



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Newsletter of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

November 2008

Celebration of Life

Sundays, 10:30 AM

NOV. 2: EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS (THE DAY OF THE DEAD)

Service Leader: Kim St. Clair

We have a special intergenerational service planned for November 2nd, which will feature a play called "Gabby and Gomez" woven throughout the service. Please feel free to bring a picture or artifact of loved one who has passed away, and we will honor their memory by inviting participants to speak the names of their loved ones aloud. The nursery will be open during the service.

NOV. 9: "A DAY DEDICATED TO PEACE"

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

Words matter, language matters, the terms we use to honor our history matter. Before the name was changed to Veteran's Day, November 11th was established as a national holiday, Armistice Day, to be commemorated with "exercises designed to perpetuate peace."

Armistice Day celebrated the end of World War I, "the war to end all wars." Almost 30 years and 2 major conflict later, the name and the purpose of the day was changed. But we must not forget.

NOV. 16: "SEVEN GENERATIONS"

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

Wilma Mankiller, first female chief of the Cherokee Nation, wrote, "In Iroquois society, leaders are encouraged to remember seven generations in the past and consider seven generations in the future when making decisions that affect the people." This seven generations principle is a good model for environmental sustainability. How can we turn ourselves from immediate gratification and quick answers to grounding ourselves in our responsibility to the seventh generation after us?

NOV. 23: INTERGENERATIONAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

Come celebrate the season of gratitude with stories, singing and playfulness. This service is intergenerational and designed to engage children, youth and adult of all ages. The family choir will be singing.

NOV. 30: "DIGNITY FOUND"

Speaker: Julie Wambach

Service Leader: Terry Simmons
Julie, a long-time member of UUCP, is a retired college professor and author. Her latest book "Battles between Somebodies and Nobodies: Combat Abuse of Rank at Work and Home" is available at the book table with a portion of the sale going to UUCP.

Soulful Sundown Service

First Sundays, 6 PM

NOV. 2

Exploring the second Principle: *Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations* and our second Source: *Words & 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.*

Soulful Sundown Band will lead with music and singing.

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Minister's Musings

Last Sunday, Glen Lockwood, a member of the congregation, came up to share with me a "first" he had that morning. He told me that this was the first time he had come to service on Sunday and could not find a place to park. Initially he and his family had planned on walking to church, but they got a late start so they had to drive. I suspect Glen is not alone in this story. The sanctuary has been crowded, and the parking lot even more so. At staff and board meetings we have talked about adding chairs, but the reality is our bottleneck is parking. We only have 100 parking spaces. So as an ex-officio member of the Green Sanctuary Committee and the Unicare Committee, I want to echo their suggestions to carpool! Also, I encourage you to invite a friend to service, just make sure to offer them a ride too.

As part of our mission of being a congregation with open hearts and open minds and open doors, we want to make sure there is room for everyone who wants to be a part of our community and for everyone who wants to visit and see if our community is right for them. To this end the staff has begun looking at adding another worship service and strategies for how and what this will look like. Look in future Horizons for additional information and opportunities for input as we work to meet the needs of our growing congregation.

As Glen said after he described the makeshift parking spot he wedged himself into, "This is a great problem to have!" He is right as long as we are ready to overcome it.

While I was in the search process, a congregation shared with me the work they had to do to overcome their reputation in the community as being full. One person said she heard other people in her neighborhood say, "Oh I'd love to go to that Unitarian Universalist congregation, but I hear they are full and not taking new members" We do not want to have a similar reputation. In order to keep the welcome doors open, we need to make room for the new people who want to come—"our yet undiscovered brothers and sisters" to quote Howard Thurman. For what we have going on here at UUCP—a faith that welcomes all, a mission that is justice-centered, and a community committed to personal and spiritual growth—this is some-

thing too good to keep from others who want to join. As for Glen, I've told him he will have to walk from now on. Just kidding.

Love,
Susan

P.S. Election Day is November 4th. Please make sure to vote! Don't forget to Vote!

Association Sunday

Results are In!

We collected \$1835.05 on Association Sunday. The money goes to support projects focused on deepening our Shared Ministry with the UU Association. The theme is *Growing Our Spirit*. You can learn more about this by visiting the UU Association's website at www.uua.org.

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

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

From the President...

These are exciting times for our religious community. With the arrival of our called-minister, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, and the consistent warm welcome extended to visitors and newer members, our beloved community is growing. Last year, membership increased by 20%, and it appears likely that we'll increase by that much again this year. Further, in 2012, General Assembly (GA)--the national conference held by Unitarian Universalists each year--will again be held in Phoenix. That is a little more than three years from now--and with our growth, programs, and commitment, UUCP is poised for designation as a breakthrough congregation!

