



Horizons Journal

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix

May 2017



A Community of Wisdom & Growth

Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray

While I am a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, I was about 13 years old when I chose this faith as my own. It was a Sunday morning and I was waiting for my parents to wrap up their conversations with friends at coffee hour. I was bored. The other kids my age had left already. So, I wandered into the visitor's corner in the fellowship hall to find something to read. A little red wallet card caught my eye. It read "What do Unitarian Universalists believe?" Interesting question, I thought, given that Unitarian Universalists don't have a creed and we don't all believe the same thing. So I grabbed the card, found a comfy chair and sat down to read it. And what do you know? What I found in that card described my own perspective on religion and life. "This is MY religion!" I thought.

And at that moment I chose this faith as my own.

Two things on that little red wallet card stayed with me. It was as if when I read them, they rang with such truth in my own experience, that I never forgot them. They still come back to me in moments like lyrics of poetry. The first is "We believe in the never-ending search for Truth. If the mind and heart are truly free and open, the revelations that appear to the human spirit are infinitely numerous, eternally fruitful, and wondrously exciting." The second is "We believe in the motive force of love. The governing principle in human relationships is the principle of love, which always seeks the welfare of others and never seeks to hurt or destroy."

UU minister David O. Rankin wrote these words and while I didn't memorize them verbatim,

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What Does the Board Do, Anyway?

Vince Waldron

Member, Board of Trustees

Lately I have had several rewarding discussions with new UUCP members about the role of the Board of Trustees. They wondered: What does the board actually do? How does the congregation know what the board is up to? These are great questions! So I thought I would answer them briefly here. And more importantly, I invite you to ask questions of any of us board members. (We wear those red nametags so you can find us easily at Sunday services). In fact a major priority of the current board is to be as transparent as we can possibly be. We are always looking for ways to explain our work and gather input from UUCP members.

What does the Board actually do?

Some years back, our UUCP community adopted a "policy governance" model for its Board of Trustees. What does that mean? Basically, it means that a big part of the board's job is strategic planning. With the congregation, we try to *think big*, to think *into the future*. Who will be (or should be) joining our congregation in coming years? How will we serve their needs? Building on our many obvious strengths, how can UUCP grow in ways that make us ever more diverse and vital, more responsive to the spiritual concerns of our members and the larger community, more authentically reflective of our Unitarian Universalist principles?

As you look around UUCP, you will see very

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Growth Plan

Benjie Messer

Music Director

I started teaching elementary school music with very little preparation. Luckily, on one of my first days on the job, someone handed me a “teacher growth plan.” It essentially said that in their first year, a teacher’s only goal should be their own personal survival. In their second year, they should be able to think about their current students, and by the third year, they could think about students they hadn’t yet met, by building curriculum. The last step, which came after five or ten years of teaching, was to think about the teaching profession as a whole, both by mentoring other teachers and by making structural changes to schools.

Whew! What a relief! It was good to be reminded that it’s normal to go through times when we’re only able to think about our own survival. At those times, whether we’re a beginner in a new field or we’ve just experienced a major setback, we have to take care of ourselves before we can help others. I also liked the reminder that staying in one job didn’t have to become routine, but could be an opportunity to continue taking leadership and thinking about that job better and more expansively. I think this general model of growth and leadership is true not just for jobs, but for relationships, political causes, where and how we live, and all the other aspects of our lives.

It’s seemed to me that Rev. Susan’s campaign this year for Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) president has made this a year of growth for our congregation. Those of us on staff have often needed to coordinate without our supervisor in the building, and my impression is that in the process, we’ve become better at supporting each other and at checking in to avoid potential conflicts. I’ve had a sense that our congregation’s musicians have grown, too, that in working with more guest preachers, our choir and other ensembles have taken on additional leadership to keep our worship services meaningful.

And I expect that our board members have grown this year too—that being directly in touch with national leadership in the UUA about the logistical details of this election has given them a clearer picture of the UUA itself and our congregation’s place in it.

