



# SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021



## Sunday September 5

### Labor

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

It's another holiday weekend outdoor service. As you celebrate Labor Day, come to a Sunday service in which we talk about work—and the labor movement (your senior minister, as well as some of your fellow congregants during at least part of their time at the Blade, were in the Toledo Newspaper Guild of the CWA)—with some spiritual perspective.

## Sunday, September 12

### Quintessence (Ingathering)

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

It's ingathering time, the traditional beginning of our "church year." At ingathering for the past several years we've been celebrating the elements—fire (2017), air (2018), water (2019), and earth (2020). This year, learn about the mystical fifth element, quintessence. Ingathering has been on our schedule as the Sunday to resume indoor, in-person services. The pandemic, and the percentage of vaccinations in the area, have not progressed as we had hoped, so this will be an outdoor service instead—in-person, but not our return to the sanctuary. Look for more information on what else we'll do on the 12th as the date nears.

## Sunday, September 19

### Building & Grounds: A Virtual Tour (International Day of Peace)

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

While our church has been largely "shut down" during the pandemic, it hasn't sat idle. We'll show some of the attention our building and grounds have gotten since March 2020—and speculate on what we might do next. September 19 is also the United Nations International Day of Peace, and we'll have a peace ritual in the service.

## Sunday, September 26

### Hiroshima & Hersey

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

On September 26, the United Nations International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, we'll focus on the story of an early report on results of the U.S. dropping a nuclear bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, during World War II. The report is John Hersey's book Hiroshima, and the story includes the unusual way it was published, first in The New Yorker and then as a book. It's still relevant today, 75 years after publication.



## Reverend Tim Barger

There are some changes to let you know about coming this month. The first you probably have seen elsewhere, in this newsletter and through other church communications. We're not going to return indoors yet, as we had originally planned for our September 12 Ingathering service. We will have an outdoor service instead, with some added attractions from meetings to possible auction-purchase opportunities to you bringing your own picnic, so please do come to church at Ingathering time—just not into the building. We will go back to mostly online Sunday services on our ToledoUnitarians YouTube channel after that, except for another outdoor service October 10 when we'll begin our stewardship campaign. Conditions had looked good for our being "back to" a "new normal." But with the sharp return to a high load of Covid cases, thanks in part to the Delta variant and also helped by a lower-than-desired vaccination rate (please get the vaccine if you haven't yet!), we don't think that general health safety would be good enough, even with most of our congregation vaccinated, to proceed as if we were past the pandemic. Plus we remember that our church folks under age 12 can't yet receive protection beyond masks and social distance, and we hope a vaccine will be approved for them very soon. Other opportunities to take part in church activities are emerging, so do watch our emailed UU-FYI; our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram feeds, our website, and our Sunday service and its bulletin, for more details. The second change is with my health. My report is that five weeks of radiation every weekday have concluded, so that part of my cancer treatment is finished for this discovery of tumors at the top of my vertebrae. On September 10 I'll begin the primary parts of chemotherapy, taking a capsule called Revlimid (which I also took in 2017 for the tumor that was on my collarbone), injections of a drug called Velcade, and continuing the Dexamethasone pill which I'm already taking. I don't know how long that treatment will take—it could be several months. Know that, as your minister, I can do almost everything I could before this cancer diagnosis, and that includes one-on-one pastoral care visits and other ways to be of direct help and ministry as well as doing our public ministry and other church work. Reach out to me if you'd like, I'm honored to be a resource for you. —Rev. Tim



## Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

I am sure many of you must be as frustrated as I am with the course of the pandemic. However, we made it – we did a whole year of church almost entirely online. Thanks so very, very much to all of you for your steadfast faith in our community. We have closed the books on 2020-2021. Regarding last year's ledger, the board has good news and not-so-good news. The not-so-good news, we ended the year slightly in the red with a deficit of \$3,331. The good news, we have enough float in the checking account due to prior years being "in the black", so that we can cover it easily and will start the year with a clean slate. We had hoped to be back in person at some point during the year. Since that was not possible, we were very low on the expected income that we usually see from our in-person events. Do look for our expected rummage sale this month, which can be an outdoor event (weather permitting). We continue to hope that vaccines can be approved for the kids under 12, the delta variant will burn itself out, and vaccination rates can continue to increase so that we can find a new normal back in person again soon. Until then – thank you for your patience as we do our best to figure out how to both protect and sustain our community. Stay safe and stay connected. In Fellowship, Sandra



## Mickey Emch, Director of Music

I hope you are all doing well and have enjoyed a restful summer. I want to send an update on the fall music planning for the church – After a recent meeting, the Covid subcommittee has decided to follow the UUA advisements to continue online through at least October 10th. We are also discouraged from any group singing while our Delta cases rise. This means that for the foreseeable future, we will not be able to hold choir rehearsals. We have decided, however, to begin rehearsals for our fall handbell choir. These will meet in Fellowship hall, masked, and socially distanced, on Sundays at 1pm starting September 19th. We will be limiting the number of participants to 15. If you'd like to sign up, I'd love to see you there! If you'd prefer to participate in any virtual performances this year, I will be sending a song list out before Sept. 12. A special note to those who couldn't tune in on Sunday – Our fearless pianist Bonnie Rowe is stepping down from her staff position. I am so grateful for her time and talents leading our groups and look forward to having her play with us soon. Thank you, Bonnie! In fellowship, Mickey

## 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.

## PLEASE LET US KNOW

Please let Reverend Tim or the church office ([office@uutoledo.org](mailto: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

