021



Have a look at our draft Covenant of Right Relations

How can we bring our best selves to our relationships with one another in the fellowship? What has happened in the past when there has been a conflict, and how would we like to handle a conflict in the future?

The Healthy Congregation Team has been discussing these questions, and we look forward to fellowship-wide discussions of these topics in small groups in the fall. We drafted a document with some of our ideas. [Take a look at it at this link.](#)

Do you have feedback or ideas, or are you interested in learning more? Email the team care of Ann Larabee at amhlar@yahoo.com.

Summer Worship Info

Our big news is that the sanctuary will be officially open for in-person worship on Sunday, June 20, 2021. But please don’t plan on automatically coming to worship at AUUF every Sunday after that, because it’s complicated . . . like most things these days.

Once again we will be sharing worship services with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks (UUFF). On those Sundays, when UUFF is hosting, worship will be via Zoom only; there won't be an in-person component.

June 20: AUUF in-person and Zoom

June 27: AUUF in-person and Zoom

Starting at 10:30 am

July 3: UUFF Zoom

July 11: AUUF in-person and Zoom

July 18: UUFF Zoom

July 25: UUFF Zoom

August 1: UUFF Zoom

August 8: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 15: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 22: AUUF in-person and Zoom

August 29: AUUF in-person and Zoom

September 5: AUUF in-person and Zoom

[Click here to download the Summer Sunday Worship Schedule.](#)

When you arrive for worship, please wear a mask so we can continue to protect our unvaccinated children who might be present. Rosene will be leading children's RE outside beginning at the same time as worship. We're asking that folks continue to distance at least 3 feet from those not in their home, or otherwise, intentional COVID bubble, while inside. Also, plan to have a coffee hour outside under a tent.

Our Forum services are going to continue to meet on Sundays at 9 am via Zoom only, through Labor Day weekend. If you'd like to see the Forum service and come to worship on days we're in-person, one idea is to listen to the last part of Forum on your phone while driving to AUUF.

Folks are also welcome to come to AUUF a little early, with their laptops or phones, hook up to the guest wifi at the fellowship, and attend Forum that way.

AUUF is otherwise open for small groups (members or rentals), committee, and team meetings. Just call the office or email admin@anchorageuuf.org to reserve a space.

While we are, thankfully, coming out of the worst of our pandemic, we still have a ways to go to settle into our new ways of being. Lots of things continue to be in flux and I hope you're all remembering to give yourself and others grace as we continue to journey through this unprecedented time. A little more care is such a gift, and so appreciated!

Blessings and love, Rev. Lise

Joy & Sorrows

From Sunday, June 13



Shannon Conway:

joy for my first week as a day camp coordinator being a successful one!

From Amerika (Fiji): Sorrow - cases continue to rise here in Fiji, still experiencing supply chain disruptions, i.e. no sugar in local stores on Saturday, now 459 days away from my husband. Joy - I'm safe and all my needs are met and we have enough sugar in our pantry that I can share.

AUUF Anti-Racism Team Corner: Events of Interest

Summer Anti-Racism Choose-Your-Own-Learning-Experience Circles

Read, watch, or listen to anything you want! Our summer circles will be a chance to share what we're reading, listening to, and/or viewing independently on our anti-racism journeys. Want suggestions? [Click here](#) for a list of titles AUUF members have appreciated recently and links to even more options.

June 22 6:30pm - 8pm

July 14 6:30pm - 8pm

August 24 6:30pm - 8pm

Location to be announced (Zoom and/or in-person)

Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy
at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Nov 30, 2021

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common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Friday
June 18, 2021

This Sunday @ AUUF on Zoom

Saturday 6/19/21

9 am Audio Visual Training on Zoom

Sunday 6/20/21

9 am Virtual Forum

11 am Chalice Circle at AUUF

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF

Zoom links for public meetings always
available on the calendar on the [AUUF
homepage](#).



