



# Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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Jerry Offerman

## March 2021 Theme: *Truth*



### Mark's Trail Rev. Mark Walz

#### Patience

A Tibetan monk once said, show me someone who insists on knowing the future, and I'll show you someone who finds the past meaningless and the present empty.

I'm not clairvoyant. I don't have a crystal ball. I don't know what the future will bring, but I can't help feeling our world could be better than it was before we retreated into the safety of separation.

Experts are saying we might be able to gather in person again, much as before the pandemic. There is speculation that by summer or early fall we will be healthy enough to begin again.

I'm sure you've heard the adage that an optimist believes the glass is half full, the pessimist believes the glass is half empty, and the realist believes the glass is twice as big as it needs to be. I suppose I'm an optimist.

This period of forced reflection has taught me that I cannot take what we had for granted. The joy in the friendships we formed, the extended family we found in our congregation, the communion of shared purpose; these are the lifeblood of our human journey.

We don't need to know the future to begin it. We simply need the courage to embrace the future with patience, fortitude, purpose, and grace.

*"Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters."*

Albert Einstein



### From the President Warren Searls

#### One Moment In Time

I was a ferocious reader as a boy, encouraged by my mother who supplied me with books and magazines. She gave me a set of Collier's Encyclopedia when I was not yet a teenager. I was fascinated; I could look something up or just open a volume and start reading. My mom would ask me what I had read, what it meant to me, and what was my understanding of the text.

Like the encyclopedia was for reading, YouTube now offers me the variety of visual and auditory pleasures that I deeply enjoy. I can find the latest news, a symphony, a movie, and Bill Maher's latest New Rules. It just goes on and on.

The other evening I came across a singer I had never heard of, Dana Winner singing "One Moment in Time". It was written for the 1988 Summer Olympics held in Seoul, South Korea. Hearing it this time, however, the lyrics and Dana Winner's rendition reached deep within me. I can't get her singing and the lyrics out of my head. "I want one moment in time, when I'm more than I thought I could be. When all of my dreams are a heartbeat away and the answers are all up to me. Give me one moment in time, when I'm racing with destiny. Then in that one moment in time, I will be free."

When you have a "moment", give a listen to Dana Winner, "One Moment in Time."

*"Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth."*

Buddha





## Music Notes

John Leisenring

Spring is just around the corner. Vaccinations abound. The choir will sing favorite hymns at each service. And Clyde and John will record numerous tunes that will make us all think SPRING!!

By the way - - the choir will be back together again for the fall season, and we are short a number of singers. Please consider joining us for a wonderful season of music making. No audition required.

*Music gives a soul to the universe,  
wings to the mind,  
flight to the imagination  
and life to everything*  
Plato



## Green Team

Janet Holt

### Welcome Spring!

And goodbye winter! Record-breaking temps and snowfall stretched our resources to the limit but spring is finally in sight. This year's spring equinox is March 20. In case you're curious, an equinox is when the sun is positioned directly above the Earth's equator, an event which happens just twice a year. The equinoxes are the only time when the sun rises directly due East and sets directly due West for everyone on Earth. And here's a fun fact about spring I'll bet you didn't know. Earthworms typically spend the winter buried deep below the frost line, but spring showers reduce the oxygen in the soil and cause them to burrow their way up to the surface. That's why the first full moon in the month of March is known as the Worm Moon. Interesting, right?

Another important event on March 20 is the *Whole Earth, Whole Church Congregational Climate Convergence* co-hosted by the UUA Green Sanctuary Program and the UU Ministry for Earth. This program is designed to encourage and support congregational climate action and everyone is invited to attend. Click [here](#) for more details and to RSVP. Hope to see you there!



## Adult Education

Salli Forbes

Spiritual Practice classes are continuing through March on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM. New participants are welcome. To join, contact Debbie Bostick at [dragon-fly9210@yahoo.com](mailto:dragon-fly9210@yahoo.com) or Patty Dacus at [pjdacus@gmail.com](mailto:pjdacus@gmail.com).

Do you want to explore some of the features of zoom? If so, you will want to join one of the sessions at 3:00 PM on several Mondays in March. Look for the registration link in the UUVC Office eblast.

The zoom session with Elmer Beard has been rescheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. He will discuss the subjects of his book *The Challengers* and share poetry from his newest book *Let Reason Roll*. See zoom link in the UUVC Office eblast.

The monthly Book Sharing session will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Join the zoom session to share your book and learn about what others are reading. See zoom link in the UUVC Office eblast.



## Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

As we move into the second half of our fiscal year, income continues to exceed expenses. Through January 31, UUVC has operating income of \$24,692 which is slightly better than our budget .

In early February, all members and friends who have pledged to our operating and building drives received an update of the status of their pledges. An update will again be provided in early April. Operating pledge commitments are due by June 30. For building pledges, commitments are to be paid by November 1.

Regarding our recent water damage as a result of a burst pipe ... yes we have insurance! The reconstruction team, led by Tom Tirrell met with the insurance adjuster on February 26. UUVC has a \$1,000 deductible on our policy. We anticipate that demolition of affected areas will begin soon.



## Pastoral Care Ministry

Court Mathey

What a couple of weeks! We've made it through a record snowstorm for Arkansas. Many have gotten one or both Covid-19 vaccinations and vaccines are becoming available to others.

Sue Loberg, Barbara Mueller and Jay Williams have been sick or had surgery but are all progressing well.

Let's hope Spring comes soon and brings its blooms.



## Dispute Mediation

Cloe Bayer

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 Cloe Bayer: 922-3810  
[cloebayer29@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cloebayer29@sbcglobal.net)

or  
Steve Rittenmeyer: 915-0575  
[sd-rittenmeyer@wiu.edu](mailto:sd-rittenmeyer@wiu.edu)



## Membership Snippets

Veronica Zuege

If not for the pandemic, the Membership Committee would be planning a social event for our friends right now. We would be scheduling times for classes to help potential members understand more about Unitarian Universalism and about how our own church operates. That is impossible at this time, however, we do have some friends who wish to become members. We have a plan to make that happen. Welcome, 'Nita Brown, our newest member. 'Nita is eager to get more involved and we are very happy to have her in our loving community. Do let me know if you also are interested in membership. We will be happy to have you too.



**New Member**  
Nita Brown  
With  
Rev. Mark Walz

Photo by Kim Townsan

## Birthdays

- 3/2 Lorraine Ridley
- 3/8 Cindy Perez
- 3/10 Patsy Slezak
- 3/14 Jack Iafrate
- 3/15 Jim Tripcony
- 3/19 Dennis Abraham
- 3/26 Cary Drennen
- 3/27 Terry McCoy
- 3/28 Quay O'Hara
- 3/29 Bari Searls
- 3/31 Deanna Tolliver

## Anniversaries

- 3/1 Georgia and Clyde Pound
- 3/10 Terry and Peggy McCoy
- 3/23 Nell Brewer and George Tatum
- 3/26 Martha and Darrell Graham

## About UUVC

- UUVC Website: <http://www.uuvc.org>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/>
- Sermons: [www.uuvc.org/messages-and-sermons.html](http://www.uuvc.org/messages-and-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.