



High Plains News

“Building a liberal spiritual community that welcomes all to lives of wholeness”

September 2013

High Plains Church - Unitarian-Universalist

Vol 20, No 9

Columns

Minister’s Musings	3
Faith Formation	5
President’s Post	7
Features	
Photo Directory	7
Board Minutes	8
Adult Education Classes	10
Upcoming Events	11

Pridefest 2013

By Bob Nemanich

Pridefest 2013 was a great success, despite natural and man-made last-minute changes in the site conditions and parade route. In a way, overcoming these obstacles is a living embodiment of the LGBT equality movement. HPCUU participated for the second consecutive year with our sister UU congregation, All Soul's Church. This partnership expresses the shared values and principles of our spiritual, religious UU movement.



2013's Pridefest moved to a new location this year, the *America the Beautiful Park*, which allowed for more exhibitors and larger crowds,

both of which were reported in the *Gazette*. However, getting to the park was for many, a mountain hike. Speaking of hikes, the city’s sudden change of parade route just three days prior to the festival, and heavy afternoon rains the day before, made the recently aerated park grounds a muddy walkway. In spite of the last minute route change and muddy grass, the thousands who witnessed and participated in the parade exemplified the upbeat spirit of

LGBT pride and equality, and persevered.

Earlier in the morning of July 21st, the HPCUU 9:00 am Worship Service was led by Amanda Udis-Kessler. Then, over thirty participants colorfully clad with Pridefest T-Shirts, walked in the parade to the theme of *Summer of Love*. The parade and festival, which was covered by all the local news outlets, demonstrated that LGBT equality acceptance is progressing here in Colorado Springs and throughout the state of Colorado, which recently passed into law same sex civil unions. Full LGBT marriage equality is still the objective for us and those within the movement.

Finally, I would like to speak boastfully about all the volunteers who lent a helping hand. Setting up and tearing down our booth: Tim Oliver, Jonathan Herdt, and Roger Armstrong; HPCUU booth representatives: Cyndy Dawn along with her visiting mother; Anna Nemanich, Gail Prothero, and Merle Stryker, plus Bobbi Forster who knew where to find things – thank you all! I would also like to thank ASUUC members and friends: Rev Nori Rost, Alma Cremenese, Joy Luther, Elaine Wolf, Blue Rah, Sam Stevens, Anna & Rob Cirrariello and Charles Peterson. Every single person’s help was vital in accomplishing a successful event.



Events Calendar September 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	4	5 Yoga Class 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	6 Stitchers 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm 1st Friday Parent/Child 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Book Club 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	7 YRUU Community Building Retreat 8:00 am -
8 YRUU Community Building Retreat - 1:00 pm Foster Family Support 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	9	10 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	11	12 Yoga Class 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Writing Your...Stories 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	13 High Plains Sisters 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	14
15 YRUU at All Souls 12:30 am - 2:30 pm	16 Publicity Team Meeting 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	17 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	18 Board Meeting 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	19 Yoga Class 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Writing Your...Stories 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	20 Stitchers 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Hip Parents Group 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	21
22 YRUU at All Souls 12:30 am - 2:30 pm	23	24 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Soul Matters Group 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	25 Soul Matters Newcomers Group 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	26 Yoga Class 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Writing Your...Stories 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	27 Life Touch Photography Sessions 1:00 pm - 8:30 pm	28 Life Touch Photography Sessions 10:00 am - 5:30 pm
29 YRUU at All Souls 12:30 am - 2:30 pm	30					

Be sure to check the Events Tag on the website at www.hpcuu.org for additions and corrections to the calendar.

September Services: Connections

- Sept 1** *"Reconnecting with Those We Love."* How the practices of the Jewish High Holy Days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur can help us all to strengthen and reaffirm our connections with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock.
- Sept 8** *"Ingathering Sunday."* The opening celebration of the new church year kicks off with the Gathering of the Waters. Bring water from wherever you traveled with the winds of summer as we connect in beloved community once again. (Virtual water will be available for anyone who forgets their waters of the world.) with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock.
- Sept 15** *"Connecting with the Self and the Holy."* Finding the 'still, small voice within' and our connection to that which is greater than all with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock.
- Sept 22** *"Beatles Sunday with YRUU."* Join Colorado Springs high school UU youth and HPC Music Director Joe Uveges for a Music Sunday and connect through the music of The Beatles with Jessica Laike.
- Sept 29** *"Connection with Our Greater Movement."* How better connections with the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations can strengthen you and High Plains Church with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock.

