



# Skylights *newsletter*

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION OF PRINCETON



## Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

**Sundays: One Service Only at 10:30, Live in Channing and Live-streamed on Zoom.**  
Please see Page 2, and keep an eye on your email, as well as [www.uuprinceton.org](http://www.uuprinceton.org) for updates.

### October 6, *Learning with Job*

The book of *Job* in the Hebrew Scriptures tells the story of a good person beset by unimaginable troubles, leading to enormous heartbreak. It is frequently the subject of artistic, theological, and therapeutic reflection, probably because it is so difficult to make meaning of its central question: Why do good people suffer? During the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we'll reflect anew on this ancient and always relevant story.

**Worship Leader: Rev. Bill Neely**

**Worship Associate: TBA**

**Music: Marjorie Herman; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

### October 13, *LGBTQ History Month*

Teachers have always been important advocates and allies in the movement for LGBTQ+ liberation. If history is not taught, it lies fallow in the pages of books, unread, or untold. This was the inspiration that Missouri teacher Rodney Wilson had in 1994, when he joined up with other educators to found LGBTQ History Month. It is observed in October alongside other traditions such as National Coming Out Day. Where can you find Unitarian Universalists, and even our own Welcoming congregation, in the pages of queer history? Rainbow Ministry will explore this in story, reflection, bell ringing, and song.

**Worship Leader: UU Princeton Rainbow Ministry**

**Worship Associate: TBA**

**Music: Marjorie Herman; Adult Choir; Handbell Choir; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

### October 20, *The Fullness of Giving*

The institutions that mean the most to us require our active engagement and support in order to thrive. This is particularly true with congregations of all religions, nonprofits of all kinds, and community organizations of all aims. Each seeks to serve ends beyond the market, making their supporters not consumers, but partners. How can we best partner in ways that strengthen the places that we love?

**Worships Leader: Rev. Bill Neely**

**Worship Associate: TBA**

**Music: Marjorie Herman; Courtney Orlando, Violinist; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

### October 27, *When Joy Is the Point*

Halloween is about costumes and candy. It's about receiving sweetness from neighbors and giving some away to anyone who knocks. It's about joy and playfulness. Join us for our All-Ages Halloween-themed service where we experience the joy of the holiday. Dress up if you like. Bring some candy for a Trunk or Treat that will happen in our parking lot after the service. And plan on eating some tacos for lunch as well as we enjoy life's sweetness, together.

**Worship Leaders: Rev. Bill Neely and Rev. Jennifer Kelleher**

**Worship Associate: TBA**

**Music: Marjorie Herman; Adult Choir; Sue den Outer, Pianist**

## The Good News

I was waiting at the bus stop with one of my kids one morning when I saw a child from the neighborhood get tripped up on her feet and fall down on the sidewalk. Her palm looked a little scraped up, but before any adult could even check on her, her friend who had been playing with her bent over and helped her stand up. She then gave her a hug, and they went right back to chasing each other around on the sidewalk. The game continued, the bus came, school happened, and all was well.

The simple kindness of children, like these two, can teach us so much these days. When the first child fell, the other child didn't ask her what she did wrong to cause the fall. She didn't berate her or make fun of her. She didn't lecture her on how not to fall again, or compound the scraped hand with bruising words. She just helped her, hugged her, and they played on. The girl who fell was soon resiliently running around again, squealing and laughing, and when the bus came they both groaned because they were having so much fun.

It's possible for all of us to be this way with neighbor and stranger all the time. We can build each other up and help each other when we fall. We can embrace instead of judge and support instead of berate. We can know that just as others fall, we fall too, and that when that happens a kind word and gentle presence can bring us back to joy and play. An ethic of care can guide us, and when we live that ethic, we become friendlier, more neighborly, and more civil. We create the world that we want our children to grow into.

Unitarian Universalism is about building lives where we lift each other up and help each other along. We do so in an embracing and open-minded way that appreciates diversity and affirms pluralism. We believe that to serve one another and the world is to serve the Holy, and that this call to serve sounds differently in various times, places, and traditions. We learn from these different soundings, all the while listening for the guidance and demands of Love, which we believe to be at the center of a holy and human life.

Love, in the form of care, caused the one child to help the other. And we adults who were watching saw the result: the return of joy, the building of resiliency, and the deepening of friendship. Before they even got to school, those girls had taught us something important about caring for one another that morning. It's now up to us to practice what they taught until it becomes as natural to us as it was to them.

### Meeting with the Ministers

Rev. Bill and/or Rev. Jennifer are happy to meet with you individually at church, for lunch, over coffee, etc., at a time that works for everyone.

Please email either of them to make an appointment.

[bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)  
[jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org)

In the event of emergencies needing the attention of a minister, please contact Rev. Bill by phone or email first. If necessary, then contact Jeanne DeVoe, President of the Board of Trustees, at [president@uuprinceton.org](mailto:president@uuprinceton.org)

## For Our Newcomers

The Mission of the UU Princeton Membership Ministry is that *all who enter feel welcome, known, and loved. Newcomers experience personal and congregational connections that lead them to become committed UUs and members of our congregation.*

**If you have any questions about our events, membership or our congregation, please email us at [office@uuprinceton.org](mailto:office@uuprinceton.org). We look forward to getting to know you better.**

**October Spiritual Theme—Listening  
By Chalice Circle Facilitators**

**Our Monthly Spiritual Themes** guide our Chalice Circles, which are small, intentional groups of members and friends that gather for spiritual enrichment through personal sharing. For more information on Chalice Circles, please email [chalicecircles@uuprinceton.org](mailto:chalicecircles@uuprinceton.org). Our Chalice Circle thoughts and questions around the theme of Listening this month are:

If you're listening to a rock star in order to get your information on who to vote for, you're a bigger moron than they are.

