



A Welcoming Congregation

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

May 2012

This month at a glance:

- 5—Membership Potluck
- 6—New Day Center Meal
- 6—Social Action Luncheon
- 8—Interweave Meeting
- 12—Cabaret
- 13—Share the Plate
- 13—Social Action Committee
- 17—Immigration Task Force
- 17—Board Meeting
- 18—Travelling 2nd Fridays
- 19—Sewing Circle
- 20—Congregational Meeting
- 21—Women's Spirituality Circle
- 27—Men's Group
- Ongoing:
 - Addiction Discussion Group
 - Book Group
 - Choir Rehearsal
 - Open Art Studio
 - Meditation Group
 - Walking 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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UUCP Global Outreach

It has been a busy year so far for the UUCP Sewing Circle. Along with adding members to our group we have added quality and inspired patterns to our designs. We have moved from the simple pillowcase dress to Jumpers and A-line dresses thanks to the abundant supply of fabric contributions.



*Dress made by Pauline Gay
for Lisa in Haiti*

We were able to send 40 dresses to Haiti for the "Friends of the Orphans," taken personally by Mary Jo West, a well-known TV news anchor, the first woman in broadcasting locally. Tony Banegas took an equal number to Honduras for Hogar Materno.

Lori Williamson and Paula Adkins designed and created the piano cover for the sanctuary and are in the process of designing the organ cover as well. The next meeting will be May 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Hope to see you there.

WHAT GOOD IS SITTING ALONE IN YOUR ROOM?

COME TO THE ANNUAL CABARET SHOW

Just the Music

COME HEAR THE MAGIC THAT IS MUSIC

May 12

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM ~ SHOW 7:00 PM

DONATION: ADULTS \$10, FAMILIES \$25 TOPS

NEED CHILD CARE? KARINQUINN@YAHOO.CO.UK

SPONSORSHIPS: \$300~CANTATA SOCIETY

\$200~MONTH OF ANTHEMS \$150~PIANO TUNER'S PAL

\$100~GUEST MUSICIAN CIRCLE \$50~ANTHEM CLUB



Minister's Musings

Just as spring represents a fullness of life, we are entering a time of fullness in the life of the congregation. With the flowers blooming and the allergies high, we also know that General Assembly is fast approaching. When we took on this one-year commitment with the Association, I was told that April, May and June would be the busiest time and that is proving true. From now until June, I will be focused almost entirely on General Assembly. At the same time, I am also thinking about our work for next year in the congregation. Next year, when I am back full time at the congregation, I plan to lead an Adult Faith Development class on creating a personal spiritual practice.

In addition, we will be looking to strengthen the ways that we share our journeys. At the staff and Council leadership level, we are looking at the cost and feasibility of having a midweek congregation night that offers childcare, some children's programming, adult faith development classes and perhaps a potluck meal. We may not be able to do it this coming year, but we are planting seeds for that vision. We hope this midweek evening of activities would allow more parents of young children to participate in classes and in leadership, while also providing more community-building opportunities for children and the congregation as a whole.

Located in Arizona, we are also entering a time of growing need for community work. On April 25th, the US Supreme Court will have heard the case against Arizona's controversial anti-immigrant law SB 1070. The court will likely offer its ruling near the end of June, perhaps during General Assembly. Knowing the court is reviewing a lower federal court's injunction of most of the bill, this case brings a level of anxiety for those who have been standing united against the bill and in support of meaningful, humane and comprehensive solutions to our broken immigration system. And today, a report from the Pew Center says that immigration from Mexico into the United States over the last five years has been less than zero—which brings its own concerns, given how dependent the US is on immigration and migrant workers.

This is a full time of year. Schools are wrapping up their terms and teachers and families with young children are especially busy. There is activity growing on all levels. In the midst of the unknown, the anticipation of things to come, the busyness of our lives, I invite you to take time for stillness, for prayer, to invite moments of quiet joy into your life. We all need these moments to refill our tanks, especially in the busiest times of our lives. While the mornings and evenings are still cool, it is a good time to carve some time for stillness.

As the poet Wendell Berry writes:

When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

To be engaged in this world, to be present to the needs of our children, and ourselves, we all need time for renewal. May you find this time in the midst of all that is present in your life.

Yours,
Rev. Susan

Too Good Not to Share

“Ours is a faith too good not to share.”

– Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

This month, our congregation will have the great fortune of hosting a special guest minister on May 6th, the Reverend John Crestwell, Jr., Associate Minister of Outreach, Leadership, and Evangelism at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis. He will also be preaching Sunday Service at Justice General Assembly on June 24, 2012 in the Phoenix Convention Center.

Rev. Crestwell is an awesome preacher and a wonderful person, as we will see firsthand. He is also well known for his leadership in growing a multicultural/multiracial ministry in his previous congregation, A. Powell Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church. During his visit to Phoenix, Rev. Susan and the UUCP’s Multicultural Advisory Group will meet with Rev. Crestwell to learn from his advice and wisdom.

