

CONNECTIONS

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Southwest Utah



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CONNECTIONS is a periodic publication of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Southwest Utah (UUFUSU).
P.O. Box 3142
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www.uufsu.org

APRIL 2022

Mark your calendars now!

THIS MONTH WITH UUFUSU

The Sunday service on April 10th will start at 10 a.m. at Room at the Square (175 W 900 S in St. George, Utah). Please **BE VACCINATED AND WEAR A MASK**.

Arrive by 9:45 a.m. for time to socialize and elbow bump (rather than other

forms of contact greeting). Additional time to socialize will follow the service.



UUFUSU celebrates April as Earth Awareness Month

Apr. 10th Service (10 a.m.) TEACHING

'OUR WHOLE LIVES' (UUs AND SEXUALITY

EDUCATION) with David Salisbury and Nancy Ross who will share their experience teaching this widely acclaimed UU developed program to 7 – 9th graders.

Apr. 17th Easter – NO PROGRAM, enjoy your holiday!

Apr. 24th Gathering (9:30 a.m.) EARTH DAY CELEBRATION at Tonaquint Park

meet at North Pavillion for

contential breakfast with coffee and juices (BYO

cup) at 9:30, EARTH DAY,

service at 10, followed by

meidtatively walking in

The Garden. Recognitions

and prizes for JEPARODY

winners will be presented.

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

If unvaccinated or unable to attend in-person, please log into Zoom for the services, forums and other online gatherings thru the calendar on the website.

1. Go to the UUFUSU website (UUFUSU.org)
2. Select the UUFUSU Calendar
3. Go to the date, and click on the "Join Zoom Meeting" link that is provided. Host will then connect you into the program.

For your convenience: The same link is used for all services and forums, so if you save the link.....you can always join the scheduled UUFUSU Zoom service or forum without going to the Calendar!

RECENT PAST PROGRAMS

There is a delay in posting the past programs as they are being edited and converted to YouTube format prior to posting.

Mar. 13th Service HONORING NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES with Feather (Kaye) Robinson, who proudly shares stories, cultural insights and native wisdom through classes at ICL (Institute for Continued Learning).

Mar. 20th Forum INSIGHTS INTO THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM with Rob Latham, attorney at law, experienced in providing effective advocacy and representation in Utah. Rob is affiliated with the Parent Defense Alliance of Utah and with the Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Mar 27th ANNUAL MEETING (no YouTube will be prepared) – the following documents were approved at the meeting by a quorum of the *voting members* present:

Amended and Restated Bylaws – [HERE](#) (defines voting member and other items)

Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation

Budget for 2022 – 2023

If you like a copy of the other two documents, please send an email titled “UUFSU Document Request” to Ann Foster, shdwker@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES

Hiking

Mar. 11th Hike to the Vortex Thirteen human participants and three canines met at Lower Sand Cove trailhead. The hike was announced as “moderately challenging” but found to be mighty challenging by a few of the humans, but a perfect hike for the three canines.



Upcoming Outdoor Activities

Hiking

Apr. 8th (10:30 a.m.) Mystery HIKE (under 2 miles, easy/moderate); meet at Gordon and Judy Warren's home 2990 E, Riverside Drive, #259. Hikers may go out to lunch together following the hike, so bring lunch money. hiking boots, hat, water and poles (optional). Dogs welcome.

Apr. 22nd (10:30 a.m.) White Dome Nature Preserve WALK (easy, several trails); meet at parking lot on River Road (1.9 miles north of Southern Parkway and 2.7 miles south of Brigham Road. The endangered Dwarf Bear Poppy, which is only found in the barren gypsum rich hills near St. George, may be in full bloom. No dogs allowed in Preserve.

If you have ideas for future UUFSU hikes to be held on the **second Friday of each month**, please send an email to gjwarren645@yahoo.com and shdwker@gmail.com.

