



# The Chalice and the Flame

*Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.*

*A Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, OR*

## July 2018

### UUCS Will Offer a Single 10:30 Service This Fall

The recent survey proved that the members and friends of UUCS are an amazing, diverse group of people willing to share their opinions, thoughts and suggestions to create a more meaningful worship experience for all. Around 100 people responded and we have many pages of comments to read and consider (and yes, we will consider every one of them). Your thoughts will be shared with the various committees, teams and staff who can benefit from your insights. A full report summarizing the findings will be published later this summer or early fall.

**In response to the survey, UUCS will continue our summer pattern by offering a single 10:30 Sunday service this fall.** Plans are in the works to add an evening weekday service in the new year.

~ Worship Discernment Team (Rev. Rick Davis, Sara Pickett, Steve Rosen, Janet Stevens)

### Save the Salem Peace Mosaic - Meeting and Potluck July 9



On July 9 at 7:00 pm at the Friends Meeting House (490 19th St NE, Salem), folks interested in preserving the Peace Mosaic on the outside of the YMCA building will gather for a meeting and a potluck. Demolition is scheduled in February of 2019. Right now, there are no plans to save the mosaic.

Creating the mosaic was a rare moment when our diverse community of all ages worked together to share that Salem is the City of Peace. We hope this symbol can be preserved for future generations. [Check out our website for other ways you can help.](#)

### Mandela Festival at UUCS July 17

UUCS Social Justice in Action Team is sponsoring a special tribute to Nelson Mandela at UUCS on Tuesday, July 17, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. The event, "Mandela Fest: A Salem Salute," will mark Mandela's 100th birthday, and will include guest speakers, a film on Mandela's life, and a potluck. All are welcome. Admission is free.

UUCS member Lee Coyne is helping to organize the event. Music includes vocalist Marilyn T. Keller and jazz pianist Laura Cunard. Other sponsors are the UN Association of Salem, the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs and B Beautiful Children's Foundation.

### Calling All Poets – Poems Due July 27

The 2nd People's Poetry Service will be held on at 10:30 am Sunday, August 19. If you would like to participate, submit your poems by July 27.

Email your submissions to David Jeffers ([dajswami@gmail.com](mailto:dajswami@gmail.com)) and Dina Triest ([dmtme@comcast.net](mailto:dmtme@comcast.net)) as soon as possible. Our first Poetry Service, in August, 2016 featured a variety of voices from our congregation and the Salem community. It was a great success! We are doing it again and you are invited!

Note to participants: Attendance at a rehearsal on **Friday, August 17** is **mandatory**. Make a note of that date. Thank you in advance for your contributions and voices!

### Japanese Healing Garden Benefit Concert August 5

Come to UUCS at 3 pm on Sunday, August 5 for "Making Music -- Planting Peace," a benefit concert for the Healing Garden project at Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP). \$10 suggested donation at the door.

Japanese musicians Masumi Timson (koto), Yumi Torimaru (shamisen and bamboo flute and taiko), and Kohgetsu Aoki (vocalist) will present traditional and contemporary Japanese music. Loraine Stuart will play classical piano, and will also perform in collaboration with the Japanese musicians. In addition to the concert, attendees will hear more about the Healing Garden Project and the healing properties of nature and meditation. The concert is sponsored by the UUCS Social Justice in Action Team. [See the website for more information](#) including, pictures of the artists and the instruments.



## Reverential Ramblings

### ~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

If you were asked to string together the most precious memories of your life - like threading pearls on a necklace - what would be some of your shining memories? One of my pearls would be the Unitarian pilgrimage to Transylvania (in Romania) I took with my young adult son Zachary in the summer of 2016 (along with four other delightful UU travelling companions.)

The remote regions we traversed are beyond the heavily trafficked tourist spots in Europe, so we rarely saw other Americans. Upon arrival we had ample free time to wander around Kolosvar (aka "Cluj Nacopa"). As we wandered that city's narrow streets past architectural wonders, I fully realized how much better Zach's sense of direction is than mine. I especially enjoyed walking through the park next to the Somesul Mic river in the early evening, watching all the people out enjoying socializing – much more than you see in our country.

