



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Journal of the
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX
4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

November 2011

This month at a glance:

- 3—New UU Class
- 4—American Song Night
- 5—Hippie-tize Yourself
- 6—Empty Bowls Luncheon
- 6—New Day Meal
- 6—Poetry Coffeehouse
- 9—UUEEC Parenting Class
- 9—Interweave
- 12—Auction!
- 13—Pathway to Membership
- 16—mUUVie Night
- 17—Immigration Task Force
- 18—Diversity Dinner
- 19—Sewing Circle
- 20—SAC Luncheon
- 21—Women's Spirituality Circle
- 24—Board Meeting

Ongoing

- Open Art Studio
- Meditation Group
- Walking Poets
- Book Group
- Addiction Discussion Group

Look for more details on each of these events and opportunities throughout Horizons, as well as in Compass and Sunday announcements.

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Dear Friends,

I have never had so much fun planning something as I have had with our 2nd Annual Auction: Peace, Love & Rock n' Roll. I won't lie, it's a ton of work, but it is FUN work. Writing this article with the auction only four weeks away I am overcome with excitement. Let me share with you why.

Sally Boyd and Val & Carl Bailey have taken on a private goal to ensure that nobody leaves hungry and are preparing a menu of hearty, yummy, and almost bottomless appetizers complimented by hotelier-approved wine selections.

Connie Jahrmarkt and her band of musicians have their set list ready and attendees are encouraged to wear their dancing shoes because before the night is over, you will be grooving to some good old rock and roll.

And at press time we have collected the following items to put up for both silent and live auction:

Art

- Original mixed media sculpture from Jack Grenard
- "Expressions of the Spirit" quilted wall hanging made by Women's Spirituality Circle
- Miscellaneous group of original framed contemporary art from Ellie & Bob Murphy
- Hand-quilted wall hanging in original design by Barb Wills

Collectibles

- "De Grazia Paints the Papago Indian Legends" book from Mary Dokes

Experiences

- Lunch at Sweet Tomatoes with Rev. Linda & Gary Lawrence
- One session of deep relaxation & self-hypnosis focused on a goal of your choice with Rev. Linda Lawrence
- Pony ride with Gary & Ann Ezzell
- New Mexico Green Chile Feast with Glen & Terry Lockwood
- One-week vacation stay in Payson from Lydia Yanak



Auction News...

- Long weekend stay in Sedona from Piya Jacob & Brad Kincaid
- Guided hike at Agua Fria National Monument with Vince Waldron
- Banjo performance by Dave Bellama
- An Evening in Beautiful Western Canada dinner and travel show with Barbara & Dave Cawethorne
- “You pick the sermon topic!” from Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
- Two-night stay in cabin in Munds Park from Lee Spencer
- One-week vacation stay in Ruidoso, New Mexico from Paula Kulina & Ernie Garcia
- “Creating Sacred Space” art workshop over wine and antipasto with Heidi Parmenter
- A Soiree of “Brahms & His Friends” with music and food with Lynne Haeseler & Gerry Kato
- Valentine’s Party with food, photos, and love stories with Joan Gale & Bill Snowden
- ½ off tuition for UUCP’s Kids Kamp

Goods

- Handmade necklace & earring set by Janet Biondo
- Wooden handmade Native American style flute by Stephen Jurewicz
- Rainbow & heart original tie-dyed dress by John & Jenny Moats
- Children’s books from Children’s Ministry
- New Klipsch noise-isolating ear buds from Gary Ezzell
- Handmade jewelry by Jennifer MacVean
- Hand-felted purple/pink support ribbons by Dena Sidmore
- Six months of homemade cookies by Membership Committee
- Handknit fingerless mittens by Tonia Davenport
- Homemade peanut brittles by Jaynn Truran
- UU Early Education Cooperative Basket
- Handknit baby items by Sarah Henkel
- Italy Food Basket from Diane Mote
- Membership Committee will bake and wrap cookies for new members as a gift from you
- Movie passes to AMC Theatres from Heidi Parmenter

Lessons

- Wirework jewelry lesson with Tonia Davenport
- Two-hour knitting lesson with Tonia Davenport
- Understanding a particular psychiatric diagnosis of your choice with A. Land Harris, MD
- Violin, piano, or voice lessons with Connie Jahrmarkt

Professional Service

- Ceremony creation for a special occasion with Rev. Linda Lawrence
- Interior painting service with Richard Jahrmarkt
- One night of childcare with Cherilyn Walley
- Yardwork/light home repair with David Jenny
- Two hours computer support with Jeff Newman
- Original song of your subject with Anne Byrne

In December’s *Horizons* we will publish who won what items and report on our total fundraising results. See you Saturday, November 12th!

