



Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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President: Dave Welch (president@uuvc.org)
Minister: Rev. Mark Walz (minister@uuvc.org)
Treasurer: Kim Townsan (treasurer@uuvc.org)



Jerry Offerman '16

February 2019 THEME: PERSEVERANCE

Mark's Trail



Rev. Mark Walz

Reverend Hearn

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote of the 'study for eternity'. He suggests that we should give attention to that which is excellent and permanent, to invest in that which gives 'grandeur to the passing hour', to the inner resources and possibilities on which we have never drawn. He says we must give attention to the discovery and cultivation of resources and possibilities in a special way.

Here at the Unitarian Universalist Village Church you don't have to know Emerson to accomplish this...

not if you know Reverend Hearn...

The good Reverend we know as 'Bud' Hearn has invited us into his company these many years. Welcomed us into a world of great ideas, great books, great themes, and great souls, including his own.

With sermons, with Insights, with conversations, and with thought-filled classes. He has given us the fresh surprise of learning. He has given us stimulating and illuminating ideas that have kept our Religious Journeys exciting and meaningful.

His energy seems boundless. His gifts to us continue. We are profoundly grateful that he has chosen to spend this special time with us. It has been a precious experience to have him choose us as spiritual and religious companions.

On behalf of a thankful congregation, we share our appreciation, and acknowledge our indebtedness to you. Bless you, Rev.

-See you in Church

From the President



Dave Welch

As Unitarian-Universalists we can point to a long history of affirmation and promotion of human rights. Our UU fellows have sacrificed blood, sweat, tears and treasury to bring our first principle into the daily life of all people. We Affirm and Promote the Inherent worth and Dignity Every Person. This is Black History Month. Within our Association there is a group which highlights this First Principle and focuses our attention of the continuing struggle to bring real meaning to the hope expressed in the Declaration of Independence that All are Created Equal. It is an old struggle continuing in the present and fought under the banner of Black Lives Matter UU. Here are the Principles of the Black Lives Matter UU taken from the UUA Web page.

"Principle 1. All Black Lives Matter - Queer Black lives, trans Black lives, formerly incarcerated Black lives, differently-abled Black lives, Black women's lives, immigrant Black lives, Black elderly and children's lives. ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER and are creators of this space. We throw no one under the bus. We rise together.

Principle 2. Love and Self-Love is practiced in every element of all we do - Love and Self-Love must be drivers of all our work and indicators of our success. Without this principle and without healing, we will harm each other and undermine our movement.

Principle 3. Spiritual growth is directly tied to our ability to embrace our whole selves - The spiritual growth of UUs of Color is directly tied to our ability to stand in the truth that Black Lives Matter, that our lives matter, both in the wider world and just as importantly in our UU congregations. We call on our UU congregations and the UUA to support our work towards wholeness as Black people. We must

Continued on Page 2

~From the President, Continued from Page 1

be honest with one another by embracing direct, loving communication.

Principle 4. Experimentation and innovation must be built into our work - The Movement for Black Lives works daily to expose the truth about Black life in this country and in the world. Our vision is based on the world we want, and not the world we are currently in. We seek to transform, not simply to react. We want our people to thrive, not just exist—and to think beyond the possible.

Principle 5. Most Directly Affected people are experts at their own lives - We work towards a society in which Black life is valued, in which Black life is not discarded, in which Black Lives Matters, and in which the work of Black people is seen as equal to their white counterparts. Black voices in our congregations, in our faith, and in the world must be valued.

Principle 6. Thriving instead of Surviving - Any work towards peace, liberty and justice must address racial injustice. Black UUs are calling our faith to join us as we work towards justice for ALL Black people and by extension for all people.

Principle 7. 360 degree vision - We call on our faith to affirm the truth that only when Black Lives Matter will All Lives TRULY Matter. As Dr. King said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever af-

fects one directly, affects all indirectly.'

These Principles call on all of us to act in our daily lives to bring our faith to the larger culture. Historically, UU has suffered the violent and societal reaction of a racist culture when it affirmed and promoted the belief in the worth and dignity of every person. "[T]here were times when the liberal principles of UUism came into direct, and sometimes violent, conflict with the dominant culture of white supremacy and racism. There was a spectrum of response to this conflict on the part of UUs, Gibson said. Some fellowships retreated from the conflict and ceased to exist; others came to an uneasy accommodation with the white power structure; and some braved the wrath of racist culture by starting human relations committees, opening their doors to African-Americans, and marching in protest. This integrity to the values of liberal religion frequently resulted in the fellowship's losing its meeting space. Far more tragically, it led to the shooting of the Rev. Donald Thompson, the UU minister in Jackson, MI, by the Ku Klux Klan, and the fatal assault on Rev. James Reeb in Selma in 1965." This month, set aside as a reminder, is a time to not only reflect on our First Principle but to continue to transform our lives, individually and collectively, toward "a more perfect union."

