

WELCOME

August 2023
NEWSLETTER

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**The Hazel Tree
Birth Tree for August**

“I have only to break into the tightness of a strawberry, and I see summer – its dust and lowering skies.” – **Toni Morrison**

SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday Service
9 and 11 AM. Online on Zoom 9 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

August 6 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Playing with Poetry”

This is the fourth of our 5-part summer series inviting self-reflection and participation as we explore different ways to engage our imagination.

August 13 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Playing with Song Lyrics”

This is the fifth of our 5-part summer series inviting self-reflection and participation as we explore different ways to engage our imagination.

August 20 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Blessing of the Banned Books and Backpacks” Multigenerational Service

Congregants who attend school are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed for the coming school year.

August 27 – SPECIAL SERVICE at 10 a.m.

Hymn-Sing Service

In-person at Chalice: 10 a.m. Outside on the Courtyard

Singing together is a cherished part of our congregational life at Chalice. Come sing old favorites and find some new ones!



Minister's Message

Are you enjoying the summer?

We get spoiled with good weather, living where we do, but there is still something different about summer. Longer days, children out of school, implicit permission to wear flip flops everywhere we go...summer just has its own vibe.

We're leaning into the summer vibe at Chalice this July and August. We're enjoying a series of worship services on "playing:" playing with wonder, with beauty, with stories, with poetry, and with song lyrics. Summer is a time to do things differently, and we are enjoying doing Sunday worship a little differently too.

We just had our Blessing of the Animals worship service at Felicita Park on July 23, followed by a picnic. It was great to see so many people (with children!) and pets there, and we were blessed by grey skies and even a few drops of rain. What a relief after some of the heat we've been having!

Sunday August 27, we'll have one 10 a.m. worship service held outside on our courtyard (this will also be livestreamed) for our Hymn Sing service. We hope that singing outside together will be a fun way to bring summer to a close.

One of many ways the pandemic has changed me (and, I'm sure, many of us) is that I have a better appreciation now for savoring the blessings of good times, however we might define that: time with friends and family, nice weather, long days, the ability to gather outdoors, the joys of our beloved pets, the camaraderie of group singing, and so much more. Let's face it, good times can change to hard times quickly, and with little warning, so let's enjoy the good times while they're here.



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



Although we still have some surges in Covid (wastewater data shows that Covid more than quadrupled in the three weeks between July 2 and July 23), life at Chalice feels more normal than it has in a long time, since 2018, in fact. Remember, we spent a considerable amount of 2019 with our campus under construction, with our Sunday services being held at 1:30 p.m. at Temple Adat Shalom in Poway. Life at Chalice hasn't been routine in five years!

Whatever you are coping with these days, I hope you find some time to get outdoors, to a park or a lake or the ocean, perhaps with friends, and to savor some blue skies and sunshine while you can.

Blessings and love to you,
Sharon



President's Column



Kate Vereb
Board President

Your Chalice Board of Trustees will be working with you to complete important projects this year. In the spirit of transparency, I'll be using this column to provide more information about our first goal, the evaluation of our minister. Subsequent information about our other goals, creating a long range plan and a new vision statement, will be in future columns.

As Unitarian Universalists, we are fortunate that we encourage healthy reflection of ourselves and our leadership. As a covenantal community, our relationship to each other is strengthened when we engage in these practices. As we strive to grow within our spiritual journeys, our minister similarly finds her own path for growth and reflection. Through thoughtful evaluation, we can assist our minister in ongoing development and support their roles as spiritual leaders.

We all want our minister to do well and strengthen their connection to our community. It's important that the Ministerial Evaluation is not about criticism or judgment; it's about collective growth and development. We know that every minister has their own unique strengths and we want to support them on their ministerial journey.

The Ministerial Evaluation is designed as a highly collaborative and transparent process. I am pleased that trusted community leaders Carol Simpson and Kathy Zapata have agreed to join me in this process. We will ensure that various perspectives are considered and that confidentiality is maintained. To maintain the integrity of the Ministerial Evaluation, all aspects of the evaluation process are treated with confidentiality and respect. This approach ensures that the evaluation is focused on enhancing ministry and fostering an environment of trust.

