

Borderlands Unitarian Universalist Congregation

February, 2025



Endowment Committee Issues Updated Report

REVIEW: The Borderlands Endowment Policy was revised in April 2024 to allow for a distribution of 4% of the Schwab Endowment fund each year for the following purposes:

- The wider mission of the Unitarian Universalism
- Capital Improvement to Borderlands Facilities
- Outreach to the Community
- Borderlands Leadership Development
- Ministerial and staff training and development

The first year distribution amount for FY 2024-202 (July 1, 2024 - 2025) was \$52,162 The report on the distribution projects as of January 2025 is below.

PROJECT	AMOUNT	SPONSORS	AMT SPENT	STATUS
A/C Unit in Office	10,163	Deanna Brooks	-0-	Dropped. Unit Repaired
Solar Investigation	5,000	Jim Lund/Carol Hoy	-0-	Ready to Begin
Food and Drink Service	2,000	Deb Mitchell	2,600	Complete
Master Plan To Study Interior	15-20,000	Deb Mitchell	-0-	Postponed
Replace Garden Fence	15-20,000	Ken Lopez	On Budget	In Progress

More on Endowment on Page Two

OPPORTUNITY: At the January 16th, 2025, Endowment Committee the 4% distribution amount for FY year 2025-2026 is \$62,299 was approved. If you have a project or idea that meets the qualifications above consider developing a project proposal. Proposal deadline is February 28, 2025. The form for submitting proposals follows this article. Submit your proposals to: officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com. Proposals will be reviewed by the Endowment Committee for submittal to the Board at their March 2025 meeting.

What happens to unspent funds:

If projects are not completed and distributed funds remain, the Endowment Policy specifies 50% of remaining funds will be returned to the Schwab Endowment Fund and 50% will be allocated to a newly created Emergency Maintenance Fund. The Endowment Fund Policy is on the Borderlands Web page, Members only borderlandsuu.org For discussion or information about the Endowment Fund speak with Endowment Committee members John Peyton, Jack Martin, Barbara Lund or Michael Karl, President of the Board.

Please find below the form with which to apply for Endowment Funds

Borderlands Unitarian Universalist
Fiscal Year 20____ to 20____

****Request for Withdrawal of Distributable Endowment Funds****

To: Chair, Board of Directors _____

Requested By: _____ (print) Request

Date: _____

Criteria for Request – (per BUU Endowment Policy, Article IV)

_____ A. Capital improvements or repairs to the building and grounds, not included in the operating budget

_____ B. Outreach to the community, such as grants to UU camps and conferences, theological schools, local social service agencies or institutions.

_____ C. The wider mission of Unitarian Universalism, such as professional leadership, world missions, etc.

_____ D. UU related leadership conferences or such training experiences.

_____ E. Ministerial and staff training and development.

1). Purpose of request (check line(s) A-E of above criteria) and describe.

Revelations

By Jan Lathrop

You've seen and heard her in the BUU Choir, and she gave a BUU Forum last year to share with us her career as a globe-trotting stewardess and airline purser. Leslie Militzer has been involved as a Friend of the BUU community for just over two years; when asked about her spiritual journey, she simply says, "I don't think I have much of a spiritual journey. Music is my religion."

She began attending BUU after her niece Alexandra (Alex) and Sonya invited her to Peter Ronstadt's concert at BUU a couple of years ago.

Leslie recalls, "My family had all kinds of religions, and they were all radical. When I say radical, I mean both liberal and conservative. To me they were all radical, which is too much on either side or the other. I guess that's what brought me to the UUs."

Born in Pasadena, California, Leslie was brought up in a home by parents from the Great Plains influenced by Tent Revivalists. Her paternal grandfather was a Quaker, her mother's father was a Baptist, some aunts and uncles were Catholic and Jehovah Witness. Her parents became Mormon when she was a teenager. The family also included Evangelicals "who we affectionately called Holy Rollers because we didn't know what church they actually had," she says.

