

Unitarian Universalist Village Church

403 Barcelona Road
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
501-922-1255

President: Janet Holt (mjholt@hotmail.com)
Minister: Rev. Mark Walz (minister@uuv.org)



August 2019 THEME: UUVC Heritage



Mark's Trail
Rev. Mark Walz

Love Thy Neighbor

I have a confession to make. For myself, and for most clergy (I'm told), our Extrovert self competes with our Introvert self for attention. Our Extrovert usually prevails. We are so focused on being "on" for whoever needs us next; "on" when we preach and conduct Worship. We often crave time to simply sit and reflect on the events of the week – or forget them completely for a while.

When the duties of the week come to an end, usually sometime Sunday afternoon or evening, my Introvert demands quiet time; and permission to retreat to my home and into Holy Solitude. Or, as Greta Garbo was reported to have said, "I want to be alone." Which creates a problem. When at home, I tend to ignore my neighbors.

I confess that 'Loving my Neighbor' usually gets more of my attention when I am not at home. Which means I don't have much of a relationship with the families who live on my street. And there really isn't any excuse. We live on a cul-de-sac with only 18 houses. My lovely wife knows EVERYONE of them. Sometimes I feel as though I am merely a visitor in my neighborhood.

Because we have 2 dogs, named Max and Girlfriend, whom we walk religiously (ouch), I have met most of my neighbors

"continued on Page 2"



From the President
Janet Holt

Retreat Report

In last month's newsletter I promised to tell you more about the plans we made and the goals we set for UUVC at the board retreat. In preparation for the meeting, I asked each board member to consider two questions:

1. What is your vision for UUVC this year?
2. On June 30, 2020, what would you like to be able to say this board has accomplished?

On June 27, we met for several hours and shared our responses. The discussion was lively! Then, in keeping with our 5th principle of supporting the democratic process and using our long-range plan as a guide, we prioritized our plans. Here are our goals for this year:

- To achieve recognition from the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation
- To earn Green Sanctuary certification
- To increase member involvement
- To expand community outreach and collaboration with partners
- To support voter justice with voter registration activities and driving voters to the polls on election day.

These are ambitious goals but this year is all about teamwork. If we work together we can make great things happen. There's a place for everyone so join in!

~Mark's Trail, Continued from Page 1~

from encounters with their dogs. As a result, I remember their pet's name, but not theirs. There's Bruno, Oreo, Riley, Willy, GiGi, Gus, Mollie, and Mo (Mozart), to name a few. I know the dogs' stories but not the stories of their people. Which is the reason for my Confession.

We often feel as though the world beyond us, is the world that needs repair. It is the neighbor 'out there', the ones we don't know, that need our love and attention. And they may, and most probably do, yet so do the neighbors next door. We all do. The love we give works best if it is the love that has been tested and tried close at hand. Love, perfected, if possible, by trial and error.

It is this love that teaches us how to love ourselves and our own deformities before we venture out to welcome the stranger. It fortifies us with the ability to love them regardless of the weaknesses or challenges that might accompany them. So, here is my challenge to myself, and to you.

Take what is left of this summer to know your neighbor. Introduce yourself. Listen to their stories. And discover how you must grow in spirit and grace, in order to love them, warts and all. Gift a healing love to them. And then bring that new, radiant, and tested love to all of us. We could use a dose of it, too. Mahalo.

See you in church.



Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

I'm happy to report that UUVC finished its fiscal year (June 30) with income exceeding expenses by \$9,265. This surplus was a combination of revenue exceeding budget by \$6,507 and expenses under budget by \$2,758. There were only two areas within all expense items that were significantly over budget: POA Utilities-Water and Electric Utilities. Those two items exceeded budget by \$2,917. Water expenses were related to a leak in the outdoor sprinkler system and a hose left on. The Green Team and Building will be looking towards opportunities to conserve electricity usage.

As is policy, one half of the \$9,265 net income will be transferred to our Building Fund. You can find a complete summary of UUVC's 6/30/19 financials on our website ... see the Members and Friends Section, Financials. Our current year budget is also available online in the Financials area. Thanks to all past committee chairs for their efforts in managing expenses, and welcome to our new committee chairs



C4K

Bob McCleskey

Grant Awarded

The really BIG news is the UU-C4K program was recently awarded a \$1,000 grant from First Electric Trust (the Electric Utility serving a portion of the Village). Whoopee! The grant will help us purchase some needed supplies and parts for some of the computers we refurbish.

For more information on what is going on with the C4K program and to read the letters we are receiving from students who are recipients of the program, click [here](#).



