

Volume #25 | Issue #7 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

### Inside This Issue

PG. 2
Sunday Worship Schedule
PG. 3
Minister's Message
PG. 4
President's Column
PG.5
Music Program
PG. 9
Coordinating Team Report
PG. 10
Board Report
PG. 11
10.11
Group Announcements
PG. 15
Membership and Submissions
Information
PG. 16
Calendar of Events



### Ruby Birthstone for July

"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept."

- Angela Davis

# SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday Service In person at 10 AM. Online on Zoom 10 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 832 129 662 https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662

### After-worship COFFEE HOUR

Stay in the same Zoom site as Sunday Service

July 7 – Worship Associate Julia Fogel with Assistant Jessica Schulz "Fun with Words"

Join us for some summer fun with wordplay! Maybe you're a poet and didn't know it? Serious or silly, we will search our souls looking for inspiration to create a collaborative *Hearts of Chalice* Poem.

July 14 – TBD "TBD" This morning's service will feature a pulpit guest.

July 21 – Rev. Sharon Wylie "Life Lessons from a Padres Fan" You are likely aware that Rev. Sharon (among others) is a Padres fan. What life lessons has she gleaned from watching a baseball team?

July 28 – SPECIAL SERVICE

"Blessing of the Animals"

In-person: 10 a.m. at Felicita Park, Area 4 (\$3 for parking; seniors are free). Bring a pet (animals on-leash or crated please) for Rev. Sharon to bless. We will gather at 10 a.m. and the service will start at 10:15 a.m. or so. Childcare will not be available. There will be a potluck picnic following the service.

August 4 – 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.



### **Minister's Message**

The following is an excerpt from Rev. Sharon Wylie's sermon "The Sermon After General Assembly" offered on June 30, 2024. You can watch the full sermon on Chalice's YouTube channel.

I believe that it is part of being a Unitarian Universalist to eventually face the question: Am I still UU? Ours is not an easy faith. I am not UU because it aligns easily with who I am; I am UU because this faith pushes me and challenges me. I know the day will come when I will wrestle with my discomfort over feeling out of step with the UU majority on some matter of importance to me. I feel that is inevitable; it's part of who we are. So, this advice I share with any of you who may be wrestling with that question is the advice I want to capture for myself in the future. I'm speaking to Sharon of the future, and I will look back here to see what I said and advised myself from a grounded point of view.



Rev. Sharon Wylie Minister

First: You will have the impulse to resign your membership. When something upsetting happens, we want to *show* someone that we are upset. We want to demonstrate. But resigning as a member does nothing but take away your own power and voice. You can resign later if that turns out to be the right choice. But resigning as an act of protest does not effect change.

Second: You are likely feeling lonely. Hurt and lonely. The sense of belonging and shared commitments can feel very fragile at times. Take time to grieve. Take time to check in with UU friends who feel as you do. Take time to check in with UU friends who disagree with you on this matter. As Rev. Safford told us, we may not be likeminded, but we are surely like-hearted. People with shared values and ideals can still disagree on significant issues. We are not each other's enemies.

Third: Remember that pluralism is now one of our explicitly stated values. "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."

And fourth: If this is truly a crisis of faith, I suggest giving it a year. Stay in community, keep trying to connect. If the hurt comes from a GA action, wait until after the next GA to see what happens there. And if in a year, it truly feels like Unitarian Universalism is no longer your home, then you will know it is time to move on.

Blessings, Sharon



### **President's Column**

Greetings Chalice! I am so honored to be your President of the Board of Trustees for 2024-2025. I extend a huge thank you to everyone who served on our Board of Trustees last year and a hearty welcome to our new board members.

Thank you to all for a successful congregational meeting on June 9. We voted in new board and committee members, passed extensive bylaws amendments, voted on a new Vision statement and presented our 5-year strategic guidelines, and reported on our ministerial evaluation. Additionally, we were happy to report a balanced budget for the coming year.

Last year's board did a lot of work!

So what's next for this year's Board of Trustees? One of the primary goals of this board is to reflect on our new Vision and strategic guidelines and work on ways to live into them. We will also discuss the Article II revisions that were recently passed at GA and how to promote them at Chalice. And we will be involved in the discussion and decision making process surrounding the potential return of our BLM flag. Many thanks to everyone who participated in our BLM Flag Discussion on June 23. It was inspiring to see so many people share their thoughts and feelings in a respectful way. Discussions like this can be hard, but with love at the center and respect for each other's opinions, it is a little easier.