I’ve been in my current position as music director for over four years now, so it’s almost time for me to start thinking about the profession as a whole—and just in time, I’ve been accepted into the UUA’s Music Leadership Certification Program. This is a three-year program that works with Unitarian Universalist (UU) music leaders to develop their musical, leadership and interpersonal

...staying in one job didn't have to become routine, but could be an opportunity to continue taking leadership and thinking about that job better and more expansively.

skills, and their understanding of UU heritage and values. Each year involves two days of in-person classes, which occur immediately before the annual summer conference for UU musicians, plus coursework, readings and projects which are completed during the year. I’m really looking forward to this program. I think it’ll be a good way to continue growing in my work at UUCP, and to make connections with other UU music directors. My enrollment is being paid for through professional development funds which are part of our congregation’s annual budget, so thank you all for this opportunity!

I hope that each of you continues to find opportunities to grow, not just at the congregation but in all areas of your life. □

HELP WANTED

ISO good-humored helper

interested in mid-week tasks. Must be able to commit to consistent hours on Thursdays or Fridays, be willing to move boxes (no more than 15 lbs), help sort files, and test art projects. *Poster and letter design a plus.*

Missed Connection: Have you always wanted to support our OWL program but never had the chance to get trained? Contact Katie today!

Calling all Artists

and people who like to play with art supplies
Spend 3 Sundays getting to know the kids of UUCP. Have a project you want to share? Mask making, paper making, maker making, anything! Let us know, we'd love to have you in the classroom for 1 month!

Shhhhhh. . . Next year we will be introducing a Library studio, this room will have lots of pre-set opportunities for self-guided RE projects and reading. We need a librarian! Are you willing to spend three Sundays hanging out with our most motivated and introspective kiddos? (Bonus: you get to sit in the comfy chairs!)

Tinker, Toolbox, Tradesfolk

We are looking for an elite team of mildly skilled folks to help launch an amAZing new endeavour. Are you willing to miss second service for 3 weeks? Do you think kids should get to wear lab coats and protective eyewear? We want to hear from you!

We're looking to **build** our **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM.**

We will have an open meeting in the coming months. To learn more about it, contact Katie Resendiz at KatieResendiz@gmail.com or Carrie Lifshitz at carrielynn14@gmail.com.





A Wise Person Once Said...

Emrys Staton

Director of Pastoral Care & Justice Ministries

In this era of social media and readily accessible information, wisdom is less an individual attribute, and more about tapping into collective knowledge.

On Facebook, it's common to see queries that begin with "Hive mind:"—a clever way to ask for advice based on the assumption that our social networks, or hive, can offer better advice based on multiple responses. Hive mind queries can be for simple things, like getting tips for a good local feminist hairdresser, to deeper issues, like how to deal with racism at work.

While individuals can definitely be smart and wise, it is long known that with the right tools for communication, groups can generate more wisdom. I've seen this play out many times, and it works best when we ask good questions and offer helpful responses.

Right now, there is an amazing collective discussion taking place around the ways that white supremacy is entrenched into Unitarian Universalism. Out of this discussion, much wisdom is being

Hive mind: how do we engage in the critical work of dismantling white supremacy within our own lives and institutions?

generated and shared. It's a great example of how a large network of people can provide multiple perspectives on an issue, share personal stories, and offer insights that, when taken together, paint a more accurate picture of what's going on.

But wisdom is just one part of this month's theme; the other is growth. The two ideas build upon one another.

Over the decades, and indeed, centuries, Unitarianism and Universalism have grown in the

wisdom of their teachings. In fact, both traditions made major changes to their theological interpretations as the collective wisdom broadened, which included contemporary philosophical and scientific research. UUs were also one of the few protestant religions that began opening up to the wisdom of white women, along with the theology and teaching of a predominately white, male clergy and seminary professors.

Over the past decades, the majority of UU congregations have struggled to fully open themselves to the collective wisdom of people of color. It's a deep and troubling reality that the institution of this liberal faith was built upon the assumptions of white-male-developed power structures and hierarchies. As a whole, the nonprofit sector is facing the same realization: from leadership structures to fundraising models, much of the nonprofit world is steeped in institutionalized racism.

