JOIN US FOR RECESSION RELIEF FRIDAY SUPPERS IN APRIL!
We are holding Friday night suppers on April 3 and 17, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Johnson Room in order to provide an inexpensive way to spend a Friday evening with our UUCP family! The UUCP will provide the ingredients for the main dish; we ask those who are willing and able to bring along salads, sides dishes, drinks or desserts (see potluck schedule below). Rev. Susan and Connie will provide a brief worship service, and we hope to have some interesting and fun ways to weather this economic downturn.

Continued on page 17...

Celebrations of Life

Sundays

9:30 AM & 11:15 AM

APRIL 5: IS A SACRIFICE REQUIRED?
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
The beginning of April marks the Passover observance in the Jewish tradition and the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection in the Christian tradition. One parallel between the stories is the prominent role of sacrifice as a necessity of salvation. Today, in the midst of economic suffering, there are those who say “this is good for us.” Is there another way to understand the presence of suffering beyond it being good for us?

APRIL 12 INTERGENERATIONAL EASTER SERVICE
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
This service rooted in an old familiar story (The Velveteen Rabbit) will explore the love, loss and magic of what it means to be real. Through music, singing and story, we will reflect on the Easter message of resurrection and rebirth.

APRIL 19 UNCERTAIN JOY
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
In the midst of these heavy days, where we have growing concerns for one another and our world, moments of joy still find their way into our daily lives. Perhaps it is a sunset, or a brief bit of good news (there is some out there). It is of such great importance, particularly now, to we find and cherish these moments of joy and gratefulness.

APRIL 26 THE DESERT BIOFUELS INITIATIVE
Speaker: Brad Riddle
Service Leader: Gene Harvey
Brad is an Intel tech attorney with a strong knowledge of global intellectual property. Last year, he co-founded the non-profit venture Desert Biofuels Initiative, and works with ASU on biofuel policy. Please join us as Brad describes his own efforts in the growing movement toward sustainable energy in the desert.

SOULFUL SUNDOWN APRIL 5 6PM
See page 3 for more details.
Minister’s Musings...

May Sarton writes:

Help us to be the always hopeful gardeners of the spirit who know that without darkness nothing comes to birth as without light nothing flowers.

This April marks a time both in nature and in culture of the story of hope being born out of darkness and light and life returning to the earth. For us in Phoenix, Spring is in full bloom. The intensity of the sun has returned after the few months of winter when the sun was further from the earth. The days are warmer, and I have begun to feel an internal pull to enjoy these last few days of Spring before the real heat sets in.

This year, April is also a month of great religious significance. It begins with the Jewish celebration of Passover, the Christian celebration of Easter the following week, and April ends with Earth Day, a celebration of the planet on which our lives wholly depend. One parallel that emerges from these different celebrations is the possibility of hope being born out of the darkest times. Passover is the story of the Jews deliverance from slavery in Egypt. Good Friday and Easter tell the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection. And Earth Day, a contemporary holiday, is a recognition of the ways in which we have misused the resources of our planet to our own peril, and an attempt to encourage in our societies a greater reverence and stewardship for our earthly home.

In the background of the seasonal changes, ancient stories, and new paradigms, we have, little bits of better economic news emerging from the bleakness of the past year. And in our spirits we long for a resurgence of hope, for greater confidence.

In our Celebration of Life services during the month of April we will be exploring the themes of what is born during times of darkness and the intermingling of light and dark in our lives.

Yours,
Susan

Announcement about Announcements and our Celebration of Life services:

One of the changes since moving to 2 Sunday morning services is a greater need to keep our services to one hour. This is necessitating some changes in the flow of our service. For instance, we will be moving Together Time (our children’s sermon) earlier in the service to make sure our children have plenty of time for their religious education classes. In addition, we will rely on printed announcements in the bulletin, rather than spoken announcements. As a reminder, Ellie Murphy publishes our bulletin and our announcement insert. All announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted to Ellie Murphy by noon on Wednesday of the week of the service for which the announcement is intended. Announcements can be emailed directly to Ellie or to our administrator Heidi to be included in the bulletin. During the Trustees Welcome one announcement will be chosen to highlight from the pulpit. Thank you for your patience and feedback as I continue to experiment with the best flow for our Celebration of Life services.
From the Board of Trustees...

From the President...

Looking forward to the summer and thereafter, a couple of topics come to mind. The weekend of March 13-15, Dave Rickard, a UUA Stewardship Consultant, visited UUCP to assess our readiness to undertake renovation work this summer and a capital campaign next year. Dave’s assessment is discussed in detail in a separate article from the Renovation Committee, but I’d like to highlight two crucial factors in determining whether we go forward this summer that depend upon the generosity of members now. These are achieving a balanced budget for 2009-10 and building a capital reserve fund.

Achieving a balanced budget is one of the most important goals of our current five-year strategic plan and is crucial to renovation financing. Moreover, a balanced budget is simply prudent. The goal of a balanced budget for next year, in turn, depends upon a successful stewardship campaign now. By the time this issue of Horizons goes to print, we will be closing in on the single biggest stewardship effort of the year: Celebration Sunday on March 29. Celebration Sunday is our opportunity to pledge our financial support to our beloved community so that it, and its programs, thrive and flourish and are available to those in the wider community who are searching for a faith community that is relevant in their lives. A successful stewardship drive and a balanced budget is within our grasp—Dave estimates that if even 45-50% of us pledge at some level on the UUA Suggested Giving Guide, we’ll meet our goal of a balanced budget! So, whether you’ve already pledged, or plan to pledge shortly, consider pledging at a level on the UUA Suggested Giving Guide and tell us — either by writing that you are a "suggested giving guide pledger," if you prefer not to indicate the specific level, or by checking a giving level on the pledge form. Thank you!

