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The monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson
To view previous editions of the newsletter, click here.
Newsletter editor: Craig Rock at newsletter@uuctucson.org.

Send us your editorials, stories, poems and photos.

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Contribute to UUA's Disaster Relief Fund

Our UU friends and neighbors in Florida and the Caribbean—including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—have experienced extraordinary devastation following Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

We invite you to contribute to the UUA

From Reverend Lyn

I love this time of year here in Tucson! It is clear and cool, energy is returning, life is peppy and enthusiastic. It is a good time to be alive, to enjoy the beauty all around us. And we have a grand year ahead of us. These are exciting times.
Disaster Relief Fund (formerly the Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund) so the UUA can provide financial assistance to UU congregations impacted by these and other natural disasters. In addition to facilitating their own disaster recovery, congregations receiving disaster relief funds will have discretion to provide financial assistance to their members, as well as to support local partner organizations serving the community at large. The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) may apply on behalf of CLF members living in disaster areas.

Puerto Rico’s situation is especially severe. To contribute aid beyond the Unitarian Universalist sphere, there are many organizations on the ground doing important work, such as United for Puerto Rico, a collaboration between the Government of Puerto Rico and the Private Sector.

We know that long after the initial clean-up, real recovery can take months or years. Your donations will allow the UUA to respond flexibly to this tragedy and to new situations as they arise.

Donate to the Disaster Relief Fund | Funds raised to date: $65,000+

To donate by mail, please make check payable to the UUA with "Disaster Relief Fund" on the memo line, and send to UUA Gift Processing, 24 Farnsworth St, Boston, MA 02210.

Public Forum on Health Care Reform on Sunday, October 29, 1:30 - 3:30 pm at UUCT

Do you have concerns about the Affordable Care Act and repeal attempts; about the future of Medicare and Medicaid; or about access to care or cost?

Whether you are a patient or a provider, we want to hear your medical and health insurance stories. The LD9 and LD10 Legislators will be holding an open mic forum in which we listen, and you talk.

This is an educational event-- not a campaign event. It’s about listening and learning from each other. Senators David Bradley and Steve Farley and Representatives Kirsten Engel and Pamela Powers Hannley have confirmed their attendance. (Rep. Randy Friese is currently out of town, but the event is "on his
currently excellent. Of course in budget terms it is the balance of expenditures and income. Here I want to talk about the income side. In particular, the pledging and the fund raising activities which are part of the "Ways and Means" portfolio in our new organizational structure. In a small reallocation of portfolios within the Board of Trustees I have adopted Ways and Means as my specific area of oversight; which is why I want to talk with you about it in this month’s column.

The pledging, and subsequent fulfillment, is the biggest part of our income in Ways and Means. Therefore a good pledge drive is critical each year. We depend on the important work of a pledge team to lead us each year. This work needs to begin soon in terms of planning for the actual drive in the early spring. I am now calling upon you to volunteer to join the team. And the team needs a captain so I am also calling for someone to be a leader. The captain does not do all the work nor is necessarily the spokesman. The captain is someone who marshals the team and leads the planning. Let me know of your interest by email (fvaldes@cox.net), phone, or in person.

The other area of Way and Means that plays a part in our financial health is fund raising. This includes various events, like the annual auction, and programs, such as Amazon Smile. In the past these have worked largely independently. However, I am proposing that we work together more in the form of a Fund Raising Activities Council and provide coordinated scheduling and reporting. Events and programs still need to operate as individual teams but they, especially the leaders, will gain support and advice by coming together to brainstorm and talk together periodically. Others who may have good ideas for fund raising but are not

calendar.” Rep. Todd Clodfelter was invited but has a scheduling conflict.

In the news, we hear what politicians and big corporations think should be done with our country’s over-complicated and expensive health care system. At this event, the people of Southern Arizona will have an opportunity to tell us their stories and help shape future policy.

Mark your calendars for October 29, 2017. The event will be held 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, 4831 E. 22nd St. Watch Facebook and Pamela Powers Hannley’s blog for details, click here to connect.

Immigration Policies Threaten Our Neighbors -- Help Defend Pima County Families
already involved with current programs will have a place to come and share their great ideas which may be “outside the box.” For example, how about a cake auction or, even more outrageously, a date auction? Something else which we need are ideas for how to bring in money from outside of the congregation since there is a limit to how much we can keep asking ourselves for.

We will hold a kick-off meeting for a Fund Raising Activities Council on Sunday, October 8th (after snacks and lunch) in Holland. Please come if you can and invite those you’ve worked with on past fund raising activities to join you. This is not to ask you to do more (unless you feel so moved) and you may continue to work on just one activity, but we want to know about it and ideas you may have.

