



Tucsonitarian

January 12, 2011

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson
Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.

www.uuctucson.org

From the Minister's Study

**The UUA Board of Trustees is visiting UUCT!!!
Don't miss this historic event!!!**

On January 17 and 18 a contingent of the UUA Board of Trustees is making a visit to Tucson and the borderlands between Arizona and Mexico. They are coming because I invited them. Here's why.

Every year, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association gather as one strong body for General Assembly (GA). The location of General Assembly moves throughout the country, locations that are chosen 5 or 6 years in advance. Several years ago, Phoenix, Arizona was chosen as the location for GA in June, 2012. And then, the plot thickened.

When SB 1070, the Arizona tough-on-immigration law was signed in April of 2010, a great emotional response was unleashed, resulting in a movement to boycott the state of Arizona, calling into question whether or not Phoenix should be the location of General Assembly. It was, and continues to be, an issue of justice.

What I heard from you, the members of UUCT, was an overwhelming desire for General Assembly to happen in Phoenix as scheduled. I heard your desire for the opportunity to engage our larger movement here in your own backyard. And I heard your longing for the understanding, support, and solidarity of your brothers and sisters in the larger Unitarian Universalist community during this time of crisis in Arizona.

I heard all of this, and I acted. I become a vocal and visible advocate for keeping GA 2012 in Phoenix. I was one of the several co-authors of a resolution for what has come to be known as "Justice GA" in Phoenix in 2012. The resolution was adopted. Phoenix will be the host city for GA 2012!

Quite honestly, I didn't know I possessed such courage – to go against the grain and take a controversial stand. You gave me the courage to stick my neck out.

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Sunday Services

Sunday, January 16

Let Freedom Ring

Extended Family Worship

Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Kathleen Hogue

The ring of freedom calls to every human soul. We'll gather as one strong body – returning to one Sunday morning worship service -- encompassing all the generations – to consider Martin Luther King's message of freedom in light of the current-day national debate about immigration.

One Service: 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 18: A Service of Worship With the UUA Board of Trustees

Neighbors

Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Rev. Joy Atkinson

In a global community, the idea of neighborhood expands. On this evening, we gather in worship with Unitarian Universalist brothers and sisters, far and near, to give thought to our neighbors – near and far, sharing reflections on the visit to Southern Arizona by the UUA board of trustees.

6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 23

The Meaning of Membership

Rev. Diane Dowgiert

What exactly does it mean to be a member of a non-creedal faith such as Unitarian Universalism? The common thread of our belonging extends from individual to individual, from congregation to congregation. What is it that holds us together?

One Service: 10:30 a.m.

**GREAT THINGS ARE TAKING PLACE
AT UUCT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Mary Wiese is celebrating ten years of
employment with UUCT!!

A New Way to Financially Support the Church

by Finance Committee and Chris Wallace, ET

Thinking about making an IRA gift to support UUCT? From now until January 31, a new U.S. tax law allows taxpayers who are 70½ or older to make tax-free transfers of up to \$100,000 per year from their IRA directly to a charitable organization like UUCT and have their gifts count in the 2010 tax year.

The new law is retroactive to January 1, 2010. In addition, the law continues through tax year 2011, allowing donors to roll-over IRA assets for inclusion in tax year 2011. Talk to your tax advisor about IRA strategies for 2010 and 2011.

Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees Itinerary

An itinerary of the visit is listed below. All events are open, though space is limited for some. To RSVP, contact Leila Pine, UUCT Immigrant Rights Working Group Chair, at sabinosanctuary@gmail.com, by phone at (520) 299-6281, or by cell phone at (608) 234-0399. Please give her your name, which UU congregation you belong to, your phone and e-mail address, and which part of the Jan. 17-18 trip you'd like to participate in.

Monday, January 17, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trip to Nogales, Sonora, hosted by No More Deaths (NMD)
4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Panel Discussion on Border/Immigration issues, Worship, and Dinner at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Amado (formerly Green Valley)

Tuesday, January 18, 2011

***Option A**

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Organizing for Resistance Presentation, hosted by NMD, (location to be determined)
12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Operation Streamline at Federal Courthouse in Tucson
3:00 p.m. Press conference in front of Federal Courthouse in Tucson

***Option B**

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trip to Nogales, Sonora for hands-on work with the Green Valley Samaritans
4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Conversation about General Assembly 2012, Worship, and Dinner at UUCT

For a more detailed description of these events, visit www.uuctucson.org.

Stewardship Happenings

Chris Wallace, Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is busy planning the upcoming pledge drive to fund our yearly operating budget. Did you know that 70% of the church's income comes from members' and friends' pledges of financial support? There will be a kickoff event on Sunday, February 13 with house meetings the week of February 13-20. You will have an opportunity to sign up for one or you will receive an invitation. We will be asking questions like: What is UUCT when it is at its best? What is our life-giving center from which our best contributions emerge? What are our most courageous dreams for our future?

One happening that we can point to with pride is the visit by the UUA Board of Trustees and UUA President, Peter Morales, to Southern Arizona and to UUCT on January 17-18. Our church is a voice on the national stage regarding border issues. To paraphrase Joe Biden, "That's a big flipping deal!"

