



VUUPOINT MAY 2019



Sunday Service

10:30 A.M.

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



On May 5 we return to one Service every Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

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

Your Sunday Bulletin is now posted on the website.

Go to vuu.org and click on Sunday Bulletin at the top of the home page.

May Theme is Mystery

May 5 Coming of Age

The Worship Band will provide music.

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

May 12

The Children's Choir will sing & Michael Lewis will play piano

Led by Rosaland Hawkins

May 19 ALL-MUSIC SERVICE!

Come join Rev. Kellie and the Adult Choir where all of us will provide the music for the day. This soul-filled service will explore the mystery of silence, singing, piano, and poetry to help us center for the week ahead and open our hearts to more compassion for ourselves and the world around us.

Led by Reverend Kellie

May 26 One with the Mystery: On our Final Transitions

The Chalice Ringers and pianist Michael Lewis will provide music.

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

May Events at a Glance	
5/03 VUU Singles Game Night	5/17 Wayfarers Happy HoUUr
5/05 Journey to Membership The Board Room Spectrum Meets	5/18 Women4Women
5/09 EastVUUs Discussion & Potluck	5/19 Congregational Conversation Leadership, Spectrum Meets Newsletter Deadline
5/10 Michael Lewis in Concert	5/24 SAWUURA Memorial Day Campout
5/11 VUU Singles Night of Entertainment	5/26 Women's Group
5/12 VUUJAZ Conversations	5/27 VUU Singles Memorial Day Pool Party
5/16 The Page Turners	5/31 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner
Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends	
Tuesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singers & Chalice Ringers Rehearse	

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

“Where do we come from, and where are we going? Mystery, mystery, life is a riddle a mystery...” I love this hymn, because it makes me think. I know we’ll be singing it this month as we ponder mystery. I have to admit that my brain works nearly entirely by facts, figures, and science. Which is what makes it a challenge to be at VUU, where I cannot help but ponder the questions that almost surely have no answer. Or have many answers.

The future is the biggest of mysteries. Will I be here tomorrow? Or in 20 years? How will the world change before I leave it? How do I want it to be?

Such are the questions we pondered recently on the Board of Trustees. Some of them for sure are smaller, quantifiable questions about budgets and annual goals. And some are much larger questions that open us up wide, like what will be the legacy of Valley UU that we pass on to our community and those who may come, find us, and raise their consciousness and families here? And change the world in beautiful ways.

It is scary work for some of us – the quantifiable, numbers-crunching types like me, in particular – but it is also amazing and mysterious and fulfilling work. As we move through the next phases of learning and becoming, I want you to know that you are an amazing group of people to be alongside while discovering.

If you are leaving, or have left, for cooler climates, enjoy! If you are here with me on the surface of the sun, do your best to keep cool, and continue to join us on, and in-between, Sundays as we explore the deep and mysterious, together in the desert.

For the less mysterious (but incredibly important) work that helps us to function in democratic covenant with each other, join us on **May 19 after services for a congregational conversation**, where you can meet and be introduced to the Board, Leadership Development, and Special Funds candidates, learn about the proposed budget for next year, and get an update on the capital campaign. **On June 2, we will follow up on all of that, vote on elected positions, and vote on the proposed budget at the Annual Congregational Meeting.**

DeeAnne McClenahan, President

602.214.4608

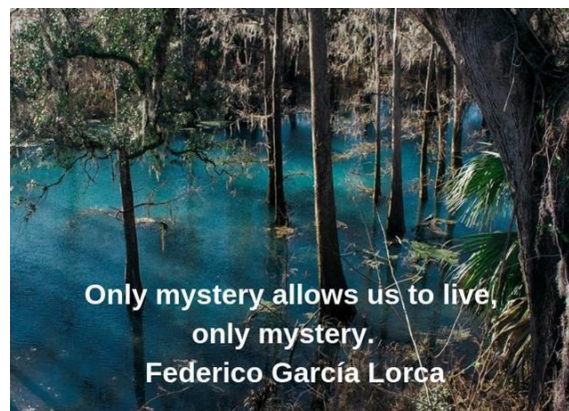


Photo by Timothy Brock on Unsplash

Faith Formation Ministry May 2019

May 5th = return to one worship service, 10:30 am

Families with children who will be completing 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th grades:

Elementary Summer camp at Camp de Benneville Pines
is July 7 – 13

Marci is going and will drive both directions!!

Check out this page for registration and scholarship links (\$75 registration fee)

<https://www.uucamp.org/camps-retreats/youth-camps/2019-uu-elementary-school-summer-camp/>

Summer curriculum, dates: June 2 – August 25, 3 age groupings:

- ⊕ **Playroom with Reba, room 6** – Unstructured playtime supervised by our childcare staff.
- ⊕ **Elementary, room 3** – UU Lessons from Avatar: The Last Airbender (Nickelodeon 2003-2008). Each lesson will open by having the class watch an episode (or part) of Avatar. The episode will be followed by a brief discussion and an activity or craft.
- ⊕ **Middle & High School youth, rooms 1 & 2** – You the Creator of Justice, edited. Discussions, activities, art & music to explore the idea of Justice on different levels: the world, local community, and family.

