



LAKE CHAPALA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

September 2016

Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services:

September 4 – *“How Do You Pray?”- Bob Koches will discuss his personal reflections as a UU and Humanist on what is the purpose of prayer.*

Speaker: Bob Koches Service Leader: Paul Bennett

September 11 – *“Fables UU Style” - Janice Kimball, Francisco Uruza and Max Bird will talk to us about Fables from a UU perspective.*

Speaker: Janice Kimball Service Leader: Bob Koches

September 18 – *“Mexican Independence Day” Special Musical Presentation by the San Juan Cosala Children’s Choir – Director Daniel Medeles*

Service Leader: Kathy Koches

September 25 – *“Goal Setting & Modifying Self-Defeating Behaviors”*

Speaker: Pete Soderman Service Leader: Fred Harland

INTERN SELECTION AND SUPPORT COMMITTEE

An ad hoc committee consisting of Trudy Crippen, David Miller, Teresa Sande and Tomas Dowdy-Winslett has been formed to look into the possibility of having an intern minister for our Fellowship. The following report was submitted by Tomas Dowdy-Winslett.

What is an Intern?

- An Intern is a ministerial student who is near the end of their formal studies.
- Intern experience is required of candidates for ministerial fellowship and usually require a Master of Divinity degree or equivalent, satisfactory completion of an approved clinical pastoral education program, among other things.
- Interns are often, though not always, older adults who enter the ministry as a second career so a candidate may be an older person with professional experience in another discipline.
- An intern often brings a variety of life and career experience and perspective.
- We are planning for the intern to receive a modest stipend – to make it possible for them to live here.
- The intern works under a one or two year agreement that is tailored to the needs of both the intern and our Fellowship.
- An internship's purpose is to provide the student with practical experience in a church and community setting.
- Interns have a limited scope of duties which have been negotiated between the site and the intern.
- One of the most dramatic differences between a settled minister and an intern is that the intern is not directly involved in independent leadership or decision making but is rather focused on gaining experience and perspective.
- One way to view an intern is as a minister in training who provides support in specific areas which are mutually determined based upon our needs and their abilities and needs.
- An intern should support us in doing better what we want to do at the levels of Fellowship and committees.

- An intern may speak at some services, provide perspectives on training and in organizational development, and help committees develop new processes and skills to better fulfill their goals and missions.
- LCUUF Board has appointed a committee to develop a comprehensive description of our needs and the resources we can offer in preparation for inviting applications. If suitable candidates can be found, the committee will engage the congregation in the selection process.
- The Intern Search and Support Committee will continue to welcome questions and ideas from the Fellowship as the process develops.

SUNDAY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Sunday Service Committee is responsible for planning and organizing high quality, diverse Sunday services which reflect Unitarian Universalist principles and sources of faith. The committee encourages and coordinates the participation of members and friends as service leaders and presenters and in all other aspects of Sunday Services as well as provides resources and support as necessary.

This committee requires time and dedication of its members. The current members are: Kathy Koches, Chairman, Nancy Jordon-Zanot, Secretary, Teresa Sande, Lew Crippen, Richard Clarke and Mardele Harland.

The SSC holds an annual planning meeting to determine a framework for the year's services, including a theme, special services, holidays and potential topics. Members attend monthly meetings where services are evaluated and suggestions for improvement are discussed.

Chairman Kathy Koches and Nancy Jordan-Zanot will be leaving the committee at the end of this year, and there will be two vacancies on the Sunday Service Committee. If you would like to contribute to the Fellowship by serving on this committee please contact Chairman Kathy Koches or any member of the committee to volunteer.



LCUUF from your newly formed Care Committee. We will have special name tags made (thanks to Wes) that will have each of our names on the tag with Care Committee below the name, and a bright pink heart to make us easy to spot. Please feel free to approach any of us for basic care needs.

Our Confidentiality Statement:

We respect your right to confidentiality and will only speak with members of our Care Committee regarding your personal information and the manner in which we attempt to meet your needs. We may ask if you would like members of the congregation to assist you: e.g. with meals, local transportation, prayers, visits, cards, lighting of candles.

Our Mission Statement:

Our mission is based on the first UU Principle: to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Our goal is to provide a ministry of hope, caring and connection to the community at large so that no member of our congregation need face adversity alone.

Care Committee members are:

- Lynn Cleek
- Lori Fjelsted
- Buddy Dowdy-Winslett
- Joan Jaquish
- Paul Bennett

Sandy Wallin has agreed to be our email contact to send out requests to the congregation for help.

