

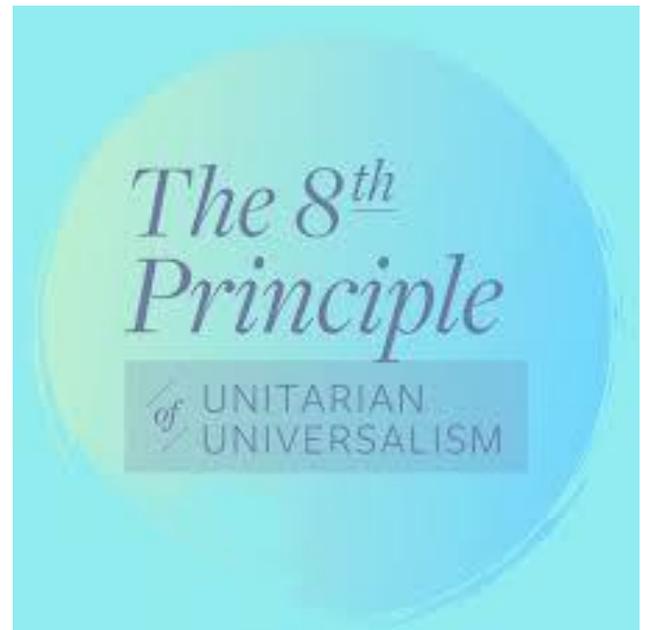
November 2021 NEWSLETTER



Volume #22 | Issue #11 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

SUNDAY SERVICES 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=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBIV1ZlIWW0yZVFmZz09>

November 7 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Our UU 8th Principle”

Did you know that our seven UU principles are required (by UUA bylaws) to be reviewed periodically? That review means we can change—if we choose—any of our current principles, and we might decide we want to add more! There is currently a strong movement to add an 8th principle centered on dismantling racism. This morning’s service will tell you more.

November 14 – Rev. Addae Kraba, pulpit guest
“The Grace in Gratitude”

In November most people look forward to gathering around the family table in celebration of the American Holiday of Thanksgiving. How accurate are the stories that we learned as children about the first harvest feast held in 1621 from the reality of that day? How can we honor both family traditions and memories of native people?

Rev. Addae Kraba is the Minister to the Unitarian Universalists of New Braunfels in Texas.

This is the third sermon in our 10-part sermon series “Listening to Black Preachers,” featuring Black UU preachers from all over the country. Our preachers are invited to speak on any topic of their choosing.

November 21– Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Chalice Soup and Founders Day”

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on and to share our communal abundance, with special appreciation for our founding members.

November 28 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Miracles Abound”

The days grow shorter, and our time of metaphorical darkness—dreaming of the end of the pandemic—becomes a time of literal darkness. How will we make it through the coming months? Hannukah begins at sundown. This is the first Sunday of Advent.



Minister's Message

The following is an excerpt from Rev. Sharon Wylie's sermon "Maybe We Make God" offered on October 3, 2021:

These are hard times to be a churchgoer.

When I first joined a Unitarian Universalist church in 2004, the first church of any kind I had ever joined, it was still very mainstream to attend church, and there was some pleasure for me in being able to say to friends and family that I had attended church on Sunday. It felt adult, like having a mortgage payment and going to bed at a reasonable hour.



Seventeen years later and attending church is, more than ever, associated with conservative politics. Surveys show that the more frequently someone attends church, the more likely they are to be politically Republican. And of course, in the last several years, being Republican has come to be associated with white supremacist behavior and extremist behavior.

In our current historical moment then, being a churchgoer is associated with an irrational anti-vaccine, anti-mask stance. Throughout the pandemic, churches made news throughout the country for refusing to observe safety precautions in gathering. And now, the most visible religious people in our country, those with the loudest voices, make news by screaming at school board meetings and protesting outside hospitals.

There has never been a more embarrassing time to be religious, even though the majority of faith traditions support vaccination and have been cautious in resuming gathering for worship. Moreover, many faith traditions, including ours, do not support religious exemptions to receiving vaccines.

