



# Horizons Journal

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix  
November 2018

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## Exploring New Horizons

The *Horizons* church bulletin began in 1947, months after the founding of the UU Congregation of Phoenix, with a name inspired by one of those amazing Arizona sunsets that we continue to enjoy today. Sunsets remain much the same, but communication channels in our culture have expanded and become much more flexible and creative over the years. Our own *Horizons* has fallen a bit behind the times, since it is impossible to keep up with the dynamic pace of emerging congregational activities in a monthly printed newsletter.

So we are changing with the times! This November 2018 edition will be the final mass-mailed *Horizons* newsletter at UUCP. In keeping with Radical Inclusion we will still mail a printed *Connections* program guide, and send printouts on request for people who are not connected electronically, so they still get all their news.

Our monthly Theme (Small Group) packet will soon expand, to provide a richer resource of articles, questions, quotes and reflections for small

groups, family discussions, and individuals. This will still be available printed to pick up in the lobby, and also online.

We will be posting more frequent updates on our website, including the staff and leader columns, the news, events and articles from our committees and teams. We will then connect to all those from the weekly Compass email and the printed announcements in the order of service, as well as Facebook and other emerging communication channels on social media. These changes will allow us to be more timely, responsive and accessible, putting news right at your fingertips from any device. The increased use of blogs and Facebook will also open the window wide for visitors and newcomers to see all the things we do, so that we can better connect with the reality of amazing activity in the congregation. And so UUCP continues to explore and innovate for deeper connection and expanded possibility—the journey continues!



## Democracy & Justice Reverend Margret A. O'Neill

Our Unitarian Universalist faith tradition is grounded in our shared values and commitments, expressed in the seven principles that were first written over 30 years ago, and have been democratically adopted by the approximately 1,000 member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Each and all seven of the principles are equally important and mutually affirming, and together they form a strong foundation for the leadership of our Unitarian Universalist presence to bring more justice into the world.

The first and second principles call us to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity and compassion in

human relations. The fourth and fifth, equally important, affirm the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, along with the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations. I have been doing a lot of thinking this fall about the meaning of democracy in a UU congregation—and especially about how we use democracy to create and carry out initiatives that are both participatory and justice-centered, reflecting our diverse experiences, understanding, and voices.

In our learning journey, how do we balance the urgency of a justice imperative to care for those among us who are most often disenfranchised or subject to discrimination, with the uncertain prom-

*Continued on page 7*

## Ministerial Search Committee Update

*We seek our place in the world  
and the answers to our hearts' deep  
questions. As we seek, may our hearts  
be open to unexpected answers.  
May the light of our chalice remind us  
that this is a community of warmth,  
of wisdom, and welcoming of multiple  
truths.*

—Rev. Julianne Lepp



*lifted off, let alone returned to  
Earth safely. We need to  
unhook our assumptions of  
what smart looks like, of what  
“quality music” sounds like, of  
what “reason” means. We  
need to get messy. We need to*

*question our assumptions about who makes a good  
fit, and why we think people are puzzles pieces that  
have to slide into the existing system.*

First, we want to THANK YOU for participating in both the congregational survey and our Cottage Meeting services! On Sunday, November 18, the MSC will be your service leaders for a special service where you will hear about the results of our congregational survey and group discussions. What ideas and beliefs of others may surprise you? Our former choir director had a tag line on her mails: “When I am singing lyrics that don’t ring true for my own personal beliefs, I take joy in knowing they may for the person standing next to me.” As a non-creedal community, we hold different beliefs and perspectives. But to be a UU is to have a willing heart—to be kindly curious, to be open to being changed by each other, and to deeply care that we tend to each other’s needs. We do have differences, but we have common principles and we will hear about what we consider to be our common goals and vision for UUCP with our new minister.

