



Mystery Wallis - Worship Lead  
Jeff Crouse - Guitar and Vocals



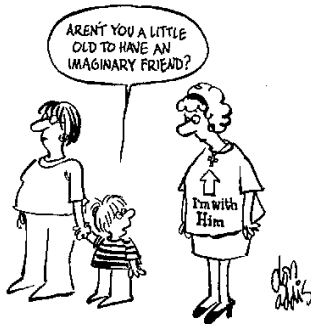
# THE STEEL CHALICE

July 2019

## July Worship Theme: "Stories of Youngstown"

"Don't tell us what to believe, what to fear. Show us  
belief's wide skirt and the stitch that unravels  
fear's caul."

— Toni Morrison, The Nobel Lecture in Literature, 1993



Sunday, July 7, 2019

11am Service: "Is Religion Still Relevant?"

What is the meaning of life? Does it change if you believe in a god or gods? Is religion something that is related to believing, or is it something more? Throughout history there has always been a form of religion. Are they all talking about the same "God" or was religion created by the human race? Do we need it?

## Stories of Youngstown

I never planned on joining a church. I certainly never planned on going to seminary, and becoming a minister of a church. This wondrous journey began for me with a question, and an unexpected response.

I was introduced to a Unitarian Universalist minister, and I had never met this person before, and I had never heard of the faith he belonged to. Like many who first hear the phrase "Unitarian Universalism," I was convinced that it was some kind of new age group, a cult, or both. I asked this minister a simple question: "What do you believe?" His response planted a seed which would bloom and guide the next decade of my life. This minister responded: "It's not as important to know what I believe, but rather I try to help my congregation discern what they truly believe."

I imagine if you took a random sample of people in Youngstown, and asked them the broad question: "What do you believe?," you'd gather a variety of responses. I imagine these responses to include a belief in God, a belief in family, a belief in a strong work ethic, a belief in nothing, a belief that the world is going to hell in a handbasket, a belief that kindness matters. There are an endless variety of beliefs swirling around in even one single individual. We hold contradictory beliefs about ourselves and the world every waking moment. These beliefs become actualized and triggered by the world we surround ourselves with: our friends and neighbors, family, the news, stories we've learned, stories we're still trying to find a way to tell.

I have continued to remain fascinated with the question of “what they truly believe.” Embedded in this question is the assumption that what one says they believe may differ from what one truly believes. There exists a gap between surface belief that can be recited, and the lived experience of belief that is proven true in one’s living.

I am far more interested with the latter. I am not as interested in what one says they believe, as I am in recognizing what one truly believes by how they live their daily life. Our life is the true proof of our belief system, whether we know it or not. The goal of our church community is to make this a conscious process, to teach ourselves and others that we have a choice about beliefs that will guide our lives. This choice demonstrates in no uncertain terms that each one of us contains the opportunity to be the authors of our life, to tell a story of beliefs worth living for.

We are surrounded by myriad stories, and we can’t get enough of them. We ingest movies, tv, books, news reports more rapidly than we ingest solid food. This is because stories are important for sustaining ourselves, more important than even solid food. We live and die based on the stories we tell ourselves.

This month’s worship theme is “Stories of Youngstown.” We will have a chance to explore what we truly believe as a community about who we are, where we’ve been, and where we might go. We will have a chance to find out what we truly believe. We will have a chance to make a choice about which stories we need to tell, and which stories we want to live by.

In Faith,  
Rev. Joseph

### **Contacting Rev. Joseph**

Rev. Joseph will be away for study and personal leave during these dates: Jul 1-15, July 23-Aug. 5, and Aug. 20-26. Please contact the office, [office@uuyo.org](mailto:office@uuyo.org), for pastoral concerns, or if it's not pressing, e-mail Rev. Joseph at [jboyd@uuyo.org](mailto:jboyd@uuyo.org), and he will respond when he returns.

### **Calling Rev. Joseph to be the Settled Minister at UUYO**

It’s official! The UUYO congregation voted overwhelmingly on Sunday, 6/23/2019 to transition Rev. Joseph’s ministry from annual contracts to settled ministry.

There were 44 in-person votes and 23 proxy votes, with 1 abstention, 1 NO vote, and 65 YES votes, an outstanding validation of the vibrant impact that Rev. Joseph has had within our community.

We are excited to be part of this important transition in Rev. Joseph’s career and UUYO’s ministry, and look forward to UUYO continuing to be a dynamic presence in our community, region, and UUism.

