



THE STEEL CHALICE

October 2018

October Worship Theme: "Sanctuary"

"Finding a sanctuary, a place apart from time, is not so different from finding a faith."

Pico Iyer



Sunday, October 7, 2018

11am Service: "Freedom from Violence"

Violence is endemic to our culture. It is perpetuated in innumerable ways toward various groups of people each and every day. Yet most individuals are disturbed and saddened by this fact.

How do we free ourselves from violence? Come Sunday, as we reflect on the role of sanctuary.

Rev. Joseph Boyd - minister

Mindi Raley - worship associate

Marcellene Hawk Mayhall - pianist

Guest chalice lighter from Full Spectrum, a LGBTQ community outreach center



Sanctuary

It is no accident that we call the place we worship a sanctuary. A sanctuary is a space that serves as a frame and container for our values, fostering protection, a sense of security, and inspiration. We invite a weary world to come inside the frame that has been passed down to us from generations past, and we invite them to find rest and encouragement for treading the unknown difficulties that certainly lie ahead, as well as celebrate the obvious and awesome fact - we are still alive.

Fearful rhetoric and policies that foster violence and division have become increasingly commonplace. Whether it's policies directed at immigrants, the poor, or those who have historically been denied a vote, the cultural landscape is rife with sentiments many of us wish to protect ourselves from. It literally feels toxic and inhuman.

At UUYO, we are committed to protecting the human and the humane. We draw from a variety of faith traditions as well as intellectual traditions, and each member has their own response to the god question. But there is one thing we agree on. The human and the humane are worth protecting and fostering. It is no surprise that UUYO and Unitarian Universalist churches across the nation have been seeking to practice what

we preach by showing up where inhumane thinking and actions threaten what we hold to be most sacred - living, breathing people.

In many ways the complexity and difficulties of our current era have encouraged us to foster a more simple faith. A simple faith is not the same thing as a simplistic faith. We need to develop a sense of understanding that takes into account realities beyond our comfort zone or full comprehension. And yet, the times are calling us to be more simple and direct. We are becoming increasingly concerned about what really matters - those that live and breathe. Our faith is about focusing on actual, particular, breathing lives, including our own. It is losing the distraction of labels and linguistics, and moving toward hearing the actual heartbeat of persons in distress yearning to be safe and free.

I am proud of this faith, and I'm proud to serve as your minister at UUYO. You have a sense of what really matters, and you practice it consistently at church and in your daily lives. As we reflect on the theme of sanctuary this month, give some thought to the persons you see in need of security, rest, and rejuvenation. Maybe that person is you. If so, I look forward to seeing you on Sunday...in our sanctuary.

In faith,
Rev. Joseph

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

As we come to the end of our 125th year we look back on what this congregation has accomplished and ahead to what is on the horizon for UUYO.

During our anniversary year

- We ordained Rev. Joseph Boyd and, along with the UU Church of Kent, co-ordained the former UUYO Intern Minister, Kristina Spaude.
- We have made the church grounds safer with the addition of sturdy handrails on the sidewalk

steps between the Illinois sidewalk and the Elm Street entrance to the building and decreased the possibility of theft or vandalism of our HVAC equipment by installing protective cages around the units.

- We will soon install an Automated External Defibrillator and offer training in its use to any church member interested in learning how to use the device.
- We made the decision to install a cupola atop the building and hope to have that project completed this fall.
- We have increased the visibility of UUYO in the Mahoning Valley with more participation in community events and an increased presence in social action proceedings and initiatives.

As we begin our next 125 years we need to maintain and strengthen the progress we have made. There will be no shortage of things to do around the church and in the church community as we look forward to the All Church Auction on October 20th, kick off of the Stewardship drive, and other traditional fall and winter holiday events. There will be many opportunities to pitch in and help with all kinds of activities – please take advantage of these opportunities to see, up close and personal, how UUYO operates. UUYO needs YOU!



Reflections

If you did a Google search of the word “Sanctuary,” say, to find stories for the Wonder Box, most of what you will find has to do with Sanctuary Cities and refugees. That wasn’t what I had in mind for a story, necessarily, but it does tie in well with our Social Action Project from the last week in September. We sent a care package to help a family in sanctuary. Thank you to all who helped to contribute. We collected over \$200!

And now, Sanctuary is the theme of October. Sanctuary means a "place of refuge or protection." We have a sanctuary in our church, where we come to worship each week. But any place could be a sanctuary. Some people find sanctuary and peace out in nature, some people have a special place in their homes where they come back to find their peaceful place. Some people can find sanctuary within themselves and are able, through meditation and/or yoga, to come to their place of refuge by calming their minds. This month, in RE, we will be exploring ways to make spaces of Sanctuary in our own lives and in our minds and in our bodies.

