

High Desert Dispatch: March 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 must be worn in the building at ALL times. We will not be consuming food or drinks in the building, but (weather permitting) will continue enjoying refreshments on the patio.

Mar 5: Video sermon on "Scandalous Universalism" by Rev Angela Herrera (UUABQ). We have the word universalism right up front in the name of our faith tradition, Unitarian Universalism. Universalism is actually a pretty radical concept. Come learn why!

Moderator Nancy Stephens

Mar 12: Medical Aid in Dying On April 8, 2021, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed the New Mexico Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act. Twana Sparks will discuss how this important act for choice and self-determination is working here locally.

Moderator Nancy Cliff

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

Mar19: Think: Give Grandly with Bernadette Smyth from Grant Co Community Foundation. We will learn more about Give Grandly, which happens May 6th this year, and the civic engagement and common good it provides for our community.

Moderator Pat Sterling

Mar 26: Respecting the Ancients: Remembering the Mimbres through a Murder Mystery. Marty Eberhardt, UUFSC member & author, will read from her new *Bones in the Back Forty*. The book reintroduces Bea Rivers, who finds herself sleuthing in both Arizona and New Mexico after a skeleton is unearthed at Shandley Gardens.

Moderator Heidi Ogas

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., Joanne DeMichele

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

Ron Gabioud (Jan-Mar)

Audio/Visual/IT

John Mooney

Social Justice Volunteer Team

Joe Neri

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

Email address is
uufellowshipofsilvercity@gmail.com

Our mailing address is

P.O. Box 4034

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=QkxTNjV3UFIJOXNlbHpsSDZ5bUhvZz09>

Meeting ID: 380 012 4194 Passcode: UUFSC

Important Announcement: our UUFSC Bylaws require the following announcement before 60 days prior to the Semi-Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, May 19th at 10:00 am: By March 22nd, any non-member/perspective member or renewing member who wishes to vote in the meeting must sign the membership sheet located at the front entrance to join or renew (if you didn't renew after May 2022).

Bylaws Section 3.3 A Voting Member is defined as any member who has made a monetary contribution of record during the congregational fiscal year, who has participated in the Fellowship activities within the past twelve (12) months, and who has signed a membership commitment at least sixty (60) days previous to the meeting requiring a vote.

News from the Board from Board Secretary Susan Price -- The Board reviewed and discussed our Mask Mandate Policy, and other safety precautions. It was decided to leave the masking policy in place while we research air filtration systems, determine cost, and get them installed in both rooms and the Q-Hut. A contractor fixed our PA system, and he recommended that our 12-year old system be replaced at some point. Estimated cost over \$1,200. The Board designated a Capital Outlay fund from our savings for unexpected expenditures. The Membership team created a colorful mock-up of new name tags for members using both a clip and a lanyard. The Social Justice Team is planning a pizza party and open-house Sunday, June 4th afternoon to thank people for their continued donations over many months. May have other potluck dishes or dessert. It will be publicized for the community to attend. Things are happening. Stay tuned!

Note from your Board Chair Carlos Price -- When a friend or family member really messes up, do you berate and insult them? Do you yell, "Why are you so stupid? How can you keep making the same mistakes over and over?" Probably not! But, what about when it is you that messes up? How do you respond? Usually, we are harder on ourselves than on others. We all mess up. Instead of berating ourselves and calling ourselves ugly names, try this. Say to yourself, "Next time I will" (then vividly describe the way you should have acted). Not only will you feel better, but your performance will improve. I learned this from a curriculum called Investment in Excellence by the late Lou Tice of the Pacific Institute in Seattle. When I remember to do it, it works.

Note from your Board Treasurer Joanne DeMichele – If you are unsure if you *made a monetary contribution of record during the congregational fiscal year* please contact me - call or text 575-654-5469 or email treasurer.uufsc@gmail.com

From Welcoming Committee -- March 31st is International Transgender Day of Visibility, an annual day dedicated to celebrating transgender people and their identities, raising awareness of the discrimination and violence faced by transgender people worldwide. Founded in 2009 by transgender activist Rachel Crandall of Michigan, reacting to the lack of LGBTQ+ recognition of transgender people, responding to the overwhelming majority of media stories about transgender people involving violence, misrepresentation, and stereotyping. She hoped to create a day where people could re-focus on celebrating the lives of transgender people, empowering them to live authentically, while still acknowledging that not every trans person can or wants to be visible. Joe Biden was the first U.S. President to issue 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." Discrimination is being weaponized legally – in 2022, over 300 anti-LGBTQ bills were passed or introduced in 36 states, with over half specifically targeting trans people, particularly youth. These bills demonize and scapegoat LGBTQ+ making this day of elevating transgender people and their authentic experiences that much more important. More information is available at: <https://www.hrc.org/resources/international-transgender-day-of-visibility> and <https://www.glaad.org/blog/transgender-day-visibility>.

The Soul Collage group will meet on Wednesday, March 8, from 3-6 pm in-person in the Community Room. All are welcome. All instructions and supplies are provided. Masks are optional.

Spring Forward March 12 – Daylight Savings Time begins

St. Patrick's Day March 17 – wear something green!

Drum in the Spring Equinox on March 19 starting at 9:30am on the patio. Bring percussion instruments, and your joyful voices. The *vernal equinox*, celebrated by many pagans as **Ostara**, honors the reawakening of the earth to bring forth new life.

Monthly "Life Cafes" starting March 23 to have conversations about death! Will meet every fourth Thursday from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm at the Silver City Public Library. Topics might include hospice, advance planning/directives, memorials, green burials, death doulas, and more. Facilitated by Lisa Jimenez. By donation. Contact Lisa for more info lmjimenez13@gmail.com or (575) 574-5473.

March birthdays Carol Morrison Mar 26 John Mooney Mar 29 Sandra Michaud Mar 30 Gwen Payne Mar 31
Want to see your birthday in the newsletter? Contact Denise Smith at denisesmith09@gmail.com