



# THE STEEL CHALICE

May 2018

## May Worship Theme: "Creativity"

"The chief enemy of creativity is good sense."  
— Pablo Picasso



### Creativity

We are all creative, whether we're aware of it or not. We create our sense of reality and what is possible on a daily basis. Most of the sources we use for this creative process remain mysterious to us and often go unattributed. We stumble in the dark borrowing candles from past generations, other minds, other dreamers.

We do not come to church to learn how to be creative. This would be an impossible task. Instead we come to church to realize that we have been creating all along. What have we been creating?

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All we have to do is look around. We look at a world that pre-exists our short tenure, and we notice architecture, parks, houses (some in disarray, some wonderfully refurbished, some new), government, church, language, universities, the arts. There's a reason I list the arts last.

The artist never creates from scratch. The artist is always in dialogue with all the forms of creation, and offers everything that remains invisible to the light of consciousness. The artist puts a slant on our expectations, allowing us to see and feel something anew.

In many ways, this has been my goal as a minister. I remain committed to creating spaces where we collectively can experience the wonder and tragedy of our shared living anew. I aim to live my life in such a way that fosters an attitude of openness, freshness, and not taking this improbable life for granted. In many ways, ministry is an art. In church through our ministries we dare to ask what good sense would encourage us never to ask - What is the purpose of our living? Where do we find the satisfaction we crave? How do we create beloved community? Good sense would tell us that these are indeed impossible questions to answer definitively. Good sense would tell us to keep our questions smaller, more manageable. Good sense would tell us to leave well enough alone.

It's a good thing in this regard that the engine of religion is not good sense...even in a post-enlightenment faith like ours. Good sense certainly has its place, but it is not the power and inspiration. Creativity, which is not opposed to good sense but dares to leap beyond it, is this engine.

This does not mean that creativity is always fanciful, and somehow out of our grasp. It is not always a jarring or overwhelming presence, but rather, most of the time it is invisible and barely noticed. Kobun Chino, one of the Zen masters who came to America in the 1950's, had an evolution of thought about this during his teaching in the United States. He found that his students were looking for the floodgates to open, for this creative force to awaken them from their dreary,

mundane existence. He insisted to his students, and by extension to us, that this creative, enlightening force was like having a candle in the dark. It lit our way, one unsure step at a time.

We need uncertainty to be creative. Right now many things feel uncertain in our world. The world has always been uncertain, but it feels especially acute in the present. The task I believe we have at UUYO (which is a wonderful task) is to see this uncertainty for its true potential - the seeds of creativity. When we are certain and secure, we live and think predictably. When things become askew, when our perception of the world is altered big or small, there is an opportunity for something new to be born. I believe we are on that cusp now. Creativity is knocking on our door here on Elm Street. Will we answer?

### **Contacting Rev. Joseph**

If you want to be in touch with Rev. Joseph Boyd, please email him at [jboyd@uuyo.org](mailto:jboyd@uuyo.org).

### **Sunday, May 6, 2018 11am Service: "Co-creating this Day"**

Creativity is a process that synthesizes different elements to create something more than the sum of its parts. There are innumerable elements to consider - light, sound, raw materials, experience.

Co-creation presupposes that there is no singular creator, but rather a creative process that touches all of life, all living creatures. How do we prepare ourselves for co-creation?

Come Sunday, and "Let there be light."

Rev. Joseph Boyd – minister  
Sarah Lowry- worship associate  
BeckyAnn Harker – RE storyteller  
Marcellene Hawk Mayhall – piano

### **Bits from the Board**

Greetings from the Board

In April's UUYO Board mtg. Rev. Joseph discussed his up-coming trip to Transylvania where they have

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Unitarian villages, and will possibly be giving a sermon or talk on his trip. The board also discussed movement on the new steeple; a vote will be brought to the congregation for a design. The steeple will hopefully be built later this year. Also Kristina Spaude will be ordained in Kent -- more information to follow, tentative date is Saturday June 30th, 2018, and the entire congregation will be invited. Lastly I will be looking into prices for an automatic external defibrillator (AED) for the church, and prices for CPR and AED training.

