Practice Abundance - 
It Will Change Your Life!

by Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Minister

Abundance is a state of mind, one cultivated by a grateful heart. It’s like the familiar line of poetry by e.e. cummings, “thank you god for most this amazing day.” Autumn is the traditional time of the harvest, when the long toil of planting and tending crops finally comes to fruition. The harvest is a time of abundance.

Mostly, our lives these days are disconnected from the cycles of planting, growing and bringing in the crops. The fruits of our labor are not as easily measured as they once were. No longer is there a natural, collective pause in communal life to revel and rejoice in nature’s bounty. Now we need only take a weekly walk through the produce department of the local grocery store to experience what used to be a seasonal event. Potatoes: red, white, and even blue. Apples: Delicious, Granny Smith, and Fuji. Pears: Bartlett, Bosc, and Asian. Not just in the fall, but year round. “We walk knee deep in abundance,” writes Unitarian Universalist minister, Barbara Pescan.

Oddly, the availability of so much can create an inner desire for more. The list of things still wanted is long. It doesn’t help that catalogues arrive in the mail daily, full with things we do not have – the latest computer, new gadgets for the kitchen, trendy clothes, a new car perhaps?

This inner desire causes a subtle shift in focus. Lack and scarcity now move to the foreground of consciousness. Where lack and scarcity abound, fear is sure to follow, especially when there is a real or perceived lack of necessities. Fear is an emotion that can immobilize. It can narrow the field of vision, obscuring the possibilities that lie just within reach.

Try this. Note your immediate surroundings. Without judgment, notice all that you have, all that is yours in this very moment. Start with the chair in which you sit and the surface on which your newsletter or computer sits. Don’t worry about their quality or condition. Don’t try to assign a dollar value. Just notice and appreciate. Now try noticing everything in your environment that you did not lift a finger to attain, things that are simply given – things like sunshine and cool evening breezes and the play of shadows across the magnificent Santa Catalina – even the very breath that gives you life.

This is the attitude of abundance. The ancient psalmist captured it well: This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Or perhaps you prefer the philosophy of Mick Jagger: You can’t always get what you want. But if you try sometime, you just might find, you get what you need.

Practice abundance. It will change your life.

Yours in the spirit, Diane
Membership/Community Life
Bulletin Board
Submitted by Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Coordinator,
and Kathleen Hogue, MCLC Assistant

First Friday

First Friday Parents Night Out is scheduled for the first Friday evening of the month. The next one is scheduled for Friday, November 2, 2007. 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, November 1.

Updated Committee and Group information Needed ASAP!

The Membership Committee is in the process of updating our church information brochure. Please let Mary Wiese know: 1.) What day you meet; 2.) Where you meet; 3.) What time you meet; 4.) Who the contact person is; 5.) A brief description about your group/committee. If the information is not received by the 21st of October, it may not be included! This information can be emailed to me at: macbrude@cox.net or put in my mailbox in the church office. Please feel free to call me or email me if you have any questions.

Goddard Table Request

Please make requests for information tables in Goddard Hall by Monday at 5pm, prior to the Sunday you need them. Also, we are encouraging people to set up outside on the patio now that the weather is nice. We are doing this in the interest of space and because of the lack of acoustics within Goddard Hall. Please remember that each ministry is important! Therefore, we ask that you cooperate and collaborate so we can accommodate everyone. Requests should be made to Mary Wiese at: macbrude@cox.net or you may call me at 349-4521. Priority will be given to program ministries first.

Parking Lot Reminder

Chuck Gould has made nice visitor signs that shall cover the staff members reserved parking signs. Staff members will be parking behind Goddard Hall so our guests may have access these spaces on Sundays.

Ceremony of Joining

Becoming a member is a personal decision. It means committing oneself to an institution that shares your beliefs and values. If you feel you are ready to make that commitment and you have attended one of our Newcomers Orientations, I invite you to participate in The Ceremony of Joining that takes place during our regular worship service on Sunday, November 4. If you plan on taking part in the ceremony, please email me a brief biography that can be read during the service. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at macbrude@cox.net at 349-4521.

