



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

July Unifax 2019

*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
or
find us on Facebook

Worship Liberally

July Theme: Regeneration

Thoughts from the minister about our Theme: "Our theme in the month of July is Regeneration. Regeneration means literally to be born again. The concept of regeneration is an emotional mixed bag. On the one hand it calls on us to give new life to something potentially marvelous, but on the other hand, it requires something old to give way to something new. So, while there is promise of a "do-over" there is also a reality that things will not go on as they had before. One of the great consolations in this ever-renewing system however is that nothing is ever really gone either, simply remade anew."

Date	Officiant
7/7/19	Kathy Vaughn
7/14/19	Joint Summer Service with Namaqua Congregation
7/21/19	Shelly and Brian Gaza
7/28/19	Julie Miller

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,
Rev. Aaron Norris
Minister

Contacting UUCG Staff and Board

Reverend Aaron Norris: minister@greeleyuuc.org Board
President, Julie Miller: jmilleruucg@gmail.com
Board Vice President
Board Treasurer, Kathy Vaughn Kathy.jinka@gmail.com
Board Member At Large, Sharlene Meydell
smahrdesign@gmail.com
Board Member at Large Janelle Helling
janelle.helling@gmail.com
Board Secretary, Josette Bond josettebond@outlook.com

Ministerial Musings

Friends,
Ministerial Musings

Who ever said summer was a slow season for a Unitarian Universalist Church? June was a remarkably full month for me and my role at the church. I write to you on the back side of another General Assembly (GA) which was held in Spokane, Washington this year. As always, it was good to connect with fellow Unitarian Universalists from all over the country. Also, as always, there was a great deal of excitement in many of the conversations, some anxiety, a smidge of confusion, and a lot of enthusiasm. A lot of the proceedings were recorded and I would encourage those who could not attend to watch some of the proceedings. I was very proud to be able to carry our banner in the opening ceremonies. From what I could tell by the receipt pinned to the banner, the last time that happened our dear member Judy Meyers represented us. I was so honored to follow her lead. There was an act of public witness that we engaged in, helping the UU congregation in Spokane protest a proposed jail expansion and the larger issues of

money bail and mass incarceration. I collected a bunch of material in the vendors booths to bring back to our church -so of which is now on our literature rack and table, so please help yourself. My favorite part however might have been the powerful service of the youth and young adults in the synergy service which is put together by the young people at GA and recognizes their bridging from one stage of life to the other. The message I got loud in clear in that service is that they did not want to find they were abandoned now that they were young adults. As a congregation on the doorstep of a university, I think we are uniquely placed to hear that call and look forward to talking this year with all of you about how we can expand our community more fully to students from UNC.

The trip out and back was great for me as well. The landscapes of the intermountain west got me thinking a great deal about what stories we tell and what our environment tells us here in this part of the world. It's a long trip with lots of miles on the car through some very remarkable and varied landscapes. One of the stories of immediate consequence to our congregation that I go to participate in was the quick drop down I made after GA in Spokane to Moscow, Idaho where I got the chance to meet old church alumni Alice Fadner & Tom Woodrum. Tom was the celebrant in services and Alice was playing piano. They were warm and hospitable. Their new home church is lovely (and their planning some amazing expansions). Tom and Alice inquired about many of you and I enjoyed reporting back. If you haven't reached out in a while, I encourage you to do so. I know they think of you often.

I also want to highlight the experience we had at the Pridefest this year and thank those members of the church who were able to make it down. I was glad to see us represented by clergy, leadership, social justice, and even new friends. It was very exciting and I know that we made quite a statement. I heard people specifically call out "Hey, Greeley!" "That's a Greeley Church!" "Represent Greeley!" If folks from our community were down in Denver on that day (and I know they were), I'm sure that took notice and pride that we are the kind of faith community in Northern Colorado that will sacrifice to make our voice heard for all people. As well as remind our fellow UU's that we are kickin' up here in Northern Colorado.

Finally, I want to say how excited I was to see photos of the service that the congregation did while I was away. I know members of the Vaughn family worked hard on the service and I am glad so many were able to attend and celebrate on Sunday as a community.

I look forward to our month of Regeneration together, building on the successes of our past year and emerging

into a bright coming year. The shared service with Namaqua will be great and I think the board will come out of its retreat with some wonderful ideas and news.

