

# Chalice Circles Annual Report – 2020-2021

Submitted by Chair Ginny Preuss

The Chalice Circle Program, now in its 15th year, provides facilitated small group sessions that offer opportunities to grow spiritually, connect as individuals, and build beloved community within the circles and within the congregation.

Due to COVID-19, circles were held through Zoom, which proved very effective for sharing and discussion on thought provoking and stimulating topics, and connecting to one another.

1. Two six-week circles ran in fall of 2020 and two more six-week circles ran in early spring of 2021. This new format introduced this year was very accessible to many participants. Our thanks to Anne Ramsey, Emily Simon, Susan Randall and Halla Motawi for facilitating the sessions.
2. One traditional 14 session circle met from October thru April. Every participant was new to Chalice Circles. Zoom made it possible to have people from outside the Ann Arbor area attend. Thank you to Luke Willson and Karen Hale for facilitating.
3. The Newcomers' Chalice Circle is offered on the third Saturday of the month and introduces the Seven Principles to those new to Unitarian Universalism. Many thanks to Cathy Olson, Hannah Hotchkiss and Cindy O'Conner for their support in making these sessions happen.
4. The steering team met monthly to guide the program through an unusual year. Steering Team members are: Ginny Preuss, Karen Hale, Nicki Scholtz, Anne Ramsey, Cathy Olson, Shelley Stoll

The majority of the steering team is retiring from the Chalice Circle program, as of May 2021. Programming for 2021-2022 will include Newcomers circles, but the status of other programming is TBD, based on the availability of facilitators and new leadership for the steering team. All content developed over the years including chalice circle topic documents, facilitator training, registration processes and planning documents are being archived for future use. Support will be available from prior steering team members if programs restart in the nearer or longer term future. Please direct questions/comments to Nicki Scholtz.