Editors Note: In the broadest sense this edition explores borders and barriers. You will find articles regarding outreach to other UU groups, to new members, and to the community at large. We'll also look at the border wall 70 miles to our south through the hearts and minds of those attending the School of the Americas Watch events last month. We'll look at a history exhibit that tells the story of the imprisonment of a people only because of their heritage and where they lived in the U.S. Finally, I share a question through poetry: Why have so many social justice challenges not been addressed in this country, a land of so many well-organized interest groups? Send us your thoughts on the challenges you see and possible solutions.

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Beyond Our Walls and into the Community
by Frank Valdes (President, UUCT Board)

What's out there beyond our walls? I suspect I'm

Minister's Greeting
by Reverend Lyn Oglesby

It is wonderful to be in Tucson and even more exciting to be at UUCT, getting to know you! Thank you for your warm and cordial welcome.

Your energy and enthusiasm inspire me and energize me. Encourage me. After only two weeks, I see enormous opportunities for us to come together, share ideas, reorganize, and rebuild a thriving congregation that makes a difference in Tucson and southern Arizona.

I look forward to meeting more of you at the “Meet and Greets” that you can schedule by calling the office. I look forward to listening to your ideas and getting to know each and every one of you.

It is good to serve alongside your elected board, members and staff. We have a great future ahead of us. See you on Sundays and any time you
like many of you in that my comfort zone is inside the physical and metaphorical walls of UUCT. We grow spiritually through our worship, we enjoy each other's company, and we jump in to help with the many activities and duties in our congregation. We also pride ourselves in keeping aware of the outside world by following the news and societal progress in the many media forums that now abound. But Unitarian Universalism has always had a component of actually affecting/transforming the outside world (principally in areas of social justice) that is also a part of our UUCT mission.

At the personal level we are typically uncomfortable with spreading the word about Unitarian Universalism; in my outside world I almost never talk with friends and co-workers about my faith. This is because of the social conventions that one should avoid politics and religion among our acquaintances (especially at work) and differentiating ourselves from evangelicals and proselytizers. This is an individual and personal challenge which is definitely hard. This is one reason we come together in various ways.

This past month or so the Board of Trustees has been looking outward. As most of us are aware, we are part of a larger movement. Outside of our congregation there is the local cluster of UU congregations called the Baja 4. Then there is our Pacific Southwest District (PSWD) of AZ, NV, and SoCal. Extending beyond just our corner of the country there is the Pacific Western Region (PWR) encompassing all of the west coast. And, of course, there is the national UUA. Less known are international groups such as the International Council of UUs (ICUU). You can find out more through our website under "ICUU World Prayers" under the "Worship" menu.

Your Board of Trustees recently met with the boards and ministers of the Baja 4. This educational retreat allowed us to understand the similarities and differences in the issues we face within our congregations. It also forged connections that allow us to undertake activities together. An example is having a booth at the Tucson Festival of Books. To keep us connected, the Board appointed Walker Smith and Susan Rock to be on the Baja 4 Council which meets regularly.

would like to sit down and share ideas for this great congregation and building a meaningful future.

Announcements

Nov. 3 - Calling All Artists! Please join our open studio, La Maison d'Art, beginning Nov 3 in Goddard hall from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Do you sketch, craft, stamp, bead, knit, paint, or dabble in a creative hobby? Contact courtney for more info at courtney.boyden@gmail.com

Nov. 4 - Exhibit Opening: Perspectives on the Japanese American Incarceration 1942-46. See page 4 for details.

Nov 5-6 - If you're new to Tucson, you may want to check out the Day of the Dead Parade. For more info click here. Photo from last year's event.

Nov. 6 - Sunday Service - Reveille Men's Chorus: Changing Lives Through Music. After service and fellowship, we will talk about forging connections by identifying group social activities of interest.

Nov. 11 & 12 - Ministry Start-up Workshops - See article below for more information.

Nov. 13 - Sunday Service - "Giving Life the Shape of Justice: Justice DA 2017" with speaker Carolyn Saunders and worship associate Celeste Rogers. We live in the borderlands, so results of the unjust immigration policy are quite evident to us. But
They will keep you informed about the work of the Baja 4. One way is through the minutes of the Baja 4 Council posted in the minutes section of our website.

