Rev. Bethany Russell-Lowe

When was the last time you said, “I’m sorry”? Not the “I’m sorry” when you bump into someone’s elbow when picking out apples at the grocery store. Also, not the “I’m sorry” when your ear didn’t quite hear what someone else said. When was the last time you apologized and really meant it?

- Did you say or do something hurtful? And then later recognized it and sought to repair the harm you caused.
- Did a friend tell you about how they had been hurt by another person? And you wanted them to know that that thing should not have happened to them.
- Did someone tell you that you had hurt them? And you acknowledged – yet again – your own humanness.

This month in worship, we will be talking about forgiveness practices. Forgiving ourselves, forgiving one another, and forgiving in community. This is the beginning of a season-long discussion of covenant, which I believe is a building block of Unitarian Universalist communities.

Rev. Victoria Safford writes, “A covenant is a living, breathing aspiration, made new every day. It can’t be enforced by consequences but it may be reinforced by forgiveness and by grace, when we stumble, when we forget, when we mess up.” Read the full article [here](#).

If staying in covenant feels like a punishment, we are not living into covenant in an authentic way. Covenant is about a promise to journey together, to stick with one another, and to be transformed by both the journeying and the togetherness.

Forgiveness is critical to a covenantal process. It is what brings us back to the table when we have run away after doing harm or being harmed. It is how we acknowledge the harm we have felt, and the hurt we have caused. It is the beginning of the conversation about restoring relationship.

A covenant is a living document because we are undeniably human. We create a covenant because we know we will break it. We re-create a covenant through the relational process that begins with seeking forgiveness.

As part of this conversation around covenant, I will be leading us through a process of re-writing UUCT’s covenant this fall, beginning in a workshop on Saturday, November 9th from 9 AM – 12 PM. If you are invested in the present and future of UUCT and are available, I’d love to see you there!

[Connect with Rev. Bethany at minister@uuctucson.org](mailto:office@uuctucson.org)!
**BEWARE!**

At least one UUCT member has received a SCAM email that is supposedly from Rev. Bethany asking for the member to buy a gift card for the homeless. *Rev. Bethany will never ask for money to directly help her or for a cause not sponsored by the church.* DO NOT ACT ON AN EMAIL/TEXT REQUEST FOR MONEY FROM REV. BETHANY OR OTHER CHURCH PERSON. You may forward the email to webmaster@uuctucson.org if you are in doubt about the authenticity of any email related to the church.

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**What is SMG?**

Starting in November
we will be starting new Small Group Ministry circles at UUCT.

A Small Group Ministry is a group of 8-10 people who meet at least monthly to have in depth discussion on topics of personal and spiritual importance. These groups will be facilitated by lay leaders and will meet at various times during the week. This year’s groups will meet from November 2019 through June 2020. We have room for up to 30 more people to participate. If you are interested, email Rev. Bethany here (minister@uuctucson.org) and let her know a few days/times when you could meet. (For example: Tuesday evenings or Sundays after church).

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**Save the Date!**

Covenant Workshop on November 9th from 9 AM – 12 PM

Mark your calendars! All members and friends of UUCT are encouraged to attend a workshop where we will begin to re-create our congregation’s covenant.

In this workshop, we will think together about what our congregation values, collect our individual and collective ideas, and then send a group off to wordsmith and later present a covenant which reflects our shared aspirations and agreements.

Childcare will be provided, contact Jamili if you will need childcare.

ALL are welcome and encouraged to attend!
Thank you to everyone who helped make our first 2nd Hour such an amazing success! We hosted 54 participants in 5 workshops. Wow!

We will offer 2nd Hour again October 13, 12:30 - 1:30 with a whole new set of workshops. In this year of experimentation, 2nd Hour is one way for people of all ages to learn, grow, and deepen in understanding, community, connection, and service.

If you have a skill, knowledge area, spiritual practice, or other gift, consider offering a workshop! Contact Jamili here to brainstorm ideas.

(Note: The photo above is a tangram chalice created by Tabytha, age 12, UUCT member.)

Board of Trustees - Brad Weeks

Two of the most important things your Board of Trustees do are to maintain transparency with the congregation and communicate important matters to the congregation.

There are many ways we do this, from announcements from the pulpit or on the order of service to posting minutes from Board meetings and portfolio reports, which are available for all members to view.

Another method of communication the board has are the Town Halls the Board has held some Sundays after services. In the past, these Town Halls (which were previously called Calls to the Congregation) have been open forums to provide general information and allow congregants to ask questions of their Board.

