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OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

The Chalice Newsletter of the Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship April 2024

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

Thank You!

Upcoming Services
Interdependence
April 2024
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April 7 **TED Talk: Redefining Climate Change Denial**

Climate change denial has historically been defined as the overt refusal to accept the scientific understanding that climate change is happening, humans are causing it, and that it will have bad, to catastrophic, consequences for humans and the ecosystems upon which we depend. But as that viewpoint has become untenable in the face of overwhelming evidence, this talk explores the more subtle, passive forms of climate change denial that are still pervasive in the 2020s. By recognizing these passive forms of denial in our everyday lives, we enable ourselves to move past them, and begin working towards climate solutions every day.

Patrick Belmont is a dad and river scientist with a rapidly shrinking carbon footprint. He thoroughly enjoys studying some things that almost nobody cares about, like how and why rivers meander, but he spends most of his time trying to solve society's most pressing problems, like figuring out where all that mud in the Mississippi River comes from and how to reduce impacts of wildfire in the western US. And of course, he is dead serious about stopping climate change. Service led by the TED Talk team.

April 14 **Interdependence: Entangled & Evolving Together**

Keeping faith with life, we lift up wisdom from humanity and beyond, to re-member who we are in Earth's unfolding story of co-creation, justice and Love. Service led by Zella Zelle & Rev. Mary.

April 21 The Tide is Rising, and So Are We!

A call to hope and action on climate change.

Climate change presents a formidable challenge, but humans are a formidable species. Join us this Earth Day to learn about reasons for hope in the fact of climate change, and how we as a congregation can have a big impact. Service offered by Cindy Frantz, a climate activist and long-time member of OUUF.

April 28 Living by Covenant

At the heart of OUUF is a covenant describing how we will treat one another, embodying “power-with,” as opposed to “power-over.” The Committee on Ministry (COM) will share how we support each other in living up to these promises and this vision. Service led by members of COM: Tina Graf, Katie Cross, Marge Diamond & Rev. Mary.

At 4 p.m. this afternoon, COM invites members and friends to a Listening Circle, to capture feelings and plans for welcoming our new minister in the church year 2024-25. There will be two additional Listening Circles on Sunday May 5 at 1 p.m. and June 3 at 5:30 p.m. Pizza will be served after each Listening Circle.

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Zoom Addresses

Sunday Service Zoom Login

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

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#

Mary's Musings *The Gift of Interdependence*



As I sat pondering Interdependence, I learned of today's collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, caused by a cargo ship colliding with it. I had a visceral response: a sweeping sensation of energy - compassion (and goose bumps), an ache in my heart.

It immediately opened me to all my experiences of collapse: revealing, re-membering myself as part of something larger: the human family, the family of being. Not just as concept or abstract value. A lived, living and felt reality.

We've all experienced forms of collapse: From 9/11 to wild fires to earthquakes to war zones. We are wired to reach out and help.

After 9/11, news from around the world declared, “We are all Americans today.” And then, instead of being lifted by that wave of interdependence, our government declared war on Irak. Lines were drawn. Compassion faded.

Interdependence is.

It is driven beneath the facade of cultural individualism.

The human family needs us to live from interdependence, if we are to make a shift that will save democracy and the planet.

In our spiritual communities, how will we support one another in becoming more aware and sensitive to our interdependence?

Today I am thinking of the emergency workers, putting themselves at risk to rescue those who were on the bridge, even as the structure continues to collapse. Grateful for their courage. Breathing with them and with their families. Calling myself to be more aware and responsive to our "inter-being."

May we continue to ask ourselves and to notice:
How is interdependence calling us today? How does it need us?
How will we support one another in living from interdependence?

In Fellowship,
Rev. Mary

April 2024 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 April 2024 is the **Lorain County Rape Crisis**.

