



# UUNews



## September 2011 Sunday Services

<p><b>Sunday September 4 11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>UUFCO Lay Leader Chandra Smith: “Native Beliefs &amp; Teachings”:</b> In our “Sources of Wisdom Summer Service Series,” this concluding service of the series connects to our Unitarian Universalist Source of “Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.” Chandra will share with us from her wealth of life experience with Native Beliefs and sacred practices.</p>
<p><b>Sunday September 11 11:00 am</b></p> <p><b>September 11 5:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Heather Starr: “Ten Years of Responding in Body and Spirit”:</b> Where were you on September 11, 2001? How did the events of that day affect you and your family, community, and ensuing choices? How do all of us strengthen our spirits and remain grounded in tumultuous times?</p> <p><b>Interfaith Service of Remembrance at First Presbyterian Church, 230 NE Ninth St., Bend:</b> This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event which has left an indelible mark on American history and the history of the world: the terrorist airplane hijackings and the resultant deaths of thousands of human lives. All are invited to mark this poignant anniversary with a renewed commitment to peace, sharing together with representatives from a variety of faith traditions and justice organizations in Central Oregon.</p>
<p><b>Sunday September 18 11:00 am</b></p> <p><b>September 18 1:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday, September 18, 11:00am: Rev. Heather Starr: “Blue Boat Home”:</b> Together, we “drift along with our ship’s companions / casting questions into the deep...” Together, we create a community that uplifts and sustains us, that literally “keeps us afloat” during difficult times. All are welcome to join in this Special Annual Service when we share notes of our summer activities through our Ingathering Ritual of Water Communion, and return again to our ever-evolving spiritual home.</p> <p><b>Discussion Sunday with Tom Wykes: “Ecclesiastes”:</b> “Utterly senseless,” says the Teacher. “Utterly senseless, everything is senseless.” And so begins the book of Ecclesiastes, as the old Teacher reflects back on his life. Cynical, pragmatic: you be the judge as we explore some of the themes of this most Greek and atypical of books of the Bible.</p>
<p><b>Sunday September 25 11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Susan Maginn: “Everyday Blessings”:</b> With laundry to fold, tantrums to sooth, recipes to prepare, lists to fulfill for school, home, and work, we are what some spiritual traditions call “householders.” As householders, how do our domestic duties hold us back from realizing a spiritual life? How does our home life, with all its challenges and frustrations, help us to realize the fullest express of our spiritual being?</p> <p><i>Rev. Susan Maginn is a stay-at-home mother of two children. She happily served Portland’s Wy’ east UU Congregation for three years, but has stepped away from professional life to give her undivided attention to her family.</i></p> <p><i>This month’s <u>Greater Community Collection</u> recipient is the annual <b>Central Oregon Interfaith CROP Walk.</b></i></p>

# UUFCCO v September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Service 11:00a	5 Red Tent Gathering 4:30p	6 Choir 5:45p Mah Jongg 12:20p Social Justice Committee 1:15p	7 OOS Deadline	8 RE Teacher Training 6:30p	9	10 RE Teacher Training 12:00p
11 Service 11:00a Interfaith Service 5:00p	12	13 Choir 5:45p Social Justice History 7:00p	14 OOS Deadline "This I Believe" 4:00p Board Mtg 6:00p	15	16 Circle Supper 6:00p	17 Card Night 6:30p
18 Ingathering 11:00a Discussion 1:00p Family Fiesta Potluck 4:30	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 Comm/ Outreach 5:30p Choir 5:45p SJ History 7:00p	21 OOS Deadline	22 Bethlehem Inn Dinner 5:15p	23 Hike	24
25 Service 11:00 Soc. Responsible Investing 12:30p CROP Walk 1:30p	26 Book Club 3:00p	27 Choir 5:45p Mah Jongg 12:20p Social Justice History 7:00p	28 OOS Deadline	29 Path/Membership 6:00p	30 Worship Committee 1:00p	



## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Greetings,

Writing a quick note as UUFCA Board President for the September Newsletter reminds me of writing the welcome back note to the students and staff at the community college. There is both sadness for the upcoming end of summer but also excitement for the coming new year. This September I'm feeling very appreciative. First, summer came after all, and what a beautiful one it has been. This summer we can all be appreciative for the work of our lay leaders who developed and delivered the fantastic "Sources of Wisdom Summer" program.

