



Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley

September 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

September Theme: Empathy

In the month of September we will explore Empathy, as a spiritual practice, a life skill, and a requirement of healing. For some empathy is second nature; for others it is an alien way of life; for most of us, it is a strong emotional predisposition that requires cultivation and practice. The ability to understand and share the feelings of another is essential to our vision of a just world. The expression of empathy is also a prerequisite to our understanding of mercy and our ability to make sense of forgiveness. Without empathy, our project of beloved community is impossible.

9-1-2019 **Kathy Vaughn**

9-8-2019 Water Communion-**Rev. Aaron Norris**. Please bring water from a special place and a dish to share as we are having a potluck.

9-15-2019 **Rev. Aaron Norris**

9-22-2019 **Rev. Aaron Norris**

9-29-2019 **Julie Miller**

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

Ministerial Musings

Friends,

I hope that everyone has had a fantastic summer, filled with experiences that brought you both joy and meaning. I hope that your plans went off (mostly) without a hitch and the memories that you created in the warm summer months filled you with excitement and enthusiasm for what is to come.

I am excited about our upcoming year and the chance to celebrate another church year with the Greeley congregation. We had a very fruitful 365 days together and I am excited about the upcoming year. I think we are lucky to be at this moment with our church sails full of spiritual energy, congregational excitement and even a bit of financial windfall due to the generosity of our anonymous donor and the stretching of our congregation in surpassing our previous fundraising efforts.

We will launch our year as with the water communion which will be an all ages affair. I hope those with children will bring them out September 8th for this special ceremony. I always enjoy seeing the adventurous and creative stories that people bring to this ritual. Some of the water from some far flung place on someone's bucket list vacation - the "this water flowed from the Ganges" water. Some of the water from a traditional location of meaning - the "this water was taken from the irrigation ditch running alongside our family farm" water; and some water from a moment to be remembered but never recaptured again - the "this water came from the drinking fountain on my child's kindergarten class on the first day of school" water. I hope you make it on that day, or soon thereafter, because it is going to be a really wonderful year.

Yours in Faith and Fellowship,

Rev. Aaron

Welcome Michele Masters

Please join us Sunday, September 8th, as we formally welcome our Church Office Manager, Michele Masters to UUCG! There will be refreshments after the service.

Your Board At Work

It seems as if summer has quickly left us as soon as it arrived. I was standing by our pergola, looking at a hive of bees and I was wondering if they had died. It was fairly chilly and dusk was arriving. When I gently prodded it with a stick, they all moved. That's a lot like summer to me. The church seems to get quiet for a bit and then fall finds us all back and scurrying again. A few weeks ago, I heard our aspen whisper, "It won't be long now." Summer seems to go so quickly and now here we are with the kids back at school, UNC gearing up for the next year, Renee ready to catch the piano keys on fire, and Reverend Norris testing the microphone. Summer has been a busy time for the board preparing for the year ahead with some new activities and ideas ahead, along with some of the wonderful activities and services we have come to cherish. We have been focusing on the "usual" tasks of running UUCG, but with an emphasis on how to distribute the funds that were raised with our matched fund this last year. In October, we will have a Congregational Meeting and discuss our decisions with the congregation. Please do

plan on joining us for that on October 6th, 2019. It's simply an informative gathering for discussion, but do plan on attending.

Coffee Ambassadors

September will see our Coffee Ambassador Program rolling out with UUCG members and friends taking on the responsibility as servers and snack providers of our Coffee Hour after our regular Sunday Service. With our group effort, we all are responsible for only serving one Sunday during the year. It's Stewardship in Action.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report- July 2019

Income \$ 4,332.90

18-19 donor match \$ 6,430.00

Expenses \$ 5,264.06

Checking balance \$ 9,543.90

Savings balance \$ 33,078.93

Grow in Spirit



Youth Religious Education

It's time to begin the Fall Classes. We will hear the Universe tell stories of chaos and creativity. It includes

our Unitarian Universalist Creation Story, of how we are connected to everything on earth and were born 13 billion years ago. Contact kathy Vaughn with questions.

September Dates

September 1-last play day of the summer

September 8- Multi-gen Water Communion

September 15- Class #1 Twinkle Little Star

September 22- Chapel on Empathy

September 29- Class #2 You Are Made of Stardust

Service Auction

This month's Service Auction item is a new 28" LED Insignia Television with remote. Make a bid by calling the church number, 970 351-6751 or talking to Kathy Vaughn. Bids start at \$50.

