



UUFWC NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 2024

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.

November 03 - "All Souls"

Ruth Sewell & Rev. Walter Clark, Minister

We often reflect over the events of the calendar year as it ends, often dwelling on the memories of those we have lost. This Sunday we gather in comfort and share our losses in this traditional UUFWC service where we light candles and share. Led by Ruth Sewell and Rev. Walter.

November 10 - "Post Election"

Rev. Walter Clark, Minister

The election is finally over and now the work begins. How do we move forward in such a deeply divided nation and how do our faith and values guide us in this work?

November 17- "Belief, Theology and Faith"

Rev. Walter Clark, Minister

Unitarian Universalists have a complicated relationship with religious language. Do our personal histories and definitions of these terms get in the way of our spiritual exploration?

November 24 - "Bread Communion"

Rev. Walter Clark, Minister

Thanksgiving is a time when a lot of us show affection for friends and family using the language of food. For this bread communion, we dive into the act of sharing food together as a sacred act of love and hospitality.

Minister's Meditations

I saw a meme on Facebook the other day. It was a quote from Lord of the Rings. Frodo and Gandalf are talking about the horrors of their time and the rise of Sauron. Frodo says, "I wish it had need not happened in my time" and Gandalf responds, "So do I, and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

The election is almost over and many of us are holding our breath until the results are in, wondering what the future holds no matter who the winner. It feels like a tipping point for our nation and for our way of life. How will we move forward after the dust has cleared? What will we do with the time after the election?

We work on repair.

First and foremost, we need to work on repairing justice in our country. No matter who wins we need to make sure that the most vulnerable in our society have the rights and dignity that they deserve. Whether it is a woman's right to healthcare, our LGBTQAI+ siblings rights to exist or the rights for the economically disenfranchised to have access to systems of support, we need to hold our elected officials accountable for the well-being of all their constituents. Write letters, volunteer at shelters or speak out when you can. There will be no shortage of opportunities between now and the next election.

Next, we need to repair connections with those we disagree with. We need to stop demonizing the people and reacting with violence, both physical and verbal. Yes, there are people we will never be able to convince. Yes, there will be some that are not interested in the work of connection and repair. And there will be some with which we can find common ground. We owe it to ourselves to and to them to find ways to be together without violence.

Lastly, we need to repair ourselves. We need to take time to grieve, to celebrate, to rest. We need to center ourselves in love and remind ourselves that all of those who went through tough times before made it through. It may not be easy, but we have the tools to not just survive, but to thrive and come out better on the other side. Most of all remember, you do not walk through these hardships alone.

Board Report Submitted by Jo Harper

Good day, members, friends, and visitors!

Every Sunday we say from the pulpit that we are an active congregation. As part of that, the Board wants to encourage you to think about how you can be a part of that activity! It may make sense to volunteer for RE, to join a committee, to assist at an event, to organize things in a way that makes it easier to join in. We are such a diverse community with a variety of skills, and I'm excited to see what we all do.

One of the things that the UUFWC is excited about is the new 24-hour center in Wooster designed to serve our unhoused neighbors. If you are interested in helping out, [sign up](#) for a training slot!

News from the FUNdraising Committee

SAVE THE DATE :

2nd Annual UUFWC Cookie Walk and Bake Sale, Saturday December 14th, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Donations of baked goods will be accepted Friday December 13th, 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Sign-Up sheets will be available in November. Additional details to follow. For more information contact Barb Tytula or Erin Palmer.

New this year to the Cookie Walk...

UUFWC members and friends are invited to showcase their crafts and artwork for display and sale during the cookie walk. For more details and to reserve a spot contact Barb Tytula.

Stewardship Committee

Spooky Halloween Stewardship News

Beware! The "scary" stewardship committee met this week. Plans are in the works. Bwa-ha-ha-ha! But, first, we want to thank the congregation for it's "uncanny" support making last year's campaign a "monstrous" success.

We also want to "forewarn" everyone that we plan to start sending "haunting" emails soon. We need to fill our 2025-2026 stewardship "cauldron" to support the UU and it's programs.

Our "spooky" committee needs one more "goblin". If you are interested in helping to "haunt" the congregation, please reach out to one of us.

Your "spooky" stewardship committee:

Scot Armstrong, Tony Beery, Tim Breiner, Mike Peterson, and Connie Storck

And just for fun, please enjoy the following: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsPdVsIXqzU>

Safety Committee

Are you and your loved ones ready for an emergency? Does everyone know what they should do if disaster strikes?

Steve Gast from the American Red Cross will present a "Be Red Cross Ready" program on Saturday, Nov 16 from 10-11 am in Strawn Hall.