As I have attended the summer worship services, I have also come to appreciate how much the Unitarian Universalists in our congregation rise to the call for volunteers, serving many capacities both in the church as well as in the greater community. I'm personally thankful for the contributions of our volunteer UUFCA Board members, both new and old, who have already met three times this summer to prepare for the coming year. This church has historically been built on a base of volunteerism. We need to continue to grow this foundation of volunteering throughout the upcoming year and into the future. We will be sending out a call for committee members this fall. Please consider helping out where you can. Each Sunday we could also use some help staffing the service. Please contact Gretchen Grivel if you can help one Sunday- [uufca\\_admin.asst@yahoo.com](mailto:uufca_admin.asst@yahoo.com).

Thanks,

**Bob Barber, UUFCA Board President**

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## **EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**For those of you who plan ahead, make sure you mark these dates in your calendar:**

- ✓ **October 22:** Annual UUFCA Auction! Mark your calendars and begin thinking about what you'd like to offer in our annual fun and festive fundraiser.
- ✓ **January 28, 2012:** Annual UUFCA Talent Show! If you were at this event last year, you know that it is absolutely not-to-be-missed. What hidden talents do you want to prepare and share for our community in the midst of Central Oregon's long winter?
- ✓ **June 19 - 24, 2012:** Justice General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona. All year our Social Justice and Adult Religious Education Committees will be looking ahead and planning for a first-ever national "Justice GA" in Phoenix. Are you able to join us for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to Stand on the Side of Love with thousands of other Unitarian Universalists? Please let Ellen Mercer or Rev. Heather Starr know if you would like to be a part of the UUFCA contingent to Phoenix in June.

## CIRCULATING LIBRARY OPENS

The UUFCA Library is finally open in the Cottage! The Cottage is open after Sunday services or during scheduled UUFCA meetings held in the Cottage (see calendar on p. 2 for dates and times), and during office hours of Chela, Administrator, or Bev, Bookkeeper. **Materials can be checked out for one month.** If no one else has requested the materials, they can be renewed for an additional month.

Check out and return procedures are simple:

- (1) Each item has an attached card pocket with an index card inside. Fill out the requested information on the card: your name, phone number, and date you checked the item out.
- (2) Put the completed card inside the black plastic file box.
- (3) Return items to the basket on the floor near the bookshelf labeled "Returned Library Materials."



Our bookshelf still has some space available, but it will soon be filled as more materials are processed. If you have a bookshelf to donate, please contact Becky Boyer (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com or our administrator, Chela Sloper. Like to suggest a title to add to the library? A clipboard will be available near the bookshelf for that purpose.

## THE RED TENT TEMPLE OF CENTRAL OREGON

The Red Tent Temple will be meeting again on **Monday, September 5**. This will be a special outdoor gathering held **at the home of Beki Allen** which will include a tent and fire circle. Our Wisdom Circle for September will include a lesson in Ancient indigenous wisdom. We will learn the basics of smudging, a simple but intimate ritual about cleansing, reassembling, and preparing yourself. Experience several herbs and tools used for this ceremony with a member of the *Four Winds Foundation*, a local non-profit dedicated to preserving the indigenous lifeways.



**Open House** is 4:30 to 6:00pm and **Wisdom Circle** is 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Feel free to bring a snack to share. RSVP to Beki for location: uufco @ yahoo.com.

## BETHLEHEM INN DINNERS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

We serve dinners on the fourth Thursday of each month January through October, and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of November and December. We bring a full healthful dinner as well as the ambience, taste, and aroma of home cooking to the Inn's residents -- men, women, and families experiencing homelessness. The preparation, delivery and serving of UUFCA's meals require the volunteer efforts of 15 to 19 UU volunteers per month.

In the fall and winter months, rising populations at the Bethlehem Inn require the help of more volunteers to be food preparers and servers to make each of these special "home-cooked" meals possible for The Inn's residents. We (Leslie and Tom) are ready to train you and support you at each step of this inspiring volunteer process from providing you recipes to subsidizing your food purchases. Also, some UUFCA members have created a fund to reimburse your receipted purchases of supplies like aluminum trays and/or meal ingredients.

