



# VUUPOINT MARCH 2019



Valley  
Unitarian  
Universalist  
CONGREGATION

*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](mailto: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.*

*Go to vuu.org and click on Sunday Bulletin at the top of the home page.*

### *March Theme is Truth*

#### **March 3 *Repairing the Breach***

**Led by East Valley NAACP President Roy Tatem**

The Chalice Singers, the Kid's Choir sings.

#### **March 10 *Situation Ethics Is Fine by Me: The Case for Moral Relativism***

**Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**

Joseph Fletcher's book "Situation Ethics" will be my primary text. Basically, Fletcher said we should avoid taking sweeping principled stands, preferring instead to apply love in every unique situation. The Chalice Ringers will play.

#### **March 17**

**Led by Anthony Johnson, ministerial candidate and staff member at UUCP**

#### **March 24 *The Breaking of a Wave Cannot Explain the Whole Sea: Perception, Truth, and Russia***

**Led by Adam Romney**

While the monthly theme is truth, as a practical matter there are fundamental barriers to all people coming to the exact same understanding of "truth" even when presented with the same information. This reality, driven by differences in culture, age, and life experience, calls into question whether we can ever be sure that what we think of as "truth" accurately depicts the reality experienced by others. Using examples from Russian language and culture ranging from the Russian perception of color to Slavic versions of popular fairytales, this sermon seeks to demonstrate that truly communicating "truth" requires an empathetic understanding of what the audience "knows" to be true in advance. Armed with a greater appreciation of the power of perception; we can better communicate our truth by understanding that it less important what we say than what the listener hears. The Adult Choir sings in Russian, from Rachmaninoff's All-Night Vespers.

#### **March 31 *Purity is the Enemy: The Problem with Fundamentalist Liberalism***

**Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette**

The Worship Band plays.

#### Events at a Glance

3/09 Kino Border Initiative Dinner	3/17 A Room with a VUU
VUU Singles Cartoon Movie & Food	7 <sup>th</sup> Principle & Climate Actions
3/10 An Interfaith Story of Courage & Compassion	Newsletter Deadline
VUUJAZ Conversations	3/21 Page Turners
A Room with a VUU	3/22 VUU Singles Monthly Dinner
Voices Lifted Rehearsal	3/24 <b>Goodwill Donations</b>
3/13 Arizona Faith Network: Transformed World	VUU Women's Group
3/14 EastVUU's Meet	Story Circles
3/15 Wayfarers Happy HoUUr	7 <sup>th</sup> Principle & My Impact
3/17 Spectrum Meets	3/31 Voices Lifted Rehearsal
Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	

Sundays – Dalai Lama & Friends & Monthly Worship Discussion  
Tuesdays – Adult Choir, Chalice Singers & Chalice Ringers Rehearse

## ***MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT***

Dear friends,

This month's focus is on Truth, a term that's hard to even define as we navigate the world in which the truth seems to lie not in verifiable facts, but in the version of the truth we choose to follow. We can't even agree as a country that what 99% of scientists agree to be true is true. We witness doubt of individuals who have far more expertise and experience than the doubters. And yet we continue to ferret out the truth, in the news, and the more personal truth, inside each of us - the truth for which we come together to find and to celebrate.

Roy Tatem, East Valley NAACP President, and a panel of scholars met with us to share the truths of black history, of enslaved African people, of segregation and Jim Crow, and of modern-day racism. They asked us to look hard at our truths, and to support theirs with our time, talents, treasures, and yes, even our privilege. They asked us to read, to show up, to stop being fragile, to follow, and to give. It was a powerful few hours, the uncovered truths of which I hope stay with me and act as a springboard to do as suggested.

The truth at VUU is that we work hard, as individuals and as a community, to learn about difficult things. And we make them less difficult, more real, and get closer to the truth together than we each would alone.

The board continues to do the work to support the vision of VUU, a place that challenges our truths in important and compelling ways. This year we have come a long way toward our goal of being policy-centered and allowing the organization, the committees, the staff, and the members and attendees, to drive the work. It is you who are the most important part of this work that we do, and we thank you for being in the driver's seat.

In peace and with gratitude,  
DeeAnne McClenahan

President  
602.214.4608

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

## Faith Formation Ministry March 2019

Thanks to everyone who took part in our Italian Dinner last Saturday evening. Thank you for your support of our Faith Formation fundraisers.

### **PRESALE TICKETS ONLY!**

Tickets available Sunday mornings and online <https://squareup.com/store/valleyuufundraisers>

Also available through the link: tickets for

Easter morning pancake breakfast,

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 am – 9 am

Marc Beaudoin, Director of Faith Formation ministry



## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFERINGS**

See program descriptions below

**Note:** faith formation classes may meet on Easter, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

	<u>1st Sunday</u> 3/3, 4/7	<u>2nd Sunday</u> 3/10, 4/14	<u>3rd Sunday</u> 3/17, **4/21	<u>4th Sunday</u> 3/24, 4/28
Dalai Lama and Friends	room 1	room 1	room 1	room 1
VUUJAZ Conversations		Board Room		
7 <sup>th</sup> Principle and My Impact				Board Room
7 <sup>th</sup> Principle Climate Actions			Conference Room	
Story Circles				Sanctuary library
A Room with a VUU: Using Contemporary Latinx Art to Explore our Values <b>FULL</b>		Sanctuary library	Sanctuary library	
Cakes for the Queen of Heaven (Nov 4 – April 7) <b>FULL</b>	Board room		Board room	



## 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 am, room 5: meditation

\*10:30 - 11:20 am, 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.

