

CHALICE UU

From Rev. Sharon Wylie, Senior Minister

Beloved Community,

What a year!

Perhaps it seems like a long time ago (a lifetime ago, in some ways), but certainly one of the triumphs of this year was that my sabbatical (July through October) was reasonably non-stressful for the congregation. The congregation's previous experience with sabbatical had been tumultuous (I wrote about this history in the April 2016 newsletter).

One of our main goals for my sabbatical was for this to be a GOOD experience for Chalice. And it was! You learned you are able to function just fine in the absence of your minister. Reflections from my sabbatical were shared with the congregation in a message in the December 2016 newsletter and in the February 5 worship service celebrating Imbolc (the "beauty" service).

I'm so grateful to our Board, led by Kathy Zapata-Bergamini; our Coordinating Team, led by Callie Leef; our Chalice executive staff: Tim McKnight, Paula Gonzales, and Kathleen Swift; and our sabbatical minister, Rev. Elizabeth Bukey. Also grateful to our Sabbatical Team: Deb Coon (chair), Jerry Carter, Lloyd Kelly, Andi Stout, and Kathy Zapata-Bergamini. The strong leadership in the congregation was the key to all going smoothly.



The Chalice Board

Back row (l-r): Susan Spoto, Bruce Campbell, Nancy Bowen, Sharon Wylie, Ed Hall, Phil Comer

Front row (l-r): Ann Cunningham, Michele Nelson, Karen McComb, Kathy Zapata-Bergamini (not pictured: Becky Sangha)

Message from Reverend Sharon Wylie Senior Minister



This will always be the year of The Election, won't it? I came back from sabbatical on November 1st, preached on November 6th, and then the election was November 8th. As many of you commented to me, it felt like I was back from sabbatical just in the nick of time. No matter how you voted, there is no denying that many of us—just like the country as a whole—have been coping with anger, fear, confusion, and a sudden, painful awareness of just how divided our country is.

With the change in the political climate, I devoted more time than ever this year to being active and visible outside the congregation. I feel clearer than ever, as I know many of you do, that religious community has a vital and necessary role to play in providing support and care to people who are working to make the world a better place. We need sources of hope, connection, strength, and clarity, and Chalice is just such a source.

As we sing each Sunday, we stand for justice, joy, and love. As my fifth year with you comes to a close, I think these three words—justice, joy, love—beautifully capture who we want to be as a congregation and name the commitments we make to our local community.

I am so glad to be with you as we continue to do this work together.

Ministry in the Public Square Some of Rev Wylie's activities

- volunteered monthly as a chaplain for Interfaith Community Service's two Escondido shelters.
- worked with the Escondido Faith Leaders Council to lead two vigils: a "Love Your Neighbor" vigil on November 15 and an Inauguration Day vigil on January 20.
- attended an event on November 17 called "The Crucial Role of the Faith Community: Responding to the Syrian Refugee Crisis" offered by the Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees.
- participated in the Escondido Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on November 22, leading the gathered community in prayer.
- joined the Board of the San Diego Regional Interfaith Collaborative.
- marched with our congregations in the January 21st Women's March in San Diego.
- along with 1800 other clergy and religious leaders, I signed an amicus brief submitted by legal firm Kramer Levin to the US Supreme Court on Thursday, March 2, supporting dignity and equality for Gavin Grimm and all transgender students.
- attended the Justice District Assembly of the Pacific Southwest District in Arizona to help educate attendees about migrant and borderland justice in Southern Arizona. I led a group of 13 UUs on a day trip into Nogales, Sonora to visit a neighborhood community center there. This was part of our work in learning about immigration issues at the border. Mine was one of over 20 group learning experiences that weekend, which culminated Sunday morning with worship at the border wall.
- gave the invocation for the monthly Rotary Club meeting at the California Center for the Arts on April 11th.
- spoke on an interfaith panel as part of the Religious Studies program at Palomar College on April 13th.
- marched with our congregants in the April 22nd March for Science in San Diego.
- offered a prayer as part of Escondido's National Day of Prayer event on May 4.