So it is. Amen.

David Welch

President, UUVU



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

"Bud" Hearn received UUVU'S first honorary membership in appreciation for the donations of time, talent and wisdom he has bestowed on the church for over the past two decades. We cannot thank you enough.

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer. Albert Einstein

Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do. Pele

Treasurer's Report



Kim Townsan

TREASURER'S REPORT

If you contributed \$100 or more to UUVC last year, you should have received a report of your donations for use with your taxes. If you did not receive your report, please send a note to treasurer@uuvc.org.

Also during January, emails were sent to those who have pledged to the 2018-19 operating fund and/or the 3 year building fund. The report provides information on the amount of your pledge and any balance. Reports will be sent again in April. As I learned from some of your feedback, payments are not always applied to the correct category. To help with the accuracy of reporting, please be sure to designate on the

memo line of your check what the payment is for.

During the month of January, we received \$61k from GuideOne insurance related to our roof claim. The total amount of reimbursement we will be receiving is \$81 once we have had the roof replaced. The insurance payment monies have been segregated on our financials within our "Reserves for Special Purposes" account.

Half way through our fiscal year, we are still running slightly above budget with income exceeding expenses by \$2,855. In the area of income, both non-pledge and rental income are above budget, with pledge income right on target. Thanks to our committee chairs for their efforts in managing expenses as we continue to grow!

Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan Press On! has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race. Calvin Coolidge

Future Newsletter Deadlines

For March: Sunday, February 24th

For April: Wednesday, March 27th

For May: Friday, April 26th

(anything submitted earlier is greatly appreciated)

Send contributions to: Cindy Perez at pcindyp55@gmail.com until further notice.



Myra Rustin

Covenant Groups

UUVC is looking for more people interested in getting to know one another on a deeper level. This is difficult with our growing mem-

bership and limited times at coffee hour or social events. Group size and meetings are flexible and determined by the group itself. If you are interested, contact Myra at: 501-204-4999, or watch for sign-up sheets on Sunday mornings.

Movies with Mark and Myra

Movies with Mark and Myra will start up again this month. Watch for movie listings, dates and times on the UUVC February calendar.

Dispute Mediation



Good Communication Starts with Good Listening

Steve Rittenmeyer
Dispute Mediators

Unitarian Universalists love to discuss... almost everything. Nationally renowned mediator, Nancy Foster, writing on Mediate.com, has some thoughts from which we all can benefit. Foster begins her piece by noting that many people think good communication is about talking. “And talk we do.” She declares. “We interrupt, advise, reassure, judge, analyze, criticize, argue, moralize, threaten, divert, diagnose, etc.” But good communication requires good listening as well, she says. In fact, because we have two ears and only one mouth, listening might be twice as important.

Since very few people have any sort of training in listening, Foster offers a short primer: The first rule is to pay attention! Put yourself in the shoes of a speaker. How do you feel when you know the listener is not paying attention? (Perhaps repeatedly glancing

over your shoulder to see who else is present). Do you feel annoyed, frustrated, discounted, rejected, angry? Such feelings make good communication impossible. Also, be aware of the “non-verbals.”

Research has shown that about 85% of what we communicate is nonverbal. Some tips for effective nonverbal communication include: First, and perhaps most importantly, make eye contact with the speaker. Next, effect body posture that invites expression. (No arms crossed across the chest.) Don't fidget. If there is a time problem, politely say so and offer to resume the conversation at a later time. Curb your enthusiasm. Give the person a chance to finish his/her thought before responding. (It won't take long. You'll get your turn.) Finally, know that you cannot fake paying attention. The speaker will know if your heart and mind are really there.

Foster contends by employing these tips, we all can become better communicators, and, quite probably, learn something new in the process. So: Good listening!

Guest Speaker and Workshop Coming in April

Rev. Michael Dowd is going to be our guest minister April 7th.

