



*A Welcoming Congregation*

## HORIZONS Journal of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

October 2012

### This month at a glance:

- 4—1<sup>st</sup> UUCP Community Night
- 6/7—Rainbows Festival
- 7—New Day Center Meal
- 7—Poetry Coffeehouse
- 10—Senior Tea
- 13—Sewing Circle
- 21—Social Action Luncheon
- 23—Board Meeting
- 25—Drum Circle
- 27—Fall Festival
- 28—Men's Group

#### Ongoing:

- Addiction Discussion Group
- Book Group
- Choir Rehearsal
- Open Art Studio
- Meditation Group
- Walking Group
- Theater Group

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

### Celebrating Manuel Gomez

It's hard to believe Manuel Gomez, our hard-working custodian, joined the UUCP staff some 20 years ago this month, because he hasn't a gray hair on his head! One would think the constant demands of our busy congregation would have aged him considerably, but he doesn't seem to have changed a bit since he joined us in 1992.



It was Sandra (Lynch) Schaffer, former co-chair of the Social Action Committee, who actually "found" Manuel and decided he'd be just the man to fill our custodial position. It proved a good match indeed. Manuel now works for UUCP in the morning and for our two schools, the UUEEC cooperative preschool and Desert View Learning Center, in the afternoon. Occasionally he also works extra hours for those holding weddings, memorial services, and other special events at UUCP.

Manuel actually entered the United States with his wife, Rosa, and son, Marvin, in 1990, "looking for a new life" and wanting to escape the increasing political unrest in his native Guatemala. He spent most of his first two years here going to school and learning English. In addition to his son, Marvin, who has three children, Manuel has a daughter, Marlene, mother of five, making him the proud grandfather of eight children.

It took 16 years after his arrival in the U.S. before Manuel was able to return for a visit with his Guatemalan family (parents and two sisters; his brother lives in Seattle). He speaks of the beautiful mountains and lakes of his former home with more than a little longing, but says he's glad he came to the United States and is proud to be a citizen now.

As busy as he is, Manuel can always be counted on for a friendly greeting or for help with a Spanish word or two when those of us who have a limited vocabulary need it. We're pleased to help him celebrate his 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with us.

Manuel will join us on Sunday, November 4 during the second Coffee Hour as we honor him and his 20 years of dedicated service to UUCP. There will be cards to sign, or you can bring your own.

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## Minister's Musings

Ralph Waldo Emerson writes: *Adopt the pace of nature; her secret is patience.* Patience is a virtue, and one that I am always learning. In our activity-filled, busy, work-a-day lives, almost no one *likes* to wait.

But here is a true story about a man who, upon entering middle age, decided to make some changes in his life. He was in his fifties, and he realized his life was not going as he wished. He had health problems surfacing with his heart, he was unsatisfied by his work, he found himself drinking too much. He was married to a wonderful woman, with two great teenage children, but family was not going that well either. So, he decided to start making different choices. He entered AA, got sober, started eating better, and even quit his job that was not fulfilling. Slowly, he began to feel better. His attitude was better. His marriage was better. He was healthier. The only problem—he couldn't find a job.

He took a risk. He made changes to get ready for a new life, but it didn't all fall into place at once. He had to wait. And that wasn't easy. So, he did something else. He decided to turn waiting into an opportunity. As the father of two teenage daughters, he found lots of opportunities to wait. He would agree to pick them up at the mall, or at school, or at a friend's house and he would have to wait. Like all of us, he also had to wait in traffic, on hold with the phone company, in line at the grocery store, or at his computer when it was running slow. He used to get frustrated when he had to wait, thinking of what he wasn't getting done, of how inconsiderate others were for making him wait. But he realized this wasn't good for his heart or his spirit. He decided that when he had to wait, he would use the time to meditate. Whether it was two minutes or ten, if he found himself having to wait, he would quiet his mind, calm his thinking and draw his attention to his breath. I believe he started this practice for his health, to find a way to avoid added stress, but I suspect it also helped him remain calm, positive and non-anxious about his job search. It took more than a year, but he did find a job with a nonprofit organization doing work that is meaningful to him. And, he also didn't see the time looking for a job as just waiting, but as a chance to volunteer, to help his kids, to do things he hadn't been able to do when he worked so much.

It's counterintuitive, because when we have to wait, our immediate reaction is to feel like we are losing time—like time is being taken from us—and this is part of what makes us anxious or vexed. In reality, it is our impatience that actually causes us to lose time. When we get angry or impatient, we get fixated on an unreal future, like picturing ourselves getting out of line sooner and on to the next errand, or getting off the phone sooner, or getting on that plane. But in the end, we are losing time, because we are missing attention for the present moment. Not that every moment of waiting is a good one, but when the alternative is to run ourselves ragged with frustration, or erupt in anger, there must be a better way. Learning to see waiting as opportunity to be mindful of the present moment, makes that time of waiting a gift, a chance to relax, to not be obligated at the moment, to take in our surroundings, the sights and sounds of the people around us. Or as my friend would use it, an opportunity to do something for his own spiritual health.

Here's one of the lessons I take from this man's journey. You don't necessarily have to find a half-hour in your day to meditate. You can take something ordinary, that happens all the time—like waiting—and make it an opportunity for a little mindfulness in your day. Next time you have to wait, avoid the urge to immediately take out your cell phone, check your email, text your friend, or play angry birds. Imagine instead, just taking a few deep breaths, close your eyes or not, pay attention to what you're hearing, look at what is around you, the sky, the desert, the cars, the people, whatever, take another breath, relax. Action will call your attention again soon enough, but in the meantime, you will have had a small gift of time, a gift to yourself to enjoy.

*These musings are adapted from Rev. Susan's sermon "Ready, Set, Wait!" from mid-August.*

## From the President

*“A religion for our time embraces the diversity of the world’s religious traditions and draws upon all their gifts...  
It sees science and human learning as a partner, not an enemy.  
It must promote the spiritual practices that give us depth and insight: meditation, prayer, spiritual guidance, small groups, and music.  
It must touch our hearts as well as our heads.”*  
— Rev. Peter Morales

Several weeks ago, I received my copy of the UUCP 2012-13 Program Catalog. I am sure that many of you did as well. (If not, you can download it from the UUCP website: <http://www.phoenixuu.org>.) The catalog looks better and bigger every year, and I am so grateful to our staff and our lay leaders for creating such wonderful offerings.

This year, what is most impressive to me is the growth and diversity of the Adult Faith Development (AFD) program. AFD offerings have doubled since last year with new courses and new facilitators. The courses range from theology to social justice to couples enrichment. A new AFD offering that I am personally very enthusiastic about is “Living by Heart,” co-facilitated by two of my wise and wonderful friends Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Donna Featherston.

