

High Desert Dispatch: March 2026

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 & opportunities for service to others. Our programs encompass humanism, liberal Christianity, earth-based spirituality, Buddhism & many other traditions. The members themselves plan & present the Sunday programs. We are a Welcoming Congregation that celebrates diversity & welcomes all, of every race, ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background, mental & physical ability or disability, body size or shape, health condition, socioeconomic condition, & family structure. **Please join us.**

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

Mar 1: Karen Starz "Moralistic vs Value Based Judgement."

Karen Starz is a certified Nonviolent Communication trainer. Karen believes that nonviolent communication builds discernment based on an understanding of our interdependence as one living system. She enjoys working with activists & change agents, supporting them in being heard & getting their message across. **Moderator: Denise Jones**

Daylight Savings Time Starts – Spring Forward

Mar 8: Ivy Stephens-Etheridge "How & Why Microbes Increase Plant Nutrition." Ivy Stephens-Etheridge is a high school senior at Aldo Leopold Charter School. She is working with Mike & Carol Ann Fugagli on a project promoting local agricultural use of the New Earth Project's living earth & regenerative practices. Last semester, Ivy took a microbiology class at WNMU, which piqued her interest in soil microbes.

Moderator: Nancy Stephens

Mar 15: Jamie Sechrist "Gila Community Foundation." Jamie Sechrist, Executive Director of the Gila Community Foundation, will share an overview of the different types of charitable funds available through our local community foundation & how they can help individuals, families, & organizations create meaningful, lasting impact in Southwest New Mexico.

Moderator: Heidi Ogas

Join in the Spring Equinox drumming 9:30am on the patio

Mar 22: Zoey Cronin "Multigenerational Program" *Deeper Joy* is a collection of activities curated by the UUA intending fostering inclusive, multigenerational communities centered in love. Try out some of the games, songs, activities, & practices that are designed to be engaging for people of all ages while encouraging deeper connections within our fellowship community. **Moderator: Gillian Sherwood**

Mar 29: UUs & Friends of UU "Engaged Conversations." We UUs usually see ourselves as humanists, as being rational, as scientists. Yet, we also may have a sense of 'the spiritual' in our lives. Let's talk about those dynamics!

Moderator: Lynda Aiman-Smith

You can make your UUFSC donations online!

<https://D4613CBD4D2624D9.chmeetings.com//Giving/D4613CBD4D2624D9>

Board Members

Board Chair – Joe Neri; Vice Chair – Lynda Aiman-Smith; Treas- Art Thorn
treasurer.uufsc@gmail.com

Sec – Susan Guillory
At Large: Victoria Reece, Bill Paff, Anita Williams

Membership Team Lead

Kris Neri -info

krisneri@gmail.com

Caring Team Leads

Carol Morrison & Lynda Aiman-Smith

Facilities Team Lead

Paul Michaud

Hospitality Volunteer Team Lead

Susan Price

Outreach Team Lead

Gene Jones

Programs Volunteer Team Lead

Gail Stamler (Jan-March)

Social Justice Volunteer Team

Ron Gabioud

Border Justice Volunteer Team

Barbara Gabioud

Adult RE Team Leads

Karen Benediktson & Gale Green

Welcoming Congregation Team

Barbara Bush, Gale Green, Victoria Reece, Mike Sheffer

Office & Website Coordinator

Leah Klearman info@uufsc.com

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Audio/Visual/IT

John Mooney & Akien Maciain

Newsletter

Lynda Aiman-Smith

UUFSC mailing address is

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Fellowship email info@uufsc.com

Join UUFSC Zoom Meeting 10am Sundays

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

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode: UUFSC

Note from Board Chair Joe Neri - Let's be honest...the guy most if not all of us never heard of a few months ago used his appearance at the Super Bowl to simply & eloquently state the guiding light that all of us live by:

"THE ONLY THING MORE POWERFUL THAN HATE IS LOVE."

Thank you Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio (aka Bad Bunny).

Note from Board Secretary Susan Guillory – The Perpetual Calendars have been merged & cleaned up, Thank you Joe. This makes the information easier to understand & use. The Building Fund has been replenished. Information on our May 2026 semi-annual meeting & pledge letter coming out soon.

Welcoming Days of Observance - March is Women's History Month, highlighting the contribution of women to events in history & contemporary society. First celebrated as "Women's History Day" in Sonoma County, CA, in 1978. More information is available at <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month> ***March 8th is International Women's Day**, a global holiday celebrated annually as part of the women's rights movement. The United Nations adopted it as holiday in 1977. The UN's theme for International Women's Day 2026 is "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women & Girls." More information is available at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/womens-day> ***March 31st International Transgender Day of Visibility**, an annual event celebrating transgender people & their identities, raising awareness of the discrimination & violence faced by transgender people worldwide, & recognizing those who have fought for trans rights. Transgender activist Rachel Crandall founded this celebration in 2009 as a reaction to the lack of LGBTQ+ recognition of transgender people & in response to widespread media stories about vilification & violence toward transgender people. Joe Biden issued a formal proclamation of Transgender Day of Visibility, on March 31, 2021, calling "upon all Americans to join in the fight for full equality for all transgender people." The current presidential administration demonizes trans people, making this day of elevating transgender people & their authentic experiences that much more important. Info: <https://www.hrc.org/resources/international-transgender-day-of-visibility>

Children's Programs Closed Jan 31, 2026: We have fresh "Busy Bags" to use with children during programs. Our first multi-generational program is March 22, 2026. Questions? Ask Zoey Cronin, DeAnna Mooney, or Lynda Aiman-Smith.

Shared Self Help is a place to share wisdom among peers wanting to make small every-day improvements to our lives. Led by Akien & Leah, the group is currently exploring good times & places for our meeting. If you'd like to attend, please see Leah (lklrnm@gmail.com) or Akien (akienm@gmail.com) to discuss times.

The Four Agreements Discussion Group meets on Mar 6 at 11 am. Discussion based on the core teachings of *The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz. Reading the book not required. Info -Carole carmichaeluu@gmail.com

Soul Collage – Wednesday Mar 11, from 3-5:30 pm. All materials supplied. Newcomers welcome.

From the Social Justice Team: Our next meeting will be on Fri Mar 13th at the UUFSC at 11:00. All are welcome.

March 22 @ 5:30pm Dances of Universal Peace, 609 Arizona St, info: Mana'ar_ellenpeacedance@gmail.com

KUNDALINI YOGA for BEGINNERS, FRIDAYS 3:30 – 4:30 pm, The Hearth, 1915 N. Swan St. Info - Colleen Jiron, ccjiron@yahoo.com

The Raging Grannies meet Mondays at 3:30pm at our UUFSC to practice singing protest. All welcome!

Silver City Indivisible meeting, Mar 9 (2nd Mondays) the Hearth, 1915 Swan, get there at 5 for social time, mtg starts 5:30.

Cancer Support Group March 12 & March 26 – 2pm-3:15pm at UUFSC. Info dianesmithlcsw@gmail.com or 520-245-7096

Spring Equinox Global Harmonization Fri March 20, 11:00 AM Gough Park. Info: Beatriz_Giraldo_nobleamiga@yahoo.com

The Death Cafe meets Monday, Mar 23rd, 4:00-5:30 pm at the Silver City Public Library. The topic will include a review of the research on the use of psilocybin & other psychoactive substances to calm fear & anxiety at the end of life. Free!

If you wish to be added to either or both of the UUFSC google groups (one for UUFSC business, one for general discussion), please contact Leah Klearman info@uufsc.com & she will get the process going.

Mar b-days *Want to see your birthday in the newsletter? Contact Lynda at lynda_aimansmith@yahoo.com*

Mike Susinski 3/2	Paul Riger 3/5	Carley Preusch 3/12	Albert Einstein 3/14*	Lewis Earl Galway3/19
Susan Guillory 3/25	Carol Morrison 3/26	John Mooney 3/29	Sandra Michaud 3/30	Gwen Payne 3/31

*Friend of UU, who said "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity"