



A Welcoming Congregation

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

March 2010

Making "It" Real

Our Combined Stewardship/Capital Campaign kicks off Sunday, March 7, with the theme "Time to Make It Real". My high school English teacher, Mr. Sheffler, would not be pleased. "'It'?" he would say with arched brows. "What does 'It' refer to? Mr. Ezzell, define your antecedents!"

Fair enough. Let's be specific. For the Capital Campaign, "it" is tangible and practical. We need decent restrooms. Nothing extravagant, but function, accessible and presentable. Being a welcoming, hospitable congregation means many things, including having a convenient, accessible place for someone with a wheel chair or a walker to use the restroom. It means bringing a guest, or a wedding party, into the building without feeling apologetic. It means taking the next step in turning our architectural plans into rooms we can enter

and use and feel good about.

Making that real in a fifty-year old building is not cheap. We need to put in a sewer, upgrade the water and electrical service, and then build an addition to the south adjacent to the lobby with entries opposite the offices. If we have to take this in steps, we will. But generous and committed members have already pledged an impressive sum, which will be announced on March 7. If everyone contributes, then we won't have to wait. What could you do? \$32/week over three years is \$5000. \$1000 a year over 3 years is \$3000. We have over 350 members. 100 families giving \$32/week would make it real, as would 200 giving \$16/week. This can be done, but not by counting on someone else to do it.

OK, that is Capital. For Stewardship, we need to support our many activities and ministries, which primarily means supporting our staff. You can't get more "tangible" than the people on whom we all depend. We have so many singers and musicians who enrich our services, but how could they do what they do without Connie Jahrmarkt? We have superb children's and adult education programs, but could that work without Kim St. Clair? How would we get through a week without an administrator like Heidi Parmenter? And where would we be as a congregation without a minister, especially one of the caliber of Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray? We

also need to take care of our building. We have dramatically improved our approach to maintenance over the past several years. We need to keep that going.

This fiscal year, we are operating with a balanced budget, supported primarily by pledges. For this Stewardship Campaign, we have decided not to set a numerical goal. What we are doing is explicitly asking you to look seriously at the UUA Giving Guide, which will be on the pledge form. We ask that everyone make an intentional decision about how much of their income they will donate to worthwhile causes, and then to make UUCP a priority. This year, many past presidents, board members, and committee chairs have already made their stewardship pledge. 75% are pledging at the Supporter, Sustainer, Visionary, or Full Tithe levels, that is, from 2 – 10% of income. The levels are self-reported, of course, and the scales are progressive, shifting with income, as they should. For example, we have two people giving at the Visionary level whose gifts differ numerically by a factor of 20. Both are equally sacrificial, equally important. What will you do? It is a private choice, and will be respected as such, but please be seriously intentional about your decision. What we do as a congregation, what effects we have in people's lives and in the world, depend on it.

So, the antecedents to the "it" in Time to Make It Real are actually many, and

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all are tangible. But I want to "up the ante", because the tangible antecedent has an intangible precedent. Ultimately, what we want to make real is our commitment to UU values. The reason to give is so that we, and those who will follow, have the opportunity to make our Covenant a defining principle in our lives, individually and communally. That is the reality that matters. "...to live together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom, to share our strength in fellowship, thus do we covenant."

May it be so. May it be real.

In community,

Gary Ezzell
Chair, Combined Capital/Stewardship
Campaign

Minister's Musings

"We can be the Religion for our Time" says Peter Morales, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It's a big vision, but it speaks to the yearning in my heart for Unitarian Universalism to be a great big tent in which to draw people who want to see a religion that stands on the side of love and respect, a religion that makes room for differences in beliefs, differences in history and culture, but a shared sense of the need to find common ground in this world, to invest in the common good in this world, and a religion which looks to science, religion and poetry to help all of us live sustainable and meaningful lives.

