

Borderlands Unitarian Universalist



October 2019

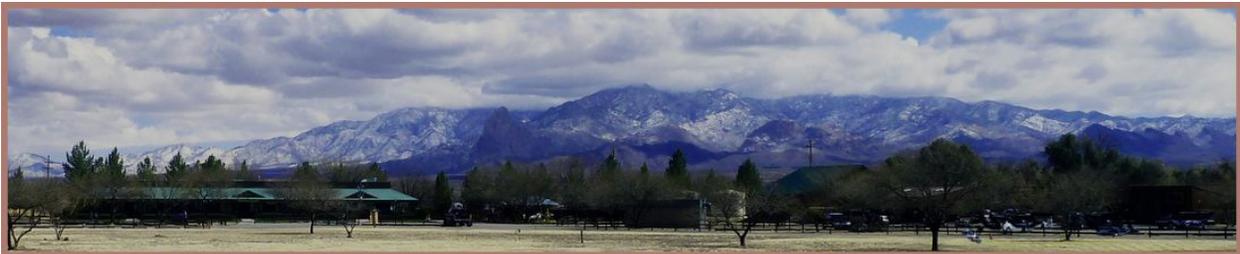
Amado Territory Ranch, 1-19, Exit 48, Turn East

(520) 648-0570

officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com

www.borderlandsuu.org

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



Whose Are We?

Reconciliation

Worship Services, Sundays at 10:00am

Oct 6 "The Sunflower" Rev. Matthew Funke Crary
If "forgetting is something that time alone takes care of, but forgiveness is an act of volition," as Simon Wiesenthal states in *The Sunflower*, what is your will for forgiveness?

Oct 13 "Racial Justice and Our COMMA"
"Our COMMA" is our figurative borderlands bringing together seeming incompatible ideas into a new whole. As a "justice seeking people" how is racial justice a part of everything we work for?

Oct 20 No More Deaths ~ No Mas Muertes, guest
A few weeks before Scott Warren's felony case resumes in federal court in Tucson, we welcome back No More Deaths to deepen our connection.

Oct 27 "Hallowtide" Rev. Matthew Funke Crary
We return to Hallowtide and the invitation to craft an altar to reconcile with your past. (see the article below under *Spiritual Nourishment*)

If you would like to hear the recordings of our worship services you can find links on our UUCAmado.org.

Borderlands Unitarian Universalist
(520) 648-0570

15 County Line Road
Amado, Arizona 85645

P.O. Box 23
Amado, AZ 85645

Rev. Matthew Funke Crary
Minister
minister.borderlandsuu@gmail.com
(520) 370-3013

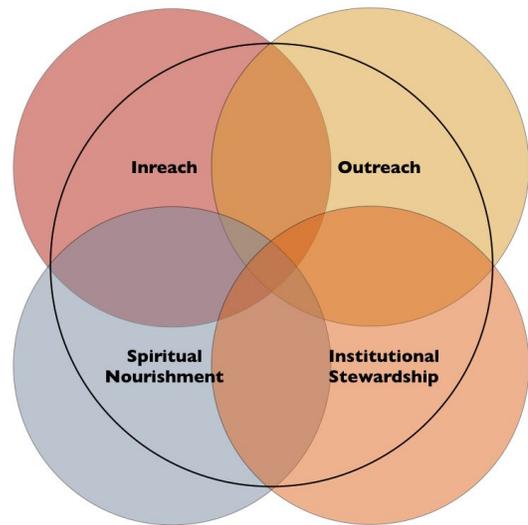
Shawna Hansen
Office Manager
officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com
(520) 648-0570

Joe Gunson
Custodian
(520) 310-1557

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

Reconciliation is more beautiful than victory.

-Violeta Chamorra, President of Nicaragua, 1990-1997

October brings us many gifts: cooler temperatures, the return of members and friends from summer sojourns, and the start of our congregational programming and plans. I'm grateful for it all! This year, October is also the beginning of our sharing in monthly themes with our sibling congregation, the UU Church of Tucson. Toward exploring our annual theme "Nurture Your Spirit, Help Heal Our World" we will be asking questions and sharing answers:

Nurture Your Spirit, Help Heal Our World

Whose are we?

October - Reconciliation
November - Compassion
December - Hope

What do we mean when we say "we"?

January - Clarity
February - Generosity
March - Gratitude

Who are we called to become?