Sincerely,  
John Gulgas



### **REflections**

The theme of the month for May is Creativity. This is a theme that tends to be a favorite of the children, and perhaps the children at heart. We often think of the arts and crafts that children love to do. They make and create all the time. Somewhere along the way, we tend to lose the idea that we can be artists, or that we can be creative. A few of us are able to maintain that identity, but so often, life gets in the way: working, paying bills, raising children, dealing with stress, etc., etc. But we are all creative! Don't let the world make you think otherwise! We may not be making boats out of crushed shampoo bottles, as my young daughter once did, but think of all of the creative problem solving you do every day. Think of what you are making -- at work or at home. Even if all you are doing is making someone's day -- it takes noticing and creating a warm smile or a small gift, or just thinking of ways to help. It all takes creativity!

In the RE wing, there is creativity all the time! From the actual arts and crafts, to coming up with ways to keep kids engaged and participating, to

planning and crafting curriculum that works for our kids, our whole RE team, from the teachers to the children and youth, are always creating! And we will be celebrating that creativity with a Children's Art Show, as organized by our very own Jim Rogers. He has been collecting children's artwork, and will continue to collect it throughout the month of May, to be displayed starting June 3 in the kick-off to the resurrection of In Praise of the Arts.

Our children have been creative in other ways too—under the direction of Sam Fitschen, we have started a Children's Choir, which will have their debut performance on Mother's Day.

Our Coming of Age youth have created a church service where they will present their credos, or faith statements. They will be leading and conducting the whole service on May 20 for our Coming of Age Sunday. It will be a service you won't want to miss!

Also, April 29 was our Social Action Sunday. The children and youth all participated in a button-making activity. This is in conjunction with the Poor People's Campaign which Gary Davenport will be kicking off on Mother's Day. The Poor People's Campaign is a movement for the 99% of people who make up our country: for the poor, the struggling, the discriminated, the majority of "have-nots," basically the rest of us who are not the top 1% who are ruling our country, to stand up and make their voices heard. To that end, the organizers of the Poor People's Campaign have asked for monetary donations to provide things like legal counsel for those who get arrested peacefully demonstrating, or even to provide water to those who are protesting. The children and youth of UUYORE will be selling these buttons that we have made throughout the month of May during Coffee Hour as a fundraiser to send the money to the Campaign. The suggested price for these buttons will be \$5, but any amount you are willing and able to give will be appreciated!

Even as the end of the church and school years nears, and life gets busier than ever, don't forget to take a moment to appreciate the ways you are creative every day. And if you can, try to carve out even small moments where you can intentionally do

something creative. Your whole soul will appreciate it!

--BeckyAnn Harker  
Director of Religious Education

### Call for Congregational Meeting

As first announced during the Service on April 29, the Board of Trustees of UUYO is calling for a Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday, May 13, immediately following the Church Service to ask the membership to vote on authorizing the Co-Ordination of Kristina Spaude by our Congregation.

Kristina Spaude served as the Intern and Sabbatical Minister at UUYO from 2014-16. She has been a member of the UU Church of Kent since 2007. Having served as a lay leader in many capacities there, including pastoral care, stewardship, worship associate, social justice, and as a youth group advisor, she finally answered the call to ministry and began seminary at Meadville Lombard Theological School in 2012. Kristina also served as Director of Religious Education at SouthWest UU Church (North Royalton), and is currently a Chaplain Fellow at the Cleveland VA Medical Center. Her passions in UU ministry include leading worship, pastoral care, social justice (racial, disability, LGBTQ+ especially), and faith formation for all ages. She is grateful to be considered for ordination by the congregation that joyfully nurtured her ministerial formation.

