

## January 2024

### Inside this issue:

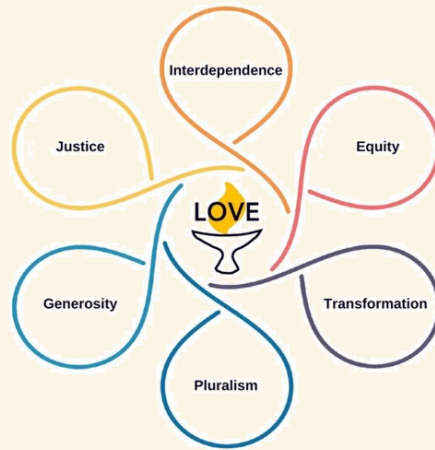
Article II Study Commission	1
UUMAN's 2024 Martin Luther King Day of Service Event	2
Our 50/50 Shared Plate	2
UU101	2
MCY January Times	3
UUMAN Talent Show	4
UUMAN Chili Cookoff	4
A Month of Sundays	5
Life Celebrations	5



## Article II Study Commission

Although one mustn't profess any particular creed to be a Unitarian Universalist, today, the foundational elements of the denomination, its purposes and professions, are

found in Article II of the UUA Bylaws. For an aspiring congregation to be accepted into, make covenant with, the Association, they must agree to honor Article II.



Article II consists of the following:

SECTION C-2.1. PRINCIPLES - Seven Principles & Six Sources

SECTION C-2.2. PURPOSES - The UUA serves congregations; implements principles

SECTION C-2.3. INCLUSION - Welcome all by changing structures of oppression

SECTION C-2.4. FREEDOM OF BELIEF - No Unitarian Universalist creed

Outside of the Principles and Sources, which many are familiar with, the rest of Article II consists of less than 200 words.

The UUA Bylaws also state that "If no study process of Article II has occurred for a period of fifteen years, the Board of Trustees shall appoint a commission to study Article II for not more than two years and to recommend appropriate

revisions, if any, thereto to the Board of Trustees for inclusion on the agenda of the next regular General Assembly (UUA Bylaws, Article XV, Section C-15.1)."

Although there have been some minor adjustments to Article II over the years, it has essentially been unchanged since 1987.

In the Fall of 2020, an Article II Study Commission was appointed by the UUA Board of Trustees to review Article II. In January 2023, the Commission completed its work and issued a report detailing recommendations. These recommendations, changes to Article II, were amended, voted upon and passed at UUA General Assembly in June 2023. To fully modify Article II however, a subsequent vote at GA 2024 will also need to take place.

Here is a link to the Commission's report: [Article II Study Report](#) from January 2023 and a link to the [Proposed Revision to Article II](#) (as of the end of December 2023).

I urge you all to read the report along with the proposed revision and become familiar with them (e.g. the history, the process, the recommendations, etc.). I'm sure you will all have your own opinions about the recommendations. I have my own, yet my personal opinions aside, I was struck by the spirit of humility and grace in which the report was written and the profound sense of responsibility and respect that the Commission has for Unitarian Universalism and for all of us Unitarian Universalists.

I will once again be talking about the details of the changes during an upcoming Sunday in January 2024.

Nurture our spirit. Strive for Justice. Transform the world.

Dave

# UUMAN's 2024 Martin Luther King Day of Service Event

Come one, come all to UUMAN's 2024 MLK Day of Service Event on **January 15, 2024 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.**

**Where:** FurKids HQ and Cat Shelter

**Address:** 5235 Union Hill Road, Cumming, GA 30040

**Who:** UUMAN members and friends (all ages)

Lend a hand to FurKids (no kill) Cat Shelter. Bring a book to read to the cats (yes, really), or join a project, like making care packages for families who foster animals. FurKids staff will have several projects for us to complete. If you're allergic to cats, no worries!! Some of the projects are outside on the beautiful (and expansive) FurKids HQ grounds. Can't wait to see you there! Please RSVP by January 5th!

Sign up [here](#).

