

The Unitarian
Congregation of Taos
February 2019
Bulletin Board



Sun., Feb. 3	Annual Meeting and Lunch
Wed., Feb. 6	Women's Group, 6:00 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 10	Sharing Circle: <i>Our Roles, Ourselves</i>
Sun., Feb. 17	<i>Dead Presidents</i> , The Rev. Munro Sickafoose
Wed., Feb. 20	Men's Group, 4:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 24	Sharing Circle: <i>Honesty</i>

Services & Circles begin at 11 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 124 Camino de Santiago, at the intersection with Gusdorf Road.

On My Mind

The Rev. Gary Kowalski

Around the rim of his banjo, Pete Seeger inscribed a motto: "This machine surrounds hate and forces it to surrender." Pete (who was a member of the UU Community Church of New York) is known as one of the first to publish and popularize the tune "We Shall Overcome," which became an anthem of the civil rights era. And I thought of him when I heard Reverend William Barber in Albuquerque speak of the "theology of music" and the important role song plays in social and personal change.

Last summer, I wrote a song of my own, based on the famous utterances of Dr. Martin Luther King delivered in the dark days of Selma.

*There's an arc that bends toward justice
There's an arc that bends toward love
There's an arc that bends toward freedom
In the stormy skies above
When the clouds are hanging heavy
And worst is yet to come
There's an arc of light that keeps shining bright
In the work still to be done.*

*'Cause no lie lives forever
And you still reap what you sow
So it won't be long till we all belong
To the tribe of the rainbow*

*It's an arc of many colors
Built by many hands
It's an arc that was glimpsed by Martin
And all that angel band
When the clouds are hanging heavy
And darkest days begin*

(Continued on page 2)

Annual Meeting Invitation

Barbara Scott

The fifth UUA principle states the importance of "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." On Sunday Feb. 3, you'll have an opportunity to participate in just such a process at our annual meeting. Lunch will follow.

Bob Aubrecht, who graciously agreed to serve as interim president while I recovered from surgery, will conduct the meeting. Chuck Fawns will start us off with reflections of where we are in our ministry; Bette Myerson will discuss the 2018 financial report and the 2019 budget forecast; Bob will give his report on the Stewardship & Finance Committee, including the 2019 pledge campaign; Emily Gillispie will ask you to vote on the revised by-laws and two new policies; Linda Aubrecht will survey the work of the Caring Community this past year (much of which I can personally attest to!); and Mimi Owensby will discuss the 2018 Community Outreach expenditures.

Last but not least, we'll ask you to vote to elect the new Board of Trustees. After two years as an incredibly competent Secretary, Emily will be stepping down due to work commitments in her new position. She was instrumental in moving chores off my plate and onto hers, and ultimately onto Mel's in her admin position. We will greatly miss her presence. Virginia Saporta will step in as the new Secretary, and Margot Coleman will come onto the board to take Virginia's at-large position.

Look for a copy of the agenda and by-laws in your weekly email; please review the documents in advance and bring your questions, concerns, or ideas to the meeting.

My thanks to the board and to members and friends for their many gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

On My Mind

(Continued from page 1)

*It's been found truth pressed to ground
Will always rise again*

*So it won't be long 'cause the dream lives on
In the arc of the rainbow*

Now I actually have a banjo, one that belonged to our good friend Terry Yoder. I hope that I can learn to play it, along with my guitar. These are difficult days, with more to come. But in the words from one of my favorite hymns, "How can I keep from singing?"

UCOT 2019 Directories

If anything has changed in your contact information, please let us know and we'll make that change in the 2019 directory. We'll print out a small number of directories to hand out at the annual meeting on Feb. 3, but the electronic version seems to be a lot handier for many people. Plus, you can always ask for the latest version, since they're being updated year round. Email Barbara Scott at finaleyes@icloud.com with any changes you have. You can also email her to request an e-version of the directory in pdf format.

Upcoming Sharing Circles:

Our Roles, Ourselves, February 10

Who are you? Many will answer with what they do. "I am a teacher, a chemist, or I am a mom, a sister."

Who are you? "I am the tallest, or the oldest in the room. I'm the famous one you came to see."

Who are you? No really, who are you?

Join us as we attempt to peel away the labels and layers we use to define ourselves to discover our true selves.

Honesty, February 24

Honesty is traditionally regarded as one of the key virtues. Yet in the "Interesting Times" in which we live, baseline honesty — including accountability, integrity and truthfulness — seems to be melting away.

Please come discuss incidents in which honesty or dishonesty, yours or someone else's, has impacted your life. Think of the various forms of dishonesty, and how (or if) they should or could be eliminated in your life. Can a person have integrity and still be less than truthful? Do you regard yourself as a truthful person? When is it acceptable to conceal the truth; when is it corrosive?

UU Women's Group meets February 6th at 6 p.m.

This, the first of 2019 meeting will be, as it was last year, a planning meeting, an opportunity for all those present to input suggestions for topics and resources for the coming year and revisit the suggestions remaining from our 2018 ideas. Details as to meeting place will be emailed prior to February 6th. If you are not sure you are on the email list, or for questions regarding the group, please contact Chris Westover, Barbara Martinez, Carol Doughty or Marsha Fawns.

UCOT Men's Group

The UCOT Men's Group meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:00. Let Terry Surguine know if you'd like to receive notices and directions: tsurguine@gmail.com.

Sunday, February 17 Dead Presidents The Rev. Munro Sickafoose

On the eve of President's Day 2019, it's worth revisiting the making (and unmaking) of some of our national mythology. Dead presidents are cash. Dead presidents are heroes and villains, myths and legends. *Dead Presidents* is a movie. Dead presidents are the past, and the future...?

Call on Our Ministers in Times of Need

Pastoral care is offered to those in need of emotional and spiritual support. If you are going through a crisis (or even a hard time), feel free to reach out to our ministers — they're here to help:

gary.kowalski@gmail.com, (505) 257-5014
munrosickafoose@gmail.com, (970) 946-2814

Music Committee News

Singing practice with Martha at 10:30 a.m.
on the 1st & 3rd Sundays.

All are welcome; attend when you can.



Happy February birthdays to...

7 Sang Roberson
19 Dori Jones
22 Caryle Zorumski