

VUUPOINT

October 2017



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.

What's So Radical About Hospitality?

October 1 *Whom Will You Harbor?*

The Adult Choir sings.

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette

October 8 *The World We Dream About: Active Hospitality*

The Chalice Singers (VUU Children's Choir) sings.

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette

October 15 *Panel*

The Chalice Ringers will play.

Led by Barbara Face

October 22 *Drawing the Circle Wide: Expanding the Welcome in Liberal Religious Communities*

The Adult and Children's Choirs sing, and the Worship Band performs.

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette

October 29 *Is God Hospitable?*

(Music: TBA)

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette

October Events at a Glance

10/02 The Best Diet for You Workshop	10/17 VIP (Valley Interfaith Project)
10/03 AZ Faith Network- Bahá'i 101	10/19 Book Discussion with Rev. Dr. Andy N.S.G. Book Club
10/07 Voices Lifted Hospice Training	10/20 Wayfarer's Happy HoUUr
10/08 JASS	10/21 Phil Gulley Workshop
10/10 VIP (Valley Interfaith Project)	Singles to Tucson
10/12 EastVUUs Meeting	10/22 VUU Homecoming Potluck
10/14 UUJAZ Issues & Action Day	Great Books Discussion Group
CABARET	10/26 Spirit of Life Workshop
10/15 LDC-From Vision to Reality Workshop	10/27 Singles Monthly Dinner
Newsletter Deadline	10/29 Voices Lifted Rehearsal
Registration Deadline for Prescott Retreat	VUU Women's Group
Voices Lifted Rehearsal	

Wednesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singer & Chalice Ringers Rehearse
Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends

“A Moment with the Minister”



October 2017 marks 500 years since Martin Luther nailed 95 complaints about the Catholic church to the door of All Souls Church in Wittenberg, Germany, touching off the religious revolution folks came to call the Protestant Reformation. He challenged the authority of the church and its leaders. Specifically, Luther questioned the practice of selling indulgences, something like get-out-of-hell-free cards. “As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs,” went the church’s indulgence jingle. Luther called out such teaching as an abuse of the poor.

Today, there are 560 million Protestants around the world. To most of them, the specifics of Luther’s differences with the Roman Catholic church hardly matter anymore. People tend to choose their faith homes based more on style and services offered than on theology. In fact, many modern-day Protestants are much closer to the Roman Catholic church in their theology than they are to Luther. The Pew Research Center reported recently that “theological differences that split western Christianity in the 1500s have diminished to a degree that might have shocked Christians in past centuries.”

The enduring legacy of the Protestant Reformation, the part that in some ways continues to unfold, is personal freedom. Luther insisted that people have direct access to God, with no need for a priest-intermediary. The principles of the Reformation sparked challenges to authority that eventually led to democracy. The power of people to decide their own fates is a Reformation inheritance. Reformation principles are the beating heart of movements for justice including the suffrage and abolition movements.

In 2017, we have free access to libraries full of information, as close as the phones in our pockets. Such widespread knowledge gives people power and helps us hold leaders accountable in ways Luther could never have dreamed of. Still, the powerful do find ways to hold onto power. Even as information is more accessible than ever, the threats to democracy in our country have seldom been more tangible. Fake news stories and voter suppression are cynical attempts at squashing the democratic spirit.

So, may we remember, as we march and write letters and vote and hold our leaders accountable, that we are part of a long legacy of self-determination. May that legacy fuel our efforts at making sure every person has a voice. Five-hundred years later, the Protestant Reformation’s influence remains.

With love,
Rev. Andy

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

“You must come home with and be my guest; You will give joy to me, and I will do all that is in my power to honor you.”

— Percy Bysshe Shelley

Faith Formation Ministry

Religious Education October 2017

Extra Extra: Valley UU Religious Education Ministry gets a new name to better represent what we do:

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

Faith development theorist James Fowler spoke of “Faith” as dynamic – something we do. Faith is a process of wrestling meaning from life, testing it through action, and subjecting it again and again to the scrutiny of our minds, to the leap of our hearts, to the reality of action. The term (and the title) Religious Education insinuates that “all we do” is teach religion, but our ministry at Valley UU has a larger, more encompassing mission. We strive to help our members and friends to question, search, and investigate their faith in a community of support while providing opportunities to live that faith. That is why my title is changing from “Director of Lifespan Religious Education” to “Director of Faith Formation.”

Faith can be defined in a 3-fold way:

1. **Belief – searching, learning, coming to conclusions in our minds.**

Education is a big part of what we do on Sunday mornings. Each of our Sunday morning classes uses a curriculum with the goal of enabling learning about Unitarian Universalism, World Religions, and/or Our Judeo/Christian Heritage. Our adult programs provide informative, insightful avenues to allow each of us to stretch our thoughts and beliefs – to more fully form our faith.

