



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019



Sunday, September 1

We Are Vast

Sunday Service Associate

Karen Christie

Joe Moran

Today we will explore the Buddhist concept of emptiness. You might just discover that your preconceived notions of your "self" are not always accurate. We'll explore this complicated topic together.

Sunday, September 8

Water's Right

Sunday Service Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Tom Sheehan

Our annual Ingathering to start the "church year" focuses on water. With Toledoans passing the Lake Erie Bill of Rights and our continuing challenges of being a Great Lakes community, we will celebrate water and consider its place in our lives, in the very being of our planet. And we'll have a special communion-like water ceremony.

Sunday, September 15

Global Climate and Us

Sunday Service Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Karen Christie

In advance of the Global Climate Strike that has been declared to run September 20-27, we'll continue with ecology as the service theme and examine our place in the world, our effect on the weather, and how we can take better care of the planet.

Sunday, September 22

What Happened in Vegas

Sunday Service Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Melissa Jeter

Rev. Tim will (perhaps foolishly attempt to) report on the Religion News Association annual conference that he will attend in Las Vegas September 19-21. Topics, trends, and tchochkes could all be a part of the sermon—as could the particularities of Las Vegas.

Sunday, September 29

Years

Sunday Service Associate

Reverend Tim Barger

Judy Trautman

On the beginning of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, let's look at years in terms of length of time, changes made in their course, and their seeming to get shorter as we age.



Reverend Tim Barger

It's a new church year, starting as we typically do the Sunday after Labor Day. Karen Christie will close out the summer services on September 1, then for our Ingathering Sunday on September 8 we'll have a water ceremony and I'll preach "Water's Right." Since I've been the Toledo Unitarians' minister, the Ingatherings have been focused on traditional elements. It was fire in 2017, air in 2018, and water this year. That means in 2020 we'll probably be earth bound. For this year's water ceremony, we'll recognize our Great Lakes and the Lake Erie Bill of Rights, we'll consider how we can better do right for water, and we'll have some community practices of sharing water. For the other Sundays in September, we'll expand from water to the climate on September 15 as we give attention to the upcoming Global Climate Strike. On the 22nd, I'll have returned from a Religion News Association conference in Las Vegas and I'll speak on "What Happened in Vegas" (did you think it would stay in Las Vegas?). And September 29 will have a sermon on "Years," in part observing Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, but more broadly reflecting on the concept of time. There's much ahead for us in 2019-20 besides Sunday service topics. That includes a return to children and youth religious education during the 11 AM hour, during the service—and Kristin Olson has been hired as our Acting Religious Educator. We're forming the congregationally mandated strategic planning process, we're preparing for some renovations in the sanctuary in large part to improve accessibility, we're making other changes, and, finally, we expect to have solar panels in operation. Let's do what we can to make this a momentous year for First Unitarian Church of Toledo—for all the right reasons. In Fellowship, Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

We will be installing solar panels on the church building soon. Perhaps as you are reading this the project will be underway (one can hope!). Solar panels will help us lower our electrical bill, but also reduce our carbon footprint. Why is reducing carbon important? It reduces the carbon emissions that are driving climate change. As the climate gets warmer, we are getting more extreme weather events...more extreme water levels in Lake Erie...and hotter summers...among other problems. I know my Prius is not the only hybrid electric vehicle in our parking lot, so I know many of you are actively working to reduce your own carbon footprint at home as well. What each of us does at home is important. However, we can also participate in and support advocacy campaigns. This September, millions of people will walk out of workplaces and homes to join young climate strikers on the streets and demand an end to the age of fossil fuels during the Climate Strike the week of September 20. See climatestrike.net and globalclimatestrike.net. Climate Strike is led by Greta Thunberg, a sixteen year old from Sweden. Are you a UUA youth or young adult? How can we help you be a leader for us on climate? In fellowship, Sandra