Please contact Leslie Koc or Tom O'Brien at uufco @ yahoo.com to volunteer, get recipes, and more detailed information. Call our home (541-385-3908) if you have any questions.

## CHALICE LIGHTERS



Exciting things are happening among Unitarian Universalists these days:

- **Westside UU Congregation in Seattle** has grown to 173 members over the last three years, and has a church building of their own, because they were able to increase professional staffing at a critical time.
- **Quimper UU Fellowship** uses their new commercial kitchen and sound system to host all kinds of community meetings in their new church in **Port Townsend, WA**.
- **Atkinson Memorial Church in Oregon City** is welcoming new and old parishioners who can now get to the sanctuary and the new RE classrooms using the newly installed elevator.
- Remote fellowships in **Alaska** are benefitting from advice and assistance from consultants and ministers whose travel costs are more affordable to the congregations.

These congregations, and numerous others over the past 22 years, were able to broaden and strengthen themselves because of grants made possible by UUs throughout the Pacific Northwest District. The money for these grants comes from more than 2400 **Chalice Lighters** -- UUs who agree to contribute \$15 or more to **three requests per year**.

If finding a UU congregation has been a powerful experience in your life, **consider helping congregations** throughout Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington offer the same opportunity to people in their communities. **Chalice Lighters**, by providing the money for grants, support projects designed to help a congregation grow or respond to growth.

All you have to do is enroll online at any time by going to [www.pnwd.org](http://www.pnwd.org), or in person on any Sunday during social hour, and you will receive three requests (one in fall, one in winter and one in spring) to make a tax-deductible gift of \$15 or more to a congregation that has been screened by the Chalice Lighter team. You can get more information about the Chalice Lighter program on the Pacific Northwest District's website, [www.pnwd.org](http://www.pnwd.org), or through our Fellowship's Chalice Lighter Ambassador, **Amy Falkenrath**, uufco @ yahoo.com .

By the way, by becoming a Chalice Lighter, you are not only helping your neighboring UU congregations, you may help us qualify for a grant of our own.

## SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING PRESENTATION, SEPTEMBER 25

Owen Mitz, Helen Seidler and the Social Justice Committee have teamed up to provide UUFCA members and friends with a unique opportunity to learn how to use our money to support the values embodied in our seven principles.

WHAT: a presentation on "How to Harness the Power of Socially Responsible Investing"

WHO: two seasoned professionals from the Progressive Asset Management Group

WHEN: Sunday, September 25 from 12:30-1:30pm following the service

A light lunch will be provided. **Please RSVP** to uufco @ yahoo.com **by September 20** if you plan to attend. We need your response to ensure that we have enough food. The invitation to attend this event will also be extended to other congregations in the area. **Childcare will be provided!**

And for those intending to participate in the CROP walk the same afternoon, there is time to enjoy lunch, attend most of the talk and still be at Drake Park by 1:30pm for the beginning of the walk. What a great opportunity to "walk the talk!"

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TALK AND THE PRESENTERS:

Most of us have heard the term Socially Responsible Investing, but have heard it described as investment that is separate and distinct from traditional investment for financial return. This presentation debunks the myths that have evolved around SRI, examines how to incorporate your values into your investment plan, and how doing so can further your financial goals and build a better world. We'll show how SRI is a largely untapped power source for social change, and we'll show how SRI can address the risks and potential rewards of investment portfolios to better meet your personal financial objectives. The work of the United Nations Global Compact, the Progressive Asset Management Group and the UUA's own SRI program will be discussed. Finally, we'll show you how your family, your business and your church can get started harnessing this power.

**Richard Torgerson** is an independent financial advisor and portfolio manager with 26 years experience. Currently serving as Director of Social Research for Progressive Asset Management, Inc. (PAM), Richard manages PAM's social research and analysis, portfolio screening services and shareholder advocacy programs. In addition, he has served as Socially Responsible Investing consultant to the national Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations since 2006.

**Aline Autenrieth** is a financial advisor with the Progressive Asset Management Group, combining social activism with financial expertise since 1987. Aline has served on the Nobel Peace Prize Committee of the American Friends Service Committee and as Treasurer of Life Pathways, Inc., Aline assists clients in preparing for their financial future from her office in Salem, Oregon.

