

# LCUUF NEWS OF THE WEEK



Lake Chapala Unitarian  
Universalist Fellowship



Issue 84

Oct 27 - Nov 3, 2024

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Attend our weekly services in person or via Zoom on Sundays at 12:00pm CST. We are located at St. Andrews Anglican Church, San Lucas 19, Riberas del Pilar.

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## UPCOMING SERVICES



**This Week: October 20**

**"Dia de los Muertos"**



**Next Week: November 3**

**"2025 Pledge Campaign Kickoff"**

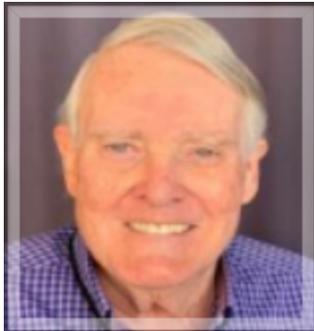
**Presenter: June Eguchi**

**Service Associate: Dee Dee Camhi**

On October 27 we will have a special Day of the Dead service. It will feature June Eguchi's compelling presentation entitled "What is a Near Death Experience?" She will share with us her own experience and give detailed background information about this phenomenon. The program will also honor family and friends of many of our UU members.

**Presenter: Al Castleman (Video Presentation)**

**Service Associate: Kriss Gang**



## **A Message From The Treasurer**

### **LCUUF's FINANCIAL SITUATION**

#### **The Past**

At this time last year the Board was discussing the need for a larger facility to accommodate our growing membership when suddenly our landlord informed us that he would not be renewing our lease when it expired in February ... we must relocate in just a few months! Such deadlines frequently cause anxiety. What's available? What will it cost? What can we afford? And the membership, as a group, had never before had to pay rent because a small group of benefactors had always generously paid the rent for us. The diminishing exchange rate further added to the stress of covering future expenses. To resolve these issues we asked the membership to increase cumulative pledges by 30% to meet our financial needs for fiscal year 2024-2025.

#### **The Present**

So how have we done so far? As it turns out, quite well. Paula Odom and Lorna Dean did a fabulous job of evaluating many new facility alternatives and identified St. Andrew's as the best for a number of reasons. Equally important, you, our membership, stepped up and pledged sufficient revenues to meet facility costs and other programs and projects proposed by our committees for this year. Through eight months of the current fiscal year (February through September) total revenues are right on budget -- fortunately a slight shortfall in pledge and Sunday offering receipts has

been buffered by better-than-expected earnings on investments. However, this year is not yet complete; we still need members to fulfill their remaining pledge commitments to complete the year successfully. Eight-months-to-date spending is at 84% of budget so the bottom line is healthy. Thank you everyone for getting us to this waypoint!

### **Looking Forward**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> we will be kicking off the pledge drive for our next fiscal year which begins next February. We may need to increase spending slightly in the coming year (potential equipment acquisitions and/or service additions) but I'm hopeful that the return of a more favorable currency exchange rate will help to "pay for" at least some portion of any such increases. It's always important to remember that the vast majority of our income comes in U.S.

dollars and most of our expenditures are made in Mexican pesos; thus, changes in the exchange rate are an important factor in determining our financial results.

As always, please send me an email if you have any questions or comments; I will respond promptly.

Al Castleman

[ajcastleman@yahoo.com](mailto:ajcastleman@yahoo.com)



### **Remember Sue Kelley**

Please take time to reflect on and remember Sue Kelley. Sue passed away yesterday, on October 24. She had an easy passing while lying in her own bed. Her very supportive friend, Anne Willoughby McMillan, and her nurse and companion, Lulu have been at the house and everything is calm and organized.

Sue and Kelley were a part of the fellowship from the very beginning. Their symphony tickets prevented them from attending the first two Sundays, but from the third Sunday they were there and very

active in forming our fellowship. Sue was truly a founding member. She was active in creating our hymnals, planning Sunday services, and heading up our Care. Later she created and operated our library.

With fondness and a sad heart.

