

# *Borderlands Unitarian Universalist*



## November 2019

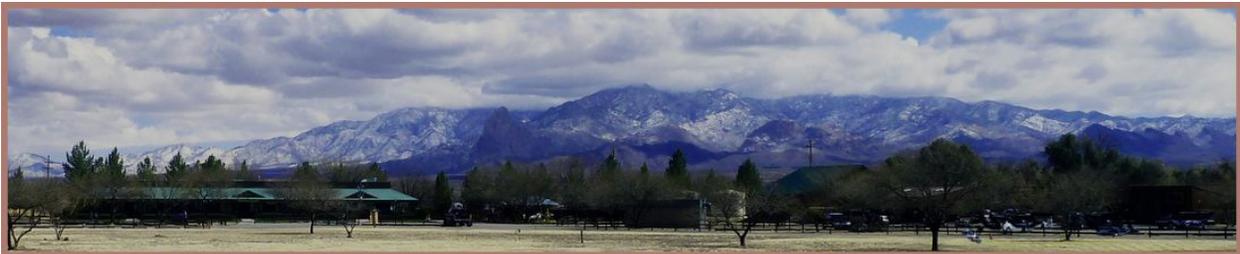
Amado Territory Ranch, 1-19, Exit 48, Turn East

(520) 648-0570

[officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com](mailto:officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com)

[www.borderlandsuu.org](http://www.borderlandsuu.org)

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30-2:30



## Nurture Your Spirit, Help Heal Our World

Worship Services, Sundays at 10:00am

Nov 3 " <b>The Risk of Compassion</b> " Rev. Matthew What are the risks of being a compassionate person? What must one give up, and what does one gain?	Nov 17 " <b>A People of Compassion</b> " Rev. Matthew We welcome new members this Sunday to join us as we journey to live as a people of compassion.
Nov 10 " <b>You Don't Need a God</b> " Rev. Christiane Heyde Our guest minister will explore our annual theme of "Nurture Your Spirit, Help Heal Our World" in light of our beliefs, spiritual practices, and community building.	Nov 24 " <b>Thanksgiving Country-Blues</b> " Rev. Matthew Our annual "Thanksgiving Blues" worship has added a Country sound this year. We will be singing Country-Blues to celebrate the gamble and payoff of our compassion.

If you would like to hear the recordings of our worship services you can find links on our [UUCAmado.org](http://UUCAmado.org).

**Borderlands Unitarian Universalist**  
**(520) 648-0570**

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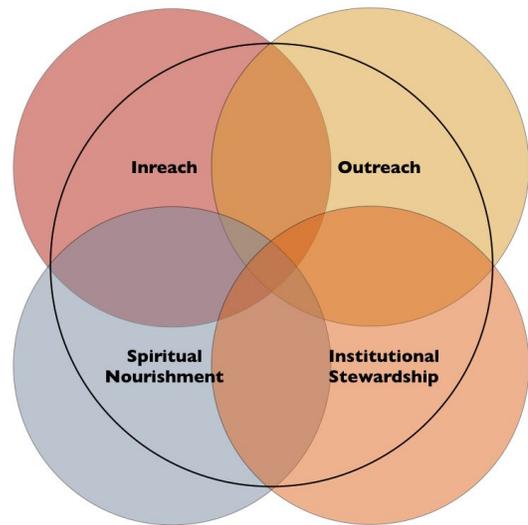
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**WE CARE**

- for one another through Inreach.
- for our community through Outreach.
- for our souls through Spiritual Nourishment.
- for our church home through Institutional Stewardship.

The organizational structure of our church is based on our gratitude for the four gifts named above. These are our ministries overlapping for our strongest programming and reaching beyond our congregation into our Southern Arizona Community.



We, the Borderlands Unitarian Universalists as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As a free congregation we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

# Matthew's Ministerial Musings

## Whose are we?

Several years ago, the Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association (UUMA) challenged my colleagues and I to ponder "Whose are we?" We were invited into this question through an interactive workshop at one of our annual retreats, a sermon writing contest, and contemplative messages and meditative readings offered to us regularly.

The response was robust from the ministers in our UUMA district chapter. Psychologically, we answered that we are our own; each is a unique individual who is responsible and accountable for their own thoughts and actions. Biologically, we are the earth's; collectively we evolved from and are dependent upon our planet. Spiritually, we are one; simultaneously we belong to ourselves and to the interdependent web of all existence. Through our combined answers and efforts we won the sermon context.

