



May 2020 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

Public
Edition

Vol. 21 # 5A

May 2020 Sunday Services

Sunday Service at 10 am

Zoom Meeting ID: 832 129 662
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662>

After Worship: Coffee Hour! (Bring Your Own Coffee)

Zoom Meeting ID: 118 751 781
<https://zoom.us/j/118751781>

Zoom Lunch with Rev. Sharon

Tuesday through Friday
Noon to 1 pm
Zoom Meeting ID: 358 579 869
Zoom link:
[please see website]



Table of Contents

Annual Poetry Service pg A-2
Poets needed for poetry service coming
on May 24. See page 2 for details.

Chalice Annual pg A-2
Congregational Meeting will be
Sunday, June 7. Time & Zoom
Connection to be announced.

Green Team Fun Fact pg A-2

Family Ministry pg A-3

Music Ministry pg A-4

Chalice YouTube pg A-4
Channel

Group meetings pg A-5

Minister's Message pg B-1

Congregation pg B-2
President's Message

Reports from Board & pg B-3
Coord Team
and the UUA about GA

Once worship has ended, you will leave the webinar and re-enter the "Coffee Hour" meeting, which allows us to see and hear each other. We will be sorted into small groups for casual conversation.

May 3 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "Adoration Sunday"

To adore is to love deeply and fully. This May Day is our annual celebration of the beauty and blessings of loving with our whole hearts.

May 10 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "This Is Not A Vacation"

A reflection for Mother's Day.

May 17 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "The Interdependent Web"

This is the ninth in a 10-part series on cultivating resiliency in an age of overwhelm.

May 24 Rev. Sharon Wylie & lay leaders "Poetry Service" online service

Poetry is one of the sources of beauty and reflection for us in these trying times.

May 31 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "To Be Announced"

The Chalice website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org has instructions for how to attend a Zoom meeting. There is no cost to download the Zoom app or to attend a Zoom meeting.





Calling All Poets and Poetry Lovers — The poetry service is scheduled for May 24

Calling all poets! We're still looking for poems (or songs) for our May 24 poetry service. No doubt about it, these are difficult times. Our poetry service this year will reflect that we're all searching for ways to get through. What experiences of beauty, humor, or something else are nurturing you and/or helping you process what's happening during the quarantine with its threat of illness and potential loss? What's keeping you afloat?

Write your own poem (or song) or choose a favorite that helps to explain how you're doing. What inspires hope in you? What lifts you up? How are you tending to your spirit these days? We would love to share your thoughts with the rest of the congregation.

Please submit your poem by May 11. Questions? Please contact Carol M or Patty C [not published here].



Important - Annual Congregational Meeting is June 7 Time and Zoom meeting link to be announced

Our Nominating Committee (Susan S -Chair, Kathy Z, and Marshall F) is delighted to announce that Amaki A, Kate V, and Judy W have graciously agreed to be nominated as Trustees serving a two-year term. Susan S has cordially agreed to another year as Board Secretary. Richard Korts has agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee, serving a three-year term.

The search continues for a Chalice member to fill the important role as Vice President. After a one-year term the V.P. spot succeeds to the office of president. For more information about the position check out the policy book at https://members.chaliceucongregation.org/images/d/db/Congregational_Policies_June_2019.pdf

Are you ready to take a leadership position on Chalice's Board and help guide the Congregation into the future? We need to hear from you now. Please contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee Susan [not published here] if you can serve.



Chalice Green

Wondering what to do about bringing cloth grocery bags to the store? Rumor has it that Sprouts will still allow reusable bags if you bag your groceries yourself. Another idea is to leave your cloth bags in your car, ask the checker not to bag your groceries, just put them in the cart. When you bring the cart to your car, you can bag the groceries yourself.

If you know a way to save bags when you have an order delivered, please let the team know!





Family Ministry - May 2020



Chris O'Connor,
Director of Family
Ministries

The Family Ministries Team has enjoyed reaching out to families while everyone shelters in place. It has been a time of significant changes in our routines, but as a Chalice community we have all worked together to support one another. Many of the parents, along with the Family Ministries Team, feel that addressing the emotional needs of the children is of utmost importance.

Our children's RE classes, held on Friday afternoons, focus on healthy ways to navigate a world filled with fears and changes. Read aloud stories about love and family are part of the time together. The children have tried stress reduction techniques such as meditation and breathwork. Discussions about support systems all around them and open, loving conversations about how their lives have changed is all a part of our time together.

"It takes a village" runs through my mind every time we meet. Parents are often part of the classes, adding ideas and helping hold down the fort! Can you imagine a watercolor painting class in a Zoom format? Parents made it possible!