The second crucial factor in determining whether, and to what extent, that we go forward this summer are contributions to the capital reserve fund. On February 1, the Congregation overwhelmingly approved guidelines for seeking financing of the renovation. Those guidelines include amassing at least 18 months of payments as a capital reserve (there’s nothing to preclude building an even larger reserve and, in light of more conservative lending practices, it may well be that a lender would require even a higher reserve). If you’re in a position to donate to the capital reserve fund, now is the time. Thank you again!

Lastly, I am pleased to announce that the Nominating Committee proposed Paula Kulina to serve as vice president until the next congregational election on May 31. The Board unanimously approved the nomination at its February meeting. Most recently, Paula as been active with the Partner Church committee, which brought members of our Partner Church from Transylvania to Arizona last fall. Please join me in welcoming Paula in her new role at UUCP!

Submitted By Sarah Carlson, President, Board of Trustees
Greetings from your Music Director!

OLD NEWS:
Annual Cabaret Show was finally here!

Thank-You ~ To everyone!

SOULFUL SUNDOWN APRIL 5
6:00PM
This is the last one until October 2009. We’ll explore UU 6th Source and 7th Principle

What are Soulful Sundowns?
Services of music, poetry, sharing.
We renew our connection.
(band rehearses at 5pm)

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

BREAKING NEWS:
100 singers
19 – piece orchestra
soloists & professional rap artist
“Sources” by Jason Shelton and Kendyl Gibbons
Hilton Phoenix East (first night of District Assembly)
gospel pop bossa nova rap – what more do you need to know?

Even if you’re not coming to the entire District Assembly, register for Friday night and come to this amazing concert!

This cantata is a beautiful wedding of inspiring music to powerful words. The cantata breathes life into what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

Connie Jahrmarkt,
Music Director

Thanks to all of you who helped make Cabaret a huge success!
Adult Religious Education...

"To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . ."

**Childcare Provided on Sunday Mornings**

Beginning March 1, 2009, our nursery is open from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. every Sunday morning so parents may attend book discussion group, an Adult Religious Education course, or committee meetings. No advance registration is needed.

**Multigenerational April Movie - Wall-E**

We will celebrate Earth Day (and tax day) with a Wall-E, a sweet tale above love, friendship, and the need to take care of planet before it’s too late. We will have family friendly food - popcorn and the like. We hope people of all ages will attend!

Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2009.
Time: 6:00 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) Place: Johnson Room. Cost: $5 suggested donation (no one turned away) - refreshments served.

**Adult Religious Education Classes**

**“Sacred Depths of Nature” by Ursula Goodenough**

Blends modern science with the quest for spiritual meaning. Goodenough, a cell biologist, looks at topics such as evolution, emotions, sexuality and death while writing about the workings of nature in general and living creatures in particular.

Instructor: Terry Simmons
Date & Time: Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. - 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26
Location: Room 9
Fee: $10.00 or presentation of UUS pass

**“From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Profound New Vision of Growing Older” Shalomi.**

Rabbi Schacter-Shalomi describes a radically different aging process characterized by adventure, passion, mystery, and fulfillment. Drawing on the wisdom of Sufi masters, Buddhist teachers, Native-American shamans, and Kabbalah (the mystical teachings of Islam and Judaism), Schacter-Shalomi offers techniques to expand our horizons, so we can all become sages as we grow older.

Facilitator: Gene Cherry
Dates: Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. for the month of April (4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29) - Room B
Fee: $10 or presentation of the UUS pass plus the book

**Union Small Group Worship and Meeting Schedule**

We were unable to secure a room for our campus ministry this semester, so we are bringing young adult worship to the UUCP on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in April and May. Young adults and their allies (those over 35 years old) are invited to join us for a quiet evening of candle lighting, singing and meditation - a “time for your soul to catch-up.” We will meet in Room C. We also continue to every Sunday for a short “meet and greet” at 10:45 in Room C and then again at 12:30 p.m. in the same location for a more in-depth discussion and lunch.

**UUCP to Host Unimagined Speaking Tour**

Imran Ahmad, the London-based author of the highly acclaimed non-fiction book, ‘Unimagined: a Muslim boy meets the West’, and Board Member of British Muslims for Secular Democracy, is embarking on a 12,000 mile, 40-city speaking tour of the United States by hybrid car – with re-humanization between America and the Muslim world being his key aim. He is visiting many UU congregations around the country, and we are happy to host him at the UUCP on April 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. His book will be available for purchase; otherwise, he is doing this tour for absolutely free in order to further the interfaith dialogue.

**Book Group Update**

UUCP Book Group will begin next week discussing Thomas Friedman's Hot, Flat, and Crowded. In the following month we will cover Proust Was a Neuroscientist by Jonah Lehrer.
"Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation ..."

- **April 5** - 9:30 a.m. - Sunday school class (3rd-6th grades begin in sanctuary)
- **April 12** - 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. - Multigenerational Easter service; Spring Egg Hunt (10:30 a.m. - playground)
- **April 19** - 9:30 Sunday school class - (3rd-6th grades begin in sanctuary) April 26 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday school class (3rd-6th grades begin in sanctuary)
- **April 26** - 9:30 a.m. - Sunday school class (last regular class for the program year)

**TWO SERVICE SCHEDULE REMINDERS**

**First Service - 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**
- Nursery - The nursery will be open at 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. every Sunday
- Sunday School - All Sunday school classes will begin at 9:30 a.m. Children in grades 1st-6th will begin in the sanctuary for Together Time and will be sung out to the playground. Pre-k-Kindergarten children can go directly to their class or begin in the sanctuary with their parents.
- 1st-2nd grade and 7th-8th Grade (Coming of Age) students will go directly to their classroom at 9:30 a.m.
- YRUU (Senior High) members begin at 9:30 a.m.
- ALL Sunday school programs end PROMPTLY at 10:45 a.m.

