



Unitarian Universalist Notes

A monthly publication (except July/August) of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Durango, CO 419 San Juan Drive, Durango, Colorado 81301
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Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday

May2011

Religious Education and Child Care 10:00 a.m.

Board of Trustees Nominees Named

The UUFD Nominating Committee is pleased to put forth the following slate of candidates for positions on the Board of Trustees.

President:	Graham Smith
Vice President:	Teresa Jordan
Secretary:	Dawnwalker
Treasurer:	Megan McGrath
At-large:	Maureen Maliszewski
At-large:	Karen Roberts
At-large:	Tricia Bayless
RE Representative:	Kathleen Adams

The committee appreciates their willingness to take on these important leadership positions in our congregation. If you have any questions please contact the members of the Nominating Committee: Susan Koonce, Lois Carpenter or Aline Schwob.

Final 2010-11 Recital Set for May 6

The 2010-11 Recital Series will conclude with Lisa Campi and Marilyn Garst in a recital of piano duets. The program will include works by Mozart, Bizet, Stravinsky, Casella and Dvorak. Many of the individual pieces feature dance rhythms and reflections on childhood. Admission, which may be paid at the

door, is \$15 for adults and \$7 for students and children.

Budget Hearing

As we held last year, for those interested in details of the Operating Budget for FY 2011-12, there will be a hearing in the Sanctuary, May 15, noon. Please review the documents sent in separate emailing (current balance sheet, current status, next year's proposed budget) if you are interested. You may direct any questions prior to the hearing to Ron Garst, Treasurer, or Brooks Taylor, President.

Annual Congregational Meeting

At this formal meeting of the Fellowship, action will be taken on nominations to the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee, the FY 2011-12 Operating Budget, and any proposed bylaws changes. Relevant information will be available through the newsletter. The session is scheduled for 11:30 am, Sunday, May 22, Sanctuary. All members are urged to attend.

Board of Trustees meeting minutes appear later in this newsletter.

Our Mission:

- Provide a home for individual spiritual search and religious development.
- Serve our community by putting our beliefs into action.
- Provide religious education for all interested members and others.

We Affirm and Promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of a world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; and
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Coming Sunday Programs

May 1

Give me Your Tired, Your Poor...or Not

Dr. Charlie Clements, Boston

Today Mexican seasonal workers are considered a necessary part of the harvest season. However, before Mexican workers were imported, it was the Chinese, who filled the labor hole...until the Chinese Exclusion Act. Then it was the Japanese who replaced them as field hands. Historically the relationship between immigration and labor has been exploitive. In his sermon, Charlie Clements will explore how we got to the tangled place we are today and why a humane U.S. immigration policy is in our national interest.

Charlie Clements is a human rights activist and public health physician who currently serves as Executive Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights at the Kennedy School, Harvard University. He has both worked as an undocumented farm laborer and provided medical care to farm workers.

[English-Spanish Interpretation will be available for non-English Speakers / Se proporcionará interpretación Inglés-Español para los parlantes de habla Hispana.]

May 8

Child Dedication Ceremony

Cheri Kelly, Terri Reheman

In our UU tradition we will celebrate and dedicate the children in our congregation who have never been dedicated. In this tradition we give witness to our values and our commitment to be a religious

Contact Information

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Religious Education Director—Terri Reheman

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Music Director—Marilyn Garst

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Newsletter Editor—Ron Garst

Email: newsletter@durango.uu.org

community which provides love and affection, guidance and nurture, to all of our children so that they may grow into the fullness of the promise of life.

May 15

The Transforming Power of Greed

John Graves, Pagosa Springs

The presentation will explore the current and historical ramifications of greed as it affects and negatively transforms both personal and worldwide patterns of behavior.

John Graves, an active member of the Pagosah congregation, has been NBC Program Policy Editor and Program Manager, supervising such shows as *Bonanza*, *Ironsides*, *I Dream of Jeannie*, *The Man From Uncle*, and *The Monkees*; Director of Current Programming at MGM-TV (and a Golden Globe for Medical Center); Producer of the Assignment Vienna series for MGM-TV and the ABC TV network; Executive Producer of Peter Weir's *Picnic at Hanging Rock* for the South Australian Film Corporation; Marketing VP for Tyler Camera Systems; and Professor Emeritus of Mass Communication at the University of Central Missouri. He also had a concurrent career as a professional piano player in Los Angeles, accompanying Jimmy Durante, George Burns, & Rosemary Clooney among many others.

