



Chalice Flame

First Unitarian Society of Pueblo



JUNE 2014

MEMBER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

VOLUME XIV, ISSUE VI

We Met our Canvass Goal—To Keep the Lights On—And More!

We made it! We met (even exceeded by a bit!) our canvass goal of \$13,300! As of June 3, our total was **\$13,340**. Thanks so much to all of you who pledged. We have yet to hear from a few Members and Friends, and it's not too late to get into the act—the act of providing the resources we must have to keep First Unitarian Society vital and to empower our UU values in living community.

Many Thanks from your Canvass Committee

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR JUNE

SERVICES ARE HELD FROM 10:30 TO 11:30 AM

JUNE 1: JANET WILSON

"The Little Red House"

Janet Wilson is President of the Occupy the Roads Foundation (OTR). You may have seen articles in the *Pueblo Chieftain* about the Little Red House. This project is just one of several that Janet Wilson has spearheaded on the East Side. She will talk about her experience as a community organizer and how she came to Pueblo. The goal of OTR is to empower people to take control of their own lives.

Service Leader: Midge Birgers

JUNE 8: STEVE ACKER

"Salvation"

We as Unitarian Universalists equate salvation with wholeness. Most of us can relate to being conflicted within ourselves, with others close to us, or within our communities. Salvation or atonement is healing. Our discussion will focus on brokenness and how we can be healed.

Service Leader: Kathryn Acker

JUNE 15: DON BRUESTLE AND THE PROGRAM TEAM

"In Celebration of Father's Day"

Fathers: biologically, we all have one. Some were engaged at being a dad, some were not. Please come to share your thoughts and memories of the father (or father figure) in your life. We are interested in all aspects of fatherhood—your contributions will make this service thought-provoking and captivating.

Service Leader: Jan Butorac

Please stay after the service to celebrate Father's Day with a potluck picnic.

JUNE 22, 2014: MICHELE BARNES

"Summer Solstice, the Longest Day of the Year"

If you look around in the natural world, you will notice that life is growing and blooming all around. A gardener will be tending crops, watering, nurturing, weeding, and even pruning where it's needed. We are enjoying the first harvest period of the year. The sun will start to fade and days will grow shorter once again. The Goddess swells with pregnancy and the Gods' energy begins to fade. The Cycle continues as the wheel of the year turns.

JUNE 29: IB BIRGERS, JAN BUTORAC, STEVE ACKER

"Spiritual Life as a Rational Life"

The Seven UU Principles and our FUS Covenant form the bedrock of this congregation's interests and its functions. Disagreements that are difficult to resolve may occur between individuals, between committees, or between a member or committee and the Board. We examine the role and benefits of the Committee on Ministry, composed of the three presenters, as a mediation arm of FUS whose goal is to help resolve these differences in alignment with our Principles.

Service Leader: Kathryn Acker

At this service we will also recognize and celebrate our new members.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the service.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JANICE:

"OUR BLESSED COMMUNITY"

Starting July 1, as with each new fiscal year (FY), we will experience some changes in our FUS leadership as four current members rotate off the Board. The annual meeting is scheduled for June 29, at which time new officers will be elected by the congregation. I am stepping down as President this year, and this will be my last column in that capacity.

I want to thank all the FUS members and friends who have supported me as well as your other leaders these past three years. It has been a true pleasure to have participated in this journey of exploration, loss, change, and renewal that we have shared. I am very excited about electing and installing new leaders and by the new directions we are now exploring. I know that all of us—members and friends, new and old—will support each other as we continue to appreciate and sustain our blessed community, one that is founded on our common values and Unitarian Universalist principles. As I continue to be a member of FUS in an "elder sage" role, this piece from William Ellery Channing provides a quite accurate representation of my continuing personal journey:

*To live content with small means
to seek elegance rather than luxury
and refinement rather than fashion
to be worthy, not respectable, and wealthy, not rich
to study hard, think quietly, talk gently, act frankly
to listen to stars and birds, babes and sages, with open heart
to bear all cheerfully
do all bravely
await occasions,
hurry never—
in a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden, and unconscious
grow up through the common
This is to be my symphony.*

Love and blessed be,

Janice Nelson, President, FUS Board of Directors

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON—AND MORE!

