

VUUPOINT

April 2018



Sunday Services 10:30 A.M.

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



Sunday Services 10:30 A.M.

VUU Website: <http://www.vuu.org/>

VUU Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyUU/>

April's Theme - Transformation

April 1 Resurrection and Transformation: On Being a Born Again Unitarian Universalist

The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Adult Choir will sing.

April 8 WWED: Emerson the Transcendentalists and Transformation

The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Chalice Ringers will perform.

April 15 Sacred Earth/Common Ground

Reverend Doug Bland

The Adult Choir will sing.

April 22 The Goal of Liberal Religion Part 1: The transformation of the Self

The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Worship Band and Children's Choir will perform.

April 29 The Goal of Liberal Religion Part 2: The Transformation of the World

The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Adult Choir will sing.

Events at a Glance

4/01 Easter Pancake Breakfast	4/15 Goodwill Donation Drive
FF Egg Hunt and Party	Difficult Conversations
LGBT Meet	LGBT Meet
Board Room	Concert Tickets go on Sale
4/02 Columbus and Other Cannibals	4/19 N.S.G. Book Club
4/03 Vision Sessions	4/20 Singles Game Night/Wayfarers
4/08 Vision Sunday	4/22 Women's Group Meet
Coffee Conversations	Voices Lifted Rehearsal
Street Requiem	4/24 AZED 101 Presentation
4/09 What is the Best Diet for You?	4/26 Spirit of Life Reading Circle
4/12 EastVUUs Meet	4/27 Pacific Western Regional Assembly
	Singles Monthly Dinner

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends

Wednesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singers & Chalice Ringers Rehearsals

“A Moment with the Minister”



This month we focus on the theme of transformation. Nature provides all the illustration we need. Flowers are unfolding on cacti, new quail and rabbits are being born, and the smell of citrus blossoms is intoxicatingly sweet. The transformation of the desert in Springtime is a wonder. We are reminded in these days of the possibility of transformation in our own lives.

In fact, transformation often finds us whether we are seeking it or not. In this newsletter column, I want to tell you about a transformation that is happening in my own family. I should say first that my daughter has read and approved this article.

A few months ago, my oldest child, who was assigned male gender at birth and whom we named Marcus, came out to my wife, Heather, and me as being transgender. She told us that she identifies as female, prefers female pronouns, and would like to be called Sasha.

Have you ever stumbled into the shower early in the morning and discovered the hard way that the water wasn't warm yet? This revelation was something like that for Heather and me. We were suddenly awake, but we had so many questions. Was she sure? Was she sure she was sure? How would we keep her safe? What are the medical implications? What in the world do we do now?

We have been learning these last few months. We have gone to support groups, talked to transgender people and their loved ones in the community, read books, listened to podcasts, and more. We have seen medical experts and have taken the first steps toward Sasha's transition. It is humbling to realize how much I didn't know that I didn't know.

We are deeply proud of Sasha and the way she has engaged her transformation. She has been patient with us as we continue to mess up pronouns. She has been honest about her own concerns and has found support in a group of close friends. She is thoughtful about her individual path of transition.

It warms my heart that the first place Sasha came out publicly was in her Our Whole Lives class at VUU. In that safe and supportive environment, made possible by all of you, she could be her true self. But being a minister's kid also presents a challenge. How does she come out to 400 or so people at her congregation? Being a minister's kid in a congregation the size of VUU means having people feel they know you when you don't know them well. People lovingly call out "Hey, Marcus!" every Sunday morning. How could she ask every single person to call her "Sasha," not "Marcus?" Since Dad's job creates that particular problem, I figured we could use this platform to help fix it.

The Burnettes have learned so much in the last few months. We know now that teens can be trusted to know who they are, and that they are statistically highly unlikely to be 'going through a phase,' the number one worry of transgender parents. We know that Phoenix has one of the world's premiere youth gender clinics, housed at Phoenix Children's Hospital. I see more clearly that the acronym "LGBTQ" is vast, and that "LG" folks and "B" folks and "T" folks and "Q" folks have unique needs and concerns. And I am more grateful than ever that I serve a loving and welcoming community.

