



**NWUUC** NORTHWEST  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION

**Promoting Religious Freedom, Spiritual Growth, and Ethical Action**

Worship This Week  
September 8 , 2024

"Weaving Connections in Fragmented Times"

How do we create connection when we feel lonely, isolated, disconnected, overwhelmed? Join LeLaina Romero in weaving reflection and song on connecting to ourselves, one another, the earth, and that which you call holy, which may be all of the above! Spoiler alert: She has no easy answers, but a lot of hope and love!

The Words for All Ages will be the song Still the Same Me by Sweet Honey In the Rock.

LeLaina Romero, Ph.D., is a queer multiracial/Latina singer, songwriter, song-leader and spiritual director with a background in counseling psychology. She weaves song, spirit, and trauma-informed healing in her work with UU congregations and justice movement spaces. She is also Mama to a fabulous 8-year-old named Zora.

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 OCE8c\$Vs*

\*\*\*\*\*

Plan to be with us next Sunday, September 15, when Rev. Jenn is back in the pulpit.

"Beauty in the Broken Places"

In the journey of life, we often encounter broken places—moments of deep sorrow, loss, or imperfection. Yet, it is within these very fractures that the light of resilience and the promise of renewal can shine the brightest. Just as a mosaic is crafted from shattered pieces to form a cohesive and beautiful whole, our broken places can be transformed into sources of profound beauty and strength. When we acknowledge and embrace our vulnerabilities, we invite healing and growth into our lives. In these cracks, where the light seeps through, we find the potential for profound connection and hope. By honoring our brokenness, we not only mend our own hearts but also contribute to a more compassionate and understanding world.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Philip J. Rogers  
Director of Music  
**Music Ministry Well Wishes!**

We wish you a relaxing,  
lively, and fulfilling  
September Weekend!

A September song for you to enjoy:

Sarah Vaughan performing  
"September In the Rain"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TEOzlc9LHGg>

\*\*\*\*\*



## Religious Education

### RE Schedule Sunday, September 8, 2024

**Nursery:** 10:00 am—12:00 noon

#### **RE Schedule:**

**K-8:** Children will be dismissed after the story for RE. Playground and activity time will end at 12:00 noon

**Youth Group:** Youth will meet at 11:30 am in the Chalice House. The agenda will include planning the next youth-led worship service.

#### **RE Annual Pancake Breakfast**

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 8:45 am to assist with baking pancakes. RE families are encouraged to donate pancake mix and pancake toppings.

Donated items with the exception of fresh fruit should be donated and taken to the kitchen on September 8th. [Pancake Breakfast Link](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***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](mailto: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.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **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](mailto: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

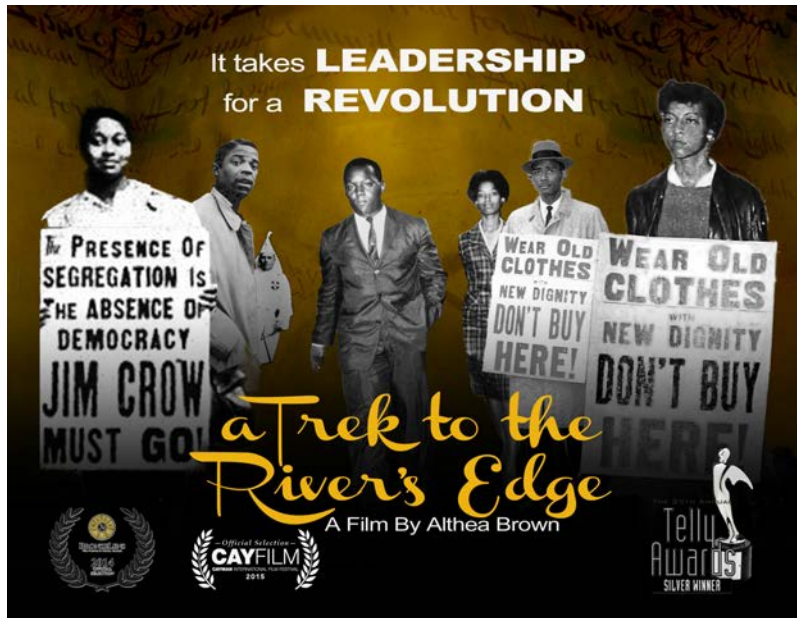
Elna from Spain

Anais from Switzerland

Beryl Grall - [grallberyl@gmail.com](mailto:grallberyl@gmail.com)



