



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR OCTOBER 2020



Sunday, October 4

Forgotten, But Not Gone

David Strickler

The traditional stories surrounding Columbus Day and Thanksgiving have distorted the role of Indigenous peoples in our history and have contributed to erasing our knowledge of them. As we approach these holidays, I want to acknowledge Native American history as a step towards preserving the truth and as a way to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of Indigenous peoples.

Sunday, October 11

What Being Liberal Means

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion. Many of its members are liberal in politics, but there are also conservative UUs. The word "liberal" has been politicized, so in this election season, Rev. Tim will talk about what being liberal means.

Sunday, October 18

Healing Jesus

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Rev. Tim resumes his series on Jesus from a humanist's perspective that he began in January. This Sunday he'll look at stories of Jesus healing people.

Sunday, October 25

Bones

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

For a Halloween theme, we'll get skeletal in examining bones—perhaps that's both literal and metaphorical.



Reverend Tim Barger

After six months of the Covid-19 pandemic and our taking precautions to be more cautious, and with the current state of our nation, are we capable of being surprised? "October surprise" is an election-related term that indicates a last-minute action intended to help a candidate's election. What would surprise you this October? Not just in government and politics, but personally. In family situations, surprise is always a possibility but that's not limited to October or just before an event. For families, maybe it's how big of a surprise—that can range from better-than-expected grades for a young one to elopement and children and/or coming out in older kids (not necessarily in that order, of course, and possibly only rarely a surprise). In our own lives, the unwelcome and surprising disease is an anytime threat, while October might bring a surprise related to change of season (change of our own, of our house, in our circles, maybe). As minister, I really hope for no October surprises regarding church. They happen anyway, so let them be minor, okay? Blessings. TK



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

How well do you know the Seven Principles? Could you recite them by number? I have been maintaining the Toledo Unitarians Twitter feed (@FirstUUTOledo) for about a year now, and I try to call out each Principle when I see it demonstrated by example. So, I am almost at a point where I can do them all by number from memory. I hope to be able to use the fifth Principle – loosely speaking, democracy – in lots of twitter references this October as we move into the very critical last steps of the election season. We have had many members of the congregation writing letters, making phone calls, and providing funds or other support for #UUtheVote and other groups who are trying to increase participation in our country's democracy. Thank you everyone for all your efforts. I believe that it will make a difference. Vote absentee or early, or make a plan to vote in person (and if you do, be prepared for a longer than usual wait). Let's all celebrate our Fifth Principle this month. We also support democracy with our sacred space – we WILL allow the Board of Elections to use the church building on Election Day. With the weather turning cooler, we are also thinking about how to allow small groups to use the church building with appropriate physical distancing. Whenever we start, there will be a two-week window on either side of the election where the building will be off limits again to allow for pandemic safety. Stay well! In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Happy Fall from Music at UU! If you're looking for ways to be involved this season, please join us online or in-person. We're beginning our socially-distant bell choir this month for bi-weekly meetings. Membership is limited to ten, each person will remain ten feet apart, and previous bell-ringing experience isn't required. If you prefer to stay even more distant, there are options for virtual involvement with our Beloved Community Choir. Feel free to contact me with any questions or drop into our Thursday Fellowship Hour on Zoom! In fellowship, Mickey

Events: Weekly Zoom Fellowship : Thursday 7:30, Meeting ID: 860 7671 0839, Passcode: 337073
Bell Choir : 12:30 - 1pm Oct. 11th and Oct. 25th



THANKS

The Toledo Unitarian crew has been working on the VoteForward initiative to get out the vote by writing personal messages to voters. We WILL REACH 500 letters, and have all the stamps we need to mail to voters in swing districts. Thanks to all who have helped with the stamps and supplies! If you want to join our LAST prep meeting, to finish writing the letters and to stamp the envelopes, join us on our get-together: Tuesday, October 6, from 3pm-5pm in the church yard. PLEASE BRING a folding chair (with arms if possible), and a lap desk, tray, clipboard or other flat writing surface. Come anyway if these are not available...we can set you up.

TERRACYCLE RECYCLING

In response to several questions from our members, the Zoo is still collecting Terracycle items for recycling, but only in the container at the Anthony Wayne Trail gate. The ZOOTEENS still meet in small groups to sort the items. They have lost a few sponsorships so the list of items is shorter. Still collecting #6 cups, juice drink pouches, oral care items, food pouches, a few very specific pet food packaging, Brita products, inkjet laser printer cartridges, and other items. For a copy of the flyer that lists everything, contact Karen Porter, or check the collection container at the Zoo.