“Living by Heart” is a six-month course that guides participants in developing a personal spiritual practice. It was created by the Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman, the highly accomplished former minister of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas, and Harry Scholefield, a pastor and poet. The course was described by one UU minister as “one of the earliest, most influential, and perhaps even the single most important catalyst for the renewal of interest in all things spiritual among UU’s.”

I am enthusiastic that this course is being offered because it is another clear milestone on a path we have been on for several years towards a more intentionally spiritual community. In fact, the sponsoring group, “Adult Faith Development,” used to be called “Adult Religious Education.” While the old name is also religious and more common in UU churches, the name change connotes an intentional focus on developing a faith-based practice.

The UUCP Board has been supportive of this purposeful spirituality, because part of our vision is to create a liberal religious community where members see the UUCP as the center of their diverse and inclusive spiritual lives. As a religious institution, one of our roles is to help people address for themselves the many BIG (I mean really BIG) questions associated with human existence.

Our religious purpose is most apparent on Sundays. I will never forget the wisdom that the Rev. Jean Wahlstrom, our former interim minister, taught me: “Every Sunday, there is someone in the room who is mourning a great loss and someone else celebrating a great event.” I (and many of you) know of UU Sunday services where the preacher is much more likely to draw from sources such as the Sunday Comics or the Op-Ed page rather than from any of the UU “Six Sources.” However, thanks to our worship associates and our ministers, one of the best things about UUCP’s Sunday services is the diversity of wisdom encountered within the peaceful and worshipful atmosphere.

## From the Board...

To me, the diversity of our sources is just as important as our “Seven Principles.” Actually, from a theological basis, more so, because it recognizes that there is a common, universal wisdom of many religions and many, many teachers. It also recognizes that teachings and practices not traditionally associated with any “organized religion” also provide wisdom and comfort. As James Luther Adams taught, the meaning in our lives can be found all around us, and revelation is ongoing.

The spiritual practices from “Living by Heart” reflect this wonderful diversity available in Unitarian Universalism. It draws from poetry and meditation. Developing a personal spiritual practice is a huge step in bringing purpose and meaning into one’s own everyday life beyond Sunday. This is a goal that the Board wants to work towards in our routine Board meetings as well as individually in our own lives. It is a goal that we have for our religious community. As board president, I think that one of the ultimate measures of successful governance is the degree to which our members’ spiritual needs are met by the UUCP.

I invite you, my friends, to join us in developing your own spiritual practice this year. We have the luxury as UUs to be free to choose amongst a universe of wisdom. Perhaps an AFD course will suit you well, or perhaps a Small Group Ministry, or perhaps a personal, quiet practice between you and the universe. We are so lucky to have at the UUCP many people who can facilitate or accompany us on our journeys.

In faith,

Jimmy

The next meetings of the Board of Trustees will be:

Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM in the Johnson Room. All are welcome.

### Remembering David Walker

Dave Walker’s covenant group has made a gift  
to the UU Foundation in his memory.

## Inaugural UUCP Community Night

Thursday, October 4, 6:00 PM  
Johnson Room

Grab some carryout or bring a picnic supper and help us celebrate and build community at UUCP! We will be eating together in the Johnson Room at 6:00 PM. Please bring your own place settings, napkins, and utensils. There will be pitchers of water provided, but you will need to bring your own beverages if you want something other than water.

These Community Nights, scheduled for every Thursday evening through April, will provide opportunities to visit with ministers, staff members, UUCP members and friends. We hope to have a great turnout and will expand to the patio and sanctuary as needed in order to accommodate all who wish to join in.

UUCP Community Nights will also give more people an opportunity to participate in Adult Faith Development courses, Small Group Ministries, and other committees and programs of interest that are scheduled on Thursday evenings. There will be childcare from 6:30-9:00 PM for anyone wishing to stay for an on-campus event. Please check your Program Catalog and newsletters for Thursday evening “happenings” as some do require registration in advance.

Please note that the UUCP Community Night scheduled for Thursday, November 23, will be a special Thanksgiving potluck. Watch for more details in the November issue of Horizons.

## Greetings from Your Music Director!

October is one of my favorite months. Summer is behind us. Outdoor concerts are in abundance.

Looks like there will be opportunities for music making on Thursday nights, our new Community Night. I've heard rumors of a monthly drum circle and a monthly Sing-Along led by Igor Glenn and friends.

Are you a singer who will be 10, 11 or 12 years of age during July 2013? You may want to audition to sing in the UU Children's Choir. Visit <http://www25.uua.org/uumn/> for details, or check the music bulletin board outside of office #2. (Or you could be an adult Chaperone!) Deadlines to apply are October 25—soon!

Our own UUCP Family Choir will be rehearsing in November and singing on Sunday, November 18. Rehearsals are scheduled for:

Wednesday, November 7 at 5:45 PM

Thursday, November 8 at 6:30 or 7:00 PM (whenever we're done eating)

Wednesday, November 14 at 5:45 PM

Saturday, November 17 at 12:00 Noon

Sunday, November 18 at 8:30 AM (just before the 1<sup>st</sup> service when we sing)

“Ah music, greater than any magic we do here.”  
~*Albus Dumbledore*

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML

## UUEEC and Children's Ministries Fall Festival is October 27!

Come one and all to our annual Family Fall Festival on Saturday, October 27 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Events include pumpkin and cupcake decorating, book fair, bounce houses, face painting, carnival games, music and more! Lunch is included. The festival is sponsored by the UU Early Education Cooperative Preschool and the Children's Ministry Committee. All are welcome and encouraged to attend! The cost is \$10 per person, \$15 for a family of two and \$25 for a family of three or more.

## UUEEC Preschool – Fostering the Enduring Tradition of Parent Engagement

A child's journey into preschool is an important step in his or her development as an independent human being and serves as a foundation for future learning. Choosing the right preschool may seem daunting. Parents may ask: What preschool environment best fits our family lifestyle? Is my child ready? What educational philosophy is right for my child and aligned with my values? How will I be supported in leaving my child in another's care? Can I participate in the classroom? Is the preschool well run and safe for my child?

Fifty-one years ago, a group of UUCP moms asked the same questions, and their answer was to create a parent cooperative preschool for their children at the church. Like other cooperative preschools across the world, the Early Education Cooperative (UUEEC) builds in significant parent involvement in the educational philosophy, values, operations, management, and daily staffing of the school.

Before I started working as the Director of Children's Ministries, I was vaguely aware the church had a preschool, but only slightly. I never ventured west of the Johnson Room, so imagine my surprise to discover the magical place that is the UUEEC. Today the preschool continues to serve congregation members, but most families are not affiliated with the church, at least not yet. There are currently 31 children and 27 families. We have two sets of twins and many siblings of former and future students (six babies!) among our ranks.

