

Services are held at 11:00 am at the Old Stone Church, 157 W Franklin Ave., Bend.  
 UUFCO: (541) 385-3908 • [www.uufco.org](http://www.uufco.org) • P.O. Box 428; Bend, OR 97709-0428



# UUNews

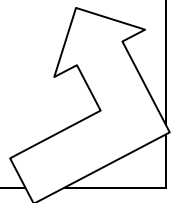


## January 2011 Sunday Services

<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 2</b>  <b>11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Heather Starr &amp; Starr Hedden: “Choosing to Let It Go”:</b> The new year is an opportunity to step forward into a new chapter of our lives and genuinely, deliberately, choose to leave behind that which no longer serves us. What is it you are finally, now, ready to let go of? Join us for this Burning Bowl Ceremony and setting of intentions for the new year.</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 9</b>  <b>11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Heather Starr: “Dignity and Dreams”:</b> It has been over 40 years now since Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed. How have we integrated his teachings and preachings into our lives? Who among us is longing to be able to live out their dreams more fully, today?</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 16</b>  <b>11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion Sunday with Tom Wykes: “Sex Education, by Dorothy Canfield Fisher”:</b> Aunt Minnie tells three versions of the same event – but over the interval of many years. This 1947 short story explores our changing perception of reality and asks the question, “What is true?”</p>
<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 23</b>  <b>11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Dennis Lynn: "Six Qualities of Strong Families":</b> Drawing on research from families across the country, Dennis will share some insights and applications about characteristics of strong, healthy, resilient relationships. Rather than focusing on our areas of weakness and struggle, let us celebrate and cultivate the qualities which contribute to family satisfaction and stability. One of the qualities, "A Spiritual Lifestyle", will be explored in the service. The remaining five qualities will be discussed in an afternoon session from 12:45-2:15pm in the sanctuary. <i>Dennis is an instructor in the Human Development and Family Sciences Program at OSU-Cascades.</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 30</b>  <b>11:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Heather Starr: “Connected Beyond Walls”:</b> The United States has the highest documented incarceration rate in the world; on June 30, 2009, there were 748 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, or 0.75%. How can we stay connected with people on the other side of the jail cell wall? We will hear stories, poems, and excerpts from letters of prisoners today as we consider this troubled aspect of our interdependent web.</p> <p><i>The recipient of January’s Greater Community Collection is the Native American Club of Deer Ridge Prison in Madras; our contribution will support them by providing wood for their sweat lodge.</i></p>

# UUFCO - January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> Service 11:00a  Drum Circle 4:00p	<b>31</b>					<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Service 11:00a	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Choir 5:45p	<b>5</b> OOS Deadline  Book Club 2:00p – 4:00p	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> XC Skiing	<b>8</b> Circle Suppers 6:00p (various)
<b>9</b> Service 11:00a w/ Discussion re Immigration 12:30p Youth Group 5:00p (14-20)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> SAC Meeting 1:00p-2:30p (C)  Choir 5:45p	<b>12</b> Board Meeting 6:00 – 8:30p OSC	<b>13</b> Living the Welcoming Congregation 6:00p - 8:00p	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Card Night 6:30p – 9:00p
<b>16</b> Discussion 11:00p	<b>17</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>18</b> Choir 5:45p	<b>19</b> OOS Deadline  OWL Parent Orientation 5:30p-7:00p (C)	<b>20</b> Host Training 5:00pm OSC Living the Welcoming Congregation 6:00p-8:00p	<b>21</b> Trail Hours 10:00a  Worship Committee 1:00p (C)	<b>22</b>   << Movie Night (Jan 21) 6:00p
<b>23</b> Service 11:00a w/ Discussion 12:45-2:15p  Youth Group 5:00p (14-20)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Trail Hours 10:00a  Choir 5:45p	<b>26</b> OOS Deadline	<b>27</b> Bethlehem Inn Dinner  Living the Welcoming Congregation	<b>28</b> “UUFCO’s Got Talent! (No False Idols)” 7:00p (OSC)	<b>29</b>





## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Hello Members and Friends,

Happy 2011! For whatever reason, from childhood I've always thought of odd years as being quite special. Just by the name of being "odd", it adds an element of the unknown and out of the ordinary. So with that said, I welcome the coming year as one of unexpected goodness in our world.

