



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Journal of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

May 2010

Notice of Congregation Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 11:45 a.m. following the service. Agenda will include adoption of next year's budget, elections, approval of GA delegates, and adoption of a statement of UUCP's Mission. The 2010 Annual Report will be available on our website on Friday, May 21, prior to the annual meeting and a limited number of paper copies will be available for check out from the office.

Notice of Unitarian Universalist Foundation Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 23, 2010 following the service at 11:45 a.m. Agenda will include review of the financial

investments of the UUF, elections of two board members and any other business that may come before the congregation.

Make It Real: Combined Capital and Stewardship Campaign Update

What a campaign! On April 18th, we wrapped up the public phase of our Combined Stewardship and Capital campaign with over \$339,462 raised for next year's ministry budget and over \$796,840 raised for the three-year Capital Campaign. I thank everyone who was a part of making these campaigns so strong. We knew going into these campaigns the financial reality we are all living through. We knew it would temper what was possible, yet we still succeeded in raising beyond what our fundraising consultant predicted! I want to share with you my elation at the money we have raised and the work that we will soon begin to strengthen our ministry and care for our building.

So what comes next? Our Stewardship follow-up team has been organized and will be contacting members who have not yet responded to the campaign. If you have not yet made your pledge for the 2010-2011 Stewardship Cam-

paign, you can do so through the online pledge form on our website, or by calling the office, or picking up a paper form at the congregation. We know many people are facing financial difficulty. If you are experiencing a financial hardship, we ask you still to return at pledge form, with "request for waiver" on the form. This lets us know you are still invested in this community and it lets us reach out to you in this time. Our goal this year was not just to fund our ministry and bring our facilities up to better standards, but ultimately, and most importantly, to strengthen the bonds of our community.

In the meantime, the renovation team will begin working with the architect and builder to scale the project toward \$750,000. The first estimates, even with some scaling back put the project at \$950,000, so we do not know how much further we can bring the costs down. At the same time, a financing team has begun to meet and map out how we finance the project. At our May 23rd meeting we will be presenting as much information as we have about how we will approach this project and the steps it will take to make it real.

Thank you for all you are doing to Make it Real!

Susan Frederick-Gray

In this issue...

Minister's Musings...	2
From the Staff...	2-8
Ministry and Committee Reports...	9-12
Services...	13

Minster's Musings

As we approach the end of our congregation's program year and individuals and families begin to think about vacation or cooler spots, we will also be saying a very important good-bye.

Kim St. Clair, who has been our Director of Lifespan Religious Education for the past seven years will be taking a new position as an English teacher at Washington High School here in Phoenix (see Kim's article in this month's Horizons).

Kim has brought many strengths to UUCP, including her gifts for administration, organization, and planning. Her greatest gift has been her love for our children and young adults, and her passion for raising our children to understand and claim Unitarian Universalism as their own faith. As we begin the work of saying good-bye to Kim, we know she leaves big shoes to fill and a great program for our next DLRE. Kim's last day as DLRE will be Sunday, July 25. The congregation as a whole will have the opportunity to formally acknowledge Kim's contributions during the service on May 23rd.

I will be putting together a hiring team to advertise, recruit and hire a new DLRE. We hope to have a new person begin on August 1. Kim will be planning for the fall to make a smooth transition to the next director. One of the best gifts that we can give to Kim as she leaves is to say "yes" when she asks for our help to support the strength of the religious education program next year. Let us ease her mind that RE program is in good and caring hands and that the next leader will have a strong group of teachers and volunteers to support the transition.

One of the greatest gifts of community is the ways we build bonds of love and care with one another. We are fortunate that we don't say good-bye to Kim completely. She will remain an active member of UUCP. Still, we know the relationship will be different and so we honor this passage, this transition.

As our program year begins to draw to a close at the end of May, we do the work of saying goodbye, and preparing the ground to welcome a new person to lead the education program of UUCP.

Thank you, Kim, for all you have brought to this community and the lives of our children, and our own religious development as adults. We send you off with all our blessings for your professional and personal life.

Yours,

Susan

From the President

About a year and half ago at the ministerial start-up conference, the board received the clear message that the Congregation envisioned itself as a community that wants to grow and spread UU-ism, make progress in renovating and improving our facilities, and engage in effective and influential social action. Since that time, the board has steered a course to realize the future envisioned over the next few years for UUCP at the start-up.

