



GNUUs

Contents

Worship:

Gadding About:

Ministry for Connecting Within:

Ministry for Connecting Beyond:

Events This Month

- April 1.....Property Work Day*
 - April 2...Food Bank Donations*
 - April 2.....Potluck Luncheon*
 - April 2.....Congregational
Conversation+*
 - April 5...Yarns from the Heart+
 - April 8....Sewing with Sherree*
 - April 9.....Spiral Scouts+
 - April 9.....Belief Exploration+
 - April 15..Green Team Meeting+
 - April 16.....In-Person Tarot*
 - April 19.Yarns from the Heart+
 - April 19.....Board Meeting+
 - April 20.....CUUPs+
 - April 23.....Good Trouble+*
 - April 26.....Book Group+
 - April 30....Congregational
Conversation+*
 - Tuesdays.....Choir Rehearsal*
 - Sundays.....Tarot Sunday+
- *in person
+via Zoom

For details visit uucg.org

Did you Gnow?

- Every 4 minutes and 13 seconds, enough wool is produced around the world to make a sweater big enough for the Statue of Liberty to wear.



The Path of Resistance



Curiosity. Courage. Compassion.

Young children can be notoriously stubborn, pillars of resistance. But they don't do it out of antagonism or malice. Children resist for very real reasons. They might resist eating the dinner you put in front of them because they wanted to make the sandwich themselves, or their body simply doesn't want food right then. They might resist bedtime because the world is such an exciting

place and they don't want to miss any of it. Resistance is not being contrary just for the sake of being contrary, resistance is forcing the world to give you the space your personhood demands.

How do you fight for the space your personhood demands?

What do you have to resist to gain that space?

What role does resistance play in your efforts for others to gain the space that they need?



Worship in April Sundays at 11:00am

Theme: *The Path of Resistance*
Join us via Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/565460176>

April 2: In Person and via Zoom
Say Yes to Spring!

Don't resist! Bring on the flowers for our annual Flower Ceremony ritual. Fresh flowers from your garden (or your neighbor's - with permission) are encouraged... and bring extras to share. All flowers are welcome!

Join us in person and via Zoom
Rev. Jan Taddeo (she/her), Service Leader

April 9: In Person and via Zoom
Solid as a Rock?

Easter offers an opportunity to explore what we've resisted in our search for spiritual truths. Is our truth a rock that we cling to, resisting any challenges? Or is our truth an ever flowing stream fed by many waters?

Join us in person and via Zoom
Rev. Jan Taddeo (she/her), Service Leader

April 16: In Person and via Zoom
Resistance is Essential (not Futile)

How do we grow the Courage to Resist—Oppression, Depression, Aggression, Repression, Transgression?

Join us in person and via Zoom
Sherree Bailey (she/her), Service Leader

April 23: In Person and via Zoom
Odes to the Earth

Art can be a form of resistance, and poetry offers many ways to express our love and our concerns for our blue boat home, pearl of blue: Earth. If you have a favorite poem about this planet that sustains us all, or an original piece to share, please contact Rev. Jan.

Join us in person and via Zoom
Rev. Jan Taddeo (she/her), Service Leader

April 30: In Person and via Zoom
A Joyful Noise

One of the ways Unitarian Universalists seek to build a Beloved Community is to resist harmful ideas by protesting them. Join us as we sing Songs of Protest together and discuss how doing so helps make the world a better place.

Join us in person and via Zoom
Elna Brynestad (she/her), Service Leader

After Hour Sundays at 12:30pm

1st Sunday, April 2

- Congregational Conversation
- Potluck

2nd Sunday, April 9

- Spiral Scouts (pre-registration required)
- Belief Explorers

3rd Sunday, April 16

- Family Faith Development
- Sunday Tarot

4th Sunday, April 23

- “Good Trouble”: Faith in Action
- Family Games

5th Sunday, April 30

- Congregational Conversation

All After Hour programs are in person at UUCG unless otherwise noted.





Gadding About

by Reverend Jan Taddeo (she/her)

Resistance is Futile. What We Resist Persists.
Resisting Arrest. Resist.



There are many ways to consider our April ministry theme on the Path of Resistance. How does the term “resistance” show up in your life?

