



Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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501-922-1255

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



Jerry Offerman '16

October 2019 THEME: Sustainability



Mark's Trail Rev. Mark Walz

Spiritually Fearless

Some new members were curious about why I changed the title of my column in the Village Voice. We used 'Beyond Belief' for over a year and a half. Then, in March of this year, I answered a question often asked of Unitarian Universalists, "How can you include agnostics, secular humanists, and atheists in your Religion and still call yourselves a Church?"

The question itself usually springs from the mistaken notion that any one religion could have the only version of absolute truth. It is interesting for us to watch other religions insist they have a monopoly over wisdom, over morality, over goodness.

When we Unitarian Universalists search our hearts, we find that for the sake of our shared future, questions you cannot answer are far better than answers you cannot question. We demand the freedom to explore and question.

So, yes, we welcome Atheists and Agnostics, and Secular Humanists. How could we not? They make us a better church. Together, we become Spiritually Fearless. So, for October and November worship, we will explore the ways that Fearlessness is required for being a UU. Fearless in our Worship and ritual, in our Music, in our Tradition of Free Pulpit and Free Pew, and fearless in our promise to become a Welcoming Congregation.

See you in church



From the President Janet Holt

Extending Our Circle of Compassion

There is a hymn I remember from my days as a Methodist, "This is My Father's World." I always found comfort in it, particularly the verse, "And though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet." I believe that god is another word for love and I want to believe that love is the ruler yet. I have to. Because to believe otherwise would be to give up on life. Recently I had a conversation with a friend I haven't seen in a while. I thanked him for his daily Facebook posts which are always uplifting and inspirational. He told me that is his way of combating negativity. He said he refuses to give in to all the naked hatred and divisiveness that seems so strong in the world right now and I couldn't help but think how easy retreating into a tribal corner would be.

Soon after that encounter with my friend, Warren chose a TED talk by Father Gregory Boyle for our congregational conversation. (If you missed it, here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipR0kWt1Fkc>)

Father Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries, the world's largest gang intervention and rehabilitation project. His philosophy to end gang violence is simple: get rival gang members to work together. He believes if people really get to know each other, they will stop hating each other and

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Green Team

Janet Holt

A Personal Invitation

Sunday, October 27 the *Green Team* will talk about what it means to become a Green Sanctuary and why it's so important. After the service, you can browse the exhibits at our first ever Eco Fair. Then stay for a delicious lunch especially prepared by the Culinary Team. A selection of homemade soups, breads, drinks and desserts for only \$8. Space for the luncheon is limited and reservations are required. Look for the menu and sign-up sheet at the information table. For more, click

[HERE](#).



Adult Education

Warren Searls

The first session of the Fall Leadership Class was held Monday, September 23. The next session will be held on **October 7** and every two weeks thereafter for a total of five 2-hour sessions. The Spring Leadership Class schedule will be announced in early 2020.



Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

As we are approaching the "shopping" time of the year, I want to remind everyone who uses Amazon, to consider the **AMAZON SMILE** charity program. You can identify UUVVC as your charity of choice ... with UUVVC receiving a donation equal to .5% of your purchases. It may not sound like a lot, but every little bit helps!

For more, click [HERE](#).



~From the President, Continued from Page 1~

develop the bonds of friendship and understanding. Why are there so many gang members? Because everyone needs a place to belong, even if that place is toxic.

We are becoming like rival gangs in our fractured society. The liberals and the conservatives. And now that an impeachment inquiry of our president has begun, the rhetoric will be more heated and hateful than ever.

The doctrine of our church is love. We must do what we can to promote that in our everyday lives and not just among ourselves. Reach out to those who don't agree with us. Talk to others with respect and civility. Extend our circle of compassion and truly seek understanding. Father Boyle is the epitome of compassion and never gives up on anyone. He ended his talk with these words, "God's dream for us, that we be one, just happens to be our own deepest longing for ourselves."

We are social creatures. We need each other. Let's learn to love each other.



Social Justice

Sue Loberg

In the month of August our Jackson House kitchen volunteers served 123 lunches. The thrift store could use a couple of volunteers.

We supported the student's demand to an end to fossil fuels, corporation pollution and environmental destruction by showing up in Little Rock on September 20th. This was a global event and it felt good to be part of it. We topped off our outing with lunch at a Thai restaurant. Hey, everybody's got to eat and I can attest that the food and company were superb.



August Share the Plate
Clarion Call



September Share the Plate
Planned Parenthood Great Plains.



Membership Snippets

Veronica Zuege

The people on the Membership Committee are so good at their jobs, we hardly know they are working! Brenda Tirrell is the head of Care and Concern and takes charge of our neighborhood networking. Her team includes Peggy McCoy, Pam Harrison, Lee Iafrate, Quay O'Hara and Michele Mendez. They are ready to assist our members who need help. As the new chairperson of this important committee, I am so grateful to Brenda and the liaisons for their caring natures and efficiency. If you do not know your liaison, consult the board in the community hall.

There will be a new member orientation on **October 15th**. If you would like to attend, please contact **Ronnie Zuege (922-3878)**



UUVB Blog

John Swinburn

We encourage UUVB members and friends to visit our new blog; read it, comment on posts, and let us know what you think. And, if you're of a mind to write a post or two, let John Swinburn know (his email address is jsswinburn@gmail.com), so he can arrange to allow you authorship privileges.

