

# HORIZONS Newsletter of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253 September 2008

### Celebration of Life Sundays, 10:30 AM

SEPT. 7: GATHERING THE WATERS: INTERGENERA-TIONAL INGATHERING By Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray This service marks the official beginning of our church year. Ingathering is a time when we join together again in worship, song and celebration and share our hopes and dreams for the coming year. As your new minister, we also honor this beginning of our ministry together. To symbolize the way our community is renewed by our ingathering, and the ways that our lives and stories intertwine in community, we bring water to the ser-

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vice and mingle it together. Everyone is invited to bring a small amount of water that is special or sacred to you, water from your home, water from a special place you visited over the summer, even tears gathered at the loss of a love one. We will pour our individual waters together as a symbol of our gathered community.

Ingathering Service; Special Collection for Knoxville Relief Fund

# SEPT. 14: JUSTICE, COURAGE AND COMMUNITY

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
On Saturday, September 13 we
will memorialize the 45th anniversary of the 16th Street Baptist
Church bombing in Birmingham,
AL. Knowing the capacity of hate
to sew seeds of violence, how can
a strong community encourage us
in our stands for equity and justice.

Teacher Dedication

# SEPT. 21: DOUBT AND DISSENT: A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND FREEDOM

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray Community carries tremendous power for unity and social cohesion. This can be a benefit to society, but it can also be dangerous. "Group mentality" can reinforce boundaries and right relationship, but it can also stir up fear, myopia and xenophobia. Unitarian Universalism is a religious tradition rooted in a commitment to protecting doubt and dissent in religious belief, much like our nation. How are these some of the greatest assests to building the beloved community and how good are we at protecting them?

# SEPT. 28: MEANING OF MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
What compels us to join UUCP?
How does membership in our congregation become an asset in our lives? How does it encourage us to act in the wider community? As we celebrate and recognize members who have joined the church in the last few months, we will have an opportunity to celebrate the value of membership and deepen our commitment to UUCP.

### "The Love that Forgives"

On September 13, UUCP will commemorate the 45th anniversary of the bombing at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama which killed four young women as they prepared for Sunday school. John Henry Waddell, a member of this congregation, created and dedicated memorial statues to these young women, titled "That Which Might Have Been, Birmingham 1963."

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### Minister's Musings

There are times when life presents us with such tragedy that we cannot help but raise our hands in helplessness asking "Why?" At the end of July, we Unitarian Universalists experienced that feeling as we learned that a man struggling with burdens including mental illness and unemployment came into the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Knoxville, TN during a children's performance and began shooting. A letter found in his truck explained that he hated liberals and gays and blamed these groups for his difficulties. Two people, Greg McKendry and Linda Kraeger, were killed and seven others injured. McKendry acted quickly and bravely, tackling the gunman, Jim Adkisson. He and the other church members who acted quickly kept Adkisson pinned to the ground saving countless lives.

This month, on Saturday, September 13th, we will memorialize the 45th anniversary of the church bombing at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. This attack was meant to inspire fear and to protest the segregation of public places, which were some of the first hard won victories of the civil rights movement. The bombing took the lives of four young ladies (ages 11 to 14) who were in the church for a Sunday School class. John Henry Waddell's statue group 'That Which Might Have Been," dedicated to the young women, has had a home here at UUCP for over 40 years.

Beyond these national and historical tragedies, our congregation has experienced personal and tragic losses over the past few months, and the past few years. These are experiences that lead us to ask, "Why on earth do these things happen?" and "How can life, and how can people do these terrible things?"

As your minister, I wish I could offer an easy answer to these questions. I cannot. These are the sufferings of life that humanity has wrestled with throughout the ages. The wrestling did not begin with Job, and it is does not end with us. All I do know, is that in the midst of loss and injustice, there is something saving, something hope giving, something that gives us power not only to respond but to live again—and that is community.

Community has the potential to call us to the best in ourselves. It has the power to remind us that even in our darkest times, life has more to offer us, that there is hope. Of course, community also has the potential to rally us around fear, smallmindedness and hate--essentially the worst in ourselves. Throughout this month, in worship, we will be looking at community--and the ways in which our community can be a place that offers us hope in difficulty, courage in facing injustice, encouragement and challenge in living our beliefs, and an opportunity to deepen our lives.

I am grateful to be joining my life and my ministry with yours. In all the joys and sorrows that life brings, in all the ways that we will come to share celebration and grief, let us remember the goodness and love we find in being together.

Yours, Rev. Susan

# These Unitarian Universalists, whose ashes were interred in the Memorial Garden this month in past years, are still remembered. . .

Warren Herbert Amster Thomas Stephan Kole Arthur Wilfred Olsen Betty K. Irvine William Eugene Swineford Mary Ellen Mussman Sarah Patterson Ingersoll William Blauvelt Bishop Betty Halsema Foley Phillip Kevin Bliklen Julia Michelle Fritts

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### From the Board of Trustees...

### From the President...

This summer has brought excitement and joy at the arrival of our new minister, Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray, and her family, mixed with deep sorrow at the loss of three current or former members and the Knoxville tragedy. The losses remind us of the solace to be found in a religious community—in our beloved community—at difficult and even heart-breaking times. We were particularly fortunate to have Reverend Susan with us at these difficult times with the promise of renewal as well as consolation.

As fall approaches, we are called upon to tend to our community and to our shared ministry with each other and with Reverend Susan, while working to become more effective in the broader community. During September, we have three opportunities to further those goals:

- In-gathering Sunday, September 7, 2008, is our first with Reverend Susan. Donations collected during that service will be forwarded to the Knoxville congregations to assist them in their recovery from this summer's tragic assault.
- The following weekend, UUCP will be hosting a commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the church bombing in Birmingham that resulted in the deaths of the four girls who are the subject of the statuary in our garden—That Which Might Have Been. It is an opportunity to recall the

- hard battles fought to improve civil rights in this country and to champion ongoing struggles for civil rights in our country.
- On Friday, September 19, there will be an all-Congregation meeting facilitated by our District Executive, Ken Brown. The meeting is an opportunity to share feelings about the new ministry we have embarked upon and a chance to share our vision about the shared ministry with Reverend Susan.