"It was a hodgepodge of everything, and the more radical the better so there were great disputes among the siblings as to whose religion was correct," she recalls. "Mom didn't go to church, but listened to evangelists on the radio, so that was part of the background at home growing up. So I don't have a spiritual journey but a long knowledge of religious tension and how deeply held the differences can be."

Leslie began singing in a choir when she was 4 or 5 years old at a Presbyterian church. In her Pasadena neighborhood in the 1940s, Mexican Catholics on their way to church down the street were prohibited by their priest from walking near or on the same side of the street as the Presbyterian church. Singing with others drew the young Leslie to attend the Presbyterian church regularly.

She reflects, "I grew up with my own sense of right and wrong, true and false, good and bad, and it

didn't matter what others thought. It mattered what I perceived as correct, and how people get along.

So I can sing a song that has the word God in it without being offended."

"I was born into a world at war, in 1941, the world was in the process of blowing itself up," she states. "That's where I started on this planet. The family briefly moved north to "gold rush country," she notes, but by the time Leslie was in high school, they were back in a Pasadena suburb.



Leslie Militzer at 16

She started college at Brigham Young University after her parents converted to Mormonism. But she didn't stay long, "because it was a marriage mill, and I didn't want to live in Utah and be a Mormon wife."

Her brother had married a woman who was a United Airlines stewardess. Leslie says, "I thought, 'I've never been on an airplane but I can do that.' I interviewed at American, TWA and United and had three totally different experiences. American was not interested, TWA sent me to Kansas City on my first flight ever but didn't hire me. United hired me the first day. I was always the same person but I had three different experiences."

After two years with United, Leslie became a flight attendant for Pan American Airlines and stayed 23 years, living in Manhattan and flying out of Newark.

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Leslie Militzer - Continued

She met her husband, Gyuszi, or George, a Hungarian architect and industrial designer, on a flight; they spent 40 happy years together without practicing a religion, Leslie notes.

After Gyuszi's death, she says, "I looked for things to heal myself. One of the things was singing. I wanted to be around people who were positive. I didn't want anything negative at all. And if you're singing you can't be negative."

In her 60s by now, she also started learning Xi Gong meditation and studying ancient Chinese medicine based on Taoist philosophies. She found a group of naturopathic doctors, acupuncturists and other healers. "Everyone in the group were healers, acupuncturists, naturopathic doctors. I was their empty cup, I knew nothing. It was a very good experience and very interesting. So I had two basic things to heal myself - music and Xi Gong," she says.



Leslie today, with the smile lines from a life well lived.

On the musical side, Leslie sang for 20 years with a 100-plus-member Methodist choir and 30-piece orchestra. "It was a very big deal," she recalls. They sang a lot of Classical and Baroque music, Latin masses, requiems, cantatas, and other sacred music in Latin, German and French.

She also sang in a small combo in San Diego for a few years, sometimes playing rhythm guitar.

Here in Green Valley, Leslie says, "Right now I'm singing in three different choirs, each a different kind of music and I'm really enjoying it." In addition to the BUU choir, you can hear Leslie singing in the Green Valley Community Chorus and in the Tubac Center for the Arts.

***Only Few Days Left to Donate/Bid
For Borderlands Annual Auction***

We are in need of donations, especially events, outings and services. We are about 55% of where we need to be in terms of donations. February 4 is the last day to donate and bidding closes online on February 7 at noon. Please enter your items online. If you need help with add a picture, email auctionbuu@gmail.com

BUY YOUR SOUP DINNER TICKETS!

Bring cash or check to buy your tickets (\$15) during coffee hour. The dinner will be Saturday, February 8th at the church. Doors open at 4 p.m. Dinner served at 5 p.m. Winners may pick up items. LIVE auction of a few items at the end of the dinner. You may also purchase your dinner tickets online before February 5.

BID NOW!

Some items have a BUY-IT-NOW price...so get in early. We are only 10% toward meeting our goal...so now is the time. Cash donations also welcome...or think about being a matching donor with as little as \$50.