The reasons we hear about why people—the loud people, anyway—are refusing to be vaccinated, are things like believing God will protect them, believing that strength and prayer are what's needed to face illness, and believing that everything happens according to God's will, so accepting whether you get Covid or not is a matter of faith.

One person described their anti-vaccination beliefs saying, "God gives us everything we need."



For those of us with a different understanding of God, and those of us who can understand the world without believing in a God at all, those of us with faith beliefs that are synchronous with the findings and teachings of science, those of us who believe that our actions matter, that we have free will to participate fully in how our lives will unfold, for us, hearing these beliefs that are bringing people into reckless danger of themselves and their families, watching people die from the belief that God controls everything, is painful, heart-breaking, and traumatizing.

It is hard to counter the loud, news-making voices of the irrational with the voices of a calm and reasonable faith.

Blessings and love to you,
Sharon



President's Column

On September 26, Gregory C Carrow-Boyd was our guest speaker at our Sunday service. He used the quote "Justice is what love looks like in public." Here are a few words I wrote shortly after that sermon.

"Justice is what love looks like in public". I love the quote. Because yes, justice is what love looks like in public. What a beautiful way to look at it. It's all based on love. Love for your fellow man/woman. If you have love in your heart. If you care about the sanctity of human life. If you care about children. If you care about the stranger. If you care about all people, no matter the color of their skin or where they come from then you must believe in justice.



Anne McKeirnan
Board President

He also spoke about equity versus equality. Justice doesn't mean we all get the same exact things. It's not equality but equity, getting what you deserve at the basic level. Equity means we all deserve food, shelter, fairness under the law. Justice is what love looks like in public. In private, love is personal. It's a feeling between two people; romantic, friendly, or parental. But when it becomes public it is love for humanity. If you love humanity, you want what is good for it. You can't cause harm to people and still love them. You can't pollute the land on which they live and love them. You can't deny them housing or decent food and still love them. You can't imprison people with no chance of reform if you love them. You can't provide inadequate and unsafe schooling to people if you love them. If you love in public then you provide all that you can to give people a fair chance, a safe place to live, decent wages, decent opportunities, food, healthcare. These are the acts of love in public. This is justice. There is no turning away from this. There is no middle ground.

People say we should just send the refugees back to their country. Even though by doing so we will send them back to starvation or violence. Justice requires an evaluation of what is needed. We have the resources. It's bullshit to say we don't. I'm not just talking about the U.S. Many countries can find more love and more peace and more justice. We can disinvest from the war making and the big corporate rich money making and turn that to love making--to justice making. We say we don't have enough but we do. We just can't figure out how to get it away from the military industrial complex and the fat cat C.E.O's that make billions while we send Haitians back to die. There is no justice without love and no love without justice.

Black Lives Matter. Such a simple statement, 3 words is all. Justice is Love and Justice is colorblind. When we say Black Lives Matter it is because so much is thrown at black people saying they don't matter, they aren't valued. This injustice, this lack of love, this making of not mattering is the heart of it. There is no love in not mattering, and there is love in mattering. Justice is mattering. Justice is love. Justice is what love looks like in public.

Anne



Family Ministries

Religious Education Program at Chalice

Children and youth involved in the Religious Education Program at Chalice meet on the Courtyard on Sundays. We began meeting in person at the beginning of summer and follow safety guidelines to ensure everyone stays safe. The Children's RE group meets in the morning from 9am-10am (and often stays after to play and visit). The Youth Group gets together on Sunday afternoons from 4:30pm to 5:30pm (and often stays later to visit and occasionally play badminton!)



Chris O'Conner
Director of Family Ministries

This month the children's group focused on T.E.A.M. activities—Together Everyone Achieves More—and worked together to pack Halloween treat bags for people at Interfaith who could use a little more sweetness in their lives. Another community service activity is planned for November which will focus on a team effort to help others in our community. Another Sunday in November Alice Dodd and Callie Leef will lead singing to help the children learn some favorite hymns.

Every Sunday afternoon the teens get together to spend time with friends. Usually, one question can get a great discussion going that is honest, interesting, and usually finds humor. They bring pets (never have reptile day at the same time as canine day) and play games.

