Sunday Services
10:30 a.m.

The Bi-weekly Newsletter of
Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT

In July five youth and four adults from our congregation attended the No More Deaths camp in Arivaca.
For more information, see the related article on page 3.

On August 23, a very successful Leadership Day was attended by 30 people!

Lifespan Faith Development News

Religious Education (RE)

Teacher Training
Training for those who have signed up as volunteer teachers for first grade through middle school will be held on Saturday, September 6, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Awareness Room. We still need additional teachers, and your time commitment is only two Sundays a month. You can volunteer for a unit, a semester, or a full year if you wish. For more information, contact Kathleen Hogue at 312-0441 or kathleen-hogue@qwestoffice.net.

Parent Orientation
An orientation for parents of all present and prospective RE students from nursery through high school will be held on Sunday, September 14, from 12:15 until 2:00 in the Awareness Room.

CPR/First Aid Class
CPR and First Aid classes will be held Saturday, September 27, at 10:00 am in Goddard Hall presented by the Desert Fire CPR and First Aid. Successful participants of the CPR class will receive an American Heart Association certification card valid for two years. You may take both CPR and first aid or CPR alone. The cost of each class is $20 (scholarships are available). Registration will close on September 13. Sign up at the Adult Faith Development table in Goddard Hall after the service or email Kathleen Hogue at Kathleen-hogue@qwestoffice.net.

Fund-Raiser for UUCT Safe Sitters
Come to Sweet Tomatoes on Broadway on Friday, September 12, have a great dinner, and help the UUCT Safe Sitters Program at no extra cost! On Friday, September 12, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, the Sweet Tomatoes restaurant at 6202 E. Broadway Boulevard will donate 15% of all money spent by UUCT members and friends to our Safe Sitters Program. A couple of requirements, of course: You must purchase a meal and a beverage and, at the time of purchase, and you must present to the cashier the blue flyer which is available in Goddard Hall after the service or in the office. No other discounts or coupons will be honored as part of this program.

Adult Faith Development (AFD)

Exploring Spirituality as a Unitarian Universalist
This is a drop-in group which meets every Sunday from 9:00 to 10:00 am in the Servetus room before the service. Everyone is welcome for a stimulating hour of conversation. Sally Masteller facili-

continued on page 2
tates the group, and the topic for September is Spiritual Practice. Different faiths have a wide variety of spiritual practices which support one’s spiritual development.

On September 7, the group will consider the following questions: Have you ever used a spiritual practice or a group experience to strengthen, deepen, expand, or enhance your spirituality? Are there spiritual practices that you would like to try?

On September 14, they will discuss the role of retreats or pilgrimages in spiritual development. Does being in a community of seekers add to the spiritual experience? What about silent retreats? What about solitary or alone time?

**Sunday Speaker Series**
On Sunday, September 21, at 12:15, the YRUU youth who participated in the Nicaragua Service Project will present a slide show and program detailing their experiences during the ten-day trip. This will be much more than a travelogue. The students will talk about what they learned and the ways in which they were changed by visiting a third-world developing country and how they hope to use this experience in the future.

**Women, Men, and Readers**
Don’t forget about AFD’s ongoing activities for women, men, and readers—all open to everyone.

The **Women’s Circle** meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month (September 3 and 17), at 6:30 pm in the Awareness Room. Suzanne Borth is the facilitator, and you can reach her at: sborth@cox.net or 991-8390.

The **Men’s Group** meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month (September 10 and 24) at 7:00 pm in the Awareness Room. Paul Williams is the facilitator, and you can reach him at: paul37w@earthlink.net or 743-8220.

**Listening for the Spirit** explores issues of religion and spirituality through contemporary short stories and essays. It meets every Thursday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Awareness Room. Mary Schantz is the facilitator, and you can reach her to find out about the current selections at llgjmum@peoplepc.com or 731-8189.

**Membership/ Community Life Bulletin Board:**
Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Administrator

**Growth Workshop:**
Registration has begun for the Saturday, October 4 “Yes We Can” Growth Workshop. We need at least 50 participants to make this workshop a success! The recommendations are designed to help us move forward with our Strategic Plan and the hopes and dreams many of us have expressed over the years for this church.

In the morning session, Charles Gaines, the author of the Growth Assessment, will guide us as we review the report and answer questions we may have should we decide to adopt the Growth Assessment recommendations. During the afternoon session, we will break into individual focus groups. These groups will develop action plans for their given recommendations. Participants must agree to read the assessment, which is available in the foyer, and complete a random sampling form that must be returned to me ASAP.

Registration will be held at the Adult Faith Development table in Goddard Hall after church. The workshop and childcare are free but an optional lunch will be provided for a fee. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**Gracious Stewards Please Apply…**

For the Second Time: The Membership Team is looking for a few energetic and knowledgeable people to meet and greet guests after Sunday service. (Yes, this is a repeat from the last article. Maybe the second time is the charm?) If you have the gift of gab, a decent listening ear, and know your way around the church, we could really use your expertise for about 15 minutes once a month. This job entails meeting new people when service is finished and taking the time to guide them around campus, introduce them to folks with similar interests, and showing them where they can obtain informational materials. If you have these skills (I know many of you do), please speak with Judy Dare, Membership Chair.

**Book Club on September 18**
We will be reviewing *The Appeal* by John Grisham, the story of a small town in the South whose manufacturing plant has polluted the water by pumping their waste in the town’s water supply. The book is a legal thriller between a survivor of cancer and the plant.