Peace Out,

Heidi Parmenter
Business Administrator & Auction Chair

Minister's Musings

In the mid-1500s, Unitarian Minister Ferenc David (Francis David) preached that “you need not think alike to love alike.” We could equally say, *we need not believe alike to love alike*, to capture our covenantal tradition. Unitarian Universalism is not creedal. Members do not have to confess any particular belief to be a part of our congregation. Rather, we are a covenantal faith, a faith built on the vision that even across differences of belief and experience we can live in community together—learning together, growing together, and benefiting from our different beliefs and experiences. Many think it odd that we could be a religious community made up of theists, atheists, agnostics, Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Mexicans, Jews, and Pagans, but this diversity is present in our community.

It's not easy work to build this kind of diverse community. One of the most challenging skills needed is to learn to see things from more than one perspective. Recently, I was talking with a US Marine who is now a UU Military Chaplain. He made the statement that peace will not be possible in this world until all people, including people of privilege, learn to see things from more than one world. People on the margins, people who are oppressed get a lot of practice seeing the world from two places. They see it from their own perspective and culture, but they also learn to see the world through the eyes of the dominant culture. The most successful become adept at being comfortable in more than one world, learning the expectations and navigating both. It's a skill we can all work on building.

It takes effort, intention and a willingness to be uncomfortable to try to see the world from another place. Too often, we assume everyone else sees the world the same way we do. We often cannot comprehend how someone could have radically different religious, political, or cultural viewpoints than one's own.

We can easily say, “How could anyone think that?!” This kind of reactionary perspective is much of what pulls our world apart. We must work to overcome our inability to conceive or imagine that people experience the world differently. For all of us carry different assumptions that are based on very real experiences. Learning to respond to difference with a desire to understand, really understand, is a valuable skill. Learning to say, “Tell me more,” rather than judging is needed if we are to find ways in our congregation and our increasingly diverse world to live together and grow together in peace.

May we grow in this way together.

Yours,
Rev. Susan

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

Alvena Isobel Cranmer
Rose Elfenbein Egeland
William Harold Gooding
Barbara Lusby Hise
Richard Charles Malmleaf
Elizabeth Wright McNeal
Walter R. Pepper
Shirley R. Sarasohn

From the President

“Every time you tell someone, “I’m gay. I’m lesbian. I’m transgendered. I’m bisexual,” you’re telling them so much more—that you’re not just an adjective, but a face, a voice, a member of their family or community ... In fact, I think some of the most important work I have done for the LGBT rights struggle has not been political or overt, but has been in buying a house with my partner of 11 years and tending it, being a good neighbor, raising my kids in a respectful manner and taking them to school every day, and showing our community that this is what *our* gay lifestyle looks like.”

—Elyse Årring, Reading from October 9th Sunday Service

As I sat there listening to Elyse, I thought about my own good fortune to have had a number of LGBT friends before I became a UU. However, I realized that most of the time, I did not know that my friends were LGBT until well after we met, when they came out, or after my awareness grew. I am sure I have even said many stupid, insensitive straight person things to my friends in my youth that are outright embarrassing in hindsight.

One of my best friends, Sam, was different. I’ve known him to be gay since the day we met, when he casually introduced me to his spouse, in a voice that almost knew we were all destined to be friends. Over the years, we’ve joked about homo and heterosexuality; we’ve celebrated; we’ve been embarrassed and we’ve shared pain, bitterness, and sadness—lots of the latter.

Sam is a brilliant doctor, Rhodes Scholar, world traveler and a former victim of a hate crime. Although I would not characterize him as an activist, he is for me, a paragon of liberation because despite cruelty and injustice, he has never faltered in his steadfast determination to live his life openly, authentically and gratefully.

By example, Sam has taught me the simple meaningfulness of being true to oneself. He has also taught me that it is not easy. For example, as a gay man, Sam has to consider how other people accept his lifestyle when choosing a place to live or what job to take. Despite all of his talents and accomplishments there is always a realization that some doors and some people are closed to Sam merely because he is gay.

There was a time not long ago in America when I, too, a person of color with a multiracial family, would have had to undertake the same kind of preemptory discernment about the acceptance of my lifestyle. This burden now has to be borne more by the LGBT community ... and by others.

Still, as I thought about our Sunday service about National Coming Out day, I ask you, my fellow UUs—don’t we UUs, both gay and straight, also to a degree, have something like a “closet mentality”? Haven’t we “liberals” been forced to adopt a cultural legacy of insulation and defense? That would be historically justified, after all ... our congregation was once denied use of church facilities for being too liberal and was once (and could still be) investigated by the FBI. Even today, we live in a state that has imprisoned our minister and our congregants and is well known for actions so contrary to our values that we have sometimes felt like an island of sanity.

Despite the challenges and fears, it is people like Sam and Elyse who remind me that, ultimately, we must live our lives authentically, openly, and according to our better natures. To us, this means living our UU values both in public and in our everyday lives. It means that we must represent the love and inclusiveness of being a UU in our everyday lives the same way that Elyse represents the LGBT on the preschool playground.

