



## December 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 # 12A

December In Brief -

Date & Where to find more info:

**Saturday, Dec. 2**

Holiday Party (see pg 2)

**Sunday, Dec. 3**

Bring in gifts for Adopt-A-Family  
Clothing Donations for Our  
Safe Place Continues until  
Dec. 17 (see pg 2)

**Saturday, Dec. 9**

Craft Fair (see pg 2)

**Sunday, Dec. 10**

Winter Music Service at 9 & 11  
am (See column)  
Randi Driscoll's Jingle Ball, 7 pm  
(see pg 3)

**Tuesday, Dec. 12**

Celebration of Life for Jim  
Schnelker, 2 pm (see pg 2)

**Sunday, Dec. 24**

Breakfast at 9 am  
Service at 10 am  
Coffee & Conversation at 11 am  
Special Christmas Eve  
Service at 5 pm

**Monday, Dec. 25**

Holiday, office closed

## Sunday Services

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

**December 3**

**Rev. Sharon Wylie**

**"Community in the Digital Age"**

The internet and social media have connected us as never before. But in many ways, we are also more disconnected than ever. How can both things be true? This is the fourth sermon in a 10-part series inspired by the book Active Hope by Chris Johnstone and Joanna Macy. This is the first Sunday of Advent.

**December 10**

**Music Service**

**"Cool Yuule"**

Today we take you on a tour of the "coolification" of America featuring holiday music by Irving Berlin, Steve Allen, Kaye Starr, Jimmy Buffett, and many others. You might even learn to scat like Louis Armstrong! So, play it cool, real cool, and don't miss this music service! This is the second Sunday of Advent.

**December 17**

**Rev. Sharon Wylie**

**"Waiting for"**

In December we joyfully look ahead to holidays we know are coming. But we live much of our lives in uncertainty, waiting and hoping for events that may not happen. How do we cope with so much uncertainty? This is the fifth day of Hanukkah and the third Sunday of Advent.

**December 24 at 10 a.m.**

**Rev. Sharon Wylie**

**"Who Tells the Story?" Multigenerational Service**

Today our morning gatherings include a simple breakfast at 9 a.m., a 10 a.m. service reflecting on the Christmas story as told in the four gospels of the Christian Bible, followed by coffee and conversation for those who would like to gather at 11 a.m. Childcare is not available this morning.

**December 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Rev. Sharon Wylie**

**"Where is Christmas?" Christmas Eve Service**

We gather at a time of longest night to honor one of the most significant holy days in the Christian tradition. Our service includes a play, traditional Christmas hymns, and communal candle lighting. Childcare is not available for this service.

**December 31**

**Lay-led Service**

**"Shining Stones"**

What shining stones have you laid down this year? Where will you find more in 2018? Inspired by Lynn Ungar's poem "Hansel and Gretel," join us in discovering shining stones that return us to a place of comfort and peace of mind while avoiding the distractions of the gingerbread house. Please join worship associate Debi Streett-Idell for this lay-led service.

## Order your Chalice T-shirt!

Suggested Donation: \$25

You can order your t-shirt after Sunday services through December 24th. We will have plain t-shirts available for sizing, sizes small through 4XL.

The photo shows the front of the shirt. The back includes Chalice's full name.

Coordinating Team wants everyone who wants a t-shirt to have one, so if \$25 is cost-prohibitive for you, order anyway!



## Winter Holiday Party

**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
**Party starts at 5 pm**  
**At Chalice**

Bring a dish to share!  
There will be songs to  
sing, delicious food to  
eat, and friends to hug!



## Craft Fair

**Saturday, Dec. 9**  
**9 am to 2 pm**  
**at Chalice**

All types of arts & crafts are  
represented: photography, jewelry,  
crochet, knitted, and quilted crafts,  
sand art, holiday items, tie-dye shirts,  
pottery, and more.  
Children's scrap-  
making craft, wand  
Making/testing and  
even slime!



## Bring a Friend to Chalice

**Sunday - Feb. 11, 2018**

On Feb 11, Chalice services will  
be "Bring a Friend to Chalice" day.  
Other congregations have found that  
there can be a LARGE difference  
between "Invite a friend" and "Bring a  
friend".

