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Soul Symbol for January Dragon

High aspirers & fiery soul

“We must accept finite
disappointment but never lose
infinite hope.”

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

January 5 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“Drinking from the Fire Hose, or Too Much Internet”

This morning we consider the challenges of living in an Age of Information Overload.

January 12 – Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube

“Showing Up for the Apocalypse”

Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube is Chalice’s Affiliate Minister. He has a ministry of spiritual direction and is an Affiliate Faculty member at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

January 19 – Lay-Led Service

“If He Could See Us Now (What Would Dr. King Say?)”

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we will share his words and teachings that might inspire and guide us today.

January 26 – Rev. Sharon Wylie

“What Fresh Hell is This?” (UU Theologies #5)

This is the fifth in an 11-part series on UU theologies, informed by the book *A House for Hope: The Promise of Progressive Religion for the Twenty-First Century* by Buehrens and Parker.



Minister's Message

I'm so glad to kick off the new year with some happy news: Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube is Chalice's first ever Affiliate Minister!

(Pro-tip: Rev. Arvid's last name is pronounced STRAW-bee.)

The designation of Affiliate Minister indicates the relationship of a Community Minister to the congregation in a non-staff position. "Community Minister" means that Rev. Arvid has a ministry outside our congregation; in his case, he has a ministry of spiritual direction. His being our Affiliate Minister indicates that this is the congregation he attends and has a connection with.

Many UU congregations have Affiliate Ministers. For example, the First UU Church of San Diego has four Affiliate Ministers right now. The Church of the Larger Fellowship (our largest UU congregation, which is fully online) has so many inquiries about Affiliate Ministry that they have an online form to fill out!

As you will have noticed, Rev. Arvid has preached for us three times this fall, and we will have him preaching three more times this spring. He is paid for this, as all our pulpit guests are, but having him preach multiple times a year makes worship planning easier on him, me, and our worship associates. I hope Chalice congregants are enjoying getting to know him through his preaching.

If you are interested, you can read the full letter of agreement between Rev. Arvid and the congregation at this link:

<https://chaliceuucongregation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Straube-Affiliate-Minister-agreement.pdf>

For those of you who don't know, Rev. Arvid was the minister at First UU Church of San Diego when my husband and I joined the congregation in 2004. He was a great inspiration to me in my becoming a minister, and he has been a mentor to me along the way. After I became a minister in 2012, I was glad to get to know him anew as a colleague. We co-led a silent retreat together in 2016 (SpiritRest Silent Retreat), which has become an annual event held for five days each summer.

Rev. Arvid has been a UU parish minister for 35 years. He served First UU Church of San Diego as lead minister for 10 years before retiring from parish ministry in 2014. He has also served congregations in Washington



Rev. Sharon Wylie
Minister



State and North Carolina. He is Minister Emeritus at the Eno River UU Fellowship in Durham, N.C.

Rev. Arvid earned a Master of Arts in Divinity degree at the University of Chicago and a Doctor of Ministry degree at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. In 2013, Meadville awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree for distinguished service to our movement.

Rev. Arvid and his wife, Sonya Prestridge, moved to Chalice's neck of the woods this past summer and began attending Chalice. So in addition to seeing him in the pulpit, we also see him in the pews! It has been a special pleasure for me to have someone so important to my development as a minister, and someone I work closely with as a colleague, start attending our congregation and become involved in our worship life.

We will celebrate Rev. Arvid's connection to our congregation as a part of our Sunday worship on January 5. I hope to see you there!

Bright blessings,
Sharon



President's Column

Greetings, Chalice!

As we enter into January and leave December behind, I hope you experienced many joys during the holiday season. We celebrated and worshipped well at Chalice, with a fun Winter Party, a beautiful Solstice celebration, and a joyful Christmas Eve service - not to mention the meaningful and thought-provoking sermons on each Sunday of Advent.