So, friends, how do we unlearn and dismantle our UU systems based on white supremacy? We turn to the hive mind of Facebook, blogs, and webinars where UUs of color are offering their wisdom.

On May 14, UUCP will join the national call for a White Supremacy Teach-in. We will rely on the wisdom of POCI (people of color and indigenous) UU religious educators, clergy, UUA staff, seminary professors, and others to guide us in this path of growth.

Unitarian Universalism functions as a covenantal faith, which means that we find our way forward as a collective, rather than led by a distinct hierarchy. The future success of UUism will rely on our commitment to being in covenant with one another in a way that affirms all the voices, all the talents, all the experiences and perspectives of those who opt in.

Now, we turn to look for the collective wisdom here in our community. Hive mind: how do we engage in the critical work of dismantling white supremacy within our own lives and institutions? □

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 4th, 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM, UUCP Sanctuary

Please join your UUCP Board of Trustees, UU Foundation, and staff for our Annual Congregational Meeting. We will report on the success of our Combined Stewardship and Capital Campaigns, elect new leaders to our Board of Trustees, UU Foundation Board and Nominating Committee, and approve our annual budget for 2017-2018, and update on Rev. Susan's campaign for UUA President.

Continued from "What Does the Board Do..." page 1

concrete translations of this big-picture work. For example, this year our congregation adopted a new vision statement, one that calls us to be a community that is theologically diverse, radically inclusive, and justice-centered. As you look around, you will see that our UUCP staff members are implementing this vision every day. You will see it in Katie's efforts to make our children's ministry truly responsive to the varying learning preferences of our kids. You will see it in Emrys' willingness to be arrested in the name of justice for our immigrant neighbors. You will see it in Janine's energetic welcoming ministry—one that is making a larger and more diverse group of visitors decide to become UUCP members. You will see it in the vital and diverse forms of music that Benjie brings to our services each week. And you will see it in the individual efforts of so many of our members to explore their own spiritual commitments, to welcome new members, and to engage in social justice work.

Another part of our job is to be sure that our minister and staff are making concrete progress in leading UUCP toward this big-picture vision. We do this by formulating "big hairy goals" for the staff. That is happening right now. With the help of leaders from all of our ministries (the leadership council), and with your input, we are creating goals that will guide the staff for the next five years or so. We do this by reviewing annually the minister's progress toward those goals. We are conducting that

process right now, in May. We do this every month by keeping an eye on the budget, making sure dollars are spent in ways that advance our mission. And we do this by scanning the horizon ahead, looking for challenges that might cause us to rethink our approach. As one example, the board has been actively engaged in the process of seeking a dynamic and experienced interim minister who will step in immediately if Rev. Susan wins the UUA election.

How does the congregation know what the Board is up to?

We sponsor "board chats" between services on the second Sunday of each month. Bring your coffee and join us for informal conversation! Board meetings are held every fourth Tuesday in the Johnson room. We begin with food and social time at 6:00 PM. Join us! Visitor comments are invited shortly after the 6:30 meeting start time. Of course, UUCP holds important congregation meetings twice a year—in January and June. The next one is *June 4th*. That's when the board presents important updates and members express their views through public comment and voting. We really need you to be there! And of course, look for those red badges. Board members are present at every service and every major event in the life of the congregation. We can't wait to talk with you about UUCP! □

Continued from "A Community..." Rev. Susan, page 1

they formed a kind of foundation for my understanding of the path of wisdom and spiritual growth. The image of the open mind and free heart and the motive force of love that seeks the well being of all have served as guideposts to invite me, especially in times when I want to be judgmental or strict in my own perspective, to keep my heart open, to listen more deeply, to pay attention to experience, both my own and that of others, and to recognize and practice compassion as a core principle in human relationships. These two principles, openness and compassion, inform each other—both are needed.

One thing that draws so many to Unitarian Universalism is the lack of a creed, the openness to the ongoing search for truth and meaning, the idea that you cannot put revelation, belief, even notions of God or Gods in a box. But this can lead to the false notion that, as Unitarian Universalists, we can believe anything we want. To this, love responds that our path is one of deepening compassion for life and one another—and that our freedom is bound in responsibility, the responsibility of love.

