

The Steel Chalice

December, 2017

Welcome to UUYO's Emailed Newsletter

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December Worship Theme: "Hope"

"Hope is the only bee that makes honey without flowers."
- Robert Green Ingersoll

"Hope"

Hope is one of those concepts I've wrestled with for years. It seems so basic to being human, and to our understanding of the human spirit, and yet it is a challenging concept. There are times I thought it best to be without hope rather than put my hope in things that could inevitably lead to disappointment. Throughout my time in seminary, it was a theme that I continuously wrestled with, trying to see if I could find a hope that had integrity.

Little did I know that immediately after graduating seminary, our country, our culture would be forced to undergo this kind of soul searching as a nation. This present generation is overwhelmed with hard truths, truths that are difficult to digest, and it can be tempting to think that hope was only meaningful in simpler times, naive times. It is easy to think of ourselves or others as being naive or ignorant for being hopeful. "Hopeful for what?" we may ask. This sense is especially true immediately following disappointment.

And I think this is the important question we now face - What are we hoping for? It's a question that seems to demand a specific answer, and yet I think the wisest thing to do may be to leave it unanswered, and live into it.

A definition of hope that I've come up with is - **a feeling of joyous expectation for the unknown.** I find it too limiting to pin my hope on this or that, to place all my hope on one bet, and hope it pays off. In the short term we may put our hope into this or that, but I think it is important to reserve part of our hope, and leave it unspecified. It is a hope that is a general feeling of joyous expectation for something good without fully knowing or understanding what that good may be.

It's a hope that is free of expectation for specifics. We are living in times when it is clear that any of our lives can change in an instant - we truly don't know what may happen tomorrow. Living into this with a feeling of joyous expectation is quite a feat, but it can be done.

That is what this season reminds us every year. It is no accident that our most prominent and festive holidays take place in winter during the darkest, bleakest time of year. We use color and food and fellowship to cultivate the capacity for this joyous expectation, though we may see little external evidence for this outside our windows. Outside we may experience cold, barrenness, stillness. This season of hope reminds us of our capacity for joyous expectation in times when life seems to be put on hold.

Winter is my favorite season. It's the season I was born in. I find the starkness beautiful. I find the stillness pregnant with possibility. It's a time when I feel more in touch with my spirit. This is a season that reminds me what really matters, and it

helps me to appreciate simple warmth - the warmth of friends, a warm bed, a warm church. It reminds me that there is no way I can stay warm and thrive on my own - that I am dependent. And this makes me happy. I feel a bit more humility, and I feel more human.

It's a paradox that by engaging the cold and the difficult, it can make us happy. It's not a happiness based on a particular outcome, but rather stems from the confidence that we can experience joy, even when we aren't easily able to come up with a reasonable source for that joy. It's unspecified joy. It just exists, and so do we. And experiencing this natural bond literally enlightens us - it brings a flame to the cold corners of our living, and it encourages us to bring this light into our meeting with others. And for what reason does this light thrive? I'm not sure - and this is the mystery and beauty of hope.

But the opposite may also come true - it is easy to lose hope. It's reasonable and expected that disappointment will knock on our door, and it knocks loudest this time of year.

In the Christian tradition, they refer to this time as Advent, as a waiting period for hope to arrive into the world. Real hope is always Advent - it's always found in the place of waiting. So if you're feeling like you're waiting for hope to arrive - you're in the right place, in the right time. It's on its way.

Sunday, December 3: "The Audacity of Hope"

This is the famous title of Barack Obama's book which informed his successful presidential race..

Obama's initial inspiration for the book was a sermon he heard by Rev. Jeremiah Wright who offered a thorough and impassioned interpretation of the painting done by G.F. Watts called "Hope" - a harp player clothed in rags, with only one string left to play - hence the audacity to hope.

Come Sunday, to hear the sound of this audacity.

Rev. Joseph Boyd, minister
Sarah Lown, worship associate

BeckyAnn Harker, RE storyteller
Jon Locketti, musician

Bits from the Board

December 2017

What a year 2017 has been! It seems as though our nation has been caught up in

a whirlwind of change – one that keeps evolving on a daily basis. Political unrest, challenges to our system as we know it, have brought about a strong core of Americans who are speaking out and taking action, no longer willing to sit by in silence. UUYO is a very real part of this movement, energized to work towards a common good in our community and beyond.