The ideal case would be that as a  
Chalice congregant you would ask a  
friend, pick them up at their home,  
bring them to Chalice (either service)  
& take them home or maybe have  
lunch after.

Feb. 11 will be a multi-generational  
service with Choir so it will present  
the full spectrum of a service at  
Chalice.

We are hoping for a BIG turnout of  
your friends.

## In Our Hearts

## Celebration of Life for Jim Schnelker

Feb. 25, 1937 to Nov. 16, 2017

Beloved husband to Barbara  
Schnelker; father of Sydney &  
Psyche. Jim was a Chalice founding  
member, a friendly, warm, and  
generous man with a sense of humor  
and adventure. A stalwart member of  
Cracker Barrel until dementia robbed  
Jim (and the world) of Jim's brilliant  
mind.

Memorial service will be Tuesday, December 12 at 2 p.m.  
All are invited to attend.



**Celebration of Life for Bill Spaulding** will be Tuesday,  
January 9 at 2 p.m. All are invited to attend. Please look  
for Bill's picture and the announcement in the January  
Newsletter.

## Clothing Drive to benefit Our Safe Place

Our Safe Place serves LGBT  
Youth, ages 12—21 in North  
County.

Bring donations to Chalice until  
Sunday Dec. 17



Our Safe Place works in tandem with existing agencies  
to get services to our most at-risk youth.

### Requests:

- Shoes, sizes 8 to 13 mens, 7 to 10 womens
- Men's clothing size: S to XL shirts, & 30 to 36 pants
- Women's clothing size: S to XL shirts, size 6 to 16 pants
- Toiletries (deodorant, soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, feminine hygiene products).
- Gender affirming items: cosmetics, hair products, nail polish.



## Music Ministry

### Sunday Worship Music December Highlights

Dec. 3: **Steve Withers** will be our worship musician.

Dec. 10: Cool Yuule Winter Music Service! **The Chancel Choir, Spirit of Chalice, the Handchime Ensemble**, and others will all be presenting “cool” holiday selections. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Dec. 17: **Steve Withers** will be our worship musician.

Dec. 24 at 10 am: **Justin Gray** will be our worship musician.

Dec. 24 at 5 pm: **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician

Dec. 31 **Steve Withers** will be our worship musician



**Tim McKnight**  
Music Director

### Calendar of Upcoming Music Department Events

Winter Music Service

Dec. 10 @ 9 & 11 am

Randi Driscoll's Jingle Ball

Dec. 10 at 7 pm

Christmas Eve Services

Dec. 24 at 10 am & 5 pm

### Cool Yuule — Winter Music Service

When someone says the word “cool,” what kind of music do you hear? Is it bebop, hip-hop, boogie-woogie, blues, jazz, rock ‘n’ roll or something entirely different? Could you explain why the concept of cool is ever-changing? On December 10th, the Chalice Music Department will take you on a tour of the “coolification” of America featuring holiday music by Irving Berlin, Steve Allen, Kaye Starr, Jimmy Buffett, and many others. You might even learn to scat like Louis Armstrong! So, play it cool, real cool, and don’t miss this music service!

### Randi Driscoll's Damn Jingle Ball Sunday, December 10

Concert at 7 pm.

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Go to [RandiDriscoll.com](http://RandiDriscoll.com), scroll down for information and to purchase tickets


Randi's Jingle Ball is an annual tradition for Chalice. Randi brings musical friends, musical gifts, love and cheer each year. Our relationship goes way back . . . and with a little luck, it will go way forward too. If Randi's concert has not been a holiday tradition for you in the past, it might just become one.

This year Noah Heldman, Lisa Sanders, Tim Flannery, Veronica May, and Berkley Hart will be joining Randi on our Chalice stage. Tickets may sell out.





