



The Newsletter for

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

January 2016

UU News

## **January Service Schedule**

Sunday services are at 9:30 and 11:00.

Join us for coffee after the service.

### **January 3- *Celebrations and Beginnings*** - [Rev. Elaine Strawn and Musicians]

As we begin a bright new year, we're celebrating newness! We welcome Karen Skubik to our UUFWC staff and will dedicate the grand piano gift from Dan Rider and Ed Schrader. There will be special music on this day.

### **January 10- *Doing Worship Democratically*** - [Staff]

What does a UU service require? Just as the staff presented a service in August to announce our changing Sunday morning schedule, so we come back to you now to ask: "What do you think?" Our 5th Principle underscores the UU way of "doing business"— democratically. Evaluating and building our new way of doing services.

### **January 17- *White Privilege: Black Lives DO Matter*** - [Rev. Elaine Strawn]

Martin Luther King had a dream...and it is ours to fulfill within our own 2016 context.

### **January 24- *And Then What?*** - [Rev. Samuel Prince will speak.]

Rev. Prince is a member of Oberlin UU Fellowship and a leader in anti-oppression in our region.

### **January 31 - *A Message To Include Us All*** [Chelsea Churpek, Kevin Lowry and Rev. Elaine Strawn]

Sometimes people avoid whole congregation services. Adults think they will be bored, and so do children - for different reasons. But what if we could create a Sunday experience which brought us all together - really together. Thankfully, the youth are going to help. Whew!

### *The Minister's Column*

It is a real joy to welcome Karen Skubik to our staff as a part-time Membership Coordinator. Kevin Lowry got us started, serving as a Volunteer Coordinator. Danni Schantz used her tenure as our Membership Coordinator to help us develop Steps Toward Membership. Karen will continue this process with her new ideas; she has already been investigating creative ideas and programs from the UUA and other congregations.

We have an ongoing conversation at the UUFWC about growth: Do we want to grow??? The workshops our leadership has attended highlight five areas of growth, only one of which is numerical. Healthy congregations grow in:

- maturity [deepening their understanding of Unitarian Universalism and our responsibility in the world];
- structure [organizing themselves into a form which makes sense and uses volunteers and staff wisely]
- denominational involvement [participating in regional and national UU programs and learning opportunities and leadership training]
- stewardship [understanding what a congregation requires to be financially healthy for the long future ahead]...and
- numbers [joyously greeting new seekers who have found their local Unitarian Universalist congregation].

All of these areas constitute growth, and any one of them ignored would bring down the walls around us. There is a world in need of our message of justice, of reason, of honoring differences. And we need a steady diet of our own message, also. Thank you for being building blocks of a just and peaceful future.

### *New Class Coming in January*

The headlines continue to announce that we have much work to do on racism. The problem is that we are GOOD at racism; it is moving in the opposite direction which is hard. Debby Irving wrote a book in 2014, Waking Up White, a humble yet challenging study of what it means to be white [and what it means to be a person of color] in our society.

Join us for a six session class, Thursday evenings from January 14 to February 18 at 7:00pm. Rev. Elaine Strawn will develop class outlines and discussion questions; it is not required to read the book. There us a copy in the UUFWC library and at public libraries in the area. Contact the office to register. Call Elaine Strawn [330-465-4043] with questions. Childcare can be provided if we have a week's notice.

## *Religious Education*

Our Whole Lives (OWL), comprehensive sexuality education classes, will be offered this winter/spring for elementary aged children in first, second and fourth through sixth grades. Classes will be held on Sundays outside of RE class time; the exact start date and class time will be determined soon. If you have questions, would like to view a copy of the curriculum, or are interested in your child attending please let me know: [dre@uufwc.org](mailto:dre@uufwc.org). Junior High and High School OWL will be offered next Fall.



*Our Whole Lives* is a series of lifespan sexuality education curricula. OWL helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their bodies, sexual health, and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age – appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, OWL provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality. More information about OWL classes can be found at the UUA website: <http://www.uua.org/re/owl>.

**RE Wishlist:** Have any extra 2016-17 calendars lying around? The RE program would gladly take them off your hands for use in the classrooms! We need 5 calendars. Please leave them in the DRE office or mailbox (with your name so I can thank you!).

