



Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation

*A Home for Spiritual Growth, Free
Thought and Loving Action*

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Upcoming Services

February 2: Good UU Reads - Rev. Laurel Liefert & Leonard Sokoloski

Many people who find a spiritual home in a Unitarian Universalist congregation like Namaqua know little about Unitarian Universalism. Leonard and Cherry Sokoloski bid on a sermon of their choice at the Services Auction and have chosen this as a topic. Join us for book recommendations and stories that will open the door to understanding more about the fascinating history, theology, and sources of this liberal faith for our time.

February 9: A Treasure of Great Worth - Director of Religious Education Janen Wright & Members of Namaqua

"This is your life. Right here. Right now. Just this. Your life is your very own path. Don't wish for someone else's; instead search for ways to be like your own true self and fulfill all your own promise and possibility. You are the spiritual treasure you are trying to discover and reveal." (Lama Surya Das) Join us in this "full church" multi-generational service in which Janen and members of our congregation will explore 5 gems of wisdom about being resilient by loving ourselves.

February 16: Grace: The Path of Trusting in a Love that Will Not Let You Go - Worship Associates Doug Stewart & Kathy Hartman

Anne Lamott says, The movement of grace is what changes us, heals us, and heals our world. To summon grace, say "Help," and then buckle up. Grace finds you exactly where you are, but it doesn't leave you where it found you.

February 23: What Does It Mean To Be a People of Resilience - Worship Associates Janet Gillette & Lauren Daley; Guest Musician Becky Zurtz-Ostenburg

While resilience has a lot to do with what is inside us, it equally depends on what is between us. We survive our pain by having the strength to tell others about it. We find the courage to make our way through the dark only when we sense we are not alone. Internal and individual grit only gets us so far; empathy, assurance and love from others gets us the rest of the way. Resilience has everything to do with the water in which we swim and the web of connections that surround us. Resilient people arise from resilient relationships. The service will feature guest musician Becky Zurtz-Ostenburg on the cello.

**NUUC meets each Sunday
at 10:00 am at our home**
745 East 5th Street
Loveland, Colorado

Contact Us: 970-685-0427

Find us on the web
www>NamaquaUU.org

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President's Message

More than halfway through our church year and we're doing well!

I'm so **pleased with all the programs** the *Committee on Shared Ministry* has underway. *Laurel and the Worship Associates* have led outstanding Sunday Services, *Janen* is keeping our children's program strong and inventive, I've heard Friday night's Open Mic night keeps showing off hidden talents, 17 of us have read *White Fragility* and are exploring our privilege, *Laurel and Alice* led a Starting Point class, mostly for newcomers, and the list goes on and on. **A Big Thank You** to all who work with CoSM to keep our programs happening!

Meanwhile, the Board has been doing a good job on keeping our foundations strong. Financially, treasurer Dick Barton reports we're on-track and will be able to pay this next yearly loan payment, due in February. This payment will leave us with only about \$33,000 to pay off our building, just two more annual payments.

In reviewing our budget mid-year, I did see one income area which could use improving. **And it's free!** The good news is we have 34 households who have signed up with *King Soopers* to donate 5% of their grocery and gas spending to *Namaqua*, at no charge to themselves(!). The bad news is that only 34 of our households have signed up ☹️. **If you still need to sign up, look for the article in this issue.** It's easy. Thanks to *Jeanne Miller* for coordinating this free fundraiser for us!

On **facilities**, *Jim Danforth* and *Brian Jarvis* have obtained a **new fire alarm and intrusion alert system** for our buildings, with the fire alarm able to automatically alert the fire station. *Jim* has also volunteered to work on an **upgrade of our Audio-Visual system** in the sanctuary, using funds donated by *Glenda Bell* (thank you *Glenda!*) and by many of us in the paddle raiser at last year's auction. Stay tuned for news. *Pete Buchmeier* and crew are putting **wheels on the pews** in the sanctuary, so we can gain more flexibility with the space. (Too, there's a rumor about a new wall hanging underway for up-front-and-center in the sanctuary.) We really are a happening place.

