This month at a glance:

5—Leadership Development Day
6—New Day Meal
6—Pathway to Membership Class
11—Traveling 2nd Friday
13—Congregational Potluck
   (Welcoming New Members & Friends)
16—Muuvie Night
20—Social Action Luncheon
26—Cabaret!

Look for more details on each of these events and opportunities throughout Horizons, as well as in Compass and Sunday announcements.

50th Anniversary Event

Fifty years ago, in March 1961, the first services were held in our new building on Lincoln Drive. We’re celebrating that special anniversary this spring during the stewardship campaign. Look for details to be announced soon.

If you have any documents, photographs or memories you’re willing to share relating to the early days of UUCP, please contact Charlotte Carl-Mitchell, ccm@tic.com, 480-922-7313.
From the Foundation...

Our Endowment: UU Foundation of Phoenix

This is the first in a series of four articles describing the UU Foundation of Phoenix, its endowment fund, and opportunities for legacy (or “planned”) giving to our congregation.

The UU Foundation of Phoenix (UUF) plays an essential role in the financial health and sustainability of our congregation. The “Foundation” is an Arizona, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) public corporation, and although a separate corporation from UUCP, it exists only in support of the congregation. The principal purpose of the Foundation is to establish and administer an endowment fund to be used primarily for longer-range church programs and major capital (building and property) improvements that could not normally be sustained through annual operating contributions.

As a UUCP member, you are also a member of UUF. A Board of Directors of the Foundation, elected by you as members of UUF, administers the affairs of the Foundation.

The Foundation typically distributes annually to UUCP an amount equal to 5% of its assets, but may also grant additional loans (with or without interest) to UUCP for major building, maintenance, or other activities of major impact to the congregation. Recent contributions have included serving as a guarantor for UUCP’s construction loan, replacing the heating and air conditioning system, and recruitment and moving costs for the minister. These activities could not have been funded when needed through the congregation’s operating budget. We are grateful to the many contributors over the years who have supported the Foundation’s endowment, either in their own wills or in memory of beloved members and friends of our congregation.

The Foundation’s assets (aside from occasional real property holdings) are divided into two funds, a general fund and a Memorial Garden Fund. The latter is used to contribute to the cost of maintaining the Memorial Garden and is funded mainly by internment fees and gifts made in memory of a specific individual. The bulk of the Foundation’s assets are invested in stock and bond mutual funds administered by Northern Trust Company.

Members are encouraged to consider the Unitarian Universalist Foundation of Phoenix in their estate planning. Future articles will describe how you can do that, and feature testimonials of those that have. For more information about planned giving, writing a will, etc., please visit “UU Foundation” on the UUCP website (http://www.phoenixuu.org/?q=node/3688), or contact Marshal Smart, UUF President.

Save the date!

Our musical extravaganza and annual UUCP fundraiser

Cabaret

Saturday, February 26, 2011

Come out and support our community at UUCP!

Tickets $10; Family $25
President’s Report

JUSTICE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2012—WHAT IS IT? WHY PHOENIX?

General Assembly (“GA”), the annual meeting of Unitarian Universalist congregations, is held each June. Locations for each GA are selected about four years in advance. At the last meeting held in Minneapolis in 2010, the delegates from each congregation voted to make the 2012 GA in Phoenix (June 20-24) a different kind of GA: a “Justice GA” that will focus on the serious social justice issues that face us now. These issues include immigration reform, LGBT rights and more. Regular denominational business will be kept to a minimum.

I’d like to share a story the UUA GA Planning Chair told us about how Phoenix was selected, several years ago, to host the GA in 2012. The site selection team had narrowed the list of candidate cities to four, and she felt, privately, that Phoenix was not even in the running. When the team arrived to tour the downtown Phoenix Civic Plaza they were greeted by dozens of employees, from janitors to facilities planners to senior managers, holding signs on the sidewalk. “Phoenix is for UU” and “We Welcome UU” were some of the slogans on the signs. The site selection team was literally overwhelmed with hospitality and felt that the convention center team had really done their homework to find out what was important to us. After the tour Phoenix became the immediate and unanimous choice for GA, and the Chair still gets choked up when she recalls how she felt seeing everyone on the sidewalk holding welcome signs.

GA PLANNING UNDERWAY

I would like to see our local UU community roll out the same kind of warm welcome to visiting UUs in 2012, the kind of welcome that won’t be forgotten. Our first opportunity to start welcoming people will be at the 2011 GA in Charlotte, NC (June 22-26). GA 2012 will have an information booth and we need volunteers to help staff it. If you are planning to go to GA 2011 and are willing to take a shift at the booth, please let me know! We need your welcoming smile.