Yours in community spirit,
Mary
Are you a picker, a grinner, or both?

While the focus of our music program at the UUCT is on choral singing, we are always looking for other musical talents. Do you play a kazoo, tuba, or xylophone? Have you learned a few songs on a guitar? Can you lead a song, if we provided a camp fire for ambience? Are you willing to play for Agnes or myself? Are you interested in helping enrich the musical life of U.U.C.T.? We are interested in learning more about your musical experience.

On the music program flyers, located in the lobby, there is a brief form that asks you some of these questions. If you believe you can contribute to the church’s music program, we’d love to know.

Services Upcoming

Sunday, October 28
_Day of the Dead_
Dancing skeletons, special altars, picnicking at gravesites … what does that have to do with Unitarian Universalism today? Explore with us the ancient Aztec celebration of Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead, not a somber occasion but a happy celebration of death. In this season of remembrance, what meaning can we find?
Service Leaders:  Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings, Rebecca Froom
Music:  Family Singers, Agnes Paulsen

Sunday, November 4
_A Time for Rest, A Time for Delight: Finding and Keeping Sabbath_
For many people the idea of keeping the Sabbath is associated with boredom and dreariness. This need not be so! Intentionally creating time to rest and play is at the heart of a good Sabbath. Joy and vitality increase when we consciously and regularly set aside our work. You know what they say about all work and no play!
Service Leader:  Rev. Diane Dowgiert

Sunday, November 11
_An Uneasy Silence: Unitarian Universalists and Military Service_
Veteran’s Day is a complicated holiday for Unitarian Universalists, a day when we are confronted with the complexities of war and peace, service and protest. How do we respect the inherent worth and dignity of those with whom we disagree? How do we honor the service of our military veterans even if we are opposed to the wars they are called to fight? What is a compassionate response to military families in our congregation and in the community at large? How do we make room in our hearts to hear the unspeakable truths our war veterans bear?
Service Leader:  Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Attention: Report to the Principle(s)!
That’s right….all UU congregations are asked to report to the Commission on Appraisal what they think about, not only our Seven Principles, but also our Six Sources, the Purpose Statement of our Associations, and all the other language in Article II of our By-laws.

"Article II of our Bylaws! How boring is that!" you’re saying to yourself. Really? But Article II contains the guiding principles that we affirm regularly in congregational life, such as:

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

It contains recognition of the diverse well-springs of our tradition, such as:

Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.

It contains an articulation of the purpose of the UUA, a non-discrimination statement, and ends with an unequivocal affirmation of the freedom of belief (even in regard to everything that has gone before).

What does it all mean?

Well, the current words that we use developed from the Principles that were affirmed upon the merger of Unitarianism and Universalism in 1961 and were further modified in 1985, with some additional modification in 1993. In 1985 it was decided that this document should be reviewed on a regular basis so that congregations could join together in deciding whether these words still spoke to the current understandings and convictions of Unitarian Universalist congregations.

This is the exciting process we will undertake in a special workshop for all four Southern Arizona congregations to be held on November 3rd here at UUCT. With a variety of techniques, we will explore how the words of our Principles and Sources are used within our congregations, and see how they may speak more clearly to how we understand ourselves today.

We welcome a diversity of insight and opinion, of all ages and backgrounds and experience within our congregations. Come prepared to think; to feel; to share your experiences in large and small groups; to listen to familiar faces from your own congregation and not-so-familiar faces from neighboring congregations; to learn; to teach; to be surprised; to be enriched; and to take part in the work of shaping the words that are meant to give voice to our Living Tradition.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 3, from 10 am – 3 pm and will be facilitated by Rev. Rod Richards from the UU church in Sierra Vista. The registration fee of $18 (payable by cash, check, or credit card) covers costs and includes a box lunch. Sign-up sheets will be available at the Adult Faith Development table in Goddard Hall after the service. You may also reserve a place by calling the church office at 748-1551 or by emailing mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net.