Rev. Bethany revived this question for the Baja Four, when she offered it as our query to ponder for the months of October, November, and December. Last month, we pondered how we could answer "whose are we?" with reconciliation. In December, we will consider how we might answer the question with hope. This month, we will ponder how we can respond as a people of *compassion*.

If we were to focus solely on the psychological in our ponderings, then compassion might look like this dictionary definition: **sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others**. If we were to look at it biologically, then this scientific explanation might suit us: **altruism is an adaptive tool to ensure the continued success of one's resources and/or genetic line**.

Without debating these understandings of compassion, it is clear that they don't represent our Unitarian Universalism. As a faith tradition, ours is ultimately a spiritual response to the question, whose are we? This month, then, we will be exploring the spiritual side of compassion.

For Joseph Campbell, the noted mythologist, compassion was the deep experience of awakening to the reality that the self and the other are unified through suffering.

**“I think of compassion as the fundamental religious experience and, unless that is there, you have nothing.” - Joseph Campbell**

Simply put, through a shared experience of pain and hurt in this life, all our differences, oppositions, and distinctions disappear. This is different from the feeling of pity or concern or the expression of altruism to gain an evolutionary leg up. It is a religious perspective that neither adopts nor denies a purely psychological or biological definition. Rather, it acknowledges that suffering is what unifies us, and calls us into solidarity. Solidarity differs greatly from pity oriented charity as it is based on accountability to others.

I'm excited to explore this further with you this month and hear from you your responses to how compassion answers whose we are. If you have thoughts or idea, let me know as they come to you ([minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com](mailto:minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com)).

In compassion and oneness,

Rev. Matthew



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# Judy's Presidential Thoughts

November, 2019

Dear Congregation,

The Music Director team has handed the Board their summary of the survey, recommendations for a new job description and suggestions for a hiring team. The team will consist of our Minister, our President and a choir member. We will begin to advertise and have a contact in Tucson who works in music/choir at Tucson UU and can make recommendations to us. The Board also agreed that the candidates will have a "working audition" so you will see them during a service leading the choir. The hiring should move along fairly quickly now, and we look forward to having a new Music Director in place hopefully before the end of this year.

The Board regretfully accepted Corrinne Bartell's resignation due to medical problems and Hugh Rhine has graciously accepted the position as Member at Large in her stead. We are happy to have our Secretary DD Deno in place now after her summer sojourn.

The church has submitted an application for grant monies for our Ministerial Intern position which we will share with Tucson UU and to begin next fiscal year. The congregational meeting we held last month clearly affirmed that we want the gifts this person can offer and also the experiences we can share. I find this an exciting prospect for our continued growth and development.

As we begin our budget planning and more of our travelers return, the year has just 2 months left! The Thanksgiving celebration is beautifully planned thanks to the Inreach Ministry and Loretta Carmickle's able leadership. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lunch Bunch continues successfully, and in December, the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Potluck will again be a dressy affair.

All four of our Ministries are active and busy. I continually feel grateful to all who share their skills and interests to make our beloved community thrive.

Blessed Be,

Judy Harmer, President

## Ways We Connect

Here are several, but not all the ways we invite you to connect.

<p><b><u>Women's Bag Lunch</u></b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 12:30 Marcia Weary - 520-625-0957 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at noon Deb Mitchell - 520-820-5964</p> <p><b><u>Religious Exploration</u></b> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 9am (before Church), Fuller Room Contact: George Smith - 425-241-6307</p> <p><b><u>Santa Rita Chorale</u></b> Come sing at Sunday morning service. Practices on Friday mornings 10-11:30am</p> <p><b><u>Kitchen Wizards</u></b> Help set up &amp; serve coffee &amp; goodies after each service. Contact: Jim Lund - 612-801-5006</p> <p><b><u>Circle Suppers</u></b> Host or be a guest in someone's home for a simple meal &amp; conversation. Contact: Barb Meshanko - 210-365-4188</p>	<p><b><u>Potluck Dinners</u></b> Join in the fun on the 4th Friday at 5pm in the Fuller Room. Also on July 4 and Thanksgiving.</p> <p><b><u>Art Gallery displays</u></b> Hang your paintings, quilts or photos for about 3 months. A form is available to fill out your information. You can sell your art and give 20% to UU. Contact: Deanna Brooks – <a href="mailto:brooks697@outlook.com">brooks697@outlook.com</a></p> <p><b><u>Share the Offering Committee</u></b> Has 3 – 4 members who each get to know one of the 12 agencies chosen for the year and write a paragraph of information for the Unitel and Bulletin Board. Contact: Deanna Brooks – <a href="mailto:brooks697@outlook.com">brooks697@outlook.com</a></p> <p><b><u>Concert Series</u></b> We have 4 concerts each winter on Saturday afternoon. Help sell tickets the day of the concert. Place flyers around town. Contact: Deanna Brooks - <a href="mailto:brooks697@outlook.com">brooks697@outlook.com</a></p> <p><b><u>Annual Book/Rummage Sale</u></b> Usually in November. Help setting up, organizing and selling is always needed. Contact: Deanna Brooks - <a href="mailto:brooks697@outlook.com">brooks697@outlook.com</a></p>
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## Places We Meet

