

# June 2022 NEWSLETTER



Volume #23 | Issue #6 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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Roses: one of the two  
flowers of June  
Photo by Judy Winn

*“Green was the silence, wet was the light,  
the month of June trembled like a  
butterfly.”*

— Pablo Neruda

From the Editor: My sincere thanks to Peggy Kiefer for her many years of service as proofreader; she has resigned for health reasons. My grateful appreciation to Hope Campbell who has stepped in to replace her, and of course, continued gratitude to Callie Leef and Andi Stout for their many years of service as proofreaders for our Newsletter.

# 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=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBlV1ZlIWW0yZVFhZz09>

June 5—Rev. Viola Abbitt  
“Looking for Shark Teeth”

We don't have to look hard to find joyous, enlightening and affirming things in our everyday lives. Who knows what can be revealed to us if we take the time to pay attention to the moment we are in and then...pause. Come and hear a summer story about the wonder in the pause.

This is the tenth 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.

Rev. Abbitt is the settled minister of Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalists in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

June 12—Rev. Sharon Wylie  
“Inspire, Connect, Act”

This morning we reflect on our new mission statement and consider what it means to have a mission.

June 19—Rev. Sharon Wylie  
“Flower Ceremony”

The flower ceremony was originally created in 1923 by Unitarian minister Norbert Capek of Prague, Czechoslovakia as a celebration of diversity. This morning we'll celebrate together and remember the story of Rev. Capek.

June 26—Rev. Tyler Coles  
“You Can Count On This”

Faith can be both a guiding light and sustaining force throughout the course of one's life. Yet in a world that is all too cruel and harsh, faith can be twisted, becoming instead a tool that fosters both isolation and a sense of underwhelm. What do we do when this happens for us as Unitarian Universalists?

This service comes to us from DRUUMM, a Unitarian Universalist People of Color Ministry and anti-racist collective.



# Minister's Message

*The following are excerpts from Rev. Sharon Wylie's sermon "Recovering from the Pandemic" offered on May 22, 2022. You can watch the full sermon on Chalice's YouTube channel.*

I have three ideas to share with you, three affirmations, three teachings. Use these like a mantra, over and over again, to get yourselves through the hard times.

The first: Be gentle with yourselves. You know this one; I've been saying it for years, and I've been saying it again and again during the pandemic. We're exhausted and traumatized. We're forgetful and overwhelmed. We're confused and unmotivated. For the past 6 months, at the bottom of my emails has been my pandemic status: Slogging through the foggy mud, doing the best we can. It is okay to set aside the to-do list in favor of going for a walk, visiting with a friend, or just watching tv.

When you're really having a hard day, take care of yourself like you were a child with a cold. Cuddle up in a soft blanket. Have some tea or cocoa. Be gentle with yourselves.

Now the second teaching is in some tension with the first. It is this: You can rise to the occasion. Even more simply: You can do it. There are times that having a positive mindset can make all the difference. Think of what we know about the placebo effect; our minds are so powerful that believing we have taken medicine affects the body in a positive way, as if we actually took medicine. It matters how we frame the challenges we face.

If we are only gentle with ourselves everyday, we might neglect to pay our bills, take out the trash, and fulfill the obligations of living. If we ONLY tell ourselves to rise to the occasion, we may find ourselves more and more exhausted every day. The skill you will be building and experimenting with is learning which affirmation serves you the best at what times. Be gentle with yourselves. Rise to the occasion.

And the third teaching is to show up and keep showing up. The pandemic has taught us to stay at home. We need to rebuild our muscles of going places and doing things, not because there is any



Rev. Sharon Wylie  
Minister



inherent value to being busy, but because there is healing that comes from being out in the world and being with other people....

Sometimes we have to make ourselves do things we don't feel like doing because we know we will feel better once we've done them.

Keep showing up. Keep showing up for the people in your lives, for your church community, keep showing up for your own life.

Be gentle with yourselves. Rise to the occasion. Keep showing up.

Be gentle with yourselves. Rise to the occasion. Keep showing up. May it be so.