This vision; however, cannot happen unless it first happens in our hearts. Have you ever experienced a time in your life when you could faintly see something ahead for your self, for instance, a new job, pursuing education, a desire to be a parent? It starts with a desire in your heart. Then follows fear and trepidation as you question whether it's possible, face the fear of failure, doubt your own ability to do it. The third step is making the decision to go after your dream, and taking the risk day by day to pursue it. It means sacrificing, or letting go of other things to realize that dream whether it be personal, professional, or even spiritual.

Of course, once you set out on the path, those who have tried it can say, it doesn't not always go as we planned or expected. There are detours and valleys of sorrow and unexpected challenges, but there are also tremendous gifts. And slowly what once started as a tug on our heart, some vision just beyond our seeing, some vague sense of what is possible

begins to take shape and we can see ourselves creating and living our vision.

This March, in the life of our congregation, in neighborhood meetings in the homes of our members, we are taking the next bold step toward our vision for UUCP as a welcoming, thriving, healthy congregation for generations to come. Between March 7th and April 18th, we will all be asked to make financial commitments to the annual Stewardship campaign, and an additional 3 year commitment to the Capital Campaign. Together these campaigns are strengthening the vitality of our ministry and programs today, and ensuring that we have a ministry that is indeed a magnet to the community of Phoenix for years to come.

I know that for some in our congregation these past few years have been difficult financially, professionally and personally. I know there will be people who will not be able to give where they would like to give. Perhaps most of us feel that way, in that our hearts have already begun to embrace that vision of UUCP as a place that can change people's lives, and impact our community in the name of our religious values. Our vision is great. We may feel disappointed with how the economic climate affects our giving. But, if we all come together--and give to the best of our ability, and stretch ourselves, we can take the next big step toward our vision. We know that it will take sacrifice and a new way of looking at giving to fully fund our annual budget to match our growing congregation and to build those restrooms and the sewer, water and electrical lines that will have to go with it. Many have already signed up to support this effort and have stretched themselves because they believe so much in what we are doing and what we can do at UUCP. Every gift absolutely matters. And every gift is abso-

From the Staff...

lutely needed. It will take all of us to make our annual and capital campaign successful. But we can do it. Together, with everyone investing in UUCP out of love and clear vision—we can make it happen—We Can Make it Real!

Yours in love and gratitude for this ministry we share,

Susan

From Your Lifespan

Religious Education

Director

A few years ago, I was having a conversation with a friend about our hopes and dreams for the UUCP campus. The friend commented that it seemed to be “good enough” for the time being, and that there simply wasn’t the financial support or the will to achieve what I felt were pragmatic goals. I clearly remember my response to this friend: “We were given a gift of this beautiful campus by earlier UUCP members; it’s now our turn to take care of that gift and leave it to our children in such a way that they can build on what we have done.”

As a faith community, we have the unique opportunity to not only live our faith in the world but to also create a sacred space where individuals can spend a lifetime being nurtured. Our year-to-year stewardship campaign is vital as it supports the ministries currently in place - lifespan religious education being one of them. It is important to give generously to this campaign not only to sustain our current ministries, but to also grow them as we respond to a changing world and membership.

I witnessed the development of the master plan it’s early days when we were simply hoping to make the upstairs more accessible. My excitement grew as I realized we were dreaming of a day when we would have adequate and beautiful space for fellowship, religious education, and all else we hold dear. The current capital campaign brings us one step closer to realizing this vision.

This capital campaign is addressing the immediate needs - better restrooms, a sewer line, and an environmentally appropriate parking lot. Not glamorous stuff, for sure. But if not us now, then who and when? Our children and grandchildren in 20, 30 or 40 years? I hope our collective

answer is it US and the time NOW to give generously as each of our circumstances allow - it’s even those smaller gifts of \$1500-5000 that can make the difference.

