

SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR APRIL 2017



Sunday, April 2

"Mingle and Chat"
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger
Bonnie Rowe

Using Woody Trautman's phrase, we'll look at congregational hospitality, including aspects of church growth and access for people with different abilities.

Music Notes: This morning's service music mixes the familiar with the unfamiliar. We launch into the service with Matthew McConnell's take on "Amazing Grace" and hear Lani Smith's version for keyboard instrument of "How Can I Keep from Singing" during the offering. A choral version of the latter piece will be the climax of our all-music service on April 23. The Chalice Choir's anthem is a brand new piece, "Joy on the Journey of Life," which admonishes us to find joy even in the darkest moments.

Sunday, April 9

"Covenant to our Planet Home" - Palm Sunday

Judy Trautman

On this Green Sanctuary Sunday, Judy Trautman and the Social Justice Committee will explore our covenant to our earthly home. This theme relates well to a UU celebration of Palm Sunday and our commitment to Earth Day every day.

Music Notes: The musical highlight of this morning's service is the wonderful choral piece, Linda Williams' "Earthrise," a fitting choice for a service focusing on our physical world. For the speaker of the text is out in space looking back on our "seablue planet" which, as she circles the earth, seems to be rising and shining. The prelude, "By Still Waters," starts us off in a contemplative mood, and the postlude, "A Joyful Trumpet," energizes us as we move forward into our week. The Gathering performs a beautiful rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" composed by Harold Arlen, E.Y. Harburg and arranged by Israel Kamakawiwo'ole.

Sunday, April 16

"On Eggs and Easter" - Easter Sunday
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger
Terry McCauley

A few stories have made their way into the Easter season. On Easter Sunday, we'll have a crack at the birth and rebirth stories and how eggs got into the mix.

Music Notes: Even though UUs are not all Christian in their religious leanings, we all can share in the excitement that Eastertide gives us as the holiday marks the beginning of spring. In tribute to this joyous atmosphere, the service begins with Lani Smith's "Welcome, Happy Morning." We honor the hero of the Easter story, Jesus, with an arrangement of a Shaker hymn, "Lord of the Dance," and end the service festively with Fenton Groden's "Alleluia Toccata." During offertory the Gathering shares with us Albert E. Brumley's "I'll Fly Away".

Sunday, April 23

"Sermons in Song"

Robert Rudolph

In words, and mostly in music, this morning's service explores the connection between religious thoughts and feelings and songs that express those ideas and impulses. What music do we hear coming to us from the world and what music, in our words and deeds, do we sing out to the world? In the music of our lives, what role does silence play?

Music Notes: The title of this morning's service is "Sermons in Song." This is an all-music service with the Handbell Choir playing an "Alleluia" for the prelude and the Chalice Choir presenting several anthems on the theme of music-making. One of benefits of singing in the choir is that choristers get to know intimately the sermons in song that are the pieces we sing every Sunday. We typically practice them for four weeks before offering them to the congregation. As a result we find ourselves singing them around the house, either silently in our heads or even out loud, shower or no shower. Their messages become part of who we are. We invite you to come this Sunday to join us in being touched by what they say. Wesley Forney, a gifted UT piano major studying with Professor Michael Boyd, accompanies the choir this morning as First Unitarian's music director, Gladys Rudolph, conducts.

Sunday, April 30

"Religious Education"
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger & Nicole Jonsson
Judy Trautman

Reverend Tim and Acting Religious Educator Nicole Jonsson will share the chancel for a religious education service. We'll include appreciation for the teachers and students who take part in our RE program.

Music Notes: Musical highlights of this morning's service are the offertory, sung by the Junior Choir, and the Chalice Choir's anthem, "Children will Listen," a song from Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods", We are also hoping that some of our children and youth will be able to present the prelude and postlude.