Blessings and love to you,  
Sharon



Honeysuckle: the other flower of June



# President's Column

There is an excellent article in the UU World this month entitled Snapshot in Time: A Different Church by Gail Geisenhainer. It is a story about a lesbian woman who goes to a UU church in Maine in the 1980's for the first time. She fears she will be ostracized but she is not. In fact, she is welcomed. However, not long into her visits to the church, a woman during Joys and Concerns expresses homophobic opinions. The minister of the church expresses that not all congregants feel the same and this is reiterated the next week during Joys and Concerns when other congregants express that this opinion did not represent them nor the beliefs of UUism. But, and this was the important part of the story, the woman who made the homophobic remarks was also not ostracized. The author of the story writes, "When we



Anne McKeirnan  
Board President

covenant to journey together through all that life brings, it means that when things get ugly, we don't just leave. Oh, how we may want to vanish! But our covenants call us to abide and work things through". Later in the article she writes the words attributed to the Buddha, "Let us overcome violence by gentleness. Only through love can hatred come to an end. Never does hatred cease by hating in return."

We have talked a lot over the last months about our proposed mission statement and about the Eighth Principle. But we haven't spoken much about our covenant. Here it is:

Mindful of our **diversity** and our need for greater **understanding**, we promise to open our **hearts** and minds to foster a **safe**, inviting and **loving** community.

We will treat one another genuinely and **respectfully** as together we share life's **journey** toward wholeness.

The road to vote on the Eighth Principle has brought up quite a bit of weighty discussion. It has been thought provoking and at times emotionally challenging. We don't all agree. But as we go through this journey ( note the word journey is in both our covenant and the Eighth principle) let us remember our covenant and try to understand each other, to be safe and loving with each other and to be respectful towards all. Let us not ostracize anyone but "abide and work things through". Our Beloved Community is worth it. You are all worth it. We are all worth it.

With love,  
Anne McKeirnan



# Family Ministries

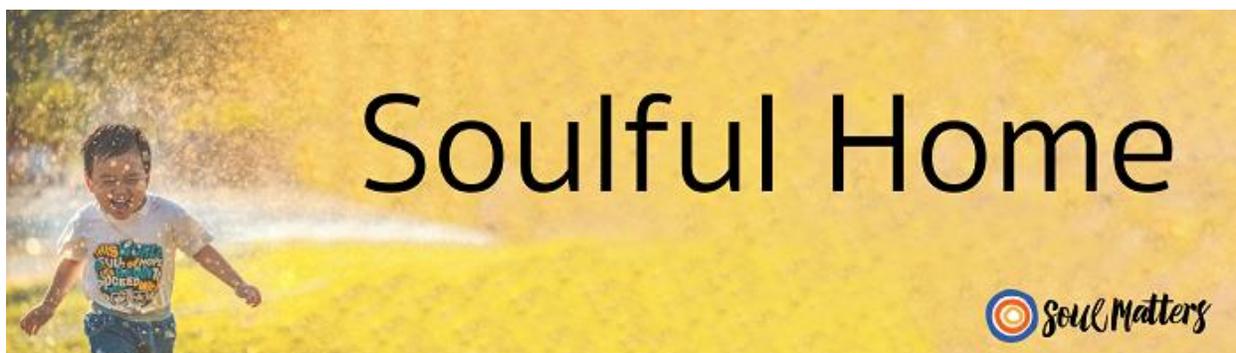
The religious education classes will be taking a summer break through June and the first Sunday in July. The children and youth classes have been meeting in person at Chalice since last June.

June would be a good time for families to enjoy the “Soulful Home” packet sent out every month. It is filled with activities and discussion ideas that support families as they explore the sacred in everyday spaces. The topic for the month of June is “Celebrating Blessings.” These packets are developed by Soul Matters Sharing Circle for UU congregations.

Included in the June packet is an I-Spy game through your neighborhood and discussion questions about blessings. Stories and songs are always included. There is something for everyone! The mantra for this month, “This too shall pass” and an article about the blessings of getting older were my personal favorites.

I have included the link for all congregants to enjoy “celebrating blessings” this month. Even if you don’t have children in your home, you will find these activities meaningful!

## [June Soulful Home Activities](#)



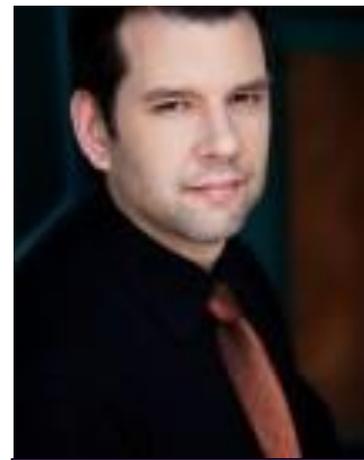
Chris O'Connor  
Director of Family  
Ministries



# Music Program

## Spotlight on Black Composers and Musicians:

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. May 15 marked the first time that we have spotlighted a living composer, Valerie Capers. Capers is an American pianist, composer and educator who was born in New York City on May 24, 1935. Capers was born into a musical family, including her father who was a professional jazz pianist and a friend of Fats Waller.



