

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

November 2012

This month at a glance:

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- 18—World Religions Class
- 18—Social Action Luncheon
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- 27—Board of Trustees Meeting Ongoing:

Addiction Discussion Group Book Group Choir Open Art Studio Meditation Group Men's Group Theater Group Walking Poets

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

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Auction Donation Forms Due Sunday, November 25!

Don't forget to turn in your auction donation forms, the sooner the better! You can now download the form and guidelines from our website. Volunteers are still needed. There are small and large jobs, jobs leading up to the auction, jobs during the auction, and jobs after the auction. Contact Heidi in the office for more information at heidipartment-er@phoenixuu.org or 602-840-8400 ext. 202.

Upcoming Events...

Pathway to Membership

November 1 & 8, 6:45-8:15 PM

There still may be time to sign up for the next Pathway to Membership series. If you haven't already registered but would like to attend, contact Rev. Linda Lawrence immediately at 602-840-8400, Ext. 204, or lindalawrence@phoenixuu.org to reserve your spot in the class. This two-part series offers participants a great way to meet other people new to UUCP or to Unitarian Universalism. There is no pressure to join, but there is plenty of opportunity to explore the meaning of membership and to find out how to get involved at UUCP regardless of membership status.

Please join us in the Johnson Room for the 6:00 PM UUCP Community Night potlucks prior to the classes. On November 1st, we will meet in Annex H at 6:45. On November 8th, we will meet in the sanctuary at 6:45 following the potluck. If you'd like a guided tour of our campus, please meet in the foyer by the front door at 5:30 PM prior to the November 8th potluck.

Celebrating Manuel Gomez

Manuel Gomez, our custodian, will join us on Sunday, November 11 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.

UUCP Community Night

Thursday, Nov. 1, 8, 15, & 29 6:00 PM in the Johnson Room

This month we will be having *potluck* meals at our Thursday evening gatherings. Please come to the Johnson Room at 6:00 and enjoy food and fellowship with UUCP staff, members, and friends. If you don't have time to prepare something "worthy" of a potluck, there's no shame in stopping off at the grocery store or deli for a tasty dish to share. It's okay, too, if you just want to bring your own sack supper or drive-through dinner.

Please note that November 8th will be an especially important evening to attend if you are able. We will be inviting prospective new members to join us for the potluck preceding their second Pathway to Membership class at 6:45. Come to meet and welcome them!

For those who'd like to see what a Small Group Ministry session is like, we will be offering a sampler session at 7:00 PM after the Community Night potluck on the 29th at an on-campus location to be announced. No sign-up required.

Finally, there is no UUCP Community Night scheduled for Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd. There will be a Thanksgiving dinner for those who don't have other family plans that day. The details for that event are printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

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From the Minister...

Minister's Musings

Every time election season arrives, I look to those who sacrificed in order to more fully call our nation to live its highest ideals—the belief that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." We know when these words were first written, our nation did not embody their full meaning. Yet, they have stood as a clarion call to continually push our country toward greater expansion of citizenship and voting rights.

I think of the courageous women who fought so hard to earn women the right to vote. I remember those who marched and organized, those who were jailed, who faced abuse and took on hunger strikes in the jails—all to push our nation to more fully live out the ideal set out in our founding documents. Each time I exercise this precious right, I offer my gratitude for the work of so many men and women who supported the struggle and won for me the vote

We must never take our right to vote for granted. For the right to vote is the safeguard for all our other liberties. But now, we find ourselves in an interesting place in history. A time when the most basic guarantee, the right to vote, and the assurance that every vote will be counted are coming under threat.

A few weeks ago, congregation member Joan Roberts gave me an article from *The New York Review of Books*. In a review of *Thinking the Twentieth Century* by Timothy Snyder, the author is quoted:

"It's not that one ought to be speaking about democracy or that one ought to be spreading it but rather that it's precisely a very tender thing that is made up of a lot of small and fragile mechanisms and practices. One of which is making sure that votes are counted."

I lived in Ohio during the 2004 presidential election, when voter irregularities with the newly introduced electronic voting machines were widespread. I worked at the polls and documented stories of voters seeing their votes "flip," showing a different candidate than the one they were trying to vote for. In one Ohio county, hundreds more votes were counted than number of registered voters. And surprisingly, the election results reported diverged greatly from the exit polling data. All of this, following the confusing and contested 2000 Presidential election, does sew doubt in our minds about the accuracy and reliability of our elections.

It may be that at this time in history, as we turn to the polls and reflect on our democratic institutions and practices, we need to turn our efforts not toward advancing a better day, but rather toward defending and protecting what has already been won, the most crucial practices and rules of our democracy, beginning with voting. Democracy can wear away if people do not care about it. If the vote is the primary mode to protect our other rights, then the first step in protecting our democracy is by exercising the vote. I hope those of you who can, will vote on November 6th. And I hope you will encourage your friends, and work to get others to the polls. Democracy cannot be taken away from an active and engaged citizenry.

Yours, Rev. Susan

From the Board...

From the President

"We need to be the change we wish to see in the world."

Mahatma Gandhi

This November again finds our nation in the midst of a historic choice between two very different leaders and very different philosophies of government. For me, it seems like this election is one of the very most contentious elections that I can remember. While I find much of the process unproductive and annoying, it is an undeniably awesome responsibility and honor to for us to be able to choose our own leaders.

Our country is truly a model of democracy and inclusion, but one of the undercurrent issues of this election year has been the imperfections of our electoral process. Especially as a resident of Arizona and as a member of UUCP, I have found myself troubled by the barriers that prevent people from being able to participate in the process of selecting our nation's leaders.

