



September 2017 Chalice PrevUUs Calendar

Newsletter of the Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Escondido, California
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Website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org

Vol. 18 # 9A

North County Backpacks Project

Saturday, September 23
11 a.m. - 1:30 pm
First Congregational Church
of Escondido at 1800 N. Broadway



Chalice is working with other Escondido religious communities to provide backpacks of personal products to victims of sex trafficking. Chalice has donated 240 pairs of socks as our contribution to the 120 backpacks. Many thanks to Alice Dodd, Kathy Florendo, and Carol Harris for overseeing our socks purchase!

Chalice congregants are invited and encouraged to gather with other Escondido congregations on Saturday 9/23 to assemble the backpacks and to learn more about sex trafficking in our community. Please let Rev. Sharon know if you have any questions about this event.

Sunday Services

at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

September 3 Alix Klingenberg, pulpit guest “Unbuilding a New Way”

As Unitarian Universalists, we often talk about Building a New Way, but on occasion it can be helpful to first Unbuild and let go of stories that no longer serve us. Join Alix Klingenberg for thoughts on simplifying our lives, so that we might truly focus on what we value.

Alix Klingenberg will graduate from Meadville Lombard Theological School in May and is a candidate for the UU ministry. She was the intern minister at First UU Church of San Diego in 2016-17. She lives in San Diego with her husband, son, and two cats.

September 10 Rev. Sharon Wylie “Facing the Mess We’re In”

Things seem pretty bad. How do we keep moving forward when times are tough? This is the first sermon in a 10-part sermon series inspired by the book *Active Hope* by Chris Johnstone and Joanna Macy.

September 17 Rev. Sharon Wylie “Honoring Yom Kippur”

Yom Kippur, which begins this year at sundown on September 29th, is considered the holiest day of the Jewish calendar, a time for reflection and asking for forgiveness. We honor this High Holy Day by considering how we might offer forgiveness to those who have hurt us the most. Join us for a Unitarian Universalist ritual of atonement.

September 24 Rev. Sharon Wylie “The Wheel of the Year Turns to Autumn” Multigenerational Service

Today, we observe our communal Water Ritual, where the blending of waters reminds us of our deep connections to each other. Please bring a small amount of water from your home or other place sacred to you (water will also be provided).

Monthly Prayer Circle Wednesday, September 20 at 7 pm

Join Rev. Sharon for a Unitarian Universalist prayer circle. Please come prepared to request prayer and to offer prayer to others.



What Happened After Once Upon a Time?

Find out on **Saturday, Sept. 9 at 7 pm** at Chalice. Our **middle school musical production** of “What Happened After Once Upon a Time” is the culmination of Chalice’s summer Religious Education drama program. The production is directed by Sabrina O’Gwynn and will feature our tweens and teens playing some of your favorite fairy tale characters as you have never seen them before! **There is no cost to attend.** Come out to support our youth and have a fun time while you’re at it!





Music Ministry

Sunday Worship Music August Highlights

- Sept. 3:** Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.
Sept. 10: Choir will present "Hope". Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.
Sept. 17: Justin Gray will be our worship musician.
Sept. 24: Choir will present "Healing Waters". Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.



Tim McKnight
Music Director

Calendar of Upcoming Music Department Events

Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing and Church Potluck Supper Oct 28 @ 5pm
Winter Music Service Dec 10 @ 9 am & 11 am

Spirit of Chalice Starts September 10!

Spirit of Chalice, our children's choir, starts on September 10! All children are welcome to attend SOC - no experience is required. Some ability to read is helpful, but if your pre-reading child is eager to join, we can work with you! Rehearsals are held on Sundays from 10:30 am to 11:00 am in the R.E. cottage. Please escort your child to the cottage promptly so that we can get started on time!

For more information please contact our SOC director, Sarah Shapard at *[not for public]*

Haven House Dinners!

