

WELCOME

July 2023
NEWSLETTER

Volume #24 | Issue #7 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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**The Holly Tree
Birth Tree for July**

“Tears of joy are like the summer rain drops pierced by sunbeams.”

- **Hosea Ballou**, American
Universalist clergyman

SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday Service

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

July 2 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Playing with Stories”

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

July 9 – Lay-led by David Peale

“Playing with Wonder”

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

July 16 – Lay-led by Anne McKeirnan and Jessica Schulz

“Playing with Beauty”

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

July 23 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Ask Me Anything”

Do you have something you’ve always wanted to ask a minister, the minister, YOUR minister? Today’s the day to bring your question! Questions will be collected during the service and answered by Rev. Sharon in lieu of a sermon.

July 30 – SPECIAL SERVICE

“Blessing of the Animals”

In-person: 10 a.m. at Felicita Park (\$3 for parking)

Bring a pet (animals on-leash or crated please) for Rev. Sharon to bless. Childcare will not be available.

Followed by a congregational picnic—keep an eye on the e-nuus for details.



Minister's Message

As I write this, our annual General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations has just come to a close. We thanked the Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray for her six years of leadership and elected the Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt as our new president. She is the first Black woman to be elected to this position. This is an exciting time for our association!

Hopefully you know (but if not, here's your notice) that we are considering revising the section of the UUA bylaws where our seven principles have been articulated. This may initially feel alarming, as most of us have treasured our seven principles as a meaningful expression of the tenets of our faith. But I encourage you to consider the seven values articulated in the proposed revision:

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality, and justice.

Pluralism. We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice. We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregation and the society at large.



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



Transformation. We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity. We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

At General Assembly 2024, delegates will vote on whether to proceed with these changes or not. We have the year ahead to consider these, live with these, and try them on for size and fit. Let me know what you think!

Blessings and love to you,
Sharon



President's Column



Kate Vereb
Board President

If you want to build a boat, do not instruct the people to saw wood, stitch the sails, prepare the tools, and organize the work, but make them long for setting sail and travel to distant lands.

-Antoine de Saint-Exupery

It has been an honor to go into my 4th consecutive year of service on the Board, and I have some unique ideas for how to make Board service more attractive for those who are interested in leadership and more satisfying for those who already stepped forward to serve. This includes shorter Board meetings with greater engagement and giving everyone the opportunity to contribute and be recognized for their unique gifts. Knowing that we grow as individuals through service, I will build in opportunities for self-reflection and developing our best selves through authentic group connection. Most importantly, I want this work to move towards a shared vision of what Chalice will be like in the coming years.

It's worth it to point out that there are many working parents on this year's Board (including myself), and I want folks to feel like they can serve our community while still managing the demands that come with work and family. A Board Buddy system that I have implemented pairs a seasoned leader with a newcomer to help get up to speed on policy governance and how things work so we can quickly launch our Board goals.

Another idea I am working on is building out a Past President's Club with fun activities and opportunities to share advice from our wonderful leaders who have served in an enhanced role. I am confident that a Board that feels cohesive, interesting, and fulfilling will glean great rewards for our community.

Join me as we set sail.

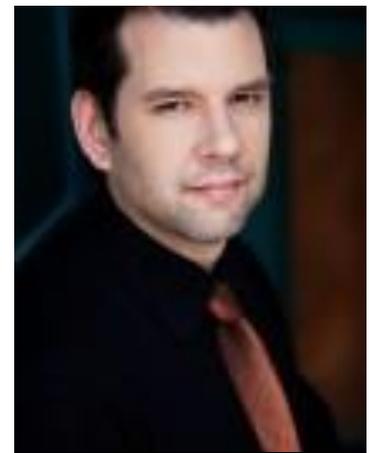
In love and service,
Kate



Music Program

Chalice's Nuu Revuu Auction Event Was a Hit!