Moving forward, the Board will be holding Town Halls once per quarter, and they will be focused on one subject of importance to UUCT. This way, we can provide a way for you to get more in-depth information about something important to the congregation and give the opportunity for input about that subject. There will still be the time to ask general questions you may have, but our hope is that more folks will come learn about the Board’s priorities and stay involved in important initiatives.

The next Town Hall is scheduled for November 17th, and the topic will be the Healthy Congregation Team, which is a team of folks who will help guide any congregants who may need help negotiating any conflict they may feel within UUCT.

Please come to the Town Hall on Sunday November 17 to learn more about this important initiative, and the Healthy Congregations workshop the Board will be hosting this year. The Healthy Congregations Workshop will be a great opportunity for us all to strengthen our commitment to live together in right relations.

BOT@uuctucson.org or President@uuctucson.org.
Mental Health First Aid Class - October 1 Registration Deadline!
Samantha Meyer

Learn how to give 'first aid' to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis and/or who are in the early stages of a mental health disorder. This training provides information on identifying the signs and symptoms of mental health disorders/crises in adults, as well as risk factors and protective factors for this population.

The 5-step Mental Health First Aid action plan is explored and applied to mental health disorders and crisis situations through the use of discussions, case examples and videos. This action plan includes approach skills, effective communication of concern and support, and connecting families to professional and community resources.

ICS will be facilitating this 8-hour class for FREE to UUCT on October 5 from 8am-5pm. Sam will be providing lunch of sandwiches, salad, fruit and a cookie for $5 (bring lunch money the day of). Space is limited to 30 people so you MUST register by emailing sammeyer13@gmail.com.

This class is highly recommended for church staff, ushers and greeters, care team, and RE mentors.

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Welcoming and Membership Team Report - Beth Britton

The Welcoming and Membership Team hosted a three-hour orientation and breakfast for new members on September 7. Thirty-two newcomers attended this event, with seven people joining.

Please welcome Joan Feldman, Susan Hansen, Dennis McRitchie, Joan Conccannon, Cathy Dinsmore, Glen Eychaner and Adele Shakal.

Welcome three others who joined the church on Sunday September 18. They are Jeri Aldridge, Teresa Spineli and Gail M. Dunn.

We thank Team Members who work each week to welcome newcomers and who planned the successful orientation last month, especially MaryHolly Allison, facilitator, Alma Byrd, registration and Margo Newhouse for breakfast preparation.

The Welcoming and Membership Team thank all newcomers, staff and presenters for their contribution as well.

The Welcoming and Membership Team continues to post new members' photos and biographies in the foyer of the church. If you are a long standing member, remember to use 'Radical Hospitality' principles to welcome new member and guests to UUCT.
The town we know as Juan Mata Ortiz was originally established as “Pearson” during the Porfirio Díaz presidency in the late 19th century. After the Ferrocarril Noroeste de México (Mexico Northwestern Railway Company), a British-owned corporation opened a line from the town to El Paso, the community’s economy was based on agriculture, timber and cattle. A sawmill opened, attracting workers from many Mexican areas looking for jobs. After the Mexican Revolution of 1910-1920 the town’s name was changed to honor Juan Mata Ortiz, a local hero who fought against the Apaches in the 19th century. Rail work ended in the 1960s when the repair yard was relocated to Nuevo Casas Grandes, and the sawmill ceased to function, leading to the town’s decline, which continued until the 1980's. Workers who had relocated to Mata Ortiz were now unemployed and earned a scarcely livable wage by working in the orchards of the Mormon community nearby or gathering firewood for sale.

There were no restaurants, no banks, no supermarkets, no hotels. With the exception of a few humble bed and breakfasts, the community remains the same today. Gasoline is sold by the “measure” using a metal pitcher as the measuring instrument.

There was a young man named Juan Quezada who fed his family by gathering wood from the nearby mountains. He had an “idée fixe” of trying to create pottery in the style of the ancient “Casas Grandes” culture as was seen in the nearby archeological ruins of Paquimé. He found a source of clay in the nearby hills, and began an attempt at creating low-fired pottery. He would put the semi-finished pot on top of dried, burning cattle dung and invert a metal pail over it to serve as an oven. The rest of the story is legend. He was successful and shared his knowledge with not only his own family, but all the other unemployed citizens of the community, who began making decorative pots from the three colors of clay found in the hills. The pots kept getting more and more elaborate and highly decorated, not only in the “Casas Grandes” designs, but also whatever the imagination of the potters brought forth. Juan Mata Ortiz became a successful village of over 400 potters in the population of 2000. Pottery allowed the residents to provide things like electricity, plumbing, vehicles and more to families. The movement to create the pottery has included women as well as men since its beginning, and today women of all talent and expertise levels are found in the town.