(July 7th = large group game day in honor of Independence Day)



Water Fun Day: September 1st. All are invited – wear your swim suit and LOTS of sunscreen!

New UU 7 Principles t-shirts on sale! You know you want one!

<https://www.greatimpactinc.com/stores/vuu>

XS – 4X in Men's & Women's sizes, youth sizes XS (4) – L (14-16)

Women's size shirts are at the Faith Formation table so you can see the sizes!

(women's cut run 1 size smaller than men's cut)

Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation ministry





The Dalai Lama and Friends Workshop

Facilitated by David Black and Melanie Cloonan-Schulte

An opportunity to learn from the Dalai Lama and other modern Buddhist teachers is offered each Sunday. The program is offered in 2 parts:

*8:30 - 9 am, room 5: meditation

*9 – 10 am, room 5: Group discussion of presentations on topics such as how to be more compassionate, cultivating our mind, dealing with anger, or how to meditate.

Questions? Just email DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com

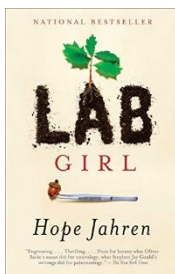
Every Sunday - child care is available at 8:30 am in the room #6

VUUJAZ CONVERSATIONS

Facilitated by Anne Schneider

We will meet on the **2nd Sunday of May – May 12, after our 10:30 a.m. Service, on the Sanctuary Patio** then recess for the summer.

A “coffee conversation” for anyone interested in improving social justice through public policy using education, public witness, and participation in UU Day at the Legislature. We will share what we are doing, thinking, wondering, worrying about, and other information! All are welcome! For more information, contact legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org.



The Page Turners Book Club (offsite, evening meeting)

The Page Turners 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 May 16 at 7:15 p.m. The book is *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. Hope, an acclaimed scientist, has built three laboratories in which she’s studied trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. Her first book is a revelatory treatise on plant life—but it is also so much more. It is about work, love, and the mountains that can be moved when those two things come together.

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



Photo by Robert Collins on Unsplash

MUSIC & MORE

As I write this, I am in Long Beach at the Unitarian Universalist Association's Pacific **Southwest District Annual Meeting**. It is always good to see friends and colleagues and meet new people from other UU congregations in our district, which includes southern California, all of Arizona, and Las Vegas. We share ideas and inspiration and are reminded that we are part of a denomination, and not in our small silo of Unitarian Universalism in Chandler, Arizona. This year I also gave a workshop entitled "Music and Meditation from the Ground Up," which featured some of the music that we use in our centering time, except that I wove music, words, silence, and piano improvisation into a 30-minute continuous segment before we talked about how to do it! It seemed to go well and be the kind of soul-renewal that busy religious professionals needed.

I will lead a similar experience in our May 19th service at VUU for all of us, and I hope you take some time out of your busy lives to join me. The choir will also sing a lovely piece called *Child of Song* by Norwegian composer Kim Andre Arnesen, which we have done before. Check it out at: sbmp.com/SR2.php?CatalogNumber=1271

MICHAEL LEWIS in CONCERT!

Friday May 10th, 7 pm, Valley UU Sanctuary

"Scandinavian Romance: music by Jean Sibelius,
Edvard Grieg, Ture Rangstrom, & more..."

Featuring Melissa Solomon, soprano & Michael Lewis, piano

- \$20 suggested donation at the door -



MICHAEL LEWIS

Pianist and Collaborator, Michael Lewis, has been praised for his strong command of the instrument and his flexibility of style. He is sought after as a vocal coach and collaborator in recital, orchestral, chamber and operatic performances. Michael has collaborated with artists at various companies such as Arizona Opera, Aspen Summer Music Festival, etc.

Currently Michael is a second year Marion Rouse Pullin Studio Artist at Arizona Opera in Phoenix. There he serves as the principal pianist on operas, vocal coach for principal and studio artists, and orchestral pianist for select performances.

Before working in Arizona, Michael was the Assistant Music Director and Chorus Master at Tri-City Opera of Binghamton, NY where he served as principal coach, chorus master and head pianist for several productions. During that time, he also was on staff at Binghamton University as Adjunct Lecturer and Staff pianist.

A native of Pennsylvania, Michael studied at Ithaca College, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance. He went on to receive his Master of Music degree in collaborative piano at Arizona State University. At ASU he was the winner of the Concerto Competition. He also served as principal pianist for several productions for the Lyric Opera Theater.



