



TOLEDO
UNITARIANS

First Unitarian Church of Toledo
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UU-FYI - OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025

[No images? View as Webpage.](#)

9:45 AM - SPIRITUAL FORUM

On November 2, our own Dr. Julia Kalbus will lead our discussion! Julia led a Spiritual Forum presentation in the last church year, and is back by popular demand. Her topic is "What Your Doctor Wants You to Know." This is a excellent opportunity to learn some medical news we can use. Hope to see you for the discussion!

11:00 AM - SERVICE

Merriam-Webster

Dictionary

Daily

Games

Your Account

Recents

Saved

More

universalism

universal agents

universal antidote

universal coupling

universal donor

universal donors

universal grammar

universal grammars

universalism

universalisms

universalist

universalistic

universalists

universalities

universality

universalization

universalism

noun

uni-ver-sal-ism | \ yü-nə-vər-sə-li-zəm \

Definition

1

often capitalized

a

: a theological doctrine that all human beings will eventually be saved

b

: the principles and practices of a liberal Christian denomination founded in the 18th century originally to uphold belief in universal salvation and now united with Unitarianism

2

: something that is universal in scope

3

: the state of being universal : [UNIVERSALITY](#)

Other Words

universalist \ yü-nə-vər-s(ə-)list \ noun or adjective often capitalized

First Known Use

1722, in the meaning defined at sense 1a

What Does "Universalist" Mean Today? Rev. Dr. TK Barger

We're spending three Sundays this fall to consider terminology, using some theology and religious history, to have a better understanding of aspects of Unitarian Universalism. This week we have "What Does 'Universalist' Mean Today?" We began with "Unitarian" in October, and at the end of this month we'll examine "Humanist." Our church is First Unitarian, we're a Unitarian Universalist congregation, and Rev. Tim has a Humanist approach. Some focus on these terms might help us better understand how we honor seeking—and sometimes finding—while drawing inspiration from world religions, from science, and from arts and letters.

[CLICK TO WATCH ON OUR YouTube CHANNEL](#)



KIDS' ACTIVITIES

On November 2, the kids will undertake a very important spiritual scavenger hunt. We talk about the values of Unitarian Universalism, but how do those values impact a typical Sunday morning? Post-scavenger hunt, kids will have the opportunity to exchange Halloween candy. Hope to see lots of friends who are ready to hunt!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, November 2:

- 9:30 AM - Choir Practice
- 9:45 AM - Spiritual Forum
- 11:00 AM - Service In Person + on our YouTube Channel
- 12:00 PM - Coffee and Conversation
- 1:00 PM - Joe Moran provides a prelude talk for the November 5 Program

Tuesday, November 4, 11:00 AM - Sunday Service Committee ZOOM*

Tuesday, November 4, 6:30 PM - Meditation Group via ZOOM*

Wednesday, November 5, 6:00 PM - Unitarian Action Program:
Professor Lain speaks on Lethal Injection (see article)

UPCOMING EVENTS (see articles below for more info)

Thursday, Nov. 6, 4:00 PM - First U Walking Group
at Cannonball Prairie Metropark

Friday, November 7, 2:00 PM - Book Club Meets*

Saturday, November 8. 9:30 AM - KnitWits Meet*

Saturday, November 8 and Sunday, November 9 - Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 15, noon - First U Walking Group at Manhattan Marsh Reserve Metropark.

*See [the Groups and Monthly Meeting document](#) for ongoing meet ups

FROM THE MINISTER

RE: Posting news articles in our Facebook group

"All this is to say, if you go to any local websites and find articles about Toledo Unitarians or featuring First Unitarian, please share them in our Facebook group."



In our church's Facebook private group, I post items from local media that are related to First Unitarian and its people. Most of those entries are taken from the Blade. The Blade is not the only news publication in town, but it has a daily online edition, and most mornings I read the Blade, the Washington Post, and the New York Times—at least, I look at the headlines and get to a few articles. If there's a Blade letter to the editor written by one of our members, I'll put that on Facebook. If I see that the church is mentioned in a local news story, it also goes onto Facebook. That's sharing that comes from my regular reading routine... [{click here to continue}](#)

CARING AND SHARING



image by gerd allmann from pixabay

Long time member Jane Burns, passed away on October 20. Funeral

arrangements are pending.

