



April 29, 2009

ucsonitarian

Sunday Service 11:00a.m.

The Bi-weekly Newsletter of
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT:

Easter Sunday
Was a record
breaker here at
UUCT.

There was
attendance of
over 250
people!

The canned
goods collection
for the
Food Bank was
successful as
well!!!

Ministry in Tough Times

This is important!!! Please read thoroughly!!!

Like the rest of the world, our congregation is faced with hard choices due to a tough economy. And like every other organization trying to adjust to new economic realities, we are doing our best to implement cost-saving measures – and quickly.

To that end, we are making some changes to Sunday worship during the summer months. In consultation with the Worship Committee, the Religious Education Council, and the Kitchen Ministry Team, we have a plan to increase the energy efficiency of our building usage during the hot summer months.

First, we are changing the time of the service to 10:00 a.m. The earlier time means not cooling our buildings during the hottest part of the day. Yes, this is yet another change which might be confusing to some . . . so . . . thank you everyone for your patience and for your help in getting the word out.

Second, we are closing Goddard Hall on Sunday mornings during the summer months. Offices, the kitchen, and classroom spaces in that building will still be open, as they are on a separate air conditioning unit. One less large space to cool means less strain on the church budget! We will create table space for various groups to use at the back of Holland Sanctuary. Sunday Lunches will be easy-to-eat bag lunches.

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Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 3

Ritual

Rabbi Helen Cohn

Sunday, May 10

Many Hands Make Light Work

Rev. Diane Dowgiert

A church community is a special kind of home, a place that shelters and nourishes mind, body and spirit. It is so because of the many who call this place home and the gifts of time and treasure each brings. Mother's wisdom says, "Many hands make light work." On this Mother's Day, we'll recognize volunteers who have gone above and beyond to make our church a home for all.

Sunday, May 17

Milestone Moments: A Service of Rituals

Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings

Marking the passages of life within community makes them more meaningful. Our graduating youth will take part in a bridging ceremony and our newest members will be recognized, all wrapped in the beauty of a traditional Unitarian Universalist Flower Communion.

Sunday, May 24

We Remember

Rev. Diane Dowgiert

Memory is part of what makes us human. Rituals play an important part in stitching memories together into a quilt of wisdom. We'll consider the rituals of our lives, those small habits that add structure to our days and those intentional celebrations that add meaning to our years.

A Special Thank-You to AFD Facilitators and Volunteers

During the past year, Adult Faith Development has involved 183 non-duplicated individuals from our congregation (members, friends, and visitors) in a total of 27 different offerings. This would not have been possible without the help of volunteers who contributed their time and energy in planning, facilitating, and helping people learn about and sign up for our programs.

We'd like to thank and recognize each one of them:

Adult Faith Development Team:

Janet Moore

Adult Faith Development Table Volunteers:

Alice Ageloff

Jan Dowling

Janet Moore

Peg Smith

Anne Springer

Clare Velonis

Buddhism: An In-Depth Look Facilitator

Ed Savard

Covenant Circle Facilitators

Alice Ageloff

Carrie Arbiter

Jenn Bunger

Rosario Carillo

Alli Hansen

Rick Meyer

Anu Pundari

Judy Purcell

Bob Simpson

Chris Wallace

Covenant Circle Campus Clean-up Projects

Carrie Arbiter

Vicki Behm

Covenant Circle Food Bank Project

Sherry Mann

Discovering a Sense of Place Facilitator

John Shepard

Exploring Spirituality as a UU Facilitator

Sally Masteller

Faith, Nations, Borders Facilitator

Walt Staton

Film Festival Brown Bag Lunch Preparation

Becky Keyes

Kathy McDaniel

Film Festival Brown Bag Lunch Ticket Sales

Jo Roberts

Listening for the Spirit Facilitator

Mary Schantz

Men's Group Facilitators

Rick Meyer

Paul Williams

Sunday Speaker Series Presenters

Patrice Davisson (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Anne Jones (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Kate Jones (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Evan Keyes (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Larry Newhouse (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Aja Newhouse-Illige (YRUU in Nicaragua)

Chuck Luncstrom (China from a UU Perspective)

Chaz McBride (Deaf Culture; Cochlear Implants; Children of Deaf Adults)

Ed Savard (Buddhism: An Introduction)

Women's Circle Facilitator

Suzanne Borth

A Note from the Financial Secretary

The members of UUCT continue to show their generosity in many ways! A check for \$398 was sent to the Pima County Meals on Wheels program as a result of our April Share the Plate. One person made a \$25 contribution to the church as an additional thank you to honor the host and hostess of the hike and brunch she had bought at the auction. Someone else sent in a check for \$25 to be used to provide a newsletter subscription to anyone who needs it. More than \$7000 was raised by people who agreed to increase their pledges by only a few dollars a week. These examples of generosity and caring are truly inspiring. Thank you all for your generous donations!