Speaking of our governance portfolios, there is a new section in the Members area of our website that provides reports for the portfolios. While sometimes brief, they are informative. This is found under the Members menu. If you need the members and friends login, request it at webhelp@uuctucson.org.

**Ministerial Search Committee Update**

This year there are 44 UU congregations in search for new ministers. We are one of 44. Why should minister candidates consider us?

You can tell them all why by taking the online Congregational Survey. A high percentage of member participation in the survey demonstrates to ministers that we are invested in the search process and committed to our congregation’s future.

Highly qualified ministers look for highly

All over the United States, 800,000 people previously protected by DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) are facing deportation unless Congress acts and passes new legislation. Other immigrants not protected by DACA also face deportation despite a good possibility of death or injury if they are forced to return to dangerous countries or neighborhoods run by gangs, drug cartels, or corrupt government officials. Thousands will be affected in southern Arizona.

(Photos by Craig Rock)

**What Can You Do?**

Locally, we can protect our fellow citizens by demanding that each person threatened with deportation have the right to present their case with adequate legal defense. People who go alone to represent themselves in Immigration Court are overwhelming ordered removed, that is, separated for life from their relatives, often children, parents or spouses who are U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

Many are our neighbors contributing their energy (and taxes) to Pima County's cultural identity and our local economy. If, like many of us, they can’t afford an attorney, they should have a publicly funded one from our county's Department of Public Defense Services.

Ask your neighbors, colleagues, friends, folks in our church, and family members to sign a card asking the Board of Supervisors to vote "Yes" to authorize the creation of the Office of Non-Citizen Defense within Public Defense Services. If you did not sign this postcard on October 1 after Sunday service, they will again be available on Sundays Oct 8 and 15.
invested congregations.

If you care about this congregation, please complete the survey TODAY.

This is your church. This is your search. This is your choice.
You are choosing your next minister - now.

[Click here to take the Survey]

Tucson Interfaith HIV AIDS Network

UUCT Members Assisted in Monthly Lunch
25,000th Meal Served

Thanks to the contributions of many UUCT members, the monthly POZ Café lunch and celebration was a great success. The care packages and game prizes along with the volunteers serving food came from Southside Presbyterian Church, Saguaro Christian Church, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson.

Our volunteer team was led by Angela Wasson, a new member here at UUCT. Others participating at the lunch event included Margo Newhouse, Nichole and Rashad Ahmad, Margi Magruder, and Elias Santana. Ray Van Hoosear was also a key supporter as he has been for many years. Special thanks to all our members who donated 115 rolls of toilet paper, 325 razors, 80 containers of bleach, and cash for prizes.

A special prize was given to the 25,000th guest at the luncheon. For information how you can continue to support the network, click here.

These cards will be collected and hand-delivered by a group of constituents from each of the Supervisors' districts.

(Editors note: Amor, of course, is Spanish for love. Both of the above pictures were taken a few years ago at rallies near the federal building in Tucson.)

More Background Information

National Public Radio recently published a fact sheet on DACA. Here's some information from that article along with a link for more interesting facts.

What is DACA?

DACA is the acronym for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, a program created in 2012 by the Obama administration allowing young people brought to this country illegally by their parents to get a temporary reprieve from deportation and to receive permission to work, study, and obtain driver's licenses.

DACA applicants had to be younger than 31 years old when the program began. They also had to prove that they had lived in the United States continuously since June 15, 2007, and that they had arrived in the U.S. before the age of 16.
Local UU Churches Retreat a Success
by Susan Rock

Imagine all four UU churches in southern Arizona getting together to further our Unitarian Universalist principles! On a September Saturday, that’s what we did, as ministers, board trustees, and other members of all four churches gathered for our fourth annual retreat at UUCT. Together we are called the Baja 4.

Guided by Rev. Sarah Millspaugh, a UUA facilitator, we shared experiences, ideas, and resources as we looked at different options of working together to improve the quality of both our religious experience and of life in our communities.

A major focus of our day was the identification of each congregation’s assets, a wonderful exercise in discovering all the good things we have to work with. We then used our imaginations to identify ways these assets could be effectively combined. All four congregations expressed a special concern for immigrant rights, and it was clear that we all wanted to work together on this issue. Other ideas that arose were (1) joint participation in the Tucson Festival of Books, (2) small-group collaboration on other social justice issues, such as homelessness, (3) joint share-the-plate efforts so as to have a greater impact on recipients, (4) joint art exhibits, and (5) increased social media presence to publicize Baja 4 events among the congregations and in the community.

