



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

March Unifax 2015

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

Join us for Sunday Services at 10:00am

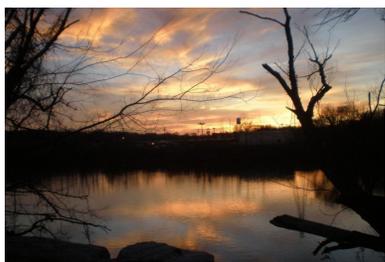
Childcare for babies and toddlers will be provided every Sunday during services.

Find out more at
www.greeleyuuc.org

or
find us on facebook!

Worship Liberally

Our theological theme for March is *Justice*



March 1 - Creating Justice Together

This is one of our five multigenerational services of the year. Our children join us and lead parts of worship! Rev. Kelly and Tabitha Covey help us all explore why doing justice across generations is important. Mystery Friends will be revealed at the end of the service (adults who have been paired with children for the last month, writing notes with hints). Mil Hart and Kimberly Trevino from the Children's Garden will join us, along with some garden mystery friends, and we will share our plate with them.

March 8 - Been There Done That: Justice and Empathy - Jon Erickson

Jon will join us with story and song.

March 15 - Reconciling Injustice - Rev. Kelly

Dignan

Unfortunately, injustice happens. How do we recover from it when it happens to us? Rev. Kelly will explore processes of reconciliation and healing after conflict and/or oppression. This will be the first Sunday of Chalice Arts Holocaust Exhibit. Sam Henline will play Klezmer Music.

March 22 - The Power of a Positive No - Rev.

Barbara Prose

Every parent of a two-year-old knows the power of "No." But so did Rosa Parks, Mahatma Gandhi, and the writers of our country's Declaration of Independence. No, I will not give up my seat. No, I will not follow a law that deprives the poorest of the poor of the most basic of human needs. No, I will not pay taxes to a foreign monarch. Beneath our most powerful Nos, often, is an even more powerful YES, waiting to be fully expressed. Yes, I matter. Yes, the poor deserve dignity. Yes, independence is worth fighting for. When has saying No changed the direction of your life? What was your underlying Yes? Join Rev. Barbara to explore the power and potential of our personal and political NOs, in order to uncover our wholehearted YESSES, especially those that fire up, fuel and sustain social transformation.

March 29 - Justice and the Arts

Join Rev. Kelly and various artists (including our choir and Chalice Arts Ministry) to explore how the arts play a role in justice-making. Our congregational meeting will follow the service.

Religious Education for Children

March 1 - Multigenerational Service

March 8 - Lesson #5 Jacob and Esau

March 15 - Children's Chapel: Justice

March 22-Lesson # 6 Escape from Egypt

March 29 - Children's Chapel: Justice

Goals: To familiarize our kids with key stories from the Hebrew Bible which pervade our Western Culture

Follow the RAINBOW PATH:

Respect all people, Offer fair and kind treatment to all, Yearn to learn throughout your life, Grow in spirit and in mind, Believe in your ideals, and act upon them, Insist on a fair and peaceful world, Value our connections to all of life.

RE Ministry Committee: Kathy Vaughn, Tabitha Covey**, Shelley Gotchey (January Lessons), Michelle Noftsker (February Lessons), Josette Schaffer (March Lessons), and Marcia Free (April and May Lessons) **RE Coordinator

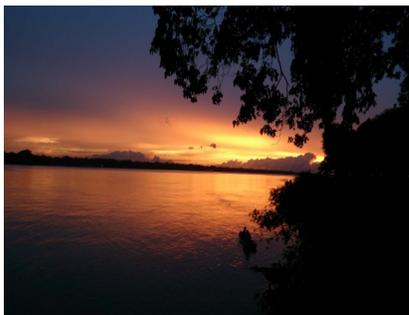
Adult Religious Exploration

Mark you calendars for **Building Your Own Theology**. Rev. Kelly will lead this six-session class.
Dates: **May 12, 19, 26 and June 9, 16 and 23**

Join Rev. Kelly on the third Sundays after the service for **Theme Thoughts** - a discussion about our monthly theme. We'll meet in the Barbara Bowles room at **11:15**.

Creativity as a Spiritual Practice

Saturday March 28^h at **10:00am** meeting. If questions contact Erika Coan at eacoan@gmail.com.



April 10-12, 2015 - Mountain Desert District Annual Meeting

Denver Tech Center Marriott

Mark you calendars. Registration ends April 3.

