



*A Welcoming Congregation*

# HORIZONS Newsletter of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253  
May 2008

## Celebration of Life Sundays, 10:30 AM

### MAY 4: "SOURCES"

Service Leaders: Connie Jahrmarkt  
& UUCP Choir

UUCP Congregation Choir joins with the Valley UU Church Choir, orchestra, drummers and rap artist to present "Sources," a new UU Cantata with text by Kendyl Gibbons and music by Jason Shelton.

*New Day Center Meal; Poetry  
Coffeeshouse*

### MAY 11: MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

Speaker: Dr. George Pauk

Service Leader: Heather McLellan

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Dr. Pauk will speak about the special relationship of our congregation with mothers in poverty areas of Central America and especially the Hogar Materna Center in Honduras and Casa Maternas in Nicaragua. Many mothers must walk or be carried many miles from their rural homes to reach the Centers. These birthing centers give important respite and loving care to women in the last weeks of their pregnancy.

### MAY 18: "AS THE RIVER FLOWS"

Service Leader: Kim St. Clair

Rivers have long been metaphors for life-giving sustenance and for the inevitable changes and transitions in our lives. Our May 18<sup>th</sup> service will recognize our Children's Ministry and Early Education Cooperative teachers and our Adult Religious Education facilitators' contribution to the life of our liberal religious oasis; we will also mark our high school seniors' bridging to young adulthood, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders' flowing into YRUU, and will bid goodbye to long-time nurturers of Religious Education, Diana Saylor and Tom Brookshire.

*Parent Covenant Group Hosts  
Coffee Hour; Nursery Closed at  
10:30am; Social Action Luncheon*

### MAY 25: "THE LESSONS OF WAR"

By Rev. Roberta Haskin

The lessons of war are in the stories, not the clichés on bumper stickers. The Memorial Day service will include a time for recognition of men and women in the service of our country and for candles of remembrance for those who have died.



## Our Ministerial Candidate

The Ministerial Search Committee is proud and honored to present our ministerial candidate, the Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray.

*Continued on page 9 ...*

## From the Interim Minister in the between-time...

*“Traveler, there is no path. Paths are made by walking.”*

Antonio Machado

We, stand at the threshold of two diverging paths, you and I. You will continue as a faith community with your called minister, the Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray. Congratulations on your fine selection! Our faith journey this year will become a memory, as I continue my interim ministry with another congregation, somewhere in time.

The threshold is a very difficult place to exist, and yet is it probably a closer reflection of the reality of the constant change in our world. It is an illusion to believe that I came as a change agent between two permanent ministers and that the goal of my ministry is to prepare you for stability. Rather, an interim minister prepares you to cope and adapt to the reality of change. The Buddhists say – All is impermanence; Suffering results when we fight this basic truth.

So, when I tell you a bit about the coming months of May and June, I don't want to make you complacent or take away the real feelings of fear and anxiety that all change brings. We strive to live authentically here, even in our human failings.

Let's not glide by the time of waiting in the threshold – where the real good-byes happen.

Have you ever been at a party (actually every party I can remember) and need to leave but can't, because first you must say good-bye to the host/ess? I guess we've all been taught some etiquette. If the hosts have time, they follow me to their door, getting my coat, thanking me for coming and I return the formalities. Then, we say our good-bye, often for the second time, at the threshold of their home. Sometimes this is a perfunctory rite. At other times, it is a heart felt wish of “fare thee well,” uttered with a smile, a touch, or an outstretched hand. Sometimes we promise to see each other again and sometimes we know it is a final goodbye. For us, the same for-

malities of hospitality will most likely be followed with some exceptions. One certain exception is: I will promise not to be your minister. In a formal rite during the June 8 service, we will end our covenant.

I invite you to linger a bit longer at the threshold – perhaps even delay a bit from getting back to the party. The threshold is a special place of transformation. Closure is a reflection on the reality of life and I ask all of us to take time for that closure.

The Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray will begin her ministry in the summer. I am your parish minister until I leave the office in June. During the suspended time at the threshold, you will be saying good-bye to me at the same time you will be anticipating your hello of settled ministry with Susan. By grace, may the threshold be big enough to contain us all with tender care amid transformation.

Blessings on our time together at the threshold,

Roberta

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

Emma La Duke Ames

Ralph P.E. Dickinson

Thaxter Robinson

Margaret (Peggy) D. Wilkinson

Donald J. Jackel

Wilhelmina (Mimi) Muth

Ki Hermann

Jean Berry

Louise Bauer Bercaw

Kathy Van Kerkwyk (Grobe)

## Love is the doctrine . . .

We are in the middle of candidating week, in the middle of the stewardship canvass, in the middle of setting next year's budget, and in the middle of deciding how best to proceed with our renovation plans. Writing a newsletter article right now is a bit like giving a status report on the raft trip when you are half-way through a major rapid. Nevertheless, here we go.

Our budget subcommittee has met and drafted a preliminary budget for next year. We'll meet again in mid May, before the Board meeting, to finalize the proposal. Right now, we are projecting a deficit, but it is smaller than this year's, and it all depends on how well the canvass goes. If we exceed the stewardship goal, and that is very much a possibility, then the deficit will shrink and perhaps be eliminated.

That we still have a deficit is a consequence of the fact that we are finally supporting our spiritual home at a proper level. We are a fair-share congregation now, our staff are all at or just above the midpoint of the recommended salary ranges, and we are maintaining our building and grounds. All of those improvements contributed to the 20% growth in membership we experienced last year. As time goes on, I expect that our expenditures will stabilize and our income will increase as the con-

gregation grows. That is the path that our strategic plan laid out, and we are on that path.

