



*A Welcoming Congregation*

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

June 2012

## This month at a glance:

- 3—New Day Center Meal
- 8—Travelling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays
- 9—Sewing Circle
- 10—Social Action Luncheon
- 12—Interweave Meeting
- 14—Board Meeting
- 24—Men’s Group

## Minister’s Musings

Welcome to the lovely month of General Assembly, I mean, June!

I remember members of UUCP, it might have been Rick and Julie Wambach, returning from a trip to North Carolina, telling me that they attended the congregation in Charlotte (where the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly was held last June) and that the congregation was abuzz with GA conversation and preparation. We sure can relate!

However, as we enter our summer schedule and the close of our program year, it’s important to name all the meaningful and wonderful things we have done that were not related to General Assembly.

We now have two ministers on staff, Rev. Linda and myself. Next year, beginning in September, Linda will be our full-time Assistant Minister holding Membership, Pastoral Care and Adult Faith Development in her portfolio. What a big step this is for UUCP!

We created a bold new vision for our Children’s Ministries and just hired a new full-time Director for those programs, Anne Byrne. This opens up more possibilities and strengths for our congregation, pre-school and Kids Kamp. Heidi Parmenter became our Business Administrator, with support staff for the office, allowing her to focus on high-level administrative oversight.

We had a successful Auction, a wonderfully fun and exciting Cabaret. We had great worship with guest ministers and excellent leaders from UUCP bringing their insight and wisdom to nurture our spirits. We had a strong children’s program; our adult faith development courses were almost all entirely full. We had a truly robust program throughout the congregation.

At the beginning of this year, we wondered what it would mean for me to spend half my time away from the congregation and its ministry. But with everyone stepping up and with the excellent staff and lay leadership, we had an exciting and fulfilling year. I am so proud of our willingness to take a risk, answer a call and work together with goodwill to make all go well. I know there have been bumps and holes along the way too, but truth is, there always are. And in the midst of this, we have



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## From the Minister & YRUU Grads...

built an Arizona Immigration Ministry that we will sustain next year, and a stronger congregational ministry in the process.

And we have, as always, said goodbye to loved ones who have died or have moved away. And we have welcome new faces, both new members and their families, and the new births that have warmed our hearts this year.

Every year, as the congregation year wraps up and I prepare for July, a time of vacation, family, rest and renewal for me, my heart is always filled with a deep gratitude for the uncommon gift of Unitarian Universalist religious community, and especially this community. What a gift it is to have this place, these people, in our lives. A source of comfort in times of need, a place to share our celebrations, a place to nurture the young, and comfort the dying, a place to grow and share, a place of love and a place of hope. May we all experience time to reflect on what this community means to us and may it, too, fill our hearts and our spirits with gratitude.

Yours,  
Susan

**Dear UUCP,**

This year us seniors will be traveling far and wide, each following a different lighted path. However, we do have a few things in common. We love each other, and we love you. The youth and adults in this congregation have stood by us, inspired us, and empowered us for as long as we have known you. To all of you, whether you know us better than we know ourselves or didn't know us at all, thank you for making UUCP our second home.

Love,  
Alec, Alicia, Celeste, China Rae, Ethan, Lyle, Mitchell, and Phoebe

## From the President

*He lived at a little distance from his body, regarding his own acts with doubtful side-glances. He had an odd autobiographical habit which led him to compose in his mind from time to time a short sentence about himself containing a subject in the third person and a verb in the past tense.*

— James Joyce

My friends, it is nearly summer; our season of relative calm and quietude. The rhythms of the desert make summer a time of escape, hibernation or stillness. It is fitting that we should take some time to reflect.

Four years ago at this time, we were brimming with excitement, looking forward to the arrival of our newly called minister. Three years ago, we were marshaling our resources for long anticipated renovation. Two years ago, we were challenged to respond to injustice in Arizona. One year ago, we were further challenged to devote resources and, most importantly, share our minister in order to mobilize social justice. Next month, we will have the opportunity to participate in an unprecedented witness and outreach event in our wider religious community—Justice General Assembly 2012. It has not been dull.

Through it all, it has been the unspoken vow, and solemn task of myself and the entire Board of Trustees that the most important job is to maintain the health of this religious community. In light of many conversations from the past four years, our community has, since Rev. Susan's arrival, generally and broadly paraphrasing, been concerned with renovation, social justice and growth. I think I can also justifiably summarize our progress, given the space available in this column, by saying "hallelujah!"

