



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Newsletter of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX

4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

February 2009

Celebrations of Life

Sundays, 10:30 AM

FEBRUARY 1: THE "REST" OF CREATION

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

Superbowl Sunday in Arizona will not be a day of rest. However, after the big game, after the work is done, the human spirit longs for rest. Even Genesis tells us that after God created the world, God rested on the seventh day. In the busy demands of our lives, how do we create room for quiet, for rest, for sabbath?

FEBRUARY 8: IMMIGRATION YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

Speaker: Alfredo Gutierrez

Alfredo Gutierrez is an Arizona State University graduate who served from 1972-1986 in the State Senate, where he was both the majority and minority leader. Gutierrez is the founder of the two Latino community advocacy organizations, Chicanos Por La Causa and Valle del Sol, and newspaper publisher of La Frontera Times. He also hosts a weekly talk radio show on Radio Campesina.

FEBRUARY 22 LIVING WITHOUT EXPECTATIONS

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

In March we will begin our trial with 2 services. This is an exciting time, but it is not without its hopes, fears and expectations. Having expectations can often lead to disappointment. How do we learn to live open to what happens next without too many expectations?

Soulful Sundown Service

First Sundays, 6 PM

Feb. 1st we'll illuminate our 5th Principle: The right conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. And our 5th Source: 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.

FEBRUARY 15: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray

This is an opportunity to celebrate our four-legged, web-toed, slithering, furry or otherwise companions, and how they enrich our lives. Bring your pets to this service for special recognition. And, if you have a testimony you would like to share about what your pet(s) have meant to you, please contact me (minister@phoenixuu.org). I would love to incorporate multiple voices in this service.

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Minister's Musings

It's February—what a beautiful month in Arizona! I understand why millions of people live in Phoenix. I am happy to be one of them!

I am now officially installed as your minister and we have had 6 months together of shared ministry. They have been wonderful months. However, even after six months, I still sometimes feel on Sunday morning as I shake hands, give hugs and exchange smiles that I will never know all your names! I suspect some of you may feel that way too.

When I came here in April last year as your candidate, I talked about my desire to meet with many of you in small groups, to hear your stories, to get to know you, to hear what you love about this congregation and what your hopes and dreams are for it. Instead, I found I didn't have the slow entry I had hoped. Instead, we had losses of loved ones to mourn, great celebrations to host, such as our Partner Church guests from Transylvania and our Birmingham Memorial event, and so many new people. It has been a great, but busy first 6 months.

However, as our congregation grows, it becomes that much more important that we create ways to have more intimate community and connection. We need ways to know one another and be known, opportunities to share and explore our spiritual yearnings and experiences. Covenant groups are a great way to do this.

In early February, I will visit Unity Church-Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota. Unity has one of the best models of Covenant Group ministry and I will be going to learn more about their program. In March, I will lead a "come and see" introduction to Covenant groups to introduce what they are and why they are important. The event will be designed specifically for people who are interested in facilitating a Covenant Group (see more details elsewhere in this Horizons) Most important to the Covenant group process is the need for facilitators, so I invite anyone who is interested in Covenant Group facilitation to come to this event on March 14th.

My hope is that over the course of the spring, I will be able to meet with groups in the church, and not

in just in the context of committee meetings, but as an opportunity for learning more of the history and vision you all have for UUCP. In the meantime, if you would like the opportunity to share some of your story with me, please call or email me. I welcome the chance to hear your stories and learn from them. Over the years of ministry we will share, I look forward to getting to know you better and more deeply.

Yours in ministry,
Susan

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

Audrey Ames Kaslo
Franklin Anthony Klumpe
Majorie Spear Klumpe
Warren Hastings
Dorothy Pollack
Thomas Richard Fritts
Everett Eller Warner
Margaret Gillespie Harding

UUCP is Moving to 2 Services! Trial Run begins March 1, 2009

WORSHIP TIMES: 9:30 AM AND 11:15AM

Everyone hold onto your hats! We are going to experiment with a trial run of having 2 services on Sunday mornings, beginning March 1, 2009. The services will be at 9:30am-10:30am, and one at 11:15-12:15pm. There will be a coffee hour after each service, but the coffee hour after the first service is open to second service attendees as well. Children's Religious Education class will be held during the 9:30 am service, with a Children's Fellowship hour for multiple ages during the 11:15am service. Nursery care will be provided throughout the morning and during both services.

At our feedback session, someone had a great suggestion. Keep your mind open for at least 6 weeks. My hope is to have another input session at the end of April, an opportunity to check in on how the trial is going and how it might be improved.

We will return to one service during the summer, beginning June 28th, at 10:30am.

Look to the March Horizons for a more complete calendar.

Are You Interested in Facilitating a Covenant Group?

“COVENANT GROUPS: WHAT, WHY AND HOW”

What are Covenant Groups?