Seeking Environmental Justice—Clean Air, Clean Water and Toxic Free Food

Vi Waghiyi, Alaska Community Action on Toxics

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, June 20

Seeking Environmental Justice- Clean Air, Clean Water, and Toxic-free food.
With Vi Waghiyi, Alaska Community Action on Toxics

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker bio.](#)



Sunday Worship live at AUUF & on Zoom

11 am Sunday, June 20

Parents & Solstice

With Worship Associates Joyce Laine and Cady Lynn O'Brien

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here to download the Summer Sunday Worship Schedule.](#)

AUUF is OPEN but CAUTION is advised

AUUF Worship Services on June 20th and 27th will be open for in-person attendance. AUUF will be hosting AUUF services during July on Zoom. In-person services will resume in August if COVID cases do not surge in the meantime.

The Forum will gather in person again beginning in September if COVID cases do not surge in the meantime.

All AUUF Services and Forums will also be offered on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

Small groups have begun meeting in our building. Yours may too if you make arrangements with our [Administrator](#) to meet in the building and agree to adhere to our Building Use Protocols.

Hospitalizations and deaths related to COVID have been reduced by close to 95% for folks who are vaccinated. But vaccinated folks can still catch COVID, they are just very unlikely to need hospitalization. The best news is that the CDC has acknowledged there is very little chance of contracting COVID when you are OUTSIDE (not to be confused with the lower 48)

Unfortunately, however, the emerging COVID Delta mutation has produced a significant increase in hospitalizations in the U.K. with its relatively high proportion of vaccinated folks 12 & up (UK: 1st shot: 62%, 2nd shot: 45% vs. Anchorage: 1st shot: 57%, 2nd Shot: 51%).

“Covid-19 cases are rising exponentially across England driven by younger and mostly unvaccinated age groups...infections increased by 50% between 3 May and 7 June, coinciding with the rise of the Delta coronavirus variant that is now dominant in the UK.” (Guardian 210616)

“The Delta variant is by far the most contagious variant of this virus we have seen in the entire pandemic,” Dr. Ashish Jha said yesterday. “The good news is the data suggests that, if you’ve been fully vaccinated, you remain protected, that the vaccines hold up.” (NYT 210614)

DELTA just slipped into Alaska (2 cases) and has yet to catch on in Anchorage. But, as you already know, many folks hereabouts are unvaccinated, maskless, and out and about without a care in the World. So CAUTION is advised when in enclosed spaces with folks you do not know well.

While AUUF has made masks optional for small groups in which everyone indicates they are vaccinated, AUUF protocols state that masks must be worn when unvaccinated children are present and are advisable at all times.

Immunocompromised individuals may not be fully protected by the vaccines and, therefore, should exercise an abundance of caution.

I hope to see the three-dimensional you real soon.
In Fellowship,
Sid

Anti- Racism Team Learning Circle

6:30-8 pm Tuesday, June 22 on Zoom

Read, watch, or listen to anything you want! Our summer circles will be a chance to share what we’re reading, listening to, and/or viewing independently on our anti-racism journeys. Want suggestions? [Click here](#) for a list of titles AUUF members have appreciated recently and a link to even more options.

Click the calendar image on the bottom of anchorageuuf.org for the Zoom link.

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Stock Donations are Welcome!

Some of our members donate to AUUF by giving us stock or mutual funds directly from their

investment broker or company. We have an account at Charles Schwab to receive them. We greatly appreciate donations in this manner. Please inform the office at admin@anchorageuuf.org or 907-248-3737 x1 if you are donating this way, as Charles Schwab does not receive your name along with the stock/mutual funds. Also, contact us if you need our account name and number to make a donation. Thanks!