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

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

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

Led by Jerry Waters Meeting dates: **3/24, 4/28**

We will meet on the 4<sup>th</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!

## 7<sup>th</sup> Principle Climate Actions

Led by Jeff Grout Meeting dates: **3/17, 4/21**

We will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in the volunteer room, in the office building.

Our focus will be on specific things that people can do to heal our climate. Possible topics include:

- VUU Citizens' Climate Lobby letter writing and politician meeting opportunities
- Possibility of Restarting the VUU Green Sanctuary
- UU Statewide and VUUJAZ actions related to climate change. Inform attendees of existing meetings that we can attend with volunteering opportunities.
- Discuss specific actions that people can take to reduce their carbon footprint and discussion of large and small ways to reverse global warming. (See list of top 100 contributors to global warming at <https://www.drawdown.org>)

## VUUJAZ CONVERSATIONS

Facilitated by Anne Schneider

We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month in the board room. ***That is March 10<sup>th</sup> this month.***

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).

## Offsite or Evening meetings

### NEW: Six Week Introductory Training (S.I.T.) in Mindfulness Course

Thursdays April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, & 9; 6-8pm in Room 2 in Education Complex

What is mindfulness and how do you do it? This 6-week course blends ancient Buddhist teachings with research supported practices to develop focused and embodied present moment awareness for a greater sense of ease and well-being. Each class will build on the previous one, so it is important to be able to make a commitment to attend regularly. We will practice a variety of mindfulness meditations and explore practical ways to integrate mindfulness into daily activities at work, home and in relationships. Whether you are new to meditation or have been practicing for some time, you are welcome. We will explore:

- Training in meditation, developing awareness of breath, body, feelings and thoughts.
- Managing stress and learning how to shift from reaction to response.
- Recognizing and letting go of unhelpful habitual thoughts and mind states.
- Cultivating kindness for oneself and others

VUU member Ann Sebren is offering this course as part of her requirements to complete mindfulness teacher training through the Mindfulness Training Institute. She has received training in teaching mindfulness from the Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care, and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and has been teaching Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction for 12 years. Ann has taught undergraduate and graduate university level courses on the science and practice of stress management and mindfulness for nearly a decade.

The class is limited to 20 participants and registration will be closed once the course begins. To register, please contact Ann Sebren at [sitwithann0@gmail.com](mailto:sitwithann0@gmail.com) or visit her information table on Sundays March 10, 17, 24, and 31.



### The Page Turners Book Club (offsite, evening meeting)

The Page Turners 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 **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:15 p.m.** The book is The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore. This memoir is the story of two boys with the same name who lived in the same city. One became a Rhodes Scholar, decorated combat veteran, and White House Fellow. The other is serving a life sentence in prison.

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).

## Weekly Parenting group

Led by Maria Sireci-Najmi

We will meet weekly (dates and times to be determined by the group.)

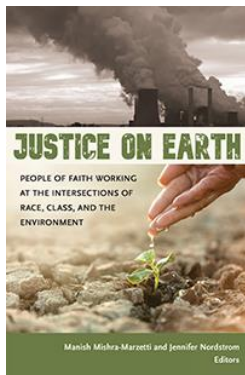
A weekly parenting group for moms, dad, grandparents, and childcare people of all types. We will read and do exercises from various parenting books during our meetings. No reading at home required! Do not to worry if you can't attend every meeting, we will most likely move slowly through each book. We will create a platform for support and connection and help to strengthen intentions and skills in parenting.

The first book will be [Positive Discipline](#) by Jane Nelson.

If you're interested please email Maria with the age of your children and date & time preferences. [mariawildflower@rocketmail.com](mailto:mariawildflower@rocketmail.com) 602 884 0827 (text). One possibility: Monday nights from 7-8:30.

**This is an adult only group and there is no childcare available.**

Please share this information with any parents/caregivers who might be interested.



## The 2018-19 UUA Common Read

*Justice on Earth: People of faith working at the intersection of race, class, and the environment.*

**Jayne Burgess will facilitate Monday evenings: March 4<sup>th</sup> & April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 pm, VUU board room**

Impoverished communities have relatively little political clout and, therefore, policy decisions have led to poor and non-white communities becoming “the destination for the waste and pollution of more affluent, typically white, communities.” Due to locating power plants, waste facilities, and pollution-generating industries in minority and lower-income settings, “illnesses related to pollutants, troubles with water quality, and a rise in cancer and childhood asthma rates” in these areas have become the national norm. “The environmental movement launched in 1970 lacked the consciousness and commitment to address the structured racial and economic inequality.” The essays in this book attempt to rectify that and integrate these justice issues.

