



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR JULY 2022



Sunday, July 3

All People Need a Voice

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

This summer we're looking at the roots holding us close and the wings setting us free (to paraphrase the Unitarian Universalist hymn "Spirit of Life"). We're devoting one Sunday service to each of the seven UU principles plus a Sunday for the proposed eighth principle, and services for all six sources of our living tradition. July 3 is the fifth principle: the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. This is also Independence Day weekend.

Sunday, July 10

Build a Fair and Peaceful World

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

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Sunday, July 17

We Care for Earth's Lifeboat

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

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Sunday, July 24

Make a Beloved Community

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

This summer we're looking at the roots holding us close and the wings setting us free (to paraphrase the Unitarian Universalist hymn "Spirit of Life"). We're devoting one Sunday service to each of the seven UU principles plus a Sunday for the proposed eighth principle, and services for all six sources of our living tradition. July 24 is the eighth principle, approved by our congregation but at this time proposed to the Unitarian Universalist Association: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Sunday, July 31

Experiencing Mystery and Wonder

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

This summer we're looking at the roots holding us close and the wings setting us free (to paraphrase the Unitarian Universalist hymn "Spirit of Life"). We're devoting one Sunday service to each of the seven UU principles plus a Sunday for the proposed eighth principle, and services for all six sources of our living tradition. July 31 is the first source: direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.



Reverend Tim Barger

I think our congregation likes the thought of "it takes a village to raise a child" and that we want our village to be a destination location. With Gini Gottman now a village leader as our director of lifelong learning and doing much work to attract new families and to get some of our once-resident families to return, let's be villagers who are helpful, nice, good representatives of the Toledo Unitarians, supporting Gini's efforts by being kid-friendly. Think back to when you were a child, and encourage curiosity and comfort. Be part of a village that children (kids, younglings, young'uns, whatever term) want to call their home. Let them make friends with other children, and you befriend their folks. Talk to the kids, sure, but as a nice adult—unless you have them in Religious Education activity, you're not their teacher, so leave discipline and correction to those who have charge of the children. The "seen but not heard" maxim is for other places than a gathering of families, which is one of the goals of church and is needed for our continued existence. Accept that sometimes kids are "in the way," and that's not a bother—just a fact of being in community. Make way for them. The younger ones might explore a bit—they could go onto the chancel during a service, and that's fine by me. Might they try to jump from the only steps in the whole building, at the chancel, or try to stand on a chancel rail? That's possible—and while it might be a little risky for smaller kids, it's not dangerous. Would many of us rather see that than look at the minister and pay attention to preaching? Yes—and if you miss some of the service content because you were distracted, go to the ToledoUnitarians YouTube channel later and view the recording. Children aren't the only ones who move around in the sanctuary during a service, remember—and sometimes their reasons to do so are better than an adult's. Too many sweets at coffee hour is something the parents will deal with later—we're not the kids' nutritionists. And there are ways other than sharp voices or physical touch to keep things reasonably hygienic if a child wants to reach into a potluck dish. Some of the older younglings might not want to be a part of a larger gathering, and stay to themselves or among their age group. That's all right—they're among their friends, church friends. The hallways are sometimes the kids' only open space, and they will run no matter how many times they're told not to, so be aware and know that they're not intentionally trying to fell an adult. The children with us have a parent or a responsible adult when they're here. There's no call for you to take on that role—unless the child's own caregiver personally asks you. I agree with those who say that it's a blessing to hear a crying baby in church. That means we have their parents there, too, and by welcoming all families and seeing that they're comfortable and feeling at home in this village, we build the congregation. Don't be the village crank. There might be times when you teach, but don't "correct." If a ball lands in your yard, give it back—and doing so playfully would be a bonus. Let them play in your yard, all over our village. Oh, and apply this to grown-ups, too. Don't let the child that still lives in you, and the child qualities in any of us, be lost to our village.



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

I would like to take a moment to introduce our new Incoming VP of the Board, in her own words. In Fellowship, Sandra. I am very excited to be on the board of the First Unitarian Church of Toledo as the Vice President. I joined the church five years ago. The year prior my husband and I had attended the UFACE events on Criminal Justice events and then an earthquake happened in Ecuador, where my father was born and all of my relatives still reside. I asked the church if I could do a fund raiser that spring and when they said yes, I knew I had found my tribe. I then attended the Adult RE for six months that winter and signed the book on June 11, 2017. This church means so much to me. It gives me a voice and platform to get involved in social justice activities which is our core of our values. I set up the UFACE, DACA event and later worked on the "What Can you do to Prevent Gun Violence?" My first two year I was on the Spiritual Adventures Committee arranging two speakers a month including: Nuestre Gente, Spanish Radio show, League of Women Voter, the Ombudsman on Aging, Caregiver Support Program, Alzheimer's Association, Baha'i Presentation, La Conexion regional programs supporting Latin immigrants, Bishop Soroya King Summer Programing Presentations, and many more. I then Chaired the Strategic Planning Committee and arranged for focus groups and wrote the Strategic Plan with all the input from the congregation. Out of the Strategic Plan, came the idea of adding the 8th Principal. I was later a board member for two years and then after that, I was later asked to sit on the state Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio Board (UUJO) of which I am still a member. We organized protests across the state, including our church, to "Protest the Anti-Protest" laws. We also had a mini-auction where two of our members donated their artwork. This set forth a series of events to learn about the 8th Principle, including, presentation on Centering by UUJO Board Chair, Samuel Prince at Spiritual Adventures, a sermon I did in July on growing up in two cultures in a small white town. Later Reverend Joan VanBecelaere, UUJO, executive director, came to our church and did a sermon on Widening the Circle. When Perrysburg City Council's Plan was to expand Levis Commons into Perrysburg Heights area, where the migrants settled 100 years ago. I arranged for our church to stand on the side of love with the residents, with signs saying "Heights Homes Matter, too." Our congregation not only showed up outside, but inside our UU Perrysburg Residents spoke eloquently at the podium and on radio shows. I am happy to say, a couple of weeks ago the City of Perrysburg has agreed to work with the residents, 50% of whom are Mexican-Americans and not annex nor change their residential status to commercial property!! I say all this to say we UUs showed up and we affected change. So, as you see there are so many ways to get involved at the First Unitarian Church of Toledo. Having said all of this, I did not do this alone. All of us UUs showed up at one event or another. I would like to thank everyone who supported these efforts and made them successful. Colette Córdova, Vice Chair, First Unitarian Church



