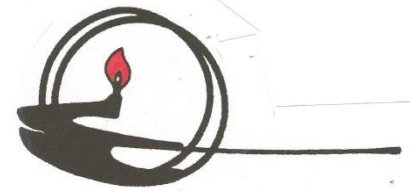




Chalice Flame

First Unitarian Society of Pueblo



MAY 2015

MEMBER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

VOLUME XV, ISSUE V

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR MAY

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

MAY 3: DORIE SILVERMAN

"What Is Asked of Us?"

Dorie is basing her presentation on sermon by Rev. Glenda Gray and Dr. Dr. Patrick O'Neil. What, then, is asked of us? We are asked to work and to serve, to wonder, to revere, to think, and to live in a way compatible with the grandeur and the mystery of living.

Service Leader: Midge Birgers

MAY 10: STEVE ACKER

"Celebrating our Mothers"

We will share our memories and experiences of our mothers, grandmothers, and special mother figures. Come prepared to share and bring photographs!

Service Leader: Kathryn Acker

9:00 AM: POTLUCK BRUNCH. Bring a favorite food - breads, fruit, quiche, juice.

MAY 17: LOUISE BURG AND DON BRUESTLE

"Stewardship Sunday: Open Hearts, Open Doors"

We will reflect on why it is important to sustain our faith community through our time, talents, and financial support. You will also be treated to a fun skit! This service is the kick-off for our pledge drive for the new fiscal year (FY).

MAY 24: STEVE ACKER AND MIDGE BIRGERS

"Beyond Just War and Pacifism"

Steve and Midge will explore the concepts of war and pacifism, which both seek to limit the use of violent force. The presentation is based on an article written by Rev. Paul Rasor. We will also honor those who have served in the military, including our special relatives and friends. **Service Leader: Steve Acker**

MAY 31: REV. CLAIRE ZILM

"Animal Souls"

Rev. Zilm is back to bless the special animals in our lives. She will reflect on the special benefits animals bring to us through her stories. Bring your pet to be blessed. (Please have them leashed or caged.)

Service Leader: Janice Nelson

Ice Cream Sunday

"LOOKING AHEAD"

During the excellent congregational workshop facilitated by Rev. Pallas Stanford on April 18th, 13 members participated in discussing the possibilities of belonging to a small church and how to provide effective leadership. We are charged with being committed to taking at least one step toward deepening our practice as members of our community and enacting our mission.

Among the actions at the Board of Director's meeting on April 8, 2015, Don Bruestle was elected Vice President to complete the term held by Midge Birgers ending June 30th. The Board also proposed that the number of officers on the Board be reduced from seven to five officers because of our small membership. The Bylaws Committee will present that proposed change for a vote by the congregation at the Congregational Meeting on June 28th. During that meeting, the 2015-2016 budget will be presented for a vote.

In addition, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers to be elected. If the five-member board is approved, our vice president, secretary and treasurer will be elected. The vice president and secretary will serve two years and the treasurer one year. Let anyone on the Nominating Committee know if you are interested in any of these positions! FUS needs you!

In friendship and love, Midge Birgers, President

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS"

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

We used this space the past two months to provide information about our annual canvass coming up this month. Our effort is to keep the congregation informed about the process and the purpose of the canvass, and the critical role of stewardship to FUS. Currently, the Finance Committee is reviewing the preliminary budget formulated by Treasurer Jan Butorac, based on committee budget requests. Upon their review and the Board's comments and modifications, the final budget for the pledge drive will be available later this month.

Schedule of Events: Here's a schedule of activities for our stewardship campaign for 2015-2016.

May:

- ✚ Stewardship Dinner, May 16: We gather for a super pot-luck dinner to simply enjoy each other's company as a celebration of FUS. You will be treated to a fun skit and will receive information about our financial circumstances and budget, with pledging information.
- ✚ Stewardship Sunday, May 17: Our service for that day is on the topic of stewardship, and pledge cards are distributed after the service.
- ✚ Congregation returns pledge cards to the Treasurer by May 31.