On **personnel**, your Board is at work on **expanding the hours of our administrative assistant**. *Tiffany* has done an outstanding job for us, but cannot put in more hours, so we have the job search process underway, for 8-10 hours / week. You can contact me if you know someone who might be interested.

(The Board is working as its own *Personnel Committee*; if you have any interest in helping us out with personnel matters, let me know and I'd be happy to discuss what this might entail.)

Our congregation's elected leadership will hold a Summit on February 29th. We gather as a team 3 times a year; it's the Board's turn to host. The gleam in our eye is to use an organizational change method called *Appreciative Inquiry* to carry forward the envisioning the Congregation did in Fall's Congregational Meeting. Perhaps we'll dream what *Namaqua* could be 10 years from now... I know I'd and I suspect any of us on the Board or in CoSM or on the Leadership Development Committee would be interested in hearing your dreams for us. **What are your 10-year dreams for us?** Feel free to pass them along.

Looking ahead, we'll be starting our **budgeting** and **Annual Budget Drive** process. A big thank-you to *Leonard Sokolowski* and *Brian Jarvis* for leading the ABD again this year!

Yours in building beloved community, Doug



Minister's Musings



Loveland City Update

Each month, along with our utility bill, we receive The Loveland City Update. The lead article in January's Update was about the November storm that dumped nearly two feet of snow

in Loveland, with wind gusts up to 50 miles per hour. There are still patches of snow and ice left from that heavy snowstorm and the one that followed a few days later. But our City worked hard to plow the streets and haul away huge amounts of snow to make our roads passable and safe again.

In the same Update there was an article about the Loveland Library celebrating and honoring Black History with a month-long free film series. Since 1976, every American President has designated February as Black History Month. The theme this year is "African Americans and the Vote." 2020 is the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment that granted women the right to vote. 2020 is also the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment giving black men the right to vote.

The timing of this film series fits well the question "what's next?" for the group of 17 Namaqua members who just finished reading and discussing White Fragility: Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism by Robin Diangelo. The group plans to meet on February 23rd to talk about where they would like to go with anti-racism work here at Namaqua. One of the ideas being considered is to find films with anti-racism themes to watch and discuss. Voila!

Here is the schedule of the four movies the Library will present in February to explore and highlight the African American experience and culture.

February 4 - *Boyz in the Hood*: This 1991 American teen hood drama, written and directed by John Singleton, stars Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding Jr., Morris Chestnut, Lawrence Fishburne, Nia Long, Regina

King, and Angela Bassett. Before the film, Devon Wright, Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at the Metropolitan State University of Denver, will explore the culture of Hip Hop. After the film, Wright will answer questions from the audience.

February 11 - *Amazing Grace: A*

Documentary: This 2018 concert film features Aretha Franklin with the choir at the New Bethel Baptist Church in Watts, Los Angeles in January 1972. It has been called a "thrilling must-watch documentary for Aretha Franklin fans. Soul, gospel and blues singer Hazel Miller, called the "doyenne of the Denver music scene," will discuss the role of soul and blues music in African American culture.

February 18 – *Soul Food*: This charming 1997 American comedy-drama stars Vanessa Williams, Vivica A. Fox, Nia Long, Michael Beach, Mekhi Phifer, Jeffrey D. Sams, and Irma P. Soul food scholar Adrian Miller will examine the history of food in African American culture and its significant impact on American cuisine.

February 25 – *Remember the Titans*: This 2000 American biographical sports film is based on the true story of African-American coach Herman Boone, portrayed by Denzel Washington, who attempted to integrate the T.C. Williams High School football team in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1971. CSU football players will be on hand to talk about their experience in sports as African Americans and its influence on their lives.

All of these films will be shown at the Metrolux Movie Theatre in downtown Loveland. Admission for the event is a library card. Library cards will be available at the theatre.

Will you join me?

