From the Minister’s Study

Sometimes, a mere “thank you” seems inadequate. Who am I to argue with spiritual master Meister Eckhart? He once said, “If thank you is your only prayer, that would be enough.” I’m sure I’m going to miss thanking someone involved in the incredible October 16 celebration of my 5 years at UUCT and my 10 years in the UU ministry. But here goes . . .

Thank you to the committee that organized the event: Chris Wallace, Mark Henson, Susan Call, and Peggy Smith.

Thank you to the kitchen ministry crew that provided lunch: Rhonda Walker, Judy Dare, Bill and Becky Keyes, and Jimmy Ranieri – and Mike Epperson, who helped with set-up and take-down of tables.

Thank you to everyone who gave testimony, reminding me of how far we’ve come together: Chris Wallace, Kathleen Hogue, Linda Selsor, Frank Valdez, and Charles Gaines. And of course, Michael Sallwassar, Ken Brown and Tera Little, representing the Pacific Southwest District.

Thank you to Rick Meyer for your wonderfully awesome music. You rock!

Thank you to everyone, anonymous as you may be, who made a financial contribution to the gift you gave me – a stole that captures the covenant of UUCT – “we are as varied as the blossoms of the Sonoran desert.” And thank you Susan Call, for your artistic vision and all the behind-the-scenes work it took to bring your vision to fruition.

Thank you to Brian Moon, L.B. Brown, Donna DeHaan, UUCT’s Desert Chorale and members of the UU Congregation of Northwest Tucson’s choir for the magical service music that made our time of worship amazingly deep and meaningful.

Thank you to Carolyn Saunders and Jaimie Leopold for spoken words that moved and inspired us to embody our Unitarian Universalist values.

Thank you to the entire UUCT staff, whose efforts are often invisible and under-appreciated – Mary Wiese, Kathleen Hogue, Jesus Carrillo, Ashley Davis, Brian Moon, Heather Reed, Agnes Paulsen, Donna DeHaan, and Denise Parkhurst.

Thank you to my loving and dedicated partner in life, AJ Dowgiert, for your gentle and unwavering support.

Thank you to everyone who makes UUCT such a wonderful place!

Gratefully yours,
Diane

Upcoming Services:

Sunday, October 30
Day of the Dead
Patty Willis
One day of the year we playfully and seriously remember those who have died. What can we learn from this day that brings us to closer to our mortality?
Worship Associate: Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Music: Donna DeHaan

Sunday, November 6, 2011
The Worst Mistake the Church (Any Church) Can Make Right Now
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
Hint: It has to do with wealth, power, and democracy.
Worship Associate: Walker Smith
Music: Agnes Paulsen and Family Singers

Sunday, November 13, 2011
Occupy!
Rev. Diane Dowgiert
It began on Wall Street and quickly moved across the country. On this Association Sunday*, the whole “occupy” movement has me wondering, what would an occupied Unitarian Universalism look like? What demands would be made of us?
Worship Associate: Cyndi Clements
Music: Donna DeHaan and Desert Chorale
BOARD UPDATE

Last year the board appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to review UUCT by-laws and come up with recommendations to clarify financial reporting relationships and make recommendations for any needed bylaws revisions. The intent behind formation of the committee was to address inconsistencies between our bylaws and governance policies that were not resolved at the time the congregation adopted the policy governance model. This inconsistency has caused confusion, friction and dissatisfaction with how we are managing our finances.

The Ad Hoc Committee—consisting of David Burks, Carolyn Cooper, JD Garcia, Jim Periale, Carolyn Saunders and Linda Selsor—presented its recommendations to the board last January. The committee’s recommendations included a key structural change in the board’s role relative to finance and provided the platform for further consideration by the board. The board has reviewed a proposal from Rev. Dowgiert and will be meeting in retreat on October 19th to finalize a plan for presentation to the congregation at an informational meeting tentatively set for November 20th after church.

In preparing for the retreat board members were tasked with reviewing Dan Hotchkiss’ book, Governance and Ministry—Rethinking Board Leadership. Hotchkiss’ book was invaluable to the Phoenix UU church when they successfully restructured.

Report from the Treasurer

During the month of September, $28,331.75 was deposited into the church’s operating account and $43,713.70 was expended. The church has $11,938.09 due on its line of credit. It is critical that you pay your pledges. If at all possible, please bring your pledge payments up to date and consider making an additional donation.

Larry Newhouse
Treasurer

No More Deaths meets every Monday evening from 7-9pm. On the first Monday of the month, the general meeting is held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson. On other Mondays, it is at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church (in Geneva Hall, normally) on 2nd Street just west of Alvernon. Please email Rhonda Walker for more information rlwalker1019@yahoo.com or just show up!

---

UUCT Thanksgiving!!

Please join us for an all-the-trimmings UU Thanksgiving on Thanksgiving Day! All UUCT members, their friends, families and relatives, are invited. Please bring a dish to share and there will be a $5 per person charge to cover miscellaneous items not donated. (Children 11 or under are free.)