What glorious cathedrals and churches we saw! Ancient Gothic structures with colorful stained-glass windows, vast interiors that give one a sense of awe. Being in such sacred spaces where so many have worshipped through the ages stirs my soul. In St. Michael's Cathedral in Alba Iulia (*Gyulafehérvár*) we visited the tomb of Transylvanian King John Sigismund, the only Unitarian monarch in history. All too often monarchs and emperors turn out to be less than stellar characters, but King John was that rare ruler with a good heart and an open mind. After hearing the Unitarian theologian/preacher Francis David he freely chose to become a Unitarian, but did not insist his subjects follow suit (as most other monarchs of the age would have done). Beside King John's tomb is the tomb of his mother Queen Isabella, who is widely credited with raising a humane and conscientious son.

To insure Transylvania's freedom of conscience King John issued "The Edict of Torda," which we saw enshrined on a historic plaque on the wall of a church in the beautiful city of Torda – it was the first proclamation of religious toleration in the Western world. (This year is the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this edict). Indeed, all the places we visited were beautiful.

On the first full day, we were in the city of Deva (amazing medieval castle nearby). We rode the funicular (near vertical cable car ride) ascending to the lofty and remote Saxon-built fortress where Frances David was imprisoned and died after King John died and the Catholics and Calvinists took control of the government and forbade him to share his views. He would not be silenced and thus died a martyr. From this walled fortress atop a mountain we could see the city of Deva far below as we asked ourselves how much we would sacrifice for our beliefs and values.

I'd like to tell you about many other wonderful experiences, but there's no space because I must also tell you about our fellow Unitarians at our Partner Church in the charming village (pop. 1,000 plus) of Simenfalva. For some years now, we have been creating a sacred bond between our two congregations. For me this started when I stayed with the Rev. Sandor Szen and his family during the two times I have visited. When I think of Sandor, my dear friend and colleague, I feel brotherly love. All travelers are assigned to hosts in Simenfalva who are fully prepared to offer gracious hospitality and also the gift of friendship that will outlast the visit.

***We're getting close to critical mass to book another tour with the UU Partner Church Council for a trip in July of 2019. Might this trip one day be one of your precious pearl memories? If you're enticed and interested, contact Jean Sherbeck at [jean@sherbeck.net](mailto:jean@sherbeck.net).***

Love, Rick



## Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

Welcome to **July!** I have always enjoyed the beginning of July and look forward to celebrating the 4th of July and thinking about how lucky we are to have freedom in the United States. I have traditionally celebrated with a family barbeque after attending a community parade. Growing up, I even rode my horse in the 4th of July parade in a town outside of Sun Valley, Idaho. This typically is a time that I feel proud to be an American. Last year, I did not feel as celebratory as I once have, but still wore the patriotic colors, watched the parade and spent time with family. My focus was on the celebration of being together. This year, I am feeling like there is a much darker cloud over the United States that I cannot shake. The constant news feeds on my Facebook account, the alerts on my phone, the constant Breaking News all keep the many concerns front and center. How can I celebrate being an American, when right now I am especially appalled at what is happening with the immigration situation and feel such concern having a leader who lacks empathy and compassion in every situation? It does not feel right. Not long after coming to the conclusion that I may need to spend my 4th of July just writing letters (which I am still going to do as well) and pretending I am not an American whose government has caused incredible trauma for immigrant families, I came across a Facebook post that changed my thinking. It was not a new thought, but it came at the right moment. Others may have come across this same post. The summary is that we cannot just decide that we are sunk (insert worse language here) and just give up. If we decide that we cannot do anything about it, then we might as well consider ourselves defeated right now. No, instead get out and vote, protest, resist, and continue to be kind to your neighbor and every day show your compassion and empathy and keep your "warrior spirit". Yes, things are not good and when I think they can't get worse, some new Breaking News, proves me wrong; however, I am going to celebrate the 4th of July like never before! I am celebrating being an American. An American who does not support a fascist agenda, an American who fights back and resists! I appreciate and celebrate being a part of a faith community that takes a stand against discrimination and violence in our country. I hope that you all have the best 4th of July ever! We need all of us more than ever!!

*In gratitude and until next time, Christi*

Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

### ~ RE Notes ~

**We had a WONDERFUL evening for our Family Dinner!!** So excited to have so many people attend and have the opportunity to get to know each other better. With a show of hands, we realized that most of us do not know even 20 people by their first names and yet we all belong to the same UUCS community. Come to our next dinner (I PROMISE we will have plenty of food) that is happening with the Fellowship Team on Saturday, **August 4 @ 6:30 pm** and learn more names! Become familiar with other families and members/friends of UUCS! Put this on your calendar now and plan to not make dinner and just spend time in casual conversation. We may have a few get-to-know-you games that will be optional!! Bring a dessert (if you want) to share with your friends. Please bring the ingredient list.

