

the Sunrise

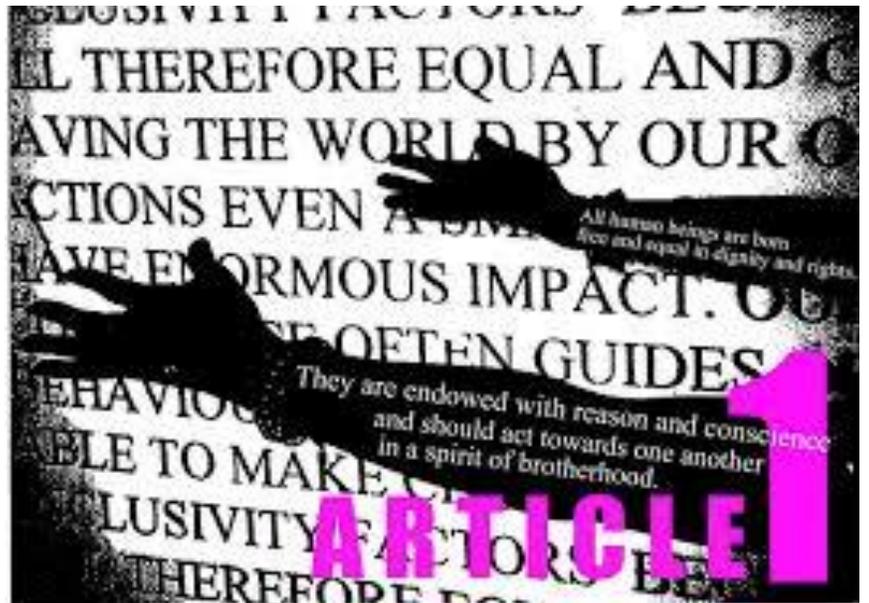
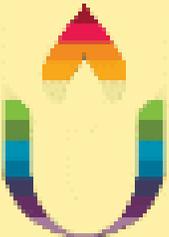
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas Newsletter

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Monthly Theme: **Worth & Dignity**

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UUCLV Board of Trustees

Bruce Turner – President	Open — Facilities
Nancy Czar – Vice-President	Hilary Howarth — Special Committees
Kathy Espin – Secretary	Dave Richards — Standing Committees
Keith McMillen – Treasurer	Stewart Webster — At Large

UUCLV Staff

Rev. Rachel Allen Baker – Minister
 Erma Zurita – Office Administrator
 Nick Bentz – Accompanist



Rev. Elations!

Rev. Rachel Allen Baker

October
2019

An Introduction to the Monthly Theme: Worth and Dignity

The Reality Wall by Michelle Richards

We teach our children from an early age about the inherent worth and dignity of every person; they learn that it is important to seek justice, equity, and compassion; we emphasize a responsible search for truth and meaning and the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. Then they hit a brick wall. Sometimes it's middle school, sometimes it comes earlier or later in life. But come it does: the realization that we are different from a large part of the world.

Lifelong UU Kate Erslev describes in her book, *Full Circle: Fifteen Ways to Grow Lifelong UUs*, how Howard Welsh, a Vietnam veteran raised as a Unitarian Universalist, felt his church had let him down by focusing only on its ideals. Welsh stressed to Erslev the importance of helping children and teens face the walls in our society. When their idealism comes face-to-face with the realities of injustice, intolerance, and judgment by their peers, will they be prepared? Or will they feel betrayed when they come up against our sexist, racist, oppressive, violent culture?

Although she is getting ready to graduate from high school now, I vividly remember the struggle my daughter Shannon faced in seventh and eighth grade when her school friends made it their mission to “convert” her to Christianity. Her church had taught her since she was a preschooler the importance of respecting the beliefs of others, and she just couldn't understand why her friends didn't follow the same code of morality that she did. It was only after multiple conversations between us, accompanied by lots of hugs and moral support from her church, that she was finally able to understand that her friends actually believed that they were helping her by trying to get her to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior.

They've since parted ways, and Shannon has found a group of high school friends who love her and accept her for who she is. She is now out in her high school as bisexual and an atheist (which was actually harder for many people at her school to accept than the idea that she wasn't “straight”). She has also had the support of two different church communities, a Unitarian Universalist youth group and lifelong friends she bonded with at a camp for UU teens.

Did I as a parent let her down by not preparing her for this life lesson? At the time I feared that I did. But parents cannot anticipate every challenge our children will face, nor can we cushion them from all the difficulties they will experience in their lifetime. I did try to explain to her that other people in the world thought differently than we did, but it was mainly in the context of bullying and standing up for others. Instead, it was her friends who demeaned her by trying to convince her she was wrong, not her adversaries.

