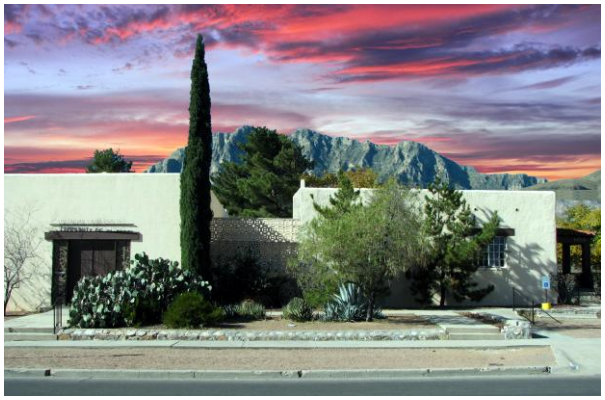
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY OF EL PASO TEXAS



The El Paso NUUsletter
AUGUST 2010

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Palabras del Presidente:
Pondering thoughts August 1, 2010

Our last hoorah, August! The final month of summer that allows us to still wallow in the lazy days of summer vacation and sleep late. But have you noticed an anxiety, or at least a twinge or pull that plays on your anticipation for fall? Admit it, we're not ready to relinquish our fun filled days of summer all together, but there is a sense of urgency that fall is nearing, and this month is a wonderful time to begin planning and looking forward to the many events we are planning at UUCEP. Hopefully, that twinge or pull that creeps into our psyche is our UU enlightenment kicking in. Perhaps this is your time to awaken from your rest to be a part of the planning process, to join a cause, or to serve.

You can start by voicing your opinion on August 8th, when the Sunday Program Committee meets to discuss the format and topics you would like to see addressed at the services this fall. On August 22, Rev. Nancy Anderson, the minister from the Las Cruces Church, will be speaking. She has offered to preach once a month through December. The only way to find out if Rev. Anderson fulfills your spiritual needs is to attend the services and forums afterwards. Is this a commitment you are willing to accept?

The Course in Miracles meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Are you willing to investigate and find out more about this program that helps us find balance and minimize the ego in our lives? There are great discussions and readings to ponder. Books are available for newcomers. Sonia Galindo is the group leader.

Movie-nights, like the one Kathy Anderson is planning on Aug. 6th, should be fun for the whole family. "Capitalism, a Love Story" begins at 7:00 pm. Is this an activity that the congregation and more importantly YOU could enjoy? Would you be willing to host one? Why not come out and see for yourself.

A new addition is our song writing class offered by Sharon Cobb. It will take place every Tuesday evening beginning August 10th and culminate on September 28. We are asking Sharon and students to be a part of our Musical Sunday presentation at the end of September. Sharon teams up writers and musicians together, or allows those who prefer to work alone that opportunity. What a wonderful opportunity to meet people from all over El Paso. What do you think?

Lastly and certainly not least, the CYRE is looking for people who are interested in teaching "Our Whole Lives" (Owl) for our 7th through 9th grade students. It is a sexual education program written by Unitarian Universalists and The United Church of Christ. It is an abstinence-based program, but provides facts and real life experiences from teens of all walks of life. Susan and Eric Fruedenthal, from the Las Cruces UU Church, will provide training on Saturday, August 28 for those who would like to teach our teens or who would be interested in the training, but are unable to teach this year. It is a year of commitment, but a very worthwhile endeavor. Sign up with Tina Priester if this is something you feel strongly about. We are also looking for volunteer teachers for the other CYRE classes as well. This includes the pre-school, elementary, and high school students. Join the CYRE committee and be a part of the curriculum planning team for our youth. If you believe that the religious education of our youth is an integral part of our congregational responsibility, please consider teaching.

These are just a few of the initiatives we have begun in August. I would like to encourage you to reflect on your gifts and talents, and be a part of this Community in both word and deed.

