



LAKE CHAPALA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018

Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services

November 4 – Mythology and Spirituality: Origins of Beliefs. Jan Manning will talk about mythology from ancient times to present day beliefs and we will explore our own UU traditions from a spiritual perspective. Susan Miller will be the service leader.

November 11 – The Power of Humility - Humility seems to be a bit out of fashion in the world today. We humans think we know everything worth knowing and can accomplish anything we want, and if we can't it isn't worth doing. We want our children to have strong self-esteem and to develop a self-confidence that will lead to career and life successes. Yet humility, not knowing, not assuming, can lead us to openness to what is new and understanding what we don't know. We will explore how humility as a virtue can be a support to inner peace and a gateway to gratitude. Speaker is Rev. Matt Alspaugh and Lorna Dean will be the service leader. The LCUUF choir will perform.

November 18 – The Path to Wisdom – Acquiring Wisdom as We Grow Older on our Journeys from Ageing to Sageing. We will explore the paths taken to reach elderhood and how we acquire wisdom along the way. This will also be an introduction to the class “Elderhood and Spirituality” which will be offered beginning November 19th. Speaker is Bob Koches, service leader is Kathy Koches.

November 25 – Gratitude Games – We've learned that gratitude is not merely a feeling that come to you, it is a state that you can consciously create and amplify, even share with others. We will explore some practices, rituals, even games for creating greater gratitude in ourselves and our families. We will include a gratitude ritual, a UU Bread Communion, where we will share bread brought from home that is meaningful to us, perhaps part of our heritage or important in our current life. You are encouraged to bring a loaf of your meaningful bread, if possible, made or bought is OK. Speaker is Rev. Matt Alspaugh and the service leader is Liz Moulder.



Message from Rev. Matt

I'm writing this from San Miguel de Allende, where Liz and I have had an enjoyable time exploring the city, and where I had fun leading worship with the UU Fellowship this morning. (Some of them might not like the term 'leading worship'!) In their service, and in previous conversations, it became clear to me that their Social Action program (what we call Outreach) is very important to them. The San Miguel Fellowship spends a significant portion of their income supporting about ten different service organizations in the local area, and their members are directly involved in many more. They are very proud of this. I don't mean to draw comparisons between our two congregations, for we ought to learn from each other, and not compete. But in hearing about San Miguel's Social Action work, I was glad for what we have been doing.

For example, Lew and I visited with the Tepehua Community Center a few weeks ago. This center is the recipient of our Share the Basket funding for September through November. They do remarkable work helping the poorest residents of Chapala with meals, medical care, education, job skills and other programs.

But that's just one of our efforts. We have larger dreams. I'm pleased that one of the outcomes of the recent LCUUF Volunteer Fair, after the service on October 14, was a renewed conversation about our own Outreach work. This conversation continued at, and after, the Board Meeting on October 19. In that discussion, many questions came up (thanks to Joan Ward for summarizing them in this list):

- Why might LCUUF want to do Outreach work?
- What does Outreach do for us, and for those we connect with?
- What different levels of Outreach might we want to pursue?

- Where in the community, and in the world, do we engage in Outreach?
- Who will be involved in these decisions? Who will be involved in the efforts?
- How do we carry out our Outreach work?

We will have a meeting on November 15, 2018 11am - 12:30pm, at the Fellowship, to explore these questions. We'll talk about examples of what effective Outreach might look like for us. We'll begin to imagine what a future Outreach Team might do, who might be interested, and how we might proceed. Oh, and we'll also take on one immediate task - choosing our Share the Basket recipient for the next quarter (December through February).

Who should be at the Nov 15 meeting? Will you be there? If you have a passion around Outreach, or even a curiosity, whether you are new to this, or not, I hope you will come.



