



UUFWC NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2023

Upcoming Services

Our weekly Worship Services are in person on Sunday mornings at 10am or watch the service on YouTube Live. [LINK to our YouTube channel](#) A recording is made available through the Google Groups email, on our website, and on our Facebook page, later that day.

June 4 - Music Celebration Service

UUFWC Music Committee, Choir and Folk Orchestra

Please join us as we explore and celebrate all of the ways that music impacts our lives. *The UUFWC choir and Folk Orchestra will perform.*

June 11 - Letting Delight In

Rev. Walter Clark

Life can be so serious. Bills to pay, doctors appointments, and a perpetual cycle of bad news make it easy to fall into a state of perpetual gloom. How do we find delight in this world while still respecting the realities of life?

June 18 - Family Pride

Rev. Walter Clark

This Father's Day weekend, we talk about the connections between Father's Day and Pride celebrations as well as the complex relationships around fatherhood.

June 25 - Guest speaker – Rev. Erin Guzmán, chaplain at the college of Wooster and minister ordained in the Presbyterian tradition graces our pulpit this Sunday.

The Book of Acts includes the story of an Ethiopian Eunuch, largely considered to be outcasts, occupying a "third space" in terms of gender and sexual expression in the ancient world. They meet Philip, one of Jesus' followers, and their exchange has a powerful, lasting impact. In this story, we see a Black African Man on the gender and sexual expression spectrum who shows courage and curiosity in an unexpected place, with the Spirit of God's love and affirmation ever-present.



June 21 - 25, 2023 online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. General Assembly 2023 will be a multiplatform event, with registration options for in-person and/or virtual participation. In-person registration includes access to events scheduled to take place in Pittsburgh, as well as everything available to virtual registrants. Full virtual registration includes access to the GA app, as well as all on-demand programming, live webinars, and live-streamed events.

To register for this event, click on this link: <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>

Minister's Meditations

Rev. Walter Clark



Pride is an act of resistance.

For Generation Z and some younger Millennials, Pride is the month of rainbows and costumes. A time of dance music, positive energy, and a lot of glamor. It is a time to flaunt who you are and to put shame aside for a bit. As a Gen X'er I know that LGBTQ+ acceptance, let alone pride is something that developed in my lifetime. Pride has been hard fought for and looks like it needs to be fought for again.

For those who are unaware of the origins of Pride, it is tied to the Stonewall Riots. The neighborhood of Greenwich Village had a fair amount of gay and lesbian bars in the 1960's and the police made a habit of raiding these establishments because homosexuality was criminalized. The folks who frequented these establishments just wanted to live their lives and were exhausted with having to fight for their mere existence. In June of 1969 folks had enough and rebelled against oppression in what became known as Stonewall.

One year after Stonewall, some major cities held anniversary marches. This became an annual event that moved from a weekend to a week to being officially nationally recognized in 1999 as Pride month. In the 80's and 90's the United States began to experience a cultural shift that was more welcoming to LGBTQ+ folks thanks to people like Harvey Milk, Billie Jean King, Barney Frank, and Ellen DeGeneres who were brave enough to be their authentic selves. They helped straight folks see that being LGBTQ+ was normal and encouraged other LGBTQ+ folks to come out to the world. There is nothing to be ashamed of. Love is Love. Be Proud.

As the bard once said, "what's past is prologue" and once again LGBTQ+ folk are under attack. The movement to ban books with LGBTQ+ themes is sweeping the nation and has even landed on our front doorstep. States are passing anti-transgender legislation with impunity that would criminalize gender affirming care and separate parents who love their children enough to support their transition from their families. It feels like the raids in Greenwich Village are starting all over again on a national level

as folks try to push folks back into the closet. Do not go silent into that good night, friends. Let's keep Pride alive. Write your congressperson, write letters to the editor, boycott discriminatory business, patronize business that support LGBTQ+ people, demonstrate, march, hang your rainbow flag and speak up when you hear anti-LGBTQ+ hate speech. Keep Pride alive.

'Share the Plate'

Each month we will choose an agency that will receive half of the donations that are not designated for another purpose. **In June, we will share the plate with the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank.**

The number of families and individuals who live in hunger in the United States is on the rise. Many come from our most vulnerable populations - children and seniors. The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank feeds people and fights hunger by providing food and other essential products to food pantries, hot meal sites, shelters and other hunger-relief programs. **Learn more at** <https://www.akroncantonfoodbank.org/>

How do you share the plate?

