



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MARCH 2019



Sunday, March 3

Love Knows No Borders

Worship Associate

Melissa Jeter

Sierra Webb

Who do you want to be? This sermon is about the big choices that Unitarian Universalists have made to choose love in the midst of struggle. Even now, our task is to contemplate how we do justice that is rooted in love.

Sunday, March 10

Objective Faith

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Luanne Billstein

Sometimes we use objects to help our religious practice. Chalices, beads, and, of course, books are items for sacred use. We'll look at some objects and the objectives of their role in religion.

Sunday, March 17

The Life of Maewyn Succat

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Karen Christie

You might better know Maewyn Succat by the name "St. Patrick." On St. Patrick's Day, we'll explore the Irish icon's story.

Sunday, March 24

In the News

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Joe Moran

Theologian Karl Barth said that ministers should preach with the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other. For this service, we'll talk about the news and bring up some current events, to consider the place our Unitarian Universalism has in the picture.

Sunday, March 31

Be Sharp

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Luanne Billstein

Our congregation will say the words to make David Strickler and Melissa Jeter Commissioned Lay Ministers of First Unitarian Church of Toledo. It's not an ordination, but this does call up two people from our church to be recognized as leaders who will have ongoing responsibilities in work and worship.



Reverend Tim Barger

Somehow I keep muddling through the Sunday services and ending at a reasonable time, but I know that we can make the Sunday experience at First Unitarian better by having more people involved. We have a choir again, but we could also add to the services with more involvement of ushers, greeters, and worship associates, along with more worship planning. So we're offering opportunities to take part in Sunday services by inviting you to join the Ushers and Greeters Crew and the Worship Team. If you want to get out of your pew seat and help form, present, and support Sunday services, come to trainings in the sanctuary on Saturday, March 23. The time for the Ushers and Greeters Crew will be from 11 am to 12:30 pm, then the Worship Team including Worship Associates will meet from 1 to 2:30 pm. You can attend either or both; all are welcome, and there's no need to sign up in advance. Ushering and greeting is more than just handing out orders of service and passing the collection basket. We also ask ushers to show latecomers to seats, be attentive to what's going on in the congregation, and if needed, to help others during the service including keeping a level of peacefulness. Greeters should also be aware of what's happening outside the sanctuary, help people to know where to hang coats and find the restrooms, and invite visitors to coffee time after the service. We're also looking into providing first-aid training for ushers and greeters, just in case it's needed, and you'll learn some basics about our tech system. People from school age to post-retirement are welcome to be ushers and greeters. As a member of the Worship Team, you can help to make summer services happen, develop lay-led services during the year, give essential support to guest speakers, and advise on the way "usual" Sunday services are going. Plus, the team and I talk about how to worship, in theory and practice. The worship associates are on the chancel with the minister or guest speaker, helping to make the Sunday service happen, including giving readings and the welcome and announcements. If you're anywhere from high school age to post-retirement, you're welcome to join the Worship Team and to be a Worship Associate. And while you're at the church on the 23rd, don't forget to visit the vendor fair which will be in Fellowship Hall all day. In Fellowship, Rev. Tim



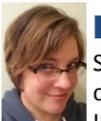
Terry McCauley, Board President

Well it's March. We are in the transition from winter to spring. Nature is about to come out of its dormant state and spring into life again. Can we see it? Can we see beneath the snow that life is ready to burst forth? How do we see? Do we see only with our eyes and see the surface? Or can we see with our hearts and souls and see beneath the surface? If we see with our hearts and souls we will see the beautiful butterfly that is in the caterpillar in all of us; we will see the beautiful mosaic that is all of life. Look with the eyes of your soul and see beyond the surface and see the love and life that comes with spring. See the beauty in others as you anxiously await Spring's gift:

*"When the night has been too lonely
And the road has been too long
And you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong
Just remember in the winter
Far beneath the bitter snow
Lies the seed
That with the sun's love, in the spring
Becomes the rose"*



Enjoy the coming of life and love this Spring. Thank you for being part of our First Unitarian family. In Fellowship, Terry M.



