



We are now having in person services and NO RESERVATION is required. Masks will be required and we will continue to maintain safe distance spacing of chairs.

Aug. 7 – Have a Little Religion, But Not Too Much - There is increasing evidence that being religious can be good for you. Religious people tend to be happier and live longer. But these benefits tend to come from certain religious practices, not beliefs. What happens if we disentangle the practices from the beliefs, even from the religion itself? Is this even ethical? We'll explore these questions with some examples, and consider how we might experiment with various practices if we like. Rev. Matt Alspaugh will give the talk and Cat Barnett will be the service leader.

Aug. 14 – How to Find Your Spirit Guide - Mark Hollenstein has spent the last 20 years teaching, coaching, and helping people to seek personal transformative growth through means of becoming more in touch with the spiritual forces guiding our life. Mark, via video presentation, will guide us in a brief journey to locate our own personal spirit guide. Roy Haynes will be the service leader.

Aug. 21 – As the Rivers Flow to the Sea – Water Communion -The Water Communion is a Unitarian Universalist tradition celebrating the coming together of the community of people from different places. The water symbolizes that sense that, while we are separate, we are also united, that our ultimate ends will be as one. Come celebrate this ritual with us, either at the fellowship hall or on Zoom. Rev. Matt will give the talk and Deb Gang will be the service leader.

Aug. 28 – Touching Spirit Through Meditation – Kamala Beaulieu is a local meditation practitioner, born in India. She will speak about universal consciousness and meditation. Carol Johnson will be 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/j/233941792>

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.



In light of the increase in Covid cases lakeside, and particularly among members of the fellowship, the LCUUF board voted to again require masks while attending services at the fellowship. There will be masks available should you arrive without one. In addition, the board vote includes the suspension of official fellowship social gatherings for beginning now through August (Ex: Circle Suppers, monthly lunch). The board will review the state of Covid lakeside at the August meeting to determine if the continuation of these new protocols is necessary. Kriss Gang, Board President



MATT'S MESSAGE

If you have had experience with Unitarian Universalist congregations in the north (or congregations in other denominations, they are similar), you will know that there are seasons in congregational life. In particular, things slow down in the summer as families go on vacation. I've noticed that here at LCUUF, our summer season seems a little advanced compared to the north. We begin to slow down in May, as many of our people leave, but begin to re-energize in July and August.

I'm delighted to see that energy flowing again in many areas. Colleen Beery and D'Vorah Kelley have led the organizing of a Social Justice team, planning events and educational programs. Cat Barnett has organized a Listening Circle, a kind of focused after-service discussion group. Sue Kelley has revitalized the monthly Sunday lunches and Paula Odom the Circle Suppers. Unfortunately, we had to pause these group meals temporarily as we ride out the fifth wave of the pandemic. We hope to restart these important social activities as soon as it seems prudent. Susanne Bjorner has agreed to help keep the website up to date, starting with the newsletter page, which should be complete later this month. And Robert Barnett has agreed to head our facilities work, along with Roy Haynes who is focusing on aesthetics. Of course there are many activities that have been ongoing, even in the summertime. Kathy Koches continues editing this newsletter. Richard Clarke runs our online Meditation Group. Catherine Luria continues the online Women's Group. Bob Koches holds the

monthly online Humanist Group. And this is on top of the activities of the Sunday Services, Welcoming, Tech Team and the Board—too many to name, sorry! Even in the doldrums of summer, we're a fairly busy bunch.

The Water Communion service is often held at the beginning of the formal congregational year; it symbolizes the fellowship community coming back together. We'll hold such a service on August 21. If you see something we could be doing as a congregation, talk to us, to me, or a board member, or any of the other people doing things in the congregation. If you are able to help make that something happen, make it real, so much the better!



HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, Aug.24, 2022 at 4pm. Via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863>

The September discussion will explore the rise of Religious Nationalism. Democracy and theocracy seem to be two opposing forms of government. However, modern states need to cope with seculars who want to live within a democracy and fundamentalist religious people who want to live in a theocracy. This topic is suggested by Eric Luria and is based on a NY Times article titled The Far-Right Christian Quest for Power: 'We Are Seeing Them Emboldened'. However the trend to negate church and state separation leading to autocracy thru theocracy is worldwide. 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



Lorna Dean, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBER'S MESSAGE

Sunday Services: Masks are now required at in-person Sunday services, and you may still join us on Zoom. LCUUF sponsored social events have been suspended temporarily. The issue of masks and social events will be reviewed again at the next Board meeting.

New Sign: Thanks to Kriss Gang and Roy Haynes for organizing the impressive new LCUUF sign on the front of the building.

Property: Robert Barnett is now the LCUUF property manager and will be coordinating with Fernando Anaya regarding roof repairs. If you notice any building issues that need attention, let Robert know at robert007074@aol.com

Assets: LCUUF has assets totaling MXN 3,907,206 pesos as of June 30, 2022, the date of our last Balance Sheet. This includes three U.S. dollar accounts (one at Actinver, one at Truist in the USA, and the Schwab brokerage account). These assets are converted to pesos at our standard exchange rate of 20:1 for the Balance Sheet. The Truist and Schwab accounts are owned by our charitable organization, Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fund, Inc., in the USA, but are counted in the LCUUF accounts in pesos. In addition, LCUUF has checking and investment accounts at Actinver in pesos.

Pledges: LCUUF has received pledges of MXN 963,800 for the 2022-23 fiscal year. From February 1 to July 24, 2022, we have received

MXN 617,338 pesos in pledge payments, or 64% of the total pledges made. The Pledge Campaign for the 2023-24 fiscal year will be held in October/November of this year.

Share the Basket: In June, LCUUF donated MXN 8,974 pesos to Food Bank Lakeside through our Share the Basket program. As of July 24, we have collected MXN 9,951 pesos towards the July donation for Operation Feed. In August, our Share the Basket donation will go to Poco a Poco.

Allocated Outreach Donations: For several years, LCUUF has donated MXN 2,500 pesos, each month, to Centro de Desarrollo Jocotepec (CEDEJO), a women's health center in San Juan Cosalá, managed by Sylvia Flores. LCUUF also supports a university student, Johnny Miguel Angel Lopez, through the UVA Scholarship Fund. Johnny is studying psychology at the University of Guadalajara in Ocotlan. The current support is based on significant donations from LCUUF to the UVA Scholarship Fund pre-covid. Currently, LCUUF has a credit of MXN 11,448.50 pesos with UVA towards Johnny's next tuition payment.

Income: As of the June 30 Income and Expense Statement, LCUUF's income totaled MXN 680,720 pesos for the first five months of this fiscal year. This represents 61% more than the Budgeted Income of MXN 422,280 pesos for the first five months. This is because some members pay their whole pledge payment early in the year.

Expenses: LCUUF's total expenses as of June 30 were MXN 334,164 pesos, or 15% less than the budgeted amount of MXN 394,710 pesos.

If anyone has questions about the LCUUF finances or would like a copy of the monthly Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Statements, contact Lorna Dean, Treasurer at Treasurer@LakeChapalaUU.org



SHARE THE BASKET

Our policy for Share the Basket, during the corona-virus crisis, has been: If we collect more than MXN 5,000 pesos in any month, the full amount will go to an organization providing assistance to low-income members of 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. 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.

Poco a Poco is our recipient for Share the Basket donations in August 2022. Poco a Poco volunteers work alongside and in very close cooperation with the Brigada Program.