**Second Service - 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**
- Nursery - Children younger than five years old will be in the nursery
- Children’s Fellowship Hour - Children five years old and older will begin in the sanctuary for Together Time and will be sung out the playground. Tiffany Mendez and at least one other assistant will conduct Spirit Circle, provide a snack and then will fill the rest of the time with crafts and organized games in annex Room D.
- Children’s Fellowship Hour is NOT intended to replace Sunday school. It is an activity for children visiting during the second service or for those whose parents are engaged in another activity (such as Parent Covenant Group or choir) during the second service.
- Children should be picked-up from either the nursery or room D immediately after the second service (12:30 p.m.)

**DAN YOUR BEST SPRING CLOTHES FOR OUR ANNUAL SPRING EGG HUNT!**

Another beloved UUCP tradition is the spring egg hunt on Easter Sunday! Children will remain in the sanctuary for a multigenerational Easter service, then parents are asked to escort their children to the playground for the egg hunt. Each age group through 6th grade is assigned a particular area for hunting; eggs are then exchanged for a goody bag full of great surprises!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SHORTS:**

**Pre-K & Kindergarten - Teachers Lenore and Geraldine**

In April, we will continue the unit "We make Friends", with activities and books about friendships. We will also learn about the spring holidays of Easter and Passover.

**1st-2nd Grade - Teachers Steve, Melissa and Jen**

The 1st-2nd-grade class will conclude its Our Whole Lives curriculum this month.

**3rd-4th Grade - Teacher Hannah**

In April, the third and fourth grade class will be learning about 3 more UU superheroes!

**5th-6th Grade - Teacher Michelle**

Hey 5th and 6th Graders! This month will be great! We’re going to continue working on our original Co-Co Bird stories. Also, we’ll be helping bring awareness to our Spoon and Fork Drive for Booker T. Washington! We’re doing our part to help their school go...
green. We'll be exploring the differences between the "haves" and the "have-nots" and learning to appreciate the good things in our own lives. Can't wait to see you there!

**YRUU (Senior High Class) - Advisors: Jaynn, Mike, Geoff and Sarah**

Article by Celeste Allen, member.

Hello and welcome to YRUU’s magnificent month of March. Our main event for this month was our bonding lock-in. The day began with a gathering outside the YRUU room to make a poster for Geoff (pronounced Jeff). Geoff was to show up later in the lock-in though, so the YRUUers went to the park. To really get an idea of this, you need to imagine three cars full of teenagers with a Viking hat, cat ears and tails, and a pair of trip pants heading towards a park with little children. Especially when the teenagers decided to play capture the flag. Needless to say, we chose a secluded bit of the park so that no unknown children would end up broken. There were some amazing plays that afternoon, capped off by Israel’s final run. Then we got down to business. We invaded the IKEA store, minds focused only on completing our quest. We were trying to find the holy (not holey) carpet and the cupboard only dreamed of by pillows everywhere. As we arrived at the store, a contingent broke away to secure food supplies. The rest of us continued on, braving the depths of the basement to achieve victory. At first a carpet pretending to be our ultimate goal deceived us, but eventually we found the only, the amazing, the perfect one, or two. (Plus they were cheaper.) We also found the cabinet that our pillows had carefully described to us. (Not fragile or transparent and BIG.) With our boxes and battering rams (rolled up carpets) we were prepared to conquer. But they accepted credit, so unfortunately nothing was reduced to rubble. The rest of the night included apples to apples, Quelf, and soup to match our carpet (heavenly). All in all a very good day, and night, and midnight, and hey, there’s the sun…but regardless, all of you should come check out our brand new carpet and almost cabinet, and enjoy the highly enlightened teenage discussion.
Congregational Members

Take Hard Look at Renovation Possibilities

Hope, tempered with a sense of caution, marked a Saturday, March 14 meeting led by Dave Rickard, Congregational Stewardship Consultant for the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

Twenty-eight UUCP members attended, twenty-six spoke, and all spoke with passion. The most positive told of riding the wave of congregational energy and enthusiasm to the completion of identified construction needs/desires. The most cautious looked for confirmation of our ability to fund this project.

No one voiced opposition to the premise that before we can truly discuss funding for renovations, we must have a successful stewardship campaign; then we can build on that success. For our visitors and newer members, this means that two separate funding operations are at work here, one, an annual stewardship campaign that supports our day to day function, and two, a building and renovation campaign that could make our campus accessible to all. This plan can be accessed on our website. In addition, a model of the conceived Master Plan is located on the west side of the sanctuary. This is the context of Mr. Rickard’s visit on Saturday.

According to Rickard, “We must start with a solid operating budget, and we must have a project supported by a supermajority.” That supermajority was evident on February 1 when the congregation voted overwhelmingly to move ahead with the project following the clear guidelines in the motions. Rickard called the approval of the Master Plan a “major coup” and cited several keys to our near term success:

- The project is clear
- The project is enthusiastically endorsed.
- The architectural work is done.
- The looming need for an associate minister.

He cited four major goals:

- Complete Phase One (lobby with accessible entrance, toilet core, existing building improvements, sewer, and parking lot).
- Reduce capital debt (assuming we go ahead with the building improvements, sewer and parking lot this summer).
- Establish and studiously maintain the Maintenance Reserve Fund.
- Maintain a staff sized appropriately for our growing Congregation.

So where do we go from here? Our aggregate congregation makes about $35,000,000 per year. If we gave two per cent of our incomes, we could fund the operating budget and building renovation with room to spare.

But these are tough economic times. We all have some thinking to do. In the past, UUs have shown that they can be pretty good at thinking. I think we need to support each other by:

- Committing to understand the basics of the project.
- Asking good questions.
- Searching our hearts.
- Continuing our strong sense of respect for each other.