The story of Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church is about a congregation that has intentionally and boldly transformed itself from a predominantly white congregation in a racially diverse city, to a congregation that is now one of the most diverse in the UUA and whose membership has simultaneously increased by 50%. They did this without losing their core long-time white members; in fact, they did it for the core white members. In 2007, the church was recognized as a breakthrough congregation by the UUA.

Unfortunately, the one of the reasons why Rev. Crestwell and the Davies church is well known in the UUA is because it is unusual. UUs should be very proud of our inclusive principles and our groundbreaking success in gender and LGBTQ diversity. However, despite many honorable efforts and strong intentions, our racial and cultural demographics do not adequately reflect the love of diversity in our hearts.

I confess that, for me, this has been one of the strongest sources of disappointment in our faith. In fact, May 6th will be the first sermon I can remember preached at the UUCP by an African American in my eight years as a member here.

However, in a recent phone conversation, Rev. Crestwell reminded me of the great potential and promise of Unitarian Universalism. He reminded me that there is nothing in our core principles and values that is in any way an impediment to building a multicultural community. In fact, Crestwell points out that our values of inclusiveness and welcoming not only make Unitarian Universalism well suited to multiculturalism—our values compel us to build a multicultural religious community.

THIS IS OUR TIME! In an age of liberal thinking and expressionism, when technology and scientific genius allow us to access information at the click of a button, we stand as the religion that embraces both tradition and innovation ... There is only one religion I know of that embraces both the Buddhist and the Catholic. There is only one religion I know of that loves both the Muslim and Hindu. There is only one religion I know of that accepts the Atheist, the Agnostic, Humanist and Christian, and that religion is called Unitarian Universalism.

– JT Crestwell, *The Charge of the Chalice* (Camp Springs, Movement Ministries, 2007, p. 98-9)

While his words reminded me of our potential, Crestwell’s ministry and his experience reminded me that our dream of beloved community is achievable, but only through a long-term committed and sincere effort.

Rev. Crestwell will visit us at a time of racial turmoil in our state, and at a time when our association, our congregation and many of you personally have invested a considerable amount of resources into taking a firm

From the Board...

moral stance on social justice. This has already brought us new energy and new members from diverse backgrounds.

From this attention and diversity, our challenge is to make a welcoming and accessible place in our religious community for all people who share our values. In our discussions in the Multicultural Advisory Group, I have learned that this will take strength, intention, courage, learning new skills, self-examination, compassion for yourself and others, but I have also learned that it absolutely does not require us to change who we are as UUs. In fact, as Crestwell points out, it requires that we become even more deeply committed to Unitarian Universalism.

May it be so.

In community,
Jimmy

Jimmy Leung
UUCP Board President

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be:

May 17th
6:00 pm in the Annex
All are welcome.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday May 20th

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

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

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

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.

Leadership Nominations...

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 "DUKE" 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.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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.

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 Inter-weave. 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.

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. I am honored to have been asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Greetings from Your Music Director!

Did you buy your Cabaret tickets yet? Cabaret is May 12th. Get your tickets right away. Last year Cabaret was standing-room-only!

Last month I told you about ways to be a part of music at UUCP. Now I'm telling you that you can be a part of music at General Assembly of the Congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Here's how:

First opportunity: Pacific Southwest District Choir, directed by Kellie Walker, Minister of Music at Valley UU in Chandler. Here's your chance to be a part of the Phoenicians who welcome UUs from across the continent to our fair city. Sing with UUs from Arizona, Southern California and Southern Utah. Experience the pageantry of the banner parade. Sound great to you? Here's what you do:

1. Come to choir rehearsals at UUCP on the Wednesdays in June, 7:00-9:00 p.m. to learn the music.
2. Register for GA, if not the entire time, register for Wednesday, which includes all day Thursday this year!
3. Rehearse at GA on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.
4. Be present at a sound check at 4:30 p.m.
5. Sing with the choir on June 20th during Opening Ceremony of General Assembly in the evening.

Second Opportunity: Sing in the GA Choir directed by Dr. Keith Arnold, Minister of Music of the Jefferson Unitarian Church in Denver, CO. Be a part of a large choir of UU singers from all over America, led by one of our denomination's finest conductors. Here's what you do:

1. Register for GA.
2. Sign-up for the GA Choir in the registration area of the Convention Center: on Tuesday, June 19, 2:00-6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, June 20, 12:00-3:00 p.m. Sign up early. This choir limits the number of singers. If all available choir spots fill, a waiting list will be formed for spots that may open after the first rehearsal.
3. First rehearsal is Wednesday, 6/20, 3:00-4:15 p.m.
4. Rehearse every day: Wednesday 3:00 p.m., Thursday 2:00 p.m., Friday 2:00 p.m. and Saturday at 3:45 p.m.
5. Sing during the Sunday Morning Worship Service.

