

## The Bridge

\*10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional

\*10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages

\*Primary: "Meet Jesus: The Life and Lessons of a Beloved Teacher": Lynn Tuttle Gunney

\*Teens: "UU Kids": Brotman & Marshman

\*Adults: "A Faith People Make": Stephen Kendrick

**January 5: "Sunday Morning with Jim Scott"** – Jim Scott – Jim's music is intelligent with strong melodies. He moves with ease from delicate chords and harmonies, to reggae, to jazz. An acoustic guitarist and composer of powerful songs, Jim furthers the ideals of ecology, justice and peace.

**January 12: "A Message from the Minister"** – Rev. Claudia M Frost – Happy New Year! 2020 marks the one hundred fifteenth year our congregation has been incorporated and one hundred fifty-one years since Julia Kent Outlaw began teaching Universalism on this land. The dawn of this New Year is a good time to look to the future and consider how we want to preserve the church legacy as well as adapt for those who will need this church community in the years to come.

**January 19: "What You Are Missing When You Are Not Listening"** – Ann Malpass – Margaret Wheatley says "I believe we can change the world if we start listening to one another again...simple, truthful conversation where we each have a chance to speak, we each feel heard and we each listen well." Let's explore how that happens!

**January 26: "Extravagant Hopefulness/Realistic Goals"** – Rev. Claudia M Frost – Resuming our sermon series on the Seven UU Principles, we will explore the theology and implications of our Sixth Principle: *The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty, and Justice for All*. As impossible as this Principle may seem, there are ethical and theological reasons that it was chosen as one of the Seven Principles that are foundational for our UU faith.



### Dates to Remember

**January 9: Meet at 11:30 a.m. for Lunch at Johnny's Seafood; AUW Meeting at 1:00 p.m.**

**January 26: Covered-dish lunch and Board Meeting Following Service.**

**January Music Concert to be announced at a later date.**



## Claudia's Comments

Happy New Year! I hope you've enjoyed a joyous Christmas and are planning ways to greet the New Year that fit your need for either revelry or quiet reflection. Perhaps both are in order. After a fun evening with friends on New Year's Eve, on New Year's Day I plan to set aside some time for reflection and personal planning for the year ahead.

This time of year, the stores are showcasing their plastic tubs and organizational bins...reminding us it's time to get organized. Yes...we could all take a few moments to clean out the household "junk" drawer...that place where *odds and ends* get lost...waiting for us to find the part *it* goes with. This is also a good time for completion of our unfinished church projects. (Green Sanctuary Recertification, Convocation May 2020 details, Safe Congregations and Right Relations Guidelines.)

2020 may present new challenges, changes and opportunities for your life. The first week of January, I will have surgery to repair the rotator cuff and biceps tendon tears in my left shoulder. Since I've experienced this type of repair on my right shoulder five years ago, I know I'm in for a challenging time of recovery and rehab. However, I plan to be available as usual by phone, email, texts or in person as needed except for January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

What changes, challenges or opportunities are you planning in 2020? Changes in my life have prompted me to get a head start on uncluttering and organizing the large accumulation of *stuff* that builds up at home. The Habitat for Humanity truck recently arrived with volunteers who helped remove items we no longer need but continued to store. Multiple large bags filled with household items and clothing are labeled and ready for donation at the Goodwill Industries and many boxes both large and small are flattened and ready for the recycle center. I was surprised by what had accumulated.

The New Year is a good time to unclutter and set a fresh start to our personal environment, too. Sometimes we need deadlines or incentives to get the work done. I'm quite motivated at the moment because my youngest son and his family are moving from Atlanta and preparing to live with us for about six months. Challenges, changes and opportunities abound as we navigate getting the house *baby safe* for our curious seven months old granddaughter and more welcoming for her eight years old sister. I'm looking forward to enjoying more time with grandchildren but know we will all have things to learn and adjust to as we navigate combining two households with listening and love.

Thought for the New Year: *May we enter 2020 as the directors and producers of a terrific year not as if we are an extra in someone else's script. Enter as the lead guitarist not as the back-up singer. Giggle like toddlers, stretch like cats, stay rooted like trees and be big and open like the night sky.* Let's get busy celebrating!

With Love, Hope & Joy,

Rev. Claudia