Our facilities have never been healthier or newer, since I've been a member (Have you used the bathroom yet!?). Our social justice program has been revolutionized and exploded with the work of the Arizona Immigration Ministry, staffed by Sandy Weir. We have gone from a congregation of 275 members, just before Rev. Susan was called, to a congregation of over 415. It has not been dull.

While this "quasi status report" may invite self-congratulation, what I most want to do is to remind us that our work is not done. What we have done is to fulfill our previous goals; our next task (perhaps this summer's homework) is to expand our goals. While our trajectories for renovation and social justice have become much more defined this past year, growth and accommodating growth, for me, will continue to be an area of strategic discernment.

I recently read an article, written by Michelle Bates Deakin in the May 2012 issue of the UU World, that brought this thought into focus for me (<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/199897.shtml>). The article states that during the last four years (the same period of time that the UUCP has grown by about 50%), the membership of the UUA has declined by just over 3,000 members. Sadly, there are 3,000 fewer UUs in America today, despite the social media efforts, the justice outreach, deepening spirituality, talented young ministers, the interest in multiculturalism, etc., etc.

There are many reasons outside of Unitarian Universalism that impact the decline in membership, such as overall de-institutionalization of American religion, evolution in the definition of a religious community, etc. However, the question that most interested me is "Why has the UUCP had such a different experience from the UUA in general?" Deakin's article also delves into this question by describing congregations in the UUA that have, like us, grown despite the UUA trend:

"Growth exceeding 3 percent was most common in large program churches of between 401 and 600 members."

## From the Board...

The Rev. Harlan Limpert, UUA vice president for Ministries and Congregational Support, told Deakin:

“About 40 percent of our congregations are growing and growing quite significantly. We can identify what it is that is helping them grow: it is a clear mission, vital worship, relevant programming, and an outward orientation ... We have to ensure we are engaging others and are avoiding simply being a club.”

She also highlighted the following from Rev. Stefan Jonasson, director of Growth Strategies and Large Congregation Development:

“Growing congregations share three things. The first is clarity about their mission. The second is ‘a willingness to admit that we actually do have a doctrine,’ he said. ‘We may be non-creedal, but we have teachings.’ The third is generosity of members in supporting the congregation in terms of financial resources and time and energy ... ‘It’s the classic time, treasure, and talent.’

“For a congregation to grow, it must express ‘a sincere love of people and a warm welcome for them. To that extent, hospitality is part of our doctrine.’”

It is very striking to me that the growing congregation Jonasson and Limpert are describing is exactly what we have worked towards these past four years! Their language is almost identical to conversations I have had regularly with our lay leaders and staff. Clarity of mission is Job #1 for the board, and it is making a difference.

While we still have much work to do, I know we are headed in the right direction. We are one of the most successful congregations in UUA in the past four years, and we are already setting an example, especially this June. The board even stated months ago that one of our goals was to become a “flagship congregation in the UUA.” My sense of the importance and weight of responsibility of this goal is even stronger today because if trends continue, if smaller UU congregations stagnate or shrink, mid- and large-sized program congregations like ours may become the mainstay of the UUA ... as if we did not have *enough* pressure already!

Moreover, if the UUA metamorphoses into an association of large congregations, the implications for our polity, our ministry, and perhaps even our theology are profound.

Take heart, my friends! If I were like James Joyce, looking in from outside, I’d say that our congregation is well stocked with talented lay leaders, committed institutional members, dedicated, hard-working staff, awesome volunteers, welcoming hospitable people and a superstar minister. With our minds set to reaching more potential UUs, perhaps some that we have *never* been able to reach out to before, we are setting our sail to a good star, and will continue to grow... You ain’t seen nothin’ yet!

See you all a Justice GA! June 20-24!

Jimmy Leung

Our next Board of Trustees Meeting is June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Please join us.

We will be welcoming our new Board members, Jim Sorgatz and Bill Snowden.  
We will be exploring ways to better communicate with the congregation.

## Three Summer Opportunities for Community-Building

UUCP is offering three Small Group Ministries (SGM) this summer. These groups, formerly known as covenant groups, are led by trained facilitators and are designed to create a safe space where individuals can get to know one another through the exploration of values, attitudes, beliefs, and personal experiences related to a variety of topics. Group size is limited so early registration is important.

