



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley
929 15th St., Greeley, co 80631
970-351-6751
February Unifax 2018

Helping you grow spiritually, live meaningfully, and have the courage to help heal the world.

Join us for Sunday Services at 10:00am

Childcare for babies and toddlers every Sunday during services. Find out more at

www.greeleyuuc.org.

970-351-6751 or Find us on Facebook.

Office Hours: M, W, TH 10a-12p /Tue 9a-11a and Fridays 1p-3p

Worship Liberally

February 4th- "How Do We Work Things Out?"

Rev. Barry Bloom

Staying together with your spouse, partner, friend, child, parent, church over the long haul takes a lot of persistence. And forgiveness, and kindness, and compassion. It is much easier at times to leave rather than stick it out. There are many real, and imagined reasons to do so. It is always a judgement call, isn't it? Perseverance in the warm, loving light of honesty and care can help us stay and change things for the better.

RE: Chapel On Perseverance

February 11th- "Ecosystem Activism: Finding Our Work in the Wilderness"

Christopher Watkins-Lamb

What are we called to cultivate in the midst of troubled times? What must we let go of? The answers are in the ways we practice relationship with the ecosystems in which we are embedded.

Perhaps we can learn a new kind of hope from the wild spaces both inside and around us.

RE: Introduction to the Rainbow path

February 18th- "Perseverance in pursuit of the Holy"

Rev. Barry Bloom

Huston Smith spent his lifetime studying and practicing religions and religious practice. Growing up in China, the son of Methodist missionaries, got him started in the quest that would take him around the world many times over. His book, the World's Religions, has given millions a view into religious worlds that informed and inspired. I feel honored to bring him into our sanctuary.

RE: Chapel

February 25th- "Cherish Your Doubts"–

Rev. Dana Lightsey

We like to be sure about things and we like to know what to expect. It is comforting to be clear about our beliefs, yet there are times when our world-view is shaken and doubt begins to erode away our solid perspective. This doesn't usually feel like a gift, but it often is one of the best gifts life has to offer.

RE: Rainbow Crow

Rev. Barry Blooms Reflections

Having experienced Jim and Kathy Vaughn's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration last Sunday, I am struck once again about how much perseverance it takes to carry out a commitment to a long-term relationship. It came to mind as clearly as it did because that is our service theme for February: Perseverance. The willingness to make a long-term commitment and stick to it, no matter what, in the Vaughn's case. Amanda and I have been together for a little less than 30 years and I understand some of what that means. By these examples I don't mean that couples should stay together no matter what when meanness and violence, disloyalty and dishonesty arise. Sometimes it takes great perseverance to end a relationship when it is appropriate. My first marriage ended that way, and it needed to. Recently I re-read the autobiography of Huston Smith, "Tales of Wonder." He is one of my heroes. Author of "The World's Religions" that sold more than 3 million copies (one of the best-selling religious books of all time) it was used in college classes for the study of religion and comparative religions for decades. It was, in truth, the world's religions as studied by, and EXPERIENCED BY Smith. He spent much of his life becoming deeply immersed and practicing each of the religions he studied. His five-part series of interviews with Bill Moyers about those experiences won an Emmy award. For a number of reasons, I went to Berkeley, CA, to visit him at his home a few years ago. He was 91, almost 92 at the time. He died a year ago at age 97. I want to share some of that experience under the heading of this month's theme because I know of no person who was more persistent about the study of the religious experience on Earth than Huston. I hope all of you are well and are surviving the big warm UPS of the weather paired with crashing DOWNS, like last Sunday. The drive from Greeley to Golden was, at times, scary, as that good Northern Plains wind covered the road with snow drifts and made seeing ahead, well, challenging. But we made it safely. Then,

Amanda, like many of you, came crashing down with the worst Hong Kong flu. The day after our sewer backed up into the house. But that's a story for another time. Persistence in the face of challenge. Right??

See you in church.

Peace.