Lara Brown
Board President

And yet ... at home I was off my game. Everything felt like a struggle and I just wasn't feeling it. My kids (well, my adult children) expressed similar feelings. By evening of Christmas Eve not even half our decorations were up, the tree was barely decorated, the living room was cluttered as always, and no presents had been wrapped. On Christmas morning, in a last ditch effort to fix that tree, my daughter, Leah, started hanging more ornaments. It looked beautiful! And then - the tree fell over! Many decorations fell off, a few breaking. Well, when something like that happens you just have to laugh to keep from crying. And that's when it hit me: this year we needed to have a "Buddhist Christmas" - we needed to practice the art of Non-Attachment. Letting go of needing to feel a certain way, do things a certain way, or having the house (or tree) look a certain way. None of our extended family of 10 really cared about all that, we just wanted to be together. In the evening as we lit candles on the first night of Hanukkah while listening to Solstice music in the glow of the Christmas tree lights, I made a New Year's resolution to learn more about Buddhist philosophy and Non-Attachment. I have a whole lot of things to let go of.

I would like to wish you bright blessings for this New Year of 2025, but I myself am filled with uncertainty and considerable trepidation. Which makes our Chalice community all the more important. To quote our UUA President, Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, "These are heartbreaking and uncertain times, and this moment needs us - people of faith who put love at the center, work boldly to widen the circle so that all might feel that expansive love that held us for so many generations, and do it all with a commitment to communal care."

So I wish for all of us strength, fortitude, and many many moments of wonder, joy, laughter, and love as we navigate the new year together.

Lara Brown
President, Board of Trustees



Music Program

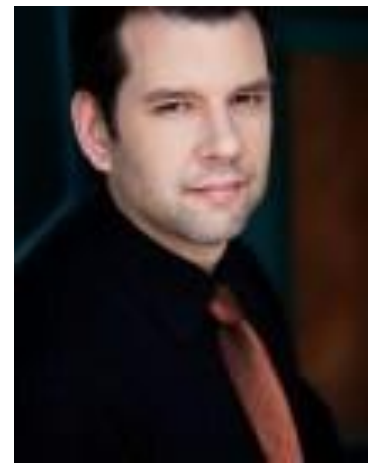
Sunday Worship Music – January Highlights

Jan 5: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

Jan 12: Tim McKnight will be our worship musician.

Jan 19: John Schulz will be our worship musician.

Jan 26: The Chancel Choir will present "From an Irish Cabin", lyrics by Ruth Sawyer Durand and music by Douglas E. Wagner. **Tim McKnight** will be our worship musician.



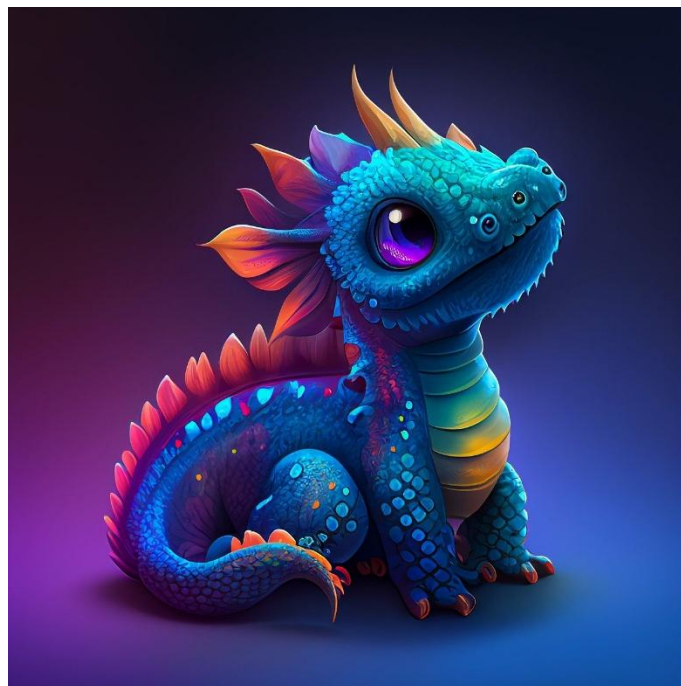
Tim McKnight
Music Director

Looking Ahead

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

Handchime Ensemble RehearsalsThursdays @ 6:30p in the Hub

Game Night Concert Saturday, March 22 @ 2p in the Chapel



Family Ministries



Kathleen Swift
Director of Family
Ministries



On December 22, Chalice children and youth passed out winter gifts they made for congregants.



