



# SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MAY 2018



## Sunday, May 6

### *Is Poverty a Sin?*

Worship Associate

David Strickler

Melissa Jeter

The Poor People's Campaign will take-off in May with 40 Days of Action. This sermon will focus how UU's can ally themselves with this call for moral revival and how the concept of intersectionality relates to building this coalition.

**Music Notes:** Today's anthem will feature the Combined choirs in "Life Calls Us On," a UU anthem with words by Kendal Gibbons, and music by Jason Shelton. Our own Vance Raiti will play the first movement of Neruda's Trumpet Concerto for the Postlude.

## Sunday, May 13

### *RE Sunday*

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Judy Trautman

With our teens returned from Boston and all of our religious education classes about to close out the church year, the students and teachers will lead our Sunday service.

**Music Notes:** Connie Christiansen will sing "Song of the River" for the Offertory. Tierra Raiti will play the first movement of Mozart's Violin Concert in G Major for the Postlude. Both students will be accompanied by Bonnie Rowe.

## Sunday, May 20

### *Feeling, Learning, Searching (Heart, head, spirit)*

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Luanne Billstein

In a way, there are three separate personal locations for people's religions: heart, head, and spirit. Rev. Tim will talk about the emotional, intellectual, and soulful aspects of faith and how we might use them together.

**Music Notes:** For the anthem, the Gathering will perform "Learning to Fly" by the late Tom Petty, and for the Postlude "Heart of Gold" by Neil Young.

## Sunday, May 27

### *Earth Day and Flower Ceremony*

Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger and Judy Trautman

Joe Moran

On this Memorial Day weekend, our annual flower ceremony will commemorate Earth Day which was April 22nd. Bring one flower to church, leave with another, celebrate the beauty of nature, and know that it's our ecological care that will help to continue life on earth. This Green Sanctuary Service will explore how all earth is sacred by reexamining the Green Rule Poster. Flower ceremony will follow.

**Music Notes:** The Gathering will perform a selection by Tom Petty and a traditional folk song. "You Belong Among the Wildflowers!" The Chalice Choir will sing the exuberant welcoming anthem "Do Not Leave Your Cares at the Door" by Elizabeth Alexander. Sierra Webb will sing "Thank You Very Much" by Leah Song. For the postlude, the Combined Choir will sing "The Earth is One."



### Reverend Tim Barger

Several changes are in the works at First Unitarian. They will be implemented over the spring and, for some projects, possibly go into the summer. We'll be establishing a dedicated meditation center in Room 124, the Carl Sagan Room. We'll start with Buddhist-style meditation cushions and some chairs for those who don't do well with cushions, and we plan to have open meditation for the community Tuesday evenings and the room available at other times as well. Over time the meditation center will include prayer rugs for Muslims and possibly a kneeler or two for Christians who pray in that manner. Our friends at Flowing Waters Sangha, which includes members of our congregation, will help to get the meditation room in regular use. Current uses of the Sagan Room will be moved, including taking some furniture to Room 128, the Sr. High Room, and moving the musical rehearsals to Classroom 107 which is primarily for storage. All of that moving isn't enough. We'll also relocate the archives from the cubbyhole in Room 114, the June 4, 1989 Room, to Room 112, currently a storage space. We're getting bids now to replace the faded green banner on the front of our building, with plans to reproduce the chalice quilt there. On Facebook and in a recent UU-FYI, we distributed a "flag poll" asking for opinions on what flags, if any, might hang beside our church banner that would amplify our Unitarian Universalist message. If you have opinions, please let us know. A yearly change is also under way: our budgeting process. Like always, it seems, we're trying to do more with less. Our stewardship campaign was intended to be low-key, but not as quiet as it turned out to be, we'll admit. Dave Murray, our VP of Finance, and Carol Keierleber, our Treasurer, are doing some heavy lifting to come up with a workable budget for next year. One action on your part, if you can afford it, that would really help is to increase your present 2018-19 pledge by 10 percent. We're also discussing moving our pledge season to the fall so we can better plan our budgets according to the calendar instead of near the last minute. And our capital campaign is complete and we're now planning how to spend the funds raised according to the campaign's areas of improvement. I'll add one big change beginning after Labor Day weekend, with the next church year. Nicole Jonsson and I have agreed that it's time to move all of religious education to the 10 o'clock hour, and have everybody in the full service at 11. It's a big change, but we think it will help to ground our young people in Unitarian Universalism and it will give us opportunities for different types of Sunday services. See Nicole's note in the newsletter, and consider volunteering to help with activities at 10 am. We're asking you to give the Toledo Unitarians two and a half hours on Sundays: for religious education, the service, and then at least a half hour for our coffee time which in many ways is an extension of the service as we move into community. That change also means we'd like to reconstitute the Worship Committee for help in planning and conducting Sunday services. If you're interested in serving there, contact Julia McGhee or me. Rev. Tim



