



# Unitarian Universalist Village Church

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Minister: Rev. Mark Walz (minister@uuvc.org)  
Treasurer: Kim Townsan (treasurer@uuvc.org)



## JULY 2018 THEME: LIBERTY

### Mark's Trail

Rev. Mark Walz



As our church year comes to an end, a new year begins. It is a perfect time to celebrate the successes of the year just ended and pledge ourselves to the promise of the year unfolding before us.

Our successes include an aggressive Long-Range Plan that was accomplished in only four years instead of the five we'd planned for. Amazing.

The last Sunday in June concluded with another dear Friend signing our Membership Book and bringing our new member total for the year to 24. Our excitement is tempered by the loss of several treasured members. They will be missed.

Beverly Salisbury, our Insight speaker that same Sunday, closed her presentation on our country's Declaration of Independence by sharing how lucky, blessed, and grateful she feels to have been born in the USA. One look at the recent events on our southern border brings that feeling home to us all.

Chaos swirls around us in this topsy, turvy time. Yet we must not be overwhelmed by current events. We must not become afraid to live our lives. We are fortunate for more than our place of birth or citizenship papers. We have found a free faith, where conscience, curiosity, and compassion thrive. We must stay energized by the success of our values as lived in the face of this sadness.

Author Tamara Pearson says we must not think of justice as a burden we must carry personally. Instead, we must think of justice as that which binds us to the rest of our human family. As long as we remember our limitations, caring for others doesn't take away energy, it gives it.

She suggests that our true power comes from our love of the earth, the web of life, and humanity. We must resolve to live for our highest values, allowing them to fill our hearts with peace. We might have to take turns on the front lines, and in resting, find our renewal. Honoring our need to rest and heal is not a lack of commitment. It is a part of the art of being a friend to humankind for the long haul.

As we begin our new year, let us find the time and the means to explore how to become even better versions of ourselves. Let us allow others to do the same. And remember, the journey to Beloved Community may not be a sprint, or even a marathon. It may be a relay, where we pass the baton to each other with grace and purpose.

Mahalo.

See you Sunday.

—Mark

There is no liberty to men whose passions are stronger than their religious feelings; there is no liberty to men in whom ignorance predominates over knowledge; there is no liberty to men who know not how to govern themselves.

*Henry Ward Beecher*

## President's Column

**Dave Welch**



“Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can.”

John Wesley

Last year was a good year. We did a lot of good. In large part that was due to an outstanding Board, terrific committee Chairs and Members, office staff, a wonderful new pastor and a giving, loving congregation. I want to take a moment to personally thank Penny Beed, our President last year, for the time, effort and devotion she gave to her leadership year. As for me, frankly, I hope to continue along the path that so many have traveled before me that has built this church from a wish to a living reality ... and along the way do a little good.

Last year, I spent the year listening, observing, reading and thinking about what it means to be a U-U, our church and this coming year. We are a unique church, a changing church, a growing church and in a phrase I took from one of Mark's sermons ... a becoming church. In listening to people and in attending Mark's sermons, I became convinced that we need to move into the future. What I want for the future is what I found when I first came to this church. A place that was open, accepting and willing to have me without any need for me to justify my reasons for attending, no need to subscribe to a particular dogma and a willingness to involve me in the functioning and life of the church. I want that not only now but ten years from now.

I was recently in a meeting with eight members of our church and in a pretty free-wheeling discussion – Mission, “Branding,” impact, money and members all emerged as “needs” for the future. I mention this because over the past year of listening, reading and reflecting I have formulated ideas I want to talk over with the Board in building a plan for our year together. Sort of whimsically I have labeled it the “MMMMM” plan (I hope after we all hear the ideas it will be “MMMMM” good!). The “MMMMM” plan is a focus on Mission, Money, Members, M'Pact (Magnet) and Maintenance. Just as that free-wheeling discussion emerged on the same sorts of concerns I have heard in listening and found in reading, our members have intuitively identified as a road for the future.

I am looking forward to serving this year, working with the new Board and committees, with Pastor Mark and each of you as we continue to become a church open-minded, open-hearted, and looking to the future.

And so it is ... Amen.

## Treasurer's Report

**Kim Townsan**



Generosity fills our hearts! The results of our fiscal year 2018-2019 Operating Fund Pledge Drive!