June:

- ✚ Board adjusts preliminary budget based on actual pledge total
- ✚ Board presents final budget to congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 28; we also vote on the slate of candidates presented by the nominating committee for open Board positions.

From the Finance Committee: Don Bruestle and Louise Burg

BIG Yard, Plant, and Bake Sale May 9, 9 to 3!!

Bring your contributions for our largest fundraiser of the year! Leave them anytime between now and **May 7** in the back storage room. We welcome any of the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ✚ Kitchen and household items | ✚ Tools (garden or shop) |
| ✚ Baby/children's clothing, toys, cribs, strollers, etc. | ✚ Electronics, computers, & other such items, in working condition |
| ✚ Clothing (clean & in saleable condition) | ✚ Shoes, boots, handbags, luggage |
| ✚ Furniture of all kinds | ✚ Rugs, lamps, linens |

Friday: Volunteers are needed to set up and price the items. The church should be open by 4:00 to begin the set-up. Volunteers place signs in strategic locations.

Saturday: Volunteers arrive at 8:00 a.m. to get organized and be ready for the early birds.

We also need folks to bring cookies, cupcakes, and other bake sale items, INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER GATHERINGS

Socrates Café, 9:15 each Sunday: If you are an early riser and want to share coffee and conversation with others, join us before the service on Sunday mornings for the Socrates Cafe. The topics vary, depending on current events, group decisions, or who is attending.

Philosophy at Four: Each Thursday, join this gaggle of philosophers who are continuing their philosophical journey. Contact Steve Acker (423-930-7277) for additional information.

Program Committee: Friday, 5/1, 4:30

Social Justice Committee: Tuesday, 5/5, 6:00. We will continue to discuss the way forward in our social justice thrust for 2015. Come and put in your two cents!

Happy Bookers: Lunch Meeting: Wednesday, 5/6, 11:30 AM, Mr. Tandoori's. This month's book is **Be Safe I Love You** by Cara Hoffman. Discussion meeting: 5/20, 4:00.

Fellowship Breakfast: Friday, 5/8, 9:00 AM, Cracker Barrel. Bring your friends and join us for breakfast and a lively conversation. You-all come!

Yard/Plant Sale: Friday, 5/8, 4:00: Set-up. Saturday, 5/9, 9:00 AM to noon: Come help out in our biggest annual fundraiser!

Member Support Committee: Wednesday, 5/13, 4:00

Board of Directors: Wednesday, 5/13, 6:15

Saturday Night Movie and Potluck: Saturday, 5/23, 5:00. **Magic in the Moonlight** is a comedy about an Englishman (Colin Farrell) who was brought in to expose a phone psychic (Emma Stone) in the 1920s French Riviera. This becomes more challenging than expected when the debunker becomes smitten with the supposed fraud. This is a gentle romantic period piece with beautiful scenery and clever dialogue. (PG-13; 97 minutes)

Ice Cream Sunday: Sunday, 5/31. We will celebrate May birthdays after the service with organic ice cream. If your birthday comes in May, let us know your favorite flavor so we can honor you properly.

**REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 1ST FOR
WUULF (WESTERN UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST LIFE FESTIVAL)
JUNE 22- 28, 2015**

WUULF will have its annual festival at Ghost Ranch, near Abiquiu, New Mexico. Ghost Ranch is a conference center framed by red cliffs and is "thought to be a spiritual place, and the perfect environment for us to create the intentional community of WUULF". The theme speakers will be: author, Lesley Poling-Kempes, speaking on "Writing with a Sense of Place", author/historian, Nancy R. Bartlit, speaking on "How Wildlife, Sacred to the Dine, Shaped a Navajo Code, Shortening WW11" and lecturer, David Guterrez, speaking on "Sacred Places". Rev. Nathan Mesnikoff will be the community minister.

There are activities for everyone, including youth and young adult programming. You may hike, raft, ride your bicycle, sing, play your musical instrument, do yoga daily, read at the library, (open 24 hours), take photos, bird watch. You may take trips to Santa Fe, local wineries, soak in the hot springs at Ojo Caliente, visit a mosque, monastery; and so much more!

