July 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

Vol. 21 # 7

Zoom Lunch with Rev. Sharon

Tuesday through Thursday Noon to 1 pm Zoom Meeting ID: 358 579 869 Zoom link: <u>https://uuma.zoom.us/j/358579869</u>



Council of Chairs

Saturday, July 11 from 10 to 12 via Zoom Each Chalice committee, group, team, and task force is encouraged to send a representative to this quarterly meeting. Contact the Chalice Office to be added to the Zoom information emails for Council: chaliceuuc@gmail.com

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July 2020

Public

Edition

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

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.

July 5 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "Faith of the Free"

The history of Unitarian Universalism is full of stubborn, opinionated people who died fighting for the right to practice freedom of religion. This Independence Day, let's savor our own freedom to believe as we choose and remember our forebears who helped make this freedom possible.

July 12Rev. Sharon Wylie online service"How to Slow Down"

Remember when we thought being quarantined was "The Great Pause?" That didn't last long. Now, everything we do has simply moved online. This morning we'll consider what needs to change.

July 19 Rev. Sharon Wylie online service "Comfortable with Discomfort"

As protestors and activists call for change, it's clear that racism has been more far-reaching and more insidious than many of us understood. We are being asked to imagine new ways of being and doing. Do those of us who have been comfortable all this time have the courage to make a change?

July 26 Rev. Sharon Wylie & Rev. Lucy Bunch "TBA" online service

Family Ministry ~ July 2020



Chris O'Connor, Director of Family Ministries

We are excited to continue our RE classes throughout the summer months. It's important to us that families feel supported and connected while sheltering in place, so in addition to our weekly group Zoom meetings, we will be sharing resources to help enrich your family time at home. During the last three months, parents have been a great source for ideas and inspiration and it reminded us why the program is called *Family* Ministries. When parents take part in the religious education of their children, everyone benefits!

As schedules shift from "school year" to "summer break," families may want to revisit their family covenant or write a new one with input from everyone. A covenant, which is a promise between all members about specific ways each will behave to show mutual respect and kindness

towards one another, will help ease your transition into new summer routines.

In Religious Education classes, the children and youth have participated in this kind of group work as well, which has helped create a positive and cohesive environment. Encourage them to lead the family through the same process!

Family rituals are another Unitarian Universalist practice that helps children during transitions. As we move into summer, new everyday traditions within the family show the children they are supported and loved. Rituals are also a great way to introduce UU principles. Saying "please give us open minds, loving hearts, and helping hands," is a simple practice and reminds everyone what we stand for in our faith.

Every person is important. Be kind in all you do. We're free to learn together. We can search for what is true. All people need a voice. Build a fair and peaceful world. We care for the Earth. Unitarian Universalist Principles, children's version

Backyard Produce Help

Do you have fruit trees that produce too much? Or maybe, you long to know the satisfaction of harvesting from the land, but <u>you</u> don't have cooperative trees?

Good news from Chalice Green. There is a non-profit in San Diego County called Produce Good. Visit their website, <u>https://producegood.org</u> to volunteer to pick produce and/or volunteer your backyard tree(s) or small orchard to be harvested! Picking can be a family activity. Covid



19 precautions are being observed. If you have trees, your backyard produce could end up at a food bank without you lifting a finger. If you have any questions or any problem using the website, contact info@producegood.org or phone them at 760 492-3467.

Food Bank needs: Donations of food to harvest & Donations of labor to harvest the fruit

Music Ministry for July 2020



Missing Our 2020 Spring Music Service!

Each year the Chalice Music Department presents a Winter Music Service and a Spring Music Service. These are wildly popular services and feature the Chancel Choir, the Chimes Choir, the Spirit of Chalice children's choir, youth presentations, special musicians and soloists and small groups. Sadly, for the first time in 15 years, we were not able to present the 2020 Spring Music Service due to Covid-19. As a walk down memory lane, here are the Spring Music Service themes from the last 15 years. We look forward to many more music services when we can worship in person once again!