We cannot possibly protect our children against all the evil and pain in the world, and we shouldn't even try. But we do need to provide a safety net for them when they fall and give them a sledgehammer of Unitarian Universalist faith for when they come up against that wall.

Topics for Upcoming Services

Oct. 06, 2019: *Blessing of the Animals*– Rev. Rachel Allen Baker



Everyone is welcome to bring your pet or a photograph of your pet to this multi-generational celebration of our animal friends. For those who lost a pet, you are invited to bring a memory to share. The gathered congregation will share stories of their animal companions. The worship service will be held inside this year.

Oct. 13, 2019: *Indigenous People's Day* – Rev. Rachel Allen Baker



Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday that celebrates and honors the Native Americans and commemorates their shared history and culture. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities. Join UUCLV as we explore the importance of this day.

Oct. 20, 2019: *National Coming Out Day Celebration* – Rev. Rachel Allen Baker



Join us this Sunday as we celebrate and highlight Queer culture on National Coming Out Day.

Oct. 27, 2019: – Alex Haider-Winnett



More information about our guest speaker, Alex Haider-Winnett, and his topic will be announced later in our Weekly Announcements.

The congregation holds Whole Congregational Worship every Sunday for children, teenagers, and adults. Nursery care is provided for those under age six. Children between the ages of three and five will be invited to ring the bell at the beginning of worship. All are welcome to use an item from the Focus Boxes located near the sanctuary doors.

October 2019 50/50 Sundays: [The CASA Foundation](#)

The CASA Foundation works with the county Court Appointed Special Advocate program to achieve the common goal of providing every child in foster care in Clark County with an advocate. The CASA Foundation devotes a 92 percent of donations directly toward the children and to support the CASA Program & Volunteers. These donations fund medical needs, transportation costs for visits with family members, summer camp, sports, music lessons and tutoring. The CASA Foundation is committed to making a difference in the lives of children in foster care in Southern Nevada

Help nominate future 50/50 recipients by filling out [this form](#).



From the Boardroom

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas Annual Meeting June 9, 2019 (Continued from May 5, 2019)

Call to Order: President Keith McMillen called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

Verification of quorum: Treasurer Kathy Espin (acting on behalf of Secretary Gail Knapp) verified 34 members were present and a quorum was met.

Agenda: The agenda was accepted by acclamation.

Chalice Lighting: Led by Rev. Rachel Baker

Minister's Report: Rev. Rachel Baker took questions from the membership on the budget, ministerial and administrative matters.

Proposed Budget: President McMillen explained the changes in the proposed budget since the May 5. Cheryl Schmidt moved that the budget be accepted. The motion was seconded by Bob Steffan. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Budget Committee Proposal: President McMillen announced that the Board of Trustees is forming a team to consider and execute ideas for fund raising and other sources of revenue.

Adjournment: Cooper Garrett moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kathy Espin, Treasurer



UUCLV Board of Trustees Meeting Aug. 20, 2019 Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Turner at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Also attending were Keith McMillen, Kathy Espin, Dave Richards, Nancy Czar, Stu Webster and Rev. Rachel Baker. A quorum was met.

Agenda: There were no changes to the agenda

Chalice lighting: by Bruce Turner

Review of Action Items:

Bruce

- Sent calendar of duties to board members.
- Updated on list of board members.
- Approved minutes from last meeting.
- Met with personnel and finance committee.
- Added standing committee report to agenda.
- Met with Rev. Rachel to plan retreat.
- Read info on governance consent agendas.
- Delegated contacting UUA about finance mentor.
- Facilities committee in process.

Keith

- Held finance and personnel committees.
- Entered budget in Church Windows.
- Discussed storage room thermostat with Food Bank team.
- Approved minutes.

Hilary – Not present

Rev. Rachel

- Attended combined finance and personnel committee meeting.
- Posted minister's reports for July and Aug. in the drop box.
- Provided chapter on Consent Agendas to board.
- Met with Bruce to plan the retreat.
- Asked Regional contact to attend the retreat. (no)
- Approved minutes.

Dave

- Turned off AC in food storage.

Kathy

- Had Keith add new members to drop box.
- Still tracking minutes for May meeting.
- Emailed Nancy Czar about retreat.
- Sent July minutes to Approval Committee.
- Posted minutes in the Drop Box by Aug. 13.

Approval of the minutes: Delayed until a copy of annual meeting minutes can be located.