April - Courage
May - Transformation
June - Inclusion

If this is clear as mud, one way to more clearly understand our worship and programming is to ponder the answer we share with UUCT, then consider its relation to our annual theme. For example, this month, we explore "**reconciliation**." As an answer to the question "Whose are we?" Here at Borderlands, we might imagine ourselves as a people of reconciliation. If we do, how does that further and deepen the understanding of nurturing one's individual spirit as part of healing our shared healing of the world?

Religiously speaking, *reconciliation* is the unification and sanctification of broken relationships. It is a new wholeness created after disagreement, dispute, or conflict. Reconciliation must then be transformative, as it lives within the reality that damage has been done, yet instead of further harming through punishment, it unites through shared experiences - even the experience of suffering or discomfort a conflict has caused everyone involved.

As we move through the month together, we will have these and additional opportunities to reflect together on how reconciliation is a part of nurturing our spirits and healing our world:

I'll be reflecting on *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness* by Simon Wiesenthal on Sunday, October 6. Many of you know this book and might recall

that we read it as a congregation several years ago. It is Wiesenthal's account of his years in a Nazi concentration camp and an astounding event that brought him to this question: You are a prisoner in a concentration camp. A dying Nazi soldier ask you for your forgiveness. What would you do? More than an abstract question, I'll be seeking to understand how forgiveness and reconciliation fits into our lives here in Southern Arizona.

On October 13, Ernie Lopez and I will lead worship on, "Racial Justice and our COMMA." Our COMMA refers to the borderland between seperate and sometimes seemingly different ideas. We live in this borderland, crafting a new wholeness from the various parts that meet. We will be looking to reconcile our affirmation and promotion of the inherent worth and dignity of every person in racial justice with the call justice for immigrants, women's rights, and our environment.

On October 20, a presenter from No More Deaths ~ *No Más Muertes* will participate in our worship. They will share the narrative of Dr. Scott Warren's humanitarian work, his prosecution, and his retrial beginning in November. Reconciling our legal system and the truth "humanitarian aid is never a crime."

Beginning on Sunday, October 27, we return again to Hallowtide (see the article under Spiritual Nourishment below). We've observed this European Christian tradition which parallels *Día de los Muertos*, by crafting altars to our beloved deceased on our veranda. This year we will look to Hallowtide for the opportunity to reconcile ourselves to those who have gone before.

As we will approach it, reconciliation is at once personal and communal. In preparation for our congregation's engagement, you might ask yourself:

How have you experienced reconciliation in the past?

AND,

How did others

**(family, friends, congregation, or community)
assist you with your reconciliation?**

Vioeta Chamorra, the only woman to be president of Nicaragua, who is credited with ending the Contra War, recognizes the beauty of reconciliation over victory. In this she is witnessing that with the end of conflict and awareness of the wounds on all sides, everyone can be renewed and reunited in wholeness.

May we be so bold in our learning and seeking reconciliation,

Rev. Matthew

Judy's Presidential Thoughts

October, 2019

Dear Congregation,

When the Board met in September we passed 2 policies. One is for Memorial Services, which will be posted on the website and the other to clarify paid time off for employees. Our team has been set up to assess the music needs to the congregation, so expect to see a survey sent to you via email shortly. Please give your thoughts. The more we get the better we can take the pulse of your opinions. And, as a reminder, you, the congregation, are the deciders on this kind of issue. We need to know what your thoughts are about music so we can seek out the best person to meet your/our needs.

The very exciting news is that we have the opportunity of a ministerial intern next year to work with us. Again, we'll need your opinion about this, as it entails money and resources from us, but it has been very successful in many of the UU congregations around the country and helps "grow" a new minister. More forthcoming later, look for a handout on Sunday with more information.

And, finally, but not really, welcome home to all our winter visitors who have returned! We are always glad to see your happy faces.

Peace, Joy and Love to you,

Judy Harmer, President

Ways We Connect

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

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| <p><u>Women’s Bag Lunch</u> 2nd Wednesday at 12:30 Marcia Weary - 520-625-0957</p> <p><u>Religious Exploration</u> 3rd Sunday at 9am (before Church), Fuller Room Contact: George Smith - 425-241-6307</p> <p><u>Santa Rita Chorale</u> Come sing at Sunday morning service. Practices on Friday mornings 10-11:30am Contact: Leslie Carter, Director, lesliecarter87@gmail.com</p> <p><u>Kitchen Wizards</u> Help set up & serve coffee & goodies after each service. Contact: Jim Lund - 612-801-5006</p> <p><u>Circle Suppers</u> Host or be a guest in someone’s home for a simple meal & conversation. Contact: Barb Meshanko - 210-365-4188</p> | <p><u>Potluck Dinners</u> Join in the fun on the 4th Friday at 5pm in the Fuller Room. Also on July 4 and Thanksgiving.</p> <p><u>Art Gallery displays</u> 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 – brooks697@outlook.com</p> <p><u>Share the Offering Committee</u> 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 – brooks697@outlook.com</p> <p><u>Concert Series</u> We have 4 concerts each winter on Saturday afternoon. Help sell tickets the day of the concert. Place flyers around town. Contact: Deanna Brooks - brooks697@outlook.com</p> <p><u>Annual Book/Rummage Sale</u> Usually in November. Help setting up, organizing and selling is always needed. Contact: Deanna Brooks - brooks697@outlook.com</p> |
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Places We Meet

