High Desert Dispatch: November 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.

In Memoriam - The framed hanging in the entryway is our "In Memoriam" list honoring those members of the UUFSC who have passed on. Take a moment to read it & reflect on past contributors to our Fellowship
Nov 1 – change those clocks & Fall Back

Nov 1: Mike Scheffer "Dia de los Muertos" We will have Ofrendas set up in the Sanctuary & Social Hall with flowers & 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**

Nov 8: Heidi Ogas: "Blessing of the Animals." Bring your pets & gather out on the patio. For their safety & ours, please leash, crate, or otherwise contain your critters. If you have a pet who has passed, or one you don't feel comfortable bringing, bring a picture, toy or memento. If you don't have a pet, please join us anyway. The service will be a bit shorter because of our pets' possible anxiety at being in a strange place

Nov 15: Annual Meeting - Instead of our usual program, meeting & potluck will begin at 10:00 am. Bring your potluck dishes at 9:45 so we can have everything on the tables to begin serving at 10:00. Come to the meeting to hear updates of volunteer teams & work on our facilities since last May & to vote for new candidates who will be coming onto the Board.

Nov 22: Kathy Babcock – "Desert Samaritans" Kathy Babcock of the Green Valley/Sahuarita Samaritans will give a presentation & lead a discussion of their new book *Bearing Witness—humanitarian stories from the Arizona borderlands.* She is contributing editor of this collection of stories from volunteers who have chosen to welcome migrant strangers in need.
Moderator: Andy Payne

Nov 29: Zoey Cronin - Multigenerational Program." Light in the Darkness" We will explore cultivating hope through the stories & rituals of Hannukah in a program designed to be engaging & meaningful for participants of all ages. **Moderator: Gail Stamler**

Join UUFSC Zoom Meeting 10am Sundays
https://zoom.us/j/3800124194?pwd=QkxTNjV3UFlJOXNLbHpsSDZ5bUhvZz09

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode: UUFSC

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
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, Akien Maciain, Paul Michaud
Newsletter
Lynda Aiman-Smith
UUFSC mailing address
P.O. Box 4034
Silver City, NM 88062
Fellowship email info@uufsc.com

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 – Our Annual Meeting & election of officers & directors will be on Sunday, November 15 at 10 am, including our traditional potluck meal & social gathering. Please join us.

Note from Board Secretary Susan Guillory – I will be issuing the 14 day formal notice on Nov 1 re our Nov 15th annual meeting & pot luck. Then I will distribute packets via email the week before the meeting. We will be voting on various items at the annual meeting.

Welcoming Days of Observance – November is Native American Heritage Month. This month celebrates the traditions, languages & stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, & affiliated Island communities to help ensure their rich histories & contributions continue to thrive with each passing generation. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush approved a joint resolution of Congress designating November as "National American Indian Heritage Month." More information available at https://www.nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/ ** **November 8 is Diwali.** The Hindu festival of lights, along with its religious variations, symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, knowledge over ignorance, & hope over despair. Diwali is typically celebrated throughout a five-day festival marking one of the biggest & most important holidays of the year in India. More - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diwali **November 16 is International Day of Tolerance**. First proclaimed by the UN in 1996, this day affirms that tolerance is neither indulgence nor indifference. It is respect & appreciation of the rich variety of our world's cultures, our forms of expression & ways of being human. Tolerance recognizes the universal human rights & fundamental freedoms of others. People are naturally diverse; only tolerance can ensure the survival of mixed communities in every region of the globe. More info- https://www.unesco.org/en/days/tolerance **November 20 is Transgender Day of Remembrance**. The Transgender Day of Remembrance was set aside to honor the memory of those who have been killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. It was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil honoring the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman killed in 1998. Info - https://glaad.org/tdor/

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

Hospitality team needs help! Hospitality needs help on the 2nd and/or 3rd Sunday of the month – help needed especially for clean-up. We also need one other host helper for 5th Sundays. Info Susan Price at susan2price@gmail.com

The Four Agreements Discussion Group You are invited to the regular Four Agreements group meeting Friday, Nov 6 at 11 am 'til 12:30. Open to all. Questions - contact Carole carmichaeluu@gmail.com

Soul Collage Wed Nov 11 @3-5:30 pm. Materials supplied. All welcome. Questions - Carole carmichaeluu@gmail.com

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

Silver City Indivisible meeting, Nov 9 (2nd Mondays) the Hearth, 1915 Swan, 5pm for social time, mtg 5:30.

Peace & Justice Benefit Concert with Four Shillings Short (Celtic & American Folk music): Sunday Nov. 15 from 4-6 pm at the UUFSC. A fundraiser for the UUFSC Social Justice Team; we appreciate your support! Info Ron Gabioud 575-574-2170.

Dances of Universal Peace Nov 22 @ 5:30pm 609 Arizona St. Live music, simple movements, words from world spiritual traditions, open hearts, joyous experience! info: lynda_aimansmith@yahoo.com

Bridge Village is now accepting members who wish to receive services (e.g. light house tasks, etc.) from volunteers. 575-243-3311 or www.bridgevillage.org

The Livable Communities Builders Group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Next meeting is Nov 19th 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM @ UUFSC. We welcome collaboration on making Silver City & Grant County an even better place for older adults.

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

Nov b-days	Lisa Jimenez 11/7	Arlan Lazere 11/7	Ann Lowe 11/8	Barbara Bush 11/13
Chellee Chase 11/17	George Ruebelmann 11/23	4th Earl of Sandwich *11/23	Bob Bryant 11/28	Sunny Kellerman 11/29

*We all know what he did! Thanks to Elaine C. for finding a famous/fun birthday celebrant!

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