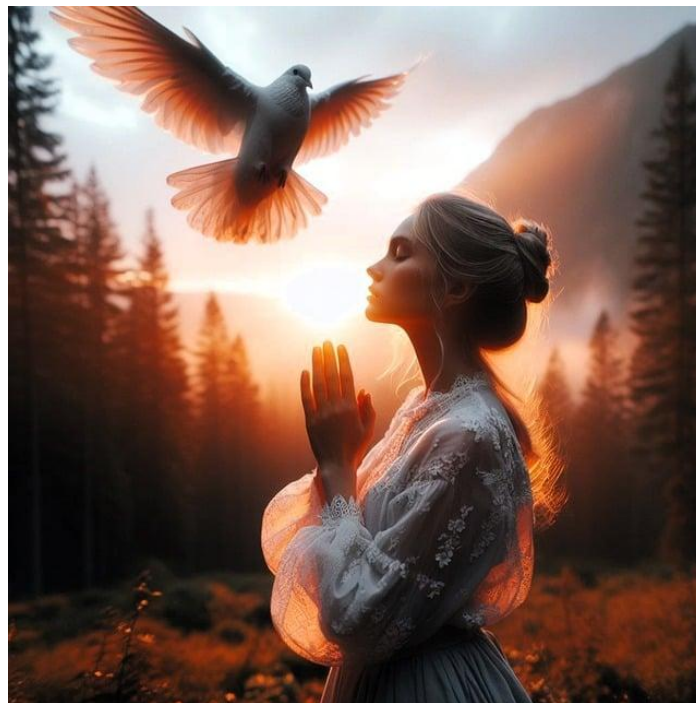
ONLINE CLASS
BIBLICAL LITERACY PART 1
OPEN TO ALL!

Wednesdays, February 12-March 19 (6 sessions)
5:00 pm-6:15 pm PT on Zoom

The *Faith Forward* program out of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas is excited to offer an online session of "Biblical Literacy for Unitarian Universalists" for all congregations. We will offer this 11-week course in two parts, one in the winter and one in the fall. Part 1 includes the sessions "Approaching the Bible," "Many Books, Many Sources," "God and Covenant," "Jesus in the Gospels," "Kingdom of God Parables," and "Creation Stories." This is a unique opportunity to explore the Bible through a Unitarian Universalist lens.

