



Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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

uuvillagechurch403@gmail.com
Suzette & Jim Watson, editors
suzettewatson@me.com



April 2016 Newsletter

President's Column UUVC President Kim Harrison

March was relatively quiet around UUVC, but a lot got done behind the scenes. The nominating committee has picked a great slate for the open board positions and the memorial committee. Elections are slated for May 1. The committee chairs are working on next year's budget. Preparations for the next fiscal year are underway.



Think about what committee(s) you would like to be on next year. I'm sure there's room for more on just about any of them. Get involved, help make this the best UU church possible. About half of the committees will be appointing vice chairs next year to take over in 2017-18. We, all of us, are needed to keep this church going. So find something you are good at, passionate about, or just enjoy doing and join in the fun.

We have such a wonderful congregation – nothing is really drudgery or work when you're with friends and working to make our congregation better. Even taking a position of leadership isn't hard when there are so many wonderful people around. And any job, when it's shared, is a lot easier.

If you are involved, doing most anything, you help the church move down its path and help shape its future.

So a big THANK YOU to everyone who already is involved! And a big WHY NOT? to those of you who aren't. I really enjoy being a part of this amazing congregation and want to help it move into the future. We can do such amazing things when we work together!

So I'll see you all around the church...

MINISTER SEARCH Court Mathey

The preparation of a marketing brochure of UUVC, HSV and the surrounding environs is almost complete and should provide exciting details for any minister on our website who might be willing to consider coming to be with us, although we have been advised by Rev Keith Kron, UUA Transitions Director, that this may be a hard sell.



On April 22, UUA interim ministers must file their applications with Rev. Kron's office for moving to a new church. We hope that by May 10 we will receive some names of interested ministers.

April Sundays at UUVC

February Attendance: All Souls podcast, 89

UUVC, 429

April 3, Worship, Rev. Bud Hearn,
"Post Easter and the 3 S's"

Share the Plate—Arkansas Hospice

April 10, Insight, Michelle Crandall

April 17, Worship, Video Sermon

April 24, Insight, Peter Trabant, Earth Day, "Water and the Earth"

Welcoming Congregation



Overarching Goal – Increase Visibility and Identity through Faith in Action
Objective – Become a welcoming congregation

The next major project will be that of earning our certification as a UUA Welcoming Congregation. A Welcoming Congregation is inclusive and expressive of the concerns of people who are LGBT at every level of congregational life --- in worship, in program and in social occasions --- welcoming not only their presence but the unique gifts and characteristics of their lives as well.

This involves coordinating the program throughout all aspects of UUVU congregational life. Those intimately involved will be Social Action team, Education Coordinator, Membership Committee, Program Committee, Board Members, Communications Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, and General Members. The program includes education in all aspects of LGBT life; developing inclusive language in our communication with each other and the community, in our newsletter, Facebook page, Order of Service, Newspaper articles, Bylaws and Policies; and also includes Community Outreach and Social Justice activities with local LGBT organizations.

As we consider our upcoming budgeting and subsequent pledging to support the Church during the next fiscal year, it would be useful to look at how our pattern of giving compares with other UU churches. The UUA Stewardship Consultants give congregations guidance. One of the techniques they recommend is to compare the giving pattern of our congregation to a healthy distribution. This is done by assessing what percentage of the pledges to the church come from what percentage of the givers.

UUVU receives one quarter of its total pledge income from just 8% of our contributors (that's 6 persons or couples). Another quarter comes from 15% (10 contributors). The 3rd quarter is from 21% and the 4th from 55%. A healthy distribution is considered to be 10, 15, 30, and 40. That distribution recognizes that not everyone can give the same amount, but that all need to share in supporting our activities.

PS. Now is the time the committee chairs are preparing their recommendations for next year's (July-June) budget, so contact whoever is in charge if you have a suggestion for a specific function.

