



*A Welcoming Congregation*

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

April 2012

## This month at a glance:

- 1—New Day Center Meal
- 1—Fire Drill
- 1—Anne Allemann Reception
- 1—Poetry Coffeehouse
- 8—All-Congregation Photo
- 8—Social Action Committee
- 8—Young Adult Group
- 10—Interweave Meeting
- 11, 18, 21—Family Choir
- 13—Travelling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays
- 14—Just Chant
- 15—Social Action Luncheon
- 16—Women's Spirituality Circle
- 19—Immigration Task Force
- 19—Board Meeting
- 20—Diversity Dinner
- 21—Pride Parade
- 21—Sewing Circle
- 29—Men's 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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## Minister's Musings

Unitarian Universalist Minister, Richard Fewkes writes:

*For the sun and the dawn which we did not create;  
For the moon and the evening which we did not make;  
For food which we plant but cannot grow;  
For friends and loved ones we have not earned and cannot buy;*

*For this gathered company which welcomes us as we are,  
from wherever we have come;  
For all our congregations that keep us human  
and encourage us in our quest for beauty, truth and love;*

*For all things which come to us  
as gifts of being from sources beyond ourselves;  
Gifts of life and love and friendship,  
We lift up our hearts in thanks this day.*

This is one of my favorite prayers in our hymnal. It always inspires in me humble gratitude for all the blessings of life, so many of which are not of our doing. This weekend I have been in Jacksonville, Florida at the UU Florida District Annual Meeting. The Rev. Randy Becker opened worship at the Assembly noting that the chalice was already lit. And he explained that when we gather, we light a chalice, but the reality is the chalice is already lit. It was lit by people who came before us, by lives that sacrificed before us, by the spirit that burns in our hearts and in our sanctuaries before we even arrive on Sunday. In fact, what we do is light our chalice as a way of recognizing the light of life and love, truth and community, justice and compassion that already burns in our hearts, in our faith and in our congregations.

In this time of Stewardship, when we commit ourselves to keeping the light of our congregation strong, I am reminded, more than anything, of gratitude for UUCP, for the faith we share, for the ways we call each other forward in beauty and truth and love.

See you on Sunday!  
Yours,  
Susan

## Who Owns a Word?

There are many meaningful and rewarding aspects to being a Unitarian Universalist. We are fortunate to be members of a wonderful, welcoming congregation with an inspiring leader in Rev. Susan. Our liberal faith tradition, as reflected in our Seven Principles, provides us an open and accepting environment to explore and develop our own belief systems. It draws together in community like-minded people with whom we share this delightful journey of life. It challenges us—intellectually, emotionally, spiritually—to be better human beings and to work for justice for those to whom it has been denied. It guides our children's growth into loving, kind-hearted, caring, and involved adults. It connects us to each other and to the world around us. It allows us to express and practice love. Our membership here reflects back to us who we think we are.

Now I ask you to think for a moment about what you just read. Do you agree, or are you at least comfortable with how I've expressed myself? I hope it sounds somewhat "UU"! What if I had used the word "blessed" instead of "fortunate"? What if I had used "church" rather than "congregation"? What if I had said "religion" rather than "liberal faith tradition"? What if—okay, brace yourselves now—I had even mentioned God? Might you have been a little less comfortable?

All of those words, the ones we like and the ones we may not like as well, carry connotations and more often "baggage." They can conjure up complex and detailed images that trigger a set of underlying assumptions. They are fraught with imbued meaning that each of us brings to conversation based on our personal life history and experiences, layered with cultural, societal, regional, and familial implications and influences. Several members of our congregation have spoken eloquently about how some religious language evokes a visceral response because they have been hurt by it in the past.

In his seminal 2004 book, *Don't Think of an Elephant!: Know Your Values and Frame the Debate*, George Lakoff explores how words are used to influence public discourse. He introduces the concept of *frames*, mental structures that shape the way we see the world. He writes, "All words are defined relative to conceptual frames. When you hear a word, its frame (or collection of frames) is activated in your brain." (p.xv)

This small paperback (just over 100 pages) explores how "the right" has learned to commandeer and manipulate language in such a way as to define the frames. Lakoff is speaking primarily of the political right, but the concept applies equally to the cultural and religious right also. If you can define the language (the frame), you define the debate. It's brilliantly Orwellian, really; consider just some examples: the *Moral Majority* was neither; people who want to curtail women's reproductive options are *pro-life* (as if women, who naturally gestate life, are not?), although in many instances they seem to care about the life only until the time of birth; tax cuts became *tax relief*, because they believe that taxes are an affliction to be freed from rather than a responsibility of living in a modern society; Iran, Iraq and North Korea became an *axis of evil*; *Operation Clear Skies* removed environmental pollution regulations; more recently, very wealthy people in the top 1% became *job creators*. The list goes on and on.

So how does this apply to religious language? In many ways the religious right has taken the lesson from the political right in "appropriating" words and essentially redefining them to fit their desired framing. What do these words evoke: Christian? Church? Religion? God? Faith? Dogma? Evangelical? The modern American understanding of these words is a long way from their original definitions and intent. Many of us, myself included, would find it unsettling (at least!) to associate ourselves with any of them. Instead, many liberal people have sought other words to describe ourselves. You'll hear people say, "I'm really more spiritual than religious," because "religious" now means something specific that a particular group in our society has deemed it to mean. Why do we give them that power? Why do we let them infer that their version of what it means to be 'religious' is more valid than ours?

