



# Horizons Journal

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix

May 2018



## The Creative Spirit Rising

Reverend Margret A. O'Neill

Creativity is an enlivening spark in the world, offering the gift of solving old problems in new ways, enriching our senses with beauty, opening our vision to see things in a new light. It is said that creativity requires three energies: the innovation of the dreamer, the organization of the planner, and the courage to try something that departs from the tried and true patterns and practices of the past.

I have been spending a lot of time lately learning and thinking about the intersection of past and future in this congregation, as this spring we have explored the founding and development of UUCP over the past seven decades, the creative

impulse of a new and inspiring vision, and the open-ended possibilities of the future with the search for your next settled minister.

I am amazed at the creative and well-organized courage that arose here in the desert to establish our open-minded, open-hearted way of religion in this deeply conservative area of the country. I am grateful for the generous and persistent spirit that has sustained the congregation through struggle, in dark days of external hostility and internal conflict. I am hopeful for the future of this resilient and creative congregation, already working at the leading edge of our faith movement to change systems of oppression and approach the true nature of diversity, inclusion and justice.

*Continued on page 3*



## New Life for a Neglected Space

Katie Resendiz

Director, Children's Ministries

Throughout the years, the large room at the top of the stairs at UUCP has served as a lounge, baby comfort room, Sunday School classroom, and bunk room for overnights. Most recently the space was used as a storage room; sheet music, costumes, fabric, Christmas trees, art, administrative files, community archives, Kids Kamp games, preschool festival props, and more than a few "items of deep mystery." Over the course of the past 11 months, some amazing community members have taken up the challenge of organizing, cleaning, and repurposing the space.

Beginning in June, Jacob Barnum and some of the Kids Kamp teachers worked to unearth the swimming pools, kick balls, and tie-dye supplies that are the backbone of summer programming. Jacob stayed on, sorting, organizing, boxing and labeling. The room slowly began to take on a new map. Clear

corners for different programs and designated spaces for shared objects began to arise. Momentum grew and so did the needed effort.

Mikall Foerester and Rose Pascoe took a million trips up and down the steps clearing out old storage spaces, moving things to logical new homes. Asza, Ashley, and Bella spent hours carefully moving artwork and books. Benjie walked the space helping to figure out how the space could become everything it needed to be. Chris Mann and Grace Galiano learned how to tell the difference between "craft supplies" and "trash" (it's a subtle art) and became masters in turning piles of random unknown objects into beautifully categorized tools.

So, many people worked on recreating the space. As it began to shift, the items uncovered had their own transformations as they found new homes in each of our ministries. Thirty plastic top hats became fanciful Easter caps. Satin sashes became

*Continued on page 5*



## Creativity!

### or: Why I Should Take My Own Advice & Stop Procrastinating

Sarah Moore

Member, Board of Trustees

The theme for the month of May? Creativity. Oh, I really should be able to nail that, right? It's only my job to be "creative," as a graphic designer. Well... sometimes being creative is easier said than done.

Fortunately, I have plenty of references on the subject. Throw out the word on Google and you can get countless thinkpieces and quotes from various intellectual luminaries. There are two elements that often come up in conjunction with creativity in various literature: inspiration and procrastination.

Procrastination is the easy part. To quote Douglas Adams, "I love deadlines. I love the whooshing noise they make as they go by." I am a champion at procrastination. My house was immaculately clean when I was avoiding writing my thesis. Don't ask how late I was turning this article in—there's just something about having tons of time that really gets my writer's block going full steam ahead.

Inspiration? Well... according to Jack London, "You can't wait for inspiration, you have to go after it with a club."

Or you could turn to the immortal wisdom of Calvin & Hobbes:

Calvin: "You can't just turn on creativity like a faucet. You have to be in the right mood."

Hobbes: "What mood is that?"

Calvin: "Last-minute panic."

It seems to be a trend over the last few years that those of us who care about social justice are getting our inspiration from our despair of the pending apocalypse. The Women's March, March for Science, Time's Up, March for Our Lives, RedforEd—all of these movements have been invigorated and inspired by a feeling of extreme frustration with the

status quo. The amount of work that countless people have done in resistance against a never-ending tide of reckless budget cuts, egomaniacal grifting from the White House, and ruthless disregard for public health is quite impressive.

This combination of being out of time to sit on the sidelines and having a great deal of worthy targets has led to a vast outpouring of resistance-themed creativity. Creativity is where the fun comes in, in my opinion.

