



The Steel Chalice

January, 2017

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January Worship Theme: "Prophecy"

"Prophets help us connect the dots between the world as it is and the world as it might be." - Krista Tippett

We are called as Unitarian Universalists is to imagine that world as it might be (for it is not laid out for us) and see

what must change to bring it into being. Now, more than ever, we need to do the work of being a community of prophetic people.

Sunday, January 1: "The Space Between"

We live in a highly divided world, one where we are separated by politics, fear, the news media, and many other ways. It's hard to remember to look for points of connection and common experience sometimes. What if, in our interactions with others and ourselves, we focused on the relationship, thinking that it is in the relationship that the holy lives?

Worship Leader: Kristina Spaude

Worship Associate: Andy Crabb

Musician: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall

Sunday, January 8: "Every Person Counts"

The first of a multi-part series on putting our Principles into Practice. We will focus on the prophetic call embedded in our Principles.

The election showed us many things. That many votes - the majority, in fact - did not count. But more fundamentally, that great swaths of people in this country feel they don't count. We'll begin to unravel this with our first principle, affirming "the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

Worship Leader: Matt Alspaugh

Worship Associate: Christine Gulgas

Musician: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall

Sunday, January 15: "Let Justice Roll Down Like A River"

The second of a multi-part series on putting our Principles into Practice. We will focus on the prophetic call embedded in our Principles.

A favorite Bible verse is Amos 5:24 "Let justice roll down like a river, and righteousness like a mighty stream." In an era when justice for all is under increasing attack, we consider our faith's call to "justice, equity, and compassion in human relations."

Worship Leader: Matt Alspaugh

Worship Associate: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall

Musician: Nanette Solomon

Sunday, January 22: "Strength in the Storm"

The third of a multi-part series on putting our Principles into Practice. We will focus on the prophetic call embedded in our Principles.

However we live our lives, meekly, just getting by, or vastly, as activists or change agents, we need ways to face the storms that life brings before us. We'll explore how we can develop inner calm as we cope with the outer storm, as we consider our third principal's "encouragement to spiritual growth."

Worship Leader: Matt Alspaugh

Worship Associate: Ben Barnes

Musician: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall

Sunday, January 29: "What's Your Frontline?"

What's your Frontline? The post election has left us asking ourselves, how do we, even can we resist? We explore asking What's your Frontline? and move forward with experiences, examples and affirming our UU values.

"When faced with Challenges and Seasons of uncertainty, especially as we look for joy, love and peace, how can we stay strong?

What becomes that Frontline and base to solidify our Foundations?"

Samuel Prince Biography:

After 19 years of serving as an Anglican priest and through personal growth and life experiences, I had to choose between abiding by ardent scriptural principles and my sexual growth. That journey of life experiences and leaving as a priest opened my spiritual eyes as I began to understand the meaning of a spiritual person.

After many years of search for a spiritual home, questioning the spiritual environments of where I visited, I

came across Unitarian Universalism which became the spiritual staple in my life and I became a member in June 3rd 2005.

I have served as a chairperson for both Adult Religious Education and Anti-Racism Committees which are my passions and on various UUA committees.

After living for many years in New York and Connecticut, I moved to Ohio in 2011 with my husband.

Worship Leader: Samuel Prince

Musician: Nanette Solomon



Bits from the Board

As I reflect on the year 2016, there are plenty of things to think about globally, from the election results and the apparent populism that brought them about both here and

abroad to the many prominent celebrities who died. Not that prominent folks are more important than any of us, but they can remind of shared life experiences, sometimes as much as a family member or friend being lost. We encountered losses at UUYO this year as well, of members, friends, and family. All of this, for me at least, brings into focus the limited period of time we all have to do whatever it is that we want to do with our lives while we have them. I'm still not sure what I want to do when I grow up. But I've grown up anyway. Life passes us by if we let it, so we need to pause once in a while and work out how we want to make things happen or run the risk that we will just sit back and watch while others make things happen for us.

Throughout 2016, we on the Board have been working to help the UUYO community make things happen. UUYO continues to support social service activities, which in 2016 included Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE) and substance abuse related events held at UUYO; we formally acquired title to the parking lot we've used for years; we worked actively to support the organization financially with fundraisers like the All Church Auction and the Book and Collectible sales, all of which succeeded because of the involvement of many participants. These

are just a few of the many activities that have taken place at UUYO that indicate that we as a community want to make things happen.

