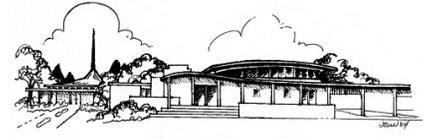


# REPORTER

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron



Volume 77, Issue 6

June 2017

## ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC! JUNE 4TH

We begin at 10:30 a.m. with an uplifting Sunday Service, which will be followed by a scrumptious potluck, fellowship, and fun & games for the kids!

This year the setting will be  
**GOODYEAR HEIGHTS METRO PARK  
EAST ROOM  
2077 NEWTON ST.  
AKRON, OHIO**

Bring a picnic dish to share with 8-12 people, lawn chairs, and umbrellas as there is not a lot of shade. We will provide the beverages (coffee set-up, lemonade, water, etc.) as well as charcoal for the grills to cook your burgers and hot dogs. Please bring your own place settings, outdoor games/activities for the kids, sunscreen, and anything else you'd like to have for your picnic!

## Minister's Musings

It's hard to believe that summer is upon us and that we're at the end of another church year. So much has happened at the UU Church of Akron over the last nine months that sometimes it feels like a blur. We developed and adopted a new mission and strategic plan, dedicated two Black Lives Matter banners, welcomed **41 new members** to our church community, continued wonderful ministries like the community meal and the community garden, and voted to declare the UU Church of Akron a sanctuary congregation. What a church year this has been!

With so much happening over the last nine months, I am certainly looking forward to catching my breath over the summer. Among the many things I love about summer, the chance to follow a different, less hectic pace has to be my favorite. After months devoted to doing so many things and completing so many tasks, it feels nourishing to be able to follow a different rhythm that allows time for less doing and more being.

In many ways, I think summer is about giving ourselves the gift of letting go – letting go of at least some of our endless to do lists and letting go of the speed and the rapid pace life so often demands.

So over the next couple of months, I'm going to try to "unblur" or is it "de-blur?" I'm going to slow down, breathe, and find time for more being and less doing. Of course, life doesn't take a break so tasks will still need to be completed and the inevitable "to do" lists will be created. But I'm going to see if I can do what needs to be done at a different pace, a slower pace – a pace that allows me to be more fully present even while I'm completing those tasks.

And that is my hope and my prayer for you this summer. If your life feels as if it has been in overdrive, find ways to "gear down." If your days have become a blur of activity, take time to enjoy the beauty and blessings of beautiful summer day. Give yourself the gift of rest and renewal.

Many Blessings,

Rev. Tim



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# President's Corner

Tina Ughrin

I am Tina Ughrin and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Board President of the UUCA. This has been an incredible church year. In addition to the continuation of many of our existing ministries, we have adopted a new mission statement, a new strategic plan, begun some internal and external work to address the impacts of white privilege, and voted to be a sanctuary church. Thank you to our outgoing President Derek Shuttleworth for leading us through a church year where we significantly deepened our commitment to our UU principles while grappling with budgetary constraints. I have learned from working with Derek about how to be thoughtful and intentional in guiding the momentum of a congregation ready to step up. Derek's approach to leadership was precisely what our congregation needed this year and has strengthened our foundation for the work that we are set to tackle.

Thank you too to our other outgoing board members: David Otto, Sue Hirt, and Eric Beach. Sue Hirt has not only guided us as we have had to make some difficult monetary decisions this year, she initiated work with Steve Wagner and Sue Michaels to bring clarity to some of our bookkeeping practices that will help us make more informed financial decisions in the future. Thank you too for the tireless attention Eric Beach has paid to our building and grounds for the past two years and for sharing his vision and expertise on the Board appointed committee exploring possible sanctuary renovations.

Welcome to our new board members: Sharon Geffken, Jack Ryder, Keith Rasey, and Tom Hoch! You are joining leadership at an exciting time. I am proud to be helping to lead a congregation that has affirmed its commitment to an aspirational mission as "a sanctuary of love and welcome for all, dedicated to lifelong intellectual and spiritual exploration, and committed to leading, acting, and speaking for social justice and stewardship of the earth." This next year, we will all be challenged to step up as we enact out commitment to sanctuary and as we prioritize and begin action on our strategic plan. I am looking forward to working with all of you over the summer and into our next church year.

Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Warmly,

Tina  
tughrin@gmail.com



## RELIGIOUS ED NEWS

DRE Rich Roberts, RE Assistant Carolyn Stevens

### Parents as Primary Religious Educators

**In a faith tradition as diverse as ours, it's accepted among professional religious educators that parents are the primary religious educators of their children.** Young children's faith formation begins in the home. Just as in other areas where they are figuring out how the world works, they look to their parents as the models of how religion is understood and practiced.

