



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Journal of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

April 2010

Now is the Time (Really, Right Now)

Our combined capital and stewardship campaign will wrap up on Sunday, April 18, with a special event. We will announce how far we have come, celebrate our collective accomplishment, and enjoy tasty finger food, music, and good fellowship after each service. We will have sweets and savories significantly finer than your normal coffee hour cuisine. No speeches, just munchies and good times. Come and help us celebrate.

Of course, we also need you to give us ample reason to celebrate. Return those pledge forms! The pledge return boxes are in the lobby and the sanctuary, as are pledge forms and brochures to supplement those that we mailed.

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The form can also be downloaded from the website. The key thing is to respond now. Declare yourself. Make it real.

Remember that this is a combined campaign. The annual stewardship pledge supports all that we do together and is fundamental to our community's vibrancy. We are asking that you make UUCP a priority in your charitable giving, demonstrating your commitment to making our values active in the world. The additional capital pledge over three years will upgrade our restroom facilities to be accessible and functional. We absolutely need the restrooms and sewer to assure the continued viability of UUCP on this property.

We have much to celebrate – our wonderful minister, inspiring music, remarkable youth, stirring commitment to justice. Most of all, we have this community that we are building week by week. By April 18, make your pledge. On April 18, help us celebrate the latest milestone in our continuing journey together.

Gary Ezzell
Chair, Combined Capital/
Stewardship Campaign

Update from the Renovation Committee

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.

March has been an important month for the construction project:

1. The doors and windows in the 1965 annex have been installed.
2. The base of the sign has been poured.
3. Some final touch-up work for the fire alarm and sprinklers was finished.
4. The DVLC team has re-sodded the grass area where the fire line was installed.

The Town of Paradise Valley has approved the sign permit. The sign will be installed in 4-6 weeks.

We all eagerly await the completion of construction.

Don Weir
Chair, Renovation Committee

Minister's Musings

The conservative pundit Glenn Beck expanded the reach of his attacks this month by specifically going after the Christian Church. On his radio show, he told his listeners to check the websites of their Christian churches and if they found the words social justice or economic justice, to run as quickly and as far as they could from that church and to report their pastors to the authorities.

In response Christian and Catholic churches are attacking back. Jim Wallis, the Evangelical Christian editor of Sojourner's magazine (a progressive, social justice-oriented Christian publication) told Christians to boycott Glenn Beck and stop listening to his shows.

Glenn Beck used an old tactic thrown at the civil rights movement leaders. He said that "social justice" and "economic justice" and "progressive" were all code words for communism. Dr. King and the people and congregations that supported civil rights for African Americans were also called communists. However, something Beck misses is that when Dr. King was asked why more African Americans were not becoming part of socialist or communist movements, King said it was due their strong Christian faith. Ironically, Beck equated Marxism and communism with Christianity that preaches social justice. Even his own Mormon church distanced themselves from Beck's comments. They too teach about social justice.

Judaism and other faiths were left out of Beck's attack, but still, it is pretty difficult to preach a message

from the Christian scriptures or the Hebrew Bible and never touch on poverty, slavery or injustice. From the story of Moses to the 8th century Hebrew prophet Jeremiah (let justice roll down like water, and peace like an ever-flowing stream) to Jesus' famous words, "I've come to bring good news to the poor," the scriptures are filled with the message that God is foremost concerned with the poor, the sick, and those in bondage. As Jim Wallis says, "Poverty breaks God's heart." And so, most religious congregations (Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, Unitarian Universalist and so many others) devote themselves not only to caring for the poor, but working to change systems that create poverty, slavery or enforce discrimination.

Beck warns his listeners against congregations that have social justice as their doctrine. But even Unitarian Universalist congregations do not have social justice as their doctrine. We say every week, "Love is the doctrine." It is not social justice that drives us--but our faith that continually calls us to make room in our hearts to see all of humanity as our brothers and sisters. Once we have that vision, though, it is hard not to act on it. That too is what Jesus taught, when he sat with the gentiles and the tax collectors and the prostitutes. And that is what those congregations, congregations like ours, that Beck warns against are trying to do--to build a table where everyone is welcome.