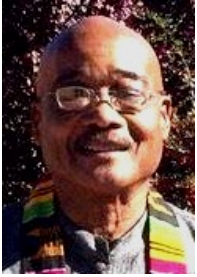
As UUs, we are committed to justice, diversity, and to facing our biases with honesty and the determination to be fair. In a reflection on bias, UU Minister Rev. Matthew Johnson writes:

*We’re the faith of reason and science and dignity.  
There’s nothing wrong with that. It’s just that too  
many of us have been taught by culture that what  
“smart” looks like is white, male, and middle class.  
We’ve been taught that credibility and authority are  
white. We’ve been taught that what science looks like  
is a white man in a white shirt and a buzzcut, not  
Katherine Johnson or Dorothy Vaughn — the NASA  
scientists without whom John Glenn would not have*

Let’s be willing to “get messy,” knowing that we are a beloved community which is up to the task! Beyond Categorical Thinking (“BCT”) is a weekend program designed to promote inclusive thinking and help participants come to terms with their own, often involuntary “categorical thinking.” The program is conducted by trained leaders who have examined their own fears and prejudices, and have learned effective methods to address these fears in themselves and in our UU congregations. Please plan on attending the workshop Saturday, December 1, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to engage in this vital process. (More in-depth information on page 10.) Rev. Keith Kron, UUA Transitions Director, will lead both services on Sunday, December 2, to share valuable insights. Mark your calendars! □

### Important Dates!

- 11/18: Voices Service: Results of Survey & Group Discussions
- 12/1: Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop
- 12/2: Special Service: Rev. Keith Kron, UUA Transitions Director



## Democracy, Through My Eyes

Anthony Johnson

Director for Congregational Life

When I first heard, years ago, that the word “Democracy” was nowhere in the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence, I was startled. Surely, this was not true. Our government is a Democracy! But true it is. As it turns out, our Founders actually feared democratic rule. The Founders preferred the word “Republic.” James Madison expressed this attitude in Federalist Paper #10, “instability, injustice, and confusion ...have in truth been the mortal disease under which popular governments everywhere perished...” In the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century, rule by the people was thought to lead to disorder and disruption. At the same time, a democratically based government was seen as superior to the monarchies of Europe.

Democracies did not originate with the founding of the United States. The term “democracy” comes from two Greek words: “demos” (the people) and “kratia” (power or authority). The Greeks are famous for practicing direct democracies, a system in which citizens meet to discuss all policy, and then make decisions by majority rule.

I must also give recognition to those indigenous societies around the world who have been practicing democracy gathering in villages and under “discussion” trees since time immemorial. One example comes to mind. Not only did ancient African societies have a democratic structure, they also recognized major sets of human rights and civil liberties. The Kurukan Fuga charter (1236) also known as the Manden Charter, was the constitution of the Mali Empire. Since it is older than the Bill of Rights (1689), the Declaration of Right of Man and of the Citizen (1789) and almost the Magna Carta (1215-1297), it is considered by some to be the first declaration of Human Rights in history. In 2009 UNESCO included it in their Representative Lists of intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

But how could direct democracy work in a large, diverse population spread over a geographical distance? Generally, the answer has been that it

can't. In its place, the American Founders put “indirect” or “representative” democracy. In this system, representatives are chosen by the people to make decisions for them. The Founders preferred the term “Republic” to “Democracy” because it described a system they generally preferred: the interests of the people were represented by more knowledgeable or wealthier and white citizens who were responsible to those that elected them.

Today we tend to use the terms “republic” and “democracy” as if they are one and the same. They are not. One widespread criticism of representative democracy is that the representatives become the “elites” that seldom consult ordinary citizens, so even though they are elected, a truly representative government doesn't really exist. This is where, I believe, in the United States, we find ourselves today. Democracy for me, through my eyes, remains a dream deferred.

The dream has turned into a nightmare and is exploding before our very eyes. Our politics is broken, but I believe it can be fixed. A real democracy is not only possible—it is an urgent necessity. We must think and act out of the box.

Our government now is controlled by monied interest and leaders who seem to be held in place by the plaster and mortar of incumbency. I believe that we can fix democracy by eliminating politicians and replacing them with a representative network of everyday citizens. There is a wealth of recent evidence that has shown that groups of randomly selected, ordinary people can and do make balanced, informed and trusted decisions. These citizens' assemblies are legitimate, accountable, competent and, above all, convincing demonstrations that we can govern ourselves.

The future of democracy has arrived. It is time for the end of politicians. □



## We Shall Overcome

Benjie Messer

Music Director

Democracy, our worship theme for November, is a system of government “of the people, by the people, and for the people,” as the old quote goes. Democratic governments require people to work together. And we have work to do together. Beyond governing ourselves and resolving our disputes, we need to work together to solve the runaway destruction of our environment and our climate. But today is not a good day for democracy. Both in the U.S. and around the world, anti-democratic governments are on the rise, along with political and cultural polarization. Meditating on democracy at a time like this may bring up feelings of hopelessness, anger, or despair.