We on the Canvass Committee, as well as the Board, are all so happy that we have met our canvass goal. This means so much to FUS! We can now move forward with our final budget planning and be assured that we will have the funds to cover all our fixed and program expenses for the coming fiscal year (FY). Ours is a bare-bones budget, but it still feels very good to have met our goal.

All pledge cards were to be returned by June 1, but if you haven't dropped yours in the mail, please go ahead and Just Do It!

Next Steps:

- ✚ Finance Committee adjusts preliminary budget based on actual pledge total and Board accepts final budget to be presented to the congregation
- ✚ Board final budget to congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 29; we also vote

on the slate of candidates presented by the nominating committee for open Board positions and on a set of revised Bylaws for church governance.

From Your Canvass Team: Don Bruestle, Jan Butorac, Louise Burg, and Steve Acker

PLANT/YARD/BAKE SALE ON 5/3 A HUGE SUCCESS! MORE THAN \$1500 RAISED!

How gratifying it was to see all the hard work of so many FUS folks over the past four months come to fruition!! The response from the Pueblo community far exceeded all of our expectations. We must have had several hundred people walk through the sale, beginning a half hour before we even opened up at 8 AM, and clear through to closing time at 5 PM!

The addition of the plants this year is what truly made the difference. Michele Barnes did a masterful job of training the volunteers to grow plants and then shepherd them through to the big day. We estimate that more than half of the revenues from the sale came from the plants!

Dorie Silverman, head of the yard sale aspects, also provided critical leadership and coordination to ensure we had a wide range of saleable items. Really, not much was left over.



Cyndi Rand dispensing her special garden wisdom...

Thanks to all the folks listed below (in alphabetical order):

Steve Acker	Involved in organizational meetings; grew seedlings for heirloom tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, cukes; placed yard signs and then picked them up; cleaned the church and re-arranged things after sale
Maria Adkins	Involved on organizational meetings; supported Michele in nurturing seedlings at home; watered seedlings at church per schedule
Kathryn Acker	Cleaned the church and re-arranged things after sale
Michele Barnes	Led the entire plant sale aspects of the sale; ran organizational meetings; coached committee members on how to grow seedlings; led planting party; donated significant items such as soil, containers, etc.; set up and monitored watering schedule; watered seedlings at church per schedule; grew squash, pumpkin, cantaloupe, columbine, and raspberry plants; planted spider plants; set up all day Friday; worked the sale all day Saturday; ensured that unsold clothes donated to Cooperative Care were delivered there
Midge and Ib Birgers	Involved in organizational meetings; grew seedlings for sage, mint, curry squash; helped set up on Friday, worked the sale all day Saturday, helped clean up after sale; donated cookies and home-made bread for bake sale
Don Bruestle	Cleaned up after the sale and got the sanctuary ready for Sunday
Louise Burg	Took payments all day at the sale
Jan Butorac	Involved in organization meetings; publicity chair of committee; donated advertising, seeds, containers, and lunch on sale day; helped plant flower seeds; placed yard signs; helped set up on Friday, worked the sale all day Saturday; cleaned church after sale; baked cookies for bake sale
John Butorac	Provided soil for plants, trays and flower seeds; placed yard signs and then picked them up
Shawn Collins	Transported plants from Janice's home; donated two large recliners; helped with set-up on Friday; helped with clean-up
Mary Dumetria	Involved in organizational meetings; raised vegetable plants; donated many items to yard sale; helped with set-up all day on Friday; worked the sale all day

