



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR JULY 2021



Sunday July 4

Independence

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

At our outdoor, backyard, in-person service on Independence Day, we'll have a reading of the 1776 declaration and will hear a few aspects of independence—including in politics and government, in religion, and for ourselves.

Sunday, July 11

The Gift Culture

Judy Lee Trautman

Poet and scientist Robin Wall Kimmerer braids her western knowledge and the ancient wisdom of her birth culture into a sweetgrass that poetically offers ways that we might heal the earth. She compares indigenous gift culture to our western commodity culture. A gift of hand-picked strawberries establishes a relationship between giver and recipient that includes reciprocity, responsibility, and gratitude. Buying strawberries at the store involves no relationship and little reciprocity, responsibility, and gratitude. It is in rebuilding relationships with the earth and each other that we will heal the world.

Sunday, July 18

Effervescent Chemistry and Fiery Theology

Commissioned Lay Minister David Strickler

Joseph Priestley was the first person to isolate oxygen, carbon dioxide, and several other "airs." His discoveries were critical to understanding the vital role of these gases for animal and plant life, for fire, and for bubbly beverages. Priestley also made important contributions to the development of Unitarianism and religious liberty in both Britain and the newly formed United States. In particular, he wrote controversial books criticizing the concept of the Trinity, advocating for freedom of conscience, and denouncing the excessive power of the King and the established Church.

Sunday, July 25

Widening the Circle of Concern: Belonging

Colette Córdova

What is it that make us feel that we belong? What makes us feel at home? What is "normal"? Our challenge, as a society, is to remove the white dominant culture as the yardstick equated to normal; it is just one way of being. By widening our circle, we can begin to move beyond diversity to inclusion and equity, to making others feel at home, not marginalized.



Reverend Tim Barger

For June, July, and August, I'm going to be using study leave and vacation, as I normally have in summertime, but I'll also be leading the service most Sundays. That means I'll be working weekends, sneaking into my office at church during the week sometimes, but basically "on call" until September. I hope to stumble upon the right combination of personal time and public ministry. We try to give people in the congregation the opportunity to plan a service and write and deliver their own sermons during the summer, but the continuing coronavirus pandemic isn't the ideal time to recruit speakers and, in addition to the "normal" service, lead the livestream. So you have to endure more of my preaching. I'm grateful that the Toledo Unitarians have let me try some unusual working arrangements as minister—not that there's been much choice because of the needed precautions against Covid-19. Ministry certainly isn't 9 to 5 Monday through Friday, and you've understood the need for family time, personal recharging, and attention to health—along with many needed hours to plan for "what's next" at church and to develop new ways, such as through our video blog The Index, to get our liberal religion into the community. There's so much to juggle. All the things in the air need times to land safely, too, and then relaunch. With vaccinations giving us hope for normality once again, though it will be a new normal and not a return to the way things were in 2019—and even the air can't be trusted as it was—we'll move through new ways, sometimes with a smooth road, other times uneven traveling with wrong turns and careful navigation to reach a destination. We're all moving, even in times of rest. This unusual summer, with a reunion as the destination, travel safe when working and when on vacation. In Fellowship, TK



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

This July starts the new church year. What are you looking forward to sharing with the congregation this year? Will you continue to tune in to Toledo Unitarians on YouTube? Are you looking forward to our in-person, outdoor services? How about helping us care for our nursery kids and youth before or during the services? Will you continue with us on Spiritual Adventures? Participating in continued compassionate action? You could join a committee, or participate in Stewardship calls, or help us care for the grounds and garden. There will be opportunities for ushers and greeters, kitchen helpers, and so much more. I hope to see you come on out and share in our mission and vision in this upcoming church year. In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Happy Summer from the First Unitarian music ministry! If you'd like to learn more about getting involved in our music ministry, feel free to email musicdirector@uutoledo.org. In fellowship, Mickey

THANK YOU AMAZON SHOPPERS

Thank you all who shop Amazon and designate our church as your charity of choice. We have been issued a \$62.15 donation check from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between January 1 and March 31, 2021. Are you signed up? Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile) to sign up or contact the church office for more information.

