



GNUUs

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The Path of Delight



Delight is the joy and the fun and the tingly/happy/surprised feeling that we get from being fully present to an immediate, sensorial experience. Being informed and delighted acknowledges the need for a full, human engagement with the world – head, body, and heart.

What is delight like, across the body's senses? If delight had a texture, what would it be? If it had a sound? Might it be a chorus of many species of frogs on a splendid June evening? If

delight had a smell, would it be something warm and yeasty emerging from the oven? Or maybe honeysuckle or jasmine blooming full on the vine? Or the air outside just after an afternoon rainstorm? Imagine your own answers to prime your mind-body connection around the idea of delight this month. Delight is one of the quickest and most effective ways to be fully in the moment, a sensorial shortcut to the here and now.

With that in mind, we invite you to focus with us this month on recognizing delight in our everyday lives, seeking it out in special places and experiences, and setting up the conditions for others to experience it, too. Delight is one of our species' most powerful reminders that being alive is a gift to be savored, one taste, touch, smell, and sound at a time.

Events This Month

- June 3.....Property Work Day*
 - June 3.....CUUPs Gathering+
 - June 4...Food Bank Donations*
 - June 4...Congregational Conversation+*
 - June 7...Yarns from the Heart+
 - June 10...Sewing with Sherree*
 - June 10...Celebration of Ministry*
 - June 11.....Release from Call+*
 - June 11.....Spiral Scouts+
 - June 11.....Belief Exploration+
 - June 14.....Board Meeting+
 - June 15.....CUUPs Discussion+
 - June 17..Green Team Meeting+
 - June 17....Summer Solstice Ritual*
 - June 21...Yarns From the Heart+
 - June 28.....Book Group+ Tuesdays.....Choir Rehearsal* Sundays.....Tarot Sunday+ *in person +via Zoom
- For details visit uucg.org

Did you Gnow?

- The computer keyboard is set up to slow down typists who would get the mechanical arms of a typewriter tangled up.





Worship in June Sundays at 11:00am

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

June 4

Planting a Garden of Delight

In the midst of our busy or distracted lives we can grow Joy and Delight with our loving attention!

Join us in person and via Zoom

Daniel Bailey (he/him), Service Leader

June 11

Delight: It Is What We Are Born For

We will be releasing Rev. Jan from her ministerial covenant with us, and she will be releasing us from our covenant with her. We will surround this bittersweet moment with the reminders of delight that surround us all the time, the things for which we were born.

Join us in person and via Zoom

Bob Patrick (he/him), Service Leader

June 18

Seize the Day

“All of us need all of us.” We consider actively taking delight in the “work of the Church” to stay healthy, beat stress, and stay energized in our roles.

Join us in person and via Zoom

Bill Benshoof (he/him), Service Leader

June 25

“Do” Light the World

This week, delegate members from hundreds of UU congregations are meeting in person and online to explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. How can we shine our Light in our community?

Join us in person and via Zoom

Sherree Bailey (she/her), Service Leader

Looking Ahead

July Theme: The Gifts of: Spirituality and Secularism

After Hour Sundays at 12:30pm

1st Sunday, June 4

•Congregational Conversation

•Sunday Tarot

2nd Sunday, June 11

•Spiral Scouts (pre-registration required)

•Belief Explorers

3rd Sunday, June 18

•Sunday Tarot

4th Sunday, June 25

•No programs

Consider having lunch with a fellow congregant





Gadding About

by Reverend Jan Taddeo (she/her)



There is much that inspires me about the community you created here at the UU Congregation of Gwinnett. Your

commitment to covenant and learning how to create, sustain, and grow a community of love, trust, inquiry and compassion is high on the list. This is a caring and compassionate community and that is a precious commodity in the world as it is these days.

As I prepare to retire, I've been reflecting a lot on our twelve years together. I still remember the excitement and joy of being invited and called to serve as your minister in May 2011. That day, and the day we entered into our formal covenant with each other at our Installation Ceremony stand out among the top ten most joyful moments in my life.