Just by being himself and living his chosen life, my friend Sam has touched many people directly and indirectly. I will attest to the fact that he has profoundly changed me by opening my awareness to LGBT inequity, without which I may not have found Unitarian Universalism. Likewise, I believe that as UUs we can, without

From the Board...

even knowing it, change hearts and minds by living a compassionate and spiritual life of love and peace, by living our mission—out of our religious “closet.”

It is crucial to the future of Unitarian Universalism that many more people and more kinds of people know about us, and so it is crucial to share our faith. Many, many of you are already so good at this, in so many creative ways—helping immigrants, “occupying Phoenix,” playing music, bringing your friends to worship, tattooing a chalice on your ankle, etc.

Remember that when we have joy in our faith and love and courage in our lives, we don’t need to proselytize or to knock on doors. Our best marketing is your life and your heart. So I ask you, my friends: come out as a Unitarian Universalist, let your light shine through and be the change.

Represent us.

Be an “evangelical” UU—by evangelizing *you*.

With love,
Jimmy Leung

“You may possess only a small light, but uncover it, let it shine, use it in order to bring more light and understanding to the hearts and minds of men and women. Give them not Hell, but hope and courage. Do not push them deeper into their theological despair, but preach the kindness and everlasting love of God.”

—John Murray (1741–1815), Universalist Minister

For a great example of UU Evangelism, see this video from our friends at UU Rochester (cut/paste/copy the link to your browser):

<http://youtu.be/vbJ32h-YpQA>

Our next Board meetings will be:

November 3rd

December 1st

December 22nd

We meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Johnson Room. Board meetings are open to all. Please join us.

To subscribe or receive Horizons via email, please submit your contact info at the visitors’ desk or email administrator@phoenixuu.org.

Arizona Immigration Ministry

Many who were at UUCP University in mid-October stopped by the Justice General Assembly (GA) table and indicated an interest in serving as volunteers at Justice GA. Thank you for your interest! We will have a “Justice GA conversations table” on the patio after services every two weeks or so for a while. Please stop by to hear about our progress.

UUCP’s Immigration Task Force (ITF) representatives also spoke with some of you at UUCP University. We hope you saw the specific information about UUCP’s continuing service in Voter Registration and Citizenship Fairs. The next meeting of the ITF will be Thursday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Johnson Room and visitors are always welcome.

The “Immigration as a Moral Issue” course will be repeated in January–February 2012, most likely on six Monday evenings beginning January 16 (watch Compass for updates). Sign up (\$10) after Sunday services beginning November 27. Each of those who completed the course in October had profound realizations about our broken immigration system. Some of those were:

“That victim could have been my husband...”

“For a \$500 investment in plywood and curtains, that farm owner provides migrant workers with privacy... and dignity...at his farm labor camp, while workers have neither at the other.”

“Benjamin Franklin said *what...* about Germans?”

“How much of this talk of threats to Arizona is about trumped-up fears?”

“I thought migrants could go home and wait in line to immigrate...but where is the line(?)...there IS no line!”

One of the responsibilities of AZIM is outreach, carrying the Justice GA news to other Arizona congregations. I recently preached in Flagstaff. You can see that Beacon UU was very welcoming.



You can contact me at azim@phoenixuu.org, or stop by my office (best to call ahead, 602-840-8400, x205). Take a look at the “Arizona Immigration Ministry” Facebook page.

Con abrazos fuertes,
Sandy Weir

From the Business Administrator

As many of you know by now, I am the Auction Committee Chair this year, and as I sit down to write this article, mostly what is running through my brain is AUCTION! For those of you who don't know, last fiscal year (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011) we held our first auction because there was a large gap between our expected income and the real expense that it costs to operate our congregation. This year we are having the auction once again for the same purpose. Though the auction should be a fun community event, it also has an important goal to raise the additional funds to supplement our pledged income. Our fundraising goal for the auction this year is \$20,000. Last year we made approximately \$15,000 and I feel confident that we can meet the \$20,000 goal this year. Stay tuned for December's issue of Horizons when I will report on the final results of the auction.

I'm happy to report that we have reached approximately \$391,000 in pledges for this fiscal year and have already met our "mid-year pledges" goal of \$6,700! (Mid-year pledges are pledges that are submitted after July 1.) This is exciting news and many thanks to our new members who have helped make this happen. We are also currently on target with 25% of our pledge income being received by the end of September. Thank you to everyone who has made their regularly scheduled pledge payments! Quarterly Pledge Statements were sent out in October with a Reoccurring Credit Card form for those who would like to sign up for monthly auto-pay through a credit card. Please contact me in the office if you have any questions or corrections on your pledge statement.

In community,

Heidi Parmenter
Business Administrator
administrator@phoenixuu.org
[602-840-8400](tel:602-840-8400) x202

DLRE Search Process Update

Our search for our next DLRE continues. Jaynn Truran has agreed to continue as our temporary DRE overseeing Children's Ministry while we continue our search process. Jaynn has provided great leadership in this role and please join me in thanking her for her willingness to fill in while we search for a permanent person. In the meantime, David Weaver, who is on staff this year as my Executive Assistant and our Worship Coordinator will provide some additional staff support to the Adult Faith Development Committee.