## Groups That Meet Every Week or Every Other Week. You are welcome here!

What	When, Where	Who & Why
Yoga	Tuesdays, 7 pm in the Chapel	Friendly classes, with gentle teachers and appreciative students. A \$5 donation is suggested, but not required.
Cracker Barrel 	Wednesdays, 9 am for breakfast, 9:30 for discussion at Marie Callender's in Escondido	Liberal thinkers & friendly, supportive men. New friends are welcome. Contact person is Marty Schwartz at <i>[not for public]</i> . Open to all men of Chalice to meet life-long friends with a sense of humor.
Activist Letter Writing	First & Third Wednesday of each month, 11:30 am in the Common Room	Join us for lively discussion and post card writing, with action as an outcome. Contact person is Kaye Campbell at <i>[not for public]</i> .
Zen Meditation	Thursdays, 8:30 to 10:30 am and Sundays, 3:00 to 5:00 pm in the Cottage	Chalice Friend, Dr. Al Zolnyas, offers instruction and Meditation practice This group welcomes both seasoned meditators and those new to the practice.
Women's Meditation & Study	Thursdays, 10:30 am to 12:00 noon in the Chapel	Mutual support and the practical implementation of Buddhism in order to enrich our daily lives. Contact person is Carol Bagguley at <i>[not for public]</i> .

## Groups That Meet Once A Month - You are welcome here!

What	When, Where	Who & Why
Board Games	Second Wednesday 1:00 pm Common Room	A lively group meets to play games: Mexican dominoes, Rummikub, or any fun game. Contact person is Carol Bagguley at <i>[not for public]</i> .
Men's Support Group	Second Wednesday 6:30 pm Escondido location	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 <i>[not for public]</i> . Phil can tell you more about the group, including the location.
Fiber Arts & Crafts	Third Wednesday 1:30 to 3:30 pm Common Room	We chat and work, primarily needle-crafts like knitting, or embroidery, but any portable crafts are welcome. Contact person is Bonnie Packert at <i>[not for public]</i> .
Prayer Group	Third Wednesday 7:00 pm Chapel November 15	Join Rev. Sharon for a Unitarian Universalist prayer circle. Please come prepared to request prayer and to offer prayer to others.
Circle Suppers	Third Saturday Homes of congregants	Celebrate the holidays with old and new Chalice friends. Join us for Circle Supper on: Saturday, December 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 dinners each month depends on how many people participate that month. Newcomers are welcome. If you are interested, the contact person is Dani Comer at <i>[not for public]</i> . Please let her know by Wed. Dec.6





## Renovation Project - the very latest news:

The City of Escondido Planning Commission hearing for the upcoming Chalice construction project was pushed back to January 9. The City did not have enough projects to warrant a 12/12 meeting, and they do not meet on 12/26. So, now we are on their calendar for January 9. The meeting goes from 7 to 9. We do not know what time the Chalice project will be discussed. It would be great to have as many Chalice congregants as possible attend this meeting. **City Hall is located at 201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025**

## Join Chalice member Dennis Brown on An Immigration Justice Journey To Tijuana, January 12 – 15, 2018

Connect with individuals directly impacted by our broken immigration system. Meet Tijuana activists working courageously with limited resources to help deportees and those seeking asylum. Gain a deeper understanding of the issues compounding the immigration crisis. Discover your personal story and how you can connect to immigration. Attend an interfaith Service at the 'Wall' on Sunday morning. Learn how you can take it home and make a difference. For additional information and to register for the trip go to [www.uuborders.org](http://www.uuborders.org) or email Dennis at *[not for public]*. **Deadline to sign up is December 22.**

Sponsored by the UU Justice Ministry's, Immigration Justice Action Teams



**Many Groups will have a different schedule in December.  
Check to see if your favorite group will be meeting, and when.**

### Haven House Dinners

Chalice congregants make & serve dinner at ICS (Interfaith Community Services) for people experiencing homelessness. Chalice will host our last dinner of 2017 on Saturday, Dec. 16. If you would like to participate, please contact Marshall Fogel at *[not for public]*. We all look forward to 2018.

### Chalice Dine-Out - Meets on the Third Monday at 5:00 pm

Dine out Group has decided not to meet in December. Check back to see what fun place you are invited to visit in January. Singles and couples, all are welcome for conversation, catching up and getting acquainted. Please contact Cindy Carter at *[not for public]*.



