



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

March 2018

UU News

March Service Schedule

Sunday services are at 9:30am and 11:00am

Join us for coffee after the service.

March 4: *Binary Misses So Much* [Rev. Sam Byrd]

We have lived in a gender binary construct for so long, that it is a constant challenge to look beyond those walls. Rev. Byrd is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Westfield Center and a founder of the Prysm group in Wooster. He will share his knowledge and experience. The Social Action's LGBTQ team will host a lunch and discussion following the 11:00 service. The Folk Orchestra will perform.

March 11: *Of Course I'm Humble!* [Rev. Elaine Strawn]

The Ancient Greeks knew the dangers of hubris. It's time for our contemporary world to take a full and personal moral inventory [to use the words of 12 Step Programs]. The Choir will perform.

March 18: *The Mirror in Myth and Time* [Chelsea Churpek, Deleasa Randall-Griffiths & Rev. Elaine Strawn]

As we take another look at humility, the mirror will focus us...all puns intended! History is filled with myths and stories about the insight of mirrors.

March 25: *Who's First in Line in Our Environmental Crisis?* [Dr. Casey Hoy]

We are aware that human activity is creating an environmental crisis. What is less obvious is that it is people of color who suffer most and first. The Choir will perform.

Soup and Transgender Discussion

After Rev. Sam Byrd's service on March 4, focused on transgender understanding, stay for a light lunch (after the second service). The LGBT pod of the Social Action Committee will provide soup, bread and finger foods. We can ask questions and discuss the topic.

The Minister's Column

It is February 19. Drew and I just finished participating in a virtual meeting of the Ohio Poor People's Campaign. Rev. Dr. Susan Smith, a co-chair, reminded us of the difference between Peace-Makers [who desire peace and will act to birth it] and Peace-Lovers [who desire peace at any cost].

The meeting included video from Flint, Michigan: water. How are poverty and unclean or scarce drinking water linked? Or unsafe housing? Or food deserts?

Ironically, I exited the electronic meeting site to find that there was no water in my house. Not a problem. The city is probably fixing the issue right now. It will be fixed and supply resumed soon. Post-Industrial, unemployed Flint residents still have water problems...4 years later. I remember friends from India who cried when they observed me running tap water until it warmed; such a waste. The scenes of terror which encompassed women getting water from wells in Darfur will never stop haunting me.

I don't have a problem with water. But I have a problem with peace. Deep down, there is discomfit knowing that there will be no peace...no real peace...until all those people included in our First Principle [Respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every human being] are able to meet their basic needs. I don't have to GIVE them their basic needs, but I do need to GET OUT OF THEIR WAY so they can procure them.

Am I a Peace Lover or a Peace Maker?

"We kindle a flame of power, illuminating the Holy in each of our faces.
We recognize in the flame a passionate commitment to our shared faith.
We are held and carried from day to day, week to week, in the shining of the light.
This flame is mine, as well as yours.
We are brought together on this day, called to growth, to expansion, within its glow.
What does your heart know while beholding this holy fire?"

-Adrian Graham

Watch for more from the Ohio Poor People's Campaign [one of 35 organizations around the country in affiliation with the work of Dr. William Barber III].



Stewardship Committee Annual Campaign

Many thanks to all who have pledged, making the commitment to sustain our Fellowship through the coming year and into the future!

For those who have not pledged, it's not too late. Pledge forms, electronic and printable, as well as other pledging information are available at www.uufwc.org/support.

As always if you have questions, please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee:
Scot Anderson, Tony Beery, Bonnie Groop, Mikel Ann North, Danni Schantz, Mary Wicks (Chair)

Unite to End Racism April 3-5, 2018



Unite to End Racism: Washington, DC, April 4

April 4 marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The event will begin at the Washington Monument, walk to the Lincoln Memorial to hear a recording of the “I Have a Dream Speech” and then move on to the Martin Luther King memorial. A bus will leave Cleveland on April 3 and return late evening April 4. **BUT RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY MARCH 1.** Information is at www.ohcouncilchs.org or contact Elaine Strawn. Cost is \$75. A few scholarships to reduce that fee are available.

