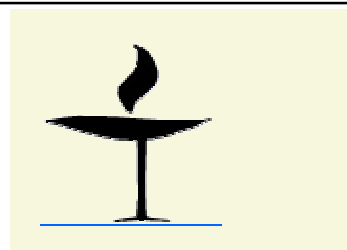


The Steel Chalice

Newsletter of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, OH
Vol. 65, No. 7 July 2011



MATT'S MUSINGS



One of the experiments we've been trying this spring is Give Away the Plate. Once a month, we give what we receive in our Sunday offering to an outside nonprofit organization that we consider a partner in our work. The group receives the entire collection from that Sunday, with the exception of pledge payments or gifts marked for a specific purpose.

Our congregation has been exceedingly generous in this program. Our first collection on March 20 was to fund the Pumpkin Garden now planted at MLK Elementary School, which will later become a garden where the children grow healthy produce for the school lunchroom. We raised \$480 for that project.

A month later, we raised \$407 to help our lower-income neighbors purchase produce at the Northside Farmers' Market held at the church Saturday through October. They receive a discount for produce when they make Ohio Direction Card purchases (the modern day food stamps).

Finally, on June 10, we raised \$210 for Grow Youngstown, to support their work in promoting urban farming and community gardens. We were able to present the check to Elsa Higby, founder of Grow Youngstown, who presented our first summer service on June 19.

Our children have also joined this effort. They raised about \$300 by selling Christmas cards and strawberry jam. Each class has chosen a species to help through the World Wildlife Fund: the Tiger, the Sea Turtle, and the Amur Leopard, all of which are endangered.

I especially appreciate that even in tough times we are able to be generous. I know the economy is not good, and many in our congregation struggle, and the congregation itself has had to be very careful with its cash flow; but even so, we've chosen to be generous to the community and world around us.

I hope we can continue this program of once-a-month Giving Away the Plate in the fall. It will certainly require some adjustments -- all experiments do. Programs like this raise questions that we as a community must answer. What is our mission in the world? Who are our neighbors? Which of them should we support with our time and money? Do we trust them to put our funds to good use? How do we choose among so many needs? What will happen if we make a wrong choice?

These are difficult questions to consider in our own individual giving, but they are even more difficult to consider in community. I believe that talking through questions like these and coming up with workable answers will strengthen our community.

I find that generosity doesn't come naturally to me -- it is not something our society encourages. For me, at least, generosity has to be practiced, like a spiritual discipline. The same thing may be true in community -- we have to practice generosity together, learning and relearning what it feels like to choose how we will give in order to help and serve others. I hope that increasingly we see ourselves as generous and helpful people joining together to serve the community and the world.

See you in church! Matt

SUNDAY SERVICES - 11 AM CHANNING HALL ALL ARE WELCOME.

June 26: "Immigration Reform and the Road to Phoenix, AZ"

The Phoenix Witness Project is a district-wide effort to raise funds to help people attend the Justice Assembly in Phoenix in 2012. In particular, we would like to help youths and young adults as well as people who have been prevented from attending due to economic circumstances.

Worship Leader: David Petras, UU Ohio Meadville District Board
Worship Associate: Ed Goist

July 3: "Whose Are We?"

Who do we belong to? Is there someone or something larger than us that we answer to? For many UUs, this is a difficult area of inquiry. Matt will explore these questions and offer some possible answers, or at least more questions...

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh
Worship Associate: Kadey Kimpel

July 10: "Human Ecology"

Worship Leaders: Jan Elias & Ginny Draa, YSU Human Ecology
Worship Associate: Melissa Smith

July 17: "Islam"

Worship Leader: Louis Muhammed, Nation of Islam
Worship Associate: Carole McWilson

July 24: "Tibetan Buddhism"

Worship Leader: Julie Thomas, YSU Psychology
Worship Associates: Margaret Haushalter and Diana Shaheen

July 31: "Reincarnation"

Worship Leader: Chris Bache, YSU Philosophy & Religious Studies
Worship Associate: Sarah Lown

August 7: "Spirituality of the College Student"

Worship Leaders: Gary Davenport, Sarah Lowry, Molly Toth
Worship Associate: Karen O'Malia

August 14: "Building a Harpsichord"

Worship Leaders: Wally Mayhall & Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
Worship Associate: Tim Raridon

ADULT FORUM

There are no Adult Forums in July and August. Adult Forums will resume again in September.