<https://www.pocoapocosanpedro.com>



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

01	Val Marcum	15	John DeWaal
02	June Wilson	18	Sandy Wallin
07	Dee Dee Camhi	20	Kathleen Pharis
08	Mario Pardillo	29	Garrett Browning
08	Alicia Macnamara	31	Sue Boyczuk
09	Brenda Herold	31	Carol Johnson
10	Jeanne Haely		



MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

I have been asked by many people how they can view past member spotlights. I am in the process of downloading several issues of the newsletter to the LCUUF website so you can read about many of our longtime members. I hope to have this completed by next month's newsletter. A BIG thank you to Susanne Bjorner for her assistance with this project. In the meantime, I am attaching three member spotlights from 2019.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT **BOB KOCHES**

We all know Bob, our U.U. choir director (but sadly, is stepping down as of April 1st), and a few of us have heard of Bob, the singing waiter, but few of us know of Bob, the grad student in anthropology at Portland State University. He says his most fun was as a grad student but unhappily we don't have room to go into all he did in those carefree days, (be sure to ask him) or Bob, the top salesman in pharmaceuticals among other things, or Bob, the violinist, or Bob the reporter, or Bob, the manager, or Bob, the diaper washer (his most hated job) or Bob, the 18 wheel truck driver, or Bob, the runner (11 mile per day) or Bob the basketball player until he broke his arm, or Bob, the civic leader.

As a matter of fact this last is one of the threads that was constant throughout most of his life. He even ran for office (City Council) and one of his proudest legacies is a county park in Clark County, Washington that he was instrumental in founding and which won a state environmental award. He was a member of the Vancouver Jaycees and was responsible for its leadership training. One of the things he did in grad school was a study of how decisions were made at city halls and how things were done. Another was a study which he managed on neighborhoods. Ask him about this and the many other projects he worked on.

Another thread is music. He played violin from grade 3 on and was always singing from grade school through university glee clubs. He sang all four years with the Notre Dame University Glee Club. He did

gigs in high school and played viola in the University orchestra and a community symphony orchestra. He spent two years singing with a Madrigal group, twenty years in the U.U choir in Vancouver, WA, twenty years in Vancouver USA Singers and made several tours to Europe with them, and twelve years in Los Cantantes del Lago here Lakeside and of course his 27 years as a singing waiter. Mind you, singing in the restaurants isn't all he did; he also was responsible for hiring and training staff and even trained the trainers in other branches. He is proud of breaking the glass ceiling, hiring the first female singing wait person.

Bob is passionate about ideas and food (he is a stupendous cook). He is a news junky and a science nerd and inquisitive about everything. He is an only child and describes himself as a loner. His brown eyes come from his Sicilian grandparents

He met his soulmate, Kathy and they married soon after in 1990. They raised her grandchild, Angel from the time she was 8 until 18. They both had other children separately. They have been in Mexico twelve years, are charter members of LCUUF, and Bob says he has not much left on his bucket list. They have done a lot of traveling, covering most of North America and Europe and a lot of Mexico.

Bob is a charter member of LCUUF, has served on the Board, started the Hospitality Committee, started the Care Committee and participated in the first LCUUF choir. He also started and continues to run the monthly Humanist Discussion Group.

His advice: life is full of possibilities. Keep an open mind.





SPOTLIGHT MARDELE HARLAND

My childhood was spent in a small, prairie town in Saskatchewan, an ideal place to grow up; lots of freedom and friends from many different backgrounds. My parents were both teachers and I grew up with a strong sense that I was a product of immigration and a sense of cultural differences. My grandfather was Swedish and my grandmother was born in Patagonia, part of the Welsh nationalist colony that moved to Argentina in the 1870's to escape British interference. In 1902 the colony moved to Saskatchewan. I grew up very aware of ties to other places and cultures.

After spending 5 years at universities where I earned a BA in history and English at University of Saskatchewan I was contemplating at last beginning a career, when on Valentine's Day 1965 on a park bench in New York City, Fred proposed. We were married in June and in late August we flew to Ghana, West Africa to spend 2 years teaching high school with CUAO. Living and working in Africa changed how I thought about the world and what was important, and led me to spending most of my working life with International NGOs and voluntary organizations. I worked with a variety of organizations all trying to understand and support local development projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. A highlight for me was working in the Philippines and Indonesia to build local Ngo coalitions and encourage cooperation with their Canadian counterparts. I also worked with a religious studies program in Papua, New Guinea and taught English in Fiji.

