



Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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

office@uuvvc.org
Suzette & Jim Watson, editors
suzettewatson@me.com



Jerry Offermann '16

SEPTEMBER 2017: Theme — COURAGE

Mark's Trail Rev. Mark Walz



The Frenchman, Alexis de Tocqueville was both a friend and critic of the United States of America. His extensive travels brought him here in the first half of the 19th century. He made many keen observations about us and I would like to share two of them. First:

“Democratic nations (like America) care little for what has been, but they are haunted by visions of what will be; in this direction their unbounded imagination grows and dilates beyond all measure...They have all a lively faith in the perfectibility of man(kind)...and they admit that what appears to them today to be

good, may be superceded by something better tomorrow.”

And the second:

“If I were asked to what the singular prosperity and growing strength of that people (the Americans) ought mainly be attributed, I should reply: To the superiority of their women.”

Amen! The Dalai Lama recently proclaimed that the future of our species is at risk; that we are out of balance, adding that until women are given their equal hand in the design and leadership of our future, we will not survive. A better world requires a better balance.

As Americans, and just as importantly, as Unitarian Universalists, we stand on the threshold of a new era in our journey together.

And as we look to the year ahead let us commit ourselves to being, like de Tocqueville, ardent champions and steadfast critics of our national behavior. Let us commit to an active presence in our community and the world, let us be the change we seek. And let us offer a prayer to our leaders and ourselves as we begin our church's new liturgical year.

Let us rejoice in the hope that holds us prisoner to the dream of a better world.

Let us lift up the strength, wisdom, and generosity of women.

Let us pray for the courage to stand up against the abuses committed in our name.

Let us commit to treating ourselves and all our fellow humans as sacred.

Let us grieve, knowing that inflicting injustice and cruelty on anyone scars and diminishes us all.

Let us trust that in the coming days, our elected leaders will begin to help heal our national soul.

Let us begin to restore the goodness and integrity of our country.

Let us faithfully participate in repairing our world.

Let us give thanks for the many acts of generosity that sustained us throughout this past year.

Let us remember that we are a people of faith, and where there is faith, there is love; where there is love, there is peace.

And most of all, may it be known that in our House of Worship we believe:

Women's Rights are Human Rights

Love is Love

Science is Real

No Human is Illegal

Black Lives Matter

And Kindness is Everything

To see what is right and not do it, is want of courage.

See you in Church.

Confucius

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Penny Beed



"I find it truly helpful to actually be a volunteer. You use different parts of yourself." A UUVV volunteer.

Working together with others in service to the church and community is one of the best ways to meet people, make friends, and build your sense of spirituality. At UUVV volunteers are the heart blood of our congregation. There are numerous groups that offer easy ways to get involved. They are suitable for newcomers and for long time members looking for something new.

We have a broad range of programming ranging from purely social to advocacy and leadership. There is a variety of committees, ministries, interest groups and volunteer opportunities. So whether you would like to raise your voice in the choir, contribute to the planning of an event, help in the kitchen, hand out programs or participate in social action outreach, UUVV has something for you.

Most committee members say they derive satisfaction from knowing that they are contributing to the cause of Unitarian Universalism, even in a small way.

"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community." Dorothy Day, Social Activist

Water Communion Sunday September 3

The UUVV church celebrates the power of water, in life, healing, and good memories. People bring a small vial of water and add it to the communal bowl. This year, we will have a slightly different ceremony ... we will have a book to record our names and the source of our water before we enter the sanctuary. The fountain will be on the altar as always. Then we will add our water as music plays during the service.

Courage can be a very difficult neurosis.

Graham Greene

September Sundays at UUVV

July Attendance: All Souls webcast: 54, UUVV: 389

Share the Plate: Garland Cty. Literacy Council: \$1347.00

September Share the Plate: Village Shoe Fund

September 3, Worship, Water Ceremony, Rev. Mark Walz

September 10, Insight, Steve Rittenmeyer, "Religious Freedom 2017"

September 17, Worship, Rev. Mark Walz

September 24, Insight, Rev. Bud Hearn, "Cashing In On The Christian Myth"

Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

July financials showed an eagerness on the part of many who pledged to get those pledge dollars in! Income was \$4,211 over budget and expenses were under budget, reflected in a net income of \$8,644. This seems to be how we start off each new fiscal year. But certainly, better than the alternative...so thank you all! We are so fortunate to have a consistent cash flow here at UUVV.