Our minister will also be encouraged to engage in self-assessment, allowing her to reflect on her strengths, opportunities for growth, and fulfillment of ministerial expectations.

As we work to complete this goal, let's keep the spirit of our mission statement, "inspire individual and communal spiritual growth," always with love at the center.

Should you have any questions, the best way to reach me is via email at katevereb@gmail.com.

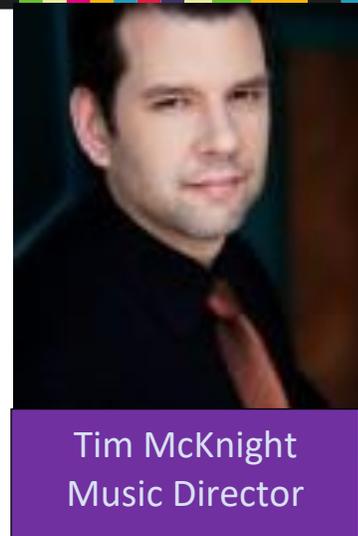
In love and service,
Kate



Music Program

Music Spotlight on Curtis Mayfield

On August 13, the Chancel Choir will present “It’s All Right”, written by Curtis Mayfield. Mayfield was the lead singer of The Impressions who recorded the song in 1963. “It’s All Right” was the most successful single of the group’s career and has been covered by many iconic performers from Bruce Springsteen to Jon Batiste.



Tim McKnight
Music Director

Curtis Mayfield was born in Chicago in 1942. His mother taught him to play piano, and by the age of seven he was singing with the Northern Jubilee Gospel Singers. By age 10 he was teaching himself to play guitar, inspired by blues singer Muddy Waters and Spanish guitarist Andre Segovia. At 14 he joined The Roosters, which later became The Impressions. As a songwriter, Mayfield became noted as one of the first musicians to bring themes of social awareness into soul music. "With everything I saw on the streets as a young black kid, it wasn't hard during the later fifties and sixties for me to write my heartfelt way of how I visualized things, how I thought things ought to be."

Following the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Curtis Mayfield and The Impressions produced music that became the soundtrack to a summer of revolution. Black students sang their songs as they marched to jail or protested outside their universities, and Martin Luther King Jr often used songs "Keep On Pushing", "People Get Ready" and "We're A Winner" because of their ability to motivate and inspire marchers. Mayfield spread messages of hope in the face of oppression, pride in being black, and gave courage to a generation of people who were demanding their human rights.



Mayfield continued to compose and record music throughout the 70s and 80s as a solo artist, and wrote and produced the soundtracks of numerous movies. Sadly, Mayfield suffered a tragic accident in 1990 when stage lighting fell on him during a



concert, paralyzing him from the neck down. Despite this, he continued to compose and sing, which he found he could do by lying down and letting gravity pull down on his chest and lungs.

Mayfield died in 1990 from complications with diabetes, but he left behind a legacy of music that inspired civil rights activists as well as influenced many generations of artists.

Sunday Worship Music – August Highlights

Aug 6: **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Aug 13: The **Chancel Choir** will present “It’s All Right” by Curtis Mayfield, arranged by Robert T Gibson, inspired by Jon Batiste and the movie, *Soul*. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Aug 20: **John Schulz** will be our worship musician.

Aug 27: **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

Looking Ahead

Auction Event: Nightsongs and Lullabies January 20, 2024 @ 7p

Chancel Choir RehearsalsThursdays @ 7:30p in the Chapel

Handchime Ensemble Rehearsal..... Thursdays @ 6:30p in the Hub



Family Ministries

“We are Unitarian Universalists: a people of open minds, loving hearts, and helping hands.”

During just about each multigenerational service, we say this as a congregation. It is an affirmation often said during regular religious education classes as well—and it is especially heard this summer, during our Summer of Service. Service is important for all of us, but with children, it can be especially important.

It makes real-world issues part of religious education: Service-learning presents students with issues and problems that cannot be neatly defined or solved.

