

April 2026

# Newsletter



## SPRING

A Season of Renewal & New Growth, New Life & New Beginnings, AND a Reminder that change can be lovely!

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### **Pledge Update:**

**As of April 1, 2026 we are at \$179,331.38. If you have not pledged for 26-27, please support your church so we can continue to create Beloved Community.**

## From your Minister, April 2026

I'm aware that there's a degree of privilege inherent in this month's theme – *embracing possibility*. Not everyone has the same equitable access to possibility. Fewer and fewer options seem available to folks as they age. Or, if a person has any number of physical or mental disabilities, possibilities seem significantly reduced. And, it doesn't hurt to dream. I invite you to try the below spiritual practice this month to explore your inner yearnings and what they might mean. Even if you're never able to achieve your dream(s), what does entertaining said dream(s) mean?

Spiritual and religious traditions encourage and help us love the life we have. But it is fun - and often instructive - to imagine the life we would live if anything was possible.

So, to practice embracing possibility, lean into your imagination and write a poem or journal-sized reflection on what you would be if another life was possible. Be as silly or serious, playful or profound as you like. And remember, sometimes it helps to revisit what you dreamed about becoming when you were a child.

So what will it be? A trapeze artist? An impressionist painter? A member of King Aurther's court? A costume designer for movies set in the Victorian era? The owner of your own restaurant? The first person to walk on Mars? A death doula? A hermit? A circus clown? An urban planner of the first zero emission city? Spiderman?

Whether you take the playful or profound route, be sure to dedicate part of your writing to reflecting on the longing that lies at the center of your choice. This is where the deeper work lies. Because while you may not really be able to be a trapeze artist, it may be possible to satisfy that longing to escape the "gravity" of worry that sits at the center of that high-flying choice. Or to put it another way, you do not need to become that imagined version of yourself to access what it represents.

In good faith and good trouble,

*Rev. Nic*

# Faith Formation: Embracing Possibility

When I think about the possibilities for our church and our faith tradition, I get plum giddy! The values and principles we share make me realize that real change is not just possible—it's probable.

Possibilities are endless when built on a firm foundation. While we may not get "there" in my lifetime, I am convinced that the creation of a **Beloved Community** is at hand. This month, we invite our children and youth to explore what is possible when we work, play, and grow together.

## Sunday Faith Formation Schedule

- **April 5th:** Children will be in the service the entire time. There will be no traditional classes; instead, we will transition directly into our **Easter Hunt and Potluck!**
- **April 12th:** We dive deeper into "Embracing Possibility" with a full hour of class for ages Preschool through High School.
- **April 19th & 26th:** Children will join the service for the first half hour and spend the final 30 minutes continuing our classroom conversations.

## Easter Egg Hunt & Community Potluck

### Sunday, April 5th | Immediately Following Service

Spring is here, and we are celebrating with a full morning of fellowship!

- **The Hunt:** We're keeping things sustainable! Children will hunt for eggs containing tokens to "trade" at our **Spring General Store** for snacks, art supplies, and outdoor fun.
- **The Potluck:** After the hunt, we'll gather for a shared meal. Check the sign-up sheet on the easel in the **Common Area** to contribute a dish!
- **For Families:** After the service, please stay in the Sanctuary. Pick up nursery-aged children so Ms. D and Mx. Vic can divide everyone into age groups (0-4, 5-8, and 9-12) before we head out.

**Help Wanted:** We still need chips, snacks, and juice boxes for the General Store! Please sign up via our <https://forms.gle/aARx2AbL9eAbskc26> and bring donations to the church by **Wednesday, April 1st.**

## Summer Camp 2026: Save the Dates!

We are thrilled to announce two weeks of summer camp designed to nourish the body, mind, and spirit. Registration is opening soon!

### Week 1: "Feeding Our Spirit" Cooking Camp

**June 8 – June 12 | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

- **Who:** Rising 1st–7th Grade | **Cost:** \$125
- **The Theme:** A hands-on week where we explore UU values through the joy of cooking. Each day focuses on a different value—from **Interdependence** (making "Stone Soup") to **Transformation** (watching ingredients become Mac & Cheese).
- **Interdependence in Action:** Campers will bring one "community ingredient" from home each day to contribute to our shared recipes!

