Sundays Together Lunches will resume August 12, with cooling salads and other tasty offerings at the usual cost of $5.00 each. Our mission remains the same, to strengthen the spirit of community, and to support Sunday afternoon programming with an easily accessible and reasonably priced lunch available after the morning worship service.

As always, we invite, encourage, and NEED all of you who are able to make a lunch, and/or help set up and clean up each week. We also need folks to provide Coffee Hour goodies – baked items, cookies, chips, veggies and fruit; financial contributions are most welcome as well. We would also appreciate having someone drop off a couple of bags of ice every week.

You may volunteer as a family, a group of friends, a committee, or individually. Kathy McDaniel, lunch coordinator, will be contacting committees and groups to schedule a convenient date for you to participate. kmcdaniel@dakotacom.net or 323-6356.
How Can I Help?
by Jean Griffiths, Office Manager

One of the ways that we saved money on the new budget for 2007-08 was to eliminate the office assistant position. This means that I will have to prioritize both the type of work that I do each day and also the amount of work in order to accomplish my job description in the 40 hours that I work each week. How can you help?

Beginning August 14 Clare Velonis has agreed to volunteer her Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm in the office helping out by answering the phones, helping all who walk through the door: members and others, and doing basic computer entry. Basically covering all receptionist type duties so that I can concentrate on other responsibilities.

I need your help also. It would be nice to have someone working both Wednesday and Thursdays from 9am to 1pm doing the same work. So I need two people to volunteer to come each week on the same day to help out in this way.

Basic qualifications include: a good telephone personality, a smiling face and willingness to help all who enter the office in person and by phone, basic computer skills, a willingness to keep everything in confidence and being able to work the same day each week.

If you qualify and are willing to volunteer your time, please call me (748-1551) immediately.

From Mary
by Mary Wiese, Community Life Coordinator

First Friday

First Friday Parents Night Out is scheduled for the first Friday evening of the month. The next one is scheduled for Friday, August 3. 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, August 2.

Mark your calendars

Our first Newcomers Orientation of the year is scheduled for Sunday August 19, at 3pm. Free dinner and childcare are provided. Please RSVP to the office or to Mary Wiese at macbrude@cox.net.
Music Notes
Agnes Paulsen

Barbara Sunderman and Tom Clowes are already at work planning concerts and musical events for the upcoming season. They are looking for fun-loving people to participate in the first program which will be Cabaret on Saturday, November 10th at 7:00 p.m. David Prouty, our crowd pleaser of past years, has already promised to be back. Are you a ventriloquist, a dancer, a singer, a jazz instrumentalist, a comedian, a magician, or whatever? Barbara and Tom invite all would-like-to-be performers to get in touch. They are also looking for people who would be willing to serve in a back-up capacity such as publicity, decorating, refreshments, clean-up, etc. Tom is on vacation now but Barbara will welcome your call as soon as possible at 520-886-1582.

Family Singer’s first rehearsal after summer break will be Sunday, August 19th at 9:00 a.m. in the Awareness Room. Please contact Agnes Paulsen at 326-8259 if you are a newcomer and would like to join.

Desert Chorale will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 22nd, at 5:30 p.m. We always welcome new singers to join our congenial group and we usually sing for church twice a month.

   Peace and Harmony,
   Agnes Paulsen

On Saturday, August 11th, 4:30 p.m., Heather Reed is hosting a pool party for Family Singers. It’s potluck so bring your favorite food and drinks. If you’re interested in becoming a member, this would be an excellent time to meet others in the group. Do call Heather at 398-4345 to let her know, though, as she is furnishing plates, eating utensils, cups, etc.

