



VUUPOINT OCTOBER 2018



Valley
Unitarian
Universalist
CONGREGATION

*New Sunday Service Times
Beginning October 14th*

9:15 A.M.

&

11:30 A.M.

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



Sunday Services beginning October 14th 9:15 A.M. & 11:30 A.M.

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

Your Sunday Bulletin is now posted on the website.

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

Our October Theme is Formation

10/07 **The Formation and Destruction of Nations: Indigenous Peoples Day Explored**

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Worship Band plays. *Homecoming Potluck after our service*

10/14 **God in Process: The Formation of the Divine Feminine**

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Adult Choir sings.

10/21 **Forming an Authentic Self: Transgender Identity and Modern America**

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Chalice Ringers play.

10/28 **Dia de Los Muertos**

Barbara Quijada



Planning has begun for **Dia de Los Muertos** themed services on Sunday, October 28. Our intentions are to be careful to be culturally appropriate AND to address concerns of cultural appropriation with sensitivity--in fact, that might end up being part of the focus of the service. If you are interested in



helping with the planning, ofrenda (offering), food, music, and/or presentation, or if you have questions, please contact Barb Quijada (bflamingq@gmail.com).

Michael Lewis plays piano.

Events at a Glance

- | | |
|--|---|
| 10/03 Brown Bag Lunch with Rev. Andy | 10/19 Wayfarers Happy HoUUr |
| 10/05 VUU Singles Game Night | 10/20 PSWD Distr. Assembly Wksp. Sub. Deadline |
| 10/07 HOMECOMING | VUU Singles Game Night |
| 10/11 EastVUUs Meet | 10/21 Newsletter Deadline |
| 10/13 Voices Lifted Retreat | 7 th Principle & My Impact Disc. Group |
| 10/14 New FF Hours Begin | A Room with a VUU |
| VUUJAZ Conversations | 10/26 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner |
| A Room with a VUU | 10/27 UUJAZ Issues & Action Day |
| Reproductive Justice | 10/28 VUU Women's Group |
| LGBTQ Meeting | Spirit of Life Reading Circle |
| 10/15 Leadership Exp. 2019 Regis. Deadline | Voices Lifted Rehearsal |
| 10/18 N.S.G. Book Club | |

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends

Sundays beginning October 14th – Owning Your Own Religious Past

Sundays beginning October 14th – Monthly Workshop Theme Discussions

Tuesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singers & Chalice Ringers Rehearse



“A Moment with the Minister”

As the old trope goes, before they merged in 1961 the Unitarians and Universalists had similar yet different theological emphases. Universalists believed God was too good to damn us, and Unitarians believed we are too good to be damned. The truth is, no matter which direction you approach it from, we Unitarian Universalists have long taught that people are born basically good, full of potential for love and good work.

And yet, in our seven principles, a tension emerges. “We covenant to affirm and promote,” the fourth principle reads, “a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.” Set that against the first principle, our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and you get the most important dual message of Unitarian Universalism: You are wonderful just the way you are, and you have some growing to do.

This is true of people, and it is true of institutions. Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation was perfect just as it was when it was founded more than 50 years ago. But wouldn’t it be odd if today VUU was still a handful of people meeting in a pizza parlor? The congregation had some growing to do, and grow it has!

Each of us comes into the life of this institution at different points, and each of us joins because we love the congregation as we found it. But still, the congregation we love has some growing to do. A congregation is always in formation, always growing in number and in impact, always being prepared for handing off to the next generation of members.

This Fall, we are going to experience some of the changes that growth can bring. To make room for new members, we will be hosting two worship services for the first time in about 15 years. To create opportunities for adult spiritual growth, we will be conducting a faith formation hour between those two services. Growth is calling us to change the way we do things.

Times of change like this one tend to ratchet up the anxiety. Few of us adore change. My encouragement, as we move into this next season of the congregation’s formation, is to be gentle with one another. If you experience something that you believe needs fixing, let us know in the office. We value your feedback. Be aware of your own level of anxiety as the times and locations of things change. It’s OK to be a little grumpy about things, and it’s OK to be really excited too. Your minister and staff are happy to hear about either or both.

Most of all, my hope for myself and for all of us is that we will keep in the front of our minds that our congregation is in perpetual formation. The pioneering spirit of our founders remains with us. Just as they could never have imagined a thriving social action-oriented congregation of 350 members, we likely can’t imagine what VUU will look like 50 years from now. But we are on the path of formation together, and that’s pretty exciting.

With love,
Rev. Andy

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

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Friends,

I hope you are all looking forward to the new and exciting things at VUU this fall. We are such a vital congregation; I continue to hear that there is something here for everyone. For many of us, there is enough to keep us busy all week, and still miss activities of which we want to be a part!