And, yet, within our own congregation, we disagree on how best

to address injustice and poverty. As Democrats and Republicans and Independents, we may see different roles for government in this, different solutions to the problems of poverty, healthcare, illiteracy, even immigration. This is where healthy, intelligent debate ought to take place. I feel discouraged at times that so little of that intelligent debate actually happens. Instead, we have flamboyant pundits that confuse history and substitute controversy for meaningful discussion. Instead, we have politicians more concerned with getting re-elected than doing what is needed. I apologize for the lament, but in the age of the sound byte, my American spirit yearns for wise and thoughtful discussion, and practical solutions.

Just to save you time, I did check our website and "social justice" appears in the first sentence of the welcome on the home page of our website. I'll leave it to you all to report me to Peter Morales, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. I am sure he will be proud.

See you Sunday,

Susan

Welcoming All In

by Linda Lawrence, Membership Coordinator

Our trial mission statement begins with the words, “Welcoming all in...” That is a statement of radical hospitality. To welcome all in might even be considered a spiritual discipline because it takes a lot of practice to be truly welcoming. Welcoming all in is an ideal. It’s easy to say – not so easy to do. We have to work at it. We have to be willing to risk reaching out to make connections.

To welcome all in implies that we are willing to share what we treasure. It also means that we are willing to listen, to learn, to be sensitive to the needs of others – in short, to be changed ourselves as we open our doors, our hearts, and our minds to others.

Wow! You Sunday morning greeters thought you only had to offer a friendly smile and a handshake! Yes, those things are important too, but as your new Membership Coordinator, I want you to know that you are laying the groundwork for so much more. I

salute you for your courage and commitment. You are on the front line when it comes to living out our proposed congregational mission. Thank you for your fine example.

On a personal note, I want to thank Rev. Susan, Connie, the choir, and the members of the Welcoming Ministry Team for helping me and my partner Gary make a big transition. We went from homesickness to feeling right at home at UUCP! The friendliness and positive energy of the congregation are contagious. It is obvious that welcoming all in is a team effort. Let’s make the next hundred people feel just as welcomed as Gary and I feel.

I am pleased and honored to follow in Kate Otting’s footsteps as your new Membership Coordinator. I look forward to working with the Membership and Membership Engagement Committees and am impressed with their work thus far. Welcoming and integrating new members into our congregation is very important to me. I think we are called to share the good news of Unitarian Universalism. Why? Be-

cause I believe that Unitarian Universalist principles, when put into action, have the power to heal and transform the world. Do you agree? Then invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to come to a Sunday service with you. Contact me (membershipcoordinator@phoenixuu.org) or Membership Committee Chair Laida Restrepo (membership@phoenixuu.org) to become a part of the Welcoming Ministry team.

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

Jess Otis Allen
Lucy Burrell Allen
Irving I. Bezman
Virginia Ann Bliklen
Bruce H Clayton
Eleanor Dana-Mast
Edward Ellison Davis
Hanna B. Parker
Lucy Buckner Wells

UUCP Staff Recognized in UUA Publication

In the Winter 2010 edition of the UUA's "Religious Leader" newsletter, Rev. Susan and Connie were both quoted on page 5 and as excerpted below.

