

High Desert Dispatch: October 2018

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

Oct 7th – Our Annual Blessing of the Animals. Please bring your pets to gather with us out on the patio. For their safety & ours, please leash, cage, crate, harness or otherwise contain your critters. If you have a pet who has passed or one you don't feel comfortable bringing, feel free to bring a picture, toy or memento. With respect to our critter kids the service may be shorter than usual. Heidi Ogas is moderator.

Oct 14th -- Mary Ann Finn "A Journey with Laughter"
During Sunday's presentation, Mary Ann will discuss more of the benefits of laughter, including its ability to boost the immune system, followed by a few participatory laughter activities that participants may even try at home (cont'd on pg 2). Nancy Cliff will be moderator. **Family Program today** (see p. 2)

Oct 21st -- "River Poets" This group of local poets meets monthly to write and share what they write with each other. The group is a branch of the New Mexico State Poetry Society. Four of their members will read for the service on October 21. Writing sessions take place at the Tranquil Buzz the second Friday of each month at 1pm; all poets welcome! Azima Lila Forest, member of River Poets **Childcare will be available.**

Oct 28th – Bill Charland is a local author of nine books and "Tenuous State" is his third novel. Once a careers columnist at the nationally distributed Rocky Mountain News, he wrote extensively for the Christian Science Monitor and served in higher education over a span of 50 years. He entered the field in 1961, while still in graduate school, and left when he retired from a part-time position at Western New Mexico University. Lynda Aiman-Smith will moderate. **Family Program today** (see p. 2)

Board Members

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

Membership

Nancy Cliff & Heidi Ogas
Caring
~Open~

Facilities

Paul Michaud
Hospitality
Sandra Michaud

Newsletter

John Mooney
Programming
Ron Gabioud

Social Justice Committee

Sunny Kellerman
Office Coordinator
Sandra Michaud

Adult RE

Lynda Aiman-Smith

Family Programs

Chellee Chase

Website

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Silver City, NM 88062

Phone: 575-538-0101

Calendar of Building Events

(Please note the schedule in the building and on the website.) Contact the office coordinator (575-538-0101) for scheduling.

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

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

Oct 14th - Cont'd from page 1:

Mary Ann Finn will present about her experience doing laughter yoga for 11 years in Grant County and beyond and what it has done for her. While working for the NM Dept of Health as a diabetes educator, Mary Ann received training as a Certified Laughter Leader and led many laughter clubs and laughter yoga sessions to offer another form of exercise to people with diabetes. Though Mary Ann retired in 2011, she continued to lead laughter clubs because of the personal benefits. "Laughter has many health benefits but most especially for me, it helps me manage stress, it helps me take myself less seriously, and it helps me relate better to other people and the world." If you miss this presentation, you may participate in laughter yoga at the Lotus Center leading Laughter Yoga sessions every Monday at 1:15 pm. These sessions are free, though donations for the Lotus Center are always welcome.

News from the Board

The Board met September 16th . We're doing the month to month Perpetual Calendar duties and preparing for the November 18th Annual Meeting.

Paul Michaud presented a video prepared by Church Mutual Ins, "Safety Tips on a Sensitive Subject: Child Sexual Abuse". Board members and Family Program staff watched and discussed ways we can implement some of these suggestions.

Family Programs is going very well with good attendance by children and families.

Next board meeting will be Sunday, October 14th, 2018, after the program. All are welcome.

Jane Riger, UUFSC Board Secretary

FAMILY PROGRAMS UPDATE

October in the Children's Program: On the 13th we'll continue with Intangible Gifts, learning about The Gift of Kindness. On the 27th, we'll have Halloween fun and crafts. For info/input on UU Children's Program, contact Chellee at chelleechase@gmail.com. **Chellee Chase FP Coordinator**

The youth religious exploration group is using the Riddle and Mystery curriculum which poses a big question each month. In October our big question is "What are we?" which looks at UU identity as a questioning religion and explores the value of participating in a religious community that doesn't offer many answers. **Zoey Cronin Youth RE Coordinator**

OCTOBER 4 meeting:

Due to timing issues we have changed the event with Rev. Sarah Millspaugh on October 4 to 7:00pm and will do desserts and drinks instead of a full potluck (still at the fellowship). Rev. Millspaugh is our contact and support person from the Pacific western region of the UUA. She says she would like to see the fellowship and meet members. We are planning an informal conversation about outreach and inreach (building capacity and leadership) with her. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to me (Zoey) directly so we know how much space to set up. We hope to see you Thursday!

On **November 4, 2018**, **Connie Thibeau-Catsis** will talk about issues related to 'Dia de los Muertos.' An 'Ofrenda' will be set up for photographs, poems, thoughts, or stories so that the fellowship can share in the display. The talk will not only speak to 'day of the dead' issues, but also 'day of the living' issues.

A Big Thank You:

I thank all who celebrated the new step in my life with me last Sunday. Jane Riger, you were wonderful to organize this. I have been a member of this fellowship since January 2001, almost 18 years. This has been the most wonderful group of people and I will miss each and every one of you. I carry wonderful memories in my heart! **Peggy Spofford**