



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR FEBRUARY 2021



Sunday February 7

Gateways to Joy

Judy Trautman

The MultiFaith Council of NW Ohio will conclude its observances of World Interfaith Harmony Week with the Sunday Service at First Unitarian Church of Toledo, conducted by guest minister Judy Lee Trautman, Chair of the MultiFaith Council. The sermon "Gateways to Joy" will explore how Joy can find us, even in difficult times of pandemic, personal tragedy, and political unrest. Service pieces and music will reflect diverse faiths. Minister, the Rev. Dr. TK Barger, and the congregation of First Unitarian Church of Toledo are strong supporters of the MultiFaith Council's mission to draw together the diverse faith traditions of Greater Toledo in fellowship, education for increased understanding and respect, and shared community service. of First Unitarian Church. During the pandemic, the services at First Unitarian are streamed live to YouTube on the Toledo Unitarians Channel in order to keep every safe, yet connected.

Sunday, February 14

Words of Love

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Valentine's Day is on Sunday! Unitarian Universalism is the "Side with Love" denomination, and the Toledo Unitarians Sunday service will have several levels of love.

Sunday, February 21

Spiel

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

In today's service, you'll hear about Esther, Mordecai, and Haman, with a little on how the Jewish holiday of Purim is celebrated with playful storytelling.

Thursday, February 28

Jesus Goes Wild

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Just before the senior minister takes a sabbatical for the entire month of March, he will continue his series of Jesus sermons from a humanist perspective, looking at Jesus' wilderness solitude.



Reverend Tim Barger

Vaccinations will let us start to be more public while the coronavirus pandemic comes under better human control. What are you thinking about how we come back together after vaccinations are available for most people? We can't just pick up from where we were in March 2020 and move on as if we only paused. We will have to dedicate ourselves to making our congregation present as a provider of liberal religion in northwest Ohio. It means, in part, that we continue with the online presence we began when we suspended our in-person activities—keeping our livestream of Sunday services and still holding a few meetings by Zoom. It also means that we need you—the members of the congregation—to be present and active, reorganizing committees that are in need of revitalization, reactivating our mission and vision, reclaiming the Toledo Unitarians movement. I'm going to write down some thoughts and hopes about First Unitarian post-Covid. I hope you'll also be considering how to make this place yours, again. In Fellowship, TK



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

At the Board meeting 1/21/21, we took a deep dive into the first half of the year actual revenue and expenditures. I am pleased to report that the budget remains largely on track at this time. Expenses are lower than anticipated. For example, additional expenses for mailings are balanced by savings from not printing the Order of Service, and building expenses are down because of less electricity use. Note to committees: please feel free to spend your allocations if you have them; you can check with me or with the bookkeeper or treasurer about the amount you have remaining. Some revenue is down, for example because we have not been able to hold the Christmas Bazaar, although we did have the mini auction. Pledge revenue is keeping pace, and we have seen additional non-pledge donations. Loss of rental income is balanced by a bonus paid for being a polling location. We have an approximately 1% surplus from RE that may be transferred for other use and an additional 1% from the building savings that may also be repurposed. We have not as yet made those changes. While 2020 was certainly a challenging year, we remain in strong financial condition overall with \$1.4M in total equity on the balance sheet (including the building value). If anyone has questions or wants a copy of the Income Statement or Balance Sheet, get in touch with me or with Treasurer Hydie Ralston. Winter is cold, but spring is coming. Stay safe and well. In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Voices needed! Have you been curious about singing in a virtual performance? Not sure how to get involved? This spring, we want you to lift your voice with us. All you'll need is a recording device (smartphones work perfectly!) and a pair of reliable headphones. You can "drop in" for the anthems that fit your busy schedule without a full year's commitment or reach out if you have a solo idea in mind. Reading sheet music is a plus, but not necessary. Contact Mickey for our beloved music community's resource packet today!

Upcoming Submissions: *There is a Love* - submit by February 7th, *As You Go* - submit by Feb 21

I also encourage anyone interested in saying "hello!" to join our Thursday evening meetings on Zoom. There, folks can share how their winter is going, find opportunities for virtual music, and have an hour of fellowship. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved in our virtual performances, email Mickey at musicdirector@uutoledo.org. In fellowship, Mickey Emch



Saroya King, Interim Religious Educator

Three packets for religious education "home schooling" have been sent to families who recently were active in RE. If you'd like a copy, contact me at: saroyaking@yahoo.com or call or email the church office. Thank you. RE Roy

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.

