



UUFWC NEWSLETTER: JULY 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.

July 2 - What Makes Us Independent?

Ivie Sorkin, Retired Commissioned Lay Minister

As free to think individuals, what is it that makes us independent? Something that we all have as individuals. Choice and thought. We'll look at some inspirational readings and methods from Brene' Brown to the Mahabharata

July 9 - Looking Back and Moving Forward

Gail Woosley, Commissioned Lay Minister

We sometimes need to look at where we have been before we can move forward to become the person we desire to be.

July 16 - Reflections from Summer Institute

Rev. Walter Clark

Rev. Walter reflects on his time at CERSI, going deeper into what he learned from being in community with congregants and colleagues in our district and what it means for our congregation.

July 23 - Poetry Sunday

Join the Worship associates as they share poems that speak to their spirit.

July 30 - GA Sunday

Anne Wilson, Jay Klemme, Peg Redinbaugh and Sue Gross speak about what moved them at UUA's general assembly and how our congregation can live more vibrantly into our faith.

Minister's Meditations

Rev. Walter Clark

This year's UUA General Assembly in Pittsburgh was historic. The revisions made to Article II of our by-laws were accepted by 86.3% of delegates. Out of the dozens of amendments proposed to Article II, the 13 most popular ones were voted on and of those 13, five were approved by the delegates. The Article II study commission will have six months to incorporate and clean up the changes. It then goes to the UUA Board of Trustees and will be voted on at General Assembly 2024 which will be held virtually. The entire General Assembly was explicitly about the changes being made to our principles and purposes and implicitly about refocusing on a part of our denomination's culture, the idea of radical independence.

We as a people (UU's and American's) love the concept of freedom. To not be told by a higher authority what it is we are supposed to do. The story we tell of our founding (again, both as UU's and American's) is that we did not want to be told what religion to believe. To have the freedom to worship what we want, how we want without fear of reprisal. This we a wonderful thing to fight for when king and cardinals use their station to oppress others and line their coffers. It is something that we should always be mindful of, especially today when we are seeing a return to more authoritarian perspectives in our own government. Freedom is vital, and freedom has limits. It is not an absolute.

We all know that you can't yell "fire!" in a crowded theatre under the protection of the 1st amendment. The freedom to do what you want doesn't extend to committing crimes or breaking the laws set by society. We know there are limits on independence because there are times when the needs for the greater good take priority. If we decentralize that need for greater good in favor of radical independence, we run the risk of causing great harm to or society and our world.

For example, during the lockdown, no small amount of folks decided that they did not want to wear a mask because they did their own "research" on its efficacy. They refused to quarantine because they didn't believe in COVID or felt the government was over-reaching. When a vaccine became available, many refused to get one because their freedom was more important. These were all valid choices that their constitutional freedom allowed them to do. While we may not ever have official numbers on how much damage that may have caused, more than a few lost their lives for these minor freedoms.

I am not advocating for total government overreach or a totalitarian state. I don't think that would solve anything. I do think we need to be able to look at how we are using our freedom. Are we using it to stay comfortable and avoid change or are we using it to make the world a better place? Are we willing to give up our freedom from wearing a face mask to keep others safe? Are we willing to change how we say and do a few things so that marginalized folks can feel included? Freedom at its core liberates. Are we using it to do just that?

'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 July, we will share the plate with the Wooster Hope Center.**



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.woosterhopecenter.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].

Vegan Potluck

Submitted by Karen Armstrong

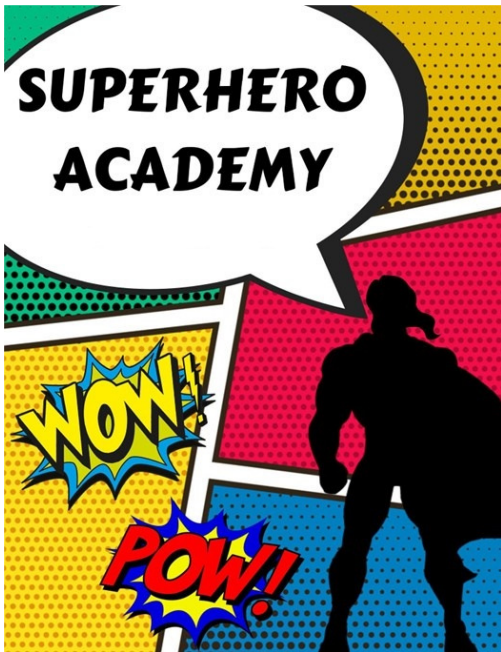
We've had several successful Vegan Potlucks since our first one in April. We plan to continue through the summer and have dates on the calendar through the end of the year. We hope you will join us!