Tim McKnight

May 15, 2005 "Music from the Heart"

June 4, 2006 "The Healing Power of Music"

June 10, 2007 "Changing the World Through Music"

June 15, 2008 "Musica Americana"

June 14, 2009 "All Creatures of the Earth and Sky"

June 13, 2010 "Folk Music Around the World"

June 12, 2011 "Our UU Musical Heritage"

June 9. 2012 "Sources: A Unitarian Universalist Cantata" (performed at First UU Church in San Diego)

June 9. 2013 "The Rainbow Connection"

May 4, 2014 "Connecting Our Community Through Music"

June 14, 2015 "We Laugh, We Cry"

May 8, 2016 "Songs My Mother Taught Me"

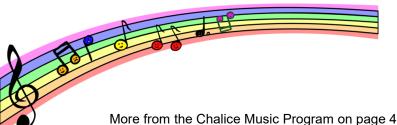
June 25, 2017 "Celebrating UU Composers: 200 Years of Music"

May 20, 2018 "Telling Stories Through Music"

June 9, 2019 "Living with Courage"

Looking Ahead:

Concert at home with Tom Carlstrom (Zoom) Saturday, July 4 @ 7:00 pm An evening Of Song With Tom Carlstrom - full concert experience TBA **Tim and Friends Concert** TBA Keyboard Kaleidoscope #6 Concert Saturday, September 12 @ 7:00 pm



Chalice Virtual Choir is Coming Soon!

The Chancel Choir is working on an exciting "virtual choir" project! A "virtual choir" is a group of geographically dispersed singers performing choral works as if they were all together in the same place. Individual singers create videos of themselves singing their parts, and these videos are then digitally combined into a single performance. A single choral performance takes a lot of time and energy to create on the part of many people, and we are so grateful to Chalice Music Director Tim McKnight for organizing this effort. Our first virtual choir choral presentation will be "How Can I Keep From Singing," arranged by Andy Beck.

It is hard to sing as part of a choir when you are actually singing alone – we get so many cues from those around us and, of course, from our director. Without those cues it is difficult to stay on pitch, breathe at the right time, and keep the rhythm - which is why it takes a lot of practice and often many takes before an acceptable video is created. It also takes a lot of advanced planning by the director to document exactly what the rhythm and dynamics of the music will be and to create appropriate

music tracks for the singers to use in making their videos. Combining the dozens of videos together so that both audio and video are properly synced is an art form all on its own.

Though it takes a lot of work, the Chancel Choir is very excited to be participating in this project and looks forward to sharing our virtual performance of "How Can I Keep From Singing" with the congregation this summer.



Tom Carlstrom's "Concert At Home" the first Saturday of the Month



Join Tom Carlstrom via Zoom on the first Saturday of each month at 7pm for 40 minutes of song followed by visiting with fellow concert attendees. Every month is something new! Watch the weekly ENUUS prior to the first Saturday of the month for Zoom connection details. Donations to Chalice are gratefully accepted.

Strengthen our democracy! Help get out the vote from the comfort of your home!

The 2020 election is a little over four months away and this year we **must** get out the vote. COVID-19 is challenging our ability to register new voters or canvas. But we can still act — and a new Spirit Level grant, VOTE UU, will support us in this effort! Through an organization called *Vote Forward* (<u>www.votefwd.org</u>) we will reach out to people, all over the US, who are registered as either Democratic or Independent but who did not vote in the last election.

This is a major letter writing campaign, encouraging people to vote in the November election. *Vote Forward* set a target of 10 million letters and Chalice aims to contribute 7200 of these between now and the end of October.

This isn't hard work. You will download (or we'll give you) a list of 20 names and addresses each week, print a letter, write in one or two lines about why YOU vote, and address the envelope. We will organize a training (Zoom) to answer all questions. Having a printer at home will help but it is not necessary. We can drop off and pick up letters, supply envelopes and stationery, and take care of mailing.

