



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR APRIL 2021



Sunday April 4

Returns

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

It's Easter, with the story of Jesus' return from death. It's tax time, with another concept of returns. And Rev. Tim returns from a one-month sabbatical. Let's examine returns in life and religion.

Sunday, April 11

Scorching Heat

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

The Muslim month of Ramadan is beginning. Ramadan translates to English as "scorching heat." How do we approach the scorching heat of our worlds and ways?

Sunday, April 18

What a Wonderful World

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Lyrics of the song Louis Armstrong popularized, "What a Wonderful World," frame our appreciation of Earth Day.

Sunday, April 25

Creation, a Sequel - Green Sanctuary Service

Judy Trautman

The service will consider our responsibility for Creation. The sermon will be a reprise of a Musical, written by Judy Lee Trautman and performed by members of First Unitarian Church. Imagine the City of Eden in the near future. The sky is yellow. Litter is knee-deep. The brook doesn't babble anymore. It just lies there, green, with a thick, dull, glassy coating. If there are any birds left, they don't sing. There is only one tree left, a thin scrawny little thing next to the chapel, Adam's [Very] First Unitarian Universalist Chapel.



Reverend Tim Barger

For the entire month of March, I'll be away from the church. Before the pandemic conditions hit our area last March, the board had approved my request for a "mini-sabbatical" for March 2021. The original intention was for me to have a month to concentrate on writing, but doing ministry in Covid time has meant that I couldn't develop the project to the extent I was planning to be able to write. So I'll do some other writing, and reading, and giving a little bit of time just to relaxation. I will see you back in April. In Fellowship, TK



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

March is the end of our third quarter in the current church year. We remain in good shape financially, with pledge and other income able to cover our expenses in this very strange year of staying apart while staying together. Thanks again and always for those of you who are keeping up with your pledge payments. We are beginning to develop the budget for next year. Usually we use the actual expenses for the year ending, but that is a special challenge this year as those expenses are not typical. Also we should be back in person sometime over the coming church year, so that will cause our fiscal picture to change again. We will do our best to set things up, but it may happen that adjustments will be needed as they were this past year. We will again hold advance meetings to go over the budget sometime in May before the Annual Meeting, so watch for those to be announced in the UUFYI. In the mean time, enjoy some nice spring weather and the spiritual renewal of Easter. In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Happy Spring from the First Unitarian music ministry! If you haven't had the opportunity to drop in yet, we are still holding our Zoom fellowship hours on Thursday nights at 7:30pm. All are welcome, nothing is required. If you'd like to learn more about performing service music, either as a part of a group or with your own selections, please reach out to me at musicdirector@uutoledo.org. Be well! Thursday Zoom Fellowship Info: Meeting ID: 860 7671 0839, Passcode: 337073. In fellowship, Mickey



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. In Fellowship, RE Roya

ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 16TH, 1PM

On Sunday, May 16, at 1 pm, we will have our Annual Meeting via Zoom. In addition to the election of board members, church officers, nominating committee members, and the budget for the next fiscal year, there will be three issues (see below) that require a congregational vote. We will provide the list of eligible voters in the UU-FYI in the coming weeks, so keep an eye out for that to check your status. Our bylaws state that to be eligible to vote, a person must have 1) signed the membership book and 2) made a pledge. Feel free to email Tom Sheehan, our church secretary tom43623@gmail.com, if you are unsure whether or not you've pledged. If you have not pledged and would like to, Tom can also send you a pledge form. Just fill it out and snail mail it to the church, or scan and send to the bookkeeper, bookkeeper@uutoledo.org. In the coming weeks, members will receive our annual report by snail mail. Voting will also be done by snail mail as it was last year. Members will receive the ballots by snail mail. Below, you will see the three issues that members will vote on. Detailed language will be sent with the annual report. The issues are: A change to our bylaws establishing two new membership categories: "honorary member" (nonvoting) and "legacy member". The addition of the word "inclusive" to our vision statement. If this addition is approved, our church's vision is that we will become "An inclusive, vibrant spiritual community that achieves growth, visibility, and relevance." The endorsement of a "land acknowledgement". This statement acknowledges the indigenous history of the land that our church currently occupies.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

In Our annual fundraiser supporting the work of the UUSC will be virtual this year. If you have internet capability go to: UUSC.ORG/resources. From there you can read the Stories of Hope, watch interviews with the four guests, print a template for your own collection box and donate online through PayPal or a credit card. Donations by mail should be made out to UUSC with "GUEST" or "GAYT" in the memo field. Send to: UUSC, PO Box 808, Newark, NJ 07101-0808. Contact Carrie Baum at 419-537-9325 with any questions.