An important part of the board's work this year has been to concentrate on the transition to pol-

icy-based governance by, well, making policy. Focus on that transition is particularly appropriate in light of UUCP's growth in members and programs; UUCP has simply grown beyond the point where it is feasible for programs and day-to-day operations to wait for board input or resolution at a monthly meeting. Rather, it is UUCP's professional and lay staff, under the leadership of the minister, who can most effectively and efficiently handle programs and day-to-day operations. However, it is also essential to have clarity about the roles and responsibilities for which staff, led by the minister, are accountable to alleviate friction and the unnecessary expenditure of resources—including energy, time, and talent.

Consistent with the board's focus on the transition to policy-based governance, it established a framework and timeframe within which to create policies. Priority in that framework was given to establishing a policy that sets limits on the authority and responsibilities of staff, led by our minister. To accomplish that work, the board created an ad-hoc "governance working group," consisting of different board trustees who have met monthly since last summer to draft a "delegation" policy. Following considerable evaluation and thought in the governance working group sessions, the delegation policy was recently adopted by the board. It can be viewed by members on UUCP's website under the documents tab.

The transition to policy-based governance is not done. The governance working group is now developing a "board governance"

From the Staff...

made significant headway. In the coming months, the board plans to develop additional policies for the measurement of UUCP's success in achieving its mission and to create a new strategic plan for the next three to five years.

My time as president is rapidly drawing to a close and following the Annual Meeting on May 23, Paula Kulina will become president. Jimmy Leung has agreed to serve as vice-president/president-elect and Smoot Carl-Mitchell has graciously agreed to serve another term as treasurer. Todd Cruse and Jay Bastani will continue on the board, joined by a new trustee, David Johnson. Elaine Warner and Susan Morris conclude their terms on the board, as does Van Lockwood as the youth representative.

I count myself lucky to have had the opportunity, however imperfectly, to serve our Congregation and I deeply appreciate the support of our professional and lay leaders over the last two years. Perhaps most of all, I appreciate the energy, time, and talents of my fellow trustees, past and present.

Sarah Carlson

From the Nominating Committee

2010-11 NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee is pleased to provide the following information about nominees for the Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee. The election will be held at the annual meeting on May 23. We thank these dedicated members for their service to our UUCP community.

Board of Trustees (two-year term)



Vice-President (President-elect):
Jimmy Leung

I have been a member of the UUCP since

2004. My wife, Susan, and I have two daughters. All four of us are active members of the UUCP. I have served on the Board of Trustees of the UUCP in 2005-06 and 2008 to the pre-

sent, occupying the role of board secretary in the past year. In addition, I have helped in the last two combined campaigns under the leadership of both Don Weir and Gary Ezzell.

I am most grateful for having had the opportunity, in 2006-08, to serve as chair of the Ministerial Search Committee, which allowed me to do important and purposeful work with a truly dedicated and devoted group of people.

The UUCP is healthier and happier than at any other time since I have been a member. As we grow, it is critical that we maintain our momentum and purpose in this changing world. I, personally, am eager and would be very grateful for the opportunity to continue work on the Board of Trustees. The work of the Board ultimately depends on the needs of the mission, but as a board member, my priorities would be to:

- continue clarifying governance and purpose,
- define and implement a strategic plan for effective social action,
- articulate and authenticate our message to the greater community,
- strengthen the breadth and depth of our community's spiritual life.

A strong UU community can do a lot of good in this world. It's up to you and me to keep the UUCP strong.

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

Emma La Duke Ames	Louise Bauer Bercaw
Jean Berry	Ralph P.E. Dickinson
Ki Hermann	Donald J. Jackel
Wilhelmina (Mimi) Muth	Thaxter Robinson
Margaret (Peggy) D. Wilkinson	Kathy Van Kerkwyk (Grobe)

Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell



I was born into a Navy family in 1950. My spouse Char-

lotte and I have been in Arizona since 2000. We had been searching for a spiritual home and are glad we found it in this community which we joined in January 2005. This is our first UU experience.

My faith background is predominantly mainstream Protestant Christian. I was active in a progressive Episcopal church in Austin, TX, for over 25 years where I was the Senior Warden (equivalent to Board President) for one year and was the Treasurer for five years. Here I have served on the Board of Trustees for the past 4½ years as Treasurer. I am honored to be asked to serve an additional two years as we continue our journey in building a strong liberal faith community.