Seating is limited so please contact Jayne Burgess to reserve your spot. 480-940-8877 or [Jayne@JayneBurgess.com](mailto:Jayne@JayneBurgess.com).

**Purchase your book:**

UUA bookstore <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Justice-on-Earth-P18357.aspx>

Amazon (kindle version available) [https://smile.amazon.com/Justice-Earth-Working-Intersections-Environment/dp/155896813X/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1542241225&sr=8-1&keywords=justice+on+earth+book](https://smile.amazon.com/Justice-Earth-Working-Intersections-Environment/dp/155896813X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1542241225&sr=8-1&keywords=justice+on+earth+book)



## MUSIC & MORE

### UPCOMING CHOIR MUSIC

During the March 24th Sunday morning services, the Adult Choir will sing a piece in Russian called *Bogoroditse Devo*, which they've enjoyed performing several times over the years. By Sergei Rachmaninoff, it is the 6<sup>th</sup> piece of 15 pieces in the All-Night Vespers, a night-long service of the Russian Orthodox Church celebrated on the eve of holy days. The entire work was composed in just two weeks in 1915 during World War 1 and was first performed to raise money for war relief. The *Bogoroditse Devo* movement is a Russian version of the Latin hymn, Ave Maria, which pays homage to Mary, mother of Jesus. The Vespers is Rachmaninoff's last greatest liturgical composition, considered a crowning achievement in Russian choral music.

### CHOIRS

All of our choirs are always open to new members. The **Adult Choir** rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9pm in the sanctuary and the *Chalice Singers*, VUU's **Children's Choir**, rehearses on Tuesdays from 6:15 to 7 pm in the sanctuary library. Other choirs include:

### CHALICE RINGERS

VUU's **Handbell Choir** rehearses Tuesdays, 6 to 7:15 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 they especially welcome people to try them out over the next couple of months, as they prepare for a concert later in the spring. Contact Director Joan Bundy at [joan@joanbundylaw.com](mailto:joan@joanbundylaw.com) for more information.

### VOICES LIFTED SINGERS

Open to women and older girls, this ensemble sings in community settings such as nursing homes, and at bedside for those recovering from illness or surgery, or in hospice care. Rehearsals are on Sunday afternoons usually on the WEST side of the parking lot (look for signs) from 1:30 to 3pm. Upcoming rehearsals are March 10 & 31, April 14, and May 19.



The next **JOURNEY TO MEMBERSHIP SESSION** will be **Sunday May 5 from 1 to 4:00** in the sanctuary. 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 [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, the next session will be August 18.

-Rev. Kellie Walker Hart ([music@vuu.org](mailto:music@vuu.org))

*The only Truth is Music.*

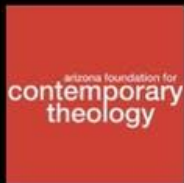
-Jack Kerouac-





## SPECIAL EVENTS

**"The Unacceptable  
Casualties of  
Christian Theologies:  
How We Can Stop  
Turning Women's  
Bodies into Battlefields"**



**Friday March 8th at 7pm**

**Dayspring United Methodist**

**1365 E. Elliot Rd, Tempe**

**[www.azfct.org](http://www.azfct.org)**

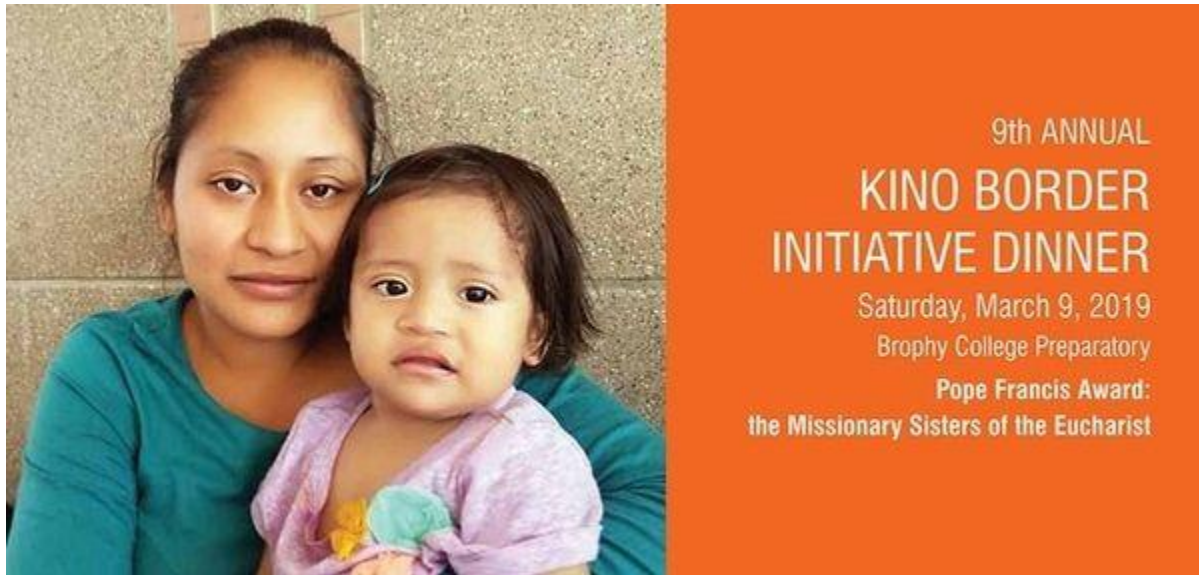


**Rev. Dr. Susan  
Thistlethwaite**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-unacceptable-casualties-of-christian-theologies-tickets-55935295976>