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Minister's Musings

by Rev Beatrice Hitchcock

What Does It Mean to be a Person of Connection?

We live in a lonely time. For all the electronic ways of making connections we have today, 25% of the American people say they have no one with whom they can share intimate information about themselves. About as many say they have only one person, and that is most likely to be a life partner.

Church offers an opportunity to change this. Here we gather in community to do the work of connecting. Connecting with our inner selves, by hearing that "still, small voice within." Connecting with God or the Holy. Connecting with those around us. Connecting to the greater community through service and partnerships. Remembering that we are a part of "the interconnected web of all existence."

Practicing our spirituality together, we can remember that we are connected. Our small group covenants remind us of this by affirming our reasons for being

together – to make deep connections – to have people with whom we can reveal our true selves – to be listened to with respect and understanding.

In this busy post-modern world, it is easy to lose our sense of connection. We may become engrossed in the roles we play at work or at home, allowing only a few aspects of our true selves to show in any particular situation. We may insulate ourselves from the troubles of others through fear, or a sense of inadequacy. We may forget to make time to connect with nature, to garden or walk in the hills, or bird-watch or play with our animals.

This month, as the church re-gathers following the long days of summer, we celebrate our deep connections, and renew others. Join in a Soul Matters group, another way to connect, and change your life.

Beatrice

Soul Matters Groups Start in September

If you've enjoyed the Soul Matters packets this summer, think how much more you could get out of them, exploring the themes in a small group ministry format. One group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm, starting September 24 and concluding in May. (Adjustments will be made to the regular schedule for holidays.) This group will be closed to new participants after the October meeting. Rev. Beatrice will facilitate initially; Kyle Heimer and Kim Doty have both volunteered to facilitate and will take over after a brief training period. At that time, another group may form. Please contact Rev. Beatrice to participate: minister@hpcuu.org.

A second group, meeting on fourth Wednesdays, will be open to newcomers to High Plains Church throughout the year.

All group participants will be sent a Soul Matters packet at the beginning of each month, to begin the process of changing their lives. Soul Matters work is designed to provoke deep insight and spiritual change around monthly themes. They are a part of the "inspire spiritual growth" aspect of your new Mission Statement.

September	Connection
October	Transformation
November	Yearning
December	Wonder

Minister's Schedule

My regular office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. I am available at other times by appointment. Friday and Saturday are my sermon writing days at home. Monday is my day off. I get one Sunday off a month and will be taking a long weekend, Sept 19-23, to attend a Parents' Weekend at my daughter's college in Wisconsin. *Italics indicate off-site meetings.*

Sun, Sept 1	Service	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tues, Sept 3	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Wed, Sept 4	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	<i>HS Bridgers</i>	<i>7:00 pm – 8:30 pm</i>
Thurs, Sept 5	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sat, Sept 7	<i>Worship Associate workshop</i>	<i>9:00 pm to 1:00 pm</i>
Sun, Sept 8	Service	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tues, Sept 10	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Wed, Sept 11	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	<i>Transition Team</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
Thurs, Sept 12	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sat, Sept 14	Marian Call Concert	6:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Sun, Sept 15	Service	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tues, Sept 17	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Wed, Sept 18	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	Board	6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Tues, Sept 24	Office hours	10:00 – 4:00 pm
	Soul Matters	7:00 pm
Wed, Sept 25	Office hours	10:00 am– 4:00 pm
	Soul Matters	7:00 pm
Thurs, Sept 26	Office hours	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	UU History	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fri, Sept 27	Directory photo sessions	
Sat, Sept 28	UU History	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sun, Sept 29	Service	9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Worship Associates

Two more worship associates are needed for a complete group of twelve. Worship associates commit to a year at a time of service, and four group meetings per year. At the quarterly meetings, they help choose worship themes and topics and guest speakers for the upcoming three months, and choose one service at which they will be worship associate. Then they meet with the minister or consult with the guest speaker to plan the service.

