Sunday Services 8:30 am and 10:30 am

The Bi-weekly Newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

Ride the Bus to District Assembly in April

UUCT has tentatively reserved a 49-passenger motor coach to take attendees to the District Assembly in San Diego on April 25-27. Fare will be $90 per person round trip. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to attend District Assembly without the hassle of driving or the expense of flying. Reservations and payments must be received no later than April 1. We need a minimum of 30 passengers in order to rent the bus. Reservation forms are available in the church office. For more information about District Assembly or the bus trip, contact Carolyn Saunders (299-3854), Becky Keyes (881-7227) or Chris Wallace (326-6043).

Saturday Salon. March 8, 2008 at 6 PM

At the home of Julia and Mike Mehrer. 18772 S. Houghton Road. Directions: From I 10. Take the Houghton exit south. The paved road goes to the left (after about 3 miles) take the dirt road that goes straight (this is Houghton). The Mehrer's house is at the south end of this road.

We will have a speaker from the Tucson Food Bank.
Suggested Food Assignments:
  A-G Salads or Vegetables
  H-N Main Dishes
  O-T Desserts
  U-Z Hors d'Oeuvres

Don't forget to BYOB

Any Questions call Barbara Tegethoff 749-2029

Old World Treasures Concert

Siberian native Evgeniya Belinskaya will make her US solo debut after 5 years at Vienna’s prestigious University of Music and Performing Arts. Joining her will be award-winning Korean pianist Ji-Young Kim, founding member of Trio Liebevoll and a doctoral student in piano performance at the U of A. Together they will perform Cesar Franck’s romantic violin sonata, Beethoven’s joyful “Spring” sonata, and other favorites. We at UUCT are blessed to have such talented musicians and such beautiful music around us. The concert is Sunday afternoon, February 24 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $12 each and can be purchased at the door. This is part of our ongoing concert series this year.

Book Club. Feb. 2008

The Book Club meets on the third Thursday of the month in the Awareness Room at 7pm. Everyone is invited.

February 21, 2008 we will review Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck. March 20, 2008 we will review Middle Sex by Jeffery Eugenedes. April 17, 2008 we will review Have a Nice Doomsday by Nicholas Guyot. Other books to be reviewed: Hitler’s Pope by John Cornwell; March by Geraldine Brooks

Sunday Services (8:30 & 10:30)

March 2: “Just War or just War” by Rev. Diane Dowgiert
March 9: Youth Sunday—Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Members of the YRUU Group
Music Notes
Agnes Paulsen, Minister of Music

I’d like to share some background information about Maggie Thompson who recently sang at our morning worship.

Maggie grew up in a very musical family. Her father was, and still is, a country western singer and her mother saw to it that she took piano lessons. By 7th grade Maggie was the church organist and accompanist for school choirs. She received a teaching degree in English from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., while also studying piano and voice there.

Maggie has performed in community theaters taking roles in musicals such as “The 1940's Radio Hour,” “Leader of the Pack,” and “Tom Foolery.” She has also written scripts for community theater, church chancel dramas, and a junior high play.

Maggie is the mother of three-year-old twin boys, Will and Luke, and the wife of Douglas Thompson who also shares his musical gifts with UUCT. Currently Maggie is teaching 7th grade Reading at Hohokam Middle School.

Get Involved!!
by Marj Smith,
Coordinator for the Grocery Program

Noted in the last newsletter, there are at least 150 members who have not joined us in the grocery program. That is a large number who could help in this effort. Please remember that it costs you nothing extra and you eat anyway. The church is given a rebate of from 4 to 6% on your purchases depending upon the store and amount purchased.

Thanks to all ye Fry’s patrons, UUCT will receive a check in the amount of $888.91 (eight hundred eighty-eight dollars & ninety-one cents) in early March. This is based on 4% of purchases amounting to $22,222.57 over the 6 month period of Aug. 5, 2007 thru Feb. 2, 2008. If we had met $25,000 in purchases, a 5% rate would have brought in $1250.00. Help us do this in the next 6 months.