Our experiment in having congregant-led RE classes is off to a good start! A huge UUYORE thank-you to Judy DeGenova, Carmen Mottaguedes, Clare Puskarczyk, Linda Scharf, and Mystery Wallis for their help in leading activities on the theme of Vision in September!

We also have kicked off our OWL program! We had our parent orientation and the parent response has been very positive. They see the value in having open, honest conversations about values and information about sexuality so that their youth can make informed decisions in their lives. We currently have 5 youth whose parents have gone through orientation. The youth will have their introduction class on October 7, after which they will decide whether they want to participate in the program. If fewer than 5 are interested in continuing, we will not be offering the program this year. The ideal number of youth in a program like this is 12-15 and anything under 5 would not work. If it is not meant to be for this year, we will try again next year, as other youth will be aging in. If it is meant to be for this year, I will share more details in next month's newsletter! Until then...!

--BeckyAnn Harker
Director of Religious Education

Share the Plate

This program designates half the loose collection at Sunday services to one specific charity per month. Our share the plate recipient for October is Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center. Full Spectrum is helping to build an inclusive world where LGBTQIA+ people

thrive as healthy, equal and complete members of society. Full Spectrum strives to promote awareness, education, mental and emotional health, as well as advocacy for the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual, and our Allies) community within Mahoning Valley.

Auction

The UUYO "BOO! At UU! Talent and Service Auction" is Saturday, October 20th, from 6:30pm to 10pm at the Church

Invite your friends to join you for this fun-filled evening of prizes, food, and entertainment. Halloween costumes welcome. We'll hold a costume contest with the winners earning valuable prizes. Bring your decorated and/or carved pumpkin to the Auction to enter into the Pumpkin Contest. Don't miss your chance to say "BOO! at UU!"

Tickets for the UUYO Auction will be on sale Sunday in Channing Hall

Tickets are \$20 per person. Tickets will be on sale every Sunday during Coffee Hour until the Auction, and at the door on the evening of the Auction. (We want everybody to attend -- and we have some guest tickets available if your budget won't allow you to purchase a ticket this month. Talk to Tom Beck or Louisa Berger.)

Can you help find gifts for the Auction?

Can you approach your favorite businesses, restaurants, and other establishments to ask them to provide gift cards, items, services, etc., for the Auction? Please do so. Do you have friends and family members who own or manage businesses? Ask them for Auction items too.

Can you provide talent and services or valuable items for the Auction?

We're still looking for UUYO members and friends to provide more talents and services along with valuable items for the Auction. Check in during the brief Auction Meeting in Channing Hall on Sunday to let the Auction Team know what you have to offer.

Can you help with decorating ideas or ideas for finger food for the auction?

We welcome ideas for Halloween decorating of Channing Hall and "finger" food to be passed out during the auction. Those with ideas can meet during the Women's Alliance meeting (see article in newsletter) or call Eugenia at 330-503-4039 or 330-953-3086.

Can you volunteer to help us operate the Auction?

Let us know you can help -- check in at the Auction ticket sales table in Channing Hall following Sunday Service or email Tom Beck at tbeck@uakron.edu.

October Events

- 10/3/18 Public Records Training with Wick Park NA (CH) 7-8:30pm
- 10/6/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 10/7/18 Build Your Own Theology (SL) 9:30am
- 10/7/18 Social Justice Ministry Meeting (SL) 12-2pm
- 10/10/18 Auction Team Meeting (CH) 7pm
- 10/11/18 Board Meeting (BR) 6-8pm
- 10/13/18 Work Party at 10am
- 10/13/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at UUYO
- 10/13/18 Women's Alliance (SL) 12:30pm
- 10/14/18 Build Your Own Theology (SL) 9:30am
- 10/14/18 Newcomers' Circle (SL) 12:15pm
- 10/14/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)
- 10/16/18 Book Club Meeting 7:15pm at Melissa Smith's
- 10/20/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at 832 Elm St
- 10/20/18 "Boo at UU" Talent and Service Auction (CH) 6:30-10pm
- 10/21/18 Build Your Own Theology (SL) 9:30am
- 10/21/18 Worship Associates' Meeting (BR) 12:30pm
- 10/25/18 RIKERS: AN AMERICAN JAIL film & discussion (CH) 6:30pm
- 10/27/18 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm at 832 Elm St
- 10/28/18 Build Your Own Theology (SL) 9:30am
- 10/28/18 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (SL) 12:30pm
- 10/28/18 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (3:45pm if first time)

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

Northside Farmers' Market – Saturdays, 10am-1pm

The Northside Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday 10:00am - 1:00pm on the church grounds through October 13. October 20 through December, the Farmers' Market will be held indoors at 832 Elm Street; it will return to UUYO in the Spring. 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.

