



March 2017 Chalice PrevUUs Calendar

Newsletter of the Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Escondido, California
2324 Miller Avenue, Escondido, CA 92029 Phone: 760-737-0393
Website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org

Vol. 18 # 3A

Public
Edition

Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:30 -- 11:30 Social Justice Forum "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Many recent actions by the Trump Administration have created a social justice crisis across our country. As a faith community where do we go from Here? How do we want to respond?

Your Social Justice Team and Immigration Justice Action Team invites you to a forum to examine these vital questions; introduce our new social justice structure and procedures and *consider whether our Board should take a Public Stand on our behalf by signing the [UUA Declaration of Conscience](#)*. Our forum is perfect for this action as our "Policy on Taking a Public Stand" requires a congregational forum to discuss it.

Please email Dennis Brown [not for public] to let us know you're coming.

Get on Board the Chalice Bus(es)!! April 22 – San Diego March for Science!!

On Earth Day, April 22, there is going to be a peaceful March for Science [and Reason!] in Washington, D.C., with companion marches around the country, including one in San Diego. Exact time and downtown location TBA, but we will know plenty of time in advance.

As the march organizers write, "There are certain things that we accept as facts with no alternatives. The Earth is becoming warmer due to human action. The diversity of life arose by evolution. Politicians who devalue expertise risk making decisions that do not reflect reality and must be held accountable. An American government that ignores science to pursue ideological agendas endangers the world." Learn more about the march here: <http://marchforsciencesd.com/>

If you are interested, contact Deb Coon at [not for public] If we see enough interest expressed by the end of March, we will commit to having two buses, so please invite your friends!!

Vacation - Rev. Sharon will be out of the office on vacation from Monday, February 27, through Monday, March 13. If you need pastoral care during this time, please contact our Minister of Congregational Life, Rev. Elizabeth Bukey. At revelizabethbukey@gmail.com, her phone number is (206) 499-3673. Thank you.

Sunday Services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

March 5 Rev. Sarah Gibb-Millspaugh "Not Your Typical Love Story"

These troubling times call us as Unitarian Universalists to "stand on the side of love" with those whose rights and dignity are under threat. As we seek to change the world with the power of love, the stories we tell ourselves matter. Come explore the stories that can guide and ground our daily lives, leading us to greater power, deeper interconnection, less fear, and more love.

March 12 Carol Molek and friends "Doth Thou Protest Too Much?"

We are living in an era where protest marches and rallies are becoming a common occurrence. How much do we get involved? How much is too much? Members of our beloved community will share their experiences from recent marches and the factors that motivated them to put their beliefs into action.

March 19 Rev. Sharon Wylie
"Ostara Blessings" Multigenerational Service
The Wheel of the Year turns from winter to spring, and now is the time to witness the beauty that nourishing rains have brought to the land around us. This celebration of spring equinox invites you to let the renewal of the earth be an inspiration for your own renewal.

March 26 Rev. Sharon Wylie
"Compassion: Concern for Everybody"
Compassion calls us to step outside our tribalism and see the value of pluralism. As the global community grows smaller, how do we make space for each other? This is the seventh in a 10-part sermon series on Compassionate Living, inspired by Karen Armstrong's book *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*.





Music Ministry



Calendar of Upcoming Music Department Events

Keyboard Kaleidoscope 5	March 4 @ 7pm
Chili, Brews 'n' Blues	May 6
Speed of Sound Concert	May 13
Don Anderson and Friends in Concert	May 21
Spring Music Service	June 25 @ 9am & 11am
Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing and Church Potluck Supper	Oct 28 @ 5pm

Sunday Worship Music March Highlights

- Mar 5:** Justin Gray will be our worship musician.
- Mar 12:** Justin Gray will be our worship musician.
- Mar 19:** The **Chancel Choir** will present "**Another Spring**" composed by Howard Helvey with lyrics by Christina Rosetti, excerpted from her poem, *Another Spring*. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.
- Mar 26:** **Steve Withers** will be our worship musician.

