

# HORIZONS Journal of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

July/August 2012

# This month at a glance:

July

1—New Day Center Meal

1—Poetry Coffeehouse

1—Drumming Workshop

12—Board Meeting

16—Preschool Open House

29—Men's Group

30—Preschool Open House

August

1—Night with the Chalice

5—New Day Center Meal

5—Poetry Coffee House

18—Sewing Circle

22—Preschool Open House

25—Children's Ministry Workday

26—Men's Group

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

## In this issue... President's Report... 2-3 3-4 GA Delegates' Report... From the Staff... 5-10 Ministry and Committee 11-14 Reports... Services... 15

# Minister's Musings

Throughout the month of July, I will be away from the congregation. I will be traveling with my family, enjoying vacation time, and near the end of the month, preparing for the congregational start time in the fall. You may see me a time or two on Sundays as an attendee in worship when I am in town. I am excited for the guest speakers, musicians and guest ministers that will lead services this summer. I will be back at the congregation and in the pulpit beginning the first week of August.

In the hot days of July, as our bodies bend to nature's rules and we find ourselves slowing down, setting a slower rhythm to match the slow winds and harsh heat of summer, I will share with you these words reflecting on the nature of religion, from Unitarian Universalist Minister Ralph Helverson, who served as minister of First Parish UU in Cambridge, MA in the 1960s and '70s:

Impassioned Clay

Deep in ourselves resides the religious impulse.

Out of the passions of our clay it rises.

We have religion when we stop deluding ourselves that we are selfsufficient, self-sustaining or self-derived.

We have religion when we hold some hope beyond the present, some self-respect beyond our failures.

We have religion when our hearts are capable of leaping up at beauty, when our nerves are edged by some dream in our heart.

We have religion when we have an abiding gratitude for all that we have received.

We have religion when we look upon people with all their failings and still find in them good;

when we look beyond people to the grandeur in nature and to the purpose in our own heart.

We have religion when we have done all that we can, and then in confidence entrust ourselves to the life that is larger than ourselves.

May you be blessed with gratitude, hope and trust. See you in August!

Yours, Susan

### From the Board...

## From the President

If someone were to ask me, What is the most difficult task for the Board of Trustees? ...well, it's a tough question. There are many difficult tasks for the board (if I write an article about one hard task a month, it would be enough Horizons articles for a year, at least), but my answer right now would be "linkage."

Since the UUCP Board of Trustees operates under a policy-based governance model, the term "linkage" has a specific meaning: how a governing body establishes relationship with and communicates with its "moral owners." For example, for a theoretical not-for- profit group dedicated to saving alligators, examples of linkage issues might be: "How many saved and how are the alligators doing?" and "Are there enough clean swamps with healthy fish?" as well as "Do our donors feel like their money is going to a good cause?"

For the UUCP board, the primary task of linkage is our relationship and communication with the one of the moral owners of the congregation -you, the member. Even though we have our share of alligator moments, our board's linkage tasks are substantially more complex than measuring animals and counting fish. We have, in the recent past, tried a number of linkage activities without deliberately labeling them as such - open microphone time during congregational meetings, small group meetings (immigration, visioning, strategic plan), and meeting with the Program Council. In addition, non-board members of the UUCP attend our meetings fairly regularly and our board is composed of active members of the congregation who can bring their first-person narrative about the health and well-being of the UUCP.

It is well accepted that none of our communication efforts is perfect and we must not only try new things, but establish a diverse approach to obtaining feedback and disseminating information. For the upcoming church year, I feel that board-congregation linkage should receive very high priority from the trustees. I also think it is time we try a more active and deliberate approach.

Please don't be too surprised if sometime during the next 6-9 months, some randomly selected number of you are contacted by a member on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to talk about how things are going, perhaps how being a UUCP member is affecting your life (or not). The specific questions are not yet wordsmithed, but please be assured that this is a serious and critical board responsibility and that we expect to learn a lot. We expect good news and bad news, sublimity and baggage, sagacious experience and blissful unawareness, but most of all we want an honest conversation among friends.

