



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley October 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, 10a-12p / Tue 1p – 3p and Fridays
1p-2p

Worship Liberally

October 7th- *“The Price of Greatness”*

Rev. Aaron Norris

What does it take to be great? Winston Churchill once chided American's for their isolationist policies by reminding them: "Responsibility is the Price of Greatness." Rev. Norris kicks off the monthly theme of responsibility with an exploration of what exactly one has to take responsibility for before we start considering someone or something great.

RE: Class #2 The Great Earth Goddess

October 14th - *“At an Indian Ashram”*

Atulya Johnson

What is bliss and is it of value to seek it? Atulya went to India seeking bliss and enlightenment and spent most of 1996-2016 in the large Karala India ashram of Amma, also called Mata Amritanandamayi (Mother of Ambrosial Bliss” in Sanskrit) She returned in July and August of this year during Kerala Floods which left at least 483 dead and 700,000 homeless. She will tell a few stories, share ashram songs with the help of Sam Henline and make a lunch of vegetarian food. Please call her to help with “Veggie Chopping.”

RE: Class #3 Creation According to the Bible

October 21st- *“For Which I Am Responsible”*

Rev. Aaron Norris

How are things treated differently when we own something versus when we are held to be responsible for it? What impact does placing a possessive on something do to the way we think about it? In an exploration of stewardship, Rev. Norris asks us to think about how we might see the world differently if we claimed a little less ownership of things and took a little more responsibility for them.

RE: Prep for the Day of the Dead

Congregational Meeting

October 21, 2018 at 11:30 AM following the service. Topic: Decision and discussion to replace the roof recently damaged by the significant hailstorms that hit the Greeley area this summer.

October 28th – *“Responsibility & Fear: A Love Story”* - Julie Miller

Blaming has become a common part of our everyday culture. We examine the question, "Can you be right and without responsibility?" There are burdens and blessings that can come from confronting our fears about responsibility. We often create our own Boogie Man that lurks in the shadows and keeps us from being responsible. So what do we do? Let's find out.

RE: Class #4 Tepeu and Gucumatz

Ministerial Musings

Beloveds,

Well, that was three services together pretty fast. I hope that you enjoyed coming and sharing Sunday mornings with me as much as I have with you. We've had a great start to the church year. The Water Communion was a great beginning - it was wonderful to see so many folks in the sanctuary. We had over forty folks attend which seems great to me. I noticed that some folks were bringing guests which is really wonderful for you to introduce people to Unitarian Universalism in general and our church in particular. I've been really glad to be able to meet with some of the existing ministries in the church this month, notably worship and social justice. We even snuck in a meeting of the reconstituted committee on shared ministry before the month was out and I am glad for that. As we grow, I'm sure there will be new leadership roles to take.

We've also taken some time to play, specifically go to UNC's production of *She Kills Monsters*. If you think of something else social that you'd like our church to participate in as a group, feel free to shoot me an email at minister@greeleyuuc.org. There will be plenty more time for all of us to get to know one another. The month of October will also be a time for us to "go back to school" as it were. Hopefully you've heard (and there still might be some time if you act quick) that I am teaching a Build Your Own Theology class, for folks to really sit down and contemplate exactly what they have faith in and how they want to express their belief system. Also in October, I will be leading the first of several Pathways to Membership classes that orient folks both on the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley specifically and Unitarian Universalism more generally. If you've been on the fence about joining, or simply want to see what membership might entail, you are most welcome at the class that follows thirty minutes after the service on October 7th. It should run about an hour and a half and is a great way to get to know other folks who are considering joining.

Some folks have taken advantage of my time in the office and I am glad to have shared some conversation with folks one on one. Although I am part time, I still want to make myself available to members of the congregation as much as I can. I will be at church every week. Monday and Tuesday, I'll normally be in the office and I can meet in the day or evening, but my office hours will be flexible so I spend more time with congregants and partner organizations than sitting alone at a desk. To that end, I am using an online calendaring service that you can schedule as you need: <https://calendly.com/revaaron>. If there is a church group or partner organization that has a

monthly meeting you want me to be aware of you can email me at minister@greeleyuuc.org.