### **Upcoming RE Events**

January 3: 12:15p: RE Committee

January 16: 9-11am: Facilitator In-service

January 31: NO RE: classes/Multigenerational Service

OWL classes: begin later this month; dates/time TBA

**The Stewardship Committee wants to know:  
Is there a money demon lurking in your closet?**



**Attend our workshops to find powerful tools to banish them!**

**Everyone** is invited to the UUFWC as

**Sharon Delgadillo\*** helps us clean our closets with these workshops.

**Discovering Your Money Demons** - Saturday, **January 23**, 9:30 am to noon

We touch money daily, yet many of us don't want to talk about it. Take a journey to look at our cultural messages on all levels: community, family, and personal. Unhealthy money beliefs are "demons" and the workshop provides tools to develop a more healthy belief and a beginning to align our values with our money ideas.

**What's Your True Purpose for Money?** Saturday, **February 6**, 9:30 am to noon

We, as UU's, hold many ideas and principles about justice, integrity and truth. Discover what the REAL meaning of money is for you and how to make decisions that align with your personal principles and beliefs.

**To sign up, go to [www.uufwc.org](http://www.uufwc.org) . Please RSVP by January 13<sup>th</sup>.**

We will provide snacks, childcare, and a safe, non-judgmental environment where you can share as much or as little as you want. You will NOT be asked for money or to buy anything. You may discover some powerful insights into how you live with the almighty buck!

If you have any questions, please contact anyone on the Stewardship Committee: Bonnie Groop, Mary Wicks, Helen Meyers, Cathy Csanyi, Danni Schantz or Laura Moore.

\* When Sharon Delgadillo isn't tinkling the ivories or waving her arms in front of the choir or folk orchestra, she is a Money Coach and owner of Intelligent Investors, Ltd. Sharon is a certified Master Money Mentor and helps clients look at their relationships with money as well as investment analysis, future plan coaching and budgeting. She has presented these workshops for clients, community members and even at our own UU Summer Institute in 2015. Several attendees stated it was the most transformative event of their week at Summer Institute!

## *Music*

Come Join the Folk Orchestra!

The Folk Orchestra Meets every Wednesday at 8:15 pm-9:00 pm. We welcome any level of player to come and join us!

Looking for Special Music for Sunday mornings. If you would like to sing, play an instrument, form a group or ensemble for Sunday morning services. We need you! Please contact Sharon Delgadillo.

Want to start 2016 with a Joyful Noise? Adult Choir is in need of your voice! If you love music and would like to become a part of our special community that ministers to the Fellowship, please talk to Sharon Delgadillo or any choir member. Don't feel like you sing well enough, we will help you develop your skills and talents. Adult choir will begin rehearsals on January 6 at 7:00 pm.

Questions, contact Sharon Delgadillo.

## Transgender-themed Movie Night Friday, January 22, 7:00 pm at UUFWC

Despite the advances in acceptance of gays and lesbians, transgender people are often less well understood and accepted. Come to the UU Fellowship on Friday, January 22 at 7:00 pm for a free transgender-themed movie and discussion. Refreshments will be served.

This past November voters overwhelmingly overturned the anti-discrimination law passed by the Houston, TX City Council. The primary discussion was the "bathroom issue"—which bathroom can be used by a transgender individual.

Ohioans for Marriage Equality (OME) celebrated the recent Supreme Court decision legalizing same-gender marriage throughout the US. But because LGBT people can still be fired from their jobs, denied mortgages and more; because transgender people often face both discrimination from the public and lack of acceptance by their families, OME has been welcomed back into the UUFWC Social Action Committee to continue to work for equality in our area and are sponsoring this Movie Night.

**Stay connected** to what is happening at the UU! We communicate by sending:

- ~ the Friday @ Noon email (Mail Chimp) listing the upcoming events and services
- ~ emails from the google group (the subject line starts: [UUFWC]). We use it to send updates and notices of interest to the congregation.
- ~ This newsletter is emailed to you on the day it is printed, instead of mailed weeks later.

If you'd like to receive any of these communications, please contact Anne at [fellowship@uufwc.org](mailto:fellowship@uufwc.org).

## *Social Action In Action*

**THE INHERENT WORTH AND DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON. JUSTICE, EQUITY AND COMPASSION IN HUMAN RELATIONS.** These are our first two UUA Principles which we can honor by volunteering at the **Wooster Hope Center**. Founded in 2011, the Hope Center's aim is "to foster self-confidence and embrace the inherent dignity and worth of individuals by meeting them where they are and providing the most basic of necessities". It provides food, clothing, haircuts and hygiene supplies to over 3,500 different families in Wayne County annually.

In addition to monthly food distributions which are supported by the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank, there is a weekly emergency food pantry, a monthly lunch, monthly hygiene products distribution, twice weekly clothing distribution, twice monthly haircuts and monthly workshops on topics such as budgeting and parenting. In addition, a monthly community dinner is offered in Fredericksburg, a food pantry was opened in October in Rittman, and the Backpack of Food is available for children in the Wooster and Rittman schools.