July also brought with it some significant capital expenditures for building improvements. Our lighting upgrade was completed, which was funded out of the Building Fund. And we also had another heat pump which needed replacement. A special thank you to one of our members, you know who you are, for your generous donation which paid for the new heat pump.

We are getting to that time of year where soon the Amazon deliveries will be increasing as we begin our holiday shopping. How about sending a smile UUVV way...by way of a donation by the Amazon Smile Foundation of .5% of your purchases going to UUVV? By using and bookmarking this link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1688369> all of your eligible shopping will benefit Unitarian Universalist Village Church. So make us all Smile!

What's Happening

PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

Pam Harrison

If you have been around the Unitarian Universalist Village Church for a while, you know by now the usual "Path to Membership" is through frequent visits, advancing to "Friend" status, and getting involved in the Spiritual, Social, Community Outreach, and Educational Programs offered at UUVC. Frequently, newcomers to the Hot Springs Village area are already committed Unitarian Universalists, and can easily move directly into membership by attending a New Member Orientation Class and participating in the New Member Ceremony.



Others, new to the UU beliefs and structures, may sign up for one of the frequent classes offered on Unitarian Universalism--especially "**UU-101: Introduction to Unitarian Universalism.**" Often, our Minister or a Membership Coordinator will contact you with an offer to move into "Friend" status, sharing all benefits and responsibilities of "Member." (Exceptions: Friends have a voice but not a vote during congregational meetings, cannot be a Board Member nor Chair certain committees.) Our "Friends" are valued, active, loved members of the UUVC congregation.



SO: Take the 3 Steps:

1. Get Involved: Find the volunteer opportunity that is right for you. Sign up on Sundays--there are many ways to serve.

2. Get Educated: Learn about UU, and about UUVC, in any or all of our frequent (and diverse) education classes. For those new to Universal Unitarianism, UU-101 will help you understand the commitments you take to build and support the UU Congregation, and the commitments the UU Congregation takes to support you on your spiritual journey.

3. Get Committed: Take part in a New Member Orientation class (September 21, 2017, at 3.30 pm) and when you are ready, accept the invitation to join through the New Member Ceremony on a Membership Sunday (the next of which will be on October 1, 2017: we hope to see you there!)

MEMBERSHIP UPCOMING EVENTS

1. September 21, 2017, a New Member Orientation Class will be held at 3.30 pm at UUVC. The class usually lasts about 90 mins. Light refreshments will be available. Part of the requirements to become a Member of UUVC is to participate in the Orientation class. We will provide you with the information you need to become a UUVC member. Attendees will be given an orientation notebook which contains information on Unitarian Universalism and UUVC. Please contact Pam Harrison 915-8382 to reserve your seat and make sure your New Member Orientation Book is ready for you.

2. October 1, 2017, a New Member Ceremony will be held for those who have completed the Orientation Class and wish to become members of UUVC.

3. After the New Member Ceremony (October 1, 2017) there will be a UUVC Potluck Salad & Dessert Luncheon honoring Meg Koziar as well as our New Members who have joined since July 1, 2017. Meg has reached the 25-year milestone for UUVC membership. Sign-up Sheets, in the Community Hall in September, will ask you to identify your neighborhood--tables will be grouped by UUVC Neighborhoods. Find your neighborhood on the Neighborhood Map in the Community Hall or from the alphabetical list by the sign-up sheet. A little different, but it's all about "Getting to know you"! Sign up and get to know your UUVC neighbors.

Mark your Calendars, sign up, bring a dish, and come share the LOVE!

A coward flees backward, away from new things. A man of courage flees forward, in the midst of new things.

Jacques Maritain

What's Happening? (cont.)

Just a Couple of Clicks Away - Changes to the Church Calendar and E-mail

Meg Koziar, Office Administration Committee Chair



You will not find a .pdf of the church activities calendar attached to this newsletter, because the calendar is now on our website. Why, you ask? For the simple reason that putting it there can assure that it is up to date, as events for the coming month are often added or canceled after the newsletter comes out.