The Parents' Small Group Ministry is looking for a few additional members and plans to continue meeting over the summer. This group meets at 4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. They will be meeting throughout the summer, and their meetings will rotate between the homes of those members who are willing to host. On-site childcare will be provided. If you are interested in joining this group or have questions about it, please contact Curtis Johnston ([curtaj@yahoo.com](mailto:curtaj@yahoo.com) or 860-884-4405).

While most SGMs meet twice monthly, we are offering two SGM "teasers" that will meet on a different schedule—one in July and the other in August. These summer groups will meet once a week for four or five weeks in order to give participants a taste of the SGM experience. Because these summer groups will run for such a short time, interested persons should sign up only if they are certain that they can make it to all sessions. While preference will be given to those who have never participated in a SGM or those who were unable to be in a SGM during the past congregational year, please do not hesitate to indicate your interest as soon as possible by contacting the facilitators directly:

- John Wilber ([jwilber2001@yahoo.com](mailto:jwilber2001@yahoo.com)) for July SGM, which will meet Tuesdays (July 10, 17, 24, 31), 7:00 -8:30 p.m. at UUCP
- Ruth Braunstein ([candrm@cox.net](mailto:candrm@cox.net)) for August SGM, which will meet Wednesdays (August 2, 8, 15, 22, 29), 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the facilitator's home in the McCormick and Gainey Ranch vicinity

If you do not have access to email and wish to join one of the above groups, please leave your name and number with Rev. Linda Lawrence and she will see that one of the facilitators contacts you. Rev. Linda can be reached at 602-840-8400, Ext. 204.

Sign-ups for fall SGM groups will begin in September. Look for more detailed information in the 2012-2013 Program Calendar, which will be published in late August, or check the late summer and fall issues of *Horizons*.

## Greetings from Your Music Director!

The food is gone. We sang our songs. Cabaret was a wonderful night on May 12. Everyone worked very hard for the fun that is Cabaret. Thank-you to everyone: tech crew (sound and lights), musicians, sandwich makers, food providers, pico de gallo makers, sextons, bar tenders, servers, ticket sellers, door wardens, sign hangers, furniture movers, decorators, Manuel, and of course the organizer of all the details.... Charlotte Carl-Mitchell. Whew, what a bunch of dedicated volunteers. Now gear up for our next special music event:

A Night with the Chalice: an Evening of Chants, Music and Reflections, Wednesday, June 6, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
Lynne Haeseler, pianist; Jere Friedman, gongs; Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray; Rev. Linda Lawrence

Join us!

Connie Jahrmarkt, CML  
[musicdirector@phoenixuu.org](mailto:musicdirector@phoenixuu.org).

## It's Here!

June, that is. That month that's been on our minds for a long time now as we've looked forward to our association's annual meeting and conference. I'm excited! I haven't been to a General Assembly (GA) for a while now, and I've always found them to be energizing and inspirational. If you are at all able to attend—even if it's only online—please do so. There are some free events and there are also one-day registrations that actually get you in the door for more than a day. This is a unique opportunity to come together as Unitarian Universalists from around this country and the world. It is also unique in the history of GAs with its special focus on justice and increased opportunities to participate in witness events. Don't miss it!

It's here! Summer, that is. As we all know, it comes early to this area. While things slow down a little at UUCP over the summer, they definitely don't stop, so please don't be a stranger! We have some excellent worship services planned for summer, and you'll find mention of other summer activities in *Compass*, *Horizons*, and the *UUCP Announcements* in the Sunday Orders of Service (bulletins).

It's almost here! UUCP Community Night, that is (at least that's what I'm calling it for now). Beginning in October, we will be able to come together for Thursday evening suppers at UUCP. We might begin by having bring-your-own-sack-suppers, but we'll see how things evolve. There will also be childcare and sexton support and a number of activities happening on Thursday nights. It will be great to have a mid-week opportunity to gather in community, share a meal together, and—if the spirit moves us—participate in any classes, meetings, or other events scheduled for those evenings.

It's almost here! Having two full-time ministers, that is. That's important for a congregation the size of UUCP. It has been great serving as your Assistant Minister  $\frac{3}{4}$  time this past year, and I look forward to serving in the same capacity full-time beginning in September. I am honored to be one of your ministers. Thank you for your warm congratulations at our congregational meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> and for your continued support of UUCP, our vision, mission, and programs.

I'm here. Please know that I am on call for any pastoral care emergencies in June and July while Rev. Susan leads many programs at General Assembly and takes a much-needed vacation afterwards. While I will not always be on campus, I will check voicemail regularly at 815-218-3148 and 602-840-8400, Ext. 204. You can also reach me at [assistantminister@phoenixuu.org](mailto:assistantminister@phoenixuu.org).