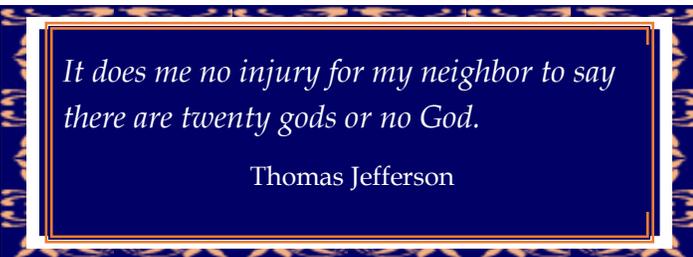
Social Committee

Dee Offerman and Stephanie Hubbard

Plan for these Upcoming Events

September 20th Picnic at Cortez Pavilion from 5-10 PM

October 15th Visit Clinton Library for *Washed Ashore* exhibit We will meet at the east gate parking lot at **9 AM** in order to carpool. The cost is **\$8.00 for seniors**.



Membership Snippets

Veronica Zuege

Thanks to Greeters

We have had several visitors on Sundays, so please continue to welcome them in your typically warm and friendly ways. Our membership team works very well because we have such efficient, dedicated people. Malinda Zarate organizes our great greeters: Mark Hamilton, Dee and Jerry Offerman, Kim Harrison, Kim Townsan, Jim and Suzette Watson, Marlene Kloack, Patty Dacus, Peggy McCoy, Bari Searls, Colleen Boardman, Susan Atchley, Michelle Mendez, Martha Graham, Martha Thomson. Cloe Bayer, Alicia Fetters, Jay Williams and Debbie Bostick.

I appreciate them so much. You might want to extend your thanks from time to time on your way in on Sundays. We have a couple of positions available – a good opportunity for you be involved. Let me know when you can help.



Green Team

Janet Holt

This Is On Us

Heat waves are blistering places that have never experienced them before. Glaciers are melting at an alarming rate and entire species of animals are disappearing daily. You've probably talked to people who blame global climate changes on "naturally occurring shifts" in weather patterns but two recent studies should shake up the most ardent deniers. One, published in the journal *Nature*, shows this is the first and only planet-wide climate change in 2,000 years. The second, published in the journal *Nature Geoscience*, shows the rate of warming has far outpaced changes that occurred before the industrial era. We simply can no longer ignore what is right in front of us and pretend this is not our fault.

Science will not fix this.

Our government will not fix this.

Divine intervention will not fix this.

We may not be able to fix this. But we must try.

I've heard people say recycling, using less, refusing plastic and changing our habits is "too much trouble." As UUs who adhere to our 7 Principles, our comfort and convenience cannot be our first consideration. Our Green Team was formed to help us learn how to become leaders in the fight. I hope you'll join us.



Dispute Mediation

Steve Rittenmeyer

Having a Problem in Church?

The Dispute Mediation Committee stands ready to assist members and friends in resolving conflicts which affect their life in the church. For more information click [here](#).

Contact Steve Rittenmeyer at **915-0575** or email SD-Rittenmeyer@wiu.edu.



Social Committee

Dee Offerman and Stephanie Hubbard

Season Kickoff

Starting with a picnic at Cortez Pavilion on **September 20**. The pavilion is reserved from **5-10 PM**. There will be games and barbeque from Clampit's Country Kitchen.

On **October 15th** we have planned a trip to the Clinton Library in Little Rock to go and see the "*Washed Ashore*" art exhibit. Art structures have been created from materials that have landed on beaches in Oregon. We will meet at the east gate parking lot at **9:00 AM** and carpool. The cost for seniors is **\$8.00** and we are planning to eat lunch at the restaurant in the library.



Social Justice

Sue Loberg

October Community Event

Will be held at the Balboa Pavilion. Our focus will be on the immigration issues at the border. Look for updates in the September newsletter.



By Pam Harrison

BACK TO SCHOOL BLUE JEAN PROJECT 2019 FOR JACKSON HOUSE

This year the Social Justice Committee will again appeal to the caring congregation of UUVU to provide blue jeans for the Back-to-School blue jean project.

If you would like to donate jeans, boys or girls, sizes 6-14, new or gently used, your gift will be much appreciated. Families who can't afford clothes for their children will benefit from your generosity.

Blue Jean collection bin is in the hallway next to the Office.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



MUSIC NOTES



John Leisenring

August Music

I'll be digesting all the information gleaned from the recent UU Music Ministers Convention in Denver, as we prepare for the return of our beloved CHOIR in September.

Stay tuned for special August music by Brenda Tirrell and Clyde Pound, along with other goodies.

"After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music."

Aldous Huxley



The Christian Story: An Unfinished Tapestry with Frayed Edges

(August 11th Insight Topic)

The Christian story is a collection of folk art, cultural tradition, flavoring of history, and myth. It is a tapestry of "stories". They are not the same. Do not always blend. Unity is shaded by diversity. As they are woven together they form the unfinished tapestry called "Christianity". In Sunday's Insight Rev. Dr. Bud Hearn traces the making of the tapestry asking what might the next piece be like Question and conversation time to follow.

We Unitarian Universalist have inherited a magnificent theological legacy. In a sweeping answer to creeds that divide the human family, Unitarianism proclaims that we spring from a common source; Universalism, that we share a common destiny.

