

### HORIZONS Journal of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

### February 2010

## Coming soon to a home near you ...

By Gary Ezzell, Stewardship Co-Chair Would you like to know who in our growing community lives close to you? Would you like to get to know them better? You will soon have the opportunity to do just that, and to register your support for UUCP at the same time.

Rick and Julie Wambach have plotted the addresses of our members on a map of the greater Phoenix area and identified 18 neighborhood clusters. We are going to take advantage of that good work for the combined stewardship/ capital pledge drive. In mid February, each member will receive an invitation to a neighborhood gathering that will happen between March 7 and April 17. Diana Ashley, the Stewardship cochair, is organizing the hosts and meet-

In this issue... Minister's Musings... 2 3-4 From the Staff... Children's Ministry... 5 Adult Religious Education... 6 Ministry and Committee 7-10 Reports... Sermon Topics... 11

ing schedules. With that amount of notice, we hope that most of us will be able to attend a neighborhood gathering.

At the neighborhood meeting, there will be time to share our stories, talk about UUCP's mission and building plans, and collect pledge forms for both stewardship and capital campaigns. Everyone will have received brochures and other information beforehand, so the "pitch" will be brief. The focus will be on people not pressure. Each gathering will be hosted in a member's home, so the atmosphere will be comfortable and friendly.

And what is the pitch? First, let's talk Why? Why support UUCP financially? It is a given that all of us come and participate because we get something out of it. More than one thing, usually: inspiring Sunday services, education for our children, education for ourselves, social justice involvement, a deep sense of community ... We all have our individual interests. But the reason to give is much deeper than just a consumer's calculation of value derived. We give, not just because we receive, but so that others may also. This transcends a "calculation of value" - it is a commitment to values. We give to be of service to others – to ensure that all of our ministries are healthy and effective and there for those who need them.

Second, let's look at *How much?* That is a private decision, also different for each household. What we are asking is for each member to make an intentional decision about what percent of their income they plan give to non-profits they believe in. And then to include UUCP in that intentional decision. Half to one's faith community may be a useful rule of thumb, or more if that serves needs you find most meaningful. The main thing is to be intentional. It is part of the commitment to values. Life is full of demands and distractions – attend to the important things first.

So watch for the invitation that will come in February to your local neighborhood gathering, and then enjoy the fellowship of being together and supporting this beloved community.

### Minister's Musings

By Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray My hope is everyone is safe after the awful storms we have had. After listening one night to the local news reports of the state of emergency in Arizona, the flood warnings and the highways being closed, the next day, I woke up to the most recent updates on the humanitarian crisis in Haiti. There just are no words to adequately express the sorrow and grief and sense of absolute helplessness I feel—and I suspect many of you feel-when we hear the news stories. We do what we can, and even though by and large we Unitarian Universalists are not known for our praying, in times like this it can feel like the most appropriate response.

At our services on January 17<sup>th</sup> we raised \$2,896.72 for the Haiti Earthquake relief efforts. It is the most we have collected on one Sunday through Share the Plate. Every month, we take one Sunday and give our offering to a charitable organization that is doing necessary work to combat poverty, provide basic human services, or which works for justice and equity in our world. This has been a tremendous ministry, strengthening our outreach in the community, but also reminding us of the power and the abundance and the difference we can make when we work together.

Some people have asked whether giving our Sunday offering away has hurt us financially. It has not. Not at all. If anything, it has strengthened our ministry. For it reminds us of how much we have and the responsibility that goes with it. It also reminds us that our call is not just to minister to one another, to our members, but that we are called to use the strength and power of our reli-

gious voice to shape our world around our values. What are those values? They are articulated well in our seven principles. But I often express them this way: One, from our Unitarian heritage, practicing and proclaiming a faith that is not bound to creed and not rooted in fear, but one that allows conscience to be our guide. And two, the value at the core of our Universalist tradition, that all people are equal, and that ultimately we are all one people, recognizing that unity is the only way we will overcome discrimination and oppression in all it's forms.

