



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

September 1: "The God Problem" – Jimmy Merritt – One day in Auschwitz, a group of Jews put God on trial. They charged him with betrayal and cruelty. Like Job, they found no consolation in the usual answers to the problems of evil and suffering in the midst of a concentration camp. How is God seen to be all powerful yet so power-less...

September 8: "The Age of Anxiety" – Reverend Claudia M. Frost – Continuing our sermon series on difficult emotions, anxiety and worry are emotions we're familiar with. We all have a certain amount of anxiety in our lives but too much can affect both our physical and psychological health. As people of faith we'll explore the spiritual aspects of living well with anxiety.

September 15: "How to Love a Monster" – Reverend Brian Clougherty – In these highly polarized times, issues and people are painted in all-or-nothing terms, black and white with no grey area. Whether your worst monster is a noted politician or, closer to home, a criminal or predator who has harmed you or those you love, Universalism, and Jesus, say to love the monsters, plus the monsters will all be "saved".

September 22: "A Vision for the Future" — Reverend Claudia M. Frost – The theme this month is *Vision*. What does it mean to be a people of vision? This is the date of our annual church meeting and the beginning of a new church year. It's a good time to look over the state of the church today, our plans and possible adjustments for the future.

September 29: Services with Jimmy Merritt – 5th Sunday Collection will go to Wayne County Habitat for Humanity.

Dates to Remember

September 12: 11:45 a.m. lunch at Johnny's Seafood; 1:00 p.m. AUW Meeting

September 22: Covered-dish lunch and Annual Meeting following services.

September 28: Sutton reunion at the church; covered-dish lunch; everyone is invited!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019:

ANNUAL HARVEST SALE:

SALE STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

BARBECUE SUPPER AT 6:00 P.M.

Hope that everyone had a safe and Happy Labor Day!

Claudia's Comments

It's that time of year again. School has started and the yellow busses are back on the roads. We're still collecting school supplies for B F Grady Elementary and children of the church. Please feel free to bring any supplies you've collected and place them on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Children of the church are invited to pick out anything they need and later in the month the remainder of the supplies will be given to the school counselor for extras during the year. September is that time of year for new beginnings. It's the start of our new church year. It's the start of my eleventh year with you as your minister. Our annual meeting is scheduled for September 22nd. After worship we'll enjoy a potluck lunch before our annual church business meeting. Please mark your calendars and plan to stay. All members and friends are welcome to attend.

This church year is also a sabbatical year for me. After Harvest Sale weekend (October 5-6), I'll be away until the end of November. I'll be back for December, January and February and we'll be busy with our regular holiday traditions and winter church activities. My sabbatical's focus this time will be on our historical books and church records. We'll also be working on plans for hosting Universalist Convocation 2020 in May: *'Back to the Future – 21st Century Universalism'*. The remainder of my sabbatical time will be taken in March, June and July.

As we begin this new church year, I've been thinking about what lies ahead for us. I plan to continue the sermon series on difficult or negative emotions and the series of our Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles. When these two series are completed later in 2020, I will make them available in print in case you missed one.

Last month I mentioned the need to raise funds for the cost of the new air conditioning/heating system at the parsonage. We are deeply grateful for the donations that have been made. If you have been meaning to add to this fund and haven't gotten around to it yet, the need is still present. We are very appreciative of any amount that helps us to defray this unexpected and large expense. We're also delighted to welcome our new renters of the parsonage, Woodrow and Sue Heath. They have moved in and are making the parsonage a beautiful home. If you see them at some of our concerts and church events, please stop and introduce yourself and get to know them as new friends of our community.

As we begin this new church year together I'm looking forward to working with you to complete some of the "old business" that lingers unfinished on our Board of Trustees agenda (recertification of Green Sanctuary, updates to the OBUC website, a notebook of church ministry roles and duties). I'm looking forward to the start of a new season of monthly music concerts (*Thank you Jimmy Merritt*) and the fun of the Annual Harvest Sale October 5th.

Best Wishes to all our OBUC students. Have a really good school year!

With Love, Hope and Joy,

Reverend Claudia