Both Richard and Aline are Registered Representatives and Advisors of Financial West Group, member FINRA, SIPC. The Progressive Asset Management Group is the SRI division of Financial West Group.

## **BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF CENTRAL OREGON**

*Our next New Member Ceremony* will take place during the Sunday service on **November 6, 2011**. The next Path to Membership series of classes will be on Thursday evenings starting this month. September 29, October 6, and October 13, from 6-7:30pm in the Cottage. Please RSVP to Rev. Heather at [heathermstarr@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermstarr@yahoo.com). All are welcome to enjoy this class regardless of where you're at in your consideration of membership.

Becoming a member of UUFCO involves:

- Attending a Path to Membership class series, a Newcomer Orientation, or scheduling an individual conversation with our minister, Rev. Heather Starr ([heathermstarr@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermstarr@yahoo.com) / 541-390-6052),
- Investigating in what ways you will engage in an ongoing spiritual practice,
- Making an annual monetary contribution (and/or pledge) of any amount to the Fellowship with your name clearly attributed,
- Signing our membership book, and
- Considering the ways that you can be involved in the ongoing energetic creation of our congregational community.

We welcome you into membership and into more meaningful engagement with this community at the point when you feel ready to join. Please contact Rev. Heather if membership is something you'd like to explore.

Please join me in welcoming new Membership/Fellowship Committee Co-Chairs **Helen Seidler** and **Jerrie Jones!** You will be noticing the thoughtful involvement of Helen and Jerrie in the months to come—please thank them for taking on the leadership of what is now being called **Fellowship Committee** and let them know of what thoughts, questions, and ideas regarding membership at UUFCO.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS



## CARING COMMITTEE

**Co-chairs:** Dale Clark, 541-385-3908, uufco @ yahoo.com  
Marean Jordan, 541-385-3908, uufco @ yahoo.com

**Caring Committee Resources:** The Caring Committee maintains a supply of medical equipment donated to UUFÇO (walkers, crutches, a wheelchair, etc.) that can be borrowed by those who could use these items on a temporary basis. This service is managed by Care Team member **Jane Mitchell**. Our thanks to Jane for her expertise and care of our community members who need these resources.

**Web Link to Caring Committee Resources:** You can access some of our key resources on-line by going to the Member's Section of the UUFÇO web site ([www.uufco.org](http://www.uufco.org)). The *Meals and Emergency Food Supplies for Hungry People* has recently been updated. Other resources include the *UUFÇO Nursing and Recovery Care Resource List*, the *UUFÇO Member Emergency Contact Form*, and the *Caring Committee Outreach Form*. If you can't get into the Member's Section, contact Chela ([uufco@yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com)) to request your password.

**Mid-July through mid-August 2011 Activities of the Care Team:** During this month, Care Team members generously volunteered 13 times to place calls and send cards. In addition, Care Team members and friends made 16 visits to people in our community. These involved making friendly visits, doing errands, providing transportation, helping with packing, and dropping off medical equipment. Thanks to all the Care Team members and other members and friends of UUFÇO who provide support to our community.

**Caring Committee Retreat on October 1:** The Care and Resource Teams of the Caring Committee will gather for a fall retreat at Dale Clark's home on October 1. During this time we will get to know one another better, share our vision for the Caring Committee's work, explore new resources, and nurture ourselves by walking and meditating in a beautiful fall landscape. Dale and Marean will be sending out more information to all team members in the next week, but please put the date on your calendar. If you have an interest in being part of the Care or Resource Team and want to learn more about the work we do, please consider joining us for the retreat. You can contact Marean or Dale for more information.

Summer means coming-and-going for many of us, and at the same time, life goes on, with all its up's and down's. Reach out to one another—with a phone call, a card, an invitation to coffee, lunch or a walk.

Thanks to **Marean Jordan** and **Dale Clark** for co-chairing the Caring Committee. Thanks to each of you for sharing what's going on in your life and the lives of those you love, and to all of you for reaching out to care for and connect with one another. You can contact your Caring Committee Co-Chairs if you need the support of either our Care or Resource Teams—we are here, as our weekly Covenant states, in order to love and “to help one another.”