- Alice Cooper (rock star)

*Does being a listener imply listening to everyone? How do you decide?  
Where is the fine line between being a discriminating listener and listening with discrimination?*

Listening is a magnetic and strange thing, a creative force. The friends who listen to us are the ones we move toward. When we are listened to, it creates us, makes us unfold and expand.

- Karl A. Menninger (psychiatrist)

*Which do you think is more correct: 'I think, therefore I am' or 'I am seen, therefore I am'?'  
How closely does our self-realization depend on others listening?*

I grew up listening to everybody.

- Lil Baby (rap artist)

*Should we strive to listen as children our whole lives?  
What changes occur in the way we listen as we get older?*

Change happens by listening and then starting a dialogue with the people who are doing something you don't believe is right.

- Jane Goodall (zoologist, primatologist, anthropologist)

*Have you ever changed anyone's mind by first fully understanding their position?*

***Signing the Membership Book  
Ceremony***

This ceremony of becoming a member is for those who have previously attended "Exploring our Faith" and want to become members of our congregation. Please contact Rev. Bill to arrange a time.  
[bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)



*This is a congregation of open minds,  
Of helping hands.  
And of loving hearts.  
Together we care for our earth  
And work for friendship and peace in  
the world.*

**JOIN US FOR  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**In-Person, as well as live-streamed, at  
10:30 a.m. in Channing Hall**

Via live-streamed video:

[https://zoom.us/j/94163305308?](https://zoom.us/j/94163305308?pwd=L3VDOVRPaUVKVUU4TIJsVXIrUVBMQT09)  
[pwd=L3VDOVRPaUVKVUU4TIJsVXIrUVB](https://zoom.us/j/94163305308?pwd=L3VDOVRPaUVKVUU4TIJsVXIrUVBMQT09)  
[MQT09](https://zoom.us/j/94163305308?pwd=L3VDOVRPaUVKVUU4TIJsVXIrUVBMQT09)

## Joys and Sorrows

Long time member, Mary Kay Muckenhoupt, passed away on Monday, September 2, 2024. Mary Kay was very active at the Princeton UU church in the 1970s-1980s, serving as vice president and chairing various committees. Although she withdrew from active participation in UU congregational life after her husband retired, she remained an ardent atheist and skeptic. She is survived by her son Carl, her daughter Meg, and three grandchildren.

Bob Williams, 96, passed away on September 3, 2024. Bob and his wife Karen Uhlenbeck joined UU Princeton in 2014. In addition to Karen, Bob is survived by his daughter Ellen Lindsay Williams, and six nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held later this fall.

We have some additional updates on memorial services that have now been scheduled:

The service for Ingrid Reed is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2024, at 2pm in Channing Hall.

The service for Fansie Connelly is scheduled for Saturday, November 9, 2024, at 2pm in Channing Hall.

Pastoral Associates is a group of trained and caring members of the congregation that offers support and assistance to congregants facing difficulties, crises, or life transitions. Rev. Jennifer Kelleher ([jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org)) is the primary support for Pastoral Associates and our Prayer Circle. You are always welcome to reach out directly to Rev. Jennifer and/or Rev. Bill Neely ([bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)) for pastoral care and support in times of difficulty and times of celebration.

### Stewardship and Planned Giving News

We're very grateful to Bob Munson, a brand new member of UU Princeton who has been a member of several UU congregations, for making a 2024-2025 annual pledge! Bob joins the more than 175 individuals and families listed in last month's *Skylights* who are participating in our Stewardship ministry. We thank everyone and are grateful for each pledge of every amount. And we also happily receive pledges all year long, so if you missed the spring Stewardship campaign, or if you've joined our community recently and would to make a pledge, please email [Stewardship@UUPrinceton.org](mailto:Stewardship@UUPrinceton.org).

We're also grateful for and hold in loving memory Mary Mikkelsen, an active member of our congregation from the 1970s – 1990s who passed away recently. Mary left a generous bequest to our congregation in her estate planning. That gift has been received and is now part of our Endowment, where it helps serve as a source of stability and possibility for our congregation well into the future. We thank Mary and her family and are honored by her support for our congregation.

We also know of approximately 13 individuals and families who currently have included UU Princeton in their planned giving. We know that number may be higher, so if you've included our congregation in your planned giving, please email [Bill@UUPrinceton.org](mailto:Bill@UUPrinceton.org) so that we can thank you. And if you'd like more information on Planned Giving, please let us know and we'll be in touch soon.

