



# VUUPOINT

# November 2018



*Sunday Service Times*

*9:15 A.M.*

*&*

*11:30 A.M.*

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



## Sunday Services 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 November theme is Gratitude*

#### **11/4 CommUUNITY Sunday**

Reverend Doug Bland

The Adult Choir will sing.

#### **11/11 Gratitude for Veterans: Grief over War: Protest as Patriotism**

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Worship Band and Michael Lewis will play.

#### **11/18 Thankful: Cultivating a Timeless Gratitude**

Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette

The Adult and Children's Choirs will sing.

#### **11/25 The Practice of Gratitude**

with Dr. Melanie Cloonan-Schulte

(Blurb: "Is gratitude an emotion you feel or an action to be undertaken? Can we become better at being grateful?")

The Chalice Ringers will play.

#### Events at a Glance

11/02 VUU Singles Game Night #ShowUpForShabbat	11/15 N.S.G. Book Club
11/03 Women4Women	11/16 Wayfarer Happy HoUUr
11/04 <b>CommUUnity Sunday</b> Cakes for the Queen of Heaven Spectrum Meets	11/17 VUU Singles Foreign/Movie Dinner Night
11/06 VUU Singles Election Night Gathering	11/18 Spectrum Meets 7 <sup>th</sup> Principle and My Impact
11/08 EastVUUs Meet	Cakes for the Queen of Heaven
11/11 Recognition Sunday FUUnd Together begins Journey to Membership VUUJAZ Conversation A Room with a VUU	A Room with a VUU Newsletter Deadline
	11/20 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
	11/21 Spirit of Life Reading Group
	11/23 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends

Sundays– Owning Your Own Religious Past

Sundays– Monthly Workshop Theme Discussions

Tuesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singers & Chalice Ringers Rehearse

We are invited to join with NefeshSoul for Shabbat this Friday, Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. in the VUU Sanctuary. NefeshSoul is the Jewish Community who has been sharing our campus for 5+ years now. Click on the link for more info about: [#ShowUpForShabbat](#)



## “A Moment with the Minister”

I have worked hard to develop a personal theology of gratitude that can fly above the varying fortunes of my everyday life. If you want easy work, look someplace else. Still, this cultivation of gratitude is for me an important spiritual practice. Remembering to be grateful makes me feel more connected to everything around me and, ultimately, it makes me really happy. Why would I only want that when things are looking good?

One shining light on this gratitude path is the Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh. The next few paragraphs are from a chapter of the book “Thich Nhat Hanh: Essential Writings.” It’s entitled “Roses and Garbage.”

“Defiled or immaculate. Dirty or pure. These are concepts we form in our mind. A beautiful rose we have just cut and placed in our vase is immaculate. It smells so good, so pure, so fresh. It supports the idea of immaculateness. The opposite is a garbage can. It smells horrible, and it is filled with rotten things.

“But that is only when you look at the surface. If you look more deeply you will see that in just five or six days, the rose will become part of the garbage. You do not need to wait five days to see it. If you just look at the rose, and you look deeply, you can see it now. And if you look into the garbage can, you see that in a few months its contents can be transformed into lovely vegetables, and even a rose.

“If you are a good organic gardener and have the eyes of a bodhisattva, looking at a rose you can see the garbage, and looking at the garbage you can see a rose. Roses and garbage inter-are. Without a rose, we cannot have garbage; and without garbage, we cannot have a rose. They need each other very much. The rose and garbage are equal. The garbage is just as precious as the rose. If we look deeply at the concepts of defilement and immaculateness, we return to the notion of inter-being.”

Some of the worst experiences of my life have led to some of my deepest self-understanding. I do not offer thanks for the experiences themselves, but I do see the germination of a rose in the garbage of very bad days. Every now and then I can even see it in the middle of the very bad experience. “Oh, *this* is going to make me stronger,” I think. And it usually does.

Life isn’t easy for any of us, and that makes gratitude a challenge sometimes. But for those with eyes to see, there are roses in the garbage, and there’s garbage in the roses. It’s just the way things are. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

With love,  
Rev. Andy

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

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Friends,

We are deeply saddened as October comes to an end with more division in our country, with bomb scares against our leaders, threats in our local schools, and the heinous killings during worship of our sisters and brothers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. We hope to continue to be a place where you can come to find solace and ways in which to process your grief, turning that grief into love and action toward justice.

With three weeks of our two-service format behind us, we can report that these mornings were full of learning – with 150-170 of us staying each week for adult faith formation! We each have a new opportunity now to be more welcoming, socialize more, learn more, and help each other to grow and become more.

In just a few days, **on November 4**, we'll extend Sunday morning even further with our CommUUNITY Sunday, during which we challenge each other to make or raise our financial commitment to our spiritual home for 2019. There'll be a wonderful **catered lunch at 12:30** to celebrate and break bread with our community. There is no charge for lunch, and there will be vegetarian and vegan options. Bring the kids, of course!

**Please RSVP (whether or not you can attend) at [vuu.org/rsvp](http://vuu.org/rsvp) if you have not already, so we know how many are coming.**

What is the board working on right now?

