

VUUPOINT

AUGUST 2018



Valley
Unitarian
Universalist
CONGREGATION

Sunday Services 10:30 A.M.

6400 W. Del Rio Street
Chandler, AZ 85226
480-899-4249
office@vuu.org



Sunday Services 10:30 A.M.

VUU Website: <http://www.vuu.org/> VUU Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyUU/>

The August Theme - Unity & Diversity

August 5 *Ius Culturae: Sweat Equity and What Makes a Citizen* **Jillian Kong-Sivert**
 Rosa LoGiudice plays piano.

August 12 *One Light. Many Windows: Theology Diversity UU Style* **The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**
 The Worship Band and a small choral group will perform.

August 19 *Can Pluralism Survive? Questions for the American Democracy* **The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**

August 26 *Resilience* **Rev. Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings**
 As Unitarian Universalists we love to recall our leadership in reaching moral victories such as abolition, women’s suffrage, equal marriage. However, since the election, policy changes affecting race relations, climate change, income inequality, immigration, and more assault us continually. How can we sustain ourselves as we resist divisiveness and hate? How can we stay strong for the fight? How can we remain resilient?
 Irene Rosenthal and her recorder trio will Perform.

Events at a Glance

- | | |
|--|--|
| 8/03 VUU Singles Dinner & Free Concert | 8/21 Adult Choir & Chalice Ringers Rehearsal |
| 8/05 OWL – Parents Orientation | 8/24 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner |
| The Board Room | 8/29 VUU Women’s Group Meeting |
| 8/09 EastVUUs Meet | 8/30 EastVUUs Social Night |
| 8/11 Women4Women Bag Assembly | 9/02 FF Water Fun Day |
| 8/12 OWL Classes Begin | Voices Lifted Rehearsal |
| Hospitality Team Meeting | 9/09 FF Classes Begin |
| 8/16 N.S.G. Book Club | 9/19 Spirit of Life Reading Group |
| 8/17 VUU Singles Game Night | 9/21 VUU Singles Game Night |
| 8/19 Journey to Membership | 9/28 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner |
| Newsletter Deadline | 9/29 Cabaret |

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends



“We have become not a melting pot
 but a beautiful mosaic.
 Different people, different beliefs, different
 yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.”
 Jimmy Carter

Photo by Jeremy Beck on Unsplash

“A Moment with the Minister”



Happy August! This time of year, children head back to school, signaling the end of summer vacations and, for families like mine, the lazier pace of the summer months. If you've been away, welcome back to VUU!

I am back in the office after a few weeks away, and it is good to be back working with our amazing staff and outstanding members toward our mission of love, justice, and service.

I was hoping to be back in the pulpit on August 5th, but instead I will be responding to a call from the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice to do work at the border on behalf of our immigrant siblings. I'll say more about that action below. I am excited to announce that on Sunday, August 5th, while I am at the border, you will hear from VUU member and immigration attorney Jillian Kong-Sivert, who will preach a sermon titled “Ius Culturae: Sweat Equity and What Makes a Citizen.”

The following is a description of the “Faith Floods the Desert” action I will be attending, along with about 60 colleagues, the first weekend of August. It comes from the UU College of Social Justice website:

“We will join with humanitarian aid workers who provide food and water in the desert and together resist government repression of this life-saving work. Nine No More Deaths humanitarian-aid volunteers currently face federal felony and misdemeanor charges. Nationwide, immigration justice organizers are being targeted by federal agencies. As religious people, we answer to a higher law of love and justice: we know that humanitarian aid is not a crime. Migration is not a crime. So, in our direct action this August, we will assert the right to save lives by stocking water caches, and so risk the same charges facing No More Deaths activists.

If we are charged, we will contest those charges. We are called to resist through solidarity with migrating people and alongside humanitarian aid workers. We'll gather in southern Arizona as Unitarian Universalists and people of faith and courage from all around the country on Friday, August 3rd. We'll spend Saturday building community with each other and getting oriented and trained by the incredible organizing team at No More Deaths / No Más Muertes along with local faith and justice partners. We'll learn more deeply about the struggle against the criminalization of migration and those who resist the crisis of death and disappearance in the US/Mexico borderlands, as well as about how to engage in the fight for immigrant justice wherever you may live.