Namaste,  
Linda  
Rev. Linda Lawrence

## Sanctuary Committee

Calling UUCP Artists! Do you paint, take photographs, make fiber or other hanging art, or sculpt? The Sanctuary Committee will be “hanging” the annual UUCP Members & Friends Art Show in late August 2012. The Members & Friends exhibition will be on display for approximately two months and exhibited pieces may be new or previously shown and for sale or exhibition only. So, if you make art that can be hung on a wall or that can stand on the floor (or other surface), the Sanctuary Committee invites you to share your creations with the Congregation! Don't wait until the last minute—let us know that you want to exhibit one or more of your creations as part of the show! For more information, or to tell the committee about the work that you would like to exhibit, just email [sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org](mailto:sanctuaryteam@phoenixuu.org) or call Tonia Davenport at [480-239-1741](tel:480-239-1741).

## Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays 2012

Curious about Traveling 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays? Come learn about other cultures and far-off lands as UUCP members and guests share about their adventures in Shanghai, Ethiopia, India and other foreign locales. Join us the second Friday of each month, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the UUCP sanctuary.

June 8: *Sampling the Beauty and History of Old and Modern Brazil* with Mike Peterson

Mike Peterson describes his visit to Brazil in September 2008. The journey starts in Rio de Janeiro with its beautiful beaches, mountains, historical places, city scenes and other famous sites. Then we go on to Petropolis, a nearby small mountain town, for a change from tropical Rio. On to Iguassu Falls, 600 miles inland, to see one of the world's greatest waterfall areas. It is impressive for its sheer size and the number of waterfalls. We continue to the city of Salvador, Brazil's first capital. The large 16<sup>th</sup> century core of the city is a World Heritage Site, preserving the colonial capital's architecture and ambiance beside the modern city of Salvador.

Feel free to contact Barbara Cawthorne at (480) 994-1452 or [thetravellers@q.com](mailto:thetravellers@q.com) with any questions. Everyone is welcome! Travel with us the second Friday of the month from January to June.

## Share the Plate

Our Share the Plate collection for June will go to Booker T. Washington center, a program with a longstanding relationship to UUCP.

Booker T. Washington Child Development Center is one of the City of Phoenix's original Head Start programs. Now in its 44<sup>th</sup> year, Booker T. Washington serves 192 low-income children and their families who live within the boundaries of the Phoenix Elementary School District I, the Eastlake Park and Garfield Neighborhoods. There are not enough licensed Early Childhood Education facilities in these inner city neighborhoods. Booker T. Washington has, and continues to be, one of the few high-quality early childhood education resources available to families in this area.

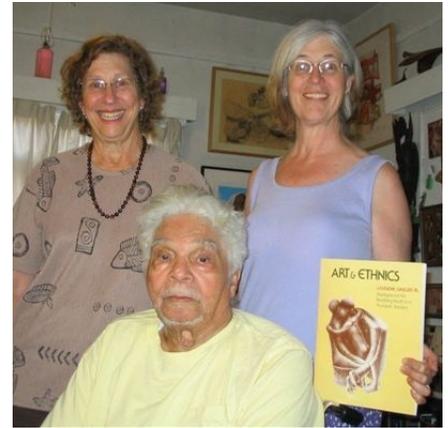
The Booker T. Washington Child Development Program in central Phoenix between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets on East Adams Street was initially assisted by a loan from our UUCP congregation when it began 44 years ago. Support has continued through the congregation's and individual member's contributions of time and funds. Individuals from our congregation are now board members and many UUCP members have been generous through the years with the financial support of the program.

There is yet much 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 Latino American. Unfortunately, we are now in a time of severe challenge to immigrant families when special efforts are necessary to protect some of the children enrolled in this Head Start program. There are important needs of funds to maintain and build the programs, teacher staff, and facilities of this important community program. Our congregation has been very helpful, especially recently, with introduction of music programs and library assistance for the children. Please give generously to continue UUCP support for this valuable education program. Also remember to give your tax credit gift this year to this Head Start Program.

## Friendship Partners

GENE GRIGSBY, BARBARA CAWTHORNE AND CAROLYN ALLENBY

**Jefferson Eugene “Gene” Grigsby, Jr.** is one of UUCP’s “living treasures” and perhaps its longest-attending congregant. He grew up in North Carolina, received his B.A. from Morehouse College in Atlanta and then served with an ammunition unit of the Third Army in Europe during World War II. For his service, he was awarded a Purple Star and a Bronze Heart.