## From the Board...

Whether we are Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Agnostic, Atheist, Deist/Theist, Hindu, Scientologist, Pagan, or if there's not a concise word for what we believe, we are still UUs. But to engage in discussion with each other we need to be able – to not be afraid -- to use language that others may have framed for their own purposes. I respectfully suggest that we, as liberals, begin to take back some of that language. That we challenge these frames as we encounter them, rather than succumb to a vocal minority.

Now, certainly an argument can be made that we don't need to do this. I can just as easily make the case that, if it's so important to *them* to appropriate a set of words, then just let them win. We don't need to fight about this. It's too much trouble. It causes too much hurt. We might alienate someone. Our culture is now using these words in such a way that their original intent is lost to the ages. We can just find other words.

Perhaps.

But how far are we willing to let it go? At a recent Board meeting when we were discussing this topic I used the example that there are factions in our country who would like to define "marriage" narrowly as "The social institution under which a man and a woman establish their decision to live as husband and wife by legal commitments, religious ceremonies, etc." (Webster's Unabridged Dictionary). They would like to codify that definition—that frame—into law. But we push back and challenge their exclusionary bias. We believe that by limiting marriage to "a man and a woman" it deprives those in the LBGT community of a basic human institution. We challenge those in Arizona who refer to people as "illegal immigrants," and we re-frame the discussion to use "undocumented workers" because we believe that no person is "illegal." How we use words infers implicit assumptions, and that always has an impact. It matters.

Our reluctance to engage each other using a full range of language is, in effect, unnecessarily limiting us in our discussions of the breadth of our shared human and spiritual experiences. We have a right, and a responsibility even, to challenge those who would marginalize people of liberal faith(s) by reclaiming that language.

I look forward to continuing our lively congregational discussions!

In community,

Linda Bellantoni  
Member at Large, Board of Trustees

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

## Calling All GA Delegates!

General Assembly is coming to Phoenix June 20-24!

If you are a member of the UUCP, the Board of Trustees invites you to apply to be a delegate at this year's General Assembly. Being a Delegate is an important honor, and exciting!

If chosen by the Board, the delegates will be asked to represent the congregation at the Plenary sessions, the business meetings of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Delegates can vote on the motions and can speak to the assembly, if they so desire, or if they are asked to do so by the UUCP or the Board.

Our congregation's delegates have, in past assemblies, significantly contributed to the UUA's discussions on immigration. This year's GA agenda will be intentionally focused on justice issues such as:

- Climate Action and Adaptation Plans: Why Greenhouse Gases and their Effects Matter to Us
- Families, Population, and the Environment
- Reproductive Justice: Expanding Our Social Justice Calling
- Exploring Class Barriers
- Ending Slavery

For more information about the GA Business agenda, please see: <http://www.uua.org/ga/business/13300.shtml>.

The Board is issuing a broad invitation to all our members to apply to be a delegate because we would like our delegation to reflect our congregation's diversity. If you are interested, please review the job description and fill out the brief form on our website: <http://www.phoenixuu.org/?q=node/4092>. Email the form to Jimmy Leung at [president@PhoenixUU.org](mailto:president@PhoenixUU.org) or, if you prefer, please call through the office or the directory.

Please send us your application no later than May 15, 2012.

Thank you so much!

Jimmy Leung

Reminders:

Upcoming Board Meetings: 6:00 PM April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>

Please join us in the Johnson Room!

UUCP Congregational meeting: May 20<sup>th</sup>, after second service

## 2012 Nominations for UUCP and UUF Leadership

The UUCP Nominating Committee is pleased to offer the following candidates for the Board of Trustees, the Unitarian Universalist Foundation (UUF) Board, and the Nominating Committee. Voting will be at the congregational meeting on Sunday, May 27, following the morning service.

UUCP Board of Trustees: Ellie Anderla (Past President), David Johnson, Jimmy Leung (President), Bill Snowden, and Jim Sorgatz

UUF Board: Smoot Carl-Mitchell and Richard Plattner

Nominating Committee: Terry Simmons, Terry Lockwood, and Paula Kulina

Per UUCP bylaws, the nominees' names and biographies will be published here both this month and next (May). May's edition will also include photos.

Susan Morris  
Chair, Nomination Committee

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### ELLIE ANDERLA, PAST PRESIDENT

Although I had attended UU congregations sporadically, I became a member of UUCP after moving to the valley in 1969. Over the years, I have been part of the Religious Education Committee and taught Sunday school, and have served on the Welcoming Congregation Committee, the Committee on Ministry, the Minister's Advisory, the Board of Trustees (President, 2004-2005), the Membership Committee, and the Ministerial Search Committee. Currently, I serve on the Board of Trustees and on the Unicare Committee. I am a Covenant Group facilitator and am the facilitator coordinator for the covenant groups. Many Sundays, I enjoy being a greeter or an usher for service. Unitarian Universalism and UUCP are very important in my life. My spiritual home and my community are here.

#### DAVID JOHNSON, MEMBER AT LARGE

Raised without a particular faith tradition, I became a UU shortly before moving to Arizona from Washington, DC, in 2004. I was originally a member of Valley UU church in Chandler where I led tai chi practice and facilitated the UUA course "Building Your Own Theology" for the RE program. I also helped to bring the UU Men's Network steering council to Arizona for their 2007 winter meeting.

I have been a course facilitator in the UUCP AFD program and was a member of the "Voicing Our Values" task force that was asked by the Board of Trustees to help develop UUCP's current mission statement. I began my Board of Trustees service as a Member at Large in 2010. I am currently the Board Vice President, having been asked to step into this role to fill an unexpected vacancy.

My spouse, 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 2010 and was dedicated by Rev. Susan on Christmas Eve last year. We live in the F.Q. Story neighborhood in central Phoenix. I work as a senior administrator for a Valley municipality.

