
February 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. We will continue to wear face coverings, socially distance and wash our hands.

February 6, 2022: "Valentine's Day...Its History and Traditions" – with Linda Jones.

February 13, 2022: "Honoring Martin Luther King" – with Barbara Grady and Lisa Stolar.

February 20, 2022: "Who is Your Favorite President?" – A Sharing Service – Please choose a President that you feel was important and share either your remarks or a quote.

February 27, 2022: Continuing "After Jesus Before Christianity" – Reverend Justin Lapoint – Reverend Lapoint will share insights from a new book from the Westar Institute called "After Jesus Before Christianity". The theme of the book is that in the first two centuries after the death of Jesus, there was no religion known as Christianity. The hermeneutic of the sermon borrows a title from Bertrand Russell "Why I am Not a Christian".



February 21, 2022



Dates to Remember

February 10: AUW Take Home Sale: Bring items you no longer need; purchase items you can use. Meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. Take home sale and meeting following lunch.

February 13: Following church service, covered-dish lunch and board meeting.



True Love

Reverend Dylan Doyle-Burke

There are many types of love in the world. But to me, when I think of true love, the love that our Unitarian and Universalist ancestors thought of as a saving force, I think of the same love that we just created in this space, a love that is active, explicit and lived out in the world.

Years ago, when I worked in the hospital as an interfaith chaplain in New York City, one of the hospital units I covered was the cardiac Intensive Care Unit. One night I had been paged to visit the family of a patient who was undergoing emergency heart transplant surgery. I was taking the elevator to the seventh floor where the ICU was located. As I was boarding the elevator, a man rushed in through the door behind me. This man was young, clean shaven and dressed in UPS delivery clothes that had been soaked by the rain outside. He was carrying a metal box about the size of a lunchbox and he was shaking from head to toe. We struck up a conversation and his voice wavered with nervousness. We were headed to the same unit, it turned out. I glanced nervously at the box gently gripped near this man's chest as the elevator crept slowly upward. A chill covered me as I put the pieces together. I asked him what was in the box. With a weak voice he said it was the fresh heart for the transplant. He said it was his first delivery, ever. I asked him what it was like to carry the heart of a transplant for the first time.

Still shaking, he tilted his head towards me, and said, this time almost nonchalantly, as if he hadn't even considered this question before, he said: "You know, it's both the heaviest and the lightest object I have ever carried." The elevator arrived at the 7th floor and before I could say another word, the heart delivery man ran off towards the operating room. I was stunned. I don't think at the time even he knew the profundity of his words, but they have stuck with me. To carry someone else's heart, either in metaphor or in reality, is the heaviest and lightest object we ever carry. There is a great responsibility in love.

Because for those of us brave enough to wade past the shallow perfunctory love into the depth of true love, we must be ready to take the risk to journey with the heart of another in all its weight and all its levity. And we must be willing to trust someone else to hold our own heart in all of its levity as well.

True love. I carry your heart with me; I carry it in my heart. Mutuality, interconnectedness, acknowledgement that as John Donne famously wrote no man is an island, every person is a piece of a continent, any person's death diminishes every other person, any person's birth and renewal lifts the rest of humanity. You are me; I am you. We are in this journey together.

True Love.

Reverend Dylan Doyle-Burke is a Ph.D. student in Human-Robotic Interaction and Religious Studies at the University of Denver. He is an ordained Unitarian Universalist Minister and a host of the popular "Radical AI Podcast."