



August 19, 2009

ucsonitarian

*The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson
Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.*

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT:

Due to so many people paying their pledges ahead of time, we have had a smooth time financially this summer.

Thanks to all who helped keep the bills paid on time!

It was very much appreciated.

From the Minister's Study

The following words, attributed to the visionary Unitarian Universalist architect Frank Lloyd Wright, capture some of my thinking right now. He said, "I know the price of success: dedication, hard work, and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen." Goals, those things you want to see happen, must be articulated if they are to be achieved. Part of my job as your minister is to put my ear to the ground and listen intently for your goals, those things to which you are devoted as a congregation. In celebration of the beginning of my fourth year with you, I lift up four goals I believe are achievable within the next twelve months.

1. Engage and enliven the Covenant of Right Relations adopted at the annual congregational meeting.
2. Develop a new strategic plan, one that enables specific actions to make real UUCT's mission statement of a "world where justice and compassion cross all borders."
3. Launch a Capital Campaign, gathering the resources needed to realize the strategic plan.
4. Have fun and celebrate!

You are a courageous people with high aspirations. I am honored to be part of the congregation you have created and continue to recreate. Have no doubt. You are capable of the dedication and hard work necessary to realize your goals. Not a day passes for me without gratitude for what Unitarian Universalism has meant in my own life. More importantly, I'm grateful for what Unitarian Universalism has meant in our world – a source of unremitting devotion.

The price of success is within our reach. As Margaret Meade once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has."

Yours in hope,
Diane

Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, August 23

Rev. Diane Dowgiert

One Family

The study of human DNA reveals an engaging story of how humans have populated the earth. Within the story are some truths. We have one common ancestor. We share one home. We are one family.

Sunday, August 30

Extended Family Worship led by Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings

The Water That Blesses

Living in the desert we are constantly reminded that water is precious; truly a blessing. During this year's Water Communion ceremony, we will name and celebrate the many ways we are blessed by water.

SUCH A DEAL: SWEET TOMATOES' FUND RAISER

Sign Up Now!

Monday, September 21st, you (and as many family and friends as you care to invite) purchase dinner at the Broadway and Wilmot Sweet Tomatoes. You must bring a copy of the flyer which will be available at church. Sweet Tomatoes will donate 15% of sales (with presentation of our flyer) back to the church. The catch: Participants must purchase a beverage with each meal, and no coupons can be used. Look for the flyers on Sundays, grab one, invite everyone you know, eat at Sweet Tomatoes on Sept. 21st, and raise money for UUCT!!

PSWD DA

April 23 - 24, 2010

Save the dates now for our next District Assembly! It will take place at the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara. Our keynote speaker will be the **Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed**, Unitarian Universalist minister and author of *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination* and *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby*.

President-Elect Morales addresses General Assembly

UUA President-Elect Peter Morales addressed the General Assembly for the first time during an election celebration Saturday night at the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association. A transcription of his remarks follows:

Mercifully, the election is over. [Laughter] Laurel and I joked-but there was much seriousness to it- the carbon footprint would have been less if we just took turns going to the forums, because we could deliver each other's stump speeches and answer any questions that came up on the campaign trail. [Laughter] And truly we spent, for some time, much more time with one another than we did with our families and loved ones. I thank her very much, and her supporters, who were spirited and gave, and may that be a source of strength for us all. [Applause]

My remarks are going to be brief tonight because I'm too delirious to be coherent for any length of time. [Laughter]

I believe firmly that religion is much more about what we love than about what we think. And all of us-all of us-love the same things: We love compassion, freedom, stewardship of the earth, religious community, spiritual depth-and therefore we have one religion.

In the nature of a campaign we try to highlight the differences, but the truth is that what unites us is so, so very much more important than anything that is dividing us.

We have a big challenge. I talked about it and put out a very ambitious kind of agenda. It's going to take all of us, all of us. This campaign is about and has been about taking our movement and realizing its potential, and that will happen when the commitment and the idealism and the energy of all of us, in over a thousand congregations, is unleashed. So it is time that we let our people go. [Applause]

The challenges are enormous-and we can do this. We are smart enough, and committed enough. We can make a tremendous difference. We can grow this faith, and be a far more powerful voice for all of those things that we care about.

So tonight I ask you to rededicate yourselves to this faith that we all love, and hand in hand-as I'm fond of saying, mano y mano-let us go forward together. Thank you very much. [Applause]

The UU Church of Tucson is planning a tour to beautiful and historic **Santa Fe, New Mexico**, on **November 11-17, 2009**. The cost will be \$850-\$900 for this week-long adventure with a tax-deductible donation to UUCT included.

