

The Bridge

*10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional

*10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages

*Primary: "Meet Jesus: The Life and Lessons of a Beloved Teacher": Lynn Tuttle Gunney

*Teens: "UU Kids": Brotman & Marshman

*Adults: "Bible Stories for Skeptics": Richard Trudeau

July 7: "The Mysticism of Sound" – James Merritt – Sound and music are miniature representations of the Universe. James Merritt will explore how this is so. And you maybe thought music was just a pastime or a source of amusement!

July 14 "The Power of We" – Reverend Claudia M. Frost – This year's UU General Assembly in Spokane featured a different format for programming, an abbreviated business agenda and multiple voices in collaborative worship throughout the week. It was a time of celebration, challenge and controversy. Join us to hear about our denomination's annual gathering and celebrate "The Power of We" through music, story and words.

July 21: "Life as a Lesson in Endurance" – Written by Reverend Dr. Vernon Chandler – Lay Service with Ann Malpass – In measuring (life) success and meaning by the attainment of a specific goal, a finished product or a particular place...we may overlook the greatest meaning that lies merely in the action itself; the meaning that lies in endurance and not giving up.

July 28: "Good Grief" - Reverend Claudia M. Frost – Continuing our sermon series on negative or difficult emotions, the focus for this sermon is grief. Is there such a thing as "good grief"? How do people live with unresolved loss or grief? Grief is such an integral part of the inevitable losses we experience. What does our faith teach us about grief?



Dates to Remember

Each Thursday: 10:00 a.m.
Quilting Unless Otherwise
Announced

July 11: 10:00 a.m. Quilting;
11:45 a.m. - Lunch at
Johnny's: 1:00 p.m. - AUW
Meeting

July 14: Board Meeting
Following Services &
Covered-dish Lunch



Claudia's Comments

As you enjoy a week at the beach, maybe a cookout with family and friends, a patriotic neighborhood parade or just a quiet day at a nearby pool or lake, don't miss the opportunity to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy on our annual Independence Day celebrations on July 4th. Perhaps you'll attend a fireworks display or supervise the safety of fireworks in your own backyard. Whatever you choose to do on this special holiday, let's take time to remember the historic roots of our nation's independence.

In addition to celebrating Independence Day, this month I'm also celebrating the kindness of strangers. I've been traveling quite a bit over the last four months and have been the beneficiary of the kindness of strangers on numerous occasions. In France, our very knowledgeable guide changed his tour schedule to drive two of my friends to the railway station when they needed a way to get to a rental car agency. He rerouted the tour so the rest of our group wouldn't miss the flag lowering ceremony at the American cemetery at Normandy.

Throughout a recent trip of France and Ireland, my friends and I encountered many people who were helpful, friendly and kind. We'll all remember the young waiter we met in a pub in Dublin. He was not only funny and friendly but thank goodness he helped us navigate the appetizer menu. Otherwise we all would have spent too much money and over-ordered on individual selections rather than the huge sampler platter he recommended. From helpful hotel clerks to the UBER driver who brought me home from the airport and took my heavy suitcase all the way up to the front porch, the kindness of strangers stands out.

Traveling home from Ireland at the Dallas-Ft. Worth airport I had to retrieve my bag and get to another terminal so I could recheck it in a very short time. As we watched for our luggage on the carousel, I asked the woman waiting next to me for directions to the shuttle to my next terminal. She not only showed me the way to the shuttle stop but as I anxiously waited for the shuttle, the woman and her husband drove back after retrieving their car to check on me. Finding me still waiting, they offered to take me to my terminal. Just as we were about to load my heavy bag into their car, the shuttle finally arrived so off I went. I will always remember the woman's kindness in going the extra distance to help me. I made it to my gate with very little time to spare.

I met the kindness of strangers on the train in Ireland, too. While the guys played golf in the countryside, the ladies took the train from Dublin to Kilarney. A kind young man not only helped my friends get their suitcases into the overhead rack, but he also came back and took them down for us when the train got to Kilarney. Other people on the train assisted us to watch for our stop and alerted us when to get ready to exit the train at Kilarney. Someone showed us how to operate the automatic doors on the train's "water closets". The trains stop only briefly for passengers to board or exit. The whole rail system appears to run with only self-service and the kindness of strangers. Thank goodness for those who helped us navigate unfamiliar territory. Often we hear stories cautioning us about strangers, but the strangers I met made such a difference with their kindness.

Happy July 4th! With Love, Hope & Joy,

Reverend Claudia