From Laurel, With Love

Religious Education

Our church theme for February is Resilience. On Jan 15th Cameron Stewart and I launched a Parenting Class based on Brene Brown's, "The Gifts of Imperfect Parenting," and had a great bunch of parents turn out. One lesson that I really appreciate has to do with resilience in the form of hope.

I'm sure it doesn't surprise anyone to learn that there is a decline of hope in our society and the average age of kids who deal with depression is getting younger all the time. It turns out that hope is a by-product of struggle. Work by C.R. Snyder talks about how we think of hope as an emotion but it is more a cognitive process. It is the ability to set a goal and go after it believing that you have what it takes to achieve it- even if you have to Plan-B it (as Brene says). In the struggle is found the power and the hope to overcome. Therefore if we, as parents, are too quick to rescue our kids we deny them of the hope that comes with effort. It reminds me of the boy who helps the butterfly be free of its cocoon only to watch it die because it didn't have the struggle that it needed to build the strength it needed to fly. So if we want to raise hopeful children we have to allow them to struggle- be in their corner certainly - but allow them to fight their own fights.

RE Calendar in Feb

February is Mystery Pal month. Remember to exchange those letters!

Friday Feb. 8 — All-Church Chili Cook-off at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Feb. 9 — Full-Church Worship on Resilience, Mid-High Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 22 — Mystery Pal Breakfast Party, 9:00 a.m.-10:30

Just a couple reminders. The signup sheet for being a teacher's assistant on Sunday is hanging on the RE door. Feel free to consult your calendars and pick a date to come in and enjoy our kids. We certainly have great ones! We are also still looking for bean bags or any comfortable chair that we can keep in the loft. The youth will meet there 2nd and 4th Sundays. Thank you for bringing your children to church!

Blessings,

Janen Wright, Director of Religious Education

Mark Your Calendars!

2020 Chili Supper

The NUUC 2020 Chili Supper comfort event, is upon us.

When?

Saturday, February 8, 5:30 - 8:00pm

What to bring?

Your favorite chili, cornbread/rolls, or dessert. We will email a signup sheet.

This Chili Supper is a collaborative meal, featuring 'award-winning' chili recipes.

A family-friendly event sponsored by Fun & Fellowship Committee.

Be present, feast well, enjoy beloved community!

Contact

Elaine or Linda for questions:

Elaine - eamoon5@gmail.com

Linda - linda.lyons@msn.com

"Save the Date" for game day on Friday, April 3rd. — Mix Your Own Snack bar

Namaqua's Open Mic Night

**Friday, February 21st
6:30—8:30 PM**

Come one, come all musicians, poets, comedians, actors, dancers, storytellers, jugglers anyone who has something to share or wants to be part of a supportive audience is welcome. Join us in the Sanctuary on and bring your friends!

February is Black History Month

NUUC chooses to honor this month by flying a Black Lives Matter Flag each Sunday morning in February. Every person has value as a member of the human family. The suffering caused by racism must be ended if we want to create fair and loving communities. We work to end racial discrimination and injustice, starting within ourselves and moving out into the world around us.

Creative Corner

Artist – Jennifer Cline

A heartfelt thank you to Vonne Zdenek for sharing her bright and engaging quilt works during the month of January. These beautiful quilts added much-needed color and warmth to our cold winter days.

During the month of February, artist Jenifer Cline will enliven the Creative Corner with her inspirational reflections on the natural world. Jenifer shares her love of being out in nature by creating plein air paintings on site to capture the sense of place. These experiences also inform her studio work. Jenifer is a signature member of Women Artists of the West whose work is featured in public and private collections nationwide.

Are you an artist and new to NUUC? Please consider displaying your artwork in the Creative Corner. Please look for the sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Table.

An Opportunity for Anyone Who Loves to Sing

Our NUUC choir will sing for Easter on April 12. This choir is open to anyone who wants to sing with us. We will have two Wednesday evening rehearsals from 7:15 to 8:30 previous to April 12 on April 1 and 8 and a final short rehearsal before the service on the 12th. All rehearsal are in the sanctuary. If you are interested or want more information, contact Marion Cox cox.mari@gmail.com or 970 342 3856.