### From the President

By Sarah Carlson, Board President Last September, UUCP held two "Voicing our Values" sessions at which members and friends shared stories and discussed our core values. Since that time, the Mission Values Task Forcecomprised of congregational leaders of diverse ages, backgrounds, and length of membership--has been meeting weekly to synthesize the core values discussed at the VOV sessions into a renewed statement of UUCP's mission. The statement of our mission is important for a number of reasons, not least of which is as an expression of who we are and aspire to be. The mission--as expressed in a renewed statement approved by the Congregation, also guides the Board in setting direction for the Congregation in the coming years (until, as should periodically occur, the mission is again considered and renewed). As the Board charts the congregational course--it will assess how well current and proposed programs and activities support that mission. As such, a renewed statement of our mission speaks not simply to who or where we are now but also to who, how, and where we aspire to be--with one another, our community, and the broader world. Food for thought.

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

Gertrude Posner Ganseberg Jane Horswell Gladys Lillian Klaus Wendell Charles Manker James Francis Bauman Hubert Lambeth Gay, Jr. Robert Klaus James Lynch Gordon Woods

Page 2 www.phoenixuu.org

# Greetings from your Music

### Director!

By Connie Jahrmarkt, CML This month we are sorry to bid fare well to Heidi and Dante Singer. Both Heidi and Dante have faithfully attended Congregation Choir rehearsals every Wednesday and Heidi has sung in the choir in services these past few years. Heidi has also been a featured soloist on Sunday mornings and for special events like our "Sources" performance and Cabaret. Heidi has served as our song leader on Sunday mornings and is the Song Leader/ Soloist for the Soulful Sundown Band. We have been blessed by her creativity in composing songs as well. Her music has been heard and sung by many across the nation, after it was featured at the UU Musician's Network Conference. And this past year, Heidi became our Family Choir Director.

Dante not only has attended Wednesday night choir rehearsals, he has been very helpful in the nursery with younger children.

Heidi and Dante, we will miss you both! We treasure our time together and wish you well in your new location, work and school.

### Shifts Happen

By Kate Otting, Membership Coordinator It is with deep regret...no. It's with sadness...not quite. It's with delight...nah.

Well, let me just spit it out: After a little over two years in the position, I am resigning as your Membership Coordinator on February 28. I have loved experiencing UUCP through the vantage point of this position. As a community, UUCP has invited the cultural shifts that have accompanied our growth. Instead of asking newcomers to conform to our ways we've let go of some traditions in order to let new members help reshape UUCP. This is a beautiful process and through it I have grown personally and professionally.

I leave with a sense of joy and sadness, after having worked with the talented committee leaders and staff of this congregation. I have been blessed with the opportunity to staff two remarkably-talented committees, one of which was created last year. I will miss working closely with Laida Restrepo, our Membership Committee Chair. She's worked hard to inspire a working group of leaders, each bringing a unique skill set and sense of mission to the committee. Loretta Isaac has developed a vibrant Welcoming Ministry of warm greeters who receive visitors each Sunday. Natalie Summit has grown our STARS program to create a culture of warmth before, during and after services. Jerry Whalen has been the Secretary for a couple years now and does a great job of summarizing discussions. Art Dupont not only volunteers in the office to collect data every week but he also informs the committee about membership trends by tracking visitors, following up with returning visitors and registering people in membership classes. Terry Lockwood recently stepped up to coordinate a team of facilitators for the Pathway to Membership (PTM) classes. This revised curriculum, according to polling we've done over the past couple years, meets the needs of the visitors to our congregation, by giving them an in-depth look at our faith community and then providing opportunities for fellowship and commitment during a potluck dinner at UUCP. Gene Cherry offered to fill in the gap between the previous "New UU" classes and the PTM classes by holding casual drop-in discussion meetings during coffee hour between services each Sunday to discuss issues from the Sunday sermon to UUism in general. Jimmy Leung works also with the PR Committee by always looking at the website through the lens of a newcomer. Sherry Celine is always available with a smile and enthusiasm to fill in and assist the committee in as an "at-large" member of the committee. And then there are the behind-thescenes volunteers, such as Lydia Yanak, Larry Agle, Sally Boyd and Bill Parker, who make calls, send letters, create bolo ties and keep the whole membership process operating beautifully.

