Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT

A multi-generational group of 35 participated in our recent Craft Night, making holiday ornaments and enjoying a spaghetti dinner.

Congregational Workshop: Creating a Covenant of Right Relations

Sunday, January 18, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Facilitator: Rev. Stefanie Etzbach-Dale

This workshop is designed in celebration of this congregation’s recognition that understanding and making a commitment towards “right relationship” is an essential part of living out one’s Unitarian Universalist values. It’s a big issue, and one best undertaken with when lines of communication are open – like right now! Please join us for this celebratory, spiritually enriching afternoon of collaboration in creating a Covenant of Right Relations for this precious community.

Rev. Stefanie Etzbach-Dale comes to us from Santa Monica, CA, where she is currently serving as Affiliate Minister to the Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society (North Hills, CA). In this capacity she is focusing her ministry this year on working with a mental health agency serving individuals living with severe mental illness (many of whom are challenged by addictions and/or lack of housing). In Final Fellowship with the UUA, with a background in hospital and disaster relief chaplaincy, and with certification as a Victim Advocate, Rev. Stefanie has joyfully served various congregations in the Pacific Southwest District as consulting minister. Her particular interest lies in uniting the pastoral and prophetic imperative through the cultivation of right relationship - fostering intentional engagement with the shared process of visioning and covenancing.

For more information contact Deanna Bland, Committee on Ministry, dblandest@msn.com

Sermon Schedule

December 28 service: “New Beginnings”
9:15 service: In lieu of a sermon, Rabbi Weizenbaum will respond to questions from the congregation.
11:00 service: Rabbi Weizenbaum will speak on the topic “New Beginnings.”

Sunday, January 4 Services at 9:15 and 11:00 — Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Weaving the Web of Trust
Henry David Thoreau once said, “I think that we may safely trust a good deal more than we do.” What are the qualities of being that foster greater trust? How can we weave them into our lives?

Sunday, January 11 Services at 9:15 and 11:00 — Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Willing to Forgive
Forgiveness may very well be the most difficult and most important skill we can learn. Not an act of will but one of willing-ness, the balm of forgiveness allows us to live more effectively and more lovingly.

Sunday, January 18 Services at 9:15 and 11:00 — Rev. Stefanie Etzbach-Dale, Affiliate Minister - Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society (North Hills, CA) Getting Unstuck (While The Getting’s Good!)
Have you ever wondered why affirming “the inherent worth and dignity of others” is the first of our seven UU Principles? Have you ever found yourself in a situation where living up to that felt way too difficult, or even foolhardy? Join us, as we explore the sticky challenges and scintillating gifts of relationship in caring, covenanted community.
Membership/ Community Life Bulletin Board:
Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Administrator

Growth Workshop Follow up Continued:

*Policies for Growth: Group 1: Institutional Change through By-Laws and Policy*

Participants: Linda Selsor, Peggy Smith, Kathy McDaniel, Silke Hoffmann, Chuck Lundstrom

**Goal:** Establish a policy to track and publish statistics in one section of the annual report that enables us to monitor growth. Examples of metrics to include are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Religious Education Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Attendance</td>
<td>Adult Faith/ Lifespan Development participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engagement- Volunteer commitment</td>
<td>Hits to website</td>
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(e.g., Percent of membership that volunteers)

**Obstacles:** Capability to complete and make up report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks Needed to Reach Our Goal?</th>
<th>By When?</th>
<th>Who is the contact?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present to board</td>
<td>10/28/08 (done)</td>
<td>Linda / Chuck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff/volunteer task group developed to flush out metrics to be contained in report/parameters.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Board liaison, staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Determine process for collection of new metrics/documenting</td>
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<td>Task Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review of format</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ET defines process</td>
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**Estimated Date for Celebration:** This year's annual report!
Next issue: Religious Education for Growth.

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**New Member classes** will be held on Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, January 11 at 12:30 p.m.
Contact Mary Wiese for more information, at macbrude@cox.net or 349-4521.

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**Saturday Salon**

“Remember when: The changing face of record shops in the 1950’s.” A nostalgic look at a world that has all but disappeared. January 10, 6 p.m.

Brian Moon is a musicologist who specializes in American Music. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado after having earned an M.S.M. in Choral Conducting from his alma mater, Emory University. He is the assistant director of music at UUCT and an adjunct assistant professor at the UA.

The January meeting will be at the club house at Far Horizons East, 7570 E Speedway.

