



*A Welcoming Congregation*

## Minister's Musings

"Are we there yet?" My four-year-old son has just begun to say this when we are in the car. I remember the days when I and my brother and sister would barrage my parents with this question on our long car rides for vacation or to visit family. Our asking began with sincerity, but as we grew older, we used it just to pester Mom and Dad, a way to shift our focus from pestering one another as we sat three across in the back of my dad's Buick.

The month of May can feel a bit like the last hour of a day's drive. Everyone is antsy to arrive, to get out of the car, to stretch, to get some space, to relax. There was a time in my life when I argued that for a long car ride, the closer you got to your destination,

the quicker you should be allowed to drive. Motherhood and adulthood have change my perspective on the rules of the road, but there is no denying that sometimes the last 50 miles of a road trip, or the last few weeks of school, or the last few weeks before summer vacation seem to take the longest. In the congregation, they can feel like a race to the finish line, with a lot to be done to close out the fiscal year and plan for the next all before people start heading out for vacation in droves. Summer is almost here. For some of you, it is already here. Schools are out for the summer. For others, there are a few more things to do before a break. And for some, despite the heat, and the long, slow days of summer, work will continue, without much break.

This year in the congregation has been full. We held a successful Combined Stewardship and Capital campaign to support next year's ministry and long-term improvements to our building. We continued renovation work on our campus, including fire and safety upgrades and energy-efficiency upgrades with the new doors and windows in the annex. We developed a new mission and approved it. We've invited Unitarian Universalists from around the country, including the president of our national

association, Rev. Peter Morales, to witness with us for human rights and to push for federal action on Comprehensive Immigration Reform. And all of this in addition to the ongoing work of our religious education, social justice and worship life. It has indeed been a vital and productive year.

"Are we there yet?" Yes, we are coming to the quieter time in our congregational year—the summer months. Yet, there is another lesson that we learn as we grow up and grow older—that arrivals are often temporary, and the real gifts come as part of the journey. Next year, as a congregation we will be looking thoughtfully at our mission and asking ourselves, "How do we achieve this?" That will be the basis of a strategic plan, a map to lead us for the next three to five years. "Are we there yet?" Not yet. The "there" we can talk about for our congregation might be a deepened sense of community, a growth in spirit. But as with any vision, any dream, to arrive is to see again the next path open up before us. I am grateful for the paths we have already trod together and the ones we are just now beginning to forge.

Yours in gratitude for this ministry we share,

Susan

### ***In this issue...***

Minister's Musings...	1
From the Staff...	2-3
Ministry and Committee Reports...	4-6
Services...	7

## From the Board

In last month's column, I described the board's work in transitioning to policy-based governance (PBG) over the past year. As noted last month, the transition to policy-based governance is not done. This month, I would like to look forward to the upcoming year and the next steps in the transition to PBG.

First, the board will be formalizing a policy for oversight and monitoring of UUCP's progress in realizing its Mission, which will likely be completed relatively quickly. Second, the board will be drafting a strategic plan for the next three to five years, which will likely take significantly more time.

Our first strategic plan has served us well since 2007, but UUCP has evolved to a larger community with increased capabilities and capacity to accomplish its mission. Many of the objectives in our current strategic plan have been accomplished or exceeded, while changing circumstances have rendered other objectives ineffective or obsolete.

For all of these reasons, the crafting of a new strategic plan is appropriate. While board members will continue to meet in a governance working group in the coming year, that work will be preliminary to conversations with members and friends in creating the new strategic plan. That is, members and friends will be asked to share in conversations about objectives and measures to include in a new strategic plan so that the plan is useful, forward-looking, ambitious, but achievable in accomplishing UUCP's Mission.

The creation of a new strategic plan will serve as a roadmap for the next few years, like mile markers on a jour-

ney. We look forward to listening to members and friends in creating this new strategic plan in the coming year in order to realize the momentum in our community to transform one another and the broader world. May it be so.