STEPPING STONES TO MEMBERSHIP

Pam Harrison

Everyone is welcome to attend our church and here at UUVU. After attending services and decision to become a member. Joining the between you and the congregation: A your time, talent, and treasure with the church. maintenance and growth of UUVU and its congregation commits to provide you with the best possible programs and services, to support you in times of trouble, to celebrate with you in times of joy, and to enfold you in our community of love.



participate in the many activities that are found church events for a while, you may make the church involves a two way commitment commitment on your part that you will share This means helping as you are able in the many outreach programs. In turn, the

The steps to become a member of UUVU are fairly simple.

Step One: Take an education class, such as an introduction to Unitarian Universalism (UU 101). If you have been a Unitarian Universalist before coming to UUVU you can move on to Step Two.

Step Two: Attend the New Member Orientation Class. This class is for those who are contemplating membership or have already made the decision to become a member. You will learn about the organization of UUVU and the responsibilities and expectations of being a member.

Step Three: New Members are introduced to the congregation on a Membership Sunday. The New Member Ceremony is very short and simple. Part of the ceremony is to sign the UUVU Membership Book. The next Membership Sunday will be held on June 5, 2016.

Becoming a Member of UUVU is saying "I am more than a guest. I am vested in the future of this church." Being part of our church community provides an opportunity to explore and share your personal gifts and join with all of us on our spiritual journey.

Please contact Pam Harrison (501) 915-8382 or email Pam at cliffh2000@hotmail.com or contact any member of the board if you are contemplating the Steps to Membership at UUVU.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



OPEN MIC BACK!

Having Fun with Folkin' Around,
and It's Free!

Brenda Tirrell



Your best chance for having fun is Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Village Church, 403 Barcelona Road, Hot Springs Village. This will be at OPEN MIC where Folkin' Around from Little Rock will be playing. This group brings homemade instruments and singing and lots of fun. You may remember that they were scheduled for January, but canceled due to the weather. Folkin' Around will also be playing two public gigs in April in Central Arkansas. You will be able to hear them Saturday, April 9 from 7-9 p.m. at The Studio Theater in Little Rock, where there is no cover charge. We have no cover charge here at OPEN MIC, but donations are accepted. They help with travel expenses for our guest performers.

OPEN MIC invites everyone's participation with poetry, stories, songs, jokes, drama or whatever your form of entertainment. There will be snacks, soft drinks and wine and you may feel free to bring your own goodies.

We also expect some of our own UU singers to come out on this occasion. You do not want to miss this night. The next OPEN MIC will be June 16, and will be the last one for this season. Let's support this activity and keep it alive for the next season.



Mother's Day Brunch

Dane Nielsen

UUVC men will host a Mother's Day Brunch following the worship service on May 8th. Men willing to help out should contact Dane Nielsen. We'll have a short meeting following the worship service on April 3rd to figure out how we'll pull this off. All help is welcome.



UUVC Golden Opportunity Services Auction

If you haven't already decided what "service" (or highly desirable "item") you would like to offer at the UUVC auction on May 6, please put your thinking cap on and come up with an "offering". There have been notices in the mid-week e-blasts about the auction (typically as an attachment) so do not delete the email until you have read the attachment. The auction notices contain examples of services which have been offered in the past. We are also asking for "ideas" and "wishes" which just might result in someone in the congregation responding by fulfilling your "wish". Be creative! Convey your ideas and wishes to Jerriann Nielsen or Bob McCleskey.

This is a fun event and is a fund raiser which helps support our operating budget. In addition, if the auction is as successful as past auctions, it will benefit the Building or Minister Funds.

Volunteers are also needed to gather items or services and to help the day of the auction to hand out items, etc. There is a sign-up sheet in the Community Hall. Please help us out! For further questions, talk to Cindy Perez, 501-226-5641 or pcindyp55@gmail.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? (cont.)

Arkansas UU Cluster to meet in Hot Springs this month. The 8 congregations of the Arkansas UU Cluster will meet at the Hot Springs UU Church on April 29th and 30th. The theme is year is Living our Principles Every Day. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other UU's from around the state and to get involved with the Arkansas Legislative Action Ministry. Registration forms will be on the sign up table each Sunday. Or contact Carol Stanfill, president of Hot Springs Unitarian Universalist Church at 501-538-5816, carol.stanfill76@gmail.com. UUVU hosted the Arkansas UU Cluster in the Fall of 2014 and will do so again in 2017.

