



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

May 2017

UU News

May Service Schedule

Sunday services are at 9:30 and 11:00

Join us for coffee after the service.

Our theme for the month is “*Widening the Circle of Justice*”.

May 7: *Learning Where the Roadblocks Lie*

[Rev. Elaine Strawn and the congregation]

We will honor the request of our UU Association: The service will focus on looking within at our racial divide. The service will combine a few videos, stories and short conversations. The RE department will join the teach-in through a special Time for All Ages facilitated by Chelsea Churpek and Laura Burch.

May 14: *The Lessons We Carry from Childhood* [Rev. Elaine Strawn]

Lessons we learn in childhood stay with us throughout our lives...whether we want them to, or not. On this Parent's Day, we will focus on some of these lessons. The choir sings today.

May 21: *Including All the Voices* [Chelsea Churpek & Rev Elaine Strawn]

As we finish our multi-generation *Living the Principles* series, we focus on our 5th Principle: using the democratic process. We live in a culture struggling to include all the voices....just as we covenant to practice this principle at home and in our congregation. The folk orchestra plays today.

May 28: *Building Beauty with Diversity: Flower Communion*

[Rev. Elaine Strawn]

On this beautiful day, we gather blossoms from our yards and bring them to the service. They make a lovely bouquet...which we will take home with us. Norbert Capek originated this story in war-torn Czechoslovakia. The choir sings today.

See page 9 for information about some of the regular events at the Fellowship, or go to uufwc.org to look at the monthly calendar.

The Minister's Column

Many of you know that an atmosphere of unequal hiring practices has caused the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association as well as two other top officials to resign. This was followed by request from Religious Educators and and Black Lives of the UU to call for a day of focus in each congregation. We will do this on May 7. The purpose is NOT to dwell in guilt. The focus will be on the society we see around us, the desire to examine our own congregation. Materials have been supplied, conversations have been flying, our history has been re-examined. Just why ARE we such a white denomination? Is there hidden racism among us?

Our congregation has done much work on the issue of racism: from Journey Toward Wholeness studies in the early 1990s to Weaving a Web of Diversity in the later 1990s; from Building the World We Dream About to Waking Up White. Many of us belong to the local NAACP and several are officers; we go en masse to the Freedom Dinner which raises money for scholarships for young African American college students. Our Moving Beyond Racism group has built a program connecting young African American male high school students with the University of Akron's "Black Male Summit". There have been vigils on the square [thank you, Laura Burch for initiating], and interfaith chapters of Showing Up for Racial Justice formed [thank you, Jason Ferrell and Rosario Candelero]. And then there is the sign for Burbank Road...something we are still debating.

Debating is never a fatal sign, nor is any one action ever enough. Our focus is NOT how to increase the proportion of African American members in the congregation; that would miss the point completely. Our on-going focus is on what actions we can take as allies to move step-by-step toward justice. There are as many definitions of that goal as there are people. We continue our work with integrity and authenticity, listening and learning all along the way. Thank you for being on the journey together.

From the Board President

As we are reminded every week during services, our UUFWC community exists through the sharing of our time, of our finances, and of ourselves. I want to send a heartfelt thank you from the Board to the congregation for your generosity in responding to this year's pledge drive. Your contributions will allow the Fellowship to meet its ongoing needs and prepare for the future. Thanks also for your contributions of time and effort through serving on committees, teaching RE classes, participating in landscape clean up day, singing in the choir, and many other activities too numerous to list here.

This year marks 45 years since the founding of the UUFWC. I look forward to the next 45.

Tony Beery

Religious Education

This month we wrap up another wonderful RE year and look towards summer fun! Here is what's coming up this summer:

Hogwarts

Be sure to register your rising 1st-6th grader for Harry Potter camp. UUFWC Hogwarts will be June 12-15th from 6-8pm. Visit uufwc.org to register your child soon as registration opens to the public on May 1st and space is limited.

RE Sunday

Please join us on June 4th at 10am for RE Sunday. The children will share what they've been up to this year and we will celebrate Leah and Emma Gochnauer who will be graduating and bridging out of RE. The children will rehearse for RE Sunday on Sunday, May, 28th, so please try to attend this day so your child will be prepared.

