



*A Community of Open Hearts, Inquiring Minds,
and Helping Hands*

TJ Tapestry

August 2020
Edition 659

The Monthly Newsletter of Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church

Sunday Services

August 2

"I'm Praying for You"

Rev. Kathy Hurt

While all spiritual traditions include some notion of prayer as a recommended practice, our UU tradition has struggled to find a meaningful way to understand prayer. And praying for another is an even more complicated idea. This service reflects on meanings of prayer that do not depend on any particular belief in God and how prayer might be a form of connection especially needed during the pandemic.

August 9

The State of Fairness

Chris Hartman

Supreme Court victories for marriage equality and workplace protections are a sure sign of broader LGBTQ acceptance. But what's next with the struggles for equality? How does the fight for queer rights intersect with the Black Lives Matter Movement, immigrant justice and more?

August 16

"Better Together"

Rev. Dawn Cooley

The opposite of "divide and conquer" is that we are better together: stronger, smarter, more creative, more impactful, even more compassionate. No matter what the issue, from climate change to poverty, from racial justice to reproductive justice, we are better when we work in coalitions and networks.

August 23

"The Water of Life"

Rev. Kathy Hurt

As we mark our annual return with the ritual of a water communion, we join countless people who have, for centuries, turned to water as a key spiritual symbol. Water is essential for life, including, it seems, our spiritual lives. Why that should be the case is the focus of this service.

On August 30

" Understanding long term care and the impact of Covid 19."

Lisa Biddle-Puffer

She will discuss how and why she got into long term care, the various types and levels, pay sources (Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, etc.), measurements of quality, and what effects Covid 19 has had to these facilities.



Interim Reflections

It seems that it is only when what we are used to is taken away from us that we awaken to new possibilities, even if they were available all along -- Richard Rohr

As the pandemic drags on, not even allowing the decrease in numbers of cases we had once been told we might expect with summer temperatures but instead steadily increasing, many of us are finding our patience and inner resourcefulness wearing thin. Enduring a challenge becomes easier when the endpoint can be identified; I tell myself, “just hang on and this will only last a bit longer,” and I can keep going. But with the pandemic, only the vague promise of a vaccine being available at an unspecified time has been a kind of endpoint, and not much of an endpoint at that since the virus could mutate and vaccines are not 100% effective. What had seemed only temporary losses, of familiar routines and delayed trips and school classes in person and church services in person, now begin to feel almost permanent. When will the comforts of the lives we previously enjoyed return—if ever?

In such circumstances, we may need to cast about for new ways to keep our hopes up. For some, keeping close connections via Zoom with loved ones and church programming is a useful strategy; for others, simple pleasures of gardening and walks and visits in driveways at a safe distance provide a measure of comfort.

But perhaps what is most needed, perhaps what is a particular spiritual challenge for us in this pandemic, is remaining focused on the present moment, just being here, now. Our future is murky and keeps defying our expectations of what it will be like. We can look back over our shoulders and recall the past, and get caught in pointless longing for what used to be. So that leaves just the present, here, now—with all its difficulties and all its surprising joys. Often the dissatisfaction we experience is rooted in our running away from the present. So to turn, settle down, just be with whatever is happening now, may be the strategy that best gets us through this troubling time.

In faith, hope, and love,

Kathy



Eastern Area Community Ministries (EACM) - News

EACMonline.org

TJUC is a member church of EACM, and our congregants always contribute generously to various collections we have that serve EACM clients in need. Here's an update you on how their services are faring during the time of COVID.

Emergency Assistance: EACM has disbursed \$150,000 in the last 6 months, more than any previous YEAR in their history. After the end of July, demand is expected to increase.

Food Pantry: Dare to Care has been able to bolster its food delivery to EACM, and its supply is holding steady.

Back to School Supply Collection: EACM is not collecting school supplies or backpacks this yr.

Thanksgiving Basket drive: This is a coronavirus guidelines friendly activity! Stay tuned.

EACM offers its thanks to all its member churches for their continued support! Please note its offices will be closed the week of August 17-21.

BOARD NOTES – August 2020

Hello all, welcome to August's edition of Board Notes. We hope that this helps you stay up to date with Board efforts and actions.



- **Name Change Vote.** As I'm sure you know, the Congregation passed the proposed name change – to remove Thomas Jefferson from the name of the church – at a special meeting held on July 12. The meeting was attended by 122 people, and the vote was 106 in favor and 15 against with one abstention. We will retain our current TJUC name until we decide on a new name. We are working on a process for creating a new name – please see the Name Change Process Overview elsewhere in this month's Tapestry! Thank you to all who participated.
- **Reallocation of Capital Campaign Funds.** In this same July 12 meeting, at the recommendation of the Capital Campaign Committee and the Board, the Congregation voted to reallocate some of the Capital Campaign funds to a new covered walkway at the front of our building. This is a much more attractive and functional walkway than we had previously planned for. Construction will begin in October.
- **Enclosed Vestibule.** We are hoping to be able to enclose a portion of this covered walkway to create a pleasing vestibule as the primary entry into our building. We currently enter our church into a crowded and frankly confusing hallway. Ann Dorzback encouraged the House Committee to explore the possibility of creating such a space and made the first generous donation to the project. The estimate for this project is \$29,200. Since then, the following people have pledged donations (restricted to use for this project):
 - ◇ Alan Godsave
 - ◇ Mary Louise (ML) Gorman
 - ◇ Jane Gross
 - ◇ Bernie and Deborah Novgorodoff
 - ◇ Betsy and Steve Reeves – donated in honor of Pat Webb
 - ◇ Lori and Steve Sargent
 - ◇ Ellen Wade.