**Our summer program has started.** A reminder: I will be off for July and August beginning July 3. I am trying to fit in some vacation time and a short sabbatical. My time away for vacation will be mixed with Religious Exploration reading and research as well as taking a class, Philosophy of Religious Education. I will be back on Sundays beginning August 26!

Excited to let everyone know that **we are going to have a 3 hours/week paid Youth Coordinator beginning in September!** We will do formal introductions in next month's newsletter. We are hopeful that everyone with 8th-12th graders will plan to have your youth come and see our new programming and plans. Our Youth Coordinator will also be involved with our Middle School program as time allows. We will need youth advisors to assist on Sundays. Keep that in mind this summer and then chat with me in the fall!

**NEEDED: For our nursery,** we would like to have **4-5 diapers in each of the variety of sizes.** If your child has moved up or out of a diaper size or diapers, would you please consider donating some of the unused diapers? We would also like to have a **small supply of shirts and pants ranging in size from infant to 4T.** We will have a box in the foyer for the collection of items. If we end up with too many for our needs, we will donate to someone in need of the extra items. Thanks for your consideration!

**GOOD SAMARITAN BAGS:** PLEASE continue to donate toiletry items, granola bars, bags of nuts, small pkgs. of Kleenex, tooth brushes, small containers of toothpaste, etc. **WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE** to our community of people in need by creating bags to hand out as we all move about town. **THANK YOU** for being a part of this continued project.

### Sanctuary. A Worthy Mission

We need to give a “shout out” to three members of our community not yet fully recognized. Their story is a fascinating journey touched by drama, intrigue, conflict and finally triumphs over what first appeared as insurmountable obstacles.

It all began when the Salem City Council passed an ordinance steeped in gender discrimination. This social injustice is what motivated our three new members to seek sanctuary at the UUCS. They were aware of our belief in the inherent dignity of all beings and that we live our belief by being a “welcoming community.”

So it was that Dell, Jane, and Pootis were granted sanctuary and are now living in a protective environment next to the Religious Exploration wing. Yes, Dell, Pootis, and Jane are our resident roosters.



This odyssey began when Samantha Scales, our office manager, conceded to her children’s pleading to have backyard chickens. The city chicken ordinance allows one to have six chickens within the city limits; however, it specifically states, “No Roosters.” Samantha received the three chicks from a friend when they were a mere two days old knowing they could be roosters, but hoping at least two would be hens. As they grew, it became apparent all three of the chicks were roosters. It became obvious when early one morning all three made preadolescent attempts at crowing. At this moment the Scales family realized they were violating the discriminatory city ordinance banning roosters in the city limits. How could they solve this dilemma and still make sure Dell, Jane, and Pootis had full, happy lives?

Trying to figure out a solution, knowing the most common one for young roosters was sadly the stew pot; Samantha asked Rev. Rick if he knew any congregation members who might consider adopting three refugee juvenile roosters. His response, “Bring them here.” Christi Olsen, Director of RE, was approached next with the idea of providing a safe haven for the roosters. Christi enthusiastically accepted the idea and agreed to take on the roosters as an RE project

There is precedent to welcome Dell, Pootis, and Jane. Roosters have had historic ties to most of the world’s religions. Many protestant churches in Europe placed a rooster atop their steeples to distinguish them from the Catholic Churches. Roosters have been a symbol for pride, honesty, courage, vigilance, arrogance, strength, and flamboyance Many of us still hold dear the character of Chanticleer in “The Nun’s Priest Tale” whom we were introduced to in Chaucer’s The Canterbury Tales, required reading for Freshman English 101. We’re also reminded that in Mathew 26:34, Jesus said to the Apostle Peter, “Verily I say unto thee, that this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.” In spite of historic precedence, Dell, Pootis and Jane’s transition to our community was not without its awkward moments.

Aside from their crowing interruptions, they have generated the expected conversations centered around “Why roosters?” This is the very thing that the RE program was hoping for. Because, why not roosters? Roosters are annoying, loud, sometimes aggressive, and aren’t capable of egg production. Some would say, “They’re worthless”.

But are they? Our 7th principle states, “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” It’s unconditional. Dell, Jane, and Pootis are part of Nature’s design thereby having inherent worth.

It’s been a great learning opportunity for visitors and members to experience our feathered residents as being valued for just being roosters.