In September, the Board was busy kicking off a new year that will help us get to the next phase of VUU, the phase that catapults us towards our vision of what we want to become. We are well on our way. We convened two committees of the board, each with members that bring special and relevant experience to the task. We hope you'll engage these committees, as they will engage you, as they begin their work.

Capital Campaign Committee (CCC): Hiring campaign consultant(s), planning a financial campaign, two-way communication with the congregation relative to campaign goals and requests, communication with lender(s) regarding the borrowing of construction and/or permanent loan funds, communication with the Board and the CPC regarding project planning timeline. Members are Barbara Metz, David Sheh, Carl Anderson, Mary Wolf-Francis, Linda Horton (liaison to the Stewardship Team/annual operating pledge), and Musette Steger (Board of Trustee Rep/liaison to the Board).

Capital Planning Committee (CPC): Hiring the architect and construction company(ies), working with the City of Chandler, two-way communication with the congregation relative to construction design and timeline, making construction/finish decisions, communication with the Board and the CCC regarding project financing/timeline. Members are Beverly McCormick, Nancy Egly, Willa Cree, Mark Beehler, Barb Quijada, Debra Grande, Jeff Grout, Rick Hinrichs, Anne Schneider, Jim Horton, and Maria Dixon (Board of Trustees Rep/liaison to the Board).

We cannot thank these members enough for volunteering for this multi-year commitment to this high service.

The Board met for a goal-setting retreat in September, which we approved as our plan of action for 2018-19. That day, we contacted by phone (some conversations, some voice mail) 106 households, and let those members know what our goals are. We are proud of them; we look forward to a great year. If we didn't contact you, and/or you want to share anything, at any time, with the board, please feel free to contact us at bod@vuu.org. Read our goals, shared with you on another page in this newsletter.

The Stewardship Team is planning an exciting event, "CommUUnity Sunday" on November 4. We will have a dynamic guest speaker, and a catered lunch after the second service. MARK YOUR CALENDARS and plan to be there as we celebrate our congregation's planning and individual commitment for 2019.

In service,

DeeAnne McClenahan, President
602.214.4608

Faith Formation Ministry October 2018

Oct 14 – April 28; Valley UU will have 2 Sunday Services with a faith formation hour (programming for children, youth & adults) between the 2 Services.

1st Service: 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. 2nd Service: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. Faith Formation Hour

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

See program descriptions the next 2 pages

Note: faith formation classes will not meet on Dec. 23rd but may meet on Easter, April 21st

	<u>1st Sunday</u>	<u>2nd Sunday</u>	<u>3rd Sunday</u>	<u>4th Sunday</u>
	11/4, 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7	10/14, 11/11, 12/9, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14	10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, **4/21	10/28, 11/25, **12/30, 1/27, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28
Worship Theme discussions	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary
Dalai Lama and Friends	Room 1	Room 1	Room 1	Room 1
VUUJAZ Conversations		Board Room		
7th Principle and My Impact			Volunteer Office	
Owning Your Religious Past (Oct 14 – Dec 16)	Conference Room	Conference Room	Conference Room	Conference Room
A Room with a VUU: Using Contemporary Latinx Art to Explore our Values (6 sessions) Max 8 participants		Sanctuary Library	Sanctuary Library	
Cakes for the Queen of Heaven (Nov 4 – April 7)	Board Room		Board Room	

MONTHLY WORSHIP THEME DISCUSSIONS

Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette, Molly Greiner, Rosaland Hawkins, and Dianne Haskell.

Group meets every Sunday in the Sanctuary.

Large group discussion around the monthly worship theme, see your Touchstones for theme notification. Facilitators will share the schedule and may not announce before gathering who is facilitating on a specific Sunday. Group will convene near the front of the Sanctuary.

Note: faith formation classes will not meet on Dec. 23rd.



The Dalai Lama and Friends Workshop

Facilitated by David Black and Melanie Cloonan-Schulte

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

*8:30 - 9 a.m., room #5: meditation

*10:30 - 11:20 a.m., room #1: Group discussion of presentations on topics such as how to be more compassionate, cultivating our mind, dealing with anger, or how to meditate.

Note: faith formation classes will not meet on Dec. 23rd.

Questions? Just email DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com

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

OWNING YOUR RELIGIOUS PAST

Led by Randy Galbraith and Dan Schulte

Class will meet on 9 Sundays, Oct 14 – Dec 16 in the Conference Room.