Creativity is how we can express ourselves. If anyone has gone home from a protest thinking, "I definitely had the best sign there," please send me a picture of your sign because I would love see it. The way outrage is being articulated these days is so brilliantly creative and inspiring, it's almost overwhelming. (But then I remember why it's happening and self-medicate by baking something.) Creativity is how we remix our tools and skills. I've been using social media for a solid 15 years, but I have never used it to take down a right-wing shill.

And the beauty of this moment, this movement? There is no limit on inspiration. There is no limit to creativity. The time to stop procrastinating was 18 months ago. Take your outrage and energy and use it for good. Remember, the only person who had a truly original idea was Lin-Manuel Miranda, and we all have the same number of hours in the day that he does. I bet with the right inspiration, something brilliant will happen here. □



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

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

*Continued from "The Creative..." page 1*

The month of May is a creative time in a faith community, as we plan for the transition into our next annual cycle: completing the annual pledge drive, preparing the Ministerial Search Committee, developing the next year's program and worship calendars, choosing monthly themes to connect our areas of activity. Living in community, sustaining a liberal faith tradition in these times, is a creative act that calls us into the best of our individual and collective selves.

In this active transitional time we are experiencing a rise in the creative spirit here at UUCP, a time for new ideas to emerge, for experiments to be engaged, a time to explore the positive core of this congregation and enjoy the unfolding possibility in which your next settled minister will be your new partner. I revel in the initiatives that are beginning to take shape, and I invite you to bring forth your ideas for new collaborations, new creative endeavors, to live into the vision of being a spiritual community for our time: theologically diverse, radically inclusive, justice centered. It is good to be with you in this time—see you at UUCP! □



## INQUIRERS SERIES

Looking to build  
relationships with people  
and learn more about the  
congregation?

Every Sunday  
11:30 AM in Annex B

faith   
FORWARD  
from Visitor to Leader™

*The Board of Trustees  
warmly invites you to the  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, June 3,  
immediately after services:*

- elect congregational leaders
- review the 2018-2019 budget
- receive an update on  
Construction & Ministerial  
Search processes

## — CREATIVITY —

We have to continually be jumping  
off cliffs and developing our wings  
on the way down.

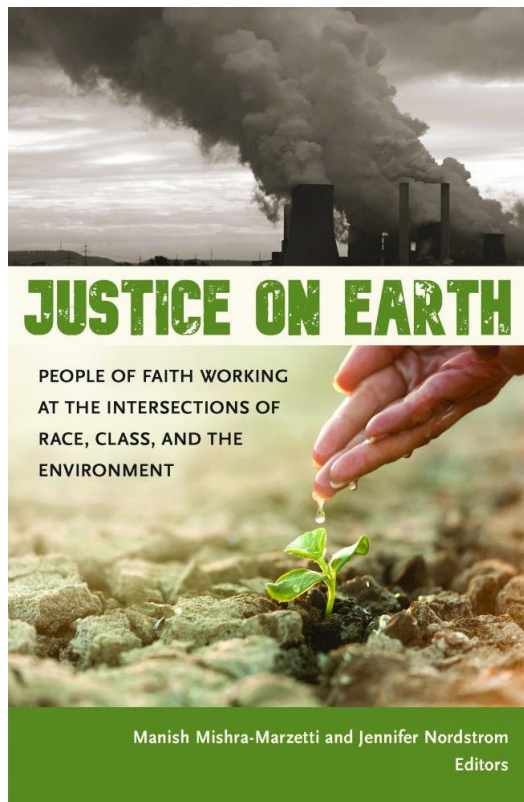
Kurt Vonnegut

*Others have seen what is and asked why.  
I have seen what could be and asked why  
not.*

Pablo Picasso

One must still have chaos in oneself to  
be able to give birth to a dancing star.

Friedrich Nietzsche



Skinner House Books is thrilled to announce ***Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment*** edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom.

This anthology presents a penetrating look at environmental justice from some of the key thinkers and activists in Unitarian Universalism today. Each essay is accompanied by suggested ways to take the next steps for further learning and action. *Justice on Earth* is now available to order at [inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop](#).