### Terry McCauley, Board President

Change – it's the only constant in life. And changes are happening in our church. We have had new members join us recently, and we are having new programs and events and new opportunities. We have also faced some physical challenges with plant and property. We are also facing the challenge of finding a way to have a stable, sustainable budget on an ongoing basis. Yes there are changes and challenges, but working together as a Beloved Community we can face these changes and meet these challenges and be better for it. The key is to work together strengthened by our diversity; to not just say our covenant each Sunday at service, but to live it out daily. It should be evident to each other as we look around that love **is** our doctrine, service **is** our prayer and we **do** dwell together in peace while helping one another. The future of our church looks good, very good. The changes and challenges will make us better and stronger because you, the members, will be answering those challenges together as a Beloved Community. By each of us pledging and giving of our time, talent and treasure we will be a community that is a blessing to its members and to the larger community and the world. So give us your thoughts, your ideas, your talents, your treasure, but most importantly give us your love. Love is the unconditional acceptance of a person and is part of the third UU principle. Blessed be. In Fellowship, Terry M.



### Nicole Jonsson, Religious Educator

Spring is late in coming, but ideas for next Fall's Religious Education programming are blooming! We plan to offer religious education for all at 10am before service at 11 am starting next September. The ramp-up in programming means we'll need RE teachers and volunteers. No need to sacrifice attending service to teach! Parents, due to difficulty in teacher recruitment, we will ask you to volunteer in our RE program as we transition to more of a "co-cop" model. How exactly will this new way of doing things work? We're hoping for some input on how to implement this change. Talk to me after service, email me, or give me a ring. I'd love to hear your suggestions.

In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson

### LFH BLANKET MAKING

There will be an LFH Blanket-making workshop on May 23rd at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!

### CAN YOU HELP?

All board members have increased their initial pledges for 2018-19 to address the lower pledge amounts from the stewardship campaign, and they are also asking all pledgers to increase what they have pledged for 2018-19 by 10 percent if possible. Any increased giving will help. If you can give more, please fill out a new pledge form and mark it "REVISED."

### GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

It's not too late to donate for 2017-2018. Brochures and envelopes are still available at the church. What a great use for part of that tax refund!

### WORLD DINING

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

### PLEASE DISPOSE OF ITEMS PROPERLY

Our sewer system has been cleaned (at a costly expense) and the restrooms are fully functional again. The cause of the problem was due to an over-abundance of cotton materials in our sewers. (baby wipes, personal care products, etc.) Please be sure to properly dispose of items in the trash, even if the packaging says the item is flushable.

### NEW COPIER

Our Look for our new and improved Sunday bulletin starting with our May 6th service. Our new copy machine lets us put the Order of Service and Church Notes into one booklet. We will no longer allow any separate inserts. If you would like information included as a one page handout, you may request a full or half page of the booklet for your information to be included by emailing the church office the information in flier form, in a Word or PDF file, or by inserting the file into the Wufoo request form. Deadline for the flier to be included in the booklet will be Tuesday at noon for the following Sunday. All other information that you would like included as blurbs continues to be due by 11 AM for Church Notes, and noon for FYI on Wednesdays, for publication that week. Questions? Please contact the church office. Special thanks to Carrie Baum who has folded and assembled the weekly handouts for the past couple years. Your help was greatly appreciated!