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

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| <p><u>Sanctuary</u> Our main worship space with multimedia capabilities. Seats 125 comfortably. Entry through our Gallery.</p> <p><u>Gallery</u> The main entrance to our Sanctuary and our most used fellowship area. Equipped with a speaker system.</p> <p><u>Fuller Room</u> Named for Margaret Fuller, a significant woman in our faith’s history, we are finding new uses for this space.</p> <p><u>Carmickle Library</u> Comfortable and resourceful, behind the Fuller room.</p> | <p><u>Administrative Offices</u> Our Minister, Office Manager, and Amado Youth Center all have offices here along with our conference room.</p> <p><u>Meditation Garden & Labyrinth</u> 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><u>La Sombrilla</u> 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

Hallowtide Altars

Setup: Sunday, October 27

Take down: Sunday, November

Once again, this October and early November, you are invited to join in our congregation and community celebration of Hallowtide. Hallowtide comes to us from our European Christian heritage and lasts from October 30 to November 2. It is a time of remembrance and reflection on death and loss while celebrating life and love. It incorporates Halloween, All Saints Day and All Souls Day as well as having strong connections to the Celtic holiday Samhain and the Mexican celebration of Day of the Dead – “*Día de los Muertos*”.

Together and with people from our Amado community, we will be constructing altars to decorate our veranda and share in this celebration of remembrance. We have a signup and guidelines for all altars, but encourage each individual to craft something unique and personal. As we discovered in past years, there will be altars remembering those who have recently died, some for those who have died many years past, and perhaps even some altars for those who have died who have held great meaning to an individual, but who are not known personally.

If you are interested in participating, instructions and a sign-up sheet will be out mid-October.

Small Group Ministry Opportunity

Rev. Matthew will be leading a small group ministry exploring the book, ***White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism.***

He is looking for a total of five people to join him in the engagement of *White Fragility* by Robin Diangelo closely following the study guide (both published from our UUA's Beacon Press). Participants will be asked to commit to being present and prepared by reading both the book and guide. There is still a chance to join the small group, if you are interested contact Rev. Matthew, minister.borderlandsUU@gmail.com.

Prayer for Reconciliation

From *TO WAKE, TO RISE: Meditations on Justice and Resilience*

Edited by the Rev. William G Sinkford
From Skinner House Books

By the Rev. Anne Barker

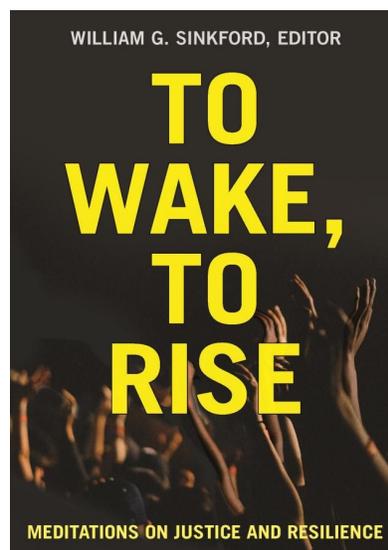
We gather with a hunger for reconciliation.
What is done cannot be undone.
What is done next must now be done with care.
We gather because we are hopeful,
Because we have visions and dreams of a brighter future.

That there may be more than vision in this room,
These are the wounds we must heal together—
Grief and anger for all that has been lost,
Guilt or fear in the reliving,
Pain that has gone without sufficient comfort,
Mistrust that was earned, that continues burning still,

Every injury we may have named, and yet still carry,
Those we haven't, can't, or dare not speak aloud,
Those we are not ready to make public,
Those still not recognized, accepted, understood.

These are the wounds that seek replacement—
Not cancellation or denial,
Wounds we will tend cautiously,
Applying the salve of understanding,
Forming scars that mark our history,
Without disfiguring the future we might share.
This is not a time of quick solutions, fancy talking.
This is a slow precision. This is a prayer for peace.
We are new at this endeavor. New at listening, new at hearing.
New at taking enough time to honestly receive one another's stories.
What is done cannot be undone.
What is done next must now be done with care.
We gather because we are hopeful,
Because we have visions and dreams of a brighter future.

