



A Welcoming Congregation

HORIZONS Journal of the
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PHOENIX
4027 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ, 85253

September 2011

This month at a glance:

- 4—New Day Center Meal
- 4—Poetry Coffeehouse
- 10—Sewing Circle
- 11—Immigration as a Moral Issue
- 11—Membership Class
- 13—Interweave
- 14—UUEEC Parenting Class
- 17—Membership Potluck
- 18—RE Program Begins
- 18—Share the Plate
- 18—Social Action Luncheon
- 19—Women’s Spirituality Circle
- 21—mUUVie night
- 23—Diversity Dinner
- 24—Outdoor Group Hike
- 25—Board Meeting
- Ongoing
 - Open Art Studio
 - Meditation Group
 - Book Group
 - Addiction Discussion Group

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

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Arizona Immigration Ministry (AZIM): Witness, Plan, and Learn toward Justice

Witness: Rev. Peter Morales, President of the UUA, Rev. Susan, and 11 others were sentenced on August 23rd to time served for their acts of non-violent civil disobedience in Phoenix on July 29, 2010. They had previously been found guilty on charges of failure to obey a peace officer, after physically blocking the driveway entrance to the Madison Street Jail in Phoenix. The purpose of their action was to stop the neighborhood raids the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Department planned for that day, despite federal district court judge Susan Bolton’s preliminary injunction on parts of SB 1070.

Plan: As AZIM, we partner in strength with organizations representing those most affected by current immigration and enforcement policies, focusing on the work that is ours to do this year. This year’s work includes preparation for the Phoenix 2012 Justice General Assembly (GA). In early August, human rights organization leaders and clergy of other faiths met with Arizona UU ministers. Ideas emerged for short-term service and witness projects at GA that might be part of a long-term positive impact in Phoenix. Rev. Susan will take those ideas to this month’s GA planning meeting in Boston. Some of the ideas may be put into the GA schedule as-is while others are more developed in the coming weeks.

Learn: Meanwhile, here at UUCP the “Immigration as a Moral Issue” course kicks off September 11th at 9:00 AM. Sign up (\$10) at the “book table” Sundays at noon until the course starts. Dates and topics are as follows:

9/11	Understanding the Causes of Migration
9/18	History of Immigration in the U.S.
9/25	Economics of (Im)migration
10/2	Security, Enforcement, and Human Rights
10/9	Who Benefits from a Broken System?
10/18	Seeking Solutions

You can contact me at azim@phoenixuu.org, or stop by my office (best to call ahead). There is also a new Facebook page named “Arizona Immigration Ministry;” I hope you ‘like’ it.

Con abrazos fuertes,
Sandy Weir

Minister's Musings

In a meditation slightly adapted, Rev. Patricia Shuttee writes:

You and I and all of us blew about with the winds of summer...moving to the slow heatstruck rhythms which turned the long hours of summer light. Now is the time for gathering in as spiritual community. A community of all ages that sings its songs, tells its thoughts, asks its questions and searches together with courage and with love.

As the congregation year begins, we have lots of changes around the campus and more to come this year. First, we have new people on staff, and some staff taking on new roles. I am delighted to have Rev. Linda Lawrence, who has been our Membership Director, move into the position of Assistant Minister. In this role, Linda will still be leading Membership and Membership Engagement, but she will take on leadership of Covenant Groups and Pastoral Care. Heidi Parmenter, who has been our Administrator for more than five years, will now be our Business Administrator, taking on higher-level administrative and financial management for our campus and programs. Jill Story will now be our part-time Administrative Assistant working with Heidi in the office, particularly on campus use, publications, and software and database support.

For this year, we have two new people on staff as we host the Arizona Immigration Ministry (AZIM) as a part of our congregation. Sandy Weir is working full-time on the planning and organizing of the AZIM. David Weaver is working full-time as an Executive Assistant to the Minister and Worship Coordinator. David is currently working on his Doctorate of Ministry in Preaching at the University of Chicago and will be preaching several times throughout the year. We are fortunate to have both Sandy and David on staff for this exciting year as we provide leadership for the UUA in planning General Assembly 2012 in Phoenix this June.

Not only do we have new faces, but some new spaces. You will see changes to Office 2 and Room 9. Room 9 is temporarily serving as shared nursery and office space until the construction of our new restroom core is complete. You will have noticed that we were not able to begin construction on the campus over the summer. Unfortunately, there have been delays around the construction and financing contracts, some due to our own due diligence in negotiating good contracts for the congregation, and some to delays in financing because of the nation's uncertain financial situation and national political wrangling. I am learning in this process to be patient. We are fortunate to have the leadership of Don Weir on the Renovation Committee, UUCP Treasurer Smoot Carl-Mitchell, and the expertise and patience of UUCP President Jimmy Leung and board member Duke Plattner who have been pushing the project along, advocating for the best interest of UUCP, and handling the delays with equanimity. I hope you will join me in thanking them for their generous leadership and care.

It's going to be a busy and exciting year. In the midst of the construction, this new AZIM ministry, and being hosts with the other UU congregations in the valley for GA 2012—I can't help but be excited for the changes that we are making in our congregation, in our lives, in the community and for our Association.

I am in! Back from my July vacation, and ready to go. Ready to be with you in growing our spirits, sharing our journeys and advancing justice.

See you on Sunday,
Susan

From the President

Our recent strategic planning discussions on the Board of Trustees have brought to mind a story about one of my favorite theologians, much beloved Unitarian minister, the Rev. James Luther Adams.

