



**We are now meeting in person again, and also on Zoom.  
You are encouraged to attend. Masking is required.**

## **Upcoming LCUUF Sunday Services**

### **Sept. 5 How to Let Go of Our Past and Write a New Chapter in the Book of Our Lives: service with the Chavaruh Jewish Community: From Erev Rosh Hashanah (New Year's Eve) to Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement.)**

Our service is led by Rev. Matt Alspaugh, with Bryan Kaplan and Elizabeth Katz of the Chavaruh Jewish Community. In a little more than an hour, Bryan Kaplan and Elizabeth Katz will lead us through iconic prayers, haunting music and prescribed actions of ten High Holy days. The shofar (ram's horn) will sound, we will place stones on the graves of those who died, and we will beat our breasts as we admit our shortcomings and resolve to move on. Rather than rely on an anthropomorphic male God, we will rely on ourselves and on each other to make the transition from one year to the next.

**Sept. 12 – Transformation: My Awakening Story** - Queen D. Michele was a 54-year-old retired schoolteacher when she moved from Atlanta, GA alone to the Lake Chapala area in 2017. Here she experienced a full-blown Spiritual Awakening. She'll discuss the dramatic changes that took place throughout all aspects of her well-being. Service Leader: Kriss Gang

**Sept. 19 – Transitions: Celebrating Change in Music** - Autumn is the time of transitions, especially lakeside. Here we celebrate the return of our seasonal friends and neighbors from the north, new expats discovering our community, the end of the rainy season, and the transition of the mountains from green to the beautiful yellow flowering trees. This service will be a musical celebration of the transitions we value and celebrate in our lakeside community. Service Leader: Kriss Gang.

**Sept. 26 – Water Communion** - The Water Communion is a Unitarian Universalist tradition originating some forty years ago at a Woman and Religion Conference, which focused on empowering women in the UU movement. The Water Communion has evolved into an ingathering ritual as people return from summer travel and the church year starts. That 'church year' cycle doesn't really fit us here at Lakeside, so we'll be celebrating our own variation of the typical Water Communion service. Rev. Matt Alspaugh will be the speaker and Cate Howell is the service leader.



We are also 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.





Rev. Matt Alspaugh

## MESSAGE FROM MATT

Our Sunday service theme for the month of September is 'Transition.' Over the course of the month, we'll explore various aspects of transition, times of change in our lives, and how we understand and reflect on these.

I'm particularly excited about a joint service we are holding on September 5 with the Chavurah Jewish community at Lakeside. This service will be a liberal High Holiday service, in effect combining aspects of Jewish celebration of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Jewish New Year and the Day of Atonement, as well as the important days between them. In a way, this service is an amalgamation of elements of all of these ten days, with celebration of the hope and possibility of a new year to come, as well as reflection on our activities in the past year. For Jews, this is a particularly important time of transition.

As Unitarian Universalists, how should we engage other faith traditions, such as Judaism? Can we appropriately participate in others' practices and rituals? This is a question each of us has to consider for ourselves. For some, participating in the practices of other traditions can be challenging, perhaps because it brings up old childhood memories. For other UUs, engaging with others' practices can be illuminating and inspiring. In my own case, I often find great joy in immersing myself in the practices of others. The key for me is to not try to analyze or judge each part of the service. Instead, I allow the experience to wash over me, as I take what is meaningful and valuable for me, and let the rest go. I hope you can experiment with having such an experience with this High Holiday service.

Oh, and another thing. I've learned that a big part of Judaism is about food. The tradition in the High Holidays is to eat a particular bread called Challah, and also apples dipped in honey. If you want to get the full experience, you might want to get some Challah (available locally at Scandinavian Bakery, see notice below) and apple and honey. Purely optional of course.

## CHALLAH BREAD



In connection with the High Holidays service on 5 September, you can order a special holiday challah by sending an email to: Bryan Kaplan, [bkaplan1949@gmail.com](mailto:bkaplan1949@gmail.com) no later than Friday, 27 August. The bread will be made by the Scandinavian Bakery, following Bryan's recipe. It can be picked up and paid for on Saturday, 4 September at the bakery. The cost is 85 pesos.

We hope those at home will join in the spirit of the season by eating challah, apples and honey after the service on Sunday, and leftover challah makes great French toast! Thanks so much, Elizabeth Katz.





## SHARE THE BASKET

Now that we are having in person services again, any loose pesos in the offering basket on Sunday will be split: 1/2 to the LCUUF general fund, and 1/2 to the Share the Basket recipient for the month.

If you pay your pledge or make a donation to LCUUF by PayPal, by Bill Pay, or pesos directly to Lorna Dean or David Hudnall, you may specify the amount that you want to donate to the Share the Basket program.

Our policy for Share the Basket, during the coronavirus crisis, has been: If we collect more than MXN 5,000 pesos in any month, the full amount will go to an organization providing food to the Lakeside community. If we collect less than MXN 5,000 pesos in donations in any month, the balance will be subsidized from the LCUUF treasury, as long as this is financially feasible. However, we have received over MXN 5,000 pesos for each month so far this year.

Our Share the Basket recipient for September 2021 is Tepehua Centro Comunitario AC <https://tepehua.org> which runs a nutrition program for its elderly, sick or poverty-stricken members, among other social service programs.



## LCUUF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Lewis Crippen
Vice President	Charles Jacobs
Secretary	Susan Miller
Treasurer	Lorna Dean
Member at Large	Eric Luria
Member at Large	Cat Barnett
Member at Large	Kriss Gang



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

05 Penny Humphreys	19 Esther Jones
09 Tonya Murphy	26 Lori Fjelsted
17 Heidi MacLennan	30 Nancy Jordan-Zanot



Donna Burroughs



## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Donna was born and grew up in Oklahoma City, OK in the days before it was known as one of the reddest states in the U.S. It was a pretty typical childhood for the 50's and 60's - school and church were the two biggest time commitments, and then drawing, playing baseball, riding bikes, and hanging out with friends filled out her spare time. Though she grew up in the heart of the Bible Belt, she attributes having come of age in the 1960's to her wider worldview of both politics and religion. In high school, she developed a deep interest in theater in acting and singing.

