

VUUPOINT

March 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/>

### *March's Theme - Humility*

**March 4 Humbling Ourselves: a Cure for Class Division**

**The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**

Guest Pianist Jack Wisniewski will play the piano and the VUU Children's Choir will sing.

**March 11 First Become Broken: Taoism's Teachings**

**The Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**

The Chalice Ringers (Bell Choir) will perform.

**March 18 Hope Begins in the Dark**

**Reverend Steven Protzman**

Writer Anne Lamott says: "Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don't give up. You continue to show up, even in the face of overwhelming odds, and try to do the right thing." Together we will reflect on what hope asks of us as Unitarian Universalists. The VUU Worship Band will perform.

**March 25 All Music Service**

**Reverend Kellie Walker Hart**

*Street Requiem* is a wonderful piece written in honor of those who live and die on city streets. Join Rev. Kellie, the VUU Adult Choir, and the Choir of the UU Congregation of Phoenix for a moving message and exciting new music.

#### Events at a Glance

3/02 Singles Game Night	3/16 FF Service Trip
3/03 FF Annual Italian Dinner	Wayfarer's Happy HoUUr
Singles Spaghetti Dinner & a Movie	3/18 Newsletter Deadline
3/04 VIP House Meetings Begin	Passover Seder Sign-up Deadline
The Board Room	3/23 Singles Monthly Dinner
3/05 Columbus & Other Cannibals	3/24 <b>Passover Seder</b>
3/08 EastVUU's Gathering	3/25 VUU Women's Group
3/11 Voices Lifted Rehearsal	Great Books Discussion Group
3/12 What is the Best Diet for Me?	Voices Lifted Rehearsal
3/15 N.S.G. Book Club	3/29 Spirit of Life Reading Circle

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends

Wednesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singer & Chalice Ringers Rehearsals

**4/01 Easter Pancake Breakfast & Egg Hunt**

*"There is a universal respect and even admiration for those who are humble and simple by nature, and who have absolute confidence in all human beings irrespective of their social status."*

– **Nelson Mandela, Conversations With Myself**

## “A Moment with the Minister”



Our congregational theme for the month of March is humility. You won't find this virtue on any list of most frequented UU sermon themes. We rightly spend a lot of time praising the inherent righteousness in all of us. We spend less time talking about the importance of being humble. But I think it is impossible to be true to Unitarian Universalist principles without working on humility.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, “In my walks, every man I meet is my superior in some way, and in that I learn from him.” Truly, the Transcendentalists weren't known for their meekness. Emerson was convinced that every person had inherent spiritual access to God that made listening to preaching, for example, unnecessary. He said so in a sermon. But it was probably this idea that led Emerson to say what he said about learning from every person he met. If the divine is to be found inherently in me, it is also found inherently in you, and if I am curious about your experience, I stand to learn something from you.

We Unitarian Universalists believe passionately that religion ought to be centered on a free search for truth and meaning. But it's a little hard to learn anything when I am always making sure you have gleaned the wisdom I believe is oozing from my every statement. Humility, knowing we always have something more to learn, makes it possible to take in new truths.

Humility doesn't mean having a low opinion of oneself. We ought to know and celebrate our strengths. It does mean having an accurate self-image. None of us knows everything. We can learn from anyone.

One Sunday morning in a congregation I was serving some years ago, a trustee approached me and told me the toilet was broken. “Uh-oh,” I said. I think she was hoping for something more from me, but I didn't know how to fix it. Luckily for us, there was a plumber in the congregation. I learned from him that morning how to fix a toilet. That's a lot more practical than anything he learned from my sermon.

The ancient Stoic Epictetus said it this way: “Know first who you are and what you're capable of. Just as nothing great is created instantly, the same goes for the perfecting of our talents and aptitudes. We are always learning, always growing... Don't kid yourself: If you try to be something or someone you are not, you belittle your true self and end up not developing in those areas that you would have excelled at quite naturally... We each have our own special calling. Listen to yours and follow it faithfully.”