Two events are already planned as cooperative efforts between UUCT and Mountain Vista UU: (1) on November 5, a talk by Professor Chuck Tatum on “Literature of the Border”; and (2) on December 3, a showing of the film “Locked in a Box.” You

Those signing up for DACA must show that they have clean criminal records. They have to be enrolled in high school or college, or serve in the military. Their status is renewable every two years.

Who Are Dreamers?

There are about 800,000 DACA recipients, also known as DREAMers, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Most arrived from Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. There are also several thousand from Asia, primarily South Korea and the Philippines. They reside in every state, with the largest concentrations in California (222,795), Texas (124,300), New York (41,970), Illinois (42,376), and Florida (32,795). (Estimated DACA recipients in Arizona are 28,000.)

Why Did Trump End DACA?

During the campaign, Donald Trump railed against illegal immigration and promised to reverse what he called President Obama’s "unconstitutional" executive actions.

But as president, Trump began backtracking. Early on, he said a decision about the fate of the DREAMers was “very difficult" for him, but "we’re going to show great heart." As recently as last week when he was asked about his impending decision, Trump said, "We love the DREAMers."

Conservatives, who had anticipated swift action from Trump, repeatedly urged the new president to keep his pledge and “pull the plug” on DACA.

Click here to read more
can find more information about these events elsewhere in this newsletter.

The retreat left us all with a deeper sense of the strengths, hopes, and needs of the other congregations and also with a commitment to use our combined strengths to make a positive difference in southern Arizona.
THE UUCT 10TH ANNUAL YARD/BOOK/PLANT SALE IS COMING

Begin thinking about cleaning out your closets, etc. and donating your extra items to the church. Smaller boxes may be brought to the room across from the kitchen at any time. We can arrange pick-up for larger items, i.e., furniture.

We need volunteers for setting up, selling and clean up. A sign-up sheet will be in Goddard Hall.

We set up on Wednesday and Thursday, November 1 - 2. The sale is Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 3-5. We especially need people to help clean-up after church on Sunday.

Contact Margi Magruder at 271-7719 or 4mstern6@gmail.com

Finance Committee Report

In August, the church deposited $38,574.15 and spent $35,667.81 for a positive net of $1,105.34. This is excellent for a usually lean pledge payment month. In addition, we paid almost $10,000 for replacing the Goddard air conditioning unit.

Reveille Men’s Chorus
October 22 - Share the Plate Recipient

For the past five years, church members Bob Gordon and Steve Kraynak have been instrumental in providing one of the most stirring services of the church year when they bring the Reveille Men’s Chorus to perform at UUCT. This year the Reveille service will be held on October 22 with the Chorus as our recipient of Share the Plate that day.

This amazing and talented group of singers is in its 23rd year of changing lives through

News from the Kitchen

The kitchen crew is getting ready for another year of savory soups, stupendous salads, and sugary sweets. We are back to serving lunch every weekend. We also have some new ideas that will be coming this year:

- The kitchen crew is going to rotate during the time of the Sunday Service. A lunch planner will work during the service while the others will get to enjoy the sermon. That means we need assistants! If you would like to help prepare the meal during Sunday,
please email Sam (sammeyer13@gmail.com) or stop in and talk to Margo, Judy, Becky, or Mary during lunch service. **ASSISTANTS GET A FREE LUNCH!!**

- The kitchen is a very busy and potentially dangerous place. To avoid injury from hot stoves, sharp objects, and slippery floors, please do not enter the kitchen during “prep” time. Ask at the doorway or window if you need something and we will be happy to help. Anyone entering the kitchen during prep hours will be given dishes to wash before they leave.

- We are in communication with the Religious Education department to see if middle school or YRUU will again do a Sunday lunch fundraiser.

- We are talking with a food truck that is connected to Big Heart Coffee. We hope to have them come visit for lunch once their mechanical difficulties are sorted out.

- Starting in January, the kitchen crew is considering doing a monthly potluck with small, ALREADY PREPARED meals brought in by the congregation. Stay tuned for more information on this.

Happy and healthy eating, everyone!

**Southern Arizona CUUps News**

A big thank you to all of the folks who participated in our Fall Equinox ritual. We celebrated the harvest and began our transition into the dark, introspective time of the year. We especially appreciate the volunteers who called quarters, lit the chalice, and called us to worship.

music. What began in 1995 as a gay men’s community chorus with an array of singers, has grown, transitioned and taken flight into a community institution of seasoned performers with an added public health focus on HIV/AIDS awareness, education and prevention. They have also received international recognition after performing in Mexico and Brazil.

