APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

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"Sunlight Shining... Good Morning"

-Notthepoethewantstobe

Sunlight shining, rested soul arisen, Knowing there will be one more day given, A day, an hour, with love every minute, There until nightfall, anxiously in it.

Sunlight shining, eyes adjust to the day, Knowing there will be light showing the way, Light, love and learning to nourish my soul, There until nightfall, my faith in control.

Sunlight shining, my best dreams seem less real, Knowing there will be soft kisses to feel, Kisses from lips, red with color of hope, There until nightfall, my kaleidoscope.

Sunlight shining, and days past now feel new, Knowing there will be renewal with you, Renewed with life your love is adorning, There until nightfall, but now good morning.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Service at 10 AM
Zoom Meeting ID: 832 129 662
https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662

After-worship COFFEE HOUR

https://zoom.us/j/118751781?pwd=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBIV1ZIWW0yZVFnZz09

April 4- Rev. Sharon Wylie "In Tumultuous Times"

A reflection on Easter.

April 11- Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Body-Centered Activism" (Healing Trauma #8)

This is the eighth in a 10-part series on healing racialized trauma inspired by the book "My Grandmother's Hands" by trauma specialist Resmaa Menakem.

April 18 - Chalice Green Team

"Earth Day"

This service led by Chalice's Green Team marks Earth Day, which is April 25. In this season of spring, we celebrate the return of the sun.

April 25 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Spiritual Uplift" (Spiritual Practice #4)

In a world that is saturated with things to read and watch, we need to be thoughtful about what we expose ourselves to. This is the fourth service in a series on developing a regular spiritual practice.

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Until further notice, Chalice activities and events will be held virtually

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	5P Easter Variety Show 7P Concert with Tom Carlstrom
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "In Tumultuous Times" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour		10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Check-In 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Executive Board mtg	 9A Cracker Barrel group (Men's Breakfast group) 2P Coordinating Team mtg 6:30P Women's Support Group 7P Family Ministries Team mtg 	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study Group 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	12:30P Elders Lunch 4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "Body-Centered Activism" (Healing Trauma #8) Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour (By- Laws Discussion Session)	1P Poetry Group	10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Check-In 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Board of Trustees mtg	9A Cracker Barrel group (Men's Breakfast group) 5P "The Offering Circle" participatory worship 6:30P Women's Support Group 6:30P Men's Support Group	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	10A Worship Team mtg
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9A Re Classes for grades 5th/6th 10A "Earth Day" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour		10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Check-In 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Women's Book Discussion Club	9A Cracker Barrel group (Men's Breakfast group) 2P Coordinating Team mtg 6:30P Women's Support Group	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	10A Council of Chairs 11:15A Vote to Call on Special "Congregation Meeting" 7P Natural Wonders: An Evening with Tim and Jennifer - A Virtual Concert
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "Spiritual Uplift" (Spiritual Practice #4) Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour	6:30P Green Sanctuary Team mtg 6:30P Readers' Theater Group	10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Check-In 2P Staff mtg 6P Yoga by Zoom	9A Cracker Barrel group (Men's Breakfast group) 5P "The Offering Circle" participatory worship 6:30P Women's Support Group 7P Prayer Circle	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

A few days ago, I became eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine (the County of San Diego opened up tier 1C of eligibility), and I have scheduled my two appointments. Barring troubles with vaccine availability, I should be fully vaccinated by the middle of May.

I know that many of you have hoped and prayed for my health and wellbeing this past year, as I have hoped and prayed for all of you. It is heartening for all of us that more and more people are getting vaccinated, and we are starting to feel an excitement that the end of the pandemic is coming.

Coordinating Team has spent some time discussing our plan for what we'll call "reopening," though it would be more accurate to call it our plan for "how we will begin to offer some opportunities for being in-person together." My intention here is to share some of our thinking about this as we look ahead.

First, there is no plan or intention for leaving behind the benefits we have found from being able to gather online together. When we someday worship in-person together, we will offer the ability to worship via zoom at the same time. We will also continue to offer online children's religious education classes. We do not want to take steps backward in our progress.

With this in mind, the Board and Coordinating Team have set a specific goal for this in the year ahead, stated as follows: "As we transition back to face-to-face gatherings, our goal is to continue to increase the online accessibility of our worship, meetings, events, and activities, so that 'online membership' is a meaningful possibility."