MELISSA SOLOMON

Award-winning soprano Melissa Solomon, praised by Opera Canada magazine as “delightful” and “vivacious,” is exciting audiences as a rare and diverse performing actress. She is the soprano Artist in Residence with the Scottsdale Philharmonic, and recently completed her eighth season with the Arizona Opera Chorus. She also sings with Songs By Heart, a non-profit organization providing therapeutic music sessions to dementia and Alzheimer’s patients with songs of the 30s, 40s and 50s. Ms. Solomon debuted with Halifax Summer Opera as Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare* in Nova Scotia, Canada and repeated the same role at ASU in addition to other roles with Lyric Opera Theatre. Equally experienced in oratorio, she has performed Haydn’s *Creation* with the Mt. Desert Summer Chorale in Bar Harbor, Maine, as well as local performances of Handel’s *Messiah* and Mozart *C minor mass*, among many others. As a diverse singing actress, Ms. Solomon has performed Marian Paroo in *The Music Man* and Lily in *The Secret Garden* and was a lead vocalist with a jazz band. She has been a recipient of numerous awards including The Maricopa Community Colleges District Artist of Promise Award and winner in many competitions, including Arizona District Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. She has performed numerous solo concerts in performing centers, churches, and homes throughout Arizona. She is a graduate of Arizona State University, a full-time mother of two boys, ages nine and seven, and is based in Gilbert, Arizona.



The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** will be Sunday May 5 from 12 to 3:30 in the sanctuary. If you have been attending VUU for a few weeks or months, are interested in finding out more about Unitarian Universalism and membership at Valley UU, and want to meet other newcomers, then this is for you! Please register by emailing office@vuu.org and let us know if you have any dietary needs for the lunch we will provide or need babysitting for a child. If you can’t make this session, the next session will be August 18.

-Rev. Kellie Walker Hart (music@vuu.org)

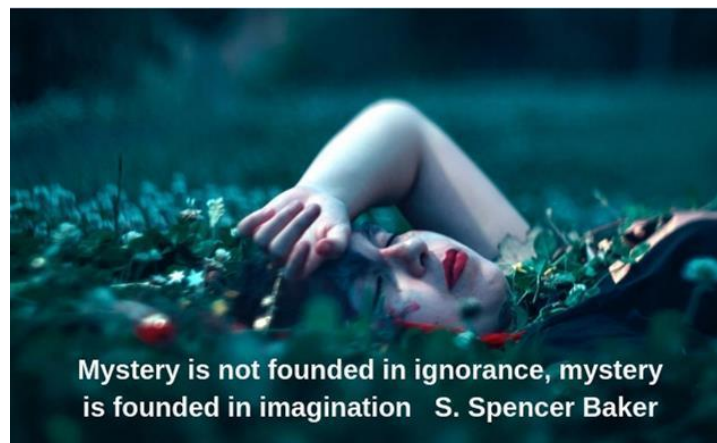


Photo by JR Korpa on Unsplash

SPECIAL EVENTS

MAY'S HIGHLIGHTED GATHERING

(All regular gatherings can be found at the end of the newsletter please check them out)

Do You live on the east side of town? Well the EastVUUs may be for you!

EastVUUs 5/09/19



The VUU community on the East side of town is thriving! You are invited to join us for a great meal and thought-provoking discussions on the 2nd Thursday of every month & our Fun Social Night the 4th Thursday of every month.

DISCUSSION: - Please join us for potluck @ 6PM and after, conversations

VUU member, Atty Jillian Kong-Sivert, will be our speaker on Immigration law to give us a better idea what asylum seekers face with legal matters that need to be addressed, more often sooner than later and what we can do to facilitate.

Our members, Sharon & Suzanne will update the group to the 3 hot spots in Arizona and what charitable groups in Tucson, Phoenix & Yuma are doing to put out crisis fires as this administration thru Border Patrol actions sets them.

SOCIAL ACTION: You are invited to bring any amounts of travel size food for the Asylum Seekers: Tuna or Chicken Salads w/ crackers (in a box), Applesauce or Fruit cups, Raisins, small Peanut bags, Crackers with cheese or peanut middles, Soft protein bars.

MAY SOCIAL NIGHT: TBA

Meeting Location: Apache Wells Community Center, Maricopa Room
2215 N, 56th St, Mesa, AZ 85215
(Just S of the Red Mtn 202 and west of Recker Rd.)

SAWUURA Memorial Day Campout

Friday – Monday, May 24-27, 2019

SAWUURA, our UU camp in the Sierra Ancha Mountains hosts a campout every Memorial Day and Labor Day, where UUs and their family & friends are invited to tent camp, share meals & kitchen duties, activities and worship. Relax and deepen your spiritual connection with nature, play, hike, bird/star watch, sing & singe s'mores around the campfire.

Fees are \$45 for adults and \$25 for children under 16 (or \$35 & \$25 for members).

Important: SAWUURA is located in wilderness near the town of Young, AZ. 2 miles down a rough dirt road. Also, our latrines are pit toilets/outhouses.

Please join us at www.sawuura.org.



Opportunity to help Women4Women Tempe

We've partnered with Women4Women Tempe to help provide bags containing feminine hygiene products to homeless and low-income women. Help honor the women in your life by making sure these items are available to them, no matter their economic status.

Let's gather together (women and men are both welcome) to assemble bags from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday May 18th 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 18th
2. Women4Women is low on the pad bags and has asked us to put together just those bags this time
3. Donate money to purchase products.

