From the Minister’s Study

Common struggles can serve to remind us of our common humanity. An ominous cloud of tragedy marked this summer’s memory as Norway became the site of what is all too common in our world today: deadly violence from within a community. As many of you know, Norway is my ancestral home, so I was relieved to hear that none of my relatives were among the dead or injured. Norway, like the United States and most of the world, is struggling with immigration issues.

Inclusion and multi-culturalism are high ideals. The human community lacks a clear roadmap for reaching them. Yet, as the world’s population grows, cultural and religious collisions are inevitable. Learning to live together on this one small planet is an ongoing struggle.

Embedded within the struggle are some questions that are essentially religious questions. Who am I? What is my place in the world? Who are my people? Who is my neighbor? How can I best live a life of justice and compassion, equity and fairness? To whom or to what do I belong? To whom or to what does the earth belong?

As Oslo Mayor Fabian Stang said, “Today the struggle to build an even better and even more open society begins.”

Let us join in the struggle.

Yours,
Diane

Sunday Services

Sunday, August 21
Rev. Diane Dowgiert

Coming Home
Something native in us all yearns to belong, to feel connected, to be loved and accepted. More than a physical location, home can be found in many places, and, there’s nothing quite like the feeling of coming home.
Worship Associate: Bid Romans
Music: Desert Chorale

Wednesday, August 24
Mid—Week Worship

Water Communion
We’ll celebrate a traditional Unitarian Universalist Water Communion. Bring a small amount of water to share, maybe some you collected from summer travels or maybe from someplace here in Tucson. We’ll pour water into a common bowl, telling the stories of where, how, and why the water was gathered.
There will be a light dinner served at 6:00 p.m.
Worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. led by Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Kathleen Hogue, Mary Wiese, and Brian Moon. We hope to see you there!

Sunday, August 28
Extended Family Worship
Rev. Diane Dowgiert and Kathleen Hogue

The Stream of Life
Bring a small amount of water with you to this service. We will reflect on the many ways our lives are blessed by water, and how it connects us to each other.
Worship Associate: Gilbert Moore
Music: Family Singers
**Fundraisers’ Corner**

**JOIN THE UUCT DINER’S CLUB!**

No ugly membership fees, no hidden costs! Just dinner out to benefit UUCT!! Look for announcements about the first event: **BJ’s Brewery** on a Tuesday night in October. Other Dining Club opportunities will occur once a month after that! All the restaurants will donate a portion of what we spend to UUCT. All you will need is an appetite, and a flyer for each event (which will be available at church on Sundays prior and on the UUCT website). Suggestions for restaurants are welcomed! Let Jan know!!! (748-9503)

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**Why should I give to the Church? Part 2**

“Why do we give money to the church?” a child asks her mother who is putting a twenty dollar bill into the offering basket as it passes by on Sunday morning. How will the mother answer? Does she say we give to help pay the church’s bills? That we are part of this church community and for it to exist, everyone must pay something so that we can pay the minister’s salary, for telephones, computers, utilities, repairs to the building etc.? It costs money to run an organization.

Our Tucson UU church spends approximately $8,000 week in operational costs, including staff. The church pays a minister, three full-time employees, and four regular part-time employees. In addition, we pay a bookkeeper and for childcare. Financial pledges from our members and friends (about $275,000) provide the major source of our income. We also collect rent (about $55,000) from non-church events that use our buildings, receive donations and money from Sunday’s collection, fees for classes, and proceeds from fund raising events. Supporting the church can be fun when we attend the cabaret or all go to dinner together at Sweet Tomatoes.

So one reason we give money is to help pay the bills.

-Margot Garcia  
Chair of the Finance Committee

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**The Results Are In!**

Our total Grocery Rebate Program rebate for the 2010-2011 year is $4,986.19 of which $3,415.43 is from Fry’s. The following are the results from each store: Albertsons (Purchases $1,116.20) rebate **$111.60**, Basha’s (P $6,587.38) **$395.24**, Fry’s (P $68,308.60) **$3,415.43**, Safeway (P $102,334.79) **$602.67**, and Sunflower (P $9,225.00) **$461.25**.

Now, if Safeway's $102,334.79 were at a 5% store rather than at .58% (1/2 of 1%) it would have brought in $5,116.74 rather than $602.67 giving a total rebate of $9,572.37 instead of only $4,986.19. **In fact**, if only 7% of the Safeway purchases were actually purchased at Fry’s we would earn a 6% rebate rather than 5% which would have added another $1,112.90. If there were a bit of switching, we could do better so please do think about it. I really feel we could bring in $10,000.00 annually if this could be our goal. Your efforts and participation are appreciated. I just would like to see more income generated thru this program.