SUMMER WORSHIP

Our Summer Worship began June 19. Our theme this year is "Callings," and many of our speakers will talk of what drew them into the work they do and explore the spiritual aspects of their vocation.

We are meeting in Channing Hall, where it will be cooler. Our worship will be somewhat more informal, with readings and music.

We offer a one-room Religious Education program based on the Harry Potter books.

NORTHSIDE FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAYS FROM 9-NOON

Location: First Unitarian Universalist Church

- Fresh local and regional produce
- Locally prepared value added products
- Baked items
- Healthy food and snacks
- Cooking demonstrations and samples
- Recipes for how to prepare local foods
- New ways to prepare vegetables
- Community Yard Sale
- Live Entertainment



We accept WIC farmers' market coupons (produce). We also accept EBT Ohio Direction Card (Snap Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

DOWNTOWN FARMERS' MARKET TUESDAYS FROM 12 - 3 PM

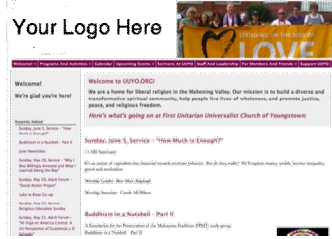
Location: Market St. at Federal Plaza

For more information, contact Jim Converse, Market Manager (330.518.6971).

UUYO LOGO CONTEST

Come up with a Logo for the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown.

We'd like a logo that helps communicate who we are to the world. A graphic symbol that we can use on our correspondence, newsletters, website, Facebook, brochures, banners, coffee cups, t-shirts, just about anywhere where we'd like people to recognize UUYO.



So we are having a design competition for a logo! The final design will be chosen by a jury that includes church leadership and skilled artists.

Logos can be multi-color or have a single color identity, but all designs should be reproducible in black and white.

Submit your designs (as many as you like) either electronically or on paper (preferably camera-ready). Include your contact info separately or on the back.

Deadline is July 10.

You can email electronic designs to office@uuyo.org, or drop them off at the office, or mail to UUYO, 1105 Elm St., Youngstown, OH 44505.



By submitting a design, you are acknowledging that the design is your creation, is not copyrighted by others, & that you give UUYO the right to use/modify the design.

Need inspiration? Just do an image search on words like "unitarian church logo."

UUYO BBQ AND BROADWAY SUNDAY, JULY 17 - 4-7 PM

Save the date and plan to attend this fund-raising event for the church. Rodd Coonce and Company will perform Broadway tunes.



Marcia Malmer, Joan Schwebel and friends will prepare a delicious dinner of ribs, chicken & a vegetarian entrée.

There will be a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and other exciting offerings.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Contact Karen O'Malia for further information at 330.718.2390 or karenomz@yahoo.com.

WEEKLY UPDATE

If you are not receiving the weekly update every week and would like to, please contact the office at 330.746.3067 or email at office@uuyo.org.

All we need is your email address, and you will receive this update every Thursday.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Thursday - 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Emails and voicemails will be checked other days also.

UUYO DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The updated directory is on the website. The password to access the directory is youngstown.

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BBQ & BROADWAY EVENT

We have some great donations on tap for the Silent Auction to be held as part of the BBQ and Broadway event July 17, but we'd love to add yours to the list!

A few ideas: donate photography, concert or theatre tickets; your special skills or services; or plan to host an event.

We will be at church the next few Sundays to accept donor forms; or contact Sarah Jordan [330.750.0939](tel:330.750.0939) or Jordan.182@osu.edu or Liz Hill [330.333.1619](tel:330.333.1619) or lizhill-writer@gmail.com with ideas or questions.

AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JULY 25, 2011

NEWS - MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



In Our Thoughts:

Ginny Morgan has been feeling poorly and will be undergoing some tests soon. Please keep Ginny in your thoughts.

Do you know of anyone who is in need of a card or a call? Please notify Luanna Jacobs, Chair, Caring Committee ([330.758.4142](tel:330.758.4142)).

**BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK PARTY
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 10 AM - 1 PM**

There's much work to do both inside and outside. Come out and help and enjoy the company.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

We will not meet in July and August.

In September, we will discuss Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver.