Respectfully,  
Sarah Carlson, Past President

## Best Foot Forward

I write this amidst bags and boxes as Gary and I prepare to close the sale on our Illinois condo. While Arizona and UUCP feel more and more like home to me, the vulnerability and uncertainty of being new to a place are still fresh in my mind. Moving from one place to another, from one home to another, happens for many reasons—reasons accompanied by a wide range of emotions. Even when optimism and enthusiasm are among those feelings, people new to a place are a little off-kilter with the unfamiliar. They seek a feeling of home and a sense of belonging. They look for “their” people—others who share common interests, common values, and common goals.

So it is each and every Sunday morning as people enter our doors. Someone is searching for a religious home. Someone is longing for a sense of community, hungering for a place where people will smile, look into their eyes, call them by name, challenge them, stretch them, care for them. Will UUCP become their home? Will we be “their” people? Will we welcome them to be one of us?

I raise these questions not just because I am relatively new to UUCP, not just because I am your Membership Coordinator. I raise these questions because I know that even with the current state of the economy, we can expect a lot of moves in the next few months. People tend to move over the summer. They relocate at the end of a school year and try to get settled in a new home, a new job, and maybe even a new congregation. Will we be here for them? Will we be putting our proverbial best foot forward to welcome them?

A growing church has to give up the idea that we're on vacation over the summer. Sure, we all need some time off and, sure, we have some snowbirds and reverse snowbirds in our congregation, but our commitment to welcoming is a year-round one. We have some interesting summer services lined up so I hope you'll show up! UUCP is not the building. It's the people! Someone may be looking for us this summer.

See you at Sunday services!

Namaste,  
Linda Lawrence

## Greetings from your Music Director!

I hope you have enjoyed all the music this year. Thank you to all the music makers: choir members, instrumentalists, those who run our sound system: Marshall Smart, Don Weir, Greg Holmberg, Helen Walker, Francis Wiget, Bill Mee, Tom Parker, Chris Snyder; our pianists: Lynne Haeseler and Gerry Kato. Special thanks to Bill Mee for keeping our sanctuary well lit! Thanks to Dave Cunningham for all the new speakers in the lobby, meditation garden and for the choir, and to Smoot Carl-Mitchell for helping install. And big Thank You to Charlotte Carl-Mitchell, our choir librarian.

You in the congregation are so kind in expressing your sincere appreciation for our musical offerings. You are all very welcome. You are a big part of all the music we make.

For two years our Soulful Sundown Band—Don Weir, Sandy Weir, Jerry Whalin, Bill Snowden, Richard Plattner, Richard Jahrmarkt, Russel Braman, Emily

Helton-Riley and Heidi Singer, and sometimes Kat Crabtree and Carolyn Allenby—has faithfully presented monthly vespers worship services. Next year this service will not continue as a worship service, but rather a UUCP Music Night. It will still be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month. Look in the Compass (weekly e-newsletter) for details. I am looking for people to organize these evenings. It could be a jam session, soiree, recital, or maybe something different. Please let me know of your interest.

Many Arizonans leave the valley in the summer. But many of us stay and gather in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Making music in our sanctuary can be one of your most rewarding experiences. Members, friends and newcomers: if you have talents you have not shared, it is time to come out of your musical closet. Check out the music brochure across from the Greeters' desk in the lobby and let's chat.

Thanks for everything,  
Connie J.  
[musicdirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@phoenixuu.org)

## UUCP an Empowering Congregation

The Unitarian Universalist Association has declared UUCP one of this year's Empowering Congregations, placing us among the most generous Association Sunday congregations in the country. As of March 2010, we were among the top two in our district. Proceeds from this year's Association Sunday special collection will go to ensuring that our faith thrives for generations to come. Learn more about Association Sunday at <http://www.uua.org/giving/associationsunday>.

## Children's Art Exhibit

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." —Pablo Picasso

The children's art exhibit includes the two schools on our church's campus and two schools in the greater community: The Unitarian Universalist Early Education Cooperative (UUEEC), ages 2-5 under the direction of Jane Armstrong; Desert View Learning Center, a nonprofit, independent school for children kindergarten through fourth grade, under the direction of Piya Jacob; and art teacher and church member Carla Dunlap has contributed art work from third grade students from two schools in the Cartwright Elementary School District #83. Enjoy the inspirational work that young children create!

