

**SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
UUFJC OPEN HOUSE
1-4 PM**

**-Enjoy old and new friends,
Refreshments, & building tours!**

February 1, 2025

Dear Friends,

I hope you enjoy this Mary Oliver poem. We've had a break from the bitter cold, but it still applies.

Cold Poem. By Mary Oliver

Cold now.
Close to the edge. Almost
unbearable. Clouds
bunch up and boil down
from the north of the white bear.
This tree-splitting morning
I dream of his fat tracks,
the lifesaving suet.
I think of summer with its luminous fruit,
blossoms rounding to berries, leaves,
handfuls of grain.
Maybe what cold is, is the time
we measure the love we have always had, secretly,
for our own bones, the hard knife-edged love
for the warm river of the I, beyond all else; maybe
that is what it means the beauty
of the blue shark cruising toward the tumbling seals.
In the season of snow,
in the immeasurable cold,
we grow cruel but honest; we keep
ourselves alive,
if we can, taking one after another
the necessary bodies of others, the many
crushed red flowers.



This week's Adult Forum: Raylene Duckworth, will educate us about Rise Up Foundation, which promotes healthy masculinity and prevents sexual violence.

Next week's Forum: February 9: Alex LeCure will speak about advocating for children in crisis and listening to the child's voice.

This week's sermon: *Light of Truth* by Rev Beth Dana

This sermon explores the power, complexity, and necessity of truth in our lives. Reflecting on timeless wisdom—such as the saying from Mark Twain, “a lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is still putting on its shoes.” Dana delves into the challenges of truth-telling in a world where misinformation spreads rapidly.

UU Moment: *Practicing Hope* by Rev Wendy Bartel

Children's Religious Education - 10:30 am

Children attending in-person are welcome to join RE Instructor Dr Samantha Porter for a lesson during the service hour.

This month's theme: Inclusion

This Week's Joys and Concerns:

Concern: Pat Behler is now out of isolation and back in her regular room at Heisinger. Know there are still active COVID cases on her floor if you plan to visit. She misses her UU friends and would greatly benefit from cards or letters. Please contact Jan Harcourt for more information.

If you have a joy or concern that you would like to have read during a service or shared in our weekly email, please submit it by noon on the Friday before through our website: <http://uufjc.org/joys--concerns.html>

We will also have paper forms available Sunday morning for submissions.

Submissions made after noon on Friday may not be read or shared until the following week.

Common Ground is running low on a few things. If anyone would like to pick up anything from the list below and bring it to church on Sunday, Lisa Sanning would be happy to drop it off on Tuesday evening when she goes to Common Ground for board training.

What they need:

breakfast bars
ravioli, (I assume the single serving cans).
canned meats (tuna, Spam)

gloves, hats, socks
Feminine hygiene products
deodorant for men & women

Book Club



The Intergenerational Classical Book Study has a new facilitator in Josh Swart!! The next great read is **Roots** by Alex Haley. Next meeting date is February 9, 2025, at 2:00 pm, in the Forum Room in our UU Building.

Caring Committee

Contact Heidi Atkins-Lieberman at hal.AtkinsLieberman@outlook.com for assistance.

For more events, see our online calendars:

[UUFJC Events](#)

[Building Use \(other\)](#)

[Community Events](#)

[And visit us online at http://uufjc.org/](http://uufjc.org/)

[Virtual Gatherings.](#)

[Affiliated Events](#)

[Religious Education](#)

Blessings Always,

Mary Jo LaCorte

Administrator

Got Venmo? You can now make a payment through our Venmo app.