### Week 2: The Three S's—Service, Silence, & Sunshine

**July 6 – July 10 | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

In a fast-moving world, we are slowing down to curate the magic of connection.

- **Service:** Finding purpose and joy in collective work.
- **Silence & Mindfulness:** Deep listening and short mindful activities, including a **guest yoga instructor** on Tuesday!
- **Sunshine & Movement:** Reveling in the outdoors with nature exploration and silly games.

## Youth Group Highlights

### Teen Night In: D&D and Beyond

Friday, April 17th | 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Hark!** The UU Augusta Youth Group is returning to our popular Teen Night In with three ways to play:

1. **D&D Workshop:** Build a character with an experienced DM and join our new D&D Club.
2. **Board Game Room:** A low-pressure space to hang out and play tabletop favorites.
3. **Video Game Lounge:** We're hooking up consoles in the Common Room for multiplayer fun!

### Earth Day Table & Community Service

- **Sunday, April 12th:** The Youth Group will host an Earth Day info table. Contact **Mx. Vic** ([youthadvisor@uuaugusta.org](mailto:youthadvisor@uuaugusta.org)) for details.
- **Saturday, April 18th:** Church Cleanup Day! Youth are invited to help spruce up our grounds; there will be **prizes for participation**.

## Looking Ahead

Be on the lookout for details regarding our **May Youth Outing to The Splatter Place!** It is a busy month full of wonderful possibilities. We can't wait to see you there!

## *March Letter from the Board:*

### **What's Up, People!**

As we enter this season of resurrection, renewal, new light, and fresh hope, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you—our dedicated congregants—for your thoughtful work in helping us articulate our church's mission. Being able to clearly express who we are and what we stand for is essential not only for living our core values, but also for sharing our identity with the wider world.

This collaborative process brought us closer together, strengthening community and deepening our connections as we reflected on what truly matters. In a time when it can feel like the world is on fire, may we continue to resurrect our spirits, our courage, and our collective hope.

Please keep an eye out for more details about our **1st Annual Family and Friends Day on April 19th**. Bring someone you love and help us celebrate community in all its forms.

We also want to take a moment to honor **Liz Goodson** for her many years of devoted service to our church. Liz is legendary—not only for her chocolate chip cookies, but for the countless roles she has filled over more than 50 years of commitment and love. While we will miss her presence deeply, she will always have a place in our hearts... even as she leaves a cookie-shaped hole in our stomachs.

Without a catchy sign-off,

**Tim Hunter, Co-President**

## *Gifts of Honor*

*Looking for a way to celebrate a friend or loved one's birth, birthday, marriage, anniversary, graduation, or recent achievement?*

*Consider making a Gift of Honor in their name to the church! A check or cash-in-an-envelope should be clearly marked*

*– Gift of Honor – and be sure to tell us who or what you are honoring.*

*All Gifts of Honor will support the General Fund.*

*Make an online donation on the church's website at [UUAugusta.org](http://UUAugusta.org) or use the QR Code.*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am - Easter Sunday Service, Potluck Lunch, & Easter Egg Hunt*
- April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm - RAD Book Club*
- April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm - Healing Circle*
- April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm - Community Sing, Lead by Bill Webster*
- April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am - Women's Lunch Group at Shishkabob*
- April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm - Cozy Craft Night*
- April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm - Monthly Board Meeting*
- April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm - UUCA Teen Game Night*
- April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30am - Spring Clean up Day*
- April 18<sup>th</sup> - Seed and Plant Swap, Talks about the new UUCA Garden Club*
- April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am - Earth Day Worship followed by our Friends & Family Fish Fry Potluck. Everyone Welcome!! (Invite a friend or family member that hasn't attended in a while or ever)*
- April 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00pm - Sierra Club*
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 11:45am - ROMEO Mens Lunch Group*
- April 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm - Concert with Jazz Singer Kristy Hood*
- April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm - UUCA Book Club*
- April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm - Out & Proud Karaoke Night*
- April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 12:05pm - Good Trouble Meeting*
- April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm - Banned Book Club*

