



April 2023

PUUF is currently offering in-person services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month with an interactive Zoom option for those wishing to participate remotely (link provided below). Meditations are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 9:00 AM. See below for details.

If either the service or the meditation is cancelled due to **winter weather**, a notification will appear on pagosauu.org by 8:30 AM.

COVID Protocol:

Depending on the current recommendations concerning COVID and the comfort level of those in attendance, please be prepared to wear a well-fitting mask while in the building. Social distancing will be encouraged and to that end the maximum capacity of the Fellowship has been reduced to 25, a very good reason for arriving a few minutes early.

Sunday, April 2 10:30 AM

On Zoom and In Person at the Fellowship Hall

Pagosa Is My Name

with Darryl Saffer

April...signs of Spring...the month we celebrate the Earth...

The degradation of our planet can be overwhelming as we are reminded so frequently of its suffering at our hands. Today our message is an audacious celebration of the Earth at its best, at least, in our small portion of it. *Pagosa Is My Name* is a film created by Darryl Saffer. In his words: "As a wildlife filmmaker, there are times when I want to tell a deeper story, one that is more accurately classified as natural history. This is my interpretation of the area where I live through the eyes of the mountains that surround my home, the San Juan Mountains and in particular, Pagosa Peak."

Darryl is a lifelong environmentalist who makes his home here in Pagosa and spends a good portion of his time creating award winning nature films. Diane Cirksema provides the award winning narration. The viewing will be followed by Darryl's commentary. This film won 15 awards on the festival circuit in 2022.

Pagosa Is My Name Awards:

Green Academy Awards, Winner Short Documentary
Frida Film Festival, Best Short Documentary
Paris International Short Festival, Best Documentary Short
Indie Cine Tube Awards, Best Documentary
Cinema Verde, Natural History Award
Sidney Indie Short Festival, Winner Short Documentary

Plus 11 other festival awards including 2 for J. Diane Cirksema's narration.

Also selected for the Florence Film Awards, Hollywood Gold Awards, and live screenings at the Sarasota Film Festival and New York Movie Awards.

Please note: The film is being shown through YouTube and will be viewable to our participants on Zoom.

Sunday, April 16 10:30 AM

On Zoom and In Person at the Fellowship Hall

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County

with Leah Ballard

On Sunday April 16 the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will hear a presentation from the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate through a UU lens.

For nearly 30 years Habitat Archuleta built one home per year. For a long time, the group raised funds for construction, and sold the home to a local workforce family for a price they could afford. The office would even manage its own mortgage loans and track monthly payments as they came in.

With the rising cost of construction, and a growing need for workforce housing and home ownership in our community, things have changed at our small rural Habitat office.

Habitat Archuleta is now in their second year of their current project to build "15 Homes in 5 Years," tripling their capacity. Leah Ballard, the Homeowner Services Coordinator at Habitat Archuleta, will give a personal account of her role on the team, update the community on the 2023 build season, discuss volunteer and donor

opportunities, and explain the 2024 application process, and depict what it might be like to partner with Habitat Archuleta to build a home.

Anyone interested in volunteering, donating, or applying would be welcome to attend.

Leah Ballard has been the Homeowner Services Coordinator at Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County since the spring of 2022. After attending Homebuyer Education firsthand in 2018, Leah decided to pursue a career demystifying creditworthiness. She obtained her NMLS license in 2019 just before hiking the entire Pacific Crest Trail.

Leah then worked in the conventional mortgage world and perfected her file naming conventions, before finding her niche in the non-profit arena. Now her days are filled not only with the puzzle of mortgage loan packaging, but also the dynamic tasks of heralding octogenarian volunteers, huge-hearted subcontractors, and the most vibrant board members and partner families a gal could ask for.

Zoom Instructions:

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305>

Meeting ID: 899 194 1305

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Love, Compassion, Joy and Equanimity: 2nd and 4th Sunday meditation

April 9, 23

Meditation Practice 9-9:45, Dharma talk 9:45-10:15; tea 10:15-10:30

Learn meditation and the purpose of meditation. Cultivate peace of mind and calmness of body. Develop patience, kindness and awareness. Diminish pain, conflict and stress.

Our group leader is a certified meditation instructor, authorized Dharma teacher and long-time student of Khenpo Migmar Tseten, Buddhist Chaplain at Harvard University.

Although we will be practicing traditional Buddhist meditations, one does not have to be Buddhist to benefit from these beautiful practices. Meditation instructions are reviewed every session, so newcomers can learn as those more experienced deepen their practice.

Please bring a blanket and water. Meditation cushions and chairs will be provided. Sessions will begin promptly, please arrive a few minutes early to settle in. For the consideration of others, mask wearing is encouraged.