We also recently covenanted with the Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona Network (UUJAZ). That covenant is a promise to participate in social justice issues with other congregations in Arizona, to provide financial support to the extent we can, and to lend leadership and foster communication through a UUCT representative. The Board appointed Samantha Meyer to be that leader. She will bring news from UUJAZ to us in our various communications such as the emails, newsletters, and our website. (Photo: Frank Valdes signing on to UUJAZ with Rev. Lisa)

Bringing together the Baja 4, UUJAZ, and PSWD, there is an innovative event that will touch many people in our district and beyond. This is the PSWD Justice District Assembly 2017 which is being hosted by the Baja 4. Our congregation will be called on to make this important event be a success as one of the local hosts. We will be supported in this by UUJAZ and the PSWD. While this DA takes place at the end of March, planning and work on this has been under way for some time and we are now calling for UUs in our district, including you, to educate yourselves on the issues, plan to attend and register early at the beginning of the new year. Please visit http://justiceda2017.weebly.com/ and check our website for information.

UUCT is playing its part to shed light on the problems of migrants and the border by supporting No More Deaths’ investigation of concerns with the actions of Homeland Security. In particular, NMD is gathering information through the Freedom of Information Act, though it is running into stonewalling. If necessary, NMD will press its FOIA requests through the courts and UUCT will be involved through our management commitments to NMD. Right now NMD is simply asking the agency why the requested information has not been what can we do about it? Join us on Nov. 13 to hear more about the Pacific Southwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association’s latest initiative to bring the shape of justice to all lives.

(Check our website later in the month for other Sunday services in November as they are announced at www.uuctucson.org)

December 24 & 25th - Christmas Eve service on the 24th at 5:30 pm, Christmas Day service at 10:30 am, followed by a potluck.

Creating A Welcoming Environment

by Beth Britton (Chair Membership Committee)

Recently, a visitor told a congregant he had visited our church, and after the service no one welcomed him. Creating a welcoming environment is a ministry task for each of us, but it is so easy to be focused on seeing old friends, rounding up family or taking time to wrap up church business with others.

The Membership Committee is asking everyone to help welcome newcomers in the following ways:

1) If you are early, look for those with temporary name tags and greet them;

2) Invite newcomers after church to go to Goddard Hall with you for conversation and coffee;

3) Don’t assume someone with a temporary name tag is new, as the person(s) may have visited many times or be returning. So say something like, “Have I met you before?” or “Tell me about you.”;

4) Share the philosophy of the church if appropriate or why you enjoy UUCT, or;

5) Find out interests, and share activities and social justice efforts of the church in which the newcomer might want to be engaged. For example, if the person loves plants, introduce them to Judy Dare who cares for our landscaping. If social justice is a passion, seek out Craig Rock who is involved in No More Deaths. Of course, those loving music will want to talk with Brian
provided as mandated by the FOIA.

We recently heard about how organizations of various types, including our UUA, have come together to fight the power of corporate money and the legal fiction that constitutional rights apply to non-humans. One way is to stand with the Move to Amend Campaign. UUCT is being asked to take our place in this campaign by adopting a motion to be considered at our next Congregational Meeting on Dec. 11th. We are looking to engage you in discussion in advance of the meeting.

Changing the topic back to within our walls, I want to call your attention to two activities which are coming up. One is the Interim Start Up workshop described elsewhere in this issue and facilitated by our PWR. I want to strongly urge you to participate in this important step towards working through our interim period and on to a new settled ministry. The other activity is the Community Connections forum on Nov. 6th. I participated in a "Meet and Greet" with Rev. Lyn (I hope you all are also doing this!) where one topic turned to opening up our connections through activities we enjoy doing together. As Rev. Lyn exhorted us in her first Sunday message, we will have fun together! The forum will be a brainstorming and organizational meeting for activities that small groups can do for fun. Hopefully everyone will be able to get connected with people who share like interests and have fun together.

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**Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed in all areas of UUCT church life. Jobs that need to be done are short and long term. Please contact the PIT crew at pitcrew@uutucson.org with your thoughts about committees, groups, and volunteerism and to find out how you can help. Do your part to make this an active, vibrant congregation. (See the articles on the People Involvement Team -- PIT -- and Volunteering as a Spiritual Practice in September’s newsletter.) Older editions of the Tucsonitarian can be accessed by clicking on the link on the top of page 1.