Professionally, I am a Computer Scientist and am currently working as an independent computer systems and network consultant.

Member at large: Richard Plattner



My kids, Sam and Katie, joined YRUU in 2001 through high school friends.

We started having mobs of YRUU kids over at our house, and the seduction process was soon well underway. My wife, the lovely and talented Susan Morris, joined the Choir in early 2002 and I joined in early 2003.

I'm now on my second capital campaign, and have served on the Committee on Ministry and the UU Foundation Board. UUCP is a tolerant, generous and forgiving congregation, which is proven by the fact that the Renovation Committee lets me keep pestering them and the Choir lets me keep singing! (And that folks have laughed at my jokes as Master of Ceremonies for the last four Cabarets—now that's generosity!)

I have practiced law in Phoenix since 1977, almost exclusively representing individuals and families seeking justice after an injury or death, usually battling the insurance industry, big corporations or the government.

I am a past President and Life Member of the Arizona Association for Justice (formerly known as the Arizona Trial Lawyers Association), and have served on its Board since 1985. So I have

some experience working in groups of highly-educated, cantankerous and well-intentioned people!

UUCP is well into a cycle of dynamic growth and improvement. We are transforming from a small to a mid-sized religious community. The energy and excitement is marvelous. And... growth always also brings growing pains and uncertainty. More members mean more needs to be served, which means more staff, more resources, more complication—all well worth it because we do more good for ourselves and the wider community. The Board has done yeoman's work to make the institutional changes needed to support our growth, and have positioned us well. I am pleased and flattered to be asked to participate.

Member at large: David Johnson



I became a UU shortly before moving to Arizona in 2004. I was originally a member of Valley UU

church in Chandler. At VUU, I led tai chi practice and facilitated the UUA course "Building Your Own Theology" for the ARE program and helped to bring the UU Men's Network steering council to Arizona for their 2007 winter meeting. My wife, Stephanie, and I joined UUCP in the summer of 2008 and were married in the UUCP sanctuary by Rev. Susan in March 2009. Our son, Wynstan, was born in January

From the Staff...

2010. I have been a course facilitator in the UUCP ARE program and am a member of the UUCP "Voicing Our Values" task force that has been asked by the Board to develop a new UUCP mission statement.

I work as a municipal lobbyist for a Valley community. My family and I live in the historic F.Q. Story neighborhood in central Phoenix. I am eagerly awaiting the day when Wynstan is big enough to wear a life preserver so we can take our sailboat out on Tempe Town Lake!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (TWO-YEAR TERM)

Larry Agle



I have been a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix for four

years. In that time I have been a Monday volunteer in the office, Chaired the Membership Committee, Facilitated a Covenant Group, and taught Adult Religious Education classes (A Chosen Faith, Understanding the Bible, and the history of Unitarian Universalist Movement) as well as assisted Pauline Peverly with the Job Club.

Susan Morris



Raised Presbyterian, I gave up the dogma of religious learning as a young adult. As it turns out, I lived for 30 years by UU principles before finding my way to UUCP eight years ago through the participation of my two teenagers in YRUU. I sang in the choir for a few years before becoming a member in 2006. I have served on the Board of Trustees for the past two years.

Sandy Weir



I have been a member of UUCP for fifteen years. I served on the Board in 2007-09 and have also been active in various music and social justice activities and on the Sunday Services, Children's Ministry, Membership, and Stewardship committees. I play violin while my husband Don plays drums at many of our events. Our young adult children Pam and Greg grew up in the congregation. I work as a community and environmental planner.

Greetings from your Music Director!

This has been a banner year for music at UUCP: Family Choir, Mozart Requiem, many new Congregation Choir members and the Soulful Sundown Band. What a treat it was to hear from the YRUU about music that is meaningful to them, during the YRUU-led service in April!

Coming Soon: we will hear music from a new jazz performance group!

For the last eight years our choir has combined with the Valley UU choir to sing an all-music service each spring. This May our choir will combine with the Valley UU Choir to present the Mozart Requiem. There have been many performances of this amazing work around the valley this year. This is a very challenging piece of literature to sing and play. Each year Kellie Walker, Music Director at Valley UU in Chandler, and I try to vary the type of music we sing for the all-music service. We have performed works over 200 years old and less than five years old, and many styles of music. We hope you will be able to come to the performance either in our sanctuary on May 9th at 10:30 a.m. or at Valley UU in Chandler on May 2nd.