### JIMMY LEUNG, PRESIDENT

I've been a member of UUCP since 2004. I joined because I wanted a safe place for me and my family to explore religion and community. I stayed because I discovered that I am a Universalist. I became active in congregational leadership because I found a community of courageous, purposeful souls, dedicated to ideals of love and compassion.

I have had the honor and privilege of serving on many committees and teams at the UUCP. I have been on the Board since 2008, and before that the Ministerial Search Committee from 2006-08. I am interested in continuing to be involved in the work of the Board because I want to help realize the wonderful, ambitious dreams and aspirations that this community has inspired in itself, and for the world.

### BILL SNOWDEN, MEMBER AT LARGE

A New Mexico transplant, I came to Phoenix in 1990, taking a job as a project manager for the federal agency that markets and transmits electricity from the federal dams. I started coming to what was then called First Unitarian Church of Phoenix in 1991, the year that Reverend Fritz Hudson was called, and I found a welcoming home in the choir. During those years, Fritz asked me to cofound a men's group where I made some lasting friendships.

In 1999, Reverend Linda Bunyard married Joan Gale and me on the patio. Last year I helped Joan write and we co-lead the first UUCP Principled Commitment class. For several years I have helped hang the art in the sanctuary and this year I joined the Sanctuary Committee. I recently attended a two-day workshop on immigration, which was an awakening for me about how heritage shapes a person's life. I think this is an exciting and transformative time for UUCP and I am honored to be asked to serve on the Board.

### JIM SORGATZ, MEMBER AT LARGE

When I first came to UUCP in 2010, I have to admit I initially had a difficult time grasping the concept of religion without a creed. To learn more I began regularly attending Sunday services with my partner Michael Hipps, and immediately got involved with the many programs and volunteer opportunities the congregation has to offer, including Interweave, a Covenant Group, New Day Center and the Welcoming Ministry. It didn't take long for me to truly begin appreciating a religious community that is fully inclusive and works to carry out a mission of service to others. Another big part of why I love UUCP is the amazing ministerial team and the members. I find the music and thoughtful message each week to be uplifting and meaningful, and I see myself growing spiritually by engaging with a diverse group of people whose individual beliefs may differ, but share common goals.

Outside of UUCP, my career has been with two trade associations—the manufacturing association for 10 years, and currently as VP of member services for the Home Builders Association. Although I have no children of my own, one of my proudest achievements in life is volunteering as a Big Brother for the past six years. I am honored to be considered for the Board of Trustees, and look forward to the opportunity to both serve and grow.

### UUF BOARD

#### SMOOT CARL-MITCHELL

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

Professionally, I am a Computer Scientist and am currently working for Cort Business Systems as an Open Systems Engineer and manage Cort's production computer systems.

My faith background is mainstream Protestant Christian. I was active in a progressive Episcopal church in Austin, TX for more than 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 6½ years as Treasurer. I am honored to be asked to serve on the UUF Board.

#### RICHARD PLATTNER

My wife and I were married in 1983. Our first date was February 17, 1979, which we still celebrate as our "real" anniversary. Our son, Sam, works in Los Angeles pursuing his passion for sound recording, sound effects and sound design for movies. Our daughter, Kate, is getting her Master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology. They are both smarter, better looking, and way cooler than their parents.

My wife, Susan Morris, has her Master's in Special Education. She taught for 10 years in public schools and established Morris Tutoring Associates, Inc. in 1985. Our joke is that we created an institution for her to volunteer at, because there is no money to be made tutoring. But there is great joy. She has helped many hundreds of kids, and adores almost all of them.

I help individuals and families in serious injury and death cases, forcing the insurance industry, government and big business to pay when carelessness or dangerous products have caused harm. I have been active in leadership in the Arizona Association for Justice, worked to protect the Arizona Constitution from the insurance industry and big business interests, and testified at the Arizona Legislature regarding bills affecting consumer rights, product liability, medical malpractice and insurance law. In 1979, two years out of law school, I successfully established the right of married women to keep their last name in a case at the Arizona Supreme Court.

Susan and I are both active in UUCP. I have sung in the choir since 2002, am a frequent Master of Ceremonies at congregational fundraising events, have served on the Committee on Ministry, UU Foundation Board, Capital Committee, and am currently a Member of the Board of Trustees.

*continued...*

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

#### TERRY SIMMONS

Nine years ago, an ad came on NPR for a lecture about Native American spirituality at a place called Unitarian Universalist Congregation. I attended, grabbed literature by the door, and have not missed a Sunday Service since, unless I am out of town. No doubts or puzzlements ever have clouded my original perception that if this can be called an organized religion, count me in. Raised Congregational (those folks who might, in early New England, change their sign out front to Universalist overnight, but who still struggle mightily with the concept of the trinity), I was aware of liberal religion and its propensity for social justice and internal change. But by comparison, UU liberalism looks like a color movie next to a black and white photo.

Outside of UUCP, I teach cultural anthropology in the community college district, and operate a small business related to environment and sustainability. Inside UUCP, I have joined and chaired various committees and served on the board. Spiritually, I tend toward Eastern “web without a weaver” belief systems, along with naturalism, after I discovered its website, [naturalism.org](http://naturalism.org). I am honored to have been asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.

#### TERRY LOCKWOOD

I have been a member of UUCP for more than 16 years. In that time, I have served UUCP in many capacities, such as coordinator for joint retreats with the Valley UU Congregation, and member of Children’s Religious Education Committee, Membership Committee and Interweave. I have served on the Minister’s Multicultural Advisory Committee and as an active member of the UUCP Welcoming Ministry and STARS programs.