One of the great advantages to this approach of actively contacting a sample of the UUCP community is that it allows the board to get feedback from members from whom we may not otherwise get a chance to hear. Not everyone can or does go to congregational meetings (have you noticed that attendance of our congregational meetings does not reflect the diversity of our congregation?). Some new members or youth may not think that they have been around long enough to have a say (the board thinks otherwise). In measuring alligators, it can be a mistake, albeit a perfectly understandable one, to focus only on those with the biggest teeth.

I find it very interesting that we, like most policy-based governance boards I have read about, struggle with this same issue of linkage some years into establishing this style of governance. In fact, the UUA board, which governs the entire UUA, is also making efforts to establish a closer relationship with member congregations and congregational presidents. So I strangely find myself on both sides of the governance linkage gap, like the uninteresting middle matryoshka doll.

As a responsible board member, I will try to bridge this gap on both ends. Since I am fortuitously writing this article hours before GA 2012, I will take the opportunity to connect with the UUA board this week at GA, and I will also be looking for ideas from my fellow UU lay leaders about improving our congregation-board linkage.

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# GA Delegates' Report...

I would strongly encourage you, my fellow congregants to do the same. Reach out to the board to give us your feedback at board@phoenixUU.org or come to a board meeting.

Since we are planning this autumn to solicit feedback from a random sample of congregants, it is possible that we may not be able to contact you on this round, and it is likely that we will by design not be contacting all of our lay leaders, but we do want to hear from as many people as possible. I do from time to time get feedback from those of you who have read this Horizons column and liked it (or not). I hence challenge you to give us your thoughts about not just the Horizons column, but the congregation as a whole and our mission as a whole.

Linkage is all about ensuring that a governing board's practices maintain an authentic linkage and accountability to its "moral owners." In the case of the UUA, they define their moral owners, (in other words, "their sources of authority and accountability") as:

- Our member congregations
- Current and future generations of Unitarian Universalists
- The heritage, traditions, and ideals of Unitarian Universalism
- The vision of Beloved Community
- The Spirit of life, love, and the holy

Hence, I am reminded that the UUCP Board of Trustees is also accountable to our mission, and our future. Imagine how much more difficult it might be to measure and establish relationships with these things compared to our UUCP members. I have yet to find the way to call up our mission on the phone and ask "How ya doin'?" but... like I said, linkage is a difficult and ongoing task for the board.

In faith and community, Jimmy

Our next Board of Trustees Meeting is July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Please join us.

# Bringing Home Justice General Assembly

We, the delegates of GA 2012, are charged with the honor and duty of bringing the GA experience back to the congregation. But wait, we are already here! And, we saw many of you there as well. The delegates the UUCP Board selected to represent our congregation were: Diana Ashley, Linda Bellantoni, Carey Crabbs, Steve Ekholm, Lillian Habeich, Salustio Hernandez, Jimmy Leung, Jennifer MacVean, Sarah Montgomery, Jon Penrose, Sylvia Sharma, and Francis Wiget.

The fact that the 51<sup>st</sup> GA took place in Phoenix was a wholly unique and enriching experience, especially for this first-time GA attendee and delegate. While I was trying to acquaint myself with GA business agendas, congressional study actions, and the ins and outs of the new and magnificently large Phoenix Convention Center, I would chuckle to myself every time we would walk outside the building and hear someone utter, "Oh, my. It is *hot* here, even at night!"

Even with the heat—that is, of the summer as well the discussions in plenary—our delegation managed to break away and gather for lunch at La Tolteca. Back in the convention center, sessions were attended and new friendships were forged. Then, national days of service and witness through candlelight vigils and protests actually went national. As our moderator, Gini Courter, noted on the closing day, our lives had been in some way transformed by it all.

## GA Delegates' Report...

Personally, the implications and ramifications of the votes we took were not as readily apparent as I had anticipated on their face. After a while, the weightiness of the phrase, 'ponder a decision,' began to take hold. Despite this unexpected encounter with new territory, I would wholeheartedly recommend that each of you take the opportunity to flex your mental and spiritual muscles similarly at any future GA.

Hear how other delegates experienced this justice GA:

"Certainly, much attention was focused on the issue of justice in general and immigration justice in particular. Attention was raised, people were educated, solidarity with our partners was demonstrated, and national consciousness was elevated. But more happened than just that: we built connections and relationships with other UUs from around the country; we increased our sense of community and belonging to a religious faith movement that walks its talk; we practiced true spirituality in ways that were deeply moving; and we learned and shared and laughed and loved and even challenged each other. It was a great experience for a first-timer, and made real for me our 7<sup>th</sup> principle, being an interdependent web."

