

The Unitarian
Congregation
of Taos
July 2022
Bulletin Board



Sun., Jul 3	Service: <i>Holy Moses?</i> Rev. Gary Kowalski (in person)
Sun., Jul 10	Sharing Circle: <i>Of Sleep and Dreams</i> (on Zoom)
Sun., Jul 17	Service: <i>The Beauty of Creative Events</i> , Rev. Doug Inhofe (in person)
Wed., Jul 20	Men's Group, 4:30 p.m.
Sun., Jul 24	Sharing Circle: Open Topic (in person)
Sun., Jul 31	5th Sunday Program: <i>Agriculture, Food Resilience, and Community in Taos</i> (in person)

Saving Grace
Rev. Munro Sickafoose

For decades now, we've heard the words "Save the Planet" or "Save the Earth" in messaging around the environment. Thousands of articles have been written, with titles like "10 Things Kids Can Do to Save the Planet" or "100 Things You Can Do to Save the Earth."

And on the 60th anniversary of *Silent Spring*, by Rachel Carson, it's clear we have it all wrong. It's not we who will save the planet; it's the planet that will save us — if only we will listen to it. The planet has survived meteors and ice ages and vastly higher levels of CO2 in the atmosphere. Eons of geologic eras have come and gone, along with different life forms and ecosystems. Earth's history is a lesson in humility and impermanence, and renewal. Only the Earth abides. Change is constant. It is we who must adapt to the changes, no matter their source. This means staying present with all the complex emotions and difficulties of the process, knowing that the Earth will transform us into something hopeful and new. This is the saving grace of Gaia.

In the words of Rachel Carson: "Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migration of the birds, the ebb and flow of the tides, the folded bud ready for the spring. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature — the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter."

Holy Moses?
Rev. Gary Kowalski
Sunday, July 3

Every tribe and people need an origin narrative. For folks in many times and place, the Biblical narrative of the exodus from slavery into freedom has provided a template for explaining their history and aspirations. On this Independence Day weekend,

when America's own founding myths have come under criticism, Gary ponders the many-sided figure of Moses as a continuing source of inspiration for those seeking liberation.

We will meet in person for this Service.

The Beauty of Creative Events
Rev. Doug Inhofe
Sunday, July 17

Our sense of worth, of our being fully human, is a consequence of our social recognition. Ideally this process is reason based: "We've all talked, and there's a consensus on values." Simple enough until someone asks, "What does God say about values, about who is recognized?" Recognition becomes power based, supplanting a world of reciprocal recognition, creating injustice and distress. The way back relies on humankind's capacity to create good, to create meaningful lives through creative, conversational exchanges. Some theorists stop there, which is quite far enough. Others go beyond, calling the processes — these creative events — God. If they save us, from whatever our distress, it works!

We will meet in person for this Service.

Fifth Sunday — July 31
Agriculture, Food Resilience and
Community in Taos

For this fifth Sunday, Micah Roseberry, owner of Farmhouse Café and Bakery, will speak to our congregation. Micah has been an organic grower and educator in Taos County for more than 25 years. Five years ago, she started the Farmhouse School Lunch Program, now run by her nonprofit, Growing Community Now. She is the coordinator of the new [Taos Community Farms CSA Farm Shares](#), a group of 15 local farms working together.

We will meet in person for this Program.

SHARING CIRCLES*

Of Sleep and Dreams

July 10

"To sleep, perchance to dream."

– Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

"I've dreamt in my life dreams that have stayed with me ever after, and changed my ideas; they've gone through and through me, like wine through water, and altered the colour of my mind."

– Emily Brontë

"Dreams are the facts from which we must proceed."

– Carl Jung

Let's share a view of our night worlds with each other. Some questions to consider:

How do you relate to the third of your life spent in sleep? Is it an adversarial relationship, or a beloved one? Is dreaming a valued part of that time? How do you perceive dreams: Are they teachers, torments, or merely random phenomena? Do you have a particular dream that has stayed with you over time ... perhaps changed, guided, reassured or warned you?

Open Topic

July 24

Using a virtual "talking stick," each person can speak in turn on whatever is in their hearts or minds in order to share with others something relevant to them in the moment.

**The first Sharing Circle of the month will continue on Zoom, but the second will be held in person.*

UCOT Men's Group

July 20

The UU Men's Group will meet Wednesday, July 20, at 4:30 p.m. All who are fully vaccinated are invited to meet in person. Those who wish can join by Zoom. Contact [Dennis Scott](#).



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Joe Mazza
- 6 Bob Aubrecht
- 8 Jay Bunker
- 7 Munro Sickafoose
- 21 Barbara Scott
- 22 Nancy Schultz
- 28 Chuck Fawns

Music Committee News

Gael Minton



[Peggy Pearson](#)

For several years before moving to Taos, I attended concerts in Lexington, MA of the Winsor Music chamber group founded and directed by renowned oboist Peggy Pearson. In 2007, some of you may remember Peggy playing a concert with the Taos Chamber Music Group (then on the second floor of the Harwood Museum).

I have chosen a Winsor Music concert (October 2020) featuring cellist Lev Mamuya playing Bach and a composition for voice and chamber group with text by Langston Hughes *I Dream a World*. This is a 51-minute concert with music of Bach, Brahms, Schubert, Ligetti, Jesse Montgomery and Matt Schumaker performed by musicians from their homes including commentary by composers and musicians for the opening concert of Winsor Music's 2020-21 Season, "[I Dream a World](#)."

To hear more playing by Peggy Pearson, follow these links to a [Telemann Quartet](#), performed by Winsor Music on November 9, 2019, at Harvard-Epworth Church, Cambridge, MA, with Gabriela Díaz, violin; Peggy Pearson, oboe; Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello; and Michael Beattie, harpsichord.

And last, a [Sonatina](#) for solo oboe by Judith Shatin and Peter Child.

Perhaps this music and musicianship will move you to share your feelings with others. I would like to hear your thoughts on this concert and am equally interested in suggestions from you about music and performers you would like to highlight in our newsletter.