



A Welcoming Congregation

Minister's Musings

In her reading for a building dedication, Unitarian Universalist Minister, Eileen Karpeles writes:

Out of wood and stone, out of dreams and sacrifice, the People build a home.

On the wood and stone front, I have exciting news! This summer the board retained the services of a fundraising consultant, Ron Lundeen, to conduct a preliminary assessment of our capacity to hold a Capital Campaign this spring to address the critical improvement needs to our building and campus. The report from the consultant was overwhelmingly positive indicating that we can indeed embark on a Capital Campaign in early 2010!

In this, one of the worst economic times in over two generations, the level of commitment and willingness to gen-

erously support a campaign that Mr. Lundeen heard from members during his assessment is extraordinary. What stood out so strong from the report is the enthusiasm, excitement and dedication people feel for UUCP. There was overwhelming support for moving ahead on the campaign. In this, one of the worst economic times in over 2 generations, the level of willingness to generously support a campaign is extraordinary. This is great news.

Now, this does not mean our congregation and our members have not been affected by this deep economic recession. This is indeed the case. What this means for us is that we will most likely have to approach our needs in stages. We will not be able to do everything all at once. And, we are not going to do more than we can afford.

We did hear feedback in the assessment that in the past our plans and our vision may not have been entirely practical, that there may have been too much hype. This time, I and the board are going to be very deliberate and methodical in our approach. We are not going to do more than we can afford to do. We will set a goal, and prioritize our needs, so that together we can be successful in maintaining, updating and improving our property.

I know approaching our needs in stages will be disappointing for some,

but it will allow us to look closely at aspects of our Master Plan ensuring that given some of our new circumstances (especially our growth) that our plan will meet our needs.

At the same time, given the economy, it was not clear we would really be able immediately, or over time raise the capital money we need to address the needed updates to our utilities, parking, fire and safety, sewer and restrooms. We have a lot to accomplish. We won't get there with one campaign. And that is okay. We will get there. It will take time, and moving ahead thoughtfully and in stages. The strength of our ministry will be the foundation upon which we will build. It's you and me, all of us, together, who will out of wood and stone, out of dreams and sacrifice, ensure the future of our home.

What a gift it is to be embarking on this journey with all of you—a journey that will generations from now be a blessing on the people and the families and the children who will fill these rooms, this sanctuary, this campus with singing and laughter, justice and love.

In love and gratitude,
Susan

In this issue...

From the Board...	2
Ministry and Committee Reports...	3-6
Services...	7

Welcome to a New Horizon!

Here are some changes you can see with this edition of the *Horizons Journal*:

- Service topics and info have been moved to the end of the publication. The front page will now have either the Minister's Musings or other important articles from the Minister or Board.
- The Calendar of Events has been removed. Please use the weekly newsletter, the *UUCP Compass* or our calendar on the website to check on upcoming events and meetings.
- The publication has shrunk down to eight pages. Now that this is a monthly journal it will be a smaller publication used strictly for staff and committee reporting. Announcements, requests for volunteers, and event notices should be submitted to the *UUCP Compass*.

Don't be surprised if you submit an article for *Horizons Journal* and have it returned with the recommendation to submit it to *UUCP Compass* newsletter. Remember, the same audience reads both publications!



Read the *UUCP Compass* each week for the most up-to-date announcements in our UU community.
www.phoenixuu.org

Are You interested in Worship?

Would you like to be a part of creating worship?

On Sunday, November 29th, the weekend of Thanksgiving, we will hold a service on the theme of Family. Questions to guide the service are:

“What have you learned from family?”
“How do you define family?”
“What makes people a family?”
“What are the difficulties of family.”

The tone will not be overly sweet but hopefully a good mixture of humor, truth and celebration.

Anyone who would like to participate in creating this service and helping to lead it with Rev. Susan and who

- is in town on Sunday, Nov 29th and will be able to be at the service

-will attend 2 out of 3 planning meetings scheduled for:

Thursday, October 29 in the evening

Tuesday, Nov 10 in the evening

Saturday, Nov 21 in the morning or afternoon

(Exact times to be determined based on participants.)

Please contact our minister, Susan Frederick-Gray, at minister@phoenixuu.org or at 602-840-8400 to participate.