Topics covered will include Making a disaster kit, making a personal plan and family plan, and learning about other resources. There will be ample Q and A time as well. Adam Keating will also review how to use our AED after the presentation. Hope to see you there.

mUUSIC Program News!

Guitar Group: Mondays, 5:45 pm

Choir: Wednesdays, 7 pm

Folk Orchestra: Mondays, 7 pm

Drum Circle: Second Thursday each month, 6 pm - currently on pause

UU Ukcs: Fourth Friday each month, 7 pm - Hiatus until further notice

UU-UNIQUE SHOPPING EVENT

The UUFWC is participating in the Alternative Gift Market, which will be held Sunday, December 15 from 11:15-2:00 at First Presbyterian Church in Wooster.

Browse displays representing humanitarian relief agencies around the world and purchase \$5.00 "shares" to give as gifts. With each share purchased, you will receive a card and a description of the project to give as your alternative gift. Also enjoy a delicious lunch with proceeds benefitting the Homeward Bound (sever weather shelter). PLUS, fair trade items will be available from World Market of Kidron) and others who will be selling items that help others.

We need your help with the following: make a batch of chili, help in the kitchen, cashier, and shop J. Please contact me if you can help or have questions (wicksfam@sssnet.com or 330.317.4681).

'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 November, we will share the plate with Immigrant Worker Project (IWP).

The Immigrant Worker Project (IWP) was founded in 1998 to address the needs of the farmworker and rural migrant communities in Ohio. At the heart of the project is a deep commitment to economic, legal, political, and social justice for the Latinx community. IWP supports human dignity and justice for immigrants while building communities that embrace cultural diversity. (From the website)

[Learn more at: https://iwpo.org/](https://iwpo.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].

Family Ministry

Throughout October, children in RE explored the topic of "Deep Listening." Through storytelling, art, games, and outdoor exploration, participants considered the following questions: What does it mean to listen deeply? How do we listen when we don't agree with someone? How do we listen to the wisdom of our hearts and use it in our lives? How does listening to nature inform our faith and honor our interconnectedness with the natural world? The beautiful October weather allowed us to explore many of these ideas outdoors! We ended the month with a spooky season themed exploratory service about "Scary Stories", where we told scary stories around the "campfire" in fellowship and examined what scary stories can teach us. A perfect end to the month was a dedication of our magical new play space!

Our UFWC Youth have been spending their time getting to know one another better and brainstorming plans for their church year. They have expressed an interest in painting a mural in their classroom, and they are working on their plans for executing their vision. Youth had a great time carving pumpkins and feeding goats at our Pumpkin Carving Party at Kelly's house and went full-on-fall-fun on a trip to Ramseyer farms! We look forward to a church year of fun, fellowship, and faith development! Parents of youth grades 10-12: Coming of Age (catch up year) will be starting soon. Details to come!

Words can't express our gratitude and excitement for our new outdoor play space! Thank you Rachel Derr and Merry Gentry for this amazing gift of love that will be enjoyed for many years to come. This beautiful space allows for creative play, nature investigation, personal expression, and sensory exploration. It also gives parents and caregivers a moment to sip some coffee and visit with friends! On October 27th, we dedicated the playground together and celebrated the joy it that it will bring and the memory that it honors. A beautiful, special morning indeed!

Gratefully,
Kelly Chandler, DRE





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.

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 UFWC you can click here to [request to join](#).



Contact Kelly at dre@uufwc.org with questions.



Wish a Happy Birthday to:

Don Ackerman, Rainbow Cannon, Rev. Walter Clark, Sharon Delgadillo, Dae Evans, David Francis, Miriam Gochnauer, Sue Gross, Sue Kandel, Jane Kingsbury, Helen Meyers, Sarah Miles, Joanne Schroeder, Karen Skubik, Cindie Slater, Eleanor Stormer-Burch

Wish a Happy Anniversary to:

Kate Freed & Lee Simpson

Membership (and Fun Stuff) News

Committee: Laura Grimm (chair), Kaitlynn Arnholt (secretary), Barb Tytula, Cathy Stanley, Steve Thomas, Bonnie Groop, and Karen Skubik (Membership Coordinator)

Last Month's Events



Pumpkin Decorating and Campfire Fun!



We had a wonderful turnout for our monthly potluck. Those present took time to sign cards for some of our UU friends who currently have health problems and are unable to join us.