Lorain County Rape Crisis (LCRC), a service of the Nord Center, provides free and confidential support and advocacy 24/7 to men and women of all ages in Lorain County who are survivors of all forms of sexual assault. The program assists survivors with the aspects of assault aftermath including legal and medical advocacy and referral for psychological needs. LCRC also provides educational services to survivors, service providers, and the larger community. Emphasizing empowerment, LCRC is committed to cultural sensitivity and diversity. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

At our service on Sun., April 7, 2024, we'll share a video update about the program from Kayla Gelb, LCRC Community Educator and Volunteer Coordinator.

JULY 2023 - JUNE 2024 CAUSES OF THE MONTH SCHEDULE

JULY - Oberlin Weekday Community Meals
AUGUST - LGBTQ+ Lorain County
SEPTEMBER - El Centro
OCTOBER - Oberlin Citizens Climate Lobby
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 - POWER (Providing Oberlin With Energy Responsibly)
APRIL - Lorain County Rape Crisis Center
MAY - UUA Disaster Relief Fund
JUNE - Family Planning Service of Lorain County

Adult Programs & Events

For a complete list of events taking place at OOUF, and to see when rooms are reserved for private use, [check our online calendar](#). Otherwise, events will be published in the "This Week @ OOUF" emails the week they occur.

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:

Meditations for Living & Dying Well: Tuesdays, April 2, 16, 30, and May 7, 1-2:30 p.m. Education Center Training Room, Kendal@Oberlin.

Practices from mindfulness, gratitude and neuroscience, to befriend the body and calm the mind, preparing us to live with peace and die with grace when it is our time. Open to all members & friends of OOUF, OOUF & Kendal residents. Led by Rev. Mary. Please register with mary@marygrigolia.com

Resilience: UU Kendal Gatherings - Two monthly UU Kendal gatherings, approaching Resilience in complementary ways. Welcoming all members and friends of OOUF & OOUF, and all Kendal residents.

April's theme is **Interdependence**

Lift Your Spirit: Poems, songs, stories of Interdependence

Tues., April 9 - 2:00-3:00 pm - Crossroads Room at Kendal

A Conversation in Community Exploring Interdependence

Tues., April 23 - 2:00-3:00 pm - Crossroads Room at Kendal

Wednesdays:

Pastoral Counseling/Check-In - 2nd & 4th Wednesday's, April 10 & 24, 11-12 noon Phone-in: 216-402-3438 or email Rev. Mary for a different day or time (mary@marygrigolia.com). All are welcome.

Monthly UU Poetry Group Zoom: (3rd Wednesdays) April 17, 2-3 p.m. Poems to Live By, Poems to Wake Us Up: January's theme is the Gift of **Interdependence**. Bring a poem (or two or three) reflecting your experience of Interdependence. Or another poem (or song) that speaks to your heart or our times. Come to listen. All are welcome.

Poetry Zoom login: [https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?](https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?pwd=To5FQk5sZ05TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09)

[pwd=To5FQk5sZ05TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09](https://zoom.us/j/99928081815?pwd=To5FQk5sZ05TbEpLUGNmTk5NMldhdz09)

Meeting ID: 999 2808 1815

Passcode: 559893

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Living with Change Covenant Group – 2nd & 4th Wednesday’s, April 10 & 24, 2:30-4:30, in-person @ OUUF

Refreshments and socializing begin at 2:30, the meeting runs from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. After a check-in, the leader of the day introduces a topic and a discussion follows, sometimes about that topic and sometimes about a topic raised during the check-in. All are welcome.

What Would Jesus Do? Covenant Group - 4th Wednesdays, April 24, 7pm-8:30pm - via Zoom

You are warmly invited to join us in exploring the book *Christ for Unitarian Universalists: A New Dialogue with Traditional Christianity* by Scotty McLennan, and a study provided by the UUA to go along with each chapter. 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=ZkoyVmdJSXAoaGk5dGozZW5adWVadz09>

Meeting ID: 993 562 54184

Passcode: 580 483

Thursdays:

Deepening Circles Meditation (DCM) Thursday, 10:30-11:30 a.m. eastern, on Zoom. Reading Pema Chodron’s, *How We Live Is How We Die - April 4* (chap 9: The Two Truths - Relative and Absolute); **April 11** (chap 10: Propensities - How to work with our mind, emotions and propensities); **April 18** (chap 11, Feel What You Feel); **April 25** (chap 12, The First Step to Courage: Refraining).