Message from Reverend Elizabeth Bukey

Minister of Congregational Life

Dear Chalice:

What a year. I am so grateful to you for entrusting me with the care of the congregation during Rev. Sharon's sabbatical, and for the many ways you show up to make Chalice a warm, welcoming, justice-seeking congregation. The last twelve months saw us laughing and crying at Cabaret, comforting one another through illness and grief, learning more deeply about immigrant justice, and trying to navigate a landscape of fear and uncertainty since after the November election. We kicked off our ten-month study of Karen Armstrong's *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, watched three immigration-related films, and adjusted the process for greeters on Sunday morning.



I can hardly believe that my time here at Chalice is coming to a close. I am so grateful for the three years I've spent here; you have been an important part of my growth as a minister. I will cherish memories of this congregation as well as the skills (and songs!) I have learned from all of you.

I want to leave you with a charge: live fully into your mission and vision and make room for others within it. Chalice has something special to offer North County San Diego: a liberal religious community that is music-filled, caring, and welcoming to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender folks. Don't hide that light under a bushel. During my time here, we have together wrestled with the puzzle of how to grow the number of Chalice congregants, and how church growth happens in general. Do we need to do more outreach? Expand parking? Explain our activities more clearly?

As far as I know, the answer is both yes and no. Those things are helpful. But I believe that churches that grow numerically are led by mission, and by a sense that incorporating newcomers into congregational life is a key part of that mission. This happens structurally, through programs, but also interpersonally, one-to-one, in moments beyond initial warm conversations with first-time guests. Keep thinking: how can you welcome someone new to the congregation into your favorite part of Chalice? How could you nurture a relationship with someone you don't know yet? What would happen if you connected with someone who is "different" from most of your friends, and approached that connection with an open heart?

None of this is easy. As I've said, the thing about change is that it...requires change. For Chalice to grow, it needs to hold on to the core of its mission while letting go of patterns which no longer serve, or which work better for those with privilege than with those at the margins. It requires being, as the hymn goes, "willing to be changed by what we've started." Growth is hard, messy, confusing work. But you can do it. I have faith in your warmth, your curiosity, and your open hearts, and your care for the Chalice community.

With gratitude,
Rev. Elizabeth

From Kathleen Swift: Director of Family Ministries

Serving Chalice as your Director of Family Ministries this year has been rewarding. We have religious education classes that meet on Sunday mornings; this will soon expand to six—we are adding a Youth Group!



Young families come to Unitarian Universalist congregations to enrich their spiritual lives, to gain resources for the unfolding of their family life, and to be a part of a liberal religious community. Our teachers use curricula that builds a foundation for their spiritual lives in Unitarian Universalism. The curriculum is based on the belief that children gain a sense of belonging to their religious community and the Unitarian Universalist faith when they have concrete experiences with its people and places. One of the goals of our curricula: Nurture children's sense of wonder and respect for the world around us. As they mature and develop, children often grapple and come to the realization that others might have different beliefs (and that it is ok!) Our lessons often focus on the important ways UUs live our faith in community.



The current official enrollment for Religious Education is 33. Enrollment and attendance have been growing over the last year. Current classes are held for preschoolers, those in grades K/1, 2/3, 4/5, and middle school. We anticipate forming a youth group for high school kids beginning in 2017. At present, we have nearly 40 volunteers for the 10 teaching spots needed each week and for a variety of other areas in which people serve the Families of Chalice. Looking forward, we have a vibrant summer schedule planned. Our younger children will participate in the Eric Carle's Gardening Club, while our middle and high school youth will participate in a Drama Club.

This year has been a full one for me, and I am looking forward to another professionally, personally, and spiritually rewarding year serving my beloved Chalice UU Congregation.

Kathleen

Message from Tim McKnight:: Chalice Music Director

As I reflect on the past 10 months of this congregational year, which is also my 13th year as Chalice's Music Director, I see that it has been a year of uncertainty and change in many different respects. This has been true within the congregation, but it has also been true in our larger community, our country, and indeed our world. How our congregation responds to change and uncertainty surely must be one of the best ways to assess its strength, resilience, and outlook for the future.



The congregation began the year with Rev. Sharon on sabbatical. This was definitely a time of uncertainty, but from my perspective it went smoothly. The congregation got to know Rev. Elizabeth more deeply, and the music program continued to flourish throughout this unusual time.