## Leadership Development and Nominating Committee

### SHARING OUR GIFTS

Making Connections at UU Princeton

We all have gifts, skills, talents, interests, and strengths that we enjoy sharing with others. Do you have a gift to share with the UU Princeton community, yet are uncertain how to make that connection? Now is your chance to explore the many opportunities and meet current participants. On **Sunday, October 6, the Leadership Development and Nominating Committee is hosting Sharing Our Gifts.** This event will host folks from many of our committees, programs, and interest groups who will be happy to tell you about what they do and provide you with opportunities to join. Your participation may be one time, weekly, monthly, or even semi-annually; you decide where and how your gifts will best be shared.

**Join us at Sharing Our Gifts on Sunday, October 6, 11:30-12:30 in Robinson Lounge.**

*Cathy Bauer-Koggan* for Leadership Development and Nominating Committee

### Conscious Communication

Would you like to improve upon your skills for communicating with family and community? On **Sunday, November 10, the Leadership Development and Nominating Committee is offering Conscious Communication**, a 6-step program to improve communication skills in an interactive workshop designed to allow space for us all to learn and practice. The session will be held following Sunday services. A community member, Angela Colva, will lead the activity and looks forward to joining with all of you as we expand our abilities to communicate well, even in difficult conversations.

**Join us for Conscious Communication on Sunday, November 10, 12:00-2:00 in the Founders Room.**

*Angela Colva* for Leadership Development and Nominating Committee

[ldnc@uuprinceton.org](mailto:ldnc@uuprinceton.org)

### Mission Statement of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton

*In our open, welcoming community  
we live our message of hope, love,  
justice, and joy.*

*Approved at the 6/3/2012  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton  
Annual Meeting*

## Children and Youth Ministry

### Children & Youth Ministry Registration Open!

We are excited to welcome our children and youth to our 2024-2025 program year! Our sessions begin October 6 and run through May. Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers, we are able to offer gatherings for children and youth (3) Sundays each month; with youth group meeting at least once/month.

**Registration** is FREE and required for all children and youth. It may be completed through this form or scanning the QR Code:

<https://forms.gle/i6F4GqFes1B1gKAz5>

Descriptions of our curriculum and program offerings are included with the registration information and can also be found at the Children & Youth Ministry table in Robinson Lounge. Please contact me, Rev. Jennifer, Assistant Minister, for support choosing the best learning experience for your child(ren). [jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org).

#### Program Schedules

**Sessions for Pre-K-7th/8th\* grades** are on Sunday mornings and begin after “Wonder & Wisdom” in worship, approximately 10:45am, with the exception of 7th-9th Grade OWL and Youth Group.

**Schedule for Pre-K/K, 1st-4th Grades and 5th-6th/7th/8th\* groups:** [https://docs.google.com/document/d/18WflRPqX96QKit2j\\_QjwAnhEsLRsdrY3qtRWDjbIRNI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18WflRPqX96QKit2j_QjwAnhEsLRsdrY3qtRWDjbIRNI/edit?usp=sharing)

7th-9th Grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) is in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Washington Crossing. **There is a mandatory parent orientation for OWL on October 6 from 1pm-3pm at UU Princeton.** Meeting locations will alternate month to month between UU Princeton and UUCWC.

**The DRAFT OWL schedule can be found here:** [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZGue4IXv56p9hC3\\_B346v7idAIK5wURkO3113PGHqlw/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZGue4IXv56p9hC3_B346v7idAIK5wURkO3113PGHqlw/edit?usp=sharing)



**High School (9th-12th Grades) YoUth Group** in in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills (Somerville, NJ) and **meets once/monthly on Sundays from 4:30pm-6:30pm. Schedule is TBD.** Please email [jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org) for more information.

*\*for 7th & 8th Graders opting out of OWL*

### October's Children and Youth Schedule

October 2024	
Sunday, October 6	<p><b>First Session of Pre-K/K, 1st-4th and 5th-6th/7th/8th Sunday morning Gatherings.</b></p> <p><b>Mandatory OWL Parent Orientation at UU Princeton, 1:00-3:00pm in Fahs Theatre</b></p>
Sunday, October 13	<p><b>Gatherings by age group.</b></p> <p>OWL Sessions 1 &amp; 2 (double-session kick-off, all facilitators)  <b>OWL begins at 10:30am-1pm at UU Princeton. OWL Students do not attend Service/Wonder &amp; Wisdom.</b></p>
Sunday, October 20	<p><b>Gatherings by age group.</b></p> <p><b>OWL Session 3: 10:30-12pm at UU Princeton</b></p>
Sunday, October 27	<p><b>All ages worship &amp; Trunk or Treat. No gatherings.</b>  <b>OWL does not meet.</b></p>

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### **UU HISTORY- The Great OVER - Ground Escape of Slaves - by Carl H. Haag**

*This background may help you understand the story that follows. Just outside the gold-domed State House in Boston stands the statue of Horace Mann. Mann, a Unitarian, helped found the first public school in America, was the first secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, served as a member of Congress, and at age 56, in 1852, became the first president of Antioch College in Ohio. A few years later, after establishing this co-educational college that was open to Negroes, he concluded his commencement day address with this powerful statement, "I beseech you to treasure up in your hearts these my parting words: Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity." Mann died a few days later. These words were both an inspiration and a burden for Antioch graduates. Carl Haag, Class of 1952*

The Conway family of Falmoth, Virginia, were prosperous and well-connected Methodists. Walter Conway was a businessman and a county judge. His wife, Margaret, was a homeopathic physician and a direct descendent of a Declaration of Independence signer. Although Margaret was [quietly] opposed to slavery, the family owned 50-60 slaves.

