



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MARCH 2022



Sunday, March 6

Be Spiritual

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Rev. Tim has spoken about many aspects of living our Unitarian Universalism, including honoring world religions, being activists about social justice, and loving one another. In this service, Rev. Tim will encourage congregants to go beyond head, hands, and heart. Be spiritual, tending to that part of our human core that some call soul, others don't have a name for—the awe of being.

Sunday, March 13

Early

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

On the Sunday when we “lose” an hour at the beginning of Daylight Saving Time, let's look at aspects of earliness and how that can relate to our spirituality and our lives more generally.

Sunday, March 20

Widening the Circle: Make Croissants, Not Donuts

David Strickler

The recent UUA report, “Widening the Circle of Concern”, reviews societal trends, analyzes characteristics of white supremacy culture within our association, and makes recommendations to advance Unitarian Universalism. This worship service will examine the Hospitality and Inclusion section of the UUA report with a focus on ideas and actions relevant to our congregation.

Sunday, March 27

Widening the Circle: Old Principles, New Challenges

Rev. Joan VanBecelaere

As UUs, we have no creed, unlike many other faith traditions. We do however, “Covenant to Affirm and Promote” a statement of Principles, (found on Page X of the gray hymnal). When we lift up our seven Principles, some of us think of them as a simple historic statement of theology— but they are more important to our living UU identity than that: They inform us of how we should act in the larger world and with each other. In our ever-changing world, new concerns challenge our commitment to these old Principles. How can we authentically live into our Principles and seek out new ways of understanding that will guide us into the future?

Rev. Joan Van Becelaere is a retired Unitarian Universalist minister. She has served as the Executive Director of UU Justice Ohio and as a Congregational Life Consultant for the Ohio-Meadville District and the Staff Lead for CERG – the Central East Regional Group. Before holding this position, she was the vice-president for student services at the Iliff School of Theology, Denver CO, where she taught UU polity. She lives in Columbus OH with her spouse, Jerry, and four felines all named after Hebrew Bible prophets and kings.



Reverend Tim Barger

The timing for my upcoming stem cell transplant is getting “real.” Though the schedule is still considered tentative—based on the results of a couple more tests—the plan is for Jewel and me to be in Cleveland March 13 (after church in Toledo) through 17 with me as an outpatient at the Seidman Cancer Center at University Hospitals of Case Western Reserve University. The week before, I'll be receiving a medicine that will make me grow a lot of stem cells. Then the week we go to Cleveland, if I understand the procedure, through a process called apheresis my stem cells will be collected by the medical staff, and when they have enough (I remember the number as being in the millions), they'll freeze the stem cells and send me home. I'll report back to the hospital March 22 to be an inpatient for two weeks or so, and Jewel will be at a lodge for transplant recipients and family members. The hospitalization starts by my receiving a massive dose of chemotherapy, intended to kill as many remaining cancer cells as I have. There's a good possibility that I might lose my hair a few weeks later; if I end up with a buzz cut and clean shaven, please know that it's still me, I'm fine with the change, and the treatment is worth it. The official “transplant day,” when my stem cells are put back in my body, is slated for Thursday, March 24. I'll be in the hospital about two weeks after that; there will be close medical supervision as my body adjusts, plus I'll be isolated and away from infection. Though it's not a surgical procedure like organ transplants, and it's using my own blood, this is considered a major transplant. I'll have a brand-new immune system and will have to start over with a lifetime of vaccines. After the hospital time we'll be in Cleveland about two more weeks, with me an outpatient having regular medical appointments. Then it's back to Toledo probably after Easter, and I'm learning that my return to “regular” life won't be instant but that I'll be easing back in as I regain strength—and it could be a full year before I can start with the many vaccinations, so I'll still be keeping physical distance and wearing a mask. During my time in Cleveland, I don't want to overload you with detailed “organ recitals,” so I'll share more general information from time to time. I might be more detailed on my own Facebook page, and if you're not already a Facebook friend, you're welcome to friend me—and you should be able to read anyway, as my posts are set to “universal.” I have much gratitude and continuing thanks for your being with me through all of this. The reason for the stem cell transplant is so I can continue my work, and we can do church, with my having more time in remission from cancer. The church will be fine through this time, and you know that if you have needs or even just want to be in communication, you can always contact our office manager, Carol, suggesting an appointment time for a video or audio call—or, if it's an emergency, call me directly. During this time I'm not allowed visitors other than Jewel, so no road trips to Cleveland, okay? Your minister, Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

