



# Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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Jerry Offermann '16

## APRIL 2017 Theme — Redemption

### President's Column UUVC President Court Mathey



At the Board of Directors meeting on March 20, 2017 the Board voted to submit to the congregation a change in the Bylaws to allow electronic voting in an election (see further comments elsewhere).

The Board approved the agreement with Rev. Mark Walz for him to be our part-time minister for a five year term, commencing August 1, 2017, and subject to cancellation by either party with 60 days notice. This agreement will be presented to UUVC members on April 2, 2017, with the voting to take place the week following according to a process more fully described elsewhere.

Mark made it clear that he is extremely positive about his potential presence with us. He is very impressed with our leadership and what we have accomplished and being a part of our dynamic congregation.

As UUVC looks at changing some more with the Rev. Mark coming on board, have you wondered how things might develop, how you might fit in? Never before have we had a minister on a consistent basis for that long. Perhaps you might change and take a larger leadership role – we have many who have served and many of these still serve, perhaps in a different way. What might you take on that are you prepared for; what would you like to do to continue your personal growth?

What do you care about? How might you be more involved? Stretch yourself. What traits or talents do you have that could be nourished? It doesn't have to be right away but do you want to

plan for steps during the coming months?

For example we need more people interested in being on the Board of Directors and as committee chairs and committee members; some of the positions are not that demanding.

As we consider a minister we may need to stretch our monetary budget further. Can you make an increase in financial giving?

<b>APRIL Sundays at UUVC</b>
<b>February Attendance: All Souls webcast, 50 UUVC, 334</b>
Share the Plate: Imagination Library, \$1,150 April Share the Plate: <b>Lucie's Place</b>
April 2, Worship, Dr. David Welch, "I Know a Way Out of Hell"
April 9, Insight, Rabbi Levy, "Redemption"
April 16, Worship, Rev. Bud Hearn, Easter
April 23, Insight, Rev. Debra Garfinkel, Earth Day Celebration
April 30, Insight, Malinda Zarate, "Power vs. Force, Pt. 2"

## Mark Walz Election Process Explained

Bob McCleskey

Following the membership meeting on April 2, which is expected to result in changing the bylaws to permit electronic voting, an email will be sent by the church office to all current UUVVC members with each receiving a unique 3-digit ballot number and detailed instructions on the election process. Those members who have requested to vote by paper ballot will receive a ballot with a self-addressed return envelope to return the ballot. All other members will be sent an email with a unique ballot number that they will record in an electronic ballot, which is accessed on the UUVVC web site. The email will explain in detail how to record the members' choice and submit the ballot. As a preview, there will be an active link under the Members/Friends link, which will be entitled "Mark Walz Election." Selecting the link will open a web page that contains (1) the ballot that contains the ballot question "Do you approve hiring Mark Walz ..."; (2) followed by the options of "Yes" or "No"; (3) a "Your Ballot #"; and (4) a button "Click to Submit your Vote." The ballots will be sent to a special email address ([UUVCElection@gmail.com](mailto:UUVCElection@gmail.com)) that only the election judges (Jerry Fay and Jay Williams) will have access to. The judges will tally the ballot responses and report the results to Court Mathey shortly after the close of the election on April 9.



**PLEASE NOTE.** (1) If you are a member and have not requested a paper ballot or received the email with the Election Notice, which contains the 3-digit Ballot # by April 3rd, contact the church office by phone or email to get a ballot # resent. (2) Also note the election judges do not have access to the member's ballot # which will be assigned by the church office.

By providing electronic voting, we are attempting to show our support of being a GREEN congregation and saving trees and office expenses.

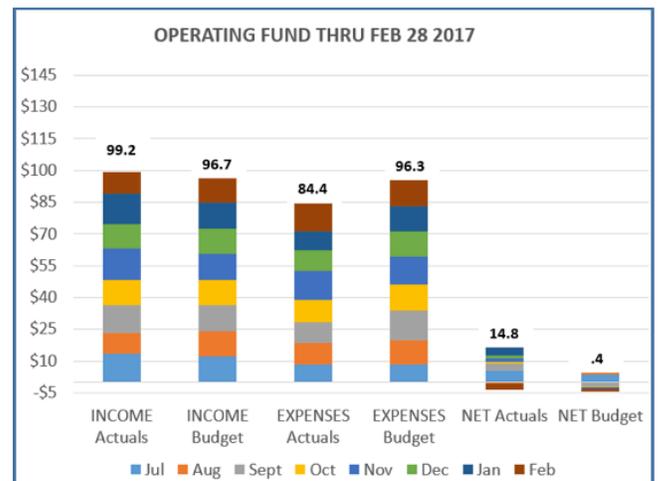
Anyone wishing to attend the UUA General Assembly 2017 "Resist and Rejoice" in New Orleans, June 21-25 should let the Board know. There may be funds available to help defray the costs.

