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OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

The Chalice Newsletter of the Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship July 2022

If you have announcements for The Chalice, send them to office@ouuf.org by the 25th of each month.

Thank You!

Upcoming Services **Living Through Turbulent Times: How Our UU Values Sustain Us** July 2022 =====

July 3
Ted Talk
How Angels Debate the Issues
Jeff Witmer

How do we talk across the political divide? Braver Angels is a non-partisan organization that facilitates conversations between red American and blue America in which people learn to better understand one another's positions and find shared values, with one rule: the conversation is not to include any attempt to persuade those on the other side to change their minds (no matter how brilliant you are and how ignorant and in need of correction they are).

July 10
Open Mind, Loving Heart
Cindy Frantz

What does it feel like to be confronted with ideas that conflict with what we know deeply to be true? What happens to our thoughts, emotions, and behaviors? Most importantly, how do we open our hearts and our minds to those who disagree with us, and to the possibility that we might sometimes be wrong? OUUF member and psychologist Cindy Frantz will use insights from psychology to explore the deep spiritual practice of keeping an open mind and a loving heart.

July 17

Ted Talk: A conservative's plea: Let's work together

Ryan Mincey & Meredith Sender

Arthur Brooks is a Harvard professor, PhD social scientist, bestselling author, and columnist at The Atlantic who specializes in using the highest levels of science and philosophy to provide people with actionable strategies to live their best lives.

Conservatives and liberals both believe that they alone are motivated by love while their opponents are motivated by hate. How can we solve problems with so much polarization? In this talk, social scientist Arthur Brooks shares ideas for what we can each do as individuals to break the gridlock. "We might just be able to take the ghastly holy war of ideology that we're suffering under and turn it into a competition of ideas," he says.

July 24

The Founding Fathers were not Christians

Jeff Witmer

Some people think that the U.S. started as a Christian nation and has sadly drifted away from its religious roots, a process they are trying to reverse. Actually, some Founding Fathers were practicing Christians, some were Deists, and some were nominally Christian but were influenced by Deism. More than 200 years later, does this matter? Should it matter? How does religion shape politics?

July 31

Lammas

David & Lisette Burwasser

This is the season of the first major harvest in Northern Hemisphere agriculture. Of course, there was a party. Join Lisette and David for a UU recreation of the annual Lammas festival. All are welcome.

=====

Zoom Addresses

Sunday Service Zoom Login

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

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

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 Fri

2 Sat

3 Sun

11:00am Sunday Service (**hybrid meeting**)

4 Mon

7:00-9:00 OOUF Men's Group (**hybrid meeting**)

5 Tue

7:00-8:00 Poetry Group via Zoom

6 Wed

7 Thu

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

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

8 Fri

7:00-9:00 Game Night via Zoom

9 Sat

10 Sun

11:00am Sunday Service (**hybrid meeting**)

11 Mon

7:00-9:00 OUUF Men's Group (**hybrid meeting**)

12 Tue

6:30 Board Meeting via Zoom

13 Wed

14 Thu

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

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

15 Fri

7:00-9:00 Current Events Discussion Group (hybrid meeting)

16 Sat

17 Sun

11:00am Sunday Service (**hybrid meeting**)

18 Mon

7:00-9:00 OUUF Men's Group (**hybrid meeting**)

19 Tue

20 Wed

21 Thu

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

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

22 Fri

23 Sat

24 Sun

11:00am Sunday Service (**hybrid meeting**)

25 Mon

7:00-9:00 OUUF Men's Group (**hybrid meeting**)

26 Tue

27 Wed

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

28 Thu

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

7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation via Zoom

29 Fri

30 Sat

31 Sun

11:00am Sunday Service (**hybrid meeting**)

Mary's Musings

Come and Go with Me to that Land....

Watching General Assembly, I was surprised by my repulsion to the song, "Come and Go with Me to That Land." Referred to as a 'spiritual,' the song evoked in me stories of suffering on slave ships coming to a 'new world' of conquest for profit and power.