May the strength of this time together help us to walk forward.
May the wisdom of this experience help us to know our path.
May we have the courage to return, as often as necessary, until our way is clear.
May we have the perseverance, together, to see it through.
May we cause it to be so.



INREACH

Caring for Each Other

OCTOBER LIBRARY NOTES

We are now approaching 600 volumes in our church library, which continues to be a “special library” focused mainly on the Seven Principles and Six Sources of Unitarian Universalism.

A recent generous donation of books by Edith Fletcher contained volumes that made much-appreciated additions especially to the UU history and justice issues sections of the library.

To “Nourish Your Spirit” three new volumes have been added recently either by donation or the use of library funds:

The Four Agreements, by Don Miguel Ruiz, subtitled “A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom.” Find it in the R's in the section titled “Spirituality.”

The Art of Living by Epictetus, subtitled “The Classical Manual on Virtue, Happiness, and Effectiveness” (A new interpretation by Sharon Lebell). Epictetus was a first century philosopher whose teachings are very compatible with Unitarian Universalism. Find it in the E's in the section titled “Spirituality.”

Plant Dreaming Deep by May Sarton. A poignant, often luminous, autobiographical recounting of Unitarian May Sarton's years spent with her garden, her music, and her writing in an 18th century house in New Hampshire. Find it in the S's in the section titled “Other.”

The 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.

Loretta Carmickle
Librarian

INREACH SOCIALS MINISTRY

We are happy to be welcoming five new members to our Kitchen Wizards team: Lee Reid, Carol Richardson, Lorelei Schober, Ann Westrope, and Ellen Morse. Their help will be much appreciated as we enter the busy holiday season ahead, in addition to our regular **Sunday morning social time**.

Everyone is invited to our **Fourth Friday Potluck** which will take place on October 25th at 5 p.m. in the Gallery and Fuller Room. We always have an enjoyable, relaxing time in each other's company, eating someone else's delicious food!

Our traditional **Thanksgiving Dinner**, featuring turkey and ham and all the fixins will take place on Thursday, November 28th at noon, and in December we will have our traditional **Finger Foods Social** before the Christmas Eve service, as well as a repeat of our popular "**Dress-Up Dinner**" on December 27th.

Loretta Carmickle
Inreach Socials Coordinator

WELCOME BACK!

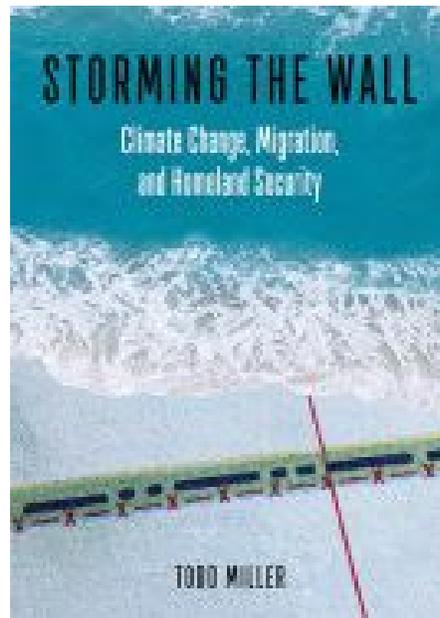
As many of our members and friends return from summer sojourns, and many new people come and connect with our congregation, October is ripe for questions - and answers about our programming!

While you can reach our minister or our church staff via email at any time (see emails on the second page of this Unitel), there are unique times that we want to make you aware for deeper connections and conversations.

Our church office is open from Tuesday - Friday, 9:30am-2:30pm. Shawna Hansen, our Office Manager, has created a sitting area with coffee and tea for you to stop by and visit. Shawna welcomes you to come and have a chat over a cuppa anytime!

Rev. Matthew is out and about in our Southern Arizona community on Thursdays. The first Thursday of every month, he will be in Green Valley/Sahuarita at Posada Java from 10am-2pm for open office hours. On second Thursdays, he will be in Arivaca, 10-11am at the library and then 11am-2pm at the cantina.

If you would like more than a casual conversation with either Shawna or Rev. Matthew, please contact them directly using their contact information on the second page of the Unitel to schedule a meeting.



Forum Book Discussion

Sunday, October 13th, beginning at 8:50.