Terry Acocks, Board President

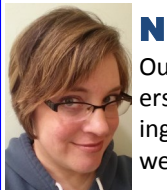
Again I feel such appreciation for the volunteer efforts this congregation provides in community and in our church. Nancy and Karen filled two tables at the Focus luncheon. The Auction was both a lot of fun and a great fundraiser thanks to the efforts of so many, particularly Chris, Susan and Tahree. Spring is here and the garden beds and grounds will need tending. Have you noticed the folks who provide security on Sunday's, opening and closing the building as well? Our volunteer efforts make a difference, Our availability varies with our life circumstances. Most of us can donate some time. It's good to set limits. Your No is as holy as your Yes! Please look around our church at what we do. Think of what you enjoy doing. When you find something you enjoy, volunteering is even more rewarding. You also help balance the contributions of our congregation so folks don't take more than their share of responsibility and burn out. Many hands make light work. In Fellowship, Terry Acocks



Reverend Tim Barger

I'm a person who doesn't do well in limiting foolishness to only the first day of April. No, I carry it through the month--through my life, really. With my academic background, I've enjoyed the fact that "sophomore" means "wise fool." I hope that I'm often wise in my foolishness. Foolishness is a valuable type of wisdom. It helps us not to take everything seriously, but also to know the times when the fool has no place and we need, instead, solemnity or focused attention or love in concentration. And then there are times when foolishness is a mild type of silliness or can bestow mercy. Be April fools sometimes regardless of the calendar. We need the lightness.

Your Minister, Reverend Tim



Nicole Jonsson, Acting Religious Educator (ARE)

Outside the world is greening, and many of us will start to work on our yards and gardens. This summer, Children's RE will be planting a beautiful mix of edibles and flowers in our congregation's memory garden. Rev. Tim and I will be outside with the kids during service on April 23rd. We'll be preparing the site, planting seeds, and teaching an Earth Day lesson in the cathedral of the out-of-doors. Muddy knees, grubby hands, and happy faces! Older UU's with a sense of wonder and play clothes are most welcome to join us. In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson, Acting Religious Educator

FLOWER DEDICATION

Celebrate a special event in your life. Dedicate or provide the chancel flowers for a Sunday service. Contact Ann Strickler at: adstrickler@sbcglobal.net or 419.536.3747.

COMMON READS

Join us for UnCommon Reads with Melissa on Friday, April 28, 2017. Arrive at 6 pm for the snacks. Discussion starts at 6:30 pm of "The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson.

SOCIAL ACTION SATURDAYS

Social Action Saturday is April 1st, 2017 at 9:40 AM - 12:40 PM at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams St. Please be prepared for the wonderful or horrible weather, don't let April fool you! Watch for a poll in the Facebook group during the beginning of April to help the program outline its monthly service projects for the year. Contact Chris at: cmkasior@gmail.com for questions.

WORLD DINING

Join us for dinner monthly on the fourth Friday of the month. RSVP to Kathy (kdeanda@att.net) so that she can make reservations, share locations, and for additional information.

2017 AUCTION THANK YOU

The Auction was a big success and lots of fun, all due to an amazing committee, terrific volunteers, talented children and generous donors and supporters! The enthusiastic bidding was exciting and brought us an approximate profit of \$10,944, surpassing our goal of \$10,000! Thank you, thank you one and all for helping us reach our goal. We wished upon a star and made our dreams for First UU come true! It is very possible that we will reach \$11,000 as there are still some wonderful opportunities to attend events in our Fixed Price offerings. If you haven't yet had the chance to participate in supporting the Auction, now is your chance! Sign up at church this Sunday, or call Tahree Lane, Gail Conrad, Susan Smith or Chris Stockwell to reserve and pay for your reservation to one of these exciting events! *Comedy Night @ \$15, *Lawn Concert @ \$20, *Vegetarian Mediterranean Luncheon - just 1 left @ \$25, *Beer Tasting @ \$20, *Chocolate Tasting @ \$25, *Home Theater @ \$15, *Joanne Gall seminar @ \$15, *Chili, Cheese & Charades - just left 1 @ \$20

FOCUS BLANKET MAKING

There will be a FOCUS Blanket-making workshop on April 26 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. New fleece kits have been purchased, so it should be extra fun. Bring sharp scissors and a smile. Contact Mary with questions. mjobbmom@bex.net

BYLAWS REVIEW COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

There is a need for a Bylaws Review Committee to be elected to review and update our bylaws. The Board will nominate three members to this committee. The congregation will then elect those members at the congregational meeting in June. The Committee will review the bylaws during this coming year and recommend any changes to be voted on at the congregational meeting in June 2018. If you would like to serve on this committee or know of anyone who would be good to have on this committee please let me or any Board member know. Please contact Terry McCauley, Board Member, home:419-531-2195; cell: 517-648-5462; email: terrymcc1@yahoo.com.