In the meantime, Heidi and I are reaching out to the Pacific Southwest District for support and advisement as we continue our DLRE search.

Rev. Susan

From the Early Education Cooperative

This month the children have been connecting with nature through gardening and composting. What is compost? It is what happens when yard and garden debris, kitchen scraps and other organic materials are mixed together and completely broken down into a rich, dark crumbly material.

Gardeners call it “black gold” because it is rich in nutrients and other value-added components that the soil needs to grow plants. It creates the best possible environment for plants in much the same way we strive to create the best possible environment for the children and families at the UUEEC. Our “black gold” is a combination of best practices informed by scientifically based research and artful early childhood professionals implementing a plan for experiential learning. It is a fertile ground for growth not only in the children and families we serve but for programs beyond our walls.

When I joined the UUEEC staff in January 2011, my first goal was to become familiar with the preschool and congregation in their contemporary context and their historical context. What I found amazed me. The legacy of the UUEEC Preschool as part of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix is long and impactful.

The UUCP was a founding member of Parent Cooperative Schools International and was recognized for its contribution to the community of cooperative schools just last year. Elements of educational learning environments in libraries from Arizona to Vancouver were tested in our classrooms for the Burgeon Group under the watchful eye of Teacher Doug. Many of the exhibits housed at the Children’s Museum of Phoenix were born and tested in UUEEC classrooms before Teacher Josie’s retirement. The Paradise Valley Cooperative Preschool was founded by staff trained at the UUEEC.

The UUEEC has made significant impacts in the Valley of the Sun and beyond without intentionality. Imagine what we can do if we put our minds to it. If you’d like to learn a little more about what’s been happening during our weekday mornings, give Director KellyAnn a call at 602-840-8400 x233—schedule a tour of the morning program and see what we are doing in action.

And if you’d like to help us with the garden, don’t forget we are composting. The composter is behind the garden by the metal gate. We welcome coffee grounds and organic scraps from the kitchen as well as other organic waste. We hope you’ll become involved in our learning experiences with those few extra steps from the kitchen to the composter.



From your Interim Director of Children's Religious Education

CELEBRATIONS OF COMING AND GOING

October brought celebrations that reminded me of the connections we form in our religious communities, and again of my favorite verse from *Spirit of Life* that reads "Roots hold me close, wings set me free..."

I was invited to attend the ordination of Tera Little at the First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles, where I was a member in my early twenties. Tera Little is the Director of Lifespan Programs for the Pacific Southwest District (PSWD) of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and has played an important part in the lives of many of our young people. She helps coordinate our youth camps at DeBeneville Pines, works to plan and facilitate conferences and trainings, and shares her time and talents ensuring our children and youth have safe, rewarding opportunities to develop and grow in their faith development.

I first met Tera when Ken Brown (PSWD district executive) introduced her at the district's Leadership Training School in 1998. She had just arrived in the district from Arkansas with her young son, and was a fresh, young, smiling face ready to lead. Today, I am still very involved with leadership and youth in our district, Tera's son is a senior in high school, and Tera is a minister! Tera's life has been shaped by so many people she has worked with along the way, and, in turn, she has helped inspire and motivate so many others.

On the day of Tera's ordination, we gathered at the church in downtown Los Angeles. The neighborhood is low-income and very densely populated, with vendors hawking their simple wares on blankets and hanging in trees. The streets were abuzz with Sunday afternoon activities—lots of women and children out and about, shopping and eating and talking on street corners. We marched around the block, singing various hymns in celebration of Tera's special day. Neighbors watched, some clapping, most smiling, oblivious to what was going on, but happy to see us nonetheless. Tera's ordination was held in the church's sanctuary, a very old and beautiful building that is seldom used by the congregation anymore.

The church building is going through some renovations, including the installation of new bathrooms, and we are all invited to attend District Assembly there next April 27-28. District Assembly will be a great opportunity to do good work in an area that sorely needs it. It will be a chance to visit a wonderfully vibrant and urban congregation, and see how the challenges they face at First Unitarian of Los Angeles mirror a lot of what we are doing in Phoenix. Look for additional information about District Assembly in upcoming Horizons, or by visiting the district website at <http://www.pswduua.org/>.

At the end of October, I was invited to witness the Marine Corps Boot Camp graduation of Stephan Spiars. Stephan has been a part of our children's religious education program since he was in 6th grade, and he was one of the reasons I made sure to stay involved with our high school group. I admit, I struggled to support Stephan's decision to enlist in the reserves at first, but it is such a joy to know that Stephan is going to be just fine. Not everyone follows the same path in life, and Stephan is a beautiful reminder of that.

So, congratulations to these two celebrants, and to our congregation and broader community, for allowing them the chance to do and be and blossom, and me the chance to be part of it.

