

High Desert Dispatch: July 2020

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.**

Due to the continuing threat of Covid-19 and subsequent

restrictions, we will not be having live programs until it is safe and restrictions are lifted. And unfortunately, we will also not be having are typical July 4th picnic and Labor Day potluck. The Program Committee is working on scheduling at least two Zoom Programs per month through September. Be on the lookout for these UU Listserv e-mails and save the links.

Chellee Chase, RE director, has taken on the role of moderating for our zoom speakers if they would like her help. Thanks, Chellee!

Our next scheduled Zoom Programs at 10am will be:

July 12 Rev Claudia Elferdink **“Keeping Faith in Hard Times”** is her topic. More info to come.

July 19 – “Applying UU Principles to You” -- Kris Neri

UU principle #1 recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Principle #3 involves the acceptance of one another. Does that apply to all people? We would hope so. But, how about ourselves? Do we all accept ourselves fully and recognize our own inherent worth? Unfortunately, not always. A lack of self-acceptance at its best denies us self-esteem and a sense of worth, and at its worst, can cause debilitating depression and negative treatment of ourselves and others. Using her latest novel, Hopscotch Life as a filter, Kris Neri will discuss these and other ideas. Hopscotch Life follows an out-of-synch heroine’s quirky path of challenging reverses, until she finally accepts what a valuable person she is and fully embraces her authentic self. Kris will also share the way a novelist approaches some of these life-affirming principles and how they direct the progression of a work of fiction.

UU Family Programs message from Chellee:

Hello to all my favorite youngsters: Samantha and Junie, Ivy and Liam, Angela and Kit, Marius and Amara! I wonder if we will even recognize each other, it's been so long! I was going to share a couple of fun ideas for you all to try, but I found a page that has so many fun and easy projects on it that I'm just going to give you the link: (see page 2)

Calendar of Building Events

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

Board Members

Carol Morrison, Board Chair
Zoey Cronin, VC
DeAnna Mooney, Treas.
Susan Price, Sec.
Paul Michaud
Susan Golightly
Kris Neri

Membership

Heidi Ogas, Nancy Cliff
Caring
Barbara Gabioud

Facilities

Paul Michaud
Hospitality
Sandra Michaud

Newsletter

John Mooney

Programming

Ron Gabioud

Social Justice Committee

Joe Neri

Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

Adult RE

Karen Benediktson

Family Programs

Chellee Chase

Website

www.uufsc.com

email address is

uufellowshipsilvercity@gmail.com

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

Family Prog cont'd

<https://www.buzzfeed.com/mallorymcinnis/we-oughta-give-it-a-try> (make sure to ask your parents to check it out with you). Let me know if you try any of these ideas and how it goes.

To the parents: Kellie at the UU in Las Cruces is trying a Zoom program for kids, Thursdays at 2. There will be a short teacher-led story/lesson followed by a craft project and social interaction with other kids.

She didn't give me a link to include, so if your family is interested, please email Kellie

Ingram: kellie@uuchurchlc.org.

Q: Why do the French eat snails? A: They don't like fast food.

Missing you all, please stay safe and well!

Social Justice Committee Meeting - Tuesday, July 14 @ 6:30 pm

The Social Justice Committee will resume its in-person monthly meetings at the Fellowship hall on Tuesday, July 14 at 6:30 pm. Facial masks and social distancing are required. All are welcome.

Joe Neri, chair

Thanks so much to Lynda Aiman-Smith who added a generous donation to monies in our budget to continue UUFSC ads on GMCR/KURU radio. These will run from June thru December, 2020.

Reminder from the treasurer: Pledge payments for 2020-21 are welcome. We continue to pay our four staff folks thru this pandemic + the usual expenses. Please send to:

UUFSC, PO Box 4034, Silver City, NM 88062

Notes from Your Chair:

The wheels keep turning! Our Fellowship is continuing its work in the community and for you, our members and friends. Thanks to the program committee for scheduling some excellent upcoming programs by zoom. And thanks to our facilities guy, Paul, for getting our new door lock installed; and those who help in watering and keeping our building in shape!

And thanks to the social justice (SJ) committee for "revving" us up again to meet the needs of asylum seekers and others who remain dumped at Palomas across the border. We are able to provide substantial financial help and needed food and water to the sheltering people in Palomas. This SJ project has reached supporters across the nation and has volunteers coming from all walks of our community. More yard signs are on the way. When they arrive, they will be available on Wednesdays at the UU building (3-3:30) or through home distributions by Barb Gabioud and your chair.

Thanks to everyone for really working within our guidelines for the list serve. And thanks for helping take care of each other. A big hug goes out to Bob Bryant, who will be leaving soon to visit family out of state. A memorial service will be held for Elayne in Idaho in July. We hold you in our circle of love.

Also a message from our national UUA organization provides an excellent explanation for WHY we have our Black Lives Matter sign on our Fellowship property. This open letter is worth a careful read as we examine our own hearts and actions. Thanks to Susan Price for suggesting this letter be published for all of us to read.

<https://www.uua.org/pressroom/press-releases/stop-calling-police-start-eradicating-anti-blackness>

Carol Morrison

NUUs from the Board for June 2020

By initiation from Carol Morrison, Board President, the Board decided to hold a Fellowship-inclusive outdoor meeting to discuss our collective response to the Black Lives Matter movement due to the recent national police brutality, George Floyd homicide, and social protests. By invitation on ListServ, the first 14 people to respond came to the meeting at the UUF patio, June 3 at 10:00 am. Social distancing seating was used and face masks were worn. This group agreed that we must stand up for human rights, love over hate, justice over corruption, and that black lives matter. The following was discussed, agreed upon, and action confirmed:

1. The UU "Declaration of Conscience" (from UUA, February 2017) to be run as half-page ad in the Silver City Daily Press (June 5).
2. A chosen Social justice sign to be posted in UUF front yard. More signs to be made available for anyone wanting to put one in their yard. [\$10 donation will cover cost if you have it.]
3. We shall have a sign made for the front yard of our building, and it shall read in bold, black capital letters BLACK LIVES MATTER. Underneath, in bold red font: INJUSTICE TO ONE IS INJUSTICE TO ALL.
4. No regular Board meeting was held this month.

Susan Price, secretary

Possible UU go-to resources to use during the pandemic closure.

- For Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces -- Sunday service (10am)

<http://www.uuchurchlc.org/> (uses Zoom format)

- For First Unitarian of Albuquerque -- Sunday service at 11:00 am

<http://uuabq.com/> (uses Zoom format). First Unitarian also offers a Vespers program on Wednesday at 7pm via Zoom on the same website.

- From Deena Gentle - Tucson: Every Sunday, the Baja 4 ministers post a Sunday Service video. The video is available for viewing on our YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MVUUCongregation> We recommend viewing it at 10 am and then joining our community for an online Fellowship Hour at 11 am!

- For Lotus Center schedule of meditation & yoga programs –

go to <https://lotuscentersc.org/events/> They are now livestreaming and you can sign up for classes. Jeff Goin is facilitating a meditation program (Zoom) at 10 am on Sundays.

- The UU Church of the Larger Fellowship site has articles as well as zoom meetings and other resources on their website. The site is located at: www.questformeaning.org