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

More information will be available at a table in May.

Beverages and light snacks will be provided. This is 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)

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 May 2019 are:

10 to 19 Years:

Rita Auer

Junette Brock

Marci Beaudoin

Pam Chery

Eileen Garces

David & Debbie Grande

Alicia Holt

Wayne & Lynne Paulsen

Jerry Robin & Irene Rosenthal

Lauren Savaglio

Anne Schneider

Michelle Tomkins

20 to 29 Years:

Dorothy Meek

Jim & Nancy Nielsen

30 to 39 years:

Barb & Frank Quijada

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

VUU COMMUNITY

ELECTIONS ARE COMING

The VUU Leadership Development Committee is pleased to introduce candidates who will be running for election to the VUU Board of Trustees, the VUU Special Funds Committee and the VUU Leadership Development Committee at the Annual VUU Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 2, 2019. We encourage all VUU members to attend the Annual Meeting and vote for the candidates of their choice, as well as for the VUU Budget for the next year. For those who cannot attend the Annual Meeting in person, absentee ballots will be available in mid-May. If you have any questions, or would like to suggest any additional nominees for these offices please contact us at leadershipdevelopment@vuu.org.

Tom Briggs
Chairperson, VUU Leadership Development Committee

Board of Trustees – 4 open positions



DeeAnne McClenahan

Incumbent.

I am a life-long Unitarian-Universalist, and have been a member of UU churches in five states, served on the board in two and served as President of the Unitarian Universalist church in Roswell, Georgia before moving to Arizona; for fourteen years I have been a proud member of Valley UU Congregation, serving on Stewardship, Green Sanctuary, Finance, Budget, Special Funds, the Board, and the Audit Committee. I have taught RE, participated in fundraisers such as the auction and cafes, helped to organize the library, worked to create VUU's first photographic membership directory, and help start the chalice circles covenant groups. I raised two young adults from middle school at VUU and am grateful to this congregation that their UU roots and values serve them well as an adult teacher, and attorney/activist. By day I am the Director of Software Delivery for the global leader in multi-family housing, having spent most of my career in professional finance roles. I spent eight of the last ten years on the Tempe Union High School Board, and the last four on the VUU Board, this last year as President.



Joan Bundy

Joan M. Bundy has been a member of Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation since October 2015. She directs its bell choir, the Chalice Ringers. She also sings in its adult vocal choir and has served on its Finance Committee. She grew up in the First United Methodist Church of Audubon, Iowa; her step-grandfather was a Methodist minister. She is a third-generation church bell choir director. Before directing VUU's bell choir she directed one at the United Methodist Church of Casa Grande and still plays in it.

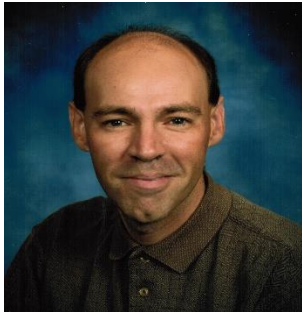
In her working life she is an attorney with a solo private firm, Joan Bundy Law PLC, practicing exclusively in family law and focusing on some of our most vulnerable populations, including women, children, domestic-violence victims, Native Americans, LGBTQ persons and companion animals.

In her spare time, she likes to quilt and do crafts, research family history, sing, give piano lessons, help rescue cats and dogs, and just spend time with her own cat Cheddar, dog Emma and husband Paul.

Paul really brought her to UU, having grown up in the UCCP congregation in the 1960s. His parents really enjoyed the Rev. Raymond G. Manker, VUU's founding minister, who sadly just passed away. Paul and Joan became disenchanted with UMC's continued insistence on not allowing "out" gays and lesbians to

serve as ministers and decided to visit VUU. They found UU's focus on everyone's inherent worth and dignity (No. 1 of the seven principles!) to be a refreshing change.

Her grandmother (the minister's wife and bell choir director) is fond of saying, "To whom much is given, much is expected" (Luke 12:48, various versions). She feels it extremely important to give to others of the gifts God has given us and hopes to provide that philosophy in helping lead VUU into the future.



Nick Carr

For several years, there wasn't much that happened at VUU in which I wasn't involved. Head Usher, Worship Associate, hosted pagan services, organized and facilitated BYOT, I was the last chair of the Nominating Committee before it evolved into Leadership Development. I'm currently organizing social suppers and trying to revive the earth-based community in the congregation. I would bring a pragmatic, fiscally cautious, and less politically focused voice to the board.



Elizabeth Chain

Elizabeth Chain is a retired educator, engineer and research scientist who holds a Ph.D. in Optical Sciences from the University of Arizona.

Prior to moving to Phoenix Liz was a member 1986-1991 of the First Dallas Unitarian Church, in charge of organizing monthly potlucks for ~100 church members (called "dinner for eight").

Right after she moved to Phoenix, Liz became active in VUU, 1992-1994; among interests here was meeting weekly with a number of VUU ladies to study the gnostic gospels over the course of a few months, and she participated in one VUU weekend at Rocky Point; she was forced to stop VUU attendance after her work duties escalated to 60-70 hrs./week.

