



NWUUC NORTHWEST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION

Promoting Religious Freedom, Spiritual Growth, and Ethical Action

Worship This Week
September 1, 2024

From Rev. Jenn Dalton:

This time of year has been a time of excitement for me. When I was a child, we didn't have money, but I remember the trips we made to the nearest city to purchase school clothes. Those clothes were symbolic to me of new beginnings.

This year is a huge new beginning for me as I begin as the part-time minister for NWUUC. All of the people closest to me have been supportive and several, without knowing, gave the same advice. "Give yourself grace." But what does it mean for an agnostic humanist to practice giving and receiving grace? Please join me as we discuss relationship grace and what it means and how to put it into practice.

Join us at 10 am in the sanctuary or online with zoom at <https://nwuuc.org/zoom/>.

Did you miss the service last week?

Here is the link to it. Passcode sR9%6v%6

MUSIC MINISTRY

Philip J. Rogers
Director of Music

**The Music Ministry Welcomes
Rev. Jenn Dalton**
-Dr. Philip J. Rogers, Director on Music-

We celebrate as you come
to be among us at Northwest!
We welcome your gifts;
We welcome your wisdom;
We welcome your smiles and inspiration;
We welcome all that you are
and all that makes you... you!
WELCOME!



Religious Education

RE Schedule Sunday, September 1, 2024

Nursery: 10: 00 am-12:00 pm

RE (All Ages): Children will be dismissed after the story for RE. Playground and activity time will end at 12 noon

Pancake Breakfast and Potluck

Our annual pancake breakfast and potluck will be held on Sunday, September 15th. Middle school and high school students are invited to report to the kitchen at 8:45a.m. to assist with baking pancakes. RE families are encouraged to donate pancake mix and pancake toppings. **A sign-up link will be sent out in the RE newsletter.**

From the Interim Search Committee

What does half-time, interim contract ministry mean to Northwest?

We have a new minister, the Reverend Jennifer (Jenn) Dalton, who will serve our congregation starting on September 1st on a one-year contract. Reverend Jenn was selected by the Northwest Interim Search Committee (Lil Woolf, Veta Tucker, Dave Zenner and Kristen Fowks) and approved and hired by the Board of Trustees. Many of you will remember Reverend Jenn since she was a former member of Northwest and has recently preached for us as a guest minister. This is the first time that Northwest has had a half-time contract minister, so this article will outline what we can expect this church year.

As a half-time minister, Reverend Jenn will work for Northwest an average of 20 hours per week. She will be in the pulpit one to two Sundays per month, at least 18 Sundays during the church year. On Sundays that Reverend Jenn is not in the pulpit, services will be led by a guest minister or speaker, by our Worship Associates team, or by our Youth Group. Reverend Jenn will be at Northwest most Sundays that she is not preaching as she wants to get to know our members better.

The half-time ministry job includes pastoral care, supervising staff, attending special events and overseeing our congregation operations with the Board of Trustees. Reverend Jenn will be attending many church meetings, including those of the Ministry Team Leaders, Care Corps, Worship Associates, Staff, and Board of Trustees. **She will hold in-person office hours on Saturdays from 1pm to 5pm.** She will also be available by phone if needed during the week. If you would like to schedule a meeting with her, please send an e-mail to minister@nwuuc.org.

Contract ministry will give Northwest the opportunity and flexibility to extend the contract on an annual basis and conduct a search for a full-time, called minister in the future if we decide that is what we want as a congregation.

Come to church this Sunday, September 1st, to meet Reverend Jenn in person! Her topic is "Give Yourself Grace".

Kitchen Crew Helpers Needed

Did you know that most of our wonderful Sunday Kitchen Crew Members have been volunteering for more than ten years! We would love to have a few more folks join us.

Ideally, 'Coffee Hour Angels' cover one shift, but many do both.



FIRST SHIFT (9-10) brings food, makes coffee, and sets-up.
SECOND SHIFT (11:15 - 12:30) cleans up.

Clean-up help is especially needed on 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays. Both shifts are needed on the occasional 5th Sundays. Willing Substitutes would also be incredible.

If you are interested in joining our fun little group, please contact Anne Bennett (anne.bennett@gmail.com.)

NOTE: The church pays for the coffee and creamer, but our volunteers provide the food.

Your much appreciated 'basket donations' partially reimburse our volunteers' expenses.



Your Justice Team has selected Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN) as our September Donate the Plate recipient.

(GAIN) is a non-profit organization that protects and empowers immigrant survivors of crime and persecution, including asylum-seekers and immigrant survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. GAIN's staff attorneys, paralegals, and navigators provide direct service to its clients while also building a volunteer force of attorneys, whom they recruit, train, and mentor. Through direct representation as well as its pro bono program which multiplies its impact, GAIN assists over 1,000 clients and family members each year.

Since 2005, the GAIN Asylum program has assisted immigrants fleeing harm and persecution abroad by providing legal representation for their asylum cases. Asylum-seekers in Georgia face one of the steepest immigration court denial rates in the nation. However, having an attorney can multiply the chances of success for these clients, who have been forced to flee their home countries due to harm and/or persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

Founded in 2010, GAIN's Victims of Violence program provides access to quality immigration legal representation for survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and other crimes. Through direct representation as well as its pro bono program the Victims of Violence program provides immigrant victims access to otherwise unobtainable legal representation, which lays the foundation for their ability to escape abusive/exploitative situations, be reunited with loved ones, and access the tools they need for ongoing safety and stability.