The LCUUF Care Team

Trudy Crippen: [trudycrippen@gmail.com](mailto:trudycrippen@gmail.com)

Pamela Cucinell: [pamelajcny@gmail.com](mailto:pamelajcny@gmail.com)

Carol Johnson: [carolatinfinitepie@gmail.com](mailto:carolatinfinitepie@gmail.com)

Catherine Luria: [cluriaarnp@gmail.com](mailto:cluriaarnp@gmail.com)

Eric Luria: [luriaec@aol.com](mailto:luriaec@aol.com)

Douglas Mattoon: [douglasmattoon@gmail.com](mailto:douglasmattoon@gmail.com)

Flo Rhodes: [florhodes@aol.com](mailto:florhodes@aol.com)

## IMPORTANT NOTICES!

**As a follow up to the Climate Justice Revival Sunday, a group of 12 interested folks from LCUUF met this past week to plan an educational event with activists from the Lakeside communities. While the date is still TBD\*\*, if you are interested in Climate Justice here at lakeside, we invite you to consider attending. The hope of this meeting is to reimagine our objectives after listening to several local activists and give direction to our hopes and actions.**

**Remember the words we say at the close of the service each week. We now have an opportunity to "share with all the world, or truth, our community, and commitment."**

**\*\*Potential dates are 11/9 (Saturday afternoon or 11/11 evening)**

### **We Need Your Response To The Congregational Survey**

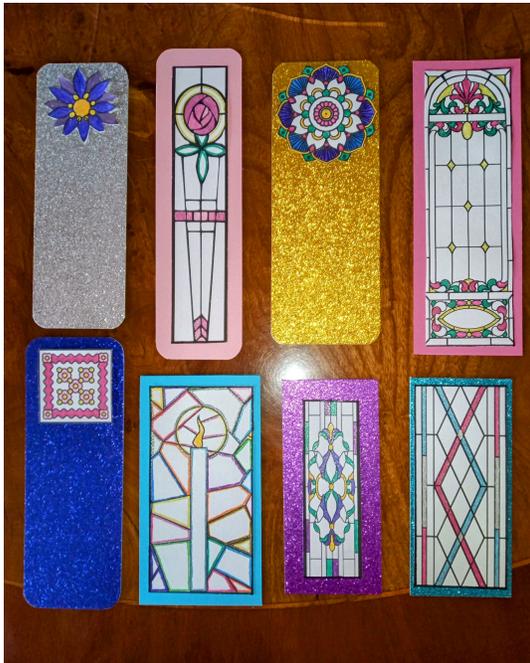
Last Thursday, you received the LCUUF Congregational survey via email with a link to the online survey. Less than 30% of the Fellowship has responded.

All you need to do is click on the link and it will take you to the survey. If more than one person shares an email, each person will be able to use the same link and submit their own response. If you have already responded, thank you.

You can also click on the link below to access the survey:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdncg1v36lmgpldjkv\\_...](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdncg1v36lmgpldjkv_...)

Your response is important and will help us with board and committee planning and program development for the year ahead!



## Handmade Bookmarks to Benefit LCUUF

Since many at Lakeside are avid readers, Adele St. Pierre has created unique and lovely bookmarks to share. She will be offering them before and after the Fellowship Service on November 17th. All donations will go to LCUUF.

## Song Leaders, We Need You!

LCUUF is looking for people who like to sing and would be interested in being song leaders for our services. You do not have to read music, just the ability to learn and hold a tune. Song Leaders will be for the hymns that we sing each service. Each week Michael will send you the music and a recording of the hymn to learn at home. Then on Sunday you will meet Michael at 11.30am at the church and have a short

rehearsal. It would not necessarily be every week. If you are interested please email Michael at [mjrmusic01@gmail.com](mailto:mjrmusic01@gmail.com)



## Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner at Manix 2 on Sunday, November 10th

Join with others from LCUUF, St. Andrews, and the Lakeside Jewish Congregation for cocktails at 4:00,

followed by dinner at 5:00.

- Butterball turkey
- Gravy and dressing
- Mashed potatoes
- Sweet potatoes
- Corn souffle
- Vegetables, including brussel sprouts
- Bread and butter
- Pumpkin pie with whipped cream or apple pie with vanilla ice cream

It will be buffet style where people can go back for seconds or even thirds! The cost per person will be \$480 pesos\*\* prepaid, plus your drinks and tips for the staff. Sign up and pay during coffee hour on the next three Sundays with D’Vorah Kelley. (Exact amount would be appreciated!) Those who attend services on zoom, **contact D’Vorah at [dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com](mailto:dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com)** to make arrangements for payment. Manix is handicapped accessible.