Note: You can also use your Fry’s card at their gas pumps.

Winter visitors can use their Safeway cards throughout the country and Fry’s wherever there is a Kroger store. So please stop by, ask any questions you may have and get involved.

Be Green At Home
provided by Joyce Hardin

The “Green Team” of KVOA, Channel 4, recommends these “recipes” for making your own environmentally safe home cleaners:

1. For an all-purpose cleaner: mix one half cup of Borax and 1 gallon of hot water. It’s both safe and inexpensive.
2. To clean your linoleum or vinyl floors, mix one half cup of white vinegar with 1 gallon of warm water.
3. To eliminate persistent tub and tile stains, don’t deal with choking fumes of chlorine bleach; just try a half – lemon and —guess what—Borax again.

Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell
from the UUA Advocacy News
provided by Carolyn Saunders, President

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act H.R. 1246 would repeal the current ban on military service by openly lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans, commonly referred to as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”. It would replace the current law with a new provision prohibiting discrimination based on being gay to apply to rejoin the military. The Military Readiness Enhancement Act would not create a right to benefits for same-sex partners or spouses, because under current federal law such benefits would violate the federal Defense of Marriage Act. Currently there are 141 co-sponsors of this bill. Ask your representative today to become a co-sponsor of the Military Readiness Enhancement Act H.R. 1246.
Sunday, February 24

**Economic Justice: What Is It?**
The Economic Justice group, part of the church’s Social Action Committee, will explore affordable housing and adult literacy in our community. Tim Szott, from Habitat for Humanity, and a representative of the Adult Literacy Program, will speak.

Sunday, March 2

**Just War**

Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Minister

Religious thinkers throughout the ages have grappled with moral questions about the rightness or wrongness of war. Just War Theory delineates principles which must be met in order for war to be morally justified. How do our current war efforts stack up?

Sunday, March 9

**Youth Sunday**

YRUU Group and Rev. Diane Dowgiert

It is a tradition for our Young Religious Unitarian Universalist group to lead worship once a year. This service is not one to be missed. Our youth are leading the way into a new era of social justice ministry. You will be inspired!

Sunday, March 16

**At-one-ment**

Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Minister

The idea of redemptive suffering as a means of atonement is central to traditional, orthodox teachings about the Easter holiday. Liberal scholars today suggest this idea may be at the root of violence and aggression in our culture. We’ll dust off the heretical teachings of the 19th century Universalist, Hosea Ballou, who wrote *A Treatise on Atonement*. His radical thinking is apropos for today’s world.

**Adult Faith Development Upcoming Classes**

**Digging for Gold**

On Saturday, March 1, from 10 am to 3 pm in Holland Sanctuary, Rev. Diane Dowgiert will present a workshop entitled *Digging for Gold: Mining Nuggets of Wisdom from Everyday Life*.

Life is a series of experiences: good and bad, difficult and wondrous, joyful and sad, positive and negative. Rev. Dowgiert’s workshop will provide us with a tool we can use in our personal lives to achieve insight and understanding into both kinds of experiences and find the gold in everyday life.

The guided process of theological reflection helps us to examine the events of our lives and discover a deeper meaning in them. It uses the language of theology to move from just “going through” our experiences to gaining from them greater self-awareness.

The workshop fee is $15 and includes a box lunch. We ask that you pay the fee by February 25 so that lunch selections can be tallied and ordered. Scholarships are always available.

**Propaganda and Profiling**

On three successive Thursday evenings, March 13, 20, and 27, from 7 to 9 pm, Craig McComb will present a program called *Propaganda and Profiling: The Demonization of Arabs in America*, featuring three different films on each evening followed by a discussion afterwards.