We began the summer making hygiene kits for those in need, usually recent immigrants or people who are unhoused. We began a food drive that we completed at the end of July. The children made a selection of Care Cards. These are cards that the Chalice Care Team uses to send to congregants when they need a lift. Some of you may have received one at one time or another. Another service project was filling Back-to-School backpacks for children. Later this summer we are going to paint Welcome Rocks, learn about the importance of immigration from Paul Courtright, and make butterfly seed bombs to attract butterflies.

The hygiene kits, food from the food drive, and the backpacks have been donated to Interfaith Community Services, or ICS. ICS is an organization we partner with that helps to empower people in need to stabilize and improve their lives.

I thank you for the support you have shown for our religious education program.



Kathleen Swift
Director of Family
Ministries



Do You Know...

Do You Know...

That we need more greeters and it's easy to become one.

Greeters are super important at Chalice. They are often the first person someone new will meet. They set up the welcome table each Sunday. One greeter will sit in the back during service to let in late comers. They also provide security using walkie-talkies with the worship associate and child care provider in case we have any emergencies. It's easy to get trained to be a greeter and you just have to come to service a little early but beyond that there is no other time commitment. We have different greeters at each service. Consider volunteering to be a greeter. We need you! Email Richard Korts if you are interested. richardkorts@gmail.com

Also—in the May Newsletter:

- How to make a Sunday service announcement
 - How to reserve a room for a meeting
- See May newsletter [\[May 2023\]](#)

In the June Newsletter

- What the coordinating team (CT) does and who is on it?
 - How to join the choir
- See June newsletter [\[June 2023\]](#)

In the July Newsletter

- About the Chalice Community Bulletin Board
- See July newsletter link: [\[July 2023\]](#)



Green Sanctuary Team



Does the house you own or rent need an energy audit? Free energy efficiency audits are back! SDG&E single family homeowners AND renters can request a home visit at sdge.com/RES or by calling 888 272-8394. There is no income limit. You could receive free energy-saving upgrades. This program helps all of us address our part in the warming of the planet.

“Summer’s lease hath all too short a date.” – **William Shakespeare**



Haven House

Thanks to Nancy Hacker, Debi and Jim Idell, and Karla Kote and her daughters Julia and Lila for cooking and serving dinner to residents of Haven House on July 15. Also thanks to Ralph Peters and Mary Best, Marshall Fogel and Amy Cooper for food.

Next Haven House dinner is August 19.

Email HavenHouse@chaliceuucongregation.org

— Judy Cavallo and Steve Schlesinger
Haven House Coordinators



From Tom Carlstrom

Dear Congregants,

As a community that cherishes diverse perspectives and values intellectual growth, we invite you to join us in exploring the principles of humanism and engaging in a meaningful discussion group centered around this philosophy.

Understanding Humanism: Celebrating Humanity

Humanism is a philosophy that places humans and their well-being at the center of attention. It emphasizes the significance of reason, ethics, and compassion in guiding our lives, rather than relying on supernatural beliefs. Humanism acknowledges the potential for humans to create positive change and emphasizes the importance of social justice, equality, and the pursuit of knowledge.

At its core, humanism celebrates our shared humanity and encourages us to lead lives that are compassionate, empathetic, and guided by reason. It invites us to consider the ethical implications of our actions and embrace a sense of responsibility toward our fellow human beings and the world we inhabit.

Exploring Humanism Together: Join Our Discussion Group

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Humanism Discussion Group, where we aim to delve into the various aspects of humanism and engage in thought-provoking conversations. This group will provide a platform for individuals from all walks of life to come together and explore the principles, values, and challenges associated with humanism.

During our discussion sessions, we will tackle a wide range of topics, such as:

1. Humanistic ethics and moral dilemmas in contemporary society.
2. The intersection of humanism and social justice.
3. Exploring the relationship between science, reason, and humanism.



4. Humanism and personal fulfillment: finding purpose and meaning in life.
5. The role of humanism in fostering a sustainable and inclusive world.

These discussions will encourage critical thinking, respectful dialogue, and an opportunity to deepen our understanding of humanism while forging connections within our community. We believe that the diverse perspectives within our congregation will enrich our conversations and contribute to a more inclusive and compassionate society.

