



THE STEEL CHALICE

July 2018

July Worship Theme: "Unitarian Martyrs"

"We're going to change the world. One day they'll write about us. You'll see."
— Viola Gregg Liuzzo



James Reeb | b. 1927 | d. March 1965 Viola Liuzzo | b. 1925 | d. March 1965

Sunday, July 1, 2018

11am Service: "What Does it Mean to be a Martyr?"

Unitarian Universalism has a long history of leaders bravely stepping up and speaking out on controversial social justice issues because of our beliefs. Two examples of courageous UUs were Rev. James Reeb and Viola Liuzzo, who marched in Selma, Alabama for Civil Rights. Both of their young lives ended abruptly and violently in March of 1965 because of their activism and shared commitment to living our UU principles.

This Sunday, we will explore the lives of these UU martyrs and reflect on what it means that they died in the struggle against racism and hate while fighting for hope and love.

Gary Davenport & Sarah Lowry – worship leaders
Marcellene Hawk Mayhall – musician



Unitarian Martyrs

Many may be surprised to learn our monthly worship theme is "Unitarian Martyrs." In a faith that has a reputation in the United States among the general public as an ambivalent, questioning, open-ended religion, it may not be assumed that we have martyrs who have shaped the character and charted the depth of our tradition, but that is truly the case.

Given my religious upbringing as a Jehovah's Witness, I can't help but reflect on the question - What kind of faith would I be willing to give my life for? The Jehovah's Witnesses were one of the groups that were targeted by the Nazis during World War II, and were put in concentration camps. My father told me this history, and emphasized that by simply signing a paper which would renounce association with the Jehovah's Witnesses, one could avoid the concentration camps and probable death. I remember my father asking me with complete seriousness - "But what would become of you, if you renounce your faith?"

The paradox is that though I still think highly of those who maintain their faith and tradition under the threat of death, I did eventually renounce my faith and affiliation as a Jehovah's Witness. As I became a member of a Unitarian Universalist congregation, I carried the same question though - What kind of faith

would I be willing to give my life for? I sensed that whatever faith I would be willing to give my life *for*, would be the same faith I could give my life *to*.

The Unitarian martyrs, unlike other faith traditions, are not mythical or legendary. They are actual human beings who made brave and unconventional choices under extreme circumstances. The martyrs whose stories we will learn from throughout July are: Viola Liuzzo and James Reeb, Francis David, Norbert Čapek, and Michael Servetus.

Without giving you any spoilers, I will tell you that some prominent themes emerge among these martyrs even though their lives and deaths span centuries and disparate geographies and cultures. Those themes are justice, peace, and freedom of thought/conscience. These themes chart clearly for us the parts of our faith that remain pillars.

Last month I was invited to speak at Dorothy Day House, a Catholic-led institution, to share with them the reasons why Unitarian Universalists are so eager and ready to engage in social justice issues. My hope is that through the study of our martyrs, our faith ancestors, we will gain for ourselves more clarity and appreciation for the reasons ministers and lay people have risked their lives on behalf of others.

Another thing I hope to instill is that freedom is never an end unto itself. We offer an unusual level of freedom in terms of discovering theology and belief in general. But this surface freedom is only the beginning phase of our faith development if we have the yearning and curiosity to grow. Using our freedom to choose a path that has dignity and includes more than ourselves, is the mark of a mature Unitarian Universalism.

As our public institutions and culture remain in a period of shock and flux, it is important we see the markers of a mature faith amongst various individuals, so that we may discern for ourselves the path we are called to take. Our martyrs are there to help us today – not just to show us what is worth dying for, but help us find what is worth living for.

Contacting Rev. Joseph

If you want to be in touch with Rev. Joseph Boyd, please email him at jboyd@uuyo.org.

Bits from the Board

Now that summer is underway, UUYO continues to be flush with activities that demonstrate how energetic our community is.

I'll highlight a couple of items, but be sure to read through this newsletter to find many opportunities to get involved in something new that offers chances to meet new people, get to know people better that you've known for a while, and maybe get to know yourself in a way that you never have before.

