New Church Directory

Once a year the church office publishes a new church directory, listing all members and those friends who wish to be listed. It is time, once again, to begin that process. A draft of the directory has been printed and can be found in the foyer of the sanctuary. It will remain in the foyer for the entire month of September so that you can have the opportunity to check your listing and make any additions or corrections to it before we publish it in October. If your entry is ok please mark it “ok” and place your initials next to the entry. This will let us know that you have checked it and approve of the information.

Please check your family’s listing to make sure addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, etc. are correct. Make any changes necessary. Church members are indicated by the asterisk (*) next to their name. If you are not a member and wish to be there will be a Joining Ceremony on Sunday, September 16. If you join on that day your listing in the directory will also have an asterisk (*) next to your name.

If you are not a member and do not see your name but wish to be included in our directory as a friend, please add your name to the bottom of the alphabetical page on which your name should appear and we will add you to the directory.

Please stop by the directory display in the foyer at least one Sunday in September so that we will have the correct information for the new directory. Thank you for your help.

We’re Back!!!!

I was taught not to ask personal questions, but there is one I need to ask. Do You Eat? If you do I would like to encourage you to purchase your groceries thru our reenergized community grocery program.

This is a program whereby no cost is added to your grocery purchases and UUCT will receive a 4 - 6% rebate as a non-profit organization. This can add up! Involved stores are: Albertsons, Bashas’, AJs, Food City, Fry’s and Safeway. Pick your favorite or favorites.

Visit the table in Goddard following services for more information and available cards. Please help us get this off to a good start!

Marj Smith
Grocery Coordinator

Exciting New Programs

Artist of the Month Gallery

Explore the world through the eyes of Ed Warner and the lens of his camera. His photographs will be on exhibit in the Sanctuary and are available for sale. A portion of the proceeds from Gallery sales goes to the Church.

Abby Root,
for the Gallery Committee
First Friday

First Friday Parents Night Out is scheduled for the first Friday evening of the month. The next one is scheduled for Friday, September 7. 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, September 6.

Membership News

The Membership Committee is re-inventing itself! Representatives from the various committees within the church have been and will continue to be asked to provide input to strengthen our member-tracking system. We have ‘cleaned up’ the name tag board, we are re-visiting the usher/greeter schedule, and reviewing the welcoming process on Sundays. We invite you to join us for a Membership Team meeting and brainstorming on Wednesday, September 5, 6:30-8:00 PM in Awareness. Please bring us your innovative ideas and suggestions. Any questions? Call Judy- 624-9272

Joining Ceremony

On Sunday September 16, during our regular Sunday service, we will have a Ceremony of Joining. If you are ready to commit yourself to the life of the church by becoming a member, we invite you to participate in this service. All that is needed from you is a short biography, that consists of two or three sentences, which will be read to the congregation by me, and your presence. Please email the bio to Mary Wiese at macbrude@cox.net.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!
(Reminders)

♦ Talk to someone you don’t know on Sunday
♦ Bring in a bag of ice to donate to Sunday’s Coffee Hour.
♦ Donate needed canned goods that are not expired to the food bank. These include-tuna, canned milk, vegetables and fruit.
♦ Donate money for flowers (or bring flowers) for the Sunday service. *Ask the Worship committee or Mary Wiese for details.
♦ Help with Sunday set up or take down
♦ Join Friends in Deed

We can do this if we do it together!

Yours in community spirit,
Mary

Circle of Life

We send our love, healing wishes and prayers to all those in need:
♦ Betty Russell, former member, in hospice care at Mountain View Care Center.
♦ Rea Davis’ family (former member) due to her death on Monday, August 27, in Phoenix, due to Alzheimer’s.
♦ Marcy Anderson, in TMC due to a second surgery
♦ Bill Keyes and family, on the illness of Bill’s father
♦ Richard Armstrong’s family due to his death at the age of 87 on August 17. Memorial service held at UUCT with Rev. Diane Dowgiert officiating.
♦ April-Lynne Fowler, recuperating from cataract surgery recently.

Life of the Church

Membership/ Community Life

Submitted by Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Coordinator, Kathleen Hogue, MCLC Assistant, and Judy Dare, Membership Chair
Cabaret Night

Mark your calendars now! On Nov. 10 at 6:30 p.m., UUCT will host Cabaret 2007: "Jammin' 'round the Americas!" You won't want to miss this new take on an old favorite. Featured guests Trio Liebevoll, Sarava!, and The Desert Sons will take you from the hot, sultry tangos of Argentina, to the cool, intoxicating bossa nova of Brazil, to the proud cowboy music that fills the wide open spaces of our American West. And, in addition to great music, you can always count on Cabaret for food, wine, and fabulous times!

