



Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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Jerry Offermann '16

JUNE 2017 Theme — UU Heritage

President's Column

UUVC President Court Mathey



At the end of this month the torch is passed to Penny Beed as President, David Welch as Vice President. Also John Leisenring joins the Board as Janet Enders and Kim Harrison complete their terms. It has been quite a year for all of us. Now we look forward to the arrival of Rev. Mark Walz on August 1. I have deep

gratitude for all the support I have had this year both from the Board and the Committees. AGAIN THANKS TO ALL!

At the orientation meeting a week ago led by Pam Harrison, Quay O'Hara and Bill Mulcahy. Rev. Mark Walz was with us and also his wife Vivian. Vivian is the one who gifted to UUVC the banners in the Community Hall stating the seven principles, after we moved into our building.

The UUA election for President to be decided on June 24 has three women as nominees; the board will decide whom we vote for. The following data has been summarized from the UUA website.

Rev. Jeanne Pupke has been serving as a UU minister since 2002. She worked with an emerging congregation in Bend, OR; then was the Growth Minister for the Pacific Northwest District from 2004 to 2006. Since 2006 she has served as Minister at First Unitarian Universalist Church in Richmond, VA. She frequently testifies to the Virginia legislature on women's, LGBTQ and youth rights. She served as UUA Trustee At Large from 2009 to 2013. As a young woman she was a Catholic nun for four years. She and her wife, Regina Largent, a retired Army officer and university administrator have been together 23 years.

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, a life-long Unitarian Universalist, completed her B.S. in Molecular Biology at the Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison in 1997 and received Masters of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School in 2001 and was ordained in 2002. She served as Minister at First UU Church in Youngstown, OH from 2003 until 2008. She serves as Lead Minister at UU Congregation of Phoenix,

AZ where she has been since 2008. She has been extremely active in the fight against Arizona's anti-immigrant law. Rev. Frederick-Gray is married to the Rev. Brian Frederick-Gray, a pastor with dual standing with both the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church; they have a 10-year-old son.

Rev. Alison Miller has partnered with Unitarian Universalist communities across the country for 26 years. The first fourteen years of her call she was a lay leader serving as a volunteer and in staff roles. She served as a minister intern and Summer Minister at All Souls, Tulsa during 2003-04 and then was acting Assistant Minister at All Souls Church in New York City from 2004-05. In 2005 she became Senior Minister at Morristown Unitarian Fellowship in Morristown, NJ. Rev. Miller is married to a third generation UU, David Snedden, a middle-school teacher; they have a four-year-old son.

JUNE Sundays at UUVC

**March Attendance: All Souls webcast, 68
UUVC, 400**

Share the Plate: Lucie's Place, \$1,335

JUNE Share the Plate: Arkansas Food Bank

June 4, Worship, Rev. Bud Hearn

June 11, Insight, Faith Journeys, Dane Nielsen & Penny Beed

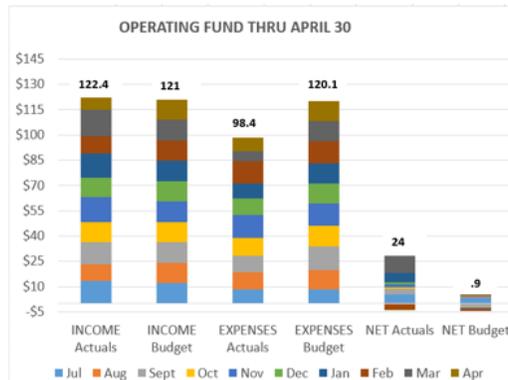
June 18, Worship, Music Sunday

June 25, Insight, Steven Williams, National Pride Day

Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

June ... **the last month of our current fiscal year!** For those who have completed payment on their current year pledge FY16-17 commitments, thank you! I will be sending a reminder of any outstanding pledge balances the week of June 5. While our financials continue to be strong, driven by lower expenses, pledge income received during the month of April was \$3,000 less than budgeted. Please be sure to complete your operating fund pledge commitment before the end of June!