April 2017 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 April Fool's Day 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:30 am Social Action Sat. 11:00 am Knitting/crafts |
| 2 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am TEALL Mtg 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Committee Shared Ministry 5:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA | 3 | 4 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 1:30 Chalice Circle 7:00 pm Weavers Guild 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary | 5 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group | 6 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal | 7 7:00 pm First Friday Book Club | 8 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg at Doc Watson's |
| 9 Palm Sunday 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm RE Fellowship and Bake Sale 12:15 pm Social Justice Committee 12:15 pm Caring Committee 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA | 10 7:00 pm 13th Movie Showing | 11 Passover 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:00 pm Leadership Dev Committee Meeting 6:00 pm The Gathering Planning Mtg - off site 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary | 12 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group | 13 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal | 14 Good Friday 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall | 15 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am Flower Pick up hallway outside Fellowship Hall |
| 16 Easter Sunday 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA | 17 9:15 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd Garden Café) | 18 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary | 19 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group | 20 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE | 21 6:30 pm Dining for Women | 22 Earth Day 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite |
| 23 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Fourth Sunday Potluck 1:00 pm NEW UU 3:00 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA | 24 6:00 pm Board Meeting | 25 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice | 26 Admin Prof Day 9:30 am Focus Blanket Making 12:00 pm Staff Meeting 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group | 27 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal | 28 6:00 pm UnCommon Reads Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm World Dining | 29 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:30 am Cancer charity event |

30 Styrofoam Sunday
9:45 am Nursery Open
10:00 am Spiritual Adventures
11:00 am RE Worship Service
1:00 pm Pizza Party and Jazz Concert
8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA

MEDITATION GROUP
Please join us at 5:30 pm on Sundays, April 9th and April 23 for meditation. On 4/9 we will meet at 5:30PM at the Alzheimer's Association building at 2500 N. Reynolds Road. We will enjoy a guided meditation, sit or walk quietly, and share tea and conversation. On 4/23 we will meet at 3PM in the library of the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, 25877 Scheider Rd. Perrysburg. Explorers, beginners and experienced practitioners: all are welcome and each of us benefits from the energy of others. Contact Karen at kbchristie@bex.net with questions.

CANCER RESEARCH
Join us for the Greater Toledo Shave for the Brave Apr 29th at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall to benefit and to support childhood cancer research through the St. Baldrick's Cancer Foundation when our own Connie Christiansen will be a participant. Please contact Connie at ToledoBird@gmail.com or to donate, visit the website <https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/greatertoledoshaveforthebrave2017>

FIBER GROUP
A knitting, spinning, crocheting, and all things with fibers group will be re-starting. Some knit for charity and donate to the different needs in the city. We make hats, mittens, scarves, baby blankets, and preemie caps for hospitals. Join us the first Saturday of each month in the Capek Room from 11am - 5pm. Bring finger foods to share and provide your own drinks. A donation will be collected each time we meet. Please use side door. Questions? Contact cloganmercerc@yahoo.com

PLEASE SIGN IN
If you come into church during non-business hours, or at a time other than a regularly scheduled meeting or event, please take a moment and use the sign in sheet, next to the door, above the alarm to let us know that you were here. Also, if you use the key lock box and need help with it or are having trouble using it, please let either Marsha Gamble or the church office know. We would be happy to help you with how to use it. Thank you

AWARENESS OF SPECIAL NEEDS
Are you someone living with a disability or complex medical needs or a caregiver? Join us on the fourth Saturday of April (22nd) for fellowship and great conversation. The meeting will take place at the Jonsson's wheelchair accessible home from 1:00 - 2:30. Contact Nicole at 419-344-9039 or nicolejonsson@yahoo.com for more information.

GARDENS
With the start of spring it's time to think about gardens. We have one of our raised beds available if you would like to try gardening in a small space that doesn't require bending and kneeling. We may have another space available in the main garden. Check with Karen Porter (kjport@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in either of these options.

NEW NEIGHBORS
US Together has welcomed two new families to Toledo in March and are expecting two more in April. Household supplies are needed and deeply appreciated. Let's support the good works of this community agency! Questions? Contact Lynn Lyle at lynnlyle@bex.net.

