



# Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

## May 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](http://www.greeleyuuc.org)  
or  
find us on Facebook

### Congregational Meeting

**Annual Congregational Meeting May 19<sup>th</sup>.** 11:30AM-  
1:30 PM. Please bring a side dish. We will be voting  
on our budget. See you there!

### Worship Liberally

**May 5th- "We come Round Right" – Rev. Aaron Norris**

Our first Sunday of the month, Rev. Norris will kick off our  
exploration of Cycles. Every human culture has come to  
observe that life is full of events which come back again  
and again and that some of the magic in life is to see the  
wheels within wheels.

**RE:** Chapel Peace

**May 12th- "Being a Steward for Our Lives"**

**Mariah Foster**

Identifying our personal cycles and how to make  
changes.

**RE:** Mother's Day and Julia Ward Howe

**May 19th- "Flower Communion: Norbert Čapek's  
Legacy" Rev. Aaron Norris**

We celebrate the Flower Communion this year in May. Like  
the Water Communion we mark in the Fall, this service will  
be echoed in the services of our other Unitarian  
Universalist churches around the world. More of the story  
of Flower Communion:

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower\\_Communion](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower_Communion)

**RE: Class #7 A Plain & Simple Beauty**

**Annual Congregational Meeting following the  
service.**

**May 26th- TBD**

**RE:** Summer Begins – Play Day

**Pledge Drive**

The Pledge Drive continues as we look forward to our  
continued legacy of providing a liberal place of  
worship in Greeley and Northern Colorado. Please be  
sure to get you pledges in ASAP, if you haven't already  
done so.

## Ministerial Musings

Spirituality has been on my mind a lot recently. I had a conversation with someone who was wondering about the connection of spirituality and justice work and it got me to thinking too. There's a good reason that the author of Ecclesiastes observed that one person sharpens another like iron sharpens iron: we become keener in our insights and clearer in our thoughts when we are with one another and engaged in conversation and community. It was true three thousand years ago and it is true today. My view on spirituality is informed by Aristotle's discussion of Eudaimonia, which can be translated as happiness but more accurately means the good or healthy spirit. For Aristotle, humans were filled with a spirit (or the breath of life) that could have many different manifestations. This rather corporal understanding of spirituality is the one that I myself tend to embrace. The one I feel and experience daily, here and now. My own cosmology is such that I don't tend to worry about a world of the here and now and a spirit world. I believe that whatever separations lie between realms, known or unknown, they are likely very permeable. Because of this, spirituality and my present state are deeply interconnected. So the theology that I embrace, the meaning that I have made, should cross between those two spheres of my existence. Hence, the justice work that I engage in is just as linked to my spirituality as a sitting meditation practice. I believe that a practice of good spirituality is one that enhances everyday living and helps inform our moral decision making. When we are rightly configured, mind, body and spirit, we feel Aristotle's sense of Eudaimonia. It is important that we continue to emphasize all aspects of these concerns which intersect in our lives simultaneously on this place in the path we find ourselves.

Another great month past on this really remarkable year. April really did have some very special moments for our church. We were able to welcome our new music director Renee into our worship services and got the first chance to hear a bit of our choir again which was really a wonderful thing. The Klezmer concert allowed us to welcome back some old friends and to showcase our building once again. The Earth Day event went off very well thanks to the work of our Social Justice ministry. Leadership, including myself, had the opportunity to touch base with many of the congregation before we started to finalize our pledge outlook for the coming year. I felt very lucky to be able to have that conversation with you as we prepare for what lies ahead. We had a long attending couple decide that this month was the perfect time to become full members of the church and to top it all off, we had the best attendance on the Easter service that we've had in more than a year. Blessings were abounding in April!

