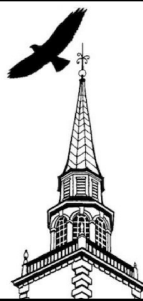


THE HAWK



The official newsletter of
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Cleveland

Inside this Issue

Minister's Column	1
President's Column.....	2
Community Outreach Thank You....	3
Common Ground	4-5

Musical Happenings	6
Learning to Play.....	7
Special Book / Gun Safety	8
Strategic Planning Process.....	9
Racial Justice Leadership Team.....	10
UUC News & Announcements	11-13

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 1, 2019

NOTES FROM OUR MINISTER

REV. JOSEPH M CHERRY

Recently I reconnected via Facebook with an old friend from my neighborhood. She and I had been friends in Middle School and even worked together at our high school jobs. Then, as often happens, we lost touch.

I tried looking for her on the internet over the years, but her first and last name are somewhat common, which makes a person hard to find. But then, I found her.

We had a lot of catching up to do, and she was pretty surprised that I am now a pastor of a church. She asked to see our website, and so I sent her the link. Because she doesn't know the story of our merger, and our long history, she said to me "Oh, it's a new church!"

Sometimes truth comes from unexpected quarters.

We are a new church. We have a building that many of us are familiar with, we have relationships that go back decades, but we are in fact, a new congregation.

And we are about to embark on our first full church year.

As your minister, I want to encourage you, in this new year, in this new congregation, to always aim for the larger vision of what we could be. Throw caution to the wind and think expansively. If the choices are A, B or C, choose the one that makes you a little nervous and uncomfortable. Think of Anais Nin's Quote:

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

Let's be courageous in our new congregation. Think about what a life-affirming center of love we can be if we choose to be.

Here we don't expect perfection, we forgive mistakes, we greet each other with grace.

We are a collection of amazing people. We have a love based in our humanity that can inspire people, welcome the stranger, make family of friends and save lives.

May this be our mission in the new year and all the years that follow.

With faith,

Rev. Joe

NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

CAT WHITE

4th SUNDAY POTLUCKS

Our communal meals will continue during the 2019-20 Congregation year as the “4th Sunday Potlucks.” The date was adjusted to create a bit of space between the 2nd Sunday Breakfast and the Potluck. Here are the 2019-20 dates:

September 22, 2019 (adopted by Strategic Planning)