King Soopers Grocery Cards

When you use your Sooper Card or Alt ID (phone number at King Soopers, you can automatically designate Namaqua UU to receive 5% of ALL of your purchases (including gas and lottery tickets!). However, you must designate NUUC as your Community Rewards recipient on the King Soopers web site. To do that:

1. Go to www.kingsoopers.com.
2. If you've already been on the site, sign in to your account. If you have not visited the site before, go to www.kingsoopers.com/signin and click on the Create an account link at the bottom of the page, next to "New to King Soopers?". You will be asked for some basic information, a valid email address, and your King Soopers reward number. If you do not have a King Soopers rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any King Soopers.
3. Once you have signed into your account, hover over "My Account" (under your name in the top right corner of the page), then click on My Account in the drop-down menu.
4. On the left side of the page is a list of links. Under "My Account", click on the last link titled Community Rewards.
5. Search for Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation and then click Enroll.
6. When you make a purchase, you will see NUU noted at the bottom of your receipt. If you have any questions, please see Jeanne Miller or email her at jkm530@hotmail.com.

Seventh Principle Finale

For thirteen months groups of women gathered on Tuesday evenings to share lessons from *The Thirteen Original Clan Mothers* by Jamie Sams. Following Native American traditions to form a sacred circle, they traded leadership roles, each bringing her own perspective. On Jan. 7, they met for the final time, tying symbolic ribbons to a central pole and reading excerpts from the book as quoted below.

“To gather the gifts of woman, we must be aware of everything in the tangible and intangible worlds. ... All of your sisters are other reflections of yourself. The ... illusion that you are separate has been shattered. Look inside of your being and share by acknowledging that we are all one.”

1. **Orange --Talks with Relations.** Listen to the voices of all our kin. Through hearing the rhythms of the natural world and the rhythms of our own feelings, we come to learn the truth about ourselves and all our relations
2. **Gray --Wisdom Keeper.** We can honor the truth in all things by being a nonthreatening presence in the lives of others. When we honor the truth in all things and every sacred point of view, true wisdom is gained, understood, remembered and kept in sacred trust.
3. **Brown – Weighs the Truth.** Through our connections to the Earth we become self-determined and find the acceptance we need to weigh the truths of human life.... Weigh the wisdom of the tangible world with the weightlessness found in the Spirit World. Balance the two.
4. **Rose/All pastels—Looks Far Woman--** The gift of prophecy comes from clear seeing. By seeing the truth, you can discover your inner potential, understand your dreams and trust the truth of your feelings and impressions.
5. **Black—Listening Woman** –the void of the unknown is not to be feared. Through the voices of the Ancestors and All Our Relations, you will hear the truth and find wholeness.
6. **Red- Storyteller** –Through the lessons of humility, faith and innocence, we are given the strength to speak the truth.
7. **Yellow—Loves All Things** --Gold is a reminder of the unconditional love for the misguided and the wounded who harm others. To love the truth, we must see every life form as a reflection of ourselves, loving all the truths it represents.
8. **Blue-She Who Heals** -- Every lifeform has the potential to heal and to be reborn. Developing intuition shows all living beings how to access those abilities of inner knowing and intuitive healing within themselves.
9. **Green –Setting Sun Woman** – The Plant People understand that they can depend on the Earth Mother, and that is one lesson they teach us. We must learn how to become dependable by providing for future generations through our human actions and thoughtfulness. This ability to be concerned teaches us how to live the truth today and provide for tomorrow.
10. **Pink—Weaves the Web:** Through using our hands to fashion objects of beauty, we are really showing ourselves how to use our creativity to manifest our dreams, allowing the buds of our visions to blossom. Using all of our creativity teaches us how to work with the truth.



