I found the following on the UUA website and think it is so important that I wanted to share it with the congregation of UUCT. The participation of every member of this church is necessary if it is to flourish. Throughout the ages, Unitarians and Universalists have been activists who have wanted to make a difference in the world. They teach us that it is not enough to just take spiritual strength from the church. You must contribute as well, and here is how you can do that.

Carolyn Saunders

Vital Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations need the participation and leadership of all their members to thrive. And a vital Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) similarly needs the input and vision of individual committed UUs to continue to grow and bring our faith to the world. The opportunities for your deeper involvement are limitless and can occur at many different levels.

In Your Congregation:

- Become involved with a project that has caught your passion: whether it's Green Sanctuary, Gift-Based Ministry, as a worship associate, leading a covenant group, or something entirely different, your congregation needs your involvement in order to benefit from your unique talents and gifts!

- Offer to become a lay leader in your congregation. Talk to your nominating committee. If your congregation's in search for new professional leadership, think about whether you might contribute in new and exciting ways to that venture.

- Become a religious educator. Whether you are working with children, youth, young adults, or adults, this work can be deeply fulfilling and fun!

- Witness your faith in the company of others, on behalf of your congregation. Seek out connections with other religious groups who share similar values. Help carry the message -- beyond your congregation -- that makes clear Unitarian Universalism's values and voice in this challenging world.

- Become a delegate to your UUA District's meetings. You'll learn new skills, develop a sense of Unitarian Universalism that extends beyond your own congregation, and help nurture the vitality of our faith in your district.

Don't wait to be asked: contact your congregation's Nominating Committee and tell them you're willing to serve. They’ll be glad to hear from you!

To be continued....
Emerson Update

The stained, dirty, allergenic carpet and dank walls of Emerson Room do not promote spiritual growth (or breathing), and YRUU has decided to do something about it! Instead of the usual summer program, “Sharing Your Talents”, YRUU will redecorate Emerson Room. (If there is a talent you want to share with us, we would love to hear about it for a workshop during the normal school year.) To make this dream a reality, we need your help. We need two adults every Sunday to supervise and/or help. Donations of supplies such as paintbrushes, rollers, detail brushes, spackle, money, etc. would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, or would like to donate money or supplies to this project, please contact Patrice Davison at 881-7209. If you would like to donate your time and/or skills this summer please call Tom Clowes at 319-0165.

Life Span Faith Development - An Exciting Year

As we reach the end of our church year, we can look back to see that the Adult Faith Development program expanded significantly this year in both the number and variety of programs offered. We served 192 individuals (non-duplicated), almost two-thirds of our membership, and nearly double the number from last year, in 32 different classes, covenant circles, workshops, and other events with total attendance approaching 500 (many people attended more than one event). Our programs this past year looked both inward and outward.

Looking Inward: Transforming Ourselves

As we grow, our congregation has a real need for small-group ministry where people can meet in groups small enough to allow each person to participate fully, learn from others, and make a difference. AFD has tried to meet this need with a variety of programs: Covenant Circles which help develop the skills of listening and sharing and promote bonding and fellowship among the members: the continuing Men’s Group which meets twice a month; the new Women’s Spirit group which meets once a month; Exploring Spirituality as a UU which meets weekly before services; and, for young adults 18 to 35, TUUYAN, the Tucson UU Young Adult Network which meets monthly to discuss topics of concern to younger UU members.

Our classes provided another form of small-group experience. We had classes in UU history and identity, literature, and spiritual growth groups such as Yoga, Lessons of Loss, and Living Our UU Principles.

Looking Outward: Transforming Our Community and the World Around Us

This past year saw two related themes in AFD programming: respect for the interdependent web of all existence (our seventh principle) and Social Justice.

Seventh-principle-related programs included speakers, films, and meetings concerned with living in harmony with our environment: the Simplicity Circle, the small-house movement, films, such as An Inconvenient Truth and The End of Suburbia, and a four-part series examining the media’s impact on our social culture.

Social justice concerns were seen in a two-part series dealing with border issues, NAFTA, and immigration; a full-day Social Justice Workshop; and the creation of four work-groups in different areas of social justice: immigration, economic justice, peace, and green sustainable living.