Our monthly hymn for November is “We Shall Overcome,” and it’s a perfect antidote to those feelings. For two hundred years, it has helped stoke flames of hope, peace and righteousness. It was written by Africans forced to live in slavery in the U.S., who sang “I’ll be all right someday” while working in the fields. In 1900, Rev. Charles Tindley gave the song a home in the black church with religious lyrics: “If in my heart I do not yield, I’ll overcome someday.” Then it found a home on the picket line, with workers singing “We will win our rights someday.” In the 1950s and ‘60s, it became a key anthem of the U.S. civil rights movement, lending its strength to countless marches, demonstrations, and jail cells.

I was hired to work at UUCP in January of 2013, and the first service I attended after being hired was our annual Martin Luther King, Jr. service. After some beautiful songs by an a cappella group and a powerful justice-themed sermon, the service ended with the congregation singing “We Shall Overcome.” As the song began, members of the a cappella group moved spontaneously, one by one, to the front of the sanctuary and took each other’s hands. Then they began motioning to others (including me!) to come forward, and soon half of the congregation was holding hands in a circle around the hall. To my

complete surprise, I found myself tearing up, which had never happened to me in a religious service before. The tears had something to do with being welcomed into a place where people were both serious and hopeful about making the world better, and that feeling was cemented into place by “We Shall Overcome.”

When Katie and I chose “We Shall Overcome” as the hymn for November, we were thinking about congregation’s children. We felt that it was a song that children “should know” as part of being Unitarian Universalists, a part of our shared culture that we simply couldn’t ignore. But it may be just as valuable to adults. As we meditate this month on democracy, and as our own government and society grows more and more polarized and corrosive, let’s keep believing, together, deep in our hearts, that someday, we shall overcome. □

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## Community Dance

Saturday, November 3 — 6:30-8:30 pm  
UUCP Sanctuary

Join us for live music and traditional dance patterns with the joyful guidance of Peg Hesley. Come to promenade, do si do, play and laugh together. Bring family and friends and neighbors for inter-generational fun. (Childcare available for the youngest.)

- \$2.00 - \$5.00 optional contribution
- Bring your water bottle; wear comfortable shoes and clothes.
- Ultra optional: Bring a plate of finger food to share at the mid-evening break.

Questions? Contact [Carolyn.allenby@gmail.com](mailto:Carolyn.allenby@gmail.com).





## Democracy & Stewardship: Rising or Falling?

Bunny Hodas

Member, Board of Trustees

Part of me feels like I'm having a Faith Crisis. I've been feeling unheard and discounted. I'm pretty sure I'm not alone in these feelings. What I know is that I can't control or change anyone except myself. I also know that my active participation counts. It is meaningful; to me and to others. My willingness to not quit or walk away in the face of adversity, disgust, despair, frustration, and anger allows me to claim my ownership, membership, and stewardship of this planet; this country; this congregation. My Voice and My Vote matter.

Democracy is defined as "government by the people," "vested in the people." Our UU 5<sup>th</sup> Principle is "The right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." Our Kids' 5<sup>th</sup> Principle affirms that all persons should have a vote about the things that concern them. Stewardship is defined as "...the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care."

In these definitions and principles, I don't read anything about corporations, special interest groups, or those people having the most money getting to be the ones in control. I read "people," "process," "conscience," "concern," "care." *WE* are the people. We are the ones who have been using the democratic process here at UUCP for quite some time. Since I've been a member in the last 4-5 years, we've been voting up a storm. Besides budgets and Board members, we've voted on a new Vision statement, new Strategic Ends, a Capital Campaign, supporting Rev. Susan for UUA Presidency, electing a Ministerial Search Committee, and soon voting to accept a new minister. We're writing postcards, making phone calls, attending marches and protests, working alongside the disenfranchised and doing the work to learn about our own shortcomings, biases, and how to live better into our Vision.

I'd say we're being "The People." We're using our votes to show our concern and exhibiting the careful and responsible management of things

entrusted to our care. Every vote we cast, every time we show up and exercise our ownership of this congregation, we are being responsible stewards of UUCP. We are living into our 5<sup>th</sup> Principle of democratic process. We do the same in our community and society. Your Voice and Your Vote Matters! Democracy and Stewardship go hand in hand. I'd say both are alive and well at UUCP.