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RAIS Tutoring Program

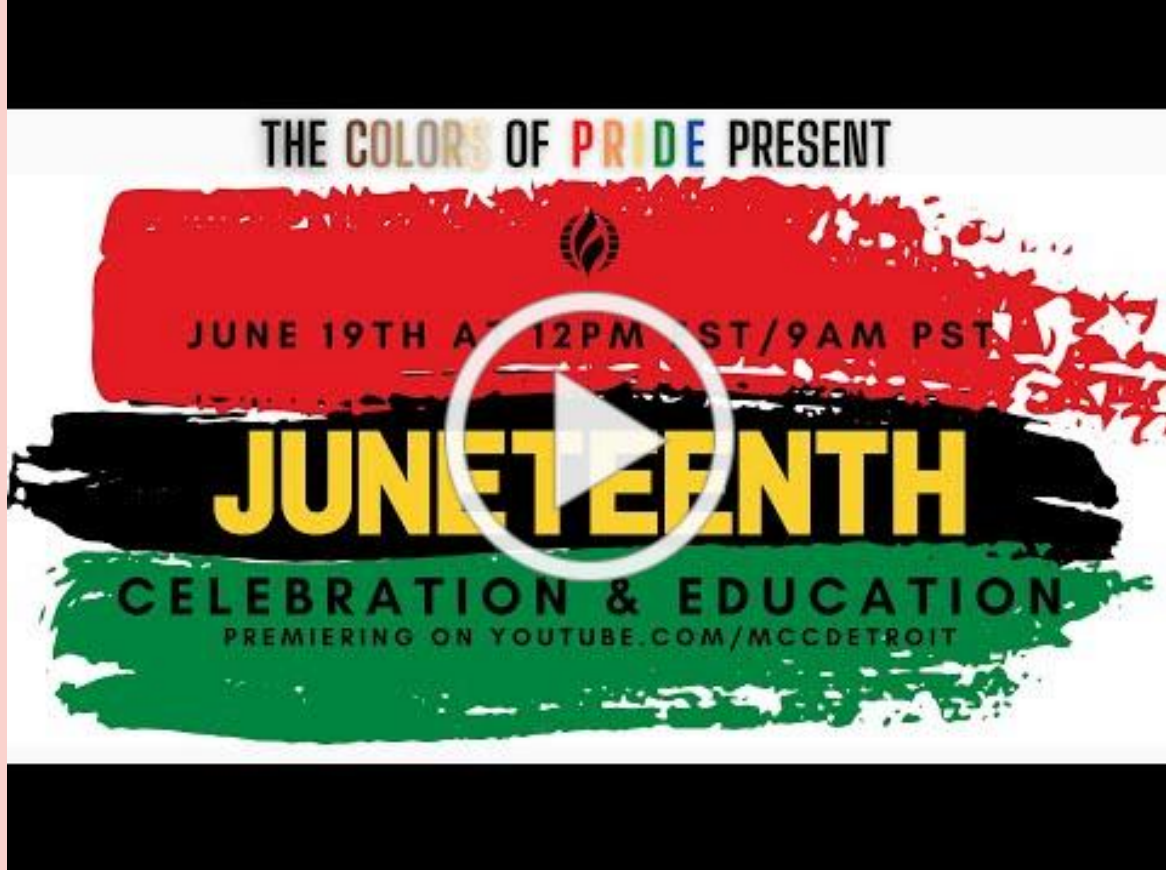
Our tutoring program provides refugees with one-on-one support in any academic field they may need additional assistance in. This may include English instruction, Citizenship Exam preparation, or even Science tutoring. During the pandemic, tutoring opportunities transitioned entirely online over Zoom, but now have the option to meet in person while abiding by COVID 19 protocols.

For more information on how to volunteer with our tutoring program, contact Nicholas Leone, the RAIS Volunteer/ In-Kind Donations Coordinator at nleone@cssalaska.org or 907-339-0488 Ext. 1

Join The Colors of Pride Coalition in a Juneteenth celebration

Premiers Saturday, June 19th

Learn about the emancipation of the enslaved Americans in 1865 and the continued liberation of Black and Brown people in the United States. Join the event with your congregation or community and enjoy traditional foods, song and spoken word.



amazon smile
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Today At Your Fellowship