For many of the musicians of the congregation, the beginning of the year was largely defined by their work putting together Cabaret 2016, "**Revolution!**" Because we had not put on a Cabaret in 4 years, I felt quite rusty, as well as overwhelmed by our intense process and schedule. One of the changes the Cabaret Team was dealing with was the fact that Cabaret 2016 was the first time in almost 10 years that our friend Gary Cagle would not be serving as Cabaret Master of Ceremonies. Although Gary was unable to serve as MC due to his declining health, he did write almost all of the dialogue for the show. We sorely missed Gary's jovial energy, but we pushed forward through the process nonetheless.

Less than two weeks before opening night, we were all stunned by the sudden death of Morgana Mlodoch, who was about to perform in her first Cabaret. I felt that this was an opportunity for the community that is Cabaret to be a support system for those in it. So, a couple of nights after Morgana's death, I invited the cast to come together to grieve, to process, to remember, to celebrate. It was a crucial turning point in the show. We all felt our past differences and disagreements melt away, while at the same time the show came into a new focus, with a new sense of purpose, as we tried to find a way to truly honor Morgana through our performances.

Chancel Choir is another sub-group within the larger Chalice community, with anywhere from 20-30 members at any given time. This year I wanted to try to find a way for us to support each other without taking too much time out of our already short 90-minute weekly rehearsal. So I came up with "Highs & Lows" which consists of 2 High cards and 2 Low cards that are available at the beginning of rehearsal. Whoever has a High or Low to share from the past week can grab one of the cards, and at some point during the rehearsal those people share their High's and Low's with the rest of the choir. This has quickly become an important ritual for the Chancel Choir, to the point where if I forget to hand out the cards, someone always reminds me.

I start each year out with goals for the year, but this has been one of those years where the circumstances and events of our lives have required something more, or at least something different, from me than I was prepared for. Rather than doubt myself or avoid the difficult challenges, I feel that I have been able to lead in new and meaningful ways, which has helped to strengthen and deepen congregational relationships. What could be more beautiful than that?

Tim McKnight

From Paula Gonzales, Office Administrator



It is a joy for me to be working for Chalice (again). My career history has been long and varied, so I can honestly say this is an extraordinary organization. In my experience, the people I work with here are the very best.

As the office administrator, my job description covers a lot of different areas. Each week, I put information together to create, print and fold the order of service for Sunday service. I enter data from the connection cards, see that the dishes in the kitchen are washed and put away, and make sure we have enough toilet paper and paper towels. Every Monday I take the trash cans to the curb before the garbage trucks get here. I take the minutes for the monthly Board meetings, and the quarterly Council meetings. I work with the Coordinating Team to keep the campus as functional and as clean as our budget, staff, and loving volunteers are able. If we are having internet problems, I place a call to our provider. If we are having plumbing problems, I call Larry Simpson or Bill Stout.

This may sound mundane to some, but to me it is the job I have been preparing for all my life. Chalice is a community endeavor in every sense of the word. We are a welcoming place for those who seek a place to belong that values people for who they are. We are protective of each other, and willing to put time and energy into giving whatever care we are able. It is awe inspiring to see all the hours, expertise, and energy that our volunteers contribute just because they love having this beloved community to share. Chalice is not a set-in-stone organization where the people who belong must fit into prescribed roles. Rather, Chalice, takes on the shape and personality of those who fill our chairs. We are a fun loving, nurturing, intellectual, and musical bunch! We respond to needs in our wider community as well. Outreach is another reason that I am proud and happy to work for Chalice. Our involvement in ICS, CCS, and other very worthy organizations is heartwarming. This work happens because of you.

I am very grateful for this opportunity to work with you.

In the light and warmth of our shared chalice flame,

Paula

The Chalice Coordinating Team



The Coordinating Team coordinates, integrates, and advocates the methods for accomplishing the Congregation's goals in accordance with the Board's policies. But what does that mean? In short, CT (as we call ourselves) oversees operations at Chalice.

