



the Sunrise

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas Newsletter

Volume 36 – Number 3

March 2013

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Sunrise Contributors: Rev. Ian W. Riddell, Rory Solomon, Jan Hamilton, Karin Metcalf, Sue Rock, Danielle Bell, Paul LaCombe, Craig Rock, Rita Ransom, Karin Metcalf



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Sunrise Newsletter Deadlines

Deadlines for each issue of the Sunrise are 6:00 pm on the 22nd of the month prior to release of the issue in which they are to appear. Please make all submissions in 12 pt Times New Roman font with a two-page limit so everyone can be accommodated.

Send articles to: uucveditor@gmail.com.
Thank you for your consideration.

Your Editor

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Sunrise Editor – Steve Winkel



March 2013

“Is Las Vegas Boulevard still closed, do you think?” Danielle asked me as I came into the office the other day. “Did you hear about the shooting?” She was referring to the shooting and subsequent accident and fire that had claimed the lives of three people early that morning just off the Strip.

“No,” I replied, shaken. And shaken more because I had just been verbally confronted myself by the driver of the car in front of me in a drive-thru lane. My encounter had ended quietly and with apologies - unlike what had happened hours earlier downtown.

“People are so angry,” one of us said. And it wasn’t a self-satisfied condemnation of other people — like “Oh, people these days!” It was a quiet, sad, anxious comment on the tone and atmosphere we’ve been experiencing in our city and in our nation lately. People feel anxious and uncertain, lashing out at each other, defensive and aggressive at the same time.

It’s days like that one that remind me why our gathering in community — in religious community — is so crucial. For us and for the world. We who gather together, in covenant, committing to honor each others’ path, to share in the work of building this community, to learn how to live together in wholeness and love instead of fear and distance.

This is what I hold in my heart as I think about making plans for the next years in our congregation’s life. The possibility of what we can do, here within these walls and beyond them. The possibilities for learning and justice-building and worshiping and laughing and safety.

You will each be contacted in the next few weeks, by a member of our Stewardship Group. Yes, they will be asking you to make a financial commitment to the life and health of our congregation, but they will also be asking you about what makes this community important and transformative for you, what your hopes are for the future of our presence in our community. Please hear their questions, ponder them, and respond as you are able. Our collective commitment will be what helps us thrive and continue to grow our presence in the Las Vegas Valley.

Remember,

We share the sacred breath.

We gather together to build the beloved community, breath by breath, word by word, note by note, step by step.

We gather together to sing and speak and step and breathe the beloved community into being.

This is our work. This is our calling. This is our joy.

in peace, love, and hope

Ian

Topics for Upcoming Sundays:

March. 3, 2013: *Abundance: The Spiritual Practice of Giving* — Rev. Ian W Riddell

"We nurture our spiritual development and deep our soul's vision through individual spiritual practices like meditation, t'ai chi, and prayer. What are the ways in which we can nurture the development of our spiritual community and deepen our collective vision of a world made whole?"

March 10, 2013: Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) Annual Service

Quick!! You hop into an elevator and push the button for the 7th floor. The person next to you notices the Chalice pin on your lapel and compliments you while others pile in the elevator. You say "thank you, it represents my Unitarian Universalist faith". The nice stranger replies, "Unitari... what?" You have 30 seconds to describe our faith. Do you know what you say? Our youth do and today they share their version of UU elevator speeches with you.

March 17, 2013: *Balance and Beginnings: A Celebration of the Equinox* — Rev. Ian W Riddell

The Equinox is a time of balance - of equal dark and light, equal day and night - a time when summer and winter live within us together. A time to take stock of the gifts that we bring, the strengths we wield as we prepare for the challenge of the future.

March 24, 2013: *Passover Seder: Following Our Journeys from Oppression to Freedom*— Rory Solomon

Jews all over the world are celebrating Passover, and find new meaning in this story year after year. How do we find significance for ourselves within the story and rituals? Today we will have the opportunity to explore the metaphors of slavery and freedom found throughout the text. This service will be intergenerational.

