

## May 2022

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## Might UUMAN Become a Good Trouble Congregation?

I doubt none of us could have imagined the threat our democracy has faced over the past six years. Justifying their actions under the auspices of preserving "freedom," many have:

- Actively supported and justified the actions of those who participated in the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection
- Actively disenfranchised citizens nationwide
- Actively taken away control the election process from duly elected election officials nationwide
- Actively sought to prevent, threaten to prosecute educators (& librarians) who teach aspects of this nation's history that is deemed uncomfortable
- Actively targeted the LGBTQ+ community and its supporters with punitive legislation
- Actively encouraged vigilantism against a woman's right to choose

When you begin to threaten librarians, it should be a sign that things have gotten very, very bleak!

This isn't about "freedom" at all. This is about control and power. It is an abuse of power in order to maintain control...maintain control of something they truly fear: a full participatory democracy; a multicultural, pluralistic society where all are given the opportunity to flourish; a coming to terms with our nation's history.

It is our responsibility to push back against this abuse of power. We can't do it all...but we can do our part.

This year, the UUA's Side with Love team is challenging UU congregations to show up in 2022 to vote love and defeat hate as a UU the Vote Good Trouble Congregation! **What is a Good Trouble Congregation?** UU the Vote Campaign Manager JaZahn Hicks answers:

Good Trouble Congregations are congregations that answer that call to organize their communities and engage in the multiple and necessary tactics that will help us win big for our communities in 2022. Whether you're protecting voter access in Georgia, fighting for reproductive justice in Kentucky, or election protection in



Georgia UU's Show Up as Allies to Protest the Expansion of the Folkston's ICE Detention Center

Pennsylvania, your work is essential to building a strong movement for democracy.

Good Trouble Congregations will hit at least 4 of these 7 targets as part of the 2022 UU the Vote campaign:

- Average 20 postcards or letters per member
- Average 200 text messages per member
- Average 20 calls per member
- Average 20 door knocks per member
- Reach 20 percent volunteer engagement
- Average 2 newly registered voters per member
- At least 2 congregants are line warmers, poll workers, or poll watchers

Again, hit 4 of 7 of these criteria for special recognition as a Good Trouble Congregation and be invited to a post-Election Day event with UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, the Side With Love Team and special guests.

Let's all do our part to build a multiracial democracy by becoming a Good Trouble Congregation.

Well said Mr. Hicks! How might you participate? Nurture our spirit. Strive for Justice. Transform the world.  
~ Dave

## For the Love of Labyrinths

### OUR LABYRINTH IS ON ITS WAY!

It will be part of UUMAN's campus by July 1st thanks to a generous donation from an anonymous member of UUMAN, the project planning/managing work of Susan Wilson, and Kelly Callen who publicized and led at least three researching Labyrinth Crawls throughout the Atlanta area and Rome, GA. The idea of having a labyrinth at UUMAN has been an unfulfilled hope of many of our congregants for a long time and especially since Rev. Cynthia Prescott served as our interim minister before Rev. Dave was called. She spoke often and lovingly about labyrinths and their positive effects on humans. However, with so many other things needing immediate attention, UUMAN has never had the resources to build that dream – until now.

Labyrinths have been special places for so many people dating back 4,000 years or more and are found all over the world. Their popularity continues to the present day. The first Saturday in May (May 7th this year) has been proclaimed World Labyrinth Day by The Labyrinth Society since 2009. On that day thousands of people around the world will participate in a “moving” meditation for world peace. Next year we'll be able to invite others to celebrate World Labyrinth Day with us at UUMAN by walking our labyrinth at a specified local time (usually 1:00 pm) to help create a rolling wave of peaceful energy from one time-zone to the next around the globe.

These structured yet meandering paths leading into and back out of the center are used in many ways, among them: symbolically as a pilgrimage to a holy place, as a walking meditation; as a place to slow down and find center stillness, as paths of change and transformation. In these times of stress and burnout, it's comforting to know that walking a labyrinth can increase levels of relaxation, clarity, peace, centeredness, openness, quiet, reflectiveness, and reduce levels of anxiety, stress, and agitation according to studies done by Schultz, E.D. & Rhodes, J.W. in 2006. What a great way to seek peace, awe, and wonder!

Our UUMAN labyrinth, as others before us, is also planned to be used for community gatherings – services, concerts, ceremonies, and just plain FUN! It will be created with gray-on-gray pavers, approximately 19' in diameter with 5 circuits, and will be handicapped accessible. There will be a natural path from the back of the foyer through the woods to the clearing next to the wooden swing frame that will hold beautiful wind chimes donated by Ann Bender.