Summer Programming

Over the summer the Green Sanctuary team will be helping the children better live out our 7th Principle during RE time (Sundays 10-11am June through August). 1st through 6th grade will begin and end in the EEE room to learn about and participate in all aspects of container gardening. They will be spending most of class outdoors, so please dress your child appropriately. Babies through Kindergarten will be in the nursery and Blessed Bees for free play. All children will spend the full hour in RE and will not begin in the sanctuary over the summer. The Green Sanctuary team we lead a service on August 20th to share what was learned and show off the children's harvest.

Please note:

Parents Group, Game Night, RE Committee, and Playgroup will take a break over the summer and resume in September.

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

MAY

5—Playgroup 10a (Cohan Park (Local Roots in case of poor weather)

10—Middle and High School Game Night 6-8pm

21—Parent's Group 11am

21 –All-ages service (NO RE CLASS)

28—We will be rehearsing for RE Sunday class presentations on these days. Please try to attend so your child will be prepared.

SUMMER

June 4th 10a-RE Sunday

June 12-15th 6-8p Hogwarts

June 18th 10a-Hogwarts Service

July 4th -Potluck and Fireworks Watching at the UUFWC (Time TBA)

August 20th 10a- Summer All-ages service (NO RE)

A Message from Youth Community

Members of Youth Community continued to learn, grow, and serve during the month of April. In RE (Religious Education), the youth participated in a Popcorn Theology session focusing on temptation and evil. We discussed the origins of temptation, and explored ways people have overcome temptation in order to do what is right. After watching an excerpt from *Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Rings*, we reflected on times in our lives when we felt temptation. We wrapped up our session discussing the Fifth Principle and “the right of conscience.” As Unitarian Universalists, we have the responsibility to stand up for justice—even when it is tempting to walk away from or ignore injustice.

Youth Community participated in several events during Spring Break. Dawn Frank, Maya Foltz, and Chloe Chandler attended a Passover Seder on The College of Wooster campus on Tuesday, April 11. We learned new traditions, sampled new foods, and had a lot of fun. Youth Community had a pizza dinner and work session on Friday, April 14. During the work session, the youth created an interactive mural and practiced for the Earth Day service.



Dawn Frank, Justine Sherwood, and members of Youth Community led the Earth Day Service on Sunday, April 23. We participated with the choir, performed a readers theater adaptation of *The Great Kapok Tree*, and held a Soil Communion ceremony. The mural we created during our work session became an interactive piece of artwork for the congregation. The finished product is pictured to the left.

As we look toward May, the youth have several opportunities to connect and serve. During the Landscape Workday on Sunday, May 7, Youth Community members will place mulch and step-in fence posts around the new children’s garden. Please meet in the Youth Room at 11:00am. Clothes that do not mind a little dirt are recommended. Our final spring middle and high school game night will be Wednesday, May 10 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the Youth Room. Games and light refreshments will be provided. We hope you join us at these events!

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.

All hands on deck for the annual UFWC Garage Sale!

Clean out your closets! Volunteer and meet new folks! Support our 7th principle! Welcome the greater community and provide low cost items.

When is the sale? Friday, June 23 from 3 pm-7 pm and Saturday, June 24 from 9 am-1 pm

Can I donate anything? We welcome ALL* items that are ready to sell (i.e., CLEAN and WORKING). If you have a unique or more valuable item, please let us know so we can advertise it. Also, let us know its value and other info that may be of interest.

*We **CANNOT** accept: (1) clothing larger than toddler's size, (2) analog TVs, (3) children's car seats, and (4) drop side cribs.

When can I drop off my donations? On Sunday, June 18, before/after the service as well as during set up and pricing (see dates and times below).

How else can I help? We need workers – no experience needed – for:

- Set up and pricing on Sunday, June 18 after the service and Monday through Thursday (June 19 - June 22) from 6-8 pm.
- During the sale. Friday (6/23) and Saturday (6/24). Watch for the signup sheet on the Connections table.

Anything else?

