Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

Congregational Polls

Congregations have the opportunity to participate in social witness decisions at the national level. Your Board of Trustees wants your feedback on the following social action issues so we may vote on behalf of UUCT in this year’s UUA Congregational Poll. The Poll closes February 1, 2010. Representatives from the Board of Trustees will be available after services on January 10th and January 17th to answer your questions and receive your feedback. Paper copies will be made available on those days for those who do not have internet access. Please go to the links below for more information. You may also go to our website, uuctucson.org, for this article.

POLL #1: Approve placing the Draft Statement of Conscience (SOC) on the Final Agenda for General Assembly (GA) 2010

POLL #2: Select five (out of six) proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAIs)
Ending Slavery
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152649.shtml

Energy, Peace, and Justice
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152650.shtml

Immigration as a Moral Issue *
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152647.shtml

National Economic Reform: A Moral Imperative
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152648.shtml

Nuclear Disarmament
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152643.shtml

Revitalizing American Democracy
http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/152644.shtml

*A UUCT co-sponsored Study Action Issue

In faith,
Fran Brazzell
President
Board of Trustees

Great Things Are Taking Place at UUCT

With a donation and some hard work, the sidewalk area in front of the office got a beautification make-over. Thanks to all who made that possible!

A total of $959.32 was collected from the Christmas Eve Services to put towards the church’s Food Bank, so UUCT can help alleviate hunger in our community.

Sunday Services (9:15 and 11:00 a.m.)

Sunday, January 10, 2010
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
The State of the Church
It takes many hands and a spirit of cooperation to make a church into a warm and welcoming place in which to grow a soul. In the spirit of a new year, we’ll take some time to consider how things are with our spiritual home.

Sunday, January 17, 2010
Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Kathleen Hogue
Extended Family Worship
I Have A Dream
Martin Luther King’s greatness was achieved through his willingness to confront institutions and structures that uphold evil. His vision is one that still inspires us today, a vision of the world we all want to live in, a world of compassion and justice. At the 11:00 service, children and youth will join us for a time of Extended Family Worship.

Sunday, January 24
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Confronting Evil
The first step in confronting evil is one of recognition. Sometimes our liberal religious optimism leaves us unprepared to name evil when it happens. What is evil? Why does it exist? Where does it come from? What can and should be done about it?

Sunday, January 31
Guest Speaker
Oscar Martinez
Now's Your Chance to Own a Beautiful Mata Ortiz Pot

For only $10 you might become the owner of a beautiful Mata Ortiz original pot. Two drawings will be held on March 13 at the UUCT auction for one large pot and two medium-sized pots. Only 50 tickets will be sold for each drawing, so your chances to win are good! You do not have to be present to win.

Pots will be on display in Goddard Hall beginning on Jan. 10 when ticket sales begin. The pots were donated to the church by potter Ana Trillo in appreciation for our sponsorship and are valued at $150-350 each.

Tickets are available to the general public as well as to church members and friends. So tell all your neighbors about this great opportunity. They may purchase tickets by contacting Carolyn Saunders, 299-3854, or Julia Mehrer, perujourney@gainbroadband.com.

Remember, only 50 tickets will be sold for each drawing.

UUCT Homeless Hospitality 2010 –
It Takes a Village

Please consider supporting this annual effort to provide some of the most basic, human needs on some of our coldest nights of the year. There are many ways to help:

**Dates to be Filled:**   Feb 4th & 5th and Feb 18th & 19th

Meal crews are filling up nicely, however, we still need chaperones.

**Overnight chaperones** can help with dinner or arrive at 7:30 pm to spend the night with guests. **We must have one man and one woman and both must be 18 or older.**

Meals are provided by volunteers, we ask that each dish serve 8-10 folks, whether it be a main dish, side dish, dessert, etc.

**Dinner:** Crew: 4:30 – 7:30 pm to set-up tables, prepare/heat meal, prepare sack lunches, set-out mats & blankets, serve, eat meal with guests, clean-up.

**Lunches:** Items should be brought in time for dinner crew to assemble.

**Breakfast:** Crew 5:30-7 am, makes coffee, heats water, prepares/heats meal, eat with guests, put out lunches, clean-up, put away mats/blankets, bag dirty linens to be washed.

**Additional Donated Items Needed:** Socks, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts. Toiletries – travel sized toothpastes, toothbrushes, soaps, shampoos & conditioners.