**Children who are "unchurched" have no experience with religion and therefore no context to understand it, aside from "it's something other people do".** Through interactions with other kids or the media they will begin to hear about religious beliefs and practices. Then they'll have questions, and ask their parents, "I heard this, is it true?" or "Why don't we go to church". Our own son skipped over the question when he came home from kindergarten one day and declared, "I want to go to church." He didn't know what that meant at the time, but it showed us another universally accepted truth in UU RE professional circles; if you don't give your child a religious education, someone else will.

**For parents who do raise their children in a religious community, the flip side of the question is a very important one. "Why do we go to church?"** We all have our own reasons. The important thing is for parents - or anyone really - to know what it is for themselves and to be able to put it into words for others, and particularly for their children. That's the beginning of being a primary religious educator. After that it's getting involved and practicing the religious/spiritual path one chooses in their daily life. Children know what their parents think is important by observing their actions.

**So how does one be a good primary religious educator? By building a bridge between the home and the church.** For years I've seen that, for the most part, the children and youth of parents who are involved in the church community are the ones who develop the best understanding of religious community and spirituality. The ones who regularly attend church and RE classes gain the most. The ones whose parents teach our RE classes or help out with other ministries of the church have parents who are better resources for their questions and good role models for how to live religiously. And now here's the bridge I referred to earlier -

The kids who see the values they hear about in church practiced at home will know what those values mean.

From home to church. Let's build some bridges together!

In faith and love,

*Rich*  
Rich

## ARTISAN GUILD

### SUMMER ART EXPLORATION 2017

Calling all UUCA youth ages 4-14 and their adults! Come and explore a variety of artistic techniques and mediums with Bev Hurd and Kim Mosyjowski this summer. We are offering 6 art lessons on the following Tuesday mornings from 10 am-11:30 am. No experience necessary. Youth must be accompanied by their adult. This is great family time! Classes cost \$1.00 per person for each class. Sign up for one class or all six of them. Here is a preview of what we are doing:



June 13<sup>th</sup> – Name Sculpture - Explore color and pattern while you create a 3-D sculpture of the letters of your name.

June 20<sup>th</sup> – Wild and whimsical creatures - a multi-media creation using your amazing imagination.

July 18<sup>th</sup> - Try your hand at reverse glass painting techniques.

July 25<sup>th</sup> – Doh!- I mean, dough! – sculpting, that is.

August 8<sup>th</sup> – Life-sized cutouts of you- Keith Haring style – painted with pool noodle pointillism. (Say that 3 times quickly!)

August 15<sup>th</sup> - Weaving unleashed! We are exploring another way to weave and are weaving in natural and recycled objects.

We can't wait to explore some more art with you again this summer. Contact us to sign up for classes:

Bev Hurd – [bhurd1110@yahoo.com](mailto:bhurd1110@yahoo.com)

Kim Mosyjowski – [kmosyjowsk@aol.com](mailto:kmosyjowsk@aol.com)



## UU WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

**Fair Trade will resume in the Fall.**

**UUWA Meeting and Program Friday, June 16 Beau's Restaurant**

10:30 business meeting

11:00-11:45 Program Brainstorming meeting, installation of officers

11:45-12:30 order from menu, Beau's, 3180 W Market St (In the Hilton across from Summit Mall)

*We will meet at Beau's restaurant and help make UUWA programming a success for the upcoming church year. Ideas will abound!*

**Women's Sacred Singing Circle**

**Monday June 12 and 26 at 7 pm **NEW!** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays**

The Women's Sacred Singing Circle continues to grow and inspire. Sacred Singing is a spiritual practice. The practice allows participants to create a bridge to the quiet, contemplative mind and connect with the Divine. All women are invited to join. No experience necessary. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays. For more info contact Linda Hale, [\\_lch711@msn.com](mailto:_lch711@msn.com)

**Shoobox Recycling has been discontinued. Please take your donations to your local collection agencies.**

# WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

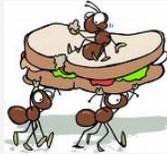
## 10:30 A.M. SUNDAY SERVICES

**Sunday, June 4 at 10:30 a.m.**

**“A Picnic Celebration”**

**Rev. Tim Temerson, Susan Wynn, &  
Rich Roberts, DRE**

As summer begins and our church year draws to a close, we will gather at Goodyear Hts. Metro Park to celebrate our community and all that we have shared and experienced together this year. Today's service will include wonderful music from our Picnic Band and light, soapy objects that float through the air will play a big part in our celebration!