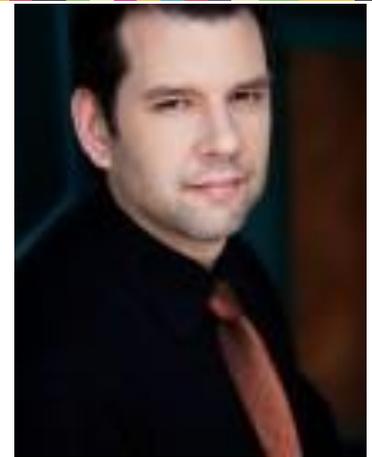
Carving jack-o-lanterns was messy and fun as was the painting activity the next week. They had a trip to the Clue Avenue Escape Rooms in Escondido (thank you Jodi and Lara for helping!) and are scheduled to plan and make a meal for Haven House residents in December.



Music Committee

Spotlight on Black Composers and Musicians: Florence B. Price

In coordination with Rev. Sharon's 10-part sermon series, "Listening to Black Preachers", Music Director, Tim McKnight is shining the spotlight on black composers and musicians. During worship on October 24, the spotlight fell on the African American composer, organist, pianist, and music educator Florence B. Price.



Tim McKnight
Music Director

Florence was born in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 9, 1887, to dentist James H. Smith and businesswoman and teacher Florence Gulliver Smith, who provided musical instruction for her daughter Florence. Florence's musical gifts were apparent very early in her life. She began performing at the age of 4, and published her first composition at age 11. After graduating as valedictorian of her high school class in 1902, Florence enrolled at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, one of the few conservatories at the time that admitted African American students. By age 19, Florence had received two music degrees from the conservatory.

Florence eventually began to incorporate elements of African-American spirituals into her compositions, especially the rhythmic syncopation that characterizes many spirituals. Her melodies contained influences of both European Romantic music and the Blues. This blending of European and African musical traditions would come to define much of Florence Price's music. In her lifetime, Price composed more than 300 works, ranging from small teaching pieces for the piano to large-scale symphonies and concertos, instrumental chamber music, choral works, and art songs.

After college, Florence returned to Arkansas and married lawyer Thomas Price, with whom she had two daughters. In 1927, Florence and her family moved to Chicago to escape the Jim Crow South. There, Price blossomed as a composer. Her First Symphony in E minor won a composing prize, and was later premiered by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1933, marking the first time that a major American orchestra played music by an African American woman.



While her career during her lifetime was surely limited by the discrimination she faced both as a woman and as a person of color, that discrimination continued after her untimely death in 1953, preventing much of her music from ever being heard for over half a century.

But then, in 2009, a twist! In an old abandoned house on the outskirts of St. Anne, Illinois, a curious discovery was made: piles of musical manuscripts, books, personal papers, and other documents. It turned out that this run-down house had once been the summer home of Florence Price. Inside was a treasure trove of over 30 boxes of music, dozens of compositions by Florence Price, which up to that point historians had thought were lost forever.

The discovery seemed to ignite a renewed interest in Price’s music. In 2018, she was inducted into the Arkansas Women’s Hall of Fame. In August 2020, the International Florence Price Festival held its inaugural gathering celebrating Price's music and legacy.

To hear some of Florence B. Price’s compositions, watch the October 24 worship service on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUZ4BleQK3oq6ifX05Q_VVA) – Justin Gray, Tim McKnight, and Jennifer Savion bring her music to life!



Thank You, Don Anderson!

On October 9, Don Anderson brought his annual “Don Anderson and Friends” auction concert to a delighted audience via Zoom. Thank you, Don, for that uplifting evening of toe-tapping folk music! And also thanks to Dean Goddette for facilitating the event. If you didn’t catch it live, for a \$10 donation (text “10” to 760-280-9599) you can watch the concert at <https://youtu.be/7Hr8FXgi01o>.