October 27, 2019

November 24, 2019

December 22, 2019

January 26, 2020

February 23, 2020

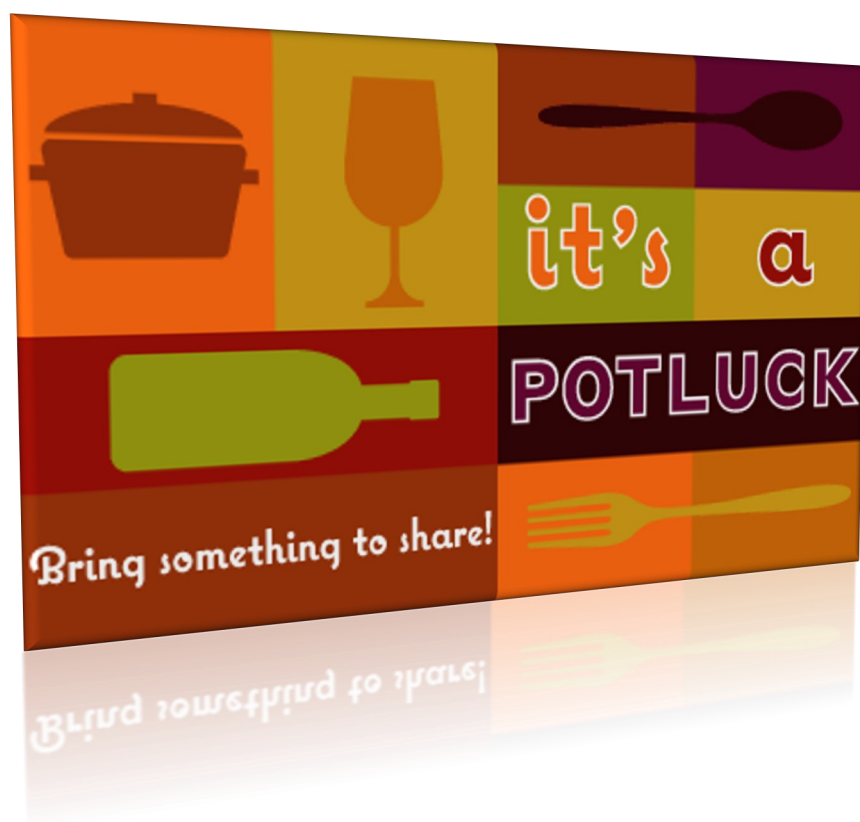
March 22, 2020

April 26, 2020

May 24, 2020

Adopt-a-Potluck:

Groups are needed to adopt Potlucks. What does that mean? If you would like to use the Potluck event for a presentation or discussion with the congregation, please send a note to potluck@uucleveland.org to get it on the calendar. Groups that adopt a Potluck will need to recruit volunteers to staff the meal--the volunteers do NOT need to be limited to group members.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH “THANK YOU!”

PLAYGROUND RENOVATION

CAT WHITE, BOARD CHAIR & KEN KUEHM, CO-CHAIR OF BUILDING & GROUNDS TEAM

Greetings, everyone!

I'd like to thank everyone from the neighborhood and from UUCC who helped bring this transformation about, as well as the landscaping company. I really enjoyed helping out with the project on Saturday afternoon. I loved seeing how the plan, people and materials all came together to improve our environment.

Many thanks to the kids from the neighborhood, Leila, Jackson, Jaryn, Arlo, Rachel, Jonah, Devin, and Alexa and their parents, Staci, Lindsay, and Laura for first proposing this project almost a year ago. I'm so happy that you stuck with it and were there to make it happen. Thank you to Matt Zitelli for joining in on the building crew.

I appreciate Nancy King Smith for leading meetings on behalf of the Board and Dell Salza and Ray Gonzalez for helping to move the planning along. Thanks to the Arrington, Burkle, and Ogbuji families for providing multi-generational input into the project.

A big thank you to Dawn Arrington and Ioby for the fundraising support that made this project possible and to all of the donors of materials and food and beverage.

And, of course, thanks to Ken, Debbie, and Michael Kuehm for all of the time and expertise you contributed.

Thanks again for all you have done,

Cat White

Click Here For More Information

https://www.ioby.org/project/uucc-playground-improvement-project?fbclid=IwAR3GeRHadPtnRjJko3g5J3VDTZcrK9fDfdnx_laxmDkaHjbug3t_Pn8a_kY

FIRST and far MOST .. as a member of the church, co-chair of B&G Team and worker bee on Saturday, I was impressed with the out pouring for the support of this community project with our "neighbors". The number of kids & parents that helped out on this project.... from planning, fundraising, the shopping, working on site, providing food, the sprinkler, and delivery of the ice cream near the end of the work day on Saturday was GREAT. To quote another member of the congregation..."all I can say is Oh my God what outreach project working with the community and way to go to the kids who started the whole process!"

BIG KUDOS to All!

Ken Kuehm

COMMON GROUND



UUCC hosted its first Common Ground Sunday June 30!

Common Ground is a day of community conversation that takes place at over 100 locations in Cuyahoga County all on the same day- this year June 30. Cleveland Foundation has been sponsoring these since 2017. We had such a good time and we want to do it again next year!

41 people (33 adults and 8 kids) gathered on our east lawn to discuss this year's theme- Environment! Our twist on it was "What makes a good neighborhood environment?" This was born out of an initiative taken by kids in our neighborhood who wrote a letter to our Board, saying how much they enjoy our space and want to help improve the playground. This group had started meeting with Nancy King Smith when Chris Rivnak and Laura Imbornoni, two people who had recently joined the forum committee, suggested UUCC host one of the Common Ground conversations. And so in short order, we went to the required training, and enlisted the help of many.