The Conways had several children and one of their sons, Moncure, was born in 1832 and grew up around slaves. As a young man, he attended college in Pennsylvania, earning his bachelor's degree at the age of 17, then went to Harvard Divinity School from which he graduated in 1854. His educational experiences, especially in Boston, and being a protege of Ralph Waldo Emerson, led Moncure to become a leading Southern abolitionist.

The Reverend Conway became minister of the Unitarian Church in Washington in 1854. He was dismissed after one year, perhaps because he said, "As long as there are slaves, we are all slaves." He decided to go west and became the minister of the Cincinnati Unitarian Church.

Occasionally the Conways would summer in Yellow Springs, Ohio where Moncure was drawn because of Horace Mann and the way that Mann's legacy of tolerance and progressivism influenced the town. In the summer of 1862 while staying in Yellow Springs, he received news from his mother. During the Civil War, his father and his brothers were away serving in the Confederate army. When the fighting came near his family home, 31 of the family slaves had left to try to reach freedom in Washington, DC. His mother was worried about their welfare, as they were on their own for the first time.

Conway immediately left for Washington on a train. When he arrived three days later, he found two of them, Dunmore and Eliza Gwinn, who had opened a candy shop and a laundry business in Georgetown. They had already saved \$60 in the short time after fleeing the plantation. Though they had not seen Conway for years, they respected and trusted him. When he proposed that they and the other Conway family slaves come with him to Yellow Springs, they agreed. Conway found the other slaves in what might be called "Divine Luck." On a hunch, he set out at night in a heavy thun-

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## **Adult Faith Development**

### **E**xploring Our Faith

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism (UU) and UU Princeton? Attend *Exploring Our Faith*, an interactive 60-minute discussion with Rev. Bill Neely. We'll talk about UU beliefs and history, our congregation and people, and the meaning of membership. All are welcome! Our next *Exploring Our Faith* session will be on Sunday Oct. 6 from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., in-person at UU Princeton. No sign-up needed

### **B**uddhist Meditation Group

UU Princeton's Buddhist meditation group meets every Sunday from 9:30 - 10:25 in Fahs Theater and on Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15 pm on Zoom. Whether you are a beginning or experienced meditator, all are welcome! Please contact Michele Ochsner ([michele.ochsner@gmail.com](mailto:michele.ochsner@gmail.com)) to receive weekly email reminders and Zoom links.

### **Z**en Meditation Practice and Talks

All are welcome to discuss and practice Zen Meditation on the Fourth Sunday of every month from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The practice consists of chanting the heart sutra and 25 minutes of seated meditation followed by a Dharma talk and discussion. Contact Steve Valerio ([sgvalerio312@gmail.com](mailto:sgvalerio312@gmail.com)) for more info.

### **S**hort Story Hour

Join Rev. Bill for the reading and discussion of a short story! All are welcome as we engage the spiritual themes of a short work of fiction. The next program is on Friday, October 18 at 12 noon. Keep an eye on your email for the Zoom link. No sign-up needed.

### **O**ur Values, Our Faith

Unitarian Universalists across the country recently approved turning our *Seven Principles* into Six Values (Interdependence, Justice, Generosity, Pluralism, Transformation, and Equity) centered on a foundation of Love. Let's talk about the new values, the language that

surrounds them, and the love that brings them to life. We'll meet on Sundays, Oct. 6, 13, and 20, from 9-9:45 a.m. in the lower lounge. Please register on the SignUp Genius page at [UUPrinceton.org](http://UUPrinceton.org).

## Young Adult Groups (ages 18-27 and 28-40)

Interested in meeting other young adults within the UU Princeton community? Come to Young Adult Sundays, at least once a month! Emma Moore ([emoore42@gmail.com](mailto:emoore42@gmail.com)), Irene Donne ([irene.donne@gmail.com](mailto:irene.donne@gmail.com)), and others are working on developing connections for fellowship, activism, and fun! Email the two of us any time or come introduce yourself after Sunday service. Join the email list to get each month's date and keep connected for other events.

## UU Princeton Book Discussion Group

Join us for our discussions of member-chosen books. All are welcome.

We will meet at noon in the John Murray Room unless otherwise noted.

Here's our reading list for the year:

November 17, *In the Shadows*, Mickey Bergman, Ellis Henican

January 12, *There, There*, Tommy Orange

March 16, *The United States Governed by Six Hundred Thousand Despots*, John Swanson Jacobs, edited by Jonathan D. S. Schroeder

May 18, *Fourteen Days*, The Author's Guild, Margret Atwood, Douglas Preston

Happy Reading!

Contact [peggy.matthews@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.matthews@gmail.com) if you have questions.

## CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) Evergreen Chapter meets monthly and quarterly.

For more information about CUUPS events, please reach out to Herb Foster at [herb\\_foster@yahoo.com](mailto:herb_foster@yahoo.com) to join the Evergreen CUUPS mailing list, or to Jennifer Santos at [jsantoscnm@verizon.net](mailto:jsantoscnm@verizon.net) or Kate Foster at [subligaria@yahoo.com](mailto:subligaria@yahoo.com), Co-Convenors, with questions

## Discussing Democracy

Faithful and healthy participation in democracy can be difficult when electoral politics are so toxic and dishonest. And yet, there are ways we can approach even divisive times with understanding, civility, and love. In this Zoom-only series, we'll talk about how. We'll gather online on Wednesdays, Oct. 16, 23, and 30 from 6-7 p.m. Please register on the SignUp Genius page at [UUPrinceton.org](http://UUPrinceton.org) to make sure you receive the Zoom link.



## Brunches

We are pleased to announce that BRUNCHES ARE BACK!!

Can't wait for the Founder's Room to be filled with happy people munching - brunching. But the most wonderful thing is that those happy folk are not just eating, but talking — deep in conversations that may not often happen amongst people standing around in the lounge. Upstairs and downstairs, newcomers and old-timers, long-time friends and strangers: all connecting and reconnecting in conversation. In significant ways our brunch ministry is helping to build the beloved community.

So do come join in providing brunches. Get your group on the list by using the SignUp Genius from our UUCP website or contacting Carolyn Hoeschele 609-466-0034 or [cjhoeschele@gmail.com](mailto:cjhoeschele@gmail.com).

## Rainbow Ministry

### Join UUCP Rainbow Ministry for Our Annual TDOR Vigil:

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998.

The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Please join us **Friday, November 22nd, at 7PM in Channing Hall:**

members of Rainbow Ministry will read the names of those trans siblings we have lost since November 2023, and honor their lives through reflection, prayer, music and ceremony.

Questions?

Email [rainbowministry@uuprinceton.org](mailto:rainbowministry@uuprinceton.org)

## Ministry for the Earth

As global warming escalates, its impact disproportionately affects our most vulnerable and underserved populations. This year's Murray Grove Homecoming theme is **Earth Justice**. This event aims to illuminate these disparities and foster discussions on equitable solutions.

Register on Murray Grove website at <https://murraygrove.org>

When: Saturday, Oct 5 at 10 AM

Location: Murray Grove Retreat Center, 431 US Highway 9, Lanoka Harbor NJ, 08734

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### **Volunteer Opportunities in Children & Youth**

There are ways you can offer your time with our children & youth throughout the year. We appreciate support with putting together the worship exploration bags (green tote bags for all ages available for use in worship services), annual events like our spring egg hunt, and helping to organize brunch fundraisers. Please contact me for more information on how you might help support our program.

And as always, I am here for you in times of personal and family transitions and/or challenges. Please do contact me at [jennifer@uuprinceton.org](mailto:jennifer@uuprinceton.org) or 609-924-1604, ext. 118 if I can be of support.

With abiding love, Rev. Jennifer

### **Recent Books/Stories Used in “Wonder & Wisdom”**

June 30 *Grumpy Monkey* by Suzanne Lang

July 7 *The Together Tree* by Aisha Saeed, Illustrated by LeUyen Pham

July 14 *Love Grows Everywhere* by Barry Timms and Tisha Lee.

July 21 *All Join In* by Quentin Blake

July 28 *Are You a Cheeseburger?* by Monica Arnaldo

August 4 *A Lamp in Every Corner* by Janeen K Grohsmeyer

August 11 *Argo and Me* by Chandra Ghosh Ippen and Erich Ippen Jr

August 18 “Super Tiny” by Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe

August 25 “The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade” by Justin Roberts & Christian Robison

September 1 *Hands Say Love* by George Shannon & Taeun Yoo

September 8 *I Am Quiet* by Andie Powers & Betsy Petersen.

September 15 *Breonna Marches Through Time* by high school teens Daveena, GERALYN, Jocktavius & Shatiya of Reach Incorporated

## **P**rin~~ce~~ton Eats Plants

Join Princeton Eats Plants, a vibrant UU Princeton community promoting plant-based living through monthly potluck gatherings. Discover delicious, plant-powered dishes and connect with others passionate about sustainable eating and cruelty-free living. Exchange recipes, share journeys, and forge connections. Whether you're a seasoned enthusiast or curious about plant-based diets, join us every first Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Founder's Room. Contact Vicky Campbell, JoEllen, or John Burton for details.

Meet Up group: <https://www.meetup.com/princeton-eats-plants/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2428735040700564>

## **W**omen's Alliance

**Lunch and Program – Thursday October 17, 2024, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Founder's Room**

### **In-person Only**

Join us at noon in the Founder's Room for our monthly lunch and program. Please bring a salad or sandwich to share; the Women's Alliance will provide dessert and beverages.

Our October program will feature UUCP's own Rev. Bill Neely who will share with us “**Lessons from the Mud!**” Rev. Bill has run well over 50 mud run and obstacle course races, spending countless hours in the dirt and on the trails while navigating challenging courses. He's had a few insights along the way. Come hear about them and see some pics of Rev. Bill as you've never seen him before.

No reservation is needed and all members, friends and guests are welcome! Please feel free to contact Betty Ashwood with any questions (see contact information below).