As we cope with our personal struggles, may we take the time to renew our commitment to one another, to our beloved community, to our shared ministry with Reverend Susan, and to the broader world. May it be so.

~Susan Carlson, President

# BOARD APPROVES TO OPPOSE PROP 102

The UUCP Board has approved a resolution on behalf of UUCP as a Welcoming Congregation to **oppose** Proposition 102 on November 4, 2008. If approved by Arizona voters, Prop102 will amend the Arizona Constitution by adding:

Marriage - Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.

UUCP will continue active involvement **opposing** Prop 102 from now through the election.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Sunday, September 7, in-gathering gifts will be received for the two congregations who were directly touched by the tragedy in Knoxville. All donations during the Offering (beyond donations designated to fulfill pledges) will be sent to the Knoxville Relief Fund established to bring ministry, spiritual care, and practical financial assistance to those affected.

### Greetings from your Music

### Director!

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

- September 27 Concert of Prayers, UUCP Choir, Europa and of course Santorum (chanting choir) led by Lynne Haeseler and Connie Jahrmarkt.
- Congregation Choir begins August 27th at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars!

### JOIN US!

This choir is open to adults and high school singers. Reading music even at an elementary level is helpful to assure success in this group. We sing challenging music of all genres and in many languages. We rehearse on Wednesdays 7-9pm and sing in Sunday morning services.

### Other music groups:

**Family choir** – open to everyone who likes to sing. We'll rehearse every Sunday right after services starting October 5th.

**Soulful Sundown Band** – singers and instrumentalists -1st Sunday of the month, October-April. Rehearsals at 5pm, Soulful Sundown Service at 6pm.

\*New this year: Small singing ensembles to rehearse at 6pm on Wednesday evenings. I hope we have several groups singing different styles of music. We'll have an organizational meeting September 10th. Let me know if you're interested, and be thinking what styles of music you may want to sing.

Watch my column for rehearsal schedules!

Your musical gifts are always appreciated by members of the congregation.

If you play an instrument I would love to hear from you. It's great to have instrumental accompaniment for hymns, songs and special music in the services. Student musicians are invited to provide music for Children's Worship and advanced student musicians may play/sing for Sunday Services. Please contact me and let me know how you would like to help make our worship more meaningful through music.

# "SOURCES" AT DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

I just received notification from Rev. Ken Brown, our PSWD District Executive, that District Assembly planners have agreed that "Sources," UU Cantata by Jason Shelton, will be presented during DA in Mesa, AZ May 1-3, 2009. I hope you are warming up those vocal chords!

PS If you have my clear plastic bowls with the snap-on blue lids that disappeared when we hosted Valley UU Choir last May, I'd really like them back.

Connie Jahrmarkt musicdirector@phoenixuu.org

### From Your Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Both the Children's Ministry and Adult Religious Education committees met last week; a tremendous energy is emanating from both of these committees as we enter the new program year. The Adult RE program is excited about the wide range of class offerings that nurture our UU identities, as well as our artistic, spiritual and intellectual selves. We will also offer a monthly movie night beginning in October.

The Children's Ministry Committee is geared up for another year of continuing to build on our five pillars of Children's Ministry - Community, Ritual, Education, Worship and Service (CREWS). We have a wonderful team of lead teachers and assistants, as well as a dedicated group of Coming of Age and YRUU advisors.

I encourage you to take an Adult RE class, attend a movie night, or sit-in on a Sunday school class. I have no doubt if you do so, you will find a warm, welcoming place to deepen your connection to all ages in our beloved community.

In faith, Kim St. Clair redirector@phoenixuu.org

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### Adult Religious Education ...



### "To Seek Knowledge in

Freedom..."

# ADULT RE FACILITATORS' ORIENTATION

The Adult RE Committee will hold a course facilitators' orientation at 12 p.m. on Sunday, September 28th. This orientation is for new and returning course facilitators or anyone who might be interested in facilitating an adult course in the future. We will discuss the logistics of leading a UUCP adult course as well as basics of facilitation for the adult learner. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Kim St. Clair at redirector@phoenixuu.org

### UU STUDIES (UUS) PASS NOW ON SALE AT BOOK TA-BLE

Talk about a bargain! Our Adult RE courses usually cost \$10 per course; the purchase of an UUS pass for \$35, however, entitles the holder to unlimited Adult RE courses for the 2008-2009 program year. UUS passes can be purchased at any time during the year.

# ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LINE-UP FOR FALL 2008

**Poetry Patterns** – Jesse Hise, a long-time UUCP member and former high school English teacher, will lead participants through a vari-

ety of poetry "pattern" exercises designed to bring out even the most reluctant poet in everyone!

Facilitator: Jesse Hise.

**Dates & Time:** October 7, 14, 21,

28 at 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Room B

**Fee:** \$10 or presentation of UUS

**Pass** 

"With Purpose and Principle: Essays About the Seven Principles." This course, based on the book of the same name, provides a short history of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Principles and Purposes plus essays on each Principle. This course is a resource for new members and for those seeking insight into this essential piece of living tradition.

Facilitator: Juli Harvey

**Date & Time:** Sundays @ 9:00 a.m., 10/5, 10/12, 10/19 and 10/26.

Location: Room 9.

**Fee:** \$10.00 or presentation of UUS Pass, plus a copy of With Purpose and Principle edited by Edward A. Frost - \$12. (The book is worth the price, even if you do not take this class.)

"Finding Your Religion: When the Faith You Grew Up With Has Lost Its Meaning." Author: Scotty McLennan. McLennan, the inspiration for the character "Reverend Scotty Sloan" in Garry Trudeau's comic strip Doonesbury, is a real-life Unitarian Universalist minister and chaplain at Stanford University. McLennan shares his own and his students' search for a meaningful spiritual life, detailing six stages of faith—Magic, Real-

ity, Dependence, Independence, Interdependence, and Unity.

