
August 2022: Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

Welcoming Congregation

The Bridge

No Sunday School Programs and no Childcare during this time. The playroom is clean and open for parents who wish to use it. Due to Covid-19, except for Sunday 11:00 a.m. services, many activities remain cancelled. Sunday School programs have been delayed until Fall 2022.

August 7, 2022: "Heaven on Earth" – Reverend Brian Clougherty – When Jesus talks about the *kingdom of heaven*, just what is he talking about? Churches and preachers dangle a heavenly afterlife before us as a carrot, while waving the stick of eternal damnation in Hell at our backs. After a hellish few years with a pandemic and devilish political theater, I'm revisiting it with a new perspective, with the "eyes of love".

August 14, 2022: "My Preaching Grandmother" – Rachel Lapoint – Rachel Thomas was Rachel's Great Grandmother. She was a Friends minister in Indiana from 1885-1933. Rachel will speak of her life and the Quaker tradition of women ministers.

August 21, 2022: "What the Bible Says About Abortion" – Reverend Charlie Davis – The Christian Right is celebrating the overturning of Roe V Wade. However, their position is not Biblical. What must we do to protect the rights of women? Music by Gail and Charlie Davis.

August 28, 2022: "God Doesn't Exist; God Insists" – Reverend Justin Lapoint – This is a sermon that explores theology as moral imperative. It is based on an interview with John D. Caputo in the July-August 2022 edition of **The Fourth R**.



Dates to Remember

August 11: 11:30 a.m. meet at the church for lunch at Johnny's; 1:00 p.m. AUW meeting.

August 14: Covered dish lunch and Board meeting following service.



October 1: Harvest Sale and Supper

REVEREND CHARLIE KAST: BY KEITH KRON

(With Keith's permission)

Thirty-seven years ago, I was introduced to a UU minister because a mutual friend told me I talked like him. I was impressed that around 10 on a Saturday night a minister was out and about. So much so that at the end of that short conversation, I told the minister I'd see him in church the next day. When I saw him in the receiving line the next day his first words to me were, "I didn't think you'd come". The next week I showed up at the theology class he was leading. I was also part of a group that went on a church field trip to a Cincinnati Reds game and got to know him better there. I was stunned a few weeks later, when he announced he was going to a new congregation in Chicago. Knowing nothing about ministerial transitions then, I even wondered if I had caused him to leave. I would see him at General Assembly after that until I decided to go to seminary. I contacted him and asked him if he would be a reference. He agreed. A few years later, when I saw the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for credentialing, he was a member of the committee who would grant that. I remember writing in my materials that he had told the congregation he was leaving in hopes of meeting a nice doctor and I wrote that while I never knew if he met a doctor, my having met him had helped me find my faith. We remained friends over the years, seeing each other occasionally. He moved to Chapel Hill to a new congregation. I worked at the UUA. It was somewhat surreal to talk to him about his retirement in my official capacity as Transitions Director. The minister who had been so supportive of me transitioning into ministry was transitioning out. I told him I still remembered his column about the laundromat and socks. When he was in Kentucky he went to the laundromat and encountered a Baptist minister. They discussed socks. The Baptist Minister had socks of many colors, in fact no two pair were alike. It made them easy to sort. Charlie had only black socks, which he ordered from one catalog, so they were also the same—which also made sorting easy. Their faith and socks were different, but the goal was to make laundry easier, so they could focus on their ministry and other more important things. Charlie Kast had just recently entered Hospice and today around 3:40 in the afternoon, he died, peacefully and without pain. I'd been alerted by a mutual friend the end was near. Charlie's ministry was dedicated to important things, often in little everyday moments. Charlie, I'm grateful for your ministry and life and all that you taught and exemplified. My socks take time to separate and pair, so it is clear I didn't learn much from the column. But I think of it every time I fold the socks. And I think of you and a Baptist minister I never met. And I think about ministry and being present and so many other things I learned from you. Thank you for being such a great role model and living the life you did. You did what all of us hope to do—you made a difference.