From left, Kim Skylander, Brenda Christiansen, Jeni Sali, Mim Neal, and Susan Moody. [Photo by Rev. Laurel Liefert]

(continued on page 7)

Seventh Principle Finale (con't)

11. **White—Walks Tall Woman:** We learn how to walk the truth by seeing which patterns of experience we have drawn to ourselves. When we have difficulty on the Red Road, we are being asked to see how the patterns of our talk may have magnetized a difficult situation. We can always change destructive patterns if we release our limitations.
12. **Purple—Gives Praise:** The healing that all human beings can expect along the Red Road of physical life is available when they celebrate life and give thanks for the truth.
13. **Crystal – Becomes Her Vision:** Every woman is her own judge; the truth of her actions and the integrity of her words is the model she uses as she leads through example. To gather the gifts of woman, we must be aware of everything in the tangible and intangible worlds. The role models we need are represented in all life forms, not just in women. The feminine principle is present in all things and in the natural world is balanced with a positive male role model, giving us the blending we need to find in ourselves. Observing the listening, making sure we understand, and then taking action is the balanced path to developing any talent or accomplishing any goal.

The chasm we are being asked to cross can only be bridged with forgiveness. ... We are being asked to give of ourselves, to forgive ourselves and others, and to allow the abundance of wisdom to flow. Our greatest potential lies within and can be found through forgiving, creating the bridge across the abyss of our woundedness."

Namaqua Star

Karen Dornseif

It was Namaqua's half-time minister days, when Karen and her husband Steve were still fairly new members that she joined the Worship Committee. She served several years spending many hours planning the empty-pulpit Sunday services, recruiting guest speakers and member service-coordinators.

After her Worship Committee years she became excited when the opportunity to finally purchase our own church building became a real possibility. She joined the First Home Project Team doing background research and leading the many "speak-ups" when members voiced their excitement and their concerns. She gathered the information that led the congregation to make informed choices on our options — what did we want, what would the 5th Street property offer (and what it would not). Then when the decision to buy was made, she was at the property almost every day for months to help with painting, furniture purchasing and all the details involved in turning a Greek Orthodox church into a Unitarian-Universalist home.

When she put down her paint brush and broom, Karen moved on to the Committee of Shared Ministries (CoSM) taking on the many organizational details of a growing, active church including co-authoring the new Namaqua UU Church Guide, managing our growing list of committee guidelines (procedures on everything from building security to how to make coffee for Sunday services) and consistently taking careful, complete meeting minutes so we could all keep ourselves straight. Now she's stepped back—but never out. Karen's still working for Namaqua, just not as visibly. Even today, if you want to hold an event at NUUC, send an email to calendar@namaquauu.org—that's code for Karen Dornseif our February 2020 NAMAQUA STAR!

Be an Usher/Greeter

Being an usher/greeter at NUUC is a great way to help the church and connect with people as well! If you are interested in being an usher/greeter please contact Nancy Amsler. Thanks for considering!

Building Beloved Community

Once again we gather by a warm fire; winter is manifesting strongly. Often there is a warm spell around my January birthday—not this year. So we come together to strengthen the bonds that hold us in community. We offer our sympathy for losses, our loving care for concerns, and our happiness for joys shared.

Mim Neal: My grandson, Harlan, age 4, brought his parents to visit me for four fun days in January.

Renie Poole: I mentioned a couple of weeks ago that our daughter and grandson had come from Scotland to help with our downsizing and moving. They headed back to Scotland on the 18th but they truly have been a blessing to us. We made the decision to move to Good Samaritan Loveland Village two years ago and have been waiting to make it to the top of the wait list ever since. Even with that much notice we still have a lot of downsizing to do. Moving is difficult at any age; it's very difficult when we are nearing or already in our 80's. The strength and stamina just aren't what they used to be. Teddy has helped Poppa get the trains packed and the platform disassembled, and Cindy has helped pack and haul things to a storage unit. We are now in good shape to list our house for sale and be ready to show it with brief notice. We don't have a move date yet but I will keep NUUC updated. Thank you for all the offers of moving help; we may need you yet.

