



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
October 2017

Mark Your Calendars!
Upcoming Events and Important Dates Ahead*

- Tuesday, October 10** **Executive Board Meeting.** 7:00 p.m. Members welcome*
- Saturday, October 14** **Second Saturdays in Service.** Donated items for the Lawrence Community Shelter should be in. Meet from **11:00 to noon** to help package items up for delivery*
- Saturday, October 21** **Women's Group** 2:00-4:00 p.m.*
Drumming Workshop 2:00-3:30. RSVP*
- Sunday, October 22** **UU Parenting Sharing Circle:** Presence, Love and Children*
9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, October 24** **Soulful Suppers Potlucks**--sign up to participate or host*

Please also see the many Social Justice-related activities listed and described in the SJT Report farther on.*

*See body of newsletter for more information on all these upcoming events

UPCOMING 9:30 SUNDAY TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS

- Sunday, October 1** "Kim Jong Un's Korea and Us," **Felix Moos**, KU Prof. Emeritus of Anthropology will speak about the North Korean situation. He will focus on the antecedents of the current DPRK-US confrontation and attempt to provide some scenario of what might happen next. Prof. Moos served in the military during the Korean War.
- Sunday, October 8** "The Dark Side of the Reformation: Martin Luther, the Witch Trials and the Faust Mythology." UUCL member **Frank Baron**
- Sunday, October 15** TBA
- Sunday, October 22** An eyewitness panel: "The 1970 Troubles at KU"
- Sunday, October 29** **City Commission Candidate Forum**

11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICES FOR OCTOBER



What Does It Mean To Be A People of Courage?

Courageous people change the world. There are so many examples of that this month. October is LGBTQ history month and reminds us of the many who bravely moved (and continue to move) our world toward greater acceptance and affirmation. The revolutionary prophet of peace, Mohandas Gandhi, was born on October 2. Our Christian friends celebrate Reformation Day and Martin Luther's courage that changed how we all think about religious authority. We rightly honor such giants. The problem is most of us aren't that tall.

Or are we? Here's what we have to help each other remember: In addition to the heroic acts that alter history, there are also the daily choices that prevent history from altering us. Battling evil and bending the arc of the universe toward justice deserves praise, but there's also the ordinary work of integrity and not allowing yourself to be bent. This needs to be noticed as well. There's the bravery of embracing your beauty even when it doesn't fit the air-brushed images surrounding you. There's the courage of calling out the micro-aggressions that happen almost every day at work. And what about resisting the persistent seduction of status and stuff? The list is long: Turning down that drink one day at a time. Making yourself get out of bed when the depression tells you to stay there. Holding your partner's hand in public. Make no mistake, there are dozens of ordinary acts of bravery we rise up to everyday!

Or maybe we should say there are dozens of ordinary acts of bravery we help each other rise up to every day. Courage is not only noble; it's contagious. The bravery that makes it into the history books may save the world, but our ordinary courage keeps each other going. Watching someone else make it through another day helps us endure. Witnessing someone else confront bigotry allows us to bravely be more open about who we are. They say that courage is found by digging deep, but most often it is passed on.

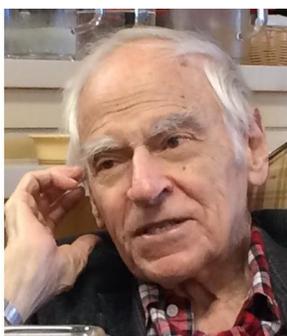
So don't worry so much if you haven't changed the world yet. And certainly let's stop comparing ourselves with those giants. Our work rests less in looking up to them and more in looking over at and gaining strength from each other. And remembering that others are looking over at and needing strength from us.

Worship Themes for October

- October 1 "Tis Just as Blessed (and More Courageous) to Receive"
- October 8 "Rise Up!: (Non)Violence, Justice, and Moral Ambiguity"
- October 15 "If We Had a Hammer"
- October 22 "(W)hol(I)y Ghosts"
- October 29 "Those Who Showed Us Courage"

IN MEMORIAM

Our beloved founding member, **Dr. Helen Gilles**, died peacefully the morning of September 27, 2017 in St. Paul, Minnesota, four days after her 95th birthday. She was surrounded by her three children, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. With her husband Paul, Helen was instrumental in establishing the Fellowship in 1957 and a long-time teacher of our junior-high youth. She was a well-known and loved local pediatrician for most of her professional life in Lawrence, a former School Board member, and a person who will be missed by all who knew her.