**Sunday, June 11 at 10:30 a.m.**

**“Beginner’s Mind”**

**Rev. Tim Temerson & Jacquie Zarley**

We live in a world of judgments and expectations – judgments we make about ourselves and the expectations others have for us. Too often, those judgments and expectations are a source of stress, anxiety, and even conflict. What would it be like if we could live with something called “Beginner’s Mind,” an idea that comes from Zen Buddhism and that invites us to live from a place of newness and beginning again?

**Sunday, June 18 at 10:30 a.m.**

**“What Does It Mean to Be 'Spiritually Oriented?'”**

**Pamela Garn Nunn**

Unitarian Universalists can be extremely diverse in their beliefs and practices. Still, Rev. Karen Herring suggests, we all have an “inner spiritual compass” that can help us find our own definitions and practices of spirituality. You may have discovered that compass as a child within your family or later in life with your UU family or somewhere in between. On this Father's Day we will discuss the possibilities for discovering spirituality throughout our lives..

**Sunday, June 25 at 10:30 a.m.**

**“If you can keep your head...” (Kipling)**

**Elizabeth Reilly**

What does it mean to stay calm in the midst of turmoil? Is it really a good idea? Should we really just “be still”? Is that a legitimate way to respond when one’s faith in human nature is under assault? Using poetry, history and introspection, we will grapple together with these questions. You are encouraged to bring noisemakers with you, as well as a spirit ready for deep quiet.



## CARING CORNER



### *Pastoral Associates:*

**Mary Ann Ballinger, Coordinator**  
330-836-0058 [jballinger@neo.rr.com](mailto:jballinger@neo.rr.com)

**Mary Caesar** 330-929-2765 [marycaesar2765@gmail.com](mailto:marycaesar2765@gmail.com)

**Linda Marx** 330-873-1823 [lm Marx0605@att.net](mailto:lm Marx0605@att.net)

**Pam Garn Nunn** 330-869-8358 [garnnunn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:garnnunn@sbcglobal.net)

**Mary Petrich** 330-688-5410 [marypetrich18@yahoo.com](mailto:marypetrich18@yahoo.com)

**Linda Rush Ryder** 330-472-9821 [lryder326@gmail.com](mailto:lryder326@gmail.com)

**Jan Schrader** 330-650-0036 [janzst@yahoo.com](mailto:janzst@yahoo.com)

**Erv Wentland** 330-603-8610 [hiyapop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hiyapop@sbcglobal.net)

### *CARING COMMITTEE:*

#### *Meals:*

Contact the church office. It will be set up through  
[Takethemameal.com](http://Takethemameal.com)

#### *Ride Share:*

Contact the Church Office

#### *Caring Cards:*

**Susan Shah** at [susanshah353@gmail.com](mailto:susanshah353@gmail.com)  
or 330-336-8436

Come to the Blood Pressure screening on the  
Second Sunday of every month.

Contact **Janet Wertz**  
at **330-688-5984** for more information.

## HAPPENINGS AT UUCA!

### UUCA COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

*We have officially re-scheduled our summer planting time for Thursday evening June 1st. We have lots to do so please consider joining us. We need you! We will start at 6PM but come whenever you are able.*

Questions? Contact Karen Hoch at  
kahoch4224@yahoo.com.



### FIRST FRIDAY DRUM CIRCLE!

FRIDAY, JUNE 2 AT 7:00 P.M.

The First Friday Intergenerational Drum Circle is energizing, relaxing, fun and great for all ages. **Please bring a drum or something to drum on—it can be as simple as a pot and wooden spoon!** Drum, dance, chant or just sit and groove out to the beat!!

***No experience needed. Discover your inner drummer!***



### Adult RE Coordinator

The UU Church of Akron's new strategic plan calls for the creation of a volunteer Adult Religious Education Coordinator position. The Adult RE Coordinator will work to increase the number of adult enrichment classes and workshops as well as develop policies and procedures for setting goals and priorities for the Adult Religious Education program.

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that UUCA member Jacquie Zarley has volunteered and been appointed to the Adult RE Coordinator position. As many of you know, Jacquie is one of our members studying to become a UU minister and she will begin seminary this fall. Jacquie brings a great deal of prior church teaching experience as well as tremendous enthusiasm and creativity to the position.

