



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR MAY 2022



Sunday, May 1

**Hope for Our Vulnerable Planet
Green Sanctuary Service and Flower Communion**

Judy Lee Trautman

The Green Sanctuary Service will focus on hope, as expressed by Jane Goodall in "The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times", because despair is not an option if we are to survive. "Hope is often misunderstood. People tend to think that it is simply passive wishful thinking: I hope something will happen but I'm not going to do anything about it. This is indeed the opposite of real hope, which requires action and engagement." [...] "Hope does not deny the evil, but is a response to it." --Jane Goodall
Rev. Dr. TK Barger will present Flower Communion as part of the service.

Sunday, May 8

Hands on The Plow

David Strickler

"Keep Your Eyes on The Prize" was an emblematic anthem for the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950's - 60's. It had been adapted from the traditional African-American spiritual, "Gospel Plow" (also known as "Hold On" and "Keep Your Hands on the Plow"). This service will include renditions of these inspirational songs as well as their history and relevance to the current era.

Sunday, May 15

Vesak

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Vesak is kind of an all-in-one Buddhist holiday that celebrates the Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and death. We'll mark the occasion with words about the Buddha.

Sunday, May 22

Appreciation

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

It's Annual Meeting Sunday, and we'll be expressing appreciation for the congregation doing so much to keep First Unitarian thriving during these trying times.

Sunday, May 29

Summer Preview

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial start of summer, and we'll preview a summer full of sermons by Rev. Tim on the Unitarian Universalist principles and sources, a look at our religious grounding while we imagine what's to come for the denomination and our congregation.



Reverend Tim Barger

I'm on medical leave, back home, working mostly by phone. I will be at service May 1st. Best to you and yours, Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

I am so proud of how well Toledo Unitarians have weathered the pandemic. We have made and held our strong connections to each other and to our faith community in these challenging times. We do not know what the near future holds, but I remain as always hopeful that we can keep coming together at church. I hope you are planning to come in person to the Annual Meeting on May 22 at 1 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you are not comfortable in person yet, you may follow the proxy procedure which is in the bylaws which are available on our website. A list of voting items will be provided via the members only email list in advance of the meeting, and we are also hoping to mail a hard copy, so you will know how to direct your proxy holder to vote on your behalf. Please note this is NOT absentee voting – you will not vote directly, you will have a proxy (another member – preferably the board president or secretary) vote for you. The ballot items will be votes on a bylaw change to reduce the size of the board, the slate of new board members, new Committee on Shared Ministry members, new Nominating Committee members, the budget, and a proposed change in administrator of our reserve funds from The Trust Company to the UU Common Endowment Fund at the UUA. Only members may vote: there will be a sign-in to make sure we have a quorum of members present. Not sure if you are a member? Contact Board Secretary Eva Slawson for more information. Members are those who have signed the membership book AND have made a pledge either this current budget year (21-22) or next budget year (22-23). This is your last call to make sure you have accomplished both so that you can vote at the meeting. Speaking of pledges – tax season is ending as I write this. You should have your statement of pledge paid to date. Please take a look and we would greatly appreciate it if you can make sure you are up to date on your pledge commitment for 21-22. Thank you! In fellowship, Sandra



Gini Gottman, Director of Lifelong Learning

In April, our Lifelong Learning team put together a very successful Easter party! We had an impressive turnout of about 15 children, and two of whom, who had never been here before, are now registered for our children's classes! We're planning another party soon, so stay tuned to this space for updates. We are looking for people who would like to volunteer for one or two Sundays to assist with teaching. We could also use your presence on our Lifelong Learning council. Please email Gini at dll@uutoledo.org with any questions or ideas. In fellowship, Gini



Mickey Emch, Director of Music

Our Covid policies shift to reflect the lower case numbers, you are encouraged to begin singing along in service as you are comfortable. For some, staying distant and masked will be more comfortable for singing. I look forward to working this last month with the congregation to raise our voices in community song. In fellowship, Mickey

SATURDAY KNITTING

Knit Wits will be joining Fiberwork Orphans from noon until 4:30 on the first Saturday of the month in Fellowship Hall. Come knit and craft with us. Please wear a mask, and bring your own drinks and lunch. We will not be using the kitchen. Any questions, please contact Carla LoganMercer or Carrie Baum. The May 7th meeting will be in the Capek room at 12 noon until 4 pm. There is a Tea in Fellowship Hall that Saturday.

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)

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 Gini Gottmann (DLL@uutoledo.org) Arun Nadarajah (nadarajah@utoledo.edu) or Michael Davisson (davissonma@gmail.com) to volunteer for Children's RE.

LFH BLANKET-MAKING

Our blanket-making group in support of Leading Families Home is meeting the 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. We usually go out to lunch afterwards. No special skills are needed and if you have sharp scissors, please bring them. We made six blankets at our last meeting which LFH greatly appreciated. Join us for creative fun and fellowship. Contact Mary Souther at mbsouther@bex.net if you have questions.

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 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. Masks are not required, but you may wish to still wear one.

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.

UU FILM CLUB

Join us to view a great film while enjoying a light lunch followed by interesting discussion. This month's selection is the 2006 thought-provoking, yet comedic, film *Stranger than Fiction* starring Will Ferrell. We will meet at Judy & Dave Murray's home on May 21st at 1:00 pm. Contact Judy or Dave at bookie@bex.net to RSVP or if you have questions.