May 22

Michael Servetus, Unitarian Martyr

Bob Sherrill, Farmington

Sixteenth Century Spanish physician and theologian was condemned for his unorthodox views; ultimately he was burned at the stake by John Calvin. In this presentation our Unitarian sources are explored.

Bob Sherrill has been active in the SJUUF for over three decades and has maintained an interest in UU history and prominent heroes in that tradition. He returns to our service, having presented on our Universalist roots last fall.

The Unitarian Universalist Historical Society provides assistance and recognition for preserving and

May 29**Spirituality, Creativity, and Songwriting
Joe Uveges, Colorado Springs**

The journey of human spirituality is as unique as each individual. This journey can be an especially winding road for the artistic personality. It requires a commitment of intellectual honesty, a heart willing to be broken open, and that ever-elusive measure of time. The artistic fruits of this quality of commitment can be life enriching and powerful. It can also be gut wrenching and heart breaking. Today's talk will be a reflection in song and word of what one person's spiritual journey has wrought, artistically. It will also be a reminder that creativity and spiritual journeying are not mutually exclusive endeavors for any of us.

Joe Uveges is a singer/songwriter originally from upstate New York, currently residing in Colorado Springs with his incomparably brilliant wife of 20 years (Kristen) and children Katie (19) and Andrew (11). A graduate of Union College, Schenectady, NY and a former candidate for the priesthood at Catholic University, he now is the music director at High Plains UU Church. He has released 8 albums including two award winners (Best Of, 2002 and 2004 Gazette Go!), has movie credits and a very busy performance schedule over the last 10 years. Currently he is working on a country disc with singer/songwriter Stephanie Pauline.

Interested in Writing UU History?

The UU Historical Society provides support and resources for preserving your congregational history, among other things. If you are interested in working on a UU History project, please call the church (247-1004) and request the UU Historical Society information. Their website is www.uuhs.org.

Summer Office Hours

Summer Office Hours at UUFD will begin the week of May 29th. New hours will be 10 am - 2 pm on Thursdays or other times by appointment. Voice mail and email are checked daily. Please call 247-1004 or email information@durangouu.org. Thanks! ~Melissa

ART, We Need Art!

We need every creative spirit! A show featuring environmentally aware art or items made from repurposed or recycled materials will be hung in Bowman Hall on June 5th after the service. Help is needed to hang the artwork. Please arrange with a friend to bring your work if you can't deliver it that day. Please contact Margaret 759-5246 or mp4ide-as@yahoo.com for more information.

New Sound System Nearing Completion

Under the leadership of Ed Cox and with the assistance of Dwight Burgess and John Schiffel, an ad hoc working group has been revising and improving the sanctuary sound system. Improvements include new microphones and a speaker (look for it high above the stage) and moving the amplifier and other equipment to the back of the sanctuary in a lockable cabinet. You will surely notice the clearer sound—even in the back row.

Below, Ed shows off the new ear-mounted microphone and demonstrates, with the assistance of Judy Hayes, how to wear it.



Our thanks to Ed and company for their hard work.

Try Our New Web Site

The newly designed UUFD web site is up and running. The address is the same as the old one: durangouu.org. Our thanks to Terry Woodward and Melissa Lopez for their hard work, technical skills and creativity. To keep up with news of UUFD, visit the web!

News from the UFD Religious Education Program

Thanks to everyone for helping to make the Easter Egg Hunt so successful! We had over 20 kids scouring the sanctuary looking for Easter Bunny droppings (it really should be the “Easter Chicken,” shouldn’t it?). I appreciate everyone who filled eggs, as well as Melissa Lopez, Vanessa Self, Megan McGrath, Thane McGrath, Virginia Sanchez, and Lisa McCorry for helping hide eggs and keep the kids on track. We’re planning a special ceremony to dedicate the UU children on Mother’s Day, May 8th. Our very own Cheri Kelly, who happens to be a professional ceremonialist, will lead the ceremony. Kathleen Adams will lead the youth in participating in this ceremony, which we have never done before. After the service, we’ll help the kids plant flowers in their new RE garden. **Please bring a flower for the garden on May 8th!** Divided perennials from your own garden or annuals are welcome.