Nicole Jonsson, Religious Educator

Snow on the ground can't deter me from planning for spring! We are still collecting dryer lint so please bring it in for a special project. I'm also casting feelers out for congregants who may have the mechanical skills necessary to make small bike repairs. Send me an email at nicolejonsson@yahoo.com with your suggestions. In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson

BON APPÉTIT

SECOND BREAKFAST will meet at Silver Moon Soda Grill on the last Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM. The restaurant will have a large space available for us, so there is no need to RSVP. Please arrive a few minutes early if possible. If you are interested in starting another open meet-up, contact Melanie or another member of Compass for any questions. We will continue to meet on the third Monday of each month for our 9:30 AM UU Breakfast at Reynolds Rd. Garden Café. World Dining is a wonderful way to get to know your church family outside of church while experiencing some of Toledo's fine restaurants. We meet at a different restaurant each month on the 4th Friday at 7 pm. Please email Luanne to be added to the monthly email invitation at: Luanne@theBillsteins.com. Dining for Women meets at our church in Fellowship Hall the third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM. They are a global giving circle dedicated to transforming lives and eradicating poverty among women and girls in the developing world. Also join us for fourth Sunday potlucks, after services.

KNITWITS

Join this UU group who knits and crochets warmth for others. We make hats, mittens, scarves etc which we deliver in the Fall to two organizations helping the homeless. We also recently knit squares for an afghan which will appear at the church's auction this Spring. We meet at church on the second Friday of each month, 9:30-11:30AM. Upcoming dates are: March 8th, April 12th, and May 10th. We have enough 8" x 8" squares to start assembling the afghan. Thank you to all who contributed!

LFH BLANKET MAKING

Leading Families Home Blanket Making Meeting meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday. No sewing needed; just bring sharp scissors. These sessions create blankets to give children as their families move to their new home. Any questions? Contact Elly Gans - email and phone number in the directory. Join us March 27th!

OSTARA CELEBRATION

Tree of Life Unitarian Pagans will be holding their Ostara celebration on March 22nd 5-8pm in fellowship hall. We will be planting seeds, hunt eggs, and do other activities to celebrate the coming of Spring. Please bring a dish or snack to share.

SPIRIT PLAY CHILD CARE OPTION

Children beyond the Nursery age may enjoy free play, stories and a snack during the 11:00 service in the Spirit Play room with 2 adult facilitators. We hope that this option will not only provide space for play but will be an opportunity for adults and children to get to know each other better. Parents may sign in their children beginning at 10:50. A big thank you to the many folks who have volunteered to be facilitators!

JAIL TOUR

Thirty five people attended the "A New Lucas County Jail: Why, Where, and How" talk by Sheriff John Tharp on Feb. 17th. The Sheriff extended an invitation to tour the jail. Tours have a capacity of 10 people. More than 10 can be put on a second tour list. If interested contact Joe Moran at moran9643@sbcglobal.net or 419-262-7859.

SHOP TIL YOU DROP!

Vendor Splendor is coming! March 23rd in Fellowship Hall, 9 AM to 4 PM. Shop til you drop with wonderful vendors from direct sales companies, handcrafted items, and fine art! Refreshments will be available for purchase. Contact Luanne@theBillsteins.com for info about being a vendor and come check out our goods on Saturday the 23rd.



2019 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 3:00 pm First Friday Book Club	2 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:15 am Fiberwork Orphans knitters and crafters
3 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	4	5 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 4:00 pm Tree of Life CUUPS Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	6 Ash Wednesday 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	7	8 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Family Fun Night	9 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 1:00 pm Secular Humanists of Western Lake Erie - Fellowship Hall
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	11	12 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	13 K9 Veterans Day 1:30 pm Chalice Circle 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	14	15 6:30 pm Dining for Women	16 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg 10:30 am Lynn Lyle Memorial
17 St. Patrick's Day Styrofoam Collection 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Combined Spiritual Adventures Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Grief Circle Support Group 12:30 pm Caring Committee Meeting 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	18 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd. Garden Café)	19 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 4:00 pm Tree of Life CUUPS Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:00 pm Chalice Circle	20 SPRING! 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group 10:00 am Multi-faith Women's Group NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22 4:00 pm Ostara Pagan Celebration 7:00 pm World Dining	23 Vendor Splendor 9:00 am Vendor Show 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:00 am Usher/Greeter training 1:00 pm Worship Team training 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite
24 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Combined Spiritual Adventures Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fourth Sunday Potluck 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	25 6:00 pm Universal Worship - Unity of Toledo	26 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Silver Moon) 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	27 9:30 am Blanket Making 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	28 7:00 pm Board Meeting	29	30 AUCTION 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 1:00 pm June Whipple Memorial 4:00 pm Auction!