We are \$6,100 short of fully funding this addition to our building. Please let us know if you can contribute.

- The Board has decided that we will not open the Sanctuary for Sunday Services until at least mid-October. The decision to open to small numbers will be evaluated at this time.
- We are entering the second year of Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt's interim ministry. She has taught us, comforted us, cheered us on and inspired us. We are grateful for what she brings to our lives. Both she and the Board will submit year-end reports to the UUA that reflect on our past year together and look forward to the year to come.

Stay well, virtual hugs, (Deborah Novgorodoff, BOT President, for...) Your Board of Trustees

***The next Tapestry Deadline
is August 21st***

Guidelines for in-house Committee and Chalice Circle Meetings

Hand sanitizing and temperature checks are required upon entering the building. If temperature is over 100.40, the participant cannot attend meeting or remain in the building. (Masks and sanitizer are available on the table to the right of the front door as you are enter the building)

- Debbie will take temperatures during her work hours. (9:30 am to 3pm/off on Wednesdays). After work hours, the facilitator or someone assigned by the facilitator will take temperatures. The thermometer is in the top left-hand drawer of Debbie's desk in her office. (Check with Debbie to assure that you understand how to check temperatures).
- Masks need to be worn while in the building.
- No hand shaking or hugging.
- Remain home if you are sick with a cough, sneezing, fever over 100.4.
- Cough or sneeze into elbow or tissue. Tissue should immediately be thrown away.
- Meetings are limited to the room of the gathering. Participants may not roam the building.
- The size of the gathering would need to be small enough so that there could be 6 ft. between each participant.
- No food can be served in the building. Food is permissible if brought by the attendee and the gathering is outside. (It hasn't been proven that there is transmission of the virus through food).
- The facilitator of the group would need to check with Debbie before gathering to assure that they understand procedures.
- Guidelines need to be sent by the facilitator to participants before the time of the meeting.
- It is the responsibility of someone in the group to disinfect hard surfaces (arms of chairs and table tops) in the meeting room before and after the gathering. Only one bathroom should be used by the group and disinfected after the meeting (door knobs, faucets, and toilet handles). Cleaning supplies will be provided.

We do not recommend that anyone with the following conditions attend in-house meetings...Type 1 and 2 diabetes, chronic lung conditions including asthma, HIV, heart disease, chemotherapy, high blood pressure, organ transplant recipients, chronic liver and kidney disease.

Joys and Concerns

- Henry Austin's sister, Bonnie died from Covid-19.
- Lori and Steve have beautifully renovated Kathy's office.
- Pat Webb died after surgery from a broken leg.
- Margie Fry slipped and fell and had to have 10 staples in her head.
- Jan Arnold died after a fall.



NEW NAME TO REPLACE TJUC

How are we going to get one of those?!

Wow. We voted to change our name!!

Now what???

This is exciting! An opportunity to think about who we are and to choose a name that reflects this!. And at minimum, we've got something to take our minds off the pandemic!

Existing UU Names. Let's start with this – Daniel Sturtevant has written an excellent analysis of existing UU congregation names. It's really good to step back and take a look at what other churches are named. You can find the link to this on our website, under “What's in our name?” and in this edition of the Tapestry as well. This is a great place to start our name exploration.

A Name that Communicates ... What? In his piece, Dan advises us not to jump to specific ideas of new names – thus potentially locking each of us into a favorite choice or even a favorite approach for a new name. Rather, he asks that we step back and think about what we want our new name to convey about us. We're providing some thoughts to you about how to do this at the end of this piece. But the direction here is clear – for the next 3 weeks, **NO NAME IDEAS!** Rather, let's spend this time immersed in why we are UUs and what we love about our own community.

Then ... over the next few weeks, we will form a New Name task group. Please let Debbie Horvay in the office or Deborah Novgorodoff know if you'd like to be a part of this group. It will be time limited and operate via Zoom.

Next steps. Subsequent steps in the New Name process are likely to be as follows:

1. Creating a list of possible new names
 - Brainstorming/generating a lot of options by the congregation
 - Soliciting name ideas from naming professionals
2. Initial whittling down of the name list
 - According to some basic guidelines
 - And in discussion with the congregation
3. A series of votes on the remaining long list of names
4. Hopefully allowing us to vote on a very small selection of names at our Fall Congregational meeting in October.

What can you do in the next few weeks? Please send answers to the following questions to newname@tjuc.org . Note that you do not have to answer every question – they are meant to stimulate your thinking about what we might want to communicate. Please indicate if you are willing to have your response published on the website with your name or if you'd like to remain anonymous.

- Why are you a Unitarian Universalist? What attracts you to/keeps you in this faith?
- What attracted you to/keeps you at TJUC? What does TJUC bring to your life?
- What are you most likely to tell a friend about our faith tradition? What are you most likely to tell a friend about TJUC?
- Which of our current 7 principles is most important to you and why?
- What would you like our new name to communicate? Not – what is a possible new name but rather, what idea or sentiment or concept or value or...other! would you like our name to say about us?

Thanks all for engaging in this next phase of our name change process!

With gratitude, Deborah Novgorodoff (for the Board of Trustees)

Sunday Mornings at 9:30

Adult Sunday Morning Class, 9:30 to 10:45 — not meeting

A Note from the Treasurer

As of the end of July, we have 14 outstanding checks that were written over 2 months ago and are still uncashed. One is over a year old. Some of these checks are to church members. In order to maintain some control over our cash flow, I have to decide when to void checks that I don't think are ever going to be cashed. Then, when they are cashed, I have to make journal entries to reinstate them. If anyone has or receives a check from TJ, I will appreciate your cashing it sooner rather than later so that I can stay on top of our finances.

Thanks for your help.