	Saturday; helped with general clean-up and specifically with cleaning the fellowship area
Laura Heins	Worked the sale all day Saturday
Jennie Mitchell	Worked the sale all day Saturday
Janice Nelson	Grew squash and other vegetable seedlings; helped set up on Friday; took payments all day Saturday; handled money after sale
Doug Oldman	Made himself available to pick up items, brought a table and chairs to the church
Rita Prangle	Donated a new lawn mower to the sale
Cyndi Rand	Grew vegetable seedlings—Pueblo chili peppers, bell peppers, herbs—parsley, basil, rosemary, thyme; marigolds, aloe vera cuttings; donated more than a dozen lovely house plants; made 60 yard signs (30 front/back) and put half of them up ; donated publicity ads; watered seedlings at church per schedule; helped set up on Friday; worked the sale all day Saturday; served as gardening specialist in answering customers' questions
The Roots (friends of Dorie Silverman)	Donated five flats of heirloom plants, including tomatoes, peppers, melons, squash, and cucumbers
William Sandoval	Donated blueberry muffins to bake sale—they were the first thing to go!
Dorie Silverman	Led yard sale aspects of sale; organized space for sale items; set up on Friday; worked the sale all day Saturday; helped with clean-up; arranged for unsold items to be disposed of
Myrna Steele	Donated cupcakes to bake sale
Deric Stowell, Master Gardener	This friend of FUS from PFLAG answered hundreds of gardening questions posed by our customers for more than half the day
Valerie Temple	Donated cupcakes to bake sale
Kay Trainor	Ensured that unsold clothes donated to cooperative care got there
<i>Thanks to the many others who donated items for the yard sale!!!</i>	

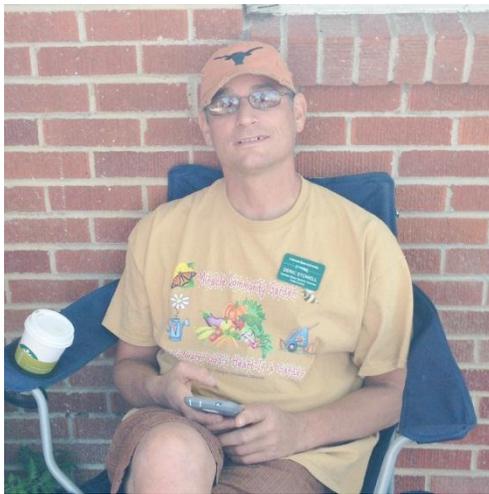
The Mission of the First Unitarian Society
 We are a diverse, welcoming community which celebrates spiritual and religious freedom, nurtures growth and learning, and works toward a more compassionate, tolerant, and sustainable world.



An interested customer



Hmmmm...pretty nice lawn mower.



Deric Stowell, Master Gardener



Midge eyeing the remaining cookies...better act fast before they are all gone!



Michele Barnes, Gardener, Guru, and Guiding Force



Rev. Mark Hild and Cyndi's donated aloe vera plants—they were all sold



Louise Burg, cashier extraordinaire

proposed slate of officers for the congregation to elect for FY 2015 – 2015. This committee will present this slate of candidates to the Board at its meeting on June 10, and the Board will then include this recommended slate of candidates for a vote at the Congregational Meeting. Open positions that will comprise the slate of new officers:

- President: Two-year term
- Secretary: One-year term
- Treasurer: Two-year term
- At Large (Operations): Two-year term

✚ **Adoption of new FUS Bylaws:** The Bylaws have not been thoroughly updated for several years, and some of them were outdated or not applicable. A committee has worked very hard to update these critical guidelines for running our church.

✚ **Approval of FY 2014-2015 Budget:** We will vote to accept the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee, based on the final canvass total.

Every member will receive associated materials in the mail, as required by our Bylaws for Annual Meetings, on or about June 19. Be sure to bring them to the meeting.

BOARD BITS FROM MAY'S MEETING

May's Board of Trustees meeting on 5/13 focused on finances, as usually seems to be the case.

Finance:

The Board discussed prioritizing of expenditures for end-of-year, based on evaluating funds available, and made the decision to put off the third payment of Mountain Desert District (MDD) dues until after the completion of the canvass, just in case we have insufficient funds for necessary expenses.