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 Joann Hartough or any member.

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

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

CHOCOLATE BARS STILL AVAILABLE

Do you have a \$1 that just wants to be spent? Do you love chocolate? Get your candy bars now from the church for our World's Finest Chocolate candy bar fundraiser sale. Email (or call) the church office to make arrangements to purchase yours now. (office@uutoledo.org) We have a limited number of each flavor. Treat yourself or your favorite person with some scrumptious chocolate.

VOICEMAIL

The church currently has a new voicemail box set up on our current phone system. You may leave messages at the main church number: 419-381-6999. Or for faster service, please continue to reach us by email at: office@uutoledo.org or carols@uutoledo.org or you may reach Teresa, our bookkeeper, at bookkeeper@uutoledo.org. Thank you.

PLEASE LET US KNOW

Please let Reverend Tim or the church office (office@uutoledo.org) know after you have received your second dose of the Covid vaccine. We would like to keep track so we know when we can all safely get back together in person with our church family. Thank you

MOTHER'S DAY HANGING BASKET FUNDRAISER

Purchase your EXTRA LARGE, beautiful Mother's Day hanging baskets thru Sunday April 18th. Proceeds benefiting our church. Pick up at church Tuesday May 4th between 12:00 and 2:00 PM or delivered to your home locally for an additional \$10 delivery charge. Mail the order form and your payment to church or drop it off in our mailbox.



2021 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	2 GOOD FRIDAY	3
4 EASTER SUNDAY 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	5	6 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	7	8 7:00 pm Board meeting via webex email Arun for link 7:30 pm Music Ministry Fellowship Hour via Zoom	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 8:00 pm Men's Group Zoom Call	12	13 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	14	15 7:00 pm RE Board meeting 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 LAST DAY TO ORDER FLOWERS	19	20 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22 EARTH DAY 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	1 MAY

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, You are able to drop off your items Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. In addition, Karen Porter is items there from the church. Contact Karen at kjport@sbcglobal.net or 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.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TEAL SPONSORSHIP

Virtual General Assembly Registration- for those of you who would like to register for the virtual GA which will be June 23-27, 2021 the TEALL group will cover the \$200 registration fee. The procedure is to register on your own (www.uua.org/ga/registration) & submit the order without payment by selecting the "pay by check" option. Then forward your registration confirmation to me. If you have any questions, please send me an email. Thanks! (jarvisgamble@gmail.com)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Registration for General Assembly (GA) is now open. GA is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to have voting delegates. The UUA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution making the 2021 UUA General Assembly a 100% virtual event. Let's reach record-breaking attendance June 23-27, 2021! If you would like to be a delegate for Toledo Unitarians for this year's event, please let Rev. Tim or Sandra Kosek-Sills know.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Ministry is held Thursdays at 7:30 pm on Zoom. This group is open to anyone interested in music at our church. Email Mickey for more info at: musicdirector@uutoledo.org.

GARDENING

Are you looking for an activity that provides safe, outdoor exercise plus fresh organic produce? Our church garden has room for more gardeners for this coming season. You can plant what you like to eat, with many plants and seeds free from Toledo Grows, with the understanding that some of your excess will be shared with Toledo Seagate Food Bank. It does involve a commitment to take care of your plot - planting, weeding, watering and harvesting, plus prep for overwintering, but many of the plots already have leaf mulch which helps enrich the soil and keep the weeds down. It's great exercise and a good excuse to be outside on a nice day. Take a break on the bench in the Memorial Garden when needed. We are part of Green America's Climate Victory Garden project, with over 8,670 gardens around the world, drawing down 4,469 tons of carbon each year. Be part of this movement. (You can register your home garden as a Climate Victory Garden as well). Contact Karen Porter for more information. kjport@sbcglobal.net

VOTE FOR YOUR CHURCH!

The Toledo Blade is beginning readers choice award voting. We're nominated for "Places of Worship". Type this link in your browser, which will redirect you to the Blade. Click on "Your other interests," click or scroll down to "Places of worship," and vote for First Unitarian Church of Toledo. <https://toledoblade.secondstreetapp.com/Blade-Readers-Choice-2021/gallery?group=375307>. Vote often! Toledo Unitarians appreciate your votes. Vote until 4/11 @ 11:59pm Eastern time and let's make First Unitarian Church, our area's favorite place to worship.

MEN'S GROUP ZOOM CALL

Join us Sunday, Apr 18, 8:00-9:30 pm on our Zoom call. Contact David Strickler for more information. Email him at: david.pickstrum@gmail.com