

SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MARCH 2018



Sunday, March 4

How Unitarian Universalists Can Change the World
Worship Associate

Guest Minister
Luanne Billstein

A visiting Unitarian Universalist minister will speak on "How Unitarian Universalists Can Change the World." The sermon offers three simple strategies for being an agent of change in the world. It all begins with you!

Music Notes: Keeping with the musical theme of the annual auction, the Chalice Choir will sing "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" from "The Sound of Music." This well-known piece is truly full of hope, a prayer to accomplish worthwhile goals. This service will feature piano music played by Bonnie Rowe.

Sunday, March 11

What Does A Free Faith Require Of You??
Worship Associate

Melissa Jeter
Sierra Webb

This sermon is about becoming a commissioned-lay leader and working together to create justice in the world.

Music Notes: The Chalice Choir presents Jason Shelton's beautiful and touching arrangement of "Loch Lomond" in the service today. The lively hymns will include "Building a New Way."

Sunday, March 18

Pagan Roots (Spring equinox 3/20)
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger
Karen Christie

Two days before the beginning of spring, we'll celebrate the vernal equinox with a service recognizing the Pagan tendrils of our many Unitarian Universalist roots.

Music Notes: Today's service The Gathering celebrates Pagan roots with music by Lisa Thiel and the Fleet Foxes.

Sunday, March 25

Science, Culture, and Idols
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger
Luanne Billstein

Three focuses of worship will come together in one sermon as we look at our ties to science, to culture, and, yes, to idol worship.

Music Notes: The Jr Choir will sing songs about connections between all life, with music by Kimya Dawson and a song made famous by Kermit the Frog!



Reverend Tim Barger

We've been going beyond the usual on Sundays, especially with our three musical services in February. I hope the guest performers gave good respite from the cold—and that, since the weekend Hal Walker was here gave us challenges to get to church, you were able to watch that service on Facebook.

In March, we'll still be going beyond the norm. We'll finish our call for stewardship, and we hope you made a pledge and were able to increase your giving. We'll have our auction, one of our big fund-raising events. I hope you'll be generous in your bidding for items—and that someone will win the opportunity to have me tailor a sermon based on their thoughts. In March we return to daylight saving time and we have the beginning of spring, so we start the change to warmer weather. And Easter weekend will close out the month. For our Sunday services, we'll be tracking some of those changes with a pagan-oriented spring service and, on the 25th, some thoughts on science, culture, and idols—different objects of worship, you might say.

Thanks for continuing to be part of our pluralistic church that brings variety to religious activity. Rev. Tim



Terry McCauley, Board President

Our pledge campaign has just ended. (But it's not too late to make a pledge if you haven't yet). Now the Board and the Budget/Finance Committee will work on preparing our operating budget for the coming year.

The By Laws Review Committee has submitted their report to the Board. The Board must now prepare its recommendations to the congregation of the changes to be made to the Constitution and By Laws. The Nominating Committee had begun its work to identify candidates to be voted on to replace the current Board members whose term is expiring. These are the items we will be voting on at this year's annual meeting, which will be May 20, 2018. The Board will arrange informational sessions for you to learn about the budget and the By Laws changes so you will be prepared to vote at the annual meeting (or by proxy if you will be unable to attend the annual meeting). These are important times for our church. We need your financial support, your considered vote and especially your participation and service. Help us build our Beloved Community. In fellowship, Terry McCauley



Nicole Jonsson, Religious Educator

I'm often approached by church leaders asking how they can get our youth more involved. People ask if youth should join a committee, take charge of an activity, serve as board members. My answer to all of these queries is yes, but...

Church governance is structured in such a way that greatly favors the adult culture. When meetings happen, what is discussed, and how decisions are made tend to favor adult life experience and we can unconsciously shut the youth out. (I'm as guilty of this as anyone.) One of our national leaders recently address this very issue in an email too lengthy to reproduce here.

