

High Plains News

July 2013

High Plains Church - Unitarian-Universalist

Vol 20, No 7



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Black Forest Fire

By Bob Nemanich

Just 341 days after the devastating Waldo Canyon Fire that ravaged Colorado Springs Mountain Shadows neighborhood and destroyed two of our church members homes, (Feuerbach's and Levenson's), the Black Forest Fire erupted in the early afternoon hours on June 11th. That day our church community lost two more homes, the Doty's and the Sly's while the Latham's had their home damaged.

None of us can fight fire but we could provide as much assistance as humanly possible. Initially mass evacuation orders were made affected up to sixteen church members' households. Almost immediately there was an out pouring of our congregation, and seventeen families volunteered to open their homes to the evacuees. Some evacuees went to their local families, others went to lodging, and six households found refuge in church members' homes.

As the wildfire raged into Thursday Heather Ashbee, the coordinator of our first Family FunDay transitioned the Saturday event into a church potluck and support meet up for the evacuees and the families who lost their homes. That Saturday afternoon, led by Heather, Karen Clemmensen (herself an evacuee), and Annabel Carney organized the gathering where over seventy people appeared on that Saturday afternoon for fellowship and to contribute to the immediate and long term needs of our fellow church members. Kathy Kortman, on her own initiative, organized gift bags for the affected children. It was then we began to learn that the Doty's and Sly's homes were lost, and the Latham's and Fox's still didn't know for certain. Requests began to arise

from those who were still evacuated. Our church community immediately responded by delivering a small refrigerator to the Wilkinson's hotel room for Curt's medicine.



Once the firefighters contained the 15,700 acre fire, now the worst in Colorado's history destroying 509 homes, the call went out to help Kim with daily childcare so she could return to work, and High Plains has responded so that all days have been covered except for a few days in outlying weeks in July. If someone is willing to take care of her two children, please call Dianne McRae to coordinate with Kim. As for financial help, Jack McElroy has set up a procedure where members and friends can contribute through the Mountain Desert District UUA fund or directly purchase gift cards through the church. Kim has stated she has already found a town home and plans to move in sometime before school is scheduled to start this coming August. On another good note Julie has stated she has rebuilt and moved back in to her new home and has offered mentoring and expertise for the tragedy. The Latham's also report that their home is livable though they need an occupancy permit.

Let us pray, hope, or find a way that our community does not have to face these raging days anymore.

Events Calendar July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	3	4	5 Stitchers 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Parent/ Child U&I 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	6
7 Sunday Service 10:00 am - 11:00 am	8	9 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	10	11	12 Parent & Child Group 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm High Plain Sisters 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	13
14 Sunday Service 10:00 am - 11:00 am Foster Family Support 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	15	16 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	17 Board Meeting 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	18	19 Stitchers/Hands 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Hip Parents Group 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	20 Issues on Aging 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
21 Sunday Service 9:00 am - 10:00 am	22	23 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	24	25	26	27
28 Sunday Service 10:00 am - 11:00 am	29	30 Meals on Wheels 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	31			

Be sure to check the Events Tag on the website at www.hpcuu.org for additions and corrections to the calendar.

Upcoming Services

Note: Sunday, July 21, the service will start at 9:00 am, so that congregants can participate in the LGBT PRIDE Parade, which starts at 11:00 am. The line-up for the parade is at 10:30. Please contact Bob Nemanich (bobsue_nemanich@msn.com) to participate.

July 7: *"Your Brain On Narrative"* by Rev Steve Alsum - How stories affect the minds, and brains, of the listeners.

Rev. Alsum is a chaplain at Pikes Peak Hospice.

July 14 *"Slam Poetry"* by the talented artists who performed at the May Day Carnival who return to share the power of story in slam poetry style.

**July 21
9:00 am** *"The Paradox of Inequality and the Paradox of Welcome."* by Amanda Udis-Kessler - Join Amanda for an exploration of how homophobia works, what stories have to do with it, and what it all means for a congregation that seeks to be fully welcoming.

