

# The LOG

AUUF monthly newsletter

October, 2019

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

2824 E. 18th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3303

<http://www.anchorageuuf.org/>



October's Theme:

## Belonging



### Calendar Highlights

Oct. 5 Multicultural Transformation Day

Oct. 19 Wendy Romberg Celebration of Life

Oct. 26 Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop

Oct. 27 Soup Sunday / Games Day

Nov. 2 Annual Dinner / Auction

Nov. 9 AFACT Training

Visit our [website](http://www.anchorageuuf.org/) for full calendar

### From the Minister On the Journey ~ Rev. Shelley Page

Belonging. What a quintessential human need. What a wonderful gift that we offer to one another. We'll be exploring Belonging this month as we continue our journey in theme-based ministry. As I contemplate this richly textured concept, my thoughts keep circling back to Wendy Romberg, our beloved leader who died so suddenly and unexpectedly. Belonging is what Wendy was all about. She had a strong sense of community and an ethic of co-creating community in all aspects of her life.

Wendy's way of being in the world offers us inspiration for how we live our Unitarian Universalist faith. She unfailingly welcomed every single soul she met--warmly, sincerely and gently with a full-body smile. She made sure to sit next to folks she did not know and make them feel like they belonged in the room. She was open hearted, offering her full attention as she listened, signaling "you are important and you are part of this community of concern and love." Wendy also understood the covenantal foundation of congregational life—that belonging also involves good boundaries and holding folks accountable in love when they are out of covenant with their behavior. She modeled loving ways to bring folks back into the fold. Wendy did all this and more, gathering folks around the table, on the hiking trail and in meetings with joy, laughter and a vulnerability that let everyone know that they are welcome to bring their imperfect selves just as they are.

I offer you a challenge this month as we explore Belonging. Consider "What Would Wendy Do?" as you gather on Sundays and all the other ways you show up here at AUUF and in the rest of your life. We would all do well to be like Wendy. Learning from her example is one of the most powerful gifts we can give each other, in tribute to a woman who will live on in our memory and our lives.

Blessings, Reverend Shelley



### From the Board ~ David O'Brien

I had known our beloved Wendy Romberg ever since I became a member of the Fellowship 20 years ago when we both had young children in the RE program. I was privileged to serve with her on the Board for the last 2 years and to help her as needed as Board Vice President when she assumed the position of Board President in February. Her sudden loss to AUUF was a shock and painful, especially to those of us who knew her well. But I want to let you know that Board leadership will continue on. I will be moving into the position of Board President and will continue in that role for the next year through the remainder of my 3-year term. All your Board members will be holding the congregation in our hearts and continuing our good work on behalf of everyone of you as Wendy would have wanted us to do.



## Remembering and Honoring Wendy Romberg

Many of you have asked how you can be helpful in the wake of Wendy Romberg's death. Here are some specific suggestions for you from her family. They have deeply appreciated your support in this difficult time.

Look through your photos for shots with Wendy at AUUF activities. Bill Romberg is compiling a lovely video for the Celebration of Life and also to keep for family memories. Send your photos directly to him at [wromberg@gci.net](mailto:wromberg@gci.net)

Share a story or memory at <https://www.legacyalaska.com/obituaries/Wendy-Romberg/>. Her family very much wants to hear your memories and will treasure them being shared in writing. You can also do this via a note or card via snail mail to 3530 Tanglewood Place, Anchorage, AK 99517.

Donate a gift in Wendy's memory. Suggested organizations are included in her obituary including AUUF. Please know that the AUUF Board will designate all gifts in honor of Wendy to go into a special fund to create the new playground here at the Fellowship. Wendy was excited by all the great energy around the Grounds dreams, especially the ideas for a wonderful new playground that will serve the neighborhood as well as the children in the congregation. The playground will be named for her. Your generous donation would offer a lovely way to honor her!

Listen to each other and be gentle with each other in the days to come. Give your full and loving attention to others who wish to express their grief and their wonderful memories of Wendy. Being there for each other right now is the best gift of all.



### A Special Message from Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong UUA Congregational Life Staff

We often talk about the seven principles, but how many of us actually know the words that immediately precede them? If you said, "We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote," you're right! There's one word I love about this line and one word I would love to change.