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary or help work the box office for this event, please contact Barbara Sunderman at 886-1582 or Tom Clowes at 319-0165 or tclowes@gmail.com. See you there!

by Tom Clowes

UUCT Concert Planning Committee: An Invitation

Do you like to sing? Can you carry a tune? Do you enjoy being with others who like to do the same? We promise you a warm welcome. Please consider this an invitation to join Desert Chorale at their weekly rehearsals from 5:30 to 6:30 on Wednesday nights. We now have 28 members but there’s room for more! We sing at the Sunday morning worship services twice a month or so.

Are you a child, youth, or the parent of one who would like to sing together? Then Family Singers is for you. Rehearsals are every Sunday morning from 9:00 until 10:00. Our motto is “children and youth first” and we would love to welcome you to our extended family circle.

Both of these choral groups are co-directed by Brian Moon and me. We sing during Sunday morning worship about once a month. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact either of us.

Sunday, September 9  “Respect”
The first Unitarian Universalist principle, the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, could be summed up in one word: respect. We can find the history of this radical idea of respect for individuals in the humanist movement and classic Unitarian and Universalist theologies. How do we embody this central tenet of our liberal religious faith today?
Speaker: Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Music: Desert Chorale, Brian Moon, Agnes Paulsen

Sunday, September 16  “The Covenant of the Free Church”
People sometimes ask how UUism can be a real religion if we don’t all hold the same beliefs. Religion is defined not by belief, but by covenant. The Latin root of the word religion means “to bind together”. It is our covenant that binds us together. We will look at the historic and modern covenants that form the fabric of our communal life as Unitarian Universalists.
Speaker: Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Music: Agnes Paulsen

Sunday, September 23  “Roots and Branches”
An Extended Family Worship with Rev. Diane, Rebecca Froom & Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings.
Music: Family Singers, Agnes Paulsen

Sunday, September 30  “Saving Lives/Helping Families”
The Our Whole Lives (OWL) curricula series is now in its 6th year. This age and developmentally appropriate fact and faith-based sexuality curricula series is one of our curricula that we know saves lives. One of this year’s Action of Immediate Witness from General Assembly was the call for comprehensive sexuality education. This service will reflect on what OWL is about and how it can help families and communities.
Speaker: Kevin Drewery
Music: Agnes Paulsen
This week the “Choices for Sustainable Living” course came to an end with our final session and a celebration which featured a vegetarian potluck of mainly organic foods with some locally grown. Everything was delicious! Participants reported that this course has made a significant difference in their lives by raising their awareness of how unsustainable the American lifestyle is (and many aspects of our own daily living patterns) and the many choices we can make in our daily lives for more sustainable living. We’ve committed to taking canvas bags when we do our shopping, so that we can avoid the “Paper or plastic?” issue altogether. Some of us have joined Tucson Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) to get locally grown organic fruits and vegetables on a weekly basis. Some of us have committed to reducing our driving by taking public transportation to work occasionally. Mostly we have built a strong community of people devoted to taking better care of our Earth.

“The words “community,” “communion,” and “communicate” all derive from “common,” and the two syllables of “common” grow from separate roots, the first meaning together or next to, the second having to do with barter or exchange. Embodied in that word is a sense of our shared life as one of giving and receiving—music, touch, ideas, recipes, stories, medicine, tools, the whole range of artifacts and talents.”* This quote, from one of our authors in the course Scott Russell Sanders, illustrates a key concept in the sustainability movement, and one the course engendered. The course became a place to share information and ideas, and this will continue to happen in the UUCT Green/Sustainable Living social justice group. Adult Faith Development would like to offer this course again because we believe more of you are interested in sustainability. If you would like to take the course, please contact me or Mike Greenbaum, or see us at the AFD table on Sundays.

In the meantime, if you want to get started here are a few ideas copied from the Sustainable Tucson website**, a wealth of general and local information, on how to make Tucson sustainable. “1. Harvest and conserve water
Step One: Remove non-native species from your yard (like grass and oleanders) and replace them with native plants watered as much as possible by rainwater only.

“2. Use the sun’s energy
Step One: Hang your laundry to dry in the sun.

“3. Eat local and native foods.
Step One: Visit a farmers market.”

See www.sustainabletucson.org/top-10/ for more.