## Treasurer's Report

Kim Townsan

This month's report includes a graph showing UUVVC's operating fund actuals as compared to budget. The positive variance we show in net actuals year to date of \$14.8k is a combination of slightly higher revenue and lower than budgeted expenses. Our revenue budget and actuals for FY17 include the recognition as revenue of ministerial pledges dollars received in the previous fiscal year. Revenues from pledge and non-pledge income is running slightly below budget. Members and Friends who have pledged to this year's operating fund are reminded that pledge commitments are due prior to June 30. For more details on financials, please see the UUVVC website.

We have initiated the FY18 budget process with a meeting of the Committee Chairs during March to review this year's process. Committee chairs are to provide their budget input forms by April 4 to the Treasurer. A draft budget will be provided to the Board prior to review with the Congregation in May. Thank you to all Committee Chairs for the efforts in accommodating a new process this year.



### Temporary Help Needed

Meg Koziar

- Need time away from home to catch up on your reading? This may be the job for you.
- Easy duty, short hours. Pay the same as the experienced workers now on staff. A couple of people needed in the UUVVC office for a day or two during the next month or so. We do not discriminate on the basis of gender, or length of time at UUVVC.
- Contact Meg Koziar or the church office.



# What's Happening



UUVC fondly says good-bye to Elaine Neal. She will be leaving April 8, for the Houston area to be with family. Elaine was active on the Social, Sleeping Mats, Meditation, Grief, Pastoral Care and lately, the Office committees. Always a bright face and willing helper, we will miss her and wish her well in her new home.

## UUVC GREEN TEAM IN TRIVIA CONTEST

Chloe Bayer

On March 9th, UUVC once again fielded a team to compete in the latest Trivia Contest sponsored by the Friends Of The Coronado Center Library. (FOCCL). Although the team was unaware that the prevailing theme of the contest would be famous horses, horse racing, racing history and horses named in different entertainment venues, they acquitted themselves well by coming in fourth out of the twenty teams competing. Contestants were John Swinburn, Cloe Bayer, Ron Nance, Cynthia Saalfield, Myra Rustin, Phyllis Johnson, Diane Bonta, and Myra's daughter, Melissa Brangaccio. All enjoyed the delicious snacks, easy fellowship, and answers each contributed to the final result.



## Women's Appreciation Brunch on Mother's Day

Ron Nance

Gentlemen,

We are rapidly approaching that day we get to brag about for a whole year. Yes, our second annual Women's Appreciation Brunch on Mother's Day will be Sunday, May 14. We men will prepare and serve the Mimosas and Bloody Marys to the ladies as well as their Brunch. I'll be heading up this year's brunch and need lots of you to volunteer to help. In a couple of weeks we'll have an initial meeting after church to discuss our menu and assignments.

Last year, our Ladies really enjoyed the fun, fellowship and food, not to mention the Mimosas and Bloody Marys. The other thing they especially enjoyed was NOT HAVING TO DO IT THEMSELVES. Just a little reminder, this is good for a WHOLE YEAR'S WORTH OF BROWNIE POINTS. Thanks.

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER UPCOMING EVENTS

Pam Harrison

1. The Membership Committee invites New Friends and frequent Visitors to a "GETTING TO KNOW US FIRST" gathering at UUVC on April 6 at 3:00 pm. Not sure if membership in UUVC is right for you? Join us for light refreshments and friendly conversation. Come with QUESTIONS, Leave with ANSWERS. Sign-up sheet is in the Community Hall. Please contact Quay O'Hara at 922-1920 or Pam Harrison at 915-8382 for further information. Hope to see you on April 6.



2. On May 18, 2017, a New Member Orientation Class will be held at 2:00 pm at UUVC. The class usually lasts approximately 2 hours. 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. You will be given an orientation notebook, which contains a lot of information and knowledge pertaining to Unitarian Universalism and UUVC. Sign-up sheet will be in the Community Hall in April. Please contact Pam Harrison 915-8382 or Quay O'Hara 922-1920 to ensure you have a New Member Orientation Notebook for the class.

3. June 4, 2017, a New Member Ceremony will be held for those who have completed the Orientation Class and wish to become members of UUVC.

