



The Steel Chalice

July, 2017



July Worship Theme: "Creative Response to Change"

It has been said that change is the law of life. Yet we too often react to change with fear or anger. How can we respond to change around us with creativity and enthusiasm? How can we be an active rather than a reactive participant in the change around us?

Sunday, July 2: "American Exceptionalism"

The concept of American Exceptionalism may be more closely related to Unitarian Universalist philosophy than you may have imagined. Guest speaker Tom Beck will explore this idea during a message titled "American Exceptionalism 101" and "Advanced American Exceptionalism."

Worship Leader: Tom Beck

Worship Associate: Dianna Mason

Musician: Nanette Kaplan Solomon

Sunday, July 9: "If There Is To Be Peace"

In time of continuous war, when we battle in places like Afghanistan and Iraq, and when new fronts threaten to open up in places like Qatar, North Korea, and Syria, how do we find peace? Is peace even a possibility worth hoping for, worth working for?

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

Worship Associate: John Gulgas

Chalice Lighter: Jim Rogers

Musician: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall

Sunday, July 16: "The Ceremony of the Keys"

This is Rev. Joseph's first service, and Rev. Matt's last service with us. It is unusual in our tradition to have both the incoming and outgoing ministers present at the same time.

Each minister will comment briefly on the past, the future, and the time of transition. We will celebrate the transfer of ministry with the passing of the keys.

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh and Rev. Joseph Boyd

Worship Associate: Gina Vance

Chalice Lighter: Molly Toth

Musician: Marcellene Hawk Mayhall



Bits from the Board

Greetings from the Board!

It's been an eventful few months at UUYO. Matt's departure is now imminent. His last day with us is July 16th, when he will share a service with our new minister, Rev. Joseph Boyd as Joseph takes over the ministerial helm at UUYO. Joseph will arrive around July 1, so there will be a bit of overlap where we will have both ministers with us. The Board sees this as a rare opportunity to have a transition that does not include a gap between ministers. Historically there have been extended search periods, but because we had great direction from our UUA Central East Region Congregational Life Staffer, Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, and enthusiastic participation from our search committee led by Molly Toth, we were able to time everything just right and find in Joseph what we hope will be a great fit with our community.

As I write this, both Matt and Joseph are at General Assembly in New Orleans and the voting for UUA president is progressing. I don't know yet who will win, but by Sunday morning June 25 the decision should be finalized and announced. I'm sure Matt and Joseph, as well as Jim Rogers who is also in New Orleans for GA, will have great stories to tell of the experiences they have had and what they've learned at GA, so be sure to check in with each of them when you see them and find out what GA is like if you've never been.

The Board has prioritized the re-formation of a finance committee that has been absent from UUYO for the last several years. I'd like to thank Ellen Satre, Gene Pusateri, Audra Carlson, Lukas Darling, and Lisbet White for stepping up to help with this important planning team at UUYO. I also encourage each of us to be open to the feedback provided by the finance committee and the activities they initiate to support UUYO's mission and existence. We need this group to organize our stewardship program, capital campaign, and annual budget establishment. The finance committee also helps support the efforts of our treasurer when key decisions need to be made.

Don't forget, we are planning an evening get-together at UUYO as a send-off for Matt and Liz and everyone at UUYO is invited. It will be Friday evening, July 14, 2017. Watch your weekly updates for more information. This will be a great

opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions of both Matt and Liz to UUYO and to wish them well as they relocate to Mexico for the next phase of their lives and careers. We hope that UUYO has been a positive and loving experience for Matt and Liz as I know it has been for me and hopefully each of you as well. Thank you!

Andy Crabb

Board President



Matt's Musings

This is my last newsletter column for you at UUYO - the last of almost a hundred monthly columns.

In a few weeks, Liz and I will load a truck with what remains of our belongings (we've sold or given away much) and our dog and drive to North Carolina, where

most of those belongings will be stored with friends. Then we will drive a carload of stuff (and our dog) to Houston where I will spend a week with the ministers and staff of First UU Houston. The Houston church is a multi-site church, and my ministry in Mexico will be an experiment with delivering multi-site church even farther afield. After Houston, we will make a day's drive to the border, and two days' drive later, we will arrive in Ajijic, Jalisco, where the Lake Chapala UU Fellowship awaits me. I will be the first professional minister for this ten year old congregation.