Storming the Wall: Climate Change, Migration, and Homeland Security- by Todd Miller

“Nothing will test human institutions like climate change in this century - as this book makes crystal clear, people on the move from rising waters, spreading deserts, and endless storms could profoundly destabilize our civilizations unless we seize the chance to reimagine our relationships to each other.” Bill McKibben, Author of *Earth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet*

Two books are available for borrowing.

Please request a copy from Ginny Lopez (email: ginny441@comcast.net)

UUJAZ ISSUES +
ACTION DAY

OCTOBER
26
2019

Tickets go on sale in August
at ujaz.org

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Outreach

Caring for Our Community

Accepting Items for Annual Book/Bake and Rummage Sale in November: Check your shelves. The sale will be Friday and Saturday November 16th and 17th. The Amado Chili Cook-Off and our bake sale will be held on Saturday.

Check your bookshelves and storage closets. Accepting any book in good condition (though old non-fiction books are hard to sell). Rummage items should be clean and usable – no furniture that can't be easily carried and no clothes please. Anything for the kitchen, jewelry, backpacks, frames, yarn, bedding, games, art, Christmas decorations, etc. works. You can bring your books any Sunday and leave in the Fuller Room. Please hold the rummage items until late October since no storage space. Left over rummage items will be donated to the White Elephant and Animal League. Sign up sheets for Volunteers will be up at the beginning of November. Ask for a donation receipt if needed. Any questions contact Deanna at brooks697@cox.net.

HELP DESIGN A BORDERLANDS T SHIRT

Seeking ideas for a t-shirt design that can be used for fund-raising. Should be simple, say Borderlands UU, and maybe a line drawing of mountain-desert? Should it say something like “seeking justice” or another phrase? I prefer the image on the back but could also have a smaller “Borderlands UU” on front. Should t-shirt be white or a color? Leave your ideas in box on Gallery table or email to brooks697@cox.net

SAVE THE DATE: Friday November 8th, 4-6:00

Concert by Robert Neustadt, singer and songwriter who produced an album called “Voluntary Return: Songs of Solidarity with Migrants and Refugees”. Proceeds from the concert will be shared with The Samaritans and No More Deaths. Watch for further details.

REUSABLE BAGS

The membership committee has made reusable grocery bags available at the welcome table .

We encourage you to take them to use and to distribute locally to those you see shopping without their own bags.

It is an environmental statement we feel committed to for the reduction of plastic bags-thanks for your help.



SHARING IN STEWARDSHIP

Each month we give 50% of our Sunday collection to a local charity to help in their contribution to our community. In August we gave \$391.50 to *Early Learning Program/Arivaca Action Ctr.*

The recipient for the month of October is the ANGEL HEART PAJAMA PROJECT. This non-profit organization was envisioned by Graciela Lopez who, with two daughters, migrated to USA from Cuba to escape the Castro take-over. She felt that for immigrant children a gift of new pajamas and books provided an important emotional comfort.

In Arizona over 17,000 children are in state custody and who often are sent to foster care only in the clothes that they are wearing. Graciela's two daughters became the cofounders of the ANGEL HEART PAJAMA PROJECT which distributes new pajamas and books through already existing non-profit organizations such as the local food bank, local shelters or similar groups with access to children in need. Since 2013 more than 15,000 books and pajamas have been distributed. In this area the Green Valley and Amado Food Banks, the Sahuarita Food Bank, Hands of a Friend shelter, Arivaca Action Learning Center and Sopori Preschool participate in distributing the books and pajamas to children in need. The organization director, Patti Lopez, is available for questions by e-mail at <Patti.lopez@ymail.com>.

The website, www.angelheartpajamaproject.org, along with Facebook, is always a source for current news and pictures.

Sonia Collins



Calendar for October

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|--------------|---|---------------------|
| Tuesday | 10/1 | 10am and 6pm | ESL Registration | AALP |
| Thursday | 10/3 | 10-2pm | Rev. Matthew Open Office Hours | Posada Java |
| Friday | 10/4 | 9am | Worship Arts | Mark Room |
| Wednesday | 10/9 | 9:30 | Membership Team | Mark Room |
| Wednesday | 10/9 | Noon | Bag Lunch | Marcia Weary's home |
| Thursday | 10/10 | 10-2pm | Rev. Matthew Open Office Hours | Arivaca |
| Sunday | 10/13 | 8:50 | Forum Book Discussion | Gallery |
| Sunday | 10/13 | 11am | Lunch Bunch | Firefly |
| Tuesday | 10/15 | 1pm | Board Meeting | Mark Room |
| Thursday | 10/24 | 9am | Program Council | Library |
| Saturday | 10/26 | | Celebration of Life for Dr. Scott Weary | Sanctuary |