2. **Feel – allegiances of our hearts.**

Look more closely at any of our “RE” programs, for adults, children or youth, and you will find interactions that encourage bonding. We offer social groups for toddlers through adults with the sole purpose of providing our members and friends with an avenue to find connections.

3. **Act – behavioral - things we are willing to put our lives on the line for.**

Facilitating multi-age opportunities to live out our values; serving meals at I-HELP, cooking at Paz de Cristo, making blankets for the homeless, and building homes in Agua Prieta, Mexico.

Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation ministry

NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

Book Discussion on *“White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America”* by Nancy Isenberg

In four sessions, we will discuss Isenberg’s work, which offers a history of what are sometimes considered ‘expendable people’ in America. Resources from other authors and artists will be brought in to enhance the discussion.

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary: October 19, November 2, 16, and 30.

Register for book discussion by emailing Rev. Andy at revandy@vuu.org

Where to get the book online: Powells book store, used only

<http://www.powells.com/SearchResults?kw=title:%E2%80%9Cwhite%20trash%20the%20400year%20untold%20history%20of%20class%20in%20america%E2%80%9D%20by%20nancy%20isenberg>

Amazon, new & used books & Kindle editions

https://smile.amazon.com/White-Trash-400-Year-History-America/dp/0143129678/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1504810990&sr=8-1-fkmr0&keywords=%E2%80%9CWhite+Trash%3A+The+400-Year+Untold+History+of+Class+in+America%E2%80%9D+by+Nancy+Isenberg

What is the best diet for me?

A research and discussion group facilitated by Jerry Waters, will meet on the first Monday each month in Room 5, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. **beginning October 2.**

I know what my answer is, and this personal decision must be made by all of us. Eating is a very individual and enjoyable activity. You may have a particular health condition that you want to help with your diet. We can explore what various experts recommend and look at promised improvements. The seventh UU principle calls for respect for the interdependent web of existence. Is our diet one way to show our regard for this principle?

The group will decide what topics to explore over the next several months. The Paleo diet, the Pritiken diet, the Mediterranean diet are all be possible topics. A list of references such as those championed by Drs. Dean Ornish, T. Colin Campbell, McDougall, Esselstyn and others will be provided.

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 9-10 a.m. in the RE complex, room 5. 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'.

If you come early there is also meditation from 8:30-9. 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

Great Books Reading and Discussion Group

The VUU Great Books Reading and Discussion Group will continue our Politics, Leadership, and Justice series in October. We will discuss "Kongi's Harvest" by Wole Soyinka.

We will meet in Room 5, Sunday, October 22, from 7-9 p.m. All are welcome!

All are welcome. Please contact Kevin Erdmann at kebko@yahoo.com with any questions.

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 October 19, at 7:15 p.m. The book is The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd. This is a novel set in motion on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership of ten-year-old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next 35 years.

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

Spirit of Life Reading Circle

Spirit of Life Reading Circle meets once a month to discuss theological issues of interest to Unitarian Universalists. We send out links to the articles for the month, which everyone reads before the meeting and they form the basis for our discussion, after we have a short check-in to see how everyone is doing. Despite the old saw that you should never publicly discuss religion or politics, this is a place that exists for us to discuss religious issues that illuminate our principles and our lives.

Our schedule for this year is: October 26, November 30, No December meeting, January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, and May 24.

Email maryloganrothschild@gmail.com to get on our mailing list. Our group is open and welcoming and we'd love to see you join us!

Mary Rothschild, Rebecca Riggs and Anne Schneider.



Hospitality is the way we turn a prejudiced world around one heart at a time."

Joan Chittister

Heart, photo by seyyed msotafa zamani, January 11, 2010, (CC BY 2.0), https://www.flickr.com/photos/seyyed_mostafa_zamani/4266283238

MUSIC & MORE



Our annual fall CABARET is almost here!

This fun variety show will be on Saturday, October 14th at 7 PM in the VUU sanctuary. Tickets available at the door. Pay tribute to a singer who left us before their time by perhaps dressing the part...

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Tempe Interfaith Fellowship's Thanksgiving Service will be on Tuesday November 21 at 7 PM, two days before Thanksgiving. This year VUU is hosting and Rev. Kellie and our choir will be helping with music. Please mark your calendars now!