Angela Jansen picked up the torch from Gary Ezzell recently as chair of the Membership Engagement committee. When newcomers are engaged, they feel connected and will more likely remain in our congregation. This group spent hours and hours of research to develop a marvelously easy-to-use survey for visitors, new members and anyone else in the congregation who wishes to become more involved in our congregation. This group benefited from the talents of Greg Cline, who developed a brilliant matrix in Google

### From the Staff...

Docs spreadsheets for ensuring that the surveys end up with the appropriate committee or activity leaders. I also have a twinge of sadness because I will miss working alongside the amazingly talented staff leading our congregation. Heidi Parmenter has been my mentor and rock since I began two years ago. We are so blessed to have her. Rev. Susan, as we all know, brings wisdom, strength, inspiration and vision not only to the staff but to the broader community.

We have undergone many transitions since I began two years ago. Instead of being distressed about the food we serve during coffee hour, we now focus or energy on providing the warm interaction, smiles and eye contact that newcomers seek. We've learned that unhurried listening and greeting of newcomers at the front desk with a brief sign-in provides more benefit than rushing visitors through lengthy paperwork and congestion. Visitors prefer feeling welcomed by connections with a handful of kind members than being asked to stand up during the service. Welcoming people between and after services in the entryway has made many visitors feel a little less overwhelmed by their experience because attending coffee hour can be intimidating during a first visit. New members enjoy the intimacy of signing the membership book and sharing a few words with members during a candlelight potluck than being introduced during newcomer Sunday service. Many of these shifts required us to let go of some rituals. By meeting the needs of visitors and changing some of our customs, we are becoming the Beloved Community we yearned for.

According to longtime member, Enid Jones, "The building of the Loving Community in the last three years is amazing; the leadership and all the

many unsung, unnoticed volunteers have made our congregation so very special." These sentiments are echoed over and over again from visitors and new members alike.

I thank you, UUCP members, for taking the risk to create the Membership Coordinator position two years ago. I am honored to have been the first to step into it and the first to leave. I look forward to going back to being "just a member" again and enjoying the cultural shifts from a new perspective.

## From Your Lifespan Religious Education

### Director

By Kim St. Clair

Once again, we have a number of wonderful opportunities for you to deepen yours and your children's spiritual growth in February!

February will feature two Adult Religious Education courses. The Sunday morning course, "You Are Somebody," will be facilitated by Julie Wambach. I am particularly excited about Julie's workshop as it is based on her own book. Additionally, Bill Sabotino will facilitate "Building Your Own Theology" on Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. in Room B. Finally, ARE will host a follow-up to the DREAM Act play by presenting Sin Nombre at our February 17, 2010, mUUvie Night. Please see the ARE page for fuller descriptions of this upcoming events.

Additionally, due to the increased attendance of children over four years old during second service, Tucky Fussell and Geraldine Mendez will hold a class for children four and older in Room 10. The curriculum they will be using is "UU Principles and Me." Although not a full Sunday school class, we are hoping this curriculum will provide spiritual sustenance for our children during the second service.

Page 4 www.phoenixuu.org

# Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation...

SUNDAY SCHOOL SHORTS

1st-2nd Grade - Teacher Sarah - The
1st and 2nd grade class has been busy
learning about our fourth and sixth
principles, "We search for what is true
and right "and "We work for peace and
freedom". We learned about Thomas
Jefferson and his quest to search for
what is true and right by reading his life
story and creating Thomas Jefferson
tombs to help us remember that it is up
to us to keep learning and search for
our own truth!

### 3rd-4th Grade - Teacher Angela -

We started our new year discussing what made 2009 special for us, the goals we have for 2010 and how we plan to achieve them. We are talking about what changes need to occur in the world this year and what we as great thinkers can do to help make these changes take place.

Our class is very sad to see Dante leave. His insights have added to all our group discussions. Dante - enjoy your new adventure.

#### 5th-6th Grade Class - Teacher Bri-

ana - The fifth and sixth grade class since coming back from the holidays have been doing some really fun stuff. We started off the year playing the dreidel game which was really fun because we played for jolly ranchers! We also started learning about Moses this past week and made our own list of Ten Commandments. Soon we will be doing the next section of Moses where we get to have a treasure hunt! Also, our attendance has been higher which has made for a lot more fun during our lessons! So keep coming to class and having fun learning about the Bible!