<b>Total Pledged</b>	\$132,577
<b>Pledge goal</b>	\$123,310
<b>Goal exceeded by ...</b>	\$9,267 / 7.5%
<b># Member pledges</b>	85
<b># Friend pledges</b>	24
<b># New Pledges</b>	14
<b># Pledges increased &amp; % increase</b>	37 / 25.1%
<b># Pledges decreased</b>	6
<b># Pledges same</b>	17
<b>Average pledge amount per person</b>	\$1,216

It's wonderful that we have exceeded our pledge goal! Our upcoming fiscal year is our first year of what I term “steady state”. It's the first year of a minister for the entire year and the first year of our expanded music program. We set a challenge for ourselves and we met it. Thanks to all who joined together in committing their treasure to support our operations for the next year.

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### June Sundays at UUVC

<b>July 1</b> Rev. Walz
<b>July 8</b> , Insight, Gene Levy, Give Me LIBERTY or Give Me...Freedom
<b>July 15</b> , Rev. Walz
<b>July 22</b> , Insight, The Paradox of Liberty, Rev. Bud Hearn
<b>July 31</b> , Music on Barcelona

### Attendance and Generosity

<b>May Attendance: All Souls Tulsa webcasts: 59—UUVC: 440</b>
<b>July</b> Share the Plate
<b>June</b> Share the Plate, The Caring Place, \$1,337
<b>May</b> Share the Plate, Black Lives UU, Promises and Practices of our Faith Campaign for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism \$1,556 (corrected from June issue figure)

# Membership Corner



Pam Harrison

I have been Membership Chair for two years. As I turn over the Chair to Nell Brewer I want to thank my Committee for all their hard work. Brenda Tirrell, Malinda Zarate, Debbie Bostick, Susan Atchley, Ronnie Zuege, and the late Bill Mulcahy, together you have welcomed, taken care of our visitors, our Friends and our Members.

I thank Rev Mark for his guidance, inspiration, and support of the Membership Committee.

I thank all the Committees for their support of the Membership goals and programs.

I thank the Congregation. Many of you have stepped up when asked and helped out as greeters and in special events.

I thank the Board of Directors for their help and encouragement these two busy years.

I thank the Newsletter editors for an excellent job, editing and publishing our articles.

I know you will all support Nell Brewer as our new Membership Chair.

Love IS the doctrine of the Unitarian Universalist Village Church.



## What's That In Our Memorial Garden?

A big thank you to Doug Beed, husband of Penny Beed, for his gift to UUVC of a Peace Pole, accepted by the UUVC board of directors at the April board meeting. The beautiful decorated totem, which enhances our Memorial Garden, includes words from the song "Imagine."  
Thanks Doug!



## A New Membership Year



Nell Brewer

Ready, Set, GO!.....the start of a new church year! Membership Committee is primed and ready for an exciting, productive year (with your help!). Five new members have joined the six "veteran" committee members from 2017-18. My name is Nell Brewer. I am the incoming chair who has VERY BIG Shoes to fill (Pam Harrison's!). Additional Membership Committee members serving for the 2018-19 church year are: Pam Harrison, Debbie Bostick, Bari Searls, Ducky Berkeley, Cindy Nance, Becky Hamilton and Anne Jensen Hagen.

The first informational meeting was held on Thursday June 14 in the church conference room. Nell will be away until early September and Pam will

continue her role as chair until Nell's return. Thank you, Pam!

Membership Stats May 1st thru June 10th, 2018:

- As of June 10 UUVC has 100 members
- 1 member resigned
- 4 Welcome letters were sent to New Visitors; 1 get-well card sent
- 1 new visitor became a new friend
- Average attendance for Sunday Service 101  
Average attendance for Insight 89  
Average attendance for All Souls podcast 13

See you in September!  
Nell



## Adult Religious Education

Warren Searls



Most Sundays at 11:15 a.m. members, friends and anyone curious about discussing a wide range of topics meet in the Community Hall. The topics relate to the principles of Unitarian Universalism, particularly in the search for truth. The conversation about a topic

will undoubtedly involve politics, economics, history, communication, science, philosophy, social and cultural opinions and questions and...just about anything else. Everyone is encouraged to suggest or present a future topic for discussion. The topic of each week's conversation is printed in prior Sunday's service program and in the weekly e-blast. Come join us to express your opinion or just to listen.