## CHILDREN'S RE

The Church COVID-19 Committee has decided not to return to ingathering services in September. However, we will have an outdoor service on September 5 and an outdoor ingathering service on September 12. Our plan is to have children's activities for these two services and we encourage all families to bring their children. We will have volunteers supervising the children so that parents can attend the service. Following these outdoor services we will return to streamed services for the remainder of September. We will have to wait until October or later to resume Children's RE as we had planned. We continuing to solicit RE volunteers for when ingathering services do begin. We need religious education volunteers urgently. RE is central to our plan to resume in-person services, as parents cannot participate without this. If working with children is part of your personal ministry, please consider volunteering to help with this vital part of our church life. Please contact Arun Nadarajah ([nadarajah@utoledo.edu](mailto:nadarajah@utoledo.edu)) or Michael Davidson ([davissonma@gmail.com](mailto:davissonma@gmail.com)) to volunteer for Children's RE.

## MASKS REQUIRED

The COVID-19 Subcommittee has revised the Church Use Guidance for Fall 2021. This will apply to any condition of church use: small groups, meetings, services, etc. If you have any questions, you can contact Sandra Kosek-Sills, Teresa Betts-Cobau, or Mary Souther for more information. Please note masks must be worn in our building at all times. In addition, please remember that you must sign in, anytime that you enter the building. Thank you

## SERVICES IN THE TIME OF DELTA

The Covid-19 Subcommittee has reluctantly decided that, at this time, we will not be meeting for indoor services. We will meet outside on September 5th, again on the 12th for our IN-GATHERING, and on October 10th. Other weeks will be streamed on our YouTube Channel. Consult the newsletter, our Facebook page, and future FYIs for more information.

## BRUNCH BUNCH

THIRD MONDAY BREAKFAST BUNCH (TMBB) will meet at 9:15 AM every month at the Reynolds Garden Cafe on Reynolds Road near Airport Highway. NEXT DATE IS SEPT 20. The event open to UU's and friends for the purpose of sharing good company and good food. Phone Carrie Baum at 419-537-9325 or email [carriebaum@toast.net](mailto:carriebaum@toast.net) to establish an advance seating count each month but you are still welcome last minute. See you there!

## RUMMAGE SALE

First Unitarian is having a rummage sale on Saturday, September 18 from 10am - 4pm!! 100% of the proceeds from the rummage sale will support First Unitarian. Fliers will be available at the outdoor service on September 12th for those interested in increasing community awareness of our sale. Please contact Michael Davison if you're interested in volunteering or if you have any items to donate ([davissonma@gmail.com](mailto:davissonma@gmail.com) / 419-764-0003). Priced items are always appreciated!

## IMPORTANT - PLEASE SIGN IN

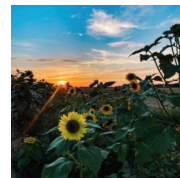
As we start our slow, safe reopening of our church, please remember that if you come into the church building for any reason, you must sign in on the sheet located right under the alarm. Thank you for your cooperation.




## SAVE THE DATE

Trunk or treat is back this year! The event will take place Saturday October 23rd 4-6pm. All activities will take place outside and only bathrooms will be available inside the church. There maybe other precautions taken depending on the state of the pandemic at the time. There will be no rain date for this event. All are welcome!



# 2021 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 11:00 am Knitting group
5 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube OUTDOOR, IN-PERSON service 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom	6 Labor Day	7 Rosh Hashanah 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	8	9 7:00 pm Board meeting	10	11 Patriot Day
12 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube OUTDOOR, IN-PERSON service 12:30 pm Compass/Ingathering prep meeting 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	13	14 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	15 Yom Kippur	16 7:00 pm RE Board meeting via webex email Arun for link	17	18 <b>Rummage Sale</b>
19 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom	20 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Cafe <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	21 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	22 Autumnal Equinox	23	24	25 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
26 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	27	28 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	29	30	1 <b>October</b>	2

## MEDITATION

In September the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on Sept. 12 and Sept. 26 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM. The ZOOM link remains the same. The Tuesday MultiFaith meditation group continues to meet weekly from 6:30-7:30PM via ZOOM. "Being in touch with oneself is the meaning of meditation." ~ Thich Nhat Hanh

We invite you to join us every 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 other 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)

For questions, please contact Karen Christie at [kbchristie@bex.net](mailto:kbchristie@bex.net).



## 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

If you have Styrofoam you've been saving, bring it to the church. Contact Karen Porter to make arrangements to put it in the garage. ([kjport@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjport@sbcglobal.net)) or if you want to take it directly to Ann Arbor, the web site is: [www.recycleannarbor.org](http://www.recycleannarbor.org) for more 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](mailto:office@uutoledo.org), [bookkeeper@uutoledo.org](mailto:bookkeeper@uutoledo.org), [carols@uutoledo.org](mailto:carols@uutoledo.org), or [minister@uutoledo.org](mailto:minister@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](mailto: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](mailto:office@uutoledo.org). As your meeting is scheduled, you'll receive an email with Zoom's login info, meeting ID, and passwords.

## TERRACYLE 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.

## 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. September 13 & 27. Contact Sana Saeed at [ssaeed@uua.org](mailto:ssaeed@uua.org) for connection information.

## AWARENESS OF SPECIAL NEEDS

The Awareness of Special Needs Support group is back! If you are living with a chronic condition or are a caregiver, please join us on the 4th Saturday of each month. Join us for cookies and beverages as we talk about how we are doing. We meet at Joanne Hartough's home from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Please email [joannehartough@gmail.com](mailto:joannehartough@gmail.com) if you would like to come.