The first, on March 13, is *Reel Bad Arabs* which concerns the image of Arabs as portrayed by Hollywood in films from the earliest days up until today. On March 20, *Control Room* attempts to provide a balanced view of Al-Jazeera’s presentation of the Iraq war to their worldwide Arab audience, and in so doing calls into question many of the prevailing images and positions offered up by the U.S. news media. On March 27, he will present an interview by Amy Goodman of *Democracy Now!* with Josh Rushing, a former Marine and critic of Al-Jazeera, who went to work for Al-Jazeera English and in 2007 wrote: *Mission Al Jazeera: Build a Bridge, Seek the Truth, Change the World*.

Craig is a long-time UU, a member here at UUCT and of the church in Madison Wisconsin. He’s the retired Associate Director of the Information Technology Division of the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

The fee for the three-session series is $10, and scholarships are always available. For more information about upcoming these or any other AFD programs, email mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net or call him at 326-8831.
Immigrant Rights Action Group

A speaker from the Samaritans, an interfaith human rights group in Tucson, will do a presentation on what the organization does and how to volunteer at the next meeting of the Immigrant Rights Action Group at 7 p.m. Monday, March 24 in the Awareness Room. We will also discuss which spring immigrant rights events and actions we want to participate in. For more information contact Leila Pine at lpine@tds.net.

FUNdRaising Trip to Tumacacori Mission and Tubac!

Earn $15 for UUCT by joining this day tour to local sights. We'll leave from UUCT on April 1st for a tour of Tumacacori Mission, have lunch at ESPLENDOR in Rio Rico and the either see Tubac Presidio or spend time in the Galleries there! Sign up on bulletin board in Goddard or contact Julia Mehrer. Cost $30.

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, March 7, 2008. 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, January 31.

Children’s Auction

We have received some wonderful donations for our upcoming Children’s Auction that will take place at the same time as our Annual Church Auction on Saturday March 15. However, more donations are always welcome. Our Children’s Auction has become an annual event that all of our children look forward to. So listen up parents of school-age children: plan to attend the Annual Church Auction in Goddard and Holland that evening while your kids have their own auction that benefits the church and promotes community. Hey, they even get free pizza! Please call Kathleen Hogue to RSVP or for more information.

Spring Cookout?

On Saturday, April 12, we would like to have a church cookout. All we need to make it happen is you! This event is replacing our very popular Catalina Park Campout. It was decided by staff that due to the lack of paid staff time and volunteers, a cookout might be more feasible. However, this will not happen unless enough volunteers step forward soon. So far, no one has volunteered.

We need someone to find a place that would accommodate us, like Reid Park, someone willing to organize games and activities, and someone who will help with the overall coordination.

At the Town Hall a few weeks ago, many people praised the intergenerational events as important opportunities for fostering connections within our church community and helping it to grow; concepts that are important to the success of our strategic plan. Let’s make this happen! Contact me to share your energy, enthusiasm and great ideas: Please contact Mary: 349-4521 or macbrude@cox.net.
Empowerment Team Goals
Submitted by Rebecca Froom, Empowerment Team

In January the Empowerment Team (ET) met to orient our newest member, Judy Dare, and to brainstorm our goals for the rest of the church year. Our ET goals for this year are:

1. Create an agreed upon format for reporting on the Ends Policies to the Board of Trustees
2. Be visible within and accessible to the congregation with a transparent organizational structure
3. Keep a focus on the “big picture” of Empowerment Team Work

The Empowerment Team has been charged by the Board of Trustees to oversee the operations of the church. The ET is not some monolithic, bureaucratic, institutional, entity, but rather is a group that is comprised of four very human, very accessible, individuals that are your friends and colleagues here at UUCT:

- Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Leadership
- John Shepard, Facilitates
- Rebecca Froom, Program
- Judy Dare, Membership

Motivated by our second goal, which focuses on communication, you will know start hearing from the Empowerment Team more often in the church newsletter. We also hope that committee chairs and members of the congregation feel comfortable approaching the ET or its members with questions, suggestions, requests and concerns. The ET meets bi-weekly in the Minister’s office, and meeting dates can be found in the church calendar, newsletter and order of service. We ask that communication to the ET be submitted in writing or by email several days before our meeting.