The end of one year brings anticipation of the next and renewed opportunities for us to make things happen or to sit back and watch. With 2017, UUYO celebrates its 125th anniversary. We will again have fundraising events and activities in 2017 that will invite broad participation. We'll evaluate past social service activities and either continue them or find new ones. The recent election results have energized many folks and will perhaps generate ideas for social service ideas in 2017. The Board is supportive of member desires to present ideas and to make them happen. We have identified projects for renewing the building and grounds at UUYO to support current and future activities both inside and outside the building. We are evaluating options for replacing the former steeple with a cupola or smaller steeple; working on renewing the courtyard to be a more usable space; cleaning up the outside of the building; fixing inside items that need attention; and generally making UUYO look cared for, usable, and inviting to our members and the community. None of these activities will be implemented by Board members alone – they are opportunities for

everyone in the UUYO community to get involved in small or grand ways as each is able in the coming year and beyond.

It isn't just UUYO celebrating heritage in 2017. The UU Society in Cleveland Heights sent an open letter from the minister describing a worship celebration on January 14th, Saturday, at Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland to collectively celebrate 150 years of UU in Cleveland. Five Cleveland Area UU congregations are participating. They are using Trinity Cathedral because it's big enough to hold 5 congregations and it's an historic building. Rev. Joe from UU Society said of the event: "I want to encourage you to keep January 14th free in your calendar. The Unitarian Universalists of Cleveland are going to join together in worship at Trinity Cathedral to celebrate 150 year of our faith in Cleveland. All five of our Greater Cleveland congregations will be worshipping together and it would be a great time to see old friends and make new ones." I'm sure we'll have folks at UUYO interested in participating in this event, so think about joining in and getting energized for our own 2017 anniversary at UUYO.

Happy New Year, everyone!
- Andy Crabb, Board President



Matt's Musings

The other day I listened to a presentation by [Jeremy Taylor](#), who has studied and written about dreams for four decades. Taylor draws on the work of Carl Jung, seeing dreams as spiritual encounters. Taylor noted that many progressives have been having dreams or nightmares (take your pick) in which Donald Trump appears in the dream as a close friend.

In understanding these dreams, Taylor calls Donald Trump a “magnet for projection in American politics.” That is, for liberals, Trump represents everything that is wrong, dangerous, and fearful in our political system. Nothing good can come from this situation. For conservatives, especially those feeling left behind by our society, Trump represents everything that is possible and hopeful. These people disregard his inconsistencies, and ignore his positions which they themselves find reprehensible, in order to imagine a bright future with Trump.

In Jungian thinking, the *shadow* describes the unknown, dark sides of our personality, parts that we shun and reject. Unfortunately, when we reject these shadow parts, we cannot employ them for healing and wholeness.

Taylor says, “Trump is the current uniquely American shadow king of creativity.” Trump accesses such egocentric creativity because “he has stopped allowing himself to be limited by the critical voices in his own head.” Taylor notes that for progressives, however, our shadow can be our own need to be creative, which we tend to suppress in our desire to be morally restrained. Creativity can be “the very thing we need to cultivate in our own selves in order to deal with [Trump].”

Here’s personal example of that kind of shadow realization. I recently encountered a guidebook called “[Indivisible](#)”, written by former congressional staffers, who witnessed the rise of the Tea Party and its power in stopping President Obama’s agenda. These staffers suggested that the same Tea Party tactics might be effective in stopping Trump’s agenda. I initially was horrified, because the Tea Party is shadow projection for me. Then I read the document, and realized that most of the Tea Party’s effectiveness came from using advocacy tactics familiar to most progressive

activists. These staffers note that we've used these tactics in the past, and we need to return to them.

A real worry in dealing with our shadow material is in discerning what parts of shadow we can use for healing and wholeness and what parts need serious transformation before they can be useful. After all, there was a reason we suppressed that material in the first place - some of it is dangerous.

I believe that the teachings of our Unitarian Universalist faith can be helpful in discerning and transforming the shadow aspects of our personalities into tools for resistance and ultimately social change. In particular, our [seven principles](#) can be guide-stars for discernment. I will be exploring how our seven principles speak to our times in a sermon series starting this month. On January 8, with a sermon called "Every Person Counts", we'll start with our first principle, affirming the inherent worth and dignity of every person. January 15 and 22 will consider the second and third principles. We'll continue this series in February. I hope you can join me in this exploration!

