

# High Desert Dispatch: September 2023

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. Our Fellowship celebrates diversity and welcomes all, of every race, ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background, mental and physical ability or disability, socioeconomic condition, and family structure. **Please join us.**

**UUFSC Safety Protocol: On Sundays, masks are recommended, but optional. Refreshments and potlucks can take place in the building, as well as (weather permitting) on the patio.**

**Sept 3: Labor Day Picnic AT 11:00AM – NO 10AM service. We meet 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.

**Sept 10: – George Carr & Dave Becker** – "Pride" Not Prejudice " George, a retired civil rights attorney active with the ACLU SWNM Chapter, will discuss how rights for LGBTQIA+ persons have developed in the US over the past 50 years—and how some rights are being threatened, but also protected, today. Dave will be presenting a short history of Pride and how it evolved from a reaction and protest against oppression and has expanded into a celebration of individual and community identity and joint commitment to non-discrimination and equal rights. The Fellowship is also celebrating its formal recognition as a Welcoming Congregation by the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**Moderator** Barbara Bush

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

**Sept 17: Jewish High Holidays.** This active participatory service will recognize the two high holidays known as Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur. These holy days encourage renewal, atonement, charity, and forgiveness. To emphasize charity, all are invited to bring canned/non-perishable goods for the food donation basket.

**Moderator** – Nancy Stephens

**Sept 24 at 9:30am - Drumming on the Patio --** for the Equinox!

**Sept 24: Lynda Aiman-Smith** – "The Five Remembrances and the Nurturing Caring Community" As humans, we face inevitable aging, illness, loss, death. In the U.S. culture, many of us resist talking and preparing for these inevitabilities – especially our own death. In this program we will discuss developing a nurturing and caring community to help each other prepare for end of life.

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

## Board Members

Board Chair - Carlos Price

Vice Chair - Victoria Reece

Treas., Margaret Shoemaker

Sec - Susan Price

At large Members - DeAnna Mooney, Kris Neri, Nancy Stephens

## Membership Team

Linda Price

## Caring Team Lead

OPEN

## Facilities Team Lead

Paul Michaud

## Hospitality Volunteer Team Lead

Susan Price

## Outreach Team Lead

Carol Morrison

## Programs Volunteer Team Lead

Sandra Michaud (Aug-Oct)

## Audio/Visual/IT

John Mooney

## Social Justice Volunteer Team

Joe Neri => Maree McHugh (in Nov)

## Office Coordinator

Sandra Michaud

## Adult RE Team

OPEN

## Family Programs

Gay Hedges – Director

Ivy Etheridge- Teacher

Teja Clark – Childcare

## Newsletter

Lynda Aiman-Smith

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

Linda Price - [lbp650@gmail.com](mailto:lbp650@gmail.com)

Join UUFSC Zoom Meeting 10am Sundays

<https://zoom.us/j/3800124194?pwd=QkxTNjV3UFIJQXNlbHpsSDZ5bUhvZz09>

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode: UUFSC

**News from the Board from Board Secretary Susan Price** – No board meeting held in August.

**Note from the Board Chair Carlos Price** -- Sometimes we act in ways that do not conform to our beliefs or values. Such behaviors may create stress known as cognitive dissonance. We may believe in healthy living but exhibit poor eating and exercise habits. To relieve the dissonance we need to either change the behavior, the belief or develop a coping strategy. Procrastination (diet next week), excuses (big bones), and denial (weight charts are unrealistic) are unhelpful coping strategies.

**Sept Welcoming Days of Observance – September 23 is Celebrate Bisexuality Day.** Also referred to as Bisexual Pride Day and Bi Visibility Day, this day is an opportunity to celebrate diverse bi identities, raise the voices of bi people, educate people on obstacles faced by the bisexual community, and call for positive change. The challenges bi people face, often unshared by their lesbian and gay peers, can have a huge impact on their lives and often means they feel unable to be themselves, even among their closest friends and family. This annual celebration began in 1999 as International Celebrate Bisexuality Day, created by three bi activists in the U.S.. It was marked that year in the U.S., U.K., and South Africa, and is now celebrated in more than 30 countries around the world. A precursor to the first official observance was the formation in 1990 of the oldest national bisexuality organization in the U.S., BiNet USA. In 2021, Pennsylvania governor Tom Wolf became the first governor in the United States to issue a statement recognizing Bisexual Pride Day. More information on this day of observance and its history is available at <https://bivisibilityday.com/about/> and <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/why-do-we-need-bi-visibility-day> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celebrate\\_Bisexuality\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celebrate_Bisexuality_Day).

**National Hispanic Heritage Month (*Mes nacional de la herencia hispana*) runs from September 15 to October 15.** This celebration recognizes the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements for the United States. In 1968, Congress passed legislation (signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson) designating the week of September 15 as "National Hispanic Heritage Week." In 1988, the celebration was expanded to a full month by President Ronald Reagan. September 15 is significant as the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16, and Chile its independence on September 18. The Día de la Raza, on October 12, also falls within this 30-day period. See <https://history.house.gov/HistoricalHighlight/Detail/15032398402> and <https://www.hispanicheritagemoth.gov/about.html> for more info.

**Please donate food contributions for the Commons Food Pantry** in the basket near the front door.

**The Four Agreements Discussion Group** will meet on Friday Sept 1 at 11 am at the UUFSC Fellowship Hall.

**The Soul Collage** group will meet on Wed Sept 13 from 3-6 pm in-person in the Community Room. All are welcome. All instructions and supplies are provided. Masks are optional, we run the air filter for better ventilation.

**Claudia Elferdink asks "Wouldn't it be fun to have a UUFSC group for Wednesday evening Trivia at the Toad?"** Looking for fellow geeks! Let me know if you're interested." Email: [celferdink@gmail.com](mailto:celferdink@gmail.com) Or text: 203 623-2907

**Join us Sept 24 at 9:30am on the patio for Drumming.** We will be celebrating the Fall Equinox - Mabon in the Pagan Wheel of the Year. The Fall Equinox on 9/23 this year, marks the day of balance of dark and light.

**Join in the "Life Cafe" on Sept 28 at 4PM at the Silver City Public Library.** People who are actively dying or actively trying to live have the suspicion that there are stories we've come to believe about ourselves that aren't true. We want to get the story right. We always move on when we realize a true story never ends, but frees us to continue becoming. For more info contact Lisa [lmjimenez13@gmail.com](mailto:lmjimenez13@gmail.com) or (575) 574-5473.

**Sept 30 at 7PM - the Silver City Rotary Club will present the Rock Away Polio concert** at Light Hall at WNMU. Featured artists will be Blues Dawg and Famous Raymos and the Sugarcubes, led by Amos Torres. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door; or online at [SilverCityRotary.org](http://SilverCityRotary.org), or from Art Thorn. All proceeds will be matched 2-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

<b>Sept birthdays</b>	Janett Hoke 9/1	Martin Denny 9/7	Fran Browne 9/11	Stephanie Smith 9/11
	Margaret Shoemaker 9/13	William Paff 9/17	Joanne DeMichelle 9/20	Pat Sterling 9/29

*Want to see your birthday in the newsletter? Contact Lynda at [lynda\\_aimansmith@yahoo.com](mailto:lynda_aimansmith@yahoo.com)*