Friday
June 25, 2021

This Sunday @ AUUF

Sunday 6/27/21

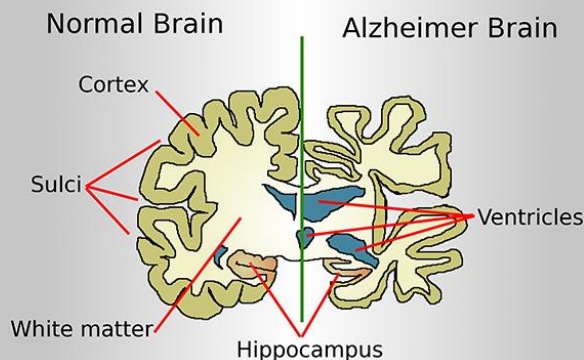
9 am Virtual Forum

11 am Chalice Circle Live at AUUF

11 am Sunday Worship Live at AUUF

Zoom links for public meetings always
available on the calendar on the [AUUF
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available on the calendar on the [AUUF
homepage](#).



Resources in Alaska for Dealing with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias

Pam Kelley, Executive Director, and Fred Traber, Board Member Alzheimer's
Resource of Alaska

Virtual Forum

9 am Sunday, June 27

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[Click here for Speaker bio.](#)



Circle Round for Justice, Healing, and Courage: UUA GA Worship Service

Ken Winterberger, Worship Associate

Music Director: Megan Webb, DLRE: Rosene Beachy, AV: Sid McCausland

Worship Live & On Zoom

11 am Sunday, June 27

[Click here to join on Zoom.](#)

[GA Event Schedule](#)



Don't forget to register

Summer Peace Camp - One week

July 12-16, 2021 K-5th grade

The camp features summer fun! Camp is from 9:00 am- 4:00 pm each day. Before (8-9 am) & after care (4:00- 5:00 pm) is also available.

Click the Peace Camp link on the AUUF home page for registration form.

Religious Exploration Updates

From Rosene Beachy

UU Peace camp for 1st through 8th graders July 12-16.

We are looking for several kinds of supplies:

- *old yoga mats /camping pads to cut for sewing kids "sit upon"
- *small ballots or children's hammers - other tools, call Bev Grogan 317-6353
- *Extra children/adult bicycles
- *"children at play" signs

RE Chalice Circle - Sundays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Toddler Childcare available as needed - call/text Rosene 441-6815 to arrange before Sunday



June WhaleCoast Tour a Success, Thanks to YOU!

By Denise Martin

Please join me in thanking all the following volunteers who housed the June WhaleCoast guests, earning thousands of dollars for AUUF: Carol Harris, Paula Sayler, James Dryden & Stephanie Koonz, Rosene Beachy, Koala Vandruff, Gwen Perry-Crawford, Deb Addie, Heather Flynn, Berta Gardner, Joan Frankevich, Terry & Don Antrobus, Judy Engh, and Jane Gray.

Kudos to Jane Gray, who not only housed guests but has taken over organizing the housing since I had eye surgery and am visually impaired for a while.
Kudos also to Kalen Saxton for organizing a banquet for the guests, and orchestrated several volunteers:

Tables and Chairs: David Snyder, Ken Winterberger, James Dryden, Bruce Roberts, Don Crandall, and Don Antrobus Sid McCausland who donated and put a tent for the tables outside.

Table Settings, Food Prep, and Serving: Berta Gardner, Silver Hjellen, Paula Saylor, and Kathy Lucich.

Beverage Table: James Dryden, Stephanie Koonz, Don Antrobus, Don Crandall, Berta Gardner, Lynn Hallquist, and Jim Wanamaker bought or donated and/ or served wine, beer, Ice, and other drinks.

Donations of Food: Rev. Lise, Peggy Robinson, Kathy Lucich, Don Antrobus, Bruce Roberts, Kalen Saxton,

Berta Gardner, Cari Sayre, Jane Gray, Koala Vandruff, Stephanie Koonz, Paula Saylor, Rosene Beachy, Gwen Perry-Crawford. Silver Hjellen, Heather Flynn.

Massive Cleanup: Kalen, Berta, Silver, Paula, Kathy, James, Stephanie, Don and Don, Bruce, Ken, Heather, plus the tour directors Dave & Cynthia!

