

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

## June 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 will be provided  
every Sunday during services.

Find out more at  
[www.greeleyuuc.org](http://www.greeleyuuc.org)

or  
find us on Facebook

**Worship Liberally**

### **June 3rd- “Blessing”**

#### **Rev. Barry Bloom**

Blessing is the theme for the month. How perfect. Because that is exactly what I want to give you in this service. Native peoples the world over have taught us Westerners that “getting” is not where it’s at, it is “giving” that brings us together and fuels the spirit of our community. The Navajo “Blessing Way” is one way to bring well being to all. We will practice blessing each other and I get to practice blessing you!

**Please Join Us for Rev. Barry’s’ Honoring Ceremony following the Service.**

RE: Chapel on Blessings

### **June 10<sup>th</sup>- “Pride Sunday”**

#### **Julie Miller**

A voice play done by members of the congregation focusing on the stories from voices

of the LGBTQ+ community, and their families, friends, and allies. We hope to see you there!

RE: Yertle the Turtle – Principal #5

### **June 17<sup>th</sup>- “A Father’s Day Service”**

#### **Rev. Barry Bloom**

A Father’s Day service. “Dad” has caught a lot of heat in recent times. Especially traditional dads, who some treat now as the “spawn of the devil.” In this service, my last one with you, we will look at what’s good about dads, and at how many loving dads have blessed their families in ways that made all the difference in their lives. Come prepared to honor and bless your dads, and or forgive. So that everyone can move on together.

RE: The Butter Battle – Principal #6

### **June 24<sup>th</sup> “The Blessings of Music & Friends”**

**Kathy Vaughn & UUCG Accompanist Sam Henline.**

## Rev. Barry Bloom's Reflections

Well, this is my last time to write to you in this way. I will be leading the services on June 3 and June 17, then will officially end my time as your minister on June 30. As I said at the Congregational Meeting, there is both deep sadness and a sense of joy that I am experiencing. The sadness is daily now as I begin ending my time with you. These two years have been filled with the satisfaction of growing relationships with many of you, leading services that brought, I hope, spiritual depth, and getting to know Greeley and its challenges. Good stuff all. The joy comes from knowing that it is time for me to slow down and shift priorities. I will not, again, serve as the minister of a church. I will still be a guest minister when asked and fill in for a short time if there is a need in a UU church. I plan to do some volunteer work as a hospice chaplain. I also want to participate in a local school program where volunteers do storytelling and reading to little kids. Working with those from each end of life's journey feels just right for me now.

As I did at the Congregational Meeting, I do want to apologize to all of you for my limited energy and capacity during these two years. I do not have the vitality I once did. I am recovering. I walk at least a couple of miles every day and do the exercises the physical therapists gave me for my knee. My sight is better but is still quite limiting. As a result, I have not been able to do all of what you and I would expect me to do if I were fully living out my ministry with you. So, I apologize for things I didn't do, as a result of things which happened to me over which I had no control. In the big picture, this is such a beautiful spring with green everywhere, I hope we all can enjoy it. It is not always so. And as you do, know that I believe that UUCG is going to be just fine. Aaron seems like a good fit as your new minister. He will bring new initiatives that I hope you will enthusiastically support. It is time that you lead with your better selves and take Unitarian Universalism in Greeley to the place you all want it to be. I will be rooting for you. And prayerfully hoping that your wildest dreams come true!!