An Afternoon of

## Chamber Music

### VIF Ensemble

Saturday, May 19, 2:30 PM  
\$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors  
UUCP Sanctuary

Join us in the sanctuary for an intimate afternoon of chamber music! With Phoenix Symphony members Karen Sinclair and Melita Hunsberger, clarinetist Erin Finkelstein will present a concert of music written for clarinet, violin and cello. "Vif" is French for "lively," and the VIF trio offers lively fun by both well-known and unknown composers.



*Continued from "New Life..." page 1*

sanctuary dressings. The broken filing cabinet became a fabric catalog. Kindergarten OWL workbooks from 10 years ago became usable binders. Things used to stabilize bookcases became the space heaters and box fans they were always intended to be.

With all this movement and transition, we've given the space a new name. A bit tongue in cheek, we've taken to calling the room "The Heights." In rearranging we've created more space than we could have imagined. The Heights now hosts Community Night supplies, the music library, an archive workstation, Kids Kamp storage, Children's Ministry supplies, and a quiet office space. All in one, no longer scary room. □



*The Heights about ½ through cleaning and clearing*



*Grace Galliano and Chris Mann dealing with all the boxes*



*Jacob Sorting and Organizing and Sorting and Organizing and Sorting*

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince*



## 2018-19 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Congregational Meeting. Many thanks to the Nominees for their dedication to UUCP and willingness to serve.

### Board of Trustees Candidates:

**Larry Reed**, candidate for Treasurer

Larry served as CEO of a multibillion-dollar bank holding company in the Chicago market for 20 years. Prior to that he was CEO of banks in the New York City Market. He retired in 1998 and moved to Phoenix. Currently he mentors businesses for the SBA. He also has assisted new businesses being formed by immigrants sponsored by the International Rescue Committee.

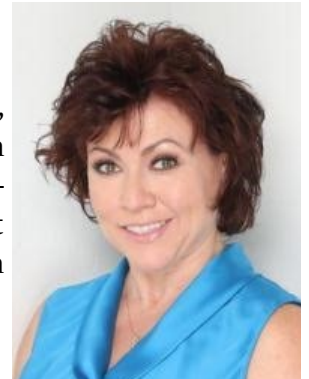


In 2006, Larry became a member of UUCP. He ushers and currently serves as Chair of the Finance Committee. He also, on occasion, helps Linda Vance prepare Community Night Dinner by chopping vegetables, the limit of his kitchen skills.

He is a strong advocate of the goals of UUCP and believes that our community brings value and purpose to the members of the congregation and those that we serve. He is encouraged by the progress that he sees taking place at UUCP and looks forward to helping our community continue to grow in the future.

### Christine Marshall

Christine joined UUCP in 2008, and has three kids currently in our Religious Education programs. She also has three adult kids and three grandchildren (with two more on the way!).



As a single business woman, Christine has often had to be away and/or working, so when she has the opportunity and free time she always gives back to the communities that have supported her and her family. Her service experience includes: Girl Scout leader for 4 years, volunteered in her children's schools, Secretary of the Board of Trustees for a son's middle school, current Treasurer for two children's middle school PTA. Christine has also volunteered as an assistant teacher for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade UUCP RE classes, and currently teaches the 3-4-5 ZUUM class. This summer, she plans to train as an OWL teacher for the K and 1<sup>st</sup> graders next year.

A fourth generation native Arizonan, Christine's family has been here since before statehood! (Let's just say she has a few stories.) She loves to cook, loves music of almost any genre, and is absolutely thrilled and honored to be nominated to serve the congregation on the Board of Trustees.

### Jonny Lifshitz

Jonny began attending UU services with his wife Carrie in 2004, seeking a community to reinforce life lessons and morals for their young family. Today, their family includes sons Dylan (15), Colin (12), and Owen (9). After moving from





Lexington, Kentucky, in 2012 to work with Phoenix Children's Hospital and the University of Arizona College of Medicine, they were quick to become involved at UUCP as members. Jonny is the primary youth leader for our UUCP YRUU—you can find him leading discussions every week in Annex C during second service. He started and led the Parents with Young(er) Children Small Group Ministry for four years.

He is a neuroscientist with specific expertise in traumatic brain injury. His research finds treatments for children, veterans, and victims of domestic violence who live with symptoms from brain injury. Jonny mentors students and other scientists. He manages federal research grants and holds leadership positions in university, state, and national organizations. His creativity has developed products to start three companies. Jonny is an extrovert with a quick wit and horrible sense of humor (according to him). He listens actively and leads with compassion and understanding.