Plan to be with us on November 3 and add your voice to the discussion!

Exploring Stewardship

Stewardship is about taking care of something we value, such as our church, and enabling it to grow. AFD is offering a two-session class called Exploring Stewardship as a Unitarian Universalist. This concept is so important that we are making the course available both afternoons and evenings.

The facilitator will be Lyman Grover. Evening sessions will be Tues., Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 from 7 to 9 pm in Emerson. Afternoon sessions will be Wed., Oct. 31 and Nov. 7 from 1 to 3 pm in Emerson. The cost is $10 for the two-session class. Get more information at the AFD table in Goddard Hall after the service.
Appreciation and Updates from Our Whole Lives
by Rebecca Froom, Director of Religious Education

On September 28-30 our congregation hosted a district sponsored Our Whole Lives Facilitators Training for OWL Grades K/1 and 4-6. Four members of our congregation, Peggy Smith, Heather Reed, Frank Valdes and Concy Richardson participated in this training, strengthening our congregations ministry of OWL Comprehensive Sexuality Education. Hosting the training greatly enabled us, financially and logistically, to train this many facilitators.

Our congregation did an absolutely wonderful job of providing home hospitality, meals, transportation and site support for the 18 attendees and 2 facilitators of this training. Heather Reed, our OWL coordinator on the RE Council deserves the highest accolades for organizing our congregations efforts. Mary Wiese and Becky Keyes provided excellent food throughout the weekend. Additional thanks are also due to Margo and Larry Newhouse, Kathy McDaniel, Bill Keyes, Joan DiGiovani, Claire and Peter Velonis, Linda French, Jan Dowling, Cubby Lash, Marion and Dawn Leonard, Judy Purcell, Alice Ageloff, Peggy Smith, Caitlin Glass, Margot and JD Garcia, Kathleen Hogue, Lynn Healy, Poonam Bholia, Shanti Moore, Deanna Bland, Chuck Gould, and Mike Greenbaum.

Our strategic plan calls on us “to assume multiple leadership roles within our denomination at the national and district levels.” The collective effort our congregation put into hosting this OWL training is a shining example of the leadership we are taking in the Pacific Southwest District. Thank you.

Plans are still underway to offer Our Whole Lives for Grades 10-12 and 7-9 later this year. Right now we are looking at offering both these courses in the spring term. Parents, please stay tuned for more information.

WEAR YOUR COSTUME, DONATE YOUR CLOTHES
by Margo Newhouse

Yes, Halloween is just around the corner. When you arrive at church on October 28th, don’t be surprised by all the unfamiliar beings there to greet you. All of our kids, as well as a good many kids at heart, will be wearing their costumes and bringing along a bag of clothes. Won’t you join them?

The clothes we collect that Sunday will be donated to Borderlinks, for use by people in need just across the border. A representative from Borderlinks says warm clothing is most important this time of year. They need sweaters, jackets and socks as well as other clothing and blankets too. Gently used items are appreciated, but if you want to bring along a package of new socks, we’re told they always need more socks. The children will sort and fold everything you bring and present them when a guest from Borderlinks comes to meet with them.
CHALICE LIGHTERS NEEDS YOU!

Did you know that the previous Chalice Lighters call for contributions resulted in a grant of $15,500 being given to the Summit UU Fellowship of Santee, CA? Just think what our church could do with an extra $15,000 or so!

Chalice Lighters is a district sponsored program which issues three calls for contributions each year. Every penny raised from its members is then given as a grant to whichever congregation has been selected for that period. To apply for a grant, a congregation must be supporting both the UUA and the district with its fair share, must have a worthy program directed toward growth, and must have at least 15% of its members as active participants in Chalice Lighters.