Love,  
Barry

## Board News

The Congregational Meeting was well attended on May 20th. The budget was accepted and as a result we are in the process of contracting with a new minister. Unfortunately, we did have to reduce some staff hours, but it is hoped that the new year may bring us fruition so that those can be restored. Remember, you can also revise your pledge throughout the year and any additional funds are always welcome. The BOT members for the 2018-2019 Church Year were voted in: Julie Miller will be remaining as President, Kathy Wise will be the incoming Vice President, Treasurer - Kathy Vaughn, and Josette Schaeffer will be joining the board as Secretary. The new member at large will be Sharlene Meydell. "Thanks" were given to 2017-2018 Board members for their hard work on the following tasks: The Church Survey and recruitment process for a new minister, hiring of a professional bookkeeper to assist with parallel tracking of church funds in QuickBooks, the many hours of meetings dealing with the assignments and daily tasks of running the church including all the maintenance inside and outside, fundraisers, renters, and any plethora of things seen and unseen. Appreciation was giving to several donors including: The Judith Meyers Family (monies, piano, and artwork), Bill and Jean Thomas (Projector, microphone, and monies), Ron Chiniquy (Projector, food for BBQ, turkeys for Thanksgiving donation, office computer, sprinkler work, plumbing repairs, and ongoing tasks), Kathy & Jim Vaughn (Vacuum Cleaner), Karen Clugston (Choir music and tree trimming), Hollis & Tim Berendt (Hollis for Social Justice work, Marketing, and Choir, and Tim for A/V and Sign), and Julie Miller (coffee maker) - **Best investment ever!!**

**Julie Miller, Board President**

## Treasurer's Report for May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Banking as of May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2018	
Savings ( <b>statements are quarterly</b> )	\$38,011.14
Checking as of April 1, 2018	\$ 4,497.45
Deposits	\$ 8,114.84
Expenses Cleared	\$ 3,656.61
Expenses Un-Cleared	\$ 2,995.30
Ending Checking Balance	\$ 5,990.38
Total Monies	\$44,001.52

**Sharlene Meydell, Treasurer**

## Contacting UUCG Staff and Board

**Rev. Barry Bloom:**

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Contact Julie Miller at [jmilleruucg@gmail.com](mailto:jmilleruucg@gmail.com) or Margaret Chiniquy with any care or concerns at 970-351-6751.

## Gather in a Caring Community

### Volunteers and Ideas Needed

The Worship Committee is busy making plans for summer services and we need YOU! If you are able to lend a hand this summer (either in planning services or leading them), please email the committee co-chairs and let us know: Brian Gaza ([briangaza@mac.com](mailto:briangaza@mac.com)) and Shelly Gaza ([shelly.gaza@unco.edu](mailto:shelly.gaza@unco.edu)). We're looking forward to hearing your ideas!

### The Book Club

The Book Club **meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1pm at Your Place Coffee.**

Anyone is welcome to drop in! The selection for June 21 will be Philippa Gregory's The Lady of the Rivers.

## Grow In Spirit



**Youth Religious Education- Miles Holcomb, RE Coordinator**

We would like to thank Deandra Eubanks and Kathy Vaughn for filling in while Miles was away.

**June 3rd-** Chapel on Blessings

**June 10th-** Yertle the Turtle – Principal #5

**June 17th-** The Butter Battle – Principal #6

**June 24th-** Play Sunday

## Lead and Manage Mindfully

The standing ministry group meetings are as Follows:

Board of Trustees- **Third Sundays** 11:15am-1:15pm

## Happy Birthday!



Sally Peterson – 2  
Ashley Oxton – 3  
Jean Thomas - 4  
Clyde Edmiston – 4  
Andy Culver – 23  
Shelly Gaza – 25  
John Clark – 28

If we forgot your June Birthday, please let us know- we would love to add yours to the list! Send an email to [officemanager@greeleyuuc.org](mailto:officemanager@greeleyuuc.org) Birthdays are celebrated every first Sunday with cake.

## Giving in Gratitude

### UUSC - Guest at your Table

We were able to collect \$205 for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee in May 2018. Thank you to all who donated!

## The Social Justice Group

The Social Justice Group **will not** be meeting in the summer but **will continue The Bare Necessities Project by collecting clothes for the Greeley Clothing Bank.** If you have any questions please contact Hollis Berendt at [hollisbeth28@gamil.com](mailto:hollisbeth28@gamil.com)  
Thank you for your donations!

