



# MAY UU NEWS

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Salina

<https://uusalina.org/> <http://www.uua.org>

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YOU ARE INVITED AND WELCOME to join us on Zoom for online services or in person at the Fellowship building ... the SERVICES begin at 10:30 am

Please go to our website, [www.uusalina.org](http://www.uusalina.org) to find the link for joining the Forum or the Service via Zoom.



## Sunday Forum on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am

**Coexist.** The Gift of Pluralism is our Soul Matters topic of the month. Pluralism is most often applied to conversations about communities. But it's just as relevant to individuals. We don't have an identity; we have *identities*. As Walt Whitman famously said, "I am large, I contain multitudes!" Facilitated by Glen Lakes.



## Sunday Service on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

**Hope, Help and Healing: The Power of Music in an Age of Anxiety.** From the wheat fields of Kansas to the hills of Rwanda, Dr. Milt Allen examines a musical journey that includes a potpourri of generational demographics, brain development and the impact of music on an international, present-day society. In a post-covid, new age of anxiety, never has the power of music been needed more.



## Sunday Forum on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am

**Why Do We Invite Fear? For What?** There's a question. For what reason does anyone mess with, much less provoke, a 1700 pound bos and horn and exerts a ground force it stomps you with its back legs? That in merely float a piece of paper into a



taurus, a creature that is all chest, haunches reaction of twelve times its body weight when its prime has such a fighting instinct that if you pasture, it will try to gore it? Facilitated by

## Sunday Service on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

**What I Learned.** The MidAmerica Region held its annual meeting in Madison, WI on April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Pacific Western Region in Denver, CO. The President of the UUA, Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt was in Denver and the two UUA Vice Presidents, Carrie McDonald and Ashley Horan were in Madison. Today we will learn what happened and where the UUA and MidAmerica Region are headed. Lay Leader Barb Gutsch presents.

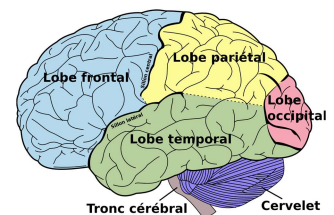
## Sunday Forum on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am

**Questions about Purpose.** Supposition: the purpose of business is to protect/benefit those at the top of the company; the purpose of government is to protect/benefit those at the bottom of the pyramids. Q1) Is this accurate? Q2) What can/should be done? Topic from Don Ratzlaff and facilitated by Glen Lakes.



## Sunday Service on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

**The Default Mode Network.** The default mode network refers to those areas of the brain that are activated when people are not engaged in any specific cognitive task, but rather are letting their minds wander at rest. Learn more about this from Rodrigo Carrizales.



### Sunday Forum on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am

**Open Forum.** It is a time to share your thoughts on something spiritual, religious, perplexing, political or anything else that might be interesting to talk about in the Forum. Facilitated by Glen Lakes.



### Sunday Service on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

**Flower Communion.** The Flower Ceremony symbolizes the light and color and fragrance of many creeds, many cultures, and many races joining together in a bright, living bouquet. Flower Ceremony continues to be celebrated in this congregation and hundreds of others around the world, a testament to the power of love to withstand hate and to the vision of a tolerant faith which sweeps the world, not by persecution or threats of violence, but by drawing people to its principles with the sweet scent of peace and freedom. ***Please bring a flower to the service and invite a friend too.*** Facilitated by Diana Tarver.



## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR THAT REFLECT THE LIFE AND GROWTH OF OUR SALINA UU FELLOWSHIP

**UU Youth/Young Adults** will meet on the first two Sundays of the month, **May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>.**



### Drum Circle on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm

This is an invite to all, please come and share in the drumming and the music. We are a welcoming group! If you have questions about the drum circle, contact Tamera at [tameraj@rhelectric.net](mailto:tameraj@rhelectric.net).

Time/Date change for **Quilting and Crafting**. **Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 1-10 PM and Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 8 - 11:30 AM.**

### Dying Well: Tibetan Views of Dying and Death.

Dr. Yonten, a traditional Tibetan physician and one of his student assistants, Terri Nash, will be offering a class titled Dying Well: Tibetan Views of Dying and Death. Here's a brief description, fact and leave ourselves unprepared for the the journey is a vital part of everyone's life. It this certainty, for at the time of death, one's own mind. Join us for an exploration of class will take place at our fellowship from We will begin with a potluck lunch, then the finish up with an hour of questions, comments and discussion. The cost of the class is \$20 and preregistration is necessary, please send an email to [willowleenders58@gmail.com](mailto:willowleenders58@gmail.com). You can pay for the class when you arrive.



Death is definite, yet we tend to avoid this journey. In the Tibetan culture, preparing for is considered useful to prepare oneself for nothing matters except the composure of the views of this essential preparation! This **noon until 4 pm on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.** class will be about two hours and we will

### The UU Fellowship of Salina Board of Directors is:

Acting President - John Kingsley

Secretary – Karin Cumming

Treasurer - Diana Tarver

In addition, the Past President, David Hanson, is a member of the Board.