What a wonderful evening of music and fun at the Nuu Revuu Auction event on June 24! Many thanks to Alice Dodd for organizing the event. We were blessed with musical performances by Tom Carlstrom, Maria-Pia Duffy-Foltz, Tim McKnight, Susan Spoto, Ethan Brown, Mary Best, Lena Wellman, Deb Coon, Paul Dulaney, John Schulz, and Dean Goddette. Deb, Paul, John, and Dean performed as Grunion Run, and this was their first performance at Chalice since 2017, marking 20 years that the band has been together. Thanks so much to Patty Carlisle, Mary Best, and Victoria Cagle for organizing delicious treats. Also thanks to Lara Brown and Judy Winn for publicizing the event, to Delynn Kelly and Bonnie Packert for managing tickets at the door, to Ralph Peters for bartending, and to Victoria Cagle for leading the dancing. And special shout out to Dean for handling the audio video for the performance. Finally, thank you to all our Chalice friends who packed the chapel for this event to raise money for Chalice. We could not have done it without everyone's help and participation!



Tim McKnight
Music Director



Sunday Worship Music – July Highlights

July 2: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

July 9: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

July 16: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

July 23: The Chancel Choir will present “California Dreamin’” by John Phillips and Michelle Phillips, arranged by Roger Emerson. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

July 30: Tim McKnight will be our worship musician



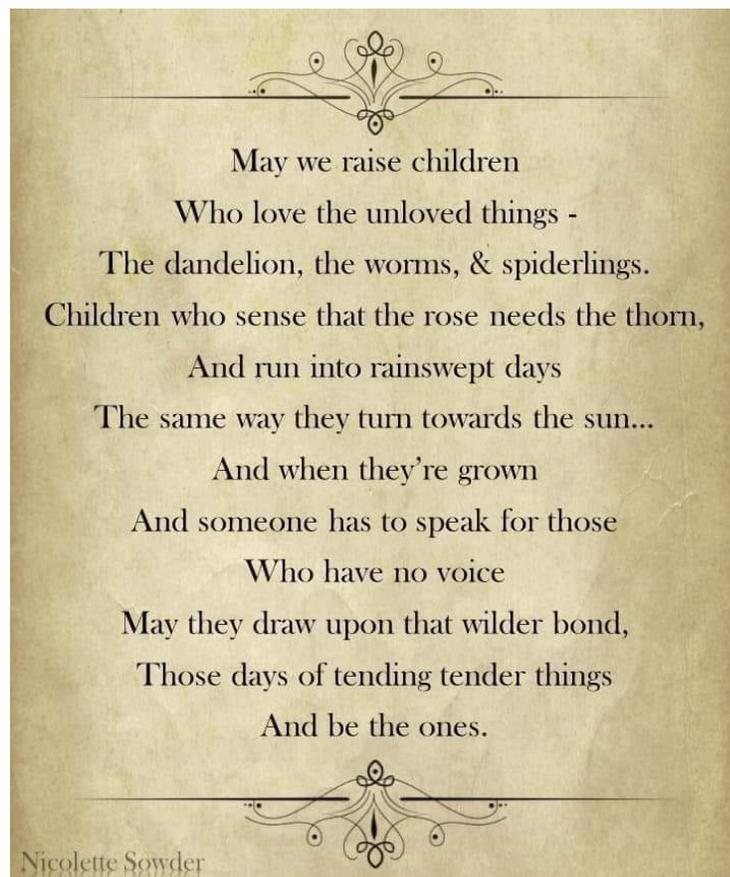
Family Ministries

Our Religious Education program is meant to help our children and youth understand and explore the world around them. This year, our middle school group is using the curriculum, *Riddle and Mystery*. It is a program meant to assist middle school kids in their search for understanding using what we call “Big Questions.” “Where do we come from?” “Where are we going?” “What happens when you die?” On this particular week, the question was, “Does God exist?” Here is the response from a sixth grader (who wishes to remain anonymous):



Kathleen Swift
Director of Family
Ministries

God is a mystery to us. Maybe they created life or can choose what happens to us. I like to believe that God is watching over us and loves us too. I think God gave humans greater consciousness, awareness, and gave us curiosity so that some day we can find them. Maybe God gave us intelligence to try and understand them. And maybe purposely made all life a cycle, so it never ends. I think they gave us power, by having some people born with more insightfulness and greater awareness than other people, so that we, as humans, can succeed over power problems in life.



And, maybe some people who were born with more obliviousness and less awareness were meant to slow humankind down, so we don't find God as fast. Humans don't know what's inside a black hole; is God there? Or at the end of the universe, if there is an end, or more universes? Is God a four dimensional being, or more? Or are things small as an atom, and lives inside of everything? Maybe they don't have a gender. Do we see God when we die, maybe we are reborn into something new, like when a human dies, they decompose into the earth, and turn into grass, then turn into a caterpillar that eats grass, and live each life up the food chain, back to being born as a human.