We decided to have a picnic BBQ from 5-7pm. Kudos to our grillers: Ken Kuehm, who also shopped, Abe Cohen, Mike Arrington, and

Jeremy Holmes. They made us look good! Our Committee and Nancy Allman provided sides and dessert. And what a feast it was. Pat Dillard and her grandson ran a wonderful welcome table. Laurie Albright emceed with the help of the sound system. Lindsay Marcus described the status of the playground project as one example of community collaboration. Laura, Chris, Eileen, and Carol did adult table facilitation. Roschelle did an amazing job facilitating the kids table. Neighbors appreciate our space as a venue for community gathering. Perhaps we can have a celebration whenever the playground plan is finalized! One neighbor was inspired to plan a popsicle party on her front porch this summer. The need for community venues/community gatherings was highlighted among our discussions. Stephanie from Cleveland Foundation visited our site and was enthusiastic about our turnout and overall event.

Your impromptu UUCC Common Ground group, plans to meet again in April 2020 for the next round. Let us know if you'd like to join us! Nancy King Smith, Chris Rivnak, Laura Imbornoni, Lindsay Marcus, Roschelle Ogbuji, Eileen McCulley, Carol Gay, Pat Dillard, Laurie Albright

COMMON GROUND



SUNDAY BOOK GROUP



MUSICAL HAPPENINGS . . .

MIKE CARNEY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Musical Happenings...

There's always something great happening with music at UUC – some of our recent musical highlights have included:

- Karin Tooley's thoughtful piano improvisations on June 30th and July 7th.
- Joining in with the Watkins family singing "We Are One" during our July 14th service.
- Abby Burkle's beautiful singing and clarinet playing highlighting the service on July 21st.

Coming up...don't miss your chance to hear these fine musicians during August!

- UUC Pianist Karin Tooley will be our service musician on August 4th and 25th.
- Anne, Steve, and Geoffrey Sanford will join UUC Music Director Mike Carney to provide special music on August 11th.
- UUC member Pamela Schenk will be our guest pianist in the August 18th service.

The **UUC Chancel Choir** will kick off the 2019-2020 season on **Wednesday, August 28th**. Make plans to come to UUC (Shaker Heights

location) for a potluck dinner at 6:00 to celebrate the start of the new choir season. At 7:00, we'll take the party up to the Worship Center for our first choir practice of the year. Please join us for this start-up celebration, even if you've never sung in the choir before. *Everyone is welcome*, regardless of age or experience level. If you have any questions, please contact UUC Music Director Mike Carney by email (mike.carney@uucleveland.org) or phone (216-751-2320, ext. 107).



LEARNING TO PLAY

DR. ALLAN GEORGIA, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

This month, a group of serious board game enthusiasts gathered in the fellowship hall at UUC to play some games. Now, if you haven't been keeping up with the culture around board games lately, we are WAY past Scrabble and Monopoly. Board games of all kinds now take on all kinds of forms and approaches, they entail a huge diversity of strategies and mechanics of play. Now, I've always loved the classics and have played games my whole life. But I am nowhere near as engaged as some of our awesome new members are who had the idea of organizing some board game activities.

This put me in a wonderful place that I haven't had the chance to be in for years—I was able to learn how to play a new game. (Actually, it was two games!) The first was my first ever cooperative game where players are not trying to beat one another, but are, instead, trying to work together so that everyone can win. The premise is that you are on an island that is sinking and you must work together with the other players to discover four treasures before evacuating the island. The second was semi-cooperative, and it had a plot similar to Clue. All of the players act as spiritual mediums who are trying to figure out who killed a person, where and with what. But instead of just using process of elimination like in Clue, the dead person is part of the game, and they try to communicate hints by using abstract and (at times) frustratingly subjective images. It was an absolute blast!

But it also gave me a chance to pause on something that really differentiates adult life from our lives as children. As an adult, we don't spend much time learning how to *play*. To say nothing of board games, children also learn how

to play sports, instruments, dramatic roles, and they are allowed to actually spend time in the process of playing. Play is something that we don't make much time for. But I'm not sure it isn't one of the most human things that we do.