"Share the Plate"

Applications Now Being Accepted

Continuing a tradition begun earlier this year, UUCP will give all undesignated Sunday collections to a worthy charity, once per month. This practice demonstrates our support for the larger community and puts our values into action. New for this church year is the process for managing the selection of the charity, and a Share the Plate Committee has been formed. If you would like to nominate a charity to receive the monthly collection, you may do so by completing an application. You can find the application form on the UUCP website or in the church office. All organizations must be a non-profit 501 (c)(3) if in the U.S., or the equivalent if outside the U.S. Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Alignment with UUCP values
- Integration with UUCP member activities
- Impact of the organization in the community it serves
- Impact of the donation to the organization's mission
- Instructions are on the application form. We will do our best to communicate the selected charity each month and highlight its good work. Please contact Paula Kulina for more information (garlina@cox.net or 602-861-1921).

Unicare

Fall is officially here and we are all looking forward to the "New Year" in our UU community. As we gear up and become greater than the sum of our parts, we take the time to remember those who have been temporarily sidelined.

Jean Rosenberg is recovering from hip replacement surgery and from all reports should be at home by the time this is printed. Hip Hooray! (sorry, Jean)

Charlie Lynch is still in rehabilitation recovering from the many complications that have occurred since his recent hip replacement surgery. All of Charlie's friends and fans are cheering him on.

Sally McDade, who has experienced more joint replacements than the average UU, is recovering from her hip replacement surgery at her daughter's home. We wish this valiant lady a speedy walk back to the choir and her UU friends.

Our good thoughts go out to Dick Maxon and his wife Carolyn as Dick

recovers at home from brain surgery.

Mark Schmidt enjoys immensely the support his UU friends have given him during his fight with a serious illness. His humor and perseverance are inspiring to all of us who have reconnected with Mark.

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Eleanor Prescott Vergis who died on August 24, 2009. Eleanor was a long time member and was 90 years old. Cards can be sent to her daughter Diana Sidman Vergis at 4437 41st Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98118.

A great big multi-floral Fall bouquet (in an artfully designed straw basket) goes to Jerry Whalen, who is in the process of forming a group of singers to serenade the homebound. If you would like to be a part of this group or find out more about it, e-mail Jerry at gerald.whalin@cox.net.

Facing our joys, sorrows and challenges together in community,

Julie Smart, Unicare Chair

From the EEC

Ahhhhh, October! Cooler temperatures, children settled into class, everyone looking forward to a wonderful school year and our Annual Fall Family Fun Fest!

Please save Saturday, October 24 from 2pm – 6 pm for another Fall Family Fun Fest complete with pumpkins, a Great Arizona Puppet Theatre show, bouncing castles, great food, auction/ raffle items, games and activities and so much more! All of this within the safe, friendly UUEEC and UUCP Communities. Feel free to bring grandma, grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and neighbors to enjoy this fun for all ages event.

Please watch Compass and posters in the hallway for more specific details in the coming weeks.

In Community,
Jane Armstrong, UUEEC Director

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

Evemarie Holl Mosher
Walter Blake Williamson, Jr.
Homer M. Sarasohn
William Frank Hall
Roger Davy
Rodney Earl Engelen

From the Finance Committee...

The budget for the new fiscal year was approved at the congregational meeting on May 31, 2009. The approved budget was for a total of \$385,000. At that time, the budget was tentatively balanced based upon the projected pledges. Since then, the total pledge amount has been finalized as \$360,000 and the budget has been revised to balance with the pledge amount. This decrease in the total budget was possible due to many changes by the staff to reduce the operational budget. For example, documents such as Horizons are now distributed largely electronically saving the printing and mailing costs. The staff salaries were largely not changed but the staff is assuming some minor administrative costs.

The part time position to produce the Sunday bulletin was cut and the staff is now doing that work. In summary, some costs and work were shifted but none of these reductions are expected to have a measurable impact on the ability of the staff to serve the congregation other than going "green." The committee thanks the staff for their conscientious efforts to manage the costs.

Jim Allen
Chair

Update from the Renovation Committee

There are a few remaining tasks to complete before the construction can begin. The final loan paperwork needs to be reviewed and signed and the loan executed. Porter Construction is very flexible in their work hours at no additional cost. We expect the work will proceed at night with minimum disruption to UUCP and tenant programs. If any activities must be moved, we will try to provide advance notice. A more detailed schedule will be provided once the loan is executed.

Below is a summary of the work accomplished in the past month.