To apply, please contact Rev. Beatrice: minister@hpcuu.org. A combined **worship associate workshop** and planning meeting will be held on **Saturday, September 7, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**, near the church at the home of Rev. Beatrice.

Worship associates this year will be: Alcira Estevez, Amanda Udis-Kessler, Annabel Carney, Austin Frost, Bob Nemanich, Brent Dubach, Cindy Fesgen, Dianne McRae, Julia Mesnikoff, and Tim Oliver.

Joys and Sorrows

To have your joy or sorrow included in the pastoral prayer on Sunday, please email your Caring Team at caring@hpcuu.org or the Interim Minister at minister@hpcuu.org, before Saturday night. Or, you may write it in the Joys and Sorrows book located on the table by the shoji screens. There will also be a pause after each line of the pastoral prayer for prayers of the people, in which you may name aloud those concerns or joys you hold in your heart.



Faith Formation

by Jessica Laike

“Human beings are actually created for the transcendent, for the sublime, for the beautiful, for the truthful, and you don’t teach people these things. It comes with the package of being human and all of us are given the task of trying to make this world a little more hospitable to these beautiful things – to love, to compassion, to caring, to sharing, just to being human.”

~ Desmond Tutu

It hardly seems possible, but in just a few days on September 5th I will celebrate my one year anniversary as your Director of Faith Formation. To say it has been a whirlwind of a year would be an understatement at the very least, but I realize that I wouldn’t have had it any other way. What I am especially present to is the fact that I couldn’t have done any of it without the incredible trust and support I have received from all of you. This month’s worship theme is ‘Connection’ and I couldn’t think of anything more fitting for my anniversary month with you all, after all – connection, in its various forms, is really what Faith Formation is all about.

Connection is one of those things universally sought by all human beings, though it is experienced in many different forms. My goal for our Faith Formation program is that we provide programming which speaks to each of the ways you experience connection to the Eternal. For some of you it will be through intellectual pursuit, in teachings, readings and discussions in search of the Truth. The Truth about life on this planet, where we came from, where we are going and what happens when we die. It is through the exploration of these unanswerable questions that some find themselves most connected to that which can’t be explained. For others that connection is found in community and fellowship; that closeness found in being together and in service to others. It is in seeing the goodness in people that may light that divine spark within you. Finally there are those for whom access to the divine is found in the glory of a sunset, a field of flowers or snow covered mountains, a hauntingly beautiful melody or a piece of art which seems to stir the soul. It is in the appreciation of art and beauty that many of you may feel closest to the Spirit of Life. Most people feel strongly drawn to one or two of these areas as the source of their access to the Eternal, or simply to that which is greater than themselves.

While we are not fully there yet, it is my aim that our Faith Formation program provides opportunities to experience connectedness in each of these ways. Our new Adult Program class offerings are one piece of this puzzle as are the new Soul Matters groups. Our Religious Education classes for children and youth aim to incorporate each of these areas in our weekly classes through discussion, community building and artistic

expression, such that wherever your child finds connection they will (hopefully) find it at some point during each class.

What I see as the largest area missing from our adult program offerings is an outlet for those who find connection in the art and beauty of life. My hope is that within the next year we are able to address this with Affinity groups in various areas. Affinity groups, like the current Stitchers group, would meet on a regular basis to engage in discussion around a common interest, or perhaps engage in an activity which speaks to their common passion. For instance a musicians group might come together for a weekly or monthly jam session. A music appreciation group might attend concerts together, while an art lovers group might go to local gallery openings. A nature lovers group might go on hikes together and a culinary club might gather to find connection over a home cooked meal. The options are endless and limited only by your passion. If you would like to start an Affinity group in one of these, or any other, areas I would love to assist you in bringing such a group together.