On Sunday, we will flood the desert. Depending on your role, you may hike out into the desert carrying water, you may drive and then place water, or you may support in other ways. We'll close with a community potluck and blessing. We are particularly seeking people willing to face misdemeanor charges, who are willing to contest those charges on the grounds that saving lives is never a crime.”

Please keep all of us in your hearts as we take these actions. More importantly, I hope you will look for opportunities to ally with our immigrant neighbors yourselves. This congregational year we will talk about how each of us can go about this life-saving work and practice together.

For now, it is good to be back with you. Let's make the 2018-19 congregational year a great one. See you around VUU!

Love,
Rev. Andy

LOVE IS OUR DOCTRINE
.....SERVICE IS OUR PRAYER
.....JUSTICE IS OUR CALLING

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Dear friends of VUU,

Welcome to VUU's new fiscal year, and to the hottest Arizona month on record (or so it will undoubtedly feel). While the sun beats down on us, and the fortunate escape at least part-time to the mountains or to a northern state, we continue the work of providing a place of peace and of radical hospitality in the valley.

After a unanimous vote to officially start a capital campaign, a record number of members attending the Annual Meeting voted to approve a budget and elect our Board of Trustees for the coming year. I am honored to have been chosen from among them to serve as your President this year. The Board will be holding our annual retreat in September to finalize and verbalize our goals for the year.

Our first order of business will be to begin capital planning and finance campaign work for our campus improvements by organizing committees to move us ahead this fall. To read more, and to volunteer to join, please [visit the capital campaign page](#).

You will see there, as well, that we are planning to create some temporary additional parking space which is needed to reduce overflow street parking in the neighborhood on Sunday mornings. While the intention is to add permanent parking, and to re-orient and shade the parking lot, those changes will likely come toward the end of our capital improvements.

We ended the fiscal year with an operating surplus of \$40,600, of which \$26,800 was carried over to the new fiscal year, and the remainder dedicated to replenishment of savings that had been depleted in recent years, to ensure that we have necessary funds to meet cash flow and emergency needs.

Reverend Andy will return to the pulpit this month as we prepare to make room for so much more in the fall. More people, more faith formation offerings (for young and old alike), more fellowship, and more outreach. The change to two services on a Sunday morning can be a difficult one, but one that will certainly grow opportunities for all. Please add your assistance to the months of planning our staff have done, by attending and being patient as we settle in to a new routine.

Excitement is in the air at Valley UU Congregation. I am proud to be a part of it.

Regards,
DeeAnne McClenahan, President
deeanemcc@gmail.com 602.214.4608

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Excitement is building at VUU as we prepare to (literally) build towards our future as an even more engaged community congregation. The Board is looking for [volunteers to serve](#) on the following committees:



Stewardship 2019 - to organize and conduct the 2019 annual stewardship/operating campaign, including Vision Sunday on Sunday, November 4. The committee will meet August - December 2018.



Capital Campaign Committee - to envision, plan, create, and conduct a 3-5-year capital campaign to fund the proposed campus improvements. The Capital Planning and Campaign Committees will work together to determine appropriate financing and timeline(s) for each phase of the project.

Capital Planning Committee - to hire and work with architects, city planning, contractors, designers, etc. to plan for capital improvements schedule, finishes, costs, etc. The Capital Planning and Campaign Committees will work together to determine appropriate financing and timeline(s) for each phase of the project.

To volunteer, please visit [VOLUNTEER](#) by mid August.



"Love is the key to diversity."
Cherrye Vasquez

Photo by Nick Fewings on Unsplash

Faith Formation Ministry August 2018

Magazines needed – The upcoming OWL class needs a variety of magazines to cut up to make collages. Magazines can be dropped off at the Faith Formation welcome table at the back of the sanctuary.

Suggested magazines are: Time, Ebony, New York Times Magazine, Parents, Family Circle, Latina, Prevention, Seventeen, Real Simple, and Parenting.