With love,  
Rev. Andy

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

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

### Architect Visioning Sessions Coming...

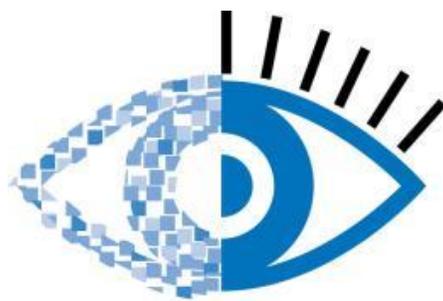
At the urging of the congregation, the Board has engaged Wendell Burnette Architects to begin the visioning process to look at new, creative, and aspirational ways of expanding our space to accommodate the vision of Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation's campus.

Congregational Visioning Sessions will be held on Tuesday, April 3 (7pm - 9 pm) and Sunday, April 8 (12:45pm - 3pm), in the sanctuary. Each session will be led by the architects from WBA, and we encourage all members and friends to attend and participate, sharing your thoughts and ideas about what the VUU space looks like in five and ten years.

There will be additional sessions for the leadership of VUU, followed by some additional planning, with a presentation of the results at the congregational meeting on June 3.

We hope that YOU will attend and be a part of this important process.

- From your Board of Trustees



# VISIONING

## Faith Formation Ministry February 2018

### 2018 Multi-Generational Service Trip to Agua Prieta, Mexico



VOLUNTEER

Don't miss the opportunity to join our bi-annual service trip to build houses in the barrio of Agua Prieta, Mexico. We leave VUU at 8 am on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and return Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in the late afternoon.

Applications are available on the VUU website, use the Service trip tab (accepted on a first come/first serve basis.) <http://www.vuu.org/edu/multi-generational-service-trip/>

Fundraising opportunities are available to offset the cost of the trip.

Planning meeting, Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 12:15 pm in room 5 in Education complex.

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Annual Italian Dinner in the education courtyard, 5 pm & 7 pm seatings.

Hosted by the VUU educational/service trip participants.

Advanced tickets required, ticket sales close Fri, March 2

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



April 1<sup>st</sup>, Easter Pancake Breakfast

AND

Egg hunt and party for children and youth



Breakfast is served 8 am – 10 am. Tickets available online:

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

Party: 10:30 – 11:30 am in Education complex

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

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

## ONGOING ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

### Great Books discussion group

The VUU Great Books Discussion Group will meet on **Sunday, March 25, from 7pm to 9pm**, in room 5. We will revisit William Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar".

All are welcome! Please contact Kevin Erdmann at [kebko@yahoo.com](mailto:kebko@yahoo.com) if you have any questions about the meeting and would like to join us.

### 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 **March 15 at 7:15 p.m.** The book is a novel The Forgetting Time by Sharon Guskin. What happens to us after we die? What happens before we are born? At once a riveting mystery and a testament to the profound connection between child and parent.

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

### The Dalai Lama and Friends Workshop



An opportunity to learn from the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan and modern Buddhist teachers is offered each Sunday from 9-10AM in the 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](mailto:DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com)

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

### 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: **March 29**, April 26, and May 24.

Email [maryloganrothschild@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto:Jayne@JayneBurgess.com) Jerry Gnoza at [Jerry.Gnoza@gmail.com](mailto:Jerry.Gnoza@gmail.com) or Jessica Gnoza at [Jessica.McCulla@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.McCulla@gmail.com)

## What is the best diet for me?



A research and discussion group facilitated by Jerry Waters.

Next meeting: **March 12, 7pm, in the Board Room**, Maria will be facilitating the group. Our discussion will cover environmental aspects of Whole Foods, Plant-based eating.

There are areas of the world where people live appreciably longer, some 12 years longer than the average lifespan in the US. Many are lucky to live vigorously more than 100 years. While we can't all do that, many lifestyle components like a plant-based diet foster longevity. Purpose-driven lives fulfill us. Social support and even moderate amounts of alcohol may help us enjoy our lives. Active lifestyles provide regular "exercise" that sustains us. Come listen to the stories of remarkable people.



“Life is a long lesson in humility.”  
James M. Barrie

Photo by [Kevin Gent](#) on [Unsplash](#)

*from the*  
**Administrator**

**Did you know??** There is a *CONFIDENTIAL* Life Crisis Form that can be used in case of emergency available on the VUU Website that you can fill out and send to the Minister’s Office? We encourage you to fill one out! <http://www.vuu.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/LifeCrisisForm.pdf>

Questions? Contact Sue Ringler, Congregation Administrator [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org)

## MUSIC & MORE

**STREET REQUIEM:** The Valley UU Adult Choir is performing this wonderful piece along with the choir from the UU Congregation of Phoenix for our annual All-Music Services during Sunday morning worship on March 18 (at UUCP) and March 25 (here at Valley UU). In addition, we will be performing it at a Community Concert on Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM at Tempe First United Methodist, 215 E. University Drive in Tempe.