The 2016-17 Coordinating Team was composed of lay members Delynn Kelly and Callie Leef, and staff members Paula Gonzales and Rev. Sharon Wylie. Callie Leef is the head of Coordinating Team at the request of Rev. Sharon, who is responsible for the Team's leadership.

Meetings are on the first and third Thursdays of the month, from 10 am to 12 noon.

Per Chalice's governance policies, The Minister, Administrator, and two laypersons make up the Coordinating Team. Laypersons are appointed by the Board and serve two-year terms. They may serve up to three terms (i.e., six years) consecutively.

Delynn Kelly completes six years of service on CT this year. Thank you, thank you, Delynn, for your service in this capacity! We are grateful for all you do.

Some of our accomplishments this year:

- Chalice functioned well during Rev. Sharon's sabbatical (July through October). CT played an integral role in ensuring that things ran smoothly in her absence.
- Doug Key agreed to be our campus Safety Officer, who assesses and implements recommendations from the Church Mutual provided safety checklist.
- CT held quarterly Council of Chairs meetings on the following topics: leadership lessons, renovations update and facilities "practical stuff," communications, and the congregation's coming neighborhood care groups.
- Oversaw improvements to buildings and grounds: Street light in the cul-de-sac was turned on, bridge to the Cottage was repaired, stairs from the parking lot to the Cottage were improved and replaced, lights on the stairs to the upper parking lot were added, new chairs and tables were added to the patio, and obtained a new filtered water system for the kitchen.

Lay Chaplains at Chalice

Lay Chaplains assist Rev. Sharon in serving Chalice congregants in their needs for pastoral care, including crisis intervention and visitation of the homebound, sick, dying, and bereaved. We meet from noon-2 p.m. on the third Thursday of every other month.

Congregants are invited to serve as Lay Chaplains at invitation from Rev. Sharon Wylie and the current Lay Chaplains. We are currently not seeking to replace Lay Chaplains who have stepped down because Neighborhood Care Groups are launching and will provide a new way for congregants to offer care to one another. We expect that Lay Chaplains will continue to exist and have a role in the congregation, and the year ahead will be a time of discernment about what that role is.

In the year 2016-2017 Lay Chaplains provided care and attention to many of our congregants dealing with grief and facing challenges. When scheduling permits, lay chaplains provide a listening presence after worship services on Sunday mornings. We worked with Rev. Elizabeth during Rev. Sharon's four-month sabbatical (July through October) to provide care and support to congregants in need. Lay Chaplain care helped ensure the sabbatical was as successful and non-stressful for the congregation as possible.



Clockwise: Phil Comer, Patt Wahl, Nancy Hurt, and Rev. Sharon Wylie

Many thanks to the other volunteers on Pastoral Care Team...

- Chalice's transportation coordinator, Hope Campbell, and all the congregants who offer rides when asked.
- Jean Meadowcroft, who orders flowers and sends cards.
- Carol Simpson, who organizes meals as needed.
- Patricia Wahl, who leads the caregivers support group.
- Phil Comer, who organizes the men's support group.
- Memorial Reception Team: Kathy Florendo, chair; Carol Bagguley, Carol Harris, Marie

Chalice Worship Associates

Worship Associates work with Rev. Sharon Wylie and Rev. Elizabeth Bukey to provide inspirational, dynamic, and challenging Sunday worship services. We meet every two months from 10 am to noon on a Saturday morning. Congregants are invited to serve by invitation from Rev. Sharon Wylie.

One of us participates from the pulpit each week in the services. This year we welcomed pulpit guests Rev. Sarah Gibb-Millsbaugh, Tania Marquez, and Lisa Shaffer and provided lay-led services on poetry, Buddhism, and reflecting on the Women's March. INtergen services

Worship Associates for the 2016-17 church year were: Jessica Schulz, chair (July through December 2016); Carol Molek, chair (January on); Hope Campbell, Patty Carlisle, Deborah Coon, Karen McComb, Patrick McConnell, Anne McKeirnan, Michele Nelson, Cheryl O'Gwynn, David Peale, and Debi Streett-Idell.