## GOOD TIMES ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER

*A schedule of these activities can be found on the UUFÇO website calendar. It is requested that you RSVP to the leader for an event with a specific date.*

**Walking Group:** Shera Hunn Felde will lead casual walks every Tuesday and Thursday mornings from **9:00 – 10:30 am**. If interested in joining the group or make suggestions for places to walk, please contact Shera (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com ). Please RSVP by the day before the scheduled walk.

**Circle Suppers:** Come and join in the fun at a Circle Supper this Fall. Circle Suppers are small dinners hosted in a member's home so that folks have a chance to visit and connect with members or friends of UUFco. Invite your friends or a recent visitor to attend the same supper with you and you'll have a chance to chat all evening!

It's easy to be a guest and bring a potluck dish to share, and fun & easy to host since the guests bring the food!! The next Circle Supper will be on **Saturday, October 8**. Sign up sheets will be on the entry table through September 25. **Plan ahead for the next Circle Supper dates in Fall: Friday, November 11, and Saturday, December 10**. If you have questions or would like to sign up to be a host please contact Jerrie Jones (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com ).

**Book Club (II):** The group will meet at Jackson's Corner on **Monday, September 26**, from **3:00-4:30 pm**. The September book is *Homestead* by Annick Smith. If interested in joining this group, or for further information, please contact Shera Hunn Felde (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com ).

**"This I Believe" Writing Group** will begin **September 14 at 4:00 pm**. Dates and times for future meetings will be chosen at the first group meeting. Please email Shera Hunn Felde at uufco @ yahoo.com beforehand so she can determine whether there is enough interest in forming a group. ~ More information about *This I Believe* can be found at the website <http://thisibelieve.org/>.

**Hiking:** Toni Morris will lead a hike **Friday, September 23**. The place and time are to be determined. Please contact Toni by Thursday, September 22 to confirm your participation (541-385-3908).

**Mah Jongg:** Toni Morris will teach and lead the Mah Jongg class on **Tuesdays, September 6 and 27**, at her house, from **12:20 pm** to 4:00 pm. (*Notice the change of start time!*) Call Toni by the day before to confirm (541-385-3908). She will email directions to the house when she hears from you.

**Card Players:** Jim & Becky Dobrowski are hosting July's card playing event on Saturday, **September 17**, 6:30 pm at their home. All skill levels are welcome and a variety of games are offered. Please e-mail or call Jim or Becky for address and directions, or if you have questions (uufco @ yahoo.com / 541-385-3908).

*GOOD TIMES ACTIVITY COORDINATOR* ~ is being sought to continue to provide information to the Fellowship about various activities. If interested, please contact Larry Baker (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com ). We also need volunteers to step forward to lead interest groups: hiking, canoe/kayaking, bird watching, and RV/camping outings. Until a new Good Times Activity Coordinator steps forward, please submit your event information to Becky Boyer, editor, for inclusion in next month's newsletter (uufco @ yahoo.com ), and to Gretchen Grivel, Administrative Assistant for inclusion in the weekly Order of Service ([uufco\\_admn.asst@yahoo.com](mailto:uufco_admn.asst@yahoo.com)).



## **SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**Co-chairs:** Alice Elshoff (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com )

**Bill Morris** (541-385-3908 / uufco @ yahoo.com )

**Greater Community Collection:** This year's CROP Walk (Community Responding to Poverty) will be held in Bend at Drake Park on Sunday, **September 25 at 1:15 pm**. This is a fun way for walkers from a variety of denominations and spiritual communities to solicit pledges to raise money to reduce poverty in America and abroad. Please save the date and walk with us to fight poverty and hunger. For details and materials, contact **Dick Pond** (uufco @ yahoo.com ) or **Ayla Halberstadt** (uufco @ yahoo.com ).

**Socially Responsible Investing - Talk & Discussion:** After the service on **September 25**, the Social Justice Committee is co-sponsoring , along with Helen Seidler and Owen Mitz, an informative talk on socially responsible investing. This is a wonderful chance to learn how to put our money where our values are...without sacrificing return on investment! It should be possible for those interested in both the CROP

Walk and the Socially Responsible Investing Talk to attend the beginning of the talk and then at 1:00pm hustle over to Drake Park for the CROP walk. See the Order of Service for details on the speakers.

