

All Peoples Tapestry

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

April 2021 Edition 667

The Monthly Newsletter of All Peoples, a Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Sunday Services

In April our services consider the theme of becoming, a theme that resonates with the new life of springtime, with the new freedoms that appear with more vaccinations, with the new possibilities that accompany a new settled minister. There is a sense in which we are always becoming, never entirely finished, especially as Unitarian Universalists who commit ourselves to the ongoing search for truth and meaning. But at times our becoming takes on an urgency, a deeper force, as we move through a transition into a way of being that was not present before. Our April services explore these many facets of becoming.

April 5: Easter Sunday: “Practice Resurrection” - Rev. Kathy Hurt

– Inspired by poet Wendell Berry, this multigenerational service reflects on the special images of becoming that the Easter story offers, where life returns but in an utterly changed form.



April 11: “Come, Come, Whoever You Are” - Guest: Rev. Craig Moro

is one of the best-known and most loved hymns in the Unitarian Universalist movement, and for good reason! But did you know that it’s based on a poem that was written in the Farsi (Persian) language, over 800 years ago? What does the broad mind and big heart behind the original have to offer us today, when big hearts and broad minds seem to be scarce in our public discourse?

Rev. Moro serves as the minister of the Wy’est’s UU Congregation in Portland, OR. He has traveled and studied the world over. He is a scholar and his sermons are known for blending scholarship with plain speech and a sense of humor. He has been working for years to change the 4th Unitarian Universalist Sources of Inspiration to include Islam, along with the inspiration statements from the Jewish and Christian traditions. FYI Ramadan 2021 begins April 12th and ends in the evening of May 12th.

April 18: “Birth, Rebirth, and Born Again” -Rev. Kathy Hurt

– Spiritual traditions may present the theme of becoming in terms of a kind of birth, a second birth or a new birth. Does spiritual birth mean starting all over? Does our becoming just build on what came before, or can it send us in a completely new direction? This service explores the notions of spiritual birth and how it shows up in our lives, often without our having chosen it.

April 26: “Breaking Loose” - Rev. Kathy Hurt

– Often with new life we experience a burst of energy and inspiration. How do we put that aspect of becoming to use? Many talk of vaccinations as allowing us to “go back to the way things were”—but is going back wise, if it is even possible? This service considers what the energies of becoming invite us to do, measured against the temptation to stay put or go backwards.

Interim Reflections



One of the most familiar and beloved parables recounted in the Biblical book of Luke is the parable of the Good Samaritan. To recall it, the parable tells how a Jewish man was waylaid by robbers while traveling, beaten, and left for dead. Two supposedly admirable, even holy types, a priest and a scholar, passed by the man and could not be bothered to stop and render aid. Then along came a Samaritan, a known enemy of anyone Jewish (the Jews and the Samaritans had a long history of despising one another), and the Samaritan not only cared for the injured person but carried him to an inn where he could rest and recover, and paid for the lodging charges.

This parable is typically interpreted as a lesson about being kind to one's enemies, and kindness to enemies is indeed a theme in many spiritual teachings. But Irish poet and theologian Padraig O Tuama gives the parable a different interpretive twist by suggesting that it challenges us to consider when and how we might be willing to accept the kindness of one of our own enemies. Would I allow someone I despised to, say, help me if my car broke down? Or even more unsettling, would I allow someone I despised to assist me after a bad fall, lift me, take me to a doctor? What would it mean for an enemy to be kind to me?

As I watch the continued dispiriting polarization in our politics, I sometimes wonder whether our leaders are so dug in that they are not even willing to accept help from sworn enemies on the other side of the aisle. Can they no longer see their opponents as anything other than opponents? And is any sort of support from an opponent no longer deemed worthy? Is purity, purity in belief and in politics, the only measure of who we team up with?

I have seen these questions percolate down to the level of congregational dynamics at times. In a previous congregation I served, we incurred the outrage of some neighboring UU churches when we partnered to build homes in Tijuana with a conservative Christian organization known to regard homosexuality as a sin, a value utterly opposed to our values. More recently, we watched our downtown UU Louisville neighbors welcome as sanctuary allies people and groups who were armed, again a value contrary to church positions as gun-free sites. In discussing this development with some of our social justice leaders, a comment especially struck me: "do we insist that the partners we do justice work with must accept our values in every respect?"

Or, as Tuama put it in his discussion of the parable, are we willing to be aided by someone we are more often judging to be our enemy? I want to believe that as UUs who typically do not view the world in dualistic terms, we are open to seeing others in all their contradictions and complexities, just as we want them to see us.