Summer curriculum June 3rd – August 26th

Infants – 4-year olds: Open play with our childcare staff. Childcare is available every Sunday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, **room 6 in the Education complex.**

Children entering kindergarten – 5th grade: Start in the sanctuary with families. Children will self-select Books & Cooks group **or** Make/Do group. Wrist bands will help teachers identify which group children have selected. **Class will meet in rooms 1 & 2 in the education complex, after Time for All Ages.**



Summer Volunteers STILL needed: Lead one of the programs for elementary aged children (Books & Cooks or Make/Do), choose the dates that work for you– [use this link to be in the class](#)

Youth entering 6th grade – HS grads: “Being a Global Citizen”. Guest speakers will introduce youth to Global Issues and help them find answers to “*How does this affect me?*” and “*What can I do about it?*” Topics include How to talk with someone you disagree with, Planned Parenthood, World Health, Homeless/Hungry, and Immigration. **Class will meet in room 5 in the education complex, at 10:30 am.**

Sunday, Sept. 2nd will be Water Fun Day

Come prepared to get wet! 16’ tall water slide PLUS a new this year: kiddie pool with toddler slide, fUUn!!

Wear swim suit, sunscreen, water shoes, bring a towel!

All children/youth start in the Education complex (skip the sanctuary)



Our theme next school year is Unitarian Universalism

The first class is **Sunday, Sept. 9th.**

Register your kids, [use this link.](#)

Classroom volunteers needed: application and background check required, expectation: teach 12 times during the “school year”. Contact Marci.

Coming of Age

1) Mentors needed!!

Goals of mentoring: create relationships between youth and non-parental adults, provide a safe space for questions and learning, support youth in their faith development.

Expectations: Attend kick off bar-b-que (January), select COA sessions, and team building day in Tucson. Meet monthly with mentee. Be their sounding board and cheerleader. Attend banquet (May) and introduce your mentee.

- 2) 5-month long program, open to youth in high school, Heritage trip to Boston follows close of program
- 3) Orientation in January
- 4) Fundraising has already begun!

For more information http://www.vuu.org/edu/coming-of-age_2019/ or contact Marci

Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation ministry

ONGOING ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

The Dalai Lama and Friends Workshop



An opportunity to learn from the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan and modern Buddhist teachers is offered each Sunday from 9-10AM in the Education complex, room 5. If you come early there is also meditation from 8:30-9 AM.

There is a reading or recorded audio or video teaching, then group discussion.

Everyone is welcome! Various topics are discussed, such as 'how to be more compassionate' or 'dealing with anger' or 'how to meditate'.

Done at 10 - plenty of time to get to the VUU service! ...questions? Just email DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com

Child care is available at 8:30 am in the room next door, #6

The N.S.G. (Not So Great) Book Club



The N.S.G. Book Club is open to all members, visitors, and friends of VUU who enjoy reading and discussing a variety of books.

We meet once a month at the home of Johnnie Godfrey in Tempe (near Baseline Rd. and the 101). The next meeting will be on August 16 at 7:15 p.m. The book is Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward. Hurricane Katrina is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening the coastal town of Bois Sauvage, Mississippi. This novel tells the story of one family. A wrenching look at the lonesome, brutal, and restrictive realities of rural poverty. Winner of the 2011 National Book Award for Fiction.

For the meeting address or questions, please contact Johnnie at 480-839-0544, Amy at 480-917-1922, or email: agmonahan@gmail.com.

SPIRIT OF LIFE READING GROUP

Our VUU Spirit of Life group will be reconvening in September and our first session will be Wednesday, September 19, 7 to 8:30 in Rooms 1 and 2. Here's the readings (although we will send these out again later) ... but for now, please hold the date and hope to see you there! Also, feel free to invite friends and others who might be interested. For links to the readings, contact Anne at anne.schneider1941@gmail.com

1. A BROCHURE FROM UUCOMMONGROUND ABOUT UUism AND WHETHER WE CAN BE THE "NEW RELIGION" THE WORLD NEEDS.
2. REV. DAVID BUMBAUGH, UU MINISTER, ARTICLE IN UU WORLD, "THE UNFULFILLED DREAM" ABOUT THE NEED FOR THEOLOGICAL COHERENCE
3. REV. DAVID BUMBAUGH EXCERPTS FROM A 2009 SERMON ON WHAT UUs HAVE TO OFFER



OUR WHOLE LIVES for "Spotted Owls" Gr. 5-6 Youth and a companion Parents' Class

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL) is an age-appropriate, yet comprehensive sexuality education program developed by Unitarian Universalists. It engages children in activities that help them to clarify their values and teaches communication and decision-making skills. It encourages children to value themselves and to act on their values throughout their lives.