Please contact, coordinator: Erin Deely (609-2422 cell/ 320-7688 or edeely@cox.net) if you’d like to volunteer.

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**IMMIGRANT RIGHTS FILM AND DISCUSSION SERIES**

The UUCT Immigrant Rights Working Group in conjunction with Adult Faith Development will offer a special Immigrant Rights Film and Discussion Series on border issues on Sunday afternoons:

- **January 24**, January 31, and February 7, from 12:45 to 3:00 pm in Holland.

There is no fee for the series, but donations to No More Deaths will be gratefully accepted. A brief schedule follows with more information at the AFD table and on the website:

**January 24 - Film:** “Voice of a Mountain” (2008), a documentary about oppression against Guatemalans at home and in the U.S. with a speaker and discussion to follow.

**January 31 - Film:** “Crossing Over” (2009) starring Harrison Ford, with a speaker and discussion to follow.

**February 7 - Slide presentation by UUCT member Craig McComb on the No More Deaths Abuse Project followed by a speaker on the new Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR) bill**

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**Auction “Sonoran Spring”**

We hope no one catches a cold or flu this winter, but Auction Fever is starting to go around! One symptom to watch for is excitement. This is a good thing to catch, because it’s fun and raises lots of money (hopefully) for our church. This is nothing to sneeze at! March 13 is the date, and both a Silent and Live Auction are featured, along with a delicious dinner. Our theme this year is Sonoran Spring.

Donation forms for both auctions are available beginning Jan. 3 at the Auction Table in Goddard Hall. Tickets for the dinner and Live Auction will be sold at a reduced price ($15.00 per person) from Jan. 10 – Feb. 7. After that, the price goes to $20.00.

Someone will be at the Auction Table on Sundays to answer questions, take your donations and sell tickets.

Please help to continue this very successful tradition at UUCT. It can’t happen unless you are involved. Thanks.

**Co-chairs Janet Moore, 760-0693 (eve), and Ellie Nelson, 615-4136.**

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**Last Chance to Up Frys Rebate!**

February 1 will be the end of Frys 6 month rebate period. If it is possible for you to add some extra to your card prior to that date it would help a lot. Just think where we would end up if we could all add $100 more. Whatever you might do will help and be appreciated. Thanks for all of your participation in our Grocery Rebate Program. It is very encouraging.

Please remember, any Frys card which has had a 0 (zero) balance for a period of 90 days has been discontinued as a connection to UUCT. A new card from us is necessary. Frys will offer new cards but they will have no association to the church.

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Remember, only 50 tickets will be sold for each drawing.
Membership/Community Life Bulletin Board:
Submitted by Mary Wiese, Membership and Community Life Administrator: 748-1551 X 16 or mwiese@uuctucson.org

Newcomer News: Save these dates!!

Newcomers Orientation: – The next Newcomers Orientation will be held on Sunday January 17, after the second service. Free lunch and childcare will be provided. The orientations are an introduction to our church and they are the first step on the Pathway to Membership. If you would like to attend, you must RSVP to Mary Wiese.

New Member Class: New Member Classes are held in the Minister’s office on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., or second Sunday of the month, after service. Childcare is available on request. You need to complete the Pathway to Membership before becoming a member. Please RSVP to Mary Wiese or if you have questions.

Easy Ways to Get Involved: If you are new to the congregation, or not, a fun and easy way to become involved is to volunteer for the upcoming Cabaret, Book Faire or Auction. These are one time events that require short term involvement; a request I hear quite often! Please contact Mary Wiese for contact information.

Cabaret, Friday January 29: The Kitchen Ministry will once again prepare a delicious pasta dinner for our traditional Cabaret on January 20. If you would like to help us prepare the meal, please contact Mary Wiese or Kathy McDaniel: kmcdaniel@dakotacom.net

Yours in community spirit,
Mary

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT (AFD)
Mike Greenbaum (mgreenbaum@uuctucson.org)

This new year is starting out as a busy one for the Adult Faith Development program. For additional information, come to the AFD table after the Sunday service, go to the website http://www.uuctucson.org, or contact Mike Greenbaum at 326-8831 or mgreenbaum@uuctucson.org

UU CHRISTIANS DISCUSSION GROUP
The UU Christians discussion group is a recently organized AFD group for those who come to Unitarian Universalism from a Christian background and who are interested in discussing those Christian ideas and concepts which personally mean a lot to them but who want to talk about them within the framework of Unitarian Universalism rather than return to the ritual or creed of a Christian church. The group will meet every other Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Servetus room. The next meeting is Monday, January 11. They will discuss the book “A Complete Idiot’s Guide to the Gnostic Gospels” by J. Michael Matkin. You may find the book at the library or order a copy from a local bookstore or online.