"...having engaged youth in congregational governance is the outcome of loving relationships between congregational leaders and youth, where the youth know their voices matter and they have the power to have an impact, for the good of all, in their congregation." Evin Carvill-Ziemer

Interested in reading more? Email me at nicolejonsson@yahoo.com and I'll forward it to you! In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

We've enjoyed the leadership of Bonnie Rowe and Sierra Webb this year as we've been in kind of a musical transition after Gladys Rudolph's retirement. Now it is time to begin a search for a new permanent music director. If you're interested in serving on the search committee for the music director, contact Rev. Tim (minister@uutoledo.org).

LEADING FAMILIES HOME

A big "thank you" goes out to those generous members and friends who have been filling the LFH bin off the lobby with much-needed cleaning products! Those items are the not-so-glamorous but absolutely necessary ones that make us look and feel so much better. Keep them coming, everybody!

LFH BLANKET MAKING

There will be an LFH blanket-making session on Wednesday, March 28, at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Bring sharp scissors and a smile. Everyone is welcome!

2018-19 PLEDGE DRIVE

Our 2018-2019 pledge drive is in full swing. Please fill out your form and return it to church by March 4th. Your support and dedication help us to fulfill our mission, continue our programs, and fund the operation of our wonderful church.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

The local campaign officially ended last month, but donations will still count until the end of the fiscal year. (That's the end of June, 2018.) Just go to the UUSC.org site, slide over to the "Take Action" menu and select Guest At Your Table. On the GAYT page, scroll down and select "Make a Gift" to reach the secure donation form. Payment can be made with a credit or debit card, or through a Pay Pal account. It's easy to do. Not online? Supplies for donation by mail are still available in the Church lobby. Questions? Call 419-537-9325.

BOSTON PILGRIMAGE FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST

There is only one bake sale left before our First UU Youth make their pilgrimage to Boston--and this time we're doing it BIG! In addition to our delicious cinnamon rolls, we'll also be selling Arun's famous breakfast casserole. (He doesn't make it for just anyone, so get while you can.) Come hungry after service on Sunday, March 4th. Follow your nose to Fellowship Hall and support our younger UUs faith formation.

NEW UU CLASSES

Want to know more about Unitarian Universalism and our Toledo congregation? Keep your eye on the UU-FYI for upcoming class dates. These classes are recommended for anyone interested in deepening their connection to our church, but are especially important for newcomers. We meet at 1pm on Sunday afternoons, for about 90 minutes to discuss subjects such as theology, religious education, governance and polity, and membership. Please sign up on the Compass bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall if you would like to be included in these classes once they are scheduled.

KNITTING

Knitting is the first Saturday of each month, October through June, 11am - 4:30-5pm in the Capek Room. Everyone is invited. Bring finger foods to share and provide your own drinks. Questions? Contact cloganmercercer@yahoo.com. See you March 3rd!

CRAFTERNOON

Join us in Fellowship Hall from 1PM to 330 PM on Sunday March 18th. Compass will be hosting a Crafternoon event where people can come and share/teach/demonstrate different crafts and/or skills. Don't miss the fun!

GARDEN PLOTS

If you or someone you know would like to grow some fresh organic produce, there are a few garden plots available. Talk to Karen Porter for more info: kjport@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 2018 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	2 7:00 pm First Friday Book Club	3 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:00 am Knitting/Craft group
4 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's Choir 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Youth Brunch Bake Sale 12:30 pm SA Committee Meeting 2:00 pm Prison Awareness Discussion 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	5 5:00 Multifaith Universal Worship (Islamic Center)	6 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	7 9:30 am Compass Mtg 6:30 pm Adult Preaching Class 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	8 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	9 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall	10 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 4:30 pm Auction
11 Styrofoam Collection Daylight Saving's Time Ends 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's Choir 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour 12:15 pm Social Justice Committee Mtg 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 5:30pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	12	13 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	14 6:30 pm Adult Preaching Class 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	15 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	16 6:30 pm Dining for Women	17 St. Patrick's Day 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg
18 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's Choir 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Grief Circle Support Group 1:00 pm Crafternoon in Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	19 9:00 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd Garden Caf�)	20 Spring Begins 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 1:30 pm Chalice Circle 7:00 pm Leadership Dev Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	22 7:00 pm Board Meeting	23 7:00 pm World Dining	24 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group and Luncheon 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite
25 Palm Sunday 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's Choir 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm 4th Sunday Potluck 2:30 pm Women's History Month Tea 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	26	27 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	28 9:30 am Blanket Making 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	29	30 Good Friday	31 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group

