



Our spiritual invitation for summer is **Slowing Down**.

*“Slow down” seems like the wrong thing to do when there’s fire on the mountain.
But here’s the point: in “hurrying up” all the time, we often lose sight of the
abundance of resources that might help us meet today’s most challenging crises.*

~ Bayo Akomolafe

Sunday, August 25, 2024

“Take What You Need: Backpack Blessings”

with Rev. Monica Jacobson-Tennessee and Rev. Sara Lewis

We’re embarking on this congregational year’s journey
toward a world of more love, justice, and health.

What do you need to pack in your “backpack” of values and practices?

We’ll explore some possibilities together, and offer backpack tags
as reminders of what we’re bringing along.

Prelude *Josie Solseng - violin*

Morning Song *Congregation*

Hymn #1017 “Building a New Way”

Words & Music: Martha Sandefer

Welcome *Whitney Godby (she/her)*

Lighting the Chalice & Sabbatical Candle *Whitney Godby*

with the words of Debra Faulk

Opening Words *Rev. Monica Jacobson-*

an excerpt from “Begin Your Journey Home”
by Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich *Tennessee (she/her)*

Opening Hymn *Congregation*

Hymn #1018 “Come and Go with Me”

Words & Music: African-American spiritual,
slavery period, arranged by Kenny Smith

Ritual of Transition: *Rev. Sara Lewis (she/her)*

Blessing of the Backpacks *& Rev. Monica
Jacobson-Tennessee*

Musical Interlude *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

Share the Plate Offering *Whitney Godby*

Offertory *Josie Solseng - violin*

Ritual of Sharing From the Heart *Rev. Monica
Jacobson-Tennessee*

Prayerful Practice *Rev. Sara Lewis*

Musical Response *Congregation*

“Olam Chesed Yibaneh”

Text: Psalm 89:3

Music & English: Rabbi Menachem Creditor

Reading 1 *Whitney Godby*

“Pablo Casals” by Erik Walker Wikstrom

Part 1: Lifelong Learning *Rev. Sara Lewis*

Musical Interlude *Troy Fisher*

Reading 2 *Whitney Godby*

from “Walking Towards Morning” by Victoria Safford

Part 2: Becoming Together *Rev. Monica*

Jacobson-Tennessee

At OUUC, masks are welcome and optional. Please join us online if you don’t feel well.

Kindly put your cell phones into Airplane Mode to help us ensure a meaningful experience for all in attendance online and in-person.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the sanctuary at the tech desk.

Closing Hymn

Hymn #295 “Sing Out Praises for the Journey”

Words: Mark M. DeWolf, rev. by Joyce Painter Rice /

Music: Henry Purcell

Congregation

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

with the words of Tess Baumberger,

Response: “We travel this road together.”

*Rev. Monica
Jacobson-Tennessee*

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection questions:

- What tools help you learn and grow and change?
 - Thinking about fractals, how might you practice a value at multiple levels this year?
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Today's After-Service Forum (11:30 am): Mid-Sabbatical Congregational

Check-In. This will be a time to reflect on this time of rest and renewal in our beloved community, and we'll check in with each other on how we can keep leaning in, to sustain and strengthen our shared ministry during this sabbatical and beyond. Please join us onsite or on Zoom. For more info on Rev. Mary's sabbatical: <https://www.ouuc.org/sabbatical/>

Also happening at 11:30 am today is a **UU the Vote postcard writing party**, in a classroom (onsite only).

Next Sunday, September 1, 2024:

“The Strike At Lawrence Mass” with Janet Spencer

A Labor Day play, written by OUUC congregant Janet Spencer, drawn from congressional transcripts after the momentous organizing of workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts, in 1912. Come immerse in this scene from history.

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for July and August is the South Sound Reading Foundation.

Since 2001, the South Sound Reading Foundation has brought the joy and promise of books and reading to all our region's children. Approximately 82% of the people served are low income, and those who might otherwise struggle with reading and learning. Because many families have transportation challenges, South Sound Reading Foundation works with community partners to bring needed programs and opportunity to families.

If you write a check, please note "pledge" if it is a pledge payment. Other donations will benefit the Share the Plate program.

- Checks can be mailed to OUUC at: 2306 East End St NW
Olympia, WA 98502
 - Donate online at <https://onrealm.org/OUUC/give/offering>
 - Donate by text: Text "OUUC offering" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.
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The OUUC Choir will begin rehearsing again on **Wednesday, September 4th at 7pm**, in the **OUUC sanctuary**. If you are interested in singing in the choir, please join us for this first rehearsal. If you have questions, please talk to our Music Director, Troy Fisher (MusicDirector@ouuc.org).

All OUUC Picnic: On **Sunday, September 8th, noon to 2pm**, at the **Rose Garden shelter in Squaxin Park**, we will gather for a potluck picnic, zucchini bread competition, music, fun, and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Sara Lewis (DCFD@ouuc.org).

Find more details on these and other announcements in the Weekly Update:

<https://www.ouuc.org/who-we-are/publications/weekly-update/>

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