Exploring Spirituality as a Unitarian Universalist continues its meetings each Sunday in September from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Servetus room with Lyman Grover as the facilitator. The topic on September 9 will be REINCRINATION. Participants will explore ideas about this concept which has appeared in many of the world’s religions over the centuries. If it occurs, does it happen physically, spiritually, or both? Can it be proven factually or intuitively? These are rhetorical questions each participant will have the opportunity to answer for him/herself. On September 16, the topic will be NIRVANA. Is this just another name for heaven? If it is, how do the two differ, if at all? Is there such a thing as a "Happy Hunting Ground," by any name, after we die? Again, participants will be encouraged to find their own answers.

** For those members of the congregation who have wondered about the rainbow prayer flags hanging outside under the shade cloth between Holland and Goddard, they were made by students in the R.E. classes and by adults in the Living Our UU Principles group. The words on the flags are personal expressions of how the people who made them would use that principle in their day-to-day lives. Prayer flags come from the Hindu tradition. They are intentionally not hemmed, so that each thread that frays off is another prayer released. In the sunlight, rain, and wind, our flags will gradually degrade. Just as pieces of the flags will fly off, eventually becoming part of the earth, so the actions and commitments of the individuals who made them will disseminate the seven principles into the wider world.
With Gratitude

Summer at UUCT provides the opportunity to take on special projects, and there are several volunteers who deserve the heartfelt thanks of our congregation for their service to Religious Education during the summer of 2007.

Albert Hogue has repaired all the rolling white boards, so that they can now be safely and smoothly moved from room to room without any wobbles. Kathleen Hogue, Lynn Healey, Margo Newhouse and Lisa Martin have been digitalizing our RE library, entering our entire collection of curriculum, books and resources into an electronic library database. This will make it easier to search for, check-out and keep track of RE library items.

And of course our summer programs for children and youth would not have happened without the dedication of our summer program coordinators Lisa Rice and Tom Clowes. Please join me in thanking these dedicated members of our religious community.

Youth Ministry and Youth Adult Relations

The success of our youth ministry program depends on offering a balanced program that incorporates community building, learning, leadership, worship, and social justice. That’s the official philosophy that our youth and youth advisors can quote verbatim. Yet there is another ingredient necessary for creating an environment that will nourish youth empowerment, and that is a healthy partnership between youth and adults. Youth – adult relations means our adults need to get involved and support our youth in the projects they take on - to share knowledge and power and provide guidance, encouragement and inspiration.

Our congregation is blessed to have a full array of youth programming, including our middle school Religious Education class, our Coming of Age Program, our Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) group, and Our Whole Lives (OWL) comprehensive sexuality education. Our youth also serve on committees of the church including the Lifespan Program Council Steering Committee and the RE Council, sing in Family Singers, work as Safe Sitters, and pledge money to our church (some as members and others as friends).

Wow, you must be thinking, our youth are awesome! How can I support them? Great question! Youth ministry takes a lot of time, and while we are lucky to have a fantastic group of advisors, guides, RE teachers and OWL facilitators, they too need our support. Our youth ministry programs need volunteers to act as chaperones for youth overnights, drivers for special events and youth conferences, and mentors for Coming of Age sojourner s. This year we are also looking for congregants involved in social justice who would be willing to collaborate with youth as they take on their own social justice projects.

Contact Rebecca Froom, DRE, at Rebecca-froom@qwestoffice.net or 748-1551 to find out more about how you can support youth ministry at UUCT.
I’ve written before about UU action on the Gulf Coast of the United States where a number of UU congregations were greatly affected by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina along with millions of other people, churches and businesses. One of our members, Judy Thompson, went to the area shortly after Katrina to provide relief with the Red Cross. She told us then that people she talked to were afraid they would be forgotten by the rest of the country. But the Unitarian Universalist Association and the UU Service Committee have not forgotten.

Now two years after this horrific natural disaster that many believe can be traced to the rising ocean temperatures brought about by global warming, work continues on rebuilding and recovery with UUs actively participating. The UUA-UUSC Gulf Coast Volunteer Program grew out of the Hurricane Relief and Social Justice project of the Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge, La. This project, which was created to respond to the great need of the surrounding region in the aftermath of the hurricanes, transitioned into the UUA-UUSC Gulf Coast Volunteer Program in April 2007.

Many volunteer opportunities exist through this program and you can learn more about those by going to http://www.uusc.org/gulfcoastvolunteerprogram/. However, for many of us going to the Gulf Coast as a volunteer is not possible. So we can go the next best thing: donate money! Special envelopes that I brought back from General Assembly are available in the Church office for you to use to make a contribution to the valuable work that enables us to stand in solidarity with the people of the Gulf Coast for a just and equitable recovery.

