

# ALL SOULS AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

**Sunday Service at 10:30 am**

Friends,  
Is Love controversial?

Not long ago, we were at the 2017 Mansfield Gay Pride Celebration--Happy PRIDE Everyone! We have been involved with Pride for all three years it has occurred. This year All Souls was an official sponsor. I am so proud to be the minister of All Souls! The work we do changes the conversation--from shame, ridicule and darkness--to freedom: free to explore who you are, free to engage in the Mystery, free to love.

Just before, I walked up to the mic on this raining July day to lead the invocation, a few seemingly cordial people approached our booth. They engaged us in conversation about our beliefs (they mostly spoke with Art). I handed them our business-card-sized flyer of UU principles. Soon thereafter, dialogue turned to debate. They retreated to retrieve their pastor, revealing that these “cordial” visitors were actually protesting the Pride Event.

After I asked their pastor to leave, he said that he “was called to bring light from darkness.” I didn’t engage him further and he respectfully took his people from our booth. The conversation was ended on the supposition that no argument from either of us will convince the other.

I wanted to say, “I too am called to bring light from darkness, to bring love and acceptance as we all attempt to find meaning, purpose and identity, and to bring community from isolation.” But I didn’t. I didn’t want to hinder the Pride Celebration.

The exchange has left me with a sadness. I didn’t fight them--I was trying to Love and to keep the main thing, the main thing. I didn’t let my ego get the best of me. I just felt really sad for them.

As they left, I heard someone from our booth cite Matthew 7:1, believe it or not--UUs quoting the Bible! Here is that verse and some further context of the quote:

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the

speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

Whenever I read that verse, grasping for context, I think about the people I am willing to ask whether I have something on my face, or spinach in my teeth (instead of sawdust in my eye).

I don't know that I have all the right answers. I don't even know if I'm asking all the right questions. I've cried with too many people to judge others harshly, or to pretend like I have some insight into some Master Plan. There are too many suffering to fall toward Orthodoxy, when we can simply be free and generous.

We advocate for peace and love. We work toward building Safe Places throughout our communities--that one day we might be the Beloved Community. The work we do, our Racial Justice classes, the NAACP, our involvement in Mansfield's Gay Pride Association, the support we give the ministries of Women to Women and Huruma, our membership in the UU Justice Organization of Ohio, our efforts toward Environmental Justice with the Solar Panel Project, the partnerships we seek within the community-- NECIC or working with different denominations or even our own sisters in the UU.

So, with all this in mind... Is Love controversial?  
No, Love is my religion.

Grace and Peace, Hope and Love to you all,

*Pastor Will*

#### PASTORAL CARE

Please contact our pastor, Will Humphrey, for pastoral care needs.

740-263-1171 or email [will.allsouls@gmail.com](mailto:will.allsouls@gmail.com)



# MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Joanne Gillum - Treasurer

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT	Average Attendance: 50	
	May	Y-T-D
<b>INCOME</b>		
Pledges	2,053.00	27,554.00
Offerings	491.00	4,487.90
Kenya Coin Collection	80.00	1,097.48
Rummage Sale	0.00	857.95
Recycle	0.00	155.35
Rental Income	0.00	100.00
Maintenance Fund	125.00	1,200.39
Sanctuary Renovation Fund	0.00	-2,826.23
Minister's Discretionary Fund	0.00	0.00
2017-2018 Pledges	320.00	1,020.00
Other	1,000.10	995.63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,145.84*</b>	<b>34,642.47</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,025.80**</b>	<b>37,899.77</b>
<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>120.04</b>	<b>-3,257.30</b>

\*A monthly income of \$3,759.46 is required in order to meet the budget of \$45,113.50.

\*\*Expenses Other than "Usual":

Association Dues: \$1,000.00

Gay Pride Sponsor: \$625.00

Checks: \$109.29

## JUNE PLEDGE REPORT

Total Pledges	31	
Total Units	25	
	June	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	2,039.00	30,304.00
Amount Received	2,053.00	27,954.00
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>-2,350.00</b>

...from Brian Moore – Pulpit & Worship Trustee

## GREETINGS FROM THE PULPIT CHAIR

WISDOMKEEPER:  
AUDREY SHENANDOAH  
Onondaga Clan Mother

My greetings affirm the linkage of we humans to one another and our relationship to the environment and the Universe.