Stewardship at Chalice

The Stewardship Committee studies current trends in non-profit fundraising in order to advise and support the Coordinating Team on matters pertaining to stewardship, generosity, and fiscal responsibility. We meet as needed. New members may volunteer or may be asked to join. The current committee includes Andi Stout as chair supported by Rita Hill and Tom Carlstrom.

In the 2016-2017 year the committee planned and conducted a pledge drive. This included a pledge dinner, preparing a pledge drive brochure, preparing other pledge drive materials, and lining up testimonials for all Sunday services in April.



The Stewardship Committee headed up a very successful auction committee, raising slightly over \$25,000. The desert camping trip was one of the many successful items auctioned this year.

Music Committee

The Chalice Music Committee exists to support and work with the Music Program and meets every two months on Sunday afternoon. The current committee includes Tim McKnight, Music Director; Susan Sklar, committee chair; David Peale, committee secretary; Callie Leef, music librarian; Lara Brown, reporter; Wendy Metzger, and David O'Gwynn. We seek new members as older ones rotate off.

The Music Committee supports 3 standing ensembles, which rehearse weekly. These include the 30 member Chancel Choir directed by Tim McKnight, the 12 member Handchime Ensemble directed by David Peale, and the 10 member *Spirit of Chalice* Children's Choir directed by Sarah Shapard. The Chancel Choir generally performs for worship services twice monthly supported by accompanist Deborah Morton. We have a special Winter music service in December and a Spring music service. The Handchime Ensemble and the *Spirit of Chalice* each performed for worship services three or four times during 2016-2017. During the Winter music service the children of *Spirit of Chalice* not only sang, but also presented a condensed version of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Nights Dream".

A major accomplishment of the 2016-17 year was the presentation of the ninth Cabaret music theater production titled "Revolution". This production reached far beyond the Music Committee/Music Program involving over 80 Chalice members and friends in the actual presentation and nearly the entire congregation in the audiences of the four day run of the show. Proceeds went to Chalice Congregation as well as the North County LGBT Resource Center. This year the production became a real unifying force during what turned out to be a difficult time for the cast, crew and congregation with the terminal illness of longtime cast member Gary Cagle and the sudden, unexpected death of first time cast member Morgana Mlodoch.



The Music Program organizes Song Leaders for all Sunday morning worship services as well as worship musicians including Steve Withers, Tim McKnight, and Justin Gray (our newest worship musician replacing John Schulz). Guest musicians are also arranged to perform as soloists, in ensembles, and to accompany the Chancel Choir in worship services. The Music Committee manages the Gloria Angelo Arts Education Scholarship Fund and the Music Program Long Planning Fund. The Committee oversaw the acquisition of 3 new handchimes this year.

Communications at Chalice

The Communications Task Force (CTF) reports to the Coordinating Team and oversees Chalice's main communications methods. For most of this year, the CTF met periodically, as needed. In April we made the decision to begin meeting regularly, on the second Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. Interested congregants may talk to any current CTF member about joining.

CTF members are Rev. Sharon Wylie, Rev. Elizabeth Bukey, and Paula Gonzales. Richard Korts joined the task force in May 2017.

Communication at Chalice

- ◇ Website
- ◇ Facebook page
- ◇ Weekly e-nuus
- ◇ Congregation-wide emails
- ◇ Monthly newsletter
- ◇ Sunday announcement

Accomplishments in 2016-2017

- The CTF created a congregation-wide communications survey to assess what is working well with our communications methods and what needs improvement. The survey was communicated via email in January (73 responses) and via hardcopy on two Sundays in April (27 responses). Responses are still being compiled, and we will hopefully make some helpful changes in the coming church year. In general, congregants seem to appreciate the multiple communication methods that are used and recognize the challenges to keeping people informed in an era when most of us feel inundated with information.
- The CTF recommended to Coordinating Team—and Coordinating Team approved—the transition of our website template to the template offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Development of the UUA template involved comprehensive testing of how users look for information on church websites. Using the UUA's template also means we will have ongoing technical support.

Family Ministries

Religious Education and Multigenerational Community at Chalice

Our mission is teaching our children the roots of our faith while nurturing their growing ideas so that they may branch out into the wider world through living our principles. The primary responsibility of the committee is the Sunday morning Religious Education program., the current enrollment for which is 33. Enrollment and attendance have been growing over the last year, perhaps due to the addition of a preschool class for young children.