So, transformation has found our family, and we are better for it. Indirectly, it has found you too. We ask that you use the name “Sasha” and use female pronouns, and we know that you will join us in messing up now and again. I invite you, if you would like to learn more about transgender folks, to go to <https://www.uua.org/lgbtq/identity/transgender>.

Sasha’s journey reminds me that transformation is always possible. It is not often easy, but becoming more aligned with our truest selves is important, and worth the effort. This Spring, may your own transformation bring new life.

With love,
Rev. Andy



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

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 28, 2018

Dear friends of VUU,

We have officially started our vision sessions with our chosen architects *Wendell Burnette Architects* to get an idea of what on-campus updates and improvements may look like. In our meeting last night, each of the board members was able to share their personal thoughts about how expansion would meet our growing needs and how it may look and feel. Rev. Andy and the staff had a similar session earlier in the day. It was exciting to think and share ideas and “dream big.” We could have talked about possibilities for much longer and it was apparent that we have a wide range of ideas and inputs. I invite you to also provide your inputs in the upcoming vision sessions April 3rd or April 8th. After all the input is heard, we will then prioritize those needs to come up with something that can meet our needs that will also fit into a feasible capital campaign budget to review in our June Annual Meeting.

Our financial status continues to remain in the positive and our finance team is reporting year-end estimate of meeting our budget with a potential small surplus. As we get closer to the end of the year we will be able to refine the estimate, but we seem to be in a very comfortable position at this time of the year when compared with many in the past.

We also reviewed the initial version of the 2018-2019 budget. The current list with all the additions is above our budget slightly, so the board provided priorities to the finance team to help with moving forward with most of the new budget asks, and potentially doing all of them if we continue to have a surplus in our current year. To remind everyone, some of the new budget line items include Faith Formation Assistant (currently able to fund ½ year), Valley Interfaith Project, second service, minister and staff raises, and a few others. These have all come from our visioning process over the last couple of years and it is exciting to see that we are able to see them make it into our budget. We will have the proposed budget to review with the congregation during our congregational meeting on May 20th, and we will ask for final approval during the year-end meeting on June 3rd.

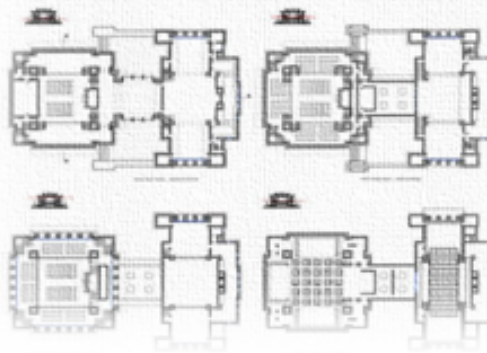
Again—a quick reminder to provide your feedback in one of the vision sessions coming up in the next couple of weeks.

Warm regards,

Paul Schneider

President

VUU Board of Trustees



RECREATING THE VUU CAMPUS

VISION SESSIONS WITH THE ARCHITECT

Wendell Burnette Architects

Valley UU has engaged Wendell Burnette Architects for a three-month visioning and planning process. WBA will work with the Board, the staff, the property team, and committee leadership congregation-wide. Most importantly, they need to hear from as many members and friends of the congregation as possible.

Please plan to join one of these 2-hour interactive sessions to envision the future of our campus.

Tuesday

April 3 - 7-9p

Sanctuary

Sunday

April 8-12:45-3p

Sanctuary

Come. . .

bring your dreams

share your vision

**express your
thoughts**

Can't make it?

**Express your
thoughts here**

[www. VUU.ORG/VISION](http://www.VUU.ORG/VISION)

Faith Formation Ministry April 2018



April 1st, Easter Pancake Breakfast
AND

Egg hunt and party for children and youth



Breakfast is served 8 a.m – 9:45 a.m. Tickets available online:

<https://squareup.com/store/valleyuufundraisers>

Party: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. in Education complex

Sign up to donate or volunteer <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054ea9a92da02-20181>

Another successful service trip to Agua Prieta, Mexico!