Finally, Reverend Dowgiert’s April workshop combined both inward- and outward-looking approaches by focusing on the language we use to express our own personal spirituality as well as how we reconcile UU ideas with traditional religious language so that we may work more easily in interfaith and social justice activities.

In all, AFD has provided an exciting and stimulating year’s-worth of programs for UUCT.
I’d like to reinforce the tribute I gave to Helen Koenig on Sunday morning, May 6th, when volunteers were given special recognition. Helen serves as music librarian for Desert Chorale and her dedication and commitment to this job are really outstanding. You can find Helen diligently sorting and cataloguing the anthems before each of our rehearsals. If a newcomer shows up, she creates a folder of music and hands it to the person with a smile. Helen is a long time member of UUCT – having joined in 1972; she’s been singing in the adult choir for 10 years; and has served as a volunteer in many other ways – at the church rummage sales, the used book sales, meals for the homeless, the auction, Cabaret and as a special friend to a child in the Religious Education Department. Thanks, Helen.

A big thanks also goes to Jim Periale. The leg on the electronic piano was broken and we had to put the piano in quarantine with a sign: “This piano has a broken leg and could come crashing down!!” Jim ably fixed it! So now we can again use it for our Family Singers rehearsals. Thanks, Jim.

As I write this, a dolly is on order for the acoustic piano in Holland. This will facilitate the moving of the piano when concerts are held and the piano needs to be in the front! Jim Periale is again overseeing this process. Hats off to you again, Jim!

The Danish Club of Tucson has rented Holland for a concert by the three Royal Tenors from the Royal Danish Opera. They will be performing with guest soprano Dorthe Elsebet Larsen at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 16th. Tickets will be available at the door or can be purchased ahead of time by sending a check payable to the Danish Club of Tucson at P. O. Box 57272, Tucson, AZ 85732-7272. They are priced at $15 for adults; $10 for students, and children under 10 are free.

Music Notes by Agnes Paulsen

Upcoming Sunday Sermons

Sunday, May 20
“Our UU Promises: A Service of Rituals”
An Extended Family worship. Join us as we explore the promises we make as a faith community, when we engage our UU principles throughout the many stages of human life. This service will feature a Child Dedication, Bridging Ceremony and service elements lead by participants from our LifeSpan Faith Development classes.
  Music: Family Singers, Agnes Paulsen, Terry Polowy

Sunday, May 27—Memorial Day
Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Minister
What greater way is there to honor those who died in war than to work for peace? We’ll gather on this day in tribute, memory, and hope for a better world.
  Music: Desert Chorale, Brian Moon, Agnes Paulsen

Sunday, June 3
Islam and the West: Rethinking Assumptions
Rev. Rosemarie Carnarius
The 17th century philosopher Baruch Spinoza considered understanding to be the key to everything. This is especially important today when it comes to religions and cultures. The need is strong particularly with respect to Islam, where we must wrestle with the question: Is there a clash of civilizations or are we merely witnessing the dissolution of the old dominance/submission model imposed by the West for generations on large portions of the world?
  Music: Agnes Paulsen and Brian Moon
Recycling and the Green Group  
By Carolyn Saunders

One of the groups formed at the Social Justice workshop is the Green Group. We are interested in all things that have to do with lessening the negative human impact on the environment and implementing ways to save precious natural resources.

One small immediate step we would like to take here at UUCT is to increase the amount of recycling that is done by everyone on our campus. We began with the placement of boxes for collecting orders of service after Sunday services and plan to build from there. We would like to commend Mary Wiese and the kitchen crew for making the change from Styrofoam to recycled paper products. This, too, is a good step. Remember, you can help cut down on garbage here at the church by bringing your own coffee cup to use each Sunday.

At a time when landfills are expensive to run and it is difficult to find sites for new ones, our current landfills need to last as long as possible. Individually we can help with that by reducing the amount of waste we create. When you avoid making garbage in the first place, you don’t have to worry about disposing of waste or recycling it later. Changing our habits is an important step since Arizonans produce over 5 pounds of waste per person each day. Taking re-useable bags to the grocery store when you shop, reusing printer and copier paper at the office, and packing a “no-waste lunch” with reusable containers for school or work are a few of many steps we can each take individually.