- We're chartering the Capital Campaign and Capital Planning Committees, who have both met and begun their work. We expect they'll soon be communicating with members in various ways, including through the web site, so keep your eyes open, and make sure to feed back to them as they guide VUU in building a new way.
- We all interviewed with the Leadership Development Committee, who are making a short video to highlight what the board does and how we do it. It was a great time for each of us to reflect on and verbalize why we do this important work.
- We spent time brainstorming ideas around how we know we are accomplishing our ends statement #1: "We challenge each person to discover, experience, and be transformed by the deep and mysterious." Are you challenging yourself, and each other? If you have a personal story or want to share with the board, let us know at [board\\_president@vuu.org](mailto:board_president@vuu.org).

With love as our doctrine,

DeeAnne McClenahan, President

602.214.4608



"Feeling gratitude  
and not expressing it  
is like wrapping a present  
and not giving it."  
William Arthur Ward

Handmade gift wrap, erika g, January 10, 2011, (CC BY-SA 2.0), <https://www.flickr.com/photos/esoterika/5348609982>

## Faith Formation Ministry November 2018

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS

See program descriptions below

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

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

### MONTHLY WORSHIP THEME DISCUSSIONS

Facilitated by Rev. 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 – this month the theme is Gratitude. Facilitators will share the schedule and may not announce previous to 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. 23<sup>rd</sup>.



## 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. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Questions? Just email [DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com](mailto:DavidBlackDLF@gmail.com)

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

## OWNING YOUR RELIGIOUS PAST

The maximum capacity has been reached. Program is now limited to participants who have attended the first 2 Sundays. Led by Randy Galbraith and Dan Schulte

*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 4<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto:bonine.lisa@yahoo.com)

## 7<sup>th</sup> Principle and My Impact, discussion group

Led by Jerry Waters

We will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in the board room.

Focusing on the 7<sup>th</sup> 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: **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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

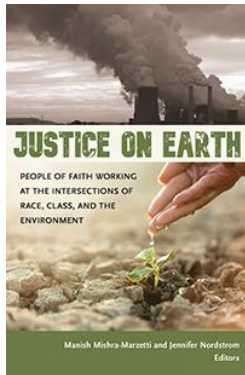
**Maximum of 8 participants.** Register by emailing Mary Erickson [MARY.ERICKSON@asu.edu](mailto:MARY.ERICKSON@asu.edu)

## VUUJAZ CONVERSATIONS

Facilitated by Anne Schneider

We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org).



### The 2018-19 UUA Common Read

**Looking for a facilitator – during Adult Faith Formation or evenings, contact Marci [faithform@vuu.org](mailto:faithform@vuu.org)**

This highly anticipated anthology presents a powerful and penetrating look at environmental justice from some of the key thinkers and activists in Unitarian Universalism today. Fourteen activist ministers and lay leaders apply a keen intersectional analysis to the environmental crisis, revealing ways that capitalism, white supremacy, patriarchy, and other systems of oppression intersect with and contribute to ecological devastation. They also explore how spiritual practices, congregational organizing, and progressive theology can inform faith-based justice work in the twenty-first century.

These prophetic voices, from a wide range of perspectives, reveal new approaches and opportunities for more holistic, accountable, and connected justice efforts. Each essay is accompanied by suggested ways to take the next steps for further learning and action.

Free online Common Read study guide and optional slides (PowerPoint) that will allow groups to project the discussion and reflection questions rather than write and display them on newsprint or a chalkboard.





### Spirit of Life discussion group (evening meeting)

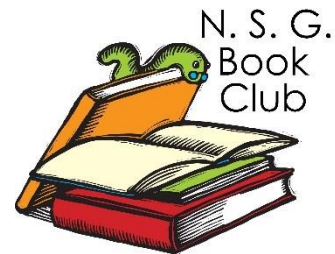
Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Rooms 1 and 2, the topic is "The Future of Liberal Religion." Feel free to invite friends and others who might be interested.

Mary, Rebecca, and Anne

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

We are going to participate in the Great American Read by discussing some of the books on the list.

Visit <https://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/home/> to see the list of 100 books. Optional ways to participate include: sharing briefly about 3 of your favorite books on the list; find a book on the list that you haven't read, read it, and tell us what you think about it; listen to group members talk about books and make a to-read list for yourself.



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 November 15 at 7:15 p.m.**

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).

### 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/1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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."

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



## COMING IN DECEMBER

### VUU Reproductive Justice Social Action Group presents



**BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY** a feature length documentary that exposes the truth of how American women are being jailed, physically violated and even put at risk of dying, as a radical movement tightens its grip across America and allows states, courts and religious doctrine to govern whether, when and how women will bear children.

**Thursday, December 6, 6:30 p.m. in the VUU Sanctuary**

**Follow up:** The film's director Civia Tamarkin will co-lead the *Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice* interfaith meeting on **Sunday, December 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

## COMING IN JANUARY

### Our Whole Lives for Young Adults (18 – 35 yrs. old)

Our Whole Lives is a series of comprehensive sexuality education courses. The Young Adult (YA) course focuses on life issues such as increased independence, dating partnering, children, identity-development, and decision making. The program provides the skills, knowledge and values to help people lead sexually healthy and responsible lives.