Music Leadership Credentialing

The first group of UU music leaders was credentialed in May 2009. They and their congregations are now at a point to reflect on how the Music Leadership Credentialing program has affected their music ministry. Connie Jahrmarkt is the music director at the UU Congregation of Phoenix, and Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray is the congregation's minister. This is what they have to say about the program:

Connie Jahrmarkt

My congregation now has a music leader who:

- 1. Has better knowledge about the denomination as a whole and how UU communities are structured*
- 2. Better understands the history and roots of the denomination*
- 3. Better understands the hymnal compilation process and the need for much input from many sources on such projects*
These three help hymn introductions on Sunday mornings become more meaningful
- 4. Is more known in the denomination among musicians and clergy*
- 5. Has a better realization of the potential of her leadership in the congregation and the significance of a full and vital*

music ministry to the congregation that can also affect the greater community

- 6. Has more confidence in what she has to offer to specifically a UU congregation, even though when she arrived at the congregation twelve years ago, she already had twenty-three years of choir conducting/Music Director experience and two music degrees under her belt.*

The result is that the UU Congregation of Phoenix is getting much more from their music leader: more dedication to the movement and to our congregation, expertise in how to challenge, engage and energize the congregation members to be more effective as leaders in our congregation and in our community. We may just look like we're singing/making music but there is so much more that is happening and that will continue to happen. It's possible that this all could have been achieved without the program, but the Credentialing program focused everything. And colleagues from many backgrounds were involved in the process. This was an essential part of the program.

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

I have been so impressed by the UUA's Music Leadership Credentialing Program and we are feeling dramatic effects in our worship and music ministry as a result of this program. Just yesterday, a woman who has been a member and leader of our congregation for more than 30 years commented to another member that in all her years, "She had no idea worship could be like this,

that it could be so moving and so good." Every week we have multiple musicians playing together. Our music director, Connie Jahrmarkt, creates an environment of invitation and ministry with our music program. Our choir is bursting at the seams and filling up the stage. And the members who share their music gifts love it and feel renewed by being such and integral part of our worship life.

What I as the minister have seen as a result of the Credentialing program is our Music Director flourish as a partner in the creation of worship and as a minister of the congregation through music. The result is an unleashing of energy, creativity, and vibrancy that attracts members to bring and share their gifts for music abundantly and generously with the congregation. Several members of the congregation have commented how much they have seen our music director grow through the credentialing process. It has helped us work as a collaborative team in worship that brings out the best of us.

Choir Festival and Birthday Celebration

Here are pictures from our first ever UUAZ Choir festival last Saturday.

We met from 10-4 and gave a concert at 4 PM. The concert closed with a hymn sing, led by Kellie Walker with piano, bass, drums, violin and viola accompaniment.

Our program included:

- "Get Out" by Elizabeth Alexander (UU Composer) conducted by Kellie Walker (Chandler)
- "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" conducted by Connie Jahrmarkt (Phoenix)
- "Wind in the Desert" by Lou Prince, lyrics by Patty Christiena Willis and conducted by Lou Prince (Green Valley)
- "Dies Irae" from the Mozart Requiem, conducted by Brian Moon (Tucson)

Sharon Douglas, music director of Sierra Vista, was also present. Singers totaled about 50.

What a great day!



VUU Prescott Family Retreat: Mark Your Calendars! Please join in the fun!

April 23rd-25th will be a fun weekend in the woods at Pine Summit Camp, www.pinesummitcamp.com. Besides being located in a beautiful forest, they have a mini-golf course, basketball and volleyball courts and an enclosed gym with a rock wall, a zip line, and a game room. You'll spend two nights in dormitory-style rooms, enjoy five meals, and spend time with new and longtime UU friends. Registration will begin on March 21. For more information contact Nancy Stillings at nstillings1@cox.net or 480-325-0550 or Tricia Merrill at Patricia.Merrill@intel.com or 480-706-9274.

From Your Lifespan Religious Education Director

The worship team (Rev. Susan, Connie and myself) just completed our fifth multigenerational service this past Sunday with flower communion and "Old Turtle and the Broken Truth." We received many wonderful compliments as well as gentle suggestions for improvement (both of which are always welcome). It struck me, however, that we have never explained why we have embraced monthly multigenerational worship.