A to H Veggies or salad I to O Desert
P to S Appetizers T to Z Main Course
BYOB and please bring serving spoons if needed.

Reservations can be made by calling Barbara at 749-2029 or by email to barbararip@comcast.net.

**UUCT First Saturday Hikers**

Are you interested in hiking? Join us on our first hike of the New Year on Saturday, January 3. We will be hiking the Gould Mine Trail just across the road and west a bit from the AZ Desert Museum entrance. This is not a difficult hike. It gives close looks at recent and ancient history of this part of Arizona.

Meet Chris Wallace at the church at 9:00 a.m. for carpooling arrangements. Or come right to the trailhead and meet Ellie Nelson there at 9:30 a.m.

If you have questions about the hike, call Ellie at 615-4136. Please let us know if you will be joining us, and where we might meet up with you.

As usual, water, hat, sunscreen, a snack and good hiking footwear are always recommended. We should complete our hike around noon.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 12/24</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</td>
<td>Holland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>*Nicotine Anon.</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. 12/25</td>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas — Church closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 12/26</td>
<td></td>
<td>Office closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. 12/27</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>*Al-Anon</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td>Sun. 12/28</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Exploring Spirituality</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Sister Cities Program</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 12/29</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Bridge Club</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 12/30</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Newsletter deadline for 1/7 edition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Wellspring</td>
<td>Emerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 12/31</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>QUUilters</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>*Nicotine Anon.</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. 1/1</td>
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<td>New Year’s Day — Church closed</td>
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<td>Fri. 1/2</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>Blackwell</td>
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<td>Sat. 1/3</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>*Al-Anon</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td>Sun. 1/4</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Exploring Spirituality</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Newcomer Introduction</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
<td>Holland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Teacher Training</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 1/5</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Bridge Club</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Covenant Circle</td>
<td>Emerson</td>
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<td>Tues. 1/6</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Art Gallery</td>
<td>Holland</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Covenant Circle</td>
<td>Emerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 1/7</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>QUUilters</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Desert Chorale</td>
<td>Holland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>*Nicotine Anon.</td>
<td>Servetus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Low Carbon Diet</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>New Member Class</td>
<td>Minister’s Office</td>
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<td>* outside group</td>
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Music Notes

I’d like to tell you about a new songbook just off the press. It’s titled *Come Sing a Song with Me: A Songbook for All Ages*. It’s been produced by the UU Musician’s Network, compiled and edited by Melodie Feather with an introduction by Nick Page.

Here’s what it contains: 25 of the most popular and accessible songs from *Singing the Living Tradition* and *Singing the Journey*. They are in simple arrangements and larger 9x12 format. And they’re designed to be used for families, summer camps, RE and intergenerational worship. They come with simpler piano accompaniments and guitar chords. They are a collection of child-friendly hymns.

Shelley Jackson, one of our outstanding UU composers, has this to say about the book: “This wonderful songbook provides us with a deeply meaningful way to share music with our children. Singing together in community is one of the most profoundly important expressions of spirituality that we can offer one another, and the songs in this book touch the core of our UU Principles, bringing them to life.”

I have received 4 copies for UUCT, so ask me to see a copy. You can order your own by contacting the UUA Bookstore at 800-215-9076. The cost is $14.00 plus postage.

By Agnes Paulsen
Minister of Music

Yoga for the New Year

Just in time to help you with your New Year’s resolution to become more centered and peaceful as you develop a new relationship with your body, mind, and spirit, Adult Faith Development will offer a Beginning Yoga class on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

This will be a five-week class, January 4 through February 1, in the Awareness Room. Although this is a continuation of the December class, new participants are welcome and encouraged. No previous experience with Yoga is needed. It is suitable for high school youth and for adults of ALL ages and mobility ranges.

The instructor will be Cheryl Lilian, a certified yoga teacher and a licensed massage therapist who has been practicing yoga since 1998. Fee for the class is $45 for the five sessions.

For more information or to sign up, stop by the AFD table after the service or phone Mike Greenbaum at 326-8831, or email mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net.

Parking Lot Clean-up Day

The Parking Lot Clean-Up has been set for Saturday, February 7, 2009, starting at 8:30 a.m. We will be trimming the trees, weeding out the cactus, and making the campus more visible from 22nd Street. Contact Vicki Behm at vbehm@cox.net for more information.

The Book Club

The Book Club will discuss *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Thursday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Memorial Garden

After several years of receiving funds for a Memorial Garden, progress has begun. The current Peace Garden will be extended to incorporate the Memorial Garden. Current fencing is being modified to facilitate the increase in size.