Our recent Thanksgiving service and dinner attests to the fact that we are becoming a beacon of hope, a stronghold in our community. Fifteen individuals took part in a special ceremony in which we welcomed them as new members of UUYO. Our Thanksgiving dinner following the church service was attended by a record high of approximately 150 people, and the delicious food just kept coming! Thanks to all the individuals who helped make this day an all-around success.

UUYO has also experienced many changes this year. This has given us a chance to regroup – to take stock of the challenges that lay before us, to recognize the solidarity and energy of the church community and to move forward with renewed vitality. As a board, we are united in our commitment to uphold the principles of UUYO, while working with you, our congregation, to continue strengthening our numbers and our position in the community. The Board recognizes that our church serves a very real need, providing spiritual and social support for our congregation, as well as reaching out to the residents in Youngstown and surrounding areas.

The Stewardship campaign is going very well, thanks to the hard work of the Stewardship Committee, with 80% of our goal reached at this time. The generosity of all who have pledged is greatly appreciated. Our hope is that we will be able to reach our goal of \$140,000 by the first week of December. This will enable us to move forward with a strategic plan for 2018 that will support our short-term goals and pave the way for long-term objectives. With the help of all in our church community, we can make 2018 a year to be remembered!

On a personal note, 2017 also marks the end of my 4-year position on the UUYO Board. It has been a privilege, as well as a rewarding experience for me. I have learned so much and met so many wonderful people. Thank you for your friendship and trust.

Warmest regards,
Linda Mohn, Board Member

REflections

Ah, December is here. The Thanksgiving leftovers may or may not be gone, and the Christmas season has finally, officially, started. As you may have heard from me in the past, this season of joy and sharing and giving tends to be a stressful, harried mess for me. But I am working on slowing it down, on doing only the things

that are important to me, and enlisting help on all of the have-to's of the season.

That's why I am looking forward to this month's theme of Hope. December finds the solstice, and the darkest days of the year, which is why there are so many holidays, all having to do with Light. With light, comes hope. Hope is the understanding that even when things are bad, they will not remain so. There have been dark times throughout history, and probably throughout your personal life. They never last. They change. They get better. Holding on to that bit of light, that bit of hope, will help to get you through. Who knows, you might even make it through the holiday season!

You might not be aware, but there is a made-up UU holiday in December, called Chalica. I have never celebrated it, but maybe it is something to consider (unless it will add yet another thing to the December To-Do list!). It was first celebrated in 2005 and it traditionally starts on the first Monday in December(December 4 this year) and lasts seven days. Each day you light a chalice and do something to remember each of our seven principles. There is a Facebook group and blogs and YouTube videos for ideas if you are interested!

Even if you are not planning to add more to your already-busy lives, you may want to consider lighting a candle each night throughout December to remind yourselves of the light of Hope.

In church this month, it is a long month, with five Sundays, yet the last two are holidays- Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. We will not have official RE classes those weeks, and will not be doing a Social Action Sunday this month, but will be doing whole-group activities for those who come. Coming of Age will meet the first and third weeks, as usual, and we will have a Children's Chapel on Hope the first Sunday of the month, as usual. Sometimes, holding on to traditions and routines can help us get through unpredictable, hectic times in our lives.

I hope you can find your light of Hope, and hold it with you all month long. Happy Holidays to all of you!

--BeckyAnn Harker, Director of Religious Education

Office Hours

Office hours for Heather Best, UUYO's Office Administrator, are as follows:

Tuesday and Friday, 9am-3:30pm

Sunday, 9-11am and 12:30-2:30pm

Welcome to Our Newest Members

On Sunday, November 19th, we had the joy of welcoming 14 new members. All have signed the membership book since spring of 2017. It was wonderful to see such a crowd of new members and their children at the front of the sanctuary!

During the ceremony, the current members of UUYO promised to reach out in friendship to encourage the newest members' involvement in our activities and ministries. In return, our new members promised to give of their strengths, talents and commitments.