Did you experience the UUFCO fullness of December? This was the first time in what I know as UUFCO history to say that we had five services in one month, including one with a third Sunday Discussion after service. It is part of the vision of our congregation that we have service every Sunday and retain the Sunday Discussion that so many of us consider an essential part of our UUFCO membership. We added the Sunday service on the third Sunday to welcome the many people who are visiting and experiencing Central Oregon particularly at this time of the year. We hope to continue that as a December tradition and add more third Sunday services as our budget allows.

As we begin a new year there is a lot of energy circulating about what we should be newly resolving to do and not do. I personally resist the New Year's resolution pressure and instead seek new thoughts to carry me into this odd year of 2011. I've just finished reading a book, *Returning to the Land of Oz*, by John Tamiazzo that has gifted me fresh perspectives to consider. The author draws on both the 1900 book by L. Frank Baum and the 1939 film. Both incredibly popular, they tell the story of creatively using our minds to solve problems and handle adversity. Do you remember the separate but similar wishes of Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Lion? "If I Only Had A ..." was their hope as they went off together to find the Wizard of Oz. He would certainly grant them their wishes. And you know how the story progressed; they found the Wizard of Oz was not the all-powerful grantor of wishes. In the end, each of them had what they needed all along. They reframed the perception they had of themselves as well as their lot in life. No longer were they trapped by their perceived present. They created their own yellow brick road. And don't we all have a yellow brick road that is waiting for us to travel?

Although it wasn't part of the plan for me to be in Bend in December and January, I was delighted to be part of the Christmas Eve service in December and I'm looking forward to being in Bend on January 28<sup>th</sup> to enjoy "UUFCO's Got Talent." It's quite amazing how unexpected events open new doors that add to our life experiences and how we are forever changed by them.

*"Dorothy is a girl with tremendous power that far exceeds the power of the Wizard of Oz. Her power is real because it arises from a place of integrity. The path of integrity beholds our greatest resources. When we are on this sacred path living our truth, nothing can really harm us. We might get delayed, make mistakes, or become overwhelmed with fear, but living in our truth will always take us back to our yellow brick road."*

~ John A. Tamiazzo

All the best,  
**Leslie Koc, Board President**



## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SAVE THE DATE - JANUARY 28, 2011 – OLD STONE CHURCH  
UUFECO'S GOT TALENT ("NO FALSE IDOLS") SHOW!**

*Come be part of this fun event -- a time for folks who would like to perform on stage to have that opportunity. In years past we've had storytelling, origami folding, tap & folk dancing, violin & guitar playing, singing (small groups & solos), dramatic & comedic & kids' performances, a potpourri of offerings. Share your talents in an accepting, non-threatening setting – all efforts are appreciated & applauded.*

*We are offering spots to members and friends first and, if there's room after that, to those outside our congregation. Accepting acts from now until January 18. Audience members are important too, so please join in the spirit of good fun & camaraderie. We'll gather Friday evening at 7:00 pm for dessert, coffee, & other libations.*

*Contact Virlene Arnold: 541-385-3908 / [virlene@bendbroadband.com](mailto:virlene@bendbroadband.com)*

### UUFECO CHRISTMAS EVE COLLECTION WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

Thanks to the generosity of the members and guests of UUFECO, our 3rd annual Christmas Eve collection designated for the Bethlehem Inn has achieved and surpassed the \$3,000 Koc-O'Brien match! Combining gifts received on Christmas Eve with those received throughout the month of December and designated for the Bethlehem Inn, the total amount from the congregation was **\$4,150.97**. This collection and the match alone will yield **more than \$7,000** to the Inn to support its life-changing and life-saving services to single men and women and to families experiencing homelessness.