The Humanism Discussion Group will meet every third Wednesday evening of the month, starting from the 20th of September, from 7 to 9 pm in the Blue room at Chalice and on zoom (watch the weekly Enuus for the link). We invite everyone, regardless of their background or beliefs, to participate in these enlightening conversations. Together, we can explore the vast landscape of Humanism, discuss its applications to our lives, and collectively discover how we can contribute to a better world. Please contact me if you have any comments or questions.

Inspire, Connect, Act.



Coordinating Team Report

Coordinating Team (CT) Report to the Board
July 8, 2023

Goal: As a congregation, we commit to supporting families, in all their incarnations, with emphasis on families with children and youth in RE and on intergenerational relationships by creating, maintaining, and strengthening appropriate programs.

- CT is investigating our ability to offer Wednesday night childcare for a couple of hours so parents can have some free time. We have been unable to find childcare providers who can work at that time so far, but we're still working on it.
- Our Blessing of the Animals service will be at 10 a.m. at Felicita Park on July 23rd (this is a date change from the original date in the July newsletter), followed by a picnic.

Goal: Facing challenging financial times after the building of the Hub followed by the pandemic, it is necessary that all Chalice congregants deeply understand and participate in creating a sustainable and generous financial environment.

- Legacy Committee has updated the plaque of Legacy donors that hangs in the Fellowship Building kitchen.
- The Board has identified its pledge drive task force members. CT looks forward to beginning brainstorming about the pledge drive this fall. Celebration Sunday has been set for April 21, 2024.
- Our annual auction has been moved to the fall to better suit the rhythm of our congregational life (with more of "the year" still ahead). The online auction will be October 1-8, and the in-person auction will be Saturday, October 7.
- We are contacting congregants (13 or so) who have not paid their FY23 pledge in full with a gently worded hard copy letter offering these options: let us know if we've made an error, make a donation to complete the pledge commitment, or let it go because they are unable to pay. The letter will be signed by Victoria Cagle (as the best contact person knowledgeable about pledge amounts) on behalf of Coordinating Team.
- We will likely send a similar letter to a handful of congregants who have not paid their auction amounts.

Goal: Our commitment is to support our anti-racist work and the building of a beloved multicultural community. We will use existing and additional resources to encourage the reconciliation and expansion of involvement among all groups and congregants.

- This year's Spirit Study topic will explore the characteristics (and antidotes) to white supremacy culture as described by Tema Okun at www.whitesupremacyculture.info. We hope that inviting Chalice groups to engage with this material will broaden the circle of congregants who are learning and thinking about anti-racism work.



Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- The July 8 Council of Chairs meeting featured Kate Vereb presenting on the topic of learning about the characteristics of the Millennial generation.
- CT is initiating an "Annual Check-In" type process (haven't settled on a name yet) for phone calling Chalice congregants to say hi and how are you. Postcards will be sent in advance to advise that the phone call is coming. Judy Winn and Victoria Cagle are helping lead this project. Judy is recruiting phone callers (who will receive a training), and we hope that Board members will want to volunteer as phone callers. If we can recruit something like 25 phone callers, they will need to make just 4-5 calls each.
- We have calendared the dates for Council of Chairs meetings for the coming year.
- We are forming a Spirit Booster Team to help oversee and ensure a calendar of fun activities at Chalice.
- The seven openings on the Chalice courtyard have been filled with concrete and look good.

Shade Sail Courtyard Cover:

- Our debate with the contractor over their cutting into gas, water, and sewer lines during installation has come to an end. It is clear they felt aggressive and litigious, blaming architect Pete Bussett, who had met with them before construction began, for failing to identify these lines. We have paid the remainder of their contract and consider the matter closed. We are happy with our shade sails but unhappy with our contractor and would not recommend them for future work.

Memorial Wall Task Force:

- Nothing to report.

Powering into the Future (SpiritLevel grants):

- We are scheduling installation of cabinets at the back of the chapel to store equipment.



Board Report

The Board of Chalice is responsible for appointing members of two standing committees: the Legacy Committee and the Good Relations Committee. After thoughtful deliberation, the following people have been appointed to fill the vacancies.

