
The Chalice

Newsletter of the Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

August 2021

If you have announcements for The Chalice, send them to office@ouuf.org at least one week before the first of the month.

Thank You!

Upcoming Services August 2021

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Aug 1

TED Talk

Jeff Witmer, Ann Cook-Frantz, Brian Warren, Caitlin Chapman

Aug 8

Lift Every Voice

Rev. Mary Grigolia, members of Wes Brown's family

Democracy trusts every voice to shape who we become together. In this service we lift up the voices of Wes Brown, beloved member of Olmsted UU, and Rep. John Lewis, who both died last year and whose voices continue to inspire us to lift every voice.

Aug 15

Power of Togetherness

Rev. Mary Grigolia, Zellda Zelle

Pandemic reveals our need for one another. We'll share uplifting and cautionary stories of support and belonging, with Love as our motivating force, intention and ground of being.

August 22

Daring to Be Together: Reopening, Reconnecting, Renewing With Hybrid

Lara Lillibridge, Don Leake

Resilience is the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. What does it mean to be congregationally resilient as we begin the exciting adventure of worship in the hybrid era in our country?

August 29

A Story to Heal Us All

Rev. Mary Grigolia

At this global tipping point, what story will we live from: Business as Usual, Meaningless Collapse, or Interdependence/Co-Creation?

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Zoom Addresses

Sunday Service Zoom Login

Join via computer: [https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?](https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXOT09)

[pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXOT09](https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXOT09)

Meeting ID: 926 2419 0519

Join via smartphone by dialing: 929-436-2866, then entering the

Meeting ID followed by the pound sign: 92624190519#, then entering the password: 134017#

OOUF Events Calendar

events are online and times are PM unless otherwise specified

For more information, and to see when rooms are reserved for private use,
[check our online calendar.](#)

1 Sun

10:15-10:45am Children's Church via Zoom

11:00am Sunday Service via Zoom

2 Mon

3 Tue

7:00-8:00 Poetry Group via Zoom

4 Wed

5:30-7:00 Sunday Services/Worship Team Meeting via Zoom

5 Thu

10:00-11:30am Morning Meditation via Zoom

2:00-3:30 Dream Group (**in person**)

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

6 Fri

7 Sat

8 Sun

10:15-10:45am Children's Church via Zoom

11:00am Sunday Service via Zoom

9 Mon

10 Tue

11 Wed

12 Thu

10:00-11:30 Morning Meditation via Zoom

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

13 Fri

7:00-9:00 Game Night via Zoom

14 Sat

15 Sun

10:15-10:45am Children's Church via Zoom

11:00am Sunday Service via Zoom

16 Mon

17 Tue

18 Wed

19 Thu

10:00-11:30am Morning Meditation via Zoom

12:00-1:30 WISE Women **in person**

3:45-5:00 Adult Program Team Meeting via Zoom

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

20 Fri

7:00-9:00 Current Events Discussion Group via Zoom

21 Sat

10:00-11:30am Marketing Workshop (**hybrid meeting**)

22 Sun

10:15-10:45am Children's Church via Zoom

11:00am Sunday Service via Zoom

23 Mon

24 Tue

25 Wed

7:00-9:00 What Would Jesus Do? Covenant Group (**hybrid meeting**)

26 Thu

10:00-11:30am Morning Meditation via Zoom

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

27 Fri

28 Sat

29 Sun

10:15-10:45am Children's Church via Zoom

11:00am Sunday Service via Zoom

30 Mon

31 Tue

1:00 Listening to Marginalized Writers Book Group via Zoom

Mary's Musings



Our Shared Journey - Together/Apart/Together

Before pandemic, before Trump, there was an illusion of Americans together. With Trump sowing discord, inflaming the body politic, with Covid-19 inflaming the body and claiming more than 610,000 lives in the US, shutting schools, businesses, places of worship, we experienced Americans apart. With vaccinations boosting immune systems, we are cautiously moving toward one another again, guided by science, weighing health threats from variants and unvaccinated. How will we be together again?

American identity was forged on the rights of individuals.

Pandemic shows us how individuals rely on and need one another and community.