With love,

Jaynn Truran
Interim Director of Children's Religious Education

*Children's Ministry Events
continued on next page...*

EMPTY BOWLS SOUP LUNCHEON – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

The annual Empty Bowls soup luncheon will be held on Sunday, November 6 after each service. You are invited to select a ceramic bowl, have it filled with your choice of homemade Posse Stew, Chicken Noodle or Vegetarian Vegetable for \$9, proceeds of which will go toward the Empty Bowls project. More information can be found at www.emptybowls.net. If you would like to come and help STIR and SEASON soups on Saturday, November 5 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in the UUCP kitchen, we'd love to see you! If you can help SERVE or SELL soup on Sunday, we'd love to see you—all children are welcome to help too! Please sign up at the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LQ7NRQY>.

TRAINING FOR YOUTH ADVISORS AND ALLIES – JANUARY 7, 2012

If you are interested in becoming an advisor for, or ally of, our high school aged youth program (YRUU or Young Religious Unitarian Universalists), then you are invited to attend a training session to be held at UUCP on Saturday, January 7 from 9:00-3:00 p.m. We will discuss what it means to be a youth advisor and different activities you can get involved with, and we will equip you with the tools you will need to get started. For more information, or to sign up for the training, contact Jaynn Truran at redirector@phoenixuu.org.

HOME HOSPITALITY NEEDED – JANUARY 27-29, 2012

We are looking for home hospitality for several folks who will be attending the Our Whole Lives (OWL) training program in January at the Shadow Rock United Church of Christ. Many Unitarian Universalists will be in attendance at the training and we would like to offer some of them a chance to stay with congregation members rather than in hotels. If you can offer a bed(s) in your home for this weekend, please contact Jaynn Truran at redirector@phoenixuu.org for more information.

Hippie-tize Yourself!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 6:30-9:00 P.M. IN THE JOHNSON ROOM



This year's fundraising auction has a theme of "Peace, Love & Rock n' Roll" and groovy costumes are definitely encouraged. Didn't hold on to your peace-loving, flower power, wardrobe from the 60's and 70's? Weren't even born then? Don't sweat it. Join Heidi in the Johnson Room on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 6:30 PM to 9 PM for an evening of hippie-tizing. Bring some old clothes that you can tie-dye, patch, color, fringe and we will provide the rest.

Hey, while we're at it, let's make it a potluck dinner so bring a dish to share. RSVP to Heidi with number attendees and your dish to share. This is a family-friendly event.

Construction to Begin this Month

The 2010 Combined Campaign “Time to make it real!” included a three-year capital campaign to address the following building needs:

- New restrooms
- Sewer connection
- Electrical upgrades

The overall plans and objectives of the project have not changed since the launch of the campaign. The Renovation Committee has worked for the past year with the architect, Doug Sydnor and Associates; the general contractor, Robert Porter Construction; and the Owner’s Representative, Bill Sweeney, to complete the construction contract and file the appropriate permits. Previous articles in Horizons and the 2010-2011 annual report have provided summaries of the work.

Construction will begin this month. Please watch the Compass Weekly Newsletter for announcements of construction activity and any facility closures. More important, please look at any information signs when you are on the UUCP campus. Although all efforts are being taken to reduce impact on programs, a certain amount of inconvenience (and dust) cannot be avoided.

Details of the project may be found on the UUCP website at the “UUCP Renovation” tab. Please feel free to contact the Renovation Committee at renovation@phoenixuu.org or the office if you have any questions.

Don Weir
Chair, 2010-12 Renovation Committee

Social Action Committee

The November Social Action Luncheon will be held on Sunday the 20th at 12:30 p.m. in the Johnson Room. Our speaker will be Victoria López of the Arizona ACLU. She was primary investigator and author of “In Their Own Words: Enduring Abuse in Arizona Immigration Detention Centers.” It is the most comprehensive report documenting the experiences of immigrants detained by the federal government in Arizona. All are welcome at the luncheon, and a small, voluntary donation for food is appreciated.

The Social Action Committee is helping to coordinate a group of walkers for the Out of the Darkness Community Walk on Saturday, December 3, at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. It is sponsored by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. and the walk begins at 10:00 a.m. More information can be found at the Social Action table in the back of the sanctuary.

Share the Plate Program for November: Community Bridges, Inc.

On Sunday, November 20, our monthly “Share the Plate” program will support Community Bridges, Inc. (CBI), one of the largest behavioral health agencies of its kind in Arizona. CBI is a private, nonprofit organization serving Maricopa, Pinal, Gila, and Yuma counties by providing a continuum of care that begins with prevention and continues for individuals and families through treatment and recovery. CBI’s mission is to provide the highest quality clinical treatment, family preservation, prevention, and education services to reduce the impact of alcoholism and drug addiction as a predominant factor in homelessness, domestic violence, child abuse, child neglect, assault, homicide, and suicide.