Unitarian Universalists in Action
By Carolyn Saunders

Church Calendar
* shows non-church function

September 9
9:00 a.m. Exploring Spirituality, Servetus
9:00 a.m. Family Singers, Awareness
10:30 a.m. Worship, Holland
12:15 p.m. Artist Gallery Reception, Holland
12:15 p.m. Elem/Jr High Parent Orientation, RE

September 10
12:00 p.m. Bridge Club, Awareness

September 11
12:00 p.m. Writing Group, Awareness
2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Servetus
7:00 p.m. Balkan Peace Group, Servetus
7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees, Awareness

September 12
2:00 p.m. Quuilters, Awareness
5:30 p.m. Desert Chorale, Holland
6:30 p.m. *Nicotine Anonymous, Servetus
7:00 p.m. *Cong. Chaverim, Holland
7:00 p.m. Men’s Group, Awareness

September 13
9:00 a.m. *Cong. Chaverim, Holland
1:00 p.m. Listening Spirit, Awareness

September 14
6:00 p.m. *Astrologers, Awareness
6:30 p.m. Women’s Spirit, Servetus

September 15
9:00 a.m. Covenant Circle Facilitators, Awareness
11:00 a.m. *Al-Anon, Servetus
12:00 p.m. *Astrologers, Awareness

September 16
9:00 a.m. Exploring Spirituality, Servetus
9:00 a.m. Family Singers, Awareness
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Speaker Series

September 17
12:00 p.m. Bridge Club, Awareness

September 18
12:00 p.m. Writing Workshop, Awareness
2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Servetus
7:00 p.m. Finance Committee, Awareness

September 19
12:15 p.m. Social Justice: Economic, Servetus
2:00 p.m. Quilters, Awareness
5:30 p.m. Desert Chorale, Holland
6:30 p.m. Membership Committee, Library
6:30 p.m. *Nicotine Anonymous, Servetus
6:30 p.m. RE Council, Emerson

September 20
1:00 p.m. Listening Spirit, Awareness
6:30 p.m. Covenant Circle Facilitators, Servetus
7:00 p.m. Book Club, Awareness

September 21
6:30 p.m. *Cong. Chaverim, Holland
September 22
8:00 a.m. *Cong. Chaverim, Holland
11:00 a.m. *Al-Anon, Servetus
UNOFFICIAL SUMMARY OF the August 14th Board Meeting.

Note: This summary is provided to inform the congregation of Board discussion and actions. These are not the official, complete, or approved minutes. MSP = Motion made, seconded and passed.

Empowerment Team (ET) report was presented by Rev. Diane Dowgiert:
- Paper report submitted for review. Electronic copy to follow.
- 30 Visitors last Sunday.
- Summer attendance has been higher this summer over previous summers.
- Treasurers report. Available in the office. Discussion on how it can be made more available to the members of the congregation.
- Financial report.
- Why was the pledge shortfall so high? Discussion on how to address this shortfall in upcoming years.

Stewardship Campaign Plan; Paper report submitted by Lyman Grover (FC).
- Starting in June.
- Gifts, Call and Spiritual Vocation.
- Performance, Planning, Preparation, VISION.

Discussed Policy governance practice. Strategic plan.
- September 8th – Leadership Day
- Town Hall meeting in October to report on the progress of the strategic plan.
- Letter to the congregation on policy governance. On the web site.

Discussed Leadership training day. September 8th.

Report from Gabriel Burns on the Committee on Ministry (COM)
- Met last week.
- “Comment” form, still in draft form.
- Find positive resolutions.
- Will be getting involved in Town Hall meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Lundstrom
Board of Trustees
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.

Sept. 20
*No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam* by Reza Aslan. From the Publisher: “Though it is the fastest-growing religion in the world, Islam remains shrouded in ignorance and fear for much of the West. In No god but God, Reza Aslan, an internationally acclaimed scholar of religions, explains this faith in all its beauty and complexity…” The PCPL has 6 copies with one missing and none on hold. Available in PB. Approx. 310 p.

Oct. 18
*Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather.

From the PCPL: “Cather's famous novel traces the friendship and adventures of Bishop Jean Latour and vicar Father Joseph Vaillant as they organize the new Roman Catholic diocese of New Mexico. Friends since their childhood in France, the clerics triumph over corrupt Spanish priests, natural adversity, and the indifference of the Hopi and Navajo to establish their church and build a cathedral in the wilderness.” The PCPL has over 30 copies with none on hold. Available in PB. Approx. 350 p.