Harold, "Hal" Orel passed away July 31 at the age of 91. He and his wife Charlyn were long-time active members of our congregation. He was an avid photographer and both were great travelers, reaching six continents together. He and Charlyn had been married for 65 years, until her passing in January. Their two children, Sara and Tim grew up in the Fellowship community. Hal was a University Distinguished Professor of English, a Thomas Hardy scholar. Not long before his death, he read eloquently from Hardy at one of our 9:30 Programs..

Soulful Suppers

The next Soulful Suppers will be held this October 24 and will be potlucks. These are *small-group suppers* for both adults and children. Some dinners will include children and others will be adult-only. Our discussion this month will be "Courage," so be thinking about past and present situations concerning courage and the courageous.

As always, we need **hosts and discussion leaders** for these evenings. If interested in attending or hosting see the web page <http://uufi.net/soulful-suppers/> to sign up. After you have signed up, we will be in touch with more information for you. Come join us and meet old friends and make some new friends. Questions?? Contact Judy Wilson at jjwilson18@gmail.com

Second Saturdays in Service

UUCL is launching Second Saturdays in Service. Every other month, we will continue to serve at LINK. For the months that we don't serve at LINK, we will pick a local agency and do a direct service project to benefit that agency and its clients.

OCTOBER AGENCY
LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SHELTER

From now until October 14, we will be collecting essential items at UUCL for the clients of the Lawrence Community Shelter. You can sign up to bring as many different items as you want here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48aca92aabfd0-lawrence>

**For example, if you want to bring 20 bottles of deodorant, enter your name and indicate you'll bring 20. Please drop off items at UUCL between now and October 13. Bins for items will be in Founders Hall. If you want to donate a gift card for us to give to the shelter or donate scrip for us to buy items for you, please give them to Sara Vancil by Sunday, October 8.

On Saturday, October 14, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, we will gather at UUCL to assemble our items into boxes for delivery and create cards for shelter residents with our well wishes. Everything will then be delivered to the shelter for distribution. Sign up to let us know you want to come pack our boxes and make cards. All ages welcome.

Questions? Want us to sign you up to bring something? Email Sara at saravancil@hotmail.com or Shannon at shannyvan@gmail.com.

Shining Star Volunteer for October

Our Shining Star volunteer for October is Bob Barron. Deb Russell and another member nominated him for going above and beyond to help our congregation. Here is what they said about Bob:



“Bob has faithfully given his time and expertise to support our AV needs. While the number of hours spent selflessly is remarkable, what is stupendous is how smoothly he works holding our temperamental system on task, and how graciously he goes about it. Additionally, he has supported folks preparing Power Points and the like, offering his talents beyond Sundays.

Bob is a very new member who has already stepped up to help in many ways. He staffs the audio-visual booth on Sunday mornings, participates on a Hospitality team, and is a member of the Finance committee. Recently we had issues with our internet and he spent many hours researching, assessing and fixing the problems.”

Be sure to thank Bob Barron, our “Shining Star” for October when you see him. Thank you Bob!

“Shining Star” Volunteer Recognition Program

We would not be here if not for all the people who give their time, talents, and treasure for the benefit of all. Please help us recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the many wonderful volunteers that make UUCL a great community. Who do you know that is going "above and beyond" to use their gifts for our congregation? Who are the "Shining Stars" you know that deserve recognition? We have so many fabulous volunteers here, and expect to get lots of nominations, so don't fret if your nominee doesn't appear right away in the Shining Star column in our monthly newsletter on the Shining Star display board. Keep looking ;-). Thank you for being part of this way to say "Thanks!" to our wonderful volunteers. Click on the link below to nominate someone to be featured as a Shining Star for a month. And THANK YOU for your help! If you have any questions, please contact Brita Calnon at

brita.calnon@gmail.com

Nominations may also be sent in via the link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/bTYJk2AVdPSDHUem1>

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

We are in full swing now that fall is here. We are working jointly on a Complaint Procedure with COSM (the Committee on Shared Ministry), have charged the Leadership Development Team to recruit a Stewardship Team, and have approved Email Guidelines for the congregation to encourage healthy communication (see below.)

One of the positions we need to fill right away is that of a Safety Supervisor. This person will work with others to make sure we are following proper protocol to keep all our members safe at UUCL. If you are interested, have skills or experience in this area, or want to know more about what is involved, please contact me at shannyvan@gmail.com.

As we work through this year, we will always try to think about how we can best serve our Mission. We are also pondering two “Big Questions”: “How do we find balance between current needs and future growth?” And “What do we want our image to be in the community?”