In August, 1946, Gene accepted a teaching position at Carver High School, Phoenix’s designated black high school. As housing was limited, scarce and segregated, he and his wife, Thomasena (“Tommie”), lived separately in Phoenix until the city built barracks housing for veterans on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.

In 1948, Gene—who had been raised as a Presbyterian—was introduced to Unitarianism by the then-director of the Urban League and began attending Unitarian meetings which were held at Kenilworth Elementary School. With a humorous grin, Gene said that he was attracted to Unitarianism because the collection box was kept “outside and you put in what you wanted to.” In his previous experiences with black churches, there were “at least three collections!”

In 1953, students began a law suit for school integration and Carver High School was closed in 1954. Gene was chairman of the art department at the integrated Phoenix Union High School from 1954 to 1966. Thomasena also taught at Phoenix Union, her area of expertise being biology. Of those years, Gene described his classes as a laboratory where each student set his own goals, developed at his own pace, and was gratified by his personal development rather than assigned grades.

From 1966 to 1988, he was a professor at the School of Art at ASU. During this period, he and Tommie took three sabbatical leaves and studied and taught for the United States Information Service (USIS) in Africa, South America and Europe.

Gene received his M.A. from Ohio State University and a Ph.D. from NYU. He wrote *Art and Ethics: Background for Teaching Youth in a Pluralistic Society*, the first book written by a black artist for art teachers. He has continued to paint, make prints and create some sculpture. (I saw a sketch that he finished a few weeks ago and was greatly impressed with the draughtsmanship.)

Among his many awards and honors: Gene was selected in 1958 by NYC’s Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) to represent the US as an art teacher at the Children’s Creative Center at the Brussels World’s Fair; held a one-man show at the Phoenix Art Museum in 2001, *The Art of Eugene Grigsby, Jr: A 65 Year Retrospective*; was a recipient of the Governor’s *Tostenrud* Award for his contribution to Arizona art; received the NAACP’s *Man of the Year* Award; and was recognized for his distinguished contributions to African American art and education by the Congressional Black Caucus. He has received an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from the Philadelphia University of Art. His works have been displayed at the New York City’s Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Library of Congress, the Cape Coast Museum in West Africa and the Brandywine Workshop in Philadelphia.

When asked what he enjoyed about visits with his friendship partners, he replied, “Curiosity.” “They’re curious about me and I’m curious about them.” I guess that makes for good dialogue!

## Ministry and Committee Reports...

**Barbara Cawthorne** was born and grew up in Phoenix. (She has just attended her 55<sup>th</sup> West Phoenix High School reunion.) In the '70s, she and her husband, Dave, were attending a Congregational church where, at one service, Ray Manker was the guest speaker. Barbara was impressed and began attending the Unitarian church where she subsequently became a member.

Barbara's involvement with Friendship Partners is based upon her desire to "give back" to the church. She says that it has "extended" and made her own life "bigger."

**Carolyn Allenby** grew up in Massachusetts and moved to Phoenix in 2004 when her husband accepted a position at ASU. The religious practices in her childhood home encompassed Congregationalism and Unitarianism, and after college Carolyn chose the latter for herself.

She has recently helped to initiate a Music Ministry at UUCP, in which a small group sings to the homebound.

For Carolyn, Friendship Partners means simultaneously developing friendships with two people, Barbara and Gene. She says, "Interconnections with people are part of my faith."



*Margaret Herrick and Julie Smart, highlighted in last month's Friendship Partners article.*

## Mantra Meditation

Many years ago Hindu Yogis started coming from India to our country and introducing mantra meditation, also known as transcendental meditation. This activity is similar to the meditation on God that is familiar to the Christians.

During mantra meditation one sits quietly on a flat seat with eyes closed and focuses on a Sanskrit or Buddhist chant repeating it silently again and again, and avoiding engagement in other thoughts. This chant usually affirms the belief of Hindus and Buddhists that God is Brahman and (since Brahman is infinite in all directions) each one of us is also Brahman. Brahman is referred to as Aum or by a name of an incarnation such as Buddha, Hari et al or simply "that." This particular belief is so difficult to attain that it is considered the ultimate reward of the spiritual existence of human beings. Brahman is also called Self or Atman. (It may be the same as "Spirit" or "I am what I am" in Christian terms.) Attaining the belief is called realizing the Self. One of the consequences for the believer is what Jesus preached, simply love and inner peace. If each one of us is Brahman, then there are no boundaries and no enemies.