I still have much to learn about these issues, even from fellow members of the UUCP. Nonetheless, as Gandhi implies, change can start much closer to home. This election season has made me think about our congregation's process for selecting its leaders—a process about which I have substantially more firsthand knowledge.

Our ByLaws stipulate that the UUCP, like most UU congregations and many churches and organizations, will use the time-honored process of selecting our lay leaders through a nominating committee. This committee is an elected group of lay leaders charged with nominating members for open seats on the Board of Trustees (and also for other committees, such as itself). The nominees are then elected by the congregation as a whole, usually in the Annual Congregational Meeting (scheduled for June 2, 2013).

This process has been excellent in that it has consistently resulted in Boards that have served this congregation earnestly and responsibly. I have felt truly honored to work with the people on the Board and the Nominating Committee now and in the past. However, in the progressive mindset, I believe that there is wisdom in doing an evaluation of our community's fundamental processes, even if one is a "product" of these same processes. The Board has been engaging in discussions about what we can or should improve about the nominating process. What are the disadvantages and strengths?

For me, the major strength of the nominating process is that the Nominating Committee acts as a balance for the Board of Trustees to ensure that diversity is present on the Board. This helps ensures that there is as much inclusion of differing voices as possible. The process also utilizes the wisdom of the nominating committee to match members' skill sets to the right job, again increasing diversity. However, as our community grows, it become increasingly difficult for the Nominating Committee to *meet*, let alone *know*, all the people in the congregation, thus limiting the committee's efficacy in insuring inclusiveness.

The nominating process, as it has been used at the UUCP, also allows us to select leaders while refraining from contests of popularity or seniority. This allows us to promote lay leaders who may not be the most well-known or visible or most tenured congregants, whose skill sets are highly valuable and less overt. Newer members of the congregation will more likely fit this description. The members of the Nominating Committee are usually more experienced lay leaders and therefore more likely to be familiar with other experienced members of the UUCP. Fortunately, our Nominating Committees have been very diligent in actively recruiting newer members.

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From the Board...

Unlike the national elections, UUCP officer elections are noticeably non-contentious and undramatic. This clearly has an advantage in avoiding political division in the community and mitigating conflict. The independence of the Nominating Committee's work also makes the process is very amenable to privacy and confidentiality. Minimizing contested elections and stressing confidentiality of the nominating process is clearly less transparent than some alternatives. There are folks who feel that contested elections are not always a bad thing, and are more democratic in that it allows the congregation a more direct and authentic choice.

Ultimately, the Nominating Committee has the difficult task of artfully balancing the many positive attributes of our leadership selection process—inclusion, diversity, contentiousness, confidentiality, etc. After much deliberation, the Board of Trustees concluded that we have a good system, with a successful track record and outstanding Nominating Committees, but not a perfect system (with the acknowledgement that "perfect" may not exist). We also felt that transparency and inclusiveness could be improved, and that these challenges will be heightened as the congregation continues to grow.

As is the case with the national elections, our leadership selection process will improve with more participation and engagement by our members. I encourage all of you, my fellow UUs, to vote your conscience this Election Day. Afterwards, whatever the outcome, consider how you can "be the change" by helping make our democracy at UUCP work better. I have a few suggestions on how:

- Attend Lay Leadership Development Day: November 10th from 9:00 am to Noon. Designed for current lay leaders and those considering it in the future. We will explore what we bring to the role of leader, and how to stay energized.
- Consider your personal blessings and gifts and how to grow them. I strongly feel that everyone can be a leader. One of the sacred roles of a spiritual community is to develop leaders, not just to use leaders.
- Talk about leadership to another member or to one of our staff, like Rev. Susan or Rev. Linda. My email is president@phoenixUU.org.
- Come to a Board meeting, we will make time for you. Our next meetings are November 27th and December 18th at 6:00 pm in the Johnson Room

In Faith and Community, Jimmy Leung



Thanksgiving Dinner at UUCP

November 22, 5:00 PM, in the Johnson Room

No family in town? No plans for Thanksgiving? Join Rev. Susan and Rev. Linda for a potluck-style Thanksgiving feast. There will be no childcare as this is a family event, but you must sign up by November 20th to be included. RSVP at http://www.doodle.com/cfyd9nfueus7scsu or by leaving the following information at 602-840-8400, Ext. 204: Name, number attending, and what you plan to bring. We will need some help with set-up (4:30) and clean-up.

Arizona Immigration Ministry

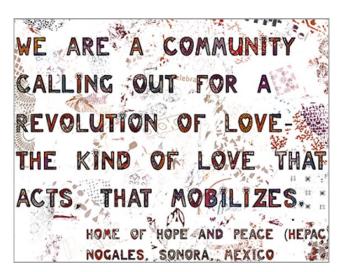
BORDERLINKS TRIP, TUCSON AZ AND NOGALES, SONORA: FEBRUARY 1-4, 2013 (Register by December 1)

Human rights are at stake on the U.S.-Mexico border, and a UU College of Social Justice (UUCSJ) Borderlands trip is your chance to delve into various on-the-ground aspects of immigration. The trip is being offered through the brand-new UUCSJ, which was launched at Justice General Assembly.

I will be a "student" on the trip, February 1-4, 2013, and I invite you to join me. I have done outreach to the other Arizona UU congregations and I hope that many Arizona UUs will be on the February trip. Many of us are working together on Immigration Ministry in the state, but please join us regardless of whether you have been a part of that ministry. The trip is also open to participants from across the country.