Meet our Music Director, Mickey Miller - by Tahree Lane

You've seen her broad smile; you've heard her rich voice. We're happy to have McKenzie "Mickey" Miller as our director of music since January. "I've been greeted with open arms," she says, noting she'll also direct the handbell choir. Her outlook on music leadership? "If it's not fun, there's no point!" Mickey, 27, began her doctoral degree in contemporary music (emphasis on Western Art music) in August one year ago at Bowling Green State University. She's interested in vocal pedagogy, that is, the best ways to teach sung music. She figures her program will continue for about three more years. Born in Kansas City, Mo., to Barb and Chuck Miller, Mickey developed her nascent talent at a tender age when her mother enrolled her in Suzuki violin classes. When Mickey's younger brother wanted to play drums, Barb devised a Suzuki drum program for him. Barb had been a bluegrass musician playing banjo, guitar, violin, and dulcimer. In addition to violin, Mickey plays mandolin and basic piano. Her musical interests run from Mozart and chants to the contemporary gospel stylings of Hezekiah Walker. She's worked in church music since her undergrad years at the University of Missouri Columbia, serving as a section leader; heading committees, youth choir, and concerts; and helping with programming. She earned a master's degree in operatic music from Louisiana State University, where she attended the Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge and worked at a United Methodist church where she was responsible for two weekly rehearsals and three Sunday services. Other loves are pie baking, playing with puppies, "knitting badly," and arranging flowers -- she fills in at Klotz Floral Design & Garden in Bowling Green. You may have seen Derek Emch, Mickey's partner, in the choir. A clarinet player, Derek is also earning a doctoral degree at BGSU. Want to start a conversation with Mickey? Ask her about healthy screaming. Say hello to Mickey at musicdirector@uutoledo.org.

KNITWITS

As the temps cool down, the Knit Wits will again pick up needles/hooks to knit/crochet hats, scarves, mittens, gloves to help keep some of the children in Toledo warmer this winter. Please join us on the second Friday of the month (Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8 & Dec 13) from 9:30-11:30AM in our Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend--the more the merrier!

TRUNK OR TREAT

First Unitarian's 7th annual Trunk or Treat will take place on October 19th 530-730-rain or shine! Dress yourself and/or the trunk of your car and bring plenty of candy to hand out to the children. This is a safe way for kids to experience Trick or Treat. Donuts and cider will be provided and there will be awards for the best Trunk and best kid's costume. If you have questions, please contact Lauren Goetz at laurenmichelsen@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

Membership Moments resume September 8th. Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094daaa928a7f58-membership> to share your story.

LEADING FAMILIES HOME BLANKET MAKING

No sewing needed; just lots of fun. Bring sharp scissors. Enjoy your summer and see you September 25th. Questions? Contact Elly Gans. ganselly45@gmail.com

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE

Arlington Elementary School Volunteers are needed. Sign up as a volunteer at Arlington Elementary School for the coming school year. Informational meeting in the Alcott room at 12:30 pm on Sun. Sept. 8th. Contact Carol Keierleber to volunteer at 419-351-4084 or Keierleber@aol.com

MONEY!

First Unitarian Church has been issued a \$34.86 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2019. We have also received from 01-May-2019 to 31-Jul-2019, from 48 households, \$230.19 in total Community Reward donations from the Kroger Company. Are you signed up? Help your church receive free money. Contact the church office for more information or for help with signing up. There is no cost to you. Sign up at: krogercommunityrewards.com and smile.amazon.com.

SEPTEMBER 15TH COLLECTION

Lucas county Human Trafficking Coalition's service providers are critically short on hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, toilet paper, dish soap, paper towels, menstrual products, etc. - full or travel size). We are planning a collection Sunday, September 15. A collection bin will be near the Sanctuary. This will also be a Compassion Game, so your contributions will add to Greater Toledo's pulse-taking of our Compassionate Community.

UU WORLD MAGAZINE

Sunday September 15th is the deadline for congregations to edit member names and addresses for mailing the Winter 2019 issue of UU World magazine. Are you receiving the magazine? Do we have your correct name and address? Please contact the church office or email us at: admin@uutoledo.org if you need to make any changes or updates.



2019 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am One Room Schoolhouse 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	2 Labor Day	3 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:00 pm Weaver's Guild	4 10:00 am NOSS Needle Exchange 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	5 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	6 3:00 pm First Friday Book Club	7 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
8 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am One Room Schoolhouse 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 12:30 pm Arlington Volunteer Meeting 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	9 12:30 pm Spiritual Adventures 6:00 pm Voting Machine Set up	10 Election Day 5:30 am Voting precinct opens 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 12:30 pm Chalice Circle Training 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	11 10:00 am NOSS Needle Exchange 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	12 7:00 pm Board Meeting 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	13 9:30 am Knit Wits 6:00 pm Family Fun Night	14 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
15 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:00 pm Committee Fair 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	16 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd. Garden Café) 6:30 pm Leadership Dev Team Meeting	17 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	18 10:00 am NOSS Needle Exchange 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	19 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30 pm Dining for Women NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 9:30 am AAUW Program, Recovering Our Rights 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg
22 Styrofoam Collection 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am 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	23	24 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Silver Moon) 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	25 9:30 am Blanket Making 10:00 am NOSS Needle Exchange 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	26 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	27 7:00 pm World Dining	28 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
29 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	30	1 October 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room	2 10:00 am NOSS Needle Exchange 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	3 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	4	5 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group

MEDITATION
We invite you to join us for guided meditation, tea and conversation on Sunday, September 8 at 5:30 PM and Sunday September 22 at 5:30 PM at the MemoryLane Care Services Building at 2500 N. Reynolds Rd. Toledo. Please join our Multifaith meditation group on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM in the Carl Sagan room at First UU. Occasionally, other community leaders will share a meditation from their faith tradition. All are invited. Guidance will be offered for beginning meditators. Thich Nhat Hanh reminds us, "peace begins with each of us taking care of our bodies and minds every day." Contact Karen at kbchristie@bex.net with any questions.