Our newest members are:

Kalie Keyes

Michael Mastropietro

Jessica Myers

Christian Heck

Samantha Fitchen

David Wilmes

Deborah Cunningham

Gloria Brittain Wilkin

Chris Davis

Carmen Mottaguedes

Sarah Conkle

Lisbet White

Greg Doll

Devon

Cleland

Although the membership book may be signed at any time, our path to membership includes participation in one session of the "Newcomers' Circle," for an introduction to UUYO and Unitarian Universalism and then attendance at our

“Belonging to UUYO,” where we take a closer look at what it means to belong to a UU church. The “Belonging” sessions happen in the spring and the fall.

The next Newcomers’ Circle will happen on Sunday, December 10th at 12:15 in Schweitzer Lounge. Join us!

Karen Lapidus,
Newcomer Involvement Coordinator

December Events

- 12/5/17 Board Meeting (BR) 6pm
- 12/6/17 BBBS Giving Tree Gift Deadline 3pm
- 12/6/17 Social Justice Ministry 7-8:30pm
- 12/9/17 Work Party 10am
- 12/9/17 Women's Alliance 12:30pm
- 12/10/17 Adult Forum (SL) 9:30am
- 12/10/17 Newcomers' Circle (SL) 12:15pm
- 12/10/17 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (If you are attending for the first time, please come at 3:45 for some detailed instruction).
- 12/13/17 Soul Matters (SL) 7-8:30pm
- 12/14/17 Book Drive deadline 3pm
- 12/17/17 Cookie Walk (CH) 12:15-2pm
- 12/17/17 Worship Associates Meeting (SA) 12:15pm
- 12/17/17 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (SL) 12:30pm
- 12/20/17 Young Adult Group Ministries (SL) 7pm
- 12/20/17 Consciousness Studies (YR) 7pm
- 12/24/17 Meditation (YR) 3:30pm (If you are attending for the first time, please come 3:15 for some detailed instruction).
- 12/24/17 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (SA) 5pm
- 12/27/17 Scripture Study CANCELLED

Legend for locations: (CC) Children's Chapel/Patio Room (CH) Channing Hall; (SA) Sanctuary; (SL) Schweitzer Lounge; (YR) Youth Room

Mid-Week Ministry

Every Wednesday from 7-8:30pm

1st Wednesday - Social Justice - small group ministry - led by Gary Davenport.

2nd Wednesday - Soul Matters - a small group reflection on the monthly worship theme - led by Sarah Lown.

3rd Wednesday - Young Adult Ministry - for 18-35 year olds - led by Molly Toth and Consciousness Studies - DVD viewing and discussions to enhance self-awareness - led by Clare Puskarczyk, PhD.

4th Wednesday - Cancelled this month due to holiday.

Please see detailed descriptions of this month's mid-week ministry sessions later in the newsletter.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Giving Tree

Collection through December 6 in Channing Hall

BBBS of Mahoning Valley's annual Giving Tree benefits Valley children in the BBBS mentoring program. Gifts will be distributed at our annual holiday party December 16. Several UUs have been Bigs - notably Liz Hill.

Gift tags with the child's wish list are located on the tree in Channing Hall. You do not need to purchase all items on the tag. Please bring all gifts to the church no later than Wednesday, December 6. For questions, you can contact Marguerite Felice at church or by calling [330-623-3779](tel:330-623-3779).

Social Justice Ministry

Wednesday, December 6th from 7-8:30pm

Our small-group ministry focuses on the intersection between justice, current events, and our daily lives. Come share Resistance, Resilience, and Reflection together. We will meet in Schweitzer Lounge. - Gary Davenport

UUYO Work Party

Saturday, December 9 at 10am

The last work party of the year will be Saturday, December 9, 10:00am. This time the leaves should be fully down, and there will be plenty to do inside. So, last

chance in 2017 to bring a rake and join the party. Bad weather date will be December 16. Cold drinks gratis. Questions? Call Bob Seibold, [724-981-4791](tel:724-981-4791).

Women's Alliance

Saturday, December 9 at 12:30pm

The next Women's Alliance Meeting will be held at The Station Square Ristorante, [4250 Belmont Ave.](https://www.google.com/maps/place/4250+Belmont+Ave,+Liberty,+PA+15045) in Liberty (just north of The I-80 overpass) on Dec. 9 at 12:30 p.m. Critical discussions will be the election of officers and the annual Cookie Walk. Call Eugenia at [330-503-4039](tel:330-503-4039) or [330-953-3086](tel:330-953-3086).