**Schedule:** 14 sessions, most Sundays (1-3 p.m.) & 3 Saturdays (10a.m. – 12p.m.), Jan 27<sup>th</sup> – April 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Fee:** \$25 VUU member/\$35 non-members (payment plans/scholarships available)

**Childcare:** Available for a fee, mention need during registration.

**Registration:** Contact Marci Beaudoin, [faithform@vuu.org](mailto:faithform@vuu.org) to sign up



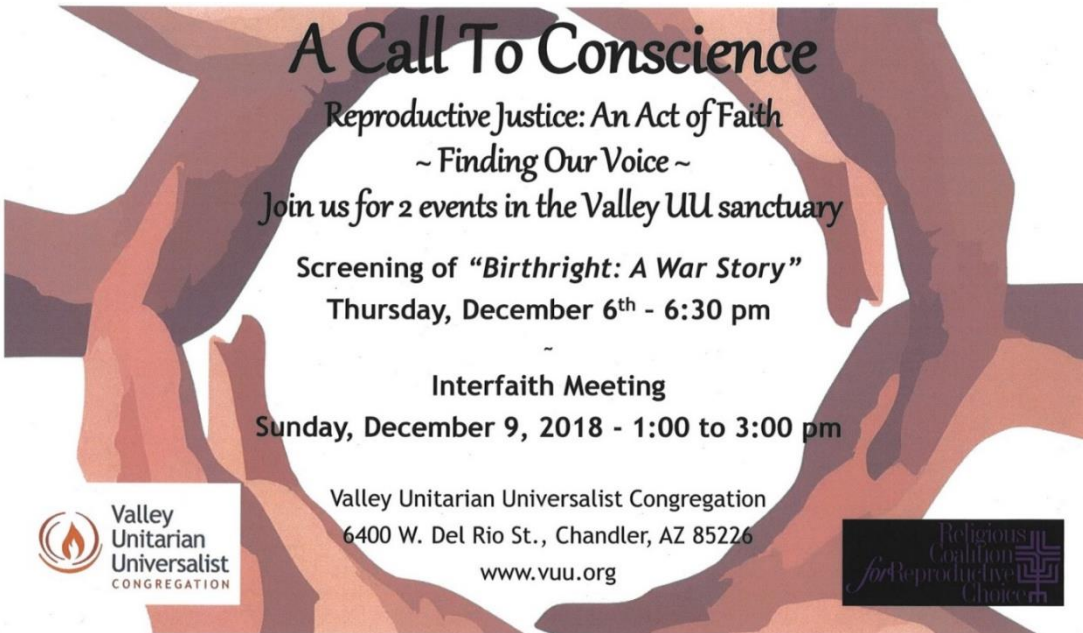
### Coming of Age [http://www.vuu.org/edu/coming-of-age\\_2019/](http://www.vuu.org/edu/coming-of-age_2019/) or contact Marci

- 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



# A Call To Conscience

Reproductive Justice: An Act of Faith  
~ Finding Our Voice ~

Join us for 2 events in the Valley UU sanctuary

Screening of *"Birthright: A War Story"*  
Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm

Interfaith Meeting  
Sunday, December 9, 2018 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
6400 W. Del Rio St., Chandler, AZ 85226  
[www.vuu.org](http://www.vuu.org)

Valley Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice



Be a part of something  
bigger than yourself

## Share a delicious moment

Streets of New York would like to thank you for giving blood with a voucher for a free 10" cheese pizza.

Must present voucher. Not valid with any other offer. One voucher per party per visit. Good for dine-in only. Voucher valid between Dec. 1 and Jan. 31.



[streetsofnewyork.com](http://streetsofnewyork.com)

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation Holiday

## Blood Drive

Sun., Dec. 16, 2018

8:30 am ~ 1:30 pm

Bloodmobile in Parking Lot -  
6400 West Del Rio St. Chandler, AZ 85226

To schedule an appointment contact  
Sue Ringler, [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org), 480-899-4249

For more information or to schedule a donation,  
call 877-25-VITAL or visit us at [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org)  
Find us @vitalant:   

vitalant. 

**Give the gift of life this holiday season! Here is the link [Click Here](#) you can use to set up your appointment for our Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive**



"I am grateful for what I am and have.  
My thanksgiving is perpetual...."  
Henry David Thoreau

Byron Katie I'm not grateful for this or that, I'm grateful, by BK,  
April 10, 2017, (CC BY-SA 2.0),  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/pictoquotes/33925143636>

## MUSIC & MORE

The annual **INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE**, sponsored by Tempe Interfaith Fellowship will be at Temple Emanuel on TUESDAY, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Some of our choir members will be joining the interfaith choir that night. Temple Emanuel is located at 5801 S. Rural Road, which is between Guadalupe and Baseline in Tempe.

Upcoming **CHOIR MUSIC**: On November 4<sup>th</sup> the Adult Choir will sing an uplifting piece to inspire us in our stewardship campaign and planning for the future. Lyrics include:

*New day dawning, life before us unexplored. Morning sun on fire above us lights the way...Fly into the promise of the bright new day. Like a moth drawn to the candle, I am drawn to future's fire. Lift my wings and let me fly, closer to the flame.*

Then on November 18<sup>th</sup> they are singing a rousing piece by Gwyneth Walker which includes part of "America" (My country, 'tis of thee) and a fun rhythmic section with the words "Let freedom ring, O, Let freedom ring!" Amidst the current political climate we can sometimes feel either depressed or cynical and that there is not much to be grateful for in this season of Thanksgiving. However, I think it is always good to remember our higher ideals and continue to inspire people to bring their best selves forward. It starts with us!