This program provides an opportunity for Unitarian Universalists to re-explore their religious upbringings and address the importance of their religious experiences in their current religious lives. Through the program activities and discussions, we will seek to provide participants with an opportunity to grow in their faith, supporting a religious identity of affirmation and wholeness. The exercises invite participants to revisit religious spaces and people from childhood in a way that promotes greater self-understanding and personal peace.

Meeting dates: **10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18, (skip 11/25), 12/2, 12/9, 12/16**

Pre-register by contacting Randy randy.galbraith@gmail.com or Dan dlschulte@msn.com

What would it have been like to grow up in a world where

The Divine was imaged as FEMALE

“CAKES FOR THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN”

Led by Lisa Bonine

The class includes 11 sessions and will be held on the first and third Sundays of the month beginning on November 4th, meeting in the Board Room.

A UU curriculum that was commissioned in the 1980's (recently updated) to better understand women's spirituality and spiritual connections in the context of history, ancient and modern, from goddess-centered societies to modern patriarchal cultures and the ways in which attitudes based in religious beliefs affect self-image, relationships, family structure, and culture. The course is about how women experience the sacred and is presented in a uniquely interactive format.

Meeting dates: **11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16, 1/6, 1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/3, 3/17, 4/7**

Pre-register by emailing bonine.lisa@yahoo.com

7th Principle and My Impact, discussion group

Led by Jerry Waters.

We will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month in the Volunteer Office.

Focusing on the 7th Principle: ***Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part***, how are we affecting our planet? Discussions will revolve around climate change, blue zones, mining, food production and more!

Meeting dates: **10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21**

A Room with a VUU: Using Contemporary Latinx Art to Explore our Values

Guided by Art Education Professor, Mary Erickson, Ph.D., we will use contemporary Latinx artworks as inspiration for examining art in our own lives and how it reflects important principles of Unitarian Universalism.

We will meet on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday of each month in the Sanctuary library.

The group will include facilitation by Sandi Olivas Corn, from her viewpoint as part of a multigenerational Latinx family, and Beverly Workmon, using concepts from her work as a storytelling leader using the James Birren Guided Autobiography approach.

Each month will focus on a value-based theme. The first session will explore meaning in artworks. The follow-up session will include sharing arts-based reflections inspired by the theme.

Each participant will receive a full color catalog of Latinx art works and educational guidelines.

Meeting dates: **11/11, 11/18, 12/9, 12/16, 1/13, 1/20, 2/10, 2/17, 3/10, 3/17, 4/14, 4/21**

Maximum of 8 participants. Register by emailing Mary Erickson MARY.ERICKSON@asu.edu

VUUJAZ CONVERSATIONS

Facilitated by Anne Schneider

We will meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the Board Room.

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

Still Meeting in the evening:

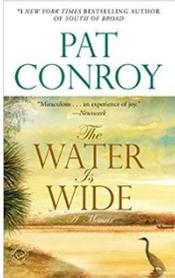


Spirit of Life Reading Circle

Facilitated by: Mary Rothschild, Rebecca Riggs, and Anne Schneider

We will meet on the 3rd Wednesday each month @ 7:00 p.m. in Room 1/2

The N.S.G. (Not So Great) Book Club (offsite, evening meeting)



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 October 18 meeting book is The Water is Wide by Pat Conroy. This memoir is the story of a man who gave a year of his life to an island and the new life its people gave him. The island is nearly deserted, haunting, beautiful. Across a slip of ocean lies South Carolina. But for the handful of families on Yamacraw Island, America is a world away.

Meeting time is 7:15 p.m. All are welcome. For the meeting address or questions, please contact Johnnie at 480-839-0544, or Amy at 480-917-1922, or email: agmonahan@gmail.com.

Programming for children & youth: Our theme: Unitarian Universalism

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

Preschool: *We are Many, We are One*; encourages children to use their minds, bodies, and emotions to develop their sense of identity and self-esteem and connect with our Unitarian Universalist Principles.

Kinder/1st grade: Combining 2 curricula from the UUA: *Wonderful Welcome* - intangible gifts central to UUism (friendship, hospitality, and fairness) & *Love Surrounds Us* – explores the UU Principles in the context of Beloved Community of family/home, school, and neighborhood.

2nd/3rd grades: *Free To Believe: Activities, games, stories and discussions* to explore the 7 Unitarian Universalist Principles and how they lead us to find personal answers to some “big questions” around faith, death, and creation.

4th/5th grades: *Harry and UU: A social action curriculum based on J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter books* uses discussion and magical activities to engage the children and empower them to become more motivated and passionate about social action. Knowledge of the books or movies is not necessary to participate in this class.