In the 60's when most churches were racially segregated, the Board of Trustees of the First Unitarian Society of Chicago (FUSC) was considering a proposal to desegregate that congregation. Even at very liberal UU churches, racial segregation was controversial at that time. Adams, who was an FUSC trustee, was trying to convince the rest of the Board to vote in favor of desegregation, but he met some deeply entrenched opposing Trustees, and at one point the discussion went on well into the night...

Finally, James Luther Adams remembered that we should be listening twice as much as talking. He asked the person who had voiced the strongest objection, "What do you say is the purpose of this church?"

Suddenly, everyone was listening...

The Board member who opposed opening the church to people of color finally replied. "Okay, Jim. The purpose of this church is to get hold of people like me and change them."

...The First Unitarian Society of Chicago successfully desegregated.

(paraphrased from Jessica York <http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/toolboxfaith/session11/sessionplan/stories/109792.shtml>)

Fortunately, the UUCP Board has not had quite such difficult debates this year, but the story reminds us all to ask ourselves, "what *is* the purpose of our church?" and "*how* does our church change us?"

I can honestly say that I am no longer the same person as I was when I joined the UUCP, and that the quality of that internal change has been indelibly molded by my experience at the UUCP. I also know that other Board members strongly feel the same way.

How is internal change pertinent to our governance work on the Board of Trustees? As the Board goes through the cognitive process of creating the next strategic plan, we are talking about personal transformation as an important component of living our mission. It is one of the important measures of success. In other words, spiritual development is a desired end product.

Along with building a stronger and deeper religious community, working for social justice, and becoming a more public advocate of UU values, the Board feels that establishing the UUCP as a center for spiritual growth and practice is an important outcome for our congregation. We feel that when individual congregants deepen and strengthen their identification and commitment as a UU, the whole community benefits.

The Board has even talked about the concept of UU *evangelism*. When individuals and the community deepen the UU part of our lives, we should encourage sharing Unitarian Universalism with others who may not know about it, but who may already have intrinsic affinity to our values in their hearts.

I admit that, like many in our community, I have not had good experiences with these words: "evangelism," "transformation," even "church." I would like to reassure all of us that these concepts are being discussed as a mechanism for living our principles and values, not as a supersession of them. (I certainly do not see us going

door to door handing out literature.) As I grow as a UU, I am learning that inclusion and religion should not be mutually exclusive.

I also think that it is time for us as a “denomination” to reclaim and revitalize our birthright as leaders of liberal religion in this country. By “liberal religion,” I mean a religion based on reason and experience, not external authority.¹ Unitarians and Universalists have a long history of being champions of religious freedom—we are the direct descendants of the Puritans and the founders of the laws of liberty in the U.S. Religious freedom, to me, means the freedom to pursue spiritual development, not only for others, but also for oneself.

In order for Unitarian Universalism to be a stronger vehicle for our spiritual journeys, we as members must reclaim religious language, like “evangelism,” and use these concepts with love and compassion. We *can* be the evangelical—sharing and promoting our religious community that provides a deep spiritual home *without* asking people to relinquish their identity, culture, rationality, belief or non-belief, uniqueness, sexuality, self esteem or liberty.

We should also *allow* ourselves to grow through our experiences as UUs—authentic spiritual development. We need to realize that our Sunday sermons are not lectures on leading a more meaningful life, they are a way for us to actually live more meaningful lives. Our worship services are not meant to be thought about like a book report, but rather to be internalized in our hearts.

In short, one of the Board’s goals for our next strategic plan is for the UUCP to be a congregation that serves its members as “the foundation for their personal and spiritual development and practice.” The Board itself is exploring ways of deepening the spiritual component of our lay leadership. We ask you to consider: How has the UUCP changed your life? How should it change people’s lives? We invite you to join with us in conversation.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is Sept 29th at 6:00 PM. Please join us.

Yours in faith,
Jimmy

Jimmy Leung
Board President

Covenant Groups: Spiritual Development Opportunities

Are you too busy or feeling lonely or disconnected from people and things that really matter? You have an opportunity to slow down, care for yourself, and deepen your spiritual growth while developing closer relationships with others. How? By joining a Covenant Group.

What is a Covenant Group? It is a small group of usually 10-12 adults who agree to meet together regularly, usually twice a month, for an hour and a half to two hours. Some of our UUCP Covenant Groups meet for five months, others for longer periods of time. Regular attendance is important to build trust and community.

What happens in a Covenant Group? The group is led by a trained facilitator who chooses varied topics that challenge minds and hearts. Readings and questions help us slow down, wake up to our deepest values, and reconnect with ourselves and others. Deep listening happens in Covenant Groups. So does laughter. Sometimes tears. Aha moments. Renewal. Energy. Spiritual growth.

Really? All that? To quote a colleague, the Rev. Jen Crow: “As Unitarian Universalists, we trust in the holy conversation and creativity that emerges between people and we know we cannot go it alone if we want to continue to grow. We also know that most meaningful life change happens over time—through commitment, long-term effort. We believe that active attention and intention are essential for our spiritual development.” Trust in the holy conversation and creativity that emerges between people in Covenant Groups. It could change your life.

So what are you waiting for?! You are invited to join a Covenant Group. New Covenant Groups start in September, October, and January, and new members are always welcome throughout the year. For a schedule of our current groups, please see the UUCP 2011-2012 Program Catalog or the Covenant Group brochure in the rack near UUCP’s front door (available August 28th). You may also contact Ellie Anderla, our Covenant Group Coordinator, at covenantgroups@phoenixuu.org.