**CHALICE RINGERS** (VUU's Hand Bell Choir) rehearses TUESDAYS, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the VUU sanctuary. This group performs for Sunday services about once a month and occasionally at other congregations. It is open to anyone who can count, and we always welcome newcomers. Contact Director Joan Bundy at [joan@joanbundylaw.com](mailto:joan@joanbundylaw.com) for more information.

**CHALICE SINGERS** (VUU's Children's Choir) has recently started rehearsing again, on Tuesdays, from 6:15 to 7 p.m. in the sanctuary library. This fun group is for children mostly Kindergarten through grade 6, and they also perform for Sunday services about once a month.

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



## Journey to Membership Sessions 2018-2019

### Upcoming Sessions (Pick One):

- **Sunday November 11, 2018**
  - 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., Rooms 1 & 2, Faith Formation Building
- **Sunday February 3, 2019**
  - 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., VUU Sanctuary
- **Sunday May 5, 2019**
  - Noon until 3:30 p.m., VUU Sanctuary
- **Sunday August 18, 2019**
  - Noon until 3:30 p.m., Rooms 1 & 2, Faith Formation Building

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

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

Contact Rev. Kellie Walker Hart at [music@vuu.org](mailto:music@vuu.org) or the VUU office at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org) to register. Lunch provided, and babysitting is available if requested in advance.

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



### **Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

6400 W Del Rio St, Chandler, AZ 85226, 480-899-4249, [www.vuu.org](http://www.vuu.org)

The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** will be **Sunday November 11 from 1 to 4:00 in Rooms 1 & 2 of the Faith Formation area (WEST side of parking lot)**. If you have been attending VUU for a few weeks or months, are interested in finding out more about Unitarian Universalism and membership at Valley UU, and want to meet other newcomers, then this is for you! Please register by emailing [music@vuu.org](mailto:music@vuu.org) or [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org) and let us know if you have any dietary needs for the lunch we will provide, or need babysitting for a child. If you can't make this session, other sessions will be on February 3, May 5, or August 18. You only need to attend one session, afterward will be given the opportunity to sign our membership book if you so choose and will be welcomed during an upcoming ceremony during a Sunday morning service.

## *VUU COMMUNITY*

### **Recognition Sunday: A VUU Tradition**

Each fall the Special Funds Committee recognizes one long-time member of our congregation who has clearly served this community above and beyond. This year's Recognition Sunday will be November 11<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendar as we celebrate the service and contributions of Beverly McCormick!

Please consider making a contribution of the VUU endowment Fund in honor of Beverly. Donations of \$50 to \$100 are common, but often we receive large contributions. But of course, donations of any amount are welcome and greatly appreciated.

This recognition Sunday tradition dates to 1995 and the initial creation of the VUU endowment Fund. The endowment Fund exists to help sustain VUU over the generations, generations which we will be celebrating on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The Endowment Fund is made of generous contributions from VUU members who donate to the fund through annual contributions, as well as estate bequests. And each year for Recognition Sunday we invite additional contributions in honor of one special long-time member and their service to our congregation and community. The complete list of past honorees is found below. Our goal in the coming year is to help educate the congregation about how our endowment fund works and how we can continue to grow it to better fund goals that are important to all of us.

Fittingly, one way we do this is to administer "The Bunny Clarke Leadership Fund". Interest and dividends from this fund are used to help defray costs of leadership development, just one of the many committees upon which Beverly McCormick has served our congregation. Also, the Special Funds committee has voted to approve several grants from The Endowment Fund. As requested by the Board, the Endowment Fund has helped to finance various one-time special projects, such as physical improvements in the sanctuary and RE buildings.

Please speak to any Special Fund Committee members if you have any questions. They are: Chris Sar, Joel Sannes, Rick Hinrichs, Anne Schneider and Joanne McGrath. The following people have been honored over the years:

Marilou Coy	1995	Charlotte Ward	2006
Bunny Clarke	1996	Neria Ryder	2007
Jan Christian	1997	Betty Nering	2008
Roger Smith	1998	Lauree Perry	2009
Bill Wood	1999	Jim Nielsen	2010
Larry Visotsky	2000	Loyd Means	2011
Bob Clarke	2001	Barb Quijada	2012
JoAnne Smith	2002	Debbe Simpkins	2013
Roger Axford	2003	All the Children of VUU	2014
Debbie Dinyes	2004	Anne Schneider	2016
Todd Heglund	2005	David Sheh	2017



## **Read More About Beverly:**



Beverly came to VUU in the year 2000 from New York and from a Unity Church. Thinking she had found another Unity Church, Beverly visited the Unitarian Universalist Church of Central Phoenix, loved the message and planned to attend there again. But in researching their address for a second visit she found VUU's address instead and that serendipity brought her here on a Sunday when the choir was singing, and she never searched for another church again.