6th – 8th grades: *The Questing Year*: UUism, Social Justice, Personal, & Spiritual and Ritual exploration are investigated in a variety of activities including the production of a “mirror board” and discussing topics with their “alien.”

9th – 12th grades: *Compass Points*: through discussion and activities youth explore their selves, their beliefs, their UU faith, & their relationships with others and the world.

Coming of Age http://www.vuu.org/edu/coming-of-age_2019/ or contact Marci

- 1) Orientation for parents & youth: January 6, 2019
- 2) 5-month long program, open to youth in high school. Heritage trip to Boston follows close of program.
- 3) Fundraising for Boston trip has already begun, join us!
- 4) Mentors needed!!

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

Expectations: Attend kick off bar-b-que (January 20) and select COA sessions, join us for the team building day in Tucson (March 9). Meet monthly with mentee - be their sounding board and cheerleader. Attend banquet (May 4) and introduce your mentee.

Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation Ministry

Eratosthenes curvature of the earth experiment

You'll be happy to hear our experiment confirmed the earth is round. We computed an angle difference of just over 20 degrees. Given 2,172km between us this gave us a circumference of just over 39,000km. Our calculations fell short of the actual distance which is just over 40,000km. Given how small our shadows were and there may have been some distance errors it isn't surprising to be off by about 2%. It was nonetheless very cool to confirm what Eratosthenes calculated so long ago!

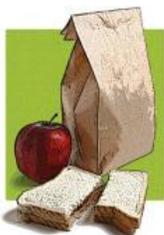
Here are the two pictures. One taken in the north and one in the south at noon September 23.

Kind regards,
-Randy Galbraith



Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards

-- Soren Kierkegaard --



**BROWN BAG
LUNCH
WITH REV. ANDY**

On the first Wednesday of each month, join Rev. Andy in the Office Board Room for lunch and a chat.

Oct. 3 @ noon would be a great time to bring your lunch and find

out more about VUU going to 2 Services on Oct. 14 and more about the new Adult Faith Formation opportunities between the 2 Services!

MUSIC & MORE

CHOIRS



Chalice Singers (VUU's Children's Choir) are changing to TUESDAY rehearsals. They start up again on **Tuesday, October 2, from 6:15 to 7 p.m.** in the sanctuary kitchen. This fun group is for children mostly Kindergarten through grade 6, and they perform for Sunday services about once a month.

Voices Lifted Singers rehearse about twice a month on Sundays from 1:30-3:00 p.m. in Room 1 of the Faith Formation area (WEST side of parking lot). This ensemble of female voices sings in community settings such as assisted living homes, senior centers, and at bedside for those recovering from surgery or illness or in hospice care. Newcomers always welcome! **Upcoming rehearsals are Oct. 28**, November 18, Dec. 2 & 16, and a **day retreat on Saturday Oct. 13th in Prescott** -see Kellie for more details.

Chalice Ringers (VUU's Handbell Choir) also rehearses TUESDAYS, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the VUU sanctuary.

The **Adult Choir** rehearses TUESDAY evenings 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the VUU Sanctuary. Open to all who like to sing, from high school age on up. This group sings a variety of mostly 4-part choral music and performs every 2-3 weeks for Sunday services.

MORE: The music of **Melanie Demore** was featured at the annual UU Musician's Network Conference I attended in Portland, Oregon this past August. She was a fabulous song-leader- check her website at: <http://www.melaniedemore.com/> or view this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpMW8-Nx4T0, where she teaches her song "I Will Be Your Standing Stone." One of our favorite songs in Voices Lifted Singers, "I Am Sending You Light," was written by her, and she has long been associated with the Threshold Choir movement -singers who sing at bedside for people at the end of life.

The annual Tempe Interfaith Fellowship's **THANKSGIVING SERVICE** will be held on Tuesday evening, November 20 at 7 p.m. This year it will be held at Temple Emanuel, located at 5801 S. Rural Road, Tempe. We do not know yet what the music will be and if VUU singers or bell ringers will be involved but stay posted!

JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSIONS for the '18 – '19 church year:
Sundays from 1 until 4:30 p.m. on November 11 and February 3,
and Sundays from 12 until 3:30 p.m. on May 5 and August 18

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

Many people die with their music still in them. Too often it is because they are always getting ready to live. Before they know it, time runs out."

— Oliver Wendall Holmes

VUU COMMUNITY

Our Final Sunday with just one Service !!!



Sunday, October 7 after our Service

Bring a dish to share.

Join the fun! Build community!

VUU has a Hospitality Team: a cadre of people who are willing to be contacted to help for an upcoming event. The idea is that if you are planning on attending an event, you might be willing to come early to help set-up or stay late to help clean-up. Sometimes we also need folks to bring food or arrange the serving of food that is brought by others. If we have this kind of support, we can have more social events at VUU.