-Linda Bellantoni

"Even with commuting back and forth to my condo and GA, it was a good one for me. This was my 18<sup>th</sup> GA starting in 1972. The 300 of youth caucus and 200 young adults there was a good thing."

-Jon Penrose

"Auburn Media Workshop—Advice: 'Don't Commit News!' When dealing with the media, beware of saying more than the truth and of making things too complicated for the reporters' audience. Enjoyed all the workshops I attended. Just because Justice GA 2012 has dispersed should one assume the work is done? Much more work still to do. Follow up with other attendees, follow-through with SB1070 and Tent City, investigate wage theft with Phoenix Workers Resource Center, pursue Michelle Alexander's concerns as in *The New Jim Crow*, and otherwise keep the momentum without falling back into complacency or intellectual distance."

-Francis Wiget

We invite you to join us in the fall for a Justice GA debriefing dinner to hear and learn more about what took place and reconnect with those who attended. Await further details and stay tuned!

In community, Lillian Habeich

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

July
Carl Roland Ely
Melvyn Earl Fair
August
Roberta Chamberlain
Howard Irvine
Lawanda Jane Roach McVey
Rose Ruttkay

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## From the Staff...

# Greetings from Your Music Director!

The food is gone. We sang our songs. Oh, wait that was last month.... It's almost the same again, only this time, Unitarian Universalists are gone. We did sing our songs. But we still have singing to do. And the UUs from all over the U.S. and other parts of the world, including Transylvania, are still with us in spirit. They carry the torch lit by the fires of Justice General Assembly. And we all still have justice work to do.

It is July! Most are not in school, but some are. Some are in cooler climates, but not everyone. Some are on vacation, others are still out of work. We do not always share the same experiences when it comes to life. Some can take wonderful vacations abroad and others are struggling to purchase medication or education. Arizona has a history of "every man for himself," which might work in a world where "every man" was born onto a level playing field.

How can we sing? With tragedy in our history and in our current lives? How can we not!? We are compelled to express joy that is too great for smiles alone, sorrow that is too deep for words, love that is too brilliant for the eyes. Life has it all. We must sing!

Talk with any choir member and you'll hear: Singing is great. Singing with friends is even better. Singing with friends in harmony, in community is the best. You may want to sing in the Congregation Choir beginning this August. First rehearsal of the new season will be August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Or you may want to sing in the Family Choir. Check out the Program Guide and watch the Compass for announcements about all of the music opportunities in our congregation.

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML musicdirector@phoenixuu.org

# Welcome UUCP's New Youth Programs Coordinator!

As we welcome Anne Byrne in her new position as Director of Children's Minstries, we also celebrate Jaynn Truran as she transitions into a new position: UUCP's first Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC). The YPC will be responsible for working with our junior high and high school programs, and will help develop programs and activities and coordinate curriculum for our teenagers. Other responsibilities will include training and supporting our high school youth advisors, Coming of Age committee members, and Our Whole Lives facilitators, as well as leading worship experiences with and for our youth, and collaboration with other committees and activity groups within the congregation.

Most recently, Jaynn served the congregation as our interim Director of Children's Religious Education, where she kept the program running smoothly as we continued our search for the next director. She has worked extensively with youth here at UUCP and within the Pacific Southwest District, and says this is her dream job. Her philosophy for working with and for our children is to "create and maintain safe spaces – physical, mental, emotional and spiritual spaces – for our teens and youth to grow and explore and just 'be'." She wants our youth to *want* to come to church, and to always feel empowered to assert themselves in leadership roles, and find comfort in supporting positions.

Jaynn has been teaching in our Sunday school program since 1997, and has been trained as a youth advisor, OWL facilitator and Coming of Age teacher. She grew up at the First UU Church of Detroit, where she says her RE teachers and families shaped her into the woman she is today. Jaynn has served in many lay leadership positions and has a B.A. in Religious Studies from ASU. She works full time as a legal administrator/paralegal at Dillingham & Reynolds LLP and can be contacted at <a href="mailto:jatruran@aol.com">jatruran@aol.com</a>.