Amanda Udis-Kessler, PhD, is a member of High Plains Church, and Director of Assessment and Program Review at Colorado College.

July 28: *"Lo, Though I Walk Through the Valley"* by Rev. Dr. Matthew Johnson-Doyle - In a good story, heroes begin with high hopes, but are laid low - by fate, by the gods, by their own errors, by chance. Then, somehow, they come again to life. How, in our own lives and in the lives of our churches, do we walk through the valley of death and come into stronger life?

Rev. Dr. Johnson-Doyle is Senior Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church, Rockford, IL. He is the father of two (ages six and three), a third-generation Unitarian Universalist, an active social justice and denominational leader, and the author of "Newborn Bards: A Theology of Preaching for Unitarian Universalists." He served as the minister of High Plains Church, UU, from 2003-2008.



Minister's Musings

by Rev Beatrice Hitchcock

What Does It Mean to Live a Life of Story?

The worship and Soul Matters theme for the month of July is STORY. Our lives are made up of stories. Some of our stories are a part of the inheritance we talked about last month. Other stories change over time.

The stories we tell about ourselves, or just believe, without ever speaking out loud, are strong determining factors in our present and future lives.

There was a time when I thought I would never have my deepest longing fulfilled; I would never have a baby. My daughter Elizabeth was born when I was forty years old, and that change in my story gave me such deep confidence in life, and my ability to make my dreams come true, that the next year, Jim and Elizabeth and I took a trip to Scotland. Scotland had been on my wish list for more than twenty years, but it took a change in my story to make it happen.

Two of my favorite books when I was growing up were *Little Women* and *Little Men*, by (Unitarian) Louisa May Alcott. I saw myself in Jo, the tomboy heroine, and Meg, the loving young wife. Before my Elizabeth was born, I envisioned her as Beth, the sweet one, always thinking of others. I was surprised to find that she was more like a cross between Jo and Amy. I had the wrong story-line for her, and I had to adjust my thinking accordingly, in order to be a good a parent.

Our religious inheritance as heretics is because of our ability to see a different story. When the church fathers

decided on the doctrine of the trinity in 325 CE, they made all other stories heretical. And the early Christian belief in God as a single unity and Jesus as the son of God, which is the basis of Unitarianism, was denounced. But seekers through the centuries have found this same story in the pages of the Christian scriptures, whether the Church approved of it or not.

The same thing is true of Universalist beliefs. Many early Christians believed in a loving God who would not condemn anyone to perpetuity in hell. The Roman Catholic Church declared this belief to be heretical in 544 CE, but it resurfaced again and again, and following the Protestant Revolution, universal salvation became the basis for the Universalist religion. Today even the Roman Catholic Church allows for the possibility that all may be saved.

Of course, Unitarians and Universalists, and now, Unitarian Universalists, have changed their beliefs and stories many times over the years. This is what makes up our living tradition – the ability to keep what is good and true in our stories, and revise them as we add knowledge and understanding of the ever-changing world in which we live. So this month, in sermons and in Soul Matters, you'll look at your own stories – those that have stayed the same, those that have changed over time, and those that need to change.

May you be the creators of your own blessed stories.
Beatrice

Minister's Schedule

I will be on vacation with my family in Alaska during the month of July, returning on July 31. I will be available by cell phone and email. Please keep in mind that my family homestead is off the electric grid, so checking email requires ensuring that the windmill has powered the batteries, or the generator is running, and that our problematic DSL line is functioning, so I will not be online every minute of every day, or even once a day. The best way to reach me will be by phone: 907 841-0738.

The Rev. Nathan Mesnikoff, HPC Community Minister, will be available in case of pastoral emergency:
mesnikoff@gmail.com.