You are invited to serve dinners for Escondido neighbors experiencing homelessness. Dinners are served at Interfaith Community Services. We make the food (or purchase premade items) and bring them to ICS in Escondido by 6:00 pm on our assigned day. Once there, we don those trendy hairnets, and with help from the kitchen staff, set out the food cafeteria style. We serve generous portions of healthy food to our neighbors in need. Usually, there is enough food for us to eat too! The Haven House residents do all the clean up afterward.

Coordinators for upcoming dinners:
Wednesday, September 13- Julia Fogel
Friday, October 13- Maria-Pia Duffy
Wednesday, November 1- Paul Courtright and Susan Lewallen
Saturday, December 16- Bonnie Packert

If you would like to participate, please contact Marshall Fogel at *[not for public]*





Chalice Summer Picnic Revival! Sunday, Sept. 24 at 12:30 pm

We invite you to an all-congregation potluck picnic on Sunday, September 24, right after second service! We have reserved Picnic Area 4 in Felicita Park, 742 Clarence Lane, Escondido, from 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, so we have the space if anyone wants to go over after first service. There is a parking charge of \$3 per vehicle. We will need help bringing some of Chalice's tables to add to those already in the park. Please consider bringing lawn chairs for seating, a portable grill if you have one (and charcoal!), blankets, lawn games, and whatever other entertainment you might want to share. International Talk Like a Pirate Day is September 19, if you're looking for theme ideas.



Because it's summer, and we are feeling kind of relaxed, food arrangements are being organized by way of a Google sign-up sheet available [here](#).

It's organized by last name:

- A-C – non-alcoholic beverages,
- D-M – main dishes,
- N-R – salads and sides,
- S-Z – desserts and fruit.



Chalice will provide plates and utensils. Burgers and hot dogs (including veggie versions) are always great picnic food, as long as we have enough grills and charcoal. And of course, all your other favorite picnic food ideas will be welcome! If your placement in this list doesn't inspire you, feel free to exchange slots with a friend. Or, call Kathy Zapata at *[not for public]* and she will sign you up!

Chalice Grief Group

Date and time TBA

Six weekly meetings, mid-Sept. to mid-Oct.

Patt Wahl will lead a six-session grief group beginning in mid-September. Please keep an eye on the e-nuus for the announcement of the meeting day and time. Whether your beloved(s) passed away recently or long ago, you are welcome to attend. Please contact Rev. Sharon or Patt Wahl with any questions.

Coordinating Team Report for August 8 Board meeting

- Coord team will submit report on risk management to the Board for Aug.
- Proposing revised language for the bidding process.
- Photo Directory is underway
- Arts & Crafts fair was approved for Dec. 9
- Board Games Group, and Activist Letter Writing Groups have been established.
- Council of Chairs meeting was held and Nancy Bowen presented on The Vision Statement, and led a brainstorming session to create strategies.



Family Ministry



Kathleen Swift
Director of Family Ministry

Volunteers Still Needed for Fall Religious Education Classes!

Fall Religious Education classes begin Sept. 10. We are still looking for teachers and assistants, especially for our **K/1** and **middle school** classes.

Our K/1 kids will be using *Wonderful Welcome*, a curriculum engaging and challenging leaders and children alike to explore how and why we are willing to welcome others into our lives. We will learn how to welcome not only strangers, but family, our peers, our neighbors and even our animal friends and nature itself.

Our middle school youth will be using *Riddle and Mystery*. This curriculum will assist them in their own search for understanding of many of life's Big Questions: Does God exist? What happens when you die? Can we ever solve life's mystery? How can I know what to believe? What does Unitarian Universalism mean to me?

Please consider working with us in R.E. this fall! Contact Kathleen Swift at dfm.chaliceuu@gmail.com to volunteer, or for more information.

Escondido Street Fair

Chalice will again be participating in the Escondido Street Fair on October 15 (a Sunday). We will have the same, excellent booth location as in May. This provides us with another opportunity to make our presence visible to the community: an estimated attendance of 62,000 is expected.