Tim McKnight  
Music Director

Capers has been blind since the age of six, when an illness deprived her of her sight. Her early schooling took place at the New York Institute for the Education of the Blind, where she studied classical piano. It was there that Capers learned to read Braille music notation, which is how she learned and memorized all of her pieces. She continued her musical studies at the Juilliard School of Music, where she obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees. She was the first blind graduate of the Juilliard School.

Upon graduating from Juilliard in 1960, Capers was encouraged by her brother Bobby to study jazz and to try her hand at composing. So Valerie decided to take some time off from playing classical music in order to learn jazz. Capers formed her own trio and in 1966 recorded her first jazz album, *Portrait in Soul*.

Following her brother Bobby's death in 1974, Capers composed the two-hour Christmas cantata *Sing About Love*, which incorporates elements from jazz, gospel, blues, and classical idioms. Other significant works by Capers include *Song of the Seasons*, a song cycle largely composed in the classical style, and *Sojourner*, an "operatorio" about the life of Sojourner Truth. The term "operatorio" was coined by Capers to describe a combination of opera and oratorio. Capers has also composed art songs, orchestral music, and a suite of 12 pieces for solo piano entitled *Portraits in Jazz*.

In addition to her performing and composing talents, Capers was an innovative and passionate educator. However, in the 1960s she found it difficult to find teaching jobs because many institutions were unwilling to hire a blind person. She





eventually was hired at the Bronx Neighborhood Music School and the Brooklyn School of Music. From 1968- 1975 she worked at the Manhattan School of Music, where she was an advisor to blind students and developed a jazz curriculum. From 1987-1995, Capers was the chair of the Bronx Community College Department of Music and Art, where she is now professor emeritus.

Valerie Capers was the first recipient of Essence magazine’s “Women of Essence Award for Music” where she was in the elite company of fellow honorees Oprah Winfrey and Marla Gibbs. She has been recognized by the Bronx Music Heritage Center as a Bronx

Living Legend for her “enduring legacy to the American jazz tradition”. In fall 2015, New York City Mayor Bill DeBlasio appointed her to the city’s prestigious Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission. She remains very active in her life’s work.

**Looking Ahead:**

Chancel Choir Rehearsals in the Chapel.....On summer break, back in the fall  
Handchime Ensemble Rehearsals .....6:30 pm in the Rainbow Room

**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](mailto:music@chaliceuucongregation.org).**



# Green Sanctuary Team

Can you let us know??



Dear Chalice Community:

For almost 3 years your Chalice Green Sanctuary Team has posted to the Newsletter. To create posts that are of interest to you, we need to know what you are interested in. We ask you to please let us know via email what you'd like your CGS to say? Do you want:

- Tips on reducing your carbon footprint?
- Stories of hope and success?
- News about local issues?
- Animal and plant explorations?
- Climate education?
- Little, anonymous things to do, like links to online petitions that support UU Principles?
- More science, more philosophy, some poetry perhaps?
- Something that's not on the list?

Please take a minute and tell us one thing you like to hear about, either from this list or else something we didn't think of. One more favor, please. We are operating on an assumption that you read the Enuus and/or the newsletter and that you use email. Please let us know the BEST way to reach you. You can list one or more communication tools, but please be specific. Thank you so much email [Chaliceuugreen@gmail.com](mailto:Chaliceuugreen@gmail.com).



# Coordinating Team Report

## Anti-racism

- Nothing to report at this time

## Transitioning back to face-to-face interactions:

- Request was put out for more help on Sunday Mornings

## Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- The electrical work has been done to enhance streaming services, adding security cameras and allowing for a timer for irrigation in the cactus garden.
- Working on guidance on what to do in the event of positive Covid notifications

## Board Report

- Reviewed and Approved 2022/2023 Budget as revised by CT.
- Update on Standing Committees: Good Relations has all open positions filled. Legacy Committee has a new member, but we still need one volunteer.
- Sabbatical Hiring Task Force Update: A candidate has been identified and contacted. The Sabbatical Minister Task Force will pursue an agreement with this person to serve as Sabbatical Minister for Chalice from August 8 through October 31, 2022. For the period from July 4 through August 7, 2022, a local UU minister/chaplain is available to serve as our on-call pastoral minister.
- New Members: John Schulz, Jessica Schulz, Judy Cavallo, and Steve Schlesinger.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 14 at 7:00 PM. Location Zoom.