Our meetings are monthly on the second Tuesdays at 7:00 at UUCL. Observers are always welcome. If you wish to speak at a meeting, contact the Chair and ask to be placed on the agenda. At October’s meeting, we will have our regular open meeting from 7:00-7:45, and then will go into Executive Session for a workshop with a Regional Congregational Consultant. The minutes will be posted as soon as they are approved on the website: <http://uufi.net/minutes-for-executive-board-2017-2018/> and a hard copy will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the restrooms. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at shannyvan@gmail.com

Guidelines for Using Email Within UUCL

Email is an efficient tool for coordinating within a group. It is the fastest, easiest method for planning an event or reviewing a document and is the preferred method for such coordination within UUCL.

Email is a fun way to stay in touch with friends and family. Like Facebook and Instant Messaging, email allows us to trade little snippets that amuse or connect us (though we should consider before we hit “send” how many people really care about a funny cat video).

Email is an inappropriate method for communications regarding personal relationships or personal feelings. Humans have evolved many non-written methods of communicating. Those methods become increasingly important as the stress level increases and they do not translate well to email. Moreover, email offers a sometimes-irresistible temptation to make hurtful statements. We feel safe behind our email walls and do not consider the damage that our words may cause.

With these observations in mind, please observe the following guidelines when exchanging email within the UUCL community:

- 1) Assume that all email will become public. Do not put anything into an email that you would not be willing to post on the church bulletin board.

- 2) Never forward email in a manner that was not anticipated by the original author. If you are not sure whether the original author intended that you further distribute their material then either ask their permission or copy them on the forwarded email.
- 3) Do not use email to discuss your relationships with other persons. Talk about relationships face-to-face (best) or over the phone (if necessary).
- 4) Do not use email if you have negative emotions about a situation you believe needs to be addressed. Often the negative emotions are misunderstood in the email medium, even if the emotions are not expressly stated, and such emails often spiral out of control. If you have negative emotions about a situation then talk with the person face-to-face or over the phone.
- 5) If you receive an email that violates #3 or #4, respond with the simple statement that “I do not think that this situation can be handled well using email. When can we meet for a discussion?”

*~Shannon VanLandingham
Executive Board Chair, 2017-2018*

Thoughts on transformation by your President-Elect Ann Alexander

Some transformations happen quickly, right in front of us—like a sudden thunderstorm on a clear, dry Kansas day. Some transformations are slow, like spring into summer.

A transformation is happening in my life because I found UUCL. I have been transformed by leadership training, Chalice Circles, Soul Matters, RE classes, and Sunday Program. I have been inspired by members and guests who make our lives more beautiful. I have been changed by worship, by having a sacred time and place each week to reflect on what is good in life, and what I can do to make a difference. I celebrate the way people in the UUCL community live fully. I love how we feel compelled to find a way, however small or large, to contribute, to create, and to risk our comfort to do good works.

I'm happy when people find their home with us. It gives me a purpose to make sure UUCL is alive and ready for them. I give a big Thank You to our founders, elders, and friends/members who have worked many hours to make sure UUCL is alive for us today.

We are called to reach toward something we cannot see. This something pulls on us from the inside. Consider your UUCL community. How has your life been changed by your participation in this congregation? How are you being called to transform today? Let's continue to work together, as we move forward toward new transformations.

HOSPITALITY TEAMS

Thank you all who have shown up to greet our members, friends and guests, made coffee, set up snacks, handed out programs, and said YES to whatever chore was needed. It takes a village to keep the congregation going! Our current teams will continue in 2018. The congregation will meet for a potluck at 12:30 pm Sunday January 28. We will discuss

updates to Team rosters and hospitality functions. Teams for October are: Indigo 10/01, Violet 10/8, Turquoise 10/15, Red 10/22, Orange 10/29

SOCIAL JUSTICE

MONTHLY COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: FAITH IN ACTION

Each week, our Sunday collection is given to a community organization that reflects our values and is chosen by our Social Justice Team.

The **August** Community Connection was **Willow Domestic Violence Center and the Sexual Trauma and Abuse Center** (funds split) and the Congregation gave away a total of \$957.33. Checks were sent to each agency.

The **September Community Connections** recipient was the **Kansas Equality Coalition**, a statewide LGBTQ rights organization that was created in 2005 during a meeting in Emporia. KEC's mission is to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. The coalition seeks to ensure the dignity, safety and legal equality of all Kansans.

The **October Community Connection** is **Parents as Teachers**.

The mission of the Lawrence Parents as Teachers is "to Provide the information, support, and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life."



Social Justice Team Monthly Report for September and Upcoming October Events

Social Justice Team actions during September:

Sunday 9:30 Programs: On September 3, SJT members participated in presenting the Labor Day Program which included songs of the International Workers of the World and other worker-related music. The Program on the following Sunday was a presentation by Judy Ancel, a long-time professor at UMKC, who spoke on labor history, the state of unions today, noting the change in the workforce without concurrent change in union structure, and a description of Stand Up KC, a coalition of fast food and retail workers from across Kansas City coming together to demand good wages and a voice for low-wage workers.