Moving from the red to the black is necessary, obviously, not least because any renovation financing will include a mortgage of some size, and we need some history of surpluses to show that we can take on mortgage payments. How soon we can proceed with the construction depends in part on how soon we can establish that fiscal confidence. The current stewardship canvass is important; the Board is waiting for the outcome to know how to plan.

Confidence is key. My sense is that the congregation believes in itself, its mission, and its future. Clearly, our ministerial candidate, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, believes in UUCP. I'm writing this before her second sermon and before our congregational vote. At this point, I am impressed, excited, and determined. I am impressed by her vision and honesty, excited by what we can do together, and determined to support our shared ministry.

In listening to Rev. Susan last Sunday and reading her sermons online and in the packet, I see a consistent call to develop and demonstrate love in our lives. That seems to be the foundation of her ministry. That is also the founda-

tion of our core vision, to build the beloved community. She will not let us off easy. We will be challenged, appropriately and joyfully. It is a good fit. Love is the doctrine of this congregation. May it be so.

In faith and community,

Gary Ezzell  
President, Board of Trustees

## Greetings from your Music Director!

### FUN & MORE FUN:

May 4 ~ 10:30am ~ "Sources" A brand new UU Cantata by Jason Shelton & Kendyl Gibbons ~ performed by Combined Choirs from UUCP and Valley UU with singers from West Valley UU & even Las Cruces, NM, with soloists, rap artist, orchestra, and drummers!

This amazing work celebrates the 6 sources from which we draw our UU faith:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all culture, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love.

- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life.
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves.
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.
- Spiritual teachings of the earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

And if you cannot make May 4, please attend in Chandler on May 11 – 10:30am ~ repeat performance of "Sources" at Valley UU in Chandler.

I hope you will come to the performance of "Sources" and are as thrilled as I am to be bringing this exciting music and text to UUs in the Valley.

### ATTENTION SINGERS!

Lynne will be leading a chanting choir for our Sunday Services June 22, 29 and July 6. Come to the sanctuary at 9:30 to sing in services

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make a big statement in the Pride Parade this year!

Keep making music!  
Connie Jahrmarkt



## “To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . .”

### MAY MOVIE NIGHT REVISITS OUR “FOUR LITTLE GIRLS” LEGACY

All of us are aware that the statues in our Memorial Garden commemorate the memories of the four young girls who were killed in the bombing of a Black Baptist church in Birmingham, Alabama. What most of us don't know is that Spike Lee made a documentary about this horrifying and pivotal event in the Civil Rights Movement. The 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing will be September 15, 2008, and we are hoping to form an ad hoc committee to create a suitable larger community marking the anniversary.

The Adult RE Committee will host a viewing of the film, “Four Little Girls,” on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, in the Johnson Room. Refreshments will be served; there will be a \$5 suggested donation to cover the costs of refreshments and to begin a fund for the anniversary event.

### A HEARTFELT THANKS TO ADULT RE CLASS FACILITATORS

We have completed an amazing year of Adult Religious Education offerings! Many thanks to all of our

facilitators for donating their time and talent to provide meaningful courses, furthering our commitment to “Mind, Spirit and Community.”

“A Chosen Faith” – Larry Agle

“A Walk with Four Spiritual Guides” – Gene Cherry

“Parenting with Spirit” – Kim St. Clair

“Our Unitarian Universalist Identity” – Rev. Roberta Haskin

“Happiness 101” – Sherry Celine

“Eco-Spirituality” – Terry Simmons

Ten Spiritual Tuesdays – Rev. Kathy Baughman, Juli Harvey, Lois Leader, Rev. Roberta Haskin, Kim St. Clair, Dianne Pela, Jay Alagia, Jay Bastani, Sarah Carlson, Kathy Kruse and Terry Simmons

Also, the Adult RE program is led with great grace, dedication and wisdom by the following committee members:

Terry Simmons, Chair

Juli Harvey

Jay Bastani

Gavin Hornbuckle

Lois Leader

Sue Kennedy

And welcome to new members, Larry Agle and Bob Riddle! We will have a preview of 2008-2009 slate of courses in upcoming editions of Horizons.

### GREEN GRADUATION BUYING GUIDE

From dosomething.org

This year, ask for/give some green graduation gifts so you don't have

to feel guilty about all trees that are cut down to make diplomas.

- For the extravagant Eco Budget: Saturn Vue Green Line Hybrid (For the big spenders... \$18,100 and up).
- Eco Friendly Vacation (we like [www.fijiresort.com/](http://www.fijiresort.com/) and don't forget to offset the carbon from the plane trip [www.carbonfund.org](http://www.carbonfund.org)).
- Sustainable Furniture For the new dorm room or apt.
- Make a Donation: These days it's cool to have a favorite enviro charity... donate in the graduate's name.
- For the Middle Ground Budget: Solar Powered Messenger Bag, Powerful & trendy.
- Flowers anyone? ([www.organicbouquet.com](http://www.organicbouquet.com)) Even better, buy a potted plant.
- Subscription to Plenty Magazine, All the Enviro-News that's fit to print.
- Post Graduation Feel Good Hair Cut ([www.aveda.com/customer-service/our-mission.tmpl](http://www.aveda.com/customer-service/our-mission.tmpl))
- The Hold Everything Feed Bag... what? Reversible natural burlap/cotton feed bag transformed into a carry all beach/city bag... and \$34 of your purchase goes to World Food Programme to feed a child for 1 year.

### FRESH OFFERINGS ON THE BOOK TABLE IN TIME FOR SPRING

Spring is a great time to appreciate the beautiful Arizona climate while enjoying a good read

outdoors. For a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, you need an offering from our book table. Presently we have new titles on current topics or titles by UU authors, so you need to shop continuously. Book table is located right next to coffee, so you can't miss us unless you don't slow down and stop in!