Upcoming in Religious Education

**Sunday February 23** - All our RE offerings will continue as usual during Rodeo Weekend.

**Friday Feb 29** thru Saturday March 1 - **OWL (7-9) overnight** at the UU Congregation of Northwest Tucson.

**Sunday March 2** - Children in grades 1-5 participate in a **Project Day** with a focus on community and hospitality, as they prepare to host the **Birthday Bash**, which will follow the 2nd service.

**Sunday March 9** - Be sure to attend the annual **Youth-led Worship Service**! Middle School and Coming of Age youth will attend this worship. Children in preschool thru fifth grade will attend Religious Education Programming as usual.

You Say its Your Birthday
Submitted by Rebecca Froom, DRE

Ever wish your church friends could celebrate your birthday with you? Well they can on **Sunday March 2** during the Religious Education Sponsored **Birthday Bash**. Following the 2nd service, look for the table in Goddard Hall labeled with your month of birth. Get to know members of our spiritual family who (almost) share your birthday (give or take a decade). Cupcakes will be provided by RE families and volunteers, and that day's lunch will be prepared by the Religious Education Council.

If you wish to contribute cupcakes to this fabulous event please contact Rebecca Froom or Helen O'Brien.
SAWUURA 30TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC!

What: SAWUURA 30th Anniversary Picnic (http://www.sawuura.org/)

SAWUURA stands for SIERRA ANCHA WILDERNESS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATION. The purpose of SAWUURA is to provide a religious, educational, and spiritual center for members and friends of Unitarian Universalist congregations.

When: Saturday, March 15, 2008, 11 am - 3 pm

Who: You! Whether you’ve been camping at SAWUURA (Sierra Ancha Wilderness Unitarian Universalist Religious Association) one time, fifty times or never, you are welcome here.

Join us at beautiful Usery Mountain Regional Park to celebrate SAWUURA’s 30th birthday! There will be sun burgers, cake, and games. The ramada has picnic tables, a patio, grills and nearby playground and hiking trails. There is a $6/car park entry fee. The park also has camping areas available first come, first served for $20/night - see the park website for details.

Please RSVP with the number of people in your party by March 8 and contact Erin Mullarkey or John Matthews with any questions. See you there!

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN ENDS SOON

by Lyman Grover

The campaign for financial commitments for fiscal year 2008-09 officially ends on March 2nd. Most members, friends and visitors have already pledged generously and the Stewardship Campaign Team thanks them for their enthusiastic support of this church’s vision. If you are among those who haven’t yet pledged, please do not delay any longer. The church leadership needs to prepare a budget based on expected income.

Financial Commitment forms will continue to be available at the Stewardship Campaign table in Goddard Hall after both Sunday services on February 24th and March 2nd.
What is required to weave the tapestry of a beloved community? Perhaps a pep talk from the Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell of the First Unitarian Church of Portland, OR, can give us a clue. She believes that we can create congregations that can embody the kind of loving, inclusive community that a broken world is looking for. Maybe a workshop on *UUs and Peace or Progressive Education as a Key to Global and Social Change* can light a spark. Or maybe a Soulful Sundown Service shared by UUs from all around our District will provide a connection for community across generations.

You will find this inspiration at the 2008 District Assembly, “*Weaving the Tapestry of the Beloved Community,*” April 25-27, in Del Mar. There will be worship, workshops, awards, banquets and bridging, as well as our keynote speaker, Rev. Sewell.

Registration materials for District Assembly will be online by mid-February. The **full adult registration fee will be $145** for all registrations received prior to April 1. After that date it increases to $170. All other fees can be found in the online brochure. This year one dollar of each registration fee goes towards “carbon off-setting.” That means PSWD will contribute this money to an organization that works to repair the earth through tree plantings, solar and wind energy projects, etc.