The next SJC meeting will be on Tuesday, **September 6** at **1:15 pm** at the Cottage. *New people are always welcome at our meetings.*

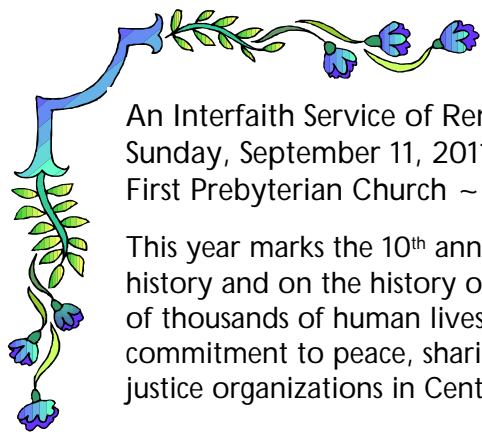
## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Attention! 2011-2012 worship services are now being planned and scheduled.

- Do you know someone in Central Oregon who you think would make a great guest speaker?
- Do you have an idea for a worship service you think others would enjoy?
- Would you like to Host or help with worship in the future?
- Is there a particular topic you'd like to speak about from your own experience?
- Is there a particular theme or issue that you'd like see UUFCA address or explore?
- Would you like to be involved in scheduling, hosting, or creating worship services?

If you answered "yes!" to any of these questions, or if you want to support and strengthen our UUFCA Sunday services, please let Rev. Heather know. We want to hear from you to make sure that services are relevant to your spiritual needs, your inquisitive minds, and your open hearts. In particular if there is a service topic that you would like to lead, please let Rev. Heather know ([heathermstarr@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermstarr@yahoo.com)). Worship Committee Members include Virlene Arnold, Grace Kennedy, Debby Lynn, Nancy Stevens, Marean Jordan, and Bob Barber.

Our next Worship Committee meeting is Friday, September 30 at 1:00 pm in the Cottage. *All are welcome.*



An Interfaith Service of Remembrance and Renewal  
 Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 5:00pm  
 First Presbyterian Church ~ 230 NE Ninth Street, Bend

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event which has left an indelible mark on American history and on the history of the world: the terrorist airplane hijackings and the resultant deaths of thousands of human lives. All are invited to mark this poignant anniversary with a renewed commitment to peace, sharing together with representatives from a variety of faith traditions and justice organizations in Central Oregon.



## DISCUSSION GROUP

On Sunday, **September 18**, in addition to a morning service led by Rev. Heather, UUFCA will have its monthly **Discussion at 1:00 pm** in the Old Stone sanctuary. Articles will be distributed by email about 2 weeks in advance of the September 18 date via Tom Wykes' list. If you are not already on the Discussion Group email list, please contact Tom Wykes at [wykes@bendcable.com](mailto:wykes@bendcable.com).

### Discussion Sunday with Tom Wykes: "Ecclesiastes"

"Utterly senseless," says the Teacher. "Utterly senseless, everything is senseless." And so begins the book of Ecclesiastes, as the old Teacher reflects back on his life. Cynical, pragmatic: you be the judge as we explore some of the themes of this most Greek and atypical of books of the Bible.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Rebecca Fender, Director (uufco @ yahoo.com / 541-385-3908)

Dear Members and Friends of UUFÇO ~

We're waiting for YOU! Yes, YOU, to offer minimal time and energy, but an abundance of care and heart, to our RE program. One Sunday per month with a few additional hours of prep time is all that is asked. Curriculum, materials and support are provided, and you always teach as part of a team. *We are far from reaching our goal of 18 teachers.* Here's how you can help:

- **Pre-K & K** (Our 3-, 4-, and 5-year olds) – A delightful and tender group with a focus on stories and free-play. We are in need **two** more teachers for a total of four for this group.
- **1st/2nd/3rd** – An imaginative and energetic group that loves crafts and games. I need **four** more teachers for a total of four for this group.
- **4th & 5th** – This year they'll explore their awareness of self and perceptions of others with a curriculum called *Windows and Mirrors*. I need **four** more teachers for a total of four for this group.
- **Middle School** (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) – This is the first year we'll have a middle school curriculum. Our 12-15 year olds will discover the qualities of a justicemaker this year. I need **three** more teachers for a total of four.
- **Worship Sunday** (Second Sundays) – This is a time for our children to practice the elements of worship and gratitude, just as the adults do every Sunday. I need **two** more teachers for a total of two.