*Street Requiem* was first premiered in Australia in 2014 and was also recently performed in San Jose, CA, in Texas, and at Carnegie Hall. It was written to honor people who live and die on the streets and to bring issues of homelessness and street violence to public attention. It is set in 10 movements, uses Latin text from the traditional Catholic mass along with contemporary street language, and includes varied musical styles from South African to Celtic to classical. The composers highly encourage choirs who perform this piece to make some connection to homeless issues and include people who live on the streets in the performance.

Since many different faith communities participate in the I-HELP program, serving people who are homeless in Tempe and Chandler, this piece is a great fit for an Interfaith or Community Choir. We have invited singers from various congregations in the Tempe Interfaith Fellowship to rehearse and perform with us in the April concert. We have also reached out to both I-HELP and the Urban Outreach/Shower Program to invite their folks to be a part of this Community Choir. We will be taking a Love Offering at the April 8<sup>th</sup> concert to help cover concert expenses and contribute to I-HELP and the Urban Outreach/Shower Program. The concert is open to the public, so if you miss hearing *Street Requiem* at VUU on March 25<sup>th</sup>, or just want to hear it again, please plan to attend the **3 PM concert on April 8.**



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](https://itunes.apple.com/au/album/street-requiem-live/id951843128)

**RYAN MARVEL CONCERT** at Valley UU! One of our fabulous former pianists is coming to town and will be giving a concert here at VUU on Saturday evening May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in our Sanctuary. He has 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 will be \$15 in advance and \$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 to 3:00 at VUU (room varies) on the following Sundays: March 11 & 25, April 22, and May 6 & 20

The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** is on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3:30 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](mailto:office@vuu.org). Lunch and babysitting provided if requested in advance.

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

## *VUU COMMUNITY*

### **Passover Seder - Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**



Please plan to attend our Passover Seder on March 24th at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. A Seder consists of both a service and a dinner. We will tell the story of Passover, sing some Hebrew songs, eat great food and have a good time. Come and experience this wonderful Jewish tradition and share it with your children.

This will be a potluck, and we are doing the sign-up online. We are using Signup Genius, where you can sign up and select the potluck item of your choice. Please visit:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4fabac2aaafc1-passover>.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children to cover the costs of materials. If you would like to volunteer to help or if you have questions, please contact Joanne Smith at 480-250-9093 or send an email to [passover@vuu.org](mailto:passover@vuu.org).

Due to preparation requirements, advance reservations are required. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.



"Every person that you meet knows something you don't; learn from them."

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Photo by [Ben Hershey](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## VUU SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

### Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

#### VUU Stories: Finding our Priorities Meetings

Throughout the month of March, we will be running “Finding our Priorities” meetings. Please stop by our table and sign up for one of our meetings. We need everyone’s ideas in order to make choices for our congregation. If you have questions, anyone at our patio table will be happy to help. Also, you can contact [socialaction@vuu.org](mailto:socialaction@vuu.org) or Willa Cree, 480-221-9547.

#### LGBT Social Action Group – Next meeting, March 4, 12:00-1:30

We now have a new LGBT Social Action Group. Be part of its development of a mission statement, name selection, and activity priorities. The next meeting will be held in Room 5, March 4 after the Sunday service, from 12:00 – 1:30. **Everyone is welcome.** Questions can be addressed to [socialaction@vuu.org](mailto: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 March and April. 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](mailto:pazdecristo@vuu.org)



#### Paz de Cristo – Donations for March – vegetable oil (any type)

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of vegetable oil (any type) during the month of March. It can be any type of cooking oil, such as canola oil, olive oil, safflower oil, corn oil, etc. They seem to be always running out of this item and having to buy more from the grocery store every month.

Drop your donation in the designated container in the foyer of the sanctuary. With your help, we can do our part to make sure that Paz de Cristo does not run out of this essential item. Thanks for your generosity!

Gift cards for groceries and gas are welcome and will continue to be collected throughout the year. They can be placed in the lock box on the wall above the collection box. Fry’s gift cards are especially appreciated because they give Paz the flexibility to get either gas or groceries.