Looking Ahead:

Chancel Choir Rehearsals in the Chapel.....Thursdays @7:30p
 Handchime Ensemble RehearsalsTBD



Coordinating Team

Goal: Nourish BIPOC congregants

- Brainstormed our role in Chalice's anti-racism work now that we know the Transformation Team's goals for the year. We feel our goal is to reach a broader audience than is working with Transformation Team. We identified two possible trainings to use for people new to Anti-racism work. We will begin this work at the October Council of Chairs meeting.
- The Transformation team led the Oct. 10 worship service in honor of Indigenous Peoples Day.
- Transformation Team invited congregants to read "Indigenous Peoples History of the United States."

Goal: Transition to multi-platform gatherings

- Tech team (Dean Goddette and David O'Gwynn) have met multiple times to prepare for our return to services.
- We purchased a carbon dioxide monitor for the chapel. Choir will use it during rehearsal to gather information about air circulation in the chapel. We have updated our internet system to allow better upload time so we can stream our systems.
- Dean has contacted some of Chalice's music leaders to describe where we are in developing hybrid Sunday services and is welcoming questions from them.
- We pooled the congregation about Sunday worship with the primary intention of getting people thinking about the safety precautions that are necessary. 80 people responded to the survey and 40 of them offered additional comments. We conclude that we are all a little overwhelmed and will be figuring it out as we go. It continues to be hard to plan far ahead.
- Using rooms in the Hub is awaiting a HVAC repair that has been challenging to schedule with a qualified repair company.
- CT is creating a health covenant for congregants to sign with a list of expectations related to health and safety precautions. This is modeled on a Health Safety Covenant created by First Church of San Diego

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- The next Council of Chairs meeting is October 30.
- We have ongoing projects related to the physical campus, both cleanup and improvements.



Board Report

- Discussed the first three sections of the Commission on Institutional Change: Widening the Circle of Concern
- Employee Vaccination Policy approved
- Financial Inspection Team approved
- Eighth Principle Adoption progress reported
- Mission Statement Task Force began meeting
- PSWD merger in PWR
- Board/CT retreat date to be January 22 at Chalice Hub from 9:30-1

Open Call for Nominations for Chalice's Board of Trustees

It has been another unforgettable year, and through it all, your Chalice community has been there for you. Rev. Sharon, our fantastic staff, and the Coordinating Team have done an exceptional job keeping us together through the pandemic, while the Board of Trustees continues its critical work of planning for Chalice's future. Many of Chalice's long-time Members have already dedicated their time and talents toward serving on the Board, and now is the time for fresh ideas. Maybe you would like to contribute your talent and unique life skills to the Board, moving us toward an even stronger future!

Chalice's Nominating Committee (Marshall Fogel, Richard Korts, and Alec Bergamini) is seeking nominations for open positions on the Board of Trustees for the 2022-2023 congregational year beginning July 1, 2022. Open positions will include Vice-President, Secretary, and three Trustee positions. Recommended qualifications vary depending on the position, and are available in the Chalice Wiki, in the Policy Book at Chapter 5, page 31, available at this [link](#). (You don't have access to the Chalice Wiki? Our Office Administrator Kathleen Swift can set you up; email her at office@chaliceucongregation.org.) If you are interested in serving Chalice as a member of the Board, or to nominate another congregational member, or with any questions, please contact Marshall, Richard or Alec. Nominations must close by Wednesday, March 9, 2022, but of course the sooner we can put together a solid slate of candidates, the better!



Green Sanctuary Team

Please save these resources for your holiday shopping. Consumer season is upon us! It's a time to be especially conscious of our habits. We know the best things to do for the planet. It's just sometimes hard to give up what has given us pleasure or what we think others expect. There's the perceived disappointment of kids expecting shiny wrapped things. There's the effort of crafting experiences or original art in lieu of Amazon. And, of course, no one welcomes a glum eco-freak at a holiday discussion or worse at a holiday party. Here are some cheery alternatives to Black Friday which, by the way, was crafted by and mostly benefits the behemoths that we have learned to love to hate.