Consider: What do we do instead of play? Mainly we work. And when we work, we think in terms of productivity. We meet in order to accomplish. Relationships in work are either valuable or connecting for some meaningful purpose. Success comes in terms of what we manage to produce or how efficiently we can do what is in front of us to do. By contrast, consider how play works. In play, time almost falls away altogether. Relationships in play have to do with enjoyment and with a sense of personal connection that is an end in itself. Play is precisely inefficient, so much so that board games are usually full of things like play money or play tokens.

Now, work is also an important part of being a human person. But the average American spends almost 50 hours per week working, and many will spend between 13 and 15 years of their lives dedicated to work. We work plenty. But here's a question to ask yourself: how much time do I spend playing? If you're out of practice, I have a hint for you. Spend time with a kid. No one is more innately in touch with the instinct to play than a kid. In the process, you could find yourself connecting with people you don't usually connect with, tapping into emotions and experiences you may have forgotten about, and combating against that creeping seriousness that too often dominates the world.

Besides. It's Summer! There will be plenty of January for work. Now's a season of play.

A VERY SPECIAL BOOK

MARK WEBER

A Grasshopper Tale

By Christine Adler Phillips

Christine Phillips, the daughter of Wally Adler and his wife of blessed memory, Debbie, has written a very special book about her father's service in World War II. The book is on display in the UUCS library. It is a moving account of her father's service as a pilot in World War II.

Wally and Debbie were college sweethearts. In 1942, with war ravaging Europe and the Far East, Wally Adler, Yale University class of 1943, was called up. Wally and Debbie were married on September 27, 1942 in Washington D.C. Debbie's father was one of Ohio's U.S. Senators, the honorable Harold H. Burton. Wally then reported for military service. In late December

1943, Wally and Debbie celebrated the birth of their first child, June, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. In late 1944, Wally flew his small plane, an L-4j Piper Cub, behind German lines to report on German troop movements. He flew many other missions before July 29, 1945 when Wally flew his last mission and then turned in his plane. Wally received the Purple Heart for his bravery. Wally and Debbie had three daughters: June (b. 1943), Christine (b. 1946), and Wendy (b. 1950). Longtime members of our congregation, Wally and Debbie could frequently be seen at our Forum programs on Sunday morning before services. Over the years, I have had many enjoyable talks with Wally about the war. I remember those occasions so well. I hope I always will.

GUN SAFETY

Over the last five years, deaths due to firearms have increased by more than 35%. Ohioans for



Gun Safety (OFGS) is a grassroots, citizen's organization committed to changing this tragic situation. Beginning in August, 2019, citizens representing OFGS will be circulating petitions among

Ohio voters to place a proposal on the Ohio ballot for 2020 that would close most of the loopholes in regarding background checks and, for the first time, would mandate background checks for firearms purchased at gun shows across Ohio. OFGS needs our help. If you have the time, please consider circulating a petition.

To read the entire text of the proposal, please go to ohioanforgunsafety.org. To volunteer to petition, please contact Susan Reis at sixreis@gmail.com.

— Mark Weber



STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

DAVID KANTOR

Strategic Planning Process Needs Your Input!

You might recall that one of our commitments to each other when the Society and First U merged was that we would develop a strategic plan for the merged congregation. Your Strategic Planning Task Force has now met several times to refine the process to be used to develop this plan, and we're now proceeding with the actual planning activities.

One of the major activities in developing the plan is gathering input from our members, friends, staff, and external stakeholders. To obtain input from members and friends, we'll be conducting a number of small group listening sessions FOR ADULTS after services and youth religious education on September 15 and September 22. There will be multiple groups on each day, each with a maximum of 12 people, and lasting for 90 minutes. We will also be scheduling sessions during the week (day and evening) and during the day on Saturdays' and checking out the possibility of using existing group meetings (like covenant groups) for strategic planning listening sessions. Check the weekly e-blast and the website for the schedule.

We're scheduling listening sessions WITH THE YOUTH during their regularly scheduled YRE classes on Sunday, September 29.

During the sessions, you'll be asked to consider such questions as:

- What brings you the greatest joy from being a member/friend of UUCC?
- What is the fundamental reason for our

church to exist?

