



Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services

For the foreseeable future, we are meeting on-line, at our usual time, Sundays at 10:30, using a service called Zoom. Here's how to get set up. We suggest you do this before the meeting.

To join via video on your computer, tablet or smartphone, please click the link below – you will be stepped through downloading a free app that will let you connect to the meeting.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/233941792>

Meeting ID: 233 941 792

Or, for audio, just dial-in by your location

+52 229 910 0061 Mexico

+52 554 161 4288 Mexico

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

Elsewhere? Find your local phone number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/u/fnTR4N3JJ>

We encourage you to try to connect early, to get things set up. However, you won't be able to join the service until about 10:00am on Sunday. But it's good to get set up early.

Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services

April 5 - "The Tao of Now" Taoism, the spiritual path originating in ancient China, offers a philosophy for how to live one's life in harmony and peace by following The Tao. Translated as "The Way," the Tao is said to be spontaneous, eternal, indescribable, and the Truth of the Universe. But what does this really mean? Carol Johnson will discuss some key concepts that arise from Taoism, and how these ideas can enrich our individual search for meaning.

April 12 - "Easter: Lo The Earth Awakes Again" Today is Easter. Rev. Matt Alspaugh will look at the idea of resurrection from the perspective of the Earth. Is the Earth awakening to our presence? What is our part in the resurrection of our planet?

April 19 - "The only constant in life is change." Heraclitus. We humans are hard-wired to prefer consistency, but maintaining consistency in our lives is impossible. Change happens. Sometimes change is good; sometimes it's a wrench thrown in the works. Sometimes we come out of it for the better; sometimes we come out of it tired and disillusioned. Susan Miller will reflect on how we can acknowledge our anxious responses to all-too-present changes in ourselves, our lives, and society as a whole, and how we may work to counteract those responses.

April 26 - "I Am Open" "I am open, and I am willing" is the first line of a Holly Near song popular among Unitarian Universalists. As UUs, we cherish the value of openness. Openness to new ideas, experiences and people leads to a willingness to act with greater wisdom and clarity. But what does it mean to be truly 'open'? Can we be too open? As they say, "Keep an open mind, but not so open that your brains fall out." Rev. Matt Alspaugh will explore the benefits, and the limits, of openness as a value for our individual lives, and for our community.





MESSAGE FROM REV. MATT

What a difference a month makes! A month ago, coronavirus was barely in our consciousness, and now we are rearranging our lives to try to get control of a pandemic, to stay healthy and alive, and keep those we love healthy and alive. Most of us are taking up preventative practices, self-isolating, and social distancing (or, as one person said better, 'distantly socializing').

At the Fellowship, we've vastly had to change what we do. We've realized that what's really important right now is staying connected with one another, even while we maintain physical distance. So a number of initiatives have emerged in the last week or so. We've canceled in-person Sunday services. Instead, we're offering on-line Sunday services using Zoom teleconferencing. You can join these services, Sundays at 10:30, our usual time, using this link: <https://zoom.us/j/233941792> . Note that these are a work in progress, as we learn how to offer something of value every Sunday. We are recording these and posting them to our website.

We're exploring some small group discussions on-line. These will also use Zoom teleconferencing. For this week, these are just an opportunity to connect and talk about how we are doing. In the future, we hope to explore having a few specific interest groups - perhaps the Humanist discussion group may meet online, or we might start a movie night, where everyone watches a movie on Netflix and then shares. We've started a Facebook page for the fellow-ship. We're still in the 'soft-opening' phase, as we sort out how we use Facebook as a congregation.

Finally, I've been working with Trudy Crippen to email a 'daily sharing', with member news, notices of Fellowship activities, and usually a meaningful reading or poem. If you are not getting these, and would like to, drop me a note at: minister@lakechpalauu.org

Note that most of these initiatives came not from me, but from members of our congregation. Most of these projects have involved people working together to quickly get something done. The results may not be perfect, but they are happening in real time, and people are enjoying doing them, and they are touching others in the Fellowship and the community. I'm very proud of what we are accomplishing. It would have been so easy to all but shut down, as some of our neighbors have had to do. I believe we are in this for the long haul, that controlling this pandemic will take time, and we should prepare for 'the duration'. I also believe that we will all come out stronger, wiser, and healthier in the end; that humanity and the earth will be changed for the better as a consequence of this experience. May it be so.



