



March 18, 2009

ucsonitarian

Sunday Services
9:15 and 11:00 a.m.

*The Bi-weekly Newsletter of
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson*

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT:

On March 3, \$2,723.98 from Grocery Scrip was deposited into the Church account. \$1,948.96 was a rebate from Fry's! Many thanks to all who participate.

A member of our YRUU (Youth Group) has been invited to participate in a Social Justice Roundtable in Boston at the UUA! See the story on p. 3.

The other night, I noticed how bright the buildings and parking lot look. There is now a light directly over the door to the Awareness Room and the courtyard between buildings is lighted, too. My spontaneous reaction was to start clapping. Much thought and care went into making our church campus more welcoming and safer after dark. I was so appreciative of all that fine effort that I wanted to jump, clap my hands, and shout, "Bravo! Way to go Buildings and Grounds Committee!"

Expressing appreciation with applause is almost hard-wired into us, at least in our American culture. We applaud at the symphony, the theatre, rock concerts, and sporting events. Sometimes it feels obligatory. Other times it feels genuine.

When the subject of applause came up at a Worship Committee meeting, it felt like a familiar conversation. Every Unitarian Universalist congregation I've ever been part of has struggled with the issue of applause in worship. To applaud or not to applaud, that is the question!

There isn't an easy answer. For those who enjoy a more spirited time of worship, applause adds to the experience. For those who want a more contemplative experience, applause is distracting.

There's nothing more uncomfortable than not knowing whether to clap or not. Though there is a performance aspect to worship, those who 'perform' on Sunday morning do so as a gift. Their words or music are meant to enhance the message and deepen the experience. They don't expect applause. Expressions of appreciation, however, are always welcome. Sometimes a personal thank you is the most meaningful of all.

So as to make our experience together as comfortable for everyone as possible, I ask that we hold all applause until the very end of the service. Then, go out of your way to personally say, "Bravo! Job well done!" -- to the many people who make our church community brighter.

Sunday Service

Sunday, March 22, Guest Speaker, Rev. John Fife

Sunday, March 29, The Power of Music

Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Agnes Paulsen, and Brian Moon

All Music Sunday is an annual tradition here at UUCT, an Extended Family Worship Service featuring the wide array of musical talent in our congregation. Join us for this especially meaningful service that honors Agnes Paulsen in her role as Minister of Music. Come and let the power of music move, inspire and uplift you.

Sunday, April 5, Youth Sunday

Sunday, April 12, Light, Life, Freedom, and Love **One service at 11:00******

Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings

We'll celebrate the Eastertide by honoring the many religious observances that converge at this time of year. This Extended Family Worship service will be filled with joyous music to lift our spirits and fill our day with gladness.

Important Notice!

Mark your calendars. Two important dates are coming up next month for meetings you won't want to miss.

On **April 5th** there will be **Town Hall Meetings** following each service. At these meetings, you will hear in advance the proposed questions to be brought to a vote at the annual meeting. Hopefully this will give members and friends adequate time to give feedback and have their questions answered before the Annual Meeting.

On **April 26th** UUCT will have its **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**. The purpose of each annual meeting is to review congregational affairs, elect the officers for the next year, adopt the annual budget, and vote on other matters requiring congregational support. Twenty percent of the Congregation **must** be present to vote on each question presented.

Note All voting members will receive written notice of this congregational meeting at least fourteen days prior to the meeting and all business to be transacted will be specified in that notice.*

It is important for you to be at both meetings since the Annual Meeting will not allow time for lengthy discussion and modification of the questions. There will only be short statements supporting or opposing each question followed by an up or down vote. This means that your time to help improve the proposed questions is **April 5th**.

The next newsletter will contain more information on the questions to be discussed on **April 5th** and voted upon on **April 26th**. One significant item is the revision to our by-laws.

In Faith,
Fran Brazzell, President
Board of Trustees

District Assembly 2009 May 1-3

The District Assembly brochure and registration forms are online at <http://www.pswduua.org/pages/district-assembly.php>



General Assembly 2009 June 24-28 Salt Lake City
For more information contact generalassembly@uua.org.

April Lynn Fowler

Last April UUCT lost a beloved member and ardent volunteer, April Lynn Fowler. A beautiful banner, designed by Mark Henson, is now being made to be hung in our long empty bell tower in her memory. Funds are needed to cover the cost of the banner (\$271) and the cost of getting it hung. If you would like to donate money for this project, please make your checks payable to UUCT with "Banner" in the memo line. You could also contribute cash by placing it in an envelope with "Banner" and your name written on the outside. You may place contributions in the basket any Sunday or mail them to the church office.

Election Encore!!

Are you going through election withdrawal? Find yourself missing the hoopla, the debates, posters, campaign slogans? Did you know that there is still one more presidential election in which you can have a voice? You can have a say in who will be the next president of the Unitarian Universalist Association!