WELCOME THE STRANGER
#WELCOMINGWEEK - WELCOME THE STRANGER VIGIL: First Unitarian Social Justice Committee will be holding a Welcome the Stranger Vigil to focus on humanitarian issues surrounding immigration, especially the separation of children from their parents, Tuesday, September 17, 7 - 8:30 PM, on the First Unitarian Church grounds. Featured will be speakers about UUA and UUJO actions on this issue, on what it means to be a Certified Welcoming Community, and about local organizations who are helping immigrants. Speakers have been confirmed from from our church's Social Justice Committee, MFC, Welcome TLC, US Together, ABEL, SSAFC. Melissa Jeter will read a poem before we conclude with a silent meditation by flashlight. All are welcome to attend. Bring signs and flashlights or battery candles to shine during the meditation. We will be in silent solidarity with flashlight vigils held at the border. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2314414948671082/>

YARD SALE
The 2019 yard sale was a success, raising almost \$700 for First Unitarian! This accomplishment would not have been possible without the hard work, advice and support of Tina Baker, Rev. Tim Barger, Melanie Christiansen, Patt Church, Julia Field McGhee, Cheryl Garrett, Sierra Webb, and everyone who generously donated items to the sale.

RECOVERING OUR RIGHTS
Join us Saturday, Sept. 21, at 9:30 A.M. at First Unitarian Church for our kick off the 2019-2020 year for the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Our program topic will be "Recovering Our Rights", a program featuring State Representative Lisa Sobocki on Educating Our Legislators about Women's Rights and the Harm in Abortion Restrictions. Also, AAUW President-Elect and UT Professor Erin Czerniak will discuss AAUW's public policy priorities, particularly protection of reproductive rights. And Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio's Kristen Robideaux will talk about why we must keep Roe v. Wade and restore Title X Funds. There is no charge. Light complimentary continental breakfast provided. Questions? Phone 419-824-0917 or e-mail jeannegailconrad@gmail.com

HOLIDAY BAZAAR
The 2019 Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 9th, 9am - 3pm, and Sunday, November 10th, noon - 3pm. Contact Carla LoganMercer at: logansgrove@gmail.com or Terry McCauley at: terrymcc1@yahoo.com with any questions. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Leitha Sackman at: leitha77@yahoo.com.

CANDY BARS AND COUPON BOOKS
The church is planning to do coupon book and candy bar fundraisers again as we did last year, just in time for Halloween and Christmas. Can you spare a few minutes after service on Sundays starting September 8th and running through December and help out by selling the 2020 Coupon books and World's Finest Chocolate candy bars? The candy bars are a perfect treat for yourself or trick or treaters and they make great stocking stuffers. The coupon books are a wonderful present for yourself or someone else with some great money saving offers. Both are great money makers for our church. Please sign up on the sign up genius below for a Sunday or two. Your help would be so much appreciated! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094da9ab2aa4f94-volunteers>

COOKIES!
Cookies! Cookies! Cookies! The Leadership Development Team presents the Taste of Service – Committee and Volunteer Fair with Cookies and Fun on Sunday September 15, after service until 2pm in Fellowship Hall. Come and learn about all the committees, activities and events of our church. Check out the many varied opportunities there are for you to serve our church and the community. Get a taste of service and a taste of delicious cookies. Vote for your favorite cookie. The baker of the favorite cookies will win a Wixey Bakery gift card. As you visit the committee tables fill out a brief interest card and you could win a prize too. This will be a fun, delicious and informative day. It maybe a prize winning day for you as well.

CHALICE CIRCLES
Chalice Circles are a small group ministry offered to deepen our connections to one another and to our faith. Groups meet once a month for 8 months from Oct-May. Involvement is recommended for everyone. Watch for forms to be distributed in order of service. You will list your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for a time and location that best fits your schedule. Availability follows: *2nd Monday each month 7pm - 8:30 pm, home setting old west end (dogs in home), *2nd Tuesday each month 1:30 - 3pm, home setting near Reynolds Corners (cats in home), *2nd Wednesday each month 1:30 - 3pm at church. Contact Leitha Sackmann at 419-349-6855 / leitha77@yahoo.com for more information.