1. **Bright Friday:** <https://www.begoodtopeople.com/pages/bright-friday> This site is full of ideas to make the holidays special without the consumer baggage.
2. **Social Saturday.** It takes place the day after Black Friday and encourages consumers to buy from social enterprises. For a site that gives you a choice of tangible or intangible gifts, it's hard to beat UNICEF: <https://www.market.unicefusa.org>
3. **Small Business Saturday.** This one involves shopping online or in person at an independent business, preferably near where you live. Often, they will ship for you, at a price, to take that hassle out of your holiday.
4. Saturday not a good day for you? Patronize **Giving Tuesday**, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving (or any other day). Go to the website of the nonprofit of your choice and donate in your loved ones' name. Here's one that does good environmental legal work and will notify your loved one of your gift: <https://www.edf.org/donate-online>
5. The Granddaddy of them all is **BUY NOTHING FRIDAY!** Staying out of stores and off the shopping websites November 26 sends the message. Estimates are that upwards of 86% of Black Friday profits go to a handful of retail giants, most of which have abysmal worker and waste profiles.

Here's to a cheery and love-filled holiday season.

Chalice Green Sanctuary meets the 4th Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.



Eighth Principle Task Force

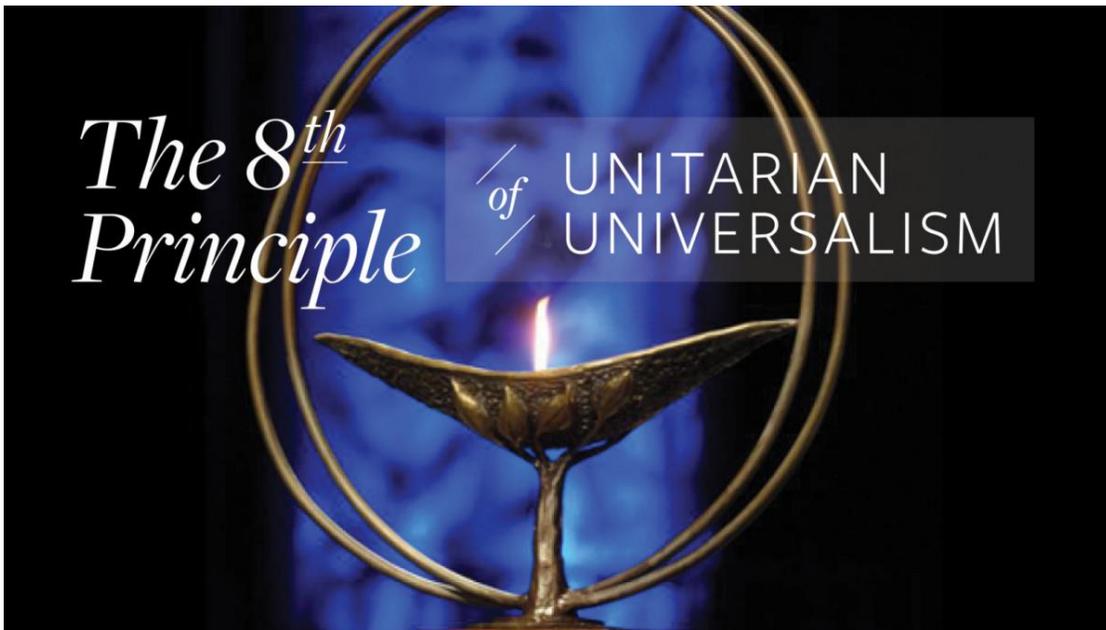
Rev. Sharon's service on Nov 7th is about the Eighth Principle and a plan for our congregation to vote on adopting the Eighth Principle sometime in 2022. If you haven't heard about the Eighth Principle, here's a good place to start: <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/>

We're having several follow up information sessions to hear any questions you have about the Eighth Principle. The first is at Coffee Hour following the Nov 7th service and a second session on Monday Nov 8th at 7-8PM.

Sunday Nov 7th at 11AM, Coffee Hour Zoom

Monday Nov 8th at 7PM

If you have questions, feel free to contact the Eighth Principle Task Force



Group Announcements

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet on Friday, November 19 at Chins Szechwan Restaurant, 15721 Bernardo Heights Pkwy. in Rancho Bernardo. The restaurant is at the south end of the Sprouts shopping center at the Pomerado Road/Bernardo Heights intersection. We meet at 11:30 AM and welcome newcomers! Please RSVP by November 17 to Carol Simpson.

