



SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022



Sunday, September 4

Earth-Centered Spirituality Grounds Us

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Our Labor Day service has the final entry in our summer series on the Unitarian Universalist principles and sources. We'll end with "Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature."

Sunday, September 11

Ingathering/The Periodic Table

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Our Ingatherings that begin the church year continue to be elements-focused, on what composes our universe. Over the past five years we have done the "ancient elements" of earth, air, fire, water, and the mystical fifth element called quintessence. This year we'll come into the present, with science at the fore, giving respect to the periodic table of the elements.

Sunday, September 18

The Transcendentalists

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

For our 2022-23 church year we'll have Transcendentalism, which has strong ties to Unitarian history from its place in 19th-century culture, as an ongoing topic. The first entry in the series will set the stage.

Sunday, September 25

The Space of a Year

Rev. Dr. TK Barger

Rosh Hashanah, called the Jewish New Year, will begin at sundown on September 25. We'll use that prompt to look at what can happen—and has happened—in the space of a year.



Reverend Tim Barger

We Toledo Unitarians have pretty much held our own over the past two pandemic years, but we haven't been without challenges. The church has stayed pretty close to budget even while having staff changes and longer-than-wanted vacant positions, shutting down the building and activities to limit Covid exposure, and adding electronic elements for congregation outreach while learning on the go. All of this has been done in real time, too. We didn't have the opportunity to think about the future during a period when it seemed all we could do was wonder what was coming to us from just around the corner. The pandemic isn't over. We are getting accustomed to Covid-19 as a disease that will be among us, and vaccinations and their effect of lessening the severity mean we're open again and trying to resume as a church open to the public. We members, supporters, and friends of First Unitarian have reached the point when it's time to plan. We know that we can't return to what we were in 2019, for example. We don't have as many members as we did, and our attendance is lower—I joke that people discovered CBS Sunday Morning and how will we draw them back from having a morning of calm news on the TV in their pajamas, with them switching to us on YouTube if they remember to. The reality is that we have to adjust to our present-size congregation. Some of our previous strategic planning won't apply well to what we've become, so we have to plan more, plan again, plan for the longer future as well as for the next budget cycle. That includes implementing a new capital campaign, with the focus expected to be on sanctuary renovation and building accessibility. And along with the planning, we have to make our present one that works well. We need the Sunday energy of children's religious education, of Spiritual Forum, of the choir and ambitious anthems in the Sunday service. Let's do what we can to make our church one that people want to come to, take part in, and join with. The reality is that we might not be able to have all the programs, including our philanthropic outreach for caring community and social justice, as we did pre-Covid. Our planning, and knowing what our members can do well, will help us to have greater community involvement. Let's be strong in what we do so we can bring in new families and individuals to foster spiritual growth and so we can practice compassionate action. Maybe we're better-sized now to be a vibrant, inclusive spiritual community that achieves growth, visibility, and relevance. Plan for it. ~Rev. Tim



Sandra Kosek-Sills, Board President

As summer starts to wind down, it's time again to come together as a church community. This month we will meet for Ingathering on September 11. What have you been up to all summer? What do you plan to do through the fall? Your board has been wrapping up last year's fiscal picture and making plans for Stewardship, a new Capital Campaign, and the revival of our fun events such as the Rummage Sale September 10. Other events coming later in the fall include the Trunk or Treat and possibly the return of the Holiday Bazaar. We are excited about the new activities for the kids in Children's RE each Sunday. Stay tuned for more new activities in Spiritual Forum each Sunday before the service. Enjoy the late summer harvest from the garden and the late blooming flowers, and I'll see you in church! In Fellowship, Sandra



Gini Gottman, Director of Lifelong Learning

This summer, our kids' program has been growing beautifully! It's not always easy to pry a little one out of bed during the summer, so I am glad and grateful for every child I see on Sundays. Our kids continue to grow friendships with each other, so let's please keep it up! We, the liberal religious, need each other as much as people in history have ever needed each other, and it's invaluable for our children to see and know each other, and know that they have a place – besides home – where they are welcomed, needed and loved. Thank you for sharing your beloved little ones with our community. We have so many interesting activities going on. Join us Labor Day weekend when our activity for September 4 will be making seed bombs! We will create a paste out of paper and water and sprinkle in some flower seeds. Hopefully we'll end up with cute seed bombs (or maybe seed paper) that will help grow new wildflowers native to Northwest Ohio. Don't forget our Ingathering is September 11th. In fellowship, Gini

TOLEDO UNITARIANS ARE ON THE RADIO!