Rev. Michael Dowd is a bestselling eco-theologian and pro-science, pro-future ‘evangelist’ whose work has been featured in The New York Times, LA Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Newsweek, Discover, and on television nationally. Michael and his science writer, evolutionary educator, and fellow climate activist wife, Connie Barlow, have spoken to some 2,500 groups throughout North America since 2002. These included nearly 500 UU churches. Their work has been featured on the cover of the UU WORLD twice, once in 1997 and again in 2006.Rev.

Dowd will also hold a workshop on Tue. April 9th.

Mark your calendars and look for more detailed information to come.

Membership Snippets



Welcome to Rev Bud Hearn, honorary lifetime member. Bud's outstanding presence as a friend, a teacher and a preacher has been a wonderful contribution to UUVC. We are fortunate indeed.

Thank you to Debbie Bostwick. She is very involved with our church community and now needs to step away as the Connection Coordinator. She will be missed by us on the committee, but she will continue to serve in other capacities.

The Membership Committee runs quite smoothly due to capable leadership, responsible coordinators and a well-developed organizational plan. I am honored to join the committee as vice chair, transitioning to chair this summer. Pam Harrison has promised me the guidance I

Little Rock Youth Coming to UUVC

Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School in Little Rock will be bringing its choral group and orchestra to our church on February 20 for a 3 p.m. performance in conjunction with Black History Month. Carolyn Foreman is the director of this group of students, numbering around 80, along with some speaking parts. Our church is fortunate to have this group of young people. Please invite your friends to come and enjoy this program with us. We will have an opportunity to meet and visit with the students in the Community Hall following their performance.

will most definitely need. I am confident that with the continued help of the committee and your patience, all will be well.

The Membership Committee hosted a Farewell reception for Dottie Foehringer on January 6th. The UUVC Board President presented Dottie with a framed

certificate honoring her with a Lifetime Membership.

Dottie has been a valued Member for over 27 years, she will be dearly missed! Dottie has moved to Wentzville, MO, to be near family.



Dottie Foehringer



Pam Harrison

MUSIC NOTES

John Leisenring



John Leisenring

February is Black History Month, and the choir will celebrate with a stirring rendition of a traditional spiritual: "I Wanna Be Ready." We'll continue with an anthem entitled "I Dream A World" with text by

Langston Hughes – one of the leading writers of the Harlem Renaissance. All the hymns help salute this wonderful month, and at least one should really get your hands and feet involved!

At birth, everyone should be issued a dog and a banjo.

Charlie Brown

Religious and Secular Education

Warren Searls



Adult Religious Education

UUVC Adult Education

Sunday Conversations

Warren Searls Sunday Conversation @ 11:15 has been changed to Sunday Conversations @ 11:25. Everyone is welcome to join in to voice their opinion on the topic of the day or just to listen to the opinions of others. Conversations are held in the Community Hall.

February Lecture Series at UUVC

1:30 - 3:30 Tuesdays February 5, 12, 19, and 26

Presenter: Rev. Bud Hearn

Subjects are:

Significance of the Nag Hammadi Library.

An accidental discovery of Christian & Gnostic manuscripts predating the Canonical Gospels revealed the astonishing variety of thinking in the early Christian period. Texts were based on memories of the living Jesus, not the risen Christ, and “blacklisted” as heretical.

What are the Dead Sea Scrolls? The scrolls are the oldest existing manuscripts of a Jewish community that withdrew to Qumran. Revealed is the unsettledness of first century Judaism giving rise to groups holding divergent theological positions. The similarity with the Nag Hammadi story is noted.

How Humans Made God. The question whether God exists is the wrong one to ask. It should be how did humans come to think of God at all. God is not a historical figure as Jesus, yet as a concept historical

in the context of serving both a linguistic and social purpose.

Putting Satan in His place. Biblically Satan is referred to sporadically in fragments woven together into a unified context. Point: Satan is an amalgamation of scripture and dogma. The word used metaphorically to describe the repertoire of evil. it is a “tempting” story. Advance registration is desired.

Sign-up sheet in the Community Hall.

February March Lecture Series

Celebrating American Music

Presenter Dr. John Leisenring, PhD, UUVC Music Director

Classes will be held from 2:00-4:00. Thursdays: February 21 & 28, and March 7 & 14

Subjects will include:

**From Europe and Africa to New Orleans,
Up the River to Memphis,
St. Louis and Chicago,
Over the Rails to Kansas City,
Los Angeles and New York,
The Music becomes Art, and the emergence of Rhythm and Blues.**

If there is interest, additional classes may be scheduled. Remember, no tests and plenty of musical examples: Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and Bix Beiderbeck, through Duke Ellington and Count Basie all the way to the Cotton Club and beyond.