Forrest Church



Membership Snippets

Veronica Zuege

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I appreciate them so much. You might want to extend your thanks from time to time on your way in on Sundays. We have a couple of positions available – a good opportunity for you be involved. Let me know when you can help.

May your life preach more loudly than your lips.

William Ellery Channing



Adult Education

Warren Searls

“Developing a Reasoned Worldview.”

Your worldview is your concept of what the world is, how the world operates, and the place you have in it. Your worldview also encompasses your philosophy of life, because life philosophy and understanding of the world are generally linked to one another. As you age and explores the world you see it differently, as a result your overall worldview change. Quite often without conscious thought.

Warren needs the help of up to eight participants to help develop the course of study. The purpose of the course is to help you and future participants learn and apply Critical Thinking to secular and religious concepts and precepts. We will learn to challenge our opinions about people, nature, the world and universe we live in. Michael Dowd’s Pro Future Faith curriculum will be used as the point of discussion. It is anticipated that there will be 12 sessions of 1.5 to 2 hours in length. The day and time of each meeting will be determined by the participants. If interested in participating in the course development, e-mail Warren, wsearls@sbcglobal.net.



Art Wall

Daryl Wedwick

Well Done! to Our Local Talent!





Pastoral Care

Court Mathey

The Pastoral Care Ministry is a trained group of people who aid those facing life's crises. 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 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.

Grief Recovery meets monthly on the second **Tuesday from 9:30-11:00**, is open to anyone experiencing grief of any kind.

A Unitarian very earnestly disbelieves what everyone else believes.

W. Somerset Maugham

About UUVC

UUVC : [Unitarian Universalist Village Church](#)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/>

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

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

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.

Interest Groups (IGs)

Marlene Kloack , Coordinator mkkloackm@aol.com, 501-915-9494

For current information on any interest group click [here](#).

Game Night

2nd Saturday of each month at 5:00 PM. We will eat first and play games afterwards. Bring a dish to share. Contact Marjorie Lakey at: 262-8231.

Fiber Arts - Hooks & Needles

Will meet in the conference room on the **2nd & 4th Wednesdays from 1-3 PM** starting August 14. We welcome any and all forms of "fiber" work.

Contact either Marjorie McClesky at: **915-0237** or Suzette Watson at: **922-3382**

UUVC Pickleball

Meet at the Desoto Pickleball Courts on **Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM**. Paddles and balls are provided if you need them.

Contact Dane at: dane.nielsen@sbcglobal.net

Dining Out for 6

Will be returning this fall. Look for sign up sheets in the community hall on Sundays.

Contact Janine Bethscheider at: jbethscheider1@gmail.com

Meditation

Will be starting up in August or September.

Contact Toby Hamilton at: tobyhamiltonotr80@gmail.com, 405-919-6253.

Fourth Friday Film Fest

Meet in the Community Hall at **7:00 PM**. Popcorn provided!

Contact Cloe Bayer at: clobayer29@sbcglobal.net

Mah Jongg

Mondays at 1:00 in the community Hall.

Leave TerryLynn Marx a message at: **226-5136**

Mat Group

Meets in the community hall the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9:00 - 11:00 AM.

Contact Marilyn Matzek at: **922-4909**

August Celebrations



8/1	Rachel	Schirmer
8/2	Tom	Calhoun
8/8	Mary	Ransom
8/10	Helen	Stark
8/11	Susie	Banks
8/11	Bette	Clark
8/17	Kay	Croshaw
8/18	Penny	Beed
8/18	Lisa	Clem
8/18	Jeanne	Sabino
8/19	Norm	Elliott
8/19	Laura	Nick
8/21	Ron	Saldino
8/22	Pamala	Reeder
8/22	Lee	Zuege
8/23	Becky	Hamilton
8/25	Mike	Gold
8/27	Darleen	Tripcony
8/29	Rick	Traw

8/3	Marjorie & Paul	Lakey
8/4	Kim & Rick	Traw
8/9	Leslie & Craig	Johnson
8/21	Marie & David	Welch
8/24	Lee & Jack	Iafrate
8/29	Heidi & Tony	Nikodem

Sunday Service Information

Aug 04 Worship	<i>UU Past</i> – Rev. Mark
Aug 11 Insight	<i>The Christian Story: An Unfinished Tapestry with Frayed Edges</i> – Rev. Hearn
Aug 18 Worship	<i>UU Future</i> - Rev. Mark
Aug 25 Insight	Rabbi Levi
Share the Plate for July	American Red Cross
\$2,255	

Our New Board Members



Attendance for July

Worship Service	197
Insight	164
Total	361
Music on Barcelona	100
(June 30th)	

Contribution Information

Deadline: The 26th of month prior to publication (except for February the 24th)

Inquiries: Cindy Perez at:
pcindyp55@gmail.com