There's been a mix of people attending both from the Fellowship and friends and neighbors of attendees from outside the Fellowship. We've had a mix of vegetarians, vegans, and omnivores. The range of vegan dishes that have been shared has been outstanding! It's really been a great time and we hope you will be able to join us soon, if you haven't already.

The next two are July 25 and August 22 at the Fellowship, starting at 6:15. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Karen Armstrong at armstrongkaren93@gmail.com

Family Ministry

From Director of Religious Education, Jenni Papp



Summer Superhero Fun Needs More Adults and Youth to Play with Us!!!!

[Youth Volunteer Form](#)

[Adult Volunteer Form](#)

Every summer Sunday, except July 2nd, we will have programming for children age 4 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.

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.

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 the Heart of
Congregational Life
at
The Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Wayne County

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.

Jenni Papp, Director of Religious Education, will be out for a personal leave beginning July 13th through August 18th.

UUFWC Yard Sale

Submitted by Wendy Ziegler-Clark

Save the Dates:

Friday & Saturday Aug. 18 & 19, 2023

NEEDED: Donations of gently used household items to sell

NEEDED: Volunteers!!! Set-up Crew, Cashiers, Room Monitors,
Tear-Down Crew.

Donation Item Drop-Off: Tues.-Thurs. Aug. 15-17 (Items must be already be priced! This is a change from previous sales. Look for price stickers and pricing guide in the lobby, coming soon)

Look for Donator & Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets in the lobby, coming soon.

All volunteers who work a 2-hr shift get to shop early at the exclusive Pre-Sale Thursday Aug. 17.



Attention all Actors & Monty Python fans of all ages:

"The Search for the Holy Quail" needs you!

Auditions for the Madrigal Mummers' skit will be held in early
September.

Look for more details later this summer.

Membership (and Fun Stuff) News

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

On April 30th we officially honored the eleven congregants who became members during 2022 and early 2023 with a lovely recognition ceremony. We highlighted Kaitlynn Arnholt and Barbara Wilson in our June newsletter. This month we will highlight Rhonda Edgerton, Barb Wilson, and Joe Tytula.



Rhonda Edgerton is a substitute teacher for Wooster High School. She can be found hiking, golfing or coaching youth sports at the YMCA — when she's not cheering on her beloved Cleveland sports teams. She's the proud mother of two strong young women. And added that she's a social justice advocate and proud snowflake!

Barbara Wilson grew up in Seville. She moved to Florida in 1989, but then returned to Ohio in 2016. Barbara has two children and five grandchildren. She enjoys cooking, bread baking and learning more about both. Barbara married Joe in 2011 and noted that they both love to play golf and watch sports - especially football. She's looking forward to growing spiritually and emotionally in our Fellowship of "lovely like-minded people".



Joe Tytula was born and raised in Massachusetts. He moved to Ft Myers, Florida in 2000, and met Barb in 2010. They went on to tie the knot in 2011. But, after deciding they were both tired of Florida, they moved to Ohio in 2016 to be near family. Joe's hobbies include golf, fishing, reading and cooking. This is his third UU congregation and he said, "I am grateful to be here".

A 4th of July Gathering at the Fellowship
is on again this year!!!!

Please sign up by July 1st with the number in your group so we can plan for grilling.





Last Splash of Summer at Loyal Oak Lake Park SUNDAY, August 13th

11:00 Worship Service (no service at the Fellowship)

12:00 Potluck and Grilling

Play all day until 8:00

Everyone is Invited for this Last Splash of Summer! Enjoy a sand beach, lifeguards, water inflatables, water basketball and slides, playgrounds, mini-golf, Gaga pit, tether ball, volleyball, potluck, grilling, shady trees, fellowship, and so much fun! Arrive any time. Worship is at 11:00 and the grill will be ready for lunch around 12:00 pm. Stay as long as you like (they close at 8pm). See all the [The Lake Park](#) has to offer by clicking the link.

Bring a dish to share, your own table service, a chair or blanket, and something to throw on the grill. Water and lemonade will be provided. We will have some burgers and a bunch of hot dogs to share.

Do you have friends who might be interested in UFWC? Invite them to join you for a fun introduction to our Fellowship.

The Lake is located at 2678 S. Hametown Rd in Norton

Library News Submitted by Kay Bowen, UFWC Librarian

KING: A LIFE By Jonathan Eig B King, Martin Luther, Jr.