I have also been an adult advisor for summer and winter YRUU youth camps at the PSWD Camp de Benneville Pines, have participated in several covenant groups and am currently co-leading a covenant group with my husband Glen. It has been my pleasure for the last two years to be Coordinator for the UUCP Pathway to Membership program to introduce and welcome new members into our congregation.

#### PAULA KULINA

I have been attending UUCP since I was a teenager, when my parents forced me to attend the church of my choice after I informed them I was no longer Catholic. Once I experienced the first Sunday service at UUCP I knew this was my home. Over the years I have participated in many different groups and activities, but have concentrated on the Membership/Welcoming Committees, our Partner Church and SAWUURA. I have served on the Board of Trustees a few times, most recently as Vice President and President. After a 25-year career at American Express I retired in February and joined the Creative Prose Covenant Group; I am also on the planning committee for GA 2012.

My most relevant experience in serving on the Nominating Committee was the work I did transitioning UUCP to policy-based governance. I chaired the Governance Working Group that wrote policies and ensured they were approved and communicated. I am very familiar with the responsibilities of Board members in this model and I think I can provide prospective Board members with a realistic picture of what Board service is like. I also have work experience as a corporate trainer, and have led business and leadership training sessions.



## Greetings from Your Music Director!

Ludwig van Beethoven said, “Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy.” Music may be lacking in your life. You may be missing out on that higher revelation. Never fear, we at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix can help. This spring there will be ample opportunities to make music, hear music and be renewed by the experience. Keep reading.

Singing in the **Family Choir** is a chance for families to make music together. In the days before electronics and television, at least one person in the family played an instrument. Families sat around together and sang and played music. Television and texting has changed family life. The Family Choir will be meeting in April. Singing in the Family Choir can give your family a chance to sing together with children (your own or others), parents (or parent-types) and grandparents once again.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> is **Music Sunday**: “After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music” (Aldous Huxley). If music is one of your ways to cope, celebrate, mourn, dream, be inspired, uplifted and renewed, you will want to come early and sit up front. We will make music together and be ready to re-enter the world with joy and renewal.

May 12<sup>th</sup> is **Cabaret**. Last year it was standing-room-only. So get your tickets early. This annual song and dance show adds to the support of all the beautiful music you hear during the rest of the year. We always appreciate your support and look forward to gathering on this special night when we can celebrate some of the many talented musicians in our congregation. I hope you put the date on your calendar.

Maybe when you’ve heard or performed music in the past, you’ve had that experience of chills or spine-tingling. Do you know what caused that amazing experience? It was the music in you being realized. This summer at **General Assembly** there will be two opportunities to sing in a large choir: The GA Choir will rehearse every day at GA and sing for the Sunday Morning service. And there will be a Pacific-Southwest District Choir that will rehearse before GA and sing during the Wednesday night opening ceremonies. Watch the Compass for details about these choirs.

You have the music in you. Let it out, share it, sing it, play it.

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML  
[musicdirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@phoenixuu.org).

## From the Business Administrator

I discovered Unitarian Universalism my first year in college back in Cambridge, Massachusetts through a babysitting service with First Parish Cambridge, Unitarian Universalist in Harvard Square. I had no idea what UUism was but immediately became fascinated by the things I read on the walls, the people dropping their kids off, and by my boss Rev. Jory Agate. The place was so alive with love and happiness and my homesick-heart was warmed by this family that wasn't bound by blood. Within a year I was promoted to Religious Education Assistant and provided the admin support needed to run the large and vibrant Sunday School program. Through that position I got a closer look at what UU kids learned and I was hooked. They were learning things that I wanted to learn – what is religion? What is community? How do I be a friend to the world? How do I spread love? And the way they were learning was FUN!

Sunday Service still scared me, all those wicked smart adults that I was afraid to talk to. (Did I mention First Parish is across from Harvard?) And all the “adult programming” just seemed too intense for me but this, this Sunday School program, playing with kids and learning all these great ideas and ways to live and be in community, this I could handle! This I loved!

So there began my journey into Unitarian Universalism. Later, I became a part-time Director of Religious Education for a small UU church in Salem, MA. And in 2005 I moved from the East Coast to Phoenix where very soon after I was hired as your Congregation Administrator.

Why do I give to UUCP? Because this is my family, my family that has continued to nurture me in my personal and spiritual growth, and that is now helping me raise my little boy. It is important to me to return this gift through my stewardship pledge and to help my family grow.

Our Stewardship goals for next year include funding a full-time Director of Children's Ministries to oversee the programming for our children, nursery through 6th grade. This programming includes our Sunday School, weekday preschool, and summer camp. By merging three part-time directorship positions into one full-time Director we are able to create a compensation package to attract the right person who will strengthen our children and family ministries. And with this new position we hope to maximize our resources and create more cohesiveness among these programs.

The support for this vision among families currently in our programs is strong. The excitement of new ideas has invigorated many and our family is growing. Won't you join me in stepping up to this bold vision? We are encouraged to raise our pledges by 12% to help fund this new vision as well as our other goals for next year. I feel fortunate that I am able to raise my pledge by 20% for next year and I hope the same for all of you.

Thank you all for the gifts you bring this community and for the many ways you have helped me and my son grow.

Heidi Parmenter  
Business Administrator

## Children's Religious Education News

### **New Director Search Continues**

As many of us know, our congregation is currently searching for a dynamic new director for our children's education programs. This position will encompass our Sunday morning programs for all children through and including the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, our weekday preschool (UUCP's Early Education Cooperative or EEC), and our summer-time Kids Kamp programs. Previously, each of these programs had its own dedicated director, and each director did many of the same tasks as the others, serving the same populations, with each program standing independent of its complementary pieces.