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**UUCT Interim Ministry Start-Up Workshops**

- **Friday, November 11:** 6:00 PM congregational potluck dinner.
  - Please bring a dish to share; 7-9 PM Start-Up workshop.
- **Saturday, November 12:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
  - Start-Up workshop with a break for a congregational potluck lunch.
- **Child care** will be provided at both sessions.
- **Everyone is welcome** and encouraged to attend and participate.

All members, friends and staff of the UUCT are cordially invited to participate in Interim Ministry Start-Up Workshop on Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12, 2016 in Holland sanctuary.

The Friday evening session will be preceded with a congregational potluck dinner in Goddard Hall at 6:00 PM. Please bring your favorite dish to share.
For the Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM please bring a dish to share for a congregational potluck lunch.

Rev. Sarah Millspaugh of the UUA Congregational Life Staff of the Pacific Western Region will facilitate the workshop. Rev. Sarah notes the following: *The goal of the Start-Up workshop is to set the tone for a new beginning and lays the groundwork for a successful shared ministry.*

Your presence is requested and your participation is important for the future of our congregation.

**Please RSVP by November 5** which sessions you plan to attend to assist with planning: Friday only, Saturday only, or both Friday and Saturday sessions to this email address: transitionteam@uuctucson.org
News from the Finance Committee
by Margot Garcia (Chair Finance Committee)

In the month of September, we deposited $39,014.79 into the checking account and withdrew $37,587.44 for expenses. That left a positive net of $1,427.35. The yard sale brought in about $2,000. Overall income is at 38% of what was expected in the budget for this period. Pledges are running at 44% of expected and room rental at 46%. Please be sure to pay your pledges. Expenses are running at about 50% of expected at this time in the budget. We continue to monitor carefully expenditures and

Taking Care of Ourselves
by Liz Ravenwood (VP Finance Committee)

We take care of ourselves in many ways. It’s important to make sure that we have our own needs met, which includes a balance of body, mind and spirit, and of course, sound financial health. As we take care of our homes we do so as we have the time, money, and energy. It is often said that we can’t take care of others until our own needs have been met. I’ve been reticent in my financial giving because I feel that I need to know that the recipient needs my money more than I do. I believe that if someone is asking for money of mine, I have the right to know how that money will be spent. I am so
The Finance Committee spent its October meeting looking at income for the spring 6 months. We will be studying expenses at our next meeting on November 1st at 7 pm in the Servetus Room. We hope to have a draft budget to present to the Board at their meeting on November 9. There will be a congregational budget informational meeting on December 4 and a congregational meeting on December 11 to consider the spring budget for adoption.

We welcome Linda French to the Finance Committee as our new member.

You are always welcome to attend the Finance Committee meetings.

Reveille Chorus Comes to UUCT Again

For the fourth year, Reveille Men’s Chorus will be featured in a Sunday worship service. On Sunday, November 6, Reveille will bring its message and its music to our sanctuary.

For 22 years, Reveille’s mission has been “changing lives through music,” and both singers and audience members will attest to that. Their repertoire is varied, including classical and popular selections, ranging from powerful and inspiring to just plain fun. Judging from previous years, it will be a full house, so come early for a good seat.

If you have any questions, contact Bob Gordon (bobgordonrg66@gmail.com), a UUCT member who has been singing with the chorus for six years.

Civil Rights Question of the Month

Stewardship in the larger sense of the church is vast. You’ve probably seen fund raisers and yard sales and volunteerism and administration, and

honored to be part of a community in which transparency is not only honored and valued, but there is a commitment to openness from the President of the Board, the Chair of Finance, the Treasurer, the Administrator, others, and from me, the VP of Finance. Where we, as the church, spend money is the right of all members to know.

It has been only recently that I’ve actually done more at church than go and listen to the sermons and sing in the choir. I was in my own world and focused on my personal life and attending to those responsibilities, and, although I was appreciative of all that I enjoyed when I went to church -- such as the organization, the delicious coffee hours and lunches, an occasional covenant circle, etc. -- I still had an attitude when it came to giving money. Now that I’ve been more involved, I’m not just impressed with the work that goes on, I’m astounded.

I’m asking you to consider your lives and what comprises you. Take care of yourself first. Only give what you can feel good about. Don’t give more than is beyond your means. Doing so could raise resentment, and this is a church of love and acceptance. When I was 18 I worked at a call center that was the toll-free number for Jerry Falwell. He would advertise free “Jesus Saves” pins, and when followers would call in to get the free pin, we had to go through the script to ask them how much they wanted to donate. It put them on the spot and I’d hear many stammer and talk about their fixed income while I had to keep the phone call short and fast and put the dollar amount in the computer. Once that was done, I’d take the next phone call - most likely for our other biggest client, Playboy. Since the first UU principle is the inherent worth and dignity of every person, our church should never put anyone on the spot and should respect whatever amount a person is able to contribute and keep this confidential.
Who Can Identify This Church & Tell of Its History?