23 youth and adults worked for 3 days on 2 building projects: a house for a family and a structure for a volunteer group currently running a soup kitchen in a lean-to.



You can find more pictures from the trip at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyUU/>

Looking forward to a year filled with amazing opportunities,
Marcé Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation ministry



Last meeting for Great Books discussion group

The VUU Great Books Reading and Discussion Group has decided that after our March meeting, we will be taking an indefinite hiatus. Thank you to all our current and past members and visitors for the many hours of conversation and discussion. The wonderful Great Books collections we have used over the many past years have given all of us a chance to read many classic pieces and to share our reactions and experiences in a safe and friendly environment. Thanks to all who joined in over the years.

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 a.m. – 9 a.m. Done at 10 a.m. - plenty of time to get to the VUU service! ...questions? Just email DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com

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

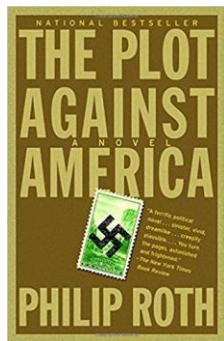
COLUMBUS AND OTHER CANNIBALS

“Why is the dominant culture so excruciatingly, relentlessly, insanely, genocidally, ecocidally, suicidally destructive?” (Jack D. Forbes) Come explore with us the nativist concept of Wétiko, a contagious disease of the soul that Forbes claims has infected most of the world. It’s evidenced by aggression and violence, hate and greed, and consumes everything, including people’s lives.

What can we do to inoculate or cure ourselves? What can we do for the rest of the world? Let’s talk about it. We’ll meet on the 1st Monday of every month, February through May at 7:00 p.m. in the VUU board room.

To sign up contact Jayne Burgess at Jayne@JayneBurgess.com Jerry Gnoza at Jerry.Gnoza@gmail.com or Jessica Gnoza at Jessica.McCulla@gmail.com

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 April 19 at 7:15 p.m. The book is a novel The Plot Against America by Phillip Roth. In this alternative history, that is considered chillingly realistic in its portrayal, the reader watches as America spirals down the path toward fascism.

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

Spirit of Life Reading 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 2018: April 26, and May 24 at 7 p.m. in Room 1-2

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.

What is the best diet for me?



A research and discussion group facilitated by Jerry Waters.

Next meeting: April 9th, 7p.m., in the Board Room.

Our feature will be the film Forks Over Knives. Come learn about the FOK Diet and enjoy the film. Hear that many Western diseases are avoidable, given the right nutrition!

Are you interested in joining a Men's Discussion Group?

Two years ago, we started a VUU men's discussion group. The Men's Group meets every two weeks from 7-9 p.m. at the church year-round. Some members are snowbirds (participate for six months). Ages range from 28 to 78. Most are members or attend VUU, but this is not a restriction. Last year we started a second group which is still meeting.



I understand there may be additional men interested participating in a men's group. I would be happy to start another group, let me know if you're interested or would like additional information. Looks as if this might be an annual opportunity. Once a group is formed it's pretty much closed as members rarely drop out. Email me at frank.mundo@gmail.com.



VUU WOMEN'S GROUP

Our next meeting will be after the Service April 22, 2018 at the front of the sanctuary and in the kitchen. All women are welcome. You do not need to be a VUU member. The topic will be books. Have you read a good book lately? What is your favorite book of all time? If possible, bring a copy of the book.

We will have a light luncheon potluck. Please bring a dish to share, but if you arrive without a dish, come anyway. Contact information: Margaret Stewart, mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com or Johnnie Godfrey, johnniegirl85218@gmail.com.