Hiring one director to oversee all of these programs is both an amazing opportunity for the right person, but also a wonderful step in the right direction for our children's programs. Our congregation is growing; we are attracting new young families and older established folks looking for a liberal religious community. Our facility is growing; we are adding a new, fully-accessible restroom core and making better use of our existing space. And so it goes that our children's programs are growing – in quality and quantity.

### **And with Growth Comes Change**

I have enjoyed acting as this congregation's director of children's programs on Sunday mornings, but we all knew that my service would be temporary, as I have a full-time job outside of UUCP. My passion and training lies in working with our junior high and high school aged youth and I am eager to get back to helping our kids enrolled in those programs.

When our religious education classes begin again in the fall, we will embark upon a new teaching rotation, and a new sense of collaboration and cooperation. We will divide the year into two "semesters" (August through December and January through May) and ensure we have committed, passionate lead teachers for each class each semester. Parents of children registered in our Sunday morning programs will be assigned one or more days each semester to serve as assistants in the classrooms. The parent assistants will be asked to show up on time, be friendly to our children and supportive of our lead teachers. Ours will be a cooperative Sunday School program and I am so excited to help initiate and further this concept for our children and our community!

How does this change impact you? Whether you have children in our Sunday School program or not, this change affects all of us. Children are the future of our congregation and our world, and we all have a vested interest in making sure our program continues to thrive. We want to see our little people grow into truth and justice seekers, to help them be informed and inquisitive, to share our strength in fellowship, and to continue toward our goal of becoming that beacon of multigenerational, multicultural, multidimensional goodness on our campus and beyond.

### **And with Change Comes Opportunity – Children's RE Going Co-op!**

This is a cultural change for our community. We are leaning away from our current paid-teacher structure and into a cooperative learning environment. Some of the most successful religious education programs are run this way—with help from everyone in the community—and those programs, and their corresponding congregations, are thriving. Please be patient as we continue to search for the right person to lead our children's ministries, and please be open to the changes that will come our way as a result of hiring someone with new ideas and suggestions for strengthening our programs. As I reminded everyone here last month, we want to make sure our children have a safe space in which they can continue to learn and grow, and fun, caring adults to support them.

We plan to collaborate with our daytime preschool (EEC) to offer opportunities that will interest all children and parents who visit our campus. We will work together to knock down the "us and them" mentality between the UUCP and EEC programs. We will continue to enthusiastically educate (and be educated by) the children who fill our halls and classrooms. And the best part is that we will all play a part in this important ministry.

### **Do You Like to Play with Paste? Join our Teaching Team!**

Are you looking for a fun, super-easy way to get involved with our community? Are you ready to take a break from serving on committees? Do you like to laugh and sing and play with paste? Come join our children's Sunday school team! If you would like to be considered for a lead teacher position for our Sunday School program, we want to talk to you! The Children's Ministry Committee is currently looking for folks who are passionate and excited about working with our children and youth. Our year will be divided into two semesters (Aug-Dec and Jan-May) so your commitment is minimal. Curriculums are provided and at least one parent-assistant will be present to help each week. For more information, contact any member of the Children's Ministry Committee, or our temporary Director of Children's Religious Education at [redirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:redirector@phoenixuu.org).

### **Young Adult Group Meets Sunday, April 15 (Note Date Change)**

Due to the Easter holiday and Celebration Sunday on April 8, the Young Adult Group will meet on April 15 at 12:30 in Annex C. This is a spiritual and social group for adults age 18-35. April's topic will be Sharing Spiritual Practices. Bring your coffee!

### **Easter Sunday Funday, April 8, 9:30 AM**

All children and youth will gather together for a morning of collaborative games, fun art projects, storytelling and community building on Sunday, April 8. We will celebrate spring as we make new friends (and dinosaur eggs and frosted cookies and tiny potted veggies and herbs!). Please bring your children directly to the basketball court area at the west end of campus that day. If you have any questions, please contact our temporary Director of Children's Religious Education at [redirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:redirector@phoenixuu.org).

See you Sunday!

Jaynn Truran

## **Love to Write?**

This year's *POIKILOS*, the congregation's journal of creative writing, will be published in late August. We are inviting you to include your poetry, short stories, essays, songs, humorous pieces, even your own jokes, or your own worship service readings are all appropriate. Children's work is encouraged. You won't be rejected unless your selection is impossibly long or unsavory. So give it a try.

Works must be typed and have your name at the bottom. Use a font size 12 or larger. Please also submit a two- to three-sentence biography, with your name on it, on a separate page for our contributors' section.

The deadline for submitting your manuscript is Sunday, June 3, 2012. You may submit entries in any *one* of the following ways:

1. E-mail them to [abixel5@gmail.com](mailto:abixel5@gmail.com).
2. Place them in the Poetry Coffeehouse mailbox in the office.
3. Mail them to the church office: Attn. Poetry Coffeehouse, 4027 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.
4. Hand them to Tish Gauntt personally.

If you have questions please call Tish at 602-992-1563.

## Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays

Curious about Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays? Come learn about other cultures and far-off lands as UUCP members and guests share about their adventures in Shanghai, Ethiopia, India and other foreign locales. Join us the second Friday of each month, 7:00-8:00 PM in the UUCP sanctuary.

### **April 13: *Family, Food & Friends in the Ukraine* with Kristina Efimenko**

That was the title Kristina thought she would name her book about one of the most special events of her life. It was her first visit to Ukraine, the place where her husband, Alex, was born; and for Alex, it was his first return to Ukraine since he was a one-year-old baby. His parents had left Ukraine during World War II, taking only their baby, a few special things, and some family photos. Alex and Kristina's first visit to Ukraine was in 1989 with a tour group. It had not been considered safe for people to go to the Soviet Union before this time, if they had been born there. Riding on the train into Ukraine was an emotional experience, seeing one's homeland with adult eyes, and later on walking the streets of the a Ukrainian city and hearing one's native language.