Every Fourth Sunday of the Month!! in the Large Group Room

- Come join us for a **post-service** potluck brunch and fellowship time.
- You can drop off your dish in the Large Group Room before the service if you'd like.
- All ages welcome.
- Bring a dish to share (no nuts, please) and your own table service (plates, silverware)

More Info:
Anyone from the Membership Committee or
Karen.uufwc@gmail.com



Upcoming Events



BOWLING NIGHT

It's time for our fun annual event!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

6:00 - 8:00 PM

TRIWAY LANES

3392 S. COLUMBUS RD., WOOSTER



- We've rented the whole bowling alley, so come join your fellow UU's whether you plan to bowl, play other games, or simply hang out. All ages welcome!!
- Building rental is \$400, so pin money contributions are welcome.
- Balls and bowling shoes provided
- You are welcome to bring a simple snack to share, but Triway Lanes also has food and beverages available for purchase.
- For more information please check with the Membership Comm.

Celebrate
THANKSGIVING
AT THE
UUFWC



Potluck Dinner
3:00 pm

28
NOV

COME TO SHARE

FOOD . DRINK . FELLOWSHIP

SIGN UP IN THE LOBBY BY 11/24

BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE

FOR MORE INFO, CHECK WITH
KAREN.UUFWC@GMAIL.COM

On-Line UUFWC Directory

If you have not yet tried accessing our online directory, you can still do so at ANY time. It is constantly changing since people move, new people come along, households change, etc. To access:

1. Go to iconcmo.com/login
2. Enter church phone number 330-262-9194.
3. Enter your assigned user name. If you can not find this in an email Karen sent earlier this year, just ask her to have it resent to you.
4. Create a password.
5. Access account.

There is also an ICON app, so you can easily view the directory on your phone.

But for those who prefer, you can also ask Karen to provide you with a paper copy. These are no longer mass produced so that we can keep them up to date - or at least only a couple months old instead of 4 years old.

Reminder: the information in our directory is private and not to be shared outside the fellowship. Also - if you'd like a new household photo for the directory, (some of them are decades old) simply send a digital photo to Karen or ask her or anyone to take a photo of your household members.

Vegan Potluck

Submitted by Karen Armstrong



Join us on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:15 for lively conversation and good food. The next date is November 26th. Please bring a vegan dish to share, your own table service and drink. Not sure what to bring? A bowl of fruit or sliced vegetables are always welcome. If your New Years Resolution was to eat more fruits and veg or to get out and mingle more, this is the time and the place!! All are welcome! Please reach out to me at armstrongkaren93@gmail.com if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Book Group

The Sunday night book discussion group will hold its November meeting on December 8. This is our usual 2nd Sunday after Thanksgiving. We will discuss *The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet* by Jeff Goodell. We meet at 7:00 in the Fellowship Library. For more information contact Bert at bishop.eleven@gmail.com.

Salvation Army

Submitted by Bert Bishop

The Salvation Army provides support for the homeless in Wayne County. They raise money through their bell ringing project. You can help as part of the Fellowship by ringing the bell at a Salvation Army kettle at Buehlers' Milltown on the Wednesday or Thursday after Thanksgiving (final scheduling pending.) Signups are located on the West table in the foyer beginning Sunday November 10. Look for the bell.

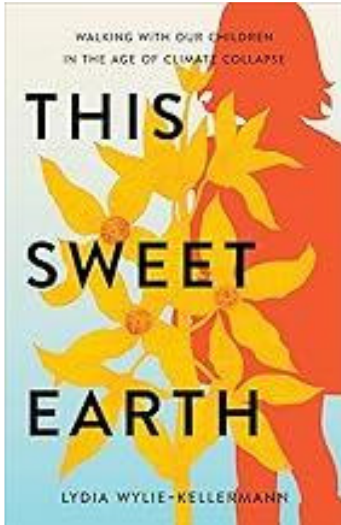
Library News

Submitted by Kay Bowen, UUFWC Librarian

New to our library:

THIS SWEET EARTH: WALKING WITH OUR CHILDREN IN THE AGE OF CLIMATE COLLAPSE

By Lydia Wylie-Kellermann 155.915 Wylk 2024



We are living in an era of climate collapse. We feel it in small ways: when the snow falls less or the cherry blossoms bloom too early. And in large ways: when our streets flood and entire towns burn to the ground. Climate anxiety touches nearly everything we do, but perhaps nothing so intimately as our parenting. It leaves an impossible task for those of us raising children. What do we tell our kids when the air quality is too bad to go ride bikes? What skills will they need if systems collapse? And what do we do with the fear, grief, and anger we feel as parents?

Parent, activist, and writer Lydia Wylie-Kellermann wrestles with these questions and dares to argue that while the future remains unknown, there is still awe and wonder, love and struggle, gratitude and overwhelming joy to be found. As we raise our children toward this uncertain future, Wylie-Kellermann helps us see that those same children shift our posture, slow us down, and invite us to fall in love with the ground on which we stand. At this turning point in humanity, we can choose to shift our lives away from death-dealing profit systems toward life-giving, generous systems. Here is the moment when we must choose to fight like hell for climate justice. And we can do it by nurturing a deeper relationship with this sweet earth in all of its beauty, wonder, and wisdom, walking alongside our children.”

