



## Chalice Lighting for the theme

The Door Swung Wide  
Rev. Scott Tayler  
We light this flame  
in a world where so much has  
grown dark.  
May it remind us that sparks  
can always be struck,  
and very little is inevitable.  
Most of it is mystery and  
magnificent surprise.  
Which means new and yet-to-  
be imagined worlds always  
await.  
Which means a door has  
already swung wide,  
with possibility waiting on the  
threshold  
ready to pull us through.



Check in question: We all  
tell ourselves, "One day I  
will..." What "One day I will"  
sentence has been with you  
the longest? And what  
would need to change for  
you to start turning that  
dream into a reality?



## April's Theme is "Embracing Possibility"

Our spiritual theme for the month will be explored in worship, children's religious education, small groups, and it can be brought into your team meetings as well! Consider using the chalice lighting and check in question provided here.

## More Resources for Volunteers

Besides this newsletter, you can find more resources for volunteers on the website at:

 <https://www.ouuc.org/learn/volunteer-training/>

## IMPORTANT APRIL DATES AT OUUC

- 4/5 Easter Sunday: no forum
- 4/17 7pm Life is a Cabaret celebration of Troy's 30 years with OUUC
- 4/19 12:15 Skillbuilder: Appreciating Volunteers

## NEW POLICY ON POLITICAL AND CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS

Operational Policy on Addressing Controversial and Political Topics  
As of March 2026

Purpose: OUUC recognizes that diverse points of view can be in alignment with our values and welcomes discussion held in our covenant. As a religious organization, OUUC is also bound by legal limits on political activity. This policy is to set the parameters and expectations for addressing political and controversial topics at OUUC.

What is a Controversial or Political Topic?

- Any legislation, ballot measure, or election currently under debate.
- Any issue which will impact different members of our community differently or where there are competing valid interests and needs.

**There will be a forum in April or early in May to explore this new policy further. Questions can also be sent to Rev Sara or Rev Mary**

### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



Our volunteer of the month for April will be Dieter Jacobs. Dieter does many things at OUUC; if you have anything to say about him as a volunteer that could be shared in the Spark please send it to Rev Sara at [dcfd@ouuc.org](mailto:dcfd@ouuc.org) by April 6th.



Have another volunteer in mind who would make a great volunteer of the month? Nominate them by emailing Rev Sara!

## POLICY, CONT:

Policy for Controversial and Political Topics:

- Only the Board can speak for OUUC to take a public stance on a controversial or political topic, or the Board may delegate this to the minister.
- The Board invites OUUC delegates to the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly (UUA GA) to vote their conscience and request guidance from the Board only if they wish.
- The minister will decide when the OUUC banner can be used for an event or when OUUC will sign on to a letter or petition. Prior permission must be secured from the minister or their designee to bring the banner to an event.
- Speakers and literature shared at OUUC can educate, tell a story, seek input, invite discussion, or build skills regarding a controversial and/or political issue, but they cannot advocate for only one position. This includes written publications, forums and other venues for speakers, online publications, and social media posts.
- Any printed or online material should clearly say that this is not an official endorsement from OUUC, so a disclaimer should always be posted.
  - Disclaimer: the following is provided for your information and does not imply an official endorsement by the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation
- As a religious organization OUUC cannot engage in partisan politics. No campaigning or fundraising for candidates or political parties can take place at OUUC or on any OUUC platforms at any time, including online and social media.

## WATCH MARCH FORUMS!

There were many important forums in March, if you missed them you can view the recordings:

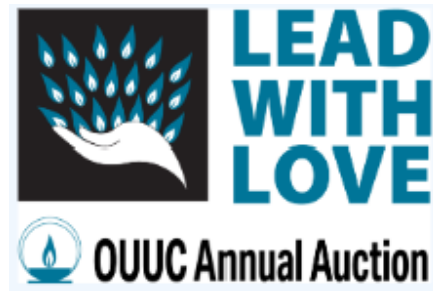
- [3/1 Self Care and Community Care](#)
- [3/ 8 Ministry to Families and Children](#)
- [3/15 Part Two of How to Respond to Hard Things](#)
- [3/22 Board Forum: Stewardship Budget](#)
- [3/29 Trans Welcome and Inclusion](#)

## SKILLBUILDER: VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



As we come to the end of this program year, how will your team appreciate all your volunteers? Rev Sara will be leading a skillbuilder on Volunteer Appreciation on either 4/19 or 4/26 at 12:15, to explore ideas that could be fun and rewarding for all sorts of volunteers and teams. Plan to attend in person, on zoom, or to watch the recording afterward.

## OUUC ANNUAL AUCTION



Save the date for OUUC's 2026 Auction:  
Lead with Love!

Saturday, May 16, 2026 5-8 PM  
ASHHO Cultural Community Center

All friends and members of OUUC are invited to participate in both the live and on-line auctions! These fun annual events are a great way to make meaningful connections as we strengthen our community resources. Find out all the important information on [the auction website, linked here](#). Read more from the auction team in the [full article linked here](#).

Teams often put together a donation basket together, sometimes on a theme that matches the team mission. For instance the Environmental Action Team has gathered items for a nontoxic home basket in the past. What could your team put together or offer?

## FUTURE SKILLBUILDERS

If you have any requests for future skillbuilders, please reach out to Rev Sara at [dcfd@ouuc.org](mailto:dcfd@ouuc.org)



**Olympia Unitarian  
Universalist Congregation**  
A loving, just, and healthy world.