Covenant Groups are 6-10 people who meet regularly for spiritual reflection and sharing. Meeting topics focus on spiritual and life issues, such as loss, forgiveness, God, and sabbath. Members of the group make a commitment to share deeply and to build connections closely. Unlike other groups, the purpose is not an activity, nor intellectual. It is intended to create the space to explore our deeper human questions of meaning.

Each group has a trained facilitator and group members create a covenant (a sacred promise) to abide by the rules of their own group. The facilitator and the covenant help create the kind of sacred space that welcomes sharing and exploration. The groups meet for a defined amount of time, for example, twice a month for 5 months.

Covenant group facilitators are people who:

(Borrowed from Unity Church – Unitarian website Covenant Group Resources page)

- Have good people skills
- Are genuinely interested in helping people to become spiritually engaged with one another
- Can feel comfortable learning

to guide group dynamics in positive ways

- Are comfortable being primarily responsible for the administrative details of group meetings
- Are reliable
- Support the covenant group model

INTRODUCTION TO COVENANT GROUPS

March 14, 2009

9:30am -12:00pm

Our minister, Susan Frederick-Gray, will be hosting an introductory event to the Covenant Group model for anyone interested in being a Covenant Group facilitator. If you are interested in finding ways to make connections in the congregation while deepening your own and others religious and spiritual reflection, and you might like to take leadership in this effort, please attend this event. There is no commitment in coming to this event. Please RSVP to Heidi Parmenter administrator@phoenixuu.org. If you have questions, please call Susan Frederick-Gray.

From the President...

As I wrote in November, our continuing growth is exciting and increases opportunities to effect change within and beyond our religious community. By the time this column appears, Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray installation will have just been held with much joy and fanfare.

The Renovation Committee has also carefully evaluated ways to move forward on further renovation in light of numerous competing demands and proposed ways to address those demands in the form of four motions. Documentation regarding the Renovation has been posted on our website and three workshops held to inform our membership about the decisions to be made at the mid-year congregational meeting. At that meeting, the Congregation is being asked to approve the four motions to continue progress on further renovating our campus (we replaced most of the doors and windows in the main building a little over a year ago dramatically improving safety, accessibility, and aesthetics). The first motion sets forth conditions to finance further renovation, while the remaining motions identify crucial, if not glamorous, work that is necessary to update our campus for health, safety, accessibility and, ultimately, space. Regardless of the outcome on the

motions, significant human and financial capital will be required in the coming months to prepare for a capital campaign and to accomplish other steps integral to improving our campus and welcoming even more to our campus and community.

May we be guided by our principles and values--and our regard for one another--as members of a beloved religious community as we continue in this process. May it be so.

Sarah Carlson, President

UU Foundation Annual Meeting Scheduled for Sunday, February 1, 2009

The Foundation Board will hold its annual meeting immediately before the Congregation's meeting on February 1.

There are two Foundation Board positions open. The nominees are Jan Kaplan and Dave Walker. Both are presently on the Board and have agreed to serve another 3 year term.

Any other business that should come before the Board will be discussed.

Marshal Smart - Board Chair

Greetings from your Music Director!

Family Choir is rehearsing every Sunday in February right after Sunday services! Gather around the piano. If you are the only person in your biological family who wants to come to Family Choir, there are others who will “adopt” you. We’ll continue our rehearsals the first 2 Sundays In March in between services.

WHAT IS SOULFUL SUNDOWN?

How about a chance to get together, praise, celebrate, sing, dance, read, listen, be moved.

1st Sunday of the month 6pm

The band is guitars, drums, violin, clarinet and voices.

This year our themes focus on our UU Principles & Sources concurrently:

February 1st, 2009 we’ll illuminate our 5th Principle: The right conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. And the 5th Source: 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.

*Musicians who want to play in the Soulful Sundown band, contact me: musicdirector@phoenixuu.org or 480 970 8807.

ARE YOU READY FOR CABARET? IT’S COMING SOON!

March 21 – Variety Show, music skits, laughs, sighs. Oh, and did you know the choir makes delicious food? You don’t want to miss this event!

This year you can show your support for our music program not only by buying a ticket to cabaret, but also by purchasing a sponsorship. Check out next month’s newsletter for more details.

My fortune cookie fortune:

“Experience is what you get when you don’t get what you want.”

Connie Jahrmarkt, your Music Director



UUEEC enrollment for the 2009-10 school year has begun. Enrollment forms are available on our website www.uueec.org or you may pick one up if you tour the Preschool. We have scheduled Open Houses every Wednesday in February for parents of children who will be 3 or 4 before September 1, 2009. Every Thursday in February is for parents of children who will be 2 or 4 by September 1, 2009.

Please contact Director Jane for a reservation to attend an Open House. If you are not available on our Open House dates, please contact Director Jane for an appointment.

We also have a wonderful Transitional Kindergarten for children who are just not quite ready for the rigors of Kindergarten but need more structure and academic experience. This program is for children who may have turned 5 already or will turn 5 in the fall of the year. For more information, please feel free to call or attend one of the Open House tours of the program. Returning families, alumni families and church members will begin enrolling Monday, February 2, 2009.