Highlights

- Mark Ewert, author of *The Generous Path*, is our keynote speaker and a workshop leader. He will be available for 3 congregational appointments on Saturday afternoon
- Rev. Dr. Ken Brown is will lead a workshop exploring the exciting new ideas for multi-site congregations. He will be available for congregational appointments in the afternoon.
- Rev. Jeanelyse Doran Adams will lead a workshop of Faith Formation in the 21st Century.
- Critical Conversations in Unitarian Universalism: Individualism, Authority and Exceptionalism
- The MDD Board will present our district awards.

Choir Schedule—Spring 2015

Wed, Mar 4th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Wed, Mar 25th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Sun, Mar 29th: Church performance (9:30am call, 10:00am performance)

Wed, Apr 8th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Wed, Apr 15th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Sun, Apr 19th: Church performance (9:30am call, 10:00am performance)

Wed, Apr 29th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Wed, May 13th: Rehearsal 7:00-8:30pm

Sun, May 17th: Church performance (9:30 call, 10:00am performance)

Gather in a Caring Community

Bride and Groom Shower for Shauna Yanke and Jonathan Hofmann: March 22, 2015, following the church service. EVERYONE IS INVITED. If you would like to participate in a gift from our church family, call Hollis Berendt (970-590-3289) or Dianne Culver (970-475-4928) A light lunch and dessert will be served. If you can help with the party planing and luncheon call Hollis or Dianne.

Using the Church Building

If you plan to use the building for a church-related event or a personal event, you must complete the Building Use Application on the cork board in the office. Until it is on the public calendar, don't assume your event is confirmed. The public calendar can be found at our website as a tab under "This Week": <http://www.greeleyuuc.org/calendar.html> Non-church related events will be marked "Rental" or "Private Event."

Contact Dianne Culver with any care or concerns.

Serve in Partnership

We will Share The Plate with the Children's Garden March 1. All people have the right to clean, healthy food that is produced using organic growing practices. The mission of The Children's Garden is to provide a place for children and community to connect with the earth, learn, participate, experience, and enjoy the fruit.



Social Change Circle - Third Tuesdays 11:30 - 1:30

The Social Change Circle helps us to focus more on spiritual and social transformation and less on tasks, campaigns, and the roller coaster of political wins and losses. We spend the first hour sharing spiritual practices and stories. During the second hour, we network with each other and brainstorm how we'll make change in the world. Rev. Kelly and Hollis Berendt lead the Circle. Bring a sack lunch.

Lead and Manage Mindfully

The standing ministry group meetings are as follow:

Board of Trustees - First Tuesdays 7:00 - 9:00

Membership Ministry - Second Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00

Worship Ministry - Third Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:45

Religious Education Ministry - Fourth Tuesdays 1:00 - 2:30

The Congregational Meeting will be held March 29th 11:15 – Noon.

No later than March 15th, you will receive a formal announcement, agenda, and slate of candidates.

Give in Gratitude

On **February 1**, we shared our plate with SEVA Community and donated **\$144** to them! Thank you for your generosity.

Pledge cards are due **March 1**. Please leave them in a sealed envelope in the basket in the foyer or in the Treasurer's box in the office.

Happy Birthday!

John Coan 7
Hollis Berendt 9
Carol Brickley 10
Tim Berendt 14
Mark Hill 14
Patti Morgan 22
Sandy Myers 27
Jonathan Hofmann 31

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

Splinters from the Board

From your President, Hollis Berendt -

As I noted last month, the board has been working on a policy manual. Here is information regarding policy for ministry groups. You can see the policy manual, a work in progress, on our website in the Members section. Contact Meghan for a password.

(office_manager@greeleyuuc.org)

Ministry Group Budget

Each ministry group is assigned a yearly budget and has the authority to spend that budget amount without Board approval. Expenditures are reported to the Treasurer, Secretary and a note in the financial statement and in next month's minutes about the nature of the expense is included in the Treasurer's Report. Expenditures over the yearly budget must be approved by the Board after careful consideration of the financial situation at the time.

