

The Unitarian  
Congregation  
of Taos  
November 2023  
Bulletin Board



Sun., Nov. 5	Service: <i>Day of the Dead / Día de los Muertos</i> Marsha & Chuck Fawns
Sun., Nov. 12	Sharing Circle: <i>Fear Factor</i>
Wed., Nov. 15	UCOT Men's Group, 4:00 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 19	Service: <i>Pray Without Ceasing</i> + UCOT Fall Harvest Lunch, Rev. Munro Sickafoose
Tue., Nov. 21	UCOT Women's Lunch, Martyrs, 12:15 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 26	Sharing Circle: Open Topic
Thu., Nov. 30	UCOT Book Group, SOMOS, 10:30 a.m.

***At a Loss for Words***  
**Rev. Munro Sickafoose**

It seems kind of odd and contradictory to write words about being at a loss for words. Sometimes I feel like there's nothing to say, and other times the words seem to flow freely. Right now, I am feeling that the world is in such turmoil, and is so disturbed and complicated, that words can't even begin to describe it, much less begin to shape a story that makes even a little sense of the madness.

Maybe that's a good thing. Maybe stopping all the words is what the world needs right now. What would it be like for us all to stop? To stop speaking. To stop speaking over each other. To stop speaking louder and louder in desperate bids for attention. To stop posting on Facebook and Twitter and blogs. To shut down all the tech that spews our words — both spoken and written — out into the world 24/7/365 through screens and speakers.

To just simply let silence reign. Just the idea fills me with a deep longing. Maybe we should bring back the Sabbath, not as a day of worship but as a day of silence. What a mercy that would be! And perhaps in the silence, we might also find a little more grace — grace for ourselves, each other, and the world.

***Day of the Dead***  
***(Día de los Muertos)***  
**Marsha & Chuck Fawns**  
Sunday, November 5, 11 a.m.

"Grief is not a disorder, a disease or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical, and spiritual necessity, the price you pay for love. The only cure for grief is to grieve."

— Rabbi Dr. Earl Grollman

"Nothing that grieves us can be called little; by the external laws of proportion, a child's loss of a doll and a king's loss of a crown are events of the same size."

— Mark Twain, "Which Was the Dream?"

This year's Día de Los Muertos service will provide an opportunity to honor and mourn together the special people who have died, recently or long ago. We are meeting to create an altar of photos and items representing those we are honoring. The altar, inspirational readings, and songs by the Threshold Singers will prompt our sharing. The major portion of the service will consist of together honoring all we have lost, so please bring altar items even if you would rather not speak to the group. A reminder to account for the time change that takes place at 2 a.m. on the day of the service. If you forget, you'll arrive an hour early!

***Pray Without Ceasing***  
**Rev. Munro Sickafoose**  
Sunday, November 19, 11 a.m.

Two hundred and twenty-two years ago, Ralph Waldo Emerson preached his first sermon as a Unitarian minister, "Pray Without Ceasing." While his ministerial career was short-lived, his influence on Unitarian Universalism lives on to this day through his philosophy of Transcendentalism, if we only know where to look.

***Fall Harvest Lunch & Fundraiser***  
***for Heart of Taos / DreamTree***  
Sunday, November 19

Join us for our Fall Harvest soup lunch after worship on Sunday, November 19. We will once again be raising funds for sheltering women on cold winter nights.

Sign up [here](#) to bring soups, salads, bread, or cookies. Last spring, we enjoyed tasting each other's homemade soups and raised \$951 to house unsheltered women — and we also had a great time! Win-Win! Bring a friend!



## SHARING CIRCLE

### *Fear Factor*

November 12, 11 a.m.

What would you like to do but are afraid to try? Would it be something small, or something life changing? Would it be feasible? Would it be worth the risk? Come share some thoughts/fantasies you've had about something that has called or is calling you. Maybe you'll be inspired to try it. Maybe just have some fun telling others about it.

### Open Topic

November 26, 11 a.m.

Using a virtual "talking stick," each person can speak in turn, sharing whatever is in their hearts or minds in the moment.

## UCOT Women's Lunch

November 21, 12:15 p.m.

*Meets every Third Tuesday at 12:15 p.m.  
Martyr's Fireside Room, 146 Paseo Del Norte*

Join other UCOT women and their friends as we enjoy lunch and conversation. RSVP before 10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 21. Contact [Sara](#).

We check in and then let the conversation flow. The company and food are always delightful. Join us and bring a friend!

## UCOT Men's Group

November 15, 4 p.m.

The UU Men's Group will meet in person on Wednesday, November 15, at 4 p.m. Contact Chuck Fawns, [charles.fawns@gmail.com](mailto:charles.fawns@gmail.com), for location.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

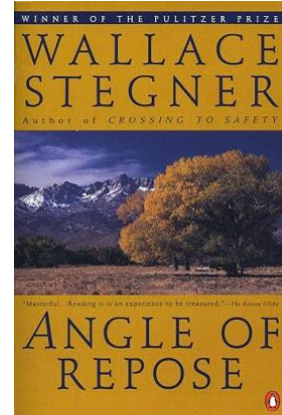
- 7 Stephanie Yoder
- 7 Ty Minton
- 10 Sam Richardson
- 11 Kristen Woolf

## UCOT Book Group

### *Angle of Repose*, by Wallace Stegner

November 30, 10:30 a.m.

Meets at SOMOS, 108 Civic Plaza Dr., B  
Bring \$1 for space rental fee  
Contact [Sara](#) for more info



"Wallace Stegner's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is a story of discovery — personal, historical, and geographical. Confined to a wheelchair, retired historian Lyman Ward sets out to write his grandparents' remarkable story, chronicling their days spent carving civilization into the surface of America's Western frontier. But his research reveals even more about his own life than he's willing to admit. What emerges is an enthralling portrait of four generations in the life of an American family." — *Amazon*

As mentioned above, we will meet at SOMOS. Bring a dollar to donate to SOMOS for room rental.

New and returning UCOT members and friends are always welcome.