Send your answers to newsletter@uuctucson.org

the list goes on and on. Our annual Stewardship Campaign will soon begin in which we will have a time line of activities culminating in a fun celebration.

If you want to help out with this campaign, contact me at lizravenwood@gmail.com Please consider how this campaign is, indeed, very important in taking care of ourselves.

Quote for November

You Must Not Lose Faith in Humanity

Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the entire ocean does not become dirty.

Mahatma Gandhi

Updates from Samantha Meyer

Religious Education

In October, the Elementary RE classes continued work with the curriculum We Can All Get Along. Kids made paper dolls and discussed how everyone is different. They talked about ways they can feel happy and safe and began work on individual books. Ways friends support each other and things friends don’t do were also discussed and demonstrated with a science experiment.

The middle school group has formed their covenant for the year. The covenant can be viewed on the RE bulletin board in the Emerson room. They have discussed problems in the world around us and voted to work on homelessness/hunger, bullying, and taking care of animals that need help. The Middle School staff envision this going toward the following likely organizations and activities in the coming year.

- Casa Maria soup kitchen (volunteering on-site)

- Pima County Animal Shelter (bake sale to raise money followed by visit to donate $ and pet the animals)

- Wild Forever animal rescue (whatever work they need us to do, maybe also bake sale to raise $)

- In-class activities on strategies for handling bullying

YRUU met and presented Rev. Lyn with a welcome gift. There have been some very interesting discussions among the kids about peace, social justice and their impact on the world.
The Art of Principles exhibit will be coming down after the service on 10/30. All parents should pick up their child’s artwork by Thanksgiving.

Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona (UUJAZ)

UUCT has joined 6 other congregations as a member of the Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona Network. The district assembly, coming this spring, has an active website and will be updated with more information monthly: www.justiceda2017.weebly.com. Raise some friends, raise some funds! UUJAZ is continuing their Faithify campaign. UUA has a matching donation if we can reach our goal of $5000. This year’s efforts will focus on helping young adults become active in their Unitarian Universalist churches. Together we can build a multi-generational and sustainable religious voice in Arizona.
Families, Neighborhoods and a Prayer
by Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray
UU Congregation of Phoenix

(Part of an Interfaith Service SOWA at the Border dividing the people of Nogales. October 8, 2016.)

Today as our world grows more connected - in moments we can literally connect with people all over the earth - nations across the world and right here in these United States are building bigger and stronger fences and walls.

These walls are tools of exploitation - tools to protect the profits of international corporations profiting from the exploitation of workers, the militarization of communities on both sides of the border, and the exploitation of the planet’s precious resources. These borders are here to separate us - The People, The Land - to prevent our collective organizing, our collective resistance, our collective protection of the land, of the children, of the family, of the worker, of one another.

Dear Friends,

I'm writing to you, as I head south in a carpool from Bismarck, North Dakota toward Standing Rock. We are driving to Sacred Ground Camp, where we’ve been told police are again arresting water protectors. Indigenous leaders with allies have peacefully reclaimed 1851 treaty land that is in the would-be path of the Dakota Access Pipeline. As we speak, militarized police from 5 states have descended on the new camp.

We need you and we need you now. People of faith and conscience are being called to take immediate action and come to Standing Rock in solidarity. Unarmed water protectors have been met with militarized responses at every step.

There is an opportunity for us to show up and affirm
But, one day these walls will be no more. Now they act as prison bars separating families, isolating wealth and poverty, breaking down community, marring the beauty of this land. But they are temporary. One day these walls will be no more.

Spirit of Life, Holy God, Mother Earth, you who are known by so many names, give us courage to keep resisting these walls, to keep resisting the militarization of this continent, the militarization of our lands and bodies. Give us not to fear or despair, but to love and courage that we may keep reaching out and resisting the borders in our own minds and hearts.