UUA General Assembly

UUA General Assembly is in June. Columbus, Ohio will be the host city for the UUA General Assembly that is held each year in a different location. Each congregation in the UUA is invited to send representatives. Columbus, Ohio is the nearest the GA has been to HSV for a number of years. If you are available and think you might be interested in attending, you can find out more information at <http://www.uua.org/ga>.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SELECTS SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2016-2017

Cloe Bayer

The nominating committee, consisting of Cloe Bayer, Chair, and Jay Williams and Robin Young, have now completed their work, and presented its report to the Board at its March 16th meeting. The slate of candidates for office in the next church year are: Vice-President, Penny Beed; Treasurer, Kim Townsan; Board Member at Large, Tom Tirrell; Memorial Committee Member, Meg Koziar. According to our bylaws, the candidates are being presented to the congregation in advance of the election itself, which will be held at a congregational meeting after the Worship Service on May 1st.

Computers 4 Kids News Bob McCleskey

We have finally succeeded in gaining the Jessieville School District as a C4K client. This has been a multi-year effort and has culminated with the first delivery of 4 computer systems by Loren Loberg and Bob McCleskey on March 9. In addition, Loren delivered 10 computer systems to the Mt. Pine School District this month (the first request from them in several years). More requests from both schools are anticipated.

MEMORIAL PLANNING FORMS

Cloe Bayer

At its March meeting, the Board discussed the need for each congregational member to have a formal memorial plan on file in the church office for when the need arises. This form would contain such information as next of kin, who else should be notified, desired items, i.e.,



readings, music, etc., to be included in the memorial service, place of internment, and any arrangements for a reception following the memorial service. This information would be invaluable for those whose duty it is to assist the family in the memorial planning. This form is available online, which can be filled out there as well, or a printed form can be obtained from the office. Please contact Cloe Bayer, current person in charge of memorial planning for the congregation, for further information or if you have any other questions you need answered. cloebayer29@sbcglobal.net or 922-3810.

Building Note —TerryLynne Marx

The unisex rest room off room 8 in the Community Hall is available for use again. There is a baby-changing station in there, too.

Social Action Committee
Alana Clegg, Chair



The Social Action Committee is pleased and proud to announce that the Share the Plate for March, The Garland County Imagination Library, will receive \$1,641.00 from our congregation. This is a record-setting amount for Share The Plate and is due in part from larger than usual contributions. This amount will give 13 children, 12 books per year for 5 years or 65 children 12 books for one year. Way to go!!

Social Committee
Cindy Nance & Bari Searls



The Chili Cook-off was a great success and we hope will become an annual event. The reception after the Jazz Service and 50th Anniversary Painting unveiling was good.

In March we sponsored an excursion to the Riley Glass Studio. Members and friends saw a glass blowing demonstration on March 9th, at Riley Art Glass Studio, arranged by Sam Stout. It was interesting to see a large glass tray made, all the steps involved and have questions answered. Lunch was enjoyed at Pho Hoang My.

We will have Bob McCleskey and Dane Nielsen come to our April lunch meeting to tell the Social Committee what they want help with on the UUVc Service Auction and the Mother's Day Brunch, both in May.

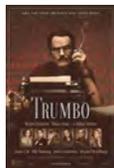


Sue Loberg will conduct a brainstorming session on "Why The Social Committee?" prior to our April meeting.

Please contact Cindy Nance, cindy102153@aol or Bari, barisearls@sbcglobal.net if you have ideas for activities. The social committee meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday, at 2:00 pm, in the conference room. All are invited to attend and become involved.

Fourth Friday Film Fest
Cloe Bayer

The movie we will be showing on April 22 is Trumbo. Several people have asked us to put this one on the list for FFFF, and its recent release to video has now made it possible. Trumbo is the story of the events of 1947, when Dalton Trumbo, a top Hollywood screenwriter, as well as other artists, were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. Trumbo recounts how Dalton used words and wit to win two Academy awards and expose the absurdity and injustice of the blacklist, which entangled everyone from gossip columnist Hedda Hopper to John Wayne, Kirk Douglas and Otto Preminger. Bryan Cranston stars as Trumbo, and Helen Mirren plays Hedda Hopper. Audiences gave this movie an 80% favorable rating. Many of us have been around long enough to remember the headlines at the time; won't you join us in either recalling those days, or becoming educated in learning about the hysteria that was so rampant back then?