MUSIC & MORE

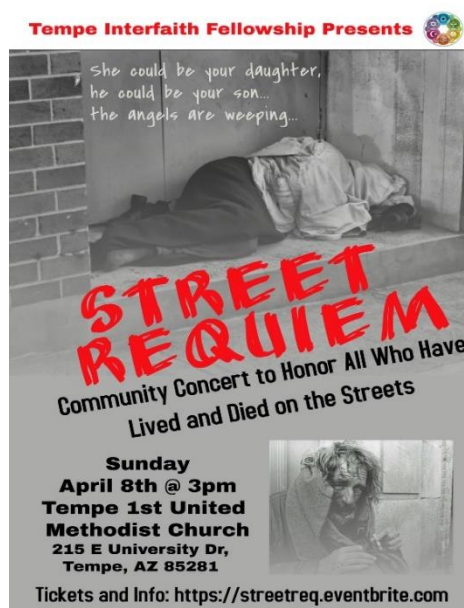
STREET REQUIEM: You still have a chance to see/hear this wonderful and moving piece recently performed for our All-Music services. The Community Concert will be on **Sunday April 8th at 3 PM** at Tempe United Methodist, 215 E. University Drive in Tempe.

We selected this contemporary Requiem because there is nothing like the power of music to crack the heart open. Music helps us become more compassionate and inspires us to continue to work for a better world. This piece in particular compels us to not turn away, and to remember those who have died on our streets. It is especially relevant now because of the increase of homelessness and violence in our society. One moving line is:

She could be your daughter, he could be your son, the angels are weeping.

Come hear people of different faiths singing together to inspire us to work for a better world and honor people who live and die on the streets. A "Love Offering" will be taken at the April 8th concert to help cover concert expenses and contribute to the Urban Outreach/Shower Program and the I-Help (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program).

You may purchase a CD of the original performance of *Street Requiem* on Spotify or on I-Tunes at: itunes.apple.com/au/album/street-requiem-live/id951843128



RYAN MARVEL CONCERT at

Valley UU! One of our fabulous former pianists is giving a concert our sanctuary on Saturday **May 5th at 7:30 PM**. He recently released a new CD and is excited to share some of his new music, as well as some of his old favorites with us. Tickets go on sale April 15 and will be \$15 in advance at vuu.org and on Sunday mornings, or \$20 at the door. His

concerts are always magical, and this will be a not-to-be-missed event!

VOICES LIFTED SINGERS is a group of women who sing in community settings such as nursing homes and at bedside for those recovering from surgery or illness or who are in hospice care. Rehearsals are 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at VUU on the following Sundays: April 22 and May 6 (both in the Conference Room) and May 20 (in Room 1)

The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** is on Sunday May 6th from noon to 3:30 p.m. in the VUU sanctuary. If you have been attending VUU and are interested in membership, learning more about Unitarian Universalism, VUU, and meeting other newcomers, this is for you! Register by emailing the office at office@vuu.org. Lunch and babysitting provided if requested in advance.

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

VUU COMMUNITY

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

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

Here are your April **FUUNd** opportunities:

4/4/18 – Boxing with the Reverend, 4:00 PM – Join Rev. Andy for a one-hour boxing class featuring 15 minutes of cardio, three rounds of punching, and more. Four (4) spaces available; \$25/person.

4/7/18 – First Water Trail Hike and Lunch, 9:00 AM – Enjoy a glorious 5-6-mile hike in the Superstition Mountains followed by a delicious chili lunch. Five (5) spaces are available; \$25/person

4/28/18 - Historic Homes Bicycling Tour, 10:00 AM – Long-time Willo residents Bobbi and Tricia will take you on a bike tour of some of Phoenix's historic neighborhoods followed by a picnic lunch at their historic home. Two (2) spaces available; \$25/person.

For more information or to purchase a "ticket" and attend one of these events, email fuundtogether@vuu.org or call Debbe at 480-244-6570.

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 March 2018 are:

10 to 19 Years:

Dorothy Schultz

20 to 29 Years:

George Cowgill

30 to 39 Years:

Rick Hinrichs and Debbe Simpkins

Mary Rothschild

40 to 49 Years:

Joy Mills

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

VUU SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

LGBT Organizational Meeting, April 1 and April 15, Room 5 at 11:45 a.m.