**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
1105 Elm Street Youngstown, Ohio 44505
(Across from Wick Park)**

Assault on Roe vs. Wade --Monday, July 11

Moderator, Emily Thome, VP for Development at Planned Parenthood Northeast Ohio, will introduce panelists: Karen O'Malia and Ginny Shorten, who spearheaded Right to Choose efforts prior to and directly following Roe vs. Wade; Sarah Lowry and Molly Toth, graduate students currently involved in women's reproductive health issues. Emily will add commentary and perspective to the debate. Should be a lively generational dialogue on the 40 years since the Roe decision.

Hal Walker: Music to Watch --Monday, July 18

Performer, instrument maker, Music Director at UU Kent, "I'm interested in silence, shaping sound, building community and creating real beauty." Reviews include "virtuosic solo musician, Hal Walker, commanded attention with his collection of traditional and invented instruments, a strange contraption that sounded like train whistles playing in harmony." *Cleveland Plain Dealer*: "The result is an exhilarating fusion of traditions presented with carefully crafted non-chalance. Walker's virtuosity and disarming stage persona are guaranteed to bring the house down." *Cleveland Free Times*: "Hal Walker has a pied-piper effect on people." *Cleveland Scene Magazine* <http://www.halwalkermusic.com/>

Panel: Media about the Valley, Including S.B.#5 --Monday, July 25

Gerry Ricciutti, Managing Editor, WKBN, moderator; Bert DeSouza, columnist for the *Youngstown Vindicator*; State Representative Bob Hagan; Mark Munroe, chair, Mahoning County Republican Party

Panel: Farm to Family --Monday, August 1

Meet some local meat and veggie growers. Agriculture is the largest industry in Ohio. Last year, \$35,000,000,000 was spent on food in Ohio. 1% of it was grown in Ohio. Learn how you can increase the percentage, create jobs, help the environment, and eat more nutritional food.

Democracy Movement in the Middle East --Monday, August 8

We will explore some of the surprising changes. Daniel Ayana, Professor of History at YSU; Mustansir Mir, Professor of Islamic Studies at YSU; David Porter, Professor of Political Science at YSU

Aphrodite vs. Athena: the Treatment of Goddess Archetypes by Contemporary Men and Women Artists --Monday, August 15

Karen O'Malia will present a multi-media program which she is preparing for a *Creativity and Madness* seminar. She will compare three women artists: **Judy Chicago**, the mother of feminist art; **Lalla Essayidi**, a 21st century artist who grew up in Morocco and lived in Saudi Arabia; and **Mickalene Thomas**, a 21st century African American artist, with three men artists: **John Currin**, a 21st century artist best known for satirical paintings dealing with provocative sexual and social themes; **Francesco Clemente**, a 21st century artist, who interprets reality based upon his perceptions; and **John Swannell**, a British photographer interested in abstract beauty.

Sex and the Media: Sex Role Stereotypes, Gender Identity and Inclusiveness --Monday, August 22

Members of the Mahoning Valley Community Leadership Council of Planned Parenthood Northeast Ohio, Jennifer Shima, Patty Latham, and others, will present a panel and audience discussion on how the media influences sex role stereotypes and gender identity, and how that portrayal influences inclusiveness in schools, workplace and other institutions.

**DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM PROGRAM AT 7:00 PM \$3.00 DONATION REQUESTED
LIGHT FOOD, BEVERAGES, WINE, & BEER AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.**

HELP NEEDED IN THE KITCHEN FOR THE UNIVERSAL CAFÉ

We are planning a very simple menu: local (when possible) fruits and veggies, cheese and crackers, and a dessert, with maybe a surprise tucked in occasionally. Do you love to make desserts but can't afford to do so for our anticipated 40 people per night? No problem! We will pay for your supplies if you are willing to do the work!

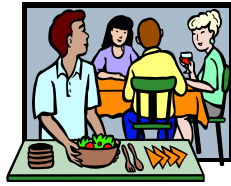
Please contact Jeanne at [330.652.0308](tel:330.652.0308) or email her at tuckertalk1@hotmail.com if you can help in any way. Thanks!



SIGN UP FOR CIRCLE SUPPERS!

Imagine a dinner party where you meet with 8-12 others from the church and discuss everything under the sun while enjoying a delicious potluck. That is what circle suppers is about; and the next one is Saturday, August 13.

