



# SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES FOR APRIL 2019



## Sunday, April 7

**Building An Inter-Cultural Community Through Music**  
Worship Associate

**David Strickler and Melissa Jeter**  
Karen Christie

We will talk about our experiences at Summer Institute where we have enjoyed fellowship and community with UUs from other congregations in the Central East Region. The theme speaker for SI2019 will be Dr. Ysaye Barnwell (founding member of Sweet Honey in the Rock) and her topic will be "Building a Vocal Community". In this Sunday service we will reflect on how one community, with many voices and rhythms, embodies our UU principles. We also hope to convince some of you to join us at SI2019 so that you can help us bring the spirit and energy of vocal community back to Toledo.

## Sunday, April 14

**Road Trips and Flower Ceremony**  
Worship Associate

**Reverend Tim Barger**  
Luanne Billstein

Let's get over winter cabin fever and take to the roads—from the comfort of our sanctuary. We'll have our annual flower ceremony, based on an idea from Rev. Norbert Capek, in which we encourage everyone to bring a flower to church and we'll take home a different one as a communion practice. And Rev. Tim will speak about some authors' road trips exploring spirituality.

## Sunday, April 21

**Climate Change and Connections**  
Worship Associate

**Judy Trautman**  
Reverend Tim Barger

For our Easter and annual Green Sanctuary Service, we will take a close look at the crisis of climate change and our interconnectedness, as reflected in our seventh principle 'Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part'. Nature tries hard to repair the damage we do to our planet home. This Easter, might we examine ways we might assist Nature in a Resurrection.

## Sunday, April 28

**Prayer and Reason**  
Worship Associate

**Reverend Tim Barger**  
Joe Moran

The National Day of Prayer is May 2. So is the National Day of Reason. This year, May 2 is also Holocaust Remembrance Day. In this service, we'll have prayer, reason, remembrance of what people have done to one another, and thoughts of how we can better ourselves and the world.



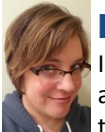
### Reverend Tim Barger

Change is in the air and in the church, isn't it? Spring is finally under way, and we've learned that Nicole will be leaving her position as Religious Educator but continuing as an active member of First Unitarian. We're also continuing some physical changes within our church walls, preparing to move the archives to the Senior High Room—where I understand they were several years ago—and getting ready to display some flags in our vestibule. We're looking at new lighting and other alterations for the sanctuary, and yes, we're closer to installing solar panels. Sometimes I quote Heraclitus, "The only thing that is constant is change." That's the way of the world and the way of our congregation. We take in new members, but lose some old ones whether by death, moving, or that their time here was only a stop on their religious journey. Some people get irritated that we continue to talk about money, but that's also a constant of change and we try to be transparent about the support we need from you to meet our mission and vision. Let us know about the changes in your life, too. That's one of the reasons for our existence: to be a foundation while you make the changes in finding how life is best lived for you. With your help, we'll be here, ever changing. In Fellowship, Rev. Tim



### Terry McCauley, Board President

April, traditionally thought of as the month of showers, rain. Rain that washes away the winter and begins to bring back life to nature. Flowers and trees begin to bud and blossom. Everything is washed clean and refreshed. Water is life. It brings life, sustains life and nurtures it to grow. Everything grows when there is water. We, the people of this church are the water that keeps us going and growing. There are so many ways that we touch each other, nurture each other and help each other to grow. Through our services, our opportunities to express our spirituality, our caring for each other and the many activities and events we host/sponsor is how we water our church to keep it nurtured and growing. Each one of us, through our giving of pledges, time and talents and participating in the life of our church contributes greatly to that life. I urge you to continue to be present and active in our church family. Every one of you is a unique and wonderful person with gifts to give that no one else can. You are lovable and loved. You are love. Come, be with us that we may continue to be a family that is a beloved community. Thank you for being part of our First Unitarian family. In Fellowship, Terry M.