While our growth increases opportunities to effect change within and beyond our religious community, it also imposes additional demands on our facilities. Last April, the Town of Paradise Valley (TOPV) finally approved UUCP's special use permit. With that approval, UUCP can take steps to make our campus more accessible and safe, enhance available space with a new restroom core and larger lobby, and create more room for our programs. Certain aspects of the plan are likely to become more urgent in the coming months. One aspect is the requirement that UUCP establish a sewer connection; UUCP's septic system, while functional, is many decades old and replacement is not an option. It has and will require increased maintenance to remain functional. Perhaps even more urgent will be paving the unpaved portion of our

parking area. Maricopa County is on the verge of enacting county-wide requirements, including paving dirt parking lots, to improve air quality. Moreover, while hardly glamorous, improvement of these features of our campus lays the groundwork for other, more readily apparent enhancements that, at least in part, will benefit the broader community.

UUCP's leaders are investigating and evaluating whether and how to move forward with further renovation. If and when action is recommended, the available options will be presented to the Congregation. Meanwhile, in light of the ongoing turmoil in the economy, Franklin Roosevelt's statement that "We have nothing to fear but fear itself" resonates. As we go forward together, may we resist fearfulness that stymies realistic evaluation of our circumstances so that we overestimate the downside of moving forward and underestimate the downside of not acting. More crucially, may we be guided by our principles and values--and our regard for one another as members of a beloved religious community--in considering decisions about our campus. May it be so.

Submitted by,

Sarah Carlson, President

Sharing leadership tips!

Close to 60 active UUCP members made our Leadership Development Day on October 4 a great success. We learned several key things about involving more people in the shared ministry work of the Congregation. In recruiting people to your activity, make the invitation personal, specific, and doable. There is now a form available for letting our volunteer coordinator know of opportunities. When developing new leaders, delegate, delegate, delegate - make tasks a reasonable size, share the responsibilities, work toward turning over leadership to the next person. Two keys to appreciating volunteers were discussed: 1) appreciate people by respecting their time and contributions through holding effective meetings and doing meaningful work and 2) when thanking people, return to the personal and specific.

The Nominating Committee is now turning to developing a long range, year-round plan for leadership development and training. Are there topics you'd like to know more about? Are there ways we can share leadership information that will be especially effective? We invite and welcome your ideas. Please contact any member of the committee to talk more.

Susan Goldsmith, chair
Sally Boyd
Gary Ezzell
Jeff Newman
Pauline Peverly
Lydia Yanak

Greetings from your Music Director!

FAMILY CHOIR

Family Choir is rehearsing after Sunday Services through Nov. 16. We'll sing with the Congregation Choir on Nov. 23 for an Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service.

SOULFUL SUNDOWN RETURNS!

1st Sunday of the month 6pm.

This year our themes will focus on our UU Principles & Sources concurrently. See the front page of Horizons for details. Musicians who want to play in the Soulful Sundown band, contact me:

musicdirector@phoenixuu.org or 480 970 8807. We'll rehearse an hour before the service at 5:00pm.

Keep singing!

Connie Jahrmarkt

UUCP: This is Our Place to Grow

By Kate Otting, New Member and Volunteer Coordinator

On September 28, 2008, over 20 individuals chose to join our congregation, each with unique gifts, experiences, needs and personalities. As Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray suggested during that New Member Sunday service, we are not simply welcoming new members, but we covenant with them to reshape our congregational identity. Because we each choose to be members, the congregation shapes our individual identities as well. To take it a step

further, congregational growth provides each of us opportunities for personal growth.

Growth requires us to bend and change to meet the needs for new services. In my second year as New Member and Volunteer Coordinator, I am delighted to extend opportunities for supporting the expansion, cultivation and development of our membership.

After passionate months of work, the Membership Committee is unveiling the Welcoming Ministry, a small shift from the way we have welcomed and greeted people each Sunday, with greater involvement of our diverse congregation. If you desire a deeper commitment to membership growth, consider joining the Membership Committee. If you want to start small but make big changes in the congregation, become a STAR. To broaden our hospitality on a given Sunday, host a coffee hour.

Whether for personal growth or congregational growth, consider joining any of the following opportunities:

WELCOMING MINISTRY

This ministry aims to provide a consistent and excellent level of reception, greeting and warmth to all who enter and leave our house of worship. Furthermore this ministry will reflect the diversity of our congregation by engaging a wide range of our members. The Membership Committee is establishing "pods," each of which consists of 5

people who volunteer on certain Sundays to do the following:

- Greet people at the UUCP front door before, during and after services
- Welcome and sign-in visitors

The more pods established, the less frequently each will be called to serve. Pod leaders will work with their groups to find the best dates for all of you. Pods will be supported by the Membership Committee for dissemination of information, membership education and data collection. A brief orientation will be provided for each pod. Additionally, clearly written instructions will be provided to make this as easy and interesting as possible for each volunteer. We currently have 10 pods. More are welcome! To become part of this ministry, contact Kate Otting, volunteer@phoenixuu.org.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is responsible for greeting new guests, welcoming new members and integrating new members into the congregation. The mission of the committee is to lead our congregation in welcoming all who enter our faith community by creating a culture that exemplifies inclusion, friendliness and respect, and acknowledges the value of new and existing members in our congregation. The vision of the committee is to create a growing intergenerational and multicultural congregational community, rich in diversity and energetically engaged in activities of the congregation. The Goal of the Membership Committee is to grow membership by 5% each year.