Don’t miss this great service, and bring your checkbooks to make a generous contribution to an outstanding community partner. As usual, half of all cash received that day and half of all non-pledge designated donations will go to our recipient. When making out a check, you should make it to “UUCT” with “Share the Plate” or “STP” written in the memo line.

**San Diego Conference on Multiculturalism**

UUCT received a $300 scholarship from UUA’s Pacific Southwest District (our district) to support sending a small team of members to the UUA national Mosaic Makers Conference, a forum to learn about being an inclusive multicultural ministry. The Board of Trustees
Our next business meeting is Oct 14, and Samhain is Oct 31. Look for event details on our Facebook page [click here](#) or the church website.

A Special note about Samhain on Oct 31: Samhain occurs on the same day as American Halloween. However, these two holidays differ considerably in focus and practice. We will be remembering our beloved dead at this somber ritual. Please bring a photo or other memento of someone you loved who has died in the past 12 months.

Goddard Hall / Patio 6 to 8 pm
Gather at 6 pm and start practicing the songs that will be used in the ritual. The ritual leader provides information about the holiday. The worship service typically runs 45 minutes to an hour. We finish the evening with a snack potluck (no alcohol, please) and clean up the space.

All ages are welcome. Childcare available: Email Mary at mwiese@uuctucson.org to request childcare for events. Free admission, but donations gratefully accepted.

Save the Date for a Sukkot Celebration
October 7, 11:30 - 2:30 PM at UUCT
by Carolyn Saunders

UUCT has been invited to join the Secular Humanist Jewish Circle (SHJC) on October 7 in celebration of Sukkot, a long-held tradition derived from a Canaanite festival celebrating the first fruits of harvest. During this holiday, a small booth called a Sukka (a ramada-like structure) is built to symbolize the dwellings of the Hebrews during their 40-year nomadic sojourn in the wilderness.

From a secular humanistic point of view, agriculture was the beginning of human civilization and people’s mastery of the environment. Sukkot offers an opportunity in the fall for communities to come together, to recognize the interconnectedness of humanity, and to acknowledge responsibility for the environment.

We will put together and decorate a Sukka, learn more about Sukkot, share a potluck

It’s a Go! Holiday in New Mexico

Yes, the bus to Santa Fe will be leaving UUCT early on December 8 with a full load of passengers. This fun-filled, "magical mystery" tour will take us to see the holiday and cultural sights of New Mexico, Land of Enchantment.

Are you regretting missing out on this adventure? Then contact Julia Mehrer at perujourney@gainbroadbandcom or Carolyn Saunders at c_saunders1@msn.com to have is adding its support both for this congregational goal and financially with a UUCT leadership contribution of $200. This is does not cover all the expenses so our attendees are also contributing their own time and money. We have two members registered, Margi Magruder, and Carolyn Valdes, and one considering attending. Several others have offered to help with any programs we may undertake in the future. Congratulations to us and gratitude to those attending. Registration deadline extended to October 13.
your name added to our waiting list in case of any cancellations.

Gifts of Love Holiday Program

Thinking of the December holiday season yet? We are looking for a group of volunteers who are interested in coordinating the annual Adopt A Family holiday gift drive. This program is sponsored by Interfaith Community Services (ICS) to help make the holidays a little brighter for some of Tucson’s less fortunate. An organizational meeting will be held in October for those interested. Please contact Marsha Newcomb at marshanewcomb@gmail.com, UUCT Representative on the ICS Faith Council, if you would like to help.

Quote of the Month

Author Carlos Fuentes on Multiculturalism

“Recognize yourself in he and she who are not like you and me.”

lunch, and have a presentation by Tory Roberg, lobbyist for the Secular Coalition of Arizona whose goal is to maintain separation of church and state. She will give an update on the work on this issue during the past Arizona legislative session and upcoming separation of church and state issues.

Again, the date is October 7, 2017, from 11:30-2:30 here at UUCT. You may RSVP to Carolyn Saunders, c_saunders1@msn.com or 299-3854, no later than September 30. All are invited to attend. You may also sign up to attend at a table in Goddard on Sep. 17 and 24.
MVUU - UUCT Speaker Series

Literature of the Borderlands
Dr. Chuck Tatum
Sunday, November 5, 2:15 - 3:50 pm
at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
7570 N Thornydale Rd, Tucson (between Ina and Magee Roads)

For more than 150 years, the U.S.-Mexico borderlands have been the focus of numerous writers who have explored its diverse cultural, linguistic, demographic, and geopolitical dimensions. Dr. Tatum’s talk will broadly track the arc of this literature through the works of distinguished contemporary writers with an added focus on immigration. Dr. Charles Tatum, Emeritus Professor of Spanish at the University of Arizona, has written, taught, and lectured extensively on the topic.