There has been a growing recognition among UU congregations that children, youth and adults all benefit from worshiping together on a regular basis. The dawning of this realization came from youth reporting that they rarely if ever attended worship as they were growing up, and they found they didn't know how to do adult worship once they were no longer in the youth group. As a result, we lost many of our youth as they bridged into young adulthood. Monthly "Children's Worship" appeared to solve this dilemma, but we discovered that 25-30 children of multiple ages all together in a room with only a few adults was challenging, and we simply no longer had enough space to conduct these services.

Additionally, a culture of "two churches" had evolved through the decades - children and youth and adults being segregated in their worship experience. I personally experienced a perception among adults that children were to be

"trotted up front" every now and again for a pageant, but otherwise their presence wasn't valuable because the service would have to be "watered down" too much. On the other hand, the perception among parents (including myself) was that adult worship was "too boring" for children, and parents would do nothing but wrangle children to sit still and be quiet.

Hence, the worship team decided to tackle monthly multigenerational worship. We explored the elements of a successful multigenerational worship, which in a nutshell is creating a worship experience that appeals to multiple senses (sight, sound, movement, smell) with a message that is understandable to children while also meaningful to adults. Our use of multiple voices, a story woven throughout the service elements as opposed to a sermon, props and other visual aids, upbeat music, and opportunities for movement and participation are all elements of multigenerational worship.

I recognize we still have much to learn about transformational multigenerational worship, but I am quite proud to have worked along side Rev. Susan and Connie this past year in creating a worship experience that is meaningful for people of all ages. Although those Sundays are a lot more work than a "normal" Sunday for the entire team, I personally leave uplifted by the experience.

I hope you all will continue to give us the gift of your presence and your gracious feedback as

we move along this exciting venture together.

In peace and love,
Kim

Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation. . . Children's Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL SHORTS **1st-2nd Grade - Teacher Sara -**

The 1st-2nd grade class has been exploring the idea of why people and animals die. We've explored this theme by water coloring our different feelings, reading stories, learning what other religions believe about death, and watching "The Lion King." In the upcoming weeks, we are going to explore "how life began!"

5th-6th Grade Class - Teachers Steve and Cynthia - The 5th-6th graders will be exploring the changes of early adolescence with Our Whole Lives. Parents attended an orientation at the end of February, and the class is in full swing for the next six weeks.

7th-8th Grade Class - Teacher Hannah - The 7th-8th grade Sunday School class is having lots of fun watching movies (and even a few episodes of the Twilight Zone!) and using them to spark discussions of our Unitarian Universalist values. We're also finishing up the stress management curriculum, "Fighting Invisible Tigers."

Second Service Children's Fellowship - Teachers Angela and Geraldine - This multi-age class (4 through 11 years old) is held in Room 10 during second service.

To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . . Adult Religious Education Ministry

ARE APRIL MUUVIE NIGHT
'Twas the Night Before Tax Day:
Capitalism: A Love Story
April 21, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the
Johnson Room—\$5 suggested
donation

"On the 20-year anniversary of his groundbreaking masterpiece 'Roger & Me,' Michael Moore's 'Capitalism: A Love Story' comes home to the issue he's been examining throughout his career: the disastrous impact of corporate dominance on the everyday lives of Americans. But this time the culprit is much bigger than General Motors, and the crime scene is far wider than Flint, Michigan."

CONSIDERING THE ASIAN RELIGIONS... EVERY SUNDAY IN APRIL

Beyond the Bhagavad-Gita, this series of classes, based on the book by the same name, asks just how useful and socially ethical the Asian religions really are. The answers will be up to you, but the class will facilitate ways to consider them. Does the religion that started the caste system somehow redeem itself with better and later models for living? Will meditation really help, or will I end up in the woods living the ascetic's life,

alms bowl in hand, before I find enlightenment? We will take a serious look at the Eastern religions, how they started and how they work today, and ask pragmatically, "Is this something that can help me here and now?"