In the month of October, a month we will explore the theme of responsibility, I will be in the pulpit a couple of times: October 7 and 21. It takes a lot of volunteer hours and effort to pull off Sunday mornings and I am really thankful to everyone who contributes from coffee, to hospitality, to the choir, to A/V and the worship associates. This part of hands on stewardship of our church is really humbling to see. Thank you. I am excited that we are considering moving away from keeping the service plate and offering it to local non-for-profits, Unitarian Universalist oriented charities and emergency relief groups. When the nomination process begins, I hope that you will consider making a nomination. I believe this act of generosity will not only raise our profile in the community, but it will also come back to us in the form of new interest in being a member of a church with such a unique program. Using our plate in this way will help us to grow of spiritual practice, live more meaningfully, and help heal our world.

Finally, I want to say how excited and appreciative I am to have a donor step forward to help us build on our ongoing financial commitment to the church ministry. As you have likely read elsewhere in the Unifax this month, this is a matching contribution program that means when we as a church collect even more than one dollar more than we did in the previous year, the donor will contribute at a one-for-one matching level. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to grow the church this year, expand our programming potential and amplify our potential voice in the community. I hope you will consider participating. We are off to a great start this year and exciting stuff is on the horizon. Thank you for contributing your enthusiasm and energy.

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,
Rev. Aaron Norris

Your Board at Work

It's been a busy month for your UUCG BOT working on conserving our savings, as well as having to consider a significant expenditure. We have worked hard this summer to conserve funds, including water, consciously turning off the sprinklers when we have rain and otherwise being conservative with the lawn watering. I am happy to report that for the summer, thus far, we have spent less than that of the cost for watering just one-month last summer. We did have a wet start to spring, but I think the success of our conscious efforts is cause to celebrate! Thank you again, Margaret Chiniquy and Kathy Vaughn for keeping

an eye on the water consumption for us. As for the expenditure - elsewhere in the Unifax, you will note that we will be having a congregational meeting in October. I recently saw a quote that said, "Life is short. Build stuff that matters." UUCG has a rich history of contributing "stuff that matters" to each of us and our communities – local and globally. We are so very fortunate to have had a building that has served us and so many for a very long time. Unfortunately, and of no surprise to many, the severity of the hail storms this summer has caused damage to our aging church roof and it needs replacement. We have talked with our insurance company, as well as gotten estimates about its replacement. Since this would require us tapping our savings for the deductible (\$5,000), it requires congregational approval. Thus, the call for a congregational meeting, so please mark your calendars and do plan on attending. As ever, I remain extremely grateful for such a dedicated board, a rich congregational community – whether it be members near or friends afar, and the blessings of a new minister. Thank you all for your continued efforts to help us build stuff that matters.

Contacting UUCG Staff and Board

Reverend Aaron Norris: ministerr@greeleyuuc.org
 Board President, Julie Miller: jmilleruucg@gmail.com
 Board Vice President, Kathy Wise:
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 Board Treasurer, Kathy Vaughn :
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 Board Secretary, Josette Schaffer :
josetteschaffer@msn.com
 Office Manager, Margaret Chiniquy :
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Treasurers Report

August 2018
 Income: \$ 3,733.10
 Expenses: \$ 4,613.92
 checkbook balance Aug. 31..\$ 2,311.08
 Savings \$ 38,027.33

Respectfully Submitted,
 Kathy Vaughn, Treasure

Grow In Spirit



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Youth Religious Education.

Welcome to the new church year. This Fall we will use the World Religion Pillar with Creation Stories from all

around the world. How did the world begin? Where do I come from? What is God? Creation myths deal freely with the big question of life and death. This year we will use a Team approach to teaching, Kathy Vaughn, & Miles Holcomb are the teachers.

- October 7** – Class #2 The Great Earth Goddess
- October 14**- Class #3 Creation According to the Bible
- October 21**- Prep for Day of the Dead
- October – 28** Class #4 Tepeu and Gucumatz

Happy Birthday!

OCTOBER



- Violet Marie Noftsker – 4
- Antony Noftsker – 10
- Jon Erickson – 10
- Eulice Kogovsek – 12
- Emerson Myers – 14
- Kim Womantree - 15
- Brenden Quesenberry -19
- Debbie Conley – 20

If we forgot your October 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.

Lead and Manage Mindfully

The Standing Group Meetings are as follows:

Social Justice Group – 2nd Tues. @ 10am

Board of Trustees –

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

BOOK CLUB

Book club meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 1:30 pm @ Your Place Coffee, **2308 W. 17th Street, Greeley, CO 80634**. Anyone is welcome to drop in. Our selection for October 18th will be Jodi Picoult's Small Great Things (or any other Picoult novel). Anyone is welcome to drop in.