**Instructor:** David Johnson

**Date & Time:** Sundays @ 9:00

a.m., 11/2, 11/9, 11/16. **Location:** Room 9.

**Fee:** \$10.00 or presentation of UUS Pass (book by Scotty McClellan for

sale at Book Table - \$15.00)

### "Love is the Doctrine of this

### Congregation..."

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- September 7 Intergenerational Service - Ingathering - Bring water from summer travels!
   Nursery open during service;
   12:00 - Sunday School Parent Orientation - Sanctuary
- September 13 Birmingham 45th Anniversary Event (see article on page 1 for details); COA Ropes Course (Oracle, AZ)
- September 14 First day of Sunday school - 1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary for Teacher Dedication
- September 21 Sunday school -1st-6th grade begin in the sanctuary; UU Pals Together Time
- September 28 Sunday school -1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary

# UUCP CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WELCOMES REV. SUSAN!

We are incredibly excited to welcome Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray to the UUCP and to our Children's Ministry program. Rev. Susan and I have been working together to establish a calendar of intergenerational worship services. She has a wonderful repertoire of intergenerational worship services designed to bring all ages into the worship experience. The nursery will still be open during these services for our youngest children. Our first inter-

generational worship service will be the "gathering of the waters" on September 7, 2008.

# UU PALS TO KICK-OFF ANOTHER YEAR OF INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNITY BUILDING

Ann-Marie Ciemny is coordinating our successful UU Pals program this year. The UU Pals program matches an adult with a child in our congregation. We hope that our adults will experience the joy of getting to know one of our wonderful UU kids and that our children will learn more about developing relationships. The program runs throughout the "school" year (fall to spring). Several special events have been planned for the UU Pals in order to facilitate the development of your relationship. These activities are optional, but highly recommended. The time commitment is 1 to 2 hours per month; of course, the sky is the limit. Adults and children are asked to a complete a UU Pal application form, which can be found on the Children's Ministry registration table throughout September. A special Together Time devoted to UU Pals will be presented on September 21, 2008.

### CHALICE LIGHTERS NEEDED

The beginning of a new program year brings the children back into the sanctuary most Sundays, which presents many opportunities for the honor of lighting the chalice. Children up to the age of 18 are invited to sign-up for one or more Sundays at the following Doodle link:

http://doodle.ch/k2urgnzmazkdhpd8

Lighting the chalice is a great way to mark a child or youth's birthday or another special event in the family. Parents are encouraged to assist children under six years old in lighting the chalice.

### 2008-2009 SUNDAY SCHOOL-UU IDENTITY

The Children's Ministry curricula alternate between focusing on UU Identity or the "Six Sources of Our Living Tradition" from year-to-year. This year is a UU identity year. The curricula from Pre-K through 8th grade are briefly described below. Please see the gold Children's Ministry brochure for a more complete description. The nursery will be open from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. beginning September 7th, and YRUU will follow it's own youth led program at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

**Pre-K – Kindergarten** (4-6 years old) – Chalice Children is designed to help young children learn about their congregation and their congregation through rituals, rhymes, chants, stories, and activities.

# **1st - 2nd Grade** (6-7 years old) – Rainbow Children

This is anti-bias, pro-diversity curriculum addresses racial and ethnic prejudice while affirming the inherent worth and beauty of the child, the family, the community, and the diversity of humankind.

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### Children's Ministry...

**3rd - 4th Grade** (8-9 years old) – UU Superheroes

UU Super Heroes by Gaia Brown is the curriculum that will be used for this class. UU Super Heroes is a values-based Unitarian Universalist identity curriculum that encourages children to explore the lives of famous people who were Unitarians, Universalists, or Unitarian Universalists.

5th - 6th Grade (10-11 years old) – The Questing Year engages 5th-6th graders in four different quests connected through the central themes and purposes of faith development and social action and a greater understanding of their beliefs and their faith with respect to Unitarian Universalism.

**7th - 8th Grade** (12-14 years old) – Coming of Age

Coming of Age (COA) is a special rite of passage in our Unitarian Universalist tradition. COA candidates will embark on a year of discovery about their Unitarian Universalist heritage along with visiting houses of worship of other faith traditions. Candidates are required to complete 24 hours of community service, to prepare a worship service, and to write an essay about their journey that will be presented at a graduation service in May. All 7th-8th graders are invited to participate in the Sunday morning curriculum even if they opt out of the requirements for graduation.

### YRUU News

YRUU is an acronym for Young Religious Unitarian Universalists,

which encompasses our community of 9th-12th grade youth and their advisors and allies

After a summer of lazy Sundays filled with wonderfully bad jokes and equally wonderful opportunities to connect with each other, our YRUUs kicked the year off big, with 19 smiling faces ready to paint the town red! Well, not exactly, but we did gather for a fun lock-in on August 16 and we repainted the crazy blue wall in our room in grand style with beautiful graffiti, witty quotations, curious insights, and a special community tree! It looks fun and feels good, so come check it out any Sunday morning – we're in Room C of the annex.

We are also hard at work planning our annual youth service for the congregation. (Pssst... it is early this year, so please mark your calendars for October 12!) In recognition of National Coming Out Day, we will explore identity and equality in some creative ways. The music will be performed by members of YRUU, and we warmly invite everyone to share this special service with us.

YRUU is a community with spirit, strength, intelligence and compassion for each other, and we look forward to stretching and growing together this year! For more information on upcoming youth conferences and events, please email the advisors at yruu@phoenixuu.org!



The rooms are clean and fresh. The toys washed and organized. Teachers have big smiles on their faces and children are jumping with excitement...it must be the beginning of a new school year!

School begins September 2 with Open Houses for the children and a Parent Orientation for all parents. Another year is underway. September is one of those months that bring joy and tears at the same time. Going to a different class or a new school, a parent going to the grocery without children and the anticipation of cooler weather makes September a commencement to the future. It is extraordinary. September will forever be the month of new beginnings....even though in some districts school begin in August, it is September that brings those thoughts to mind.