The October book will be *Lamb, the Gospel According to Biff*, the humorous story of Jesus of Nazareth’s childhood best friend, Biff.

The Book Club meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Awareness room.
Sunday Worship Services

**September 7: What Americans Believe**
Gilbert Moore — New in-depth studies on what Americans believe about God, evolution, religious tolerance and the environment have confounded the churches, the politicians, the press -- in short, all who thought they knew what Americans really think.

**Sunday, September 14: Engaging Our Theological Diversity**
Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings, Director of Lifespan Faith Development — Unitarian Universalism is a non-creedal religion, meaning no one need give assent to a particular statement of belief in order to become a member. The diversity of belief among us can be enriching and enlivening, but only if we dare to speak openly and respectfully with one another about our deeply held beliefs and convictions.

**Sunday, September 21: Diversity and the Interdependent Web of Existence**
Extended Family Worship led by Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Lisa McDaniel-Hutchings — Drawing on Coyote wisdom, using lots of story and song, we’ll explore the challenges and rewards of welcoming people who are different from us.

**Sunday, September 28: Ministry in the New Millennium**

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**Mata Ortiz Trip Registration Underway**
Registration for the November 8-10 Mata Ortiz trip has gotten off to a good start, and will continue through the end of September. There are double ($375 per person) and triple room ($356 per person) options available with a number of people looking for roommates. If you would like to travel with us but don't have a roommate, let us know and we will match you with someone. There is also a single room option for $460.

Spencer MacCallum, the man who "discovered" Juan Quezada, the master potter of Mata Ortiz, has confirmed that he will conduct a tour of adobe restoration work and give us a historical orientation talk about Casas Grandes. If you would like to learn more about Mata Ortiz, check out Spencer's website at www.mataortizcalendar.com.

You can register for the trip at a sign-up table in Goddard Hall each Sunday between now and September 28, by picking up a registration form in the Church office, or by going to the Church website at www.uuctucson.org. When you fill out your registration form, please complete all the information blocks, and add the name of the person you plan to room with at the bottom of the form, or indicate that you need a roommate.

Don't forget, deposits of $100 are due no later than September 30, but rooms may fill up quickly. Get your deposit in soon so that you won't miss out on this exciting trip. Full payment is due by October 8, with no refunds possible after that date. If you have questions, please call either Carolyn Saunders, 906-9058, or the Church office.

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**Good News from the Grocery Program**
**Fry’s:** Thanks to our 57 Fry’s participants, the six month rebate for the period February 3 through August 2 will be $1544.50! The same period last year brought in only $133.95. This is quite a jump and I believe cartwheels are in order.

**Safeway:** Look for those little yellow school busses as you shop through September 9 and UUCT will receive an automatic 10% on those items if you are registered through our program with escrip. Also, if you (or your friends) shop at Safeway and are not registered through our Grocery Program, we can still receive 10% by obtaining register receipts from September 12 through October 6. The tapes will have a redemption code at the bottom. If tapes are turned in to me any time before October 14, I can enter them for an additional rebate.

By Majorie Smith

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**No More Deaths Press Conference & Sendoff**

NMD representatives will leave for a congressional briefing hosted by Rep. Raúl Grijalva in Washington, D.C., the following week. Along with the congressional briefing, delegates will share the report with humanitarian and faith-based groups at a briefing hosted by Amnesty International, and make personal office visits, including one to the Washington Office for Advocacy of the UUA. For copies of the report, visit the No More Deaths table in Goddard Hall after Sunday service.
Announcements

The Committee on Committees of the UUA Board of Trustees is accepting applications for a vacancy on the Committee on Socially Responsible Investing. This would begin as a one-year term beginning January 1, 2009. The appointee would be eligible for reappointment to three additional two-year terms. For more information, contact the Rev. Ken Brown, our Pacific Southwest District executive, at UURev@aol.com.

Worship Associates Training, Saturday, September 20, 2008, 10:00-2:00 in Holland Sanctuary. Open to anyone who wants to learn or brush up on skills for leading worship. The training will cover: using hymns, readings, and music to develop a worship theme, stage presence, voice projection, and use of microphones. Please RSVP to Rev. Diane at diane-dowgiert@qwestoffice.net.

Why Host or Attend a Newcomer Potluck? Newcomers will stay with a church when they meet people and are welcomed. This is information gleaned from UUA and other sources. UUCT needs and wants new members and hosting or attending one of these dinners is a very easy and pleasant way of making newcomers feel at home. The dinners are potluck, so no-one has the responsibility of providing an entire meal and they are held in members’ homes to be more welcoming and intimate than a group dinner at the church. The dinners usually have from 6 to 12 participants, with an attempt to include new members, prospective members and longer term members. While we expect everyone to have a good time without regard to an agenda, questions about UUCT may arise which can be easily answered by long-term members. We hope that the newcomers will then have a few familiar faces to relate to on Sunday mornings as a starting place for meeting other UUs.

Almost without exception these dinners have been appreciated by all who attended, including hosts! It’s a good opportunity to meet new folks and most people who want to join us are very interesting people—just like the rest of us! Please consider hosting (or attending and welcoming newcomers) at one of our Newcomers Potlucks! Contact Julia Mehrer after Sept 14 at 762-4035 or perujourney@earthlink.net.

Many thanks to Clare & Peter Velonis and to Jan & Mickey Dowling for their donations to UUCT in honor of Chuck Gould and Mike Greenbaum’s wedding.