From the Minister’s Study

Love is the doctrine of this church, and service its prayer . . .

If you are thinking about ways to serve this congregation, consider the following:

Are you on fire with all that Unitarian Universalism might be and might become?

Do you get excited about future visions and future possibilities? Do you enjoy shaping the future through the careful crafting of strategic plans and policies? Are you able to set aside personal preferences and agendas for realization of a greater good? If so, you are likely to find purpose and fulfillment serving on the Board of Trustees.

Do you enjoy tending to the details? Are you most satisfied when the details fall together in a way that fulfills a larger plan? Are you energized by close collaboration with others working toward a common goal? Are you able to set aside personal preferences and agendas for the realization of a greater good? If so, you are likely to find purpose and fulfillment serving on the Empowerment Team.

Are you a people-person? One who enjoys engagement with all of the joys and struggles that accompany church life? Can you engage the creative potential that exists within conflict? Can you see the big picture of our ministry together? Are you able to set aside personal preferences and agendas for the realization of a greater good? If so, you are likely to find purpose and fulfillment serving on the Committee on Ministry.

Are you one of those who easily recognizes the potential in people? Do you enjoy connecting people with their passions and their potentials? Do you enjoy talking with people about their unique gifts, and how those unique gifts can best be used in service of our beloved community? Are you able to set aside personal preferences and agendas for realization of the greater good? If so, you are likely to find purpose and fulfillment serving on the Nominating Committee and Leadership Development Team.

Continued on back page
SYS (SAVE YOUR STUFF)!!

Got stuff you no longer want or need? We have the perfect home for it! THE GIGANTIC CHURCH YARD SALE, coming Saturday, April 30th. Your stuff will be recycled into someone else’s treasure, while UUCT makes money! Please collect your smaller items and deliver them to the NW corner of Goddard Hall (in front of the freezer). Larger items can be brought to Goddard after April 23rd. Pick up available for furniture. NO ELECTRONICS, please!! Bags needed too!

We cannot use: out of date or opened goods, large boxes or bags of food, or substances in glass jars or bottles.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask. Again, many thanks.

Marjorie Smith

Our UUCT Food Bank

First: Thank you for your contributions of food and Trader Joe bags for our Food Bank. They are most appreciated and used up quickly as there has been a high need in our community.

Second: We attempt to keep bags pretty uniform in content and not too heavy to handle. All foods need to be non-perishable. What we prefer to use: 14-16 oz. cans of green beans, other vegies, fruit, baked or canned beans, soup, evaporated milk, spaghetti or tomato sauce and tuna or other meat. Also used are small peanut butters, spaghetti or macaroni, mac & cheese, small bags or boxes of mashed potatoes and ramen noodles. Other items can be added if not in large sizes.

We cannot use: out of date or opened goods, large boxes or bags of food, or substances in glass jars or bottles.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask. Again, many thanks.

Concert for No More Deaths

Cellist Tom Clowes, a former Tucson Symphony and UUCT member, will present "Musica Latina," a program of Latin music, with pianist Ji-Young Kim on Friday, March 11, at 4PM. The concert will include Spanish songs, Argentine tango, and Brazilian-classical fusion by Manuel De Falla, Astor Piazzolla, and Heitor Villa-Lobos. Donations, which will be split with No More Deaths, are encouraged.

Building Communities from the Ground Up” This Sunday

What is community building? How does a neighborhood or community become sustainable and confront injustice? This Sunday, March 13, community organizer Cesar Lopez of “Tierra y Libertad” will discuss the dynamic projects and programs they are creating to build a sustainable community and support immigrant families. Our beloved Thomas Clowes, formerly of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, will perform compositions by Latin American composers on the cello. Don’t miss it!

From the Treasurer

We are pleased to announce that Larry Newhouse has been confirmed by the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees as the new Treasurer. We are fortunate to have a person with his level of expertise in computers and previous experience in overseeing a small business. Please thank him for this service to the church.

In the month of February, the church deposited $29,734.73 into the operating account and expended $35,360.92 for the month. At the beginning of the month, $5,000 was paid off on the line-of-credit loan of $10,000. But it became obvious by the middle of the month, that the church needed to borrow $4,000 from the line-of-credit in order to make payroll. We are therefore $9,000 in debt to the bank. Please keep your pledges up to date.

Respectfully submitted
Margot Garcia
Acting Treasurer

On Monday March 28, the New UU class will begin.

If you are new to Unitarian Universalism or new to our church community, this class is for you. The class will run for five consecutive Mondays from 6:30 p.m -8:00 p.m.

Childcare is available. please contact Mary Wiese to RSVP: mwiese@uuctucson.org.

March’s Share the Plate recipient is NAMI of Southern Arizona (National Alliance on Mental Illness). It devotes its efforts to:

Educating individuals with mental illness, their family members and the public. NAMI of Southern Arizona’s ongoing goals are to overcome the ignorance, misinformation, misconceptions and apathy that prevent true understanding and meaningful help from reaching persons with serious mental illness.

Advocating for services to which individuals with a mental illness may be entitled and for legislation and funding of programs that will ensure quality community care, housing and services for people with mental illness.