The UUEEC begins this year with three new staff members. One is Jennifer Booth, one of our existing parents, who will teach 3's Lunch Bunch with veteran Jane Sutton. Our TK class now boasts not only a new teacher but also an aide. Susan Cahalan comes to us with a many years of experience and a terrific sense of humor. Anne Denniston is her "most of the time" aide. Anne will also be teaching the 4's Lunch Bunch on Tuesday and Thursday.

A new school year, new families

### 45th Commemoration of Birmingham Bombings...

EEC continued from page 7...

coming into the community and some new staff blending with previous staff....sounds like September to me!

Jane Armstrong
UUEEC Director

### "The Love that Forgives"

continued from page 1...

Three events are planned on Saturday, September 13th, to mark this pivotal anniversary in the continuing struggle for Civil Rights.

9:00 a.m. - viewing "The Children's March," a 40 minute film produced by Teaching Tolerance that gives historical background to the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church and the children of Birmingham's role in the struggle for civil rights. This event will be intergenerational and suitable for children.

3:00 p.m. - Viewing "Four Little Girls," a documentary by Spike Lee about the bombing: includes interviews with the victims' family and friends. This event is more appropriate for older youth and adults. CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED FROM 3-5 P.M.

6:00 p.m. - "The Love That Forgives" worship service/vigil led by Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray; music by Brenda Combs and our choir; a candlelight vigil in the statuary garden. "The Love That Forgives" was the Sunday school lesson planned for that day, 45 years ago. This event is appropriate for all ages.

There will be light refreshments at 5 o'clock, prior to the service for those attending the 3 o'clock program.

Many UU and other faith communities, the mayor and vice mayor of Paradise Valley, and the George Washington Carver museum have been invited to participate in this commemorative day. We hope our UUCP community will have a strong showing as well.

Kim St. Clair is chair

Other members are: Carey Crabbs, Juanita Copeland, Heather McLellan, Ray Manker, Natalie Summit, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

### Knoxville UU's in need of Your Help

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Knoxville area churches, Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church and Westside Unitarian Universalist Church, who were so deeply affected by the terrible, violent incident on Sunday, July 27. The Knoxville Relief Fund has been formed to bring ministry, spiritual care, and pastoral and financial assistance to those affected. To find out more, or to contribute, please go to the website:

www.uua.org/giving/donatenow/117168.shtml

See page 3 for more info about our September 7 special collection for the Knoxville Fund.

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### From the Membership Committee...

### New UU Class Sundays September 14 & 21, 2008

If you are new to Unitarian Universalism or already a UU and wanting to join the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix (UUCP) we warmly invite you to this welcoming orientation.

The New UU Class consists of two Sunday mornings (September 14 and 21 9 AM) and a pot luck dinner on Saturday, September 27. You will have an opportunity to learn about the principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism as well as learn about the numerous activities of the congregation. You will meet new people and the leaders of UUCP. If you choose to become a member of UUCP there will be a New Member Recognition service on Sunday, September 28.

To ask questions and register for this free class (childcare is available) please see folks at the Membership Services Table at the coffee hour or call the office at 602-840-8400.

Looking forward to seeing you.



### Unicare

In the past two months of caring for my mother-in-law through hip surgery, the complications and the recuperation at home, it was lovely to see the cards pour in from her Lutheran community of friends, family, and neighbors. It was being on the receiving end of the mission that our UU congregation so ably carries out in our loving community. Often the message on many of these cards was religious in nature and to my UU eyes would not have been my brand of comfort. There was one small card which arrived that was inscribed with the words of Lao-Tzu; "I have just three things to teach: simplicity, patience, compassion. These three are your greatest treasures." Now, as a dear friend has reminded me, the words are often not as important as the intent. However, for me these ancient words resonated with a message that was both support and encouragement for our presence here with mom and the work that. Unicare does within our UU community.

This summer has seen incredible sorrows and hopeful joys and our community endures. May we all continue to find the simplicity, patience, and compassion in our world.

Looking forward to our coming year,
Julie Smart
Unicare Chair

### From the Partner Church Committee..



### Partner Church News

WHO ARE THE TRANSYLVA-NIAN UNITARIANS?

HOW DID WE GET A PART-NER CHURCH?

WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE IN OCTOBER?

Unitarianism began in 1568 in a part of present-day Romania known as Transylvania, with the enactment of the Edict of Torda that codified the principle of religious toleration. The history of Unitarianism there is marked by oppression, however. As a result the religion relied on an almost "underground" mentality focused on preserving the original ideas that distinguished Unitarianism from other religions. Some of these key ideas include the humanity of Jesus and Mary, and the rejection of the trinity—thus the name "Unitarianism." This oppression in Eastern Europe continued through the era of the Iron Curtain, unlike Unitarianism in the western world where Unitarian theology grew and flourished with open discourse on religious and spiritual matters. So the Unitarianism in Eastern Europe

today is much more conservative than elsewhere.

After the fall of the socialist regimes in Eastern Europe in the late 1980s, the way was clear for Unitarians there to resume freer contact with other Unitarians around the world. Initial contacts clarified just how beneficial this could be, from a material as well as spiritual perspective. Thus the Partner Church movement was born, to match congregations in Hungary and Romania with congregations in the US. The program has since been expanded to include over 200 congregations all over the world and is managed via the UUA's Partner Church Program.

UUCP took advantage of this opening in 1991 to formalize a partner church relationship with a young minister that some of our members (Ray and Gretchen Manker, Paula Kulina, Ernie Garcia) had befriended during visits to Romania. We learned that Rev. Domi Rusz was entering the postcommunist era with a tremendous responsibility: build a new church and community center in a large town, Szekelyudvarhely. The story of how he accomplished this feat is the topic for our Sunday sermon on October 26, delivered by Rev. Rusz himself. Suffice it to say that it is a dramatic story that is a testament to perseverance. UUCP played a role in this story, providing funds and moral support over the decade it took to complete the project. For more information on our partner church, see the

Heritage Wall in the foyer, or visit the table at the back of the sanctuary on most Sundays.