Blessings, Lara





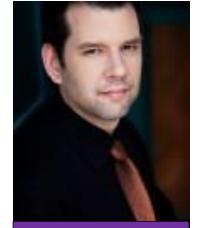


Lara Brown Board President

### **Music Program**

#### Twenty Years of Musical Memories, Part 1

As I complete my 20<sup>th</sup> year as Chalice's Music Director, I am thinking back over the last two decades, recalling so many fond memories, proud accomplishments, wonderful people, and beautiful musical moments. Starting in this month's newsletter column, I thought it might be interesting to remember and celebrate some of the musical milestones of the last 20 years. Along the way, I will provide a little context, some updates, and maybe an anecdote or two. Although I originally thought I could accomplish this historical overview in two



Tim McKnight Music Director

newsletter columns, I quickly realized that there was way too much material to fit in two columns! So here is the first of <u>four</u> installments of "20 Years of Musical Memories." Enjoy!

#### 2004

#### August – Tim McKnight is hired as the first paid Music Director at Chalice.

(At that time there is just one Sunday worship service at 12:30pm. Why so late? Chalice is renting a worship space in Poway, so we have to have our service at a non-conventional time.)

#### September - Chancel Choir rehearsals begin for the 2004-05 congregational year.

(I was not the first director of the Chancel Choir. Lee Steadman founded the Chancel

Choir and directed it until 2004. So when I took over, there was already a core group of choir members and a solid musical foundation upon which the music program could grow. Thank you Lee!)

### October – The congregation moves into its new home in Escondido on Miller Avenue.

#### December – I present my first music service to a standing-room-only audience. (The theme is "Winter Reflections.")



2005

January – The official grand opening celebration of Chalice's new home takes place.

#### February – Delynn Kelly donates her Yamaha upright piano to Chalice.

(This piano was one of the two pianos featured in the June 2024 *Keyboard Kaleidoscope* 6 Concert!)



March – Carol McIntyre donates her Clavinova keyboard to Chalice. (This instrument now lives in the Music Office.)

#### April – Susan Spoto, Chalice's first Music Committee Chair, resigns her post.

(Susan led the committee through the search, application and hiring process to find a professional Music Director. After weeks with no applicants, Susan had the idea to post an ad on the UCSD Performing Arts Job Board. My friend Megan Wolf worked there, saw the ad, and forwarded it to me. I was so new to San Diego at that time that I was still unpacking my pots and pans! So if it weren't for Susan, I almost certainly would never have known about Chalice or the job opening. Thanks Susan!)

### May – Chancel Choir participates in the Pacific Southwest District Choral Festival in Long Beach.

June – The very first Keyboard Kaleidoscope Concert takes place.

July – Deb Coon takes over as the second Chalice Music Committee Chair.

August – Tim attends his first UUMN (UU Musician's Network) Conference in Denver. (The UUMN is now called AAUUM, Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries.)

#### October - The very first Chalice Cabaret Night is held.

(Chalice Cabarets would take place nearly every year for the next decade, involving hundreds of Chalice folks, playing to consistently sold-out crowds, and bringing in sizable profits both for Chalice and for our community partners. We started with two performances the first year, growing to five performances for awhile. Performances were always sold out or very close to sold out. There is so much more I could say, but you'll have to wait until my autobiography!)



### November – Chalice buys 40 copies of the newly published teal hymnal supplement, *Singing the Journey.*

(The congregation would go on to raise the money to purchase a total of 120 copies of this hymnal supplement. It's unthinkable now to imagine a time when there was no song "Blue Boat Home!")

2006

### February – The Jim Stone Memorial Fund is used to purchase three octaves of handchimes.

(The new Handchime Ensemble will begin rehearsing and performing shortly after.)



# March – The Chancel Choir collaborates with local singer-songwriter Randi Driscoll to perform her song "What Matters," written in response to the murder of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming.

(This single performance would blossom into a profoundly rich collaboration over the next several years. Randi is now in Nashville, but the light and beauty she brought to Chalice will never be forgotten!)

### April – Chalice begins holding two worship services on Sunday mornings, at 9 and 11 am.

(However, the Chancel Choir only sings at one service for the time being. This would change in late 2007.)

### May – *Grunion Run*, Chalice's signature blues folk rock band, presents a special concert.

(*Grunion Run,* consisting of John Schulz, Dean Goddette, Paul Dulany and Deb Coon, are so well-known and loved that they are basically the Beatles of Chalice. Their musical sophistication, incisively relevant lyrics, effortless collaboration, and sincere desire to make a difference is unmatched in the UU world.)

#### 2007

### July – The premiere of Jason Shelton's *Sources* Cantata takes place at the UUMN Conference.

(In 2012, Tim McKnight will direct a San Diego Cluster-wide performance of Sources.)

August – Chalice sees the debut of the new Chamber Singers, an *a cappella* vocal ensemble of eight.

September – Chalice's new Children's Choir, under the direction of Tim McKnight, begins rehearsals. (There are consistently 12-15 children in the choir during this time!)

