

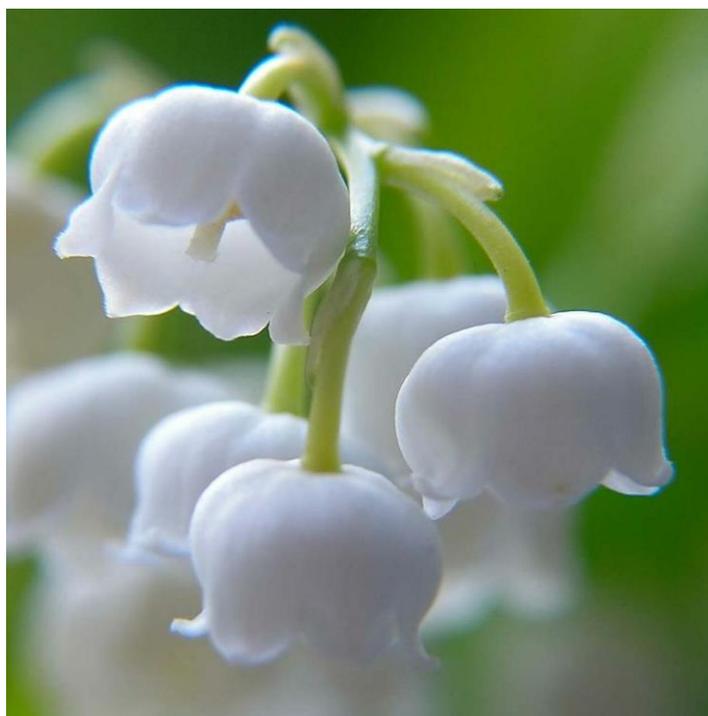
May 2022 NEWSLETTER



Volume #23 | Issue #5 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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*Lily of the Valley—one of the
two birth flowers of May*

*“I’ve got sunshine on a cloudy day.
When it’s cold outside, I’ve got the
month of May.” – Smokey Robinson*

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=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBIV1ZlIWW0yZVFhZz09>

May 1—Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Adoration Sunday”

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

May 8– Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Finding a Different Pace”

As we resume many of our pre-pandemic activities, let’s consider if busy-ness and exhaustion are the status symbols we want to reclaim.

May 15—Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer
“Reckoning”

Who are reckonings on race and histories of oppression really aimed at and what do they accomplish?

Rev. Dyer is the Lead Minister at First Parish in Cambridge Unitarian Universalist, Cambridge, MA and a Harvard University Chaplain. He is the author of *Love Beyond God*, a collection of meditations focused on Black identity and liberal religion. He maintains a regular blog, Spirituwelness.org, which explores race, bodies, faith and politics.

This is the ninth 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.

May 22—Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Recovering from the Pandemic”

May is Mental Health Month. This morning’s service reflects on the stresses of the pandemic and a timeline for recovery.

May 29—Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Oppressions in Ourselves”

The proposed 8th principle speaks of dismantling “oppressions in ourselves.” What does that mean?



Minister's Message

My four-month sabbatical begins on July 4th. On the one hand, that is two months away, which feels like a long time. On the other hand, it's just around the corner!

This will be the second sabbatical for me in my 10 years of serving Chalice (my first sabbatical—also four months—was in 2016). It is recommended in our denomination that ministers take sabbatical leave every 4-5 years. The scheduling of a sabbatical is not something that happens automatically or routinely; in April 2021, I submitted my request for sabbatical leave from July through October of 2022, and the Board of Trustees approved my request. It is considered a good practice to schedule sabbatical leave a year (or more) in advance.

Even before the pandemic, ministry was well-known to be a high stress, high burnout vocation. The New York Times reported on clergy burnout in August 2010. The pandemic, of course, has only added to the stresses. Clergy are now part of what's being called "The Great Resignation," the ongoing economic trend of employees resigning, retiring, and switching careers.