In faith, hope, and love,

Kathy

FINAL ISSUE OF THE TAPESTRY

This issue will be the last issue of the Tapestry, as we are suspending publication while we experiment with some new ways of communicating church news to all of you. Going forward, if you have news you would usually want to appear in the Tapestry, go ahead and send that to the church office, in a timely fashion, and it will be incorporated into the weekly update. Be mindful that the weekly update is intended for short news alerts--so lengthy articles will not be included. Focus on the date/time, and a brief description of the news, accompanied with a name and contact information if you are inviting people to learn more or participate in some fashion.

We expect over time to refashion the weekly update so it can accommodate a variety of presentations of information. For now, it will continue to be brief and focused. Thanks for your understanding.

Board Notes - April 2021

Welcome to the April edition of Board Notes. The March meeting was jam-packed and these Board Notes reflect that!

- Wait, stop, deep breath. What we've said is that we are suspending – NOT terminating – our Tapestry. This April issue will be the last that Debbie Horvay, our Congregational administrator, edits. Then, we want to take a pause, and explore our communications and whether a monthly Tapestry is the right kind of newsletter to be writing.
 - * We know that only about 50% of people open the monthly Tapestry.
 - * We know it is very (very) long – longer than any newsletter at any church Rev. Kathy has served.
 - * We know that it takes a tremendous effort to create.
 - * We know that few other UU churches have this kind of long monthly newsletter.
- Aaron Davidson – who is also our instrumentalist – is stepping in for Debbie as we reconsider what we need and want her old job to be. Aaron has been learning the ropes from Debbie but the Board feels that adding the May Tapestry to his list of things to learn is just one thing too many.
- What are the options? Can we create a Tapestry that 80% of our mailing list opens? What do people enjoy reading? Maybe we could do weekly Tapestries, nicely organized and easy to read with timely information. Maybe add in a quarterly Tapestry with thoughtful pieces about church life? Or, maybe go back to our monthly Tapestry. All to-be-determined. Send your comments to president@tjuc.org.
- As has been mentioned in the Board Notes since Fall, the Board negotiated an agreement with Hagan Properties about the proposed development of the property next door to us. The developer will build and maintain a wall along our common property line and wrap it around to the back of our property. The intent of this wall is to keep hundreds of apartment-dwelling dogs from using our beautiful grounds as their toilet. The Board of Trustees feels that the agreement is in the best interests of All Peoples for this and several other important reasons. We do want you to know that as part of the agreement, All Peoples – as a church – has promised not to oppose the development. Individuals are free to express their own opinions. There will be a Town Hall to share specifics of the agreement on Tuesday, 3-30, at 7 pm.
- The Settled Minister Search Team will know within the week who our final candidate for minister is. Very exciting! See the article by the Search Team elsewhere in this newsletter for more detail.
- The Board has approved a new communications policy that specifically honors the privacy of individual contact information and makes it clear that the mailing list (email and snail mail) is only to be used for official church communications; individuals are not to create mass mailings to members and friends of All Peoples. This new policy is not intended to inhibit private communications among friends.
- The BOT has decided to apply for a second round of PPP. We qualify for it, given that our rental income is down significantly.
- The BOT decided to fund a review of our cyber- security procedures.
- A new logo has been developed and approved by the Board. It will be unveiled asap.
- UUA General Assembly: We have a total of 5 delegates who can represent All Peoples at GA this summer – to be held virtually on June 23-27, 2021. If you are interested, please let the office (Debbie or Aaron) know. We may have some money available in the budget to fund full or partial attendance at GA this year. Registration costs \$200.
- Our new name – All Peoples – is officially changed with the State of Kentucky and the bank, so you can write any checks to All Peoples now!
- The Board meets on April 11 by Zoom at 1 pm. Members are welcome. If interested in attending, call or write Deborah Novgorodoff.

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



THE EIGHTH PRINCIPLE

WHY SINGLE OUT RACISM?

- At a global level, this would not necessarily make sense (for instance, the oppression of women is fundamental to poverty and lack of development in many areas), but in the USA, racism stands out. The two worst crises of the UUA (late 1960's and now) were both related to race. Racism in the US stems from chattel slavery, where people were uniquely legally treated as property that could be

inherited, for something (skin color) they had no control over.

- The UUA has done well with women becoming ministers and leaders (the 7 Principles themselves came out of the Women's Movement within UUism).
- The LGBTQIA+ community is well represented as members, ministers, RE staff, and other leadership in individual congregations and the UUA, and the Welcoming Congregation program has been very effective (we could use something similar for racism); we have also made good progress with people who are differently abled.

The UUA, the US, and the world also have a lot of problems deeply based in economic class oppression (as MLK realized, in addition to militarism and materialism); this Principle includes that, but is not highlighting it.