The stories of inhumanity, violence, and death in this desert are heartbreaking. Let our hearts be broken, for our hearts break because of love. Let them never become hardened. As they break open, may we all grow deeper levels of strength and compassion and fullness that keep us committed to peace, to justice, to dignity for all humankind, for all creation. May we all learn to see the world as Love sees it, a view that sees not borders or nations - that sees only creation in all its beauty.

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray is running for President of the Unitarian Universalist Association in 2017. After leading the UU response to Arizona’s anti-immigrant laws in 2010, she became lead organizer for the Arizona Immigration Ministry and a key organizer of the 2012 Justice General Assembly in Phoenix. More information about Rev. Susan and the other candidates running for president can be found in the fall issue of UU World.

Next week (10/31-11/5), there is a call for clergy from across the country to join us at Standing Rock. Buses are being organized by MUUSIA to bring people - both clergy and others - to show up. Unitarian Universalists from at least 15 states have joined us in recent months.

Please join us. If you are not able to participate now, there will likely be many opportunities to support this movement, and to travel to Standing Rock in the coming months as the Protectors prepare to settle in for the winter. We have begun collaborating with MUUSJA along with regional and national UU social justice networks to develop a national response from Unitarian Universalists around the country. We have also creating a petition in response to a call for action by Kandi Mossett of the Indigenous Environmental Network, shared during a Teach In hosted at our congregation. Please sign and share here.

Please stay tuned on our congregational Facebook page for latest updates as our work evolves.

Update from the Convergence At the Border

(Editor’s Note: There is a very clear connection between the reasons people leave their neighborhoods and farms in Mexico and Central America and the insults to the human condition brought about by international trade agreements and U.S. support for tyrants and their cronies who amassed power and wealth since the mid 1950s. The tyrants may have died off or retired but the cronies live on by influencing governments through fear and the sales of drugs and weapons. Judges, teachers, students, journalists, labor organizers, and even religious leaders have been tortured and killed because of their efforts to improve living conditions in Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and other countries to our south. Those who have fled their homeland arrive at our southern border and face another
life-and-death struggle. And that's what the recent workshops, rallies, direct actions, quilt display, and an interfaith service were about last month. Even though over a thousand people attended events in Nogales, Tucson and at the Eloy Detention center, the Convergence received very little press coverage. So here's an introduction to the week's events from the School of the Americas Watch and a link to their website for a full report:

**Update From The Convergence At The Border**

At the heart of the 2016 School of the Americas Watch Encuentro is increasing awareness of the militarization of the US-Mexico border and Latin America, as well as the criminalization of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and people of color.

We moved our annual convergence this Fall from the gates of Fort Benning, Georgia to the militarized US/Mexico border. The [Convergence at the Border](http://www.SOAW.org/border) took place from October 7-10, 2016 in Nogales, Arizona/Sonora, at the Eloy Detention Center and in Tucson, Arizona. The change of the location goes along with the broadening of the issue and our expanded fight against US militarization at home and abroad.

Visit [SOAW.org/border](http://www.SOAW.org/border) for photos, videos and more about this powerful encuentro, and read our report back:

(There are some issues that divide us and some that bring us together. For example, affordable housing, adequate health care and food, a decent education, clean air to breathe, and safe water to drink are issues that bring many people together. This poem was "inspired" by forces that tear us apart.)

**Citizens Divided**

by Craig Rock

how do you write a poem about living:

in the “richest” country
in the world
many burying their futures
in daily funerals
of dreams and ideals,
instead stuffing dollars
in mattresses
or off-shore accounts.

in the most “organized” country
in the world
power centered
black, not so black, white, not so white,
progressive, liberal, conservative
radical, not so radical, not interested,
straight, gay, mixed
young, not so young, old, not so old,
God, no god, many gods
citizens divided.

in the “freest” country
in the world
if you can afford it
concealed or disguised
in mansions, mini-mansions,
gated and guarded
five-star restaurants
great hospitals
grand universities
if you can afford
it
if not
one will be appointed
your choice of chains
high rents or endless mortgages
on homes or on student loans
slums or prisons
and don't even mention
iPhones with invisible leashes,
video games that keep
eyes, fingers, and minds
twitching
into the middle of the night
awake or asleep, no matter

bumper to bumper traffic
on our streets, sidewalks
and commercial TV.

in our long waiting lines
with too many
too quick
to shoot
in so many different
directions
and its all “free.”
citizens divided.

how do you write
a poem
about that?
MAJOR EXHIBITION EXPLORES PERSPECTIVES ON JAPANESE AMERICAN INCARCERATION DURING WORLD WAR II

For immediate release. October 5, 2016. Tucson, Arizona—The Tucson Desert Art Museum at 7000 East Tanque Verde Road, Tucson, Arizona opens Perspectives on Japanese American Incarceration in WWII, on November 5th. Three powerful exhibits explore the history and legacy of the forced incarceration of nearly 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Many Japanese Americans were removed from their homes and incarcerated in Arizona.