I love the concept of covenant as being central to our faith. It's by invitation that we extend it and by faith that we live into our promises. By being a UU, we are choosing to be part of a living tradition that strives to increase the sum of love and justice in our world. Part of the covenant is to take care of each other's well-being, which is why none of our congregations are out there by themselves. We are part of a larger whole—an association if you will.

This is why I often take issue with the word "the" UUA because it implies we're just a bunch of bureaucrats on the other side of the country (Boston). While it may be true we have a sizable administrative staff to take care of some of the logistics that are crucial to denominational life, our largest staff group is actually "Congregational Life Staff." People out in the field like me—someone who lives in Los Angeles and only visits 24 Farnsworth a couple of times a year. Our work is to support you, including the upcoming Multicultural Transformation Day that over 40 of you signed up for already—wow! You are a crucial part of who we are and our work is made possible because of the covenant you made to support the Annual Program Fund. We exist because of you just like I'd like to think you exist because of us.

We belong to each other, which is what the month of October will explore. That's the core of what a covenant is all about. Come hear my sermon on "Who Belongs Here" on October 6. I look forward to meeting you and journeying with you as a member of OUR UUA.



### Ben Fischer Finishes AUUF's Fire Pit Scout Project

... and we scheduled a special dedication on Sept. 29th with lighting of our "fire pit chalice" and marshmallow roast!

Ben is grateful for the generous donations that helped fund this project that will be a wonderful addition to our church grounds, a place for all in the Anchorage UU community to gather, particularly the youth.

## Fall Frolic Was Enjoyable Time for All

Beautiful leaf lanterns illuminating King's Lake... Fun activities and sharing... Morning mist on the lake with loons calling... Our Fall Frolic tradition last weekend in Wasilla was an enjoyable time for all. Consider signing up next Fall if you missed it!



## Fall Child Dedication Sunday Coming Up October 20

Sometimes, we get the question, "Do Unitarian Universalists baptize children?" We respond that we have a lovely tradition of child dedication, in place of baptism which is a Christian tradition. Child dedication acknowledges the importance of each person as part of their family, the congregation and the wider family of all people. We bless children and their parents, and joyously commit as a community to helping to raise children in a spirit of love, justice and peace. We also offer the opportunity for a naming ritual to celebrate the uniqueness of each child. We are happy to dedicate children of any age, not just infants and toddlers. If you are interested in learning more, please contact either of us and we can fill you in with details.

**If you plan to have your child dedicated on Sunday, October 20, please let us know by October 15.**

Reverend Shelley and Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration (all contacts are at the end of this newsletter).

## AUUF Teams & Committees

### Submit your Nomination for 2020 Half-Portion Recipients ~ Kalen Saxton

Our Sunday offering basket is traditionally divided, with half of the collected unpledged, unrestricted money supporting the fellowship and half going to a specified charitable organization. The Social Action Council's Half Portion Team manages this process. We now need your input to choose the monthly recipients for 2020, which will be voted on by the congregation in November.

**October 6** is the deadline to receive the nomination forms by email or in the wall pocket in the office, or handed to Kalen Saxton. Information on 20 possible non-profits will be available in the Social Room on three Sundays, **10/13, 10/20, 10/27**. On-line voting by AUUF members in November will select 12 of the non-profits.

If you have questions about the nomination process, please contact Kalen Saxton [saxtonkalen@gmail.com](mailto:saxtonkalen@gmail.com) or call 907-244-8221.

Pick up a Half Portion recipient you want to recommend in the Social Room on Sunday (also on our website).

Note: on the fifth Sunday of any given month (September 29th being such), the entire offering will be donated to the Minister's Caring Fund.







### October's Half Portion for Social Action: Alaska Literacy Program

The mission of the Alaska Literacy Program is to change lives through literacy. Since 1974, ALP has been providing literacy services to Anchorage residents and other parts of the state. ALP recruits, trains, certifies, and supports volunteer teachers and tutors who work one-on-one or in a classroom setting teaching reading, writing and speaking English to adults. ALP supports 7 classrooms and one computer lab on site at 1345 Rudakof Circle #104. ALP provides year-round programs for adults and families with young children, concentrating on those most in need: the beginning learners in reading and English. ALP changes lives and enriches our community by teaching adults literacy skills to increase their self-sufficiency.