Please fill out [FurKids' volunteer agreement](#) (there will also be a link to this agreement once you sign up):

If you have questions, please email me (Elizabeth Rohan) at [elizabeth.rohan@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.rohan@gmail.com)

Hope you join us!

~ Elizabeth Rohan



## Our 50/50 Shared Plate

First and foremost, the Social Justice Committee would like to thank our UUMAN community for all the feedback you have sent to Michelle Liebergesell regarding future recipients for the 50/50 collection. We were excited to see so many of you engaged and interested on this initiative.

The 50/50 collection is an opportunity for UUMAN to share with non-profit organizations the generous contributions that our members offer. These non-profits work on issues that affect disproportionately certain segments of our society such as the LGBTQ community, poverty, environmental issues, housing and more.

The 50/50 sharing aligns with our vision and mission to extend our impact on our community beyond our walls.

The 50/50 collection works as follows:

On the first Sunday of every month the 50/50 recipient for that given month will be announced during the service. All the collections on that day (cash, Givelify and checks marked 50/50) will be shared with that month's recipient.

On subsequent Sundays of the same month, only Givelify and check collections specifically marked "50/50" will be shared with the recipient. Not the cash.

At the end of the month Suzy will do a full accounting of moneys collected and a check for their respective share will be mailed to the recipient.

Michelle Liebergesell is the coordinator for 50/50 within the Social Justice Committee.

Please find below the tentative schedule for 2024 and give generously, as UUMAN members have always done!

January	No Harm
February	Planned Parenthood
March	Pending - Youth Decision
April	Georgia Interfaith Power and Light
May	The Mountain Learning Center
June	Family Promise
July	UU the Vote
August	The SAM Foundation
September	Groveland Community Center
October	Georgia Equality
November	North Fulton Community Charities
December	Our Partner Church in NE India

In Service,

Carla Rizzati

Social Justice Co-Chair

## UU101

The next UU 101 will be held **January 21, 11:15am-12:45pm** and **January 28, 11:15-12:45pm**. If you are new to our congregation or to Unitarian Universalism, or are considering becoming a member of UUMAN – or just want a refresher on the basic tenets of our faith, this 2-session class is for you.

You will learn about Unitarian Universalism, our welcoming culture and long history of social justice. You will learn all about UUMAN and our great programs, and get a tour of our campus. We hold this class twice a year, so if you can't make it this time, we will look forward to having you attend our spring sessions.

If you have questions about the class or about becoming a member, feel free to email the Membership Committee at [membership@uuman.org](mailto:membership@uuman.org)

You may register at the greeter table in the lobby on Sunday mornings, or by using this [link](#). We look forward to seeing you!

~ Lynn Hannan, Membership Chair.

# MCY January Times

## Religious Exploration with Children and Youth at UUMAN

By Lexie Tangney, Director of Religious Education

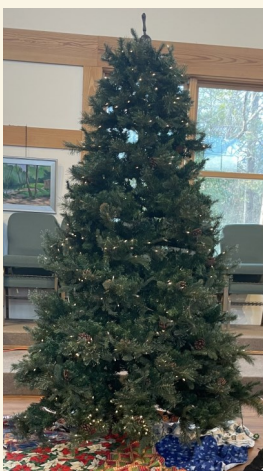
The month of December was full of joy and celebration. We started the month off strong with the Holiday Party on December 3rd. Turnip the Grumpy Elf, Sanat, and one of his baby reindeer in training all made an appearance.



On December 12th, the children and youth had a lesson on the various winter traditions from around the world. This was a great introduction to the new script for the annual pageant. No longer the “Christmas Pageant”, this year, the “holiday pageant”. Originally a Christmas tradition, we’ve intentionally transformed it into a holiday celebration focused on the Winter Solstice. This shift aligns with our liberal faith, emphasizing a free search for truth and meaning during the holidays.

