

April 2022 NEWSLETTER



Volume #23 | Issue #4 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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Daisies: The Flowers of April

"You can cut all the flowers, but
you can't stop spring from coming."

- Pablo Neruda.

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=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBIV1ZiWW0yZVFhZz09>

April 3—Rev. Sharon Wylie

“What It Means to be Multicultural”

The word “multicultural” is often used as if it were a synonym for “diverse.” But being in a community of multiple cultures is more complicated than that. Let’s consider what might need to change at Chalice for us to become a multicultural community.

April 10– Rev. Jacqueline Brett

“Living Into Possibility: A Womanist Faith”

Writer Alice Walker introduced the term "womanist" to our lexicon nearly 40 years ago, describing the experiences of Black women at the intersection of gender, race, class, culture, and sexuality. Today's service explores womanist theology and faith that has infused individual lives, communities, and even the life of our nation.

Rev. Jacqueline Brett is the newly called senior minister of the Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Durham, North Carolina.

This is the eighth 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.

April 17—Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Finding Faith”

A reflection on Easter.

April 24—Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Planting Seeds”

This morning our service honors Earth Day.



Minister's Message

We are in a new phase of the pandemic. I call it: You're on your own.

Overnight, the "trigger dashboard" on the County of San Diego's website has disappeared. We are no longer receiving information about how many community outbreaks are occurring or where.

Masks are no longer required indoors in the State of California. Instead, they are "strongly recommended."

Indeed, the pandemic seems to be over, except that it's not. In the United States, we are approaching one million deaths from COVID-19. People are still dying every day. We seem to have collectively decided that the only thing we really have energy for is pretending that everything is fine.

To describe the situation less sarcastically: public health policy is now focused on protecting the integrity of healthcare systems and not on preventing infection or protecting vulnerable populations.

The numbers we do know right now are good when compared to other times in the pandemic. In San Diego County, our daily case rate is less than 25. Our positivity percentage is less than 8%. The infection rate is less than 1 (meaning that spread is declining). These good trends prompted us to allow for in-person worship (in addition to online worship) starting on March 6 (this decision was emailed to the congregation on March 3).

At the same time, we know that a new variant (BA.2) is already in San Diego. Given that the mask mandate has gone away, we can expect that numbers will begin increasing again.

This is our lives now.

What "you're on your own" means is that for the most part, when you make decisions about what events you attend and what activities you participate in, you cannot assume there will be any protections in place. If you go to the store, it is because you feel reasonably safe with your own protections. If you travel, it is because you feel reasonably safe and willing to take a certain amount of risk. If you eat at restaurants...well, you get the gist.

At Chalice, we continue to work as a community to take care of each other while offering choices that are allowing many of us to be together in-person again: for Sunday worship, for coffee hour afterwards, for our small group meetings. We continue to acquire and improve our technologies for offering multiplatform gathering options.

It is the work of each of us to be clear about what protections we need for our



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



President's Column

At the last Board of Trustees meeting Kate Vereb gave this reading. I liked it so much that I decided I wanted to share it with you.

Community Means Strength
By Starhawk

We are all longing to go home to some place
we have never been—a place half-remembered and half-
envisioned
we can only catch glimpses of from time to time.
Community.
Somewhere, there are people to whom we can speak
with passion
without having the words catch in our throats.
Somewhere a circle of hands
will open to receive us, eyes will light up as we enter,
voices will celebrate with us whenever we come into our own power.
Community means strength
that joins our strength to do the work that needs to be done.
Arms to hold us when we falter.
A circle of healing.
A circle of friends.
Someplace where we can be free.

Over these last two years being on Zoom, we have enjoyed powerful Sunday services and many groups have continued to meet online. But one of the things hardest to keep up, in my opinion, has been the strong sense of community we had enjoyed prior to the pandemic. Having a strong community is one of the most commonly mentioned qualities desired by our congregants in all the surveys we have done over the years. We can learn on our own, we can grow spiritually on our own, we can fight for social causes on our own but we can't create community on our own. By being in community, we gain people who care about us and support us and love us. As we move back to in-person services, may the joy and power of community grow deeply in us all.