4. After the New Member Ceremony (June 4, 2017) there will be a UUVC Potluck Salad & Dessert Luncheon celebrating New Members who have joined UUVC during the 2016-2017 church year. We will also recognize Members who have 10 plus years membership milestones in UUVC.

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

*Redemption is inconceivable without truth and holiness.*

Roland Allen

# What's Happening? (cont.)

## DENOMINATIONAL DOINGS

Myra Rustin

### HERE COMES CLUSTER

As you know, UUVC is hosting Arkansas Spring Cluster from Friday afternoon, May 5 through Saturday, May 6 and the registration process is off and running. The tentative agenda and registration forms are attached, and I encourage you to attend and provide the warmest welcome that our lively and hospitable congregation can offer.

You will meet and mingle with an especially committed group of Arkansas UUs who are determined to know one another better from church to church throughout the state. The program, whose theme is *THE CARE AND FEEDING OF VOLUNTEERS*, will be varied and stimulating enough to appeal to the many UU areas of interest, service and what keeps our unique and caring community informed and enthusiastic.

You know the work that goes into events and celebrations at UUVC -- from planning, to set-up, to food and beyond --and your special talents are needed in addition to your attendance. I hope you will contact me to become part of what I know will be a great success with your generous participation.

Please call me at 501-204-4999, or email me at [mrustin@snet.net](mailto:mrustin@snet.net) -- or flag me down when you see me. Thanks so much!

### Meeting of the Cluster of Arkansas Unitarian Universalist Churches and Fellowships

May 5 & 6, 2017

Hosted by the

*Unitarian Universalist Village Church (UUVC)  
403 Barcelona, Hot Springs Village, AR*

### THE CARE AND FEEDING OF VOLUNTEERS

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Friday evening, May 5

- 5:00 Arrival and social time with heavy Hors d'oeuvres
- 6:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 6:30 AR UU Justice Ministry
- 7:30 Cluster Business or Breakouts
- 8:15 Entertainment, Coffee/Tea/Sweets
- 8:45 Closing Words

#### Saturday, May 6

- 8:30 Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 **Dr. David A. Schroeder, PhD - University of Arkansas**  
**"An Exploration of Volunteerism"**  
*Do people volunteer to reward themselves or the groups they serve? Dr. Schroeder will share his expertise on the many facets of Volunteerism.*
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Breakouts
- 1:45 Break
- 2:00 Reporting by Breakout Groups
- 3:00 Cluster October 2016 follow-up - Technology Updates
- 4:00 Closing Words

## REGISTRATION FORM

**Cluster of Arkansas  
Unitarian Universalist Churches and Fellowships  
May 5 & 6, 2017**

*Hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Village Church (UUVC)  
403 Barcelona, Hot Springs Village, AR*

### **THE CARE AND FEEDING OF VOLUNTEERS**

**Pre-registration by mail or email needs to arrive by  
April 12, 2017**

***Reservations for hotel rooms must be made by April 6***

1. Name:
2. Telephone Number:
3. E-mail Address:
4. UU Affiliation:
5. Dietary restrictions?            Please describe:
6. Pre-registration is \$25 per person; payment may be made in advance by mail or may be made upon arrival. Registration at arrival is \$30.

Send your pre-registration to:

UUVC  
Attention: Myra Rustin  
403 Barcelona  
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Questions: [msrustin@snet.net](mailto:msrustin@snet.net) or call 501-204-4999

7. Lodging: A special rate of \$85.49 + tax for a king bed has been negotiated with The Village Inn, 4429 N. State Highway 7, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909, 501-922-9600 <http://www.hotspringsvillageinn.net> **ROOMS MUST BE BOOKED BY APRIL 6 TO GET THE NEGOTIATED RATE FOR THE NIGHT OF MAY 5.** To obtain the rate, you must ask for the UU Cluster rate. The rooms will be released after April 6.

*The manned gates in Hot Springs Village are the East (Highway 5) and West (Highway 7). Personnel manning the gates will have a roster of those attending. The gates at Danville Road and the Balboa gates are not accessible by visitors. The Village Inn is on Highway 7 near the West Gate.*

*God makes no rules about color; only society makes rules where my people suffer, and that's why we must have redemption now.*

Bob Marley

## Social Action Committee

Alana Clegg, Chair



April Share the Plate will be Lucie's Place. Penelope Poppers will be asked to speak on April 2. May Share the Plate will be Clarion Call. Donnie Scott, the house manager, will be asked to be the speaker on May 7.