Please consider supporting GAIN's important work this month, by texting "DONATENWUUC" to 73256 and selecting "Donate the Plate".



American Field Service (AFS) is an international student exchange program at the high school level. The program is still looking for host families in our area.

Not everyone can be a host family but just in case there is a Northwest family who would like to host a student, here is the information. It is a large responsibility but also a lot of fun. Many years ago Beryl's family hosted a boy from Japan for a school year. It was a remarkable year with loads of learning on both sides.

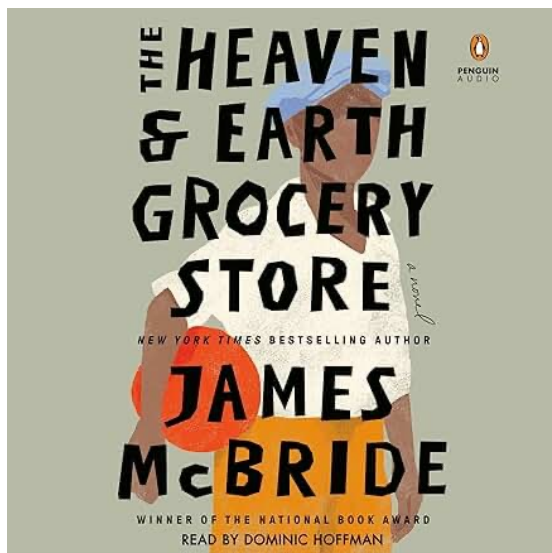
There are AFS students still eagerly waiting for the good news that they have been matched with a welcoming host family so they can start their program this fall. Back to school activities, fall sports, homecoming...there is so much to look forward to for our exchange students! If you are not already hosting, will you give one or more of these AFS'ers the opportunity to experience life in your community by welcoming them into your home? Or can you help by referring someone you think could do so for a few weeks?

Here are a few students who still need a family, even if for just a few weeks in September:

Lorenzo from Italy
Thang from Germany
Elna from Spain
Anais from Switzerland

Beryl Grall - grallberyl@gmail.com

Book Groupies



The NWUUC Book Groupies are meeting via Zoom on Tuesday Sept. 3 at 7 pm to discuss **The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride. This popular novel and winner of the National Book Award has been called his best work and a stunning page-turner! Check for copies in our Bellwether Bookstore at reduced prices.

If you would like to join our Zoom meeting for the first time please call Penny Raney (770) 551-8817 with your email address so you can be sent the meeting information. Book Groupies

OUR NW FAMILY CARE CORPS:

If you have a joy, sorrow or concern to share with the congregation, please send your news to any member of the Care Corps or to publications@nwuuc.org.

From David Self: Friday, August 23, was **Hugh Fordyce's** 96th birthday. He will always hold a spot in our hearts and minds. Hugh's

exuberance for life was contagious . We miss you Hugh.

From **Kathy Miller**: Joy for my wonderful friends at Northwest.
Thank you for the cards, visits, and calls!

If you are going through difficult times and would like emotional support or are in any situation where support and caring are needed, contact:

Maria Drinkard, 678-644-6480
Karen Edmonds, 770-851-9295, Leader
Brian Freeman, 404-626-0298
Linton Hopkins, 678-938-8858
Valerie Johnson, 470-209-9864
Lil Woolf, 404-276-6189
(770) 955-1408 Office Hours M-F, 9 am to 5 pm office@nwuuc.org

Don't see your birthday? We probably don't know it! Send it to publications@nwuuc.org so we can recognize you.

Happy September Birthdays!

Max Ericson	09/01
Tiley Rooks	09/02
Kyle Thomas	09/04
Cynthia Flot	09/07
Marilyn Matlock	09/08
Jaiya Thomas	09/10
Lily Alford	09/13
Isabel Ericson	09/17

Karen Edmonds 09/18
Avary Lockhart 09/23

Happy September Membership Anniversaries!

Constance Dierickx 09/08/1991
Michael Dierickx 09/08/1991
Tony Barbagallo 09/15/1996
Kristen Fowks 09/15/1996
Elizabeth Hickman 09/14/1998
Dempsey Hickman 09/14/1998
Brian Freeman 09/21/2003
Pam Freeman 09/21/2003
Linton Hopkins 09/11/2004

Leadership July 2024-June 2025

BOARD PRESIDENT

Pam Freeman president@nwuuc.org

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Russ Martin

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Tony Barbagallo

FINANCE

Constance Dierickx finance@nwuuc.org

SECRETARY

Marilyn Matlock

BOARD TRUSTEES AT LARGE

Becki Gregory

Laura Hall

Cole Hickman

YOUTH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Lily Alford

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS (MTLs)

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – John Hagler

COMMUNITY – Gwen Kahn and Melissa Niedermeyer

COMMUNICATIONS – Lil Woolf publications@nwuuc.org

JUSTICE – Dave Zenner

LEARNING – Kristen Fowks

RENTALS – Mary Anne Ericson and Beryl Grall

STEWARDSHIP – Lynne Dale

WORSHIP – Maddie Maynard

Staff

Rev. Jennifer Dalton, Minister minister@nwuuc.org

Adia Fields-Udofia, Religious Education Director re@nwuuc.org

Dr. Philip Rogers, Music Director music@nwuuc.org

Pre-service preparations!