See you in church!

Matt



REflections

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a happy, relaxing holiday season.

Here's what's in store for January, 2017:

January 1: We will have a whole-group activity to focus on plans and goals for the New Year.

January 7-8: Coming of Age/ Youth Group lock-in:

Coming of Age Youth and Mentors start at 4:00

Youth grades 6-12 start at 6:00

January 29: Our 5th Sunday Social Action Sunday- Stay tuned for details!

Please watch the Weekly Bulletin for any updates and further plans as the month progresses. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy 2017! - BeckyAnn Harker, RE Director

Coffee with the Minister

I'm holding "office hours" in our local coffee shop, Cultivate Café at 901 Elm St, a couple blocks south of the church. I will be there on Tuesday January 3, 10, and 17, 11am-1pm. Drop on by, have a cup of coffee or a snack, and chat!

Rev. Matt

2017 Stewardship Program

UUYO celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2017! Through many generations we have been a beacon for the progressive spirit in the Mahoning Valley. Every year at this time we pledge financial support to this church for the coming calendar year. Our worship, music, and lifespan religious education programs require leadership. These church functions plus all the social justice activities require the support and maintenance of our large facility and grounds.

We will continue our important presence only from a strong and vibrant community, which requires personal

participation as well as financial support. Please join with other members and friends in supporting UUYO and assuring its future by your pledge of financial contribution.

We thank all the members and friends who have already participated in our Stewardship Campaign. If you have not yet indicated your 2017 financial contribution, please do so on a blue card which you can find at the back of the sanctuary, or from the church office. There are also Stewards who are in the process of contacting members, so you may be reached directly by a member who will urge your participation. We have already received 16 pledges in the amount of \$49,309.75 toward our goal of \$117,00 in pledged support, which is the primary source of our income. Together we can meet our goal and plan together for our 125th year at the January 15, 2017 Annual Meeting.

Please Send Contact Information Updates for UUYO's 2017 Church Directory

Our members and friends look forward to the updated UUYO Church Directory available at the Annual Meeting in

January. The Directory helps us keep in touch with each other throughout the year.

Please let me know about any changes you would like to see in the 2017 Directory for your household including changes to your address, phone number, email, etc. You can send changes by email to office@uuyo.org, call the office at (330) 746-3067, or stop by to see me on a Sunday. **Please send them by Sunday, January 8.**

Copies of the 2017 Church Directory will be available at the Annual Meeting on January 15, 2017 and from the church office on or after that date.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Heather Best
Administrative Assistant

Equal Exchange

The opportunity to buy excellent food and beverage products that are fairly traded should be a “no brainer” for us. Our congregation’s participation in the Interfaith Program of the Equal Exchange worker-owned co-operative is a long and steady one. We started buying fair trade coffee in 2003. That’s almost 14 years of support to small farmers around the world!

UUYO started using Equal Exchange products in our church kitchen and selling a few coffees and teas to members. We are now pleased to be one of more than 650 UU congregations and organizations supporting small farmer co-operatives by handling fairly traded products through Equal Exchange. Over time, we expanded the inventory to stock additional Equal Exchange coffees, teas, cocoas, snack items, and the ever-favorite chocolate bars.

With the proceeds of this project we stock the coffee, tea, sugar, and paper cups in our church kitchen. Every time you enjoy a warm beverage during Sunday morning’s Coffee Hour, or at a UUYO event, remember that you can support that “cuppa” by your purchase of those products for your use at home. Equal Exchange also contributes a portion of our sales to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. In 2015 that amounted nationwide to more than \$12,000 toward the UUSC work for social justice. We donate the remainder of our proceeds to the church operating budget as an ongoing fund-raiser.

Come and see us at the Coffee Cart on Sunday mornings. Try new coffee or cocoa, help the church, and most of all, join in the partnership to support small-scale farmers.