Two of our newest families share a special heritage at the preschool. Julia Hancock and Caroline Haworth are moms to Hayden and Emma in our Twos class. Both Julia and Caroline were themselves students at the UUEEC more than 25 years ago.



*Caroline and Emma Haworth and Hayden and Julia Hancock*

The discovery-based practices in the preschool reflect our UU values on a daily basis. UUEEC is a magical place where children can get wet and messy as they dig, paint, scrub, create, explore, discuss and discover themselves, each other, and their environment.

Parent participation also reflects our values, with high expectations for involvement. Parents volunteer in the classroom once or twice a month, attend a monthly class and serve on at least one committee. Clearly, this level of expectation is not for everyone. For those who choose a cooperative preschool, the rewards are immeasurable. As parent and UUCP member Catherine Desberg, mother of Daniel, said:

*I have learned so much from our preschool experience. As a first-time parent, I had no idea what to expect of the first year of preschool. The teachers and other parents have provided a lot of support, and I have learned how to positively channel Daniel's high energy into fun activities. Watching the teachers model how best to talk to kids has been really helpful, and I am learning how to foster Daniel's independence by letting him do things like open his own bottle of water. On a personal level, I get the opportunity to use my intellect and skills on the parent committees, which means a lot to stay-at-home mom like me.*

Susan Goldsmith, a parent whose children attended the preschool 25 years ago, agrees that the experience has had a big impact. "My children and I made friends we still connect with on a regular basis, and it all started with the preschool. We shared similar values about parenting and life and supported each other over the years in all our family successes and challenges."

On a personal level, I am thoroughly enjoying all my new friends of the five-and-under group. I try to strategically "drop-in" to the classrooms to carefully monitor certain activities. Gentle hug time, the closing for the Twos class, is one I am especially interested in. After two weeks of school, I can attest the hugs are indeed gentle and genuine.

## Religious But Not Spiritual?

I have known many people over the years who identify themselves as "spiritual but not religious." I was never exactly sure what that meant, as I identified with neither. Lately, however, I have started to describe myself as religious but not spiritual. It doesn't come out easily. The first few times, I was so soft spoken I had to repeat myself to be heard. Then I said it really fast with forced ease, "Yeah sure, I am religious, but not especially spiritual." In actual fact, I probably wouldn't be saying it now had I not looked up the meaning of religion in good old Wikipedia and come across this meaning proposed by sociologist Durkheim:

*Religion is unified system of beliefs and practices relative to sacred things. ... Sacred things are not, however, limited to gods or spirit... On the contrary, a sacred thing can be "a rock, a tree, a spring, a pebble, a piece of wood, a house, in a word, anything can be sacred. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion#Definitions>*

Many definitions of both spirituality and religion make reference to a belief in god or higher power, which is the part that has always tripped me up and sent me running in the other direction. But the notion of religion as a unified system of beliefs and practices relative to things I hold sacred opened the door for me to stop running and acknowledge what is true for me. Turns out I do have a unified system of beliefs and practices, and—what do you know?—they just happen to line up pretty well to Unitarian Universalist principles.

At our recent training for Sunday School teachers, we shared the stories of our religious and moral upbringings. I asked the group to focus on the positive, but not surprisingly, many of us shared stories of fear and a feeling of inadequacy that was fostered by own religious education as youth. For many of us, the bad feelings from

## From the Staff...

our own religious education propelled us away from identifying or affiliating with religion and spirituality. Personally, I have a basic distaste for ritual which I credit to the many hours of sitting, standing, and kneeling of my Catholic upbringing. I avoid ritual so well; you might need to remind me to light the chalice if we are at a gathering together.

Yet, somehow we found ourselves together as UUs, ready to embark on the religious education of the kids in our congregation. There were a couple of lifelong UUs in our group who shared how positive and meaningful their religious education was to them, and we all agreed we wanted to share this experience with the kids at UUCP.

We agreed to reclaim the words and expressions of religion that might have repelled us before and honor our own unified system of beliefs. We marched off prepared to spread the good news of Unitarian Universalism until one teacher pointed out her first lesson involved talking to kids about heaven and hell. “What do I have to say about either heaven or hell?” she asked. All I could do was smile and say, “You’ll figure it out – just let the kids talk.”



*Anne's First Communion*

Part of the challenge we experience as UU religious educators and parents is providing our children with the concrete information provided by most religions and craved by our children. As much as we want our kids to form their own opinions, young children are developmentally hard-wired to want to know the rules, have clear beliefs and heroes. Let's face it; Jesus is a superhero most kids would like to know.

So what is a UU to do?

- First, we all need to recognize and honor our own stories. As much as I reject the beliefs of my Catholic upbringing, there are many parts of my character that were positively impacted by my religious education. Our kids will benefit from the messages of our UU faith.
- Next, let us embrace what we do believe. Shift the focus to give our kids positive affirmations of what we do believe, not just what we don't believe.
- Join me in identifying as religious and share the values of our seven principles that resonate most with you with your kids.
- Let go of the parts that hurt and reclaim them in positive ways. I am not likely to encourage your children to stand, sit and kneel, but you will likely see them engaged in various rituals that hold up the seven principles and our covenants. Make your own rituals as a family or group to reinforce and remind yourselves what is important to us. Just don't expect me to bring the chalice!

So, yes, I am indeed religious because I have a unified system of beliefs and practices about that which I consider sacred. This may seem like a no-brainer from the person in charge of religious education for our young children, but I suspect many of you can relate to my journey and the significance of being able to “come-out” in this way. Still not too spiritual, but I am making progress. Good luck on your journey.

Religiously, I am yours,

Anne Byrne  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Youth Program News

from Youth Programs Coordinator Jaynn Truran

### COMING OF AGE STARTS CLIMBING

On Saturday, September 15, ten Coming of Age candidates and several mentors and family members trekked up to Chapel Rock Retreat Center in the hills above Prescott to challenge themselves at the High Ropes Course (and I got to go, too! Another perk of working with and for our children!). After a delicious lunch and some cooperative games, we headed off to a course comprised of a horizontal ladder made of tires suspended precariously between two trees, a 40-foot rock wall, a set of three climbing “chimes,” a rope ladder that twisted and turned as you tried to ascend, and a set of supertall telephone poles joined at the top by another horizontal pole that the youth walked across after making it to the top(!!!).

I am thrilled to report that all of our candidates tried every apparatus and we had no injuries! What’s even better is all the fun we had! The weather was perfect, new connections blossomed, and everyone had a great time. Some sentiments heard that day include:

- “Let’s get Rev. Susan to build one of these at UUCP!”
- “That was, like, a spiritual experience.”
- To his blindfolded partner, while pointing: “It’s right there! Right THERE!”
- “I’ll help you, then you help her, then she can help him, and on and on until we finish.”
- “Are we there yet?”
- From atop the highest telephone pole: “I can see Russia from here!”
- “I can’t believe I did it!”
- “I knew I could do it!”
- “Do we have to leave? That was so cool!”