We have much to learn from the incredible knowledge of our ancestors which was gained long before reading and writing came about.

From time immemorial every bit of their intelligence and senses were used. Humans knew and felt relationship to all that lived and moved. Somehow that relationship must be regained.

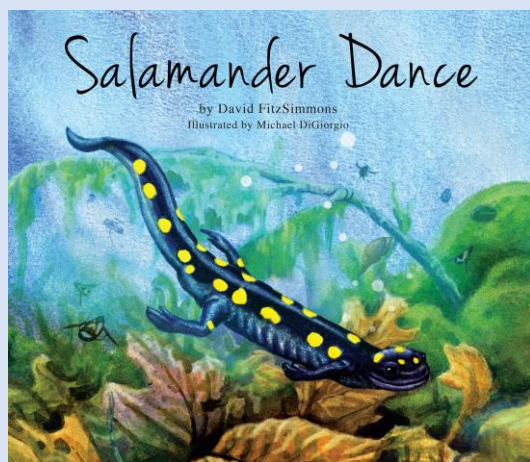
We are faced with crucial times. Changes need to be made beginning now, for our life-support system is being severely abused and mismanaged.

Many people of peace have been persecuted through the centuries.

I believe that the time of persecution is passed. The energies of the people are now being directed in search of ways to save Mother Earth.

## AUGUST PULPIT SCHEDULE

**Sunday, August 6**



**Speaker:** David FitzSimmons

**Title:** "Spotted Salamanders and their Super-Cool Pools!"

**Topic:** Discover the magic of vernal pools—wetlands that fill with water in spring and dry up in summer—by following the annual life cycle of spotted salamanders. Award-winning author David FitzSimmons leads an outdoor odyssey, exploring all things amphibian, from shimmering eggs and wriggling larvae to metamorphosis and hibernation. David will read pages from his new

children's picture book, *Salamander Dance*, showing why salamanders are so secretive and vernal pools vanish. But nothing compares to seeing enchanting illustrations, photographs, and video of the salamanders' spectacular springtime dance!

**Leader:** Brian Moore      **Music:** Ayesha Fraizer  
\*\*\*Tao Bridge @ Oak Park Tavern Restaurant 4p-7p

**Sunday, August 13**

**Speaker:** Reed Richmond

**Title:** "Finding Your Spirit Animal"

**Topic:** Although Reed claims to be a scientist and doesn't dabble in the spiritual or mythic, he has found the idea of having a Spirit Animal fascinating. Maybe you have, too. Let's have a little fun with this one as Reed shares some suggestions and an animal-filled PowerPoint presentation.

**Leader:** Reed Richmond      **Music:** Trio Alla Breve  
\*Kid-friendly service\*

**August 17th** – Tao Bridge @ Old Bag of Nails 6p-8p

**Sunday, August 20**

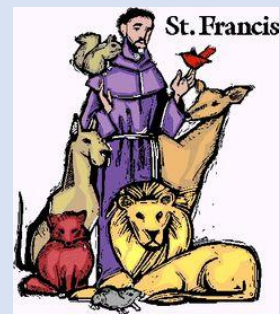
**Speaker:** Dean Williams

**Title:** "Sacred Texts"

**Topic:** This will not be about particular sacred texts such as the Bible, Buddhist sutras, or the Koran. Rather, we'll be looking at what makes a text sacred and how do words impact our lives, thereby helping to make our lives sacred, or more accurately, since our lives are already sacred, how words help us to realize our own true, sacred nature.

**Leader:** Bruce Kilgore      **Music:** Ayesha Fraizer

**Sunday, August 27**



**Speaker:** Karen Gotter

**Title & Topic:** "Pet Blessing Ceremony at Palm Park: Animals Through Our Ages"

**Leader:** Jacqueline Moore      **Music:** Trio Alla Breve  
\*Bring Your Pets, Potluck dish, and Coins for Kenya

**Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls**

**...from Art O'Leary – Finance Trustee**

Greetings members and friends,

Well I have good news, hopeful news and ... The good news is we finished last fiscal year in the black!

