



**TOLEDO
UNITARIANS**

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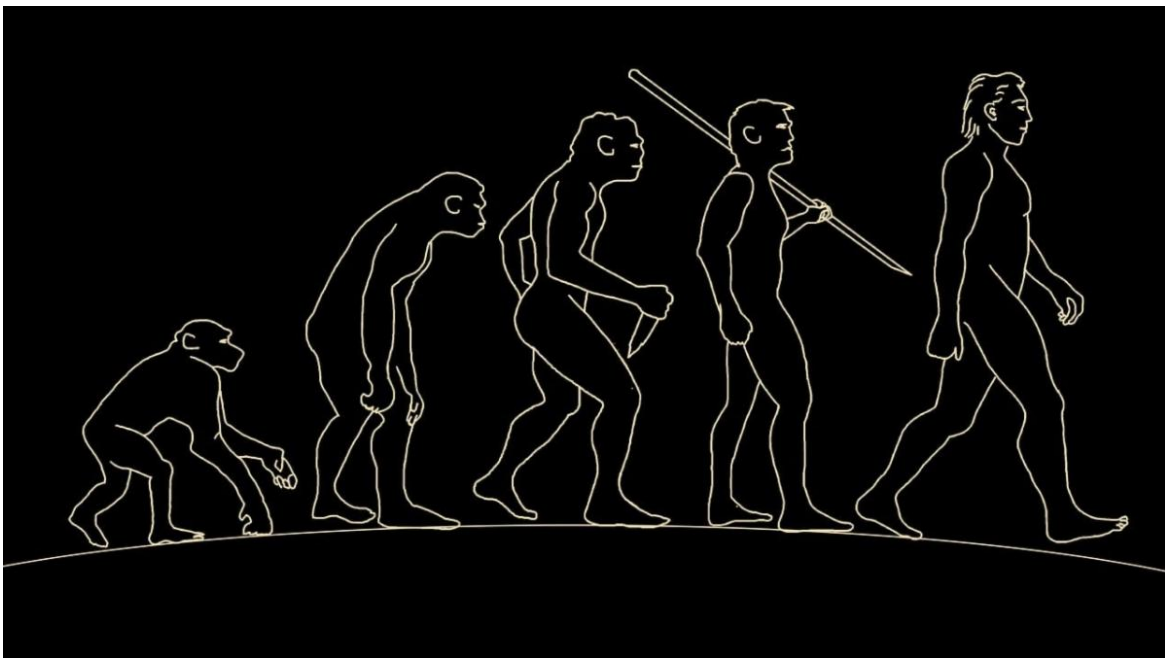
UU-FYI - OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

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

9:45 AM - SPIRITUAL FORUM

Please join us at 9:45 on October 19, when we will finish up our Spiritual Forum covenant! If you missed our September 14 session, this might be your last chance to add your thoughts to the discussion. All ideas and voices are valuable, so we hope to see you there!

11:00 AM - SERVICE



The Scopes Monkey Trial, 1925: What Have We Inherited? **Rev. Dr. TK Barger**

One hundred years after the trial of John Scopes in Dayton, Tennessee—he was indicted for teaching evolution in a public high school—how is it that public education seems again to have a trend of considering religious stories as truth and suppressing scientific knowledge? The play *Inherit the Wind*, based on that “monkey trial,” has us asking today, “What have we inherited?” At First Unitarian Sunday at 11 AM, Rev. Tim will consider what the wind has borne.

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



KIDS' ACTIVITY

On October 19, the kids will resume the work of making clay backpack blessing charms! This will be a day of creative and spiritual play. Hope to see lots of faces there!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Friday, October 17 - 7:00 PM - Jim Scott Concert -see below
Saturday, October 18 - Film Club *

Sunday, October 19:

- 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

Monday, October 20, 6:00 PM - Together Women RISE*

Tuesday, October 21, 11:00 AM - Sunday Service Committee ZOOM*

Tuesday, October 21, 6:30 PM - Meditation Group via ZOOM*

UPCOMING EVENTS *(see articles below for more info)*

Thursday, October 23, 6:00 PM - World Dining at Koreana -see below

Saturday, October 25, 10 til Noon - Yard CleanUp -see below

Saturday, October 25, 5:00PM - Halloween Party and Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, October 26, 5:30 PM Meditation **IN PERSON** and via Zoom*

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

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

FROM THE MINISTER

When does holiday season start? When I was a child, it was pretty much Thanksgiving through New Year's (extended, for me, through my birthday on January 4). Halloween was a preview, kind of a single-day test run before the "real" holidays.