The President's Post

by Jim Montgomery

First I would like to thank the Members of High Plains Church Unitarian Universalist for trusting me to be their board president for the coming year. I can only hope to be able to lead our church as ably as our outgoing president Danielle Heimer. Also leaving the board are Joe Nerad and Al Sly whose dedication to our church has been manifested over and over during their past two years of service on the board. We know that we will be able to count on their continued help in the future. I will be joined by Glynn Carter and Eddy Lieberman as the new members of the board and we will combine our efforts with the ongoing board members Kelly Ghorashi, Cindy Fesgan, and Jack McElroy to help steer the church thru the coming year.

By the time you read this the new and old board will have met for a short retreat to start to map out some

strategies that we can follow in the coming years. We need to resolve our debt/income problems. That is, we need to either raise more money or find a way to retire a substantial amount of our debt. We also need to put together a plan to find ministerial help for the 2014-2015 church year and beyond. As Rev Beatrice and Tim Oliver said in a recent service, we need to embrace change and begin to grow our church into the vibrant congregation we all want.

In future posts I will keep you informed on all pending decisions so that we can all will have a voice in our emerging congregation.

Jim Montgomery
President of the Board of Trustees

Make your Monthly Pledge Payments Electronically

If you don't already participate in the electronic funds transfer program for monthly pledge payments at church, please consider doing so. Under this program, you authorize the church to transfer funds for your pledge payment each month from your bank account to the church's account. High Plains has offered this payment option for seven years, and about a third of church members take advantage of it. The program is great for the church because it helps to make revenues constant and predictable, like many of our expenses. It's great for you because you don't have to remember to write a check every month—you just fill out a form one time, and the treasurer does the rest.

If you are interested in participating, or if you have questions, please talk to the church treasurers, Janet Oliver or Meighan Powell, or just look in the "finance procedures" binder on the church secretary's desk and find a blank form, fill it out, and give it to Janet or Meighan or leave it in the treasurer's mailbox at church. The forms are entitled "Direct Answers to Questions about Electronic Contribution" and are located in one of the inside cover pockets of the notebook. Any time that you wish to change an existing payment amount or discontinue payments, use the same form.

High Plains Stitches

Bring your stitching project (or any easily transportable craft) and join us at La Tartine at 1420 Kelly Johnson Blvd, 80920. This location has a full lunch menu as well as beverages and yummy pastry items. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. And if you don't have any stitching or crafting, come anyway and just "hang out" with us!

Stitchers donated a number of blankets this past month - to our Office Assistant who had a baby, to a cancer patient in the congregation, and to Black Forest Fire victims.



Questions? Contact Janet at
stitchers@hpcuu.org



Dollars & Sense

by Jack W. McElroy

“Money has everything to do with religion, with the choices that we make about how to be in relationship with ourselves, our neighbors, and with the divine. Religion is about life, and life, it seems, has a whole lot to do with money.”

Lynn Ungar

Black Forest Fire Victim Donations:

The response to the request for donations from HPCUU members and friends was terrific. We received total donations of \$2,841, including \$753 for 4th Sunday recipient Pikes Peak Community Fund. Thank you to all who donated not only cash but an assortment of other useful items. More thanks to those of you who opened your homes to those who were displaced by the fire.

Year End Closing Reminders:

June 30 is the last day of the church's fiscal year. If you have any receipts or other requests for reimbursement for items that occurred in the fiscal year just ended, please turn them in as soon as possible. Request for Reimbursement forms are available at the Finance Desk in the in box. (Note: If there is only one form remaining, please copy 20 additional forms. The person who needs a form after you will appreciate you doing so.)

Donations received from donors whose FY 2012/13 pledge commitment has not been fulfilled will be applied to that balance unless the donor stipulates otherwise.

Feedback Request:

For the past three years I have attempted to provide more transparency with respect to HPCUU's financial performance information. The primary vehicle for providing information on an ongoing basis has been through a monthly posting in the church newsletter. I realize that not everyone is interested in keeping up with the church's finances. However for those of you who are I would like to provide information that is useful. Any feedback that you provide would be appreciated.