We need a garment rack for hanging linens and card tables (please put your name on it). Also, clear plastic bags for sheets and other linens or, even better, bag these items yourself and include a note with the description (e.g., queen sheet s – top, bottom, 2 pillowcases)

More questions? Contact Mary Wicks (wicksfam@sssnet.com) or another member of the planning team: Norma Barber, Erin Bosley Palmer, Bethann Fravel Seibold, Elaine Gibson, and Ruthie Sewell.

THANK YOU for donating and volunteering for the FUNdraiser!

Newsletter Editor Needed

After 7 years, the editor of this newsletter is retiring, and we need a new person for the job. If you're looking for a way to contribute to the Fellowship, this could be for you. The job is flexible, and you can work at home. You need to be comfortable with word processing and email.

Interested? Talk to Anne in the office.

Music Committee

The Folk Orchestra Meets every Wednesday at 8:15 pm-9:00 pm. We welcome any level of player. If you would like to sing, play, or form a group for Sunday morning services, contact Sharon. If you love music and would like to become a part of our special choir, please talk to Sharon Delgadillo or any choir member. We will help you develop your skills and talents. The choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 pm. **If you have any questions, contact Sharon Delgadillo.**

The Madrigal Feaste is scheduled for November 3 and 4, 2017. Mark your calendars!

Stewardship Moment

THANK YOU FOR PLEDGING!

We have reached **96%** our goal! Pledged: \$239, 628; Goal: \$250,000

Because of you, we can cover our operating budget (*wonderful minister and staff and programs*) and begin paying down our mortgage (*so we can better plan for our future*)

AND, **88%** of you pledged – a record!

Thank you for your
GENEROSITY . . . COMMITMENT . . . SUPPORT

Thank you for
BUILDING BRIDGES

From your Stewardship Team: Bonnie Groop, Helen Meyers, Mikel Anne North, Danni Schantz, Ivie Sorkin, and Mary Wicks.



Membership Committee

We had a great turnout for our Spring UU Inquiry Session with twenty interested friends/visitors in attendance who learned more about how the UUFWC works and how Unitarian Universalism evolved. Many thanks to members of multiple committees who shared information about their piece of our fellowship puzzle.

The next UU Inquiry Session will take place in July with the exact date to be determined, however the membership coordinator and committee are always happy to answer questions about our Fellowship and how to get involved.

Our first-ever UUFWC Bowling Adventure will take place on Sunday, April 30th at Triway Lanes. By the time you receive this newsletter, you may have already heard what a fun event it turned out to be for all ages.

Also on April 30th we will have recognized newly signed members and transfers during the Sunday services. Please welcome these folks as they commit to this special place!

New!!!!!!! 20's/30's Group!!!!!!!

Are you in your 20's or 30's and looking to connect with people for some fun and fellowship? If so, come check out the new 20's/30's Group! We will meet monthly at a variety of locations around Wooster in addition to right at the UUFWC. Our April meet-up was at Broken Rocks and some of our ideas for the summer include a wine and cheese tasting at a local winery and a picnic potluck. Singles and couples are equally welcome. Please contact Sue Kandel at kandel.sa@gmail.com if you're interested and share your ideas for the group.

This newsletter is printed monthly, both on paper and online. Please let the office know if you would like to receive this newsletter via email (instead of paper) or if you wish to unsubscribe: fellowship@uufwc.org

Social Action In Action

BEHIND BARS AND BEYOND is the recipient of this year's Michael Berken Peace and Justice Award from the Wayne/Ashland/Medina Catholic Commission. This is a working group of the Wooster Interfaith Justice Committee which provides advocacy and support services for Wayne County residents currently incarcerated or returning to the community. It is affiliated with the Wayne/Holmes Reentry Coalition and allied with the Wooster/Orrville NAACP Criminal Justice Committee and the College of Wooster Catholic Campus Ministry. Members of the Social Action Committee participate in its activities and supply tote bags containing toiletries and other personal hygiene items, calendars and folders for necessary documents. These are given to those returning to Wayne County who do not have family or other resources to help. This occurs when an individual is arrested and tried in Wayne County courts, but has not lived here. Upon release from prison these individuals are returned to Wayne County without any personal or material resources.