Please join us at our next meetings of our new VUU LGBT Group. We are a new group and would love to hear ideas from everyone about how we can best serve our VUU Community. Everyone is WELCOME.

Next Coffee Conversations – April 8, 2018

VUUJAZ social action coffee conversations are held each month usually in the first or second Sunday 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on the patio or in the sanctuary. In this round table discussion we share our social justice concerns, our social justice projects, and learn from one another how to stay involved, inspired, and informed. All are welcome.

Contact legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org for more information.

Last Call: “Difficult Conversations and How to Have Them” A Review

April 15, 2018, VUU Sanctuary, 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Snacks available

- Insight from Rev Andy and Rev Abigail Conley (Appalachia reviewed)
- How listening and empathy works.
- Review your story: beliefs from your childhood that you don’t believe now using the Ladder of Intention
- Handout: “Trump vs the Working Class” talking points to support your contention.

United We Stand, We’re All in This Together

For more information, contact Bev McCormick, tempebev1@gmail.com

AZED 101 Presentation – April 24, 2018, VUU Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

VUU is working with AZED101, a group of parents committed to improving Arizona’s education funding, to make sure that we all understand how desperate it is to obtain adequate funding for our schools. Did you know that:

- AZ is 50th in the nation for public school funding.
- AZ is 51st in the nation for teacher pay
- AZ is 50th in the nation for per-pupil spending.

It doesn’t have to stay this way. We MUST act to correct these problems so that our schools and districts can succeed.

Please join us on April 24 for a presentation and discussion on these issues and bring friends that also need to understand this ongoing situation. If you want more information *or are available to help us with this event (3-4 hours total commitment)*, please contact Willa Cree, socialaction@vuu.org

Paz de Cristo needs YOU

Are you a UU looking for another way to help others who are less fortunate? Make a commitment to help feed the hungry at Paz de Cristo on a second Friday in April and 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

Paz de Cristo – Donations for April

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of **feminine sanitary products and disposable diapers (sizes 3 to 5)** at any time during the month of April. So, we don't receive too many of one type of item, please purchase the product or size indicated by the first letter of your last name:

- A-D Feminine sanitary products
- E-L Disposable Diapers Size 3
- M-R Disposable Diapers Size 4
- S-Z Disposable Diapers Size 5

These are staples that are always in great demand. Thank you for your generosity!

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

I-HELP

Thru our work with the **I-HELP** Chandler program, VUU provides dinner and shelter for the night for 20+ individuals three Monday nights a month. We like to also provide toiletries to anyone who needs them. Our supplies have been depleted and thus we are asking the congregation to help us build them back up. We have plenty of bars of soap but need the following items: **Combs and brushes, lotion, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, small notebooks, pens and pencils, razors, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and sunscreen.** When you are homeless, you must carry all of your possessions with you all day and keep them close at night, so you don't want a lot of bulk or weight, thus we ask that you donate sample / travel size items—perhaps toiletries you've gathered from hotels on your travels or that you see on sale when you grocery shop. You may **place your donations in the large wicker basket in the foyer** any time. Thank you! For more information, contact Dorothy Schultz dortmae36@gmail.com.



LIBRARY NOTES

We have three new books categorized "Politics, World Affairs & Social Issues." For the next few weeks they will be on the library cart to the left as you enter the library. When they are moved to the shelves, they will be filed by category (see above) and author.

They Thought They Were Free; The Germans 1933-45, Milton Mayer

Democracy in Chains; The Deep History of the Radical Right's Stealth Plans for America, Nancy MacLean

Unequal Protection; How Corporations Became "People" and How You Can Fight Back, Second Edition, Revised & Expanded, Thom Hartmann.