Blessings,
Janet Kincaid

President of the Board, UUCEP

UU LITE: JULY 4 THROUGH AUGUST 15

From the Treasurer:

Even though we are on UU Lite, we still have expenses to maintain UUCEP. Please don't forget to send in your pledge check for July and August if you haven't already done so.

Crafting classes and childcare will be available for those attending UU LITE.

August 6th-Movie Night

Capitalism: A Love Story by Michael Moore will be shown in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m., Friday, August 6. Childcare will be available.

August 8th – Sunday Programs Committee Meeting

Sunday Programs Committee meeting @ UUCEP, 10:30 AM. Anyone who wants to provide input into the process of scheduling Sunday services is welcome to attend! If you have any issue in mind that you would specifically like to hear discussed, please email Joe Knapka jknapka@kneuro.net so that he can add it to the meeting agenda.

August 15th- CYRE Planning Meeting

There will be a planning session for CYRE during UU Lite in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing everything CYRE, including the call for teachers, projects, fundraisers, day trips and of course what each group will be studying. Special treats for those that attend.

August 16th -GnUUs Choir Rehearsals resume at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Childcare is provided.

August 28th - Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) Training-Workshop 10 a.m. to?

UUCEP's CYRE will sponsor a special O.W.L. training in ***our Sanctuary*** on August 28th for those interested in possibly becoming teachers for this program. We are hoping for a great turn out, so please sign up to attend. Even if you are not sure you would like to teach this year, next year, or the following year, but you are interested, please contact Tina Priester to have your name added to this list. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

Services:

August 22nd **Singing in a Strange Land**
Presented by: Reverend Nancy Anderson, UU of Las Cruces

As Parker Palmer says, "in religious community, strangers meet on safe ground, the ground of common commitment... The religious community could become a kind of halfway house between the comforts of private life and the challenges of diversity - but only if it can stay open to strangeness and help us experience our differences within the context of a common faith". Today we explore the value of the stranger.

August 29th **Ethics of Changing Minds**
Presented by: Jake Merritt

Our own Jake Merritt has spent some time considering the ethics of setting out to change someone's mind, and will share his thoughts. Will he change anyone's mind?

Recycling at the Community:

El Paso recycles not only paper, but also cardboard, junk mail, plastic containers, cans, and aluminum foil. We don't have a recycling pickup at the Community; however, there are members willing to take stuff home to recycle; so, when we have community events, like the potluck luncheons, please set aside recyclables which includes the disposable foil baking pans and the plastic cookie or raw veggie trays.

Please remember to observe the 20-minute rule: No Community business the first 20 minutes after service ends. Please use this time to greet our visitors.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE & RECEIVE SERVICE

If you have concerns for yourself or for others or need a ride, please call 562-4001.

Food Bank:

Clear box with a blue lid next to the Sanctuary information table. Food is donated to the Missouri Street Shelter.

Chalice Lighting, Flowers & Music*:* For opportunities to help with Sunday morning programs, please call 562-4001.

Address Changes:

Anytime you move, change your phone number or your email address, please let Ginger, our office administrator, know, so she can update our records and the directory. Just send her an email: UUCEP@UUELPASO.ORG

Volunteers Needed:

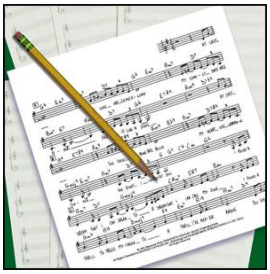
We need volunteers to help with Sunday Services. There is a sign-up sheet, to bring snacks, on the table next to the double doors in the sanctuary. People are also needed for set-up and clean-up. Please contact Mary Walsh with any questions or if training is needed to perform these tasks. Her phone number is 526-6469.

Orders of Service and Bulletin

Announcements need to be to Ginger no later then Wednesday of that week. 915-562-4001 or **uucep@uuelpaso.org**

Events taking place at UUCEP will be listed on the calendar when a room reservation (Building Usage Form 1-A) has been made through the office. Forms are available in the hutch outside the office. Forms need to be submitted 30 days before the event.

