



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR JANUARY 2022



Sunday, January 2

What's New?

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

For our first service of 2022, let's consider what's new and, like Janus, also look back a bit.

Sunday, January 9

Worldly Rituals

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Some of you are familiar with the book "How to Bury a Goldfish: And Other Ceremonies and Celebrations for Everyday Life," published by the Unitarian Universalist Association's Skinner House Books in 2007. A couple of new books, one by Sasha Sagan (daughter of Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan) and one by Tara Isabella Burton, are in the same vein, examining rites and rituals that people have that aren't directly connected to religion or spirituality. We'll consider rituals, for church and for ourselves, with the context of these books.

Sunday, January 16

Shared Ministry

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

In our congregation, we try to take seriously the concept that we're all ministers, and it isn't just the ordained who do the work of the church. The emphasis this Sunday is on our next moves to come together—and to get reacquainted—after extended time removed from one another because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Sunday, January 23

Jesus to Christ

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Continuing the occasional sermon series on Jesus as viewed through a humanist lens, Rev. Tim will consider biblical text that positions Jesus as the Messiah.

Sunday, January 30

Pastoral Anniversary

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Can you believe that Rev. Tim has been the Toledo Unitarians' full-time, called, and settled minister for five years? Please answer "yes." This Sunday he'll review some pastoral ministry and talk more about our shared ministry.



Reverend Tim Barger

How do you approach a new year? Is it the same way every year for you? Perhaps celebrating the year's turn with a bit too much refreshment, then New Year's Day has your body trying to recover. Or you have New Year food traditions, maybe eating black eyed peas to represent vision for the year and greens for money. You could sink into your sofa and watch bowl parades and football games. I don't keep a routine for the annual changeover. I hope to enjoy the day off, but I don't take the first day of the year to regenerate in a grand way; instead, I try to have mostly quiet time. If you remember some of my past preaching at a new year, I say that resolutions are good—but they don't have to be made just on the first day of the year, so resolve anytime. And if you break a resolution, restart it, whether immediately or when you're better ready; a broken resolution isn't trash but another opportunity to live that resolution. Yes, I always want a new year to be better than what we've lived so far. Sometimes that happens, but we often don't realize it in the moment, do we—it's only on reflection, perhaps with comparison to other times. Let's presume that 2022 will be better, let's live with the hope that we can be our better selves and the world will improve along with us. And if that's not the case? Live well anyway. Maybe we're just at the beginning. Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

The New Year is upon us and I am hoping for better times ahead. It's been great to see folks in person at church. Unfortunately, we also continue to see pandemic surges, but with the availability of vaccines and masks we believe that the congregation is as protected as we can be. It is our intent to continue to watch carefully for whether we need to make any further adjustments to protect the health of our people while continuing to meet in person. Our fiscal picture ending November remains on the positive side of the balance sheet – I will report on the six month period ending December 31 in February. RE Council is pulling together a search committee to fill the Lifespan RE part time position so we will have more to report on that soon. Stewardship so far is projected to be just a little bit short of last year's amount, although we won't have a final number until the board begins the budget process in February and March. Also starting up soon is the Nominating Committee work to fill our leadership positions for the coming cycle. We will be looking for both board members and members for the Committee on Shared Ministry which is a key group that assists our minister. Service to the church helps implement our mission of fostering spiritual growth and compassionate action – we can act compassionately towards each other in addition to our work in the greater community. These commitments are for a few hours a month. There are training and education opportunities attached – I know several of our lay leaders have leveraged their experience in leadership at the church to advance their personal development both professionally and as volunteers. Watch for these opportunities and others to be announced in our newsletters, orders of service, UUFYIs, social media, and by word of mouth. In Fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Happy New Year from our music ministry! We are so eager to begin making music together again. Please consider joining us this January as we begin to come together for socially distant rehearsals. There are always ways to get involved, no matter your experience! Interested in singing? Join us in the sanctuary for our first Hymn Sing event on January 9th – drop-ins welcome, masks required. Want to try your hand at bells? Come to fellowship hall and join us! If you would like to offer a solo or small-group performance, contact Mickey at musicdirector@uutoledo.org. In Fellowship, Mickey Emch

CALENDAR:

Sunday, Jan 2 No handbell Rehearsal
Sunday, Jan 9th at 1:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - Sunday, Jan 9th at 3:00pm Community Hymn-Sing
Sunday, Jan 16 at 1:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
Sunday, Jan 23 at 1:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - Sunday, Jan 23 at 3:00pm Community Hymn-Sing
Sunday, Jan 30 No handbell Rehearsal



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.