Namaste,
Linda

Rev. Linda Lawrence
Assistant Minister

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

Warren Herbert Amster

Betty K. Irvine

William Blauvelt Bishop

Thomas Stephan Kole

Phillip Kevin Bliklen

Mary Ellen Mussman

Betty Halsema Foley

Arthur Wilfred Olsen

Julia Michelle Fritts

William Eugene Swineford

Sarah Patterson Ingersoll

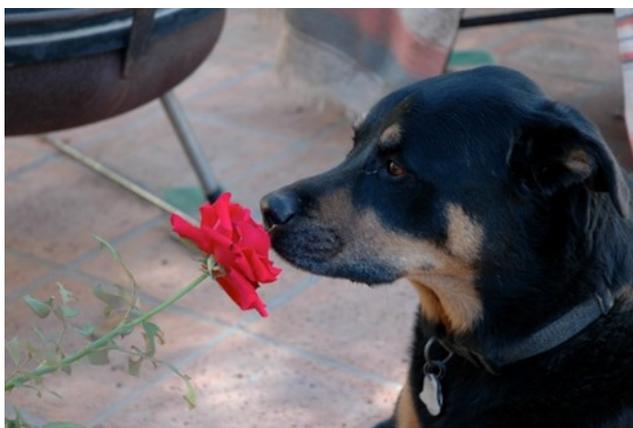
Greetings from Your Music Director!

I was all set to write a column about how wonderful it is to sing together, and how no one should ever feel inhibited during hymn-singing in our congregation on Sunday mornings. Then my big, beautiful dog of 11½ years died this afternoon.

This dog was very small when he came to live with me. I knew he would be a strong dog with a mind of his own, Rottie-Shepherd mix. So when he was young we went to dog training classes. My teacher was an expert, having trained dogs since she was five years old. My dog graduated, earning Basic Obedience and Good Canine Citizen certificates. He stopped short of passing the barrage of tests for Certification to visit people in hospitals, just by using a tree in a courtyard for... well, you know what.

If you were in choir a few years back, you might remember that he came to choir rehearsals for about six months one spring. And if you are female and happened to sit on the floor in my home, you probably had him in your lap.

You might remember him at a Blessing of the Animals service, a couple of years ago. I'm reminded that life is not permanent. All things pass. And, yes, there is truly a time to mourn.



Singing can be therapy. And it is wonderful to sing together during times of joy and times of sorrow. When I came to services this morning, I loved hearing you all sing about how “Morning has come, arise and greet the day.” Tomorrow, morning will come again. We will sing again. And we will dance with joy. Thanks for being part of my Sunday mornings. It feels really good to be a part of this Unitarian Universalist community.

For all you choir singers, we start rehearsals on August 31st at 7:00 PM.

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML
musicdirector@phoenixuu.org

From the Business Administrator

This year, as many of you are aware, I have been officially promoted to Business Administrator for UUCP. In February 2012 I will celebrate my sixth year working as your Administrator. Jill Story started volunteering in the office more than a year ago and last year I was able to hire her as the Office Assistant for first 10 hours per week, then 17 hours, and now 20 hours. Jill has taken over the calendaring for the campus, publishing UUCP Announcements flyer, the annual Program Catalog, the Annual Report, and maintaining our phoenixuu.org email system, among other tasks. This allows me to spend more time meeting with staff, lay leaders, and members, listening to their needs and helping to figure out solutions within the context of UUCP Administration. What a difference my work has become from when I started almost six years ago.

With all this change I think it has become important for me to include a regular article in our Horizons Journal. Bear with me as I get used to doing this. I admit I am more of a business writer than a creative one and what might excite me in the office might not be so exciting to everyone else—I will try to remember this!

Here's something that I know has gained some excitement among all in the congregation: the new **layout to Office 2!** Office 2 is the room adjacent to my office where we have the mailboxes, copier, and office supply storage. I recently had to create a space for Jill in light of her new schedule. It made the most amount of sense for her to be in my office with me and to move the office volunteer desk into Office 2. By moving the office volunteers into Office 2 I was able to rearrange the furniture to make a much more welcome and open room. There is still change to come in that space. We are going to do a massive cleanout of the room and reorganization of what is stored in there. Once this is all done we are going to paint it!

UUCP member Richard Plattner and his law office partner donated their no-longer-needed **professional phone system** to us. Their phone system is light years ahead of our current system *and* they have 20 working phones included. Our current professional phone system is obsolete, the phones are not made anymore, and we only had five working ones left! The new phone system is going to be installed the end of August and the staff is very excited. Everyone will have a working phone that allows each of us to intercom each other, or even all at once! Also, the new phone system allows people to call our main number, reach a name directory, and ring into a staff member's phone directly. No more having to have a "receptionist" in order to reach someone in the office. If, for whatever reason, someone is unable to answer the phone, the person on the line is no longer forced to go to voicemail. None of our phone numbers are changing, so please continue to call 602-840-8400 to reach our staff.

Our 2nd edition of the annual **UUCP Program Catalog** is done and being mailed to all member, staff, and friend households the end of August. This publication is a major piece of work that takes months to put together and I think we all owe Jill Story a pat on the back for her hard work and dedication to making this year's edition as comprehensive and professional as possible. You can email her words of praise at: officeassistant@phoenixuu.org.