In accordance with our 5th principle, "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large", every congregation has a vote in the selection of the president of the association. Consequently, your Board of Trustees would like to have your input, so that we can make the choice you as a congregation would want.

To get all the pertinent information on each of the two candidates running, you can visit the website: www.uua.org/aboutus/governance/elections/index.shtml then email board member Jan Dowling (rubytues98@hotmail.com) with your input. The Board will cast a vote on behalf of the entire congregation, basing the decision on the feedback received from each of you.

There will be more information about this at the Town Hall meeting on April 5th.

Circus Ole

Less than a week remains until the **March 21** UUCT grand party of the year! It's Circus Ole, of course, and we do hope you are planning to come with family and friends this Saturday at 5:00 p.m.!!

Because of the high cost of credit card servicing, we are asking that you plan ahead now to use a check or cash for your auction purchases. Thank you!

Music Notes

Sunday, March 29th, will be our annual All Music Sunday. Both the Desert Chorale and Family Singers will be featured, along with special offerings by talented Flutists Sylvia Hamilton and Liz Ricketts and Cellist Tom Clowes. Sheryl Holland, our wonder Soprano, will enhance our worship with two solos and Brian Moon, our talented tenor and Associate Music Director, will sing a solo as well. Carol Evans, our expert drummer, will be accompanying one of the Family Singers' selections and dancers Nicole, Lisa, and Kristin Hamilton will be featured on one of the Family Singers' anthems with their original choreography. Accompanists Donna DeHaan and Terry Polowy will enhance the musical offerings by the choirs and our musical minister, Rev. Diane, will share an interesting story about singing.

On Saturday morning, the 28th, both choirs will gather for a special rehearsal from 9 to 11. And then they will come early on Sunday morning, the 29th, to sing for both services. Perhaps now is an appropriate time to thank all of the participants for their dedication and willingness to donate their time and talents to make this service a meaningful one.

The congregation is a vital part in All Music Sunday as we share the power of music in worship.

Membership/Community Life Bulletin Board:

Newcomer News:

Newcomer Orientation: The next Newcomer Orientation is scheduled for Sunday, April 19th at 12:30 in the Holland sanctuary. If you are interested in learning more about our church, and the history and theology of the denomination, you are encouraged to join us. This orientation is a requirement of membership. To RSVP or ask questions, please contact Mary Wiese, macbrude@cox.net.

New Member Classes: New Member Classes will be held in April, on the first Wednesday, at 7 p.m., and the second Sunday, at 12:30 p.m. If you have fulfilled the requirements for the Pathway to Membership and are ready to commit some of your time and resources to the congregation, then we welcome, and encourage you, to become a member. If you would like to reserve a place in the class or if you have questions, please contact Mary Wiese, macbrude@cox.net.

Mark This Date: On Saturday, May 16th, the Membership Team and representatives from Religious Education will be hosting an All Church Cookout. This cookout will be a family friendly way to get to know our newest families. If you would like to help coordinate this fun event, please contact Mary Wiese, macbrude@cox.net, or Becky Keyes, becky.k@mountainviewtours.com.

Kitchen Ministry:

We are continuing to look for lunch donations and groups/individuals that could sponsor a lunch by funding one. Please contact Kathy McDaniel if you want to contribute to this vital ministry of the church: kmcdaniel@dakotacom.net.

On a down note, due to the high cost of *commercial free trade ground coffee*, we will no longer be serving it during coffee hour.

Yours in community spirit, Mary

A UUCT Youth Goes to Boston

Congregations across the continent participated in the Consultation on Ministry to and with Youth, a process of visioning for our youth ministry. Then a Summit on the results led to a working group that is helping to put all those great ideas into action. One thing heard consistently from youth (and those who work with them) concerned the value of social justice work and community service. A Social Justice Roundtable is being convened in April to examine ways in which we currently engage youth in justice activities and possibilities for new ways.

Patrice Davison, daughter of Cynthia McDaniel and Warren Davison and a junior in our YRUU program at UUCT, was recommended by Tera Little, Director of Lifespan Programs for the Pacific Southwest District (PSWD), as a youth who has experience in justice work and an important perspective to share.

Patrice was selected to participate, all expenses paid by the Unitarian Universalist Association, in the Roundtable with two other youth and a few adults. We know that with her experience in Nicaragua, at No More Deaths camp, and with other local social action projects, Patrice will be well equipped to represent our youth and those of our district.

Congratulations Patrice! Safe travels to Boston!

“CITIZEN ACTION FOR BORDER JUSTICE” PROGRAM SET FOR MARCH 22

A free presentation on “Citizen Action for Border Justice” will be held from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22, in the Awareness Room.

Lifespan Faith Development

For information about Lifespan Faith Development programs or Covenant Circles, email mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net or call him at 326-8831. You can also find out more at the Adult Faith Development table in Goddard after the service.