We want to make this as easy as possible and get as many Chalice members as possible to contribute to the effort. Would you help us get out the vote? If so, please email *[no personal info in public edition]* Include your phone number.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you from the coordinating group:

Paul Courtright & Susan Lewallen, Marshall & Julia Fogel, and Chris O'Conner.

THE TRANSFORMATION TEAM Helping Chalice Respond to White Supremacy and Support the Black Lives Matter Movement

In response to a call to work on white supremacy culture from Rev. Sharon, the UUA Commission on Institutional Change, Black Lives UU, and many members of color in our faith, Dennis Brown, Debi Streett-Idell, Marshall Fogel, and Susan Lewallen began the formation of the Transformation Team in December of last year and in January were joined by Deborah Kukreja. Although our work was suspended by the pandemic in March, in light of the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent and continuing social justice marches, we felt our team could be of service to the congregation more immediately.

Our mission statement is "Through education, self-reflection and social action, the Transformation Team will assist the congregation to identify and dismantle white supremacy culture and racism at Chalice and the world."

We are excited to introduce the congregation to a new Chalice Facebook page available to Chalice congregants. The TT (Transformation Team) will initially load references to resources—films, books, articles—for your exploration. We will recommend a congregational read. The group is called <u>The Chalice UUC Transformation Study Group and Information Page.</u> Please join us!

This is just the beginning of our work. If you are interested in contributing to this vital and important work at Chalice, in Escondido, San Diego and the wider world, please join our team. Contact [no personal info in public edition].

Cracker Barrel & Black Lives Matter

Cracker Barrel (CB) is a Chalice men's group that meets for breakfast every Wednesday at 9 AM. Normally, we meet at a restaurant, but like many other activities, we now meet via Zoom. About 18 men total participate, mostly retired, with some degree of frequency, about 10 to 14 are present at most meetings. We of course welcome all Chalice men and also currently have 3 non Chalice congregants as well.

After the killing of George Floyd and the continued occurrences of killings of African American men by police, our group



decided to start questioning, what can we, as individuals, as Cracker Barrel or as Chalice as a whole do to support African Americans in their quest for true equality & racial justice in our country.

We asked Dennis Brown, one of our long time CB members, to lead our group in this effort. Dennis has extensive experience in Social Justice activities and has close connections with The UUA Black Lives of UU organization. For several weeks we delved into how each of us felt & some of our own personal life experiences regarding racial inequality. Subjects such as defunding police, supporting locally owned African American business, banking with an African American owned bank, and many others were discussed.

We became aware that Olga Diaz, Escondido City Council person participated in at least one march in Escondido supporting African American solidarity. Ralph Peters, long time Chalice member has worked with Olga and supported her failed attempt to run for the County Board of Supervisors. We asked Ralph if he could approach Olga about addressing our group, this was arranged, we widened the audience to all of Chalice and Olga spent almost 2 hours on June 24 addressing (via Zoom) a group of about 30 Chalice congregants, including a large portion of our Cracker Barrel group. Olga's topic, Police Reform, was very enlightening as she has close working knowledge of the inner workings of the city of Escondido and it's police department.

Cracker Barrel intends to continue discussing this issue in the hopes of leading to actions we, and possibly Chalice as a whole can consider. As Olga pointed out, and as a lifestyle some of the rest of us have adopted, perseverance is KEY to success, this is a long hard road, we need work to stay focused to make meaningful accomplishments, beginning with baby steps.

Richard Korts, for Cracker Barrel

Chalice sermons are available on YouTube and Facebook To watch (or re-watch) recent Chalice sermons:

On the Chalice Website: ChaliceUUCongregation.org, click on the drop down menu labeled "Worship" and then "Worship Recordings". Toward the bottom of the page, there are links to video recordings of Rev. Sharon Wylie's recent sermons on our Chalice YouTube channel.

Facebook: Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation page. Scroll down until you reach the video you want to view.

