

June 2024

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Playscape Update

The new, interactive Playscape behind the white picket fence in front of Discovery Cottage is - quite literally - [growing](#)!

Branches forming the live Willow Tunnel are enjoying the summer weather and reaching towards the sky, needing another 7-8 weeks of growth before they'll be ready to weave into a ceiling.

And the dried willow structure, The Nest, is taking shape thanks to the weaving efforts of UUMAN volunteers, Premo School kids & staff, and our friends at the Masjid across the street.

If you haven't peeked over the fence, please do!

Fundraising efforts are continuing and there is still time to purchase a [personalized, eco-friendly picket](#) for the updated fencing! Please consider adding your family's name, a special phrase, or a remembrance as part of your long term investment in UUMAN and our children's future.

And there are still envelopes available for purchase as part of the [Envelope Challenge](#). If you buy enough envelopes to add up to \$125, you automatically get a picket!

But there is more to be done. Our magical Playscape will include additional interactive Whimsical Elements and WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please consider bringing your inner kid out to help create one of these fun spaces:

Stump Jump: Large stumps to leap across!

Music Wall: A place to make melodies and noise!

Splish Splash: Fun with water and bubbles!

Imagination Station: What can you create today?

Tactile Wall: Interesting things to touch and feel!

Blue Boat Home: A real boat for your nautical adventures!

Tinker Station: Do you like to bang on stuff and make things?

Wishing Well: A place to deposit your dreams!

All the World's a Stage: A spot for your acting and singing productions!

Be on the lookout for a signup and calls for volunteers throughout the summer months, or reach out to Kelly Callen, Donna Melcher, Valorie Baylis, or Lexie Brown if you'd like to share your time and talents!

Valorie Baylis



June Common Grounds Coffee House

'Music Listening Room'™

Presenting Atlanta Area's Best Musicians and Songwriters,
in a Warm and Inviting Listening Room Environment.

Kathy Reed
Ellen Rapier
(of Lonesome Redwing)

JUNE 15
7:30

\$5.00 Suggested
at the Door

Jeff Silver
Pat Walsh

COMMON GROUNDS
COFFEE HOUSE

Roswell's
Music Listening Room

11420 Crabapple Rd - Roswell, GA

Kathy Reed & Ellen Rapier (of Lonesome Redwing)

Kathy Reed & Ellen Rapier open the show, featuring acoustic Americana, Bluegrass and Old-Time Fiddle classics, as well as fresh original material. Kathy and Ellen are natives of Georgia, and are multi-instrumentalist as well as songwriters. The band, Lonesome Redwing, has opened for many legendary performers, including Tony Rice, Peter Rowan, Claire Lynch, Patty Loveless, and the Steep Canyon Rangers.

Spotify (Lonesome Redwing band): <https://open.spotify.com/artist/4N2vnC8ytrT5R4vOJrSV4q>

Kathy's Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/2Fg7u1uJPdFGsk7EQNd7up>

Pat Walsh & Jeff Silver will be performing together, presenting original material and covers, creating a unique sound, with hints of English Rock, Folk, and Classic Pop/Rock.

Pat Walsh

Pat brings listeners a rich chordal palette, shifting time signatures, literate lyrics, and a strong melodic sense. He has released two independent albums and is currently in the studio working on his latest project. He has performed and recorded with such artists as Grammy nominees Steve Morse and Rod Morgenstein (The Dregs), Peter Stroud and Tim Smith (Sheryl Crow), and Ricky Keller (Bruce Springsteen). Pat has also opened for musical giants such as Kris Kristofferson, Billy Joel, and Todd Rundgren.

Jeff Silver

Jeff's songs range from love and heartbreak to therapy and redemptive stupidity. His song, 'Forget About Love' appeared on Mark Wills' gold-selling album, 'Permanently'. He has recorded three albums, 'Looking Forward/Looking Back', 'The Cynical Optimist', and 'Pinwheel'. His latest EP is in the works. Jeff has led songwriting workshops for elementary school children, cancer survivors, and participated in Music Therapy of the Rockies' Retreat for Military Veterans with PTSD. He has also been a coordinator for the Atlanta Metro Chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) since 2003.

Doors Open at 7:00

Show starts at 7:30

\$5.00 (Suggested) - At Door, Cash Only

Bring Cash For Donation / Tips for the Performers

Light Refreshments are Offered for Sale (or bring your own)

BYOB

We are also accepting canned and dry good donations to the North Fulton Community Charities.

Common Grounds Coffee House

Third Saturday 7:30 pm.

Please visit and "Like" our Facebook page at Common Grounds Coffee House

UUMAN, 11420 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA www.uuman.org

- Laura Keck

MCY June Times

Religious Exploration with Children and Youth at UUMAN

By Lexie Tangney, Director of Religious Education

It's been an exciting time at UUMAN, with a variety of events and activities for everyone. Here's a recap of April's highlights and a what we did in May, along with a summary of our recent parent forum.