Thanks for your generosity, and some special gifts - you know who you are and I am very grateful. More good news is that the pledge drive is well ahead of last year. Hopeful news is that the board has given approval for a solar panel project which will slash our electric bill and maybe more importantly greatly reduce our "footprint" on the environment. The hopeful part comes in for the "capital improvement fund raising drive". We will be asking for folks to sponsor panels and will acknowledge your generosity with a permanent plaque similar to the stained-glass recognition in our beautiful windows. We don't know the cost of the project but ballpark is 20K. Of course, even small donations help and I need to emphasize that this request is over and above pledges and regular offerings. Please give your contributions to Joanne and indicate your intention to help with the solar panel project. We will be hearing from contractors with proposals in the near future. Chuck Rhodes is heading up the committee so talk to him if you have ideas or want to get involved. Much more information will be coming so stay tuned!

Finally, I'd like to take our UUA dues off the budget. We got a "bill" for over \$4,000 for 2017-18. That's \$87 per member based on 50 members. I don't believe we get that much value from the association; others disagree. Our by-laws say that we will remain a member congregation of the association, but that doesn't mean we have to pay whatever they ask. In fact, there have been years we didn't pay at all and recently we have paid less than the amount they asked. I am proposing that everyone make this a matter of personal conscience and pay what you can afford and believe is appropriate. If the UU spirit moves you, give a separate contribution to Joanne clearly earmarked for the UUA.

Well, you can look forward to my continued begging for the next two years! I'd love to hear your feedback.  
Peace,

*Art*

**...from Glenn Myers – Pastoral Care Trustee**

**What is Pastoral Care?**

Its historical origin is Christian but it has been expanded to embrace many churches and associations.

Although the Bible does not define the role of a pastor, it does connect it with teaching - shepherding the flock.

Shepherding the flock involves serving many needs such as strengthening individuals in times of weakness and providing comfort in challenging life-situations like death of family members or friends, illness, social difficulties, divorce, etc. Of course, professional counselors are recommended in dire situations.

My job as Pastoral Care Trustee is to welcome church visitors and follow up visits with subsequent cards, calls, etc. I will circulate before and after church services to determine the needs of members, visitors, and referrals in our community. I will coordinate with Pastor Will Humphrey and lead an Ad Hoc Care Committee consisting of All Souls volunteers with various types of expertise and experiences. Communication is vital for us to be effective. If you have needs for our service, or if you are concerned about someone else, please contact one of us.

Pastor Will (phone: 740-263-1171, email: will.allsouls@gmail.com), or Glenn Myers (phone: 740-501-5990, email: glennmarq@yahoo.com).

**...from Bruce Kilgore – Fellowship Trustee**

Thank you to all who signed up for coffee hour snacks, kitchen clean up and social room/ bathroom clean up. I would like to start a committee to oversee some of these areas, like making coffee, setting up for potluck, etc... let me know if you would be interested. Part of the reason for this is my health and Mother's declining health. It is important to have some people who know how to continue these functions.

*Bruce*

## **Living Lotus Zen Sangha August Schedule**

### **BOOK STUDY DISCUSSION**

**Monday, August 14: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Relax, It's Just Coffee - 105 N. Main St., Mansfield, OH**



**All are invited for coffee and informal discussion over a case in this Zen book.  
Look for others with books!**

**NEED NOT HAVE ATTENDED PREVIOUS SESSIONS to jump IN!**

#### **BOOKS**

##### **"The Gateless Barrier"**

Transl. by Robert Aitken Roshi

ISBN# 0865474427 North Point Press (1991)

##### **"The Hidden Lamp"**

Edited by Florence Caplow & Susan Moon

ISBN# 9780861716593 Wisdom Publications (2013)

**Suggested Selections to Have Read Before Discussion:**

**"THE GATELESS BARRIER Reading: Case #26: "Two Monks Roll Up the Blinds"**

**"The Hidden Lamp": Kongshi's Bathhouse**

**Bring your thoughts, notes, insights and confusions and a friend!**



## LIVING LOTUS ZEN SANGHA SITTING AND SERVICE

**Monday, August 21**

**Special Sitting, Service & Dharma Talk with Sensei Dean Williams**

6:30pm-8:30pm, Butterfly House

Sensei Dean Williams will be joining us to lead a service and share a Dharma Talk.