Chalice Groups & Activities offered on Zoom

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 online. For now, this is the safe way to participate! It is easy—

- **Haven House:** Our next dinner, scheduled for July 13, will be paid for by Chalice from our reimbursement fund. We're all disappointed that we can't safely provide one of our delicious meals prepared with love in the Haven House kitchen at this time.
- **Gentle Yoga has a new start time:** Tuesday evenings at 6:00. Zoom Meeting ID is 748 550 408, and the Password is 064171. We open the room at 5:45 pm for a few minutes of visiting and to deal with any technical difficulties.
- Lunch with Chalice: Noon until 1:00 pm Tuesday through Thursday, Lunch with the Minister at Zoom Meeting ID 358 579 869.
- **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: [no personal info in public edition]
- **Women's Support Group:** First and Third Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Safe, supportive group to share friendship. Contact: chalicewomensgroup@gmail.com to be put on the contact list for Zoom info.
- **Poetry Group:** 2nd Monday at 1:00 on Zoom. Contact Bonnie *[no personal info in public edition]* be added to the email list for announcements and meeting info.
- **Women's Book Group:** Third Tuesday at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Please contact Mary [no personal info in public edition] 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 RevSharonWylie@gmail.com.
- **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 T. *[no personal info in public edition]*
- **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 [no personal info in public edition]
- **Family Meditation:** Every Monday at 4:00 pm on Zoom. A meditation class for all. Becky's Zoom connection: https://zoom.us/j/4341418270 Meeting ID: 434 141 8270 Password: Chalice UU
- **Memoir Writers:** Second Thursday of each month at 10:00 am on Zoom. This is a great way of getting your thoughts and memories on paper. Contact Alice at *[no personal info in public edition]*.
- **Readers' Theater:** Our gathering this month will be on Monday, July 27th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We'll be reading aloud the comedy *Drinking Habits*, by Tom Smith. "Accusations, mistaken identities, and romances run wild in this traditional, laugh-out-loud farce. Two nuns at the Sisters of Perpetual Sewing have been secretly making wine to keep the convent's doors open, but Paul and Sally, reporters and former fiancees, are hot on their trail. They go undercover as a nun and priest, but their presence, combined with the addition of a new nun, spurs paranoia throughout the convent that spies have been sent from Rome to shut them down. Wine and secrets are inevitably spilled as everyone tries to preserve the convent and reconnect with lost loves." Please join us (virtually) newcomers and listeners are always welcome at our gatherings! Please contact Deb [no personal info in public edition] so she can send you an invitation to the Zoom meeting.
- **Parent's Support group:** Every Saturday at 4 pm on Zoom. No meeting July 4. Please join us to exchange ideas, creative projects you can do with your children based on UU principles and give and receive support. https://uuma.zoom.us/j/171944369 *** Meeting ID: 171 944 369

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Minister's Message for July

I am writing this just as our annual General Assembly has come to a close. The full name of this event is the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations, but we mostly just call it "G.A."

This year, for the first time ever, the entire G.A. was held online. Fortunately, G.A. has had an online component for many years. It's been possible to be an "offsite delegate" (meaning you can vote on G.A. business without attending in-person), and some of the workshops each year have been recorded and available to offsite attendees. It has also become the norm in recent years for key events that are open to the public to be livestreamed, like the Ware Lecture and Sunday morning worship.

So the UUA was well situated to move G.A. entirely online when that decision became necessary this past March.

Like so many other changes that have come as a result of this pandemic and quarantine, there will be no going back to how things were before. Although we missed the buzz and excitement of having thousands of UUs gathered together in one room, it was powerful to know our online gathering minimized our impact on the environment and made this event far more accessible than it has ever been.

Thirteen of us from Chalice attended this "virtual G.A.," including myself and Chris O'Connor, our Director of Family Ministries. Congregational leaders in attendance represented the Board, the Transformation Team, the Green Team, Family Ministries Team, and more.

We approved two Actions of Immediate Witness at this G.A. One seeks to support Indigenous peoples and repair the harms of colonization, entitled "400 Years of White Supremacist Colonialism." The second calls to find alternatives to policing and to pursue police abolition within UU justice work, entitled "Amen to Uprising: A Commitment and Call to Action." Both documents are available on the UUA website, if you would like to read them over.