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,
Rev. Aaron

Your Board at Work

I am so very proud of our accomplishments as a Board and as a Congregation. Our year has been an amazing experience, at least in my humble experience. We have added members, given amazing contributions to the community, and we, as a church, are becoming more visible to the Greeley Community. All, through the hard work of not only the Board, but all of you. To see 95% of our pledges increased for next year is very exciting. My interpretation is that you like what you see and perhaps even more importantly, what you are getting to experience. We have worked hard to provide the requests you address in our survey, prior to the hiring of Reverend Norris and it is working. One huge item that can be taken off the checklist is the replacement of the roof. We just received the final payment installment from the insurance company and that will be going out this week to the roofers, so it is all ours. The total cost was \$24,500 and we now have shingles that are more hail resistant. Of course, with the amount of rain we have had lately, no one can prevent the church from floating away, but it's a very solid building and we are so very fortunate to be able to serve our rich legacy and community with it. If you missed the Congregational Meeting, we recognized the many individuals who contribute regularly to our Worship, Religious Education, Hosts, AV team, Chalice Arts, Cleaning, Social Justice, Shared Ministry, Scrip, Coffee and Hospitality Teams. We took the time to also thank, Reverend Aaron Norris and Renee Racek for their continued work for our Church and Community. If you missed the video, we will be showing that in the fall. It's short, but fun, and highlights our year. We will be making plans for the utilization of the Matching Funds we have made and will be outlining the potential use for those as soon as we have the tally and a process identified by the new board. I hope you all are enjoying your summer, albeit a bit on the moist side. I know I am, as it's just nice to be able to get outside and enjoy some time with friends and family. It means you will be on the go, but so far, you should know, we still have people coming through the door. There were 5 new

attendees on Sunday June 23rd alone. We are making a difference to the community and to this world in which we live and honestly, that's what makes the work well worth the effort.

Julie Miller

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report- June 2019

Income \$ 7,038.25

Expenses \$ 4,172.38

Checking balance \$ 5,042.41

Savings balance \$ 33,078.93

Roof total \$ 24,500.00

Pathways to Membership

This class is designed to go over some of the basic history of Unitarian Universalism. It also helps you to better understand our congregation and see how you may deepen your involvement. It also is a great opportunity to meet others who are new to our church as well, but also have an interest in becoming more involved. While it is not required for membership, I highly recommend that you participate in this class as a first step to considering membership. The class is offered about once every six weeks or so and taught by our minister, Reverend Aaron Norris. The class takes about 90 minutes and follows a service. Whether you're a lifelong Unitarian Universalist or this is the first time you have ever walked into a UU Church, this is a great class to get acquainted with the Unitarian Universalist church of Greeley. Class dates are as follows: June 30th, 2019 & August 11th, 2019. Please follow copy this link and paste to your browser to sign up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtlytIGhhM4iFJIG8rzi-m3XqjMlyA7kvSQA_azCBQ/viewform

Buddhist and Meditation classes at UUC, Greeley

Second Tuesday each month 1:30-3 pm

Classes: July 9, August 13, September 9, October 6, November 12

Time: 1:30-2:15 pm - Dharma teachings

2:15-2:30 - Break

2:30-3:00 - Meditation

Suggested book: "What the Buddha Taught," by Walpola Rahula. Used copies are readily available on the internet at reasonable cost.

Mahayana tradition

additional information: janelle.helling@gmail.com

Grow in Spirit



Youth Religious Education

We will go to an informal schedule in the month of July.

We have two multi-gen services and on other Sundays we will provide drawing materials and puzzles for

children to do in the back of the Sanctuary.

Questions...contact Kathy Vaughn.

Gather in a Caring Community

PRIDE weekend service and potluck on Sunday, July 28th.

We will have our usual 10 AM service and then be having a potluck at 11:30AM. We will be welcoming participants to our home for the first event of its kind - PRIDE weekend in Greeley. The message will be delivered by Julie Miller and you are encouraged to bring a dish to pass as we host visitors, friends, families, and neighbors who may be joining us as we celebrate the power of love in making the world a better place for all.

The March at Denver PRIDE - from Julie Miller, President Board of Trustees

I wanted to take a moment and briefly mention my experience on Sunday, June 16th as I marched in my first PRIDE parade in Denver. I was accompanied by Reverend Norris and Amanda, Hollis Berendt, and a number of other Unitarians from Colorado. I wasn't at all sure what to expect, as there was an amazing number of entrees gathered at Cheeseman Park in Denver - well over 250. I will say that I was greatly impressed with the organization of the event, as it's no easy task to move a herd of people, floats, musicians, or any number of participants anywhere.

We mulled around and took photos and videos, as we waited for the parade to start. Then, history began to unwind. We began making our way out of the park to Colfax, rainbow colors flowing in anticipation of "the turn" on to the larger portion of the parade. Colfax is one of those well-known streets that is known simply by its singular name because of its centralization to Denver and its rich role in the city's history. The route makes a huge left turn as you turn on to the avenue and begin a slight flat portion of the route. But then? Well, Colfax slopes downward toward the Capital Building of our state and that's when my emotions really took over. When you are