~An article by Joel Woodman. Reprinted, in part, from an earlier edition of *The Chalice and the Flame*

# Happenings and Highlights

## Sign up for October Men's Retreat

Now that we have raised money for the Men's Retreat, it's time to sign up for it. The October 5-7, 2018 retreat will be at the Sunriver home of Rich Ford! The costs should be covered by what we raised on Father's Day. We will be carpooling. Theme/agenda are yet to be developed, but there will definitely be time to wander the paths of Sunriver with each other. Call or email to let me know that you are interested, or with questions. Steve Rosen [503-551-5501](tel:503-551-5501)/[sjr1948@gmail.com](mailto:sjr1948@gmail.com).

## July is Jelly Jar Month

Recycle those jelly and pint jars that you received from the Women's Alliance Christmas Bazaar, or from other gifts. Bring them to the UUCS kitchen, and we will have Bazaar contributors pick up what they need to preserve this seasons bounty.

## July Share the Plate Recipient Northwest Hub

The Northwest Hub is a non-profit, full service bicycle shop. Their mission is to serve Salem residents without regular access to transportation. They sell affordable new and used bicycles, accessories, and all-weather clothing. Neighbors in need of transportation may "purchase" a bicycle, through community service, so they can make appointments and find jobs in a timely manner. The Northwest Hub also offers a four-week course on bicycle maintenance and repair.

# Help Appreciated!

## Kairos Lunch Thank You

On June 10, over 40 community members were fed a sack lunch with many treats tucked in with help from the mighty UUCS volunteer team. Many thanks to Margarethe and Greg Gregg, Michael and Patrice Pollard and Tom Ellis and Ann Moore for their help in drizzly weather and high spirits. At this time our lunch consists of preparing and handing out sack lunches and water with extra sandwiches and fruit available for the asking. Kairos is still struggling with finding an answer to providing security and a meaningful offering to our neighbors in need, but this format should last at least through the summer months. Our next service date is August 5. Watch for sign ups at the Social Justice Table. Any questions? Call Mary Beth Hustoles at [503-587-7949](tel:503-587-7949).

~Submitted by Mary Beth Hustoles

## Cordon Road Stewardship June 9 Successful

Our contract with Marion County is to provide a twice-yearly cleaning of 1 mile of Cordon Road. In exchange, two "Adopt-a-Road" signs are placed along Cordon Road; one for Southbound traffic at Center and Cordon and the other for northbound traffic at Cordon and Pennsylvania. Marion County traffic studies show that more than 10,000 cars drive on Cordon each day.

Thanks to the following volunteers, we continued to meet our side of the contract on June 9: Ted and Carolyn Cory, Ingrid Stromberg, Wayne Harris, Paul Parmley, David Stanley, Joan Stembridge.

## Thank You for Petitioning for Justice

Thousands of asylum-seekers were crossing the Mexican border into the United States, only to be arrested and separated from their children. A huge thank you goes out to the 134 members of the UUCS congregation who signed the Social Justice petition, asking our Congress to intervene. The petitions were printed, envelopes addressed and stuffed, and all were mailed on Tuesday, June 19. The petitions will go to every U.S. Senator, every member of the Oregon delegation to Congress, and several high-ranking people at the White House. Thank you for lifting your voices in the face of injustice.

## BLUU Fundraiser Update

Much thanks goes to congregants who have given \$701 for the Promise and Practice Campaign since June 3. More donations are needed. Our goal is \$2,220. The Unitarian Universalist Association is asking each congregant to donate \$10 to promote diversity, particularly among blacks, throughout the Unitarian Universalist faith.

Donations can be made in the red lacquered box at the Social Justice in Action Team table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays through December. Checks should be made out to UUCS with BLUU in the memo area.

# Social Justice News

Members of the Sanctuary Team of the Social Justice in Action Team continue to be involved in sanctuary work. This work includes attending meetings, attending rallies and vigils, calling politicians, and signing petitions on behalf of immigrant neighbors and for immigration justice.

We now have a new window in the green room which meets the fire code. UUCS now has a safe space to host someone in physical sanctuary. Thanks to John Prohodsky for contracting out this important work.

The team has been in contact with Causa to get a feel as to what it can do to help stop IP22 from becoming law. Causa asked that we wait until after July 6 (when the required number of signatures for placing the initiative on the ballot is due) to do anything further. Oregonians for Immigration Reform (OFIR) intends to change the name and wording of IP22 when on the ballot. Causa asked if UUCS could help with the verification of names from the Salem area that are part of the 88,000 required signatures. We will find out more about how UUCS may be able to assist One Oregon (Causa is a member) to prevent IP22 from becoming law.