Love,
Anne



Anne McKeirnan
Board President



Family Ministries

Religious Education Program at Chalice

Happy April!

The spring equinox, or *Ostara*, is also called the vernal equinox and has long been celebrated as a time of renewal, rebirth, and new beginnings. The Religious Education classes celebrated the spring equinox on March 20 with a focus on finding balance in our lives and setting down the things that are not serving us well so we can blossom in the new season.



Chris O'Connor
Director of Family
Ministries

I want to share Chalice Lighting Words for the Spring Equinox that I found on the UUA website. They are lovely and seemed to speak to the importance of this nature-centered tradition. Notice the author's name! Our very own Reverend Sharon!

The hours of day and night are in balance.
In honor of Earth-centered traditions that celebrate this time of year,
we observe that the flaming chalice holds the elements of the four directions:
Earth, air, fire, water.
The lamp oil for earth
The air that feeds the flame
The fire we light
And the chalice itself, the cup, the symbol of water
We light our chalice and reflect on the balance we seek in our lives;
the balance we seek in our hearts;
the balance we seek in our world.

Author: Sharon Wylie

In the last few weeks, the youth group decorated cookies and made sand paintings while enjoying their time together on Sunday afternoons. I appreciate Cai Palmer who shared some of their work with us.

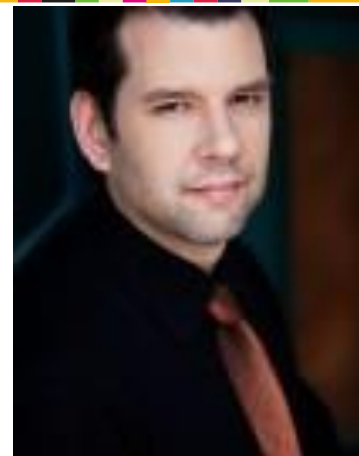




Music Program

Spotlight on Black Composers and Musicians: Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint George

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. Usually we spotlight American black composers, or composers who at least had a presence in America. But on March 20, the spotlight fell on a man born 30 years before the founding of the United States. That man was Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint George.



Tim McKnight
Music Director

Joseph Bologne was born on Christmas day in 1745 on the French Caribbean island of Guadeloupe. He was the son of a wealthy French plantation owner and an enslaved woman of Senegalese origin. Joseph's facility for learning astounded his teachers, and his father knew that in the colonies his remarkable son would be condemned to a life of humiliation and casual brutality. At the age of 8 years old, Joseph's father brought him to France where he would have greater opportunities and experience less overt prejudice. Bologne was a prolific French classical composer, violin virtuoso, and conductor of leading symphony orchestras in Paris in the court of Marie Antoinette – he was even her harpsichord teacher. He was one of the most important musicians in Paris during the Pre-Revolutionary period, as well as a renowned champion fencer and athlete. None other than John Adams regarded him as "the most accomplished man in Europe."



In 1757, his father was named gentleman of the King's Chamber, a personal assistant to King Louis the 15th. At the age of 17, Joseph was made officer of the King's Bodyguard and given the title of Le Chevalier de Saint George. Although he enjoyed some privileges due to his father being a noble, he still had to endure racism and racist laws that existed in Pre-Revolutionary France. Being of mixed race he had greater legal rights than a slave, but in spite of name and fame he would forever be denied the privileges of a white man.

On August 26, 1789, when the revolution declared equal rights to all French people, Saint-Georges embraced the new law and decided to provide his services to the Revolutionary Army. He became one of the first black Colonels in the French army



leading 800 infantry men and 2 cavalries in Europe's first all-black regiment fighting on the side of the Republic.

Joseph is best remembered as the first known classical composer of African ancestry, and he was extraordinary prolific. He wrote two symphonies, three sets of string quartets, 6 comic operas, 3 violin sonatas, 14 violin concertos, a sonata for harp and flute, a bassoon concerto, a clarinet concerto and many others. He knew many of the composers of his day, including Haydn and Mozart. Saint-George began his career as a musician with the Concert des Amateurs and made his sensational debut as a violin soloist with that orchestra in 1772. In the following year he was named its conductor. Under his leadership it became regarded as the finest orchestra in Paris and one of the finest in all of Europe. And in 1781, finances forced the orchestra to disband, and he became director of Concert de la Loge Olympique. Queen Marie-Antoinette frequently attended its concerts, and it premiered Haydn's six Paris Symphonies in 1786 with the Queen in attendance.