Do You Know...

That we now have a Chalice Community Bulletin Board?

A bulletin board was recently purchased and the greeter team is being kindly asked to bring it out to the patio next to the name tag board each Sunday for our perusal. This community board is for all of us to be able to see what is happening at Chalice. We plan to post the calendar and the PrevUUs newsletter each month. And you can post on it too. Your posting must be an activity or event that occurs at Chalice or an approved Chalice event such as an auction event or an event sponsored by an official Chalice group, committee or team. By the way, there already is a bulletin board in the back hallway of the common area where more general postings can be placed. But if it is a Chalice event and you want it to be readily seen, post it on our new Chalice Community Bulletin Board.

Also—in the May Newsletter:

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

And—in the June Newsletter

- What the Coordinating Team (CT) does and who is on it?
 - How to join the choir
- See June newsletter [link](#)

“Summer is singing with joy,
and the beaches are inviting
you with dancing waves.”
— **Debasish Mridha**



Green Sanctuary Team

The Chalice full moon drum circle is Monday, July 3 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. outdoors at Chalice. What to expect? Not necessarily the moon. But it's all about the people and the rhythm. Bring instruments or borrow ours. Spend an hour outdoors in the magic of a summer evening.



PNAS: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Want some good news? While we wring our hands over climate change and AI, there are innovations on the horizon. Research on syn-fuels is plowing ahead. These fuels are not made from coal or oil. The process mimics nature's photosynthesis. The energy input needs to be renewable, such as solar, and the efficiency needs to be high. Why not use solar energy directly? Look at jet travel. Can you imagine the wingspan necessary to fly a jet using solar panels?? Solar charged batteries are a nonstarter because of the weight issue. Enter syn-fuel.

While some syn-fuel projects are sketchy at best because of high cash input and loads of potential unintended consequences, some show great promise. This image is an artist's depiction of a marine solar farm for producing syn-fuel. What can we do to help? Learn about syn fuels. Continue to minimize all fossil fuel use, while working for a future free of fossil fuels.

Chalice Green Sanctuary. Chaliceuucgreen@gmail.com



Buddha Bingo



Bingo Game, July 16, 3:30-5:30

The Chalice Women's Buddhist Meditation group is sponsoring a bingo game at Chalice. It was offered on the auction but tickets are still available. Tickets are \$20 for an individual or \$30 for a family, cash or check at the door. Contact Bonnie Packert, bp888@willowgrace.net, if you want to reserve seats or purchase tickets in advance by credit card on the Chalice website. There will be light refreshments and prizes. We hope to be on the patio, but we'll use the Rainbow Room if it's too hot.

Youngsters are welcome!



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.

- Sharon is working with Anne McKeirnan to develop a Spirit Study topic for FY 24 that will organize small groups into studying the characteristics of white supremacy culture as described on the website <https://www.whitesupremacyculture.info/>.

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.

- On May 21, we held our first in-person music service since December 2019.
- CT (including Susan Spoto) had a retreat on May 30 to plan for the upcoming church year. We hope to continue with regular Spirit Booster events to continue to encourage congregants to come to Chalice in person.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- John Schulz has agreed to oversee a Small Projects Task Force to help CT with ongoing maintenance projects.
- Callie Leef, Kathleen Swift, Victoria Cagle and Bonnie Packert met with a CPA to receive guidance about the tax implications of renting space at Chalice.
- We have seven square openings in our courtyard concrete that we would like filled. Because the concrete is well finished, Sharon asked her brother-in-law, a general contractor, to recommend a concrete contractor. A bid for \$3500 has been obtained through this connection. CT would like to award the contract based on the following: it is hard to get bids for small projects like this; we appreciate the recommendation of a high quality contractor; the concrete contractor is a BIPOC-owned business; and we have a congregant willing to pay for this project.

Memorial Wall Task Force:

- No progress this month.

Shade Sail Courtyard Cover:

- We are debating with the contractor about who will pay the costs incurred by their breaking into our water, gas, and sewage lines.