This year I am the **Auction** Chair (doesn't seem right does it? If you agree, call me about next year!) and included in this edition of Horizons Journal is an article about how you can participate in this major fundraising event for UUCP. Please be sure to read this and contact me in the office on how you would like to contribute your time and resources.

In community,

Heidi Parmenter
Business Administrator
administrator@phoenixuu.org

Considering Membership?

Please attend our next Pathway to Membership (PTM) program to see if UUCP is the right place for you. PTM offers an opportunity to interact with our ministers, members, and other “seekers and questioners” who wish to learn more about UUCP and the meaning of membership. There is no charge to attend PTM, and free childcare is available.

The PTM series, offered four times annually, is next scheduled for:
Sunday, Sept. 11, 9:00-10:30 AM (please arrive by 8:45) and
Saturday, Sept. 17, 6:00-8:00 PM (optional tour at 5:30, potluck and session at 6:00)

To register, contact the congregational office at 602-840-8400 or email Linda Lawrence at assistantminister@phoenixuu.org. Be sure that any messages include your name, address, phone number, email, and the number/ages of your children if you will need childcare for them during the sessions.

Gearing Up for Auction: Choose Your Role



UUCP 2nd Annual Auction
Saturday, November 12, 2011
4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

*Our 2nd Annual Auction: Peace, Love & Rock n' Roll will be on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 4:30-8:30 PM. There will be childcare, hearty finger foods for all, cash bar, groovy music, and of course many wonderful items up for silent and live auction! But what really makes the auction a true community event is the many ways members contribute to make it a success. As you read this, please think about how *you* can contribute to this important fundraiser to our annual operating budget.*

Choose as many of these opportunities as you can!

- 1. Donate.** Enclosed with this edition of Horizons Journal is an Item Donation Form and Guidelines. Read over the guidelines carefully and think of what you might donate. Submit your Item Donation Form to the office as soon as possible and deliver any physical items Sundays in October.
- 2. Volunteer.** Also included in this edition of Horizons Journal (next page) is a list of the many volunteer positions it takes to make our auction happen. If any of these fun opportunities fit your schedule, contact Heidi Parmenter in the office and sign up (administrator@phoenixuu.org or 602-840-8400).
- 3. Attend and bid!**

From the Staff...

Volunteer Position	Description	Time Commitment
Sunday Ticket Seller	Dress in tie dye and sell tickets between services	(Pick a Sunday) Sundays, 10/2/11, 10/9/11, 10/16/11, 10/23/11, 10/30/11, 11/5/11 10:30-11:15 AM
Basket Decorators	Get items ready for showcasing, attach bidding sheet and info sheet, organize items by section	Wednesday, 11/2/11 4:00-6:00 PM
Auction Setup: Check-in	Set up check-in area in lobby and other preparatory tasks	Friday, 11/11/11 2:30-5:30 PM
Auction Setup: Checkout	Set up checkout area in Johnson Room and other preparatory tasks	Friday, 11/11/11 2:30-5:30 PM
Auction Setup: Displays – 2 needed	Set up items on display tables with bidding sheets and info sheet	Friday, 11/11/11 2:30-5:30 PM
Auction Decorating	Decorate sanctuary for auction	Friday, 11/11/11 2:30-5:30 PM
Check-in: Ticket Handler	Take and sell tickets in the lobby the night of the event	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-6:00 PM
Check-in: Guest Registration	Hand guests numbered program book, paddle, and credit card slip	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-6:00 PM
Checkout: Cash Handler	Take cash payments at checkout	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:30-9:00 PM
Checkout: Credit Card/Check Handler	Take credit card and check payments at checkout	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:30-9:00 PM
Checkout: Item retrieval – 2 needed	Collect winning items	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:30-9:00 PM
Checkout: Line attendant	Usher people into correct payment line and have credit card payers complete credit card slip while waiting	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:30-9:00 PM
Auction Attendants – 4 needed	Remove items from tables once section has closed, bring to Johnson Room and keep in numerical order	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-8:00 PM
Bar: Bartender	Set up bar and serve drinks	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-8:30 PM
Bar: Cashier	Set up bar and collect payment	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-8:30 PM
Food Runners – 3 needed	Replenish finger foods in Sanctuary	Saturday, 11/12/11 3:30-8:30 PM
Live Auction Attendants – 3 needed	Record live auction winners	Saturday, 11/12/11 6:00-7:30 PM

From your Interim Children's Religious Education Director

"What its children become, that will the community become."
– politician and writer Suzanne LaFollette (1926)

My mother taped this quotation to the back of an envelope that I still carry with me. Inside was a card she sent to congratulate me for being asked to teach the 2nd grade Sunday School class at my new UU congregation in Phoenix. I had not explained that they could not find anyone else to do it. They told me the kids in that class were wild. It was 1997.

Six years later, I helped three of those same kids complete the Coming of Age Program, and four years after that I had the honor of seeing them graduate from high school. So of course, I am tickled now to be joining the UUCP staff temporarily as your Interim Director of Children's Religious Education.

Many of you know me as an advisor for our high-school-aged youth (YRUU). My passion for working with children and young people comes from my desire to give back to the community that helped shape who I became and helped define what was important to me. I grew up in the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit, mentored by wonderful adult allies who always encouraged and inspired me.

I have served the Pacific Southwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association as an officer and a volunteer, and have lots of years of committee work under my belt. I have a BA in Religious Studies from ASU and currently work as a paralegal at a small, local firm. I have two Chihuahuas, two cats and a husband-partner, Jan Persidskis, who works for the Arizona Historical Society.

