

WELCOME

January 2023
NEWSLETTER

Volume #24 | Issue #1 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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**The Rowan Tree
Birth Tree of January**

**“Cheers to a New Year and another
chance of us getting it right.”**

– Oprah Winfrey

SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

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

After-worship COFFEE HOUR
Stay in the same Zoom site as Sunday Service

January 1 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“A Few of Our Favorite Things”
Rev. Sharon and Chalice’s music director, Tim McKnight, share some of their favorite worship experiences from the past year.

January 8 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Touchstones”
We celebrate the new year by remembering what keeps us going when we face hard times.

January 15 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Living into the 8th Principle”
In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we consider the challenges of moving more deeply into antiracism work. This is the third service in our 8-part series “UU Values and Covenant.”

January 22 – pulpit guest
“TBD”

January 29 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“The State of Feminism”
Are women better off than we used to be?



Minister's Message

Happy New Year!

The pandemic might not be fully behind us yet, but things are very different than they were this time last year. In December 2021, we held our first “spirit booster” social gathering on our courtyard, and Christmas Eve was our first multi-platform service (in-person and online) in our chapel. (The omicron spike forced us back online for a while, but soon enough we were worshipping in our chapel again.)

These events were meaningful and joyful, and they were also a bit nerve-wracking. Being together in-person again was like starting to work with muscles we hadn't used in quite a while. We felt rickety and uncertain, ill at ease. Saturday Night Live made jokes about how awkward it felt to be social in-person again.

But now it's a year later, and those of us who started gathering in-person a year ago are starting to feel more natural about it, right? It doesn't feel so awkward and clumsy as it did in the beginning. The newness of being in person has worn off, and we feel pretty normal, actually. We aren't thinking about it much these days.

And...remember that we aren't all on the same timeline of returning to in-person gatherings. Not everyone feels safe being out and about yet. We have many congregants who are still being VERY careful because they are in a high-risk category, or because they have loved ones in a high-risk category.

And we have some congregants who just started doing things in-person again more recently, maybe over the summer, or maybe just a week ago. For some of us, being out and about feels pretty natural. For some of us, staying at home still feels like the best choice. And some of us are in between, starting to go out and do things, but also still feeling a little rusty and uncertain.

I'm writing this to invite you to be aware that everyone's on a different timeline, especially if you are one of the people who is starting to find a “new normal.” Not everybody's there yet! And that's okay, but I think it's the work of those who are feeling the most comfortable to remember to be thoughtful of and gentle with those who are just starting to venture out.

Hopefully, 2023 will be the year that we all find our way to a new normal.

Blessings and love to you,
Sharon



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



President's Column

It sometimes feels like the holidays pass as a great storm. We hunker down and wait it out. That was true in many parts of our country as the blizzard of 2022 hit. Here, we had 80 degree weather on Christmas day, but there was still the feel of a great storm passing.

As I look back on 2022 and towards the new year ahead, I am reminded of the flaws in our human nature and how terrible we can be in some ways. But I also see the great achievements humanity has made in overcoming our more base natures. And this is one of the roles Chalice plays in our lives and our community. Together, we explore where we have been and where we want to go. The arc of humanity slowly bends to justice and equality.

One of the Board goals this year is to develop a 5 year outlook plan for our Congregation. We need input from everyone on what should be our goals and vision for our Chalice community. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Board to offer your ideas and suggestions.

Wishing you all an enlightened and empowering New Year!

Inspire, connect, act.

Blessings,

Tom Carlstrom, Board President



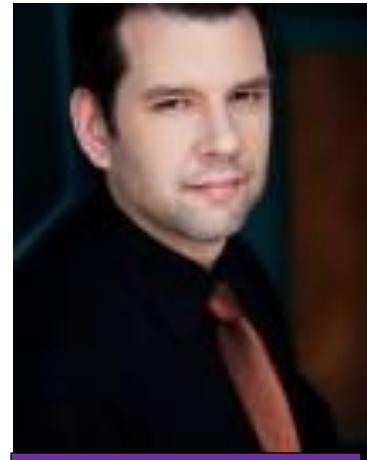
Tom Carlstrom
Board President



Music Program

Memories of Music at Chalice in December

December 2022 was a wonderful month for music at Chalice. Our Winter Party, Solstice Spiral Walk, and Christmas Eve service featured a variety of musicians and singers as well as the Chancel Choir and Handchime Ensemble. Enjoy these photos of a truly magical month for music. May 2023 continue to bring such musical richness to our lives.