I am eager to reconnect on the trip with six groups who are part of BorderLinks' faculty and who were present at Justice GA in Phoenix in June, 2012: UUCSJ, BorderLinks, Hogar de Esperanza y Paz (in Nogales, Sonora), Samaritans, the Restoration Project, and No More Deaths. Perhaps you met them at Justice GA, or, if you did not attend GA, the trip is an opportunity for you to meet them and learn about their vital work.

From a blogpost of Chris Rothbauer, a ministerial student, who took a BorderLinks trip in April, 2012:



"Along the way, I loved that I was able to encounter the humanity in those I encountered. While having lunch in the home of a Mexican family, I realized the conditions some families have to endure everyday: Dirt floors, corrugated metal roofs with holes, and steps made out of old tires. Yet, this family was optimistic: Their daughter is going to college and they were rejoicing the birth of their first great-grandchild. And, along the way, I saw both smiles embracing life and frowns weary of the arduous nature of their trek. Yet I saw hope in both sets: A hope for a future that would somehow be easier. Even those who had just been deported expressed hope they could make the crossing again and rejoin their families."

For more information and to register please visit the following website: http://uucsj.org/programs/borderlinks/. The registration deadline is December 1.

UUCSJ is a formal collaboration of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) to increase the capacity of Unitarian Universalists to catalyze justice. The Borderlands program was designed by BorderLinks, a binational, nonprofit educational organization at the U.S.-Mexico border. UUs who have taken part in any previous BorderLinks program tell me that the trip exceeded their expectations. For those of you for whom the timing is not right for the February trip, there are additional educational trips listed at <u>UUCSJ.org</u> and also at <u>Borderlinks.org</u>.

Con abrazos fuertes, Sandy Weir Arizona Immigration Ministry Organizer

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Greetings from Your Music Director!

"Digging the old paint brush or the dusty guitar out of the closet is always a good idea. However, for aging baby boomers, getting back into the creative swing of the rockin' '60s is a matter of health insurance. Research shows that seniors engaged in activities like singing, creative writing, or painting are healthier and happier than those who aren't."

So now I don't know whence I copied this quote. But what I do know is the benefits of participating in music, playing, singing, listening, dancing are so great that holding back just seems silly. Making music is for everyone. And the best part is you can make music for your entire life.

If you've rarely or never sung in a group before, the Family Choir is the place to start. Songs are fun and not too tricky. We learn proper breathing for singing, how to follow a conductor, how to feel the beat and how to change our dynamics in a song and sing with feeling. Sometimes we sing with drums or props. Sometimes we sing with art we've created. We polish two or three songs and perform them during Sunday morning services.

You may ask, "Why is it called 'Family Choir?" It's because family members come and sing together. Now don't be put off if your family members are not nearby to come sing with you. If you're a child, find an adult to fill in as your family member. If you're an adult, find a kid, of any age.

Here is this year's rehearsal schedule. If you can come to four of these rehearsals, you'll be prepared to sing. 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 1st service when we sing)

Come and see what all the fun is about!

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML

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

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

From the Business Administrator

November will be a busy month in preparation for the Annual Auction held on Saturday, December 1, 2012. You will probably be seeing me selling tickets during Coffee Hour quite a bit this month. The theme this year is a renaissance celebration of lights and children's ministry director Anne Byrne and music director Connie Jahrmarkt are having a blast planning the entertainment and decorations. My role this year is managing the logistics. We are expecting up to 250 guests this year which means a larger auction all around. I am truly excited about this combined fundraising and community building event between the congregation and our preschool. It will be such a sight to have our two much-loved communities together under one roof—at the same time!

Another special ongoing project I have been working on is some basic editing of our website. The staff has provided input and collectively we have decided on a new navigation menu and a standard layout for each of our pages. It takes many hours to do even the most basic of content editing and layout so be patient and check back on the website frequently to see what progress is being made. I welcome all of your feedback, especially newer members who can give us a fresh perspective on how well our website is catering to visitors.

At our recent Council Meeting I distributed the latest edition of the *Guidebook for Paid and Volunteer Staff*, which is now in its 7th edition. It is available for download from our website under "Governance & Leadership." If you are in any leadership or volunteer organizer role at UUCP, this is a publication you don't want to be without!

And lastly, by now you should probably have received your first quarter pledge statements which included the first edition of the quarterly Stewardship Update. I hope that you will find this brief newsletter easy to read, informative, and insightful. I welcome all your feedback on this as well. Everything is a work in progress and there is always room for improvement.

In community, Heidi Parmenter



Chalice Kids Club

Starting at 6:30 every Thursday Community Night, UUCP member and early childhood professional Val Bailey and her team provide under-12s with fun and safe care while their grownups are engaged at UUCP in other activities. There's no fee, but please e-mail Anne Byrne, Director of Children's Ministries, at annebyrne@phoenixuu.org if you're bringing a child under 2.

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From the Staff...

Senior-i-Tea/Tee

Wednesday, November 14th, 2:00-4:00 PM

Join this casual and fun gathering of lively 60-plus-ers in the Johnson Room for a short presentation, mixer, book exchange (bring your old ones), Adventure Club start-up (sign up to go to lunch, a movie, concert, or some other activity), refreshments, conversation and games (bring your favorite). Wear your favorite golf or tee -shirt!

In mid-October, 16 enthusiastic Young-at-Hearters, Prime-of-Lifers, Older Middle-Agers met in the Johnson Room to help kick off this new monthly program for men and women 60+ years old. As expected, there were as many ideas as there were people in the room—not unusual in a group of UUs! We want opportunities to get to know one another better, presentations and discussions on topics that interest us (we consider ourselves lifelong learners), and of course some food and entertainment, too!