Thank you to everyone for the kind words and warm welcome recently. I look forward to helping our children settle into their new classrooms on Sundays, assisting our teachers and volunteers, and continuing to make sure that we offer interesting, timely, age-appropriate programming for our kids and youth.

Welcoming your questions, comments and suggestions at redirector@phoeniuu.org.

Jaynn Truran, Interim Director of Children's Religious Education

Now, to the good stuff! We have added some new curricula and have had some changes to our teaching teams. Children's Ministry classes kick off on Sunday, September 18 at 9:30 AM, as follows (please see your Program Catalog for additional information):

Infants up to two years old: Tiffany Mendez returns as our nursery coordinator. The nursery is located in Room 9. (8:30-12:30)

Two- and three-year-olds/childcare: Daniel Mendez will lead our children in a simple routine each Sunday morning in Room 15. (8:30-12:30)

PreK-K: Karen Kurtz returns to work with your little ones in Annex E (by the basketball court). (9:30-10:45). Like last year, our PreK-K class will begin in the sanctuary for Together Time and then will proceed to the basketball court for Spirit Circle. The curriculum this year is "Love Surrounds Us."

1st and 2nd grades: Sara Banegas will teach this group in Annex A (9:30-10:45). The kids will be following the "Free to Believe" curriculum.

3rd and 4th grades: Jen Smith leads this group in Annex D (9:30-10:45). They will be learning from “Holidays and Holy Days.”

5th and 6th grades: Kelia Noonan joins the teaching team this year to work with our 5th-6th graders in Annex F (9:30-10:45). They will be working with the new “Love Connects Us” curriculum. (Our Whole Lives for 5th-6th grade will be offered in the Spring. Teachers are Jeff Newman and Cynthia Diefirt. Please check your Horizons for news!)

7th and 8th grades (FIRST SERVICE): Briana Noonan leads in Annex G (9:30-10:45). They will be following “Heeding the Call: Qualities of a Justice Maker,” a new curriculum from the Tapestries of Faith program.

7th and 8th grades (SECOND SERVICE): Our Whole Lives (OWL) will be offered during second service only. The class will meet from 11:00-12:30 each Sunday. There is an extra fee for OWL, students must be registered ASAP, and parents must have attended the orientation session. Our OWL facilitators are: Steve Harris, Kathleen Waldron, Sam Kirkland, Jen Hempel, Rajeev Arora and Laurie Arora.

9th through 12th grades (YRUU) meets in Annex C from 9:30-11:00. Advisors are Sarah Henkel and Jaynn Truran, with assistance from several volunteers and parents.

Second Service Children’s Fellowship (11:15-12:30) is as follows:

Ages 4-6 will meet in Annex D and ages 7 and up will gather in Annex E.

What Are Your Passions?

Are you interested in sharing with others an abiding curiosity or deep interest in spiritual practices, principles of simple living, Bible stories or other sacred scriptures, Sunday service/sermon discussions, or something else that might be an appropriate focus for a theme-based Covenant Group?

If you have an idea for a group that you would like to facilitate using a Covenant Group model, please contact Rev. Linda Lawrence (assistantminister@phoenixuu.org) to talk about it. She is looking for people interested in offering new, short-term (five-month) Covenant Groups. Can you use one of your passionate interests to find and welcome more members and newcomers into the life of our congregation? (Note: Training and topic approval will be required for any new group start-ups.)

From the Early Education Cooperative

REMEMBER WHEN: INCOMING WELCOME DINNERS

You toured the school and interviewed teachers and parents. You knew there was something different about the program but you didn't really understand exactly what it was going to be like. It just spoke to you. And then you got the invitation.

It wasn't a parent orientation or a play date. It was for a potluck dinner with the parents of the other children in your child's class. Did you know what to expect? Were you nervous? Was it better or worse than a job interview?

In August the next generation of UUEEC parents will meet their peers and begin the journey to lifelong friendships, just as you once did. Would you like to be a part of it, again, as alumni? If you are interested in hosting or attending a welcome dinner or mentoring new families please let Director KellyAnn know at eeccdirector@phoenixuu.org.

ACROSS THE BRIDGE

Did an UUEEC graduate just win a spelling bee? Are you an alumna that recently graduated from college or got married? Tell us your story. We'd love to hear from you. We'd like to feature alumni in upcoming weekly newsletters to enrolled families and in our newsletters out to our extended family.

Email your name, your story and the year you graduated PreK to Director KellyAnn at eeccdirector@phoenixuu.org.

IN THE LAND OF THE GROWN UPS

A big part of what makes the UUEEC Preschool different from others is our commitment to the adults in our program. What we do goes far beyond the early childhood component. We build community and celebrate the successes of everyone in that community.

One of the new columns Director KellyAnn added when she joined us was "In the Land of the Grown Ups." Here we are able to share our adult accomplishments with our fellow UUEEC family members. This year we'd like to include alumni accomplishments as well. Did you start a new company, get a promotion or have a new baby? Tell us about it and we'll do our best to get the word out to the extended UUEEC family.

Just email Director KellyAnn at eeccdirector@phoenixuu.org. Please provide your name, your children's names, the years they were in PreK with us and what you want to share.

Greetings from the Adult Faith Development Committee!

We looking forward to welcoming each of you into our innovative new programs for the 2011-2012 year! As you can see in the new Program Guide, we have classes and discussions for every level and area of interest. We feel that this is our best program ever and that our facilitator group is extremely well-prepared to help every participant's enrichment of the individual UU experience.