at the peak of this long artery of the city, you have a view of our amazing mountain range and the rest of the route. I quietly, whispered, "Wow!" as we began our ascent. To say it was a sea of people, might very well be an understatement. Estimates were close to half a million people in attendance that day, so imagine your horizon filled with dots of humanity. I took a moment to think back on how all of this started with a few individuals in a small dingy bar in New York on a street, not at all unlike Colfax. I thought of the many, many people who have died to get us to this place in our history and those who would never be able to see what I was gifted. I thought of how thankful I was that I could now share my life with my wife and come to a place like this and feel complete. And I also thought of how incredibly proud I was to be carrying our Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley banner - not just any banner, but OUR banner. There were shouts of, "Yea, Greeley!" "Woo, woo, Greeley!" "Thank you, Unitarians!" And the shouts weren't from here and there, all along the entire route, people clapped and shouted. I think my face was frozen in a smile the whole route. To say I was proud? Nah! There just are no words to describe that day. It's that deep guttural joy of recognizing and seeing in a sea of faces what it's like to be a part of something meaningful in how we treat each other and living that difference. It is the concrete reality of realizing that what we do, what I do as a Unitarian matters, not only as a member of UUCG and the LGBTQ+ community, but as a member of humanity. It is all of us - as individuals - that form this sea of change and change doesn't often start with something big. It starts with a seat on a bus or a small dingy bar on a street, a street not unlike Colfax, or a banner. For the LGBTQ+ community, there were in fact, many other moments like Stonewall, but something changed that night. I wish for all of you, your Stonewall, your Colfax, your fill in the blank. On June 16th, 2019, I was extremely proud to be a member of the LGBTQ+ community, but even more proud to be a member of The Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley - Greeley! May we continue in love to help embrace change in facing a sea of injustice in our everyday world and my those who struggle with injustice always know our doors are open.

Upcoming Events

Choir Announcement

July 2019 NO CHOIR Practice or Performances as our music director will be out of town. See you in August 2019.

Social Justice Ministry

Meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month at 11:00. The next meeting is July 15th. Please come and help plan our future projects.

Thanks,
Hollis Berendt and Ana Schultz co-chairs.

Clothing Drive

The Social Justice Ministry will begin a clothing drive starting in July through the end of September 2019. Please donate clean and wearable items. We accept all types of clothing for all ages to be donated to the Greeley Interfaith Clothing Bank. We are also looking for business attire for women including, dresses, suits, slacks, shoes, purses and jewelry to donate to Leanna's Closet.

Please bring your items to church and deposit in the box provided.

Thank you for your generous donations.
Social Justice Ministry

Sunday mornings...

July 7- Multigen- Mandala and Meaning Making. Come get renewed and regenerated by creating with others.

July 14- Annual "Picnic" with Namaqua UU in Loveland. Bring a dish to share and carpool to Loveland for this Service that starts at 10am. Rev. Aaron Norris & Rev. Laurel Liefert will officiate. Sign up on the clipboard to carpool. Address is 745 E.5th St.

Baby Shower

We are throwing a baby shower for Oliria Vaughn on Saturday, July 20th at 2pm at the church. Her Baby girl is due on August 27th. Please RSVP with Kathy Vaughn, 970-371-1522.

July Auction Item

Would you like to spend a night in a mountain cabin? The June Auction Item is for three spots at a mountain cabin, stream side! The night includes: a comfortable bed, a vegan dinner, a light breakfast, a quiet stream and good company. A total of four people will be going. You only need to bring yourself, snacks and beverages. The date is August 16th or 17th: whichever works best for all participants. Opening bid is \$50.00 per spot. Two spots are left.

"Welcome Michele Masters!"

We welcome our new Office Manager, Michele Masters to UUCG. Michele comes to us with a background in administration and is a former Medical Assistant. She is a people person, fun, and outgoing. Michele is a Greeley resident, mother of three, married 11 years and is currently working on her Bachelor's in Addiction Counseling. We will be having a welcome for her sometime in August. Please do say "hello" when your paths cross. Welcome Michele!

Happy Birthday!

If we forgot your June 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.

Giving in Gratitude



King Soopers has changed their procedures for contributing to our church. It sounds scary, but once registered, you will be donating anytime you enter

your loyalty number or scan your King Soopers barcode! If you need help, please contact Josette at 381-7891.

Here are the steps:

1. **Create a King Soopers account on kingsoopers.com**
2. **Scroll down to the bottom and click on King Soopers Community Rewards**
3. **Click on Enroll Now**
4. **Search for Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley**
5. **Choose this organization**

6. **You're done and our church reaps the benefits of your shopping, without having to remember to reload gift cards!!**

Thank YOU

The Unitarian Universalist Church would like to Thank the Following:

A special thank you to Jim "The Magnet" Vaughn for sweeping the parking lots and driveways for any errant nails that may have been left from the roofing project. Jim seems to know how to do just about everything - from chickens to magnets. Who knew?

Thank you to Jim and Kathy Vaughn for their time for setting up for the Congregational Meeting and to all the volunteers who helped with the clean up afterwards. You are the best of the very best!

A Very Special Thank You

To all our pledging members and friends who are working hard to ensure our future and the future of those who are yet to come, as we continue the amazing legacy with the continued support of your financial gifts and talent to UUCG.

We celebrate the end of a VERY successful Church Year.

With a special thank you also to Reverend Norris who has delivered on the very many things our members and friends of the congregation requested in our survey prior to his hiring. He has delivered new members, educational opportunities, classes, and is making UUCG known throughout the Greeley community and northern Colorado.

THANK YOU to all who donated to the Garage Sale and who came and purchased things. Thanks to all workers, Michelle Notsker, Janelle Helling, Sharlene Meydell and Linda Burnett. We made \$ 525.75 and donated all the left-over clothes to the GIA Clothing Bank. CO- Chairs, Eulice Kogovsek and Kathy Vaughn.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley-Pride 2019