Our blog is intended as a means to enable our members and friends to engage in communication about matters religious and secular. Please, take a few minutes to read it and comment on a post or two (or more). Here's the address: <https://uuvblog.wordpress.com/>

We hope you find it interesting and valuable but, if not, we need to know that, too.



Art Wall

Daryl Wedwick

The Change of the Seasons Art Wall

At 11:00 a.m. on **Friday, October 11**, the **final exhibit of 2019** will be hung on the Art Wall. As you know there is space for sixteen paintings, or prints, or photographs, or stained glass or even quilts of the proper size. Works from familiar artists with familiar styles or new artists and new styles, all are welcome.

For submission criteria click [HERE](#).



Safety & Security

Tom Tirrell

SUNDAY SAFETY TEAM FORMING

We are developing a Sunday Safety Team to allow our UUVB building to remain as welcoming as possible while keeping an eye on those parts of the building with outside doors that still remain open to all.



For more on how you can become a "roamer" or a "back-bencher", click [HERE](#).



Dispute Mediation

Steve Rittenmeyer

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.



"Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Mahatma Gandhi



Events Committee

Dee Offerman and Stephanie Hubbard

The sign-up sheet for our trip to the Clinton Library on **October 15th** is now available in the community hall on Sunday mornings. Please indicate whether you will be staying for lunch for reservation purposes.

We will meet at **9:00 outside the East Gate** so that we can carpool. The cost for seniors is \$8.00.

The **Washed Ashore** art exhibit, *Art to Save the Sea*, is supposed to be extraordinary! We are hoping that many will attend.

Newsletter Submission Information

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

Submissions and Inquiries: Cindy Perez at: pcindyp55@gmail.com



C4K

Bob McCleskey

With the start of the 2019-2020 school year, requests for laptop computers are increasing. If you or someone you know has a laptop they are not using please consider donating to C4K for these students.

If you would like to learn more about the C4K program, just ask. Better yet, volunteer to help.

For more information about C4K, click [HERE](#).



“When we achieve human rights and human dignity for all people--they will build a peaceful, sustainable, and just world.”

Antonio Guterres

“The first rule of sustainability is to align with natural forces, or at least not try to defy them.”

Paul Hawken



The HSV Village Clean Up day is Saturday, **October 12**. UUVK team members ... hope you have the date on your calendar! And if you would like to be on the UUVK team, please send a note to **Kim Townsan** at townsaka@yahoo.com



10/7	Pati Trippel	10/21	Cindy Nance
10/9	Phyllis Costea	10/21	Maria Roubik
10/9	Mary Ransom	10/21	John Swinburn
10/9	Rev. Mark Walz	10/23	Salli Forbes
10/15	Elizabeth Foster	10/23	Cliff Harrison
10/18	Dora Cialone	10/23	Joe Stout
10/19	Martha Thomson	10/24	Alicia Fetters
10/20	Craig Johnson	10/29	Michael Sowka
		10/30	Janet Holt



10/8	Pam and Cliff Harrison
10/13	Nancy and Joel Unowsky
10/20	Shirley and Court Mathey
10/22	Jamin and Kim Townsan



Interest Groups (IGs)

Marlene Kloack , Coordinator mkkloack@aol.com, 501-915-9494
For current information on any interest group click [here](#).



<p align="center">Dining Out for 6</p> <p>Another Social Hour is being planned. Watch for an announcement of an exact date in an upcoming mid-week blast email. Our 6 Fall 2019 Dining-Out groups are underway. Contact Janine Bethscheider at: jbethscheider1@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Fiber Arts - Hooks & Needles</p> <p>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</p>
<p align="center">UUVc Pickleball</p> <p>Meet at the Desoto Pickleball Courts on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM. Paddles and balls are provided if you need them. Contact Dane at: dane.nielsen@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p align="center">Fourth Friday Film Fest</p> <p>Meet in the Community Hall at 7:00 PM. Popcorn provided! Look for E-blast with current movie. Contact Cloe Bayer at: cloebayer29@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p align="center">Mah Jongg</p> <p>Mondays at 1:00 in the community Hall. Leave TerryLynn Marx a message at: 226-5136</p>	<p align="center">Game Night</p> <p>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.</p>
<p align="center">Mat Group</p> <p>Meets in the community hall the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. Contact Marilyn Matzek at: 922-4909</p>	<p align="center">Meditation</p> <p>Contact Toby Hamilton at: tobyhamiltonotr80@gmail.com, 405-919-6253. if you would be interested in this group.</p>

*"Being green is more than just buying 'eco'.
It is an unshakable commitment to a sustainable lifestyle."*

Jennifer Nini

Sunday Service Information

Oct 6 Worship	Rev. Mark "RadicalHospitality"
Sept 13 Insight	Philip Martin "Do Newspapers Have a Future?"
Sept 20 Worship	Rev. Mark "Worship & Ritual "
Sept 27 Insight	Green Team "Sustainability"

Sept Share the Plate Planned Parenthood Great Plains
Totaled \$1995.25

Attendance for August

Worship Service	215
Insight	191
Total	406

About UUVc

UUVc : [Unitarian Universalist Village Church](http://www.uuvc.org)
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.



Look for the "flame" symbol throughout the newsletters. These denote hyperlinks that have been added which will send you to the web page for additional information.

