



## **LAKE CHAPALA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER**

**February 2016**

### **Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services**

***February 7 - "End of Life Care: A Volunteer Hospice Perspective"--***

*Speaker: Janet Napper; Service Leader: Jan Manning.*

*The former Executive Director, Hospice Association of Ontario, Janet will discuss the benefits of hospice care.*

***February 14 - "Love Makes the World Go Round" (Celebrating Valentine's Day around the World)***

*Speakers: Bob and Kathy Koches*

***February 21 - "Celebrating International Love Your Pet Day"***

*Speakers: Paul Bennett, Karyn Carpenter, Bill Frayer, Sue Kelley, Kathy Koches, Liz Moulder; Service Leader: Sue Kelley (Members of the LCUUF writer's group will share short stories about pets that have touched their lives.)*

***February 28 - "Liberal and Conservative Morality."***

*Speaker: Bill Frayer; Service Leader: Margaret Zielinski*

# Congregational Meeting



The **LCUUF Annual General Meeting** was held on January 31<sup>st</sup>, following the Service and potluck, with 31 voting members present. Following are highlights from the reports presented and a synopsis of decisions taken:

## **President's Report**

*(Fred Harland)*

\*Appreciation was expressed to retiring Board members and all who contributed to making our Fellowship such a wonderful home during the past year.

\*An agreement has been reached with the UUA to annually fund two visiting Ministers. Two Pastoral Care Workshop Facilitators were the first to visit under this program. Pastoral Care Workshops were held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> attended by 17 people, and January 23<sup>rd</sup> attended by 13 people, including the Presidents of San Miguel de Allende and Mexico City Congregations.

\*The weekly update was supplemented by a pilot monthly Newsletter.

\*The Hospitality and Care Committees were replaced with Task Teams.

\*Donations were down again this year, and there is concern about our financial future. An increased commitment of

15% will be required. Dave Miller has been asked to prepare a report for the Board on strategies to increase and better project our revenues.

\*A Facilities Search Committee under Chair Lew Crippen was formed when the new owners of our current facility gave us notice. A suitable property in Riberas was found which was affordable if we shared it with another organization. Naked Stage has agreed to do this. An additional problem was solved when a small group of members agreed to pay our half of the rent. We look forward to a move by the end of February, and to celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in our new facility.

## **LCUUF's New Home**



## **Membership Committee**

### **Report: (Chair, Donna Burroughs)**

- +Conducted 2 New Member Ceremonies, resulting in 6 new members.
- +Drafted an updated Emergency Contact form
- +Re-instituted New Member Orientation
- +Moved Greeter Table
- +Began using colorful name tags for visitors
- +Developed a system to track people interested in joining the Fellowship

## **Sunday Service Committee**

### **Report: (Chair: Kathy Koches)**

- + 52 Sunday Services planned and presented
- + 3 Visiting Ministers
- +5 video services by Ministers
- +6 outside speakers; 34 member presentations; 3 panels; 1 Children's Choir performance
- + Several inspirational Choir performances

## **Program Committee Report: (Chair: Kathy Koches)**

- + Rise Up and Call Her Name course presented.

On-going programs:

- + Men's Movie Group (Lew Crippen)
- +Atheists, Agnostics & Humanists Discussion Group (Bob Koches)
- +Writer's Group (Sue Kelley)
- +Women's Movie Group (Kathy Koches)
- +Self-Inquiry Meditation ( Richard Clarke)

## **Care Team Report:**

(Lynn Cleek and Sue Kelley)

- + Developed a congregation Survey and created a spreadsheet of helpers.
- +Ministered to many people in the congregation by offering support, a listening ear, flowers, e-cards, e-mails, handwritten notes, meals, resource referrals, and help with specific issues.
- + Developed a Registry for Emergency Contacts which will be e mailed to all to complete.

## **Outreach Committee**

### **Report: (Chair, Susan Miller)**

- + During the past year, LCUUF continued to support the Hungry Children of Mezcala program. Contributions totaled approx. \$21,000 which is roughly 29% of the program's costs.
- + An Outreach Survey was conducted on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 18 full time residents and 4 snowbirds completed the survey: 16 wished to continue with the Mezcala program; 12 wished to financially support the women's health clinics; 8 checked English conversation, tutoring. Other questions provided no clear results.