In hope,
Richard Jahrmarkt for the Renovation Committee
Finance Update

Ever wonder if there was another way to pay your pledge instead of dropping your check in the collection basket during the service? We now have two additional options!

The first option is using your credit card through the UUCP website. Go to our website - phoenixuu.org and click on “Make a pledge payment.” on the top left of the screen. Please contact Heidi Parmenter in the church office at 602-840-8400 if you have any questions.

The other option is through your bank account. If you use the ‘bill pay’ feature to pay your other bills, you may also use it to pay your pledge. This feature may be set up to pay your pledge automatically each month or manually, it’s up to you. Check with your bank if you have any questions about setting this up.

Thank you for ensuring we are able to continue with the mission work of the congregation by keeping your pledge payment up to date.

In Community,
Mary Dokes, Finance Committee Chair

UUCP Financial Update
Fiscal Year - July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009
(Operating & EEC)

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From the Social Action Committee...

From the Social Action Committee...

Practice compassion every day, it isn't easy but is it worth the effort.

We want to WELCOME BACK Janice Brunson from her African travels. She spent two months staying in the homes of African UUs in Kenya, Nigeria, Burundi and Uganda. A Number of new business projects have been funded, helping to reduce poverty among our UU congregations who are suffering more than ever during the world's economic crisis. Janice has completed a summary of the trip. If interested in reading it, contact her, janicebrunson@yahoo.com. There are UU tours to Africa, including a safari in Kenya, and paid volunteer opportunities in rural Kenya and Uganda.

P RIDE PARADE APRIL 18TH
Sign up at the SAC table for the PHOENIX PRIDE PARADE 2009 or contact our coordinators Ceyshe' Napa and Larry Thwing at ceyeshe@ceyshe.com. The UUCP plans on continuing out long tradition of supporting our local LGBT community.

Go to Healthcare Town Hall on April 18, 2009
3109 N. 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ
UA Local 469 First Panel: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM Second Panel: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Contact phoenix-healthcare-townhall@googlegroups.com

I C M I N T E R F A I T H C O O P E R A T I V E
ICM Interfaith Cooperative Ministries, is a food and clothing bank providing immediate response to basic human needs for the working poor. Please think of ICM and their needs when you shop for groceries, an extra can of peaches and/or an extra box of cereal deposited in the wicker baskets in the lobby before service brings us closer to each other.

$1294.16 was contributed to ICM from our SOUPER Bowl Sunday special collection. More than 5,000 individuals are helped at ICM each month. The disabled, the elderly and the working poor can get help with utility bills, prescriptions, and bus tickets to look for work. A $50 DONATION WILL FEED A FAMILY OF 4 FOR 6 DAYS. There are volunteer opportunities at ICM. For more information stop by the SAC table after service.

N E W D A Y C E N T E R
We need volunteers for our New Day meal on the first Sunday of every month and for the children's craft hour after dinner. Katie Raife is doing a fantastic job coordinating the monthly dinner. Thank you for your help.

SAC luncheon April 19th after the second service.

M O N T H L Y M E E T I N G
SAC monthly meeting April 28th 6 PM. (4th Tuesday evening of each month)

And a very special thanks to Libby Walker for the new SAC banner that we used in the protest march, and for the SAC luncheon tri-fold and banner that must be working as there was a good attendance for the March luncheon.

In love and peace,
Sarah Burchard
Social Action Committee Chair

Alice Bendeim, among earliest members of UUCP, was recently honored by the ACLU of Arizona for dedicating "innumerable hours and invaluable energy" over the past 50 years. She helped found ACLU in Arizona. Alice lost her job as a school teacher by taking a public stand against the odious 'Operation Abolition,' a film by the then U.S. House of UnAmerican Activities to expose the "communist menace." She then became an attorney. Alice is former past president of ACLU in Arizona and has served 30 years on the national ACLU board. She currently serves on the National Advisory Committee.
From the Green Sanctuary Committee...

Green Day at UUCP –
Come Learn!

On Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 to 12:00, the Green Sanctuary Committee will be hosting a Green Day. Come learn how to compost with a representative from the Phoenix Permaculture Guild and how to find/use green products in your home with our own Uli Boecker-Greme.

If you like working outside or need community service hours, please join Lois Leader and others working on the trail that winds through our property.

Please RSVP to Susan Leung at shbleung@yahoo.com or (480) 551-2090. Let her know if you need childcare.

A Fork and Spoon Drive

The 5th/6th graders and the Green Sanctuary Committee are asking for your help in collecting metal forks and spoons for the Booker T. Washington Head Start program. Booker T. Washington serves its students 2 meals and 2 snacks every school day using plastic forks and spoons. The plastic utensils are then thrown away. Collection boxes will be in the foyer and Office 2 through April 12.

Green Tips for your Yard

The Green Sanctuary Committee has compiled some ideas to help be greener in your yard. If you have any tips, please feel free to pass them along to the committee (green@phoenixuu.org).

Change from gas powered lawn equipment to electric. SRP (and perhaps APS) periodically offer payments towards the purchase of an electric lawn mower if you bring in an old gas powered mower. Gas powered lawn equipment is tremendously polluting and using a broom, rather than a blower, is good exercise too!

- The most obvious tip is to have nothing but native plants that don't need to be watered or fertilized.
- Replace grass with crushed rock.
- Install low-water landscaping (or xeriscape). Putting pressure on the Homeowners' governing committee to convert thirsty plants to desert plants. Several booklets are out showing what plants grow well in our desert, so we can have the benefits of plants while conserving water. The City of Scottsdale has some of these booklets free of charge.
- When you have a sustainable yard, then use only as much water for your plants as needed.
- Use a gutter to drain rainwater from your roof to fill a cistern for use in watering your plants.
- Make your own fertilizer by creating a compost area.
- Contour your yard with berms so that rainwater will stay in your yard and not run off down the street.
- Convert hard surfaces, such as driveways and walkways to porous materials, like crushed granite in order to decrease the "heat island" effect.
From the Nominating Committee…

And the 2009-10 Nominees Are...

