



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

929 15th St., Greeley, co 80631

970-351-6751

January 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

January 7th- *"What do you desire?"*

Rev. Barry Bloom

According to the dictionary *"an intentional action is a function to accomplish a desired goal and is based on the belief that the course of action will satisfy a desire."* What desires do you have? The word desire is used in lots of areas. It has some juice to it. An intention is the mental picture that puts it into motion. Intentionality is the action. At the beginning of this new year we will find out what our desires are for 2018 and declare our intentions.

RE: Chapel on intention

January 14th- *"Commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr."*

Shelly Gaza

RE: Soul Collage – Art For Your Soul

January 21st- *"MLK as a role model"*

Rev. Barry Bloom

Martin Luther King, Jr carried out a prolonged effort as the head of a movement to bring civil rights alive for African-Americans and other besieged minorities in the US, affecting millions around the world as well. What can we learn from his powerful intention? Despite obstacles that would stop many lesser souls in their tracks, he persevered till the moment of his untimely death. How can we learn from his life, his leadership, his courage and strength, to be better human beings? May we learn how to continue to fulfill his mission, one person, one day, at a time.

RE: Theatre Practice

January 28th- *"TBD"* –

Julie Miller

RE: Music & Meditation

Rev. Barry Blooms Reflections

The theme for January is Intention. That is certainly timely for the first part of a new year. What is our intention for our lives in the coming year?? Both individually, and corporately (i.e. the church). Do we have a plan, an intention, for the future? Or are we content to drift and allow each day to present itself as it is, and follow the direction the winds blow? Both have merit you know. It can best be explained as a left brain/right brain thing and it can also lead to a meaningful conversation on what does it mean to live the "right" kind of life?? Many indigenous peoples around the world become amused at our white people's way of being wedded to the clock. When my friend, a Lakota medicine man, would say he would meet you around noon on Thursday, you might see him that day or not. Depends on whether something of delight or spiritual importance caught his attention. When one is not wedded to TIME, or carrying out a precise intention, there is more time for spirit to nudge us into consciousness. Which can guide us to our less often visited deeper selves. Imagination can be more alive, too, when demands are not urgently pushing us to fulfill all the goals of the day NOW. Speaking of intention, my hope for us all is that we thoughtfully prepare ourselves for this New Year by seriously considering what we want to accomplish in 2018. Consider the stuck places first, those things you want to release, let go of. Then, in the bright places you find in this newly liberated space fill in your deepest desires and wishes for yourself and loved ones, etc. during this evolving year I love being your minister and I look forward to the time we have together in 2018, and beyond, as precious. I am blessed.

Your Board At Work

I came across this quote the other day by Dave Gynn: *"Don't ever question the value of volunteers, Noah's Ark was built by volunteers. The Titanic was built by professionals."* Of course, one may challenge the idea of the ark, but I never challenge the power of volunteers. It's what powers UUCG. There aren't always instructions for leadership, but we, as a Board, go forward with the hope and belief that we are here as selected volunteer lay leaders to help lead UUCG into the future. Completing the survey was a big step in helping provide direction for the us as we undertake the process of searching for a minister for the upcoming year. We continue focusing on providing financial stability and dealing with the foreseeable tasks of the upcoming year with the hope we will also be able to keep us on course with the unforeseeable ones. And, we do hope to have a fundraising event next year, along with having an early Pledge Drive to shore up our budget, prior to the arrival of a new minister. I was once again reminded of our rich history as we recently lost a past board President and longtime UUCG member, Jean Fleming. I never had the opportunity to meet Jean or her partner, Ruth Zachary, but have a great appreciation for her role in bringing us to this day as a congregation. Many congregants and lay leaders have gone before us and many will follow. Many of you, too, know the tremendous energy and time that goes into simply providing a service on Sunday, because we have a pool of past and present leadership sitting in our pews or running activities at the church each week. This holiday season, as I prepare and WE prepare as a board and congregation to enter a new year together, do not question your value to UUCG. It was built by volunteers and we are 50+ years in existence. The Titanic, at the time of its demise was the largest ship in the world and well, you know the rest. I have often heard it, "We are small but mighty!" Nothing wrong with that. Nothing at all. As this year ends, let us be thankful for all that we have accomplished and look forward to what the New Year yet may hold.

Next Board Meeting Jan. 21 @ 11:30 am

Treasures Report for Dec. 2017

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|---|-------------|
| Banking as of December 1 st , 2017 | |
| Savings (Statements are quarterly) | \$41,969.88 |
| Checking as of Dec. 1, 2017 | \$ 5,186.06 |
| Deposits | \$ 9,270.11 |
| Expenses | \$ 3,130.13 |
| Ending Checking Balance | \$ 2,055.93 |
| Total Monies | \$44,025.81 |

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 Magaret Chiniquy at office_manager@greeleyuuc.org or 970-351-6751.