January Events

1/3/17 Coffee with the Minister 11am-1pm at Cultivate Cafe
1/3/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30pm
1/3/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
1/6/17 Meditation for All (YR) 6:30pm
1/7/17 Women's Alliance 12:30pm
1/7/17-1/8/17 Youth Lock-In (AC) 6pm
1/10/17 Coffee with the Minister 11am-1pm at Cultivate Cafe
1/10/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30pm
1/10/17 Writing as Spiritual Practice (BR) 7pm
1/10/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
1/11/17 Board Meeting (BR) 6pm
1/14/17 Jack Brizzi Memorial Service 2pm
1/15/17 Annual Meeting will follow our Sunday Service
1/17/17 Coffee with the Minister 11am-1pm at Cultivate Cafe
1/17/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30pm
1/17/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
1/18/17 Explorations (SL) 7pm
1/18/17 Book Club 7:15pm
1/20/17 Meditation for All (YR) 6:30pm
1/20/17 Where Science and Spirituality Meet (SL) 7pm
1/21/17 Board Retreat

1/22/17 Forum: Winter Reading (CH) 9:30-10:45am
1/24/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30pm
1/24/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
1/29/17 Forum: Racism and the UUA (CH)
1/31/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30pm
1/31/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm

Meditation for All

Friday, January 6th and 20th, 6:30pm

This group will meet in the Youth Group Room on Fridays (the first and third Fridays of every month) from 6:30 to 7:30pm until March 25.

We will practice basic meditation techniques and explore skills that you can apply to your daily life. Led by trained meditation instructor Linda Scharf, we also will refer to the book "Turning the Mind into an Ally" by Sakyong Mipham (available on Amazon) as a discussion guide. Great for beginners and experienced meditation practitioners alike!

No cost, but please RSVP to Samantha Fitschen at sfits7@gmail.com so we may contact you if there are schedule changes.

Women's Alliance Meeting

Saturday, January 7, 12:30pm

This month's Women's Alliance Meeting will be at Stonebridge Grille in Boardman at 12:30pm on January 7. Call Eugenia Pierce for info at [330-503-4039](tel:330-503-4039) or [330-953-3086](tel:330-953-3086).

Writing as Spiritual Practice

Tuesday January 10, 7-8:30pm, Board Room

We'll reflect on the January worship theme, "Prophecy."

We will then have a time to "free write" individually, with the option of sharing our reflections. All are invited, regardless of writing experience. Bring a pen and notebook and a willingness to explore. Led by Liz Hill, liz@lizhill.net, [330-333-1619](tel:330-333-1619).

Jack Brizzi Memorial Service

Saturday, January 14 at 2pm

There will be a Memorial Service for **Jack Brizzi** at UUYO January 14th at 2pm.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 15

Our 2017 Annual Meeting will be held immediately after our Sunday Service on January 15. All are welcome.

Book Club

Wednesday, January 18, 7:15pm

The UUYO Book Group will gather on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 7:15pm at the home of Melissa Smith to discuss *Early Autumn*, the 1927 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of Louis Bromfield.

Spiritual Explorations

Wednesday, January 18, 7-9pm

In this small group, we'll have discussion and exploration primarily around January's theme: "What does it mean to be a community of prophecy?". We hope to have insightful and "spirited" conversation, along with some time for group meditation.

I encourage you to read [the month's packet, which is online, here](#). To get the most out of the group, you might look particularly at the Spiritual Exercises, and see if any one of Your Questions "hooks" you, and think about how you might answer it.

Contact Rev. Matt for more information.

Where Science and Spirituality Meet

(SL) Friday, January 20, 7pm

Our group will watch and discuss consciousness studies DVDs every third Friday of the month. Contact Clare Puskarczyk at 330-746-8004 for more information.

Forum Workshops and Discussions

For the month of January, we will have two Forum discussions Sundays before the service on the 22nd and 29th. The discussions are open to everyone and will be led by Lowell Satre.

**Sunday, January 22, 2017, 9:30-10:45am
in Channing Hall:**

Winter Reading

Come to share a short description of a book which has inspired or entertained you during these long winter nights. Readers of every type of literature are invited.

**Sunday, January 29, 2017, 9:30-10:45am
in Channing Hall:**

Racism and the UUA

At the 2016 General Assembly of the UUA, William Sinkford gave a powerful message on racism and Unitarian Universalists. A version of the sermon is in your Winter

2016 UUWorld magazine. It is also available on-line at <http://www.uuworld.org/articles/dream-white-innocence>.

William Sinkford, who is black, served as president of the UUA, 2001-2009.

Using Sinkford's challenge, we will explore the topic of racism as it relates to our congregation, our community, and to Unitarian Universalism.

Ulysses by James Joyce

Wednesday, February 1, 7:00 PM

Welcome to the 2017 reading/discussion of Joyce's masterpiece, which seems to be on several people's "bucket list." Our plan is to read approximately 100 pp and then meet for discussion every two months. Not in the same week as our regular reading group!