Children's Art Committee members: Diane Mote, David Ouimette, Steven Mote, Tish Gauntt, and Carla Dunlap

---

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

---

**Audrey Hope Engelen**

**Shannon Lea Garvin**

**Daniel Raymond McNeal**

**Jennifer Goyette Raines**

**John Charles Mitchell**

## Love is the Doctrine of this Congregation . . . Children's Ministry News

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Our Children's Ministry program may slow down a bit due to summer travels, but we still have lots of sizzling good fun going on in June!

We will kick-off June with two favorite UUCP traditions - **Ice Cream Sunday on June 6<sup>th</sup>** and **Water Play Sunday on June 13<sup>th</sup>**. Led by the fabulous Karen Kurtz, children will make homemade ice cream on the playground while enjoying each other's fellowship during Ice Cream Sunday. **Parents are asked to donate toppings and paper bowls.** Karen has also volunteered to lead Water Play Sunday, where the children will splash around in small pools and play cooperative water games. **Children will begin in the sanctuary for Together Time both of these Sundays.**

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
June 20-August 29 at 10:30 a.m.  
(NO Together Time during the summer)

- The **nursery** (Room 15) will be open as usual for children 0-3 years old.
- Our children in **Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade** (approximately four through seven year olds) will be in Room 10 led by Teachers Geraldine and Briana. This

class's summer curriculum will allow children to unleash their acting and other creative skills with *Folktales that Teach Conflict Resolution*.

- Teachers Hannah and Sara will be exploring *A Kids' Guide to Hunger and Homelessness* with our **3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders** (approximately 8 through 12 year olds). We are quite excited about this new curriculum as it approaches an important social justice issue in a way that is accessible to children of this age. This class will meet in Room D.
- **7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders** will be busily working on their Coming of Age internal service hours by volunteering to assist in the other three Sunday school classes. The Coming of Age teachers will begin leading team-building activities in anticipation of the Coming of Age program in August. Please contact Kim at [redirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:redirector@phoenixuu.org) if you have a 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grader in your life who would be interested in participating in our UU version of confirmation or bar/bat mitzvah.
- **YRUU (senior high group)** will be meet on alternating Sundays in Room C. Contact James, Jaynn and Sarah at [yruu@phoenixuu.org](mailto:yruu@phoenixuu.org) for specific meeting dates.

Want to try a no-obligation stint as a Sunday school assistant? Awesome! We need volunteers to assist during the summer. Contact Kim at [redirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:redirector@phoenixuu.org) for more information.

## To Seek Knowledge in Freedom . . . Adult Religious Education Ministry

Catch Up on Your UU Reading  
this Summer!

The Adult Religious Education program will continue to offer books and other items for sale at the Book Table in the back of the sanctuary throughout the summer. We have a wonderful array of books by UU luminaries such as Rev. Forrest Church, Rev. Rebecca Ann Parker, and many others who explore in-depth our UU faith and how to apply it to our daily living. Additionally, the Book Discussion Group will meet throughout the summer at 9 a.m. in Room 9. Contact Terry Simmons at [tnsimmons@cox.net](mailto:tnsimmons@cox.net).

## From the Finance Committee

As summer approaches, the committee thanks the congregation for their continuing contributions to date and reminds everyone that the current pledges are due by June 30. While we are still on track for a balanced budget, the pledge income represents a significant portion of our income and ending the fiscal year with a balanced budget requires receipt of all pledges for the current year.

The budget process for next year has been exciting with the combined Stewardship and Capital campaigns. The staff and finance committee continue to review the budget needs for the coming year, with the goal of matching the ex-

## Ministry and Committee Reports...

penses with the pledge income to have another balanced budget for the coming year.

If you have questions about your pledges please contact Heidi Parmenter at the office between 9 am and 3 pm Monday through Thursday (602-840-8400) or send an email to [administrator@phoenixuu.org](mailto:administrator@phoenixuu.org).

Jim Allen, Chair

### Unicare

The wheel of life spins with deaths and births, memorials and celebrations. This month we remember Flynn Kelly, 81, who died on May 1<sup>st</sup>. He and his wife Jeanne, who preceded him in death, were longtime members of this Congregation. Flynn was a World War II veteran who retired from the Air Force after 25 years. He was a gentle man, intelligent and kind. To those who were privileged to know Flynn well, he displayed a delightful Irish wit worthy of the name Kelly!