## Bunny Hodas

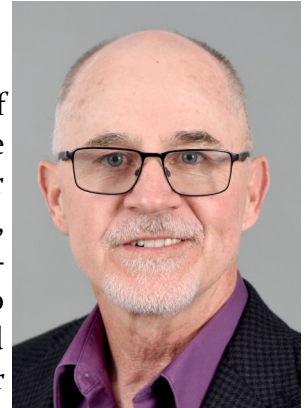
Bunny Hodas is a lifelong UU and member of UUCP for four years. She has served this congregation on the Capital Campaign and Capital Construction Committees, been involved in stewardship, served in welcoming and ushering and as a Small Group Ministry facilitator. She has led UUCP engagement with the UU Service Committee, been active in social justice, and served as a delegate to General Assembly for three years. She serves on the Stewardship Circle and Innovation Council for Change for the UUSC and is a member of the UUA's President's Council following in her father's footsteps. Bunny moved here full time nine years ago to supervise the care of her parents through the end of their lives. Bunny has been a Real Estate Professional for 20 years and is involved with renovation, staging and now representing clients here in Arizona as a Realtor.



The Nominating Committee submits the following individuals, who are currently serving on the Board of Trustees, to be elected as officers of the Board of Trustees:

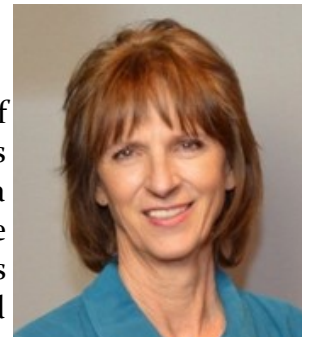
## Vince Waldron, Co-President

Vince became a member of UUCP in 2009. Among the many reasons he loves our congregation is its openness to, and active support of, LGBTQ+ persons and its commitment to social justice. Vince has served on the Board of Trustees for three years and has agreed to serve as co-president for the coming year. He has been active in such UUCP ministries as Welcoming Committee, Right Relations, Stewardship, and Unicure. Vince has facilitated adult faith development courses on such topics as forgiveness, parenting, and family communication. Working with our outstanding slate of Board members, Vince hopes to provide stable leadership during this transitional period, as UUCP searches for a new settled minister.



## Mary Dawes, Co-President

Mary has been a member of UUCP since 2010. This community has provided a wonderful home as she became an "empty-nester" and has offered new friendships and learning experiences. She has been a member and chairperson of Right Relations Ministry, served as a Greeter, and has presented a series of workshops on emotional intelligence topics. She has learned a great deal about social justice from wonderful mentors in the congregation, participated in a program with Puente, and other activities. She would be honored to serve as co-president with Vince Waldron.



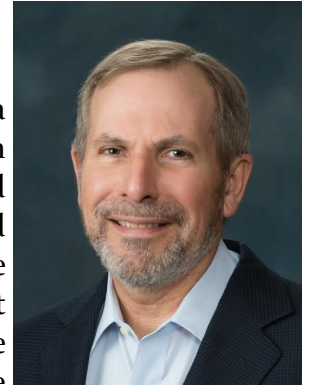
## Sarah Moore, Secretary

Sarah attended the UU church in Bethlehem, PA, as a child as well as congregations in SC, OH, IN, and Chandler, AZ. She moved to Phoenix to be nearer family and started graduate school at ASU in 2009. Sarah is a graphic designer currently working for the Heard Museum and available to serve the congregation with these talents and skills. For fun, she likes to bake, hike, read, and rejoice in the fact that she is finally done with school! She is happy to have a church home.



## Pierre Tariot

Pierre was raised as a Unitarian in the First Parish Church in Weston, MA, and attended religious school and services from age 6-16. He began attending services at UUCP in mid-2015 and became a member in February 2016. He was involved with UUJAZ in 2017 in a limited way (due to time constraints) and hopes to stay involved as possible.



## UU Foundation Candidates:

### Ellie Anderla

Ellie has been a member of UUCP since 1969. When her children were young, she served on the Religious Education committee and, some of the time, taught in the children's program on Sundays. Since that time, Ellie has been part of the Choir, the previous Ministerial Search Committee, the Board of Trustees (one year as president), the Nominating Committee, Welcoming Congregation Committee, Worship Associate, the Refugee Assistance Project, and several years as a Small Group Ministry facilitator. Ellie says, "UUCP is my spiritual home. My soul is fed here."