June Share the Plate will be the Arkansas Food Bank. A speaker is yet to be determined.

There's \$1,000 budgeted for the annual Community Donation. We would like the money be used for the Tulsa, Oklahoma UU Church's Welcome Table Community Center in Turley, an area near north Tulsa, which burned down. The recent UUA electronic Newsletter describes the unfortunate event of March 2 and includes a photo of the building before it burned.

Pam Harrison reported that Jackson House asked her if her volunteers would be willing to take on an extra day in the kitchen on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday every other month beginning 3/24. We already volunteer in the kitchen the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month.

Many thanks to the folks who have donated items for the Clarion Call homes both in the collection bin in the hallway beside the office and many pieces of much needed furniture. Please keep it coming, three houses and 15 people need beds, bedding, end tables, dressers, chests of drawers, lamps, cooking items and cleaning supplies, plus hygiene items like bath soap, and toothpaste among other things. Call Alana Clegg if you have items that need to be picked up. Cell phone 501-626-1930.

We discussed a replacement for Alana Clegg, as Chair, beginning in July. There were no volunteers from the people present. There is also no Vice Chair. If anyone is interested in becoming the chair or vice chair of the Social Action Committee beginning July 2017 please call or email Alana Clegg at 501-626-1930, or alanaclegg@yahoo.com.

## Social Committee

Cindy Nance Bari Searls



The Chili Cook-off was fun. Lee lafrate won 1<sup>st</sup> place, Ron Nance 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Dee Offerman was 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to **all** the cooks!

Thank you to Cloe Bayer for agreeing to Chair the social committee beginning in July. Cloe is excited about chairing this committee again!

Ron Nance will chair the Mothers' Day Brunch honoring all the women of UUVC. Dane Nielsen, who chaired the event last year, will give assistance.

## Fourth Friday Film Fest

Cloe Bayer



The film for April 28 will be "Manchester By The Sea", starring Casey Affleck. This movie was one of the "Best Picture" nominees at this year's Oscars awards, and Casey Affleck won "Best Actor" for his performance. The movie was awarded a rare 91% favorable by reviewers; Rotten Tomatoes gave it a 96%! (Just for reference, we aim for films rated at least in the 80's for the FFFF showings). It is about a Boston janitor who is shocked to find that he has been made the guardian of his teenage nephew after the death of his older brother, returns to the New England fishing village where his working class family has lived for generations, and must deal with the issues he left behind. Sounds interesting. Please join us at 7 PM.

## “HELPERS OF THE HOMELESS NEED HELP”

Cloe Bayer



Most of you have probably read the article with the above title that appeared in the *Village Voice* dated March 21, as the front page of Section C. A project of UUVC since 2011, we have shepherded the making of sleeping mats for the homeless, which also includes participation by other members of the Hot Springs Village community, as pictured. The making of sleeping mats has become another branch of our support for Jackson House and their mission, as well as another way to recycle used plastic bags and prevent them from becoming part of a landfill.



We started out with a large group of helpers from UUVC, but as time passed their interest waned, and now only two UUVC people are involved; the majority of the remaining group are crocheters from outside our church. We now have no one involved in folding the bags, cutting the strips, and weaving them into balls of “plarn”, which the crocheters need to do their work. As a result, the crocheters have been making their own plarn; the time taken to do this has resulted in a loss of crochet time and dwindling amount of completed mats. The need at Jackson House is so great, please, won’t you help us to keep the project going?

Anyone who can use a pair of scissors can help with this work, men as well as women! Although the group meets twice a month on Wednesday mornings, any time you are in church you can pick up a load of plastic bags and take them home to work on, bringing them back the next time you’re here. We can show you how the process works, and even supply you with a measuring implement to get you started. A good time to work on making these strips is while you’re watching TV in the evenings, accomplishing two things at once and helping the environment and the homeless at the same time.

If you have not done so already, please read the *Voice* article to get more background on this worthy project, and please consider using some of your precious time to help UUVC fulfill their promise to Jackson House to keep these mats coming. Contact Marilyn Matzek or Cloe Bayer if you think you can help. If you’d like to learn more about the simple crochet process, Cloe will be glad to show you how it’s done.



### Birthdays

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



### Anniversaries

4/4 Sheila & Carl Ford  
4/5 Mary Ann & Steve Rittenmeyer  
4/13 Janine Bethscheider & John Swinburne  
4/14 Cindy & Ron Nance

## WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT POVERTY?

Dane Nielsen

In the last Understanding Poverty class we came up with ways that we, as individuals and as a church, can help those in poverty.