Parents have a chance to check in with one another during the Saturday afternoon Parents' Meeting. They can take a break from their day and be among a loving supportive group. Each meeting has a focus and parents discuss ideas for the ever important self-care to help them through this time.

The Chalice Teen group meets weekly by Zoom on Friday's at 4:30PM to chat about their experiences and build closer ties. At these meetings, Jodi has begun leading some games and has added a Reader's Theatre component, which has been enjoyed by all. Please reach out to Paula G *[not published here]* if you'd like to be added to the mailing list so your teen can join in these fun meet ups.

The Chalice Parents Neighborhood Group and Family Ministries Teams offers two helpful resources to families during the week:

A Parent's Support group on Zoom Saturdays at 4 pm. Please join us to exchange ideas, creative projects you can do with your children based on UU principles and give and receive support.

Topic: Parents Support Group *** Join Zoom Meeting *[not published here]*

Family Meditation - Becky has generously offers a Family Meditation on Thursdays at 4 pm. Becky uses her creative powers to walk us through short guided meditations intended to help connect our minds with our bodies. We end with a short Loving Kindness (also known as Metta) meditation. Our 7th UU principle is respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. We will dedicate our meditation time and send meditation blessings to all.

Topic: Family Meditation with
Becky Zoom: *[not published here]*





Music Ministry for May 2020



Tim McKnight

Looking Ahead:

Concert at home with Tom Carlstrom (Zoom)	Saturdays in May @ 7
An Evening of Song with Tom Carlstrom full concert experience	TBA
Tim and Friends Concert	TBA
Spring Music Service	TBA
Keyboard Kaleidoscope #6 Concert	Saturday, September 12 @ 7

As with many of our Chalice activities, the Chancel Choir and the Handchime Ensemble are not meeting until it is safe to do so. We all miss rehearsing together and bringing inspiring music to the Chalice community, and we look forward to getting back to making music as soon as possible. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy the music presented in our Sunday Zoom services. We have beautiful piano music brought to us by Tim McKnight, Justin Gray, and Steve Withers, our song leaders guide us in singing our hymns, and we have special musical performances as well. You might even see a scene from cabarets past every now and then! Join us online Sundays at 10 am for a wonderful worship experience!

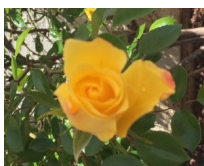
Tom Carlstrom's "Concert At Home" on Saturday Nights

Wow, what started on April 4 as a Zoom mini concert has now turned into a weekly evening of song and sharing with friends. Join Tom Carlstrom via Zoom on Saturday evenings at 7pm for 40 minutes of song followed by visiting with fellow concert attendees. It is a wonderful way to keep music in your heart and stay connected to your Chalice community. Donations to Chalice are gratefully accepted. Watch the weekly ENUUS for Zoom connection details.



To watch (or re-watch) recent Chalice sermons:

The Chalice Website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org has links to video recordings of Rev. Sharon Wylie's recent sermons on our Chalice YouTube channel. The website has some sections that have not been updated since the quarantine began, but our Worship Section is looking good! Under "Sermon Recordings" look for the link to the Chalice YouTube Channel.



A yellow rose from Chalice as a symbol of hope and friendship.



Chalice Groups & Activities

During normal times, Chalice offers an abundance of activities on our beautiful campus. However, at this time it would be irresponsible to encourage groups to meet in person. Fortunately, many groups are able to gather on-line. For now, this is the safe way to participate. You are invited to stay in touch with a group you enjoy, or to experiment with a group you have been interested in visiting.

Meeting through Zoom and where to get the zoom contact information:

Gentle Yoga: Tuesday evenings at 7:00. Zoom Meeting ID is *[not published here]*. We open the room at 6:45 pm for a few minutes of visiting and to deal with any technical difficulties.

Daily Lunch with Chalice: Noon until 1:00 pm - Tuesday through Friday, Lunch with the Minister at Zoom ID *[not published here]*. Mondays Lunch with friends.

Cracker Barrel: Each Wednesday at 9:00 am. - Liberal thinkers & friendly, supportive men. New friends are welcome. Open to all men of Chalice to meet life-long friends with a sense of humor.
Contact: Marty S at *[not published here]*.

Women's Support Group: Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm. - Safe, supportive group to share friendship. Contact: *[not published here]* to be put on the contact list for zoom info.

Women's Book Group: Third Tuesday at 7:15 pm on zoom. Please contact Mary B at *[not published here]* to receive zoom notices.

Prayer Circle: Fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm on zoom. Join Rev. Sharon for a Unitarian Universalist prayer circle. Please come prepared to request prayer and to offer prayer to others. All are welcome. Contact: Rev Sharon Wylie at *[not published here]*.