Cash Position:

At May 31, High Plains had a cash balance of \$45,567, a decrease of \$4,178 from June 30, 2012. The May 31 cash balance included \$5,133 of unrestricted cash, which was slightly more than the amount needed to cover May payroll items paid in early June. Throughout the last three months a number of payments have been delayed to avoid the application of restricted cash to the general operations of the church and/or golf operation. The lack of funds has also restricted the amount and variety of scrip cards available.

Temporarily Restricted Cash at April 30, 2013 includes the following:

Capital Fund Drive	35,181	This fund is expected to be fully depleted by June 2014.
Youth Travel Fund	1,631	
Playground	61	
Aesthetics	1,561	
Boiler Fund	<u>2,000</u>	Fund to provide for major property repairs/renovations.
Total Restricted	<u>40,434</u>	
	=====	

All questions or comments regarding HPCUU financial issues may be directed to cfo@hpcc.org.

If you are a member in good standing and would like to receive a copy of the most recent financial schedules (May), you may request by email. Statements shall be provided via email.

Portions of this column are taken from the Financial Report to the Board of Trustees, prepared June 12. Upon request, again by email, any member in good standing may receive the full report.

UUA General Assembly

By Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock

At this writing, I have just returned from Ministry Days and the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly (GA) in Louisville, Kentucky. What a time it has been: worship and workshops, plenary sessions and social witness, music and networking! There is always too much to do, too many choices, and too little time for it all. I have returned with a full heart and head, with books to read and share, and stories that will no doubt be woven into services in the months ahead.

I will list some of the events I attended, in case you'd like to know more... "When 'Spiritual But Not Religious' Is Not Enough," a keynote speech by the Rev. Lillian Daniel. "What Young Adults Look for In a Congregation." "Navigating Cultural Differences We Never Knew We Had." "Beyond Contentment: Motivating Members to Do More." The Ware Lecture: "Standing Your Sacred Ground," with American Muslim and interfaith activist Eboo Patel. "Rock the Ribbon: Reengaging As a Welcoming Congregation." "Expecto Patronum: Youth Pop Culture and Social Change."

I brought back many books, some new, some replacing books I have loaned and lost. All will be available for check-out from my personal library, although some will be loaned out to specific groups or people first...

From the UUA... *Fulfilling the Call: A Model for UU Ministry in the 21st Century*. And, *Who's In Charge Here?: The Complex Relationship Between Ministry and Authority*.

Beyond Fundraising: A Complete Guide to Congregational Stewardship, by Wayne Clark.

War Zone Faith: An Army Chaplain's Reflections from Afghanistan, by George Tyger.

Fluent in Faith: A Unitarian Universalist Embrace of Religious Language, by Jeanne Harrison Nieuwejaar.

When "Spiritual But Not Religious" Is Not Enough: Seeing God in Surprising Places, Even the Church, by the Rev. Lillian Daniel.

Growing a Beloved Community: Twelve Hallmarks of a Healthy Congregation, by Tom Owen-Towle.

Coming of Age: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations, and Readings on Growing Up, edited by Edward Searl.

Saving Civility: 52 Ways to Tame Rude, Crude & Attitude for a Polite Planet, by Sara Hacala.

Christian Voices in Unitarian Universalism: Contemporary Essays, edited by Kathleen Rolenz.

The Seasoned Soul: Reflections on Growing Older, by Eliza Blanchard.

Discovering Kwan Yin, Buddhist Goddess of Compassion: A Path Toward Clarity and Peace, by Sandy Boucher.

I also brought back DVD's for inspiration and education:

Two Who Dared: The Sharp's War, about the minister and his wife who started the Unitarian Service Committee's work in WWII Europe.

From the UUA, *Strengthening Lay & Professional Leadership*. *UU University: "The Emotional Dynamics of Leadership,"* and "Practical Tools for Leadership." *UU University: Leading Change in Your Congregation*. And, *Now is the Time: Leading Congregations into a Multiracial, Multicultural Future*.