We remember Bill Bagwell, our Congregation's choir director in the 1960s and '70s, and longtime UUCP member, who passed away April 21<sup>st</sup>. He was the principal violist for the Phoenix Symphony for 25 years and taught at three area high schools. Bill and his wife of 69 years, Mary, recently moved from Phoenix to be near their daughter and her family, where Mary still lives.

The friends of Bob Riddle are sad to have lost their good friend to cancer on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. He was a kind and gentle person whose presence will be sorely missed. Bob joined our congregation in January 2007.

Our comforting hugs go to Loretta

Isaac, who lost her mother after a severe stroke. Loretta was by her mom's side to comfort and love her.

More hugs to our pianist, Lynn Hae-seler, who flew across the country to be by the bedside of her dear friend who was on life support. Lynn, may each of us be blessed to have a friend like you.

Our best encouraging words go out to Jill and Brian Quick. Jill is recovering from a knee replacement and Brian from shoulder surgery. We hope that both of you are out and about sooner than you think!!

Congratulations are in order as Gretchen and Ray Manker celebrate the wedding of their granddaughter Katie to her partner Jennifer, which took place on May 1<sup>st</sup>, with grandfather Ray and uncle David leading the ceremony.

And, of course, a bridal bouquet to Barbara Voth and Richard DeWitt who were married on May 15<sup>th</sup>. It has been a roller coaster year for Barbara so we are very happy for this high.

The Unicare committee encourages and assists those in our Congregation who are facing life's challenges or celebrating life's joys.

Julie Smart, Chair

### Immigration Task Force

The Immigration Task Force is working to promote the passage of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level which aligns with Unitarian Universal-

ist values. We are also active in working towards the repeal of recently passed Arizona laws adversely affecting undocumented immigrant families. Several events towards this effort have recently been participated in by UUCP and we anticipate more to come. We are partnering with local and national groups to solve the immigration issue, which affects Arizona and the United States in numerous ways. Thanks to all who have called the attention of Congress, Arizona leaders and the public to these issues and please keep the pressure going! A congregation project expanding upon these efforts is planned to start this year. We will continue to keep the congregation informed and engaged in pursuit of reform. The Task Force is chaired by Bill Lace and he can be contacted at [bill.lace@gmail.com](mailto:bill.lace@gmail.com).

### Creation of Clothes for Children of Haiti and Africa

UU Juanita Guidry Copeland is asking for donations of any size of either pillowcases for making dresses and/or tee shirts for making pants for the children of Haiti and Africa. Also needed are any size elastic and ribbon, as well as thread or other items that can be used for creating these garments.

If you are interested in participating in a sewing Saturday, please email Juanita at [user536444@aol.com](mailto:user536444@aol.com) or she can be reached at 623-385-6898. Your skills are needed even if you cannot operate a sewing machine in order to organize the process, to

lace the ribbon and elastic through and to help with other miscellaneous tasks.

There is a possibility that Juanita will accompany her cousin and jazz guitarist, Stanley Jordan, to Haiti where he is trying to arrange a performance to thank those who are working on the cleanup and reconstruction after the horrendous earthquake. If this happens, there is the opportunity to take the minimum of 100 each of the dresses and pants and give them directly to the Haitian children.

Contributions can be placed in the boxes in the entryway at UUCP that are labeled. If you have questions, suggestions and/or comments, contact Juanita directly.

## Calling All Artists: Announcing UUCP's Members and Friends Art Exhibit

Two years have passed since we last displayed the work of the many talented members of our congregation and because our membership has increased dramatically during that time, we hope to see new members participating along with others who have new work to show.

*Important Details:* The exhibit will be hung on Saturday, August 28 starting at 9:00 AM and will be taken down on Saturday, December 5, 2010. We usually finish the hanging around noon, but don't wait that late to bring your work. If you plan on participating or have questions, contact Sanctuary

Team Co-chairs Joan Roberts ([azjoanr@aol.com](mailto:azjoanr@aol.com)) or Jan Wise ([drjanmwise@aol.com](mailto:drjanmwise@aol.com)). All artists must complete an "Artist Agreement" as well as a list of all works to be exhibited. This may be filled out in advance of the hanging date or onsite on August 28.