Jane Armstrong



"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.

ADULT RE JANUARY MOVIE - THE VISITOR

The feature film follows the story of one man who has lost his passion for life to have it re-awakened through the unlikely friendship with undocumented immigrants. "In a world of six billion people, it only takes one to change your life."

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2009. Time: 6:00 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) Place: Johnson Room. Cost: \$5 suggested donation - refreshments served.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

"Understanding the Bible: An Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals"

Designed to help empower skeptics, seekers, nonbelievers, and those of a liberal and progressive outlook to reclaim the Bible from literalists. Includes four preliminary chapters

on the why, who, which, and how of bible understanding, followed by eight brief thematic chapters covering the core of the Hebrew Bible and six covering the Christian scriptures, plus chronologies, maps, and helpful suggestions for further reading

Instructor: Larry Agle

Date & Time: Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. - 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22

Location: Room 9

Fee: \$10.00 or presentation of UUS Pass

WISDOM OF HINDUISM FOR DAILY LIVING

Jay Alagia and Terry Simmons, long time members of our UUCP, will teach a class using selected verses from Bhagavad-Gita on February 7 from 9 am. to 11:30 am. Attendance is limited to six students. After the class, the students may join Jay and Terry 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. The \$10.00 enrollment includes a CD of the chamber opera, Arjuna's Dilemma.

TEN SPIRITUAL TUESDAYS CONTINUES IN FEBRUARY!

The Adult RE Committee received tremendous positive feedback about this series of Tuesday evening workshops designed to help adults experience, develop and to deepen spiritual practices while

honoring the theological diversity in our congregation. This curriculum, "Spirit in Practice," consists of ten sessions that can either stand-alone or be taken as the entire series. The classes will be held on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. in Room B on the following dates:

- February 3, 10, 17, 24
- March 10

The remaining workshops and facilitators are:

- Workshop 5: Mind Practices - Lois Leader
- Workshop 6: Body Practices - Heather McLellan
- Workshop 7: Soul Practices - Gavin Hornbuckle
- Workshop 8: Life Practices - Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
- Workshop 9: Justice Practices - Libby Walker
- Workshop 10: Looking Back and Moving Forward - Terry Simmons and Kim St. Clair

YOUNG ADULT UPDATE

Our Young Adult/Campus Ministry group (YACM) is comprised of 18-35 year olds and some allies (those older than 35), and it meets every Sunday at 12:15 a.m. in room C. We are currently making plans for our spring social activities.

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

- February 1 - 10:30 a.m. - Sunday school class (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary)
- February 8 - Sunday school class - (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary)
- February 14 - 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Coming of Age hosts "Parent's Night Out" - RSVP at <http://doodle.com/97vg728r7tcqniup>
- February 15 - Multigenerational "Blessing of the Animals" service
- February 22 - Sunday school class (1st-6th grade begin in sanctuary) Noon - "No Muss No Fuss" luncheon on playground; 1st-2nd Grade OWL Parent Orientation (Room A)

February Children's

Ministry Shorts

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP - THE END OF AN ERA

We have had an exciting seven years of Children's Worship being held on the first Sunday of every month. The children and I have explored the meaning of our seven principles, how to care for our Earth, and other spiritually uplifting topics. I am always amazed by the deep insights of even our youngest children. All things change, however, and with the increase in the number of children and the continued pressure for use of the Johnson Room, not to mention Rev. Susan, Connie's and my

commitment to quality monthly multigenerational worship, Children's Worship as a monthly happening has come to an end. We will continue to assemble in a "Spirit Circle" for song and fellowship on the playground each Sunday after Together Time, and we will have an occasional special service just for children. I want to thank Connie Jahrmarkt for all of her hard work in bringing music to our Children's Ministry; also, my deep appreciation and love to the many parent volunteers who have enriched our Children's Worship services with their presence and special snacks!

DROP OFF YOUR KIDS FOR A ROMANTIC PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

By Anna Bjornsen, COA Candidate

On Saturday, February 14 (Valentine's Day), from 5:30 to 8:00, drop off your kids (ages 3-7) at the UUCP, where they will have a fun night filled with arts and crafts, pizza, movies and snacks! The Coming of Age class and adults will provide entertainment and activities. While we take extra good care of your kids, you can spend time with a loved one on Valentine's Day! The cost is \$25 for the first child and \$15 per sibling. This evening will be a fundraiser for the Coming of Age class, who is working towards their graduation trip to in San Diego. Please RSVP for each child (include the child's age) at <http://doodle.com/97vg728r7tcqniup>

MULTIGENERATIONAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE - FEBRUARY 15, 2009

Our UUCP tradition to bring your pet to church continues on February 15th! Please bring your well-behaved pet on a leash or in a cage to be introduced to the congregation and to be "blessed" UU-style by Rev. Susan. We will also have a special altar for pictures and tokens of pets that can't make it to the service or those who have passed away. This service is a favorite and not to be missed!