Chalice Folk Serve Meals for Neighbors in Need

~ a note from Lyn Johnston

Chalice Members have been volunteering at Merle's Place at Interfaith Community Services for over 10 years. Merle's Place provides room and board for veterans who do not have a home, and volunteers help the kitchen staff to prepare dinner and serve meals to the Vets. When I started in 2006 as a Chalice volunteer, I was serving with Jerry and Newt Stafford, who started the Chalice volunteers at Merle's Place. They served faithfully every month for years until they retired, turning the job over to me. For the next few years the main volunteers were Lyn Johnston, Chris Toft, and Peg Briggerman. Chef Eva always introduced us as Charlie's Angels, which was sweet, but considering our ages, I am not sure we lived up to that title! In 2016 Chris and Peg, after many years of service, turned over the duties to me and Frank Bonillo.

I would like to extend a big thank you to Frank for doing the heavy lifting and helping me serve every month. I also want to send a special thank you to Jerry, Newt, Chris and Peg for all of the years they served at Merle's Place at ICS on behalf of Chalice.



Lyn Johnston, Frank Bonillo and Chef Tim Stone at Interfaith to serve dinner at Merle's Place, which provides shelter and food for Veterans.



Family Ministry



Church Camp: June 2-4: Save the Date!

Take a break from your busy life. Pause, breathe, and renew at our beautiful and relaxing de Benneville Pines camp in the San Bernardino Mountains. The first weekend of June each year is the time for Chalice and First Church of San Diego to come together to commune with nature, worship, play, and bask in the warmth of a community of peers. During the recent Vision Workshop, Chalice congregants identified “community” as one of their top priorities for the coming five years. This is a truly wonderful way to do so. Bonus: All the cooking and clean-up is done for you! (Delicious food, too.)



Also, bring your talents/and passions to camp! As many of you know (along with an amazing Talent Show), we always try to offer a variety of workshops at Camp de Benneville. If you can contribute a workshop, please let us know right away! Past workshops have included yoga, meditation, journaling, knitting, singing, crafting, juggling, Zen doodling, drum circle, photography, and many, many more. Please let Victoria Cagle or Kathleen Swift know if you would contribute your special passion to our weekend. For more information, talk to Victoria Cagle or Kathleen Swift. Registration will be coming in April, but put it on your calendar now!

Our Whole Lives

Chalice’s Family Ministry is currently offering Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 5th and 6th graders, while OWL for 7th- 9th graders is being offered at First UU Church in San Diego and Palomar UU Fellowship in Vista.

OWL is a comprehensive, lifespan sexuality education curricula for use in both secular settings and faith communities. OWL helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. With a holistic approach, OWL provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality.

OWL is built upon four core values: self worth, sexual health, responsibility, and justice and inclusivity. Participants are encouraged to use these values in decision-making concerning their own sexuality and relationships. Throughout the program, participants are encouraged to explore and learn to articulate their own values.

The OWL program operates under the idea that well informed youth and young adults make better, healthier decisions about sexuality than those without complete information. OWL strives to be unbiased and teaches about heterosexual, bisexual, homosexual, and transgender sexual health. In addition to information on sex, OWL is intended to help children, youth, and adults to be emotionally healthy and responsible in terms of their sexuality.

Kathleen Swift

Director of Family Ministry

Dfm.chaliceuu@gmail.com

Office phone: *[not for public]*

Office hours by appointment

CATERED DINNER — SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for a congregation-wide dinner to kick off our annual pledge drive. Childcare will be available. Location TBA. Please keep an eye out for location and RSVP information.





Weekly and Monthly Community Pages - You are welcome here too:

Yoga Class meets at 7 pm **each Tuesday evening** in the Chapel. These are friendly classes, with gentle teachers and appreciative students. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. A \$5 donation is suggested, but not required.