Rev Barry

Your Board At Work

A.A. Latimer wrote that a budget was "a mathematical confirmation of your suspicions." Honestly, I don't like budgets, probably because they are always unpredictable and take up so much time. Still, underneath all that we fiscally, is our mission to foster spiritual growth, serve humanity, and understand ourselves and our universe. We have been hard at work looking toward the new church year, although it seems as though we just have barely gotten into this one yet, here we are. We will be doing our pledge drive soon to ensure we know where we stand going into the 2018-2019 year ahead. We have added a bookkeeper who will be helping us now and then with QuickBooks (QB), as technology is not something that will go away. We need to ensure that our office manager and volunteer board member's roles are supplemented by the appropriate support and this has proven a necessity this year. It has been a challenge finding board members, as you all know, and especially challenging finding someone with the necessary QB skills to help keep us with fiscal management. Thus, we have brought on board a QB specialist who will be able to help us on **an as needed** basis and someone who will be available to future boards to help with continuity. We have also been working on improving some of our security, with adding a doorbell during office hours. Fortunately, we haven't had any serious problems, but we would like to keep it that way going forward. As a result, you will also notice that the junipers on the south side of the church have been cut back a great deal and we do need to consider adding lighting on the south side of the church. It is important we are able to ensure a safe environment for staff and visitors.
Julie Miller, Board President

Next Board Meeting Feb. 21 @ 11:30 am

Treasures Report for Jan. 1, 2018

Banking as of January 1 st , 2018	
Savings (Statements are quarterly)	\$41978.79
Checking as of Jan. 1, 2018	\$ 2587.56
Deposits	\$ 4090.13
Expenses	\$ 3035.25
Ending Checking Balance	\$ 3642.44
Total Monies	\$45621.23

Contacting UUCG Staff and Board

Rev. Barry Bloom: revbarrybloom@gmail.com
Sharlene Meydell - Treasurer :
smshardesign@gmail.com
Julie Miller – Board President:
Jmilleruucg@gmail.com
Kathy Vaughn – Vice President of the Board:
Kathy.jinka@gmail.com

Contact Julie Miller with any care or concerns at Jmilleruucg@gmail.com or Margaret Chiniquy at office_manager@greeleyuuc.org or 970-351-6751.

Gather in a Caring Community

Chalice Arts

The Chalice Arts group is seeking artists or an art show idea. Please contact Kathy Vaughn: Kathy.jinka@gmail.com or Kristina Bain: jeff.kristina@centurylink.net with your ideas.

The Japanese Day of Remembrance

The Day of Remembrance (DOR) is a day commemorating the Japanese American internment during World War II. Events in numerous U.S. states are held on or near February 19, the day in 1942 that Executive Order 9066 was signed, requiring internment of all Americans of Japanese ancestry. This event, sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will honor this observance at **Joe Molina Gallery 930 8th Ave in Greeley on Thursday Feb 15 at 11:30 am 1:00 pm.** Please join us and invite your friends, family and coworkers.

Grow In Spirit



Youth Religious Education

We start our Spring classes this month. The classes are

"The Rainbow Path: Our Unitarian Universalist Principles". Children will learn about our Principles and discover ways to express them in their own words. In learning about the Principles, the children will learn that they can act on our UU Principles in simple ways every day, not just at church. Thanks to Josette Schaffer, Shelley Gaza, and Kathy Vaughn & Margaret Chiniquy for teaching in the month of January. Miles Holcomb is the RE Coordinator and Maggie Bryant is the RE Assistant.

February 4- Chapel on Perseverance
February 11- Introduction to the Rainbow path
February 18- Chapel
February 25- Rainbow Crow

Lead and Manage Mindfully

The standing ministry group meetings are as follows:

Choir Blurb

Choir practices the 1st and 2nd Sundays of Every Month, after service, and perform on the 3rd Sunday of every month. If you enjoy singing please feel free to join. Thank you, Sam Henline, UUCG Accompanist.

Spirituality, Religion and Conversation
Is Cancelled until further notice.

Worship Committee –

We meet the first Sunday of each month immediately following the service, and we'd love to see you there! Do you have an idea for a guest speaker that you'd like to invite to our church? Have a knack for public speaking and would like to help lead a service? Or, just looking for a way to get more involved in the church? Then join the UUCG Worship Committee! Questions? Email

Shelly or Brian Gaza at:
shellygaza@mac.com or briangaza@mac.com

<https://faithify.org/projects/make-sanctuary-possible-in-boulder/>
Rev. Kelly Dingan

BOOK CLUB

Book Club Meets every 3rd Thursday of the Month. We will be meeting on **February 18th, 1pm at Your Place Coffee, 2308 W 17th St, Greeley, CO 80631.**