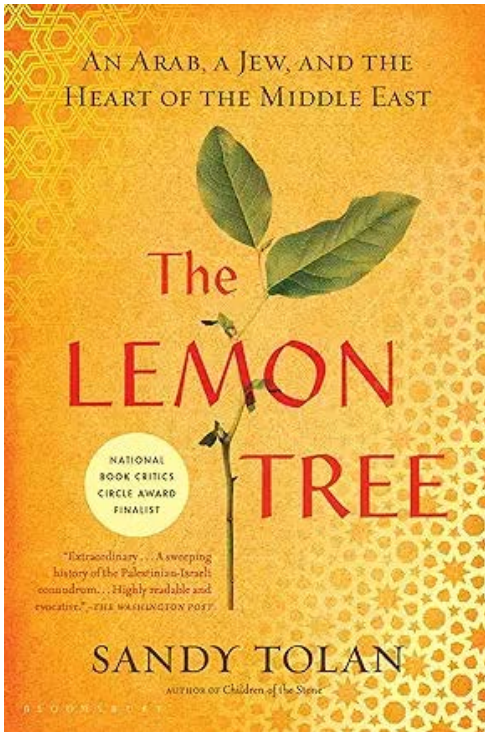
*~Virtual Documentary Night this Sunday~*



We will have a Special Virtual Documentary Night on Sunday, September 8th from 7 to 9 pm. We voted to talk about the documentary, [A Trek To The River's Edge](#). This is a documentary about the Atlanta Student Movement of the 1960s. This film outlines the strategy, planning and actions of the students and the support from the larger community striving to overcome the oppression of segregation in contemporary America. **Althea Brown (Director) will be joining us for a special guest Q&A!** Here is a link to where you can watch the film for free. <https://vimeo.com/238802686> Here is a link to where you can RSVP. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-documentary-night-tickets-975362364087> This is also a Voting Night where we brainstorm and decide as a group what we will watch the following month, so please come ready with your recommendation. The only limitation is that the film must be available to watch for free. If you need any ideas, you can search through the flyers [HERE](#) on our website, which have free documentaries sorted by monthly holidays and other subjects. You can also check out our Community Documentary Night website for more details. <https://documentarynight.wordpress.com/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Book Groupies October 8th*



The NWUUC Book Groupies will meet Tuesday, October 8th, at 7 pm on Zoom to discuss *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East* by Sandy Tolan. Besides being a sweeping history of the Palestinian-Israeli conundrum it is also the tale of a simple act of faith between two young people , one Israeli and one Palestinian, that symbolizes the hope for peace in the Middle East and also provides some insight to the struggles between Israel and Palestine.

If you would like to join us on Zoom , please call Penny Raney at 770-551-8817 and leave your name and email address so we can send you the Zoom link.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **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](mailto:publications@nwuuc.org).

From **Marilyn Matlock**: She had an MRI on Tuesday and the results came back with an all clear. She is stopping the daily antibiotic infusion. Good news from Marilyn.

Sunday, September 8, 2024 is the 100th anniversary of **Bill Woolf's** birth. He has been gone for 10 years but will always be remembered and loved.

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](mailto:office@nwuuc.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

Happy September Birthdays!

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
Max Ericson	09/17
Karen Edmonds	09/18

## 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](mailto:president@nwuuc.org)

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Russ Martin

### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Tony Barbagallo

### **FINANCE**

Constance Dierickx [finance@nwuuc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:minister@nwuuc.org)

Adia Fields-Udofia, Religious Education Director      [re@nwuuc.org](mailto:re@nwuuc.org)

Dr. Philip Rogers, Music Director      [music@nwuuc.org](mailto:music@nwuuc.org)