“Vividly written and exhaustively researched, Jonathan Eig’s *King: A Life* is the first major biography in decades of the civil rights icon Martin Luther King, Jr. — and the first to include recently declassified FBI files. In this revelatory new portrait of the preacher and activist who shook the world, the bestselling biographer gives us an intimate view of the courageous and often emotionally troubled human being who championed peaceful protest but was rarely at peace with himself. Eig casts fresh light on the King family’s origins as well as King’s complex relationships with his wife, his father, and his fellow activists. King reveals a minister wrestling with his human frailties and dark moods, a citizen hunted by his own government, and a man determined to fight for justice even if it proved to be a fight to the death. As Eig follows King from the classroom to the pulpit to the streets of Birmingham, Selma, and Memphis, he dramatically captures the journey of a man who recast American race relations and became our only modern-day founding father — as well as the nation’s most mourned martyr.

In this landmark biography, Eig gives us a King for our times: a deep thinker, a brilliant strategist, and a committed radical who led one of history’s greatest movements, and whose demands for racial and economic justice remain as urgent today as they were in his lifetime.”

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

Greeter News

Submitted by Cherrill Wertz

The greeter schedule is now on the computer for those who want to sign up that way. (There will still be a paper copy on its shelf in the lobby for those who want or need to sign in that way.)

You will have received a recent e-mail with the links to the computerized greeter schedule and roster, in case you have not seen or received the other e-mails with the links. I suggest you make a short-cut for yourself so you can easily access the schedule. Please note: The schedule is divided into three- month sections. These section tabs can be found at the bottom of the schedule page.

Call, text or e-mail me with any questions or comments, or see me on Sundays. Thank you for your warm smiles and greetings as you do this important work for our UUFWC.

Social Action in Action

Submitted by Betty Schuler, of the Social Action Committee

UNITED WAY OF WAYNE & HOLMES COUNTIES, INC.: what is it and what does it do with our money? This agency does not provide any direct support services. However, it does provide accurate and timely information to help people understand their options, resolve problems and improve their lives. It's probably best known for WHIRE: Wayne Holmes Information Referral Exchange. This service, funded by Orrville United Way and United Wayne of Wayne & Holmes Counties, which can be reached at 330-203-6363, provides emergency numbers and resources for financial assistance, food, housing & utilities, jobs & employment, mental health, physical health, transportation, youth services and more. It also publishes the Holmes & Wayne Street Card, a pocket size directory of agencies listed by types of service and phone number. This card is also available online and in a poster size format. Another publication is the Older Adults Services Directory, an extensive listing (76 pages) of services which is found online at the United Way of Wayne and Holmes website. The CRISIS INTERVENTION LINE (330-264-9029) is available 24/7 for those experiencing an emergency or a crisis and are in need of immediate help.

These and other ongoing programs are funded by individual donations to a specific program. In 2023 WHIRE/2-1-1 received \$108,670. Another program funded in this way is the Dolly Parton Imagination Library which received \$162,862 in 2023. This program gives books free of charge from birth to age five to children in Holmes and Wayne counties. In 2021 5,206 children in these counties were enrolled, receiving 62,472 books. It takes \$25 to gift a child with books each month for one year. Other ongoing programs funded by specific donations are Reading Under the Lights (\$32,462 in 2023) and the Severe Weather Shelter (\$19,707 in 2023).

Every fall, the agency conducts a well advertised fund drive. This money goes back into the community through direct designations and an annual grant process which covers four areas: Health/Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment, Safety Net, Workforce Development, and Youth Development. Grant

applications are reviewed by the Volunteer Team comprised of thirty-five United Way donors. In 2023 United Grant Awards totaled \$913,496 which was awarded to the following organizations:

Adaptive Sports Program of Ohio for scholarships & transportation; American Red Cross for disaster relief; Anazao Community Partners for case management and counseling; Catholic Charities for psychiatry, case management & counseling; The Counseling Center for psychiatric services; Goodwill Industries for employment case management; Holmes Center for the Arts for scholarships, instructions and kits; Holmes County Council on Aging dba Darb Snyder Senior Center for food; Holmes County General Health District for immunization clinics; Learn N Play for scholarships.

Fund drive donations can also be designated by the donor. In 2023 such donations were made to Boy Scout Troop 4060, Boys and Girls Club of Wooster, Forget-me-Not Baskets, Holmes County Home, Learn N Play, National MS Society, North Canton Cares Pantry, People to People Ministries, Persopheneas Giving Plate, Pregnancy Care Center, USO of Northern Ohio and several other out of area nonprofit organizations for a total of \$41,606.

United Way of Wayne & Holmes Counties has a staff of five, with a fifteen member Board of Directors overseen by a four member Executive Committee. Offices are located at 215 S. Walnut Street in Wooster. Its business telephone is 330-264-5576.