Music has always been central to my life. I have enjoyed playing the piano and have sung with a number of excellent choirs, including Los Cantantes del Lago here in Lakeside. I am an avid reader and belong to a number of book groups. I love spending time exercising in my warm pool.

Fred and I were founding members of LCUUF. I have enjoyed accompanying congregational singing at the Fellowship for the past 12 years, and have served on the Sunday Service Committee off and on since the early days, including several terms as Chair. In 2015 I began the Fellowship Newsletter, and served as editor for three years. The UU community has been an important part of our lives at Lakeside.

I am most proud of our son, Christopher, and our daughter, Renata, who have hugely enriched our lives and continue to do so, as well as their spouses and especially our 4 grandsons.



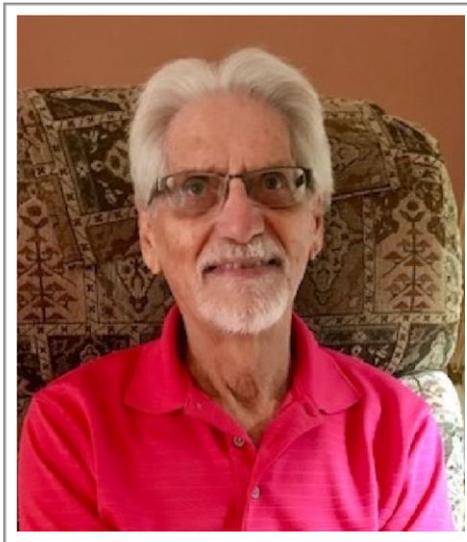
LCUUF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Fred Harland

At Lakeside, a lot of people think they know Fred, mainly because of his involvement with LCS and our Unitarian Fellowship. What they don't know is much about his life before he and Mardele came to Mexico in 1998. Or that, like many others in this Fellowship, Fred spent the early part of his life roaming around the world gathering adventures, philosophies and wonderful stories.



It was on Valentine's Day in 1964 that Fred proposed to Mardele on a park bench in Manhattan. After some suspense, she finally said yes. And after getting married in June, they flew to Ghana, West Africa to teach high school with CUSO (a Canadian organization with some similarities to the Peace Corps).

Those two years in Ghana were life changing for Fred and Mardele and led to a number of other opportunities. Fred began the CUSO program in Papua New Guinea and the South Pacific (initially 8 volunteers, growing to 60), and then, back in Canada, he started a new community college in Regina, Sask. He served as Principal there for 15 years, and later, started an international program linking Canadian colleges to educational bodies in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean developing 40 different projects.

At Lakeside, Fred's served on the Board of LCS and started a Great Books discussion group (still going after 20 years) and the popular weekly TED Talks program. Fred and Mardele were part of the group which began the LCUUF. And then, as President, Fred organized a series of events which resulted in pledging and hiring our first minister.

When Fred finished high school he was undecided about what to study—but he knew what he didn't want. He had come from a long line of United Church ministers and remembers being clear that he didn't want to follow that path. So he enrolled instead in the sciences. But after completing two undergraduate degrees—in arts as well as in science, he did in fact study theology, both in Ontario and in New York. But with theology

studies confirming his atheist beliefs, he eventually returned to University to do graduate work in International politics.

In retirement, Fred became involved in competitive running, competing in several provincial and national events and winning several gold medals. He continued to be active in a number of local and international organizations and with Mardele, his work was recognized with a Saskatchewan Global Citizen of the Year award.

Fred says he is most proud of his two children and his long (55 years) marriage. Fred would like to be remembered primarily as an adult educator, helping people to reflect on what's important in life.



The LCUUF Newsletter is produced to provide LCUUF news to members and friends. Deadline for contributions to the September newsletter is August 25th and should be sent to Editor, Kathy Koches, at: kkoches@gmail.com