- If you write checks, please communicate your intention on the memo line, eg: 'share the plate'.
 - If you use Paypal, in the optional section, choose 'share the plate'.
 - If you use Paypal Giving Fund, you will have to email Joanna to designate your contribution. [fellowship@uufwc.org].
-

Committee On Ministry **Submitted by John Waldman**

To everyone who has taken the Committee On Ministry's survey on ministerial competency, thank you! We appreciate your input as the COM works to create a picture of Reverend Walter's journey towards full fellowship with the UUA.

For those who have yet to complete the survey, your input is still needed. **The survey will be available through Thursday, June 15.** Please use one of these ways to access the survey:

1. From the home page of the UUFWC's website;
2. Paper copies of the survey are available during regular office hours the Fellowship;
3. A link to the survey was included in a Google group email sent on Sunday, May 14;
4. Click this QR code to go to the survey --->



at

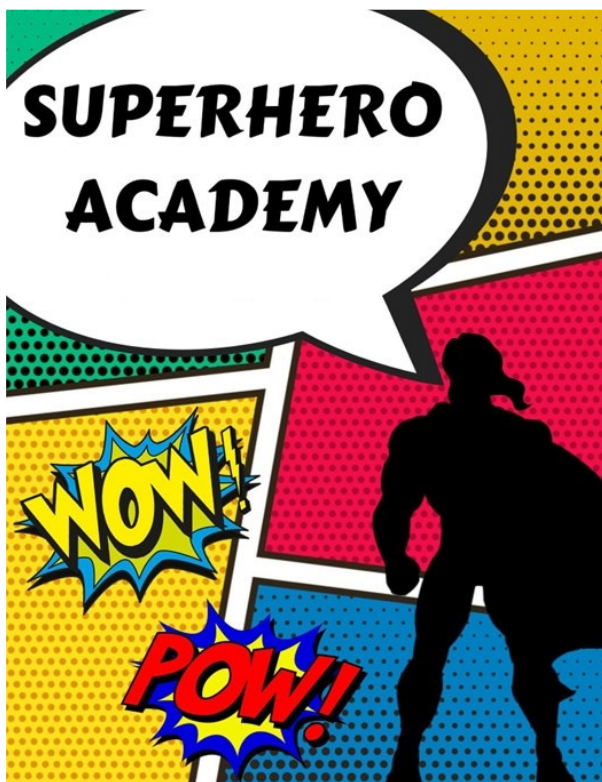
All feedback will be used to evaluate Rev. Walter's effectiveness as a part of the overall ministry of the UUFWC and to provide valuable information on his progress towards full fellowship with the UUA. As communicated previously, the COM believes "that the best feedback is specific, non-anonymous

feedback because the ministry of the UUFWC is a shared responsibility with each of us invested in working to make improvements. This means that your name *will* be associated with your feedback, but your feedback will *only* be shared with members of our committee.” This approach is consistent with UUA guidelines and with our Fellowship’s covenant which states that we “take individual responsibility for the shared stewardship of our community. . .” and will “communicate openly, listen to each other, and. . . make the effort to be informed about Fellowship matters.”

The Committee On Ministry appreciates your participation. Reach out to any Committee member (John Waldman, Mary Wicks, Adam Keating, Sarah Miles, Denise Bostdorff, and Rev. Walter) with any questions or comments. Thank you.

Family Ministry

From Director of Religious Education, Jenni Papp



Sunday Mornings 10-11AM beginning June 18

From their humble beginnings in comic books of the 1930s and 40s, to modern day blockbuster movies, irreverent cartoons, and thrilling amusement park attractions, superheroes have certainly invaded our cultural zeitgeist. In fact, you’d be hard pressed to find a child today who hasn’t fantasized about being a superhero or developing a superpower all their own. But, behind the colorful spandex, superhuman abilities, and crime fighting antics, there are real lessons to be learned from superheroes about anti-oppression, personal responsibility, and love.

Do you want to be a great leader like Black Panther, or perhaps a great warrior striving for peace like Wonder Woman? You can be that and much more without even having the superpowers of Ms. Marvel or Spider-Man.

Remember: What makes you different makes you great. You are more than your mistakes. Protect those who need it. Take care of the planet. And, above all, love and respect yourself.

Beginning June 18 we will have programming for children in rising kindergarten to 6th grade with youth in 7-12th grade to assist on Sunday mornings from 10-11 AM. Children will not attend the worship service. They will go directly to RE.