Tune in to 90.7 FM—but you might not pick it up until you're in the building. Our "station" will not in any way compete with public radio, where we've been a sponsor of news programming on WGTE-FM and will continue that with our 15-second promotion of First Unitarian three times a week. What we now have is our own transmitter, broadcasting on FM 90.7—in stereo! If you'd like to use an assisted listening device to help with hearing our Sunday services, we have a couple of small radios available and tuned in, with headphones included. If you have your own radio or earbuds, please bring them. Our signal barely reaches through the building and gets to only a few spaces in the parking lot, so it's not a listen-from-home alternative; our Toledo Unitarians YouTube channel continues as that source. We'll be on the air for only Sunday services at this time. Events that aren't in the sanctuary that use a PA system could be made accessible with advance planning. Our church is now on radio, TV, and the internet, and in print with newsletters, bulletins, and other publications. Your media mogul minister will do his best to resist the accessories that go with all that exposure—private plane, fancy sneakers, extra houses. But he might see if he can get a new battery for his fake Rolex watch.

MULTI-FAITH COUNCIL OF NWO TEA FUNDRAISER

You're invited to join us for a tea Fund Raiser for MultiFaith Council of NWO on Saturday, September 17 from 1:00PM-3:00PM at Corpus Christi University Parish. You're invited to bring a dish to share if you are able. Seats are filling up quickly so please RSVP soon to Beth at: Txt: 419.490.0648 or email: schardtba@gmail.com. Cost is \$20 per person and cash/check only please.

THANK YOU KROGER AND AMAZON SHOPPERS

This is the quarterly notification to inform you that AmazonSmile has made a charitable donation to your church as a result of qualifying purchases made by you and other customers. Thanks to customers shopping at smile.amazon.com or using the Amazon app with AmazonSmile turned ON, everyday purchases make an impact. The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community. 01-May-2022 to 31-Jul-2022, 49 households in your church helped us give your church \$166.94 in total donations. Sign up now at Kroger.com, if you have not already.

TRUNK OR TREAT

First Unitarian's annual Trunk or Treat celebration will be October 22, 2022 from 4pm-6pm. Dress yourself up and/or your vehicle. There will be prizes for best car and best children's costume. There will also be other fun and spooky children's activities. Please direct any questions to Lauren at laurenmichelsen@yahoo.com. Happy Haunting!

ALARM CODE CHANGE

Please note that the alarm code has changed. Please contact the church office if you think that you need the updated code. If you have the code, please do not share it with anyone. Also, please remember to sign in anytime you enter the building when it is not normal church operating hours. Thank you

BRUNCH BUNCH

Please note: The Third Monday Breakfast Bunch will no longer be meeting. Thank you to all who participated in the past. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Baum via telephone.

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.

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.

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	2	3 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 12:00 pm Knit Wits & Fiberwork Orphans
4 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	5 Labor Day 	6 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30pm Meditation Zoom 7:00 pm Weavers Guild	7	8	9	10 9:00 am Rummage Sale 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity
11 Remembrance Day 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	12	13 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30pm Meditation Zoom	14	15 7:00 pm Board meeting	16	17 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 1:00 pm UU Film Club
18 19:45 am Spiritual Adventures 1:00 am Worship Service YouTube AND IN-PERSON service in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour - Zoom 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	19 6:00 pm Together Women Rise	20 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation Zoom Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23	24 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 1:30 pm Awareness of Special Needs
25 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 8:00 pm Live & Let Live LGBT AA	26	27 12:00 pm AA Group Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation Zoom	28 10:30 am LFH Blanket Making	29	30	OCTOBER 1 10:00 am AA Slice of Serenity 12:00 pm Knit Wits & Fiberwork Orphans

MEDITATION

The Sunday evening meditation group will meet on September 11 and 25 from 5:30PM to 7:00PM 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=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.**



UU FILM CLUB

Are you a film buff? Join us the third Saturday of the month for the UU Film Club. We meet at a local theater to view a current film and then have lunch/dinner at a restaurant to discuss it. Contact Judy or Dave Murray at bookie@bex.net for details.

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.

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 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.

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.

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE - AKA HOARDER DOWNSIZING SALE!

Save the date—mark your calendars now. Our annual rummage sale will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 9a-4p. Ready to declutter? We are seeking donated items for this sale. We also need many volunteers for jobs big and small—whatever time you can give us is awesome! Let's get rid of all that "stuff" you have been hoarding that you were going to use "some day." It is for a good cause—to help our church and all its various needs. You may bring your things in any time there will be someone at the church. All product other than furniture goes in the classroom. Furniture will go into the garage. Let's all work together to make this a successful sale! Contact Sue Childers readcrafts@yahoo.com for info.

BRASS QUINTET CONCERT ON LABOR WEEKEND SUNDAY

Join us Sunday, September 4, at 1pm. An afternoon of lighter classics and popular music with the "Party of Five" brass quintet (featuring members of the Toledo Symphony). Music of Ewald, Copland, Joplin, Bach, Mancini and more. Free and open to the general public. Location: back lawn of First Unitarian Church of Toledo. This concert is made possible by a grant from the Music Performance Trust Fund.

MONDAY LABOR DAY PICNIC

Join us Sept. 5th, noon-4:00 pm, for food, fun, and conversation in the church's backyard. Please bring your own food to grill, drinks, and a dish to pass. There will be a chef on the grill.