The Center for Hope (CFH), a program of Community Bridges, Inc., is a long-term residential treatment and transitional housing program where pregnant and postpartum women receive a full spectrum of therapeutic, educational, and vocational services. The population served by the CFH is homeless, pregnant and postpartum women 18 years or older with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health-related disorders and their children under the age of 4 from throughout Maricopa County. At full capacity, the CFH serves 24 women and 32 children (24 infants and 8 toddlers). Since opening in January 2005 through April 2011, 130 babies have been born to mothers residing at the CFH.

UUCP’s Share the Plate donation will go to the CBI Foundation (a separate 501(c)(3) serving CBI and its programs) and be used for housing and service needs of the women served through The Center for Hope.

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 www.phoenixuu.org for the guidelines and application, or contact a member of the Share the Plate Committee: Judy Lambert, Carolyn Allenby, or Larry Thwing.

Interweave Events in November and December:

DIVERSITY DINNER—FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 6:00 P.M. IN THE JOHNSON ROOM

UUCP members of all ages are warmly invited to the Johnson Room for great meal and chance to get better acquainted with fellow UUCPers. Your Interweave Committee will be hosting November’s dinner and has invited the folks from GLSEN Phoenix (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network) to share in a discussion—see Page 14 for more information.

GLSEN ALLY TRAINING—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 10:00 A.M. TO NOON

Interweave appreciates the UUCP community’s support of the GLBTQ community and your advocacy for GLBTQ issues. Interweave and GLSEN (the Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network) are teaming up to offer another opportunity for those who wish to learn more about being an Ally for GLBTQ youth and an advocate for GLBTQ issues. This class, presented by GLSEN, is scheduled for Saturday, December 3 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon in the Johnson Room. Enrollment is limited to 40 people. If interested, please email interweave@phoenixuu.org for a registration link.

Let's Walk on the Side of Love and Support UUCP!

Be-the-Walk is a fun project coming out of our Children's Religious Education (RE) program that will have parents and kids enjoying each other and hanging out together on a regular basis. Starting in January, this project will also simultaneously raise around \$10,000 for UUCP before June of 2012.

We all experience the interrupted, hanging conversations that seem to be the norm today. Kids are texting under the table at dinnertime. Parents ignore their children and take "important" phone calls in the middle of conversation. We are all very electronically connected—our phones, social media, and text messages scream for our attention, and our iPods are there to comfort and inspire us. Total electronic connectedness is so participatory, addictive, and pervasive that we all seem to crave more time to immerse ourselves.

Let's take a few walks instead, and breathe some life back into our languishing family conversations. Be-The-Walk opens up the possibility of creating better family relationships and stronger neighborhoods while building our health through the simple act of walking together. Be-The-Walk has flexible participation rules, making it open to non-walkers, those without family, and even adult teams who need more in-person conversations in their lives.

Be-the-Walk is a walking marathon where parent-child teams sign up to walk three times a week for 30 minutes each walk, for a minimum of 39 walks. Teams will ask family and community friends to participate as walk sponsors by pledging support. If each walking team signs up 10 sponsors who pledge \$ 0.50 per walk, and if 50 teams participate, we will have raised \$9,750 for UUCP. The walking rules are simple: *no electronics*. Walkers are forbidden to use cell phones or music players. Cell phones may be carried for emergency use only.

Be-The-Walk starts in early January. Put it on your calendar now. You will have the opportunity to sign up for it sooner than that. Kids will be excited and talking about raising funds at UUCP. Let's listen and support them. This is a great chance to "stand on the side of love," to experience slow-time, spiritual-time, and to grow together and share our journeys. Let's be the walk. By the simple act of walking together, we can be the change we want to see in the world.

Have questions? Want to help? Ready to sign up now?
Email Jeff Newman at BeTheWalk@gmail.com.

Community Flavor in the Sanctuary This Winter

One of the traditions that has developed over the years in our congregation is decorating the sanctuary for the winter holidays. This year, the Sanctuary Team wants to add some community flavor to the tradition. On the first Saturday in December (12/3), we'll begin decorating the sanctuary and we want to include your own hand-made items to brighten our walls. We are looking for wreaths and other holiday season artwork. Your art **MUST** be identified so it can be returned to you in January. We will use Compass and the next Horizons to share details, but please begin gathering and creating as we look to brighten our sanctuary this holiday season. We look forward to melding your traditions with ours and seeing how our community tradition evolves. Many thanks to several members of previous Sanctuary Teams for helping to motivate and organize this effort as the Sanctuary Team transitions to new leadership.

Successful Volunteer/Opportunities Fair

The Membership Engagement Committee (MEC) did it again! Maureen Jeffries (Chair) and Merrily Beyreuther were the “movers and shakers” of this year’s event dubbed “UUCP University.” In response to last year’s concerns, the MEC attempted to provide shade under four canopy tents. A special thanks goes to Mac Jeffries for borrowing two of the four tents from his place of business.

Despite the heat, good cheer was evident. Many committee and activity group representatives shared information and answered questions for UUCP members and friends. Colorful displays and banners added a festive air to the event. The UUCP-U Dining Hall was a popular attraction for young and old alike.