As we begin in September, we will offer The (Not Necessarily So) New UU classes. With plenty of time for conversation and questions, the program's activities and topics address: UU theology and worship, UU roots, faith development, social justice philosophy and practice, governance, and the meaning of membership. More details are in the Guide, and instructor names and schedule will follow in future announcements. See you there!

The AFD Committee will be growing this fall. We invite anyone interested to contact Terry Simmons at terrynsimmons@gmail.com or call 602-625-2829. Or just drop in. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in Office 2.

In community spirit,
Terry Simmons
Chair, Adult Faith Committee

Harvest the Power: Lay Leadership Development

Annual Leadership Development Days provide an opportunity for prospective congregational leaders to connect with experienced leaders as they all learn leadership skills. This year, we will be presenting two more workshops from UUA's "Harvest the Power" program:

"Integrity" explores how important it is for congregational leaders to connect fully with their spiritual and emotional selves, and

"Imagination & Creativity" introduces reasons and ways to include many voices in the visioning work of the congregation.

Level: 301

Saturday, October 15, 2011, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Includes a light lunch.

Location: Johnson Room

Coordinator: Susan Morris, Chair, Nominating Committee

Renovation Update

The 2010 Combined Campaign “Time to make it real!” included a three-year capital campaign to address the following building needs:

- New restrooms
- Sewer connection
- Electrical upgrades

The overall plans and objectives of the project have not changed since the launch of the campaign. The Renovation Committee has been working for the past year with the architect, Doug Sydnor and Associates; the general contractor, Robert Porter Construction; and the Owner’s Representative, Bill Sweeney, to complete the construction contract and file the appropriate permits. Previous articles in Horizons and the 2010-2011 annual report have provided summaries of the work.

Construction will begin this fall. Please watch the Compass weekly newsletter for announcements of construction activity and any facility closures. More important, please look at any information signs when you are on the UUCP campus. Although all efforts are being taken to reduce impact on programs, a certain amount of inconvenience (and dust) cannot be avoided.

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.

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

Diversity Dinners Are Here

Join us once a month for a potluck dinner and small group conversations that explore our individual identities and unique perspectives. Celebrate the diversity within our congregation as we share our stories and our views on a variety of topics.

Each evening will focus on one subject. Our first event is Friday, September 23rd, from 6:00-8:00 PM in the Johnson Room, and the subject is Bedtime Rituals. We will explore the different rituals that we grew up with, how they affected our lives and contributed to our character, and what we continued with our children and grandchildren. How do these rituals define us as individuals? How do they create community?

All ages are invited and welcome for spirited multi-generational interaction. For the potluck, please bring a dish according to this breakout: last names A-G, Main Dish; H-M, Side Dish or Chips; N-S, Dessert; T-Z, Drinks. We ask that you bring your own reusable plates, cups and utensils in an effort to reduce waste. If you have any questions, email Wendy Metcalf at wendymet@cox.net.

Circle Dinners Return

Circle Dinners are starting this year with a reception in the Johnson Room on Saturday, October 1st at 6:00 PM. If you are interested in the dinners and would like to attend the September reception, please contact us by email or by phone. When you respond we will let you know what food we would like you to provide for the reception: appetizer, salad, or dessert. Our committee will provide the drinks.

Please RSVP by emailing us at phuucircle@yahoo.com or by calling a committee member: Shirley Anderson (480-946-3669), Sherry Celine (602-840-4611), Marcia Farrell (602-995-9501), or Mary Wilber (480-473-1150). We hope to see those of you who have enjoyed the dinners in the past and those who want to know more about the dinners. You do not have to commit to attend all dinners or even to host. But we really need hosts so everyone who wishes to participate can.

Starting with the third Saturday in October, the monthly dinners will be small ones at members' homes. The dinners have been part of the Phoenix Congregation for many years and are a popular UU activity in many congregations across the country. They are *not* potlucks since the host provides the main dish and then assigns dishes to the guests who have been assigned by the committee chair. These small dinners of 6-10 people are an excellent way to bring together old friends and to meet new ones.

The UU Foundation is Always There for Us

Some of you—especially new members—may not realize it, but we have an endowment fund, started in 1975, that not only helps to support our UUCP budget, but provides a safety net in times of financial crisis. It's called the Unitarian Universalist Foundation of Phoenix (UUF for short) and *every member of UUCP is also automatically a member of the UUF*.

This year's congregational budget includes \$19,000 income from UUF investments, or the equivalent of more than 12 average stewardship pledges! It's easy to see how important it is to support our Foundation. One of the easiest, and most meaningful, ways to do this is to make a contribution to the UUF in memory of a loved one, to honor a family member's birthday, or to celebrate a new baby. When you do, a special page will be added to the permanent Memory Book with both your name and the name or names of those you honor.

The Memory Book will be available for you to look through on special occasions and will be on display at the back of the Sanctuary during UUF and congregational meetings. Please contact Ellie Murphy (elliemur@cox.net) or Marg Stallworthy (Margaret@mas-cpa.com) or any of the other UUF Board members if you'd like to remember a special someone in this lovely and permanent way.

Ellie Murphy

Let's get STAR-ted

The UUCP STARS invite you to stop by our table during Coffee Hour between services on Sunday, September 18th. STARS is an informal group of UUCP members who make it a point to welcome and get to know visitors and new members. Many of you are already STARS, and don't even know it! If you aren't an official STAR already, we'll show you how to become one. New STARS members will receive a treat just for stopping by and getting STAR-ted!