If you've never attended a Soulful Sundown Service, you have one more chance. "It's easy to know someone when you know their story" has been our theme for the year. We've heard stories of Transylvania, UUCP, Campus Ministry, Honduras, and stories of the

first Arizonans. We have even made a timeline of the history of the UUA in America. On May 7th Soulful Sundown will be our chance to dream and for you to share a story. Members of the Soulful Sundown band will choose the music. Come prepared to tell a story or share your dream for UUCP. The service begins at 7:00 p.m.

During summer months we'll have music every Sunday during services. If you have musical gifts to offer, please let me know right away. Summer planning is happening now. Contact thebandeuropa@cox.net.

Connie Jahrmarkt

Invitation

Many people are finding out about us through the internet these days. It is true that UUCP has an outstanding web site. Still, many visitors and new members report that they first came to services because someone they knew INVITED them!

When was the last time you invited someone to come to a Sunday service or some other UUCP activity or event with you? Don't be shy! We can be proud of our religious heritage and of this religious community. We have much to share and also much to gain from welcoming new people into our midst. Dare to extend an invitation to that neighbor, friend, or co-worker who seems like a UU but may not know it yet!

Speaking of invitations, I'd like to take this opportunity to invite anyone interested in UUCP's Welcoming Ministry to attend the May 8th brunch advertised elsewhere in this newsletter. Greeting people at the door on Sunday mornings, helping visitors at the Newcomers' Table, and assisting with worship as an usher are all ways to serve our congregation and make a good first impression upon visitors and guests. Even better: These jobs are fun! If you're interested in volunteering for this important Welcoming Ministry, I invite you to sign up for the brunch at <http://www.doodle.com/g3i8tugrpf9ckffw> or by contacting me at membershipcoordinator@phoenixuu.org.

As I transition into the Membership Coordinator position as a UUCP newcomer myself and as changes take place in our Membership and Membership Engagement Committees, I ask for your patience and understanding. I also extend one more invitation: I invite you to freely share your ideas, constructive feedback and suggestions with me regarding how we might be more truly welcoming.

Linda Lawrence
Membership Coordinator

From Your Lifespan Religious Education Director

On Sunday, April 18th, I delivered the Together Time during first service. It was a particularly poignant one for me to present as I announced to the children and the

congregation that I will be leaving my position as the Director of Lifespan Religious Education at the end of July.

My life is an open book (or at least it has been in the past year), as Andy and I separated, divorced, and our family and friends adjusted to our new relationship. The unwavering love and support of the UUCP community has been an amazing source of comfort to all four of us. I am happy that Andy has chosen to remain a member of the congregation; indeed, our goal has been for the community to know that we both are deeply committed to our family, this community, and our UU values despite the changes in our lives.

Additionally, part of my personal transition has been a tug to re-enter public education. I hope to become an assistant principal one day, but it makes sense for myriad reasons to sharpen my rusty teaching skills before I make that particular jump in my career. I am pleased to return to Washington High School in the Glendale Union High School District; I spent the majority of my prior teaching career in the district at Washington and Cortez High Schools. Hence, it is a homecoming of sorts for me, and I am excited about what the future holds for my career there.

I am, however, leaving a big part of my heart here as I transition from serving as the DRE to becoming a member once again. Today I was recalling my search committee, which was comprised of Gary Ezzell, Cathy Maxwell, Jeff Newman and Betsy Kammerle (I may be missing someone,

but those four come immediately to mind). I was struck during the interview process by THEIR deep commitment to lifespan religious education. I remember Betsy Kammerle saying, "I wish for someone in this position to be a sort of 'pied-piper'—someone who will lead and others will want to follow." I took her wish to heart, and I have made it the heart of my ministry as your DRE. We have all done much together, and I am proud to have been a part of it.

Many of you have expressed that I have pretty big shoes to fill; I joke that I only wear a size 6, so it shouldn't be too hard! I am honored by those good wishes, but I have no doubt whatsoever that the UUCP will find an individual with passion, warmth, creativity and dedication beyond what I could every dream to have. I am so confident this person will be found because YOU all will attract her or him.