One of the Mantra is "KoHum...SoHum." It means, "Who am I...I am that..." Others are simply "Aum..." Or "So...Hum..." Or "Aum Manipadme Hum..." The meanings are not different.

Jay Alagia

*Note: Jay has been teaching on a personal basis Hindu style meditation as adapted to the American way of life in UUCP since 1995. He also leads meditation group activities. He can be contacted by e-mail at [jayalagia@gmail.com](mailto:jayalagia@gmail.com).*

## Social Action Committee

The final Social Action Luncheon of the 2011-2012 year will be at noon on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> in the Johnson Room. Food will be catered by New Day Gourmet. All are welcome to attend; a small, voluntary donation for food is appreciated.

We are excited to welcome speaker Dr. M. Zuhdi Jasser, Founder and President of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy and a board member of the Arizona Interfaith Movement. A devout Muslim, Dr. Jasser founded AIFD in the wake of the 9/11 attacks as an effort to provide an American Muslim voice advocating for the preservation of the founding principles of the United States Constitution—liberty and freedom—through the separation of mosque and state. AIFD seeks to counter political Islam, the ideology that fuels radical Islamists.

He has been featured in The Arizona Republic, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Times, The New York Post, The Dallas Morning News, CNN, CBS, Fox News Channel, MSNBC and the BBC, in addition to nationally syndicated radio programs. He has spoken at hundreds of national and international events including at universities, places of worship, and government venues.

Dr. Jasser is a first-generation American Muslim whose parents fled the oppressive Baath regime of Syria in the mid-1960s. He is now a respected physician in private practice in Phoenix, specializing in internal medicine and nuclear cardiology. He is a Past President of the Arizona Medical Association.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays Addiction Discussion Group

It's always interesting to look at the facts about drug use in America. Here is a little trivia game with answers at the end: Which of the following two drugs, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, are seeing a decline in use? a) Salvia; b) Methamphetamine; c) Spice; d) Bath Salts; e) Marijuana; f) LSD; g) Ecstasy; h) Cocaine; i) Inhalants; j) Oxycontin.

Do you have addictive or compulsive behaviors surrounding the internet, video games, gambling, alcohol, shopping, smoking, eating disorders including bulimia and anorexia, prescription drugs, or illicit drugs? Come join us June 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in Annex B for spiritually safe and open discussions. Your anonymity will be protected. We are not a 12-step group, but recommend six months sobriety. Call Gene at 602-361-9067 if you have any questions.

Answers: Methamphetamine and Cocaine have been in decline for several years. Salvia, Spice, and Bath Salts are defined as emerging drugs. LSD and Inhalants remain unchanged, Ecstasy and Oxycontin are trending slightly upward, and Marijuana use is increasing. Another two drugs in decline, at least among young people, are tobacco and alcohol.

## Men's Group

Men's group meets the last Sunday of each month in Annex Room H after our service mingling time, 11:45-1:00 p.m. Questions? Contact Michael Relland at 602-321-8991 or [mjvielle@yahoo.com](mailto:mjvielle@yahoo.com).

## New Day Meal

UMOM has been providing help to the Homeless since 1964. They provide housing and meals for those in need. The New Day Center is located at 3333 East Van Buren Road in Phoenix. Our congregation partners with UMOM by providing a meal on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month to the residents at the New Day Center. There can be anywhere from 100-150 people being fed. The meal includes a hot dish, salad, bread, beverage and brownies for dessert.

There are two parts to volunteering to serve at New Day. You may volunteer to either help cook the meal on Sunday morning after the service. By cook, I really mean help open cans and mix things together in a crock-pot. Or, later on in the early evening, you can help serve the meal at the Center. It is usually best to have about 5 adults to prepare the meal and 4-6 to help serve.

Preparing the meal involves opening cans, cooking meat, placing the food in three slow cookers and cleaning up the pans and kitchen area. It takes about 1½ hours, at the most. At 4:20 p.m. that same day the servers meet outside the patio north gates. They load the three cookers and all the food into their vehicles and caravan to New Day. You sign in and then do a short amount of prep work. This involves making salad and buttering bread. There is always a kitchen supervisor on site. New Day has a lovely restaurant kitchen and dining area. We start serving around 5:30. It goes until about 6:15. Usually one person will leave early to return the cookers to the church kitchen. Anyone can bake brownies for us to serve or even put them in the church freezer labeled New Day. If you are signed up to help, a few days before the meal either Michael Hipps or Merrily Beyreuther will call or email you to remind you of your commitment. It is really important to respond to those calls or emails in a timely manner so we know if last minute announcements or emails are needed.