Upcoming Sundays

**Sunday, July 29**  *The Great Turning: What Are We Called to Do?*
The Great Turning, a phrase popularized by Buddhist scholar and systems theorist Joanna Macy, refers to the possibility of humankind turning from our current path of destruction of the Earth toward a life-sustaining society. Unitarian Universalists describe ourselves as the church of the open mind, the loving heart and the helping hands. What then do we bring to the work of the Great Turning?
   Speaker: Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings, ministerial aspirant
   Music: David Prouty, guest pianist

**Sunday, August 5**  *“Everything I Need to Know About Spirituality I Learned From My Dog”*
Whenever I’m not in church on Sunday, I always tell folks it’s because I’m at “doggy church” — which in most cases means I’m at a dog show. I’m going to share with you some of the things I have learned from my dogs: winning, losing, enjoying their company, their wicked sense of humor, and adventures with the animal communicator. Dogs always communicate the really important stuff and they get right to the point. My special dog even once asked the communicator where her prayers went. It’s one of the most spiritually fulfilling relationships there is.
   Speaker: Adrienne Perry, UUCT Member
   Music: Carol Brubaker
OWL Training in September and Your Hospitable Help

By Rebecca Froom, Director of Religious Education and Heather Reed, OWL Coordinator, RE Council

On the weekend of September 28-30 our congregation will host an Our Whole Lives (OWL) training. OWL is a comprehensive sexuality education program co-written by the UUA and the United Church of Christ. Integrating the core values of respect, relationship and responsibility, OWL includes 6 age appropriate level spanning from kindergarten thru adulthood. OWL does an amazing job of recognizing and honoring the reality that healthy sexuality is part of healthy spirituality.

Our Lifespan Faith Development Program here at UUCT is proud to offer Our Whole Lives. Last spring our RE Council recognized a need to train more OWL facilitators, and chose to host a district sponsored OWL training with the hope that members of our congregation would be able to attend. The September training will prepare facilitators to work with OWL for Kindergarten / 1st grade and OWL for grades 4-6. If you are interested in being trained as an OWL facilitator please contact Rebecca Froom, DRE.

Hosting a training is a wonderful privilege and a large responsibility. We are currently looking for 2 to 3 willing volunteers to join our OWL Training Planning Team to take on the roles of coordinating food, rides, and clean-up after the training. Planning team members would work with Heather and Rebecca to recruit a larger group of people to provide home hospitality, meals, snacks, transportation, and site coordination for the training’s 15 attendees and 2 facilitators. If you are interested in joining our planning team, please contact Heather at heathertreed@gmail.com or 398-4345 or Rebecca Froom at Rebecca-froom@qwestoffice.net or 748-1551.

During the training itself we will need congregants to provide home hospitality to attendees coming in from out of town. Do you have an extra room or a spare bed you would be willing to share with an out of town UU from September 28-30? If so please contact Heather (info above). Furthermore some of our guests will need transportation to and from the airport, their home hospitality locations and the church during the training. If you would be willing to provide a ride or two during the weekend of the OWL training please contact Heather.

August in R.E.

Friday August 3

Parents enjoy First Friday Parent’s Night Out from 6:00-10:00 pm while children have a great time with their friends in Emerson. Contact Kathleen Hogue, Membership and Community Life Assistant, at 312-0441 for details or to reserve a space for your child.

Sunday August 5

You Can Do it Too! for children ages 5 thru 8th grade meets at 10:30 in Awareness for a session on Finding Direction led by Helen O'Brien. Contact Lisa Rice at 730-8460 or larice53005@aol.com with any questions about our children’s summer program. Summer with YRUU for youth entering 9th through exciting 12th grade meets at 10:30 in Emerson to tile the floors as part of their room renovation project. Contact Tom Clowes at tclowes@gmail.com with any questions about our summer youth program.

The Curriculum Committee of the RE Council will meet at 12:15 in Servetus to finalize our curriculum choices for this coming year. Anyone is welcome to attend.
Wednesday August 8

The January RE Council meeting will be held at 6:30 pm in the Goddard Library. Anyone interested in joining the Council or learning more about it is welcome to attend. Contact Peggy Smith, RE Council Chair for details.

Sunday August 12

The final session of You Can Do it Too! meets at 10:30 in Awareness for a talent show and party. Children are encouraged to bring in any items they may have made or activities they learned during our summer RE Program. Summer with YRUU meets at 10:30 in Emerson to conclude their room renovation project.

Saturday August 18

There will be a Spirit Play Teacher Training from 10:00 to 12:30 in Awareness, contact Rebecca Froom, DRE for more information.

Join us from 1:00 to 4:30 in for a Spirit Play Work Party. Do you enjoy crafts, sewing or stories? Then help our Religious Education Program make the materials needed for the “stories” to be used in our Montessori based Spirit Play class for children in preschool and kindergarten. Contact Erin Deely at edeely@cox.net or 320-7688 for more information.