The Board would also like to invite others interested in working with Jacquie on Adult Religious Education to be in touch with her at [are@uuakron.org](mailto:are@uuakron.org).

Did you know that UUCA has a volunteer volunteer coordinator? It's true! Her name is Dawn Scott and she's been a member of our church for over three years. Dawn is a self-proclaimed volunteer lover who thoroughly enjoys giving to



others. In the past, she has been instrumental in leading the community meal and has now taken on the role of helping our congregation connect members to our various ministries. We have many ministries to offer—some you may not even know exist! That's where Dawn is available to help members navigate all the opportunities to get involved and find where your passion and personal ministry intersect. Whether you want to be heavily or minimally involved in our ministries, there is something for everyone and Dawn is happy to help you find your niche in our vibrant church community. She also works closely with Reverend Tim and Carolyn with the an additional goal of supporting ministry leaders.

Contact information for Dawn:  
[dawnzscott@gmail.com](mailto:dawnzscott@gmail.com) 330-671-6504

# JUNE MEETINGS & EVENTS

## ► WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 AT 7:00 P.M.**

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith will be discussed by the Women's Book Group at their next meeting on June 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the church. This American classic is about a young girl's coming of age at the turn of the century, living in the slums of Brooklyn. The New York Times described it as "A profoundly moving novel ... If you miss *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* you will deny yourself a rich experience." In July, the group will meet at the home of Jan and Steve Schrader for a picnic, followed by members reporting on a favorite book read. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. All interested women are welcome.

## ► UU MEN'S LUNCH

**TUESDAY, JUNE 13 AT 12 NOON**

The UUCA Men's Group usually meets for lunch at Papa Joe's in the Valley on the second Tuesday of every month. Men who are interest in participating and having advanced notice please e-mail name, e-mail address, and phone number to Bill Thombs at [cb98thombs@gmail.com](mailto:cb98thombs@gmail.com).  
Phone number: 330-416-4127.

## ► FUUN & FRIENDS

Fuun & Friends takes the place of Sunday school in June and July. It is a great time to connect with the younger generation of our church. We need people to volunteer to supervise games and crafts. We still have plenty of dates left for you to help! Please sign up by the RE Center or email Carolyn Stevens [Uuca.cstevens@yahoo.com](mailto:Uuca.cstevens@yahoo.com)

## ► BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Beginning On June 20th, the Behavioral Health Support Group will be meeting the **THIRD TUESDAY** of every month. (rather than Mondays)

## ► TPN SUMMER KICK OFF

You won't want to miss our end of the school year, **SUMMER KICK-OFF DANCE PARTY!**

June 3rd at the UU church of Akron from 7-10:30 pm  
This **FREE** event is for ALL LGBTQ teenagers and their teen-aged allies. Our DJ, John Hummel, is bringing the lights and music, our chef, Allan Lane, is prepping the summer fare. In addition to dancing and fine foods, we will have beach ball volley, and more summer fun. Grab your flip-flops and come kick off your summer fun with friends.

## ► COMMUNITY MEAL

**JUNE 24, 2017 AT NOON**

**Volunteers needed! Contact Carla Cremers**  
**[cdcremers@att.net](mailto:cdcremers@att.net)**

**Can't volunteer at the meals but still want to help?**  
**Here are some suggestions:**

- Donate toiletries, toilet paper or canned goods
- Volunteer to be a Food Bank transporter or unloader
- Bake or purchase a dessert item & drop off prior to the meal
- Volunteer Friday night to help prep & set up the dining room

## ► LGBTQ Adult Support Group

If you identify as LGBT or are questioning where you belong on the continuum of sexual feelings/behaviors and would like a support group to listen and share with, come to the LGBTQ-Q support group which will have its first meeting June 13 at 7 p.m. at the church.

## ► LIKE TO PULL WEEDS?

We are always looking for people to pull weeds in the flower beds around the church. Feel free to stop by anytime!

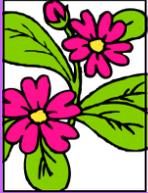
### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We have established an account at Abbey Ann's, a thrift store and consignment shop located in North Hill at 198 East Cuyahoga Falls Ave. Our plan is for church members who would like to make a donation of furniture or small appliances to take their item(s) to Abbey Ann's and have them credited to the church's account. All you need to say when you drop items off is to ask that they be credited to the UU Church of Akron's account. It is important to call Abbey Ann's [\(330\) 434-3100](tel:3304343100) before you go to make sure they are accepting the kind of items you wish to donate. **When the items are sold, 50% of the sale will go on our account . Abbey Anne's will do pick ups if you want to donate a significant number of items. Just give them a call.**

We also have a registry list at Target that you can purchase items from, so that we are prepared for any guests.