As we dive into the theme of Wisdom and Growth, what wise words or teachings have been guideposts to your own journey? What key lessons have been a part of encouraging your growth or deepening wisdom? This month, we will have services led by our Coming of Age youth and from our Adult Coming of Age class—inviting members of all ages to share with us the wise words that have invited or guided them to deeper living. Throughout this month, may we keep our hearts and minds open to the experiences and learnings of others and find ways to share our sources of wisdom as well. □

*Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.
Jimi Hendrix*

ETHICAL WILL WORKSHOP

Hosted by UU Foundation of Phoenix
Saturday, May 6, 10:00-12:00
Johnson Room

An Ethical Will is a document designed to pass ethical values from one generation to the next. Join members of the UU Foundation of Phoenix Board to learn about Ethical Wills and Legacy Letters, Barack Obama's Ethical Will, why an Ethical Will can be as important or more important than a conventional Last Will and Testament—and how you, too, can make one.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Heidi in the congregation office, 602-840-8400 ext. 202 or heidiparmenter@phoenixuu.org.





Unicare News

Please lift up in your thoughts those in our community who share their transitions, sorrows, celebrations and wishes—that they may find strength in your love and friendship. For more information, or to get involved, contact Vicki Myers, Unicare Coordinator, at unicare@phoenixuu.org.

Remembrances:

- Long time UUCP member Lois Fisher passed away on April 3rd surrounded by her family.
- Our congregation sends our love and support to Dale, Leslie and their family. We send healing thoughts as they mourn the many lives recently lost in their extended family.
- Stephanie Miller and her family honors the life of her grandmother who passed away in April.
- Sarah Foerster misses her grandmother who passed away in April, and shares the memory of looking so similar to her that Sarah fondly remembers her as she looks in the mirror.

Healing Wishes & Transitions:

- We send our strength and healing thoughts to Karen Kurtz, her daughter Ariza and her mother Trude as Karen battles ovarian cancer. Karen started chemotherapy mid-April and expects future surgeries.
- We send get well wishes to Walt Wieder, and healing wishes to his wife Janet. Walt is recovering from a broken hip and Janet had surgery and recently started chemotherapy.
- We lift up Heidi Parmenter and her family as her step-father recovers from cancer surgery and starts chemotherapy.

Milestone Celebrations:

- A belated Congratulations to Dale Beeghly and his wife Nancy. The newer-weds were married on November 12th at Red Mountain Park in Mesa.
- In April, we had the joy of visiting with Simon Petros and Abraham Yohannes. Simon is the oldest son of one-time UUCP member Aster

Yohannes who is in Eritrea, and Abraham Yohannes is Aster's brother.

Other News:

- A shout out to our Unicare volunteers—you've provided cards, meals, visits, transport, support, prayers... so much to so many of our members and friends! We will celebrate the contribution of our Unicare e-Group, Friendship Partners and Memorial Service volunteers at a Unicare Volunteer Breakfast on Saturday May 20th, 9:00-10:30 AM. Save the date and look for an invitation soon.

If you're not on the Unicare e-Group list but Interested in participating in a mealtrain to provide meals to members/friends when needed, contact unicare@phoenixuu.org. □

Memorial Garden

*friends whose ashes were interred
in our Memorial Garden
this month in past years
are still remembered*

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



2017-18 Congregational Leadership Nominations UUCP Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to offer this year's talented, thoughtful and committed slate of nominees for the Board of Trustees, UU Foundation Board and Nominating Committee. Elections will be held as part of our June 4th Congregational Meeting. Many thanks to the Nominees for their dedication to UUCP and willingness to serve.

Board of Trustees Candidates



Rajeev Arora has been a UUCP member for over 12 years, and a UU for 22 years. In addition to serving on the Board, his involvement with the Congregation has mostly centered around Religious Education as an OWL teacher and a Coming of Age Mentor for 2-3 years, as well as a Small Group Ministry member.

