



April 15, 2009

ucsonitarian

Sunday Service 11:00a.m.

The Bi-weekly Newsletter of
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT:

So far this year, the Share the Plate program has raised \$1,266.36 for agencies that provide services in the greater Tucson area, which also means an additional \$1,266.36 has gone to the church! Thank you everyone for your generosity.

Annual Meeting – What you can expect this year.

On April 26th UUCT will have its **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**. The purpose of the 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.

All voting members have already received written notice of this congregational meeting and all business to be transacted was specified in that notice. The agenda for the annual meeting this year includes:

Election of Officers

Proposed Bylaws Revisions

Covenant of Right Relations

Annual Proposed Budget 2009-2010

It is our hope (and responsibility) that you have had available, in advance of the meeting, all the information needed to vote “yea” or “nay” on each item. If you do not yet have the information you need to make an informed choice please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Trustees with your questions. Ask directly, email or call.

Fran Brazzell 623-7591; franbrazzell@hotmail.com

Chuck Lundstrom 577-6446; az-Lundstroms@comcast.net

Marion Leonard 326-1437; maridawn@aol.com

Jan Dowling 748-9503; rubbytues98@hotmail.com

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Linda Selsor 529-9081; lselsor@msn.com

Ed Savard 300-5972; esavard@cox.net

Logistically, here is what you can expect at the Annual Meeting this year.

More places to sign in and get your ballot – Tables will be set up on the patio and you can start signing in almost immediately.

You can still buy a ticket for Sunday Together Lunch; pick up your brown bag lunch after you re-enter Holland; and yes, we will be eating during the meeting.

We hope to start the formal meeting by 12:30 – but we have to have a quorum or 20% of the voting members present to begin!

The meeting will be conducted according to Robert’s Rules of Order.

We will have a 2 minute time limit for individual comments and questions – Please try to have all of your questions answered before the meeting – the intention of the open mike is to allow for a brief explanation of your support or opposition of a particular motion.

There will be a total designated time for each topic on the agenda that will be clearly announced and displayed. The intention is to be respectful of members’ time and adhere to our commitment to lead the congregation in accomplishing the business of the church.

Con fe - que tengamos paz y paciencia,

In faith - that we have peace and patience,

Fran Brazzell

Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 19 Youth Sunday

The YRUU service is about looking at spirituality through the arts and the past experiences of other cultures. Come enjoy dance, song, poetry, and drama with us.

Sunday, April 26 Earth Day

Rev. Diane Dowgiert and The Green Group

PRESS RELEASE – PSWD - DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

This year, the UUA's Pacific Southwest District Assembly will be held May 1-3, right here in Mesa, Arizona!

Please visit www.pswduua.org right away to register. The brochure, including information on workshops and lodging, is available at <http://www.pswduua.org/pages/district-assembly/da-2009-registration.php>. You may register via credit card or by mailing a check and the deadline for the lower price has been moved up to April 14, so register today to take advantage of the \$30 savings! Scholarships are available by filling out the scholarship request form (also on the PSWD website) and mailing it with your DA registration.

If you only want to attend the Friday evening presentation of the UU Cantata, "Sources," tickets are \$30 and should be ordered in advance by using the same DA registration form. This amazing musical event will feature the voices of a 100-member combined district choir and 15 instrumentalists.

"Sources" was composed by the Rev. Jason Shelton with words by the Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons, minister of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis. This is seven-movement work based on a wide variety of musical styles that was presented with great success at the 2008 General Assembly.

We are also very excited to announce that the entertainment on Saturday evening, May 2, will be provided by **Arizona's only husband-and-wife JUUish comedy duo: Jerry Robin and Irene Rosenthal.**

You'll be treated to an hour of stand-up comedy and musical comedy. Highlights will include an open Q & A session with German philosophy professor Helmut Aufschneider-Gehirn, and a performance of the hilarious and irreverent, recently "discovered" 17th-Century Italian liturgical work -- Missa Solanum Tuberosum (Mass in Honor of the Potato). And we may have a few other surprises for you as well... Tickets for the banquet and Saturday's comedy show are also available!

Don't miss this unique and memorable weekend! General questions can be directed to pswd@aol.com or by calling the district office at 805-485-1780.

PSWD Summer Camps - Registration Available

Did you know we have a Unitarian Universalist summer camp in our district?

There are many camps to choose from---something (or many things) for everyone! Adult and child and family camps! Information about each camp and registration forms are now available in the latest issue of the Camp de Benneville Pines' Connection <<http://www.debenneville.org/Connection/WebConnection09Spring.pdf>>.

Register for YoUuth Camps before April 30 to get an early bird discount. Register with a \$75 per person deposit and pay the balance at check in. Payment by cash, check or credit card is available. Suzanne Borth, elementary school camp dean, will be available after the April 26th service to give you all the information you need and a discount on the registration fee.

From the Minister's Study

Good news came out of the state of Iowa on Friday, April 3. The state's Supreme Court voted unanimously to overturn a 10-year-old ban on same-sex marriages. Yay for Iowa! Having the legal right for one's committed relationship to be upheld and blessed is also a sacred right. When two people pledge to share their lives together in a responsible and loving way, it is a holy moment. Anyone who has been to a wedding or service of union knows this is true.