Sunday August 19

Our Fall RE Program begins! Children in preschool and kindergarten will meet at 10:30 in Servetus for a orientation to the Spirit Play center. Children in 1st thru 7th grade meet in Awareness for a morning of UU Community. Coming of Age Youth in 8th and 9th grade will attend worship service. High School youth in 9th thru 12th grade will meet at 10:30 in Emerson.

RE Registration begins in Goddard Hall during coffee hour. Parents, please remember to bring in your child’s medical insurance information and medical and dental contact information. Registration is free, but required for all children in nursery thru high school.

There will be a Coming of Age Adult Training from 12:15 to 2:30 in Awareness for parents, guides and mentors.

Saturday August 25

There will be an RE Teacher Training Retreat from 8:45 to 3:30 in Goddard for volunteers working with grades 1 thru 7. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Please contact Rebecca Froom, DRE, for more information.

Sunday August 26

Children, youth and adults worship together for an Extended Family Worship and Water Communion Ceremony. Remember to bring in water from near or far that has special meaning for your family. Children in preschool and kindergarten will exit to Spirit Play part of the way thru the service, and the nursery will be open in Barnum room for our youngest children who may need a rest or play setting.

RE Registration continues in Goddard Hall during coffee hour.

There will be a YRUU Parent Orientation at 12:15 in Awareness. All parents of high school aged youth are strongly encouraged to attend.

The Work of the ‘Great Turning’:

Part 1

by Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings, Adult Development Director

The Great Turning is a phrase popularized by Joanna Macy, Buddhist scholar, deep ecologist, and systems theorist. It refers to the possibility of humankind turning from our current path of destruction of the Earth toward a life-sustaining society.

Guided by the seventh Unitarian Universalist Principle, respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part, UUs tend to have a reverence for the Earth and the inherent worth and interconnectedness of all beings. We have a theology oriented to responsible stewardship of the Earth and all of her life forms.

continued on next page
continued from page 5

Unitarian Universalists are concerned with the search for truth, so clearly one way to do the work of the Great Turning is to educate ourselves about sustainable practices. Opportunities to do this abound. At UUCT we’ve shown films such as An Inconvenient Truth and The End of Suburbia (about peak oil). A new Adult Faith Development offering, Choices for Sustainable Living, is currently in progress.

Some other films that might interest you:
- Who Killed the Electric Car
- A Crude Awakening: The Oil Crash

A few of books on sustainability topics:
- The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community by David C. Korten
- Coming Back to Life: Practices to Reconnect Our Lives, Our World by Joanna Macy
- Pasture Perfect: The Far-Reaching Benefits of Choosing Meat, Eggs, and Dairy - Products from Grass-Fed Animals by Jo Robinson

Websites:
- Association for the Study of Peak Oil: http://www.peakoil.net/
- Tucson Community Supported Agriculture: www.tucsoncsa.org/
- Interfaith Power & Light: http://www.theregenerationproject.org/
- Faith in Place: www.faithinplace.org
- Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth: www.uuministryforearth.org

Classes or Study Trips:
- Tucson Botanical Gardens: Be Energy Efficient or Solar for Pools
- Arizona Sonora Desert Museum: Solar Odyssey

Changing our light bulbs from incandescent to compact fluorescent (while a good first step) is no longer enough. I invite and encourage you to pursue an aspect of sustainable living that appeals to you most. And because we are in this interdependent web and in this interconnected faith community together, I ask you to share the information and resources that you are aware of (films, books, websites, classes, study trips, etc.) with me or the Green/Sustainability social justice working group, so that we may share them with the larger congregation.

Social Justice

The Social Justice Film Festival will continue through August 12. Film titles will be announced shortly for July 29, August 5, and August 12. Watch your Order of Service for more information.

Exploring Spirituality as a Unitarian Universalist invites you to explore with others your ideas and beliefs about spiritual topics in a safe environment. Each week’s discussion is structured to allow participants an opportunity to express their thoughts on the day’s topic by following a modified “Conversation Café” format.

The group meets before the service, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Servetus meeting room, and on August 5, it will welcome its fourth guest facilitator of the summer: Gilbert Moore.

