



HAPPY HOLIDAYS ALL!



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Issue 39

Dec 17, 2023 - Dec 24, 2023

Attend our weekly services in person or via Zoom on Sundays at 10:30am CST. We are located at 261 Hidalgo, Riberas Del Pilar. To participate on Zoom use this link:

[Sunday Service Zoom Link](#)

Click Here To Send Your Joys And Sorrows For Sunday Dec 17, 2023

Send Joys and Sorrows Now

[Click for Order of Service](#)



**THIS WEEK: SUNDAY
DECEMBER 17, 2023**

"Let The Mystery Be"

Sermon: Matt Alspaugh

**Service Associate: June
Wilson**

This time of year, with its increasing darkness and cooler days (at least in the northern hemisphere) plus the numerous holidays, invites us to ponder mystery. What are the deep questions for which we don't have answers, some for which we may never find answers? What is the nature of not knowing? Are there some questions which we should not ask? We'll explore a few of these questions as we wade from the comfort of the known toward the mysterious depths of the unknown.

**NEXT WEEK: Sunday
December 24, 2023**

**"Stories and
Carols"**



Presentor: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

Annie Morris: Service Associate

For our Christmas Eve service, we'll have a variation of the traditional "Lessons and Carols" service, with some stories that might be a little, um, atypical, and lessons certainly different from the familiar mashup of the two versions of Jesus' birth (in the gospels of Matthew and Luke). But the carols will be the familiar ones!

For The Love Of Chocolate!

Hanna Frederick, LCUUF member and professional chocolatier, has brought her talent and treasure to LCUUF in the form of the most wonderful Chocolates. She has been crafting her custom chocolates and selling them before and after services and has been donating 100% of the proceeds to LCUUF. THANK YOU HANNA! A most delicious way to support our congregation. She has some more special ideas for sharing her chocolate-making skills in store for 2024...stay tuned.



Credit: "What Peace Looks Like" by 13-year-old Anja Kozak, a primary school student in Slovakia

*Pledge Campaign
Status
as of December 15*

*Active Members
Participating*
63%

*Pledge Revenue
Goal Achieved*
69%

Building The Beloved Community: Update

As of December 15, 63% of the Fellowship has submitted a pledge totaling only 69% of our pledge goal. Email Al Castleman with your pledge:

Read the special pledge appeal from our Treasurer at the link below:

Pledge Letter

Welcome New Members

On Sunday December 10th we welcomed 9 new members to LCUUF. This was the second new member ceremony we have had this year, the first being in July where we welcomed 11 new members. To put this in perspective, we welcomed more new members than the original number of members who founded the congregation. Congratulations all and welcome to LCUUF. Here are all who have joined this year:



23	July	2023	Dena Turner
23	July	2023	Christy Caldwell
23	July	2023	John Cleveland
23	July	2023	Rena L. Swan
23	July	2023	Marsha Buly
23	July	2023	Sally Ann Bowen
23	July	2023	Elizabeth Weaver
23	July	2023	Dave MacMillen
23	July	2023	Michael D. Sword
23	July	2023	Ilona de Borhegyi
23	July	2023	Kathy Varty
10	Dec	2023	Ron Avalon
10	Dec	2023	John Adams
10	Dec	2023	Lois Cugini
10	Dec	2023	Phyllis Avalon Rosh
10	Dec	2023	Trish Farrell
10	Dec	2023	Joyce R Kinnear
10	Dec	2023	Scott T Kinnear
10	Dec	2023	Mark Etkin
10	Dec	2023	Gloria Rathwell



Celebrate The New Year At Our Annual New Year's Taco Party

Our annual New Year's day taco party will be at St. Andrews on January 1st at 1pm. The cost is \$150 pesos (Including tip).

Please bring your favorite beverage and treats to share. You can pay at the Fellowship on the next 2 Sundays or email Barley Donahue:

Barleydonahue@gmail.com



December Humanist Discussion Group Topic

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet Wednesday, Dec 27th, 2023 at 11 am Via Zoom. Remember we are on Central Standard Time . The zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863>

We will explore the ethical dilemmas around disinformation and the use of narratives and emotions in manipulating reality. An increasingly influential stream of research demonstrates the integration of cognition and emotion in political decision-making. Political cognition is emotionally shaped. The role of narratives in shaping people's minds has become an important area of research and debate, in particular in recent years when entire societies have made choices that seem "rationally" counterintuitive in this Post-Truth Era.



Video Recording For Sunday December 10th "Gratitude"

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EVENTS

Click on the + for info and links

**Humanist Discussion Group-Wed Dec. 27
11am**

+



Wednesday Dec. 27 11:00am on Zoom (CST)

Topic: The Middle East is a real quagmire of relationships. It is further complicated by the raid by Hamas on Israel on Oct. 7 and all the neighboring States possibly stopping the Israel/Saudi detente. The people of Palestine are not loved by their Arab neighbors creating refugee problems of acceptance. The real losers are the

civilians on both sides caught in the political middle. The history of the conflict goes back centuries. We will take a look at its antecedents and history, current affairs, and regional and global implications. If you wish to be added to the reading list contact Bob Koches at bobkoches@gmail.com

[Click to join on Zoom](#)

Zoom Women's Group: 1st and 3rd Mondays +

12pm - 1pm 1st and 3rd Mondays Monthly Catherine Luria, Facilitator: Contact CLuriaARNP@gmail.com for topics

Zoom Meditation Lessons: 3-4pm Thursdays +

Richard Clarke, Facilitator. To find out more contact: riberasmeditation@gmail.com

[Click to join on Zoom](#)

Coffee "Above" The Plaza: Thursdays + **10:30am**

Meet other UUs for weekly at Los Gringos (above the ice cream place) on the Plaza. Bring a friend!

Open Zoom Conversation: Fridays 2pm +

Conversation is open to all questions. Email Richard Clarke at arunachalakindle@gmail.com

[Click to join on Zoom](#)



Birthdays Through The End Of December

Linda Jessen 12/25

Larry Phil 12/26

Flo Rhodes 12/26

Richard Clarke 12/28

**Have News You Want To Share? Send it
to:**

newsletter@lcuuf.org

**Past Newsletters are Available on our
Website**

<https://lakechapalauu.org/lcuuf-monthly-newsletters/>.

Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

**261 Hidalgo, Chapala
Mexico**

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