



The Steel Chalice

November, 2017

November Worship Theme: "Abundance"

"The heart that gives, gathers."

- Marianne Moore



"Abundance"

Abundance is a reality that depends on a state of mind, rather than cold, hard facts. Abundance is dependent on perspective. One of my favorite stories which demonstrates this point is a story I heard a couple years ago of an eye doctor who lived in San Francisco who heard of this remote village in India that was so impoverished that none of the children had access to corrective lenses. So he felt it would be his mission to bring abundance to this tiny village - an abundance of expertise and free glasses for all children in the village. He felt genuinely sorry for them, and was looking forward to bringing them a service which he was certain would raise their spirits. He had an assumption that all these villagers were depressed all day, moaning about their scarcity, and hoping for some outside help. He arrived at this village, and immediately was startled to see people smiling and bending over backwards to offer hospitality - inviting him over for dinner, to play games, to hear stories. He was bewildered when he saw all these impoverished children - these poor creatures in his mind - thoroughly enjoying friendship, games, and laughter. Their family and communal life was abundant indeed, and the doctor experienced something which he never imagined - his own scarcity. This doctor could not remember the last time he laughed with complete abandon, the last time he made time to sit for hours with friends and tell stories. He saw that day that while there was certainly the need for corrective lenses, they had abundance to offer him - abundance which he vowed to take with him back to San Francisco.

This doctor did not take back with him physical money or bank notes or stock tips - he took home a perspective. It was a perspective of abundance. Abundance is a loaded term that can be confused to mean something that applies only to those who have more money than they need. This is one form of abundance, but it fails to get at the heart of this vital spiritual practice.

Abundance is living as if we have enough. It is a practice, not a fantasy. It does not erase real need, like the need for medical care or money to stay fed and clothed. But a perspective of abundance refuses to concede to our circumstances, and let it dictate our view of ourselves as being inferior, scarce, lacking. It recognizes hardship and challenge without letting those be the cornerstone on which we build our entire identity.

Easier said than done. A resistance to feeling that we have enough is driven by our very human desire to survive, and feel a sense of security. These are primal and very real. This drive for survival interprets those who ask for financial contributions as a threat, real or not. I know this from experience. I was raised in a family that understood the very real challenges of staying warm, being fed, and maintaining medical care. I know the feeling of doom when you come home and the electricity is turned off again because the bill hasn't been paid, or wondering if there was enough money in our checking account if we wanted to join others at a restaurant. I know what it's like to survive, and live accountable for every penny spent. The message was clear - we had nothing to give. It was enough to keep our head above water. It was enough to survive.

As an adult, though my financial situation has improved since my youth, I still feel that driving narrative at times - I have nothing to give. I'm just trying to survive. As we practice the theme this month of abundance and start our annual pledge drive, I recommend a practice that has helped me.

When I'm asked to make a financial contribution, and I feel threatened, I pause. Then I list what I'm grateful to have in my life financially and otherwise, even if in the moment I'm feeling a sense of something lacking. Then out of a place of gratitude for what I've been given, I let that feeling guide my actions.

This year's pledge drive is about more than reaching a certain number - it's about reminding ourselves that this is a community of abundance, that we have something truly valuable to share with each other and our wider community. I look forward to celebrating this sharing with you this month, and discovering the reality of abundance personally and collectively.

Food Donations for November 12

It is time for the annual UUYo donation to the Richard Brown Methodist food bank. Last year (thanks to Tom Beck especially) we had a banner year. Can we top it? Yes!

Please bring several items of one of the following. We will collect them during the November 12th worship service, to benefit those who are hungry and in need on the Northside.

1. Pasta
2. Rice
3. Canned tomatoes
4. Canned beans
5. Canned soups
6. Canned tuna
7. Peanut butter
8. Tomato sauce in a jar
9. Mac and cheese mix
10. Other



Sunday, November 5: "Do We Have Enough?"