The season has expanded, hasn't it? I don't think it's because I've aged. It's not that I have to plan ahead because I need to schedule Sunday services in advance. Changes in society do contribute, such as the movement in our own country of Halloween having Christmas-scale ghosts and skeletons and eerie atmospheric decorations with elaborate yard displays which are then converted only slightly into fall and Thanksgiving themes while the Christmas fixtures are prepared and mounted earlier every year, to the point that they'll overtake the turkey celebration anytime now.

I'm thinking I can't wait until October 31, or the Sunday before for our congregation, to call up holiday spirit. I'm declaring, with all the influence I pretend to have, and which you can ignore: Holiday season begins NOW.

This is published on October 16th. Labor Day and Rosh Hashanah have been observed. We're planning a Halloween party at church for Saturday, October 25, nine days away. My sermon on the 26th will have some content from Wicca, a pagan religious way which has the 31st as Samhain, and Samhain has many ties that secular society has adapted and applied to Halloween. After the 31st, the change on November 2 from daylight saving to standard time will help us to feel that the world isn't the normal way (ignoring all the news and politics that have had it abnormal for a very long time), and holidays will add to the departure from the "usual." There's Election Day on the 4th; it's an "off year" but we have City Council contests (please vote if you can). At First Unitarian, winter and Christmas decorations will be around us as we prepare for our holiday bazaar on November 8 and 9. The 11th is Veterans Day with some solemnity. Then gear up for Thanksgiving the 27th, the beginning of the "big" holiday time with its run up to Christmas. And it will keep going—all the way to Valentine's Day, plus more, won't it?

You get the reason why we wish people "happy holidays" along with singling out particular events. There are just so many, throughout the year, but they always seem to come into focus right about now.

So, happy holidays! They're here now. May they bring good to you

and yours.

CARING AND SHARING



image by gerd allmann from pixabay

We wish the very best outcome for Susan Smith as she heals from knee replacement surgery. She also would appreciate get well messages and cards.

Jane Burns continues care at Hospice of NW Ohio at the Ebeid Center on the campus of Flower Hospital. Cards and brief visits are appreciated. We continue to send thoughts of peace and comfort to Jane and Mike in their health journeys.

Phil Park-Thomas had his third (and hopefully final!) ankle surgery at Toledo Hospital on Wednesday. His dialysis schedule continues on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. If you would like to visit on other days, please call Phil first. Cards (sent to his home) and email messages are also appreciated. Phil misses his UU friends and wants to keep in touch. If you'd like to offer help, contact Susan Spiegel (saspieg@yahoo.com).

We extend our sympathy to Judy Murray who missed a step and fell from their camper, breaking two bones in her wrist. She had surgery last week with the insertion of a metal plate and some screws, which will be removed in another surgery in eight weeks.

Members of the First UU family, please keep in mind the slogan of those of us over 60: Don't fall!

"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 @ sfrostsmit7@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

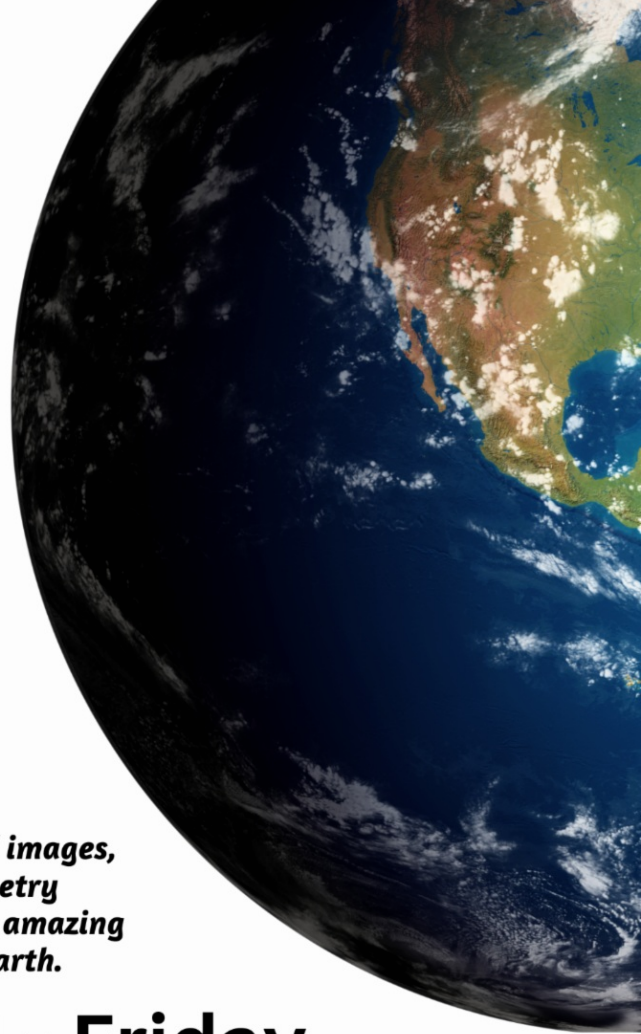
Read more about this event at
<https://uutoledo.org/event/jim-scott-in-concert/>