Steve Koehler, Treasurer

What's in a Name?

Check out what names other UU Congregations have.

Dan Sturtevant has come up with some very interesting data. See the link below to get to the document

From Dan:

Now that we have decided to find a new name for our congregation, let's see what the rest of our movement has chosen.

I've identified various categories to help us think about this. These categories often overlap, and the boundaries between them are imprecise. My goal is not to encapsulate the one true interpretation of UU congregation names, but to draw the best shapes I can around clusters of similarity. Hopefully, this will help give us a picture of what others have tried before us. So, if you think you have a different idea about how something should have been classified – yeah, that's probably valid.

I have compiled these visualizations using data provided by request from the UUA on January 2, 2020. Things may have changed since then. Information on current UUA member congregations can be found here: <https://my.uua.org/directory>

[Click here for Dan's amazing document](#)



Please "like" our page:

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church/Louisville, KY

It's important to "Share" TJ's Facebook Events and Timeline posts. Every time you "share" with your friends, they pass it on to others who learn about our great programs and special events! Please help us spread the word and "Share" it! See how many found us:

Kenyan Kids Food Drive

Schools closing in Kenya means that the children we are sponsoring through our Kenyan Education and Aids Program (KEAP) are no longer living and being fed in boarding schools. Our 22 kids are now staying with their guardians. These are the same guardians who were forced to put the kids in an orphanage 15 years ago because they could not afford to feed them. So, our kids are hungry.

We have directed our Kenyan care giver Sheilla to purchase food supplies for the families of the kids and deliver it to their homes twice a month. The food package will be shared by everyone living in the home.

Each package of food will cost approximately \$30 (\$60 per month) and will contain:

- Maize flour for making Ugali
- Whole wheat flour for making Chapatti
- Dried beans and/or Dried minnows rich in protein
- Cabbage (chosen because it will stay fresh; veggie choice will change depending on availability)
- Cooking oil & salt
- Tea leaves & sugar
- Bar soap for bathing & laundry



Brenda with her food.

Sheilla has completed the first purchase and delivery, and the families are delighted—sending many thanks for this kindness. Read the note below from one of our KEAP kids.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, KEAP has not been able to hold our usual fundraisers this year—the Yard Sale and JAMBO. Our funds are limited. The estimated amount we need to keep our kids fed until school is expected to reopen in January is \$5,870. This total includes the food purchase and the cost of renting a vehicle to deliver the food. The van driver has graciously volunteered his services at no charge.

If you would like to make a contribution to help keep the kids fed, send a check to

Ellen Ballard
10523 Buckeye Trace,
Goshen KY 40026.

Be sure to make the check out to TJUU and write “KEAP Food Donation” in the For area. You can also go to the church website and select KEAP in the donation box. The on-line KEAP

food fund donation option will be active from August 1-31.

Thank you for helping to make a difference in the world!

Gratefully, Sheila Ward, Chair, International Justice Committee





Note to our church from Moses, one of our KEAP kids:

“Hope this email finds you in the best of your health. I want to express my appreciation for your generous support to provide food to the students. This food will be so helpful to us especially during this difficult time when we've been hit hard by the pandemic. Your actions have really lightened the load and our hearts. We were struggling to get food. Some of us, especially me, had decided to go out on the streets to find work in order to get money to feed our families. This was the only way to survive although very dangerous due to the pandemic. Now we are able to settle safely at home courtesy of your kindness. We are very grateful!

Welcome, Gathering Club East

The Gathering Club has negotiated a lease for rental space at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church effective August, 2020. It is a well-established adult day health center and a home attendant care provider in South Louisville. This organization has worked with TJ since October 2019 to tailor a program that would not deprive our TJ members of space that would limit programs or activities but would offer us welcome revenue. This new Gathering Club East plans to operate a branch of their adult day health center that will serve both a social model and, in the future, offer a medical model day program for 5-10 clients from the LGBTQ+ community- the first program of its kind in the State!

The Gathering Club shares the same passion for diversity and inclusion. It has found that many populations, such as the LGBTQI+ community and immigrants, are severely underserved in the medical and aging care fields. It is looking to close these gaps in services by offering inclusive, safe, and enriching adult day and home attendant care services to families in the East Louisville Area. The Gathering Club has identified TJUC as the ideal space to branch out to provide these services.

The majority of clients currently served are located in the South Louisville Area. The Gathering Club East plans to expand its diverse services to East Louisville. They believe that TJUC has the best location and has values that align with their own. Therefore, TJ is pleased to negotiate rooms during the day Monday-Friday. Rooms for the larger social model will be Weston Hall and the Welcoming Space. Future classrooms for the medical model for 5-10 adults will be the Benjamin and Young classrooms. The kitchen will be used only to receive pre-packaged catered lunches and only a day's supply of bottled water and some medications will be refrigerated. TJ looks forward to accommodating this worthwhile community outreach to serve this population.

It is understood that because the space will likely be shared with other programs at TJ, The Gathering Club East is willing and able to return the tables and chairs to its storage and sanitize the room before leaving each day. The staff is also willing to coordinate with TJ to work around various events that may occur at the church and plan ahead with clients.

We are pleased that the new Executive Director, Ed Howard Minnis, will oversee the program at TJ. Ed would like to meet us in the future, and he can offer a zoom time to answer any questions. At this time, the corona virus is making all plans uncertain, so it will be awhile before this happens. In the meantime, day program attendees will be recruited to begin the program when our Governor's guidelines and The Gathering Club East staff considers it safe for everyone to operate the program.

If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Sisti Wade at bigole@aol.com Thanks!



Stuffed Animal Sleepover at TJUC!