We have formed an initial Program Committee to review all the ideas that were expressed, and we will announce plans for other upcoming meetings and events in Compass and in the flyers inserted in the Sunday orders of service. We will also make a concerted effort to reach people by phone who may have drifted away, who may need a ride, who may wish to get re-connected to UUCP, who may not read the newsletters or come to services. If you know any such folks, please let them know about this program and, if you are able, please offer them a ride!

If you are interested in volunteering to help with any of the following, please contact Rev. Linda at lindalawrence@phoenixuu.org or 602-840-8400, Ext. 204: helping to select programs for this congregational year, calling and inviting people to attend our programs, providing a ride for someone who'd like to attend but no longer drives. Thanks!

"Date with Discovery" Parents' Night Out

November 9, 5:30-8:30 pm, is our next Parents' Night Out, where <u>UUEEC</u> Pre-K Teacher Kristen and congregation member Val Bailey each offer engaging discovery and science-based programs for kids ages 2 to 12. Fees: \$25 for first child, \$15 for each additional sibling; dinner is provided. E-mail Director Anne to register: annebyrne@phoenixuu.org.



Our Youth Ministries Are Aglow!

 7^{TH} - 8^{TH} Grade – COA (Coming of Age)

These youth came together in the summer, and the spark was lit. Since then, they have begun to glow brighter and brighter and pretty soon they will be ready to light the fire of inspiration in all of us! They are curious and insightful as they explore what they believe; they are silly and sad as they delve into the history of religious freedom and persecution; they are hungry for discussion and sharing; and they are at all times amazing and wonderful!

Last month, the candidates and several of their mentors, parents and teachers visited the First Institutional Baptist Church of Phoenix where Pastor Stewart warmly welcomed and introduced us to the congregation. We were invited to sing, rejoice, hug, and ask questions. The message of the day focused on "bringing men and boys back to church" and the pervasive culture of hip hop and reality TV that is drawing today's youth away from faith.

We all really enjoyed the preaching and the music, and the youth really liked being part of this vibrant community for the morning!

This month, we will talk about attending worship: how to prepare, what to expect, how to get the most out of that special hour each week and what responsibilities come with being a member of a faith community. We will also prepare for our visit to a Quaker Meetinghouse late in the month.

COA meets at 9:30 am each Sunday in Annex Room H. All are welcome!



Coming of Age class all dressed up at the First Institutional Baptist Church

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From the Staff...

9TH-12TH GRADE – YRUU (YOUNG RELIGIOUS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS)

Social media, secret-making, inner peace, escapism and love were all topics this group dissected in October! But they are clamoring for topics about which they can actually argue and debate, so we plow into November with the following topics:

- The social stigma of mental illness—society, peers, the media—are we taking mental illness seriously in this country?
- Being reserved and silent—is there ever power in staying quiet?
- Self-identity and understanding—who are you and how do you know?
- Religion—is it about what we value in life? If not, what is it about?

(And Sarah, Geoff and Kathryn will do their best to make these topics controversial!)

Several of our YRUUs went to their very first youth "con" (short for conference) at the Summit UU Fellowship in Santee, CA in October. They brought back lots of fun ideas, made many new friends, and learned more about youth leadership and social action. UUCP will host a youth con the weekend of March 1-3, 2013. The theme is Spirituality. If you can help with food or as a chaperone, please contact Jaynn at the email address below.

YRUU meets at 9:30am each Sunday in the Youth Room, Annex Room C.

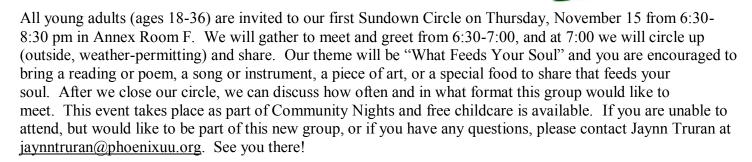
SECOND SERVICE YOUTH PROGRAM (GRADES 7-12)

The COA and YRUU classes meet during the first worship service on Sundays. All youth in grades 7-12 that arrive or visit UUCP during the second worship service are invited to a 20-minute sermon discussion that begins at 11:15 am in Annex C. At 11:35 am, we will go into the sanctuary to listen to the day's sermon or homily.

For more information about Coming of Age or YRUU, contact Youth Ministries Coordinator Jaynn Truran at jaynntruran@phoenixuu.org.

Young Adult Sundown Circle, November 15

WHAT FEEDS YOUR SOUL?



Adult Faith Development

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEMPERAMENT/PERSONALITY

Explore your temperament/personality through entertaining techniques which lead to a better self-understanding and relationship to others. This is an educational workshop for couples and single adults which would involve sharing with others in a friendly, open and supportive environment. The inventories will include a projective technique, an adapted version of the Myers/Briggs and a Profile Circle of Traits. How our UU values and our personalities complement each other will be discussed.

Instructor: Diane Mote, Licensed Counselor/Therapist and book author Class will meet three times from 6:30 to 8:00 Thursday 11/1 in Annex B Thursdays 11/8 and 11/15 in Annex H

DATE CHANGE! WORLD RELIGIONS COURSE

This class still starts in November but the start will be delayed by a week. Please note the new schedule:

November 18: Zoroastrianism

November 25: Sikhism

December 2: Origin of Schism between Sunni and Shiite

December 16: Jainism

World Religions class is taught by Jay Bastani and will meet in Annex B. The first week will be Zoroastrianism which originated about 3000 B.C. and became the official religion of the Persian Empire. Week 2 is Sikhism: Guru Nanak tried to amalgamate the religion of the Muslim-ruled Hindus of Northern India into a monotheistic religion of peace. Week 3: the topic is the schism in Islam between the Shia and Sunni. Week 4 is Jainism. This religion is practiced currently mainly in India. The concept of ahimsa (peaceful agitation) influenced Mahatma Gandhi.