### Nicole Jonsson, Religious Educator

I'm so excited to watch the middle grades class social justice project develop. The plight of Monarch Butterflies and other endangered pollinators has captured their interest, and they are spearheading an information campaign and a fundraiser (proceeds will benefit Toledo Zoo's butterfly house). You'll notice the signs they created to advertise their seed sale around the building. These 3rd - 6th graders are a very thoughtful and mature group, it is such a joy to watch their spirits flourish. In Fellowship, Nicole Jonsson

### BEST WISHES NICOLE

Give best wishes to Nicole Jonsson, who has let us know that she'll be leaving her position as Religious Educator, but will still be an active member of our church. More details are in a letter sent to congregants and in the UU-FYI. A search for our next religious educator will begin soon. For more information, see Nicole, Terry McCauley, or Rev. Tim.

### UUJO AT FIRST UNITARIAN

Come to the UUJO Spring Gathering here at First Unitarian April 6, starting at 9 am. Hear a keynote address (via livestream video) by Ohio Senator Nickie Antonio about what is happening in the Ohio Legislature and how her UU values impact her work as a state senator. Plan with others in our Cluster about ways to address local and state issues. Free event. Lunch provided. Donations suggested. Hope to see here.

### BON APPÉTIT

SECOND BREAKFAST will meet at Silver Moon Soda Grill on the last Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM. The restaurant will have a large space available for us, so there is no need to RSVP. Please arrive a few minutes early if possible. If you are interested in starting another open meet-up, contact Melanie or another member of Compass for any questions. We will continue to meet on the third Monday of each month for our 9:30 AM for UU Breakfast at Reynolds Rd. Garden Café. World Dining is a wonderful way to get to know your church family outside of church while experiencing some of Toledo's fine restaurants. We meet at a different restaurant each month on the 4th Friday at 7 pm. Please email Luanne to be added to the monthly email invitation at: Luanne@theBillsteins.com. Dining for Women meets at our church in Fellowship Hall the third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM. They are a global giving circle dedicated to transforming lives and eradicating poverty among women and girls in the developing world. Also join us for fourth Sunday potlucks, after services.

### KNITWITS

Join this UU group who knits and crochets warmth for others. We make hats, mittens, scarves etc which we deliver in the Fall to two organizations helping the homeless. We also recently knit squares for an afghan which will appear at the church's auction this Spring. We meet at church on the second Friday of each month, 9:30-11:30AM. Upcoming dates are: April 12th, and May 10th. We have enough 8" x 8" squares to start assembling the afghan. Thank you to all who contributed!

### LFH BLANKET MAKING

Leading Families Home Blanket Making Meeting meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday. No sewing needed; just bring sharp scissors. These sessions create blankets to give children as their families move to their new home. Any questions? Contact Elly Gans - email and phone number in the directory. Join us April 24th!

### SCRIPTURE STUDY AT FIRST UNITARIAN

How about exploring scriptures in a Unitarian Universalist manner? We'll start with a three-week class on the Book of Job, at 7:30 pm April 9, 16, and 23 (just after the 6:30 meditation, if you'd like to be mindful there first) in the Alcott Room. This is the first in a series offered by Rev. Tim on texts of world religions and other selections that might be considered scripture for some Unitarian Universalists. Then on April 30, same time, Phil Teitlebaum will offer more Bible study in a historical-critical approach. Rev. Tim is considering a Buddhist sutra and selections from the Bhagavad Gita for classes next year.

### BUTTERFLIES

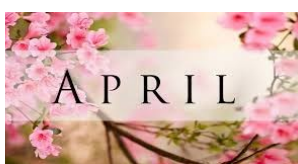
Did you know even a small patch of native plants in your yard could help save bees and butterflies? First UU Toledo's Middle Grades religious education classroom (aka the Harry Potter room) have initiated a SAVE THE MONARCHS project. They will sell pollinator-friendly seed packs (\$1.00 per envelope) after service on May 5th and May 12th. All proceeds will go to the Toledo Zoo to benefit their butterfly house and breeding program. (Isn't it great? Their idea!) Support their social justice project and buy a few packs of seeds.