Recent Events

Easter Sunday Nature Walk and Egg Craft: Despite a chilly start, families enjoyed a nature walk through our beautiful grounds and then gathered indoors for egg-decorating crafts. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the season.



Junior Youth Outing to Sky Zone: Our junior youth had a blast at the trampoline park, followed by a pizza planning party with other Atlanta-area UU congregations. It was a great opportunity for our youth to connect and have fun.



Earth Day Multigen Activity: Though rain moved our Earth Day event indoors, our facilitators quickly adapted, creating a fun and educational activity focused on trees and the environment. Participants embarked on a tree-hunting expedition within the building, choosing a favorite tree and committing to care for it.

Last Day of Religious Education (RE) Curriculum: April 28th marked the final day of our RE curriculum for the 2023-2024 church year. The junior and senior youth groups celebrated with table tennis and socializing, capping off a year of growth and connection.

Recent Parent Forum

During our recent parent forum, the key idea discussed was a "50/50" all-ages worship format. Under this approach, children (excluding babies and toddlers in the nursery) would start in worship, participating in chalice lighting, singing, joys and concerns, and the time for all ages. They would then be sung out to the fellowship hall for separate activities, allowing parents to enjoy the sermon and closing in the sanctuary. Other points discussed included the need for a Playgroup Coordinator, parents' concerns about sermon topics for children, and the limitations of the current fidget shelf. The proposed "50/50" format will be discussed with the Worship Committee, Program Council, and Membership to consider implementing changes in August.

Events in May

May 5: Rites of Passage service and the junior youth lock-in with other UU congregations.

May 12: No RE classes due to Mother's Day.

May 19: RE/congregational potluck in the portico.

May 26: No RE classes due to Memorial Day weekend.

Summer programming starts on June 2, and we're looking for volunteers to lead Sunday activities from 10-11 a.m. each week through August 4th. If you're interested, you can sign up [here](#).

The activities are open to your creativity, and we appreciate any ideas or assistance you can offer.

Thank you for being part of our UUMAN community!

Playscape Team's Recent Accomplishments: A Journey to Creating a Magical Outdoor Space

The Playscape project has been making remarkable strides in transforming our shared outdoor space into a magical haven for children and families. Here's a roundup of the latest accomplishments, along with exciting opportunities for everyone to get involved and support this community effort.

Willow Weaving and Ramp Construction Nearing Completion

This past weekend, our team made significant progress on the dry willow nest, with the base nearly complete. With the support of dedicated volunteers and the coordination of key team members like Miranda and James, we're excited to see the ramp potentially completed by Friday, along with the installation of bamboo supports and the start of weaving dried willow.

MCY June Times

Religious Exploration with Children and Youth at UUMAN

...continued

To celebrate and continue the momentum, we hosted two volunteer group activities on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday May 5.

Activities included willow weaving, harvesting wisteria/bamboo, cleaning and stripping wisteria, sorting bottle caps for an art project, and cleaning out the Discovery Cottage garden beds.



Magical Playscape Project Needs Your Support!

To ensure our Playscape is as sustainable and durable as possible, we're offering a unique way for you to contribute—a personalized fence picket made from 100% recycled milk jugs. Each \$125 picket is weatherproof, and with 1/4 inch engraved lettering, it creates a lasting impression with your name or a special tribute. Proceeds from the sales go directly towards supporting this legacy project. If you're interested, click the link in our email to order your picket.

Join the Playscape Communications Team

With the school year winding down and summer approaching, we're looking for volunteers to help raise awareness and excitement for the Playscape project. If you enjoy brainstorming and crafting engaging messages, we need your help to get the word out over the next four weeks. You'll be part of a dedicated team, meeting once a week for 15 minutes virtually, with additional opportunities for creativity and impact. If you'd like to join, simply reply to our invitation email.

A Day to Remember: Planting Live Willow

One of our recent highlights was the planting of live willow. The energy and enthusiasm from our volunteers were palpable, and we extend a huge thank you to everyone involved, especially Miranda, Valorie Baylis, Beth, Tim Philbin, and others who made the day unforgettable. The transformation was remarkable—the willow seemed to grow visibly as the day progressed!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the Playscape project so far. Whether through volunteer work, purchasing a personalized fence picket, or joining our communications team, your support makes all the difference. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming volunteer events, and stay tuned for more updates as we continue to create an engaging, accessible, and beautiful Playscape for our community.

Roswell Moves! A huge thank you to our UUMAN volunteers who made Roswell Moves on April 28 a fantastic success! Thanks to the dedication of Jennifer Philipi, Valorie Baylis, Amanda Bralley, Janet Kaplin, Kelly Callen, and Claudie Rossi, our booth was the talk of the event. Your hard work and energy brought joy to everyone who visited.

From setup to breakdown, you made sure our Dance Party from Around the World was a hit. The freeze dance, cultural music, and tasty snacks were enjoyed by all, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you for representing UUMAN with such enthusiasm and spirit. We can't wait to see you at the next event!