### “Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation . . .”

A DREAM IS LIKE A RIVER . . .  
EVER CHANGIN' AS IT FLOWS  
I arrived in the nursery this morning with my mind racing for an appropriate theme for our upcoming Religious Education Appreciation Sunday. My mind whirled with all of the eclectic elements planned for the service – an original puppet show presented by the Parent Covenant group; recognizing our Children's Ministry and Early Education Cooperative teachers and our Adult Religious Education course facilitators; a handful of YRUU members bridging; a passel of 8th graders moving into YRUU; and, most poignantly of all, bidding farewell to our good friends who have been the lifeblood of this congregation for over 15 years, the Saylor-Brookshire family. I begged our nursery supervisor, Tiffany, for ideas. She just so happened to be playing Garth Brooks' song, The River, which inspired her to suggest to me “as the river flows.” Perfect. I also called upon another family who has provided life-giving nourishment to our religious education ministries and congregation for over a decade, the Lockwoods, to

write an article about all of the love that has flowed from Diana Saylor, her husband Tom Brookshire and their sons, Geoffrey and Stevie.

We are immensely fortunate to have flowing through our beloved community all of these creative, insightful, loving people whose waters ripple along our banks gently changing us forever as we dream and journey together.

In peace and love,  
Kim St. Clair  
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

### WE CAN'T BEAR TO SAY GOODBYE, WE CAN ONLY SAY FAREWELL

As many of you know, Diana Saylor and Tom, Geoffrey and Stephen Brookshire will soon be moving from Phoenix to the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Brookshire-Saylor family has been such an integral part of our congregation for the last 15 years or so that it is hard to imagine congregational life without them. On our first Sunday at UUCP, more than 12 years ago, we asked about Religious Education, and were introduced to Charlie Lynch, chair of the Adult RE Committee at the time. After a few minutes with Charlie, he soon realized that we really wanted to know about the Children's RE program, so he introduced us to Diana Saylor. (What wonderful good fortune to have met both Charlie and Diana on our first day at the UUCP!).

Diana was the Chair of the Children's Religious Growth and Learning Committee (CRG&L), and we believe she has been a member of the Children's RE Committee the entire time they have been members of this congregation! During several periods when we didn't have an RE Director, Diana took on that role and provided essential continuity for the Children's RE program. She remains the creative muse for the Children's Ministry Committee, dreaming up beautiful costumes, colorful banners representing our seven UU Principles, and many other artistic touches. Diana has also provided necessary institutional knowledge for the CM program. Diana is currently sharing her lovely voice with us as a member of the UUCP Choir. Tom and Diana both shared their professional skills as Physician's Assistants in the re-introduction of the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program into our congregation. They were instrumental in getting the program off the ground and have volunteered numerous hours as teachers in the youth and younger children's OWL programs as well as in CM classes. Tom has served UUCP on the Board, as member of the original Committee on Ministry, and has been an active member of the UUCP Men's Group. These are only a few of the official contributions they have made; however, the unofficial contributions are countless. Tom and Diana have always been there to not only attend programs and activities at the UUCP, but have been part of the support staff to make these events happen; to bring a dish to a potluck, prepare a luncheon, set-up or clean up for an

event: always there behind the scenes, ready to pitch in, then enjoying the events as they happened.

Geoffrey and Stephen grew up in this congregation. Geoffrey is now a junior in college at UC Berkley, and Stephen starts college at U of A in August 2008. Geoffrey was a graduate of the first Coming of Age class and a member of the first active Young Religious Unitarian Universalist (YRUU) group in recent years. Geoffrey was very active in leadership roles in the Pacific Southwest District YRUU and as the youth representative to the UUCP board; Tom and Diana put many miles on their van taking YRUU members to district activities in Arizona, Nevada, and California. Stephen graduated in the next Coming of Age class, has been a counselor at Camp DeBenneville Pines and has been the YRUU representative to the UUCP Board this past year. Stephen will graduate from high school and bridge out of YRUU this year, then he and Diana will pack up the last of their belongings here in Phoenix, and join Tom and Geoffrey in the Bay Area to start a new chapter of their life.

From our family to theirs, we are blessed with the many happy times we have shared together and the wonderful memories we created and look forward to many more! From our congregational family to the Brookshire-Saylors, we are all so grateful for their countless contributions to our beloved community, their positive attitude and sense of humor, their creative energy, their

warm and welcoming hospitality, and most of all the incredible friendship they have shared with so many of us at UUCP! We can't bear to say goodbye to the Brookshire-Saylors, we can only say... Fare Well!!

Lots of Love and Best Wishes,  
Terry, Glen, Dani and Van Lockwood

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 4 – 10:30 a.m. – “Sunday School Round-up” – Johnson Room, grades Pre-k-8th

May 11 – Mother's Day – NO CLASS – Nursery open

May 16 - 6:00 p.m. – Religious Education Appreciation Service Rehearsal - Sanctuary

May 18 – 10:30 a.m. – “As the River Flows” – Religious Education Appreciation Service – ALL AGES (including nursery) – nursery closes at 10:30 a.m.

May 26 – Memorial Day Weekend – NO CLASS – nursery open

### YIPPEE! SUNDAY SCHOOL ROUND UP ON MAY 4TH!

Calling all Sunday school students from Pre-K-8th grade for a fun-filled morning of “rounding up” our program year. We will share what we appreciated about our Sunday school experience, what we wished would be different, rehearse the processional for the May 18th service, and share yummy snacks and fun games.

We will gather in the “OK Coral” aka the Johnson Room at 10:30 a.m.