Plans are already beginning for 2012 in Phoenix. Carolyn Saunders from Tucson has been selected as the local GA Coordinator, and as part of her commitment she will shadow the 2011 GA Coordinator this year. The first planning meetings have been held and local congregation leaders were invited to participate. UUCP was well represented by our minister, Board President and Vice President, Social Justice Coordinator, an Immigration Task Force member, and Administrator. Other Arizona congregations were also represented.

I think we all learned a great deal about the leadership structure in place to “put on” a GA. I was impressed with the honest desire of the (mostly non-local) UUA planning team members, who serve multiple years and have the benefit of multiple GA experiences, to listen to our ideas and concerns. They encouraged us to think creatively about how to make “our” GA positive and memorable. Many ideas have already been solicited and documented for how to create a Justice GA. To my knowledge we are breaking new ground with this concept so we have an opportunity to create an event that is meaningful in a new way. Since it is right here at home I hope you all consider attending and becoming involved.

Speaking of becoming involved….GA operates with the help of a couple hundred volunteers. Most of them come from the local congregations. Our congregation makes up about a third of the local UU membership so our share of the 2012 volunteer pool will likely be large. Volunteers will be needed for all kinds of tasks, like welcoming arriving participants at the airport, giving directions to restaurants, providing home hospitality, etc. It’s not too early to start thinking about how you’d like to be involved. The actual call for volunteers will come after July, so be on the lookout for more communication from the planning committee later in the summer.

GA 2012 is for UU!

Paula Kulina
Board President
It has been a very difficult time for us as Arizonans and Americans. Many things have brought a feeling of uncertainty and fear to our lives. The economy has been a big part of this. The immigration debate and the movement for human rights in Arizona has been a part of it. The tragic shooting in Tucson created an additional level of grief, anxiety and fear to our already uncertain circumstances. In this time, what I have been praying for, reaching for and looking for is grace. Below is an excerpt from my recent sermon on grace.

“Grace is defined as a gift, an unearned blessing, a blessing we receive that we do not deserve, cannot ask for, and have not earned. … The word grace carries a gentle tone. We speak of grace to describe elegance like the way a dancer moves. Commonly, it is the word we use to talk about how everything works out, how people brought through dark times survive, how people are saved. However, even as one might claim to have been saved by grace, we are rarely aware of the presence of that grace in our darkest moments. Only later when we can tell the whole story do we see how people, events, gifts made a difference and helped us through. So I wonder whether grace surrounds us all the time, even when we do not see it. This would mean it is there even when the waters are not smooth, and all is decidedly not all right, and we are not through the storm. It means grace is right there when we are afraid, when we are lost, confused, uncertain, even frustrated.

Presbyterian minister and author Frederick Beuchner defines grace this way: ‘Listen to your life. In the boredom and the pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.’

Life is grace—in its struggle and pain as much as in its excitement and joy. Rather than look to the supernatural, grace can be perfectly natural—the hand that reaches out to us in our time of need, the stranger who welcomes us and reminds us of the good that is also a part of life. Perhaps grace surrounds us all the time, in the good will and good work that is being done by people everywhere, much that we do not even see. The good will and good work of people all over who in the midst of the turmoil and pain, tirelessly, keep hope and blessing alive in our world. Perhaps it resides in that inexplicable hope that does not allow us to fall into fear or despair, but keeps us dedicated to the meaning and the work of our lives.

May grace meet us in every moment. May we be actors in the grace of the world.”

Love,
Susan

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

Lorry A. Blanksma
Thomas Richards Fritts
Warren Hastings
Audrey Ames Kaslo
Franklin Anthony Klumpe
Marjorie Spear Klumpe
Dorothy Pollack
Everett Eller Warner
Margaret Gillespie Harding
Greetings from your Music Director!

I am so very glad to be back in the sun after 46 hours on two trains and a bus, 4.5 hours on a plane and eleven days in Ohio at 17 degrees some days and snow most of the time, both outside and on TV.

The midwest by train: I knew the grain elevators were structures that dwarf most city skylines, but actually seeing them so close to the tracks was a revelation. Our country feeds so many people.

I witnessed 800 law enforcement vehicles in procession, for the funeral of a small township deputy, killed in the line of duty; and returned to Arizona’s own tragedy. I experienced the hug that could not wait before getting in the door, from my father, soon to be 83. He still goes to work, with his son, at the business he built with his father-in-law many years ago. I felt the joy of being with babies newly born only this year.