Growing up, Beverly lived in New York City during the school year and spent her summers with family in Oxford, North Carolina. She attended Bushwick High School in Brooklyn, NY and attended Hunter College in Manhattan, NY, where she majored in history, economics and political science. Beverly's dreams included becoming a singer, dancer, actor and to find a career involved in international relations, but in their place, she found herself in a classroom where she fell in love with the kids and the classroom experience. Her education career included becoming the Assistant Principal at Louis Armstrong Middle School in Queens, and Principal at John J Pershing Intermediate School in Brooklyn, NY, where she won the Carnegie Institute's *Principal of the Year Award*. Included in Beverly's proud education experience was the extraordinary task of overseeing and completing the renovation of the severely dilapidated John J Pershing School, overcoming many criticisms and obstacles placed by a school superintendent, union members and the lack of funding. Nevertheless, she persisted, wrote many grants for needed supplies and got the job done!

Beverly has been very involved here at VUU since her arrival, first joining the choir, then becoming involved in the religious education program as a teacher and working with teenagers in the coming of age program. She has held the positions of vice president and president on the congregational board as well as serving as a volunteer coordinator, as the Cabaret publicist for a few years, organizer of one of the congregational member directories and has led and participated in Chalice Circles. While on the board Beverly introduced policy governance, worked to delegate out board duties to various committees, helped with due diligence required before purchasing VUU's current land and buildings, and served on the ministerial search team for finding our current settled minister, Reverend Andy. Beverly is currently serving on the Leadership Development Committee and is still wholly committed to the choir.

Diversity has been foundational and formational for Beverly. Exposure to many diverse groups of people throughout her life has created for Beverly a wider appreciation of folks who are different from her and has given her an ease of working with varied groups of people. She believes this has also helped her through some very difficult experiences of racism. It is due to these both affirming and painful racial experiences, that Beverly has committed herself to making others aware that it is fear that separates us and keeps racism alive. Inspired by a General Assembly session, and in conjunction with Rev. Andy, Beverly brought the *Beloved Conversations* and *Difficult Conversations* (Listening with Care) courses to the VUU Congregation and co-facilitated these sessions with Barbara Quijada. She has also brought to VUU the awareness of the *Black Lives Matter* campaign and has facilitated book talks and movie outings

with conversations afterwards focusing on racism awareness. Look for more movie outings and book talks with Beverly in the future.

For fulfillment, Beverly practices yoga and is a committed Buddhist embracing the foundational principle of mindfulness. For fun, she joins in the VUU Singles Group activities, participates in the monthly VUU Social (Circle) Suppers and insists she has the most fun on Sunday mornings mingling with congregation members before and after service.

Thank you, Beverly, for your smiling face, your exemplary example and your service to VUU and our community. We are honored to recognize you on this 2018 Recognition Sunday for all of the ways you contribute to, serve and bless our community!

Sincerely,

The Special Funds Committee, on behalf of the congregation at Valley Unitarian Universalist

### **2019 *FUUNd* Together Begins November 11th**

Would you like to support VUU by getting together with friends and having *FUUN*? Then why not consider donating your time and talents to this year's *FUUNd Together* auction? Here's how it works.

**Starting Nov. 11<sup>rd</sup>**, VUU members and friends like you will sign up to host events such as dinners, movie nights, hikes, arts & crafts, pool parties, etc. and/or to offer lessons, legal services, home repair, baked goods, vacation rentals, etc. A catalog of these donations will be created, and the donations will be sold by silent auction on Sunday mornings in February.

Absolutely everyone is invited to join the *FUUNd*!! Visit us at the *FUUNd* table after services beginning November 11<sup>rd</sup>. *FUUNd* volunteers will joyfully accept your donation(s), answer questions about the auction, and even help you brainstorm ideas.

**ALSO**, if you would like to join the *FUUNd Together* auction committee, we would L♥VE to have your help. Volunteers are needed to take donations on Sunday mornings, assist with the silent auction in February, and/or share their computer programming (ACCESS) and data entry skills. Please email [fuundtogether@vuu.org](mailto:fuundtogether@vuu.org) or contact Debbe at 480-244-6570 if you are interested.

*In 2018, *FUUNd* raised more than \$19,000 to support VUU's mission and programs!  
Just imagine what we can do with **your** help in 2019!!*

### **VUUSOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY**

#### **Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice**



**Citizens' Climate Lobby**

#### **VUU Climate Advocacy – Be A Part of the Solution:**

The next VUU-Citizens' Climate Lobby Monthly (CCL) meeting will be Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Room 5 of the VUU Office Building. We are in a planning/strategizing/organizing phase that includes learning how CCL works to meet the goal of engaging citizens (like us and others in the community) in creating the political will for a livable world. We support a carbon fee and dividend plan to reduce green-house gas pollution. Every VUU member is welcome to attend and learn how this new group can contribute to VUU-CCL's environmental advocacy efforts and to make a difference in reducing our carbon footprint on Mother Earth. Together we must for a livable world!



### **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 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](mailto:pazdecristo@vuu.org)



### **November Donation of the Month for Paz de Cristo: Stuffing and Cranberries**

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of stuffing and cranberries so that those in need will be able to celebrate Thanksgiving. Please drop off your donation in the bin in the foyer. Thanks for your support!

### **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](mailto: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 to assemble bags from **9a.m. to 11a.m. on Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>** in the Board and Conference rooms in the office building. There are several ways to help:

1. Come and help make the bags on the 3<sup>rd</sup>
2. Donate items to fill the bags – only feminine maxi pads and tampons are needed
3. Donate money to purchase the above items.