Topics for August are:

August 5 - What’s my Tolerance Quotient (TQ)?
Just how tolerant are we really toward belief systems, religions, spiritualities that differ from our own? And what does tolerance entail?

August 12 - The new age of spirituality. Which, if any, of the following can be classified as spiritual practices: astrology, healing crystals, tarot cards, fortune-telling, pyramid power, Wicca, neo-paganism, psychics, mediums.

August 19 - Do we practice what we preach?
What codes of spiritual values do we profess? Do we or can we live up to our own codes? How do we construct a useful code of spiritual values?

August 26 - Is the Bible useful and relevant to our lives today? For those of us with liberal religious values, does the Bible play any major role? Should it? Is the Bible a discredited relic from an ancient time or a vital document with relevance to our world in 2007?
I was privileged to serve as one of your delegates to General Assembly in Portland this year and followed with great interest the process of developing statements of Conscience.

Since 1961, the Unitarian Universalist Association has issued General Assembly Resolutions and Statements of Conscience (known collectively as Social Justice Statements) supporting the worth and dignity of all people. Tackling both specific issues and the broader cultural and social context that causes oppression, the UUA has taken a stand against ableism, ageism, sexism, homophobia, racism, classism, and theological discrimination.

Often reflecting the current issues of the time, these resolutions have served as a call to the Unitarian Universalist community, challenging members to fight oppression both within the UUA and society at large. The Rev. Meg Riley, director of the UUA’s advocacy and witness staff group, told delegates at General Assembly in 2006 that once these statements have been discussed and passed, they become part of our living faith, and are concrete descriptions of how we live in the world.

This year at GA Rev. Riley explained to delegates what had been done to implement last year’s statement of conscience on global warming. She noted that the documentary film, "An Inconvenient Truth," was shown in many UU congregations (including UUCT). Riley also emphasized the following action elements:

- The UUA has committed to making its Boston headquarters more ‘green’
- The UUA, through the Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, has been engaged in shareholder advocacy (in partnership with the interfaith center for corporate responsibility) which has included asking for carbon footprint reduction and adopting sustainable practices
- We have spoken out, in coalition with other partners, to address global warming. This has included action through the Earth Day Network and the “Step it Up” campaign
- The Association’s Washington Office for Advocacy has signed on to campaigns that have pressed the world bank to stop subsidizing the oil and gas industry

Riley pointed out, however, that the real work of implementation of Statements of Conscience is done by Unitarian Universalist congregations. This action has included:

- Educational forums
- contacting local, state, and national officials
- organizing lobby days
- writing letters to the editor
- working with the media to receive local news coverage
- applying to be a green sanctuary congregation through UU Ministry for the Earth
- working to reduce carbon emissions
- fighting dumping in communities of color.

**Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society** was selected by the 2005 General Assembly for two years of study. The 2007 GA voted to adopt the Statement of Conscience with several amendments resulting from the study and debate of this issue. Watch for more information on this SOC in future newsletters.

**Save the Dates for Future GAs!**

June 25-29, 2008 Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
June 24-28, 2009 Salt Lake City, UT
STAFF
MINISTER: REV. DIANE DOWGIERT (x11)
EMAIL: diane-dowgiert@qwestoffice.net

ADMINISTRATOR: Jean A. Griffiths (x10)
EMAIL: uu1@qwestoffice.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Rebecca Froom (x15)
EMAIL: Rebecca-froom@qwestoffice.net

ADULT FAITH: Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings (x17)
EMAIL: Lmchutch@cox.net

COMMUNITY LIFE: Mary Wiese (x16)
EMAIL: macbrude@cox.net

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Agnes Paulsen
EMAIL: agnespaulsen@cox.net

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TRUSTEE: BECKY KEYES 881-7227

MISSION STATEMENT
This sacred community is rooted in our search for meaning, guided by personal experience, diverse religious traditions, and scientific discovery. We are varied as the blooms in the Sonoran Desert, yet draw strength from one another. Envisioning a world where justice and compassion cross all borders, we pledge energy and resources to transform ourselves, our community, and the world around us.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF TUCSON
4831 E. 22 STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85711
PHONE: 520.748.1551
FAX: 520.748.0178
EMAIL: uu1@qwestoffice.net
WEB SITE: www.uuctucson.org

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