The Partner Church Committee is proud to host the first-ever visit to the US by Rev. Rusz and his wife Eva, and the congregation president Gyula Littasi and his wife Csilla. It is our hope that this visit will stimulate spiritual growth for all of us, provide our visitors with a model for congregational life that they may adapt to their congregation, and deepen the relationships between our two congregations. And—since this is their first visit to the US—we want our visitors to experience the best of American culture firsthand.

Here is an outline of the activities planned to help you participate in this visit. More details will be available in next month's Horizons.

- Sunday, Oct. 19: Meet our visitors at a special reception after the Sunday Service at UUCP
- Saturday, Oct. 25: Have fun at a Potluck Dinner at UUCP—western cookout theme
- Sunday, Oct. 26: Learn about our partner church at a special Sunday service
- Monday, Oct. 27 to Friday
   31: Get to know our visitors during committee meetings, local outings and home stays

To make this visit a success, we hope many of you can help. Here is a partial list of what is needed.

• A financial donation, or restaurant gift cards (any amount wel-

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### District Assembly 2009...

come)

- Home hospitality between Oct. 25-31, and Nov. 2-3 (for 1 or 2 couples)
- Host a local outing between Oct. 25-31 (think museums, concerts, games, etc.)
- Help with the potluck dinner (setup/cleanup, gas grills, cooks)
  Please stop by the Partner Church table for more details, or contact partnerchurch@phoenixuu.org.
  You can also contact any member of the Partner Church Committee:
  Paula Kulina, Ernie Garcia, Ray Manker, Gretchen Manker, Judy Lambert and Ellie Anderla.

Pssst....

# Coming to Arizona! Want in on the "ground floor" fun of District Assembly 2009?

Come share your energy and help to plan next year's DA, when the Pacific Southwest District Assembly returns to Arizona for a weekend of workshops, connections, and community like no other! We will be taking over the Mesa Hilton from May 1-3, 2009 for the district's annual business meeting, (which includes those workshops, connections and community!) and this is your chance to help shape a wonderful weekend for our friends throughout the district.

The theme is "Open Hearts, Open Minds: Exploring Our Sources" and will feature our local choirs combining to present Jason Shelton and Kendyl Gibbons' Sources Cantata, celebrating the six sources of Unitarian Universalism, as the keynote address on Friday evening!

The local planning team wants you! Some of the volunteer opportunities include:

- Children's Program/child care coordinator
- On-site registration
- Decorations/signage/banner organization
- Ushers/greeters/visibility
- Saturday evening entertainment

- Sunday service set-up/ coordination with local minister (s)
- Information/hospitality/ accessibility
- Audio/visual
- Workshop support
- Local publicity
- Social justice project coordination
- Home hospitality
- Menu planner/hotel interface
- Display area set-up

All levels of experience and ability honored. If you are ready to get involved, please contact Jaynn Truran at JATruran@aol.com or (480) 600-8816 for more information. Please indicate the area in which you would prefer to help. NOTE: OUR FIRST MEETING OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE IS SEPTEMBER 18 AT UUCP AT 6:30 PM – ALL ARE INVITED! Please join in the fun of working together with folks from other local congregations to plan another great District Assembly in 2009!

# MEETING ON SEPT. 14 AT 12:15 P.M.

The Social Action Committee invites all socially conscious members and friends to our first meeting of the new church year on Sept. 14. Some of our current projects are sponsorship of two students at Circulo de Amigas and support of two health clinics in Nicaragua, financial support of Casa Materna in Honduras, sponsorship of student in Nepal, cooking and serving monthly dinners at the New Day family shelter in south Phoenix, state legislature updates, fair trade coffee sales, etc.

# LUNCHEON ON SEPT. 21 AT 12:15 P.M.

Speaker is Eric Ehst, executive director of Clean Elections Institute - Eric will discuss the eleven (11) propositions that will appear on the November ballot. These citizens' and referred initiative measures cover a wide range of subject matter and Eric will try to make sense of them for us. Q&A to follow.

SAC luncheons are on the third Sunday every other month ... everyone is encouraged to attend .. bring your coffee and a friend. We will provide a delicious lunch for a \$5 donation.

### **NEW DAY CENTER**

We are fortunate to have a generous supply of volunteers to keep the New Day family shelter dinners on schedule. The summer heat has not kept the following folks from volunteering to shop, cook, serve and bake brownies for our monthly dinner: Dave Bellama, Deirdra and Rudy Bortz, Lani Comp, Art DuPont, Gary Ezzell, Yvonne Hoff, Marlene Jalilvand, Angela Kelley, Rosemary Kerwin, Nancy McCharen, Heather McLellan, Katie Raife, Ruth Rapp, Pat Shannon, Beverly Spiars, Rene Williams, Lydia Yanak ... stay tuned for more opportunities at the shelter.

### NEW BULLETIN BOARD

Have you seen the Social Action bulletin board display in the hallway? Jane and George Pauk provided the photos taken on numerous humanitarian visits to Nicaragua.

By attending and

participating in
meetings and
enjoying luncheons with
excellent speakers, we
become part of the
solution, not part of the
problem.

### BRIDGES TO AFRICA TOUR

Dates: January 16 - 24 - led by our own Janice Brunson!

Cost is \$1400 per person and includes all land transportation, rooms, meals and entry fees to Masai Mara Game Preserve. Transportation and safari is provided by a registered professional tour guide. Nine spaces only.

The tour is sponsored by the Kenyan Unitarian Universalist Council, an economic development project of Bridges Into Africa.

See Janice Brunson or visit the Social Action table for more information.