### Women's Book Group

Come join us on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:15 in the Common Room to discuss *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. The Rosie Project is a rare find: a book that restores our optimism in the power of human connection. Dani Comer 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 at *[not for public]*.

Jan. 16 meeting- voting on books for 2018

### Ladies Out to Lunch

Our group will NOT meet in December (due to the hectic season, of course). We will resume in January. Keep a look out for good restaurants to explore.

### Readers' Theater

This group usually meets on the fourth Monday of the month, at 6:45 p.m. in the common room. That would be December 25 which is a high holiday. Please check back in January. We love newcomers at our gatherings!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie: "Community in the Digital Age" 10:30 am Spirit of Chalice 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	<b>4</b> Clothing Collections for Our Safe Place continue until Dec. 17	<b>5</b> 1 pm Coord Team 7 pm Executive Board 7 pm Yoga	<b>6</b> 9 am Cracker Barrel 11:30 am Activist Letter	<b>7</b> 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>1</b> Noon—Set up for the Holiday Party!	<b>2</b> 9 am Board Development 5:30 pm Holiday Party!
<b>10</b> 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Winter Music Service "Cool Yuule" 3:30 pm Zen Meditation 7:00 pm Zen Randi Driscoll's Jingle Ball Clothing Collections for ur Safe Place continue until Dec. 17	<b>11</b> Clothing Collections for ur Safe Place continue until Dec. 17	<b>12</b> 2 pm Celebration of Life James Schnelker 7 pm Board 7 pm Yoga	<b>13</b> 9 am Cracker Barrel 1 pm Board Games 6:30 pm Chalice Men's Group 6:30 pm Family Ministries	<b>14</b> 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> No Out-to-Lunch this month	<b>16</b> 6:00 pm Circle Suppers 6:00 pm Haven House
<b>17</b> 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Rev. Sharon Wylie "Waiting for" 10:30 am Spirit of Chalice 12:15 pm Outreach 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	<b>18</b> No Dine Out this month	<b>19</b> 1 pm Coord Team 7 pm Yoga 7:15 pm Women's Book Group	<b>20</b> 9 am Cracker Barrel 11:30 am Activist Letter 1:30 pm Fiber Arts 7:00 pm Bruno Groening Circle 7:00 pm Monthly Prayer Terrie Silverman, workshop for Autistic Children Dec. 20 through 30 from 9 am to 4 pm Mon—Sat	<b>21</b> 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Handchime Reh No choir rehearsal	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9 am Breakfast 10 am Special Worship Service: Rev Sharon Wylie 5 pm Christmas Eve Service Newsletter deadline	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas The office is closed today No Readers Theater, or Escondido Indivisible meetings today	<b>26</b> 7 pm Yoga	<b>27</b> 9 am Cracker Barrel	<b>28</b> 8:30 am Zen Meditation 10:30 am Women's Study - no choir or handchime rehearsals tonight	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9 & 11 am Worship Service: Debi Streett-Idell "Shining Stones" 3:30 pm Zen Meditation	<b>January 1</b> Happy New Year The office is closed today	Terrie Silverman, workshop for Autistic Children Dec. 20 through 30 from 9 am to 4 pm Mon—Sat				



## December 2017 Chalice PrevUUs Magazine Section

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Vol. 18 # 12B

### *Minister's Message*

Beloved community,

It's not unusual to feel sad or "blue" at Christmas time.

A 2011 review of empirical studies found that mood worsens in December. Loneliness, anxiety, and helplessness rise. One study "concluded that one of the most relevant factors in Christmas depressions is the individual's belief in the myth that everyone else is having a good time and engaged in loving family relationships—clearly a wish, but not necessarily a fact."

Surely part of Christmas "depression" can be that grief over the death of a loved one rises afresh. Every holiday tradition is potentially a reminder of loss and absence.

The same 2011 review found that the number of psychiatric patients in emergency rooms and inpatient wards actually lowers in December, but then "rebounds" after the holidays. This suggests that people minimize the mental stress they are under and put off needed care and support until, after the holidays, they can bear it no longer.