OPEN PLATE COLLECTION on May 28th will be donated to the very dedicated and prizewinning interfaith group operating Behind Bars and Beyond. Working in collaboration with the Wayne/Holmes Re-entry Coalition and the NAACP Criminal Justice Committee, this group aids individuals who are currently incarcerated or returning to our communities. These "invisible" people often have no family aid or may be homeless. Therefore the help offered by BB and Beyond is vital.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SUNDAY is May 14th. We will be collecting egg noodles, which is a new item for us. As always, cash is welcome. Make checks payable to People to People.

All Things Green

FIVE WAYS TO WASTE LESS FOOD:

1. **RETHINK TRASH** - Don't throw out carrot peels, onion tops and celery leaves. Use them to create a flavorful veggie broth.
2. **USE IT UP** - Keep a small plastic bin, labeled "Eat Now", at eye level in your fridge.
3. **DON'T LET IT EXPIRE** - Check your pantry and refrigerator regularly and donate items you won't use before the expiration date.
4. **GO FOR THE UGLY** - Don't ignore misshapen fruits and veggies at the market – they often end up discarded, yet taste the same (or better).
5. **STAY FOCUSED** - Don't buy food just because it's on sale. Stick to your meal plan and grocery list and you'll waste less. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture*

KNOW THE DIRTY DOZEN: learn which fruits and vegetables are most susceptible to pesticide contaminations, and always buy them organic. Conventionally grown produce may look succulent and fresh, but it can contain residues from more than 50 different pesticides. Some fruit and vegetables absorb these toxins more readily than others, posing a potential risk to you and your environment. Support safe farming practices and buy organic produce whenever possible, especially the following twelve pesticide-prone fruits and vegetables: **strawberries, raspberries, imported grapes, peaches, nectarines, cherries, pears, apples, spinach, potatoes, bell peppers and celery.**

Source: "The Little Green Handbook"

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday at 7:00, September through May. For Sunday May 21, the book is *Native Son* by Richard Wright.

THE AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP will meet on the 3rd Thursdays at 3:00pm. Join us!

PLANT-BASED POTLUCKS:
4th Tuesdays at 6 pm. If you need ideas: check out: forksoverknives.com/recipes/ or engine2diet.com/recipes/ RSVP [pamerine @ ashland.edu](mailto:pamerine@ashland.edu).

THE HUMANIST GROUP will meet the first and third Sundays at 11:00. Contact Skip Nault or Jason Ferrell.

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

SCRABBLE NIGHTS: Usually meets the 2nd Sundays from 7 to 9:30PM. No meeting in November. Bring a game and maybe a snack. Ken McDonald.

ZEN MEDITATION meets on Mondays at 7:00.

INNER PEACE YOGA, meets Mondays at 6.

UU UKE GROUP meets the second Friday of every-other month, at 7:00, starting in January. Ukuleles only, and any level of expertise.

The **SOCRATES CAFE** group meets on the 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 to discuss topics of interest. Contact Tom Gross or Bonnie Groop, co-moderators, for more information.

May Birthdays:

Scott Beil
Lloyd Boyer
Inez Bird
Bert Bishop
George Rusiska
Dan Stavnezer
Mary Wicks
Gail Woosley

May Anniversaries:

5/1 Jon Sprunger and Steve Berg
5/12 Lloyd and Margaret Boyer
5/13 Jill and John Schaffer
5/14 Donna and Jim Holman
5/18 Laura and Phil Grimm
5/18 Sarah Mile and Wayne Perkins
5/20 Kevin and Doris Cannon
5/21 Casey Hoy and Karen Skubik
5/24 Jack and Janice Baxstrom
5/24 Chelsea and Joe Churpek

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

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 you want to know when a particular group or committee meets, go to the Fellowship website, uufwc.org, and look at the calendar.

Library News

Listed below are new editions of titles currently owned by the Fellowship. The book descriptions are from the inSpirit UU web site.