Additional information and sign-up forms are available at the poster in Channing Hall. You may also sign up by emailing Sarah Jordan at jordan182@osu.edu.



Deadline to sign up is July 31.

**SOCRATES CAFÉ
WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 - 7 PM**

All are welcome. We're bringing our minds together to discuss important things. We select the topic of the meeting (by a vote) when we meet.

Discussion is fast paced as each person is only given a minute to make his or her point and then we move on.

The goal is to think, discuss, laugh and ponder.

Roger Jones

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS**

Congregations

Batman and Robin, The Lone Ranger and Tonto, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Thelma and Louise, and now Jack Brizzi and Jim Rogers are set for another "road trip." This time the journey is to Charlotte, N.C., for the annual convention of UU congregations.

Jack and I are looking forward to many hours of learning more about our faith and what is going on with our churches and their members. What we will not be doing is getting much sleep. Anyone familiar with GA knows that the entire week is filled with wall-to-wall workshops, speeches, official business, special programs and exhibits.

I look forward to reporting back to this congregation all the interesting happenings at GA. Jack is offering to take orders for items like tee shirts, bumper stickers, and buttons. He can be reached on-line at jbriz1@aol.com.

This will GA number 6 for me and number 20 for Jack. Let the adventure begin.

Jim Rogers

**DREAM GROUP -THURSDAY, JUNE 30
6-8 PM - YOUTH GROUP ROOM**


This is a chance to explore as a group the insights and messages of our dreams.

Bring a dream to share. Contact Liz Hill liz@lizhill.net if you have questions.



July 2011



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
All events are held at the church unless otherwise stated.						
					1	2 Farmers' Market <u>9-12</u> Manjushri Study Group - 3-5 PM
3 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> CLM - 1 PM	4 	5 S&CM class 6-7:30 PM	6 <u>Socrates Café - 7 PM</u> CLM - 7 PM	7	8	9 Farmers' Market 9-12
10 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> CLM - 1 PM	11 Grey to Green <u>meeting - 6 PM</u> Universal Café 7 PM	12 S&CM class 6-7:30 PM Board meeting 6:30 PM	13 CLM - 7 PM	14	15	16 B&G work party <u>10 AM</u> Farmers' Market 9-12
17 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> <u>CLM - 1 PM</u> UUYO BBQ & Broadway - 4-7 PM	18 WPNA meeting <u>6 PM</u> Universal Café 7 PM	19 S&CM class 6-7:30 PM	20 CLM - 7 PM	21	22	23 Farmers' Market <u>9-12</u> Manjushri Study Group - 3-5 PM
24 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> CLM - 1 PM	25 <u>Newsletter deadline</u> Universal Café 7 PM	26 S&CM class 6-7:30 PM	27 CLM - 7 PM	28	29	30 Farmers' Market 9-12
31 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> CLM - 1 PM						

HELP OUR EARTH—SAVE GAS

Best ways for all of us to use less fuel:



1. Car pool to church; it's friendly.
2. Can you walk or bike some places?
3. Plan your shopping so that you make several stops in sequence during your trip.
4. Buy a tire pressure gauge and get your tire pressure to the recommended level.
5. When replacing tires, look for models with low rolling resistance. (I forgot to do this.)
6. Keep your car in tune.
7. Don't drive too fast. Going from 55 mph to 65 mph will drop your gas mileage 5 mpg. Going from 65 mph to 75 mph will cost you another 5 mpg.
8. Drive smoothly--drive like the roads are icy. Start out slowly from red lights and stop signs; then time your distance to the next light to avoid having to stop, if possible. Jack-rabbit starts and hard braking at stops just magically turns gasoline into brake dust!

Ralph Malmer

COFFEE HOUSE—THE COCOA-MOCHA

Cocoa Mocha will not meet in July and August but will resume again in September.



Cocoa Mocha is a family-friendly gathering that provides a safe space for all LGBTQ youth and allies. We get together every third Friday of the month in Channing Hall for workshops, music, dancing, and good food.

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Women's Alliance will not hold regular Saturday meetings in July or August. We will resume regular meetings in September. We hope to have at least one excursion during the summer to a place of common interest.