Member-at-Large – Dave Corl

Member-at-Large – David Norlin

Member-at-Large – Tamera Von Fange

The fellowship board meets once a month to discuss important items pertaining to our faith community. All members and friends are welcome to attend these meetings. Members are able to vote on issues that come to a vote during the meeting. Your voice and your vote are important to us! This month's meeting is on **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**, directly following the Sunday service.

**Save the Date!** UUFS Annual Meeting and Potluck will be on **Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

**Soul Matters Sharing Circles** <https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/>

Find musical inspiration on each theme by following our monthly Spotify lists:

<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/spotify-lists.html>

Get daily inspiration on the monthly theme by liking our Soul Matters Facebook Inspiration Page

<https://www.facebook.com/soulmatterssharingcircle/>



### **2023-2024 Themes**

This year's overarching frame is The Gifts of Our Faith. We focus on ten beloved UU values and explore their potential to shape us and in turn shape our world. How do these values offer us both challenge and comfort? What might it mean to place them at the center of our living and loving? What promise do they hold for us individually as well as collectively? These are some of the questions that will guide and bless our journey in the year ahead.

Here is the list of 2024 themes:

#### ***The Gift of...***

**January:** Liberating Love

**February:** Justice & Equity

**March:** Transformation

**April:** Interdependence

**May:** **Pluralism**

**June:** Renewal



**Expand your Knowledge:** Take a class at the **UU Institute** (<http://uuintitute.org>), a service of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and is administered by UUA Staff, underwritten by congregations' gifts to the UUA's Annual Program Fund. The UU Institute is an online learning community offering trainings and other learning experiences that support members, leaders and professionals in Unitarian Universalist communities. The UU Institute's trainings and other learning experiences include readings and video presentations that you can access online at your own pace, paired with discussion questions and activities you can share with others in "real time". Read and/or sign up to receive the MidAmerica Region newsletter: <https://www.uua.org/midamerica/news>



**UUFS Compassion Fund.** If you know of a Fellowship member or friend (person who attends) who might be in need of the Fellowship's support with a food card, cash, or through connections with a local agency, please contact one of our compassion fund team, Teri Harrington, Mona Hargrave, Dianne Neustrom and Barb Gutsch. We want the Fund to be active - with funds and other help coming in and going out. The purpose of the Fund is to show that we care and take care of each other.

**Cards for Fellowship Celebrations and Concerns.**

Please let Teri Harrington know if there is someone that you believe could benefit from receiving a card from our Fellowship. She can be contacted by email at [teriyaki315@hotmail.com](mailto:teriyaki315@hotmail.com) or by cell phone at 785-342-4817.



**How Can You Help Out? – Needs at our Fellowship.**

Please look for opportunities to help out our fellowship and contact a board member about the area that you'd like to help out or see a need...you can find a way to express your talents and creativity! Contact David Hanson ([dchanson46@att.net](mailto:dchanson46@att.net)) if you can help out on the **grounds**. Interested in becoming a **convener** for Sunday services? Want to know more about how a UUFS service is created? Contact Barb Gutsch ([bigutsch@cox.net](mailto:bigutsch@cox.net)) to find out more about our UU services.

**Podcasts:** Have you missed a service that you really wanted to attend? You can listen to a podcast of the service by going to the webpage at <http://uusalina.org/> and clicking on the Contact Us link. Let us know which service you would like to listen to and someone will get back to you with a resource for connecting to the service.

**Exhibitions at Art at UU** are on hold for the time being – Visual Voices are determined by a committee, and in the past have changed every two months. Artists interested in showing their two-dimensional work at Art at UU- Visual Voices can receive an application; please send an email to [uusalina@cox.net](mailto:uusalina@cox.net). All are welcome.



**The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Salina:**  
To provide a place for personal spiritual growth within an open and affirming community, actively promoting peace, reason, and the transformation of our world.

## Welcome to the Gift of Pluralism

I wonder how the moonflower feels  
about its sweet sister, the morning glory.  
What it must be to know that world longingly awaits another  
while you must seek solace hidden under a night sky.



When the world has told you to hide,  
it is only the shadows that welcome you in.  
And while blooming in the dark has its beauty,  
it's also a lonely way to live.

And who can blame this moon-drenched cousin for wanting  
to hide.

After all, we too know what happens out there in the light of  
day.

We are parsed and picked over,  
told who and what we need to be,  
so that we will finally be loved,  
finally let in.

And so we shape shift  
until our own original curvature is no longer remembered,  
until our masks become indistinguishable from our face,  
until the pieces of us allowed out in the sun  
forget the parts buried deep in the cold earthen layers of  
time.

Maybe that is what the moonflower  
is doing out there in the dark.

but instead trying to remember  
who it once was.

Or maybe it knows who it is  
and its blooming is a way of saying  
"Come find me. I'm still here."

Which, of course, means that maybe it  
is not just about making it safe for *others* to come out of the shadows  
but also a reminder that we all have pieces and parts buried in the dark.

So friends, what do you say?

Let's go find them.

Let's put ourselves back together again.