This congregation welcomes the participation of all members, friends and visitors without regard to race, class, national origin, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression.



Songwriting Class
Taught by Sharon Cobb

Twenty-five year veteran of producing and songwriting in Nashville, Sharon Cobb, will be teaching a class in commercial songwriting at UUCEP at 6:00 Tuesday evenings beginning August 10 for eight weeks. The classes are 90 minutes and best of all, free (though there will be a "pass the hat" for expenses for the church and for Miss Cobb).

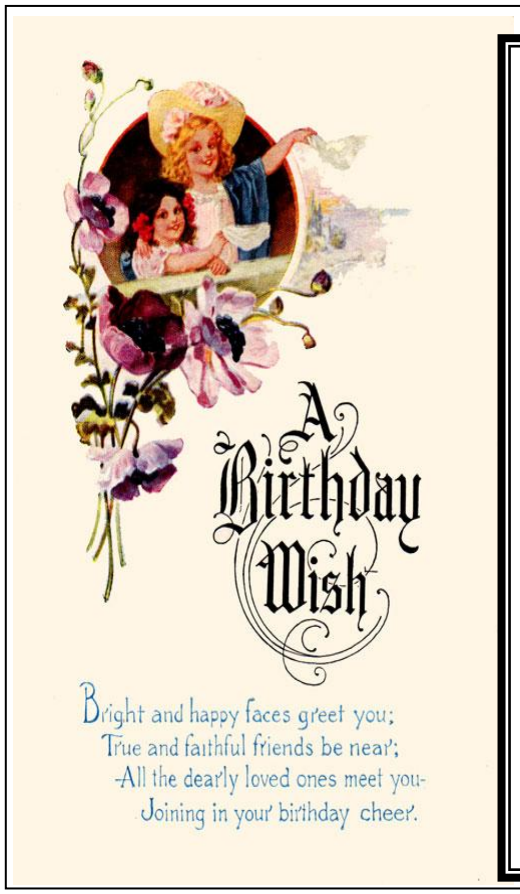
When asked why she isn't charging for the classes, she replied, ***"Every writer I've ever known who started off good or great was starving".***

Cobb has co-written with Ben Vereen, Steve Cropper, Steve Earle, Bobby Braddock, Bruce Channel, Kix Brooks and numerous other #1 songwriters. She also produced an R&B album on Ben Vereen, and live shows for Emmylou Harris, Steve Earle and Garry Morris, and written theme songs for two films.

If you are a songwriter, and want to learn how to craft your song(s) to get airplay, this class is for you. Cobb will also go over all the steps from inception of the song, to demos and publishing, to how to get it heard.

As a bonus, during the last class, the class is going to vote on who they thought wrote the best song, and Cobb will give that song to the artist the class votes it should go to, or his/her producer. Cobb, again, is not accepting any money to do this. She stated that she did it, and knows writers here, who are as good as or better than she, and she wants them to have their shot, and with the Internet, it's no longer necessary to move to Nashville to make it.

Cobb was raised in El Paso, left for Nashville 25 years ago, and recently returned and is working on a documentary about Bobby Fuller.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1st	Janet Kincaid
6th	George Wise
12th	Sophia Anderson
	Hope Berry
13th	John Pearson
14th	Sally Savage
22nd	Mary Walsh
26th	Carol Jackson-Long
	Patricia E. White
30th	John Padalino
	Barbara Peters

PAGAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP

August
12th TAROT **Also Mary Rodriguez's Birthday!
31st DRUMMING CIRCLE

September
9th TAROT
23rd MABON/FALL EQUINOX 28th DRUMMING CIRCLE

****Don't forget about The 2nd Annual Witch's Ball and fundraiser on Oct. 30th!***

We need donations for the auction, so get your crafty hats on! Planning meeting T.B.A.