The UUA does not usually give us lots of data to analyze, but it is becoming clearer and clearer that there are more positions for ministers than there are currently ministers to fill the positions. This is a dramatic change from just two years ago. Of our five UU congregations in San Diego County, only two (including Chalice) currently have the same minister(s) that they had in March 2020. First UU Church of San Diego has filled their lead minister position this past year with a series of short-term ministers—ranging from 6 weeks to four months—called the "Minister in Residence." (Their new developmental minister will begin serving this coming August.)

I also know multiple ministers who took substantial time off this year for mental health.

All this information is on my heart because it helps me be gentle with myself that I feel so tired, or that it takes me so long to do things I used to do more quickly. Ordinary tasks seem harder than they used to, and activities that require a certain amount of brain power take longer than ever. I know many of you in the congregation feel this way as well. We're traumatized! We're exhausted. It will take us all a long time to recover.

(If you want a giggle about what our brains are going through, go to YouTube to find Saturday Night Live's recent "Is My Brain Okay" skit.)

To sum it all up: It will be hard to be away from you all when it finally feels like we might be setting the pandemic behind us. And I know that my taking time off now will be important for me to continue to serve as your minister, as I hope to do, for years to come.

Blessings and love to you,
Sharon



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



President's Column

Hopefully by now most of you have seen or heard our newly proposed mission statement:

With love at the center, the mission of this congregation is to...

INSPIRE, CONNECT, and ACT.

INSPIRE individual and communal spiritual growth,

CONNECT through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries, and

ACT to promote UU principles in ourselves and in the wider world



Anne McKeirnan
Board President

Recently, I was talking to a few different Chalice members, and we were all excited about the recent upswing in in-person activities. In just one week we had gone to the Fiber Arts group, Meditation group, Women's Book group, and a number of other meetings. We were all thrilled to see each other and to connect!

This renewal of face-to-face interaction made me think of the mission statement with connect as a key ingredient. And connection led me to think of community. One of the important qualities of Chalice mentioned many times in the surveys and focus groups was the strong sense of community. And, as I thought of the word community it led me to think of Beloved Community. Which then led me to the Eighth Principle.

What I love so much about the Eighth Principle is that it equates spiritual wholeness with Beloved community. This reminds me of when we became a Welcoming Congregation years ago. By intentionally welcoming members of the LGBTQ community, we grew in love and spirit within ourselves individually and as a congregation. I feel it is the same with the Eighth Principle. It is a beacon or a marker to the world that we intentionally welcome and value members of the BIPOC community in our congregations.

And this brings me back to our mission statement. From inspiration and connection, we move to action. And again, in the Eighth Principle we see the importance of action. I believe we, individually, as a congregation, and as an association, are called by our inspiration in our teachings and connection in our community to act for a better world. The Eighth Principle, to me, is one step towards the world in which I want to live.

However, the Eighth Principle isn't the be all and end all. We can get to the goal of Beloved Community and fight racism and white supremacy without it. And, of course, in and of itself it doesn't do any of those things. But it does make a statement. Just like being able to say we are a Welcoming Congregation. It tells the world who we are, and it invites those affected most by racism and white supremacy to join us. It says we are with you, and we are you. It, in my opinion, is an act of love.

Yours in inspiration, connection, and action,
Anne



Family Ministries

Volunteer Opportunities!

The Religious Education classes have been meeting in-person at Chalice since last June. Everyone has enjoyed the sense of community and have weathered the heat and cold—well, mild chill—as we continued to explore UU principles outdoors. The groups are now meeting indoors, using correct guidelines for COVID safety. Although meeting in one, big, happy group for the last 10 months has its upside, we are now able to be in smaller groups so we can focus on topics appropriate to the wide age range of our children and youth.

These changes mean that volunteers are even more important than ever to support the important program we have for religious education at Chalice. Two adults are needed for every class, so it does take many involved congregants to join in our efforts.

Please contact me if you are interested or even just curious about the role of volunteers in Religious Education. I can promise that you will find meaningful, fun work if you become involved in our RE community.