Newcomers' Circle

Sunday, December 10 at 12:15pm

We'll be hosting what we're calling a "Newcomers' Circle." We realize that not all of you are new to Unitarian Universalism, so we think of this more as a "new" to UUYO, where people can come and talk about what brought them to the church and what questions they might have. We will meet in the Schweitzer Lounge (which is on the lower level; greeters and others will be able to help you find it if you need help). For more information, contact Karen Lapidus at [330-651-0322](tel:330-651-0322) or Kluure@prodigy.net.

Adult Forum (SL)

Sunday, December 10 at 9:30am

Adult Forum: Book Reports? Come share a brief description of a book you recommend. No final exam! If you have questions, please contact Lowell Satre at [330-742-2748](tel:330-742-2748) or lesatre@gmail.com

Meditation Group

Sunday, December 10 from 4 to 5pm and
Sunday, December 24 from 3:30-4:30pm

All are welcome to attend UUYO's meditation group Sunday, December 10 from 4-5pm and Sunday, December 24, from 3:30-4:30pm. If it is your first time attending this group, please come 15 minutes early (3:45 on the 10th and 3:15pm on the 24th) for some basic instruction. We have moved the meeting time of our gathering up 3:30pm on the 24th to accommodate those who want to attend UUYO's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, which begins at 5pm.

The group will meet in the Youth Room at UUYO on the second and fourth Sunday of the month through the end of December. Teachings will be presented in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. We will be using the book, **Turning the Mind into an Ally**, by Sakyong Mipham. Each meeting, the group will read a section of the book, have a short discussion, and then sit together in silent meditation. There is no fee for these meditation sessions - just bring a peaceful spirit and an open mind. If you have questions, please contact Linda Scharf by phone at [\(412\) 295-1171](tel:412-295-1171) or by email at spiritdancer2008@yahoo.com

Soul Matters

Wednesday, December 13th from 7-8:30pm

The December theme will be discussed. Hope --that thing with feathers --That perches in the soul --And sings the tune without the words --And never stops at all, in the words of Emily Dickinson. How hopeful are you? Do we need hope? Can we create an operating manual for hope? Let's explore it together. All are welcome. We will meet in Schweitzer Lounge. - Sarah Lown

Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 17 during Coffee Hour

Every year, Women's Alliance holds a "Cookie Walk." Members and friends of the church bring cookies for the sale (very preferably homemade). One year we even had a raffle for a Gingerbread House. The cookies are then sold downstairs in Channing Hall. This year the sale will be on Dec. 17 after Service during Coffee Hour. This is a small fund raiser for the church and a great way to get different varieties of cookies for oneself.

If possible, please bring a donation of cookies to the church kitchen before the service on December 17. We appreciate your help! For more information, call Eugenia Pierce at [330-503-4039](tel:330-503-4039) or [330-953-3086](tel:330-953-3086).

Foreign Policy Discussion Group

Sunday, December 17 at 12:30pm

The first meeting in November had a good turnout. Hope the second will also on Sunday, December 17, at 12:30pm. As always, we will use Schweitzer Lounge if available, or the back of Channing Hall. There will be a handout concerning U.S. foreign policy during the cold war. Questions? Call Bob Seibold, [724-981-4791](tel:724-981-4791).

Young Adult Small Group Ministry

Wednesday, December 20th from 7-8:30pm

Young Adult Small Group Ministry will meet Wednesday, December 20 from 7 pm to 8:30

pm in Schweitzer Lounge. This group provides a space for young adults (folks 18-35ish) to come together to foster community, grow personally, and to take a quick break from the busyness of their lives to find peace and renewal. This month's theme is focused on hope. Come as you are! We are glad to have you. For more info, please contact Molly Toth at molly.e.toth@gmail.com.

Consciousness Studies

Wednesday, December 20th from 7-8:30pm

Philosopher Christian De Quincey, PhD, discusses *Consciousness: The Shadow and the Light -- Seven Steps to Greater Self-Awareness*. Join us for Part 2 of a DVD viewing and discussion afterwards. Hand-outs, including main points presented, will be available. We will meet in the Youth Room.

-Clare Puskarczyk PhD

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 24th from 5-6pm

You are invited to UUYO's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service beginning at 5pm on December 24th.