In 1793 Joseph's life took an unfortunate turn when he was imprisoned for 11 months on false charges and threatened with execution after returning from military duties. He was eventually acquitted and released, but ultimately decided to retire. Even in retirement, however, he became ever more devoted to playing his violin saying, "Never before did I play it so well." Joseph died in Paris in 1799 at the age of 53.

Looking Ahead:

Chancel Choir Rehearsals in the Chapel.....Thursdays @ 7:30p in the Chapel
Handchime Ensemble RehearsalsThursdays @ 6:30p in the Hub

Gloria Angelo Arts Education Scholarship Fund

The Chalice Music Program is pleased to announce the availability of visual and performing arts scholarships through the Gloria Angelo Arts Education Scholarship Fund. This scholarship fund was established in 2007 by Paula Gonzales in memory of her mother, Gloria Angelo. Scholarships are available for lessons, workshops, summer camps, and other educational opportunities in the arts. Drama, dance, music, voice, painting, and drawing are among the arts that would be supported by this fund.

For more information and applications, email music@chaliceucongregation.org.



Return to Center Sundays



Come to Chalice for
RETURN TO CENTER SUNDAYS

April 10
April 17 (Easter)
April 24

Worship is at 10 a.m., as usual, but you don't need to attend worship to come for these deluxe coffee hours!

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In-Person:
Delicious refreshments!
Special music!
A mini-labyrinth walk!
Fun with Cameras in the chapel!
Multiplatform meeting technology in the Blue Room!

Online: Zoom Meeting ID: 118 751 781
Fun with videos!
Mingle with the in-person people in the Blue Room!



Green Sanctuary Team



You may have heard rumors that Chalice is "going solar." FYI, going solar isn't a bad thing in the way that "going postal" or "going to the dogs" is. What going solar means for us is that Chalice will select a local solar company to put photovoltaic panels on the back roof of the Hub for the purpose of generating electricity. Boring, but exciting at the same time. Through San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E), the electricity we generate will go into the grid and offset the electricity we use. Because of cost and technical issues, battery storage is not planned at this time. While we don't yet have a date for the project, we have solicited bids. The hope is to install by fall of this year to stay ahead of SDG&E changes to the net metering (NEM 2.0) program that sets rates for solar. Once the system is up and running, we plan to have a "say-bye-bye-to-a-big-chunk-of-our-carbon-footprint" party. As always, your Chalice Green Sanctuary can use your input. For information, to offer advice, or to request a link to our next meeting (April 26, 6:30 p.m.) email Chaliceuucgreen@gmail.com.

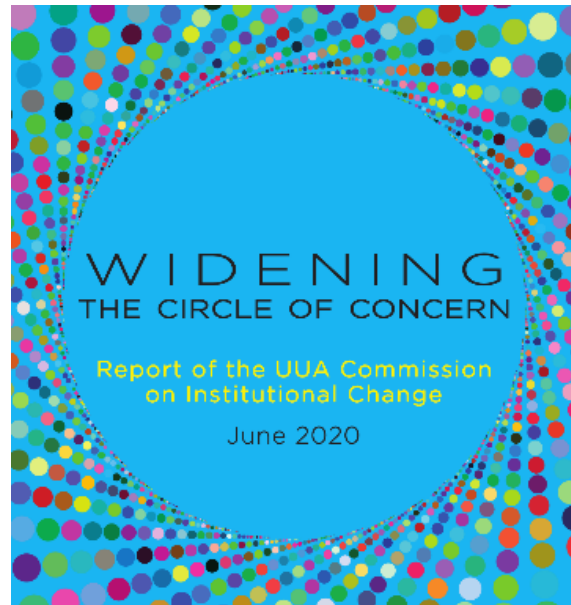


Eighth Principle Task Force

An Invitation from the 8th Principle Collaboration Group of San Diego

The 8th Principle Collaboration Group of San Diego invites you to join us in beginning a study of *Widening the Circle of Concern*. The first three sessions of our group will meet virtually this spring at **10 am on Saturday mornings: April 30, May 21, and June 11**. We have found these discussions to be enriching and fulfilling work and hope to share that joy among our congregations. This work is an affirming way to either celebrate the adoption and implementation of the 8th

principle or work towards its adoption. These sessions will be informal and open to all San Diego UUUs. Each month will have a chapter from the book to read before our discussion. We hope you'll return each month, but joining for a topic that particularly interests you would work as well. The book is available for free online, including in audio format, and is also available for purchase as a printed book or kindle book (links below).