Our next meal will be on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is always so helpful when people sign up ahead of time, as it can be challenging to find volunteers at the last minute.

Maya Angelou once said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." I can tell you from personal experience that this is true. At a time in my life when things were at their most challenging, the idea that people, some of whom were total strangers, took time out of their own lives to make my life better helped me to keep going and are in many ways responsible for the successes and blessings I have in my life today.

Please consider giving of your time and your compassion by signing up to serve a meal at the New Day Center. It is just one more way in which UUCP members live out their shared covenant that "service is our prayer."

Please contact Michael Hipps at [mhipps65@gmail.com](mailto:mhipps65@gmail.com) or call 602-488-1188. Also, you may sign up on the New Day board at the back of the Sanctuary.

Michael Hipps

## Women's Spirituality Circle

Women's Spirituality Circle will be on hiatus this summer and will resume meeting in October. Have a wonderful summer!

## UUCP Justice Ministry—Citrus Glean Team Update



On Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> we “got citrus” and much more! Our fledgling justice ministry team gleaned (gathered) citrus at an Arcadia home ripe with more than 75 neighborhood citrus trees. In conjunction with the Quaker Friends and St. Mary’s Food Bank, our team of 20 volunteers joined over 120 volunteers from UPS and area high schools to gather citrus on this very “green” morning. When the day was done, the St. Mary’s Food Bank 18-wheeler truck pulled away two-thirds full!

Ten other congregation members were also kind enough to glean their own trees and donate a total of one-and-a-half pallets of citrus to the food bank. Besides gleaning, all the volunteers at the site enjoyed a delectable continental breakfast, through generous donations from Café Valley Bakery and Dunkin Donuts.

Why did we do this? On a practical level, St. Mary’s has the capability of collecting as much perishable citrus as Phoenicians are able to pull off our many neighborhood citrus trees, because they juice the excess, and send it across several state borders in exchange for other communities’ local foodstuffs. With our economic times as a backdrop, this exchange utilizes a ready resource (that normally goes to waste), and thereby increases the overall food supply to those in need. On a more spiritual level, and in keeping with our mission and seventh principle, participation in this team is a service to others, and builds bridges with other religious organizations—facilitating a genuine sense of interconnectedness.

Looking forward, the committee will gather over the summer to make plans for next year. At a minimum, we would like to expand our volunteer base and participate in St. Mary’s Super Citrus Saturday, in which homes across the Valley join in picking citrus and dropping it off at various donation sites. Depending on our level of interest, it would be a dream to have UUCP act as one of the drop-off points. We look forward to you joining us next year!

Lillian Habeich, Citrus Glean Team Chair

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## Unicare News

- Our loving thoughts are with Karl Haviland and family following the death of Karl's wife, Marcy Kiefer. We celebrated Marcy's life at a memorial service on May 19<sup>th</sup>. She will be greatly missed.
- We also extend our love and sympathy to Libby Walker and family. Dave Walker, another valuable member of the UUCP community, died peacefully at home on May 20<sup>th</sup>. A memorial service may take place in the fall.
- Others in our congregation have also experienced significant loss: Charlotte Carl-Mitchell's dear friend, Karen Gould, died April 17<sup>th</sup>; Uli Boecker-Grieme's uncle Bruno died in Germany on May 10<sup>th</sup>; and Joyce Short's mother passed away on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Boecker-Grieme family also had to euthanize a dear old pet. May fond memories comfort all of you.
- Trent Tripp was hospitalized mid-May and is home recuperating at the time of this writing. We wish you a full recovery, Trent!
- Mary Dawes' daughter, Hannah, was hit by a car while riding her bicycle at U of A. She sustained some serious injuries but seems to have very determinedly bounced back. We wish her continued healing.
- Kathy Baughman's brother, Wilbur, also sustained serious injuries when hit by a car while riding his motorcycle. We are so glad he was wearing a helmet! We wish him a speedy recovery.
- Our hearts go out to the family of six-year-old Isabel Celis who has been missing from her home in Tucson since the end of April. UUCP friend and friend of the Celis family, Rachel Dorsey, we share your sorrow.
- We are glad that Gretchen Manker, Sally McDade, and Vito Gagliardi are home from hospital visits and improving.
- Barb DeWitt's nephew, Dan, was the first to receive a heart procedure that, after six open heart surgeries, has enabled him to engage in active sports. Congratulations!
- David Boecker-Grieme has increased his workload and this is a good thing! Congratulations to you, David!
- Congratulations to our graduating seniors: Celeste Allen, Alicia Angle, Alec Featherston, Ethan Hetrick, China Rae Newman, Phoebe Porter, Mitchell St. Clair, and Lyle Yanak. We are so proud of you!
- Thank you, Jaynn Truran, for your awesome work and presence as our Interim DRE!
- Welcome, Anne Byrne, as our full-time Director of Children's Ministries. We are glad to have you!
- Jill Story, we have so appreciated your wonderful support as UUCP's Office Assistant, and we wish you the best as you work on new health and career goals. Don't be a stranger!

