



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 2021



Sunday, November 7

Change

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

We're experiencing the "fall back" of time change, the change of seasons, and much change in our congregation in part because of changes that pandemic conditions forced on us. Rev. Tim will talk about

Sunday, November 14

I Think I'm an Agnostic, But I'm Not Sure

David Strickler

Agnosticism (the viewpoint that the existence of God cannot be known with certainty) has been criticized and mischaracterized by both theists and atheists as a way to avoid theological conflict. I will discuss the origin of agnosticism in Victorian-era science to demonstrate that it is a substantial philosophy. I will also include a contemporary perspective on agnosticism from "The Accidental Theologist", Lesley Hazelton.

Sunday, November 21

Thanks

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Thanksgiving week begins with our first indoor, in-person service since March 8, 2020! There's much thanking to be done—thanking the congregation for sticking with us during this unusual time; the traditional thanks for the family atmosphere of the Thanksgiving holiday, even though the Thanksgiving history has been rewritten a bit to favor the settlers; and, also for the Toledo Unitarians, thanks for participating in our stewardship campaign—November 21 is the "official" end of the drive, though pledges will still be coming in. Rev. Tim will express gratitude and share words of thanks.

Sunday, November 21

Beverly Cluster Thanksgiving Service

Rev. Dr. TK Barger and Rev. Ed Heilman

Thanksgiving service previously recorded to air on our Toledo Unitarians YouTube channel at 5:00 pm.

Sunday, November 28

Season's Greetings

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

With Thanksgiving just past, greet the holiday season. We have Hanukkah beginning and the first Sunday of Advent, both on November 28. Hanukkah is not considered a major Jewish holiday, but sometimes people give it that status as an alternative to the Christians' Christmas. And then there are other days—some Unitarian Universalists developed Chalice (do we really need our own holiday for the traditional holiday season?), and others came up with Illumination. Winter solstice defines the season. There's Kwanzaa right after Christmas, primarily recognizing the African-American experience. Rev. Tim will talk about holidays, observances, traditions, and the new.



Reverend Tim Barger

November has often seemed to me like a transition month. What is the November transition? Autumn to holidays to cold weather, in part. Also a greater move inside because of the chill. Maybe it's also internal—based on your childhood when you knew you had to be a bit better for Santa to get you on the good list and bring you the presents you want—or did you wait for December for that? November seems to be a "get ready" time; from Halloween, you get ready for Thanksgiving and get ready for the post-Thanksgiving holidays from December to the new year. This year, November holds to that concept of a time of change. The major news is that we're planning to return to indoor, in-person Sunday services on November 21. The first service is "Thanks"—thanks for your bearing with us through the pandemic, for returning, for taking part in our stewardship campaign, and for the Thanksgiving holiday, too. We'll also continue with our YouTube livestream on the ToledoUnitarians channel, at least for this time, as we know that all aren't on the same schedule about returning to public gatherings. Please bear with us as we relearn the public process and continue to develop what's come to be called multiplatform presentation with both in-person and online availability. I hope just its being November will help with our congregational transition; I think we'll have to develop new ways of being together and "doing church" for our vitality. It won't work if we try to go back to what was; we and the world have changed in this pandemic time. I ask you to rededicate yourself to First Unitarian so we can thrive. Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

November starts a season of gratitude. I am as always, grateful for those of you who come along with us on our mission of spiritual growth and compassionate action. I appreciate our staff who have risen to the challenges of the pandemic year and serve us well. I am thankful that we have not had significant problems with covid disease within our group. I see a lot of supportive communications online and in the UUFYI and I appreciate our people who live our covenant of helping one another. Thanks also to the keepers of our grounds, the Social Justice Committee, RE Council, and the members of the board for all the hours put in this past year. Thank you in advance to the handbell choir, and to our singers for their patience as we wait until all our music can be reasonably safe again. And gratitude for the Stewardship team, who does the difficult but necessary work of rounding up our pledges. I don't think it's possible for any one person to know what all everyone is up to, so if I didn't call out a particular effort, please know that I appreciate those as well. In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Happy Fall from the Music Ministry! As we make the transition back to services in person, we look forward to regular musical rehearsals. Bells will be in "full swing" this November, and choir will begin masked, socially distant rehearsals with Carols in the Sanctuary in December. All members are asked to provide the church with proof of vaccination and remain masked during rehearsal. We will also provide solo and small ensemble opportunities for individuals interested in our holiday "All Music Service". To get involved, please email Mickey Emch at musicdirector@utoledo.org In fellowship, Mickey
Bell Choir Rehearsals: Sunday, November 7, 14, 21, and 28 – 1pm in Fellowship Hall

CHILDREN'S RE

We are continuing to solicit RE volunteers for when ingathering services do begin. Please contact Arun Nadarajah (nadarajah@utoledo.edu) or Michael Davidson (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

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.

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. 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 for more information.

STAYING STRONGER TOGETHER

By now church members and supporters should have received their stewardship packet in the mail. The packet contains letters from your campaign chairs and church leadership, information about this past year and the importance of this year's campaign, as well as a revised pledge form. The form no longer has a separate line for the UUA/CER dues. If you contributed \$100 towards the dues last year, please add that amount to your regular pledge. We hope you will take time to read through the packet, fill out your pledge form and return it by November 21st. We set a campaign time frame each year so that we can complete the campaign in a timely manner to avoid campaigning year-round and to have a firm commitment for next year's budget process. We also hope you will set aside time to share your thoughts with the church member who will contact you during the campaign. The board wants to hear from YOU. We want to learn about your connection to First Unitarian this past year. We want to know what the church did well and what we should expand, improve, or discontinue. Think about how you want to be involved when we are back together again. How can we best build back our beloved community and member involvement? Your answers will be confidential and will be compiled into a general report for the Board. This will help inform the board as they develop the budget for the next fiscal year. If you have not received the packet yet, please contact Carol Keierleber (Keierleber@aol.com) Michael Davisson (davissonma@gmail.com) or Carol Slomka (carols@utoledo.org) with your current address to have one mailed to you.