"Why are we singing this song? What were they thinking??" I wondered, feeling wide open to the brutality of that passage.



Yet the song is imbued with Joy!?

Described as, “a traditional gospel blues song,” it invites all of us - drawn to UU spiritual community - not to deny or look away from the suffering, but from it to choose intentionally and courageously to journey together to a world-in-the-making: a world made possible only by shared power and vision ever-evolving; a world rooted in relationships of covenant and accountability; with a brave-and-bold willingness to be changed by our spiritual journey together.

What I saw at GA this year is a Unitarian Universalism giving voice to open vulnerability, where no one is perfect or has the answers. Where creation is on-going and needs all of us. Where ‘God’ itself is evolving, through us.

It reminds me of the song ‘Becoming,’ which affirms: “We are who we’re be coming; we are all we have done; we are what we are dreaming, we’ve only just begun.”

I am moved beyond words by this maturational shift in Unitarian Universalism, toward the vision of shared power and leadership that glimmered at me and called me into ministry many years ago.

May we dare to sing to one another, “Come and go with me to that land....”

A Note from Rev. Mary - What is STUDY LEAVE?

For the month of July, I will be on Study Leave.

No, not vacation.

Study Leave is for focusing, creating structures and plans for Sunday services and spiritual growth programs for the new congregational year.

I will not be at or hosting Sunday services, committee or program meetings in July. I will not respond to emails. I will be (mostly) at home in northeast Ohio, with a few days in northern Virginia to support my brother’s knee-replacement surgery. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please text me at (216-402-3438). Thank you!

June 2022 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.

July 2022 Cause of the Month: Oberlin Weekday Community Meals

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.

Oberlin Weekday Community Meals, hosted at Christ Episcopal Church, serves a free hot meal to anyone in need Monday through Friday from 5:00-5:30 pm. More than 75 meals are prepared every day, with a good number being delivered directly to local residents or offered as carryout “Grab and Go” meals. In many cases, the meal that diners receive is the only healthy and nutritious meal they will receive all day. Our contribution will help Oberlin Weekday Community Meals continue to feed those in our community whose food needs may go unmet.

We'll share a video update about the program from Christ Episcopal Church's Alison Ricker at our July 10 service.

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023 CAUSES OF THE MONTH SCHEDULE

JULY - Oberlin Weekday Community Meals
AUGUST - LGBTQ+ Lorain County
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:

OOUF Men's Group, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., **hybrid meeting**

The mission of the OOUF Men's Group is to:

- Support each other as men for positive participation in living the Unitarian Universalist principles in our personal and community lives.
- Strengthen our bond and covenant together, expressing feelings at deepening levels, speaking from the heart and listening actively without judgment.
- Facilitate personal and congregational spiritual growth in beloved community.

Our relationships exist in the space between us, which is sacred (Martin Buber). We honor that space through the use of Essential Silence, I-Statements, and Active Deep Listening. Come once a week, once a month, or once a year. If you identify as male and generally agree with the principles of Unitarian Universalism we hope to see you here.

Zoom Meeting ID: 707 226 286

Passcode: 091 905

Tuesdays:

Poetry Group, Tuesday, July 5, 7-8 p.m. on Zoom

Poems to Live By, Poems to Wake Us Up: monthly UU Poetry Group. Bring a poem (or two or three) to share. Or come to listen. All are welcome. Facilitated by Ryan Mincey.

Zoom login: [https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?](https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?pwd=To5FQk5sZO5TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09)

[pwd=To5FQk5sZO5TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09](https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?pwd=To5FQk5sZO5TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09)

Meeting ID: 999 2808 1815 Passcode: 559893

Join by smartphone: 301-715-8592, enter the Meeting ID plus #:

99928081815#, enter the passcode plus #: 559893#

Wednesdays

Pastoral Counseling/Check-In - **not meeting in July.** Next Meetings are August 10th and 24th. (2nd and 4th Wednesdays).