Gini Gottman, Director of Lifelong Learning

Our children's community is growing! I have been delighted to meet new kids every Sunday for the past month, and they have begun sending out the tiniest tendrils of friendship and fellowship to each other. Seeing new little faces in church on Sundays is both a joy and a responsibility. Unitarian Universalism offered all of us a spiritual home when we were in need of one; now it is our turn to receive and welcome a new generation. New families particularly need to have our nursery available to them. We have one nursery worker, but we need many more! Please offer our families an hour a month of your time. This is an easy and fun way to help grow our community! Please see Gini Gottman, Sandra Kosek-Sills or Arun Nadarajah to sign up. In fellowship, Gini

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.

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.

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.

BATTERY RECYCLING

We are collecting household batteries for recycling, on the table by the kitchen door. Please place them in a ziplock bag. Mary Souther regularly takes our collected batteries to the Bedford Township Hall for recycling. Many thanks to Mary for providing this helpful service.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Safety and Security Committee is seeking volunteers on Sundays to be available to open the church at 9:30 a.m. and close it at 1 p.m., and to provide a comforting presence in the hallway and parking lot during services. We are hoping for enough volunteers so that this will be an every-other-month service opportunity. Training will be provided. For questions or to volunteer contact Dave Murray at davidmurray1954@gmail.com or call 419-460-8972.



2022 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 12:00 pm Knit Wits & Fiberwork Orphans
3 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	4 Independence Day 	5 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30pm Meditation Zoom 7:00 pm Weavers Guild	6	7	8	9 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity
10 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	11	12 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30pm Meditation Zoom	13	14 7:00 pm Board meeting	15	16 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 1:00 pm UU Film Club
17 19:45 am Spiritual Adventures 1:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:00 pm Live and Let Live Anniversary Ice Cream Social 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	18 9:30 am Breakfast Bunch, Reynolds Rd. Café 6:00 pm Together Women Rise Meeting	19 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation Zoom	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
24/31 9:45 am Spiritual Adventures 11:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 5:30 pm Meditation - Zoom (July 24th) 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	25	26 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation Zoom	27 10:30 am LFH Blanket Making	28	29	30 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity

MEDITATION

In May the Sunday evening meditation group will meet on July 10 and 24 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM in-person and on ZOOM. The Tuesday MultiFaith meditation group continues to meet weekly from 6:30-7:30PM in person and on ZOOM. Masks are encouraged for those attending in-person.

"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=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.**



UU FILM CLUB

Join us on July 16th at 3:30 pm at Cinemark Franklin Park to view the film *Where the Crawdads Sing*. (Tickets can be purchased now online.) We will gather after at Bravo Italian Kitchen (attached to the mall) for dinner and a lively discussion. (We will have a private room.) Please RSVP to Judy Murray at bookie@bex.net or text her as we need an accurate count for dinner.

AWARENESS OF SPECIAL NEEDS

Awareness of Special Needs Support Group: If you are living with a chronic condition, are a caregiver, or just need to talk, please join us on the 4th Saturday of the month. We gather around the table with cookies and beverages and share with each other how we are doing. We meet at Joanne Hartough's home from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Our next meeting will be on July 23rd, 2022. If you would like to come, please send an email to joannehartough@gmail.com.

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.

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.

HOGWARTS CAMP

NEWS FROM MAUMEE VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION: Mark your calendars for MVUUC's Hogwarts Camp on August 13-14! We are conjuring a magical weekend with lessons from your favorite professors, a movie, and a water slide! If you would like to teach a class, help out at camp, or have any questions, please reach out to Patricia. We can't wait to share this magical experience with all of you. For more information, contact Patricia Schuelke, the Director of Religious Education at Maumee Valley at DRE@mvuuc.org!

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@uutoledo.edu) or Michael Davison (davisonma@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.

TOLEDO PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars now! The Toledo Pride festival is scheduled for Saturday, August 20 at noon. We hope to march with the Maumee Valley UU Congregation again this year and will invite friends from the Lyons and Oberlin congregations. We need marchers! This is an especially good chance for our kids to get together and celebrate our diverse, beloved community. This year, we will set up a booth and hand out information about our church. This is a great opportunity to show support for our LGBTQ+ friends and family. It is also an important way to support our church mission by increasing awareness of our congregation among people who already share our principles but may not know it yet! If you are interested in helping out or learning more, please e-mail Gini Gottman (dll@uutoledo.org) or David Strickler (david.pickstrum@gmail.com).

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!