### Pondering New Ways of Communicating at AUUF ~ Denise Martin

I'm working on the LOG on Thursday morning, 5 days past the deadline, and I've only received **5 articles**. This does not bother me, knowing that much more information will come, as most of it usually does, in time to get sent out before the end of the month. **September's LOG (the newsiest of the year) had 21 articles**, plus calendar and Sunday Services information for the whole month. As an experiment, I sent it out as an email blast instead of creating a traditional newsletter download. I didn't get much feedback, but from the standpoint of saving time in production, I deem the experiment a success. Requests for snail-mailed copies are decreasing -- yay for saving trees!

Yesterday, **"This Week At Your Fellowship" included 20 articles**, plus calendar stuff. Roughly half of those items were updates/repeats of the previous week. One quarter of the items I gathered or wrote myself, and one quarter of the items (**5**) were submitted as new items. Mind you, this is not a complaint, but if you let this sink it, I'm wondering if sending out a monthly newsletter makes any sense, when we have the capacity to reach just about everyone once a week?

I'd love to hear suggestions from our LOG readers. Is it better to offer shorter but more frequent email blasts? What if we sent longer items (RE information, minister's message) in a separate monthly email, and kept everything else coming weekly? I hope you'll contact me soon: email [auuf@gci.net](mailto:auuf@gci.net) or call weekday mornings 248-3737.



### Social Action Council ~ Dennis Arashiro

*"As I have said, the first thing is to be honest with yourself. You can never have an impact on society if you have not changed yourself..." - Nelson Mandela*

This month we have two opportunities to be honest with ourselves. Thanks to our Anti-Racism Action Team, the Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong will lead a workshop on Saturday, October 5, and services the following Sunday on multicultural transformation. We will have the opportunity to look at how truly welcoming we are of people and cultures beyond our own. Do we know where we are in the journey to becoming an fully inclusive Fellowship? Do we know the next steps to take in our journey? Do we know where we are headed?

Thanks to the Ministerial Search Team, Eddy Carroll of the First Unitarian Society of Denver will lead a workshop on Saturday, October 26, and services the following Sunday on going beyond categorical thinking. We will have the opportunity to look past the imaginary boxes that limit our views in choosing our next minister and in choosing how we conduct our lives. Do we check the boxes in ministerial candidates to keep us in our comfortable boxes or to take leaps to escape them? Do we scale our own personal boxes to see what lies outside? Do we dare to even go where there are no boxes? Being honest with ourselves. Changing ourselves to change society. Nelson Mandela lived it. So can we.

### Ministerial Search Update ~ George Bryson & Sid McCausland

#### Preliminary Survey Results

The single most important priority in hiring a new settled minister will be to find a candidate who values all three major facets of our Fellowship -- the 9 a.m. Forum, the 11 a.m. Service, and the Religious Exploration (R.E.) program -- according to a nearly completed survey of AUUF members and friends.

Other top priorities mentioned by a majority of the 125 respondents who had completed the survey as of Friday include finding someone who'll be:

- An inspirational minister ...
- A social justice advocate ...
- A model of pastoral care ...
- A catalyst for diversifying the Fellowship.



A more detailed portrait of our values, demographics and aspirations will eventually emerge when the final results have been tabulated and analyzed in a few weeks.

The Ministerial Search Team initiated the questionnaire in early September with two principal aims in mind. Most immediately, the posted findings will help inform ministerial candidates who might be interested in learning more about us when our "packet" goes online in November. Then later, the results will help guide your search team when the interviewing phase begins nationally in January.

### Coming Up: Focus Groups and Workshops

What picture of the "ideal minister" pops into your mind – and why? In an effort to increase our awareness of potential in-grown biases, AUUF will host a ***Beyond Categorical Thinking* workshop at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26**. All members are invited to attend. Please bring a potluck contribution for lunch. Led by national BCT workshop facilitator Eddy Carroll – a student of Islamic history and advocate of the marginalized -- the three-hour session will explore how thinking categorically about people sometimes interferes with choosing the best candidate.