### MOTHER'S DAY HANGING BASKETS

It's time for our annual Mother's Day hanging basket church fundraiser. Please support your church with a purchase. Save time and let us make your purchases for your gifts for you. Last day to order flowers is Sunday April 28th. If you have not seen these baskets in previous years, ask your fellow church members about them. They are huge, gorgeous, and they last well into the fall. Choose your basket when they arrive in time for Mother's Day, May 12th. No pre-order choice of flower type available, but they are all very beautiful!


### MUSIC AT FIRST UNITARIAN

Make Music with Your UU Community! Practices are Sundays at 12:30 for The Gathering rehearsal, Thursdays at 6:00 for Handbell rehearsal and 7:30 for Choir rehearsal. What better way to celebrate spring than by making a joyful noise with us? Newcomers are always welcome to drop in for musical fellowship. Not sure how you'd like to be involved? Come see Mickey or send an email to musicdirector@uutoledo.org to find the best fit for your time and talents.



# 2019 at First Unitarian Church of Toledo



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 April Fool's Day	2 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 4:00 pm Tree of Life CUUPS Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:00 pm Weavers Guild	3 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	4 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	5 3:00 pm First Friday Book Club	6 9:00 am UUJO Cluster - Alcott Room 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:15 am Fiberwork Orphans knitters and crafters
7 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 3:00 pm Multi-Faith Banquet Islamic Ct 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	8	9 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:30 pm Book of Job Class	10 1:30 pm Chalice Circle 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	11 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 9:30 am Knit Wits - Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Family Fun Night	13 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group
14 Palm Sunday 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Spiritual Adventures 10:00 am Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 12:30 pm Social Justice Committee Mtg 5:30 pm Lynn Lyle's Buddhist Memorial Service - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	15 Tax Day 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Reynolds Rd. Garden Café)	16 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 4:00 pm Tree of Life CUUPS Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:00 pm Chalice Circle 7:30 pm Book of Job Class	17 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	18 Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 Good Friday 6:30 pm Dining for Women	20 Passover 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 10:00 am RE Council Mtg  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
21 Easter Sunday 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Combined Spiritual Adventures Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fellowship Hour 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 12:30 pm Grief Circle Support Group 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	22 Earth Day 6:00 pm Universal Worship - Epworth	23 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:30 pm Book of Job Class	24 9:30 am Blanket Making 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group 10:00 am Multi-faith Women's Group	25 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:00 pm Board Meeting 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00 pm World Dining	27 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 1:00 pm Awareness of Special Needs - offsite
28 Styrofoam Collection 9:45 am Nursery Open 10:00 am Combined Spiritual Adventures Children's RE 11:00 am Worship Service 12:00 pm Fourth Sunday Potluck 12:30 pm Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 pm Meditation - Off site 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA	29	30 9:30 am UU Breakfast (Silver Moon) 12:00 pm Big Book Noon Group AA Meeting 6:30 pm Meditation - Sagan Room 7:30 pm Bible Study	1 May Day 8:00 pm Live and Let Live LGBT AA Group	2 Nat'l Day of Prayer 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	3 3:00 pm First Friday Book Club	4 10:00 am Women's Slice of Serenity AA Group 11:15 am Fiberwork Orphans knitters and crafters