On May 22, 2011, the day I was officially called to serve this congregation, I knew it would be for better or worse, sickness and health, richer or poorer. We've had a few challenges here and there, but nothing we couldn't move through together. We've had richer times, and poorer times, and we always found a way through. We've had sickness and health, and we've cared for each other through it all.

I didn't know that before I even officially started my ministry with you that I would be called upon to lead a memorial service for a beloved member, and that two amazing women in the congregation would be diagnosed with breast cancer (both recovered

well). Pastoral care is certainly one of the primary responsibilities of a minister, and it is a responsibility we share – one person can't possibly meet all the pastoral needs of a congregation. The people have to care about and for each other, and this you have demonstrated over and over and over again through the years. Thank you for sharing the caring ministry with me.

Before I came to UUCG, I had been knitting prayer shawls for a few years. They were gifts I gave to people I knew were in need of comfort and care, and a reminder that they were not alone on their journey. Both of the women who received that dreaded diagnosis that summer received prayer shawls from me. They happened to be women who knitted and/or crocheted, and they knew others in the congregation who also created fuzzy, warm things with yarn.

In the fall of 2011 those women, along with many others, began making prayer shawls for people in the congregation. We dubbed this new group the Yarns From the Heart Care Shawl Ministry. We developed a ritual to invite members and friends to bless our care shawls during our worship services.

We've gifted MANY care shawls over the years. I attempted early on to keep a list of people who received the shawls, but that didn't last long. Many were given spontaneously when a need arose on Sunday morning, or when I was meeting with someone who was facing challenges, or when I received a request from a congregant who wanted a shawl for a beloved friend or family member facing grief, loss, health challenges, or otherwise needed a reminder that they were loved and held in prayer and care.

[continued on page 4]



Gadding About

by Reverend Jan Taddeo (she/her)

[continued from page 3] I do have over fifty thank you cards from shawl recipients. This has become a thriving gift of our shared ministry.

Pastoral care is the art of companioning ... being with someone during difficult times without trying to fix, solve, advise, or otherwise interfere with their journey to finding their own wisdom, and their own path forward. I have witnessed this community's capacity for companioning one another.

I'm told most ministers reach the end of their service with a congregation wishing they had made more visits, called more people, and sent more cards. I know that is true for me. I've been grateful for those of you who have visited and called on each other, and sent cards of gratitude, prayers, and comfort to people you knew would appreciate the outreach. Thank you to all who have formally and informally shared the ministry of pastoral care with me. As I prepare to leave, my heart is made a little lighter having experienced UUCG as a compassionate congregation that knows how to take care of each other.

On June 11, I'll be released from my call to serve this congregation (though I'll still be on call until June 30 if you need me). I know my departure is heavy on the hearts of many, and I know some of you are experiencing challenging times. Perhaps you may appreciate the comforting hug of a prayer shawl. We have a very large collection of shawls and it would please me and our dedicated "yarners" to share them with you. During the service on June 11, we'll have a table near the Altar of Compassion where you can choose a care shawl for yourself, or for someone in your life who could use some comfort, encouragement and love in the form

of a care shawl. And then our Yarns From the Heart ministry will continue to replenish the well, and maybe some of you will be inspired to join them.

There is much that is challenging and difficult all around the world these days. I anticipate it may become far worse before it gets better. I trust that you will continue to expand your compassion and care for one another through the years. I also trust that you will continue to draw the circle of love wider and wider as more and more people seek a community of care, compassion, and connection to hold and encourage through life's travails.

How do I end this, my last Gadding About? There are a gazillion choices of wise, witty and wonderful words I could quote, but the words that have been with me for the last few months are these, by Stephen Schwartz, from the song "For Good" from the musical "Wicked."