This class will address sensitive topics, such as puberty, gender identity and sexual orientation, lovemaking and sexually-transmitted infections, among others.

The companion **Parents' Class** presents the same information that is covered in the youth curriculum. The goal is to open communication within the family because parents are a child's primary sexuality educator. Youth can enroll in OWL, even if their parent(s) don't take the Parents' Class.

****Mandatory Orientation Meeting for Parents AND youth****

Sunday, August 5 - 12:30-3:00 pm

Rooms 2

Complimentary childcare provided for siblings during orientation

SCHEDULE: The course consists of (10) 1¼ hour sessions. Class will be held Sunday mornings from 9:00 am -10:15 am August 12 through November 4. (No class on September 2 – Labor Day Weekend, October 14 – Fall Break, and October 28 – Congregational Retreat in Prescott.)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

(1) *It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex and Sexual Health* by Robie Harris and Michael Emberley. Candlewick Press, 2014. **\$13**

(2) *Parent Guide to Our Whole Lives for Grade K-1 and Grades 4-6.* **\$15**

Both texts will be available for purchase at the Orientation Meeting. You may also checkout copies from the RE Library.

FEE: \$30 per VUU Youth / \$40 per non-member Youth

The non-refundable fee covers snack and class supplies.

The Parents' Class is free with a paying youth.

Childcare will be offered for the duration of the course for a one-time fee of \$10 for the first child and \$5 for additional children.

REGISTRATION: Please contact Marci Beaudoin, VUU DFF at faithform@vuu.org or 480-899-4249, or sign-up at the RE welcome table.

MUSIC & MORE

CABARET: This fun annual social & musical event is a variety show put on by the Adult Choir and other VUU members. Please mark your calendar now for Saturday September 29 at 7 p.m. The theme this year is **Number 1 Billboard Hits**, so there should be lots of familiar, fun music for listening and dancing. Plan to put together a great outfit from your favorite era! Ticket sales start in early September. See Ken St. John if you are interested in performing or helping out in other ways.

The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** is on Sunday August 19 from noon until 3:30 p.m. in Rooms 1 & 2 of the Faith Formation area on campus. If you have been attending VUU for a while, are interested in finding out more about Unitarian Universalism and membership at VUU, and want to meet other newcomers, this class is for you! Please contact office@vuu.org or music@vuu.org to register.

Info on **CHOIRS:**

The Adult Choir will be changing their rehearsal date to TUESDAYS for the fall season, and will start rehearsing again on **Tuesday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the VUU sanctuary**. Open to all from high school age on up. This group sings a variety of mostly 4-part choral music and performs every 2-3 weeks for Sunday services.

Chalice Ringers (VUU's Bell Choir) will also be changing to TUESDAYS, rehearsing from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the VUU sanctuary - also starting up on **August 21**. A note from Director Joan Bundy: *Come one, come all to the wonderful world of hand bells! We will be starting up Chalice Ringers rehearsals again on Tuesday, August 21, 2018. We rehearse weekly (except in the summertime) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. We have switched to Tuesday nights to pair with the adult vocal choir's rehearsals, which are moving to Tuesdays. Different day, same amazing experience! Little to no formal musical training is required; if you can count, we can teach you the rest! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Joan Bundy, director, at bells@vuu.org. Hope to see you all very soon!*

Chalice Singers (VUU's Children's Choir) also will be changing to TUESDAY rehearsals. They will be on break until Tuesday, October 2, when they will rehearse from 6:15 to 7 p.m. in the sanctuary kitchen. This fun group is for children mostly K through 6th grade, and they perform for Sunday services about once a month.

Voices Lifted Singers: Rehearsals will resume on Sunday September 2 at 1:30 p.m. This ensemble of female voices sings in community settings such as assisted living homes, senior centers, and at bedside for those recovering from surgery or illness, or are receiving hospice care.

-Rev. Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music (music@vuu.org)

Calling all FRIENDLY & HOSPITABLE folks!

Sunday August 12 at 12:15 p.m.

Sanctuary Kitchen

A meeting to re-vitalize a Hospitality Team at Valley UU

Not only do we need to plan for TWO services starting October 14, but we would love to broaden the scope of hospitality beyond Sunday mornings to perhaps ways we could better provide support & coordination for memorial services, weddings, potlucks and other events at VUU. One of the Board's long-range goals is: "We cultivate our inclusive community through radical hospitality and nurturing."