WHAT IS BELOVED COMMUNITY?

Beloved Community happens when people of diverse racial, ethnic, educational, class, gender, sexual orientation backgrounds/identities come together in an interdependent relationship of love, mutual respect, and care that seeks to realize justice within the community and in the broader world.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE ACCOUNTABLE?

White UUs hold themselves accountable to communities of color, to make sure whites do what they say they will do. In practice, that can mean having a People of Color Caucus within congregations, districts, etc., to discern and express needs and concerns to the rest of the community. Black UUs hold each other accountable and help each other see and dismantle signs of internalized racism. We need an *effective* mechanism or structure to ensure this. Similarly for other oppressions.

"A little bit of meditation is better than no meditation. Two minutes is better than zero minutes.

Consistency sends a signal to your whole system, to the divine, to the planet that you want to serve that you're showing up, that your attention is there. Just give it two minutes on the days you've just got two minutes. You're signaling your system that you're committed; that you're attending to all of you...[Y]ou're giving what you've got to give that day, and that's the important part.

And when the days come when you've got fifteen minutes of open space—and maybe that fifteen minutes, for you, turns into twenty or thirty or it's an hour to sit; whatever feels like nourishing grace—those are the days when you have it to give.

Just show up with what you've got to give that day. It makes all the difference."

Danielle LaPorte

Welcoming Day of Observance
Lesbian Visibility Day

APRIL 26th



One of the 5 Practices of All Peoples Welcoming Congregation – *Renewal*, is that we recognize and celebrate what are referred to as Welcoming Days of Observance. These days are important to LGBTQ communities because they bring visibility and affirmation, after generations of invisibility and erasure.

This month we acknowledge APR 26 as Lesbian Visibility Day. This is a day to celebrate the world’s diverse lesbian community. The origins of the day are unknown, but it has been in place since 2008.

Lesbian Visibility Day provides a platform for lesbian role models to speak out on the issues facing female sexual minorities. It also serves to create awareness about the many stigmas and prejudices lesbians deal with — because lesbian-specific stigmas are still rampant both outside of and within the LGBTQ+ community.

Please visit this webpage <https://culturess.com/2019/04/26/lesbian-visibility-day-5-ways-you-can-make-a-difference/>. It provides links to articles about lesbian issues that are both informational and inspirational.

We Filled The Sanctuary with Light!

IllUmination



Easter Hunt for Justice Report!

For the first time since October, All Peoples Family Ministry program offered an outdoor in-person event. Families hunted for eggs containing “Chalice Change” tokens then decided which of four Louisville area charities they would like their tokens to benefit.

The folks who participated did an amazing job of nearly equally distributing their tokens:

- \$40 will go to Kentucky Humane Society: caring for animal friends!
- \$35 will go to Green Streets: an environmental justice organization currently raising funds for the expansion of the Portland Orchard Project, a one-acre community orchard in Louisville’s Portland neighborhood, and for the installation of a demonstration pollinator habitat.
- \$31 will go to Feed The West: a community food justice initiative for the West End, sponsored by Change Today, Change Tomorrow.
- \$37 will go to Black Lives Matter of Louisville: an organization supporting the dismantling of systemic oppression of black and brown people in our community.

A tip of the DLFE’s hat to our volunteer team:

Tish Moore
Jordan Friedland
Mark Friedland



EARTH DAY EVENT!

A healthy planet is not an option- it is a necessity.

Together, we will
fight climate change

Together, we will
**RESTORE OUR
EARTH**

The theme for Earth Day 2021 is Restore Our Earth and plans are percolating to hold a family friendly event outdoors during April at All Peoples. Stay tuned and watch the All Peoples Family Ministry Buzz weekly message and social media for details!



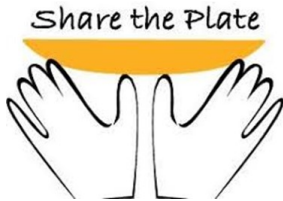


New Member Spotlight - Munni Ghosh

Munni is from Knoxville, TN where she grew up and went to college. She has a passion for different causes such as racial justice and climate change. As a child of immigrants from India, she had the incredible experience of learning about international religions and cultures, as well as, local religions and culture. Her parents came from Calcutta, India from where they brought a rich culture. Her roots come from the freedom movement of Mahatma Gandhi and Mother Teresa.

She went to the University of Tennessee for her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and USC for Healthcare Administration. During her time at UTK, she learned about South Asian religion, Buddhism, nutrition, and health education.