Voices Lifted Singers HOSPICE TRAINING

Hospice of the Valley is offering a free volunteer training for singers interested in singing monthly at their in-patient hospice units with the Voices Lifted group that Rev. Kellie founded and directs. The training is Sat. Oct. 7, 8:45 AM to 3:30 PM at 1510 E. Flower St. in Phoenix. Contact Kristin Mikulich at kmikulich@hov.org for information and registration. Voices Lifted Singers is open to mature girls and female voices of all ages. Upcoming rehearsals are at Valley UU from 1:30 to 3 PM on Sundays October 15 & 29, Nov. 19, and Dec. 10. Contact Rev. Kellie for more information.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Tempe Interfaith Fellowship's Thanksgiving Service will be on Tuesday November 21 at 7 PM, two days before Thanksgiving. This year VUU is hosting and the service will be in our sanctuary. Rev. Kellie and our choir will be helping with music. Please mark your calendars now!

All our CHOIRS always accept new members!

Chalice Singers (Grade K-6) rehearse Wed. 6:15 -7 PM (Sanctuary Kitchen)

Chalice Ringers (Bell Choir) rehearse Wed. 6 to 7:15 PM (Sanctuary)

Adult Choir rehearses Wed. 7:30 to 9 PM (Sanctuary)

Rev. Kellie

Journey to Membership Sessions 2017-18

Upcoming Sessions:

- **SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2017**
 - Noon until 3:30, Rooms 1 & 2, Religious Education Building
- **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2018**
 - Noon until 3:30, VUU Sanctuary
- **SUNDAY MAY 6, 2018**
 - Noon until 3:30, VUU Sanctuary
- **SUNDAY AUGUST 19, 2018**
 - Noon until 3:30, Rooms 1 & 2, Religious Education Building

Led by Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette and Rev. Kellie Walker Hart.

If you have been attending Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation (VUU) and are interested in membership, learning more about Unitarian Universalism, VUU, and meeting other newcomers, this is for you!

Contact Rev. Kellie Walker Hart at music@vuu.org or the VUU office at office@vuu.org to register.

Lunch provided and babysitting is available if requested in advance.

Please sign up for just ONE session, and if you decide to join, there will be an opportunity to do so by signing the Membership Book at the end of the session. A recognition ceremony will take place during the worship service a week or two after the session.



Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation

6400 W Del Rio St, Chandler, AZ 85226, 480-899-4249, www.vuu.org

“Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines.”

– Henri J.M. Nouwen

BIG HAPPENINGS



YOU MUST BE HERE ON **SUNDAY OCTOBER 22!!**

**THE BIGGEST POTLUCK YOU WILL EVER
EXPERIENCE! BRING A DISH TO SHARE!**

THE MOST EXCITING, INSPIRING SERVICE EVER!

**THE BEST INFLATED SLIDE
(FOR THE KIDS, OF COURSE)**

INFORMATION ABOUT VUU

AND HOW **YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!**

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!



Homecoming Potluck



INFO? CONTACT SUE AT OFFICE@VUU.ORG

Hospitality Ministry Established



Would you like to see more social events at VUU? I would, too and so I petitioned the staff to be appointed as “Party Planner.” After much discussion, it was decided that I should be the chairperson of the Hospitality Ministry with the mission to provide the structure that facilitates social events which will enrich the experience of those attending VUU and nurture a sense of community and belonging by fostering an opportunity for direct individual interaction.

The key word is structure. For social activities to happen someone must set up the physical space, i.e. tables, chairs and other furniture and to put it all away after the event is over. Often food is a key element in events and someone is needed to organize the solicitation of food, the arrangement and service of the food and the clean-up following the event.

I am encouraging everyone who wants to have more social events to think how they can help:



- Join the setup/clean up team assisting with the events that fit your schedule and interests.



- Join the food team and be willing to donate food for special events, memorial services, and other rites of passage at VUU at events that fit your schedule and interests.



- Join the recruitment team to contact the cadre of people who have signed up to work on the teams for specific events.

What can happen if we have the above teams? Think potlucks after services once a quarter, the Seder dinner that has been missing for two years, and other events suggested by members and approved by the staff. Remember, if you join one of the above teams, you do not have to be involved with every event, only the ones that appeal to you and fit your schedule.

Our first event is the Homecoming Sunday potluck after the service on October 22. (see the previous page for more info on this)

Contact me to help bring more fun and interaction with members of your beloved community.

JoAnne Smith
 Hospitality Ministry Chairperson
 Valley UU Congregation
 uujsmith@aol.com
 480 250-9093



“Our very lives depend on the ethics of strangers, and most of us are always strangers to other people.” Bill Moyers

The Stranger, photo by Alice Popkom, September 7, 2010, (CC BY-ND 2.0), <https://www.flickr.com/photos/alicepopkom/8349680340>

Feeling **frustrated** and powerless these days?
Well, *we're not giving up and neither should you!*

Please join the Leadership Development Committee for
an inspiring seminar entitled
From Vision to Reality

Do you feel that Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation offers you the best opportunity to feel safe and to make a difference in these troubled times? If the answer to either or both of these questions is "yes," you will not want to miss this special seminar being presented by the VUU Leadership Development Committee. Here are the details:

Date: Sunday, Oct 15, 2017
Time: 12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: RE Classrooms 1 & 2

Please bring your own snacks. Water will be provided.