We continue to keep Susan Smith, Judy Murray, Phil Park-Thomas, and Kathy Willis in our hearts as they deal with health issues. Messages of cheer are always greatly appreciated.

"UUs care! Please continue to communicate your concerns or celebrations with any member of the Caring Circle: Carla Logan-Mercer, Karen Christie, Phil Zepp, Suzanne Hoffman, Joanne Hartough, Becky Hrabovsky, Karen Porter, Terry Acocks, Kathy Crowther, Marsha Gamble, Susan Smith (current chair @ sfrostsmyth7@gmail.com) and Rev. Tim Barger.

Please contact Joanne Hartough at joannehartough@gmail.com with any concerns or joys that you wish to share in this FYI column.

INVITATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES



The Blessings of Diversity

Monday Nov. 3, at 6pm

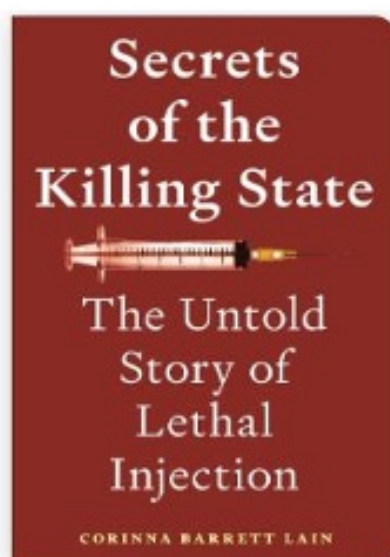
at the Islamic Society of North West Ohio, 50 S McCord Rd,
Holland, OH 43528. [FLYER HERE](#)

Ten faith traditions will present readings and music or poetry on the theme Gratefulness. It is a great opportunity to visit another faith space and meet MultiFaith neighbors. Fellowship time will follow. The services are sponsored by the MultiFaith Council of NW Ohio. First Unitarian Church has a bronze membership and is very supportive of the mission.

The services are free, and all welcome. If you are able, please bring a nonperishable food item for the pantry to help those in our community who are in need.

Wednesday, November 5 at 6:00 pm

First Unitarian Church of Toledo 3205 Glendale 43614



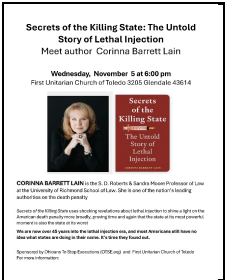
Secrets of the Killing State: The Untold Story of Lethal Injection

Meet the author, law professor, and death penalty expert Corinna Barrett Lain on Wednesday, November 5 at 6:00 PM here at First

Unitarian Church.

The event is co-sponsored by the church's Unitarian Action Committee along with Ohioans to Stop Execution (OTSE).

Professor Lain will also be sharing her research on both lethal injection and Hydrogen Hypoxia (suffocation) as methods of execution. Hydrogen Hypoxia has been introduced as an alternative to lethal injection by the Ohio House of Representatives (HB 36). A reception with light refreshments will follow Professor Lain's talk. We are asking church members to provide cookies and serve as volunteers for the event. See Unitarian Action co-chair Joe Moran if you can help.



<---{click image for a printable flyer}

NOTE: As a prelude to Professor Corinna Lain's presentation on November 5th, Joe Moran will present an overview of the death penalty in the U.S. and internationally at 1 PM on Sunday November 2, 2025 in Fellowship Hall.

The First U Walking Group will meet twice in November. (1) Thursday, November 6, 4:00 PM, at Cannonball Prairie Metropark, (2) Saturday, November 15, noon, at Manhattan Marsh Reserve Metropark. Contact David Strickler if you have any questions or suggestions.



The Bazaar is coming closer and we have a few things to ask of you. First, we will be having a UU Holiday table, so we need donations of holiday items. Please look through your holiday decorations and if you have things you no longer use, please consider donating them to us.



Also looking for hand made items to sell. You can bring them to church this Sunday and Marna will collect them, or you can bring them during set up on Friday night before the bazaar or during the bazaar on Saturday. Next, we need volunteers during the bazaar.