This month will be the eighth month that I have been lucky enough to serve as your contract minister. It has really been an absolute pleasure. We seem to be in a very sweet spot right now in our church as the life of the church continues to grow. I have been especially thankful of so many of you who have brought your passions and interests to our community and commingled them with the life of the church. Some of those interests are long standing and well established like Hollis and Ana's leadership in the Social Justice Ministry, but there are a bunch of new things happening to like the meditation and dharma group lead by Janelle, the writer's group headed by Ruth, and, just this month, an invitation for afternoon walking lead by Sharlene and Jane. I'd like to add another opportunity to get together as a community and maybe do a little theological work too, so I'm proposing holding a movie night each month on fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m. We'll watch a movie in the sanctuary and then afterwards have a discussion for those that can stay. This first month we'll be a bit on the nose and watch the Ken Burn's documentary Defying the Nazis: The Sharp's War. The movie tells the story of Wait still and Martha Sharp, a Unitarian minister and his wife from Wellesley, Massachusetts, who boldly committed to multiple life-threatening missions in Europe saving hundreds of refugees. One final and important on-going offering: if you are new to the church, keep in mind that I offer a class on deepening connection with an eye on the path toward membership every six weeks or so (the next one is May 5th). This is a great introduction to Unitarian Universalism to some of the principles we affirm and promote and also the history of our congregation. It takes about an hour and a half and also gives you the chance to meet some of the others who are feeling a bit like you. The form for signing up is online at

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtlYtI\\_GhhM4iFJIG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA\\_azCBQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtlYtI_GhhM4iFJIG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA_azCBQ/viewform)

Looking forward to our wonderful May together!

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,

Reverend Aaron

## Your Board At Work

Your Board at Work:

Spring is a time of growth and activity and UUCG is growing and is busy as well. This Sunday, we welcomed two members to our church with the hopes this will be a continued event as we move forward and leave our rich legacy for those who are to follow. Please do mark your calendars for the Congregational Meeting to be held May 19th after our regular service. It's an opportunity to participate in

our future and that legacy. The roofers are to begin work next week on replacing our roof so we look forward to its completion probably within the first week of May - weather pending! Staff may not be at the church during the noise, so be sure to contact them first before you head over. We have been researching the best replacement for the toilet in the restroom nearest the kitchen, as it has become very problematic with the amount of water it utilizes. UUCG successfully hosted the Klezmer Concert and a successful Earth Day Fair in April and it was wonderful to see the community enjoy our building in being able to provide those activities. We will be at work looking to replace Margaret Chiniquy, our amazing Office Manager, as she will be moving on to another employment opportunity. Growth and change, as we know, are all inevitable parts of the journey. Margaret will be assisting until we do find someone, but for now, office hours have changed and we will let you know of the tentative summer hours, as they are determined.

Julie Miller, Board President

**Treasurer’s Report for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

Banking as of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

Checking as of March 1, 2019	\$ 3998.00
Deposits (March 2019)	\$ 3134.00
Expenses (Mar 2019)	\$ 5282.00
<b>Savings (statements are quarterly)</b>	<b>\$48774.06</b>

**Kathy Vaughn, Treasurer**

**Gather in a Caring Community**

**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: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 & August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please follow copy this link and paste to your browser to sign up: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtlYtIGhhM4iFJlG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA\\_azCBQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtlYtIGhhM4iFJlG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA_azCBQ/viewform)

**Grow In Spirit**



**Youth Religious Education-**

This Spring Semester We will learn to express our principles in our own words, and how to act on them. R.E. team: Claire

Metusalem and Kathy Vaughn

**May 5th -** Chapel on Peace

**May 12th-** Mother’s Day and Julia Ward Howe

**May 19th-** Class # 7 A Plain and Simple Beauty – Flower Communion

**May 26th-** Summer Begins – Play Day

**Spring Clean Up**



Spring has Sprung and its time to make our church look good on the outside too! Please Join us and our renters Igleasia Apostolica for our annual Spring Clean up! We have a lot to do so bring your work gloves, extra

yard tools and your can do spirit! UUCG Will provide the coffee and doughnuts! Tentative date is May 11<sup>th</sup>. More info to come...

**Contacting UUCG Staff and Board**

Reverend Aaron Norris: [minister@greeleyuuc.org](mailto:minister@greeleyuuc.org) Board President, Julie Miller: [jmilleruucg@gmail.com](mailto:jmilleruucg@gmail.com) Board Vice President, Kathy Wise [Tucker3747@gmail.com](mailto:Tucker3747@gmail.com) Board Treasurer, Kathy Vaughn [Kathy.jinka@gmail.com](mailto:Kathy.jinka@gmail.com) Board Member At Large, Sharlene Meydell [smahrdesign@gmail.com](mailto:smahrdesign@gmail.com) Board Secretary, Josette Bond [josettebond@outlook.com](mailto:josettebond@outlook.com)

Contact Julie Miller at [jmilleruucg@gmail.com](mailto:jmilleruucg@gmail.com) or Rev. Aaron Norris @ 970-778-6769

### **Help Wanted**

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley is seeking a part time Office Manager. Please ask a Board Member for more information or to express your interest.