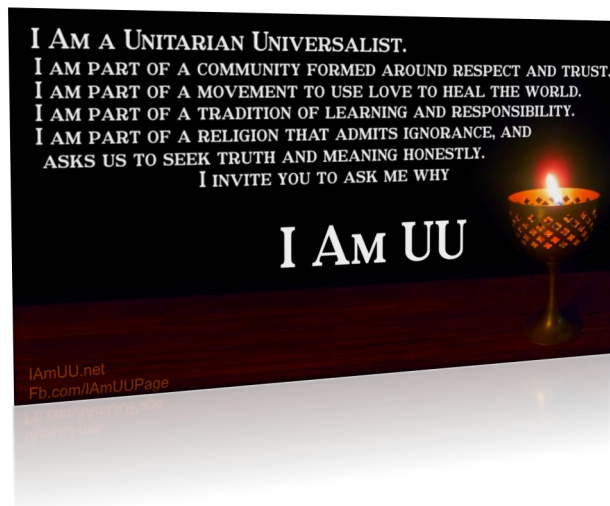
- What are our congregation's biggest strengths and weaknesses?
- If you had to choose two or three major areas of strategic focus for our congregation during the next three years, what would they be?

Be on the lookout for information for confirming your attendance on September 15, September 22, or one of the other alternative dates. Confirming your attendance will be important, since there will be a limited number of slots for participants at each session.

The Strategic Planning Task Force is looking forward to facilitating these sessions and hopes to see you at one of them.

In community,

UUCC Strategic Planning Task Force
Melissa Vandergriff (chair), Laurie Albright,
John Bacon, Wayne Jennings, David Kantor,
Megan Lubbers, Jennifer Pierce, Nancy King
Smith



UUCC RACIAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP TEAM

VALERIE McFADDEN

One of the goals in the charter from the Board of Trustees to the Racial Justice Leadership Team is “to promote dialogue and learning within the church community about the origins and functioning of systemic racism”. Team members are taking turns sharing resources we hope will be helpful to this end. I (Valerie McFadden) am sharing a video that appeared in my Facebook feed not long ago. In this 2018 video Dr. Rupa Marya recounts an emergency room encounter with an African American female patient who she describes as having a histrionic personality. The woman has a cough and is complaining of chest pains. The medical professionals are inclined to send her home with cough syrup, but then Dr. Marya remembers the data indicating that Black women have worse outcomes for heart disease treatment. And she asks herself, “If she is complaining of chest pain, why am I not investigating that.” Once she changes her mindset she is able to find the correct diagnosis. This leads to her having to advocate for the patient with other health professionals, who are still inclined to dismiss the patient’s complaint. I

liked this video because it illustrates the complexity and subtlety of the role race plays in social interactions and how hard it can be to recognize. It also illustrates how serious the consequences can be. <https://www.facebook.com/NowThisNews/videos/1988265154538298/>

Another one of the goals in our charter is to “with the participation of the minister, staff, congregants, and board create an intentionally inclusive, affirming, justice-seeking perspective into the vision, mission, religious education, adult programs, worship and governance.” The themes of inclusivity and justice-seeking were powerfully addressed in the Sunday Morning Worship Service and UUA General Assembly, 2019. It’s a two hour service but worth it. If you’re short on time the message begins about 1 hour in, but viewing the whole worship service will be more powerful and likely yield more insight. <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2019/worship/sunday>

Two Black Men in a Week - Racial Justice Film Series

Friday, August 16, 6:00 PM

2728 Lancashire Rd, Cleveland Heights, OH (upstairs in the sanctuary)

We had a good group for the first of our Racial Justice Film Series – please join us for the next one! The Authentic Diversity Covenant group is hosting this Racial Justice Film Series where we will screen thought provoking films followed by facilitated discussions. We’ll meet once a month at 6 pm on Friday evenings at the Lancashire building (it’s air conditioned!), share some pizza, and start the film around 6:30. Please join us! Contact Laurie Albright (ljalbright@hotmail.com) with questions.



