



JUNETEENTH: RECLAIMING IDENTITY

19 June 2022

Rev. Christie Anderson

Guest Poet Mwatabu Okantah,

KSU Assoc. Prof., Dept of Africana Studies

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



Juneteenth: Reclaiming Identity

Order of Service:

June 19, 2022

Music for Gathering #1003, *Where Do We Come From* Hal Walker

Welcome, Announcements Rev. Christie Anderson

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn #153, *Oh I Woke Up This Morning*
Led by Kevyn Breedon

Chalice Lighting and Covenant by James Vila Blake

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.
This is our great covenant: To dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Sharing Concerns, Joys and Prayer Rev. Christie Anderson

Offering June's special offering for Brady United Against Gun Violence

Offertory *Seeds of 1619* by Christopher Dum, Ph.D
performed by Brad Bolton

Reclaiming Identity *Poem for the Living* by Mwatabu Okantah
Music performed by Vince Robinson

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of
community, or the fire of commitment. May we carry these in our hearts
and minds until we are together again.

Closing Hymn #1074 *Turn the World Around*
by Harry Belafonte & Robert Freedman
Video courtesy Michael Tacy,
Gathering at North Hills UU Church, Cincinnati

Benediction

In-person and Virtual Social Hour

Guest Speaker



Mwatabu S. Okantah is a Professor and Chair in the Department of Africana Studies at Kent State University. He is also Director of Ghana Study Abroad Program. He has taught at the Livingston College of Rutgers University, at Cleveland State University, where he served as Assistant to the Director of Black Studies and at Lakeland Community College.

He is the author of *Afreeka Brass* (1983), *Collage* (1984), *Legacy: for Martin & Malcolm* (1987), *Cheikh Anta Diop: Poem for the Living*—published as a limited trilingual edition in English, French and Wolof (1997/2017), *Reconnecting Memories: Dreams No Longer Deferred* (2004), *Muntu Kuntu Energy: New and Selected Poetry* (2013) and *Guerrilla Dread: Poetry for Hearts and Minds* (2019).

Okantah performs in ongoing collaborations with the **Cavani String Quartet**, as well as with **Vince Robinson and the Jazz Poets**. He lives in Akron, Ohio with his wife and two of their five children. For more detailed background, visit www.mkepoet1.com.



Guest Musician



Vince Robinson is a multi-disciplinary artist based in Cleveland, Ohio. He took up photography as a student at Kent State University in the 70's while studying Telecommunications with a minor in Pan African Studies. His career path took him through stints as a radio news reporter, television and radio producer/host, voiceover artist, entertainment journalist and photographer. He is the current host of Open Door; a television show he directed prior to assuming duties of host and Executive Producer. He's also the host of a radio version of Open Door on 95.9 FM WOJU - Cleveland, in addition to co-hosting and co-producing 360 Info Network, an African-centered radio talk show on AM1490 WERE - Cleveland.

Robinson is the owner of Larchmere Arts, an art gallery, photography studio and performance venue in Cleveland. He's a pianist and leader of Vince Robinson & The Jazz Poets since 1997. His book, *Got Words?*



Next Sunday: Kenge Kenge
Led by CLM Lori Mirkin-Mcgee with Kenge Kenge

Activities & Events: June 19 - 26

<https://kentuu.org/calendar/>

June 19 Sunday

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

June 20 Monday

10:00 AM Creative Living Series

June 21 Tuesday

12:00 PM Retirees Lunch

1:00 PM Race for Justice

6:00 PM New Member Dinner

June 23 Thursday

7:00 PM Board of Trustees

7:00 PM Thursday Covenant Group

June 24 Friday

KentHogwarts

June 25 Saturday

KentHogwarts

June 26 Sunday

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

For more information, read the e-nUUs.
<https://kentuu.org/news/announcements-events/>

Church Address: Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
228 Gougler Avenue, Kent, OH 44240.

Office – 330.673.4247

Email – churchoffice@kentuu.org

On the web – <https://kentuu.org>

Facebook – www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent

Church Office: The church office is located in the Eldredge Annex
(yellow house) next to the church building



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#153, Oh I Woke Up This Morning

Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom,
Hallelu, Hallelu, Halleluia.

I was walking and talking with my mind ...

I was singing and praying with my mind ...

Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind ...

#1074 Turn the World Around

We come from the fire, living in the fire,
go back to the fire, turn the world around.

We come from the water, living in the water,
go back to the water, turn the world around.

We come from the mountain, living on the mountain,
go back to the mountain, turn the world around.

Chorus 1:

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!

Chorus 2:

Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, so is life!

Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, so is life!

Chorus 3:

Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, (ha!) so is life!

Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, (ha!) so is life!