SERMONS & TALKS

We are going to be using the Sermons and Talks part of the website more. If there are recent sermons that you think should be posted, let Richard know by email at Richard@infinitepie.net The talks can be found at: <http://lakechpalauu.org/sermons-and-talks/>



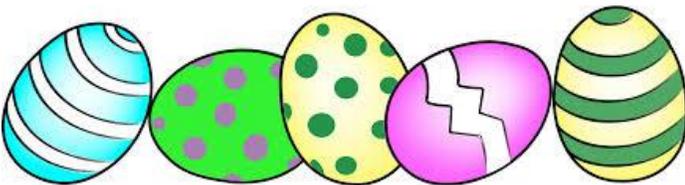


Kathy Koches and her granddaughter Kye

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As I am putting together this newsletter from my daughter Wendy's house up in Washington State I am reflecting on the wonderful first online service we had and how important it is to stay connected to our UU family. These are difficult times and many of our members have left to return to the USA or Canada, while those remaining in Lakeside are staying isolated while we get through the worst of this pandemic. As my daughter said, "We are living through history, right here, right now."

For me, the emotions come in waves. I love the extra time I have with my daughter and granddaughters, while desperately wanting to return to Lakeside. I alternate between being bored and enjoying the free time to read a good book or watch a movie. (Yes, I did binge watch "Grace and Frankie.") But I have also taken this time to reflect on and appreciate LCUUF, the support and connections I have developed with all of you. When we share our Joys and Concerns each week we say the words "We are a family" and, indeed we are. Let's continue to reach out to one another, check by e-mail or phone on those you haven't heard from to see if they are okay. Together, we shall remain strong.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this in isolation, we have just had our very first online service. This is a great step forward, even though we were forced into this by the corona virus crises. Our life at Lakeside has changed significantly, although not so much as many in other locations and countries. This is especially true of our Canadian friends who have been called home by their government. The Governor of Jalisco has requested that everyone stay at home for a five-day period and it is reasonable to expect further restrictions in the future. And even before that, many, if not most, Lakeside restaurants have instituted delivery services, indicating that they are suffering a loss of patronage. We cancelled our service a week ago, as a matter of prudence and caution. The Sunday Service Committee on met on Monday and immediately began preparing for an online service. They used *Zoom* as their online meeting methodology and gained some valuable experience in its functionality. By Wednesday they were ready for a "dress rehearsal" for Sunday's service. Matt, Richard, Roy, Cat and Michael had their walkthrough at the Fellowship and several of us connected to the trial via *Zoom*. Most of the kinks were corrected by Sunday and we had a very fine service that had some 45 people dial in, and I'm sure that several of *Zoom* ids represent more than one person. While we still have some work to do, this was a very promising beginning. Kudos to Cat, as service leader, Roy and Richard for their onsite support, Michael for music and Matt for the homily, Jak and Colleen for their offsite tech support; and a special shout out for Matt who had used *Zoom* in the past, knew what to do and even supplied a mobile connection to the Internet.

The Board met on Friday (again via *Zoom*) and among other things expects that we will continue to have these services via *Zoom* for the next couple of months. Of course circumstances will necessarily require reevaluation as we proceed. I urge you all to continue to stay at home, wash your hands, keep a safe distance from others and desperately try to not touch our faces. Stay safe and well,



SHARE THE BASKET

Our Share the Basket recipient for March, April and May is UVA, University Vocational Assistance Program. UVA is the oldest functioning charity in Lakeside, providing scholarships for over 40 years to students, including post graduate and licensing. 100% of all funds received go directly to the students.



CHOIR NEWS

The LCUUF Choir, under the direction of Michael Reason, made its debut on February 2nd singing the Bill Withers' classic song "Lean on Me." The choir is on temporary hiatus but will be performing at the Sunday services about twice a month as soon as possible. Rehearsals will be held every Friday at the Fellowship from 10am to 11am after the hiatus. If you would like to join the choir and have a fun time while contributing to our music program please email Choir Director Michael Reason at mjrmusic01@gmail.com or speak to him on Sundays. You do not have to read music just a desire to join in the music making!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 04 Colleen Beery | 24 Mardele Harland |
| 11 Linda Conklin | 24 Catherine Luria |
| 16 Peter Jessen | 29 Sharon Woods |
| 18 Myra Williamson | |



LCUUF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
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| Member at Large | Joan Ward |
| Member at Large | Fred Koesling |



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