So I’m happy to be back among you all. I just wanted to hug everyone I saw on January 9th. Thanks for being here. Thank you for your gifts, whatever you do to support the congregation: our mission, our facility, and our staff.

See you at Cabaret! (February 26.)

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML

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MC Memo

PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

If you read this newsletter before February 6, you may still have a chance to participate in the Pathway to Membership series scheduled for Sunday, February 6, 9:00-10:30 AM and Sunday, February 13, 6:00-8:30 PM. This is a social and informational series for those considering membership in our congregation. Please contact Linda Lawrence at membershipcoordinator@phoenixuu.org with questions or to register and request free childcare.

CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK

The Membership and Membership Engagement Committees invite you to attend a potluck to welcome prospective members. It will be held on Sunday, February 13, at 6:00 PM. We have good food and a great time, and it’s always inspiring to stay for the Joining Ceremony afterwards to hear the new members’ stories.

Depending upon the number of people who attend, we will set up tables for the potluck in the Johnson Room or the sanctuary so—if you want a seat please register in advance! You can register at the following link: http://doodle.com/yvd4658v49plzd9 or by contacting Linda Lawrence at 815-218-3148 or membershipcoordinator@phoenixuu.org. Hope to see you there!

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Justice News

What a busy month January has been! Thanks to all of you hardworking volunteers who make this congregation run so well. Thanks also to the dedicated staff who often works overtime, especially at the holiday season.

We are wrapping up January with the trials of the UU Clergy and lay people who were arrested on Day of Non Compliance, July 29, 2010 in downtown Phoenix.

The group that was arrested at the Jail are in various stages of trial or dismissal. We will keep you posted as there is news to report.

The group that has become known as the “Wells Fargo UUs” have trials dates for January 20, 21, 27 and 28 at 300 W. Washington Street in Phoenix. Members of UUCP, Valley UU and Puente have come out to stand in support of our courageous activists.

As Horizons goes to print, I am thinking ahead to our upcoming “Weekend of Love” to celebrate “National Standing on the Side of Love Day” on February 14, 2011. We have a weekend of events lined up that are examples of “Courageous Love” the theme of the weekend, including:

Feb 12, 6:00 PM—“Dancing on the Side of Love” at Valley UU in Chandler: welcoming all BGLTQ people and allies, in collaboration with UUCP. Donation at the door. Proceeds to benefit Southern Poverty Law Center’s anti-bullying campaign. Contact SPLC for a free copy of “Bullied.”
Feb 13—Clothing drive for Chrysalis battered women’s shelter: the mission of Chrysalis is to lead our community to broad-based solutions to prevent domestic abuse. Donate at Sunday service.

Feb 13—Food drive for Interfaith Cooperative Ministries: dry and canned goods, including baby formula, please. Donate at Sunday service.

Feb 13—Fur the Love of Love! pet food drive for local dog and cat rescue groups.

Feb 13—Celebration of Life Service “Courageous Love” by the YRUU group: find out how our young people are experiencing and often creating Courageous Love in our world.

We have so much to celebrate and to be hopeful for. The Standing on the Side of Love campaign really reaches a wide diversity of people. How nice that our neighboring Valley UU Church has such an active Standing on the Side of Love presence in the Phoenix area. I want to thank Jim Graham who first brought the idea of a collaborative dance to my attention this past fall. Creating “Welcoming” safe spaces for BGLTQ people is a very important community ministry. Thanks Jim!

As a member of the Board of Directors of Interweave Continental it is my hope that more UU Congregations will work to create welcoming spaces wherever we can. I will be discussing this topic at National Gay & Lesbian Task Force “Creating Change” conference this Feb 2-6 in Minneapolis, MN. Our Interweave Continental workshop: “Countering Religious Bullying & Spiritual Abuse of BGLTQ Youth” was selected for presentation at both Creating Change and the UUA General Assembly 2011 in Charlotte, NC.

Every Sunday that I attend service I see the impact that your “Welcome” has on total strangers as well as members. It is in this way, one person at time, one smile, one gesture of genuine human kindness, that together, we can change the world.

Namaste’

In the spirit of love,
Sun

Adult Faith Development

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM’S THEOLOGICAL EVOLUTION FROM 1800 TO 2000: AN ADULT CLASS OFFERED IN MARCH AND APRIL

In 2011, UUCP will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the building of its sacred space on Lincoln Drive. Our building rose on open Arizona desert, it rests on foundational principles that go back more than two hundred years to New England. Our UU traditions began as heretical variants of Christianity and have evolved into a broadly inclusive faith that draws from a multitude of revelations. This class explores those changes by focusing on contributions of six influential leaders.