Entertainment, the "UU Dollies": Diane Smith, Deb Addie, and Mary Schallert

Plans are underway for the July WhaleCoast tour coming through Anchorage on the 7th and 8th – (and another banquet on the 8th). Please contact Jane Gray if you can help: 907-980-7721, or janeellengray@gmail.com

July Whalecoast hosts needed!!

We are still in need of a few hosts for July Whalecoast, when guests will stay the nights of July 7th and 8th.

Please contact Jane Gray at 907-980-7721, or janeellengray@gmail.com if you can spare a bed to help us in our biggest fundraising event.

The Alliance Rummage Sale

The Alliance is sponsoring a rummage sale this July! The dates are Friday, July 30, 3-6 pm set up and the sale on Saturday, July 31 st 9-3 pm. Now is the time to clean out your cupboards, closets and, bookshelves and donate items to this annual fundraiser. There will be tables set up in the social room and outside. Items can be left off at the fellowship on Friday the July 30th. Come and join in the fun! We will follow the AUUF Building Use Protocols and will spell out what they are a bit closer to the sale.

Anti-Racism Team

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at The Anchorage Museum

On view April 30 — Nov 30, 2021

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Candlelight Vigil for Jaclyn Welcome

6:00 pm Sunday, June 27th

**Delaney Park Strip on
Tenth Avenue at G Street**

*Jaclyn's Family requests that we use this time to remember Jaclyn,
to humanize all houseless people who are already among the most marginalized,
discouraged, and traumatized among us; & to recognize that this was an attack on our
entire community of houseless human beings.*

[Please leave your political perspectives at home.]

[Facebook Events Announcement](#)



June's Half Portion for Social Action goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)

Refugee Agriculture Program

The CSS Refugee Agriculture Program uses agriculture as an avenue to promote overall health and well-being among refugee clients. The program grows vegetables on two plots of land in Mountain View - Fresh International Gardens (FIG) and Grow North Farm. Fresh International Gardens (FIG) is a refugee-run farming co-op. The FIG co-op has been building healthy refugee communities since 2007 by helping new Alaskans develop English-language and small business skills, access fresh vegetables, and earn supplemental income. 100% of FIG earnings are paid out directly to FIG gardeners.

Grow North Farm is an urban farm created in partnership with Anchorage Community Land Trust. Made up entirely of individuals from refugee or immigrant backgrounds, the farm allows independent entrepreneurs to grow and sell their own food directly on-site at the Farm Stand every day from 4-7, which will begin on June 21st. Farmers bring their expertise from a variety of countries including Burma, Bhutan, Nepal, South Sudan, the Congo, Mexico, and Somalia.

If you would like to volunteer at with our Refugee Agriculture Program, please contact RAIS Volunteer/ In-Kind Donations Coordinator at nleone@cssalaska.org or 907-339-0488 Ext. 1



