



Our spiritual practice for September is **Invitation**.

“It really is about putting love into practice: if justice is what love looks like in public, then inclusion is what love looks like among groups.”

~ Matthew Johnson

Sunday, September 15, 2024

“The Circle of Welcome”

with Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee

As UU's, we often talk of the value in belonging to a loving community.

Let's explore how we invite others into our community, and why it is that this is so important to us.

Speaker Bio: Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee recently retired from the Northlake UU Church in Kirkland, WA. Rev. Nancy attended the Starr King School for the Ministry along with our Rev. Mary Gear, graduating in 2018. She did her internship at the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in New York, has served our faith tradition as President of the Starr King Graduate Association, Vice-President of the UU Women's Federation and currently serves as Chair of the UU Commission on Social Witness.

Prelude *Troy Fisher (he/him)*

Morning Song *Congregation*

“Sacred Circle”
Words & Music: Heather Pierson

Welcome *Alicia Seegers Martinelli (she/her)*

Lighting the Chalice & Sabbatical Candle *Alicia Seegers Martinelli*
with the words of Rev. Karen Le Blanc

Opening Words *Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee (she/her)*
“We Gather to Draw a Wider Circle”
by Rev. Gretchen Haley

Opening Hymn *Congregation*
Hymn #360 “Here We Have Gathered”
Words: Alicia S. Carpenter / Music: Genevan psalter

Story for All *Rev. Sara Lewis (she/her)*
Birds Learn About Friendship,
a traditional story from Myanmar

Musical Interlude *Troy Fisher*

Share the Plate Offering *Alicia Seegers Martinelli*

Offertory *Troy Fisher*

Ritual of Sharing From the Heart *Alicia Seegers Martinelli*

Prayerful Practice *Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee*
A Loving Kindness Meditation
from The Wild Edge of Sorrow by Francis Weller

Musical Response *Congregation*
Hymn # 1031 “Filled with Loving Kindness”
Words: Traditional Buddhist Meditation, adapted by Mark W. Hayes / Music: Ian W. Riddell

Reading 1 *Alicia Seegers Martinelli*
from Tribe by Sebastian Junger

Sermon, Part 1: Welcoming *Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee*

Musical Interlude *Troy Fisher*

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.

Reading 2

“Community Means Strength” by Starhawk

Alicia Seegers Martinelli

Sermon, Part 2: Belonging

Rev. Nancy Reid-McKee

Closing Hymn

Congregation

Hymn #155 “Circle ‘Round for Freedom”

Words & Music: Linda Hirschhorn

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Alicia Seegers Martinelli

adapted from Rev. Rick Hoyt

Postlude

Troy Fisher

Reflection questions:

- One of the themes today is about welcoming. Can you reflect on a time when you felt welcomed into a place or community? Why was that important?
 - Finding a place where we feel we belong is essential to our well-being. What communities do you belong to, and what is it that you find there?
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Today’s After-Service Forum (11:30 am): One Parish, One Prisoner

For this Faith-in-Action forum, we are joined by One Parish, One Prisoner, an organization that matches faith communities with incarcerated people for relationship and support in re-entry post incarceration.

Next Sunday, September 22, 2024:

“Disguised as Our Life” with Rev. Monica Jacobson-Tennessee

Paula D’arcy says, “God comes to you disguised as your life.” What might that mean for UUs, with our many ideas of what “God” means? Let’s explore a few ideas together.

Share the Plate Offering: Our Share the Plate organization for September and October is All Kids Win.

All Kids Win envisions a community in which hunger never gets in the way of student success. Created in April 2006, when caring community volunteers recognized a weekend food security gap in local middle and high school students, they currently provide weekend food bags to more than 1100 students per week during the school year. This food provides a basic need to students in Thurston County.

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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Register now for Soul Matters small groups! These groups meet once or twice a month for a year for reflection and sharing around the theme of the month. Some groups are about to begin but still have a couple openings, and there are four groups that have not met their minimum registration numbers yet. Find more info and register at <https://www.ouuc.org/learn/adult-faith-development/> or talk to Rev. Sara (DCFD@ouuc.org) if you have questions.

Earth Grief: Making Space for a Heartful Response. On Sunday, September 29th, at 1pm, Peter Jabin will return with another grief workshop. Please join us for an opportunity to connect with what we are feeling about the emergent climate/poly-crisis, and to share these experiences in a safe and supportive space. Find more info and the registration link here:

<https://www.ouuc.org/earth-grief-workshop/>

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

<https://www.ouuc.org/weekly-update/>

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