

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greater Canton  
 2585 Easton Street, NE Canton, Ohio 44721 330.232.5899;  
 330.492.4004; [www.uucantonoh.org](http://www.uucantonoh.org)  
 Sunday Services at 10:30am

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Easter Sunday Rev. Beth Marshall  NO YRE	<b>2</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p  Board Mtg 6:30p – 8p	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Kristina Spaude  YRE  MERGE 2p - 4p	<b>9</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> MERGE Sr. Retreat	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Rev. Denis Paul  YRE  Newsletter Submission Date	<b>16</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>17</b> Tax Day (Taxes Due)	<b>18</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Earth Day Rev. Renee Waun  YRE	<b>23</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Arbor Day	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Christopher Hewitt  YRE	<b>30</b> NA Mtg 7 – 9p					

## Sunday Services and YRE

**April 1** – Rev. Beth Marshall presents The Courage to Rise

This morning we celebrate timeless cycles – life, death, and rebirth, while attending to our theological roots and beginnings.

NO YRE

**April 8** – Kristina Spaude presents Passover: Why We Still Tell the Story

The story of Passover is millennia old, and still as vital as it ever was. Why is that? This Sunday we'll explore the importance of this story and of storytelling in how we understand ourselves.

YRE – Classes for teens and youth taught by Erin DuBois and Marti Livingstone, Dir. of Religious Education.

**April 15** – Rev. Denis Paul presents Making God Together

“God” is one of those itchy words that makes many Unitarian Universalists uncomfortable, conjuring up images of a puppeteer god playing us from the heavens. But the word god can have a lot of different meanings, including meanings that are abundant, creative and nuanced.

YRE – Social Justice project for all youth with Adiranne Bastas/Cindy Twede

**April 22** – Rev. Renee Waun presents My Heart Changed My Mind

In today's busy pace of living we need balance, which also includes that between our feelings and our thoughts.

YRE – Classes for teens and youth taught by Erin DuBois and Marti Livingstone, Dir. of Religious Education.

**April 29** – Christopher Hewitt presents Returning to the Garden

During our time together, I want to share with you, and hear from you, experiences of “returning to The Creator”.

YRE – Quiet activities at the back of the sanctuary.

## Merge Sunday, April 8th, 2 – 4p

This month there are two Merge events in our area.

The usual Merge Sunday Night Meeting has been moved to April 8<sup>th</sup> and will involve BOWLING! The group will be meeting at Park Centre Lanes at 7313 Whipple Ave NW, North Canton 44720.

On April 13<sup>th</sup>, our Senior High students have been invited to attend a leadership event.



A big shout out and thank you to Karen Phillippi for sticking around and doing dishes after service!!

## Annual Congregational Business Meeting

Here is a heads up for everybody. Our Annual Congregational Business Meeting has been moved to after service on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Each year we vote on a new slate for board members, honor those who have served the congregation and discuss any other business that the congregation needs to attend to. PLEASE plan on attending!



## A Message from Rev. Beth

This time of year gets complicated for some of us. After a long, cold winter, many of us have a deep yearning to celebrate, but our radically different expectations sometimes get in the way of celebrating together. Colleague Jane Rzepka

is only half-kidding when she writes about how Unitarian Universalist congregations can't win on Easter. Why? Because on this day in particular, we come bearing radically different expectations. She writes:

*Our familiar congregations will come through the doors, alongside a goodly number of Easter visitors we've never seen before. Why do they come?*

*To hear the familiar, traditional, Easter music. To NOT hear familiar, traditional, Easter music. To be reminded of the newness of spring, the pagan symbols of the season, the lengthening of days, without a lot of talk about Jesus and resurrection. Conversely, to BE reminded of Jesus and His Resurrection, without a lot of talk about the newness of spring, the pagan symbols of the season, and the lengthening of days.*

*They come participate in a family service, where children delight in discovering the many roots of our religious tradition. Or, they come to participate in a dignified service, where adults celebrate the undeniably Christian holiday, Easter.*

*We each have religious stories, spring dreams and seasonal celebrations. And, on Easter they're with us, joining together in church. This is our glorious celebration, and by considering the blend a blessing, we win every time.*

The blending and blessing she speaks of on Easter, is not much different than the blending and blessing we do every Sunday. I

believe in embracing all that we honor and cherish *as a blessing*. So in that spirit, during this season of rebirth and rejuvenation, I invite each of you to embrace the spectrum of all the places where you find inspiration, and therein find the blessing.

In hope and faith,

Rev. Beth

## April Board Meeting

The UUCGC Board will be meeting on Monday, April 2<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8p. All members and friends are invited to attend.