**Our truest  
life is  
when we  
are in  
dreams  
awake.  
Thoreau**





Kino Border Initiative Dinner  
Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Founded in 2008 on the scriptural and humanitarian principles of dignity for all and a responsibility to serve those in need, the bi-national [Kino Border Initiative](#) (KBI) strives to put faith into action through humanitarian assistance, education and research-advocacy activities. The annual dinner is held to raise financial support for this ministry that helps individuals and communities on both sides of the Arizona/Mexican border affected by the consequences of migration. Last year alone, the KBI's impact included 55,635 meals served, shelter to 839 women and children, and first aid for 4,760 migrants.

KBI invites you to purchase individual tickets (\$250/each, of which \$200 is tax deductible), host a table of ten, or if you can't attend, to help fund the Initiative through a gift. Use the links below for more information about the dinner (a PDF flyer/registration form) and/or to register online for the dinner.

[click here for PDF flyer](#) • [click here to purchase tickets/tables online](#)

**Arizona Faith Network**  
1550 E Meadowbrook Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85028  
602-468-3818

[www.arizonafaithnetwork.org](http://www.arizonafaithnetwork.org)  
[ContactUs@azfaithnetwork.org](mailto:ContactUs@azfaithnetwork.org)

## An Interfaith Story of Courage and Compassion With Speaker and Author Marty Brounstein



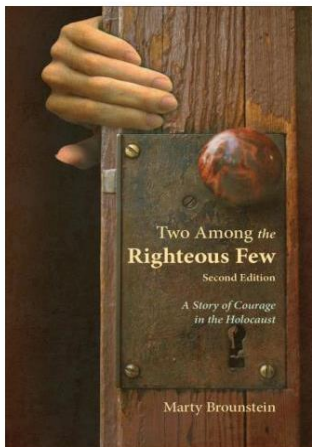

---

Sunday, March 10, 2019  
12:30 p.m. Light Potluck lunch, 1:00 Presentation

---

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Congregation NefeshSoul are pleased to host this special program with storyteller Marty Brounstein, author of ***Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust***. He brings a true interfaith story of courage, compassion, and rescue about a Christian couple in the Netherlands named Frans and Mien Wijnakker who, despite much risk and danger, saved the lives of over two dozen Jews during World War II. Marty also has a **meaningful personal connection** to this story and its heroes, which he reveals in his engaging storytelling presentation.

Now into his 8th year, Marty has been on an unexpected journey of sharing this special story in a variety of venues in his home base of the San Francisco Bay Area plus in 15 other cities around the country. He has come to the Valley for the 8th winter for a speaking series here.



Book signing follows the presentation.

The event is open to the community.

**Come hear this inspirational story!**

### LOCATION:

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
6400 W. Del Rio St.  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
(781) 729-8220

*Sign-up to bring something to our potluck with NefeshSoul on March 10:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4eaea72ca4f58-solidarity>





We'd like to call your attention to the two events below, and if appropriate, share the information with your faith communities. Be sure to visit the [calendar on AFN's website](#) for event updates, and you're welcome to let us know about other events by emailing us at [contactus@azfaithnetwork.org](mailto:contactus@azfaithnetwork.org).



Transformed People, Transformed Church, Transformed World  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 6:30 PM – 9 PM

Invite four or five of your friends, colleagues, or members from your congregation, and sign up to attend this FREE, dynamic presentation by renowned speaker and author Jack Jezreel. Our guarantee: you will not regret attending!

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Manning Hall)  
6300 N Central Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Join us on March 13 as Jack Jezreel, creator of [JustFaith](#), nationally celebrated speaker and author of the new book, *A New Way to Be Church*, speaks to the vision of God's healing presence in the world and offers a tool called JustFaith for churches who want to deepen and expand the work of social transformation.