As always at the conclusion of G.A., my heart is open and full. I love us! G.A. always lifts up our highest ideals, and at the end of our time together, I am somehow both exhausted and



revived, overwhelmed with ideas and excited to bring some of these thoughts back to our shared congregational life.

Chalice watched the G.A. Sunday morning worship together in lieu of our own worship experience, and I hope that was meaningful for you. Thousands of UUs across the country watched that worship service together.

There was so much good at G.A. this year, but the best part, really, has to be that all the workshops were recorded, and everything I didn't have time to squeeze in over the past several days is still available for me to engage with over the next several months. I can't wait to dig into the workshops that Chalice congregants told me were meaningful and thought-provoking. (These recordings are available to registrants, not the general public—sorry!)

We'll have a worship service in August for congregants who attended G.A. to share with the rest of the congregation the highlights of their experience.

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 July 2020 - Dean Goddette

What is Chalice?

For the last six years our focus has been on construction and decisions on how best to use and update our new campus. Now, in a moment, that's been removed from us. Or at least, for a while. If it had burned down, we would be focused on rebuilding bigger and better. Our path forward would be clear and unambiguous.

Instead we've been dispersed by the pandemic, prohibited from meeting in large groups. It will likely be a year or more before we meet on campus. We now exist online with forays into real life for groceries and other events.

Let's add the most public unrest in fifty years over the killing of people of color particularly black men, dismantling white supremacy culture, the upcoming election and, just for fun, murder hornets.

But this upheaval creates an opportunity for growth and change. Without our campus, What is Chalice? What's our mission and vision in these new times? IMAGINE: One year from now, in the face of big challenges and a changed landscape, Chalice is thriving as never before. The ministries have flourished.



Relationships within and beyond the congregation

Dean Goddette

are flourishing. And, looking back, members say, "The Board and the Minister led us through the storm, and we are better for it."

What would need to happen for that to be true?

This isn't a rhetorical question. I'm asking you, what would need to happen for this to be true?

Think about it. We'll be in touch.

Dean Goddette Chalice Board President

A Warm welcome to our new Board of Trustee Members A Big Thank you! To our continuing Board of Trustee Members

Welcome: Amaki Ayikpa, Trustee Kate Vereb, Trustee Judy Winn, Trustee



Thank you Continuing Members: Dean Goddette, President Bonnie Packert, Treasurer Susan Sklar, Secretary Kaye Campbell, Trustee Margaret Spear, Trustee Alec Bergamini, Past President

Chalice Board of Trustees Report for July Newsletter

The Chalice Board of Trustees met for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 7 pm on Zoom. Board members were encouraged to register for the UUA General Assembly to be held June 24 to June 28 completely online on Zoom. Discussion followed expressing gratitude for the completion of the successful, first ever online Annual Meeting. Some 96 members attended by Zoom, with positive online voting for all Board and Nominating Committee nominees and the 2020-2021 budget. The Board voted to approve two Spirit Level Foundation Grant applications, one for use in the operating funds of Chalice and the second in support of the "UU the Vote" program led by the Social Justice Committee. Incoming Board President, Dean Goddette, announced plans for the annual Board retreat and orientation to be held this year on Zoom in three separate short sessions. Rev. Sharon, outgoing President Alec Bergamini and Past-President Marshall Fogel thanked Board members for their work and flexibility in this difficult time. Alec and Marshall expressed their gratitude for the privilege of leading the Board of Trustees and working with Rev. Sharon.

New member: Amber Vlasnik

Coordinating Team (CT) Report for June Board meeting

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

• No significant updates to this goal.

- Goal: Investigate additional fundraising sources and activities
 - No significant updates to this goal.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- CT did follow up phone calls to congregants we don't feel like we've "seen" online.
- Brainstormed ways to stay connected to congregants who don't live physically close to Chalice.
- Reviewed list of Chalice funds eligible for text donations.
- Reviewed Chalice funds listed on the monthly financial report to identify the oversight body of each fund. Future reports will include this information.

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