March 31, 2013: *Easter: Resurrection and Waking Up* — Rev. Ian W Riddell

An Easter meditation on rebirth, true sight, and the triumph of love over the death of the spirit.

March 50/50 Sundays:

Half of all collections not designated as pledge contributions on **March 10** and **March 24** will be donated to this month's 50/50 recipient: [Friends of Sloan Canyon](#). The Vision of Friends of Sloan Canyon is to preserve the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, 75 square miles of unique scenic and geological features just south of Henderson, while providing access and enjoyment for the public.

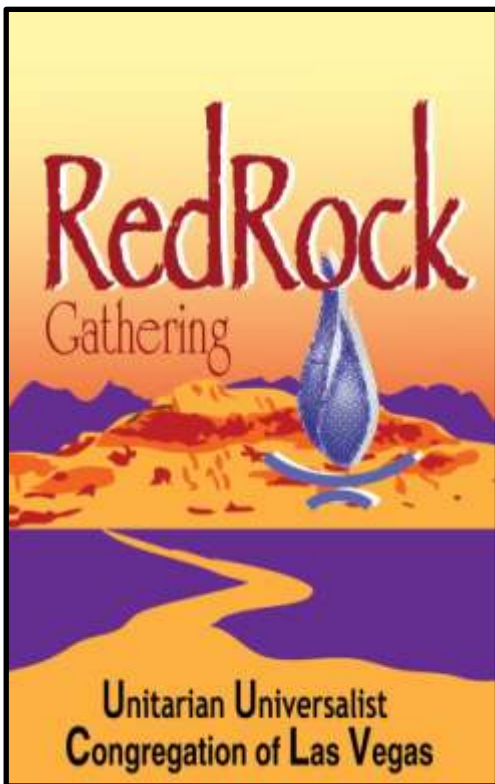
UUCLV Henderson Gathering

March 2013 Schedule Of Services

Rev. Ian Riddell will present *In the Balance: Equinox and Ecology* on March 6 as our first speaker for the March Schedule of Services at Sun City MacDonald Ranch Community Center in the Yosemite Room for UUCLV/Henderson Gathering. All services will begin at 7 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Discussion will follow with coffee and refreshments available after services.

The remaining services in March will be presented by Alice Ageloff on March 20 and the services on March 13 and March 27 will be determined at a later date. This is a good opportunity for visitors and members to stop in and check us out. We encourage our UUCLV members and visitors to attend both locations in Henderson and at our Main Campus on Lake Mead Blvd.

Please visit <http://www.uuclv.org/henderson-gathering.html> for specific directions.



RedRock Gathering meets on Wednesday evenings at the City of Las Vegas Veterans Memorial Leisure Center @ 101 North Pavilion Center Drive, 89144. The Center building sits between Rogich Middle & Palo Verde High Schools. Services begin at 7pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) and end at 8 pm. For more information e-mail uuclvredrock@gmail.com, or see the web site www.uuclvredrock.com

March 2013 will roar in like a lion with:

Maurice Crutcher at the mic on March 6th sharing his thoughts on *Influential Songs, Part II*.

Binnie Wilkin will describe *The Art of Storytelling* on March 13th.

Our Reverend Ian Riddell acknowledges Spring on March 20th with his sermon: *In The Balance - Equinox and Ecology*

Keith McMillan will finish March 27th explaining *Why I Get Up In The Morning*

Pastoral Care Ministry meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday. We are available to assist members who need assistance such as meals or transportation. In the absence of the minister, committee members Cynthia Ortiz, Susan Rock, Diane Eskew or Carol Steffan may be contacted. All communications for pastoral care are confidential. Messages can be sent to uuclvpcm@gmail.com, or call the office at 437-2404.



Faith for All Ages & Stages *Lifespan Faith Development*

Danielle Bell, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

www.lifespanfaithdevelopment.wordpress.com

Lifespan Faith Development News — March

Artisan Craft Table for Camp Fundraiser; beginning Sunday March 10th

Come check out the hand-made goods and goodies for sale every Sunday this month, before and after the service, by our youth, families and friends, to help raise funds for their camper registrations fees. If you'd like to contribute your handmade items, please contact faithdevelopment@uucv.org.