Jenny Jones Moats
STARS Coordinator

Share the Plate on September 18th with Kids Sports Stars

On Sunday, September 18th, our monthly "Share the Plate" program will support improved health of Arizona citizens by donating all contributions of the collection (except those specifically marked for your pledge) to Kids Sports Stars. KSS is a hands-on program to prevent childhood obesity by encouraging youth in low-income elementary schools to develop personal skills for a lifetime of healthy habits.

Kids Sports Stars presents the opportunity for 1,500 kids in 24 low-income schools to become active by making a commitment to the 25-mile run/walk challenge, participating in nutrition education and activities, and developing personal responsibility in goal setting and achievements. Contributions will directly support that program. (\$100.00 for one child; \$5,000.00 for a full year at one school.)

UUCP member and worship associate Anne Byrnes, who is also executive director of KSS, nominated KSS at the urging of her covenant group members after they toured one of the programs in action and witnessed the pride of the students in their personal achievements and how they are initiating healthy habits in their families. Opportunities exist to volunteer and support the program. Please contact Anne@kidssportsstars.org for more information.

If you would like to know more about the Share the Plate Program or submit an application for an organization to be considered for future donations, please see www.phoenixuu.org (Social Action) for the guidelines and application, or contact a member of the Share the Plate Committee: Larry Thwing, Judy Lambert, or Carolyn Allenby.

Thank you for supporting our outreach to the greater community!

UUCP University

If you want to get a real education about UUCP, please mark your calendars for October 16th! Plan on joining committee and activity group leaders on the patio where you can "matriculate" or even earn some extra credit! This event will be sponsored by the Membership Engagement Committee.

From the Social Action Committee

The SAC is pleased to announce the return of Social Action Luncheons on Sunday, September 18th at 12:30 PM in the Johnson Room. Our speaker will be Joanie Calder of the International Rescue Committee. IRC is a leading agency in providing assistance to refugees resettling in the Phoenix area. All are welcome to attend and a small donation to cover the meal is appreciated, but not required.

The Committee has lined up additional speakers for the following months and is also planning events, such as participation in social-action-related walks and festivals. Take note if you found extra eyeglasses or hearing aids over the summer, as the committee will be collecting those once again at the Social Action table in the rear of the Sanctuary. While there, check out our Fair Trade coffee and chocolates that help raise funds for social action and the UU Service Committee. We still have Standing on the Side of Love shirts, too!

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Becoming a UUSC member is a powerful way to turn your UU values into direct action around the world. With more than 40,000 others, you'll be raising your voice to advance human rights and social justice in countries like Kenya, Haiti, Somalia, Guatemala and many more.

An Individual membership is \$40; Couple membership is \$75; Senior membership is \$20; Youth membership is \$10. Please go to www.uusc.org/membership or phone 617-868-6600 to join or renew your membership. By increasing our UUCP participation to 25-49% it will help us to be recognized in their annual report as a Banner/Chalice member, as are most other AZ congregations. We deserve to be listed! Won't you do your part?

Heather McLellan
UUSC Representative

Habit-Forming Addictions Discussion Group Continues This Fall

We could continue with the puns, but in all seriousness the 2nd and 4th Saturdays Addictions Discussion Group provides a safe place for recovering addicts to speak freely without being spiritually judged. Whether you find traditional recovery groups comfortable or uncomfortable, you can bring your Humanist, Christian, Jewish, Pagan, Buddhist, Agnostic, Atheist, etc. beliefs into Annex B from 4:30-5:30 PM and you'll fit right in. Your anonymity will be protected—our only rule is “What we hear here stays here. Hear, hear!”

Each meeting starts with a 2-3 minute check-in and ends with a topic discussion. This is a closed meeting for UUs and friends of UUs—we do not advertise to the community and are not affiliated with any 12-step program. To qualify, we ask that you have six months of stable recovery under your belt from compulsive behaviors such as alcohol, narcotics, gambling, sex, eating disorders, shopping, etc. We are not the right place for families and friends of addicts or for most co-dependency behaviors. If you are interested in starting up a complementary group, let us know.

Call Gene at 602-361-9067 or Michael at 602-488-1188. Or just show up at Annex B.

UU Labor Day Camp

2011 Labor Day Weekend
September 2-5, 2011

Our theme this time is “Adaptation,” so it's time to get out the camping gear and plan for your family to join other UUs and friends at SAWUURA for Labor Day Family Camp. You can register on the site: www.sawuura.org.

Send your forms to:
Jan Hatunen
2167 W. Ocelot Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85713

There has been a lot of road work done, so the road into the camp is significantly improved.

If you haven't already, this is a good time to renew your membership. All campers must also have an updated liability waiver if it isn't on file or is more than a year old.

Meals this year will be simple but good and nourishing. Everyone will be chipping in with food preparation and cleanup.

The price, including food, for the weekend will be \$35 for adults and \$20 per child under 16 for the entire weekend.

To learn more, check out the website of the Sierra Ancha Wilderness Unitarian Universalist Religious Association at www.sawuura.org.

Women's Spirituality Circle

WSC meets the third Monday each month at 6:30 PM in annex B. We are a friendly group of women who share talents and personal stories as well as valuing friendship and fun. This month's meeting is September 19th. Hope to see you there!

Unicare

I have always thought the Jewish calendar makes the most sense as most of our activities begin in September. School starts, UU goes back to two services, and the great migration back to Phoenix begins. This is my first report as the chair of Unicare and Julie Smart's shoes are just too big for me to fill, so bear with me.

