

April

Publications Update

News, resources, and more!

inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop

UUA Publications

Skinner House Books

Unitarian Universalist Association

[Desmond Gets Free](#)

“If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”

—Archbishop Desmond Tutu

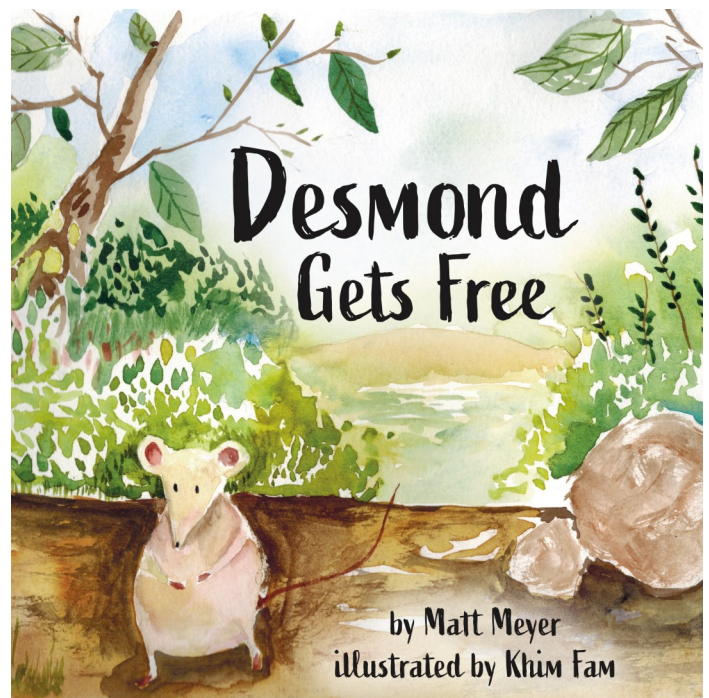
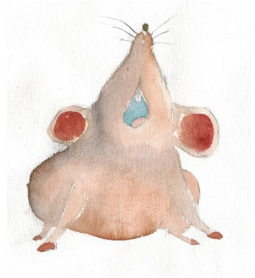
Every morning Desmond the mouse wakes with the sunrise and spends the day playing in the beautiful meadow where he lives. And every night he goes to sleep under the starry sky. That is until one night he wakes up and finds an elephant asleep on his tail! Desmond asks for help from every kind of animal passing by but no one wants to disturb the sleeping giant. How will Desmond get free?

With Matt Meyer’s thoughtful story and lush watercolor illustrations by artist Khim Fam, *Desmond Gets Free* introduces young readers to timely and nuanced concepts of justice and liberation in a kid-friendly and accessible way. Ages 4–8.

Matt Meyer has a degree in hand drumming from Berklee College of Music and has studied abroad in Cuba, Ghana, and Central America. He’s worked on campaigns to preserve old growth forests, support farmworkers rights, and stop the construction of fossil fuel pipelines, and is always looking for ways to dismantle systems of oppression and support communities grounded in justice.

Khim Fam is a self-taught illustrator who caught the painting bug as a child watching his uncle paint vibrant canvases in the studio. He loves taking long walks in the woods and is inspired by the colors and shapes of our natural landscape. Khim hopes to create magical worlds through painting that allow us to better connect ourselves with the world around us.

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Announcements and Resources

Recommended Resources for Earth Day

[*Earth Bound: Daily Meditations for All Seasons*](#) by Brian Nelson—*Earth Bound* features 365 readings, one for each day of the year. This unique daybook draws from Earth-based spirituality and all of nature and reminds us of both the responsibility and the gifts we share on Earth and within the embrace of the cosmos.

[*Earth Day: An Alphabet Book*](#)—Children and adults will delight in *Earth Day*, a poem of gratitude that celebrates life on earth. In alphabetical order, the wonders of nature leap from the page, reminding readers that every day is a reason to give thanks and that miracles are as simple as ABC. For ages 3 and up.

[*Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment*](#)—Fourteen activist ministers and lay leaders apply a keen intersectional analysis to the environmental crisis, revealing ways that systems of oppression intersect with and contribute to ecological devastation. The 2018–2019 UUA Common Read. A discussion guide is available [online](#).

[*The Sustainable Soul: Eco-Spiritual Reflections and Practices*](#)— A poignant and inspirational guide for a journey toward ecological spirituality and sustainable culture. Each chapter contains an essay and spiritual practices designed for both group and individualized reflection.



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Announcements and Resources

The inSpirit Series

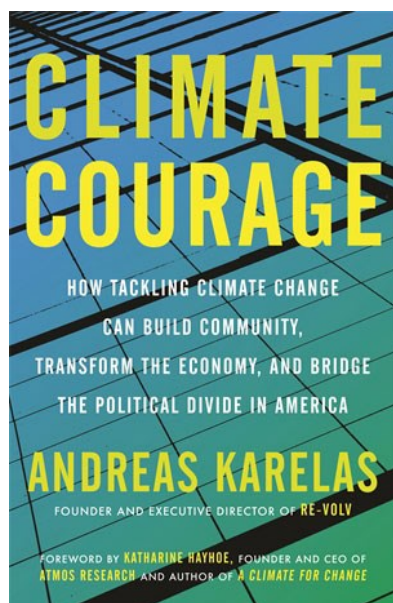
April is National Poetry Month and in times like these, you might need a little extra solace and inspiration. We hope these meditations on resilience, justice, and more will nourish your spirit. Here are some of the recent titles in the inSpirit series:

[*Breaking and Blessing*](#)—Rev. Sean Parker Dennison imagines letters from angels, draws on the natural world, and reflects on love and calling.

[*Love Like Thunder*](#)—Jess Reynolds's lyric poetry flows like water between genders, between body and spirit, and between earth and sky.

[*Spilling the Light: Meditations on Hope and Resilience*](#)—Poet Rev. Theresa I. Soto, tends to our souls and emboldens us to become our truest selves.

[*To Wake, To Rise: Meditations on Justice and Resilience*](#)—An anthology of poems, prayers, and reflections about resisting oppression and keeping the faith in social action work. Edited by Rev. William G. Sinkford.



April's Goodreads [Book Club Pick](#)

April's group read is [*Climate Courage*](#) by Andreas Karelak (Beacon Press). Andreas Karelak has a message we don't often hear: we have all the tools we need to solve the climate crisis and doing so will improve our lives, our economy, and our society. *Climate Courage* recognizes that people, not politics, are the agents of change that can create a more sustainable, equitable economy. But to engage people in climate solutions, Karelak argues, we need a new way of framing the problem that's empowering rather than fear-based. *Climate Courage* shows us how we can move past our collective inaction on climate change and work together in our communities to create a more sustainable, just, clean energy-powered economy that works for everyone.



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