Chris O'Connor
coconnor@chaliceuucongregation.org



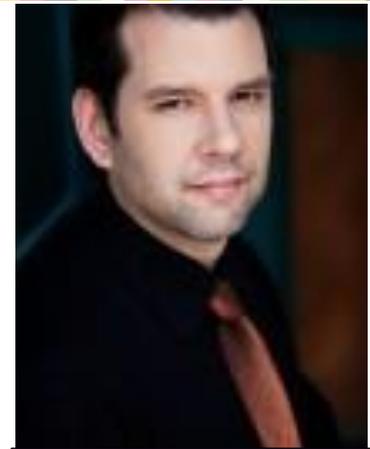
Chris O'Connor
Director of Family
Ministries



Music Program

Thank you, Chalice Musicians!

Many thanks to our Chalice musicians who made our April pledge drive deluxe coffee hours so "deluxe"! Tom Carlstrom, Sarah Shapard and Stuart Holmes, and John Schultz ended our coffee hours with a joyful mini concert, encouraging each of us to return to music, return to singing, and Return to Center.



Tim McKnight
Music Director

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@chaliceuucongregation.org.



Church Camp News

Church Camp at Camp de Benneville Pines June 3-5, 2022

Chalice Congregation and First UU Church of San Diego invite all vaccinated members of our communities, of any age, and family structures, to join together for All Church Camp 2022, in the San Bernardino Mountains, at Camp de Benneville Pines. This year's theme is ResUUme and RenUU! We welcome everyone!

All Church Camp is an amazing weekend away from regular routines, full of opportunities for connecting with each other and nature. This is **your** camp. Join or lead a hike, play games make new friends, create arts and crafts, sing along, catch up with family and friends, enjoy some solitude, perform in a Variety Show, or? As always there will be crafts, workshops, and special offerings for our younger campers.

Return camper? Please share your excitement to encourage someone new to join us in Camp Community! Haven't been? Don't worry—no camping experience is necessary and there's real beds and showers! Should cost be a hurdle, please reach out as scholarships are available. Can't attend this year? Maybe sponsor partial or full scholarships so others can enjoy this community building, life-changing weekend.

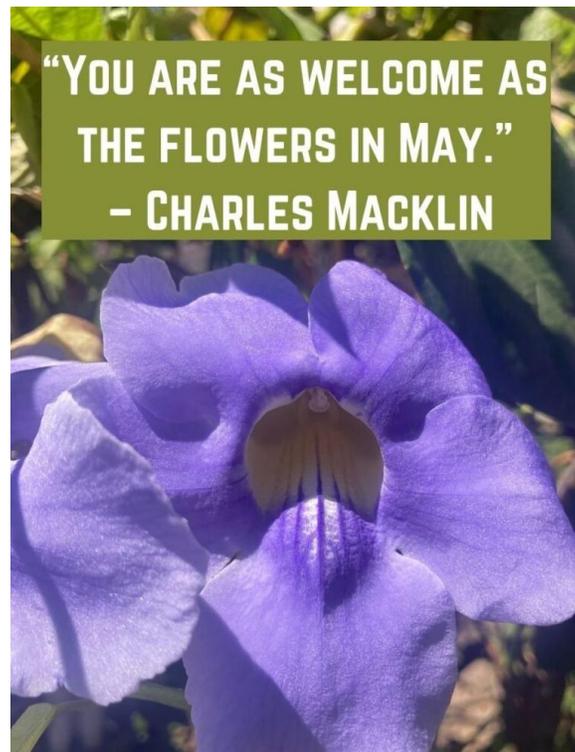
To register for camp:

