



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR AUGUST 2020



TK continues his tradition of having August topics be a little bit out of the normal way by speaking all five Sundays on "Catching Up." The concept is that he has collected clippings, news items, and essays from respectable news outlets and from social media, and he'll be catching up on his reading by using those saved items for his sermons. This was inspired by learning about a predecessor minister who would preach from his file of clippings from time to time.

Sunday, August 2	<i>Catching Up, Part 1: Arts & Entertainment</i>	Rev. Dr. TK Barger
Sunday, August 9	<i>Catching Up, Part 2: Media & Politics</i>	Rev. Dr. TK Barger
Sunday, August 16	<i>Catching Up, Part 3: Pandemic & Progress</i>	Rev. Dr. TK Barger
Sunday, August 23	<i>Catching Up, Part 4: Religion & Humanism</i>	Rev. Dr. TK Barger
Sunday, August 30	<i>Catching Up, Part 5: Anti-Racism & Pro-Social Justice</i>	Rev. Dr. TK Barger



Reverend Tim Barger

I'm missing all of you in the congregation, so I'm looking for more ways to be in touch. I'll be making more telephone calls, but please don't wait for me to call you if you want to talk; you call me, and leave a message if I don't answer. I very much appreciate that the Caring Circle has been making ongoing phone calls, but I also know that sometimes that isn't the same as talking to the minister—so I'll be calling, and I welcome your calling me first. Don't stick just to the audio; if, like me, you're becoming more accustomed to seeing your conversation partner, for video calls I have Apple FaceTime (312-607-2605, which is also my cell number and the best phone number to reach me) and Skype (tkbarger). We could also use Zoom. I'm going to have some public "office hours" on Zoom, too, so you can tune in and share general conversation with me and whoever else is connected. That would also be a time for you to schedule private conversations. For August, those times are Tuesday the 4th from 10:30 to 11:30 am, Saturday the 15th from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, Wednesday the 19th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, and Monday the 24th from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. With the different days and different times, more people might find a convenient time to take part. The need for physical distancing continues during the coronavirus epidemic. It seems to be an extended amount of time, but in part we don't deal well with interrupted time because we've become accustomed to immediacy. The "well, we tried but now it's time to reopen" attitude that we've seen in state- and national-issued guidelines hasn't been effective; after a short dip, the cases, hospitalizations, and deaths from Covid-19 resumed their rise. I've been clear in recognizing that many in our congregation, myself included, are in the "high-risk" category of those more vulnerable to experiencing severe effects from Covid-19 if we get the infection. I also have said that I don't want anyone to trace their catching the disease to having attended something at our church. First Unitarian's board, ministers, and staff are continuing to be cautious. The board is deciding monthly, at its meetings, whether to reopen—and, when we do, how to do that safely. For the time being, we will be fully closed through at least August 13, the date of our next board meeting. Only then will we make a decision about Ingathering, which traditionally is the Sunday after Labor Day (Ingathering would be September 13 this year); options include meeting in person, having a one-time parking lot gathering, or making our YouTube service more special than on a regular Sunday. Please let me know your thoughts. It is possible that we could reach a point at which our financial stability is shakier because of the pandemic, so it truly helps if you can continue with your pledge. If your circumstances have changed, though, of course we understand and offer our support—and if a small amount from the Minister's Discretionary Fund is needed, please ask. Right now, Toledo and the entire state of Ohio are under a "must mask in public" requirement. Lucas County, which includes Toledo, is in category red, which includes the suggestion to "limit attending gatherings of any number." Eight people in our sanctuary on a Sunday to livestream the service tests even that provision, but we're determined to make church happen and give you a connection for your Toledo Unitarian self—whether it's more spiritual, congregational in a distant way, or connecting in another way to the greater awe that we recognize makes us liberal religious people. I noticed that religious leaders conducting services are exempt from the masking requirement, so I expect to continue in full face by livestream. As I stated at the top, I want us to have other ways of connecting, too. Look on our YouTube channel and social media (and, we hope, uutoledo.org) for short videos from me, coming soon. Whether you call it a podcast, a resurrection of the column writing I did before you called me to be the minister, or "what's he doing now," I'll be saying something on camera hoping to raise awareness, make connections, and better understand the universe and interconnected web that joins us all. Plus, I'll be continuing my brief tradition of bringing something a little bit different for August Sundays. This year the concept is "Catching Up," with five Sundays of my using saved clippings and posts to craft sermons. Please be well—and if you're not, reach out for whatever help we can give. Blessings. TK



