



# 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 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am**

**For the Birds!** De-Extinction Company Colossal Biosciences Has Resurrected the Dire Wolf, Validating Its \$10.2 Billion Valuation. The last known passenger pigeon, known as Martha, died on September 1, 1914, in the Cincinnati (Ohio) Zoo. I have heard about Martha most of my adult life and would love to see her. We can de-extinct her; should we? Facilitated by Glen Lakes.

## **Sunday Service on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

**Flower Communion.** Also known as Flower Ceremony, Flower Festival, or Flower Celebration, is a ritual service common in Unitarian Universalism, though the specific practices vary between congregations. During the ritual, congregants contribute flowers to a central location, and later the flowers are distributed among the participants. Diana Tarver helps our fellowship to be a part of this spring celebration as a part of a larger UU community. Remember to **bring a flower** from your yard or a friendly neighbor or friend's yard to share.



## **Sunday Forum on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am**

**Open Forum.** This is your opportunity to talk about spiritual, religious, political, humanitarian or even subjects that are off the beaten path. Facilitated by Glen Lakes.

## **Sunday Service on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

**Know Better, Do Better.** Mistakes are a part of life. It's how we learn. We mess up, face the consequences, then change. Always striving to do better. Human nature or learned behavior? Presented by our lay leader, Barb Gutsch.



## **Sunday Forum on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am**

**Back to Buffalo Commons.** Kansas, with its expansive plains, charming small towns, and central location in the U.S., has traditionally been a place for families seeking a slower pace of life and a connection to agriculture and nature. So why are people leaving? Is the ideal small town a real place or a myth? Facilitated by Glen Lakes.

## **Sunday Service on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

**Yellow Brick Roads: Life Journeys in Oz and Beyond.** What is the enduring appeal of the Wizard of Oz stories? The Library of Congress declared the work to be "America's greatest and best-loved homegrown fairytale." Almost everyone is familiar with it. Wizards, Witches, and Dorothy and her friends have something to tell us about the journeys of our lives. Presented by Rev. Diane Miller.



## **Sunday Forum on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am**

**Imagination.** How do we balance imagination, delusion, and reality? Are you using imagination to escape from reality? Does it cause us to make poor decisions? Facilitated by Glen Lakes.

## **Sunday Service on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

**To Be Announced.** This morning's service will be a topic from the mind and heart of David Hanson. Stay tuned for more details.



The UU Fellowship of Salina will have its **Annual Meeting** on **Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** and we'll have a potluck lunch together that Sunday.

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



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

President - John Kingsley

Vice President – Renee Martin

Secretary – Karin Cumming

Treasurer – Kim Morey

Member-at-Large – Rodrigo Carrizales

Member-at-Large – David Norlin

Member-at-Large – Tamera Von Fange

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

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!

There will be a board meeting on **Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**, following the service and there will not be a meeting in June, other than the annual meeting, so bring your ideas and concerns NOW.



The following slate of candidates for the Fellowship's Board of Directors will be submitted to the members for approval at the annual meeting on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**.

President: John Kingsley

Vice President: Renee Martin

Secretary: Karin Cumming

Treasurer: Kim Morey

Member at Large: Rodrigo Carrizales

Member at Large: Tamara Von Fange

Member at Large: Dave Corl

Past President: David Hanson

Member at Large: David Norlin

In addition, members from the Fellowship at large may make nominations in writing and submit them to the nominating committee at least 15 days prior to the annual business meeting to allow for notification of the membership. Such nominations must be signed by three or more members as co-sponsors and must be signed by the nominee to indicate his or her willingness to serve. Absentee ballots shall be accepted for the Board of Directors elections. These ballots must be sealed and presented to the Secretary prior to or at the time of the election.

**General Assembly** is in **June 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>** and registration is open till **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Talk to Barb for more information or visit to the UUA website at <https://www.uua.org/ga/>



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
BALTIMORE • JUNE 18 - 22, 2025

**Program committee** meets on **Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at the Fellowship. All are welcome to contribute ideas and information for future Sunday morning services.



**Drum Circle** meets on **Saturdays, May 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<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).

**UUFS Men's Gathering** will meet on **Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** at 10 am. Six men met briefly after the service to discuss the possibility of a men's gathering. We did see the value of a gathering to just get together, and further, to consider whether we want an ongoing effort for such gatherings, and if so, how they might look. No need to bring anything. No brunch or cookout, just time to talk. At least the six who initially met are able to meet then, and all men are invited.



Please contact Diana Tarver ([dtarver4@hotmail.com](mailto:dtarver4@hotmail.com)) if you are interested and able to do volunteer work helping with **recycling** at the **Smoky Hill River Festival** (Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>).

Nyla ([nromeiser@cox.net](mailto:nromeiser@cox.net)) is organizing a **"let's eat together"** Saturdays for Sri Lankan and Indian Buffet (or off the menu). be on her email list.



at Legends Friday or  
Let her know if you want to



**Shamanic Sound Healing** will be held on **Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** from 2 pm to 6 pm. Contact Jonathan Chack for more information or to register at (978) 464-1048.

### **Soul Matters Sharing Circles**

Soul Matters groups are gathering for another session. Find out more by following these links.