We are responsible for the childcare for children from ages 1 to 4 during first service and ages 1 to 12 at other times. Generally, children in Religious Education not in childcare attend the first part of service. Once a month we have multigenerational worship services when children remain in the chapel for the entire worship service; nursery care is available for younger children.

Classes are held for preschoolers, those in grades K/1, 2/3, 4/5, and middle school. The Sunday morning program during the Summer of 2016 consisted of a Summer of Crafts for the children and Dungeons and Dragons for the middle school youth.

Currently, Chalice has two adults and two responsible minors employed on a regular basis. These individuals offer safe, loving, and consistent supervision.

We also have nearly 40 volunteers for the 10 adult leaders needed each week and for the variety of other areas in which people serve the Families of Chalice.



Preschool children are filled with curiosity and wonder. We use the curriculum Chalice Children, which strives to teach about our faith, and provide experiences around the strength of community, the wonder and awe that transcend everyday understanding, and life issues we all share.



Our K/1 and 2/3 Class finished with their regular curricula in early spring. This year, we have joined them together as we present a new curriculum, "Dr. Seuss Changed My Life". After a favorite Seuss tale, we have a short discussion followed by a fun craft or activity.



The Creating Home program helps children of 5 and 6 develop a sense of home that is grounded in faith.

For Grades 2 and 3, we used Love Will Guide Us. Using the night sky and the North Star as metaphors, participants are "guided to love." As they explore the night sky, participants learn to recognize and name the Unitarian Universalist Sources, as expressed in children's language.



Grades 4/5 used Love Connects Us, which celebrates important ways Unitarian Universalists live our faith in covenanted community. Like the earlier grade levels, the fourth and fifth grade students finished their regular curriculum in early spring. To finish the year, we presented them with some specific selections from You the New Creator.

The Middle School youth are using You the New Creator, augmented by You the Digital Creator, an activity-based program of creative empowerment: role plays, continuums, drawing, sculpting, and designing perfect people are some of the included activities.



The Chalice Maypole Dance is a long-time Chalice tradition. Congregants of all ages join together .



Members of Family Ministries

- Kathleen Swift, Director
- Victoria Cagle, co-chair
- Wendy Metzger, co-chair
- Theresa Williams
- Becki Collins,

Each year on the first weekend after Labor day, Chalice congregants of all ages head to the San Bernardino Mountains to savor nature and bond with each other and congregants from First Church in San Diego.

Social Justice Team

Greetings from Deb Coon, Dennis Brown, and Rev. Elizabeth, co-chairs of the newly re-organized Social Justice Team! We see our role as empowering and overseeing social justice programs and actions at Chalice. If you have a social justice program, project, or specific action you would like to work on that's great! Get several people together and go for it. Please see one of us or check the Wiki for more information on how to start a new action or program. In the meantime, here's what Chalice congregants have been doing lately to fulfill our congregation's mission of "seeking justice in the wider world."

Social Justice Forum, March 2017: Sixteen congregants attended a social justice visioning meeting in March 2017. At this we introduced some new policies, brainstormed new projects, and discussed Chalice endorsing a "Declaration of Conscience" from the UUA/UUSC. The Board later voted to officially endorse this statement opposing "any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil."

Immigrant Justice Team: The Immigrant Justice Team screened three immigration-related films and held a visioning meeting for our immigrant justice work in October of 2016. Congregants used a world map to show our families'

Women's March, January 2017: Fifty-four congregants from Chalice attended the San Diego Women's March, the largest such social justice event for Chalice.



March for Science, April 2017: Fifty Chalice congregants attended the San Diego March for Science, showing that our faith holds dear the principles of rational thought.

Generosity: Through our monthly practice of donating our offering to justice and service organizations, Chalice congregants gave to the following organizations:

North County LGBTQ Resource Center (\$363); SOLACE immigrant detention visitation program (\$425); Interfaith Center for Worker Justice (\$335); Mental Health Systems (\$332), Interfaith Community Services (\$491), Just in Time For Foster Youth (\$616), UU Refugee and Immigrant Services and Education (UURISE) (\$665), San Diego Humane Society (\$498), North County Immigration Task Force (\$664), and Fraternity House. Our May offering will be to Center for Community Solutions and June will be for Habitat

Pride by the Beach, October 2016: Chalice had a booth at the LGBTQ Pride festival in Oceanside, joining other UU congregations in North County to spread the word about our welcoming congregations.