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

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](mailto:lperry98@earthlink.net))

**I-HELP needs gently used or new towels for their shower program. Drop them off in the basket in the Sanctuary Foyer. Thank You.**



### **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)

The story below was written by a VUU member, Amanda Schneider, who responded to the call for volunteers to help with refugees who had been taken by ICE to local churches.

### **Today I saved a star fish.**

\*Names have been changed

7:00 am - I met Rob at the bus station, after dropping off Miguel for his bus trip to Virginia. Rob had been there since 5 am the previous day, helping asylum-seeking immigrants navigate the bus system and handing out snacks so they could eat something while they waited for their upcoming trips across the country. (Most without money to buy food for themselves.)

7:15 am - Rob told me about Jasmine who needed to get to a Western Union to pick up money from her brother. She was traveling to Boston (where her brother was) tomorrow. Her brother knew it would be a long trip and wanted her to have money so she could buy food and a phone, so he could stay in contact with her. I offered to help.

7:30 am - I took Jasmine to a QT close by to get the money, only to discover that location only made out checks, did not cash them.

7:35 am - Drove to the airport, the closest money-receiving Western Union I could find. Thankfully a good friend of mine answered her phone and was able to translate to Jasmine where I was taking her, as I speak zero Spanish and she speaks zero English.

8:00 am - Learn that the state of AZ requires an actual driver's license or passport to use as identification - the paper copy of Jasmine's ID is not sufficient.

She cannot receive the money her brother sent to her.

8:05 am - Call friend back to translate and arrange to have brother send money to me in my name. (Brother does not speak English either.)

8:30 am - Take Jasmine back to bus station with the promise I will pick up the money and bring it back to her. Rob has arranged for Jasmine to go back to a local church to spend the night rather than staying at the bus station. I drive them both to the church. I find out that Jasmine's brother would also like Jasmine to have a pre-paid phone, so she can keep in contact with him during her journey. (She had to use my phone to call him earlier at the bus station.) I agree to pick up the money, buy a pre-paid phone and bring it back to Jasmine.

9:00 am Drop off Jasmine. Then drop off Rob at a nearby bus stop. (He refuses to let me take him to his destination. I don't know if he even has a permanent address.)

11:15 am Receive phone call from Brother John, who is the step-father of Jasmine's brother. (And her too? Don't know.) He translates and tells me the money order is in my name.

2:00 pm Pick up money and go the Walmart to get the pre-paid phone. Purchased some essentials for her out of our pocket so she will have some comfort on her journey and a wallet to hold her money.

2:15 pm Pick up Zach from a friend's house and drive downtown to deliver money and phone. I also give the Pastor of the church \$100 of the brother's money at his request as a blessing for taking care of his sister. Zach has a migraine and it is all I can do to drop off the supplies, the money and the phone. I ask if someone can help Jasmine activate the phone. The volunteers at the church are slammed but say they will. I say goodbye to Jasmine and am able to give her a hug. (Which feels so good.)

3:00 pm Call Brother John to tell him I have delivered the money and phone. He asks for the number so her brother can call her. I explain I was unable to activate it, but someone was going to help her.

5:00 pm Her brother texts me to ask if I was able to buy his sister a phone. He confirms he has not heard from her and he does not have a number to call her.

5:30 pm I call the pastor of the church and ask if they are able to help Jasmine figure out how to activate the phone. He said his wife will go and help her now. He tells me the \$100 her brother gave them made it possible for them to feed all the immigrant's dinner that night.

7:00 pm I text her brother to see if he has heard from her yet. (From Aaron's soccer game in north Phoenix.) He replies that he has not and knows nothing.

7:20 pm I promise I will go back to the church on my way home to help her activate it. I text the Pastor to let him know I am coming. He is immensely grateful - said they received another bus load of families with babies and were busy helping them.

7:50 pm Aaron and I drive back to the church...only to find out Jasmine has been taken to another Pastor's home for the night. At this point, I am losing hope of getting her connected with her brother. But the incredible volunteers look in their notebooks and find where she is. They call and ask the Pastor to call me...who does immediately. I am able to explain that she has a phone that needs to be activated so she can call her brother. He says he will call me back when it is done.

8:30 pm Aaron and I head home.

8:35 pm I received this text from her brother: "Thank you very much for your help and I spoke with her, may God bless you all for every good thing you do to people who need help."

I burst into tears of relief. My work was finally done.

I don't say all of this to brag in any way about what I did today. I share this to show how extremely difficult it was to get one asylum-seeker some money from her family and a way to communicate with them as she travels across the entire country, alone, not knowing the language. What would have happened to her had I not been there? Rob had no vehicle to take her anywhere and there are just too many for the churches to handle the extra work this required.

I think about all of the families sent off on buses across the country...without money or food...to hopefully end up where they need to be. To have no access to communication with their family. To have no language to use to advocate for themselves. How utterly terrifying that would be.

I am so incredibly grateful for the network of humanitarians coming together to work endless hours to care for these fellow humans. The sacrifices I saw in just this brief period today were incredibly inspiring and humbling. These people working hard...to feed and house them...to make their journey a little lighter...a little less scary...a little more humane.



A saved one star fish today. There are literally hundreds of them...stuck on the shore without an advocate...how could my work possibly make a difference?

Well...I made a difference for this one, sweet, kind and gentle one...who has gone through who-knows-what to get here from Guatemala...to be reunited with her brother. That is enough for today. ❤️ <3

Update: Amanda found out a week after her meeting that her starfish had made her way safely to her brothers.