Beginning this March, we will start by exploring the times, experiences, and works of three seminal figures of the early 1800s: Hosea Ballou, a founder of American Universalism, William Ellery Channing, who defined American Unitarianism, and Margaret Fuller, the mother of the Transcendentalist movement. Their innovative leadership in those early years created movements that influence who we are today. But do they hold more than historical interest? Are their words and insights still relevant? Our times are different, but our faith still challenges the prevailing culture with a blend of reason, love, and the transcendent. We have a history that is worth knowing.

The theological movements evolved, and so we will continue by exploring contributions of three leaders from our own era. James
Luther Adams entered college as a “raging humanist” and became a major religious educator in the mid-1900s. Adams insisted that the language of the liberal free church must be richly flexible, not doctrinaire. “People can die,” he often said, “from hardening of the categories.”

Forrest Church, known to many of us as the co-author of our book table favorite “A Chosen Faith,” called us to a sense of awe and humility. “If our religion doesn’t inspire in us a humble affection for one another and a profound sense of awe at the wonder of being, one of two things has happened. It has failed us, or we it.”

William Schulz, past president of both the Unitarian Universalist Association and Amnesty International, writes from a deep understanding of the human capacity for evil and for resilient spirit.

“The first thing we need to do is to understand that religion is not a pastime but a discipline; not an amusement but a craft. ... Unitarian Universalism is not fundamentally about creedlessness; it is not fundamentally about believing whatever you want; it is not fundamentally about the liberty of the individual... It is rather an opportunity to pursue ultimate religious questions within a context which respects mystery and is open to a multitude of revelations.”

1961 marked a new beginning for our congregation and, coincidentally, the merger of two traditions to form the Unitarian Universalist Association. We will explore how UUism has changed for six Sundays beginning March 20 and running through April 24. The class will start at 9:00 AM and be held in Annex B. The cost is $10. Pre-registration is encouraged by emailing redirector@phoenixuu.org or signing up at the book table; a minimum of six participants is required.

Facilitated by Gary Ezell and Lillian Habeich

THE (NOT NECESSARILY SO) NEW UU

Thursdays, Feb. 10, 17, 24
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Facilitator: Victoria Capon

Participants are invited to bring finger foods to share as part of this community-building series. Don’t let the dryness of the workshop titles dissuade you from participation in the juicy conversations sure to occur!

Session 1: Theology and Worship – Among other things, we will explore Dr. Forrest Church’s cathedral metaphor for Unitarian Universalist theology and talk about UU approaches to traditional theological constructs.

Session 2: Where Do We Come From? Unitarian Universalist Roots – We will get to know some famous UUs and take a look at the broad sweep of UU history, including the theological shifts that have occurred in Unitarian Universalism over time.

Session 3: How We Grow in Faith/Philosophy of Religious Education – This session lets us take a look at formative religious stories and the importance of narrative in faith development as well as gain insights into our own religious and spiritual inspiration.

Note that Sessions 4-6 will be offered April 14, 21, and 28. You can attend all six sessions for $10 (or with your UUCP Pass) but you must register separately for each three-session block. Please register in advance to ensure that sufficient materials are available for the first class. If you need childcare (free), you must let us know the number and ages of your children WHEN YOU REGISTER! Please register for Sessions 1-3 by contacting Victoria Capon at redirector@phoenixuu.org or by calling the UUCP office at 602-840-8400.

BULLIED: MUUVIE NIGHT

On Friday, March 4, 2011, UUCP's Interweave Committee along with UUCP's monthly MUUVie Night will be co-hosting the documentary-drama film Bullied, which addresses one of our most urgent issues today.

Bullied is the story of Jamie Nabozny who was a victim of school bullying that went too far. In fear for his life, Jamie and his story portray the desperation and flight for life many of our young people face while trying to pursue their lives and schooling. Bullied is frank, compelling, and deeply rewarding. It is a must for everyone in the LGBTQI and allies communities, educators, youth groups, counselors, law enforcement, and the like. There will be a panel discussion
Ministry and Committee Reports...

immediately following the film. Audience members are invited to participate.

_Bullied_ will be shown in the Sanctuary at UUCP at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge to view the film, and there will be snacks and beverages available at nominal charge.