\*\* We don’t want to exclude anyone due to finances and have a “food bank fund” available up to the \$480 pesos.

The date Sunday, November 10, that is about a month after Canadian Thanksgiving and about 2.5 weeks before American Thanksgiving. There is lots of parking – out front of the Restaurant, in a lot beside the restaurant and the side street just east of the restaurant which is a dead end with lots of parking. On Sundays, there is also parking across the street. Manix II also has a door for handicapped people to enter.

**Contact D’Vorah at [dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com](mailto:dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com)** with any questions

**NOTE: If you plan on attending the Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner on November 10th it will need to be prepaid. Money will be collected the next two Sundays at the Fellowship. If not attending in person, please contact D'Vorah Kelley to make arrangements at [dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com](mailto:dvorahc.kelley@gmail.com). And if possible, exact change is appreciated! (480 pesos per person).**



## **Video Recording for the October 20th Climate Revival Service**



## Mindfulness with Richard Clarke for Thursday Oct. 24th



### November Humanist Discussion Group

In his new book *NEXUS: A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to AI*, Harari looks through the long lens of human history to consider how the flow of information has shaped us, and our world. Taking us from the Stone Age, through the canonization of the

Bible, early modern witch-hunts, Stalinism, Nazism, and the resurgence of populism today, Harari asks us to consider the complex relationship between information and truth, bureaucracy and mythology, wisdom and power. He

explores how different societies and political systems throughout history have wielded information to achieve their goals, for good and ill. And he addresses the urgent choices we face as non-human intelligence threatens our very existence.

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet , **Wednesday November 27th** at 11am Via Zoom. Remember we are on Central Standard Time .Those on Standard Time please adjust your time zone. The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863>  
If you want to be included in the reading list contact [bobkoches@gmail.com](mailto:bobkoches@gmail.com)

### **Monthly Women's Group Brown Bag Lunch!**

In addition to the 1st & 3rd Mon ZOOM women's group meetings we are adding an IN PERSON BROWN BAG LUNCH at 12N on the 4th Monday. This will be held at Trudy Crippen's house. Please RSVP to Trudy if you plan to attend.

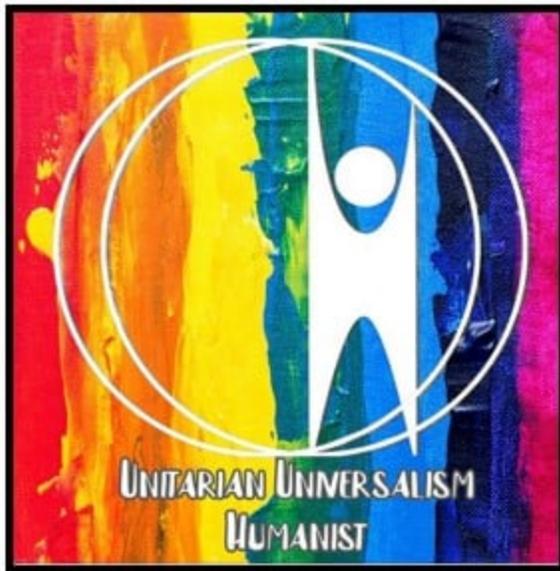
[trudycrippen@gmail.com](mailto:trudycrippen@gmail.com)

## **WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EVENTS**

**Click on the "+" for details**

**Humanist Discussion Group-Wed Nov 27  
11am**

**+**



Wednesday Nov 27 11:00am on Zoom (CST)

November Topic: In his new book NEXUS: A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to AI, Harari looks through the long lens of human history to consider how the flow of information has shaped us, and our world. Taking us from the Stone Age, through the canonization of the Bible, early modern witch-hunts, Stalinism, Nazism, and the resurgence of populism today, Harari asks us to consider the complex relationship between information and truth, bureaucracy and mythology, wisdom and power. He explores how different societies and political systems throughout history have wielded information to achieve their goals, for good and ill. And he addresses the urgent choices we face as non-human intelligence threatens our very existence. The Humanist Discussion Group will meet , Wednesday November 27th at 11am Via Zoom. Remember we are on Central Standard Time .Those on Standard Time please adjust your time zone. The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86577912863> If you want to be included in the reading list contact [bobkoches@gmail.com](mailto:bobkoches@gmail.com)

