

The Confluence

News of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Marietta, Ohio

July 2025

tedgoertzel@gmail.com editor

FUUSM office hours: 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday. The office is in the Religious Education (RE) building, the white house next to the church at 232 Third Street, Marietta OH 45750. Email Dawn at fuusm.office@gmail.com, or call (740) 373-1238.

[Click Here for information on Becoming a Member](#)

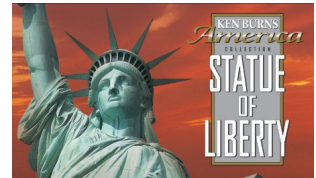
Worship Services

In the sanctuary at Third and Putnam Streets, Marietta, Ohio

Also streamed live on the F.U.U.S.M. Facebook page & via [Zoom link](#).

Sunday, July 6: “The Statue of Liberty” and Potluck Picnic

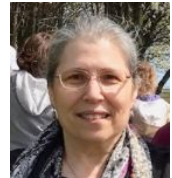
Lunch. Join us for an Independence Day viewing of “The Statue of Liberty,” directed by Ken Burns. The documentary presents the history of the monument, including why the French gifted it to the United States and what it has meant to immigrants and citizens over the years. The video also explores the meaning of Liberty, itself. We will then regroup for discussion and enjoyment of a potluck picnic lunch. Coordinators: Nancy Luthy, Mike and Adeline Bailey, Martha McGovern.



Sunday, July 13: “The Role of Spirituality in Our Lives,” Guest Speaker:

The Rev. Hilary Krivchenia. We welcome the Reverend Hilary Krivchenia back to our pulpit to explore spirituality as an important component of being human and to guide us toward reconnection with our deepest selves. We are pleased that this inspiring speaker, a retired UU minister, has agreed to lead us in worship this Sunday.

Worship Leader: Suzyn Mills



Sunday July 20: “Living My Values in a Political Arena,” Guest Speaker: Willa

O’Neill. Willa will be reflecting upon her 75-year journey of developing self-awareness and empathy and taking intentional actions. The journey has shaped her core values and has led her to engagement in politics as a way of living her values.

Worship Leader: Nancy Luthy

Sunday, July 27: Big Questions; Deep Conversations. As a beloved community, FUUSM provides a safe place for exploring the big questions of human existence. In this worship service, we will begin what we envision will be a series of opportunities to develop our skills of sharing our most deeply held beliefs, memories, and thoughts and of listening with our hearts.

Worship Leader: Martha McGovern



A Congregation photo taken by Ralph Olander (on the far left) on June 15, 2025, at the Flower Communion Service. (Pictures from prior years: [2024](#), [2023](#), [2019](#), [2018](#), [2017](#), [2015](#), [2014](#), [2013](#))

Calendar of Events

[Click here for an updated calendar as the month goes along.](#)

Wednesday, July 2

- 5 p.m., **Worship & Music Committee meeting**, RE parlor.
- 6–9 p.m., outside group use of social hall (Lori Flis, [MOV Indivisible](#) meeting)

Indivisible MOV to Meet in the Social Hall

Indivisible MOV will meet 7/2 at FUUSM at 6:30 in the social hall. [Indivisible](#) is a progressive movement initiated in 2016 as a reaction to the election of Donald Trump.] All are welcome (and needed). We'll be talking about our upcoming action event to promote democracy. It will be held on July 17, the day of John Lewis' passing. "Good Trouble Lives On". Sent by veg Lori Flis



Friday, July 4: Independence Day; FUUSM Office closed

Saturday, July 5

- 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi for beginners, social hall.

Sunday, July 6

- 9:30 a.m., **New UU class**, social hall: Theology. UU Approach to Theology; UU in Practice
- 11 a.m., **Sunday service**, sanctuary. Video: *The Statue of Liberty*
- **Potluck Picnic in the Social Hall!** Please bring a yummy lunch dish to share!



Monday, July 7

- 2 p.m., **Caring Committee via Zoom**
- 6:30 p.m., **FUUSM Board of Trustees meeting**, RE parlor.

Tuesday, July 8

- Noon, UU+ women's book group, Parkersburg Country Club
- 2:30–6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts in social hall.

Wednesday, July 9

- 6 p.m., **Women's Group potluck**, social hall. Ellen Bond and Betsy Liller will host.

Friday, July 11

- 11 a.m.–1 p.m., private use of sanctuary (Randall Kidder).

Saturday, July 12

- 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi for beginners, social hall.

Sunday, July 13

- 9:30 a.m., **New UU class**, social hall:
UU Evolution ...Our Journey to Who We Are Now
- 11 a.m., **Sunday service**, sanctuary.
- 11 a.m., MOV Quakers, RE parlor
- **Coffee hour!** Social hall. Ends at 1 p.m.



[Click Here for the Remainder of the Calendar which will be Updated as the Month Goes Along](#)

Board Briefs

June 2, 2025 Meeting

by Nancy Luthy

Members present: Vic Elam, Karen Binkley, Darryl Ting, Nancy Luthy, Robin Bozian, Shari Ballantyne, Ron Rees. Guests: newly elected Board Members Betsy Liller and Lloyd Elliot

Contractual expectations for ½ time minister

- One year contract
- 26 Sunday Services
- Financial package \$60,000 - negotiate how it is divided

Not paying relocation costs.