Powering into the Future (SpiritLevel grants):

- We are “in line” for our solar panel installation project, meaning we don’t have our permits yet, nor a timeline for receipt.
- We have purchased some new technologies to help online listeners hear ambient sound in the chapel (congregational singing).
- We have purchased and are testing a portable sound system for park and courtyard use.
- We are pursuing having cabinets installed at the back of the chapel to store equipment (especially important now that we have renters using the chapel).

Board Report

The Chalice UU Congregation Board wishes to thank each one of you who attended the annual meeting held on June 11, 2023.

We are happy to introduce the new board members. Lara Brown will assume her duties on July 1, 2023 as Vice President of the Board. She will serve a three-year term composed of one year each as the Vice President, President and Past President. Two new Trustees, Dennis Brown and Marianna Benedict-Becilla, will serve two-year terms. Victoria Cagle will remain as our Treasurer for the next two years. Tom Carlstrom will be serving his third year as Past President. Kate Vereb will be serving her year as Board President and Emily Troxell will be serving her second year as Secretary. Carol Simpson, Sarah Shapard, and Amber Vlasnik will also be serving the second year of their term as Trustees.

This group will be working to ensure that Chalice remains as a vibrant and resourceful community.



Group Announcements

Women's Book Discussion Group

On July 20th at 6:30 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Hub or via Zoom to discuss *South to America* by Imani Perry. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

South to America travels through fraught landscapes in the American South. Perry, professor of African American studies at Princeton, melds memoir, travel narrative, and history in an intimate, penetrating journey through the South, from the Mason-Dixon Line to Florida, West Virginia, and the Bahamas.

"Paying attention to the South," she asserts, "allows us to understand much more about our nation, and about how our people, land, and commerce work in relation to one another, often cruelly, and about how our tastes and ways flow from our habits." At Harpers Ferry in West Virginia, she met a Confederate reenactor—playacting she derides. Yet she found him endearing, empathizing with his yearning "to live inside history, to know its nooks and crannies, to imagine the everyday."

A native Alabaman, Perry is the daughter of civil rights activists, a White Jewish father who left the North to teach at a historically Black college and a Black mother whose family had migrated to Birmingham. Although the author has lived in Cambridge, Boston, Chicago, and Philadelphia, to her, home is "deep" within the "red earth" of Alabama. She reflects on her own experiences of racism as a biracial woman and explores ways that Blacks have adapted historically, and she engagingly chronicles her visits to communities that embody the term "broken oasis," efforts of Black Americans to embrace the nation's politics and culture while remaining independent. They were destroyed, she notes, "by the habits of White Supremacy."

In progressive cities and rural towns, the author finds plenty of evidence of "the plantation South, with its Black vernacular, its insurgency, and also its brutal masculinity, its worship of Whiteness, its expulsion and its massacres, its self-defeating stinginess and unapologetic pride"—in short, the essence of America. The South, she notes, is "conservative in the sense of conservation. But what that means is not in fact easily described in political terms."

A graceful, finely crafted examination of America's racial, cultural, and political identity.



Ladies Out to Lunch

The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet at Mama Cella's Italian Kitchen on Friday, July 21. The address is 16707 Bernardo Center Drive in Rancho Bernardo (near Lomica Drive). We meet at 11:30 AM and encourage Chalice friends and members to join us! For further directions and to rsvp, please contact Carol.



Dine Out Group

We will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. On TUESDAY July 25, we will be meeting at Stone Brewery located at 1999 Citracado Pkwy. Escondido. To view the menu, search www.stonebrewing.com.

Please RSVP to Cindy by July 20th so she can make reservations.

Singles and couples are all welcome to participate in good conversation, good food, catching up and getting acquainted.