All are welcome. No previous experience required.

We read the book together. Led by Rev. Mary.

No charge to members and friends of the congregation.

Zoom

login: <https://zoom.us/j/97515604579?pwd=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#

Wisdom Dreams - Thu, April 4, 1:30-2:30 p.m. on Zoom. Bring a dream (or dream image) to share. Explore together the messages, meanings, and metaphors, wisdom and humor. How may your dreams reflect our month’s theme, Interdependence? How might all parts reflect back as you? All are welcome.

<https://zoom.us/j/93122029279?pwd=TC9UMmVGQVZHUHEzcWJ1OWUzUHorZz09>

Meeting ID: 931 2202 9279

Passcode: 238245

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WISE Women Women-in-Spirit Evolving - Thursday, April 18, 1-2:30

p.m. Listen, share, support and celebrate what’s emerging in our lives. We’ll delve into the month’s theme, The Gift of Interdependence. All women are welcome. In-person at Olmsted UU and online: <https://zoom.us/j/91280099980?pwd=MUsxb1BDMjA2SVQoTVR3cTRDVWZGUT09>

<https://zoom.us/j/91280099980?pwd=MUsxb1BDMjA2SVQoTVR3cTRDVWZGUT09>

Meeting ID: 912 8009 9980

Passcode: 527342

One tap mobile

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Thursday Evening Meditation. Every Thursday, 7:30-8:30 p.m. on Zoom.

The Evening Meditation Group meets on zoom from 7:00 pm to 8:30 every Thursday evening. We would be very happy if you would join us. We started as an in-person group before Covid and then shifted to zoom. We spend time in silent meditation and share readings from well-known spiritual and meditation teachers as well as from our own personal experience. You are welcome to come to see if our meditation feels comfortable for you. If you enjoy meditating and talking about matters that “speak to your spirit”, by all means come and be a part of us. Email Ann Cook-Frantz at anntcf78@gmail.com for further Information. If you would like Ann will email you a copy of our format

Fridays:

Current Events Discussion Group, April 19, 7-9:00 p.m.

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

MORE ABOUT OUR COMMITTEE & TEAM EVENTS

Joys & Concerns, Oberlin Care Team - Wed April 10 at 1 pm (on Zoom
(<https://zoom.us/my/keepingfaithwithlife>)

OBERLIN Worship Team, first Tuesday, April 2, 7-8 p.m. on Zoom. Reflect on past services and plan upcoming services. 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)

Meeting ID: 926 2419 0519

Passcode: 134017

Oberlin Board Meeting, Tue April 9, 7-8:30 p.m. at the building and on Zoom. All are welcome. [https://zoom.us/j/92920571122?](https://zoom.us/j/92920571122?pwd=SGRrSXg5S2dyekprZ1dMRWFGU2Vldz09)

[pwd=SGRrSXg5S2dyekprZ1dMRWFGU2Vldz09](https://zoom.us/j/92920571122?pwd=SGRrSXg5S2dyekprZ1dMRWFGU2Vldz09)

Meeting ID: 929 2057 1122

Passcode: 111939

One tap mobile

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OOUF & OUC Adult Program Team, Thursday, April 18, 4-5 p.m. Update current programs, envision and plan new ones. All are welcome. On

Zoom: [https://zoom.us/j/97055771526?](https://zoom.us/j/97055771526?pwd=Q1psWjJzcDZxeWx0WHRpMlBqYnBoZz09)

[pwd=Q1psWjJzcDZxeWx0WHRpMlBqYnBoZz09](https://zoom.us/j/97055771526?pwd=Q1psWjJzcDZxeWx0WHRpMlBqYnBoZz09)