In peace and love,

Kim

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

Lenore Caroline Bendheim
Helen Dycus Lane
Orval Floyd McVey
Catherine Bird Olsen
Jacquard H Rothschild

Christine Albrecht Campbell
Marti Teresa McDermott
Nicole Fiala Murphy
Lloyd Dewitt Oxley
Phyllis Mills Rothschild

Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation . . . Children's Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL SHORTS

Pre-k-Kindergarten - Teachers

Lenore and Geraldine - During February we had lessons with emphasis on the first principle - Respect for all people. During one lesson we read "It's Okay To Be Different" by Todd Parr. The rest of the lesson the kids kept telling us all the ways it's okay to be different. They have great imaginations! In March we plan emphasize principle six - Insist on peace, freedom and justice for all while reinforcing the ideas that we have already introduced.

3rd-4th Grade - Teacher Angela

This past month we have enjoyed learning about a couple of our fellow Unitarians that have aided our country in establishing the laws for equal rights of women and gentler treatment for our animals. Okay...what we have really enjoyed is eating birthday cake honoring Susan B. Anthony, running an obstacle course to learn how women were unable to vote, attend college or earn equal wages, and making animal puppets that shared with us how they like to be treated. In the coming month we will figure out how planting, making a prayer/meditation stick, having "s" foods, and how GREEN correlate with our UU values

5th-6th Grade Class - Teacher Briana - The fifth and sixth graders have recently been working on Solomon in the Bible. We learned about Solomon's temple and then they got to construct what their temple would look like by making their own! We will be finishing this hopefully next week. After that we will begin looking at important women in the Bible! Last week only two kids showed up and the children were missing their classmates so keep coming! We have lots more fun activities planned!

7th-8th Grade Class - Teacher

Hannah - The 7th & 8th grade Sunday school class has been doing some exciting explorations lately. We're continuing with our teen stress management curriculum, "Fighting Invisible Tigers," and looking into how to deal with big influences on our lives and decision-making. We're also going to be having fun watching some old episodes of The Twilight Zone and discussing their themes and big questions that they address.

Second Service Children's Fellowship - Teachers Angela and Geraldine

- This multi-age class (4 through 11 years) old is held in Room 10 during second service. March will focus on our 2nd principle - compassion and equity in human relations.

VUU Prescott Family

Retreat: Mark Your

Calendars! Please join in the fun!

April 23rd -25th will be a fun weekend in the woods at Pine Summit Camp, www.pinesummitcamp.com Besides being located in a beautiful forest, they have a mini-golf course, basketball and volleyball courts and an enclosed gym with a rock wall, a zip line, and a game room. You'll spend two nights in dormitory-style rooms, enjoy five meals, and spend time with new and long-time UU friends. Registration will begin on March 21. For more information contact Nancy Stillings at nstillings1@cox.net or 480-325-0550 or Tricia Merrill at Patricia.Merrill@intel.com or 480-706-9274.

To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . . Adult Religious Education Ministry

Adult Religious Education held focus group meetings in February to discover any changes and new needs that we can consider in our annual spring retreat to plan for next year. As you know, the ARE program is always evolving as we do our best to respond to what members of UUCP and UUs generally seem to expect in the way of religious education. It is an ongoing joy to bring in new classes and instructors and introduce new programs. Watch next month for our update!!!

In Faith,

Terry Simmons
ARE Chair

ARE MUUVIE NIGHT BRINGS YOU BECAUSE THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

March 17, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the Johnson Room - \$5 suggested donation

This documentary follows five Christian families, each with a gay or lesbian child. Parents talk about their marriages and church-going, their children's childhood and coming out, their reactions, and changes over time. The film also explores fundamentalist religions' role in promulgating homophobia and views homophobic scripture from a modern, culturally relevant lens.

CHANGE IN ARE MARCH CLASS

Juli Harvey's "Considering the Asian Religions" has been moved to May; instead, Jay Bastani will facilitate Jesus and Muhammad: The Parallel Sayings.

This book compares the parables of Jesus with the teachings of Mohammed to show that Christianity's core values — love, compassion, peace, forgiveness, and repentance — mirror the central tenets of Islam. Jesus and Mohammed closes the gap of understanding between Christians and Muslims and demonstrates that despite centuries of differences, the two religions possess a common moral and spiritual foundation.

