

# WELCOME

September 2023  
NEWSLETTER

Volume #24 | Issue #9 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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## The Vine Birth Tree for September

"And then the sun took a step back, the leaves lulled themselves to sleep, and autumn awakened."

-Raquel Franco

# 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

September 3 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Is Capitalism Part of the Great Turning?”

Young Americans are questioning many of the long-held norms about how the economy works, and capitalism is frequently described as “late stage.” How does our UU faith intersect with economic issues? Is capitalism a barrier to living out our ideals?

September 10 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Imagining Liberation” (Liberation #1)

This is the first in an 11-part worship series reflecting on the characteristics of white supremacy culture as described by trainer and teacher Dr. Tema Okun on her website [www.whitesupremacyculture.info](http://www.whitesupremacyculture.info).

September 17 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Ingathering and Water Ritual” Multigenerational Service

If you’ve been away for a while, today is the perfect day to return! We observe our communal Water Ritual, where the blending of waters reminds us of our deep connections to each other. Please bring a small amount of water from your home or other place sacred to you (water will also be provided).

September 24 – Rev. Leah Ongiri, pulpit guest via video

“The Fragile Sequence”

The Jewish High Holy Days ask us to practice saying “I’m sorry,” which demands we recognize our imperfections. Knowing we are worthy of love and connection, despite our errors, can be healing. Led by a lifelong Jewish Unitarian Universalist, this service is for those from Jewish backgrounds and non-Jews alike.

Rev. Ongiri will be available online to greet congregants during our social hour after the 9 a.m. service. She lives in Portland, Oregon.



## Minister's Message

This past July 30 was my “ask me anything” worship service, where I answer your questions in lieu of preaching a sermon. It’s always interesting, and I love seeing the questions that are on your mind. I’m usually able to provide some kind of answer during the service, but some questions stay with me, and I realize I want to think more and/or say more. So these may become sermons or newsletter columns.

Here's a question I wanted to say more about: Is there a chance we can go back to one Sunday service at 10 a.m. so we can all be together again?

The answer I gave in the moment was: Unfortunately, no, we won’t go back to one service. More people are able to attend when we offer services at two times. This is just part of the limits of having a small chapel. I too miss having all of us together at one service.

What I didn’t say and want to add: Because we aren’t able to all worship together at one service most of the time, it becomes important to look for our special congregational events and recognize these as opportunities for more of us to be together at the same time.

We had two special Sundays like this over the summer: one service at 10 a.m. for Blessing of the Animals at Felicita Park, and one service at 10 a.m. for Hymn Sing Sunday on our courtyard. These were fun “not our usual Sunday” gatherings that brought us together in new and different ways.

Our next special gathering is our September 17 Sunday worship service, “Ingathering and Water Ritual.” This annual service, celebrated in September at many UU congregations, calls the community back together after summer, when many have been traveling or otherwise away from church.



Rev. Sharon Wylie  
Minister



Of course, we won't all be together at the same one worship service, but we CAN all be together between services! There will be a bounce house for kids and cake for everyone. And we're putting together a getting-to-know-each-other activity for the adults. There will be prizes for participating, and (I hope—we haven't figured it out yet) some kind of grand prize! We are looking forward to a fun morning together.

Whether we see you every Sunday or haven't seen you in a great while, I hope to see you soon.

Blessings and love to you,  
Sharon



# President's Column

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 second goal, the creation of a long range (defined as 5 year) plan. Subsequent information about our third goal, a new vision statement, will be in next month's column.

Just as seasons change, so do our congregation's needs and aspirations. The previous long-range plan was last conducted in 2018, so it is simply time to create a new one. More importantly, we see visioning as a chance to strengthen our community, deepen our impact and ensure that we thrive as a beacon of light in a world seeking unity and compassion.

Imagine what Chalice will look like in 2028.

What does Sunday morning sound like? Who will be here? How will we help each other and the surrounding community? How much money and time and how many other resources will we devote to our plans and programs?

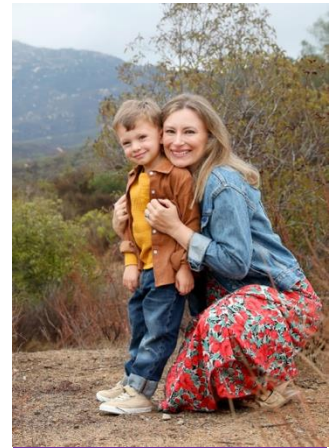


As we embark on this path, your involvement is crucial. Look out for announcements where you can contribute your thoughts, dreams, and ideas. This is your chance to help shape the future of our congregation and leave a lasting impact.

In the spirit of unity and growth, let's embark on this journey of exploration and imagination. Together, we can build a future that embodies the values and principles that define us as Unitarian Universalists.