It is connection which brings us together as a community and which those who walk through our doors are seeking. Some will find that connection in attending Sunday services, others will find it through our adult education classes or small group ministry offerings, while others may still be looking for that outlet which speaks directly to them. I challenge each and every one of you to examine your life for the ways in which you find connection to the Eternal or to that which speaks to your heart’s longing, and then see if there is an offering in our church community for that connection. If you find that there isn’t, I invite you to consider that you may not be the only person in our congregation who would find value in such an opportunity and then contact me about creating a group to fill that need. In this way our community will truly thrive when all who walk through our doors find access to that connection which is greater than themselves.

In faith,
Jessica

Join us as we head Down the Road on the 50th UU 9th Grade Trip

By Mitch Pingel

There's a trip worth takin', down the road

If you have a passion for working with our youth and curiosity about the indigenous cultures of the American South West, there's a trip worth takin', down the road.

The UU 9th Grade Trip will be heading down the road for the 50th time next April and we are looking for a few good RAs (Responsible Adults) to join us.

The core of the trip experience is building a UU community of diverse 9th graders and adults to learn about and visit people of different cultures in a non-threatening environment all while putting our Unitarian Universalist values into practice. For many who participate, the 9th Grade Trip is a life changing experience.

We are looking for people who, among other characteristics, have experience relating to youth in groups; can work cooperatively with other RAs; are able to create and promote a climate of trust and mutual respect in which youth can express themselves, be heard and not be gossiped about; can model 'reaching out' to youth on the edges; can model and promote respect for agreed-upon boundaries and ground rules; can uphold group policies and hold the group accountable; are good at leading discussions and facilitating bonding.

There's a day worth livin', down the road

There are many days worth living, if you join the 9th Grade Trip. Involvement in the 9th Grade Trip requires a substantial investment of time. For the Trip to be a success the group must transform itself into a caring community of both adults and youth, and all involved must have an understanding of both the values and mores of the 9th Grade Trip, Unitarian Universalism and of the Native American cultures that we visit. For these and other reasons it is expected that every RA is present for all Trip related activities, including:

- * Three weekend-long retreats
- * Three Sunday morning classes, the first of which is preceded by an adult overnight
- * Ten day trip to the Navajo and Hopi Reservations
- * One overnight retreat following the Trip itself

There's a friend worth makin', down the road

RAs on the 9th Grade Trip have the opportunity to learn about and visit the Navajo and Hopi cultures, make friends with the many artists, educators and students we meet and to develop potentially long-lasting relationships with other RAs and Trippers.

There's a song worth singin', down the road

It might be one of the morning wake-up songs or the evening lights-out songs or it might be a badly botched pop song sung by 40 youth on the bus, but we guarantee there are many songs worth singin', down the road. And you will learn the tune and sing, "Down the Road."

There's a call worth makin', down the road

For more information contact: Melinda McGann; 720-560-6971; Melinda_kq@yahoo.com or go to the 9th Grade Trip website at www.uu9gt.org

Coordinator:

Mitch Pingel, mitch@uu9gt.org, 303-579-9868

Responsible Adults:

Diane Butler FUC
 Laura McCollom BVUUF
 Tim Murray CLF
 Patrick Phillips, FUSD
 Adam Ramsay CLF

Marty Dawley FUSD
 Scott McCollom BVUUF
 Tish Onsager FUC
 Amanda Ramsay CLF,



The President's Post

by Jim Montgomery

Our Mission:

To *Nurture* a loving, respectful religious community, *Inspire* spiritual growth, and *Act* for Social justice.

Last year we went through a comprehensive process to write a new mission statement for our church. We wanted a statement that would be more representative of what we want to accomplish in our church and in the wider community. All the members and friends of our church had the opportunity to contribute to this process and then vote on the final statement. It was accepted with what only can be called universal acclaim and was made our mission at our last congregational meeting. Now is the time to make our mission more than just a statement

but a true part of our church life. We can do this on an individual basis by truly welcoming newcomers into our church and encouraging them to become involved in our church activities. In our teams and small groups we can look for ways to promote different aspects of our mission and incorporate these in our activities. It's up to us as individuals and groups to implement our newly stated mission.

Just think *Nurture, Inspire, Act*, a good slogan for an active loving church community.

