

## A Message from Rev. Melissa...

Many of you know that Evin and I have walked a long and winding path in our parenting journey. In some ways I am still amazed that my pregnancy has gone so well and that we are only weeks away from meeting our first forever baby. Thank you all for your love, encouragement and support. Thank you also for the time to be away on maternity leave. Though we have experience parenting newborns, the experiences of pregnancy, birth and nursing are all new chapters. I expect to spend my maternity leave physically recovering from the birth, learning with the baby how to get the hang of nursing and learning who we all are together as an expanded family. I also expect to be sleep deprived for a time, but I am not complaining!

With the exception of two trips, one to visit Evin's family in New England and one to visit mine in Arizona, we will be in town. I hope to make it to the service auction if we are up to it and will also plan to come to church with the baby toward the end of my leave. I have great confidence in our staff and lay leadership and I trust that things will go well at the church while I am gone. In fact, I keep telling people that we have such great worship and programming planned that you might not even notice I am gone! Between small group ministry, adult religious exploration classes, workshops, opportunities for service and other special events, I hope you will find a way to connect that feels satisfying and meaningful to you.

This brochure describes how you can get support from our consulting minister or our Care Team if you find yourself struggling this fall. Our staff and lay leaders are available as always if you have questions or concerns about anything going on in the church. I will not be checking my email while I am on leave nor will I be involved in responding to ordinary church issues or concerns. However, please rest assured that either the staff or Rev. George will call me in the event of a true emergency.

Thank you again for the space and the time to be on leave and a special thank you to everyone who is stepping up their leadership to help cover for me in my absence. I am grateful. I will take your well wishes with me as we embark on this next adventure.

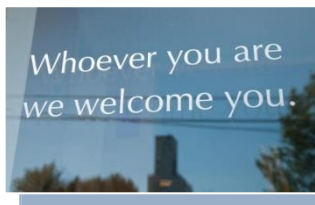
Peace,

*Melissa*



## A Guide to Congregational Leadership during Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer's Maternity Leave

*October 1 — December 31, 2013*



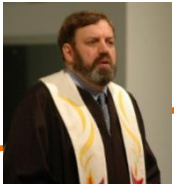
### Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

228 Gougler Ave.  
Kent, OH 44240

Phone: 330.673.4247  
E-mail: [uukent@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uukent@sbcglobal.net)  
Web: [www.kentuu.org](http://www.kentuu.org)

Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Kent

## The Rev. George Buchanan



George is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, growing up in a UU congregation in the suburbs of Montreal, Canada. Ministry is a third career for George, after careers as a software designer and management consultant. He was ordained in 2006, and from 2006 to 2012 he served as the Minister for Religious Education at the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights.

George and his wife Carrie live in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. They are proud of their two grown children, and take special joy in their first grandchild.

George's current interests include our relationship with our Beloved Earth, and faith development for all ages. He is writing books in these areas, as well as children's books. In his spare time, George enjoys reading, walking, and spending time in the woods.

George will be here approximately 10 hours per week. His responsibilities will include:

- Leading worship once each month
- Consulting with staff
- Attending Board, Committee on Ministry, Ministry Executive Team and Care Team meetings
- Providing pastoral care as requested
- Consulting with other congregational leaders as time allows

Though Rev. George will only be here  $\frac{1}{4}$  time, we have wonderful people serving as leaders in our many ministries. Our Board of Trustees, our dedicated staff, and our committee and team leaders will continue doing their excellent work. They will be happy to answer your questions or point you in the right direction. If you have questions and aren't sure where to direct them, please contact the church office.

## Pastoral Assistance

If you need pastoral assistance, please know that our Care Team is available to you, in addition to Rev. George. Our Care Team is coordinated by Patty Miller. Find more information about the Care Team and how to contact them on our website at [www.kentuu.org/care-team/](http://www.kentuu.org/care-team/) or look on the Care Team bulletin board in Fessenden Hall.

If you have a financial emergency and need assistance from the Minister's Discretionary Fund, please speak with Rev. George.

## Worship

Worship is at the heart of our religious community. We have a variety of wonderful people scheduled to lead our services. We hope you'll be able to join us regularly, for each service will have something special to offer.

## Worship Schedule

- 9/29 – Rev. Doug Wadkins, Interim Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland, will lead the service with Rev. Melissa
- 10/6 – Rev. George Buchanan, Consulting Minister during Melissa's leave, will lead the service with Kristina Spaude
- 10/13 – Rev. Christie Anderson, Interfaith Minister and our congregation's Commissioned Lay Leader, will lead the service with Rev. George Buchanan
- 10/20 – Rev. Wayne Arnason, Co-Minister at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, will lead the service with Mary Lou Holly
- 10/27 – Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, our Congregation's Affiliated Community Minister and Karen Lapidus will lead this multigenerational service with Trish McLoughlin

- 11/3 – Rev. Kathleen Rolenz, Co-Minister at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, will lead worship with Bonnie Harper
- 11/10 – Meg Milko and Deb Biggins, members of our congregation, will lead worship with Lois Weir
- 11/17 – Rev. Renee Ruchotzke will lead worship with Sophie Smith
- 11/24 – Rev. George Buchanan and Karen Lapidus, Director of Religious Education, will lead worship with Trish McLoughlin
- 12/1 – Rabbi David Horowitz, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Israel in Akron, will lead worship with Max Grubb
- 12/8 – Rev. George Buchanan will lead worship with Justin Czekaj
- 12/15 – Evin Carvill-Ziemer, Interim Minister at Southwest Unitarian Universalist Church, Program Consultant for the Ohio Meadville District and Melissa's spouse, will lead worship with John Marfy
- 12/22 – Karen Lapidus and Sandy Eaglen will lead a multigenerational worship service with Justin Czekaj, carrying on our tradition of sharing a Christmas play this last Sunday before Christmas
- 12/24 – Rev. Renee Ruchotzke and Rev. Christie Anderson will work with Elaine Bowen to offer our annual Christmas Eve services

More information about the services and sermon descriptions will continue to regularly appear in the monthly Chalice Flame newsletter.