# MAY

# 2018 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 May Day 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:00 pm Weavers Guild 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	2 9:30 am Compass Mtg 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	3 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00 pm First Friday Book Club	5 Cinco de Mayo 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:00 am Knitting/Craft group
6 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 SA Committee Meeting 12:15 pm Caring Committee Mtg 12:45 pm Proposed Budget Meeting 1:00 pm New UU Class 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	7	8 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 2:00 pm CUUPS Mtg 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	9 7:00 pm Proposed Budget Meeting 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	10 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	11 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall 7:30 pm Roy Zimmerman Concert	12 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
13 Mother's Day 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's Choir 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour 12:15 pm Social Justice Committee Mtg 12:30 pm Grief Circle Support Group 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	14	15 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	16 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	17 7:30 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal	18 6:30 pm Dining for Women	19 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg
20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE STYROFOAM COLLECTION DAY 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 ANNUAL MEETING 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	21 9:00 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd Garden Café)	22 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	23 9:30 am Blanket Making 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	24 7:00 pm Board Meeting	25 7:00 pm World Dining	26 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group and 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite
27 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 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	28 Memorial Day	29 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 7:30 pm The Gathering Practice Sanctuary	30 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	31	1 JUNE 7:00 pm First Friday Book Club	2 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:00 am Knitting/Craft group

**MEDITATION GROUP**  
We invite you to join us at 5:30 pm on Sundays, May 13 and May 27 at the Alzheimer's Association building, 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.

**NAMI**  
May 12th 2018 is the date set for the NAMI Walk of Greater Toledo!! The walk will take place at 10am, with registration at 830am, on the University of Toledo Medical Center Campus. Please send all checks and donations to either 2753 W Central Avenue Toledo Ohio 43606, or online search NAMI WALKS to make a pledge. Get out and walk and support an ever increasingly important cause!!!

**NOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT**  
We will be pleased to nominate Krista Schneider to fill a general membership on the Board of Trustees at the annual meeting on May 20th. Floor nominations may be made as well. Nominating Committee Terry Acocks, Melanie Christiansen, Marsha Gamble, Melissa Jeter.

**CONCERT**  
Join us for a REZIST concert Friday May 11th at 7:30 PM at First Unitarian. Roy Zimmerman will sing funny songs about peace and justice. Admission is \$20 or pay what you are able. Enjoy ninety minutes of Roy Zimmerman's original songs, funny and forceful affirmations of peace and social justice.

**POPE FRANCIS & THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY: A MESSAGE FROM GOD'S CREATION**  
On Friday, May 4th, Hal Mann, president of the Wild Ones Oak Openings Region Chapter will present this program, showing how we are called to care for all of creation, and care for our neighbors, especially the poor. Check the Green Sanctuary bulletin board for a flyer with details.

**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.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUNDAY**  
Sunday, May 13th is Religious Education Sunday Service! Teachers, students, and parents please join us to celebrate and thank our volunteers. Without them, our program could not exist. We'll also show photos and talk a bit about our Boston Youth Pilgrimage.

**PROTECTING OUR LAKE**  
The Black Swamp Green Team is holding it's 3rd annual Creation Care Celebration on May 29th from 1:00-3:00 at Peace Lutheran Church in Bowling Green. The theme this year is water. Lake Erie Waterkeeper Sandy Bihn will be one of the presenters and Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie will have a display. Come hear the latest on protecting our lake. For more information talk to Karen Porter, Black Swamp Green Team member.

**KITCHEN USE**  
There will be a requisition form for any use of the kitchen. This is for any meetings that meet anywhere in the church and use our kitchen for anything. This form will be on the door to the kitchen. It must be put in the back on the door in the designated envelope. We will start using this requisition form due to things missing from the kitchen. Everything will be accounted for on this form. Thank you very much for your cooperation. If you have questions, please ask. Carla LoganMercer, Kitchen Coordinator

**KNITTING**  
Come knit with us Saturday May 5th from 11am - 4:30 or 5pm in the Capek Room. Everyone is invited. Questions? Contact cloganmerc@yaho.com.