**Unitarian Universalist Music and Worship: Creating Worship Collaboratively**

**2019 - 2020**

**Instructors**: **Wendy Williams and Keith Arnold**

**Tuesday 7/23/19 from 1:30 – 5:00 pm MT**

**Purpose**

This course will develop the music professional’s ability to create transformational worship as part of a collaborative team. By the end of the class the participant will have an increased understanding of the role and function of music in worship and how to access appropriate resources within a Unitarian Universalist setting.

**Course Objectives**

Through class participation and written assignments participants will demonstrate:

* An understanding of the role and function of music in UU worship
* An ability to plan and implement worship in a creative, collaborative environment.
* A working knowledge of music, hymnody, and liturgical resources within a UU context.
* An understanding of historical and current worship resources.

**Reading List:** **COMPLETE ALL READING PRIOR TO THE CLASS July 23, 2019**

Please note the contact information for purchasing/accessing reading material. Nothing is overly expensive and may be available in your church library or borrowed from colleagues.

1)  Rivals or a Team? Clergy-Musician Relationships in the Twenty-First Century by Eileen Guenther <https://amzn.to/2TkD6Hn>

2)  Worship That Works, 2nd ed. by Wayne Arnason and Kathleen Rolenz <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Worship-That-Works-P18217.aspx>

3)  Jason Shelton’s essays on music ministry:

1. “Decolonizing the Music Library”, <https://m.facebook.com/notes/rev-jason-shelton-uu-musician/decolonizing-the-music-library/1403824736347900/>
2. “Changing the Words” <http://www.sksm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/changingwords.pdf>
3. “Music, Community and Identity” <https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/documents/sheltonjason/music_community_identity.pdf>
4. “Thoughts on Music and Cultural Appropriation” <https://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/introduction/misappropriation/57289.shtml>

4)  Singing the Living Tradition <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Singing-the-Living-Tradition-Hymnal-P16918.aspx>

5)  Come, Sing a Song with Me <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Come-Sing-a-Song-with-Me-P17015.aspx>

6)  Singing the Journey (both the book [https://www.uuabookstore.org/Singing-the-Journey-P16939.aspx](https://www.uuabookstore.org/Singing-the-Journey-P16939.aspx%20) and the website [https://www.uua.org/worship/music/hymnals/journey/52328.shtml](https://www.uuabookstore.org/Come-Sing-a-Song-with-Me-P17015.aspx)

7)  Las Voces del Camino <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Las-voces-del-camino-P17065.aspx>

**Course Completion Requirements**

Email all assignments to both instructors**:** [**wendywilliams@jeffersonunitarian.org**](mailto:wendywilliams@jeffersonunitarian.org) **and** [**keitharnold@jeffersonunitarian.org**](mailto:keitharnold@jeffersonunitarian.org)and cc[**mlcertification@uua.org**](mailto:mlcertification@uua.org)**.**

Early submissions are always welcome.

1. **Pre-class assignment:**

Submit to the instructors two different orders of service from your home congregation, one that worked well and one that could have worked better, including 2-3 paragraphs summarizing why things worked well or what could have been improved, and noting in what ways collaboration did or did not take place in the planning and realization of the service. All comments are confidential, so please be “real” in your descriptions. **DUE June 1, 2019**

1. **Active Class Participation**: bring a “beginner’s mind” to the class and practice give and take in the spirit of collaboration.

3) **Post-class assignments**:

1. Two annotated orders of service: **DUE November 15, 2019**
   1. A recent or post-course service you had a key role in designing and presenting; what’s different now that you have taken this course?
   2. Looking back at one of the orders of service you submitted in the pre-course assignment, how would you do things differently now?
2. Two papers of no more than 1000 words each: **DUE February 15, 2020**
   1. Using a specific case study, analyze your professional collaboration in creating a worship experience:

* Articulate your underlying philosophy of collaboration and how you apply it to your work environment.
* What are the successes and what are the unresolved challenges?
* How was the outcome different from your vision, and how was your vision fulfilled?
* How were you employing your theology as you were involved in the event?

b. Choose one of the following:

* What active steps might a musician/minister team take in order to move from “rival” to “team” mindset. Include in the answer the importance of clarifying roles and responsibilities.
* Are there discernible aesthetic objectives (e.g., quality of musical performance, level of congregational participation, hymn singing, etc.) that make for a more meaningful worship experience? If so, what might they be?

**Evaluation**

Course Instructors will read and respond to post-course assignments by March 31, 2020.

**ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS**

Wendy has served as Jefferson Unitarian Church's Senior Minister since 2011, following a six-year ministry in Flagstaff, Arizona. Prior to entering the ministry, she practiced law for 15 years. Currently, Wendy is President-elect of the UUMA, after serving on the Committee on Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Ministries and the Excellence in Shared Ministry Task Force. Those experiences have led her to conclude that the best chance our religion has to thrive, let alone survive, is by religious professionals collaborating in work and witness with trust, humility, and love.

**Keith Arnold** believes in the power of music to provide connection and inspiration in religious community. A credentialed UU Music Leader, he serves as Minister of Music at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO, and has led music ministries at the UU Church of Boulder, CO and at First UU Church of Nashville, TN. A past President of the Association for UU Music Ministries, he has served the AUUMM as Good Offices Co-Chair and Conference Co-chair. In the wider association, leadership positions include General Assembly Choir Director, Music Director for the Service of the Living Tradition, Music Director for the UUMA’s CENTER Institute for Excellence in Ministry, and pianist for the LREDA Fall Conference. As a conductor (D.M.A. University of Colorado at Boulder), in 2012 he founded the Voices of Light Chamber Choir in Denver, and he directs the One World Singers, a Denver community chorus dating from 1936, whose mission is to promote understanding of our common humanity. In 2011, 2015, and 2018, Keith and partner David Burrows traveled to India to teach freedom songs and instrumental skills to a UUA Holdeen India Program partner school. They plan to return to India in January 2020 on a tour for UU Music Leaders.