[Note: This will be in addition to our regular August Book Discussion & 4th Monday Sitting]

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**Monday, August 28: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

**Mind Body Align (aka the Butterfly House)**

**20 N. Mulberry, Mansfield**



Everyone is welcome to practice with us! No previous meditation experience necessary.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Please enter from the front door on the porch. There is limited off-street parking in front of the door.

Loaner meditation cushions (Zafus & Zabutons) are available, as well as chairs for those who prefer/need to sit in a chair.

There is a small fee involved in meeting in this space, so while the sittings will remain free to all beings, there is a "dana" (giving) box for any attendees who are able or wish to contribute a couple dollars to help defray expenses.

*Note: Doors will be locked around 6:35pm - so please arrive before then.*

### **SCHEDULE**

6:00pm-6:30pm - Church Opened - Fellowship & Intro to Meditation for Beginners

6:30pm-6:50pm - Zazen (sitting meditation)

[6:35pm - doors locked]

6:50pm-7:00pm - Kinhin (walking meditation)

7:00pm-7:20pm - Zazen – (second period of Zazen)

7:20pm-7:30pm - Liturgy - Heart Sutra, Chanting and Prostrations

7:30pm- Sangha Announcements & Business

7:45pm- 8:30pm- Dharma Talk

Discussion- The Three Treasures- Part 2: Buddha

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Brief Beginner's Guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

<http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/practice/zazen/howto/index.html>

**In gassho,**  
Jacqueline Moore

...from Karen Gotter – Religious Education Trustee



*Discovery Camp at Charles Mill*

This past month in RE was a lot of fun! We started July with a fun, laugh-filled intergenerational service, where everyone was invited to share a joke or funny story. We were finally able to build our bee boxes, to wrap up our unit on pollinators, and the finished products were available for members of the congregation to purchase at our "camp day" potluck at Charles Mill on July 28th. We also made crafts to hand out during the Mansfield Pride events, and started a "New to UU" orientation class for some of our younger attendees at All Souls. Here is our upcoming schedule:

August 6th: Intergenerational service with David Fitzsimmons presenting his book "Salamander Dance". The kids will be participating upstairs.

August 13th: Harvest, Health, and Happy Kids with Kayt Gerhart: One of our members will be leading two weeks of classes based on kids cooking classes she taught at NECIC.

August 20th: Second week of class with Kayt.

August 27th: To be determined! An announcement will come out in the weekly updates, during services, and on Facebook.

Remember to join us for our monthly bike rides on the first Sunday of the Month! It's a lot of fun, and good for you!



### **...from Hayley Young – Social Action Trustee**

Happy August, All Souls!

First things first, I want to thank you all for entrusting me to be your Social Action Trustee for the next few years! My hope is to continue expanding our activism and volunteerism into our communities. One reason people do not know we are **here** is because we are not out **there**!

My monthly article will consist of on-going and upcoming social action events and community projects in our area. Find something you are passionate about and go out and make a difference in our world!

Events/projects:

-Bi-Monthly: For the past year, All Souls has been the meeting place for 2 local Girl Scout troops (brownies-Cadets). The girls have received their First Aid, Florist and Cooking badges with the help of our facilities! To volunteer with the Girl Scouts, call 419-522-0391 or go to [www.gsoh.org](http://www.gsoh.org)

-Saturday August 5, 2017 @ 1-9pm: New Jerusalem Progressive Church Annual Street Fair. Proceeds raised go towards outreach ministries such as the food pantry, clothes closet, tutoring and youth outings. See Pastor Will or Myself for information.

-2017-2018 School Year: Project MORE mentor reading program at John Sherman Elementary School, Mansfield. Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Can sign up for ½ hour or 1 hour sessions. Three of our members mentor for Project MORE! Please see me if you would like to become a mentor.