Tim McKnight
Music Director



Spring Music Service

Yes! Our Music Director, Tim McKnight, is planning a Spring Music Service for 2023, our first since 2019. All singers and musicians - wouldn't you like to participate? Contact Tim at music@chaliceucongregation.org for more information on how to be a part of this special service.

Peter Mayer in Concert January 21 at UUFSD

Peter Mayer, author of "Blue Boat Home" and many other songs will be performing live in Founder's Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito in Solana Beach at 7:00 pm, Saturday, January 21. Peter "writes songs for a small planet--songs about interconnectedness and the human journey--songs about life on earth and the mysterious and wondrous fact of our existence. He also writes songs about dress hats, pumpkins and pajamas, and other important stuff." You don't want to miss this concert! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Visit <https://petermayeruufsd> for more information and to purchase tickets.

Sunday Worship Music – January Highlights

Jan 1: **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Jan 8: **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Jan 15: **Justin Gray** will be our worship musician.

Jan 22: The **Chancel Choir** will present "Alleluia Round" by William Boyce, arranged by Richard Proulx. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Jan 29: **Justin Gray** will be our worship musician.

Looking Ahead

Peter Mayer in Concert, UUFSD Saturday, January 21 @ 7:00p
Spring Music ServiceTBD
Handchime Ensemble Rehearsals Thursdays @ 6:30p in the Hub
Chancel Choir RehearsalsThursdays @ 7:30p in the chapel



Auction News



Happy New Year from your Chalice Auction Team! We're super excited that this year's auction will be a combination of online and live. The online auction will run from March 5th through March 12. On Saturday, March 11th, we will have a live auction. In the coming weeks, the auction team will be sharing tips on what to donate and how to use the auction website. In the meantime, put your thinking caps on about what treasures, dinner parties or goodies you might be able to donate to this event. If you have any questions, please send an email to chaliceauction@gmail.com and we'll do our best to help!

Lara, Wend, Joni, Andi, & Judy



Coordinating Team Report

Goal: 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.

- Nothing to report at this time

Goal: 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.

- There were 80 congregants at the Winter Party—a great success!

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- An online reimbursement form is now available to ensure appropriate approval and oversight
- A water sensor has been installed under the sink in the Fellowship Building
- Thirty blue chairs have been sold
- The final report for UU the Vote has been submitted

Memorial Wall Task Force:

- Now that task force chair, Susan Spoto, no longer has Coordinating Team duties, she will re-convene the task force after the new year to resume its work

Shade Sail Courtyard Cover:

- The permit process is complete
- The contract has been signed and submitted
- The \$40,000 down payment has been submitted
- Color choices have been submitted by a task force of Sharon Wylie, Susan Spoto and Debi Streett-Idell

Powering into the Future fundraising campaign:

- The congregation was notified via email on December 3rd that we had met our goal of raising \$33,250 for grants for solar panels and technology improvements
- The appropriate forms have been submitted to the Spirit Level Foundation to trigger release of the matching funds



Board Report

This was a month of exploration and planning for the board goals for 2022-23.

- Explore the 8th Principle Accountability
- Promote growth in engagement, membership and revenues
- Prepare a five-year plan and associated goals ready for approval at the June 2023 Congregational meeting

The Board is planning a retreat on January 21, 2023.

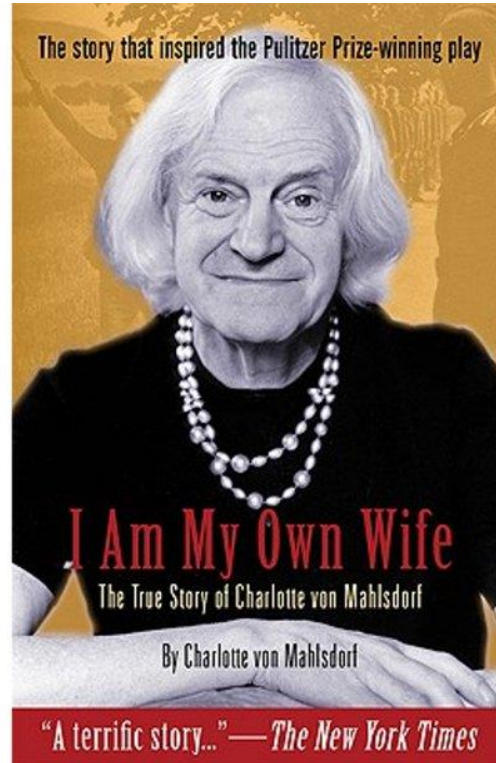


Group Announcements

Readers' Theater

We meet monthly to sight-read plays for our education and enjoyment. We draw roles at random so we can read a variety of plays that interest us but rarely fit our exact number and demographics. If you are comfortable sight-reading aloud and willing to step into roles and situations that may be out of your comfort zone, you might want to give us a try! If interested, please contact Deb to get on the group's monthly mailing list.