Amanda and Paul Schneider

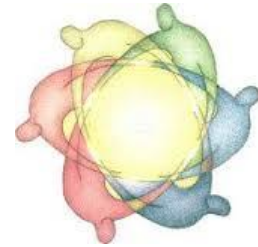


"We can only be said to be alive  
in those moments  
when our hearts are conscious  
of our treasures."  
Thornton Wilder

Gratitude, by Vincent Gearhart, May 7, 2014, Public Domain,  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vipgrafx/14204518802e5n2-63gtf1-bpH4v-qjhdyl>

### **Thursday Night Chalice Circle Starting in December**

Worried you missed the opportunity to sign up for Chalice Circles? Never fear - we have a Chalice Circle beginning Thursday, December 6. Chalice Circles are a small group ministry within VUU. These twice monthly gatherings of 6 to 8 people feature deep listening and allow for quiet reflection on vital issues of faith and life. Sessions are guided by trained facilitators, last 90 minutes, and are most often held in members' homes. This Thursday night Chalice Circle will be on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7-8:30pm, near Lindsay and Riggs. Sign up is available at [Chalice Circle Sign-Up](#). If you would like to learn more, visit the VUU Webpage at <http://www.vuu.org/chalice-circles/> or e-mail [ChaliceCircles@vuu.org](mailto:ChaliceCircles@vuu.org).



### **Our Best Kept Secret— The VUU Memorial Garden**

Yes, we have a Memorial Garden. It located behind the church office building.

The VUU Memorial Garden was set up when we moved here in 2003. Members may place the ashes of loved ones (parents, children, spouses) directly into the ground. This is called inhumation. The garden is a quiet place for contemplation with desert friendly plants, trees and places to sit. It can be accessed through the RE courtyard, behind a colorful fence and gate decorated by our children.

The garden is supported by user fees and overseen by the Facilities Team. The basic fee is \$150.00. This includes the inhumation and placement of the loved one's name on a wall plaque. If desired an individual bronze plaque can be ordered and placed on a special, blue wall in the garden. There is a separate charge for this. If you wish to place ashes in the garden, please contact the church office or the minister.



### **SUPPORT VUU'S LIBRARY WHILE SHOPPING FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

ONCE AGAIN ANNE SCHNEIDER HAS DONATED COPIES OF HER BOOKS OF POETRY AND NATURE PHOTOGRAPHS. THEY ARE DISPLAYED IN THE LIBRARY. ALL MONEY GOES TOWARD BUYING BOOKS FOR OUR LIBRARY.

Contact: Johnnie Godfrey, [johnniegirl85218@gmail.com](mailto:johnniegirl85218@gmail.com) or cell: 480-231-8381.

## VUU's Highlight Hospitality/Coffee Team



We welcome **Regina Colburn** as our new, fearless leader of the after and between Services Hospitality/Coffee/Snack Time! We also thank all the new and veteran volunteers who have stepped up to help. We are still looking for folks to help before the 9:15 a.m. service set-up time, serving after 9:15 a.m./before Faith Formation classes, serving after Faith Formation classes/before 11:30 a.m., set-up/serving/clean-up for after the 11:30 a.m. Service. See there is a place/time for everyone! We have a place for YOU!

To volunteer, please contact: Sue at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org) or Regina at [reginakolburn@gmail.com](mailto:reginakolburn@gmail.com)



### **BROWN BAG LUNCH WITH REV. ANDY**

There will not be a Brown Bag lunch in November

#### 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 November 2018 are:

10 to 19 years:

*Jayne Burgess*

*Gilda Czerwonka*

*Barbara Face*

*Megan Kimball & Chris Sar*

*Jillian & Brian Kong-Sivert*

*Alan & Karen McGarrity*

*Molly McNamara*

*Bernie Mohrbacher*

*Lisa Shane*

*Nancy Stillings*

20 to 29 Years:

*Johnnie May*

30 to 39 Years:

*Marge Brodrick & Courtney Phillips*

*DiAnna Farmer*

40 to 49 Years:

*Deborah Dinyes*

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

***Growth is the only evidence of life.*** John Henry Newman

# EVENTS



**November 8 - 6PM**

Do you live way out in the east valley? If so, your VUU neighbors would love to have your company at our next EastVUU gathering on Nov. 8 .... We get together for friendship, food, faith development and social justice."

**FAITH DEVELOPMENT:** Discussion will be Touchstones "Gratitude"

**SOCIAL ACTION:** Immigration Issue Update

**SOCIAL NIGHT:** Nov 29 .... TBA

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

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



**SPECTRUM LGBTQ+ VUU meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays after the 11:30 AM Service in Room 5**

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR TODAY: On Sunday, December 2, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. in the VUU Sanctuary, SPECTRUM, VUU's LGBTQ+ will present a two-person panel on transgender identity. Presenters include Dr. Veenod Chulani and Dr. Mischa Peck.**

Veenod Chulani, MD, MSED, FSAHM, CEDS, leads Phoenix Children's Adolescent Medicine Program, and is one of only a handful of specialists in Arizona. Dr. Chulani also specializes in working with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) youth, including those seeking cross gender hormonal therapies. Dr. Chulani is Section Chief of Adolescent Medicine at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Dr. Mischa Peck, a transgender woman, is a counselor and therapist. She writes, "As you can imagine, my personal journey has taught me much about resilience—just think about the many life changes in this process. For more than 40 years, I lived my life as a male-identified. I experienced life and studied academically much about men and masculinity—including trying and trying and trying to figure out where I fit. Through this path, I found myself: I am Mischa."