#### 7th-8th Grade Sunday School Class

- Teacher Hannah - Hi all! In the 7th & 8th grade class this semester, we're going to be exploring lots of interesting issues. We'll be watching some movies that help us explore our UU values. And maybe we'll even watch a couple of episodes of The Twilight Zone, which will surely make for some fun discussions and activities. We'll also be continuing our adolescent stress management curriculum, Fighting Invisible Tigers. I hope to see you all on Sunday mornings!



### **UUEEC Open Enrollment**

By Jane Armstrong, Director of UUEEC

It is time once again to enroll in the Unitarian Universalist Early Education Cooperative. For more information, please check out our web site www.uueec.org or email Director Jane, directorjane@gmail.com. The UUEEC will hold an open house each Tuesday (for 2's, 4's and TK prospective families) and Wednesday (for 3's, 4's and TK prospective families) during the month of February from 9:15 am until 11 am.

#### **CORE PROGRAMS**

All morning programs and the Transitional Kindergarten class require a non-refundable \$250 registration fee, with an additional \$50 for each additional child in a family. A non-refundable deposit of first and last month's tuition is also due upon enrollment.

### Two's Program

- For up to 14 children two years of age by September 1st.
- Meets Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.
- Parents participate in class once every other week.
- Tuition is \$175 per month.

### Three's Program

- For up to 17 children three years of age by September 1st.
- Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.
- Weekly music class with Creative Arts Specialist Jeffrey Sadow.
- Parents participate in class once every other week.
- Tuition is \$215 per month.

### Four's Program

- For up to 18 children four years of age by September 1st.
- Meets Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.
- Weekly music class with Creative Arts Specialist Jeffrey Sadow.
- Weekly Spanish class with Señora Helen Smoole.
- Parents participate in class once every other week.
- Tuition is \$255 per month.

### Transitional Kindergarten Program

- For up to 12 children who are five or will turn five within six months
- Meets Monday through Friday from 8:45am to 2:15 pm.
- Additional classes taught by specialists in their areas of art, physical education, music, Spanish and dance/movement.
- Parents are not required to participate on a scheduled basis, but are encouraged to volunteer time in the classroom and for special projects and field trips.

### Adult Religious Education...

• Tuition is \$700 per month.

### Friday Friends

- For children from the Four's program.
- Meets Friday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.
- Tuition is \$110 per month.

#### Lunch Bunch

- Hours are from 11:30 to 2:30; children are responsible for bringing their own lunch.
- Tuition is \$80 per month for each day enrolled. Lunch Bunch commitment is per semester.
- Lunch Bunch is available on Parent Meeting days for a fee of \$80 per family per year.
- Lunch Bunch drop-in is available on a first comes first basis for \$25 per drop in. Availability is limited.

<u>Parent Commitments</u> - Parents must attend the September Orientation meeting, the scheduled parent meetings, participate in fundraising and parent conferences. In addition to regular participation in the class, parents are required to work two of the three scheduled clean-up work days and volunteer 8 additional hours.

### To Seek Knowledge in

### Freedom...

# ARE MUUVIE NIGHT BRINGS YOU SIN NOMBRE

February 17, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the Johnson Room - \$5 suggested donation

Sin Nombre is a feature length film that follows an Honduran teenager Sayra as she reunites with her father, an opportunity for her to potentially realize her dream of a life in the U.S. Moving to Mexico is the first step in a fateful journey of unexpected events. This film was chosen as a follow-up to the DREAM Act play presented at the UUCP in January.

# BUILDING YOUR OWN THEOLOGY: SECOND EDITION BY RICHARD S. GILBERT.

This adult RE program for exploring personal theology has been completely remodeled: new resources, new essays and new activities. The course features ten sessions in which participants develop and articulate their religious values. Participants are encouraged to have their own copies of this program.

Facilitator: Bill Sabatino

**Dates**: Tuesday evenings -2/2, 2/9,

2/16, 2/23, and 3/2 **Time**: 6:00 p.m. **Location**: Room B

**Fee:** \$10.00 or presentation of UUS Pass - purchase of book optional

# UUCP BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

UUCP Book Group continues into the new year with new members and vigorous discussion of current topics and titles. We hope you will consider joining us for a visit or for the current book. In February, we are discussing Age of Empathy by the primatologist Frans de Waal. Book Group meets every Sunday at 10:45 in Room 9. See you there!!!!