Cracker Barrel is a group of liberal thinkers; they are friendly, supportive men who meet each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast, and discussion at 9:30, at Marie Callender's in Escondido. New friends are welcome. Contact Marty Schwartz at *[not for public]*.

This is open to all men of Chalice. If you are looking to meet life-long friends with a sense of humor, Cracker Barrel may be exactly what you are looking for.

Zen Meditation - Chalice Friend, Dr. Al Zolnyas, offers instruction and Meditation practice on Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30 am and on Sunday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. This group welcomes both seasoned meditators and those new to the practice. Meet in the cottage.

Women's Meditation & Buddhist Study Group meets every Thursday

This group focuses on mutual support and the practical implementation of Buddhism in order to enrich our daily lives. Our format is to check in, read aloud from our selected book, discuss what we have just read, and then meditate for 30 minutes. Our readings about Buddhist practice and philosophy are written by contemporary writers and Buddhist teachers and are chosen by group consensus. We meet in the chapel from 10:30 am until 12:00 every Thursday. Newcomers welcome. Contact: Carol Bagguley *[not for public]*

March Circle Suppers

Join us for Circle Supper on Saturday, March 18 at 6pm. Circle Suppers are monthly dinners in a pot-luck format with usually eight people at a host's home. The number of dinners each month depends on how many people participate that month.

This is a great way to get to know each other better and further our sense of community. Newcomers are welcome. If interested in attending please contact Dani Comer by Wed., March 8 or if you have any questions. *[not for public]*



POTLUCK DINNER

Women's Book Discussion

Come to the Chalice Woman's Book Group on Tues., March 21 at 7:15, and "meet" A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman. Behind Ove's cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two young daughters moves in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations. This book is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others. Margaret Spear will lead our discussion. We meet the third Tuesday of every month at 7:15 PM in the Common Room.

Please come and join us for a stimulating and fun evening, discussing the book and all the other topics, ideas and experiences that we share at our meetings. Newcomers are welcome. Please contact Dani Comer *[not for public]*.



April's Book: The Time Travelers Wife by Audrey Niffenegger, led by Victoria Cagle



Weekly and Monthly Community Pages Continued:

Fiber Artists

The Fiber Arts Group meets the third Wednesday of each month. That's March 15 at 1 PM in the Common Room at Chalice. This group is open to all crafters of any type. Do you knit, sew, crochet, quilt, weave, make cards? The list is endless. Please bring your hand work to the meetings and join with like-minded individuals for encouragement and wonderful conversation. Contact Dianne Decker-Houser at [not for public] if you have questions.

Chalice Dine-Out



We now meet the 3rd Monday of the month instead of the 4th Wednesday.

Dine Out Group will be meeting on March 20th at 6:00. We will be dining at The Brigantine located at 421 W. Felicita Ave. Escondido.

Please RSVP to Cindy Carter at [not for public] .

Singles and couples, all are welcome for conversation, catching up and getting acquainted. This is an open group that enjoys breaking bread together.

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

Ladies Out To Lunch will meet at Stir Fresh Mongolian Grill on Friday, March 17 at 11:30 AM. The address is 17120 Bernardo Center Drive (near Souplantation), San Diego 92128. Please RSVP to Carol Simpson at [not for public]



Chalice Readers

On March 24th at 7 pm at Chalice we will discuss **THE INVENTION OF NATURE: Alexander Von Humboldt's New World. By Andrea Wulf.** Wulf offers a highly readable account of the German scientist's monumental journey in the Americas. Yes this is the Humboldt for which all the parks are named for. Wulf makes the case that Humboldt synthesized knowledge from many different fields to form a vision of nature as one interconnected system, that would go on to influence scientists, activists and the public. The book follows Humboldt from his early childhood and travels through Europe as a young man to his journey through Latin America and his return to Europe.