I’ve embarked on a whole new ministerial experience in this ministry of leaving, and I find I’m a bit resistant on many fronts. Sorting through all the things in my office feels overwhelming. Delegating and letting go of some of the things I’ve taken up over the years that probably should have remained in the hands of volunteers or other staff members is challenging. I mostly resist crying every Sunday when I look out at your faces and realize a time will too soon come when I won’t be looking into your eyes, hugging, consoling, laughing, listening.

One of the hardest things about leaving is the need to create space for your next minister to arrive and develop relationships with you – to come in and love you up without my interference. Unitarian Universalist ministers recognize the need for this space and commit to not engaging with any members of the congregation for at least a year after they leave, and even then any interactions would

need to be very rare. At the end of June, I’ll close my “RevJan Taddeo” Facebook account, remove myself from Discord, and disentangle myself from the tapestry of UUCG congregational life. I’m resistant. I expect some of you are as well. Let’s all take a deep breath together, release the anxiety, and continue to center love in our community of trust, compassion, and inquiry.

What are you resisting in your life? What are you leaning into? Are you resisting the injustices that are rising up around our state and country? Making the calls, signing the petitions, making your voice heard to defend body autonomy on so many levels. March 31st was Transgender Day of Visibility, right on the cusp of Georgia and other states removing the rights of parents, children, and their medical providers to determine their own path forward for children to live into their true selves. Abortion bans are stripping people of their rights to plan and choose if and when to have children. What’s next?

Are you resisting the invitation to church leadership, the joy of singing with the choir, leading a family faith development program (I did that on March 19 and IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!!)? Are you resisting the move, the career change, the relationship, or the invitation to... something? Are you resisting getting up in the morning, seeing a therapist, getting support, calling Pastoral Care?

How do you move through your resistance? Do you move through the resistance? Do you resign, go in a different direction, avoid the difficult conversation, the challenging path? I look forward to sharing reflections on the path of resistance with each other this month.

With love...

Reverend Jan

Give Away the Plate

**2023 2nd Quarter Recipient:
Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse**

During the April through June quarter, Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse will receive one half of all Sunday morning plate donations. This remarkable nonprofit organization in Stone Mountain, GA advances the long-term well-being of people with brain injury-related disability and their families through skills development, support, and advocacy.

When a patient with traumatic brain injury comes home from the hospital or rehab clinic, the hard work has just begun. Family members typically face a life-long physical, financial, and emotional ordeal while their loved one faces the long, difficult task of adjusting to a world where he or she no longer fits. Along the members' rehabilitative journey, the objective is to increase their quality of life through productive activity including paid and non-paid work, school, and independent living. They typically support their community by doing some work in the kitchen, on the grounds of the property, or in the office.

Footnote:

The word clubhouse in the organization's name is a reference to the "clubhouse model of psychosocial rehabilitation."

Good Trouble April 23



Join us for a discussion on resisting the politics of power and privilege that foster conflict; including conversation raising up solutions for disarmament and world peace.

Stewardship Opportunities

Click each link for more information

[Give Time](#)

[Give Money](#)

[Give Materials](#)

Currently we are especially seeking

- Hospitality Volunteers
- Books for our new library.

We would like to showcase books that have been banned or challenged at schools and public libraries.



This Quarter's Give Away the Plate Recipient

Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse

Ministry: Connecting Within

Message from Lay Minister Lisa Kiel (she/her)

UUCG Book Group

Selection



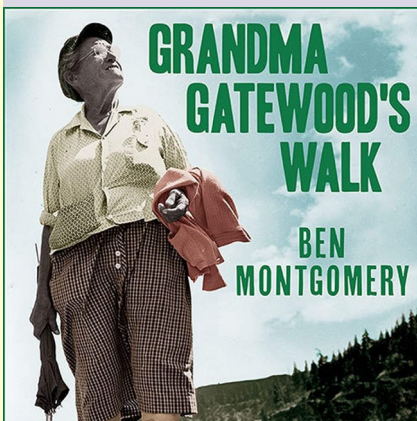
Grandma

Gatewood's

Walk: The Inspired

**Story of the Woman Who
Saved The Appalachian Trail
by Ben Montgomery
Book Group Meeting
April 26 7pm**

Gatewood's life was far from easy. In rural Ohio, she managed a household of 11 kids alongside a less-than-supportive husband. One day, at age 67, she decided to go for a nice long walk . . . and ended up completing the Appalachian Trail. A story of true grit and girl power at any age, Grandma Gatewood proves that no peak is insurmountable.