The tentative itinerary is as follows:

Wednesday, Nov. 11 Travel to Santa Fe on Mountain View Tours bus (lavatory, air-conditioning and DVD player on board).

Thursday, Nov. 12 Guided walking tour of downtown Santa Fe in the AM. The afternoon is free for you to explore the Palace of the Governors, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, or many more attractions in the downtown area.

Friday, Nov. 13 Tour to Taos Pueblo and Taos Plaza, the Millicent Rogers Museum and the Rio Grande Gorge.

Saturday, Nov. 14 Visit the four museums on Museum Hill: the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, the Museum of International Folk Art, the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian and the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture. Of course, there are shops in each museum that feature unique works of art, regional and international crafts, jewelry, books and treasures in every price range. So you can do some Christmas shopping!

Sunday, Nov. 15 Visit to Bandelier National Park and Chimayo Sanctuary.

Monday, Nov. 16 Today we follow the Turquoise Trail to Cerrillos, NM, with a visit to the Allan Houser Sculpture Garden, the Cerrillos Mining Museum and the Ampersand Sustainable Learning Center.

Tuesday, Nov. 17 Return to Tucson on our Mountain View bus with a stop in Hatch, NM, to buy chiles in this nationally famous town.

The itinerary may change somewhat, but we will finalize the itinerary and price by the end of August. The itinerary and registration forms are available in the church office, or visit the UUCT website:

www.uuctucson.org.

Encouraging Updates!!

Frys Rebate for the past 6 months (Feb. thru June 2009) will be \$1850.39 based on purchases of \$37,007.86. Thank you all. This is a bit less than the previous 6 months but more than the same time period a year ago. Super!!

Safeway participants please look for and buy products with the yellow tag with a school bus on it. These items will bring in 10% with the program lasting 'til September 15. This would help a lot.

Basha's: I have recently learned that Basha's has an additional program which runs from September 1 thru April, whereby if you will re-link (or link) your discount card (Thank You Card) to our church program number (**#24421**) at the cashiers, another 1% on your purchases will be accumulated and given to UUCT once per year. This I investigated after receiving a weird check at a weird time. All that is necessary is that you ask the cashier to link your discount card to #24421 (after Sept. 1 that is) and it will be linked for the year. This needs to be done annually.

Marj Smith

Grocery Program Coordinator

Embody the Music

While at the Unitarian Universalist Musician's Network this year, I rediscovered a truth that I had forgotten . . . good singing, good choral singing, good living, all occurs when you embody the music. Let me explain. This year's conference clinician, Rod Eichenberger, has a philosophy of choral conducting that reflects ideas I was taught in the past, but have allowed to be usurped by bad habits in the year's since my last formal training as a choral conductor (1998). Good choral conductors use gestures that reflect the sound that the choir is trying to make. Even more important, good conductors should use gestures that helps a choir sing better. In a sense, I do this. I'm aware that if I hold my hands a certain way, the choir sings better or worse. They can fix their vowels if they are pronouncing them differently, hold notes longer, or even relax their shoulders based upon the gestures I use. As Eichenberger demonstrated these techniques to the conference you could hear the "aahs" and "oohs" of the many conductors who either had not graduate training, or were trained using different strategies. When a room full of singers makes a "bad" sound, and then immediately follows that with a "good" sound after the conductor does something as subtle as lowering their hands closer to their belly buttons, it's pretty convincing how important a conductor's gestures are.

What I have tended to forget is how important it is to allow the singers themselves to embody the music. In other words, singing itself, an entirely physical act, requires being completely aware at how one's body produces sound. Yet, this is not something that's best done intellectually. It's best done by simply moving the body in certain health-inducing ways while attempting to improve the sounds coming out of your body. It's not something that you have to think about, but something that one quickly intuit. Several sessions at the conference addressed how to best apply this concept to an engaging way of warming up choirs before a rehearsal. And the Desert Chorale will witness some of these ideas in the coming year; in fact, they will be able to parody me mercilessly by mid-September, but I think they will also agree that moving to sing (even if you have bad knees and can't stand for a rehearsal-you are welcome and invited to each rehearsal, and will never be made to feel bad for doing only what you can!!) will help you understand what I mean when gestures replace lengthy, difficult-to-comprehend-intellectually concepts (eg. I have said in the past, " use tall vowels . . . imagine a toothpick on your tongue going into the soft palette; don't hurt yourself with it;" Now, I intend to request one to place a finger by their mouth, pointing upwards; the result is the same, and the toothpick thing tended to disrupt rehearsals).