FELLOWSHIP THANKSGIVING DINNER

Come and celebrate American Thanksgiving with your UU Family! We will be going to Cocinart, 16 de Septiembre #4D for a turkey buffet dinner on 22nd November at 3:00 pm. This is a buffet – turkey with all the trimmings, honey baked ham, salads, sweet and mashed potatoes, beets, green beans with almonds and pumpkin pie for dessert. The cost is \$350 pesos per person (not including drinks or tip.) There will also be live music for entertainment. The sign-up sheets are on the welcome table. **Please sign up AASAP as we need to give them a headcount soon.** Indicate the number of people in your party. All are welcome, including your guests. We are limited to seating for 45, so sign up now. See Kathy or Bob Koches with any questions.



President's Message

The mission of the LCUUF Board of Directors is to lead an inclusive community dedicated to spiritual growth, education and social justice. Our goal is to be more than an administrative body, and to promote and lead the Fellowship in its spiritual and physical growth

Our partners in renting our facility have left our joint venture in physical accommodation. You may have noticed that the Naked Stage sign has been removed and replaced with one proclaiming the "Bare Stage Theatre", our new co-tenant. They have expressed a desire to continue sharing the facility and we will shortly begin to negotiate a new lease with our landlord's realty company. Not only do we wish this new reader's theatre well, it is in our decided self-interest to do so. You may wish to attend their first performance, "The Art of Murder", Oct. 27 through Oct. 28, each performance at 4pm.

We held a "Job Fair" last Sunday, giving LCUUF committees and members the chance to interact and express interest in joining one of our committees. The Membership Committee was particularly successful in this endeavor. If you were not at last Sunday's service there are still Committees that could use additional help. Of particular need is our Care Committee. See Lynn Cleek for details.

This is Pledge month. Pledges allow us to plan for the future. It is time once again to develop next year's budget, but first we need to know how much income we will have for the upcoming year. Your pledges last year are deeply appreciated. We look forward to your continued support.

There will soon be an opportunity to join in our Outreach program. Those of you who attended the service where Juan Pablo played his violin will be aware of what some of our Outreach, via the Shared Basket program has done. Get involved!



WELCOMING AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Volunteer Fair brought our committee 3 new members: Diane VanBrocklin, Gala Kolmsee and Paula Odom. We think 2019 will be a successful year with their added energy and fresh ideas. We welcome each of you.
Marty Weston, Chairman



SHARE THE BASKET

The Share the Basket recipient for the months of September, October and November, 2018 is **Tepehua Center AC**. One-half of the weekly offerings which are not designated as pledge money, will go to this organization.



22 Nov. Dave Miller
24 Nov. Norman Woods



WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP

The LCUUF Women's Movie Group will not meet in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT BILL WHITE

I was very interested to learn that Bill was a pilot, something I enjoyed being in my misspent youth. Mind you, the type that Bill flew and the type I flew were vastly different, but as I saw on a mug once: “You ain’t nothing if you ain’t a pilot”.

Bill flew, among others in the Navy, a R4D8, a super DC3 for six years. He joined the Navy during the Korean War to avoid being drafted into the Army and because he already had his pilot’s license, he was assigned to ComAirPac, Naval Air. He became the airplane captain for Vice Admiral H.M. Martin, flying once or twice a week between San Diego and Washington, D.C.

He and wife Helen have been married for sixty-four years after meeting on a blind date while he was on leave during his Navy days. They were married seventeen months later. Both say it was a no-brainer decision as both said they found the other very sexy. Two kids came along eventually.

After leaving the Navy, Bill went to college to study business administration and soon he started working at Safeco Insurance Company. He rose through the ranks quickly but after eight years decided to go out on his own and formed “Bill White Insurance” which is still being operated today by son, Bill White III.

During all his “outside” work he owned and operated the family farm in Missouri where, at one time he really got into “intensive grazing” which involved installing many watering places on small five acre

sized paddocks through which the cattle rotated daily, therefore always ensuring they ate fresh grass. His only regret is that he didn’t know about the program early enough and after ten years had to call a halt to the experiment.