In terms of his leadership qualities, Rajeev writes: "I have extensive experience in startups and nonprofit organizations which have limited resources but boundless possibilities. Such organizations often need to focus precious resources on the things that really matter. I can help set goals, metrics and strategies to achieve our highest priorities rather than spreading our precious resources too thinly and not making an appreciable difference." Rajeev's daughters, Asha and Meera, are also active members in UUCP and the youth ministry. *Rajeev is running for a second term.*

We are wise only while in search of wisdom; when we imagine we have attained it, we are fools.

Solomon ibn Gabriel



Tony Benegas, a native of Honduras, was raised Catholic and spent six years in the seminary with aspirations of becoming a Jesuit Priest. He discovered UUCP at an event trying to stop military Aid to El Salvador in 1984, fell in love with UU Principles, started attending UUCP in 1985, and officially joined in 1991. Tony taught Sunday School for 12 years, and has been a member of the Board of Trustees (2002-2004), Ministerial Search Committee, and Child Development Committee.

In 1998 Tony raised \$5,000 with UUCP members to build a house for hurricane victims: a single mom with 9 children in Honduras. He is Board Vice President of Hogar Materno, a prenatal care facility that provides comprehensive services to women with high-risk pregnancies from remote Honduran communities. UCCP has contributed over \$10,000 over the last 10 years. In 2005 the President of Honduras appointed Tony as Honorary Consul with jurisdiction over AZ, UT, CO and NE, to advocate for Hondurans who need assistance. He has supported numerous projects in Honduras related to health, education, housing, water, and medical equipment.

Tony is very active on multiple Boards in Phoenix and a couple of national boards. He was an executive with two large nonprofits in Phoenix for 13 years and oversaw multiple programs dealing with child welfare, behavioral health and child development. He spent nine years as Philanthropic Advisor with the AZ Community Foundation. In December, he joined the Children First Foundation as President & CEO. Tony has a Business Administration degree and a Master of Public Administration, both from ASU. He has coached girls soccer for 12 years and plays soccer very Sunday.



As a young person in Washington State, **Mary Dawes** visited UU congregations with several aunts and found the experiences fascinating. She was Catholic for most of her life and found the motto “What would Jesus do?” inspiring and the community loving. However, around 2010

Mary moved to downtown Phoenix from a “suburban Mom” life (they grew up!) and began searching for a new spiritual home. She became a member of UUCP in 2011 after attending for six months. Mary is a psychologist and works at ASU leading a career development program for students.

Mary says, “Vince Waldron and I worked together at ASU. He introduced me to the Right Relations Ministry, and I became a member of that team in the fall of 2011, eventually leading the team. I participated in the Daring to Dream: Conversations on Race, Ethnicity, & Culture program and was impressed with the commitment and openness of UUCP members. As part of the Small Group Justice Ministry Immigration group, I learned so much about critical issues in our world today and the strength and knowledge of our members. After working with Puente, along with a team from UUCP, I am now the Congregation Coordinator to UUJAZ (Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona Network). I loved participating in Day at the Legislature recently where UUCP had at least 15 members present at the capitol! I am inspired and reminded of important values weekly at UUCP. I would be honored to contribute by serving on the Board of Trustees.”

Life is the only real counselor; wisdom unfiltered through personal experience does not become a part of moral tissue.

Edith Wharton



Sarah Moore was raised Unitarian Universalist and became a member of UUCP in the fall of 2012. She has been an active member of the Small Group Ministry and Publicity Committee. Sarah currently helps to facilitate the Young Adult Small Group and has been volunteering for Reverend Susan’s campaign for President of the UUA. Sarah works for ASU Gammage as a Graphic Designer, having previously worked for the Heard Museum.



Karin Quinn joined UUCP shortly after moving Arizona in 2010 and has been actively involved in the congregation ever since, serving as a worship associate and singing in the choir. In addition to serving on the Board, Karin has taught and assisted in RE classes and

oversight of childcare for choir members. Karin first found Unitarianism in 1995 when she and her husband, Brian, were searching for a spiritual home in which to get married, and joined a tiny congregation in Northampton, England. In 2002, after the birth of her first daughter, they became members of a larger congregation, where she contributed to worship, children’s ministry, and served as a Trustee before moving to the U.S.

