



LAKE CHAPALA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

NEWSLETTER, APRIL, 2017

April Services

April 2 - “Inside our Villages - Mezcala and the Trumba (Waterspout)”

Speaker: Janice Kimball; Service Leader: Karyn Carpenter

Janice's extended indigenous family includes a family in Mezcala. Through nineteen years of photographs, some taken before the paved road made Mezcala accessible, she will explore the challenges Lakeside's remote villages face.

April 9 - “UU Spirituality and Practices”

Speaker: Bob Koches; Service Leader: Kathy Koches

This service is an introduction to a series of talks on spiritual practices which will focus on various individual spiritual practices and the link between spirituality and health.

April 16 - “Easter with UU's in Mexico”

Speaker: Trudy Crippen; Service Leader: Lynn Cleek

Trudy will lead us in a celebration of Easter; a holiday that provides challenges for Unitarian Universalists. We may not embrace all the elements of Easter, but we never miss the chance to celebrate!

April 23 - “Emersonian: a Celebration of Creativity”

Service Leader: Jan Manning; Presenters: LCUUF artists, musicians, etc.

This service showcases the creativity of our congregation. We will show art, pottery, jewelry, and see performances of singers and actors.

April 30 – “Spiritual Practice and Health”

Speaker: Eric Luria; Service Leader: Catherine Luria

Eric, a doctor, will talk about how medical research has found many benefits of long-term spiritual practice, particularly for older populations, like ours.



A candidate for the LCUUF half time Minister position was interviewed by the Ministerial Search Committee on Saturday, March 25th. The Committee (Chair - Teresa Sande, Trudy Crippen, Tom Dowdy-Winslett and David Miller) has unanimously recommended the candidate to Houston and the LCUUF Board. Stay tuned!

Committee News



From the Membership Committee:

In July 2016 we began the **Assistant Greeter program**. Assistant Greeters become more familiar with other members, form new friendships and interact with our interesting visitors. Our Assistant Greeters have become a valuable asset to the Membership Committee and have contributed significantly to making us a welcoming Fellowship. **A BIG THANK YOU to all those who have served as Assistant Greeters.** (See the listing posted on the bulletin board).

From the Care Committee:

The Care Committee, composed of Lynn Cleek (Chair), Paul Bennett, Joan Jaquish, Buddy Dowdy-Winslett and Lori Feljsted, has prepared a listing of **“Help Contacts for Services 2017”** which includes contact information recommended by committee members for a range of local services including car mechanics, drivers, hospitals, notaries, tree services, and translators. The list is included as an attachment with this Newsletter and can be downloaded and printed for reference.

The Committee is still looking for **donations of blank greeting cards** to be used to be in touch with members.

Member News



Birthday Greetings to the following members who celebrate birthdays in April:

April 11 - Linda Conklin

April 16 - Peter Jessen

April 24 - Gary Cleek, Mardele Harland, Catherine Luria

April 29 – Sharon Woods



A fond “farewell” to our snowbird members, friends and visitors. We’ll look forward to your return!

Member Spotlight



MaryHelen Montgomery
by Jan Manning

MaryHelen is like her orange-and-red rose painted truck – colorful, unique, and spirited.

She was born an only child in Indiana to an RN mother and a physicist father. Both parents were active in aviation and her mother taught flying to the Army Air Corps during WWII while her father worked with the physics of sound. MaryHelen's earliest memory, as a toddler, is flying with her mother and having a stomach that refused to stay down.

MaryHelen has two master's degrees and has taught Spanish for 22 years, a job she loved. She used to rile the other teachers by bringing music to the classroom, one Spanish song a week which the students learned and performed at the end of the week. She also taught them Latin dancing and cooking. This diligent dedicated teacher really gave a comprehensive education in Spanish to her students.

One of her Master's Degrees is from Universidad de Veracruzana in Xalapa which she earned in 1969, during her second foray into Mexico. Her second Master's degree is in Bilingual Education from the University of Michigan. At the time the U.S. government was eager for more bilingual teachers and she was therefore invited to study on the government's nickel.

Did you know MaryHelen is a woodworker, has a Builders' License, and is a certified general contractor? She became interested in building design while volunteering on Habitat for Humanity houses and seeing how poorly they were designed. She had a skirmish with the foreman of one

building crew when she suggested he have the house rotated 180 degrees on its foundation which would have solved a light and heat problem. She lost. The foreman simply kept repeating the party line, "we have to follow the official design".