New minutes approval committee: Stu, Nancy and Bruce

Reports

Minister

- Posted for consent agenda
- Keith asked if donation pledges have been entered in Church Windows – In process
- Asked if database being developed is being backed up – will back up by email

Finance

- Posted for consent agenda

Vice President – no report

Standing Committees

- Report submitted
- Communication with committees has been initiated.

Special Committees – No report

Facilities – No liaison was present

Old Business

- Discussion on benefits for administrative personnel postponed to next meeting.
- Details will be presented at the next board meeting.
- There is a question about the donation to Nevadans for the Common Good. It was supposed to be returned to \$2,000 after the donation matching. Keith will check on the numbers in the final budget. The Board can increase the donation without going back to the congregation.

New business

- **Ministerial Transition**
 - Rev. Rachel and Bruce had a discussion with UUA liaison Sarah Gibbs-Milspaugh.
 - Package including forms, salary and housing figures need to be prepared.
 - Board members will poll congregation for recommendations for search committee.
 - Need congregation input into decision about called vs contracted minister.
 - Need congregation input on $\frac{3}{4}$ vs full time.
 - Regional transition coach, \$950 for two years.
 - Search is usually a two-year process but can be accomplished in one.
 - Motion by Bruce Turner to authorize the secretary to begin the process of developing a search committee. Seconded by Nancy Czar. Passed unanimously.
 - Minister Transition Information Meeting will be held Sept. 8 at noon.
 - Kathy will distribute a call list to each board member along with talking points for search committee recommendations.
- **Special Committees policy and form development**
 - Postponed until Special Committees Chair returns
 - Mark Bergtholdt and Karin Metcalf recommended for a fundraising development committee.

Building care and maintenance

- Bruce and Nancy will develop a work order form.
- Work will begin on a building response team.
- Congregation members were suggested for the team.

Board Member Tasks

Bruce

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.

- Minutes approval committee.
- Prepare graphics and materials for Sept. 8 meeting.
- Develop work order form.
- Post report in drop box by Sept. 12.

Keith

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Develop outline for policy organization.
- Finalize costs of benefits for administrative staff.
- Post financial report by Sept. 12.

Nancy

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Develop work order form with Bruce.
- Minutes approval committee.
- Post report in drop box by Sept. 12.

Hilary

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Evaluate the current special committees.
- Contact MJ Brustman for the calendar for last year.
- Recruit committee members for the Pride event in Oct.
- Develop a fundraising committee.
- Put the proposed board retreat on the church calendar.
- Post Special Committee report by Sept. 12

Dave

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Post Standing Committee report by Sept. 12

Stu

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Help develop building response team.
- Minutes Approval Committee.

Rev. Rachel

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Send Exel document on membership to Keith.
- Send Settlement Handbook to Kathy.
- Post Minister's report by Sept. 12

Kathy

- Read Safer Congregation Philosophy document.
- Call assigned members for search committee suggestions.
- Write to Keith Kron to ask about numbers of ministers seeking positions KKron@uua.org

- Track down minutes for May meeting.
- Calendar Sept. 8 meeting.
- Ask Admin to e-mail members and friends about Sept. 8 meeting.
- Will post minutes in the Drop Box by Sept. 12.
- Send minutes to approval committee.
- Post minutes by Sept. 12
- Have July and Aug. minutes posted for Congregation.
- Send call list and script to Board Members.

Adjournment 8:45 p.m.

Kathy Espin, Secretary



Stewardship Notes

Mark Bergtholdt

As we transition from our current minister to our next minister, I thought it would be a good exercise to write to you about what a minister does for our congregation. This way we are all informed about their duties and tasks and will find value as we head to another pledge year. In this space, I will be writing using the days of the week as a parable for the various tasks that they do throughout the year. Your Fundraising committee will edit these paragraphs, Rev. Rachel will be providing her input through personal interviews and solicitations of her colleagues and I will be doing some research to bring this all together into a rewarding experience. These writings will culminate in April just in time for our pledge drive. We will start with Monday, the day designated as the Sabbath for our minister.

For a minister, it may start right after the service, as they rest and decompress from a morning full of emotional energy and activities. It takes great interpersonal strength to lead and execute the service and is the climatic act of the week. It requires a time of decompression, away from the church, as they begin to focus on self-care and other family activities. This would include the mundane such shopping for groceries and spending quality time with their family. Being a minister involves being called upon in emergencies or when something devastating happens to a member. Since Monday is a day set aside for self-care and rejuvenation, the minister must have other people willing to handle any issues which can wait until Tuesday. If it so happens that something cannot wait, the minister then tries to "reimburse" their self-for time used on a different day. It is important to not let these "reimbursements" stack up or they inevitably short-change the minister.