For 12+ years, Pierre directed Banner Alzheimer's Institute—a nonprofit providing care and study for persons with/at-risk for diseases like Alzheimer's—with an annual budget of about \$35M, for which his team raised about \$75M in philanthropic commitments. They were also very successful in obtaining Federal and State grants. Pierre also serves in an oversight capacity for a second, similar institute in the West Valley, Banner Sun Health Research Institute, and is gearing up to launch another in Tucson.

Pierre is married to Laura Jakimovich, a nurse practitioner—who oversees some of his institute's international research—and a fabulous cook. His main avocations are eating her food, hiking/walking with their dog Bennie, and being a (chronic) beginning piano student. They have two daughters, Suzanne, a physician in Tempe; Martine, an attorney in Golden, Colorado; and six grandkids who are, of course, fabulous. Pierre and Laura live in north central Phoenix and feel lucky to be here.



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Are **YOU** considering putting UUCP or UUA in your **will** or **estate plan**?

We have a wonderful opportunity for matching grants! (This includes UUFP, UUA, UUSC, etc.—or if you already have UUCP/UUA in your will, but are considering a change.) Please contact any member of the UU Foundation of Phoenix at [uufp@phoenixuu.org](mailto:uufp@phoenixuu.org) for more information. Believe it or not, this is like “free money”! Intrigued? Contact us!



## Nominating Committee Candidates:

### Betsy Bradley

Betsy has been a member of UUCP since 1986. Her two sons went through the RE programs, one continuing through YRUU. Betsy has taught Sunday school, been Youth Group adviser, choreographed for choir performances and helped with student presentations and performances. She has been on the UUCP board twice as well as a member of one Ministerial Search committee, three RE Director Search committees, Nominating committee, Share the Plate and some other committees which no longer exist.



Outside the Congregation, Betsy worked as a ballet teacher until retiring in 2012. Upon retirement she wrote a parenting book for parents of dance students: *A Chance to Dance: A Parents Guide to Healthy Dance Education*. She now spends her time volunteering, demonstrating and writing letters to the elected officials, exercising, traveling and seeing as many dance and theater performances as she can. She no longer remembers her SAT scores.

### Kat Dickson

With a degree in Instructional Technology and a minor in Graphic Design, Kat spent 30 years in the management training and organizational development field before retiring in 2011. Kat was familiar with the UU philosophy, having attended the Naperville, IL, Unitarian Congregation for five years in the 1990s. Kat and her husband, Gary, started attending UUCP in 2016 and became members in 2017. Kat is a member of UUCP choir, helps out on

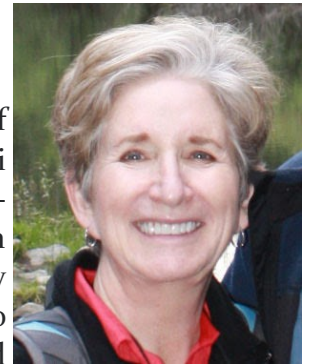


the Refugee Assistance Program, and was assistant stage manager for the 2018 Cabaret.

Kat's interests include reading, hiking, gardening, creating jewelry, and assembling found objects into mixed media art pieces. Kat's art has been featured in *Just Mixed Media* and *Just Steampunk* magazines. She has also facilitated art creation workshops at the 2017 and 2018 Camp de Benneville Pines Women's retreat and for the 2018 Service Auction.

### Caroli Peterson

From a faith background of Roman Catholicism, Caroli "discovered" Unitarian Universalism in 2007 while living in the Squam Lakes region of New Hampshire. She moved to Phoenix at the end of 2008 and became a member of UUCP in early 2009. In that time, Caroli has felt privileged to serve UUCP in a few ways: Membership Committee, Pathway to Membership program, Nominating Committee, Small Group Ministry Leader, and Welcoming Committee.



Outside of UUCP, she is the smitten grandmother of three grandchildren—two in Phoenix and one in Massachusetts (with one more on the way!). A retired registered nurse, one of the best jobs she ever had came after retirement as a volunteer nurse in the Homeless Youth Outreach Program at Phoenix Children's Hospital. Caroli enjoys hiking, quilting, reading, playing piano, and traveling with her husband, Mike, who she met at UUCP and married in the sanctuary seven years ago.