<https://www.firstuusandiego.org/all-church-camp.html>



Update: Sabbatical Task Force

In January, the Board of Trustees created a Sabbatical Minister task force to find an interim minister while our minister Rev. Sharon Wylie is on sabbatical July through October. The task force members include Tom Carlstrom, Jeff Heys, Victoria Cagle, Jeff Harlig, and Rev. Sharon Wylie. In early March we released a job description to the local UU Minister's network describing our needs and compensation and asked for applications by April 23. Unfortunately, it is now a few days after that date, and we have not received any inquiries. Apparently, the supply of UU ministers and interns is less than the demand, which seems to be true of a lot of occupations these days. In the coming weeks, we will modify our job description to include more creative approaches to fill parts of the job description and/or portions of the sabbatical period to see if we can find any applicants. Our fallback position is to find speakers for individual Sunday services and share the remaining tasks among the congregation. We understand that it is not unusual for UU congregations to make do without sabbatical ministers, and we are confident our congregation will be just fine if this is what we end up needing to do. We will keep you posted as things develop and we are open to suggestions to help us locate potential applicants.



Green Sanctuary Team



We protect what we love and cherish. We love and cherish what we know intimately. How intimately do we know our so-called Mother Earth? The ancients lived close to the sky and the land. They kept in touch with the source of material goods, unlike now. Our detached existences use the convenience of electricity and fossil fuels to ensure that we never have to step off the concrete of our lives. Yet Mother Earth is ever there, waiting for us to connect. Even those of us housebound by age or infirmity have access to world-class television, such as David Attenborough's BBC programs along with NOVA/NATURE weekly programming. Poetry, music and literature can touch our Earth center as well.

Our Mother isn't always easy to love. She is sometimes harsh, but it's hard to deny her fascinating beauty. Before the heat sets in, if you are able, make it a point to get outside alone or with loved ones. Being with trees or other plants lowers blood pressure and improves mood. Even indoor plants soothe us. Take in the next full moon that rises in the East just after sunset on Sunday, May 15. For now, set aside science and facts. Breathe in the heartbreaking beauty that surrounds us. There's so much to love and cherish.

For information, to offer advice, or to request a link to our next meeting (May 24, 6:30 p.m.) email Chaliceucgreen@gmail.com.



Eighth Principle Task Force

A Message from the 8th Principle Task Force

At our congregational annual meeting in June, Chalice members will be asked to vote on a resolution endorsing the 8th principle. The resolution reads,

We ask that the congregation adopt the following resolution. Be it resolved that the Chalice UU Congregation of Escondido adopts the 8th Principle “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” as adopted by the congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

The Chalice UU Board has set the requirement that at least 4/5 of the votes are cast to approve in order for the resolution to be adopted. This is in accordance with our bylaw policy in calling a minister.

We hope that our congregation has felt engaged through our discussion sessions, articles, workshops, and Sunday sermons on the 8th principle. We invite you to join us at one or more of the following sessions if you have questions, support, or concerns that you would like to address.

- Sunday, May 15, during coffee hour, in-person at Chalice
- Sunday, May 22, during coffee hour, in-person at Chalice
- Wednesday, May 18 at 10 am, on zoom (link below)
- Wednesday, May 25 at 6 pm, on zoom (link below)

As we near a vote to join the 159 Unitarian Universalist congregations who have adopted the 8th principle, let’s return to the original invitation from Black Lives Unitarian Universalists (BLUU):

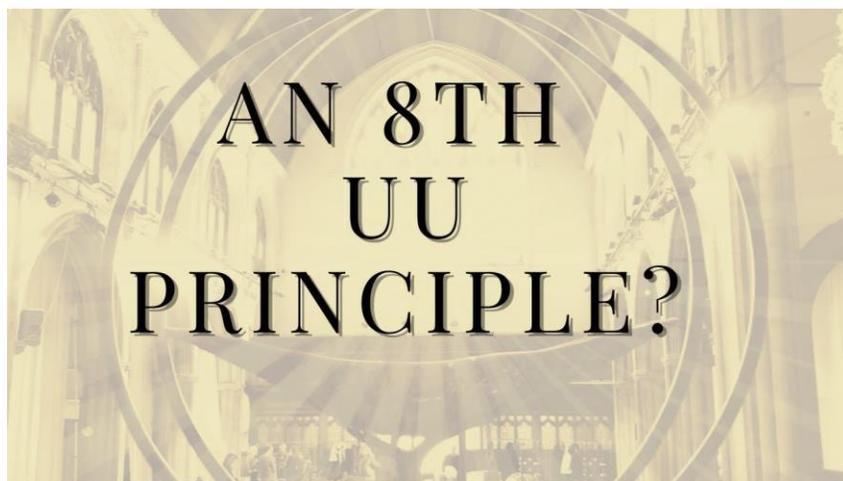
Ours is not a religion of “anything goes.” As Black Unitarian Universalists, we acknowledge that while some see our faith as the “big tent” where everyone is welcome, UUs cannot uphold precepts or practices that undermine the worth and dignity of people of color at our common altars. We will not affirm white supremacist rhetoric, structures or practices as being in alignment with Unitarian