Karin says, “I care deeply about UUCP and value highly the support and opportunity for growth it has given my family through both good times and very difficult periods since moving to Arizona. Having a Masters in Professional Counseling, I want to put my awareness of the needs of others, and my ability to empathize, to good use by being part of a team which adds value to the mission, vision, and ministry of UUCP, and by caring for the welfare of its members, in order that UUCP remains a valuable place which promotes the spiritual well-being and rights of all those who enter its doors.” *Karin is running for a second term.*



Vince Waldron is a professor at ASU, has been a UUCP member for eight years and served on a wide variety of university and community leadership boards. At UUCP he has been involved in grounds maintenance, Right Relations Committee, Small Group ministries, Welcoming Ministry, and has taught classes on such topics as forgiveness and parenting. Vince says, "Much to my regret, it took me many years to find my way here. I have always been a 'seeker' of sorts, reading widely on religion and spirituality. I first came to a UUCP service so my daughter Laura (now my son Lucas) could see that religious community really could be open-minded and welcoming to all. I am deeply grateful that Lucas was embraced by the community. Soon I realized that I wanted to be deeply enmeshed in the UUCP community. I take great pride that we strive to welcome people of all sexual orientations. We are a unique and safe place for LGBT people and their families. The UUCP community has welcomed me and transformed my life. I'd like to continue to help it grow and thrive." *Vince is President-Elect, and running for a second term.*

Nominating Committee Candidates



Daisy Danforth has been a member of UUCP for two years and attending for three years. She has been part of several small groups, a community night chef, a garden clean-up volunteer, preschool teacher and speaker during the new member class.

With three young children, Daisy has extensive community building and volunteer experience through our cooperative preschool and Desert View Learning Center. She is a Navy veteran with a degree in health education, works part time as a chef at the Camelback Inn, loves cooking and planning intimate dinner parties.



Lynne Raabe has been a UU since 1978, and served on various congregational committees in Michigan. She has been attending UUCP during the past 15 years, officially joined a few years ago and is currently co-facilitating a small group, a member of the Maryland School Project Task Force, and assisting the UniCare Committee. A retired teacher, Lynne has varied volunteer experience, including serving on the board of her HOA and volunteering at Desert View Learning Center and Maryland School. During the summer months, she return to Michigan to be with family and friends, and loves spending time with her grandchildren. Lynne says, "Being asked to serve on the Nominating Committee is a privilege and a wonderful opportunity to give back to the UUCP community."



Josh Tures first came to UUCP in 2005, and explored other churches before returning more permanently to UUCP in 2014. He met his husband, UUCP member Jim Sorgatz, and quickly discovered he, too, was a UU. Josh is happy to call UUCP his Spiritual Home. He has co-facilitated with Jim two Small Group Ministries and the Couples Enrichment course in 2016, and sings in our choir.

Outside of UUCP, Josh volunteers with A/C Theatre Company and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Arizona. He is passionate about theatre, is a member of the International Thespian Society, and has performed at both Lincoln Center in New York City and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. He also enjoys hiking and entertaining.

Foundation Candidates



Diana Ashley was raised at UUCP as her mother, Pat Shannon, was a very active member of the congregation. Diana left Phoenix for many years, but has been active with UUCP since her return more than a decade ago.

Diana's involvement includes congregation activities like Small Group Ministry participant; choir member for 10 years; and Friendship Partners Coordinator. Professionally, Diana is an MBA and has leveraged those skills to support UUCP in numerous offices, including: Finance Committee chair for two years (member four years); Stewardship Committee chair (one year, member four years); UUCP Board of Trustees, Finance chair for two years; and UU Foundation Board (member one year, finance officer one year). She also chaired the Music Committee for five years.

Diana believes the best path to ensuring that the UUCP legacy continues is through the efforts of the UU Foundation. *Diana is running for a second term.*



Terry Lockwood and her family have been members of UUCP for about 23 years. Over that time, she has served several terms on the Children's Religious Education Committee (then known as Religious Growth and Learning), the Membership Committee and the Nominating Committee—and has been a Coming of Age

program mentor several times, including mentoring a brilliant young woman in the current program. Terry has also been an adult advisor for our district youth (YRUU) program at Camp de Benneville Pines and district youth cons, along with hosting district youth board retreats several times in her home.