## From the Staff...

# The Dog Days of Summer

A quick look at the thermometer confirms that we are truly in the "Dog Days" of summer. In ancient times, these hot days were blamed on Sirius, the "Dog Star" from the constellation Canis Major. The ancient ones thought that Sirius had a negative influence on the sun, making it burn hotter than usual, making their lives even more miserable. Dog Days were believed to be a time of evil.

Most of us don't look at the heavens for explanations. When trying to understand temperature extremes, we blame global warming, which, if you think about it, is caused by things that many do consider evil: greed, materialism, tampering with the natural environment in oh-so-many ways. But it's almost too hot to think about all those things right now so I'm going to take some advice from my dog, Rocky!

According to Rocky, here's what we have to do to get through the Dog Days of summer in good shape: Drink plenty of water. Seek shade if you have to be outdoors. Take a little time to rest and relax in all your favorite indoor spots. Slow down. Muse. Reflect. Spend quiet time with friendly companions. Don't forget to play.

I hope that all of you will have some rest and relaxation this summer. I hope you will pace yourselves, stay cool, be well, and take some time to do things you enjoy with people you enjoy. We have had a BIG year at UUCP and we've accomplished so much. Yes, there is more work to do, but it is OK to rest. Take some time to mull over the challenges and inspiration you received at General Assembly if you attended in June. Ponder the messages and enjoy the music and community at UUCP's summer services. Return for Ingathering on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, and bring a renewed commitment to the mission and work of our congregation. We can use these Dog Days of summer to build an even stronger "Can Do" attitude for the 2012-2013 congregational year. May it be so!

Namaste, Linda Rev. Linda Lawrence

# Last Chance to Sign Up for Small Group Ministry

If you are interested in participating in one of our summer Small Group Ministry (SGM) programs, sign up *now* by contacting the following facilitators:

- John Wilber, jwilber2001@yahoo.com July SGM: Tuesdays, July 10, 17, 24, 31, 7:00-8:30 PM, at UUCP
- Ruth Braunstein, <u>candrmb@coxn.et</u> August SGM: Wednesdays, August 2, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:30-8:00 PM, at facilitator's home in the McCormick and Gainey Ranch vicinity

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.

There may also still be some openings in the group that's especially for parents. If interested or if you have questions, please contact Curtis Johnston at <a href="mailto:curtaj@yahoo.com">curtaj@yahoo.com</a> or leave a message with Rev. Linda.

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## From the Director of Children's Ministries

It has been a wild and wonderful few weeks as I assumed my new role as Director of Children's Ministries at UUCP. I have been observing and participating in all three of our children's programs, including the UUEEC preschool, Kid's Kamp and Sunday School. I have discovered the preschool is a magical place where children, parents and teachers learn together. The kids in the preschool are beyond cute, the parents have been very welcoming, and I am excited to enroll new students and get underway for the 2012-13 school year in September.

Kids Kamp brings incredible energy and activity to the UUCP campus in June. I have joined a drum circle, shown up twice just in time for popsicle snacks and judged the spirit cheer event. The campers challenged the adults with "We've got spirit, yes we do, we've got spirit, how about you?" with incredible force and volume. We adults tried our best to respond, but there was, frankly, no comparison. A great time seems to be had by all the campers who march around the campus with the guidance from the teen counselors and an incredibly talented crew of teachers. Co-Directors Jeffery Sadow and Tiffany Mendez keep things hopping with a full schedule of fun and engaging activities.

Our summer Sunday activities have included ice cream Sunday, where kids made their own ice cream, and water day – a hot, wet and sandy adventure of 30 or so kids. Our summer Sunday school classes began on June 17<sup>th</sup> and are utilizing curriculum from Heifer International that focuses on learning about interdependence, sustainability and community. We will embark on a fun endeavor involving worms (more on this later!) and will work to raise funds to donate to Heifer International.

The fall Sunday School program will get underway in mid-September and introduces a cooperative model for parent classroom volunteerism. Watch for registration and more information on the cooperative expectations in future publications.

#### PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE:

Come visit our congregation's amazing weekday early education center for children aged two through five at one of our upcoming open house play days: July 16<sup>th</sup> or July 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to Noon. Come see the magic of discovery that has engaged preschoolers and parents at UUCP since 1961. Learn about enrollment options for the 2012-13 school year and meet some of your children's future classmates. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Anne Byrne at annebyrne@pheonixuu.org or 602-840-8400 ext. 233.

Anne Byrne Director, Children's Ministries





## From the Administrator

#### OFFICE ASSISTANT UPDATE

As most of you know by now, Jill Story, our Office Assistant, has left us to pursue a degree in IT. She has graciously volunteered to finish editing the annual Program Catalog that will be mailed out at the end of August to all active members and friends of the congregation. I am grateful for all that Jill has done, and continues to do, to help the office and staff. While we go out to search for a new Office Assistant, Larry Agle, longtime office volunteer and member, has stepped in to fill her role as temporary paid staff. He is now handling all the office duties that Jill did. You can reach him at officeassistant@phoenixuu.org.

We are currently seeking resumes for an experienced part-time Office Administrative Assistant. This long-term assignment could go full-time in the future, and makes an ideal position for a candidate looking for an introductory career in nonprofit management. Please visit UUCP's website for a complete job description and application instructions.

## SUMMER OFFICE VOLUNTEERING

As I write this article it is the week of General Assembly and the third week of our summer kids camp program at UUCP. Though my voicemail and email messages have dwindled down there is still no shortage of work to be done. If you find yourself with some free time this summer I invite you to come join me in the office and help us as we play "catch-up" from the whirlwind year we had this year. Here are some of the volunteer needs we have this summer:

- Help with a mailing on Monday, July 16 from 12:00-3:00 PM.
- Assist Larry in covering the office while I am on vacation Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 10. Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Help with mailing the annual Program Catalog and September Horizons Journal Wednesday through Friday, August 22-24, 12:00-3:00 PM.
- In July (not sure on exact dates) I want to do a major reorganization of my office and Office 2. Anyone who would like to help with this please let me know and when you would be available.

We also need ongoing office support for these tasks:

- Once a week (normally on Mondays) call visitors and welcome them, mail them a welcome letter, send them an email (usually one or the other), let Lydia Yanak know who signed up for a temporary name tag. This is usually Larry's volunteer task but while he is working as our temporary Office Assistant we need a new volunteer to take over this.
- Once a week update our Fair Trade inventory list and reorder as necessary.
- Mondays: assist me with preparing the weekly deposit.

#### ONLINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Did you know that we now have an online Membership Directory? One that you can actually make contact information updates to? One that will help you get connected with events and groups at UUCP? One that will eventually allow you to see all your donations and pull your own pledge statements? You didn't know this? Well, go check it out! Enclosed with this edition of Horizons are the step-by-step instructions on how to get your own member login to this convenient online service (thanks to Jill, who put these detailed instructions together!). And for those of you with smart phones be sure to download the free app that allows you to access the UUCP Member, Friends, and Staff Directory and Calendar of Events directly on your phone! Search for "Church Life" in your app market. If you need help with setting any of this up contact us in the office. We would be glad to make an appointment with you to help you.

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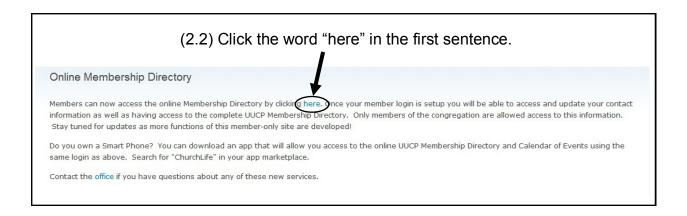


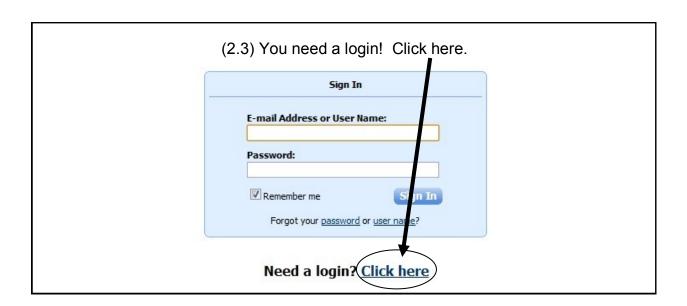
# Online Offerings: UUCP Online Directory

# Step 1: Go to www.phoenixuu.org.

## Step 2: Get a Login for the UUCP Online Databases







(2.4) We need to verify that you are a member. Only members can see the directory. Enter your email address and then type your first and last name below. Your login info will be sent to your email.