Summer Superhero Fun Needs Adults and Youth to Play with Us!!!! Visit our website to sign up.

More details, events, and supplemental resources to use together at home are available in the RE Newsletter. [Click here](#) to subscribe.

Children are always welcome in our worship services, and we have a wiggle friendly place for them in the sanctuary if they would prefer that.

During the summer the nursery is not staffed. Please do not leave children in the nursery unattended. **The nursery is always available for caregivers to use and the service audio can be heard in there.**

Families are Getting Connected! If you would like to join the private Facebook group for Family Ministry at the UUFWC you can click here to [request to join](#).

Contact Jenni at DRE@UUFWC.org with questions.

Thank UU!

On Sunday, May 21st wrapped up the RE year with a morning full of celebration!

We recognized the MANY volunteers who make our fabulous programs possible. Jenni and I were supported by 27 fine folks in RE this year in everything from the nursery to Middle School OWL. Not only could we not do it without them *physically*, but the programs offered wouldn't be the same without the love and energy they bring. *Thank you all!*

Here is the year in review video for those who missed it!

Then we took a moment to celebrate 2 of our Youth as they "Bridged" to Young Adulthood - Ethan Keating & Ben Stavnezer.

Ben & Ethan played a special version of "It's a Wonderful World" and presented eloquently on what their time in the UU has meant and how they will carry that forth as they venture into the wider world.



It was a very special for me to be with these 2 fine young gentlemen on the day they finish their journey in Youth Community. Ethan and Ben were part of the group who accepted me in when I joined the UU Youth Community in 2019. They walked me through my first year and Coming of Age class, showed my what Cocoa House was all about, and stayed on for zoom parties and Cremos through the pandemic. They definitely left their mark on the Youth Community, the UUFWC, and Wooster. *Thank you Ben & Ethan!*

This service also marked the end of my time as UUFWC Youth Coordinator. You will still see me around helping in the office. I also hope to find places to volunteer and get to do more "fun stuff" with you all. It has been wonderful to work with the Youth these past 3 years and to get to know the UUFWC Community. *Thank UU all!*

Submitted by Jess Eikleberry, (Former) Youth Coordinator & still nearby :)

Membership (and Fun Stuff) News

Committee: Laura Grimm (chair), Cherrill Wertz (secretary and greeter facilitator), Jay Klemme, Laura Moore, Barb Tytula, Doris Bowman, and Karen Skubik (Membership Coordinator)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

On April 30 th we officially honored the eleven congregants who became members during 2022 and 2023 with a lovely recognition ceremony. Thank you to all of you for your commitment to the UUFWC!! We are so glad you are here (like the cake read)!



Adults pictured (left to right) are:

Reverend Walter, Kaitlynn Arnholt, Barbara Wilson, Karen (at podium), Barb Tytula, Joe Tytula, Laura Burch, Chris Stormer, Don Ackerman, Rhonda Edgerton, and Leah Humphrey. (New members not present include Jacqueline Belanger and Erin Palmer.)



Kaitlynn Arnholt grew up in Wooster and returned in 2018 with her husband, Brad, and their two sons, Jack (7) and Charlie (5). She is a graduate from The College of Wooster and attended the University of Michigan for graduate school. After teaching at the College of Wooster for 4 years, she has recently transitioned into a position as the Business Development Manager for Chemistry Education at a global biotech company. Kaitlynn relaxes by doing logic puzzles like sudoku, kakuro, and nonograms. In her free time she enjoys playing board games and traveling with her family.



Barbara Wilson is a retired paralegal. She lived in Wooster from 1996 to 2008 when she then moved to Huron, Ohio to a home on the lake. She returned to Wooster in July of 2022 to be close to her daughter, Kaitlynn Arnholt, and her family. Barbara is an avid reader and knitter and has recently acquired a new interest: learning and playing mah jongg.

Please welcome Kaitylenn, Barbara, and their family!!