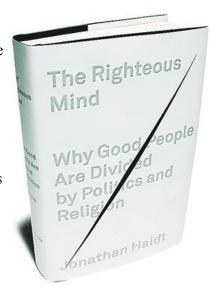
Please call the office or sign up at the Book Table on a Sunday morning if you are interested in participating.

BOOK GROUP DISCUSSES THE RIGHTEOUS MIND

Starting October 21 and through November, UUCP Book Group will discuss the following book. We meet at 10:45 am in Annex B every Sunday. Hope to see you there. Questions? Email terrynsimmons@gmail.com.

The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion by Jonathan Haidt (published 2012)

Publisher's description: Why can't our political leaders work together as threats loom and problems mount? Why do people so readily assume the worst about the motives of their fellow citizens? In *The Righteous Mind*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt explores the origins of our divisions and points the way forward to mutual understanding.



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Why can't our political leaders work together as threats loom and problems mount? Why do people so readily assume the worst about the motives of their fellow citizens? In *The Righteous Mind*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt explores the origins of our divisions and points the way forward to mutual understanding.

His starting point is moral intuition—the nearly instantaneous perceptions we all have about other people and the things they do. These intuitions feel like self-evident truths, making us righteously certain that those who see things differently are wrong. Haidt shows us how these intuitions differ across cultures, including the cultures of the political left and right. He blends his own research findings with those of anthropologists, historians, and other psychologists to draw a map of the moral domain, and he explains why conservatives can navigate that map more skillfully than can liberals. He then examines the origins of morality, overturning the view that evolution made us fundamentally selfish creatures. But rather than arguing that we are innately altruistic, he makes a more subtle claim—that we are fundamentally *groupish*. It is our groupishness, he explains, that leads to our greatest joys, our religious divisions, and our political affiliations. In a stunning final chapter on ideology and civility, Haidt shows what each side is right about, and why we need the insights of liberals, conservatives, and libertarians to flourish as a nation.

Finance Committee

The finance committee has excellent news concerning the last fiscal year. For the third year in a row, the congregation has been able to operate on a balanced budget. In fact, last year we actually had a net income of \$11,280! A major reason for our success is the outstanding job of the staff in not only managing the expenses but also finding ways to decrease them. We should all thank Heidi and the other staff members for their continuing work to effectively serve the congregation.

Unfortunately, the start of this fiscal year has not been kind. We have run deficits during the past two months. As of the end of the first quarter (from July 2012 through September 2012) our budget shows a significant overall deficit based upon preliminary accounting as of October 7, 2012. The expenses to date are on target but the deficit arises largely due to the current pledge income of \$81,462 being \$22,290 below the targeted amount (based upon 25% of a yearly pledge income of \$415,000). The committee will carefully monitor the budget during the next several months and, if necessary, make recommendations for a revised budget.

In order to meet our budget goals it is necessary for congregation members to support the congregation through their individual pledges. If you are one of the many members who make payments towards your pledge on a regular payment schedule, we recommend that you make use of an automated payment plan. With this process, there is no need of writing checks as the payments are withdrawn from your account on a monthly basis. If you are interested in enrolling in this automatic payment process, please contact Heidi Parmenter at the office between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday (602-840-8400) or send an email to administrator@phoenixuu.org.

Social Action Committee Happenings

SOCIAL ACTION LUNCHEON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 12:30 PM Private For-Profit Prisons: Your Money, Your Morals, Your Choice!

The Social Action Committee is honored to present Dianne Post, J.D. from the Maricopa County Branch NAACP at out November Social Action Luncheon. Ms. Post has a Bachelor's Degree in Corrections, a Master's in Psychology and a JD degree. She practiced family law in Phoenix for 20 years representing battered women and molested children. In 1998 she began working internationally and since then has done gender-based violence work in 14 different countries. She is currently the Legal Redress Chairperson for the Maricopa County Branch NAACP and is working on criminal justice and prison reform.

Join us for lunch and this fascinating presentation after the second service on Sunday, November 18 in the Johnson Room. Food will be catered by New Day Gourmet. All are welcome to attend; a small, voluntary donation for food is appreciated.

SAC FACTS

Did you know that the Social Action Committee (SAC) maintains membership in many different local, national and international organizations? Stop by the SAC table in the back of the sanctuary and peruse current publications from the ACLU, Southern Poverty Law Center, Amnesty International, UUSC, UMOM New Day Center and many more. We also display information from organizations that have presented at SAC Social Action Luncheons as well as those who will be presenting in the near future. While you're there check out our supply of Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolates.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Are you a community activist? Do you like to get out and hear great speakers for Social Justice? Hold up signs at community actions for a cause you support? Have you ever found out about an event the day after it happened and wished you had known about it ahead of time? We at SAC receive notice of many activities and we cannot officially sponsor them all (even though we may like to). But these activities may be of interest to some in our community. So we have decided to start an email list to periodically send out notices of these events. These events will not be announced in the Compass or any other official UUCP informational outlet. You will only receive this information if you specifically sign up for it. Stop by the SAC table if you are interested and leave us your email address.

For more information contact Trent Tripp (at <u>trenttripp10@gmail.com</u>) to each of those announcements as required.

UUSC HOLIDAY CARDS

We have a limited number of UUSC holiday cards for sale at the Social Action table. They are designed by UU members and sell for \$10. All proceeds go toward UUSC's social justice work UUSC in 23 countries around the world.