*COA candidates at Chapel Rock: (top row from left): Enzo Pham, Max Schweiger, Sage Fisher, Jacob Hayes, Sebastian Ciemny; (bottom row, from left): Dante McDonald, Samantha Hayes, Tommy St. Clair, Jenna Metcalf, Hugo Bulna*

The class has written and adopted a covenant for their year together and begun working on their autobiographies and credo statements. In October, we will prepare for our first visit to another house of worship (either a Jewish synagogue or a Quaker Meeting House) on the 14<sup>th</sup>. In the later half of the month, we will begin to examine UU values and how to talk about Unitarian Universalism with each other and with non-UUs. Teachers Caitlin Tuffin, Jen Hempel and Jeff Newman are enjoying leading this unique group of COA candidates!

### YRUU ASKS: GOT ART? COME VISIT OUR NEW MURAL IN ROOM C!

Everyone is invited to stop by Room C in the annex to check out the newly decorated east wall. Our high school group collaborated, colored and characterized this special space but there is one thing missing... a quote to top all quotes! And you can help! Please vote by supporting your favorite QUOTATION CANDIDATE with your coins, paper bills, checks, IOUs, or love letters... the winning quote will be announced on Tuesday, November 6 and added to the apex of this beautiful mural. Find our voting boxes on the patio during coffee hour, and be sure to check the weekly announcements for early polling updates!

Some topics we will be discussing in the coming weeks include: social media, love, escapism, inner peace, and secret making. We meet at 9:30 AM in Room C. Everyone is welcome!

## Keep On Moving Forward

As I was writing this article, Judge Susan Bolton lifted the injunction on SB 1070's "Papers, Please" provision, putting that section of the repressive Arizona law into effect. Arizona Immigration Ministry is working with efforts to document allegations of racial profiling.

Meanwhile, as autumn begins our members "keep on moving forward," heeding *emma's revolution's* song. Some of us are registering voters and others are helping Dreamers to complete applications, eager for two years of authorization to work and protection against deportation.

Thanks to those who have continued to share follow-up on experiences at Justice GA. Bill Sabatino prepared a synopsis (below) to share the wisdom of Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker. I appreciate it, Bill.

Con abrazos fuertes,

Sandy Weir  
Arizona Immigration Ministry Organizer  
sandyweir@phoenixuu.org

### A PEOPLE SO BOLD: A THEOLOGY FOR UU SOCIAL JUSTICE-MAKING

*At Justice GA, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker gave a presentation based on her essay "Resisting Evil; Reverencing Life," published in the anthology A People So Bold: Essays on Theology and Ministry for Unitarian Universalists (John Gibb Millspaugh, Editor, Skinner House Books, 2010). The following is a sampling of Dr. Parker's words.*

"Questions such as *Why does evil exist?* and *How could a good God create a world with so much evil in it?* provide interesting intellectual exercises. But a far more important use of intellectual resources is to see, name and analyze the presence of evil and its operations. More important than the *why questions* are questions such as *What evil is going on here and now? How can it be stopped? How can human beings be liberated from their captivity to it?*"

"Unitarian Universalist social justice work has long been haunted by the notion that theological liberals lack a sufficient understanding of evil. Hence the need for a Justice General Assembly that attended to the theological basis for UU social action."

"Economically and educationally privileged people can enjoy a good life while enmeshed in larger social forces that are harmful to life. Take contemporary market capitalism as a case in point. With its high reliance on fossil fuels, it is arguably evil. What appears to offer a satisfying lifestyle to many, is fraudulent. Those of us who experience its benefits do so within a complex global economic system that harms the planet, leaves many in poverty and threatens the sustainability of life."

"Fossil fuels are not an isolated example; evil is inescapable in our globalized age."

"To pursue an alternative way of life is not easy—individuals cannot resist evil on their own, for it is virtually impossible to escape. The evil we participate in is transpersonal—that is, it is collective and collaborative. Resisting evil requires collective and collaborative efforts."

“The early Christian Church performed exorcisms to liberate evil and call people into modes of relational life—mutual care, nonviolence, generosity—that would enable their communities to elude the full weight of Roman imperialism. The early Church called people to name the demons so that the community could resist and subdue those forces.”

“In other words, one way ahead for UU social action is to give attention to our community life, to ritual and spiritual disciplines through which human capacities and gifts become engaged in resisting evil. Religious life must assist people in observing, analyzing, becoming wise about and resisting evil.”

“Modern liberal religion’s anemic response to evil is due to neglect of the community life, ritual and spiritual disciplines through which human capacities become engaged in resisting evil. It is not enough to celebrate inherent worth and dignity. Religious communities must actively assist healing and recovery from the harm that comes to souls and bodies because of unjust and life-threatening realities.”

“UUs tend to focus on values and ideals as the foundation of social justice work. Striving to walk our talk and build the world we dream about, can take individuals and congregations quite a way down the path of activism.”

“However, the foundation for social justice works is not—or at the least, need not be—a dream of what could be. It can, instead, be doxology. Doxology that links the gifts of life to a life-giving spirit or source larger than ourselves. A doxology that attunes people to a spiritual source that impels our striving—not a dream of what should be, but a steady wind that fills the sails of our boat.”

“Just as for the early Christians, so too now for us, the wind that billows the sails of our social action is *both* our life together, the “spirit of life” moving in our hand “to give life the shape of justice,” *and* the cry of those suffering, the haunting silence of the disheartened, the disinherited.”

“These two tangibles provide the impetus to resist evil in whatever guises it presents itself.”

“We are called, as Moses was at the burning bush, to *both* see the beauty *and* hear the cries. Thus attuned, we can live a life devoted to *both* reverence *and* liberation.”

“The first step is, as it was for Moses, to take off our shoes and acknowledge that we are on holy ground.”

## Dear Young-at-Heart UUCP Seniors (60+ but we won’t check IDs):

Please join me, Rev. Susan, and Senior-i-Tea Coordinator Sally Boyd in the Johnson Room at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, October 17. Hear a brief word of welcome from the leaders of this new Unicare social outreach ministry to seniors. Help us brainstorm ideas for ways to spend this monthly Wednesday afternoon time together: special speakers, programs, or presentations? Time to “check in” with one another and share stories and experiences related to a particular theme? Meet and greet with a structure that allows you to get to know more people? We’ll decide together but we need your input! Please come and enjoy coffee, tea, cookies and conversation. We look forward to it!