Other items:

- ✚ Review and approval of preliminary canvass budget
- ✚ Discussion of how to pay for the \$2,500 expense to install the backflow preventer required by the Water Department no later than early June

Committee Reports:

- ✚ Stewardship: Don Bruestle and Jan Butorac reported on final planning for the annual canvass.
- ✚ Programs: Sunday services are in place for June.
- ✚ Member Support: The member directory will be completed for the Annual Meeting
- ✚ Fundraising: Discussion of planning for garage/plant sale and other fundraising items in planning stages

Other: Special continued thanks to Michele Barnes, who has been working as a volunteer to accomplish the administrative tasks of our former Administrator until we fill the position permanently at the beginning of the new FY. Thanks so much, Michele!



Wow! Lots of good stuff.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JUNE 29: CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

All members are urged to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 29 directly after the service. The purpose of this meeting is three-fold:

- ✚ **Election of Board Members:** The Nominating Committee, comprised of Ethyl Kelham, Michele Barnes, and Kathryn Acker, will present their

REV. ROGER BUTTS AS HE PRESENTS OUR MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE



Rev. Roger Butts: "Feminine Images of the Divine",
May 11, 2014

PHILOSOPHY AT 4:00 UPDATE

The Philosophy at 4:00 group has started a new book on tape, Neale Donald Walsh's **What God Said**. I know, I know, there's that word in the title: GEE-OHH-DEE! I, too, have struggled with it! I even made up my own little title for the book to make it more palatable: *Grand Order of the Divine*. If we can get by that one little word, we might find his book has something to offer us. Here's the thing: Neale lays a lot of groundwork in the first four chapters. In chapter five he poses three questions.

#1: Would you say that our world's belief systems INCLUDING ITS RELIGIONS (my emphasis) have produced the outcomes for which humanity has yearned?

#2: Why do you think our belief systems have failed to do this?

#3: What beliefs or understandings do you think would produce the outcomes humanity says it desires?

Have I piqued your interest? Join us for what promises to be a very spirited and challenging discourse, Thursdays at 4 PM at FUS. **Hope to see you there! Steve Acker**

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER GATHERINGS

Socrates Café, 9:00 each Sunday:

Come talk philosophy, life, death, and religion with a lively group of interesting FUS folks.

Happy Bookers: Lunch meeting 6/4, 11:30 am at The Nature Center; **discussion meeting 6/18**, 4:00-5:30 pm, at FUS. June's book is **The Book Thief** by Patricia Cornwall

Philosophy at Four (Each Thursday): Join this gaggle of philosophers who are beginning a new journey with the book **What God Said** by Neale Donald Walsh (see box at left). Contact Steve Acker (423-930-7277) for additional information.

Singing Practice: Each Thursday at 6:00 with Michele Barnes

Social Justice Movie: 6/8 noon: Bring a snack and join us after the service for a viewing and discussion of **More than Honey**, an award-winning film with excellent photography. It examines the world-wide disappearance of bees by looking at migration patterns, and examines the causes of these changes and the consequences to us all. Next month we will show "Immigration, *The Other Side of the Story*."

Fellowship Breakfast: 6/13: Each second Friday, join the bunch for lively conversation and a great breakfast. This month we'll meet at Victoria's Gourmet Market at 218 Victoria Ave. Come and enjoy good food and camaraderie. We can't seem to keep from telling our ridiculous stories and voicing our strong opinions, but we are seldom asked to leave by the management. So it's all good!

Father's Day Picnic, 6/15 : Stick around after the service and join us for a pot luck picnic and cook-out in honor of Father's Day. Bring a dish to share.

Pueblo Humanist Directions: 6/17 at FUS. Come and feel free to bring a guest. There will be snacks and beverages, and you're welcome to bring some to share. For more information, see www.americanhumanist.org.

Pueblo Pagans: 6/18, 6:00. This monthly discussion / teaching group encourages everyone from the novice to the experienced to learn new things, share knowledge, have fellowship with other pagans, and practice ritual in a group setting. Led by Michele Barnes

Saturday Night Movie and Pot Luck: 6/27: Bring a dish to share for the 5:00 potluck, and stick around for the movie at 6:30. This month, see **Her**, an acclaimed drama, romance, science fiction, comedy, and fantasy.