SJT member, **Pennie Von Achen**, attended the **No Tyson in Tongie** rally in Tonganoxie on **September 15**. Many citizens oppose the building of a \$320 million Tyson chicken processing plant outside the city. Residents were not informed of the plan which was formulated weeks before, as county commissioners said they were under a non-disclosure agreement. 2500-3000 folks showed up to hear comments from 3 elected officials, Senator Tom Holland, Representative Jim Karleskint and Representative Willie Dove, and express their feelings on the plan. Since then, the company has put its plans on hold.

September 17 brought 2 UUCL's to the public library to view Salam Neighbor, a documentary about 2 film-makers who lived in an 85,000-member refugee camp in Jordan, to document the stories of

survival of the refugees.

September 21 was the opening meeting of the Lawrence Women's Resistance Choir, and 4 members of UUCL participated.

On September 23, Jake Kipp participated in a gathering at the office of Senator Jerry Moran in Olathe to press for voting no on the current healthcare bill which like the previous versions, reduces Medicaid funding, mandates block grants to states and will likely prevent millions of Americans from accessing affordable healthcare.

September 29, Juan Gonzales, co-host with Amy Goodwin of Democracy Now, will speak at All Souls U.U. Church in Kansas City at 7:30pm, 4501 Walnut St.

OCTOBER:

October is LGBT History Month! LGBT History Month celebrates the achievements of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender Icons. Each day in October, a new LGBT Icon is featured with a video, bio, bibliography, downloadable images and other resources. Website is <https://lgbthistorymonth.com/>

October 1: People Power, The ACLU's national grassroots mobilization program, is launching a new national **Let People Vote Campaign** right here in Kansas! At the Lied Center at 6:30pm. RSVP at https://go.peoplepower.org/event/voting_rights/9399/signup/?akid=&zip=

October 3:

At the Flory Meeting Hall on the Douglas Co. Fairgrounds, 7:30pm. Presentation, "**What Large Poultry Plants Mean for Local Communities and Poultry Growers**" with Dr. Don Stull, Professor Emeritus of anthropology, University of Kansas. Co-author of Slaughterhouse Blues: The Meat and Poultry Industry in North America, Sponsored by the Water Advocacy Team. LETUS is one of the co-sponsors. (SJT is a member of LETUS)

October 9, known nationally as Columbus Day, is also called **Indigenous Peoples Day**, or Native American Day, occurring yearly as a Federal holiday, but not necessarily recognized as a state holiday. The arrival of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492 has been celebrated and vilified, and there is consensus that this event marked the beginning of a new era with vast consequences for both the Indigenous population and the rest of the world. *Lawrence adopted Indigenous Peoples Day in 2016*. More information on the celebration will appear in the Sunday bulletins.

Next Social Justice Team meeting will be **October 22**, at 12:55 in the Library at UUCL.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Bonnie Blosser

TO DO:

Register your children for RE now - through our website!

To best serve our families, *all infants, children and youth* that participate in our Religious Exploration programming, *must be registered*. No exceptions! Please go to the link <http://uufi.net/childrens-religious-education-re/registration-form-for-re-attendees/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Oct 29: Soul Matters Sharing Circle 9:30 in our library – *What does it mean to be a people of courage?*

Oct 29: Children's Activities (11:20 -noon) Halloween celebration

Youth Group – Youth in grades 9-12 are now meeting on Sundays at noon. For information contact Jennifer Donnelly at jenniferdonnelly72@gmail.com

Soul Matters Family and Parent Resources

These resources support parents as they live out and engage our themes with their children. Playing off our October 2017 monthly theme question of "What does it mean to be a people of Courage?," we invite parents to ask "What does it mean to be a parent of Courage" or "What does it mean to be a family of Courage?"

The children of **Children's Activities** invite "All kids who love Halloween". Join us Sunday October 29th in the Children's Activities room after we are sung out from the service, to an awesome Halloween Party. We will have a dance party and you can wear your costume. If you do not have one, we will have masks and other garments to make a make-do costume.

Building Courage in Kids – How to Teach Kids to Be Brave

<http://www.heysigmund.com/building-courage-in-kids/>

Four Powerful Ways To Raise Courageous Children in 2017

<https://www.courageworks.com/2017/01/four-powerful-ways-raise-courageous-children>

Courage and Keepin' On Video

The Good Dinosaur

A dinosaur with a good heart who learns the meaning of courage on his way home.