Mark  
YOUR  
Calendar

Hop on over for our

**EASTER**

Potluck Lunch &

Egg hunt

Join us on

**April 5th after service**

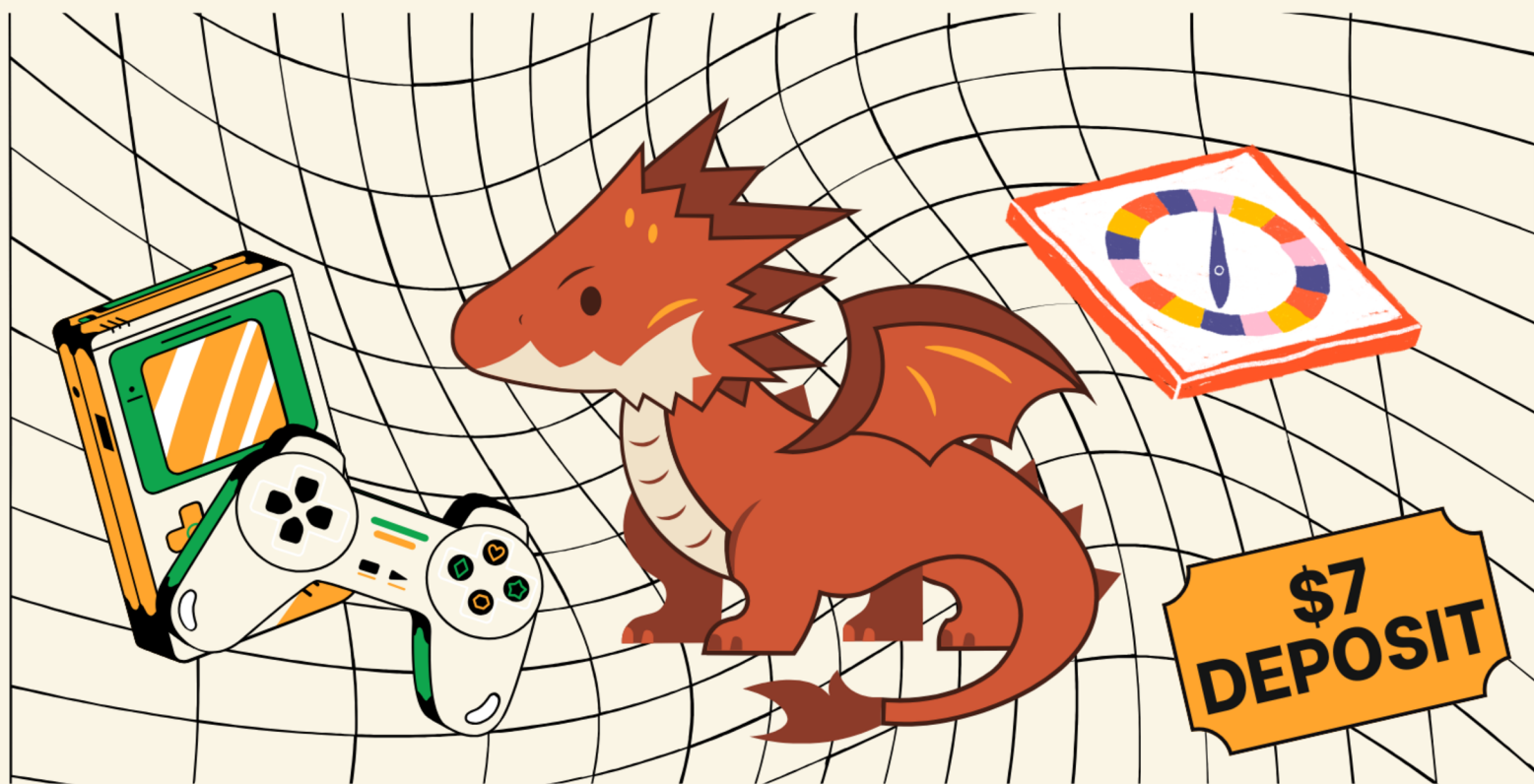
for some egg-citing fun!

Please sign up to bring something  
yummy in to share with friends

# D&D... & BEYOND!

Join us for another fun **Teen Night In!**

D&D character building workshop, board game room, and video game area! Bring your consoles!



