

High Desert Dispatch: May 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.**

MAY SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS

Our May programs have been cancelled for the first three Sundays in May due to the continued stay-at-home order in New Mexico and that includes postponing our scheduled May 17th Semi-Annual Meeting and potluck.

May 24th: We hope to host a gathering, maybe not even a picnic but a gathering of some sort--ice cream on the patio and yard? Carefully distanced? **This is dependent on state and local recommendations.** Stay tuned!

May 31st: We are hoping to be able to have our Semi-Annual Meeting this day pending local recommendations, perhaps without our usual potluck. If this is not possible, this Board will send out our 2020-2021 budget to the Fellowship (on line) for approval by our voting membership. No matter what, our members and list serve will receive our Committee/Service reports as usual.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR: When I became chair in November, I, of course, had no inkling about a pandemic and months of cancelled programs! We are all in this together. Thank you to everyone who is working quietly behind the scenes to keep our Fellowship, building, newsletter, caring committee, landscaping, membership, etc. going. I am so grateful!

A Message from Chellee Chase, Family Programs Coordinator:
Dear Ivy, Liam, Samantha, Junie, Angela, Kit, Amara, and Marius:
Hello, my awesome friends, I miss you! I hope you are being good to your parents as they try to home school you, and I hope you are having lots and lots of fun, too! Maybe try some pretend games during quarantine, like you're astronauts stuck in outer space and you miss your friends back on Earth... or, you magically went back in time and now there are dinosaurs outside so you have to stay in! Oh, and watch out, the floor is made of lava! If you think of something fun to pretend, write it down so we can share our stories when we get back together. You are all shining stars, don't forget that! Also, adults, if you think of something fun to pretend, you write it down too, we'd love to hear about it. Peace, love, and good health to you all!

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

Andy Payne

Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

Adult RE

Karen Benediktson

Family Programs

Chellee Chase

Website

www.uufsc.com

email address is

uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com

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

Calendar of Building Events

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

NUUS from the Board

Your Board has also been working 'long distance'. My thanks to the two Susans, Paul, DeAnna, Kris and Zoey!

In early April, we prepared and approved the 2020-2021 budget for submission to the voting membership at the Semi-Annual Meeting (SAM). In mid-April at our regular Board meeting (on line/emails), we approved the agenda for the upcoming SAM.

We also made a determination to hold no vote on the Vision-Mission-Covenant statements until we could meet as a Fellowship. If we are unable to gather in May, we will schedule this important task for when we are back together, possibly this summer. We thank Jane Riger and the full Task Force for their hard work and look forward to a discussion and vote.

Keep in touch! Let Barb and the Caring Committee know if you need assistance. Stay active in our Social Justice and community efforts to help others. And take care of your health. Each one of you is special!

Thanks & a request from the treasurer:

Thanks to those members & friends who have paid their pledge in full for FY 2019-2020, which officially ends May 31, 2020.

For all others, please send the balance of your pledge or whatever amount you may want to contribute to this FY to: UUFSC, PO Box 4034, Silver City, NM 88062

Contact me if you need to know your current balance. Also, if for any reason you are unable to complete your pledge, no worries!

Our new FY 2020-21 begins June 1. Please hold on to any checks for new FY and send after June 1. Thank you, DeAnna Mooney, Treas

Newsletter Update from the Mission-Vision Taskforce

It's hard to stay on track in the best of times, which are certainly not now. The Mission-Vision Taskforce, after a lot of time, thought and effort, as announced to our congregation in March, created and voted unanimously on the following statements that we think represent our Congregation well: MISSION of the UU Fellowship of Silver City: To be a nurturing community that encourages spiritual growth, practices kindness and compassion, promotes sustainability and works toward justice for all beings.

VISION: Our vision is to be a welcoming spiritual community guided by love and the Unitarian Universalist Principles.

We hope to be able to have a discussion and vote on these two statements if the SAM convenes in person on May 31st. If the meeting is held on line, there will be no vote.

The following statement was a suggestion that 3 of the task force members thought might be worthy of consideration, but not all the members agreed. The task force suggests that further discussion and suggestions would be helpful before a vote on the existing Covenant statement is held.

AGREEMENT or COVENANT of BEHAVIOR and PRACTICE for Members and Friends of UUFSC: Our Mission and Vision statements will guide us in all aspects of our fellowship: programs, education, social actions, and interpersonal relations with each other and the wider community.

If this is confusing, we apologize. Please contact any of the members who have worked on these statements. Thanks and stay safe, Jane Riger, Susan Price, Susan Golightly, Karen Murphy, Karen Benediktson, Wendy Graves.

Since our wonderful UUFSC program calendar has been interrupted due to the pandemic restrictions for gatherings, here are a few UU resources that are available to help deal with these times of uncertainty and stress. You will be using Zoom for some of these programs and the company is making efforts to make Zoom safer and more secure.

Take care & stay healthy, Ron Gabioud

>For Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces -- to go Sunday service (10 am) <http://www.uuchurchlc.org/> (uses Zoom format)

>For First Unitarian of Albuquerque -- go to 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/>

There are a variety of meditation and yoga virtual programs offered during the week. Jeff Goin is facilitating a meditation program (Zoom) at 10 am on Sunday -- see Zoom link on Lotus Center site.

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