Registration closes May 1st. You may camp or stay in a room, eat all or some of your meals in the cafeteria. See Ib or Midge if you are curious. They consider WUULF to be their annual retreat! Check out the WUULF website, www.wuulf.org.



A flame within a chalice represents the Unitarian Universalist Association and is a symbol of the Unitarian Universalist faith.

FROM THE UU SERVICE COMMITTEE: PEOPLE IN DETROIT ARE WITHOUT WATER

Water is a human right. Yet, today thousands of families in Detroit, Mich., have no water in their homes. The mass water shutoffs the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department began last year are back, and low-income communities — including mothers and their children, veterans, and people living with disabilities — are again facing risks to their health and family stability. Between now and Mother's Day, May 10, call on President Obama to stand up for families in Detroit and defend the human right to water by doing the following:

- ✚ Offer immediate assistance with utility bills and enforcement of affordability standards.
- ✚ Support programs to stop foreclosures related to water bills and to address public health needs created by the shutoffs.
- ✚ Instruct all relevant federal agencies to send representatives to Detroit to meet with residents during the solidarity convening May 29–30, 2015.

Detroit has become the new Selma. Imagine facing the pressure of choosing between paying a water bill that is twice the national average and meeting other basic needs. It's an extraordinary burden — and the struggle for affordable water will not end with Detroit. Baltimore, Md., recently sent 23,000 water shutoff notices to low-income residents. We must act.

The Mission of the First Unitarian Society of Pueblo

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.

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF PUEBLO

Board of Directors: Midge Birgers, President; Don Bruestle, Vice President; Kate Langworthy, Secretary; Jan Butorac, Treasurer; Shawn Collins, Louise Burg, and Dorie Silverman, Directors at Large

Pianist/Harpist: Myrna Steele **Chalice Flame Editor:** Jan Butorac

FUS Administrator: Michele Barnes

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Program Committee: 4:30	2
3 Socrates Café: 9:15 Service: 10:30 Dorie Silverman <i>"What Is Asked of Us?"</i> Service Leader: Midge Birgers	4	5 Social Justice Committee: 6:00	6 Happy Bookers Lunch: 11:30, Mr. Tandori's <i>Be Safe I Love You</i> by Cara Hoffman	7 Philosophy at 4:00	8 Fellowship Breakfast: 9:00, Cracker Barrel 4:00 Set up for yard/plant sale	9 Yard/Plant Sale 9:00 to 3:00 (Arrive 8:00 to set up) (No Social Justice movie/pot luck)
10 Mother's Day Mother's Day Potluck Brunch: 9:00 Socrates Café: 9:15 Service: 10:30 Steve Acker <i>"Celebrating our Mothers"</i> Service Leader: Kathryn Acker	11	12	13 Member Support Committee: 4:00 FUS Board of Directors: 6:15	14 Philosophy at 4:00 E.A.S.T. Board Meeting: 5:30 Vazquez Taco Shop	15	16
17 Socrates Café: 9:15 Service: 10:30 Louise Burg and Don Bruestle <i>"Stewardship Sunday— Open Hearts, Open Doors"</i>	18	19	20 Happy Bookers Discussion: 4:00- 5:30	21 Philosophy at 4:00	22	23 Movie and Pot- Luck Night: 5:00/6:30 <i>Magic in the Moonlight</i>
24 Socrates Café: 9:15 Service: 10:30 Steve Acker and Midge Birgers <i>"Beyond Just War and Pacifism"</i> Service Leader: Steve Acker	25	26	27	28 Philosophy at 4:00	29	30
31 Socrates Café: 9:15 Service: 10:30 Rev. Claire Zilm <i>"Animal Souls"—A Pet Blessing</i> Service Leader, Janice Nelson						

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 (UUA) and the Mountain/Desert District of the UUA. 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.fuspueblo.org and www.uua.org, or find us on Facebook at First Unitarian Society of Pueblo. 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 Principals 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.