A block of rooms has been set aside for DA attendees at the San Diego Marriott Del Mar, 11966 El Camino Real, conveniently located off I-5. All reservations must be made individually by calling 858-523-1700 no later than March 28 and asking for the Unitarian Universalist Association rate of $119 plus tax. Reservations requested after this date will be accepted based on availability only.

Transportation may be easier and less expensive than you think. UUCT is considering renting a 49-passenger bus. It would require at least 30 passengers paying $100 each (round-trip). We have invited the other churches in the area to use the bus as well. If you are interested in this means of transportation, please see the article on this issue’s front page. Reserved your space today!

Again this year, the selection of workshops is outstanding and very well balanced between 4 distinct tracks--Personal/Spiritual Development, Social Action, Church Organization and PSWD/Unitarian Universalist Association. You may choose to attend workshops from only one track or from 3 different tracks during the 3 workshop sessions.

Adding to the excitement of the weekend, the Saturday night banquet entertainment will feature nationally known author Dr. Richard Lederer. Not only is he the author of numerous books, but he has written columns for a number of major national publications and has also appeared on many radio and television shows, including his own weekly radio show, *A Way With Words* on KPBS, San Diego Public Radio. You won’t want to miss this fun-filled evening.

So make plans now to come to Del Mar, CA, April 25-27, to join hands in worship, leadership, spiritual growth, working for social justice, community and fellowship. Come be a part of this very special gathering of Unitarian Universalists.
## UUCT Calendar
(February 24-March 8)

### Sunday, February 24
- **8:30 a.m.** Worship, Sanctuary
- **9:00 a.m.** Exploring Spirituality, Servetus
  
  Family Singers, Awareness
- **10:30 a.m.** Worship, Sanctuary
- **12:15 p.m.** SJ: Economic Group, Servetus
- **3:00 p.m.** Concert “Old World Treasures” in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, February 26
- **6:30 p.m.** Covenant Circles, Emerson

### Wednesday, February 27
- **2:00 p.m.** Quilters, Awareness
- **5:30 p.m.** Desert Chorale, Sanctuary
- **7:00 p.m.** Men’s Group, Awareness

### Thursday, February 28
- **8:00 a.m.** Empowerment Team, Office
- **1:00 p.m.** Listening for the Spirit, Awareness
- **4:00 p.m.** Homeless Hospitality, Goddard
- **7:00 p.m.** AFD: God & Humankind Class, in Servetus

### Friday, February 29
- **5:00 p.m.** OWL (7-9), UUNWT

### Saturday, March 1
- **10:00 a.m.** Minister’s Workshop, Sanctuary

### Sunday, March 2
- **8:30 a.m.** Worship, Sanctuary
- **9:00 a.m.** Exploring Spirituality, Servetus
  
  Family Singers, Awareness
- **10:30 a.m.** Worship, Sanctuary
- **12:15 p.m.** Birthday Bash Lunch, Goddard
  
  Town Hall, Sanctuary

### Monday, March 3
- **7:00 p.m.** Covenant Circle, Emerson

### Tuesday, March 4
- **7:00 p.m.** Cmte on Ministry, Awareness

### Wednesday, March 5
- **2:00 p.m.** Quilters, Awareness
- **5:30 p.m.** Desert Chorale, Sanctuary
- **7:00 p.m.** Covenant Circle, Emerson

### Thursday, March 6
- **1:00 p.m.** Listening for the Spirit, Awareness
- **6:30 p.m.** Buildings & Grounds Mtg, AW
- **7:00 p.m.** AFD: God & Humankind, Servetus

### Friday, March 7
- **6:00 p.m.** First Friday, Blackwell

### Saturday, March 8
- **8:30 a.m.** B&G Work Day, Outside
- **6:00 p.m.** Saturday Salon (Mehrer Home)

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