All work must be suitable for hanging on the wall (we wish we could accommodate three-dimensional works such as pottery and sculpture, but we can't). Artwork must be framed, mounted or otherwise prepared for hanging with wire, hooks, etc. *We do not* prepare work for hanging. Large, heavy pictures must be covered by plexiglass rather than glass.

For those whose work has been shown previously at UUCP, please bring new works or works that have not been seen at UUCP before. If in doubt, check with Joan or Jan.

Artists must prepare labels for their own works. Each label should not be larger than 3" x 5", but may be smaller. The following information should be placed on each label: \*Name of Artist, Name of Work, Media, Price or NFS\*. UUCP assesses a commission of 25% on all works sold.

Questions? Joan Roberts 602-943-9841, Jan Wise 602-258-5762.

Let's make this Members' Exhibit the best ever!

## Eritrean Sunday

June 27, our service will focus on examining the refugee experience in honor of UUCP's friends from Eritrea who have resettled in Arizona.

Our new friends are a tiny few of the 80,000 refugees the U.S. accepts each year from around the world: places like Bhutan, which bills itself as the 'happiest place on earth' except for the many thousands who have lived in camps since being rounded up 20 years ago; Burma, where a genocidal president hunts down and murders members of the Karen tribe; Iraq and Afghanistan, where anyone working or supporting U.S. efforts is targeted by terrorists; and Africans living in despotic nations.

Approximately 1,000 come to Arizona each year, resettled by four agencies that provide English language lessons, housing, medical care, jobs and job training, school enrollment, and psychological counseling. A mother and child from Bhutan learn to open a door or ride a bus; a small group of Iraqis work together to renew medical credentials in the U.S. in hopes of working again one day as physicians.

By definition, refugees have suffered trauma, fleeing their homelands, either under vicious attack or stealing away in the dead of night. Millions live in camps, sometimes for decades, literally as prisoners. They may not venture outside camp walls or else risk disappearing forever into a foreign prison system. They cannot hold

## Services...

jobs, they cannot open businesses. New babies are designated 'stateless' on birth certificates and for the vast majority, this is the best they will ever know. Today, there are an estimated 10 million refugees worldwide.

Some months ago members of UUCP began providing English classes for Eritrean refugees. Now we also collect soaps and other

personal items that Food Stamps do not buy, and deliver gently used clothing and household goods. A new cottage industry of Eritrean arts is underway. Perhaps a summer vacation program in Flagstaff for children.

So far this year the International Rescue Committee in Arizona has resettled 535 people and another 315 are in process. The

IRC receives federal money for each person, who also receives Food Stamps for six months. It is expected they have found work by then but today is not a normal time. Nobody can find work and people face harrowing challenges.

Join us June 27<sup>th</sup> as we examine the refugee experience in a special Sunday service.

## Celebrations of Life

### Sundays 10:30 AM

#### JUNE 6 RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Service Leader: Rev. Linda Lawrence

True hospitality involves more than a smile and a handshake. During this service, UUCP's Membership Coordinator will lead us in an exploration of hospitality as a spiritual practice.

#### JUNE 13 HOW SHALL WE LIVE?

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

The world confronts us daily with tragedy. The Deepwater Horizon oil disaster is one that can overwhelm us with grief. Is there a better way to live? Is there a better way to understand our world that can help us make real change? What of our theological roots can save us now, can help lead us today?

#### JUNE 20 FATHER'S DAY REFLECTION

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

The roles for men and for fathers has been changing rapidly. Now fathers must find ways to juggle work and family and try to keep their lives in balance. In recognition and appreciation for the pressures of fatherhood in the modern life, I dedicate this service.

#### JUNE 27 SURVIVAL: A REFUGEE TALE

The Sunday Services Committee presents a look at the refugee experience worldwide, a service enriched by many special guests from the Arizona immigrant community, including personal testimonies, ethnic music and dancing.

*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: Linda Lawrence  
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 Dorothy LeWin*

## 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