The Nominating Committee is delighted to present a terrific slate of candidates for UUCP leadership in the coming year. Below you will find photos and a short bit of information about each candidate. Voting for Board members and for Nominating Committee members will take place at the Congregation’s annual meeting; the board votes on nominees for the Committee on Ministry.

The Nominating Committee found its job rewarding and relatively easy this year. We are impressed with the growth of UUCP’s leadership capacity and the willingness, even eagerness, of so many people to step up to these leadership positions. The entire Congregation has good reason to celebrate these excellent candidates as well as our potential for future outstanding leadership.

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

BOARD NOMINEES

President: Sarah Carlson
Sarah Carlson joined UUCP in 2004. She initially served as co-chair of the social action committee and subsequently served on the ministerial search committee during its first year. Sarah was asked, and agreed, to serve as the congregational vice president for one year followed by one year as president, which she is currently serving. Sarah has agreed to serve a second year as president after Tim Tilton, the president-elect, stepped down from the board due to his impending retirement, which will be followed by travel with his wife, Rita. Although sometimes demanding, Sarah has enjoyed interaction with members and friends, while serving on the board. Sarah looks forward to helping to facilitate healthy continued growth, in numbers and programs, available through UUCP to members, friends, and the wider community.

Vice President: Paula Kulina
I have been involved in many activities over the course of my 35-year association with this congregation. In the 1980s it was the Membership Committee, Canvass Committee and as a Board Member. In the 1990s it was SAWUUARA, which I served as Secretary and President. Most recently I have been leading the Partner Church Committee. I feel inspired to step up my level of commitment to UUCP. I want to contribute my calm and collaborative leadership style, skill at organizing things, and ability to get things done efficiently and effectively.

Member of the Board: Todd Cruse
Todd Cruse has been a member of UUCP for about 5 years. He came to Arizona from Ohio to attend ASU and decided to stay. Todd is a hydrogeologist and works for a small consulting firm. About seven or eight years ago Todd and his wife Nancy, daughter Emily and son Michael were having dinner with family friends. During the after dinner conversation the topic of religion came up. Their friends said they were attending the “Church of the Closest Drive”. The Cruses said they had tried a few places but none of them seemed to fit. After discussing religious beliefs their friends said “that sounds like Unitarian Universalism”. Since becoming a member Todd has taught 5th/6th grade and COA and has enjoyed being part of several covenant groups.

Member of the Board: Jay Bastani
As a Zoroastrian, I first became a member of the Unitarian Universalist congregation in Lincoln, NE in 1983. My wife and I remained members of the congregation for 18 years while I continued my practice in psychiatry until 2001 when we migrated to Phoenix. In search of a community of individuals similar to ourselves but with diverse back-grounds, Shoba and I joined UUCP in 2006 where we found a welcoming oasis of others on a similar quest. I’ve been active with the Adult Religious Education committee and have fulfilled a personal passion
through classes that focus on understanding others beliefs. Being a Board member will provide the opportunity to ensure our church continues to offer a welcoming environment for people of diverse backgrounds to grow spiritually.

Past President: Elaine Warner
We moved to Phoenix, from Chicago in 1954. Like many families that come to a UU congregation, we wanted a Sunday School for our children, that would be compatible with our own beliefs. I started my activities with the church school and signed the membership book in 1958. My husband and I co-chaired the Fund Drive in 1968. I then became Board Secretary, and then President for the two years of 1974 and 1975. After the church Foundation was established, I was on its Board, and for a year its President. I have recently served again on the Foundation Board for a two year term. I am a member of the President’s Council of the U.U. A. and have been since its founding in 1992. It is my hope and dream that Unitarian Universalism will be a strong presence in this Valley. It is needed.

Gene Harvey
Gene and wife Juli began attending UUCP in August 2000. Gene is currently a member of the Sunday Services & Usher Committees and facilitates the Friday Night Covenant Group. He has been both Service Leader and given a sermon. He has had several UU Pals and chairs the burgeoning Addictions Ministry Committee. One of Gene’s greatest joys was mentoring a now 15 year old UUCP member; they stay in touch via Facebook! Gene has an 18 year old stepson Jordan.

Gene has a B.A. in English from Arizona State and been employed for 17 years as a purchasing agent for a manufacturer of pressure calibrators. His hobbies are music collecting, Crossword & Sudoku puzzles, and reading.

I am completely behind Rev. Susan’s goal of building a vital community, states Gene, one in which it has been an honor and pleasure to serve. I also believe in a balanced mix of change and legacy. We should value and treasure the things that make us unique such as the Memorial Garden, the OWL program, and our Social Justice outreach; yet, we also need to adapt and change when it will improve our congregation. I am most passionate about social inequality and children’s education. I pledge to support the Nominating Committee with all my time, energy and heart.

Ann Marie Ciemny
I have been a member of UUCP since 2006 (I think). I am currently a lead usher and chair of UUpals. I love being a member of this community and think that we have limitless potential. I am honored to have been asked to be a member of this committee. I will do my best for the congregation.

DONNIA FEATHERSTONE
I am grateful to have found UUCP in 1999 and I have been involved in the children’s program for most of those years. My husband Jon and I have three sons, Alec (15), Ryan (12) and Reed (12). My professional background is in nursing. I have my own business as a legal nurse consultant and I currently work as a hospital risk management consultant. Since June of 2007, I have served on the Board of Trustees as Member at Large. I also served as Interim Chair of the Membership committee and I am currently Co-Chair of the Stewardship Committee. Through these service opportunities, I have come to know (and love) more of our congregation. It is my hope to help others find opportunities to fully participate in what UUCP has to offer. On a personal note, I look forward to rejoining a covenant group and singing in Family Choir. I would also like to collaborate in a Valley wide UU activity with other Valley congregations. I appreciate the opportunity to serve and work with all of you.