The committee meets after worship services on the 4th Sunday of every month for one hour and fifteen minutes. To learn more about the committee, contact Membership Chair, Larry Agle, bolanagle@cox.net.

NEW UU CLASSES

While this is a function of the Membership Committee, to be a class presenter, coordinator or assistant, you do not have to be one of the membership committee members. If you've got some teaching, facilitation, presentation or training skills, you may want to lead a New UU class. Perhaps you're interested in curriculum development and want to help keep the curriculum up to date, coordinate all of the materials, etc. Or maybe you prefer to organize the potlucks, recruit volunteers to help with small class details or take on some of the behind-the-scenes tasks of this important step in the membership process. If becoming involved in New UU Classes interests you, email
volunteer@phoenixuu.org.

STARS

Earn a shining star on your name tag! Gain fantastic listening and communication skills! Be a real STAR for UUCP. How? Attend a brief (20 minute) training. That's it.

There are already at least 25 trained STARS in our congregation who make visitors feel welcomed in our congregation each week. "Once a STAR, always a STAR," so no shifts to worry about! It's a small task but STARS are making noticeably friendly improvements during coffee hour. New members report that STARS made them interested in joining our congregation.

To become a STAR, contact Natalie Summit,
my2dogsnme@qwest.net.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Each week, the congregation provides basic refreshments at coffee hour. Now and then, members, families, covenant groups and committees like to spice things up a bit and bring their own goodies. Maybe you want to honor someone's birthday, thank a stellar committee member or say goodbye to someone moving out of town. Or maybe you just like to be host for a day. If you or your group wants to be Coffee Hour Host, sign up here: <http://doodle.ch/23i72kizse32537n> or email
volunteer@phoenixuu.org.

With folks from both Nominating and Membership Committees and following the input from participants in Leadership Development Day, committees will be asked to combine forces to build a database of needs, skills and talents so that members may find clearer pathways to involvement in our religious community. This is not only the other half of my position – the volunteer coordinator part -- but it is also the natural progression of our growth.

I strive to master efficiency in this eight-hour-per-week position. I am grateful for the encouragement and support flowing into our combined efforts. Working together, growth at all dimensions will be a delightful experience for each of us.



“To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . .”

CHILDCARE PROVIDED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Our nursery is open at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday morning so parents may attend book discussion group, an Adult Religious Education course, or committee meetings. No advance registration is needed.

NOVEMBER CLASSES

“Finding Your Religion: When the Faith You Grew Up With Has Lost Its Meaning.” Author: Scotty McLennan. McLennan, the inspiration for the character "Reverend Scotty Sloan" in Garry Trudeau's comic strip *Doonesbury*, is a real-life Unitarian Universalist minister and chaplain at Stanford University. McLennan shares his own and his students' search for a meaningful spiritual life, detailing six stages of faith—Magic, Reality, Dependence, Independence, Interdependence, and Unity.

Instructor: David Johnson

Date & Time: Sundays @ 9:00 a.m., 11/2, 11/9, 11/16

Location: Room 9

Fee: \$10.00 or presentation of UUS Pass (book by Scotty McLennan for sale at Book Table - \$15.00)

Wisdom of Hinduism for Daily Living

Jay Alagia and Terri Simmons, long time members of our UUCP, will teach a class using selected verses from Bhagavad-Gita on December, 9 am. to 11:30 am. Attendance is limited to six students. After the class, the students may join Jay and Terri for a buffet lunch at the Indian restaurant located at 16th and Campbell, Phoenix. If interested please contact Jay or sign up at the book table, with your contact information. Jay can be reached at 602 952-8889 or JAlagia@cox.net

NOVEMBER MOVIE NIGHT IS INTERGENERATIONAL!

The Adult Religious Education Committee is hosting an intergenerational movie night on November 19th, featuring “The Story of Stuff.” From its extraction through sale, use and disposal, all the stuff in our lives affects communities at home and abroad, yet most of this is hidden from view. “The Story of Stuff” is a 20-minute, fast-paced, fact-filled look at the underside of our production and consumption patterns. “The Story of Stuff” exposes the connections between a huge number of environmental and social issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world. It'll teach you something, it'll make you laugh, and it just may change the way you look at all the stuff in your life forever. We will play games and have a lively discussion about the film. There is a \$5 per person suggested donation to cover costs, but

no one is turned away!

Date: November 19, 2008.

Place: Johnson Room

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

RSVP: Kim St. Clair at redirector@phoenixuu.org

YOUNG ADULT GROUP TAKING A ROAD TRIP!

