



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MAY 2019



Sunday, May 5

The Great Warbler Migration: An Intercultural Gathering
Worship Associate

David Strickler
Karen Christie

Every spring, thousands of migrating songbirds congregate on the Lake Erie shoreline in NW Ohio to feed and to rest before continuing their journey to northern breeding grounds. The variety and number of intensely colored birds is a spectacle to behold. And, just as impressive is the assortment of humans who stray from their daily paths to observe this extraordinary avian phenomenon. We will exult in the natural beauty of these charming birds and reflect on how they bring us together.

Sunday, May 12

RE
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

This week we'll have our recognition of and, we hope, participation by religious education students and teachers. We'll be expressing special gratitude to Nicole Jonsson for her service as religious educator.

Sunday, May 19

Appreciation, with IIIUUmination chalice blessings
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Do you have a chalice at home, a reminder of your Unitarian Universalism? We'll have a blessing of chalices during the May 19 service, an observance of "IIIUUmination," as the Little Rock, Arkansas, congregation called it. Bring your chalice in—or possibly make one during religious education time—and we'll gather many chalices at the chancel table for a blessing and, in a way, we'll send the communal flame home with you. We'll also have a time for volunteer appreciation, acknowledging those who have helped the congregation to operate over the past year. The service will be shorter in time, to accommodate the annual meeting held afterward.

Sunday, May 26

Julia Ward Howe
Worship Associate

Reverend Tim Barger
Joe Moran

May 27 will be the 200th anniversary of the birth of Julia Ward Howe, a Unitarian, who wrote "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and was active in the movements against, slavery, for women's suffrage, and for world peace. Our May 26 service will celebrate the life of Julia Ward Howe, and we'll sing "Battle Hymn" on Memorial Day weekend.



Reverend Tim Barger

We're nearing the end of another "church year," and May 19 includes our annual meeting after service of volunteer recognition and a blessing of chalices. Those three things represent major parts of First Unitarian Church of Toledo. The annual meeting really is a membership responsibility, when we vote on the coming year's budget as developed by the board members whom we have elected, and we'll elect board members for the coming couple of years at the meeting, too. Volunteer recognition gets to our core—the work that we put into having a congregation, not just by our financial support, but by our presence and our talents. I've been saying that for us to thrive, we need many volunteers because we don't have the resources for desired staff positions. And please remember, we're very good with you learning "on the fly" and developing skills you didn't have when you started—follow your interests and curiosity, and help the church at the same time. Chalices are the physical representation or symbol of our Unitarian Universalist religion. The Bankey chalice on our chancel is lit during our services, but we encourage you to have your own chalice at home—or even a traveling one that you can carry when you travel. Whether it has an electric candle or tealight with a wick, the symbol of our faith is a way to show that, like a flame, our Unitarian Universalism is steady, it even dances, and it can show others that they're at a safe space. Bring your chalices and let's have our congregation's chalices together for a time of blessing. In Fellowship, Rev. Tim



Terry McCauley, Board President

Ah, the merry month of May. Spring is here. Nature is coming alive again. We celebrate Mothers, graduations, & weddings. It is also the time we elect a new Board of Trustees. This is truly a month of changes, a month of endings and beginnings. Changes can be difficult. They are seen as moments when something wonderful was coming to a conclusion. However, I've come to understand in my senior years that changes are, in fact, to be cherished because they are the only things that can produce the possibility and the magic of beginnings. And beginnings, as we all know, are among the most exciting things in life—if not the most exciting. Spring time, the month of May, can be an exciting time with all of the celebrations we share. And so we to come together as people of the Light, as people united in the human family. Let us go forward in faith and in confidence with gratitude for all that has been and welcoming of all that is to come, for I believe the best is yet to come. Thank you for being part of our First Unitarian family. In Fellowship, Terry M.



Nicole Jonsson, Religious Educator

As our church year winds down and we prepare for summer RE, I'd like to have one more "ask" as your Religious Educator. Our liability insurance asks that we have at least two, background-checked adults supervising the kids. Can you help a Sunday or two in the summer? In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson

BUTTERFLIES

Did you know even a small patch of native plants in your yard could help save bees and butterflies? First UU Toledo's Middle Grades religious education classroom (aka the Harry Potter room) have initiated a SAVE THE MONARCHS project. They will sell pollinator-friendly seed packs (\$1.00 per envelope) after service on May 5th and May 12th. All proceeds will go to the Toledo Zoo to benefit their butterfly house and breeding program. (Isn't it great? Their idea!) Support their social justice project and buy a few packs of seeds.

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 for 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. Next date-May 10th.

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 May 22nd!

MUSIC AT FIRST UNITARIAN

Make Music with Your UU Community! Practices are Sundays at 12:30 for The Gathering rehearsal, Thursdays at 7:30 for Choir rehearsal. What better way to celebrate spring than by making a joyful noise with us? Newcomers are always welcome to drop in for musical fellowship. Not sure how you'd like to be involved? Come see Mickey or send an email to musicdirector@uutoledo.org to find the best fit for your time and talents.