If you are feeling blue this Christmas, I encourage you to recognize that fact and to think about the care and support you need to make it through the holidays the best you can. Grief.com suggests having a Plan A and a Plan B for the holidays. Plan A is to celebrate as you usually would, with friends or family.

But think about your Plan B. How might you celebrate the holidays if Plan A doesn't feel good or right this year?

Maybe you want to go to a movie instead. Maybe you want to stay in your pajamas and eat leftover pizza at home. When you let go of how things "should" be, a whole new world opens up. Just having a Plan B and knowing you have choices can lighten the heaviness of obligation and tradition.

And if you are someone for whom the holidays are simply joyful, please keep in mind that not everyone feels that same way. Be aware of friends and family who may be struggling. Make time in your holiday schedule for coffee or lunch with a grieving friend. As we increase our festivities in December, sometimes we squeeze out time for simple caring and friendship. Don't let that happen.

Whatever your mood this December, I hope your connection to Chalice brings you strength and comfort as the year draws to a close.

Bright blessings, Sharon



#### Rev. Sharon Wylie's Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-5 pm

Wednesdays, 2-5 pm

Appointments outside office hours are based on availability

Office phone: 760.737.0393

Cell phone: 619.871.9959

Email: revsharonwylie@gmail.com





## *President's Message*

I have been reflecting back about what was new and what changed at Chalice in 2017. Personally, I felt strengthened by serving Chalice as President of the Congregation since July.

As we cycled through 2017, we gained 13 members but, also, sadly, five congregants passed away. These passages are part of the life of our community where we comfort each other in sorrow and together celebrate our joys. Last year the Chalice community formed a Grief Support Group and the Neighborhood Social Connections started where we can network socially with our local neighbors and help out each other. We also started a Board Games Group.

Many of us were overwhelmed by the 2016 elections and found solace and a place to be socially active at Chalice. Under Chalice's banner we participated in the Women's March and the March for Science. The Activist Letter Writers group began. Chalice volunteers monthly provided and shared dinners at the Haven House with people who are homeless. Chalice's Immigration Task Force sponsored movies, panels and discussions.

This past year the Chalice Long Range Plan for 2018-2023 was completed. It energized people by confirming the priority we have for growth, not just growth of the number of congregants, but of diversity, including of families and people of all ages, and of the facilities and grounds.

After years of diligence by many people at

Chalice, including Bob Nelson and Jim Idell, the expansion of facilities is becoming a reality. The building permit process end is in sight and the final push for needed capital has begun!

The Family Ministries Program restarted programs for Chalice teens and carried out OWL, a sexuality education program for 5th and 6th graders. In addition, the youth put on a play and others organized Hamiltunes and an all-church picnic. Focus groups were held to specifically hear from families in order to enhance their experience at Chalice.

The Outreach Committee began and is multi-pronged. The Greeters have been reenergized. Numerous efforts were initiated to improve the physical appearance of Chalice and make it more welcoming.

There are other continuing activities and people unmentioned that all together make Chalice the place that nurtures the liberal religious spirit in Inland North County, united by our desire to grow in love and in service.

I wish each of you personally, and the Chalice community in general, a wonderful new year!

Nancy Bowen,  
Congregation President



### **November Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights**

The big news this month is that Nancy Bowen signed two contracts which will cover preparation and construction of our long awaited Multi-purpose building. Additionally many board members will be attending an all day leadership training at First Church on Saturday December 2nd.

### **Special Congregational Meeting to be held February 18, 2018**

The Board voted to hold a special Congregational meeting on Sunday, Feb. 18 at 12:15 pm

1. Celebrate and hear an update on the progress of the facilities renovation and the capital campaign.
2. Vote to change the Board of Trustees size from 11 members (9 voting and 2 ex-officio) to 9 members (7 voting and 2 ex-officio).





## Family Ministry

### Unitarianism in Transylvania Today

Kathleen Swift

As some of you know, my mother and I travelled to Transylvania in June as a one-week “add-on” to a trip to Madagascar. Since Transylvania is the birthplace of Unitarianism, I made sure we would be there on a Sunday morning as I wanted to experience attending a service. I also knew that this would be an opportunity for me to build on my experiences of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

I began by contacting the minister of the Unitarian Church of Brasov, Reverend Benedek András. He graciously answered my emails and welcomed my mother and me to visit. We planned our visit to the Church on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This happened to be the day of Pentecost Sunday.