Gather in a Caring Community

Chalice Arts

The Chalice Arts Working Group would like to thank Dennis Francen, Jim Shearer, Kathy Wise, Eulice Kogovsek, Ana Schultz, Ron Chiniquy, Sarah Vaughn, Kathy and Jim Vaughn for loaning us art for our sanctuary, the walls are full! Thank you to Krisitna Bain for the fresh evergreen wreaths. Thank you to Julie Miller for freshening up Judith Meyers' UU Paper cut. It looks great center stage! We will be displaying the art through January.

Worship Committee –

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! We meet the first Sunday of each month immediately following the service, and we'd love to see you there. Questions? Email Shelly or Brian Gaza at:

shellygaza@mac.com or briangaza@mac.com

BOOK CLUB

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

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.

Grow In Spirit



Youth Religious Education

For the month of January, we will work on Spiritual

Practices. These will include a Soul Collage, Theatre Practice, and Music & Meditation. Miles Holcomb, our RE Coordinator, returns from Winter break. With Maggie Bryant, as our Childcare assistant.

January 7- Chapel on intention

January 14- Soul Collage – Art For Your Soul

January 21- Theatre Practice

January 28- Music & Meditation

Lead and Manage Mindfully

The standing ministry group meetings are as follows:

Spirituality, Religion and Conversation

We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley. Please plan on joining us on **January 9th, 2018** to watch "Food Evolution" a movie which investigates the polarized debate surrounding GMOs & our food. Narrated by Neil deGrasse Tyson, (Astrophysicist, and is the director of the Hayden Planetarium at the Rose Center for Earth and Space in NYC.) Neil, wrestles with the emotions and science driving one of the most heated arguments of our time.

The Social Justice Circle

The Social Justice Circle Meets on the **2nd Tuesday of the Month. Next Meeting is January 9th at 9:30 am.** We will be accepting food and warm clothes through the end of December. 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

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 josetteschafer@msn.com to find out more

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



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Coffee

We use Equal Exchange Fairly Traded coffee and most teas. A portion of our purchase helps fund the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, our UU outreach service organization. Equal

Exchange trades fairly and directly with 40 small-scale farmer cooperatives worldwide. In The future look for our donation jar and help us support those who support others!

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.

Looking for a Donation

Hauling: We need to haul away the juniper bushes/brush clean-up along the 15th Street boulevard. The estimated cost to do so is \$300. Or, do you have a truck and time that you can donate to assist in the process?

Sign: For promotional and tabling events or in general to welcome people into the church, we are hoping to purchase a banner with UUCG/logo - indoor/outdoor with metal grommets. Approx. Cost \$40.

If you are able to assist, please contact Julie Miller

Happy Birthday!



Marcia Free – 14
Doug Merck – 15
Shell Hanselman- 15
Denise Pearson – 20
Debbie Peyton – 24
August Gaza - 25

If we forgot your January 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.

The Lord’s Prayer. Translated directly from Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke

Oh Cosmic Birther of all radiance and vibration. Soften the ground of our being and carve out a space within us where your Presence can abide. Fill us with your creativity so that we may be empowered to bear the fruit of your mission. Let each of our actions bear fruit in accordance with Your desire. Endow us with the wisdom to produce and share what each being needs to grow. And flourish. Untie the tangled threads of destiny that bind us, as we release others from the entanglement of past mistakes. Do not let us be seduced by that which would divert us from our true purpose. But illuminate the opportunities of the present moment.

For you are the ground and the fruitful vision, the birth-power and fulfillment, as all is gathered and made whole again.

Ministerial Search

From your Board President, Julie Miller: The Board Of Trustees, will be keeping you updated on the ministerial search each month right here. **The surveys are in and the results have been shared. If you would like more information about the survey results, you can find them on the website at <http://www.greeleyuuc.org>. Select the "About" tab and go to the "Members Only" section. You will need a password to access this section, so please contact Margaret if you need this. If you need help with this, please let Julie Miller know. We also have these available in print.** Timelines have been established, informational packets are being compiled for potential candidates, I have been in contact with the Pacific Western Region and Mountain Desert District to publicize the position. Let the journey begin and let us be the energy we wish to attract!

Leadership in Action

We Are Grateful for our Board President, Julie Miller! She is making our building a safer and more beautiful place. Julie spent an entire day replacing burnt out bulbs around the exterior building, cutting junipers, cleaning up garbage left outside the church, and shoveling snow. We don't know what energizes her, but she is **AMAZING!**