ANN MARIE CIEMNY
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COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY NOMINEES

Three year terms:

Terry Simmons
Terry Simmons has been a UUCP member for 6 years. He serves on or chairs various committees such as Adult Religious Education, Sunday Services Committee, Building and Grounds and Green Sanctuary. He served on the Board in 2004. Terry teaches Cultural Anthropology at local community colleges and NAU.

Lani Comp
Lani Angell Comp joined UUCP in 1986, around the time her son, Geoffrey, was born. The family sought a spiritual community and quality religious education for Geoff. Lani has been active in multiple aspects of the religious education program, including acting as director of UUEEC, serving on committees, teaching numerous classes including OWL, COA, and CHILDSPACE, a parenting curriculum she co-authored with three other UU women. Since Lani's profession is education, her involvement in and support of the religious education program was a natural match. Although education has been a focus, she has participated in other aspects of the UUCP community and now it is time to branch out even more. Lani is delighted to have the opportunity to serve the UUCP community as a member of the Committee on Ministry.

To fill two years of an unfinished term:

Natalie Summit
In 2005, Natalie Summit joined UUCP with a smile and excitement for a way of life and celebration that felt like home. Natalie is the parent of 3 adult children, and caretaker for 2 dogs, composter, and vegetable garden. She is a licensed professional counselor who provides crisis intervention services for the Scottsdale Police Department. While Natalie regularly gives service to UUCP, she also donates time regularly to NAMI: the National Alliance on Mental Illness. She enjoys yoga, hiking, and meeting up with friends and family for good conversation.

About The UUA

Presidential Election

When and where will the election for President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) take place?
June, 2009 at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly which will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah (see page ___ for more information about General Assembly).

Who votes?
Delegates from UU member congregations vote. Each congregation is given delegate slots according to its membership size, and each delegate slot has one vote. Some congregations instruct their delegates how to vote, some congregations send in their votes absentee, while others ask their delegates to vote independently at the General Assembly.

Who is Running for President?
At this time there are two candidates announced: Laurel Hallman of First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Texas, and Peter Morales of Jefferson Unitarian Church of Golden, Colorado. Please visit Laurel Hallman’s website at www.hallmanforuuapresident.com and Peter Morales’ website at www.moralesforuuapresident.org for information on each candidate.

What does the President of the UUA do?
As stated on the UUA web site: "As chief executive officer, the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA), is responsible to the UUA Board of Trustees for the administrative policies and programs of the Association and is the chief spokesperson for the UUA."

How long is the term of office?
The term of office is four years, with the possibility of being re-elected for a second term for an additional four years.
Other Committee News...

From the Membership Committee

Our next Pathway to Membership Classes will be April 19, 26 (Classes) May 2 (Potluck) and on May 3, 2009 new members will be received by the Congregation. To sign up please visit the Welcoming Desk as you enter the building or call or email the office. In the fall of 2009 two more classes have been scheduled: September 13, 20, 26 and 27 and November 1, 8, 14, and 15.

Sincerely,

Larry Agle, Chair

WORDS OF WELCOME
The Welcoming Ministry is moving into Spring by expanding our Sunday Morning Greeter Groups to accommodate the two service trail run. We are now needing more friendly folks to volunteer to be door greeters before each service. Long-term and new members are cordially invited to join us. It's an easy and pleasant way to become better acquainted and share our fellowship. Each group serves one time on a 10 week rotation for about one hour. Please contact Sally Boyd at 480-948-5847 or email sboydwbay@aol.com to indicate your willingness to join us.

Unicare

There are so many congratulatory spring bouquets to bequeath in this month of April, that we had better get started right now!

Susan Goldsmith is the very delighted and proud first-time grandma of what is widely know to be the dearest grandson ever! There had better be some photos on a regular basis.

On April 4th, Kermit Butler celebrates his 90th birthday. We all wonder when he will begin to look his age. Happy birthday, Kermit!

Moon Valley school system has named Juli Harvey "Teacher of the Year". Her UU friends are not surprised but still very proud of her!

Many in our Congregation have health challenges and we encourage you to send notes of encouragement.

Regina Nelms is recovering from surgery required after a serious car accident. Her UU friends are keeping tabs on her and hope that her recovery is swift.

Our love and positive thoughts to Ken and Jeanne Croissant. Carolyn Allenby and Barbara Cawthorne will keep us in touch with them.

We are happy to report that Gene Grigsby is back at home after a stay in the hospital for a few days with pneumonia. A big UU hug to Gene.

Enid Jones daughter-in-law suffered a stroke on March 17th but is expected to fully recover. Our best thoughts are with her.

If you would like to remember or mention someone in our Congregation in this column, please contact me at sambasmart@cox.net or call at 480-502-1201.

Facing our joys, sorrows and challenges together in community,

Julie Smart, Unicare Chair

From the Partner Church Committee

The Partner Church Committee is meeting at UUCP on Sunday, April 12 at 10:30am. We will discuss next steps and future direction of the group. Please join us and give your input! We want to build on the enthusiasm gained during the recent visit of four partner church members to our congregation.”

Sanctuary Team News

On March 7, the Sanctuary Team helped to dismantle the Artists of the Black Community Exhibit and now the walls are bare because March is Cabaret Month and we don’t want anything to interfere with that! We loved the Black Artists’ Exhibit and we hope you did too. Coincidentally, it was the best thing we could have had on our walls when the memorial service for Tommy Grigsby took place. And here’s good news - we received two donations of artwork from Dr. Gene Grigsby and they will soon be placed on the walls in the entry area.

