

The Confluence

News of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Marietta, Ohio

May 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](#).

May 4 "Lafayette - The Measure of a Man"

Guest Speaker: Jann Adams, local historian.

History recognizes the Marquis de Lafayette as a military general and political diplomat, but as she was doing research about his visit to Marietta, Jann Adams began to wonder what inspired or motivated Lafayette's commitment to freedom and his courageous actions. We all make decisions based upon our values and beliefs, but are we conscious of what those are? This reflection may expand our awareness.

Worship Leader: Martha McGovern

Image: Nahum Ward (the patron of our church) introducing the Marquis de Lafayette to Marietta society at his home on Putnam Street, May 23, 1825.



May 11 "The Gift of Nurturing" Guest Speaker: Deborah Singer Pires

Nurturing and Motherhood are practically synonymous. Nurturing encompasses behaviors necessary for the healthy development of someone or something that we care about i.e. children, pets, relationships, the earth. Although the media may tell us that there is only one way to be a mother, we don't have to give birth to a child to be a nurturing and strong mother figure. On this Mothers Day, Deborah Singer Pires, a retired college professor emerita, long-time ESL instructor, and co-president of her UU congregation in New Jersey, will honor the nurturing that we have received, the nurturing that we have given, and the different ways of being a nurturer.

The FUUSM Choir, under the direction of Martha Webster, will perform "These Are the Things That Count!" (music by Amy F. Bernon; words by William F.J. Fienup)

Worship Leader: Suzyn Mills

May 18 "Joining in Song" with the UU Fellowship in Athens
NO WORSHIP SERVICE IN MARIETTA

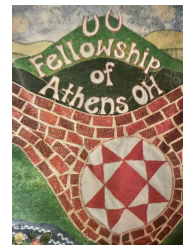
On this day, FUUSM will gather at the UU Fellowship in Athens, and the two Choirs, under the direction of Martha Webster and Nellie James, will lead us all in singing throughout the service. Then, after a potluck lunch, we will raise our voices again for an informal songfest of our favorite songs of all types.

The address of the UU Fellowship is 184 Longview Heights Road, Athens, OH 45701. Meet at FUUSM at 9:15 to Carpool.

Schedule: 11:00 a.m. till noon — Worship Service of song

noon to 1:00 p.m. — Potluck lunch

1:00 to 2:30 p.m. — Songfest

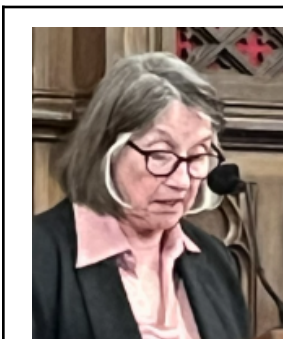


May 25 "Memorial and Moral Injury" Guest Speaker: Stephen DiLorenzo

Memorial Day is commonly understood as a time to remember the sacrifices that our service members have made in defense of the nation. Stephen DiLorenzo, an Assistant Professor of Philosophy and career Intelligence Officer in the U.S. Army, is concerned, however, that some of the dominant forms of memorializing may contribute to Moral Injury, a condition that is marked by profound guilt and symptoms that closely resemble PTSD. He will offer more constructive ways to engage in commemoration that are better aligned with our Unitarian Universalist principles.

Worship Leader: Nancy Luthy

Easter Sunday 2025 at Our Church



Calendar of Events

[Click here for calendar updates.](#)

Thursday, May 1 (Scott Lacey will sub for Dawn)

Friday, May 2 (Scott Lacey will sub for Dawn)

- 4 p.m., Private wedding, arranged by Lucy Fillipow, sanctuary only.

Saturday, May 3

- 9:30-10:30 a.m., **Tai Chi for beginners**, social hall (Darryl Ting)

Sunday, May 4

- 9:30 a.m., **Choir practice**, sanctuary.
- 11 a.m., **Sunday service**, sanctuary, on "Lafayette: Man of Character," presented by Jann Adams.
- **Coffee hour!** Social hall. Ends at 1 p.m.
- 12:30ish, **Green Sanctuary Committee**, RE parlor.



Monday, May 5

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

Tuesday, May 6

- 3:30–6:30 p.m., Girl Scout Troop meets in the social hall.
- 4:30–6:30 p.m. private use of RE parlor (Kim McMichael)
- 6-8 p.m., Master Gardeners

Wednesday, May 7

- 5 p.m., **Worship & Music Committee**, RE parlor.

Thursday, May 8

- 7 p.m., **Hour of Environmental Action**, social hall and Zoom.

Saturday, May 10

- 9:30-10:30 a.m., **Tai Chi for beginners**, social hall (Darryl Ting)

Sunday, May 11: Parents Day

- 11 a.m., **Sunday service**, sanctuary, with guest speaker Deborah Pires via Zoom. The choir will perform "These Are the Things that Count."
- 11 a.m., Quaker meeting (MOV Friends), RE parlor
- **Coffee hour!** Social hall. Ends at 1 p.m.



Tuesday, May 13

- Noon, UU+ Women's Reading group, Parkersburg Country Club
- 3:30–6:30 p.m., Girl Scout Troop meets in the social hall.
- 4:30–6:30 p.m. private use of RE parlor (Kim McMichael)

Wednesday, May 14

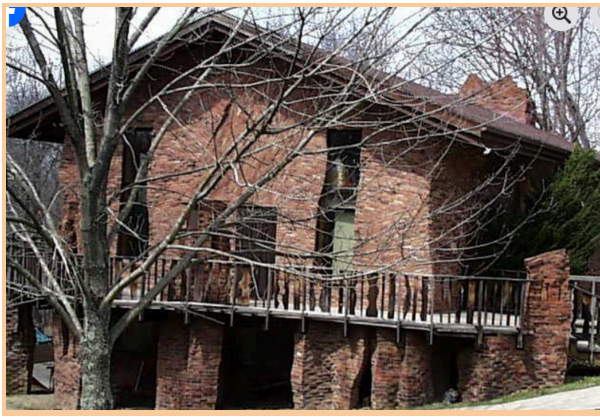
- 5:30 p.m., **Women's Group potluck**, social hall.

Saturday, May 17

- 9:30–10:30 a.m., **Tai Chi for beginners**, social hall (Darryl Ting)
- 10:30 a.m., **Tai Chi reunion**, social hall.

Sunday, May 18

- **NO SERVICE AT FUUSM.**
- 11 a.m., **Folk Music Service at the UU Fellowship of Athens**, 184 Longview Heights Road, Meet at FUUSM at 9:15 to carpool.
- Noon, **potluck at UU Fellowship of Athens**
- 1-2:30 p.m., **folk music singalong at UU Fellowship of Athens.**
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The UU Fellowship at 184 Longview Heights Road, Athens, Ohio.

Tuesday, May 20: Confluence content due

- 3:30–6:30 p.m., Girl Scout Troop meets in the social hall.
- 4:30–6:30 p.m. private use of RE parlor (Kim McMichael)

Wednesday, May 21

- 6 p.m., **Men's Group potluck**, social hall. Chris Jacobs hosts.

The Calendar continues at the end of Confluence.

Earth Day in Marietta



Photos by Ralph Olander. [Click here](#) for more of Ralph's Photos

Plant Sale Coming Up on May 31

The plant sale is almost here! Plants, volunteers, and (of course) buyers are needed for FUUSM's plant sale, to be held on May 31 from 10-2. If you are not familiar with this event, it has been raising money for the Buildings and Grounds fund for more than twenty years. Last year we made over \$2,300, the most ever for this event. (Let's see if we can surpass that total this year.)

The photo is from the [Easter Parade and Bonnet Festival](#) in New York City. Click the link to see the video. Submit your flower, plant and bonnet pictures for next month's Confluence.



Plants: Of course, a plant sale is not possible without plants, so now is your chance to rehome those enthusiastic extras from your gardens and house plant collections. We ask that you please leave your **labeled** plants in the church courtyard **before** 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 30. That is when the pricing and table-arranging crew starts its work. It is best not to leave them before Thursday in case we get hot, dry weather. Also, we have found that "teasers" posted on the plant sale Facebook page

bring people in, so please let us know (ASAP!) what you are donating. You can message the FB page or send an email to Rebecca Phillips—bennphil@hotmail.com. If you have photos of your plants, even better.

Note: we do not want to contribute to the spread of invasive species, so please: no barberry, mimosa, English ivy, miscanthus, burning bush, Bradford pear, wintercreeper, or rose of sharon.

Bake Sale: By popular demand, the accompanying bake sale is back. If you are not a plant person but have a great cookie recipe, we need you!

Volunteers: The sale can't run without volunteers. Friday's tasks are table setup and plant pricing. (Plant knowledge helpful but not needed.) Saturday's needs are table staff, cashiers, and runners to help shoppers get plants to their vehicles.

How to Help: This year, Stephanie Rector (Squish) is organizing the volunteers and the bake sale, so please contact her at hippychicky15@yahoo.com. Members of the Rosebuds (AKA the plant sale committee) will have signup sheets at coffee hour.

Thank you for being part of our FUUSM village! *Sent by Rebecca Phillips*

Board Briefs

by Nancy Luthy

Members present: Vic Elam (Pres.), Karen Binkleuy (VP), Nancy Luthy (Sec.), Robin Bozian, Ron Rees, Darryl Ting, Shari Ballantyne
Treasurer, Don Poole presented UUA recommendations for the benefits we should offer staff. No decisions made at this time.

A procedure for getting time-sensitive estimates from B&G approved by the Board and BoTG (when needed) was established.

Software to accommodate more auction items has been purchased.