## Date

Friday, April  
17, 6-9 PM

## Location

UU Augusta  
Youth Wing

**Register on  
Realm!**



***VOLUNTEERS  
WANTED***

# **SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**

Join us for Clean-Up Day! Help make our Beloved Community a cleaner, greener place. Grab your gloves, shovels, rakes, or more and come out and play in the dirt. Volunteer today to help beautify our Church Campus

**4/18/2026 @  
9:30 AM**

Sign up Board is in the Common Room

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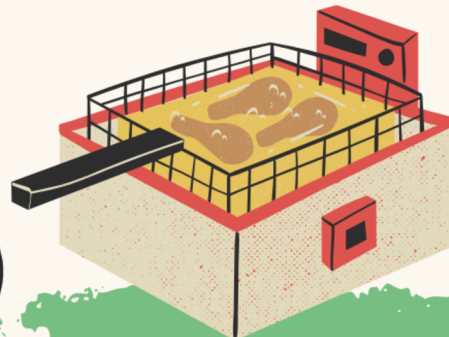
# EARTH DAY CELEBRATION



Join us in honoring our planet on Earth Day! Let's take action to protect nature, reduce waste, and create a more sustainable future together. Join us for a special Earth Day Service, followed by some good fellowship with friends and family!



## FRIENDS & FAMILY FISH FRY BLOCK PARTY



SERVICE STARTS AT 11:00AM  
3501 WALTON WAY EXT  
AUGUSTA, GA



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF AUGUSTA, GA

# Bloom Together Spring Pop-up Market

**Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2026**

**10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Support local makers

Find unique gifts

Celebrate the season of renewal

*Bring a friend, enjoy the community  
spirit, and see what's blooming!*

*Click here to sign up to be a vendor:*

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ru0SSNRk-bzV1R5MwuEuWkQSwTBUxil5NCGxZZE8NK4/edit?usp=sharing>

# April Worship Calendar - Embracing Possibility



## April 5<sup>th</sup> - The Power of (Re) Newed Life, with Reverend Nic

There are so many possibilities for each of us. (Re)New(ed) life is possible every moment. Of course, not everyone has the same access. Which means when somebody on the margins of and targeted by empire does resurrect into something new, something even more whole and holy than before, it is truly miraculous. When stepping out of the cave, you make a new you and a new world. That kind of power is unworldly. Join us for an after service Easter egg hunt and potluck.



## April 12<sup>th</sup> - The Provocative Possibility of Poetry, with Mikhayla Robinson

Mikhayla Robinson is an Educator, Author, Athens Poet Laureate (2024-2026), & Community Organizer. And UUCA is fortunate to be hosting her as she makes meaning through her poetry.



## April 19<sup>th</sup> - Earth Day - A Holy Day for All, with Reverend Nic

Join us as we celebrate a holiday for all - Earth Day. Bring at least one friend or family member who has never attended UUCA before. The board is preparing a fish fry block party after the service for anybody who wants or needs food!



## April 26<sup>th</sup> - Unions for All, with Marissa DeOliveira

When workers unite to help immigrants, everyone benefits.

# Group and Committee Events

## Parents' Group

Next Meeting:

**NO PARENTS GROUP THIS MONTH**

Contact: Desria Seay [ffm@uuaugusta.org](mailto:ffm@uuaugusta.org)



## Recovery International



Mental Health Support Group (**online**)  
Virtual **Wednesday weekly** meeting at **6:30pm**  
Open to newcomers

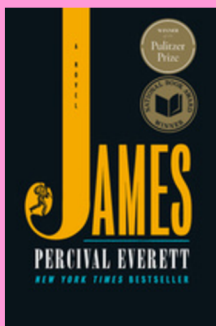
Pre-register: [Here](#)

You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.  
Contact: Maryka Bhattacharyya [630-605-6913](tel:630-605-6913)

## UU Meditation

**Monday at the church** gathering:

Contact: Chris Garcia [garceus@yahoo.com](mailto:garceus@yahoo.com)



## UUCA Book Group

Next Discussions - **April 25th at 1pm**

**Fourth Saturdays at 1pm**  
**Room 1-2**

Contact: Jan Parsons - [janbparsons@gmail.com](mailto:janbparsons@gmail.com)