CHILDREN'S RE

We are continuing to solicit RE volunteers for when we can resume a religious education program. Please contact Arun Nadarajah (nadarajah@uutoledo.edu) or Michael Davisson (davissonma@gmail.com) to volunteer for Children's RE.

MASKS REQUIRED

The COVID-19 Subcommittee has revised the Church Use Guidance for Fall 2021/Winter 2022. 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

COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY

The Committee on Shared Ministry is still 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, Acting Chair, Kathy Crowther. Want to become a member? Please let Rev. Tim or Phil know.

THANK YOU KNITTERS

Thank you to all who participated. 120 knit hats (plus a few scarves and mittens) were donated recently from UU knitters, split between two agencies: Children Services and Leading Families Home. If you knit or crochet and would like to participate, we'll be donating again next year in fall/early winter, giving the church credit as one of our outreach efforts.

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.

ZOOM

The church has a Zoom account for your use. Please feel free to schedule if you want to have a small group meeting, whether it's your committee, chalice circle, or just a group of church friends. Send an email to the church office to schedule a Zoom meeting. (carols@uutoledo.org)

PLEASE LET US KNOW

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

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) or if you want to take it directly to Ann Arbor, the web site is: www.recycleannarbor.org for more information.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2022 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day
2 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom	3	4 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	5	6	7	8
9 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	10	11 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	12	13 7:00 pm Board meeting	14	15
16 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	17 MLK Day Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Cafe	18 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
23/30 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 (23RD)	24/31	25 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	26	27	28	29

MEDITATION

In January the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on Jan. 9 and Jan. 23 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM on ZOOM. 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=WmlrMGZiN1c5VnI0aWFvc2RFUGc2Zz09>

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. Or join us in person Sundays at 11:00 am for in person service!

COFFEE HOUR

Join us for coffee hour Sundays in person. Coffee will be served to you due to Covid restrictions.

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.

OFFICE HOURS

Our in-person church office hours are: Mondays 10:30-2:30, Wednesdays 10:30-2:30, or please reach us by phone or email. Phone: 419-381-6999, Office email: office@uutoledo.org, Bookkeeper email: bookkeeper@uutoledo.org, Minister email: minister@uutoledo.org.

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.

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.

THANK YOU KROGER SHOPPERS

Thank you to all who shopped at Kroger and made First Unitarian church your Community Rewards designee. Between the dates of 01-Aug-2021 to 31-Oct-2021, 48 households participated, and our church received \$157.14 total donations of free money for the church. Have you signed your Kroger card up yet? Please do so at kroger.com. Look for the community rewards section. Questions? Email the church office at: office@uutoledo.org.

THANK YOU AMAZON SHOPPERS

Thank you to all who shopped on Amazon and made First Unitarian Church of Toledo, their designated charity. The church has been issued a \$72.68 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between July 1 and September 30, 2021. Go to smile.amazon.com and sign up to start earning money for the church every time you shop. Sign up at SmileAmazon.com or email the church office for more information.

PLEASE SIGN IN ON SUNDAYS

While we're having in-person services, we ask everyone present in the building to please sign in every Sunday on the sheet in the lobby. Just in case there's a need to notify people about a possible Covid-19 exposure, we can supply that list to the health department. We also ask on that sheet whether you've been vaccinated--to help with our own statistics and decision making. Thanks for taking the extra steps needed for us to be cautious and safer during the pandemic.

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 want to watch ahead, we will be discussing the 2018 film *Puzzle* in January. Starring Kelly McDonald and Irrfan Khan, this poignant film is set in the world of competitive jigsaw puzzle competitions. If you have any questions, contact Judy or Dave Murray at bookie@bex.net