Rehearsal for The Snow Tree began Dec 17th with a lively cast and beautiful hats hand made by Dawn Gross-Huelsewiesche. The children diplomatically chose their characters and a week later, we shared our performance with the audience. Literally, the audience was given gifts to place on the trees just like the woodland creatures. We truly enjoyed creating new traditions as a congregation! Huge thank you to all the woodland creatures, stage crew, narrators and parents working behind the scenes that made this production possible.

### Before..



**Woodland Creature cast:** Little Bear (Eli), Mink (Melody), unicorn (Lily), Lynx (Jameson), Raccoon (Waverly), Squirrel (Norah), Arctic Fox (Gabe), and Blue Jay (Clara). Deer (Reece) and Goldfinch (Ever) not featured in picture but part of cast.

### After...



### Looking forward to January...

Please join us on MLK Day (Monday, January 15) for UUMAN's Annual MLK Day of Service project. This year, we will return to FurKids HQ in Cumming to help care for the grounds and the cats. All ages are welcome. For those allergic to cats, we can make sure you're on the "caring for the grounds" team. Please scan the QR code in your order of Worship to sign up. We have 40 spots, and they are already beginning to fill up. If you have questions, please see Elizabeth Rohan. RSVP by selecting this [link](#)

We look forward to an exciting new year of RE starting on January 14 at 11:15 in Discovery Hall! We will have a special activity to vote on parts of the Playscape Project.



# UUMAN



UUMAN's Got Talent returns for its 5th Annual Show on **January 27, 2024 at 7:00 pm.**

This show gets better every year, so make sure you're ready to be blown away by countless acts filled with talents, skills, and fame! This multi-generational, all-ages event showcases talents of all sizes. All are welcome- from BIG talents to NO Talent, everyone is encouraged to participate. Can you sing, dance, tell a joke, or burp the alphabet? Whatever your skill (or lack thereof), you are welcome! Do you want to see the minister make a fool of himself (again!)? The more chaos, the more fun! This raucous event is hosted by Rev. Dave Dunn and Elizabeth Rohan. Light refreshments will be served. Be sure to catch Dave before he heads out on Sabbatical!

To sign up click on the link below:

[UUMAN's Got Talent](#)

~ Elizabeth Rohan



It's time for UUMAN's annual Chili Cookoff! Mark the date and time: **February 4, 2024, Noon**

**Question:** What warms the soul on a chilly day?

**Answer:** A hearty bowl of chili or soup! With a side of cornbread!

All are invited, whether you bring food or not. Everyone gets to taste and vote on their faves! We'll be needing cole slaw, desserts, and sides (that don't require heating), as well as volunteers for setup and cleanup.

Prizes that can only be described as fabulous will be awarded for each category:

- chili
- vegetarian chili
- soup, and
- cornbread

Due to electrical limitations in Fellowship Hall, we can only accept the first 16 entrants for chilis/soups. So be looking for a signup sheet soon.

~ Chili Cookoff Team

## January: A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
1/7	<b>Let Go of the Banana</b>  What do we own, really? To what are we attached? Are we our “stuff”? From where do we get our identity? Can we use the new year to redefine, or possibly define for the first time, our relationship to ourselves, others and the world around us?	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/14	<b>Love at the Center</b>  The UUA Board charged the Article II Study Commission to put love at the center of their work. The Commission then put it at the center of Article II itself saying that “Love is the enduring force that holds us together.” Can love be at our center?	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/21	<b>Out of this World</b>  Is this where we’re supposed to be? Is this our home? Many religious traditions believe that this place, this existence, isn’t our rightful place or existence; or perhaps all this is merely an intermediate stop on our way to a larger destination. Could they be right?	Rev. Dave Dunn
1/28	<b>While I’m Gone</b>  This will be Rev. Dave’s final service prior to his sabbatical, vacation, and study leave. What will he be doing all that time? What will UUMAN be doing?	Rev. Dave Dunn



## 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
1/7	Lexie B. is celebrating a birthday.
1/21	Padraig B. is celebrating a birthday.
1/23	Tammy D. is celebrating a birthday.
1/24	Donna M. is celebrating a birthday.
1/29	Dave D. is celebrating a birthday.

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