Many of us registered for the ***Multicultural Transformation*** program on Oct. 5, now closed. But the two programs are complimentary, and attending both is encouraged as a perfect option.

Also in early October, the Ministerial Search Team will host a series of **Focus Groups and Cottage Meetings** in an effort to hear ideas and opinions from our congregation in a small-group setting. Details will be forthcoming, and interested individuals may contact Mary Ann Eininger at [chenariverlady@gmail.com](mailto:chenariverlady@gmail.com) or 907-388-5699 for more information.



### Multicultural Transformation Day October 5th at AUUF

**Anti-Racism Team** ~ Becca Bernard

Only pre-registered participants can attend this all-day workshop facilitated by **Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong**. By now most of you have completed the light homework assignments that are a requirement.

Looking forward to seeing you on **October 5, 9am-4pm**. If you have any questions, please call or email Becca at 907-244-3988, [bernard.ak@gmail.com](mailto:bernard.ak@gmail.com).

For those who are not able to take the workshop, you can do the next best thing by attending AUUF's **Oct. 6 services**, where Rev. Kwong will present his sermons: *Cultural Conflicts as Opportunities* (9am) and *Who Belongs Here* (11am).

### Green Sanctuary Team Hosts 2019 UU "Common Read"

Join us in reading ***Justice On Earth: People of Faith Working At The Intersections Of Race, Class, and The Environment*** (edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom). We'll be reading this during the month of Oct., and meeting @ AUUF weekly to discuss a few chapters at a time: 5:30- 6:30 pm on **Oct. 8, Oct 16, Oct 24 and Oct.29** (different days each week). Books are \$18.00 each and will be available Sundays in Sept. and Oct. after each service (at the Social Justice table.) We hope you will join us for this timely read and discussion- we believe it will open your eyes, lift your heart, and give your hands direction!

For more info contact Susie K : [skobierowski@yahoo.com](mailto:skobierowski@yahoo.com)

### Religious Exploration (RE) Notes

~ Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

#### OUR Services

##### 11:00 Service

This year, our children will begin upstairs in the Sanctuary with the congregation twice a month (generally first and third Sundays). They will be "sung out" to their classes at 11:15. Classes end at 12:15.

October is an exception with children beginning upstairs on Oct. 13th and 20th.

October 13th 11:00 service, will be a Multigenerational program for **Animal Blessing Sunday**: "People and Animals Belong Together!" You are welcome to bring your well-controlled pets for a wonderful service that includes our animal and reptile and avian friends! There will be a memory table for photos of departed pets. Toddlers, Preschoolers and Fire Keepers will go to their classes during the latter part of the service.

#### OUR CLASSES

Every week, in their classes, children will enjoy a variety of activities, sometimes going outside. Please dress your child in footwear and jackets appropriate for the weather so they can enjoy the class activities!





### **Our Whole Lives (OWL) -- A UU Comprehensive Sexuality Curriculum**

A lot of OWL is happening this Fall! 2 different age groups! A cadre of 10 trained class leaders are leading these classes.

**Elementary 5-6th OWL** will meet every Sunday afternoon 12:30 – 1:45 through November 18 downstairs in room #4.

**OWL 101** will meet most Sundays and some Saturdays in the Jr Youth room - #7 at 12:45, following the 11:00 service through November.

### **Childcare**

We really need childcare helpers to continue to encourage Fellowship classes and participation in activities or committees, to parents of young children. We have many events that need childcare, but most regularly are Thursday evening 6:30-8:00 and Sunday mornings 8:45-10:45. Youth and adults 9th grade and older interested in being on the paid childcare call list for 9 am services and other RE and Fellowship events are welcome to apply.

Applications are available at the RE info spot downstairs! \$10 /hour. Contact Rosene Beachy, [rbeachy@alaskalife.net](mailto:rbeachy@alaskalife.net)

## **OUR ACTIVITIES**

### **NEW THIS YEAR “Stay ‘n Play” -- after monthly Soup Sunday**

The first Soup Sunday of the year will be on Sept. 29th coordinated by the Youth class. It will be a fund raiser for youth activities like attending the UU Pacific Northwest District (PNWD) Youth conference. (If someone says "Youth Con" or just "Con" this is what they are referring to!).