Program:

- Check-in Noon until 12:15 p.m.
- Brief Introduction 12:15 – 12:20 p.m.
- Breakout sessions 12:20 – 1:45 p.m. (Choose one)
 1. **Finding your Ministry – Passion to Purpose**
Explore ways to get involved with VUU that are meaningful and exciting to you.
 2. **VUU 101**
Gain a better understanding the structure of the congregation so you will be effective in your work or just to satisfy your curiosity.
- Discussion, sharing of experiences, feedback and evaluation to wrap up the seminar 1:45 – 2:00 p.m.
- Please mark your calendars! Watch for sign-up sheets at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays beginning Sept 24th or send an email with your contact information and the track of your choice to LeadershipDevelopment@vuu.org.



We're looking forward to hearing from you!

VUU SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

Upcoming VIP meetings

Our partners, Valley Interfaith Project, are having several "civic academies" in the next few months that may be of interest:

- Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m. – Justice Reform, Paradise Valley UMC, Room H7
- Oct 17, 5:30 p.m. – Conversation with Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish, Phoenix
- Oct.18, 6:00 – Myths and Lies that Threaten Public Schools, with Dr. David Berliner, 6-9 pm at Bustoz Elementary, Tempe. (Will be repeated Nov. 8)

- Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m. – Health Care in Arizona, Franciscan Renewal Center, Paradise Valley

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ANY/ALL OF THESE EVENTS. For more information on our VUU partnership with VIP, how you can become more involved with VIP or the civic academies, please talk with Carter Rogers or Willa Cree, or email socialaction@vuu.org.

I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) needs your HELP!



Did you know that we host a homeless shelter in our Sanctuary for 25 – 30 of our homeless neighbors on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Mondays each month? Our guests arrive around 6 p.m. and volunteers from either VUU, the Local LDS Stake or the American Muslim Women's Association supply a delicious dinner. You can help in several ways: There is a set up team that puts up tables and chairs and lays out the sheets that will go on the sleeping mats that are delivered with our guests. There are volunteers who prepare &/or serve the meal. There is a need to purchase basic food supplies occasionally and you can pick up that container of lemonade or jelly, for example. When our guests wake up in the morning after a comfortable, safe night's sleep, they clean up after themselves and put the used sheets in the laundry bags on Tuesday morning. 1 or 2 volunteers make sure everything is put away early on Tuesday morning. The bags of sheets need to be washed every week and can be picked up Tues, Wed or Thurs and returned when you come to the VUU Service on Sunday morning, all clean and ready for use on Monday again. Would you like to know more about this important ministry? Do you want to get involved? Do you just love washing sheets!?! I'm sure we can find something for you to do so contact Sue at office@vuu.org.

Arizona Faith Network presents "Bahá'í 101 – Oct 3, 2017 – see flier on next page

UUJAZ Issues & Action Day – see flier on page 13

Paz de Cristo needs YOU

Are you a UU looking for another way to help others who are less fortunate? Are your students in need of community service volunteer hours AND something to do this summer? Make a commitment to help feed the hungry at Paz de Cristo on a second Friday in October and November. 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



Paz de Cristo October Donation of the Month: New and Gently Used Coats, Blankets, and Sleeping Bags

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of new and gently used coats, blankets, and sleeping bags. As temperatures begin to drop, those without homes will need these items to keep them warm during the night. Please drop off your donation in the bin in the foyer. Thanks for your support!

Register to Vote:

Most of us are registered to vote. But what happens when you run into someone who isn't? Did you know that you can register to vote online? If you find someone that is not registered send them to <https://vote.gov/register/az/>

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



Please Join Us for

Bahá'í 101

An introduction to the faith of Bahá'í and
a celebration of the 200th Anniversary of its founding.

“The earth is but one country,
and mankind its citizens.”

— BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

Tuesday, Oct 3, 2017

6:15-8:30 p.m.

The Scottsdale Bahá'í Center

6910 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale AZ 85254

“One human family. One common faith.”

PROGRAM

Introduction to the Baha'í Faith

Living a Baha'í life and engaging with society

Spiritually empowering children, junior youth and youth

Questions and discussion

Registration and Refreshments offered at 6:15 p.m. Talks start at 7:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Bahá'í Communities of Fountain Hills, Mesa, Paradise Valley &
Scottsdale, and by the Arizona Faith Network Theological Dialogue Commission.