“Music will save the world”
– Pablo Casals

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML
musicdirector@phoenixuu.org.

Congregational Potluck

Saturday, May 5th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Please join the Membership Committee in welcoming prospective new members. In addition to meeting some great newcomers, this gathering features a short video of UUCP's history. A New Member Book Signing Ceremony at the end of the evening is an inspirational highlight for those who wish to stay.

Register for this potluck dinner by May 3rd so that we will be sure to have space reserved for you at our tables. You can register online via the link provided in our weekly online newsletter *Compass*. Alternatively, you may register by calling Rev. Linda Lawrence at 602-840-8400, Ext. 204. Please leave your name, the number of people in your party, and the number/ages of your children if you are requesting free childcare.

From the Business Administrator

May and June are the heaviest multitasking months in our congregational life. We are simultaneously wrapping up this program year with Annual Reports while gearing up for next year's programming with the production of the annual Program Catalog. We are mailing out third-quarter pledge statements while collecting next year's pledge commitments. We are keeping close eye on this year's budget to ensure it remains balanced while planning next year's balanced budget. Typically, my role in all of this as an Administrator is someone who creates, implements, and maintains systems for all these functions to happen as effectively as possible given the resources at hand.

This year while Rev. Susan has led the Arizona Immigration Ministry work for General Assembly 2012, I have had the opportunity to be involved in a more programmatic level, in particular working closely with Jaynn Truran, our Interim Director of Children's Ministries, and with the Parent Committee and staff of our weekday preschool. It has been an exciting challenge that has taught me more about relationship building and working together creatively to meet the needs of our large and diverse community. I have witnessed so much passion and dedication working with Jaynn, our preschool parents and teachers, and members of our Children's Ministry committee that it has made my heart feel full to bursting with love and respect.

Now it is time for me to start shifting gears and returning my focus to the financial matters of the congregation. You should've received your third-quarter pledge statements for both your 2011-2012 Stewardship Pledge and your 2010-2013 Capital Pledge. I know that there will be errors because our system is not perfect (we *are* working on this!) and I ask that if you have any errors on any of your statements please send me the details of the error (for example, list missing payments including check numbers, amounts, dates). Gloria, our Bookkeeper, and I will be sure to make all necessary corrections in time for the fourth-quarter statements.

Thank you to the 155 households that have pledged at the time of writing this. We have raised \$334,000 to date and have \$98,000 left to raise. We can reach our goal but it will take every member to do so. If you haven't turned in your pledge form please do so today. You can submit online at www.phoenixuu.org/pledge. Thank you!

In community,

Heidi Parmenter

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

From the Unitarian Universalist Early Education Cooperative



While no religious doctrine is taught at the UUEEC, we embrace the UUCP's principles and strive to instill them in our children. When we are asked about our beliefs and what values are taught in the classroom, we point out the "We Believe" posters located throughout the classrooms and explain that we incorporate those beliefs in the following ways:

- 1. Each person is important:** We teach our children that they have value, as do the adults and children around them. They learn that what they say and do matters in this world, which is why it is so important that we teach the children how to treat themselves and others.
- 2. Be kind in all you do:** Teachers and co-oping parents guide the children as they learn to communicate with their friends in a kind and respectful manner. We teach them how to express their needs and listen to those of others.
- 3. We're free to learn together:** We're all friends in the UUEEC and one of the primary ways we learn is by playing. We teach that if we are playing in a group, any friend may join in. As the children progress through the preschool and learn to play collaboratively, they suggest ideas and experiments to one another, which sparks creativity and expands each child's knowledge base.
- 4. And search for what is true:** One of the most thrilling parts of childhood and being at the UUEEC is the thrill of discovery and learning. The children are learning about the world around them and are constantly searching for the truth about how things work or why things are the way they are. In our play-based environment, the teachers change the centers frequently so there is always something new for a child to discover. Children are encouraged to use the materials provided in their own way; it is especially exciting when this leads to a result that the teachers had not considered.
- 5. All people need a voice:** Even the quietest of children needs to be heard. At the UUEEC, if a child has something they want to say, the teacher will sit quietly and wait until the child is able to complete her thought. This is also modeled by the teachers for the other children to see during story time, where we wait until each child expresses himself before moving on to the next. In addition, when a child presents an idea that is different from her classmates, it is encouraged and explored by the teachers and co-oping parents.
- 6. Build a fair and peaceful world:** One of our teachers likes to say that fair in the context of the UUEEC doesn't mean that everyone gets the same thing, but that everyone gets what they need, when they need it. We recognize that each child has different needs and we make sure those needs are met so that the child can grow up feeling secure in his world. Also by modeling kind and respectful behavior, even through disagreement, we are teaching the children to live peacefully with one another.
- 7. We care for Earth's lifeboat:** We believe that it is important to teach children to care for the earth starting at a very young age. We have a composter that the children may put their compostable left-overs from lunch and snack. We also have a garden where the children learn about how plants grow and provide food for us to eat or flowers to enjoy. We teach the children to be kind to animals—including the stray beetle that makes the precarious decision to cross our playground. The teachers and parents expand upon children's natural curiosity by including nature-related center options in the classroom and reading stories about our earth.