For further insight into a controversial or sensitive issue, there are the Wednesday Discussions @ 3:00. These discussions are designed to help us learn how to have civil discussions about controversial and sensitive issues. The discussions are not about changing someone's mind (unless it is your own) or winning an argument. The discussions are about

framing the discussion so that you can learn where the other person's facts and opinions are coming from. We want to learn where there are areas of agreement on an issue. During the discussions we will be demonstrably applying the seven UU principles. It's all about the other person in the discussion. The discussions will be of varying length but always ending by 5:00 PM.

Sometimes things don't go as smoothly as we would like them to, but that's what makes life interesting. It was originally planned that we would coordinate the 2nd and 4th Sunday Conversations @ 11:15 of each month with the following Wednesday Discussions @ 3:00 PM. I'm happy to say that there has been and is a lot going on at UUVC. From time-to-time that results in schedule changes. So, rather than try to coordinate Sunday Conversations and Wednesday Discussions each will be more-or-less independent of the other.

**July 1, Sunday Conversation @ 11:15** – A UU World article will be the subject of the Conversation which will be led by Sue Loberg.

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## News from the Rev. Bud Hearn Library

Kim Traw



The theme for July is, appropriately, "Liberty." A new addition to the church's library, Jon Meacham's *Soul of America: The Battle for our Better Angels*, profoundly connects to this theme as well as to recent events. Abraham Lincoln called on Americans to allow "the better angels

of our nature" to rule. Meacham acknowledges that this is not always easy for Presidents and other leaders to do. Nevertheless, some of the most important decisions made in key moments of our nation's history were made by leaders with the moral courage to do the right thing even when popular opinion may say otherwise. These leaders were able to take the long view of history, sensing what was needed to move the country forward.

Much discussion has been given to the partisanship and deep divisions in our country today, but Meacham suggests that such divisions are not new. He begins the book discussing Lincoln's decisions to issue the Emancipation Proclamation and to embark on reconciliation with the South--decisions that many in his own party opposed. But Lincoln knew this was the only way forward.

Meacham then discusses key Presidential decisions made by Grant, both Roosevelts, Truman, Eisenhower, and Johnson that also moved the country forward rather than keeping it mired in the fear and paranoia of the past. Other leaders such as civil rights activists Martin Luther King and John Lewis; suffragettes Alice Paul and Carrie Chapman Catt; and McCarthy era lawyer Joseph Welch acted as the conscience of our nation, often suffering physical, financial, and legal hardships to do so.

Reading the book gives me hope that our current situation is not insurmountable and that the "better angels" of our nation will prevail.

Unless liberty flourishes in all lands, it cannot flourish in one. *John Fitzgerald Kennedy*

### Social Committee

Cloe Bayer, Social Committee Chair



The July Social Committee event is the Luau party on Saturday, July 21 at 5 PM. We will prepare a great menu of Mock Suckling Pig, Watermelon Fruit Bowl, Pacific Rim Slaw, Baked Pineapple, Hawaiian Baked Beans, and a Tropical Dessert. Our guest entertainment will be the Village Ukulele Group, as well as a hula dancing demonstration. Don't miss out on this one, we are going all out to make this evening a very memorable one. Sign-up sheet in Community Hall.

### It's What UUs are All About—So Committee Renamed

Meg Koziar, Social Justice Committee Chair



What has been the "Social Action Committee" at UUVU for as long as we've had committees has just been renamed the Social **Justice** Committee, which is more descriptive of what we are trying to do as UUs, and in line with the name used by other churches.

We have also just been designated by the Board to be the link between the Arkansas UU Justice Ministry (ARUUJM) and our congregation. The ARUUJM is an outreach of the AR UU Cluster - all the UU churches in the state. The Social Justice Committee will work with the two UUVU representatives to ARUUJM, budget for the church contribution of \$2 per member, and publicize and support their efforts.