Second, we briefly entertained/discussed/weighed the idea of holding services on-site for those who have been vaccinated (as some cruises and airlines are doing), but ultimately decided this was neither practicable nor in keeping with our UU values of inclusivity. Certainly, it is joyful and exciting for vaccinated people to be able to gather together! At the same time, we want our church community to be a model of casting the circle wide, not offering exclusive gatherings for only some. There are many ways for vaccinated people to gather together privately that don't need to involve the church.

Therefore, we think the most important milestone for helping to determine when we come back together, as far as we can tell at this early moment, will be when all adults who want to be vaccinated have been vaccinated.

Third, as optimistic as the current moment feels, there is much still to learn about the virus and the vaccines. Most importantly, there is no vaccine yet for children and youth.

Until vaccines for young people under the age of 16 are available, Coordinating Team anticipates being in conversation with staff, parents, and religious education volunteers to determine when to begin to offer in-person religious education classes for children and youth after in-person gatherings for adults at Chalice have resumed.

As I write this in late March, I am reading that COVID illnesses in European countries are surging once again. Fifteen states in the U.S. are seeing a rise in infections, likely the result of loosening COVID restrictions combined with the spread of virus variants. There is much still to learn, in particular, about how the vaccines affect (or don't) illness from the COVID variant strains.

Guidelines from the CDC are under constant revision and will remain so for some time, as we learn more and more about what is safe and what is not for vaccinated people.

For all these reasons, it feels hard to make a concrete plan right now. So much is still changing and evolving. And from the beginning of the pandemic, church services have been identified as among the most dangerous activities: people close together, in a closed room, spreading the virus extra fast through singing.

The Chalice strategy for reopening will be "slow and cautious." Although there is much still that could change, we are cautiously optimistic that we can begin to talk about gathering together in September 2021.

I imagine that September feels disappointingly far away to some of you. But I also imagine that for others of you, this timeline will be a relief. We have been through so much, we want our reopening to be a joyful time, not an anxious one.

May the coming months bring each of us more and more peace of mind, more things to look forward to, and more confidence that we are leaving the pandemic behind.

Bright blessings, Sharon



Reverend Sharon

To schedule an appointment with Rev. Sharon:

Online: https://calendly.com/ revsharonwylie/

Text or call: 619-871-9959

Emaill:

<u>SWylie@ChaliceUUCongreg</u> ation.org

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A Special Congregational
Meeting
April 24th
Noon - 2 PM, drive-by style

Discussion session,
Sunday April 11th at Coffee
hour



Board President

This is an unusual meeting (authorized by the board) at Chalice on Saturday, April 24th from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.. We want to meet in person (drive-by style) to change Chalice's by-laws to allow voting over Zoom. You will be receiving the detailed materials shortly by email or mail, if you have not already. We will also have a discussion session on Sunday, April 11th at Coffee Hour after the service.

Why do we need to do this "drive-by" style?

And there's the rub - we have to meet in person to make the change. The current bylaws do not provide for any mechanism of voting except in person. That is exactly why we need these changes. You must show up to establish a quorum so that the vote will be effective.

Can't we just ignore that bit of the bylaws?

No. We can't. The bylaws are there for our protection. If we can skip one bit then we can skip any part that is inconvenient.

Can't we just vote by mail-in or absentee ballots?

Yes, but these votes do not count towards a quorum. We need people to show up in person so that we have established a quorum.

Wait, didn't we vote by Zoom at the last Congregational Meeting?

Yes, we voted but, in fact, the vote was provisional until we can meet in person to confirm our past votes. The same is true of every meeting of the Board; we vote but it is provisional until we meet in person to confirm.

Can we comment on the changes?

Yes, certainly. That is why we are distributing the changes and having a preliminary discussion meeting to review the changes. But we will be voting on all the changes as a set.

I have a question.

We are setting up a discussion session after service on **Sunday April 11th during Coffee Hour** to review the changes and discuss any questions that you have. Or you can email me at XXX.



News for Newcomers

Welcome to Chalice! We are glad you are here. All are welcome at Chalice, especially in this time of separation and uncertainty. We strive to be a beacon of liberal religion in North Inland San Diego County.