### October – The third annual Chalice Cabaret is another huge success.

(However, the last performance has to be cancelled due to the Witch Creek Fire, which would result in the evacuation of 1 million residents of Southern California, including 90% of the Chalice members and friends. This was a very scary time for our community.)



#### Keyboard Kaleidoscope 6 Concert Huge Success!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Keyboard Kaleidoscope 6 Concert on June 15! The event was completely sold out, and contributed ~\$2000 to our congregation.





#### Chancel Choir Looking for New Singers!

Whatever your singing background or experience is, the Chancel Choir needs your voice! Chancel Choir meets for rehearsals on Thursday nights from 7:30p - 9:00p and sings one Sunday each month. Our 2024-2025 season starts on July 25. For more information, e-mail music@chaliceuucongregation.org.



#### Sunday Worship Music – July Highlights

Jul 7: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

Jul 14: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

Jul 21: Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.

Jul 28: Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.

#### Looking Ahead

Chancel Choir Rehearsals ......Will resume July 25 @ 7:30p in the Chapel Handchime Ensemble Rehearsals ......Will resume July 25 @ 6:30p in the Hub



### **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.

• Some parents have expressed that a 10 a.m. worship time will help them attend more regularly, and we look forward to seeing if that is true during our summer services at 10 a.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. The Pledge Drive Task Force emailed a summary of the results of the pledge drive to Chalice members and friends on June 8. We hope to make this summary email a regular component of pledge drive going forward.

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.

- The BLM flag discussion will take place June 23 after the service.
- Our Spirit Study topic studying white supremacy culture characteristics has come to a close. Twenty-six Chalice congregants participated in leading nine worship services over the past nine months.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- We purchased new mugs with the Chalice logo for use on our campus. Congregants who would like to take one home may do so for a \$20 donation.
- We provided a report to the Spirit Level Foundation on our solar panel installation and energy usage.
- We sent letters to Chalice's Non-Voting Members to advise them of their status and what to do to return to Voting status in time for Sunday's meeting. We did not receive any replies or questions in response.
- We are making progress on the list of fire safety recommendations from Church Mutual. We are glad to have learned that we will not need to replace our windows, which would have been expensive to do.
- We are glad to report that Dean Goddette is willing to serve another 2-year term on the Coordinating Team!



### **Board Report**

We had a wonderful Congregational Meeting on June 9, 2024. We now have new bylaws that should express how we are presently operating. On July 1, 2024, a new board will begin their year of operation. We welcome Lara Brown as our President and Jeff Hunter as our Secretary. New Trustees are June Bailey, Julia Fogel and Jessica Schultz. Victoria Cagle will return as Treasurer and Marianna Benedict-Bacilla as Trustee.



Save the Date - Chalice Auction 2024 Our annual Chalice Auction will be held online from Oct. 20-27, with the live auction on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024! Please put these dates in your calendar. And remember that it is never too early to start thinking about donations! More details to come later in the summer.



### **Group Announcements**

### Women's Book Discussion Group

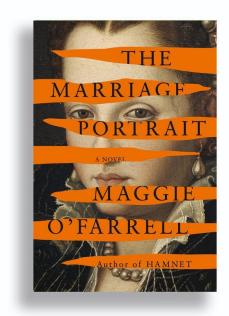
On July 16th at 6:30 pm the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Group will meet in the Hub or via Zoom to discuss <u>The Marriage Portrait</u> by Maggie O'Farrell. If you are interested, please contact Mary for the Zoom information. Non-binary and trans women are warmly invited.

#### Excerpt from Kirkus Review:

A teenage Renaissance bride discovers that her husband of scarcely a year intends to murder her. Little is known about Lucrezia de'Medici, married at 15 to the Duke of Ferrara, besides her suspicious death; rumors that she was poisoned prompted Robert Browning's famous poem "My Last Duchess."

O'Farrell imagines a rebellious spirit less interested in matrimony than in painting the natural world around her. The author develops tension with a split time frame, opening in 1561 in "a wild and lonely place" to which 16-year-old Lucrezia is quite sure Alfonso has brought her to be killed, then circling back to depict her childhood in Florence, including a life-changing encounter with a tiger in her father's private menagerie.

From there the two narratives move forward in tandem: We see Lucrezia growing up to be sacrificed to political maneuvering that mandates her marriage to the suave Alfonso and growing aware in Ferrara that her outwardly courteous and kind



husband is brutally determined to cement his shaky hold on the dukedom and ferociously intent on making sure she produces an heir. Her only solace comes in painting wild scenes of imaginary creatures, then covering them up with conventional still lifes approved by Alfonso as proper diversions for his duchess.