Sarah Rohrs and Michael Pollard attended the ACLU statewide all-day conference on Saturday, June 23. The focus of this conference was immigration rights and how we could work towards changing unjust laws. Michael had the chance to speak to a well-known immigration activist, Maru Mora Villalpando, the keynote speaker. Maru is herself undocumented and is now the target for deportation by ICE. Michael asked her if she has considered being in physical sanctuary and she said no and that she is confident her case will prevail. In her keynote address, she stated that she is now convinced that the only way we will be able to stop the government's hateful campaign against immigrants is for massive civil disobedience to take place.

At the conference, we found out that the ACLU of Oregon had only 8,000 members prior to Trump's election. It now has over 52,000 members. We also found out that it was filing a law suit in the Portland Federal Courts to force ICE at the Sheridan Prison to follow due process and allow the prisoners to meet with clergy and lawyers.

Here is the result of the Monday, June 25 hearing: *A federal judge on Monday ordered the U.S. Bureau of Prisons and Immigration and Customs Enforcement to allow the 121 migrant detainees being held at the federal prison in Sheridan to meet with immigration attorneys.*



*Images from the Keep Families Together Rally on June 30*

~ A Personal Note from One of our Members ~

*I did not expect to travel to The Federal Detention Center in Sheridan twice in six days. Monday, June 18, was a vigil to support the 123 detainees, two of whom have now been transferred due to health conditions. It was a beautiful warm summer day. I did not know what to expect; the crowd was large and I saw many UUCS congregants. The vigil was well organized, with prayers, songs, speeches, and chants. I knew I was in the right place: supporting justice and the freedom to seek asylum, the right to due process, and the right to know where your families are.*

*The Sunday worship service was wonderful, with an emphasis on love: true love, sincere love, inclusive love, just and peaceful love.*

*It is difficult to see the men in the windows without wondering - are they being treated with respect, with kindness? Do they have clean clothes, decent food, adequate space and privacy for personal hygiene?*

*I see the guards walking around, communicating with each other, and wonder what is in their hearts. I see the Trump supporters on the way out, being superficially polite, telling everyone to drive safely, and I do not look at them, I feel sick.*

*I find it difficult to sleep, wondering how these men seeking asylum, their spouses, and their children are faring. How do they cope and are they able to sleep? I know I am connected in the most human way. I hurt because they are hurting. My presence is the only gift I can give and it is not enough.*

*Sincerely, and with love for all,  
Patrice Pollard*



*More images from the worship/rally at the Federal prison in Sheridan on June 24.*



# Calendar

## **Dances of Universal Peace**

**Friday, July 6, 7:00 pm**

Simple, easy-to-learn movements and songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world. The dances bring together sacred phrases from the world's religious traditions in heart-awakening circle dances dedicated to peace within and without.

## **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, July 6, 7:00 pm**

UUUCS' Addiction Recovery Ministry and Support program is glad to sponsor the Refuge Recovery group meeting every Friday from 7 to 8 pm at UUUCS. The mission of this national non-profit organization is to build an extensive and comprehensive network of groups, meetings, and communities that practice and promulgate Buddhist teachings and meditations for anyone seeking recovery from addiction. Those struggling with any form of addiction greatly benefit when they understand the suffering that addiction has created while developing compassion for the pain they have experienced.

## **Life Lines Lay Ministry Meeting**

**Saturday, July 7, 9:30 am**

## **Social Justice In Action Team Meeting**

**Monday, July 9, 6:00 pm**

Regular monthly meeting of the Social Justice in Action Team.

## **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, July 11, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

A welcoming place for meditation practice. Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners. Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8:00 – 9:00 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

## **Long Term/Strategic Planning Team Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 11, 7:00 pm**

## **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, July 13, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Worship Team Meeting**

**Monday, July 16, 5:30 pm**

Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan & discuss Sunday Services

## **Mandela Fest**

**Tuesday, July 17, 6:30 pm**

(See Article)

## **Safer Congregation Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 17, 6:30 pm**

## **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, July 18, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See July 11)

## **Microfinance Team Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 18, 5:30 pm**

## **Homeless Coalition**

**Thursday, July 19, 6:30 pm**

Homeless Coalition partnership with other Interfaith groups

## **Dances of Universal Peace**

**Thursday, July 19, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, July 20, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Building Sacred Ground, Session 1**

**Sunday, July 22, 12:15 pm**

An experiential, 4 session, class to help people explore Unitarian Universalism deeply, share personal foundations of faith, and get to know a small group of people very well. Building Sacred Ground is strongly recommended for people considering membership. It is also highly recommended for established members who want to deepen their relationship with their faith, UUUCS, and our community.

