

High Desert Dispatch: September 2022

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.**

UUFSC Safety Protocol: We will not be consuming food or drinks in the building until further notice. Masks must be worn in the building at ALL times. We will continue to enjoy refreshments on the patio, weather permitting.

Sept 4: Labor Day Picnic AT 11:00AM on the Patio (weather permitting). Bring a side dish to share, and anything you want to grill. Please bring your own plates & utensils. Help setting up/putting away appreciated. After lunch, duo Gwyn Jones and Quinn Martin will share songs from the Labor Movement on the patio.

Sept 11: Joe Neri - "The Five Attachments" We have all unwittingly made agreements about how we think we should live our lives and our personal truths. What most of us do not realize is that these agreements represent attachments that impose limitations. In this program Joe Neri, will draw from *The Five Levels of Attachment: Toltec Wisdom for the Modern World* by Don Miguel Ruiz, Jr.

Moderator – Joe Neri

This is a Family/Childrens' Program Sunday – children 4 yrs and older have their own special activities.

Sept 18: Connie Thibeau-Catsis - "Looking Back, Seeing Forward, Being Now" In this program, Connie Thibeau-Catsis will talk about the challenges of looking back over one's life in the light of forgiveness, seeing forward into our changing lives, and the practice of being now.

Connie has spoken several times at the UUFSC since retiring from Arizona State University where she was a professor in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Moderator Carley Preusch

Sept 25: Pat Sterling "The Wisdom of Robert Frost"

Robert Frost could probably lay claim to being the United States' most popular and well-loved poet although most people are familiar with only a few of his best known poems. Pat Sterling will be exploring a few of Frost's lesser known but still excellent short poems.

Moderator Ted Whittemore

This is a Family/Childrens' Program Sunday – children 4 yrs and older have their own special activities.

Board Members

Carol Morrison, Board Chair
Steph Smith, Vice Chair
DeAnna Mooney, Co-Treas.
Joanne DeMichele, Co-Treas.
Susan Price, Sec.
Nancy Stephens
Kris Neri

Membership Team

Nancy Cliff, Heidi Ogas

Caring Team Lead

OPEN

Facilities Team Lead

Paul Michaud

Hospitality Volunteer Team Lead

Zoey Cronin

Newsletter

Lynda Aiman-Smith

Programming Volunteer Team

Karen Murphy

Social Justice Volunteer Team

Joe Neri

Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

Adult RE Team

OPEN

Family Programs

Gay Hedges – Director

Ivy Etheridge- Teacher

Teja Clark - Childcare

Website

www.uufsc.com

Email address is

uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com

Our mailing address is

P.O. Box 4034

Silver City, NM 88062

For membership questions, email

Nancy Cliff:

ncliff49@gmail.com

Join us by Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/3800124194?pwd=QkxTNjV3UFIJOXNlbHpsSDZ5bUhvZz09>

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode (if needed): UUFSC

Notes from your Board Chair Carol Morrison -Mark your Calendar for a Workshop! The Fellowship and The Lotus Center are co-sponsoring a weekend workshop on Non Violent Communication. Nov 11-13, Veterans Day Weekend. The certified instructor will be Karen Starz of Truth of Consequences. More info as it becomes available.

News from the Board – by Susan Price, Board Secretary - The *Welcoming Congregation* Team has 9 people, and they have had their 1st meeting. The *Program Team* has 3 new members, and the schedule of Sunday programs is filled through the end of the year and into January! Volunteer positions yet to be filled: Chair and Vice Chair of the Board for 2023, Caring, Membership, Outreach, and both Nominating and Audit Committee members. Volunteer for a team; help our fellowship stay strong and vital! The children in the Q-Hut on Sunday are happy with their activities; they prefer to stay there rather than come to the patio during the early part of the service. The *Social Justice Committee* has Fall fundraising events. Big concern – we've seen a significant reduction of donations, both monetary and Wednesday drop-offs, which includes supplies needed for the Go-Bags. Donations needed now as much as ever.

The Unitarian Universalist Association's Welcoming Congregation Program is an optional program for congregations that want to take intentional steps to be more welcoming and inclusive of people of all sexual and affectional orientations and gender identities and expressions. Approximately 77% of all UU congregations are *Welcoming Congregations*.

UUFSC is on the path to applying for recognition as a Welcoming Congregation. As welcoming as we know we are, there's more to learn and new ways to affirm and advocate for LGBTQ+ people and rights. UUFSC has and will always welcome all persons who wish to build a community of caring and respect. By being a *Welcoming Congregation*, we say that we not only open our doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities; we value diversity and are committed to working for LGBTQ justice and equity

The committee will begin with an affirmation and nondiscrimination clause for our bylaws and other official documents. They will look at opportunities to celebrate the lives of LGBTQ+ people and their love for each other. They will explore educational opportunities, community outreach, and different ways to discuss and advocate for fundamental human rights that are neglected, misrepresented, and under attack.

The Welcoming Congregation committee held two organizational meetings in August and will meet at least monthly going forward. If you would like to join or support our efforts or have any questions, contact Joanne DeMichele at joanndemichel2010@gmail.com (575) 654-5469.

Sept 7 & 8 The New Mexico 44th Annual Conference on Aging will be held virtually on September 7th and 8th, 2022. Info and to register for this virtual event go to <https://nmaging.state.nm.us/news-events/conference-on-aging>

Sept 18: Drum Circle 9:30am. All are welcome to participate in our Autumn Equinox (*Mabon*) drum circle. Bring your drums, rattle, bells - welcome the beginning of Fall prior to the regular Sunday service

Gila River Festival Sept 22-25. The Gila Conservation Coalition invites you to the 18th annual Gila River Festival - One Water, Many Currents - September 22 - 25, 2022. <https://www.gilariverfestival.org/>

Sock-Hop Sept 24! The UUFSC is hosting a good old-fashioned sock hop on Saturday, September 24, from 6 to 9 pm, at the UU Fellowship Hall at 3845 N. Swan Street in Silver City. \$10 suggested donation, with all proceeds going to the UU Social Justice Committee to help fund its support of local food banks and homeless shelters.

A shout out to our Sept Birthday babies! Want to see your name next year? Send an email to Denise Smith denisesmith09@gmail.com

9/2 Denny Martin
9/8 Nancy Cliff
9/11 Frances Browne

9/11 Stephanie Smith
9/20 Joanne DeMichele
9/29 Pat Sterling

Calendar of Building Events

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