Pledging: Chalice annually pledges a portion of its operating budget to three local organizations chosen by the congregation. This year we pledged \$2000 each to Interfaith Community Services, Center for Community Solutions, and Just in Time for Foster Youth.

Service: Seven congregants volunteered at the San Diego Food Bank, several helped register voters in Escondido, and two served dinner regularly at "Merle's Place" through Interfaith Community Services (ICS). Thirteen congregants served Thanksgiving meals at ICS.

The Pathways Team

Pathways Team prepares the congregation to welcome visitors and accompanies seekers along the paths to belonging.

The co-chairs of Pathways Team (Rev. Elizabeth Bukey, Carol Molek, Rita Hill) coordinate the congregation's efforts to train and organize greeters, follow up with new people, orient new congregants to Chalice, oversee the path to membership, and help connect people with groups and volunteering.

What have we been up to? Well, we organized a fun photo booth project, taking pictures of congregants and props representing the ways we find belonging at Chalice. We've worked with Rev. Sharon and greeters on the ways congregations are welcomed and oriented on Sunday morning. Rev. Elizabeth and congregant Jennifer Gusman facilitated a small discussion and spiritual practice group for newcomers. Richard Korts and Nancy Hacker have taken over recruiting and training greeters. Jerry Carter, Cindy Carter, Carol Molek, Rita Hill, and Carol McAllister offered a newcomer orientation and "welcome lunch" for newer congregants. The materials we offer first-time guests in the yellow information packet have been updated and reorganized. (Check out the new Chalice UU booklet!) Margaret Spear (and those of you who helped her) put together countless information packets for newcomers and those considering membership. We held two new member ceremonies.

Pathways Team members:

Carol Molek, Rita Hill, Elizabeth Bukey, co-chairs

Jerry and Cindy Carter, Carol McAllister, newcomer orientations

Richard Korts and Nancy Hacker, greeter captains

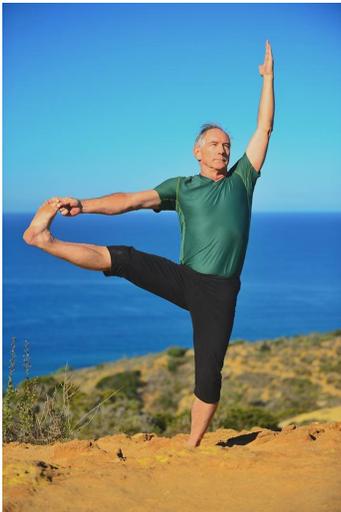
Jennifer Gusman, newcomer group

Margaret Spear, newcomer materials

Tom Carlstrom, signage as needed

Yoga at Chalice

Yoga at a church, you ask? Why not? Yogic principles are entirely consistent with UU principles, particularly those celebrating acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth, the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. On a pragmatic level, a dedicated yoga practice improves physical and mental balance, reduces the effect of modern-life stresses, and over time helps the practitioner develop more acute awareness of the mind-body connection.



Chalice Yoga has begun its eighth year of practicing together on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the chapel. Certified yoga instructors and longtime Chalice members Alec Bergamini and Kathy Zapata teach a beginning level hatha yoga class intended for all ages and ability levels. The group happily welcomes new yogis, whether Chalice members or community visitors, at any time. We recommend you dress in loose, comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat if you have one. We also keep some yoga mats at Chalice for new student use. Every class is different, but Alec presents a light-hearted, relaxed approach to yoga that will leave you feeling stretched, calm and happy. This year one of our regular yogis even joined us via FaceTime while traveling for work, because he didn't want to miss his Tuesday evening yoga experience. He says it's the best night's sleep he gets all week!

We request a \$5 donation to Chalice for each class if you are able, based on the Buddhist notion of "Dāna," or the cultivation of generosity as a virtue and a way of purifying karma.