<http://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=45578b3a128a4c2aaf91bc8bbf1fa840>

We appreciate any help you can provide!



# JUNE 2017



**Sunday Service starts at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Fellowship Hour takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Please note that the calendar is subject to change. If you need confirmation of an event or activity, please contact the individual in charge or the church office.</i></p>				<p><b>1</b> 6:00pm-GARDEN DAY 7:00pm-SAA</p>	<p><b>2</b> 1:00pm- Win Wetherbee Service 7:00pm-Drum Circle</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>7 p.m.TPN Summer Kick OFF</b></p>
<p><b>4</b> <b>CHURCH PICNIC</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> 7:00pm- Enlightenment Experience 7:00pm-Grief Group</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 6:30pm-FAA 7:00pm-Wmns Book Group 7:00pm-Celtic Group 7:45pm-DA 8:00pm-AA</p>	<p><b>8</b> Noon-Staff Luncheon 7:00pm-SAA</p>	<p><b>9</b> 6:30pm-SIPCYouth</p>	<p><b>10</b> 10am-Funeral Consumer Meeting 10am-SIPC</p>
<p><b>11</b> 11:45am-BP</p>	<p><b>12</b> 7:00pm- Enlightenment Experience 7:00pm-Sacred Singing</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10:00am-Family Art class Noon-Men's Lunch</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7:00pm-UUCF 6:30pm-FAA 7:00pm-Celtic Group 7:45pm-DA 8:00pm-AA</p>	<p><b>15</b> 6:30pm-COM 7:00pm-SAA</p>	<p><b>16</b> <b>UUWA Mtg offsite</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> <b>9 a.m. GREAT CONJUNCTION EXPO</b></p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> 7:00pm- Enlightenment Experience</p>	<p><b>20</b> 10:00am-Family Art class 2:30pm-PA 7:00pm-Sierra Club 7:00pm-Mental Health</p>	<p><b>21</b> 6:30pm-FAA 7:00pm-Celtic Group 7:45pm-DA 8:00pm-AA</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7:00pm-SAA</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6:00pm-Community Meal Food Prep</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9:00am-COSE 12:00pm-FREE COMMUNITY MEAL</p>
<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 7:00pm- Enlightenment Experience 7:00pm-Sacred Singing</p>	<p><b>27</b> 5:30pm-SURJ</p>	<p><b>28</b> 6:30pm-FAA 7:00pm-Celtic Group 7:45pm-DA 8:00pm-AA</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7:00pm-SAA</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	

## On-line Giving-

Did you know you can make a donation or pledge payment from the church website? Visit [www.uuakron.org](http://www.uuakron.org). At the top of the page, you click on "Donations". You can then chose if this is a one-time donation or a monthly payment. You DO NOT need a pay-pal account to do this. This is a secure site.

## REPORTER

Published monthly    Deadline: the 15th of every month

Articles for submission may be sent to the church,  
faxed to 330-836-3106 or emailed to [uuakronoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uuakronoffice@gmail.com)

Minister	Rev. Tim Temerson
Director of Religious Education	Rich Roberts
Church Administrator	Carolyn Stevens
Sexton	Brittney Gustavel
Director of Music	Bob Carlyon
Keyboard Artist	Brian Laakso
RE Assistant	Carolyn Stevens
Bookkeeper	Sue Michael

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:**  
**MON — FRI. 9:00 A.M. — 12:00 P.M.**

### PRESIDENT

Tina Ughrin

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sharon Geffken

### SECRETARY

Sharon  
McWhorters

### TREASURER

Jack Ryder

### BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Hoch, Administration

Keith Rasey, Mission

Steve Weeks, Priorities

Alicia Malarcik Program

Cody Anderson Finance



*The UUCA is a  
“Welcoming Congregation”  
that warmly and openly encourages  
the full participation of gay, lesbian,  
bisexual and transgender people  
in the life of the congregation.*

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Email: [uuakronoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uuakronoffice@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.uuakron.org](http://www.uuakron.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## MISSION OF THE UU CHURCH OF AKRON

We are a sanctuary of love and welcome for all,  
dedicated to lifelong intellectual and spiritual  
exploration, and committed to leading, acting, and  
speaking for social justice and stewardship of the earth.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER, CHECK HERE \_\_\_\_  
DETACH, APPLY CORRECT POSTAGE, AND RETURN.