Rotten Tomatoes gives it “high high” critics’ ratings. Joaquin Phoenix was nominated for an Academy Award for his performance as a withdrawn writer who falls in love with his computer's highly advanced operating system. Sweet, soulful, and smart, "Her" imparts wry, funny wisdom about the state of modern relationships.

GETTING INVOLVED: IT’S GOOD FOR YOU AND FOR FUS

Our FUS community needs all of us to pitch in when needed, take part to learn and grow, share our ideas, needs, and skills, agree to disagree amicably, and learn and practice our seven UU Principles while we remember to "stand on the side of love." Some of the activities supporting new directions that all may participate in include:

- ✚ Having more involvement in our local Faith Leaders in Action and Together Colorado including immigration reform initiatives
- ✚ Exploring opportunities to educate the Pueblo community in UU philosophies in cooperation with our other local UU congregation, Flame of Life Universalists
- ✚ Becoming more involved with our social justice committee to explore new directions for FUS involvement in sustainability issues, racial justice, education, and other issues
- ✚ Attending the monthly documentaries and discussions on various topics to become more informed and look at possible action items
- ✚ Helping around the church facility—gardeners, fix-it people, cleaners—all are needed to keep our building clean and operational and our lovely garden and labyrinth tended
- ✚ Attending and helping to regroup the Monthly Sustainable Collectives group
- ✚ Participating in the Socrates Café and Philosophy at 4:00 groups and providing feedback as to other topics or opportunities you would like to explore
- ✚ Joining our budding “choir” that meets weekly to sing and have fun. Do you like to sing?
- ✚ Establishing an evening book discussion group—some have expressed interest, as evenings are better than afternoons for most working people. How about you??
- ✚ Presenting an adult education series on UU history—would you be interested in attending?
- ✚ Supporting our children’s RE program—can you help, perhaps one Sunday a month?
- ✚ Joining the fun and sharing at our movies, potlucks, Happy Bookers group, holiday events, and other

activities—do you have new ideas for other social activities?

- ✚ Sharing ideas about Sunday service topics and possible speakers, or sharing your own ideas or expertise in a Sunday morning presentation. Try it—you might surprise yourself at how well you rise to the challenge!

Watch for opportunities to sign up for committees and ways you can all become involved—part of the actions, decisions, and new directions at FUS. What is your interest? Contact your Board or committee chairs as new possibilities emerge.

CONCERT BY LEVITICUS SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 7:00

Please come, and tell all your friends to come too!
FUS will present a concert by Leviticus, a local phenomenon who is a superb singer-songwriter and musician. Leviticus Houston has played at many local venues and is a favorite of Puebloans across the city.
(More information as the date approaches)
Please support this fundraiser to help FUS meet our operating expenses.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, MAY 4, WITH REV. CLAIRE ZILM



Dorie Silverman and her little buddy



Tirzah Collins with her very squirmy cat



Jimmy Garcia with his furry friend

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: ETHYL KELHAM

Long-time member Ethyl Kelham has been a positive presence at FUS for many years. You have seen her every month, dishing out ice cream on Ice Cream Sundays, and faithfully filling her regular seat, third row,

third from the aisle. But what is Ethyl's history? How did she come to Pueblo and to FUS?

First, it's interesting to know that Ethyl is the widow of the Rev. Byron Kelham, former Minister Emeritus of First Unitarian Society. Rev. Kelham was part-time minister at our church for seven years, and then became a regular speaker until he died in 2013. Ethyl and Byron were members for 35 years before his death, and Ethyl has continued to be a faithful member, for which we are all grateful.



Ethyl Kelham

Ethyl was born in 1922 in Bayard, Nebraska, the sixth of 11 children of a Methodist minister. After several moves, the family ended up in Pueblo when Ethyl was six years old. (By the way, her father was later to become a Unitarian.)