We will meet on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 p.m., at the north side home of Melissa Smith. Call her at 330-744-4640 if you need directions. Our tentative schedule of 7:00 Wednesday meetings is as follows: Feb. 1, Mar. 29, May 31, July 26, Sept. 27, and Nov. 29. We can adjust dates as

necessary during the coming year.

There are many books, websites, charts, and commentary available for assistance in approaching, understanding, and enjoying *Ulysses*. Yes, some people DO enjoy reading this work! Whether you participate in the group discussion or not, I can e-mail you two short charts, a list of chapters, and some helpful suggestions (total of 7 pp); contact me at lesatre@gmail.com.

If you'd like to join us, the assignment for Feb. 1 is the first six "chapters," through the chapter titled Hades. Consult the *Ulysses* schemata to enter chapter titles in your copy of the book.

Please feel free to join us in this adventure. Let me know if you plan to come, just so we have some advance notice for Feb. 1.

Ellen Satre



- Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
- Susan Miracle
- Diana Palardy
- Wendy & Andy Pfrenger
- Gene Pusateri
- Davin Stilson
- Mary June Tartan

Hospitality Teams Schedule

Our hospitality teams do so much to make Sunday morning come together: Greet, welcome, provide coffee and treats at coffee hour. If you are interested in joining a hospitality team, please contact Linda Mohn (lmohn2005@yahoo.com). Please be sure and thank the folks on this month's teams!

Team 3 : January 1 and 8

- *Linda Mohn – Communicator*
- *Susie Biersdorfer – Facilitator*
- *Diana Shaheen – Facilitator*
- Audra & Jason Carlson
- Karen Lapidus
- Sarah Lowry
- Dianna Mason

Team 4: January 15, 22, and 29

- *Jan Elias – Communicator*
- *Ben Barnes – Facilitator*
- Louisa & Martin Berger
- Heather Best
- Gary Davenport
- Marguerite Felice
- Clayton Henderson
- Roger LaFontaine
- Tim Malone
- Carole McWilson
- Eugenia & Al Pierce
- Ellen & Lowell Satre
- Mary Ellen Shutes
- Sharon Stringer

Share the Plate

We will share our offering plate in January with Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past. This organization is a Youngstown, Ohio area group which participates in Sojourn to the Past under the direction of Jeff Steinberg, who designed the 10 day journey for high school students. This experience takes students to the South visiting the Civil Rights sites, meeting leaders of the Movement and learning the lessons of the Movement such as justice, nonviolence, civic responsibility, hope compassion, tolerance and not being a silent witness. The goal is for students to incorporate these lessons into their daily lives and become leaders for social justice and nonviolence in their schools and community.

Care Team Help and Pastoral Care

Care Team

UUYO's care team is available for short-term assistance. This could include transportation, visits, cards, phone calls or casseroles in time of need. For more information or assistance, please contact Jeanne Tucker at (330.652.0308).

Pastoral Care

If you have a pastoral care need, or know of someone in our congregation who might have a need, please contact Rev. Matt Alspaugh (minister@uuyo.org) or the church office (office@uuyo.org, 330-746-3067)

Stuff to Know

Church Calendar

The most up-to-date version of the church calendar is on the website. [You can view it here.](#)

Please contact the office (office@uuyo.org, 330-746-3067) if you wish to list a church event on the calendar.

Staff

Matt Alspaugh, Minister minister@uuyo.org

BeckyAnn Harker, Director of Religious Education

dre@uuyo.org

Heather Best, Office Administrator office@uuyo.org

Leaders

Members of the Board of Trustees

Andy Crabb, President

Sarah Lowry, Secretary

Louisa Berger, Treasurer

Tom Beck

Gerard Kelly

Sarah Lowry

Ralph Malmer

Linda Mohn

Committee Chairpersons

Martin Berger, Building and Grounds

Jeanne Tucker, Caring

Lowell Satre, Endowment

Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary

Linda Mohn & Carole McWilson, Hospitality

Diane Barnes, Nominating

Jan Grigsby, Welcoming Congregation

Eugenia Pierce, Women's Alliance

Sarah Lown, Worship Associates Coordinator

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to build a diverse and transformative spiritual community, help people live lives of wholeness, and promote justice, peace, and religious freedom.

[Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes](#)

Office Hours

Tuesday and Friday, 9am-3:30pm

Sunday, 9-11am and 12:30-4:30pm