



May 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome!

Volume #25 | Issue #5 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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Emerald Birthstone for May

"I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I'm a human being first and foremost, and as such I'm for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole."

— Malcolm X

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

May 5 – Lay-Led Service: “Denial and Defensiveness” (Liberation #9)
This is the ninth 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. This service is led by a group of Chalice congregants.

May 12 – Music Service
“Family and Friends Playlist”
Chalice’s Annual Music Service is a time when the congregation celebrates music and honors the talented musicians who create it. Music is an integral part of many of life’s most important moments. Whether it’s that special wedding song, the road trip playlist, the lullaby we sang to our newborn baby, or the national anthem played during the Olympic athlete’s medal ceremony, music marks the milestones of our lives. Join us on Mother’s Day to hear the Chancel Choir, as well as other instrumentalists and singers who will share their very own “Family and Friends Playlist.”

May 19 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Three Things I Wish I’d Known When I Was a Congregant”
Before there was Rev. Sharon, there was just Sharon, enthusiastic UU. This morning she reflects on some of the church dynamics she didn’t understand until she became a minister. Our 11 a.m. service will include a Bridging Ceremony for our teens graduating high school.

May 26 – Rev. Sharon Wylie
“Sermons with Spoilers: Midnight Mass”
This is the fifth (and final) in a series of sermons in which Rev. Sharon will share her thoughts and analyses of religious-themed movies and tv shows.



Minister's Message

I am enjoying taking an online UU history class offered by the Faith Forward program at the First Unitarian Church of Dallas. Eleven Chalice congregants have registered for the class, and we've had 4-6 congregants attending the class live (a recording of the class is available afterward for people who are unable to attend live at class time). We will meet for a total of six sessions.

As we gear up for our annual denominational meeting next month, I thought it appropriate to share this important statement of faith from 1997.



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister

“Things Most Commonly Believed Today Among Us”

A Statement of Faith written by Unitarian minister William Channing Gannett for the 1887 meeting of the Western Unitarian Conference in Chicago, adopted by a vote of 59 to 13.

- We believe that to love the Good and to live the Good is the supreme thing in religion;
- We hold reason and conscience to be final authorities in matters of religious belief;
- We honor the Bible and all inspiring scripture, old and new;
- We revere Jesus, and all holy souls that have taught men truth and righteousness and love, as prophets of religion;
- We believe in the growing nobility of Man; We trust the unfolding Universe as beautiful, beneficent, unchanging Order; to know this order is truth; to obey it is right and liberty and stronger life;
- We believe that good and evil invariably carry their own recompense, no good thing being failure and no evil thing success; that heaven and hell are states of being; that no evil can befall the good man in either life or death; that all things work together for the victory of the Good;
- We believe that we ought to join hands and work to make the good things better and the worst good, counting nothing good for self that is not good for all;



- We believe that this self-forgetting, loyal life awakes in man the sense of union here and now with things eternal—the sense of deathlessness; and this sense is to us an earnest of the life to come;
- We worship One-in-All — that life whence suns and stars derive their orbits and the soul of man its Ought, — that Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world, giving us power to become the sons of God, — that Love with which our souls commune.

Blessings,
Sharon



President's Column

The Board of Trustees has concluded our work around creating a new vision statement for our community. We are excited to unveil our new vision statement, a guiding light that reflects our shared values, aspirations and commitment to our community. After careful reflection and collaborative input from congregants, we are proud to present:

Our New Vision Statement:

Chalice UU Congregation is a place where we can be in community with others who share a thirst for justice in the world. A place where our hearts and minds can be opened and transformed. A place where we celebrate diversity, creativity, inspiration, joy, and hope. A place where we are encouraged and supported to develop and share our unique talents.

As we embark on a new chapter guided by our renewed vision, let us recommit ourselves to living out these principles in all aspects of our congregational life.

A special thanks to Amber Vlasnik, Dennis Brown, Tom Carlstrom, Carol Simpson, Sarah Shapard, and Marianna Bacilla for their hard work.