Join Terry Simmons and a dozen or so of UUCP's inquiring minds at 9:00 every Sunday in Room 9 this month to consider our journey together.

Pathway to Membership Class Starts April 11th

The next Pathway to Membership class will be held Sunday, April 11th (9:30-11:15 AM) AND Saturday, April 17th (6:00-8:30 PM). The Sunday class will be held during the first service, so that you can (if you choose) attend the second service at 11:15. The class will continue on a Saturday evening (April 17th), when we will have a potluck along with a program with our minister, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, and members of our congregation. There will also be a celebration to welcome anyone in the class who chooses to join our congregation. Details about the potluck will be discussed on the first day during the classroom session. If you choose not to join at that time, don't worry. The class is designed primarily to inform you about membership in our congregation. Please RSVP using the following link. You can pick this class or future dates to attend. RSVP to Heidi in the UUCP office, at (602)840-8400 or administrator@phoenixuu.org.

From the Social Action Committee

The April Social Action Luncheon will be held in the Johnson Room after the second service on April 18th. All are invited to attend. Our own UUCP members Bill Lace and Sandra Weir will be speaking on comprehensive immigration reform, particularly highlighting a presentation prepared in partnership with Arizona Advocacy Network.

IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE UPDATE

The Immigration Task Force is working to promote the passage of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level that aligns with Unitarian Universalist values. We are also looking at how recently passed and proposed Arizona laws adversely affect undocumented immigrant families, particularly U.S. citizen children. We are partnering with local and national groups to solve this issue, which affects Arizona and the United States in numerous ways. We are involved with local and national immigration reform gatherings occurring in late March and early April. A congregation project expanding upon these efforts is planned to start this year. We will continue 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.

Share the Plate Program

On Sunday, April 25 all undesignated collections will be donated to the Phoenix Permaculture Guild as part of our monthly Share the Plate Program.

The Phoenix Permaculture Guild is a local nonprofit that works to inspire sustainable urban living through education, community involvement and creative cooperation. As their website describes, permaculture is a term that combines “permanent” and “agriculture;” it addresses sustainability of human and natural ecosystems – each dependent on one another. The Guild offers a variety of programs, including weekly sustainable living classes, monthly tours of local sustainable homes, ongoing hands-on training opportunities, an Annual Fruit Tree program, the Tour de Coops Event (visit local chickens and their abodes), Mesquite Bean Milling, and special event demonstration booths for expos and festivals. Their work is particularly valuable as it is locally based and specifically applicable to the metro Phoenix area.

The Phoenix Permaculture Guild has worked with UUCP’s Green Sanctuary Committee to present workshops to members of the congregation on composting, sustainable gardening, rainwater harvesting, and keeping chickens. They also participated in last year’s Pacific Southwest District Assembly. You can learn more about Phoenix Permaculture Guild at their website, www.phoenixpermaculture.org.

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

From the Green Sanctuary Committee

EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

In April, try one of the following alternative methods of transportation and then share your experience with us at green@phoenixuucp.org:

1. Try carpooling. Our one-month trial period with www.carpoolworld.com will happen in April. You can use this service for free at any time. During April, we will have a special link just for UUCP members to try carpooling to Sunday service and congregational meetings/events.
2. Bike. Google now offers a way to plan your bike route. Check it out at Google maps.
3. Take the bus. Phoenix offers a Transit Trip Planner at www.valleymetro.org.

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU... THE GREEN YOU"

Lots of our UUCP members lead sustainable lives. We want to share some of their techniques and at the same time get to know them better. If you would like to share any “green” things that you have found to be successful, please let us know

(HarrietWithUUCP@aol.com). Likewise, if you would like to suggest someone else, tell us that, too.