We will need volunteers to staff the booth & help with booth take down / cleanup. The Street fair is from 9 AM to 5 PM. We are hoping to get enough Chalice congregant volunteers so that each pair will have to staff the booth for only one hour. We will need 2 staffers at all times, so a total of 16 volunteers is needed.

This is a great chance to mingle with the community and attract interest in Chalice.

If you can volunteer, please contact Richard Korts, *[not for public]*

Starting in September, we will have a signup sheet on the patio on the table next to the Welcome table, but please sign up before then if you can.

Richard & Barbara Schnelker will do the booth setup starting at about 6:30 AM & will remain there until 9 AM.



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.



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 - Every Thursday, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, the group meets to focus on mutual support and the practical implementation of Buddhism in order to enrich our daily lives. First, check in, read aloud from a selected book, discuss what was 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]*

Board Games!

A lively group meets on the second Wednesday of the month to play a game. September 13th we will meet at 1:00 pm in the Common Room at Chalice. We will play one table of Mexican dominoes, and one table of Rummikub. If you are interested, contact Carol Bagguley at *[not for public]*.

September Circle Suppers



Join us on Saturday, September 16 at 6 pm. Circle Suppers are monthly dinners in a pot-luck format with usually eight people at a host's home. The number of diners 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. September 6 or if you have any questions. *[not for public]*

Women's Book Discussion

Join us on Tues., Sept. 19 at 7:15 in the Common Room to discuss *The Girl on the Train*, a psychological thriller by British author Paula Hawkins that will change the way you look at other people's lives. Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Every day she rattles down the track, flashes past a stretch of cozy suburban homes, and stops at the signal that allows her to daily watch the same couple breakfasting on their deck.

She's even started to feel like she knows them. "Jess and Jason," she calls them. Their life—as she sees it—is perfect. Not unlike the life she recently lost. And then she sees something shocking. It's only a minute until the train moves on, but it's enough. Now everything's changed. Unable to keep it to herself, Rachel offers what she knows to the police, and becomes inextricably entwined in what happens next, as well as in the lives of everyone involved. Has she done more harm than good? Compulsively readable, *The Girl on the Train* is an emotionally immersive thriller. Rita Hill will lead the 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. If interested in attending or if you have any questions, please contact Dani Comer. *[not for public]*

Oct. Book: *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos: A Novel* by Dominic Smith Leader: Debi Streett-Idell



Community Pages Continued:

Activist Letter Writers!

July 19 the Writing Group had 12 busy postcard writers learning from one another how to write letters with the most impact. We wrote to congressmen, senators and locals. We wrote regarding the Affordable Care Act as well as protesting privatization of our local Escondido Library. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays from 11:30 to 1:30. We have stamps donated by our group as well as postcard stock so just bring your pen and ideas. Join us for lively discussion with action as an outcome. For further information contact Kaye Campbell *[not for public]*.

Fiber Arts and Crafts

The Chalice Fiber Arts and Crafts Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday in the common room, **September 20, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm**. We chat and work, primarily needle-crafts like knitting, embroidery, and appliqué, but any portable crafts are welcome.

Bonnie is considering starting an evening meeting for crafters who are busy during the day; please let her know if you're interested in that. Contact: Bonnie Packert *[not for public]*



Chalice Dine-Out

We will be dining at Chen's Restaurant in Rancho Bernardo on Sept. 18 at 6:00. pm Please RSVP to Susan Sklar *[not for public]*

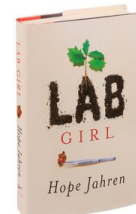
Singles and couples, all are welcome for conversation, catching up and getting acquainted. This is an open group that enjoys breaking bread together.

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

On September 15 the Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch will meet at Dominic's Italian Restaurant, 113 E. Grand Ave. in Escondido. Please note that the oft-visited Dominic's of Escondido has moved to a NEW location on Grand Avenue, most probably for increased size and better location. We meet at 11:30 AM on the third Friday of each month. Please RSVP to Carol Simpson at *[not for public]*. We are a small group and encourage newer (and regular) Chalice members to join us for relaxed, informal conversation over lunch.