Although people still cannot get together in person, stuffed animals can! There will be a Stuffed Animal Sleepover at the church the weekend of August 14-16. The sleepover will be chaPAWroned by Barry O’Bear and his sister, Winnie O’Bear- two very responsible long-time members of the congregation. Dolls are welcome too!

We’ll be posting photos of our stuffed animal friends’ activities on the TJUC Facebook page for everyone of all

ages to enjoy!

Registration: Please register your stuffed animal in advance, so we can have a name tag ready to welcome them. Use this [online form](#).

Drop-off: Please place your stuffed animal in a sturdy bag (like a paper grocery bag) with their name and your name on it. Drop them off at the front entrance on Friday, August 14, between 5 and 7 p.m. Please stay in your car and wait for Barb Friedland to come get the bag with your stuffie. Stuffies will then stay in quarantine overnight. If it’s impossible for you to drop off your stuffie on August 14, please email Barb (barb@tjuc.org) to arrange an alternate drop-off time.

The sleep-over will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 15. The stuffed animals do fun things all day, spend the night, and will even have a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning. Be sure to keep an eye on the TJUC Facebook page to see your stuffie!

Pick-up: You can pick up your stuffed animal on Sunday, August 16, between 1 and 3 p.m. at the same place you dropped them off. Again, please stay in your car, and Barb Friedland will bring your stuffie to your car, in their bag. We recommend that you leave your stuffed animal in quarantine for a day or two when you get home (don’t worry, we’ll give them some snacks to tide them over until they get out of quarantine). If it’s impossible for you to pick up your stuffie on August 16, please email Barb (barb@tjuc.org) to arrange an alternate drop-off time.

HEART-BROKEN OPEN

A Seminar about grief with the pandemic, racial injustice, death of a loved one or financial crisis.

AUGUST 8, 2020, 10AM-11:30 AM (Break),

12:30 pm-1:30 pm (Break) 2-3 pm:

Contact: Joyce Dillon, RN, MN, BCC 404-824-7332 or jjdillon@mindspring.com

Register Now:

\$127.00

MAPPING OUR ASCENT -- TOWARD A NEW SETTLED MINISTRY



12. Board and congregational votes
11. Candidate meets with congregants
10. Search committee recommendation
9. Committee hears candidate sermons at neutral pulpit sites
8. Pre-candidating visits with committee
7. First round of interviews
6. Congregational record shared with candidates
5. Input from congregational focus groups and "cottage meetings"
4. Host diversity workshop "Beyond Categorical Thinking"
3. Conduct congregational survey
2. Search committee training with UUA Transitions Coach
1. Congregation selects Settled Ministry Search Committee



Family Circle Gatherings

@ 10:00 a.m. on Sundays

Family Circle is a time to simply BE together. Bring a chalice or candle with you to light and an actual something to share (your pet perhaps?) or maybe something you have on your mind that you want others to know about. We usually have a story and then share the meaning we get from it. We have music too! DLFE Barb facilitates and new families are welcome to join us.

The gathering will end no later than 10:45 a.m. so folks can get to the online service on time. Please try to sign on between 9:55 and 10:00 a.m.

Family Circle meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82279796690>

Meeting ID: 822 7979 6690

Talk Time 4 Parents



Folks in parenting roles have been through a lot these past few months and now the prospect of school starting up in one form or another and an uncertain future loom ahead. DLFE Barb will facilitate a gathering for sharing concerns and supporting each other via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83110580473>



Be in the know about everything coming up in our Family Ministry program via our special newsletter, The Family Ministry Buzz. If this newsletter is not arriving in your inbox and you don't want to miss out on all the buzz, please send your best email address to DLFE Barb (barb@tjuc.org) and she'll get you subscribed.

Call from the Past

From the heights of the Andes, the jungle, and the desert, from the depth of the sea, from a time that was, from a time that stretches beyond our memory, we are called.

Our histories stretch back to the first people, the first steps, the collision of worlds, to abrupt beginnings, all wanderers of this land. We have inherited the unfinished labor of our ancestors, of those that came before us. We are called to continue the work

By Tania Márquez

Immigrant Justice Team – News



Food Baskets - Update

La Casita is happy to report that, for now, they have closed their request for food basket donations. They were able to do so because the program was met with such success due to community contributions.

Thanks to our fellow congregants who kindly & generously donated Food Baskets!

ICIJ Fundraising Goals for La Casita Center- Update

TJUC is a member church of the Louisville Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ICIJ).

Now more than ever, we are grateful for the intelligent, compassionate leadership provided by the staff of La Casita Center, and for the circle of solidarity that encompasses all who are served by, work at, or support La Casita Center.

Each year member churches are asked to raise funds to meet **staffing needs at La Casita Center**. Over the last 3 years, the ICIJ has raised an average of \$43,000 a yr in donations. This yr the goal is to raise **\$46,000**, and the ICIJ recently reported that it has raised \$19,595 toward that goal.

If you are moved to contribute to this goal, please consider giving a tax-deductible donation/pledge by:

- Use the PayPal/Donate link at kitlouisville.weebly.com. **The PayPal link also allows you to make a pledge over time.**
- Send a check payable to KITLAC to PO Box 6433, Louisville KY 40206. Note "ICIJ/LCC" on the memo line.



New Member Spotlight - Mary Ann Lasseter

Mary Ann was the RE Director from 1989-1996 at TJ before leaving Louisville for Atlanta, Ga. She missed her RE Director job and decided to apply to be a substitute teacher in her local school system. Mary Ann also decided to get her Master's in Education and shortly thereafter got her Doctorate in School Improvement at the University of West Georgia and became involved in professional development for educators.

In 2009, she became a School Improvement Specialist with the Georgia Department of Education and traveled throughout the state working with schools and educators on improving their teaching abilities and helping them create positive learning environments.