Meeting ID: 970 5577 1526

Passcode: 975903

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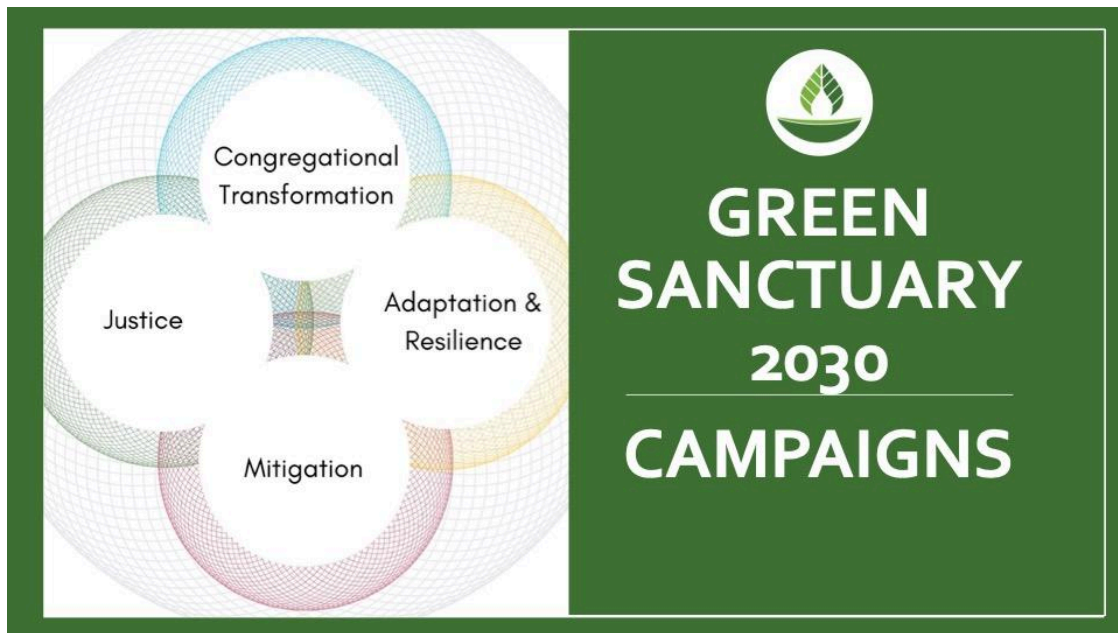
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Twice a year we are asked to consider with whom among our family, friends and acquaintances we would like to share our Oasis of Loving Engagement.

Invite them to attend in person on BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY , April 28 in our sanctuary. Or, if indicated, invite them to zoom into the service, and provide their email address to our office manager so they receive an invitation with a link for the service. We will ALL be glad you did!

Attention! Change in our Heating and Cooling

The Building Committee (Cindy, Johnny, Don, and Kyle) are working hard to make our energy use as efficient as possible. We have reprogrammed our smart thermostats so that the building will be heated(to 69 degrees) or cooled (to 74 degrees) only during times that the building is regularly used. If you have a special event or use the building at an unusual time, you can manually override the appropriate thermostat, or email building@ouuf.org ahead of time and we can adjust the temperature for you!



“All have their worth and each contributes to the worth of others.” – J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Silmarillion*

“All of life is dependent upon other life, and the closer we consider what constitutes living, the harder life becomes to define.” – John Green

“Zen is the very awareness of the dynamism of life living itself in us—and aware of itself, in us, as being the one life that lives in all.” – Thomas Merton

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

355 E. Lorain St.
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
Phone: 440-775-0355
www.ouuf.org

Services every Sunday on Zoom
at 11:00am

All Are Welcome!

STAFF

Minister:
Mary Grigolia
minister@ouuf.org

Office Manager:
Ryan Mincey
office@ouuf.org

Director of Religious Exploration:
Hanna Steele
dre@ouuf.org

Music Director:
Katie Cross
crossk_connect@yahoo.com

Board of Trustees '23-'24

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OUUF | 355 E. Lorain St, Oberlin, OH 44074

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