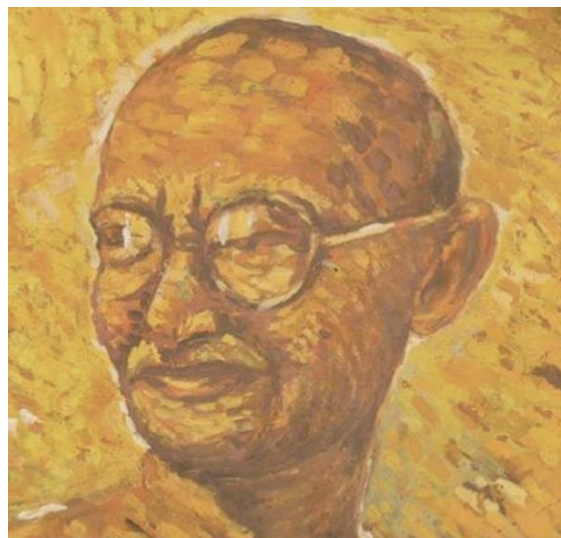
Beverages, appetizers and desserts will be served. There is no charge, but we ask that you register online at:

<https://justfaith.org/phoenix-workshop>



**March 22 – March 23 at ASU**

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cofas-conference-on-faith-and-science-tickets-53831816412?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&fbclid=IwAR2S7EEb2PAEK3P7no2Uz3CdRKF7GqI6mhhv8B\\_hhahma8fvr3pGx\\_Onz\\_I](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cofas-conference-on-faith-and-science-tickets-53831816412?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&fbclid=IwAR2S7EEb2PAEK3P7no2Uz3CdRKF7GqI6mhhv8B_hhahma8fvr3pGx_Onz_I)



**“When I despair, I remember that all through history the way of truth and love have always won. ...Think of it—always.”**

**Mahatma Gandhi**

[ R ] Jamini Roy – Gandhi, cea +, March 15, 2011, (CC BY-SA 2.0), <https://www.flickr.com/photos/centralasian9528733849>



# Donate

**YOUR NO LONGER NEEDED ITEMS AND MORE!**

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

*Bring your donations to:*

Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 11AM - 1PM

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

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

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







Dayspring United Methodist Church  
 1365 E Elliot Rd, Tempe, AZ 85284  
 Sun, March 24, 2019  
 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM MST

Shane Claiborne and Michael Martin are taking the "[Beating Guns](#)" book and their forge on the road with the Beating Guns Tour, a 90-minute event that will feature music, art, and stories of people impacted by gun violence, culminating with an invitation for the audience to take the hammer and transform a gun into garden tools.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beating-guns-tour-tempe-az-afternoon-tickets-55055685036>





Here at VUU, we love during our Centering Time that we have a simple table with candles that can be lit in remembrance of people who have passed, who need healing or people we just care about. These candle holders and the table and the floor need to be cleaned in order to keep them looking nice and inviting. Are you looking for a way to serve VUU, your beloved community? Contact Sue at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org) if you'd like to know more about joining the candle table care team.



## Annual Easter Pancake Breakfast Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 7:30am – 9 am

Breakfast includes 2 pancakes, cheesey-egg bake, 2 sausage links (or fresh fruit) and coffee or juice.

### Ticket prices:

pre-purchase: Adult \$8, Child \$6 online or outside the sanctuary

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

All tickets on Easter (Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>) \$10 at the door

Thank you for supporting the Valley UU service learning trips!

### An Upcoming **FUUNd** Activity

"The Chalice Ringers, VUU's own handbell and hand chime choir, will be presenting its second FUUNd concert this coming April 28, 2019, at 6 p.m. It's a Sunday night but don't let that deter you; it is planned for only an hour of playing followed by a short reception. If you've missed some of the Sunday services and thus some of Chalice Ringers' performances, or just want to hear some favorites again, please come out and support them and your beloved congregation, which all ticket sales will go toward. And if you've never heard live bell music before, you're in for a real treat! Any questions, please contact Joan Bundy ([joan@joanbundylaw.com](mailto:joan@joanbundylaw.com)) or Debbe Simpkins ([friendsofdebbe@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdebbe@gmail.com)). Thank you!"

*We learned about honesty and integrity - that the truth matters... that you don't take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules... and success doesn't count unless you earn it fair and square. - Michelle Obama*

## *VUU COMMUNITY*

### **Capital Campaign**

We are beginning to design our Capital Campaign to enhance our VUU campus. Do you want to be involved? Do you have a significant contribution to offer? Please contact one of the Capital Campaign Committee members with your “contribution” to the early part of this campaign. Check out our link at VUU.org!



Do you want to be involved? Do you have a significant contribution to offer? Please contact one of the Capital Campaign Committee members with your “contribution” to the early part of this campaign.

Mary Wolf-Francis, Chair  
[marywolffrancis@gmail.com](mailto:marywolffrancis@gmail.com)

Barbara Metz, Secretary

Carl Anderson

Linda Horton

David Sheh

Debbe Simpkins

Musette Steger

### **The Endowment Report – March 2019**

The combined balance of the endowment funds is \$417,707.49. Of that amount, \$7,246.65 is in the Bunny Clark Leadership Fund.

The endowment has grown over the years through generous contributions from members and friends who want to secure the future of the congregation and the many ways that we reach out to our broader community through the values of Unitarian Universalism. The endowment protects the donations themselves and invests them to earn interest and income, which is then available for these special projects.

Some of the most significant gifts made to the endowment fund are through wills and estate plans. If you have made such plans to benefit VUU in your will or estate, please make sure to notify us of your intentions. The Special Funds committee has just updated our forms for such notifications. You can find these in the sanctuary, the office and on the VUU website.