Attendance prize winners were: Paula Adkins (lunch with UUCP Board President Jimmy Leung); Kelly Indovina and Tonia Davenport (UU Studies Passes—free Adult Faith Development classes through 6/30/12); and Michelle Bulna (\$25 gift certificate to the UUA Bookstore). Congratulations!

Thank you to all the committees, activity groups, and “students” who participated in UUCP University. The MEC wishes to offer special thanks to the Membership Committee and to all those who helped with set-up and clean-up. We appreciated your help!



Left to right: Merrily Beyreuther, Maureen Jeffries, and Mac Jeffries

Diversity Dinners

Diversity Dinners are off to a great start. Our first dinner in September was attended by members of six families, whose ages spanned eight decades. We got to know each other as well as learn about the similarities and differences in our family rituals.

Join us Friday, November 18, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., for our third event, *Heterosexism and Homophobia*. Interweave will be your hosts for this evening. Representatives from GLSEN Phoenix (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) will join us for a lively discussion on our knowledge of this timely subject. Bring your personal experiences and stories about Heterosexism and Homophobia and join others in the search for a solution to the violence and discrimination that often accompany these attitudes in our community.

UUCP members *of all ages* are warmly invited to join in a potluck dinner as we discuss important questions in small groups: Why do some people feel threatened by those who are different? Whose responsibility is it to lessen the hostility aimed towards the GLBTQI community? What can we do so that today’s children grow up with greater acceptance? Younger and older attendees are encouraged to submit questions in advance. For more information, or to submit questions, contact Michael Hipps at mhipps65@gmail.com.

For the potluck in the Johnson Room, please bring a dish according to this breakout: last names A-F Dessert; G-L Drinks; M-R Main Dish; S-Z Side Dish or Chips. We ask that you bring your own reusable plates, cups and utensils in an effort to reduce waste. Hope to see you there!

Unicare

The Unicare annual luncheon was a great success this year. We had almost 20 in attendance and had a very good discussion on our direction this fiscal year. The discussion focused on other services Unicare can provide in addition to what we do now.

We currently do a pretty good job of providing support for those who have particular needs such as illness or a death, but more needs to be done for those who, for various reasons, can no longer participate in our programs easily. Rick Wambach and Julie Smart have agreed to take this on. If those two are involved, you know it will get done.

Several in our congregation continue to be in need of support and attention. They just need a phone call, card, or note saying you are thinking of them. You can find their addresses or phone numbers in the directory. Some are still battling illnesses, others just need to know that we are thinking of them and some are celebrating milestones or accomplishments.

Helen Votichenko is still recuperating from her broken leg.

Gene Grisby celebrated his 93rd birthday October 17.

Pat Shannon continues to recuperate.

Semere Kesete and Haime Habte were married recently. They are part of our Eritrean family.

Noël Årring's mother died recently after a long battle with cancer.

Anne Lackey's father died shortly before his 96th birthday.

Mike and Caroli Peterson welcome a new granddaughter, Amara Marilyn Howard.

John and Jenny Jones are celebrating their sixth wedding anniversary.

Dave Walker is undergoing some critical medical tests in the next few weeks.

CHRISTMAS DAY POTLUCK?

This year Christmas is on Sunday.
We are exploring interest in a potluck
after the morning service on that day.
If this is something you would attend
call the congregation number and
leave a message at extension 204.
Entree will be provided by Unicare.

Enjoy the best of this season.

Namaste,
Jean Rosenberg

Habit-Forming Addictions Discussion Group Continues This Fall

We could continue with the puns, but in all seriousness the *2nd and 4th Saturdays Addictions Discussion Group* provides a safe place for recovering addicts to speak freely without being spiritually judged. Whether you find traditional recovery groups comfortable or uncomfortable, you can bring your Humanist, Christian, Jewish, Pagan, Buddhist, Agnostic, Atheist, etc. beliefs into Annex B from 4:30-5:30 PM and you'll fit right in. Your anonymity will be protected—our only rule is “What we hear here stays here. Hear, hear!”

Each meeting starts with a 2-3 minute check-in and ends with a topic discussion. This is a closed meeting for UUs and friends of UUs—we do not advertise to the community and are not affiliated with any 12-step program. To qualify, we ask that you have six months of stable recovery under your belt from compulsive behaviors such as alcohol, narcotics, gambling, sex, eating disorders, shopping, etc. We are not the right place for families and friends of addicts or for most co-dependency behaviors. If you are interested in starting up a complementary group, let us know.

Call Gene at 602-361-9067 or Michael at 602-488-1188. Or just show up at Annex B.

“Blessing” Exhibit

The Arizona Ecumenical Council invites you to enjoy a unique exhibit called “A Blessing to One Another.” The exhibit specifically recounts the friendship, the joys, and tragedies of Pope John Paul II and Jerzy Kluger. Their story of growing up together in a Polish town, being separated because of Nazi occupation of Poland, and their reunion many years later became the basis for efforts to create a new relationship between the Jewish community and the Catholic Church.