### Congratulations to Jim Rogers!

UUYO just got word that Jim Rogers has been awarded a **General Assembly Planning Committee Scholarship** to the 2018 General Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri. In addition he has also been awarded a **GA Planning Committee Grant** as well as a **UUA All Are Called Grant**. Way to go, Jim!

**UUYO Silent Auction & Fun Night: BOO at UU!**

The UUYO Service Auction and Fun Night is titled "BOO at UU!" on Saturday evening, October 20th. Are you willing to help? We'll be setting up Auction Event Committees in May. Also ... start thinking now about Items you'll want to donate and services you can provide. It's absolutely frightening how much fun you'll have at "BOO at UU!"

**Mid Week Ministry - Wednesdays 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.

4th Wednesday - Scripture Study - led by Korey Gall.

**Meditation Group - Sunday, May 13 and 27 from 4 to 5pm**

All are welcome to attend UUYO's meditation group on May 13 and 27 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.

**Soul Matters - Wednesday, May 9 from 7-8:30pm**

We will explore the soul matters topic for May, which is creativity. - Sarah Lown

**Social Justice Ministry  
Wednesday, May 2 4 from 7-8:30pm**

Our small-group ministry focuses on the intersection

**Share the Plate**

Our Share the Plate recipient for May 2018 will be the Friends of the Mahoning River. A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, the Friends of the Mahoning River advocates to improve the quality of the Mahoning River through education, restoration, and recreation. The seventh annual Riverfest is a long tradition of celebrating of the Mahoning River and allows FOMR to educate the public about the river, the river ecology, and the environment. Riverfest will take place on Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 11:30 to 5:00 at the B&O Station.

Previous exhibitors include the Ohio EPA Agency, the Trumbull Canoe Club, Mill Creek Park Metroparks, Youngstown State University, the Alliance for Watershed Action and Resource Education (AWARE), the Trumbull and Mahoning County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Eastgate Regional Council of Government, Mahoning County Green Team, OH WOW Children's Science Museum, Historical Societies, local Boy and Girl Scout troops, and the Sierra Club. For information on volunteering for this event, please contact Josh Boyle at [josh.r.boyle@gmail.com](mailto:josh.r.boyle@gmail.com).

**May Events**

- 5/2/18 Mid-Week Ministry (SL) 7-8:30pm
  - 5/10/18 Board Meeting (BR) 6-8pm
  - 5/13/18 Children's Choir (RE Room) 10:15am
  - 5/13/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)
  - 5/9/18 Mid-Week Ministry (SL) 7-8:30
  - 4/15/18 Worship Associates Meeting (BR) 12:30pm
  - 5/12/18 Women's Alliance 12:30pm
  - 5/12/18 Work Party 10am
  - 5/19/18 Circle Supper
  - 5/20/18 Children's Choir (RE Room) 10:15am
  - 5/20/18 Newcomers Circle (SL) 12:15pm
  - 5/22/18 Newsletter Submission Deadline 9am
  - 5/27/18 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (SL) 12:30pm
  - 5/27/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)
  - 5/23/18 Mid-Week Ministry (SL) 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

between justice, current events, and our daily lives. Come share Resistance, Resilience, and Reflection together. We will meet in Schweitzer Lounge.

- Gary Davenport

**Women's Alliance – Saturday, May 12 at 12:30pm**

Women's Alliance will meet at The Market Restaurant (located in the Valley Market Place, 6121 South Ave., Boardman, Ohio. 44512) on 12th at 12:30 P.M. It is located next to the old Pat Catan's Craft store and in the same plaza as the Georgetown Banquet center. For questions call Louisa Berger at 330 746-6897.

**UUYO Book Group**

The meeting for May is cancelled and the group will defer discussion of Stendhal's novel *The Charterhouse of Parma* until June.

**Work Party – Saturday, May 12 at 10am**

This month the work party for May will be on the second Saturday, May 12, at 10:00am. There should be plenty of outdoor work in addition to remaining indoor work. Coffee and cold drinks gratis. Questions - - call Bob Seibold at 724-981-4791.