Phone in: 216-402-3438. Or email for an appointment at a different time (mary@marygrigolia.com). All are welcome.

UU Gathering: Cultivating Resilience: The Longing, Wednesday, September 21 4-5 p.m. Kendal Education Center Building

The next meeting will be September, and the theme will be The Longing. Enjoy your summer!

What Would Jesus Do? Covenant Group, Wednesday, July 27, 7:00-9:00 p.m. **hybrid meeting**

You are warmly invited to join us in exploring Christian Renewal Within Unitarian Universalism: Returning To The Heart Of Jesus Consciousness , the title of a workshop conducted by UU Minister Matthew Johnson. The core values which Jesus embodied are authentically expressed in the seven Principles and six Sources of Unitarian Universalism, and lived out in UU congregations. Spiritual seekers from traditional Christian churches are also welcome in our group! (Our group was inspired by a book entitled The Great Spiritual Migration, by Brian McLaren, as well).

Zoom Login:

<https://zoom.us/j/99356254184?pwd=ZkoyVmdJSXA0aGk5dGozZW5adWVadz09>

Meeting ID: 993 562 54184

Passcode: 580 483

Thursdays

Deepening Circles, Morning Meditations, weekly on Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Zoom

Weekly drop-in meditation, drawing from Buddhism and beyond; practicing four circles of awareness: body, heart, mind and spirit. All are welcome. Led by Rev. Mary.

Zoom

login: <https://zoom.us/j/97515604579pwd=bjJRcWdpMU1VcGxpVHNiZXlnS2piUT09>

Meeting ID: 975 1560 4579 Passcode: 679876

Join by smartphone by entering: 929-436-2866, then entering the Meeting ID plus #: 97515604579#, then entering the passcode plus #: 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

Wisdom Dreams - No meeting in July. Next Meeting, Thursday, August 4, 1:00-2:30 p.m on Zoom. NEW TIME!

Bring a dream (or dream image) to share. Explore together the messages, meanings, and metaphors, wisdom and humor. All are welcome. Facilitated by Rev. Mary.

<https://zoom.us/j/93122029279?pwd=TC9UMmVGQVZHUHEzcWJ1OWUzUHOrZz09>

Meeting ID: 931 2202 9279

Passcode: 238245
 One tap mobile
 +19292056099,,93122029279#

WISE Women - No meeting in July. Next meeting is Thursday, August 18, 1:00-2:30 (hybrid meeting)

Welcome to Women-in-Spirit Evolving - a monthly group to listen, support each other and celebrate what is emerging in our lives and our spiritual exploration. This month's theme is Celebrating Blessings. On Zoom and in person (wearing masks if unvaccinated).

Facilitated by Lynda Garvin, Betsy Geist, Carol Shultheis, & Rev. Mary.

Zoom login: <https://zoom.us/j/91280099980?>

[pwd=MUSxb1BDMjA2SVQoTVR3cTRDVWZGUT09](https://zoom.us/j/91280099980?pwd=MUSxb1BDMjA2SVQoTVR3cTRDVWZGUT09)

Fridays

Current Events Discussion Group, July 15, 7:00-9:00 p.m. hybrid meeting

As a group we believe there is a difference between waiting and keeping vigil. "Anxious, impatient waiting is just waiting. But waiting with purpose, hope, and love is vigilant waiting." We warmly invite you to join us in our vigilant waiting to enhance our understanding of current events and provide emotional support to one another in community, responding to them with vigor. Ideas for social action initiatives are referred to the Social Justice Committee for consideration.

Zoom Login:

Meeting ID: 937 7402 1775

Passcode: 294 216

JOIN SOURCES, BI-WEEKLY GROUP FOR UU DEEPENING

Dear Members and Friends of OUUF & OUUC,

We're excited to invite you to join SOURCES, a bi-weekly UU deepening program with a set curriculum exploring the Sources that animate UU theology and practice. Format includes:

- deep listening in a small group
- deeper understanding of UU history and UU theology
- living your faith
- spiritual companionship
- daily spiritual practice

WHY SOURCES?