Urgent Message from the Finance Committee

Did you know it takes **\$35-40,000** per month just for normal operations at the church? When members are out of town or busy with other things, and forget to pay their pledges during the summer, we experience severe cash-flow problems. If we have an emergency in the middle of the summer, such as a broken air conditioner, the problems are even worse.

There are several ways you can help us avoid such problems:

1. Set up an automatic payment with your bank so that your pledge comes in regularly no matter where you are.
2. Pay several months of your pledge in advance so that we have a cushion for the lean summer months.
3. Pay your whole 09-10 pledge at the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1) and don't worry about it for the rest of the year.
4. Pay your 2008-2009 pledge in full by June 30 so that we don't start the new fiscal year with a damaging shortfall.

Anything you can do will help greatly. So please consider these options, and help keep the church running smoothly all summer.

Music Notes

Adan Miranda will be the guest keyboard musician on Sunday morning, May 17th, at our Extended Family Worship service. When Adan was only 3 months old, he started to show symptoms of glaucoma and by the time he was 12, he had become totally blind.

Adan started his musical journey by playing on a small Cassio keyboard when he was only 4 years old. At the age of 8, he entered a competition with other pianists, all of whom were sighted. He emerged as the winner and was awarded a scholarship to the Conservatory Bellas Arts in Mexico City. At the age of 17, Adan crossed the desert to the U.S. He is married to Zoraida and they have two small children, a boy, age 4, and a girl, age 2. Adan obtained his GED diploma in 2003 and it was while studying for this diploma that he met his future wife, Zoraida. Adan now plays professionally with a group called "Vision."

Agnes Paulsen

Minister of Music

Membership/Community Life

Membership/Community Life Bulletin Board:

Submitted by Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Administrator

Newcomers, Save these dates:

New Member Class – If you have completed the Pathway to Membership, you are welcomed, and encouraged, to become a member now. Becoming a member is a personal decision that requires some commitment. If you are ready, there will be a New Member class held in the Minister's Office on Wednesday May 6, at 6:00 p.m. or after church on Sunday, May 10. Please contact Mary Wiese to RSVP or if you have questions: 349-4521 or mwiese@uuctucson.org.

New Member Recognition- On Sunday May 17, we will have our Annual Service of Rituals. During this service, we would like to honor all of our newest members. If you signed the Membership Book in the last 12 months, we hope you will be available to join us during this brief recognition. Please contact Mary Wiese to RSVP or if you have questions: mwiese@uuctucson.org, 349-4521.

Yours in community spirit, Mary



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Is this an ideal situation? Absolutely not. But it does allow us to continue using our beautiful sanctuary rather than trying to squeeze into Goddard Hall for worship. If we all come with a good attitude and a cooperative spirit, we can get through this together.

We'll begin the new plan on May 24 and continue through August 16. After that, we will reopen Goddard Hall as we get into the full swing of the new church year. Sunday services will continue at 10:00 until we go to two services for peak attendance beginning December 6th.

We're all in this together, and together we will prevail, but not without some sacrifice. Now more than ever, we should be counting our blessings, grateful for the wonderful community we have here.

The Empowerment Team
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Mary Wiese
Mickey Dowling
Peg Smith
Judy Dare

Lifespan Faith Development

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

Alliance News

Fresh from our wind- blown Ft. Lowell Park picnic (great fun!), we are preparing for our annual meeting on Tuesday May 12th, complete with our famous all-salad potluck.

Marcia Schenck

Book Club

The Book Club will be reviewing "Religious Literacy" by Stephen Prothero The teaching of religion in public schools from a historical and secular point of view.

Our meetings are open to anyone who is interested. Come and join the discussion. on May 21 at 7 pm in the Awareness Room.

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.

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.



**Unitarian Universalist
Church of Tucson**

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