The Social Justice Circle

The Social Justice Circle Meets on **the 2nd Tuesday of the Month** We are currently working on "**The Bare Necessities Project**" The purpose of this first "Bare Necessities Project" is to assemble a survival packet for homeless teens in Weld School District 6. The packet will contain **travel size** hygiene items such as hand sanitizer, wet wipes, tissues, shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, tampons, pads, razors, deodorant, comb or brush. Collection of items will begin immediately and continue until:

Saturday February 24, 10:00 am which time we will have a Potluck Brunch, sort and package the items for the youth and have a short ceremony of gratitude. Beginning February 25, we will begin the next "Bare Necessities Project" by collecting for homeless in Greeley. Another list of items will be provided at that time. We will then have another opportunity to meet for Potluck Brunch in the spring. Thank you in advance for supplying the items or asking your friends, dentist, barber, hairdresser etc. to contribute.

Giving in Gratitude

Hi My Dear Colleagues and Friends:

We've been running a very successful **Faithify campaign** to support our work as a Sanctuary Host Congregation. As you probably know, if we don't hit our goal, we won't get any of the funds already dedicated. And we're so close!! We have only \$727 left to raise. We could use your help in the next two weeks. Could you include this message and link in your online newsletters and Facebook pages? Help UU Church of Boulder make Sanctuary possible:

Grocery Certificates

Are you ready to do some easy shopping and support our church at the same time? How does 8% back to the church sound? Please come by the gift card table in the foyer or **contact Josette at 381-7891** or josetteschaffer@msn.com to find out more

Don't forget to refill your King Soopers Cards. The church receives 5% of your purchase.

Please Recycle

Have you Noticed Our (2) Blue Recycling Bins in the Church? One is located by the North Entrance under our information station. The other is located in the Barbara Bowles Room by the East entrance.

Happy Birthday!



Woody Meyers – 4
Jane Wheeler – 5
Griffen Meyers – 7
Maceo Mendez – 14
Anna Nadas – 21
Ginger Suttle – 24
Eleanor Gaza – 26

If we forgot your February Birthday, please let us know- we would love to add yours to the list! Send an email to office_manager@greeleyuuc.org. Birthdays are celebrated every first Sunday with cake!

Reviving the UUCG Birthday Fund

Our first UU Principle affirms “the inherent worth and dignity of every person.” This means that, “It’s a blessing you were born,” as the catchy song we sing says! Blessings lead to gratitude, and the privilege of “paying it forward.” We say in our service each week, “we are blessed, and so we are called to be a blessing.” Have you recently been blessed with another year of life? Have you been blessed by someone else’s life? Either way, the tradition of the UUCG Birthday Fund offers an opportunity to bless UUCG with an amount of money equal to the number of years of life (your own, or that of a person who has blessed you with their presence). Our seventh UU Principle affirms “respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” Maybe you would like to contribute in honor of another year in the life of your beloved pet, a beloved tree/river/garden, or some other way to honor the interdependent web of life? Maybe you would like to honor the loss of a life you held dear (person, animal or nature)? Maybe you would like to begin teaching your children about honoring the gift of life, UU principles, generosity, paying it forward, etc. by helping them contribute on their birthdays, or that of a pet or another part of the interdependent web when you are out in nature? Simply write a check with “birthday fund” in the memo, or place cash in an envelope with “birthday fund” written on the outside. Each month as we report in the Unifax how much money we’ve taken in with pledges and offerings in the plate, we will also report how much we’ve taken in for our Birthday Fund.

Please help us revive this UUCG tradition which reminds us of the quote by Albert Schweitzer, “What we call love is in its essence reverence for life.

Ministerial Search

You may have noticed the ministerial job advertisement on the website, as well as in the Pacific Western Regional Newsletter. Unfortunately, the delay in getting the job posting into the newsletter was due to the tremendous storms that hit the East Coast. The UUA headquarters suffered water damage and their server was down for some time. Unfortunately, we did not have any congregants to turn to in helping to control the weather! All we have to do now is keep passing the message on we are looking and see what results from doing so. It has been my pleasure to serve as President of your BOT for the last few months and I take great pride in the time and energy your board spends in ensuring we have a lovely building, and a warm and safe place for all who enter it. Kathy Wise, currently in AZ, has also been working remotely via Skype or email. That’s dedication in action! I am always moved by the generosity of our congregation and friends. We still have a lot of work to be done in the next few months so consider how you might be a part of that.
Julie Miller, President BOT