In addition to our usual meeting times (Sundays at 12:00 in Room C and 2nd and 4th Mondays at Arizona State's Memorial Union at 7:30 p.m.), we are also taking a trip to Arcosanti in November! The Arcosanti retreat will be held from Friday, November 21st through Sunday, November 23rd. Arcosanti is an amazing self-sustaining community that has overnight accommodations for individuals and groups. The cost is low - about \$50 per person for the entire weekend. Young adults and their allies (those older than 35 years) are welcome. Please contact Kim St. Clair at redirector@phoenixuu.org for more information ASAP.

"Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation . . ."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- November 2 - Intergenerational Service - Pre-k through 12th grades - Los Dias de Los Muertos service
- November 9 - Sunday school class - (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary); Noon - Empty Bowls Luncheon
- November 16 - Sunday school class - (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary)
- November 23 - Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service - Pre-k through 12th grades
- November 30 - Sunday school class - (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary); Noon - No Fuss Luncheon and Tie-Dye Event

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFF TO A GREAT START!

We have had a tremendous beginning of the program year with an average of 70 children and youth attending Sunday school every week. Here is an overview of lessons for November.

1st-2nd Grade - Lead Teacher - Jennifer Hempel - We will be exploring all the ways in which we are different, and how differences make the world more interesting.

3rd-4th Grade - Lead Teacher - Hannah Roberts

Last month in the third and fourth grades, we have been learning about important Unitarian Universalist

superheroes connected to the abolitionist movement in the United States. First, we learned about minister Theodore Parker. This week, we'll be learning about Lewis Latimer and next week we'll study Lydia Maria Child. Take this opportunity to talk to your child(ren) about what slavery means in the context of our country's history, as well as how racism is still happening today.

5th-6th Grade - Lead Teacher - Michelle Gates - This month, the 5th and 6th grade class will be exploring different Quests. Using art and mirrors, we'll learn how to look inside ourselves in order to improve the world around us. Also, we will explore the different social action projects taking place in UUCP. We will take an extra close look at Trick or Treat for UNICEF. As is our norm, don't wear clothes you love too much; we'll be getting dirty during craft time! See you on Sunday!

ROOTS & SHOOTS HAPPENINGS

On September 21st for United Nations International Peace Day, our Roots & Shoots group created a large peace dove and banner and celebrated with other area R&S groups in Scottsdale. R&S families will be your cooks for UUCP's Hunger Awareness Event; Empty Bowl luncheon on November 9th. Also be looking for our booth at the UUCP holiday craft fair. Our focus will be green gift items. Recommended age is 8 to adult. Supervision of young people is

requested. Roots & Shoots is a great opportunity for families to do something meaningful together. Come join us on the back patio on the second Sunday of the month 12:15-2:00. Bring your lunch and a pal. Roots & Shoots leaders are Todd Cruse, Nancy Cruse, Susan Leung.

YRUU

The YRUU group (our high school aged youth group) wants to thank everyone who expressed support, appreciation, kudos, encouragement and loving words after our "Come Out!" service on October 12. We had a lot of fun writing and arranging the service and discussing identity and ongoing self-discovery. It was beyond awesome to have our friends from Valley UU Church in Chandler help enhance our service with their drumming and energy! Thanks again to everyone for coming out for our service! At press time, we are preparing for the PSWD YRUU annual Halloween Conference in San Diego, which is sure to be a fun hoot, and we are working to organize a mini-conference with other local YRUU groups from our cluster, to be held at UUCP very soon. As always, stop by any Sunday – we meet in Room C of the Annex building, and the group is open to any high school aged youth. We are social and spiritual, aware and active, silly and serious – come join us!

SOCIAL ACTION LUNCHEON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Simon Weldehaimanot, a young Eritrean lawyer and human rights activist will update us on the current state of affairs in Eritrea including our dear member Aster Yohannes. Simon is in Phoenix to speak to students in the new masters degree program on human rights and social justice at ASU. Simon was educated in South Africa and upon his return to Eritrea lost an arm to a landmine. When Simon learned of Senait's (Aster's sister) US Dept. of State invitation to speak to the UN of human rights abuses, he attended.

Members and friends are invited to attend the luncheon provided by the Social Action Committee at noon in the Johnson Room. A small donation for a delicious lunch helps to sustain our social justice projects.

SOCIAL ACTION MEETING

Sunday, November 9 - 12:15 - annex B - open to all socially conscious members and friends. Bring your coffee and join us.

HOLIDAY PROJECTS

Each year the SAC suggests 3 holiday projects for the congregation and schools to participate. This year they are:

New Day Family Shelter - baby baskets to include diapers, lotion, wipes, blanket, outfit, toy, anything for a baby up to one year. The need to be able to provide a ready-made box to a mother is great in these difficult times. NO FORMULA will be accepted.

Interfaith Cooperative Ministries = ICM - personal care items such as lotions, deodorant, razors, shampoo, lip gloss, Vaseline, soap, wash cloths, towels.