Build Your Own Theology (Session1)

Rev. Norris will be starting up a session of the introduction course on Build Your Own Theology starting on Monday, September 23rd at 1 p.m. This class has no prerequisite as is designed for the searcher who wants to explore with others exactly how they make meaning in the world. Biweekly readings normally involve a page or two, with some journaling practice. Each class is about 120 minutes. You are welcome to sign up with Rev. Aaron at minister@greeleyuuc.org

Build Your Own Theology (Session2)

Rev. Norris will be starting up a session of the follow-up Build Your Own Theology starting on Tuesday, September 24th at 6 p.m. This class has the BYOT 1 prerequisite asandis designed for the searcher who wants to more deeply explore with others exactly how they make meaning in the world. Classes are planned to be on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Biweekly readings normally involve a page or two, with some journaling practice. Each class is about 120 minutes. You are welcome to sign up with Rev. Aaron at minister@greeleyuuc.org

Gather in a Caring Community

Congregational Meeting

Sunday October 6th, 11:30 AM to let the congregation know about the Board's planned distribution of the Matched Funds that were raised during the last church year.

Fellowship Coffee Hour Process & Membership Involvement

As discussed in September at our Congregational Meeting, we will be implementing a new process for our Fellowship Coffee Hour, offered at the end of each worship service. There is an art to a coffee hour and newcomers often judge a congregation by its coffee hour hospitality—especially newcomers. It is an integral part of our legacy to help them feel welcome ***or not***. It is a time when we, as congregants get to share ourselves and what UUCG, as a faith home, can be as you/we are the ambassadors. As we have had fewer numbers of volunteers for the coffee hour and after much discussion with other UU church leaders, it has been decided to give a new process a try. I (Julie Miller) take full responsibility for its shortcomings, if they develop. However, please know we are only asking you to assist us

for **one** Sunday. And yes, that's what I said, **one Sunday**. As I sat down with board members at our retreat, we looked at the calendar and eliminated some Sundays for the upcoming year due to special events or potlucks. And, please do keep in mind there is a LOT of work that goes on behind the scenes to provide a potluck as the tables and setup does not magically appear nor get cleaned up. It's all done by volunteers and we ALL benefit from this. So, as part of our legacy, I and the board, are asking for your participation with our Fellowship Coffee Hour. We need it. Of course, if you want to ever help with ANY event, it's always welcomed and you can contact me or leave a message at the church office. You will be receiving a letter from myself and Sharlene Meydell explaining the process and the establishment of the calendar for the year. You will be reminded about your Sunday in advance, but it will be up to you to follow-up and let us know, if you are not able to provide the treats and set-up and clean-up, as requested. We would hope you could find a substitute, if possible, otherwise we may forego the coffee hour for that Sunday. Typically, it's about a 2 hour commitment, including set-up and clean-up, unless you decide to get things set up during the service. Often times, people set up before our service, attend service, exit a few minutes before the end of the service, and then do clean-up after people disperse.

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 SEPTEMBER< ? Please follow copy this link and paste to your browser to sign up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXqa2DAtiYtIGhhM4iFJIG8rzi-m3XqJmlyA7kvSQA_azCBQ/viewform

Walk and Talks (NEW)

Theological Walks with Rev. Norris
All are welcome to join Rev. Norris on monthly theological walks the fourth Monday of every month at 12:00 p.m. The

walks will be a combination of historical tour, Socratic dialogue, walking meditation, and community building. Each walk will be about an hour. The topic of the walk will take into account the route chosen. Contact Rev. Norris if you are interested or arrive at the church at 11:40 to join him before he leaves for the walk.

In the month of August, Rev. Norris will lead a walk around and in the immediate vicinity of Lincoln Park. Those interested can have lunch together to continue the conversation. Our conversation is likely to touch on the theological implications of Utopia, planned societies verse organic societies, the tension between ideals and reality, displacement and immigration.

Buddhist and Meditation classes at Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley, 929 15th St, Greeley, CO 80631 the Second Tuesday of each month.

Buddhist Class - September 10, 1:30 pm. Meditation - September 10, 2:30 pm. Topic for September, the Dhammapada. Reading - Selections from the Dhammapada, pages 125-138. Remaining classes: October 8, November 12

For additional information email Janelle Helling at: janelle.helling@gmail.com

Happy Birthday!



Marybeth Coulter 3
Vicki Anderson 5
Miles Hanselman 10
Charles Noftsker 19
Shauna Yanke 22
Herb Conley 24
Kristina Bain 26

If we forgot your September Birthday, please let us know- we would love to add yours to the list! Send an email to office_manager@greeleyuuc.org.

Upcoming Events

Social Justice Ministry

Social Justice Ministry meetings at **11:00 am on September 16th**. Please come and help plan our future projects

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

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.

Please sign into a King Soopers account and use Unitarian Universalist Church of Greeley as your Community Rewards recipient. Once registered, at the end of your receipt is a note that King Soopers is donating to the UU Church of Greeley! There are refillable Safeway cards for sale. All purchases made with the Safeway gift card contribute to our congregation. Please contact Josette with any questions.

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**