However, when violence erupted along the Mexico/southern US border, the US government issued a travel warning. Suddenly nearly every wage-earner in the community was out of work and searching for a way to feed his family. Some went back to the Mormon orchards, some began gathering firewood again, and some moved to another place with more employment.

Some of the potters’ struggle on. These are the families who make the pots that Ana Trillo and Julio Mora along with other families bring to UUCT to sell. At one point it was decided by UUCT that our aiding these families in the sale was “Economic Justice” and we would not charge them a commission to aid their community in this way. Nevertheless, each of the two families who transport the pottery donates a hand-thrown pot to the church, which we normally sell at our auction for the benefit of the church.

I was introduced to Ana Trillo by Spencer McCallum, who is largely responsible for the success in the village, as a way of supporting destitute families. We have been having one sale a year of their pottery since about 2007. Our next sale is December 8, 2019. Please alert anyone you know who might want to see a demonstration of how the pots are made and painted.
Speaking of Finances - JD Garcia  
VP of Finance

Combining July and August, UUCT had net operating revenue of $140,425, compared to the budgeted amount of $114,216. We also had total expenses for that period of $144,376. Some ($10,416) of the increased revenue, and expense, is due to increased hiring by our No More Deaths Ministry.

The rest is expenditures, like supply purchases and payroll timing, which should average out to the budgeted amount over the year. Pledge income for the two months was $43,461, a bit ahead of the budgeted $42,736.

During September, we have experienced some extra-ordinary electricity and water usages. We believe we have budgeted for such contingencies.

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Social Justice Corner - Rex Graham

October 6: The Social Justice Council will have several guest speakers at its 12:15 pm meeting who will talk about prison/detainee outreach and support efforts at local detention facilities and prisons.

· Elizabeth Smith, Development & Communications Coordinator with Casa Mariposa Visitation Program, a program that provides support, friendship and encouragement to immigrants in detention in hopes of breaking the cycle of isolation.

· State Rep. Pamela Powers-Hannley, a UUCT member and member of the House's Health and Human Services and other committee, and a guest from the America Friends Service Committee, a Quaker group that advocates for policy change to reduce the size and scope of the criminal punishment system.

October 20: 11:45 am to 12:45 pm, in Goddard Hall will be “Opportunity Sunday.” About 20 non-profits, including UUCT’s 12 Share the Plate recipients, will host informational and volunteer-signup tables. For more information contact: Joan Feldman or Judy Jessing at jefeldman@earthlink.net or jessing77@gmail.com.

October 26: 9 am to 5 pm, is Issues and Action Day (IAD) sponsored by the UU Justice Arizona Network (UUJAZ). The workshop will be at the Surprise (AZ) UU Church. CLICK HERE to register.

Contact Margi Magruder about carpooling - 4mstern6@gmail.com. There is a $50 participation fee, which includes lunch and snacks. Scholarships are available: contact Rev. Bethany
October Worship Schedule - Bob Gordon

Oct. 6  Rev. Bethany, WA Betsy McMillan "We Forgive Ourselves"
How we know when we have caused harm, and what is the first step in seeking forgiveness.

Oct. 13 Rev. Bethany WA Gary Luce "We Forgive Each Other" We lean into the Jewish practice of seeking forgiveness as a way to understand our own forgiveness practices. Inter-generational

Oct. 20 Rev. Bethany WA Carrie Cooper "We Begin Again in Love"

Oct. 27 Guest

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UUCT Care Team

Need a 'virtual' Hug?
Do you know someone who is ill, alone or would like a visit or call?

Contact Aston Bloom at: abloom46@aol.com

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Sunday Morning Discussion Group

Join us for Conversation Among Friends, 9 a.m. every Sunday in the Servetus Room, UUCT Campus. Ronna James, facilitator. All adults welcome.
For more information call
Gilbert Moore 520-790-7568 or email gmoore579@aol.com.

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It's not too early... YARD SALE!
Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3, 2019

Are you cleaning out your closets yet?

Now is the time to start thinking about donating for our 10th annual yard sale. We will be accepting donations in the north-east corner of Goddard Hall.

Also consider volunteering for setting up for the yard sale on October 31st and November 1 and/or cleaning up on Sunday, November 4.

Questions? Contact: Margi Magruder:
4mstern6@gmail.com
Open Mic - All Are Welcome!

Are you a musician, poet, storyteller, magician, dancer or other kind of entertainer? No? Well, do you enjoy live entertainment? Join us on the fourth Sunday of each month in Holland Sanctuary for Open Mic

The next one is Sunday, September 22, at 12:00. All are welcome to play, sing, dance - whatever you do, along with anyone who loves live entertainment.

We will have a drumming circle at this same time at the monthly open mic. If you have a drum, please bring it. Otherwise, we will have some other percussion instruments to play.