The legal right of marriage confers certain benefits and privileges. The long and hard struggle to win this right for all people is a struggle for justice. People who are legally married can safely assume access to a spouse's hospital room in times of illness, access to a spouse's health care benefits, and the transfer of a spouse's property upon death. The same isn't necessarily true for gay and lesbian couples, though their love and commitment is equal to that of their heterosexual friends.

Let us continue to make a congregation where everyone feels welcome. Let us continue to work for equity, justice, and compassion for all. Let us celebrate with the good people of Iowa who are leading the way.

With joy,
Diane

No More Deaths Ministry Updates

Volunteers with No More Deaths are now looking at opening their desert aid camps for the sixth summer in a row – and there are things you can do to help out!

First, we'd like to thank all the UUCT members who helped make our alternative spring break program a huge success. We had 109 students from 13 colleges spend their spring break vacation weeks out in the desert from March 7 through 28. A huge thanks to those who donated to help purchase a Chevy ¾ ton pickup to help us bring water to remote migrant trails.

One need for this summer is houses of hospitality for incoming volunteers, visiting media and other guests. If you have an extra room or a house you'll be leaving vacant during the summer and you feel comfortable hosting out-of-town folks, please let our volunteer coordinator know at volunteer@nomoredeaths.org.

Starting in June, we will need people to help with in-town logistics to support our camps. Errands like purchasing food, sorting donations, picking people up from the airport and a variety of other tasks will be needed each week. Starting in May, we will have a logistics coordinator to help in-town volunteers plug in.

Please visit www.nomoredeaths.org for current updates and announcements. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this ministry's success!

Membership/Community Life

Newcomer News:

New Member Classes: New Member Classes will be held by appointment in May. 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 make an appointment, or if you have questions, please contact Mary Wiese, macbrude@cox.net.

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.

Yours in community spirit, Mary

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.

Help in Swaziland

As our social action project, the middle school group is asking for donations to send to Swaziland with the Hoffmans' project. Please bring sewing supplies such as thread, needles, and scissors (but no fabric please!); also old school textbooks (in English is fine, up to 8th grade level). Bring them to the RE Office. We are also raising money to send at least one kid to school for a year, so donations of a few dollars are also welcome. Swaziland doesn't have much potable water or food, and has the highest AIDS/HIV rate in the world, so please help. For more information please contact Natasha Warner at nwarner@U.Arizona.EDU

Lifespan Faith Development

Special Food Bank Project

The Tucson Community Food Bank does much for those most in need in our community, and with the economic downturn, its help is needed by even more people than usual. UUCT members will volunteer at the food bank on May 9 and May 20. You can sign up to be a part of one or both projects.

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 either noon to 2:00 pm OR 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Speedway and Silverbell post office. We will pack food picked up by letter carriers and help to load it onto trucks. This is outdoor work, and there will be some lifting required. Volunteers should wear comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes--no sandals or flipflops--a sunscreen or a hat. Bring water.

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. We will sort and pack bags of food for distribution. This is indoor work, but volunteers should wear comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes—no sandals or flipflops. Bring water.

This is a great opportunity for a really meaningful FAMILY project and it's another way of living the second principle which affirms justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

We do request that people commit to this project by signing up at the AFD table in Goddard Hall.

You can also call Mike Greenbaum at 326-8831 or email him at mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net. We have a map to both locations.



Lets Do It!!

Look at all the great things that are happening and think of all those things that have yet to be done. If everyone "got with the program", the grocery program that is, we could bring in close to 10K per year. Most of us eat, it costs nothing extra and helps the church, so what can you lose? If you shop at Bashas', AJs, Food City, Frys, Safeway, Sunflower or Albertsons, please join and use our Grocery Rebate Program if you haven't already. You can find me in Goddard on Sundays after services. It will only take a few moments of your time but will help a lot.

We will miss our Winter Visitors who have been most enthusiastic participants in our program, as they have been in so many ways. Remember though, Frys cards can continue to be used in any Kroger Store anywhere as can Safeway or Albertsons.

Thank you all so much.
Marjorie Smith
Grocery Rebate Program Coordinator

Second Sunday Songfest parties with live music (folk, rock, western, popular, children's and originals) and socializing. Interested in performing? Call Rick Meyer at 748-2886 or just come on down. Bring snacks/beverages to share. Sunday, April 12, Goddard, 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

Artist of the Month Gallery: See "Paris in Black and White" through Ed Warner's eyes during April, when his photographs will be on exhibit in the Sanctuary. He'll be available for discussing the details of his shots during his reception, Sunday, April 19, after the service. "Paris" will be on display through May 3.
Abby Root, for the Gallery Committee

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.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH GALLERY

Calling all UU artists! May is the month the Gallery celebrates the home-grown creativity of UU Members and Friends! The annual Members and Friends exhibit of the Gallery will proudly display your own paintings, collages, prints and other hangable a (no photos, please--their turn will come this summer) and give you a reception, too. Bring your art, ready to hang, to Goddard on Tuesday, May 5, from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Safe-Sitter Training

Saturday, April 18: 9:00am—4:30pm For children 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. 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!

The Book Club will revue "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan" . We will meet on Thursday April 16 in The Awareness Room. We welcome all who are interested as we explore new books.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

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