Thank you to all who participated in the voting!

Andy Crabb  
Board President

### **Bits from the Board**

#### New Committees

Two new committees have been formed which are in search of members. One is The Safer Congregation Committee, with Judy DeGenova as the Chair, and the other is The By-Laws Revision Committee, with Diana Shaheen as the Chair. For all of you congregants who want a safer environment for our UUYO Community and who are interested in how the church operates, now is your chance to get involved—we need you!

#### Accessibility and Transparency

Also, thanks to the hard work of Louisa Berger, the activities of the Board are becoming more accessible. The Board’s minutes are not only in hard copy in a notebook in the office, they are also online on the UUYO Website: under the drop down tab “About” scroll down to “Governance” and click under “Minutes” and you will find UUYO Board Minutes through the May 2, 2019 meeting. Additionally, (for those who don’t know) the board meetings are open to the congregation. Unless noted otherwise, the board meetings are on the first Thursday after the first Sunday

of the month. Upcoming Board meetings are always posted in the monthly newsletter and are also on the website under the church calendar.

<https://uuyo.org/news/upcoming-events/calendar/>.

It was agreed at our June meeting we would utilize the democratic process of a secret ballot (paper ballot) for the congregation to decide whether to confirm Reverend Boyd's settled ministry.

The Board approved Reverend Boyd's hiring a part-time sexton and agreed he would be hired as an independent contractor and paid hourly.

Mystery Wallis will be the Interim Religious Education director.

#### Building Facility

- We are still working on constructing the sanctuary railing, and have an alternative solution in place. We hope to have the railing up as soon as possible.
- Tom is working on better wheelchair accommodations for the sanctuary, and is discussing his ideas with the architectural consultant who was at the church, Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Louisa said she will look into a better battery charger for the hearing aid devices that are used during the service.
- Tom updated us on the lights in the Cupola—an ellipsoidal reflector was purchased to make the lighting stronger and more defined.

#### Policy Issues

The Board discussed opt-out versus opt-in for pictures of children and adults for publication on social media or other UUYO news outlets. Some preferred the opt-out option with a large sign posted which states the individuals need to request to opt out of having their or their children's picture taken. This would mean there is a lot less paperwork involved. Others feel it is preferable to have an opt-in policy in which everyone who attends the service must state they want or don't pictures taken, It was brought up that if a picture is

taken and a custody battle is in process, the picture on the Facebook page might be an issue. Finally, we agreed to give the issue over to the Safer Congregation Committee to discuss.

The Give-Away-the-Plate is an issue that was discussed and then tabled for the next meeting. Some members believe the give-away should be only to 501c3s while others believe it should include struggling grassroots organizations. This discussion was tabled until next month.

If these or other pressing UUYO issues capture your interest, please see me or any other Board member, and feel free to join us for our next Board meeting on 7/11/2019 at 6pm.

Thank you!

Diana Shaheen  
Board Member



#### Thank UU!

I wanted to thank the entire congregation for the lovely "retirement" party as well as the farewell gifts. For those who don't know what you gave me, there was a basket that was filled with UUYO coasters and a paperweight, as well as a CD of Marcellene's home concert, a candle and a gift certificate to Picadilly Parlor, which I have already used part of! And if that wasn't enough love, I was shocked and amazed at the Proclamation of BeckyAnn Harker Day! Who knew you could do that? More than all of this wonderful stuff, I do want to thank everyone again for all of the love and support you have shown me over the past 9 years. You are the reason why I was able to, and wanted to, do this job for so long! I love you all, and I will see you again soon!

--BeckyAnn Harker

**Meet our New Interim Director of Religious Education!**

We are pleased to announce Mystery Wallis as our new interim DRE beginning in August. Below is a brief bio as an introduction.



Hello, my name is Mystery and I am so excited to be the new interim Director of Religious education! I grew up at a congregational church (UCC) in California which is a more Christian sibling to the UU churches. There I got to go through the Our Whole Lives

program (OWL) which we did this year at UUYO. There I was also a teacher for 6 years in their summer program. I moved to Ohio to go to a specific program at YSU but decided to study Economics and Sociology instead. With the huge change in moving from California to Ohio, I am so glad to have found a community such as UUYO. I look forward to getting to know the children of our community. If you would like to volunteer to help with the RE program in any way, please let me know.