The Witch's Pot

Bob Samuels, a member of our Buildings and Ground Committee, recently donated a large pot to be used as a planter. Its presence enriches our beautification effort as well as our community.

Bob recently wrote and illustrated a short personal history about the pot. And we would like to share it with you. Thanks to Frank Valdes, our webmaster, you can enjoy Bob's text and pictures in the Buildings and Grounds section of the UUCT website. Better still, just go to this address: <http://tinyurl.com/uuctpot>

Report from the Treasurer

During the month of December, 2010, \$51,189.70 was deposited into the church's operating account. Thank you to those who brought their pledges up to date and also to those who keep paying on a regular basis. The church disbursed \$44,189.19 over the month of December. The ending balance of \$21,147.89 on December 31 is sufficient to allow payback of the loan of \$10,000 from the line-of-credit with the bank.

Margot Garcia, acting treasurer



Membership/Community Life Bulletin Board:

Submitted by Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Administrator: mwiese@uuctucson.org



Community Life:

UUA Board visit Potluck on Tuesday January 18th: Please plan on joining us for this historic event! We will provide a pot of beef chili and vegetarian chili along with drinks. We ask that you bring a side dish of your choice to share: salad, fruit, bread, dessert etc. Please contact Mary Wiese for more details.

Membership News:

Get To Know Us Orientation: The next orientation for newcomers will be held after service on Sunday, January 23. A free lunch and childcare are provided. The orientations are a **requirement to the Pathway to Membership**. Please contact Mary Wiese for more information or to RSVP.

New Member Classes: If you have completed the Pathway to Membership and are ready to become a committed member of our church community, you are welcomed to come to a New Member class. These classes are held with the Minister on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., or on the second Sunday of the month, after services. **You must RSVP to attend.** Please contact Mary to RSVP or if you have questions.

Service of Joining:

If you have completed the Pathway to Membership, and signed the book during a Membership class with Reverend Diane, we invite you to participate in a Joining Ceremony. The Ceremony will take place during service on January 23. Please contact Mary Wiese for more details.

AN EVENING WITH DAVID FITZSIMMONS

Tucson's favorite editorial cartoonist, David Fitzsimmons, will be entertaining us with his political humor and caricatures. He'll probably poke fun at us UU's too!

Friday, Feb. 4th at 7:00PM. \$10 per person; beverages and snacks by donation. It's a fund raiser for UUCT, so invite family and friends to come too!

Lifespan Faith Development COMMUNITY Events

Kathleen Hogue, Lifespan Faith Development Director
khogue@uuctucson.org



Principled Commitment A Program for Unitarian Universalist Couples

Principled Commitment provides avenues for growing in faith while nourishing committed partnership. Each workshop connects one of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations' seven Principles with a broad principle, quality, or attribute that participants can cultivate in their relationship.

This class will be taught on Sundays in the Fuller Room in Goddard Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 4831 E. 22nd St. in Tucson. All begin a half hour after the end of service and last 2 hours. The class is open to anyone wishing to cultivate relationships using the UU Principles including all ages, sexual orientations, married or not and whether both partners are able to attend or not. Childcare is available if requested ahead of time. There is no cost for this class; however, donations are welcome to offset the cost of photocopying.

Register by January 23rd at the Lifespan Faith Development Table in Goddard Hall or contact Kathleen Hogue at khogue@uuctucson.org.

Life is full of Transitions. Have you given any thought to the biggest transition of all?

Join us January 23 12:30 PM in the Awareness Room For an End of Life Presentation led by Nancy Williams

Learn about: the changes in our culture about death, hospital communication, patients' rights, advanced directives, living wills and much more.

Register by January 23rd at the Lifespan Faith Development Table in Goddard Hall or contact Kathleen Hogue at khogue@uuctucson.org.

We would like to offer more exciting programs to fit the needs of the congregation. We cannot do it alone. If you are interested in facilitating or co-facilitating a class please contact me at khogue@uuctucson.org.

Cont. from front page
From the Minister's Study

I need your support again. The UUA Board of Trustees wants to meet you and to hear from you. Not many congregations get this kind of opportunity for one-on-one interaction with the board – not to mention the president and moderator. PLEASE SHOW UP! (go to page 2 or www.uuctucson.org for full itinerary)

Yours – always yours,
Diane

In January the **Artist of the Month Gallery** features works by artist/teacher Terry Dietz and Learning Studio students in the exhibit, "Discover Your Inner Child Artist."

The gallery is open Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 am to 1 pm. Be sure to see this interesting exhibit.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

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All **deadlines** for the Tucsonitarian are now on the **first and third Tuesday of every month.**

The next deadline for the Tucsonitarian and Transforming Times will be Tuesday, January 18th at 5 p.m.



The **Book Club** will meet **January 20** in Awareness at 7:00 P.M. We will discuss "Loving Frank" by Nancy Horan.

Keep in mind that we will be choosing our books for the next 6 months at the February meeting.

All are welcome and baby sitting is available upon request.

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