Do We Have Enough?

As I was driving down Elm Street, I saw a sign outside one of the homes. It read: "We don't have copper wire." I knew that copper wire could be sold for profit, and I understood the point of their message - don't gut this house. It was a sign for those willing to gut an entire house for a few hundred dollars.

When we experience economic struggle and simultaneously see examples of great wealth, it can be tricky to answer the question "Do we have enough?" It can be confusing trying to decide what our measuring stick should be.

Come this Sunday to engage this crucial question.

Re. Joseph Boyd - minister
Jan Elias - worship associate
BeckyAnn Harker – RE storyteller
Marcellene Hawk Mayhall - musician



Bits from the Board

Greetings from the Board!

The Ordination of Reverend Joseph Boyd at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown on Sunday, October 29, 2017 was a historic event in a historic year. It was an evening to long be remembered and cherished. The UUYO Board would like to gratefully express appreciation to all who helped. For many, it was the first time to experience an ordination and to witness the moving, beautiful ceremony. It was a sacred event for which we can be proud as every detail, large and small was very meaningful and heartwarming.

The Act of Ordination was a gift to Reverend Joseph from the congregation and he gratefully expressed his thanks many, many times throughout the evening. Knowing that Reverend Joseph had been offered to be ordained where he had interned, the Board, in turn, would like to thank Reverend Joseph for requesting the honor of the ordination be given to UUYO, the first church where he was called to serve. This joyful, historic event strengthens the bonds of our church community with him and each other, helps us recognize the attributes we have to offer from our corner of the world, and energizes the congregation to help in the Valley and beyond.

Guests and participants in the ordination ceremony arrived from as far away as Oklahoma and New York to give their blessings and support to Reverend Joseph, whose life has touched each of theirs on his path toward ministry. Honored guests included:

Reverend William G. Sinkford, the senior minister of First Unitarian Church of Portland, Oregon and previously served as President of the Unitarian Universalist Association from 2001 to 2009, by video.

Reverend Thomas Disrud, the associate minister of First Unitarian Church of Portland, Oregon, by video.

Yadene Hailu, the intern minister at Hope Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Reverend Marlin Lavanhar, the senior minister of All Souls Unitarian Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Reverend Daiken Nelson is the Sensei at the Pamsula Zen Center in New York, New York.

Reverend Renee Ruchotzke, a Congregational Life Consultant in the Central East Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association and serves as co-Dean of the UU Leadership Institute.

Reverend Joseph Cherry, the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland.

Reverend Kristen Rohm, the minister of SouthWest Unitarian Universalist Church in North Royalton, Ohio.

The music of Mozart and Beethoven played by Marcellene Hawk Mayhall, Kivie Cahn-Lipman and sung by Misook Yun filled the sanctuary which was glowing with candlelight and autumn decorations. The emotional ceremony caused many a tear to fill the eyes of observers as we listened to the chalice lighting by Jim Rogers, heard the moving words of Reverend Marlin Lavanhar, and gave blessings led by Board President, Andy Crabb. Tradition was followed with the

Laying on of Hands and the gift of the stole quilted by Marcia Malmer symbolizing the support of the UUYO Congregation. There were smiles throughout the evening, too, including at the sight of the bountiful tables of food at the reception. Thank you to all who helped knowingly and unknowingly to make the Ordination of Reverend Joseph a successful, joyous and memorable event!

With gratitude,
the UUYO Board
(submitted by Anita Wesler)



REflections

It is November. The Fall-est of the fall months, it seems. With Thanksgiving approaching, and talk of harvest and food, it is often a month where we explore topics like gratitude, or this month's theme: abundance.

We think of abundance in terms of food this time of year. We take the time to be grateful for all of the things that we do have- food, shelter, family, health, things.... But sometimes we feel we do not have an abundance of some of these particular things. We often worry that we might not be able to keep whatever abundance we do have for long. This puts us in a scarcity mindset- worried that we might not have enough.