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

I would like to report that I attended both General Assembly and CER Summer Institute in online formats. GA went smoothly since the UUA had already developed an online portal. I sincerely hope they consider having another online only GA, or doing it semi-regularly. For CERSI, we did small group discussions over Zoom once per day for the week with discussion questions and readings developed in advance. I hope you have been taking the opportunity to observe our online services, which are now going great due to our dedicated tech team of Tom Sheehan, Arun Nadarajah, and Eric Sills. I know we all want to be getting together in person, but let's continue to stay apart and stay connected until the case counts go down and stay low. The Board is continuing to watch this very closely. In the mean time, we are working on the final couple of maintenance items from the 2017 Capital Campaign including improved lights and sound, and resurfacing part of the parking lot. I had hoped to start thinking about the next campaign, but with the pandemic it will have to wait. I will recommend to the board that the amount remaining be used to kick start the next campaign, perhaps by creatively reimagining our sanctuary. As always, if you have concerns or questions about any of these items, you can reach out to me via my contact information in the directory. In Fellowship, Sandra



Kristin Olson, Acting Religious Educator

Thank you to those that have been continuing to watch our recorded RE lessons. I am open to topic suggestions so if you have any ideas please email me at: kolson@ymcatoledo.org. Enjoy the rest of your summer. In Fellowship, Kristin Olson



Mickey Miller, Director of Music

Congratulations to Mickey and Derek Emch on their recent marriage!
Coming Events: Thursday nights at 7:30 – Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom

SACRED GROUNDS BRINGING NATURE HOME WEBINAR

Tuesday, August 18, 2020, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm - Been thinking about adding a wildlife garden to your outdoor space? Join Sacred Grounds Toledo and the National Wildlife Federation for this webinar and Q & A session to learn how. Discover the benefits of gardening with native plants and the fundamentals of planning and preparing for a native plant garden using whatever space you have available. The first 40 participants who register for and attend the webinar will receive a plant voucher valued at \$50 to be used at Poppin Up Natives, a local native plant nursery. Questions? Contact Karen Porter at: kporter414@aol.com
Register for the webinar in advance at https://nwf-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_--aku4agSmuhzafCPgZASA.
We look forward to sharing an evening with you!

OTE FUNDRAISER

"It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can only do little. Do what you can!" It is a great mistake to contribute nothing because you can only contribute a little. Donate what you can to The Victory Center which provides free services to cancer victims and survivors as well as to caregivers. It all adds up. Please make a small contribution to help UU member John Pettigrew go Over the Edge - 16 stories up in downtown Toledo at The Plaza, 300 Madison Ave., on Friday August 28th. A person raising \$1,000 can go Over the Edge. You can read about it and donate with a credit or debit card at [HTTPS://ote4victory.org/index.cfm](https://ote4victory.org/index.cfm) Click on Donate for Rappeler. It all adds up, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$1. If a small amount embarrasses you, then make it anonymous. It takes very little time. Questions? Contact John Pettigrew. johpett@yahoo.com

CURRENT ZOOM/YOUTUBE SCHEDULE

You can watch all of our Sunday services and other streamed productions by going online and searching for YOUTUBE. From the YOUTUBE webpage you can search for Toledo Unitarians and either tune in live at the appropriate time or watch previous recorded versions of our services, spiritual adventures, meditation, etc. In addition, we are also holding live virtual meetings for Spiritual Adventures and Multifaith Meditation on ZOOM. For Zoom meetings you will need a link and meeting ID. You can participate online or call in by phone. Have questions? Please don't hesitate to email the church office at office@uutoledo.org

CARING COMMITTEE

If you or a member of our congregation is hospitalized, or need assistance, please let the Caring Committee know. Contact Marsha Gamble, Chair, at: marshagamble548@gmail.com

ZOOM

Reserve your meeting space by emailing our office at: office@uutoledo.org. The email, meeting ID, and passwords are like building codes and keys. As your meeting is scheduled, you'll receive Zoom's login info. There are several ways to connect to Zoom. You can go to <https://zoom.us> and sign up for free. Or you can access Zoom meetings from the links in the special FYI's that are emailed. Read the FYI and follow the directions clicking the links. You can also call in if you have the meeting ID and password. Nationwide phone numbers are: (253)-215-8782 or (301)-715-8592. We look forward to much congregational connection with Zoom. See you online!

COFFEE HOUR

For the next stage of our congregational electronic engagement, we're giving the Sunday Zoom numbers for coffee hour here so you can have them ready on Sunday. On Zoom.us or your Zoom app, "join meeting"/connect to the meeting ID 816 909 4223 and use the password 43614. We're attempting to use the same meeting ID and password every Sunday, so (though Rev. Tim would like you to attend the 11 AM service) you can tune in at coffee hour time without having to watch for the numbers that morning on our YouTube Toledo Unitarians channel. Our 11 am service will continue to be on Toledo Unitarians on YouTube. We use Zoom to livestream on YouTube. Thanks for being active in our telUUvangelism.