BIPOC VIRTUAL GATHERING

If you identify as Black, Indigenous or a person of color (BIPOC), you're invited to join us for the Central East Region's BIPOC gathering happening two Mondays of the month at 6:30pm ET. Our conversations focus on topics like wellness and resilience and our goal is to center BIPOC experiences and create space to explore our UU experiences. Please email Sana Saeed, ssaeed@uua.org or Hope Johnson at hjohnson@uua.org for zoom information. Dates for Fall Gatherings: Oct. 12th & 26th, Nov. 9th & 23rd, and Dec. 7th & 21st.

FUNDRAISERS

In previous years, we have sold both World's Finest Chocolate bars and SaveAround Toledo coupon books during the holidays. Since we are not meeting in person, we could still put together an order for either item and mail them to you or arrange a pick up day, perhaps the same day that we have our poinsettia pick up day, if there is any interest in these items. Please email Carol in the church office (office@uutoledo.org) to let her know if you might be interested in supporting these church fundraising sales.

WEBSITE UPDATED

Have you checked out our recent website upgrade? It looks great! We would like to make sure it has great content, especially to start off the church year. If you are on a committee, or if you have a photo to share, we are interested in your ideas for content. If you have a specific piece of content you want included, and it is written out or a photo, please send to Dominic Wilson to have it added. The following link can help in making sure our writing is effective for meeting our communication goals on the web: <https://www.uua.org/communications/websites/content/writing>. If you see a piece missing but you do not have specific content, please contact Sandra Kosek-Sills with your suggestion. Thanks!

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.

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 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	2	3
4 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	5	6 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	7	8 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom 7:00 pm Board meeting via webex email Arun for link	9	10
11 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	12	13 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	14	15 7:00 pm RE Council via webex email Arun for link 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	16	17
18 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	21	22 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	23	24
25 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	26	27 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	28	29 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	30	31 HALLOWEEN

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 insight, awakening, compassion and love."

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



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

Good news! Styrofoam is again being accepted at the Ann Arbor drop-off station, Mondays only from 9-6. One large load went up on the 14th, but there is more if others want to help.

Also if you have been holding your Styrofoam at home, you can now bring it to the church to be transported to Ann Arbor. Check out this link for more information:

<https://www.recycleannarbor.org/divisions/drop-off-station/recycle-ann-arbor-drop-off-station-now-accepts-specialty-items-mondays>

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](mailto:leitha77@yahoo.com) now. (leitha77@yahoo.com) Put "Directory" in the subject line of the email so they won't be missed.

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.

IMAGING NEW POSSIBILITIES PLEDGE DRIVE

Thank you all for being in conversation with our Stewardship Team! With everyone's help, our beloved community can imagine new possibilities and transform those possibilities into reality, lifting our beloved community to new heights and creating a better world for all! If you have not yet mailed your pledge form, please try to do so by October 10th, or asap. This will help us wrap up the 2021-22 pledge drive in a timely manner and will assist the board with budget planning for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2021. What are the UUA/CER Membership Dues and how are they used? All Unitarian churches contribute to the UUA/CER(Central East Region) via membership dues. With this money, the CER and UUA can help with many issues. For us, this has included: the move from Collingwood, search for ministers, resources for our 'lay-led' year, template for our new website, guidance of our efforts to realize antiracism, and, assistance with weekly calls and services through the pandemic. In addition to your pledge, your contribution of any amount toward the approximately \$100/ person membership fee, will be greatly appreciated! Mike Davisson and Chris Stockwell, Stewardship Campaign Co-Chairs

HOW TO BUILD COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY DURING A PANDEMIC

Sunday, October 18, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, the MultiFaith Council will hold a virtual banquet discussion about "How to Build Compassionate Community During a Pandemic", via Zoom and Facebook Live. Free Registration is Required at bit.ly/35B24I5. The program includes Presentation of the 2020 Heroes of Compassion; a Panel "Removing Stigma to Alleviate Loneliness" with representatives from the Ability Center, the Area Office on Aging, NAMI Greater Toledo mental health, NOSS addiction harm reduction, Toledoans for Prison Awareness [Joe Moran], and Lucas County Suicide Prevention; Breakout Room Brainstorming about "How the Faith Communities Can Keep Us Safe, Yet Connected"; and optional take-out meal packages for your private dining. This free and important program encourages your membership renewal and/or sponsorship to sustain our important community work. First Unitarian Church is a major sponsor. Contact Judy Trautman for more information. jltrautman@sbcglobal.net

MEN'S MEETING

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be held Sunday, October 11, 8:00 - 9:15 p.m. via conference call (details to be sent later). This meeting is open to members and friends of First Unitarian who identify as male. We will be discussing ideas from the book "Five Things We Cannot Change" by David Richo. You do not have to read the book to participate. Please contact David Strickler (david.pickstrume@gmail.com) if you want to receive the connection details.