But in this month where we are exploring abundance, I encourage you to broaden your idea of what you might have in abundance. When looking for stories for the month, there were many that popped up on the theme of Paying It Forward- if you give, you will receive more than you imagined. And sometimes what we have in abundance isn't money or things, but maybe you have an abundance of time or talents. The more you share, the more you receive. The more you pay attention to the abundance that you have in your life, the more you will find.

In the Religious Education wing, there are an abundance of things as well. Good things. Our Coming of Age group will have a day-long retreat on Sunday, November 5 on the campus of Westminster College. We have found mentors for all of the Coming of Age youth, and we will have an orientation on Saturday, November 4. Our second round of RE teachers will be teaching this month, after our traditional Children's Chapel service on November 5, on the topic of abundance.

Oh, and don't forget our UUYO Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, November 19!

I hope you will be able to identify the abundances in your life. I hope you will be able to share them with us at church. I look forward to seeing you there!

--BeckyAnn Harker, Director of Religious Education

Question to Ponder:

What do you have in abundance that you can share with your family, the church, the community, the world?

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



November Events

11/1/17 Social Justice Ministry (SL) 7-8:30pm

11/2/17 "White Rage" Author Carol Anderson speaks at St. John's at 7pm

11/4/17 NA Meeting (CH) 6:30pm

11/5/17 CoA Event Off-Campus at 10am

11/5/17 Worship (SA) 11am

11/5/17 Building Beloved Community 1pm

11/5/17 Frack Free (BR) 6pm
11/5/17 YOYPAA (YR) 6pm
11/7/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30-7pm
11/7/17 Board Meeting (BR) 6pm
11/7/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
11/8/17 Soul Matters (SL) 7-8:30pm
11/11/17 UUYO Work Party 10am
11/11/17 Spectrum Reception (CH)
11/11/17 Women's Alliance 12pm
11/11/17 NA Meeting (CH) 6:30pm
11/12/17 Spectrum Reception (CH)
11/12/17 Worship (SA) 11am
11/12/17 Worship Associates Meeting (SA) 12:15pm
11/12/17 Belonging to UUYO (SL) 12:30-2pm
11/12/17 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (CH) 12:30pm
11/12/17 Meditation Group (YR) 4-5pm
11/12/17 Frack Free (BR) 6pm
11/12/17 YOYPAA (YR) 6pm
11/14/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30-7pm
11/14/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
11/15/17 Young Adult Small Group Ministry (SL) 7-8:30pm
11/15/17 Consciousness Studies (YR) 7-8:30pm
11/15/17 Book Group 7:15pm at Melissa Smith's
11/18/17 NA Meeting (CH) 6:30pm
11/19/17 Worship (SA) 11am
11/19/17 New Member Recognition (SA) 11:15pm
11/19/17 Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner 12:15pm
11/19/17 Frack Free (BR) 6pm
11/19/17 YOYPAA (YR) 6pm
11/20/17 Transgender Day of Remembrance (CH) 6pm
11/21/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30-7pm
11/21/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
11/25/17 NA Meeting (CH) 6:30pm
11/26/17 Worship (SA) 11am
11/26/17 Meditation Group (YR) 4-5pm
11/26/17 Frack Free (BR) 6pm
11/26/17 YOYPAA (YR) 6pm
11/29/17 Stretch & Creative Movement (CH) 5:30-7pm
11/29/17 AA (CH) 7:30pm
11/29/17 Scripture Study 7-8:30pm

Legend for locations: (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 - No programming this week due to Thanksgiving Holiday.

4th 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.

5th Wednesday - Scripture Study - led by Korey Gall.