### ADULT RE FOCUS GROUPS

In February, we are holding two focus groups to probe the adult religious education and worship needs of a cross section of adult congregation members. Scheduled for February 18 at 11:30-12:30 and February 24 at 5:30-6:30, each group is by invitation to about 12 people. Terry Simmons, ARE chair, will facilitate each conversation with Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Kim St. Clair observing.

We hope to address the following:

What do you believe are the strengths of the current program?

What are topics that you would like to see addressed in ARE?

What other type of ARE programming would you like to see on Sunday morning?

What are alternative days and/or times that would be enticing for you to attend ARE programming?

What would most meet your spiritual as well as intellectual needs?

What would most meet your need to build community?

What are you thoughts about a midweek "church night" (multiple aged programming offered)?

What are your thoughts about ARE and worship being more closely aligned?

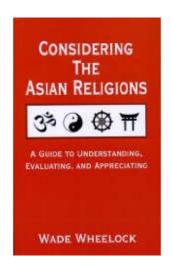
We expect to be able to implement new thinking about the ARE program starting with our retreat in April. Please watch for our published results later this spring!

Page 6 www.phoenixuu.org

### Ministry and Committee Reports...

# MARCH COURSE: CONSIDERING THE ASIAN RELIGIONS.

Amazon.com says, "Considering the Asian Religions is a readable and wellgrounded overview of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Shinto. It aims to be a guide for those considering the Asian religions as possible sources of spiritual enrichment. Based on sound scholarship but written for the general reader, Considering the Asian Religions focuses on the major historical developments in these traditions, with a chapter on significant changes in modern times." ARE facilitator Juli Harvey is a lifelong educator who has been studying Asian religions since stumbling into Zen in the 1990's. Her journey in these traditions has continued here at UUCP where she has cofacilitated courses in the Bhagavad Gita and belonged to various meditation and covenant groups related to Eastern practices.



### Update from the

### **Renovation Committee**

By Don Weir, Chair

Construction continues on the Summer 2009 renovation project. The project includes the following items:

- A new congregational sign on Lincoln Drive
- Doors, windows, fire alarms, and sprinklers in the 1965 annex building
- Fire alarms and sprinklers in the classroom wing and sanctuary of the main building.

Details of the project may be found on the UUCP website at the "UUCP Renovation" tab.

The installation of the fire alarm and sprinkler system is complete. The final system test was conducted on January 18, 2010. The new system is fully integrated with the system in the 2001 classroom annex. The expected initial bugs in the system have been identified and removed.

The next major activity is to install the doors, windows, and the base of the sign during the week of March 8th school break. The sign itself has a 10-week delivery, so it is scheduled to be installed the week of March 22.

We all eagerly await the completion of construction.

### From the Finance

### Committee

By Jim Allen, Chair

For the first half of our fiscal year, from July 1 to December 31, 2009, we are still meeting our goal of managing a balanced budget (see Table). Our congregation continues their generous support and we express our appreciation to the congregation for keeping your pledges up to date. The tax statements for 2009 are being sent in January, you should be receiving them soon. If you have questions please contact Heidi Parmenter at the office between 9 am and 3 pm Monday through Thursday (602 840 8400) or send an email to administrator@phoenixuu.org.

## UUCP Financial Snapshot July 1, 2009—December 31, 2009

Category	Budget	Year to date actual	Percent of Budget
Pledge Income	\$360,000	\$177,817	49.4%
Total Income	\$680,725	\$384,644	56.5%
Total Expenses	\$680,725	\$364,068	53.5%
Net income	\$0	\$20,576	It's in the black!

# Share the Plate Collection on Feb 28, 2010

On Sunday, February 28 all undesignated collections will be donated to Booker T. Washington Child Development Center as part of our monthly Share the Plate Program. This collection was originally scheduled for January 17 but was delayed one month so that we could gather a collection for Haiti earthquake relief. That collection was donated to the UUSC.

Booker T. Washington Child Development Center is one of the City of Phoenix's original Head Start programs.

Now in its 41st year, Booker T. Washington serves 192 low income children and their families, who live within the boundaries of the Phoenix Elementary School District I, the Eastlake Park and Garfield Neighborhoods. There are limited licensed Early Childhood Education facilities in these inner city neighborhoods. Booker T. Washington has, and continues to be, one of the few early childhood education resources available to families in this area.