Loan: FM Group has completed a task to update the environmental report and put the UUCP in full compliance with Environmental Protection Agency requirements. The updated report has been provided to the bank and we are awaiting the final loan contract.

Property Title: During the title search, it was discovered that the property deed is still recorded under the name "First Unitarian Church of Phoenix." A quitclaim and affidavits have been completed and the title of the property is now assigned to the current UUCP Corporation.

Fire Alarms and Sprinklers: Porter Construction has all of the required permits for the underground fire line work, the fire alarm work, and the fire sprinkler work in the classrooms.

We all eagerly await the beginning of construction.

Children's Ministry News

*Come into this circle of community.
Come into this sacred space.*

Bring your whole self!

*Bring the joy that makes your
heart sing.*

*Bring your kindness and your
compassion.*

*Bring also your sadness and
disappointments.*

*Spirit of love and mystery, help us to
recognize the spark of the divine that
lives inside of each of us.*

May we know the joy of being together.

Andrew Pakula, adapted; from *Come into the Circle: Worshiping with Children* (Richards, 2008)

As of the writing of this article, we completed our first day of Sunday school for the 2009-2010 program year! It was an exciting, sometimes chaotic, day as we had a total of 97 children and youth present during the first and second services. Our nursery was bustling with the joyful noise of eight infant and toddler boys (only one girl in the bunch!). Our Pre-K-Kindergarten room was also a hive of activity with 18 children and three adults. Our senior high group managed to keep 18 teens awake for another hour after their overnight that occurred at the UUCP on Saturday night. Our junior high OWL class boasted 14 participants embarking on their journey of comprehensive sex education.

I remind the children, youth, their teachers, advisors and assistants continuously that the UUCP is a sacred space and our time together is equally sacred. I was joyful yesterday as I witnessed children and youth being together, looking for the spark of the divine within themselves and each other. May it be so next week, and the week

Ministry and Committee Reports...

after, and so on until that wonderful day when our youth cross the bridge from our Children's Ministry to young adulthood. And, then they come back to teach Sunday school, completing the circle once again.

In peace and love,
Kim

NEW T-SHIRT DESIGN UNVEILED

Many thanks to Nancy Cruse for once again designing a t-shirt logo that beautifully reflects our UUCP community. This year's design features a recognition of both the "birth" of our current campus as well as the "birth" of Unitarian Universalism as a single denomination "Generations of Caring: 1961." (See the back cover for image.) Additionally, Nancy incorporated a mesquite branch in the design to represent the "Ghost Eye Tree," a beloved landmark of our UUCP campus. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase these special t-shirts and to also support the Children's Ministry program.

SPOTLIGHT ON CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEMBERS

I am positively thrilled to turn the spotlight on our two Sara(h)s this month! I hope to make this "spotlight" a regular feature so that you all may get to know those who pour so much love and energy into our Religious Education Ministries (both children's and adult).

Children's Ministry Committee

Chair - Sarah Henkel is a lifelong UU who has attended UUCP since 2004. She graduated from ASU and works at a nonprofit where she promotes healing for abused and neglected girls in Arizona. This is her third year as an YRUU advisor, and she is excited to play an active role in the lives of such wonderful, inspiring high schoolers.

1st-2nd Grade Lead Teacher - Sara Banegas is a sophomore at Arizona State University majoring in secondary education. Sara wants to continue her education by going to graduate school. She is active in ASU UU campus ministry and a part of Kappa Delta Chi multicultural sorority. She hopes to have a classroom of her own some day. Sara has been attending the UUCP ever since she was a baby. The thing she loves most about being a part of this community is all the friends she met in Sunday school that continue to be big influences in her life.

7th-8th Grade Lead Teacher - Hi all! My name is Hannah Roberts, and I'm a born and raised UU. I grew up in Racine, Wisconsin but I moved to Tempe two years ago to attend ASU, where I'm now in my junior year majoring in English Literature and minoring in Nonprofit Administration. When I'm not in school or at UUCP, I like to explore nature, have dance parties, and watch my favorite sport -- professional cycling. This is my third year teaching RE at UUCP, and I can't wait for another great year!