**June Newsletter Submissions are Due Tuesday, May 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.

**Foreign Policy Discussion Group – Sunday, May 27 at 12:30pm**

The fourth Sunday this month will be May 27; we will meet at 12:30pm, either in Schweitzer Lounge or the Patio Room. All are welcome. Please feel free to bring any articles, ideas, problems, etc. for discussion. Questions - - call Bob Seibold at [724-981-4791](tel:724-981-4791).

**LGBTQ+ Committee -- Sunday, May 20 at 12:15pm**

The LGBTQ+ committee will meet in Channing Hall after church on May 20th. We will be talking about the Pride Festival and planning services for the Fall. For more information contact Jan Grigsby [jgrigsby6@verizon.net](mailto:jgrigsby6@verizon.net).

**Mid-Week Ministry: Scripture Studies - Wednesday, May 23 from 7-8:30pm**

We will meet on May 23rd from 7:00 to 8:30 in Schweitzer Lounge. - Korey Gall

**Newcomers' Circle -- Sunday, May 20th 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!

**Ohio Meadville District Summer Institute**

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.

Scholarships are available, with priority given to first time attendees. The scholarship application deadline is June 1st. 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

### **Thanks for supporting WYSU-FM and UUYO!**

Our fund raising effort to support WYSU-FM and place messages about UUYO on the air at WYSU for Spring and Summer, 2018, was a success. We raised enough money to place 105 UUYO messages on air at WYSU from May to mid-September.

Listen Monday to Friday during the morning and afternoon news programs to hear UUYO promoted over WYSU. Also, we'll be collecting donations again this Fall to keep UUYO on the air at WYSU-FM. You can donate to that continuing fund anytime during the year -- even

now if you want to help us place more messages over WYSU

### **Consignment Shop – Penny Pinchers**

Spring is in the air – finally!! Spring, a time for growth and renewal. What does it mean for you? Perhaps walking outside, taking in the fresh air, hearing birds chirp as they welcome the day, seeing green grass and flowers emerge, planting a garden. Maybe spring means taking a new look at your home and belongings, and then on to - spring **cleaning!!**

If so, **Penny Pinchers**, a nonprofit, local consignment shop, can help! If you wish to remove some of those gently worn items from your closet that you no longer wear, now is the time! Penny Pinchers is now accepting **summer** clothing through July 1. And best of all, you are not only helping yourself, you are also helping UUYO and the Silver Lining Cancer Fund. 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.

All clothing must be clean, in good condition, and deemed saleable. Bring your items to church and leave them folded in the blue basket or on labelled hangers in the hallway off Channing Hall. Please leave your name so we can thank you. Email any questions to Linda Mohn [ljmohn2005@yahoo.com](mailto:ljmohn2005@yahoo.com), or Anita Wesler ([awesler@zukas.com](mailto:awesler@zukas.com)). Thank you to all who have generously donated men's and women's clothing for the UUYO account.

### **Equal Exchange**

Mmmmmm! Who loves chocolate? Perhaps a Mother in your life? Celebrate Mother's Day with a delicious bar of Equal Exchange chocolate from the Equal Exchange Coffee Cart. There is a variety still available. Or perhaps a handful of chocolate "minis" will do the trick. There are also bags of chocolate chips, which can be made into the most delectable goodies. And on some cool night, a cup of hot chocolate would hit the spot.

### The Replacement of the Steeple Project

Get your chocolate bars now before our supply is exhausted. We won't be ordering more until this fall, when it is safe to ship chocolate (not that it has been warm enough to worry about that yet!)

Remember, your purchase of chocolate from Equal Exchange helps in many ways: independent farmers in cocoa-growing parts of our world can truly make a living within the Fair Trade system, which is virtually impossible in the corporate commodity squeeze; Equal Exchange supports the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee; and our church budget can cover the cost of beverages, sugar, and cups for our use at Coffee Hour and other UUYO events.