You know how much fun it is to hang around after church and just talk to folks and hang out?

**Now you have more reasons to “stay ‘n play”!**

In conjunction with Soup Sundays this year will be a fun Sunday afternoon activity!

**September 29th** – Do you always seem to be missing a shopping bag? Create some cool reusable bags for yourselves or to donate to the food pantry. Bring an old T shirt, or many, to create something new! Also, there will be a UU scavenger hunt and a dedication of our new firepit!

**We could use a few sewing machines and good cutting scissors, so bring them if you have them!**

### **Future Soup Sunday / Stay ‘n Play Activities:**

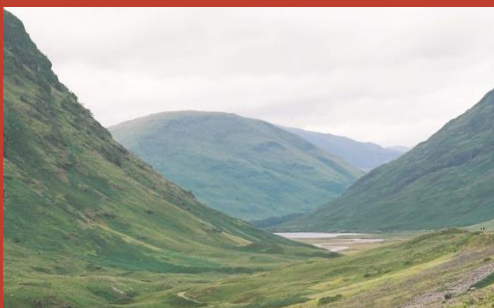
October 27 – Games Day

November 24 – Thanksgiving Baskets -- Canned goods sculptures and packing boxes

December 8 – Winterfest -- Ornaments

January 26 – Sledding / skating

For more information about RE, contact Rosene Beachy [rbeachy@alaskalife.net](mailto:rbeachy@alaskalife.net)



## **October: A Month of Belonging**

I believe every inch of America is sacred... we make it holy by who we welcome and by how we relate to each other.

*Eboo Patel*

## **Adult Offerings**

### **Hungry Book Club ~ Shirley Dickens**

The Hungry Book Club met Sept. 10th to discuss September's book, "The Island of the Sea Women" by Lisa See. There were 6 of us as 3 were out of state and one working. We had all read it and found we were all glad we did, a lot of history about this Island (Korean) where the women did the major diving for food and the men stayed home and looked after the children. We did talk about October's read, "Out of the Flames" by Lawrence and Nancy Gladstone. This is about Michael Servetus, one of our UU heroes who was burned at the stake in 1542. Unitarians claim Servetus was the first one who wanted to separate "Church and State". Come and join us in the church library at **2:00 p.m., October 8th**. We are an open book club. Bring a snack to share. For more information, call Shirley 563-4499.

### Labyrinth Walk with Live Music, Sept. 27, 6-9 pm

Soothe your soul with labyrinth walking while listening to contemplative live music. Instruction offered. Appropriate for kids 10 and up. This month's walk will feature Denise Martin on hammered dulcimer and Jim Kerr on guitar.

### Three Friendship Dinners Scheduled

Mark your calendars for our 1st Friendship Dinner on **Saturday, November 16**, 6-9 pm. You have lots of time to sign up! In 2020, the dates are **February 8**, and **March 28**. This is a wonderful way to get to know other AUUF folks in a relaxed, intimate setting, and begin lasting friendships. You can sign up to host a small group of people in your home. The host provides the entrée, and the guests bring side dishes. If you would like to participate, please contact

[AndeeCordano@gmail.com](mailto:AndeeCordano@gmail.com) (350-6361)

### Yoga for Every Body

Donation-based, supporting local non-profit addiction treatment programs, is meeting at AUUF on Wednesdays, 6-7:15 pm, October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. For more information, contact Paula Saylor [saylor.paula@gmail.com](mailto:saylor.paula@gmail.com)

### Chalice Circles Starting Up in October

We're so excited to have 4 Chalice Circle listening groups starting in October. We still have room for folks, so please sign up TODAY as we are considering some time changes to accommodate as many people as possible. You can use the QR code to go to the sign-up. If none of the times work for you, there is a place to indicate that. Contact the office for more information: [auuf@gci.net](mailto:auuf@gci.net) or stop by the Welcome Table on Sundays.