- Message schedule to accommodate vacations and sick leave.
- Attend some committee meetings; however, committees will be supervised by the Board or designee. The Minister is to consult regularly with Dawn.
- Community presence limited, but active in some way.
- Board can terminate the contract if there is unsatisfactory performance; expectations defined by UUA guidelines and UUA code of ethics.
- Leadership and collaborative partnership with the Board and teams.

The sewer line will be replaced with a whole new line. Pioneer Pipe will work with the city. Hoping to do the job in 3 days, during the week.

Dates to be announced; probably sometime in July.

Still need an Administrator for the Chalice Lighter Grant.

Lela will set up a schedule for Cooperative Child Care, using parents and volunteers. Robin's daughter Lucy will plan activities for Grades 1–5.

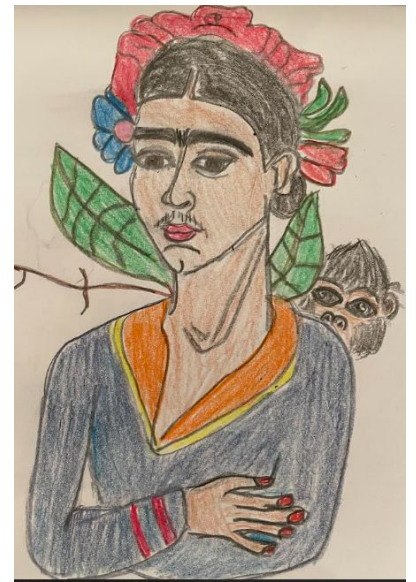
Shari's Free Library will be placed near the steps to Fellowship Hall.

Service Recognition Award: Wayne Waldeck

Remembering Frida Kahlo

by Ami Rush

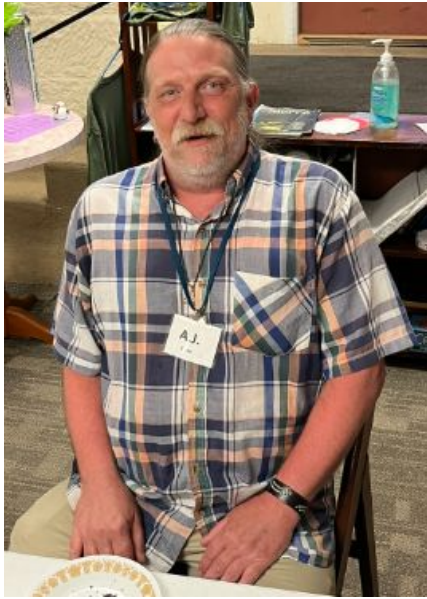
This is in honor of my favorite artist whom I admire, Frida Kahlo (1907-1954). After having back fusion surgery due to severe spinal stenosis, there were moments when I was feeling depressed. But then something about Frida came up that reminded me of her struggles. When I remember how she kept going I awaken from the darkness and keep moving. I admire her paintings and I wanted to do something in honor of her work. She wasn't a perfectionist, she was just an artist.



New Members Recognized in June



Darryl Ting introduced Lela Erb, Rosemary Reed, Jim Reed, Lucy Filipow, Jill Jacoby, and Lori Flis to the congregation on New Member Sunday, June 1. New members this year not pictured are: Lela Erb, Meabe Daly, Tom Flis, Scott Lacey, Nancy Lee, Andrew Murphy, Kay Singo, and Martha Webster. Photo by Virginia Henthorn.



New member A.J. Cline at Coffee Hour



The Flower Communion



Plant Sale on May 31.



Photos by Ralph Olander.
[See more of Ralph's photos here.](#)

Jay Warmke on June 1



The Energy Crisis of 2028 - How electrical shortages will transform our society

[Click Here to watch on You Tube](#)

FUUSM Yard Sale will be on August 2

The FUUSM Yard Sale is coming up August 2nd from 9-3, and this year includes a Bake Sale! We need your help with donations of your unwanted clutter and baked goods, and we also need volunteers to get this going. **Donations will be accepted July 30th and 31st, and on set up day August 1st.** Please pre-price your donations! We will not be accepting clothes, shoes, or books. There will be a sign up sheet. Any questions? Please email hippychicky15@yahoo.com or ask Squish.

Sent by Stephanie "Squish" Rector

Service Recognition Award: Wayne Waldeck

The Board voted to recognize Wayne Waldeck for his long service to the church. He has always donated pizzas for the church service auction. A leading MOV entrepreneur, Wayne collaborated with his brothers to start Napoli's Pizza in the sixties, and later McHappy's donuts. He and his partner in life, Lee Rector, own the The Blennerhassett Hotel & Spa, where they maintain the invigorating charm and storied history of the Mid-Ohio Valley's premiere landmark. Wayne is an active participant at public meetings in Parkersburg, including working to make sure the sidewalks and streets are safe. He loves to travel, and our community was relieved when he and Lee narrowly escaped death in 2022 when a plane they had chartered to pick them up at Wood County Airport crashed in Marietta. They have residences in Parkersburg, Prague, Florida, and New York.



Two-Timing Church Churchgoers

A new study shows that 46% of congregants attend two or more churches. Some view this as “cheating” but UUs are pretty tolerant, and we have the Quaker meeting right in our building at 11 a.m. two Sundays a month. Some of us belong to both. Online videos help some people keep up with two churches. [Read more here.](#)