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

Building Beloved Community

Sunday, November 5 at 1pm

Building the Beloved Community: Conversations for Action on Racism:

Last spring, our congregation took part in the UU White Supremacy Teach-In, a denomination-wide day of exploration and examination of the power of white supremacy in our congregations. We want to revive and deepen that conversation, and work to equip ourselves to take action individually and collectively. UUYO will engage in a series of film screenings, discussions, and trainings in the coming months. We view this as sacred work, and we invite all of you to join in on this important conversation. All in our congregation and beyond are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Lisbet Searle-White at lisbetw@gmail.com or Molly Toth at molly.e.toth@gmail.com.

Soul Matters

Wednesday, November 8th from 7-8:30pm

Soul Matters midweek reflection will be dedicated to abundance and all the joys and burdens it brings to our lives. We will meet in Schweitzer Lounge. - Sarah Lown



UUYO Work Party

Saturday, November 11 at 10am

This month's work party will be Saturday, November 11, at 10:00am. The Fall foliage should be quite colorful by then, and in need of raking. We will need all the help we can get. Cold drinks gratis. Questions? Call Bob Seibold, 724-981-4791.

Women's Alliance

Saturday, November 11 at 12:00pm

The next Women's Alliance luncheon, on Saturday, November 11, 2017, will take place at Park Vista where we will have the pleasure of Gloria Jones' company in a private dining room. Because the kitchen closes at 1:00 p.m. we will start the meeting at noon rather than 12:30 to assure that everyone has a chance to order and that the chef has time to prepare our meals.



Belonging to UUYO

Sunday, November 12 from 12:30-2pm in Schweitzer Lounge

If you are considering joining the church or are looking for more ways to deepen your involvement and understanding of Unitarian Universalism, you'll want to attend the next session of Belonging to UUYO.

The Reverend Joseph Boyd and Newcomer Involvement Coordinator, Karen Lapidus will lead a program about what we believe, what we do and where we are going. Members Beth Foster, BeckyAnn Harker and John Gulgus will share what belonging to UUYO means to them.

We will talk about the rights and responsibilities of membership and will give participants the opportunity to sign the membership book, if they like. The program is designed to be informative, inspiring and fun.

New members will be recognized during the worship service on Sunday, November 19th.

Join us! All recent newcomers and visitors will received a more detailed invitation via email soon, but all are welcome.

Consciousness Studies

Wednesday, November 15th 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 1 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

UUYO Book Group

Wednesday, November 15 at 7:15pm

On Wednesday, November 15, 2017 the UUYO Book Group will meet at the home of Melissa Smith at 7:15 pm to discuss [*An American Exodus: A Record of Human Erosion*](#) by Dorothea Lange and Paul Taylor. "First published in 1939, *An American Exodus* is one of the masterpieces of the documentary genre. Produced by incomparable documentary photographer Dorothea Lange with text by her husband, Paul Taylor, *An American Exodus* was taken in the early 1930s while the couple were working for the Farm Security Administration (FSA) The book documents the rural poverty of the depression-era exodus that brought over 300,000 migrants to California in search of farm work, a westward mass migration driven by economic deprivation as opposed to the Manifest Destiny of 19th century pioneers."

An additional title that might be read along with this selection is John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, the classic novel about a family, forced from their farm in Oklahoma during the Depression, who set out for California in search of jobs, land, and hope for a better future.

For more information, including directions to Melissa's, please email Louisa Berger at bergermom@gmail.com.

Mid-Week Ministry on Holiday

No meeting Wednesday, November 22

There will be no mid-week ministry meeting on Wednesday, November 22 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Scripture Study

Wednesday, November 29th from 7-8:30pm

Scripture Study in November will look at the Song of Songs (aka the Song of Solomon). Join us as we explore some of the world's foundational texts. Whether you can quote chapter and verse, or have never opened a book of Scripture before, you'll find a place here! For questions or a copy of the text, please contact me at koreygal@gmail.com. We'll meet in Schweitzer Lounge. - Korey Gall

Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 19

Women's Alliance has run out of help. Many hands will be needed with all aspects of putting on the dinner - preparation, set-up, tearing down, cleaning up, etc. The dinner will be held on Sunday, Nov. 19, right after the service. A chart is posted in Channing Hall for the various tasks that will need to be done. A sign-up sheet will also be posted as to what foods will be brought in by the Congregation. Women's Alliance will go over the details at their meeting on November 11. All are welcome to come and hash out the details. Call Eugenia at a [330-503-4039](tel:330-503-4039) or [330-953-3086](tel:330-953-3086) for information or questions.