POTLUCK MAY 22

Our annual meeting is Sunday May 22nd at 1:00 PM. After over two long years, I am happy to say we will be coming together in fellowship to enjoy a potluck after the service and prior to our meeting. Please sign up at the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DA9AB2AA4F94-may22annual> to let us know that you will be joining us and what you would like to bring. Please note that due to covid caution, we will be using disposable plates and plasticware. We will recycle as best we can. Also if you are not comfortable making something, restaurant or store bought items are welcomed. Masks are not required, but are suggested. We look forward to seeing everyone! Sandra

ORDERS OF SERVICE

Orders of Service are available electronically. Please look for the Saturday FYI email with a link to the Order of Service, or join us in person Sundays at 11:00 am for in person service!



2022 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour	2	3 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	4	5	6	7 12:00 pm Knit Wits & Fiberwork Orphans 1:00 pm Tea
8 Mother's Day 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	9	10 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	11	12 7:00 pm Board meeting	13	14
15 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures Zoom 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary	16 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Cafe	17 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30pm Meditation Zoom	18	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 1:00 pm UU Film Club
22 Annual Meeting/Potluck 9:45 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	23	24 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	25 10:30 am LFH Blanket Making	26	27	28 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
29 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	30 Memorial Day	31 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Zoom	1 June	2	3	4 12:00 pm Knit Wits & Fiberwork Orphans

MEDITATION

In May the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on May 8 and May 22 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM on ZOOM. The Tuesday MultiFaith meditation group continues to meet weekly from 6:30-7:30PM via ZOOM. **"We need to live every breath deeply, so that we have peace, joy and freedom as we breathe." ~ 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.



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.

LET'S BUILD BEDS

Let's build Beds (LBB) is a local non-profit organization that provides new beds, mattresses, and bedding for children aged three to seventeen who do not have a bed. The organization was originally affiliated with a national organization, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, but separated from it. In the past three years, over 2400 beds have been delivered to children within a one hour radius of Waterville, Ohio. The beds are constructed from bare wood by volunteers who participate in "bed builds" that usually take place in the parking lots or indoors at churches or businesses. The wood is delivered to the site of the bed build and the volunteers learn the simple tasks required such as sanding wood, drilling, and assembling the parts of the beds. The beds, mattresses, and bedding are delivered to the homes, apartments, and trailers by groups of volunteers several evenings per week. Thirty to forty beds are delivered per week and there is a waiting list. The children are encouraged to assist in assembling the beds in their rooms and some kids perform all of the work. To see pictures of the children in their beds or videos of activities, you can visit Facebook and search for LetsBuildBeds or visit letsbuild.org. You can volunteer for bed builds or donate bedding or money. On letsbuild.org, there is information about requesting beds for children in need of one. Questions? Contact Joe Moran.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TEALL is offering two scholarships to attend the UUA General Assembly in-person June 22-26, 2022. Each of the scholarships will be available to First Unitarian of Toledo Church members in good standing. The scholarships will include up to \$500 for the flight, up to \$500 for housing and full registration fees. The applicant needs to submit a paragraph or two what they hope to experience from attending the GA and if they have any thoughts about how this might apply to First Unitarian Church. Please send this information (or any questions) to: jarvisgamble@gmail.com by noon Friday, April 22, 2022.

SPRING TEA

TICKETS NOW ON SALE for Spring Tea! Saturday May 7 at 1 pm in Fellowship Hall. Come out and welcome Spring at a Victorian inspired English style High Tea. Dust off that fancy dress, grab that pretty purse, and don your big flowered hat to enjoy the flavors of Spring in three courses. Start the afternoon of fun and fellowship with freshly baked petit scones served with your choice of whipped butter or French clotted cream and the first of many cups of handpicked loose leaf tea expertly brewed in real china tea pots. Excite your palate with an array of delicate tea sandwiches featuring the classic cucumber sandwich and other savory delectables. And don't forget that the reason we eat, is to get to dessert. The best is always saved for last as you dine on a trio of delectable lemon tarts, mini eclairs, French macarons, and pink champagne cake bites. We will be featuring specially chosen quality loose leaf teas to complement each course. This is an event you don't want to miss. What a wonderful way to welcome spring and partake in fellowship and fun. Children of appropriate age welcome. We will have lemonade for the children. The same menu is served to each guest. Meatless options will be available, but the menu includes dairy, sugar, and bread. Herbal tea options will be available. Tickets are \$25 per person. See Judy Murray or Sandra Kosek-Sills to purchase tickets. Hope to see you there!

BUDGET MEETINGS

The board is beginning the budgeting process with a pledge number of \$193,000. Thanks to the folks who have committed to our congregation and provided us with an ability to plan for the coming year. Look for budget specific meetings to occur the week before the Annual Meeting, probably Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. More info will be forthcoming.

MOTHER'S DAY HANGING FLOWER BASKETS

Thank you to all who purchased the Mother's Day hanging flower baskets. Even with the shortened sale, we were able to raise an extra \$135 profit for the church. If you purchased a basket, you may pick it up between noon and one on Tuesday May 3rd.