The members of this small committee that oversees the Endowment Fund are actually elected members of the congregation. We are specifically charged with the task of overseeing the stewardship of these funds and honoring the wishes of those who’ve donated over the past twenty-five years to this special fund.

Every spring at least one position is open for election at our annual congregational meeting. If you have interest in learning more about serving on Special Funds, or just about the work we do, please join us at our next monthly meeting (second Wednesday of each month in the VUU board room). And speak to the Leadership Development Committee to submit your name for consideration on the ballot in the next election. – Chris Sar, [csartempe@gmail.com](mailto:csartempe@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 March 2019 are:

10 to 19 Years:

*Nancy Wittenberg*

20 to 29 Years:

*Sally Buntschuh*

*Jennifer Horen & Frank Ray*

30 to 39 Years:

*Lorraine Rice*

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

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

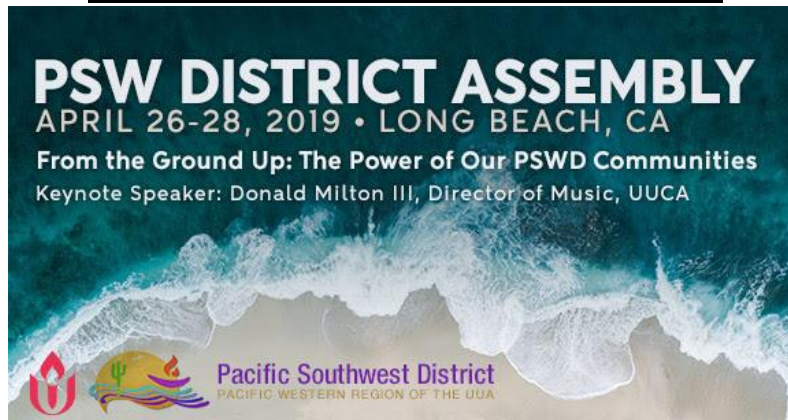


Our fearless leader, **Regina Colburn** (right) has done a wonderful job coordinating our Hospitality/Coffee/Snack Hour between the end of our 9:15 a.m. Service and the beginning of our 11:30 a.m. Service. We also thank all the new and veteran volunteers who have stepped up to help. We can use some more help if you're interested.

If you'd like to donate something to share with your VUU family, we always love homemade treats, we like offering sweet (cookies, brownies, etc.) and salty snacks (that big pretzel barrel from Costco is wonderful). Even healthy fruit/vegie snacks are tolerated. ☺ and yes, we have gluten-free options! For your hot beverage, we now offer Half & Half, organic raw sugar and every other kind of sweetener available. We have a 'Tea-Box' and you can help keep it stocked. We have hot cocoa and of course, we use TONS of coffee!! Bring and donate any of these items! Or put a donation in the donation jar on the snack table to help pay for these quality treats and beverages. To volunteer, please contact **Regina** at [reginakolburn@gmail.com](mailto:reginakolburn@gmail.com) or Sue at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org)



## 2019 Pacific Southwest District Assembly



The 2019 Pacific Southwest District Assembly will be held **April 26-28** at the [UU Church of Long Beach](#), California. Go to the [District Assembly website](#) to register and find details about workshops, schedule, accommodations, and more. Save money by [registering](#) before **March 31**.

The following items soon be posted to the [District Assembly page](#).

- Business meeting agenda
- Nominating Committee slate
- Delegate information

The [online delegate certification form](#) will be open through **April 19**. Your minister or president (or their designee) is encouraged to certify delegates as soon as they are determined. Please share the attachments with your delegates and direct them to the [District Assembly website](#). Business meeting materials will be posted as they become available.



The [UU College of Social Justice](#) will lead a field trip during the [Pacific Southwest District Assembly](#) and present a program entitled, “How Your Congregation Can Partner with Local Grassroots Organizations.” The [district assembly](#) will take place April 26-28 at the UU Church of Long Beach. You can get [information about the DA and the social justice field trip and register now](#)



## VUU SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

### Promoting Social, Economic and Environmental Justice



### Paz de Cristo March Donation of the Month: Vegetable Oil

Please support our focus charity, Paz de Cristo, by bringing in a donation of vegetable oil (any type) at any time during the month of March. It can be any type of cooking oil, such as canola oil, olive oil, safflower oil, corn oil, etc. They always seem to be running low on this item.



Drop your donation in the designated container in the foyer of the sanctuary. Thanks for your generosity!