The Booker T Washington Child Development Program in central Phoenix between 15th-16th streets on East Adams was assisted by a loan from our congregation when it began 41 years ago. Support has continued through the congregation's contributions. Individuals from our congregation are now board members and volunteers in a library program, literacy and family programs and provide in-kind and financial support of the program.

There is much yet to do with the families and children of this inner city neighborhood and the Booker T Washington Head Start Program. What used to be an African American community is now largely Hispanic. Unfortunately,

we are now in a time of challenge to immigrants when special efforts are necessary to protect some of the children who are enrolled in this Head Start program, as well as their parents. Please give to continue UUCP support for this valuable education program.

If you would like to learn more about the Share the Plate Program or submit an application for an organization to be considered future donations, please contact a member of the Share the Plate Committee: Paula Kulina, Larry Thwing or Judy Lambert.

# From Green Sanctuary Committee

SPIDERS, POOLS AND MUSIC By Susan Leung, Chair
Talking about the web always reminds me of spiders. Therefore, I thought starting with those interesting arachnids might be the way to tell all of you that the Green Sanctuary Committee has worked on its page at UUCP's website. Check it out for news about upcoming committee activities as well as for links to area green events. Send any suggestions or additions to the committee at green@phoenixuu.org.

Now, about the pools – carpools, that is. In March, UUCP will take advan-

tage of a free trial offered by carpool-world.com. This internet site offers carpool networking services. You personally can use this site any time for free. We will set up a special UUCP group dedicated to carpooling for Sunday services and committee/group meetings. Look for the link in Compass at the end of February. Try it out and let us know if works for you.

What do music and Green Sanctuary have in common? CABARET! Join us on February 27 for a wonderful show by our choir with a green touch. Under the coordination of Lydia Yanak, volunteers will help make Cabaret a green event for the third year. If you can help, let us know by emailing to green@phoenixuu.org.

## Share the Plate 2009—2010

Collection	Designation	Amount
September 2009	Association Sunday	\$1500.15
October 2009	TransMentors	\$1152.14
November 2009	Interfaith Cooperative Ministry	\$1022.50
December 2009	Circulo de Amigas	\$1161.00
January 2010	UUSC Haiti Relief Fund	\$2896.72
Th	ank you for your generosity to this pro	ogram!

Page 8 www.phoenixuu.org

### Ministry and Committee Reports...

# From the Social Action Committee

By Sarah Burchard, Co-Chair
The Social Action Committee would like to thank the congregation for attending and supporting the Dream Act play which we have worked so long and hard to get performed in our sanctuary.

### NEW DAY FAMILY SHELTER

Our congregation's long association with the UMOM's New Day Center serving dinner the first Sunday every month to approximately 150 including many children. Cooking is done between services (in summer after church service). We cook posse stew and let it simmer until 4 pm when the four or five servers meet at church to pack up the entire meal. Arriving at New Day by 5 we begin preparations for serving at 5:30. In addition to stew there is salad, bread and butter, brownies (made by members) and milk. Katie Raife very ably heads up this community building project.

In October New Day moved to new and larger facilities across the street at 32nd Street and Van Buren where the indoor and outdoor facilities are greatly improved.

#### ART ACTIVITY

The children come into the large gymnasium after dinner for an hour to participate in an art activity. From four years to teens we provide a simple activity so they can enjoy creating while socializing with friends. We are still in need of someone who will facilitate this very worthwhile and fun activity. It is necessary to be somewhat creative with patience for children but it is not necessary to be an art teacher. Susan Harris has volunteered for a few months but

will soon travel home to Washington state. We also need three or four volunteers to help supervise the children. See Bev Spiars or Heather McLellan at the Social Action table or coffee hour to learn more about this opportunity.

# IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE UPDATE

By Bill Lace, Chair

The Immigration Task Force is working to promote the passage of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level which aligns with Unitarian-Universalist values. With health care legislation perhaps nearing a resolution, comprehensive immigration reform is expected to have real movement in 2010. A bill was introduced in the House in December helping to kick start the process. In anticipation of another chance to solve this issue which affects Arizona and the United States in numerous ways, diverse groups from throughout the country have come together to form a new coalition Reform Immigration FOR America (RIFA). The UUA is a member of the coalition. RIFA has opened a Arizona office which the task force has begun working with. RIFA and some of its major members have studied past failures and identified a new strategy for passage. The Task Force is also working with the Arizona Advocacy Network in forming a presentation based on this new strategy to be shared with various audiences throughout the state. In January the Social Action Committee and the Task Force brought the "Dream Act" play to the congregation and the community. We will continue to work to keep the congregation informed and engaged in pursuit of reform.

The Task Force is chaired by Bill Lace and he can be contacted at

bill.lace@gmail.com.

### Ministry and Committee Reports...

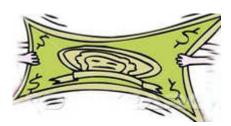
### Save the date!

Our musical extravaganza and annual UUCP fundraiser

Cabaret will be

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Come out and support our community at UUCP!



The theme is **Hard Times – Great Tunes** 



Please visit our

Calendar of Events at www.phoenixuu.org for up-to-date events and meetings, as well as our weekly newsletter, the *UUCP Compass*.

## Compassionate

## Communication Workshop

Saturday, March 13, 2010 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at UUCP Presenter – Christine Dove, MSW. LCSW

Compassionate Communication, also known as Nonviolent Communication, is a way of interacting with others so the flow of communication helps us exchange information and resolve differences.

### Objectives

- Creating more satisfying human connections
- Meet your needs while honoring other's values
- Increase good will
- Emphasize responsibility rather than guilt, shame or blame
- Build cooperation
- Heal from previous painful experiences

Cost \$30 which includes lunch Register before March 5, 2010 in the back of sanctuary after service or call Sandy Thomson 602 818-8664

Page 10 www.phoenixuu.org

### Celebrations of Life

### 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

FEBRUARY 7: SOUL SEARCHING

Speaker: Susan Goldsmith Service Leader: Terry Simmons

A. Powell Davies, much admired and often quoted Unitarian minister of the first half of the 20th Century, said "Life is just a chance to grow a soul." What might that mean to us as UUs? How am I doing on this project? How are you doing?

### FEBRUARY 14: REIMAGINING VALENTINE'S DAY

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

As part of a national Standing on the Side of Love campaign, we will join with Unitarian Universalist congregations all over the country who are reimagining Valentine's Day by deepening our understanding of the power of love to overcome oppression.

### FEBRUARY 21: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICE

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

This is an opportunity to celebrate our four-legged, web-toed, slithering, furry or otherwise description companions, and how they enrich our lives. Bring your pets to this service for special recognition. And, if you have a testimony you would like to share about what your pet(s) have meant to you, please contact Rev. Susan (minister@phoenixuu.org). She would love to incorporate multiple voices in this service.

#### FEBRUARY 28: A CLARITY OF PURPOSE

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

What does it mean to be a mission driven congregation? What does it mean to live, both personally and as congregation, bound to something larger than our selves, to values and a purpose that extend far beyond our own lives? To what great purpose do you want your life to be devoted and what difference does it make to know the answer to that question?

Share the plate offering will benefit Booker T. Washington Child Development Center

### Volunteer Greeters Needed

Looking for an opportunity to meet new people and welcome members and visitors into the congregation? The membership committee is looking for more volunteer greeters for either the first or second service, and for special occasions.

If interested please email <a href="mailto:membership@phoenixuu.org">membership@phoenixuu.org</a> and someone will contact you.

President: Sarah Carlson Vice President: Paula Kulina Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell

Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker Religious Education Director: Kim St. Clair

Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt Membership Coordinator: Kate Otting Administrator: Heidi Parmenter

Custodian: Manuel Gomez

Early Education Cooperative Director: Jane Armstrong

Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Mendez

Office Volunteers: Larry Agle, Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, Art Dupont, Tish

Gauntt, Sharon Hise, Pauline Peverly, Julie Smart and Judith Willison

### **Our Mission**

Our religious community aspires to:

- Embrace diversity as we engage in the passionate pursuit of Unitarian Universalist principles;
- 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



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix 4027 East Lincoln Drive Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253-3946 www.phoenixuu.org