MEDITATION GROUP

We invite you to join us at 5:30 pm on Sundays, March 11 and March 25 at the Alzheimer's Association building at 2500 N. Reynolds Road. We will enjoy guided meditation, sit or walk quietly, and share tea and conversation. Explorers, beginners and experienced practitioners: all are welcome and each of us benefits from the energy of others. Meditation helps us to be more present for all that life has to offer. Thich Nhat Hanh reminds us, "Our true happiness comes from being fully conscious in the present moment, aware of our connection to everything else in the universe." Contact Karen at kbchristie@bex.net with any questions. In the event of inclement weather, please check with Karen before heading out.

BOSTON PILGRIMAGE BULLETIN BOARD

Check out our Boston Pilgrimage bulletin board. It highlights some of the fun stuff we'll do including seeing the famous King's Chapel. Take a look at the board, grab a pull tag for pleas for donations to cover a lunch, dinner, or "T" pass for the duration of our trip. Our Youth will learn so much and forge a strong UU identity. Grab a tag and support our youth. Thank you!

TEA - SPECIAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH EVENT

What might Eleanor Roosevelt say about K-12 Education today? How might Clara Barton view women's reproductive rights in 21st the century? Might Rachel Carson approve the Paris Accord? Might Juliette Gordon Low join the Boy Scouts? What might Lucretia Mott say about women in politics here and abroad? Join these remarkable women for coffee, tea, and sweets as they discuss issues of importance to women across the ages at an Afternoon Tea in Fellowship Hall Sunday March 25th, 2:30 PM, hosted by the American Association of University Women and Spiritual Adventures, this program is free and open to the public. For more information call 419-824-0917.

MINI FOOD PANTRY

Help refill our Free Little Pantry out front. We need to refill it several times a week. Can you donate some non-perishable items? Popular foods include peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, soup, juice boxes, fruit and pudding cups, cereal, granola bars, and tuna, toothpaste, baby shampoo, soap, & feminine hygiene products. Drop off your donations in the bin in the east foyer, give them to Nicole, or put them right into the pantry. This is an great way to help your youngsters connect with the social justice work of our faith. Note the expiration date on the items--**no expired items may be given.**

EASTER FLOWER SALE

Our RE Easter Flower Sale is on now thru Sunday March 11th. Order your holiday items, proceeds benefiting our youth and their Boston trip. All items available for you to pick up at church April 1.

AUCTION

Lights, Camera, AUCTION! Premiere Party and Awesome Fundraiser on Saturday, March 10th, 4:30 – 7:30 PM. Join star studded guests (UU friends & members!) on the 'red carpet' for spectacular entertainments, delectable edibles, and opportunities to bid on great Live, Fixed Bid and Silent auction items, and of course those always fun and wonderful raffle baskets! Be a star and put your UU values into AUCTION ACTION, by volunteering your time, edibles, goods, or services to make this our biggest fundraiser ever! Producers/Directors: Chris Stockwell castockwell@bex.net, 419-882-1741, Susan Smith smith419@bex.net, 419-874-2838

CHURCH DIRECTORY

New directories are out. Please send any updates to information in our church directory to: 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!

UNIVERSAL WORSHIP

On Monday, March 5 at 7pm, at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, we will hold our sixth local monthly Service of Universal Worship on the theme "The Golden Rule". Practitioners of six faith traditions will present readings and music. Sara Tarana Jobin will direct the music and Judy Nur-un-nisa Trautman will lead the service. In our polarized times, it is important to witness in solidarity the ways we practice our spiritual lives. We pray together, each in our own way, as we learn about others. The service is free. All are welcome.

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