UUYO Book Group

Will not meet in December

The UUYO Book Group will not meet in December, but will reconvene on January 18, 2018 at 7:15 pm at the home of Melissa Smith to discuss *Unto the Sons* by Gay Talese. According to Kirkus reviews: "Talese's massive genealogical tale has all the

sweep and detail of a grand 19th- century novel. Talese here asks the simple question: How did his father, Joseph, a tailor trained in his small village in southern Italy, end up plying his trade in an equally remote town on the New Jersey shore? The answer is anything but simple and demands a look into the historical background of the great migrations of our century. Relying on family letters, diaries, and interviews, Talese views Italian history from the bottom up, charting the effect of major events on ordinary people.” For more information, including directions to Melissa's, please email Louisa Berger at bergermom@gmail.com.

Scripture Study on Holiday

No meeting Wednesday, December 27

There will be no mid-week ministry meeting for Scripture Study on Wednesday, December 27.

Share the Plate

Our Share the Plate collection, half of the loose plate offerings in December, will go to Beatitude House. Beatitude House serves women and children bound in the cycle of poverty and homelessness. Through housing, education and family support programs, Beatitude House offers the care, compassion and education needed to break the cycle.

Beatitude House strives to offer programs with a focus on betterment of the individual by creating homes, providing educational opportunities and fostering healthy families. Through the empowerment of the individual, women go on to develop their personal education goals and work to secure and maintain meaningful employment, family stability and continued economic growth.

Are You a Notary Public?

UUYO is looking for notaries who could assist when the church has documents needing notarizing. If you can help, please contact Louisa Berger by email at lberger@uuyo.org or by phone at [330-746-6897](tel:330-746-6897).

Book Drive Through December 14th

St. John's Episcopal Church has invited us to join their annual tradition of providing books to the youth at Williamson Elementary in Youngstown. They asked for 100 books but, since we're celebrating our 125th anniversary, we said we would give 125. We will collect books appropriate for grades K through 4 until December 14 at 3pm and distribute them at the elementary school alongside St. John's on December 21. Contact Gary Davenport gdavenport@uuyo.org for more information.

Greetings from the Shameless Commerce Division...

Now that Thanksgiving is delicious history it is time to turn our thoughts to the December holidays and remembering family and friends with tokens of esteem. Avoid the mall, **SHOP UUYO!**

From now until the end of the year The Equal Exchange table will feature not only our regular fair-trade coffee and chocolate, but will also have all the 125th anniversary memorabilia, notecards, cookbooks, and a cart of gently used books from the library of Roger and Gloria Jones.

Book Lovers Rejoice!

Beginning Sunday, November 26, 2017 you will find a book truck near the Equal

Exchange table in Channing Hall containing books from the library of Roger and Gloria Jones. When Gloria Jones downsized her personal library, she set aside some items for the UUYO book sale.*

Check out this collection and you might find a title that speaks to you – be prepared for an eclectic mix: from Shakespeare to gardening, from cooking to philosophy, from health care to Hollywood directors, and more!

The books are not priced – there is a collection box on the book truck in which you can deposit your payment for whatever title(s) you choose to take home.

*We are not actually having a book sale for the public, but are temporarily reinstating a weekly sale of member-donated items as an ongoing fundraiser... If you have any questions about this initiative please contact Louisa Berger by email: lberger@uuyo.org or by phone: [330-746-6897](tel:330-746-6897).

Equal Exchange Chocolate for the Holidays

Why? It's just the best chocolate ever. Chocolate bars: Orange, Lemon and Ginger, Dark with Almonds, or single-sourced from Ecuador or Panama. Little Chocolate Minis: Extra Dark for a single taste sensation. Hot Cocoa mix, Spicy Hot Cocoa, or Baking Cocoa for your holiday treats.

Why Equal Exchange? It is one of the original Fair Trade co-ops, which has pioneered an equitable food marketing system, beneficial in many ways: supporting farmer co-ops in equatorial parts of our world, establishing a genuine worker-owned, democratically-run co-operative business model, donating 10% of our purchase price to the social service arm of our denomination, UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee), and allowing us to set the price of products to fund-raise on each sale for our UUYO operating budget.