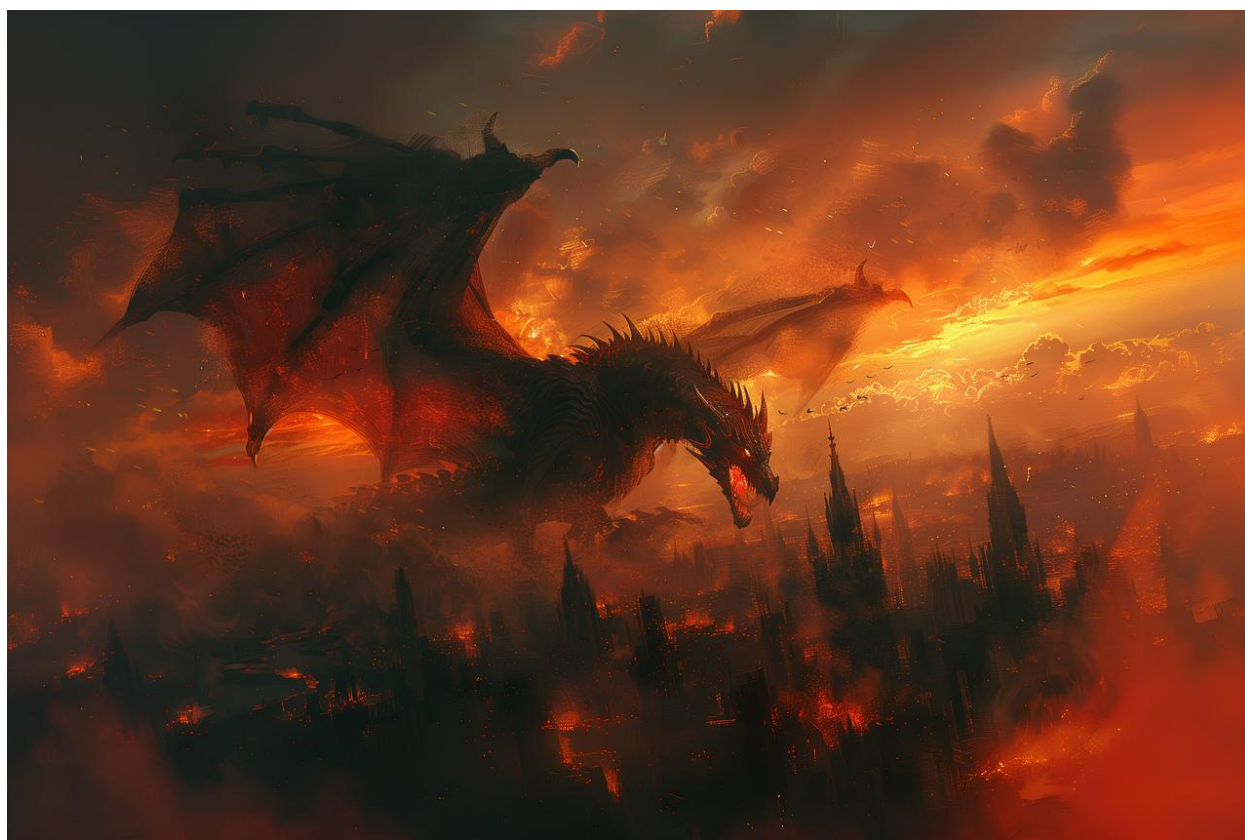
The fee for this series is FREE to congregations that subscribe to the Faith Forward curricula, which Chalice does.

For more information or to register, email Faith Forward Coordinator Rev. Lora Brandis. **Deadline to register is Monday, February 10.**



Better late than never: Chalice's Year in Review Report for FY24!!

It took Coordinating Team a while to compile the 20 reports of our FY24 Year in Review (July 2023 thru June 2024), but here it is at last. You can find the full pdf report at our tinyurl page. If you would like a hard copy of the report printed for you, please contact our Office Administrator, Kathleen Swift, at office@chaliceuucongregation.org.



Coordinating Team Report

Guidepost 1: Build a welcoming community that supports opportunities to foster strong relationships within Chalice for congregants as well as visitors.

- Nothing to report.

Guidepost 2: Provide opportunities for transformative religious/spiritual development for all ages.

- Sharon will be emailing the congregation about Faith Forward's upcoming online class on Biblical Literacy, open to our congregants. Part 1 will be offered in the spring, and part 2 will be offered in fall 2025.

Guidepost 3: Guided by the 8th principle and with love at the center, engage in thoughtful social justice action within the congregation, our North County communities, and the wider world.

- We took a special collection for DRUUMM and raised \$1,125.

Guidepost 4: Encourage and support congregants and visitors to develop and share their unique creative talents with one another and in the wider community.

- Nothing new to report.

Guidepost 5: Engage the congregation in deeply understanding and participating in the communal stewardship of Chalice UU.

- Pledge drive task force is forming and hopes to meet in December.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- We had an evacuation drill on November 17. All went well. We came away with a goal of improving the exit between the flagpole and the Hub building.
- We have formed a Campus Caretaker Team of people to check on our campus once a day (especially when we've had renters onsite) to ensure all doors are locked. We have eight people on this team and could use a couple more.
- We welcomed Wendy Metzger onto the Coordinating Team!