Pam Harrison

"The UUVC Food Drive" continues to be a great success. The Social Action Committee has delivered 15 bins of food so far to the Jackson House Food Pantry. The workers at Jackson House Pantry say they are in need of cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, canned peas, carrots, mixed vegetables, and small packets of dried milk. If you have already made food donations, a BIG thank you. Please keep these Food Pantry requests in mind—of course, anything you donate is accepted with gratitude.

Jackson House has two Thrift Shops, one on Malvern Avenue and one on Albert Pike. UUVC provides two volunteers to work on the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Lately we have only been able to provide one volunteer to help out in the Thrift Shop on Malvern Ave beside Jackson House. If you would like to volunteer your time and service, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Community hall every Sunday.

The Thrift shop on Albert Pike is expanding and is always in need of volunteers. The manager is Tammy Jones; you can contact her at 501-625-7467 to arrange a workday.

Jackson House appreciates the many people who make donations and the volunteers who give of themselves.

ART WALL CHANGEOVER

Daryl Wedwick

Friday, April 15th, is the date for the quarterly changing of the artwork in the Community Room. Please bring your new works of art to the Community Room between 10 a.m. and noon that day and/or reclaim those already on exhibit. Should you be unable to deliver your paintings at that time you may leave them in the Office or in the Art Room during Office Hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday or Thursday earlier that week. We have eight hanging lines so we have space for sixteen new paintings (or prints or photos or drawings or quilts or . . .)



Each work of art must have a wire hanger, i.e., no sawtooth hangers. The following information must be on a card attached to the rear of the work:

- 1) Name of artist; 2) Title of work; 3) Medium; and 4) Price/value for insurance purposes. Please mark NFS if it is Not For Sale.

Of course, volunteers to hang the show will be appreciated, especially tall ones!

What is The Point?

Dane Nielsen

The Point is a customizable Unitarian Universalist retreat for all ages. Imagine five days of UU covenant and community in a resort-like setting on the shores of Fort Gibson Lake in Oklahoma. The Point offers personal growth, faith renewal, learning opportunities, spiritual practices, community worship, music, excellent cuisine, sustainable practices, social gatherings (dance, movie night, talent show), outdoor activities, programming for all ages and interests, and an engaging theme speaker. Each day begins and ends with worship, but how you spend your day is completely up to you! The theme for The Point 2016 is Savor and Save the World. Join us from July 24-29.

<http://www.thepointuu.org/>

CELEBRATIONS



The UUVC Green Team tied for first place in the Trivia Nite event on March 17. Team members are: (left to right standing) Phyllis Johnson, Cynthia Saalfeld, Janet Holt, Brenda Tirrell. (Left to right, seated): Dennis Abraham, Ron Nance, Paul Lakey, Myra Rustin.

Two other teams, The Purple Team and the Aquanauts, also participated. A good time was had by all. Go UUVC!



Birthdays

4/4 Ronnie Zuege
4/11 Anne Hagen
4/12 Bud Hearn
4/15 Lee lafrate
4/16 Don Hasse
4/18 Bridgit Van de Kop
4/19 Marjorie McCleskey
4/20 Marjorie Lakey
4/23 Suzette Watson
4/28 Hildy Nyberg
4/29 Bobbie Bateman

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR REV. JAN NIELSEN

Rev. Jan Nielsen will be formally installed in the Unitarian Universalist Church of Little Rock on May 22 at 11a.m. A reception is to follow. The church is located at 1818 Reservoir Road, Little Rock. We are all invited to attend. For those wishing to attend, come to the UUVC office and make your reservations via paperless post invite.