THANK YOU KROGER SHOPPERS

The Kroger Company Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. During the time period 01-Feb-2021 to 30-Apr-2021, 50 First Unitarian Households signed up their Kroger cards, earning our church \$171.52 in total donations to the church. Have you registered your card yet? Go to [Kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com) and click on community rewards and earn free money for your church.

PLEDGE ONLINE

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

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.

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 and help empty our last box! 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

TOGETHER WOMEN RISE, FORMERLY DINING FOR WOMEN

Together Women Rise (Formerly DINING FOR WOMEN) is about women and allies coming together all over the world, from all backgrounds and communities, to achieve global gender equality. Contact Susan Spiegel (saspiegel@yahoo.com) or Marcia Klunk (mgklunk@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions regarding Together Women Rise or this month's program. Our new name, logo, and tagline are aligned to create a fresh, modern look for our organization — one that is inviting and inclusive to all and tells the world exactly why we exist and what we aim to accomplish. **Together is front and center because our community is strong: gathering together in our chapters and working together with you, our grantees, lies at the root of our impact. **Women, because global gender equality is our guiding star. **Rise, because we envision a world where all women and girls around the world can reach their full potential and become powerful agents of change to build a stronger, more sustainable, and peaceful world. To view the introduction of the new name and mission on YouTube, click <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjmhJ4QUjBk>

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. For a copy of the flyer that lists things they accept, contact Karen Porter, or check the collection container at the Zoo.

HELP WANTED

An elderly widow is looking for someone to do light housework a few days every week, near The Fairways in Sylvania (all one level). If interested please call Teresa Betts-Cobau (member of First UU congregation) at 419-490-6026 or email me at tbcobau@gmail.com. Thanks. Teresa

SPIRITUAL ADVENTURES

Spiritual Adventures will be taking a summer hiatus for the month of July.

BIPOC GATHERINGS

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. Upcoming dates are July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23. Contact Sana Saeed at ssaeed@uua.org for connection information.



2021 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|--|-----------|---|--------|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 11:00 am Knitting group |
| 4 Happy 4th of July! 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube OUTDOOR, IN-PERSON service 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom | 5 | 6 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom | 7 | 8 7:00 pm Board meeting | 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 Board meeting via webex email Arun for link | 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 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom | 21 | 22 | 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 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 9:30 am Women's Slice of Serenity meeting and picnic |

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=WmlrMGZiN1c5VnlOaWFvc2RFUGc2Zz09>
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.



MEDITATION
Due to the 4th of July holiday falling on a Sunday, there will be no Sunday meditation. Please join us Tuesday July 6th, or Sunday July 11th. Thank you

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
The next in-person church service is July 4th, out back under our big tree. This would be a great chance to see some friends in person and bring your accumulation of Styrofoam to the church garage. We'll have it open and ready. Another trip to Ann Arbor will be happening soon. 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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
The Church office is once again open. Hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:30 am until 2:30 pm. Or please reach us by phone or email at: office@uutoledo.org, bookkeeper@uutoledo.org, carols@uutoledo.org, or minister@uutoledo.org

MUSIC MINISTRY
Music Ministry will not be held in July. This group is open to anyone interested in music at our church. Email Mickey for more info at: musicdirector@uutoledo.org.

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.

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.

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.

CHURCH MEETINGS
First Unitarian's board, ministers, and staff are continuing to be cautious. The board has decided on a slow, safe reopening. Use of the grounds and our indoor rooms, including Fellowship Hall, by congregation members and other groups that use our building is acceptable as long as folks are aware that the bathroom should only be used one person at a time, and tables, chairs, and kitchen items used should be cleaned and sanitized. We do intend to try to keep doing services online even after we reopen fully, to maintain the option for people to stay apart but stay connected. Thank you for your patience as we continue to work through these issues. You may still reserve your ZOOM meeting space if you prefer, by emailing our office at: office@uutoledo.org. As your meeting is scheduled, you'll receive an email with Zoom's login info, meeting ID, and passwords.