In ComUUnity,  
Rev. Linda

## Welcome, New Members!

We have had 67 people attend the Pathway to Membership programs during the 2011-2012 congregational year. Of those individuals, 44 chose to sign the Membership Book. Our most recent new members are: John Idlewine, Kaj-Willow Kaemmerer, Margaret Leahy, Matt Thesing, and Melisa Thesing. We are glad to have you as members of our faith community!

If you haven't yet met our new members, you can see new member pictures and read their short biographical sketches on the next page. Be sure to give these wonderful newcomers a hearty congratulation and welcome when you see them in person!

## New Members...



Margaret Leahy was born in Phoenix but was raised in Ohio and New Jersey. She survived one winter of driving in the snow and transferred to an Arizona college the next year. She is a consultant helping businesses of all sizes set up and run their accounting systems. She enjoys travel, reading and the theater.

John Idlewine is originally from Indiana and enjoys hiking, reading, travel and art. With friends and family back in the Midwest, John sensed a stronger need for community and is so happy to have found this congregation. John recently returned from his first trip to the Grand Canyon, which was such fun. He also just bought a piano and is working hard to meet his goal of finally learning to play a musical instrument.



Matt and Melisa Thesing met in Phoenix in 2003 and married in 2005. Matt is from Cincinnati, OH, and Melisa grew up in Olney, MD. Their daughters, Etta (6) and Amory (4) attend Montessori school and love the arts and pretend play! We also like to hike, swim, read, be outside, and connect with friends and family. We are excited about joining UUPC and growing through its values and principles.

Kaj-Willow Kaemmerer is a mother, grandmother, counselor, Vice Chair of the Mayor of Phoenix Commission on Disability Issues (MCDI), and champion of “church on the corner” attendance since childhood. She enjoys reading, storytelling, and meditation.



## Celebrations of Life

10:30 AM

### JUNE 3: THE SONGS OF WOODY GUTHRIE: RELEVANT YESTERDAY, RELEVANT TODAY

Service Leader: Susan Goldsmith with Dave Bellama & Co-Conspirators

UUCP banjo master Dave Bellama has rounded up some of our best performers for a service devoted to the songs of this famous folk balladeer and social conscience of our country. Come to sing along—or listen—and to be inspired by these songs, still moving and inspiring us in this centennial year, 100 years after Woody Guthrie's birth.

### JUNE 10: A JOURNEY THROUGH FAITH

Service Leader: Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

As Unitarian Universalists, we do not have just one spiritual path, just one practice that we all share, one way to pray, one god or goddess to whom we pray. This is a gift and a challenge. It means the journey as a Unitarian Universalist can take several forms, but how do we touch the depth of our lives as spiritual beings, not just the breadth of the variety of spiritual forms?

### JUNE 17: HOPE AND RESILIENCE

Service Leader: Rev. Diane Dowgiert, UU Church of Tucson

Hope is intricately entwined with memory. Memory is a conversation with the past. Hope is a conversation with the future. In the meeting, there is resilience.

*Share the Plate Sunday: our offering will be donated to Booker T. Washington Child Development Center*

### JUNE 24: GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2012

Instead of a regular service, we will broadcast the GA Sunday Service (taking place in downtown Phoenix) to UUCP.

**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

*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  
Executive Assistant to Minister: Kathy Bennett  
Music Director: Connie Jahrmarkt  
Children's Ministry Director: Anne Byrne  
Arizona Immigration Ministry Organizer: Sandra Weir  
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Juli Harvey, Tish Gauntt, Sharon Hise, Pauline Peverly, Julie Smart  
and Dorothy LeWin*

## Our Mission

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

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