Why here at UUYO? We are one of the longest running customers in the Equal Exchange Interfaith Program. We have served EE coffee and tea at Sunday morning's Coffee Hours

and other church functions for about 10 years. The mission of Equal Exchange matches UUYO's mission, so it's a natural fit.

Why now? At the coming holidays, Equal Exchange chocolate and other products make the perfect gift. We even can put together gift packs for you. Come see us at the Coffee Cart. Ask questions. Try the delicious products. Give gifts of Equal Exchange Fair Trade. Thank you.

A New Way to Help UUYO Create Revenue

If you shop at Amazon please note that UUYO recently became a member of AmazonSmile; please consider shopping there instead of the regular Amazon site. When you shop at AmazonSmile.com your purchases yield a donation of .5% to the church. How do you begin?

Look for an amazonsmile banner at the bottom of any UUYO.org page.

Click here for a [direct link](#) to the UUYO sign up page.

Or use these directions:

1. Go to amazonsmile.com.
2. Sign in with your Amazon account or if you are new to Amazon, create an account.
3. In the "Or pick your own..." search box type First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown.
4. Click the Select button.
5. Check the box to confirm and click the Start Shopping button.

Once you become a member you will see "Supporting: First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown" at the top of the screen every time you log in.

Donate and Do Good

As you may know, a while back we started an account for UUYO at a local consignment boutique, Penny Pinchers. A few of you have generously donated, but we really would appreciate more participation so we are asking you to go through your closets and donate any gently worn winter items for men or women that you may want to part with. Bring your items to church and leave them (winter items through December 15) folded or on hangers in the hallway off Channing Hall. Please leave your name so we can thank you. If you have questions, please email Anita Wesler (awesler@zuckas.com). Penny Pinchers is a nonprofit organization operated for the benefit of The Silver Lining Cancer Fund, Inc. A check for 40% of items sold each season will be given to UUYO. Together, individuals and UUYO will benefit.

Poinsettia Orders

Help make our sanctuary beautiful for Christmas. You can order red poinsettias, which will be used to decorate the church Christmas Eve. After the Christmas Eve service, you can then take them home to enjoy. Print and complete the order blank below and turn your orders and payment in to the church office.

The absolute deadline for orders and payments is Sunday, December 10. Payment may be made by cash or check (checks payable to the church). Contact Heather Best at office@uuyo.org or [330-746-3067](tel:330-746-3067) with any questions. You may request white or pink plants, but these colors cannot be guaranteed.

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Size	Price	Quantity	Sub-total
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6 ½" pot (1 plant)	\$9.95	_____	_____
7 ½" pot (2 plants)	\$19.95	_____	_____
8 ½" pot (3 plants)	\$27.95	_____	_____

T

total _____

_____ It is ok to list my name in the order of service as a flower donor.

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

Team 3: December 3 & 10

- *Linda Mohn – Communicator*
- *Susie Beiersdorfer – Facilitator*
- *Diana Shaheen – Facilitator*
- Audra & Jason Carlson
- Judy Degenova
- Karen Lapidus
- Sarah Lowry
- Dianna Mason
- Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
- Diana Palardy
- Wendy & Andy Pfrenger
- Gene Pusateri & Susan Miracle

- Davin Stilson
- Mary June Tartan

Team 4: December 17, 24, and 31

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

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care

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

In Memoriam

From the latest *UU World* we have learned that the Rev. Martha Lois Munson died on July 2, 2017 at the age of 64. Rev. Munson was the interim minister at UUYO from 2008 to 2009 and is remembered as a thoughtful, energetic, and supportive presence at UUYO.

The entry in ***UU World*** is an abridged version of a [more lengthy obituary](#) at the UUA website.

Deadline for January Newsletter Submissions Friday, December 22 at 9am

The firm deadline for December newsletter submissions is Friday, December 22 at 9am. Please know that those of you with contributions to the newsletter can send your information as soon as you are ready; no date is too early. Remember to include the start and stop time of your event, if applicable, and the ever-helpful "who, what, where, when, and why" in your description.

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](tel:330-746-3067)) if you wish to list a church event on the calendar.

Staff

Rev. Joseph Boyd, Minister jboyd@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

Lowell Satre, Endowment

Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary

Linda Mohn, Hospitality

Karen Lapidus, Nominating

Jan Grigsby, LGBTQ+ Committee

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 12:30-2:30pm



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