Carol Koch: My mother, Patricia E. Judy, died on January 10 in Godfrey, Illinois. She was 96 years old and had nine children, who are all doing well. She was a lover of books, gardening, and all of the arts. She was a strong person who always tried to make the best of a situation,

even in difficult times.

Fran Green: My husband, Bob, got out of the hospital on January 17 following surgery the previous week and is doing well.

Karen and Steve Dornseif: We enjoyed a week-long cruise to the Mexican Riviera during the holidays. Highlights included fantastic food, nightly concerts (string quartet with piano), Chocolate Surprise!, elegant afternoon teas, strolling the Malecon in Mazatlan, and snorkeling at beaches near Cabo San Lucas. Meanwhile, Kaylee had a great time staying with sister Kandice and her parents.

Rev. Laurel: The Namaqua 2020 Decades service was a joyful way to start the new year and new decade. Nine speakers ranging from age 7 to age 89 shared with us their current answers to the question posed by poet Mary Oliver: Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life? Thank you and bravo to Milo Pease, Aidan Christiansen, Caitlin Alexander, Chad Escallier, Jessie Allen-Young, Karen Brock, Dick Barton, Kent Robertson, and Gene Decker.

I ask you to keep my younger sister, Carolyn, and niece Marita, a high school senior, in your thoughts and prayers. Carolyn, an Occupational Therapist who lives in Fresno, California, is seriously ill. In January, I traveled to Fresno to offer them family support. Both Francey and I will travel there again in February to see Marita in a play called Women & War and to continue to support them during this hard time.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team supports the congregation and friends during difficult times. They take care of such needs as arranging for meals and running errands, rides to appointments, help with moving or yard work, sick visits and companion walks for those recovering. They also help celebrate happy accomplishments.

If you, or someone you know, are in need of special support, please contact one of the team members:

Cindy Black: 970.214.8350

Els Deininger: 970.667.5881

Sally Henry: 970.391.1785

Rev Laurel Liefert: 970.685.0427

PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org

Kindness Column

Two stories of kindness this month! Please keep them coming. The idea is based on Fred Rogers' quote: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" If you have a story, an experience, an observation you'd like to share that demonstrates kindness or compassion please send to me, Kathy Hartman at knhumans@gmail.com

Rebecca Williamson recounts:

It was a few weeks before my 14th birthday and in one of our daily lunchroom conversations, my junior high girlfriends learned that I had never had a birthday party. (Sure, I always got a present from my parents and we had cake and ice cream - but never a real PARTY with friends and balloons and games and crepe paper streamers.) Anyway... my girlfriends were a bit stunned. When my birthday came, my friend, Bonnie, asked me to come to her house after school to wait for my dad to pick me up after he got off work. Nothing unusual here as I occasionally waited at a friend's house. When Bonnie and I walked into her house, our other four girlfriends were there yelling, "Surprise!!" and hugging me. The afternoon and evening unfolded with us going bowling then coming back to Bonnie's where her mom had fixed snacks. After that we walked to Vicki's for hamburgers and, finally, to Jenny's where we had birthday cake and ice cream and presents. Dad knew to pick me up from Jenny's around 8. So, EVERY friend and EVERY parent was in on the surprise. I count that day - almost 60 years ago now- as one of the most special days of my life. I felt so cared about - so loved - so showered with kindness. BUT, here's the thing: About 7 years ago I was visiting with three of those same five girlfriends. I talked about that surprise party and how I wanted them to know just

how much I had appreciated it. I even got all teary remembering that day. YET, THEY HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF IT WHATSOEVER.

I think the moral of this story is: You never know when an act of kindness that you perform and then forget may be transformative to the person you were kind to.

Elaine Axon submitted the following:

A few months back congregation member and working Mom, Katie Fox, had the courage to be vulnerable and asked for help from Namaqua folks to care for her daughter, Maelle. Katie didn't want Maelle alone after school for several hours until Katie arrived home from work. I was happy to oblige with "Monday Maelle" afternoons. There was just one problem - on the second Monday of each month I help serve the evening meal at Community Kitchen which serves free meals to the needy in Loveland. Would Maelle mind coming along and helping our service team? She wanted to give it a try. She created her own job pushing a three-tiered cart around the dining room serving dessert to people after they've enjoyed a hot, healthy meal.