Annual YRUU Worship Service; Sunday March 10th 10:30 am

Let's be UUnited in our multi-generational community by supporting the work of our Young Religious Unitarian Universalist in this youth led service.

Nick's Diner; Tuesday March 12th 6 pm



This quarter's Nick's Diner will serve up a delicious Spaghetti Dinner that includes vegetarian and gluten free options. Only \$5.00 per person for all you can enjoy, kids 12 and under eat free. Please join us on this special evening in the Social Hall at UUCV and gather round the table to help raise scholarship money to help our youth get to camp this summer.

Please, please, please, let us know you are attending by simply e-mailing faithdevelopment@uucv.org, or calling the office at 437-2404. Our volunteers work very hard to ensure that everyone gets to enjoy their platefuls a plenty, meet everyone's dietary preferences, and are also very mindful about being cost effective. Just a few unexpected guests can throw off our plans to provide for everyone, so please, please, please, help us make this an enjoyable evening for all by letting us know that you can't wait to attend and inform us about any dietary restrictions that we need to be aware of to better serve you.

Thursdays with TED; Thursday March 14th 6pm

Last month we were grateful to UUCV member Carolyn Gamache for viewing suggestions of two very moving, yet different talks of inspiration and insight. Click here to view the talks here [by Jill Bolte Taylor](#) and [Joan Halifax](#). As we encourage everyone to explore [TedTalks](#) through the web, we find that there is an additional power to share and experience these talks with a group. We hope you'll join us this month as sustainable economic development pioneer, Ernesto Sirolli, asks us to "Shut Up and Listen" when it comes to how we view providing aide to those in need, and we'll also view and discuss Unitarian Universalist community minister Rev. Karen Tse's, "Abolishing Torture" which was selected #3 in the "Best of Ted 2011 Countdown" by TED and the Huffington Post.

UU Song Café; Sunday March 17th, 12 pm - 2 pm:

We have put together a set-list of thought-provoking songs for our next live performance and discussion series. Please join us and support our volunteer musicians, including a special appearance by Reverend Ian. All ages are welcome. Come listen, reflect, share ... or just listen.

Sunday, March 17 at 12:00pm

Live performances

Lively discussions

ALL ARE WELCOME



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas
3616 East Lake Mead BLVD, Las Vegas, NV 89115
www.uusongcafe.wordpress.com



Joys and Sorrows: A Reminder



Each week, we share our Joys and Sorrows in our worship service as a prelude to our time of meditation.

Here's what we're doing:

- Congregants and community members with a joy or a sorrow that they'd like to share will write that joy or sorrow on a slip of paper to be found at the front of the worship hall on Sunday morning and put that slip into a basket. Any items you wish to share should be in the basket by 10:25am.
- Rev. Ian (or the service leader on a Sunday when Rev. Ian is not in the pulpit) will collect the slips just before the service and will assess how best to share the joys and concerns before our time of silent and sung meditation.
- The slips will have a space to let us know if you'd like Rev. Ian or the Pastoral Care Ministry team to follow up with you about your joy or sorrow.
- If you'd like to submit a joy or sorrow before Sunday, just send an e-mail to Rev. Ian (minister@uucvl.org) with "A Joy to Share" or "A Sorrow to Share" as your subject line.

We hope this way of sharing will allow us to grow in building connections in our community and help make our worship services powerful and inspiring. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Ian.

Curious About the Unitarian Universalist Experience?

A class for those wishing to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and our UUCLV congregation will be held on:

Saturday May 11, 2013
10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
in the Social Hall

The class will address:

- **Unitarian Universalism, a Rich History**
- **UUCLV, a Thriving Liberal Religious Community.**
- **UUCLV Programs and Activities**
- **The Path to Membership**

Although there is no obligation to join as a result of attending this class, it is required for membership. Should you desire to become a member after attending, you will have fulfilled this important requirement.

Everyone is welcome, new to UUCLV or not. A light lunch will be served. Childcare will be available upon request.

Please RSVP by signing up in the foyer, by e-mailing uucvlmembership@gmail.com, or by calling Susan Rock at 878-0443.