### CHILDREN & YOUTH NEEDED FOR RE APPRECIATION SERVICE

This program year has been an exciting one as we strived to provide continuity and build community among our children by hiring a tremendous group of talented, enthusiastic lead Sunday school teachers assisted by dedicated and thoughtful assistants each week. Our May 18th service will honor our teachers (including our wonderful nursery teachers, Daniel Mendez and Tiffany Lipkeman, hence the nursery will close at 10:30 a.m. in order for them to attend the service). The Parent Covenant group will be treating us to a puppet show, “The Lone Ranger and His Posse” and will be providing a cake during coffee hour. The children will also be a part of the service, so please put May 16th at 6:00 p.m. on your calendar for our rehearsal in order to ensure a delightfully seamless intergenerational service. As EVERYONE, from our smallest babies to our eldest members will be present at this service, we are looking forward to a joyful gathering of our beloved community.

### SUMMER SUNDAYS LIFE CYCLES

The summer Sunday school children will be exploring many different types of life cycles such as planting, frog-lady bug- butterfly...growing, etc. Come one come all!! We would love to have adults, young adults, and teens to help make this exploration of life

cycles memorable!! We promise you'll have lots of fun!!! Tiffany Lipkeman and Angela Spiars are coordinating the summer program (which begins on June 15, 2008). We will have a volunteer sign-up sheet posted in the hallway throughout the month of May.

*Continued from page 1...*

Reverend Frederick-Gray is currently the settled minister at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, where she has served as parish minister since 2003. The congregation is vibrant and growing. During Rev. Frederick-Gray's term as minister, the Sunday morning attendance has nearly doubled; religious education participation has increased five fold; pledge income has increased by more than 50%. She has also helped the church hold a successful Capital Drive to add an elevator and make their building more accessible.

Reverend Susan describes her desired ministry like this:

*"I look forward to serving a congregation that is ready to catch fire – a*

*church that is enthusiastic and motivated by their mission and vision for the future, and is excited to share that with others."*

*"I am looking for a ministry in a church that is ready to grow (not just in numbers, but in health and its impact on society and the world), so that together we can bring the message of Unitarian Universalism to more people and have a stronger impact in the world. .... Worship, public witness, and hospitality are all a part of building this kind of growing ministry. I have strong gifts in these areas. I want to develop them further... Let's see what we can do together."*

Prior to Youngstown, Rev. Susan served the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville. On September 11, 2001, Rev. Susan, who was 4 weeks into her intern ministry at the time, found herself the sole minister of this large congregation of over 400, because the senior minister was unable to fly back. In her words:

*"We held services at the church that night and the next. I created the space for sharing, prayer and meditation, and for silence... It was a watershed moment because it was the scariest thing I ever had to do as a minister (and I was just an intern). I was grieving and in shock, but I was the minister. I learned an important lesson that day -- ministry is not about always knowing the "right" thing to say. I will not always have the answers,*

*but in times of great tragedy it is not answers that people need, but comfort, a loving presence and a place where ministry happens... From that moment on, the congregation saw me as a minister, one of their ministers... This began a very powerful year in ministry. The following fall, when the senior minister went on a four month sabbatical, they asked me to be their Sabbatical Minister and lead the church in that interim."*

Reverend Susan received her Masters of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School in 2001, and her BS from University of Wisconsin; she also studied at the University of California Berkeley. She has been honored as one of Youngstown's "40 under 40" recipients, an award for young professionals making an impact and demonstrating a commitment to community involvement. Her interfaith and community work have brought her in contact with the Governor of Ohio and the mayor of Youngstown. Her references unanimously and enthusiastically commend her skill, energy and presence in all aspects of parish ministry, including preaching, pastoral care, committee and staff leadership, social justice and administration. She was even described as "a rising star in Unitarian Universalism."

Reverend Susan is a life-long Unitarian Universalist. She grew up at Eliot Chapel, a UU congregation in Kirkwood, Missouri, where she attended YRUU and where she later preached her first sermon in 1998.

*"I love Unitarian Universalism. It is*

## Our Ministerial Candidate...

*the faith I grew up in. It nurtured my growth, informed my values and taught me of the transforming power of love. Our free faith that welcomes all people, that strives to create a beloved community within our church walls and beyond, and that believes in the goodness of creation and the human heart is a powerful and much needed message in the world."*

Reverend Susan has very strong support from her family. She is married to the Reverend Brian Frederick-Gray who is a minister with dual standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. They are the parents to the precocious and outgoing Mr. Henry Frederick-Gray, almost 2 years old. Susan describes being a mother as one of her most important life events:

*"I have found that being a mom actually benefits my ministry. It has taught me to delegate better, to empower the lay leadership of the church in our shared ministry, and has helped me sort through the priorities of ministry. Essentially, it has made me more efficient and thoughtful in my work... But more than in work, having a child has changed me personally. My son reminds me almost everyday of the grace and miracle of life and fills me with gratitude for the abundance I enjoy."*

The Search Committee will be sharing our excitement and enthusiasm about our candidate with you until Candidating week. On April 13th, Reverend Susan will be preaching at

the UUCP and then, everyone can see for themselves why the Search committee has been smiling and "high-fiving" each other so much lately.

During the Candidating week, April 13th through 20th, Reverend Susan and her family will be in Phoenix to meet our congregation. Meetings with lay leaders, committee and activity group members and staff will occur throughout the week. All members and friends of the UUCP are invited to come and meet Reverend Susan on any of four events:

-Gay Pride Parade Saturday April 12th.

-After service Coffee Hour Sunday April 13th.

-Brown Bag Lunch Wednesday April 16th, noon at the UUCP

-Morning Fellowship Saturday April 19th, 10 am at the UUCP

On April 20th after a second sermon by Rev. Susan, there will be a congregational meeting to decide whether to call Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray as our next settled minister.