Jim Montgomery,
President of the Board of Trustees

High Plains Photo Directory

High Plains is going to create a church photo directory. We have chosen Lifetouch to provide these services for our church. There is no cost to you or our church for this beautiful directory or to have your photographs taken. Just for participating, each family will receive a complimentary professional 8 x 10 portrait and a church directory. We are hoping for 100% participation. Our directory won't be complete without you!

Photography

At the time of photography, you will be able to view your images immediately to select your directory photo. If you so desire, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring along friends and extended family members to have a professional portrait taken as well. They also will receive a complimentary professional 8 x 10 portrait. It's even okay to bring a pet or props to make your photos more meaningful.

Our photography schedule is:
Friday, September 27, 1:00 pm – 8:30 pm and
Saturday, September 28, 10:00 am – 5:30 pm,

Our church directory will help us connect names with faces. Our directory would not be complete without you, so please take the time to participate.

For those who choose to purchase portraits, there are some great discounts available.

Whichever is the greater discount, will be honored.

- For all who sign up, you will receive (per family) a \$10.00 coupon.
- If you have a family member age sixty or older, your family will receive a 20% discount.
- If you have a military member in your family, you will also receive a 20% discount.
- Donate 2 can goods at the time of your photo session to our American Charities Fund and receive \$5.00 off your beautiful portraits. What a wonderful fundraiser for High Plains.

Scheduling

Early sign-ups will get first choice of times, so please go to the church website, by clicking on the Photo logo on the lower left-side of the Home page, after August 18 to schedule (<http://www.hpcuu.org/>) or, bring your calendar and stop by the sign-up table after the church service on August 18, 25, September 1, 8, 15.

Part-time volunteers are appreciated to help make our directory a success. If you can help by signing up families before or after service, telephoning some of our church families or by serving as a greeter during the actual photography sessions, please let us know.

Our church directory will help all of us connect a name with a familiar face, and won't be complete without you.

Thank you for taking the time to participate!

High Plains Church—Unitarian Universalist Board of Trustees Minutes July 25, 2013

Present: Jim Montgomery, Jack McElroy, Kelley Ghorashi, Cindy Fesgen, Eddy Lieberman, Jessica Laike

*Reports

In the future all reports will be sent to the president by Sunday, and he will send the whole packet out to the whole board in advance of the meeting.

***Minister's Report**- Beatrice Hitchcock sent her report via email because she is on leave this month.

-The transition team is willing to consider becoming the team on ministry. One of the duties of the Team on Ministry is to provide conflict resolution to members of the congregation as needed.

-The small group social change group is planning to help build a Habitat for Humanity home for a family who lost their home in the Black Forest fire. We hope to know the date ASAP to publicize and invite other HPCUU members and friends who are interested in helping.

-Photo directory of members will take place in the fall.

-A Building and Grounds team is needed.

-Karen Wisely is the new office administrator. She will begin in August once she has completed the job she is currently at.

-Training is planned for the merged Pastoral care/Caring Team on August 31st.

*DFF Report

-The board will write a letter from the board to Nancy Bowen asking for a grant of \$300 to help with Jessica's tuition for the Starr King class. Kelley moved that the board contribute \$350 of existing monies in the HPCUU to help. Eddy seconded. Unanimously approved. Starr King is covering half the tuition as well.

-Teachers' final assignments are being determined for fall classes.

-We are planning a Harvest Festival possibly for October in conjunction with church auction.

-There is a possibility of increasing yoga offerings and advertising in the Gazette calendar.

-A Bridging Class for senior high seniors will be offered this year.

-A Coming of Age Class for the ninth graders being offered.

-We are looking for two other people to train and teach OWL.

*CFO REPORT

-Jack shared the preliminary year end report Draft #2.

-Pledges came within \$1000 of making the budgeted goal for the year.

-We need to continue to promote scrip purchases as this is an excellent money maker for the church when everyone participates.

-We have a need to form an ad hoc committee to investigate income possibilities such as building rentals.

-On the Mortgage, we have been allowed to pay only interest plus \$1000, so we didn't have to pay as much as projected for this last year.

-Overall the church came out just slightly under budget due to good stewardship.

*Old Business

-Policies and Procedures Review- Jim

Ad Hoc Team needs to be set up to work on these. Proposed Tim Oliver as a chair.

