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OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

This Week @ OUUF February 4 - February 11

Join us for an upcoming event!

Browse this weeks event calendar to keep up to date on our various events. We offer something for everyone. Unless otherwise specified, events are on Zoom and times are P.M.

Sunday 2/4	Monday 2/5	Tuesday 2/6	Wednesday 2/7
11:00am Sunday Service (hybrid)	7:00-9:00 OUUF Men's Group (via Zoom)	7:00-8:00 Worship Team (via Zoom)	
Thursday 2/8	Friday 2/9	Saturday 2/10	Sunday 2/11
10:30am-11:30am Deeping Circles Meditation 7:00-8:00 Evening Meditation (via Zoom)			11:00am Sunday Service (hybrid)

This Week's Services

February 4

Equity: The Thief of Human Potential (Challenging Conventional Group Think)

Service led by Jeff Witmer, Meridith Sender & Ryan Mincey

Thomas Sowell, who has written 45 books on subjects including politics, economics, education, and race says "If there's anything worse than unfairness, it is make-believe fairness." In a video based on one of his talks we will hear a comparison of Traditional Justice and Cosmic Justice.

>>[Download the Order of Service](#)<<

Join by computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/92624190519?pwd=SWdHL3Z6QkxGY1lTWXdqdVluYUVXQTo9>

Meeting ID: 926 2419 0519

Password: 134017

Join by smartphone by dialing: 929 436 2866, then entering the Meeting ID followed by the pound sign: 926 2419 0519#, (perhaps another pound sign: #), then when prompted the password followed by a pound sign, 134017#

You are invited to remain online after services for 10 minutes to talk with friends. When the discussion table begins, you may choose to participate, or log off.

Our hope is that you will become increasingly engaged with the congregation, as well as continuing to be an online observer of it.

Next Week's Service

February 11

*On Repentance and Repair
Service led by Rev. Mary Grigolia & Zella Zelle*

All of us have caused harm. All of us have experienced harm. All of us have witnessed collective harm from racial, gender, class (and other) hierarchies of power and privilege. We will explore moving from justice and equity as ideals to the deep work and spiritual practice of repentance and repair.

Religious Exploration

Children's Religious exploration has resumed on Sunday mornings! We are excited to have the children rejoin us for the opening of our service, before moving to their space for their own time after the opening song.

Joys and Concerns - January 28

Candle for Racial Justice, in support of the family of Dexter Scott King, youngest son of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who died at the age of 62 last week. He was the former head of the King Center and helped build upon his father's legacy.

Candle for Peace and Democracy in Ukraine, Gaza, Palestine, Israel, Africa, and Beyond, followed by a brief moment of silence, recognizing the need to honor the complexity of these worldwide wars. We can't look away but must grow more resilient and stay open to love.

Candle for Climate Justice, followed by a brief moment of silence, recognizing that the effects of climate change are already evident worldwide.

Joys, Concerns & Appreciations

Bobbie: Thankful to the Great Spirit to be here today to share the sisterly and brotherly love offered by our beloved community. Little brother Johnny who fell a few weeks ago, breaking his hip and pelvis, is now calling and cracking jokes like his abnormal self. Thanks for sending prayers for his healing.

Carol: Glad to be here today. Diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism two weeks ago but now taking a blood thinner and feeling fairly healthy.

David: Appreciation that his blood pressure is being monitored and medicated accordingly. Appreciation for Dr. Glenn Faircloth, Lorain County JVS superintendent, who has challenged book banning.

Don: CONCERN: When we resumed in person worship after the pandemic, we followed UUA's lead by purchasing the equipment and struggling to develop the skills (which was only fully accomplished with Ryan Mincey's leadership) for hybrid worship, integrating online and in person participation. We did this rather than simply live streaming services, which would have been much easier to accomplish technically, in order to remain integrated and interactive as a congregation, rather than risking increasing divergence between online and in person participants.

While the Worship Team continues to explore ways of increasing interactivity and connectedness in worship of both in person and online participants, the platforms on which this happens in each service remain during JOYS, CONCERNS AND APPRECIATIONS, and socialization prior to post service DISCUSSION TABLES with Service Leaders. Two weeks ago online discussion participants complained they could not hear due to the noise level in the sanctuary. Last week, no one participated online in the discussion table, in spite of my assurance that this issue would be addressed.

PLEASE, AFTER THE POSTLUDE, IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION TABLE, MOVE YOUR CONVERSATIONS TO THE SOCIAL HALL, SO THAT ONLINE PARTICIPANTS CAN HEAR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

APPRECIATION FOR LD MOORE: Brother LD instigated our MEN'S GROUP in 2017 and introduced me to and paid part of my initiation fee into our fraternity him MANKIND PROJECT. Both of these experiences have been profoundly transformative, and continue to play a critical role in my recovery, sobriety and personal growth.

In 2018 our MEN'S GROUP proposed to the Worship Team initiating post service discussion tables. It was a proud moment for me when a visiting minister said the discussion she had with us was the most positive and engaging of any in which she had ever participated.

LD has been a strong pillar of our congregation for many years, serving in many capacities and positions of leadership. Currently, his leadership in support of coffee hour is a great blessing. He maintains the JOYS, CONCERNS AND APPRECIATIONS TABLE and arranges the chairs in the sanctuary, ensuring an orderly appearance reflecting the respect we have for our sacred place of worship, and that there is sufficient room between rows to accommodate rollators. He performs acts of service and love for many of us individually, and his friendship has not ended when a person left the congregation.

PLEASE JOIN ME IN A ROUND OF APPLAUSE HONORING THE GIFT OF LD'S PRESENCE!

Katie: Glenn Gall is hosting *Resilience in our Communities* at Peace Church today with Mark Cohen speaking on Making a Global Impact. Meet and greet at 2:30 pm, program at 3:00 pm.

Marge: Joy to have family time with son and daughter-in-law in Arizona for granddaughter's baby shower. Her neighbor Susan was with her.

Ryan: Sorrow on three-year anniversary of his mother's death.

OUU-tside & Inside the Fellowship

Revising the Seven Principles

The national UU community (the UUA) is revising Article II of the bylaws where we declare who we are - to each other and to the world. Currently, Article II is where we list the Seven Principles and the six Sources of UU'ism. The UUA has issued the final version of the proposal now.

Over the last four years, the Article II Commission guiding the revision invited all UU's to participate. At General Assembly (GA) in June (2023), we considered the proposed revision and accepted some of the many proposed amendments. The final vote will happen at next year's GA 2024.

The values of our beloved 7 Principles speak through the proposed revision, with Love explicitly at the center, at our center. Will we lose our 7 principle? No. We will continue to live from them as long as we choose. They are how UU's described themselves, ourselves, in 1985. We and our bylaws are evolving and how we describe ourselves is evolving, too. Together, we'll decide many ways to continue the 7 Principles. And we'll have an updated expression in the bylaws, holding us and calling us to Love.

To learn more, download the pre-GA [26-page report here](#). The final version of the proposed amendment to Article II is found [here](#).

Come Sing a Song With Us!

OUUF Choir will come back into weekly existence this year!! Music Director Katie Cross is excited to begin weekly meetings on Fridays at 12:15pm in the sanctuary beginning August 18th. Anyone attending practices does not necessarily have to have sung in a choir before; several of us have lots of experience and will help you. If you love the music or companionship and want simply to listen, you are also welcome. The choir will prepare selections to share on approximately a once-a-month schedule. We will often just prepare hymns in unison or parts to bolster the congregational singing.

SOUP-er Bowl

Oberlin Friends and First Church in Oberlin are continuing their annual collection on Super Bowl Sunday as a "Souper Bowl" collection that is pooled from participating congregations in the Oberlin faith community under Oberlin Area Cooperative Ministries and distributed to the active food security and feeding groups in the area. In order to learn more about how funds will be used to address the crisis of hunger in our immediate area, you can go to www.tacklehunger.org/our-programs.

The Weekly Update email is published every Friday/Saturday. Send announcements, advice, concerns, and corrections for the Weekly Update to office@ouuf.org by the Wednesday before

publication, with a clear subject line indication what you are sending. Thanks!

355 E. Lorain St.
Oberlin, OH 44074

Services every Sunday at 11:00am
All Are Welcome!

440-775-0355
www.ouuf.org

Our Mission

The Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a welcoming, caring community that promotes religious freedom, encourages spiritual and personal growth, and works for a peaceful, just, and sustainable world.

Our Covenant

We the members and friends of the Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship covenant to live together in our quest for truth, love, social justice, and environmental responsibility. In this spirit of caring fellowship, we offer our combined gifts and resources.

Contact Us!

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