## Nominating Committee Proudly Presents Leadership Candidates for 2008-2009

This has been a fantastic year. The Nominating Committee has witnessed this from an interesting perspective. The vibe at Leadership Development Day was great and just kept rolling along as we began our nominating duties. There have been times (believe it or not) that asking people to serve in leadership roles was – well – just not fun. Not so this time around. UUCP is in great shape and getting better.

The Nominating Committee recruits a slate of candidates to fill planned openings on the Board and Nominating Committee (for approval by the congregation). This year that meant four positions on the Board and three for the Nominating Committee. Additionally, we collaborate with the Committee on Ministry to recommend two planned replacements for the Committee on Ministry (for approval by the Board).

Below, we proudly present the complete slate with introductions, by way of candidate supplied statements. All candidates have agreed to serve if elected/approved.

In Growing Community,  
Glen Lockwood on behalf of the  
Nominating Committee  
(Lani Angel- Comp, Heather  
McLellan, Susan Goldsmith,  
Pauline Peverly and Jeff Newman)

BOARD (FOR APPROVAL BY  
THE CONGREGATION AT AN-  
NUAL MEETING)

### **Tim Tilton (Vice-President)**

It was May 4, 1970, and the Kent State Massacre had just taken place. I was a disabled veteran who had just returned from Viet Nam and was in my first semester of college. I was incensed, and the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine, Wisconsin, was the only place we could find that would help us mimeograph our protest leaflets. That's when I became a UU.

I have served on the UUCP Board for two terms as Chair of Building and Grounds, as well as serving as the Vice-Chair and Chair for the Pledge Campaign. I have been somewhat quiet in the recent months, but feel a sense of renewed energy and would like to put that to good UU use.

### **Smoot Carl-Mitchell (Treasurer)**

I have served on the Board as your Treasurer for the past two and ½ years and sing as a tenor in the choir. Professionally, I am a Computer Scientist and work for WebMD, a health care information provider. If elected I look forward to doing my part to grow our faith community.

### **Jimmy Leung (At-Large)**

I have been a member of the UUCP since my family (my wife, Susan and daughters Elizabeth and Katherine) joined in 2004.

In the past I've been on committees for the Stewardship/Capital campaign, Membership, Ministerial Search and I've been a covenant group facilitator for three years. I was also the last ever Membership Trustee of the Board, just before we started Policy Governance.

I'd like to be on the board again because I want to help the minister establish our new ministry together. I also want to continue to work on Policy Governance and committee organization and leadership. Thank you.

### **Susan Morris (At-Large)**

I am a former special ed teacher who has run a tutoring business since 1985. I am married to Richard Plattner who, like Nancy Drew's father Carson, is a prominent attorney. Our son Sam and daughter Katie are delightful, interesting human beings. I love music. I play viola a lot, piano a little, and sing as often as I can. I have difficulty remembering to take time for myself, but when I do, I read, do crossword and jigsaw puzzles, and plant flowers. [Ed: Susan is a member of the choir and a member of the Music Committee – at least]

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
(FOR APPROVAL BY THE CON-  
GREGATION AT ANNUAL  
MEETING)**

**Gary Ezzell**

Gary has been a member of UUCP since 1999. He has chaired the Adult Religious Education Committee, has been on the Board of Trustees, and has been President of the Board. He is a medical physicist at Mayo Clinic and is active in his professional association, currently serving as Secretary.

**Lydia Yanek**

I have been a member of UUCP since early 2006, after looking for a religious community - for myself and my son Lyle - with liberal, progressive values. We found it here! We live in Scottsdale and I work as an Escrow Officer for a local title company.

I have been active in the Green Sanctuary, New Day, Membership, and Tuesday night Covenant Group.

**Sally Boyd**

I have been a member of this congregation since 1960. I have been active on numerous committees and sang in the choir for many years. I previously served the congregation as board membership chair, and was a member of the nominating committee several years past. I am an office volunteer and a facilitator of New UU classes.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY  
(FOR APPROVAL BY THE  
BOARD)**

**Julie Smart**

It has been my need and pleasure to be a member of the UUCP community since 1994 when Marshal and I moved here from Michigan where we were members of the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Congregation.

In these years of community with UUCP I have served on the Board, arranged a Newcomers Class Program, facilitated many of these classes, facilitated the Accessibility Committee, and am currently serving as the Unicare Chair.

I have agreed to serve on the Committee on Ministry because I do believe that this committee serves an important function in assessing the health of our ministry.

**Richard Plattner**

I have been lucky to be allowed to hang out at UUCP for about six years now. Our kids, Sam & Katie Plattner, made friends with several YRUU's at North High School and quickly became YRUU's themselves. After about a year my wife, the lovely and talented Susan Morris, joined the choir, and a year later so did I.

A couple of years ago it dawned on us that we ought to actually join this congregation that we already felt a part of. I had never previously been associated with any congregation anywhere, and it has been heart-warming and fascinating to become immersed in this community.

In addition to being active in the music program, I helped with the 2007 Canvass, was appointed to the Foundation Board a few months ago, and assisted as a surveyor in the recent survey of contributors regarding the funding options for Phase One construction.

Phoenix is full of potential UU's who just don't know about us yet. I believe our community is beginning a major growth phase and I am excited to be a part of the process.

## Celebrating Beloved Community...

...was our theme and we did it at our April 6<sup>th</sup> Garden Party. Libby Walker and I express our thanks to the nearly 200 of you who braved the sunshine and attended. We had a wonderful time thanks to you, our wonderful table hosts, Classic Catering for the great food and service, the Andy Gross Trio for the wonderful music and even Whitfill's Nursery for the beautiful plants and flowers.

This Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, was equally wonderful: The culmination of our two-year search for a settled minister! We got to meet, hear, and speak with the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray. In addition, I was able to report that in the first week of our stewardship campaign we received pledges exceeding \$250,000.

Many of you have told me that you really like being able to bring your pledge to UUCP or send it via email

or mail instead of having to wait until someone contacts you. Many have also shown by your responses that you understood my plea for increased pledges to enable our new minister to demonstrate and implement her leadership skills.

A special thanks to all who have raised the amount of their pledge. Whether you were able to increase a few dollars or a few thousand dollars, your actions demonstrate fantastic commitment to our beloved community.

If, by any chance, you have not yet made your pledge for 2008-2009, please do so (I'm writing this long before you'll be reading it). UUCP needs the support of all of us if we are to realize the potential the coming year promises. Thank you!

In community,  
Joan Laurence  
Stewardship Chair  
canvass@phoenixuu.org

## Finance Committee News

The finance committee is well on our way to creating the 2008-2009 budget. We have received input from the various program committees and staff. At our first meeting we prepared a draft budget that we will be refining over the next several weeks. We will be presenting the recommended budget to the board at their May meeting. The congregation will vote on the budget at the Congregational Meeting in June. Pledging is the cornerstone of our budget, so if you have not pledged yet, please contact Joan Laurence to make your pledge. Please feel free to contact Mary Dokes (at [finance@phoenixuu.org](mailto:finance@phoenixuu.org)) if you have any questions about the budget or budgeting process.

Your 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter fiscal year statement will arrive in the mail in the next few days. If you do not received it or have any questions, please give Heidi Parmenter a call.

The Capital Building campaign ended April 30, 2008! Thanks to all of you who pledged and donated to support the many beautiful enhancements to our beloved community. You can expect to receive a statement of your donations in early June.

To the left is a summary of our finances through February 2008

UUCP Financial Update			
Fiscal Year - July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008			
(Operating & EEC)			
as of February 29, 2008			
We are about 67% through the fiscal year			
Category	Budget	Year to Date Actual	Percent of Budget
Pledge Income	\$290,000	\$207,944	71.7%
Total Income	\$575,295	\$438,054	76.1%
Total Expenses	\$613,448	\$440,203	71.8%
Net Income	(\$23,146)	(\$2,148)	9.3%

### SAC MEETING

Social Action Cmte meeting, May 11 - 12 noon Annex B - bring coffee and social activist minds .. all are welcome. A place of honor for all mothers!

### LUNCHEON

Social Action lunch - May 18 - 2 speakers for the price of one lunch! How does UUCP's longtime association with Interfaith Cooperative Ministries ICM and UMOM's New Day Family Shelter, both providing assistance to the valley's homeless and underserved population, really work? Rene Gentry, ICM executive director, and Nicole Churchill, UMOM's chief development officer, will explain how our donations of time, money and food to these organizations help our community.

### MANY THANKS

Hats off to Janice Brunson and family who cooked the New Day meal at her house on April 6 so the kitchen was freed up for the commitment party. The Brunsons continued on to New Day later in the day to serve the meal.

### NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT

Grounded in the Unitarian Universalist affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person, UUCP is moving forward to bring public witness and awareness for real change in the immigration policies of the United States. We Arizonans are at the epicenter of this crisis. We must give voice for the likes of children at Booker T. Washington Headstart, in honor of our long-time association, and every immigrant family who have found themselves at the mercy of current laws. The New Sanctuary Movement subcommittee of the Social Action Committee has recently formed for the purpose of educating the congregation and community.

Heather McLellan, chair  
Social Action Committee



## The Job Club is Back!

Changes in the economy has created the need. Pauline Peverly and Larry Agle meet every Tuesday evening at 6:30 at the congregation to help people with many kinds of career issues. Are you out of work? Looking for a job? Considering a career transition? We welcome you to join our support group as together we learn about networking, gathering information about jobs, and interviewing for the job.

The purpose of the Job Club is to provide support and resources to you as you make career decisions of any kind. Recently, Jan Kaplan of our Congregation and a Director of Radiology at Mayo, spoke to the group on Behavioral Interviewing as we prepare for those job interviews.

E-mail [jobclub@phoenixuu.org](mailto:jobclub@phoenixuu.org)



## The Transylvanian's Are Coming!

**Who:** Four members of our partner church in Szekelyudvarhely, Romania, are coming to Phoenix: Domi and Eva Ruzs (the minister and his wife), and Gyula and Csilla Littasi (the congregation president and his wife). This is their first visit to the United States.

**What:** The Partner Church Committee is making arrangements for their visit, which will include a reception, complete Sunday service, and social events. We want them to meet all of you, show them how our congregation functions, and strengthen our partner relationship. We will also have time for short trips to see highlights of the area, such as the Grand Canyon and Tucson.

**When:** Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, 2008

**How to get involved:** Thanks to previous donations from you, we have secured their visas and airfare. However, there will be additional expenses to cover their meals and accommodations, and to allow them to experience cultural and recreational events. If you would like to help out, we are accepting donations of cash, event/outing tickets, restaurant gift cards or anything else that would add to

their enjoyment of their visit with us. We are also looking for volunteers to host an event (dinner, trip to a museum, etc.) so that they can get to know our congregation members more individually. If you have ideas, time or some funds to contribute, please drop a note in the Partner Church mailbox in the church office, or contact Paula Kulina ([garlina@cox.net](mailto:garlina@cox.net), or 602-861-1921).