This book will be housed on the PARENTING SHELF and has a red dot on it's spine. The descriptive quote above is from the website of inSpirit: The UUA Book and Gift Shop.

All Things Green

Submitted by Betty Schuler

HOMELESSNESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: With high rates of poorly controlled chronic diseases, smoking, respiratory conditions and mental illness, people experiencing homelessness are most vulnerable to extreme weather events driven by climate change. Extreme heat, extreme cold, increased precipitation, declining air quality, drought, and the spread of disease-carrying insects make them vulnerable to higher incidents of more severe illness. Homelessness is both a community issue and an environmental issue.

As homelessness continues to rise in Ohio, advocacy agencies are increasingly concerned about the rise of homelessness in smaller cities and rural areas. As of January 2024 there were 114 individuals experiencing homeless within the Wooster/Wayne County community. Homeward Bound of Wooster and Wayne County (HBWWC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is expanding services to that

unhoused population. Slated to open sometime this fall, the Day Center and Severe Weather Shelter will provide basic needs and access to social service agencies and medical staff from Viola Startzman Clinic in a renovated building at 981 Grosjean Road in Wooster. The building is being transformed from a restaurant to house a living room area, kitchen, office spaces and dorms with bunk beds.

The Day Center will be open 7 days a week, year round from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Guests will have the opportunity to shower, do laundry, eat lunch, charge phones, use laptops and meet with local social service agencies to assist in finding employment, housing, medical treatment, counseling/rehab services. The Severe Weather Shelter will be open 7 days a week beginning sometime in November when renovations are completed through April 30th and accommodate up to 32 men and 13 women. Shelter intakes will take place from 6:00 pm until 9:30 pm and guests will have a safe shelter until 8:00 am the following day. While at the shelter, guests will have the opportunity to shower, do laundry, eat dinner and get a good night's rest.

The Center is funded through donations. To contribute, mail a check to Homeward Bound, PO Box 217, Wooster, OH 44691 or donate through [Venmo\(@homewardboundwwc.org\)](mailto:Venmo(@homewardboundwwc.org)) . There are a variety of volunteer positions open. To volunteer, contact volunteer@homewardboundwwc.org or check the Homeward Bound poster at the UFWC.

Contact information: Address: 981 Grosjean Rd. Wooster 44691; Phone: (330)641-1078; Email: contactus@homewardboundwwc.org; <http://linktree/HomewardBoundwwc>.

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 UU Humanist Group will meet on the first and third Sunday of each month at 11:30 in the Large Group Room.

On November 3 Jim Bird will present My Issues Have Issues (What I Overthink About) followed by questions and discussion.

On November 17 we will have a presentation by Janice Baxstrom about Election Issues followed by questions and discussion.

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

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

Folk rehearsal rehearsals Mondays at 7-8 pm. 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

New Activity!!!!

Attention UU Community - Tai Chi is here!

Larry Madden will be leading a beginning tai chi class on Mondays at 5:30pm starting on November 11th.

The benefits of tai chi are many, including:

*** Improved balance

*** Increased strength and flexibility

*** Improved mood and stress relief

*** Improved cognitive function

Come out on November 11 and begin to enjoy the camaraderie and benefits of tai chi.

Questions: Contact Larry Madden or Connie or Rick Storck

Women's Lunch Group, We next meet Tuesday, November 12th, 12:30 pm. All UUFWC women are welcome to join us every second Tuesday of the month. We' meet in the back of the sanctuary at the big wooden table. Bring your lunch or just come to chat. We have no agenda except to enjoy each other's company. Any questions can be directed to Karen.uufwc@gmail.com. Come join us!

Elderhood Discussion Group Experience (E.D.G.E) . The EDGE (Elderhood Discussion Group Experience) will meet on Wednesday, November 20 at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This month Rev. Walter Clark will present on the changing spiritual needs and perspectives of those who are elderly, helping to also lead a discussion on this same topic. All are welcome to attend.

Contact Steve Thomas for more information

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, Steve Berg, Sue Gross, Cherrill Wertz or Sherri Gochnauer. To anyone who may want to join our team, please contact Rev. Walter for information.



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: Laura Burch - President, Jo Harper – VP, Barbara Moore – Secretary, Sarah Miles - Treasurer, Janice Baxstrom, Barb Long Moore, Merry Gentry, and Jim Bird.

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, Tues, Fri: 9am - 12 pm

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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