Chalice Readers

On September 22nd at 7 pm at Chalice we will discuss *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. Vladimir Nabokov once observed that "a writer should have the precision of a poet and the imagination of a scientist." The geobiologist Hope Jahren possesses both in spades. Her engrossing new memoir, "Lab Girl," is at once a thrilling account of her discovery of her vocation and a gifted teacher's road map to the secret lives of plants — a book that, at its best, does for botany what Oliver Sacks's essays did for neurology, what Stephen Jay Gould's writings did for paleontology. You have questions about this one? Email them to John Drewe at *[not for public]*



Readers' Theater

Our September meeting will be held on Monday, Sept 25th at 6:45 p.m. in the common room. Newcomers and listeners are always welcome at our gatherings! This month's play is TBD, because we're in the process of nominating and voting on the plays for our 2017-1018 season. But please join us! 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 extends an invitation for men to join our group. We 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. We get to know and support each other by sharing experiences, thoughts and feelings from our lives.

If you are interested please contact Phil Comer at *[not for public]*. Phil can tell you more about the group, including the location where they will meet.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Alix Klingenberg, Pulpit Guest <i>"Unbuilding a New Way"</i> 9:00 am RE Classes 10:10 am Outreach Team 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	4 - Labor Day Time to be decided - Rehearsal for Youth Play	5 10 am Coord Team 1 pm Communications 7 pm Executive Board 7 pm Yoga	6 9 am Cracker Barrel 11:30 am Activist Letter Writers	7 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women 's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	1	2
10 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie <i>"Facing the Mess We're In"</i> 9:00 am RE Classes 1:00 pm Music Committee 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	11	12 6:30 pm Finance review 7 pm Board 7 pm Yoga	13 9 am Cracker Barrel 1:00 pm Board Games 6:00 pm Haven House 6:30 pm Men's Support 6:30 pm Family Ministries	14 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women 's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 11:30 am Ladies Out To Lunch	16 6:00 pm Circle Suppers
17 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie <i>"Honoring Yom Kippur"</i> 9:00 am RE Classes 12:10 pm Neighborhood Circles 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	18	19 10 am Coord Team 7 pm Yoga 7:15 pm Women's Book	20 9 am Cracker Barrel 11:30 am Activist Letter Writers 1:30 pm Fiber Arts & Crafts 7:00 pm Prayer Circle	21 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women 's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	22 7:00 pm Readers	23 11:00 am Service Project
24 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie <i>"The Wheel of the Year Autumn"</i> Multigenerational Service 12:30 pm Family Picnic at Felicita Park 3:30 pm Zen Meditation 7:00 pm Newsletter Deadline	25 6 pm TWW & Indivisible Escondido 6:45 pm Readers' Theater	26 7 pm Yoga	27 9 am Cracker Barrel 7 pm Bruno Groening	28 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women 's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30



August 2017 Chalice PrevUUs Magazine Section

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Minister's Message

Beloved community,

Just this past Sunday, someone at Chalice lamented to me that she doesn't know everyone at church anymore. She is reaching out to meet new people, but she misses the feeling of knowing everybody.

"If we're to really grow," I told her, "you will need to make peace with the fact that you can't know everybody."

Why is that? Why can't we know everybody at church?

Group size theory observes that humans tend to cluster in somewhat predictable size groupings. In particular, "Dunbar's number" suggests that there is a limit to the number of people we can know well, and that that limit is around 150. It turns out that Chalice's size has been in the 150-200 person range pretty steadily for the past 13 years.

To grow, we will need to become a congregation that has multiple size groupings. It is not this cut-and-dried of course, but picture that for us to grow, we need to become TWO groups that are 150-200 people in size. Then we would be a church of 300-400 people.