BIKING

A group is forming for periodic rides. Sometimes the ride will be on road bikes (solo and tandem) and other times on mountain bikes. Please inform **Gordon Warren** if you ride on two wheels. Gordon can be reached at gjwarren645@yahoo.com and **435-627-0807**. Please provide your phone number and email when you contact him.

Upcoming Social Activities – where you may encounter others from UUFSU

Apr. 8th (8 p.m.) TEDx at Tuacahn; Switchpoint CEO **Carol Holloway** will be one of 10 speakers in the inspiring program "Imagine"; the innovative, inspirational speakers are from around the country, including **an expert on hydroponic farming** (similar to the new vertical "Rise" garden being installed at Switchpoint). Order your tickets at (435) 652-3200 and plan to see others from UUFSU at this exciting event! Carol suggests that you arrive early to meet some of the speakers. *Note: Switchpoint is the organization that UUFSU 2021-2022 Social Justice supports.*

Apr. 9th (7 p.m.) Southwest Utah Heritage Choir (free) in the Tabernacle; **Debbie Bowen**, one of the founding members, recommends that you arrive early for a good seat.



Apr. 16 & 17th St. George Art Festival (free) is held at Town Square with 110 artists from throughout the West, 20 food booths, two stages of performers and activities for children.

Apr. 23rd (3 p.m.) Kayenta Street Fair (free). Meet up with others to admire the chalk art and perhaps have a snack at Xetava and/or walk the Kayenta Labyrinth.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) UPDATE

Meetings are open to all UUFSU members; the next meeting is to be scheduled, open to all. Check for the Zoom link, indicated on the Calendar which can be found on UUFSU.org.

Based upon the approval at the Annual Meeting on March 27th, the following individuals will serve on the Board of Trustees (BOT). The BOT is for the first time at full capacity (9 members) and we are looking forward to working together to facilitate a very **BRIGHT FUTURE** for UUFSU!

2022 -2023 Board of Trustees

| Continuing | New* |
|----------------|------------------|
| Ann Foster | Chris Bourke |
| Jim Hodges | Diane Richardson |
| Donna Howell | Lisa Rutherford |
| Bob Shear | David Salisbury |
| Joyce Spinelli | |

***See UUFSU SPOTLIGHT for more information on the four new Trustees, on page 8.**

The Fellowship honors and appreciates **Shannon Andersen** for serving a full 3 -year term on the BOT, serving on the Program Committee and leading the Social Justice Committee.

Kim Borgmeyer is recognized for filling the 1+ year term of a Board member who moved away.



The Board of Trustees does the groundwork on many UUFSU issues with the Voting Members having the final “say” on major matters (budget, changes to Bylaws, etc.)



UUFUSU BRIGHT FUTURE PLEDGE DRIVE for Fiscal Year: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

All members and participating friends were sent the pledge information including an addressed, stamped envelope. on or about **April 1st**. If you did not receive an information packet, you can retrieve the pledge letter **HERE** and the pledge form **HERE**. Pledge forms are to be returned to P.O. Box 3142, St. George, UT 84771 **by April 22, 2022**.

BE PART OF UUFUSU's BRIGHT FUTURE - this summer

Join the **Location search** team – contact **Chris Bourke**, 435-414-1230 (#1) to join the team!!!

Forum ideas – share ideas for speakers or topics - contact **Joyce Spinelli**, 435-414-1230 (#2)

Social event ideas – always welcome, cookout at your place? Concert in park? Movie night?

Road trip to Pine Valley? ETC?? - contact **Ann Foster**, 435-414-1230 (#1)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

books

Our book discussions are held on Zoom; join by 6:45 for socializing.

- **Apr. 3rd (7 p.m.) – Rule Makers, Rule Breakers: How Tight and Loose Cultures Wire Our World by Michele Gelfand**

A groundbreaking analysis of what used to be an impenetrable mystery: how and why do cultures differ? The author's pioneering research into cultural norms was conducted in over 50 countries.