Liz again became active in VUU a few years ago and became a member in 2015. She taught a genealogy course as a FUUND event for 4 years. She especially believes in the importance of opportunities for congregation members to get to know one another better.



Debra Grande

Debra was born and raised in Minneapolis, MN. Her family was Catholic and she attended mass regularly up until college. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Stout with a degree in Child Development & Family Life.

In 1990 she decided to make a bold move from Minnesota to Arizona on her own in order to find a good job. She accepted a job with Maricopa County and bought a house in Phoenix. She also had an interest in investing, so she started up her own stock club for women and ran that for a decade. In 1995 she attended and graduated from University of Phoenix with a Masters in Business Administration.

With a new degree she left her job and started pursuing a better career. Working a temporary job at Intel she met her future husband, David Grande and married him in 1998. Her first son Cody was born in 2000 and her second son Craig was born in 2002.

In 2004 her family joined VUU, where she started out by diving into volunteering and led the WeeUUs for a year. She helped out with Caring & Concerns within her area as well as helping the Faith Formation

classrooms, which she did for many years as her boys were growing up. When her boys entered middle school, she then ran MUUGs for four years and ended by taking the group (both kids and adults) on a two-night camping and rafting trip.

In this last year she joined a Chalice Circle where she has found meaningful connections with others. Currently she is on the Capital Planning Committee (CPC) for the new sanctuary building.



Susan Keen

Sue Keen has been a member of UU churches here and in Charlotte, NC for the last 7 years. As a UU member, she has been a member of the choir and bell choir, as well as guest pianist. She has put in a lot of kitchen time at UU churches with her daughter, catering dinner for 150 for a regional choir festival, and catering several lunches and functions here at VUU. She was also one of the facilitators for the very first offering of Chalice Circles. Sue has also been active in the wider community, acting as president of HOAs for three terms, accompanying a community chorus, and volunteering as a consumer investigator at a local television station.

“VUU is evolving as a leader in social, environmental, and spiritual venues in exciting and creative ways. I would be honored to be part of the group that helps to transform congregational concerns into vibrant ways to impact these and other venues.”



Linda Stenholm

My parents brought me up as first a Methodist and then a Christian Scientist. Later, the matriarch in my family, my sister, became a devout fundamentalist Christian and I learned that the need to believe in "the rightly divided Word" was not a concept that worked for me at all! When I moved to Arizona from Chicago in 1996, I started attending a Methodist church around the corner from my home (St. Matthew United Methodist Church). I put a lot of effort into learning about that community and its teachings. I was a Social Action Coordinator with the United Methodist Women and a

member of the Conference Board of Church and Society, where the more progressive leadership worked to educate ourselves and others about social justice issues across the Valley, the state, the country, and the world.

I also taught all different ages of students in Sunday School there and, more pertinent to my specific interest in being on the VUU Board, I was a member for many years and Chair of the Board of Trustees for several years at St. Matthew. I learned a lot about the budgets and the numerous committees involved in all things St. Matthew.

One of the things I enjoyed the most about being on the Board of Trustees was the opportunity to be directly and immediately involved in maintaining the church campus facilities. We committed to at least one Sunday every month for meetings and routine building oversight but we also coordinated special work days for projects like waxing the floors and painting walls, upgrading the playground and installing modern landscaping and watering systems.

I look forward to being of service to VUU and helping more with special facility projects whether or not I'm ever on our Board.

Leadership Development Committee – 4 open positions



Ken St. John

Incumbent.

Ken has been a member since 1998, and an active participant at VUU since 1997. During that time he has served on the board, the nominating committee, the RE committee, the finance committee and the Ministerial Search Committee that brought us the Rev. Dr. Andy. He has also taught nearly every level of our religious education program, including the teen's YRUU social groups. Ken is currently active as a choir member,

an OWL facilitator, I-Help volunteer, the Cabaret organizer, and as the usher coordinator for worship services. For a fun time, he has been sneaking onto the campus during weekdays to do garden chores, and to ensure that the sanctuary chairs are reasonably positioned for each Sunday Service. He and his wife Janet met at VUU; their blended family includes 5 awesome children, 4 adorable granddaughters and a pretty cute dog. Ken recently rescinded his offer to serve on the ministerial transition team, which frees up plenty of time to work on the Leadership Council. Plus, he's retired now, giving him an infinite amount of free time available.



Jodi Cicirello

Jodi is a transplant from Chicago where she was an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hinsdale. She has since relocated to Arizona and has been a VUU Member for the past two years. At VUU, she has been active in the Womens' Group, UUJAZ, Reproductive Justice and was a Coming of Age mentor.

"I believe the more we get involved, the better our congregation, and world, will become. Leadership Development is part of my everyday life – Helping others to live their best life possible."