1ST-2ND GRADE PARENT ORIENTATION FOR OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

OWL is our award-winning lifespan sexuality education program. The 1st-2nd-grade component of the program will begin during Sunday school in March. The 1st-2nd grade OWL curriculum focuses on learning about our bodies, "good touch, bad touch" and where babies come from (parents vote each year on whether or not to disclose how the "ingredients" for babies actually come together!). Due to the nature of this program, at least one parent/guardian MUST attend the orientation on February 22, 2009, at 12:15 in Room A. Please visit the UUA website for more information about OWL: www.uua.org/owl

NO MUSS NO FUSS LUNCHEON ON FEBRUARY 22, 2009 AT NOON

Bring a light lunch for your family and join other UUCP families on the Desert View playground for an afternoon of relaxed socializing. The Children's Ministry Committee will

supply lemonade, paper goods and dessert.



PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REPORT!

Pre-k-Kindergarten - Teachers Lenore and Geraldine - Our theme for February is Church is People. After examining things that the children wonder about in January, we will turn our focus to people. We will talk about the church community, families and diversity.



1ST AND 2ND GRADES REPORT!

1st-2nd Grade - Teacher Jennifer - This month we will be summarizing all we have learned in our Rainbow Children curriculum by playing a "web of existence" game, making music, and reading and sharing stories.

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.

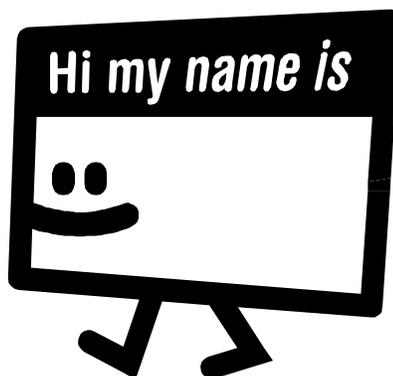
I am a COURTEOUS person, who relieves others of the struggle of trying to remember all our names.

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 Membership Committee



The work of the Membership Committee is yielding a New Members Class (now Pathway to Membership) of some 38 sign ups. We plan to bring 29 new members into the congregation Sunday, January 25, 2009. At our last class new members commented on the quality of our website (thanks to Charlotte Carl-Mitchell and Jimmy Leung) which exceeds other similar websites.

Our Welcoming Ministry teams have succeeded in



creating a warm, receptive atmosphere. We appreciate the work of Sally Boyd, Kate Otting, Bill Parker, Pauline Peverly, Susan Leung, Bert Pearlman, Glen Lockwood, Buddy Boritz, Loretta Isaac, Jerry Whalin, and Stephanie Hart who lead the teams. We are now planning coverage for two services beginning March 1, 2009.



The work of the STARS lead by Natalie Summit has made a significant contribution to our ability to expand our inclusive community.

Lydia Yanak has contributed to

making people feel welcome by designing temporary name tags to returning visitors.

Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray's authentic leadership helped new members understand Unitarian Universalism and our social action activities.

Lisa Katz has assisted in taking pictures as well as giving insights to the Pathway to Membership Classes.

Our next Pathway to Membership Classes will be April 19, 26, May 1 and 2. To sign up please call the office or email membership@phoenixuu.org.

Sincerely,

Larry Agle, Chair

Learn & Support Cancer Group

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church and the Wellness Community invite anyone concerned about cancer to come for these FREE MONTHLY "Learn and Support" groups. Each meeting will include a professional speaker discussing an issue significant to cancer, including current research, genomics, clinical studies, nutrition, care giving, and more. Dates: 2/19/09, 3/19/09, 4/16/09, 5/21/09, 6/18/09. Time: 6pm - 8pm



As our congregation grows our joys and concerns, sorrows and challenges need to be celebrated and cared for by our caring community. Unicare would welcome new volunteers to assist with memorial services under the direction of the Minister and in coordination with the UUCP Office Administer. If we have a large group of people it would be expected that volunteers would be called upon only occasionally or even rarely to help with the reception, greeting and the other tasks that need to be done for a memorial service. If this sounds like the kind of volunteer effort that might interest you, please call me, Julie Smart, at 480-502-1201 or e-mail at [<sambasmart@cox.net>](mailto:sambasmart@cox.net)

Julie Smart
Unicare Chair

From the Social Action Committee...

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

1. Feb. 24th 6 PM. Our social action committee meetings have been changed to the 4th Tuesday evening of each month. You are welcome to join us. We are pleased that Rev. Susan will be part of our committee.

2. Feb. 1st. SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY. After service

look for young people carrying around large SOUP BOWLS for you to put your donations in for the hungry. Over 20,000 religious affiliates nation wide will be participating. Each congregation chooses its own charity.