Facilitator: Jay Bastani

Date & Times: Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.
- 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, and 3/28

Location: Room 9

Fee: \$10.00 or presentation of the UUS pass and purchase of book

UUCP BOOK GROUP UPDATE:

In Mid-February we began discussion of David Sanger's *The Inheritance: The World Obama Confronts and the Challenges to American Power*. The discussion has been lively and as usual we find ourselves with more questions than answers. Feel free to join the discussion in whatever chapter we happen to be in. This is an energetic romp through world affairs with plenty of background info.

Book Group meets every Sunday at 10:45 in Room 9.

Social Action Speaker for our Luncheon March 21

Kyrsten Sinema serves as the Assistant Leader to the Democratic Caucus in the House of Representatives and represents central Phoenix in the Arizona Legislature. Now in her third term, she is the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee and the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee.

Kyrsten holds both a law degree and a Master's degree in Social Work from Arizona State University, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in the School of Justice and Social Inquiry at ASU. She is an adjunct professor in the School of Social Work at ASU and practices law when not in session. Kyrsten also serves as faculty for the Center for Progressive Leadership, teaching tomorrow's community leaders about the political process.

Kyrsten has worked on initiatives in Arizona and around the country for a number of years, and in 2006 chaired Arizona Together, the first and only successful effort in the country to defeat a same-sex marriage ballot initiative. In 2008, she chaired Protect Arizona's Freedom, the coalition that defeated Ward Connerly's effort to place an initiative on the state ballot to eliminate equal opportunity programs. She continues to consult with political groups around the nation on electoral and legislative strategy.

Kyrsten serves on numerous community and national boards, including as Board President of Community Outreach and Advocacy for Refugees, the YWCA of Maricopa County, Center for Progressive Leadership, and the Young Elected Officials' Network. Kyrsten is the recipient of awards for her

political leadership, including the NAACP Civil Rights Award, Az Hispanic Community Forum Friend of the Year, Planned Parenthood Legislative CHOICE Award, Sierra Club's Most Valuable Player, and the Az Public Health Association Legislator of the Year.

Kyrsten's first book, *Unite and Conquer: How to Build Coalitions that Win and Last*, will be released in July 2009 by Berrett-Koehler Publishers.

All of those who have heard her speak affirm that she is an exciting and well informed speaker.'

Immigration Task Force Update

The Immigration Task Force is working to promote the passage of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level which aligns with Unitarian-Universalist values. We are also looking at how recently passed and proposed Arizona laws adversely affect undocumented immigrant families, particularly U.S. citizen children. We are partnering with local and national groups to solve this issue which affects Arizona and the United States in numerous ways. We will continue to keep the congregation informed and engaged in pursuit of reform. The Task Force is chaired by Bill Lace and he can be contacted at bill.lace@gmail.com.

Share the Plate Collection on March 28:

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)

On Sunday, March 28 all undesignated collections will be donated to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee as part of our monthly Share the Plate Program.

UUSC's mission is to advance human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. This mission of UUSC is guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), as well as Unitarian Universalist principles, which affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person. UUSC's work focuses on four areas:

1. **Civil Liberties.** UUSC strengthens individual liberties and democratic processes eroded by overreaching security measures adopted after 9/11.
2. **Economic Justice.** UUSC advances workers' rights and supports living wage campaigns, addressing the impacts of globalization and privatization.
3. **Environmental Justice.** UUSC promotes and defends the human right to water, particularly in communities facing water-service privatization and resource depletion.
4. **Rights in Humanitarian Crises.** UUSC responds strategically to disasters, whether natural or man-made, defending the rights of marginalized and oppressed populations who are often left out of recovery efforts.

In each area, UUSC applies an analysis of race, class, and gender, recognizing the role of systemic discrimination in perpetuating injustice and human-rights violations.

If you would like to learn more about the Share the Plate Program or submit an application for an organization to be considered future donations, please see UUCP's website (www.phoenixuu.org) or contact a member of the Share the Plate Committee: Paula Kulina, Larry Thwing or Judy Lambert.