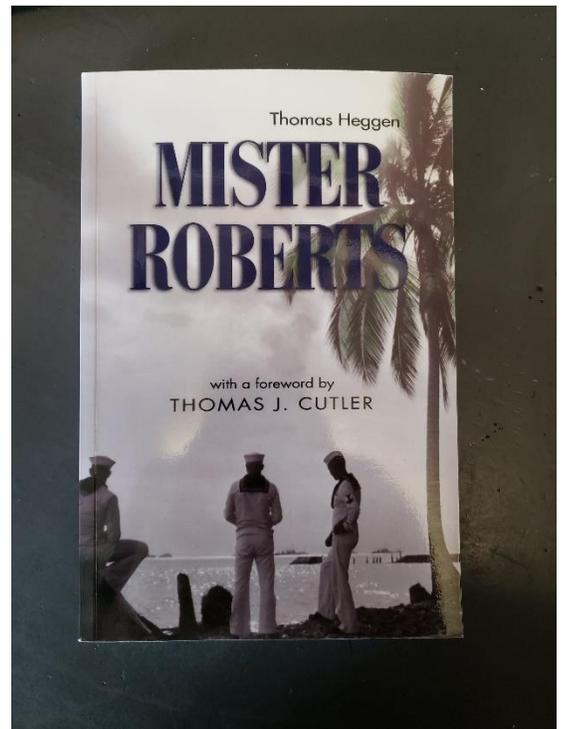
This is an open group that enjoys breaking bread together.



Reader's Theater

We meet monthly to sight-read plays for our own education and enjoyment. We draw roles at random so we can read a variety of plays that interest us and rarely fit our exact number and demographics. If you love theater, you're 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 on Monday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We'll be reading the Tony-award-winning comedy, *Mister Roberts*, by Thomas Heggen and Joshua Logan. The play grew out of a collection of short stories about Heggen's experience in the South Pacific in World War II.



“Summertime and the livin’ is
easy.”

– **Porgy and Bess**

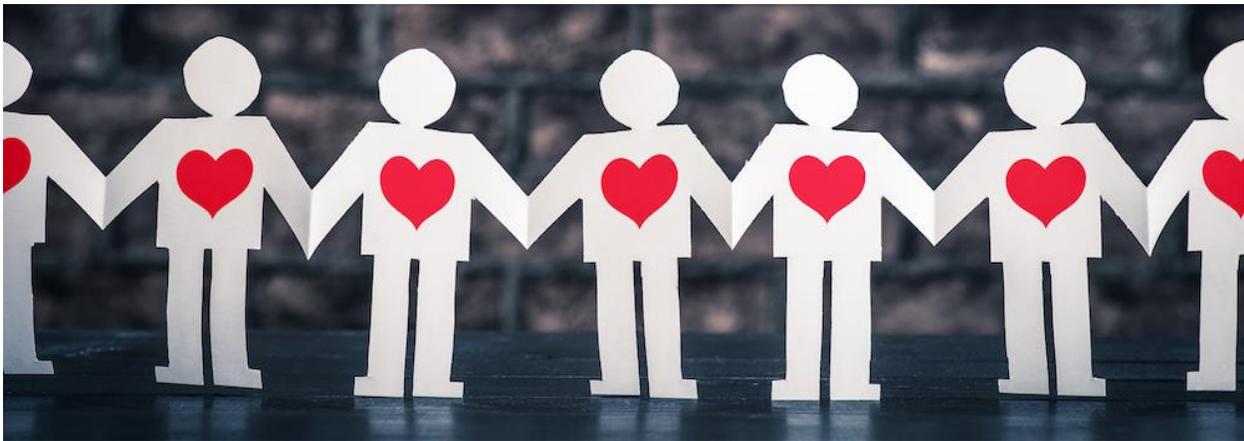


Information

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 July 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1
8A Private
Event

2
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

3
7:30P Drum
Circle

4
12P Zoom
Lunch
7P Exec.
Board

5
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast

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

7
8
8A Private
Event
10A Council
of Chairs

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

10

11
12P Zoom
Lunch
7P Board of
Trustees

12
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
6:30 Men's
Support

13
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes

14
12P Elder's
Lunch

15
8A Private
Event
10 A
Worship
5P Haven
House
6P Circle
Suppers
6P EA
Bonfire

16
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen
3:30 Bingo

17

18
12P Zoom
Lunch
1P CT
6:30P
Women's
Book Club

19
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
1P Fiber
Arts

20
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
1P Finance
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30 Choir

21
11:30A
Ladies
Lunch

22
8A Private
Event

23
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

24
6:30P Readers
Theater

25
12P Zoom
Lunch
6P Online
Presence
6:30P Green
Team

26
8A Private
Event
9A Men's
Breakfast
7:15P
Prayer
Circle

27
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P Hand
Chimes
7:30 Choir

28
29
8A Private
Event
10A Music
Committee

30
9 & 11 A
Worship
9A K-9 RE
10:10A
Coffee Hour
12 P Teen Group
3 P Freeway Zen

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