So one of the adjustments we need to make in order to grow is to let go of the idea that we can and should all know each other. At large congregations, people do not all know each other, but they do know 150 or so other people in the congregation.

This is not an excuse to stop meeting new people! In fact, it is a reminder that Sunday morning worship, our largest regular gathering, is specifically a time to meet new people, not a time for gathering with old friends.

The work of Sunday morning is for those of you who feel connected at Chalice to greet and welcome the newer people, and to help them find ways to make a deeper connection at

Chalice. Those deeper connections will come from finding a small group activity to participate in: reading with a book club, singing with the choir, helping clean up the coffee on Sunday mornings, joining a Calix group, or finding their local neighborhood connection group (coming in October!).

I always tell new people: coming to church on Sunday is not how you make friends. It's how you nurture your spiritual self, yes, but it's not how you make friends. You make friends through finding a small group activity to connect with. And it's our job at Chalice to keep developing our small group programs so each person who comes to us can find a way to connect.

And our longtime church members also need to know that attending Sunday morning worship is not the way to nurture friendships. You nurture your friendships through the other gatherings you attend during the week and month.

For those of you who have been at the congregation a long time, I know this shift in the "feel" of Sunday morning brings with it some sadness. It's fun to come to church and know everybody! And it's okay to feel a little sad as things change.

But with your sadness, I also encourage you to cultivate your joy. Not knowing everybody is a good sign! It's a sign that we're healthy and that new people are finding us. That's a good thing.

Bright blessings,
Sharon





President's Message

Chalice is very busy even in the middle of the hot Escondido summer. We have many activities of long-standing going on as well as many new ones such as: the Outreach Committee, providing dinner once a month at Haven House, the activist Letter Writing Group, the "Facelift" Task Force (to spiff up the Chalice décor), Neighborhood Connections, which is still in the process of forming, and an upcoming all-church picnic.



Comments voiced during the 2017 focus groups highlighted long-standing activities we cherish: sermons, music, religious education, social justice activities and social connections. There were also areas of concern. The Chalice Board has made recommendations to address these in a report to be issued later in September. Some include:

The Board will carry out focus groups for families with children regarding their difficulties with participating in the community-life of Chalice

Congregants should review the Chalice Covenant and "Care for Congregants Policies" in order to assure good relations

All of Chalice should ensure congregants, esp. newer ones, are engaged in small groups

Everyone routinely should provide hospitality to all at Chalice; in order to thoroughly understand this, they should read the book Lasting Impact: 7 Powerful Conversations That Will Help Your Church Grow.

The Board discussed this book at its August meeting. The author stated the following: Connecting with people is of upmost importance. Personal, face-to-face relationships need to be elevated. People want dialogue nowadays; they want to talk, not just to listen. There should be an obvious path that moves a visitor from their first visit right through to integration with existing congregants in small groups or other core ministries.

There should be a culture of serving. People want a greater purpose in life. They want to be part of a mission that is accomplishing something significant in the world. In addition, it is important to prioritize kids and teens, create an irresistible congregational experience and create an awesome online presence.

To put many of these suggestions into place will require change, which is always difficult, esp. when we know there is so much to value at Chalice. But there are seismic cultural changes going on. What needs to bring us together to address these changes are not answers to "how are we going to go about change", but answers to "why do we need to change and keep up with the times?" The answers may be -

"Because we imagine a congregation that our kids and grandkids want to come to." and

"Because we want to be a place where people who don't feel welcome today feel welcome tomorrow."

Nancy Bowen,
Congregation President

August Board of Trustees Highlights

The Board will review the final Focus Group Summary report before it is distributed to the congregation. The Board members have read the book *Lasting Impact* by Carey Nieuwhof, and enjoyed a lively discussion of relevant topics from the reading. Board and Coord Team retreat date set for Jan. 14, 2018. Board retreat with new slate will be May 19, 2018.

New Congregation Members: will be reported at the September 12 Board Meeting