### SOME INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS

1. EDUCATE YOURSELF (Read, watch YouTube videos, go to community forums [Bridges to Hope].)
2. BECOME PART OF AN ADVOCACY GROUP (Arkansas UU Social Justice Ministry, UU Values email list.)
3. RUN FOR OFFICE
4. VOLUNTEER AT ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNITY GROUPS (Jackson House, Computers for Kids, Sleeping Mat Project, Habitat for Humanity, Langston, Fountain Lake, Mountain Pine and Jessieville schools, Kiwanis, CCMC, Literacy Council, Ouachita Children's Center, CASA. Boys and Girls Club)
5. BECOME A MENTOR (Ouachita Children's Center, Bridges to Hope.)
6. BE AN INFORMED VOTER AND VOTE
7. BECOME POLITICALLY ACTIVE

### SOME ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIONS

1. SUPPORT VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS (C4K, Sleeping Mat Project, Knapsack Programs, Share the Plate, Jackson House, OCC, CASA, etc.)
2. ESTABLISH AND SUPPORT ADVOCACY GROUPS (UU Justice Ministry.)

#### UUVC Points of Contact for these programs:

Sleeping Mat Project:	Marilyn Matzek
Computers for Kids:	Loren Loberg
Bridges to Hope:	Dane Nielsen
Ouachita Children's Center:	Pati Trippel
AR UU Justice Ministry:	Steve Rittenmeyer
UU Values Email List:	Jerriann Nielsen
Jackson House:	Pam Harrison
Social Action:	Alana Clegg

*Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.*

Margaret Meade

## Ouachita Children's Center Arts and Crafts

Pati Trippel

Many thanks to Cindy Strong, Janet Enders, Pati and Alan Trippel who led the Arts and Crafts class at the Ouachita Children's Center for February and March. In February the kiddos had great fun making Mardi Gras masks. Some they kept and some they donated to the Krewe de Liberi Ball being held that evening. In March we wrote limericks and painted paintings about the Limericks. These were all collected and are currently being published by Shutterfly. Each child will receive a copy of the book. Your generosity in donating Coke Reward Coupons each Sunday helps offset the costs of creating these books. So much of what we do as volunteers is to sit and listen to the children as they share their sorrows, tribulations and passions in life. Please consider helping with the arts and crafts class in the future. Our classes for the rest of the year will be on the third Saturday of each month. If you would like to help out with our next class on April 15th, please let me know: Pati Trippel, at [ptrippel@hotmail.com](mailto:ptrippel@hotmail.com) or on my cell at 501-209-9079.



## 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

## Conflict Management "Styles"

Tom Henderson



We read the book by Speed B. Lea as to how our unique "Styles" of Conflict Management work. First, we read the book; and we circled specific pairs of those questions that worked together. Next we did homework to discover what our strengths were. Then we did something to discover how each style worked.

Next we read the book and did some homework and discovered how unique styles were patterned. We circled specific pairs of items on the Conflict "Styles". We did some work individually.

First, was Janet Enders; Bud Hearn; then Steven Rittenmeyer; then Tom Henderson; then Daryl Wedwick.

Lastly, we discovered, by learning each other's styles of Conflict Management, we could learn something about them. Like they say, "You might be surprised!"

## Poetry Corner

When I first heard the word  
REDEMPTION

When I first heard the word "redemption" it was in reference to S&H Green stamps, which could be redeemed for appliances, housewares and some really cute lamps.

Then later I was advised it was a Legal Term regarding the right to reclaim foreclosed property, perhaps lost during a boundary fight.

After going to church, I since have learned it's the biblical meaning of deliverance from sin which is far more comforting than the other meanings, for it grants unto me solace and peace within.

Our New Prospective Minister—  
Mark Walz



*Bringing good news is imparting hope to one's fellow man. The idea of redemption is always good news, even if it means sacrifice or some difficult times.*

Patti Smith



Try the UUVC Website:  
[www.uuvc.org](http://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](mailto: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 (April 8.) 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 April 28, at 7pm on your calendars for the next film night. (Cloe Bayer)



## Grief Support Group



The Grief Support Group has been meeting since November 2009, providing comfort and support to those who wish to attend. Grief Support meets the second Monday of each month, at 10:00am. (Cynthia Saalfield, 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](mailto:Kozimeg@sbcglobal.net).

*Unearned suffering is redemption.*

Martin Luther King Jr.

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UUVU**