



Horizons Journal

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix

March 2018



The Gift of Balance

Reverend Margret A. O'Neill

During March we celebrate International Women's Day, recognizing the importance and vulnerability of women in the world. In this month also, we move through the Spring Equinox, the balance point of darkness and light in the cycle of the year. Both the social and the natural world remind us now to attend to the crucial balance of activity and reflection, outward and inward, the balance of what have been called masculine and feminine energy and presence in all things. The art and gift of balance is basic and vital to every part of our lives; balance can be so difficult to sustain in the tumult of our daily lives.

The concept of balance is deeply interwoven

throughout ancient teachings, and is most clearly depicted in the yin-yang symbol from Chinese philosophy. This familiar symbol depicts the complementary, interconnected, and interdependent forces that are present throughout the natural world, giving rise to each other as they interrelate with each other. The characters for yin and yang are most literally translated as the shady and sunny sides of the hill. They are variously interpreted as interior and external, feminine and masculine, yielding and active; in the symbol, they explicitly intertwine, each containing an aspect of the other, in a symbolic depiction of the interdependent nature of all being.



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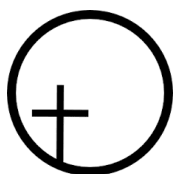


UU: Not a Faith for Goldilocks

Emrys Staton

Director of Pastoral Care & Justice Ministries

One of the things I've appreciated about many versions of the Unitarian Universalist chalice symbol is that the chalice is usually slightly off-centered within a circle. The original Unitarian version, drawn by an Austrian refugee in the 1940s who was working with the Unitarian Service Committee, showed the chalice cup centered perfectly in the middle of an oval. However, the Universalists had just developed their logo that featured a small cross, drawn slightly off-center within a circle.



When the two religious communities joined together in the 1960s, the new versions of chalice logos tended blended the design to show the chalice off-center, sometimes in one circle, sometimes inside of

two circles to represent the merger.

Over the decades, many artists and designers have come up with variations of the logo, some preferring a symmetrical approach, others preserving a slightly off-centered positioning of the cup.



I know my life rarely feels totally balanced. I had always appreciated, unconsciously, the chalice symbols that reflected my own reality. When the current official UUA version of the logo was released in 2014, I didn't think much about it other than I missed the outer circle. Now after a few years, I realize that I also miss the lopsided, non-harmonized aesthetic of the previous chalices. I wanted a logo that showed that faith was like me, usually leaning a little off to one side or the other, but still held in a broader circle of community.



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Street Requiem: a Reminder to Value All Life

Benjie Messer

Music Director

Each spring, our choir presents an all-music service, in which worship is centered around music, rather than around a sermon. On Sunday, March 18, we will be presenting *Street Requiem*, a ten-movement work dedicated to those who have died while living on the street. A musical exploration of homelessness and violence, it is by turns challenging, reverent and optimistic. In their program notes, the composers write that they “conceived of *Street Requiem* with the aim of bringing a sense of peace, remembrance and hope to communities struggling to come to terms with street violence, war and a loss of safety on our streets.” *Street Requiem* was premiered in Melbourne, Australia in 2014, and has since been performed around the world, often in collaboration with organizations that serve and advocate for those who are homeless. In some high-profile concerts, it has been performed by choirs made up completely of those living on the streets, or of those waiting to receive asylum.

Street Requiem is perfect for a congregation that prioritizes theological diversity, inclusiveness

and social justice. The composers write, “we endeavored to create an inclusive work to which people from various backgrounds and traditions could relate. Although it is anchored in the Latin of the traditional requiem mass, we incorporated English texts relevant to a modern day context. *Street Requiem* is deliberately neither secular nor religious, intended instead to be deeply spiritual, allowing listeners to find their own faith or meaning in the context of the words... As well as remembering street deaths, we also want to challenge the audience to do something about their situation, whether it is for those who are forced to live on the streets or in regard to society’s general attitudes to violence. The tone of the *Street Requiem* is often confronting, encouraging listeners to examine their own attitudes and beliefs.”

It’s also a work worth sharing and collaborating on. March 18 at UUCP, our choir will be joined by the choir from Valley Unitarian Universalist and a small chamber orchestra. We’ll perform it the next Sunday, March 25, at Valley UU. And both our choir and Valley UU’s choir will join a group of interfaith partners to present *Street Requiem* in a community concert on Sunday, April 2 at 3:00 PM at Central United Methodist Church in Tempe.