Love,  
Rev. Linda, Rev. Susan, and Sally

## Office News

On Friday, October 12, Nancy and I will be holding an Office Volunteer Orientation and Training. We will be welcoming our newest volunteers, Toni Colotte, Jane Christoffersen and Sandy Donovan, as well honoring returning volunteers Larry Agle, Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Pauline Peverly, Sharon Hise, Dorothy LeWin, Julie Smart and Ellie Murphy. We still have two slots open: Wednesdays from Noon to 3:00 PM and Fridays 9:00 AM to Noon. If you are interested and would like to attend the Orientation and Training please let me or Nancy know as soon as possible!

This month the Audit Team (Diana Ashley, Smoot Carl-Mitchell and Robin Holden) will be doing the first internal audit of our financial records and processes in more than seven years! The audit will tell us what is working as it should and what needs improvement.

Also this month we will be sending out the first quarter statements for your 2012-2013 Stewardship and Capital pledges. If you have any questions about your pledge, please contact me in the office at 602-840-8400 ext. 202 or via email at [administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org). With these statements you will be receiving your first edition of the quarterly Stewardship Update. This is a new communication I will be creating with Rev. Susan to help us report on our financials and other business related to stewardship at UUCP.

In community,

Heidi Parmenter  
Business Administrator

## Auction!

*Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Auction will be on Saturday, December 1, 2012 from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm.* There will be child-care, hearty finger foods for all, cash bar, groovy music, and of course many wonderful items up for silent and live auction! But what really makes the auction a true community event is the many ways members contribute to make it a success. As you read this please think about how *you* can contribute to this important fundraiser to our annual operating budget.

Choose as many of these opportunities as you can!

**Donate.** Enclosed with this edition of Horizons Journal is an Item Donation Form and Guidelines. Read over the guidelines carefully and think of what you might donate. Submit your Item Donation Form to the office as soon as possible and deliver any physical items Sundays in November.

**Volunteer.** Also included in this edition of Horizons Journal is a list of the many volunteer positions it takes to make our auction happen. If any of these fun opportunities fit your schedule contact Heidi Parmenter in the office and sign up ([administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org) or 602-840-8400 ext. 202).

**Attend and bid!**

Next month we should have our theme set and some ideas on what members would like to purchase from the auction this year. Stay tuned!

Volunteer Position	Description	Time Commitment
Sunday Ticket Seller	Sell tickets between services	(Pick a Sunday) Sundays, 11/4/12, 11/11/12, 11/18/12, 11/25/12
Check-in: Ticket Handler	Takes and sells tickets in the lobby the night of the event	Saturday, 12/1/12 3:30-6:00 pm
Check-in: Guest Registration	Hands guests numbered program book, paddle, and credit card slip	Saturday, 12/1/12 3:30-6:00 pm
Checkout: Cash Handler	Takes cash payments at checkout	Saturday, 12/1/12 6:30-9:00 pm
Checkout: Credit Card/Check Handler	Takes credit card and check payments at check-out	Saturday, 12/1/12 6:30-9:00 pm
Checkout: Line attendant	Ushers people into correct payment line and has credit card payers complete credit card slip while waiting	Saturday, 12/1/12 6:30-9:00 pm
Bar: Bartender	Sets up bar and serves drinks	Saturday, 12/1/12 3:30-8:30 pm
Bar: Cashier	Sets up bar and collects payment	Saturday, 12/1/12 3:30-8:30 pm
Food Runners – 3 needed	Replenishes finger foods in Sanctuary	Saturday, 12/1/12 3:30-8:30 pm
Basket Decorators	Get items ready for showcasing, attaches bidding sheet and info sheet, organizes items by section	Wednesday, 11/28/12 4:00-6:00 pm
Auction Setup	Setup check-in area in lobby and other preparatory tasks	Friday, 11/30/12 2:30-5:30 pm
Auction Decorating	Decorate sanctuary for auction	Friday, 11/11/11 2:30-5:30 pm
Live Auction Attendants – 3 needed	Record live auction winners	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:00-7:30 pm

## Harvest of Opportunities Fair

All UUCP members, prospective members, and friends are invited to the Harvest of Opportunities Fair on Sunday, October 28, in the Johnson Room after both services.

Whether you are a longtime member, or new to UU, we invite you to come and explore the bountiful opportunities that UUCP offers. At the Harvest of Opportunities Fair, you will be able to find out more about the many “special interest” groups that are working to promote our UU values, within our congregation and within our community. We have a veritable cornucopia of offerings, and this is the time and place to learn more about these groups, and how they might fit in with you, personally and/or spiritually.

Representatives from different groups will be available to tell you “what they do” and answer any questions you might have about how they do it and how you could help. But wait, there’s more! There will be fabulous door prizes (see the insert on your Order of Service on 10/28 to enter the drawing). All opportunities are ripe for the pickin’. Don’t miss out on your chance to learn more about how you can become involved, and plant the seeds for a more meaningful UU experience!

## Share the Plate with Heifer International, October 14

The children in our Sunday School have been using curriculum from Heifer International that addresses hunger, sustainability, independence, community building, and service learning. This organization ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)) helps impoverished families acquire animals for food and to generate income that enables children to attend school. Donations through Share the Plate will augment our children's fundraising and reinforce and validate their service learning, while helping families around the world. Thank you to Anne Byrne for making the nomination on behalf of our Sunday School children.

Share your passion for improving the world! Nominate an organization that you think deserves our support. Some openings are still available in the spring of 2013. See [www.phoenixuu.org](http://www.phoenixuu.org) and click on "Social Justice Ministries" to see the guidelines and application. Please submit applications by December 20 for consideration for dates in the spring of 2013.

Thank you,

Your Share the Plate Committee  
Carolyn Allenby, Betsy Kammerle, and Bill Mee

## Tickets to Spiritual Growth on Sale Now—Cheap!

The Unitarian Universalist Studies (UUS) Pass is now available for purchase at the Book Table on Sundays or at the beginning of each Adult Faith Development (AFD) course. The UU Pass can save you up to \$75 in registration fees for the 11 AFD courses being offered this year. The pass costs \$35 but the spiritual development you receive is priceless! For more information visit the Book Table in the back of the Sanctuary on Sundays or contact the AFD Committee at [AFD@phoenixuu.org](mailto:AFD@phoenixuu.org).

## Join UUCP's New Theater Group

With drama, we open opportunities to...

- 1) Get to know the 'other' through diverse characters.
- 2) Get to know ourselves.
- 3) Work with others to create community!

Congregational Theater is an affirming theater. Everyone has a part they can play. We find different ways to use our different talents. We were born to express ourselves and understand each other. Theater answers this call!