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/films/reviews/view/28068/the-good-dinosaur>

Courage to be yourself - Transgender documentary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yNlhkmycU>



MUSIC NOTES

Fall is upon us! I love October's beautiful blue skies and colorful trees and shrubs. Cool nights and crisp days. I'm writing this on a September day that feels like August or July, as it is hot and humid. Bring on Fall!

Drumming Workshop

I'm pleased that Dylan Bassett, who teaches African Drumming at KU, will be leading a drumming workshop/drumming circle at UUCI on Saturday, October 21, from 2:00 to around 3:30. All those interested in drumming (whether novice or experienced) are welcome. There

will be a \$10 fee to pay Dylan for his time/expertise and for schlepping a bunch of djembes and other percussion instruments. If you have your own drum, please bring it. **Please let me know if you plan to attend as I need to let Dylan know about how many drums we will need.**

We are really excited for the music on October 1, as UUCL Member **Laura Weaver, oboist**, will add her beautiful music to our choral number "How Can I Keep From Singing?" Other October offerings will include a sing-a-long of "If I Had a Hammer" and Ysaye Barnwell's (Honey in the Rock) "Breaths" as well as some other offerings.

The UUCL Music Department is looking for someone who plays the **Electric Bass**. If this person is you or if you know someone who does, please contact Susan.

There is a newly founded **Lawrence Women's Resistance Choir** that meets informally on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings from 7-9. I and several other UUCL members attended the first meeting a couple of weeks ago. If you would like more information, please contact Mary Conn. medwlark@aol.com

This is a community-wide event and all women who are interested in singing for social justice are welcome.

The UUCL Music Community welcomes all who would like to share their talents with the UUCL Greater Community. For information, please contact:

Susan Harper, UUCL Music Director, UUCLMusicDirector@gmail.com 785-830-8487.

ART IN FOUNDERS HALL

Photographer Earl Richardson's tintype portraits will be up through October 29.

Having studied photojournalism at KU and worked for several newspapers, including the *Lawrence Journal-World*, *Kansas City Star*, and *Topeka Capital-Journal*, Earl returned to KU and earned a law degree. After several years working as a lawyer, Earl realized that his primary professional passion was for photography.

THIRD THURSDAY UUCL MEDITATION GROUP

Beginners, family and friends alike are invited to participate **in the UUCL Meditation Group monthly session from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary.

This ongoing, open group has met at UUCL for over 4 years. Though largely derived from Buddhist traditions, our mindfulness meditation sessions are nonsectarian.

Leader **Jeff Nichols**, a mindfulness meditator since 1975, is a psychiatric physician with background in biofeedback and psychophysiology who's taught relaxation and meditation skills for many years.

UUCL sessions are offered on a voluntary donation basis; donations are shared with UUCL. If you have questions about the group or would like more information, please contact **Dale Nimz** at dale.nimz@gmail.com, or **Valerie Roper** at vgracev@sunflower.com .

UUCL WOMEN'S GROUP

The UUCL women's group will meet at Mary Beth Musick's, 3401 Tam O'Shanter Drive, on Saturday, October 14 from 2-4PM. All are welcome, especially the younger and newer among us. Bring ideas for conversation topics, bring a snack to share if you wish, bring a friend, bring yourself ready for an afternoon of conversation and camaraderie. Contact Lynne Bodle at 843-8263 for more information or for a ride. See you there!

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence
A Welcoming Congregation
1263 N. 1100 Rd.
Lawrence, KS 66047
785-842-3999

To contact the NewsTeam, please email uflcommunications@gmail.com

Other contact information:

Helping Hands Team

uflhelpinghands@gmail.com

or call UUCL office, 842-3339

This team provides short-term practical assistance, e.g., meals, respite, rides.

Transportation Line

785-842-7529 (to UUCL events or medical appointments)

Pastoral Care Associates: Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530 jjarvis1@kc.rr.com or

Deb Russell at email Deb@Ks-Russells.com

This team provides confidential listening for those experiencing bereavement, illness, unemployment, life transitions, aging, loneliness, etc.

Minister Office Hours

Rev. Jill Jarvis' hours tend to be variable. It is best to contact her for an appointment 816/853-6530 or <mailto:jjarvis1@kc.rr.com>

Director of Faith Development

Bonnie Blosser works at her UUCL office and from home

Sunday through Wednesday Contact her at ufl.dll@gmail.com or call 785-318-6030 for an appointment.

Administrative Office Hours:

Administrative office hours are typically

Monday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Please be sure to call first, [785-842-3339](tel:785-842-3339), if coming out during the week, as doors are kept locked.