Booker T Washington Child Development Center - children's books in both Spanish and English.

NEW DAY SHELTER

A long-time dream has blossomed at the New Day Family Shelter in south Phoenix. When the children finish dinner they are invited to the back room for fun and creative expression, coordinated by Carla Dunlap with Bev Spiars and COA members and parents assisting. A wonderful time was had in October by all, but especially the children of New Day.

For more than 15 years UUCP has cooked, delivered and served dinner the first Sunday of the month at the center. It is very encouraging to see the volunteer signup board next to the Social Action table filling up fast. Are you signed up to enjoy a beautiful experience? Lydia Yanak, Katie Raife and Heather McLellan can answer questions you may have.

UU SERVICE COMMITTEE (UUSC)

Fair Trade About 500 congregations (nearly 50 percent of all UU congregations) participate in helping small farmers in Africa, Asia, Central and South America earn a living wage. The UUSC Coffee Project partners with Equal Ex-

change, a worker-owned fair trade organization which buys coffee, tea and cocoa from farmer cooperatives. Equal Exchange follows the standards and principles of fair trade on 100 percent of its products, ensuring that low-income farmers earn a fair price for their products. Equal Exchange pays farmers \$1 million above what they would have earned under conventional trade practices. This allows farmers to better meet their families' basic needs, such as food, education, and health care.

Come to the Social Action table and buy coffee for yourself and as gifts for your friends. Many flavors - one price - \$8 per bag. Also chocolate at \$3 and tea at \$3.50.

Guest at Your Table (GAYT)

GAYT boxes will be distributed to children and adults on November 23. The boxes are to remind us of the abundance in our lives when in many parts of the world people live in misery. We place a coin or dollar in the little box for our gratefulness. This year UUSC is focusing on the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. The right to clean water, economic justice, civil liberties are rights we take for granted. UUSC has teamed up with native people such as Serafina in S. Africa, Amina in Darfur, Dalia in Egypt who are working for these basic human rights. Place the little box near the table and place a coin or bill to remind ourselves how fortunate we are.

Holiday Cards Beautiful holiday

cards designed exclusively by UUs will be on sale soon at the Social Action table. They will be priced at \$15 for a package of 10 with all proceeds going towards UUSC worldwide social justice projects.

TAX CREDITS

It is not too early to begin thinking of how to minimize your Arizona taxes by 1) Contributing to a Welfare Reform Tax Credit "Helping the Working Poor" qualifying charitable organization AND 2) Contributing to a public school for extracurricular activities. This provides two ways for you to direct your state tax dollars to a worthwhile cause of your own choice.

The Arizona Welfare Reform Tax Credit If you meet the eligibility requirements for this credit you may contribute up to \$200 for a single return, \$400 for a joint return to a qualifying charity of your choice and receive a dollar for dollar credit against the taxes you owe the state {as well as an itemized deduction on your federal tax}. We hope you will consider the Booker T Washington Child Development Center a Head Start program for three to five year olds, most living below the poverty line in central Phoenix. Another option is UMOM New Day Center.

Public School Tax Credit You may receive a dollar for dollar credit {\$200 single - \$400 joint return} against the taxes you owe Arizona by contributing to a public school extracurricular fund. We suggest you choose a school in a low income district where parents are un-

able to provide the extras. Two possible suggestions are Augustus Shaw School, 123 N. 13th Street, Phoenix 85034 or Garfield Elementary School, 811 N. 13th Street, Phx 85006.

Stop by the Social Action Table for information on eligibility.

WHAT IS THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE?

If you are curious to know just what the Social Action Committee is all about these are some of our projects and commitments:

Booker T. Washington Child Development Center - 16th St. and Adams - classroom volunteers, special programs, facility development, and board memberships assisting low income families - 40 year association

New Day Family Shelter - 32nd St. & VanBuren - provide and prepare monthly dinner & art project - 15 years

ICM - Interfaith Cooperative Ministries - 8th Ave. & Buchanan - resource center for underserved community - collection of non-perishable food, clothing, household items in vestibule wicker baskets - 25 years

Circulo de Amigas - Circle of Friends - Jinotega, Nicaragua - financial support 2 students and support of community projects - 10 years

Health Projects:

Nicaragua - Circulo de Amigas, Health & Maternity clinics - supplies and financial - 10 years
Honduras - Hogar Materna - financial - 10 years

Gay Pride parade - organize annual congregational participation - 5 years *

UUSC - Fair Trade coffee, chocolate, tea - 5 years

New Sanctuary Movement - Immigration issues - 1 year

Answer Nepal - sponsor Nepal student - 1 year

Bridges to Africa - development assistance to African UUs - 1 year

UUSC - membership and support programs including holiday card sales and Guest at Your Table donations.

Amnesty International - membership

Legislative Issues - education, support

We are an active social justice community! Won't you join us in supporting these many projects?