Contact person: Johnnie Godfrey johnniegirl85218@gmail.com

**Arizona Interfaith Power & Light, Storyscope, Missio Dei Communities,
Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and Congregation NefeshSoul
present:**

Sacred Earth / Common Ground

Thursday, April 5, 2018, 7:00-8:30 pm

Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 6400 Del Rio St, Chandler, AZ

Please arrive a few minutes early to sign in.

THE THEME: SACRED EARTH/ COMMON GROUND

In a time when every issue is polarized and our culture is divided along partisan lines, is it possible to find common ground in our love and gratitude for the gifts of sacred Earth? Participants will be invited to tell stories about times when, like Moses at the burning bush, we found ourselves standing on Holy Ground. Could these experiences build bridges to help us live more gently upon the Earth?

THE PROGRAM

We'll convene as one group for opening remarks and presentations by Citizen Artists. Then we'll break out into Story Circles of 6-10 people, each with a facilitator. You will be invited to share a 3-minute story (see suggested prompts below) and listen to others share their stories about the ways they are impacted by the state of the union. To conclude, we'll reconvene as one group for the final artistic interlude and to reflect on what was shared in the Story Circles.



TELLING YOUR 3-MINUTE STORY—PROMPTS & TIPS

Craft your story with a beginning, middle, and end, about something you have experienced or observed. No need to memorize, you can improvise or jot some key points on a notecard. Your story might be about:

- An outdoor adventure that proved to be a touch-stone event in your life.
- An experience in nature brought you closer to those you love.
- A time when you found yourself standing on Holy Ground.
- A transformational experience you had in nature.

Free admission. For more information contact Rev. Doug Bland, dougbland1008@gmail.com.



DONATE
YOUR

no longer needed items and more!

Help Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation
raise money by simply donating
your unwanted items!

Bring your donation to:

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation

6400 W. Del Rio St., Chandler, AZ 85226

Sunday, April 15th

**Just unload your car into the parking lot before
service, and your items will be loaded for you!**

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation earns money
for every pound of donated items!

We gladly accept: Dishes, Pictures, Frames, Plates, Pots, Pans, Bakeware, Stuffed Animals, Figurines, Mugs & Glasses, Home Décor, Lamps, DVDs, Books, VHS, Video Games, Alarm Clocks, Radios, Speakers, Small Kitchen Appliances, Rugs, Purses, Wallets, Backpacks, Ties, Scarves, Belts, Gloves, Hats, Blankets, Sheets, Computers, Tools, Toys, Clothing, Shoes, Furniture, Electronics, Sporting Goods, Large Appliances.

Unfortunately we cannot accept: Auto Parts, Building Materials, Tires, Cleaning Products, Flammable Products, Pesticides/Lawn Garden Products, Paint/Paint Supplies, Televisions, Mattresses, Sofa Beds, Pool Tables.

EVENTS



First Sunday of each month – Yes, we will be available this Sunday, April 1st! 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!

VUU Singles

Friday, April 20, 6:15 p.m., Game Night at Bob and Raul's (7392 S. Hazelton Lane, Tempe—near NE corner of Elliot and McClintock)

What could be 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, ice tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. Let Claudette know if you would like to come on over for an evening of games. We need to keep a count of how many are coming so we know if any extra tables and chairs are needed. Text, call or email Claudette claudettewassil@hotmail.com, 973-768-6047 to RSVP. For last minute directions, contact Raul at 561-901-9277.

Friday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Singles Monthly Dinner Joe's Farm Grill

3000 E. Ray Rd, Gilbert (Higley and Ray). Lovely country setting with plenty of outdoor tables. Let's take advantage before the weather gets too hot. Come share good conversation with friends. RSVP to Claudette by call or text 973-768-6047 or simply reply to the group email.



What role does Social Action have in the lives of Unitarian Universalists? We will explore this and other questions at a meeting of the EastVUUUs on Thursday, April 12, starting with a potluck at 6 p.m.

The EastVUUUs are members and friends of Valley UU who are interested in faith development, social justice and friendships in the East Valley. You and your guests are invited and welcome to enjoy our fellowship and lively discussion.