Special Food Bank Project

The 2007-2008 Covenant Circle members agreed upon three projects as the service component of the program. The first two projects involved improving the interior and exterior of the church, and those have taken place with the painting of the Goddard kitchen and Rev. Diane's office and with the parking lot cleanups. The third project agreed upon was to volunteer at the Tucson Community Food Bank. Two dates have now been set, and former and present Covenant Circle members as well as all members of the congregation are invited and encouraged to participate.

On **Saturday, May 9**, we're asking for volunteers to help pack up food collected by letter carriers and load it into trucks. The time commitment would be from 2:00 to 5:00 pm (just three hours!) at the Speedway and Silverbell post office. On **Wednesday, May 20**, we're asking for volunteers to sort and pack bags of food for distribution. This would be from 9:00 am to noon (just three hours!) at the Food Bank at 3003 S. Country Club. This is a great way for you to give back to the community at a time when so many more people are depending on the Food Bank to help them through very difficult times, and it's a great opportunity for a really meaningful family project. We do request that people sign up at the AFD table in Goddard Hall.

Listening for the Spirit Continues Its Comparative Religion Focus

Awareness Room:Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Currently, the group is reading about and discussing Hinduism. The class uses a combination of Huston Smith's landmark work *The World's Religions: Our Great Wisdom Traditions* (also available as *The Illustrated World's Religions*) and excerpts from a DVD series, *Great World Religions*. Drop-ins are welcome at any meeting but it's best to check with Mary Schantz at 731-8189 to find out which chapters are being discussed.

Exploring Spirituality "Crosses the Event Horizon"

Exploring Spirituality as a Unitarian Universalist meets from 9:30 to 10:30 am each Sunday in the Servetus Room. This is a drop-in group. Everyone is welcome for a stimulating hour of conversation. The group is currently viewing and discussing *Crossing the Event Horizon* a DVD series produced by Nassim Haramein, a scientist whose theories about the geometry of space and time and their relation to the fundamental structure of the universe and to spirituality have been the subject of much discussion and controversy in the scientific community.

CPR and First Aid Classes Saturday April 25, 1:00 pm

Cost:\$20.00 per person. Scholarships available.

Presented by Desert Fire CPR & First Aid

Open to all interested parties.- teachers, volunteers and Safe-Sitters.

Participants receive an American Heart Association certification card valid for two years.

Sign up at the LFD table on Sundays in Goddard Hall or call Kathleen Hogue at 312-0441.

Deadline for registration: April 19th.

Supply Drive

No More Deaths needs supplies for March: *Socks, Walking Shoes in good condition, Sweaters, Fruit Cups, Soups with pop-top lids, Tuna Packs, Granola Bars.* Donation boxes will be set up in Goddard Hall on Sundays from now until March 22.

Book Club

The Book Club Thursday March 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Awareness Room.

We will be reviewing *Thirteen Moons* by Charles Frazier about the devastating effect of the Civil War on southern Indian tribes. We always have an informative good time. All are welcome.

First Saturday Hikers

Join the UUCT First Saturday Hikers on their last outing of the season on April 4 at Catalina State Park. Meet for carpooling either at church at 8:30 am, or at Trader Joe's on Oracle and Magee at 9:15 am. After a scenic and not-too-difficult hike, we will enjoy our picnic lunches together. Bring water and your own lunch. Ellie Nelson 615-4136, or Chris Wallace 326-6043.

Artist of the Month Gallery

Enjoy and ponder the creation of art over three generations in "Pieces of Three," works of art by the Angevine family, currently on the walls of the Sanctuary and in place through April 5. Celebrate "April in Paris," beginning April 8, with the black and white photographs of Edward Warner. During his reception, Sunday, April 26, he'll gladly explain where, how, and why he shot those scenes. *Abby Root, for the Gallery Committee.*



Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

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Return Service Requested

WANTED: A TV FOR UUCT

The Zenith television we've been using for adult and children's classes and for child care has just passed its zenith. It's on life support, and we need a new one. Many people are in the process of upgrading their televisions to accommodate digital transmissions, so if anyone is willing to donate their old set to UUCT, it would be much appreciated. Because this is used for classrooms, we need a set with a 32" diagonal screen or larger and one which has inputs for VHS and DVD players. Contact the office if you're able to help.

Safe-Sitter Training

Saturday, April 18: 9:00am—4:30pm

For boys and girls ages 11-13.

Fee: \$45.00 (includes materials and lunch) Scholarships available. Registration options: e-mail Lwhealey@gmail.com or call her at 471-2928 or also by going to the LFD table in Goddard after the service or online at www.uuctucson.org.

Topics to be covered are: entertaining children while keeping them safe, basic child care skills (diapering, feeding, etc.), handling choking situations, calling for emergency help, safety for the sitter, and babysitting business skills.

Child care is an important part of our congregational life!



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