Upon entering the church that morning we were greeted by a gracious woman. I introduced my mother and me as “visitors from San Diego in the U.S.” She immediately knew who we were and led us to the minister who greeted us warmly. It was nice that we were expected. I must confess that we had planned on sitting in the back. I knew the service would not be in English, and I wanted to give my mother (who is not a UU) a chance to leave if the service was overlong or tedious. This was not to be—the minister led us to the VIP pew in the front row, whispering that it was probably going to be a long service as there was a communion. Earlier, when we had met before the service, he let us know that we were welcome to participate in the communion. (He also let me know I was welcome to take pictures, even during service.) During the beginning of the service, he introduced us to the congregation. The service was entirely in Hungarian except for one word: Amen. Because it was Pentecost Sunday, it included a communion and was longer than usual. The service was, in fact, over two hours.

Surprisingly, the men and women were seated in separate sides of the church. They were dressed formally and—in many cases—dressed in traditional clothes, especially on the part of women. (My mother and I, in contrast, were underdressed. Hopefully people forgave us knowing that we were traveling.) All children sat in the service, though there were not as many as I expected for such a big congregation. As the service began, all congregants stood as three men in black capes entered. The service commenced and at the end, there was a communion.

The communion table was covered with several

white embroidered covers.

These were removed by two men—church elders, I presume—who reverently removed the coverings, displaying a mound of bread cubes and several chalices filled with wine. When the table was ready, the elder minister talked for some time. My impression is that he was blessing the bread and the wine. Eventually, all was ready. The drink was a sweet wine in two communal chalices. The men were first to receive communion. They filed past with mostly stern, solemn countenances. Very few glanced our way. By contrast, the women wore friendly smiles and welcoming expressions.

I wish I knew what was being said. However, on the bright side, I was able to sing the hymns, many of which I discovered are from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Yes, they were also in Hungarian. But, I am a pretty good sight reader of musical notation. I was able to get the notes and the vowel sounds so I sang loud and proud!

I was also intrigued by a couple of other items. One was the very old and worn tapestry I noticed at the front of the church with the words: “Brasso Unitarius Noszovetsec.” The other is the logo of the Unitarian Church of Transylvania that was located in the front of the church. Depicted on this logo are a dove (which is sometimes depicted as a pigeon), a serpent, a mountain, and a crown. These represent peace, wisdom, levels, and kingdom and also—depending on your point of view—freedom, eternity, high knowledge, and being ruler of your own life. For Hungarian Unitarians (both in Transylvania and in Hungary), the symbols of the dove and the serpent remind people to be wise as the serpent and gentle as the dove. They represent symbols far older than the Flaming Chalice.

I did some research in the similarities and differences between Unitarianism in Transylvania and our UU faith in the United States. I knew that all Unitarians have a fundamental belief that rejects the Trinity. We believe that Jesus was a human prophet and—though a wise teacher, not a divine being. There were no crosses or pictures of Jesus adorning any of the walls; it was by coincidence that we attended on Pentecost Sunday and were able to participate in a communion. This communion is a ritual through which Jesus’s life, work and death are celebrated and honored. The ritual, which takes place four times a year, is done in memory of

— Continued on page 10 —

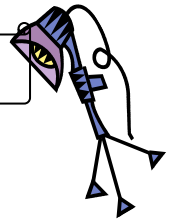


**Kathleen Swift**

Director of Family Ministry



## Music Spotlight on Victoria Tenbrink



### Brief Biography

In 1949 my father was working as a surveyor on a Bureau of Reclamation Project near Fort Morgan, Colorado when I was born. When I was 3 he got a job at Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kansas, a great place to grow up. I married at 21, but it didn't work out.

One of the best things I ever did was marry Mike Hosford. We met in Hawaii and had a commitment ceremony in Liliuokalani Park in 1995. As my Catholic dad would put it, we "lived in sin" while completing Master degrees at Cal Poly, Pomona in 1998. By 2014, facing a move to the deep south, we decided the relationship might work and got "legally" married in a beer garden in Klamath Falls, Oregon. My 2 grown daughters were teenagers when Mike came into their lives and consider him another father. My 3 grandkids have always known their biological grandfathers plus grampa Mike.