Willa Cree

Hi. I'm Willa Cree and I would like to become a member of the Leadership Development Committee. I believe that mentoring new leaders within our congregation is one of the most important things that we can do to ensure the continued growth of our community, and I would like to be part of that. I recently completed a 3-year term as VUU's Social Action Coordinator. With the many wonderful people that I had the opportunity to work with over these 3 years, I encouraged them to take on more responsibility and to learn how to work with the VUU

family. These are valuable skills in building leaders.

I bring years of experience from my "workforce" (I am wonderfully retired now) days where I often had several staff working for me. One of the most rewarding activities as a manager was encouraging and making training available for my staff to move up in their career. However, I also know that working with volunteers can be very different. Now I would like to convert that workplace experience to skills that I can use at VUU, mentoring and working with congregation members who aspire to play a more vital role in our community.

I have much to learn. I look forward to working with the wonderful members of this committee who can also teach and mentor me. Most of us are still in this "leadership" learning process and I would like to

encourage the future leaders at VUU while I learn from our congregation members. I hope you will allow me to represent you on the Leadership Development Committee. Thank you for your consideration.



Susan Lacy

I was born and raised in Utah in the Episcopal Church and attended a Catholic School for 11 yrs. I sang in both church choirs, was an officer both in the Episcopal Young Churchman group and the Catholic school student body. My journey through all this ended over 40 yrs ago and I chose not to attend ANY organized religion. Upon a friend's suggestion, I sought out the UU here in AZ and feel I have found a community home. I bought several FUUUnd events that first spring and met many people in those small groups I now call friends. For 2 years, I helped with the scheduling of those FUUUnd events, and now 'host' the monthly Wayfarers gathering. I also attended the leadership presentation over a year ago to learn more about VUU. Professionally, I was a manager and also employee account agent for the home office of a major insurance corporation. After I retired, I was the Activity Director for a small assisted living community that I still visit when in Washington. I was also a chapter president and board director of the Ice Age Floods Institute, a large group with chapters in 4 states. I now volunteer at an assisted living community in Gilbert twice a week and am my condominium complex HOA president. I am more than a snow bird, living here 9 months of the year to be near family and now friends.

With this background, I believe I would bring an additional perspective to this committee while remembering what made this congregation so special that I was compelled to join.



Julie Givans Voller

Julie Givans Voller has been a member of VUU since 2017, She works in higher education administration and currently serves as the Interim Dean of Enrollment Services at Phoenix College, a part of the Maricopa Community College District. Julie enjoys reading, writing, musicals, and spending time outdoors. She lives in Tempe with her wife Sandra, and their dog Blizzard.

I decided to become a candidate because I love the VUU community and want to use my organizational skills and creativity to serve our mission.

Special Funds Committee – 1 open position



Rick Hinrichs

Incumbent

I am a Professor Emeritus of Kinesiology (the science of human movement) at Arizona State University. I am also a Senior Biomechanics Consultant at Augspurger Komm Engineering, Inc. in Phoenix. I investigate injuries that occur in motor vehicle accidents, falls, water parks, the workplace, and such. I also provide expert testimony in legal cases involving these injuries. My wife, Debbie Simpkins, and I have been members of VUU since April 1988. Before moving to Arizona, we were members of the UU Fellowship of Columbia (SC) and the Denton (TX) UU Fellowship. At VUU I have

served on the Personnel Committee on and off (mostly on) since 1991. I also served either as a committee member or as chair of the Budget Committee continuously from 1993 through 2003, and then again from 2008 through 2012 as part of the larger Finance Committee. I was instrumental in spearheading the move to stop the large deficit budget proposed by the board in 2008 and helped prepare the 5-year financial plan for the church that brought us back to a balanced budget. I also served on the Board of Trustees from 1994 through 1996. I have served as the treasurer for the Special Funds Committee for three years. Other VUU service has included several years on the ad hoc Ministerial Contract Review Committee, the FUUNd (auction) committee, singing with the choir (although not recently), playing in the bell choir, and playing trumpet in various musical groups at church, especially at Cabaret. Overall, I feel my understanding of and commitment to the congregation's financial health will continue to serve me well as a member of the Special Funds Committee.

The **FUUNd** Never Ends!!

If you didn't get a chance to bid, we will be offering the "open seats" at **FUUNd** events throughout the year. Watch the VUUPoint each month for info on upcoming events, and if you'd like to attend, email fuundtogether@vuu.org or contact Debbe at 480-244-6570. Detailed information on all events is available in the 2019 **FUUNd** Together Catalog posted on VUU's website: <https://www.vuu.org/news/>

Here are some **FUUNd** events happening in May and June that you can still get in on!!