Come join us as we envision a more welcoming future!

VUU COMMUNITY

VUU SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

PAZ DE CRISTO

Paz de Cristo needs YOU

Are you a UU looking for another way to help others who are less fortunate? Make a commitment to help feed the hungry at Paz de Cristo on a second Friday in September and October. Each month, VUU needs 20 volunteers to satisfy our long running commitment to this wonderful charity. [Please check here for availability and sign up](#) – we'd love to serve with you! Send questions to pazdecristo@vuu.org

August Donation of the Month: Backpacks and Men's Gently Used Jeans

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of new or gently used backpacks and men's gently used jeans at any time during the month of August. Drop your donation in the designated container in the foyer of the sanctuary. Thank you!

I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) Through our work with the Chandler I-HELP program, VUU provides over-night shelter for 20 - 25 individuals three - four Monday nights each month. *We are so grateful to the Adult Choir for washing I-HELP sheets every week from Sept – May.* **Thank you to the awesome folks who have stepped forward to help get the I-HELP sheets washed this summer! You are the best!** I-HELP questions? Contact Sue office@vuu.org

Thank you for Supporting the VUU Social Action Ministry

If you have ideas, comments or questions about these or other Social Action projects, please contact Willa Cree, socialaction@vuu.org



Opportunity to help Women4Women Tempe.

Women4Women Tempe's mission is to provide bags containing feminine hygiene products to homeless and low-income women. They believe these items should be available to those who need them, regardless of their economic situation.

We'll gather together (women and men are both welcome) for a *build-a-bag pack-a-thon* from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday August 11th in the Board and Conference rooms in the office building. There are several ways to help:

1. Come and help make the bags on the 11th
2. Donate items to make the bags (tampons, sanitary napkins, panty liners, feminine wipes)
3. Donate money to purchase the above items.

Willa Cree or Lauree Perry will cheerfully accept your donations; either monies or products.

There will be sign-up sheets for the items needed. We'd like to have a good mix of products. Beverages and light snacks will be provided.

Also, we may be joined by congregants from a couple other faith communities in doing this. It will be a fun, low-key way to get to know each other, and do something helpful for our larger community.

For more info contact Lauree (lperry98@earthlink.net)

It's Not too Late to Join the **FUUNd!**

Although the 2018 **FUUNd** Together Auction has ended, there will still be opportunities to participate in **FUUNd** activities throughout the coming year. Each month, the VUUPoint will include a list of **FUUNd** events that have space available.

Here is your August **FUUNd** opportunity:

8/4/18 – Intro to Sign Language (Family Friendly) – Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn how to communicate underwater, talk with your mouth full, chat at the movies without being rude, and count to 10 with one hand. Join Debi Grande to learn the basics of American Sign Language. The UU in you will love it!! (\$15/person)

10 Reasons to learn Sign Language

- 1. You can communicate underwater.**
- 2. You can talk with your mouth full.**
- 3. You can communicate through a closed window and be understood.**
- 4. You can talk across a crowded room without yelling.**
- 5. Quiet chat at the movies without being rude.**
- 6. Count to ten with one hand.**
- 7. It's a 3D Language, 3D glasses not needed.**
- 8. Satisfy your Foreign Language requirement.**
- 9. It will never be TOO LOUD or too quiet to sign with someone.**
- 10. The UU in you will love it.**

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY WISHES!

VUU would like to recognize those Members who are celebrating their 10- plus anniversaries. We're grateful for everything they have contributed over the years to help make VUU a growing and dynamic community. When you see them, please let them know how much we appreciate all they have done over the years!

Members who have anniversaries in August 2018 are:

10 to 19 Years:

Melanie Cloonan & Dan Schulte

Laura England

Jim & Linda Horton

DeeAnne McClenahan

Beverly McCormick

Lauree & Phil Perry

Thank you all so much for being an important part of our Community!



**"Diversity creates dimension in the world."
Elizabeth Ann Lawless**

Enter a new Dimension, by Eddi van W., January 31, 2008, https://www.flickr.com/photos/spiritual_marketplace/2232359303

EVENTS



August 5

First Sunday of each month_stop by "The Board Room", held in the sanctuary after Sunday service, for an informal chat with members of the VUU Board of Trustees. Your questions and comments are welcome!