Afternoon Book Group: March 8 at 2:00pm

The Afterlives by Thomas Pierce

Pierce, a graduate of the University of Virginia creative writing program whose short story collection, *Hall of Small Mammals*, was a literary favorite in 2015, displays a nimble sense of humor and wild creativity in *The Afterlives*. The near future he conjures here is one believable step from our own, with holograms, called “Grammers,” taking over service jobs and medical devices that can be monitored from your smartphone. The fantastical afterlife elements are grounded in Pierce’s realistic depiction of relationships, from romantic to parental.

“Do you think we’re not supposed to have it? That, to a certain extent, we’re supposed to live in the dark?” Jim asks. Maybe knowledge of life after death is a futile quest, but Pierce’s intelligent debut proves there’s still something to gain from pursuing it. All are welcome. Questions? Ask Elaine Strawn.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Congrats to our 1-3rd grade OWL graduates-Sylvia Chance, Olivia Humphrey, Owen Jasin, Estella Lowry, Kai Marullo, and Emmet Relle! And a very special thank you to our facilitators Dae Evans, Jon Sprunger, and sub Nancy Hurt!!!

SAVE the DATE
April 13th 5:30-7:30
Pizza and the Principles

Hope you can join us in April for our 3rd Pizza and the Principles! This event is for all ages and includes pizza, games, and making new friends. Childcare is provided for those 4 and under. More details to come in next month's newsletter.

For information about Religious Education, please contact Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Education, at chelsea.uufwc@gmail.com

To request child care for fellowship meetings or events, email childcare.uufwc@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 4-Coming of Age class 11a
- 4- OWL (4-5th) 6-7:15p
- 11-MS/HS Field Trip to another UU Congregation – Details TBD
- 11- OWL (4-5th) 6-7:15p
- 16-MS/HS Trip Kneseth Israel Temple Details TBD
- 18-All-ages Service/No RE
- 18- OWL (4-5th) 6-7:15p

APRIL

- 1-Easter Egg Hunt after 9:30a service
- 1-Coming of Age class 11a
- 8-MS/HS Field Trip to Orthodox Christian Church in Akron Details TBD
- 13- All-ages Pizza and the Principles 5:30-7:30p
- 15-All-ages Service/No RE

MAY

- 6-Coming of Age class 11a
- 13- Last day of RE!
- 20-RE Sunday Service 10a
- 27-One Room RE, Nursery Open

A Message from **Youth Community** (Grades 7-12)

February Recap

In RE (Religious Education), the Middle School youth explored Judaism and Christianity through the *Building Bridges* curriculum. The High School youth explored Judaism in their monthly *Coming of Age* class.

On February 8, members of Youth Community gathered at the home of Peg Redinbaugh and Juan Gross to decorate cookies and practice skits for Cocoa House. The results were creative! On the weekend of February 17-18, fifteen members of Youth Community participated in Cocoa House and the Winter Lock-In. The youth helped plan Cocoa House, contacted prize donors, selected and performed in skits, and produced goods and services for the adult auction. Following Cocoa House, the youth enjoyed an overnight at the UUFWC—complete with pizza, games, social time, and a Midnight Reflection Service on the theme of “Love.” By Sunday morning, Youth Community was exhausted, but full of love and gratitude. Thank you to EVERYONE who supported our children and youth at Cocoa House. Your generous donations will support our Coming of Age program and pilgrimage to Boston in June.



Upcoming Opportunities

Building Bridges/Coming of Age Field Trips

Check your email inboxes in March for details about two field trip opportunities:

**UU Congregation, Location TBD
Sunday, March 11, Time TBD**

**Knesseth Israel Temple, Wooster Ohio
Friday, March 16, 6:00-9:00pm**

If you would like to learn more about Youth Community, you may reach Dawn Frank, Youth and Campus Ministries Coordinator, at dawn.uufwc@gmail.com. Office hours are by appointment.

Music Committee

Calling all Talented Souls!

Our 49th Coffeehouse is March 24, 7:00-10:00pm. If you would like a time slot to perform, contact Gail Woosley. If you want a night of exceptional music, poetry and coffee and treats, please plan on joining us!

Come and join your voice with us! Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 7:00pm. We invite you to come and sing with us! If you aren't sure of your voice, we will help you learn how to be a better singer!

Folk Orchestra rehearsal is at 8:15pm on Wednesdays. Any level of expertise is welcome to come and play! Come and make a joyful noise with us!

Special Music. We want you to share your musical gifts with us! If you would like to perform special music during the service, please contact Sharon Delgadillo. Solos, Duets, Groups, welcome!