*GAY PRIDE PARADE

We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate UUCP participation in the Gay Pride parade next spring. Sandy Weir has coordinated for the last several years but it is time for a change. Two years ago UUCP won

the "Best Walking" contingent in the parade with more than 60 participants. If you would like more information please see Sandy or anyone at the Social Action table.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty International Group #110 will meet on the 2nd Tues. of each month in the annex bldg. at 7:00pm Everyone is welcome to participate in exercising their right to write letters in behalf and support of oppressed people throughout the world. Come join us.

THE EMPTY BOWLS TRADITION CONTINUES!

Our 8th annual Empty Bowls Luncheon will be held on the patio after the service on November 9, 2008. We encourage you to bring a fun, unusual bowl to donate either on November 2nd or 9th (a collection box will be in the foyer). Bowls and plates will then be sold with a healthy helping of posse stew and other fixings for \$8 (paper bowls with lunch are \$5). There will be a \$25 cap for families. All profits will be donated to the New Day Center's monthly meal provided by the UUCP.

The Green Sanctuary Committee wants you to know that there's green fun and food to be had!

By Susan Leung

GREEN FUN, PART 1

Families with children in pre-K through the 3rd grade are invited to an Eco Scavenger Hunt and Potluck Dinner on Saturday, November 15 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. This family event will help the children learn about some environmental friendly practices and will give families the opportunity to socialize over dinner. Dessert – s'mores – will be provided. Contact Susan Leung at 480-551-2090 or shbleung@yahoo.com for details.

GREEN FUN, PART 2

The Green Sanctuary will be working to enhance the nature trail on our property. We will tidy the trail and add educational information like plant identification. If you are interested in helping with this fun outdoor activity, please let the committee know at green@phoenixuu.org.

FOOD

There is still time to let us know if you are interested in making UUCP a CSA pick-up site. CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture, all locally grown produce. To find out more about how you and our UUCP community can participate in this delicious venture and what the many benefits are – email the committee at green@phoenixuu.org.

Finance Committee Update

As you can see from the chart below, as of August 31, we were doing well at meeting our budget, both in income and expenses. The preliminary reports for the end of September, presented at last month's Finance Committee meeting, were equally reassuring. (We seem to be doing much better than the nation as a whole!)

We were especially pleased to hear from outgoing stewardship chair Joan Laurence that our congregation has now pledged an amazing total of over \$340,000 for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009). The additional pledged amount will eliminate a substantial portion of the deficit we were anticipating because

of needed building repairs.

The UU Early Education Cooperative report was presented by Yvette Katsenes, who assured us that our preschool is doing very well, both financially and academically. Yvette also told us about the preschool's exciting plans for a fund-raising family afternoon on Saturday, Oct. 18. In addition to raising money, this fun event is expected to help build community among preschool parents and children, the congregation as a whole, and the parents and children of Desert View Learning Center.

The Committee's current assignment is to get all our financial procedures in order, and written down, so that future committees

can more easily follow them.

We very much appreciate those of you who pledged and are keeping your pledges up to date – and thanks, too, to our newest members, who are already contributing their fair share.

Ellie Murphy
for the Finance Committee
Mary Dokes, chair

UUCP Financial Update			
Fiscal Year - July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009			
(Operating & EEC)			
as of August, 2008			
We are about 16.7% through the fiscal year			
Category	Budget	Year to Date Actual	Percent of Budget
Pledge Income	\$325,008	\$58,885	18.1%
Total Income	\$654,151	\$112,416	17.2%
Total Expenses	\$687,505	\$119,889	17.4%
Net Income	(\$30,732)	(\$4,849)	15.8%

From the Renovation Committee

The Renovation Committee continues working towards the Congregation's vision of an accessible, welcoming building to match our thriving, greening, welcoming, beloved community.

During October's meeting, our architect, Doug Sydnor, was available to summarize some key issues and answer questions as we prepare to take our next renovation steps. One of the most exciting points of discussion was preparing for the building permit process. Now that we have an approved Master Plan with the Town of Paradise Valley, we need to submit the precise scope of work for what we agree to accomplish.

We have been talking with the UUCP community for several months about some foundational work that is needed and we have already made good progress as a community. Some of the work may not naturally inspire, but from parking lot paving to sewer tie-in, it's all needed as we build the foundation for our religious home.

The Renovation Committee agreed to support a timeline that aims to bring the congregation together in January to make the decisions needed in order to prepare our building permit for submission to the Town of Paradise Valley in February.

To that end, the Renovation Com-

mittee will be hosting a series of informal discussions in December. The purpose of the discussions will be to help educate, listen and learn with the UUCP community. We plan on discussing what needs to be done, how to pay for the work, when we want to see the work done and how this all fits with our vision for the future.

Are we ready? Are we ready to model our green commitment to the greater community? Are we ready to welcome visitors to join our movement? Are we ready to be a host congregation for the 2012 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations?