While part of me still feels like I'm having a faith crisis, another part of me understands that it's my faith in our UU Principles, my belief in our UUCP Mission and Vision and the people that make up this beloved community that will see me through any crisis. □

## Board of Trustees Meetings:

All are welcome!

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month

6:00 pm, social

6:30 pm, business commences

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## Blue Christmas

Saturday, December 22, 5:00 PM

In the Sanctuary

There is much joy in the holiday season, but it can also be a painful time for those who have experienced loss. This gentle service will offer a space of holding, with music, spoken word and meditative ritual, to provide support in the sadness that can be present among the celebrations of this time. Child care will be provided.



## Exercise Your 5<sup>th</sup> Principle (Youngsters Too!)

Katie Resendiz

Director, Children's Ministries

*The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process Within Our Congregations and in Society at Large*

Teaching each person that their voice is important requires us to also teach each other all of the different ways that one can raise their voice. For most folks in the U.S., the primary symbol of democracy is the system of government and politics that create, evaluate, and enforce our laws and public systems. The 5<sup>th</sup> Principle calls UUs to closely consider their role in that democracy.

In Children's Ministry at UUCP, we look at democracy in three ways:

1. Democracy is a structure in which the will of the largest part of a group determines the group's actions
2. Democracy is the system through which political leaders in the U.S. are chosen.
3. Democracy is a symbol for social equity

Each of these three lenses presents challenges as we grow as individuals and work to build strong community both within UUCP and the greater community.

When we think about civic action and responsibility we often exclude community members under the age of 18 or limit their role to "be a good community member"—but living in a large metro area, there are tons of ways for kids to be active and aware in democracy.

### Voting

While folks under the age of 18 can't vote in most elections, there are a whole lot of 17-year-olds out there that can be registered. Arizona statute specifies that to register to vote in Arizona you must meet the following qualifications (A.R.S. §16-101):

- Be a United States citizen.
- Be a resident of Arizona and the county listed on your registration.
- Be 18 years of age or older on or before the day of the next regular General Election.

In our congregation, high school students have been trained and worked in the schools to help get classmates registered. Though the deadline for November's election is past, they will keep on working to make sure that their peers vote as soon as they are old enough.

For younger kids:

- Take your kids to the polls with you!
- Show them your ballot!
- Talk about how you decided who to vote for!
- Show off your "I voted today" sticker.

### Protests & Rallies

Phoenix's activist culture is strong and effective. If you have questions about what kinds of events are appropriate for kids, come talk to folks from Children's Ministry. We have resources for helping kids understand public actions and for helping them stay safe at larger events. UU kids have been spotted at vigils, marches, sidewalk protests, sit-in, walk-outs and jailhouse receptions.

### Political Shirts, Signs & Stickers (the upside of becoming a billboard)

In general, it's a strange thing for a kid to wear someone else's slogans. Just like in deciding to let a kiddo wear a SpongeBob shirt, when a child wears a shirt with a political message, they broadcast a belief and affinity. Show your kids the brochures that canvassers leave behind, describe the ballot initiatives to them. One of the best ways to build your own understanding of these measures is to figure out how to explain it to a youngster. Once they figure out what they are on board with, have them make yard signs, let them put stickers on their water bottles to represent their candidates, and yes, kids can make financial campaign contributions.

### Canvassing

Got a candidate or issue the whole family is on board with? Get out there and pound the pavement together. Spend an afternoon knocking doors and

letter voters know why and where your support lies. Connect with a campaign—you'll get training, materials, and a map to follow. It's easy, is amazing family time, and is like going for a walk with the family with the added bonus of connecting with a neighborhood and making change happen.

## **Campaigning**

Your kid may find passion in a candidate or issue. A kid's voice can be extremely helpful to a campaign. Think about how your family might be comfortable being a direct part of a campaign, what are your boundaries on public statements, are you willing to become a recognizable face? At UUCP we have had nine kids (plus one young adult) become active spokespeople for various issues. If it's something that might work for your family, let the campaigns know or come talk to children's ministry about where to begin.

## **Running**

While candidates for state offices must be 18, individual towns in Arizona have variation in how young a person can be to hold public office... just saying.

## **Participating in Government Meetings & Visiting the Legislature**

Take your kids to city council meetings and legislative hearings. Nope, it's not catered directly for them, in fact it may not be catered directly to anyone very well, but they will still get to see how this system works. They can take the mic when they have something to say.