After more than two years of pandemic disruption, like other members and friends, you may be looking for ways to connect with each other, to go deeper into our UU faith, to grow spiritually and to live our faith in the world.

SOURCES is a ten-month, bi-weekly covenant group (*meeting times and days to be determined by you and your group*).

Each group has up to 12 members (including 2 co-facilitators).

The program includes pre-session readings.

We begin with a Retreat, **Saturday, September 17, 9-12:30**

Hosted at West Shore UU in Rocky River (20401 Hilliard Blvd.)

Click here for the SOURCES brochure from UU Wellspring.

To sign up or for more information, email office@olmsteduu.org or office@ouuf.org.

MORE ABOUT OUR COMMITTEE & TEAM EVENTS

Sunday Services/Worship Teams do not meet in July; next meeting is **Thursday, August 4, 2:45-4:15 p.m. (NEW TIME)** on Zoom to reflect on past services and plan upcoming services. All are welcome. Same login as Sunday morning services:

<https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXQT09>

Adult Program Teams do not meet in July; next meeting is **Thursday, August 18, 3:45-5:15 p.m.** to evaluate past programs and plan up-coming programs. All are welcome. On

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97055771526?pwd=Q1psWjJzcDZxeWxoWHRpMlBqYnBoZz09>
Meeting ID: 970 5577 1526 / Passcode: 975903

Joys & Concerns, Oberlin Care Team meets next on **Wednesday, August 3, 1 p.m.** on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/my/keepingfaithwithlife>

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.

DO YOU LIKE TED TALKS?

Most of us do! TED Talks have been a favorite for both Olmsted and Oberlin congregations during these "virtual service" times. We have viewed TED Talks monthly on Sunday mornings, and many people have joined a deeper discussion later in the week. Caitlin Chapman, DRE at Olmsted, has been a leader of the TED team for more than a year, often leading TED Talk services and discussions. But Caitlin needs to step aside now to focus on the Olmsted RE program as the church reopens. Many thanks, Caitlin!

Would you like to help with continuing TED Talks? If you have seen a TED Talk that inspires you, please share your find with the TED planning team. Better yet, join the team to help select TED Talks for Sunday Services, or lead discussions after the talk. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Witmer at Oberlin (jeff.witmer@oberlin.edu), or Brian Warren (blwarren@juno.com) at Olmsted.

June notes from the Board

Here are highlights from the June meeting of the Board.

We continue to be "mask optional" and we do not check vaccination status. Remember that if you wish to sing during a service you must wear a mask. We are going to add a sign near the door clarifying that although masks are optional we ask anyone who is not vaccinated to please wear a mask.

The Board approved entering into a formal contract with West Roofing, choosing the (somewhat more expensive) 15 year warranty option, which means a thicker application of silicone coating. We are going to start a capital campaign to support this, so be looking for more information in the weeks ahead.

Prompted by the Nominating Committee, we discussed the value of leadership development, using resources available from the UUA, and making the work of the Nominating Committee more year-round and less late-spring-frenzy. UU Wellspring offers a program that Mary has been recently trained in; be looking for more information later this summer.

I remind you that Board meetings are open to all Fellowship members. However, the July meeting will be at 6:30 on the third Tuesday, July 19, rather than the second Tuesday of the month. Then starting in August the Board will meet at 2:00 on second Sundays, to accommodate our treasurer being on the wrong continent. (Cindy is teaching in London this fall semester.) Let us know if you would like to be sent the Zoom link.

We are planning another wine tasting fundraiser for this coming winter. If you would like to help with the logistics behind this activity, please let us know; we will raise a glass in appreciation.

Jeff Witmer, Board President

"It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever, be dimmed."

--DOE ZANTAMATA

"I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness for it shows me the stars." -- Og Mandino

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

Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Services every Sunday on Zoom
at 11:00am

All Are Welcome!

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