After a couple of knee replacements due to playing tennis, Mary Ann decided to retire from the Ga. Department of Education. She then did some private consulting work with various school systems. In 2017, Mary Ann fully retired to spend time at home with her husband and two dogs and one cat.

Being a fan of Ruth Bader Ginsberg, she began working with a personal trainer two years ago.

Mary Beth and Mary Ann are thrilled to be back in touch with all of their TJ family through zoom. The fact that Mary Ann and Mary Beth live in Georgia and Colorado and are able to attend church via zoom is just amazing.

"When the world seems upside down it wonderful to be able to connect with our finds of the heart and soul at TJ".

TJUC Endowment Fund

FY2019-2020 Grant Announcement

Your Endowment Board is very pleased to announce that for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 2020, the balance of TJ's endowment fund grew by 52.5% to end the year at \$472,074. This highly unusual growth is due primarily to \$136,000 received from the UUA matching funds campaign.

For any fiscal year in which your endowment fund increases in value, the growth percentage (2.5% maximum), will be applied to the end of year balance to determine the amount available for grants to benefit the church.

For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the maximum funding percentage of 2.5% will be applied to the year end balance of \$472,074, resulting in available grant funds of \$11,802.

Any member of TJUC is welcome to submit a proposal for some or all of the available grant monies. The form for proposal submission is attached. This year, the due date for submitting proposals to Debbie Horvay, Church Administrator, is **Friday, August 21st, 2020.**

Our bylaws state that grant monies are for "the accomplishment of good works and acts of beneficence, and for conferring honors, as appropriate to the goals and purposes of the church."

Traditionally, endowment grants have focused on physical improvements or additions to the church property (e.g. replacement windows, solar panels, etc.). However, we want to make clear that proposals need not be limited to those areas.

Any proposal that increases the vitality of the church by spurring membership growth or deepening the commitment of current members is a valid use of endowment funds. Some areas of potential grant proposals include:

- Activities that build awareness and understanding of TJ within the community (e.g. events, workshops, PR placements, website enhancements)
- Funding the appearance of speakers, musicians, or other notable individuals for special services.
- Activities that help us deliver on our justice center initiatives.

As you consider ideas for proposals, it's important to distinguish between expenditures that 1) make a real impact versus 2) those that simply fill budget gaps. The former infuse energy into the congregation, promoting a growing and prosperous membership. These are the types of expenditures suitable for grants. The latter acts as a band-aid for meeting ordinary expenses and are unsuitable for grants. In short, ask yourself, "Would this proposal move TJ forward?"

The Endowment committee will review all proposal submissions in coordination with other TJUC committees to ensure the proposal is in keeping with the endowment fund's mission and is free of potential conflicts.

Proposals that pass the review process will be voted on by the entire church membership at the October congregational meeting. The proposal receiving the highest number of votes will receive the grant funding. It is possible that multiple proposals will be funded if their combined costs fall below the monies available. In the event that no proposals pass the committee review process, no grants will be awarded for the year and the available funds will be reinvested.

If you have any questions or feedback concerning your endowment fund or its grant-making guidelines, **please feel free to send an email to todd.gruenig@gmail.com**

[Click here for the proposal form](#)

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ELAINE BELCHER



Elaine was born in Latrobe, Pennsylvania and grew up in Newark, Ohio.

She graduated from Ohio State University and attended Plymouth Congregational Church in Newark, Ohio. Elaine has three grown children, three grandchildren, and an adorable cat and dog.

She enjoys walking her dog, and is a naturalist/photographer. Until Covid-19, she was working two jobs seven days a week...a school bus driver for 17 years and a hostess at Frisch's.

Elaine met us through zoom and has enjoyed our Sunday services very much.



THANK YOU to all who generously donated \$595 to Louisville Grows during the May Share The Plate collection. Your support will plant trees in Louisville's hottest neighborhoods thus cooling our city, cleaning our air.

Impact Climate Change one tree at a time!

Patricia "Pat" Webb's Shared Story:

Patricia "Pat" Webb, 81, of Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on Saturday, June 13, 2020. TJ would like to share her past "story" as a tribute to our beloved member of our community.

Pat was a member of Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church. Pat was one of three nurses who started the clinical program of Hospice in Louisville in 1978, and volunteered with that program for 40 years. She was a recipient of WLKY Bell Award for her volunteer work. Pat is survived by her loving Husband of 59 years, George Webb, Son Jeffrey Webb, Daughter, Diane Webb, Grandchildren, Ella Webb, Noah Webb, and C.J. Burton.

"I was raised in a rural Presbyterian church in western Illinois where I took part in all activities and believed pretty much everything I was told.

In 1969, my family moved to the Phoenix, AZ area. Realizing we needed something different from the church I was raised in, we started searching for a church that had some interest in social justice issues. We were referred to Catholic, Quaker and Unitarian. My family found the Unitarian church and decided to give it a try. The service was a "tongue-in-cheek" one based on gospel hymns. One of the members could really play those hymns we were raised with! The minister was anxious for us to know that it was an unusual service, and we should come back to a more serious one. This church really resonated with us and from then on, we were Unitarians.

When we moved to Louisville, I joined TJ in 1977. The church had fallen on hard times with the minister leaving and membership down. However, there were several individuals who were determined that the church would survive, and they made that happen. For the next few years, the church existed as a fellowship without a minister.