Already have a login? Click here

(2.5) Go to your email account. You should receive an email with instructions for logging in to the Online Membership Databases.

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# Meditation of Awareness or Insight Meditation

Meditation has been developed in India over thousands of years as a practice to increase knowledge through intuition often referred to as insight. One of the impediments to insight is lack of sufficient awareness. As humans, we know that our awareness varies from time to time. During the waking hours we are aware of our physical sensations (vision, smells, sounds, etc.) and what they communicate to us by varying degrees, depending upon our mental health. The degree of waking awareness depends on how well we pay attention while at the same time thinking of past, future or analyzing the present in our mind. This waking awareness is, however, different than the awareness during dreaming and deep sleep stage. A yogi, who has integrated his entire personality through four yogic practices, experiences a fourth type of awareness that is compared to becoming fully aware while in deep sleep. He/She thus is able to receive valuable direct experiential knowledge or insight.

The word 'Buddha' means the one who is fully aware, referring to this highest awareness possible for a human being. Siddhartha Gautama Buddha became fully aware after many years of practice and then received the intuitive knowledge of the four noble truths and the ten-fold path, which now has become the core of monastic Buddhism. The Bible also seems to refer to cave meditations of Jesus before becoming the Christ.

Vipassana or insight meditation is a technique of meditation practice to gain insight into the nature of Reality but in America it is generally used for the same purpose of gaining mental health as other techniques are used. During Vipassana meditation, the practitioner sits motionless with eyes closed and practices primarily awareness of the feelings in various parts of his/her body, ignoring any thoughts that distract from this chosen work. There are 5 to 10 day retreats for this meditation that are often free and in remote areas. During these long retreats, the practitioner is isolated from newspapers, television, phones, internet, etc. This technique is easier for many compared to Mantra or breath meditation techniques.

Jay Alagia

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

# Art from UUCP Members and Friends

Help brighten the sanctuary with your creations for a couple months starting in late August. Interested? Do you make art that can be hung on the wall or placed on a pedestal that you would like to share with the congregation? The Sanctuary Committee is developing a list of people who would like to adorn our walls. Email <a href="mailto:sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org">sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org</a> or call Tonia Davenport at (480) 239-1741 and let us know if think you might want to participate.

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

# Share the Plate: Summer Recipients, and How to Nominate for Next Year

#### SUMMER RECIPIENTS

Our Share the Plate recipients this summer are CHEERS (3 e's) on July 15<sup>th</sup> and Interfaith Cooperative Ministries on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

CHEERS (<u>www.cheeers.org</u>) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit consumer-run, consumer-driven, recovery-oriented behavioral health community service agency that was founded more than 21 years ago. CHEERS is dedicated to providing strength-based recovery principled services to adults who have a serious mental illness or difficult behavioral challenges and financial difficulties. Our UUCP member Steven Miskell has worked for CHEERS for five years, and notes that CHEERS recognizes the worth and dignity of members and insists on member and staff participation in significant decisions. Since Steve's application for STP, the state of Arizona has returned some financing to the program, but it can still use our support. Mitch Klein, the executive director, spoke at a UUCP social action lunch earlier this year.

Interfaith Cooperative Ministries (<u>www.ICMAZ.org</u>) serves the working poor by providing "an immediate response to basic human needs." For 100-150 families and individuals each day (100,000 individuals in 2011), this means:

- A food box
- A change of clothes
- Shampoo, soap and other toiletries
- A sturdy pair of work boots or a uniform
- Free medical care on-site

ICM also provides case management for those clients who are having problems with housing, employment, disability or social security payments, food stamps and other life's necessities. Several UUCP members have been board members of ICM, and we have collected personal care items for the project.

In gratitude for our ability to give, let us support these worthy projects.