Contact Bo or Sandy Ongley for details.

sandyongley@hotmail.com

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SAZCUUPS - EJ Millstone

SAZCUUPS

EJ Millstone

The Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) exists in part to promote the practice and understanding of Pagan and Earth-centered Spirituality within the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and to enable networking among Pagan-identified Unitarian Universalists. The Southern Arizona Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (SAZCUUPS) connects people in the Tucson region, including the "Baja 4" UU congregations in this area. Chapter meetings and worship services are open to all people.

Childcare available upon request; email Jamili at DRE.uuct@gmail.com.

Email sazcuups@uuctucson.org. All traditions are welcome!

Southern Arizona CUUPS: A Chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans
Mail: Southern Arizona CUUPS c/o UUCT, 4831 E. 22nd Street, Tucson, AZ 85711
Web: http://uuctucson.org/worship/sazcuups.html | Email: sazcuups@uuctucson.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SAZCUUPS/ (FB messages can be sent to m.me/SAZCUUPS)
Chat group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/190164578242015

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LGBTQIA Group

PRIDE MARCH RECAP and THANKS

WOW - What a turnout! Many thanks to ALL who marched, sat at the booth, ran errands, picked up supplies, took photos... It takes a village and UUCT folks made it happen.

Our monthly meetings are the second Sunday from 12 - 1pm. Watch for changes in the weekly Announcements. All are welcome! Pronoun stickers available at Welcome Table in Holland. For info contact Eve: eh.wordsmith@gmail.com
CHARLIE KING’s Annual Concert - Saturday, October 19

It’s his 40th!

On October 19 Charlie and Friends (YOU included) will be raising awareness and money for the Peoples Defense Initiative [PDI] sponsoring Prop 205 making Tucson a SANCTUARY CITY and help keep Tucson Families Free and Together. For years the evenings have been paid for by ITZABOUTIME so they can be presented for free. They rely on their success from free will donations and $1.00 raffle ticket buyers. The house has never failed to be packed. And every cent spent that night goes directly to PDI!

Maria Garcia, La Indita herself, shall provide a free vegan Mexican meal at 6 pm and the music starts at 7 pm. There will be plenty of cool raffle prizes to whet your appetite for winning also.

This is a community building endeavor. Come join friends and neighbors for good food and music provided by “one of the finest singers and songwriters of our time” according to Pete Seeger. And he should know!

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Calling All Creative People! - Margot Garcia - DATE CHANGE

We have scheduled a Craft Fair on November 23 and 24 at the church. We invite all of you interested in selling things you have made to participate. We hope there will be quilts and other fabric items, jewelry of all kinds, photographs, watercolors, paintings, collages, and cards. Sculptures are also welcome. Christmas ornaments are great sellers. People of all ages are welcome to participate, so get your children to make some potholders, or bracelets, or hair decorations to bring and sell. Painted rocks are fun too.

So use these hot summer months to get your creative juices flowing and get to work. How about some garden stepping stones made from mosaic of stones and shells cast in concrete? Weavers can create everything from placemats to shawls. Okay knitters, bring some of your creations too.

Poets, how about some little books of poetry? Or a short story or two. Maybe there is a graphic novelist amongst us who would like to try out some stories. Today’s computers make it so easy.

Watch this space for more detail as we get closer to the event. This is just to get your started building an inventory ready to sell. As usual, 25% of total sales will go to the church. Let’s get started!

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Tucson UU Younger Adults (TUUYA) Meet Ups

Do you identify as a young adult (generations X, Y, or Z)? Would you like to meet up with other UU young adults? TUUYA regularly hosts events and meet ups. To stay in the loop make sure that Janice (janicesignin@gmail.com) or Jamili (dre.uuct@gmail.com) has your email or join us on Facebook: by searching Tucson UU Younger Adults (TUUYA).
There is POWER in those Flowers!

If you have been touched by or enjoyed the flowers on the dais each Sunday, consider being the hero and donating the next bouquet.

Arrangements can be as simple as flowers from your garden or the supermarket; in a church vase or a professional arrangement.

To volunteer for one or more Sundays please contact

Nancy at: cottagegardens2911@gmail.com or call her at 301.802.4683

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Support the
Ronald McDonald House!
Carolyn Valdes

Last chance to bring your pull-tabs in zip-lock bags before we take the collection to the Ronald McDonald House. Please put them in the jar in the window in the foyer of Holland.

In the "Last But Not Least" Column...

Fall Volunteer Camp at Camp de Benneville Pines

Monday, October 14 to Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Every year, volunteers come up the mountain to help spiff up camp. And every year, everyone has a great time working together to keep Camp de Benneville Pines in good repair. Interested?