## SHOP FIRST AT UUCG



**Do you have \$5 in cash or check? You can take that \$5 and buy a King Soopers card on Sunday morning at church. Then take it to the store and load it up with any amount you want..\$25...\$31..\$74..etc**

**(whatever amount), and the Church will receive 5% back every time you reload. Reload before you purchase your items, simply hand your card with cash, check, debit or credit card to the cashier and tell them how much you would like on your card. There are no strings attached. You can still get the specials and can use coupons. UUCG gets 5% of what you buy! ITS THAT EASY..**

**We will continue selling Sprouts and Safeway cards in \$100**

## 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.”

## Congregants Corner

### 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.

### Fresh Farm Eggs For Sale

Kathy Vaughn owns "Happy Chickens" Laying Fresh Farm Eggs! Those eggs can be found in the Fridge at the UUCG for \$3.00 a carton. There is an envelope provided for your convenience!

## Thank You!

### **Thank you!**

Eulice Kogovsek and Kathy Vaughn for the many hours spent organizing the Garage sale. All the volunteers who worked with them, including Hollis Berendt, Jim Vaughn, Josette Schaffer, Atulya Johnson, Rosemary Edmiston, Margaret Chiniquy, Fedelina Mendez, Pat Raaf. **And thank you to all those who generously made donations - and there were a lot!** Even through the rain and occasional downpour, we raised about \$414 (with additional donations still coming in). It was an amazing feat to receive the donations, conduct the sale, and return the

church into working order within 72 hours -  
UUCG's community spirit at work!

### Spring Clean Up 2018

#### **Thank YOU Iglesia Apostolica and UU!**

We had PERFECT weather and GREAT help! Thanks to our renters Iglesia Apostolica and Dennis Francen, Jim Shearer, Kathy Wise, Karen Clugston, The Vaughn's, Julie Miller, The Chiniquy's, Keila Cason, Deandra Eubanks, and Kristina Bain for all your time put into the inside and outside of our church! Look for pictures on the last page of the June Unifax!



### A Special Note From Your BOT President

I find it extremely hard to believe we have made one more circle around the sun as a congregation. I cannot put into words the hard work, blood, sweat and yes, the occasional tears that went into this last year. Recruiting a new minister takes an amazing amount of planning and time, along with the usual board responsibilities of managing a church. It's the stories, though, that touch my heart the most. Many of us have this same story of finding a UU Church a place of acceptance, a place of community we can finally call home, albeit by surprise - something we need to continue working on. Our seemingly best kept secret of who we are as an open and accepting faith community can often be revealed in the strangest of places, including that of a simple conversation at a

garage sale. It's a secondary reward to UUCG and our faith community from hosting so many groups and events.

Other opportunities for sharing who we are have included: UUCG Youth group for a weekend, SPLASH dances and Poetry Slam (LGBTQ+ youth), Greeley SOS (LGBTQ+, elders), Iglesia Apostolica (Latino community), Narcotics Anonymous, Klezmer Event (music and remembrance of those who died during the Holocaust), weddings, homeless teens and adults, We have supported food pantries both locally and nationally (Guadalupe Center (food and turkeys), Weld County Food Bank, Houston food pantry (hurricane donation), local families received Thanksgiving turkeys (Thank you Ron Chiniquy!), Chalice Arts has featured several local artists and their work through regular displays in the Sanctuary. In support of our environment, we have hosted internationally known lecturer and author, Jeffrey Lockwood (thank you, Rosemary and Clyde Edmiston), as well as the Citizen's Climate Lobby. And there are many, many others.

I must also take time to thank Reverend Bloom for all his time, efforts, and energy in working with UUCG the past two years. It has been a pleasure for many of us and we wish you well wherever your road may take you. I know you will be doing a lot of volunteering, but please know our door will always be open and you will be welcome to worship with us. We look forward to hearing an occasional message or two, as well. It has been a joy to share your time, as well as having your contributions to the congregation. Thank you, also, to Amanda for her contributions to the board retreat, the choir, and the support you have supplied for Barry, as well as the UUCG family. I know I speak for many, when I say, we all look forward to our paths crossing with the both of you in the future.

Someone wrote, "Opportunities are often disguised as hard work." Fortunately, our UUCG village is full of hard workers. I am so very thankful for the amazing volunteers, supporters, and cheerleaders even from afar that keep our community up and running. Are you ready for one more circle around the sun? I am. So, let's get busy.

Julie Miller, BOT President