Suggest ideas to Margaret Haushalter (330.757.8979) or Jeanne Tucker (330.652.0308).

STRETCH & CREATIVE MOVEMENT CLASS

TUESDAYS - 6 - 7:30 PM—CHANNING HALL

Classes include yoga, stretching, muscle strengthening/toning and creative movement/simple choreography.

Join us and take some time for yourself to focus on posture, breathing and the joy of movement.

Suggested donation to defray costs will be \$20 per month. Call Susan Callen Miracle.

OHIO MEADVILLE DISTRICT SUMMER INSTITUTE

If you would like to connect with other UU's in the region, consider attending the Ohio Meadville Summer Institute 2011 on July 10-16 at Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, with other UU's. Families and children are especially welcome.

Booklets are in the Adult Education mailbox.

MANJUSHRI STUDY GROUP

BUDDHISM IN A NUTSHELL - PART II

Last session -- Saturday, July 2 -- 3-5 PM

MANJUSHRI STUDY GROUP

BUDDHISM IN A NUTSHELL - PART III

Saturday 3-5 PM -- July 23, August 6, 13, 20, & 27

This FPMT (Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition) study program presents basic Buddhist philosophy and principles within the Tibetan Mahayana context, and provides simple meditation instruction. It includes audio, recordings, readings, and discussion questions.

Suggested donation: \$10 per session or \$5 if you are a student or laid off.

Location of events: First Unitarian Universalist Church
1105 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505

Coordinator: Julie Thomas

All are welcome. You do not have to be Buddhist.

TARA DANCE

Immerse your body, speech and mind in meditation through simple, powerful dance and chanting. The Mandala Dance of the 21 Praises of Tara has been taught all over the world as personal practice and communal offering. The dance involves simple, tai-chi-like movements.

Summer and Fall Dates: (come rain or shine!)
July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 23

12-2 PM at Gazebo or Kidston Pavilion at Fellows Riverside Gardens, 123 McKinley Ave., Yo.

Fee: \$5 for students; \$10 for adults (per session)

For more information, contact Julie Thomas at jethomas@ysu.edu or leave message at 330.941.1735.

BRIZZI-SPONSORED THEATER PARTY FRIDAY, JULY 15

The Kent State Summer Stock Theater
Production of Footloose

We will meet at Enzo's Restaurant on Elm Rd. for dinner at 6 PM and on to the show at 8 PM at Kent Trumbull.

You can bring significant other and/or children or friends. (An optional donation of \$10 to the church would be appreciated.)

There's a sign-up sheet down in Channing Hall. If you have any questions, contact Jack Brizzi at 330.392.3157.

BITS FROM THE BOARD

Our fun-filled church picnic is an indication that summer has arrived! It was great to see so many of you there.

Sincere kudos and thanks to all of you for your generosity supporting our "Share the Plate" services this past spring. The Pumpkin Project at Martin Luther King School, our Farmers' Market EBT incentive program, and Grow Youngstown benefitted from a combined total of **\$1097.83**. That is truly an incredible show of the dedication our congregation has towards our mission and UUYo Farm-to-Family Project! Be proud!

And don't be afraid to show your pride in the form of art--more specifically, a UUYo Logo! The Growth and Vitality Team (currently Jim Rogers, Tim Raridon, Matt Alspaugh, Karen Stangl and Diane Barnes) set a goal to solidify our identity with an recognizable symbol that we create and choose, in-house. **Submissions will be accepted through July 10.**

In other news:

- We are finally moving towards our "Fair Share Contribution" to both the Ohio-Meadville District (OMD) and Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA); the OMD has especially been an invaluable resource to us regarding our growth and program development the last two years.
- The Board, in conjunction with the nominating committee, is moving forward to create teams to reassess the goals we set two years ago and provide direction towards our future with long-range planning activities.
- UUYo will host a regional UU leadership conference at the end of summer. Since we've finished Channing Hall, and we're generally centrally located in our district, we've become a favorite meeting spot for other UU congregations to attend District programs.

The Arts & Lectures committee has prepared a fascinating program for our Monday night Universal Cafe 2011 series. Come join in the discussion, entertainment, education and fun!

We hope you enjoy the second season of summer services prepared by our Worship Associates team held downstairs in Channing Hall at 11 AM Sundays throughout the summer.

See you soon!
Karen Stangl