Sign-up sheet in the Community Hall

Committee Updates and Other News of Interest

Social Committee

Cloe Bayer, Social Committee Chair



Cloe Bayer

The January tour of Flyway Brewing Co. was a rousing success, with 30 folks signing up to go. For February there will be a Chili Cook-off in Community Hall, 12 noon on Saturday, Feb.16. Please bring a pot of your favorite chili recipe to enter the contest, or if that's not your forte', a pan of cornbread to share would be great. We hope to see a whole bunch of folks come out to taste the chili and vote for their favorite.

In March, there will once again be a perennial favorite of UUVC , a corned beef dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Join us on Saturday, March 16 to party in style.

Social Justice Committee

Meg Koziar Social Committee Chair



Meg Koziar

The Share for the February will be the **Imagination Library of the Ouachitas**. Penny Beed and Janet McAdams, VP of the Board, will tell us about the organization on February 3. Please be generous in supporting this program which provides books for children.

The Board has just made C4K (Computers for Kids) a separate special committee. But the SJ Committee will continue to encourage you to support getting donations of used computers for the program. If you don't have an information card in your wallet or purse, pick one up from the display near the cookies, and give to a business or professional office that might be replacing computers. Look for the new link on the church website home page, which leads to a form donors may use that to submit information about the computer they are do-

Pastoral Care

Court Mathey



Court Mathey

The Pastoral Care Ministry is an active group of people who are trained to aid those facing life's crises such as death of a loved one, illness, divorce or relocation. We offer compassion and other assistance to those with emotional or spiritual needs. We visit in the home, hospital, nursing homes and rehab facilities.

We would like to expand our size as our church grows in membership. Anyone who has the gift of "caregiving" or is interested in developing this gift, please contact one of our members for more information. Current

members are Mike Holt, Court Mathey (chairman), Bob McCleskey, Liz Miller, Mark Walz and Vivian Walz .

We meet bimonthly on the fourth Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. Frequent training in caregiving skills is offered.

We have information available on at-home care, assisted living and long term care facilities and other resources in the area.

We also arrange rides to and from church.

Another important part of the Pastoral Care Ministry is Grief Recovery. This group, which meets monthly on the second Tuesday from 9:30-11:00, is open to anyone experiencing grief of any kind.

Did You Know?

Patty Dacus



Patty Dacus

Kim Traw, our wonderfully organized and efficient librarian, reports that they are working diligently to organize and catalog all the books in UUVC library. Thus far they have identified 11 categories with a total of 675 books that have been cataloged. However, there are still 254 books that are not yet categorized or are MISSING from the library. So, they are putting out a call, "Allie, allie outs in free!!", to all those books that are in hiding out there somewhere. If it is even remotely possible that one of these missing books may be hiding at your house, please check your bookshelves, your bedside table, that stack of books by your easy chair, the backseat floorboard of your car, and anywhere else you think a book might want to hide. Should you discover any of these books hiding somewhere, please return them to the library as soon as possible so that they can be appropriately cataloged and returned to circulation. Tag! You're it! Now, let's go find those books.... thanks!

February Sundays at UUVC

February 3, Rev. Walz "To Whom it May Concern"

February 10, Janis Kearney "Daisy Bates Life and Work"

February 17, Rev. Walz "This Is Not a Petting Zoo"

February 24, Linda Pennington Black "Growing Up in Arkansas with Segregation"

Attendance and Generosity

December Attendance: UUVC Total: 400 (197 Worship, 203 Insight)

Christmas Eve Service 118 Music on Barcelona 125

December Share the Plate: Clarion Call \$2055

January Share the Plate: Literary Council \$1723

February Share the Plate: Imagination Library of the Ouachitas

A failure is not always a mistake. It may simply be the best one can do under the circumstances. The real mistake is to stop trying. B.F. Skinner

February Celebrations



2/6 Kim Harrison 2/24 Ron Nance
2/8 Ed Miller
2/13 Kim Traw
2/19 Tom Tirrell
2/19 Tom Drake
2/20 Leslie Johnson
2/21 Jerriann Nielsen



2/14 Ed & Liz Miller
2/15 Penny Beed
2/23 Lee & Ronnie Zuege

Interest Groups (IGs)