- **May 1st (7 p.m.) – Cloud Cuckoo Land: A Novel by Anthon Doerr**

This novel follows five characters whose stories, despite spanning nearly six centuries, are bound together by their mutual love for a single book.

- **Summer sessions to be decided based upon interest.**

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact **Chuck Warren at bcw222@gmail.com**.

Note: Books are selected by group members who are willing to lead the discussion.



WeSHARE

Jean Lown, Environmental Team Lead provides the following:

UU 7th Principle: Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence of Which We Are a Part. This principle is interpreted broadly to include concern for the environment.

Let's face it. Most of us boomers benefitted greatly from burning fossil fuels. Now it's time to consider future generations. Besides, **if you like to breathe clean air, driving an electric vehicle (EV) is the way to go.** For me, the time to take the plunge arrived in Spring 2021. I did my homework, read lots of websites, and talked to EV owners.

EVs cost about half as much to own compared to similar gas-powered vehicles due to lower repair and maintenance costs (fewer moving parts, no oil changes, etc.). Insuring EVs is more expensive due to not having decades of risk assessment data; but rates are trending down. Most EV models are eligible for a \$7,900 federal tax credit, which also applies when leasing:

<https://fueleconomy.gov/> Teslas are no longer eligible. Colorado offers a \$4,000 state tax credit; Utah offers \$0.

Despite all my research, driving an EV provided some surprises. **How far can you go on a charge? The MPG style sticker and vehicle websites all provide a number... but the true answer is: It Depends!** Are you driving uphill or down? Tail wind or head wind? 80 mph or 40? Are you using heat or AC? I used 45% of the battery power driving uphill to Cedar City and 15% returning to St.

George this winter. An EV charges on the down hills and while braking.

How long does it take to charge? Again, it depends. In Logan, we installed a 240 volt



charger; in St. George we plug it into 110 which is slower. Commercial charging stations vary in power, but it usually takes less than an hour. Don't plan to charge to 100% often. **EV batteries last longer and hold their charge best when kept in the 20-80% range.** Charge at home each night when electricity demand is low and, in some places, less costly than daytime rates.

After extensive research, I thought I had charging figured out. **There are at least 4 different commercial charging ports... not all can be used by all EVs.** Our vehicle comes with two ports: one for 110 V (plug in an ordinary home outlet) and the port for the 240 volt charger at home or at commercial chargers.

Numerous companies offer EV chargers: ChargePoint, Electrify America, EVgo, Plugshare, ChargeHub and more, offering 2



or 3 charging speeds. **Tesla has its own proprietary charging system.** Most other EVs use either CHAdeMO or CCS. It was disconcerting to discover that the Electrify America charging stations have multiple (4-12) connections for CCS vehicles but only one for CHAdeMO vehicles. It is about 400 miles between Logan and St. George. I stopped three times, mostly to check out the various charging systems.

I didn't buy a Tesla for many reasons, including their spotty reliability ratings from *Consumer Reports*, multiple recalls (11 in the last 6 months!), and because of the fires. (Tesla owners love their vehicles, but they also report quality problems).

Although there are dozens of EVs being produced, relatively few are readily available. **I considered the Chevy Bolt, VW ID.4, Hyundai Kona (not yet available in Utah), and Nissan Leaf.** The Nissan Leaf has

the longest track record (since 2010) and no reports of self-immolation like Teslas and Bolts (3 recalls so far for battery fires). The VW is too new. And the Leaf I wanted was available in the color and model I desired at the Logan dealership. Vehicle inventories are still low due to chip shortages. No point in waiting months or years for a vehicle. The **March issue of *Consumer Reports* ranks the top EVs costing \$35,000-\$55,000:** Kia Niro EV, Ford Mustang Mach-E, Tesla Model E and Nissan Leaf.