Remember to contact our office to schedule space for your meetings or rental requests.

<p><b>Sanctuary</b> Our main worship space with multimedia capabilities. Seats 125 comfortably. Entry through our Gallery.</p> <p><b>Gallery</b> The main entrance to our Sanctuary and our most used fellowship area. Equipped with a speaker system.</p> <p><b>Fuller Room</b> Named for Margaret Fuller, a significant woman in our faith's history, we are finding new uses for this space.</p> <p><b>Carmickle Library</b> Comfortable and resourceful, behind the Fuller room.</p>	<p><b>Administrative Offices</b> Our Minister, Office Manager, and Amado Youth Center all have offices here along with our conference room.</p> <p><b>Meditation Garden &amp; Labyrinth</b> On the northside of our building is our outdoor space for contemplation and reflection in the midst of beautiful flora. Our walking labyrinth is an invitation to inner exploration.</p> <p><b>La Sombrilla</b> On the southside of our building is an outdoor space that we have yet to develop. What can you imagine we develop there?</p>
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# Spiritual Nourishment

## Caring for Our Souls

### “Blessing for the Risk-Takers and Failures”

By Rev. Robin Tanner, the Minister of Worship and Outreach at Beacon UU Congregation in Summit, NJ.

Today we share in a blessing for losers, risk-takers, all failures far and wide...

Blessed are they who fall in the mud, who jump with gusto and rip the pants, who skin the elbows, and bruise the ego, for they shall know the sweetness of risk.

Blessed are they who make giant mistakes, whose intentions are good but impact has injured, who know the hot sense of regret and ask for mercy, for their hearts will know the gift of forgiveness.

Blessed are they who have seen a D or an F or C or any letter less than perfect, who are painfully familiar with the red pen and the labels as "less than," for they know the wisdom in the imperfect.



Blessed are they who try again, who dust off, who wash up, who extend the wish for peace, who return to sites of failure, who are dogged in their pursuit, for they will discover the secret to dreams.

Blessed are they who refuse to listen to the naysayers, for their hearts will be houses for hope.

Blessed are they who see beyond the surface of another, for they will be able to delight in the gift of compassion.

Blessed are they who stop running the race to help a fellow traveler, who pick up the fallen, who stop for injured life, for they shall know the kindness of strangers.

Blessed are they who wildly, boldly abandon winning, for they shall know the path of justice.

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# INREACH

## Caring for Each Other

### **Search for New Music Director**

You may be wondering what is going on with the search for a new Music Director. In late August the Board formed a team, consisting of Diane Farone, Karen Kluge, Ernie Lopez and Nancy Murphy, to craft a plan for how to proceed. That group met many times, sometimes among themselves, and at other times separately with Leslie, Rev. Matthew, and Matthew and the President and Vice-President of the Board. They consulted lengthy documents available from the UUA and the UUA Association of UU Music Ministries, and job descriptions from other congregations. In a report to the Board they made recommendations about changes that could be made to our Music Director job description and our Employee handbook

The Team designed two surveys, one for the congregation as a whole and a separate one for recent choir members. Seventy individuals responded to the congregational survey and twelve to the Choir survey. The results showed we overwhelmingly see music and a choir as significantly important to our worship experience, as can be seen in the table below.

Questions 2 through 9 asked for a rating of the relative importance of various components of our music program, with 5 being of utmost importance and 1 being of no importance. Below is a table of the ratings for the eight elements.

<b>Element</b>	1 (no importance)	2	3	4	5 (utmost importance)
Music	1	1	7	23	37
Choir	2	4	17	25	20
Instrumental Music	2	8	17	27	16
Contemporary Music	3	8	33	13	11
Familiar Hymns	5	8	20	20	16
Variety of styles	1	2	16	20	30
Music from Diverse Traditions	3	2	18	19	27
Music outside of the walls, outreach	15	12	19	18	5

The survey of the choir included five questions, concerning frequency of services and rehearsals and desired characteristics of a potential music director. In general both the choir and the congregation like the three times a month schedule that has been, for the most part, customary for us. What the choir members valued most highly in a Music Director, assuming he or she has enough musical background, could be summarized as one who creates a friendly, warm, and low stress culture for the choir experience.