We have urgent needs for people to help with the Homecoming potluck on October 7, and a crew to set up and take down tables and chairs for Sunday Service Coffee Hour.

Please send an email to JoAnne Smith, team coordinator at uujsmith@aol.com if you would be willing to be on the Hospitality Team list. That doesn't mean that you must volunteer for every event, only the ones that fit your schedule.

It's coming...
CommUUnity Sunday
November 4, 2018



9:15 Service - Special Guest Speaker
 10:30 Faith Formation Hour
 11:30 Service - Special Guest Speaker
 12:30 Catered Congregational Lunch

Mark your calendar!
Watch your mail for your invitation.

VUUSOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice

Climate Change – Next Meeting – Oct. 4

Are you passionate about addressing climate change? Are you looking for a way to make a difference? If you are interested in being part of a solution, we want you to be a part of the conversation. If you are interested in working with others to address climate change, please attend the next meeting of Citizens' Climate Lobby at VUU to learn more about our warming world and what can be done to reduce pollution in it. This will be a planning/strategizing/organizing meeting to learn more about how CCL works and to learn different ways that we can each contribute in our environmental advocacy efforts. Every voice is important. Together we must for a livable world!

The meeting will be 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. in the Board Room.



Reproductive Justice - Next Meeting Oct. 14

In our first meeting of this NEW VUU social action group, we brainstormed possible actions based on 6 main concepts: Activism, Ceremonies & Celebrations, Community, Education, Outreach, and Self-Discovery. Our goal during our next meeting is to define our action plan or plans, based on our shared interests.

Join us! Sunday, Oct 14, 12:45 p.m., in Room 5 in RE annex

All are welcome – your presence is valued, and your input is appreciated. For more information contact: Lorraine Doman-Sheydayi 480-628-7712 paisleys@q.com or Marci Beaudoin 480-215-6694 faithform@vuu.org

Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up SATURDAY Oct 20th needs Volunteers to Sign Up

VUU has been participating in the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Adopt- A- Highway program since 2008. You may have seen these blue signs around the valley. Our "road" is a 1 mile stretch of Queen Creek Road west of Old Price Road. We hold two clean ups per year (OCTOBER and APRIL). We need a fresh crew of volunteers this year. Please consider signing up to join us on **SATURDAY October 20th** as we do our part to keep our highways litter free. We even have some "litter-pick-up-sticks" to save your back a bit. **I will have a sign-up sheet available at VUU on Sunday Oct 14th or you can email Pam Swan pdswan@cox.net to sign up.**



UUJAZ – Issues and Action Day, October 27

UUJAZ invites you to an Issues and Action Day on Saturday, October 27th in Surprise, AZ. Our Unitarian Universalist religious leaders from around the state will be talking about the intersection of our values and key justice issues, founded on the premise that we are people of a liberal religious faith seeking to vote our values. Our very own [Anne Schneider](#) will discuss the initiatives on the November 2018 ballot and those that are not. She will also present her highly acclaimed and very entertaining "What to Expect at the Legislature Next Session."

Those of you who vote early by mail may want to hold off until you've experienced ISSUES & ACTION DAY 2018! Regardless of how you vote, please join us for this new format. Visit uujaz.org to Register.

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 October, November or/and December. 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



October Donation of the Month for Paz de Cristo: Pasta Sauces, any kind

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of pasta sauces at any time during the month of September. Drop your donation in the designated container in the foyer of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generous support!



I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) Through our work with the Chandler I-HELP program, VUU provides dinner and over-night shelter for 20 - 25 individuals three - four Monday nights each month. I-HELP questions or if you want to get more involved? VUU will provide the meal on October 8. Look for the sign-up link in the October 4 *Happenings*. Contact Sue office@vuu.org

Arizona Legislative Alert – Keep Up with the latest Legislative News

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



Opportunity to help Women4Women Tempe

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

We'll gather together (women and men are both welcome) to assemble bags from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday November 3rd in the Board and Conference rooms in the office building. There are several ways to help:

1. Come and help make the bags on November 3rd
2. Donate items to fill the bags – feminine pads and tampons are especially needed
3. Donate money to purchase the above items.

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

More information will be available at tables in October.

Beverages and light snacks will be provided. This is a fun, low-key way to get to know each other, and do something helpful for our larger community.

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

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

LIBRARY NOTES

Two new books:

Still Alice, Lisa Genova, Category: Fiction

“An intensely intimate portrait of Alzheimer’s seasoned with highly accurate and useful information about this insidious and devastating disease.” Dr. Rudolph E. Tanzi coauthor of Darkness: The Search for the Genetic Causes of Alzheimer’s Disease.