Green Sanctuary Says:

Mark your Calendar!

On March 20, the Green Sanctuary Committee will be hosting a Green Day from 9:00 a.m. to noon at UUCP. We will have workshops on green topics and will work on the trail on our property. Watch Compass for specific workshop topics and times.

Lots of our UUCP members lead sustainable lives. We want to share some of their techniques and at the same time get to know them better. If you would like to share any "green" things that you have found to be successful, please let us know (HarrietWithUUCP@aol.com). Likewise, if you would like to suggest someone else, tell us that, too.

Heather McLellan, a well-known figure at the Social Action table most Sundays, tries to live a socially responsible life. The motto "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" really applies. She reduces electricity by heating her house only up to 66° F, only during the daytime, and by using compact fluorescent light bulbs. She drives a compact car. She reuses lots of items, including "ziploc" type plastic bags washing between uses. It's in the recycle area where she outdoes herself. For many years, when she lived in apartments with no recycling service, Heather found other areas (down the street or in the next neighborhood) to deposit her recyclables. She simply wants to help the planet.

Growing up in western New York, for a while on Grand Island, she could see in the distance the mist of Niagara Falls. As idyllic as that sounds, she prefers the hubbub of city life and, during her fourteen years in Arizona, has become involved in a wide array

of activities. These include three current events discussion groups, volunteering at a women's shelter, leading a Tai Chi group and doing aerobics. At UUCP, she is active in Social Action and Sunday Services Committees. She loves leading services several times a year and doing crafts with the children at the New Day Center homeless shelter.

Lynn Ellsworth came to Phoenix, after retiring from the New York State government in Albany, to help out his parents who were already settled here. In Phoenix, he was drawn to UUCP because of the Sunday morning Book Discussion Group; he stayed on, becoming a valued participant in the group and in other aspects of congregational life such as the Green Sanctuary Committee (GSC), doing inventories of UUCP equipment, and kitchen volunteering on Sundays. February's Traveling Second Friday featured his trip to Southeast Asia.

Lynn's sustainability efforts are obvious at his home: Solar tubes for lighting the garage and one closet; rooftop solar hot water system; solar oven which he built himself; dual-flush toilet; a hybrid car and an electric bicycle. However, there wasn't enough roof space for solar electric panels. The electric bicycle gets him around town because he made a point of living in an area where he can walk or bike to most places he needs to go. The bike's top speed is 20 mph and, with the help of some pedaling from dead stop, has a range of over 32 miles between charges. Lynn now bikes to John C. Lincoln Hospital's Desert Mission Food Bank where he volunteers twice a week, doing mechanical maintenance, spreadsheets, and getting exercise moving food around. For 35 years he has been an avid folk dancer.

Many Thanks Rod!

Thanks to the expertise of Rod Armstrong, Architect and UUCP member, we now have professional floor plans to be used for our emergency response plan, Pathway to Membership books for new members, and a front entryway map.

Construction Update

During the school's spring break, Monday, March 8 to Saturday, March 13 the Annex building will be closed for construction. On Sunday, March 14 be sure to walk out to the Annex to check out our new doors and windows! Oh yeah, don't forget to check out the new sign that will be installed at that time too. ;)

Office Volunteer Needed

Friday Mornings

I am looking for a word-processing, excel spread-sheeting, phone answering, task-completing volunteer for Friday mornings 9am to noon. If you are these thing-ings please contact me in the office.

Sincerely,

Heidi Parmenter

Congregation Administrator

Standing on the Side of Love

On Sunday, February 14, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix's Sunday services were devoted to re-imagining Valentine's Day by Standing on the Side of Love for Marriage Equality for Gay and Lesbian couples.

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray preached on marriage equality and announced she will no longer sign marriage licenses for heterosexual couples. She says, "I am no longer willing to act as an agent of the state when it chooses to discriminate against marriages that I and our religious community give our full blessings. I cannot be a part of a discriminatory process that denies gay and lesbian couples who wish to be married the more than 1400 rights granted to heterosexual couples when they become legally married. I can find no good reason for the continuation of this discrimination."