It's only a few clicks away. Go to your internet and put in www.uuvc.org. When that comes up, move your cursor to "Congregational Life" and click "Calendar" in the drop-down menu. (If you open uuvc.org on your phone, click on the bars at the top left to get "Congregational Life.") The current month's calendar appears. If necessary, advance to September in the upper left. If you wish, print a calendar to post on your fridge. But, but be advised to check for any updates as the month progresses. You can even look ahead to see what activities are planned for coming months. Items are posted as soon as the office is notified, so events are there now as far ahead as December. Please let the office know if you have any trouble, and we'll enlist one of our computer gurus to help.

Speaking of "let the office know", the office now has a much simpler email address. Instead of uuvillagechurch403@gmail.com, it is now just office@uuvc.org. Please put this new address on your email list. (We also have similar simple email addresses for minister, president, secretary, and treasurer, so if you want to reach any of them directly, just add @uuvc.org to the title--example: treasurer@uuvc.org).

One last caution: The calendar on the church website is for church activities, whether in the building or elsewhere. The Building committee has a separate calendar for use of our facilities. An outside group's meeting at UUVC will not be on the calendar on the website, so planners shouldn't just assume that space is available. All who plan to use any facilities at UUVC need to contact Cliff Harrison, or Terry Marx to reserve a meeting room.

Courage consists, not in blindly overlooking danger, but in seeing and conquering it.

Jean Paul Richter

UUVC Volunteers to Be Honored at September 10 Potluck

"Volunteering can be an exciting, growing, enjoyable experience. It is truly gratifying to serve a cause, practice one's ideals, work with people, solve problems, see benefits, and know one had a hand in them." Harriet Naylor

At UUVC, a large number of members and friends provide many invaluable services to the church and community. At latest count, more than 80 individuals are contributing time and talents to 152 different committee seats and projects.

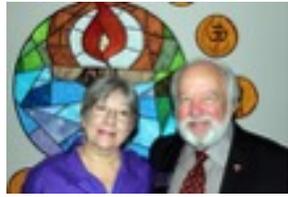
The church would like to recognize this generosity with a Volunteer Appreciation Potluck at 11:15 on Sunday, September 10. If you're not yet a volunteer, come and learn about the opportunities for the fun and satisfaction of giving!!! A signup sheet will be in the Community Hall on Sunday, September 3. All are invited.



"One of the things I keep learning is that the secret of being happy is doing things for other people."

Dick Gregory

DOINGS AROUND THE CHURCH



Vivian & Rev. Mark Walz—
new members of UUVC



Jim Scott's concert



Total eclipse of August 21, 2017.
Taken at Cape Girardeau, MO
by Peter Trabant.



Birthdays

9/3	Paul Lakey
9/4	Robert Stark
9/5	Marion Sowka
9/8	Jay Williams
9/13	Daryl Wedwick
9/14	Pat Hearn
9/21	Debbie Bostick
9/21	Ozzie Ramsey
9/21	Cynthia Saalfield
9/21	Mayo Stiles
9/24	Debbie Walsh
9/28	Sheila Ford
9/28	Bob McCleskey
9/30	Cloe Bayer



Anniversaries

9/18	Lee & Jack Iafrate
9/20	Cindy & Alex Perez
9/28	Bridgit & Franz Van de Kop

**Social Action Committee
Barefoot in Arkansas**

Meg Koziar, Chair

When I was growing up, going without shoes in the summertime was the norm, and it may still be. But we do not want any child to have to go to school without shoes that fit. Shoes are a big expense, especially for a family of several children. How can we help?



The September Share-the-Plate will be going to the Shoe Fund of the Village Churches Mission Outreach (VCMO). This organization, started by the Village Interfaith Council, aids people in the Village and surrounding area who have a crisis, such as a burned-out home.

One of VCMO's projects is Christmas Baskets for needy families in the Village, Jessieville, Mt. Pine and Fountain Lake school districts. In each basket are coupons for a pair of shoes for each child in the family. You might be surprised to learn that that requires over \$13,000 each year.

You will learn more about Christmas Baskets in November, but your donation to the Shoe Fund of VCMO will insure that each basket includes those shoe coupons, and that the children in this area will not be barefoot.