## **Seeking Committee Positions**

Throughout the valley, cities have youth boards for art, volunteerism, education, and other issues. Kids can serve their city and get experience with committee work (which we all know is a very important UU skill). Youth have also served on traditional committees: mayor's victim service committee, parks and recreation, and diversity council.

## **Joining Organizers / Becoming a Follower**

UUCP has amazing, active social justice partners. Youth are welcome to become part of the work.

## **Attending Issue and Action Day & Day at the Legislature**

Do This. Visit this website to find out how: <https://www.uujaz.org/>. Worried that it's not Kid Focused enough? Work with Children's Ministry to make it more so.

## **BE DEMOCRACY. □**

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*Continued from "Democracy..." Rev. Margret, page 1*

ise and open-ended possibilities of a democratic system in which everyone, with every sort of opinion and perspective, has a say? How does a democracy avoid a tyranny of the privileged; how do we balance the benefits of collective decision-making against the risk of domination by those of privilege and power in the system?

Political thinkers have pointed out that a fair and effective democracy can thrive only with a high quality of education among the populace, and I would add that healthy democracy also requires heart-centered listening, open communication, trust and love. This democratic UU Congregation of Phoenix has set for itself the goal of living into a challenging vision to be theologically diverse, radically inclusive and justice centered; achieving this vision will require a continuing balance of learning, participation, understanding, open communication, trust and love.

With our principles in mind, this congregation is engaged in planning and implementing bold initiatives, and educating ourselves about all the elements of the actions we take. You are invited to join the Inclusion Ministry Team, and to make your presence known in this model democratic system for justice. May we live into our promise to be a faith community for our time, as all are welcome to share this journey, growing in spirit and advancing justice. See you at UUCP! □



## Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop

On Saturday, December 1, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Johnson Room, join us for this vital event led by UUA Transitions Director Rev. Keith Kron.

“Will the new minister hear me? Will my concerns and needs be met? Will the minister understand what I’m living with? How will the community respond to our minister?”

In answering these questions, a picture of the “ideal minister” (categorized by age, gender, gender identity, nationality, physical ability, race, and sexual orientation) comes to mind. With this picture in place, it can be easy to unintentionally exclude ministers who fall into certain categories. At times, as we get caught up in comparing candidates to our “picture,” we can even forget what it is we hoped for in a minister.

On the weekend of December 1, UUCP will participate in the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) for congregations involved in the search for a new minister. The UUCP Ministerial Search Committee invites all congregational leaders,

members, and friends to participate in this workshop.

The Beyond Categorical Thinking program is designed to promote inclusive thinking and help prevent unfair discrimination in the search process for a new minister. This program includes a three-hour BCT workshop and a Sunday morning service with facilitators trained by the UUA. In the workshop, UUCP members will:

- ✦ Consider the hopes, expectations, and concerns they have for a new minister
- ✦ Learn more about the ministerial search process, and
- ✦ Explore how thinking categorically about people sometimes interferes with choosing the best candidate.

*The selection of a minister is important. The Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop is another opportunity for everyone in our congregation to be a part of that process. This experience will provide guidance for the search committee in our work. □*

## Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 22 ▪ 4:00 PM

Thanksgiving is a time of sharing and gratitude, so what better day to join UUCP members, friends and extended families for a collaborative community Thanksgiving dinner! Our community comes together to provide the meal, so please visit [phoenixuu.org/thanksgiving](http://phoenixuu.org/thanksgiving) to sign up for the dish you would like to bring.







## Unicare News

We lift up those in our community who share their joys, transitions, sorrows and wishes. May they find strength in the love of community.

### Remembrances:

Caroli DuFresne Peterson will miss her father, Robert DuFresne, who passed away at age 89. In her words, it was a long goodbye since he had Alzheimer's disease for over ten years. She will join family in MA in early November to honor his life.

### Milestones & Celebrations:

Congratulations and much love to Susan and Richard Goldsmith who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary while traveling in Australia.

Jerry O'Neal celebrated the arrival of a new grandchild Steven. Jerry also had his gallbladder removed in September, but that was not nearly as fun as a new grandbaby.

Ashley Perez was accepted into the Black Young Organizer Project at AZ Coalition for Change.