Build Your Own Theology – Sundays in October from 9:30 to 10:45am

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, October 13 at 10am

In deference to the auction, the October work party will be held on the second Saturday, October 13, beginning at 10am. As the leaves will likely be starting to fall by then, we will need all the help we can get. As usual, coffee and cold drinks gratis. Questions - call Bob Seibold, 724-981-4791.

Women's Alliance – Saturday, October 13 at 12:30pm

Women's Alliance will meet on Sat., Oct. 13, 2018, at 12:30pm at the Little Greek Restaurant, 220 Boardman-Canfield Rd, across the street from Save-A-Lot in the Boardman Plaza. We'll talk about ideas for Halloween decorations for the auction. Please bring ideas and recipes for food to pass out to the crowd. If you can't stay, at least drop off your ideas. Call Eugenia at 330-503-4039 or 330-953-3086.

Newcomers' Circle - Sunday, October 14 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!

Meditation Group - Sunday, October 14 and 28 from 4-5pm

All are welcome to attend UUYO's meditation group on October 14 and 28 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.

UUYO Book Group – Wednesday, October 16 at 7:15pm

For the next two months the UUYO Book Group will consider travel books.

On Wednesday, October 16th 2018, the UUYO Book Group will meet at the home of Melissa Smith at 7:15 pm to discuss S.J. Perelman's *Eastward Ha!*, which recounts the author's travels from New York to Scotland, France, Russia, Turkey, Bangkok, Java and finally to Hollywood during the 1940s. Dorothy Parker

said of Perelman that: "he had 'a disciplined eye and a wild mind' and a 'magnificent disregard' for his reader."

In November we will meet on Wednesday the 14th (a week early because of Thanksgiving) to discuss Jonathan Swift's (1667–1745) classic *Gulliver's Travels*. The November title is about travel to a place that is very different from 20th century Europe; or is it?

"BOO! At UU! Talent and Service Auction" - Saturday, October 20th, from 6:30pm to 10pm at the Church

Invite your friends to join you for this fun-filled evening of prizes, food, and entertainment. Halloween costumes welcome. We'll hold a costume contest with the winners earning valuable prizes. Bring your decorated and/or carved pumpkin to the Auction to enter into the Pumpkin Contest. Don't miss your chance to say "BOO! at UU!"

**RIKERS: AN AMERICAN JAIL
Documentary Film and Discussion
Thursday, October 25 at 6pm**

Come face to face with men and women who have endured incarceration at Rikers Island. In searing testimonials, they describe their experience from the trauma of entry to assaults and solitary confinement in this riveting documentary from Bill Moyers about the human toll of mass incarceration.

Please join Rev. Joseph for a night of engaging the current state of jails in our country, and reflect on what it means for Youngstown to have a jail. Thursday, October 25th at 6 pm in Channing Hall. Feel free to bring finger foods, popcorn, or drinks to share.

Foreign Policy Discussion Group – Sunday, October 28 at 12:30pm

The fourth Sunday meeting this month will be on October 28. We will meet at 12:30pm in Schweitzer Lounge. Please feel free, if you wish, to bring an article, question, problem, etc for discussion. Questions – call Bob Seibold at 724-981-4791.



Report from General Assembly, Kansas City, MO

My visit to Kansas City for General Assembly started out much different than the other seven I attended. Due to my missing my original flight out of Cleveland, my luggage didn't arrive in Kansas City until the day after the opening ceremony. Since our church banner was packed in my luggage, I wasn't able to march in the banner parade on Wed. night. The parade of banners in the assembly hall at the convention center is a sight to behold. I never get tired of seeing so many inventive representations of places from every state. Each one has a story behind it too, a story about people everywhere practicing a faith guided by democracy, inquisitiveness, and compassion.

During past opening sessions, I would lineup with the other banner bearers and engage them about their stories about becoming Unitarian Universalists, and what their congregations were doing in their respective locations. You'd be surprised what you can learn from others, and at times the similarities in our paths. This trip I was content to just chronicle the event by taking as many pictures of the banners as I could as they streamed through the assembly hall.

