

The Unitarian
Congregation
of Taos
May 2025
Bulletin Board



Sun., May 4 Service: *Flower Ceremony*, Rev. Diana Davies
Sun., May 11 Sharing Circle: *Pot of Gold*
Sun., May 18 Service: *200 Years of Unitarianism: Celebrating the Bicentennial of the American Unitarian Association*, Rev. Diana Davies
Tue., May 20 UCOT Women's Lunch, 12:15 p.m., Martyrs
Wed., May 21 UCOT Men's Group, 4:00 p.m.
Thu., May 22 UCOT Book Group, 10:30 a.m., SOMOS
Sun., May 25 Sharing Circle: *Laughter Is Sunshine of the Soul*

Right Now, It's Like This
Rev. Diana Davies

"Once upon a time there were no flowers at all... Wherever one might have looked, from the poles to the equator, one would have seen only the cold dark monotonous green of a world whose plant life possessed no other color. Somewhere, just a short time before the close of the Age of Reptiles, there occurred a soundless, violent explosion... It marked the emergence of the ... flowering plants." — Loren Eiseley (1957)

First of all, thank you to the mysterious person who left a lovely bouquet of colorful flowers by my front door.

And, speaking of flowers...

It's spring, which means that Unitarian Universalists in congregations all over the world will be celebrating one of our most beloved religious ceremonies, the Flower Ceremony. In 1923, Czechoslovakia was a new democracy and the Unitarian church in Prague was thriving. When that congregation's minister, Rev. Norbert Capek, was looking for a Unitarian alternative to the Christian communion of bread and wine, he chose flowers as the things that would best represent the spirit of communion, of community. Flowers, because they are all around us, so common that they are easy to overlook, and yet each one a miracle. Flowers, because of their amazing diversity — each kind with its own distinct color, shape and fragrance. Each one might be incredibly fragile, but as a group, they feed and color the whole world.

One hundred and two years after the first Flower Ceremony, we are living in a time when some folks seem to have forgotten the importance of diversity. Some are actively opposed to it — the White Christian Nationalists and others who want to stamp out difference and enforce a racial, cultural, sexual, linguistic, and religious conformity.

This month, as we gather flowers together, in our glorious diversity, we stand up against the forces of conformity; we resist a philosophy that would place commerce above human lives, and some human lives

above others. The rainbow of difference, illuminated by a universal and courageous love, can change the world. It already has. And it will again.

Flower Ceremony
Rev. Diana Davies
Sunday, May 4, 11 a.m.

The first Flower Ceremony was held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in June 1923, led by Rev. Norbert Čapek. For over 100 years, this beloved tradition and its powerful history have provided meaning to UU congregations around the world. In this ceremony, everyone in the congregation brings a flower. Each person places a flower in a shared vase. The congregation and minister bless the flowers, and they're redistributed. Please join us for this joyous celebration of diverse community.

***200 Years of Unitarianism:
Celebrating the Bicentennial of the
American Unitarian Association***
Rev. Diana Davies
Sunday, May 18, 11 a.m.

The American Unitarian Association was founded on May 26, 1825. Among other things, this move required the brave embracing of a scandalous word, "Unitarian." Today, we look back on 200 years of Unitarianism, not as an exercise in reciting dry history but in seeking examples from our past for ways to face today's challenges with commitment, courage, and active hope.

Special Announcement from the UUA

The Unitarian Universalist Association has issued a powerful response to the recent presidential proclamation attacking trans and nonbinary youth and their families. [Read the full statement here.](#)

SHARING CIRCLES

Pot of Gold

May 11, 11 a.m.

A pot of gold at the end of the rainbow can mean many things. Something that's hard to achieve, a waste of time, or impossible to find. Sometimes it's a hard path — seemingly impossible, but at the end of it, for you, a *Eureka* moment — something you've learned and finally understood.

Have you found your pot of gold? What is it?



Laughter Is Sunshine of the Soul

May 25, 11 a.m.

"A day without laughter is a day wasted."

— Charlie Chaplin

"The human race has one really effective weapon, and that is laughter." — Mark Twain

Is there a memory you have that makes you laugh out loud when you think of it?

UCOT Women's Lunch

May 20, 12:15 p.m.

(Third Tuesday Monthly)

Martyrs Steakhouse

RSVP [here](#)

We will meet at Martyrs on Tuesday, May 20, at 12:15 p.m., in their separate meeting space at the rear of the property, to enjoy a meal and conversation with UCOT women members and their friends.

Join us as we enjoy delicious food and the company of amazing women. RSVP by Monday, May 19 to Diza Sauers, dizas65@gmail.com.

UCOT Men's Group

May 21, 4:00 p.m.

(Third Wednesday Monthly)

The UCOT Men's Group will meet in person on Wednesday, May 21, at 4 p.m. Contact Chuck Fawns at charles.fawns@gmail.com for this month's location.

No UCOT Game Night in May

Game night is on break until the fall. Enjoy your summer — get outside and play!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Chuck Doughty

4 Marjorie Luckey

18 Madison Taylor

22 Barbara Martinez

25 Rachel Cohen

UCOT Book Group

May 22, 10:30 a.m., SOMOS

(Fourth Thursday Monthly)

The UCOT Book Group is open to all readers and their friends. Bring \$1 to contribute to SOMOS, which allows us to use their space.

In May, we will read *Small Things Like These*, by Claire Keegan.



It is 1985, in an Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal and timber merchant, faces his busiest season. As he goes round the houses making deliveries, he feels the past rising up to meet him — and encounters the complicit silences of a small community controlled by the Church.

Please join us for the conversation.

You can find the complete 2025 Book List at the following link: [2025 Book List](#).