This past year, The Inn's staff and volunteers provided over 25,000 bed nights, as well as over 52,000 meals to those in need. The Inn is an emergency shelter providing shelter, sustenance, and much more. The Bethlehem Inn's staff and volunteers are committed to helping residents transition from homelessness. Our congregation's financial assistance helps the residents find healthcare, transportation, educational opportunities and employment.

Congratulations and thanks go out to all of you who helped make this collection a big success. Thank-you acknowledgments will be sent out by The Inn's staff to all the UU donors who identified themselves and gave their addresses. And because Tom O'Brien was inspired with another impulse of generosity, he also matched the proceeds of greeting card sales donated by Paul Bennet; a special note of thanks goes to Paul whose generous donation from the sale of his beautiful cards at the Sunday services on December 12 and 19 yielded an incremental \$1,160 of cash donations to The Bethlehem Inn. Thanks to that extra doubling, UUFECO's total gift to the Bethlehem Inn was **\$7,730.97**.

### JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

Beautiful people, we want to see your faces! If you go online even just every-now-and-then, consider joining Facebook—it's a great and easy way to share photos, updates, news and links ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)). If you're already on Facebook, look up our "Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon" Facebook page, and click "Join Group." If you need help getting started, just say the word. And if you're wary of Facebook but open to encouragement, talk to any of these folks and they'll share with you why they enjoy it—Rev. Heather, Amy Falkenrath, Cameron Clark, Tina Bandy-Rogers, Debby Lynn, Aleta Nissen, Claire Spampinato, Rebecca Fender, Savita Krausse...to name a few of your potential Facebook Friends!

## **PNWD 2011 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY – IN PORTLAND!**

**Embracing Joy! Spirit, Art and Activism / Saturday, February 5, 2011, 8:30 am - 5:15 pm /**

**First Unitarian Church:** Our annual District Assembly is coming up and will be here before we know it, and it is only one day this year -- though that whole weekend will be phenomenal at the First Unitarian Church of Portland, so if you've never been to the Portland church, consider whether or not you can go for the weekend. Here are the details:

Registration closes Jan. 18 (or when 500 are registered.) This year, the District Assembly of the Pacific Northwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association will be offered in a unique one-day format! Don't miss this wonderfully uplifting day that will feature a rousing keynote presentation by Dr. Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock, and special worship celebration experiences with Rev. Bill Sinkford. In addition, an outstanding selection of workshops has been put together to round out the day. And there's much more. Join UUs from all over the Northwest District as they gather in Portland to share the joy of being Unitarian Universalists. Children's program registration cuts off January 6. Information is available online: <http://www.pnwd.org/districtassembly.aspx>

## **CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR MINISTER**

“Trail Hours” are times each month when I set out on a nearby trail hoping that you will join me in conversation out-of-doors in beautiful Central Oregon. Call me if you have questions or are planning to come so that I know to expect you. Dogs and children are more than welcome.

### Trail Hours in January: Sawyer Park!

Let's take a look at how our Adopt-a-Trail section is doing during these winter months, and enjoy the gorgeous view of the canyon. Join me on Friday, January 21, at 10am, or Tuesday, January 25, at 10am. Sawyer Park is located off O.B. Riley Road, off 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; we'll meet up at the park-edge of the parking lot. Rain, sleet, snow or wind: come and get outside with me! Please let me know if you're thinking about coming and also if you'd like further directions.

As always, if there is another time that you'd like to go for a walk, have a cup of tea, or that'd be good for me to come by and visit with you in your home, I'd be delighted to do that. Please be in touch! I look forward to talking with you and getting to know you better.

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

## **UUFCO WISH LIST**

There are many ways to support the good energy and programs of UUFCO. It was particularly apparent during our Christmas Eve service this year that we are short on the gray *Singing the Living Tradition* hymnals. Please consider purchasing a hymnal in appreciation of or in memory of someone in your life. Contact Chela Sloper at [uufco@yahoo.com](mailto:uufco@yahoo.com) to purchase a hymnal for all to enjoy.

