

*We will not win our rights by staying quietly in our closets.*

~ Harvey Milk

## GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ◆ Call to Community  
from *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Justice* - by Melissa Gibson
- ◆ Candles of Community/Prelude  
*Prelude in C Major* by J.S. Bach
- ◆ Chalice Lighting  
*The Pride Flame* - by Lina lee Franson\*
- ◆ Spoken Affirmation  
*Love is the spirit of this church and service is its law.  
This is our great covenant to dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in freedom and to help one another.*
- ◆ Lighting the Peace Candle

## EXPANDING OUR UNDERSTANDING

- ◆ Opening Thought  
*Draw the Circle Wide* - Mark A. Miller
- ◆ Song - 1000  
*Morning Has Come*  
performed by 1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian Church of Baltimore, MD
- ◆ Reading  
from *Speaking at the Launch of the Free and Equal Campaign in Cape Town* - by Desmond Tutu

## EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- ◆ Practices - with words, stillness, music  
*On Imagination and Being an Ally* by Doug Taylor\*\*  
Quiet Sitting for a Moment  
Musical Response
- ◆ Reading  
*Reconciling Ministries Network - UM Queer Collective Collaborates in Pursuit of Progress* -
- ◆ Song - 1021  
*Lean on Me*  
performed by Machael Tacy\*

## DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

- ◆ Discourse  
Gratitude for the UU from a UMC Minister  
The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies

## CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

- ◆ Giving  
*Those who wish may bring their gifts to the table*
- ◆ Closing Song - 1024  
*When the Spirit Says Do*  
performed by Mike Menefee\*
- ◆ Parting Thought  
from *March on Washington Speech, 2000*  
by Tammy Baldwin
- ◆ Extinguishing the Chalice  
*We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth,  
the warmth of community or the fire of commitment.  
these we carry in our hearts until we are together again.*
- ◆ Postlude - 1050  
*Jazz Alleluia*  
by Thomas Benjamin\*  
singing: UU Church of Concord

\*a Unitarian Universalist

\*\*a Unitarian Universalist Minister

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Returning this Sunay** is the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, who ventures from Oklahoma City to be with us twice monthly. You may read his bio on the church website and mobile app.

**Today is the Spring Congregational Meeting**. You may have guessed by the tables throughout the chapel. All are encouraged to stay and break bread with us. Members are planning on remaining for the spring meeting. Friends and visitors who may be curious are most welcome to witness congregational polity at play.

### Happenings this week:

- ◆ Overeaters Anonymous - Mon. 6-7 pm
- ◆ Spiritual Perspectives - Tuesday 6:30-8 pm

## WHO IS DOING WHAT THIS MORNING

- ◆ Board rep for May: *Amy Hoffman-Shehan*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Sherilyn Bolerjack*
- ◆ Guest minister: *the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies*
- ◆ AV crew: *Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes, Marla Loturco*
- ◆ Sunday school leader: *Jack Bolerjack*
- ◆ Providing lunch: *everybody who brought a dish to share*

## WELCOME VISITORS

*We are Unitarian Universalists. We are brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are people from many backgrounds who have different beliefs, but shared values.*

*Grounded in more than two hundred years of thoughtful, spiritual communities, we are people of many generations, ethnicities, genders and sexualities, and spiritual backgrounds. People engaged in making the world a better place. People focusing on what really matters - love, justice, integrity, and hope.*

*We are a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations have no minister which means members of the congregation manage the various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches. We have different beliefs, but shared values.*

*We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may Muslim, pagan, atheist, believers in God, and those who just let the great mystery be. The diversity of beliefs you'll find in our church community is one of our strengths - we're always learning how to see the world from a different perspective.*

*Learn more about us at your leisure by downloading our mobile app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the App Store (or use the QR code below.) This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today because all of who you are is welcome here.*

**NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024**

10 am - Adult Forum

**Field Guide to North American Wildlife**

11:15 am – The Morning Assembly

**Speaking Up When It isn't Easy.**

The Rev Dr Mark Y.A. Davies, *leading*

We are living through a time of great divisions, war, and strife. It is sometimes difficult and even risky to speak up for our understanding of justice in times like these. How can we speak for justice while also cultivating beloved community?

12:15 pm - Conversations & Calories

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QR to our mobile app



**SPIRITUALLY ALIVE**  
**JOYFULLY INCLUSIVE**  
**JUSTICE CENTERED**

# THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024

## SNAPSHOT OF UUA'S WORK ON EQUALITY:

- In 1969 the first UU minister came out as homosexual on the national scene: Rev. James L. Stoll. He never served a congregation again. Prior to that, ministers discovered to be gay were fired from their congregations (though once one was rehired as a custodian).
- In 1970 The first General Assembly resolution on this topic passed urging the UUA to work to end discrimination against homosexuals and bisexuals.
- In 1971 Unitarian Universalism began teaching about gay issues to youth the UU curriculum *About Your Sexuality* (now called *Our Whole Lives*).
- In 1979 the first out gay men in the UU ministry were called to serve congregations: Rev. Douglas Morgan Strong, called to All Souls Church, Augusta, ME, and Rev. Mark Belletini, called to First UU Society of San Francisco, CA.
- In 1980, a General Assembly resolution urged the UUA to end discrimination against lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in regards to employment, and assist in the settlement of lesbian, gay, and bisexual religious leaders.
- In 1984, a General Assembly resolution affirmed the practice of conducting services of union for gay and lesbian couples.
- In 1989, a General Assembly resolution urged the UUA to implement the Welcoming Congregation program (proposed by the Common Vision Planning Committee and approved by the UUA Board of Trustees), and the first edition of the curriculum was published in 1990.
- in 1988 the first openly transgender person was ordained.
- The UUA has been ordaining people regardless of sexual orientation since the 1970s.
- In 2002, the first openly transgender person in the UU ministry was called to serve a congregation: Rev. Sean Dennison, called to South Valley UU Society, Salt Lake City, UT.
- In 2003 Massachusetts was the first U.S. state to legalize same-gender marriage without the decision being overturned. The first same-gender couple to get a marriage license in MA, in May 2004, was a UU couple and it was issued by the UU city clerk.
- In 2009 *Standing on the Side of Love* was launched, a public advocacy campaign that seeks to harness love's power to stop oppression. The campaign provides a platform for freedom to marry efforts, among other causes.
- The UUA has received more publicity on its work for freedom to marry than any other issue.