Questions? Ask during coffee hour or email auctionbuu@gmail.com

Diana King and Deb Mitchell are seeking understudies for doing the auction next year. It's a great project to be a part of and we'll be available for support as needed. It is a job that is concentrated in about six weeks and then you are done. Let's talk more about what's involved. Email us at auctionbuu@gmail.com

Metaphors, Semaphores, And Two - By - Fours:

By Randy Lynn Mitchell

Hope and Fear

“We can live in fear or act out of hope.” (John Hiatt)

Which do you wear – the Cape of Good Hope or Cape Fear?

Are you motivated by hope or by fear? Do you motivate others by hope or by fear? It’s a question I’ve asked others and myself on numerous occasions. The answer is perhaps one of the most important things you can know about yourself and others.

There are religions based on hope and religions based on fear – inspiration or condemnation. I grew up in a religion of fear; I migrated to a religion of hope. A minister once told me, “If my family is in the basement, I can shut off the lights, slam the door, and scare them upstairs. Or I can say to them, come up and see the wonderful banquet that’s been laid out for you.” That type of ministry appealed to me.

There are relationships based on hope and relationships based on fear – trust or suspicion. I grew up in a family of fear; I’ve built my own family of hope. I have tried to be a trustworthy father, my wife has been a trustworthy mother, and our children have flourished in the belief that their parents believe in them. We hope that our trust is so strong that it will overcome the missteps, mistakes, and misunderstandings that come with life.

There are organizations based on hope and organizations based on fear – persuasion or control. These might include churches, workplaces, civic organizations, clubs, teams, and even neighborhoods. Some groups operate exclusively by threat, intimidation, secrecy, or power. I want to be a part of organizations that operate through inspiration, collaboration, openness, and influence. There may still be missteps, mistakes, and misunderstandings, but a bad day in a hopeful environment beats the best of days in fearful environments.

Fear may be effective in the short term. You can scare people into doing just about anything — for a while. But resistance eventually begins to grow:

passive, aggressive, or passive-aggressive. Sooner or later, people find the bully’s weaknesses. Perhaps a bigger bully comes along. Short-term gains turn into long-term barriers; motivation by fear breeds contempt.

Hope is more effective in the long term. Inspired people are capable of doing just about anything – and for a long while. The positive energy eventually begins to grow: *self actualizing, and self-sufficient.* Sooner or later, people find their hopes being realized. Perhaps bigger hopes come along. Long-term gains turned into long-term possibilities; motivation by hope breeds opportunity.

Hope. Such a hopeful word. Some call it faith or belief; others call it optimism or desire. “Hope springs eternal,” Alexander Pope surmised several hundred years ago. Hope is not an empty emotion or an effortless wish; hope requires commitment, purpose, and action. Hope gives you something constructive to do with your energy. Hope gives you strength; fear takes it away.

My opening quote above from singer/songwriter John Hiatt makes an interesting proposition. Living in fear is passive. Acting out of hope is active. I’ll end this essay with a few reflection questions. I **hope** they will be helpful.

-What are your hopes and fears, and with whom do you share them?

-How do hope and fear affect your interactions with those around you?

-What steps can you take to maximize hope and minimize fear in your life?

-What makes you choose or continue on the path you’ve chosen?

-What does your religion offer in the way of inspiration or condemnation?

Who's Who in the UU

By Riki Renfro

January 1 brought us 2025 as a New Year and January 3 brought us a new 119th Congress.

There were four Unitarian Presidents: John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Millard Fillmore, and William Howard Taft; but who are today's UU's in the federal government? Pew Research reported that there are three members of Congress who identify as being UU's. One does not identify as UU, but does describe himself as a Secular Humanist, so maybe we can count him as almost one of us. None are in the Senate; all three UU's and the Humanist serve in the House of Representatives:

Representative Ami Bera, Democrat, Cal.- UU

Representative Judy Chu, Democrat, Cal. - UU

Representative Jared Huffman, Democrat, California - Secular Humanist

Representative Deborah Ross, Democrat, North Carolina - UU

Representative Ami Bera lives in Elk Grove, California, which is south of Sacramento and where I called home from 1996-2005. He is 59 years old, married with one child, worked as a physician and was the Chief Medical Officer for Sacramento County prior to joining Congress in January, 2013. Representative Bera was born in Los Angeles. His parents immigrated to the United States from India in the 1950's. He attended UC Irvine where he earned his undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences and his graduate degree as Doctor of Medicine.