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# UUCP Accepted as a

### Candidate for Green

### Sanctuary Certification

The Green Sanctuary Committed submitted UUCP's application to be a candidate for Green Sanctuary certification in June 2008. We recently received word that our application has been approved. The Review Committee noted that UUCP "... submitted a thorough application with a few shortcomings and a strong, diverse action plan that seems appropriate for [our] congre-The Green Sanctuary gation." Committee will now focus on addressing the few shortcomings and carrying out our action plan. The details of the action plan are posted on the committee's bulletin board over the water fountain in the main hallway. This fall, the committee meetings will move to 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Annex Room H. Anyone interested is invited to join us. Feel free to contact the committee at green@phoenixuu.org.

THE GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH by Juli Harvey

Filthy water cannot be washed. ~African Proverb ~

The greatest water use in your home comes from your bathroom. According to the green routine.net, The average bath tub holds 42 gallons of water. Some larger tubs, sold as garden, soaking, or whirlpool tubs hold 80 gallons or more. The average shower head is rated at 2.5 gallons per minute, or gpm. The average person showers for about 8 minutes. Bringing the water usage of an average shower to So in the average 20 gallons. home, and for the average showerer, the shower conserves more water than the bath.' If you take extra long showers, you may want to stop your tub during the shower to see just how much water you use. If you have an older home, update your shower head. Newer ones are generally made to conserve water. Either way, you will want to use green friendly shampoos, soaps, and scrubs. Although the shower is a great place to spend in the present moment, it's your future we are talking about!

New to Unitarian
Universalism (UU)?
Or to the UU Congregation
of Phoenix?

Then sign up today to
attend our "New UU
Class" which starts on
Sunday, September 14th.
See page 9 for more details.



### Long Name,

### Concise Purpose

A committee with a long name and a concise purpose. That's the Human Relations and Conflict Resolution Committee. Members of HRCRC would like to share with you what the committee is up to. For ten years, this arm of the Committee on Ministry was called Conflict Management Advisory Group. Members served UUCP by mediating conflicts within our congregations. This past year, the committee reinvented itself. HRCRC now takes a proactive stance by providing UUCP members and groups with information and skills for growth through human relations and conflict resolution.

Among other tasks, HRCRC stands ready to:

- Mediate disputes for UUCP individuals and groups,
- Provide trained facilitators for group meetings,
- Assist committees with group process by providing trained group process observers who offer feedback during and following meetings,
- Present workshops on communication skills and other topics,

 Disseminate lists of ideas, books, and experts on human relations and conflict resolution.

For 2008-2009, HRCRC is concentrating on what we call Tools for Tomorrow. UUCP is on the brink of a new epoch, and only its members can move our congregation forward. With plans for growth that include the introduction of our new minister Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, our congregation will experience many changes—some predictable and some not. Change brings both disputes and opportunities.

UUCP can not expect positive relations to just happen Since June, HRCRC has been offering suggestions in the Sunday Order of Service for each of us to create a inviting and safe environment at UUCP. One suggestion is to introduce yourself to those you do not know-especially new members and visitors. Listen to their stories without giving advice. Just listen. Let them know that UUCP is a place where we encourage others to be themselves.

HRCRC Members: Julie Wambach (chair), Gene Cherry, Sandy Thomson, Kate Otting, Loretta Isaac

### Come one, come all -

# Calendaring and Leadership Development Day

Saturday, October 4, UUCP leaders, aspiring leaders and all who want to know more about nurturing volunteers are invited to join a morning of sharing our strengths and building our community. We will also do calendaring for the coming congregational year.

This year's Leadership Development Day will share ideas and tools for what needs to be done before recruiting new volunteers, ways to do recruitment, ways to mentor and develop volunteers and ways to celebrate and appreciate the work of volunteers.

Our day will begin at 8:30 with registration and community building and will include a working lunch during which the congregational calendar for the coming year will be established. Committee and group leaders will receive an individual invitation early this month; details will be in the October Horizons. If you would like more information, please email us at nominating@phoenixuu.org or contact a member of the Nominating Committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

Susan Goldsmith Jeff Newman Pauline Peverly Lydia Yanak Sally Boyd Gary Ezzell

### Congregational Life...

### Children's Art Exhibit

Did you notice the beautiful self portraits hanging off of the tables in the Sanctuary? This part of the Children's Art Exhibit is called 'Phoenix Treasures'. Our own Carla Dunlap is an art teacher in the Cartwright Elementary District #83 of Phoenix. Her student works are mixed media of water soluble oil pastel, tissue paper, glue, foil and permanent marker in the self portrait style of Vincent Van Gogh and Frieda Kahlo. Many of the retablo frames were washed with India ink for a tarnished appearance. The third and fourth grade students are 8 to 10 years old.

# Women's Spirituality Circle Update

Women's Spirituality Circle meets in sisterhood every Monday from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Annex B. Come and meet your sister. Contact Heather McLellan for more information at wmspirituality@phoenixuu.org

### The Job Club

The Job Club is a weekly (Tuesdays 6:30-800 pm, Room 2) support group helping people with career issues, such as unemployment, unhappiness with the job and desire to make a transition, as well as seeking promotion or transition with your employer. Career transitions include self-assessment, researching the job market, networking and informational interviewing and interviewing for the job which includes handling behavioral interviewing questions. The needs of the group guide the process which is facilitated by Pauline Peverly and Larry Agle. If interested come Tuesday evening or contact Pauline Peverly or Larry Agle at jobclub@phoenixuu.org

### Bridge Group

UUCP friends and members who have always wanted to play bridge but were afraid to try now have an opportunity to learn the rules of play in a friendly atmosphere. Saturday, October 11at 6:00 PM John Wilber will give an hour lesson in beginning bridge.

At 7:00 PM regular party bridge will start. Please email Sandy Thomson and Sally Boyd at bridge@phoenixuu.org or call 602 818-8664 or 480 948-5241 if you are interested in beginner bridge and if you wish to be on the email list. It is essential to know how many people wish to play.

The group will meets the second Saturday of every month in the Johnson room. There is a \$3.00 contribution per person.