Terry holds a Mechanical Engineering degree and master's certification in Project Management. In her career as a Program Manager, she manages a multi-million-dollar budget for multi-decade projects. Of UUCP, Terri writes: "My partner, Glen, and I, as well as our daughter Dani and our son Van, have grown and thrived with the love and support of the UUCP community, and we continue to give of our time, talent and treasure in return. I am delighted to have been nominated to serve on the UUCP Foundation Board! If I am selected to serve, I look forward to dedicating my skills, experience and spirit to sustain the long-term financial planning for the vision and mission of our beloved UUCP community.

These nominees are respectfully submitted for your consideration by the Nominating Committee: Jim Sorgatz (Chair), Lydia Yanak, Bonnie White, Bill Snowden, Julie Smart and Jenny Jones Moats. □

Old Man at Leisure

Sacred or secular
manners and conventions
make no difference to him
Completely free
leaving it all to heaven
he seems a simpleton
No one catches
a glimpse inside
his mind
this old man
all by himself
between heaven and earth

by Muso Soseki, trans. from Japanese
by W.S. Merwin (*A Book of Luminous
Things*, ed. Czeslaw Milosz)



Traveling 2nd Friday

Roaming China Off the Beaten Path with Carolyn Allenby

May 12, 7:00 PM in UUCP Sanctuary

Please join us for our final Traveling 2nd Fridays Presentation of the season, as Carolyn Allenby guides us through an epic journey across China. They started on a three-week journey of 2,000 miles in Beijing. Then traveled to Datong and the Yungan Grottoes, going south to the ancient town of Pingyao, near the Hanging Monastery and Wang Family Courtyard. On to Xian to see the Terracotta Warriors, then to Hangzhou, and next Guilin. A river boat by the scenic karst hills brought them to Yangshuo. They climbed the Yellow Mountain and bicycled the countryside of Yangshuo. The final stop was in Shanghai.

Everyone is welcome. Questions: call Barbara Cawthorne at 480-994-1452.



We are wrapping up our Combined Stewardship and Capital Campaign and we have almost reached our goal! We have just \$25,967 left to meet our \$540,000 Stewardship goal and fully fund our ministry for next year! And we have just \$159,702 left to reach our goal for our Capital Campaign.

I am so moved by the unbelievable generosity and vision of UUCP! We are almost there and your gift now will help us fully reach our goals.

Are you in?

Both of these campaigns are about making sure that UUCP is ready to amplify and share our values more fully with individuals and families looking for an inclusive, justice-centered spiritual community for this time.

Our Capital Campaign is specifically about making our campus more accessible to all and strengthening our outreach and pastoral ministries. Now More Than Ever the ministry of this congregation is needed. Now More Than Ever we can invest to make sure that UUCP is on the strongest foundation possible to live into our vision of being A Spiritual Community for This Time!

Thank you for thoughtfully considering a gift to both the Stewardship and Capital Campaigns. *If every member and friend is able to renew their Stewardship pledge at the same level as last year, we will fully meet our goal.* And with an additional pledge for a gift to be paid over three years, we will have air conditioning, a fully accessible entrance and parking, and stronger ministries within and beyond the congregation for years to come!

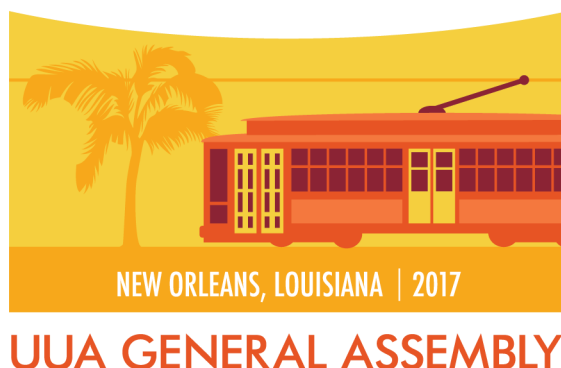
Pledge Online: www.phoenixuu.org/pledgeform.