Paul Kitagaki, Jr.’s GAMBATTE! Legacy of an Enduring Spirit: Triumphing Over Adversity, Japanese American WWII Reflections, Then and Now is the first body of work devoted to capturing the past and the present of Executive Order 9066 through photographs and oral histories. Through Kitagaki’s juxtaposition of historic images and contemporary portraits of the same individuals and their descendants, this exhibition will take its viewers on a visual exploration of the Japanese concept of Gambatte, or triumph over adversity.

Behind Barbed Wire: Japanese American Incarceration in Arizona
examines the federal internment facilities for Japanese Americans in Arizona, including two on Native American Reservations, and two nearby in the Catalina and Dragoon Mountains. Photographs of Japanese American men and women who served in the American armed forces in World War II will also be on view.

Art of Circumstance: Art and Artifacts Created by Japanese Americans Incarcerated During WWII displays art created by Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II, demonstrating their creative spirit in the face of their harsh circumstances. To highlight the concept of perseverance despite adversity, the Arizona Historical Society has loaned paintings created by artist Kakunen Tsuruoka during his confinement in the Poston War Relocation Center near Parker, Arizona.

A series of talks and community events will accompany the exhibitions, starting with “Baseball Behind the Barbed Wire”, on January 22nd at 1:30 pm. by noted Arizona sports historian Bill Staples Jr.

On February 18th, an all-day event in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 will feature speakers, demonstrations of traditional Japanese arts, and Taiko ensemble drumming. The commemorative event will be free with Museum admission.

Perspectives on Japanese American Incarceration exhibitions will debut with a “Sneak Peek” on November 4th from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. This special preview is free for Museum members and $7.00 for non-members at the door or in advance at the Museum. Perspectives on Japanese American Incarceration will run from November 5 through April 30, 2017. Museum admission is $10.00/adults, $8.00/seniors and $6.00/children.

Tucson Desert Art Museum presents thought-provoking exhibits that explore the art, history, and cultures of the Southwest and surrounding regions. The museum showcases a world-class permanent collection of Native American textiles, western art and artifacts, as well as national traveling exhibitions on loan. The 25,000 square foot facility includes exhibition areas, gallery, gift shop, auditorium and plenty of dedicated parking. The Museum offers guided tours of the permanent collection and special exhibitions for schools, seniors, and community groups. Information on exhibitions, events, and tours is available on the Museum’s website at tucsonDART.org, or call us at 520-202-3888.

Tucson Desert Art Museum, 7000 East Tanque Verde Road, Tucson, Arizona 85715
(SW corner of Tanque Verde & Sabino Canyon), 520-202-3888, www.tucsonDART.org

People leaving Buddhist Church, Winter, 1943.
Manzanar Relocation Center, Ansel Adams, Library of Congress.

The evacuation of the Japanese-Americans from West Coast areas under U.S. Army emergency order. Evacuees waiting with their luggage at the Old Santa Fe station for a train to Owens Valley. Russell Lee, Library of Congress, 1942.

GOT ART?
SEND US YOUR POEMS,
PHOTOS, AND PROSE TO SHARE
(email: newsletter@uuctucson.org)

(Photo by Sam Meyer, Poem by Margot Weaver Garcia)

Quilts

In this traditional American craft,
The bits and pieces of fabric are sewn,
Creating patterns from the geometry,
Of squares, triangles, strips, also diamonds.

Some are in hues of red, orange, and beige,
Others in green, blue, white, and turquoise,
Today made of new cloth bought solely for it
In yesteryear made of sewing leftovers

And scraps traded with precious and dear friends.
Today a new quilt is perfect and fine,
Every color matched and corner sewn true,
Yet missing some family history.

I remember that dress, that blouse, and shirt,
The curtains that hung in the living room,
Is that a piece of your first pant suit?
There is a remnant of your daughter's coat.

Looking at the covering on my bed,
I relive the passing of life's days,
Of sewing, watching the children grow,
Creating the stories of our years.