Also in May we’ll be finishing our RE curriculum “Moral Tales” and our OWL 4th and 5th grade class. Look for a note from your child about a May 29th “Moral Compass Party” for the RE kids. The OWL teachers, Paul Maliszewski and Ceci McQuinn, will conduct an OWL graduation on Monday, May 23rd at 4pm. All kids and parents of OWL kids are invited.

One more thanks goes out to Janis Taylor and Tom Hafnor for lending their teaching talents to the RE program so often in April. Your help is invaluable.

We’ll be expanding our RE classes in the fall and are in desperate need of more RE teachers. **Please contact me if you are interested and able to teach one Sunday per month in the fall.**

Finally, you will see a fresh new face in the nursery on May 1st. Kaitlin Ludwick will start working in the nursery a couple of Sundays each month. Kaitlin is a sophomore at Fort Lewis College majoring in education. She has worked as a nanny and adores kids. She’ll also be able to get her intern hours for her degree met by working with our kids. Welcome her if you get the chance.

Youth Group News

On Saturday, April 16th, the new Youth Group at UFD had an overnight in Bowman Hall. Much fun was had by all – but less sleep than usual. The group is for 6th through 12th graders and is coming together very nicely so far. Here’s a sampling of the comments: “We had so much fun grocery shopping for snacks and breakfast together.” “We enjoyed ourselves socializing.” “We had our own worship time in the dark with candles.” “We looked at our signs on the star chart and at night found the big dipper and star Arcturus in the sky. It was my first experience seeing the craters of the moon with binoculars.” “We giggled until our sleep trigger went off.” “The most boring part was doing the planning for our group name and routines and projects.” “The bucket game was awesome – we can do a demonstration for the whole church sometime.” We talked about quality versus quantity since we have a small group now. We know it will get bigger.” Spoken by Maya Bradshaw, Thane McGrath and Grace Wilmes

Davidoff to Speak at Summer Retreat at Pine Song

Overview: It's only two months until the July 8-10, 2011 Four Corners UU Summer Retreat! Former UUA Moderator Denny Davidoff will be the retreat leader presenting a workshop on Saturday morning, July 9 and preaching for the Sunday morning worship service the next day. Our Welcoming Congregation Committee will present a program during part of Saturday afternoon. As usual the retreat will be at the Carpenter's place, Pine Song, just before the dam at Vallecito. Participants can camp out by the river near the pavilion or get a cabin at one of the resorts at the lake or simply drive out from Durango for each day's activities. There will be special activities for the children, free time on Saturday afternoon (hike, bike, relax, visit, fish, explore Vallecito Lake), a potluck dinner and campfire on Saturday evening and a catered breakfast Sunday morning. Detailed brochures with the registration forms will be available soon.



And Who Is Denny Davidoff? In short, an indefatigable woman. Since late 2008 Denny has been the Senior Consultant and Director of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs for Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. She has served our UU movement as treasurer and president of the UU Women's Federation, chair of the General Assembly Planning Committee, trustee-at-large and as the elected moderator of the UUA from 1993 to 2001, presiding over the Board of Trustees and the annual General Assembly.

Denny was one of the religious leaders who founded the Interfaith Alliance in Washington, DC in 1994, serving on its board until 2006 when she resigned in order to serve as Senior Consultant and Director of LEADD, Leadership Education Advancing Democracy and Diversity, a nationwide program for high school students who come together over a weekend to learn about the history of America's religious liberty and current threats to this rich tradition.

She is an active member of The Unitarian Church in Westport, CT and currently serves on its board and executive committee. After Denny majored in political science at Vassar College, graduating in 1953, she wrote promotion copy for *The New Yorker*, *TIME* and *LIFE* magazines. Eventually she founded her own advertising, marketing and public relations agency, Davidoff and Partners, Inc. which she sold in 1990. She lives in Bridgeport, CT and is the mother of two sons and grandmother of four.

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Also coming with Denny Davidoff will be her close friend the Rev. Olivia Holmes, currently minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Burlington, VT. For information about Rev. Holmes, please go to <http://revholmes.org> to read about her and check out a recent sermon at www.uusociety.org/sermons?s=367. This excellent "sermon on the amount" also includes quotes from Denny Davidoff and her late husband Jerry. Other recent sermons are also at www.uusociety.org/sermons.

Lois Carpenter