The Wooster Hope Center is 100% volunteer with no payroll. It is sustained through local contributions, local church collaboration, volunteers, fund-raising projects and grant funding. The current roster of community partners totals sixty four which includes churches, retail and manufacturing businesses, schools and other governmental agencies, non-profit agencies and civic organizations. The UUFWC is not on that roster. If we truly support our UU Principles we probably should be.

An average of 150+ volunteers monthly put in over 10,000 hours of volunteer time each year. We've had volunteers at the Saturday food distributions in October and November. The sessions last between 2 and 3 hours, are fast paced involving bagging food and requiring some bending and lifting. A couple of UUs in their late seventies were able to do it in November, so how hard can it be? The Social Action Committee would like to form a pool of volunteers so that no one person would have to volunteer more than three times a year. A volunteer coordinator to keep track of the monthly assignments would be most welcome. Watch for announcements and a sign-up sheet. If you have questions, see Sue Gross.

**OPEN PLATE COLLECTION** The January, 2016 Open Plate Collection on Sunday the 31st will go to Every Woman's House (EWH), a nonprofit agency which offers treatment services to the survivors of interpersonal violence. EWH is also dedicated to the prevention of such violence in the community at large. On the EWH website one may find the many ways in which total families are aided, from a crisis hotline, family counseling and shelter, to victim advocacy and batterer intervention. Additionally, EWH provides education for community groups and for every school district in Wayne and Holmes Counties. May we continue to assist this worthy organization.

**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SUNDAY** is January 17<sup>th</sup>. It is Souper Sunday. Cans of soup will be collected. Please watch the salt content. Monetary donations may be put in the labeled jar on the rear table. Make checks payable to People To People Ministries.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION** will be held on Monday evening, January 18<sup>th</sup> at First Presbyterian Church in Wooster. Watch for more details.

## *All Things Green*

Facts from *The Story of Stuff*:

- \*In the past three decades, one-third of the planet's natural resources base have been consumed.
- \*In the United States, we have less than 4% of our original forests left.
- \*Forty percent of waterways in the U.S. have become undrinkable.
- \*The U.S. has 5% of the world's population but consumes 30% of the world's resources and creates 30% of the world's waste.

**THE UFWC CHOIR** rehearses Wednesdays at 7:00. The **Folk Orchestra** practices on the same day, at 8:15 pm. New people are welcome.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:** Next meeting is January 17 at 7pm. The book is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Kimmerer.

**THE HUMANIST GROUP** meets the first and third Sundays at 11:00 a.m. to discuss social and cultural issues .

**INQUISITIVE QUESTIONERS** meets the third Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. to discuss issues related to Christian faith practices.

**EARTH CENTERED GROUP** meets most second and fourth Sundays after second service. Contact Lindsay Walker or Doris Cannon.

**SCRABBLE NIGHTS:** 2nd Sundays from 7 to 9:30PM. Bring a game and maybe a snack. Ken McDonald.

**ZEN MEDITATION** meets on Mondays at 7:00.

**INNER PEACE YOGA** meets Mondays at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Room.

**January Birthdays:**

Corina Klies  
Jon Sprunger  
Casey Hoy  
Michael Jaeb  
Kay Bowen  
Gail Carter  
Jim Wheelis  
Cherril Wertz

**January Anniversaries:**

Dia Miller and Traci Smetzer

We'd like to add your birthday or anniversary to the list. Please contact the office or Juan Gross.



The events shown on this page are just a part of what goes on at the UFWC.

If you're looking for a specific activity, or if you want to know when a particular group or committee meets, go to the Fellowship website, [uufwc.org](http://uufwc.org), and look at the calendar.



<b>OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION</b>
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### *Library News*

Listed below are titles of two books new to the UUFWC library:

**JUST MERCY: A STORY OF JUSTICE AND REDEMPTION** By Bryan Stevenson  
B Stevenson, Bryan

*“New York Times* Bestseller|Named one of the Best Books of the Year by *The New York Times* – *The Washington Post* - *The Boston Globe* - *The Seattle Times* - *Esquire* - *Time*

Winner of the Carnegie Medal for Nonfiction |Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Nonfiction|  
Winner of a Books for a Better Life Award|Finalist for the Los Angeles Book Prize|Finalist for the  
*Kirkus Reviews* Prize|An American Library Association Notable Book

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillan, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machinations, and legal brinkmanship – and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.”

