

MAY 2026



BOARD'S EYE VIEW

The great things about being a member of All Souls UU Church are:

- 1) You will be a member of a loving, generous community.
- 2) You will be able to shape our direction.
- 3) You will find out what our community can offer you.
- 4) You can be a creator or contributor in building a special place in Franklin County.
- 5) You will be part of a congenial and supportive climate that is intellectually free and spiritually exciting.

Are you ready to say Yes! to membership? Kay Judd has been leading some exploratory groups to learn what Unitarian Universalism brings to us. She will lead a service on Sunday, April 12, 2026 entitled 'Belonging'!

On **Sunday, May 3, 2026**, Reverend Doug McCusker, the Membership Committee, and Board will welcome our newest members. Will you commit?

We need you! We know it will be a memorable day.

Let us know if you have any questions or are ready to join our church. membership@uugreenfield.org

Kate Mason
Clerk
All Souls Board

MAY SERVICES AT 10:30 A.M.

May 3, 2026: New Member Sunday - Reverend Doug McCusker, Worship Leader; Topic: "Growing Together as a Community"; Musicians: Laura Josephs Lemm and Souls Choir, Musicians; Rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. Potluck Lunch to Follow

May 10, 2026: Worship Leader: Andrew Baker; Musician: Brian Bender

May 17, 2026: Speaker and Musician Jim Levinson; Host: Rob Peck

May 24, 2026: Worship Leader: Reverend Betsy Simmons; Musician: Matt Goulet

May 31, 2026: Speaker: Reverend Barbara Treet; Musician: Laura Josephs Lemm; Host: Sandra Boston



MAY MEETINGS

Worship Committee, Monday, May 4, 2026, 7:30 p.m., *via Zoom*

Property Committee, Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m., Minister's Study

Board of Trustees, Monday, May 18, 2026, 7:00 p.m., *via Zoom*

MAY EVENT AT ALL SOULS CHURCH

Anti-Racism Film Festival, May 17, 2023, 12:30 – 5:00 p.m.

FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Property Committee will be on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at the church and EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND. If you're curious or interested in what we're doing to take care of the grounds and building, please join us.

In the meantime, the storm windows have been removed from the altar end of the Sanctuary and the windows can be opened, again! We are building up the church's hand tool kit, so if you have any spare tools you're not needing, please consider donating them to the Property Committee. Mowrey & Schmidt will be starting work on the Hope Street side of the building soon to rebuild the retaining wall outside of the kitchen and pantry. And lastly, Cassie Walker is trimming the bushes in front and planting new flowers in the yard, and she welcomes anyone who can help her out here and there. ANY HELP IS WELCOMED, so look for her at a Sunday service. If you have any comments or questions, see Russ, Rocky, Cassie or David Levitt on a Sunday, or contact Russ at rmpirkot@hotmail.com, or at (413) 772-9610.

FROM SUSANAE GLOVACKI

Singing for Love and Justice is gathering at All Souls on a weekly basis and working on finding a regular time to meet. The intention of gathering is to create a space to sing songs of resistance and empowerment during these dark times. This can be both soothing and galvanizing, and it builds community as we gather to sing. And some of us are taking the opportunity to bring these songs to protests and meetings and other public spaces to share their power. Please email Susanae at hapkitty2@gmail.com for meeting times and info.

OUR UNITARIAN...OUR UNIVERSALIST APPROACH TO SOCIAL JUSTICE – PART TWO

We also have focus group opportunities for our congregation which embraces the five types of social justice action:

SERVICE: The purpose of social service is to meet the needs of persons in distress.

EDUCATION: The purpose of social education is to create awareness we seek about the importance of a social issue. The goal is to inform about the aspects of the issues and also interpret the issues within the context of our Unitarian and Universalist values.

WITNESS: The purpose of social witness is to be public by word and deed the convictions of the importance for a particular issue.

ADVOCACY: The purpose of advocacy is to work through the local, state and national processes to impact public policy.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING: The purpose of community organizing is to participate in the process by which decisions are made with the focus on the influences of institutional structures and how that is seen as power used for good or evil. This approach is based on the recognition that only when individuals understand that they can change the situations for the better by being within the empowerment of groups who know that to organize and influence power is to make us all more equal and more safe.

These five approaches to doing social justice ministry do not exist in isolation from one another. Rather, they are complementary.

~ Our Canvass Campaign 2026 ~

Hello Everyone!

We are all preparing for our next church season, beginning July 2026 through June 2027. Our proposed budget for our next church season will be presented for a vote at the **Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2026.** In our canvass campaign, we have asked members and friends... 'what has been important this church season and what would you like to see in our next church season?'. That feedback guides the budget in making those ideas happen.

We are finding our way to a healthy budget that supports the infrastructure, property and building, and supports every one of us on Sundays and throughout the weeks with a church community connectedness. Help our Treasurer build a budget for next church season that reflects our capacity and capabilities to be successful.

As we complete the pledge card with all of this in mind, it is our faith values and principles with the covenant that keeps us giving and growing. We offer a baseline suggestion of \$12/week. We kiddingly say. “It’s a movie and popcorn!!” We know members and friends can do this together and be able to offer the greater community a safe place, and a place of justice action for all generations always with truth seeking practices.

TOGETHER WE GIVE AND GROW!!

Accomplishments

Building repairs to property	Supporting Stone Soup Café
Member of the Interfaith Council	Gay Pride Parade
Hosted the Pete Seeger Festival	After coffee time get togethers
Welcoming friends and families	Adult RE / personal development
Re-org Minister’s Study/Choir loft	Developing Religious Education
UU Minister for Sunday services	Security needs and operations
Representation June UUA/ GA	Guidance/Stewardship UUA /Regional Staff

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