-Stewardship- 87 pledge units is down from previous years, but the average pledge is up. So our total pledges are around \$176,000.

-Debt- we will be using the remaining capital fund to pay our annual payment to ASCUU this year.

-We will pay \$3,840 per month to the UUA for the rest of 2013.

-New Website is up and running but still needs some tweaking.

-Through generous donations of our members, we have been able to purchase the piano from the Meismanns.

-Publicity wants to know if they can change the ad rates for the newsletter. The board feels the publicity team has the authority to do this as part of their responsibilities.

*New Business

-U and I Membership vs Church Membership discussion: U and I Leaders and Membership Team members will let people know up front that after a year, they should be ready to commit by becoming a pledging member or friend. U and I leaders or the U and I Team Leader can also talk to U and I members about it if needed.

-Sue Sproul will be the purchasing agent for the Fellowship Team

Meet Mike Del Duca

Mike became a member at HPCUU in November, 2012. Mike was born and raised in Canon City. He did a stint in the Army.

He and his partner, Ken Lowry, are caring for five children – John, Justin, Corey, Royal and Christopher. They are in the process of adopting the younger children and have guardianship of Daniel and Heather.

Mike is an elementary school paraprofessional for Academy School District 20 and really likes this job. With his job and tending to all the kids' activities, he would still like to find the time to go skydiving and/or ride a rodeo bull.

Mike was raised a Catholic and continued to follow the faith until young adulthood. Mike and Ken visited HPCUU about 4 years ago, when they decided that it was

time to find a church for the family. When their family was matched with our church for the holiday Adopt-a-Family project in 2011, they appreciated the support they received and how their family was accepted by High Plains members. After

attending services, they decided to make our church their religious home. Mike and his family have been very generous in offering a helping hand for church activities, such as sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt in 2012, donating and cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for this year's Spring Carnival, and helping with the Blue Star recycling event. Mike likes our services and appreciates all of the religious education programs for his children.



Meet Karen Wilsey

Please welcome Karen Wilsey as our new Office Administrator. She earned her BS degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting in 2007, and is excited to put her skills to use at High Plains Church UU. Karen and her wife, "Blue", attend our sister church, All Souls, where she volunteers in the Kindergarten through 2nd Grade Religious Education classroom and sings in the choir. Originally from Tucson, Arizona, she moved to Colorado Springs in 2008 to be near her in-laws. Karen and "Blue" currently share their home on the Westside with a cat, a rabbit, and three snakes.



New Member Classes:

For those of you who are interested in becoming a member of High Plains, or in simply learning more about Unitarian Universalism, the Journey to Membership is a three part process. Attending the classes in no way obligates you to join the church. However, for those who wish to become members, they are a prerequisite unless you have been a member of another UU congregation.

Inspire: In September, December and March, the history and tenets of Unitarian Universalism and those of High Plains Church are introduced.

Nurture: In October, January, and April, our minister will explore spiritual practices.

Act: In November, February and May, the ABC's of membership at High Plains will be covered.

Regardless of prior or current membership, you are encouraged to take these classes before becoming a member of High Plains. Questions can be directed to membership@hpcuu.org or anyone at the Welcome Table on Sunday.

September classes will be on the

26th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, and
28th from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Halloween Auction and Carnival

By Gretchen Hein

Fun for young and old alike

Save this date!

Saturday October 26, 2013 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Carnival

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Auction

Food, carnival, bidding and a costume contest!

Adult Fall Programs

Enlightenment, Growth, Joy and Fellowship

By Nancy Bently

Begin the fall by learning something new! High Plains Church Unitarian Universalist Fall Classes offers a wide range of adult classes and activities for members and non-members. Those affiliated with High Plains Church UU and/or All Souls UU Church are eligible to receive a reduced rate for all classes. A limited number of partial, need-based scholarships are also available.

Advance registration is requested by the date listed for each class. If the minimum enrollment number for the class has not been reached by the advance registration deadline then the class may be cancelled. Registrations will continue to be accepted until the class reaches maximum enrollment or until the first day of class.