She performs her duties with enthusiasm, a kind, caring attitude and politeness to everyone she encounters. The twinkle in her eye, warmth of her smile, and sweetness of her personality rivals the sweetness of the desserts she serves. She shines her light and brings some joy to people struggling with challenges in their lives. These folks have so much appreciation for her! Her kindness in volunteering her time and doing her job with spunk and sparkle exemplifies Beloved Community and radiates love outside the walls of NUUC into the greater Loveland community.

Circle sUppers

Tom Mitchell and Rebecca Williamson hosted the first circle sUppper on January 25.

Who is willing to be the next circle sUppper host?

If you have questions about how much fun and how easy it is to host (We had 8 Namaquans attend - and 8 MORE who wanted to!) contact Rebecca at rwilliamson147@yahoo.com OR 970-472-6646

Help Wanted

Our wonderful **Membership Ministry** is looking for a little help in managing this important work. Please contact Alice Cain (Membership@NamaquaUU.org) if you can help:

- Organize ushers & greeters—Nancy Amsler has it all together with a wonderful group of volunteers and an email process, but she would like to share the work a bit
- Introductory meetings for new folks re Unitarian Universalism and Namaqua's activities. These are all planned with Laurel and content already developed—you just need to talk about what you love about us. It's a great opportunity to meet potential members in short, small informal sessions.

Decorating the Sanctuary—do you have a design interest? Windows display need periodic updating, should our walls reflect the seasons? Or reflect major holidays? Want to help with the new quilt for the alcove? There are fun people already doing decorations—again they would love some more ideas and hands. Alice Cain is also leading these efforts, so use her Membership@NamaquaUU.org address as above.

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Feb 1 - Jim Case
 Feb 11 - Leni Bohren
 Feb 12 - Donna Hopehill
 Feb 15 - Michael Rodriguez
 Feb 16 - Hanna Rodriguez
 Feb 20 - Don Cook
 Feb 23 - Steve Dornseif
 Feb 24 - Leonard Sokoloski
 Feb 26 - Linda Lyons

Anniversaries

Feb 14 - Doug & Cam Stewart
 Feb 27 - Karolyn & Paul McCarter

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed and you would like it to be, please sign in on the calendar in Parker Hall. The calendar is usually on the counter above the sink.

Let us know if you have a birthday or anniversary that you would like recognized in the newsletter. There is a sign-up calendar on the ledge above the sink in Parker Hall.

Loveland Community Kitchen

We have another opportunity to serve those in need by volunteering at the Community Kitchen. This Kitchen serves a hot meal to those who are hungry or homeless, the working poor, or seniors living on a fixed income. The Kitchen is located at 427 N. Garfield in Loveland and the meals are prepared by Meals on Wheels. There is no cooking required, we will just be serving food. We need 5 volunteers on Friday, February 28th from 10:30am to 1:00pm. If you'd like to be part of this meaningful experience, please contact Linda Danforth at 646-1201 or lindaldanforth@gmail.com.

Angel House Dinner

Namaqua UU graciously participates with other congregations in the Berthoud-Loveland area to provide shelter for families who are temporarily homeless. Angel House, a program of House of Neighborly Service, coordinates shelter, family advocacy and mentoring for homeless families with children 0-18 years of age.

This year we are partnering with the congregation from King of Glory Lutheran Church, located at 29th and Wilson in Loveland. Families will be staying at their church during the week of March 22nd and we will provide dinners on Tuesday, March 24th and Thursday, March 26th. We need volunteers to bring a main dish, salad, vegetable, or dessert, and these items could be dropped off at their church or you are always welcome to stay for dinner. Please let me know if you are interested in supporting our community's families in need.