And I am happy to take off my DRE hat and to put my member one back on. Watch out though—I am starting a fundraising committee, and I do have that pied-piper challenge in me! Thank you for entrusting your children's and your own spiritual education to me these past seven years.

In peace and love,
Kim

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL SHORTS

Nursery - Miss Tiffany and Mr. Daniel - Heads, shoulders, knees and toes... Knees and toes... How fun has it been back in the nursery!!! We play, we learn, we sing, we learn, we dance, we learn. In the nursery we demonstrate the seven principles through playing, singing, and dancing. Shaylynn will show how everyone is important by helping to console a crying child. Grant is kind with all children by sharing his toys. Gabbi helps care for the Earth by cleaning up the sandbox when she is done playing. Marcus and Henry are for sure Mr. Curiosity and always want to know "why?" Some of the other children such as Tavin, Layton, Kaylee, and Michael are always eager to learn together and from one another. Working with this age group leads itself to many fun and exciting moments.

Pre-K-Kindergarten - Teachers Geraldine and Lenore - In this class the children have been learning the importance of respect, how respect is not only earned but is also given; the kids have been doing a great job of learning these concepts. We as the teachers are more than happy to have such an amazing group of kids this year.

1st-2nd Grade - Teacher Sara - Wow! It's hard to believe that the UUCP Sunday School curriculum is coming to an end! What a fantastic year it has been. The cur-

riculum this year was "Free to Believe." The 1st and 2nd graders have been exploring our Unitarian Universalist principles and some of life's "big questions." During the year, the children have learned ways to remember and understand our UU principles through music, games, and arts and crafts. I would also like this time to thank the wonderful parents of these children who have encouraged their kids to attend every Sunday! I also had enormous help from our assistant teachers, Mary Dokes, Andrea Price, Danielle Wozniak, Barbara Voth, and Cary Denby. Thanks for all your help!! It has truly been a privilege to teach these kids and can't wait for next year's new and exciting curriculum as well as kids!

5th-6th Grade Class - Teachers Steve and Cynthia - UUCP 5th and 6th graders finished the Bibleodeon curriculum a few weeks ago, and are now enrolled in the eight-week Our Whole Lives program. Students are learning about family relationships, puberty, gender identity and sexual orientation, reproduction, sexual values and decision-making. They are learning information and skills that will benefit them for a lifetime, and will also provide a framework and background in areas of human sexuality that will be built upon in the full year OWL program for grades 7 and 8.

7th-8th Grades - Teacher Hannah - The 7th and 8th grade Sunday School class is wrapping up the year by watching an old favorite (Back to the Future) and talking about the consequences of our actions. We've had a great year together, and I can't wait to see some of y'all again next year!

YRUU (Senior High Group) - James Forrest, Jaynn Truran and Sarah Henkel - We hope you enjoyed the service led by YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) on April 11. The group's demographics and interests change each year with the departing seniors and entering freshman. Our current group is especially talented when it comes to music, with several cellists, guitarists, pianists, vocalists and a unicycling flautist. (It was originally suggested that our flautist perform while on a unicycle, but in the end good sense prevailed.) YRUU looks forward to this opportunity to share their ideas and opinions with the congregation each year. We were particularly pleased this year to lead a multi-generational service, since the children look to the teenagers as role models. It is an honor to belong to a congregation that welcomes the perspectives of all, regardless of race, gender, affiliation or age.

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.

Kids Kamp—School is almost out... Summer is right around the corner... Do you know what your children will be doing? Every year the UUCP has a day summer camp for the kids called UU Kids Kamp. This year the camp will be June 7 to July 1 from 8:40 to 1:30 with extended care hours available. The camp is designed for children 2 to 12 years of age. There are many fun and exciting events that will occur each day but are not limited to: art, dancing, cooking, singing, story telling, wa-

ter play and much, much more. Kids Kamp is co-directed by Tiffany Mendez and Jeffrey Sadow. Both directors play a huge roll in the camp. They are always interacting with all campers. Campers will create bonds with friends, counselors and teachers. Most of all they will create long-lasting memories. Check out our blog that shows many memories that were made during summer 2009: uukidskamp.blogspot.com. (Bonus: All RE children receive a \$25 discount!) Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions: uukidskamp@gmail.com.