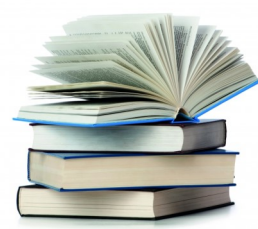
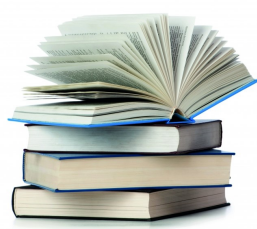
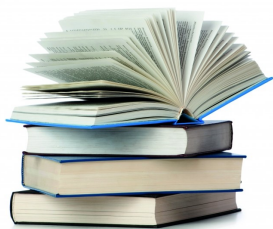
**Future Screenings (mark your calendars!) Friday, September 20 – Crash and
Friday, October 18 – Race, the Power of an Illusion, part 2**

UUCC NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 1—Celebrate Lammas: We will be gathering to celebrate Lammas, the first fruits of the harvest, on Thursday, August 1st at 7:00 p.m. Gather outside on the west lawn if the weather is good...in Fellowship Hall if it's not. Bring a reading, chant, song, drums, rattles or things that make a joyful noise. Please bring the first fruits of your garden, or a finger food or beverage to share for after the ritual. This is an eclectic group, and you are welcome whether you have experience in Earth-Centered/Pagan ritual or are simply open to something new. For more information please see Peggy Lagodny, or email at wytchwmn@sbcglobal.net.

August 13—Second Tuesday Book Club: The Second Tuesday Book Club skipped July and our next meeting is August 13. We will be reading Factfulness by Hans Rosling. It has ten reasons we are wrong about the world and why things are better than you think. It is a hopeful book about the potential for human progress when we work off facts rather than our inherent biases. This is an urgent and essential book that will change the way you see the world. We will be meeting in the Library at the Lancashire Building at 7:00 pm.

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS FOR 2019-2020



Following are the books selected for the Sunday Book Group starting in September 2019 thru June 2020. If you have any questions, email Brian Larson at blarson44@hotmail.com.

Month	Title	Author
Sep	A Gentleman in Moscow	Amor Towles
Oct	Monarchs and Milkweed: A Remarkable Story of Coevolution	Anurag Agrawal
Nov	The Swerve: How the World Became Modern	Stephen Greenblatt
Jan	Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst	Robert M. Sapolsky
Feb	An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States	Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
Mar	Fascism	Madeline Albright
Apr	American Dialogue: The Founders and Us	Joseph Ellis
May	The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World	Peter Frankopan
June	The Unwinding	George Packer

UUCC NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

UUCC JULY WORSHIP SERVICES

July 7, 2019 AT 11:00 AM

The Idea That Blows My Socks Off

Service Leaders:
Dr. Allan Georgia
Amy Collins, CLM
Musician: Karin Tooley

"What if, in a universe that always tends toward chaos and disorder, we human beings have a special ability to bring order and purpose through love, forgiveness, and friendship?"



July 14, 2019 AT 11:00 AM

Hyde Park Service

Dr. Allan Georgia & The Congregants of
UUCC with Michael Carney, Becky Burns,
and The Watkins Family

On July 14th, we'll be having a special "Hyde Park" service, named after the tradition in London's Hyde Park, where people literally stand on a soapbox and expound on topics about which they care deeply. Past years have covered political and social topics, geriatric pet care, the legalization of marijuana, the regulation of car exhaust, social media and news induced dopamine bursts, and other scintillating subjects. What's on your mind?

July 21, 2019 AT 11:00 AM

The Spiral Journey

Worship Leaders:
Rev. Dr. Rina Shere, Dr. Allan Georgia and
Peggy Lagodny
Musicians: Mike Carney, Music Director and



July 28, 2019 AT 11:00 AM

Creating Sacred Space

Service Leaders:
Amy Collins, CLM, Debbie Kuehm, and Peggy
Lagodny

Join the worship team in an exploration of Sacred Space. What is a sacred home? We will unpack this idea in the context of finding the sacred within as a refuge through creativity, creating the home as sacred, and creating a sacred spiritual home through beloved community. As part of creating sacred space together, we will create an altar. We invite you to bring an object that you find special or sacred to place on the altar. (Don't worry, you will take it back home with you!)