I've heard it said that people come into our lives for a reason, bringing something we must learn; and we are led to those who help us to grow if we let them, and we help them in return. Well, I don't know if I believe that's true; but I know I'm who I am today because I knew you. ... Who can say if I've been changed for the better but, because I knew you, I have been changed for good.

Thank you for taking this new minister into your trust, and letting me grow with you in this faith tradition we share and cherish. I know I am who I am today because of all that we have shared ... for better and worse, sickness and health, richer and poorer. Because I knew YOU, I have been changed for good.

With all my love...

Reverend Jan

Thank You Reverend Jan!

Dear Rev. Jan, Knowing you has been a great joy in my life, and I will be forever thankful for all your kindness and support as I worked my way through grief. You encouraged me to become part of this community and believed in me when I certainly didn't believe in myself. I will miss you terribly, but I am also excited for your new adventure! I wish you and Russ happiness and blessings always. With much love, Lisa Kiel



Thank you, Jan, for being so accepting for the kids of the congregation. –Rowan



Dear Reverend Jan,

I have no words to explain in a satisfactory way, how much you helped me when I needed a lot of help. Your words soothed me, embraced me and made me feel needed, wanted, loved and supported. I was new in Atlanta and the family I knew here, discarded me for some reasons still unknown to me. I felt firm ground under my feet again, after listening to your message.

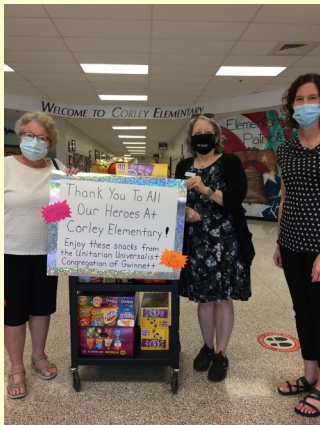
Thank you so much for serving as the pastor at UUCG. I think every member cherishes you here and you'll be missed to a level extending far beyond in the future.

I wish you a very peaceful and meaningful future life and wish you the treasure of being close to your family.

I'll cherish you and your words all my life. Lots and lots of heartfelt love and bright and happy wishes for you my dear friend. You'll always have a permanent place in my heart and memory.

Enjoy the next phase of your brilliant life.

Love and hugs
Manoshi Mukherjee



New Hire

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Mathew Evans (he/him) as our new Facilities Caretaker. He will officially begin his new position in June.

New Hire Wanted

We are still in search to hire another paid childcare provider for Sunday mornings. If you know anyone who is interested, please have them contact info@uucg.org

From the Ministerial Search Team

Currently, the board and the search team are working together to represent our community. The search team has summarized the surveys generated by the congregation and used them to develop our profile, the UUA is advertising for us and has oversight in matching candidates to our ministerial needs and we look forward to continuing our search until we have a new minister who understands UU principles, UU sources, and has the vision and skills to lead us into our next chapter.



Stewardship Opportunities

Click each link for more information

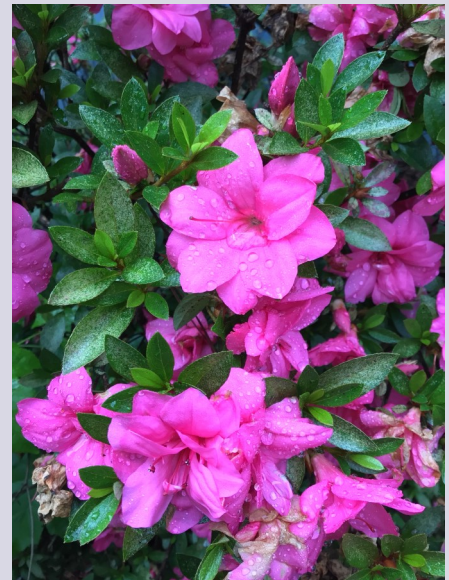
[Give Time](#)

[Give Money](#)

[Give Materials](#)