Lois Leader has lived in the Phoenix area since she was six years old, moving here from Chicago, which she remembers mainly as being very cold. After twelve years of school—in fact, the day after graduation—she married Eric, her high school sweetheart, with whom she shares interests such as hiking and figuring out math puzzles. Eric works in medical Information Technology and Lois teaches math, currently at the high school where they met. Their children, Arwen and Aaron, are in their mid-twenties and, happily, still live in the area. Lois has been with UUCP for twelve years, active in the Adult Religious Education and Green Sanctuary Committee programs.

As for their sustainability efforts, Lois and Eric focus on living simply. They built their Phoenix house on five acres of the original Leader homestead. The rest of the homestead having been sold, Eric and Lois remain. They keep their small house cool by using a swamp cooler and lots of shade from their property’s trees, part of the desert landscaping. Much food came from gardening and from raising animals for eggs and

milk, but floods and coyotes have proven this to be impractical. Their mountain cabin, south of Prescott, is powered solely by a wind turbine, with battery storage for calm days. They are also installing a rainwater harvesting system. Although mostly for the summertime, the cabin can be used in the winter, with the last half-mile accessible only by snowshoe.

Living in the wilds of Phoenix, as they do, has its challenges. One recent evening, Lois was walking their two dogs when she was charged by four angry javelina. She had to run back to the house, dragging the dogs, to avoid being mauled. The Leaders also have first-hand experience with scorpions and rattlesnakes.

Amy Light's and Mick Robins's house is on the market, and they're attempting to "green" the moving process.

Unhappily for UUCP, they are moving to Oregon to be closer to her family and for a more rural lifestyle. Amy and Mick, who comes from England, met in Chicago. After marriage they moved to Tuba City, AZ where she was a physician with the Indian Health Service and he worked with NAU in archeology, researching rock art among the ancient Pueblo cultures. Five and a half years ago, they moved to Phoenix, and have been members of UUCP for the past two. Their four children—Neville, 18; Max, 15; Pei, 10; and Sadie, 7—have been active at UUCP in activities like YRUU and the Family Choir.

Even in their move, they are dedicated to recycling. Searching the Internet for "used boxes," they found packing cartons that had been used but were in fine shape. Among other recycling efforts, they try not to throw anything away, donating items to Savers, Goodwill or schools, and they purchase second-hand whenever possible. Even grocery store plastic bags can be returned to Safeway and Sprouts, as can compact fluorescent light bulbs to Home Depot.

Amy has traveled by herself extensively, spending four and a half months in Europe and going alone twice to Asia. The first time was to Srinagar, India, in the northeast, where she studied medicine at a hospital specializing in infectious diseases. On her second trip, she traveled for 10 weeks in Thailand and Burma. Finally, both Amy and Mick went to China to adopt their two daughters.

Covenant Group Ministry

ZIP CODE 85250 COVENANT GROUP

Enrich your spiritual and emotional life. Enjoy a close relationship with a group of loyal and supportive UU friends. Explore the world of UU principles, values, and cherished traditions. For more information on how to participate in this ministry, contact Natalie Summit: covenant-groups@phoenixuu.org.

Nominating Committee News

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce our nominations to be voted on during the congregational meeting at the end of May.

For Board of Trustees (two-year terms):

- Jimmy Leung - Vice President/President Elect
- Smoot Carl-Mitchell - Treasurer
- Dave Johnson - Member at Large

Remaining on the Board will be Paula Kulina (President), Sarah Carlson (Past-President), Todd Cruse, and Jay Bastani.

For Nominating Committee (two-year terms):

- Larry Agle
- Susan Morris
- Sandy Weir

Remaining on the Nominating Committee will be Gene Harvey, Donna Featherston, Ann Marie Ciemny.

We have one more nomination for the Board yet to be finalized. We will publish biographical summaries of the nominees in the May Horizons.