In love and service,
Kate



Kate Vereb
Board President

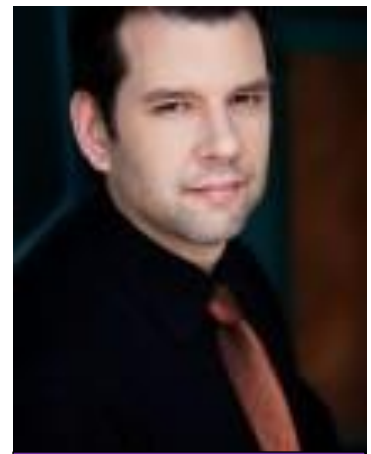


Music Program

Annual Music Service on May 12 :

“Family and Friends Playlist”

Chalice’s Annual Music Service will be taking place on Sunday, May 12th. The theme is “Family and Friends Playlist” and, as always, the service will be packed with lots of wonderful music! Here are some of the ways we will explore the importance of music in our lives:



Tim McKnight
Music Director

- 1) As part of our tribute to Alice Dodd, the Chancel Choir will be singing “Alice’s Favorite Things,” a parody of “My Favorite Things” from *The Sound of Music* with special lyrics written by Alice.
- 2) Jennifer Savion will be reading the Story for All Ages which will be “My Family Plays Music” by Judy Cox and illustrated by Elbrite Brown. During the story, we will learn about different percussion instruments as well as play many of them!
- 3) In Honor of Mother’s Day, Tim McKnight will play “In the Garden” which was one of his mother’s favorite songs.
- 4) We will be showing the world premiere of the Chalice Music Program Promo Video, with a script written by Alice Dodd.
- 5) Alison Schlick will sing “At Last,” a song originally sung by Etta James, and more recently recorded by Celine Dion and Beyoncé.
- 6) We will be officially introducing Chalice’s new Worship Band, who will play a feature number. If that wasn’t enough, the band will announce their official name during the service!
- 7) Jennifer Savion will sing “No One Is Alone” from Stephen Sondheim’s *Into the Woods*.
- 8) Tom Carlstrom and John Schulz will lead some sing-a-longs for children and youth as



well as for the adults.

- 9) Susan Spoto will play Pachelbel's "Canon in D" which is traditionally played at many weddings.

Keyboard Kaleidoscope 6 Concert Rescheduled from 2020 Auction!!

The Keyboard Kaleidoscope Concerts have become some of the most highly-anticipated and well-attended musical events at Chalice. Keyboard Kaleidoscope 6 was originally scheduled for September of 2020, only to be canceled due to the pandemic. But now the performance has been rescheduled for June 15, 2024!

Keyboard Kaleidoscope 6 will feature more performers than ever, playing a mind-boggling array of music for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 hands! As always, you'll hear a huge variety of musical styles, plus we'll throw in delicious refreshments, a *Piano Puzzlers* audience contest with prizes, and more! You won't believe your ears!

Do not miss this very special event! Join us on Saturday, June 15th @ 2:00pm in the chapel. If you purchased a ticket for this concert back in the 2020 Chalice Auction, it will be honored for this performance. If not, you can reserve a seat for just \$25 by e-mailing music@chaliceuucongregation.org.



May's Hymn of the Month

The Hymn of the Month for May is #170 in the gray hymnal. We have traditionally called this song "We Are a Gentle, Angry People" as it is titled in the gray hymnal. However, the tune of the song is actually SINGING FOR OUR LIVES, which is the title that the composer of the song, Holly Near, prefers. So, we at Chalice will begin to call this song "Singing for Our Lives" in an effort to



use the title that expresses the essence of what Holly Near wanted to communicate through the song.