3. Feb. 15th. Our "3rd Sunday" SAC luncheon when our speaker will be our very own James Forrest. James graduated last year from ASU and is a member of our youth group. Last year James traveled with Young Adults and Campus Ministry to learn about climate change and water justice. Imagine him having a third world experi-

4. Mar. 2nd. Environmental Day at our state capitol. The SAC will be there and we hope that many of you will be there too.

5. Apr. 18th. We invite you all to join us in walking in the Gay Pride Parade. Two new members of our committee have stepped up to organize us this year. Ceyshe Napa and Larry Thwing thank you.



ence on this trip to California. His friend Julie is traveling over here to join James and help tell their story.

We invite the whole congregation to join us for lunch. Please come. These luncheons are for you.

And . . . \$280 a year can still sponsor a child to keep them in school. These children are from the lowest caste in Nepal which is one of the world's poorest countries. This is what we learned from our SAC luncheon speaker in January Earl Canfield. If you want more information please contact SAC or go directly to Earl at jecan314@aol.com.

In love and peace,
Sarah Burchard, SAC chair

From the Renovation Committee...

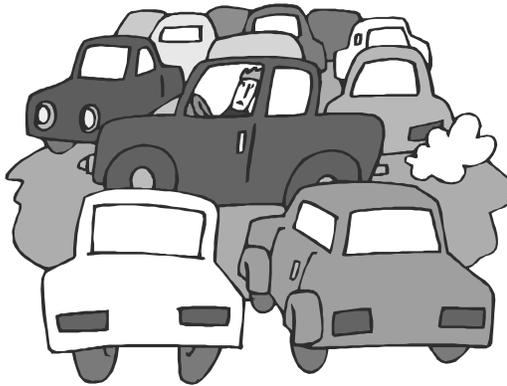
Renovation is a long-term commitment and we have been at this formally since 2003. The good news is that we don't have a commitment problem.

The Renovation Committee is pursuing several things while we prepare for construction.

We have begun a process assessing our capacity for raising money in a capital campaign. This, along with the sense of the congregation arising from the February 1 meeting and our ability to build capital cash reserves will determine our timeline and scope for construction.

We are also building a "case statement" that will describe not only to potential lenders, but to us, what the project will entail and how it's consistent with our mission and strategic plan.

Another task to which we can all relate is a focus on parking. The Renovation Committee will continue to consider options for decreasing the impact of our limited parking coupled with increased needs for parking. While we are looking at all options, there is one to which we can each contribute – carpooling/ridesharing could significantly ease the strain on Sunday morning parking and this is consistent with a goal the Green Sanctuary Committee has been pursuing.



This is just a brief description of some of the things that are in the

works. Please contact the Renovation Committee at renovation@phoenixuu.org with questions, or to make a contribution to the project – seriously – it's okay ...

Thank you for your support of the process.

Glen Lockwood on behalf of the Renovation Committee

Sanctuary Team News

What an exciting way to start the New Year! UUCP's exhibit of the **Artists of the Black Community (ABC/AZ)** now fills the walls of our sanctuary in all its power, boldness and emotion.

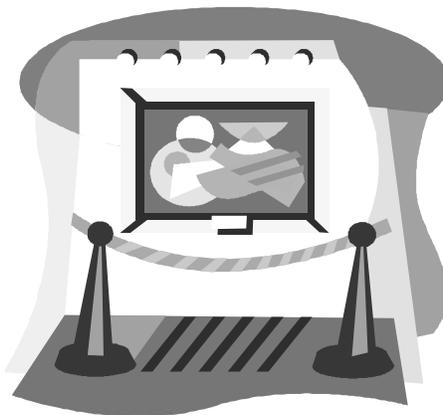
A wonderful group of black artists showed up on January 3, 2009 to bring their work and stayed to assist the Sanctuary Team with the hanging. We all had a great time and the results speak for themselves.

The work of twelve African American artists is represented in this exhibit, which includes oil and acrylic paintings on canvass and wood, lithographs, serigraphs, black and white and color photography, silver gelatin, chalk, pastel and charcoal drawing. A special display on the west wall is a digital photo montage by Stephen Marc. Also, while UUCP does not encourage artists to enter three dimensional work (due to our inability to ensure its safety), this display does include the semi-3D work of two artists. Khandra Howard combines ceramics with wood and Archie Coles creates assemblages.

A number of the artists are known nationally and internationally, including our own long-term member, Dr. Eugene Grigsby. Other artists whose work is displayed are Rip Woods and daughter Dee Dee Woods, Jacque Venus Tobias, Larry Wilson, William Palmer, Marc Herring, Richard Retter and Stevo Swindle.

Be sure to see this exhibit. It opened on January 4, 2009 and will remain on our walls until March 7, 2009. Many of the artworks are for sale and some are very reasonably priced.

Jan Wise and Joan Roberts



Craft Sale Success!