## **GOODSEARCH.COM**

Please use [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) to search the internet. Put UUFCO (spelled out) in the charity line, and UUFCO will receive 1 cent for each search. Our 2010 earnings so far total **\$14.80**. Just think how much we would receive if more of us used this search engine powered by Yahoo.

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

Our next New Member Ceremony will take place during the Sunday service on March 27, 2011. The next Path to Membership series of classes will be held in February: February 16, 21, and 23, from 6-8pm in the Cottage. Mark your 2011 calendar now and 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. We welcome you into membership when you feel the timing is right for you. Becoming a member of UUFCA 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.

## BETHLEHEM INN DINNERS: A GREAT CHANCE TO SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Our next dinners are Thursday Evenings, January 27 and February 24: As the colder weather settles in, the number of residents increases at the Bethlehem Inn. Preparing and serving meals at The Inn is an inspiring experience. For those who have thought about it or who have not volunteered in a while, your participation would be greatly appreciated. You will be joined by the generous UUFCA members and friends who have been continuing volunteers in our third year of this impactful community outreach.

Each month we need food preparers for meatloaf, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, gravy, juice/milk, and cupcakes. Because of Bethlehem Inn's kitchen limitations, our food preparers make their meal component at home and deliver it between 5:00pm and 5:30pm. In addition, 5-6 servers are needed to set up the serving area and then serve the dinner. Servers report for duty by 5:30pm and are finished by 6:35pm. Food preparers can also volunteer for "double duty" and become servers as well. Depending on the time of year, we serve between 55 and 90 meals per month at each dinner to the Bethlehem Inn's single and family residents.

You can sign up at Sunday service or contact Leslie Koc or Tom O'Brien at [lesliek@bendbroadband.com](mailto:lesliek@bendbroadband.com). Call 541-385-3908 for more information.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### CARING COMMITTEE

Co-chairs: Jerrie Jones, 541-385-3908, [Jerrieleejones@gmail.com](mailto:Jerrieleejones@gmail.com)  
Helen Seidler, 541-385-3908, [Helen@lavaedge.net](mailto:Helen@lavaedge.net)



**Newly Updated "Nursing Care and Recovery Care Resource List:"** This publication, originally produced by the Caring Committee in May 2009, has been updated as of November 2010. It includes facilities and services in Central Oregon covering in-home care, assisted living facilities offering short-term accommodations, transition programs, caregiver support and respite care, hospice services, grieving and bereavement support, and sources of further information and reading.

**Resources on Dealing with Death, Dying and Grieving:** We have a collection of six short, beautifully written booklets on this topic that we would like the congregation to know about. We have introduced five of them in each of the five previous newsletters, and following is information about the sixth. It is entitled “Sacred Vigil” and is written to serve as a guide for the family caregiver through the vigil with their dying loved one. The booklet discusses “saying good-bye,” including children, forgiveness, caregiver self-care, complementary comfort measures and sacred readings. You can find it on the entry table in the foyer along with display copies of the other booklets in the series. Speak to Jerrie or Helen if you are interested in purchasing any of these booklets.

And also take note of our resource rack with the the UUFCCO Nursing & Recovery Care Resource List mentioned above; Feeding the Hungry resources; the UUFCCO Emergency contact form, and the Caring Committee Outreach form that can be used to request assistance or sign up to become a member of the Care Team.

**Mid-November through mid-December 2010 Activities of Care Team:** During this month Care Team members generously volunteered their time 13 times to place calls, send cards, make visits, provide help around the house and host out-of-towners.

***Caring News and Notes from Rev. Heather:*** As we zoom into the New Year, pause to think about who you have not seen or talked with in awhile. Reach out them—with a phone call, a card, or a visit. Together we weave the fabric of a caring community.