31 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Combined Spiritual Adventures Children's RE 5th Sun. Wild Adventure 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	WORLD'S FINEST We still have World's Finest Chocolate Bars for sale. The candy bars will be available after service and anytime that the church office is open. Only a \$1.00! We have a limited supply of World's Finest Chocolate Bars for sale.
	AUCTION Our annual auction will be held at church in our Fellowship Hall March 30th at 4:30 PM. All the Super Heroes have it on their calendar. For information contact: Judy Paschalis 419-346-4895 or Krista Schneider 419-320-4374. Tickets will be on sale after Sunday service.

CRAFT SATURDAY
Open to all crafters. Meet at First Unitarian Church every first Saturday of the month, 11-5. Join us March 2nd. Bring a snack to share, if you would like to.

VENDOR SPLENDOR
March 23rd in Fellowship Hall, 9 AM to 4 PM Shop til you drop with wonderful vendors from direct sales companies, handcrafted items, and fine art! Refreshments available for purchase.

MINI FOOD PANTRY
Please remember to bring non-perishable food items to be placed in the Little Pantry. It gets a lot of use. Place items in the designated bin in the back foyer or directly in the pantry. Hunger is worse in the cold weather. Let's try to share as we can. 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 a 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.**

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
Family Fun Night takes place on the 2nd Friday of each month from 6pm-8pm. We welcome families, friends and people of all ages to Friday Fun Night on March 8, in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a beverage and snack to share and a love of fun. We will have games, snacks, drinks, and crafts. Contact Janaki Shivadas janakishivadas@gmail.com with questions.

MEDITATION
We invite you to join us at 5:30 pm on Sundays, March 10 and March 24, at the MemoryLane Care Services building, 2500 N. Reynolds Road (corner of Pickfair and N. Reynolds). 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. Please join us for meditation in the Carl Sagan room at First UU on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM. All are invited and we will offer meditation instructions and guidance for beginners. Periodically, members of the multifaith community will offer a meditation/spiritual practice from their faith. We will all be enriched by these diverse practices. You are welcome to use this beautiful space anytime the church is open. 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 your email or contact Karen before heading out.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE
Guest At Your Table program will kick-off as part of Social Justice Sunday on March 3. Plan to pick up a brochure during March and make a generous donation.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS
Though only 3 minutes long, Membership Moments are a greatly valued part of the Sunday service. More than a few people have stated that the Membership Moment is a favorite part of the service because it provides a deeper sense of knowing of the people in our church community. It is also uplifting. To keep this valued part of the service happening, kindly participate! Please reply to Ann Strickler (adstrickler@sbcglobal.net) letting her know which Sunday in the future you would be willing to speak about what you like about being at First UU. There is a format for Membership Moments---3 minutes, which is about 300 words.

MARCH IS HUNGRY TOO!
After the end of the year, non-profits see a dip in support. Toledo non-profit wants to remind you that March Is Hungry Too. Help us raise fun, awareness, and funds to #feedToledo the unconventional way - by throwing a party. You pick a theme and invite the guests, we'll help you with stats about hunger in our area and how Food For Thought is working to kick it to the curb thoughtfully. Learn more and sign-up to host a party at www.marchishungry.com or by emailing caitlin@feedtoledo.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATE
The 18th Annual MultiFaith Banquet will be Sunday, April 7, 3-7pm, with dinner at 5pm, at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo in Perrysburg. Registration link will soon be available.