NEW UU
The fourth workshop in The New UU series focuses on introducing the social justice philosophy and practices of Unitarian Universalism. The class will be held after potluck on April 23rd, at 1:00 pm and should last no longer than 90 minutes. We meet in the Youth Room which is next to Nicole's office. Although the series is designed for newcomers, established congregants and members are encouraged to attend. Classes are a great way to meet new friends and gain a deeper understanding of your own personal faith. Please contact Melanie at lanieleec@yahoo.com to reserve your seat in the class.

JAZZ CONCERT
Your Compass Committee and The CB Singers invite you to *Spring Fling 2017* after service on Sunday, April 30th. the CB Singers is a group led by BGSU professor emeritus of jazz guitar Chris Buzzelli. Made up of 11 accomplished singers, including our own Tom Sheehan, most in this inter-generational choir are professional musicians and music teachers. The concert will start at 1:00 pm and should last about an hour. Attendees will enjoy jazz arrangements of familiar tunes including Bridge Over Troubled Water, Lean on Me, and Both Sides Now, as well as some other less familiar tunes. It is open to the public, so invite your friends! Contact Tom for more information about the music at: tom43623@gmail.com. Suggested donation \$8.00. Watch the UU-FYI for more information.

WUFOO
Submit any items for publication in our newsletter, church notes, or FYI at: <https://uutoledo.wufoo.com/forms/first-unitarian-communications-request-form>. Contact Judy Murray at fyi@uutoledo.org with any questions.



LIVE STREAM CANCELLED

UUA Presidential Forum live stream on Saturday, April 1 at church has been cancelled.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids after service on Easter Sunday, April 16th! Rain or shine (inside or out), our younger UU's will get the chance to hunt for treasure-filled eggs!

UU HERITAGE CLASS SERIES

Phil Teitlebaum is offering a 3-part course covering the history of Unitarian Universalism for those who would like a more in-depth knowledge than that offered in our New UU workshop. Phil will share his engaging and well-researched slide show and allow discussion of the topics covered. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office until April 2nd. Please add your name & availability if you are interested in the course. Once we establish the level of interest & availability, we hope to create a schedule that includes as many participants as possible.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Updates to information in our Church Directory: If you have an update for our Church Directory (either online or hard copy), please contact Leitha Sackmann by email at leitha77@yahoo.com or text (call) 419-349-6855. Please use the words "Church directory" in the subject line if you send the update by email. Thanks for helping keep our directory up-to-date!

UU AND THE TOLEDO ZOO REDUCING LANDFILL WASTE

In the last several years, our local ZooTeens have helped to divert nearly 400,000 pounds of waste from landfills through their TerraCycle program. Later this year, the program will be rolled out to the public, but Toledo Unitarians will get a head start effective immediately! Among the many collection bins under the coat racks, you will find a TerraCycle bin. Many every-day items such as cereal bags, chip bags, toothpaste containers, Solo cups and plates, and shampoo dispensers can be recycled here. When the bin is full, a representative from the ZooTeens program will take it away for processing. Please look for flyers on the Green Sanctuary bulletin board illustrating specifically what can be accepted into the TerraCycle program. Should you need further information, please contact Karen Porter. (kjport@sbcglobal.net) Thank you for helping us to protect our planet!

COMPASS HOSPITALITY AND MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Thank you all for welcoming First Unitarian's newest members: Carla Loganmercer and Dominic Wilson. Please make sure to congratulate them and welcome them into the fold as official members.

As your Compass committee continues to reach out to newcomers and deepen connections within the congregation, we appreciate your patience and support. The most noticeable change has been removing the large banquet tables from Fellowship Hall. The intent is to allow safer navigation and easy mingling during coffee hour.

Coming soon: We are hoping to host more family-friendly parties on site. If you have any ideas, or would like to help, please let Jewel and Carla know! (jeweldiljohn@aol.com or cloganmercer@yahoo.com)

A less obvious change that has been made is the scheduling and format of classes for newcomers. We purposefully schedule the classes to begin at 1pm so that they do not compete with the "social hour" after the service. We also adopted a 6-part series curriculum available free from the UUA website, and will host classes continuously throughout the year. That way, nobody has to wait long to become involved and start making connections within the church.