Because of how wealth segregates our society, many of us who are not homeless have trouble thinking about those who are. *Street Requiem* is a work of art that changes that. During our rehearsal process, I’ve heard stories from members of our own congregation who have been homeless, who have friends and family members who lived on the street, and who have served and advocated for the homeless. Our staff have stories too. Emrys has told me about key organizations that serve the homeless in Phoenix, and about the White Tanks Cemetery, where Maricopa County buries those who die and have no one to claim them. Katie told me about the growing homeless encampments in downtown Phoenix, and the conflicts that she’s seen between

Performances of *Street Requiem*

Sunday 3/18 — UUCP, both services

Sunday 3/25, 10:30 AM — Valley UU,
6400 W. Del Rio St., Chandler

Sunday 4/8, 3:00 PM — First United
Methodist Church, 215 E. University Dr.,
Tempe

police and people wanting to distribute food at these camps. Rev. Margret told me about her previous career in public health, in which she led a board for a nonprofit focused on health care for the homeless. I hope that this piece has the same effect for you—that it not only moves you, but that it also invites you to think about those who are homeless by sharing and listening to each other.

The composers conclude their program notes by writing, “As part of the human race, we must find compassion for those we never knew who’ve died senselessly on the street, whether they were young or old, in war or in peacetime, in violence or in illness. Through remembering them, we are reminded to value all life.” Please join us on Sunday, March 18 for this powerful musical reminder. □

UUCP Cabaret:

The *Spirit of* BROADWAY

Saturday, May 3

Doors open at 6:00 pm, Show at 7:00 pm

\$10-25/adult, free for youth under 18

Buy tickets on the UUCP website, at the door, or from cast members in advance ▪ Snacks and beverages available for purchase ▪ Childcare provided for children unable to watch the show

All money raised goes to benefit the Ministers Discretionary Fund, which is used to help members and visitors in financial need

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Human history is a journey in perspective and understanding, from the earliest belief that all life is grounded in the female, through the dominance of masculine androcentric systems, and perhaps now finally evolving to a more integrated understanding of the need for a balanced expression of both masculine and feminine traits. Author and international teacher Gayatri Naraine writes that we are seeing in modern society “the emergence of a suppressed part of the human dynamic that can be called the feminine principle. This principle does not ... seek to replace male chauvinism with female chauvinism. Its aim is to allow the blossoming of a full and balanced personality that is at once vigorous and serene in an era of both light and might.”

The feminine principle calls us to balance our activity with our rest; our speaking with our listening; our sending with receiving; our fearlessness with gentleness. This balance becomes especially important in times of change, when the terrain may be unfamiliar, and we must attend to the subtle signals around us in order to find our way. Sometimes we must slow down in order to move quickly, taking a pause to be sure we move wisely and well. As we move together in community, the art of listening and receiving with an open mind and an open heart provides important keys to deeper understanding and wider perspective.

In this month of growing, this month when the seasons turn on a point of light, let us attend to the balance within us, the balance among us, and the balance in the world around us. □



For more information about the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix, visit us at:

<http://www.phoenixuu.org/>



Breathe In. Breathe Out. Repeat.

Katie Resendiz

Director, Children's Ministries

If you were to observe children's worship at UUCP on any given Sunday, you would see a constant shifting. We move from sitting in the sanctuary attentively listening to announcements and the story, we parade down the hallway full of song and chatter, we come together in opening circle to recite and orient, we run off to studio rooms, sit in circle to hear directions, disperse to workspaces to imagine and create or to play games and run, we end our time in a circle together listening and presenting. This constantly shifting from still to movement, pulling together and pushing out, is very deliberate and important part of how we manage and support the children. Breathe in, breathe out, breathe in, breathe out.

boring day feel more dynamic. The pattern is easy—note to yourself if the thing you are currently doing is an “in breath” or “out breath” (using right now as the example—reading this article is an in breath, whereas performing a dramatic reading of this article in the voice of Kermit the Frog would be an out breath), decide on a next activity that has the opposite feeling (in our example, following reading this article to going to a meeting with colleagues). Choose an activity that shifts you into that next task in a mindful and deliberate way (while walking to your conference room, make a list of 15 people you've seen in the past two days). Experiment with a to-do list that alternates between in and out and give yourself a menu of transition tasks.

Below is a list of some of the types of

“Children's Worship” reminds us that our youngest community members come to UUCP for the same reasons we all do. They are here to explore and deepen their spiritual experiences in the world.