**What:** Creative Drama in a Safe Space

**Where:** UUCP Johnson Room

**Time:** 7:00-8:30 PM

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, September to May

**Contact:** Michael Relland, [mjvielle@yahoo.com](mailto:mjvielle@yahoo.com), 602-321-8991

## Annual Leadership Development Day

What makes you a leader? What energizes you about leadership? How can you maintain your energy in service to the congregation?

Explore these topics at the annual Leadership Development Day on Saturday, November 10 from 9:00 AM to Noon. If you are a current leader, or are considering a leadership role in the future, this workshop is for you. Come join us to:

- Develop your identity and skills as a Unitarian Universalist lay leader
- Recognize what energizes and what depletes you personally and build your empathy for others', possibly different, experiences
- Explore the role of leaders in creating a spiritually healthy congregational culture that encourages spiritual and emotional health in volunteers

The workshop will be held at UUCP in a safe, comfortable environment designed to help you grow and learn. A continental breakfast will be provided. Facilitators are Terry Simmons, Juli Harvey and Paula Kulina, UUCP members and professional teachers/trainers. The content is adapted from UUA's "Harvest the Power" curricula.

Please contact Greg Holmberg (ghswede13@aol.com, 480-563-9020) for more information and to reserve a space. **Please RSVP by October 31.**

## Outreach Music Ministry

UUCP is proud to present this opportunity to reach out to members with a very special singing group. We call ourselves Outreach Music Ministry. The plan is to visit members and friends convalescing at home or in a care facility. We will fill the room with beautiful songs to heal the heart. Our first visit will take place on Sunday, October 14. Please meet in Annex B at UUCP between services at 11:00 AM. We will rehearse until 11:30, when we will leave to visit the person's home or hospital. If you are interested in participating in Outreach Music Ministry, or have any questions, please email Jerry Whalin at [outreachmusic@phoenixuu.org](mailto:outreachmusic@phoenixuu.org).

## Calling all UUCP Crafters!

It's warm now, but it won't be long until cooler weather is here, and with it, the winter holidays show in the Sanctuary! The Sanctuary Team, which "hangs" exhibitions in the Sanctuary, is trying a different kind of holiday exhibit this winter—one comprised of wreaths made from a variety of materials, colors, sizes, styles, even shapes! Be a part of this upcoming show—bring one (or more) wreaths to brighten the Sanctuary this winter between early December and early January! All kinds of wreaths are welcome—the more, the better, and the bigger, the more festive! Don't wait until the last minute—December will be here before you (and we) know it! For more information, email [sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org](mailto:sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org) or call Tonia Jenny at 928-925-0995.

## Circle Dinners Are Back!

Circle Dinners kick off this year with a reception in the Johnson Room on Saturday, September 29. If you are interested in the dinners and would still like to be part of the monthly dinners, please email us at [phuucircle@yahoo.com](mailto:phuucircle@yahoo.com) or call Mary Wilber (480-473-1150).

## Time, Awareness and Meditation

Most of us think time in terms of use: “Stitch in time saves nine.” “Time is money.” “One always finds time for what one considers important.” Or “Time and tide waits for no one.” These are just a few of many sayings that express our relationship with time.

But what exactly is time?

Time is simply a measure of change. It is felt by our indirect and direct perception of change. Buddha discovered the phenomena of the universal ceaseless change by direct perception when he became Buddha, meaning ‘fully awake.’ He achieved that stage through many years of meditation about 2500 years ago. One of his first sermons was about this exciting discovery: there is nothing whatsoever in the universe that is not ceaselessly changing. Einstein discovered that when he realized that to fully know the position of any thing in the universe one also needs to know that thing in the fourth dimension, that is time.

Yet we cannot verify Buddha’s truth by our direct experience. We are not fully awake the way he was.

Before Buddha, the sages of forest dwellers in India that developed Upanishads understood the awareness in four stages. Wakefulness, dream stage, dreamless stage, and the fourth one that we do not experience unless we become Buddha. That stage is called the stage of Turia. In that stage the brain is awake but the activity is similar to dreamless stage. Thus it receives the knowledge that we may call intuition. For scientists that may be a hypothesis, the starting point of research.

Doing Hindu or Buddhist meditations, a fully integrated person, called yogi or Bodhisattva, attempts to realize that stage. In that stage the Self that is the Universe itself is realized. Yogi then is called Self-realized or Buddha. One may call that resurrection.

The meditation practice of persons who are far from fully integrated, like myself, are only meant to achieve some degree of mental health and a good night sleep. Even then, by such practice, my direct perception of time is affected. The time during a meditation feels shorter than the clock time.

When I sit in meditation with closed eyes, my direct perception of external environment (clock-time) diminishes drastically. I perceive directly my internal changing environment, primarily my thoughts. Depending on their activity and rate of change, my awareness of time differs from the clock-time.

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



## October Social Action Luncheon

Please join us on October 21 at 12:30 PM in the Johnson Room for our October SAC Potluck Luncheon. The topic is “Gun Violence in Arizona: What can be done?” The Social Action Committee has partnered with Arizonans for Gun Safety to present this forum. Hildy Saizow, President of Arizonans for Gun Safety and Jennifer Longdon, Advocate and Educator, will speak on this topic.

Hildy Saizow has been President of Arizonans for Gun Safety since 2005. She has a B.S. in Criminal Justice from ASU and an M.S. in Administration of Justice from The American University. She has served as a criminologist and consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice, the Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. She currently directs Arizona’s Community Outreach Program for Project Safe Neighborhoods and works with TRUCE, a program designed to stop gun homicides in South Phoenix.

Jennifer Longdon is an educator and advocate with focus on disability awareness, accessibility and diversity. She sustained a spinal cord injury in 2004 as the result of a random shooting. Since then she has worked tirelessly to bring sanity to Arizona gun laws.

This month the luncheon will be Potluck Style, so stop by the SAC table to let us know what you are bringing or email [socialaction@uuphoenix.org](mailto:socialaction@uuphoenix.org).

## Welcome, New Members!

On September 16, UUCP welcomed five new members. Their photos are posted on the bulletin board to the left of Office 2 and you can also see their pictures below and read short, introductory bios from some of them. Please do seek them out and welcome them!

We look forward to additional new members in October. Several Unitarian Universalists have moved here from other congregations around the country but were unable to attend the joining ceremony that was part of Session Two of the September Pathway to Membership Program. They have already gotten involved at UUCP! Look for their photos and bios in future newsletters.

Meet some of our newest members:

Amber Gahn was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. She has her master’s degree in clinical counseling from Ohio State University and is a lifelong fan of the Buckeyes. Amber has lived and worked in Columbus, Washington, D.C., and The Hague, Netherlands, providing mental health services to adults, children, and families. She moved to the Phoenix area in August 2012 with her spouse Kate. Amber works at a refugee resettlement program in Phoenix.