On Friday, November 7th, from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm we will need a few helpers to set up tables and from 5:00pm to 8:00 pm to help vendors set up. On Saturday, November 8th, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, and Sunday, November 9th, 12 Noon to 3:30 pm we will need people for the following jobs: selling at the bake sale, assisting with food service, selling raffle tickets, selling at the UU Holiday table, cashiers, and runners (take sales slips from the vendors to the cashier table).

We will also need helpers to stay after the sale and help move tables and chairs and clean up. During the day on Saturday you can work a 1/2 day or full day. There will be a signup sheet at church on Sunday and I will put a sign-up genius form on the UUFYI next week.

If you can help or have questions, please let Marna or Sandra know.

Finally, we still have openings for vendors. If you know anyone, they can sign up using [THIS VENDOR LINK](#) or contact Marna at marnaslaw@sbcglobal.net or 708-738-5096 or Sandra Kosek-Sills s_e_kosek@msn.com



BASKETS: Join the fun of creating and possibly winning a Raffle Basket! If you are a member of a social group or committee (Book Club, Choir, Kitchen, Meditation, etc.) gather your people and start working on a theme (chocolate, relaxation, exercise, etc) for your basket and let Marsha Gamble know to avoid duplication. If

you have a basket or ribbon that you could donate that would lend itself for assembling baskets, please let Marsha, Marna or Sandra know. Thank you!



(click image for link)

First Thursday Series, **Culture at the Crossroads:** (Lunch time Speakers) meets at the Monroe Street Methodist Church *3613 Monroe St. Our Unitarian Action Committee is a co-sponsor of the series.

Here are the remaining topics and speakers:

- Nov. 6: DEI, Suppression of School Curriculum/Free Speech Issues with Lynn Hamer.
- Jan. 8: Christian Nationalism: What is it, and Should I be Concerned? with Larry Clark
- Feb. 5: Climate Change: Implications Locally and Beyond with Julie Shapiro and Gregory J. Breier.
- Mar. 5: Investigating Reality: Discovering Truth in Media with John Krochmalny
- Apr. 9: "Thoreau at Walden" and Civil Disobedience with Cynthia Nowak

Admission is \$15.00 and includes lunch, or bring your own lunch and admission is \$5.00.

WORLD DINING

will visit Sweet Havana, a new Cuban restaurant, at 1855 South Reynolds Rd., Suite F, Toledo, Ohio 43614 on Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

This is one week earlier than normal

because of Thanksgiving. "Escape to

Havana in Toledo," and enjoy delicious food and good company!

<https://sweethavanna.com/#menu> RSVP to Jarvis Gamble at

jarvisgamble@gmail.com.



NOTES AND NEWS

Be on the lookout for our annual POINSETTIA SALE, which will start this Sunday. Order forms will be available. If you have any questions, please see Ginny Washing.



UPDATE FROM UNITARIAN ACTION

On Monday Oct. 20th members and friends of 1st UU volunteered for three hours at Glendale Commons to weed and prepare their garden for next year. This was a Unitarian Action event and those that helped included Karen Porter, the GC's social worker Cam, Rev. Mike Hanck from Salem Lutheran, Joyce and Joe Moran. Special thanks to Karen who organized the event. A dinner for the residents has been postponed until after the new year.



With proposed federal funding changes, there may be a shortage of resources for food and staples in the Toledo area. A limited supply or budget constraints could certainly affect members of our congregation as well as our surrounding neighbors.

This, then, seems to be a good time to encourage our show of "service" and support. Please continue to bring non perishable, canned goods and personal hygiene items to the church entry way bins.

Remember, this support is meant for UU members as well as any others in need. We already pool our resources with other programs and continue to fill our outside pantry. So, in the spirit of UU caring, bring in what you can and take home what you may need!

BE AWARE -- TAKE CARE!

October is Fire Safety Month. Our goal is to raise safety awareness. What can we do?