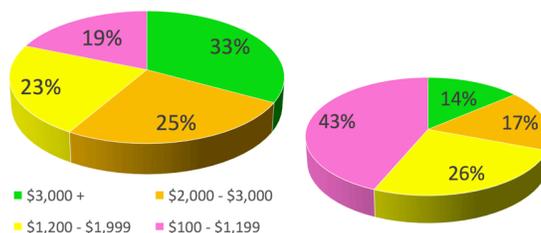


June ... **the month we complete our Operating Fund Pledge Drive for the upcoming fiscal year.** Kim Harrison, Pledge Co-Chair, kicked off our FY17-18 Pledge Drive at our May 21 Worship Service. As Kim shared, the annual pledge drive is not only to fund our budget, but to fund our “collective vision of a more inclusive and just community at large.” And if you weren’t at the May 21 service, but have been in the Sanctuary, you may be wondering “What’s with the colored papers?”

The papers reflect the allocation of our current year’s pledge information... shown in the charts below. The left chart shows the allocation of the dollars pledged as a percentage of FY16-17 total pledge dollars. The chart on the right reflects the number of pledges as a percentage of our congregation. The colors correspond to the amount of the individual pledge. ***So what does all that mean?*** This past year, those who contributed \$3,000 or more (the green “people”), funded 33% of our pledge budget, but are just 14% of our Congregation. And on the pink side, 19% of our budget is funded by 43% of our Congregation. Our goal for FY17-18 is to fund our approved budget of \$126,000. So as you undertake your pledge commitment to UUVC this year, as you look to what UUVC does for you, our congregational community and the community at large ... maybe you’d like to change color? We’d all love to see our color palette look a bit more balanced! So maybe if you’re a pink, you’d like to move to yellow, or if a yellow move to orange?

Our Fiscal Year ‘17-18 Pledge Drive ends on June 14. If you have not received your email with the Pledge Letter and form, please send an email to treasurer@uuvc.org. **We are a very generous congregation**...thank you for your contributions of the past and your commitment to funding our vision for the upcoming year!

WHAT'S WITH THE PAPERS?



What's Happening

MEMBERSHIP CORNER UPCOMING EVENTS

Pam Harrison

Membership Sunday &

Pot Luck Salad and Dessert Luncheon

We are celebrating our four new Members who took the step to join UUVK in the 2016-2017 church year. They are Becky & Jerry Fay, Malinda Zarate and Martha Graham. Malinda & Martha's New Member Ceremony will be on June 4.



Members, Friends and Visitors are cordially invited to attend a celebration luncheon on June 4 after church service in the Community Hall. It will be a pot luck salad and dessert luncheon.

Also on June 4 we will recognize and honor members who have been part of UUVK 10 years or longer. They are:

10 years and more

Cloe & Ed Bayer, JoAnn Bowen, Robin Young, Jerriann & Dane Nielsen, Mary Ann & Steve Rittenmeyer, Helen Stark, Cynthia Saalfield, Barbara Robbins, Martha Thomson, Bette & Merrill Clark, Elizabeth Foster, Junell O'Hara, Elaine Parfitt, Jay Williams.

15 years and more

Bobbie Bateman, Patricia Hearn, Marjorie & Bob McCleskey, Ann & Phil Simpson, Hildy Nyberg.

20 years and more

Meg Koziar, Kay Croshaw, Shirley Scheel

25 years and more

Dottie Foehringer, Mayo Stiles

Come join us!

To commit to creating a prophetic congregation today is to grapple with what it means to take responsibility for co-creating the holy right here on earth.

Meg Riley

Social Action Committee News

Alana Clegg

A letter was received from The Literacy Council of Garland County in April signed by **Steve Rittenmeyer** in his capacity as President.

It sounded rather dire in that several sources of grant monies have been reduced. Of course we all know that our church has supported the Literacy Council in the past with Share the Plate collections. We will do one in July, which is one year from the last one, as it happens.

The letter goes on to say that it hopes other organizations with whom we are familiar will be enlisted to help with their financial assistance.

We will ask **Sue Loberg** to bring this up at the next Interfaith Council meeting.

The LC started Beginning Spanish Classes at their Hobson Ave location on April 25 6:45-8:15pm at a cost of \$89.

We wondered if it would be feasible for our church to have Spanish classes. This is something that will need further research, but is certainly thought provoking. If anyone in the congregation has any thoughts on this subject please email Alana Clegg at alanaclegg@yahoo.com.