**Total number of teachers still needed – 15.**

**Our program depends on the willingness of our members to volunteer.** And our children depend on our program to discover what Unitarian Universalism is all about. Let Rebecca know ASAP if you can volunteer as an RE Teacher this year. **Teacher trainings** are offered on **September 8** and **September 10**.

Below is the RE Program schedule for the month of September:

- ✚ **September 11<sup>th</sup>** – Our first **RE Worship Service** in The Cottage with “beginnings” as the theme.
- ✚ **September 18<sup>th</sup>** – Our Annual **Ingathering Service and Water Communion**. Our children and youth will be creating an art project focusing on the CROP Hunger Walk (info below), Please have your children **bring an additional, small container of water** to share for this art project.
- ✚ **September 25<sup>th</sup>** – the **first day of RE classes** with selected curriculum for each age level. **CROP Hunger Walk** following the service. Info below.

The **CROP Hunger Walk** is an annual community-wide event held in cities around the world to bring awareness and raise funds to help end hunger and poverty in our communities both near and far. This year's walk is very close to home beginning at the Plaza in the middle of Drake Park. If you're interested in walking or supporting a walker, please look for the information table at services starting on September 11<sup>th</sup>. The walk is on **September 25** following the service. All walkers should be at the Plaza at **1:15 pm** ready to walk by **1:30 pm**.

With gratitude,

**Rebecca Fender, Director of Religious Education**



## *Adult Education – September Update*

Two welcome changes for a new look this year. First, Annis Henson will be working with Ellen Mercer to coordinate the programming of Adult Education. She will be bringing her interest, experience, and enthusiasm to our ever-expanding Adult Education program. *Welcome, Annis.*

Last year, the Adult Education and Social Justice programs began coordinating our efforts on specific issues, establishing a common-sense relationship between these two groups. Our UUFCO focus was on the Congregational Study/Action issue of Immigration as a Moral Issue, and we now enter into our second year with this focus. We will continue to work closely together this year when the integration of an educated framework and the passion for justice can impact positive change. This year Adult Education and Social Justice are joining forces to lead the newly developed UUA curriculum below.

### **RESISTANCE AND TRANSFORMATION: UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HISTORY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**Tuesdays, September 13 – December 13      7:00 - 8:30 pm                      Old Stone Sanctuary**

Facilitators: Rev. Heather Starr, Ellen Mercer, Alice Elshof, Annis Henson and Bill Morris

“This program presents the on-going struggle of our UU tradition to live up to our ever-evolving ideals of social transformation. The program leads us to ask the justice questions that pertain to our lives, congregation and society today, and provides models of action that inspire us to take on the social justice challenges of our era. Each session focuses on a particular theme, including abolition, peacemaking, civil rights, free speech, utopianism, counter-culture, the women’s movements of both 19th and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, sexuality education, and LGBT equality.” To learn more about the curriculum, browse the link below.

<http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/resistancetransformation/index.shtml>

### **FAMILY FIESTA POTLUCK**

**Sunday, September 18    4:30-6:30 pm                      Columbia Park**

It has been suggested we provide a format whereby we as a congregation involved in the Congregational Study/Action Issue on immigration could stay current with activity on this issue at a local, regional and national level and be aware of actions that we can take to be part of the process of change. In response, we will be having a monthly activity to gather together to learn about and enjoy different aspects of the Latino culture as well as keeping ourselves current. **Our first gathering is this Family Fiesta Potluck.** We hope many of you, those who have families and those who enjoy others’ families, can come to see the newly renovated Columbia Park, enjoy some tasty foods with a Latin flavor, play games, sing songs (while learning a little Spanish), and engage in fun and conversation. **Bring a dish to share**, any yard/park **play equipment** you have to contribute to the fun, **a blanket or extra chair** if you chose. Contact Aleta Nissen [uufco @ yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com) 541-385-3908 for further information or to RSVP for an idea of our count!