UUFWC Basics Class

- **Who:** Newer friends of our congregation or those who have never attended a session will meet with the Minister and the Membership Coordinator
- **Why:** To learn a little bit about Unitarian Universalism, how the UUFWC is structured and how you can be engaged
- **When:** Shortly after the 10 am service on **June 11** (start just after 11:15am), lasts about 60 minutes
- **Where:** The Minister's Office unless we need to shift to a larger room
- **How:** Please let Karen Skubik (Karen.uufwc@gmail.com) know if you'd like to attend

Library News

Submitted by Kay Bowen, UUFWC Librarian

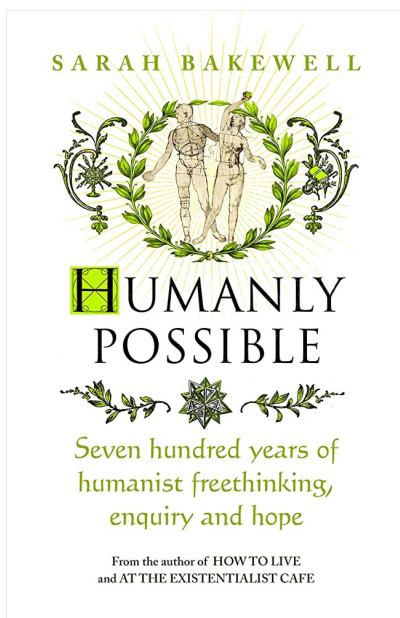
HUMANLY POSSIBLE: SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS OF HUMANIST FREETHINKING, INQUIRY, AND HOPE By Sarah Bakewell 171.2 Bake 2023

"In this sweeping new history, Sarah Bakewell, herself a lifelong humanist, illuminates the very personal, individual, and, well, human matter of humanism and takes readers on a grand intellectual adventure.

Voyaging from the literary enthusiasts of the fourteenth century to the secular campaigners of our own time, from Erasmus to Esperanto, from anatomists to agnostics, from Christine de Pizan to Bertrand Russell, and from Voltaire to Zora Neal Hurston, Bakewell brings together extraordinary humanists across history. She explores their immense variety: some

sought to promote scientific and rationalist ideas, others put more emphasis on moral living, and still others were concerned with the cultural and literary studies known as "the humanities." Humanly Possible asks not only what brings all these aspects of humanism together but why it has such enduring power, despite opposition from fanatics, mystics, and tyrants."

(This quotation is from the book's front inside flap.)



Social Action in Action

Submitted by Betty Schuler, of the Social Action Committee

WOOSTER/ORRVILLE NAACP is a unit of the national NAACP civil rights organization which works to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race. This local chapter, founded in 1965, offers a wide range of services to the community.

It has eleven standing committees which include:

- ***Criminal Justice:*** provides services to returning citizens to have their records expunged. This committee has an office at the Community Action facility to meet with prospective clients.
- ***Health:*** collaborates with community stakeholders to improve health outcomes among African Americans and other communities of color. It sponsors health-related activities such as health forums, fairs, webinars and workshops.
- ***Environmental & Climate Justice:*** engages in advancing the leadership of frontline communities to eliminate environmental and climate injustices. Currently working to connect the City of Wooster with Power a Clean Future Ohio services.
- ***Political and Community Engagement:*** promotes NAACP backed policies on the local, state and federal levels and engages the community in voting and building social capital.
- ***Martin Luther King Day/Essay Contest:*** prepares the annual community celebration and engages area schools annually in an essay writing contest on a subject related to civil rights in conjunction with the Martin Luther King celebration.
- ***Youth Council:*** works with young people in the community.
- ***Political and Community Engagement:*** promotes NAACP backed policies on local, state and federal levels and engages the community in voting and building social capital.

Other committees are: *Legal Redress, Education, Communication/Digital Media and Membership*

In addition, the organization sponsors scholarships to African American Wayne County residents who are current graduating high school seniors of any public school system in Wayne County. The organization sponsors an annual Freedom Fund dinner in the fall as a major fundraising event to fund the scholarship program and other activities. It is also active with the Wayne County Racial Justice Coalition and with the Wooster City Schools.



COMING UP IS THE JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION, a new federal holiday which commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. The NAACP has scheduled events for the entire month of June:

- An opening reception on **June 2nd at 7pm** at the Wayne Center for the Arts (WCA) where Afro-centric art will be on display all month.
- A story hour at the Wooster Public Library will be held on **June 14th at 2pm**.

- On **June 15th from noon - 2pm** a festival will be held at the Wayne Center for the Arts which will include a grill-off, ice cream, games and other activities.
- A membership event will be held at the WCA on **June 17th**
- **On Juneteenth Day, June 19**, there will be a gathering at 10am on Wooster Public Square.
- Closing ceremonies will take place at the WCA on June 30th at 5 pm.