Board of Trustees Highlights

The Board continues their discussion of this year's deep chair common read: *The Growing Church: Keys to Congregational Vitality*, Thom Belore, editor.

Personnel Business

- Cards for staff have been distributed with both a monetary and a personal "thank you."
- The Minister's Working Agreement has been signed. The goal for 2020 is to get it completed and signed in June.
- Doug will be posting for the administrative assistant position on indeed and Craig's List.
- The Board plans to start hammering out a Contractor Policy at the February board meeting.
- We are STILL looking for folks to populate the Personnel Committee!

Facilities Update

- The new hardware to make the pews mobile has been installed.
- Jim is in conversation with AV (*audio visual*) Colorado. It was brought up that we need to remain cognizant of adding assistive listening devices to whatever updated audio-visual system we put in place.

Financial Update

- A mortgage payment of \$16,667.00 is due February 20, 2020; we have \$18,263.00 in the budget for it.
- Leonard Sokoloski and Bryan Jarvis have graciously volunteered to manage the Annual Budget Drive (ABD) again this year.
- The Board plans to discuss budget priorities for the 2020-2021 church year at the Board meeting in February.
- We are looking at a mid-April date for the annual Goods and Services Auction. Dick suggested we might want to think of ways to bring in the community at large.

Next Board meeting: February 11, at 6:30 pm in Parker Hall

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Williamson, Board of Trustees Secretary

Board meetings are held at 6:00 pm the second Tuesday of the month at 745 E. 5th Street in Parker Hall. All are welcome to observe.

NUUC Board of Trustees for 2017-2018:

Doug Stewart, President (Board term expires June 30, 2020)
 Jim Danforth, Vice President (Board term expires 2020)
 Dick Barton, Treasurer (Board term expires 2022)
 Rebecca Williamson, Secretary (Board term expires 2021)
 Pete Buchmeier, Trustee (term expires 2022)
 Brenda Christiansen, Trustee (term expires 2020)
 Jessie Allen-Young, Trustee (term expires 2021)
 Rev. Laurel Liefert, ex-officio

To comment to the Board, email Board@NamaquaUU.org
 To reach the President, email President@NamaquaUU.org

NUUC Elected Leaders

Committee on Shared Ministries (CoSM)

Sara Suriani (term expires 2022)
 Brian Jarvis (term expires 2021)
 Paul McCarter (term expires 2022)
 Sally Henry (term expires 2020)
 Elaine Axon (term expires 2020)

Leadership Development Committee (LDC)

Karen Brock (term expires 2020)
 Cindy Black (term expires 2020)
 Sarah Wilhelm (term expires 2021)
 Kathy Hartman (term expires 2022)

We are on the web!
www.NamaquaUU.org

Our Mission

Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation fosters a beloved community that celebrates diversity, strives for peace and justice, acts mindfully for the good of the planet, and inspires spiritual growth through a free and loving search for truth and meaning.

Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a liberal congregation in the Loveland-Berthoud area with about **200 members and friends** from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds .

We affirm the worth of every human being and welcome to our congregation all persons without regard to age, gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, or other class of exclusion.

Our faith tradition calls us to actively engage in justice-making by advocating on behalf of oppressed peoples, working toward a healthier, more sustainable world, and witnessing for a more just and tolerant society.

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Send items for publication to newsletter@namaquauu.org

Due dates for the next two issues:

For the March Newsletter: February 16

For the April Newsletter: March 22

NUUC E-mail Addresses

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 CoSM@NamaquaUU.org
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 Membership@NamaquaUU.org
 Music@NamaquaUU.org
 Newsletter@NamaquaUU.org
 nuucForum@NamaquaUU.org
 OoS@NamaquaUU.org
 PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org
 Photos@NamaquaUU.org
 President@NamaquaUU.org
 Publicity@NamaquaUU.org
 SocialJustice@NamaquaUU.org
 Visitor@NamaquaUU.org
 nuuc@NamaquaUU.org (to send an e-mail message to the congregation)



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