YRUU OFF TO A GREAT START BY VAN LOCKWOOD
YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) has gotten off to a great start already this year. This weekend, YRUU had its annual lock-in to kick off the year. It was full of fun activities, such as improv games to begin the night, to an amazing opening worship showcasing the great talent of two of the YRUUers. YRUU also made its covenant on Saturday night, so things are already falling into place relating to the calendar of YRUU. The first district-wide conference for youth is taking place this October from the 23rd to the 25th and all of the youth from UUCP are brimming

with anticipation. This was an intense bonding session that involved very little sleep and lots of excitement. YRUU is extremely excited to have such an amazing youth group and wonderful advisors, and to see what this year has to bring.

Adult Religious Education

Ministry News

The new congregation year has started. ARE members are inspired and happy to be discovering new opportunities to realize our goals in 2009 and 2010.

Two of our priorities this year are to "Coordinate and cross-pollinate efforts with other UUCP groups by combining two activities and one on-going project", and to "Find three ways to increase the number of interactions with the general UUCP membership".

On October 11, the Sunday service will be a coordinated effort between Sunday Service Committee, Green Sanctuary Committee and ARE. The theme will be food. Some content will be from the movie "Food, Inc.," some will be about Buddhist mindfulness of eating, and some will be about the Seventh UU Principle of respecting the infinite web of existence of which we are all a part. Five or six speakers from the various committees will speak briefly, and the congregation will be invited to participate in parts of the service that will include special readings and music.

Our interactions with the general membership occur weekly and daily and are focused at the Book Table each Sunday at the back of the sanctuary. There you can find UUA books, books of general interest and current controversy, along with announcements and sign-up sheets for activities and classes.

Ministry and Committee Reports...

It is a pleasure to be part of the energetic growth and bright changes at UUCP in the new year.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you!

In faith,
Terry Simmons
Chair, ARE

SPOTLIGHT ON ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jay Alagia - Jay is our "happy hour" committee member! He has graciously taught many courses at the UUCP, including meditation, Hinduism, Buddhism, and, most recently, the Bhagavad-Gita (see article below). Jay was born & raised a Hindu in India before immigrating to USA in 1958. After a career in Structural Engineering, he retired in 1994 and started teaching at the UUCP in the fall of 1999.

Lois Leader - Lois has been a member of the ARE Committee for longer than I have been the DRE, which is seven years! She frequently entertains the committee with her stories of being an "anthropologist" teaching at a conservative Christian high school. She describes herself as vertically challenged INTJ. Into math, mountain biking and messing about with dogs. Married with two twenty-something children. Thought my way out of Calvinist Christianity and found refuge at UUCP in the late 90's.

OCTOBER ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COURSE: QUESTIONS FOR THE RELIGIOUS JOURNEY

Unitarian Universalist minister George Kimmich Beach offers us four questions for the religious journey. The first question is an effort to expand our

awareness: what does it mean to be religious, what beauty or excellence attracts our attention? The second question seeks to increase our understanding: why does the idea and the experience of God persist in an age of science, what intelligible meaning does this reality hold? The third question is one of judgment and decision-making: what validates moral values and rescues us from being either moralistic or relativistic? The final question inquires into responsible religious action: are religious communities a help or a hindrance to spiritual life, what commitments and actions follow from our awareness, understanding, and value judgment?

In this course we will create together a shared space where such questions can be considered intimately and authentically. We will examine each of Beach's questions in the context of our own lives and with respect to our shared religious community. Beach's book seeks something better than the alternatives of mindless skepticism or cynical skepticism and is addressed to people "who want an intellectually honest and deeply felt religious faith." I am excited by the potential this course presents to us and hope you'll join me on what I hope will be a quiet, thrilling four-week journey together.

This class meets Sundays at 9 AM 10/4—10/25 in Room 9 and is facilitated by David Johnson.

INSIGHT INTO THE BHAGAVAD-GITA BY JAY ALAGIA

(Note: Jay Alagia and Terry Simmons facilitated learning the psychology of Bahagavad Gita last fall.

About 20 persons participated. This fall is the second phase, the practice of meditation. See compass or call Jay for the information. Here is the summary of the fall class of 2008

teachings.)

A person is by nature an active-passionate (rajas), good -pure-contemplative (sattvas), or mellow-laid back-easy going (tamas) person and secondarily one or the other two. (In Hinduism it is not 'this or that' but 'this and that'.) The mix changes during the life and even during a day. Ideally, a person should have his/her nature (body and mind) under control of his/her discriminating intelligence and will (soul). The nature then will be of a right mix at the right time. Such an integrated mortal person is called Yogi. That Person then may proceed to become integrated with the Universe (Self-realization). The means and goals are called Yoga. Gita talks about all this in a dialogue between Krishna, a Yogi-God incarnate, and Arjuna, his brother-in-law.