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Dharma and Meditation

The Sanskrit word *Dharma*, as far as humans are concerned, means "thinking and doing the right way."

As you can guess, it is not easy for one to know for sure what is one's Dharma in every situation. Regardless, most Hindus believe that acting and thinking according to one's Dharma will eventually lead to happiness and vice versa. For some people, the act of doing one's Dharma itself leads to happiness. For them, virtue is its own reward.

Most Hindus believe that people are born different. They are also considered different, as they grow and work in life. Their Dharmas vary as individuals, as a family member, as a member of a group, as a citizen and a member of the humanity. Besides, Dharmas evolve over a period of time.

According to the Vedas, the most ancient Sanskrit scriptures, one's first Dharma as an individual is to develop and maintain good mental and physical health, because your body and mind are the only instruments available to you to practice all Dharmas. As a family member one's Dharma depends upon one's function in the family. We, in America, are more familiar with organized group Dharmas and citizen Dharmas. We proclaim group Dharmas when, as a member of our Congregation, we recite our covenants. As citizens of USA, our Dharmas include fighting to defend our country when called to do so and obey the laws. Overriding all Dharmas are our Dharmas as a member of the humanity. They are written on our conscience but they do vary. Truth and non-violence are such Dharmas taught by Buddha and Gandhi.

As a born and raised Hindu, I learned my Dharmas in India. I learned them from my elders, stories and songs, Gandhi's teachings, etc.

In life, we are often presented with conflicting simultaneous demands from our Dharmas while choosing our dharma in a specific situation. We make many mistakes and suffer varying degrees of unhappiness. We also make right decisions and enjoy the resulting happiness.

When presented with conflicting major demands of Dharmas, quiet meditation is very helpful in determining which Dharma to choose. During meditation, when the mind is cleared of chatter, it can be compared to a lake cleared of all mud and debris. The person with clear mind is then able to see his/her Dharma as clearly as one sees the reflections of the trees on the shore when the lake water is calm and clear.

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 the meditation group activities at UUCP. He can be contacted by e-mail at <u>jaya-lagia@gmail.com</u>.

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

Calling all UUCP Crafters!

The holidays are rapidly approaching, but there's still time to make and exhibit a wreath in the Sanctuary as part of the holiday exhibition this winter! 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 or call Tonia Jenny at 928-925-0995.

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. We visit members and friends convalescing at home or in a care facility. We fill the room with beautiful songs to heal the heart. Our next visit will take place on Sunday, November 11. Please meet in Annex C 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 geald.whalin@cox.net.

Share the Plate

The Isac Amaya Foundation provides scholarships and information about college opportunities to undocumented students who would benefit from the Dream Act. We are grateful to the Foundation's volunteers for help with projects for this year's Justice General Assembly. Our Share the Plate contributions can make an enormous boost to their fund for scholarships. Find further information about ways you can be involved at www.isacamayafoundation.org.

Share your passions: nominate Share the Plate recipients by mid-December for consideration in 2013. See www.phoenixuu.org, Social Justice Ministries.

Women's Spirituality Circle Winds Down

The Women's Spirituality Circle, or (of late) Women Spirit, is winding down its program activities at UUCP. WSC began more than 20 years ago following the UU course Cakes for the Queen of Heaven. Sandra Lynch Schaffer is our only founder mother still with us. For most of that time we met every Monday night, though in the last several years we began meeting monthly with the hope of drawing new members. We added a Saturday brunch at members' homes, which is ongoing. With many other activities taking place at UUCP, it is time to put Women Spirit to rest. We have done good work in supporting, educating and empowering women. We have contributed our time and talents to UUCP, including creative church services and the Winter Solstice celebration. Long-lasting friendships have been made that will continue. May the goddess reign!

In the spirit of community, Heather McLellan

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Unicare News

MEET FRIENDSHIP PARTNER: BARBARA VOTH DEWITT

Barbara Dewitt was born in Columbus, Ohio. When asked how she became interested in volunteerism and caregiving, Barbara relates that a strong influence, during her girlhood, was the example set by her mother. While growing up, her mother worked full-time and was also involved with community work; she served as a Scout leader and First Aid instructor among other activities.

Barbara's interest in helping continued in her professional education. She enrolled in the Occupational Therapy program at Ohio State University and then changed her major to that of Dental Hygiene.

In 1978, she and her husband moved to Phoenix. After a divorce, Barbara accepted a hygienist position in New Zealand where she worked for three years. She subsequently "backpacked" around Australia and then went on to work in Germany for the following three years. In 1999 Barb returned in Phoenix, found work as a hygienist and in the spring of 2000 visited UUCP for the first time. After two visits, she said that she felt at "home"



and immersed herself in church activities, the first of which was ushering. For the next eleven years, she was also actively involved with the Flying Samaritans' volunteer medical work. With the group, she travelled to Mexico many times, donating her services as a hygienist.

In 2006, Barbara had the first of three surgeries to repair a brain aneurysm. The first emergency introduced Barbara to the Barrows Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Medical Center. Through her contacts and friends at Flying Sams she was fortunate to receive immediate attention and care. The effects of the aneurysm surgery handicapped her for the next three to four years. This has prohibited her from continuing to practice as a hygienist; repercussions of the aneurysm have resulted in double vision and memory and speech challenges.

Barb currently volunteers as a concierge and guide at Barrows. In addition she is a Friendship Partner here at UUCP, regularly visiting fellow parishioners Ray Manker and Greta Woods. Barbara says that she is grateful that she is now physically well enough and able to help others and that she has gained great personal satisfaction in communicating with and helping others.