### Healing Wishes & Transitions:

Kathryn Peacock underwent extensive abdominal surgery in October and as she recovers, a meal train is setup to help her family (sign up here: <https://mealtrain.com/8d3znn>). We wish her a good and speedy recovery.

As Jen Hempel continues her cancer treatments, a meal train is set up to assist her family. We continue to wish her strength and healing. You can sign up to provide a meal for Jen and her family here: <https://mealtrain.com/68n3gd>

Ann Bixel was hospitalized in October. We wish her a full recovery.

Mark Grenard had a pacemaker inserted in October. We wish him good health.

Sue Kennedy kindly receives a ride to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> service, but is looking for alternative rides home. If you are interested in providing a ride for Sue, even if not regularly, please contact her or Unicare. She lives near Desert Ridge/Mayo Hospital/MIM.

If you're interested in sharing your love and a little time to support others in our UU community, consider joining the Unicare e-Group. We welcome those with caring hearts and able hands who wish to put them to good use with our team of compassionate volunteers. We provide support by sending cards/notes/emails, or providing an occasional meal or transportation. You choose when you wish to participate. To sign up or for more information, contact Vicki Myers at [unicare@phonenixuu.org](mailto:unicare@phonenixuu.org). □

## Memorial Garden

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

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

## November Share the Plate Partner: Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Our Share the Plate partner for November is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and their Guest at Your Table program. Throughout the world, UUSC and their partners advance human rights, dismantle systems of oppression, and uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all people. UUSC centers the voices of affected communities and strengthens grassroots movements, focusing our human rights work in three distinct ways:

- Grassroots Partnerships — collaborating with grassroots organizations and movements that are advancing our shared human rights goals on the ground.
- Justice Education & Leadership Development — inspiring, equipping and sustaining spiritually grounded activism for justice, offering a continuum of educational, skill-building, and experiential opportunities. and
- Advocacy & Mobilizing — offering meaningful opportunities for taking action together to advance human rights.



UUSC's human rights work is focused on leveraging their assets and strengths to change systems and advance human rights across these often intersecting areas. Their initiatives are addressing three key areas:

- Displacement — supporting the rights of people forced to leave their homes because of climate change, conflict, or economic hardship — always seeking to address the root causes of displacement
- Criminalization — disrupting the oppression of people based on their identities, and reduce harm for those who are impacted by discrimination, and
- Crisis Response — responding to humanitarian crises, partnering with people whose access to aid is most limited by helping them rebuild their lives and by enabling a more equitable and just recovery.

The UUSC theme for Guest at Your Table this year is *Justice Across Borders*. From the Northern Triangle of Central America, to deserts of Mexico and Arizona, to detention centers in the United States, the road away from danger is paved with injustices. Partnering with grassroots allies along the Central American migration trail, UUSC addresses root causes, supports migrants in transit, and protects the right to seek asylum. Join with UUSC for Guest at Your Table to learn more about UUSC's and our nation's involvement in Central America, both historically and presently. The funding and support go to 11 courageous Migrant Justice partners, including Tucson-based "No More Deaths."

November Worship Theme:

## Democracy

*Sunday services bring our community together at 9:30 & 11:15\**

### **November 4: Justice Across Borders**

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

Throughout the world, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) works with local partners to advance human rights, dismantle systems of oppression, and uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all people. We are all part of this historic justice work, foundational to our UU presence in the world.

### **November 11: Democracy, Through My Eyes**

Service Leader: Anthony Johnson

When I first learned that the word "Democracy" was nowhere in the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence, I was startled. Our government is a Democracy! It turns out our Founders actually feared democratic rule, preferring the word "Republic." What is the difference; and what does that mean for us today?

### **November 18: Voices**

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill and the Ministerial Search Committee

Your voice is clear. In this traditional service of Bread Communion, Search Committee members share some of the voices we have gathered from the congregation, in a chorus that has inspired us in our search for your minister. All are welcome to bring bread to share in the service.

### **November 25: Dedication**

Service Leader: Rev. Margret A. O'Neill

In this time of Thanksgiving, we welcome children into this congregation with a ceremony of dedication, committing to support the child and family as they grow. Commitment and gratitude are gifts that we can give our children as they navigate their way through a complex world.

*\*American Sign Language interpreter available at some services.*

*See [phoenixuu.org/worship/asl](http://phoenixuu.org/worship/asl) for most recent details.*



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

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

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JUSTICE CENTERED