[Click to join on Zoom](#)

## **Women's Group: 1st , 3rd and 4th Mondays** +

12pm - 1pm 1st and 3rd Mondays Monthly Catherine Luria, Facilitator: Contact [CLuriaARNP@gmail.com](mailto:CLuriaARNP@gmail.com) for topics. Now you can join us for a brown bag lunch on the 4th Monday of each month at Trudy Crippen's house. RSVP Trudy if you plan to attend. [trudycrippen@gmail.com](mailto:trudycrippen@gmail.com)

## Healing Circle Monthly: 2nd Thursday 4pm

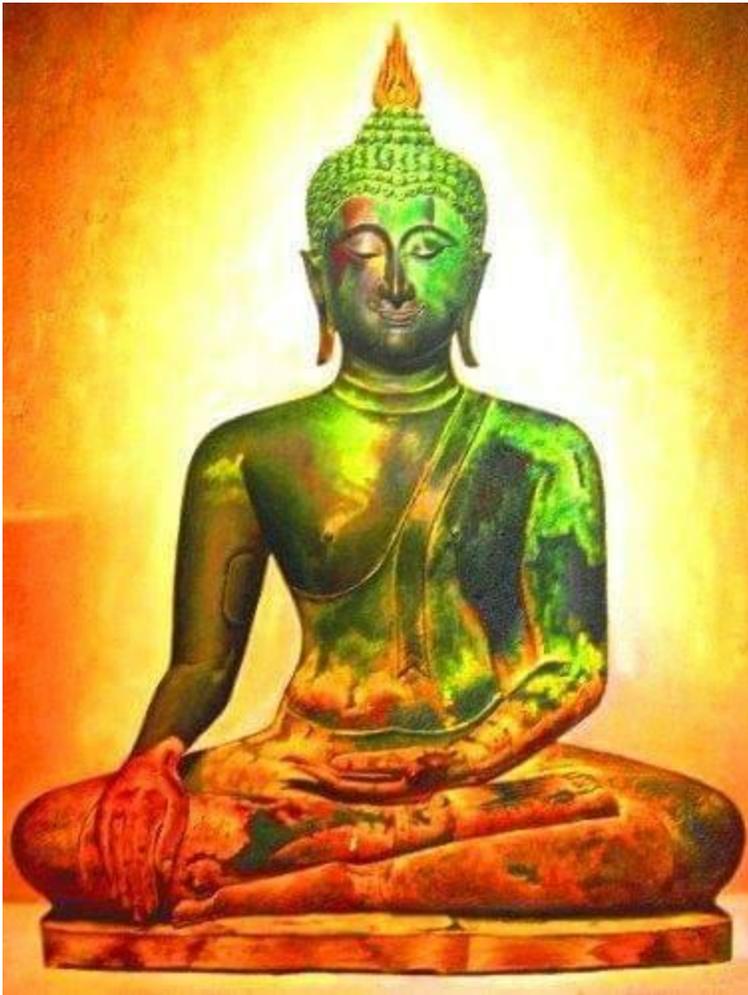
+



This is a group gathering to focus on healing, peace and well-being. Our methods employ Reiki distance healing. This is group, not individual work. All LCUUF members are welcome regardless of experience. Facilitators: D'Vorah Kelley and Pamela Cucinell, Reiki Practitioners

## Zoom Meditation Lessons: 3-4pm Thursdays

+



Mindfulness is the fountain of youth for the mind. It enhances clarity, boosts mood, and keeps stress at bay. Meditation not only helps you age gracefully but also lets you savor life's every moment. Richard Clarke, Facilitator. To find out more contact: [riberasmeditation@gmail.com](mailto:riberasmeditation@gmail.com)

[Click to join on Zoom](#)

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

+

Meet other UUs for weekly conversations 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](mailto:arunachalakindle@gmail.com)

[Click to join on Zoom](#)



## **BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

**Christy Caldwell, November 21**

**Dave Miller, November 22**

**Norman Woods, November 24**

**D'Vorah Kelley, November 24**

**Candy Fields, November 25**

## Lake Chapala Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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