-Fall/Winter 2017: The New Store. Once the school year begins, I would like to schedule a Saturday morning in which a group of us volunteer at the New Store in Mansfield. The New Store Provides free outfits for children in need. Children come in to the store and you help them “shop” for new clothes. For more information, please go to [www.thenewstore.org](http://www.thenewstore.org).

-Fall 2017: 2nd Interfaith Dinner Dialogue. After our successful dinner in the spring, I plan to schedule a second dinner dialogue for October/November. Keep an eye out for a flyer and sign-up sheet this fall!

-Winter 2017: Adopt-A-Child Christmas Project. I am hoping the congregation will join me in adopting a child for Christmas this year. We do this at the base and we have bought beds and mattresses for children sleeping on the floor, jackets for the winter, clothing and of course...toys! For more information, please go to [www.thenewstore.org](http://www.thenewstore.org).  
Peace. Love. UU.

*Hayley*

### **...from Chuck Rhodes – Building and Maintenance Trustee**

The new window frames have been painted inside and out, thanks to Jay Gilbert. If it wasn't for Jay a lot of the maintenance work would remain uncompleted.

The equipment inventory and key assignments records were audited and all items were accounted for.

All Souls is hosting the summer meetings of a local Brownies and Girl Scout troop. This was under the guidance of Hayley Young. We hope this relationship will continue to develop, whereby we become an active sponsor for this group.

Ground maintenance: mowing, trimming and removing debris from the sidewalk, continues on a weekly basis.

A committee has been established to review solar energy proposals for the church. This committee will review the technical aspects of implementing solar energy at All Souls and make recommendations to the board.

Committee members are Chuck Rhodes, Margaret Lin, Sandy Macpherson, Glenn Myers, Joan Richmond, Reed Richmond and Morley Smith. This project is not only a financial investment for the future, it is an integral part of our 7th principle. This is an exciting opportunity for All Souls to demonstrate our commitment to energy conservation. We will keep you updated on developments.

Enjoy the summer but be safe...

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

**August:** Ann Kigore- 3, Hayley Young- 3, Ruth Moody- 4, Camden Carson- 4, Sylith Waltz- 4, Fate Christian- 9, Linda Wilson- 10, Sam Young- 13, Jonah So- 20, Mary Anne Weeks- 23, Lillian Sprague- 24, Joan Richmond- 25

.....clip and save.....

## JUST SO YOU KNOW

### SUNDAY SERVICE @ 10:30 AM

#### SPEAKERS FOR AUGUST

August 6: David FitzSimmons  
August 13: Reed Richmond

August 20: Dean Williams  
August 27: Karen Gotter

#### AUGUST EVENTS

**New Members Class 3** — Tuesday, August 1 @ 6 pm

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**Installation of New Members** – Sunday, August 6, During the Service

**Bike Ride** – Sunday, August 6, After Coffee Hour on bike trail



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**Children's RE: Harvest, Health, and Happy Kids with Kayt Gerhart** – Sundays, August 13 and 20, During the Service

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**Buddhist Book Discussion** –Monday, August 14 @ 5:30- 7 pm at Relax, It's Just Coffee

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**Board Meeting** – Sunday, August 20 @ 9:00 am

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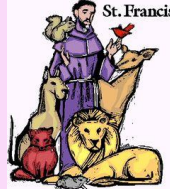
**Special Sitting, Service and Talk with Sensei Dean Williams** – Monday, August 21 @ 6:30- 8:30 pm at the Butterfly House (20 N. Mulberry, Mansfield)

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**Pet Blessing Service at Palm Park** – Sunday, August 27

**Kenya Coin Collection** – Sunday, August 27

**Potluck** – Sunday, August 27, Following the Service



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**Living Lotus Zen Sangha Sitting and Meditation** – Monday, August 28 @6:30- 8:30 pm at the Butterfly House (20 N. Mulberry, Mansfield)

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**Questions for Your Answers Discussion & Breakfast** – Wednesday, August 30 @ 10:00 am at Bob Evans on Hanley Rd.

\*\*\*\*\*

William Humphrey, Pastor  
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740-263-1171

LD Ball, Board President  
419-347-7699

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