Please click [here](#) for event flyers and click [here](#) for bulletin inserts

For more information please see our websites:

AZFaithNetwork.org and scottsdalebahai.org

UUJAZ ISSUES & ACTION DAY
October 14, 2017, 9am-4:30pm
UU Church of Surprise

Join UUs from around the state to gain insight and take action. The day will include a panel of speakers offering updates on "the state of" UUJAZ's five issue areas, workshops on key issues, and the opportunity to connect with other UUs active in social justice in Arizona.

Hear in-depth updates from expert speakers and take advantage of the question-and-answer time to find out more about what you're most passionate about. Get a sneak peek at what we might see from the Arizona Legislature in 2018, connect with other UUs who are interested in your focus issue area, and dig deeper in issue workshops. Featured speakers include the Phoenix ACLU office and the Phoenix Restoration Project.

Issues & Action Day Agenda

- 9am- Check-In
- 9:30am- Opening Worship
- 10am- Intersectional Organizing
- 10:30am- Featured Speakers (part 1)
- 11:00am- Break
- 11:15am- Featured Speakers (part 2)
- 12:45pm- Lunch
- 1:45pm- Workshops
- 3pm- What to Expect at the AZ Legislature in 2018
- 3:30pm- How Arizona UUs are Responding
- 4:00pm- Closing Reflection

Lunch at Issues and Action Day will be catered, with options available for any dietary restrictions or preference. **The UUJAZ Immigration Action Team will be collecting items to support migrants released from immigration detention at Issues and Action Day. Visit the website for list of donations requested.**

For more information,
 and to register, visit
UUJAZ.ORG/ACTIONDAY



POCKET CHANGE FOR CHANGE

CALLING ALL QUARTERS, DIMES, NICKLES AND PENNIES!



Dignity Brigade is proud to host the first ever "Pocket Change for Change" Event.

All the proceeds will go to designated schools that serve low-income and homeless children. The funds will cover outstanding lunch debts, needed school supplies, and new socks, shoes, and underwear for the kiddos.

So dig in your purse; dig in your couch cushions, search your coffee cup holder. Let's make this a HUGE impact for these kids and families who struggle to make ends meet.

Saturday October 21, 2017 2-5 PM

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation
 6400 W. Del Rio St. Chandler, AZ 85226

For more information about Dignity Brigade or to RSVP to this event, please contact: Kirsten Powell at dignitybrigadeaz@gmail.com



VUU Library Notes:

Book title suggestions needed. We would like to improve our library by adding some new books. Do you have a suggestion, perhaps an interesting book you have read or one you would like to read? It doesn't have to be about religion. We have a number of categories: Politics & Social Issues, Fiction, History, Biographies, Religion by denomination, Unitarian Universalist, LGBTQ, to name a few. Please send your suggestions to Johnnie Godfrey: johnniegirl85218@gmail.com or call her: Home 480-839-0544, Cell: 480-231-8381.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Have you been thinking of volunteering for the congregation but you don't want a big commitment? Could you spare 30 minutes before services and 45 minutes after services once a month? Or, would you be willing to be on a substitute list for times when one of the regular volunteers is absent? We really could use some help. Please contact Johnnie Godfrey; johnniegirl85218@gmail.com, Home: 480-839-0544, Cell: 480-231-8381.

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 October 2017 are:

10 to 19 years:

Roberta Baker

Lorraine Doman-Sheydayi

Mary Erickson

Roy Erickson

Robin Richmond

20 to 29 Years:

Donna Bennett

Jim Bennett

Bari Bergelin

Melissa Bush

Tricia Merrill

Janet Nash

Sharon & James Osborn-Popp

Karen Stucke-Jungeman

Betty Sadowksy

Charlie & Linda Thomas

Diana Woods

30 to 39 Years:

Janet & Garry Cantley

Bob Clarke

40 to 49 Years:

JoAnne Smith

50 to 59 Years:

Doris Wegner

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

Pacific South West District (PSWD) Happenings

The PSWD is the intermediate governance body between VUU and the denomination, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). From time to time I have been reporting to the congregation on events as I see them.

The PSWD Board met over Labor Day weekend to plan for the upcoming year and to get to know each other. This is important because we only meet in person twice a year and 5 of the 8 Board members are newly elected. The highlights of this meeting are listed below:

1. We agreed to reach out all 50 congregations in the district; I have 8 congregations assigned to me including VUU. This will keep us busy and talking to folks for some time.
2. We discussed the progress of regionalization and how it will affect us going forward. Changes are coming to organizational structure and finances, and we need to re-negotiate our letter of agreement with the UUA.
3. Relations with Camp de Benneville Pines were discussed. Regionalization will affect them as well. We have a strong relationship with camp, including running 7 district sponsored camps a year. The PSWD's last remaining employee, the Camp Ministries Director (CMD) was transferred over to UUA payroll a few months ago. Our Board retained the right to direct his activities.
4. We reviewed the financials of the district; we still do not have good numbers from staff for the last fiscal year. Our treasurer took the task to run that down. Overall the numbers are promising; and the district has ample reserves on hand.
5. A sub committee was formed to create workable policies for the Board. Policies from 2009 were rescinded at our last meeting in 2016-7, as they so were completely outdated that they could not be followed now even if we wanted to use them.
6. Chalice Lighters: This program is up and running and does a lot of good work for our movement. Chalice Lighter programs are active in all 4 districts of the PWR; there are 12 regular calls (3 per district) per year. This is an excellent and easy way to strengthen our community ties. If you want to know more read up at [chalice-lighters](#).

By the way, we are still looking for a Chalice Lighter coordinator for VUU. You do not ask for money and this is a good way to get your feet wet in the larger movement. If you are interested or just curious please look me up, David Sheh, sdavid471@cox.net.

Mark Your Calendars –

For the second regional assembly in the West to be held in Portland April 27 - 29 2018

There will be more information to come, for now please take a moment to check this out:

<https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/blog/save-date-regional-assembly>

And Mark Your Calendars – for General Assembly 2018 to be held in Kansas City MO June 20 - 24

There will be more information to come, for now please take a moment to check this out:

<https://www.uua.org/calendars/uua/general-assembly-2018>

Want more district and regional news? There are always events and training available to every UU. To find out what is happening subscribe to the Pacific Western Region (PWR) newsletter. You can sign up here: [Subscribe to the PWR newsletter](#).

David Sheh: VUU Denominational Connections Chair and PSWD Secretary



EVENTS



First Sunday of each month, (unless there is a congregational meeting that same day) 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!

JASS

Acoustic Jam Second Sunday (JASS) happens every second Sunday in the Sanctuary. Following in the VUU tradition, "all instruments are welcome here" (though it is generally an acoustic, non-amplified group).



EastVUUs

Meeting every month on the 2nd Thursday. Come join us October 12 @ 6:30 p.m. for potluck @ Apache Wells Homeowners Association - Community Building Mesa. 2223 N 56th St, Mesa. Follow the signs from entrance.

This is a newly forming group of VUU members living in the far East Valley wanting to gather monthly for potluck or dinner out with discussion on timely issues as well formulating and follow-thru on social actions the group will take on. All members and friends of VUU living in the far East Valley are invited to attend. Contact Sharon @ 1004slk1950@gmail.com or 815-252-2528 for more information.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER IS OCTOBER 15

Wayfarers Our **Happy HoUU** on **Friday, October 20**, will be at the Thirsty Lion Gastropub in Tempe. The address is 2000 E. Rio Salado Drive #1041 in Tempe Marketplace. Please let Jan Waters know if you plan to attend, by phone/text: 608-201-2207, or by email: watersjj9790@gmail.com.

VUU Singles

Saturday October 21, 9am to 5pm **Fall Foliage in Tucson**

We'll take the Catalina Highway and follow it to the many leafy sites along the way such as Bear Wallow where we can see Maple trees, the Aspen Vista to see the yellow leaves of the aspens and Turkey Run Rd which will lead to gentle hikes through the Fall Foliage. We'll arrange car pools from the church parking lot. RSVP text or call Claudette 973-768-6047 by October 15th.

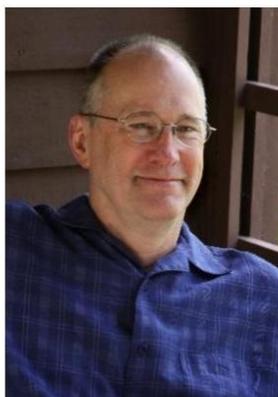
Friday, October 27, 6:30 pm, **Singles Monthly Dinner** at Bella Gusto Urban Pizzeria (1964 N. Alma School Rd, Chandler) Serves a variety of Italian dishes and pizza cooked in a wood oven. Modern Urban atmosphere. RSVP text/call Claudette 973-768-6047 by Wednesday October 25.

VUU Women's Group – Sunday, October 29th

Usually on the fourth Sunday of each month (but in October it will be on the 5th Sunday) we meet with the purpose of getting to know one another. This month will be special because our president, Margaret Stewart, will be with us. She will be moving to Arizona permanently! All women are welcome; Valley UU membership is not a prerequisite.

Meet us at the front of the sanctuary after the service and coffee hour Sunday, October 29. The topic will be, "Where were you living and what were you doing when you were 25?" There will be a cold foods potluck. Pair with a friend to bring a single dish. No RSVPs are not necessary, but if you have questions or comments, contact Johnnie Godfrey at johnniegirl85218@gmail.com or Home: 480-839-0544, Cell: 480-231-8381.