Rev. Frederick-Gray will continue to officiate at heterosexual weddings, but will no longer sign the state licenses. Couples will have to see a judge to make their marriages legal. For over ten years, Rev. Frederick-Gray has been officiating at the marriages of heterosexual, gay and lesbian couples, but she has only been able to make one kind of those marriages legal. Until she can act as an agent of the state without discriminating against same-sex couples, she is refusing to act as an agent of the state for any couples.

After the first service on February 14, the congregation gathered around our Welcoming Congregation banner for a group photo. Joe Dana of Channel

12 News came and interviewed the Rev. Frederick-Gray, Paula Kalina and Melissa Schwartz for a news segment that ran that evening Here is a link to the Channel 12 news report (<http://www.azcentral.com/video/#/Congregation+Supports+Same-Sex+Marriage/66534078001>). The Rev. Frederick-Gray was also interviewed about the UUCP's support for marriage equality by Doug Ramsey of AZ News Connection, part of the Public News Service. Here is a link to that radio news segment (<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/12725-1>).

UUCP is featured prominently in a video the Standing on the Side of Love group created about the Valentine's Day event. See the video at <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/blog/standing-on-the-side-of-love-day-success/>. Our group photo is also displayed in their photo gallery on page six, http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/photos/?bwbps_page_1=6



Rhonda Boyle

Rhonda Boyle moved to Phoenix in 2001. Originally raised in Houston, Texas, Rhonda spent most of her adult life in Chatham, NJ where she raised 2 sons. In addition to a career as a finance/accounting professional, she is the President of the Arizona Community Media Foundation. This non-profit organization operates an on-line community radio station (www.radiophoenix.org). Rhonda is married and enjoys yoga, gardening, and reading in her leisure time.



Mary Harrah &

Levi Mason

Mary grew up in Vermont and graduated from Wellesley College in 1995. She spent three years in St. Petersburg, Russia before relocating to Phoenix to enroll in ASU's School of Music. She graduated in 2005 with a DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts) in Viola Performance. Currently she teaches orchestra at Chaparral High School and Cochise Elementary School, Viola at Mesa Community College, and subs occasionally in the viola section of the Phoenix Symphony. Mary loves animals, and loves to read, cook, and hike with her dog Leila. (She also has a cat, Dasha, who she brought back from Russia.) She is very interested in sustainability and green living. She is really looking forward to meeting more like-minded people and becoming a part of the community at UUCP.

Levi Mason is a seeker, nature lover and composer. He completed a master's degree in spirituality at Naropa University in 2003. Levi's past vocational pursuits have been in the areas of architecture, construction, academic administration, music, crisis counseling, affirmation recording and videography. Levi is currently look-

ing for employment. Levi studied Jungian-style dream analysis in groups for two years with UU minister Jeremy Taylor and has continued dream work since then. Levi would like to start a new dream group at UUCP. If interested, contact Levi at levijmason@yahoo.com if you would like to participate.



Patrick Heyrman

I'm currently in the U.S Air Force, stationed at Luke AFB. I moved here from Michigan. Some of my interests are computers, horror movies, running, and discussing philosophy. I have been a vegan for four years. I'm glad to be a member of this community



Amy & Stephen Jurewicz

Steve and Amy have been married since 1981, and have a six year old daughter, Sophia. Steve has a wide variety of interests ranging from orchid growing to cooking to physics; his most recent hobby is the making and playing of native-American style flutes. Sophia likes music, swimming, riding her scooter, and (especially) Sponge Bob Squarepants. Amy is a "part-time" researcher at the Center for Meteorite studies at ASU and spends most of her spare time wondering how Steve and Sophia keep up their pace of living and growing. They live in Cave Creek with three horses, two birds, a bunny, and are joining the UU community because "it takes a village to raise a child" and the UUCP is providing a kind and open-minded model.



