

High Desert Dispatch: August 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.

Aug 6: Jeff Goin – "In Love with the World" Jeff will discuss a true story of Yongey Mingyur in which he (an Abbot) unbeknownst to his students and attendants, leaves the comfort of his Buddhist monastery, under the cover of night, with little more than the clothes on his back, to undertake a "wandering retreat" of indefinite duration. Jeff Goin is a Buddhist, meditation teacher, and community organizer

Moderator Heidi Ogas

Aug 13: Ana Caite Caperton - "Alternatives to War" Drawing from *A Global Security System: An Alternative to War* and other sources, Anna Caite will present a case for how humanity just might be able to create a global Peace system and evidence that it may already be in the works.

Moderator Barbara Bush

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

Aug 20: Alvaro Enciso- "Crosses in the Desert"

Alvaro Enciso is an artist and humanitarian who for the past decade has been working on a project - *Where Dreams Die - Donde Mueren Los Suenos* - placing secular crosses where the remains of migrants have been discovered in the Sonoran Desert.

Moderators - Joe Neri & Maree McHugh

27: Ellen Mana'ar Johnson - "UU Flower Ceremony". The Flower Ceremony allows us an opportunity to reflect on our community, its beauty and diversity. We consider what gifts we bring, symbolized by a flower we offer. Bring a single flower with you, but don't worry if you forget, we will have a few extras.

Moderator Lynda Aiman-Smith

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

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Our mailing address is

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Silver City, NM 88062

For membership questions, email

Linda Price - lbp650@gmail.com

Join UUFSC Zoom Meeting 10am Sundays

<https://zoom.us/j/3800124194?pwd=QkxTNjV3UFIJQXNlbHpsSDZ5bUhwZz09>

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode: UUFSC

News from the Board from Board Secretary Susan Price – The Board has a new change in positions. Joanne DeMichele recently resigned as Treasurer due to health difficulties. The Board accepted Joanne's resignation, with hopes for her completely renewed health. Margaret Shoemaker volunteered to fill the Treasurer position, having been on the Financial Advisory Team for several months, working with Art Thorn and Joanne. Margaret's offer was enthusiastically accepted by the Board; she was appointed Treasurer of the Board unanimously. The Financial report from the Social Justice Team was heartening. They received the final check from Give Grandly, bringing the total donations to about \$11,000. That made them one of the non-profits to receive the highest level of donations this year.

The Board discussed possible needs in case of a medical emergency, medical equipment (AED & B/P cuff?). It was determined to wait on making any expensive purchases, and to check with the UUA Guidelines for small fellowships. The Board decided that we should have a First Aid Kit available for any minor accidents that could happen to kids, or adults, at any time. The Kit has been purchased and is located in the Community Room.

Note from the Board Chair Carlos Price -- We have a hummingbird feeder just outside a window in our sunroom. It is very busy, and the feeder needs refilling twice daily. Some of the birds are highly aggressive and seem to spend more time chasing away the other birds than feeding. Some seem more communal and willing to share with two or three other birds. Those birds calmly light on the perch and feed for pretty long periods until they are satisfied or one of the aggressors chases them away. When two of the aggressors show up at the same time, so much time is spent fighting that neither one gets to feed. For those aggressor birds showing dominance seems more important than achieving the end goal of getting a good meal. Watching the hummingbirds reminds me of some people I have observed in groups and especially of politicians in our country. Winning is everything and dominance is more important than achieving important ends for the group or our society.

August Welcoming Days of Observance – *August 9 is International Day of the World's Indigenous People.*

There are estimated 476 million indigenous peoples living across 90 countries. They make up less than 5% of the world's population, but account for 15% of the poorest. They speak an overwhelming majority of the world's estimated 7,000 languages and represent 5,000 different cultures. They are inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures and ways of relating to people and the environment. They have retained social, cultural, economic and political characteristics distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live. Despite their cultural differences, indigenous peoples share common problems of protection of their rights as distinct peoples. Indigenous peoples today, are arguably among the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in the world. The international community now recognizes that special measures are required to protect their rights and maintain their distinct cultures and way of life. To raise awareness of the needs of these population groups, every August 9th commemorates the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, chosen in recognition of the first meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations held in Geneva in 1982. See

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/indigenous-day>

August 26 is Women's Equality Day. This day celebrates the anniversary of the 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote. Congress and the President have proclaimed Women's Equality Day every year since 1973. More information on the holiday is available at <https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day/> and on the suffrage movement at <https://www.nps.gov/articles/the-internationalist-history-of-the-us-suffrage-movement.htm>

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, Aug 4 at 11 am at the UUFSC Fellowship Hall.

Join Fellow UUs Mana'ar & Lynda, with live music, for the Dances of Universal Peace drawn from various spiritual paths. Aug 4 at 5:30PM at the Church of Harmony, 609 N. Arizona. Easy songs, easy moves, open hearts.

The Soul Collage group will meet on Wed Aug 9 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.

Join the conversation at the next "Life Cafe" on Aug 24 at 4PM at the Church of Harmony, 609 N. Arizona St. For more info contact Lisa lmjimenez13@gmail.com or (575) 574-5473.

Aug birthdays	Harry Kellerman 8/1	Gay Hedges 8/5	Marty Eberhardt 8/6	Peggy Spafford 8/7
	David Krisch 8/8	Frank Ogas 8/15	Jeanie McLerie 8/25	Miriam Richer 8/27
				Karen Murphy 8/28

Want to see your birthday in the newsletter? Contact Lynda at lynda_aimansmith@yahoo.com