

# High Desert Dispatch: April 2021

Bulletin of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City

3845 N. Swan Street, Silver City, NM

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City is a diverse group of religious independents seeking knowledge, spiritual sustenance, fellowship and opportunities for service to others. Our programs encompass humanism, liberal Christianity, earth-based spirituality, Buddhism and many other traditions. The members themselves plan and present the Sunday programs. **Please join us.**

Watch for the UU Listserv e-mails about zoom programs/links.

## Apr 11<sup>th</sup> 10am Doubter's Easter (Zoom)

This Sunday is the unofficial Christian holiday of Doubter's Easter, because the scripture text shared on this day is the story of Doubting Thomas. Poor Old Thomas gets a bad rap in traditional churches, but we UU's understand him well, sympathize completely, and....can learn from him. The **Rev. Christine Robinson** will be coming to us from her home in Albuquerque, where she served as senior minister. She last spoke to us in December, 2020.

## Apr 25<sup>th</sup> 10am Transcendent Motivation: The Force of Faith in Social Justice Movements (Zoom) – Christopher Lomelin -- Religion in the Americas PhD Candidate, Department of Religion - University of Florida

The killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 ignited a summer of protests throughout the country. While initially concerned with issues of police violence and structural racism, the protests evolved into a broad social justice movement concerned with breaking the interconnected systems of oppression marginalized communities face each day in the United States. Yet, the protests have ended and thus the real work now begins.

How can we transform our collective shock and outrage into a sustained effort towards lasting social change in creating a more just society? What is the role of faith in sustaining these efforts, and how can it help us recognize and enact the interconnectedness of being?

In his research, Christopher Lomelin argues that faith-based communities provide activists with a shared communal culture grounded in ethical practice necessary for a sustained commitment to social justice. With faith, he argues, activists have a deep moral framework which helps sustain social justice efforts.

## Calendar of Building Events

(Please note the schedule in the building and on the website.) Contact the office coordinator [uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com](mailto:uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com) for scheduling.

## Board Members

Carol Morrison, Board Chair

Steph Smith, Vice Chair

DeAnna Mooney, Treas.

Susan Price, Sec.

Paul Michaud

Susan Golightly

Kris Neri

## Membership

Nancy Cliff, Heidi Ogas

## Caring

OPEN

## Facilities

Paul Michaud

## Hospitality

Zoey Cronin

## Newsletter

John Mooney

## Programming

Nancy Stephens

## Social Justice Committee

Joe Neri

## Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

## Adult RE

OPEN

## Family Programs

Chellee Chase

## Website

[www.uufsc.com](http://www.uufsc.com)

email address is

[uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com](mailto:uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com)

## Our mailing address is

P.O. Box 4034

Silver City, NM 88062

For membership questions,  
email Nancy Cliff

[ncliff49@gmail.com](mailto:ncliff49@gmail.com)

For a Caring Call, email John

Heslip [Unplannedjourney@gmail.com](mailto:Unplannedjourney@gmail.com)

### **News From The Board:**

The annual Pledge Letter was approved and now needs your pledge response for the new budget to be completed in April and then voted on by members at our Semi-Annual Meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> (Zoom). The pledge letter was by email and a response is needed by Weds, April 7. Thanks to those who have already responded.

Joe Neri updated us on activities at the border at that time. However, because things are changing all the time, probably one of the best sources to try to keep up is the Sunday blog that Barb Gabioud writes and posts on the UUFSC Listserv. John Mooney then posts it to our website as well.

Go-bags will continue to be assembled every Monday at the UUFSC building and will be given to asylum-seekers when they travel to their sponsors.

Paul Michaud reported that the Mural project is moving forward now after meeting with the town historic design committee for approval. Paul is finishing framework for the project which he will deliver to Lillian Connelly to create & paint her designed artwork.

The Board looks forward to when we will be able to have small group gatherings, possibly the end of June or July. Hopefully, most people will be vaccinated by end of May, early June. There might be a survey to membership as to your feelings about resuming our activities. We look forward to seeing you!

Susan Price, Secretary

**The Social Justice Committee** meets via Zoom on the first Friday of the month at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to attend and participate. If you are interested, and are not already on our Zoom invitation list, email Joe Neri at [joe12bar@gmail.com](mailto:joe12bar@gmail.com). The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 2.

**A UU Social Justice Event** regarding solutions to Global Warming will be held via Zoom on April 10th at 6pm. It is called 'Introduction To Drawdown' and is a presentation that invites you to see both the possibility of reversing global warming and the important role we each play in that process, based on the findings of Project Drawdown– **The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming**. Chellee will be technically hosting here in Silver City but this live presentation will be coming to us from a UU fellowship in Iowa City.

Watch for your invitation link coming via our Google Groups email before the April 10th evening event.

**The UUFSC music group (aka Silver City Slickers)** meets every Tuesday at 2:00 PM, at the fellowship hall. All singers and players of any experience level are welcome to come by. No registration or reservation required - just show up if you are interested. Masks are required. We practice social distancing and follow COVID guidelines for group gatherings.

### **Family Programs**

A great big Hoppy Easter to Liam, Ivy, Junie, Samantha, Kit, Angela, Marius, and Amara. Here are some Bunny Funnies for you:

What do you call a row of Easter bunnies hopping backwards? A receding hare line.

What kind of jewelry does the Easter bunny wear? 14 Carrot gold.

Why did the Easter egg hide? Because he was a little chicken.  
These jokes made me feel like a broken Easter egg... I cracked up!  
Keep smiling, my friends! Love, Chellee

**Miscellaneous:**

While Nancy Cliff isn't our Membership Lead anymore, she has agreed to answer any emails from prospective new members, and has asked that we add that to the newsletter each month.

Nancy's email: [ncliff49@gmail.com](mailto:ncliff49@gmail.com)

The **Men's "Heart Circle"** group is still going strong and open for new members who might be interested in joining. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month on Zoom and discuss topics that relate to deeper issues in our lives and the community. If anyone is interested or would like more information, please call **Mike Ferris at 575 313 6733**.

**BIRTHDAY SHOUT-OUT!!** A shout-out to our April Birthdays as we celebrate Spring!:

Apr 19 Mike Ferris

Apr 19 Heidi Ogas

If you want to be on our birthday listing, please send name(s) and birthday(s) to [carolmorr@gmail.com](mailto:carolmorr@gmail.com).

**NEW Directory** If anyone wants the new fall directory sent to them electronically, please email Sandra at [sandramichaud1981@gmail.com](mailto:sandramichaud1981@gmail.com).