

High Desert Dispatch: September 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.

Sept 6: Labor Day Picnic! AT 11:00AM – NO 10AM service. Tables on the Patio (weather permitting) & inside. Bring a side dish to share, & anything you want to grill. Please bring your own plates & utensils. The Fellowship will provide non-alcoholic drinks. We need a few folks to come 30 minutes early to help set up tables!

Sept 13: Mana'ar Johnson - The special UU Flower Ceremony this year will focus on our 7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Rev. Mana'ar Johnson will explain the inspiring history behind the ceremony & will bring in some recent science about plants/flowers. Bring a single flower with you. Don't worry if you forget, we will have extras! **Moderator: Lynda Aiman-Smith**

Sept 20 Join us to *Drum for the Fall Equinox 9:30am on the patio*

Sept 20: Jewish High Holidays. This active participatory service will recognize the two high holidays known as Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah, literally the "head of the year" is the Jewish New Year. It is a time of inner renewal & divine atonement. Yom Kippur is the Day of Atonement. The days between are known as a time of charity, prayer & repentance during which people are encouraged to get right with those they have wronged & to forgive those who have wronged them.

Sept 27: Community Conversation – *What have you personally learned about aging that surprised you?* This Circle time offers us the opportunity to freely discuss a process that we all experience in our lives. Given our Fellowship members' love of discussion, we should have a lively set of insights! **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: Paul Michaud, Victoria Reece, 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 Team Lead

Susan Price

Outreach Team Lead

Gene Jones

Programs Team Leads

Cathleen Norman & Nancy Stephens
(Sept-Dec)

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, David Becker, Gale Green, Victoria Reece, Mike Sheffer

Office & Website Coordinator

Leah Klearman info@uufsc.com

Website www.uufsc.com

Audio/Visual/IT

John Mooney, AkienMaciain, Paul Michaud

Newsletter

Lynda Aiman-Smith

UUFSC mailing address

P.O. Box 4034

Silver City, NM 88062

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

If you wish to be added to either or both of the UUFSC google groups please contact Leah Klearman info@uufsc.com

Note from Board Chair Joe Neri – UUFSC continues to support the values & needs of our local community. The Board recently approved sponsorships for two local events coming up in Sept. (1) Pride in the Gila Festival on Sept 12 at Gough Park, supporting the human concept that we are all sisters & brothers; &, (2) Gala in the Garden on Sept 26 at The Commons, supporting the incredible work being done to overcome food insecurity in our community.

Note from Board Secretary Susan Guillory – Please make sure you have signed the membership role (clipboard in foyer) before Sept 16 in order to be a voting member for our Nov 15, 2026 annual meeting. Thanks to Paul several building projects are being addressed & improved. Keep an eye out for good changes!

Welcoming Days of Observance – Sept 12 is the Pride in the Gila Festival at Gough Park starting at 11:00 am. Live performances, booths, food vendors, & a safe & welcoming space for all members of the LGBTQIA+ community & their allies. Theme: Celebrate Yourself! **September 23 is Celebrate Bisexuality Day** - This day celebrates diverse bi identities, raises the voices of bi people, educates people on obstacles faced by the bisexual community, & calls for positive change. The challenges bi people face, often unshared by their lesbian & gay peers, can have a huge impact on their lives & frequently mean they feel unable to be themselves, even among their closest friends & family. This annual celebration began in 1999 as International Celebrate Bisexuality Day, created by three bi activists in the U.S. More information on this day its history is available 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 & influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, & achievements for the United States. In 1968, Congress passed legislation designating the week of September 15 as "National Hispanic Heritage Week." In 1988, the celebration was expanded to a full month. September 15 is significant as the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras & Nicaragua. Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16, & Chile its independence on September 18. <https://www.hispanicheritagemoth.gov/about.html>

When Adults with Children come in 2026: We have fresh "Busy Bags" to use with children during programs.

Hospitality team needs your help to partner with the current Hospitality host on the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of the month. We also need one other host for 5th Sundays. And we are looking for a two-person team to manage table set-ups & break-downs for our regular potlucks during the year. Please contact Susan Price at susan2price@gmail.com

Help! - The Sunday morning refreshments pantry is getting low on stock! Please bring in some juice, unsweetened iced tea, cookies. We especially need gluten free sweets, nuts, etc. Deliver to the Sunday morning host.

The Four Agreements Discussion Group You are invited to the regular Four Agreements group meeting Friday, Sept 4 at 11 am 'til 12:30. Open to all. Questions? Please contact Carole Carmichaeluu@gmail.com

Soul Collage Wed Sept 9 @3-5:30 pm. Materials supplied. Newcomers welcome. Questions? Carole carmichaeluu@gmail.com

Cancer Support Group Sept 10 & Sept 24 – 2pm-3:15pm at UUFSC. Info dianesmithlcs@gmail.com or 520-245-7096

Silver City Indivisible meeting, Sept 14 (2nd Mondays) the Hearth, 1915 Swan, 5pm for social time, mtg 5:30.

Kundalini Yoga for Beginners will resume on Sept. 15 at WNMU's yoga studio (down the hall from the CREC) on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30-3:30, continuing through Dec. 08 (except for Thanksgiving week). Info - Colleen Jiron cjiron@yahoo.com

NM Borderland Animal Rescue Coalition YARD SALE Sat 9/19/2026, 9-1pm - 530 West Highway 180. NO early birds. To donate items to the sale write NM BARC <newmexicobar@gmail.com> to arrange pickup or drop-off

Autumn Equinox Ceremony 11am Sept 22, Gough Park. Bring drums & instruments to welcome the equinox! Info – Beatriz Giraldo nobleamiga@yahoo.com

Dances of Universal Peace Sept 27 @ 5:30pm 609 Arizona St. Live music, simple movements, words from world spiritual traditions, open hearts, joyous experience! info: lynda_aimansmith@yahoo.com

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

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Sept b-days	Gypsy Zane 9/8	Stephanie Smith 9/11	*Roald Dahl 9/15	Bill Paff 9/17
Mana'ar Johnson 9/17	Joanne DeMichele 9/20	Pat Sterling 9/29		

*UK author of sometimes scary children's stories