### Save the Date: AUUF Annual Dinner and Auction November 2



What do we treasure, about Alaska, about our city, about our neighborhood, about our Fellowship, about our family and friends? This year's Annual Dinner and Auction is about Treasure: naming it, finding it and sharing it.

Here's what you can do:

**Save the date: November 2, 6pm**

**Team/Committee baskets:** What fun experience or basket can your team/committee offer at the Auction? For example, a book group could offer a basket of books they've read over the past few years. A discussion group could offer a group showing of a discussion-worthy movie. The possibilities are endless! I wonder which committee/team

auction item will fetch the highest return?

Consider what YOU would like to bid on at the auction and LET US KNOW! Knowing what you'd like to see offered may help inspire someone to create it. Some suggestions so far have been: after work "how to fish" or packrafting excursion. Beginning knitting. Southcentral wildflower tour. Consider yummy summer harvests, unique experiences, cabins, trips... We'll likely do another "Harvest of the month" offering this year.

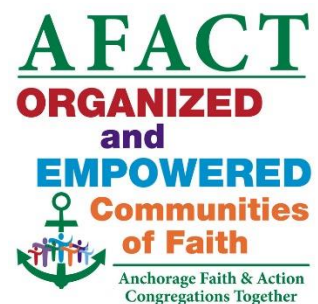
In October, look for opportunities to sign up to bring food, make a few calls, help pick up and deliver donated items, and help with small, specific tasks. We could use your help.

Contact Carma Reed <mailto:carmaandjiri@gci.net> or Cathy Steen [csteen@gci.net](mailto:csteen@gci.net) with your questions and ideas.

### General News

#### AFACT to Offer Free Training on Faith-Based Organizing November 9th

Live the AUUF vision of diverse beliefs, common purpose by joining with other faith communities striving to create a more just, caring and safe community. There will be a free one-day training on faith-based organizing, **Saturday, November 9**, from 9:00am to 4:00pm (lunch included) at First Covenant Church, 1145 C Street. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Dan Gibney at [dan@anchoragefact.org](mailto:dan@anchoragefact.org) or Don Crandall at [dhc907@gmail.com](mailto:dhc907@gmail.com).







## Nominate an Outstanding UU!

Do you know an outstanding UU in our congregation? Here is your chance to recognize them for all the work they have done on behalf of AUUF! The Board presents two awards during the annual dinner to AUUF members who have contributed substantially to our congregation. The awards are:

**Volunteer of the Year:** This award is meant to honor a person who has contributed a significant amount of volunteer time to the Fellowship during the last year. Previous awardees are Bruce Roberts (2015), Denise Martin (2016), Kalen Saxton (2017), and the Project Oversight Team that managed our building renovation (2018).

**Fred Hillman Distinguished Service Award:** This award is named after long-time

AUUF member and former Board president Dr. Fred Hillman, who passed away in 2014. Like its namesake, this award is meant to honor a person who lives the Seven Principles as part of their everyday life. Previous awardees are Shirley Dickens (2015), Sylvia Short (2016), Rod McCoy (2017), and Helen Nienhueser (2018).

To submit a nomination for an award, send a brief statement (no more than one paragraph) on why you feel this person should be recognized to Board member David O'Brien at [akdrdata@gmail.com](mailto:akdrdata@gmail.com). The deadline for nominations is **October 15**.

## Sunday Services October 2019

### Sunday October 6

9 am Rev. Jonipher Kwong, "Cultural Conflicts as Opportunities"

11am Rev. Jonipher Kwong, "Who Belongs Here?"

Let's explore the intersections of race, faith, American history and Unitarian Universalist heritage. What can we learn and how do we go from here to build beloved community?

### Sunday October 13

9 am UAA Chancellor Cathy Sandeen, "Debunking Myths about UAA"

11 am Rosene Beachy

"People & Animals Belong Together!"

It's time for our annual animal blessing. People of all ages are invited to gather with their well-behaved beloved animal companions for a joyous celebration. Bring photos of pets who have passed on to hold them in memory.

### Sunday October 20

9 am Robin Brena, "Oil Prices and a Fair Share for Alaska"

11 am Rev. Shelley Page, "Just Show Up!"