In 2017, while she was performing “Singing for Our Lives” at a concert in Schnectady, New York, Holly Near said these words to the audience:

“I wrote this song when Harvey Milk and George Moscone were assassinated. We originally sang the words ‘we are gay and lesbian together’ but then we were surrounded by the support of allies, so I changed it to ‘we are gay and straight together.’ And now, we are learning more and more about gender and sexuality and so the song requires many more syllables than I can fit into it. So let us now sing ‘we are all in this together.’”



Unitarian Universalists are known for changing song lyrics, and I think that sometimes we take too many liberties changing lyrics of songs without the composer’s permission. However, one of the reasons I love being a Unitarian Universalist Music Director is that our tradition is one that is dynamic and changing. Many of our greatest composers and lyricists are alive now, writing music for our time. When they feel that one of their song titles or lyrics needs to be changed, they can let us know that, and of course we will follow their lead.

Henceforth, for verse five of the song, we will sing “We are all in this together” rather than “We are gay and straight together” as it was originally printed in the hymnal. Fortunately, we will get four chances this month to practice the song’s new title and lyrics!

Sunday Worship Music – May Highlights

May 5: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

May 12: Tim McKnight presents our annual Music Service with the theme “Family and Friends Playlist.” The **Chancel Choir**, the **band**, and several **guest musicians and singers** will participate in a joyful morning of music. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.

May 19: Tom Carlstrom will be our worship musician.

May 26: Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.

Looking Ahead

Music Service Sunday, May 12 @ 9a & 11a
Keyboard Kaleidoscope Auction Event Saturday, June 15 @ 2p
Chancel Choir RehearsalsThursdays @ 7:30p in the Chapel
Handchime Ensemble RehearsalsTaking a break! Will resume in the fall.



Family Ministries

On a recent Sunday, students in our Popcorn Theology class responded to the questions about the Twilight Zone episode, Four O'clock. This episode addresses being judgmental and wishing harm to those you deem evil or unworthy.



Kathleen Swift
Director of
Family
Ministries

Our younger students are working with the UUA curriculum, *Wonderful Welcome*. In this session about the Gift of Friendship, teachers introduced friendship as an intangible gift and explored the value of having and appreciating friends.

Being a good friend helps us live our Unitarian Universalist Principles, especially the first Principle (inherent worth and dignity of every person).



Unsung Heroes of Chalice

This month we are recognizing Peter Armstrong as our Unsung Hero. He is the reason all of us have access to coffee and tea on Sunday mornings for both services. He makes sure it happens Every. Single. Sunday. Peter is also the contact person for our Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Group.

Peter, you are appreciated!



Note From the Board Concerning the Annual Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, June 9, 2024, Chalice UU Congregation will hold our annual meeting. We will be voting on our annual budget, electing new members to the Board, and perhaps other motions. Details about the meeting will be announced as it gets closer, but we want to give everyone notice about our bylaws rules for voting eligibility.

Voting members need to be in attendance or arrange for absentee voting material. Our Bylaws state: "A Voting member shall be at least thirteen years of age. Shall have been a member for sixty (60) days, shall be a participant in congregational life, and shall have pledged or given fair share support in the current fiscal year (or obtained a waiver)."

Voting rules are as follows: "All votes at Congregational meetings shall be cast in person, either face to face and/or live online, or by absentee ballot but not by proxy. A Voting Member who is unable to attend a Congregational meeting either face to face and/or live online may obtain an absentee ballot by applying in writing, by email, by phone or in person to the Secretary. All absentee ballots must be turned in to the Secretary before the meeting begins."

If you have any questions please contact the office administrator at:
office@ChaliceUUCongregation.org.



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.

- The “parents lounge” meets on the first Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. (started meeting in November).
- The next “Parents Night Out” (childcare on a Saturday evening) is scheduled for May 11 from 4-7 p.m.

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.

- Our pledge drive “Let Your Love Flow” runs from March 24th through April 21st.

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 groups are meeting for study and reflection. Our eighth lay-led Spirit Study service (“Worship of the Written Word”), led by a group of Chalice congregants, will be held April 7.
- The Board and Coordinating Team have received a letter from BIPOC congregants requesting the return of the Black Lives Matter flag to our flagpole. Coordinating Team is planning a forum for communal discussion of this issue for May 5, after the second service. Anne McKeirnan will facilitate the discussion. (Note: Since then, the date has been changed.)