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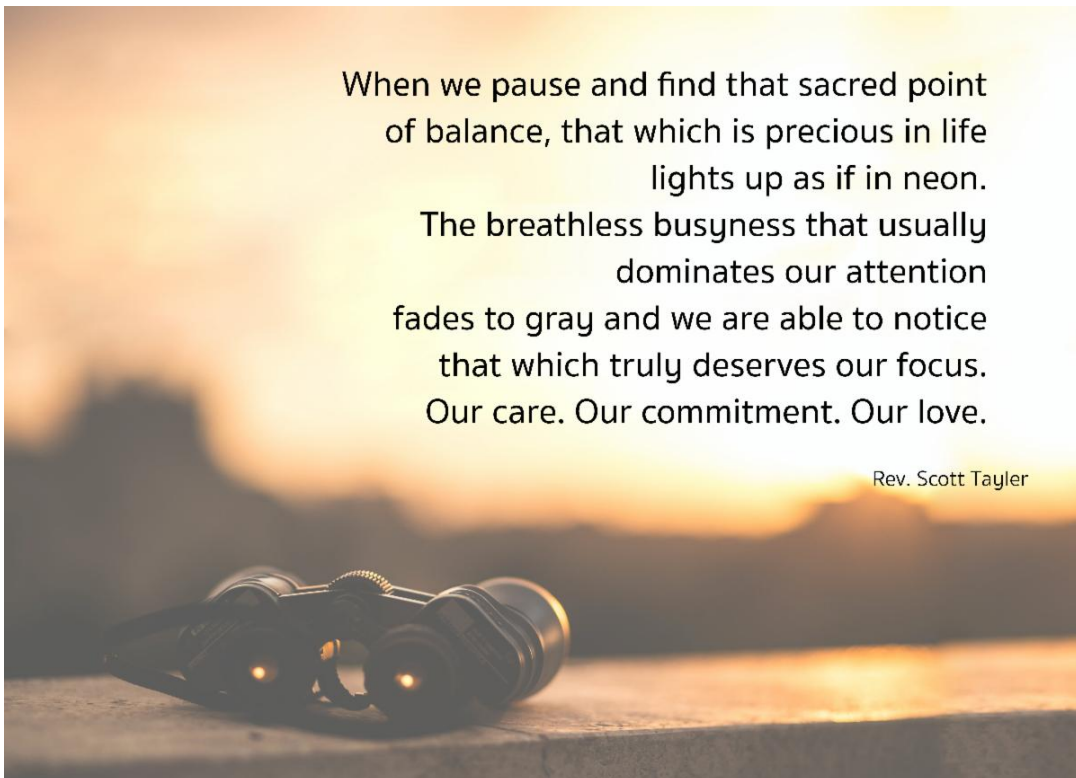


ANCHORAGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

*diverse beliefs,
common purpose.*

Today At Your Fellowship

Monday
June 28, 2021



When we pause and find that sacred point
of balance, that which is precious in life
lights up as if in neon.
The breathless busyness that usually
dominates our attention
fades to gray and we are able to notice
that which truly deserves our focus.
Our care. Our commitment. Our love.

Rev. Scott Tayler

This Week @ AUUF

Monday 6/28/21

Tuesday 6/29/21

Wednesday 6/30/21

Thursday 7/1/21

Friday 7/2/21
12 pm Freethinkers

Saturday 7/3/21

Sunday 7/4/21

9 am Virtual Forum on Zoom

10:30 am RE Chalice Circle Life at AUUF

10:30 am UUFF Virtual Worship on Zoom

**Zoom links for public meetings always
available on the calendar on the [AUUF
homepage](#).**

Freethinkers

11:30-2 pm Friday, July 2 Live at AUUF

12 pm -1:30 pm on Zoom

Nazis Used the American Model

by Marie Lundstrom

A bitter piece of truth to chew on and swallow is that the Nazis used long-established American legal and social structure as a model for their laws on racial purity and prohibitions. When you think about it, it's not such a leap from slave whippings, lynching, and the massacre of Greenwood, Oklahoma, to the ovens of Dachau. When I visited Dachau, I had no idea then that the ideas in our American system spawned that evil. But they did. Eugenics, miscegenation, segregation, classification as white/nonwhite, Jim Crow—a list of legal and commonly accepted racial and social divisions makes clear why the Nazis looked to us for a system that would work for them in keeping Aryans at the top of the hierarchy, Jews and other undesirables at the bottom. It worked for us; it could work for them. And did.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Join us in person or via Zoom—on the AUUF website, click on the Calendar for the Freethinker link.

Have a look at our draft Covenant of Right Relations

How can we bring our best selves to our relationships with one another in the fellowship? What has happened in the past when there has been conflict, and how would we like to handle conflict in the future?

The Healthy Congregation Team has been discussing these questions, and we look forward to fellowship-wide discussions of these topics in small groups in the fall. We drafted a document with some of our ideas. Take a look at it in this link.

Do you have feedback or ideas, or are you interested in learning more? Email the team care of Ann Larabee at amhlar@yahoo.com.