Both Bill and Helen are very sociable people as epitomized by their many travels and friendships throughout the world. They have travelled all through North America and Europe, once getting a Eurail pass and visiting many countries. The Whites also hosted many students from different countries through “American Field Service” and made life-long friends, often visiting them and their families in their home countries.

Bill says one of his most memorable trips was fifteen years ago when he and Helen, the only passengers, spent 54 days on a container ship (see Helen’s book *54 Days on a Container Ship*) stopping off in California, New Zealand, Australia, San Francisco and Mexico. The crew was mostly from Myanmar, the captain Polish, many officers Ukrainian, and the ship flew under a Liberian flag. They were never bored, as some friends predicted, as there was always something new to see and experience every day.

A life-long love is flying. His first private aircraft was an Aeronca Champion, a tail-dragger with no electrical or no radio. In the 70’s Bill bought an experimental aircraft called the Sonerai, which had been built by a professor and students at the University of Wisconsin. The aircraft was designed to be shown at the Experimental Aircraft show in Oshkosh, WI, and was a high performance aircraft not to be flown by inexperienced pilots. Bill belonged to EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) for many years.

Now retired, and enjoying it very much, Bill spends a lot of time socializing with Helen and attributes his longevity to ancestors who lived to a ripe old age and to a happy life (probably aided by Helen’s cooking).

Submitted by Jan Manning



The Committees That Make YOUR Fellowship Work

Don't sit on the sidelines! Play a part in the smooth functioning of our fellowship. Let these committees know you are willing to help. If you are interested in more than one, let them know as all committees may not be in the need of immediate help.

Sunday Service - This committee is responsible for coordinating services, scheduling service leaders and people to give the talks. **Need** - people to be service leaders, to read or write a section of a service, and give sermons. They will be looking for at least one new committee member next year.

Contact Susan Miller.

Welcoming & Membership - Helping everyone feel at home when they walk in the door, these members also track and stay in touch with our visitors and plan new member orientations and ceremonies. **Need** - assistant greeters & committee members.

Contact chair Marty Weston.

Hospitality - The party team! Responsible for scheduling monthly lunches, circle suppers and more. **Need** committee members & help coordinating special events.

Contact Donna Burroughs.

Outreach - Every week we support worthy local organizations. **Need** - people who will help consider what groups we should support for Share the Basket and other outreach projects. **Contact Jim Bellamy**

We Care - We are looking at how to best reach out to members who need support. **Need** - caring individuals to help look at setting guidelines and serve on this team.

Contact Lynn Cleek.

In addition to the above committees, the following help make our fellowship run smoothly. Ask how you can help.

Choir - Love to sing but don't have experience? You can still join our choir. Reading music is not necessary. We practice twice a month and sing on one Sunday a month.

Contact Bob Koches, director.

Newsletter - Can you interview a fellow member of the congregation and write up a bio? Our editor is always looking for help with articles.

Contact Kathy Koches, editor.

Elderhood Work Group - This group's aim is creating programs that acknowledge and honor our elders.

Contact Richard Clarke

Pledge Team - Without our annual pledge campaign, it would be impossible to plan our annual budget. Interested in helping in the future? **Contact Lorna Dean.**

Legacy Team - This group is facilitating bequests and special donations so we can better serve our Fellowship and the community. They may need help in the future.

Contact Lorna Dean

Library - Interested in helping Sue Kelley maintain our library?

Contact Sue Kelley

Other Volunteers - These people also help make things run smoothly so a big shout out of thanks to.....

Announcements – Donna Burroughs
AV help & more – Norman Woods & Lew Crippen
Directory – Sharon Woods
Publicity & weekly updates – Trudy Crippen
Pass the Basket – Frank Howell
Proofreader – Lorna Dean
Website – Karyn Carpenter



LOVE GROWS HERE

2018 Annual Pledge Commitment

Pledging

LCUUF is conducting its pledge campaign in October and November 2018. We are asking members and friends to pledge the amount you feel you can donate to LCUUF for the upcoming fiscal year of February 1, 2019, to January 31, 2020. Pledge cards are available on the Welcome Table each Sunday. Please fill in the amount of your annual pledge in Mexican pesos, U.S. dollars or Canadian dollars, on the pledge card, put it in an envelope and put it in the offering basket or in the basket for completed pledge cards on the Welcome Table. The pledge campaign will wind up on Sunday, November 25, 2018. This gives our Treasurer, Gary Cleek, time to prepare the LCUUF budget for the Annual General Meeting in January 2019, based on the amount of funds pledged.