Let's consider how we show up in the world and how that contributes to our sense of belonging.

### Sunday October 27

9 am Eddy Carroll, "Thinking and Living Outside the Box"

11 am Eddy Carroll, "A Hopeful Journey to Belonging"

Our Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop facilitator will share his story of growing up gay in a non-welcoming faith, his struggle with AIDS, finding UUism and how its hopeful and inclusive message helps him to continue to overcome life's challenges

## Forum Speakers

**Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong** had a pluralistic upbringing in the Philippines, from Evangelical to United Methodist, Episcopalian to Calvary Chapel; he was christened at a Gospel church and baptized as a Chinese Mennonite. In Hawai'i, he joined the Honolulu Mindfulness Community, inspired by Zen Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hahn. He obtained his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Claremont School of Theology, and served as minister to various congregations in Hawai'i and California. Since 2015 Rev. Dr. Kwong has served as Congregational Life Staff in the Unitarian Universalist Association Pacific Western Region. He is also a Program Leader for the UU College of Social Justice. He is the Regional Specialist for Leadership Development and Racial Justice (Multicultural Transformation). He currently resides in Los Angeles with his husband of 21 years and their 10 year old cat Swipher.



**Dr. Cathy Sandeen** has served since September 2018 as Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage, Alaska's largest postsecondary institution. Prior to joining the University of Alaska system, Sandeen was chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Colleges and UW-Extension for four years. As a vice president at the American Council on Education, she led ACE's nationwide effort to increase post-secondary educational attainment. She also held leadership positions in the University of California system including at UCLA, Santa Cruz and San Francisco. Sandeen earned a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Utah and a Master of Business Administration degree from the UCLA Anderson School of Management. She was named an American Council on Education Fellow in 2010-11. A prolific writer and speaker, Sandeen has published and presented widely on the issues surrounding educational innovation and nontraditional students.



**Robin Brena** served as Chairman of Governor Walker's Transition Subcommittee on Oil and Gas Matters and has given expert testimony on oil and gas related matters to the Alaska Legislature. Mr. Brena is owner and managing attorney of Brena, Bell & Walker, P.C., which he founded in 1988. His practice focuses on oil and gas, pipeline, public utilities, tax assessment, telecommunications, real estate, and commercial litigation issues. Mr. Brena's trial and appellate work in state and federal courts and regulatory agencies includes successfully prosecuting multiple cases in which greater than one billion dollars has been at issue. A life-long Alaskan, he has three graduate degrees in business and law. Mr. Brena is active in the Alaska Bar Association, and has taught Advanced Business Law at UAA and guest lectured at Willamette University College of Law.



**Eddy Carroll** is a self-proclaimed UU Evangelist, always willing to share our good news with others. He has served 3 UU congregations over the last few decades in almost every leadership role possible including being the President of two congregational boards. He has also been on committees both for the UUA and the MDD. He graduated from the Russell Lockwood Leadership School in 1999 and was on its staff in 2000. Doing BCTs are hands down a joy for him. He is presently a Member of The First Unitarian Society in Denver CO where he is on the Religious Exploration Committee, Chairs the Green Sanctuary Committee, administers the Church's Facebook Page and is known as "The Church Lady". He is an Intake Specialist at The St. Francis Center, a Day Shelter serving the Homeless Community of Denver. He lives in Denver with his husband Glenn. While they have been together for over 32 years, they were finally able to legally marry in Colorado in December of 2014.

#### Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

##### ***Contacts***

Rev. Shelley Page, Interim Minister [revshelleyauf@gmail.com](mailto:revshelleyauf@gmail.com)  
Emergency pastoral care 868-3737

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration,  
441-6815, [rbeachy@alaskalife.net](mailto:rbeachy@alaskalife.net)

Megan Webb, Music Director 248-3737 x6; [auufmusic@gmail.com](mailto:auufmusic@gmail.com)  
AUUF Office 248-3737 x 3 or [auuf@gci.net](mailto:auuf@gci.net)

Nicholas Moore, Coordinator of Youth Programming  
248-3737 x5; [auufyouth@gmail.com](mailto:auufyouth@gmail.com)