A three person hiring team, consisting of Rev. Matthew, Judy Harmer and Juliana Sandahl, has been formed by the Board and will begin its activities in November. Stay tuned to your weekly Unitels for future developments.

Diane, Karen, Ernie and Nancy

## LIBRARY NOTES

November, 2019

Our church library is always open before and after the Sunday morning service for browsing or a quiet conversation with a fellow church member or a visitor. It is also open from 9:30 to 2:30 Tuesday through Friday by checking with Shawna in the church office.

Here are three titles you might be interested in:

The Forgiveness Factor, - Stories of Hope in a World of Conflict – by Michael Henderson. Taking us to memorable places of acute conflict – North Africa, Cambodia, Europe, Japan, Russia - the author tells stories of reconciliation in the pursuit of peace and justice. Find it in the “Justice Issues” section of the library.

A World of Ideas, Conversations with Thoughtful Men and Women About American Life Today and the Ideas Shaping our Future – by Bill Moyers. One-on-one interviews with forty-two extraordinary men and women – poets and physicists, historians and novelists, doctors and philosophers – discussing what's happening in our lives, our hearts and our minds in this present time as we approach a daunting future. Published in 1989, this book is a little dated but is still enjoyable reading. Find it in the “Religion and Philosophy” section of the library.

Lifecraft – The Art of Meaning in the Everyday – by Forrest Church. Church, who was a leading Unitarian Universalist minister, author, and theologian, draws on a variety of religious and secular sources to develop a guidebook for practical morality. Find it in the “Religion and Philosophy” section of the library.

Loretta Carmickle  
Librarian

## WOMEN'S BAG LUNCHES

After a summer hiatus, our two Women's Bag Lunches, are again meeting once a month for a time of unstructured, relaxed visiting about "this 'n that." It's a good time to get to know each other better in a non-church social setting.

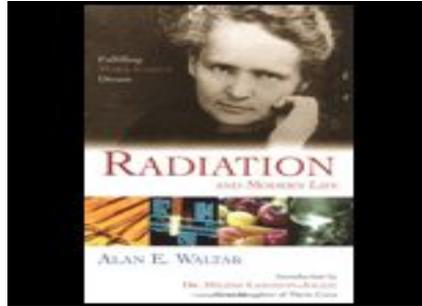
After hosting a bag lunch for many years, Sandy Lefebvre is bowing out and welcoming Deb Mitchell as hostess for a bag lunch on the third Wednesday of each month, beginning November 20<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. Deb's phone number is 540-820-5964, and her address is 1073 Paseo Iris, Green Valley.

Marica Weary continues to host her bag lunch on the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30, with November's meeting being held on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Marcia's phone number is 625-0957, and her address is 1210 N. Paseo Maravilloso in Green Valley.

Whether a church member or friend, you are invited to come to one or both of the Women's Bag Lunches!

Loretta Carmickle, Communications  
Inreach Ministry

\*\*\*\*Church member Corrinne Bartell experienced some unforeseen health issues while she was traveling this summer. She will be returning from England in mid-November, but if you would like to send an encouraging word to Corrinne, her email address is: [corrinne1@live.com](mailto:corrinne1@live.com).\*\*\*\*\*



Radiation And Modern Life by Alan E. Waltar

Sunday, November 10, 8:50-9:50

“The importance of this book is immeasurable. Dr. Waltar’s engaging discourse broadens our understanding of the impact and value of radiation technology in every realm of our lives. His insights reveal the humanity of the history and application of Marie Curie’s science and may ultimately provide the essential knowledge we need to deliver us from our fears.” The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Former U.S. Senator  
1972-1997

Note: This discussion will be facilitated by Paul Taylor who will highlight the following chapters: 1,4,5,6,9,12,14,15, and the appendices.

These books, along with a list of future selections for discussions, are available on the table next to the entrance.



## CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

The Worship Arts Team is scouting for our talented members & friends who are musically inclined. Might that be you????

Do you play a musical instrument? Do you love singing enough to do a solo for a Sunday morning Anthem? While our Music program is in transition we would love to bring your instrumental passion and talent to the whole congregation. The opportunities are endless! If you would be willing to share your love of music with us please contact Rev. Matthew or the BUU office. We look forward to hearing you...