MaryHelen embraces most earth-friendly concepts, and on her ten acre lot in Michigan she has planted over 4,000 trees. She taught guidelines for solar heating and has always been an advocate of ecologically sound living, recycling and composting. She said that one of her most esoteric pieces of knowledge is how to make compost from doggy poop and sawdust.

She enjoys international folk dancing and music. Her two passions are flamenco dancing and dogs. She donned her special dancing shoes with nails in the soles of the heels and toes, and twirled to *compas*, the rhythmic cycles of the music, as often as she could, until her knees rebelled. As for dogs, she helps every year at the spay and neuter clinics, takes her dogs everyday to the dog park, and contributes as often as she can to the welfare of street dogs.

MaryHelen grew up Methodist but became disillusioned in her teens. After some intensive searching, she discovered Unitarian Universalists in her early 20s and loved the openness and acceptance. She has been a member ever since. As well as LCUUF, she belongs to the 1000 member congregation in Ann Arbor. She prefers us even though Bob tries to get her to sing tenor in the choir. She also helps with recycling, and, as a snowbird, enjoys our perfect weather for five months each year. She likes the intimacy allowed in our smaller fellowship.

She has 3 grown children, all as spunky as she, two pampered dogs, and one funky flamenco truck.



Upcoming Activities

Harvest the Power Workshops



The first Harvest the Power workshop on “Identity” was held on March 18th. These workshops on leadership and faith development are informative, stimulating and fun! **The second workshop will be held on Sat, April 1st on the theme of “Purpose”.** **The last workshop will be held on Sat. April 15th, on the theme of “Path”.** **Both workshops are from 10 to 2 at the Fellowship.**

For information, please contact Tom Dowdy-Winslett at tomasdwx@gmail.com

Easter Lunch – April 16th



Instead of the last Sunday of the month, we will go out to a restaurant after the Easter Service on April 16th. Please join us. Sign up on the Easter Lunch sheet on the Welcome Table.



Circle Suppers

Assignments for the April/May/June circle suppers are posted on the bulletin board. Hosts will be contacting their assigned guests to determine a convenient date and time for their Circle Supper. If you did not sign up but wish to be on the “wait list”, please contact Bob or Kathy Koches at kkoches@gmail.com



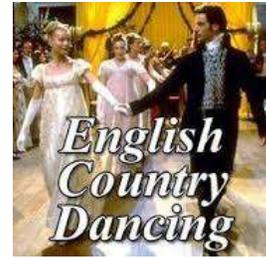
Atheist, Agnostic and Humanist Discussion Group

The Atheist, Agnostic & Humanist Discussion Group will meet on April 24th at 3 p.m. at the Fellowship. We will be discussing Robert Kroog’s talk that was given at LCS on truth, skepticism and manufactured reality entitled “Big Lies and Tiny Truths.” Robert Kroog teaches university level ethics courses Washington, DC when not spending time here in Lakeside. The talk will be sent out to all members. If you are not a member, but would like a copy of the talk, please contact Bob Koches at bobkoches@gmail.com

English Country Dancing



The LCUUF Choir will have a rehearsal on Monday, April 3rd at 9:30 a.m. at the Fellowship. The choir will be sing at the service on Sunday, April 9th. Since many of our choir members will be returning n.o.b. the choir will be on break until fall. This is your last chance to make a joyful noise with us for a while, so please come to the practice on the 3rd. Please contact Choir Director, Bob Koches if you are interested in joining the choir at 766-2299 or bobkoches@gmail.com



Join us on **April 23rd from 2:45 to 5 p.m. at the Fellowship** for English Country Dancing. It's fun! Contact Catherine and Eric Luria for information and to sign up (CluriaARNP@gmail.com)

Spanish Conversation



The advanced Spanish Conversation group still meets at the Food Container at noon on Mondays. Mago is there to help and also Nicki who is fluently bilingual. The less advanced group meets at Karyn Carpenter's house at 2 on Mondays. We have a bilingual friend who is really helpful to us novice speakers. We are looking for a few more people in each group. No need to be UU. For information contact Jan Manning at mydruthers01@yahoo.com

This monthly Newsletter is produced to provide LCUUF news to members and friends. The deadline for the May edition is April 20th.

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LCUUF Women's

Movie Group

The LCUUF Women's Movie Group will meet in April (date to be announced) and go to a movie theater together. Many have expressed a desire to try this format instead of meeting in someone's home. We will re-assess after our April get-together to see what the majority prefers to do. Watch for an e-mail for further information and the exact date in April. Please contact Kathy Koches if you would like to attend at kkoches@gmail.com or 766-2299.