And from the UU Minister's Association (UUMA), "Spiritual Teaching," from the Rev. Dr. Roberta Nelson. And, the Berry Street Lecture 2012, with Rev. Fred Muir.

All this learning and excitement culminated in a long day's drive back from Louisville with DFF Jessica Laike and four of your amazing Colorado Springs YRUU youth. You can be very proud of your youth, who participated in worship services, youth caucuses, and workshops. Jessica Laike and Kendra B. gave up their time to rehearse and sing in the GA choir, and Elizabeth H. was part of the closing ceremonies.

If you would like to cancel your printed newsletter subscription or otherwise wish to be removed from the mailing list, please send street, email, phone, and address corrections to the HPCUU office. The pdf newsletter can be downloaded from www.hpcuu.org or received in an email by subscribing to the newsletter mailing list. To subscribe to the mailing list, contact the office at office@hpcuu.org or newsletters-subscribe@hpcuu.org

High Plains Church—Unitarian Universalist Board of Trustees Minutes June 12, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm with the following people present:

Danielle Heimer, Kelley Ghorashi, Jack McElroy, Cindy Fesgen, Beatrice Hitchcock, Eddy Lieberman, Joe Nerad

Minister's Report

Offer regular opportunities for conversation with congregation

Team on Ministry - not a support for the minister but should be the group to be the conflict resolution group for the church.

Looking at how to gather this team together again.

The council will have a focus on the new mission statement with an example for the teams to model.

Small Group Ministry for Social Action will work with Habitat for Humanity in August.

A Suggestion was made to the board for HPCUU to join a website to promote church with spiritual seekers with our FF adult classes. Perhaps out of Program budget.

New Tables have been provided for displaying materials.

The website is still under construction.

We need to try to get the ushers to come in early to tidy the sanctuary and shovel snow as needed.

Our cleaner is not regularly cleaning on Saturdays so Jonathan needs to touch base with them. Options were discussed.

Possibility of starting an Ad Hoc Team to look into rental ideas.

Perhaps have publicity draft a letter to high schools about renting our space for prom.

A suggestion was made to create a Planned Giving (endowment type) team.

We plan on participating in a curriculum for HS Seniors on bridging with All Souls.

Office assistant proposal - share the office assistant with All Souls because we have had three office assistants in a year.

Discussion on the idea was positive. The board empowered Beatrice and Jessica to pursue sharing the office administrator.

Worship Team - things are going well

Beatrice and Nancy encourage on-going Board education.

RE Team still needs another person

Jessica suggested offering the Leadership class through adult RE in six weeks

There is a possibility of being able to getting a half time developmental minister through the district.

We will have the district consultant come and talk to us all about the possibility of developmental minister through the district and other models for part time ministry.

Stewardship conference is in the fall and Beatrice/Nancy recommends a stewardship consultant for us. Do small group dinners vs individual visits at this time for stewardship. We need to help find a good assistant to help Kelly the next year and be trained to take over the following year.

Idea shared about getting the debt down campaign. Consult with Kelly on timing of these ideas.

Soul Matters getting going.

Mission statement was approved unanimously.

90% of congregation was willing to change and grow.

It was a positive sign that a few were honest about not being willing to grow.

Perhaps reconsider having a yard sale. Discussion centered on who to find to help. Kelley Ghorashi suggested doing our sale at a church member's home in the Windjammer area. It is huge sale attended by thousands of people.

DFE Report

A discussion on the fundraising monies from the FF fundraiser was held.

Jack explained that our practice has been that all fundraisers go directly into the general fund. Jessica explained that she thought the FF fundraising carried over into FF for the next year.

Jack moved that the board approve \$750 for a restricted account for FF based on the amount left from FF fundraising income.

Danielle seconded. Four yeas. One nay. Motion carried. Further discussion and development of a specific fundraising policy will take place in July.

Jessica suggested that funds generated from the adult RE classes might be used to pay her or other experts to teach the classes. We discuss it further in July.