On three successive Sundays in December the UUCP patio took on a holiday market atmosphere where shoppers and crafters came together with this congregation's young people. Members of the Coming of Age class earned service hours as they helped set up and break down tables and chairs and assisted crafters to load and unload. Because of their positive experience with those who came and participated in the craft fair, at least two people decided to join UUCP.

Not only was the sale a success in terms of community building, it was a financial success. With sales of over \$4700.00, crafters donated above the required 25% to net the congregation over \$2000.00.

Thanks to all who participated.

UU Crafters

Finance Update

It's hard to believe it's that time of year already, but the Finance Committee is now addressing the issues involved in submitting a proposed budget for the next fiscal year 2009-10. The Stewardship Committee will need this information to set the goal for UUCP's spring stewardship campaign.

Much of our last Committee meeting was involved with designing a proposed policy for establishing the yearly budget. We also assigned a task force to begin working on the 2009-10 budget.

(For those who are new to UUCP, the budget is prepared each year by the Finance Committee, submitted to the Board of Trustees for their approval and/or amendment, and finally, presented for a membership vote at the annual congregational meeting in late May.)

The financial report for the first six months of this fiscal year (2008-09) will be presented to the Congregation at our mid-year meeting on Sunday, February 1, following the morning service; all voting members are urged to attend this important meeting.

The end-of-calendar-year contribu-

tion statements will have been mailed out by the time you read this, so if you haven't received yours, please contact the office at 602-840-8400.

And finally, a special alert to all heads of committees: You will soon be receiving a form designed to assist you in estimating your committee's financial needs for the coming fiscal year. Please fill this out and return it as promptly as possible so your committee's needs are included in the annual budget.

Ellie Murphy
for the Finance Committee; Mary
Dokes, chair

UUCP Financial Update			
Fiscal Year - July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009			
(Operating & EEC)			
as of November, 2008			
We are about 42% through the fiscal year			
Category	Budget	Year to Date Actual	Percent of Budget
Pledge Income	\$325,008	\$133,807	41.2%
Total Income	\$654,151	\$290,180	44.4%
Total Expenses	\$687,505	\$312,384	45.4%
Net Income	(\$30,732)	(\$19,581)	63.7%

Outdoor Group Events

Would you believe that on the last hike in January there were 29 folks who got out to enjoy the fresh air. Could there be any better way to spend a Saturday morning? And, not to worry, we always stop for a cup of coffee before each hike! Here are the offerings for February.

SAT. 2/14: PASS MOUNTAIN TRAIL HIKE

Location: Usery Mountain County Recreation Area

Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m. leaving at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: McDonald's Restaurant at Country Club Drive and Southern Avenue

Hike Distance: 7.4 mile loop

Difficulty: Moderate

Leader: George Karas
ggkaras@cox.net (480-488-1873)



SAT. 2/28: SEVEN SPRINGS HIKE

Location: Cave Creek

Meeting Time: 7:15 a.m. leave at 7:45

Meeting Place: Bakery Café in el Pedregal Marketplace (southeast corner of Scottsdale Rd. and Care-free Highway)

Hike Distance: 6 miles

Difficulty: easy to moderate with creek crossings

Leaders: Jan Wise,
Drjanmwise@aol.com (602-258-5762)

Pauline Peverly,
ppeverly@cox.net (602-274-8342)

Traveling 2nd Fridays

Mark your calendars the 2nd Friday of each month (except for April – 1st Friday due to Easter). The program is held in the sanctuary from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.



FRIDAY, 2/13: THE LIFE AND LESSONS OF 20 YEARS IN AFRICA – DAVE BELLAMA AND NANCY McCHAREN

Africa is a continent full of life and passions, highs and lows, rich and poor, the good and the bad and everything in between. In twenty years of living, working and raising a family in several countries in Africa, Dave Bellama and Nancy McCharen have experienced much of what Africa has to offer. They both began as Peace Corps Volunteers in Niger, West Africa, and after returning to the US for higher education in public health, African studies, and environmental studies kept going back to Africa. Dave and Nancy will share with us the life and lessons from the “ole continent” which they love.

If you have any questions about Traveling 2nd Fridays, call Barbara

UU Kids Kamp

The weather is still very cool, but it's not too early to mark your calendar for your summer plans!! for over 30 years the UU Kids Kamp has offered fantastic programs in art, dance, drumming, and sports n' games. The camp is open to all children 3 through 12 years old and runs throughout the month of June. Registration forms will be available in the office at the end of February. For more information contact Jeff Sadow or Tiffany Mendez through the main office (602-840-8400).



THE POETRY

COFFEEHOUSE

We will meet on Sunday, February 1, 2009 in Annex Room C at 9:00 AM.

Please bring poems you yourself have written or poems of a favorite author to share. Any writing of poetic quality is welcome! See you there!

John Williamson
Facilitator
480-607-9726



Yoga Class

Join us for Yoga Tuesdays evenings from 6-7Pm in the Johnson Room. Gentle postures integrated with breath and awareness guide us to deeper levels of being. Rest. Relax. Renew.