UU FILM CLUB

Do you love films? Do you enjoy talking about films? If so, join our UU Film Club. In this time of COVID we will view the selected film on our own and meet by Zoom to discuss. Eventually, we will transition to meeting in person for a viewing party. If you have any questions, contact Judy or Dave Murray at bookie@bex.net

CHRISTMAS ADOPT A FAMILY

The holidays are fast approaching and it's time to start thinking about our annual "Adopt A Family" program. Due to covid, we will once again collect gift cards for a family or two in need, as we did last year. We can spread a little holiday cheer and alleviate the financial stress of the holidays by providing help and hope to families in need. More information with the details will be out soon. Please consider picking up a gift card for a family that needs our help. This annual event will once again be chaired by Luanne Billstein and Chris Stockwell.

COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY

The Committee on Shared Ministry is open for business. We offer a means for conflict resolution involving all aspects of church ministry. Suggestions/concerns should be submitted to us via the Committee's email address: cosm3205@gmail.com. Concerns will be handled in confidence. Committee on Shared Ministry: Rev. Tim Barger, Phil Teitlebaum, Chair, Bonnie Rowe, Secretary, Rich Miller, Kathy Crowther

TERRACYCLE RECYCLING


The Zoo is still collecting Terracycle items for recycling, but only in the container at the Anthony Wayne Trail gate. Contact Karen Porter, or check the collection container at the Zoo.

FALL BACK

Sunday November 7th is the fall time change, so the clock gets a "fall back." Please remember to change your clocks for the end of Daylight Saving Time.



2021 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 All Saints’ Day	2 All Souls’ Day  Voting Day 7:00 pm Weaver’s Guild	3	4	5	6 11:00 am Knitting group
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 1:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	8 Last day to order wreaths and poinsettias	9 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	10	11 Veterans Day 	12	13 World Kindness Day
14 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom 1:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	15 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Cafe	16 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	17	18 7:00 pm Board meeting	19	20 2:00 pm UU Film Club Zoom NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
21 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 1:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 5:00 Online Beverly Cluster Thanksgiving	22	23 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	24	25 Thanksgiving 7:00 pm RE Board meeting email Arun for link	26	27 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
28 Hanukkah 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom (24th) 1:00 pm Bell Choir Practice	29	30 Giving Tuesday 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	1 DECEMBER	2	3	4

MEDITATION

In November the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on Nov. 14 and Nov. 28 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM. The Tuesday MultiFaith meditation group continues to meet weekly from 6:30-7:30PM via ZOOM. "Meditation is offering your genuine presence to yourself in every moment." ~ 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=WmlrMGZiN1c5VnIOaWFvc2RFUGc2Zz09>

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.



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.

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.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES

Grow UU - Still time to sign up! How does Unitarian Universalism differ from other approaches to spiritual life? How can Unitarian Universalism make a difference in your life? What are our roots? How can we help you grow? These are questions we will address in Growing into UU, a series of meetings specially designed for those new to Unitarian Universalism and to Toledo Unitarians. Recommended for new members and interested friends (or long-timers interested in reminding themselves why they fell in love with Unitarian Universalism in the first place). We will help you think about your personal belief, review UU history, and examine the Toledo Unitarians mission and what it means to us and for you. Four weeks with each class scheduled for two hours: IN PERSON, Fellowship Hall at church (has 2 registered and will be held for sure): Saturday mornings 10am – 12pm November 6, 13, 20 (skip Thanksgiving weekend) and December 4 VIA ZOOM (zero and will not be held unless a minimum of two people sign up): Tuesday evenings 7-9pm November 2, 9, 16, (skip Thanksgiving week) and 30 Please pre-register so we can provide you with the full syllabus and the Zoom links. Send an email to Sandra Kosek-Sills at s_e_kosek@msn.com or text or call 734-646-1805.

CHURCH MEETINGS

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 if you prefer, by emailing our office at: office@uutoledo.org. You’ll receive an email with Zoom’s login info, meeting ID, and passwords.

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 if you would like to come.

BIPOC

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: November 8 & 22, December 13. Contact Sana Saeed at ssaeed@uua.org for connection information.

NOVEMBER 21 SERVICES

We’re planning to return to indoor, in-person Sunday services on November 21. The first service is “Thanks”. This service will also be on our YouTube channel. In addition, there will also be a Beverly cluster Thanksgiving service, online and prerecorded, with Pastor Ed Heilman and Rev. Tim Barger which will debut on Toledo Unitarians YouTube channel at 5 pm on Sunday November 21. Please join us as we welcome each other back and give thanks that we may all be together again.

POINSETTIAS

Our Christmas Poinsettia fundraiser sale is in full swing. Get your orders in now. Flowers will be available for pick up at the church Tuesday December 21st. As usual, all flower donations for the Christmas Eve service will be taken to a local nursing home after service. **Sale ends November 8th.**