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

The spectacular, fabulous, always wildly intellectual and funny Adult Religious Education Committee has wrapped up its program year. I am grateful for all of the hard work and good humor of the committee, and I looking forward to our annual retreat on May 15th at Gary Ezzell's lovely home. Come join us on May 15th or on the first Wednesday of the month beginning in August and help shape the future of adult faith development at the UUCP.

To the committee members (Terry Simmons, Jay Bastani, Sue Kennedy, Lois Leader, Barbara Berg, Lillian Habeich, and Juli Harvey)—you all have brought great joy and laughter to my years as the DRE. Thank you, thank you, a million thank yous!

In peace and love, Kim

May Social Action Luncheon

Sunday, May 16, 12:00 p.m. in the Johnson Room—All welcome for lunch and to hear speaker Tim Hogan: “Education in Crisis in Arizona”

Tim Hogan is the Executive Director of the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest. He has been a tireless and effective advocate for progressive public education and justice issues. Come and hear a discussion of the severe problems of our education and government system.

Mr. Hogan received his undergraduate degree from Arizona State University and his law degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School. Mr. Hogan has been Executive Director of the Center since 1991. His practice focuses primarily on issues relating to public school finance, utilities, and campaign finance reform. Mr. Hogan also serves on the Board of Directors for the Arizona Consumers Council and the Arizona League of Conservation Voters. Mr. Hogan is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Arizona, the United States District Court for the District of Arizona, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Prior to joining the Center, Mr. Hogan was Chief Counsel for the Arizona Corporation Commission. He has also served as an Assistant Arizona Attorney General in the Civil Rights and Financial Fraud Divisions, and as Program Director of the Phoenix Program at Community Legal Services.

Hope to see a good group from the congregation at this important talk. Thank you.

In love and peace,
Sarah Burchard, SAC chair

Share the Plate

On Sunday, May 9 all undesignated collections will be donated to Hogar Materno as part of our monthly Share the Plate Program.

Hogar Materno (“Maternity Home”) was built in 2000 by Doctors Without Borders to provide prenatal care for very poor women from rural and remote communities in the mountains of Yoro, Honduras. It is located next to the regional hospital so women can easily see a doctor and deliver their babies there. High-risk expectant mothers can enter the Materno 30 days prior to their expected delivery date. While there they are monitored regularly by a doctor, and receive education on breastfeeding, child development, nutrition, family planning, and family support services. The women can remain at Materno for post-partum care, as well.

The program is very successful. There have been no deaths of mothers or babies in the care of Hogar Materno—before that there were about three deaths per month due to lack of prenatal care.

Hogar Materno has been supported by our congregation for more than five years. UUCP member Tony Banegas is cur-

rently the Vice Chair of Hogar Materno’s volunteer Advisory Board. Hogar Materno only has one paid staff member and relies on donations and volunteers.

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 see the UUCP website or 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.

Immigration Task Force

The Immigration Task Force is working to promote the passage of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level which 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. Thanks to all who have called the attention of Congress, Arizona leaders and the public to these issues and please keep the pressure going! 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.

Circulo de Amigas Update

We have just returned from Jinotega, Nicaragua where we visited Circulo de Amigas ("Circle of Friends" or CDA). Founded in 1993 by UU Patricia McCully, CDA's mission is to alleviate poverty by helping women acquire skills and tools needed to improve their lives; enabling girls to go to school; and giving direct aid to victims of severe family hardship or regional crisis.

UUCP has been involved in their program since 1998, by sponsoring young girls in their studies, donating funds to improve the girls' houses and even traveling to Jinotega to set up a computer classroom in the school. Our first sponsored student, Xiomara, has now graduated advanced studies and teaches school. Currently, we sponsor Jaritza and Lisbeth.

We met with the onsite program director, Fanny Morales, and we are quite impressed with how she is running the program. We saw the playground, library and computer center that are open to all of the neighborhood children, and learned that there are currently 113 girls in the program. Fanny arranged for Jaritza and Lisbeth to meet us, and these are two special girls.

Jaritza is in her first year of nursing school. She lives with her grandmother, two sisters, aunt and cousin in a small, dirt-floored house reachable by a footpath high on a hill above the town. Thanks to recent donations from UUCP she recently purchased a bed,

desk, lamp, shelves and dresser. Jaritza seems quite serious about her studies, and she has a sparkle in her eye and a ready smile.