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- We were having trouble with emails sent from ChaliceUUCongregation.org bouncing. Dean spent time researching and investigating and eventually hired a tech consultant to help us resolve the issue.
- Our next Council of Chairs meeting is April 13. Our discussion topic is recruiting and incorporating new people into your team or group.
- We have received a credit for our water bill.



Group Announcements

Women's Book Discussion Group

On May 21st at 6:30 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Hub or via Zoom to discuss *My Remarkable Journey* by Katherine Johnson. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

Excerpt from Amazon:

The remarkable woman at heart of the smash *New York Times* bestseller and Oscar-winning film *Hidden Figures* tells the full story of her life, including what it took to work at NASA, help land the first man on the moon, and live through a century of turmoil and change.

In 2015, at the age of 97, Katherine Johnson became a global celebrity. President Barack Obama awarded her the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation's highest civilian honor—for her pioneering work as a mathematician on NASA's first flights into space. Her contributions to America's space program were celebrated in a blockbuster and Academy-award nominated movie.

In this memoir, Katherine shares her personal journey from child prodigy in the Allegheny Mountains of West Virginia to NASA human computer. In her life after retirement, she served as a beacon of light for her family and community alike. Her story is centered around the basic tenets of her life—no one is better than you, education is paramount, and asking questions can break barriers. The memoir captures the many facets of this unique woman: the curious “daddy's girl,” pioneering professional, and sage elder.

This multidimensional portrait is also the record of a century of racial history that reveals the influential role educators at segregated schools and Historically Black Colleges and Universities played in nurturing the dreams of trailblazers like Katherine. The author pays homage to her mentor—the African American professor who inspired her to become a research mathematician despite having his own dream crushed by racism.

Infused with the uplifting wisdom of a woman who handled great fame with genuine humility and great tragedy with enduring hope, *My Remarkable Journey* ultimately brings into focus a determined woman who navigated tough racial terrain with soft-spoken grace—and the unrelenting grit required to make history and inspire future generations.



Dine Out Group

We meet the 4th Tuesday of each month. The Dine Out Group will meet at Cork & Craft located at 16990 Via Tazon, Rancho Bernardo at 6:00 pm on May 28th.

Please RSVP to Cindy before May 21st so she may make reservations.

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



Memoir Writing Group

The Memoir Writing Group currently meets via Zoom on the fourth Friday of the month at 10 AM. The meetings last 1 ½ hours. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Emily.

As always, you are free to write about any topic you choose, but if you can't think of anything, here are a couple suggestions:

- Write about a time when someone comforted you.

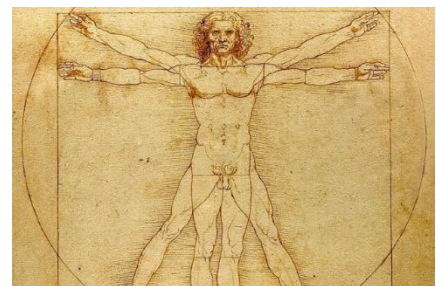
OR

- What were the "IN" fashions

Humanism Discussion Group

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.

The Humanism Discussion Group meets every third Wednesday evening of the month from 7 to 9 pm in the Blue room at Chalice and on zoom. We invite everyone, regardless of their background or beliefs, to participate in these enlightening conversations.



Contact Tom Carlstrom for comments or questions.

Circle Suppers

Each month a group of Chalice members and friends gather in their homes to share a meal and spend time in an informal setting. The suppers are scheduled for the third Saturday evening every month. This month they will be held on April 20th. The process is simple. One group member offers their home and prepares the main course. The other people attending bring other parts of the meal. It's that simple.

It is our hope that we can expand the membership of this group. The way you can join is to contact Emily Troxell for further information.