Our Share the Plate recipient for June, The Caring Place, will receive \$1,337. We made the tentative selections of recipients for our Share-the-Plate program for the coming year, but the list is subject to an urgent need arising, such as the need to reunite families separated at the border. We will join other UU Churches in participating in *Love Resists* program of the UUA and UUSC by making our Share for July a donation to an organization working on that issue. We urge you to check out the LOVE RESISTS page [www.uua.org/loveresists/blog/love-resists-family-separation](http://www.uua.org/loveresists/blog/love-resists-family-separation) and take action as well.

In addition to food bin for Jackson House (JH), and household items for Clarion Call we have two

special collection bins this summer – sample toiletries for Spa City Kidz, and children's jeans for JH. Clarion Call also has special needs. Look for the articles elsewhere in this Newsletter.

*We have had a request from the Jessieville Parent Teacher Organization to help with the school supply drive for kids who need help. Instead of another bin or collection, the SJC is responding by sending some funds from our budget—enough for the 70 4-subject notebooks they need.*

We want to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers at Jackson House, especially Pam Harrison, who has been the coordinator. These members of the congregation have volunteered during the past church year. **Jackson House Thrift Shop:** Malinda Zarate, Susan Atchley, Dee Offerman, Lorry Street, Anne Flueckiger, Kim Traw; **Jackson House Thrift Shop Too:** Pam Harrison, Alicia Fetters; **Jackson House Kitchen:** Patty Dacus, Gerald Wheeler, Mark Hamilton, Marion Sowka; Kim Traw, Alicia Fetters, Leslie Johnson, Martha Graham, Laura Nick, Joel Unowsky, Nancy Unowsky, Lou Elliott, Pam Reeder, Jay Williams, Jeanie Calhoun, Junell O'Hara, Tracey Arnaud, Martha Thomson, Kim Townsan, and Pam Harrison; **Jackson House Front Office:** Anne Hagen. (Next time Volunteers for UU-Computers for Kids, Langston Reading, and OCC). Thank you for your generosity of time, talent and treasure!

### Back to School Blue Jean Project 2018

FOR JACKSON HOUSE THRIFT SHOP

The 2017 UUVU Blue Jean project was a huge success. Through your generosity, UUVU donated 48 pairs of blue jeans for needy children.

This year the Social Justice (formerly Social Action) Committee will once again appeal to the caring congregation of UUVU to provide blue jeans for the back to school blue jean project.

Jackson House Thrift Shop is in need of Kids' Jeans, boys or girls, sizes 6-12, new or gently used. These jeans are distributed to families who request help in clothing their children.

Blue Jean collection bin in the hallway next to the Office. Contact: Pam Harrison 915-8382 or email her at [cliffh2000@hotmail.com](mailto:cliffh2000@hotmail.com) for more information.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I am a lover of my own liberty and so I would do nothing to restrict yours. *Mahatma Gandhi*

**July 8, Sunday Conversation @11:15** – “Getting the Facts Straight.” Warren Searls facilitator.

**July 11, Wednesday Discussion @ 3:00** – Participants will hold a civil discussion on a controversial issue. The issue will be announced the preceding Sunday. Discussion will be facilitated by Warren Searls. Please use the Sign-Up sheet in the community hall. Drop ins are welcome. Class Room 2.

**July 15, Sunday Conversations @ 11:15** - Mark and TED’s Marvelous Adventure - a TED Talk and discussion presented and led by Rev. Mark Waltz.

**July 22, Theology of Unitarianism** – this one-hour presentation/discussion will look at the basic tenets of Unitarian belief. Presented by David Welch

**July 25, Wednesday Discussion @ 3:00** – Participants will hold a civil discussion on a controversial issue. The issue will be announced the preceding Sunday. Discussion will be facilitated by Warren Searls. Please use the Sign-Up sheet in the community hall. Drop ins are welcome. Class Room 2.

**July 29, The Theology of Universalism** - this companion presentation/discussion to the July presentation will look at the basic tenets of Universalism. Presented by David Welch.

## Midsummer’s Art Wall Changeover

Daryl Wedwick



OK, so Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. is not precisely at the Solstice, but that’s when the UUVC Art Wall shall be changed.

There is space for fifteen new works of two-dimensional art on that wall. We need at least seven to make it look nice. So far in 2018 the UUVC artists have provided more than enough works to make that wall look like someone cares! It is anticipated that this enthusiastic response shall continue. Many of the artists are familiar but new artists are always welcome.