October Calendar of Events



Erma Zurita

Wed. October 2, 16 7:00 – 8:30 pm	Wednesday Evening Chalice Circle
Rotating Locations in member's homes	This Chalice Circle meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Contact David Richards djrichards328@gmail.com for more information.

Friday, October 4, 11, and 25 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Seminarium
UUCLV Social Hall	Many members and friends of the congregation decide to join a Chalice Circle because a work schedule rarely allows attendance on Sundays. Chalice Circles provide a chance to tell your story in an unique, supportive environment and allow you to make deeper connections with other people within the Circle. Contact Terry Sokey at nsokey@embarqmail.com

Sunday, Oct. 6 12:15 – 2:30 pm	(Re)member Unitarian Universalism
UUCLV Learning Area	(Re)membering Unitarian Universalism is a two-hour and 15 minutes overview of Unitarian Universalism. This session is both the highly recommended workshop for visitors new to UU and for other who would like a refresher of UU. This is also a great opportunity to meet others of the congregation in a one-time small group experience. Contact: Rachel Baker at minister@uuclv.org

Wednesday, Oct. 9 6:30 – 8:00 pm	Many Voices Storytelling
IHOP, 9651 Trailwood Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89134	Join us at our monthly meeting of the Many Voices Storytelling group. We meet the second Wednesday of each month. A storyteller is nothing without a listener. All listeners are welcome, whether you choose to tell. If you would like to tell a 5-8 minute, personal, true- life story, pitch your idea at storytelling.uuclv@gmail.com

Saturday, Oct. 12 6:00 – 9:00 pm	<u>UUCLV Circle Supper</u>
UUCLV Social Hall & a Member's Home	Social gathering to support people getting to know one another better. We run two suppers simultaneously, one at a member's home, and then one at the church. Contact Karin Metcalf at karinmetcalf@gmail.com

Sunday, October 13, 20, 27 12:15 – 2:15 pm	Articulating Your UU Faith
UUCLV Learning Area	Articulating Your Unitarian Universalist Faith is a four-session adult faith development series. It is excellent for those who are new to UUism and those who find themselves struggling with how to explain UUism. Each session builds on the previous session. By the end of the four sessions participants will be prepared to articulate their UU faith. Dates:10/13/19, 10/27/19, 11/10/19, 11/23/19.Contact: Rev. Rachel minister@uuclv.org

Saturday, Oct. 19- 7:30 – 11:30 am	UUCLV Food Pantry
UUCLV West side of building. 3616 E Lake Mead Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89115	We are requesting that 4 – 6 strong, younger members, capable of lifting 50 – 75 pounds arrive at 7:30 to assist in setting up the tables and hauling stuff out of our storage area. Open to members of the congregation, and to the larger community, Food will be distributed on a first come, first served basis, until supplies run out. No income requirements. This pantry has been created in conjunction with Three Square. Contact: Keith McMillen at kgmcmillen@gmail.com

Sunday, October 27 12:00 – 1:45 pm		Bill Jacobs, Convener
UUCLV Worship Hall 3616 E Lake Mead Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89115	“Genocide in America” Is it possible today? Dr. Omar Bartov will describe circumstances which have led to genocide against the Jews, and Native Americans comparing them to what is occurring now with the demonization of immigrants and police violence against Blacks. Dr. Bartov is Professor of European History at Brown University. Join us at 12 noon Sunday, October 27th for the HUUmanist Forum.	

It's a Dual Act!

Hilary Howarth

The Board has two priorities for this year: Searching for a New Minister and Fundraising! As you might imagine, we need to be in good financial shape to attract a fabulous minister.

As a new board member, my responsibility is being the liaison for our Special Committees (Food Pantry, Bookies, Many Voices, Humanists, etc.). I'm also the liaison for our new Fundraising Committee. The three members heading that committee are Karin Metcalf, Mark Bergtholdt, and Kem Tetlow. Reverend Rachel and I attended their first meeting. Currently, two fundraising projects are being considered (in addition to an awesome Pledge Campaign). The committee is evaluating the possibility of hosting a weeklong “Winter Escape” in 2021 for UUs from across the continent. One of the attractions of this fundraising idea is that we'd be raising funds from outside our community. A very rough projection is that this program would net \$20,000. This project would need the same level of commitment and enthusiasm as we currently see with our Food Pantry. The following individuals are researching various preliminary pieces of this project:

- Financial = Karin Metcalf
- Promotions = Mark Bergtholdt
- Hospitality = Kem Tetlow
- Program = Hilary Howarth

The committee is also evaluating a short-term fundraising idea. UUA and Beacon Press have a program for selling UU-recommended books. Mark is gathering more information for the committee's consideration.