The Green Group will meet again on Wednesday, June 13, at 6:30pm at the Church to plan further steps to take. If you would like to be a part of this group, please join us then.

If you would like to read more about recycling, reuse and waste reduction, here are the titles of some books on the subject:

Why Do We Recycle?: Markets, Values, and Public Policy, by Frank Ackerman  
The Consumer’s Guide to Effective Environmental Choices: Practical Advice from the Union of Concerned Scientists, by M. and Leon Browner  
Recycling and the Politics of Urban Waste, by Matthew Gandy  
Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things, by William McDonough  
Rubbish! The Archaeology of Garbage, by William Rathje, Cullen Murphy  
Recycling: Environment Starts Here, by Angela Royston  
Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash, by Susan Strasser

Social Justice Invitations to the Congregation

Feel free to join a group, or join a project as they are organized. Group Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Peace Group - Sunday, May 13 at 12:15 after the service, in Awareness. For more information, contact Kelly Taylor (ktayloruuct@gmail.com).

Immigrant Rights - Monday, May 12 from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m., in Awareness. For more information, contact Harry Loumeau (harryhikere@aol.com).

Economic Justice - Sunday, May 27 at 12:15 in Awareness. For more information about this group, contact Gordon McCormick (gordon@mccormick.net).

Green Sustainable Living - Wednesday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the church. For more information, contact Carolyn Saunders (bcsaunder@cybertrails.com).
First Friday Parents Night Out is scheduled for the first Friday evening of the month. The next one is scheduled for Friday, June 1. It is held in the Awareness room from 6pm until 10pm and provided for a nominal fee. If you would like to reserve a space for your child, you must RSVP to Kathleen Hogue, 312-0441, by Thursday, May 31.

Mary Wiese

General Assembly
Delegates Needed

If you will be attending General Assembly in Portland, Ore this June 20-24 and would like to serve as a delegate for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, let the church office know.

UUCT receives 7 delegates to represent this church at General Assembly. We have delegate cards which you will need to show when you register your attendance at GA. You will receive your delegate voting card and ribbon when you have picked up your GA name badge.

We also have spots for those who would be willing to be “alternates” in case someone plans to go but cannot attend at the last minute. Those who are willing to be “delegates” or “alternates” please stop by the office before leaving for GA and pick up a delegate credential card.

No list is sent to the UUA of who the delegates will be … you need to have a card!

Help Is Needed for Summer Months

We are in need of two people in the church to volunteer to learn and then to run our sound system for the Sundays during the summer months, beginning June 3. Two of our sound people have had to quit helping and the two who are left will be absent a lot of the summer so … we need YOU!

We will train you to be able to run the sound and record the sermon. It really is easy, just ask Byron or A.J. how easy it is. Contact Jean in the church office a.s.a.p. if you would be willing to help.

Don’t know if there are interested parties at UUCT or not, but I thought that I’d let you know that Rev. Nancy Roemheld has been quite ill in Omaha, Nebraska where she is serving her last interim ministry before retiring. She has been hospitalized with severe pneumonia and other complications. One of her daughters is with her now.

Address: 11516 Maass Rd. #102
Bellevue, NE 68123
My good wishes to all.

Carolou Nelsen

Community Life

Summer Office Hours

Beginning May 28 thru August 6 the church office will be closed EVERY Monday to allow our Office Manager to take some vacation days. Instead of being gone two whole weeks, she has decided to take one day each week as a vacation day. This has been approved by Rev. Diane and with the slower work load during the summer months, it should still allow for everything to be maintained.
Beginning with the Fall 2007 issue of UU World, Congregations are invited to place Congregational Announcements in the magazine. A special section has been designed just for congregations to lift up the special people, and celebrate the milestones that bring joy and meaning to their congregation and its members.

The first 15 Congregational Announcements Received will be inserted free of charge.

Here are the details:

♦ Pricing: A special "Congregations only" fee of $75 will be charged for a maximum of 50 words, a savings of $100 off the price of a standard 50-word classified ad.

♦ Please photocopy and use the Congregational Announcement Form you get from the church office.