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



Would you like to know more about this important ministry? Do you want to get involved? We really need to straighten out our corner of the VUU Storage Unit off the Sanctuary. Do you like organizing space and fearlessly getting rid of ‘stuff’!?! I’m sure we can find something for you to do so contact Sue at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org)

Look for the opportunity to sign-up to serve a meal to our guests on March 12. The link to the meal sign-up will be in next week’s Happenings Email Blast!

#### 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](mailto:socialaction@vuu.org)



**LIBRARY NOTES**

We have a few new books. For a short time, they will be on the small bookcase to the left of the library entrance. Later they will be shelved by category then author.

Escape from Camp 14; One Man’s Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom, Blaine Hardin, (Politics, World Affairs & Social Issues)

Long Way Home; A Memoir of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Bean, (Biographies & Memoirs)

Widening the Circle; the Power of Inclusive Classrooms, Mara Sapon-Shevin, (Unitarian Universalist)

The Happiness Makeover; How to Teach Yourself to be Happy & Enjoy Every Day, M. J. Ryan, (Psychology & Philosophy)

**From Women4Women:** Thank you, [Lauree Dunahoo Perry](#) and friends from the Valley UU

*Congregation for your fantastic donation of 100 bags of feminine hygiene products! The women donated everything and had leftovers to give to us. They will do this again August 11. Thank you! And you are Women4Women Tempe! Dignity. Health. Period.*



A big thank you to all the women who turned out to stuff bags for Women4Women Tempe on Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup>. We made almost a hundred bags, and they were wowed by our donation. We had such a good time making the bags and being able to help the low income/homeless women that we’re going to do it again. Please mark your calendars for Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am at VUU. More information to follow closer to the date.



## Call for Delegates – UUA General Assembly and Pacific Western Regional Assembly

**VUU Needs You!** to become a delegate and represent our congregation at the following meetings:

- The UUA Pacific Western Regional Assembly, including the Pacific Southwestern District Business Meeting. April 27 – 29, 2018 in Portland, Oregon.
- The UUA General Assembly. June 20-24, 2018 in Kansas City, MO.

Additional information can be seen at [UUA.org](http://UUA.org).

Both meetings are important, but the General Assembly is especially significant this year because potential changes to the Seven Principles are expected to be on the agenda. Although anyone can register to attend either meeting, if you wish to officially represent VUU as a voting delegate you must first receive accreditation from VUU.

Please contact the VUU Leadership Development Committee at [leadershipdevelopment@vuu.org](mailto:leadershipdevelopment@vuu.org), or one of our members listed below if you wish to perform this role. Also, please note that unfortunately VUU does not have a budget to subsidize attendance; delegates must attend at their own cost.

Thank you.

VUU Leadership Development Committee - Tom Briggs, Linda Horton, Beverly McCormick, David Sheh, Ken St. John, Debbe Simpkins, Barbara Sorauf

### 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:

*Sally Buntschuh*

*Jennifer Horen & Frank Ray*

*Katie & Michael Solomon*

*Nancy Wittenberg*

20 to 29 Years:

*Lorraine Rice*

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

“Just remember, when someone has an accent,  
it means that he knows one more language than you do.”

– **Sidney Sheldon, Windmills of the Gods**

# 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!*

## VUU Singles

**Friday, March 2, 6:15 p.m. Game Night at Bob and Raul's** ([7392 S Hazelton Lane, Tempe](#) - near NE corner of Elliot and McClintock - Raul's # 561-901-9277)

Do you have a game you would like to play? We can play Dominoes, Apples to Apples, card games, or anything else your heart desires. Just bring it along. We'll snack our way through dinner and the evening so please bring a substantial snack to share. Water, ice tea, and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. We need a count of how many are coming so we know if extra tables and chairs are needed. Please RSVP call or text Claudette at 973-768-6047 or email her at [claudettewassil@hotmail.com](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com). For last minute directions, contact Raul at number above.

## **Saturday, March 3rd 5 p.m. SPAGHETTI AND A MOVIE at VUU**

Every year we support the youth in our church by attending their fundraising event—The Spaghetti Dinner. We will eat at the 5 p.m. sitting and then all go to a movie afterwards (either in the theater or at Renee's). They offer meat or vegetarian lasagna along with salad, bread, dessert and beverage—all for just \$15! This year you can purchase tickets online. Here is the link: <http://www.vuu.org/news/>. Everyone is on their own to get their tickets and we just look for each other that night.