-Marjorie Smith, Coordinator  
Grocery Rebate Program

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**Come Join in Singing!**

The Desert Chorale will begin rehearsing again on **Wednesday August 10th at 5:30PM**. Anyone interested in the choir is invited; there’s no tryout required. We will begin our first rehearsal with a potluck, and I’m looking forward to hearing about your Summer vacations! Bring your stories, some food to share, and your enthusiasm for music!

-Brian Moon
**Gift to Camp DeBenneville Pines**

Summer is a time for camping, and our district has a wonderful camp where some members of our congregation have gone, or sent their children. The camp, in the forested mountains northwest of Redlands, California, is a magical place, and it belongs to all of us as members of the church and the Pacific Southwest District. It, like the UUA, celebrated its 50th birthday this summer.

At our annual District Assembly, we learned that the camp was in peril, due to the aging water pipes, and the fund drive to replace the entire water system was seeking the funds to carry out the work. Our church had some money in hand, leftover from the era when we managed the Arizona cluster annual trek to Rocky Point, that we loved to call the Lunitarian Weekend. This fall event seems to have run its course, and no longer takes place, but we had some money which had never been spent for the good of our Arizona churches.

So, our board decided to add it to the pot for the plumbing at DeBenneville Pines! And, now, the fund raising has been quite successful, and the work is expected to start in September when the main camping season is over. The plan is to have the project completed before the snow flies in the late fall. In the meantime, maybe you would like to see and enjoy the camp. You can start by checking out the website or picking up a copy of the camp newspaper in the church foyer. Or you can ask Susan Call for more information.

For all our church members, those who know and love the camp, as well as those who have yet to discover our happy restorative treasure in the mountains of California, a hearty thank you! We do make a difference!

-Susan Call

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**Religious Education for Children and Youth**

We are very excited about the start of the new year! We hope you all have had a good summer and we welcome you back. We will begin official registration for children and youth programming on August 14th. This year we must once again require a registration fee. The fee will be $30 and include snack. If your family is unable to pay this fee it will be waived upon request to the LFD Director.

**Lifespan Faith Development Opportunities**

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

Volunteers still Needed!

- Teach RE Classes for Children & Youth
- Facilitate classes for adults
- Be a member on the new LFD Council

Please contact Kathleen Hogue if you can help.

**An Invitation to children, young adults, and their parents to join Family Singers**

We practice Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 in the Awareness Room starting Sunday, August 14th. We’ll be singing for church at least once a month and the first time will be on Sunday, August 28th. We sing a wide variety of songs and I always like to hear about your favorite songs.

If you have questions, please contact Agnes Paulsen.
Phone: 520-326-8259
email: agnespaulsen@cox.net

**Book Club’s next meeting is August 18 at 7pm** in the Awareness room. This month’s selection is "The Blue Tattoo: The life of Olive Oatman" by Margot Mifflin, which is the historical biography of a young Mormon girl who was adopted and raised by Mohave Indians until years later she was ransomed back into white society. All viewpoints welcome. For more info or to arrange free childcare, contact Lois Atkins at 991-5350.

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**UUCT Book Sale**

Start saving all the books you no longer want for the UUCT book sale coming in October. You can bring them to the church after Labor Day. Stay tuned for more exciting information about this event! Contact Beth Britton for more info at 881-0633.
**UU Jokes**

Q: How many UUs does it take to change a light bulb?

A: We choose not to make a statement either in favor of, or against, the need for a light bulb.

However, if on your own journey you have found that light bulbs work for you, that's fine.

You are invited to form a committee, write a poem or compose a modern dance about your bulb for next Sunday's service, during which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, three-way, long-life, and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence.

Q: Why did the Unitarian Universalist cross the road?
A: To support the chicken in its search for its own path.

A group of UU church school children were trying to determine the sex of a rabbit. "There's only one way to decide," said one child, "let's take a vote on it."

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**Anniversary Celebrations**

In August Rev. Diane will have been at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson for five years! We would like to celebrate her time with this congregation with a reception after the August 21 service. Please plan to attend.

We are also planning a larger celebration of Rev. Diane's ten year anniversary as a minister. This will be on October 16. If you have ideas, talents or time to plan and/or put on a celebration, please contact: Chris Wallace, Mark Henson, Peggy Smith, or Susan Call.