Vines, flowers, and flagstone will be added to the area to make the gardens peaceful and beautiful. The Memorial Plaques which are currently on the wood panel on the patio will be moved and placed in the garden. We planning a dedication in March.

If you would like to make a contribution for the plantings, please contact Barbara Tegethoff or Vicki Behm.
Low Carbon Diet

The Green Group is sponsoring Low Carbon Diet classes (or more accurately a peer support group or Eco-Team). The goal is for each household or person to lose 5,000 pounds of carbon output per year.

In our four meetings, every other Wednesday beginning on January 7, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., we will calculate our carbon footprint, create an action plan, develop a support system and commit to empowering others to save the planet.

The meetings are based on the book Low Carbon Diet by David Gershon which is available at the Green Group table on Sundays for $14. You can ask questions or sign up at the Green Group table or call Chris Wallace at 326-6043 or email her at lemmohiker@att.net or Susan Call at smcall7@cox.net.

Look Out Fry’s - Here We Come!!

January is the last month to be included in Fry’s 6 month rebate. If everyone who can will boost the usual amount they load on their cards by $100 it will make a big difference. Anything you can do will help. I am really looking forward to seeing just how much we will receive and will let you all know as soon as I have the information. Thanks so much for your support of this program.

Marj Smith - Grocery Rebate Coordinator

The Sister Cities Program of Tucson, AZ

The UUCT Peace Group is hosting representatives of some of the seven cities from around the world that Tucson twins with. The speakers will tell us of this programs impact and the good-will that it generates. Tucson twins with cities in Ireland, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Spain and Mexico. Contact Stuart Thomas at 722-2837 for more information.

Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter deadline is December 30 at 9:00 a.m. for the January 7 edition. This edition will include a Transforming Times. Please submit your articles by email (uu1@qwestoffice.net) or in writing.

Holiday Poinsettias Donated in Memory of Loved Ones

The beautiful poinsettias that decorate Holland Sanctuary this Christmas were purchased by various members and friends of UUCT from New Beginnings for Women and Children, an organization that provides homeless families the opportunity to become financially independent. Not only do the flowers provide holiday cheer, but also each plant represents a donation to the New Beginnings programs. Congregants who provided the poinsettias are:

Agnes Paulsen and family in memory of Lyle Paulsen
Margot and J.D. Garcia in memory of Genoveva B. Garcia and J.D. Garcia, Sr.
Carolyn and Bruce Saunders in memory of Edith and John Eubanks
Paul McIlrath
Patty and David Burks in memory of their cat, Kerry
Ann Springer
Marianne Rowe
Becky and Bill Keyes in memory of Art Keyes and Gerry Marshall
Susan Call in memory of Marnie and Richard J. Meyer
Carolyn Valdes in memory of Bob Alfone
Joan DiGiovanni in memory of Selma Kugler Fimbel
Don and Joyce Spears for their parents
Halene Graves
Dawn and Marion Leonard in memory of Aunt Momo and EE
Erin Deely in memory of Anita Kruggel
Bid Romans in memory of Ed Romans
Marya Wheeler
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Christmas Pageant
Congratulations to all who participated in the very successful Christmas pageant on December 14-- not only to those appearing as actors but also to those who toiled behind the scenes. A special thank-you goes to Kathleen Hogue who directed the production which, for the first time, was presented in full at both services.

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT (AFD)

Covenant Circles
With the winter return of many of our members and friends to UUCT, we are considering the formation of new Covenant Circles in January. Covenant Circles are UUCT’s form of small group ministry, designed to help people meet others and get to know them on a deeper level. Groups of up to 10 people, led by two facilitators, meet once a month for two hours to discuss spiritually related topics in a structured format which helps participants develop the skills of deep listening and deep sharing. For more information or to sign up, stop by the AFD table after the service or phone Mike Greenbaum at 326-8831. You may also email him at mike-greenbaum@qwestoffice.net.

Exploring Spirituality as a Unitarian Universalist
This is a drop-in group to which everyone is welcome for a stimulating hour of conversation. It meets every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 am in the Servetus room before the second service. Sally Masteller facilitates the group. The theme for December has been Ancient Sources of Wisdom, and on December 28, the group will discuss a topic appropriate for the last meeting of the year. Janus is the two-faced Roman god of gates, doorways, beginnings, and endings. As we move toward the beginning of the new year, we are provided the opportunity to reflect forward and backward as the Roman god invites us.