

High Desert Dispatch: August 2019

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.**

Sunday Programs

Aug 4th : Why Humans Need Liturgy

Liturgy comes from a Greek word "leitourgia," which actually means "work by and for the people." So the purpose of liturgy is to benefit us, both individually and in community. In this service we will explore some components of liturgy from a variety of world traditions; relate how liturgy can nourish our mind, heart, body, and spirit; and discuss our own experiences of different liturgical forms. Lynda Aiman-Smith, PhD is a native New Mexican, a life-long spiritual seeker, and has been involved in UU congregations since 1976. **Moderator Lynda Aiman-Smith. Childcare Available**

Aug 11th : Valuing What We Have To Offer Rev Azima Lila Forest "Valuing What We Have to Offer". We will explore attitudes & beliefs about the ways in which we offer our gifts to the world. How do we limit ourselves in these ways & how can we expand our boundaries? **Moderator Heidi Ogas. Children's Program today!**

Aug 18th : Humanism, Science And Idols DVD presentation by Rev. Herrera She is the Senior Minister of the First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque. She examines Humanism as one of traditional sources of Unitarian Universalism. "At the most basic level, to be a humanist simply means to affirm the worth of every person, and to believe that humans are responsible for their own condition and so must work to better the world." **Moderator Ron Gabioud. Childcare Available.**

Aug 25th : "Literacy Link Leamos" Program Director, Mary Beth Folia, will present information about LLL programs on Based at the Silver City Public Library, Literacy Link provides free tutoring for adults in basic literacy and ESL. The organization also provides educational programs at the jail, helps learners study for the citizenship exam, and can help students prepare for the GED. Literacy Link also distributes free new books to elementary school children in Grant County. Mary Beth will talk about programs and learners, and will also highlight volunteer opportunities for potential tutors and other volunteers. **Moderator Nancy Stephens. Children's Program today!**

Calendar of Building Events

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

PFLAG – 1ST Tuesday of the month 7:00 pm

Silver City Camera Club – 1ST Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm

Board Members

Barbara Gabioud, Board Chair
Zoey Cronin, VC
DeAnna Mooney, Treas.
Jane Riger, Sec.
Paul Michaud
Susan Golightly
Lillian Connelly

Membership

Heidi Ogas, Nancy Cliff
Caring
~Open~

Facilities

Paul Michaud
Hospitality
Sandra Michaud

Newsletter

John Mooney
Programming
Karen Murphy

Social Justice Committee

Wendy Graves & Andy Payne
Office Coordinator
Sandra Michaud
Adult RE
Karen Benediktson

Family Programs

Chellee Chase

Website

www.uufsc.com

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uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com

Our mailing address is
P.O. Box 4034
Silver City, NM 88062

News from the Board: The Board last met on June 30th. We reviewed the perpetual calendar & are already looking ahead to the Annual Meeting which will be held November 17th.

The work day which was planned by Paul M had many positive outcomes. Damaged ceiling tiles were replaced, a path for the outdoor meditation area was marked out, overhead lighting in the Fellowship Hall has been evaluated, the back room of Q Hut & the closet/storage room were both organized. Paul M replaced the outside back door & upgraded the building walls around the door. This was a huge job, as was Barb G's organization work in the Q Hut to make room for supplies for Deming refugee travel packs. Thanks to all who participated and are continuing to be part of these efforts. Further efforts to keep our parking lot safe and accident free were discussed. Exit signs and one-way arrow signs will be purchased and put up in the parking lot. Contractor bids for single pole lighting are being solicited.

Treasurer DeAnna M brought finances from April & May up to date & the End of the Year Summary was discussed & unanimously accepted. Social Justice monies are being kept separate from general UUFSC accounting.

We've had a full schedule of "Exploring Spiritual Practice" events in the past month or so. Thanks to Lillian Connelly, Zoey Cronin, Becky Harwood and others who helped plan and put on these classes.

Next board Meeting will be August 11, after the program. All are welcome, Jane Riger, Board Secretary

Children's Programs: On August 11 in the UU Children's Program, our topic will be "Generosity: Give and Ye Shall Receive." As Unitarian Universalists, we engage in generosity and other acts of goodness not for a promise in a future life, but in order to create and reap the rewards of a better world for all in the here and now. Generosity stems from an attitude of gratitude and a feeling of abundance, both of which grow with giving.

Drawing upon the first Unitarian Universalist Principle, which affirms the inherent worth and dignity of all people, our August 25 Children's Program, "Seeing Others With Awe," rests on the idea that goodness and justice require more than tolerance of diversity; we must embrace our differences as part of what makes the world beautiful.

Membership.

If you were a member last year and have not signed the membership list in the foyer this year, please renew your membership by signing the form. Any questions, please contact Nancy Cliff or Heidi Ogas.

A Multicultural Transformation Day

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2019, 9:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: UUCLas Cruces Great Room-RE Building

In a polarized society where differences divide rather than unite us, what is a faithful response to building Beloved Community? What tools can we use to dismantle White Supremacy culture and curb micro aggressions when they arise? How can we foster inclusion and equity by both increasing our intercultural competency and practicing cultural humility?

The Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kuponon Kwong, Regional Staff for our UUA, will facilitate this day-long interactive workshop as we ground this sacred work in our Principles and progressive theology. We will spend the morning reviewing the Intercultural Development Continuum framework and going over your group results for the Intercultural Development Inventory. In the afternoon, we will role play what micro aggression could look like in a congregation and come up with examples and strategies for dismantling White Supremacy culture. We will end the day with some concrete goals and development of a plan to become a more racially just faith tradition and engage in the work of multicultural transformation.

Details for Participants

This will be a great opportunity to develop a plan to grow UUFSC capacity to attract new members and build a diverse, vital religious community. You are needed to participate and help grow our cross-cultural competence as a religious organization.

Cost – \$20 per person. If this price will keep you from participating, we will have some limited scholarships if you register right away and let Wendy Graves know at 218-875-3904 or wdgraves@frontier.com. Wendy is co-leader of UUFSC Social Justice group.

Registration Procedure and Link to Website

To register simply go to this link

(<https://www.cognitoforms.com/PacificWesternRegionUUA/MulticulturalTransformationDayLasCruces>)

& fill in the required information. Registration will close on October 11.

Required Preparation

Once you are registered, you will need to do two things to prepare for the workshop:

1. You will be given a user name and password to go online and take the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) and,
2. You will be given access to a website where you will have a month after registration closes to view 6 short videos that allow participants to get the most out of the workshop so that effective plans are developed for our Silver City UU fellowship.