

# High Desert Dispatch: April 2022

Bulletin of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City

Join us at 3845 N. Swan Street, 10:00 a.m. Sundays

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.**

**UUFSC Safety Protocol: We will not be serving food or drinks in the building until further notice. Masks will need to be worn in the building at ALL times. We will continue to serve refreshments on the patio, weather permitting.**

**Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> - "Silver Regional SASS " Emma McKinley,** Outreach/Education Coordinator for Silver Regional SASS, will speak about this organization which is a local rape crisis center that focuses on preventing and responding to sexual violence in our community.

"There is a hefty content notice /trigger warning for this presentation," McKinley said. "We will be talking about sexual violence although there will NOT be any detailed descriptions of sexual violence, but it will be mentioned, including sexual violence against children/minors." **(cont'd pg 2) Moderator – Nancy Stephens**

**Apr 10<sup>th</sup> –Azima Lila Forest -- "Blooming Time"** At this time of year, the fruit trees are covered with blossoms, and the roses and other perennials are leafing out. The plant world responds to the times. And so it is with us humans; but we aren't necessarily on the same schedules as the plants, nor the same timing of our fellow human beings. We will explore this notion and contemplate our own blooming times. **Moderator, Heidi Ogas**

**Apr 17<sup>th</sup> -- Rev Claudia Elferdink --"Easter Sunday – A UU Celebration"** So how do Unitarians celebrate Easter, or not? Since the 1600's we have been marking Easter Sunday, and in the last two centuries it has become controversial, especially in some congregations in the US. My international U/UU research may reveal some surprises! **(Cont'd pg 2) Moderator, Carol Morrison**

**Apr 24<sup>th</sup> – Jessica Swapp -- " What is Extension?"** The Cooperative Extension Service (CES) system got its start in 1862 when Congress passed the Morrill Act, which provided for a university in each state to provide education to citizens in agricultural & mechanical fields. These colleges are known as land-grant universities; NMSU was founded in 1888 as Las Cruces College. The NM College of Agriculture & Mechanic Arts was established as a land-grant college in 1889. **(cont'd pg 2) Moderator, Joe Neri**

## Board Members

Carol Morrison, Board Chair  
Steph Smith, Vice Chair  
DeAnna Mooney, Treas.

Joanne DeMichele  
Susan Price, Sec.  
Nancy Stephens  
Kris Neri

## Membership

Nancy Cliff, Heidi Ogas

## Caring

OPEN

## Facilities

Paul Michaud

## Hospitality

Zoey Cronin

## Newsletter

John Mooney

## Programming

Sandra Michaud

## Social Justice Committee

OPEN

## Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

## Adult RE

OPEN

## Family Programs

ON HOLD

## 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)

## 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.

**Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> contd** Emma Eileen McKinley is also currently a student of Social Work, Political Science, and Philosophy at Western New Mexico University. Emma spent two years as a volunteer advocate before moving into their current role in the summer of 2021. They are passionate about violence prevention, accessibility, & harm reduction, and believe that cultivating a culture of consent can be a powerful antidote to oppression. When not creating info graphics or dreaming of ways to inspire social change, Emma enjoys reading, gardening, dancing, textile crafts, and spending time with their three cats.

**Apr 17<sup>th</sup> contd** On this Easter Sunday come and hear the voices of UU's as they share their stories of what today's celebration means in their own words and cultural context- from east coast to west coast, and from the UK, the Philippines and Transylvania. We will enjoy music by Dale Rucklos on guitar.

**Apr 24<sup>th</sup> contd** Today, the purpose of CES, in the amended version states: (1985) "...the development of practical demonstrations of research knowledge and giving of instruction on existing or improved practices or technologies in agriculture." **As the extension agent for Grant County**, my responsibilities include managing the Positive Youth Development Program 4-H which teaches youth through hands-on learning, life skills and character traits. I also educate adult clientele with research-based curriculum on yard & garden topics as well as range & livestock topics. My claim to fame is that I know a little bit about a lot of different things as they relate to agriculture!

**Notes from your Chair:** We are delighted to see Spring weather and more time to visit on our patio after Sunday programs. It does get breezy sometimes, though! A thank you to everyone for helping keep us safe as we see our Covid case numbers in Grant County going down, down. We will still keep all food and drink on the patio for now...but let's hope that we can have our Memorial Day picnic this year! Fingers crossed! Carol Morrison

**News from the Board** March meeting:

At this time of the year, our UUFSC budget is being developed as well as a pledge letter to be sent by email on March 21. A response to the pledge letter is needed by April 6. The board is also working on a Sunday program for May 1 about service opportunities at UUFSC available to members and friends.

Kris Neri reported that at the next Social Justice meeting on Friday, April 15 (11am), a discussion about the wording of a new banner out front will be held and voted on as well as other topics like plans for a booth on Earth Day. All are welcome.

A brief discussion about Family Programs will be continued as more info is received.

A vote was taken to approve 2 delegates from UUFSC to the UU General Assembly in Portland in June. Carlos & Linda Price will be our delegates. Thank you!

The next board meeting will be Sunday, April 17 after the service. All welcome.

Susan Price, secretary

**A shout out to our April Birthday babies!** Want to see your name next year? Send an email to [carolmorr@gmail.com](mailto:carolmorr@gmail.com).

\*April 13 Lorna Ruebelmann \*April 19 Mike Ferris \*April 19 Heidi Ogas