If you would like to help the Fundraising team evaluate ideas, contact one of the committee members.

Circle Supper

Saturday, October 12th at 6 pm.

If you would like to have an opportunity to get to know others in our community over a casual dinner, we have two options available. The first is in a member's home, with six slots available, and the dish you bring to share will be specific. The second option is a Circle Supper at the church. We offer the church for people who need special accommodations or for those folks who thrive beyond a RSVP. At the UUCLV Supper, we are having a Halloween theme and your dish to share would be for six servings. Please contact Karin Metcalf karinmetcalf@gmail.com for information and/or to RSVP.

Nevadans for the Common Good News

UUCLV, member of NCG, is dedicated to educating and training citizens to participate in public life; to work to build relationships, find common ground on issues, and act in nonpartisan ways to improve our community.



Nevadans for the
Common Good

The Nevada Legislature is not in session this winter and so NCG will be doing more research and partnership building. If you have not been to a NCG training session on how community organizing works in a faith community, there'll be one on 10/12/19. Save the date of January 9th, 2020 at 7 pm for a delegate assembly; we're asking each of you to attend to vote on the next top three legislative topic areas for NCG. For more information, please contact Karin Metcalf at jkmetcalf@cox.net



**HUMANISTS
CLV FORUM**

Genocide in America
– Dr. Omar Bartov
Sunday, Oct. 27 12 noon
Convener Bill Jacobs

“Genocide in America” Is it possible today? Dr. Omar Bartov will describe circumstances which have led to genocide against the Jews, and Native Americans comparing them to what is occurring now with the demonization of immigrants and police violence against Blacks.

Dr. Bartov is Professor of European History at Brown University.

Join us at 12 noon Sunday, October 27th for the HUUmanists Forum

Another Way to Donate to UUCLV:



Did you know you can donate 0.5% of allowed purchases just by using your Smith's reward card every time you shop?

***If you were enrolled in the previous donation program through Smith's and haven't already re-enrolled, please re-enroll using the instructions below:**

Enrollment Instructions

- You must have a registered Smith's rewards card to enroll in the Smith's Inspiring Donations program.
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377, select option 3 to get your Smith's rewards card number.
- If you do not yet have a Smith's rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Smith's store.

To Create a Smith's Online Account:

- Visit our website at <https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/communityrewards>
- Click on **Create an Account** or use the 'Register' button at the top of the web page.
- Enter your email address and create a password.
- Enter your zip code in "Your location", select your favorite store.
- Click on **Create an Account**: a message will appear stating your account was successful.
- Enter your rewards card number and your Last name. Click 'Save'.
- You will then be directed to the Account Summary page. Under Personal Information click 'Edit' and enter your personal information then click 'Save'.
- Under Smith's Inspiring Donations click 'Enroll'. Enter UUCLV's number (**BE260**), or at least 3 letters of "Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Las Vegas" and click 'Search'. Click the button next to our name. Click **Enroll** to complete your enrollment.

*Already have a Smith's online account? Enroll in Smith's Inspiring Donations:

- Visit <https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/communityrewards>. Click Sign in. Enter your email address and password.
- Click on your name under Welcome back! To View Account Summary.
- In **Account Summary** – the last option is **Smith's Inspiring Donations**.
- Click on **Enroll**
- Enter our NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number (**BE260**), or a few letters of the organizations' name then **Enroll**
- Select an organization from the list and click **Enroll**
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see the organization's name on the Account Summary page.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count until after you register your rewards card and link to an organization. Members must swipe their registered Smith's rewards card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Smith's rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.

Fall Volunteer Camp

At Camp de Benneville Pines

Monday, October 14 – Wednesday, October 16, 2019



Every year, volunteers come up the mountain to help spiff up camp. And every year, everyone has a great time working together to keep Camp de Benneville Pines in good repair. We need all kinds of help: painting, raking, organizing the library or repairing pool furniture. There are both indoor and outdoor chores! There are tasks for everyone, from easy jobs to heavy lifting.

We have room of 50 energetic and generous individuals, ages 11 and older, who are willing to spend a little “sweat equity” at camp. We promise you delicious food, comfortable accommodations and great camaraderie. You’ll leave knowing your efforts are appreciated by the staff and will help ensure that future campers have a safe and wonderful experience at Camp de Benneville Pines.

We’d love to have you join us for this fall’s Volunteer Camp!
[Click here to register!](#)

Janet James. Executive Director



Final Thought



This season when seeds mature is a time . . . for honoring the diversity of plants that make our lives possible, for putting by seed corn for future harvests.

—Jinny Batterson, *UU World*

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