The Tarot study group will be meeting on Thursday, 7pm. The group is free and open to everyone - No experience required. Study is based on Rider Waite; however, you can use any deck you like.

All events begin at 7pm and childcare is available **except for drumming circles/Esbats.**

The Crane House is still being renovated, so all events will still be held in the Sanctuary.

Register Now for WomenSpirit Retreat

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces presents a WomenSpirit retreat from Friday to Sunday, Sep 17-19, 2010. We welcome adult women from the Las Cruces UU congregation and the larger community to join us at the Sacramento Methodist Assembly grounds near Cloudcroft. The weekend will feature an expanded program beginning on Friday afternoon with time to relax in the beautiful natural setting before dinner and a formal opening ceremony. We invite you to engage in community building, art, music, dance, crafts, spirituality, and just plain fun. Go online at http://www.uuchurchlc.org/2010/06/2010-womenspirit/ for the registration form, a basic schedule and a list of what to bring. There is a small discount for those who register before August 15. For more information contact Teri Gillen at 575 373-7777.

NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World. Unitarian Universalists

Where people with different beliefs worship together as one faith.

CAMP THUNDERBIRD

June 30 – July 5, 2011

Many of you were with us at Camp Thunderbird over the 4th of July and had a great time. Camp dates for 2011 will be Thursday, June 30 – Tuesday, July 5. Save these dates on your calendar and plan to attend camp next year. We will be planning more fun events and hope to see you all there. Contact Pat White, Joe Knapka, or Alex Ceely for more information.

From The Lavender Room & The UU Spirit

Both columnists are taking a much needed rest and enjoying the summer. Please look toward future issues for their return.

Denominational Affairs Mountain Desert District (MDD) Office:

District Executive: Rev Nancy Bowen executive@mdduua.org

2242 S Albion Street Denver, CO 80222

(303) 756-1378/ (303) 756-1407 FAX

MOUNTAIN DESERT DISTRICT

CH George Tyger has been appointed as the Coordinator of Military Ministries in MDD. Chaplain Tyger is a UU minister with the First Squadron, 10th Cavalry of the United States Army stationed at Ft Carson, CO. George will provide an important link between liberal religionists, the UU community, local congregations and the military.

When the need or interest arises, you can contact CH Tyger directly through email or telephone at george.tyger@us.army.mil or 719-337-3640.

District Conference 2010: "Embracing the Vision" will be October 8-10, 2010 at the Ogden Marriott Hotel, 247 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401. Registration forms are now available. Go to http://www.mdduua.org/news/upcoming-events.html for more information.

The Russell Lockwood Leadership School will be August 1-8, 2010 at Sunrise Ranch.

Go to the MDD website at http://mdduua.org for more information.

Awakening the Dreamer (Environmental Justice) Workshop, led by Rev. Ellen Johnson-Fay will be held Saturday, September 25, 2010. Site to be announced. More information when it is available.

Check the UUA homepage for some interesting new sites and email lists: http://www.uua.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY OF EL PASO TEXAS
UPDATES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Board of Trustees will meet in the Sanctuary the third Sunday of each month after the Service. Regular meetings are open meetings with no set agenda. Members and friends of UUCEP are invited to attend and present matters for consideration by the Board.

Do You Want to Know What's Going On?

Copies of the minutes from Congregation & Board Meetings are posted on the door between the middle hallway & Fellowship room. Reading these minutes is a good way to keep up with what is happening in our Community.

The Program Council Committee Chairs meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

These meetings are open to anyone wishing to be more active in our community.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Our choir is always open to new members, no audition required. Join us for rehearsal on Monday evenings from 6:30 until 8:00; childcare is provided.

Vocalists and instrumentalists desiring to perform solo at Sunday services please contact me for scheduling.

Your Music Director,

Stanley Ross

915-845-5847 or rossstudios88@live.com

The Choir is still on vacation; rehearsals resume August 16th.