Check out:

<u>Chalice's Youtube</u>

Channel

Even during this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are vibrant and thriving in many ways. Although we cannot meet in person, we have numerous activities, starting, of course, with our Sunday Services at 10 AM on Zoom (https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662).

Recently the Pathways to Connection Team sent out a brief survey with the goals of:

- Increasing connection between existing congregants.
- Building relationships between new and existing congregants.
- Fostering relationships in a pandemic when meeting in-person is not currently an option.

We would love to get to know you better and, if you are interested, connect you with an Ambassador who can help you become better acquainted with Chalice.

Ambassadors are friendly folks who represent the camaraderie and welcoming spirit Chalice offers. Simply put, we want you to feel at home here and continue fellowshipping with us.

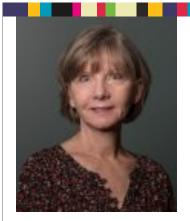
If you have not yet filled out the survey, please do so. Your time and interest are very appreciated.

Survey, please click here: Pathways to Connection

Zoom links and information for all of Chalice's activities and events are available in our weekly email, the E-nuus. You will be invited to join our email list once you have attended a Sunday worship service.

Many other activities can be found on the Chalice website, www.chaliceuucongregation.org.

On behalf of the Chalice Greeters Team, Julie B.



Chris O'Connor

Director of Family Ministries

I hope
you enjoy this
Unitarian
Universalist blessing
of the Easter
baskets.

Middle School class now on every THIRD Sunday from 9 AM- 10 AM.

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Blessing of the Easter Baskets

By Lucas Hergert

Let us imagine for a moment that our lives are like the baskets that our children will use to collect colorful eggs and candy.

May the things that you collect in your basket, like painted eggs and colorful flowers and Easter grass, bring to you a new appreciation of beauty.

May the things that you collect in your basket, like chocolates and jelly beans, bring your life sweetness.

May your basket always be full enough that you are able to share your bounty with others, especially those whose baskets do not contain as much.

May your basket be large enough to accept the occasional disappointment of an empty Easter egg or, perhaps, a sticker instead of a Hershey kiss.

May your life, like the egg before it is opened or the ribbon before it is untied, offer up new surprises that bring joy.

And finally, may your life, like the reeds of the basket, be interwoven with others, partaking in a community to celebrate all that is good.

In the spirit of the little things that offer to us cherished meanings, may our lives, indeed, be blessed.





Tim McKnight

Music Director

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Join Chalice's Music Director, Tim McKnight, and Jennifer S. on April 24, 2021 at 7 p.m. for a wonderful evening of music celebrating the beauty of nature. You will enjoy an eclectic mix of music, including Scott Joplin, Carole King, Edward Grieg, Gilbert & Sullivan, Alicia Keys, Chopin, and more! There will be singing, piano solos, piano duets, and perhaps there will be a surprise or two! The concert will be live-streamed through Zoom and each ticket is \$20 per household. What a bargain! Get your tickets through the Chalice Auction website, http://charityauction.bid/chaliceuu. Once registered, just click on "Catalog and Bidding".



Chancel Choir Rehearsal

The Chancel Choir currently meets online every Thursday from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.. This is a time to discuss anthems for worship and other choral projects, as well as enjoy fellowship with each other. It is difficult to actually sing together over Zoom, so vocal rehearsing and recording of music is done outside of the meeting. Contact Music Director, Tim McKnight, at music@chaliceuucongregation.org for zoom information.





Tom Carlstrom's "Concert At Home" on Saturday, April 3rd @ 7 p.m.

April 3 marks one year that Tom Carlstrom has been keeping us musically connected through this pandemic with his Concerts At Home!

Thank you, Tom! Concert At Home is a Zoom event on the first Saturday of each month at 7 p.m.. Each concert is 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.

Hymnals for Worship Services

If you would like to borrow hymnals from Chalice, please send an email to Music@ChaliceUUCongregation.org with your name, email, and phone number, and you will be contacted to arrange for pickup or delivery. If you prefer to purchase hymnals, they may be purchased from the UUA bookstore,

www.UUABookstore.org, or from Amazon, Smile.Amazon.com.