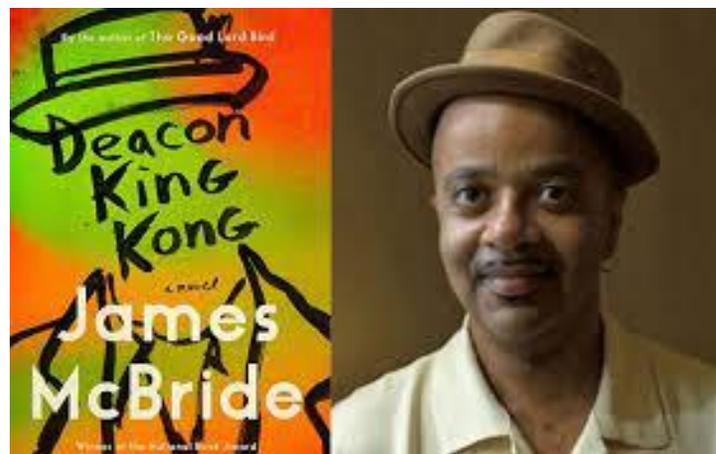


Note: The Lunch Bunch will not meet in December.

Women's Book Discussion Group

The Chalice Womens' Book Discussion Group will meet the Third Tuesday of the month, November 16th, at 7:00 pm via Zoom to discuss *Deacon King Kong*. Author James McBride has written a propulsive and comic neighborhood epic set in the 1960s with a cast of characters that are beguiling, boozed-filled, and larger than life. When a young drug lord is shot in broad daylight by a bumbling drunk known to everyone as Sportcoat, the Brooklyn neighborhood they live in is upended. As Sportcoat comically and unknowingly dodges the police, his actions ricochet around him, igniting a web of drug wars, backdoor dealings with mobsters, and church brawls that demonstrate just how vital yet fragile communities can be. *Deacon King Kong* tells the fictional story of one Brooklyn project, but in so doing tells a broader story of race and religion, getting by and getting out, and how grudges and alliances become embedded in the foundations of our neighborhoods.

Non-binary and trans women are warmly welcomed. If you care to participate, email Mary Best for the Zoom information.



Readers' Theater



Our gathering this month will be on Monday, November 22nd at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We'll be reading aloud a fresh adaptation of a classic, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, by Todd Kreidler. A progressive white couple's proud liberal sensibilities are put to the test when their daughter brings her African American fiancé home to meet them.

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

Please contact Deb Coon so she can send you an invitation to the Zoom meeting.



**GUESS WHO'S
COMING TO
DINNER**

Chalice Web Site: <https://chaliceuucongregation.org>
Address: 2324 Miller Avenue; Escondido, CA; 92029
Phone: 760.737.0393

PrevUUs is published monthly by 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 per request. Deadline is the 24th of the month.

Submit articles to: Office@chaliceuucongregation.org

**With much gratitude to our Editorial Team:
Peggy Keifer, Callie Leef, and Andi Stout.**



Calendar for November, 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Exec. Board Meet.	3 9A Cracker Barrel 2P CT	4 10:30A Women's Meditation 7:30 Choir	5 5:30P Book Read Indigenous People	6
7 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group	8 1P Poetry Group	9 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Board Meeting	10 9A Cracker Barrel 6:30P Men's Support	11 10:30A Women's Meditation 7:30 Choir	12 12:30 Elder's Lunch	13
14 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group	15	16 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Women's Book Disc.	17 9A Cracker Barrel 2P CT	18 10:30A Women's Meditation 7:30 Choir	19 11:30A Ladies Out to Lunch	20 10A Worship Associates
21 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group	22 6:30P Green Team 6:30P Readers Theater	23 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 2P Staff Meeting 5:30P Yoga	24 9A Cracker Barrel 7:15P Prayer Circle	25 10:30A Women's Meditation 7:30 Choir	26	27
28 10A Worship Service TBA 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group	29	30 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Meeting 5:30P Yoga				