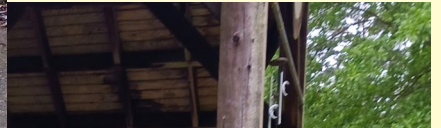
We are especially in need of

- Childcare Volunteers
- Hospitality Volunteers
- A Pledge Drive Co-Chair



This Quarter's Give Away the Plate Recipient

Side By Side Brain Injury Clubhouse



Gratitude from Green Sanctuary

By Xoey Kelly (she/her), Lay Minister for Green Space

Many thanks to everyone that came to spruce up the building and grounds in preparation for the Open House event. There are a few people I would like to mention. Doug Beers installed new outdoor lighting while Peggy Averyt brightened up the entrance with flowers. Diane Smithson helped me with clearing the back of leaf litter and Gary Kiel hauled off all the trash debris from the parking lot. To those volunteers and the many others who have helped take care of our spiritual home, Green Sanctuary gives its gratitude.





CUUPS MAGICAL ARTS & CRAFTS!

JUNE 17TH FROM 3PM TO 5PM

LEARN TO MAKE FAIRY WINGS! BRING SUPPLIES LIKE COAT HANGERS, PANTY HOSES, AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU MIGHT WANT TO USE.

CUUPS Event

CUUPS has just sponsored its first Drumming and Poetry circle. A group of 15 people, adults and children, gathered on the UUCG deck at 7:30 with camp chairs, drums, rattles, favorite poems (some by published authors and some written by themselves). The evening grew into a rhythm of sounds made up of rounds of drumming interspersed with readings of poetry. Everyone brought snacks to share and thoroughly enjoyed the evening together. Watch the UUCG announcements and calendar for the next Drumming and Poetry Circle.



UUCG CUUPS Gathering

SATURDAY JUNE 3RD 12PM -3PM
POTLUCK AND DISCUSSION



Join us for the

SYLVAN SANCTUARY SUMMER SOLSTICE RITUAL!

PLEASE BRING AN OFFERING TO MOTHER EARTH AND FOOD TO SHARE

June 17th
6pm to 9pm
In the Sanctuary & Grove

Summer

Solstice Ritual

The Druids of Sylvan Sanctuary will be hosting the Summer Solstice Ritual on **Saturday evening, June 17 at 6 PM.** The Summer Solstice marks the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. It is a special day marked by

many cultures. This ritual is open to the public. It will celebrate the life and creativity that the Sun nourishes for the entire planet and create space for reflecting on the work we are each engaged in at this mid-summer time of the year. Everyone is invited to wear weather appropriate clothing, bring food and drink to share after the ritual, and watch for more information in the UUCG announcements and FB page.

From the Lay Minister for Connecting Within

Submitted by Lisa Kiel (she/her)
**Summer Covenant Group
Registration!**

Rumors are correct! Summer Covenant Group registration is now open. If you are a regular participant, I know you're happy to see groups forming again. If you have never participated in a Covenant Group, I encourage you to consider trying something new. Covenant Groups are a small group experience that fosters deeper connections with other folks at UUCG as we explore our monthly theme from different perspectives. During the group, there are opportunities to both talk and listen and to always learn. We are offering a 5 session for Summer, running from mid June to mid August.

Come be curious, courageous, and compassionate in one of our Covenant Groups!

Spiral Scouts

Recently UUCG hosted an Open House. If you attended, you had the chance to have your car washed by one of our scouts in UUCG's Spiral Scout Circle, Flowering Branches #393. If you took advantage of the car wash and made a donation to our Circle, thank you! You may be seeing a new pollinator garden soon on our grounds made possible by your donation and the scouts' hard work!

It takes ongoing commitment and support to keep our Circle going! You don't have to volunteer to run the Circle, and you don't have to have children who participate to be important to our scouts. All you need to do is offer your skills and knowledge to help scouts earn specific badges during one of their meetings on the 2nd Sundays of the month from 12:30 -2:00 pm. So please think about a skill, hobby or interest you might be able to share, and reach out to Xoey Kelly to see how you can support our Flowering Branches!

