From the Minister’s Study

As I write, news of the earthquakes and tsunami in Japan unfolds. By the time you read this, more will be known. Our hearts go out to the people of Japan as they mourn immense loss of human life and as they begin the long, difficult journey toward recovery and restoration.

Images of the tsunami speak to me of what it means to be alive on this small and precious planet earth. Seeing the tsunami wash onto Japan’s shore, sweeping away homes, cars, trains, and ships is humbling. It’s no mistake that flood stories are common in religious literature. Humankind remains powerless over fierce forces of nature that lie beyond our control.

The tsunami raced across vast expanses of ocean, affecting nearly 50 countries. As Martin Luther King once said, “We live in an inescapable network of mutuality.” Natural disasters of this scope transcend boundaries and borders, making visible the inter-connected and inter-dependent nature of our existence.

To consider that all we have, all our possessions, can be washed away in the matter of minutes, is mind-boggling. That our very lives can be cut short by forces of nature beyond our control, makes our lives all that much more precious. Just as tsunamis transcend borders, so too can our love.

The world is responding to Japan in their time of need. Please consider using the Unitarian Universalist Association’s Japan Relief Fund to make your contribution to Japan’s immediate humanitarian needs. To do so, visit www.uua.org. Together, as Unitarian Universalists, we can show the world that we stand on the side of love.

Yours in hope,

Diane

Sunday Services continued on last page

Sunday Services

Wednesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m.
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
The Rite of Spring
With the equinox just passed, days now grow longer and nights shorter. We’ll gather on the patio for a celebration of Spring.

Sunday, March 27
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Dreams, Dreaming, and Dreamers
Using the work of Jeremy Taylor, an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister who has devoted more than 40 years of his life to dream-work, we’ll look at dreams and their possible meanings.
Worship Associate: Gilbert Moore
Music: Donna DeHaan

Sunday, April 3
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Becoming a Spiritual Elder
Growing older is a privilege. Not everyone gets to do so. Some say that the fine art of aging is to grow in wisdom, and then to use that wisdom for the betterment of the world.
Worship Associate: Leila Pine
Music: Desert Chorale

Sunday, April 10
Man From Magdalena
This Sunday’s service will be a special performance of the play written by Mary Lou Prince and Patty Christiena Willis, who are members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Green Valley, located in Amado. The play is based on the true story of one migrant man’s heroic decision to sacrifice his quest for a better life in America in order to save the life of a nine-year old child. Note that the play runs approximately 85 minutes.
Worship Associate: Celeste Rogers
Music: Mary Lou Prince, Patty Christiena Willis and members of the UUGV choir
**A Word from the Green Team**

Imagine our beloved Catalina Mountains removed from our sight. Imagine giant earth-moving equipment going up Mt. Lemmon highway. Imagine the boulders, the trees, the homes sliding down the mountains into our valley. Imagine Sabino Canyon filled up with coal slurry and slurry running along Skyline Drive, then down Kolb and Craycroft and Swan and on around Pusch Ridge tearing up utility lines, sewer lines, and water lines. Imagine boulders bouncing down through the foothills followed by tons of rock and dirt. Imagine!

These catastrophes are happening in many countries and in our Appalachian Mountains. Mountaintop removal, the coal companies say, is the best way to get at the veins of coal running through the mountains of West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and other states of Appalachia range. Coal companies with little regard for the livelihood or the lives of the mostly impoverished mountain people bring in their gigantic earth-movers, scraping away top soil and trees, generally saving none of these things, just pushing them aside, down the mountain into the valleys and streams. Polluting the mountain streams, family and town wells, as well as the air. Imagine your life being uprooted as the mountain you live on is uprooted and removed! And think of the wildlife losing their homes and the migratory birds losing their flyway. Imagine!

Here's a place you can learn more and see how mountains have been devastated. [www.ilovemountains.org](http://www.ilovemountains.org)

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**Grocery Rebate Update**

Albertsons, in a recent report, noted that our rebate from them is at 1%.

Basha's has added to the stores where their cards can be used. They now include Basha's, Food City, AJ's Fine Foods, Sportsman's Fine Wines & Spirits, and Eddies Country Store with our rebate being 6%.

Frys and Sunflower offer 5% and are 2 of our highest supporters. Frys last check was over $1700 for a 6 month period.

Safeway gives less than 1½ (sometimes .44%). This varies month to month and it is difficult to figure out how they come up with their figures.

Newcomers and others not yet in our program. Please join us! You all eat and our program helps the church at no extra cost to you for any of your purchases. Stop by the Grocery Rebate Table in Goddard after services to join or ask any questions you may have.

See you there!

*Marjorie Smith, Coordinator
Grocery Rebate Program.*

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**PREPARE TO BLAST OFF!**

**UUCT's DYNAMITE YARD SALE** happens Friday April 29th and Saturday April 30th. It won’t take off without your help. Gently used items like tools, kitchen items, jewelry & collectibles, small appliances in working order, toys & games, clean clothing can be dropped off in Goddard Hall. For pick up of furniture call Jan (748-9503). Volunteers needed to sort and price items April 25-28, bake items for bake sale, & staff the sale. Volunteers get first choice of items and can buy early! Sign up in Goddard at the Grocery Rebate table.

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**10th Annual Cesar Chavez Family March, Rally, Music**

March in support of public education with the spirit of Cesar Chavez! Join UUs and the UUCT Immigrant Rights Group with our social justice/Standing on the Side of Love banner, at the UUCT parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, March 26, to car-pool to a family-friendly march from Pueblo High School, followed by a rally, music and food carts at Rudy Garcia Park at the 10th Annual Cesar Chavez March in Tucson. Or just show up at the rally and live entertainment at about noon to 12:30 p.m. at Rudy Garcia Park.