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.

What happened with that WYSU-FM project to broadcast info about UUYO?

The project started with an idea from Gene Pusateri in the Summer of 2017, and it grew from there. Our challenge grant of \$ 1,200 from two UUYO members was matched by members of the Congregation donating another \$ 1,825. We collected a total of \$ 3,025 from 23 contributors to fund the WYSU project allowing us to purchase 252 spots on WYSU to promote UUYO to the public.

UUYO will be included with WYSU on-air Underwriting Statements from November 1st, 2017, to March 24th, 2018. Twelve spots will be broadcast Tuesday to Saturday, every week. You’ll hear our 12 weekly messages during Tuesday to Saturday news programs “Morning Edition” and afternoon “All Things Considered,” on Saturdays rotated among various weekend programs, and during “A Prairie Home Companion.”

Tune in to WYSU to hear our UUYO messages to promote our Church to the larger community. Let us know when your family and friends hear our messages and comment to you: “Isn’t that the Church you attend?”

Committee Members: Tom Beck, Louisa Berger, Rev. Joseph Boyd, Andy Crabb, Ed Goist, Gene Pusateri



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 2: November 5 & 12

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

Team 3: November 19 & 26

- *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

Donate and Do Good

Have you come across the bestselling book, *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up?* The author, Marie Kondo, recommends, starting with our wardrobes, letting go of items that are cluttering our lives and only hold onto things that spark joy. If you care to experiment with that concept of paring down, we have a suggestion for you. Donate unwanted clothing items to **Penny Pinchers** consignment shop, to the account opened by UUYO. Bring your items to church with you and leave them (fall and winter items through December 15) on hangers in the hallway off Channing Hall. Clothing must be clean and in good condition. Please leave your name so we can thank you. If you have questions or more than 10 items to donate, 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.

Share the Plate

Our Share the Plate collection, half of the loose plate offerings in November, will go to the Richard Brown United Methodist Church's Food Pantry. They call their food pantry "the Food Shelf" and service 60 to 70 families per month. They usually pack 72 orders for distribution. The distribution is on the last Wednesday of each month. They try to keep the distribution in the neighborhood. They don't turn anybody away but they try to direct people who visit from other parts of town to services closer to their own neighborhoods.

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. Joseph Boyd (minister@uuyo.org) or the church office (office@uuyo.org, 330-746-3067).

Deadline for December Newsletter Submissions

Tuesday, November 21 at 9am

The firm deadline for December newsletter submissions is Tuesday, November 21 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.

Events of Note Outside UUYO

The following events may be of interest to UUYO folk -- they parallel our mission and usually have UUYO folk involved in planning or organizing them.

"White Rage" Author Carol Anderson speaks at St. John's

Thursday, November 2 at 7pm

St. John's Episcopal Church will be hosting historian Carol Anderson, author of *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide*, for an evening event on Thursday, November 2. UUYO helped fund this event with our Share the Plate donations from September. Beginning at the Civil War and moving forward to our tumultuous present, the recent images of Charlottesville still very fresh in our minds, Carol Anderson chronicles our continuing conversation about race, examining the often hidden but influential forces opposed to black progress in America. *White Rage* has received the National Book Critics Circle Award; New York Times Notable Book of the Year; Washington Post Notable Nonfiction Book of the Year; Boston Globe Best Book of 2016; and Chicago Review of Books Best Nonfiction Book of 2016.

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

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

Jeanne Tucker, Caring

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.

Office Hours

Tuesday and Friday, 9am-3:30pm

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