

News, resources, and more!

inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop

UUA Publications

Skinner House Books

Unitarian Universalist Association

2020-2021 Common Read Discussion Materials Available

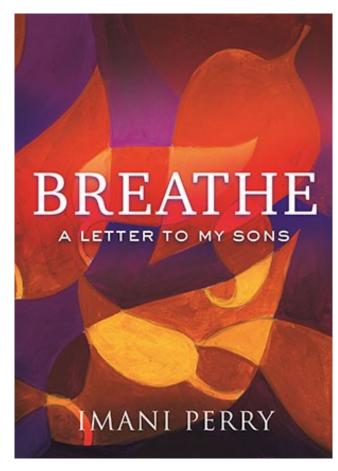
A Common Read invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. The UUA Common Read can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations. The 2020–2021 UUA Common Read is *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons* by Imani Perry, published by Beacon Press.

Discussion materials for this Common Read offer <u>two plans</u>: one for use by a BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) UU group, the other for any congregational group. Both plans invite groups to choose a one- or three-

session program. With online gathering now a norm, readers need not live near one another to form a group.

Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, in *Breathe* Imani Perry issues a challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She shares her fear and frustration for her Black sons in an increasingly racist atmosphere in which white people at times seem irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life. She exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find grounding and inspiration in Black tradition. *Breathe* offers a broader meditation on race, gender, and the meaning of a life well lived and is also an unforgettable lesson in Black resistance and resilience.

For more information about the Common Read program and how you and your community can participate visit: <u>uua.org/read</u>



New from Skinner House

This Day in Recovery: 365 Meditations

One of the often-repeated mantras of 12-step and recovery programs is "one day at a time." *This Day in Recovery: 365 Meditations* offers a short, daily experience to help bring readers back to their spiritual center in the daily moments of struggle and questioning. Editors Rev. Lane Campbell and Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris and contributors—each of them speaking from direct personal experience with addiction and recovery—have collected daily quotes, reflections, and questions for readers on their spiritual journey of recovery, with each month focusing on one of the 12 steps. Inclusive and accessible, *This Day in Recovery* is a thoughtful and powerful spiritual tool in the toolkit for those in recovery and their families.

Now available to <u>order!</u>

Rev. Lane Campbell serves as minister at the First Universalist Church of Rochester, New York, in the heart of Rochester's downtown. Lane has been in recovery for the last eight years.

Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris has been a minister for twenty-two years and currently serves a vibrant congregation in Durango, Colorado. She's been active in addiction recovery work for nearly two decades.

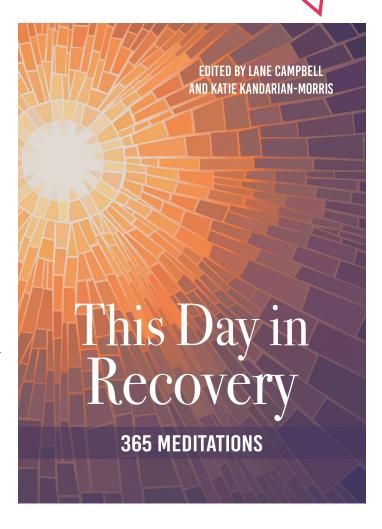
We also recommend:

<u>Twelve-Step Unitarian Universalists: Essays on</u> <u>Recovery</u>, edited by Ken And Cathlean

<u>The Addiction Ministry Handbook: A Guide for Faith</u> <u>Communities</u> by Rev. Denis Meacham

Held: Showing Up for Each Other's Mental Health by Rev. Barbara F. Meyers

<u>Stubborn Grace: Faith, Mental Illness, and</u> <u>Demanding a Blessing</u> by Rev. Kate Landis

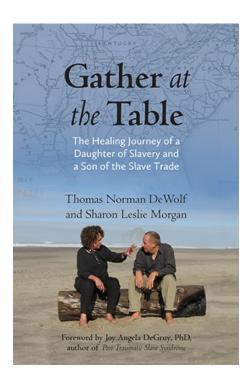


Announcements and Resources

Honoring Mark D. Morrison-Reed

We're celebrating Black History Month by honoring the works of Rev. Dr. Mark D. Morrison-Reed, the foremost scholar of Black Unitarian Universalist history and a beloved Skinner House author! Morrison-Reed tells the powerful and important stories of pioneering Black Unitarian Universalists in his books. He received the 2019 Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism. In this series of interviews he reflects on his writing career, the Empowerment Controversy, and more. You can watch the videos online. All of his books, including his latest, *Revisiting the Empowerment Controversy: Black Power and Unitarian Universalism*, are available at inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop.





February's Goodreads **Book Club** Pick

February's group read is *Gather at the Table: The Healing*

by Thomas Norman DeWolf and Sharon Leslie Morgan. Sharon Leslie Morgan, a Black woman from Chicago's South Side, is a descendent of slaves on both sides of her family. She began a journey toward racial reconciliation with Thomas Norman DeWolf, a white man from rural Oregon who descends from the largest slave-trading dynasty in US history. Over a three-year period, the pair traveled thousands of miles, both overseas and through twenty-seven states, visiting ancestral towns, courthouses, cemeteries, plantations, antebellum mansions, and historic sites. *Gather at the Table* is the chronicle of their journey and a revelatory testament to the possibilities that emerge when people commit to truth, justice,

and reconciliation.