Political Systems of the World: Theocracy, Lila Pearl, Category: Politics, World Affairs & Social Issues. A few chapter titles: 1. Iran Today: an Islamic Theocracy 2. The Ancient World: An Egyptian Theocracy 3. Mesoamerican Theocracy: The Maya and the Aztecs.

For a short time, these books will be on the library cart to left as you enter the library. Later, they will be shelved by category and author.

Johnnie Godfrey johnniegirl85218@gmail.com

We invite YOU to become a part of VUU’s Highlight Hospitality Team.



Johnnie Godfrey and her team have taken our Coffee Hour to new heights.

Now our Coffee Hour will grow to even more importance as we move to two Sunday morning services: It will be a focal point as we attend workshops and classes.

... and guess what: We need a bigger team!

Our teams of volunteers will prepare drinks and snacks during the Early Service, serve during the Faith Formation Hour, and clean up during the Late Service.

To volunteer for set-up, serving, and clean-up, please contact:

Sue at Office@vuu.org or Linda at LindaHorto@cs.com

Dr. George Cowgill passed away July 31. He was a long-time member of VUU and active in Social Action. A Memorial service is being planned at ASU on December 19th.



We have lost another member of our VUU community. Scotty Meek passed away September 24. We offer our condolences to his wife, Dorothy. When we have information about a Service for Scotty, we will let you know.

Leadership Experience 2019

Have you recently taken on a leadership role in this congregation? Are you considering taking on a leadership role but want to increase your experience, knowledge, and skills before doing so? Are you a new board member or board president but still haven't found the instruction manual? Visit www.uua.org/pwr to learn more about and apply to participate in "Leadership Experience 2019." This is a hybrid in-person/on-line leadership development program offered by the Pacific Western Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association that will take place this coming winter and spring. ***Space is limited, so individuals are encouraged to apply to participate by October 15!***

2019 PSW District Assembly: Save the Date and Call for Workshops

Save the weekend of April 26-28, 2019, for the next Pacific Southwest District Assembly at the UU Church of Long Beach (Calif.)! Next year's DA Theme will be "**From the Ground Up: The Power of Our PSWD Communities.**"

The congregation is the foundation of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Everything we do as an expression of our faith is grounded in the local communities from which we all take comfort and strength. Some of our greatest joys sprout from the spiritual communities and the congregations of the Pacific Southwest District - both big and small. How does this theme apply to your congregation or your life?

If you have an idea for a workshop, conference session or other activity that would fit well with this theme, please contact DA planning committee co-chair Michael Hart at michaelhrt3@gmail.com. Workshop submissions are due by Oct. 20, 2018. For more information, contact Michael Hart at michaelhrt3@gmail.com.

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 2018 are:

10 to 19 years:

Roberta Baker

Lorraine Doman-Sheydayi

Mary Erickson

Roy Erickson

20 to 29 Years:

Donna Bennett

Jim Bennett

Bari Bergelin

Melissa Bush

Tricia Merrill

Janet Nash

Sharon & James Osborn-Popp

Karen Stucke-Jungeman

Diana Woods

30 to 39 Years:

Janet & Garry Cantley

Bob Clarke

Charlie & Linda Thomas

40 to 49 Years:

JoAnne Smith

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



**Valley UU Congregation Board of Trustees
Board Goals 2018-19**

- The VUU Board will support the capital planning and fundraising for campus improvements, provide charters to the Capital Planning and Capital Campaign Committees, and ensure that a feasibility study is completed by end of 2018. Each trustee commits to make personal financial commitments to the Annual Operating Campaign and to the Capital Campaign on or before November 1, 2018.
- The VUU Board will work to transition board meetings from primarily business focused to primarily learning, skills training, mission stories, and generative discussion, focused on the mission of the congregation. Each trustee commits to spending more time offline and in advance of board meetings to read, study, generate and ask questions, and obtain answers, so that business proposals and reports may be voted on during meetings, but without taking up meeting time for related discussion.
- The VUU Board will work towards a revision to Board By-Laws and Policies, with a focus on simplification, the elimination of redundancy, and improved usability. We will commit resources to this project, including using third-party consultants to review, make and present recommendations for change.
- The VUU Board will finalize ends statements measurements. A continuation of last year’s goal, the board will study “The Math of Mission,” and work to create both qualitative and quantitative measurements that help to define the progress VUU is making toward fulfilling the mission and vision set forth in 2016.