All Things Green

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SOLAR: on June 6 House Bill 197, The Community Solar Pilot Program was introduced with five bipartisan co-sponsors. It has been referred to the House Public Utilities Committee for consideration. The program is capped at 1750 MW installed in three categories: 1,000 MW spread across all of Ohio, 500 MW spread across Ohio focused on the redevelopment of distressed sites; 250 MW for the Appalachian area's distressed sites in a standalone program. These caps are high enough to allow for many projects in all parts of the state. After four years, a review will be conducted to assess the program's success and determine its future. You can write to your state representative expressing support for HB 197. Use the search function on the Ohio House of Representatives page to find your Representative, entering your full address, including city and state, then go to his or her page to submit a message.

WIND AND SOLAR FARMS IN WAYNE COUNTY *Note: the proposed resolution discussed below does not affect Community Solar HB 450 which was featured in the June column or HB 197, both of which are currently in the Ohio House. This resolution prohibits solar facilities that are 50 MW or higher, community solar facilities are limited to 10 MW or less.*

In October, 2021 the Ohio Legislature passed Senate Bill 52 which gives local governments the veto power over renewable energy generation sites. (Veto power for fossil fuel development does not exist.) Since then, at least 13 Ohio counties, all of them rural, have enacted such bans. On May 3 the Wayne County Commissioners gave the required 30 day notice of action on June 7 on a resolution prohibiting construction of Large Solar Facilities, Economically Significant Wind Farms and Large Wind Farms* in all unincorporated territory of Wayne County. Information was provided at: wayneohio.org/solar. A week prior to this meeting, the Commissioners met with a small group of Wayne County citizens to discuss the matter. According to the report of one of the attendees, the Commissioners did not have full information about wind and solar power,

yet were planning to move forward with their proposed ban. By that time the word had spread about the proposed ban and the Commissioners were surprised to receive many letters about it. Afterwards, more people were encouraged to write and/or attend the June meeting.

At the June 7 meeting there were about 25 people present in person and on Zoom, of which 14 spoke. Prior to the audience participation, Commissioner Ron Amstutz announced that the Commissioners had decided to delay their decision until the July 12 meeting to allow themselves time to learn more and provide more time for constituents to participate. A status report from the Commissioners dated 6/13 stated "We think it is possible to negotiate a more acceptable utility-scale installation by using a regulatory barrier as leverage... This prohibition or moratorium will give everyone time to assure that we are moving forward in a responsible manner and protecting everyone who may be affected by these solar developments." Letters can be sent to them at commissioners@wayneohio.org. The July 12 meeting is at 9:00 am in the second floor meeting room in the County Administration Building.

*Ohio Revised Code 303.57 defines Large Solar Facility as an electric generating plant that consists of solar panels and associated facilities with a single interconnection to the electrical grid that is a major utility facility; Large Wind Farm means an electric generating plant that consists of wind turbines and associated facilities with a single interconnection to the electrical grid that is a major utility facility; Economically Significant Wind Farm means wind turbines and associated facilities with a single interconnection to the electrical grid and designed for, or capable of operation at an aggregate capacity of five or more megawatts but less than fifty megawatts excluding those dedicated to providing electricity to a single customer and that are designed for operation at an aggregate capacity of less than twenty megawatts.

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.

This Month's Meetings

[See all the events on our website: https://uufwc.org/calendar/](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 Gochnauer's farm.** More details will come via email.

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

There will be no book group article for 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.)

The Choir and Folk Orchestra are on a summer break from June - July. They will resume in August

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 will resume in the fall on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Women's Lunch Group, July 11th, NOON. We alternate our meeting location between downtown Buehlers' and the fellowship – not to confuse you, but so we can alternate the preferences of our regular attendees. Twelve of us met in June at downtown Buehlers', so on Tuesday, July 11th we'll meet at the fellowship – either on the back picnic tables or at the tables in the back of the sanctuary. 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. There will be no UU Ukes in June or July. They will resume in August. Hope to see you there!



Wish a Happy Birthday to:

Chloe Chandler, Sonia Solomonoff, Bill Carter, Sherri Gochnauer, Tom Gross, Ruth Dykstra, Jenny Grimsley, Susan Sommer-Wagner, Bonnie Groop, Dan O'Rourke, Kat Gibbons

Wish a Happy Anniversary to:

Inez & Jim Bird, Denise Bostdorff & Dan O'Rourke, Sue & Tom Gross, Susan Heady & Larry Madden, Cherrill & Terry Wertz

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: In July, the Board will consist of: Laura Burch - President, Sarah Miles - Treasurer, Janice Baxstrom, Barb Long Moore, Merry Gentry, Barbara Moore, Jim Bird, and Jo Harper.

Board executives will be elected at the next Board meeting in June.

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

- Sun, Mon, Fri: 9am - 12 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.*



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