Ronnie Zuege

Enjoy the company of people with a similar interest by participating in one of the Interest Groups (IG). Stop by the IG table on Sunday mornings to check out the folders that provide information about each group. It's great to participate in more than one. Also, if you have a special interest that is not currently represented, contact me at 501-922-3878 or email vzuege@gmail.com to inquire about starting a new group. Ronnie Zuege, IG Coordinator



Marjorie Lakey

Game Night

Come to play board/card games on the 2nd Saturday of each month (**Feb 9th**). Game night will be held @ **5:00 PM**. We will eat first and play games afterwards. Bring a dish to share. It's always a surprise! (Marjorie Lakey, 262-8231)

UUVIC PICKLEBALL



A UUVIC Pickleball Interest Group is forming for friends and members. We plan to meet at the Desoto Pickleball Courts on Thursday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 pm - later as things warm up. The group is for novice and experience players and will be a social (versus competitive) league. The daily fee at Desoto Courts is just under \$6.00 per day. Annual rates are also available. Paddles and balls are provided if you need them.

Pickleball lessons are offered for free at the Church of Christ on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - 12:00 and at the Desoto Courts at 10:00 am on Saturday mornings. If you are interested, sign up at the Interest Group table in the Community Hall and/or email dane.nielsen@sbcglobal.net.



Ronnie Zuege

Mah Jongg

Currently, our mah jongg group is playing most Mondays at 1:00. If you would like to join us, or suggest another time to play, contact Ronnie Zuege at



Cloe Bayer

Fourth Friday Film Fest

The movie for February will be **"First Man"**. At first glance you might think it was about the spouse of a female President, huh? Happily, it is about the life and career of Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon. Ryan Gosling stars as Neil Armstrong, with Kyle Chandler also in the cast. Even though the story of the moon landing is familiar to all of us, it will be interesting to see how it was Neil Armstrong who got the call, and his life leading up to this fantastic achievement. See you on **Feb. 22 at 7 PM**.



Sue Loberg

Meatless Meal Group

The Meatless Meal Group is experimenting with monthly evening gatherings at which we share appetizers. To learn more, contact Sue Loberg at 204-2597



Janine
Bethscheider

Dining In and Out

We had an amazing number of sign-ups for Dining Out—enough for at least 5 restaurant groups of 6! In addition, we collected enough names for 3 Dining In (Dinners for 6) groups, including 1 newly-created vegan group. The Spring 2019 groups have been formed and should be starting their dining experiences this month.

Celebrate American Music with Dr. Leisenring



What makes American music distinctive? Is it the beat, the tempo, the mournful notes, the rollicking good times? The Unitarian Universalist Village Church is pleased to announce an upcoming series of classes to be taught by Music Director Dr. John Leisenring. This lecture series is entitled CELEBRATING AMERICAN MUSIC, with individual class topics: From Europe and Africa to New Orleans; Up the River to Memphis, St. Louis and Chicago; Over the Rails to Kansas City, Los Angeles and New York; The Music becomes Art and the emergence of Rhythm and Blues. This series was first presented at the Garland County Library.

Classes will be held in the church community hall on Thursdays: February 21 & 28, and March 7 & 14 from 2:00-4:00. Classes are free and open to all, with no tests and plenty of musical examples: Scott Joplin and Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and Bix Beiderbecke, through Duke Ellington and Count Basie all the way to the Cotton Club and beyond.

Dr. Leisenring is an Emeritus Professor of Music from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and has taught both the history of Jazz and the history and development of Rock and Roll for many years. He is also a professional musician, and has more than 60 years performance experience in both orchestral and jazz music. He currently performs regularly with the Spa City Stompers--Hot Springs' wonderful Dixieland band, and occasionally with Clyde Pound and the house trio at the Ohio Club in Hot Springs.

Please contact Dr. Leisenring at john@jleisenring.com, so that the approximate size of the class can be determined.

Things to Think About & Random Tidbits

◆ **UUVC Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianUniversalistVillageChurch/>

◆ **UUVC Website:** <http://www.uuvc.org>

UUVC Video Sermons: <https://www.uuvc.org/video-sermons.html>

◆ **Perseverance:** "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." —**Thomas Edison**

◆ **Purpose**—"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

◆ **Attributes of Perseverance:**

◆ **Courage**—"It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends."
— **J.K. Rowling**, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

◆ **Vision**—"When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."
— **Audre Lorde**

UUVC Principles

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.