In love and service, Kate

PS Thank you to the Worship Associates for this special decor!



Kate Vereb  
Board President



# Music Program

## Join the Chancel Choir!

The Chancel Choir is beginning their fall season and would love to welcome new members! Singing together in choir creates a real social bond as we share laughter and care about and support each other. And of course, we love to sing! Join us on Thursday evenings from 7:30p – 9:00p in the Chapel.



Tim McKnight  
Music Director

## Join the Handchime Ensemble!

The Handchime Ensemble is always looking to recruit new chimers, and now is a particularly good time to join as we begin our fall season. Though reading music is extremely helpful, we can teach you all the rest. Join us on Thursday evenings from 6:30p – 7:25p in the Rainbow Room.

## Tim & Friends Concert Auction Event: Saturday, Sept 30, 2023 @ 2:00pm

Don't remember seeing this item in our March auction catalog? That's because this is a rescheduled auction event from 2020! If you bought this auction event back in 2020, you are all set. If not, you can still make an auction donation of \$20 at the door. "Tim & Friends" is a musical event hosted by our very own Tim McKnight featuring an eclectic variety of vocal and instrumental music. Tim will be joined by friends Susan Spoto on flute, David Colborn on clarinet, Jennifer Savion on piano, and by both Jennifer and Maria-Pia Duffy-Foltz lending their amazing voices. Come on out on September 30 to support Chalice and enjoy a very special afternoon of music!



## Sunday Worship Music – September Highlights

**Sep 3:** The **Chancel Choir** will present “Join Hand in Hand” by Terre McPheeters. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

**Sep 10:** **John Schulz** will be our worship musician.

**Sep 17:** **John Schulz** will be our worship musician.

**Sep 24:** The **Chancel Choir** will present “Bashana Haba'ah” by Nurit Hirsch with lyrics by Ehud Manor. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

### Looking Ahead

Auction Event: Tim & Friends....Saturday, September 30 @ 2p in the Chapel

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

Chancel Choir Rehearsals .....Thursdays @ 7:30p in the Chapel

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



# Family Ministries

Are you a fan of the Twilight Zone? Do you like popcorn? Did you know Rod Serling was a Unitarian Universalist? The fall/winter curriculum for the Middle School RE class is ...Popcorn Theology... The Twilight Zone!

We are looking for a few assistant teachers to help Judy Winn with the class beginning in September. It's an easy job... watch a Twilight Zone episode and help facilitate discussion with the questions laid out in the lesson plans! Plus, there will be popcorn as an added bonus.

If you would like to read more about Rod Serling and how his UU affiliation helped influence some of the many ways he inserted a sense of kindness and good morals into the stories he told, please follow the link below.

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/twilight-zone-writer-challenged-prejud>

Or maybe you would like to work with kids a little younger and help them identify their experiences and prejudices through creative expression. Windows and Mirrors is a UUA curriculum that teaches that there are always multiple viewpoints and everyone's viewpoint matters. We start with a large blank canvas. Each week, we decorate a window (for looking out) or a mirror (for looking in) and affix it to the large canvas. At the end of the program we will all have a large canvas that displays our ways of experiencing our viewpoints.

Maybe you'd like to work with our very youngest congregants. They will be exploring our seventh principle, about caring for our planet that we share with all living things, through the curriculum World of Wonder. It is founded on the premise that direct experience in nature is essential to children's physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual development. Time spent experiencing and exploring begins a practice that can bring lifelong openness to the wonder nature can spark.

Please contact me (Kathleen Swift) at [dfm@chaliceuucongregation.org](mailto:dfm@chaliceuucongregation.org) if you have any questions.



Kathleen Swift  
Director of Family  
Ministries





# Do You Know...

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: [\[July 2023\]](#)



# Green Sanctuary Team



Are you participating in a food waste recycling program? Hopefully , no matter what your living situation, you now have access to these programs through your local waste management green barrel program. No yard waste? No problem. You still qualify for a green bin. Multifamily? Be sure your HOA or landlord makes a green waste bin available. No newspaper to wrap stuff in? Freeze all food waste in a paper bag or else an easy to empty plastic bread or other reused bag until just before collection day. If using plastic, upend the food waste into the green bin and reuse. If the bag is very soiled, it's lived its life and can be tossed. You will have done your part to keep methane out of the atmosphere. Congratulations!

The next full moon drum circle is Wednesday, Sept 27 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the Chalice patio.