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# Outreach

## Caring for Our Community

**Reminder Book/ Bake/ and Rummage Sale will be Fri and Saturday Nov 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.**

Please bring in your rummage items and books by Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>. You may put them in the storage room behind the gallery. We also need baked goods for Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> – cookies, brownies, cakes, bread, etc – anything that doesn't need to be refrigerated. All baked goods should be wrapped. Cookies in baggies 4-6 per bag depending on size. Anything with nuts or gluten free should be marked.

We need help for organizing and selling: please give 2-3 hours. Sign up sheets will be in the Gallery starting Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Contact Deanna with any questions: [brooks697@cox.net](mailto:brooks697@cox.net).

**Reminder – mark your calendar for the Robert Neustadt Concert on Fri Nov 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-6PM.**

Please click [HERE](#) to see the poster for his concert.

NEW MEMBER CEREMONY  
NOV. 17, 2019

Interested participants:

- Pick up a “New Member Packet” on the welcome table.
- Plan to attend the “Re/New UU” Class on Nov. 3, after Church in the sanctuary. It will cover UU history, personal journeys and how our congregation functions.
- Set up a meeting with Rev. Matthew(520)370-3013 or [minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com](mailto:minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com).

**"Living Undocumented"** is an excellent short 6 part series on **Netflix** that follows eight families in several parts of the USA as they struggle to remain united through the constant changes in immigration policies. It deals with very real roller coaster consequences.

This series is very informative, looking back at how we got here and the impact on real families.



SHARE THE OFFERING NOVEMBER 2019

A Better Smile Tomorrow

St Andrews Children's Clinic

From Oct. 5th - 8th 2019 Children's Surgery International, Minneapolis MN, screened 100 to 110 children for cleft lip and cleft palate surgery. Of those, 50-60 received surgeries. Surgical expenses, lodging, hospital charges, and food are covered by the clinic for the patients, at no cost to the families. Follow-up speech therapy will be at St Andrews Episcopal Church in Nogales AZ, or at Hospital CIMA (where the surgeries were performed) in Hermosillo MX. To see a slide show about this program, go to [www.standrewsclinic.org](http://www.standrewsclinic.org). Many, many thanks on behalf of the children, whose hopes rely on donations from caring folks like us.

This mission is only a small part of what St Andrews Children's Clinic provides. The children come from disadvantaged families in MX, and are provided with free,

specialized medical care. Children up to 18 years of age with cerebral palsy, MS, vision or hearing loss, club foot, amputations, and other serious disabilities are treated and followed for several years.

98% OF ALL DONATIONS GO TO PATIENT CARE!

For more inspiring stories, go to the Clinic's website (above). The results of the various treatments are AMAZING!

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# Institutional Stewardship

## Caring for our Home

A broadcast email was sent out recently notifying everyone that our new website address is [www.borderlandsuu.org](http://www.borderlandsuu.org).

In wanting to reflect our new name regarding our communication, both the church office and Rev. Matthew have new email addresses and we ask that you start using these new addresses immediately.

To reach the church office the new email address is:

[officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com](mailto:officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com)

To reach Rev. Matthew please use:

[minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com](mailto:minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com)

The church phone number has stayed the same: 520-648-0570.

# Calendar for November

Friday	11/1	9am	Worship Arts	Mark Room
Thursday	11/7	10-2pm	Rev. Matthew Open Office	Posada Java
Friday	11/8	12:00	Staff Meeting	Mark Room
Friday	11/8	4-6pm	Robert Neustadt Concert	Sanctuary
Sunday	11/10	11:00	Lunch Bunch	Firefly Restaurant
Wednesday	11/13	9:30am	Membership Team	Mark Room
Wednesday	11/13	12:30 pm	Women's Bag Lunch	Marcia Weary's 625-0957
Thursday	11/14	10-2pm	Rev. Matthew Open Office	Arivaca
Friday	11/15-11/16		Rummage Sale	Church
Friday	11/15	10:30am	Shared Ministry Team	Off site
Saturday	11/16 -	9:00am - 3pm	Chili Cook-off	Amado Territory Ranch
Sunday	11/17	10am	New Member Ceremony	Sanctuary
Tuesday	11/19	1pm	Board Meeting	Mark Room
Wednesday	11/20	12 pm	Women's Bag Lunch	Deb Mitchell's 540-820-5964
Thursday	11/21	9am	Program Council	Library
Thursday	11/28	12 noon	Thanksgiving Dinner	Gallery/Fuller Room