You've got questions? Email them to John Drewe at [not for public]

Readers' Theater

Our March meeting will be held on Monday, March 27th at 6:45 p.m. in the common room. **Newcomers and listeners are always welcome at our gatherings.** This month we'll be reading aloud the classic dramatic comedy *The Skin of Our Teeth*, by Thornton Wilder. An Eternal Family narrowly escapes one disaster after another, from ancient times to the present. Meet George and Maggie Antrobus (married only 5,000 years); their two children, Gladys and Henry (perfect in every way!); and their maid, Sabina (the ageless vamp) as they overcome ice, flood, and war -- by the skin of their teeth. Combines farce, burlesque, and satire. 1943 Pulitzer Prize for Best Drama.



Please contact Deb Coon [not for public] in advance, so that we'll know to expect you.

Men's Support Group

The Chalice Men's Support Group has several openings and we are extending an invitation for men to join our group. We currently meet in Escondido the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM. The group uses the structure and focus provided by the UU Men's Group guidelines. Basically we get to know and support each other by sharing experiences, thoughts and feelings from our lives.

If you are interested and for more information, please contact Phil Comer at [not for public]

Chalice Mission Statement

Open hearts, open minds, open doors,
Nurturing spirits;
Seeking justice within the wider world

Chalice UU Congregation ** March 2017 ** Services, Meetings, Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>The Chalice Calendar is updated frequently. For the most accurate information, please go on-line to ChaliceUUcongregation.org and click under the "Stay In Touch" tab. There is a drop down menu with a button for the Calendar. Anyone can access that calendar; you do not need to have a member password.</p>						
5 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sarah Millspaugh <i>"Not Your Typical Love Story"</i> 9 am RE Classes 10:15 am Spirit of Chalice 11:15 am OWL 5/6 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	6	7 7 pm Yoga 7 pm Executive Board 7 pm Auction Task Force	8 9 am Cracker Barrel 6:30 pm Family Ministries 6:30 pm Chalice Men's Group	9 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Hand Chimes 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 12 noon Calix Group	11 1 pm Focus Group 4 pm Recital
12 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Carol Molek & Friends <i>"Doth Thou Protest Too Much?"</i> 9 am RE Classes 10:15 am Spirit of Chalice No OWL class today 12:30 pm Focus Group 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	13 7 pm Focus Group	14 7 pm Yoga 7 pm Board	15 9 am Cracker Barrel 1 pm Fiber Arts Group	16 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Hand Chimes 7 pm Lay Chaplains 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	17 11:30 am Ladies Out to Lunch	18 9:30 am Social Justice Forum 6 pm Circle Suppers
19 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie <i>"Ostra Blessings"</i> <i>Multigenerational Service</i> 10:15 am Spirit of Chalice 11:15 am OWL 5/6 1 pm Music Committee 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	20 5 pm Dine Out Circle	21 7 pm Yoga 7:15 pm Women's Book Grp	22 9 am Cracker Barrel 7 pm Gruno Groening Circle	23 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 12 noon Coord Team 6:30 pm Hand Chime	24 7 pm Chalice Readers	25
26 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie <i>"Compassion: Concern for Everybody"</i> 9 am RE Classes 10:15 am Spirit of Chalice 11:15 am OWL 5/6 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	27 6:45 pm Readers' Theater	28 7 pm Yoga	29 9 am Cracker Barrel	30 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Hand Chimes 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	31 District Assembly in Arizona	



March 2017 Chalice PrevUUs Magazine Section

Newsletter of the Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Escondido, California
2324 Miller Avenue, Escondido, CA 92029 Phone: 760-737-0393
Website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org

Vol. 18 # 3b

Minister's Message

Beloved community,

An edited excerpt from the January 22, 2017 sermon "What We Don't Know."

Part of the joy of marching together on January 21st—for those of us that did, and for those who were with us in spirit—part of the joy was to be with like-minded people and to know that there are many of us. But we must be cautious and mindful about where we go next with our feelings of joy and unity. It would be a mistake for us as spiritual people, people striving to live good and compassionate lives, a mistake for us to take the joy and satisfaction of political unity and use it to isolate ourselves even further from those with different opinions. I spoke about this last week when we talked about living in a bubble. We need times of unity with like-minded people to *strengthen* us to return to engagement across differences.