Summer Singing Lessons available by appointment...

"A COURSE IN MIRACLES" STUDY GROUP

A new group has started at UUCEP! Our purpose is to learn a more peaceful, compassionate and meaningful way of living our lives. Our guide is *A Course In Miracles*. Our hope is that we can support and facilitate each other's growth. We are open to anyone who wants to attend. The study group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and will meet at 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. For those of you not familiar with ACIM, feel free to contact Sonia Galindo selindo@gmail.com , or visit www.acim.org to find out more. Please check the order of service for dates or contact Sonia.

Administration & Finance Updates:

The Finance Committee Chair is still vacant! To volunteer for this position, please contact Aurolyn Luykx, Nominating Committee Chair.

On-going fundraisers: The Albertsons card is easy to use. Just give it to the clerk to scan when you check out. We receive 1% of what you spend each month. If you do not yet have a card or know someone who would like one, see Pat White.

UUCEP received a check for $120.87 **from the Albertson's Community Partner program. Thank you for continuing to support the community when you shop there.**

We are also selling our UUCEP t-shirts & cookbooks on Sunday. The t-shirts are $15 for adult sizes and $10 for children's sizes. We have 1 cookbook left at $10.

Membership Committee Chair: Alex Ceely

If **YOU** are interested in membership in this Community, please ask the greeter for a membership application. After completing the form, please put it in the offering basket or give it to a greeter at the end of the service.

The Membership Committee meets every other second Sunday, 30 minutes after the service. All are welcome to attend. If you need a new nametag, please see a greeter on Sunday morning. You do not have to be a member to wear a nametag.

Interested in getting to know us?

If you have been visiting and feel that you would like to get to know us better, please fill out one of the light-green Welcome Guest!/Visitor Cards found in the packet that a greeter can get for you. The packets are located at the entrance to the hall on the shelves. Please ask for one; fill it out and place it in the offering basket or give it to one of the greeters at the end of the service. Remember that you do not have to be a member to wear a nametag; so, if you would like one, be sure to let us know.

August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 a.m. - UU Lite *2-4 p.m. - Rosicrucians, Fellowship Hall*	2 Office Closed	3	4 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Sanctuary*	5 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Fellowship Hall*	6 6:30 p.m. - Movie Night (*Capitalism, A Love Story*), Sanctuary	7
8 10:30 a.m. - UU Lite 11 p.m. - Sunday Programs Meeting, Sanctuary	9 Office Closed	10 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Songwriting Workshop, Sanctuary 7 p.m. - *A Course in Miracles*, Fellowship Hall	11 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Sanctuary*	12 7 p.m. - Tarot Class, Sanctuary *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Fellowship Hall*	13	14 6 p.m. - Circle Supper, Singer home
15 10:30 a.m. - UU Lite 12 p.m. - Board Meeting, Sanctuary 12 p.m. - Radical Knitters, Fellowship Hall CYRE Planning Meeting *2-4 p.m. - Rosicrucians, FH*	16 Office Closed 6:30 p.m. - GnUUs Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	17 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Songwriting Workshop, Sanctuary	18 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Sanctuary*	19 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Fellowship Hall*	20	21
22 10:30 a.m. - Service 10:30 a.m. - Children/Teen RE Classes, Fellowship Hall	23 Office Closed 6:30 p.m. - GnUUs Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	24 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Songwriting Workshop, Sanctuary 7 p.m. - *A Course in Miracles*, Fellowship Hall	25 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Sanctuary*	26 *8-9:30 p.m. - NA, Fellowship Hall*	27	28 10 a.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) Training, Sanctuary
29 10:30 a.m. - Service 10:30 a.m. - Children/Teen RE Classes, Fellowship Hall	30 Office Closed 6:30 p.m. - GnUUs Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	31 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Songwriting Workshop, Sanctuary 7 p.m. - Drumming Circle/Esbat, Crane House				