Green Sanctuary Team: Fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm on zoom. Upholding the 7th UU Principle: Interdependent Web of Life. Contact: Victoria *[not published here]*.

Women's Meditation & Study: Every Thursday morning at 10:30 am on zoom. Women's Buddhist Meditation. Mutual support and the practical implementation of Buddhism in order to enrich our daily lives. Contact: Carol B *[not published here]*.

Family Meditation: Every Thursday at 4:00 pm on zoom. A meditation class for all. *[zoom ID not published here]*

Memoir Writers: Second Thursday of each month at 10:00 am on zoom. Alice D. leads this group in writing personal memoirs. Contact Alice at *[not published here]* to be on the contact list.

Readers' Theater: Fourth Monday at 6:30 pm on zoom. Please contact Deb C at *[not published here]* to be on the contact list for zoom info.

A Parent's Support group: Every Saturday at 4 pm on zoom. Please join us to exchange ideas, creative projects you can do with your children based on UU principles and give and receive support.
[not published here]

Chalice Groups that are Waiting

Choir
Handchimes
Chair Yoga
Circle Suppers
Chalice Dine Out
Beginning Mah Jongg

Poetry
Board Games
Activist Letter Writers
Elders Lunch
Fiber Arts
Newcomers Coffee

Inquirer's Series
Ladies-Out-To-Lunch
Serving Dinners at Haven House



May 2020 Chalice PrevUUs Magazine Section

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

Vol. 21 # 5B

Minister's Message for May

We are now over five weeks into our stay-at-home order in California. As I write this, we are approaching our eighth Sunday of online worship.

I have heard some people talking about trying to adapt to the “new normal.” If that phrase speaks to you, that’s great, but for me, so far, I can’t embrace the idea that this is a “new normal,” even though I think we will be living more or less in quarantine for several months to come.

Instead, I prefer the phrase “crisis living.” For me, it better captures the stress of what we are living through: that reading or watching the news brings more fear and anxiety, that trying to get groceries is stressful and takes a lot of time and energy, that every sneeze or cough brings with it a wave of fear and worry. Yes, we are finding new routines and life rhythms. But we are also using enormous amounts of energy just getting through the day.

During our “Coping” service on April 26, I shared that I think it unlikely that we’ll be able to worship in person together until a vaccine is developed. Some of you felt relieved to hear me say that out loud, so we can start talking about it. And others of you were surprised and upset. A vaccine is probably 18 months away (we’ve been told), and that’s a long time to worship away from our chapel.

When I look at ideas about “phasing” the reduction of restrictions, it appears that large group gatherings will be among the last activities to be okayed. There might be a time before that when low-risk people are allowed to resume certain activities while high-risk people are encouraged (or required) to stay at home. I cannot image encouraging one

segment of our congregation to worship in-person together while requiring another segment to watch online from home. I think we would prefer to worship all together, even if that means worshipping online.

The good news in all this (one of the “strange blessings,” as I like to call them) is that our online worship and small group activities are as widely available as they’ve ever been, and we have seen more people, and people new to the congregation, attending many of our activities. Sunday worship attendance online is higher than it is when we worship in-person, and I’ve heard from many of you who lead our small groups that you’re seeing strong attendance there also.

How wonderful that we’re able to share the gifts of being in community with more people than ever, especially in these difficult times when so many people need more support and connection.

Blessings and love to each of you,
Sharon



To schedule an appointment with Rev. Sharon:
Online: <https://calendly.com/revsharonwylie/>
Text or call: 619.871.9959
Email: revsharonwylie@gmail.com



President's Message for May 2020 - Alec Bergamini

COVID-19 and Uncertainty

Did you know that Chalice's Board of Trustees maintains an annual calendar to keep track of various governance activities? Some of these activities are mandated by our bylaws or policies while others are more by tradition. I mention this as the starting point for one of our recent Board adventures in this time of COVID-19 uncertainty.

One activity mandated by our bylaws is the annual Congregational meeting. Specifically, the bylaws state: "The annual Meeting shall be held each year in May or June at a place set by the Board of Trustees". Further, for the meeting to be valid we must have a quorum that is at least 33% of Chalice's voting members in attendance. "In attendance" has always been assumed to mean "in person".

You have probably already identified the problem here. The bylaws tell us that we must have the Congregational meeting in May or June but they also tell us that we can't hold a valid meeting unless we have a third of our voting members show up and share a room somewhere. This of course runs afoul of state and local social distancing laws, not to mention common sense.