[Click here to read the draft Covenant of Right Relations.](#)



Summer Peace Camp - One week

July 12-16, 2021 K-5th grade

The camp features summer fun! Camp is from 9:00 am- 4:00 pm each day. Before (8-9 am) & after care (4:00- 5:00 pm) is also available.

Click the Peace Camp link on the AUUF home page for registration form.

Religious Exploration Updates

From Rosene Beachy

UU Peace camp for 1st through 8th graders July 12-16.

We are looking for several kinds of supplies:

- *old yoga mats /camping pads to cut for sewing kids "sit upon"
- *small ballots or children's hammers - other tools, call Bev Grogan 317-6353
- *Extra children/adult bicycles
- *"children at play" signs

Virtual Forum and GA Sunday Service links

Sunday, June 27

The podcast for Sunday's Virtual Forum [can be found here](#) -

Also, you can access the 2021 General Assembly Sunday Service, **Until Love Wins**, in several places. It is worth a watch. -

The service was pre-recorded and is be available to play from the beginning at any time; no special link is needed to stream [GA Sunday Worship](#) or [YouTube](#). A [separate stream with ASL interpretation](#) is also available.



June WhaleCoast Tour a Success, Thanks to YOU!

Plans are underway for the July WhaleCoast tour coming through Anchorage on the 7th and 8th – (and another banquet on the 8th). Please contact Jane Gray if you can help: 907-980-7721, or janeellengray@gmail.com

July Whalecoast hosts needed!!

We are still in need of a few hosts for July Whalecoast, when guests will stay the nights of July 7th and 8th.

Please contact Jane Gray at 907-980-7721, or janeellengray@gmail.com if you can spare a bed to help us in our biggest fundraising event.

The Alliance Rummage Sale

The Alliance is sponsoring a rummage sale this July! The dates are Friday, July 30, 3-6 pm set up and the sale on Saturday, July 31 st 9-3 pm. Now is the time to clean out your cupboards, closets and, bookshelves and donate items to this annual fundraiser. There will be tables set up in the social room and outside. Items can be left off at the fellowship on Friday the July 30th. Come and join in the fun! We will follow the AUUF Building Use Protocols and will spell out what they are a bit closer to the sale.



Wednesdays
July 28, August 11, August 25
6:00 – 7:30 PM (ET) | 3:00 – 4:30 PM (PT)

ECA proudly presents The Climate Activist Toolkit, a 3-part summer workshop series designed to build our strengths as climate advocates. These facilitated workshops will cover a range of topics including Tools for Meeting with Elected Officials, The Power of Personal Stories, and Communicating for Climate Action. We'll dive into helpful skills, tools, and strategies relevant to our members working at local, state, and federal levels. Via Zoom to discuss personal strategies and ideas, practice skills through role-play, and plan how to engage in actions. Together we'll learn, prepare to take action, meet new ECA folks, and have fun.

REGISTER NOW

[Click here to read more.](#)



June's Half Portion for Social Action goes to Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)

Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS) provides a bridge for refugees (individuals who have had to flee their countries of origin due to the tragedies of persecution and war) from their former life experiences to the new skills required for success in the United States. Through a focus on economic self-sufficiency, community integration, and respect for unique cultures, history, and traditions, RAIS creates an environment of compassion and encouragement for refugees to flourish. RAIS accomplishes this through multiple programs, Reception & Placement which welcomes new refugee arrivals, comprehensive and intensive case management, education & employment services, health programming, and an agricultural program.

Donations

Catholic Social Services is always accepting generous donations of fresh food, new or gently used household items, or professional services. These donations help us ensure that the individuals and families we serve will be able to live comfortably and with dignity. Donations are accepted from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm on Fridays at 20th Ave. side of the Catholic Social Services building (3710 E. 20th Avenue).

If you would like to donate directly to RAIS or our Refugee Agriculture Program, please contact RAIS Volunteer/ In-Kind Donations Coordinator at nleone@cssalaska.org or 907-339-0488 Ext. 1



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Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, rbeachy@alaskalife.net
Office Hours –By Appointment Only

STAY CONNECTED



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