EastVUUs



AUGUST - EAST VUUs

The EastVUU group includes Unitarian Universalists and friends who gather monthly for fellowship, spiritual conversations and social justice work.

Our August meeting date:

Thursday, Aug 9, 6 p.m., Apache Wells Community Center, Maricopa Room

2215 N. 56th St., Mesa, AZ 85215

Follow the "Welcome UU" signs to the Community Building.

Talking Politics? What happens with your family or friends when a political topic comes up? How can we talk about politics and stay connected? In this meeting, we will use a structured round of deep listening methods from LivingRoomConversations.org to learn better ways of sharing controversial topics.

Join us for a potluck at 6 p.m. and a program from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Social Action Update:

We will also hear an update from Sharon & Suzy about Immigrant Support and the work of Somos American, now supporting two port of entry venues in providing travel supplies donated by you. You are invited to bring supplies for immigrant families. Items needed include:

- Bumble Bee Tuna Salad w/ cracker boxes & Chicken Salad w/ cracker boxes (These can be found at any 99 Cent Store for \$0.99)
- Applesauce or fruit cups
- Ritz small packages of crackers
- Protein Bars, crunchy or chewy

Our August social night:

Thursday, Aug 30, 6 p.m., Mesa East Bowl (9260 E. Broadway Rd, Mesa 85208)

Bowling or Just Hanging Out? Join the EastVUU group for a fun night of socializing, imbibing and maybe hitting a few pins.

RSVP to EastVUUadmin@vuu.org

WAYFARERS

Wayfarers Happy HoUUr will be on hiatus until September.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER IS AUGUST 19

VUU WOMEN'S GROUP

The purpose of our group is to get better acquainted with one another. All women are welcome. We will meet at the front of the sanctuary after the service and coffee hour Sunday, August 26, 2018. We will share a simple potluck luncheon. The topic will be announced prior to the meeting. Do you have a suggestion? Contact Johnnie Godfrey, johnniegirl85218@gmail.com or H: 480-839-0544 C: 480-231-8381.

VUU Singles

Friday, August 3, 2018, 7:30 p.m., Chandler Center of the Arts - Chandler - Free Event Blaine Long and Rosas del Rey - Spend an evening enjoying the sounds of country, rock, rhythm and blues with local favorites Blaine Long and Rosas del Rey and their unique guitar, smooth percussion and soulful vocals. A blues and country band with a rock vibe deliver the perfect tunes for a summer evening. This event is free, but you must get your own tickets from the Chandler Center of the Arts in order to attend. Go on-line at <https://chandlercenter.org/events/search/country-folk-irish/265-blaine-long-and-rosas-del-rey> to get your tickets for this free event.

Before the concert consider joining us for dinner, 5:30 p.m., Crust Italian Restaurant, Chandler - 10 N San Marcos Place, Chandler. Just down the road from Chandler Center of the Arts, let's get together for dinner for what they call a "Simply Italian" experience, featuring wood-fired pies, pasta & other Italian dishes, plus cocktails. (FYI: Happy Hour is 3-6 p.m.) No reservations are taken, so it will be helpful if some could arrive early and save some chairs/tables for the rest of the group. Please let us know if you plan to attend. RSVP to Joanne McGrath, 602-620-3100 text or call, or email: arizonasunsets2@cox.net

Friday, August 17th, 6:15 p.m. – Game Night –Friday, 6:15 p.m., Game Night at Bob and Raul's (7392 S. Hazelton Lane, Tempe—near NE corner of Elliot and McClintock) What could be better than an evening of laughter?!? Board Games, Dominoes, card games or whatever game you love, just bring it along. It's not usual for there to be new games to try every time we meet. Bring a substantial "snack" or an appetizer to share and we'll call that dinner. Water, ice tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. **Let Claudette know** if you would like to join in on this evening of games, so we know if any extra tables and chairs are needed. Text, call or email Claudette at claudettewassil@hotmail.com, 973-768-6047 to RSVP. For last minute directions, contact Raul at 561-901-9277.