Membership in the Wooster/Orrville is open to all. Adult membership is \$30 annually, with membership for two partners available for \$50. Silver Life membership is \$750. Membership envelopes are on the "Community Events" bulletin board in the UUFWC lobby. Meetings are the second Monday of the month at 5:30 pm at the Community Action building on Pittsburgh Avenue in Wooster.

All Things Green

WOOSTER HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY: A hazardous waste collection will be conducted by the Wayne County Health Department at the Wayne County fairgrounds on June 26 from noon to 6 pm. Appointments are required. Check online "Wayne County Health Department hazardous waste" which has a list of items accepted and a place to make an appointment.

COMMUNITY SOLAR: as defined by the U.S. Department of Energy, is any solar project or purchasing program within a geographic area, in which the benefits of a solar project flow to multiple customers such as individuals, businesses, nonprofits and other groups which benefit from energy generated by solar panels at an off-site array. In 2021 it was reported by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory that 21 states plus Washington D.C. had some legislation to enable community solar. A community solar project is a large, central solar power plant whose electricity is shared by more than a single property. A single community solar project can power hundreds or even thousands of homes.

Community solar customers can either buy or lease a portion of the solar panels in the array and typically receive an electric bill credit for electricity generated by their share of the community solar system – similar to someone who has rooftop panels installed on their home. Community solar projects provide an option for renters and others who lack rooftop space, sun exposure or the financial means to install solar panels on their own homes. Subscribers sign up to buy a share of generation from a project, typically at a lower rate than what they pay for grid power. The power flows onto the local electric grid and is credited to subscribers' utility bills as if it were generated on-site. Community solar allows everyone to benefit from solar energy, even if they can't put panels on a rooftop,

Ohio does not allow community solar projects. Ohio law only provides for net metering where generation is located at a ratepayer's property (net metering is a billing mechanism that credits solar energy system owners for the electricity they add to the grid). Ohio House Bill 450, which would establish a community solar program in the state, was introduced in October, 2022 by two Republicans and had additional co-sponsors from both parties. The bill is now in the House Public Utilities Committee where hearings are underway. At this time there is no opposition to it.

House Bill 450 means many things for Ohio. Community solar projects would prevent changes to subscribers' rates, keeping power bills down. Such projects can lead to the improvement of the existing power grid. Solar developers will fund overdue improvements to aging power lines and other power

infrastructures, creating a more reliable and resilient power grid. The bill allows the use of distressed sites, unusable tracts of land such as brownfields, old landfills or coal ash piles, as locations for new solar developments. Companies that use a distressed site for a community solar project will be eligible to receive a grant from the Ohio Department of Development. This bill will bolster Ohio's power infrastructure, improve the lives of ratepayers and help to meet the growing demand for renewable energy. Sources: U.S. Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, Solar Builder, ohiohouse.gov/legislation.

Adopt-A-Highway Saturday, June 10 at 9am

The UUFWC is responsible for the clean-up along our 1.8 mile stretch of Cleveland Rd/OH3, north of the Wooster City limit from a bit south of Fox Lake to (formerly) Hawk's Nest golf course.

We will meet at 9am from our usual spot at the intersection of Cleveland Road and Fox Lake Rd. in the former Shearer Equipment parking lot. (It now has a new name.) With about 8 volunteers, it typically takes us less than one hour.



For past picker-uppers, please let Jay know yes or no by Saturday, June 3rd.

We'd be most pleased to have new folks join us. Mary Wicks got us going on this stretch in '96. For old-timers at this like me: We're not getting younger! If you have potential interest, please contact Jay via e-mail jlme70@gmail.com by June 3.

If possible, please join us briefly on Sunday, June 4, after service (before the humanist session), for some info, but if that's not convenient for you, no worries. The "rules" are quite simple.

Lay Pastoral Care

Submitted by Chris Struzik, Pastoral Care Committee Chairperson

A Mindful Reminder...

"When we don't tell those we love about what's really going on or listen carefully to what they have to say, we tend to fill in the blanks with stories." - Sharon Salzberg, Real Love: The Art of Mindful Connection

Please let us know if you would appreciate us reaching out to you by emailing care@uufwc.org, or by calling the church office at (330) 262-9194. Look for our "UUFWC Cares" button at service to speak to a member of our ministry.





A 4th of July Gathering at the Fellowship

is on again this year!!!!

Thanks to a few key people who volunteered to work on this family-friendly event, we'll hold a potluck at the fellowship on Independence Day, play a few games, and then watch the city's fireworks from our parking lot.

More details to come!