Our congregational themes and the week's specific objectives require children to both be deeply reflective and build strong connections with the community. That may sound like an enormous task to tackle in just a single hour on a Sunday, but children are amazing—they can easily do both of these. Designing our children's worship time to model breathing in and out, allows us to address many different learning styles, moods, and energy levels.

As teachers, we use three tools to maintain simultaneous movement and balance in lessons. These tools are also useful in adult life. Moving between in breath and out breath activities and embracing the transition moments, can help build momentum for a big project or even help a long

activities that may fall in each category. Which parts of your day feel like an in breath? Which feel like an out breath?

In Breath Activities:

These activities generate a sense of gathering together. These are reflective, small motor, analytical, or grounding.

- Reading
- One-on-one conversations
- Cooking
- Eating
- Organizing a to do list
- Creating a strategy for a project
- Problem solving

Spring Adult Faith Development

Find class descriptions and sign-up online at phoenixuu.org/afd.

Exploring Your UU Identity

Facilitator: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

Wednesdays, March 21 - April 18, 6:30-8:30 PM

Sound, Light and Movement

Facilitators: Aaron Ford and Stuart Silverman

Saturdays, March 3, 10 & 17, 10:00-11:30 AM

Critical Response Theory

Facilitator: Phil Weaver-Stoesz

Saturdays, April 14, 21 & 28, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Boundary Setting and Negotiating

Facilitators: Mary Dawes and Natalie Fabert

Thursday, March 22, 6:30-8:30 PM

- Writing
- Responding to individual emails

Out Breath Activities:

These activities create a sense of unfurling. These tend to be social, expressive, critical (remember, critique isn't always negative), or gross motor.

- Presenting to a group
- Serving a meal
- Brainstorming
- Engaging in a meeting
- Emailing news or community announcements
- Washing floors

Transition Activities:

These quick activities allow you to mark the end of one activity, find space between activities, and start the next activity as wholly separate from the last. The key to transitions is to let yourself feel the stopping point of the first task as distinct from the starting point of the next.

- This might be as simple as cleaning up your work space from one activity and setting it up for the next (even if it's the same space and requires some of the same tools)
- Play and LISTEN to a favorite song
- Take 100 steps, counting them out loud
- Use the loo (for real, our classrooms are a testament to how important an intentional bathroom break can be)
- Stretch
- Sing for 30 seconds
- Get a drink of water
- My go-to when I can't get up from the computer (but if you can, by all means, get up!): Hands off the keyboard, stretch hands out, take 10 deep breaths, look around the room finding 10 things in your favorite color. □

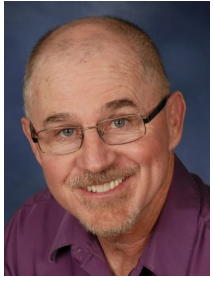


Community Dance

Saturday, March 24, doors open at 6:00 PM and the dancing starts promptly at 6:30 PM

“Promenade” and “sashay” at our First Annual Community

Dance! (Fancy words for walking and moving to music!) Learn and enjoy the finer points with your UUCP friends and family. Peg Hesley will teach and inspire us through traditional community dance patterns with the lively music of her fiddler, Jeff Thorn. Suggested contribution of \$2 per dancer. Bring your water bottle, and optionally, a plate of finger food to share for refueling midway through the evening. Toe tapping sideliners welcome! Suggested attire: comfortable clothes and closed-toed footwear.



I Trust John Vince Waldron

President, Board of Trustees

As I write this, the Board of Trustees—indeed, the whole congregation—is deeply involved in our most important task of the year: assembling a search committee to lead us through the process of selecting our new called minister. I am just one of many UUCP lay leaders calling every UUCP household to gather a list of names; names of people you really trust to provide responsible leadership on the search committee.

Serving on a ministerial search committee is a really big deal! This group of seven folks commits to a whole year of unselfish service. They will be leading our congregation in a process of intensive self-study, helping us define the qualities that we seek in a new minister. They will be assembling a package of materials to help candidates understand our spiritual community, our aspirations, our challenges. And when the time comes, they will be carefully reviewing the candidates, locating the spiritual leader who will guide us into the future.

Of course, I have been mulling over my own list. It is a long one, because I admire so many of the folks I have met since I joined the congregation nine years ago. How do I decide among the many appealing candidates? To help, I thought about the people I trust in the other realms my life.