There is much evidence to suggest that we are ready. The Renovation Committee is anxious to help UUCP to prepare to decide what our next steps will be and when we will make those steps – together.

The next meeting of the Renovation Committee will be Thursday, November 6 at 6:30 P.M. in the Johnson Room. Please feel free to attend.



Unicare

This month past has seen chapters of joy and new beginnings and chapters of sad closing that will be committed to our congregational memory.

Friends of Don Fenily who knew him as a staunch supporter of our social action causes and others who knew him as a dear friend mourn his passing. Love and sympathy are extended to his lovely wife, Rita.

We celebrated the life of Mo Ostroff and got to know this delightful man better through all of the many who spoke at his memorial service with sorrow, love, and even, yes, humor that Mo would have loved. He left us with a space in our hearts that will be impossible to fill and so we will have to keep it a place in which to remember him with affection. Our love will be here to encircle his wife, Dawn.

The Grigsbys, Gene and Tommy, who are founding members of the UUCP Congregation celebrated their 90th birthdays in October. Gene is an internationally known artist who taught for many years at ASU. Tommy also taught at Phoenix Union High School before it became part of the downtown ASU campus. Even if belated, they al-

ways love to hear from their UU friends.

On September 22 Carrie Jasberg and her son Tallan welcomed Sierra Bronwyn into this world. Mom Carrie is doing very well and would love it if any of her fellow UU's would send her titles of their favorite children's books, parenting books or homeschooling books. Congratulations to Carrie and Tallan.

Our sympathy goes to Don and Sandy Weir on the death of Don's mother, Ruth. Love to Joan Gale and Bill Snowden as they grieve the death of Joan's father.

Roses to all in the Unicare Committee who are helping to further our activities to make this a very caring community. A special round of applause for Sally Boyd who has had a major hand in developing our class for Life Choices-Decisions About End of Life Issues.

Facing our challenges together in community, Julie Smart Unicare Chair



From the EEC

Being a child in the UUEEC in November means:

Making, drawing and eating turkey for a whole month! Teachers work with children to understand harvest, the importance of good nutrition and understanding a little about what the holiday of Thanksgiving means.

Having your parents come for a conference to spend time talking just about you! What a wonderful way to celebrate a child and give parents a closer look at their child. Less water play. Yes, as the weather cools, we have a less water play.

Stone soup is a tradition in the older classrooms. The book is read and children make a tasty soup with vegetables they bring from home.

Being a teacher at the UUEEC in November means:

Getting really tired of turkeys!
Preparation for conferences
Making sure children change out the clothing in their cubbies for long sleeves and socks.

Enjoying holiday traditions with families who come from many customs.

The UUEEC is a wonderful place to be. Stop in for a "tour" any time you are in the building!

Thursday, November 11 the UUEEC will be closed for Veteran's Day

Wednesday, November 26 the UUEEC will be closed for Thanksgiving and reopen Monday, December 1.

Have a safe and pleasant Thanksgiving.

Jane Armstrong
UUEEC Director

Calling All Artists

The District Assembly Planning Team is currently accepting artwork to complement our theme for 2009, which is "Open Doors, Open Hearts: Exploring our Sources". Artwork should be easily reproducible for production on brochures, flyers, signage and clothing. Please submit your ideas to Jaynn Truran by November 15 at JATruran@aol.com. For more information, please contact Jaynn at 480-600-8816.

FLYER FOR DA WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

<http://www.pswduua.org/media/docs2/WillYouPropose%20DA%2009.pdf>

Outdoor Group

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16
PLANNING POTLUCK

Jan Wise's home following the Sunday service

Please bring your own drinks and a dish to share. The hostess will provide table service and a main dish. We will eat outside in the backyard so dress accordingly.

Consider leading a hike during the fall, winter or spring. Bring your ideas, choose some possible dates and hiking information. Contact George Karas, Ron Roling or Pauline Peverly in advance, if possible, with suggestions for hikes.

Directions to Jan's House:

The address is 754 East Becker Lane - Phoenix. Phone number 602-258-5762. Email is drjanmwise@aol.com. Take 7th Street from either the North or the South to Peoria. Turn East on Peoria. Watch for two cul de sacs immediately on your left. Then turn left (north) on 8th Street, which follows the two cul de sacs very quickly. Go north on 8th Street until it makes a T with Becker Lane (very short block). You should see the number on my house. Park in my driveway or any other spot where you are not blocking another driveway

Join us in the great outdoors for a cool November hike!

HIKE: CLIFF DWELLING AT ROGER'S CANYON

Date: Saturday - November 8

Meeting Time: 7:00 am to leave at 7:30

Meeting Place: McDonalds in Mesa at Country Club and Southern (North of the US 60) Hiking distance: 7 miles Hike rating: moderate, 600ft. elevation change
Leader: Tom Parker
tom@stealthfool.com

HIKE: MASSACRE GROUNDS FALLS - LOST DUTCHMAN STATE PARK

Date: Saturday - November 22
Meeting Time: 8:00 am to leave at 8:30

Meeting Place: McDonald's on Country Club and Southern in Mesa -just north of US 60.