♦ Deadline for submissions for the Fall issue will be June 15, 2007.

♦ The Fall issue mails on August 15, 2007

♦ Congregations will be charged a flat fee for a maximum of 50 words.

♦ Questions? Contact the church office (748-1551) for more information.
**From This the River Flows**

**District Assembly 2007**

Time, like a rapidly moving river, passes by much too quickly and now District Assembly 2007 is behind us. This jam-packed weekend of events was, indeed, a source from which a river of inspiration, hope, and community surged around the 278 adults and 41 children representing 35 congregations who attended DA in Riverside, CA. UUCT had 11 adults and 8 children/youth there.

**Dr. William Doherty**, our keynote speaker from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and an active member of the First Universalist Church in Minneapolis, inspired his audience as he discussed the role of the family in helping children “catch” religion. He pointed out that as UUs, we have too often specialized in giving our children wings but not roots, and that Religious Education on Sunday is not enough—children need religious experiences in the home as well, and families need the strength and support of the larger religious community. In other words, families need to promote a stronger “we” and our churches need to create spiritually-rich community experiences for both adults and children.

Saturday morning’s worship conducted by some of the newer ministers in the District, including our own **Rev. Diane Dowgiert**, with music provided by the PSWD Ministers Choir directed by the **Rev. Linda Bunyard** of Green Valley and the **Rev. Terry Sims** of Surprise on the cello, had standing room only for an appropriate water-themed service.

Twenty-two workshops and the annual business meeting filled the rest of the day followed by the Saturday evening banquet and awards dinner. On Sunday a Bridging Ceremony recognized 4 of the District youth who are moving into young adulthood this year including **Ty Newhouse-Illige** of our congregation.

Closing out this year’s District Assembly, the Sunday service conducted by the **Rev. Matthew Crary** of the UU Church of Riverside, was a celebration of Unitarian Universalism complete with a recounting of 125 years of UU history in Riverside and a "UU fight song, "(Love in abundance, There’s Love and a search for truth. There’s Love and a sense of justice. Yeah! Beneath ev’ry UU roof,) one of several original pieces of music composed for District Assembly 2007 by **Steve Lawless**, a member of UUCR. Through the generosity of UUs from around the Pacific Southwest at the service, $1,587.51 was raised for the **Center for Community Action and Environment Justice**.

The only sad note of the weekend was the absence of our District Executive the **Rev. Ken Brown** due to illness. He was much in our thoughts and prayers. Now time and the rivers of our lives will flow on for another year, and before we know it, April 25-27, 2008 will arrive with another District Assembly scheduled for San Diego, California. You don’t want to miss it!

Carolyn Saunders

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**Assistant Project Supervisor needed for Camp de Benneville Pines**

Camp de Benneville Pines is looking for an Assistant Project Supervisor for the summer, with the work possibly extending into the fall. We need a mature person who can help to supervise a work crew of 11 with brush clearance and basic building projects. A valid driver’s license is required. The ability to run a chain saw and work along side the crew is also necessary. To apply, please contact Jan Flecher at 760-985-5432 or lizziedrums@verizon.net.
The Book Club

The Book Club meets the 3rd Thursday of each month in Awareness at 7:00 PM. For more information one may contact Cheryl Mennel at 760-4915 or CandJ_Mennel@msn.com. The Book Club will choose the books to read for the next 6 months at the July meeting. Those wanting to suggest books need to know the title, the author, whether the book is available at the PCPL and in paperback, and the number of pages.


From The Publisher: “Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia Peabody were in many ways our American Brontës. The story of these remarkable sisters—and their central role in shaping the thinking of their day—has never before been fully told. Twenty years in the making, Megan Marshall’s monumental biography brings to new life the era of creative ferment known as the American Renaissance.” 6 copies in the PCPL. Approx. 600 pages. Available in PB.

July 19 -- A Devil's Chaplain: Reflections On Hope, Lies, Science, And Love by Richard Dawkins

From The PCPL: “The influential scientist presents a collection of essays exploring such topics as religion, mysticism, modern educational methods, pseudoscience, Africa, and his late colleagues Douglas Adams and Stephen Jay Gould.” 5 copies in the library. Approx. 270 pages. Available in PB.