+ The following recommendations

from the Committee were approved:

1. That individual members of LCUUF be solicited to financially support the Hungry Children of Mezcala Program. (Susan will coordinate)
2. That LCUUF provide \$20,250 this fiscal year to support the Centro de Desarrollo Jocotepec A.C. which provides medical services, family planning, and educational services to the Lake Chapala area.

## **Finance Committee Report** (Treasurer: Gary Cleek)

### **+ Comparisons**

Average persons per Sunday:

2014- 34.6; 2015 -35.6

Average \$ per Sunday

2014 - \$2545; 2015 - \$2409

Average \$ per person

2014 – \$73.39; 2015 – \$67.61

### **+ Budgeted Expenses:**

2015 – \$146,400; 2016 - \$95,814\*

\*(rent excluded)

### **+Budgeted Income:**

2015 - \$135,000; 2016 - \$94,350\*

\*(rent excluded)

**The Proposed Budget was approved.**

## **Election of Board Members: (By Acclamation; 2 year terms)**

### **President:**

*Fred Harland*

### **Vice-President:**

*Teresa Sande*

### **Member at Large:**

*Joan Jaquish*

### **Member at Large:**

*Heidi MacLennan*

## **Continuing Board Members:**

### **Treasurer:**

*Gary Cleek*

### **Secretary:**

*Jan Manning*

### **Member at Large:**

*Trudy Crippen*

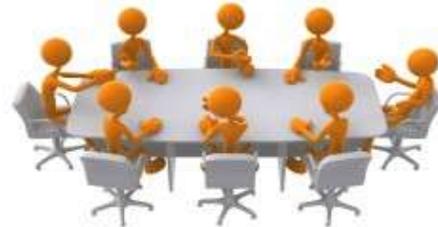
## **Election of Nominating Committee: (1 year term)**

*Kathy Koches*

*Ellen McFarland*

*Marion Blackmer*

## **Committee News**



### **From the Membership Committee:**

**New Member Ceremony, Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>.** Anyone interested in joining, please contact anyone on the Membership Committee (Donna Burroughs, Trudy Crippen, Mardele Harland, Jan Manning, Ellen McFarland)

**LCUUF Orientation, February 19, 2 to 3 p.m. at the Fellowship.** Anyone who would like more information about LCUUF, or about Unitarian Universalism, is invited to attend.

### **From the Sunday Service Committee:**

**The Sunday Service Coordinator** for Feb. and March is **Karyn Carpenter**; for April, May and June – **Nancy Jordan-Zanot**. Coordinators welcome your feedback on services and suggestions for topics and speakers.

## Upcoming Events, Activities

### LCUUF WOMEN'S



#### MOVIE GROUP

The LCUUF Women's Movie Group will meet on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Fellowship. Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon. Bring your own cushion, sweater, beverage and snack.



#### DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of the Atheists, Agnostics & Humanists Discussion Group will be February 22nd at 3pm at the Fellowship.

Our topic in February will be The Question of Consciousness. One of the age old questions is, are we conscious or are we just a bunch of neural pathways in the brain and how do we know the difference? We will explore the nature of consciousness from both a philosophical and scientific approach.

We are creating a new list of people interested in the discussion group. Please sign up at the Welcome Table if you would like to receive links to topics prior to a discussion or contact Bob Koches at [bob.koches@gmail.com](mailto:bob.koches@gmail.com)

## VALENTINE'S DAY BRUNCH



Come join us after the service on Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup> for brunch at Mel's Restaurant. Mel's is located on Zaragoza and Aquiles Serdan. The buffet brunch is a full buffet and includes coffee and tea. There are omelets and waffles made to order, breakfast meats, fruit and salad bar, soups, dessert bar and much more. The special price for our group is \$110 pesos per person. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.



Assignments for the January/ February/ March **CIRCLE SUPPERS** are posted on the bulletin board. Hosts will be contacting their guests to arrange a convenient date for their circle.

We had 34 people sign up this quarter for our circle suppers, which has proven to be one of our most popular activities. This is a great way to get to know other members in a small group atmosphere.

***This Newsletter is produced to provide LCUUF information to members and friends. Deadline for the March edition: Feb. 20th  
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