**MEDITATION**  
Please join us on Sunday, April 7 from 3-4 PM at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, 25877 Scheider Rd., Perrysburg for MultiFaith meditation prior to the MultiFaith banquet. We also invite you to attend the Buddhist Memorial Service for Lynn Lyle at 5:30 pm on Sunday, April 14 at the Great Heartland Buddhist Temple, 6537 Angola Rd. Holland, Ohio 43528. This service will replace the second Sunday meditation at MemoryLane Care Services. We will meet for our usual 4th Sunday meditation on April 28, at the MemoryLane Care Services building, 2500 N. Reynolds Road (corner of Pickfair and N. Reynolds). We will enjoy guided meditation, sit or walk quietly, and share tea and conversation. Explorers, beginners and experienced practitioners: all are welcome and each of us benefits from the energy of others. Please join us for meditation in the Carl Sagan room at First UU on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM. All are invited and we will offer meditation instructions and guidance for beginners. Periodically, members of the multifaith community will offer a meditation/spiritual practice from their faith. We will all be enriched by these diverse practices. You are welcome to use this beautiful space anytime the church is open. Meditation helps us to be more present for all that life has to offer. Thich Nhat Hanh reminds us, "Our true happiness comes from being fully conscious in the present moment, aware of our connection to everything else in the universe." Contact Karen at kbchristie@bex.net with any questions.

**PALM SUNDAY CONCERT**  
Mark your calendars - Monroe Street Church's traditional Palm Sunday Concert April 7, at 7 pm. Includes Special soloists, community choir and a special symphony orchestra at the Monroe Street United Methodist Church, 3613 Monroe Street, Toledo. No charge but donations will be accepted. Six First UUs are members of this choir: Elly Gans, Ann Johnson, Paul Lehmann, Carol Titus, and Phil Zepp, plus friend Dan Ferguson, along with two in the orchestra: Garth Simmons and Lesli McCage. Join us for a wonderful, entertaining evening.

**CRAFT SATURDAY**  
Open to all crafters. Meet at First Unitarian Church every first Saturday of the month, 11-5. Join us April 6th. Bring a snack to share, if you would like to.

**MINI FOOD PANTRY**  
Please remember to bring non-perishable food items to be placed in the Little Pantry. It gets a lot of use. Place items in the designated bin in the back foyer or directly in the pantry. Hunger is worse in the cold weather. Let's try to share as we can. Popular foods include peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, soup, juice boxes, fruit and pudding cups, cereal, granola bars, and tuna, toothpaste, baby shampoo, soap, & feminine hygiene products. Drop off your donations in the bin in the east foyer, give them to Nicole, or put them right into the pantry. This is an great way to help your youngsters connect with the social justice work of our faith. Note the expiration date on the items--**no expired items may be given.**

**GUEST AT YOUR TABLE**  
"Justice Across Borders" is the Guest At Your Table/Unitarian Universalist Service Committee theme for 2018/2019. Be sure to pick up a copy of the booklet in the lobby at church and read about this year's guests. Donate by mail or online at UUSC.org/guest before June 30 (in any amount that you can) to count for this fiscal year. We can't all be physically involved in this battle but we can help support those who are. Questions? Ask me! carriebaum@toast.net

**MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS**  
Membership Moments are a greatly valued part of the Sunday service. More than a few people have stated that the Membership Moment is a favorite part of the service because it provides a deeper sense of knowing of the people in our church community. It is also uplifting. To keep this valued part of the service happening, kindly participate! Please reply with questions to Ann Strickler (adstrickler@sbcglobal.net). Membership Moments should be three minutes, which is about 300 words. Sign up at the following webpage: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DAAA928A7F58-membership>

**SUMMER INSTITUTE**  
Registration is now open for this year's Central East Region Summer Institute CERSI). CERSI is a week-long summer camp for families and UU's of all ages. All information is available on the website WWW.CERSIUU.ORG. Enjoy educational, musical, artistic, or spiritual workshops, daily presentations by theme speaker Dr. Ysaye Barnwell (of Sweet Honey In The Rock fame), meals, lodging, twice-daily church services, and more.

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**  
Friday Fun Night will be held on April 12, at 5:00 pm. The theme for April will be Spring Fiesta. We will have tacos and Wii karaoke. Please let us know what taco related items you would like to bring. We need soft/hard taco shells, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, sour cream, olives and salsa, chicken meat and Boca vegetarian meat. Contact Janaki at 419-496-8862.

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday May 19th in the sanctuary immediately following the 11 am service. All are strongly encouraged to attend. Reports are due April 22nd.