## **Friday, March 23, 6:30 p.m. Singles Monthly Dinner - Rita's Restaurant and Cantina** (1264 West University, Mesa, just west of Alma School on north side of street)

Excellent food and a happy hour that goes till 7 (Wayfarer's met here in January) Excellent Ceviche and Street Tacos and great assortment of other fresh, traditional Mexican food. While they don't take reservations, they reportedly have plenty of tables open at 6:30, BUT to be on the safe side, we need a cadre of early arrivers to secure our place so for those who can make it, be there between 5:30 and 6 (and enjoy that happy hour from 4-7!). Please RSVP call or text Claudette at 973-768-6047.



## EastVUUs

EAST VALLEY

What role does love play in your life? What challenges your willingness or capacity to love? Could love be a spiritual practice for you? We will explore these and other questions at a meeting of the EastVUUs on **March 8**, starting with a potluck at 6 pm. The EastVUUs 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.

Come to the Apache Wells Community, 2215 N. 56<sup>th</sup> St., on McKellips Road in Mesa; turn north at the light and follow the "Welcome UU" signs to the Community Building. Winter residents and "Snowbirds" are welcome!

Wayfarers Happy Hour: March 16, 4:30 until 7  
Draft House Sports Bar

[1130 W Grove Avenue](#) in Mesa (near Southern and Alma School.)



Check out their menu and Happy Hour specials at

<http://draftgrill.com>

RSVP: JoAnne Smith

[uujsmith@aol.com](mailto:uujsmith@aol.com) or

480 250-9093

This is a good way for newcomers to get together with a small group and make friends. Everyone is welcome

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR APRIL IS MARCH 18**

**VUU WOMEN'S GROUP**

The VUU Women's Group will meet next on **Sunday, March 25**, after the morning Service. All VUU women and friends are invited to gather at the front of the sanctuary for a simple potluck lunch and conversation. This gathering will be led by Willa Cree, as one of the "Telling Our Stories: Finding Our (VUU) Priorities" sessions. Please bring a simple lunch dish to share, if possible, and enjoy talking with new and old friends about our shared hopes and dreams for VUU! For questions or comments, please contact Margaret Stewart at [mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com](mailto:mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com), or [508-662-6348](tel:508-662-6348).



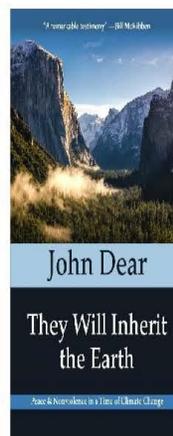


## JOIN US FOR AN EVENING WITH JOHN DEAR

### SPEND AN EVENING WITH JOHN DEAR ON HIS NEW BOOK:

#### *They Will Inherit the Earth: Peace & Nonviolence in a Time of Climate Change*

Join us for an evening reading, reflection and book-signing with longtime activist, priest, author and Nobel peace prize nominee John Dear about his new book, "They Will Inherit the Earth," a landmark work which connects the way of active nonviolence with solidarity with Creation; shows how our global epidemic of violence and war could only lead to catastrophic climate change; and why we need to help build up the global grassroots movement of nonviolence if we are to protect creation. He cites Jesus' third Beatitude as the basis for his meditation: "Blessed are the meek, they will inherit the earth." Thomas Merton said "meekness" was the biblical word for "nonviolence" (in the Gandhi/King sense), so Dear notes how Jesus connected nonviolence with oneness with creation, how he practiced nonviolence and lived at one with creation, and how we need to do the same. John Dear will invite us to rise to the occasion, deepen our nonviolence, take new steps into active solidarity with Mother Earth and suffering humanity, and do what we can to welcome a new culture of peace and nonviolence.