### MAMMA MIA! (Here We Go Again)

Our Chalice Auction 2023-2024 website is LIVE at  
[Chalice Auction](#)

There are several things you can do before the auction starts:

1. Register (If you registered in past years, there is no need to register again)
2. Update your contact information (if your phone, email or street address has changed since last year)
3. List your items/experiences for donation to this year's auction
4. We've already been hearing great ideas for dinner parties and gatherings this year! Keep those creative ideas coming and please let the Auction Team know if you have questions about available dates or anything else.

When you list your item on the website, an email comes to the Auction Team. We have to check in the item before it becomes live on the site, so please be patient if you don't see your item in the catalog right away. This is typically done each day, so do let us know if more than a couple of days go by and you don't see your item in the catalog.

There are video tutorials in the auction website to walk you through registration, account updates and item donation. Please click the tutorial link at the top of the site at [charityauction.bid/chaliceuu](http://charityauction.bid/chaliceuu) if you need a little extra help.

-OR-

Contact the Auction Team at [chaliceauction@gmail.com](mailto:chaliceauction@gmail.com) or call Judy Winn at 760-751-3543. We're here to help!

Our goal again this year is \$30,000. This is the largest annual fundraiser for Chalice and we appreciate your enthusiasm and generosity!

Andi, Judy, Lara and Wendy (Auction Team)



## "Carrying Grief Group"

Carrying Grief is a small group specifically for those who are moving through a major loss in their life. The group meets to share stories and experiences, to learn about the grief process, and to talk about what it means to live with grief and loss. The group will meet online (using zoom) and in-person (in Chalice's Blue Room) for six sessions from 4-5:30 pm on the following Tuesdays: 10/10, 10/31, 11/14, 11/28, 12/12 and 12/26.

This group is co-facilitated by Rev. Sharon Wylie and Chalice congregant Julie Mack. To register, please email Rev. Sharon to let her know of your interest.



# Haven House

On August 19th the HH Squad prepared an Antipasto Salad dinner with garlic bread, watermelon and brownies. Thanks to Nancy Hacker, Paul Courtright, Lena Wellman, Susan Lewallen, Vincent Orona and Anne Fukusawa for cooking, serving and cleaning up. Also thanks to Marshall Fogel, Lara Brown, Alice Dodd and Anne McKiernan for purchasing food and delivering it to Haven House. Next time is Saturday September 16 from 5 to 7 PM. Email [HavenHouse@chaliceuucongregation.org](mailto:HavenHouse@chaliceuucongregation.org) for more information or to be added to the email distribution.

Judy  
Steve



# Coordinating Team Report

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, perhaps once a quarter. We think we have found childcare providers and are looking to set a date.
- We have found a leader, Wendy Metzger, for a new team: Spirit Booster Team! The team's purpose is to ensure Chalice regularly offers spirit booster events and activities, to encourage/entice congregants who may not be attending regularly on Sundays to come to "worth it" in-person gatherings. We hope that our Ingathering and Water Ritual service on September 17 will become a spirit booster event.
- We are talking with interested parents about offering a monthly "parents meet and greet" or "parents lounge" to help our parents with young children meet and get to know each other.
- The July 23<sup>rd</sup> worship service and picnic in the park was well attended, with 70+ adults and children, our emerging adult group, and first-time visitors.

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.

- Letters from the CT were sent to congregants with unpaid pledge and auction commitments from FY23. This has resulted in some additional donations.

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.



- Our Spirit Study leader group is working to get groups and individuals signed up to begin the study group process. They will be speaking to the Board about this on August 8! They are holding an informational meeting between services on Aug. 13.

#### Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- Richard Korts has stepped down from heading up the Sunday morning Greeters team. Kathy Zapata-Bergamini has agreed to step in as a leader; we are hoping to find more folks in order to have a leader team, rather than just one person.
- We will take a special collection for the San Diego Council on Literacy for our August 20 multigenerational service on “Blessing of the Banned Books.”

#### Memorial Wall Task Force:

- No update.

#### Powering into the Future (SpiritLevel grants):

- Installation of cabinets at the back of the chapel is scheduled for August 11.

## Board Report

- The board has formed several Task Forces and all are beginning work. The Vision Task Force will develop a 5 year plan and vision statement for our congregation. The Bylaw/policy book evaluation Task Force will be reviewing and updating both documents. The tasks for each committee are daunting – but each expects to complete their work before the end of the congregational year. If you have thoughts, concerns or special input for either of these committees, please contact the Board of Trustees President.
- The Temecula UU Fellowship is beginning its formation process. The Board of Trustees voted to provide support to this group of individuals that wish to worship in the Temecula area. For more information contact Dennis.



# Group Announcements

## Women's Book Discussion Group

On September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Hub or via Zoom to discuss *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

### From Kirkus Reviews:

Wisdom about the natural world delivered by an able writer who is both Indigenous and an academic scientist.