Gary & Linda Lawrence

Linda Lawrence comes to UUCP with more than twenty-five years experience as a UU, the last ten as a UU minister/chaplain. Formerly a school psychologist, Linda is now semi-retired from both professions. She and husband, Gary, were very active in their UU Church in Rockford, IL (where they met), and visited UUCP when they were in AZ last winter, really enjoying Rev. Susan's sermons and the wonderful variety of music during worship. When they moved to Mesa in December, Gary and Linda knew that they wanted to be part of this church community and immediately joined the choir, a very welcoming group of folks!

Besides looking for some kind of part-time work in ministry or chaplaincy, Linda is busy hosting out-of-town guests, helping Gary build an addition to their home, reading, swimming laps, hiking, and generally enjoying life. She is also considering brushing up on her high school/college Spanish and learning to play a new instrument or picking up where she left off on the piano or guitar years ago. She is looking forward to getting to know more UUCP members and becoming involved in more congregational activities.

Welcome New Members...

Gary Lawrence moved to Phoenix recently from Rockford Il with wife Linda after a 30+ year career in technical writing and management for a Fortune 500 company. In semi-retirement, Gary teaches management classes online for Cardinal Stritch University as a part-time adjunct instructor (associated with the University of Phoenix programs in management for adults). He is also in his third semester of a four-semester, two-year low residency MFA in Writing program with Vermont College of Fine Arts. He has been a UU for more than 20 years, all of it with the UU Church of Rockford—until now! He has already found the choir, and they graciously agreed to put up with him (basses are known to be rowdy), and looks forward to assisting in other areas where needed or value-added, such as Lay Worship services or similar. Linda and Gary have five kids “by the merger,” the youngest of which is 24; three wonderful grandkids (two girls/one boy); and at least half a dozen grand-dogs and -cats at last count. He lives in Mesa with Linda and their Yorkie-Poo Rocky.



Jordan & Kim Cott



Chris Snyder



Kevin Gartner



Jan Kenning & Stephen
Bradshaw



Malcolm Phipps



Brea Burgie

What is Soulful Sundown?

I still hear the question: "What is Soulful Sundown?" Over two years ago, a monthly Soulful Sundown Service was created to offer an alternative to Sunday morning worship service. This vespers service was held on Sunday evenings for two years. When we moved to two Sunday morning services, we decided to move Soulful Sundown to the first Friday evening of each month from 7:00-8:00 PM.

In 2007-08 the themes for the services centered on our Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles. In 2008-09 the themes centered on the Six Sources from which Unitarian Universalist draw faith and inspiration.

This year the theme is "It's easy to love someone when you know their story." Each service will focus on a different story: October – UU Stories in America; November – Stories of Honduras with Tony Banegas; December – Stories of Transylvania with Ernie Garcia and Paula Kulina; February – Stories of our own UUCP; March – Stories of Our Own Campus Ministry with Kim St. Clair; April – Stories of the First People of AZ with Rich Wambaugh; May – Your Stories of the Past and Dreams for the Future.

Each Soulful Sundown has a time for sharing stories, joys and sorrows and lots of music. Our Soulful Sundown band has guitars, clarinet, drums, violin, bass and voices. We light our chalice in song. We sing our meditations. We sing as we take an offering. Each person present shares in parting words.

I hope you will join us for Soulful Sundown services this year. And in the tradition of Soulful Sundown, three parting words: Let love last.