As I write this, Rev. Joseph Boyd is traveling with his wife Jennifer to Transylvania where our denomination was founded. I'm sure he will have many things to share with us upon his return in July.

Plans are underway for our Auction scheduled for October 20, 2018. Plan to be there; we are planning to have some exciting items available for bid. Stay tuned as plans get finalized. There will be many opportunities to get involved as well.

The finance committee has re-energized a project to replace the UUYO steeple that was removed several years ago. Just before Matt Alspaugh announced he was ready for a new assignment and we found and hired Joseph Boyd as our minister, we were working actively on this project and had received lots of input into possible replacement strategies.

The committee took these suggestions into consideration and will be presenting a recommended approach to the congregation at a special congregation meeting on July 1, 2018. If the congregation approves the plan, it will move forward quickly with the replacement installed this fall.

Thanks to all of you who support UUYO and participate to help make it the vibrant community that it is.

Stay cool and enjoy summer!
Andy Crabb,
Board President



REflections

Happy Summer! I am officially off for the summer (July and half of August), but RE is NOT ending!

I am very excited about our summer program this year. We are celebrating the diversity of our congregation as various members share about their cultures. We have many members who were born, raised, extensively visited and/or extensively studied various countries around the world, and they are going to share about their countries and cultures.

In July, we have Bob Siebold and friend sharing about Israel, Marita Emmert and her mother sharing about Peru, Melissa Smith will tell us about Russia, Ellen and Lowell Satre will share about their adventures in Scandinavia, and the month will end with a 5th Sunday, which is traditionally a Social Action Sunday, which will be led by Gary Davenport and will have to deal with Immigration issues (hopefully the crisis will have ended by then).

In August, our around-the-world adventures will continue with Diana Palardy sharing about Thailand, Amani Wadi-Ramahi will talk about Jordan, Susie Beiersdorfer will talk about her many trips to China, and Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez will share about his homeland of Cuba. The whole 80 Days Around the World will be concluded on Labor Day with Stephanie Crabb talking about Germany.

I hope many of you will be able to come and learn about the countries that help to make our congregation what it is!

See you in August!

--BeckyAnn Harker
Director of Religious Education

A Birthday Present for UUYO

Long-term members of the church will remember that I was the Director of Religious Education from the mid-80s to the mid-90s. To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church in 1992, the children and youth planted the Centennial Tree.

The children sold azalea plants to raise money to purchase the tree. It was planted during a dedication ceremony on the lawn with all of us circled around.

When the wooden sign was created, I was told that it would "last forever." Although it did last 25 years, it was showing wear. The tree was showing its age as well, but is much healthier now having been recently cared for by our Building and Grounds crew.

To honor the church's 125th Anniversary, I have replaced the sign with a new one which will hopefully last at least until our 150th Anniversary.

Thanks to Jim Rak and Martin Berger for setting the sign.

Happy Birthday, UUYO!

With love,
Karen Lapidus

Share the Plate

Our share the plate recipient for July is the Mahoning Valley African American Male Wellness Walk. For six years, the Mahoning Valley has participated in the National African American Male Wellness Initiative, which strives to "raise awareness for preventable health diseases and begin the process of empowering men to understand through prevention one can live longer." The Mahoning Valley African American Male Wellness Walk is a family friendly event--for men and women--that features a 5K run/walk/bike race and a health fair with free physical and mental health screenings, health information, and activities. Several UUYO members joined hundreds of Valley residents in the 5K last year.

The event provides a great opportunity for residents to learn about their health, what to do to live long, healthy lives, and meet organizations and individuals to help support them on their journeys. This year's Mahoning Valley African American Male Wellness Walk will be held on Saturday, August 11 at the Covelli Center in downtown Youngstown.

Thank UUs

Our thanks to Ralph Malmer, Jim Rak, Jim Rogers, Bob Seibold, Trudee Weatherby, and Martin Berger for their work to spruce up the church and grounds at the June 16 work party.

A big Thank UU to the Women's Alliance for footing the bill for the retreat center that made our Coming of Age Wilderness Retreat possible! We appreciate the support for our youth programming, both in spirit and financially. It should be an event that our youth will never forget!