All classes will be held at High Plains Church, 1825 Dominion Way, Colorado Springs, CO. 80918

Writing Your Personal Stories

By Gretchen Cutts

Hands-on, practical sessions that will help you organize and produce those pages that have been only in your plans until now.

Thursdays September 12, 19, 26. 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

High Plains Church Unitarian Universalist

1825 Dominion Way, Colorado Springs

\$15.00 High Plains and All Souls members,
\$20.00 non-members

Registration forms at High Plains
or at www.hpcuu.org. or
email to adult_programs@hpcuu.org

719- 260-1080

Facilitator Gretchen S. Cutts is a former editor and author, with training and experience in writing memoirs.

Advance Registration Deadline: Sept. 5, Minimum enrollment number 5, Maximum enrollment 12.



High Plains Church
Unitarian Universalist

Voluntary Simplicity

Thursdays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, Oct. 3, 10, 24 Nov. 7, 14

This five-session discussion course from the Northwest Earth Institute invites participants into the practice of simplicity. Voluntary simplicity is an alternative to the unsustainable consumer culture in which we live. The course will explore the meaning and value of simplicity, how to live with less, working less and enjoying life more, making time for your life, and living sustainably on the earth. Tuition cost for this class includes the *Voluntary Simplicity Discussion Guide* from the Northwest Earth Institute (a \$25 value.) These will be pre-ordered for course participants who register by the deadline.

The class is lead by Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock.

\$40.00 High Plains and All Souls members
\$50.00 non-members.

Advance Registration Deadline: Sept. 19, Minimum enrollment number 5, Maximum enrollment 15.

Practicing Gratitude

By Amanda Udis-Kessler

UU minister Galen Guengerich once claimed that gratitude ought to be the primary spiritual discipline of Unitarian Universalists. But what does it mean to understand gratitude as a spiritual discipline? In this one-session course we will consider different kinds of gratitude practices and you will spend some time developing one or more gratitude practices of your own. You will also leave with some resources and examples of gratitude writing.

Thursday, November: 21st. 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

At High Plains Church, 1825 Dominion Way. Open to all.

Course cost:

\$10.00 High Plains and All Souls members,
\$15.00 non-members.

Pre-registration with deposit required.

Contact: Amanda Udis-Kessler,
auidiskessler@coloradocollege.edu, 719-473-5053

Facilitator Amanda Udis-Kessler has one regular gratitude practice and several others for use at strategic moments. She has preached on gratitude several times, and does her best to read regularly on the topic.

For a complete listing of classes, go to Adult Education in the Faith Formation section of the HPCUU Website: <http://www.hpcuu.org>

Nonviolence

Speaker - Sufi Moji Agha

High Plains Church and the Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission will host speaker, Sufi Moji Agha, on Thursday, September 5, 2013, at High Plains Church from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm). Mr. Agha will discuss the topic of **Nonviolence**. The talk is Free and open to the public.



Prime Minister
Dr. Mohammad Mossadegh

Moji Agha will speak about the history of Iran and his vision and mission to create a world that nurtures the nonviolent virtues and values of "The Gandhi of Iran," not only for his beloved Iran, but for the global community of our distressed Mother Earth.

Marian Call Concert

By Beatrice Hitchcock

September 14 at High Plains Church UU

Join Alaskan singer-songwriter Marian Call for an unforgettable concert with guitarist Scott Barkan at High Plains Church UU, 7:30 pm, Saturday, September 14. Marian Call is a quirky singer-songwriter, who performs humorous and heartfelt songs like you've never heard before -- a little bit Joni Mitchell, a little bit Regina Spektor, a little bit Ani DiFranco, a lot of soul.



Marian's quirky songs are loved by all types -- tech geeks, church ladies, teenage groupies, NPR listeners, and urban hipsters worldwide. Marian has played concerts in all fifty United States, most major cities across Canada, and all over Europe, and she has released three studio albums and a live album through devoted fan support. Find more information or listen to her music for free at <http://mariancall.com>.

Free, \$15.00 Recommended Donation (a portion of donations go to HPCUU)

Open to all ages, refreshments available.