Questions? Contact Sharon Delgadillo



Men's Group

Wednesday, March 7, 7:00-8:30pm and Wednesday, March 28, 7:00-8:30pm

All men are invited to this group to explore what's working in your life and what you would like to change. We will create a safe space to go deeper into our authentic selves, offering tools for self awareness and getting aligned with our sense of mission and purpose. While framed in terms of masculinity, this is not meant to be exclusionary--anyone who identifies as male, transgender, gender non-binary, or queer is welcome. Every meeting stands alone, so newcomers are always welcome.

Questions? Contact Student Minister Drew Frantz.

Membership Committee



Wine, Cheese and CONVERSATION – Our first transformation of the former Sweet and Greet event was held on February 10th and was a huge success! Over 50 people attended, tasted various wines – or not – and chose from a selection of savory and sweet treats. There were serious and not-so-serious conversations, laughter and time to get to know each other a little better. This will be an annual event occurring around Valentines Day each year. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for next year.

Membership and Voting

With our UUFWC Annual Meeting coming up on May 20th, this is a good time to remind all our Friends of the fellowship that **you need to be a member to vote** or serve in certain positions. If you are interested in becoming a member, we recommend you attend a UU Inquiry Session (see below) and talk to the minister so you can consider your commitment before you sign the membership book.

Spring UU Inquiry

On March 18th we will hold a UU Inquiry Session shortly after the second service. The event takes place several times a year and is designed for those **new to the congregation**. You will learn a little UU history, find out how the UUFWC works, and get to meet representatives from some of our committees. Refreshments will be provided so please RSVP so we can plan for you. If you'd like us to set up childcare, please let Karen know by March 12th. Thanks!

UU Women's Lunch Groups

Wow! The UU women came out in numbers for our first lunch-time gatherings!

Due to all the interest in both our Monday and Tuesday lunch groups, we are working on coordinating the groups to both maximize and spread out the frequency of our gatherings. We hope to iron out a schedule during our late February meetings, so stay tuned for more dates, but for now, upcoming get-togethers include:

- Monday, February 26, 11:30am downtown Buehlers restaurant. Contact Membership Committee Chairperson, Marti Livingstone for more details.
- Tuesday, February 27, 11:30am downtown Buehlers restaurant. Contact Membership Coordinator, Karen Skubik for more details.
- Tuesday, March 13, 11:30am downtown Buehlers restaurant
- Monday, March date TBD, 11:30am downtown Buehlers restaurant
- Tuesday, March 27, 11:30am downtown Buehlers restaurant

All UUFWC women are welcome to join at any time. RSVP is helpful but not required. See you there!!

Social Action In Action

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SUNDAY is MARCH 18th. The pantry is very low on personal items, so we will be collecting facial tissues (Kleenex, Puffs, etc.). As always, cash is welcome. Make checks payable to People to People.

The OPEN PLATE COLLECTION on MARCH 25th will be donated to Friendship Meals, Inc. in Orrville, a program we have cheerfully supported for many years. This non-church affiliated program provides a nourishing meal every Thursday to the community, endeavoring to “provide an atmosphere in which people can come together to feed the spirit” and to give them “a chance to feel good about our community and one another.” Friendship Meals depends on support from Orrville United Way, as well as area businesses, churches and individuals. Our donations are most welcome.

INVESTING IN WOMEN: Since 2008 the Social Action committee has invested internationally with organizations that support less fortunate people in the world we all share. At that time we invested \$1,000 in an Equal Exchange Certificate of Deposit which enables Equal Exchange to help small farmer cooperatives in 19 countries and continue to hold that CD. Another investment we made was \$1,000 note with Oikocredit which provided loans to women in India to start businesses. Oikocredit, based in the Netherlands, recently ceased its operations in the U.S. and returned our investment (plus modest interest). We felt strongly that the money should be reinvested in a similar project and selected a Community Investment Note with Calvert Impact Capital. This is a non-profit loan fund and community development financial institution launched in 1995 which offers a portfolio of nonprofits, social enterprises, microfinance institutions and other organizations. A unique feature of the note is that it allows investors to target their investment to any of a variety of impact areas. The SA committee selected the Women Investing in Women Initiative (WIN-WIN) which focuses on clean energy. By increasing access to products like clean cookstoves and solar lanterns, women benefit from reduced indoor air pollution, avoid dangerous trips to collect firewood and have more time to spend on their education. According to the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, a WIN-WIN partner, clean cookstoves and fuels represent one of the most cost-effective mechanisms for addressing climate change while delivering women’s health and livelihood benefits. The Social Action Committee is pleased to be able to support women in underdeveloped countries as well as advance our Green Sanctuary goals.