Welcome New Friends

Sue Rock



Amber Bell

I've been in Las Vegas for six years. Prior to that, I lived in Santa Cruz, CA for 22 years. I'm married and live with my husband, Dave, and animal pals in a modest, formerly foreclosed home we are renovating. I spent a significant amount of my childhood on various relatives' farms and ranches. I've been involved with the UUCLV Buildings and Grounds Committee.

I've been in Las Vegas for seven years. I'm married and live with my wife, Amber, three cats and two dogs. I've been involved on the UUCLV Audio Committee and have done some work on the grounds.



Dave Stevens



Jessica Lemus

I moved to Las Vegas about three months ago with my husband, R. J. Before that I lived in Connecticut for most of my life. I was raised in a pretty liberal Christian church. I believe my views are more in line with the U.U. community because of the sense of common interests without the religious restrictions. I was a member and volunteered for years with a Masonic youth group and loved my experiences with community service and personal growth. I have loved music my whole life and was a flute major the first two years of college. I still play occasionally and love listening and enjoying music daily.

I was born and raised in Las Vegas. I'm living here again after ten years away in the Navy. My wife, Jessica, is living here for the first time and she is from Connecticut, where we met and most recently lived. We are excited to join the UUCLV community.



R. J. Lemus

March Birthdays



March 4	Danette Barber
March 5	Bob Patterson-Rogers
March 7	Maggie Mooha
March 22	Joyce Patterson-Rogers
March 28	Dave Richards
March 29	Rachel Douglas



Did we miss your birthday? Do you or someone in your family have an upcoming birthday? So we can add your birthday to our database e-mail it to: uucvmembership@gmail.com

Unitarian Universalists in the Wider World!

Are you interested in getting to know other Unitarian Universalists from around the country? Do you want to find ways to get connected with our movement outside of Las Vegas? Do you want to take part in shaping the future of Unitarian Universalism in our region and across the country?

Then you should attend the Pacific Western Region Assembly or the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly.

The Pacific Western Regional Assembly will take place in San Jose, California, April 26-28. For more information, see our District's web site: <http://www.pswduua.org/pages/district-assembly.php>

The UUA General Assembly will take place in Louisville, Kentucky, June 19-23. For more information, see the UUA web site: <http://www.uua.org/ga/index.shtml>. Registration for GA and housing will open March 1.

Will you be a UUCLV Delegate? At both of these gatherings, congregational delegates will debate and vote on issues and resolutions affecting our denomination and the work we do in the world. If you would like to be a delegate for UUCLV at one or both of these gatherings, please contact Bette LaCombe. If you'd like to be a delegate for the Regional Assembly, please contact her by the beginning of March. If you'd like to be a delegate at GA, please let her know by the beginning of May.



Let Your Research Support UUCLV

If you follow this link: <http://www.goodsearch.com/> you will find a search engine, called Goodsearch, which supports nonprofit causes. If you sign up with your Facebook id or email address, you can use this search engine to donate pennies to the church. When you join, go to Settings, and type in Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas. Hit Verify, and the confirmation will illustrate (Las Vegas Nevada) in parenthesis. Questions? Please contact the Webmaster Team at uucvwebsite@gmail.com



Paul LaCombe



UUCLV HUMANIST FORUM Speakers & Schedules

If we look back in history, as it examines the evolution of religion, it's easy to note that as our knowledge base grows religions adjust by discarding some of their trappings from the "before we knew this" periods. I grew up eating fish on Friday - a practice long since dispensed. Major religions have fractionated, giving rise to numerous Christian denominations, numerous iterations of Judaism, Islam and even the Mormons have subsets ranging from the strictness of fundamentalism to liberal "want to fit in more to mainstream Christian LDSs". And this goes on and on. This getting mean and lean reconfiguration of the old institutions has its counterpart even with Humanists. Although they also are fractionated, Humanists have none the less seen the wisdom of redirecting their message; their service is to not confronting believers but promoting the goal of a better world for all.