When she meets Jacopo, an apprentice to the painter commissioned to create her portrait, she finds a soul mate who perhaps offers a way out of her imprisoning marriage. Several grim scenes make clear the mortal consequences of any attempt to escape Alfonso's clutches: Will Lucrezia take the risk?

A compelling portrait of a young woman out of step with her times.



### **Dine Out Group**

We meet the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. The Dine Out Group will meet on July 23 at Veranda in the RB Inn located at 17550 Bernardo Oaks Dr. in RB. Please RSVP to Cindy.

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  $\frac{1}{2}$  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 of your youth?



### Ladies Out to Lunch



The Ladies Out to Lunch group will meet at the California Mining Company at 11:30 AM on Friday, July 19. The address is 1020 W. San Marcos Blvd, Suite 118, and is located near the I-78 offramp. Please rsvp to Susan Sklar. We are a small group and welcome newcomers!

### **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 June 15<sup>th</sup>. 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.

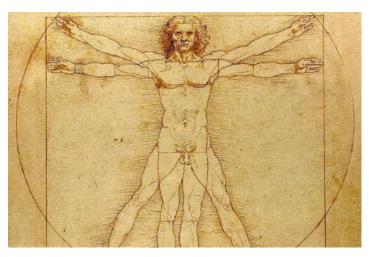
It is our hope that we can expand the membership of this group. The way you can join is to contact Emily for further information.





### 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. We seek to understand this universe in which we find



ourselves and discover what is and what things matter.

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.

We have been discussing books suggested by our participants. So far we have discussed:

- "The Sacred Depths of Nature" by Ursula Goodenough
- "The Tau of Pooh and The Te of Piglet" by Benjamin Hoff
- "21 Lessons for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" by Yuval Noah Harari
- "The Righteous Mind, Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion" by Jonathan Haidt
- We are currently discussing "The Meaning of Human Existence" by Edward O. Wilson

In addition to book discussions, we also discuss a variety of topics such as "how Humanists handle the holidays" and "the role of culture in forming our morals and ethics". I also find interesting short science videos to discuss.

If you are interested in Humanism or just curious what it is about, please consider joining us for our next discussion group. There are also many resources on the web including the American Humanist Association and the Freedom from Religion Foundation.

Contact Tom for comments or questions.

## Information

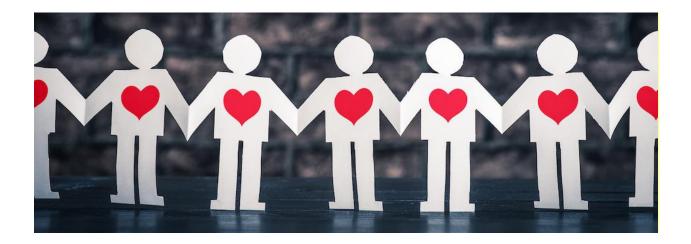


# Calendar for July 2024

#### 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 <u>office@chaliceuucongregation.org</u>.



Chalice Web Site: <u>https://chaliceuucongregation.org</u> 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: <u>Office@chaliceuucongregation.org</u> With much gratitude to our Editorial Team: Hope Campbell, Callie Leef, and Andi Stout.



	1	2 12P Zoom Lunch 7P Exec. Board	3 8A W.W. 9A Men's BF 1P Finance 5P Karate	4 10:30A Women's Meditation 5:30P BIPOC	5	6 8A WW 9A Karate 10A Music Committee
7 10A Worship 10A K-9 RE 11:15A Coffee Hour	8	9 12P Zoom Lunch 7P Board of Trustees	10 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 5P Karate 6:30 Men's Support	11 10:30A Women's Meditation	12 12P Elder's Lunch	13 8A W.W. 9A Karate
14 10A Worship 10A K-9 RE 11:15A Coffee Hour	15	16 12P Zoom Lunch 6:30 Women's Book Club	17 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 1P Fiber Arts 4P CT 5P Karate 7P Humanist Discussion	18 10:30A Women's Meditation	19 11:30 Ladies Out to Lunch Emerging Adults Sleepover	20 8A W.W. 9A Karate 10A Worship 5P Turk Dinner Emerging Adults Sleepover
21 10A Worship 10A K-9 RE 11:15A Coffee Hour 6:30P Drum Circle	22 6:30P Readers Theater	23 12P Zoom Lunch 6P Dine Out 6P Online Presence	24 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 5P Karate	25 10:30A Meditation 6:30 Chimes 7:30P Choir	26 10A Memoir Writing	27 8A W.W. 9A Karate 10A Council of Chairs
28 10A Worship 10A K-9 RE 11:15A Coffee Hour	29	30 12P Zoom Lunch	31 8A W.W. 9A Men's Breakfast 9A Indie Sol 5P Karate			