BTW, as a financial educator and adviser, I never expected to lease a vehicle, but at the rate that EVs are improving with longer ranges with each model year, I signed on for a 3 year lease.

When you are ready to upgrade to an EV to improve air quality and fight climate change feel free to contact me (Jean Lown): 435 760-2392.

Short term/temporary need for something? WeShare STUFF!





There is no need to purchase or rent an item (i.e. ladder, tools, walker, etc.), that you might be able to borrow from someone in our Fellowship community! Contact WeCare, **UUFSUWeCare@gmail.com** or call **(435) 414-1230 (#3)** to help you locate that "thing"!

WeCare SUPPORT Available

If you or another person in the extended Fellowship community needs assistance, please email **UUFSUWeCare@gmail.com** or call **(435) 414-1230 (#3)**, indicating the need(s) such as meals, transportation, other assistance.



UUFSU SPOTLIGHT on newly elected Board of Trustees

| Name Original Religion | Before moving to Southwest Utah | Major career focus | Strengths and UUFSI Commitments |
|--|--|---|--|
| Chris Bourke Catholic  1 Year term, ends 2023 | Originally from Springfield, MA. Lived 35+ yrs in Indianapolis, IN | Environmental Engineer in the Indiana State Health Dept. for 32+yrs | Technical Writing and ability/interest in tackling technologies. Served 6 yrs on UUFSU steering committee and BOT (President for 3 yrs) prior to “retiring” (2021-2022). |
| Diane Richardson Presbyterian  3 year term, ends 2025 | Grew up in Peoria, IL. Lived in 41 yrs in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN | Taught deaf adults, middle schoolers and hearing interpreter students off for many years. American Sign Language interpreter throughout career. | Presently serving on UUFSU Membership and WeCare Committees. |
| Lisa Rutherford Episcopalian  3 year term, ends 2025 | Originally from New Mexico. Lived in Alaska for 30 years | Taught elementary school several years, worked 20 yrs in administration for oil company in multiple people focused areas. | Activist writer, former Board member in Conserve Southwest Utah and involved in other environmental organizations, member of AAUW. |
| David Salisbury Mormon/LDS  3 year term, ends 2025 | Grew up in southern CA. Lived in FL and VA | Faculty of Grad. School at FL State Univ in Ed Dept of Ed Research; Instructional coach in VA, musician in SW Symphony, adjunct faculty at DSU. | Teaching youth, music, Affiliation with DSU. Presently serving on UUFSU Program Committee. |

BUT WAIT! THERE’S MORE!

YOU can provide feedback to St. George on the **2040 St. George General Plan**: go to

<https://2040.sgcity.org>



“WHAT I BELIEVE” service on May 22th

Our “What I Believe” service is the **time for YOU to share some of your beliefs with others.**

A few inspirations from seven-year-old Taralk McLain of Austin, TX:

- *I believe in magic.*
- *I believe love is everywhere.*
- *I believe we live best in a community.*
- *I believe we should help the poor.*

Please contact **Joyce Spinelli**, joyceronspinelli@hotmail.com to share your beliefs along with others in this sharing service on May 22nd.

Designer for future CONNECTIONS is needed. The newsletter copy is generated by the 20th of the month for the newsletter to be sent out by the 1st of the following month. Please let **Ann Foster** (shdwker@gmail.com) know if you would like to do this, or know of someone who does.

Pledges & Donations

Annual pledges are being requested now for the Fiscal Year: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2021; send your pledge or donation to UUFSU, P.O. Box 3142, St. George, Utah 84771. Please **consider increasing your pledge** to enable UUFSU to potentially have a home of our own, to increase funding for additional outside speakers (including visiting ministers), to develop programs for children/youth and to extend growth of the Fellowship community in southwest Utah.

Newsletter submissions are due by the 15th of the month for publication on the 1st of the following month. Please send your cartoons, recommendations (nonpolitical) and articles to Ann Foster, shdwker@gmail.com.