Please bring along some food to share, a beverage of choice and your own tableware, if possible.

Apache Wells Community Center, Maricopa Room

[2215 N. 56th St.](#), Mesa, AZ 85215

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

Winter residents and "Snowbirds" are welcome!

WAYFARERS

April 20th get-together details TBA in future *Happenings*.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR MAY IS APRIL 15

PACIFIC WESTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Registration and full details about the 2018 Pacific Western Regional Assembly, April 27-29, in Portland, Oregon, can be found on the [PWR Regional Assembly website](#).

A colorful promotional flyer is available for download [here](#). Please consider printing and posting a few copies in your congregation. If you'd like to include a black-and-white poster in your newsletter, that version can be found [here](#).

In mid-December I distributed a one-page piece that included a very brief Regional Assembly announcement, as well as a longer version suitable for your church's newsletter or email notification list. That document can be accessed [here](#). Please relay this link to your newsletter editor and church email list manager.

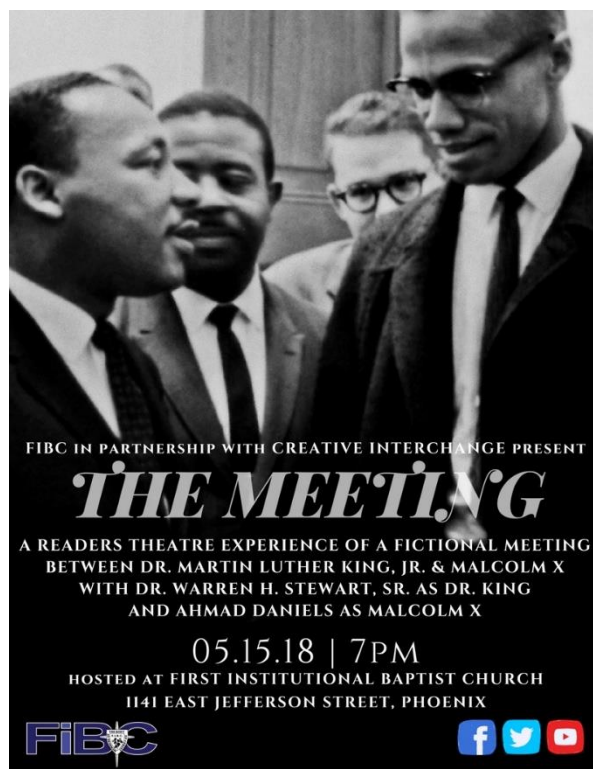
Be sure to let the religious professionals on your staff know that we have also planned a special day-long professional development program for Friday, April 27. Details are available on the [PWR Regional Assembly website](#).

Memorial Day Camping Weekend at SAWUURA

Friday, May 25 - Monday, May 28, 2018

SAWUURA is our own UU 100-acre woods in the Sierra Ancha Wilderness near Young, AZ (about 4 hrs drive from Phoenix). Join dozens of other UUs Memorial Day weekend for a relaxing weekend under the stars. Disconnect from your phones, computers, TVs and share meals, hikes, music and laughter with other nature-lovers. Meals are provided with the cost of registration, just bring snacks, drinks, and camping gear. Registration Fees: \$60 per adult (\$50 for SAWUURA members), \$25 per child. Registration Due Date: Friday, May 18. Registration forms available online (sawuura.org). For more info please contact Eb Eberlein Ebaztrails@gmail.com 520-622-6966

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!





Caring & Concerns Neighborhood Contacts

As spring approaches, people take advantage of the nice weather to get out and do more. As 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.

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

Tempe South - Zips: 85283, 85284

DiAnna Farmer

480-413-0293

dianna_farmer@hotmail.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

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

Neighborhood Contacts Needed!

Madeline Kasian

480-349-3080

maddie628@gmail.com

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

Jacqui Meriweather

480-491-0546

jacquelinea.meriweather@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.



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VUU STAFF

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette, Senior Minister
The 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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