Starting Something New

The Rev. Dawn Cooley, Justice Center Coordinator

When I had the honor of delivering the opening worship at the UUA General Assembly in 2016 (in Columbus, OH), I preached on how we are better together - stronger, smarter, braver, more creative. In many ways, this is the “one sermon” that I preach variations of over and over. You’ll get to hear the newest variation on August 16. Unfortunately, due to zoom constraints, I won’t be able to end the way we did at General Assembly - singing “We’re All In This Together”, the finale from *High School Musical* - *complete with a flash mob dancing up on the stage!*

But these days, it’s the *first song from that musical that I’ve been thinking about* - “*Start of Something New*” - *because we are starting something new by turning the TJUC Justice Center into the Kentucky UU Justice Action Network (KUJJAN). Something new. Something risky. Something exciting and unique and wonderful that has the potential to change the landscape of justice in our state and change our congregations, too!*

We had our first meeting of KUJJAN in July, and we had people from around the state, representing all 3 Louisville congregations (including a great TJUC turnout!), Bowling Green, Lexington, and St. John's in Cincinnati! And I heard back from several other congregations that were interested but unable to attend. So all in all, a GREAT turnout!

[Here is the video of the meeting](#) that you can watch and you can look at the [powerpoint that I used](#), too. But if you only click on one link in this article, [make it this one](#), which is a video that shares what UU State Action Networks are about. The video is a bit old and has some out of date information (the state action networks are now a [Coalition of UU State Action Networks](#)), but I can’t watch it without getting weepy with hope and joy and possibility and pride and *all the feels!*

There are so many possibilities for our new UU state action network. There was a lot of energy around working with KFTC and UU the Vote on a get-out-the-vote effort here in Kentucky. We will do more shared curriculum and workshops, like the [antiracism book discussion series](#), and bring in special speakers from the UUA world and beyond - things that maybe one congregation can’t do but that a bunch of us working together can. We might participate in lobby days for some of our potential partner organizations - like Fairness Day, Reproductive Justice Day, Solar Network Day, and who knows, maybe we will have our *own lobby day sometime! KUJJAN will undoubtedly do phone and online advocacy campaigns with our frontline partners, and maybe we’ll even work with our two UU state legislators: Rep. Kelly Flood & Rep. Lisa Wilner.*

I am working on our next steps right now, but if you are interested in participating it is not too late. You can [fill out this form](#) to let me know your thoughts on the name for our state action network and to let me know how you would like to participate!

The generosity of this congregation is enabling something new to start - something exciting and full of potential. I am excited to be a part of it and I hope you are, too.

All Water is One Water

Water unites us. All water is one water, shape-shifting as it goes on and on in its unending cycle. The stream we gather by unites us with all the waters of the world, for all of life depends on water.

That's why this common, everyday element on which our very lives depend is sacred.

In our thankfulness for water, let us remember to honor, cherish, and care for it—for our own lives, for all life touched by water, and for those who come after us.

Mel Hoover, Rose Edington

Convenient Website Features - Check Them Out!

Membership Directory: The button is now located at the bottom of the Home Page! Look up a phone number or address. Establish your personal user name and password ONE TIME, and get in quickly after that!

Community Bulletin Board: For TJ members' special announcements- located under *Community Tab* (note: not for personal sales)

TJ Website Offers TWO ways to join Sunday zoom services: You no longer need to worry about waiting for an office email zoom link invitation each week! The zoom link invitation will be **recurring**: the same zoom link every Sunday. And it will be located on the home page of TJ's website all the time!

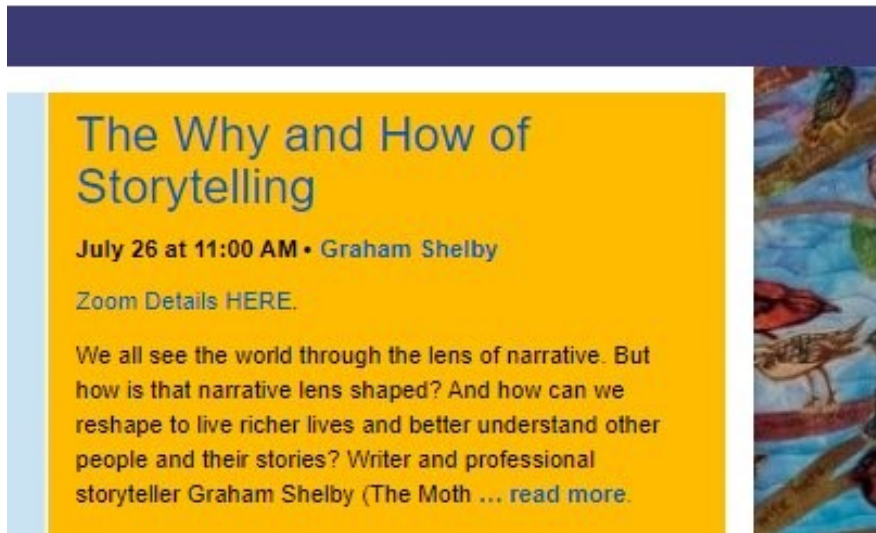
There are **TWO WAYS** to join Zoom from the TJ website, www.tjuc.org :

1. Click on the blue text: **SUNDAY SERVICES: 11:00AM** (top right on website) to directly join the service
2. or, Click on the Sunday Service announcement on the home page- top right. ([Click here for Zoom details](#))

This will take you to the zoom instruction page for an option to "[click to join](#)" directly or further instructions for phone users. We hope this makes it easy for members and newcomers to join our services! (check it out on your website before Sunday-any questions, call the office before Friday 3pm 502-425-6943)

See the picture below to show the two options:

SUNDAY SERVICE: 11:00AM



The image shows a screenshot of a website announcement. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the text "SUNDAY SERVICE: 11:00AM" in white. Below this is a yellow rectangular box with a light blue border on the left side. The text inside the yellow box reads: "The Why and How of Storytelling" in a large, bold, dark blue font. Below this, in a smaller, bold, dark blue font, it says "July 26 at 11:00 AM • Graham Shelby". Underneath that, in a smaller, dark blue font, it says "Zoom Details HERE.". At the bottom of the yellow box, there is a paragraph of text: "We all see the world through the lens of narrative. But how is that narrative lens shaped? And how can we reshape to live richer lives and better understand other people and their stories? Writer and professional storyteller Graham Shelby (The Moth ... read more.". To the right of the yellow box, there is a vertical strip of a colorful painting depicting various birds and a person in a boat.