---- Quote from the UUA Bookstore web site

JUST MERCY is the UUA Common Read for 2015-2016.

**LIFTING OUR VOICES: READINGS IN THE LIVING TRADITION** Unitarian Universalist  
Association  
264.09132 UUA 2015

Over 250 readings that serve as a supplement to those found in the hymnbook SINGING THE LIVING TRADITION. Grouped under headings such as “Interconnectedness,” “Courage and Call to Action,” and “Justice,” these readings speak to our own times and lend new life to Unitarian Universalist worship.

### *A Look at the Year Ahead*

General Assembly in 2016 will be June 22-26, in Columbus, Oh. Ware Lecturer will be Krista Tippett.

Summer Institute 2016 will be July 17 - 23, at Oberlin College. Theme speaker will be Matt Meyer.

More information about Matt: <http://rhythmrevelations.com/>



# January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day	2
3 9:30 & 11 am - Celebrations and Beginnings- Strawn 9:30am - RE Classes 11am - Humanist 11 am- Youth Community 12:15- RE committee meeting	4 5:30pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Membership 7pm - Zen Meditation	5 7pm - Committee Council	6 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	7 6pm - ACA	8 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">OMD UJYAN Cozy Conference Friday @ 5 pm thru Sunday @ 8:30 am</div>	9
10 9:30 & 11am - Doing Worship Democratically- Staff 9:30am - Finance 9:30am - RE Classes 11 am-Vedanta 11 am- Youth Community 12- Madrigal- follow up 12- Earth Centered Group 7 pm- Scrabble Night	11 5:30pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	12 5pm - Operations Team 6:30pm - Board meeting 7pm - Needlework group	13 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	14 5pm - Stewardship 6pm - ACA 7pm - Waking up White	15	16 9am - RE Facilitator Inservice
17 People to People 9:30 & 11am - White Privilege: Black Lives DO Matter- Strawn 9:30am - RE Classes 11am - Humanist 11 am- Youth Community 7 pm- Book Discussion Group	18 5:30pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	19	20 7pm - A Good Telling 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	21 6pm - ACA 7pm - Inquisitive questioners 7pm - Waking up White	22 7pm - OME movie	23 10am - Discovering Your Money Demos
24 9:30 & 11am - And Then What? - Rev. Samuel Price 9:30am - RE Classes 11am - Vedanta 11 am- Youth Community 12- Earth Centered Group	25 5:30pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	26 5pm - Stewardship	27 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	28 6pm - ACA 7pm - Waking up White	29	30 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">OMD YAC conference Friday @ 7 pm thru Saturday @ 5 pm</div>
31 Last Sunday Collection 9:30 7 11am - A Message to Include Us All- Strawn 9:30am - RE Classes 11 am- Youth Community 2-5 pm: Yoga Retreat- Rusiska						

office hours: Elaine: Tues/Thurs: 2-7 pm & Wed 6-9 pm  
 Chelsea, DRE: Tues/Wed: 5-8 pm  
 Anne: Office: Mon/Wed/Fri: 9-2 pm

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County  
is a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**How to Find Us:** We are located at 3186 Burbank Road, in Wooster, 330-262-9194.  
From Labor Day through Memorial Day we meet on Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
In Summer, starting after Memorial Day, we meet only at 10:00 a.m.

**Minister:** Rev. V. Elaine Strawn, email: minister @ uufwc.org

**Director of Religious Education:** Chelsea Churpek: dre @ uufwc.org

**Board of Directors:** Gail Woosley, president; Tony Beery, vice president; Marti Livingstone, Adam Keating,  
Peter Schantz, Tom Gross, Scott Beil, past president

**Office Administrator:** Anne Wilson, email: fellowship @ uufwc.org

**Newsletter Editor:** Juan Gross: newsletter @ uufwc.org. The newsletter deadline is the 17th of every month.

Please let the office know if you would like to receive this newsletter via email or if you wish to unsubscribe.

**Congregational Group Email:** Address email to: uufwc @ googlegroups.com One email reaches nearly everyone!

There is a delay while messages are moderated. To join the group, email the office: fellowship @ uufwc.org

**Office Hours:**

Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Tuesday, Thursday, 3-7 pm and Wednesday 6-9 pm.

Anne Wilson, Office Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 am -2 pm.

Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Education: Tuesday/Wednesday 5-8 pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County  
3186 Burbank Road  
Wooster, Ohio 44691

[www.uufwc.org](http://www.uufwc.org)

*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
is an inclusive community for spiritual exploration  
dedicated to social and environmental justice.*

 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County