Lisbeth is in her second year of high school. She hopes to become a doctor. She lives with her mother, sister and baby niece in a two-roomed, dirt-floored house near the CDA headquarters. Lisbeth is a quiet, beautiful girl with big eyes.

We had the pleasure of walking into town and going shopping together. Each girl chose a complete outfit at a cost of about \$30.00 each (our gift to them). We had a great chicken lunch at a restaurant (with some of the extended family members too).

Both girls send their greetings to UUCP. They have benefitted from our support and are able to pursue their dreams of higher education and a possible path out of poverty. Seeing the CDA program at work in their lives is so encouraging! If you would like to learn more about CDA, please visit their website, www.camigas.org. You can make donations online, or even set up a sponsorship of a student directly.

Paula Kulina
and Ernie
Garcia



From L-R: Ernie Garcia, Jaritza, Lisbeth, Paula Kulina

Unicare

April brings showers, and at UUCP we are showered with the blessing of a brand new baby girl. Jordan and Kim Cott proudly announce the birth of Riely Jayne Cott. We send our congratulations and wishes for loads of fun for the Cott family.

Our thoughts of concern are with Barbara Voth, whose son Lance was in a serious accident. Barbara herself was just released from the hospital and we wish for her the strength that she needs to attend to her son.

Ken Croissant has celebrated his 90th birthday and would love to hear from his friends at UUCP. He loves to have visits both phone and personal. Carolyn Allenby and Barb Cawthorne have been wonderful friends to Jeanne and Ken Croissant, visiting him regularly.

And finally, a little dishing about our UUCP celebs! Jan Kaplan and Helen Walker were featured in the May issue of "Arizona Highways" and, we may be a bit prejudiced, but it is a great picture!! Besides arranging rim-to-rim hikes for their friends, Helen and Jan have taken numerous trips with the Grand Canyon Field Institute and are two of its biggest advocates.

The Unicare committee works to encourage and assist those in our Congregation who are facing life's challenges or celebrating life's joys.

Julie Smart
Unicare Chair

UU Foundation of Phoenix News

The UUF Board is pleased to announce the distribution of five percent (\$21,161) of the 2009 year-end fund balance to the congregational general fund, for needs to be determined by the UUCP Board.

UUF, or the "Foundation," is a not-for-profit public corporation where funds are held in trust for the financial stability of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix. Helping out with unexpected major expenses, such as the air conditioning failure a few years ago, is representative of the role of the Foundation in serving the congregation. The Foundation loaned the congregation the money to repair the air conditioning, and the loan was recently repaid. This would have been prohibitive (going to the commercial

Most of the principal of the Foundation endowment exists because of the generous gifts of UUCP members and friends, both past and present. Last year we received a sizable bequest from the Rod Engelen estate. We also received a one hundred dollar gift in memory of a friend. Generous gifts like these, plus the return of the stock market following the 2008 doldrums, allow us to make our usual disbursement to the congregation with more confidence. For more information about UUF, estate planning resources, and legacy giving, please visit our website at <http://www.phoenixuu.org/?q=node/3688>.

Marshall Smart (Chair), Richard Plattner, Marg Stallworthy, Jan Kaplan, Dave Walker, and Richard Jahrmarkt