Thanks to your generosity, in July we gave the Literacy Council of Garland County \$1347 for their programs, and our August collection for the Humane Society is going well. We have given over 40 pairs of kids jeans to Jackson House. The summer jeans drive is over, but our collections of groceries for the Jackson House pantry, and hygiene items and household textiles for Clarion Call continue. Bins are in the hallway by the office.

Social Committee

Chloe Bayer, Chair



The Ice Cream Social will take place on Sept. 2. Games will be bolo ball and shark bowling. The Social Committee will also sponsor an Oktoberfest, with sauerbraten, if possible. Entertainment will be videos of Oktoberfest events in Germany or Austria. The theme is fall/harvest. Date is Oct. 7.

Thanksgiving Dinner will be Sunday, Nov. 19. We decided to ask for specific items to be donated for the dinner, rather than potluck donatons. Turkeys will be ordered from Home Plate. Decor will be fall plus Thanksgiving theme items.

Fourth Friday Film Fest

Cloe Bayer

The movie for the next showing on September 22 is "Loving", the true story of the struggles of an interracial couple and their marriage. "Loving" celebrates the real-life courage and commitment of an interracial couple, Richard and Mildred Loving (portrayed by Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga), who married in the 1950's in Washington D.C., as their home state of Virginia would not allow them to marry in that state. They spent the next nine years fighting for the right to live as a family in their hometown. Their civil rights case, Loving v. Virginia, went all the way to the Supreme Court, which in 1967 reaffirmed the very foundation of the right to marry--and their love story has become an inspiration to couples ever since. "Loving" takes an understated approach to telling a painful--and still relevant--real life tale, with sensitive performances breathing additional life into a superlative historical drama. Some critics say -- "the movie is subtle, full of quiet power, and showcases fully crafted performances." "... a beautifully dignified portrait of people whose ethics and good nature speak volumes". This is a truly inspirational story, so we hope you will be a part of the audience for our September movie night.



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

Poetry Corner

August 2017

I can't believe the hate we saw
Reflected in the young men's eyes.
I thought, with a blind eye, the world
Was far beyond the place
Of bigoted superiority.
They were not born to think this way,
But carefully taught to spew their venom
In hate provoking militancy.
Can we subdue, with love and acts,
Their evilness within?
Never wavering in our quest,
We must teach to all humanity,
Love conquers all, and hate cannot win.
L. lafrate 2017

Our Columbarium

Meg Koziar, Memorial Committee

Some of our newer members and friends may not even be aware of our Memorial Garden, even though they pass by it on their way to the Sanctuary every Sunday. It is a lovely little spot, with two garden benches, a large stone covered in resurrection fern, and colorful flowers. Therein is our Columbarium and our Memorial Plaque.

Two of our UUVC families have recently purchased niches in the Columbarium, so it is now half sold. Names are not engraved until the niche is used, but if you wish to see who has which, there is a chart in the back of the Memorial Book, on the table under the photos of the congregation. If you are interested in purchasing a niche, which will hold two urns, please see a member of the Memorial Committee: Jay Williams, Anne Hagen, or Meg Koziar. We will be happy to discuss it with you.



**Find us on Facebook:
UUVC**

**Try the UUVC Website:
www.uuvc.org**

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 (September 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! (Marjorie

Lakey)

Fourth Friday Film Fest

Please watch the bulletin for information on the film selection but please mark September 22, at 7pm on your calendars for the next film night. (Cloe Bayer)



Dinners ...

This fall, in addition to our traditional dinners, we will be starting a different kind of Dinner groups for UU'ers and Friends—a "Dining Out" group. It's a great way for new faces to get to know fellow UU'ers on a more social level.

They too will meet monthly in Sept., Oct., and Nov. People in those groups will pick their own restaurant for each month. Here the emphasis will be exploring dining options in the greater Hot Springs area--unless the group wants to venture further!

Signup sheets will be on the tables in the Community Hall on Sundays.

See Brenda or Tom Tirrell if you have questions.

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support group is taking a hiatus. 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.



Table Tennis

Table Tennis will resume sometime in the fall. Look for the announcement on the calendar.

Mah Jongg



Ronnie Zuege is offering Mah Jongg lessons and play on Tues nights. Contact her at 922-3878 for further information.



Fred and Sandy Garcia are relocating to Ajijic Mexico. We thank them for their years of support at UUVC. We wish them all the best as they set out on their next adventure. We will miss you!