Representative Judy Chu lives in Monterey Park, California, which is east of Los Angeles. She is 71 years old, married, taught psychology in the Los Angeles Community College District for 20 years, was Mayor of Monterey Park for three terms, and served as President Obama's Secretary of Labor prior to joining Congress in July, 2009. She is the first Chinese-American woman elected to Congress. Representative Chu was born in Los Angeles. Her parents were a Chinese-American WWII veteran born in California and his war bride originally from Jiangmen, Guangdong, China. She attended UC Los Angeles where she earned her undergraduate degree in mathematics and attended California School of

Professional Psychology where she earned her graduate degree as a Ph.D. in Psychology.

Representative Jared Huffman lives in San Rafael, California, which is north of San Francisco.

He is 60 years old, married with two children, worked as a consumer attorney specializing in public interest cases and was a senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council prior to joining Congress in January, 2013. Representative Huffman was born in Independence, Ohio.

His parents raised him in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, which is the second largest branch of the LDS. It is a more liberal movement of the LDS religion and changed its name in 2001 to the Community of Christ. In his late teens, Representative Huffman began to question his faith and eventually became a Secular Humanist. He attended UC Santa Barbara where he earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science and attended Boston College Law School where he earned his graduate degree as a Juris Doctor.

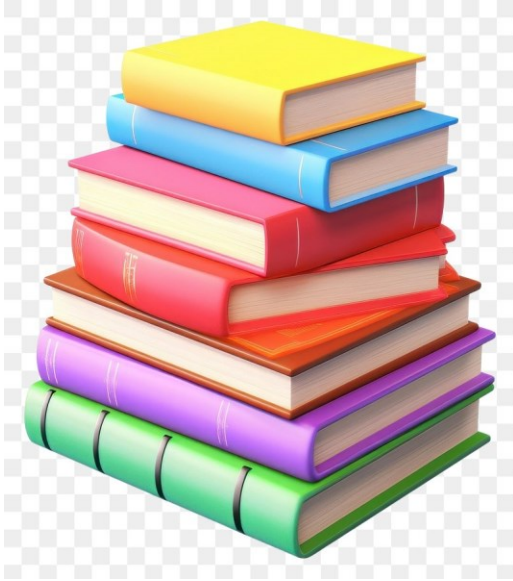
Representative Deborah Ross lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, which is the capital city of North Carolina. She is 61 years old, married, worked as a civil rights lawyer and taught at Duke Law School prior to joining Congress in January, 2021. Representative Ross was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her father was a doctor in the US Air Force and served during the Vietnam era; her mother was a preschool teacher. She attended Brown University where she earned her undergraduate degree and attended University of North Carolina School of Law where she earned her graduate degree as a Juris Doctor.

(References: [pewresearch.org](https://www.pewresearch.org), [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org) for biographical details)



And Another Thing. . . .

Garden Book Club Discussion is February 9



After Sunday Services from 11:30-12:30 discussion will be held outside in the Meditation Garden weather permitting.

Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983

By Barbara Kingsolver

"The women tell remarkable stories of their lives and actions. This book pays powerful tribute to their resolve and passion for economic justice."

Note: Book recommendations for the next series of discussions due by Sunday, February 16. Voting list will be available on the gallery book discussion display table beginning February 23.

Votes due before or at the discussion on March 9.

Give your voted list to Ginny Lopez or put it on the gallery book table. Look for the new book discussion list on the gallery book table on March 16

before our snowbirds migrate north.