We hope that by including the UUCP's principles in our preschool environment, our children will become life-long learners who treat themselves, others, and our earth with respect and care.

Summer News from Children's Religious Education

Summer is right around the corner and here is what we can look forward to in the coming months for our children and youth:

May 6 is the last official day of regular Sunday classes, including OWL for 5th-6th grade and OWL for 7th-8th grade. All classes meet at 10:30 a.m.

May 13 is Mother's Day. We will be making simple cards and gifts as we share stories about our mothers and other famous women.

May 20 is our annual Religious Education Appreciation Sunday and we will have a special guest in our pulpit to help celebrate. Sara LaWall is the Director of Religious Education at Neighborhood UU Church in Pasadena and we look forward to having her join us for this special day! The service is multigenerational. All children ages 4 and older are invited to attend—only the nursery (newborn through age 2) and toddler rooms (ages 2-3) will be open.

May 27 is Memorial Day Weekend. Staying in town for the holiday weekend? Come on down and join our children as we talk about remembrance and the important struggles in which our country has been a part.

June 3 is finally Ice Cream Sunday! We will make and enjoy yummy ice cream! If you can bring coffee cans, thick zippered baggies, rock salt, sugar or toppings, let me know by [clicking here](#).

June 10 is Water Play Sunday! Children should come ready to get wet! Please be sure your child brings a towel, shoes, sunscreen or a hat for this fun morning. We invite you to bring your favorite water toys—but please, no water guns or blasters.

June 17 is Father's Day and the kick off for our Summer Sunday Children's Programming. This summer, our curriculum is titled "Peace Corps" and takes a look at various countries and cultures throughout the world—finding similarities among the people and traditions. Classes start at 10:30 in the Annex.

May is also my last month serving as your director of children's religious education. It has been a very rewarding experience for me and I have so enjoyed getting to know the children we see each Sunday. I could go on and on with gratitude for so many people who stepped up to help during this past year, but what has become apparent is that it truly does take a village—and we are that village. Thank you all for caring about our children. Your support for the congregation—even if you have not had the pleasure of working directly with our kids—benefits everyone.

I leave you with an anecdote... I have learned this year, while working with 5- and 6-year-olds, that I can use some of the same tools to redirect behavior that we use with our older youth. I have learned that saying "Dylan, I see that you are trying to eat that modeling clay over there. I need you to come back and finish making your macaroni chalice" is just as effective as saying "Dylan, I see you over there making peace signs and phallic symbols with the modeling clay. I need you to come back and join our discussion about how hemp-based alternative fuels can save our world."

I look forward to welcoming a new director to our campus, and will continue to help serve the children and youth in our community. More information about next year's Sunday Programming for our children will be available in June, and in UUCP's program Catalog for 2012-2013.

Small Group Ministry: Openings and Summer Opportunities

Small Group Ministry? What's that? Small Group Ministry (SGM) is the term most used by congregations that have covenant groups, chalice circles, and similarly named groups based on the model we follow here at UUCP. We are choosing to adopt the Small Group Ministry name because we feel it better reflects what we do in these groups. Each group will, however, still develop a covenant that affirms their accepted norms for the group.

SGM members generally meet together twice a month with a trained facilitator to create community, engage in deep listening, and support one another's spiritual growth. These goals are accomplished as members share thoughts and experiences on a variety of topics. SGMs are an excellent way to really get to know others and feel connected to the larger UUCP community.

The Parents' Covenant Group is looking for a few additional members and plans to continue meeting over the summer. As UUCP returns to its one-service summer worship schedule in May, this group has decided to move its meetings to 4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month beginning in May and continuing through the summer months. Meetings will rotate between the homes of those members who are willing to host. On-site childcare will be provided. If you are interested in joining this group or have questions about it, please contact one of the facilitators: Gianna Johnston (giannaej@yahoo.com or 860-884-2064) or Curtis Johnston (curtaj@yahoo.com or 860-884-4405).

We are offering two other SGM opportunities this summer. These are SGM "teasers" because the groups will only meet once a week for four or five weeks in order to give participants a taste of the SGM experience. Regular attendance is a very important part of the commitment members make to their SGMs. Because these summer groups will only run a short time, interested persons should sign up *only* if they are certain that they can make it to *all* sessions. Group size will be limited to ten people and preference will be given to those who have never participated in a SGM or those who were unable to be in a SGM during the past congregational year. If you are interested in a SGM summer experience, please see the times/dates below and contact the facilitators directly with questions or to reserve your spot.

Tuesday SGM: July 10, 17, 24, 31, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at UUCP
Contact: John Wilber, jwilber2001@yahoo.com

Wednesday SGM: August 2, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:30-8:00 p.m., at facilitator's home in the McCormick and Gainey Ranch vicinity
Contact: Ruth Braunstein, candrmb@cox.net

If you do not have access to email and wish to join one of the above groups, please leave your name and number with Rev. Linda Lawrence and she will see that one of the facilitators contacts you. Rev. Linda can be reached at 602-840-8400, Ext. 204.

Mark your calendars! Sign-ups for fall SGM groups will begin in September. Also, if you have previously been in a SGM/covenant group and might be interested in facilitating one, or if you are new to the idea of small group ministry but interested in learning to be a facilitator, please contact Rev. Linda at the above phone number or at assistantminister@phoenixuu.org. A Facilitator Training session will take place on Saturday, September 22nd. Watch for more details.

Namaste,
Rev. Linda

Traveling 2nd Fridays

Curious about Traveling 2nd 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 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the UUCP sanctuary.

MAY 18 (THIRD FRIDAY DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT): *THREE WEEKS IN ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES, THE PATAGONIA GLACIERS AND THE LAKE COUNTRY* WITH BILL & JOY MEE:

In December 2001, Bill and Joy Mee visited their son who had been living in Buenos Aires for six months attending university. They spent the first week visiting various new and old parts of Buenos Aires, taking tango lessons and dancing at *milongas*, and viewing it both as tourists and urban planners. They flew to El Calafate in southern Argentina with their son and spent a few days at Los Nostros, a resort overlooking the Moreno glacier. See photos of this glacier, which they hiked on, and others where they attended lamb barbeques out in the wild areas.

From there they flew to Baraloeche with its beautiful lakes, snowcapped mountains and gorgeous yellow and purple flowers in bloom everywhere. From a base at the Llao Llao, a famous historic hotel, they embarked on a scenic adventure by rented car and boat. Their son, fluent in Spanish, arranged trips outside of the ordinary tourist experience, like one to a special forest on a commercial fishing boat. The last two days were spent on an *estancia* outside of Buenos Aires as the government collapsed and people fled the country. There they learned about the life of rich expatriates restoring an ancient estate, rode horses, and ate outdoors amid a variety of animal and tree species.

Feel free to contact Barbara Cawthorne at (480) 994-1452 or thetravellers@q.com with any questions. Everyone is welcome! Travel with us the second Friday of the month from January to June.

Calling All Writers!

This year's POIKILOS, the congregation's journal of creative writing, will be published in late August. We are inviting you to include your voice—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 enclose a two- or 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. Email them to abixel5@gmail.com.
2. Place them in the Poetry Coffeehouse mailbox in Office 2.
3. Mail them to the UUCP office: Attn. Poetry Coffeehouse, 4027 E. Lincoln Dr. Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.
4. Hand them to Tish Gauntt personally.

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

The Construction Project Reaches Completion

The “First Flush” celebration marks the grand opening of the new building addition on April 29th.

The construction of the restroom addition is complete. This view shows the restroom core to the left of the main entrance and the new accessible sidewalk to the annex buildings. The walkway, gate, and patio entrance meet all requirements of the American for Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 for entry to the annex buildings.



By the end of April, the internal furnishings of the restrooms will be complete. The picture below shows the new Women's restroom. The wall tile is near completion and the vanity counters are being installed. The former restrooms will be refurbished for other purposes.



Ministry and Committee Reports...

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. In addition to the new electrical service to the restrooms, the aging service to the sanctuary and east parking lot was replaced.



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@phoenixuuc.org or the office if you have any questions.

Don Weir
Chair, 2010-12 Renovation Project

Finance Committee

We have just passed the third quarter of the fiscal year (the third quarter ends March 2012) and the operating congregation budget continues to be strong. The statements for the third quarter will be mailed shortly. The pledge income to date is just where we should be at \$280,090 representing 73% of the total pledges. Overall, a balanced budget is being maintained and is slightly positive at \$14,063. We thank all of our congregation members for their support and remind everyone that in order to continue with a balanced budget we need to continue to receive the outstanding pledges during the April to June months.

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 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday ([602-840-8400](tel:602-840-8400)) or send an email to administrator@phoenixuuc.org.

Meditation as Adapted from Hinduism

Meditation seems to have been discovered in India thousands of years ago, as a way to gain intuitive knowledge by improving the mind. The mind, senses, and organs of locomotion were considered the instruments to gain knowledge about the laws (Dharma) of the observable and unobservable universe including the moral world. For better access to knowledge, a better mind, sharper senses and fit body were considered important. To improve them, yogic practices were created.

Meditation is a yogic practice that is combined with three other types of yogic practices to achieve an excellent body-mind that has a high degree of awareness and discriminating ability. The highest state of awareness is comparable to being awake in deep sleep.

Bhagavad Gita, a part of Hindu epic Mahabharata, describes meditation yoga. The Sanskrit word for this meditation is Dhyan, which also means attention. The word became Zen in Japanese use. There, the practice and its purpose changed once it was exported from India. It has changed again when exported to the United States.

Americans seem to prefer doing many tasks at one time. This multitasking activity along with high doses of mental strain created by fears and unfulfilled desires seem to create excessive stress on the body-mind for some people. This stress sometimes results in damaging a person's ability to learn, listen, interpret, sleep, remember, create, etc. In some such cases, people suffer depression, have nervous breakdowns, make wrong decisions, lose learning ability, lose patience, become irritable, cannot control anger, lose will power, and so on. These people can benefit from actively engaging in Hindu simple focus meditation, supplemented by actively changing their way of life step by step as they regain needed will power to do so.

Jay Alagia

Note: Jay has been teaching Hindu-style meditation as adapted to the American way of life at UUCP since 1995. He also leads meditation group activities. He can be contacted by e-mail at jayalagia@gmail.com.

Share the Plate

On Sunday, May 13th our monthly Share the Plate program will support Hogar Materno. This "Maternity Home" was built in 2000 by Doctors Without Borders to provide prenatal care for very poor women from rural and remote communities in the mountains of Yoro, Honduras. Located next to the regional hospital, high-risk expectant mothers can enter the Materno 30 days prior to their expected delivery date. While there they are monitored regularly by a doctor, and receive education on breastfeeding, child development, nutrition, family planning, and family support services. The women can remain at Materno for post-partum care, as well.

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

Hogar Materno has been supported by our congregation for more than five years. UUCP member Tony Bane-gas is currently the Vice Chair of Hogar Materno's volunteer Advisory Board. Hogar Materno only has one paid staff member and relies on donations and volunteers.

More about Share the Plate and how to submit an application at: www.phoenixuu.org, Social Action tab.

Friendship Partners

MARGARET HERRICK & JULIE SMART

In the mid-1960s, Margaret came to Phoenix to work for GE; she correlated data and designed data storage systems. In her commutes from home on the west side she drove past the Unitarian church on Lincoln Drive and learned that the church garden housed John Waddell sculptures. In order to view them she attended a service and became a regular congregant. This was in 1968.

In subsequent years, she was transferred to the east coast and continued to attend UU churches in Schenectady, NY, Waltham, MA, and the Arlington Street Church in Boston and eventually returned to Phoenix.

Margaret's experiences with Unicare first began in 1996 when, while recovering from cancer surgery, she was visited by Sally Boyd. After a fall in 2004, Bob and Ellie Murphy provided transportation to doctors. In 2006, hip replacement surgery resulted in becoming housebound.

Margaret and Julie became friendship companions in 2007. Julie's belief in service, she feels, stems from the example of the teaching nuns in her early education; they were role models for working for the community. For many years, she led Unicare here at UUCP, and is currently an ESL instructor for our affiliate group of Eritrean refugees. From her friendship with Margaret, Julie says that she has gained an extra appreciation from mutually shared experiences because of Margaret's savoring and enjoyment of each event. They have had lunch and visited together at Margaret's home, have gone on outings to the movies, the botanical garden, art shows, and shopping as well as visits to doctors.

When asked about this special friendship, Margaret replied that movement limitation has caused her to feel isolated. She especially misses talking with and learning from others. Julie has helped to fill this need and has given her priceless companionship.

Please consider becoming a Friendship Partner.

Unicare News

Our hearts are saddened by the loss and struggles of members and friends of our congregation:

- Russ Labrutto died on 3/25 after a long battle against cancer and Parkinsons. Russ was the husband of Kellie Walker, Music Director at Valley UU in Chandler.
- Lynne Haeseler celebrates the love shared between the Haeseler and Sherwood families as she mourns the passing of family friend Ellen Sherwood. Lynne also took a tumble and fractured her right elbow. Heal quickly, Lynne!
- Elaine Warner let us know that Faith Parker, a longtime member and former UUCP secretary who had moved to Seattle, died in early February. She was 99 years old.
- Ruth Pinkus tells us that her friends, Nick and Marion Holt, who attended UUCP during the winter, were injured in a serious auto accident in New Mexico on their way back home to Michigan. Marion cracked a vertebra and will be in a neck brace for at least two months. We hope she will fully recover.
- We continue to send healing thoughts and loving encouragement to David Weaver who is making a remarkable recovery from transverse myelitis, but his return to full health was slowed by a bout of pneumonia. We hope that you are full of energy by the time this column goes to print, David!

Ministry and Committee Reports...