"This braid is woven from three strands," writes Kimmerer, an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation: "indigenous ways of knowing, scientific knowledge, and the story of an Anishinaabe scientist trying to bring them together in service to what matters most."

The author's 2013 book of essays on Native folkways concerning plants and their roles in human life is reissued here with new illustrations and design, a handsome production that well serves her engaging text, which will be of interest to readers schooled in the work of writers such as Wendell Berry, Leslie Marmon Silko, and Joy Harjo. In Anishinaabe belief, writes Kimmerer, sweetgrass "was the very first to grow on the earth," a constant reminder of the creator called Skywoman. It holds a sacred role, and it represents an important component of what the author describes as "global ecosystems," which speak to the possibility of positive interactions between humans and the natural environment, a welcome optimism given all the counterexamples one might produce of our destructive influences.

Rethinking that possibility requires going to first principles. As Kimmerer writes, the English word *bay* is a noun, trapping a natural thing into a static category best reserved for dead things, whereas the Ojibwe word *wiikwegamaa*, turning the concept into a verb meaning "to *be* a bay," "releases the water from bondage and lets it live." Indigenous knowledge instructs those who seek healthy relations with their surroundings in many ways. Kimmerer writes of a teacher who directs us to walk in such a way "that each step is a greeting to Mother Earth" while the dread monster called the Windigo speaks metaphorically to our need to consume: "The more a Windigo eats, the more ravenous it becomes."

A smart, subtle overlay of different systems of thought that together teach us to be better citizens of Earth.





## Dine Out Group

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The Dine Out Group will meet at Vintana Wine & Dine at 6:00 pm on September 26th. Vintana is located at 1205 Auto Park Way in Escondido. Please RSVP to Cindy. See [www.dinevintana.com](http://www.dinevintana.com) to review the menu.

Singles and couples 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.

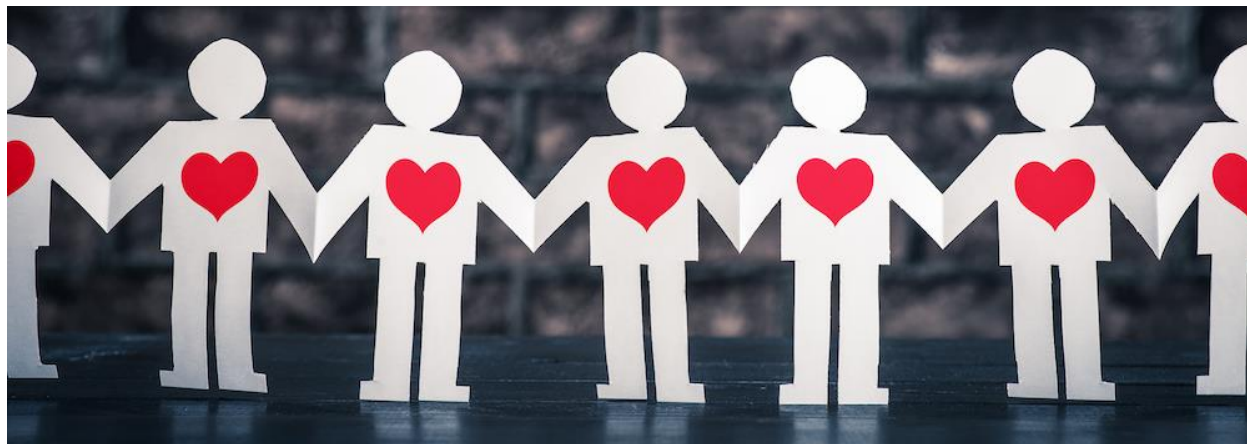


# Information

## 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](mailto: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 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 September 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

8A Private Event

3

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

4

5

12P Zoom  
Lunch  
7P Exec.  
Board

6

8A Private  
Event  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
1P CT

7

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

8

12P Elder's  
Lunch

9

8A Private  
Event  
10A Music  
Committee  
12P Tim  
and Friends  
Rehearsal

10

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

11

1P Poetry  
Group

12

12P Zoom  
Lunch  
7P Board of  
Trustees

13

8A Private  
Event  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
1P Fiber  
Arts  
6:30 Men's  
Support

14

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

15

11:30A  
Ladies  
Lunch

16

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

17

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

18

19

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

20

8A Private  
Event  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
1P Fiber  
Arts  
6P Finance  
7P  
Humanist  
Discussion

21

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

22

23

8A Private  
Event

24

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

25

6:30P Readers  
Theater

26

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

27

8A Private  
Event  
9A Men's  
Breakfast  
7P Prayer  
Group  
7:30P Drum  
Circle

28

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

29

6P Tim  
Rehearsal

30

8A Private  
Event  
2P Tim &  
Friends