In April we welcome the annual ex-
hibit of the Mavericks, the talented fiber artists of the metro area. This exhibit will be hung on April 3 and removed on May 30. After that, we are looking forward to another exciting exhibit of children's artwork that will remain on the sanctuary walls throughout the summer. We hope to have work representing the UU Preschool, Desert View Learning Center and also from Carla Dunlap, Art Teacher in Cartwright School District.

MAIN STREET MAVERICKS’ FIBER ART SHOW
Sharon Hise and Joan Gale are pleased to announce the return of The Main Street Mavericks' fiber art show to our sanctuary from April 4 through May 30. Sharon and Joan are members of both UUCP and “The Mavs” and enjoy bringing this talented group of artists to adorn our walls. Please check the labels on these beautiful pieces as some items will be for sale. The pedestal next to the windows by the sanctuary entrance holds a notebook containing stories of some of the artists’ histories and their creative journeys. On April 26 during the 10:30am coffee hour, some of the artists will be available to discuss their works. We hope you will enjoy what has become one of UUCP's favorite art shows.

The “Great” Outdoor Group

Come hike a hike with us...so we may know your mind! That's just an improvised verse from one of our favorite UU songs. Do join us this April in the great outdoors to view the wildflowers and the beautiful Arizona locals.

HIKE: PIPELINE TRAIL
Location: Lake Pleasant
Date: April 11, 2009
Meeting Time: 8:00 to leave at 8:30
Meeting Place: McDonalds on Deer Valley Road, just east of I-17
Hiking Distance: 4 + miles
Rating: easy
Leaders: Frank Ashton - frankphnx@earthlink.net 602-996-4276
Sally Boyd
sboydwbay@aol.com
480-948-5847

HIKE: FOSSIL SPRING VIA THE FLUME TRAIL
Location: Near Strawberry
Date: April 25, 2009
Meeting Time: 7:00 a.m. to leave at 7:30
Meeting Place: McDonald's at 16936 Shea Blvd. Fountain Hills, AZ (Shea and Saguaro)
Hiking Distance: 7.5 miles
Rating: easy to moderate
Leaders: Ron and Laura Rohlfing
theronster@cox.net
480-730-0623

HIKE PLANNING POTLUCK
Sunday, April 26, 2009
Pauling Peverly's clubhouse following the Sunday Service 1235-B E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix Please bring your own drinks and a dish to share. The hostess will provide table service and a main dish.
Most important - bring your ideas for a hike that you might lead. Contact George Karas, Ron Rolfing, Julie Smart or Tom Parker in advance with suggestions for hikes.

For details on either hike or the potluck, visit the Outdoor table at the back of the sanctuary after the Sunday service and pick up a hike flyer.

Bridge Group

Bridge night for UUs in April will be on the second Saturday, April 11, at 7:00 PM in the Johnson Room. First and second high winners go home with prize money. The remainder of the $3.00 entry fee goes to the Congregation. All levels of play are welcome, so come join us. Please call or email Sandy Thomson with your reservation. Her phone number is 602-818-8664 and her email is sjthomson@cox.net.

Women’s Spirituality Circle

The Women's Spirituality Circle has been meeting weekly every Monday evening (yes, even in summer) for more than 15 years. Strong, feminist attitude as well as intellectual opinion may surface during discussions, projects, and music. We meet in annex B at 7 pm and welcome all women. If you have questions
These Unitarian Universalists, whose ashes were interred in the Memorial Garden this month in past years, are still remembered…

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Buckner Wells</td>
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<td>Eleanor Dana-Mast</td>
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<td>Jess Otis Allen</td>
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<td>Lucy Burrell Allen</td>
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<td>Irving I. Bezman</td>
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<td>Hanna B. Parker</td>
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<td>Edward Ellison Davis</td>
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<td>Bruce H Clayton</td>
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Continued from page 1…

We need a few cooks to show up each Friday a few hours before the event to cook the main dish (vegetarian black bean chili on April 3rd; spaghetti and sauce on April 17th). Contact Heidi at administrator@phoenixuu.org for the Doodle link (too long for the newsletter) to RSVP or to volunteer. Don’t have time to bring a potluck item? No worries - come anyhow!

Potluck schedule:
- A-M - Salads/dishes
- N-R - Soft drinks
- S-Z - Dessert
It is almost time for District Assembly!

DATE: MAY 1-3, 2009
LOCATION: PHOENIX HILTON EAST/MESA

District Assembly is the annual gathering and business meeting of all congregations in the Pacific Southwest District. The weekend starts with an incredible opportunity to see Kendall Gibbons’ and Jason Shelton’s Sources Cantata performed by several area choirs (this is a must see musical extravaganza!) Saturday begins with breakfast and a worship service led by our own Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, followed by workshops, lunch and time to meet or re-connect with folks from around the district. The annual business meeting precedes our banquet, and we have a special treat for our evening entertainment this year: Jerry Robin and Irene Rosenthal - who are much, much more than comics and members of Valley UU in Chandler - will be providing the laughs and fun. Bring your thinking caps, this is no simple stand-up!! Sunday kicks off with breakfast and award presentations, followed by the annual Bridging Ceremony to celebrate an honor youth who are making the transition beyond high school this year. The Rev. Terry Sims and the Rev. Walt Wieder will lead Sunday’s worship service on site – all are encouraged to attend! The special group selected this year as our “service project” is the Phoenix PermaCulture Guild, which focuses on sustainable living and will be offering a workshop and other opportunities to get involved throughout the weekend.