Of course, every artist must be a Member or a Friend of UUVC. Each work of art must be an original piece of work which is signed by the artist. It must be appropriately framed (see below) and have a wire hanger; no sawtooth hangers, please. On the back of each work the artist must attach a tag listing the artist’s name and phone number, the title and medium of the work and its value.

Please deliver the paintings, photographs, stained glass, etc., to the Community Hall by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July

6<sup>th</sup>. If that date and/or time is not convenient, perhaps the works of art may be left in the office *earlier* if the nice office staff is agreeable. However, if your artistic contribution arrives *after* 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, do not expect the curator to reshuffle the layout of the Art Wall to accommodate your tardy work! The material currently on display may be picked up when the new pieces are delivered.

In the April issue of this newsletter, ‘gallery-wrapped’ canvases were defined as needing to be 1 1/2 inches in depth. Further research has determined that art supply sources market the canvases of 1 3/8 inches depth or more as being ‘gallery-wrapped’ while the 3/4-inch thick canvases are marketed as ‘standard’ thickness. Technically, the term ‘gallery wrapped’ refers to stapling the canvas to the back of the stretcher, not the side, so it is indeed possible to have a 3/4-inch deep gallery-wrapped canvas . . . which would still look better in an appropriate frame!

Should anyone wish to purchase a piece displayed on the Art Wall, the buyer must deal directly with the artist. UUVC does not collect a commission.



## July Celebrations



7/1	Marilyn Matzek	7/17	Wally Johnson
7/7	Michele Mendez	7/25	Phil Simpson
7/8	TerryLynne Marx	7/26	Wanda Bodeman
7/14	Court Mathey	7/29	Jim Watson
7/16	John Leisenring	7/30	Sue Loberg
7/17	Jerry Fay	7/30	Judy Saldino



7/2	Janet & Larry Enders
7/3	Bette & Merrill Clark
7/4	John & Judy Bowers
7/8	Jim & Suzette Watson
7/22	Loren & Sue Loberg

## Interest Groups (IGs)



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 at 501-922-3878 or email [vzuege@gmail.com](mailto:vzuege@gmail.com) to inquire about starting a new group. Ronnie Zuege, IG Coordinator

### Game Night



Come to play board/card games on the 2nd Saturday of each month (July 14). 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, 262-8231)

### Grief Support Group



The Grief Support Group meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday from 9:30-11:00 A.M. We welcome members, friends and any others experiencing grief/loss from any life changing event. If you have questions or concerns, contact Liz Miller at 922-5457.

### Mah Jongg



Currently, our mah jongg group is playing most Mondays at 1:00. If you would like to join us, or suggest another time to play, contact Ronnie Zuege at 922-3878.

### Fourth Friday Film Fest



June's Movie Night was the showing of "*The Darkest Hour*", the story of Winston Churchill's rise to power and his leading of the British people during the early days of WW II. Some of us were old enough to remember the actual events, but it was an engrossing film for everyone there. For July's movie we are taking a different tack, switching to a film ("*The Florida Project*") about present day life in a Florida trailer park. Three generations are portrayed; the parents with problems of their own trying to raise their children via benign neglect, the children and how they raise themselves and solve their own problems, and the kindly trailer park manager who tries to keep them all on track. Willem Dafoe plays the park manager, the kids steal the movie, and the critics loved this film. Rotten Tomatoes website gave it a whopping 96%



positive rating. Some comments: "Compassionately told though the eyes of a child, this film is a captivating drama filled with incredible sadness, wide-eyed innocence and pure joy". Also, "An honest, accessible, compassionate account of low-rent troubles – a tale that's tender, tragic and joyous, with a knockout ending that's both devastating and beautiful". And lastly, "Equal parts whimsical child fantasy and very real adult drama. It simultaneously broke my heart and opened my eyes". This movie should be a great addition to our list of thought-provoking films that have been shown at the Fourth Friday Film Fest. Hope to see you all on July 27th.

### Meatless Meal Group



The Meatless Meal Group is on hiatus and will return when temperatures are cooler and summer travel has slowed the exodus of people who might, if not for travel plans, want to participate in a casual group that likes to experiment with meatless recipes. We may make it an evening event. Sue Loberg.

### Dining-In and Dining-Out Groups



Our Spring "Dining In" and "Dining Out" groups should have had their final meals of the season by this time. We will be taking a dining break over the summer.