<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/>



Soul Matters Theme for May is **Living Love through the Practice of Imagination.**



**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.

**Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am** the yard crew will be working now through early fall. Please come whenever you are able. If you have questions, contact LaNay ([lanaym@hotmail.com](mailto:lanaym@hotmail.com)) If there is a cancellation due to weather, watch for an email

from Glen ([glendon50@gmail.com](mailto:glendon50@gmail.com)).

**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.



### **NEWSLETTER SECTION FOR OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

### UU World Launches Digital Newsletter

Want to stay updated on the latest from UU World? You can now sign up for the magazine's free twice-a-month emailed newsletter, Wayfinder, which launches in October. As a Wayfinder subscriber, you will get the latest news and storytelling from UU World to help you chart a course that aligns with the Shared Values of Unitarian Universalism. Expect moments of insight, inspiration, joy, spiritual nourishment, and more! Sign up at the UU World website.

### Do You Know About Summer Institute?

Summer Institute (SI) is an intentional, multi-generational UU community that comes together each July for a week of fun, community and spiritual growth. Gathering for over 40 years, SI includes an active children's program, a vibrant youth-led youth program, and a strong young adult community as well as many opportunities for the entire community to come together through dance, music, games, and worship. In 2025, Summer Institute is relocating to Oberlin College in Oberlin, OH and gathers July 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Our theme speaker will be Rev. Joanna Fontaine Crawford, speaking on the theme Live a Life on Fire: Change the World with Your Love.

**Democracy Festival?!** In May 2023, First Parish UU in Concord, MA hosted its first Democracy Festival to celebrate democracy and encourage civic engagement. It was such a success that the congregation will repeat the festival this year, in early June. The festival was the brainchild of Reclaim Our Democracy, an inclusive, collaborative, and multi-partisan movement at First Parish that seeks to educate about democracy, raise awareness about attacks on it, and limit the corrupting influence of big money on elections and politicians, explains its leader, Fred Van Deusen. For more information go to <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/democracy-fair>. Anyone interested in engaging in a UUFS effort or this sort, contact Lay Leader Barb Gutsch, David Norlin, or Diana Tarver.

**Expand your Knowledge:** Take a class at the **UU Institute** (<http://uuinstitute.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>

Our new UUA virtual hymnal, ***Sing Out Love***, is taking shape in beautiful ways!

If you haven't visited **WorshipLab** recently, please check out its growing resources. (WorshipWeb's [Words for Worship search page](#) is filled with thousands of pieces of worship content, whereas WorshipLab is a spacious warehouse for worship collections, blog posts, and inspirational ideas for holidays like [Earth Day](#) and the [Flower Ceremony](#).)



## **VISUAL VOICES GALLERY**

First Friday Art Rush – “Open Air”

May 2, 2025 4:30-6 PM

901 Beatrice, Salina, KS

Refreshments and treats to be served.

For more information, contact [heikesneva@gmail.com](mailto:heikesneva@gmail.com)

Marla Ames Kuiper grew up in northwestern Kansas and studied fine art at Colby Community College and Fort Hays State University. While she paints and draws many different subjects, the landscape is her first and greatest love. She is primarily a studio artist but one of her favorite activities is to paint plein air, or in the open air with other artists. Her plein air work will be on display in our Visual Voices Gallery for the months of May and June. Please join us for “Open Air”. Marla will speak at 5:00 pm.

## **ARTIST'S STATEMENT**

I grew up in a northwestern Kansas village where kids were apt to create their own fun. A good deal of my time was spent riding my horse or pedaling my bike around the countryside, enjoying the views of the pastures and wheat fields surrounding me. My high school art instructor encouraged me to pursue art in college. I followed his advice and majored in fine art at Colby Community College and Fort Hays State University. Upon graduation I taught art on both the elementary and secondary levels; then went on to become a graphic artist.

While I paint and draw many different subjects, the landscape is my first and greatest love. I am primarily a studio artist but one of my favorite activities is painting Plein Aire' or in the open air with other artists, which I have the opportunity to do each summer in Vermont. It's a magical feeling to stumble upon a scene that excites me, and then to capture that scene on canvas.

Beyond landscape I also enjoy portraiture and portraying the human figure. Whether I work from a photo, or a model sits for me, it's my goal to capture each unique feature of the individual- the shape of the lips, the lines around the eyes, the hint of a dimple, or the texture of the hair- in such a way as to express not just a likeness, but the essence of the sitter.

Painting and drawing is a spiritual experience for me. I share my work in the hope that the viewer will feel transported to the scene of a beautiful sunset, hear the waves lapping upon a lakeshore, or imagine the grasses rusting in a pasture and feel at peace.

[Exhibitions at the Visual Voices Art Gallery at UU](#) as you can see by the above announcement are back!! Visual Voices exhibitions are determined by a committee, and will remain in the gallery space for 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.



I become more and more certain, as the years go by, that wherever friendship is destroyed, or homes are broken, or precious ties are severed, there is a failure of imagination. Someone is too intent on justifying himself, or herself, never venturing out to imagine the way things seem to the other person. Imagination is shut off and sympathy dies. If we know what it is that makes other people speak or act as they do... we might understand. Often we could heal the wounds. But even where that is not possible - even where fuller understanding only leaves us rather sad and helpless, it would still give us the power to be kind.

Words of [A. Powell Davies](#)



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.