“The most important things in life are the connections you make with others.” – *Tom Ford*

I have to agree with Tom on this! Last week, I was walking around the church after our 11:00 Sunday service. We had so much going on! Faith Development for families and children was being held in our newly renovated Treehouse. Sharing the Journey was gathering in the Playhouse, and Sunday Tarot was in the Library. It's wonderful to hear all our voices filling all the corners of our building again.

Recently, we started having potlucks and another is planned for April 2nd, provided all our volunteer slots are filled. UUCG is like family to most of us, and as a family we need to share some chores. Instead of a Hospitality Team, we are inviting folks to sign up to help on upcoming potlucks on our volunteer board posted in the church foyer next to the front door. If we get enough volunteers, then the potluck is on, if not we'll have to cancel the potluck because we need to be able to set up and clean up our space responsibly. So I encourage everyone to become familiar with our potluck sign up board and volunteer when you're able so we can enjoy sharing a meal together!

UUCG has many groups that meet on a regular basis. You may already be a member of one or more of these groups, but if not I'd like to remind you of some connection opportunities. These group meetings are posted on the UUCG website calendar.

Covenant Groups - are on their 5th session starting this week.

During the Spring we had 3 groups: Monday evening online, Wednesday evening in person, and Thursday morning online. We have 3 more sessions to go before Spring Covenant Groups end and Summer Covenant Groups begin.

Sewing with Sherree - meets every 2nd Saturday at the church starting at 10 am

Book Club - meets online every 4th Wednesday from 7-9 pm

Yarns from the Heart - meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday online at 10 am

QUUest (Dungeons and Dragons)- meets every

1st Friday at 6pm in person and every 3rd Friday at 7 pm online

Spiral Scouts - meets every 2nd Sunday following Sunday service

And these are only the Connecting Within groups! We have other ministries also offering unique opportunities for you to meet and connect with others. So please, don't be shy.

With Joy,

Lisa, Lay Minister for Connecting Within

Where Do We Go From Here? Message from Lay Minister Barbara Stahnke (she/her)

The recent signing by Governor Kemp of SB 140, the law to prevent families from availing themselves of healthcare, specifically related to gender-affirming care, in conjunction with a medical provider following evidenced-based medical practice, is a step backward for Georgia. The opening preamble does not use the actual evidence, nor does it consider the complexity of the actual decision-making that occurs when children experience gender dysphoria. It uses fear-based language and social media-type sound bites to try to make this law sound like a reasonable and cautious step. It also probably helps these all-white lawmakers “feel” like they are doing the “right” thing. Beliefs and feelings are important to individuals; however, that does not make beliefs and feelings sufficient for laws. This law is bad because it takes a complex decision that must be made by families and trans children guided by medical providers who follow evidenced based practice.

What can we do now? These ideas are coming from a white, cis-gendered person who identifies as female. If a trans friend asks for something different, please consider their idea a priority.

- If you are an Ally - Attend and fully participate in the Trans-inclusion in Congregation Workshop the next time it is offered at UUCG.
- If you have already participated in the Workshop, your access still works. The Transforming Hearts Collective has added new resources to address the nationwide increase in legislation just like SB 140.
- Listen to Ezra Klein’s Podcast “If You Read the G.O.P.’s Anti-Trans Policies, You’ll See What It Really Wants.”
- Go to the link above for SB 140 and identify who voted “Yes” and who voted “No” on this legislation. Reach out to your Legislator and express your thoughts. It is always appropriate to let your legislator feel your gratitude for stepping up to vote for legislation that you supported or didn’t support. Then REMEMBER when it comes time to vote. Then GO VOTE every time.
- Be ready to support our trans children, their families, and our trans siblings, friends, and family. This is a moment when your compassionate presence is needed. They are not responsible for helping you understand anything but their experience. Be aware this bill does not only impact trans folks – it spreads a wide circle of risk awareness for many in the LGTBQ community.
- Consider supporting the following organizations or individuals that will be performing ongoing battles against this legislation and legislation across the country, or helping people understand more about people of all genders.
 - ACLU of Georgia <https://www.acluga.org/> Please note they were one of the organizations at the capitol providing protection and legal support during the lobbying against this bill.
 - Georgia Equality <https://georgiaequality.org/> Please note this organization has been fighting against anti-LGTBQ legislation for years and was at the capitol for lobbying against this bill.
 - Radical Copy Editor on Patreon and learn how to use gender-inclusive language. <https://radicalcopyeditor.com/2017/08/31/transgender-style-guide/>
 - Gender Spectrum <https://genderspectrum.org/about/our-mission-and-vision> This organization supports gender-diverse children and teens through multiple avenues.
 - Side with Love Campaign - <https://sidewithlove.org/tools-to-help-uus-thwart-anti-transgender-bills-and-attacks>