Instructor: Mary Engel
engelm@cox.net for questions.
Referrals: Jay Alagia/ Lani Comp

- Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals
- Learn about hosting people in your home to earn extra money

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people. Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.



For more information, visit
www.UUreHome.com
or write to
info@uurehome.com

www.UUreHome.com
43 Vermont Court
Asheville, NC 28806
828-281-3253

Did You Mark Your Calendars?

District Assembly is May 1-3, 2009 at the Phoenix Hilton East/Mesa and our theme this year is "Open Doors, Open Hearts: Exploring our Sources". A special treat this year will be the performance of Kendall Gibbons' and Jason Shelton's Sources Cantata, presented by a combination of the district's choir groups!

Still wondering how you can get involved in planning District Assembly? The following is a detailed list of ways you can help. Many of these tasks can be divided into shifts – please contact Jaynn Truran at jatruran@aol.com or at (480) 600-8816 for more information or to sign up. District Assembly is successful each year because so many of you share your time and talents. Sign up today!

1. GREETERS – you will be the "face" of DA!

On Site Time commitment:

2-hour shifts between 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm Friday, May 1, 2009

On Site Task: Welcome attendees to District Assembly; lead attendees to registration tables; answer general questions regarding the hotel and surrounding areas (can also be combined with Usher – please indicate if you'd like to do both!)

2. USHERS

On-Site Time Commitment:

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm - Opening Cele-

bration - Friday, May 1, 2009
7:45 am – 8:45 am – Morning
Worship – Saturday, May 2, 2009
10:30 am – 12:30 pm – Worship
Service – Sunday, May 3, 2009

One Site Task: Greet attendees; distribute programs; locate seating; Ushers are asked to remain near doorways during celebrations for latecomers, questions, etc.

3. REGISTRATION

On Site Time Commitment:

2-hour shifts between 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm Friday, May 1, 2009

2-hours shifts between 8:15 am – 12:00 pm Saturday, May 2, 2009

On Site Task: Distribute name-specific attendance packages to attendees upon arrival; direct attendees to gather ribbons, delegate cards, etc.

4. BANQUET FAVORS: No on-site time commitment required!

Task: Assemble or otherwise procure "centerpieces" for each of the 30 tables we will utilize for Saturday's banquet with a budget of \$350

DEADLINE: Pieces must be complete and AT the hotel by 5:00 pm on Saturday, May 2, 2009

5. TRANSPORTATION GURU

On Site Time Commitment: Specifics to be determined

Task: We are looking for someone to drive a high-occupancy van to and from events offsite on each day of DA - On Friday and Sun-

day afternoons, we want to offer a trip to visit a Permaculture Farm in Phoenix, and on Saturday, we want to schedule an offsite event for our children and/or youth programs – All trips will depart and return to the Phoenix Hilton East/Mesa

6. BANQUET ENTERTAINER (\$)

On Site Time Commitment: Actual performance time is 8:00 pm – 10:00pm Saturday, May 2, 2009; additional time for prep and set-up as needed

On Site Task: After-banquet entertainment (e.g., - you could sing or dance or offer karaoke or do improv or comedy or some other alternative performance – whatcha got?)

7. CRAFTY MAKER of IDENTIFICATION FOR VOLUNTEERS – no on-site time commitment!

Task: Assemble and/or procure some form of highly visible identification for 30 DA volunteers – i.e, colorful bandanas, cowboy hats, t-shirts, Spock ears, sparkly antennae, flashing neon badges, etc.

8. LIAISON FOR VENDORS

Off-Site Time Commitment: email, telephone communication as necessary

Off Site Task: act as liaison b/t vendors and PSWD office so vendors have a designated contact and the office corresponds with you regarding special requests or questions

On Site Time Commitment: Liaison is expected to attend DA and be generally available during display/vendor hours

On Site Task: be generally available to help resolve minor issues re vendor set up, etc.

9. LIAISON FOR CHOIR GROUPS

Off-Site Time Commitment: email, telephone communication as necessary

Off Site Task: act as liaison b/t music directors and PSWD office so music directors have a designated contact and the office corresponds with you regarding special requests or questions

On Site Time Commitment: Liaison is expected to attend DA and be generally available during before and during the keynote celebration, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Friday, May 1, 2009

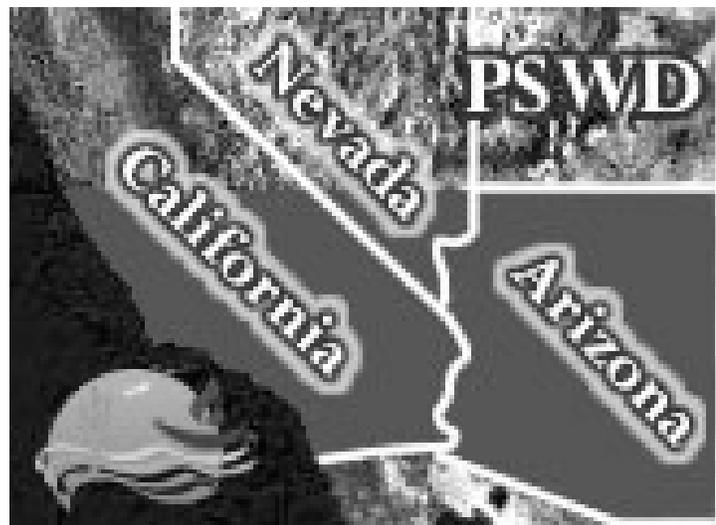
On Site Task: be generally available to help resolve minor issues re keynote set up, etc

10. HOME HOSPITALITY –

Can you share your space?