We currently have 24 members and we may need as many as 40 to qualify, depending on our 2007 membership number. So you see, we need you! The contribution for each call is $20 minimum, and with three calls per year, that means an additional contribution to our favorite charity of only $60 per year! Surely you can help us out.

Won't you sign up after church at the table in Goddard? If you want more information, stop by the table and talk to the friendly volunteer there, either Susan Call (886-2281) or Byron Skinner (647-7836).

JUST A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME!!

Our grocery program is growing thanks to you. There are, however, some who have not joined with us to add their support. I am assuming we all do eat! It costs you nothing extra but does contribute to the church. The more members and friends in the program, the more the church receives and a higher percentage given on our purchases. We should all be in this together. Sooo, let's go!!!

Another REMINDER TO SAFEWAY SHOPPERS. At this moment 37 of you have not renewed your commitment and we have received notice that YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN STOPPED. You are urged to please renew ASAP to start earnings again. Go to "escrip.com", click on "Yes Renew" (found to the left beneath the picture of the little girl) and fill in. We are under "Unitarian Universalist Church" and our Group # is 9607814.
ARTIST OF THE MONTH

LANDSCAPE AND ABSTRACT OIL PAINTINGS OF DEE BATES WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE SANCTUARY THROUGH NOVEMBER 5. AN ARTIST'S RECEPTION ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, FROM NOON TO 1:30 PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DEE BATES AND ASK ABOUT HER ART.

ABBY ROOT,

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.

NOV. 15
THE MEANING OF EVERYTHING: THE STORY OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY BY SIMON WINCHESTER
FROM THE PCPL: "TRACES THE HISTORY OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY FROM ITS EARLIEST INCEPTION THROUGH ITS LONG PATH TO COMPLETION, DESCRIBES THE PROCESS OF CREATING A DICTIONARY, AND INCLUDES ANECDOTES ABOUT ITS CREATORS AND THEIR WORK."
THE PCPL HAS 9 COPIES WITH NONE ON HOLD. AVAILABLE IN PB. APPROX. 260 P.

DEC. 20
MONTANA 1948 BY LARRY WATSON
FROM THE PCPL: "A SERIES OF EVENTS IN A SMALL WESTERN TOWN CHANGES THE LIVES OF DAVID HAYDEN, HIS SHERIFF FATHER, HIS MOTHER, AND THEIR SIOUX HOUSEKEEPER, AS"

IN MEMORY OF:

ANDERSON, MARCELLA G.

AGE 85, DIED SEPTEMBER 24, 2007, TUCSON, AZ. MARCY’S LIFE WAS A CHRONICLE OF WORK, SERVICE, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS, OFFERING ENCOURAGEMENT, A POSITIVE OUTLOOK, FRIENDSHIP, AND LOVE. HER MINNESOTA HERITAGE AND EXAMPLE NOW CONTINUES THROUGH HER THREE CHILDREN, JERRY, JONNA, AND JILL AND THEIR FAMILIES. SHE WILL LIVE FOREVER IN THE HEARTS OF ALL WHO KNEW HER.
Changes Are Hard

As you read this the church office (Rev. Diane & Jean plus Marion Leonard, our Communication advisor) are in the process of changing how the Sunday Order of Service looks and what information is included in it. Because we are growing and becoming more of a “Program” church it is necessary that all of the communication tools we use become more “user” friendly. We have, therefore, changed the look and size of our Order of Worship. We hope that you will enjoy the new size, the new look and the information included in it. We look forward to hearing from you about what you like and any suggestions you might have in making it even “friendlier”.

We encourage you to take this communication tool home with you on Sunday mornings to use as a reference point during the week to remind you what is happening, when and where.

Please send us your comments by email (uu1@qwestoffice.net) and we will share them with all staff and take them under advisement. This is a work in progress and may still be changed somewhat (based on your comments) so please keep an open mind and give us a few months to fine-tune this communication tool.

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.

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