Another path suitable for wheel chairs will be created from the parking lot. The area surrounding the labyrinth will be naturally landscaped with restful benches.

There is no wrong or right way to walk a labyrinth, but here are a few basic guidelines: bring no expectations, find and walk at your own pace, listen to your inner voice, feel free to go around someone else walking or just wait, pause and ponder. According to The Rev. Beth Knowlton (The Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta) arriving at the center of a labyrinth is a time for quiet reflection and a place to stay until you feel an internal invitation to return. The walk outward gives one a chance to just “be” and prepare to reengage with the world.

Love and appreciation to all involved in making this beautiful dream a reality!

- Bev Jordan

### What if you didn't need a pink Cadillac



Technology provides us with everything we need at our fingertips, so people are not walking as much anymore. But I'm writing you with the thought of 'What if we could?' Thoreau, John Muir and John

Adams did. They walked daily for the many benefits that walking brings.

Unfortunately, we have surrendered our cities to the automobile. But for the sake of a healthy body and mind, we can no longer afford our love affair with shiny metal. When we designed cities to accommodate the automobile we forgot to consider the pedestrian. But that's just a chapter in a bigger story about how the automobile has damaged the land, altered the climate and our health. To tame the beast, we also have to give ourselves a good talking to.

But we can and we should take charge of our health and the environment we live in. Roswell has a group of folks, many of them doctors, who walk for the health of it. This group called Walk with a Doc want you to get healthy too; and, by working together we can build a more pedestrian friendly city with safe, scenic, and connected pathways. Paths that lead to places we want to go. By walking we slow down, we meet our neighbors, and we see the beauty of the world we live in, or we see up close things we need to change. And the more we walk the stronger we become, and the fewer cars we put on the road. You're invited to join a conversation about how to grow this effort.

- Gus Hadorn

## Coming of Age 2022

**Dillon Callen** is 14 years old and a Freshman at Innovation Academy in Alpharetta. He has been attending UUMAN with his family since preschool.



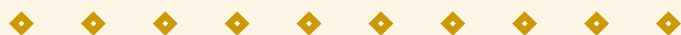
His interests include playing saxophone, piano, lifting weights, basketball, and baseball.

He currently plays for Team Elite which is a nationally recognized baseball organization.

Pastimes include listening to music, playing virtual video games, and hanging out with friends.

Dillon has inherited both his Dad's sense of humor and his passion for the Buffalo Bills!

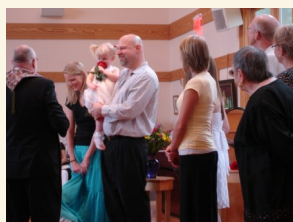
He lives in Roswell with his family Todd, Kelly, sister Presley (12) and beloved dog Lola.



**Addison (Addy) Gore** is 14 years old and is a freshman at Walton High School.



She's been attending UUMAN since she was a baby and had her child dedication in 2009.



She loves playing soccer and plays on competitive travel teams as well as for Walton. She's a holding mid.

She also loves spending time with her friends, family, and dogs. She bakes a lot, loves to share what she bakes, enjoys traveling, and is great with kids.

She lives in East Cobb with her parents (Dave and Jacqueline) and brother, Luc (16). Her older sister lives in Mesa, Arizona.

## "Name the Street" Winner

Next time you are on the UUMAN campus, go ahead and drive around to the back parking lot to spot the new street sign which reads "Raffaella and Joel's Way".



This is the second year that "Name the Street" was offered in our annual Goods and Services Auction. Although the signpost itself was recently relocated a bit further back, it names the "road" which connects the front and back parking lots.

Congratulations to the winning bidder, Stephen Shanahan, and check out the photo of Raffaella and Joel Shanahan next to their sign! - Laurie Wheeler

## UUMAN Men's Fellowship Cookout

The UUMAN Men's Fellowship Group will be hosting a get together at UUMAN on May 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a chair, something to drink and eat. We will have a grill going for those that want to cook something. Below is a photo of the group from 2011. You may recognize some of these people. ~ Bob Popp



## Thank You for Letting Me Serve You

My term as your Treasurer will be coming to an end June 30, 2022.

I would like to say thank you for letting me serve you. It has been an honor to be entrusted with the responsibilities of Treasurer for UUMAN.

I also want to thank the very talented Board Members I have served with these past two years. The support I received and their leadership through COVID has been immeasurable.

Last but certainly not least is Suzy Lamoree, she has been my right hand and an absolute delight to work along side.

No matter our circumstances it has been wonderful to see everyone's love and generosity for UUMAN and more so everyone helping take care of others in need during such a turbulent time.

We have accomplished so much together in the last two years. Many new members have joined us during a pandemic without even entering our building! We now have live streaming to attract an even larger audience. This was always a dream but is now a reality.