Rev. John Dear is a long time peace activist, lecturer and teacher, and the author of 35 books including *Thomas Merton Peacemaker*; *Lazarus Come Forth!*; *Living Peace*; *The Nonviolent Life*; and *The Beatitudes of Peace*. He has been nominated many times for the Nobel Peace Prize, including by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. He works with CampaignNonviolence.org and the Vatican Nonviolence Initiative and lives in New Mexico. [www.johndear.org](http://www.johndear.org)

Questions? [www.paceebene.org](http://www.paceebene.org) // (510) 268-8765 // [info@paceebene.org](mailto:info@paceebene.org)

Date/Time: Sunday, March 4, 2018 @ 4PM at Dayspring United Methodist Church

Location/Address: 1365 E Elliot Road, Tempe AZ 85284

Contact: Doug Bland, Executive Director, Arizona Interfaith Power & Light, [doug.bland@azipl.org](mailto:doug.bland@azipl.org)

# BIGOTRY HARASSMENT DISCRIMINATION Violence

## THE UNTOLD STORY OF CHINESE IMMIGRATION

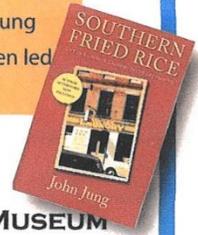
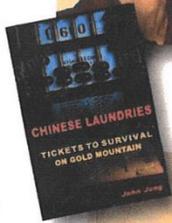
A POWERFUL INSIGHT INTO ASSIMILATION OF AMERICAN CULTURE DURING LATE 1800'S



MARCH 6, 2018,  
6:30- 8.0 PM  
Gilbert Historical  
Museum



Renowned historian & author **Dr John Jung** will discuss these dark times in America's history. His family, along with Lucy Wong's endured the most harrowing experience growing up as children of Chinese immigrants. Agonizing over the cultural divide as young Americans, Dr Jung explains how family identity issues so often led to family disconnect and breakdowns.



**GILBERT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
10 S. GILBERT RD, GILBERT, AZ

INFO: 480.519.6688

America welcomed most immigrants ... but not Chinese. They were different! They looked different, spoke different and in some cases viewed as sub human.



## Regional Mission Trip for Youth and Adults next summer!



- Do you have a passion for environmental justice?
- Have you been interested to partner with grassroots organizations to create a lasting partnership in solidarity with local communities?
- Have you ever wanted to make a real difference while learning hands on skills and concepts?

**“Pacific Western Region Justice Journey: Roots, Reflections and Relationships - An Environmental Justice Journey. A week-long immersion experience focusing on Environmental Sustainability through service, learning, and through a meditation practice designed to be reflective and to sustain future justice work.**

Logistics: Sat. night, July 14 - Sunday afternoon, July 22, 2018 at Throop Unitarian Universalist Church [300 S. Los Robles Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101](https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/calendar/pswd/rore2-pwr-justices-journey?month=2018-07)

You are invited! 25 multigenerational participants - youth (rising 9th - rising 12th graders), YA's and adults. Families with youth, YA's and adults welcome. Cost is \$550.00 per person for 8 days. All meals, lodging at the church, local transportation. (Air and ground Transportation to the Throop Church is not included.) Staff: Eric Bliss, PWR Youth Specialist, Rev. Jaelynn Scott, Buddhist minister and U.U. Religious Educator, Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead.

[Scholarships](#) are available!

The Pacific Western Region Mission Trip provides an opportunity to practice environmental sustainability in the unique permaculture urban garden at Throop, as well as a variety of community projects and events. In addition, the group will engage in centering meditative UU and Buddhist practices as developed by Rev. Jaelynn Scott's Mutuality Movement as a way to build a lifelong foundation for justice work and compassionate understanding. Registration: <https://register.pwruua.org/event-registrations/pwr-mission-trip/> Contact: Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead at [katiecovey@gmail.com](mailto:katiecovey@gmail.com).

For more information visit <https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/calendar/pswd/rore2-pwr-justices-journey?month=2018-07>

Hope to see you in Pasadena!

**In faith and in the spirit of love,**

**Eric Bliss | Youth Ministry Specialist, Congregational Life Staff [ebliss@uua.org](mailto:ebliss@uua.org)**



## Caring & Concerns Neighborhood Contacts

As spring approaches, 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 between us that keep us connected.

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*

*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*

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*Joel Sannes 480-464-6772*

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*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*

*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.*



*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](http://www.vuu.org). Articles, announcements and other VUUPoint material may be emailed to: [office@vuu.org](mailto: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 Doctor Andy Burnette, Senior Minister  
The Reverend Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music  
Marcie Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation  
Sue Ringler, Congregation Administrator  
Joe Martin, Maintenance Technician  
Jill Khaleghi, pianist

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