### **About Women's Alliance**

The Women's Alliance promotes friendship and kindness, inspires learning and serves the congregation and greater community. We organize monthly lunches with timely programs of general interest, assist bereaved families with receptions following memorial services and raise funds to support organizations that serve women and children.

Anyone who supports what we do and wishes to more fully participate may become a member of the Women's Alliance upon payment of \$10 in annual dues. To be placed on our email list to receive information about the monthly lunches and other activities, to obtain more information about Women's Alliance in general, or to become a member, please contact Betty Ashwood, President at 609 558-1136 (call or text) or email [bjashwood@gmail.com](mailto:bjashwood@gmail.com).



UU Princeton's Social Justice Ministries are organized into six major areas, with several affiliated activities, all listed below. To become involved in any of these areas please contact the person listed or the church office. If you have an idea for a new area of focus, please contact Rev. Bill ([Bill@UUPrinceton.org](mailto:Bill@UUPrinceton.org)).

### **Social Justice Ministries (alphabetically):**

**Caring for Our Neighbors** – organizes projects that provide hands-on help to address immediate, local, concrete needs (Louise Senior, [caring4neighbors@uuprinceton.org](mailto:caring4neighbors@uuprinceton.org))

**Immigration Task Force** – assists immigrants, refugees and sanctuary seekers. Michele Ochsner, [sanctuary@uuprinceton.org](mailto:sanctuary@uuprinceton.org),

**Ministry for the Earth** – acts to preserve earth's resources at UU Princeton and among individuals. Ray Nichols [earthministry@uuprinceton.org](mailto:earthministry@uuprinceton.org).



**UU Faith Action** – promotes advocacy actions, through support of UU Faith Action, legislative actions, and other activities. Michael Loney,

[socialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:socialjustice@uuprinceton.org),

**Racial Justice Ministry** – conducts anti-racism work inside and outside of UU Princeton. Ted Fetter and Kevin Trayner, [racialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:racialjustice@uuprinceton.org)

**Rainbow Ministry** – welcomes LGBTQIA persons at UU Princeton and advocates outside of UU Princeton. (Judy Vee, [lgbtq@uuprinceton.org](mailto:lgbtq@uuprinceton.org))

**Affiliated Activities:**

**Spring Sale** – Proceeds from our 50+ annual, congregation-wide rummage sales fund our annual Social Justice Outreach Grants (Sale Coordinators: Kirsten Shearer, Binnie Thom, Teri Hyatt, Amanda Gillum & Cathy Bauer-Koggan)

**Social Justice Outreach Grants** – Financial grants to local nonprofits sponsored by UU Princeton congregants, determined by committee review of applications. Funded by annual Spring Sale proceeds **Review Committee**

**Chair:** Gareth Funka-Lea,

**Carol Allen** (Liaison to Coalition for Peace Action)

**Jeanne DeVoe** (Liaison to Not in Our Town)

**Valerie Haynes** (Liaison to Princeton Community Housing)

**Debra Lambo** (Liaison to Represent US NJ)

**Dunbar Birnie** (Liaison to Citizens' Climate Lobby)

## Racial Justice Ministry

Do you have a passion for equity, anti-racism and social justice? The focus of our Racial Justice Ministry includes race-related issues in local governments, working with Indigenous peoples, education and school policies, faith development opportunities (a congregational book read is in the works for example), and looking at our own internal policies, practices, and history.

Come and check us out and be part of our work. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Email [racialjustice@uuprinceton.org](mailto:racialjustice@uuprinceton.org) for more information or to get on our mailing list. Or **you can** contact co-chairs Kevin Trayner and Ted Fetter directly at [Kevintrayner@gmail.com](mailto:Kevintrayner@gmail.com) or [fetter4@verizon.net](mailto:fetter4@verizon.net).

*No importa de dónde eres,  
estamos contentos que seas  
nuestro vecino.*

No matter where you are  
from, we're glad you're  
our neighbor.

ከየትም ደምጡ ጎረቤታችን  
በመሆንዎት ደስተኞቻችን!

## Caring for Our Neighbors

### Caring for Our Neighbors Ministry

Join us for hand-on projects that help hunger and homelessness prevention in Mercer County. Contact Louise Senior at [Caring4Neighbors@uuprinceton.org](mailto:Caring4Neighbors@uuprinceton.org) if you'd like to pitch in! You can always bring shelf-stable, in date, unopened food to our **Giving Table in Robinson Lounge**. Contact Jody Maher at [JodyM1025@gmail.com](mailto:JodyM1025@gmail.com) if you'd like to help deliver food to Arm in Arm.



Caring for Our Neighbors  
ArminArm is in need of food to help support the Trenton

& Mercer County community. Even though the pandemic seems to be lessening, demand at the food pantries continues to increase each month and is now almost TWICE what it was before COVID.

**To help, we have resumed our in-church drop-off collection table for food donation in Robinson Lounge at UU Princeton.**

Here are suggested items, with the greatest need for the top three. *No glass containers, please. Be sure to check expiration dates.*

- \* Canned low-fructose fruit
- \* Canned low-sodium vegetables
- \* Canned tuna, salmon, chicken or chili
- \* Canned beans or 1 lb. bag dried beans
- \* Canned potatoes
- \* Cold cereal
- \* Hot cereal
- \* Shelf-stable milk
- \* Honey (plastic container)
- \* Olive and canola oil (plastic container)
- \* Herbs and spices (plastic container)

Any questions, contact Jody Maher at [JodyM1025@gmail.com](mailto:JodyM1025@gmail.com).

**Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.**



*This is a congregation of open minds,  
Of helping hands.  
And of loving hearts.  
Together we care for our earth  
And work for friendship and peace in  
the world.*

## Gracenotes

### Marjorie's Special Events

As most of you have heard by now, Marjorie (I) will be retiring from my position as Director of Music at the end of December. This is a bittersweet decision to be sure, but as I turn 80 later this month, I feel it's time to widen my perspective, be a citizen of the world, and even have some fun along the way. It's been an incredibly rich couple of decades, and I'm sure our Music Ministry will be enlivened and grow further with the new DM. I want to invite you to two special events during which I will happily do what I've done so many times here at UU Princeton: engage everyone in the experience of experiencing music as a bridge to uplift a worthy text, the two together becoming exalted by their coupling.

### Women's Alliance – Thursday, November 14

I feel honored to have been invited to be the guest speaker at the 11/14 gathering of our extraordinary Women's Alliance. My inclination, which is what I've been requested to recount, will focus on some highlights of some of the rich experiences from my tenure here, and to explain how each has affected me both personally and professionally.

### "What's in a Hymn" -- Sunday, November 17

Through the years, it has been my pleasure to be granted the space of an entire worship Sunday to provide a wider perspective on our wide-ranging hymns that are routinely and specifically placed each Sunday. These **Hymn Sings** are a chance to focus completely upon *your role as congregants* and the crucial participation your singing adds to our services each Sunday. In fact, your singing of these wondrous gems gives us a more abstract, but insightful commentary upon the service theme that I feel is paramount to the overall effect of the hour.

What would make the hour on November 14 come alive is for *members of the congregation to email me* with their favorite hymn(s) so that we can experience in real time how certain hymns have become beloved to us.

We'll also spotlight a few of the creators of our hymns. Who are these composers? What is the source of the texts they have chosen to set? The hour will include the Bell Choir, the Adult Choir, a small Children's Ensemble, and of course: **YOU!**

So please participate in this service by sending me an email with your choice of hymn(s) with a brief description of what the hymn(s) has meant to you. My email: [marjmuse@verizon.net](mailto:marjmuse@verizon.net).

Thanks for considering.....

Warm thoughts,

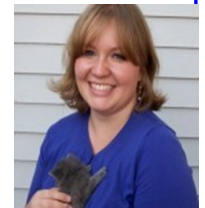
Marjorie

### UU Princeton Ensembles

**Adult Choir.** Our choristers' number from 15-20 singers and include several people from the community. We're looking for singers in all sections, **but tenors and basses** are especially needed. If you hesitate because you think your voice isn't good enough, come and be surprised at how quickly your voice will expand when surrounded with voices just like yours. Even a minimal amount of choral or music-reading experience is all you'll need to add your voice to this welcoming ensemble. The Adult Choir sings for services about two Sundays per month. To sing in the Adult Choir, contact Marjorie at [marjmuse@verizon.net](mailto:marjmuse@verizon.net), or just come check us out in Channing Hall any Wednesday evening at 7:30pm.



**Bell Choir.** Our director, Joelle Piercy has been leading our enthusiastic ensemble of bell ringers for fourteen years. Some ringers are experienced but many are first timers who are amazed how user friendly the bells are once a ringer gets familiar with their bells. Rehearsals for the Bell Choir are held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm– 8:30pm in Founders Room. We have three octaves of bells, but we also have three octaves of chimes, with a softer, sweeter sound. New ringers are always welcome, experienced or not. The Bell Choir members truly enjoy their time together and ring during at least 6 to 8 services during the church calendar year. If interested, contact Joelle at [Joellepiercy@gmail.com](mailto:Joellepiercy@gmail.com).



### **Music Ministry Mission Statement**

To provide, through the power of music, a dynamic ministry that will inspire transcendent personal experiences, draw the congregation into greater kinship, and bring inspiration to



*(Continued from page 6)*

derstorm to a section of Georgetown where a number of African American had cottages. The sound of people singing spirituals eventually led him to a cottage where the remaining slaves had gathered. They too were wet having just arrived from their 60-mile trek from Virginia.

Conway had good contacts in Washington and met with Treasury Secretary Chase who was a prominent abolitionist and was able to arrange meetings with President Lincoln. Lincoln warned Conway about the danger of going through Baltimore. [This was where Pinkerton had to secretly move Lincoln on his way to his inauguration because of the Baltimore plot to assassinate him.] Therefore, Lincoln arranged to have General Wadsworth make sure they got to Baltimore safely.

The entourage of Conway and the slaves arrived in Baltimore where they had to walk several miles to the next station. There, the sight of a white man leading 31 slaves attracted an angry crowd of local free blacks. The situation could have been dangerous for Conway, but the tension was diffused as the crowd learned of the escape plan from the slaves. The crowd then escorted them safely to the other train station. They faced an opposite problem there where a group of whites would not let them board the train. However, the train crew enabled them to board the train that would take them to Yellow Springs, Ohio.