- The Legacy Committee: Jeff Hunter was appointed to a 3-year term on the Legacy Committee, filling the position left vacant by Jerry Carter as he completes his 3 year term.
- Jim Brown was appointed to a 2-year term on the Legacy Committee, filling the position left vacant by the resignation of Kaye Campbell.
- Susan Spoto remains on the Committee for 1 more year.
- The Good Relations Committee: Kristi Harlig was appointed to a 3-year term on the Good Relations Committee, joining Mary Best (2 year) and Deb Coon (1 year).

“August of another summer, and once again I am drinking the sun and the lilies again are spread across the water.” – **Mary Oliver**



Group Announcements

Women's Book Discussion Group

On August 15th at 6:30 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Hub or via Zoom to discuss *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

From Kirkus Reviews:

A classical musician tries to find his stolen violin in this entertaining debut novel.

There are few worse nightmares for a musician than having a treasured instrument stolen. For Ray McMillian, the protagonist of Slocumb's debut, the theft of his violin is especially painful—not only was it a gift from his beloved grandmother, it's also a Stradivarius, one of the rarest instruments in the world. And it happens to be worth more than \$10 million.

Ray, a classical music phenom who's about to compete in the prestigious Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, discovers his violin has gone missing in his Charlotte, North Carolina, house; when he opens its case, he finds only a tennis shoe and a ransom note demanding \$5 million in Bitcoin. He has a few suspects in mind, chief among them the members of two families: the Marks clan, who claim that Ray's great-great-grandfather, an enslaved person, took the violin from their ancestor; and his own family, a collection of grasping doubters who don't care much for Ray but do care about his valuable violin.

Ray trusts only a few people, including his violist girlfriend, Nicole, and his "mentor, friend, and surrogate mother," Janice. Slocumb's novel is told in flashbacks, chronicling Ray's early years and fraught relationship with his uncaring mother and his ascent as a star violinist who takes America by storm. Ray, who is Black, has to deal with not only lawsuits from his family and the Marks family, but also with vicious racism from both inside and outside the music world: "No matter how nice the suit, no matter how educated his speech or how strong the handshake, no matter how much muscle he packed on, no matter how friendly or how smart he was, *none of it mattered at all*. He was just a Black person. That's all they saw and that's all he was." While the whodunit element of Slocumb's novel is unlikely to stump mystery fans, his writing is strong, if a little unpolished in parts. Still, it's a gripping novel, and Slocumb, himself a violinist, does an excellent job explaining the world of classical music to those who might be unfamiliar with it.



Ladies Out to Lunch

The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet at H Brothers in Escondido on Friday, August 18 at 11:30 AM. The address is 212 East Grand Avenue. Please RSVP to Carol.



Dine Out Group



We meet on the 4th TUESDAY of each month. The Dine Out Group will meet at Miguel's Cocina, 10514 Craftsman in 4S Ranch at 6:00 pm on August 22nd. Please RSVP to Cindy. To review the menu choices see www.miguels-cocina.com.

Singles and couples all are welcome for conversation, catching up, and getting acquainted. This is an open group that enjoys breaking bread together.

Circle Suppers

Circle Suppers is a continuing program open to all Chalice people. The group meets on the third Saturday of each month for dinner and conversation. The food is prepared by each participant guided by the host. If you wish to participate please Contact Emily.



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 August 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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

2
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast

3
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
1P CT
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30P Choir

4

5
8A Private
Event

6
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

7

8
12P Zoom
Lunch
7P Board of
Trustees

9
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
6:30 Men's
Support

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

11
12P Elder's
Lunch

12
8A Private
Event

13
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

14

15
12P Zoom
Lunch
1P CT
6:30P
Women's
Book Club

16
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
1P Fiber
Arts
6P Finance

17
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes

18
11:30A
Ladies
Lunch

19
8A Private
Event
10 A
Worship
5P Haven
House
6P Circle
Suppers

20
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

21

22
12P Zoom
Lunch
6P Dine Out
Group
6P Online
Presence
6:30P Green
Team

23
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
7P Prayer
Group

24
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes

25

26
8A Private
Event
6P Ghanian
Auction
Event

27
10 A Worship
10A K-9 RE
11:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

28
6:30P Readers
Theater

29
12P Zoom
Lunch

30
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
7P Full
Moon Drum

31
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes

