

High Desert Dispatch: October 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.

Oct 4: Randy Searles "Community Alliance for Revitalization Efforts (C.A.R.E.)" After returning to school to study Business, Randy Searles decided to find a way to share what he had learned in his 40 plus years in the construction industry, in hopes of giving young New Mexican Residents tools that would help increase their skills, & in turn, bolster a much-needed resource in the waning labor force. C.A.R.E. was established on June 1, 2026 & is presently in the initial stages of implementing programs that will be available to the public. **Moderators: Gail Stamler**

Oct 11: Tyler Taylor "Interfaith Support of Unhoused People" Retired physician & Los Alamos UU member, Tyler Taylor, MD makes a return presentation to UUFSC, sharing an initiative he led to help the unhoused population in Española, NM, as well as his work with an inter-faith group that is assisting with mental health services & homelessness there. **Moderator: Kris Neri**

Oct 18: Emma Eileen McKinley "Health Through Community Action" The Grant County Community Health Council & the Youth Substance Awareness & Prevention Coalition are diverse & dedicated groups working towards a healthier Grant County. **Moderators: Nancy Stephens & Joanie Connors**

Oct 25: Arlan Lazere "NM BARC" A NMBARC team will discuss the history, mission, & work of NMBARC to establish No Kill in SW NM & beyond. NMBARC is not an animal shelter, it has a network of volunteers who foster animals until they can be adopted. Their Good Neighbor program helps our lower-income neighbors with assistance for food, vet care, & more. **Moderator: Gillian Sherwood**

Nov 1: Mike Scheffer "Dia de los Muertos" We will have Ofrendas set up in the Sanctuary & Social Hall with flowers (traditionally marigolds) & candles. Please come to the service about 10-15 minutes early to place a photo/memento of the person(s) you wish to honor on the table. **Moderator: Gillian Sherwood**

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, Geri Sanders,
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

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Leah Klearman info@uufsc.com

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Audio/Visual/IT

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Akien Maciain, Paul Michaud

Newsletter

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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 – The UUFSC Social Justice Team is sponsoring a "Get Out the Vote Dance Party." It will be held on Saturday, October 10 at The Hearth (1915 N. Swan Street). Doors open at 6:00 pm. Music by Grant County Line begins at 6:30 pm. \$10 suggested donation - all proceeds go to support the activities of our Social Justice team. So dust off your best "Peace, Love & Rock 'n' Roll" attire & help get the blue wave started!

Note from Board Secretary Susan Guillory – Building & drainage improvements on the way - thank you Paul! Our annual meeting is coming up Nov 15, please mark your calendars. Please make sure your membership information is up to date, so you can vote during the meeting. The membership clip board is located in the lobby by the front door.

Welcoming Days of Observance – Oct is LGBT History Month. First celebrated in Oct 1994, & declared a national History month by Barack Obama in 2009, LGBT History Month is dedicated to celebrating & teaching the history of the LGBTQIA+ community. LGBT History Month offers role models of the LGBTQIA+ community's contributions, sending a message to school boards, community leaders, & youth about the importance of the role of LGBTQIA+ people in American history. More at <https://www.lgbthistorymonth.com/background> -- **Oct 11 is National Coming-Out Day** National coming out day celebrates lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, & queer people's coming out experiences & journeys. More information available at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Coming_Out_Day -- **Oct 12 is Indigenous Peoples' Day** in the United States. This day celebrates & honors indigenous American peoples & commemorates their histories & cultures. It is celebrated across the U.S. on the second Monday in Oct, & is an official city & state holiday in various localities. First instituted in Berkeley, California in 1992, it was recognized by presidential proclamation by Joe Biden in 2021. More information-- <https://indianpueblo.org/indigenous-peoples-day-highlights/> **Oct 15 is Spirit Day.** A day aimed at inspiring LGBTQIA+ youth & what their communities can do to support them in living their truth & authentic lives. You can participate in this day by wearing purple & speaking out against bullying. More info at <https://glaad.org/spiritday> -- **Oct 26 is Intersex Awareness Day.** This day celebrates intersex people (individuals whose physical or genetic makeup does not fit traditional definitions of male & female), recognizing the unique human rights challenges they face. The 1st first public demonstration by intersex people in North America was in 1996 to protest the high rates of medical interventions that were being performed on intersex infants & children without the consent or knowledge of the individual. More information at <https://intersexday.org/en/> -- **October is also Filipino-American Heritage Month, German-American Heritage Month, Italian-American Heritage & Culture Month, & Polish-American Heritage Month!**

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. & 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

Susan Price reminds us she is stepping down as Hospitality Team Lead. A UU needs to step up in this important role.

The Four Agreements Discussion Group You are invited to the regular Four Agreements group meeting Friday, Oct 2 at 11 am 'til 12:30. Open to all. Questions? Please contact Joe Neri Joe12Bar@gmail.com

Soul Collage Wed Oct 14 @3-5:30 pm. Materials supplied. Newcomers welcome. Questions? Carole carmichaeluu@gmail.com

Cancer Support Group Oct 8 & Oct 22 – 2pm-3:15pm at UUFSC. Info dianesmithlcsw@gmail.com or 520-245-7096

Silver City Indivisible meeting, Oct 12 (2nd Mondays) the Hearth, 1915 Swan, 5pm for social time, mtg 5:30.

Oct 18 – Art & Music Gathering 2-7pm @ Leatherskins Gallery 37 Buckhorn Dr Buckhorn HWY 180 mile marker 79

Dances of Universal Peace Oct 25 @ 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!

Oct b-days	Paul Michaud 10/4	Nancy Stephens 10/21	Susan Price 10/26
	John Adams*	Pamela Page 10/31	

*Founding father & 2nd president of the US

You can make your UUFSC donations online! <https://D4613CBD4D2624D9.chmeetings.com//Giving/D4613CBD4D2624D9>