PLEASE NOTE: The date and time of the April board meeting has changed since it was published in the March newsletter!



### UUCGC Board

**President** Lauri Molnar

**Vice President** Kathie Courtney

**Secretary** Jon Kicken

**Treasurer** TBD

**At Large** Diane B

**At Large** Bob Dubois

**At Large** Melissa Reahm

**Minister** Rev. Beth Marshall

**Commissioned Lay Minister** Deb Kotte

**Director Religious Education** Marti Livingstone

**Music Director** Brittini Roach, M.A



## A Message from the President

When I first started attending the UUCGC sixteen years ago I was impressed with the outspoken members who were in peace marches and whom discussed openly their liberal beliefs. I felt like I landed in a haven. My young family went to the peace rally at Belden Village Mall before the war in Iran war began, then I went with a group of ladies from the UUCGC to DC for a Women's March and attended a service at the UU All Souls Church in DC. When Equality Ohio needed citizens to lobby in Columbus for marriage equality, I went and talked to our leaders about having grandchildren in a place that was safe for same sex couples on behalf of my daughter. When Muslims were being profiled I rallied local faith communities in downtown Canton with others from the UUCGC. I will never forget the power it has given me to feel part of the process and to help move social change.

Now we are called by our youth to rally on Saturday, March 24th in downtown Canton for THEIR LIVES! We cannot allow one more child to be shot at school or to have teachers jumping in front of a firing assault rifle to save their students lives. We cannot risk their lives waiting for someone else to take action.

Enjoy brunch with us at the church starting at 10:30 am, make a poster and feel supported. If you have yellow wear it in the theme of Standing on the Side of Love or we have some t-shirts, socks and pins you can purchase. We can carpool to downtown just in time for the noon rally.

Lauri Molnar

President of the UUCGC

## Looking Ahead



May 6<sup>th</sup> – Canton Hunger Walk 3p – 6p

May 7<sup>th</sup> - Board of Trustees Meeting 6:30p – 8p

May 20<sup>th</sup> – Merge End of Year Picnic

May 27<sup>th</sup> – Adult RE Gili & Uri Hershkovitz from The Jewish Agency

## LOOKING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Each UU church is governed by a Board of Trustees. That board represents the congregation in internal and external matters including bill paying and financial responsibility to internal conflict and ministerial relationships. Each year, the congregation is asked for volunteers for the coming year to fill open board seats as well as voting on the slate of board members presented by the Nominating Committee.

We are asking you to look into your hearts and your minds and see if you are ready to commit the time and energy required to become a board member.

If you are interested, please contact Kathie Courtney at [kathie@4th.com](mailto:kathie@4th.com) or contact any member of the current board to help you decide.

We would love to see YOU participate!



Lonnie Haines for telling us about the March 24th Rally so we had time to plan!

Our deepest sympathies to Michael and Lisa O'Brien on the death of Michael's father early in March. May you find peace during this difficult time.



## Worship Associates

Have you ever wondered why each one of our speakers has a familiar face with them each Sunday? We call them Worship Associates. Each volunteer is put in contact with a speaker for a specific Sunday and the two put together a service that speaks to our UUCGC traditions as well as the requirements of the speaker for their service.

We would love to have more volunteers for this essential and rewarding position in the UUCGC!



Thank you to Lisa Boyce & Bob DuBois of the Membership Committee for helping to connect with recent visitors.

## Annual Congregational Business Meeting

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HUGE Thank you to everyone who donated to the Community Restoration Center of Stark County!

## Summer Speakers Wanted

We are looking for speakers for July and August. Have you ever wanted to do a presentation to the congregation? Have you ever wanted to lead a discussion on a topic that is important to you? We are looking for volunteers to take a Sunday and give us your best! Got a TED talk that really spoke to you? Share it with us. A book that was life altering, tell us about it! We are looking for YOU! Contact Melissa Reahm at 330-472-9323 or [chezmelissa@yahoo.com](mailto:chezmelissa@yahoo.com) and get scheduled!!



Our deepest sympathies to UUCGC friend, efy McDonnell, on the death of her mother in mid-March. May you and your family find peace during this difficult time.

## New Orders of Service

Have you noticed our new orders of service? I sure hope so!

The Worship Committee took some time in March to redesign the OoS to take some of the burden off our Worship Associates in building a service. Now, as you can see, each service follows the same pattern with the hymns displayed up on the podium each Sunday.

Each OoS is printed on card stock so that it can be used over and over again. If you want one, go ahead and take it home, if not, please return it to the basket in the lobby!

Thank you so much, Diane B., for your time and talent on the redesign of our order of service!