I trust John. And who is John? Well, he is my car mechanic, the guy who I have trusted with my cars for years and years. The guy who cares for my aging, but beloved, Kia Sorento. The guy who kept Kathleen's minivan running for years beyond its natural lifespan. The guy who I sent my daughter to see when she banged up her car and I was too upset to provide good advice.

It turns out that John possesses many of the qualities that I will be looking for in search committee members. First, he is patient and he sees the big picture. When my car is ailing, John attends to the obvious flaws, but he also looks underneath the hood and gives a good look around. If he sees something amiss, John might call and say something

like "I need a little more time. Let's make sure we get things right." John is also a straight shooter with good judgment. If something needs fixing, he doesn't beat around the bush, cut corners, or hedge his bets. "This belt has me worried," he might say. "You need to spend the money now, or you're gonna pay more later."

I trust John because I know he is looking out for the interests of our whole family, not just his own short-term goals. He could make a lot more money from the Waldrons, but more often not, John will offer an observation like, "You know, you could go at least another 3,000 miles before you need to drain the oil on that differential." John is also calm and unflappable, even cheerful, when conditions get tough. The summer temperature in his shop must be well over 100 degrees. But this guy is always upbeat, always looking to make the best of things, always ready with a joke and a laugh and "So, how are the kids doing?"

So, yes, I will be looking for search committee members who have the qualities of John. *Patient enough to see the big picture?* Check. *Willing to take more time if needed?* Check. *Straightshooter with good judgment?* Check and check. *Calm under trying conditions?* Check. *Good sense of humor?* Well, that wouldn't hurt either. Check.

So how will this search committee selection process go? The Board has adopted a highly inclusive process, the "gold standard" process according to the Unitarian Universalist Association and Rev. Margret, who is an expert on search committee matters.

First, we will assemble a long list of potential search committee members, all suggested by you and other UUCP congregants as part of our outreach campaign.

Second, your elected Board of Trustees will winnow that large group down to a diverse set of 10-12 highly qualified nominees. That list will certainly include UUCP leaders who were frequently mentioned, the widely known leaders of the congregation. But it may also include others who,

Special Congregational Meeting



to Elect the Ministerial
Search Committee

Sunday, April 8, 10:35 AM

All members in good standing are eligible to vote.

though less well-known, are uniquely qualified by their experience in life and in congregational leadership. To be nominated, potential nominees must indicate that they are willing to serve.

Third, profiles of all nominees will be published through our usual UUCP channels and then, on April 8, we will hold an election at a special congregational meeting. The four people who get the most votes will join the seven-member search committee.

Fourth, the board will review the remaining nominees and select three additional members to assure that the committee reflects, as much as possible, the various kinds of diversity we enjoy at UUCP.

Fifth, the seven members of the Ministerial Search Committee will then be announced. To protect the privacy of those who are willing to stand for election and minimize the possibility of hurt feelings, we will not announce vote totals or indicate which members were elected and which were selected by the board.

To me, this process is ideal because it is responsive to both our democratic principles *and* responsive to our vision to be an inclusive community. I hope you find it that way too! But if you don't, please do share your feelings with me or the board. We want to hear from you. □

Community Nights Thursdays, 6:00 PM, Johnson Room

Fabulous cooks!

Two main dishes (one vegetarian), sides, salad and bread.

Contribute!

\$5 per adult, \$2 per child under 10, or \$10 per family, covers the cost of the meal.

—or—

Dietary restrictions? Bring your own meal!

Activities!

Following Community Night: small groups, adult faith development, Pathway to Membership, and more. Check out the UUCP website to sign up. Chalice Kids childcare is available 6:30-8:30.

Questions or want to contribute? Contact CommunityNight@PhoenixUU.org.



3rd Friday Documentary
March 16, 7:00 PM, Johnson Room

The Water Protectors at Standing Rock captured world attention through their peaceful resistance. *Awake, A Dream from Standing Rock* captures the story of Native-led defiance that forever changed the fight for clean water, our environment and the future of our planet.

Green Sanctuary Field Trip

Thursday, March 15, 10:30 AM

Have you ever wondered what happened to all the items we recycle? You can find out first-hand by joining Green Sanctuary's field trip to the North Gateway Transit Station on Thursday, March 15. The station is at 30205 N. Black Canyon Highway.

The tour will start at 10:30 AM and last about an hour. You may choose to meet us at the Station or carpool from UUCP. Those wishing to carpool should plan to meet at UUCP by 9:30 AM so we can leave by 9:45. Those wishing to have lunch together afterward may join us at First Watch Café, 3780 Happy Valley Rd, Suite 110.

Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona (UUJAZ) has a number of teams that focus on different issues. There is a *Water Team* which tries to influence policy about water, its availability, quality, price, etc. As we in AZ are in a prolonged drought, it behooves us to be aware of legislation affecting water in AZ. One helpful bill is SB 1475, which asks that "ecological water" be recognized. There are also harmful bills. For up-to-date news, sign up for Anne Schneider's "Legislature Digest" by contacting annestest1@googlegroups.com. You may also sign up for "Request to Speak," which allows you to comment electronically on bills when they are in committees. Find out more about it at: <https://goo.gl/W1ZRS9>

Did you know that an inch of rain delivers 0.62 gallons of water to every square foot? This represents 62 gallons on every 100 square feet and over 900 gallons on a roof covering 1,500 sq ft. and nearly 3,000 gallons on a 60 ft. by 80 ft. lot. The Watershed Management Group is a nonprofit that helps people install rainwater harvesting tanks/cisterns, greywater systems, composting toilets and other water conserving structures such as curb cuts and retention basins. A field trip to their Tucson facility is in the planning stages. Stay tuned.



Traveling 2nd Fridays

Join Bill & Joy Mee on Friday, March 9 to see their travels to Puerto Rico, the Caribbean islands, and Hemmingway's home in Key West in the UUCP sanctuary from 7:00-8:00 PM. Enjoy tours of gorgeous beaches, historic architecture, tropical gardens, unusual rock formations, and waterfalls. They saw the islands by bus, boat and foot and sailed on an America's Cup yacht in a race. They explored small islands by kayak and sailboat and learned about mangroves and how nature operates. Call Barbara at 480-994-1452 with questions.

Memorial Garden

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

Lenore Caroline Bendheim
Jeremy E. Butler
Penelope Wells Butler
Christine Albrecht Campbell
Helen Dycus Lane
Marti Teresa McDermott
Orval Floyd McVey
Nicole Fiala Murphy
Catherine Bird Olsen
Lloyd Dewitt Oxley
Jacquard H. Rothschild
Phyllis Mills Rothschild
Terry Nielsen Simmons



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:

Bill Snowden and Joan Gail grieve, and celebrate, the passing of Bill's father, Jim. Jim lived a long life—into his mid-90s—he will be missed and lovingly remembered.

Celebrations & Thanks:

Thank you from our refugee families for the generosity and kindness shared with them over the Christmas holidays. The gifts received were most welcomed.

Thanks to all our Unicare volunteers, including: the email Group, Memorial Services and Friendship Partners volunteers. Your generous cards, meals, visits, calls, service, support and love is a gift to our UU community. Let us celebrate you and the work of these programs at the Unicare volunteer recognition breakfast on Saturday, March 17. All Unicare volunteers are welcome.

Interested in providing an occasional meal, sending a card, or providing other support to someone in our congregation in need (at a time of sorrow or joy)? Contact Vicki at unicare@phoenixuu.org for more information. We welcome those with caring hearts and able hands who wish to put them to good use with our team of compassionate volunteers. □

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This is why I also really like UUCP's sanctuary, because it's not entirely symmetrical. It has design elements that help it feel balanced—yet its curves and stairs and front chancel bring a dynamic flow to the space that again speak to the reality of life. When I walk into the space, I feel held by something organic and interactive. Many times I imagined that being in that space is akin to being inside a womb.

As this month brings us one of the bigger balancing acts of our solar system—the equinox—I'm mindful that for two days of harmony a year between day and night, there are 363 other days where one is longer than the other. That seems more illustrative of my experience. Fleeting moments of harmony here and there, then long stretches where something is out of whack.

Humans are not tires, we can't just be periodically loaded into a machine that spins us around and tells us exactly where and how much to make adjustments to be in perfect balance. We turn to spirituality, therapy, medication, diet, community, self-help books, and many other resources to help guide us through the oscillations of an uncertain and uneven life. And strive as we might for the magical Goldilocks moments where everything is "just right," more often things will be either too hot or too cold.

I think that's OK. Or, rather, I think we don't always have that much control, and need to be OK with things being at least somewhat unbalanced. So I appreciate that our UU faith, both in symbol and in practice, can itself be a little unbalanced, and hold us as we, too, live wonderfully unbalanced lives. □



FREE MONEY!