- *A fire department responds to a fire every 24 seconds in America
- *Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of cooking fires
- *Check smoke detectors and replace batteries if needed
- *Use LED lights for decorations to reduce fire safety
- *Be cautious with candle use; use battery-operated alternatives when possible
- *Ensure outdoor areas are well lit
- *When placing decorations, keep exits, sprinklers, & walkways clear

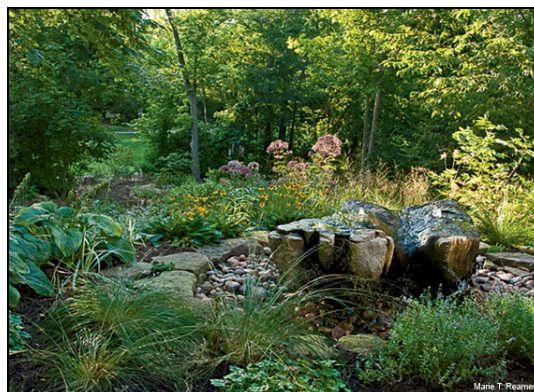
GREEN SANCTUARY

Prescription: Nature

Greener cities do more than provide clean air and protect residents from severe temperatures and flooding. Experiencing nature in any form - whether you're meandering through a city park, tending houseplants or simply listening to the sounds of birds - has positive benefits for people's

mental, emotional, and physical health. Some of the benefits:

- Lowers stress and blood pressure
- Boosts memory and creativity
- Fosters feelings of connectedness, alleviating loneliness
- Helps manage symptoms of chronic conditions like PTSD, anxiety, and ADHD.



MEETING ROSTER

Weekly and Monthly
Ongoing Meetings
and Activities

[Click THIS DOCUMENT](#)

for a fuller, printable description of the 2025 activities, location,
meeting dates and contact person for each group:

Every TuesdaySunday Service Committee ZOOM call at 11:00 AM
Every Tuesday....Meditation @ 6:30 PM
Weekly AA meetings - see document link for times
1st Friday.....Book Club @ 2:00 PM
1st Saturday.....Knit Wits @ 11:30 AM
2nd Saturday.....Social Action Saturday @ 11AM-1PM **Please check FYI
for current schedule**
2nd Sunday.....Meditation @ 5:30 PM until December
3rd Saturday.....Film Club @ 1:00 PM
3rd Sunday.....Men's Group @ 5:30 PM
3rd Monday.....Together Women Rise @ 6:00 PM
4th TuesdayLGBTQ Online Support Group @ 8:00 PM
4th Tuesday.....Board of Trustees @ 7:00 PM
4th Wednesday ...Blanket Making @ 10:30 AM
4th Saturday.....Social Action Saturday @ 11AM-1PM **Please check FYI
for current schedule**
4th Sunday.....Meditation @ 5:30 PM
4th (or last) Sunday.... Potluck after Service

*Is your meeting not listed? Submit your meeting details at
[https://uutoledo.wufoo.com/forms/first-unitarian-communications-
request-form](https://uutoledo.wufoo.com/forms/first-unitarian-communications-request-form)*

CHURCH INFO

WEBSITE NEWS

Be sure to take time to check out all of the events on our website. Go
to; www.uutoledo.org and click on Calendar & UU-FYI. Also, many of
our church forms are now online. Please use the link
www.uutoledo.org/forms.

OFFICE HOURS:

Office hours are normally Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from
10:30-2:30 PM. Otherwise, please reach us by phone or email, which
will be frequently checked. Thank you.
Phone: 419-381-6999
Office email: office.manager@uutoledo.org,
Bookkeeper email: bookkeeper@uutoledo.org,
Minister email: minister@uutoledo.org.

ABOUT THE FYI

*Did you receive this FYI from a friend?
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The weekly FYI is published on Thursdays. The Order of Service is sent on Saturdays.
To submit information for the next UU-FYI, fill out [THIS FORM](#)
by **Wednesday at noon**. Questions about the form or the FYI? Email fyi@uutoledo.org.

UU-FYI Volunteers:

Tina Baker, Joanne Hartough, Susan Spiegel, Marna Slawson

Clergy

Rev. Dr. TK Barger, *Senior Minister*
David Strickler, *Commissioned Lay Minister*
Melissa Jeter, *Minister in Formation*

Staff

Gini Gottman, *Director of Lifelong Learning*
Jeffrey Maxie, *Music Director & Office Administrator*
Lou Ann Flick, *Bookkeeper*

Board of Trustees

Krista Schneider, *President*; Sue Childers, *Vice President*;
Geoff Slawson, *Treasurer*; Wes Kalbus, *Secretary*;
Kathy Crowther, Wendy DeBord, and Stasia Hanson, *At-Large Members*

First Unitarian Church of Toledo | fyi@uutoledo.org | 419-381-6999 | www.uutoledo.org/

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