Mike Sheffer will facilitate our March 3rd forum which invites us to acknowledge and appreciate the forces, the dynamics of religion which, when cleared of its dust and cobwebs, might surprise some of us confirmed free thinkers.

Crucial in this examination is the reality that religion holds great sway in the lives of millions - it cannot be casually dismissed - even by Humanists. But does religious practice possess what even Humanists could appreciate and perhaps learn from?

Future HUManist Forums, which are open to all members and friends of UUCLV as well as the general public, will be:

March 3rd: Mike Sheffer will facilitate this forum which will come from a TED talk entitled *Atheism 2.0*. This fascinating video is presented by philosopher-writer Alain de Botton. "Religion is far too subtle, complicated and intelligent that it is not fit to be abandoned for the religious alone. It's for all of us."

April 7th: Language, Power & Common Understanding: A Discussion: Bruce Isaacson will facilitate a discussion on the power of language either to obstruct or illuminate understanding. Surely, there is a better language to share understanding than today's dominant form seen in work and media. Is common understanding possible? Desirable? What is the meaning of 'in-group' language? Does technical language inform us or exclude us? What is the value of shared experience? What can we do to find a common language?

If you have any questions, please contact Paul LaCombe at uuclyhumanists@gmail.com

Social Justice Council News

by Craig Rock

Some Short News Items:

- Roy Zimmerman is back by popular demand; on Friday, October 25, at 7:30 PM to be precise. More details later. Money raised from the concert help finance our Social Justice program and Life Span Faith Development.
- Joanne Leovy and I have been meeting with Congressman Horsford and community leaders in brainstorming ideas on comprehensive immigration reform. The congressman is a member of the Homeland Security Committee and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Let him know what you think about any issue coming up for consideration; our church is in his district. Click here to read or view a recent talk he gave on the subject of immigration reform: [Horsford Speech](#).
- We will again be hosting families through the Family Promise program during the last week of the month. Contact Carol Steffan for more details.

Sex Trafficking Bill Update

Nevadans for the Common Good organizer Robert Hoo reports that "Wednesday's hearing on AB 67 (February 20) was a very important step toward addressing the problem of child sex trafficking. Supporters packed the hearing rooms in Carson City and Las Vegas and the public show of support made a significant impact. There were about 100 people at the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas and about 165 people in Carson City. The vast majority were supporters of the bill. Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto was ecstatic about the support and very pleased about the outcome of the hearing. She is feeling hopeful about the bill's prospects.

Next Steps: The next step for AB 67 will be a Judiciary Committee work session that will be scheduled by Assemblyman Jason Frierson. The work session will focus on the details of the bill. This is where the bill's language may begin to be changed and amended."

Some UUCLV members and friends feel that there is a need for some changes in the bill to address civil liberties issues. More details later.



Art Show and Forums Ending



Our Social Justice Art Show, *Looking the Other Way*, is coming to an end March 2, about the time you read this article. It was a great success in educating people about what social justice is in general, and learning about regional history on issues related to social justice in Las Vegas: Black Civil Rights, Nuclear Weapons Testing, and Workers' Struggle for Fair Wages and Benefits. Plans are already being made for a social justice art show next year as well as forums throughout the year. Here's a report on the first forum.

Civil Rights in Las Vegas: A Victory for the Rank and File



On Saturday, February 16, a panel discussion focused on one aspect of the battle for civil rights in Las Vegas. Panelists included former NAACP President (in Las Vegas) Eleanor Walker and Jarmilla McMillan, daughter of the first African-American dentist in Las Vegas. The panel was facilitated by Claytee White, director of the Oral History Research Center at the UNLV Library.

Thirty guests heard about the barriers broken down during the Black civil rights movement in Las Vegas. Although some major Black entertainers played an important role in forcing casinos to open its doors to African-American customers and job applicants, the rank and file of the civil rights movement ensured victory, in part through a consent decree with casinos. Pictured here are panelists Eleanor Walker (right), Claytee White (center), and Jarmilla McMillan (left).