Our regular meeting will be September 13.An email will be sent out proir to the date so get on the email list.!

### Congregational Life...



### Circle Dinners

Circle dinners are back! Our first dinner is the big dinner in the Johnson Room on Saturday, September 20 at 6 PM. If you want to join us for the September dinner and sign up for the monthly dinners, please email me at phuucircle@yahoo.com or call Mary Wilber at 480-473-1150. After the September dinner, the monthly dinners will be small ones at members' homes. They are a popular UU activity in many congregations across the country and have been part of the Phoenix Congregation's life for many years. These small dinners of 6 to 10 people bring together new and old friends. The host provides the main dish and then assigns dishes for guests to bring. We welcome new participants, but really need hosts so everyone who wishes to participate can.

In our congregation, they are held on the third Saturday of each month in members' homes. We would love to have more guests and hosts for these monthly get togethers. Since a lot of you have some really tough security on your email accounts, it is important that you put the above email address in your email contacts/ addresses when you respond. We really want to hear from you!



### **Outdoor Group**

Date: Saturday, Sept 27 Hike: Inner Basin Loop, San Francisco Peaks, Flagstaff Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Good trail, 950 foot elevation gain

in two miles

Distance: 4.3 miles; optional ex-

tension of up to 4 miles Meeting Time: 6:30 am

Meeting place: McDonalds at

Deer Valley and I-17 Departure time: 7:00 am

Description: Beautiful hike in the ancient volcanic crater that is the core of the San Francisco peaks. We may well have some fall colors on this hike.

Bring water, hat, sunscreen, lunch. Always assume that an afternoon rain is possible.

### Yoga Class

Join us for Yoga Tuesdays evenings from 6-7Pm in the Johnson Room. Gentle postures integrated with breath and awareness guide us to deeper levels of being. Rest. Relax. Renew.

Instructor: Mary Engel engelm@cox.net for questions. Referrals: Jay Alagia/Lani Comp

# THE POETRY COFFEEHOUSE

We will meet on Sunday, September 7, in Annex Room C at 9:00 AM. The theme of our session will be: POEMS OF INDEPEND-ENCE.

Please bring poems you yourself have written or poems of a favorite author to share. Any writing of poetic quality is welcome.

See you there!

John Williamson Facilitator 480-607-9726

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### 36th Annual Luunitarian Weekend

October 10, 11, 12, 2008 Join us near beautiful Puerto Peñasco/Rocky Point, Mexico

Enjoy a full weekend hanging out with friendly UU's enjoying the sun, sand and surf.

Lots of fun and family – bring the kids – c'mon down.

For more information visit: http://muusic.net/luunitarian08/

or email: luunitarian08@yahoo.com

# Make Me An Offer I Can't Refuse!

That's the theme of West Valley UU Church's 2008 auction, to take place Saturday, October 18, 5904 West Cholla Rd., Glendale.

"This year we're expanding," says a WV spokeswoman. "In addition to our customary Silent Auction (with a 25¢-bid Kid's Table), we've added dinner, entertainment, a 50/50 drawing and a Live Auction. We're suggesting that people think of it as their family night out for October."

Dinner will be pasta with one's choice of three sauces, salad, bread sticks, soft drinks, coffee and dessert.

"If you'd like a more traditional beverage with your Italian-style meal, you're welcome to bring your own," she continues. "Where else would you find such a meal at \$12 per adult, \$5 per child ten and under, and free to children three and under?" Reserve your dinner tickets by contacting Cindy at cindynowell@cox.net.

We're very excited to be able to offer such Live Auction items as Gold Tier Ballet Arizona tickets and dinner at the Fire Station to include a ride on the fire truck. You can view our color catalog by logging onto wvuu.org and clicking on the Make Me An Offer I Can't Refuse banner.

### What is Chalice Lighters?

The Chalice Lighters Program of the Pacific Southwest District exists to help fund the growth of the member congregations of this District. The program is designed to make grants to applicant congregations for:

- Facility improvements, such as buying land, building, rebuilding, furnishing or enlarging facilities
- One-time professional leadership expenses, such as the costs of hiring a Minister, Religious Educator, or Music Director

These are improvements that would significantly strengthen the scope of a congregations' ministry, and most of the other congregations in Arizona have already benefited from Chalice Lighter grants!

To qualify, congregations must be "fair share" congregations to each of the UUA and the PSWD for two years AND 20% of its members must be active subscribers to the Chalice Lighters Program (an active subscriber is one who has contributed to at least one call in the previous year).

If you are interested in learning more about the program, and to learn about other opportunities and events happening within the Pacific Southwest District, please visit www.pswduua.org and click on "Chalice Lighters".