August 18 will be the first day of RE classes.

OWL K-1, one here, one at All Souls, and one fall, one winter; eighth grade OWL, SR high OWL (10-12) and Coming of age (9th grade) will also be held. OWL Training will be held in August.

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Finance - the data on the Scrip has been off but Jack is checking into it. He will be double checking the numbers. Gerry Stryker has volunteered to do an audit for us at the end of the year. Jack's goal is to look at other ways of doing finance to be sure we are efficient. He will ask the leadership team to find his replacement and begin working with that person in April.

Golf course was break even until this month. They were over because of essential maintenance.

Leadership Transition - an early board retreat will be on Saturday, June 29 from 9:00-1:00 Jim Montgomery's House. Bring resources to share.

Follow up - we have begun conversation with the membership about ministry options

Danielle talked to leadership development about recruiting people in the fall.

Still need to get a contact info sheet during the service for people to fill out to update the church directory and so we have cell phone numbers during emergencies.

Council will meet on Sunday, June 23 to discuss the mission will be supported by each team. Come up with something in writing.

Budget allocations to teams will be discussed.

Communication items -

The letter to the Meismanns regarding the piano will be resent via certified mail and we will ask for a response by the end of June.

Changes to Joys and Sorrows

Coming in August

Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock

Over the past year, I have worked with the Worship Team to find a way to make spoken Joys and Sorrows fit better into the spirit of the worship service. Worship is supposed to serve the gathered community, and when elements are used by individuals for their own purposes, the community suffers.

Some of the information shared in Joys and Sorrows is important for the community to know, in order to "nurture a loving, respectful religious community." But the form of spoken Joys and Sorrows is not the only way that information can be conveyed.

Starting in August, spoken Joys and Sorrows will be reserved for special occasions. Those wishing their church community to know about births, deaths, illness and injury, marriage and divorce, and other matters of concern to all, are asked to email the Caring Team at caring@hpcuu.org before Sunday morning, or to write their joy or sorrow in the journal provided on the table in the social room by the shoji screens. Please note that the journal will be taken to the pulpit approximately five minutes before the service begins.

Joys and Sorrows will then be shared during the Pastoral Prayer or Meditation/Prayer. Permission to use the names of individuals will be assumed, unless no name is given or permission to use a name is expressly denied.

I appreciate your willingness "to change in order to grow." The Caring Team (caring@hpcuu.org) and Worship Team (worship@hpcuu.org) are interested in your response to these changes.

New Mission Statement Adopted!

By Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock

At the annual business meeting of High Plains Church, on June 9, the members of HPC voted unanimously to adopt a new Mission Statement.



Nurture • Inspire • Act

The mission of High Plains Church, Unitarian Universalist, is to Nurture a loving, respectful religious community, Inspire spiritual growth, and Act for social justice.

Nurture! Inspire! Act! Congratulations! You have adopted a mission statement with a real mission to it. Many thanks to the Mission Discovery Team who shepherded the process: Betty Davis, Larry Sargent, Samantha Sly, John Ekhaml, and Amy Plapp.

At that same meeting, the members were asked to consider what they were willing to do to aid the future of High Plains Church. Knowing that they were being asked to agree to do something before they knew what that "something" is, 90% of those present were brave enough to say they are willing "to change in order to grow."

Each team and group will have to consider what that means for them. My metaphor is that of quilt-making, in the old-fashioned way, in which old clothing, curtains, etc., are refashioned into something new and beautiful. Take the strongest and most colorful pieces of what you already have, and envision how they can be reshaped into a large, warm, welcoming, vibrant quilt, big enough to enfold all who are still to come to High Plains Church.

Let's Get Personal

Writing Your Stories

By Gretchen Cutts



- Write your memories
- Record family stories before they're lost
- Capture your own history
- Create an heirloom

Not a writer? That's okay. We promise to show you some tricks to set you toward your goal, whether it's one treasured story or a book full of memories.