Suggested donation of \$10-\$20 greatly appreciated, however no-one will be turned away for lack of funds. Meditation instruction itself is always free.

For more information, please email pagosauuf@gmail.com.

Homeless Care Kits

Friend of the Fellowship, Kristen Roth, has taken the initiative to assemble care kits for our homeless population. If you would like to help in this effort, Kristen's suggested care kits for both men and women as well as a resource guide to services within our community can be found using this link:

<https://pagosauu.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/homeless-care-kits.pdf>

UU Book Club

Everyone is welcome to join the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett (UUCG) book club. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 5-7pm on Zoom. This is usually a lively discussion with a diverse range of books. The selection of books is chosen by readers beforehand. January's discussion was *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner. February was *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer (ironically appropriate; this discussion occurred on our epic winter storm with 95mph winds that shut down Wolf Creek, while we sat in our nice warm houses). March was *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. This book club was started many years ago and has evolved into different cities represented and is facilitated by Bonni DeMarco.

Our next meeting is **April 26** and we will discuss *Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspired Story of the Woman Who Saved The Appalachian Trail* by Ben Montgomery.

Gatewood's life was far from easy. In rural Ohio, she managed a household of 11 kids alongside a less-than-supportive husband. One day, at age 67, she decided to go for a nice long walk . . . and ended up completing the Appalachian Trail.

With just the clothes on her back and a pair of thin canvas sneakers on her feet, Grandma Gatewood hiked up ridges and down ravines. She braved angry storms and witnessed breathtaking sunrises. When things got particularly tough, she relied on the kindness of strangers or sheer luck to get her through the night. When the newspapers got wind of her amazing adventure, the whole country cheered her on to the end of her trek, which came just a few months after she set out. A story of true grit and girl power at any age, Grandma Gatewood proves that no peak is insurmountable.

The Zoom link is the 4th Wednesday of the month, 5-7 PM MT. For questions contact Bonni DeMarco at bonnie88@gmail.com or 404-519-3336.

All who have read the book are invited to attend.

Join us via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/144736833>

UU Fellowship of Durango - Sundays, 10:00 AM

You are welcome to join with the congregation of UUFD for their Sunday morning service with this link:

<https://durangouu.org/worship/upcoming-worship-services/>

First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque – Sundays, 9:00 AM

Join with the congregation of First UU of Albuquerque in their Sunday worship service via Zoom at 9:00 AM. Use this link to their website - <https://uuabq.org/sunday-services/> - and click on **Virtual Worship** to link in.

Join us on Facebook – “Pagosa UU Friends”

Anna Ramirez moderates this private Facebook group for PUUF. Join with your friends and engage in conversation about the UU Albuquerque services. You must have a Facebook account first and if you need assistance setting one up, please contact Anna at 970-264-3634, 970-317-4645, or afrancis@hotmail.com. Once you are in Facebook, search for "Pagosa UU Friends," click to Join, and your request will go to Anna. Already in the group? Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/604025339719408/>

Meditation Sangha

Debra Quayle, authorized Tara Mandala teacher in Eugene, OR, is offering an online meditation group suitable for both new and experienced practitioners. Based on Buddhist teachings, this group will consist of a 30-minute dharma talk followed by meditation guidance and a 30-minute practice. If you are interested or have any questions, please email Debra at eugene.or@taramandala.org and she will add you to the group list and send you the Zoom link to connect to the live sessions. This group is offered freely. You may make donations if you wish but it is not required.

Working for Racial Equality (WRE) is a local organization based in Archuleta County. The overarching mission of WRE is to expose racism and take action to stop it. WRE has members who have personally experienced the negative impacts of racism and members who have not. Because these two lived experiences are incredibly different, WRE meetings include 1. Implementation of action items to be part of the leadership of marginalized voices and 2. education about what it means to be an ally. WRE members examine beliefs, fears, and biases that perpetuate racism. Through education, book and article discussions, as well as personal sharing, members explore historical and current racism. Working for Racial Equality meets on Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm, via Zoom. The meetings are open to the public. To get more information and the Zoom link, please email workingforracialequality@gmail.com

Check out WRE: WorkingforRacialEquality.org

On Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/workingforracialequality>

Your Caring Committee

If you would like someone from the Fellowship to call periodically to say "hello" and check-in to see how you're doing and if there's anything you need, please contact Joan Ward with the Caring Committee at joanward@gmail.com or call 970.382.1925 and leave a message. We're here to help!

In Memory

We use this space to honor those loved ones who have passed, whether human or animal. If you would like to honor a passing, please send a photo and memoriam to Karen LeCour at info@pagosauu.org.