Upon arriving in Yellow Springs, the group found shelter in Moses Grinnell's barn, and gradually set up homesteads in and around the Glen. With the Conway colony established, Yellow Springs became known as a welcoming community for freed slaves to live, which ultimately attracted multiple families beyond the initial group.

A dozen years after they rode the over-ground railroad to freedom, Conway visited the Gwinns. He found that "they had a good house, five well-kept acres, poultry and pigs, and that Dunmore's family were the coloured gentry of the region." Some of the former slaves moved elsewhere, including Washington, DC. but many remain in town to this day. Dunmore's sister, Julia, was among those who stayed and her great grandson, Jim McKee, served as chief of the Yellow Springs police from 1959 to 1993.

*Note: Carol and I first heard this tale from Professor Scott Holland at the UU History and Heritage Society in Baltimore in October a few years ago. Then I found an article in a 2012-2013 issue of In the Glen that had additional details of how the slaves reached this large wilderness area adjacent to the Antioch Campus.*

## OCTOBER FELLOWSHIP NIGHT SATURDAY, October 12th at 6 PM in the FOUNDERS ROOM

### WHAT ARE FELLOWSHIP NIGHTS?

Want to get to know more members of UU Princeton, but need help figuring out how to do it? Come to Fellowship Nights! We do all the prep, you just show up.

We provide pizza (other ideas welcome), but we love when people bring side dishes, dessert, or even just a bit of cash to defray the cost (absolutely not required though!)

Our usual format for Fellowship Night is a mix of board games and friendly discussion, but we eagerly accept suggestions for other activities.

We meet on the second Saturday of every month. Keep an eye out in all your UUCP channels. Happenings, e-Happenings, and email blasts will tell you what the program is for the month. Signup Genius is a great way to let us know how much food to order, and even better for accommodating your dietary needs and interaction preferences. But mostly, we look forward to seeing you, just as you are.

Signup Genius will be on the UU Princeton website. Contact us if you have any questions ([picoaudrey@yahoo.fr](mailto:picoaudrey@yahoo.fr)).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0945A8A629A46-50725128-fellowship>



### Potluck Promo Brunch

**October 13th Potluck Brunch hosted by the Promo Committee.** Come enjoy a meal and learn about some of the major services and events planned for the year ahead. Please sign up to bring a dish and/or help with setup and clean up. Check the weekly e-newsletter for more details and sign up link.

### Trunk or Treat & Tacos Sunday October, 27th following service

Come in costume, one and all-as our kids Trick or Treat from car trunk to car trunk. Join us in the UU Princeton parking lot, rain or shine! Activities will begin following service. Decorate your trunk in a Halloween theme and provide treats (consider options that are nut free, gluten free and possibly vegan). Taco buffet will be set up afterwards (GF and vegans options will be available)... if you would like to provide a dessert. Please RSVP via Signup Genius (so we have enough tacos) and consider helping with the volunteer list. Find the signup genius link in e-happenings and on the UU Princeton website Signup Genius.

Trunk or treat sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0945A8A629A46-51390978-trunk#/>

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*Names & Numbers*

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**Rev. Jennifer Kelleher**  
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**The Meaning of Membership**

Becoming a member of UU Princeton places you in the long history and current community of people who not only appreciate and support the values of our congregation, but wish to strengthen and serve them. Members build the congregation that blesses people within and beyond our walls. Every worship service, outreach drive, children's program, musical piece, fellowship event, memorial service, child dedication, and all of our other offerings are made possible by members of yesterday and today. Visitors and guests experience the blessings of the congregation. Members create those blessings for those to come and in return know that they are part of a generous and giving community that helps others experience hope, love, justice, and joy, even as the members experience those gifts themselves.

A traditional expression of the commitments of membership is the "3T's": Time, Talent and Treasure. Time is what members offer to help create what the congregation offers: singing in the choir, contributing to a potluck, calling the grieving, teaching our young, etc. Some of us can offer a lot of time; some not so much, but there are countless ways to give our time. Talent is when we serve our congregation with our special skills and interests. Maybe it's committee leadership or financial advice. Perhaps one has an entrepreneurial spirit and takes an idea from conception to reality. Some are very, very organized – that's always a needed talent in any congregation. Our talents are abundant, and when members offer them to the congregation, we thrive. And Treasure is when we make annual financial pledges to UU Princeton. Members know that pledges build the budget, which is an expression of our values and empowers everything we do. Many people give to our congregation and we're grateful for each gift, but annual pledges, of whatever amount is possible for the pledger, are what let us plan and build and grow.

Time, Talent, and Treasure are the common three, plus the fourth that I like to add: Together. For everything we do in our congregation, we do together. There are no solo ministries, no individual projects, and no one-person shows. All ministry is shared ministry, and yesterday, today, and tomorrow, the members of any congregation create everything we offer, together.

If you have questions about Membership in UU Princeton, please email Rev Bill at [Bill@UUPrinceton.org](mailto:Bill@UUPrinceton.org). If you are a member and would like be a part of our Membership Ministry, please email him as well.



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**Next *Skylights* Deadline:**  
**October 17, 2024**  
**Submissions due for the**  
**November 2024**  
**ISSUE**  
[skylights@uuprinceton.org](mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org)  
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