Connie Jahrmarkt
Credentialed Music Leader

Soulful Sundown

First Fridays

Band Rehearses at 6 PM

Service Starts 7 PM

March 5

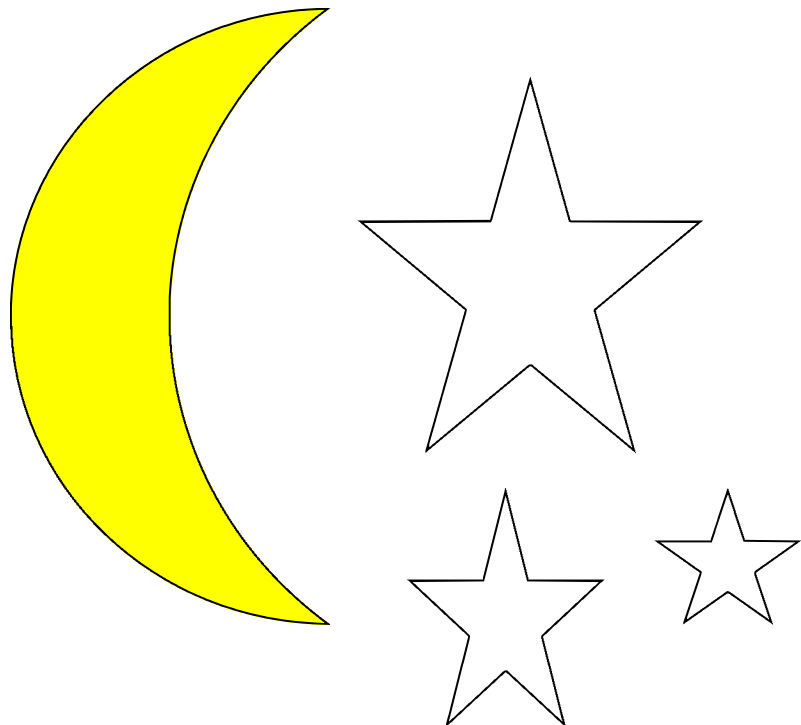
Guest Speaker Kim St. Clair
Stories of UUCP's Campus Ministry

April 2 @ 7 PM–

Guest Speaker Rick Wambaugh
Stories of the First Peoples in AZ

May 7

Our Own Stories & Stories Yet To Be
Bring your Stories and your Dreams for
the Future



Celebrations of Life

9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

MARCH 7 TAKING CARE OF HOUSE AND HOME: TIME TO MAKE IT REAL!

Kick-Off to the 2010 Combined Stewardship and Capital Campaign

Service Leader Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

The time is here. The time is now. The work ahead of us is challenging, but the opportunity is great. Before us right now is the chance to bring our values powerfully to the world. With the kick-off to our Combined Capital and Stewardship campaign, we have the chance to invest our finances in a community, a faith and a religious home that carries our values fully into the world.

The time is ripe. We've got the passion to make it real. Come be a part of making our visions for UUCP a reality.

MARCH 17 THE WHOLE TRUTH: MULTIGENERATIONAL FLOWER COMMUNION SERVICE

Service Leaders Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, Kim St. Clair and Connie Jahrmarkt

Flower Communion is an unique Unitarian Universalist celebration. Through story, drama and singing we will celebrate tolerance, equal human dignity and the beauty of Spring. Each person is asked to bring one flower to the service to share. Together we will make a beautiful arrangement celebrating the beauty of creation's diversity.

MARCH 21: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Service Leader Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Please watch the UUCP Compass for sermon topic.

MARCH 28 UUSC JUSTICE SUNDAY: THE WAGES OF WORK

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

This Sunday is Justice Sunday, a collaborative effort of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), the justice and human rights organization of our faith. This Sunday, we along with congregations across the country will work on advancing economic justice focusing on the changes in the rights and protections for workers (white and blue collar) close to home and globally. *Our Share the Plate offering will go to benefit the UUSC*

*President: Sarah Carlson
Vice President: Paula Kulina
Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell*

*Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker
Religious Education Director: Kim St. Clair
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt
Membership Coordinator: Kate Otting
Administrator: Heidi Parmenter
Custodian: Manuel Gomez
Early Education Cooperative Director: Jane Armstrong
Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Mendez
Office Volunteers: Larry Agle, Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, Art Dupont, Tish Gauntt, Sharon Hise, Pauline Peverly, Julie Smart and Judith Willison*

Our Mission

Our religious community aspires to:

- Embrace diversity as we engage in the passionate pursuit of Unitarian Universalist principles;
- Share ministry that promotes lifelong spiritual growth through Service, Worship, Ritual and Education, thereby inspiring lives of joy and hope;
- Grow and be effective in the greater community.

-Adopted February 1999



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