We decided it might be a good idea to look at all the organizations we have been supporting and categorize them into groups. The idea being that we could more easily decide which ones were the most needy and perhaps send a questionnaire out to the members and friends for their input. We made a list consisting of four categories: poverty, health, children, other. Then listed all the organizations that we felt fit in those four categories. Members and friends will be able to tell us which one or ones in each category they feel is the most needy and we will analyze the results. Meg Koziar has asked Kat Wheeler if this could be on our website.

More information will follow. Keep watching the website.

What's Happening? (cont.)

BUILDING NEWS

TerryLynne Marx

Thanks to the team of Tom Tirrell (He put on the second coat.) and Mike Kloack for painting the Office Entry Hall.



We have a new heat pump #4 that replaces the old air conditioner #4. During the normal semi-annual maintenance the old unit was found to have a hole in the inner coil. The Board acted quickly in this emergency to approve the replacement of the old unit at the same cost as unit #6 last November. This unit should be much more energy efficient.

DENOMINATIONAL DOINGS: ARKANSAS CLUSTER

Myra Rustin

UUVC hosted Arkansas Spring Cluster on May 5-6, graciously welcoming UUs from churches and fellowships that included Fayetteville, Jonesboro, Benton County, Little Rock, Hot Springs, and HSV, of course. Cluster invites UUs all over our state to meet and get to know one another better as they share ideas and experiences for themselves and their home communities. Since our first day coincided with *Cinco de Mayo*, opening night dining and entertainment recognized the influence and added a festive touch. Saturday's keynote speaker, Dr. David Schroeder, shared information and insights on volunteerism, creating an environment that encouraged enthusiastic response and sharing from attendees, as well as providing useful takeaways. Other highlights included a presentation by Cluster's Social Justice Ministry about its involvement in education and activity related to legislative matters, a review of technological updates resulting from Fall Cluster, and a spirited interactive discussion of the possible impact of current concealed carry laws as they might concern churches in general and UU in particular. Visitors to UUVC were especially generous in their praise of the program we offered, our marvelous venue, and the warmth and kindness of those who worked so hard to make this event such a great success. I want to express boundless gratitude to everyone in our congregation who gave of themselves in ways too numerous (and delicious) to list adequately in this little space. Hugs all around, UUVC. I am proud to be one of you.



We are not human because we think. We are human because we care.

Forrest Church

Memory is the servant of conscience.

Marion D. Shutter

MOTHER'S DAY AT UUVC



Birthdays

6/2	Frank Hubbard
6/7	Frank Garcia
6/7	Mark Hamilton
6/8	Warren Searls
6/9	Ralph Butler
6/10	AC Watts
6/11	Mary Ann Rittenmeyer
6/12	Barbara Nick
6/13	Becky Fay
6/14	Gary Vogt
6/15	Junell O'Hara
6/17	Sandy Garcia
6/19	Sam Stout
6/22	Jo Ann Bowen
6/26	Wade Sylph
6/27	Kim Townsman
6/28	Janine Bethscheider
6/28	Shirley Scheel



Anniversaries

6/11	Barbara & Bill Mulcahy
6/11	Judy & Ron Saldino
6/16	Christina & Bill Lammers
6/17	Jerriann & Dane Nielsen
6/24	Pati & Alan Trippel

Social Action Committee

Alana Clegg, Chair



The Arkansas Foodbank held an Open House on April 25, 2017 from 1-3 pm and 5-7 pm.

I attended the evening session. I was the only one there upon arrival at 5:30 and got the "Royal" treatment and personal tour of this fantastic facility and wonderful organization. It is located at 4301 W 65th St in Little Rock and was very easy to find.

With grants and a very substantial donation from the Reynolds Foundation they were able to build an entirely new building and invite the Rice Depot to join them. They have 9,000, yes, 9,000 volunteers to help them receive donations in extremely large quantities from various food vendors and others and then process and package said food into orders for the food pantries in the surrounding counties that they serve.

In addition there is a lovely gift shop with a wide variety of Arkansas-made products for sale. Several sizes of gift boxes with varied contents are available. Also, Hunger Hero T-shirts and Tote Bags, among other things. Check out the website arkansasfoodbank.org and under Shop select Hunger Hero Line or Rice Mixes. If you like rice there's several different flavorful rice packages to choose from.