After high school graduation, Donna went to Trinity University in San Antonio, TX for a year and a half, where she majored in drama. But, after going to New York City for a summer to work and save money, she decided "enough of the small time - I'm moving to New York!" Once in New York, Donna worked in a variety of jobs in order to earn a living and acted in community theater productions and took acting classes to feed her soul.

In 1978, she met Maureen through a mutual friend and the rest, as they say, is history. In their 38 ½ years together they traveled and attended the theater as much as possible, had a number of very special kitty babies, cultivated numerous very special, lifelong friendships, and moved to several different parts of the US and, finally, in 2013 to Lakeside.

During the 1980's, Donna completed her BA at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, NJ. She also found her career as a communications consultant specializing in human resource issues. It was work that would sustain her financially, intellectually and creatively for the next 30 years - 20 years working for national and international consulting firms and 10 years as head of her own firm.

She finally fully retired four years ago after realizing that continuing to take on projects was getting in the way of her life.



## **HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP**

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, September 22nd at 4pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863>

Afghanistan has been called the graveyard of empires. This has once again been proven by the US ending what has been called the "forever war." We will discuss implications of social, political, historical and economic implications. These include the role of women, Sharia law, Chinese, Russian and Pakistani involvement, the race for the lithium and cobalt deposits and the role of the military/industrial complex and the contract army.

If you wish to receive the reading materials prior to the meeting and are not on the mailing list please contact Bob Koches at: [bobkoches@gmail.com](mailto:bobkoches@gmail.com)



Susan Miller, Secretary

## BOARD MEMBER

### MESSAGE

#### Happy New Year

I don't think the new year begins on New Year's Day. For me, the first day of the year is the first day of school. Ah, the aroma of new pencils and notebooks, and, if you're lucky, a new lunch box! Most of us don't have to keep track of when school starts, but we do want to keep track of what's going on with the Fellowship. Did you know that we have two important calendars, one for LCUUF activities and one for use of the building?

#### LCUUF Activity Calendar

The [LCUUF Activity Calendar](#) contains information about **all** public and Fellowship events, including but not limited to Sunday services, small-group meetings, Zoom meetings, off-site meetings, and other activities. Listings appear on the LCUUF website, [lakechapalauu.org](#), under the [calendar tab](#).

The minister, members of the Board of Directors, all committee chairs, and team leaders may submit information about their events to this calendar by sending an email to [calendar@lakechapalauu.org](mailto:calendar@lakechapalauu.org) at least 48 hours before the scheduled event.

Each listing must include:

- The type of event,
- The location of the event,
- Start and end times, and
- Contact information for the person posting the event.



#### Fellowship Building Use Calendar

The [Hidalgo 261 Calendar](#) contains all information about **all** scheduled uses of our Fellowship facility. **Every** event that takes place at the Fellowship facility **must** be put on this calendar, even if it also appears on the LCUUF Activity Calendar. Persons requesting use of the building may submit information about their events by sending an email to [calendar@lakechapalauu.org](mailto:calendar@lakechapalauu.org) at least 48 hours before the scheduled event. Schedule conflicts will be resolved by the current LCUUF Board of Directors member-at-large responsible for updating the calendar.

#### Fellowship Building Use

The LCUUF facility at Hidalgo 261, Riberas del Pilar, Ajijic, Jalisco, is available to all LCUUF groups and leaders plus selected other persons and organizations approved by the LCUUF Board of Directors (for example, Bare Stage). In general, building use is on a first come, first served basis. Persons who receive approval to use the building will be sent an email containing information on how to open the building and lock it up. Everyone who uses the building is expected to treat it responsibly and respectfully by replacing items where they belong and leaving the building clean and secure.

Each listing must include:

- The type of event,
- The part of the building that will be used (for example, entire building, hall, bodegas, outside patios),
- Start and end times, and
- Contact information for the person posting the event.

In addition to our new calendars, we also have a new Board-approved policy on memorial services and celebrations of life.

### **LCUUF Policy on Memorial Services and Celebrations of Life**

The Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fellowship values the lives of its members and friends, and appreciates the opportunities it has to celebrate their passing.

Unitarian Universalist services vary according to the wishes of the family or the deceased. The minister and/or the Care Team will meet with family and friends of the deceased to plan the service. Services are usually either memorial services, which have a spiritual aspect, or celebrations of life, which center on guests' reminiscences about the deceased.

Services and celebrations for members and friends of the Fellowship may be conducted free of charge, although nominal charges may be associated with use of the Fellowship space. Fees may be waived in the event of hardship. Requests for services for non-members will be considered on a case-by-case basis, as will requests for officiants other than the LCUUF minister. Fees for services for non-members will be discussed with the family.

If you have questions about either the calendars or the policy on post-life celebrations, please contact a member of the Board of Directors.



With the Fellowship opening up to in person attendance, The Welcome and Membership committee is looking for friendly, smiling faces that can meet and greet guests on Sunday mornings. It requires you to be there in person, greet guests and ask them to register.

If you would be willing help part-time or specific Sundays, please reach out to Paula Odom [paulaodom01@gmail.com](mailto:paulaodom01@gmail.com).



The LCUUF News-letter is produced to provide LCUUF news to members and friends. Deadline for contributions to the October newsletter is September 20th and should be sent to Editor Kathy Koches, at: [kkoches@gmail.com](mailto:kkoches@gmail.com)