Hiking Distance: 5 miles

Rating: easy

Leaders: Ron and Laura Rohlfing - theronster@cox.net and Sherry Celine

Holiday Craft Sale

December 7 and 14 during coffee members and friends are invited to do some holiday shopping at the Holiday Craft sale. At least 25% of the sales will be donated to UUCP. It's great chance to find one of a kind gifts and benefit UUCP."

The Poetry Coffeehouse

The Poetry Coffeehouse will hold its next meeting on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 9:00 A.M. in Annex Room C. The theme of our meeting will be "Poems Related to Voting and the Election." Bring a poem(s) you yourself have written and/or those of a favorite author. Any writing of

poetic quality is welcome!
See you there!

John Williamson
Facilitator
480-607-9726

Winter Solstice

Joy for your calendar: Mark Saturday evening December 20th for song, dance and celebration of Solstice in the Sanctuary!!! Sponsored by the Women's Spirituality Circle; Dance music by Europa.

Late breaking leadership training news

We've received the following information:

"The Granite Peak UU Congregation in Prescott, AZ will host our first regional one day leadership development day. This will be an opportunity to send a group of leaders or potential leaders to an event that will offer a range of workshops on leadership issues. It will be on Nov. 22 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM, please bring a bag lunch.

The cost is \$25 per congregation, registration with the check should be sent to PSWD-1DL at 2052 Norma St., Oxnard, CA 93036."

If you are interested in attending, or if you have an idea of someone who might be encouraged to attend, please let Susan Goldsmith or other members of the Nominating Committee know.

Calendar of Events...

Sunday November 2 2008

Day of Dead Service
9:00 AM Poetry Coffeehouse
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM ARE Class
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
10:30 AM Children's Worship
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Prepare New Day Center Meal
12:00 PM Family Choir
5:00 PM Soulful Sundown Rehearsal
6:00 PM Soulful Sundown Service

Monday November 3 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle
7:30 PM Rehearsal for Solstice Concert

Tuesday November 4 2008

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Job Club

Wednesday November 5 2008

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

Thursday November 6 2008

6:30 PM Renovation Committee

Friday November 7 2008

UUCP Office Closed
7:00 PM Covenant Group

Saturday November 8 2008

8:30 AM EEC CPR
6:00 PM Bridge Group

Sunday November 9 2008

8:30 AM Nominating Committee
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM Lead Teacher Meeting
9:00 AM ARE Class: Finding Your Religion
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
9:00 AM Parenting Covenant Group
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
11:30 AM Empty Bowl Luncheon
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Social Action Committee
12:00 PM Family Choir

6:00 PM MUUvie

Monday November 10 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle
7:30 PM Campus Ministry
7:30 PM Rehearsal for Solstice Concert

Tuesday November 11 2008

No School - Veteran's Day
10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Covenant Group
6:30 PM Job Club
6:30 PM UU Executive Committee
6:30 PM Covenant Group
7:00 PM Amnesty International

Wednesday November 12 2008

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM Covenant Group
7:00 PM Covenant Group

Thursday November 13 2008

6:00 PM Children's Ministry Committee
6:30 PM Sunday Services Committee
7:00 PM Finance Committee

Friday November 14 2008

5:00 PM YRUU Mini Cluster Conference

Saturday November 15 2008

YRUU Mini Cluster Conference

Sunday November 16 2008

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM ARE Class
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
10:30 AM Sunday School
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Social Action Luncheon
12:01 PM Family Choir

Monday November 17 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle
7:30 PM Rehearsal for Solstice Concert

Tuesday November 18 2008

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Job Club
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee

Wednesday November 19 2008

6:00 PM ARE Movie Night
7:00 PM Covenant Group

Thursday November 20 2008

6:30 PM Board Meeting
6:30 PM Sunday Services Committee

Friday November 21 2008

UUCP Office Closed
7:00 PM Covenant Group

Sunday November 23 2008

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
9:00 AM Parenting Covenant Group
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
11:45 AM No Muss No Fuss Potluck
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Membership Committee

Monday November 24 2008

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle
7:30 PM Campus Ministry
7:30 PM Rehearsal for Solstice Concert

Tuesday November 25 2008

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Covenant Group
6:30 PM Job Club
6:30 PM Covenant Group

Wednesday November 26 2008

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM Covenant Group

Thursday November 27 2008

Thanksgiving - UUCP Closed

Friday November 28 2008

UUCP Closed

Sunday November 30 2008

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
10:30 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM No Muss No Fuss
12:00 PM Young Adult Group

Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray 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
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Early Education Director: Jane Armstrong eecdirector@phoenixuu.org
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Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Mendez childcare@phoenixuu.org
Childcare Providers: Daniel Mendez and Geraldine Mendez
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President: Sarah Carlson Vice President: Tim Tilton
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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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