Pathways to Membership

Are you interested in joining the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley? Would you like to know more about how to join and what our community is all about? Rev. Norris hosts a Pathway to Membership class approximately every six weeks about 30 minutes after services. The class is approximately 90 minutes and reviews UU history and theology, the history and structure of UUCG, and some of the responsibilities and benefits of membership. It is also a great way to get to know others who are considering joining our beloved community. The next date is October 7.

Social Justice

The Social Justice Ministry met on September 25. We will continue the Bare Necessities Project, first by collecting clothing all year for the Clothing Bank. After people have finished working on the election however and if they chose, we will as usual collect food for the food bank in November. Then in December we will collect socks, mittens, gloves, and scarves to donate. We will post events happening in the community pertaining to immigration, environment and other Social Justice Issues. We are also looking forward to a new project, hosting "Help with Health Care Forums" where we will invite members and the community to learn about accessing health care.

Worship Committee

If you are interested in being involved in worship planning, or have ideas you'd like to share about upcoming services. Anyone interested in getting

involved with the Worship Committee, is welcome and encouraged to email the committee Co-Chairs, Brian and Shelly Gaza
brian.gaza@gmail.com or shelly.gaza@uncoe.edu

Giving in Gratitude



Scrip Announcement

I'm so excited! With Hollis's help, I have found out how you can order your own Scrip cards! It's so easy! You can print your own cards, refill some cards, order physical cards.... it's so exciting!

Following the Congregational meeting in October 21st, 2018. Hollis and I will show you how to easily link into the website, set up a secure account linked to your checking account and shop away. The proceeds will go straight into the UU Church of Greeley's account. An example: Oh, I need to go to Lowes to get some paint. I'll go to my Scrip account, buy a \$25.00 gift card, print it out, and go get some paint. The church will get 4% of that \$25.00! Contact me, Josette, at 381-7891 for more information.

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

\$10 will get you a refillable Safeway Card!!

Building Our Generosity Through Our Weekly Plate (And Helping Heal the World)

We are trying something audacious this year with our plate. Every service, rather than collect for ourselves, we will use the service to highlight outside charitable organizations and collect for their good work with our plate on Sunday. The plate funds contributed by the congregation over two weeks will by agreement be donated to organizations prioritized by local charitable organizations, UU, or disaster relief.

This program will need members and friends to nominate possible recipients. The Board will ensure eligibility of the charitable organizations at the monthly meeting making sure they have non-profit status and meet one of the three criteria. Qualified organizations will then be eligible for selection. For October, the recipients will be Weld

Food Bank and Lutheran Family Services. Afterward, qualified organizations will be chosen at random. To nominate a group, send an email to the office manager and include your name, their name, a contact person and the website of the organization.

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.

UUCG Service to Refugees and Asylees

We are happy to announce that UUCG will be once again providing space to the Lutheran Family Services Refugee and Asylee Programs' Services Work Club once a week, as they will be utilizing space in our building for job skills and technology education.

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.

Echoes of Gratitude

The UU church would like to Thank the Following UU’s for all You DO!

- Rosemary Edmiston, Eulice Kogovsek and Kathy Wise for your donations to Religious Education. The Children are very appreciative!
- Dennis Francen & Jim Shearer for Hosting our guest speaker, Steve Brooks.
- Brian & Shelly Gaza for their Encore Service “UUCG’s Gift to the DREAMers Scholarship Fund at UNC.”
- Julie Miller for planting our New Garden and helping keep OUR church in such great shape!
- Dianne Culver, Jean Thomas, Margaret Chiniquy, Michelle Noftsker, Hollis Berendt, and Rosemary Edmiston for your help with Coffee and Treats!
- Michelle Noftsker, Josette Schaffer, and Hollis Berendt, for your help with Greeting!
- Kathy Vaughn, Julie Miller, Shelly Gaza, and Brian Gaza, for your being the Worship Associate in September!
- Julie Miller, Margaret Chiniquy, Joe Joyner, and Bill Thomas, for your help with A/V in September!
- Thank you to Sharlene Meydell, Bill Thomas, Hollis Berendt, Atulya Johnson, Jim Vaughn, Jim Shearer, Karen Clugston, for lending your beautiful voices to Choir!