- April 30: Getting Started: Preface - Trends
- May 21: Theology
- June 11: Governance

What is *Widening the Circle of Concern*?

Widening the Circle of Concern: Report of the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) COIC (Commission on Institutional Change) is the final work of the Commission, presented in June 2020. This book “represents the culmination of the Commission’s work analyzing structural and systemic racism and white supremacy culture within Unitarian Universalism and makes recommendations to advance long-term cultural and institutional change that redeems the essential promise and ideals of Unitarian Universalism” (from back cover). [Read more about the Commission on Institutional Change here.](#)



What is the 8th Principle Collaboration Group of San Diego?

Our group formed in 2021 as part of the work San Diego UU congregations are doing to implement the 8th principle. We collaborate to share ideas and resources; we celebrate being able to do the work of the 8th principle in community. We usually meet monthly and welcome new members. Use the sign-up link above to join our mailing list.

If you are interested, please sign-up below:

<https://bit.ly/3CXmdHb>

[Read or listen online](#) (free)

[Download the pdf](#) (free)

[Purchase the paperback book](#)

[Purchase the kindle edition](#)



March Spirit Booster Gathering





Coordinating Team Report

Anti-racism Goal:

- In response to the Board's request to set aside money for BIPOC businesses, we have decided to require all funded committees and groups to allocate 10% of their budget to a BIPOC organization.
- CT agreed with the revised language for the annual goals.

Transitioning back to face-to-face interactions:

- The March Spirit Gathering has been planned for March 27th
- We have decided to resume in-person gathering using a metric on the San Diego County website: www.sandiegocounty.gov Covid-19 in San Diego County website.
- The February Spirit Booster Activity was a great success; hygiene items and valentines were delivered to the ICS for their clients.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- Window film will be installed from March 5th through March 8th.

Board Report

- Eighth Principle Task Force update (Wendy Metzger) Paula Cole Jones presented her workshop; 36 people attended. The Task Force will provide some more forums for congregants to ask questions or voice any concerns. The adoption of the Eighth Principle will most likely be offered to the Congregation at the annual Congregational Meeting June 12.
- Congregational goals for 2022-2023 approved
- Annual congregational meeting will be 6/12 after service. Ideal would be a hybrid meeting
- Camp DeBenneville Pines Camp for Chalice will be June 3 through the 5th.
- Board Approved submissions of three grant applications. One for multiplatform technology, a second for solar panels for the campus, and a third for the "UU the Vote campaign".
- January Board CT retreat will be April 2 at 10:00am
- 2022-2023 Board Retreat June 18, 2022

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 PM. Location Zoom.



Nominations for the Board of Trustees 2022-2023

From Marshal Fogel, Chair of the Nominating Committee: On behalf of the Nominating Committee, I'm delighted to provide the Secretary of the Chalice Board with the slate of candidates for Officers and Trustees for vote at the Annual Meeting in June, 2022. These terms begin on July 1, 2022.

- Vice President- Kate Vereb (3-year term to succeed Tom Carlstrom as President on July 1, 2023 and then to serve as Past President on July 1, 2024)
- Secretary- Emily Troxell (2-year term)
- Trustee- Sarah Shapard (2-year term)
- Trustee- Alice Dodd (2-year term)
- Trustee- Carol Simpson (2-year term)

Also,

Nominating Committee- Patty Carlisle (3-year term)

Congregational Goals for Fiscal 2022-23

- ❖ To more fully live our UU values in our journey toward wholeness, we commit to explore ways within our congregation to become a greater source of nourishment for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC). At a minimum we want our white congregants not to marginalize our BIPOC congregants. More purposeful work may focus on encouraging internal congregation dialogue and self-reflection on issues such as structural racism, white supremacy practices and anti-oppression work.
- ❖ As we transition back to face-to-face gatherings, our goal is to continue to provide online accessibility of our worship, meetings, events, and activities while also embracing the power and comfort of being physically present in community.



