

Themes for Covenant Groups



Throughout the year, UUCAers are invited to join a Covenant Group, to deepen their engagement with the monthly themes, and to connect with other church members and friends. Core Readings and guiding questions are in the Connections at the beginning of each month, for use by the Theme-based Covenant Groups, and for all UUCAers to reflect upon. UUCA's Sunday morning offerings are being given to support the work of human services which extends our ministry into the community. This year, the "Give the Plate" recipients are being scheduled to align with the themes of our worship.

SEPTEMBER – REDEDICATION

Rededication of our lives to our faith, our values, and our mission. Core reading is excerpts from Rev. Fred Muir's 2012 essay on the "iChurch" (you can hear him preach at UUCA on September 22).

Give the Plate: ALIVE ALEXANDRIANS INVOLVED ECUMENICALLY; AFAC Arlington Food Assistance Center; ASPAN Arlington Street People's Assistance Network

OCTOBER – RELIGION REVISED AND REVISITED

New currents in liberal faith invite us to move beyond old boxes and categories, and offer a "third way" for theists, humanists, atheists, Buddhists and none-of-the-above. Core reading will be excerpted from Galen Guengerich's *How Religion Must Evolve in a Scientific Age* (he is speaking at UUCA on his book *God Revised* - Wed., October 16, at 7pm).

Give the Plate: UUs for Social Justice; Beacon House; the UU United Nations Office

NOVEMBER – OUR HISTORY: CHASING GHOSTS & SAVORING OUR HERITAGE

Looking square on at the congregation's history. Embracing spiritual inspirations and exorcising ghosts that hold us back. Core reading includes excerpt from writings from Mark Morrison Reed (he will be the keynote presenter at the UU National History Convocation in DC - Nov. 8 and 9).

Give the Plate: Culpepper Garden

DECEMBER – HOW WE GROW IN FAITH TO SERVE THE WORLD

Deepening and growing our connections to meaning and community, we realize the importance of serving the others and bringing justice. Core reading will be from the work of Bill Schulz, UU Service Committee President (he will be preaching at UUCA December 8).

Give the Plate: VOICE (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement); UU Service Committee

JANUARY – FAITH IN WAR AND PEACE

UUCA's connection to the military and national security, as well as to educating and working for peace, cause us to reflect on those things that make for peace in the home and in the world. Core reading will be from UU military chaplains (Sarah Lammert, the UUA's Military Chaplain Supervisor, will preach at UUCA January 12).

Give the Plate: Peace Camp

For more information on Covenant Groups, please contact Sarah Masters at Sarah.Masters@uucava.org or 703-892-2565, ext. 242.