# Group Announcements

## Ladies Out to Lunch Group

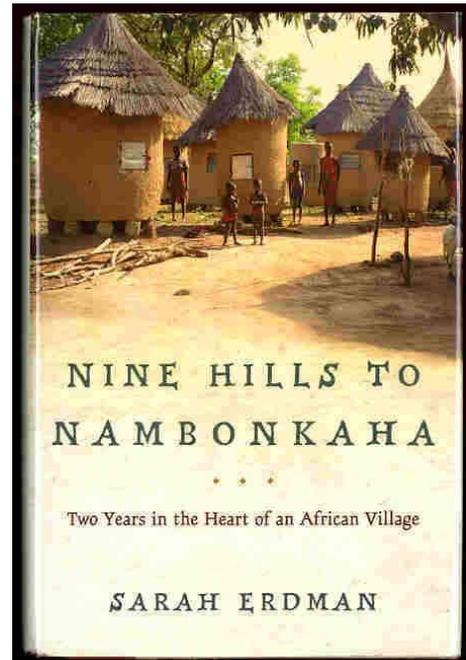


The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet at Burma Place on Friday, June 17 at 11:30 AM. It is located at 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Unit A. It is the former site of the Pegasus Restaurant in the Rancho Bernardo area. Please RSVP to Carol.

## Women's Discussion Group

June 21 at 7:00 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Blue Room in the Hub and also via Zoom to discuss *Nine Hills to Nambonkaha* by Sarah Erdman. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

The village of Nambonkaha in the Ivory Coast is a place where electricity hasn't yet arrived, where sorcerers still conjure magic, where the tok-tok sound of women pounding corn fills the morning air like a drumbeat. As Sarah Erdman enters the social fold of the village as a Peace Corps volunteer, she finds that Nambonkaha is also a place where AIDS threatens and poverty is constant, where women suffer the indignities of patriarchal customs, and where children work like adults while still managing to dream. Lyrical and topical, Erdman's beautiful debut captures the astonishing spirit of an unforgettable community



# 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](mailto:office@chaliceuucongregation.org).

If you are ready to join, please schedule a time to meet with Rev. Sharon



**Chalice Web Site:** <https://chaliceuucongregation.org>

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**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 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Submit articles by the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month to:** [Office@chaliceuucongregation.org](mailto:Office@chaliceuucongregation.org)

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



# Calendar for June 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
2P Letter  
Writing  
Campaign  
7P  
Neighborhood  
Groups

2  
10:30A  
Women's  
Meditation  
6:30 Chimes

3  
Camp De  
Bennesville

4  
Camp De  
Bennesville

5  
10A Worship  
Service  
11:10A  
Coffee Hour  
Camp De  
Bennesville

6

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

8  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
12P  
Interfaith  
1P Games  
2P CT  
6:30 Men's  
Support

9  
10:30A  
Women's  
Meditation  
6:30 Chimes

10  
12:30P  
Elder's  
Lunch

11  
10A. Book  
Study  
1P.  
Margaret  
Spear  
Celebration  
4P Game On  
Auction  
Event

12  
10A Worship  
Service  
11:30A  
Congregational  
Meeting  
1P Privat  
Event

13  
1P Poetry  
Group

14  
10A Chair  
Yoga  
12P Zoom  
Lunch  
5:30P Yoga  
7P Board of  
Trustees

15  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
1P Fiber Art

16  
10:30A  
Women's  
Meditation  
6:30 Hand  
Chimes

17  
11:30 Ladies  
Out to  
Lunch

18

19  
10A Worship  
Service  
11:10A  
Coffee Hour

20

21  
10A Chair  
Yoga  
12P Zoom  
Lunch  
5:30P Yoga  
7P Women's  
Book Disc.

22  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
7:15 Prayer  
Circle

23  
10:30A  
Women's  
Meditation  
6:30 Hand  
Chimes

24

25

26  
10A Worship  
Service  
11:10A  
Coffee Hour

27  
6:30P Readers  
Theater

28  
10A Chair  
Yoga  
12P Zoom  
Lunch  
2P Staff  
5:30P Yoga  
6:30 Green  
Team

29  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
2P C.T.

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