# Group and Committee Events

## Good Trouble Team

Next meetings: **April 26th**

The Good Trouble Team meets on the  
**4th Sunday at 12:05pm**

ZOOM Link

Passcode: 324295



## Board Meeting

Next meetings: Thursday, **April 16th**

Monthly Board Meeting will be held the in the  
**Common Room**

Contact: Co-presidents, Tim Hunter or Dominique  
Grushinski

[board.president@uuugusta.org](mailto:board.president@uuugusta.org)

## UU Humanist Freethought Group

Next Meetings: **April 12th**

Usually meeting the  
**second Sunday at 5pm in the Common Room**

Zoom link

Contact: Frank Carl [frankcarl2040@gmail.com](mailto:frankcarl2040@gmail.com)



# Group and Committee Events

## UUCA Women's Luncheon Group

Next Gathering: **April 14th @ 11:30**

Location: Shishkebab Restuarant  
648 North Belair Road

Please send your reservation by the Sunday prior to  
Pat Lynch-Hayes: 706-733-8303,  
[plynchhayes@gmail.com](mailto:plynchhayes@gmail.com)

Usually meets the **second Tuesday at 11:30am** at  
area restaurants

Girlfriends always welcome.



## Earth Traditions Collective, E.T.C. (formerly known as Pagan Potluck Group)

Next gathering: Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (Details to follow)

Earth Traditions Collective (E.T.C.) is an inclusive UUCA community group dedicated to fostering understanding, respect, and appreciation for nature-focused traditions.

E.T.C welcomes individuals of all ages, gender identities, and backgrounds who wish to explore seasonal observances, cultural folklore, and personal reflection in a supportive environment.

Our activities include educational discussions, potlucks, outdoor gatherings, and community stewardship projects designed to promote our connection to the natural world.

Through shared learning and service, E.T.C. strives to build a diverse, respectful community rooted in curiosity, mindfulness, and care for the earth.

## R.O.M.E.O. Lunch Group (Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Next Gathering: April 23 @ 11:45

Location: TBD

Confirm & RSVP by Tuesday's on Realm to Frank  
Dennison

Text: 706-267-9298 or

[frankdennison@outlook.com](mailto:frankdennison@outlook.com)



# Group and Committee Events

## Cozy Craft Night

**Next Gathering: April 15th**

Location: UU Church Common Area

**Knit, crochet, needlework, painting, coloring, drawing, wire work - all crafters are welcome! We will have light refreshments, but feel free to bring a snack to share as well.**



## Adult ADHD Peer Support Group

**Next Meeting: April 14th**

A monthly gathering for adults with ADHD to discuss and learn about topics relevant to those with Adult ADHD (treatment, relationships, life hacks, resources) as well as connect with others who share similar life challenges.

Meets the **SECOND** Tuesday at 6pm in Room 1-2 for discussion.

Contact: Dave Mackey [dave@davemackey.net](mailto:dave@davemackey.net)

## Yoga by Align Wellness Studios

Tuesdays @ 10:00AM

Saturdays @ 10:00AM

Classes are donation based with the suggested donation of \$10.

Contact: Dominique Grushinski at [alignwellnessstudios@gmail.com](mailto:alignwellnessstudios@gmail.com) for questions or to reserve a space



# Group and Committee Events

## **RAD BOOK CLUB**



## **RAD Book Club**

(Youth Group)

Next Gathering: April 10th

Location: UUCA, Classrooms 1-2

Come Join the Read And Discuss youth Book Club and talk about this month's book.

## *Healing Circle*

Next Gathering: April 10th at 6:30pm  
Second Friday of every month

Come join us for an evening of sharing space and laying the weight of the world down for a while. Whether you are struggling with things in your personal life, or the macro scale of the world, this is a safe space to come share what's on your heart and mind, without any judgment. We share in a calming and centering grounding practice, followed by everyone getting a chance to share (if they choose), and close with a practice of releasing and finding peace in the moments we can.

Hope to see you there!