## **Executive Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 25, 4:00 pm**

## **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, July 25, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See July 11)

## **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, July 27, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Building Sacred Ground, Session 2**

**Sunday, July 29, 12:15 pm**

(See July 22)

## **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, August 1, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm**

(See July 11)

## **Dances of Universal Peace**

**Friday, August 3, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, August 3, 7:00 pm**

(See July 6)

## **Life Lines Lay Ministry Meeting**

**Saturday, August 4, 9:30 am**

## **RE Family Dinner**

**Saturday, August 4, 6:30 pm**

See RE Notes on Page 3

## **Building Sacred Ground, Session 3**

**Sunday, August 5, 12:15 pm**

(See July 22)

## **Making Music-Planting Peace, A Concert Fundraiser**

**Sunday, August 5, 3:00 pm**

See Article

# Worship Services and Religious Exploration

July Share the Plate Recipient: [The Northwest Hub](#)

Service Time: 10:30 am

**Sunday, July 8**

**Craig Rowland**

## "The Man with No Shoes"

**Celebrant:** Laura Christian; **Anchor:** Sara Pickett

**Music:** Johnny Fang-violin, Diane Stone-viola, George Struble-cello, Linda Tyler -piano

Sometimes people struggle with finding a sense of belonging and community. It can be difficult to build a spiritual home if we never show our wounds or our flaws. It can leave you with a sense of always being on the fringe. "I really struggled to find a deeper spiritual connection to the congregation and spiritual practices, but how could I do that if I didn't feel that I was being genuine? I hope that my story will help show that we are a community of compassion and growth, where your whole self is welcome." Craig Rowland

Craig will talk about how he lost his leg and the long road of mental health recovery.

**RE Info:** Marnie will share a story about painting and the children will enjoy creating mosaics outside with natural materials.

**Sunday, July 15**

**Rev. Mark Gallagher**

## "Choice and Happiness"

**Celebrant:** Lennie Martin; **Anchor:** David Gortner

**Music:** Ted Cory

Modern life presents us with an ever-expanding array of choices. We mostly welcome that. Yet, much of that choice may be superfluous or perplexing. Can we practice choosing ways that yield less stress and more happiness/satisfaction?

**RE Info:** The children will learn how creating art can be a mindful practice. The children will be creating a marbling project.

**Sunday, July 22**

**Jack Tally**

## "Emancipation-Incarceration"

**Celebrant:** Janet Stevens; **Anchor:** Lennie Martin

Finding Meaning and Freedom in Crisis Experiences...

UUCS Member Jack Tally works for the non-profit Community Action Agency's DeMuniz Resource Center. The center works with individuals transitioning from prison to the community.

**RE Info:** Children will hear a folktale about the sun. They will explore UV rays from the sun with bracelets made from UV detecting beads. They will also take a nature hike and create sun prints.

**Sunday, July 29**

**The Rev. Mark Gallagher**

## "Who is This Guy God?"

**Celebrant:** Sara Pickett; **Anchor:** Laura Christian

**Music:** Zak Zundel

Ideas about God and gods have profoundly shaped the culture, institutions, and experience of western civilization -- not without controversy. Let's consider how these notions have evolved over the millennia.

**RE Info:** Today, the children will learn about Miss Rumphius and create their own beautiful lupine paintings. Seeing natural beauty all around us is spiritual.

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

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5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

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**Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:**

Christi J. Olsen, [christi@uusalem.org](mailto:christi@uusalem.org)

**RE Sunday Assistants:** Elizabeth Bauman,  
Marnie Jeffers, Elsa McKinney-Menchaca

**Music Director:** Aimee Larsen-Amend

**Pianist:** Open position

[music@uusalem.org](mailto:music@uusalem.org)

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This issue was edited and formatted by Sharon Pierson, edited and proofed by Elsa Struble and Vicki Cunningham.

**EVENT SCHEDULING:** please use the [Event Scheduling Request](#) form on the UUCS website to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

**PUBLICITY and ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Fill out the [Publication Request](#) form on the UUCS website for any announcement, event or news item. This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website and or Facebook.

**DEADLINES:**

Use the [Publication Request](#) form for all submissions.

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the next newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **August 3.**

**Sunday Announcements and This Week** email by noon **Tuesday.**