A Vision for the Planet

**A Multimedia,
Music and Visual
Experience by
Composer**

Jim Scott

*Mixing powerful songs and images,
Jim Scott's melodies and poetry
celebrate what's beautiful, amazing
and fragile on our planet Earth.*



**7 PM - Friday
October 17, 2025**

Suggested donation - \$20
(or what you can afford)

First Unitarian Church of Toledo
3205 Glendale Ave, Toledo, OH 43614

JimScottMusic.com

Prolific composer and guitarist, Jim Scott, was awarded an NEA grant to present this concert experience in Worcester MA with band and chorus. Now he's taking this message on the road.

Mixing powerful songs and beautiful projected images, "The Year to Save the Earth" takes us from grief to celebration, and from protest to compassion for what's beautiful, amazing, and fragile about our Earth. As well as hard reality, the program's message is one of optimism with many invitations to join in the singing. Facing the urgency of the environmental crisis, this musical and visual experience challenges us to feel, to learn and to act.

Jim Scott has made it his business to create and perform music that celebrates peace, justice, and the Earth, with lyrical melodies and memorable verses. With the Paul Winter Consort, Jim was co-composer of their celebrated *Missa Gaia/Earth Mass* and sang their anthem song *Common Ground*. He has toured the world, recorded nine CDs of original music, and published a growing line of choral works.

FILM CLUB:

Join us Saturday, Oct. 18 at 1 PM in Fellowship Hall for a potluck, followed by the viewing of the movie *Gojira*, then a short discussion. We will also be planning for next year's film club. Here is a short synopsis of the film: 1954, Japan. The loss of several fishing ships off

the Japanese coast near Ōto Island lead to a government investigation of the incidents, as well as claims by Ōto Islanders that a gigantic monster has risen from the sea. An investigation confirms the existence of such a beast, which leads to debate in the Japanese government on how to address the situation. Despite their efforts, Gojira eventually emerges in Tokyo Bay, another victim of nuclear weapons, and one bent on making his pain and anger shown to the world.... Since first crawling out of the dark depths of Tokyo Bay in 1954, Gojira (Godzilla) has become a pop-culture icon.... Note: This film will be shown in Japanese with English subtitles. It is around 1 Hour 40 minutes long. Directed by Ishiro Honda Special Effects by Eijia Tsuburaya Soundtrack Scored by Akira Ifukube Haruo Nakajima and Katsumi Tezuka as Godzilla Hope you can join us !

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Several of us are gathering on Monday morning, 10/20 to help with weeding the neglected garden beds across the street at the LMHA housing. The new director there is trying to get the gardening program going again after years of neglect, and we want to give a boost to that project.



Government food aid has been decreasing so the hope is that some of the residents can grow their own healthy food. We will be gathering at our church at 9:45 to be at the housing at 10. The gardens are in a courtyard so it would help if we arrive together. If you need to stay just a short time, leaving when you are ready shouldn't be a problem. We're aiming for working 10-12. Some of us may go another day if there is still work to do. The director hopes to get some of the residents involved in the weeding, and he plans to work with us. If you can help, even for a short time, contact Joe Moran or Karen Porter and let them know.

(Image by <richardsdrawings Pixabay)

TOGETHER WOMEN RISE

Meeting and Potluck Dinner
Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
at First Unitarian Church, 3205 Glendale
Avenue, Toledo, Ohio



Grantee: **For the Good** [Kenya]

For the Good partners with communities to support girls' access to education so they are equipped and emboldened to drive their own lives.