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX Group Contacts

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEES			TYPICAL MEETING TIMES
Building & Grounds	bldggrounds@phoenixuu.org	Bill Mee	
Renovation	renovation@phoenixuu.org	Don Weir	1st Thursday at 7pm
Stewardship (Canvass)	stewardship@phoenixuu.org	Joan Laurence	• •
Finance	finance@phoenixuu.org	Mary Dokes	2nd Thursdays at 7pm
Publicity	publicity@phoenixuu.org	Charlotte Carl-	
·		Mitchell	
Personnel	personnel@phoenixuu.org	Sarah Carlson	
Committee on Ministry	ministry@phoenixuu.org	Jesse Hise	4th Tuesday at 4pm
Nominating	nominating@phoenixuu.org	Susan Goldsmith	
Membership	membership@phoenixuu.org	Donna Featherston	4th Sunday at 12pm
PROGRAM COMMITTEES			
Adult Religious Ed	are@phoenixuu.org	Terry Simmons	1st Wednesday at 6pm
Children's Ministry	cm@phoenixuu.org	Sarah Henkel	2nd Thursday at 6pm
Green Sanctuary	green@phoenixuu.org	Susan Leung	2nd Thursday at 7pm
Music	music@phoenixuu.org	Diana Ashley	1 1 1 1
Partner Church	partnerchurch@phoenixuu.org	Paula Kulina	
Sanctuary Team	sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org	Jan Wise,	
,		Joan Roberts	
Social Action	socialaction@phoenixuu.org	Heather McLellan,	2nd Sunday at 12pm
		Sarah Burchard	7 1
Sunday Services	sunday@phoenixuu.org	Terry Simmons,	3rd Thursday at 7pm
•		Heather McLellan,	7 1
		Gene Harvey	
Unicare	unicare@phoenixuu.org	Julie Smart	
	<del></del>		
Ushers	ushers@phoenixuu.org	Gene Cherry,	
		Libby Walker	
UUEEC Committee	uueec@phoenixuu.org	Kelly Nunez	
ACTIVITY GROUPS			
Book Discussion	books@phoenixuu.org	Terry Simmons	Sundays 9am
Bridge Group	bridge@phoenixuu.org	Sandy Thomson,	2nd Saturday 7pm
Erruge Group	<u>orrage o processimanor g</u>	Sally Boyd	and savarous , p.m.
Choir (reach the Choir through the Music Committee or Music Director)			
Circle Dinners	circledinners@phoenixuu.org	Mary Wilbur	3rd Saturday
Job Club	jobclub@phoenixuu.org	Pauline Peverly,	Tuesdays 6:30pm
		Larry Agle	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Outdoor Group	outdoorgrp@phoenixuu.org	George Karas	
Outdoor Group	outdoorgroup@phoenixuu.org	George Karas	
Women's Spirituality	wmspirituality@phoenixuu.org	Heather McLellan,	Mondays 7pm
Traveling Fridays	travel@phoenixuu.org	Barbara Cawthorne	2nd Fridays January - June 7pm
MUUvie Group	muuvie@phoenixuu.org	Sharon Hise	2nd Sunday 6pm
Poetry Coffee House	poetry@phoenixuu.org	John Williamson	1st Sunday 9am
UU Crafters	crafters@phoenixuu.org	Libby Walker, Sandy	•
	· · · · · · · ·	Thomson	

Please see "UUCP in Action" for more group contact information as well as descriptions.

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### Calendar of Events...

### Monday September 1 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

### **Tuesday September 2 2008**

6:30 PM Job Club

### Wednesday September 3 2008

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM ARE Committee Meeting

### Thursday September 4 2008

6:30 PM Board Meeting

### Sunday September 7 2008

Ingathering/Water Service
Special Knoxville Fund Collection
9:00 AM Poetry Coffeehouse
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
12:00 PM New Day Center Meal
12:00 PM Young Adult Group

### Monday September 8 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

### **Tuesday September 9 2008**

6:30 PM Job Club

### Wednesday September 10 2008

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday September 11 2008

6:00 PM Children's Ministry Cmte. 7:00 PM Finance Committee

### Friday September 12 2008

UUCP Office Closed

7:00 PM Bridge Group

### Saturday September 13 2008

Birmingham Bombing Anniversary 9:00 AM Viewing of "The Children's March" 3:00 PM Viewing of "Four Little Girls" 6:00 PM "The Love that Forgives" Worship & Candlelight Vigil

### Sunday September 14 2008

Teacher Dedication
9:00 AM New UU Class
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
10:30 AM First Day of Sunday School
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Social Action Committee
6:00 PM MUUvie

### Monday September 15 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

### **Tuesday September 16 2008**

6:30 PM Job Club

### Wednesday September 17 2008

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, September 18 2008

6:30 PM District Assembly Planning Meeting

### Friday September 19 2008

7:00 PM Congregational Meeting with District Exec. Rev. Ken Brown

#### Saturday September 20 2008

9:00 AM Start-up 6:00 PM Circle Dinner

#### Sunday September 21 2008

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group 9:00 AM New UU Class 10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 12:00 PM Young Adult Group 12:00 PM Social Action Luncheon

#### Monday September 22 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

### **Tuesday September 23 2008**

6:30 PM Job Club

### Wednesday September 24 2008

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday September 25 2008

6:30 PM Board Meeting

### Friday September 26 2008

**UUCP** Office Closed

### Saturday September 27 2008

6:30 AM Outdoor Group Hike 2:00 PM Concert of Prayers

### Sunday September 28 2008

New Member Recognition Service 9:00 AM Book Discussion Group 10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM No Muss No Fuss Potluck 12:00 PM Young Adult Group 12:00 PM ARE Facilitator Orientation

### Monday September 29 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

### **Tuesday September 30 2008**

6:30 PM Job Club

### **Calendar Submissions**

To add your UUCP event, meeting, or activity to the Horizon's calendar please email the office at administrator@phoenixuu.org or call the office at 602-840-8400.

Interim Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray minister@phoenixuu.org

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker

Religious Education Director: Kim St. Clair redirector@phoenixuu.org
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt musicdirector@phoenixuu.org

Membership Volunteer Coordinator: Kate Otting volunteer@phoenixuu.org

Administrator: Heidi Parmenter administrator@phoenixuu.org

Custodian: Manuel Gomez

Early Education Director: Jane Armstrong eecdirector@phoenixuu.org

Early Education Teachers: Doug van Der Veen, Kelly Blackson, Jane Sutton, Valerie

Bailey,

Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Mendez childcare@phoenixuu.org Childcare Providers: Daniel Mendez and Geraldine Mendez

Office Volunteers: Ellie Murphy, Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, Bernie Hall,

Sharon Hise, Julie Smart, Pauline Peverly, Larry Agle, and Tish Gauntt

Board of Trustees: board@phoenixuu.org

President: Sarah Carlson Vice President: Tim Tilton

Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell

Trustees: Sandy Weir, Donna Featherston, Susan Morris, and Gary Ezzell

### **Our Mission**

Our religious community aspires to:

- Embrace diversity as we engage in the passionate pursuit of Unitarian Universalist principals;
- Share ministry that promotes lifelong spiritual growth through Service, Worship, Ritual and Education thereby inspiring lives of joy and hope;
- Grow and be effective in the greater community.

-Adopted February 1999

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