Ellen Satre, for the Equal Exchange Team

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This just received from the offices of Equal Exchange:

*Hi UUYO,*

*We're pleased to let you know that for the 2017 sales year, your congregation was among the top 5% of over 6,000 faith based groups who order our products, so THANK YOU for your continued dedication to promoting Fair Trade in your community.*

*To acknowledge your hard work we'd like to send out a certificate letting your congregation know about your top account status, so please let me know if you'd like us to send one and we'll mail it out in the next few weeks.*

*We appreciate your commitment to small farmers and your support of the work that we are doing here at Equal Exchange to change the way trade is done in the world.*

*Thank you again!  
Regards  
Jay*

It is time to move forward with this part of several capital projects which we've had on and off the agenda for a while. We now have a window of time available to plan, publicize, conduct fund-raising, and build a suitable top to our building. The Finance Committee formed a Capital Campaign Committee, members of which are already working to develop a proposal. At least \$10,000 has already been pledged toward this effort, along with a significant contribution from the Endowment Fund. Watch for the opportunity to pledge your own support and to see the tangible results of this project. UUYO will be both the symbolic and the actual beacon of light in our neighborhood. The steeple replacement is phase 1 of several projects. Stay tuned.

### UUYO Hospitality Teams Need YOU!!

If you are not yet a member of one of the 4 Hospitality teams & are **willing to help a few Sundays a year – we would love to have you.** Team members **share the various tasks** that are needed for a 4-week session – they **include** greeters, take & count the collection, make coffee, bake or bring snacks for coffee hour, arrange the tables, and clean-up.

In addition to the important role they play in the church, the Hospitality teams are **fun**, and a great way to **make new friends and reacquaint yourself with old friends.** And the **commitment is small** – teams work in **4 week sessions, 3 times a year.** You are **not obligated** to work all 4 Sundays of your team's terms, and no coffee hour tasks should keep you from attending the church service. As a team member, you **do what you can, when you can** – whether it is just baking food or counting money - no big obligation is expected – only a team spirit!

Contact Linda Mohn, UUYO Hospitality Team  
Coordinator: [ljmohn2005@yahoo.com](mailto:ljmohn2005@yahoo.com)

## Hospitality Teams Schedule

Please be sure and thank the folks on this month's teams!

Team 1: May 6,13, 20, 27

- *Monica Hite – Communicator*
- *Jan Grigsby – Facilitator*
- Ginny Morgan & Frank Bishop
- Kim Dangol
- Beth Foster
- John & Christine Gulgas
- Marty O'Leary
- Mindi & Shawn Raley
- Jim Rogers
- Peg Tomm
- Molly Toth

## 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](mailto:minister@uuyo.org)) or the church office ([office@uuyo.org](mailto: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. Please contact the office ([office@uuyo.org](mailto: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](mailto:jboyd@uuyo.org)  
BeckyAnn Harker, Director of Religious Education  
[dre@uuyo.org](mailto:dre@uuyo.org)  
Heather Best, Office Administrator [office@uuyo.org](mailto:office@uuyo.org)

## **Leaders**

### **Board of Trustees 2018**

President - Andy Crabb  
Vice-President - Jeanne Tucker  
Secretary - Mindi Raley  
Treasurer - Louisa Berger  
John Gulgas  
Ralph Malmer  
Molly Toth  
Anita Wesler

### **Committee Chairpersons**

Martin Berger, Building and Grounds  
Lowell Satre, Endowment  
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**

Tuesday & Friday, 9am-3:30pm  
Sunday, 9-11am and 12:30-2:30pm

## **How to Contact UUYO**

**Email:** [office@uuyo.org](mailto:office@uuyo.org)  
**Mail:** 1105 Elm Street  
Youngstown. OH 44504  
**Phone:** (330) 746-3067