This is our core UU spiritual practice: balancing inherent worth and dignity with our responsibility to interdependence, the web of Life itself: We do this by creating spiritual communities of deepening relationships with one another, that support us as individuals in community, to envision and co-create programs, ministries and projects that respond to the needs of our time.

This is a time of turning for Unitarian Universalism, of growing beyond our individualistic tendencies. Life needs us to become more skillful in living our principles together in relationship, not as beautiful intentions/abstractions.

This is a time for growing our emotional awareness. This is what shapes our spiritual community. Ours is a tradition of covenant, promises for how we will be together. May we all deepen our self-awareness of the behaviors and commitments we need from one another in order to grow together, love and cry together, listen and learn together, be changed, transformed together: Together, Apart, Together - for the benefit of all beings.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

Join us on August 21 for the first of 3 Marketing Workshops

August 21, 10-11:30 a.m. at Oberlin UU Fellowship and on Zoom

Focusing the WHY of our congregation, WHAT we have to offer and WHO may benefit

The pandemic showed us the need for spiritual community.

How do we share what we have to offer with friends, family and community? How do we strengthen and grow our congregation?

Guided by marketing consultant Cindy Carty, over three sessions we'll bring into focus our congregation's WHY, we'll learn the seven functions of marketing, and we'll create a plan to welcome new-comers in this new congregational year.

At the 1st WORKSHOP we'll explore our WHY - why we exist and what we offer to

people yearning for UU spiritual community

Subsequent sessions of this workshop will be held on September 11 and October 9, 10-11:30 a.m. at Oberlin Fellowship and on Zoom.

Your voice helps us hear our WHY. Let us know if you will attend: Email Stephanie Gibson (stephaniegibson11@yahoo.com)

From Don Leake, on behalf of the ad hoc Worship/Dual Platform Team

I'm excited about hopes for 'hybrid' worship services sometime after September 1. Hybrid enables those who choose to worship in person, while including those who Zoom in. Inclusiveness is a core UU value.

In preparation for hybrid services, during the month of August groups (up to 10 people) may meet in the building and experiment with set-up and equipment. This is a big technological leap, which needs us to balance our hope for being together with our willingness to endure the infinite surprises of technology - i.e., another learning curve!

August 2021 Cause of the Month

As part of our covenant with one another, OUUF members have made a commitment to live our values in the world through Causes of the Month, which we support through our offering.

The cause for August is the League of Women Voters of the Oberlin Area Education Fund

The nonpartisan League of Women Voters of the Oberlin Area is the fifth largest of the 32 Ohio Leagues and its Education Fund supports voter registration and other voter services in Lorain County. It organizes registration efforts throughout the county, trains volunteers to register residents, prepares and issues the Lorain County Voter Guide, provides information for the VOTE411 website, organizes Oberlin Community Candidates Nights and Issue Nights, and co-sponsors other forums with other groups like the Oberlin NAACP and Eyria/Lorain YWCA. Our Fellowship has long been active in our local League. For 16 years the Social Justice team has co-sponsored Oberlin Community Candidates Night with LWVOA and other local groups.

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022 CAUSES OF THE MONTH SCHEDULE

JULY Oberlin Weekday Community Meals
AUGUST League of Women Voters- Oberlin Area
Education Fund
SEPTEMBER El Centro
OCTOBER Genesis House
NOVEMBER OCS Helping Hands
DECEMBER UU Service Committee- Guest At Your Table

JANUARY Let's Get Real
FEBRUARY The Haven Center of Neighborhood Alliance
MARCH Lorain Co. Free Clinic
APRIL Lorain Co. Rape Crisis Center
MAY UUA Disaster Relief Fund
JUNE Family Planning Service of Lorain Co.

Adult Programs

Mondays:

OUUF Men's Group, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., on hiatus until September 13

Tuesdays:

Poetry Group, Tuesday, August 3, 7-8 p.m. on Zoom

Bring poems that speak to your life, that spark your imagination in these winter days; come to listen and share. (Poems do not have to reference Groundhogs). All are welcome.