From the Charter for Compassion: "The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the centre of our world and put another there, and to honour the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect."

Treating *everybody*, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect. On the face it,

we might imagine that this *is* how we treat people, but I'm asking you to reflect: have you ever disparaged someone for their grammar or spelling? Have you ever made fun of someone's clothes? Have you ever dismissed what someone is saying because you think they aren't very intelligent?

Treating *everybody*, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect. Doesn't mean we agree with each other, but it means we treat each other as we would like to be treated.

Again, from the Charter for Compassion: "It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others—even our enemies—is a denial of our common humanity."

I think that our inability to be compassionate with each is a large part of why our country is so divided. We are failing to treat each other with absolute justice, equity and respect. Compassionate living may be some of our most urgent and important work right now.

We welcome all who welcome all.

Bright blessings, Sharon



Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team, in consultation with Rev. Sharon, provides support for those in the congregation in need. This can take the form of cards, flowers, meals, temporary transport, and personal visits. We also visit members who cannot attend services.

If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral support, please contact Rev. Sharon Wylie at RevSharonWylie@gmail.com or Nancy Hurt, Lay Chaplain Convener, at *[not for public]*





President's Message

Are we a “beacon” congregation?
Or a “bunker”?

If you read the UU World, you likely have seen this question. It refers to the tendency to be either more outward-looking, welcoming, and thus growth-oriented, or more inward-focused, content with the status quo, and perhaps a little nervous about change. Over much of my 19 years as a Chalice member, I have been content with our congregation's tendency toward “bunkering.” Many Chalice members enjoy long-term and deep abiding friendships with one another, and we are content to nurture those as a significant part of our spiritual life.

But in these past couple years in leadership positions, I have come to understand how important it is for growth, both personal and congregational, that we confront this natural human tendency against change. A congregation that is inward-looking and too comfortable with itself cannot be appealing to newcomers, particularly to newcomers who do not look like us. Congregations that succeed over time address this dichotomy and figure out ways to engage in their communities. One congregation described going through an intentional process in shifting from a “bunker” to a “beacon” mentality that included developing a tradition of “deep listening” and respect for their minister, leadership, and each other, with transparency in leadership leading to the trust that is in turn necessary for

respect. This congregation knew from experience that without trust and respect, they became mired in minor internal issues that wasted their limited group energy and resources, preventing them from moving ahead with their grander visions.

Recently I spent a delightful half-hour talking with a young family visiting Chalice for the first time. They found us through their involvement in immigrant justice activism with UURISE, and were very excited on their first visit. They were just the kind of family we would love to have at Chalice – smart, enthusiastic, creative, already involved in their local community but conscientiously searching for a spiritual home for their young children's future, excited to hear about our wonderful RE program and about our renovation project. I hope they come back and that we can live up to the potential they saw in us on first impression.

Let's treasure our long history with one another as we throw our hearts open to the adventures that await us in this hurting world. We have much to offer if we are willing to take the chance and do the work.

Kathy Zapata,
President of the Board of Trustees

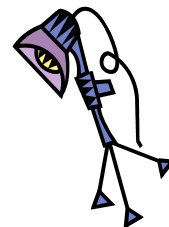


Welcoming Congregation

Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation is A Certified “Welcoming Congregation”. The Welcoming Congregation Program is a volunteer program for Unitarian Universalist congregations that want to take intentional steps to become more welcoming and inclusive of people with marginalized sexual orientations and gender identities.

First launched in 1990, the program grew out of an understanding that widespread prejudices and ignorance about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people existed within Unitarian Universalism, which resulted in the exclusion of LGBTQ people from our congregations.

Today, most Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations are recognized as Welcoming Congregations.