Thanks to all who participated for making this a successful social activity. If enough interest is indicated, there could be a restart for the Fall season.

### SEEKING GREETERS!

Malinda Zarate, Chair of the Welcome Committee for our Sunday services, seeks volunteers to serve as front and back welcome table greeters. If you're willing to help a few times over the next six months, let her know (phone: 512-567-7225; email: [malinda.zarate@gmail.com](mailto:malinda.zarate@gmail.com)). You would need to be at church by about 9:20 to get the table ready (put on the table covers and set out the brochures). Then, you smile and welcome people who come in the door. After the service, you put everything back in the closet. That's it. Malinda looks forward to hearing from you!

## New Member Spotlight

### Lorri Street



I arrived in Hot Springs Village on Mother's Day, May 2015, relocating from Sacramento, CA. I'd visited the Village a couple weeks prior and knew immediately I had made the right choice for my retirement years...hiking, biking, kayaking, Pickleball, and, affordability! I retired from working in Northern California school districts as a Speech-Language Pathologist providing therapy to children with communication disorders. I'm thrilled to have landed here in HSV, and more recently in the Unitarian Universalist Village Church! My prior affiliation with a church community was many decades of belonging to Christ Unity Church. Thank you all for your welcoming!

### W. Todd Carter



After a failed attempt at the University of Arkansas, I joined the USMC for a four year enlistment and a tour in Vietnam. I worked as a computer technician while completing a degree in Accounting at the University of Memphis (Memphis State) and became a CPA. I practiced as a CPA, became CFO for a small manufacturing company and a state agency, then finished my career as a Revenue Agent for the Large Business and International Division of the IRS. I am now happily retired in the Village and thrilled to be a member of the UUVV.

### Patty Dacus



Patty Dacus, her husband, Terry, and their fur-baby, Sadie (a 10 year old Shih Tzu), hail from the Memphis, Tennessee area and are both thrilled to have found their perfect retirement home here in Hot Springs Village, which they have owned since late 2015, when Terry retired from the Kroger Company. Patty, who is a Registered Nurse, joined him here in June, 2016, when she retired after a very rewarding 38 year career at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Although she misses her friends and patients at St. Jude, she would not trade anything for the life she is living here in the Village and the home she has found at UUVV! It's like every day is a vacation! Patty's life is very full making pottery, hiking, camping, traveling, volunteering, enjoying time with new friends and getting involved in UU life.

Reverend Mark Walz, left, and President Penny Beed, right, welcome Tammy Hanks and Craig Johnson as new UUVV members.



President Penny Beed, left, and Reverend Mark Walz welcome Marlene Kloack as a new UUVV member.

### ~Treasurer's Report, Continued from Page 2

I do want to share why it is important that we exceed our pledge goal. The \$9,267 "cushion" we have enables us to cover any unexpected fluctuation during the year impacting our revenue. Our committee chairs do an excellent job in both establishing their budgets and keeping to budgets. But on the revenue side, UUVV can be impacted by the departure during the year of members and friends

who have pledged. So we should all find comfort in having this cushion! As for a look at the past, our May financials showed our year to date revenues exceeding budget and expenses continuing under budget. While our revenue numbers for the month did fall below budget, this is timing related as to payments of pledges. Year to date through May our net income was \$30,246.

## Dispute Mediators: Another Year

Steve Rittenmeyer



UUVC is again approaching the start of a new fiscal year and time for Annual Reports. Inasmuch as many new members and friends in UUVC may not be familiar with the Dispute Mediators and its mission, now is a good time for a bit of history and an overview.

The group was formed in 2011, originating in the aftermath of a serious dispute between several congregants for which church leadership was not prepared. Although it took several months, the problem was successfully resolved by employing basic mediation techniques. Thereafter, the Board welcomed the offer of a new committee to train its members and stand ready to assist in such circumstances.

The new group began as the Conflict Resolution Committee, operating under that name until 2018 when it became Dispute Mediators. Its mission reads: "To establish an orderly, flexible, confidential process by which UUVC members, friends and church leadership may work to settle disputes and misunderstanding within the bounds of Unitarian Universalist principles, covenants and ethics." From that beginning the

group has accomplished the task of creating the process described.