### Paz de Cristo needs YOU

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



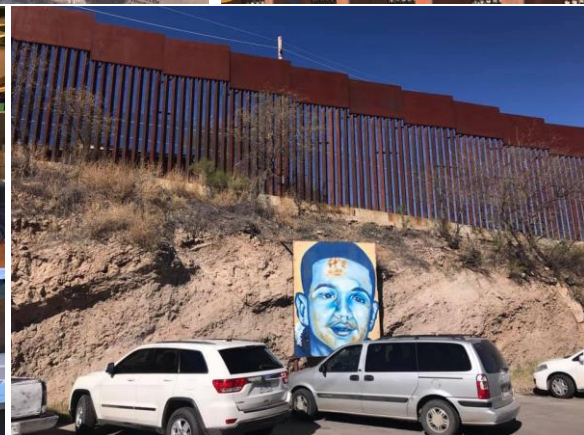
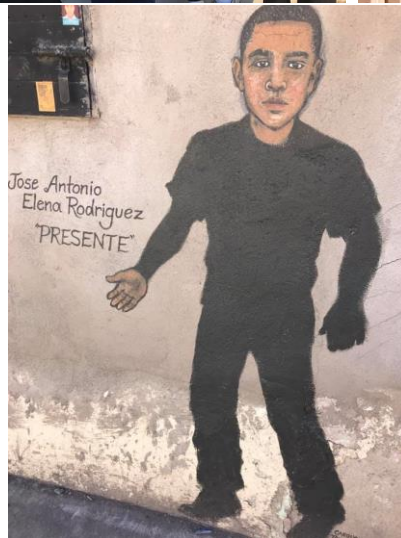
Will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays after the 11:30 AM Service



A very big thank you to all the men and women who donated to and/or turned out to pack bags for Women4Women Tempe on Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup>. You are amazing! We made approximately 300 bags, and they extremely happy for our donation. We'll be getting together again on **May 18<sup>th</sup>** to make the bags and help them expand their mission to provide low income/homeless women with feminine hygiene products. More information will follow closer to that date.

### 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 Sue at [office@vuu.org](mailto:office@vuu.org)



Members of the VUU immigration team spent **Monday, February 11** in **Nogales, Sonora, México** serving migrant people and learning from the folks at the Kino Border Initiative. We know our faith calls us to work for justice for our migrant neighbors. We are learning as we discern what VUU's role might be.



## **Make your next job Count!**

Smart and energetic people are needed for the first step in the 2020 Census – Address Canvassing. We need your help!

Go on-line at: <https://2020census.gov/jobs>



ADDRESS CANVASSING

Positions including;

- clerks
- recruiting assistants
- office operations supervisors
- census field supervisors
- census takers

The positions will be located nationwide and offer good pay, and flexible work hours, including daytime, evenings and weekends. For a job description for Address Canvassing see below;

- First operations in the fall of 2019
- House address canvassing conducted in selected areas through files and aerial imagery.
- Lister will do work using Census issued laptops or tablets.
- Follow maps on the device and insure addresses match the map the Census has.
- Add, delete or correct addresses
- Screen resident for proper addresses
- Day Time Work (no listing at night)
- Follow procedures to conduct accurate work while maintaining acceptable production rates.
- Maintain/submit records of hours worked, miles driven, and expenses incurred in the performance of duties.
- Meet/talk with supervisor, as necessary, review procedures, report issues or concerns, and receive instructions.

## ***VUU GATHERINGS***



First Sunday of each month *stop by "The Board Room", held in the sanctuary after Sunday service, for an informal chat with members of the VUU Board of Trustees. Your questions and comments are welcome!*

## **Wayfarers Happy HoUUr**

**Happy Hour 4:30, March 15, 2019**, Fibber Magees, 1989 W. Elliot Rd, Chandler, 480-722-9434 - What better place to start your St Patrick's Day Celebrations than in an Irish owned and operated pub! Great happy hour beers and appetizers! We've been there before and know there is great service in the back room, with reservations under VUU. And for you Cardinal Fans, what an opportunity to practice our 7th UU Principle "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part"...It's a Seahawk's Pub! Make reservations to Susan Lacy at [lacynoe@yahoo.com](mailto:lacynoe@yahoo.com) by Wednesday 3/14 so we know how many to expect. Makes a difference for seating and staffing. Hope to see you there!







## 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.



**Saturday, March 9**, 6:15 pm: Cartoon Movie and Food Night Renee's (4761 E. Pawnee CIR, Phoenix/Ahwatukee)

These days, we often think of cartoons as entertainment for children; however, for many years they played a role in entertaining people of all ages. At several points in our history, they were used to reinforce negative stereotypes or as a form of propaganda to unite our citizens against forces we opposed during war. Recent events, particularly those concerning executive leadership in Virginia, make us wonder why certain actions could ever be deemed acceptable. This evening, we will be viewing several cartoons from decades past that are no longer available to the general public and discuss why they were controversial. These cartoons come with an explanation of why they were banned, which we will use to begin a discussion about sexual, racial, ethnic, gender, and other stereotypes that were portrayed in the media in the past. Please bring your favorite 50s inspired dish to share - think malt shops, sock-hops, weekends at the beach, and old-time county fairs. RSVP to Claudette at 973-768-6047 (texts preferred) or reply to this email to declare your intentions.

**Friday, March 22**, 6:15 pm: Singles Monthly Dinner at Mambo's Dominican Kitchen (1950 N Arizona AVE Suite 8, Chandler 85225, SW corner Arizona AVE & Warner)

Join us at this charming restaurant for some great conversation and a taste of something different, with several Latin/Caribbean dishes to choose from. RSVP to Claudette at 973-768-6047 (texts preferred) or reply to this email to declare your intentions.

## EastVUUs



### March 14 Meeting

The VUU community on the East side of town is thriving! You are invited to join us for a great meal and thought-provoking discussions.