July and August have been very busy months for Unicare. We have had many occasions to rejoice as well as to grieve. The following are some of these instances:

Gary and Ann Ezell had a new grandson.

Tiffany and Daniel Mendez have a new daughter, Izabel.

Smoot Carl-Mitchell's father died at 91.

Susan Morris's brother is recovering from cancer surgery.

Longtime UUCP member, Erica "Ricky" Muth Michaud, died on June 10th. She was 87 years of age. Ricky's parents, Ernst and Wilhelmina (Mimi) Muth, donated property for this congregation's first building on Pasadena Avenue. The flagstones at that building came from Ernst's business. Given this long history of her family's association with the congregation, Ricky considered herself a founding member. She was proud to have been a social radical and outrageous liberal, and she will be missed. Her memorial service is September 18th at 3:00 PM.

Dick Phillips passed away July 15th, and a memorial service is planned for September 24th at 1:30 PM. (A brief tribute to Dick can be found on page 20.)

Wayne Mitchell and Richard Maxon both are recovering from open-heart surgery.

Dorothy LeWin broke her shoulder and had surgery to repair it.

Kathie Marion had surgery to remove a tumor from her brain.

Bert and Natasha Pearlman moved to Albuquerque for Natasha's new job.

Thanks to all who did my job while I was away for two months. I hope I soaked up enough cool weather to tide me over to November.

Namaste,
Jean Rosenberg

Celebration of Dick Phillips

Richard Cortez (Dick) Phillips passed away Friday, July 15, 2011; he was 78. He is survived by his wife Margaret, the love of his life for 58 years, and two daughters, Caroline Collinske (Steve) and Laura Quinn. He is also survived by six grandchildren along with three great grandchildren.

He was born May 6, 1933 in Fort Worth, TX, the only child of Cortez and Alma Phillips and was raised in the small West Texas town of Breckenridge. He played football in both high school and while earning his bachelor's degree at Texas A&M. He served his country in the Air Force in 1956-60 and became a pilot, flying B-25 bombers, perpetuating his love of flying and airplanes.

He moved his family to Scottsdale, AZ, in 1960 while working for Phillips 66 Petroleum Company and later Motorola Semi-Conductor Division. Dissatisfied with corporate America, he pursued his lifelong dream and in 1973 became a full-time artist and art teacher. Largely self-taught, his works evolved from pen and ink to watercolor. In the early 1980s, after mastering watercolor, he became bored and his work shifted dramatically to acrylic abstract expressionism. From 1975, Dick had 47 one-man exhibitions, participated in more than 100 juried shows nationally and was listed in Who's Who in American Art. Words cannot describe how much he will be missed.

Dick was an extraordinary teacher, attracting students from all over the valley and even a talented couple from Sedona, who drove down to study with him on Monday mornings. I studied with him for 24 years (!) always learning something. (Tish Gauntt)

Dick conducted his classes in UUCP's Johnson Room for over 30 years. He also showed his work from time to time in our sanctuary; we have one of his large acrylic paintings in the hall which he generously donated to the Congregation. Those of us who were his students were shocked and saddened at this passing. We loved him.

There will be a celebration of his life including a show of his work in our sanctuary in September. In lieu of flowers, donations to help defray costs will be accepted to account #818104 for Richard C. Phillips at any branch of the Arizona Federal Credit Union or online at www.GoFundMe.com/Celebration-of-Dicks-life.

To subscribe or receive Horizons via email, please submit your contact info at the visitors' desk or email administrator@phoenixuu.org.

Celebrations of Life

10:30 AM

SEPTEMBER 4: HYMN SING!

Service Leaders: Connie Jahrmarkt, choir members and Karin Quinn

Sing out with joy and celebration! Bring the names of your favorite hymns and we will sing them!

SEPTEMBER 11: MULTIGENERATIONAL INGATHERING WATER SERVICE

Service Leaders: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Worship Associates

Every year, as we celebrate the ingathering of our community, we invite everyone to bring water from a sacred place to the service. In the service, we gather the waters as a symbol of the way we bring our lives and our stories together to building community. With story and music we will remember both the heartache, the hard work, but also the blessings and resources of community. A memorial tribute to the 10th anniversary of 9/11 will be included.

Everyone is invited to bring water from a sacred place, perhaps from home, from a special place of travel, tears gathered after the loss of a loved one, to the service.

Return to Two Services September 18th

9:30 AM and 11:15 AM

SEPTEMBER 18: WISDOM'S COMMON GROUND

Service Leader: David Weaver

Many of the world's cultures and religious traditions have a set of writings called "wisdom literature," intended to provide guidance for living. Does wisdom literature retain any relevance in our fast-paced world? What is your wisdom literature?

Share the Plate: The offering this Sunday will go to benefit Kids Sport Stars.

SEPTEMBER 25: THE POWER OF LANGUAGE

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Does language matter? Certainly it can. Almost everyone, myself included, has words they dislike, never use and don't like others to use. Words like holy, sacred, or liberal and conservative can become matters of serious debate in terms of meaning and usefulness. Does language have some power to shape how we see the world—or is it only a reflection of what we see? When we change our language do we change how we see the world?

*President: Jimmy Leung
Vice President: David Johnson
Treasurer: Smoot Carl-Mitchell*

*Minister: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ray Manker
Assistant Minister: Rev. Linda Lawrence
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and Dorothy LeWin*

Our Mission

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



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