With the generosity of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Student Mediation Program, a comprehensive compendium of training materials was obtained and the committee began self study. A subscription to [Mediate.com](http://Mediate.com) provides ongoing training and informational materials. Continuous training and practice utilizes various methods of education including reading and discussion, videos, and role plays. The committee even created and produced a mock mediation video, using actors from the Village Players, and presented it to the congregation in an Insight. Over the years the group has assisted congregants to resolve their problems in two cases. Additionally, through informal communication with a committee member, two other congregants were able to resolve their disagreement themselves.

Today, the Dispute Mediators stand ready to help as needed. The members are Cloe Bayer, Vice-Chair; Janet Enders; Rev. Bud Hearn; Myra Rustin; Daryl Wedwick; and Steve Rittenmeyer, Chair. We all have identifying badges. Feel free to stop us anytime if you have questions or concerns.

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## The Paradox of Liberty: July 22 Insight Service

Rev. Bud Hearn



On July 4, 1776 thirteen Colonies [independent state nations] declared their Liberty from the British Crown by absolving all allegiance and political association with it. The Declaration of Independence stated that "the Laws of Nature and Nature's God insure certain inalienable rights...life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness." The former words denote assurance, and latter a process. They are idealistic words not prescriptive. Opening words of the U S Constitution offer a statement of purpose; "we the people of the United States in order to form a more perfect Union establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promise the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Prosperity...". These too are words of intent & are not prescriptive. Benjamin Franklin wrote the Framers of the words were like all human beings "influenced by the passions and prejudices of their era [their culture]," oft times making political concessions to insure ratification of the

Constitution. Noted too the Framers held certain values that are abhorrent to most Americans today. Such not by design for they were products of their culture and none of them could envision how "life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness" would be played out in future generations. Especially as the emergent nation became more and more pluralistic. Such said not to discredit their work for to their credit all believed their work was one in process. They deliberately fashioned Article V making adjustments easier for future generations. And in future generations it would be the courts that would modify, clarify, redefine the Framers intent. Liberty: What make we of it today? Thomas Jefferson observed that "constitutions ought not to receive sanctimonious reverence and be deemed like the ark of the covenant, too sacred to be touched". What make we of Liberty is it inherent as suggested in the Declaration of Independence and the Preamble to the Constitution, or is it adherent? In his July 22 Insight presentation, Rev. Bud Hearn will offer some thoughts on the Paradox of Liberty. Conversation will follow.

## Clarion Call—We Need More Help

Alana Clegg



Over the past year Clarion Call Happy Destiny Homes has received innumerable hygiene and household items for four homes housing men and women who are in transition between finishing a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program and getting back into society.

We wish to thank everyone for their donations of towels, sheets, blankets, cleaning supplies, furniture, especially beds and sofas and chairs, lamps, dressers, tables, clothes and shoes and of course hygiene supplies, shampoo, soap, disposable razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, etc. These items are appreciated by all.

As each person gets a job and is able to move out to be on their own again they frequently take the towels and sheets and other personal items with

them. So, we are asking the congregation that if you are thinking it is time to reorganize your clothes or linen closet or get rid of extra items in your kitchen that you don't use any more or furniture you have been thinking about replacing, we would be delighted to take them off your hands and deliver them to Clarion Call Happy Destiny Homes. For small items there is a blue bin in the back hallway outside the office designated for Clarion Call.

For more information or to donate large items call me or email me.

Sincere thanks.  
Alana Clegg

501-626-1930—[alanaclegg@yahoo.com](mailto:alanaclegg@yahoo.com)



Sonnet 116  
William  
Shakespeare

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
Admit impediments. Love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove.  
O no! It is an ever-fixed mark  
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;  
It is the star to every wand'ring bark,

Whose worth's unknow, although his height be taken.  
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle's compass come;  
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.  
If this be error and upon me prov'd,  
I never writ, nor no man ever lov'd.

## A Successful Clean-Up Day!

Kim Harrison



On June 16, a tremendous number of people showed up at 8 am at church to help with a spring/summer clean up. Inside windows were washed, the piano polished and drains cleaned. Outside, Cliff can now park his truck under all of the trees on the parking lot. The gutters were cleaned (thanks to Alex Perez) and the building was washed (Dave Welch was soaked!). Many helped prune hollies, crepe myrtles and Tony Nikodem has adopted the ailing Japanese maple in back (it was hit by the April freeze). And Ducky Berkley has continued to help with the grounds maintenance.