UU congregations and other faith communities across the land are facing similar quandaries. Fortunately, the UUA has published two excellent papers with advice on how to properly hold congregational meetings online (see [Congregational Meetings Online](#) and [Voting Online](#)). So, this year, like our Sunday services, coffee hours, small-group meetings, and Board meetings, we will all be attending our annual Congregational meeting Sunday, June 7 from the comfort of our own homes. Save the date, it should be interesting. We will provide plenty of notice and advance training so that all members can participate.

Another recent adventure in COVID uncertainty is Chalice's application for a Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan under the federal government's two trillion-dollar stimulus program. The loan will be forgiven if we do not lay anyone off and we use the proceeds to cover payroll. After studying the issues and engaging in spirited discussions, the Board

voted in favor of pursuing the loan.

Argument in favor – We are uncertain how long this situation will last and we are uncertain of the impact on Chalice and its paid staff. Applying for the loan is the fiscally responsible thing to do.

Argument against – We were not planning on laying anyone off so we should leave the money for some other organization that needs it more. In the end the argument in favor won out.

I need to point out that at the time of the vote there were no plans for layoffs; however, it is clear looking forward that if pledging doesn't improve, we will need to consider cutting staff hours.

As of this writing, our application is still in a queue with an unknown number of other applications ahead of ours.

Returning to the annual meeting.... one of the big agenda items at the annual meeting is approving next year's budget. The budget is created by the Coordinating Team and is reviewed by the Board of Trustees. The process is difficult in the best of times but even more so this year.

Coming up next is the Pledge Drive. As you know, the commitments we receive during the Pledge Drive form the largest and thus most important component of the budget. We just do not know how COVID-19 will impact the drive, yet it is more important than ever that we have a robust one. By the time you read this you should have already received your Pledge Drive materials.

Please give as generously as you are able. In these challenging times we need our Chalice community strong and financially healthy.



Alec Bergamini

Stay Safe,
Alec Bergamini
Chalice Board President





Chalice Board of Trustees Report for May Newsletter

The Chalice Board of Trustees met for its first Zoom meeting on the regularly scheduled day and time Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7 pm. President Alec Bergamini opened the meeting by reading statements concerning the need at this time for virtual Board meetings and virtual voting that will be ratified when the Board will again gather in person. The Board was presented a document outlining guidelines for holding a virtual Annual Congregational Meeting on the scheduled date of Sunday, June 7. After discussion, the Board voted by a show of hands to approve the proposed plan for a virtual meeting. The Board further voted by a show of hands to ratify the decision taken earlier by email to apply for a loan through the SBA Paycheck Protection Program. The Board also voted by a show of hands to proceed with a grant request from the Chalice Lighters program to fund needed materials to enhance Chalice security recommended by the Safety and Security Team. The Board heard an update report on the annual Pledge Drive and reviewed a preliminary proposed budget for the 20-21 Fiscal Year. The Board also reviewed the Board Self Evaluation results and the Coordinating Team Self Assessment. Volunteer delegates to attend the virtual District Assembly on Saturday, April 25 were selected from the Board.

Coordinating Team (CT) Report for April Board meeting

Goal: Create well-designed, attractive and welcoming classroom and meeting spaces and outdoor play spaces

- § We are using attractive and welcoming Zoom spaces.
- § Dean Goddette (chair) is forming the Courtyard Cover Task Force.
- § The Furnish and Finish Task Force is getting pricing to wire the Hub for internet.

Goal: Investigate additional fundraising sources and activities

- § We improved our text donation capabilities and texters are now able to specify which funds they are donating to (i.e., offering, pledge, auction, etc.).

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- § Council of Chairs met on April 4 using Zoom. Our topic was "How are you and your group(s) doing while staying at home?" The meeting was well attended, as usual.
- § Paula contacted local law enforcement to advise them of our empty campus and to ask for periodic patrol.
- § Paula worked with congregants to create a schedule to periodically check on the campus.

Unitarian Universalist General Assembly will be held on-line on June 24-28 as a 100% virtual event. This decision alleviates the anxiety and concern shared by many about how GA might proceed given the impact of COVID-19. The Association is planning a robust and rewarding virtual experience. Additional information available at uua.org.

Chalice Web Site: ChaliceUUCongregation.org

Address: 2324 Miller Ave Escondido, CA 92029 **Phone:** 760-737-0393

PrevUUs is published monthly by the Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation. The complete newsletter is distributed via email to members, and posted on the Members Only section of the website. An edited version (without congregant contact information) is posted on the public section of the website. Paper copies are available at Chalice. **Deadline is the 24th of the month.** Submit articles to: ChaliceUUCNewsletter@gmail.com



With much gratitude to our Proofreaders: Peggy Kiefer, Callie Leef, and Andi Stout