Contact: High Plains Church Office at 719-260-1080
between 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Tuesday - Friday
Email: office@hpcuu.org

Aesthetics Team Projects

By Karen Clemmensen

Your Aesthetics Team is considering two major projects in the coming year. The first is replacing the out-dated mission and vision statement that currently graces the "Identity Wall" in the Fellowship area of our church. Since that wall is a focal point for congregants and visitors first entering our space, we feel it is valuable real estate that could be better utilized to catch attention and to advertise what UUism and High Plains Church is all about.

The second project has been suggested by the Publicity Team and involves both researching the cost of and creating a design for additional signage possibly on the street as well as on our building. Research to date has revealed a change to city laws which might allow new possibilities for introducing our campus to visitors and community traffic.

If you are interested in having input regarding these projects, please consider joining the Aesthetics Team. We welcome your participation in our continual efforts to enhance member and visitor experience with HPCUU through the aesthetics of our building and campus. Contact team lead, Karen Clemmensen, at 488-0550 or kclommensen@mac.com.

Book Club

By Heather Mitchell

The HPCUU Intergenerational Book Club meets September 6, from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the Main Sanctuary. For more info please contact Heather Mitchell at hjmitche@gmail.com.

Issues on Aging

By Sue Neufeld

Our group will be meeting on Saturday, 21 September from 10:30 pm - 12:00 in the Middle School classroom. All are welcome. Sue Neufeld will be facilitating a discussion of "Aging in Place." Seventy-eight million baby boomers are becoming seniors (age 65) at the rate of 10,000 per day, and not surprisingly, most of them want to age from the comfort of their own home. What things can we do to help make that most easily happen? Bring your ideas to discuss. Contact Sue Neufeld (260-9625) if you have questions.

Web Wonders:

Helpful Hints about the HPCUU website.

By John Atkinson

The new High Plains' website has a number of useful and interesting features. Each month in this "column", the Publicity Team will highlight a few of these changes, especially as features are added or changed.

Features highlighted this month include:

1. What's New?



Look for upcoming events below the description of the current month's services. You may have to scroll down a bit. Also, Click on "Events/What's New" for details.

2. Member Log in



One of the privileges of being a HPCUU member is having access to a number of special documents. Member sign in is on the bottom left of the home page. Click on "log in" to access our church directory, annual budget, contact e-mails for staff/teams/groups and much more.

3. Daily Compass



Want to be uplifted by a positive thought for the day? Click on the "Daily Compass" icon (home page: bottom left column) to be connected to the UUA's "Church of the Larger Fellowship" thought for the day.

4. What is a Wisdom Circle?



Want to know more about the "wisdom circles" in the web site banner and hanging on our walls? Click on "Who We Are/Our Symbols/Web Banner Cartouches."

High Plains Stitches

Bring your stitching project (or any easily transportable craft) and join us at La Tartine at 1420 Kelly Johnson Blvd, 80920. This location has a full lunch menu as well as beverages and yummy pastry items. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. And if you don't have any stitching or crafting, come anyway and just "hang out" with us!

Questions? Contact Janet at
stitchers@hpcuu.org





Oct 26th
Halloween
AUCTION & CARNIVAL

CARNIVAL: 5:00 - 8:00 PM

FUN FOR YOUNG & OLD ALIKE!

HAUNTED HOUSE, GAMES, FORTUNE TELLER, FACE PAINTING, COSTUME CONTEST & MORE!!

DINNER & AUCTION: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS! NO COVER FOR THOSE IN COSTUME!

POT-LUCK DINNER, BRING A DISH TO SHARE!!



1825 DOMINION WAY
COLORADO SPRINGS, 80918
EMAIL: OFFICE@HPCUU.ORG PHONE: (719) 260-1080





HPCUU

1825 Dominion Way
Colorado Springs CO 80918

High Plains Church 719-260-1080
Unitarian Universalist

Member of Unitarian Universalist Association

Sunday Services at 10:00 AM

Come Join Us!

Inside:

President's Post
Photo Directory

Adult Education Classes
Upcoming Events

Send Comments to: editor@hpcuu.org
Send Articles to: newsletter@hpcuu.org

**Please submit your articles for the October newsletter
by September 25, 2013**

ReVISIONS by Jonathan

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