

# High Desert Dispatch: June 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.

## June 13th -- "What Dogs Taught Me About Love" -- Rev. Xolani Kacela -- on Zoom

The Unitarian Universalist Principles are grounded in love. This sermon asks us to "paws" for a moment as we consider what dogs and other pets can teach us about love. Join us in welcoming Rev Kacela, the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, in addressing our Fellowship on the UU principles. If you thought that there were only 7 principles, tune in to find out about the proposed 8th principle.

**June 27<sup>th</sup> -- " Most-pandemic mental health " – Stacey Cox** The isolation and trauma of the pandemic moved many of us from a "they" have a mental health challenge to "we" have a mental health challenge and crisis. Whether you call it mental health, mental illness or a mental health crisis how do we use the principles of UU to address this issue?

**(Cont'd on page 2)**

**Watch for emails/news about our planned July 4<sup>th</sup>  
(Sunday) picnic/gathering outside at the Fellowship.**

## 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)

## **June 27<sup>th</sup> service (Cont'd from page 1)**

As the world continues to re-open and recover from the pandemic, it is clear to many of us that mental health should be centered during recovery. But, how do we do that? Whether people were working on the front lines in health care, grocery stores; over 40% of respondents in many mental health surveys during the pandemic reported at least one adverse mental or behavioral health condition, including symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder, symptoms of a trauma- and stressor-related disorder (TSRD) related to the pandemic, and having started or increased substance use to cope with stress or emotions related to COVID-19.

As a coach and psychologist I saw the issues first hand and am now seeing and personally feeling the trends toward increased anxiety and other mental health challenges as the world reopens. As we work to change systems for the sake of all of us, how do we do the immediate work at home to help ourselves or people struggling from anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges? What do we even call a mental health challenge?

Let's talk about it....

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

On Sunday, May 16 , 2021, the Semi-Annual Meeting took place on Zoom following a brief service at 10:00 with announcements, joys, concerns, shout-out to birthdays and music. The Meeting followed the agenda as previously emailed to the list-serv along with reports. Our contract employees, Sandy Michaud and Chellee Chase, were recognized for their continued work to our Fellowship this past year in the numerous and valuable tasks they perform for us on a dependable and weekly basis.

The Proposed Budget for 2021-22 was presented with thorough explanations from Board Treasurer, DeAnna Mooney. There were no member comments or questions raised, and the Budget was voted on and passed by the quorum of members on Zoom, by raising of hands. Afterwards, Sandy Michaud mentioned that she has recently received calls from groups asking to use our building, which will bring in some revenue.

Thanks to Paul Michaud for organizing the delivery and spread of gravel for the parking lot on May 20th .

As our Fellowship is volunteer run, there are numerous ways to help, both in lead positions as well as small, infrequent tasks. Leads are currently open for Membership, Adult Religious Education and Caring Connection. If you are interested in helping, please contact Carol Morrison or any Board member.

Our Program Committee and Social Justice Committee are making plans for in-person services and activities this summer, and SJC fund-raisers this fall. Be on the look-out for news when we can soon visit with each other again at our building!

Susan Price, Secretary

### **Notes from the Chair:**

Your Board and Program Committee will be working together in June to plot our move back to our building, with a hopeful date of July 4th. Nothing is written in stone. Stay tuned, one and all! Also, a big shout out to a successful budget process and Semi-Annual Meeting of our Fellowship on May 16. DeAnna, Steph and our Coordinators and Volunteer Leaders made it possible. You're the best! Carol Morrison, Board Chair (contact information: 575 223-8972, [carolmorr@gmail.com](mailto:carolmorr@gmail.com))

**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, May 7.

**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.

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**.

### **Here's a shout out to our June birthday babies!**

June 01	Andy Payne
June 03	Lillian Connelly
June 06	Breck Smith
June 08	Barbara Gabioud
June 13	Ivy Stephens-Etheridge
June 24	Kris Neri

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