Please watch your newsletter for other details such as time and place, or call Rosemary Axelrod for additional information. (232-2027 or rax150@cox.net)

Please also let Rosemary know if you have any interest in set-up and/or clean up!

We look forward to a GREAT turnout!!

---

Why Give to the Church? Part 4
By Margot Garcia

Susan Call gave a very good presentation on Sunday, September 4 on a workshop she attended at District Assembly. The workshop was titled" From Chore to CORE - Growing Generosity in our Congregations" conducted by Rev. John Morehouse. "We as UUs have a very unhealthy relationship with money, which is a tragedy, in spite of the fact that UUs have values that enliven the world. "Money is energy"- that's all it is; it is not bad, or filthy, or evil, etc. What you do with money is a moral decision," said Rev Morehouse.

Susan stated, "We need to put energy into building our values, which represent our CORE. People are generous with their time and talent, but we also want people to share their 'treasure'." Rev Morehouse thinks that we need to tell people what they are supposed to give BEFORE they sign the membership book and we should tell people "We expect our average family to give $2,000." He also says, we need to remember to celebrate our giving. Our financial support of our church is a gift, a commitment. We could call asking for financial support "the promise drive." What is your promise to our church? Is it something you are proud of?
Newcomer News:

New Member Class – If you have completed the Pathway to Membership and you are ready to become a member, you are welcomed and encouraged to attend a New Member meeting with Reverend Diane. The meetings are held in the Ministers office on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., or second Sunday of the month, after service. You must RSVP ahead of time to Mary Wiese: mwiese@uuctucson.org

Newcomer Orientations - Newcomer Orientations will be held the first Sunday in November and the first Sunday in December after church. Free lunch and childcare are provided. Please contact Mary Wiese for more information.

Community Life:

So many fun things are happening at the church in the next few months! Be sure to check the events page on the front of the website. On Wednesday evening, November 30, we will have a potluck and decorate Holland and Goddard for the holidays. We need volunteers to make this happen! Please contact Mary Wiese if you are available and able to help.

Up with People, the international, educational and cultural program is coming to town to provide community service and perform their two hour show “A Song for the World.” Host a member of the cast and invite the world into your home. Nov 7-14th. As a host family you are asked to provide: a bed, breakfast and dinner and limited local transportation. Cast members are out in the community during most business hours. Please contact Rhonda Walker at 520-310-1442 or go to www.Upwithpeople.com/Tucson

Lifespan Faith Development Opportunities

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

Coming UP in LFD

October 28, 2011 Family Ministry Night 6-8 PM in Goddard Hall- You won’t want to miss this fabulous holiday get together where the theme is “Favorite Monsters”. Come dressed as your favorite or bring your favorite! This event is brought to you by the LFD Council and Barbara Lundstrom.

Tuesdays in November from 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Don’t Know much about Unitarian Universalist History? You will if you take this class. Class will run for 4 weeks. Cost is $6 per person for the series. Co facilitators are Patty Willis and Kathleen Hogue.

December 18th – Holiday Pageant: The Three Miraculous Births. We need your help to make this a success. The play will take place during the service on Dec 18. We will have three opportunities for rehearsals in order to have participants show up for at least two. We still have speaking and non speaking parts left for you to choose from. Speaking parts are short or they are read from notes. This is always a fun and heartwarming event and gets better every year!

You can sign up for all of these events at the LFD table in Goddard or by emailing Kathleen khogue@uuctucson.org.
UUCT’s FUUN-raising Corner

AN EVENING WITH DAVID FITZSIMMONS

Tucson’s favorite editorial cartoonist, David Fitzsimmons, will be entertaining us with his political humor and caricatures. He’ll probably poke fun at us UUs too! Saturday, Nov. 5th at 7:00PM. $10 per person; beverages and snacks by donation. It’s a fund raiser for UUCT, so invite family and friends to come too!

UUCT Artist of the Month Gallery:

The opening reception for the popular UUCT Quilters show will be on November 13th at 11:45 am in Holland Hall. Come meet the quilters and enjoy the show. Refreshments will be served. The gallery is also open during church office hours, 9-1 pm Tuesday through Friday. The show runs through December 4th.

The deadline for the Tucsonitarian is the first and third Tuesday of each month with publication on the second and fourth Wednesday. The next deadline is November 1st at 5 pm and the publication date is November 9th.

Book Club Meets the third Thursday of each month in the Awareness Room, 7 PM. All are welcome. Call ahead for sitters. Questions, Lois Ellen Atkins 991-5350.

New Book List
Nov "The Book Thief" - Markus Zusak
Dec "The Lincoln Lawyer" - Mickey Haller
Jan "The Zookeeper's Wife" - Diane Ackerman
Feb "The Worst Hard Times" - Timothy Egan
Mar "The Gravediggers Daughter" - Joyce Carol Oates
Apr "1491" - Charles C Mann

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson
4831 East Twenty-second Street
Tucson, AZ 85711
www.uuctucson.org
office@uuctucson.org
520-748-1551