#### SHARE THE PLATE WANTS TO SHARE YOUR PASSION!

Once a month our Sunday collection is donated to a nonprofit organization suggested by a member of the congregation. If you share yourself with an organization that would benefit from a donation, your Share the Plate committee is taking applications to fill our calendar of donations through the next fiscal year.

Go to phoenixuu.org and click on Social Justice Ministries for an application. We would like to have all the applications in by July 30. We look forward to continuing our community outreach with your help and direction. Thanks to all who participate.

Committee members: Carolyn Allenby, Bill Mee and Betsy Kammerle

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

What are the most common addictions? Here is a list I see quite often (source unknown): 1. Alcohol, 2. Smoking, 3. Drugs, 4. Gambling, 5. Food, 6. Video Games, 7. Internet, 8. Sex, 9. Shopping, 10. Work.

And wouldn't it be simple if these were discrete and sole? Often, compulsory behaviors are combined. The comedian Gallagher once looked down from the stage at a man in the audience who had a brandy snifter in one hand and a cigar in the other. He said, "Sir, if you had another hand, I believe you'd have another drug!"

Interested in a spiritually safe place to discuss addiction? We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in Annex B at 4:30 PM. Six months sobriety is recommended. We are not a 12-step group and are not affiliated with any particular recovery program. We do not pray, we do not pass the basket. Just lively discussion. Come check us out. For questions contact Gene at 602-361-9067.

## Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

It's summer in Phoenix and we are in a state of hibernation as we await the cooler temperatures in a few months. Human crises and social injustices, however, never go into hibernation, never take a rest no matter the weather. UUSC never rests either.

Like UUSC's Hope in Crops project, for example, helping the people of Kenya's Kakamega province protect their rain forest. But the forest can't be saved without alleviating the hunger and poverty of a rural population still struggling to recover from brutal military oppression. And the people can't build prosperous lives without exercising their civil rights in the face of corporate and government interests that still seek to exploit their forest.

Hope in Crops works because it connects all of these elements together. And UUSC works because of the faithful support of members and supporters like you who see the world in all its moral dimensions. Please go to <a href="https://www.UUSC.org">www.UUSC.org</a> to see how you can help the Hope in Crops project or many other projects underway.

# Film Honors UUCP Sculptor

Rising: The Art and Life of John Waddell, a film by Marlo Bendau, is scheduled to be shown on KAET July 13 at 8:00 PM. Waddell is the creator of *That Which Might Have Been*, the sculpture on UUCP campus honoring four girls killed in the Birmingham Church Bombing of 1963.

The film tells the inspiring story of an artist who resisted modern trends to stay true to the human form, the painful losses that decision cost him and the immeasurable treasures many have gained. Told by 15 models including the filmmaker, in rarely filmed nude modeling sessions, the film chronicles the moving story of a determined, prolific American sculptor. Working on the periphery of the contemporary art world for 50 years, he shunned commercial success, enduring enormous personal setbacks and thriving without the help of critics. The film chronicles Waddell's unique process first evident in *That Which Might Have Been*, his seminal work honoring the Birmingham Four, through his 2008 completion of the 28-figure relief *Rising*, inspired by 9/11. More info about Waddell and the film can be found at http://www.rising-thefilm.com.

## Unicare

#### FRIENDSHIP PARTNERS

Long-time UUCP member Eleanor "Ellie" Murphy is a part of the foundation of this congregation and one of its "living treasures." Ellie was raised a Congregationalist but began attending UUCP in 1976 when she and her husband, Bob, moved to Phoenix from Chicago. Attendance at UUCP, they thought, would help them to make new friends and familiarize them with the Phoenix community.



Ellie's initial reception at UUCP coffee hour was memorable! (Visitors, at that time, were invited to use glass coffee cups instead of styrofoam cups to distinguish their newcomer status.) At coffee hour, Ellie was approached by a member who said, "My wife said that I have to talk to a person with a glass cup!" With a twinkle in her eye, Ellie replied, "Well, I hope it won't be too boring!"