### **A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: *The God Delusion***

**Thursdays, September 22 – December 8      7:00 - 8:30 pm                      Jacobson Home**

Sandra Jacobson, a friend of Chela Sloper, is hosting a book study group in her home to read and discuss The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins, a British biologist who also wrote *The Ancestor’s Tale*. *The God Delusion* can be described as a scientifically-oriented treatise on intelligent atheism. The group will read and discuss one chapter of the eleven chapters each week. Sandra recommends the 2008 printing with the 2008 preface. If you’re interested in participating or would like more information, contact Chela Sloper at [uufco @ yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com) .

*Information on Adult Education programs will be continuously updated in the Sunday Order of Service and in this newsletter. For additional information on any Adult Education offering or to sign up for a class, contact Program Coordinators **Ellen Mercer** ([uufco @ yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com) / 541-385-3908) or **Annis Henson** ([uufco @ yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com) / 541-385-3908).*



## LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

I have spent the past few weeks alongside my siblings Jeff and Jenna and my partner Cathy living in my father's house in Portland and sorting through his forty years of accumulated papers, books, photographs, shirts, knick-knacks, furniture, and letters. Many times I have found myself pondering and discussing with friends and family: why do we hold on to the things we hold on to? One dear family friend said to me that he thought we keep things because it is the things—books, photographs, tools, craft projects, whatever our interests and passions are—that remind us of our own identity, and to get rid of our things feels to us like getting rid of our self, it is to accept and confront our own inevitable death. I considered this for a bit.

Personally, I hang on to things, especially things that remind me of people I have loved and who are no longer living, because those old dusty books, worn postcards and typewritten letters remind me of the voices and personalities of people I have loved who are no longer available for conversation or connection. I value the paintings they liked and the books they kept because they give me some sense of who they were, what they were thinking about and wrestling with at each stage of their lives, as I continue on in mine. And, absolutely, some part of me is (and will always be) trying to understand: why was that person so intense? Why did this person choose to stay in that job for so long? What would have happened if on some seemingly ordinary day, he or she had made a different decision in that moment, taken a different path?

I find myself looking for clues amongst all the drawers and shelves, and then I catch myself doing this and realize I am just sorting through the ordinary detritus of life, much of which should have been thrown out, recycled, or donated decades ago, when someone might have used it. (There is just no reason to keep an answering machine for 30 years! If you have old cell phones lying around, donate them now while someone can perhaps still make use of them!) For a few precious moments now-and-then, I feel dimly enlightened: we North Americans (especially North Americans) spend so much of our lives schlepping around our stuff, shopping for, protecting, storing and maintaining...our stuff. Is it really adding to the quality of our lives? As my brother Jeff enjoys repeating: "Are you keeping the stuff or is the stuff keeping you?" How can we all practice lightening our loads so that we might focus on what is most important—our relationships, our physical and mental health, our actions in this hurting world which so needs our care?

All-this-so-philosophically-said, I'm still bringing a carload of books and papers back to Bend. It's the old photographs I study the most. They remind me of so much that is timeless in our lives—making home, gathering for meals, growing older, being a part of family and community. There are a few in a series that I particularly enjoy—my dad's mother, my grandmother Tilly, standing by a different U-Haul truck or trailer in the 60's, 70's, and 80's. In each one she has a different outfit. She was schlepping her stuff, but she had beautiful, carefully chosen things, and she created an art-filled, worldly home everywhere she lived. It's not what was in the U-Haul that is important to me, though—it's her enormous grin, her pride in her independence and resourcefulness, and her determination to inhabit the world in whatever way she chose to.

I look forward to rejoining you all and hearing about your summers and your lives, in the weeks ahead.

Warmly,

**Rev. Heather Starr** ([heathermstarr@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermstarr@yahoo.com) / 541-390-6052)



Our services are held at 11:00am the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays (3rd is Group Discussion) at the Old Stone, 157 NW Franklin Avenue, Bend. Visitors are always welcome and childcare is provided every Sunday. Religious Education is provided to school-aged children on Sundays during the school year when there is a service. Contact us at 541-385-3908 or [uufco@yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com).

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**Newsletter deadline** is the second to last Monday monthly. Please email, mail, or phone submissions to Rebecca Boyer by that date. **To be added or removed from our mailing list, please contact Chela Sloper.**



*UUFCO is a Welcoming Congregation. This is a voluntary program for UU congregations who have gone through deliberate steps to be intentionally inclusive of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. All people and families are welcome here.*