It may be winter still, but the Board is preparing for the Annual Meeting to be held this spring. Ideas we are thinking about include reducing the size of the board, moving some of our reserve funds, holding a board retreat, and beginning the advance work to consider the next capital campaign. The Nominating Committee will be considering who among the congregation could be asked to step into leadership. And of course we will begin to develop next year's budget. It's about time to start planning for General Assembly, which is in Portland, OR this year and also online. If you would like to be a delegate, please let myself or Rev. Tim know. It looks like Covid cases are declining again, so I'm looking forward to getting back into the swing of our usual church activities. Hope to see you in church soon! In fellowship, Sandra



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

As many of you know, I'm sad to say that I'll be stepping down as music director by the end of my contracted time in May. My hope is that giving plenty of notice will allow for us to find a great candidate and facilitate a smooth transition. I'm incredibly grateful for all that the church has given me in this role. Some of y'all know I've been working on a doctoral degree from BGSU – I've completed my coursework, but still need to write the dissertation. In October, I also began a full time position with the Toledo Alliance for the Performing Arts. As much as I'd love to stay on after May, my current 55+ hour weekly schedule isn't sustainable for my health or the quality of my work. Having Said That: I know there is a lot to juggle for the next few months and want to assure you I'm here to help. Our spring music series currently includes myself, guests, and congregation members performances. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to be involved! We're hopeful to incorporate “community sings” as Omicron's surge settles down, we'll also be prepping our All-Music Service on April 10th. While this will be my last spring in a leadership position, I'm honored to have been a part of the team and look forward to the next chapter of our music ministry! In fellowship, Mickey

UU FILM CLUB

Do you enjoy films? We meet the third Saturday of the month. Join us this month on March 19 at 2:00 pm via ZOOM to discuss the 2003 film, House of Sand and Fog. For more information, consult the weekly FYI or contact Judy or Dave Murray, bookie@bex.net.

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 attend service in person and stay together with our church family. Thank you

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.

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 YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

We are continuing to solicit RE volunteers for when we can resume a religious education program. Please contact Arun Nadarajah (nadarajah@utoledo.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

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.

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.

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.

MARCH

2022 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 Ash Wednesday	3	4	5
6 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	7	8 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	9	10 7:00 pm Board meeting	11	12
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	14	15 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19
20 Newsletter Deadline - Spring! 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	21 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Cafe	22 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	23	24	25	26 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
27 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	28	29 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	30	31	April 1	2

MEDITATION

In March the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on March 13 and 27 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!

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: Tuesdays 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.

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

As in the past, when Toledo Public Schools close for snow, ice, or freezing temperatures, the church building and office will be closed.

Official Snow Cancellation Policy

1. Weekdays:

Our church will be closed for the entire weekday and evening whenever Toledo Public Schools are closed or a Level 2 Snow Emergency is declared by the Lucas County Sheriff.

2. Weekends:

Our church will be closed for the entire Saturday or Sunday, (day and evening) whenever determined by the Minister or President of the Board, or a Level 2 Snow Emergency is declared by the Lucas County Sheriff.

3. Emergency Communication:

Church members will be notified by email via the UU-FYI electronic bulletin and Facebook. All four local TV stations, (WTOL, WNWO, WTVG, FOX), The Blade, and other local news providers will be notified of our cancellation status. Those stations offer on-air and online cancellation status reports.

As always, the best way to reach the church is by emailing the office at office@uutoledo.org.

HELP WANTED

Could you spare an hour a Sunday or two every month or so? Do you enjoy our services and would like to be more involved in your church? Would you like a deeper connection to your Sunday church service? We are in need of additional Worship Service Associates to help during service. You will be assisting our Minister and Worship Director giving welcome, readings, and other ways of adding a voice to the services, while our Technical Crew films the service. Please call the church office or email Rev. Tim for more information. Training will be provided.

LEARN FROM AN EXPERT

Thanks to Walter McGhee, our church now has a fully equipped tech booth which allows us give a professional look to our live streams of services. It's very interesting to see how it all works, and we need more volunteers to learn the ins and outs. Walter is a good and patient teacher. If you're interested, contact Tom Sheehan, tom43623@gmail.com.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Stories of Hope brochures have arrived and will be available on Sunday at church. This can also be found on the UUSC website, along with lots of other resources. Browse through the site at leisure. There are short videos intended for various aged kids; There are suggestions for congregational activities including a full service with sermon. This year the theme is Now Is The Time For courageous Change," but you may also enjoy reading entries from previous years as well. Consider having relevant discussions during social hour. You have your homework! For questions, contact Carrie Baum, at: carriebaum@toast.net

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TEALL will be putting together a scholarship package General Assembly in Portland, OR June 22-26, 2022. More details coming soon. Let Jarvis Gamble know if you have any interest.