- We also keep Renee Williams, her husband and sons in our thoughts as Renee struggles with an as-yet-undiagnosed debilitating illness. We send our loving thoughts for strength and healing to Renee.
- Vito Gagliardi will be entering Mayo Hospital for a stem cell procedure on May 1st. He may be there as long as a month and cards are certainly welcomed. We wish you courage and success, Vito!
- Tom Maxwell died on April 19th after a long battle with colon cancer. We extend sincere condolences to his wife, Cathy, to their children and grandchildren, and to Jean Lawton, Tom's mother-in-law for whom Tom was like the son she never had.
- Several people in our congregation have had surgeries lately. Not all wish to be acknowledged, but we wish rapid healing to all. We are pleased that Pauline Peverly is back on her feet after eye surgery. Jagdev Sharma had rotator cuff surgery and is undergoing physical therapy—his wife Sylvia says that it has been a difficult recovery but he seems now to be doing pretty well.
- John Kessler was recently hospitalized with pneumonia and is now on his way to this winter home with wife Brenda. Safe travels!

Even as we feel concern for those who are struggling, our hearts are lightened by the good news from members and friends of our congregation:

- On April 7th, Dena Sidmore proposed to Cherilyn Walley at UUCP after choir practice. Cherilyn said, "Yes!" Congratulations, you two!
- We are pleased to also announce the engagement of Kim St. Clair to Michael Relland. We are glad you found each other!
- Tonia Davenport and David Jenny were married in Sedona on April 28th with Glen and Terry Lockwood standing up as witnesses for them. Congratulations, Tonia and David!
- Michelle Bulna and Carolyn Evans have completed their 200-hour yoga teacher training and can now call themselves yoga teachers! Let's all do sun salutations in their honor!
- We are sorry that Sara Iyer was stung by a scorpion in early April. Mom, Melinda, says Sara is fine after receiving a vial of antivenom at Phoenix Children's Hospital. Glad you're okay, Sara.
- Another of our children, DD Snyder, fell on the playground on Easter Sunday and required some stitches under her chin. She was very brave! Thanks to Kat Crabtree for driving Chris Snyder (DD's dad), DD, and Cougar to the ER.

We are grateful to be part of a caring community where we can share our joys and sorrows. I don't know the origin of the saying, but I'm sure you've heard it before: *Sorrow shared is halved. Joy shared is doubled. So may it be.*

Namaste,
Rev. Linda

Memorial Day Camp at SAWUURA

SAWUURA is 100 acres of wilderness near Young, AZ, owned by UUs through the Sierra Ancho Wilderness UU Religious Association. Major family camp events are Memorial Day and Labor Day, with special events throughout the year. Learn more at our website: www.sawuura.org.

This year's Memorial Day campout will run May 25-28, encompassing Friday night, Saturday, Sunday and Monday morning. Head to the hills for a relaxing weekend under the stars. Some of the activities include: hike and explore; bird and bug watch; play games or just hang out; read or write; sing around the campfire; cook s'mores; clap the sun down; smell forest fresh air; stargaze or look for cloud shapes; worship in the Sacred Grove of the Ancients; or lead your own event.

Food will be provided and expertly prepared with all of our help. The menu* will be chosen from:

- cereal, eggs and pancakes for breakfast
- sandwiches with chips and soup or chili for lunch
- pasta with salad or grilled meat and vegetables for dinner

*Accommodations can be made for special diets for an extra fee.

Plan to arrive Friday night or Saturday morning, set up your tent or stay in one of the *rustic* Summer Cabins. Fees are \$30 per adult and \$20 per child. Register by Sunday, May 20th at www.sawuura.org or mail your registration to Jan Hatunen at 2167 W. Ocelot, Tucson AZ 85713.

The road has been greatly improved, but it is steep in some places. Your car should be at least as good as a Subaru. Questions? See your local SAWUURA contacts:

- Chandler: Cynthia Seelhammer, Erin Malarky, Scott Henderson
- Phoenix: Ernie Garcia, Gretchen or Ray Manker

2012 Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage

The next Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage is scheduled for October 6-13, 2012, and registration is now open. This unique bus trip is much more than a Civil Rights history tour through Alabama and Mississippi. We will be visiting historic sites and meeting veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, and but will also be spending time together and with guests exploring what racism, white privilege, and barriers to equality look like today in Southern towns we visit—and in our own hometowns.

Beyond experiencing firsthand the civil rights legacy, our goal is to develop commitment, vision and mechanisms within our group to work on issues of race, injustice and inequality that still bedevil our congregations and our society. The Living Legacy Pilgrimage is hosted and organized by the Reverend Gordon Gibson and Judy Gibson; the Reverend Hope Johnson; the Reverend James Hobart; Janice Marie Johnson; Annette Marquis; and Donna Sequeira, and co-sponsored by the Southeast District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

For more information and to register, please visit www.uulivinglegacy.org. Don't miss your chance to be on the bus! Register early—costs are discounted for those who register before May 15th.