Universalism as a spiritual community. The maintenance of white supremacy and antiblackness in particular, whether in the practices of the Association or in the hearts of parishioners, has no place within our faith and must be unequivocally rooted out of our culture. While Unitarian Universalists have no creeds to which one must attest, our living tradition is a faith guided by principled action. As such, we wonder why the dismantling of white supremacy, as implicated in the 8th principle, has not been formally included in our covenant as Unitarian Universalists.

- Excerpt from “[Black Lives of UU Organizing Collective Urges Adoption of 8th Principle in Unitarian Universalism](#)”

We hope that the members of Chalice are ready to join the other UU congregations of San Diego in adopting the 8th principle as one of our cherished principles. This principle aligns with our congregational goals, new mission statement, and we hope with the values of our members.



Transformation Team

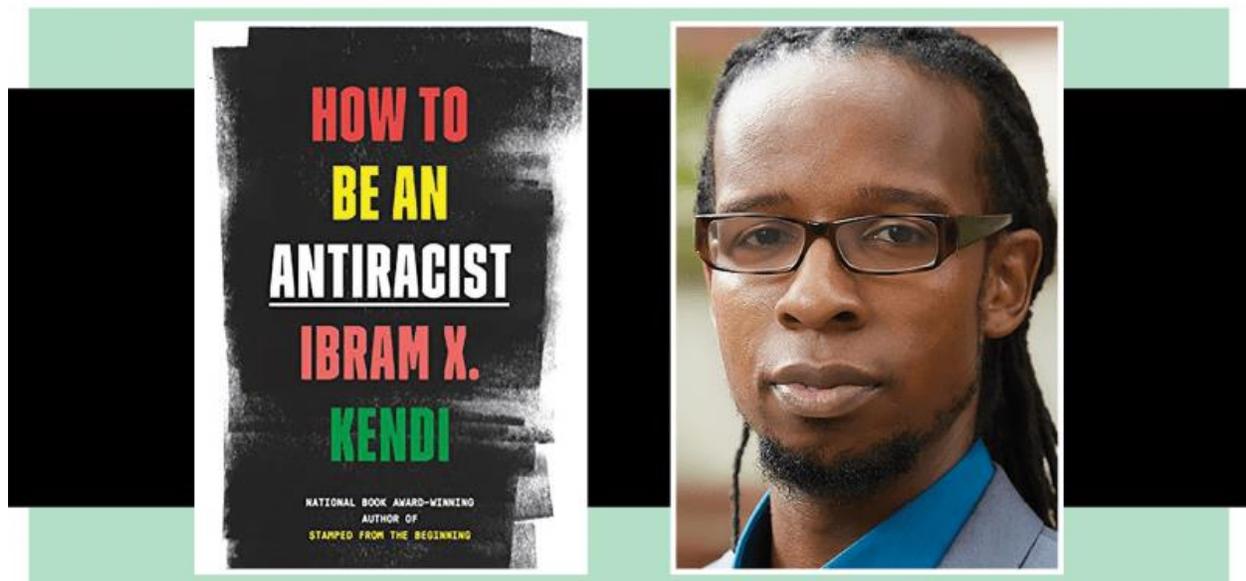
***HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST* – Let’s Discuss It in June!**