We UU’s will drive to and gather near the outdoor bleachers outside Pueblo High School, 3500 S. 12th Ave., which is about a block south of 44th St., for the start of the march at about 9 a.m. There are always lots of children of all ages marching with their families. We will then march together from Pueblo High School to Rudy Garcia Park for a rally with music, speakers & food carts.

The theme this year is to **SAVE PUBLIC EDUCATION** and protect ethnic studies programs under attack from the state legislature. Get out there for our children!

For more information on the UU contingent, contact Leila Pine at sabinosanctuary@gmail.com or on her cell at (608) 234-0399.

For more information on the march and rally contact azcesarchavezcoalition.com.

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"What good is sitting alone in your room?
Come hear the music play
Life is a cabaret, old chum
Come to the cabaret"

It's that time of year, again! Cabaret . . . an evening of food, folks, fun and fellowship on April 1st. A meal will be served at 6:00PM, followed by a show at 7:00PM, and tickets will be sold on Sunday March 20th and 27th, as well as at the door. Please purchase tickets or tell us if you plan to be there for the meal, but otherwise, mark your calendar.

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*Marjorie Smith, Coordinator
Grocery Rebate Program.*
Camp de Benneville News

Camp de Benneville's summer camp line-up is up on their website, ([http://www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org)). Just click on Come To Camp, and then you can read all the ads for the various events. Also, their summer Connections newsletter was mailed out to each church last week. Check in the foyer for a copy. Save on all PSWD Youth and Family Camps by signing up prior to the end of April.

One event that is coming up quickly at the end of April is Camp Blog Away. This camp is for people who love food and want to blog about it. Camp Blog Away is looking for a volunteer health supervisor for the weekend of April 29 - May 1. This person needs to have a minimum of First Aid and CPR, but can also be an RN, LVN or EMT with current CPR. If you have an interest in volunteering a weekend at camp, in exchange for attending a fun adult-oriented event....with great food and exciting workshops, please contact the camp coordinator, Patti Londre at patti@londre.com.

Water Works! Project at Camp de Benneville

If you have not read or heard about the Water Works! fund drive, please read all about it on the camp website ([http://www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org)). De Benneville Pines is trying to raise $450,000 by June 30, 2011! This is a year ahead of schedule as they try to beat inflation. An anonymous donor has agreed to match all funds up to $125,000! If the District can raise $75,000 over the next 3 and a half months, they will make their goal and start replacing the camp's water system and fire suppression system at the end of summer.

Please watch the fun video on the camp website....Dakota, the camp dog is out on a walk with the camp director, and they run across a broken pipe. Janet gets into quite a little predicament when she tries to plug the hole with her finger, and Dakota runs off for help. It is a kick to watch Dakota, his boxer jowls in slow motion flapping up and down, as he runs for help.

If you have ever thought, "I want to contribute something to the Water Works! campaign", now is the time to do it...while every dollar is doubled. And, if you haven't given it any thought to this point, please do give it some serious thought.

It will take everyone working on this to raise $75,000 in a little over three months! And yes, Camp de Benneville Pines is a 501c3, and your donation is tax deductible.

Lifespan Faith Development COMMUNITY Events

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

Coming Soon: Women Empowered!

Camp de Benneville Pines 2010 UU Women’s Retreat
April 30 – May 2, 2010

Join other UU women from around the District in a fun filled weekend of belly dancing, drumming, singing, dancing, hiking, playing, chatting, listening, sharing rituals and attending workshops. Relax at the hot tub or schedule a private massage. “Zen away” tension and stress with an acupuncture facial and aroma therapy session.

Cost: $180 per person, Log onto the Camp website to download form or register online. www.uucamp.org. Click on COME TO CAMP. Questions? Call Janet James, Camp Manager, 909-435-6298.

Summer is almost here: It is time to start planning for our summer time RE Program for children and youth. We need willing teachers to commit to one or two hours during the summer. You will be working with at least one other teacher and be working with the children in an engaging and interactive program. Please contact Kathleen Hogue khogue@uuctucson.org or sign up at the LFD table.

Coming of Age: This is an excellent opportunity for you to help our UU Youth to transition to adulthood. As our 8th graders leave children's religious education behind them, they transition to high school with a full year of adventure and introspection. 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. Their year culminates with a Vision Quest in the spring and the presentation of a Worship Service for the whole congregation. We have at minimum seven youth who will be participating this coming year. Mentors are a vital part of this process. What do you have to offer? Please contact Kathleen Hogue khogue@uuctucson.org or sign up at the LFD table.

Keep the canned goods coming for our food bank and our sculpture activity!
Continued from front page

Sunday, April 17
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Thoughts on the Afterlife
What happens to us when we die? It’s a religious question with far-ranging answers. Which answer resonate with you?
Worship Associate: Carolyn Saunders
Music: Donna DeHaan

Wednesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Passover
The celebration of Passover has endured throughout centuries of Jewish tradition. We’ll explore meanings Passover holds for us today.

Sunday, April 24
Extended Family Worship
Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Kathleen Hogue
Who Are You at Easter?
There are many stories within the traditional Easter narrative – human stories. Every character in the Easter story has something to teach us. Who are you this Easter?
Worship Associate: Cyndi Clements
Music: Holiday Choir

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

The next deadline for the Tucsonitarian will be Tuesday, April 5th at 5 p.m.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH GALLERY:

Be sure to see the "Fiber Arts" exhibit this month in Holland Sanctuary. Betsy Farmer specializes in the paper arts, Nancy Polster, in stitchery and fibers. The gallery is open Sundays before and after the worship service and during the week, Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.