This is the first in a series of talks this academic year combining the resources of the MVUU Social Justice and Immigration Team and UUCT’s Social Justice Council. Carpooling will be arranged from UUCT on 22nd Street to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, temporary home of Mountain Vista UU Church while their church is being built.

Contact Craig Rock at newsletter@uuctucson.org for carpooling.

Membership Committee Report
by Janet Williams

The Membership Committee welcomes ten new members to our church this month alone! We continue to polish our new orientation materials, which will be posted online and available in hard copy form. We've worked on these inviting and informative materials since the summer. Our premier First Sunday Chat for newcomers will be held in the Welcome Center on Sunday 1 October after church. We hope to see many newcomers there!

We have expanded our committee by two diligent team members, and we look to add eight more to help us to maintain and expand our success.

New Members, Top Row (LtoR): Lyn Bradley, Angela Wasson and Lee Miller; Second Row: John Dietzel, Bruce Johnson, and Cynthia Funckes; Third Row: Jacob Abram, Kat Nickola and Lola Guiterrez Brockington.
Social Justice Council Meeting
October 15, Noon, Servetus Room

From the Guardian Newspaper

Colin Kaepernick Has Won
He wanted a conversation and Trump started it.

The quarterback wanted kneeling in protest for the anthem to start a national talk about race and justice. Thanks to the president’s blast of rage, we have one.

The President, The Critic, The Wall

All Colin Kaepernick ever wanted was for his country to have a conversation about race.

This, he warned, would not be easy. Such talks are awkward and often end in a flurry of spittle, pointed fingers and bruised feelings. But from the moment the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback first spoke about his decision to kneel or sit during the national anthem, he said was willing to give up his career to make the nation talk.

In one speech on Friday night, Donald Trump gave Kaepernick exactly what he wanted. With a fiery blast at protesting NFL players that seemingly came from nowhere, the president bonded black and white football players with wealthy white owners in a way nobody could have imagined. By saying any player who didn’t stand for the anthem was a “son of...“(CLICK HERE TO READ MORE)
JOIN US

For a Forum on Nuclear Weapons in Dangerous Times
“Nuclear Weapons, War and the Environment”
Saturday, October 21 at 9:00 am until Noon
University of Arizona Student Union, North Ballroom

With keynote speaker: Dr. Ira Helfand, Co-Director of the
International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

Panel discussants: Jack Cohen-Ijiga (Nuclear Resister), Dr. Rick Graep
(PSR-AZ), Dr. Diana Liverman (U of AZ), Dr. Randy Frisse (AZ State Legislator),
Dr. David Spence (PSR, AZ), Sandra Maria Bernal (U of AZ), The Rev. Steve
Kepplinger (Grace St. Paul’s Church)

Admission is free, and to save a seat, we ask you to
register in advance at: psr.org/azforum

Organized by Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR), AZ Chapter

Co Sponsors:
- CodePink - Culture of Peace Alliance - Great Decisions of Tucson
- International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
- Nuclear Resister - PDA of Southern Arizona - PSR, National Storm Club, Raxen Group
- Sustainable Tucson - Tucson Peace Center - Tucson - Veterans for Peace
- Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom
- YWCA of Southern Arizona: Standing Together Arizona Training and Advocacy Center

Live streaming available for part of this program www.psr.org

UUJAZ ISSUES & ACTION DAY
October 14, 2017, 9am-4:30pm
UU Church of Surprise

Join UUs from around the state to gain insight and take action. The day will
include a panel of speakers offering updates on “the state of” UUJAZ’s five issue
areas, workshops on key issues, and the opportunity to connect with other UUs
active in social justice in Arizona.

Hear in-depth updates from expert
speakers and take advantage of
the question-and-answer time to
find out more about what you’re
most passionate about. Get a
sneak peek at what we might see
from the Arizona Legislature in
2018, connect with other UUs who
are interested in your focus issue
area, and dig deeper in issue
workshops. Featured speakers
include the Phoenix ACLU office
and the Phoenix Restoration
Project.

Lunch at Issues and Action Day will
be catered, with options available for
any dietary restrictions or preference. The UUJAZ Immigration Action Team will
be collecting items to support migrants released from immigration detention
at Issues and Action Day. Visit the website for list of donations requested.

For more information,
and to register, visit
UUJAZ.ORG/ACTIONDAY

Contact Sam Meyer for carpooling info,
sammeyer13@gmail.com