Join the Transformation Team’s Summer Reading Reprise

In Ibram X. Kendi’s *How to Be an Antiracist*, we learn that claiming to be “not a racist” does not substitute for understanding and changing the race-conscious policies and laws of our country. Only by being “anti-racist”—recognizing, identifying, and working against those policies—can we make real changes happen. “The only way to undo racism is to consistently identify and describe it—and then dismantle it,” writes Professor Kendi. In his book he identifies 17 areas where racism shows up in our society. In each area he defines what a racist is and what an antiracist is. Historical and sociological analysis are interwoven with the story of his own life and career path, making for a read that is at once relevant to society as a whole and at the same time very personal. It has been on the best-book lists of the *New York Times*, *NPR*, *Time Magazine*, and the *Washington Post*.

If you missed it the first time, please join the Transformation Team as we discuss Kendi’s book in three weekly sessions, moderated with the help of previous reading group participants. The discussions will take place weekly on Wednesday afternoons for three weeks from 4 to 5:30 PM, beginning June 1 and ending June 15.

To sign up for the reading series, [please register here](#).



Coordinating Team Report

Anti-racism Goal:

- Nothing to report this month

Transitioning back to face-to-face interactions:

- Nothing to report this month

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- The March Spirit Booster was a success; about 50 people attended.
- The window film on the Hub, Chapel, and first floor of the Fellowship Building was installed
- The irrigation leaks are being addressed
- The electrical boxes were painted to match the stucco of the buildings.
- We hung large banners on the outside of our fence to promote visibility for our church and religious education programs.
- Decided on a contractor to complete needed repairs and new electrical lines.
- Set up a computer for visitors to use to watch services from the Lounge.

Board Report

- Discussed replacements for rotating members of Standing Committees-Good Relations and Legacy Committee.
- Dean Goddette was asked to join the CT when Susan Spoto rotates off. He has accepted. Thank you, Dean!
- Reviewed draft budget prepared by CT
- Sabbatical Hiring Task Force Update
- Eighth Principle vote will take place at the congregational meeting in June

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 PM. Location Zoom.



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, May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom, when we'll be reading a drama by Alice Childress: *Trouble in Mind*. If you're an Old Globe subscriber, you may have recently seen this performed! Set in New York, 1955, a leading Black actress and a multiracial cast rehearse a challenging new Broadway play set in the South. Backstage rivalries and showbiz egos cause excitement of their own, but artistic differences between cast members and the White director soon bubble to the surface, revealing the truths that American drama covers over and the ways in which even well-meaning people can harm others under the guise of helping. Contains strong language.

Ladies Out to Lunch

The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet on May 20 at On the Border, Mexican Grill & Cantina, located at 298 E. Via Rancho Pkwy, Escondido. It is found at the eastern end of the North County Mall, off Bear Valley Pkwy. We are a small group, meet at 11:30 AM & welcome new members! To RSVP & for more information, contact Carol Simpson.