### **UUCG May, 2019 Service Auction Item**

This month's Service Item is Offered by Sharlene Meydell. Consists of 2 hours of Sewing by skilled trained Custom Clothier Designer. Alterations accepted. If special Project - need discussion.

Bidding starting \$20 --- equal to 1 pair of pants hems.

## **Upcoming Events**



### **GARAGE SALE**

Do you need to do some Spring Cleaning and lighten your load?

Bring your extra clothes, Knick-knacks, and other household goods to the church from Noon- 4pm on Thursday, May 30, any time after 9am Friday the 31st. The Garage Sale will be held on **Saturday, June 1st**. Special times for dropping off things can be arranged through Kathy Vaughn or Eulice Kogovesk. Please sign up to help out pulling the sale together and working the day of the sale.

### **Walk-A-Bout Announcement**

Please join us on a Walk-A-Bout lead by Sharlene Meydell & Jane Wheeler. If interested please be ready to meet at the Park or cemetery by 10am. These will be gentle walks. Bring a sack lunch. Dates are as follows:

**May 22, 2019**, Glenmere Park - Glenmere Blvd / 16th Ave parking allowed on the south side of Glenmere Blvd. This intersection is close to the bldg. for the lake, and middle of the park.

**June 19, 2019**, Linn Grove Cemetery, East 18th Street / Cherry St. South entrance to the cemetery and pull straight in --- parking near the main bldg. Pond in the back of this bldg, has 2 white swans.

Following our walk, we can go for lunch Subway 10th St/ 28th Ave. and / or ice cream at TCBY (47th Ave and Hwy By-pass 34) (Wednesday is free cone day) yummy!

If you have any questions please feel free to call Sharlene at 970-888-3707.

### **Buddhist Classes - by Janelle Helling**

Will be every second Tuesday from April through November. First class is Dharma Teachings at 1:30 pm, 2nd Class is Mediation at 2:30 pm. Next meeting time is May 14th. Participants may attend either or both.

### **Changes to Greeley Interfaith Meetings**

**Beginning in May**, Greeley Interfaith Meetings will be held at 3pm on the 1st Tuesdays of the month at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley. First meeting is Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm.

### **Worship Committee**

The Worship Committee meeting is scheduled for **May 2019** right after the service. Anyone interested in getting involved with worship planning is welcome and encouraged to attend! If you have questions, Contact info: Brian Gaza ([briangaza@mac.com](mailto:briangaza@mac.com)) and Shelly Gaza ([shelly.gaza@unco.edu](mailto:shelly.gaza@unco.edu)).

### **Writing Group**

Writers Group will meet this month on Friday, May 24th, 2019 from 3pm to 5pm at The Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley 929 15th Street, Greeley, CO 80631. Anyone interested in creative writing or poetry can join. Summer hours may change to weekday evenings. Call Ruth Zachary at **970-378-0876** for information or to join the group.

### **Pathways to Meaning & Membership Class**

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. Class Dates are as Follows: May 5th 2019, June 5th, 2019 and August 11th, 2019. Please follow copy this link and paste to your browser to sign up:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtIYtIGhhM4iFJIG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA\\_azCBQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtIYtIGhhM4iFJIG8rzj-m3XqJMlyA7kvSQA_azCBQ/viewform)





### **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.

## Happy Birthday!



This Photo by Unknown Author is

- Pat Raff - 3
- Tom Woodrum - 9
- Rev. Barry Bloom -10
- Adele Del Savio - 15
- Montana Bryant 18
- Charlas Odendhal - 22

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

## Giving in Gratitude



### **SHOP FIRST AT UUCG**

Graduation coming up? Need some ideas for gifts? Consider purchasing a gift card from our Scrip program. Walmart, Target, Kohls, Best Buy.... All things a new graduate could want from numerous stores. Oh, you might even want a new Sprouts card, or something for Mom on Mother's Day. Check out the possibilities at <http://shop.shopwithscrip.com>.