Group Announcements

Readers' Theater



We are a play-reading group that meets monthly to sight-read a play for our own education and entertainment. In order to read the range of plays that interest us and rarely fit our exact number and demographics, we draw roles at random. The only prerequisites for participation are comfort in sight-reading aloud and willingness to step into roles and situations that may be out of one's comfort zone. If interested, please contact Deb to get on the group's monthly mailing list.

Our next gathering will be held on Monday, April 25th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom, when we'll be reading a comedy by Arthur Miller, *The Creation of the World and Other Business*. Breathing new life into timeless biblical tales, Miller charmingly reimagines the Book of Genesis from the temptation of Adam and Eve to the fraternal tragedy of Cain and Abel. In the beginning, God, generally satisfied with his creation, is nonetheless perplexed by Adam and Eve—why won't they multiply? It takes wily Lucifer to interest them in anything more than playing handball in the Garden of Eden, but their new knowledge comes at a price. Though *The Creation of the World and Other Business* was Arthur Miller's first Broadway comedy, it is full of the searching insight and sparkling dialogue that distinguish his best dramas.

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

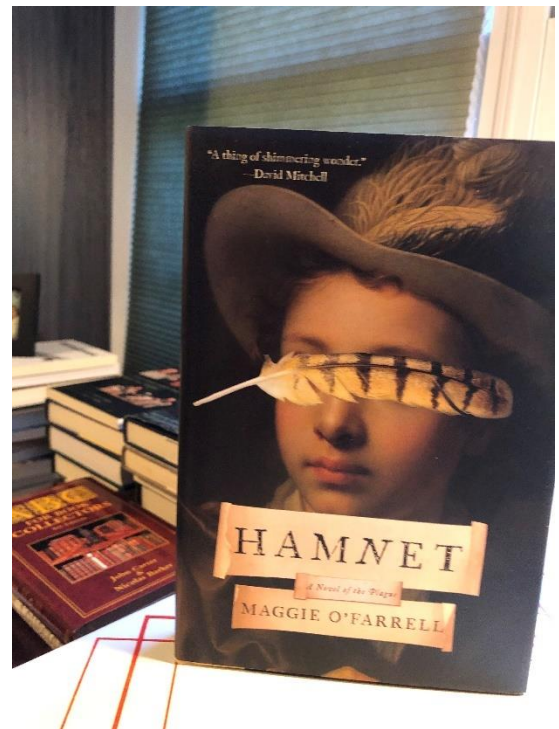
The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet on April 15 at the Cork & Craft. The restaurant is located at 16990 Via Tazon in Rancho Bernardo. We meet at 11:30 AM for conversation and reconnection after the long separation due to Covid restriction. We welcome new faces to our small group. Please contact Cindy to RSVP.



Women's Discussion Group

On April 19 at 7:00 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet via Zoom to discuss *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

With her eighth novel, O'Farrell brilliantly turns to historical fiction to confront a parent's worst nightmare: the death of a child. Set in Stratford, England, in the late 16th century, *Hamnet* imagines the emotional, domestic, and artistic repercussions after the world's most famous (though never named) playwright and his wife lose their only son, 11-year-old Hamnet, to the bubonic plague in 1596. Four years later, the boy's father transposes his grief into his masterpiece — titled with a common variant of his son's name — in which the father dies and the son lives to avenge him.



O'Farrell's narratives are rarely straightforwardly chronological. In *Hamnet*, she toggles between two timelines, one beginning on the day the plague first afflicts Hamnet's twin sister Judith, the other circling back to the beginning of their parents' passionate relationship some 15 years earlier.

In this telling, the woman we know as Anne Hathaway is called Agnes, pronounced Ann-yis, which O'Farrell explains is how her name appeared in her father's will. She's a wonderful character, a free spirit and healer who, like her late mother, is most at home in the woods. But she's also a Cinderella in her nasty stepmother's household, in which the future playwright — still in his teens with an uncertain future — is indentured as a Latin tutor to help settle a debt incurred by his errant father.