Zoom login for Poetry is:

<https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?pwd=To5FQk5sZo5TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdzo9>

Meeting ID: 999 2808 1815

Passcode: 559893

Join by smartphone by dialing: 301-715-8592, then entering the Meeting ID plus pound: 99928081815#, then entering the passcode plus pound: 559893

Care-Givers Support Group, no meeting in August

Do you care for a spouse, partner, parent, friend or child? Join us. Led by Rev. Mary. All are welcome. (usually 4th Tuesdays, meeting monthly)

Book Group: Listening to Marginalized, Tuesday, August 31, 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84335138667?pwd=b1EyN3NZZHNDRGNNb3lMT292T2l3Zzo9>

Meeting ID: 843 3513 8667

Passcode: 302751

Wednesdays

Democracy Deep Dive: Roots of Contemporary American Right Wing Extremism, on hiatus until September 1

Rev. Mary Grigolia shares insights from Heather Cox Richardson, professor of American History at Boston College. All are welcome.

Zoom Login:

<https://zoom.us/my/keepingfaithwithlife>

What Would Jesus Do? Covenant Group, Wednesday, August 25, 7:00-9:00 p.m. hybrid meeting

You are warmly invited to explore with us all the ways in which the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism lie at the heart of Jesus' consciousness.

Zoom Login:

<https://zoom.us/j/99356254184?pwd=ZkoyVmdJSXA0aGk5dGoZlW5adWVadzo9>
Meeting ID: 993 562 54184
Passcode: 580 483

Thursdays

Thursday Morning Meditation, (weekly on Thursdays), 10-11:30 a.m. on Zoom.
Welcoming awareness as the wise body, beautiful heart, responsive mind, and boundless spirit. Drawing wisdom from many traditions. All are welcome. Led by Rev. Mary.

Zoom login for Meditation is:

<https://zoom.us/j/97515604579?pwd=bjJRcWdpMU1VcGxpVHNIzXlnS2piUT09>
Meeting ID: 975 1560 4579
Passcode: 679876

Join by smartphone by dialing: 929-436-2866, then entering the Meeting ID plus pound: 97515604579#, (then perhaps: 0#,) then entering the passcode plus pound: 679876#

Evening Meditation, weekly on Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Zoom

"Meditation can give you what you cannot get from any other source, it introduces you to yourself. It allows you to see that the Spirit is within you. You are no longer alone." - Swami Rama

The meditation group that started as a Sangha in Michael Reitz's (Casper) apartment a year ago has continued to meet, using his excellent format as a guide. We would be delighted if others would like to join us.

Call or email Ann Cook-Frantz, convener, if you would like to join us, and she will send you the zoom link: anntcf78@gmail.com. or 5087-572-0563

Dream Group - Thursday, August 5, 2-3:30 p.m. at Olmsted UU.

Exploring spiritual growth through metaphors, stories, roles and relationships, wisdom and humor of dreams. Bring a dream (or dream cameo) to share. All are welcome.

Olmsted UU is located at 5050 Porter Rd, North Olmsted, OH 44070

WISE Women - Thursday, August 19, 12:00-1:30 p.m. in person.

BYO picnic lunch at the church, outside if the weather's nice. We'll meet for the joy of being together, in person. At our September meeting, we'll explore Part 3 of Burnout, The Secret to Unlocking the Stress Cycle by Emily and Amelia Nagoski, While reading the book is optional, we encourage each other to live into the insights and questions we shared from parts 1 and 2 of Burnout!

Olmsted UU is located at 5050 Porter Rd, North Olmsted, OH 44070

Fridays

Current Events Discussion Group, August 20, 7:00-9:00 p.m. **hybrid meeting**

We gather to enhance our awareness of current events and provide emotional support to one another in responding to them with vigor.

Zoom Login:

<https://zoom.us/j/94407037950?pwd=UW5EcC9kMnlzOGFDazNYYndNNldvUT09>
Meeting ID: 937 7402 1775
Passcode: 294 216

MORE ABOUT OUR

COMMITTEE & TEAM EVENTS

Sunday Services/Worship Teams and task groups meet on:

Wednesday, August 4, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

All are welcome. Same login as Sunday morning services:

[https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?](https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXQTo9)

[pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXQTo9](https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXQTo9)

Adult Program Team

Our mission is to provide transformational adult programs for spiritual exploration and ethical living for members and friends of OUUF and the larger community.