## Main Street Mavericks Fiber Arts display

The fabulous fiber arts display from the Main Street Mavericks continues until May 31. This art quilting group is known for innovative, unique and modern twists on traditional quilts and techniques. Some of the members are nationally known fiber artists who exhibit and sell in a variety of venues, and many of the quilts in our sanctuary are for sale. We know you will continue to enjoy this art.



## Traveling 2nd Friday

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Friday of each month. It is held in the sanctuary from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

**MAY 9 – ERITREA**  
**PRESENTED BY: LIBBY WALKER**

There is more to the tiny east African nation of Eritrea than its current plight as a dictatorship. Once an Italian colony, Eritrea boasts an architectural gem of a capital city on a mountain plateau and a coastline along the Red Sea. Federated to Ethiopia after WWII, Eritrea's people fought Africa's longest war for independence from Ethiopia from 1961 until 1991. We will explore Eritrea's history, its present hardships.

If you have any questions about Traveling 2nd Fridays, call Barbara Cawthorne at (480) 994-1452.



## Unicare

If we were to give real bouquets of fragrant flowers to all of those who deserve it in our wonderful community, the poor old Unicare lady would have to spend out her budget for the next ten years! So, these virtual nosegays will be humbly proffered.

A dozen long stemmed roses (in their favorite color) to Joan Laurence and Libby Walker who treated us all with a gala brunch on our very own patio. It was a delicious slice of energy and love and so beautifully presented.

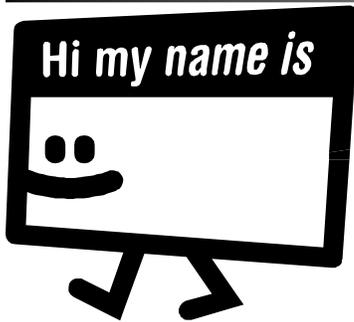
Profusions of variegated wild flowers to Sandy Weir for her tireless organization of our UU marchers in the Gay Pride Parade, to Richard Plattner for procuring the biggest truck in the parade and to all those who decorated it and created the spirit of the day.

Star lillies go to our indefatigable search committee to celebrate the new chapter in our congregation as we welcome our new minister, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray! Their journey has been long and a ticker tape parade would be appropriate!!

What a month it has been!!  
Julie Smart  
Unicare Chair

## Open Art Studio

Beginning May 12, through August 25, There is open art studio in Johnson Room on Mondays from 9 am. to 11:30 pm, (except when Johnson Room is not available for a rental) for water color painting. Limited instruction is provided, if needed on an individual basis. For more information, call Jay Alagia, 602 952-8889.



When you wear your name tag...

You are saying something about yourself beyond your name. By putting on a name tag at UUCP, you say...

I am an OPEN person, who wants to get to know others.

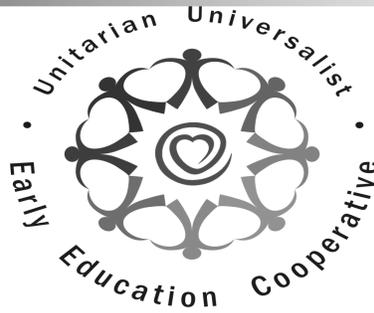
I am a COURTEOUS person, who relieves others of the struggle of trying to remember all our names.

I am an AWARE person, who knows it is difficult, in our changing congregation, for me to know everyone and for everyone to know me.

I am a THOUGHTFUL person, who remembers how I myself have suddenly blanked on the name of a dear acquaintance.

I am a REALISTIC person, who knows that there are always visitors to our congregation, and that to get to know us they need the help of our nametags.

Thank you for wearing yours regularly!



## From the EEC Director

May is upon us already. Last September, it seemed so far away and here it is! May, with its blue skies and warm days (perfect for water play) is a bitter sweet month at the Preschool. It is the month when we realize how far the children have come, how much they have learned and how they have grown (sweet). We also begin our good-byes by planning graduation, last day parties and parent cleanup day (bitter). At the same time, we are already meeting the new families who will join us in the fall by hosting in-coming parent evenings. It is the flow of life preschool style.

So, we will say good-bye for the summer on May 23 looking forward to Kids Kamp, play dates and the beginning of school in September.

The preschool is a wondrous place where children grow, learn and wonder. It is a place for parents to learn about their children, relive a little of childhood and wonder about what the future holds for their child. If you are ever in the area, please stop by and take a peak...it will make your day!

This year holds a different bitter sweet moment with the retirement

of Teacher Josie. She has been teaching at the EEC for 27 years. We will all miss Josie more than we can articulate. Her understanding of young children is amazing and her ability to challenge them to think, learn and do is beautiful to watch. She has worked under so many directors she has lost count but has always kept her true mission in focus...the children. We are planning a retirement event for her on May 21. Please watch your email and the Sunday bulletin for details and join us in wishing her well.

***“Changing the world, 13 children at a time!”***

***Teacher Doug***

## Annual Reports Due

May 12

A reminder to all chairpersons and activity group leaders that your annual report is due May 12th. Please email your report to [administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org). Pictures are welcome but remember that they will be printed in black and white and available in color on the website. The 2006 and 2007 Annual Reports are available for downloading on our website

[www.phoenixuu.org](http://www.phoenixuu.org) under "Documents." Refer to your Committee's "Guide to Working with the Office" for more tips and suggestions on writing an exciting annual report.

## Free Air Conditioning!

In the spirit of being "Green" how about helping in the office this summer? You can save on your own electric bill by sharing my nice cool office with me. Please see the Administrator for conditions and rules that may apply.