Attention UUCP'ers who either don't have a will or estate plan, want to modify their current estate plan, or haven't let us know that you have UUCP (via the UU Foundation of Phoenix, or UUFP) or another UU organization in your will or trust.

The UU Congregation of Shelter Rock, NY, has made a generous challenge grant to the UUA to strengthen the long-term impact of Unitarian Universalism by increasing "legacy giving," or the planned gifts we make through our wills, charitable gift annuities, pooled income funds, and other instruments. The "Wake Now Our Vision (WNOV) Collaborative Campaign" between Shelter Rock UU, the UUA, and five other UU organizations offers us a *time-limited opportunity* to receive cash donation gifts of 10% of the value of the bequest, up to \$10,000 per donor—with that cash donation going to our UU Foundation of Phoenix and/or one of the UU organizations named.

And we receive this cash gift *now*—not waiting until you die. *What? This sounds like "free money"! And it kind of is.* Here's how you (we) qualify for these matching cash donations—if you:

- are a new bequester, meaning, if you have over the past year (since January 1, 2017) made a will and designated UUFP/UUCP or another UU organization as a benefactor; or are planning on doing so by June 30, 2020; OR
- have secretly had a "UU entity" in your will prior to January 1, 2017 and not let that UU entity know;
- have already let UUFP/UUCP or the UU entity know that they are in your will, but you want to take advantage of the WNOV Campaign's *free money* by increasing your bequest!

All you need to do is let the UUA know of your intention—by filling out a simple form, and appending the page in your will or trust that stipulates the legacy instruction. That's it! Some quick examples of how our UU Foundation of Phoenix (or a partner WNOV organization) would receive a cash match, NOW—not waiting until you should die:

- Your newly created will (since 1/1/17) stipulates \$25,000 to be given to UUFP upon your death. Assuming you have filled out the simple paperwork above declaring your intentions, UUFP will receive 10%, or \$2,500, by 2020, the end of the campaign.
- Same as above, only you leave \$200,000 to UUFP. UUFP would receive \$10,000 by the end of the campaign (maximum \$10,000 available per donor).
- You've had UUFP in your will for a long time—prior to 1/1/17. So UUFP is not eligible for a matching donation. But you've also had the UU Service Committee in your will, and *never informed them*. By simply filling out the paperwork and letting UUA/UUSC know, UUSC will receive the matching gift, per the same calculations.
- You've had UUFP in your will for a long time, leaving \$1000 upon your death. To take advantage of the WNOV campaign, you change your will to indicate you want to leave \$2,500 to UUFP. This incremental \$1,500 would be eligible for the matching gift; at 10% x \$1500 = \$150 to UUFP.

A number of us don't stipulate a dollar amount in our wills—but rather a % of our estate. That's fine. The WNOV Campaign advises a couple of options here—either for making a simple calculation of estate value over an expected lifetime, minus approximate expenses—or just providing a flat \$1,000 cash gift.

Intriguing? Please contact any member of the UU Foundation Board at uufp@phoenixuu.org for more information. Or, to inquire about your own special circumstance, contact: www.wakenowourvision.org or Rev. Laura Randall - Legacy Campaign Director at (617) 948-6511 or lrandall@uua.org.

March Worship Theme: **Balance (Sun/Moon)**

*Services bring our community together at 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM**

March 4: Yin and Yang

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

A core principle in traditional philosophies is the inherent and healthy balance between the forces of darkness and light, feminine and masculine, assertive and receptive. How do we create balance in our lives so that we are both active and nourished by sources of outer and inner darkness and light?

March 11: Connections

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

Thriving faith communities offer a balance of connection and commitment that both sustains our lives and offers opportunities to serve. On this Connection Sunday, we celebrate those who lead and serve, and explore the love that binds us into creative and sustaining community.

March 18: Music Sunday: *Street Requiem*

Service Leader: Benjie Messer

UUCP's congregation choir, in collaboration with Valley UU's choir and a chamber orchestra, presents *Street Requiem*, a ten-movement contemporary choral work dedicated to those who have died on the street. A musical exploration of homelessness and violence, it is challenging, reverent and ultimately optimistic.

March 25: The Promises We Make

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

Martin Buber famously declared that we human beings are the "promise-making, promise-keeping, promise-breaking, promise-renewing" animal. What are the promises we make to each other in this community of faith, and how do we balance and integrate the promises of the past and an emerging future?

**American Sign Language interpreter available at second (11:15) service
on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month*



Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Phoenix
4027 E. Lincoln Drive
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

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