August 24th, 6:30 pm – Singles Monthly Dinner – 6:30 p.m. - Ra Sushi Bar, 4921 E. Ray Road, Ahwatukee. Ra Sushi is Japanese-inspired cuisine. Of course, there are plenty of fish and sushi items on the menu, but there is also a nice selection on non-fish and vegetarian items to choose from, too. Come share good conversation with friends. RSVP to Claudette by call or text 973-768-6047 or Joanne arizonasunsets2@cox.net

Friday, September 21st, 6:15 p.m. – Game Night – Details to come. Save the Date!

Friday, September 28th, 6:30 p.m. - Singles Monthly Dinner - Details to come. Save the Date!

VUU Will Have TWO SUNDAY SERVICES Beginning October 14th!

The Facts:

- * Services will be **9:15 a.m.** and **11:30 a.m.**
- * There will be an hour for faith formation classes/discussion groups for all ages from 10:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.
- * Adult classes will include a discussion of the monthly topic, a discussion group on environmental reform, a monthly Spirit of Life Circle focusing on UU spirituality, and more.
- * Children's faith formation will follow the same format it does now.
- * Childcare for children up to age 8 will be available for both services, but children ages 9 and above will be with us in the services.
- * We will have in-service quiet activities for children to access during services.
- * Two services will run from October 14 through the end of April. In May, we will go back to one service and stay there through September.

* **WHY WOULD WE DO THIS?**

- * First, with Sunday services becoming more well-attended, we need to make more room for growth during our busiest months. Like setting a place for a guest at the dinner table, we are making room for others who are looking for a progressive religious home.
- * Which leads to a second reason: We want to increase our impact on our community when it comes to social justice, and bringing in more people who sympathize with our mission is key to building that power! A second service is a great tool to help us grow. Research cited by the Alban Institute's Alice Mann indicates that 8 out of 10 congregations that add a second service experience a measurable increase in total worship attendance and total giving.
- * Two service times give congregants more options.
- * The addition of the faith formation hour helps address a big hurdle to adult faith formation attendance. Specifically, we serve 22 zip codes, and most folks just don't seem to want to come back to campus in the middle of the week. In this new format we will be together as families growing our spirits and connecting with one another without an extra trip to campus!
- * Unitarian Universalist teens and young adults leave our faith at an alarming rate. We believe having families together in worship services will help build Unitarian Universalist identity at younger ages, perhaps helping address this trend.



Caring & Concerns Neighborhood Contacts

As school starts up and our lives become busier, it can become harder to stay connected. If we all make an effort to stay in touch, our community will remain close. If you need assistance with a situation or want to share a joy, call your Neighborhood Contact. We're here and ready to help.

If there's a situation coming up you'll need help with, or you have a joy to share, contact your Neighborhood Contact. We're ready to be of assistance.

Your Neighborhood Contacts are:

Ahwatukee - Zips: 85040, 85044, 85045, 85048, 85076

Carl Anderson 480-529-4365
Donna Bennett 480-570-4024

canderaz@cox.net
donnaben22@gmail.com

Phoenix, Scottsdale, Glendale, North Tempe- Zips: 85006, 85008, 85014, 85020, 85021, 85022, 85029, 85034, 85037, 85042, 85066, 85250, 85251, 85257, 85268, 85302, 85339, 85274, 85281, 85282, 85285

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lperry98@earthlink.net

Tempe South - Zips: 85283, 85284

DiAnna Farmer 480-413-0293

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Mary Jo Bitner 480-831-5518
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Mesa East, including Apache Junction:

Zips: 85118, 85203, 85204, 85205, 85206, 85207, 85208, 85209, 85213, 85215, 85217, 85218, 85219, 85220, 85275

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Neighborhood Contacts Needed!

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Chandler

North - Zips: 85224, 85226

South, including Sun Lakes, Queen Creek, Casa Grande

Zips: 85122, 85222, 85225, 85123, 85131, 85138, 85139, 85142, 85143, 85239, 85242, 85243, 85244, 85246, 85248, 85249, 85286

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***We need more Neighborhood Contacts to fully cover all areas. If you would like to help strengthen the bonds of community in our congregation, please contact Lauree Perry

There is a way for your joys and sorrows to be mentioned in the newsletter. Just send an email to caring@vuu.org. You can also request to be contacted by the minister, a Lay Pastoral Associate, and/or your Neighborhood Contact this way.



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 The Reverend Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music
 Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation
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...Starting October 14, 2018