The Bhagavad-Gita, a 700-line chapter in the 200,000 line epic song of Mahabharata uses a situation for revealing how to solve a common problem of our nonintegrated active life. Our nature and circumstances may put us in a situation when the course of action we have chosen due to our rajas nature seems totally wrong and/or evil to our soul. The soul tells us that no matter what we do, continue on course or quit, the fruit of our action will be disastrous. Gita tells us that if we are practitioners of Karma Yoga, we will be integrated and we will not be in such a situation. It then proceeds to describe primarily the Karma Yoga and secondarily, other Yoga (wisdom, meditation and devotion). All or some of these three need to be practiced as well.

For most active persons, Karma Yoga, the yoga of activity is appropriate. The practice here consists of self-control and self-sacrifice, while living as a householder. Self-control is developed by willfully controlling passion and

Services...

indulgence of senses. Unified strong will is developed by gaining clear understanding (or wisdom), removing doubts, and through meditation and/or loving devotion.

A person practices self-sacrifice by developing detachment from the fruits of action. A person practices detachment by either doing work for work's sake (not thinking about the fruits of action), OR renouncing the fruits, OR dedicating the fruits of action to God. Many spiritual practices such as anonymous charity and volunteer service help develop self-sacrifice and self-control. Such way of life will help integrate a person. Gita tells us that even a small effort here results in big rewards even if it is not practiced to perfection. No work is pure and perfect in this world and no such effort is wasted. A Yogi develops skill in action and evenness of temper.

Celebrations of Life

9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

OCTOBER 4: WHEN A HOUSE BECOMES A HOME

Service Leader: Susan Frederick-Gray
A house is where people live. A home is where people are nurtured, where they are challenged and encouraged to grow. A house is made of walls and a roof. A home is made of love and the stories of struggle and triumph that make a family.

OCTOBER 11: FOOD

Service Leader: Terry Simmons
Six UUCP members from the Adult Religious Education, Green Sanctuary and Sunday Service committees make an appealing presentation on the many dimensions of eating. From social issues to cultural awareness to mindful-

ness to health, our members have researched and worked hard to deliver an appetizing menu of information and music.

OCTOBER 18: DOES GOD MAKE MISTAKES?

Service Leaders: Revs. Susan Frederick-Gray and Paul Langston-Daley, Minister of West Valley UU Church
We will close our weekend-long Transform Arizona conference with a theological conversation about how we think about gender and creation. This is an opportunity to challenge our stereotypes and assumptions and reflect theologically on what it means to Stand on the Side of Love.

OCTOBER 25: THE MIRACLE IN THE MUNDANE: THE SUPER IN THE NATURAL

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Do you believe in miracles? When Thomas Jefferson compiled the "Jefferson Bible" he removed all the miracle stories, all the stories of the supernatural. Yet, something inside many of us is still moved to awe by the natural world, the extraordinary gifts of life itself. And that is something to celebrate.

Soulful Sundown

First Fridays

Band Rehearses at 6 PM

Service Starts 7 PM

Soulful Sundown service is an evening gathering of music that moves you. This year the theme of the services will be "Sharing our Stories." We'll hear from our own members and we will have a chance to hear from YOU! Come and bring your stories.

October 2: Unitarian Universalism in America

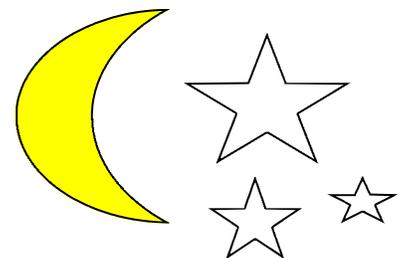
November 6: Tony Banegas shares his story of Honduras

December 4: Ernie Garcia and Paula Kulina share their stories of Transylvania

Stay tuned for February, March, April, & May topics.

We hope you are already saving the date for Cabaret – February 27, 2010.

Connie Jahrmarkt
Credentialed Music Leader



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

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

Our Mission

Our religious community aspires to:

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

-Adopted February 1999



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix
4027 East Lincoln Drive
Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253-3946
www.phoenixuu.org