Email Ginny with recommendations:

ginny441@comcast.net

February Sunday Services INCLUSION IS THE THEME FOR FEBRUARY

February 2 - What Is Your Corn Husk? – Reverend Inge. There will be a tamale party after the service as a follow up to the Three Kings cake we had after the Epiphany service in January.

February 9 - Inge and Nic Smith will be doing a service honoring several Buddhist holidays that come in February.

February 16 - What the Heck Is Inclusion? A readers theater service featuring inclusion and exclusion as manifested in the history of racial relations in the US from the Constitutional Convention to the present, lay led by Diane Farone.

February 23 - A service initiating the pledge campaign for Fiscal Year 2026, featuring Inge, Tobe Jensen and Martha House.



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Heidrun Kessler	2/03
Barbara Lemmon	2/06
Susan Ammons	2/15
Sandra Rees	2/15
Mary Lou Page	2/17
Beth Fallon	2/19
Art LaFrance	2/26
Dar Goatley	2/29

Who to Contact

BUU Board Members

Michael Karl, Board President; Lorelei Schober, Vice President; Charlie Golec, Treasurer; Mary Arrigoni, Secretary; Members at Large- Tanya Leighton, and Martha House

Committee Chairs

Co ordinating Council – Lorelei Schober; Building and Grounds – Russ Peterson; Membership – Jeanne Macauley; Worship Arts – Diane Farone; Finance – Barbara Lund; Social Justice – Judy Sullivan, Jan Lathrop, David Doyle -Co-Chairs; Endowment- Charles Golec; Lay Pastoral Care- Jean Sillers, Martha House; Book Discussion Group – Ginny Lopez. Gallery Art – Deanna Brooks; Auction – Diana King, Deb Mitchell, Co-Chairs; Forums – David Doyle, Jim Lund – Co Chairs.

Unitel Editorial Committee

Carol Hoy, Editor; Jan Lathrop, Assistant Editor; Martha House, Marilyn Taylor, Riki Renfro.

If you would like to write a letter or offer a submission, you are very welcome. Please send it to uniteleditor23@gmail.com. Deadline is 20th of each month for the monthly Unitel and Tuesday afternoon for the BUU Weekly Messenger.

Submissions to the Order of Service (pre Sunday Service) early Friday morning.

Office Manager: If you wish Jermain to help you with a task, please call and make an appointment with: Jermain Lowe 520-648-0570.

officemanager.borderlandsuu@gmail.com

Office Address: PO Box 23, Amado, 85646

You can now find church information, like our new member information, monthly Unitel, Lay Pastoral Care, sign-up sheets for coffee helpers, greeters and special events in the Fuller Room in the back under the windows. This was implemented in order to make space for the arriving members on Sunday, and give them room to do what BUU members do in a fine, ubiquitous manner – talk.

Amado Youth Center Is February's 50/50 Share

Our February Share the Offering partner is The Amado Youth Center. It was just a year ago they moved from our Fuller Room to their new building next to the Sopori School. The new space has allowed for more family nights and easier after school sessions. There have also been some changes of staff including a new director who we will meet in February.

Amado Youth was founded in 2011 as a drug prevention program aimed at rural youth. Several BUU members provided support and assistance for their start up. The mission of the agency is to help create a safe, drug-free, and healthy environment for all youth, ages 8 to 18, in the Amado area. They currently serve approximately 147 kids and their families.

The Center has been running the after school programs for elementary age and teens for several years. New programs have been added at Continental Elementary School and Sahuarita Middle School. These classes are elective and based on a "Thrive" curriculum, an evidence- based program. All of the Amado Youth programs focus on risk and protective factors that promote positive choices and healthy habits and a drug free life.

Team building exercises stress positive mental health, communication skills, stress management, and drug prevention.

Amado Youth Center needs our ongoing support. They still have building construction costs and are adding new programs. Grants provide staffing and some of the building costs but don't meet the miscellaneous needs of kids like after-school snacks and school supplies and help with a summer camp program.

Half of your donation will go to Amado Youth and half to BUU.