Please plan to attend this important panel presentation and bring your questions!





### **WAYFARERS**

After a few years of fun third Fridays, I find myself in a situation that requires me to pull back on activities. Therefore, I will no longer be setting up the Happy HoUUr that I have enjoyed with many of you. I appreciated the “old faithfuls” who attended regularly and the new people who came to try us out. I hope we made you feel welcome. Thanks to all who participated. I will see you in other VUU activities. In Friendship, Jan Waters

We have a great new facilitator for Happy HoUUr. Susan Lacy

has volunteered to coordinate Third Friday meetings. She began attending a couple of years ago and has become a friend and enthusiastic participant in our group. She will begin with the November Happy HoUUr on Friday, November 16 and will announce the location in the Sunday Bulletins and in the Thursday email blasts. Please contact her with questions or to tell her you will attend by phone or text: 509-670-2667, or by email: [lacynoe@yahoo.com](mailto:lacynoe@yahoo.com).

Thank you, Susan, and thanks to all of you have attended our Happy HoUUr the past few years. We have “regulars” who attend most times, and we always welcome newcomers. It’s a great way to get acquainted in a small group and everyone is a Wayfarer. Jan Waters



### **VUU WOMEN’S GROUP - THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.**

Contacts: Margaret Stewart [mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com](mailto:mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com),

Johnnie Godfrey [johnniegirl85218@gmail.com](mailto:johnniegirl85218@gmail.com) , cell: 480-231-8381.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER IS NOVEMBER 18**







### **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](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com) and she'll get you on the list.



**Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – 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, Scrabble, 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, iced tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. Let us know if you are coming so we how many are coming and if any extra tables and chairs are needed. Text, call or email Claudette [claudettewassil@hotmail.com](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com), 973-768-6047 to RSVP. For last minute directions, contact Raul at 561-901-9277.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS CANCELLATION!!!!!! Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fall Foliage viewing (day trip) to Payson and along the Mogollon Rim.**

**Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Election Night Gathering – 6:30 pm at Bob and Raul's (7392 S. Hazelton Lane, Tempe—near NE corner of Elliot and McClintock)** Let's come together and celebrate the most exciting event of our American Republic...Election Day! This gathering will be a pot-luck dinner, so please bring something to share with your fellow VUU single citizens. Water, ice tea and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring alternate drinks. Poles close at 7 pm here in Arizona, so we will have plenty of time to eat before election results begin to roll in. Please 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](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com), 973-768-6047 to RSVP. For last minute directions, contact Raul at 561-901-9277.

**Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 pm - Foreign Movie and Foreign Food to Match! Renee's home — French 4761 E. Pawnee Circle, Phoenix (Ahwatukee).** The last dinner and a movie received rave reviews from its participants, so we are going to repeat the experience! Let's get together to enjoy a French movie and a French-cuisine dinner together. This French-language romantic comedy is *The Blind Date* and has a Rotten Tomatoes Score of 100%. The evening's participants will supply the ingredients for this meal and will we pull it all together at Renee's. Text, call or email Claudette at [claudettewassil@hotmail.com](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com), 973-768-6047 to RSVP.

**Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Singles Monthly Dinner – Perfect Pear Bistro** 9845 S Priest Dr., Tempe, AZ 85284. NE corner of Ray Rd & Priest Dr. This Bistro's food and beverage menus change regularly to feature fresh flavors and seasonal ingredients, so there are always new dishes to try, with their selections of fresh salads, sandwiches, grilled cheeses, soups, tacos, pasta dishes, appetizers and more. You can enjoy craft beer from local breweries, red or white wines by the glass, and/or creative specialty cocktails. Come and share good food and conversation with good friends. RSVP to Claudette by email: [claudettewassil@hotmail.com](mailto:claudettewassil@hotmail.com) by call or text 973-768-6047.



## 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

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## 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

Your Neighborhood Contacts are:

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

Carl Anderson	480-529-4365
Donna Bennett	480-570-4024

canderaz@cox.net
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
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lperry98@earthlink.net
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Tempe South - Zips: 85283, 85284

DiAnna Farmer	480-413-0293
Sabena Norman	904-307-6996

dianna_farmer@hotmail.com
sabena.norman@gmail.com

Mesa West - Zips: 85201, 85202, 85210

Mary Jo Bitner	480-831-5518
Debbe Simpkins	480-244-6570

friendsofdebbe@gmail.com
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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
Joel Sannes	480-464-6772
Rebekah Thomas	443-890-5387
Diana Woods	480-835-5621

bettyjbarnes@cox.net
joelsannes@gmail.com
rkendri@hotmail.com
dianawoods@hotmail.com

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

Neighborhood Contacts Needed!

Madeline Kasian	480-349-3080
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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
Jacqui Meriweather	480-491-0546

barbara_face@qwest.net
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  
 Hayley Wynne, Faith Formation Assistant  
 Sue Ringler, Congregation Administrator  
 Joe Martin, Maintenance Technician  
 Jill Khaleghi, pianist

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