Board Report

The Board of Trustees met on November 12, 2024 and accomplished a number of things:

Chalice Leadership—Susan Spoto was unanimously approved by the Board to serve as Vice President for the remainder of this year and, with the approval of the Congregation, transitioning to President next year. She has a wealth of experience as a past President of the Board, Board member and Coordinating Team Member. Congratulations to Susan! Wendy Metzger was unanimously approved to join an excited Coordinating Team. Congratulations to Wendy!

Monthly Reports--Reviewed the President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Minister's Report and Coordinating Team Report.

Policy Task Force—Each Board member was provided with a copy of the current Governing Policies document for their review.

Digital Tools—Dean Goddette answered Board members' questions about the various computer systems being used at Chalice. He does not see a need for additional resources at this time.

Flag Update—A Trump flag was found on our flagpole the morning of Sunday, Nov. 3. CT removed the flag and clips to discourage further activity.



Group Announcements

Women's Book Discussion Group

The Chalice Women's Discussion Group meets on January 21st to choose their books for the upcoming year.

Dine Out Group

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The Dine Out Group will meet at The Brigantine located at 421 W. Felicita Escondido at 6:00 pm on January 28th.

Please RSVP to Cindy.

Singles and couples are welcome for conversation, catching up and getting acquainted. This is an open group who enjoy 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, consider this from Andrew Motion in the NYT Book Review of February 3, 2008. (I ran across this thumbing through one of my old commonplace books.)

"Memoirs involve remembrance and return as well as development and departure stories. Getting away from the past, and going back to it...For most people, childhood ends slowly, so nobody can see where one part of life finishes and the next bit starts..."

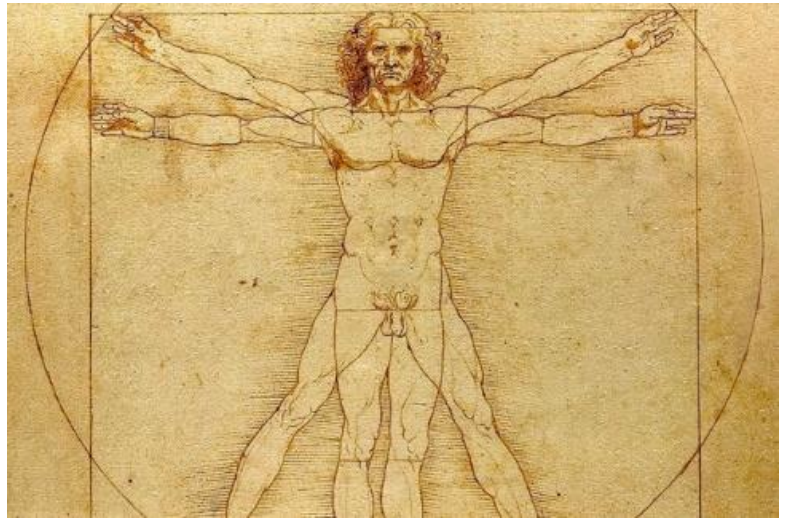
We will meet again on the fourth Friday of February 2025.



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 the 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.

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.



Ladies Out to Lunch

The Ladies out to Lunch group will meet on Friday, January 17 at Hoorah Cafe & Bar in Rancho Bernardo. The address is 16453 Bernardo Center Drive, and it is located in the east strip mall near the I-15 freeway intersection. We meet at 11:30 AM and love to welcome newcomers to our group! Please RSVP to Carol by Wednesday, January 15.

Circle Suppers

Circle Suppers are held each month on the third Saturday evening. How does this work? Each month an invitation to Circle Supper is sent to all people who have indicated an interest in attending these suppers. When everyone has answered, one person is assigned to be the host. The host contacts all those interested in attending and provides a list of menu items that are needed for the dinner. This meal is really a highly planned potluck..... Then, on the third Saturday evening people gather for informal conversation and then dinner. This is a great way to get to know other Chalice members. If this type of activity is of interest to you, please contact Emily for further information.