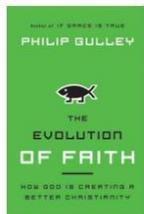
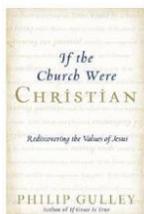
THE AWAKENED SOUL - A WORKSHOP WITH PHILIP GULLEY



Philip Gulley is a Quaker pastor, writer, and speaker from Danville, Indiana. Gulley has written 21 books, including the *Harmony* series recounting life in the eccentric Quaker community of Harmony, Indiana and the best-selling *Porch Talk* essay series. Gulley's memoir, *I Love You, Miss Huddleston: And Other Inappropriate Longings of My Indiana Childhood*, was a finalist for the Thurber Prize for American Humor. In addition, Gulley, with co-author James Mulholland, shared their progressive spirituality in the books *If Grace Is True* and *If God Is Love*, followed by Gulley's books *If the Church Were Christian* and *The Evolution of Faith* - available at the workshop.

In his most recently published work of non-fiction, *Living the Quaker Way: Timeless Wisdom For a Better Life Today*, Gulley offers the opportunity to participate in a world where the values of the Quaker way bring equity, peace, healing, and hope. *Living the Quaker Way* invites readers to encounter the defining commitments of the Religious Society of Friends - *simplicity, peace, integrity, community* and *equality*, and shows how those ideals can be incorporated in personal and public life to bring renewal and eliminate the clutter that is keeping us from deeper spirituality.

Gulley is currently working on his 22nd book entitled *Unlearning God*, in which he describes the process of spiritual growth, especially the re-interpretation of the earliest principles we learned about God.



Find YOUR way to GRACE

"No one raises provocative questions about Christianity more kindly than Philip Gulley. In an age of shouting, Gulley gently points out the flaws in the church while opening ways to practice Christian spirituality with greater integrity. If the church were as Philip Gulley envisions here, people would be knocking down our doors to experience God's love." ~ Diana Butler Bass, author of *Christianity for the Rest of Us*

"In our ever-changing world, Gulley's book is much needed. An important book for any person of faith." ~ Archbishop Desmond Tutu, author of *MADE FOR GOODNESS*

VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

6400 W Del Rio Street
Chandler AZ 85226
480-899-4249
vuu.org
Cost: \$5 at the Door

Saturday, October 21
10:00 a. m. - 11:30 a. m.



HURRICANE AID BENEFIT SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4 @ 7PM - VUU Sanctuary

The *Soulstice Band* will play for a family-friendly dance party in the VUU Sanctuary. This event is to help victims of the recent hurricanes. There will be a free-will donation at the door, and all proceeds will be donated to the UUA Hurricane Relief Fund.

For those who have not yet heard the *Soulstice Band*, they play a danceable mix of Classic & Oldie Rock, Blues, and Country. This is a great way to have fun while raising money for a good cause!

Please mark the date!

Check out the *Soulstice Band* here:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheSoulsticeBand/#>

Rev. Andy is a member of the Band!



VISION SUNDAY COMING!

Sunday November 19th at VUU

Mark your calendars and save the date for Vision Sunday on 19 November 2017. We will have events both during and after the service including a catered lunch.

Bring Your Family!

Will see you there and then!

“A soul of hospitality and a heart of humanity is a house of love, peace, freedom, liberty and justice.”
– Auliq Ice



Caring for Caregivers event offered
at VUU on Saturday, Nov 11th from 10-12

Caring for a close friend or family member can be one of the most important roles we can play. It may start with driving to get groceries or to church and evolve from there. No matter where you are in that journey, having a framework to help guide you along the path can make things easier for everyone.

This program will offer practical tools and resources to help you feel you have the support you need.

This free event will be offered by Brenda Holt community outreach liaison from the Arizona chapter of AARP.

This event is sponsored by your Lay Pastoral Care Committee.

Mark your calendars!

When: Saturday November 11th, 2017 from 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Where: VUU Education Rooms 1&2

Sign up: email Sue Ringler at office@vuu.org you may also call 480-899-4249.

Save the Date for the 2017 Annual Family Prescott Retreat Nov. 3 -- Nov. 5, 2017!

Registration will be Sept. 17 - Oct. 15.

Many VUU members and friends have attended the VUU Prescott retreat over the years. The retreat is great for singles, couples, and families. Come join us once again this November, as we enjoy time in the woods at Pine Summit Camp, www.pinesummitcamp.com. Besides being in a beautiful forest, the camp has a mini-golf course, basketball and volleyball courts and an enclosed gym with a rock climbing wall, basketball courts and a low-tech game room. People are invited to bring books, board games, and attend various workshops that people host. For those interested, there is a Saturday night un-talent show, where singing, skits, and other "talent" are show cased.