With that direct retort, her extraverted personality, and wishes to serve, Ellie drew upon her professional experience as a former teacher of the developmentally disabled and editor and writer in the publishing field and used these acquired skills in her volunteer work at UUCP. From this initial conversation, she went on to become a member of the Board, Vice President, President, President of the UUCP Foundation, Chairman of the Finance Committee, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Chair, Co-Administrator and Church Administrator from 1977-91. From 2001 to 2009, Ellie assumed responsibilities previously undertaken by Julie Smart and led Unicare. She organized a Caring Committee Workshop led by a professional mental health consultant; it was attended by 40 participants from the western US. In the absence of a minister during summer vacation, there were occasions in which she was called upon to arrange and lead memorial services. Currently, Ellie facilitates a Covenant Group and is a Friendship Partner. When speaking about partnerships, Ellie emphasized the importance of ongoing contact with Friends through telephone calls, notes and visits.

We all need to know that at least one other person cares. If you would like to be a partnered with a friend or would like to volunteer as a Friendship Partner, please contact Friendship Partners at Unicare@phoenixuu.org.

#### UNICARE NEWS

- Susan Morris's Uncle Bob passed away June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We send Susan our thoughts and prayers.
- Mark Grenard's sister Lizz lost her cabin home outside Fort Collins, Colorado, earlier this month in a fire that consumed 8,000 acres. She was thankfully able to save two horses, a goat and her car. We hope she and others affected by this season's fires receive the support and care they need.
- Sandra Schaffer was recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Surgery was performed the first week of June and she is recovering at home. Sandra welcomes cards and emails.
- Our thoughts are with David Boecker-Grieme as his aunt is undergoing surgery to have a large tumor removed from her back. His brother Bryan was diagnosed with operable cancer of the tongue. The good news is that his "favorite" aunt has recently moved to Arizona.
- We are happy that Kat Crabtree's Aunt Carol has won her battle with breast cancer. Kat's boyfriend Francis had emergency gallbladder surgery and is also doing well.
- Heather McLellan's six-year-old grandson Sagan survived a near drowning June 9<sup>th</sup>. He was hospitalized overnight and released the next day. We are glad he is alright.
- The Nielsen family welcomed Julia Jane Nielsen on May 28<sup>th</sup>. She was born at home and big brothers Charlie and Sammy are excited to have a sister. Happy parents Derek and Nicole look forward to introducing Julia to UUCP soon.

Thanks for caring, Linda Lawrence and Ceyshe' Napa

# Celebrations of Life 10.30 AM

#### JULY 1: BEYOND LIGHT BULBS: COVENANT AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Service Leaders: Gary Ezzell and Matt Meyer

Ours is a faith guided by covenant. As Unitarian Universalists, we believe that some things are better accomplished in community. A spiritual life is one of those. Social justice work is another. Join us for a service of rhythm, music, covenantal community and collective action.

#### JULY 8: THE STILL, SMALL VOICE

Service Leaders: Gary Ezzell and Michael Relland

How did you find Unitarian Universalism? What drives you now to be part of this diverse, challenging, 11-syllable spiritual quest? Today we listen to the voice that called us to be who we are as people of faith.

#### JULY 15: IMPORTANCE OF BEING HUMAN

Service Leaders: Jaynn Truran and Anne Byrne

All of the universe was created by a single quantum of energy that began 13 billion years ago. Humans are a recent development, and knowing ourselves within the context of our role in the universe provides a powerful sense of connection, responsibility and joyful challenge.

Share the Plate: CHEEERS

#### JULY 22: CATCH AND RELEASE

Service Leader: Gary Ezzell

Many religious traditions counsel some form of "letting go." It is fundamental to Buddhism's non-attachment and is a key message in the Bhagavad-Gita and the Sermon on the Mount, as well as secular self-help books. We humans so often need to make difficult choices with uncertain outcomes. Why is letting go so necessary, and why is it so hard to do, especially, perhaps, for UUs?

#### JULY 29: GOT FAITH?

Service Leaders: Gary Lawrence and Lee Marie Sanchez

What an interesting question to ask a Religious Liberal. Some stories, some funny and others, well, provocative to say the least, might have us wondering about this hot potato word. For some of us, the concept broadens over time.

#### AUGUST SERVICES

Sundays, August 5, 12, 19, 26: themes to be determined Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

President: Jimmy Leung Vice President: Linda Bellantoni Treasurer: Diana Ashley

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Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt Children's Ministry Director: Anne Byrne Youth Programs Coordinator: Jaynn Truran

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## Our Mission

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