Music Spotlight on Timothy Holmes

Brief Biography

My father has always been a musician, so naturally I became one too. He started me on my first instrument around kindergarten, but you can imagine how a kindergartner playing trumpet wasn't really playing trumpet. In third grade I started playing the French horn, but elementary school bands don't have music for horns so I had to read alto saxophone music and transpose (meaning I had to look at the notes and play different ones, and play in a different key). In middle school I had advanced to the top band by my second year and participated in the first, and only, full orchestra (strings and winds and percussion) at that school. In high school my band had the amazing opportunity to march and play in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade for New Years of 2016. I also played in the high school's full orchestra and was the only freshman to be a member. I am now currently in the highest level band, which I will be traveling with to



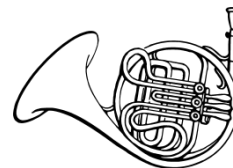
Washington D.C. to perform at the Kennedy Centre and premier (perform for the first time ever) a piece commissioned just for us.

What does music mean in your life?

Music is everything I am. There is never a time when I am not listening to music, even if I'm just singing it in my head. Music is what separates reality from fantasy and "what ifs."

Fun fact

I am currently participating in my school's rendition of Disney's ***The Little Mermaid***.



February Board of Trustees Highlights

The February Board meeting primarily focused on the newly implemented structure and procedure for the Social Justice Team as reported by Deb Coon and Reverend Elizabeth. Board Vice-President Nancy Bowen followed by bringing board members up to date on the Strategic Planning and Focus groups which are all moving forward.

New Member: Carol Yetter

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 14

February Coordinating Team Highlights

- ◇ Coming of Age Group has a line-item and the students are raising money
- ◇ Tending to our goal of working on Outreach, we are researching local civic events where Chalice can be involved.
- ◇ An estimate for concrete stairs to the cottage was accepted. This will be paid for by a donation from Elaine McDaniels' estate.
- ◇ Council of Chairs meeting took place January 14th. A good discussion of communication methods was appreciated.

NEIGHBORHOOD CARE GROUPS coming soon!!!!

Yes, it really is as wonderful as it sounds! A Neighborhood Care Group is a lovely opportunity to be part of a more intimate group of fellow Chalice UU folks who are geographically nearby each other in order to ease connection and support amongst them. The neighborhood care groups will be around 8-12 folks strong and are being formed to give and receive short-term help in times of need. We will be contacting everyone soon to announce their care group placement and to ask for volunteers to be one of their neighborhood care group coordinators.



For more information, please contact our Care Group Program Co-Chairs:

Fran Welchez, *[not for public]*

Carol Yetter, *[not for public]*

About Care Group Co-Chairs:

Co-Chairs provide oversight of the entire Care Group Program. Co-chairs will:

- Perform a sorting of members and friends into care groups based on location and diversity of age when possible. (Note: initially care groups will be restricted to members and friends)
- Inform all participants and recruit 2 care group coordinators from each care group
- Ensure that care group coordinators are supported and that care groups are functioning healthily
 - Help direct care group coordinators to other resources as needed
 - Help re-sort care groups as needed
- Organize and lead regular meetings of care group coordinators.

Care Groups:

Participants in care groups will:

- Meet quarterly (or more) for a social gathering
- Provide needed assistance to other care group members when requested:
 - Prepare and/or deliver a meal or groceries
 - Make a hospital or home visit
 - Make phone calls, send supportive notes and cards
 - Run a few errands
 - Provide rides to and/or from church on Sunday
 - Provide rides to medical or other important appointments
 - Provide short term respite, child, or pet care
- Request assistance in times of overwhelm, illness, or crisis.

Care Group Coordinators:

Each care group is led by two coordinators. When someone in the care group is ill, facing crisis, or otherwise needs assistance, coordinators will ensure that the group responds appropriately.