Detailed Pledging Instructions on the choices for paying your pledge are on the Welcome Table and on the LCUUF website Giving/Pledge tab <http://lakechapalauu.org/pledge/>. Briefly, you may put Mexican pesos in an envelope with your name on it and put the envelope in the offering basket after February 1, 2019. You may pay through the website of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston in U.S. dollars from a U.S. bank account or with a U.S. credit

card. You may also pay on the Houston church's website with a Canadian credit card, but you must designate the amount in U.S. dollars. It is important to designate the date of your donation as February 1, 2019, or later, in order to have it count for the correct fiscal year.

Statements of the amount paid on your 2018-19 pledge, as of September 30, 2018, were distributed on Sunday, October 14. Lorna Dean has the statements for those who were not present that Sunday.

For any questions on pledging contact a member of the Pledge Team at PledgeTeam@LakeChapalaUU.org

Legacies

Members and friends can make bequests to LCUUF in their will or make a donation, separate from their pledge, to build up assets to support a future building, more extensive outreach or additional staff for LCUUF. Such bequests in Mexican pesos can be made to "Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fellowship", Asociación Civil.

A nonprofit tax-exempt organization, known as the Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fund, Inc., has been established in Texas recently, to facilitate making bequests or donations in U.S. dollars. This organization is qualified to issue U.S. tax receipts to those who need them. Bequests in Canadian dollars can also be made to this organization.

A Legacies brochure is available on the Welcome Table. Information on legacies is also available on the LCUUF website under the Giving/Legacy tab at <http://lakechapalauu.org/legacy>

For other questions on legacies contact a member of the Legacy Team at LegacyTeam@LakeChapalaUU.org



HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Monday, November 26th at 3 pm at the Fellowship. Our topic will be "Plastics containers and their Impact on our Health and the Environment." Plastic is surprisingly hard to avoid. It's in our water bottles, food packaging and storage containers. It's even in our clothing. Now we're left to sort out its impact on the environment and our health. If you would like to receive the links to the readings and are not already on the list to receive the links to the readings and are not already on the list, contact Bob Koches at bobkoches@gmail.com.



On Saturday, November 3rd Becky McGuigan will give a full concert at 4pm at the Fellowship. One half of the free-will offering will go to LCUUF and one half will go to Orquesta Filarharmonica Infantil de la Ribera de Chapala (OFIRC). This is the children's orchestra in San Juan Cosala that we supported with our Share the Basket program last quarter.



SUNDAY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Sunday Service Coordinator for November and December is Kathy Koches. Information regarding services can be found on the LCUUF website under "What's Happening."



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WE NEED YOUR PICTURES!

Our Dec. 2nd service will be about the blessing of animals in our lives, focusing on service animals. We are preparing a slide presentation of the animals (dogs, cats, birds) who have touched our hearts. If your pet has crossed the Rainbow Bridge you may submit a picture and give their date of death. Limit of 60 animals.

Please send photo (higher resolution JPEG - about 1 mg - not a cell phone photo) along with the name of the pet, name of owner and year of birth/death to Karyn Carpenter at Newfhugger_wander@mac.com

The deadline is November 15th for submission of pictures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
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Please send announcements for December's services to Donna Burroughs at:
donna.burroughs@gmail.com



The LCUUF Newsletter is produced to provide LCUUF news to members and friends. Deadline for contributions to the October newsletter is November 20th to be sent to: Editor: Kathy Koches at: kkoches@gmail.com