The Raise the Roof Fund Drive raised money to reroof our sanctuary and repair/repaint our portico. The icing on the cake will be when our solar panels are installed this year.

If you haven't noticed, we very recently installed new LED lights in our sanctuary. We were able to accomplish this from two very generous donation from anonymous donors who wanted to help us achieve more in our Green goals. We can't say thank you enough.

Our fiscal year operating budget, funded through our annual Stewardship Drive, has allowed us to purchase the live streaming equipment, replace several air conditioning units that were at the end of their life, and repair and repaint our portico during my tenure.

See how strong we are!

The success of each Stewardship Drive is what builds our annual operating budget for the next fiscal year. It is important to pledge each year during the Stewardship Drive not only to renew your UUMAN membership but to support the operating costs of UUMAN. This is our covenant to one another and strengthens our presence in the community.

We have done a beautiful job in increasing the financial strength of UUMAN. The past two years have been difficult for many, and pledge commitments for FYE 2021-2022 are down. Pledges for our current Stewardship Drive to fund next year are also down.

My request to you is let's finish 2021-2022 strong and to do this please send your pledge commitments by 6/30/22.

Our current Stewardship Drive needs your pledge if you have not done so already. The Board is now building the 2022-2023 operating budget. UUMAN has so much to do, to build upon the work we have done and so many people to reach. A strong finish to the 2022-2023 Stewardship Drive would be a beautiful send off for me and a wonderful present for your incoming Treasurer.

I can't thank everyone enough. I love you and UUMAN so very much.

Yours in service  
Tanya Romine  
Treasurer, Board of Trustees.



## Life Celebrations

We want to commemorate the happy occasions in the lives of our UUMAN members and other friends of UUMAN. We are looking for Naming Ceremonies, Graduations, Marriages, Anniversaries, Retirements, and Birthdays. Please submit the information about your special day, in the month prior to the event, to [membership@uuman.org](mailto:membership@uuman.org).

Date	Celebration
5/5	Kurt B. is celebrating a birthday.
	Ann C. is celebrating a birthday.
5/14	Hannah A. is celebrating a birthday.
5/15	Thomas S. is celebrating a birthday.
	Paula W. is celebrating a birthday.
5/20	Addison G. is celebrating a birthday.
	Emerson P. is celebrating a birthday.
	Erin and Martin P. are celebrating their anniversary of 17 years
	Elizabeth R. and Stephen S. are celebrating their anniversary of 17 years
5/22	Lilly C. is celebrating a birthday.
5/23	Grace L. is celebrating a birthday.
5/26	Timothy W. Jr. is celebrating a birthday.
5/27	Diana L. is celebrating a birthday.
	Melane S. is celebrating a birthday.
	Rick I. and Paula W. are celebrating their anniversary of 42 years

After careful review, the Board of Trustees has updated our Covid guidelines to include optional mask wearing during indoors and outdoors events starting on Sunday, April 3rd.

Those individuals who wish to continue wearing masks are encouraged to do so. Please review the entire document ([here](#)) for individual and household safety precautions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [board@uuman.org](mailto:board@uuman.org).

## May 2022: A Month of Sundays

**ABOUT THE UUMANTimes:** The UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN). We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically on the 22nd of the month preceding the issue date. Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at [newsletter@uuman.org](mailto:newsletter@uuman.org)

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
5/1	<p><b>UU Celebration in Song</b></p> <p>On May 5, 1819, Rev. William Ellery Channing gave his "Unitarian Christianity" sermon that became pivotal in the creation of the American Unitarian Association. This morning the Chalice Choir will commemorate this in song.</p>	<b>Dave Dunn, Alex Pietsch &amp; Chalice Choir</b>
5/8	<b>Mother's Day Service</b>	<b>Shelley Nagrani</b>
5/15	<p><b>Slowly But Surely</b></p> <p>Poet Mario Benedetti writes, "The future's coming slowly but surely... slowly but swiftly, like a dim still unnamed star." What could this mean for us? This sermon was purchased by Jennifer Ratcliffe at this year's Harvest Moon Service Auction.</p>	<b>Dave Dunn</b>
5/22	<p><b>UUMAN Rites of Passage</b></p> <p>Join us for our annual Rites of Passage service. We will honor our Coming of Age youth as they bridge to Youth Group and our senior Youth as the bridge to Young Adults.</p>	<b>Dave Dunn</b>
5/29	<p><b>Hembree Park Service</b></p> <p>Join us at Roswell's Hembree Park pavilion for an end of the church year service. Feel free to bring some food and drink for a picnic afterwards.</p>	<b>Dave Dunn</b>