Patricia "Pat" Webb's Shared Story:

Patricia "Pat" Webb, 81, of Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on Saturday, June 13, 2020. TJ would like to share her past "story" as a tribute to our beloved member of our community.

Pat was a member of Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church. Pat was one of three nurses who started the clinical program of Hospice in Louisville in 1978, and volunteered with that program for 40 years. She was a recipient of a WLKY Bell Award for her volunteer work. Pat is survived by her loving Husband of 59 years, George Webb, Son, Jeffrey Webb, Daughter, Diane Webb, Grandchildren, Ella Webb, Noah Webb, and C.J. Burton.

"I was raised in a rural Presbyterian church in western Illinois where I took part in all activities and believed pretty much everything I was told.

In 1969, my family moved to the Phoenix, AZ area. Realizing we needed something different from the church I was raised in, we started searching for a church that had some interest in social justice issues. We were referred to Catholic, Quaker and Unitarian. My family found the Unitarian church and decided to give it a try. The service was a "tongue-in-cheek" one based on gospel hymns. One of the members could really play those hymns we were raised with! The minister was anxious for us to know that it was an unusual service, and we should come back to a more serious one. This church really resonated with us and from then on, we were Unitarians.

When we moved to Louisville, I joined TJ in 1977.

I admire the openness and the dedication of the people here, and it is a privilege to share this church with all of you."



Community Means Strength

We are all longing to go home to some place
we have never been—a place half-remembered and half-envisioned
we can only catch glimpses of from time to time.

Community.

Somewhere, there are people to whom we can speak with passion
without having the words catch in our throats.

Somewhere a circle of hands
will open to receive us, eyes will light up as we enter,
voices will celebrate with us whenever we come into our own power.

Community means strength
that joins our strength to do the work that needs to be done.

Arms to hold us when we falter.

A circle of healing.

A circle of friends.

Someplace where we can be free.

Starhawk from *Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex, and Politics* (Beacon

Join the Conversation

WANTED: SMALL STUDY GROUP MEMBERS

It's Time to Make a Good Thing Better:

A proposal: Amend the 4th Unitarian Universalist "Sources of Inspiration" Statement

Our current 4th Source statement invites Jews and Christians to bring cherished teachings from their own traditions into Unitarian Universalist worship and discourse, it does not extend this invitation to **Muslims** as well.

Learn About Islam



For eight weeks, in 2019, *The Salaam Network* had the honor of presenting a Series on "Islamic Contributions to World Civilization" in the Fall Open Campus program at the Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church. It has been a source of great encouragement to us that our classes have been well-attended and well-received. The focus of eighth class - the last one in this Series - is the relevance of Islam to contemporary

Unitarian Universalist congregations and a review of the proposal initiated by UU Reverend Craig Moro to include Islam in the 4th Source.

You are invited to continue expanding your understanding of UU and Muslim teachings. Deadline August 31st

What's Right with Islam

A sermon by the Rev. J. Mark Worth

Harvard UU Church

Insights into connections between UU's and Muslims.

<https://uuharvard.org/services/whats-right-islam/>

CONTACT DENNIS IF INTERESTED IN JOINING A SMALL STUDY GROUP TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE 4TH SOURCE OF INSPIRATION.

dennisneyman@icloud.com

I can feel the suffering of millions
and yet, if I look up into the heavens,
I think it will all come right,
and that this cruelty too will end,
and that peace and tranquility will return again.
In the meantime,
I must uphold my ideals,
for perhaps the time will come
when I shall be able to carry them out.

from *The Diary of Anne Frank in Day by Day*, ed. Chaim Stern (Beacon Press)

Fall 2020 Open Campus Schedule

Offered by the ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) Committee

Mark your calendars. Open Campus is coming this Fall. The Louisville community is encouraged to join Thomas Jefferson (TJ) members and friends for various **free** classes being held during the period September 2 through November 11. Check out the classes and their dates below. All classes will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and offered remotely by computer using Zoom meeting software (instructions to access your class will be provided prior to the beginning of each class). Be sure to sign up on-line at TJ's church website or by contacting Alan Godsave by email at aqodsave1@gmail.com.

Open Campus Schedule: September 2-November 11

Zines – A Crash Course in Experimental Self-Publishing. Claire Krueger, Facilitator. Wednesday evenings. Sep 2, 9, 16, 23

Class Description: Zines are self-published booklets aimed at inclusivity, unregulated self-expression, and connection over shared ideas. They are easy to make, easy to trade, and are also a great place to experiment with ideas—they are low-pressure enough that it does not hurt to try and fail or follow a tangent somewhere new. Anyone can make a zine about anything; art, writing, photography, how-to and more. Learn about the history of self-published media and how to make your own. We will talk about various techniques and topics will include content, formatting, and design. Teens are also encouraged to sign up. Materials to be provided by participants include paper, scissors, ruler, marking materials (pencils, markers, pens, etc.), and other household items at participant discretion.