We are deeply grateful to Southern Poverty Law Center for providing UUCP with this film.

**Update from the Renovation Committee**

The work of the Renovation Committee addresses the technical aspects of the restroom core project that is the target of the recently completed Capital Campaign. The Committee usually meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM in Annex B at UUCP. The next meeting will be on February 3, 2011. All UUCP members and friends who are interested in the project are welcome to attend.

The final design tasks for the restroom core and sewer connection are complete. Doug Sydnor, the UUCP architect, worked with the civil, electrical, and mechanical engineers to produce the final construction drawings. Bill Sweeney of Copper Desert Enterprises L.L.C., our Owner’s Representative, reviewed the drawings and judged them to be ready for bid. The building permit request was filed with the Town of Paradise Valley.

Robert Porter Construction, the UUCP General Contractor, is obtaining competitive quotations for the construction tasks. They use an ‘Open Bid’ process where a minimum of three prequalified subcontractors submits bids on each major trade. Bill Sweeney and members of the UUCP staff and Renovation Committee will review the bids as they are received.

Robert Porter Construction also performs a value engineering review of the drawings. They will identify opportunities for minor changes that will reduce construction costs. These changes will be presented to Doug Sydnor and UUCP for review and approval.

Details of the project may be found on the UUCP website at the “UUCP Renovation” tab. Please feel free to contact the Renovation Committee at renovation@phoenixuu.org if you have any questions.

Don Weir
Chair, 2010-11 Renovation Committee

**Covenant Groups at UUCP**

Covenant groups provide a structure for members to minister to each other. Groups consist of 6-10 people and are led by trained lay people. Members meet twice a month initially, for a total of 5 months. Covenant groups encourage people in their spiritual growth and help them develop relationships of substance and depth. Registration for Covenant Groups is ongoing. Please contact Natalie Summit at covenant-groups@phoenixuu.org for more information.

**Share the Plate Recipient for February**

Once each month UUCP donates all undesignated Sunday collections to charity through our Share the Plate program. Nominations can be made by UUCP members and an application is available online at the UUCP website or upon request from a committee member. Committee members evaluate applications based on alignment with UU values, level of involvement of UUCP members, and potential financial impact.

The selected recipient for this month is Booker T. Washington Child Development Center, which will receive undesignated collections on Sunday, February 20.

Booker T. Washington Child Development Center is one of the City of Phoenix’s original Head Start programs, serving children ages 3-5. Now in its 42nd year, Booker T. Washington serves 192 low-income children and their families, who live within the boundaries of the Phoenix Elementary School District 1, the Eastlake Park and Garfield Neighborhoods. There are limited licensed Early Childhood Education facilities in these inner-city neighborhoods. Booker T. Washington has, and continues to be, one of
the few early childhood education resources available to families in this area.

The Booker T. Washington Child Development Program, in central Phoenix between 15th and 16th Streets on East Adams, was assisted by a loan from our congregation when it began 42 years ago. Support has continued through the congregation’s contributions. Individuals from our congregation are now board members and volunteers in a library program, literacy and family programs and provide in-kind and financial support of the program.

There is much yet to do with the families and children of this inner-city neighborhood and the Booker T. Washington Head Start Program. What used to be an African American community is now largely Hispanic. Unfortunately, we are now in a time of challenge to immigrants when special efforts are necessary to protect some of the children who are enrolled in this Head Start program, as well as their parents. Please give to continue UUCP support for this valuable education program.

If you would like to know more about the Share the Plate program please see the UUCP website or contact a member of the Share the Plate Committee: Carolyn Allenby, Larry Thwing or Judy Lambert.

Women’s Spirituality Circle

The next meeting of the Women’s Spirituality Circle will be on Monday, February 21 at 6:30 in annex B. Open to all women on a spiritual journey in an atmosphere of warmth and friendship.

Social Action Luncheon

The February Social Action Luncheon will be on Sunday the 20th and features speaker Leila Pine of UU Church of Tucson and the No More Deaths project. No More Deaths is a long-running multi-faith effort to prevent the deaths of migrants along the Mexico-Arizona border. UU Church of Tucson has been leading the project since 2008. Please join us at 12:30 in the Johnson Room.

UU Service Committee

UUSC leads no caravans to the promised land—but we are a lot closer to a vision of justice in the world today thanks to its thousands of members. Are you one of them? If you have not joined this 60-year-old UU human rights organization, or if your membership has expired, I urge you to go to www.uusc.org or stop by the Social Action table for a membership application. Be the change you wish to see in the world.