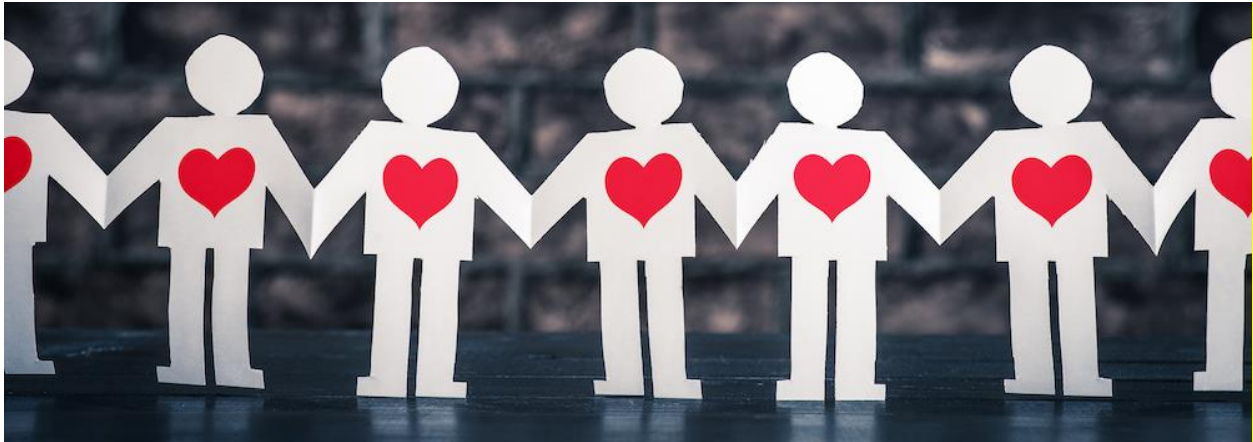


Information

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 May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A Indie Sol 4P CT 5P UU History 5P Karate 7P Finance	2 9A Indie Sol 10:30A Women's Meditation 5:30 BIPOC 7:30P Choir	3	4 8A WW 9A Karate 10A Music Committee
5 9 & 11 A Worship 9A K-9 RE 10A & 12P Coffee Hour 10:30 Parent Lounge 12 P EA Group 12:15 Bylaws Discussion	6	7 9A Indie Sol 12P Zoom Lunch 7P Exec. Board	8 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A I. Sol 5P UU the Vote 5P Karate 6:30 Men's Support	9 9A Indie Sol 10:30A Women's Meditation 7:30P Choir	10 12P Elder's Lunch	11 8A W.W. 9A Karate 12P Music Rehearsal 4P Parent's Night Out 5P Turk Dinner
12 9 & 11 A Worship 9A K-9 RE 10A & 12P Coffee Hour 12 P EA Group	13 1P Poetry Group	14 9A Indie Sol 12P Zoom Lunch 7P Board of Trustees	15 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A Indie Sol 1P Fiber Art 4P CT 5P Karate 7P Human	16 9A Indie Sol 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30P Hand Chimes 7:30P Choir	17 11:30A Ladies to Lunch	18 8A W.W. 9A Karate 6P Turk Dinner
19 9 & 11 A Worship 9A K-9 RE 10A & 12P Coffee Hour 12 P EA Group	20	21 9A Indie Sol 12P Zoom Lunch 6:30 Book Club	22 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A Indie Sol 5P Karate 7P Prayer Circle	23 9A Indie Sol 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30 Drum Circle 6:30P Hand Chimes 7:30P Choir	24 10A Memoir	25 8A W.W. 9A Karate
26 9 & 11 A Worship 9A K-9 RE 10A & 12P Coffee Hour 12 P EA Group	27 6:30P Readers Theater	28 9A Indie Sol 12P Zoom Lunch 6P Dine Out 6P Online Presence	29 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A Indie Sol 5P Karate	30 9A Indie Sol 10:30A Women's Meditation 6:30P Hand Chimes 7:30P Choir	31	