Though I look forward to the next phase of my ministry with excitement, I look back on my time in Youngstown with great fondness. You are a strong, healthy congregation. You treated me, a brand new minister, with kindness, and together we grew in many ways. In addition to numerical growth, the makeup of the church grew younger, with more children in a strong Religious Education program. We grew deeper spiritually, more welcoming of people with differing beliefs, backgrounds, orientations, and practices. We grew more organized, adding year-round worship, worship associates, and hospitality teams, among other programs. We grew more engaged in the community, becoming more than ever a beacon of hope for religious progressives in the valley.

Certainly there have been setbacks, and surprises, and unfinished goals. Ministry is like that. And yet, my heart is warmed with rich memories of UUYO, of your lives and stories, of us doing ministry together.

I had a chance to meet Rev. Joseph Boyd at our General Assembly in New Orleans.

He is impressive. I am confident he will be able to do great things with you, things I could only imagine. I am grateful that Joseph and I will have a few weeks together for a time of transition. Such an opportunity is rare in our ministry, and I hope this overlap will make the transition smooth and effective.

Goodbyes are hard. I will miss you. Even though I won't be in individual contact, I do want to know how you are doing. I'll continue to follow you from a distance. Although I don't yet have plans for public postings in social media, I'm sure that will come together, and those that are interested can follow my progress. Even though we will not be connected in day-to-day life, I am gladdened that we remain connected through the larger faith that is Unitarian Universalism, and in its affirmation of what is good and true and sacred.

Matt

July Events

7/2 Frack Free Meeting (CH) 6pm

7/4 Stretch & Creative Movement class (CH) 5:30pm

7/4 AA (CH) 7:30pm

7/8 Work Party 10am

7/9 Frack Free Meeting (CH) 6pm

7/11 Stretch & Creative Movement class (CH) 5:30pm

7/11 AA (CH) 7:30pm

7/14 Reception for Rev. Matt and Liz (CH) 6pm

7/16 Frack Free Meeting (CH) 6pm

7/18 Stretch & Creative Movement class (CH) 5:30pm

7/18 AA (CH) 7:30pm

7/23 Frack Free Meeting (CH) 6pm

7/25 Stretch & Creative Movement class (CH) 5:30pm

7/25 AA (CH) 7:30pm

7/28 Pride Youngstown Reception (CH) 4pm

7/29 Northeast Ohio Human Rights Tribunal (FRACKFREE America Event) 9am

7/30 Frack Free Meeting (CH) 6pm

Legend for locations: (CH) Channing Hall; (SA) Sanctuary; (SL) Schweitzer Lounge; (YR) Youth Room



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 team!

UUYO Work Party Saturday, July 8 at 10am

The next monthly work party will be Saturday, July 8, 10:00am. Rain date is July 15. Questions? Call Bob Seibold, 724-981-4791.



Team 2: July 2, 9, 16 & 23

- Anita Wesler - Communicator
- Marcia & Ralph Malmer – Facilitators
- Alicia & Scott Baker
- Millie Brewer
- Cheryl & Galen Elser
- Kate Fitzgerald
- Margaret Haushalter
- Luanna Jacobs
- Cathy Kajut
- Gerard Kelly
- Alison & Jon Locketti
- Sarah Lown
- Linda Scharf
- Judith Stanger
- Trudee Weatherby

Team 3: July 30

- *Linda Mohn – Communicator*
- *Susie Biersdorfer – Facilitator*
- *Diana Shaheen – Facilitator*
- Audra & Jason Carlson
- Karen Lapidus
- Sarah Lowry
- Dianna Mason
- Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
- Susan Miracle
- Diana Palardy
- Wendy & Andy Pfrenger
- Gene Pusateri
- Davin Stilson
- Mary June Tartan

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)



Share the Plate

July's Share the Plate recipient will be the YWCA of Warren Girls' STEAM Camp. From Jul 1 to Aug 11, campers will learn from program-based curriculum in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. They will spend a week of their camp at OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology. They will also have opportunities for

swimming, sewing, joining Girl Scouts, gardening, neighborhood volunteering, community research and learning how to build healthy relationships.

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

Ralph Malmer

Linda Mohn

Molly Toth

Anita Wesler

Committee Chairpersons

Martin Berger, Building and Grounds

Jeanne Tucker, Caring

Lowell Satre, Endowment

Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary

Linda Mohn, Hospitality

Diane Barnes, Nominating

Jan Grigsby, Welcoming Congregation

Eugenia Pierce, Women's Alliance

Christine Gulgas, 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.

The rainbow flag outside of the church signifies that UUYO is an official "Welcoming Congregation" for the LGBTQ+ community.

[Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes](#)

Office Hours

Tuesday and Friday, 9am-3:30pm

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