All Things Green

A WAYNE COUNTY SOLAR CO-OP sponsored by the Wayne County Sustainable Energy Network and Solar United Neighbors is being formed. Co-op membership provides education about the benefits of solar energy and reduces costs of a solar installation by selecting a single company to complete all of the installations. The co-op is free to join and membership is not a commitment to purchase panels. Solar United Neighbors will help the co-op solicit competitive bids from area solar installers. Members have the option to purchase panels individually based on the installer’s group rate and the support of fellow group participants and solar experts at Solar United Neighbors. To learn about active solar co-ops visit www.solarunitedneighbors.org. Choose Ohio from the dropdown menu, then “go solar in Ohio” then choose Wayne County. You can also talk with UUFWC member Fred Michel who is the president of the Wayne County Sustainable Energy Network.

Library News

Listed below are two book titles new to the UUFWC library:

TESTIMONY: THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

Meg Riley, Editor 289.132 Rile 2018

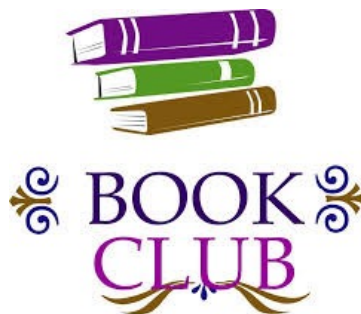
“A dynamic collection of personal stories from people whose lives have been dramatically changed by Unitarian Universalism. Some have returned from the brink of despair, others have found renewed purpose and discovered the saving power of community. Together these vignettes paint a portrait of the real, felt impact of Unitarian Universalism.”

----Quote from the book’s back cover

AWAKENING LOVING-KINDNESS By Pema Chodron 294.3 Chod 2017

“Do you want to be a more compassionate person, confident and unafraid to love yourself and the world around you unconditionally, but aren’t sure how? We often look far and wide for guidance to become better people, as though the answers were *somewhere out there*. But Pema Chodron suggests that the best and most direct teacher for awakening loving-kindness is in fact *your very own life*. Her teachings here focus on learning how to see the events of our lives as the perfect material for learning to love ourselves and our world playfully and wholeheartedly – and to live in our skin fearlessly, without aggression, harshness, or shame. This is instruction for embarking on the greatest adventure of all, to come alive to your inherent human kindness.”

----Quote from the book’s front inside flap



The Evening Book Club meets the third Sunday of each month at 7:00pm. Here is the schedule of books through May. After May, the Evening Book Club will take a break for the summer. Questions, contact Bert Bishop.

March 18: *Neither Wolf nor Dog: On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder* by Kent Nerburn

April 15: *An Artist of the Floating World* by Kazuo Ishiguro

May 20: *White Trash: The 400 year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg

Regular Events

THURSDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP meets on the 2nd Thursdays at 2:00pm. March's book is *The Afterlives* by Thomas Pierce. Contact Rev. Elaine Strawn.

SUNDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP meets on the 3rd Sundays at 7:00pm. March's book is *Neither Wolf nor Dog: On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder* by Kent Nerburn. Contact Bert Bishop.

EARTH CENTERED GROUP meets most 2nd and 4th Sundays after the second service. Contact Lindsay Walker or Doris Cannon.

HUMANIST GROUP meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11:00am. Contact Skip Nault or Jason Ferrell.

INNER PEACE YOGA meets Mondays at 6:00pm. Contact Dae Evans.

PLANT-BASED POTLUCKS meets on the 4th Tuesdays at 6:00pm. RSVP pamerine@ashland.edu.

UU UKE GROUP meets the second Friday of every-other month, at 7:00 pm, starting in January.

Ukuleles only, and any level of expertise. Contact Juan Gross.

ZEN MEDITATION meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm. If you are new, please come no later than 6:45pm for orientation. Contact Steve Berg.

March Birthdays:

Denise Bostdorff
Margo Curl
Susan English
Nancy Hurt
Betty Schuler
Betsy Sheets
Sandy Sheffield
Danielle Sobczyk
Jan Steinbrenner
Lowell Steinbrenner
Lindsay Walker

We'd like to add your birthday or anniversary to the list. Please contact the office



The events shown on this page are just a part of what goes on at the UUFWC. If you're looking for a specific activity, or if want to know when a particular group or committee meets, go to the Fellowship website, uufwc.org, and look at the calendar.