EVENTS

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



SPECTRUM VUU LGBTQ+ is hosting an educational event on the subject of transgender in December. Join us to help organize our first event and contribute to a welcoming community of allies at VUU. With the introduction of 2 Services this month, we are meeting on Oct. 7, 11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. and on Oct. 21, 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

SPECTRUM facilitated a discussion on ‘How to be Ally’ with 12 middle and high school students in the ‘Global Citizen’ summer program. Students had an opportunity to share their experiences related to bullying especially regarding LGBTQ+ identified. After reflecting on what they would say when they witness bullying or a ‘put down,’ students wrote their responses on a 3X5 card and shared with the group, so everyone came away with great ideas. What a compassionate, caring, supportive, and creative group!



EastVUUs
OCTOBER 11 - 6PM

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

Our meeting discussion will be "Vocation"

"Vocation does not come from a voice 'out there' calling me to become something I am not. It comes from a voice 'in here' calling me to be the person I was born to be, to fulfill the original selfhood given me at birth."

Somos America, a 501c3 Phoenix activist group is collecting supplies or financial donation for UUJAZ sponsored October statewide UU semi-annual drive. Somos collects for two different AZ volunteer groups who work 1:1 with asylum-seeker families of either mother/child or father/child who have entered USA at a port of entry and requested asylum. Travel size nonperishable foods needed for their 1-4 days trips to sponsored family. Currently anywhere from 20-40 family units needing assistance every day of the week. These volunteers are in desperate need of these supplies to pass on.

ALL SUPPLIES CAN BE FOUND AT ANY 99cent store:

Tuna or Chicken Salad in a box w/ cracker

Applesauce or Fruit cups

Chewy granola bars

Ritz Crackers (2 rolls in a package)

Join us for our monthly potluck before our discussion. Please bring a dish to pass & your own service-ware.

Apache Wells Community Center,
2215/2223 N. 56th St., Mesa, AZ 85215



WAYFARERS

Our Happy HoUUr destination on Friday, October 19 will be at High Tide Seafood and Grill in Gilbert. The address is 2540 S Val Vista Drive. Please let Jan Waters know if you plan to attend, by phone or text: 608-201-2207, or by email: watersjj9790@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER IS OCTOBER 21

VUU WOMEN'S GROUP

We will meet at the front of the sanctuary Sunday, October 28, 2018 after the second service (approximately 12:45 p.m.) to share a simple potluck and discuss a topic which has yet to be chosen. All women are welcome.



BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAYS, THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS IN November or December. Contacts: Johnnie Godfrey: Cell: 480-231-8381 johnniegirl85218@gmail.com, Margaret Stewart: mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com



VUU SINGLES EVENTS

Not signed up to receive VUU Singles event emails? Contact Claudette by phone, text or call at 973-768-6047 or email, claudettewassil@hotmail.com, or Joanne 602-620-3100 or email arizonasunsets2@cox.net, and we'll get you on the list.

October 5th, 6:15 p.m. Game Night at Joanne McGrath's (4139 E Loma Vista Street, Gilbert) (Crossroads Williams Field and Recker) Board Games, Dominoes, card games or whatever game you love, just bring it along. It's not usual for there to be new games to try every time we meet. Bring a substantial "snack" or an appetizer to share and we'll call that dinner. Water, ice tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. (FYI: two cats live at Joanne's house, just in case you are allergic) Let us know if you would like to join in the fun so we know if any extra tables and chairs are needed. Text, call or email Claudette at claudettewassil@hotmail.com, 973-768-6047 or Joanne 602-620-3100 or email arizonasunsets2@cox.net to RSVP.

Saturday, October 20th, 6:15 p.m. – Game Night – 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 a substantial "snack" or appetizer to share and make a "dinner" out of them. Water, ice tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. Let us know if you are coming. 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 or Joanne 602-620-3100 or email arizonasunsets2@cox.net to RSVP. For last minute directions, contact Raul at 561-901-9277.

Friday, October 26th, 6:30 p.m. - Singles Monthly Dinner - Pitta Souvli, 1940 S. Alma School Road, Suite 5, Chandler. (Crossroads: Alma School and Germann, on the NW Corner Facing Germann Rd.) Serving fresh, authentic, and healthy Mediterranean cuisine, plus this restaurant has a wonderful outside patio that we hope to reserve for dinner. Considered a hidden gem, Trip Advisor ranks this restaurant #7 out of 549 restaurants in Chandler. Come and share good food and conversation with good friends. RSVP to Claudette by email: claudettewassil@hotmail.com by call or text 973-768-6047 or Joanne 602-620-3100 or email arizonasunsets2@cox.net.

Friday, November 2nd – Game night at Bob and Raul's. Save the date!