There are still opportunities to get involved! Please consider offering your time and talents to ensure a successful District Assembly. As a local congregation, we have been called upon to step up and welcome our friends from throughout the district. If you can help with registration, greeting or ushering at the event, please contact Jaynn Truran at 480-600-8816 or jatruran@aol.com. We are also still looking for someone to design the centerpieces for our Saturday banquet!

Sign Up Now for General Assembly

JUNE 24-28 IN SALT LAKE CITY, UT

REMINDER: Registration for General Assembly and hotel rooms began March 2 at the UUA website: www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/registrationhousing/index.shtml.

This year’s general assembly features the very important elections, including UUA President and Moderator; wonderful worship services; The Congregational Banner Parade; and voting on UUA’s position statements.

Melissa Harrison Lacewell, Associate Professor of Politics and African American Studies at Princeton University will deliver the Ware Lecture. UU University offer lay leaders ideas and tips to bring back to their congregations – and there are many special workshops and programs including:

- Compassionate Conflict Resolution
- Youth Engaging Pluralism: An Encounter Model for UU Congregations
- Facilitator Training: The Key to Small Group Ministry Success
- Intergenerational Dances for Worship Made Easy
- Addictions Ministry in the UU Movement
- Congregations in Transition
- Walking the UU Path with Mystical Feet – Spiritual Practices
- Our Essential Fervor: Kenneth Patton’s Mystical Humanism
- Be the Change: Life Long Peace-making and Justice Seeking
- Right Relations: LGBTQQIA

The UUA website (www.uua.org) has information on these workshops and more!
### Calendar of Events...

**Unless otherwise noted in the Calendar of Events, the standard Sunday schedule is as follows:**

- **9:00 AM Adult Religious Education**  
  *Room 9 (see ARE page for current course offerings)*

- **9:30 AM Celebration of Life Service**  
  *Sanctuary (see page 1 for topics)*

- **9:30 AM Children’s Ministry**  
  *Rooms 10, 15, Annex A, B, C, D, E, F*

- **10:15 AM Coffee Hour**  
  *Johnson Room & Patio*

- **10:45 AM Young Adult Group**  
  *Annex B*

- **10:45 AM Book Discussion Group**  
  *Room 9*

- **11:00 AM Children’s Fellowship**  
  *Annex D, E*

- **11:15 AM Celebration of Life Service**  
  *Sanctuary*

- **12:15 PM Coffee Hour**  
  *Johnson Room & Patio*

- **12:30 PM Young Adult Group**  
  *Annex C*

**Wednesday April 1 2009**

1:00 PM ARE Class: Age-ing & Sage-ing  
6:00 PM ARE Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Thursday April 2 2009**

6:30 PM Renovation Committee

**Friday April 3 2009**

7:00 PM Traveling Fridays

**Saturday April 4 2009**

9:00 AM Sanctuary Team  
9:00 AM ARE Retreat  
12:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday April 5 2009**

9:30 AM Poetry Coffeehouse  
12:30 PM COA Review Panel  
5:00 PM Soulful Sundown Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Soulful Sundown

**Monday April 6 2009**

7:00 PM Women’s Spirituality Circle

**Tuesday April 7 2009**

7:00 PM Covenant Facilitator Meeting

**Wednesday April 8 2009**

1:00 PM ARE Class: Age-ing & Sage-ing  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Thursday April 9 2009**

7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

**Friday April 10 2009**

4:00 PM Youth Chaplain Training  
6:30 PM Covenant Group

**Saturday April 11 2009**

Youth Chaplain Training  
6:00 PM Bridge Group

**Sunday April 12 2009**

9:30 AM Nominating Committee  
10:30 AM Spring Egg Hunt  
10:30 AM Partner Church Meeting  
11:00 AM Parenting Covenant Group  
12:00 PM COA Review Panel  
12:15 PM Social Action Luncheon  
6:00 PM MUUvie

**Monday April 13 2009**

7:00 PM Women’s Spirituality Circle

**Tuesday April 14 2009**

12:00 PM Covenant Group  
6:30 PM UU Executive Committee  
7:00 PM Amnesty International  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Wednesday April 15 2009**

1:00 PM ARE Class: Age-ing & Sage-ing  
6:00 PM ARE Movie Night  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Thursday April 16 2009**

6:30 PM Sunday Services Committee

**Saturday April 18 2009**

Pride Parade  
5:00 PM Coming of Age

**Sunday April 19 2009**

9:00 AM New UU Class  
11:00 AM Lead Teacher Meeting  
1:00 PM COA Review Panel

**Monday April 20 2009**

7:00 PM Women’s Spirituality Circle

**Tuesday April 21 2009**

10:00 AM UUCP Staff Meeting  
6:00 PM Unimagined Tour  
7:00 PM Green Sanctuary Committee

**Wednesday April 22 2009**

1:00 PM ARE Class: Age-ing & Sage-ing  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Thursday April 23 2009**

6:30 PM Board Meeting

**Friday April 24 2009**

6:30 PM Social Action Committee  
7:00 PM Covenant Group

**Saturday April 25 2009**

9:00 AM Green Day

**Sunday April 26 2009**

9:00 AM New UU Class  
11:00 AM Parenting Covenant Group  
12:15 PM Maverick’s Art Show Reception  
1:00 PM COA Review Panel

**Monday April 27 2009**

7:00 PM Women’s Spirituality Circle

**Tuesday April 28 2009**

12:00 PM Covenant Group  
6:00 PM Social Action Committee  
6:30 PM Covenant Group

**Wednesday April 29 2009**

1:00 PM ARE Class: Age-ing & Sage-ing  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday April 30 2009**

5:00 PM Sources Rehearsal
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

If you didn’t see the message about announcements on page 3, please remember all announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted to Ellie Murphy by noon on Wednesday of the week of the service for which the announcement is intended. During our Trustees Welcome, one announcement will be chosen to highlight from the pulpit.