July Events

- 7/1/18 Congregational Meeting (CH) after the service
- 7/1/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 12:30-2pm
- 7/5/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 7-8:30pm
- 7/7/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 7/8/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 12:30-2pm
- 7/8/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)
- 7/8-7/14/18 Summer Institute at Oberlin College
- 7/12/18 Board Meeting (BR) 6-8pm
- 7/12/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (YR) 7-8:30pm

- 7/14/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 7/15/18 Build Your Own Theology (SL) 9-10:30am
- 7/15/18 Worship Associates Meeting (BR) 12:30pm
- 7/15/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 12:30-2pm
- 7/19/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 7-8:30pm
- 7/21/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 7/21/18 Work Party at 10am
- 7/21/18 Youngstown Pride Festival (downtown) 1-10pm
- 7/22/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 12:30-2pm
- 7/28/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 7/22/18 Newcomers' Circle (SL) 12:15pm
- 7/22/18 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (SL or CC) 12:30pm
- 7/22/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)
- 7/26/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 7-8:30pm
- 7/29/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 12:30-2pm
- 8/2/18 Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop (BR) 7-8:30pm

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

Congregational Meeting – Sunday, July 1 after the service

As part of our 125th anniversary year celebration, the UUYO Finance Committee was charged by the Board to identify a plan for completing the architectural structure of the building. The committee has prepared a proposal and requests congregation approval during a UUYO Congregational Meeting to be held on July 1, 2018, immediately following the Service in Channing Hall. During the meeting there will be a presentation of the plan to install a cupola on the Church during the fall of 2018. There will be time for discussion followed by a vote on the motion requesting approval of the proposal.

Proposed motion: "Approval of the plan to install a cupola on The Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown during the fall of 2018."

Northside Farmers Market – Saturdays, 10am-1pm

The Northside Farmers' Market, which grew out of an Arts and Lecture Series in 2003, is moving "back home". The market will be held every Saturday 10:00 - 1:00 on the church grounds. People who want to help make brewed coffee and/or staff the table please contact Jim Converse 330-518-6971. You can also send a text or email to jwconverse@gmail.com, or see me at church.

**Art, Physics, and Resonant Fields Workshop
Sundays and Thursdays from July 1 to August 2**

You are invited to join us for an ongoing workshop. We will meet Sundays from 12:30 - 2:00pm, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Thursdays from 7 to 8:30pm, July 5, 12, 19, 26 and Aug. 2. A commitment is requested, but not required. Those who can only attend from time to time may do so, and students may bring along a friend if they wish. You'll need a large art tablet. Bring colored pencils if you have them; I will have some available to share. For more information, contact Clare Puskarczyk at cpuskarczyk@aol.com.

Women's Alliance

Women's Alliance will not meet in July or August; we will reconvene in the fall.

**Ohio Meadville District Summer Institute – Sunday,
July 8 – Saturday, July 14 at Oberlin College**

In 1990, after hearing rave reviews from former UUYO members Sondra and Sandy Gaylord, I attended my first OMD SI. I was hooked and have missed only twice since then. Summer Institute is a multi-generational Unitarian Universalist "camp" held on the campus of Oberlin College. The dates this year are Sunday, July 8th through Saturday, July 14th.

There is truly something for everyone, including meaningful worship, workshops and seminars to nourish the intellect, body, and spirit. This year's theme-speaker is David Orr, the author of *Dangerous Years: Climate Change, the Long Emergency*. There will be many opportunities to engage with the theme throughout the week, including a service project for all.

Fun-filled religious education happens in the morning for children, while the youth attend an empowering

program. There are age-specific activities as well as multigenerational options all day long. If you are a music aficionado, you can partake in any number of musical ensembles large and small, or be part of the audience. Fitness fans can choose activities from yoga and contra dancing. We have access to Oberlin College's recreational facilities, too. The evenings are filled with fun events. Attendees often speak about the "SI magic" that happens each year. The magic is in the loving community of approximately 350 UUs that is created.

Do check out the website for lots of details about this year's program: <http://omdsi.org>.