Caroli is honored to be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee during this exciting and transformative time for our congregation.

*Continued on next page...*

## *Leadership Nominations, continued*

### **Val Wylie**

Val has been a UU for eight years and a member of UUCP for four years. At UUCP, she has been active in the Senior Women's Small Group Ministry, the Art Studio, UNICARE and served as a Connector. Since arriving in Phoenix four years ago, Val has volunteered at the Yucca Branch Library Friends group, serves as President of Yucca on the Library Friends Chapter Organization, founded a book club in her community, and enjoys watching her grandchildren in their various activities.



Val brings to the Nominating Committee 35

years of nonprofit Leadership from human services to hospitality nonprofits. She is honored to be invited to serve on the Nominating Committee.

*These nominees are respectfully submitted for your consideration by the Nominating Committee: Jenny Jones (Chair), Bonnie White, Bill Snowden, Daisy Danforth, Lynn Raabe, and Josh Turre.*

*In addition, the Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that Phoebe Dubisch and Jacob Barnum have accepted positions as YRUU Representatives to the UUCP Board of Trustees. These two young leaders will lend their valuable perspectives to the Board. Jacob will serve a two-year term and Phoebe a one-year term. □*

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**There is a vitality**, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action, and because there is only one of you in all time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and will be lost. — Martha Graham

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## **Web of Oppression Workshop**

Rowdy Duncan, Facilitator  
Sunday, May 6  
12:00-1:00 PM

**W**hat does it mean to be white in America? What does it mean to be a person of color? What are the expectations in those roles? This workshop explores the Web of Oppression: what it is, how it works, and how it is held in place, unconsciously keeping "the other" feeling welcomed but still at times like an outsider. It is up to us to damage this web of oppression and separation, and there are daily tasks we can adopt to carry this work forward.

Rowdy Duncan has worked in the field of diversity and inclusion for over a decade. He has developed workshops informing about issues related

to "colorblindness," Interest Based Negotiations, Nonviolent Communication and Conflict Resolution, Positive Masculinity, and seeing People as Possibilities. Rowdy mentors and teaches young people and their leaders about power, privilege, equity, and inclusion. He directs Paradise Valley Community College's Diversity, Incorporated, a program that teaches students how to present the MOSAIC inclusiveness program, and he is an active member of the Healing Racism Public Dialogue Series, winner of the 2008 National League of Cities Promoting Inclusive Award. Rowdy produces and delivers his Inclusive Activism Podcast bi-weekly to his thousands of listeners about how the intersections of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity work are a form of Personal Leadership. □



## Construction & New Office Hours

Heidi Parmenter

Business Administrator

The construction documents were finalized and submitted to the Town of Paradise Valley for approval the week of April 2<sup>nd</sup>. By the end of April the Construction Team should hear back from the Town with any questions or approval. In the meantime, Porter Construction, our General Contractor, is gathering bids for the construction work. Once they have completed a budget for all the construction they will present it to the Construction Team and Architect Design Team for approval. The Board of Trustees will sign a contract with Porter Construction that includes a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) that all the construction could cost. There is also a cost savings split that is in our favor if the construction work comes in under the GMP. If there are no significant delays with the Town's approval or gathering the bids we hope to start construction in July. Once construction begins, a communications team will be formed comprised of a Construction Team rep, school reps, contractor reps and myself. This team will meet weekly all while construction is happening to ensure that our property remains safe and accessible for everyone. Look for updates in your email as things start speeding up.

**New Hours:** For the past twelve years I have happily worked 40+ hours a week for the congregation as your Administrator. Beginning in March I was granted permission to reduce my hours down to 30 per week. This allows me more time with my 10 year old son and as a single mom, this is wonderful gift. My pay has been adjusted accordingly and many things that I used to do for the congregation have been delegated to both other staff and members. For example, I no longer am in charge of the Annual Auction (thank you Bonnie White for taking that over!) or the Craft Fair (thank you Jan Kaplan for taking that over this year) and Geoff & Janine have done ALL the database upgrade and improvement work without any of my help - something I was never able to do on my own even though it was so badly needed. My new schedule is Monday through Friday 9 am to 3 pm but I am always available for campus emergencies. My primary responsibilities still remain Accounting & Finance, Human Resources, and Property Management. □



## *Calling All Artists!*

The Sanctuary Art Team is calling all artists who are members and/or friends of UUCP to participate in the 2018 fall art show. It's time to get your artwork ready. Set up for the show will be Saturday, September 1, 2018. For forms and information about how to participate contact:

Bill Snowden

[sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org](mailto:sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org)

623-341-6189





## The World: Beauty and the Beast

### Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, May 11, Claude Guldner will present *The World: Beauty and the Beast* in the UUCP Sanctuary, 7:00-8:00 PM. In our beautiful world there is also a beastly side operating. World Health Organization attempts to deal with these issues unknown to most travelers. Claude will share some of these world concerns and our process of dealing with them. Claude Guldner has a PhD in psychology with a specialty in child abuse and exploitation issues and consulted with WHO since 1984. Questions? Call Barbara at 480-994-1452.



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI | 2018**

**JUNE 20-24—REGISTER AT <https://www.uua.org/ga>**

Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, “How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?” The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals. Together, we’ll ask:

Who and how are we called to be at this time, individually and collectively?

How are we called to act and to live?

How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission? In what ways does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?

The call of our faith has a place for each of us. Join us in Kansas City to build courageous, collective leadership with tools, skills and connections.



## 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](mailto:unicare@phoenixuu.org).

### Healing Wishes & Transitions:

Jen Hempel, volunteer RE teacher, was diagnosed with breast cancer in February. Please keep her in your thoughts for healing, love and strength as she navigates this journey. A meal train is set up through August to provide some relief: <https://mealtrain.com/68n3gd>.

We send our love to Arnold Thaw, whose health has declined and is at the Beatitudes Rehab Hospital (at the time of this writing). He welcomes visits from his friends, as well as cards.

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](mailto: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. □

## 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



## May Worship Theme: **Creativity / Quail**

*Services bring our community together at 10:30 AM\**

### **May 6: Understanding the Web of Oppression**

Service Leader: Rowdy Duncan

Continuing to explore our challenge to White Supremacy, we explore the systems of socialization that condition us to be, act, and perform to keep oppression in place. This service, and the workshop that follows, engage us in going deeper to be justice-centered in a complex and changing world.

*Rowdy Duncan has worked in the field of diversity and inclusion for more than a decade. He has developed workshops on issues related to “colorblindness,” Interest Based Negotiations, Nonviolent Communication and Conflict Resolution, Positive Masculinity, and seeing People as Possibilities. Rowdy mentors and teaches young people and their leaders about power, privilege, equity, and inclusion. He directs the Paradise Valley Community College’s Diversity, Inc., a program that teaches students how to present the MOSAIC inclusiveness program, and he is an active member of the Healing Racism Public Dialogue Series, winner of the 2008 National League of Cities Promoting Inclusive Award. Rowdy produces and delivers his Inclusive Activism Podcast bi-weekly to his thousands of listeners about how the intersections of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity work are a form of Personal Leadership.*

### **May 13: Love in a Bouquet (Annual Flower Communion)**

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O’Neill

The Flower Communion celebrates our common unity in all our beauty and diversity, the love that holds us in active covenant, and our bright presence in the world. Today we also bridge our youth into their adult UU identity. Please bring a flower to share in our annual flower exchange.

### **May 20: YRUU Service: Activism In Our Lives**

Service Leader: Katie Resendiz and the YRUU Members

In 1903, child textile workers marched from Philadelphia to New York City to demand fair labor standards. Desegregation, nuclear disarmament, voting rights, and the Dream Act—all moments when youth and children forced change in our country. Join UUCP’s high school group (YRUU) to look at how activism has shaped their lives, their communities, their faith, and our world.

### **May 27: Day of Memory**

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O’Neill

On this weekend of Memorial Day, dedicated to remembering the lives of those who have died in military service, we remind ourselves that the act of remembering is, in itself, a sacred act that weaves the larger ongoing pattern of life.

*\*American Sign Language interpreter available  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month*





Western Unitarian Universalist Life Festival is a week-long camp for Unitarian Universalists. We are a friendly, intergenerational camp seeking to build a close-knit community in which we can live out our UU principles and purposes —a place where participants of all ages can spend time focusing on their own interests, as well as spend time together. We are a loving community from a diverse set of age groups, backgrounds, and cultures who gather in New Mexico each year to express our appreciation for each other and our world. We would love to see you there for our relaxing, rejuvenating, and above all, welcoming, week in the New Mexico sun!

**June 18-24    Info & registration at <http://wuulf.org/>**



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