Anniversaries

4/4 Carl & Sheila Ford
4/4 Darwin & Jean Hany
4/5 Steve & Mary Ann Rittenmeyer
4/24 Ron & Cindy Nance

THANKS FROM Bobbie Brooks

Bobbie Brooks wants us all to know she appreciated our assistance from last July for many months while she was recuperating from ankle surgery; in particular Nancy Carlson and Dick Schmidt, June Harris, Pam Harrison, Tom Henderson, TerryLynne Marx and Court Mathey. She gave a special contribution to our financial account.

Resolve Your Conflicts

Steve Rittenmeyer

The Conflict Resolution Committee stands ready confidentially to assist members and friends in resolving disputes and misunderstandings with other congregants that affect their lives in church. For more information about the conflict resolution process, please contact:

Steve Rittenmeyer, 915-0575,
SD-Rittenmeyer@wiu.edu

or

Cloe Bayer, 922-3810,
cloebayer29@sbcglobal.net

MEET THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

"New Year-New Beginnings--Better You"

Tom Henderson

The area where I need the most improvement involves how I handle conflicts in my personal life. Despite my education in conflict management, I still find myself struggling to overcome certain behaviors when in the face of conflict.



In 2015, I was impatient and felt uncomfortable with lingering conflict not being resolved. I found my impatience brought about irritability and stress in my life which affected some of my relationships with others.

In 2016 I will be patient & will practice slowing down and being more mindful of other's needs. I will think before I speak and will practice not saying the first thing that comes to my mind and taking the extra time to think about what I'm going to say before I say it. My goal is to articulate my points in such a way that it is honest but doesn't hurt other's feelings.

In 2016, I will be responsive & practice being more mindful of my emotions: speaking softer, and being more approachable. Lastly, I will concentrate on the solution instead of focusing on the problem. It will take less time, and resolve the problem more quickly, and I will feel less frustrated.

Poetry Corner

Spring Haikus

a cool spring breeze . . .
flowers swaying side to side
in the meadow

Jake S.

mist over the pond . . .
the moonlight shines
off the water like glass

Janet Hunter

the rolling hills . . .
I sit under a tree
with my book

Katie Flemming

Try the UUVV Website:
www.uuvc.org





Interest Groups (IGs)

Barb Austin & Judy Johnson, IG Coordinators



Enjoy the company of people with a similar interest by participating in one of the Interest Groups (IG). There are now eight active groups to choose from, so 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 (501-781-8489 or email: austibe@gmail.com) to inquire about starting a new group.

Game Night

Come to play board games-cards games on the 2nd Saturday of each month (April 9.) 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!
(Kay Croshaw)



Fourth Friday Film Fest

Please watch the bulletin for information on the film selection but please mark April 22 on your calendars for the next film night. (Cloe Bayer)



Grief Support Group



The Grief Support Group has been providing comfort and support to several people over the five and a half years we've been in existence. We will meet the second Monday, March 14 at 10:00am. (Cynthia Saalfield, 915-8577)

The Poetry Group

This group was formed by people who write or have written poetry, but has expanded into a poetry appreciation group. If you enjoy reading poetry, come, join this fun group.



The next meeting will be April 12 at 10:00 in the library. (Lee lafrate)

Social Justice Book Group

The Social Justice Book Group will meet on Friday, April 22, from 12:30 to 2:00, to discuss a UUA recommended book, *The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and Rise of a New Justice Movement*, by William J. Barber II. The book, available from the UUA bookstore, or Amazon, is only 150 pages long, so book sharing between 2 or 3 should be possible. Please contact me if you would like to join the group for the discussion. kozimeg@sbcglobal.net. (Meg Koziar)



Meditation Group

This is a new group. We recognize it is sometimes easier to meditate in a group than by oneself, so we are creating a sangha. We are all learning, and welcome anyone who would like to meditate with us.



We meet Monday afternoon 4:30-5:30 and Wednesday mornings 8:30-9:30. You are invited to join either or both times. Quay O'Hara, 501-984-2030.

Table Tennis



The group meets on Tuesdays from 4:30-6 pm. We will continue with the current schedule until further notice. All skill levels are welcome and a good workout is had by all. Please join us! (Jay Williams)

Find us on Facebook:
UUVC