We've only mentioned a few of the many who helped that day. Thanks to all who showed up to help—including Cliff Harrison's and Warren Searls' sons! Thank you all!! We got a lot done in a small amount of time!

Cliff and I appreciate everyone's help. And just an FYI to everyone, the redbud in the memorial garden will have to be removed due to the trunk and a main branch ready to split. We don't want the building or anyone walking in the garden to be harmed, so it will be coming down. The grounds, as well as the building, are showing their age. We are trying to keep what we have in good shape but soon we will need to replace some of the original plantings.



When liberty destroys order, the hunger for order  
will destroy liberty.  
*Will Durant*

Give me the liberty to know, to think, to believe,  
and to utter freely, according to conscience,  
above all other liberties.  
*John Milton*

# MUSIC NOTES

John Leisenring



It is with great pleasure that I begin the next chapter of my musical life – that of your Music Director. Watch this space for monthly announcements and musings regarding upcoming musical happenings.

This month, as we await the September return of our magnificent choir, we'll be singing patriotic songs and summertime favorites - with gusto. And don't miss Ann Bowes' piano frolics, and Brenda Tirrell's "Summertime" salute.

Mark your calendars: The next MUSIC ON BARCELONA concert will be July 29<sup>th</sup>, and will feature a recital given by students from Henderson State University Department of Music. They're really good!

## Message from the Editor

I love getting content to include in this monthly newsletter. But even though we're not printing it (except for church copies), we have limits on length. The longer the article (and the more graphics and photos), the larger the file. At some point, we reach the position of having to send the newsletter in "pieces" because the Overlord of the Internet refuses to send monstrous files to large lists. Here's the bottom line. Please be brief in your messages (but tell the full story). Generally, a "long" piece should be 350 words or less, if possible. Is that too much to ask? If so, tell me and I'll ask for less. ☺

## Future Newsletter Deadlines

For **August Newsletter**, July 24 at noon

For **September Newsletter**, August 27 at noon

For **October Newsletter**, September 25 at noon

I will be grateful if you would let me know, five days in advance of the deadline, if you plan to submit something for the newsletter. Send contributions to me:

John Swinburn, newsletter editor, [jsswinburn@gmail.com](mailto:jsswinburn@gmail.com)

## Things to Think About & Random Tidbits

- ◆ **UUVC Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianUniversalistVillageChurch/>
- ◆ **UUVC Website:** <http://www.uuvc.org>
- ◆ **UUVC Video Sermons:** <https://www.uuvc.org/video-sermons.html>
- ◆ **Definition:** Sagacity (*suh-gas-i-tee*)—acuteness of mental discernment and soundness of judgment, e.g., "I was surprised by such sagacity in a girl so young."
- ◆ From the **Religious Tolerance website** (<http://www.religioustolerance.org>) (operated by Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance), describing Unitarian Universalists: "They have an influence on the culture that is far beyond what one would expect from their numbers."
- ◆ Extracted from "**Yet Another Unitarian Universalist**" (at <https://www.danielharper.org/yauu/2018/06/anti-intellectualism-among-unitarian-universalists/>): "Examples of our (*referring to UUs*) anti-intellectualism are easy to find...those who reduce Unitarian Universalist thinking to thoughtless recitations of the "seven principles...""
- ◆ The **Bhut jolokia**, AKA **ghost pepper** (among other names), is hot! In 2004, India's Defence Research Laboratory reported a Scoville rating of 1,041,427 Scoville Heat Units (SHUs). That's nothing. According to Paul Bosland, a New Mexico State University Regents Professor & director of the university's Chile Pepper Institute, plant breeders will probably produce varieties reaching three to four million SHUs at some point. "This (such levels of heat) could be particularly helpful for the extraction industry, companies that extract...heat compounds for use in medicine."
- ◆ Even if a position on a matter of morality is unassailable, its holder's **sanctimonious attitude** can endanger acceptance of the position. Humility pays.
- ◆ **1st person** to contact the newsletter editor after reading this message gets treated to coffee (or tea) at Melinda's.

### 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.