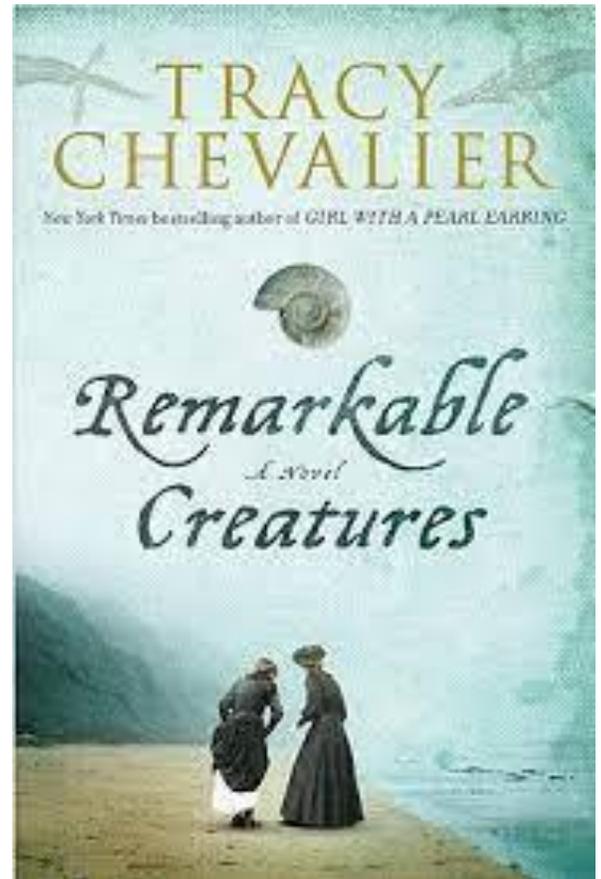


Women's Discussion Group

On May 18 at 7:00 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet via Zoom to discuss *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier. If you are interested, please contact Mary. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

Novelist Tracy Chevalier has made a career of bringing history to life. Chevalier's newest novel is called *Remarkable Creatures*. At its center is a pioneering 19th century fossil hunter named Mary Anning, whom Chevalier first encountered one day while visiting a small museum about dinosaurs. Though Anning may not be as familiar to contemporary audiences as Mr. Darcy or Elizabeth Bennet, she may have inspired at least one well-known cultural trinket. "She sells seashells by the seashore," the familiar tongue twister, Chevalier believes was created in 1908 as a tribute to Mary Anning, even though Anning sold mostly fossils.

Chevalier says that she knew she had to write the novel when she discovered an incident from Anning's childhood: "Maybe most important to me as a novelist, she was struck by lightning as a baby and survived it and lived to tell the tale." Making Anning's story all the more remarkable is the fact that her discoveries took place nearly 50 years before Charles Darwin wrote *On the Origin of Species*, during an era when scientists were still trying to figure out what a fossil was.



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.



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 by the 24th of each month to: Office@chaliceuucongregation.org
With much gratitude to our Editorial Team:
Callie Leef, and Andi Stout.



Calendar for May 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

10A K-5 R.E.
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour
4:30P Youth
Group

2

3

10A Chair
Yoga
12P Zoom
Lunch
5:30P Yoga
7P Exec.
Board

4

9A Men's
Breakfast

2P C.T.

5

10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30 Chimes
7:30 Choir

6

7

8

10A K-5 R.E.
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour
4:30P Youth
Group

9

1P Poetry
Group

10-

10A Chair
Yoga
12P Zoom
Lunch
5:30P Yoga
7P Board of
Trustees

11

9A Men's
Breakfast
1P Games
6:30 Men's
Support

12

10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30 Chimes
7:30 Choir

13

12:30P
Elder's
Lunch

14

15

10A K-5 R.E.
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour
11:10 8th
Princ. Disc.
1P Private
Event
4:30P Youth
Group

16

17

10A Chair
Yoga
12P Zoom
Lunch
5:30P Yoga
7P Women's
Book
Discussion

18

9A Men's
Breakfast
10A 8th
Principle
Discussion
1P Fiber Art
2P C.T.
6:30
Women's
Support

19

10:30A
Women's
Meditation
2P Finance
6:30 Hand
Chimes
7:30 Choir

20

11:30 Ladies
Out to
Lunch

21

Circle
Suppers
(Various
times)
10A
Widening
the Circle
Study

22

10A K-5 R.E.
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour
and 8th
Principle
Discussion
4:30P Youth
Group

23

6:30P Readers
Theater

24

10A Chair
Yoga
12P Zoom
Lunch
2P Staff
5:30P Yoga
6:30 Green
Team

25

9A Men's
Breakfast
7:15 Prayer
Circle
6P 8th
Principle
Discussion

26

10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30 Hand
Chimes
7:30 Choir

27

28

29

10A K-5 R.E.
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour
4:30P Youth
Group

30

31

10A Chair
Yoga
12P Zoom
Lunch
5:30P Yoga