Saturday, November 3rd – Fall Foliage viewing (day trip) to Payson and along the Mogollon Rim. At this time of year Mother Nature ushers in cooler temperatures and breathtaking views along the majestic Mogollon Rim Country. Arizona's mild climate and almost-guaranteed sunny days make viewing fall foliage ideal. We'll leave early, have lunch in Payson, and then travel up to the Rim to view the fall colors. We anticipate this to be a full day of fun, so maybe we'll find someplace to eat dinner on the way home. When you RSVP let Claudette or Joanne know if you would like to drive. Anyone have a suggestion where to eat in Payson? Watch your in box for more details to come as event plans come together. RSVP to Claudette by email: claudettewassil@hotmail.com or, call or text 973-768-6047 or Joanne 602-620-3100 and/or email arizonasunsets2@cox.net.



A MINDFUL JOURNEY TO

Northern Vietnam & Angkor Wat

With Rev. Wayne Walder and Joan Walder | March 15 – 27, 2019

On this trip we immerse ourselves in the scenery, history, and traditions of northern Vietnam and Cambodia. We visit monasteries to meditate at an eclectic collection of temples, learn about Zen and Theravada practices from monks and novices, hike in the outstanding natural environment of the Sapa highlands, and marvel at the ethereal beauty of Halong Bay. And at Angkor Wat, we spend time at the abode of ancient gods. If you have a little more time available, consider extending your stay in Luang Prabang replete with timeless architecture, gilded temples, and saffron-clad monks.

A mindful journey is different from a vacation even though it looks like one. On a mindful journey, instead of looking outside, we are also noticing what is happening inside ourselves. How does the beauty we see affect us? How do different customs and morals make us question our values? How can we allow the difference in human culture to teach us? Even history can remind us life is precious and temporary, no matter how grand or beautiful it may appear. A Pilgrimage includes two journeys, the one we visit and the one inside our hearts and minds.

TOUR DETAILS

Tour Cost (per person): US\$4245 (incl. US\$250 taxes and gratuities)
Single Supplement: US\$995 | Group Size: 12 – 18 participants

Included Features:

Airport transfers for passengers arriving and departing as per the group itinerary; internal flight: Hanoi to Siem Reap; accommodation based on double occupancy in four-star hotels; breakfast daily; lunch or dinner daily; transportation by air conditioned coach; bottled water on the coach; all activities and entrance fees; services of specialized English speaking guides; gratuities for escort, local guides, drivers, hotel and group meals (as indicated above); taxes (as indicated above); fully escorted by Joan and Wayne Walder.

Day 1: Meet in Hanoi

Day 2: Visit pagodas and temples, join Zen masters for meditation

Day 3: Markets, a lakeside walk, and the Temple of Literature

Day 4: The scenic beauty of Ba Vi National Park

Day 5: Overnight train to the green highlands of Sapa

Day 6: Walk through the rice terraces, meet Hmong communities

Day 7: Visit practitioners of Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism

Day 8: Light treks and village visits. Return to Hanoi

Day 9: Overnight cruise on spectacular Halong Bay

Day 10: Fly to Siem Reap, visit Cambodian communities

Day 11: Sunrise over Angkor Thom and visit epic Angkor Wat

Day 12: Remote jungle temples

Day 13: Depart Siem Reap

Optional 4-day extension: The tranquil gem of Luang Prabang, Laos to visit the gilded temples, cruise the Mekong River, and enjoy the mix of Franco-Lao culture.

CONTACT WORLDWIDE QUEST

Please contact Kerry in the Worldwide Quest office to reserve your spot.

416-633-5666 | 1-800-387-1483
travel@worldwidequest.com

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

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1024-263748 | WWW.WORLDWIDEQUEST.COM | 491 KING ST. E. TORONTO, ON M5A 1L9



Caring & 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.

Your Neighborhood Contacts are:

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

Carl Anderson	480-529-4365	canderaz@cox.net
Donna Bennett	480-570-4024	donnaben22@gmail.com

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

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

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

Mesa West - Zips: 85201, 85202, 85210

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

Mesa East, including Apache Junction:

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

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
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Chandler

North - Zips: 85224, 85226

South, including Sun Lakes, Queen Creek, Casa Grande

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

Barbara Face	480-961-3223	barbara_face@qwest.net
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.



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

VUU STAFF

The Reverend Doctor Andy Burnette, Senior Minister
 The Reverend Kellie Walker Hart, Minister of Music
 Marci Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation
 Rebecca O'Rourke, Faith Formation Assistant
 Sue Ringer, Congregation Administrator
 Joe Martin, Maintenance Technician
 Jill Khaleghi, pianist

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