Looking Ahead:

Choir Rehearsal via Zoom	Thursdays @7p
Concert At Home With Tom Carlstrom (Zoom!)	First Saturday of the Month @7p
Natural Wonders: An Evening with Tim and Jennifer	April 24 @7p
Don and Friends Virtual Concert	Sunday, May 6 @ 6p
Cabaret Watch Party 2 (Zoom!)	Saturday, May 22 @7p

BOARD REPORT

The Chalice Board of Trustees met for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7 PM on Zoom. The Board voted to accept as presented the proposed By-Laws changes allowing face-to-face and in-person online attendance. The Board further voted to call a Special Congregational Meeting to be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 between 12 noon and 2 PM to vote on the proposed By-Laws changes. Voting Members can mail in their ballots, but a minimum of 47 of the Voting Members or 33% must come by Chalice at the prescribed time to drop off their ballots in person so that a quorum can be called. Callie L. was approved by Board vote to replace Deb Coon on the Coordinating Team starting on July 1, 2021. President Dean Goddette will be emailing Board members the annual Board Self-Assessment documents to be completed and returned. It was confirmed that the Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 11:15 AM on Zoom following the Sunday morning service.

COORDINATING TEAM REPORT

Goal: Strengthen the ways in which congregants offer care and support to each other.

• "Getting to Know You" program has launched.

Goal: Increase financial support for Chalice's operating budget, including pledging, congregation-wide fun(d)raising activities, and funding from outside the congregation.

• Prepared and finalized FY22 budget plan.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees.

- Assembling a new Courtyard Cover Team.
- Regular discussions regarding re-opening in according with CDC guidelines.
- Overseeing a variety of campus improvements, including landscaping work.
- Continuing to plan for our future memorial wall.

Green Sanctuary Team



"If I had to choose a religion, the sun as the universal giver of life would be my god." -Napoleon Bonaparte, French military leader and emperor.

Spring equinox is past. In the Northern Hemisphere, the Sun is warming the Earth. The Green Team invites you to join people around the world and through the ages to appreciate the Sun as a giver of life.

The Hawaiians say that the demi-god Maui stood atop Haleakalā, the House of the Sun, and used a lasso of coconut fiber to snare the Sun as it arose from sleep. Maui made a deal to release the Sun only if it would slow its journey across the sky for six months of the year. To this day, people trek to the summit of Haleakalā to watch the spectacular sunrise.

In every land, people have created solar sites to mark the Sun's passage. In San Diego County, Viejas Mountain is where the Kumeyaay mark Winter Solstice by observing the Sun rise over Buckman Peak. Anyone can have a daily practice that celebrates the Sun. In Yoga, there is a Sun Salutation. You can also simply be a sunflower, rooted in the Earth with your face turned to the sun. Breathe and take a moment to fill your energy field with the power of the Sun, the same power that will help solve our climate crisis. Old and new are one, powered by the Sun.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS



Readers' Theater Group

Our April gathering will be on Monday, April 26th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We'll be reading aloud the drama, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, by August Wilson.

The time is 1927. The place is a run-down recording studio in Chicago. Ma Rainey, the legendary blues singer, is due to arrive with her entourage to cut new sides of old favorites. Waiting for her are her Black musician sidemen, the White owner of the record company, and her White manager. What goes down in the session to come is more than music. It is a riveting portrayal of Black rage, of racism, of the self-hate that racism breeds, and of racial exploitation.

Please join us (virtually) – newcomers and listeners are always welcome at our gatherings!

Please contact Deb C. at XXX or XXX for an invitation to the Zoom meeting.



Women's Book Discussion Club

This month we will be discussing *The Yellow House*, a memoir by Sarah M. Broom on April 20th at 7 PM via Zoom.

This memoir chronicles Broom's family, her life growing up in New Orleans and the eventual demise of her beloved childhood home after Hurricane Katrina.

Email Mary B. at XXX for Zoom invitation if interested in joining the discussion.



Our Zoom Lunch Check-In is scaling back to once a week: Tuesdays. This is a lay-led gathering (i.e., Rev. Sharon will not be routinely present).

Drop-in on Tuesday to say hi and share what's going on with you!



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information) is posted on the public section of the website. Paper copies are available

at Chalice, per request. Deadline is the 24th of the month.

Submit articles to: ChaliceUUCNewsletter@gmail.com

With much gratitude to our Editorial Team: Peggy K., Callie L., and Andi S..