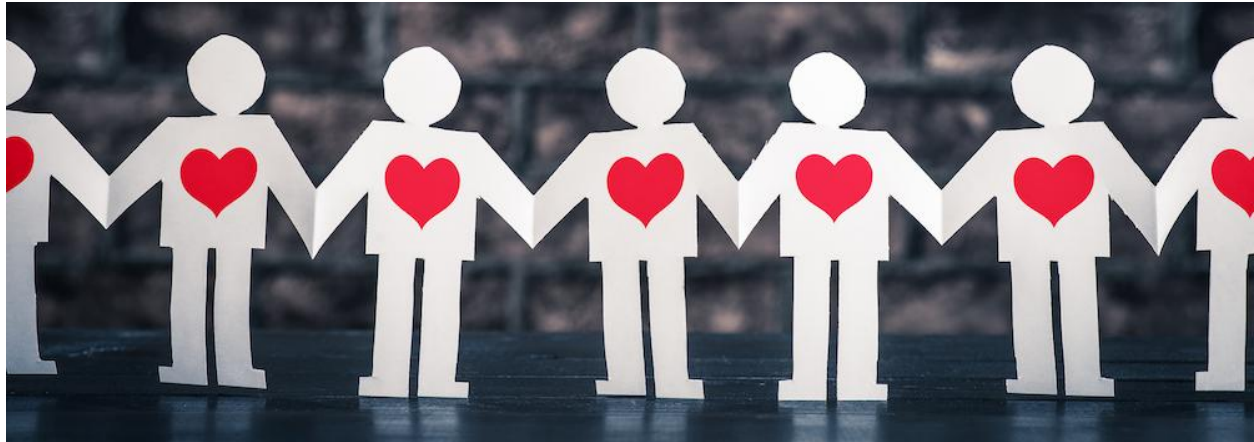


Information

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 January 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2.
10:30A
Women's
Meditation

3

4
8A WW
9A Karate
10A Music
Committee

5
10A Worship
10A K-9 RE
11:15A
Coffee Hour
12P Emerging
Adults

6
7:30P Unity
Gruuve

7
9:45 Indie
Sol
12P Zoom
Lunch

8
8A W.W.
9A Men's
Breakfast
9:45 Indie
Sol
5P Karate
6:30 Men's
Support

9
9:45 Indie S.
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P
Chimes
7:30P Choir

10
12P Elder's
Lunch

11
8A W.W.
9A Karate
10A Council
of Chairs

12
10A Worship
10A K-9 RE
11:15A
Coffee Hour
12P Emerging
Adults

13
1P Poetry
Group
7:30P Unity
Gruuve

14
9:45 Indie
Sol
12P Zoom
Lunch
7P Board of
Trustees

15
8A W.W.
9A Men's
Breakfast
9:45 Indie S.
1P Fiber Art
5P Karate
7P
Humanist

16
9:45 Indie
Sol
10:30A
Women's
Meditation
6:30P
Chimes
7:30P Choir

17
11:30 Ladies
Out to
Lunch

18
8A W.W.
9A Karate
10A Worship
6P Circle
Supper

19
10A Worship
10A K-9 RE
11:15A
Coffee Hour
12P Emerging
Adults

20
7:30P Unity
Gruuve

21
9:45 Indie
Sol
12P Zoom
Lunch
6:30 Book
Discussion

22
8A W.W.
9A Men's
Breakfast
9:45 Indie S.
4P CT
5P Karate

23
9:45 Indie
Sol
10:30A
Meditation
6:30P
Handchimes
7:30P Choir

24
10A Memoir
Writing

5
8A W.W.
9A Karate

26
10A Worship
10A K-9 RE
11:15A
Coffee Hour
12P Emerging
Adults

27
6:30P Readers'
Theater
7:30P Unity
Gruuve

28
9:45 Indie
Sol
12P Zoom
Lunch
6P Dine Out
6P Online
Presence

29
8A W.W.
9A Men's
Breakfast
9:45 Indie
Sol
5P Karate

30
9:45 Indie
Sol
10:30A
Meditation
6:30P
Handchimes
7:30P Choir

31