Hamnet vividly captures the life-changing intensity of maternity in its myriad stages — from the pain of childbirth to the unassuageable grief of loss. Fierce emotions and lyrical prose are what we've come to expect of O'Farrell. But with this historical novel she has expanded her repertoire, enriching her narrative with atmospheric details of the sights, smells, and relentless daily toil involved in running a household in Elizabethan England.



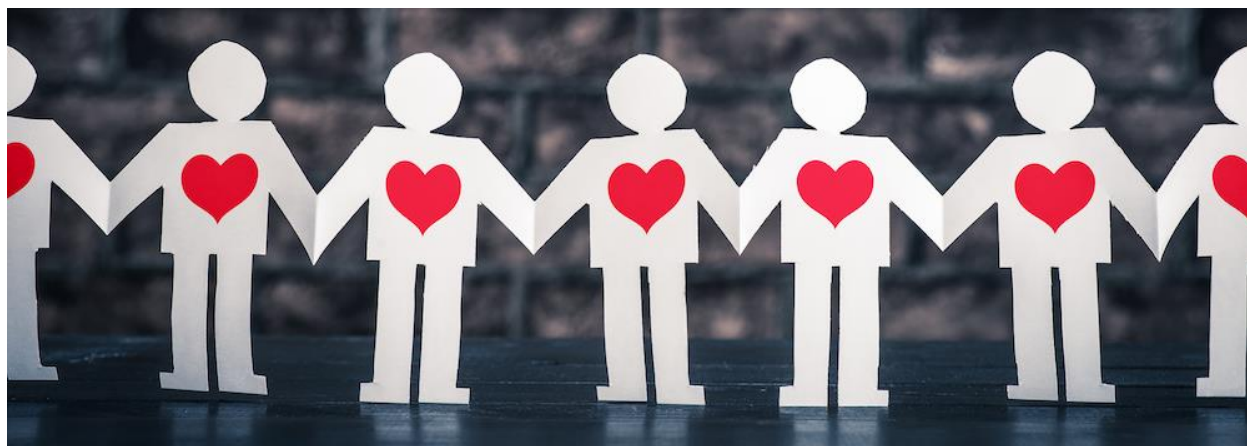
Information

MEMBERSHIP

Official membership is not required for participation in most Chalice activities, but there may come a time when you hear a voice inside saying, “This is my religious home. I want to support it.” If so, it may be time to think about making the commitment of membership.

To learn more about membership, contact Kathleen Swift, our Office Administrator, by email at office@chaliceuucongregation.org.

If you are ready to join, please schedule a time to meet with Rev. Sharon by emailing her at swylie@chaliceuucongregation.org.



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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 by the 24th of each month to: Office@chaliceuucongregation.org

With much gratitude to our Editorial Team:

Peggy Keifer, Callie Leef, and Andi Stout.



Calendar for April, 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Board/CT Retreat |
| 3 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group | 4 | 5 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Board | 6 9A Cracker Barrel 2P C.T. | 7 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30 Chimes 7:30 Choir | 8 12:30P Elder's Lunch | 9 10A Council of Chairs |
| 10 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 1P Private Event 4:30P Youth Group | 11 1P Poetry Group | 12 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Board of Trustees | 13 9A Cracker Barrel 6:30 Men's Support | 14 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30 Hand Chimes 7:30 Choir | 15 11:30 Ladies Out to Lunch | 16 Circle Suppers (Various times) |
| 17 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group | 18 | 19 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 7P Women's Book Disc. | 20 9A Cracker Barrel 1P Fiber Art 2P C.T. 6:30 Women's Support | 21 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30 Hand Chimes 7:30 Choir | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9A K-5 R.E. 10A Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 4:30P Youth Group | 25 6:30P Readers Theater | 26 10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch 5:30P Yoga 6:30 Green Team | 27 9A Cracker Barrel 7:15 Prayer Circle | 28 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30 Hand Chimes 7:30 Choir | 29 | 30 10A Widening the Circle Study 10A Worship Team |