Ministry: Connecting Within

Walker's Group

Submitted by Sara Heath (she/her)

Do you know we have an official Walker's Group at UUCG?

Beginning in June the dates for walks will be regularly scheduled on the second Wednesday and the fourth Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Dates are subject to change for weather.

Walkers meet in Bethesda Park located on Bethesda Church Road just a short distance from our church on the other side of Ronald Reagan Parkway. After turning into the park, turn to the right and follow the road past the Picnic Pavilion and Playground. The beginning of the trail is also on the right.

If you would like to join, email Aline (admin@uucg.org) to be added to the mailing list. Reminders or other notices are sent before walks with a request for RSVP, so we know who is attending. We wait for all to arrive before setting out.

The paved trail is about 1 1/2 miles long with a few small hills. We break into groups by comfortable speed.

If mornings are not available for you, it would be great if a group formed for afternoons if there is enough interest.



UUCG Book Group Selection

The Girl In His Shadow by Audrey Blake

Book Group Meeting June 28 7pm

London, 1845: Raised by the eccentric surgeon Dr. Horace Croft after losing her parents to a deadly pandemic, the orphan Nora Beady knows little about conventional life.

While other young ladies were raised to busy themselves with needlework and watercolors, Nora was trained to perfect her suturing and anatomical illustrations of dissections.

Women face dire consequences if caught practicing medicine, but in Croft's private clinic Nora is his most trusted—and secret—assistant. That is until the new surgical resident Dr. Daniel Gibson arrives.

An unforgettable historical fiction novel about one woman who believed in scientific medicine before the world believed in her.

[\[See more\]](#)



Special Events

Join us for a
Celebration of Ministry

in honor of Rev. Jan Taddeo
on the occasion of her retirement

Saturday, June 10, 2023
at 3:00pm

There will be music, dancing, refreshments, and gratitude
All are invited, no RSVP required





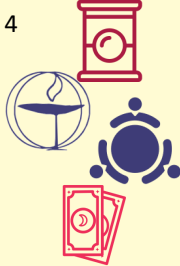







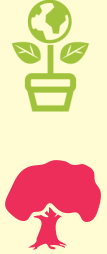



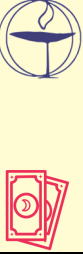


**Reverend Jan Taddeo's
Release from Call
During the Sunday Service
June 11**



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
	CUUPs	The Oak Grove Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) of UUCG is open to anyone in the UUCG community.	June 3 12:00pm	In-Person
	Food Bank Dropoff	We gather donations for the Lawrenceville Co-op food bank.	1st Sundays	In-Person
	Congregational Conversations	Discussions centered around Unitarian universalism and our specific congregation. All are welcome.	1st Sunday 12:30pm	In-Person and Online Zoom: 565-460-176
	Tarot Sundays	A discussion about all things Tarot and a Guided Meditation inspired by the weekly topic.	Every Sunday 5:00pm	Online 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	Online 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 10:00am	In-Person
	Celebration of Ministry	Join us for this HUGE celebration of Reverend Jan Taddeo as she prepares to retire	June 10 3:00pm	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 Online Zoom: 896-987-304
	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.	June 14 7:00pm	Online Zoom: 956-757-31773
	CUUPs	The Oak Grove Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) of UUCG is open to anyone in the UUCG community.	June 15 7:30pm	Online Zoom: 400-036-556
	Green Team Meeting	All who are interested in environmental issues are welcome.	3rd Saturday 9:30am	Online Zoom:
	Sylvan Sanctuary	Sylvan Sanctuary is the Mother Grove of the Druid Order of the Three Realms, a community of Druids walking personal paths. All are welcome.	June 17 6:00pm	In-Person
	Book Group	All who have read the book are invited to attend.	4th Wednesdays 7:00pm	Online Zoom: 144-736-833

June 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	