- Mystery

**Give Away the Plate**

This program donates the undesignated collection at Sunday services to one specific charity per month. UUYO's Give Away the Plate recipient for July 2019 is Treez Please.

Founded in 2009, Treez Please works to reforest the Youngstown area using sustainable practices, advocate for positive use of green space, and support local efforts to attain Tree City USA status.

**Why I Love Summer Institute and Encourage You to Love It, Too**

*“Summer Institute is an intentional intergenerational community that gets created and re-created each summer as we come together to live fully as Unitarian Universalists. It is a vacation week to grow, relax, play, and connect. It is a time to experience workshops and new ideas. It is a place for relaxed conversation with old friends and friend you do not yet know. It is a time to recharge and live fully.”*

From the CER Summer Institute website

This year's Summer Institute will happen the week of July 7- 13 on the Oberlin College campus, just west of Cleveland. The theme speaker will be Dr. Ysaye M.

Barnwell, former member of the vocal group, Sweet Honey in the Rock. Our theme is “Building a Vocal Community.”

There is something for everyone at SI - the musician, the artist, the writer, the activist, the speaker, the listener, the player, the observer, the worshiper, the dancer, the young, and the old.

Workshops and seminars are scheduled throughout the day with various offerings to suit any interest. Morning worship and evening vespers frame our days.

I've been attending with my daughter since 1990. It is a perfect and relatively inexpensive family vacation destination and a wonderful way to grow in your Unitarian Universalist faith. This year, both Linda Scharf and I will be attending. Won't you join us?

Go to [www.cersiuu.org](http://www.cersiuu.org) for more information and to register.

Karen Lapidus



**July Events**

- 7/5/19 Annual Church Picnic from 2-9pm at the Cortland Conservation Club
- 7/6/19 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm
- 7/7-7/13 Summer Institute at Oberlin College Campus
- 7/7/19 Social Justice Ministry Meeting (SL) 12-2pm
- 7/9/19 Book Group III 7pm at the Satres
- 7/10/19 Tree Commission Academy (CH) 8am-4pm
- 7/11/19 Tree Commission Academy (CH) 8am-4pm
- 7/11/19 Board Meeting (BR) 6pm
- 7/13/19 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm
- 7/14/19 Environmental Justice Meeting (SL) 12:30pm
- 7/14/19 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (if new, come at 3:45pm)
- 7/17/19 Flood Narrative Discussion (SL) 7pm
- 7/20/19 Work Party 10--2pm
- 7/20/19 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm
- 7/21/19 Newcomers' Circle (SL) 12:30-2pm
- 7/27/19 Northside Farmers' Market 10am-1pm
- 7/27/19 WPNA Potluck (CH) 2pm

7/27/19 Northside JAMboree 7-9pm on the UUYO lawn  
7/28/19 Foreign Policy Discussion Group (SL) 12:30pm  
7/28/19 Meditation (YR) 4-5pm (if new, come at 3:45pm)

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 from 10am-1pm at UUYO now through October**

The Northside Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday, 10:00am - 1:00pm, 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](mailto:jwconverse@gmail.com), or see me at church.



**The First Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
of Youngstown**

**SUMMER  
PICNIC**

**Food, Swimming,  
Boating, Games,  
Music**



**THE CORTLAND CONSERVATION CLUB  
3931 McCleary Jacoby Road - Cortland - OH  
FRIDAY, JULY 5TH 2PM - 9PM**

Please bring a dish to pass and your favorite beverage.  
RSVP (330) 746-3067 or [office@uuyo.org](mailto:office@uuyo.org)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

**Book Discussion Group III**

**Tuesday, July 9 at 7pm at the Satres' home**

In May, seven people gathered to discuss the work of W.E.B. DuBois. In our ongoing process of reading the writings of African American and Native American authors, we will next explore the classic autobiography of Frederick Douglass. Born a slave, Douglass became a powerful 19<sup>th</sup> c. abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman.

Frederick Douglass wrote three autobiographies over his lifetime, each with a slightly different name. Read any of them, and come to our discussion at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2019. We will meet at the home of Ellen and Lowell Satre, 1872 Goleta Ave., on Youngstown's north side, just 1.5 miles from UUYO. For information, e-mail us at [lesatre@gmail.com](mailto:lesatre@gmail.com).