Our next gathering will be held via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 23, when we'll be reading the drama *I Am My Own Wife*, by Doug Wright. Based on a true story and inspired by interviews conducted by the playwright over several years, *I am my Own Wife* tells the fascinating tale of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, a real-life German transvestite who managed to survive both the Nazi onslaught and the repressive East German Community regime. This play won both a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award in 2004.

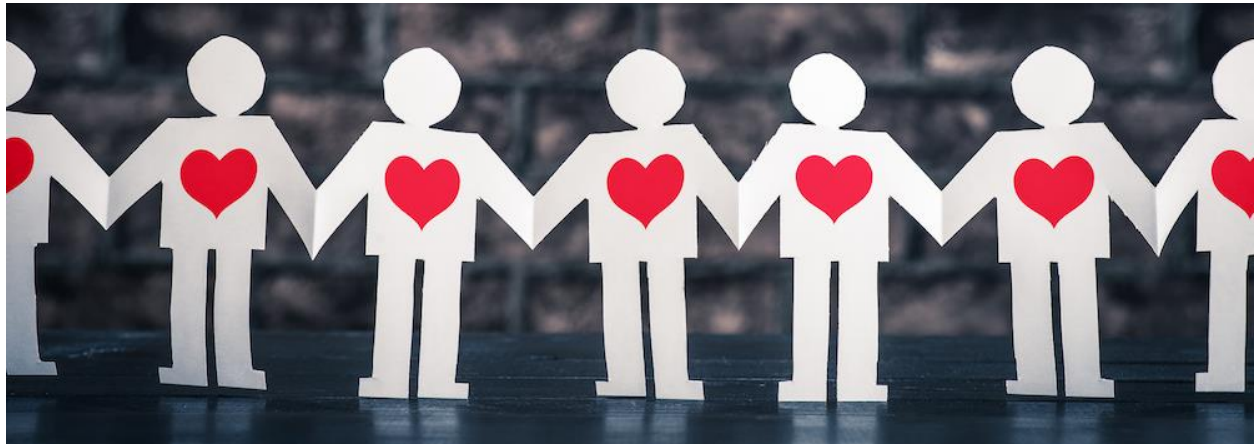


Information

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.



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:
Hope Campbell, Callie Leef, and Andi Stout.**



Calendar for January 2023

Sun

1
10A Worship
11:10A
Coffee Hour
4:30P Youth
Group

Mon

2

Tue

3
12P Zoom
Lunch
1P CT
7P Exec.
Board

Wed

4
9A Men's
Breakfast

Thu

5
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30P Choir

Fri

6

Sat

7
2P Tech
Rehearsal

8
10A Worship
11:10A
Coffee Hour
1P Private
Event

9
1P Poetry
Group

10
12P Zoom
Lunch
2P Staff
7P Board of
Trustees

11
9A Men's
Breakfast
1P Games at
Chalice
6:30 Men's
Support

12
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30P Choir

13
12P Elder's
Lunch

14
10A Widen
Circle Study
10A Council
of Chairs
2P Tech
Rehearsal

15
10A Worship
11:10A
Coffee Hour

16

17
12P Zoom
Lunch
1P CT
7P Women's
Book Disc.

18
9A Men's
Breakfast
1P Fiber
Arts

19
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
1P Finance
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30P Choir

20
11:30A
Ladies
Lunch

21
10 A
Worship
Team
10A
Board/CT
Retreat
2P Tech
Rehearsal
Circle Supp.

22
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour

23
6:30P Readers
Theater

24
12P Zoom
Lunch
6:30P Green
Team

25
9A Men's
Breakfast
7:15P
Prayer
Circle

26
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30P Choir

27

28
2P Tech
Rehearsal

29
10A Worship
Service
11:10A
Coffee Hour

30

31
12P Zoom
Lunch