We meet on the **second Thursday** evening for a potluck, social action and dialog on faith topics. We meet just for fun social outings on the **fourth Thursday** each month starting in March. We'd love to welcome you!

On March 14, we will potluck at 6p and then have a discussion about "Surrender", the February Touchstones theme: How do we know when to let go versus hold on? In what ways can we release control and find more peace?

Our meetings are held at:

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

**Follow the "Welcome UU" signs to the building.**

**CONTACT:** Margaret Stewart [mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com](mailto:mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com)

You are invited to bring supplies for immigrant families, including travel size Boxed Tuna or Chicken Salad with crackers, applesauce or fruit cups, raisins or peanuts.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR APRIL IS MARCH 17****VUU WOMEN'S GROUP**

You are invited to the Women's Group meeting on **Sunday, March 24 after the second service, about 12:30.** All women are welcome. After filling our plates in the kitchen, we will meet at the front of the sanctuary and visit for a few minutes before we have a very informal discussion about a topic that is yet to be selected. Watch the bulletins for further information. Please bring a dish to share. If you haven't brought a dish, please stay. You will be very welcome.

Contacts: Margaret Stewart, [mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com](mailto:mjs.ontheroad@gmail.com) or Johnnie Godfrey, 480-231-8381 (accepts texts) [johnniegirl85218@gmail.com](mailto:johnniegirl85218@gmail.com).

**UUA GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY Spokane,  
Washington | June 19-  
23, 2019**



General Assembly is an unforgettable experience for the thousands of Unitarian Universalists that attend each June. Attendees leave with a renewed sense of energy, inspiration, and innovative ideas to take back to their congregations and communities. GA is even more enjoyable if experienced with a delegation of congregational peers who can share expenses and meals and provide mutual support during the conference. This year, in addition to Theme-Based Programming, the schedule will feature Role-Based Track Programming, including time for discussion among attendees, sharing inspiring models and stories, and concrete suggestions for how to further the work or "take it home."

In order to raise interest and to help your congregations learn more about General Assembly, we have assembled [promotional resources](#) to download, copy, or print for further distribution.

**Promotional Materials**

- [GA Flyer and Talking Points](#) for presentations (PDF, 2 pages)
- [GA Poster](#) (PDF)
- [GA Text for a Newsletter or Bulletin](#) (docx)
- [Spokane Quick Facts](#) (PDF)
- [Spokane Top 10 Things to Do](#) (PDF)
- [Spokane Promotional Copy Ideas](#) (PDF)

**Promotional Videos**

- [GA 2019: The Power of We](#)
- [Spokane Promotional Video](#) from Travel Spokane
- [Rev. Dr. Todd F. Eklof welcomes](#) Unitarian Universalists to Spokane, on behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

**General Assembly 2019 Logo**

- [Horizontal Logo](#) (PNG)
- [Vertical Logo](#) (PNG)

**Additional Materials**

- Information for [first-timers](#)
- [Images](#) from General Assembly 2018     [UU World coverage](#) of General Assembly 2018



## Caring & Concerns Neighborhood Contacts

As spring approaches, people take advantage of the nice weather to get out and do more. As you get busier, remember to take the time to connect with and appreciate your friends and family. It's the bonds between us that keep us connected.

If there's a situation coming up, you'll need help with, or you have a joy to share, contact your Neighborhood Contact. We're ready to be of assistance

Your Neighborhood Contacts are:

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

Carl Anderson

480-529-4365

canderaz@cox.net

Donna Bennett

480-570-4024

donnaben22@gmail.com

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

Lauree Perry

480-839-9296

lperry98@earthlink.net

Tempe South - Zips: 85283, 85284

DiAnna Farmer

480-413-0293

dianna\_farmer@hotmail.com

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

Joel Sannes

480-464-6772

joelsannes@gmail.com

Rebekah Thomas

443-890-5387

rkendri@hotmail.com

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

Neighborhood Contacts Needed!

Madeline Kasian

480-349-3080

maddie628@gmail.com

Chandler North - Zips: 85224, 85226

South, including Sun Lakes, Queen Creek, Casa Grande

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

Barbara Face

480-961-3223

barbara\_face@qwest.net

Nancy Wittenberg

480-283-4725

nancy.wittenberg@gmail.com

(zips 85225 and 85224)

\*\*\*We need more Neighborhood Contacts to fully cover all areas. If you would like to help strengthen the bonds of community in our congregation, please contact Lauree Perry

There is a way for your joys and sorrows to be mentioned in the newsletter. Just send an email to caring@vuu.org. You can also request to be contacted by the minister, a Lay Pastoral Associate, and/or your Neighborhood Contact this way.



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

#### **VUU STAFF**

*The Reverend 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, pianists*

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

DeeAnne McClenahan, President  
Bob Fabre, Vice President & Board Rep. to Finance Committee  
Paul Schneider, Treasurer/Financial Analyst  
Karl Hurst-Wicker, Secretary  
Maria Dixon  
Musette Steger  
Mary Erickson