THE MIRACLE OF MINDFULNESS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDITATION

By Thich Nhat Hanh 294.3 Nhat 2016

“Since its publication in 1975, *The Miracle of Mindfulness* has been cherished by generations of readers for its eloquent and useful introduction to the practice of meditation. Readers interested in an introduction to Buddhist thought, as well as those seeking to learn about mindfulness and stress reduction, continue to look to Thich Nhat Hanh’s classic work for guidance and inspiration.

This new hardcover gift edition features elegant calligraphic illustrations by Thich Nhat Hanh, as well as a dozen photographs spanning his early days as a peace activist to his life in Plum Village, a spiritual community that he founded in France. Also included in this edition is a historical chronology of Thich Nhat Hanh’s life and work, and a revised forward by Jim Forest.”

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS THEN AND NOW Edited by Conari Press 177.7 Rand 2013

“Nearly twenty years ago, Conari Press published *Random Acts of Kindness*, and launched a simple movement – of people being kind to one another in their daily lives.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of *Random Acts of Kindness*, the editors of Conari Press have compiled *Random Acts of Kindness Then and Now*, which includes the original book along with new material sourced from Facebook, Twitter, and various other social networks.”

A Look at the Year Ahead

General Assembly 2017 is in New Orleans! June 21- 25, 2017. Registration open now at uua.org/ga
If you want to be a delegate- either in New Orleans or virtually from your computer, please tell Elaine or Anne.

Summer Institute will be July 9 - 15, 2017 at Oberlin College. The Theme Speaker is Sheila Schuh, DRE at 1st Unitarian Church of Rochester NY. The theme is *Beyond Lip Service: The Courage to Communicate UU Values*. Registration is now open at omdsi.org

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Membership committee 7pm - Zen Meditation	2	3 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	4 2 pm - Ethical discussion group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	5 10-12- Playgroup at Cohan Park 2:30 - Huddle Group	6
7 9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Learning where the Roadblocks are. - Strawn 11 am - Humanist Group 11- Finance 11 - Landscape Workday	8 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation 7pm - NAACP meeting	9 6:30pm - Board	10 6-8 pm: Youth Game Night 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	11 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm - Worship Planning	12 7 pm - Uke Group	13 Adopt-a-Highway road Clean up 9 am @ Shearers
14 9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Lessons we carry from Childhood- Strawn 11 am - RE Committee 12- Bridges out of Poverty 12:15: Earth Centered Group 7 pm - Scrabble Night	15 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	16 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	17 7pm - Choir rehearsal	18 2 pm - Ethical discussion group 3 pm - Afternoon book Group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm - Socrates Café 7 pm - Leadership Development	19	20
21 9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Including all the Voices- Strawn & Churpek 11 am - Parenting Group 11 am - Humanist Group 12- Annual Meeting 7 pm - Book Discussion Group	22 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	23 6-8 pm: Plant Based Potluck	24 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	25 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	26	27
28 9:30 & 11 am - Flower Communion- Strawn 12:15: Earth Centered Group	29 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	30 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	31			

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 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

In the Summer, June through Labor Day, we meet only at 10:00 a.m.

Minister: Rev. V. Elaine Strawn, email: minister @ uufwc.org

Director of Religious Education: Chelsea Churpek: dre @ uufwc.org

Board of Directors: Tony Beery, president; Peter Schantz, vice president; John Waldman, secretary;
Adam Keating, Tom Gross, David Francis, Cherrill Wertz, Gail Woosley, past president.

Office Administrator: Anne Wilson, email: fellowship @ uufwc.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Dawn Frank, email: ycmc @ uufwc.org

Membership Coordinator: Karen Skubik, email: karen.uufwc @ gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Juan Gross: newsletter @ uufwc.org. The newsletter deadline is the 17th of every month.

Congregational Group Email: Address email to: uufwc @ googlegroups.com One email reaches nearly everyone!

There is a delay while messages are moderated. To join the group, email the office: fellowship @ uufwc.org

Office Hours:

Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Tuesday, Thursday, 1-5 pm and Wednesday 6-9 pm.

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

Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Education: Sunday 8:30-1 pm and Tuesday 5-8 pm.

Dawn Frank, Youth and Campus Ministries Coordinator: Tuesday 5-8 pm.

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

www.uufwc.org

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

 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County