Heather McLellan
UUSC representative

The UUEEC is ringing in the New Year with a new Early Education Director. Her name is KellyAnn Bonnell, and she joins us with more than twenty years of experience in the fields of Early Education and Out-of-School Time. KellyAnn is a long time resident of the valley currently living in North Phoenix with her husband Jon and their two children, Andrew (16) and Lorna (11).

KellyAnn arrives just in time to plan the budget for next year and launch the enrollment campaign for the 2011-2012 academic year. If you have a child between the ages of 2-4 by September 1, 2011 you might consider exploring the UUEEC as your option for a high-quality preschool experience. You can email KellyAnn at eedirector@phoenixuu.org or call UUEEC at 602-840-0746.

Also joining the UUEEC in January is our new Pre-K teacher, Kristen Flangos. Kristen is an early childhood professional with a strong background in developmentally appropriate practices. She comes to us by way of the Paradise Valley Co-op which thrills us because she does things “our way.” Kristen has two children, Ashlyn (9) and Ryan (5).
West Valley UU Fundraisers

WVUU is hosting two coffee houses this winter as a fundraiser. The evening will begin with 20 minutes of our own UU talent followed by an hour of music by our featured performer. WVUU is located at 5904 W. Cholla St. in Glendale at the NW corner of Cholla and 59th Ave.

On Saturday, February 26, the duo of Renee Rivers and Gary Kaplowitz will be playing guitar and singing. Renee has a beautiful and powerful voice, accompanied by Gary’s harmonies talented guitar picking.

The coffee house will start at 7:00 PM. A donation of $6 per person or $15 for a family of three or more is suggested. We hope that you will not miss this wonderful evening. Any questions, please call Mary Lynne Shroyer at 623-974-9368.

The second coffee house is on March 26 and will feature two acts. The first is a wonderful singer, Cottonwood Stone, and a barbershop quartet will follow.

UUA News

UUA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Annual Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism is one of the most prestigious awards given by the UUA. The Award Committee is accepting nominations of exemplary UU leaders, both ministers and laypersons, who have strengthened UU institutions and clarified our message in an extraordinary way.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is March 1, 2011. For further information, view the committee’s announcement: http://www.uua.org/documents/administration/101217_ds_award_nom.pdf.

2011 LIVING LEGACY CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

Make plans now to join the Living Legacy Project team for the 2011 Living Legacy Pilgrimage, April 16-23, 2011. Our journey will begin and end in Birmingham, AL.

For more details, visit http://www.uua.org/documents/distservices/101217_ll_pilgrimage.pdf.

CATALYST

Catalyst is a newsletter from the UUA Office of Racial and Ethnic Concerns. It contains information on upcoming events and news from Unitarian Universalist organizations, including the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA) and Diverse and Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUUMM).

The most recent issue introduces new staff members—Delfin Bautista, LGBT Program Coordinator and Alex Kapitan, Congregational Justice Administrator—and contains updates from the Diversity of Ministry Initiative, Common Read program and DRUUMM.


To subscribe or receive Horizons via email, please submit your contact info at the visitors’ desk or email administrator@phoenixuu.org.
FEBRUARY 6: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICE  
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray  
This is an opportunity to celebrate our four-legged, web-toed, slithering, furry pet companions and how they enrich our lives. Bring your pets to this service for special recognition. And, if you have a testimony you would like to share about what your pets have meant to you, please contact Rev. Susan (minister@phoenixuu.org). She would love to incorporate multiple voices in this service.

FEBRUARY 13: COURAGEOUS LOVE: NATIONAL STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE DAY  
Service Leaders: YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists)  
The annual service designed and led by our youth will reflect on the theme for National Standing on the Side of Love Day, Courageous Love.

FEBRUARY 20: TURTLES ALL THE WAY DOWN  
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray  
The theme for this service was chosen by Gary Ezzell, the auction winner of the minister’s sermon. It is inspired by the story of various origins that describes the world being supported on the back of a turtle, but raises a question that often comes up in science, religion and philosophy, about what supports our suppositions, and what suppositions support our beliefs.

FEBRUARY 27: THE HEALING POWER OF LAUGHTER  
Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray  
I was recently reminded that we can get into trouble when we take ourselves too seriously. Maya Angelou once said she would never trust anyone who didn’t laugh. In the turbulent days we live in, it is important to remember the need for joy and laughter and play.
Our Mission

Welcoming all in building religious community, called to share journeys, grow in spirit, advance justice.