If you have a spare bedroom in the general Phoenix area and are willing to house one (or more) guests during the DA weekend, please email Heidi Parmenter at administrator@phoenixuu.org.

IMPORTANT: All volunteers will meet in April to discuss hotel layout, DA schedule, and questions, etc. - at such time and place to be determined.





Cabaret is coming!

Save the date –
Saturday, March 21 at UUCP.
Social time 6:30 pm; Show starts at 7 pm

The theme is 'Hittin' the Road.'



Cabaret is a fun annual event that includes singing, dancing, skits and food. The money raised helps support the music program. Tickets are \$10 for individuals and \$25 for families. Sponsorship levels are also available. Talk to any choir member for more details and to purchase tickets.

Calendar Submissions

To add your UUCP event, meeting, or activity to the Horizon's calendar please email the office at administrator@phoenixuu.org or call the office at 602-840-8400.

Calendar of Events...

Sunday February 1 2009

9:00 AM Poetry Coffeehouse
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM ARE Class: Understanding the Bible
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
10:30 AM Sunday School
11:45 AM Congregational Meeting
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:00 PM Prepare New Day Center Meal
5:00 PM Soulful Sundown Rehearsal
6:00 PM Soulful Sundown Service

Monday February 2 2009

12:00 PM Pres. Council
7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

Tuesday February 3 2009

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
1:30 PM HRCR Committee
6:00 PM ARE Class: Spirit Practices
7:00 PM Covenant Facilitator Meeting

Wednesday February 4 2009

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

Thursday February 5 2009

6:30 PM Renovation Committee

Saturday February 7 2009

9:00 AM ARE Hinduism Class

Sunday February 8 2009

8:30 AM Nominating Committee
9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM ARE Class: Understanding the Bible
9:00 AM Music Rehearsal
9:00 AM Parenting Covenant Group
10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service
12:00 PM Young Adult Group
12:05 PM Family Choir
2:00 PM Dream Act Play
6:00 PM MUUvie

Monday February 9 2009

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

Tuesday February 10 2009

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Covenant Group
6:30 PM UU Executive Committee
7:00 PM Amnesty International
7:00 PM Covenant Group (Cherry)

Wednesday February 11 2009

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

Thursday February 12 2009

6:00 PM Children's Ministry Committee

Friday February 13 2009

7:00 PM Traveling Second Friday

Saturday February 14 2009

5:00 PM COA Fundraiser: Parent's Night Out
6:00 PM Bridge Group

Sunday February 15 2009

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group
9:00 AM ARE Class: Understanding the Bible
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
12:05 PM Family Choir

Monday February 16 2009

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

Tuesday February 17 2009

10:00 AM Staff Cluster Meeting
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee

Wednesday February 18 2009

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

Thursday February 19 2009

6:30 PM Sunday Services Committee

Sunday February 22 2009

9:00 AM Book Discussion Group

9:00 AM Lead Teacher Meeting
9:00 AM ARE Class: Understanding the Bible
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 Parent Orientation
12:00 PM Membership Committee
12:05 PM Family Choir

Monday February 23 2009

7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Circle

Tuesday February 24 2009

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Covenant Group
6:00 PM Social Action Committee
6:30 PM Covenant Group

Wednesday February 25 2009

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

Thursday February 26 2009

6:30 PM Board Meeting

Friday February 27 2009

7:00 PM Fab Friday Bowling

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
Custodian: Manuel Gomez
Early Education Director: Jane Armstrong eecdirector@phoenixuu.org
Early Education Teachers: Doug van Der Veen, Kelly Blackson, Jane Sutton, Valerie Bailey,
Nursery Supervisor: Tiffany Mendez childcare@phoenixuu.org
Childcare Providers: Daniel Mendez and Geraldine Mendez
Office Volunteers: Ellie Murphy, Sally Boyd, Bill Parker, Jan Wise, Bernie Hall, Sharon Hise, Julie Smart, Pauline Peverly, Larry Agle, and Tish Gauntt
Board of Trustees: board@phoenixuu.org
President: Sarah Carlson Vice President: Tim Tilton
Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell
Trustees: Sandy Weir, Donna Featherston, Susan Morris, Van Lockwood, Cleo Van der Veen, and Gary Ezzell

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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