Please add this retreat to your calendar and start saving now for this weekend. Cost will be about \$100 per adult for the *whole* weekend. This includes lodging, Saturday meals, and Sunday breakfast & lunch. Contact: Karen Hindhede at kmhindhede@aol.com with further questions.

VUU Congregational Retreat
Nov 3th - 5th, 2017
Pine Summit Camp
Prescott



<http://pinesummitcamp.com/>

CLICK THE LINK BELOW FOR THE REGISTRATION FORM

<http://www.vuu.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/VUU-Congregational-Fall-2017-Retreat.pdf>

Register by mail, payment & info due by Sunday, Oct. 15:

VUU Congregation, 6400 W. Del Rio St., Chandler AZ 85226, "P Retreat" Check Memo Line"



How shall we live? Welcoming to all.

Mechtild of Magdeburg

Welcome, Arabic & English, photo by Iqbal Osman, December 19, 2013, (CC BY 2.0), <https://www.flickr.com/photos/82066314@N06/11535547226>



The Gilded Age Meets Downton Abbey. Cora, of Downton Abbey fame, is the inspiration for this journey. She was based on the American heiresses who arrived in England during the late 1800s and married for love or to rescue a great estate in distress. We will focus on some of these heiresses, while we explore their homes and visit Downton Abbey film sites. Highclere Castle was the home of heiress Lady Almina Carnarvon, and was also used as the fictional home of Cora. American Consuelo Vanderbilt married the 9th Duke of Marlborough and saved Blenheim Palace with her fortune. Another heiress, Jennie Jerome, married the 8th Duke of Marlborough's brother, and gave birth to Winston Churchill there. The great-grandmother of Diana the Princess of Wales, was an American Heiress and the future kings of England are her descendants.

We'll stay for 5 nights in my favourite English city, Oxford - the unique university town of amazing bookstores, unusual architecture, historic pubs, and eclectic free museums. We see where JRR Tolkien met with the *Inklings*, Lewis Carroll dreamed up *Alice in Wonderland*, CS Lewis had a magical wardrobe, Inspector Morse solved many crimes, and Bill Clinton didn't inhale. Two nights in the Midlands and one in London complete our itinerary.

The challenge of this journey is that Highclere Castle and Althorp House aren't posting their opening times for 2018 until October, and we can't ask for tickets before then. At that time we can confirm the dates and the finalized itinerary and costs. We are aiming for May or September 2018. The journey will be mindful, fun, and informative, with some time for you to explore your interests – especially in Oxford. Email beverlz@me.com or see <https://nuuc.ca/spiritual-growth/spiritual-practice/mindful-journeys/> or <http://bevertz.wix.bevertzjourneys>

CARING AND CONCERNS NEIGHBORHOOD CONTACTS

With the holidays approaching, our lives will get busier and busier. Family and friends can often fall by the wayside at this time. By making a real effort to stay connected, our community will remain a source of support and stress-reduction for our members. If you need assistance with a situation or want to share a joy, call your Neighborhood Contact. We're here and ready to help.

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
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Mesa West - Zips: 85201, 85202, 85210

Mary Jo Bitner	480-831-5518	bitnermj@cs.com
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

Betty Barnes	480-962-1526	bettyjbarnes@cox.net
Joel Sannes	480-464-6772	joelsannes@gmail.com
Rebekah Thomas	443-890-5387	rkendri@hotmail.com
Diana Woods	480-835-5621	dianawoods@hotmail.com

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

Amy & Michael Morrison	602-881-3724	amy_cccslp@yahoo.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@gmail.com
Jacqui Meriweather	480-491-0546	jacquelinea.meriweather@gmail.com
Jane Murray		ellen.bayer47@gmail.com

***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.



Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation Blood Drive

Sunday, October 15, 2017

9:30 am ~ 1:30 pm

Bloodmobile in the Parking Lot

Contact Sue Ringler at 480-899-4249 or visit www.BloodHero.com (Sponsor Code: VUUC).

Eligibility Questions? Call 1-800-288-2199 X5497

GIVE BLOOD
 and help hospital patients like Avari. Her body does not produce red blood cells and needs monthly blood transfusions to stay alive.
 Find out more at ArizonaHero.com




United Blood Services
 BS210C (1/11)

Please bring photo ID and donor card.
 Free cholesterol testing with every donation!

SAVE TIME! Complete your
FASTTRACK Health History
 the day you donate at
www.UnitedBloodServices.org



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

Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette, Senior Minister
Reverend Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music
Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation
Sue Ringler, Congregation Administrator
Joe Martin, Maintenance Technician
Jill Khaleghi, pianist

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