Providing support individually and in group meetings for all those affected by mental illness.

On Sunday, March 13 all non-pledge donations placed in the collection plate will be shared equally with NAMI of Southern Arizona. If writing a check, please write “Share the Plate” in the memo line. For more information about NAMI of Southern Arizona visit their website at www.namisa.org.
Imagining GA 2012 – Planning GA 2011

Planning for the 2012 General Assembly to be held in Phoenix, Arizona is already underway as UU leaders across the country work to define the structure of this very different "Justice Assembly." Your own PSWD Board has voted to focus its work for the next year and a half on preparing the congregations of the District to participate in this event.

Many volunteers from across PSWD will be needed to make this Assembly a success. A call for volunteers will be going out after GA 2011 in Charlotte is over.

The General Assembly Planning Committee has issued the following statement concerning GA 2012:

In less than 6 months UUs from congregations across the continent joined by others from around the world will be gathering in Charlotte, North Carolina for General Assembly. Members of the GA Planning Committee are deeply involved in planning a GA that will be a meaningful and memorable celebration of the first 50 years of our Unitarian Universalist movement.

As wonderful as we know Charlotte is going to be, we are, at the same time, looking ahead to GA 2012. Members of the GA Planning Committee have already begun actively soliciting input from not only our UU stakeholders but also from community human rights organizations in the southern Arizona communities of the borderland and across the continent.

The UUA Board appointed the GA 2012 Accountability Group which includes representatives from groups in our Association including: DRUUMM, LUUNA, TRUUST, EQUUAL ACCESS, INTERWEAVE, and ARE. Members of the GAPC were privileged to meet with this Group in mid-January and will continue conversations as planning for GA 2012 progresses.

We look forward to planning a Justice General Assembly that will be unlike any other. All aspects of GA (programming, worship, witness) will have a focus on justice and human rights that is grounded in our theology. We envision our time together in 2012, be it in worship, education, outreach or reflection sessions, to offer opportunities for deepened understanding of our religious call to justice and human rights, for profound transformation, and for building capacity in congregations regardless of size or geographic location to become more engaged in this work.

The GA Planning Committee is committed to making GA 2012 as accessible as possible for all who want to experience this "Justice GA." Come to Charlotte and get ready for Phoenix.

Lifespan Faith Development Happenings

Did you know… The free stewardship campaign lunch that you all enjoyed so much was made possible by volunteers from the Covenant Circle groups? Without volunteers, we would be unable to offer the programs and events that you have all come to love. Please be sure to thank a volunteer and if you are not a volunteer at church, step up and give of your time and skills.

Our Principled Commitment class is going strong! Developed in response to Unitarian Universalist adults’ desire to build strong relationships and our congregations’ desire to meet that need, the eleven workshops of Principled Commitment provide avenues for growing in faith while nourishing committed partnership. Each workshop connects one of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations’ seven Principles with a broad principle, quality, or attribute that participants can cultivate in their relationship. If you would like to participate in this class next year, please let Kathleen Hogue know; space is limited.

Cantastic Sculptures Food Drive

Please help us collect enough food to replenish our Food Bank. On Easter Sunday the Children and youth of RE will be creating sculptures of the cans that are donated to display in Goddard. Come and pick your favorite sculpture. You may continue dropping off your donations in the LFD Office.

Coming Soon…

March 23- Our next Alternative Worship will focus on the Equinox. Service begins at 7:00 PM in Holland Sanctuary.

Coming of Age- Now is the time to offer your services as a mentor or a guide in our Coming of Age program that will begin in the fall. This is an excellent opportunity for you to help a UU Youth in their transition to adulthood. Each sojourner is accompanied by a personal mentor, and two core guides for a year of outings, discussions, and projects geared towards taking ownership of personal spirituality and leadership in our religious community.

For more information about any of these topics or to volunteer, please contact Kathleen Hogue at khogue@uuctucson.org.

Lifespan Faith Development COMMUNITY Events
Kathleen Hogue, Lifespan Faith Development Director
khogue@uuctucson.org

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All deadlines for the Tucsonitarian are now on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

The next deadline for the Tucsonitarian and Transforming Times will be Tuesday, March 15 at 5 p.m.

The Book Club will meet March 17 at 7:00 P.M. in Awareness. We will discuss "Catch 22" by Joseph Heller. Everyone is welcome and babysitting is available upon request. Twelve copies of the book have been reserved for us. Ask for one at your local library under UUCT or Billie Dreyfuss. Selections for the next five months are:

April     "Hopi Summer" by Carolyn O'BagyDavis
May      "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks
June     "The Women" by T.C. Boyle
July     "Blue Tatoo" by Marg Mifflin
August   "Water for Elephants" by Sarah Gruen

Continued from front page

This is the season when leadership positions in our congregation are filled. My wish is that each of you take seriously the role Unitarian Universalism plays in our society today and the role you might play within our Unitarian Universalist congregation. If you feel called to a leadership role, consider how it is that you might best serve. If you are not feeling called to leadership, know that there are many other ways for you to serve, many ways for you to pray.

Yours in love and service,

Diane