“First, they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.” Martin Niemöller

Save the Date

Please join us for an Open House
May 13 from 12pm - 2pm



**Beltane Ritual
May 6 at 6pm**



We bid a fond farewell to Reverend Jan Taddeo as she retires from ministry and embarks on her next adventure

Rev. Jan's last Sunday in the pulpit will be on May 21st

















Please join us to thank her and wish her well.

Nurturing Connections



	Property Beautification Day	Monthly projects to benefit the building and grounds. All skills and abilities are welcome.	1st Saturday 10:00am	In-Person
	Food Bank Dropoff	We gather donations for the Lawrenceville Co-op food bank.	1st Sunday of even numbered months	In-Person
	Congregational Conversation	A Board-hosted conversation about issues that matter to us as a congregation.	1st Sundays 12:30pm	In-Person and via Zoom: 565 460 176
	Tarot Sundays	A discussion about all things Tarot and a Guided Meditation inspired by the weekly topic.	Every Sunday except for 3rd 5:00pm	Via Zoom: 978 958 52363
	Covenant Choir	Choir gathers to rehearse for performance on Sunday mornings during Worship Services.	Every Tuesday 7:00pm	In-Person
	Yarns from the Heart	Knitters and crocheters gather to create prayer shawls and baby blankets for members and friends and the wider community. This group is open to all fiber artists.	1st and 3rd Wednesdays 7:00pm	Via Zoom Email admin@uucg.org For access
	Sewing with Sherree	Join us for easy sewing projects and fun! Bring your fabric and machine if you got one! All skill levels are welcome.	2nd Saturdays 8:00pm	In-Person
	Spiral Scouts	An all-gender scouting group that focuses on nature-based learning and activities. We are open to children ages 3-12.	2nd Sundays 12:30pm	In-Person
	Belief Explorers	A group of Unitarian Universalists and others who are interested in exploring the sources of world faith traditions. All are welcome.	2nd Sundays 12:30pm	In-Person and viz Zoom: 896-987-304
	Green Team Meeting	All who are interested in environmental issues are welcome.	3rd Saturday 9:30am	Via Zoom: 926 1783 0455
	In-Person Tarot	A discussion about all things Tarot and a Guided Meditation inspired by the weekly topic.	3rd Sundays 12:30pm	In-Person
	Yarns from the Heart	Knitters and crocheters gather to create prayer shawls and baby blankets for members and friends and the wider community. This group is open to all fiber artists.	1st and 3rd Wednesdays 7:00pm	Via Zoom Email admin@uucg.org For access
	Board Meeting	Open to the congregation at large. If you have something to discuss that you would like added to the agenda, please email board@uucg.org at least three weeks ahead of time.	3rd Wednesdays 7:00pm	Via Zoom: 956-757-31773
	CUUPS	The Oak Grove Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) of UUCG is open to anyone in the UUCG community.	April 20th 7:30pm	As scheduled
	Good Trouble	We invite you into discussion about an issue that we (community, society, world) are facing currently, and specific ways that you can get involved in working for change.	4th Sundays 12:30pm	In-Person and via Zoom: 145-984-149
	Book Group	All who have read the book are invited to attend.	4th Wednesdays 7:00pm	Via Zoom: 144-736-833

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 	3	4 	5 	6	7	8 
9 	10	11 	12	13	14	15 
16 	17	18 	19 	20 	21	22
23 	24	25 	26 	27	28	29
30 