New Day Volunteers Needed

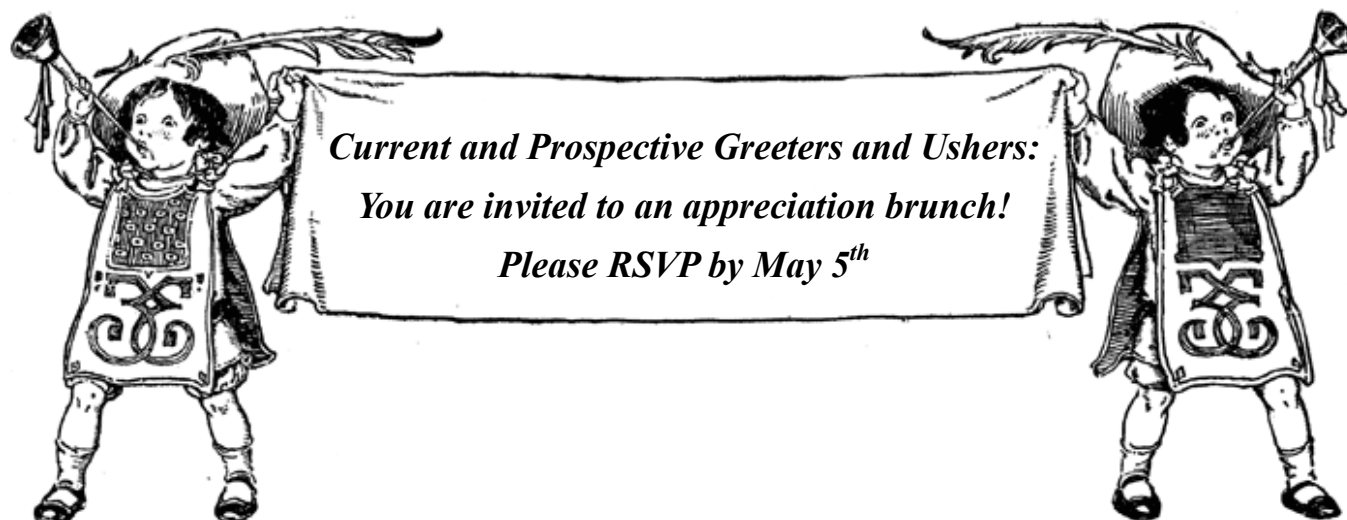
Sunday, May 2nd: 3-4 servers and 2-3 art volunteers needed for meal at New Day Center. Volunteers will meet at UUCP at 4:00 p.m. to deliver and serve the meal. If interested, please sign your name and phone number on the sign-up board in back of sanctuary or email Katie Raife at kmraife@aol.com.

Covenant Group Ministry

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.

Featured Photo:
A-Z Covenant Group '10





*Current and Prospective Greeters and Ushers:
You are invited to an appreciation brunch!
Please RSVP by May 5th*

If you currently greet or usher on Sunday mornings or if you think you might like to join that group of helpful, friendly people, you won't want to miss the celebratory brunch on:

Saturday, May 8th • 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by May 5th

<http://www.doodle.com/g3i8tugrpf9ckffw> or membershipcoordinator@phoenixuu.org.

Childcare is available if requested at the time of your RSVP.

Come and be appreciated and celebrated!

“A Different View” UU Radio Show

Announcing the return of "A Different View," hosted by Rev. Dr. Walt Wieder and sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church in Surprise. The show may be heard at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at 1100 AM radio. It is also possible to go to the station's web site, www.1100kfnx.com, and listen to a live stream at 4:00 p.m. Sundays. Coming soon will be a podcast version.

Celebrations of Life

9:30 AM and 11:15 AM (May 2)

One service, 10:30 AM, begins May 9

MAY 2: SOUL WORK

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

If life is a chance to grow a soul, as A. Powell Davies once said, how do we go about growing our souls? Susan Goldsmith led a service in February about the nature of soul, but what is the work that we can do to stretch and deepen and grow our souls?

MAY 9: MUSIC SERVICE—MOZART'S REQUIEM

Beginning of one service: 10:30am

Service Leader: Connie Jahrmarkt

Join the UUCP and Valley UU choirs as they present selections from this masterwork.

MAY 16: WHICH GOD DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN?

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

As a non-creedal faith, we hold many different beliefs and non-beliefs about God. Together, there are theists, atheists, agnostics, pantheists, deists, panentheists and more in our congregation. So, what do we mean when we use the word God, whether we used that word in affirmation or rejection?

MAY 23: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Service Leaders: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Kim St. Clair

As we celebrate the importance of our Children's Ministry program and thank our teachers, we will also honor Kim St. Clair, our Director of Lifespan Religious Education, for all she has brought to UUCP. This will be our way of showing our appreciation and saying goodbye to Kim as our DRE as she ventures off into a new professional path.

MAY 30: HUMANISTS ON LIFE AND DEATH

Speaker: Jack Silver

Service Leader: Heather McLellan

Jack Silver is an ordained leader "madrikh" of humanistic Judaism. He is soon-to-be rabbi and a student at the International Institute of Secular Humanistic Judaism. His congregation, Or Adam, is located in the Phoenix Country Day School in Paradise Valley.

Soulful Sundown

First Fridays

Band Rehearses at 6 PM Service Starts 7 PM

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, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, 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



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