Staff gifts will be recorded out of the system.

Old Business:

- Motion: **The Board is to begin our search for a half-time contract minister.** The motion passed by unanimous vote. A “packet” of information will be prepared for the UUA search site.

If you want to know what a “half-time contract minister” typically does read the [MINISTERIAL EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR HALF-TIME HIRED \(i.e., contract\) MINISTRIES](#). General information on UU Ministry Searches is at: [MINISTERIAL TRANSITIONS](#).

- Plans for the April Congregational meeting were discussed.
- Ron reported that we have been approved for one AED (automated external defibrillator). It will be placed in Fellowship Hall.

New Business:

- Ami Rush will be asked to manage our Facebook site.
- The “Liberal Religious Voice of the Mid-Ohio Valley” email discussion will be an agenda item for the 4/27 meeting.

- “Squish” was approved to have a table with information about FUUSM at the Ridgewood Court Community Service Day.
- Vic shared information about our Sewer Line problem. This will be quite an expensive repair and update.
- Ron reported that an ESL teacher would like to use FH (once a week) as a classroom for Immigrants to learn English. Motion: **FUUSM will permit an ESL class to be taught in Fellowship Hall.** The motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Dawn’s July vacation was approved.

They Might Not Come for You, but It Doesn't Matter

by Dr. David Torbett



“They” probably won’t come for me.
 “They” may not come for you.
 But it doesn’t matter. Whether or not
 “they” will come for us, we should still
 speak out. We should oppose wrong
 things because they are wrong and
 stand up for right things because they
 are right. [Click here to continue.](#)

Dr. David Torbett spoke at FUUSM on April 6.

Service Recognition Award: Cathy Rees

It is a pleasure to write this article about Cathy Rees as she has a long history of willingly volunteering for so many tasks at FUUSM. Not only does she volunteer, but she can always be counted on to fulfill her promises.

As a teenager, Cathy spent most weekends with her grandparents, often attending the Reno Christian church with her grandmother. Eventually, along with other teens, she began to rebel against the indoctrination and hypocrisy she believed to be present. After moving out on her own, Cathy did not attend any church.



Several years later, she decided to volunteer at Friends, Inc., a hotline for those seeking help with various life challenges. She was one of many who received training to listen and offer support when someone used their free 24-hour hotline. Fortunately, Ron was on the staff and you know the results of what started as a working relationship!!

Cathy had to admit that their first visit to FUUSM reminded her of the Reno Christian church. With our mural of Jesus outside of Jerusalem and our many stained glass windows, Cathy had her doubts. We are grateful that she returned and soon became an active member.

Ron and Cathy have a son, Dilan, who lives in Troy, NY. He and his wife have created the “most amazing daughter.” Nova Johanna is named after her two great grandmothers; one being our very special Neva, Ron’s mother. Ron and Cathy take grandparenting seriously and are in Troy as this edition of *The Confluence* goes to print.

Cathy also finds time to play pickleball and row with the Dragon Boat society.

This award is to honor Cathy for her many years of service on the Caring Touch committee; serving as the chairwoman for over three years. Cathy has made certain that cards were sent, phone calls were made, visits and transportation were provided, meals were delivered, funeral luncheons and receptions were planned, and any other “caring touch” you can imagine. She has now resigned to become a Trustee for the Memorial Health System; however, that does not mean she will be any less visible.

Thank you, Cathy.

Sent by Nancy Luthy



Squish and Adeline tending the FUUSM table at the Ridgewood Court community resource day Friday, April 18.

Calendar of Events, continued.

Friday, May 23

- 7–10 p.m., **FUUSM Service Auction**, doors open at 6, at Marietta College’s The Gathering Place, on 7th St. \$15 admission. Photos of last year’s auction by Squish Rector.



This Year's Service Auction will be on May 23



Saturday, May 24

- 9:30–10:30 a.m., **Tai Chi for beginners**, social hall (Darryl Ting)

Sunday, May 25

- 9:30 a.m., **Buildings & Grounds Committee** meeting, social hall
- 9:30 a.m., **Choir practice**, sanctuary.
- 11 a.m., **Sunday service**, sanctuary, with Stephen DiLorenzo, guest speaker, via Zoom.
- 11 a.m., Quaker meeting (MOV Friends), RE parlor
- **Coffee hour!** Social hall. Ends at 1 p.m.

Monday, May 26, Memorial Day (FUUSM Office closed)

- 7 p.m., **Finance Committee** via Zoom

Tuesday, May 27

- 3:30–6:30 p.m., Girl Scout Troop meets in the social hall.
- 4:30–6:30 p.m. private use of RE parlor (Kim McMichael)
- 6–8 p.m., private use of social hall (Master Gardeners)

Friday, May 30

- 9 a.m. –2 p.m., **Plant Sale setup**

May 31

- 10 a.m.–2 p.m., **Plant Sale**