Three Thursdays in September:
12th, 19th and 26th. 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
At High Plains Church, 1825 Dominion Way. Open to all.

Entire course for only:
\$15 High Plains members,
\$18 non-members.

Pre-registration with deposit required.
Maximum participants 12.
Contact: GretchenSCutts@aol.com. 719-534-0387.

Facilitator Gretchen S. Cutts is a former magazine and newspaper columnist, editor and author, with both training and experience in writing memoirs.

Peace Camp

By Lori Sly



Peace Camp 2013 is scheduled for Monday through Friday, July 15-19 at Beth-El Mennonite Church. Peace Camp is an exciting alternative summer day camp immersing kids in the basics of peace, justice and

sustainability. Children ages 6-13 will choose different crafts and projects every day to focus on Peace with Self, Peace with Neighbors, Peace with the Earth, Peace with the World, and Becoming Peace Builders. There's also an enchanting overnight campout Friday night at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp--parents can join the fun or pick up children Saturday afternoon. Tuition is \$125. A lower tuition and bigger role in mentoring is available for kids older than 13 who want to be counselors in training. To get more information or to register, visit www.ppjpc.org/programs/peace-camp.

If other High Plains members would like to assist with peace camp planning and execution, contact Lori Sly at sly.lori@gmail.com.

PrideFest 2013

By Bob Nemanich

High Plains Church will again celebrate and participate in Colorado Springs Pridefest this coming July 20th and July 21st (Saturday and Sunday), this year held at America the Beautiful Park located on the west end of downtown Colorado Springs. High Plains will partner with All Soul's Unitarian Universalist Church at the festival sharing an information booth throughout the weekend and joining together during the parade on Sunday. This year the parade has been moved up one hour commencing at 11:00 am. Our Worship Service will be moved up one hour to 9:00 am and the service will be led by our own Amanda Udis-Kessler. Those wanting to participate in the parade will congregate near Tejon and Cache La Poudre Streets by 10:30 am. Plans are still being made for a float and our participation in the parade. We have volunteers to maintain the information booth on Saturday but still need at least two or three volunteers for Sunday. Volunteer times are 10:00 am to Noon, Noon to 2:00 pm, and 2:00 pm to close, estimated to be around 5:00 pm. Booth volunteers will be teamed with an All Soul's Church volunteer and provide festival goers with information about our churches and services.

This year's theme is 'Summer of Love' and will celebrate Colorado's historic Civil Union Law which allows same-sex partnerships to receive state benefits and rights just like traditional married couples. Subsequently to the Supreme Court's decision regarding DOMA, there is still much to be done for our LGBT brothers and sisters to receive Federal benefits in Colorado. Come join us in this movement for equality and love on July 20th and July 21st. You can find all festival and parade information including parking, entertainment and family fun at the Pridefest website here: <http://www.cospride.org/index.php/en/pride-fest> To volunteer at the festival for High Plains Church contact Bob Nemanich at bobsue_nemanich@msn.com or 719-375-3000

Can We Retrain Our Brains to be Happier?

The Issues on Aging discussion group will meet on Saturday, July 20 from 10:30 - noon in the Middle School classroom behind the church. Betty Davis will lead us in a discussion of how we might retrain our brains to be happier. It has been proven that human brains are surprisingly more adaptable than doctors and scientists once believed. Come find out about some techniques for increasing your emotional well-being. The answers can be surprisingly simple. For more information on this group, contact Sue Newfeld (260-9625) or Betty Davis (471-7544).



HPCUU

1825 Dominion Way
Colorado Springs CO 80918

High Plains Church 719-260-1080
Unitarian Universalist

Member of Unitarian Universalist Association

Sunday Services at 10:00 AM

Come Join Us!

Inside:

**New President's Post
CFO Report**

Board Minutes

Send Comments to: editor@hpcuu.org
Send Articles to: newsletter@hpcuu.org

**Please submit your articles for the August newsletter
by July 26, 2013**

ReVISIONS by Jonathan

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