UUCC NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHO WE ARE

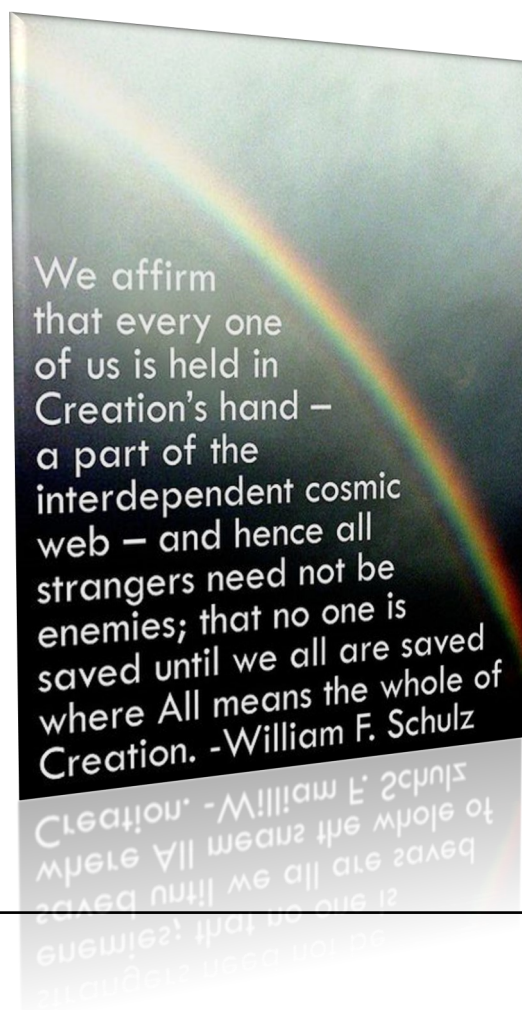
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS ARE PEOPLE FROM A WIDE RANGE OF BACKGROUNDS WITH DIFFERENT BELIEFS, BUT SHARED VALUES.

We have no creed or code, but instead abide by seven principles that call us to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion; spiritual growth; a free and responsible search for meaning; the democratic process; peace, liberty, and justice for all; and respect for the web of all life.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. EVERYONE BELONGS.

CHILD FRIENDLY SPACE we love having our youngest members present for services! We also understand that sometimes parents prefer to worship alone. Childcare is available during service for toddlers up to age five. We also have a quiet room (Room 109) that parents are welcome to use where you can hear the service.

REQUESTING PASTORAL CARE Please let us know if you or someone you know would benefit from a Pastoral visit or call. The Lay Pastoral Care Team can be contacted at: laypastoralcare@uucleveland.org



WORSHIP SERVICE · SUNDAY · 11:00 AM

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland

21600 Shaker Boulevard
Shaker Heights OH 44122
(216) 751-2320

Rev. Joseph M Cherry
Parish Minister
revjoe.cherry@uucleveland.org

Rev. Dr. Rina Shere
Affiliated Community Minister
rinashere@yahoo.com

Worship Staff

Rev. Joseph M Cherry

Mike Carney, Music Director
mike.carney@uucleveland.org

Dr. Allan Georgia
Director of Religious Education
allan.georgia@uucleveland.org

Karin Tooley, Pianist
Karin.tooley@gmail.com

Administrative Staff

Angie Coats, Bookkeeper
angie.coats@uucleveland.org

Erin Justice
Community Relations Director
erin.justice@uucleveland.org

Shirley Nelson
Administrator & Newsletter Editor
shirley.nelson@uucleveland.org

Buildings & Grounds

Ken Kuehm
Laurene Smith
Michael Kuehm
Warren Ronney

UUC Board of Trustees

Cat White, President
Steve Doell, Vice President
Shane Millette, Treasurer
Tadd Pinkston, Secretary
Tom McKenna, Past-President
Mary Schatzman,
Past-President
Erika Brown
Carol Gay
Bob Horan
Wayne Jennings
Nancy King Smith
Susan Paterson
Jennifer Pierce
Melissa Vandergriff



UUC DEADLINES

Articles for The Hawk: Deadline for Sept. is August 21, 2019.

Order of Service/Announcements:
Wednesday a.m. before the Sunday Service