Amidst a very difficult fight with bipolar disorder she sought counseling. She desired becoming a part of a community where she could share ideas and learn new things. She shortly became a member of a UU church as a means to be a part of a community. She met many close and dear friends while being a member of this UU church, and decided to continue with the UU church after moving to



Share the Plate Collection – *Thank you*

During this time of holding virtual Worship Services, All Peoples has proudly continued to conduct its scheduled Share the Plate Collections in support of justice issues. Each month, our congregants can donate to the chosen charitable organization via the Give Plus link on church's website or by sending the donation to the church office.

In January, we raised \$2481.53 for **Dare to Care's** food bank (<https://daretocare.org>). These funds will assist local residents during this time of ongoing health and economic crises.

In February, \$459.93 was raised for **Green Streets** (<https://www.facebook.com/greenstreetsky/>) to help in the development and expansion of the Portland Orchard Project and related pollinator habitat.

Thank you to all who thoughtfully and generously donated to these worthy organizations.

"There is a hope that's been expressed in you: the hope of seven generations, maybe more.
And this is the faith that they invest in you: It's that you'll do one better than was done before.
Inside you know, inside you understand; inside you know what's yours to finally set right..."

—lyrics from the song "May I Suggest" Susan Werner

All Peoples Immigrant Justice Team – News

La Casita families need school supplies and uniforms!



This [Sign-Up Genius form](#) asks you to sign up to purchase specific supplies needed for specific students. You then **label** your donation with the designated student label.

Then, you can either:

* Drop off your donation at La Casita Center (223 East Magnolia Ave) during the weekly Thursday evening donation drive from 5-7pm. Donation nights are via drive thru in the alley behind the building and are COVID safe. Please wear a mask and

practice social distancing.

OR

* Contact Lesley Henney at L.henney18@gmail.com or 425-8063 to arrange for pick-up and delivery of your donations!



April's Share the Plate is the Green Sanctuary's Bright Idea Project.

Your contributions go to the purchase of LED bulbs. Every year the Green Sanctuary Committee chooses a nonprofit to receive the funds we collect. This year, the Green Sanctuary will donate our collection to Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light (KyIPL). KyIPL is currently working with a few congregations to decrease their energy use. Once the congregations are ready, KyIPL will purchase LED bulbs for them.



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:

Minister Search Update

March 29, 2021

The Settled Minister Search Committee has submitted the final rankings of our finalist candidates, and we hope to announce the successful recruitment of our new minister in early April. The next step will be arranging the **Candidating Week**, hopefully sometime from **mid-April to mid-May**. During this week (Sunday to Sunday) our candidate will have the opportunity to preach from our pulpit both Sundays and meet the congregation and staff. Following the second Sunday service, a special congregational meeting will take place during which the membership will vote **whether** to call the candidate as our settled minister. Our current bylaws require at least an 85% positive vote; UUA guidelines suggest that most candidates hope for at least a 90% vote of confidence.

Once our candidate has been identified, the search committee will work to arrange the Candidating Week. This will include several opportunities for the candidate to meet the congregation, staff, church leadership, and local clergy. We anticipate having both face-to-face and virtual events (and hybrids of the two), and we hope the weather will allow some outdoor events on our labyrinth. Of course, this will all depend on vaccination rates, current COVID-19 activity in the community, and church re-opening plans.

The Search Committee is thrilled to be at this stage in our settled minister search. We will do our best to ensure that all members of our congregation can “meet” our candidate, either in-person or virtually, so that all can vote in confidence. Stay tuned for more information on our candidate and Candidating Week coming to you soon!

Rick McChane
Chair, Search Committee



The invisibility of whiteness means that one doesn't have to notice that one is white. So there are people, and then there are black people. There are people and there are Latino people. And people—just people, just folks—turn out to be white, but we don't notice it.

White people have the luxury of not having to think about race. That is a benefit of being white, of being part of the dominant group. Just like men don't have to think about gender. The system works for you, and you don't have to think about it.

So they live in white space and then they don't have to think about it. First of all, they think about race as something that belongs to somebody else. The blacks have race; maybe Latinos have race; maybe Asians have race. But they're just white. They're just people. That's part of being white.

john a. powell

All Peoples, a UU Congregation
4936 Brownsboro Road Hwy. 22
Louisville, KY 40222

Return Service Requested

April 2021
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Never does hatred cease by hating in return; only through love can hatred come to an end.
Victory breeds hatred; the conquered dwell in sorrow and resentment.
They who give up all thought of victory or defeat may be calm and live happily at peace.
Let us overcome violence by gentleness; let us overcome evil by good;
Let us overcome the miserly by liberality; let us overcome the liar by truth.
—Dhammapada

All Peoples, a Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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*
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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 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

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