Thank you for your generosity and all you share with UUCP.

Yours,

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray





General Assembly is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates. The 2017 General Assembly (GA) will be June 21-25 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Most GA events will be held in the New Orleans Convention Center.

Registration and Housing Open March 1

GA Registration and the GA Housing Reservation System open at 9:00 AM CST.

GA Theme: "Resist and Rejoice"

We will gather in New Orleans, Louisiana for a General Assembly experience focused on solidarity with the movements for racial, economic and climate justice. We will invite the culture, history, geography, and people of New Orleans to be our teachers.

New Orleans

Steeped in a history of influences from Europe, the Caribbean, and Africa, it is one of America's most culturally and historically rich destinations. It is a city known for its music, food, architecture, and festivals. The average high temperature in June is 89 degrees and the average low is 71.

New Orleans is also known as a place of re-birth following the devastation of Katrina in 2005. Many Unitarian Universalists have contributed time and funds in the effort to rebuild both the city and the congregations in the area. By going to New Orleans, we can both celebrate our successes and recommit to the relationships that have been forged with this community.

Excellent Programming

GA will offer more than 175 programming selections over the course of five days. More programming details will be available soon at uua.org/ga.

Financial Aid Available

The UUA is committed to the goal of making GA accessible to as many attendees as possible. Go to uua.org/ga to learn about scholarships to support delegates—particularly those from marginalized groups—and volunteer opportunities (work in exchange for registration).

May Worship Theme: **Wisdom & Growth**

Services bring our community together at 10:30 AM

May 7: *Coming of Age for Adults*

Service Leader: Kim St. Clair, Gary Ezzell and the Adult COA class

Coming of age is a continual process. A small group of UUCP congregants has spent the past year exploring what “Coming of Age for Adults” means as we move through life, using our Covenant as our lens. This Sunday we will share what we individually have learned about ourselves and what turns out to be most important to us.

May 14: *Wisdom and Learning in Action*

Service Leaders: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, Emrys Staton and Katie Resendiz

Mother’s Day began as a day of action, when women left their homes to protest militarization and call for an end to war. To honor these activist roots, we are talking this day to join in a teach-in about the ways patriarchy and white supremacy continue to persist in our lives and our world. Come join the conversation with openness to new insights and learning.

May 21: *Coming of Age*

Service Leader: Katie Resendiz

This year our 7th and 8th graders have joined an amazing adventure. *Coming of Age* has been a chance for our middle schoolers to deepen their spiritual growth. The class has learned what others believe, analyzed UU values, served others, and all along, reflected on their experiences. These young people grade will design and lead a worship service highlighting the work of their class, families, mentors, and our community over this past year of exploration. Students will be invited to sign the membership book in front of the congregation.

Share the Plate: Offering will benefit the Isac Amaya Foundation to provide financial resources to students, regardless of immigration status, for higher education: <https://isacamayafoundation.org>.

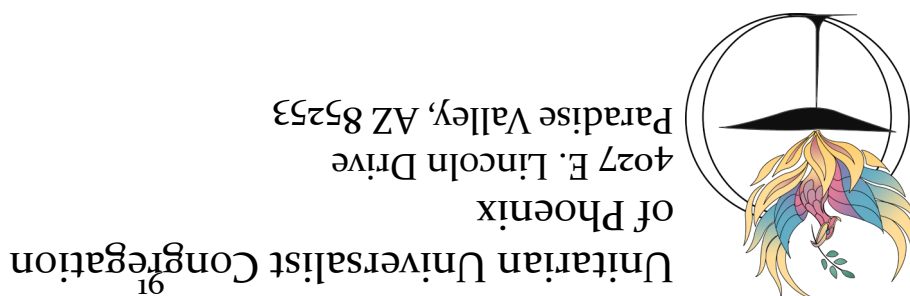
May 28: *From Jackhammers to Meditation: Spiritual Practices for Peace*

Service Leader: Emrys Staton

A look at some faith-based resistance to war, and how we battle within ourselves for peace.

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