MAYL **FUUNd**

D-02 Cinco de Mayo Dinner Celebration	5/5/2019	4 seats available	\$60/seat
F-o4 Game Night with the Lacroix Family	5/11/2019	14 seats available	\$20/seat
D-03 Fish or Fowl? Dinner	5/18/2019	1 seat available	\$60/seat

JUNE **FUUNd**

Story Fest (Just like The Moth on NPR!)	6/1/2019	3 seat available	\$25/seat
	6/7, 8, 9		
Women's Weekend in the Pines	9/2019	4 seats available	\$75/seat
Let's Play Scrabble	6/8/2019	1 Seat available	\$25/seat

Building a Faith Oasis for OUUR Future

After months of careful planning, our Capital Campaign is officially underway. Stewards have been trained, campaign materials have been designed, and visits are being scheduled. The Campaign will take place in two phases – the Leadership Phase and the General Campaign. During the Leadership Phase, we will be soliciting gifts of \$10,000 or more with the goal of providing a solid foundation for our building project. The General Campaign will launch this fall when all remaining members and friends will be contacted personally. If you are considering making a leadership gift of \$10,000 or more, please email Linda Horton at LindaHorto@cs.com or call the VUU Office at 480-899-4249.

--Your Capital Campaign Committee

VUUSOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY



Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

Paz de Cristo May Donation of the Month: Peanut Butter and Jelly

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in donations of **peanut butter (any kind) and jelly (any kind)** during the month of May. This high-protein is always in great demand. Drop your donation in the designated container in the foyer of the sanctuary.



With your help VUU can continue to help Paz de Cristo serve the community. Thank you for your support.

Paz de Cristo needs YOU

Are you 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 May. 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



(Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program)

Through our work with the Chandler I-HELP program, VUU provides dinner and overnight shelter for 20-25 individuals three – four nights a month. **VUU will start providing the meal on the 4th Monday every month. Would you like to help coordinate this meal?** Contact Sue office@vuu.org

Arizona Legislative Alert - Keep up with the latest Legislative news

Want to keep up on what's happening to social justice legislation in Arizona? Sign up for your own copy of the Arizona Legislative Alert by emailing legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org. The Arizona Legislative Alert is an email newsletter covering social justice and public policy issues in Arizona edited by Anne Schneider.

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 socialaction@vuu.org

Lions Club International Collection

Congregation **NefeshSoul** is starting an endeavor of collecting eyeglasses and hearing aids for the Lions Club.

Lions Club International improves the lives of the visually impaired. Donate old eyeglasses (and hearing aids) in the donation box in the back of the sanctuary; it will be there for the next couple of months. For questions, contact Louise Moskowitz at 480-272-2052 or Louisemoskowitz@gmail.com

VUU GATHERINGS



May 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!



Will meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays after the 10:30 AM Service



Women's Group Meeting

All women are welcome! We will meet in the sanctuary after the service May 26, 2019 for a simple potluck lunch and conversation about our high school years. Did you go to more than one high school? Did you love it or hate it? Were you involved in extracurricular activities? Let's talk. We will also talk about Memorial Day traditions.

Please bring a dish to share, but if you haven't brought one, please stay. We will have plenty of food.

Contacts: Margaret Stewart mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com, Johnnie Godfrey 480-231-8381
johnniegirl85218@gmail.com.



WAYFARERS - Happy Hour

- Friday, May 17, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Pita Jungle 1949 W. Ray, Chandler 480-855-3232. Join us for an inside seating right near the Anderson Springs Lake at Pita Jungle, SE corner of Dobson and Ray, towards the lake, for an amazing Happy Hour. Over 13 'Tapas' from something simple but delicious for \$2 to their Chipotle Chicken Pizza on Greek Pita for 5.25! Select wines for \$5, \$1 off draught and bottle beer, the house margarita for \$5 and more. Also, a very diverse dinner menu that I

believe includes Vegan. Again, inside seating so we don't have to worry about the weather, though the patio may be available. If you'd like to join us, please contact Susan Lacy at lacynoe@yahoo.com by Wednesday May 15. RSVPs will be in the name VUU. The more the merrier but please remember, it's only fair that there be seating for all who DO RSVP rather than for those who just show up. All are welcome but let me know even that day if you aren't sure before then. Then seating and staffing will be appropriate. Wayfarers are 'travelers' who meet at different locations throughout the valley each month. Anyone is welcome to join us! New people have been coming each month! Just let me know! We look forward to seeing you there!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR JUNE IS MAY 19



VUU SINGLES EVENTS

Not signed up to receive VUU Singles event emails? Contact Claudette by phone, text or call at 973-768-6047 or email, claudettewassil@hotmail.com and she'll get you on the list.



Friday, May 3, 6:15 pm, Game Night at Bob and Raul's (7392 S. Hazelton Lane, Tempe—near NE corner of Elliot and McClintock)

What could be more fun than a night of games? Dominoes, Apples to Apples, card games or anything your heart desires, just bring it along. We'll all bring substantial "snacks" to share and make a slow dinner out of them. Water, iced tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. We need to keep a count of how many are coming so we know if any extra tables and chairs are needed. RSVP by text, or call or email Claudette at claudettewassil@hotmail.com, [973-768-6047](tel:973-768-6047), or Raul at rblanco1001@gmail.com, [561-901-9277](tel:561-901-9277). For last minute directions, contact Raul.

A NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT @ SINGING PANDA RESTAURANT on Saturday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. 757 E Chandler Blvd (Between Arizona Ave & McQueen Rd, meet at Chandler Fashion Mall in front of Barnes & Noble to carpool), Chandler

Come join us for the LIVE "Legends Showcase Tribute Show." Ricky Nelson, Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley and Neil Diamond impersonations will provide the night's entertainment. Sway to love songs sung in Taiwanese, Mandarin and English for the second half of the show. It'll be a fun and memorable evening with your single friends.

Entrees of traditional Chinese food priced from \$10.50-13.95. Vegetarian available.

R.S.V.P. BY MONDAY, APRIL 29 by emailing cfitz1108@gmail.com or calling [480-335-3916](tel:480-335-3916).

Pool party Monday May 27, Memorial Day at Claudette's (1213 N Palm St, Gilbert)

This has been an annual event. People generally arrive about 4pm for a swim and dinner is planned for about 6:00 pm. Whether you're swimming or not, you can come early (as long as we have a non-swimmer as greeter). Swimmers, including Claudette, will be carpooling to the pool (wear suits and bring a towel). Bring salads and desserts to share and grilled main dish will be provided.

May 31, 6:15, Singles Dinner out at Babbo's Italian Eatery ([9920 South Rural Rd, Tempe](http://www.babbos.com)—NW corner of Ray and Rural). Come enjoy great Italian food accompanied by great conversation. RSVP to Claudette by call or text [973-768-6047](tel:973-768-6047)



Photo by Tim Mossholder on Unsplash



THE POWER OF WE

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Spokane, Washington | [June 19-23, 2019](#)

General Assembly is an unforgettable experience for the thousands of Unitarian Universalists that attend each June. Attendees leave with a renewed sense of energy, inspiration, and innovative ideas to take back to their congregations and communities. GA is even more enjoyable if experienced with a delegation of congregational peers who can share expenses and meals and provide mutual support during the conference. This year, in addition to Theme-Based Programming, the schedule will feature Role-Based Track Programming, including time for discussion among attendees, sharing inspiring models and stories, and concrete suggestions for how to further the work or "take it home."

In order to raise interest and to help your congregations learn more about General Assembly, we have assembled [promotional resources](#) to download, copy, or print for further distribution.

Promotional Materials

- [GA Flyer and Talking Points](#) for presentations (PDF, 2 pages)
- [GA Poster](#) (PDF)
- [GA Text for a Newsletter or Bulletin](#) (docx)
- [Spokane Quick Facts](#) (PDF)
- [Spokane Top 10 Things to Do](#) (PDF)
- [Spokane Promotional Copy Ideas](#) (PDF)

Promotional Videos

- [GA 2019: The Power of We](#)
- [Spokane Promotional Video](#) from Travel Spokane
- [Rev. Dr. Todd F. Eklof welcomes](#) Unitarian Universalists to Spokane, on behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

General Assembly 2019 Logo

- [Horizontal Logo](#) (PNG)
- [Vertical Logo](#) (PNG)

Additional Materials

- Information for [first-timers](#)
 - [Images](#) from General Assembly 2018
- [UU World coverage](#) of General Assembly 2018



Caring & Concerns Neighborhood Contacts

In the spring, people take advantage of the nice weather to get out and do more. As you get busier, remember to take the time to connect with and appreciate your friends and family. It's the bonds with them that keep us connected. 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.

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	canderaz@cox.net
Donna Bennett	480-570-4024	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

Lauree Perry	480-839-9296	lperry98@earthlink.net
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Tempe South - Zips: 85283, 85284

DiAnna Farmer	480-413-0293	dianna_farmer@hotmail.com
Sabena Norman	904-307-6996	sabena.norman@gmail.com

Mesa West - Zips: 85201, 85202, 85210

Mary Jo Bitner	480-831-5518	
Debbe Simpkins	480-244-6570	friendsofdebbe@gmail.com

Mesa East, including Apache Junction:

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

Joel Sannes	480-464-6772	joelsannes@gmail.com
Rebekah Thomas	443-890-5387	rkendri@hotmail.com

Gilbert, including Higley - Zips: 85212, 85233, 85234, 85236, 85295, 85296, 85297, 85298

Neighborhood Contacts Needed!

Madeline Kasian	480-349-3080	maddie628@gmail.com
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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

Barbara Face	480-961-3223	barbara_face@qwest.net
Nancy Wittenberg	480-283-4725	nancy.wittenberg@gmail.com

(zips 85225 and 85224)

***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.



VUUPOINT is published monthly by the Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation. VUUPOINT is distributed free of charge to members and friends of VUU. The newsletter can also be viewed online at the VUU website www.vuu.org. Articles, announcements and other VUUPoint material may be emailed to: office@vuu.org. Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 3rd Sunday of each month. If possible send submissions as an email attachment.

VUU STAFF

*The Reverend Andy Burnette, Senior Minister
The Reverend Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music
Marcie Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation
Hayley Wynne, Faith Formation Assistant
Sue Ringler, Congregation Administrator
Joe Martin, Maintenance Technician
Jill Khaleghi, pianist*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Bob Fabre, Vice President & Board Rep. to Finance Committee
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