Adult Program Team meets on Thursday, August 19 at 3:45 p.m. via Zoom. All are welcome!

Join Zoom Meeting by computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/97055771526?pwd=Q1psWjJzcDZxeWxoWHRpMlBqYnBoZz09>

Meeting ID: 970 5577 1526

Passcode: 975903

Join by smartphone by dialing: 301-715-8592, then when prompted entering the Meeting ID plus pound: 97055771526#, then when prompted entering the passcode plus pound: 975903#

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is looking for new members! If you are interested in joining, please send an email stating your interest to communications@ouuf.org.

Board Retreat Report

The Board held a retreat recently and set some goals for the year:

- Improve communication between the Board and the congregation.
- Improve visioning and marketing to potential new members. This will get a jump-start at the upcoming series of workshops on Getting the Word Out (with the first session being on 21 August).
- Revise the Bylaws to bring them up-to-date and into compliance with the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- Make sure that all OUUF committees are functioning well. To that end, identify a Board liaison to each committee and see that each committee designates a spokesperson who can communicate with Eva (the office manager) about announcements and about scheduling use of the building.
- Continue progress on the website.
- Continue progress on record keeping.

We have another item for your attention: the question has been raised of whether we should change our name, as the word "Fellowship" may be misleading and confusing to potential new members, given that it might be taken to say that we are a social club, rather than a place of life-changing worship. This is the 60th anniversary of OUUF and although names don't expire after a fixed number of years, the reasons behind a name, such as OUUF, can become stale over time. We expect that there will be lively discussion of our name and our vision for the future (see the second bullet point above) over the coming year.

Jeff Witmer, President

COVID Safety Policy

The Board has adopted a policy about COVID protocol and building use for groups. We did this in anticipation of in-person services starting on Sunday, September 12, 2021 but the policy is effective immediately. We may need to revisit this policy if growing effects of the delta variant lead to revised national guidance on safety, but for now the policy is:

- Unvaccinated persons will be welcome, but will be expected to wear a face covering (mask or face shield-provided inside Gathering Room door). *Comment: We will not check vaccination status at the door nor enforce mask wearing. We are stating an expectation that we trust will be honored.*
- Ventilation fans will be employed when there are groups in the building.
- 3 foot social distancing will be encouraged (except between cohabitants). *Comment: People may choose to pull chairs together and sit side-by-side, as they feel comfortable. Again, we are not going to check on vaccination status nor on living arrangements. We trust people to make decisions with which they feel comfortable, while we set a default expectation that any two people from different households will want to be seated at least 3 feet apart.*

We believe this policy reflects what was expressed in the recent survey and what national health experts are saying and that it provides a balance between maximizing individual freedom and honoring individual safety needs and concerns.

Committees & Teams

Building & Grounds Committee
bandg@ouuf.org

Board of Trustees
board@ouuf.org

Committee on Ministry
com@ouuf.org

Communications Committee
communications@ouuf.org

Religious Exploration Committee
cyre@ouuf.org

Nominating Committee
nomcom@ouuf.org

Social Justice Committee
socjust@ouuf.org

Worship Team
worship@ouuf.org

Membership Committee
membership@ouuf.org

Finance Committee
finance@ouuf.org

Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Oberlin, Ohio 44074
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www.ouuf.org

Services every Sunday on Zoom
at 11:00am

All Are Welcome!

STAFF

Minister:
Mary Grigolia
minister@ouuf.org

Office Manager:
Eva Wynn
office@ouuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration:
Lara Lillibridge
dre@ouuf.org

Music Director:
Katie Cross

Board of Trustees '21-'22

President, Jeff Witmer;
Vice President, Stephanie Gibson;
Treasurer, Cindy Frantz;
Secretary, Elizabeth Aldrich;
Members-at-Large, Jan Larsen, Don Leake