Bring a dish to share and your own table service and serving utensils

For more information on Together Women Rise, please visit togetherwomenrise.org, or contact Susan Spiegel at saspieg@yahoo.com or Marcia Klunk at mgklunk@sbcglobal.net

All are welcome!

Bring a friend to share in good food and conversation while learning more about the world around us.

SUNDAY MEDITATION: "IN PERSON" OPTION

The Sunday evening meditation group meets on the second and fourth Sundays of the month from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Beginning Sunday, October 12 we will be meeting both in person and on Zoom

(the Sunday Zoom link remains the same).

The in person gathering will be at Eleanor Kostecki's home at 5102 Pickfair Dr. Toledo, Ohio 43615. You are welcome to join us on Zoom or in person. The Tuesday evening meditation group will continue to meet on Zoom only.



Are you Pagan or Pagan-curious?

We are exploring the possibility of forming a UU Pagan group within our congregation. This would be a space for fellowship, ritual, and learning together, rooted in both Pagan and UU values. If you're interested in being part of this emerging group, please contact Nessa Morningstar at motherwolf86@gmail.com. Hope to hear from you soon!

WORLD DINING

On Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM, all are invited to join Community Dining at Koreana, 1423 Bernath Parkway, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Koreana is well know for its delicious Korean food and fresh sushi. To reserve a spot, email Mike Croke at Mcroke1@yahoo.com or text Mike at 419-349-4996. Group size is limited to twenty by the restaurant. All are welcome to join this yummy event!



FALL CLEANUP SCHEDULED

Building and Grounds Committee invites all members and friends of the church to take part in our annual church yard cleanup Saturday, October 25, from 10 am to noon. Emphasis will be on Bush trimming, perennial flower cut-down, and stick removal. Wear gloves, and bring a rake and electric hedge trimmer, if you own one. Stasia and Paul Hanson will provide donuts.



HALLOWEEN PARTY AND CHILI COOKOFF

Join us in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 25 for a Halloween party and chili cook-off! Bring your favorite chili, or any other food you'd like to contribute, and we'll have an evening of merrymaking. We will screen a short (30 minutes or less) Halloween movie for the kids. Costumes are encouraged! The party will be from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, and the movie will begin at 6:00. Hope to see you and your chili there!



HOLIDAY BAZAAR



Now accepting vendors for the 2025 First Unitarian Annual Holiday Bazaar!!

Saturday, November 8th, 9 AM to 3 PM
Sunday, November 9th, 12 Noon to 3 PM

If you have participated in the past or know someone who might be interested, please use this link to complete the [Vendor Interest Form](#). We will get back to you once your application is accepted.

Vendor items should be handmade, PG-13, and could follow a

traditional holiday/winter theme, but that is not necessary. The vendors will need to have someone at their booth at all times, but we will have volunteers available to assist them. We will have lunch, dessert and bottled drinks for sale, but they can also bring their own lunch.

Vendor set up times are Friday, November 7th from 5 PM to 8 PM or Saturday, November 8th prior to the sale starting at 8 AM. They may leave their items set up overnight Friday and Saturday, but we are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Vendors may request a half or full 8-foot table. We will have cashiers who will handle sales by cash, check, or credit card. Vendors will get paid 75% of their gross sales plus 100% of sales over \$800. Checks will be sent within 2 weeks of the sale.

If you have any ideas or questions, talk to Marna or Sandra or email at marnaslaw@sbcglobal.net.

Please share this information with your friends and family!



(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.



Weekly and Monthly 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-1PMPlease 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>*

GREEN SANCTUARY

Many cities lack sufficient green space and natural infrastructure, such as tree-lined streets and expansive parks and gardens, which has resulted in unique ecological problems that impact the well-being of both people and nature.

For example, increases in impervious surfaces (such as parking lots, roads and buildings) has generated more stormwater runoff. Combined with more frequent severe weather, it often overwhelms city stormwater infrastructure, flooding neighborhoods and causing damage to homes and businesses.

A lack of trees is also linked with poor air quality and heat island effects, threatening the health of residents. We are lucky in this area that we have our many Metroparks. And we should support the efforts of the organization Tree Toledo and the city's ongoing work to plant trees, efforts that make our area better for everyone.



NOTES AND NEWS

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

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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

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Kathy Crowther, Wendy DeBord, and Stasia Hanson, *At-Large Members*

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