Another best thing I did was join the Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge in 2015 and now Chalice in 2017.



### What does music mean in your life?

Listening to music is a great pleasure. But being surrounded by it is transporting. I don't have the talent nor the discipline to be a professional, but I'm grateful to be part of Chimes.

### Fun Fact

In 68 years I have worked at over 25 jobs and lived at over 30 addresses, including living in 11 states, 3 of them being geographic corners of the United States: Alaska, Hawaii, and Florida. I hope to never live in Maine, although I would love to visit.

— continued from page 9 -

Jesus' Last Supper but the emphasis is on following the example Jesus gave in generating a compassionate human community. It is not viewed as a sacrament. (Communion was offered in countless other UU churches in the U.S., including the campers at De Benneville Pines, on Pentecost Sunday.) Like the U.S. UU places of worship of which I am familiar, Transylvanian Unitarians believe that religion is a matter of "deeds, not creeds." Still, Transylvanian Unitarians are fundamentally Protestant, which differs from the UU churches of which I am familiar here in the southwest, though I understand there are Christian UU churches, particularly in the eastern United States. Further research on the Transylvania Unitarian Churches informs me that the church allows both men and women to be ordained as ministers and, in 2016, the deputy bishop announced the church's support for same-sex marriage. To me, the similarities far outweigh the differences. The differences, to me,

stem from a tendency to hold on to past rituals—such as the separation of men and women—and the heavier emphasis on our Christian roots. Of course, there are UU churches in the US that also emphasize our protestant roots as well, although I would be amazed if any of them separated men and women in service!

I learned a lot observing this unique (for me) service in the birthplace of our faith tradition. I felt connected on a level that surprised me. Instead of this being an intellectual experience, I found it to be emotional and far more spiritual than I expected, considering that I only understood one word ("amen"). I felt that being in the birthplace of our Unitarian faith was a grounding experience for me as I continue to develop as a Unitarian Universalist.

Kathleen Swift  
Director of Family Ministries



## CHALICE AUCTION 2018

Our annual auction party is February 10. Please help us with donations of dinners, parties, musical events, gourmet items, services, and treasures.

Send the following information about your donation to the auction e-mail at [chaliceauction@gmail.com](mailto:chaliceauction@gmail.com) or speak with Debi Streett-Idell. You can find Debi on the patio Sunday after services.

This is what we need for the catalog:

- \* The category of your event (party, gourmet, service, treasure)
- \* The date of your event or service
- \* Title for the catalog
- \* How many items to auction, or guests can you provide for
- \* What is the value of the item or event
- \* What would you accept as a minimum bid
- \* Who are the donors (if more than one, give us a name to contact)
- \* An item description (paragraph)
- \* A picture of your item for projection

Those interested in volunteering to help out in other ways please contact Rita Hill  
*[not for public].*

## Fun Card Give Away

Have you received a gift card you probably won't use? Chalice auction is coming up February 10, and we would love to pass it on as part of the auction night fun. Please contact Judy Winn at Chalice, by phone at *[not for public].*

## Coordinating Team Report for Nov. 2017 Board meeting

- CT is creating fire evacuation maps and instructions.
- Revised group formation policy to include the Social Justice program. CT is of the opinion that this is a procedure rather than a policy.
- Task force for Stewardship, to revise policies and guidelines, has started meeting.
- Donation from Joyce Klein in honor of Chuck Pinney was received. CT is reviewing options in order to make a recommendation to the Board for the use of the money.
- Coord Team held a retreat with particular emphasis on looking at the 5 year strategies to support Chalice's newly approved goals. We discussed *Lasting Impact* by Carey Nieuwhof.
- As we advised the board in our September report, the Chalice gift to UURISE earlier this year went uncashed, we are donating that money to the Emergency Legal Fund of North County Immigration Task Force.

**Chalice Web Site:** [ChaliceUUCongregation.org](http://ChaliceUUCongregation.org)

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