Finance Committee

The budget process for next year has begun with the combined Stewardship and Capital campaigns. As you participate in those events, the staff and finance committee are reviewing the budget needs for the coming year, with the goal of matching the expenses with the income to have a balanced budget. For this fiscal year, which ends June 30, we are still on track to have a balanced budget. We thank the congregation for their continuing support of the congregation by keeping the pledges up to date. If you have questions about your pledges please contact Heidi Parmenter at the office between 9 am and 3 pm, Monday through Friday, at 602-840-8400 or send an email to administrator@phoenixuu.org.

Unicare

This month we celebrate the wonders of medical science for its ability to rescue and restore the lives of those in our UU community whom we hold dear.

Lois Fisher, who was given the gift of a new kidney, is now back to work nurturing the children in her preschool. We share this great joy with Lois and her husband Dale.

"Hip, hip, hooray!" for Jean Rosenberg, who just had her second hip replacement. We wish her a speedy recovery. If we are a sum of our parts, it's great when the parts work well! Congratulations to proud parents David Johnson and Stephanie Hart

on the birth of their son Wynstan Garnet Hart, born on January 28th. Welcome to Adrian Dennison Abbey, born on February 15th, grandson of very pleased grandparents Mary and Dave Abbey.

Our best wishes to Ernie Garcia as he starts his new career of "retired!" We are sure that he will be busier than ever.

A fond good-bye to Becky and Tom McGill, as they move to Maine, where Tom has been accepted to medical school. We will miss them as they embark on this great adventure.

We keep Lynn Raabe in our thoughts as she suffers the loss of Dick Raabe. Although Lynn and Dick spend half of the year in Michigan, many in our congregation have become close to Lynn and Dick and will miss his presence.

To all those who are dealing with life's challenges, we send our love and support.

UU Fellowship of North Bay WINE COUNTRY HOLIDAY

"Napa was as delightful as I had expected. What was equally important and somewhat unexpected was the profound connections I felt with my hosts and hostesses."

Carol Lim, Los Angeles

The UUs of Napa, California proudly announce a new season of Wine Country Excursions. This program is designed to help this small UU fellowship raise the funds needed to move out of rental space and into a home of its own.

There much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys: wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads.

We offer two choices: Both start with comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a two-day "Wine Country Excursion," a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of our members--some with wine industry experience--or lodging and self-guided touring.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are below market rate for similar services and *all proceeds go to our small fellowship*. For complete details contact: Tom Wilson (707-254-7443) or 2wilson-sldog@comcast.net

We look forward to sharing our lovely "home" with you!

Celebrations of Life

9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

APRIL 4 EASTER SUNDAY: FROM DARKNESS, LIGHT DOES SPRING

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

The story of Jesus' death and resurrection speaks to the message we all need to hear, of how hope can arise even in the darkest of times, of how life, even our lives, can be made anew once more. Let us celebrate this presence of hope and joy, and be stirred again with a love of life.

APRIL 11 MULTIGENERATIONAL YRUU MUSIC SERVICE

Service Leaders: Our youth group, Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU)

APRIL 18 CELEBRATE COMMITMENT SUNDAY!

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

This service will be the culmination of our Combined Capital and Stewardship Campaign. Let us celebrate the commitment we have made to the present and future of UUCP with worship, music and a coffee hour party! Thank you to everyone for your generous pledges. If you have not already made your pledges to the Annual Stewardship and three-year Capital campaign, please do so by April 18th. Let's Make it Real!

APRIL 25 EARTH DAY SERVICE: A THEOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

What are the social and theological frameworks that have led us to so take for granted the earth and its natural resources? We have made many energy improvements and important efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle. But do we need to delve further, not just changing our actions, but changing our outlook, to recover a sense of our

Soulful Sundown

First Fridays

Band Rehearses at 6 PM Service Starts 7 PM

APRIL 2

Guest Speaker Rick Wambaugh
Stories of the First Peoples in AZ

MAY 7

Our Own Stories & Stories Yet To Be
Bring your Stories and your Dreams for the Future

*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: Linda Lawrence
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 Dorothy LeWin*

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



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