Kristina has all her life been interested in all things Slavic, and getting her BA in Russian in 1972, she had always wanted to see what life was like for the people living in the Soviet Union. Now, at last she had the chance to see Ukraine, one of the 15 republics of the former S.U. They will share with you this very special experience in their lives. Stories, slides, videos and more will let you see inside a Ukrainian home, see nature scenes, meet people, and taste typical food. The year 1989 was a pivotal year for the world when the S.U. broke up, and personally for Alex and Kristina. They returned once more together with their children, and Alex returned later as a translator for Hughes Technical Services for the purpose of dismantling nuclear weapons.

Questions about Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays? Contact Barbara Cawthorne at 480-994-1452 or [thetravellers@q.com](mailto:thetravellers@q.com) with any questions. *Everyone* is welcome! Travel with us the second Friday of the month from January to June.

## Be a Friend, Make a Friend

One way to participate in our caring community is to become a Unicare Friendship Partner. There are no special requirements, simply a wish to give and receive friendship. Friendship Partners pairs active members of the congregation who those who are housebound or physically challenged and who would enjoy monthly visits, calls or special outings.

UUCP's covenant encourages each of us to give and receive. Share your gift of friendship. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact [unicare@phoenixuu.org](mailto:unicare@phoenixuu.org). We would like to hear from those of you who would like to be partners and from you who would appreciate visitors.

## Pride Parade

April 14<sup>th</sup> is the last day to sign up to participate in this year's Pride Parade. This year's parade will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup>. As members of a liberal, social justice seeking congregation, this is an opportunity to demonstrate our support for GLBTQI members of this congregation and all GLBTQI people who continue to fight for marriage equality and an end to discrimination. So, dust off your social action sneakers and come out and march. Sign up is at the social action table at the back of the church.

## April Diversity Dinner: “Classism in America”

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 6 - 8 PM

In his essay “The Community of Man,” Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote, “As long as there is poverty in the world, I can never be rich, even if I have a billion dollars. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the way our world is made. No individual or nation can stand out boasting of being independent. We are interdependent.” His words still resonate today, echoing our seventh principle. With our recent economic times and the Occupy movement as a backdrop, the Adult Faith Committee invites you to our next Diversity Dinner, and the topic is Classism in America. Join us for camaraderie and stimulating conversation about a timely topic. All delectables from Spam to caviar are welcome!

This potluck in the Johnson Room is for people of all ages and demographics. We suggest bringing a dish according to this breakout: last names A-F Drinks; G-L Main Dish; M-R Side dish or chips; S-Z Dessert. We ask that you also bring your own reusable plates, cups and utensils in an effort to reduce waste and minimize clean-up time. If you would like more information, please contact Lillian Habeich at [lhabeich25@msn.com](mailto:lhabeich25@msn.com). Hope to see you there!

## PSWD District Assembly, April 27-28

The Pacific Southwest District and Camp de Benneville Pines will be delighted to welcome you to their combined annual meeting, also known as District Assembly. We’re throwing a party—and you’ll want to make sure your name is on the list. In addition to a keynote address by author and commentator Ruben Martinez, there will be worship, workshops, bridging, awards and business meeting. So make your plans now to be in Los Angeles, CA, April 27-28, to be a part of this special gathering of Unitarian Universalists. More info: <http://www.pswduua.org/pages/district-assembly.php>.

## Outreach Music Ministry

UUCP is proud to present this opportunity to reach out to members with a very special singing group. We call ourselves Outreach Music Ministry. The plan is to visit members and friends convalescing at home or in a care facility. We will fill the room with beautiful songs to heal the heart. Our first visit will take place on Sunday, April 29. Please meet in the patio at UUCP between services at 11:00 AM. We will rehearse until 11:30, when we will leave to visit the person’s home or hospital. If you are interested in participating in Outreach Music Ministry, or have any questions, please email Jerry Whalin at [outreachmusic@phoenixuu.org](mailto:outreachmusic@phoenixuu.org).

### New Day Center and UUCP

The UMOM New Day Center was founded in 1964 and is the largest center for homeless families in Arizona. For more than 15 years, UUCP has been providing a nourishing meal to the residents of the New Day Center. On the first a Sunday of each month our congregation prepares and serves dinner for approximately 100-150 residents.

If you have not participated, it is a fun service activity. UUCP volunteers prepare homemade brownies, shop for dinner ingredients, prepare the food, deliver the food, and serve dinner at the New Day Center at 3320 E. Van Buren Road in Phoenix.

We have some regular volunteers who bake brownies every month, some Covenant Groups and Activity Groups who sign up for all the jobs for a specified month. We have some family groups who volunteer regularly. We also have friend groups plus lots of individuals who just want to help. We even have a volunteer photographer who has captured us on film having fun in the kitchen! Check out our pictures on the sign-up board.

The next meal we provide will be on Sunday, April 1. We still have room for more volunteers. If that doesn't work with your schedule, sign up for another month. The sign-up board is at the rear of the sanctuary each Sunday near the Service Committee table.

Remember, service is our prayer.

Thank you from the Co-Chairs,

Michael Hipps ([mhipps65@gmail.com](mailto:mhipps65@gmail.com))

Merrily Beyreuther ([merrily@taosnet.com](mailto:merrily@taosnet.com))

### Share the Plate

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> our monthly Share the Plate program will benefit the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Membership envelopes will be available for those who would like to renew or initiate their membership to support UUSC.