TOUCH OUR SOUL
Another new AFD offering, Touch Our Soul, was organized by UUCT members who wanted a monthly program to support people on their spiritual journeys through group sharing, learning, and meditation. The group is about personal growth and spiritual development; it is neither therapy nor a substitute for professional ministry. It is led by UUCT members and is designed to complement other programming offered by UUCT.

The group is open to all members and friends of UUCT who share the goals stated above. It will meet the second Friday of each month beginning Friday, January 8, in the Awareness Room from 1 - 3 PM. Touch Our Soul has a blog at http://www.touchoursoul.wordpress.com which offers more information about the group and detailed information about the January 8th program.

DRUMMING FOR CHANGE
A third offering from AFD for the new year is Drumming for Change, a six-week drum circle series facilitated by Solange Monette and Sinde Rubiner. There is growing evidence that rhythm activities and guided imagery drumming can have many beneficial effects and act as practical tools to reduce stress while increasing peace and gratitude in your life in a relaxed and playful atmosphere. No musical skill or experience is needed to participate.

The group will meet Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Awareness Room from February 1 through March 8. The fee is $90 for all six sessions. Drums and percussion instruments will be provided.

Religious Education Happenings

_Three Miraculous Births Holiday Pageant_ was a huge success. I would like to thank all who played a part. Whether you helped behind the scenes, provided music, had a speaking or non speaking part, held up a sign, or turned of and on lights, you are the ones who made this event a success!

_A Book of Common Faire_: Sundays Together Lunch on January 24th will feature an Olde English menu (beef stew, hearty bread). Join kindred souls who love to talk books and movies at tables designated by various genres. There will also be a book sale – you may drop off donated books for this sale beginning Jan 3rd in Goddard. Contact Mary mwiese@uuctucson.org or Kathy kmcdaniel@dakotacom.net if you would like to help in any way.

_Our Whole Lives_ (OWL) sexuality education classes will be starting soon. This year we will be offering classes for grades K-1 and grades 4-6. _Our Whole Lives_ helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. Participants will be provided with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. Orientations are scheduled for Jan. 31: K-1, and Feb. 7: 4-6. To register your children, please contact Natasha Warner: nwartern@U.Arizona.EDU

_Teachers Needed_: We are always in need of teachers and are currently in need of a teacher for our youngest group- the Spirit Play Class. These are children in preschool through Kindergarten. Class consists of stories, activities and snacks. Teachers are required to work in the classroom no more than two Sundays a month. If interested, please contact Kathleen at khogue@uuctucson.org.

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UUCT Book club 1-21-10

The Book Club will meet on January 21, 2010 at 7pm in the Awareness Room.

We will reviewing “The Madonnas of Leningard” by Debra Dean. An elderly Russian woman, now living in America, cannot recall present events, but has vivid memories of her youth in 1941, in war torn Leningrad.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH GALLERY

Inspired by a novel by Shusaku Endo, on the persecution of Christians in 17th century Japan, Michael Campione has created a series of colorful abstract oil paintings which will be on exhibit in the Sanctuary from January 7 through February 7.

Endo's novel, Silence, asks the question “Why is God silent in the face of human atrocities?” Campione's paintings are a response. An opening reception in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 10, from 12:15 to 1:30, provides an opportunity to talk to Michael Campione about his work.

Abby Root, for the Gallery Committee

UUCT B&G 1-6-2010

The B&G Committee will meet on 1-6-2010 in the Awareness Room at 6:30 pm. We will be discussing the pulpit lighting problem on Sunday mornings. All interested parties will be welcome.

JOIN CARPOOL FOR JAN. 16 CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH IN PHOENIX

There will be a peaceful interfaith and community march in Phoenix on Saturday, Jan. 16, to support civil rights and to condemn the intensifying illegal and discriminatory tactics used against both Latino immigrants and U.S. citizens by Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Last year about 10 members of the UUCT congregation marched with 30 members of the UU Church of Phoenix and proudly carried our church banner.

Interested? Contact Leila Pine, UUCT Immigrant Rights Working Group, by Jan. 9 at sabinosanctuary@gmail.com.

The deadline for the next Tucsonitarian is January 12 by 5 p.m.