Do you know someone who is interested in learning about membership or learning more about our faith and/or our congregation? If so, please contact one of your Compass Hospitality and Membership committee members: Abigail Humphreys, Jewel Barger, Melanie Christiansen, or Carla Loganmercer.

The fourth class in The New UU series is this Sunday, April 23rd. Please RSVP to Melanie or Abigail if you are planning to attend. We will meet at 1:00 (after the potluck) in the Youth Room. All are welcome!

MULTIFAITH BANQUET

Registration is now open for the 16th Annual MultiFaith Banquet, "Countering Hate With Compassion". Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, 25877 Scheider Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Youth pizza event \$5. Banquet tickets \$25. More information <http://multifaithcouncil.org/pages/flyer17.pdf>. Advanced registration required: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=laompdeab&oeidk=a07edxo6yz9f8da31f>

COMMUNITY EVENT: DOCUMENTARY

Before the Flood: Lourdes University will host a free showing of the 2016 documentary film about climate change Monday, April 17, at 6 pm in the Franciscan Center. The film was produced as a collaboration between director Fisher Stevens, Leonardo DiCaprio, James Packer, Brett Ratner, Trevor Davidoski, and Jennifer Davisson Killoran, with Martin Scorsese as executive producer. It premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and was later aired on the National Geographic Channel.

COMMUNITY EVENT: ALZHEIMER'S COFFEE

New 'Memory Café' – Come join us for the first 'Memory Café' in Toledo. This is for persons with mild memory loss, mild cognitive impairment, early stage Alzheimer's or another dementia and their family and friends. Come socialize in a comfortable, relaxed environment over a cup of coffee. Usually the first Wednesday of the month from 2:00-4:00 pm, (except for Tuesday, May 2nd), at Plate 21 Coffee Shop, 3664 Rugby Drive, Toledo. Come share stories and make connections on April 5th, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Call The Alzheimer's Association at 1-800-272-3900 to sign up or for more information. Free muffin samples at this first 'Café.' Other food and drinks are available for purchase.

FROM OUR ACCOUNTANT

First Unitarian Church received a check on December 27, 2016 from Wells Fargo Advisors. Unfortunately, no names were noted and I cannot apply the donation to the appropriate person. If you sent a check through Wells Fargo, please let me know at lrandall@uutoledo.org. Thank you, Laura Randall (lrandall@uutoledo.org)

MELISSA JETER'S BLOG

Check out Melissa Jeter's new blog: "Losing My Faith!" (<http://losingmyfaith2.blogspot.com/2017/03/looking-for-uu-leaders-going-full-time.html>) Questions? thoughts? Contact Melissa Jeter (melissajeter@gmail.com).

DELEGATE CALL

General Assembly Delegate slots are available. You can be a delegate through internet connection or personal attendance at GA in New Orleans this June. Please contact Terry Acocks if you are interested. (tacocks@gmail.com)

EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you to all who ordered and supported our youth! All items will be available for you to pick up at church on Saturday April 15th from 10 to noon or Sunday April 16th. Thank you for your purchases! Sneak Peek: Look for our Mother's Day flower sale fliers coming soon!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two Needs: Do you like gardening? Choose a small perennial garden bed to "own" for the season. Your name will be proudly displayed in thanks for your volunteering. Contact Phil Teitlebaum at: pteitlebaum@gmail.com. Do you like being responsible, observant, and helpful? The Security Committee opens and closes church on Sunday and keeps an eye on what is happening and needs your help. Contact Marsha Gamble at: gamble4@bex.net.

SUMMER INSTITUTE

Summer Institute is a week-long annual family retreat for Unitarian Universalists in our region. It will be held this year July 9 - 15, 2017 at Oberlin College. Families of all ages, shapes, and sizes are encouraged and welcome to attend. Registration begins April 1! This is a great way to experience the larger world of UU's outside our immediate community. Scholarships are available! More information is available at OMSI.org

CINNAMON ROLLS

Due to scheduling, the first Sunday of the month youth bake sale will be moved from Sunday April 2nd to Sunday April 9th. You'll have to wait one more week to taste those delicious cinnamon rolls. Thank you for your continued support our youth and their fundraising efforts for their Boston trip.

POTLUCK

April's potluck will be April 23rd. This month's theme will be "Spring". Think flowers, fruit, Easter, lite items to help prepare for swimsuit season. See you then!