If you are a new member or missed filling out our questionnaire last summer, please see Lynn and she will email or give you a copy on Sunday. It simply asks if you are willing to help send cards, visit a shut-in, watch a pet in an emergency situation, take an occasional meal, etc. Thanks to all who filled one out already.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact Lynn Cleek at dcokiemex@gmail.com



UU HUMOR

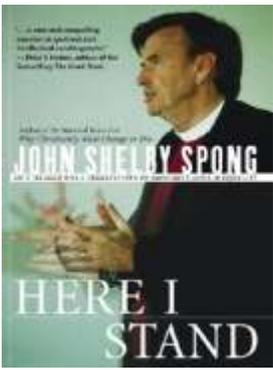
Q: How many Unitarians does it take to change a light bulb?

A: We choose not to make a statement either in favour of or against the need for a light bulb. However, if in your own journey, you have found that light bulbs work for you, that is wonderful. You are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your personal relationship with your light bulb. Present it next month at our annual Light Bulb Sunday Service, in which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, 3-way, long-life, and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence.

Q: Why can't UUs sing very well in choirs?

A: Because they're always reading ahead to see if they agree with the next verse.

"I know my humor is outrageous when it makes the Unitarians so mad they burn a question mark on my front lawn." - Lenny Bruce



“Here I Stand” by Bishop John Shelby Spong

Book Review Submitted by Trudy Crippen

Why would I not only read an autobiography of an Episcopalian bishop but also recommend that we buy it for the fellowship library? I normally avoid autobiographies, but I wanted to read “*Here I Stand*” by Bishop John Shelby Spong, and I’m glad I did. I read it because I wanted to understand how a liberal theologian searched for the truth.

Spong faced the social and cultural changes that most of the Western world did after World War II. He started as an Anglican altar boy in the Deep South and didn’t see, let alone question, the pervasive racism that surrounded him. He ended his career as the world’s most famous, or infamous, liberal Anglican-Episcopalian cleric, vilified by most of his peers and only able to find acceptance in liberal hotbeds such as Unitarian Universalist churches and college campuses.

Spong encountered, questioned, and then tackled the big challenges of his time: racism, anti-feminism, homophobia, and, finally, whether Christianity can survive in the post-modern world. To me, he raised two questions.

My first question is: Is a minister’s job to maintain the status quo or to challenge the congregation to think and to grow? It never occurred to me that the ministers of my childhood believed in the words of the creeds, or in the miracles adopted by orthodox Christianity. I believed that these were symbolic guidelines to behavior. No one ever told me anything different

My second question is: Why did Spong remain in a church that resisted his search and his leadership? Spong remains loyal to the Episcopalian church and embraces his mission to change his church, not abandon it.

Spong believed that he could change the Episcopalian and Anglican theology. Perhaps he hoped to achieve the accomplishments of King’s Chapel, a Boston Anglican church. In 1785, King’s Chapel membership rewrote the Book of Common Prayer, dropping all reference to the Trinity and becoming “Anglican in worship, congregational in polity, and Unitarian in theology”. Today King’s Chapel is a thriving UU church.

I hope you will search out Spong, through books like *Jesus for the Non-Religious*, *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism*, my favorite *Why Christianity Must Change or Die*, and to understand a great theologian’s search for the truth, *Here I Stand*.



ATHEIST, AGNOSTIC & HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

The Atheist, Agnostic & Humanist Discussion Group will meet September 26th at 3pm at the Fellowship. Our topic will be: “Should we tolerate the intolerant?” The paradox of tolerance arises when a tolerant person holds antagonistic views towards *intolerance*, and hence is intolerant of them. The tolerant individual would then be, by definition, intolerant of intolerance. We will explore this paradox from a UU perspective. See Bob Koches for more information.



CHOIR NEWS

The LCUUF Choir has resumed rehearsals and is in need of singers. Our next rehearsal is Monday, Sept. 19th at 9:30 am at the Fellowship. We will sing at the service on September 25th.

Rehearsals are the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, at 9:30 a.m. at the Fellowship. Please contact Choir Director, Bob Koches to let him know if you would like to become a new member of the choir. bobkoches@gmail.com or 766-2299



FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

In honor of Mexican Independence Day the fellowship will be going to lunch at Viva Mexico in San Juan Cosala after the service on September 25th. We will order from the regular menu. Please join us.



Mexican Independence Day is September 16th

¡VIVA MEXICO!



LCUUF WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP

The LCUUF Women's Movie Group will meet on September 23rd at 2pm at the Fellowship. The movie title will be announced at Fellowship and in the updates. Bring your own beverage and snack.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Heidi MacLennan, Nancy Jordon-Zanot, Lori Fjelstad, Donna Jaramillo-Leon and Bob McKeown.



This Newsletter is produced to provide LCUUF news to members and friends. Editor for September is Kathy Koches: kkoches@gmail.com Deadline for contributions is September 20th.

*Editor: Mardele Harland
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