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@phoenixuu.org or to 602-840-8400, Ext. 204.

UNICARE COMMUNITY NEWS

- Anita Silverthorn died peacefully on October 6th. She was 91 years old, a loving member of UUCP and will be missed. Please remember her through her *Six Word Memoir*: "By doing for others, I learned."
- Steve Osder is recuperating at home after successful hip surgery and rehab. We keep him in our thoughts for a speedy recovery.
- We lift up Dena Sidmore and Cherilyn Walley as they heal from ongoing health issues.
- Kat Crabtree sends her gratitude for the concern and healing thoughts as her breathing issues related to bronchitis persist. She is getting better.
- We are happy to hear that Doug Helton-Riley is improving from Valley Fever and has returned part-time to work after a short hospitalization.
- Earlier this summer Mark Grenard's sister Lizz lost her home in a Colorado wildfire. His sister was living in a tent but is now happy to be in a camper for the winter.
- Igor Glenn celebrated 10 years free from throat cancer in October. What a milestone!
- Lori Williamson is dancing with joy that her son Mark was transferred to a full-time position with better pay and benefits.
- Good news! After being laid off in September, Jennifer MacVean was able to land an excellent job where she can use her SQL certification.

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.

Walk in beauty, Ceyshe' Napa, Unicare Coordinator

Welcome, New Members!

We have three new members—are all Unitarian Universalists from other parts of the country. They were unable to sign the Membership Book with the September Pathway to Membership class so met with Rev. Linda Lawrence in October to become official UUCP members. We are glad to have them as active members of our congregation. Please say hello to them when you see them. Their photos and brief bios are listed below:

Robyn Valdizon was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and lived most of her life in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She has two beautiful and happy college-age daughters still in the Midwest. Robyn is a Spanish teacher with many interests including writing, learning new things, traveling, and being mindful. Having moved to Arizona this past summer, Robyn is finding community at the school where she teaches and at UUCP. Robyn writes, "I find solace in gratitude and helping others. I also make time for myself every day. Sometimes that may mean watching an episode of Star Trek or just enjoying music."



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Kathryn Kosmider recently graduated from SUNY New Paltz. She moved to the Phoenix area to work with Teach for America as a seventh grade Language Arts teacher and to study at ASU. A lifelong UU, Kathryn served as the Religious Education Intern for the past four summers at the Unitarian Church in Summit, NJ. She is very excited to continue working with UU youth as one of the newest youth advisors at UUCP.

Kelly Indovina and her husband moved to Phoenix last summer from Kalamazoo, Michigan. They lived there for over twenty years. Kelly was an active member of the People's UU Church in MI and she looks forward to active membership here. She grew up a Methodist, but finds UUism to now be a better fit. Kelly's father-in-law was a UU and he introduced Kelly to Unitarian Universalism when she first joined the family.



From the Archives: Memories of the Grounds and Gardens at UUCP

MARILOU COY REMEMBERS:

Some of my nicest memories involve the gardens and landscape of UUCP—or what in my memory is "The First Church." For several years after UUCP was built, no one paid much attention to the grounds. A man told Ray Manker, "I would like to join your church, but I would have to do something about your grounds. They are the worst I have ever seen." He formed the first "Grounds "committee—assigning 40 areas to as many people. Enthusiasm has a way of diminishing, and those 40 soon were only *three*! We worked every Saturday, trimming trees, controlling vines, raking, picking up trash—I remember planting that lush green spot by the front door, with tiny plants in honor of the first grade. Every October, we sponsored "Rocktober Fest," joined by many of the members. To encourage help, we served donuts and beer! I would say "Where is my little yellow wheelbarrow?" and we would spot Susan Manker—then in her teens!—being pushed all over our acreage (in my wheelbarrow!) by Curtis Seale. And we know what that led to!

A group of UUCP leaders designed the garden, to be the setting for our "girls," the Birmingham group, by John Waddell, which memorialized—and protested—the terrible killing in Birmingham. A local group of Valley leaders chose UUCP for the final home, after the statues had a national tour, including a time in Washington, DC. Elaine Warner was part of the group that carefully chose which trees would be included—both native and deciduous. We had a wonderful citrus crop every year!

Bill Bishop, husband of Frances, and son-in-law of Isabelle Johnson (who the Johnson Room is named after), had lots of ideas for getting income for the church. One I loved was—he wanted to turn the entire "slope" from the north end of the parking lot into a planted area for *Jojoba trees*. (Jojoba being the base for lots of cosmetics!) As we know, the blue variety of palo verde trees got planted instead, and (also as you

may know) that is where his ashes are! Personally, I had my eye on that tree that is (was?) in the big open area to the north of the garden. It is not as gorgeous now as it was, but at one time, you could squeeze your eyes, and it looked like a tree in Africa.

The dedication of the Statuary Garden was the most beautiful and moving ceremony in my memory. There were three services: one at dawn, one at midday, and the last one at sundown. Ray Manker and Harry Wood, art professor emeritus from ASU, designed the ceremony which combined motion, color, music, and dance. A well known jazz combo played specially designed music. The head of ASU dance department brought her best girls, and danced in and around the statues. The color scheme was blue, green, lavender and pink, and everyone attending or participating wore those shades, honoring the four girls, represented by the statues, facing north, south, east, west. Everyone approached the garden, coming from the four directions, in silent streams. There was only the music, no other sound as we approached, from the sanctuary and out of the desert. At the



Marilou Coy and her daughter Linda from the 1968 1st UU church directory

sundown service, a full moon was rising in the East—and in the West, a glorious, blazing sunset. Beautiful, beautiful. Never to be forgotten.