Kate Terzano was raised in northeast Ohio and spent most of the past decade in Columbus, Ohio. Most recently, she and Amber spent a year living in the Netherlands, where Kate was working for an international nonprofit. After deciding to relocate to Arizona for a teaching position at Arizona State University, she knew that she wanted to seek an open-minded, welcoming community. She’s very grateful to have found UUCP.





Kimberley Wilson: “I wear many hats in my life from daughter, mother, and friend to massage therapist, dog groomer, and blog writer. I enjoy my busy life thoroughly; however, I was missing the feeling of community and have since found that at UUCP. I’m glad to be a part of something so much bigger than myself. I look forward to hearing my children tell me what they’ve learned in RE and about the friends they are making, and all of us look forward to becoming active members in this community.”

Kay Grams and Bob Keiser: “We are heartened to become a part of a progressive community within which we can grow as individuals, share common values and work toward the betterment of ourselves, our community and the world. Both social justice and personal development are important to us.” Kay is the mother of two grown daughters, runs a business from her home and has a Master’s Degree in Mythological Studies and Depth Psychology. With a Pharmacy degree and an MBA, Bob has performed hospital and hospice administration and currently manages a pharmaceutical call-center. Two wayward snow-birds, we share a nest in Central Phoenix.



## Unicare News

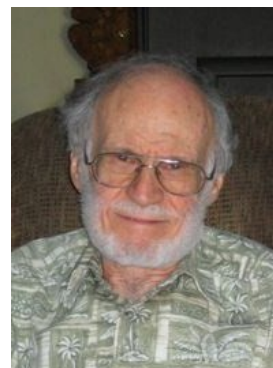
### UNICARE VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON—FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

If you are a current Unicare volunteer or someone who’d like to be a Unicare volunteer, please join us for a luncheon in the Johnson Room on Friday, November 2, from 12:00-2:00 PM. Unicare volunteers help with one or more of the following: receive Unicare email updates in order to send notes or cards in the event of births, marriages, illnesses, or deaths; make friendly visits or phone calls as needed; provide meals or transportation when members are sick or undergoing medical treatment; serve as Friendship Partners to our homebound members, or help in various ways with memorial services. Meet our Unicare leaders, learn how things are going in terms of building a more caring community, and share your ideas. RSVP by October 31 to [unicare@phoenixuuc.org](mailto:unicare@phoenixuuc.org) or to 602-840-8400, Ext. 204.

### FRIENDSHIP PARTNERS: ARNOLD THAW

Most of us do not know Arnold Thaw although he has been associated with our congregation for many years. Unfortunately, he no longer drives so is unable to attend church activities.

Arnold Thaw grew up in a Jewish family in New York City. Upon receiving a scholarship he attended New York University, Bronx campus. At that time it was mandatory for students to attend a weekly worship service led by local clergymen of different faiths. At one service led by the well-known John Haynes Holmes, then minister of Community Church of NY, located in Manhattan, Arnold was introduced to Unitarianism. He was



## Ministry and Committee Reports...

deeply impressed by Unitarian beliefs, particularly those of non-violence, love, and brotherhood that were very different from the laws and commandments that he had learned from Judaism. Arnold began regularly attending services at Community Church.

By the time he graduated from NYU with a BA in History, he knew that he wanted to become a Unitarian minister and explained to his parents that he was not rejecting Judaism but adding to his personal development with study of this new faith and thinking. Looking for a small, personal school, he applied to Starr King in Berkeley and subsequently received a Master's degree in Divinity.

In his fourth year at Starr King, he was an intern at the First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Texas and was then called to the First Church of Natick, Massachusetts and then to the Unitarian Congregation of South Peel in Mississauga, Canada. Arnold continued to develop his belief in the importance of harmonious brotherhood and to be influenced by the pacifism of Quakerism.

During these years of ministerial service he had become increasingly interested in the psychological aspects of human interaction which he saw in his ministerial counseling. In 1974, he returned to academia at the California School of Professional Psychology in Los Angeles and received a PhD in Psychology.

With training and professional experience in both the ministry and professional counseling, Arnold went on to be on the staff at the Coconino Community Guidance Center, lectured at Northern Arizona University, and also led the Unitarian Fellowship in Flagstaff.

He subsequently moved to Phoenix to be a faculty member at the post-graduate Gestalt Institute of Phoenix. Here he combined teaching and private practice and began attending UUCP. When then-minister Ray Manker learned of his enriched background, Arnold was invited to be Minister of Counseling.

Arnold Thaw is a very interesting and knowledgeable member of our church. He would very much like to receive a regular visitor with whom he could converse and share his experiences. If you are interested in visiting with him, please contact Ruth Braunstein ([candrmb@cox.net](mailto:candrmb@cox.net)).

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Here are some of the joys and sorrows shared with our community since the last edition of this newsletter.

- Ian Chamberlin's aunt, Jeanne Shelton, passed away in early September. We keep Ian and his family in our thoughts.
- David Boecker-Grieme and his family celebrated the life of his Aunt Bunny, who also passed away in early September. David was thankful for the opportunity to visit and share her love before she passed.
- Lois Fisher suffered a stroke in early September. She is working hard in rehab and expects to have been discharged prior to publication of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing her at UUCP soon.
- We send good wishes to Amy McCluer's Aunt Margie who was hospitalized after a fall.
- We are happy to report that Dorthy Hull is successfully recovering at home following open heart surgery.
- We are glad to see Mike Peterson back at services and wish him continued good recovery from his August 30<sup>th</sup> heel surgery.
- Anne Byrne's brother, Tom, was recently diagnosed with esophageal cancer and will be receiving palliative care. Our thoughts are with Anne and her family.
- We lift up Susan Morris and Duke Plattner as they accompany their parents through some of the struggles of the last stages of their lives. We hope you feel our love and support, Susan and Duke.
- Anita Silverthorn was very grateful for those who attended her Celebration of Life party on September 16<sup>th</sup>. She has felt very blessed by the outpouring of love and support she has received from her UUCP family.