## Wireless Networks, Booklet-making Copiers, and a New Website. . .

...make for a very happy Administrator! I am pleased to announce the latest technological advancement at UUCP - a brand new copier! Our new machine does magical things like copy back to back (without jamming), assembling booklets (including the folding), and scans documents to the network. We no longer have a smaller "backup" machine because it was costing too much money and with a machine that doesn't break down at every use it shouldn't be needed.

Also, if you haven't checked out our new website design please do so. [www.phoenixuu.org](http://www.phoenixuu.org) If you are a chairperson or activity group leader who would like to see your group represented on the website please contact the Publicity Committee at [publicity@phoenixuu.org](mailto:publicity@phoenixuu.org).

## SAWUURA's Memorial Day Event

The Memorial Day event is May 24, 25 & 26, 2008 and the registration is due by Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, but please, don't delay. We have had waiting lists that resulted in disappointed campers for several of our events as we do have a limit to the number of people who can be on site at one time. So, please, if you want to go, register today! You can get registration forms and liability waivers at: [www.sawuura.org/forms.html](http://www.sawuura.org/forms.html). While you're there, grab a copy of the membership form, sign up for membership, and save on the cost of the Memorial Day camp. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to spend time with nature and your fellow Unitarian Universalists.

UU singers from Arizona and New Mexico join to present

# “Sources”

a new Unitarian Universalist Cantata  
for choir, soloists, strings, percussion, story teller & rap artist

music by  
Jason Shelton  
words by  
Kendyll Gibbons

**May 4, 2008**  
10:30 am

at

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix  
4027E. Lincoln Drive  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85251

**Paradise Valley**

**Chandler**

**May 11, 2008**  
10:30 am

at

Valley Unitarian Universalist Church  
6400 W. Del Rio Street  
Chandler AZ 85226

The text for “Sources” illuminates the sources from which Unitarian Universalists draw their faith and the living tradition we share.

For more information, please contact  
Connie Jahrmarkt [musicdirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@phoenixuu.org)  
Or call the church office 602 840 8400

## Calendar of Events...

### **Thursday May 1 2008**

7:00 PM Construction Committee  
7:30 PM Campus Ministry

### **Saturday May 3 2008**

8:00 AM Combined Choir rehearsal  
10:00 AM Art Committee  
12:15 PM Combined Choir Rehearsal

### **Sunday May 4 2008**

Combined Choir Sunday  
9:00 AM Poetry Coffeehouse  
9:00 AM Sunday Covenant Group  
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group  
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service  
12:00 PM New Day Center Meal  
12:00 PM Young Adult Group

### **Monday May 5 2008**

7:00 PM Women's Circle

### **Tuesday May 6 2008**

12:30 PM President's Council

### **Thursday May 8 2008**

6:00 PM Children's Ministry Committee  
7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee

### **Friday May 9 2008**

3:00 PM Forrester Memorial Service  
7:00 PM Traveling 2nd Friday

### **Sunday May 11 2008**

9:00 AM Nominating Committee  
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group  
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Ser-

vice  
12:00 PM Young Adult Group  
12:00 PM Social Action Meeting  
12:15 PM Roots & Shoots  
6:00 PM MUUvie

### **Monday May 12 2008**

6:30 PM Covenant Group Facilitator Meetings  
7:00 PM Women's Circle

### **Wednesday May 14 2008**

6:00 PM ARE Committee  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday May 15 2008**

7:00 PM Sunday Services Committee

### **Friday May 16 2008**

5:00 PM RE Appreciation Rehearsal

### **Saturday May 17 2008**

6:00 PM Circle Dinner

### **Sunday May 18 2008**

9:00 AM Covenant Group  
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group  
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service  
12:00 PM Young Adult Group  
12:00 PM Social Action Luncheon

### **Monday May 19 2008**

9:00 AM Art Studio  
7:00 PM Women's Circle

### **Wednesday May 21 2008**

5:30 PM Teacher Josie's Goodbye Party  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday May 22 2008**

6:00 PM Roots & Shoots  
7:00 PM Board Meeting

### **Friday May 23 2008**

8:00 AM EEC Cleanup Day

### **Sunday May 25 2008**

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group  
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service  
12:00 PM Young Adult Group

### **Monday May 26 2008**

9:00 AM Art Studio  
7:00 PM Women's Circle

### **Tuesday May 27 2008**

4:00 PM Committee on Ministry

### **Wednesday May 28 2008**

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee

### **Saturday May 31 2008**

9:00 AM Art Committee

*Interim Minister: Rev. Roberta Haskin* minister@phoenixuu.org  
*Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker*  
*Religious Education Director: Kim St. Clair* redirector@phoenixuu.org  
*Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt* musicdirector@phoenixuu.org  
*Membership Volunteer Coordinator: Kate Otting* volunteer@phoenixuu.org  
*Administrator: Heidi Parmenter* administrator@phoenixuu.org  
*Custodian: Manuel Gomez*  
*Interim Early Education Director: Jane Armstrong* eecdirector@phoenixuu.org  
*Early Education Teachers: Doug van Der Veen, Josie Young, Jane Sutton, Valerie Bailey, Gail Ober, Tammy O'Riley*  
*Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Lipkeman* childcare@phoenixuu.org  
*Childcare Providers: Daniel Mendez*  
*Office Volunteers: Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, Sandy Thomson, Bernie Hall, Sharon Hise, Julie Smart, Pauline Peverly, Sherry Celine, Larry Agle, and Tish Gauntt*  
*Board of Trustees:* board@phoenixuu.org  
*President: Gary Ezzell Vice President: Sarah Carlson*  
*Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell*  
*Trustees: Jesse Hise, Jaynn Truran, Sandy Weir, Donna Featherston, and Peg Paden*

## Our Mission

Our religious community aspires to:

- Embrace diversity as we engage in the passionate pursuit of Unitarian Universalist principals;
- 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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