Anyone interested in personal stories about Unitarian Universalists had a chance to purchase the Skinner House book titled "Testimony, The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism," an anthology of stories by UU's in the exhibit hall this year. I was so proud to be included in the publication, edited by Meg Riley. The UUA owns both Skinner House and Beacon Press publications. Every time I attend General Assembly I look forward to seeing what books are being offered, and I'm always amazed at the selections, for they always speak to our principles, and tend to educate, along with being relevant to current events. I have a nice library of books from past General Assemblies and I urge members of UUYO to take advantage of these resources.

The theme of this General Assembly, All Are Called, inspired this year's AIW, known as Action of Immediate Witness to stop the criminalization of our communities. They are 1. End Family Separation and Detention of Asylum Seekers and Abolish ICE: The Love Resists campaign is working closely with UU Refuge and Immigrant Services and Education (UURISE) and Mijente to stop the criminalization of migrants and to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). 2. Dismantle Predatory Medical Care Practices in Prisons and End Prisons for Profit: The Church of the Larger Fellowship Prison Network, with support from Allies for Racial Equity, has been supporting the US Prison Strike that concluded on Sept. 9, with a call from those imprisoned to support their demands. 3. We Are All Related: Solidarity Now with Indigenous Water Protectors: This AIW honors the indigenous-led Water Protector movement and the calls on UU's everywhere to engage in continued solidarity. It was co-crafted by the Water Protectors who are facing federal imprisonment.

Future actions for the UUA : Congregational Study/Action Issues Engage in study and action related to the Corruption of Our Democracy and Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy.

DRE's, Directors of Religious Education in each congregation, will now have automatic delegate status at future General Assemblies and voting status will be given to youth members on the UUA board of directors.

Each year I attend General Assembly, I appear to have that one inspirational experience that is so personal that it fills me up. Last years moment was during the banner parade that I almost missed and thought about skipping due to a depressing speed bump on arrival in New Orleans. This prompted me to realize the reason I was there, to spread, and receive love.

This June in Kansas City that moment came on the last day of the convention during the worship service on Sunday. Upon entering the large assembly hall, everyone was given a small felt heart to exchange with someone else. I was seated behind a young girl and her mom, when all of a sudden I saw the girl reach back and hand me her yellow heart. That was my moment, and at the time I was thinking of what I could do to honor her reaching out. I then thought of the button on my shirt

situated near my heart that reads "Believe in Good." Even though the button was one of my prized possessions, I gave it to her. Her mom thanked me, and then I photographed her with the button. I don't know their names, or where they live, but all three of us are now connected forever. That little felt heart is in my camera bag for as long as I can see, hear, feel and experience. My minister friend mentioned to me that that was my personal ministry.



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 2: October 7 & 14

- *Anita Wesler - Communicator*
- *Marcia & Ralph Malmer – Facilitators*
- Amelia Brewer
- Sara Egry
- Cheryl & Galen Elser
- Kate Fitzgerald
- Luanna Jacobs
- Cathy Kajut
- Gerard Kelly
- Alison & Jon Locketti
- Sarah Lown
- Linda Scharf
- Judith Stanger
- Trudee Weatherby

Team 3: October 21 & 28

- *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

Summer Institute

THE RESULTS ARE IN! Summer Institute finally has a new name, chosen by an overwhelming majority vote of members of the SI community, and that new name is... **Central East Region Summer Institute!** Our new name is practical and descriptive, it echoes our old name (switching OMD to CER), and, as a huge bonus, we now have an easy-to-pronounce acronym—let's give a big welcome to our new nickname, "CERSI"! A new website and logo are coming soon, but visit us now at omdsi.org.

CERSI WORKSHOP PROPOSALS BEING ACCEPTED

NOW! One big way that **you** can help make CERSI 2019 awesome is to help us offer strong programming that will appeal to a range of people. Morning seminars for adults meet with the same group every day for 75 minutes, with content building from day to day. Early (inter-generational) and late (sometimes age-specific) afternoon workshops tend to be more open-ended, with folks coming and going during the 90 minutes of activity. All of them can be learning-based or activity-based, and topics might be spiritual, practical, physical, intellectual, gustatory, artsy, musical, or more! If you have an idea for an interesting morning seminar or afternoon workshop, please submit a proposal by October 30, 2018. The links can be found at <http://omdsi.org/news/already-thinking-about-si-2019/>.

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 at jboyd@uuyo.org.

November Newsletter Submissions Are Due Tuesday, October 23 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

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

Committee Chairpersons

Martin Berger, Building and Grounds
Lowell Satre, Endowment
Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary
Linda Mohn, Hospitality
Gina Vance, Nominating
Jan Grigsby, LGBTQ+ Committee
Sarah Lowry, Share the Plate
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

How to Contact UUYO

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