Sponsor a picket in the playscape fence

Show your support by creating a lasting impression with your name or special tribute. Bold 1/4 inch lettering makes an eye-catching statement that'll last a lifetime. These sustainable, durable, weatherproof pickets are made from 100% recycled milk jugs. It takes about 42 jugs to make one fence picket! How cool is that?!

Your \$125 donation goes directly to supporting this legacy project!

Want to be a part of something magical?

"IT'S TIME TO ADD A PINCH OF ADVENTURE, A SPRINKLE OF SUNSHINE, AND A BIG HANDFUL OF OUTDOOR PLAY!" . . .

Playscape fundraiser

UUMAN & Premo community ! To make this magical playscape come to life... UUMAN needs your help! Fundraising, building stuff, however you want to get involved, let us know ! All hands on deck !

Contact
Kelly callen@uuman.org UUMAN
Miranda miranda@timphilbin.com PREMIO

The plan is to let your kids imagination run free in this magical space with elements of nature and found objects. Experience play through all the senses and create lasting memories.

An Update on Giving



In the bustling halls of UUMAN, a wave of excitement rippled through the community. Gathered for a Congregational meeting, members leaned in eagerly as the announcement was made: UUMAN was transitioning from GiveLify to Breeze Online Giving, paving the way for a new chapter of generosity.

With eyes alight with curiosity and hearts brimming with anticipation, members embraced the change with open arms. They recognized the advantages of Breeze Online Giving immediately—more payment options, flexible fee coverage, simplified administrative processes, and instant visibility into their contributions.

Driven by a shared vision of unity and progress, members will waste no time in taking action. They will log into their Breeze accounts, ready to click "Give Now" and make their mark on this exciting new chapter. For those on the go, the Breeze Church Management app will be just a download away, offering unparalleled convenience.

As the transition unfolds, resources will flow freely, ensuring that no member is left behind. One-page flyers and detailed instruction documents will guide members through the process, while after-service Breeze information sessions will provide hands-on support and encouragement.

But beyond the practicalities, a deeper story will be unfolding—one of community strength and solidarity. With each contribution made through Breeze Online Giving, the bonds of unity will grow stronger, reinforcing the shared values that bind the UUMAN community together.

And so, with every click, every download, and every contribution, the members of UUMAN will embark on a journey of generosity—one that will shape the future of their community and leave a lasting impact on the world around them.

As they look ahead to the possibilities that lie before them, they will know that their collective efforts have the power to make a difference—not just for themselves, but for generations to come.

Resources:

[Breeze Giving App.pdf - Google Drive](#)

[Breeze Giving Desktop.pdf - Google Drive](#)

[Instructions Breeze Giving - app - detailed instructions.pdf - Google Drive](#)

[Instructions Breeze Giving - desktop - detailed instructions.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Margriet van de Steeg

Special Projects Trustee

Special-projects@uuman.org



Our 50/50 Shared Plate

Each month a non-profit organization that is chosen by our Social Justice Committee receives half of our designated 50-50 offering. This means that half the money goes to the non-profit and half goes to UUMAN.

Family Promise is 50-50 for June. Family Promise prevents and ends homelessness for families with children and helps them achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

UUMAN will be hosting three families this month.

- Michelle Liebergesell

June: A Month of Sundays



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.

Date	Topic	Service Leaders
6/2	The Cultural Christian Agnostic Honoring in gratitude the roots of our religion and the childhood faith of many of us, let's consider together what values and practices of Christianity we might bring with us, while also being clear about what we leave behind.	Rollin Mathis
6/9	Warts and All	Rev. Kim Palmer
6/16	The Four Elements of being hUUMAN The elements of air, fire, water and earth are not only essential for life on this planet, they are directly tied to all existence in the circle of life, wheel of the year, and our daily existence. Understanding the elements more intimately will help in mindfulness practices to enhance life, living spaces, conservation issues and a host of other causes.	Richard Bomba
6/23	The Faith of Atheism Did you know that one in four Americans identify as atheist or non-religious? Does this fast growing group believe in anything spiritual? Please join us as we discuss modern atheism as a faith group and it's future impact on our country's values.	Joe Lamb

Date	Celebration
6/1	Zharia L. is celebrating a birthday.
6/6	Miriam P. is celebrating a birthday.
6/7	Shane W. is celebrating a birthday.
6/10	Jane S. is celebrating a birthday. Burk and Merilee H. are celebrating their anniversary of 35 years.
6/11	Jane and Marc S. are celebrating their anniversary of 47 years. Laurie and Mark W. are celebrating their anniversary of 36 years.
6/18	Jim S. is celebrating a birthday.
6/22	Étienne G. is celebrating a birthday.
6/23	Judy J. is celebrating her anniversary of 40 years.
6/24	Burk H. is celebrating a birthday. Carolyn and Marc L. are celebrating their anniversary of 34 years.
6/25	Luka K. is celebrating a birthday.
6/27	Bob and Rosie P. are celebrating their anniversary of 41 years.

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