Contact: Beth Ann Chesnut Fillingim, Bill Webster, or Caitlin Tarleton



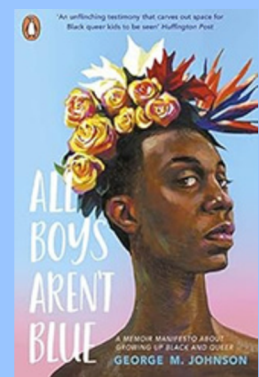
## **This Month's Book**



## **BANNED Books Club**

Next Gathering: April 30th

Location: UUCA, Sanctuary



# VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!!! WE NEED YOU!!! We had a great outpouring of volunteers in 2025. THANK YOU!!!

In order for great events and more to happen around here, we need you to volunteer!! We have so many different ways for you to help out. Please consider donating your time in your field of expertise or just something you've always wanted to help with. We welcome all to take part in keeping our church at its best. We appreciate ALL our volunteers so much. Thank you!



Ms. D is looking for a few good volunteers. She needs help with our youths on the first Sunday after service, during Adult Faith Formation and the third Sunday after service, during the Parents Group Meeting. If you want to help out and get to know our amazing kids, please see below.

1. Documentation: Complete the background check and information form at <https://tinyurl.com/53vebznv>
2. Training: Take a very short but important mandated reporter class. <https://tinyurl.com/mr3ywfd7>
3. Orientation: Look over a brief slideshow to get up to speed.
4. Action: Sign up for a Sunday!



Let's give a big shout out to Larry for mowing the front lawn so we look amazing for Master's Week. Not only did he mow, but he donated his mower to the church for times when we need it. So, don't be surprised if you see me out there riding it around with a big straw hat on. HA HA HA





All of who you are is sacred.  
All of who you are is welcome.

Your Love  
Your Trauma  
Your Anger  
Your Joy  
Your Cur  
Your Gri  
Your Loneli  
Your Pride

All of who you are is sacred.  
All of who you are is welcome.

Your full complexity. Your whole identity.

STA.ORG

**NO  
KINGS**

LYING  
GAGAIN

I'm being  
scared, diverse,  
but not that scared

OUT & PROUD  
August 1st  
SCAN TO JOIN THE MEETUP!

ELECT A CLOWN  
EXPECT A CIRCUS

MAKE ME UP  
KING  
AGAIN!!

NO KINGS

ORANGE  
LIES  
MATTER

MY OATH WAS  
TO THE  
CONSTITUTION  
NOT A KING

# GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Joys and Sorrows** can be sent ahead to the **Pastoral Care Team**: [pastoralcare@uuaugusta.org](mailto:pastoralcare@uuaugusta.org).
- Our **UUCA Choir** welcomes new voices. We hope you'll join us at **9:30am Sunday** mornings and help us add to the worship experience.
- All ages **Faith Formation Classes** are held after Worship on the **first Sunday** of each month. The classes will be from **12:15-1:15pm** following a short fellowship time.
- The **Committee on Shared Ministry (CoSM)** is concerned with the spiritual health of the entire ministry of the congregation, as a reflection of mission fulfillment. For more information about COSM and all UUCA teams and committees, please visit: <https://www.uuaugusta.org/committeesandteams>
- **Josef Patchen** is offering Piano Lessons: Any age, Any level, Any style. For information, write: [jcpatchen61@gmail.com](mailto:jcpatchen61@gmail.com) or text: 706-399-5852
- Contact the **Church Administrator** for group meeting and event scheduling and for addition to the **UUCA Public Calendar**. [churchadmin@uuaugusta.org](mailto:churchadmin@uuaugusta.org)
- The **first Sunday** of each month is **Youth Greeter Week**. This is an opportunity for our young members to play a special role in our congregation. Inquire with **Faith Formation Manager**: Desria Seay (Ms. D) - [ffm@uuaugusta.org](mailto:ffm@uuaugusta.org).
- The **Midday (AA) Group** meets **Monday - Saturday at Noon** in the **Common Room**.



*May we create beloved community  
In good faith and good trouble*

<u><i>UU Augusta Office Email</i></u> <u><i>Minister's Email</i></u>	<i>706-733-7939</i>
<u><i>UU Augusta Website</i></u>	<i>3501 Walton Way Extension Augusta, GA 30909</i>
<i>Office Hours: Monday-Friday -9:30-2:30</i>	<i>Rev. Nic's Office Hours: Wednesday: 4pm-6pm</i>