Ethyl went to school in Pueblo and went on to college at the Univ. of Colorado Boulder majoring in education and literature, where she started attending a Unitarian youth group—and the rest is history! There were no dorms at that time—she and the other women students lived in an armory. She attended two summers at USC and also went to the Labor School in Tennessee. With her strong educational background, she became a long-time Montessori teacher and preschool owner and operator.

She met Byron at the Unitarian Church in Boulder, and after a whirlwind courtship, they were married in 1946. He made the decision to become a Unitarian minister (I guess ministers were part of the territory with Ethyl!), and attended Starr King School for the Ministry, the UU seminary in Berkeley, while she taught school. After his graduation, they moved to several ministerial callings and other positions for Byron, including social work, in Seattle, Dallas, Danbury, CT, Scranton, NY, and all over the county—all while they raised their three daughters and she continued in early childhood education. In fact, she ran the Montessori school that was housed by the church when it was located on Calla Street, and taught children's RE continuously until recent times.

Ethyl is an excellent and enthusiastic gardener, among her many other interests. She says that she has had a full, fun life. What more can any of us ask for?

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Socrates Café: 9:00 Service: 10:30 Janet Wilson: "Occupy the Roads: The Little Red House" Service Leader: Midge Birgers	2	3	4 Happy Bookers Lunch: 11:30, Nature Center (Coyote Grille) Canvass Comm. and Bylaws Meetings: 2:00	5 Philosophy at 4:00 Singing Practice 6:00	6 Program Committee: 4:00	7
8 Socrates Café: 9:00 Service: 10:30 Steve Acker: "Atonement" Service Leader: Kathryn Acker Noon: Social Justice Movie: <i>More than Honey</i>	9	10 Board of Directors: 6:15	11 Member Support Committee: 4:00	12 Philosophy at 4:00 Singing Practice 6:00 Materials for Congregational Meeting mailed out	13 Fellowship Breakfast: 9:00 Victoria's Gourmet Market	14
15 Socrates Café: 9:00 Service: 10:30 Don Bruestle and the Program Team: "In Celebration of Father's Day" Pot Luck Picnic and Cook-Out after service	16	17 Pueblo Humanist Directions: 6:30	18 Happy Bookers Discussion: 4:00-5:30 Pueblo Pagans: 6:00	19 Philosophy at 4:00 Singing Practice 6:00 Congregation receives mailed materials for Congregational Meeting	20	21 Movie & Pot Luck Night, <i>Her</i> : 5:00
22 Socrates Café: 9:00 Service: 10:30 Michele Barnes: "Summer Solstice, Longest Day of the Year"	23	24	25	26 Philosophy at 4:00 Singing Practice 6:00	27	28
29 Socrates Café: 9:00 Service: 10:30 Ib Birgers, Jan Butorac, Steve Acker: "Spiritual Life as a Rational Life" Service Leader: Kathryn Acker 11:45: Annual Congregational Meeting	30				All activities held at FUS unless otherwise noted.	

First Unitarian Society of Pueblo

Board of Trustees: Janice Nelson, President; Midge Birgers, Vice President; Kate Langworthy, Secretary; Marc Pratarelli, Treasurer; Don Bruestle, Dorie Zimmerman, and Shawn Collins, Trustees at Large
Pianist/Harpist: Myrna Steele **Chalice Flame Editor:** Jan Butorac
Acting Church Administrator and Music Director: Michele Barnes

First Unitarian Society
110 S. Lacrosse Avenue
Pueblo, Colorado 81001.4429

Our facility is handicap accessible.

About the First Unitarian Society

The First Unitarian Society (FUS) is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association. Our religious organization is non-creedal and encourages free inquiry and exploration of ideas. Members are not required to share the same beliefs; we come from a variety of backgrounds including lifelong UUs, humanists, Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, pagans, agnostics, atheists, and others. FUS welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons.

For more information, see www.uupueblo.org and www.uua.org. If you would like to either subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, contact pueblounitarian@earthlink.net.

Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes

We covenant to affirm and promote the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association:

- ✚ The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- ✚ Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- ✚ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregation;
- ✚ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- ✚ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and all society;
- ✚ 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.