Let me know if you would like more information, or if you would just like to hear more of my cheer-leading about Summer Institute!

With love,
Karen Lapidus

Meditation Group - Sunday, July 8 and 22 from 4 to 5pm

All are welcome to attend UUYO's meditation group on July 8 and 22 from 4 to 5pm. If it is your first time attending this group, please come 15 minutes early (3:45 pm) for some basic instruction.

The group will meet in the Youth Room at UUYO on the second and fourth Sunday of the month through the end of March. 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 or by email at spiritdancer2008@yahoo.com.

Build Your Own Theology - Sunday, June 15 at 9am

Based on the assumption that everyone is their own theologian, this classic UU adult education program

invites participants to develop their own personal credos: the fundamental religious beliefs, values, and convictions that inform and direct their lives. The series poses five developmental tasks in which participants come to terms with human nature, ultimate reality, history, ethics and religious meaning. For more information, contact Korey Gall at koreygall@gmail.com.

Work Party – Saturday, July 21 at 10am

The July work party will be held Saturday, July 21, at 10am. There will be plenty to do both inside and outside, so come on down and join the fun. Cold drinks gratis. Questions – call Bob Seibold at 724-981-4791.

Youngstown Pride Festival – Saturday, July 21 from 1-10pm

The LGBTQ+ committee will be coordinating a booth at Youngstown Pride on Saturday, July 21 - If you can help staff a shift - contact Jan Grigsby - jgrigsby6@verizon.net. The event is downtown from 1-10pm.

Newcomers' Circle -- Sunday, June 22 at 12:15pm

Each month we hold an informal gathering of Newcomers and recent visitors. We create space to learn a bit more about our church and to consider ways to become involved. The Newcomers' Circles usually last no more than 30 minutes. It is a fun way to get to know other recent visitors and to get your questions answered.

We will meet in the Schweitzer Lounge, on the lower level down the Religious Education hall at 12:15. Grab a snack, bring your children and join us!

Foreign Policy Discussion Group – Sunday, July 22 at 12:30pm

We will meet the fourth Sunday, July 22, at 12:30pm, in the Patio Room. Please feel free, if you wish, to bring an article, question, problem, etc for discussion. Everyone is welcome. Questions – call Bob Seibold at 724-981-4791.



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: July 1, 8, 15, and 22

- *Linda Mohn – Communicator*
- *Susie Beiersdorfer – Facilitator*
- *Diana Shaheen – Facilitator*
- Audra & Jason Carlson
- Judy Degenova

- Chris Heck & Jessica Myers
- Karen Lapidus
- Sarah Lowry
- Dianna Mason
- Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
- Diana Palardy
- Gene Pusateri & Susan Miracle
- Davin Stilson
- Mary June Tartan

Team 4: July 29

- *Jan Elias – Communicator*
- *Korey Gall - Facilitator*
- Louisa & Martin Berger
- Amelia Brewer
- Marguerite Felice
- Chesney Gulas
- Clayton Henderson
- Roger LaFontaine
- Tim Malone

- Carole McWilson
- Eugenia & Al Pierce
- Ellen & Lowell Satre
- Mary Ellen Shutes
- Sharon Stringer
- Gloria Wilkin

Care Team Box

We have introduced a black cigar box with the candles in the back of the sanctuary. Near the box are small pieces of paper. If you are struggling with sickness, loneliness, stress, or loss - you are welcome to write your name and phone number, as well as a brief concern on the piece of paper. Place the paper face down in the cigar box, and Rev. Joseph or one of our care team members will get in touch with you.

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).

Calling All Runners - Sunday, October 21

Join our "UU of Youngstown" team for the Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon! The event is Sunday, October 21 in Columbus, OH and the team will be helping raise funds for children's cancer research and care. For more event information go to www.columbusmarathon.com and to join the UUYOU Team contact Samantha Fitschen at sfits7@gmail.com.



August Newsletter Submissions are Due Tuesday, July 24 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. 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

Board of Trustees 2018

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Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary

Linda Mohn, Hospitality

Gina Vance, 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

Monday, Tuesday & Friday, 9am-3:30pm

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