Soul Seeking – A Spiritual Practices Group. Nancy Thomas, Facilitator. Monday evenings. Sep 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Class Description. We cannot see it, but we know or at least hope it is there. It is frustrating because we are more comfortable with the tangible elements of our lives. But what about the things that go bump in the night? Our fears, our joys, our hopes and dreams, our grief? How do we interact with something we cannot see? How do we nurture it? Make peace with it? Descartes said, "I think, therefore I am," but thinking is just another aspect of our soul—what identifies us as separate from giraffes or chickens. We can learn to "soul" ourselves into a better place. And this class will offer an opportunity to do just that: an opportunity to, first, define the heretofore indefinable, next to explore that aspect of ourselves that we may not have acknowledged or have only the vaguest notion of. Sharing in this group will be strictly optional—feel free to just listen or share when you feel like it. We will meet as a group, but also in zoom rooms. You are encouraged to keep a journal with suggestions provided each session for topics on which to focus—but again, this is optional. We will learn from each other, but also from great and soulful figures of the past—like the author of the Tao, for instance. Let the journey begin.

The Path of Hope (focused on climate change). Rev. Dawn Cooley, Facilitator. Tuesday evenings. Sep 29, Oct 6, 13, 20

Class Description. The Path of Hope focuses on how climate change already is impacting the humanitarian ministries of faith communities around the world; how those impacts will increase in the future; and why those impacts create an imperative for people of faith to support strong US climate action in 2020. The videos feature interviews with US faith leaders; representatives of impacted communities from the global South; and presentations by UN officials and other climate experts. The Path of Hope includes a discussion guide that asks participants to think deeply about how their own local faith community's direct service programs intersect with climate impacts, and how knowledge and experiences gained through these programs might help to inform climate policy. The study's Action Center provides practical, step-by-step instructions for advocacy activities, as well as recommended policy asks for local, state, and national leaders.

Climate Change Mitigation in Louisville. Wallace McMullen, Facilitator. Tuesday evening. Oct 27

Class Description. This will be an evening about applying the knowledge and ideas from the climate series led by Rev. Cooley to our situation here in Louisville. Experienced leaders will provide focus on advocacy and actions which we can undertake here as a community of faith to mitigate our climate negative impacts, and those we can undertake to have a positive effect on climate mitigation in Louisville. Expect to hear about current efforts underway at the time of this workshop.

Welcoming Congregation – Renewal; Honoring our Commitment to the Spiritual Practice of Welcoming LBBTQ+ People. Rhonda Barnett, Lesley Henney, and Ellen Wade - Facilitators. Wednesday evenings. Sep 30, Oct 7, 14, 21

Class Description. TJUC has been a Welcoming Congregation since 2000, when we began the work to make sure LGBTQ+ people were full members of our faith community. Now is the time for us to embark on a journey that the UUA calls Welcoming Congregation Renewal, where we recommit our efforts toward the work of living into the Welcome that we boldly proclaim. In this class we will find out what the 5 practices of Welcoming Congregation Renewal are. From listening to guest speakers, and watching a film and a webinar, we will also learn about current successes and challenges in achieving LGBTQ+ justice and equity, and how to work toward achieving it.

Continuing the Conversation – Add Islam to UU Sources of Inspiration. Joe Brennan, Riffat Hassan, and Dennis Neyman - Facilitators. Wednesday evenings. Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13

Class Description: Using videos, readings, interviews with Muslim UU's, and brief lectures, participants will explore the relevance of Islam to contemporary UU congregations. "It's Time to Make a Good Thing Better": A proposal to change the 4th Unitarian Universalist "Sources of Inspiration" statement. Our current 4th Source statement invites Jews and Christians to bring cherished teachings from their own traditions into Unitarian Universalist worship and discourse, it does not extend this invitation to Muslims as well.

Spiritual Roots and Branches: How and What We Believe. Rev. Kathy Hurt, Facilitator. Thursday evenings. Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5

Class Description: This class considers where and how Unitarian Universalists, who tend to be eclectic in our spirituality, develop our individual beliefs, and how our individual beliefs shape the overall spiritual perspective and practices of the churches we join. We will do some tracing of our personal and collective spiritual roots to see how varied experiences shape our beliefs (including those beliefs we reject), where our growing spiritual edges might be as individuals and as a community, where we are open to changes of belief and where we keep the doors of change nailed shut. Classes will be a mix of presentation and discussion and interaction, with some homework assignments.

Please Note: Due to the challenges presented by the pandemic, there will be no **Kick-off Dinner** for Fall 2020 Open Campus. We hope to offer a kick-off dinner in January for the Winter 2021 Open Campus.

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church
4936 Brownsboro Road Hwy. 22
Louisville, KY 40222

Return Service Requested

August 2020
Edition 659

Even when our hearts are broken
by our own failure
or the failure of others
cutting into our lives,
even when we have done all we can
and life is still broken,
there is a Universal Love
that has never broken faith with us
and never will.

Rebecca Parker

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church
4936 Brownsboro Rd (Hwy 22)
Louisville, KY 40222

9:30 am - Adult Religious Education
11:00 am - Sunday Service
11:00 am - Family Ministry Groups

425-6943 debbie@tjuc.org www.tjuc.org

Rev. Kathy Hurt, *Interim Minister* - call for an appointment - 425-6943

Barb Friedland, *Director Lifespan Faith Engagement*
Office hours 10:00 AM– 4:00 PM Tuesday through Friday. Email to Barb@tjuc.org
Messages may be left for her outside of these hours at (502) 425-6943

Janet Taylor, *Congregational Life Coordinator*,
(502) 425-6943

Debbie Horvay *Administrator/Newsletter Editor*
Monday - Friday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Ellen Wade, *Rental Coordinator*
Weddings and Rentals 502-905-4408

Office hours: Monday thru Friday
9:30 am to 4:30 pm
(502) 425-6943