Ministry Group Reports

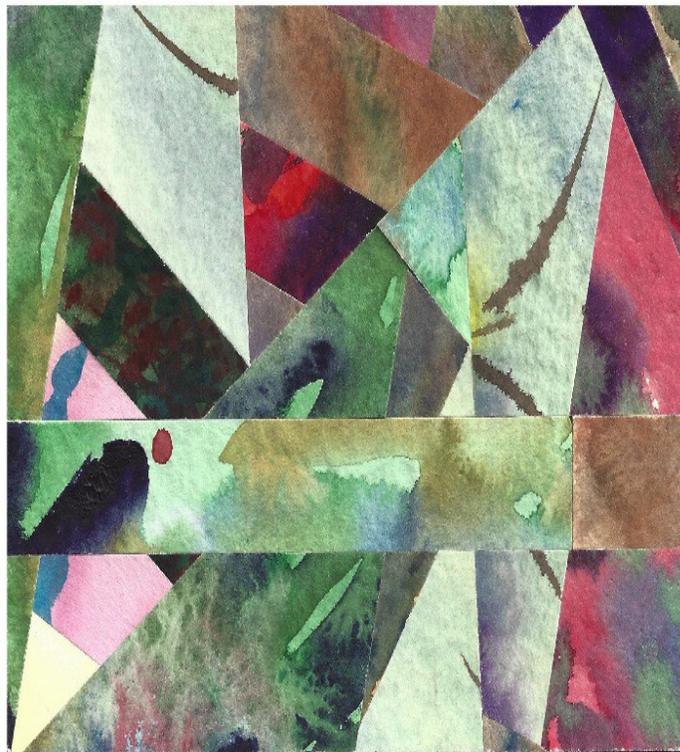
Ministry Groups will report to the Board quarterly. They will include in bullets any action they need the board to take if there are any.

Schedule of their reports.

- **First rotation:** October, January, April, July.
 - Membership,
 - Care and Connection: Monthly report
 - Publicity and Outreach
- **Second rotation:** November, February, May, August
 - Religious Education - Children's and Adult
 - Stewardship
 - Grocery Certificates and Scrip
 - Auction
 - Chalice Arts
- **Third rotation:** December, March, June, September
 - Worship
 - Social Change
 - Building and Grounds



Rev. Kelly's Reflections



Justice is our theme this month, a topic we weave throughout our worship and lives on a regular basis. In this reflection, I want to introduce a website that just launched: www.bethelove.net.

It was developed by Unitarian Universalist leaders who have been my teachers for the past four years. The site presents a paradigm for justice-making that is based on the Beloved Community paradigm. They give us some history:

The term "Beloved Community" was originally coined by Josiah Royce to describe a way of being in the world grounded not in disappointment but in possibility. For Royce, Beloved Community is a spiritual practice of loyalty — the radical idea that love is a more powerful force for change than fear. Our Universalist ancestors knew this to be true. They asserted that the purpose of the church is to heal one another into well-being; "to reverse the consequences of lovelessness and injustice in the souls and behaviors of its members" so that we can work together more effectively for a just social and economic order.

Beloved Community is the creative energy and prophetic imagination that sparked the Southern Freedom Struggle led by Martin Luther King, Jr. and others. Their vision was of the Beloved Community as a “radical redefinition of our relationships...a type of love that can transform opponents into friends.” It begins not by discriminating between worthy and unworthy or between friend and enemy. It is never limited to racial justice or building a social movement. First and foremost it is based on practicing together a fierce kind of love...”a willingness to go to any length to restore community.”

As I review this chart, I think here at our church, we are striving to live the Beloved Community Paradigm. I’d love to hear what you think. What are some examples of how we are doing so? And in what ways are we still implementing a more “us” vs. “them” approach to justice?

As always, I look forward to reflecting with you and learning from you in the month ahead.

Rev. Kelly

The site presents a comparison between the dominant approach to activism and the Beloved Community approach.

Dominant Activism Paradigm	Beloved Community Paradigm
Limited to Political views and realities	Rooted in spiritual or religious views that recognize political realities
Divides the world into “us” and “them” and the purpose of power is to control “them”	There is only us- all of us- and the purpose of power is to restore right relationship
“Rights” are the basis for social justice	“Right relationships” are the basis
Puts thing at the center	Puts relationships at the center
Issues are seen as problems to be solved	Issues reflect a way of life to be transformed
Reduces identity to status or role	Identity shapes us, but does not limit who we are
Reactive: driven by anger or fear	Proactive: motivated by creativity
Often understands justice work as “for other people”	Engages justice so we can be transformed, and for our own sake, too
Focuses on changing the world out there	Focuses on being the change we want to see
Justice is a system of rewards and punishments	Justice is “Love going to any length to restore community.” (MLK)