I explained to the four people that were there to greet me and give me the tour, who I was and what church I was representing. I asked if there was a spokesperson who could come to UU on Sunday June 4 to give a 3- to 5-minute talk about the Foodbank for our Share the Plate. There is, the CEO herself, Rhonda Sanders. I am formally inviting her to come on that day as she had already said yes before I left that evening at 6:30 pm.

I recommend everyone visit the Arkansas Foodbank at least once, it's well worth the trip.

Fourth Friday Film Fest

Cloe Bayer



La La Land almost needs no introduction, with all the publicity and the botched Oscar awards ceremony. Rotten Tomatoes critics give it a 93% favorable rating, audiences gave it 83%. The official recap of the movie is: "La La Land tells the story of Mia (Emma Stone), an aspiring actress, and Sebastian (Ryan Gosling), a dedicated jazz musician, who are struggling to make ends meet in a city known for crushing dreams and breaking hearts. Set in modern day Los Angeles, the original musical about everyday life explores the joy and pain of pursuing your dreams". A few of the critics reviews found online follow: "I have yet to meet someone who's watched it and come out in a bad mood". Another said " With its gorgeous visuals, captivating narrative and phenomenal music, La La Land easily earns its place as the very best film of 2016". Yet another, "The story is solid ... the songs, choreography and costume design are all so stunning, and the cinematography and lighting are the best I've seen in years. Definitely give La La Land a visit". And finally, "La La Land deserves all the awards and praise it has received so far, and more. It's an ode to jazz, cinema, theater, classical musicals and love." High praise all around, so we are looking forward to a great turnout on June 23, 7 PM, to see this movie.



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

A TRUE/FALSE QUIZ FROM THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Rev. Bud Hearn



1. Mediation is a mandatory process by which two parties settle a dispute.
2. Resolution of a conflict is made by a trained mediator.
3. Parties may opt out of the mediation process at any time.
4. Through guided discussion parties are led to seek a mutually agreed resolution to resolve the conflict.
5. Information shared in mediation is held in confidence.
6. A "caucus" allows a party to round up support for his/her position.
7. Mediators are chosen by the parties involved.
8. Mediation is a process to find the best alternative solution to a conflict.
9. Only specified topics are allowed in mediation.
10. The quicker the settlement of a conflict the better.

A member of the Conflict Resolution Committee is available to answer questions regarding the above. Members of the committee are: Steve Rittenmeyer; Tom Henderson; Cloe Bayer; Daryl Wedwick; Bud Hearn; Janet Enders; Myra Rustin.

Poetry Corner

How it was decided

How it was decided,
From the stardust that
We all came,
Which RNA would become man
Which Flowers and trees
Which beasts of the fields?

We were given Earth as Eden
To tend as our own garden.
The care we give
The Love of all
The power of the Spirit Divine
Should guide us that
in our zest for existence
We not send all back as earth dust
To the universe.

Lucia lafrate, 2016



Try the UUVC Website:
www.uuvc.org

Answers: 1. F; 2. F; 3. T; 4. T; 5. T; 6. F; 7. T; 8. T; 9. F; 10. F

Interest Groups (IGs)

Ronnie Zuege, IG Coordinator



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 (501-781-8489 or email: vzuege@gmail.com) to inquire about starting a new group.

Game Night



Come to play board/card games on the 2nd Saturday of each month (June 10.) 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)

Fourth Friday Film Fest

Please watch the bulletin for information on the film selection but please mark June 23, at 7pm on your calendars for the next film night. (Cloe Bayer)



Grief Support Group



The Grief Support group is taking a hiatus over the summer. However, if you would like to have a one-on-one conversation about some subject relating to grief/loss, you may contact Liz

Miller at 922-5457 or Cynthia Saalfield at 915-8577.



Dinners for Eight (or 7, or 6)

Our next "dinners" series will start soon (for months March, April, May and June). Sunday, March 5 is the cut-off date to sign up. Everyone is encouraged to join us in this social UU activity. It is a great way to meet people in the church. Ask those who currently participate and they will tell you how much fun it is.

Food and friendship is the goal of this activity so sign up now at the IG table at church or by calling me. (Liz Miller 922-5457.)



Social Justice Book Group



Please contact me if you would like to join the group for the discussion. Meg Koziar (kozimeg@sbcglobal.net.)

To rob religion of sensibility is to make it inert and unproductive.

William Ellery Channing

**Find us on Facebook:
UUVC**