Coordinators will:

- Help ensure that scheduling and coordination occurs among care group members (i.e. 10 casseroles don't arrive on the same day)
- Share responsibility with one another
- Provide feedback to the co-chairs about what works well and what doesn't
- Ensure quarterly (at a minimum) social gatherings with their care groups
- Alert Rev. Sharon when a congregant is facing serious illness or personal crisis (with the congregant's permission)
- Encourage congregants to meet with Rev. Sharon or Lay Chaplain for support
- Alert Co-Chairs when a congregant's support needs exceed what their care group can provide
- Meet with each other at a gathering led by the co-chairs twice a year for feedback, support, brainstorming, and problem-solving.

Women's March Report ~~ By Paul Courtright

The Women's March on Washington brought together an estimated 40,000 plus people in San Diego to draw attention to a large number of human rights issues including women's reproductive rights, immigrant rights, and environmental justice. The event was attended by 54 members and friends from Chalice UU, the largest such social justice event for Chalice.

Chalice members marched, demonstrated, protested, and sang songs for many different reasons, but three themes dominated: [1] the need to communicate that behaviors and words that are demeaning to women and everyone else in our wider world are not acceptable; [2] threats to social progress, made in the US and globally, need to be met head on in order to prevent regression, and [3] as a group with a unifying message of hope and dignity for all, we can demonstrate the power of people to make changes.

People are angry, upset, and distressed to hear words of hate and divisiveness. Words matter, actions matter and when they lead to individuals being discriminated against because of their sex, sexual orientation, immigration status, or religion this must not be ignored. Representative statements were:

"We need to communicate that chauvinism is not acceptable....we need to verbalize this and act on it."

"...it all comes down to a main issue: treat everyone with dignity."

"This is the most serious situation in the US in my lifetime; promotion of hate needs to be countered with love."

"When I heard the recording of grabbing women and the "locker room" justification, it crossed the line....this attitude and speech is not acceptable and is threatening to women."

"We need to show that excluding people from different backgrounds is not the way this nation works."

Social progress in the US has been slow but steady over the past 50 years; women today are grateful to their mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers for the struggles they waged against gender inequity. There is good evidence that much social progress is now under threat. That threat needs to be addressed head-on, clearly, and with a strong moral compass.

"I can't believe that we are protesting on the same issues we protested back in the 1980's."

"We have to march to make sure that the values of the 1950s (racism, no women's rights, etc.) do not return"

"We cannot see all of the women's issues rolled back...[it's] important to express dissent when we see injustice."

As a group with a unified message and way of working together we have the power to elicit change. Our unity is a unity of hope and the power of people.

"It is always important to show unity for basic human rights"

"Being here I feel energized and it actually gives me hope. There is power in the people and it will energize us for resistance."

"We all need to feel some positive energy...and to confirm that we are not all nuts."

"Because the new President has no moral compass, we need to provide that compass....and to do that, we have to be seen and heard."

There is power in the message and there is power in the messenger; the fact that Chalice marchers joined the 40,000-strong throng in San Diego on January 21 is a measure of our joint action and words.

Chalice marchers were also asked "what next?" Understandably, the road ahead is uncharted and there is considerable uncertainty as to what will happen and what our response should be. The overarching feeling is that, both individually and as a group, we must become more active. We cannot leave the heavy lifting up to others. More than one person reported: "we must be vigilant". This requires staying informed and energized without fear. A few common themes have emerged:

- We need to organize at the local level since it is the local level in which we can effect change in direction and leadership. A priority will be the mid-term elections. We have to make sure that our voices are heard and that social justice issues are promoted.
- Individually we need to stand up for people who are vulnerable or being targeted; this means we have to actively resist people who feel that they have been given a "green light" to be racist or misogynist.
- We all need to contribute in any way in which we can; as issues arise each of us needs to determine how we can contribute, by protesting, by contributing money, by writing letters, by meeting political leaders.
- Our political leaders need to be constantly reminded that not everyone voted for them but that, as elected leaders, they represent all of us and that consideration on decisions needs to include everyone.

Keep it up.

From Dennis Brown