A Look at the Year Ahead

General Assembly 2018 will be in Kansas City, MO on June 20-24, 2018. You can still view/listen to presentations from GA 2017 in New Orleans at www.uua.org/ga.

Summer Institute will be July 8-14, 2018 at Oberlin College. The Theme Speaker will be David W. Orr, a Paul Sears Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics, Emeritus at Oberlin College. More information at omdsi.org.

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Office Hours: Rev Strawn: Mon 12-4, Wed 6-9 pm, Tu/Th by appt. Drew, Intern: Wed 1-4 pm Chelsea, DRE: Sun 8:30- 1 pm , Tu 5-8 pm Anne, Office: MWF: 9 am - 2 pm</p>						
9:30am - RE Classes	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 & 11 am -Binary Misses So Much - Rev. Byrd	6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	6 pm: Worship Planning meeting	1 pm - Afternoon small group 7 pm - Men's group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	2 pm: Book Group 7 pm : Membership committee meeting 7 pm: Racial Justice meeting	7 pm: Uke Group	Private Rental 10 am-5 pm
11 am - Senior Hi: Coming of Age	7pm - Zen Meditation					
11 am - Humanist Group						
12:15 Lunch and Discussion						
6-8 pm: OWL Classes						
9:30am - RE Classes	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 & 11 am - Of Course I'm Humble! - Strawn	6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	11:30 am - UU Lunch Bunch 6:30pm - Board	1 pm - Afternoon small group 7 pm - Caregiver's support Group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	RE Field Trip to Kneseth Israel Temple		
11- Finance						
11 am - Senior Hi	7 pm - NAACP @ OneEighty	7 pm - private group				
RE Field trip to different UU						
12: 15 - Earth Centered group						
6 pm: Elem. OWL classes						
6:30: Internship committee						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
People to People 9:30 & 11 am - The Mirror in Myth and Time - Strawn, Churpek	6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	6-8:30 pm: Worship Planning meeting 7 pm: Small Group Discussion	7 pm - Leadership Development Team 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra			7 pm: Coffeeshouse
11 am - Humanist Group						
12: UU Inquiry Lunch						
12:15: Social Action committee						
6 pm: Elem. OWL class						
7 pm: Book Discussion Group						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Last Sunday Collection 9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Who's First in Line in Our Environmental Crisis? - Hoy	6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	11:30 am - UU Lunch Buffet 7 pm- Plant Based Potluck	7 pm - Men's group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra			

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County
is a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

How to Find Us: We are located at 3186 Burbank Road, in Wooster, 330-262-9194.

After Labor Day through Memorial Day we meet on Sundays at 9:30am and 11:00am.

In the Summer, June through Labor Day, we meet on Sundays at 10:00am.

Minister: Rev. V. Elaine Strawn

Ministerial Intern: Drew Frantz

Board of Directors: Peter Schantz, president; John Waldman, vice president; Cherrill Wertz, secretary;
Adam Keating, David Francis, Inez Bird, Kelly Chandler, Tony Beery, past president.

Office Administrator: Anne Wilson

Director of Religious Education: Chelsea Churpek

Youth & Campus Ministries Coordinator: Dawn Frank

Membership Coordinator: Karen Skubik

Newsletter Editor: Joann Ribar The newsletter deadline is the 17th of every month.

Congregational Group Email: One email reaches nearly everyone! There is a delay while messages are
moderated. To join the group, email the office.

Office Hours:

Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Monday 11:00am-3:00pm; Wednesday 3:00pm-9:00pm, Tuesday/Thursday by appt

Drew Frantz, Ministerial Intern: Wednesday 1:00pm-4:00pm

Anne Wilson, Office Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00am-2:00pm

Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Exploration: Sunday 8:00am-1:00pm; Tuesday 5:00pm-8:00pm

Dawn Frank, Youth & Campus Ministries Coordinator: Tuesday 5:00pm-8:00pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County
3186 Burbank Road
Wooster, Ohio 44691

www.uufwc.org

**Contact the office to
receive this newsletter
via email. You will get it
a week earlier and save
the Fellowship money!**

*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
is an inclusive community for spiritual exploration
dedicated to social and environmental justice.*

 *Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County*