MULTIFAITH INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK SERVICE

The MultiFaith Council of NW Ohio will conclude its observances of World Interfaith Harmony Week with the Sunday Service February 7th at First Unitarian Church of Toledo, conducted by guest minister Judy Lee Trautman, Chair of the MultiFaith Council. The sermon "Gateways to Joy" will explore how Joy can find us, even in difficult times of pandemic, personal tragedy, and political unrest. Service pieces and music will reflect diverse faiths. Minister, the Rev. Dr. TK Barger, and the congregation of First Unitarian Church of Toledo are strong supporters of the MultiFaith Council's mission to draw together the diverse faith traditions of Greater Toledo in fellowship, education for increased understanding and respect, and shared community service. of First Unitarian Church. During the pandemic, the services at First Unitarian are streamed live to YouTube on the Toledo Unitarians Channel in order to keep every safe, yet connected. Watch all of our First Unitarian's 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, meditation, etc. Questions? Call or email the church office at: office@uutoledo.org Be sure to tune in Sunday February 7th at 11 AM for the livestream or watch later on YouTube at your convenience.

USE THE CHURCH ZOOM ACCOUNT FOR MEETINGS

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! For now, all in person meetings are postponed at church.

COFFEE HOUR

Join us for coffee hour Sundays on Zoom.us or your Zoom app, "join meeting"/connect to the meeting ID 816 909 4223 and use the password 43614. We're using 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. Thanks for being active in our telUUvangelism.

CARING COMMITTEE

If you or a member of our congregation is hospitalized, or need assistance, please let the Caring Committee know. Contact any member or the church office.

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

CHOCOLATE BARS STILL AVAILABLE


Email the church office to make an appointment to purchase World's Finest Chocolate bars for \$1 a piece. We still have a limited quantity and they can be frozen for a sweet treat this winter or given to your Valentine for a wonderful surprise.

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 recoded 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 Don't forget to look for your Sunday's Order of Service in Saturday's special FYI email.



2021 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

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

MEDITATION

We invite you to join us for our Tuesday MultiFaith Meditation group on ZOOM. Simply type the link 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: 844 9427 4033, Password: 143811

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 FYI 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

Styrofoam is again being accepted at the Ann Arbor drop-off station, (2950 E Ellsworth Rd.) You are able to drop off your items Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. In addition, Jarvis Gamble is filling in for Karen Porter while she is recovering from knee surgery and is making runs there with deliveries from church. Contact him (jarvisgamble@gmail.com) or Check out this link for more information: www.recycleannarbor.org for information.

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 OPENED OR 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.

HELP WANTED

Have you missed the Caring Circle column in the weekly FYI? Marsha Gamble has stepped down after many years of dedicated volunteer service writing the weekly column. A leader is needed, with one of the responsibilities being writing the weekly updates about who has health challenges or other needs that we as a congregation might direct our attention to. If you have any joys, cares, concerns or hospitalizations that you would like Rev. Tim to know about or that you would like to share with your church family, please call or email the church office (419-381-6999, office@uutoledo.org). Caring Circle members include: Terry Acocks Karen Christie, Kathy Deanda, Kathy Crowther, Marsha Gamble, Joanne Hartough, Sue Hoffman, Carla LoganMercer, Karen Porter, Susan Smith, Phil Zepp and Rev. Tim. We are looking for someone interested in helping your church by becoming the new Caring Circle Chair. Some of the duties include: -Receive the nature of needs within the congregation. May be notified by minister, a Caring Circle member, congregant or Facebook, -Contact the person (if not contacted by another Caring Circle member) with the need and, with their consent, share with the Caring Circle and the congregation, the nature of the need & organize response: greeting cards, social media contact, meals, rides to doctor's visits, etc. Continue to follow up as needed. -Work in co-ordination with the minister, especially if there is a serious situation so he can offer pastoral support with a phone call or a visit. -Encourage each Caring Circle member to determine where and how they can contribute. Some members abilities may be to make phone calls, send texts or emails to congregants to offer support. Others may be able to make visits. Anyone can make contact with a member of the church family for whom they have concerns. -Encourage Caring Circle members to provide feedback to the Chair and the Circle overall re: outcomes of outreach. -Write a Caring Circle weekly column for the FYI, updating the church family regarding concerns and positive events. Also forward a copy of this each week to the members of the Caring Circle so they don't miss it. -Conduct bi-monthly meetings on Zoom or in a face to face Circle meeting to regroup, establish goals and projects and update concerns. Helpful qualities for the Caring Circle Chair: good organizational, communication & writing skills, sincere concern for the well-being of the members of our church family. If you are interested in this position, all of which can be done from the comfort of your couch at home, and want to help your church family, please contact Rev. Tim or the church office. Thank you

ST. PAUL'S COMMUNITY CENTER

We have been asked to help prepare and serve meals for Toledo's people of need at St Paul's Community Center. This can be a few hours one or two days each month or more often if you can. Contact Phil Zepp (philz@bex.net) if you could help. (See Rev. Mary Sullivan's letter at the Facebook page "Unitarian Universalists of NW Ohio" for more details).

MEN'S GROUP MEETING

Join David Strickler for the Men's group meeting, Sunday, February 7 at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. Contact David for all of the details at: david.pickstrum@gmail.com
All are welcome.