The Olsen Meditation garden—I didn't realize the reflection garden had an official name!. Very fitting, though, as Arthur Olsen was largely responsible for UUCP being at all! I am told that we bought our 10 acres from Goldwater, and we joked that he was checking us out, from his home on the hill! It was always a mistake to have a pool, so near doors, that could let little children run the risk of drowning! Pretty as it was, it had to go. Gerry (who headed the Landscape committee before me) ordered a huge pile of crushed rock, which got dumped on Saturday morning, right in front of the steps! And it rained. And the only people who showed up were Gerry and me! And it had to be moved. So, for hours and hours, Gerry and I carried—two pails at a time—the rock *up* the stairs and through that little gate into the garden and filled in the pool. So I think I am entitled to think of it more as "Gerry's and my" garden! (My back aches just thinking about it.)

MEMORIES FROM ELLIE MURPHY:

To add a couple of memories that still make me laugh: Bill Bishop donated five or six Palo Verde trees (not all survived) to be planted just south of the parking lot, and asked that we officially refer to this stretch as "Bishop Promenade!" Of course we had much fun doing just that.

Later on he donated a storage shed which used to be located behind Desert View and housed all our gardening equipment. His tongue-in-cheek name for that was "The Bishop Horticultural Annex." Joanne Michael and I always listed it as the BHA shed, but not many people knew why!

Wish I'd been there for the dedication of the Statuary Garden—it must have been a wonderful experience. I did enjoy an Easter Sunday service in the garden with the ASU ballet dancers doing their thing in and around the statues.

When I first came to UUCP in 1976, what is now the Olsen Garden was always referred to as the "Frenzel Garden." I don't know who that was.

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(Note from the archives: There is an Iva Frenzel in the 1968 1st UU church directory. Since the garden originally had a pool, she may have been the one who donated it. The Meditation Garden was officially named after Arthur W. Olsen and Catherine Bird Olsen at a service on February 9, 2001 led by John Burciaga which included a talk by Ray Manker. In the program a special word of thanks was given to Audrey Mawson, Gene Rowley and their helpers for redesigning, replanting and creating the garden that we still enjoy today.)



Photo of Iva Frenzel from the 1968 1st UU church directory

Articles on the 1979 Easter service. People remembered the dedication ceremony and wanted to see a similar service again.



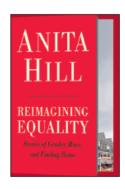
News from Beacon Press



Eboo Patel Named the 2013 General Assembly Ware Lecturer

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President the Rev. Peter Morales and the General Assembly Planning Committee announced that Eboo Patel has been named the 2013 Ware Lecturer for the UUA General Assembly in Louisville, KY. Dr. Patel is founder and Executive Director of the Interfaith Youth Core and author of Sacred Ground: Pluralism, Prejudice and the Promise of America and Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation which was the 2011-2012 UUA Common Read and 2010 winner of the prestigious Louisville Grawemeyer award in religion.

NOW IN PAPERBACK



REIMAGINING EQUALITY
Stories of Gender, Race, and Finding Home
Anita Hill

Anita Hill was the featured guest at this year's General Assembly UUSC Gala.

"The women profiled in this engaging and moving book illustrate the challenges of living in America as a raced and gendered person while simultaneously demonstrating the beauty of resistance and the triumphs of family, community, and faith."

-Tayari Jones, author of Silver Sparrow



BLUE REVOLUTION
Unmaking America's Water Crisis
Cynthia Barnett

The UUSC promoted *Blue Revolution* as part of its Environmental Justice Program, which focuses on the human right to water.

"Barnett imagines an America where it's ethically wrong to waste water. Using compelling stories from around the globe, she shows that America's future depends upon our coming to value water— not only in the price we pay, but with profound appreciation for each drop."

-Robert Glennon, author of Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What to Do About It

Congregations and other groups placing bulk orders receive special discounts at the UUA Bookstore: 1-800-215-9076 | www.uuabookstore.org



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Celebrations of Life 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

NOVEMBER 4: I COULD HAVE BEEN BORN HERE

Service Leaders: Sandy Weir, Organizer of the Arizona Immigration Ministry, and Gary Ezzell We can achieve a deep knowledge of places different from anywhere we have lived, and we can recognize people who are very different from ourselves as our neighbors. Guided by religious scholar Karen Armstrong's writings on compassion, we reflect on how some have sought such knowledge and recognition.

Share the Plate Sunday: Isac Amaya Foundation (provides Dream Act scholarships)

NOVEMBER 11: THE PATH WE WALK, THE ROAD WE MAKE

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Inspired by verses from UU minister A. Powell Davies, let us take this Veteran's Day, and the Sunday following recent elections to reflect on how the paths that we walk, and the ways that we live and the things that we do become the roads that we leave to those who follow us.

NOVEMBER 18: A SPIRIT OF GIVING: A MULTIGENERATIONAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

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

Do you enjoy baking? Do breads, tortillas, idlis, enjera or fry bread adorn your tables at the holidays? If so, consider sharing one of your traditions with UUCP, or making a new tradition! In this all ages Thanksgiving service, all are invited to make and bring a grain-based staple food from your family's tradition to share. In the service, you will have the opportunity to bring forward what you have baked and to share its meaning with the congregation.

NOVEMBER 25: LIVING IN GRATITUDE

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Bring your friends and out-of-town guests for a joyful service about how we learn to live by a spirit of gratitude. How do we make changes in our attitude from blaming and anger to gratitude and blessing?

Special music offered by Igor Glenn.

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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