UUSC is a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world. Its mission and vision are guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the seven Unitarian Universalist principles that affirm the worth, dignity, and human rights of every person.

UUSC's roots reach back to the World War II era through the work of the Unitarian Service Committee and the Universalist Service Committee. These organizations later joined forces to form the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

More information is available at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org) and at our Social Action table.

To nominate an organization for Share the Plate, please see the guidelines and application at [www.phoenixxu.org](http://www.phoenixxu.org) under Social Action.

## The End of Construction is in Sight!

The grand opening of the new building addition is widely anticipated and will hopefully occur in late April. Please watch the Compass weekly newsletter for the announcement of the “First Flush” celebration.

The exterior construction of the restroom addition is essentially complete. This view, looking from the main entrance toward the classroom annexes, shows the finished walls and the new accessible sidewalk to the annex buildings. The new gate is hidden around the corner of the new building for additional security. The walkway, gate, and patio entrance meet all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.



This view is from the patio looking toward the paved parking lot. There are modern LED lighting fixtures for the sidewalk mounted in the wall. There are also water and irrigation connections for future landscaping along the sidewalk. Preinstalled conduits under the sidewalk are available for routing irrigation to planters or plantings south of the sidewalk. A special drainage conduit routes water under the sidewalk from the patio during rainstorms.



The interior heating, lighting, fire sprinkler, and fire alarm systems are now installed. This view of one of the two family restrooms (top of next page) shows the utilities and one of the two shower stalls in the addition (where the red ladder sits).





All of the trenching to upgrade the electrical service to the sanctuary and the east parking lot was completed during the spring break for the schools. There will be no more exposed electrical conduits or distribution boxes in the parking lot and surrounding garden north of the building. The new electrical Service Entry Station (SES) at the west end of the buildings is shown below. The switches are all updated to code and sized for future campus growth. Gates will be added for additional security of the equipment.



Please watch the Compass weekly newsletter for announcements of construction activity and any facility closures. More importantly, 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.

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

Details of the project may be found on the UUCP website at the “UUCP Renovation” tab. Please feel free to contact the Renovation Project Team at [renovation@phoenixuu.org](mailto:renovation@phoenixuu.org) or the office if you have any questions.

Don Weir, Chair, 2010-12 Renovation Project

### 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays Addictions Discussion Group

Our vibrant discussion group celebrates one year this month! As part of the broader Addictions Ministry, we had our inaugural gathering on April 30, 2011. It is with great joy that we mark our anniversary. And we are looking forward to representatives from the UUA Addictions Ministry Team coming to Phoenix for General Assembly June 20-24. So there is much to celebrate.

If you have wondered about our group, we are a unique group in that we bring varied addiction stories to one place. Whereas traditional groups focus on a particular addiction such as gambling, narcotics, alcohol, sex, eating disorders, or shopping, we do not make those distinctions. We only ask that you have a little sobriety. We are not the right place for families and friends of addicts or for co-dependency. We are a safe place to land spiritually where you will not feel the need to conform to any group belief system. We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in Annex B at 4:30 PM. If you have any questions or would like help getting sober contact 602-361-9067.

### Finance Committee

As we begin the stewardship campaign for the upcoming fiscal year, the finance committee continues to have excellent news concerning the current fiscal year. Overall, the staff members are doing an excellent job with the accounting of all transactions and the committee continues to be attentive to the funds associated with the ongoing construction. Support continues to be strong with received pledges standing at \$255,904 and representing 66.5% of the total pledge amount. We continue to maintain expenses to match costs and maintain a balanced budget, with the overall balance being slightly positive at +\$14,179.65.

Critical to this fiscal success is the continued support of the Congregation members and we are thankful to all members for their contributions. If you are one of the many members who make payments towards their pledges on a regular payment schedule, we remind you that it is possible to make use of an automated payment plan. With this process, there is no need of writing checks as the payments are withdrawn from your account on a monthly basis. If you are interested in enrolling in this method or have questions concerning your pledge statements, please contact Heidi Parmenter at the office between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Thursday (602-840-8400) or email [administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org).

### Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Fair trade strengthens human rights and dignity for small farmers throughout the world. UUSC's partnership with Equal Exchange makes it easy to support fair trade while enjoying some of the best coffee and chocolate anywhere, and at a fair price. Stop by the Social Action table and pick up your supply of coffee and chocolate for the week.

Become a UUSC member and help the fight for human rights around the world. See Heather McLellan, UUSC representative, at the Social Action table for more information.

### Unicare

There are always joys and sorrows in the hearts of our UUCP members and friends. Some of those we choose to share during Sunday services as announcements that are read aloud to the congregation. Others come via the ministers or through Unicare channels and are shared with you in this column. If you've missed the news shared here, this gives you an opportunity to follow up with congratulations or condolences or some other appropriate response if you wish to do so:

- We extend our sympathy to the family of Jerry Butler, especially to his wife, Penny. Jerry died on March 5<sup>th</sup> just short of his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday. His four adult children, Jeremy, Reid, Lydia, and Starin, were "raised" in our religious education program in the 1960s, and Jerry did some pro bono work for our congregation which included work on the bylaws for the establishment of the UU Foundation that continues to provide financial support to UUCP.
- We are sorry to hear that Joyce Short lost a good friend and colleague when Barbara Sierra was killed in a hit and run accident.
- Susan Morris's mother fell and broke her hip. She survived surgery and the family hopes she continues to make a good recovery.
- Judith Breuer expressed her concern for a UU friend in her previous congregation whose husband has early onset Alzheimer's. We add our encouragement to all family members and caregivers who are doing their best to care for loved ones through various kinds of serious illness. We also know that there are many members and friends themselves struggling with serious illness. Please let us know if there is any way we as members, ministers, and Unicarers can help.
- Sherry Benson has a dear one who recently received a stem cell transplant to combat AML. We hope along with Sherry that the outcome will be positive.
- We are grateful that Donna Seward is in remission from Hodgkin's lymphoma, that Sharon Hise had successful parathyroid surgery and can still sing (hurray!), and that Chris Snyder's son, Kyle, had a successful heart valve replacement and is doing well.
- We are thrilled that Heidi Singer and her son Dante have returned to Arizona and to UUCP, and we hope that their transition back goes well. We are so glad they are with us again.
- Speaking of transitions, Jean Rosenberg wishes to share her new address and would be happy to hear from you: 846 Ronda Mendoza, Unit O in Laguna Woods, CA 92637; [jrosenberg@comline.com](mailto:jrosenberg@comline.com).
- We extend our heartiest, though belated, congratulations to Sarah Henkel and Mat Montgomery who were married on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

As we remember the joys and the sorrows of our congregation, let us also remember that there are times in this life we must be givers and times we must be receivers. We may not want to be on the receiving end of care and special attention, but it is often a gift to the giver if we, as a recipient, can graciously ask for and accept caring and assistance.

In love and community,  
Rev. Linda

## Pathway to Membership

APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup> AND MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>

If you think you might have finally “come home” to a religious community where you can be both comforted and challenged, where you can learn, grow, be inspired, and offer your own unique gifts of service, then Pathway to Membership (PTM) is for you! This program offers an opportunity to share something about your own religious journey, hear what brought others to UUCP, learn how you can get involved in the community, and explore the benefits and responsibilities of membership.

The Membership Committee hosts PTM in the Johnson Room with a light breakfast on Sunday, April 29, from 8:45-10:30 AM and a potluck dinner on Saturday, March 5, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Free childcare is provided for both sessions, but you must register in advance and let us know the number and ages of your children. To register, sign up at the Welcome Table in the foyer on any Sunday through April 22<sup>nd</sup> or contact Rev. Linda Lawrence at 602-840-8400 Ext. 204 or [assistantminister@phoenixuu.org](mailto:assistantminister@phoenixuu.org).

## New Members



Manuel Cano is a social worker by devotion and profession. He was born in Mexico and has lived in Arizona since 2005. He works for an agency and assists those struggling with substance addiction. He is a passionate runner and enjoys yoga. After exploring several religions and faiths, he came across UUCP. He is thankful for the congregation's continuing search for wisdom and its “faith in action.”

Peggy Hall was born in Florida and has lived in Virginia, California, Nevada, and Alaska. She has four siblings who are scattered around the country from Maine to Alaska to Hawaii. She has a son and three grandchildren who live in California. Peggy works for the City of Phoenix Aviation Department. When not working, she enjoys hiking, drawing, painting, reading, and going to movies. She has just started playing golf. Peggy says, “I am very pleased to become a member here at UUCP. It's a very warm and welcoming group of people.”





Delmi Ortega was born and raised in a very small community called “San Antonio de la Calera” in the state of Zacatecas, Mexico. She moved to Phoenix in 1990 and as much as she dislikes the extreme heat, she enjoys outdoor activities like hiking, running and playing soccer. Her work gives her the ability to help people make better choices in terms of nutrition and physical activity.

Davier Rodriguez was born in Miami, FL, to a Cuban family. He has been ardously passionate about education since he was a kid. He proudly graduated from the University of Florida in 2008 with his Bachelor’s, making him the first in his family to graduate from both high school and college. Currently, he works for Arizona State University in University Housing while pursuing two Master’s degrees in Higher & Postsecondary Education and Public Administration.



Davier is particularly interested in developing productive, loving citizens that are culturally competent, civically engaged and socially responsible. He identifies as a scholar, activist, and advocate. In his free time, Davier enjoys dancing, reading inspirational books, and engaging in deep conversations.

Interfaith dialogue and spiritual development are the two components of the UU congregation that he is looking forward to the most. Davier is eager to contribute in any way he is able.

To subscribe or receive Horizons via email, please submit your contact info at the visitors’ desk or email [administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org).





## Celebrations of Life

9:30 and 11:15 AM

### APRIL 1: NURTURING JOY AND LAUGHTER

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

April Fool's Day is like a reminder in our calendar of the healing power of laughter in our lives. Let us take this time to refill our spirits with the life-giving energy of joy and laughter.

### APRIL 8: CELEBRATION SUNDAY FOR THE EASTER OF THE YEAR

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

As our Stewardship campaign draws to a close, we celebrate the gifts that we share and how these inspire our ministry and renew the work of our faith in the world.

### APRIL 15: PASSION

Service Leaders: YRUU Members

Our high school youth group, Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU), takes over the pulpit for this very special service. The youth will share their observations about passion in its many forms through music, readings, and their own personal experiences.

### APRIL 22: ALL MUSIC SUNDAY

Service leaders: Connie Jahrmarkt, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Anne Byrne

Aldous Huxley: "After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music." Ludwig van Beethoven: "Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy." Come and experience the music. Sing with the Congregation Choir, Family Choir, Drummers, Dr. Lynne Haeseler, Strings, and Winds. Children will be welcome to remain in the sanctuary for the entire service.

### APRIL 29: TBA

Service Leader: David Weaver

*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: Kathy Bennett  
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt  
Interim Religious Education Director: Jaynn Truran  
Arizona Immigration Ministry Organizer: Sandra Weir  
Adult Faith Development Coordinator: David Weaver  
Business Administrator: Heidi Parmenter  
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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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