UNIVERSALIST
HERITAGE
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NEW ENGLAND IN AUTUMN

*Exploring Universalist Sites
Past, Present, and Future*

September 24 - September 30, 2012

For a full week, travel through areas of New England that are rich with Universalist history. At most sites informative guides will be on hand to share their expertise and to engage participants in lively discussions of the significance of our history to our lived Universalism today. The itinerary will include:

Mount Auburn Cemetery, a beautiful National Historic Landmark which is the final resting place of many prominent Universalists and Unitarians, including John Murray, Hosea Ballou, William Ellery Channing, Fannie Farmer, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Dorothea Dix.

Tufts University, just one of the many non-sectarian schools of higher education founded by Universalists, and the site of Crane Theological School, 1869-1968.

Gloucester, Massachusetts, where the tour will visit the Independent Christian Church, organized in 1779 and the oldest Universalist church in America, as well as the Judith Sargent Murray House, home of the essayist, poet, playwright, advocate for women's rights, and wife of John Murray.

Ferry Beach Park Association, now in its second century as an oceanfront camp and conference center founded by charismatic Universalist preacher Quillen Hamilton Shinn.

Boston sites will include a tour of the UUA as well as glimpses of 16 Beacon Street, once the headquarters of the

Universalist Church of America, and the Charles Street Meeting House, an innovative Universalist venture in the mid-twentieth century. (Neither of these sites is presently home for a program of our faith.)

Clara Barton Birthplace Museum and the Barton Center for Diabetes Education. This residential camp for girls with diabetes was founded by Universalist women in 1932, continuing the work of Universalist Clara Barton, who was a teacher, battlefield nurse during the Civil War and founder of the American Red Cross.

Hopedale Unitarian Parish which formed as a worshipping community with Adin Ballou as their first minister following the ending of the utopian communal farming venture in Hopedale, founded by Ballou, to live out principles of ethical idealism.

Hosea Ballou's Sister Churches. Travelers will trace Ballou's circuit-riding route through central Vermont (where foliage should be at or near peak), visiting two of the churches in which Ballou preached, and hearing a sermon in the tradition of this great founder of the Universalist faith.



Our final stop will be:

Universalist Memorial Church in Winchester, NH, site of the signing of the defining Profession of Belief in 1803. The tour will conclude here with a Sunday morning service.

Registration materials for this rich program are available on the Universalist Heritage Foundation's website: www.universalistheritage.org.

If you would like to receive more detailed information about travel connections, accommodations or the itinerary, please contact Liz Strong at estrong110@comcast.net.

FEES: \$850 per person double occupancy, \$900 single occupancy, includes van transportation, home hospitality, most meals, and admission to all sites on the itinerary.

Registration form attached and also available at UHF website: www.universalistheritage.org

Don't forget to register for GA!



And while you're at it, check out our own Asha Arora, this year's General Assembly Youth Caucus junior dean, featured on the UUA blog *Cooking Together: Recipes for Immigration Justice Work*:
<http://immigrationjustice.blogs.uua.org/education/invitation-to-cook-together/>



Celebrations of Life

10:30 AM

Starting May 6th we return to one service at 10:30 a.m.

MAY 6: BLINK!

Service Leader: Rev. John Crestwell, Associate Minister, UU Church of Annapolis
Rev. Crestwell will analyze Malcolm Gladwell's book *Blink* and tell us why first impressions do matter and how they help and hurt our relationships with others. As minister of Davies Memorial UU Church in Camp Springs, MD, Rev. Crestwell assisted the congregation in expanding into a multiracial congregation.

MAY 13: MOTHER'S DAY: THE BREATH OF LIFE

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Celebrate Mother's Day and the gift of life. Children will be dedicated at this service. In Unitarian Universalism, child dedications are a way to introduce children, especially young children and infants, to the community and to allow the congregation to offer our blessings for these lives. If you would like to have your child dedicated at the Mother's Day service, please e-mail Rev. Susan or call her at [602-840-8400](tel:602-840-8400) ext. 203.

MAY 20: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR A CHANGING WORLD

Service Leaders: Jaynn Truran and Sara LaWall, Dir. of Religious Education, Neighborhood UU of Pasadena
Religious Education is the integration of our values and practice, the way in which we transmit our faith to the coming generations as well as regroup and reshape our faith for our current generation. In our rapidly changing world, how might we envision dynamic, vibrant religious education for the 21st Century which also connects us to our traditions and to that which is most holy in our lives?

MAY 27: MYSTICISM: ITS PLACE IN THE UU CHOIR

Service Leader: Rev. Kathleen A. Baughman

Transcending mystery and wonder abound in the universe and many people have mystical experiences when mystery and wonder come near to them and profoundly touch their spirits. Many UUs yearn to explore and honor such experiences, yet few people talk openly of them. We will seek to deepen our understanding of mysticism and the many ways mystery and wonder engage our spirits, enrich our lives, and speak truth to us.

*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
Business Administrator: Heidi Parmenter
Administrative Assistant: Jill Story
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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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