For more history on the African-American civil rights struggle in Las Vegas, [click here](#). The recorded interviews were produced by Claytee White for Vegas PBS TV. Claytee's publications include: "Eight Dollars A Day and Working in the Shade: An Oral History of African American Migrant Women in the Las Vegas Gaming Industry," "The March That Never Happened: Desegregating the Las Vegas Strip," and "Marking the Unique Moulin Rouge Era."

Oral History and A Sense of Community

A local oral history program can be a key factor in developing a sense of community and multicultural understanding. If you're interested in learning more about the art of oral history consider attending the Southwest Oral History Association annual meeting at UNLV in early April. Here are the sessions that are open to the public free of charge:

Southwest Oral History Association Annual Conference

University Of Nevada Las Vegas

Special Sessions: Free and Open To the Public

Saturday April 6th - UNLV Student Union

*****Space Is Limited*****

RSVP to cdziedziak@gmail.com or Caryll Dziedziak 292-3542

8:30 – 10:00 am

Session 1: Roundtable

Chair: Joyce Moore

Growing Up in Las Vegas: 60 years of changes and challenges

So what was it like to grow up in Las Vegas? Members of Rancho High School graduation class of 1962 share their experiences and offer insights to participating in the collection of their oral histories.

Moderator **Joyce Moore** is a member of the Class of '62 and Archivist in Special Collections at Lied Library, UNLV.

10:15 – 11:45 am

Session 4: Roundtable

Chair: Mary Shaw

Participating in an Oral History Project—Shake, Rattle and Roll!

The history of the Nevada Test Site is typically told from the perspective of those who moved to Las Vegas to work there. But what about the wives and families who also relocated? They have tales of long periods of separation, coming to terms with barren desert living, and how they remained here to be part of the legacy. Meet participants in the Shake Rattle and Roll project—you'll enjoy hearing how the project came to exist and how it earned its name.

1:45 – 3:15 pm

Session 9: Panel

Chair: Caryll Batt Dziedziak

Women Making News

This presentation will feature **Myram Borders** (Las Vegas' first UPI Bureau Manager) and **Chris Chrystal** (Las Vegas' first full-time female television reporter) conversing with **Caryll Batt Dziedziak** about their journalistic careers as "female firsts" covering Las Vegas news during the 1960s and 1970s. Borders and Chrystal are energetic and highly entertaining; sure to engage attendees with their recollections of making news as "female firsts" while making news as journalists in the ever-iconic Sin City.

THANK YOU!

— Rita Ransom



... to everyone who donated items for and/or worked during our recent Rummage Sale. We earned over \$1,200 for our church budget!

Extra special thanks to Alice Ageloff and Mitchell Haifter, who came every day during setup week. Their tireless efforts were invaluable in so many ways.

Bravo to Jerry King and Rich Mathias, our "truckers" who picked up items from congregants' homes and delivered them to the church!

And kudos to all these wonderful folks, some of whom put in many hours during setup week, as well as during the sale:

♥ Amber Bell
♥ Mark Berghtholdt
♥ Julie Brand
♥ Jane Feldman
♥ Jan Hamilton

♥ Jim Landis
♥ Barbara Lloyd
♥ Lyn Slanetz
♥ Terry Sokey
♥ Bob Steffan

♥ Micah Steffan
♥ Joe & Melissa Stoner
♥ Bea Thompson



**Unitarian Universalist
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LABEL



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Come Worship with UUs!!

Sunday Morning Service held at 10:30 am.

Youth Life Span Faith Development ("Sunday School") is provided at that time, as well as competent nursery care for preschoolers and toddlers.

Children are always welcome in Worship Services.

Visitors are always warmly received....

You will be welcomed!



Our Mission

Our mission is to share the principles of Unitarian Universalism and provide a spiritual home for religious liberals; to encourage and facilitate sacred journeys; and to assist victims of injustice.

Our Vision

UUCLV is a non-creedal liberal religious community where people of diverse ages, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations and beliefs unite around common values. Our multi-site ministry shares the principles of Unitarian Universalism with all of Southern Nevada by providing a home and a voice for spiritual seekers while serving as a force for social justice in the greater community. Here, congregants are challenged to think for themselves, to grow spiritually, and to express and live their values.