This Month's Meetings

See all the events on our website: <https://uufwc.org/calendar/>

Meetings may be held in-person or via Zoom. Please contact the meeting leader listed below prior to the meeting to get the Zoom link.

The Humanist Group is taking a Summer break from our regular Sunday meetings, but please mark your calendars: **The Annual Humanist Group Picnic will be July 29 at 6 p.m. at the Gochbauer's farm.** More details will come in July.

If you are not on the Humanist Group email list, but would like to receive meeting reminders and other information, please send your email address to sherri.goch@gmail.com.

"Humanism is a rational philosophy informed by science, guided by reason, inspired by art, and motivated by compassion. Affirming the dignity of each human being, it supports liberty and opportunity consonant with social and planetary responsibility. Humanism derives the goals of life from human need and interest rather than from theological or ideological abstractions, and asserts that humanity must take responsibility for its own destiny. " --The American Humanist Association

The There will be no book group article for June. We will see about July. For further information contact Bert at bishop.eleven@gmail.com. (If you have too many emails and wish to be removed from the list please let Bert know.)

Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays at 7-8pm. If you have considered joining your voice with ours, mark your calendar.

Folk rehearsal rehearsals Wednesdays at 8:15-9pm. It doesn't matter your playing level, come and make a joyful noise with us!

For more info, contact Sharon Delgadillo, Music Director music.director@uufwc.org

Madrigal organizational meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Madrigal will be November 10th and 11th. Contact Barb Moore, Jim Bird, or Sharon Delgadillo to volunteer or for more information.

Stand Up for Justice: The UUFWC Racial Justice Team would like to invite the members of the fellowship to join us on the 4th Sunday of each month from 12 to 1 PM at the Wooster Square. We will stand vigil for racial justice. Make your own sign or use signs that are available at the site. Enjoy the presence of your UU friends as we stand in solidarity with BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

“Coffee with the Minister” every second Sunday after the service. Join Reverend Walter in his office to simply chat or ask any questions you may have about Unitarian Universalism or the UUFWC.

Women’s Lunch Group, June 13, NOON We alternate our meeting location between downtown Buehlers’ and the fellowship. In June, we’ll be back at downtown Buehlers’. We have no agenda except to enjoy each other’s company. Any questions can be directed to Karen.uufwc@gmail.com. Come join us!

Zen Meditation! Every Monday night at 7pm. Gather in the far corner of Strawn Hall. Contact Steve Berg for details.

The Pastoral Care Team will be meeting the 4th Sunday of each month at 11:30am. If you have Pastoral Care needs, please feel free to contact Rev. Walter at his email address (rev@uufwc.org) or any of the other Pastoral Care members. That includes, Gail Woosley, Steve Berg, Sue Gross, Chris Struzik, or Cherrill Wertz. To anyone who may want to join our team, please contact Rev. Walter for information.

UU Ukes meet the 4th Friday at 7pm in the Large Group Room.



**Wish a Happy Birthday to:
Adam Keating, Kristin Keating, Phil Grimm, Laura Grimm, and Kevin Cannon**

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

How to Find Us: We are located at 3186 Burbank Road, in Wooster, 330-262-9194.

Our weekly Worship Services are in person on Sunday mornings at 10am or watch the service on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/uufwc. A recording is made available through the Google Groups email, later that day.

Board of Directors: Rachel Relle, President; Laura Burch, Vice President; Bonnie Groop, Secretary; Janice Baxstrom, Barbara Long Moore, Merry Gentry, and Barbara Moore. In July, the Board will consist of: Laura Burch, Janice Baxstrom, Barb Long Moore, Merry Gentry, Barbara Moore, Jim Bird, and Jo Harper.

Minister: Rev. Walter Clark: rev@uufwc.org, Phone 330-262-9194, Ext #1

- Office Hours Mondays and Tuesdays from 1pm - 4pm
- TEXT is the best way to communicate, then phone call. E-mail only if you do not need an immediate response.

Office Administrator: Joanna Swartzentruber: fellowship@uufwc.org, Ext #0

- Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am - 1 pm, **Bonnie Groop filling in until 6/5**

Director of Religious Education: Jenni Troy Papp: dre@uufwc.org, Ext #2

Membership Coordinator: Karen Skubik: karen.uufwc@gmail.com, Ext #4

Music Director: Sharon Delgadillo: music.director@uufwc.org, Ext #3

If you have news that you would like to have included in the Monthly Newsletter, send it to newsletter@uufwc.org by the 17th of each month.

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

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