Ellen Satre

**Meditation Group**

**Sunday, July 14 and 28 from 4-5pm**

All are welcome to attend UUYO's meditation group on July 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. Teachings will be presented in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. We will be using the book *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching* by Thich Nhat Hanh. 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](mailto:spiritdancer2008@yahoo.com)



**Flood Narratives**

**Wednesday, July 17 at 7pm in Schweitzer Lounge**

There are flood narratives in many different cultures and languages. What can these flood narratives teach us today? Join Rev. Joseph for a conversation.



**Work Party**

**Saturday, July 20 from 10am-2pm**

The third Saturday this month will be July 20. The weather should be good, so join the party. Pull a few weeds, trim some bushes, catch a few rays, all while making UUYO more attractive. Coffee and cold drinks gratis. Questions - call Bob Seibold, 724-981-4791.



**Newcomers' Circle**

**Sunday, July 21 from 12:30-2pm**

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!

For more information, contact Karen Lapidus at [kklure@prodigy.net](mailto:kklure@prodigy.net).

**Foreign Policy Discussion Group**

**Sunday, July 28 at 12:30pm**

The Foreign Policy Discussion Group will meet the fourth Sunday in July, July 28, at 12:30pm. We will likely still be talking about the Mideast, as it is a problem both vast and complicated. As usual, please feel free to bring questions, comments, other topics, etc. We will meet in Schweitzer Lounge. Questions - call Bob Seibold, 724-981-4791.



**Save the Date "You Call That News?"**

**Saturday, August 10 (CH) from 4-6pm**

We will be having a church fundraiser called "You Call That News?" which will be modeled after the news quiz show "Wait Wait, Don't Tell Me" on NPR and will take place on August 10, 4-6 pm, in Channing Hall.

We will need volunteers to help plan the event, so if you would like to help out with any of the responsibilities such as:

- 1) appetizers and drinks
- 2) coming up with questions (limericks, fake news stories, regular questions for the lightning round, etc.)
- 3) emcee
- 4) managing the money
- 5) managing a silent auction

Please email Diana Palardy at [qpaldy@gmail.com](mailto:qpaldy@gmail.com) or call/text me at 330-272-2793 and let me know how you would like to help.

## **Summer Services Downstairs**

### **June 17<sup>th</sup> until after Labor Day**

We will keep cool in our beautiful Channing Hall during the warm summer months. We look forward to seeing you in church!

## **Hospitality Teams Schedule**

Our hospitality teams do so much to make Sunday morning come together: Greet, welcome, provide coffee and treats at coffee hour. If you are interested in joining a hospitality team, please contact Linda Mohn (lmohn2005@yahoo.com).

Please be sure and thank the folks on this month's team.

### **Team 3: June 30**

- *Linda Mohn - Communicator*
- *Susie Beiersdorfer – Facilitator*
- *Diana Shaheen – Facilitator*
- Shahzeem Bhayani
- Audra & Jason Carlson
- Ashleigh Davis
- Judy Degenova
- Chris Heck & Jessica Myers
- Ron Heinbaugh
- Karen Lapidus
- Sarah Lowry
- Dianna Mason
- Marcellene Hawk Mayhall
- Gene Pusateri & Susan Miracle
- Mary June Tartan

### **Team 4: July 7, 14, and 21**

- *Jan Elias – Communicator*
- *Sharon Stringer- Facilitator*
- *Gloria Wilkin - Facilitator*
- Sue Anzelotti
- Louisa & Martin Berger
- Marguerite Felice
- Korey Gall
- Clayton Henderson
- Roger LaFontaine

- Carole McWilson
- Eugenia & Al Pierce
- Ellen & Lowell Satre
- Lindsay Sinkovich

## **Pastoral Care**

If you have a pastoral care need, or know of someone in our congregation who might have a need, please contact Cathy Kajut by phone at 330-774-2168.

## **August Newsletter Submissions Due**

### **Sunday, July 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.

## **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)  
Mystery Wallis, 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 2019**

President - Andy Crabb  
Vice President - Gene Pusateri  
Secretary - Marguerite Felice  
Treasurer - Louisa Berger  
Judy DeGenova  
Diana Shaheen

**Committee Chairpersons**

Martin Berger, Building and Grounds  
Lowell Satre, Endowment  
Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary  
Linda Mohn, Hospitality  
Jan Grigsby, LGBTQ+ Committee  
Sarah Lowry, Share the Plate  
Kelsey Myers, 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  
**Mail:** 1105 Elm Street Youngstown. OH 44504  
(330) 746-3067