“Their story becomes an example of how all of us can use the best of our religious traditions to form relationships of understanding and genuine friendship that affects the whole community,” states Jan Olav Flaaten, Executive Director of the Ecumenical Council. The exhibit is endorsed by Rabbi Bonnie Sharfman (President of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Phoenix), the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix, and the Arizona Ecumenical Council.

The exhibit is showing from October 26 to December 11, 2011, at George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center at 415 E. Grant Street in Phoenix. For more information, visit www.blessingprojectaz.org or call (602) 274-1113.

Questions About Membership?

GET ANSWERS NOVEMBER 13 & 19

If you've been wondering about the benefits and responsibilities of UUCP membership, please consider joining us for the November Pathway to Membership (PTM) series. You will meet other newcomers, learn about this congregation, and have a chance to ask questions. There is no pressure to join, but we hope to help you discover whether UUCP might be the right religious home for you.

The first PTM session is Sunday, November 13, 8:45-10:30 a.m. in the Johnson Room. Session two is a pot-luck dinner and program on Saturday, November 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m. The Saturday evening program includes a joining ceremony for those who have decided they are ready to become members. Free childcare is provided for both PTM sessions for those who alert us of childcare needs in advance.

If you are interested in participating in the November Pathway to Membership series, you can sign up at the Welcome Table in the foyer on Sunday morning or contact the UUCP office at 602-840-8400, Ext. 200. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact Rev. Linda Lawrence at Ext. 204.

New Members



Yvonne Harrison grew up in Southern Illinois, moving to Phoenix in 1983. Although she was formerly a member of United Church of Christ (UCC), she has found a home with Unitarian Universalism, attending VUU while living in the East Valley and being a frequent visitor here at UUCP over that past two years. She enjoys hiking, reading, cooking, yoga, pets, gardening, getting together with friends and much, much more. Yvonne works as a physical therapist and is currently completing her Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT) at Northern Arizona University. She participates in UUCP's meditation and covenant groups.

Steve Ekholm recently moved to Scottsdale after many years in Iowa. A longtime member of UUSIC in Iowa City, he served on the Board as well as serving as Treasurer and teaching religious education. Daughter Sarah was raised as a UU and the Ekholm family was able to participate in several service trips. Steve enjoys biking, hiking and exploring this beautiful country. Retired from a career in IT, he says he's looking forward to getting involved in UUCP's many activities.



Kevin and Jenna Meeks are both Phoenix natives. They have two sons, Finn (5) and Nate (2) who are both enjoying their new religious education classes at UUCP. Their family enjoys hiking, traveling, reading, and sports (and robots! adds Finn). They look forward to learning more about Unitarian Universalism and being part of a community dedicated to helping others.

More New Members



ANGELA BLACK



JANET PERSEN



STEPHANIE DAY, WITH CHILDREN



JON POBLADOR



STEVE & COLLYER EKHOLM



DENA SIDMORE & SHERILYN WALLEY

Celebrations of Life

9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

NOVEMBER 6: UU EVANGELISM!?

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

What does it mean to be an evangelical Unitarian Universalist? An evangelist is a person who shares the good news. This word is often associated with conservative Christianity, but more UUs are embracing the term to talk about sharing the good news of our liberal faith.

Empty Bowls Sunday luncheon. Proceeds benefit The Empty Bowls Project, working to feed people in need.

NOVEMBER 13: GLIMMERS OF LIGHT

Service Leader: David Weaver

Unitarian Universalism looks for wisdom and inspiration from a variety of sources. First among these sources is “Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.” Clearly, this faith is not for the faint of heart, or those who would watch from the stands. What direct experience do you bring?

NOVEMBER 20: LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER: A MULTIGENERATIONAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Our community nourishes our spirits. In this all-ages Thanksgiving service, we'll offer sustenance for our bodies too! All are invited to make and bring a bread or other grain-based staple food (from muffins to idlis or tortillas) from their family, culture or history to share with the congregation. In the service, people may share with the congregation the grain they have brought and its meaning.

Share the Plate Sunday: The morning's offering will benefit Community Bridges, Inc.

NOVEMBER 27: CULTIVATING HUMILITY

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Humility is one common religious virtue. However it often gets confused with selflessness. Can someone be both humble and bold, both humble and proud? What is meant by humility and how do we cultivate it in our lives and to what benefit?

*President: Jimmy Leung
Vice President: David Johnson
Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell*

*Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker
Assistant Minister: Rev. Linda Lawrence
Executive Assistant to Minister: David Weaver
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt
Interim Religious Education Director: Jaynn Truran
Arizona Immigration Ministry Organizer: Sandra Weir
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Juli Harvey, Tish Gauntt, Sharon Hise, Pauline Peverly, Julie Smart
and Dorothy LeWin*

Our Mission

Welcoming all
in building religious community,
called to
share journeys,
grow in spirit,
advance justice.



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