Of course, to embody music, like any kind of embodying that we might do, is a beautiful metaphor, and a spiritual practice. I believe that music is a meaningful activity. And, meaningful to an extent that I can barely verbalize. If one learns to place that music in one's self, I believe that it can make one . . . more whole. Again, I don't intend to explain, because there's something ineffable about this process that feels diminished as I try to put it into words. But I do believe that if I could teach the world to sing, perfect harmony might indeed follow. If you allow me to help you learn to sing with your friends here at the UUCT, I know that your life, your health, might well change for the good. I hope to see you at a rehearsal someday.

Peace and Cookies,
Brian
UUCT Music Director

Membership/Community Life Bulletin Board:

*Submitted by Mary Wiese,
Membership and Community Life Administrator*

Newcomers, Save these dates:

Newcomers Orientation – The first newcomers Orientation of the year will be held on Sunday, September 20, after service. A free lunch and childcare will be provided. The Newcomers Orientations are designed to give newcomers an introduction to our history, theology, programs, committees. Participation in an orientation is a requirement for membership. Please contact Mary Wiese to RSVP or if you have questions: mwiese@uuctucson.org , 349-4521.

New Member Class – After 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 Ministers office on the first Wednesday of the month beginning October 7, at 6:30 p.m. or after church beginning Sunday, October 11. Please contact Mary Wiese to RSVP or if you have questions: mwiese@uuctucson.org , 349-4521.

Kitchen Ministry:

A huge thank you goes to Kathy Maresh for preparing bag lunches during the summer. This allowed Kathy McDaniel to take a much needed break!

We will continue to have bag lunches for a couple of weeks then we will celebrate the end of summer, Diane's return, and the new school year with a barbeque on Sunday August 30.

Help and donations are always needed for lunches and Coffee Hour. Please contact Kathy McDaniel, kmcdaniel@dakotacom.net, or Mary Wiese, mwiese@uuctucson.org.

Volunteer RE Teachers Needed!

Teaching is a great way to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and to get to know other members of the congregational community. All members of the congregation are asked, invited, and urged to help us build a loving community for our children, youth and families. You do not need to be a parent to teach, and our program is a cooperative program. Our classroom teachers are volunteers supported by our Religious Education staff.

We recruit teams of 4 teachers for each class, so each teacher need only be in class 2 Sundays each month September through mid May. Our RE staff leads teacher orientation and planning sessions twice a year and offers ongoing support and assistance throughout the year.

We hope that you will join a teaching team as part of your commitment to UUCT and Unitarian Universalism. We currently need a number of teachers in order to be fully staffed. Please sign up for one of the following positions.
Spirit Play Pre/K
Primary 1st-3rd
Elementary 4th & 5th
Coming of Age
YRUU

You can sign up at the RE table after the service or contact Kathleen Hogue at 312-0441 or khogue@uuctucson.org. For Coming of Age and YRUU, please contact Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings at 751-1446 or lfid@uuctucson.org.

Remember to gather a small amount of water from your summer activities to bring to church on August 30 for our annual Water Communion ceremony. As you gather your water, think about how the water blesses you and what blessings you would like to bring back to our church community.



Second Sunday Songfest Jam

Second Sunday Songfest is expected to start up again in September. An announcement will be placed in the September Newsletter as a reminder of the next event. For more info call Rick Meyer, 748-2886.

Mary Ann Lloyd Jones 1916-2009

The children of Mary Ann Lloyd Jones O'Brien regretfully inform family and friends that Mary Ann passed away quietly on the afternoon of July 31st, 2009 at Cozy Corner Nursing Home in Sunderland, Mass. at age 92. She attended UUCT from 1979-2003. Contact the church office for further information.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH GALLERY

Celebrate a new season with "The Colors of Tucson," art by members of ACT, Artists Connection Tucson. Plan to meet the artists at their opening reception, Sunday, August 30th, after the service.

The exhibit continues through October 4th.

Abby Root, for the Gallery Committee

RE Class Schedule

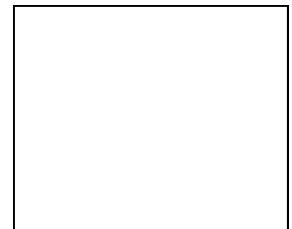
Begins Sunday, Aug. 16th at 10:00 am

Nursery (under 3 years of age)	Ballou Room
Spirit Play (3 years – kindergarten)	Servetus Room
UU Community (first grade – middle school)	Awareness Room
Coming of Age (eighth – ninth grades)	Emerson 1 Room
YRUU (high school)	Emerson 2 Room



Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

4831 East Twenty-second Street
Tucson, AZ 85711
www.uuctucson.org
office@uuctucson.org



Label