UPDATED WEBPAGE - PLEDGE ONLINE

Check out our new updated webpage: uutoledo.org and find the "donate/pledge" pull-down menu to get to online paying or contact Teresa at bookkeeper@uutoledo.org



2020 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 10:30 am Children's RE YouTube 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	3	4 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	5	6 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	7	8
9 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 10:30 am Children's RE YouTube 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	10	11 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	12	13 7:00 pm Board meeting via webex email Arun for link 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	14	15
16 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 10:30 am Children's RE YouTube 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	17	18 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	19	20 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22
23/30 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 10:30 am Children's RE YouTube 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	24	25 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	26	27 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	28	29

MEDITATION

We invite you to join us for our Tuesday MultiFaith Meditation group on ZOOM. Simply click on the invitation below to join us from 6:30-7:30PM:

Topic: Tuesday MultiFaith Meditation, Time: 6:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81464488349?pwd=MUKyUi9CNTQzT3AwWXZCSTUwZHY1QT09>

Meeting ID: 814 6448 8349, Password: 575494

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Below is the link for our every Sunday meditation from 5:30-7PM. I hope you will join us!

Topic: Sunday Meditation, Time: 5:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85722228065?pwd=WmlrMGZiN1c5VnI0aWFvc2RFUGc2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 857 2222 8065, Password: 309700

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Thich Nhat Hanh reminds us, "mindfulness is the kind of light that shows us the way. Mindfulness gives birth to to insight, awakening, compassion and love."

For questions, please contact Karen Christie at kbchristie@bex.net.



FREE MONEY

Are You Signed Up? Earn free money for your church! Sign up at krogercommunityrewards.com and smile.amazon.com. Email the church office with questions. office@uutoledo.org

MINI FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your continued support of our parking lot mini food pantry. Please remember to bring non-perishable food items and place in the Little Pantry in the parking lot. 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, hygiene products, etc. Note the expiration date on the items-**NO EXPIRED ITEMS MAY BE DONATED**. This is a Lucas County Health Department rule. When we find expired items in the pantry box, they are disposed of. We are not allowed to pass out expired items. Please do not put expired items in the pantry box. Thank you.

COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY

The Committee on Shared Ministry is available to handle your concerns/questions/comments on all aspects of church life. You may contact us by email at: cosm3205@gmail.com or speak directly to any of our members: Phil Teitlebaum, Bonnie Rowe, Rich Miller, Kathy Crowther, Rev. Tim Barger

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are temporarily suspended. Please reach us by phone or email at: office@uutoledo.org, bookkeeper@uutoledo.org, carols@uutoledo.org, or minister@uutoledo.org

ORDERS OF SERVICE

Orders of Service will be available electronically each week. Please look for the Saturday email with a link to the Order of Service, to read along, while watching our Sunday service on our YouTube Toledo Unitarians channel. Also links to our ZOOM interactive meetings can be found there.

STYROFOAM

The recycling station at Ann Arbor where we take our Styrofoam is currently closed due to the pandemic with no definite date to reopen. If you are able to store your accumulated Styrofoam at home, that would be great since the church garage is filling up, but if that isn't a possibility, you can still bring it to church rather than throwing it into the garbage. Check with Karen Porter for further instructions.

ZOOM UNIVERSAL WORSHIP FOR AUGUST

The MultiFaith Council of NW Ohio Zoom Universal Worship will be at 6 PM, August 3rd. Eight to nine diverse faiths, including Unitarian Universalists, will present readings, music or poetry on the theme of suffering. The service will be live streamed to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MFC.NWOH>. Those who would like to join on Zoom may contact Judy Lee Trautman for the Zoom link. The stream will be recorded for later viewing if you are busy at the time of the live stream.

TOLEDO ANN ARBOR ZOOM FIRST FRIDAY DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

The Dances will be Friday, August 7, from 7-8:15 pm. Judy Lee Trautman and co-leader Drake Meadow will present music for dances inspired by diverse faith traditions. Attendees can dance, walk, meditate along with the music in the safety of their homes. Contact Judy if you would like the Zoom link to attend. The Facebook event is: <https://www.facebook.com/events/887938651701997>.

DIRECTORY

A second printing of our Toledo Unitarians 2020 Directory is about to start so if you have any address, email address or phone number changes you would like included in the next printing, email them to Leitha Sackmann now. (leitha77@yahoo.com) Put "Directory" in the subject line of the email so they won't be missed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

On August 4th from 5-8:30 First Unitarian will take part in a Rain Garden/Sacred Grounds open house so that community members and other faith communities can learn ways to garden for water quality and to support pollinators. This will be an all-outside event, with social distancing and masks. As an open house, the attendees at any one time are expected to be light. We need a volunteer or two to take a 1-hour shift or two to just be present during the event. You will not be expected to answer any questions about our Sacred Grounds initiative. Contact Karen Porter for more information. Also on August 4th, from 3pm-5pm, join Tina Baker to prepare get-out-the-vote letters for the Vote Forward effort mailing. Snacks provided!