## Ministry and Committee Reports...

- Rev. Linda appreciates all the expressions of caring she received from the UUCP community following the death of her mother on September 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Our thoughts are with Emily Helton-Riley and husband, Doug, who had to euthanize their beloved dog Pirate, following the death of Pirate's brother earlier this year.
- We are sad for the Thesings who have lost their family cat and hope for their pet's safe return. Matt, Melissa, and girls, we hope everything went well with your late-September move and are glad you'll be even closer to UUCP!
- Dale Fisher suffered a mild stroke and was briefly hospitalized a short while before wife Lois followed suit. Thankfully, Dale was able to quickly recover and Lois, as noted above, is on the mend too.
- Thank you, Dale Fisher and Richard Jahrmarkt, for all the hours of hard work you put in to create our lovely new nursery. It was open to our infants and crawlers on Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup>. It is a joy to have a more welcoming space for our little ones!
- We celebrate with Regina Nelms that her brother Roger is now cancer free.
- Karen Kurtz celebrated the one-year homecoming of her daughter Ariza. Karen is very thankful for all the ways UUCP has become her village to support her in raising Ariza.
- Congratulations to Yvonne Harrison! After several years of research and multiple revisions on her final project, Yvonne obtained her Clinical Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy in August.
- Congratulations to Dennis Yee who graduated from Phoenix College's Paralegal Program in August! Dennis is grateful for the support of the UUCP community in helping him to find "the right and perfect employment."
- Congratulations to Michele Morgan and Sam Kirkland whose daughter, Daryl, was engaged in mid-August. Daryl also has a new job in Toledo, OH, as a reporter.
- We are happy to welcome Felix Joseph Jeffries to our UUCP family! Felix was born on September 12<sup>th</sup>, weighing 10 lb. 3 oz. and he was 22½ inches long. Congratulations to parents Mac and Maureen and big sister Georgia!

Please take a moment to extend your personal greetings of concern or congratulations to the members and friends listed here. If you have any joys or sorrows you wish to share with the UUCP community, please write them down Sunday mornings on the slips provided at the back of the sanctuary or contact [unicare@phoenixuu.org](mailto:unicare@phoenixuu.org).

Thanks for caring,

Ceyshe' Napa, Unicare Coordinator

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

Roger Davy  
Rodney Earl Engelen  
William Frank Hall  
Evemarie Holl Mosher  
Homer M. Sarasohn  
Walter Blake Williamson, Jr.

## JUSTICE GA LIVES ON



Audio and video of Justice General Assembly programs are now available through the UUA website.

If you missed some of the powerful sessions, weren't able to attend, or just want to revisit some of your favorites, check it out:

<http://www.uua.org/ga/past/13101.shtml>

## LOOKING FOR UU INSPIRATION ONLINE?

Check out the UUA blogroll

(<http://www.uua.org/communications/blogs/144974.shtml>) which includes blogs like:

**Beyond Belief**

Reflections from the UUA President




and

**Learn Out Loud**

*Sharing Ideas on the Future of Liberal Religious Communities*



**The World Congress of Religions 2012**



The World Congress of Religions 2012 will explore the relevance of religion and spirituality in addressing the critical issues of poverty, the empowerment of women, human rights and peacemaking.

The gathering will bring together engaged leaders, scholars, activists and members from diverse religious and spiritual communities, engaged actors in the local and global interreligious movements, as well as influential policy makers and civil society actors from guiding institutions such as government, business, education, science, media, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The event is inspired and informed by the message of the religious and social visionary, Swami Vivekananda, on the 150th anniversary of his birth.

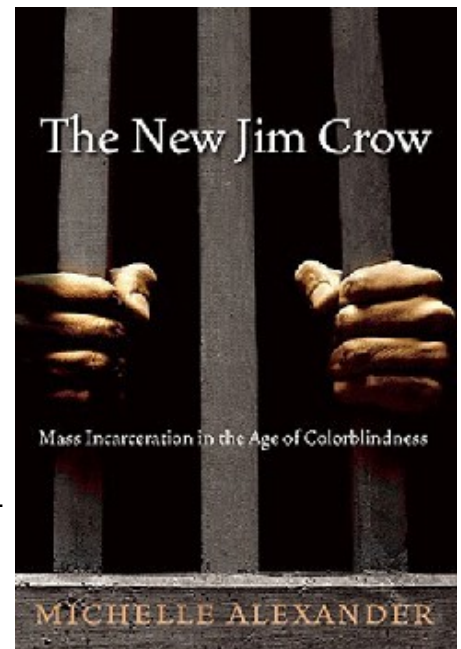
Save the Date: The World Congress of Religions 2012  
November 30, 2012 – December 2, 2012  
Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, DC 20008, USA

For more info, visit: [www.worldcongressofreligions2012.org](http://www.worldcongressofreligions2012.org)

## Unitarian Universalist “Common Read”

*The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander (The New Press) has been selected as the 2012-13 UUA Common Read. Alexander, an attorney who is a civil rights advocate and litigator, asserts that crime-fighting policies and systems in the U.S., such as the “war on drugs” and the incarceration system, disproportionately and intentionally affect Americans of color. She describes multifaceted, lifelong discrimination and disenfranchisement that affect people who are branded “felon.”

A Common Read invites participants to read and discuss the same book in a given period of time. A Common Read can build community in our congregations and our movement by giving diverse people a shared experience, shared language, and a basis for deep, meaningful conversations. A discussion guide to *The New Jim Crow* will be available online in October, 2012, to help Unitarian Universalist (UU) groups reflect on the book and consider together what steps they are called to take, as people of faith, in response to Alexander’s call for awareness and action.



## Celebrations of Life

### Sundays

9:30 AM & 11:15 AM

#### OCTOBER 7: WEAVING NEW STORIES

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Mindful of the celebrations of Indigenous People's Day and National Coming Out Day that occur this week, there is a recognition of the need to weave new stories. The stories or histories we tell of the past inform how we live in the present. Sometimes, we need to tell different stories if we want our present and future to be different than our past.

#### OCTOBER 14: SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

Service Leaders: Rev. Linda Lawrence & UUCP Members

Are you inspired by teachings from any particular faith traditions? Are there truths or practices from any of the world's religions that help guide your ethical and spiritual life? This Sunday a few of our members will offer their answers to these questions, and we will hear samples of music and scripture from some of the major world religions.

#### OCTOBER 21: WALKING IN BEAUTY

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

The idea of beauty is universal in its appeal to humanity and its place as a spiritual center. From the *Bhagavad Gita*, to Plato, to Unitarian Universalism, to Navajo spirituality, beauty plays an important role in humanity's language about meaning. Let's explore what beauty means in the realm of the spiritual and religious and why it holds us power for us.

#### OCTOBER 28: MULTIGENERATIONAL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS SERVICE

Service Leader: Revs. Susan Frederick-Gray and Linda Lawrence

This service is designed for all ages. It celebrates the circle of life, and is a time to honor loved ones who have died. Everyone is invited to bring a photo, a favorite candy, something to place on the altar in remembrance to a loved one.

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

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

*Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker  
Assistant Minister: Rev. Linda Lawrence  
Affiliate Community Minister: Rev. Kathleen Baughman  
Executive Assistant to Minister: Kathy Bennett  
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt  
Children's Ministry Director: Anne Byrne  
Youth Programs Coordinator: Jaynn Truran  
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## Our Mission

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

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix  
4027 East Lincoln Drive  
Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253-3946  
[www.phoenixuuu.org](http://www.phoenixuuu.org)