**Over \$200 was deposited in the church account last month due to those who renewed their cards. A big thank you! If you have questions on how to do this, please ask Josette**

## Thank YOU

The Unitarian Universalist Church would like to Thank the Following :

**Guest Speakers:** Jeff Lockwood – Thank you for your service and for your donations from the selling of

your book! and Julie Miller, we thank you for your speaking services! You are appreciated!!

**Worship Associates:** Thank you to Claire Metusalem, Brian Gaza, and Julie Miller for helping serve on the Worship Committee. Special Thank you to Brian and Shelly Gaza for being co-chairs on the Worship Committee and for ALL you both do!!

**R.E. :** Thank you to Kathy Vaughn, Claire Metusalem for your help with Religious Education. Thank you to Olivia Vaughn and Fedelina Mendez-Andres for helping us get ready for our Easter Egg Hunt!

**Host (Greeter):** Thank you to Hollis Berendt, Josette Bond, and Sharlene Meydell for Hosting on Sundays before services. We are thankful for your smiling happy faces!

**Coffee / Clean-up:** Thank you to Kathy Vaughn, Josette Bond, and Brian & Shelly Gaza for your help as a coffee helper or staying to help with clean up! You are appreciated!

**Thank you to those who helped with the set up or take down for Klezmer Concert. Special thank you to those of you who brought a snack or refreshment to share!**

**Thank you to Hollis Berendt, Ana Schultz, Atulya Johnson for your work with the Earth Day Event!**

**Thank you Julie Miller for the mini clipboards in the sanctuary!**

**Thank you to all the Earth Day Volunteers!**

The Earth Day Fair was a success. We didn't know what to expect and the outcome was simply amazing. We couldn't have made it without the help of the following individuals and we are sincerely grateful: **Atulya Johnson** for helping **Ana Schultz** design the banner and donating the cost of printing it. Thanks to **Bill Thomas** and **Joe Joyner** for helping with the AV for scheduled speakers and the video clips..

**Sharlene Maydell** for drumming with **Teresa McNeil** at the "telling stories about Mother Earth"

**Julie Miller** and **Rev. Aaron Norris** for spreading the event invitation in Social Media. **Margaret Chiniquy** for helping design the flyer. **Kristina Bain** for making signs. **Ann Masterson** for donating art supplies and painting a demo for the "Painting cotton Grocery bag Activity." **Tim Berendt** for helping set up and take down the event and to all who stayed to clean up afterward. To all our community participants: Greeley Nissan, Citizen Climate Lobby, Kristina Bain with Weld Air and Water, Shirley Smithson with Greeley Friends of Sierra, Josette Bond for the library set up, Sandbox Solar, Dianne and Andy Culver for the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) display Teresa McNeill for the Native American stories and drumming and Greeley Water Conservation.

**With Sincere Gratitude to you all.....and sincere apologies if we forgot to personally thank you.**  
Ana Schultz and Hollis Berendt

**A Very Special Thanks**

We say a very special thanks to Andy and Dianne Culver as they step down as volunteers with our Coffee Hour, as well as the plant tending responsibilities, they have been completing for so many years. Please be sure to thank Andy and Dianne when you see them as they continue on as members. Thank you, Dianne and Andy,! And, we welcome Sharlene Meydell as she steps in to fill the Coffee Hour recruitment duties.

**Thank you from Margaret Chiniquy**

I would like to thank EVERYONE at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley for giving me the opportunity to be the Office Manager since Feb. of 2016. I had some big shoes to fill following Meghan Groves, and worked with some great Board Members and 2 wonderful Reverends' Barry and Aaron. I enjoyed my time with past, present and future church members and friends and meeting new people, I am looking forward to a new normal, that includes coming to church as many Sundays as I usually do. I plan on moving forward in a positive direction, just like our church!  
Margaret Chiniquy

**Welcome Our NEW Accompanist Renee Racek**



**Rev. Aaron Norris and Rev. Sylvia Falconer**



**Klezmer Concert April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