UNIVERSAL WORSHIP

The Monday, June 24 Service is scheduled at First Unitarian Church with children or youth as readers and musicians. The theme is "What I Like About My Faith". Please contact Judy Trautman if you are willing to help. We will have a practice session for the presenters at 4 PM, followed by a pizza supper for participants and parents. The service is at 6.

THIRD QUARTER PLEDGE

The 3rd quarter pledge updates are ready for pick up. You may find your letter in the entryway near the door. Please save the church postage and pick yours up soon. Questions about letter may be directed to bookkeeper@uutoledo.org.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday May 19th, 2019. Please plan on attending and casting your votes. The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following nominations for the Board of Trustees. Terms are two years unless otherwise noted. President-Sandra Kosek-Sills, Vice-President Krista Schneider -1 year term, Secretary-Elliot Adams - 2 year term, Treasurer-Mary Souther - 1 year term, General members: Colette Cordova, Mike Davisson, Arun Nadarajah, Tom Sheehan. Completing the final year of his elected term is Dominic Wilson. You may have noticed these nominees in their many volunteer church activities. We deeply appreciate their willingness to extend their energy, time and commitment to this service to our church. Nominating Committee, Marsha Gamble, Melanie Christiansen, Terry Acocks

TERRACYCLE

Be sure to refer to the lists on the Green Sanctuary bulletin board when adding items to the Toledo Zoo TerraCycle bin in the hall. Many every-day items such as cereal bags, chip bags, toothpaste containers, Solo cups and plates, and shampoo dispensers can be recycled here. Not everything that TerraCycle takes is accepted by the Zoo program. If it is going to the landfill anyway, find a reuse or dispose of it yourself, saving the Zoo people sorting time.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 May Day 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	2 Nat'l Day of Prayer 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	3 3:00 pm First Friday Book Club	4 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:15 am Fiberwork Orphans knitters and crafters
5 Cinco De Mayo 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 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 6:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	6	7 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	8 1:30 pm Chalice Circle 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	9 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Family Fun Night	11 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
12 Mother's Day 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 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	13	14 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	15 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	16 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30 pm Dining for Women	18 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg
19 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 Gathering Rehearsal 12:30 pm Grief Circle Support Group 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	20 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd. Garden Café) 6:00 pm Universal Worship - Epworth NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:00 pm Chalice Circle	22 9:30 am Blanket Making 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	23 7:00 pm Board Meeting 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	24 7:00 pm World Dining	25 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite
26 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 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	27	28 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Silver Moon) 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	29 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	30 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	31	1 June 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:15 am Fiberwork Orphans knitters and crafters

MEDITATION

Please join us for meditation at 5:30 PM on Sundays May 12 and May 26, 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 multifait 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.

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 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.**

CRAFT SATURDAY

Open to all crafters. Meet at First Unitarian Church every first Saturday of the month, 11-5. Join us May 4th. Bring a snack to share, if you would like to.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

"Justice Across Borders" is the Guest At Your Table/Unitarian Universalist Service Committee theme for 2018/2019. Be sure to pick up a copy of the booklet in the lobby at church and read about this year's guests. Donate by mail or online at UUSC.org/guest before June 30 (in any amount that you can) to count for this fiscal year. We can't all be physically involved in this battle but we can help support those who are. Questions? Ask me! carriebaum@toast.net

U-FACE SEEKING MEMBERS

Unitarians Fostering Active Community Engagement or U-FACE is seeking members for its committee. U-FACE's mission is to increase the visibility of Unitarian Universalism in Northwest Ohio through educational, social justice, and performing arts that reflect the values and interests of First Unitarian Church of Toledo. U-FACE sponsors three community wide events each year. The committee meets on an "as needed" basis for event planning. If engaging the wider community in the arts, social justice, or education is of interest to you we would love to have you join us. If interested please speak to any of the following committee members: Luanne Billstein, Gwen Wilson, Carol Keierleber, John Pettigrew, or Joe Moran.

SUMMER INSTITUTE

Registration is now open for this year's Central East Region Summer Institute (CERSI). CERSI is a week-long summer camp for families and UU's of all ages. All information is available on the website WWW.CERSIUU.ORG. Enjoy educational, musical, artistic, or spiritual workshops, daily presentations by theme speaker Dr. Ysaye Barnwell (of Sweet Honey In The Rock fame), meals, lodging, twice-daily church services, and more.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

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 with questions to Ann Strickler (adstrickler@sbcglobal.net). Membership Moments should be three minutes, which is about 300 words. Sign up at the following webpage: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DAAA928A7F58-membership>

ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday May 19th in the sanctuary immediately following the 11 am service. All are strongly encouraged to attend. Reports are due April 22nd.

FIRST AND FOURTH SUNDAYS

Please remember the first Sunday of each month we celebrate each month with cake and ice cream in Fellowship Hall following church service. The fourth Sunday is our potluck.

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. See you on May 24th.