In the past month, many joys and sorrows were shared, only some of which made it to these notes. Here are a few of the highlights—

**Jerrie Jones** shared her joy that her daughter Melissa is home from AmericaCorps and will be leaving soon for another AmericaCorps assignment in the midwest. **Nancy Stevens** officially turned 50 after a year of celebrating; thanks to Jennifer Sietz for helping Nancy get her house ready for guests **▼ Leslie Koc** shared that her husband Tom fell on the ice and ruptured a tendon. As the weeks went on, Tom had surgery to repair the tendon and expressed his joy that science has the technology to repair it, though it will be 3 months until he can bend it or drive a car again **▼ Melissa Hochschild** lit a candle for the Mitchell family—Jason Mitchell died, leaving behind a wife and 2 young daughters. We hold the whole Mitchell family in our love. Nancy Stevens shared the sorrow of a very good friend who just died due to muscular dystrophy; she had a very full life and left a partner and daughter. **▼ And Lyn Mattei** ‘s aunt Charlotte lost her husband this month. **▼ Jim Dobrowski** continues to recover from his major surgery—he felt good, shoveled some snow, got a sore back, saw the physical therapist and was sent to the doctor, spent 3 days in the hospital for blood clots in lungs and is now at home again....

**January Birthday** wishes go out to **Vernon Threlkeld, Zidane Holcomb Galant, Maya Foster-Wexler, Nan Williamson, Joe Barrett, Annika Nissan, Cindy Brennan, Laurie Rice.** Many happy returns to all.

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. Please say the word if there is anything that we can do to support you. 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.”

“News & Notes” are based primarily on the Sunday morning Joys and Sorrows. As always, if you have special news, announcements, or an update that you would like us to include in this section, please let our Caring Committee Co-Chairs Helen Seidler ([helen@lavaedge.net](mailto:helen@lavaedge.net)/541-385-3908) or Jerrie Jones ([jerrieleejones@gmail.com](mailto:jerrieleejones@gmail.com)) know. We want to know what’s going on in your & your family’s lives—so please be in touch!

## GOOD TIMES ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY

If you are interested in joining any of the groups, it is important that you contact the leader listed. The sign-up sheets are being phased out in the near future, to be replaced with detailed information about activities on the UUFCO website. It is requested that you RSVP to the leader for an event with a specific date. Winter sports are starting.....check them out!!

**Book Group:** Chris Herrick has organized a book group that meets the first Wednesday of each month. Host homes and discussion leaders rotate, and the group selects its own books. The book to be discussed on January 5 is Last Child in the Woods by Richard Luov. If you are interested in joining this group, contact [cherrick@bendbroadband.com](mailto:cherrick@bendbroadband.com) (preferred) or 541-385-3908. Maximum group size is 12; a wait list will be kept whenever anticipated attendance exceeds 12. Chris has also started a wait list for a second group that will select its own books and meet at a different time. If you may want to join the second group, please contact Chris and tell her what meeting times work best for you. Note: men are welcome to join any of the UU book groups.

**Circle Suppers:** The next Circle Supper dates to look forward are on **Saturday, January 8** and **Friday, February 11**. Sign-up sheets for the February supper will be on the entry table during January. If you are interested in the January event, please contact Jerrie Jones, the organizer of the suppers. If you would like to pre-sign up to be a host for a circle supper event, or if you have questions, contact Jerrie at 541-385-3908 or [jerrieleejones@gmail.com](mailto:jerrieleejones@gmail.com).

**Drum Circle Group:** Led by Chandra Smith, the next drumming circle will be held Sunday, January 30 at 4:00 pm at Lynn Mattei's home (61487 Elder Ridge St., Bend). We will be honoring the season of the NORTH. The color of the NORTH is white (each season has its own color and energy) and you are invited to come in white clothing but it is not required, nor is owning and bringing a drum. If you have a drum or other rhythm instruments, please bring them. All ages are welcome. The purpose of the circle is not to become professional musicians but to experience connection through vibration and rhythm. Contact Chandra at 541-385-3908 or at [travelwithchandra@gmail.com](mailto:travelwithchandra@gmail.com) if you have questions or plan to attend.

**Card Players:** Jim & Becky Dobrowski are hosting card playing evenings monthly. This month, the event will be held on Saturday, January 15th at 6:30 pm. All skill levels are welcome and a variety of games are offered. No need to sign up, but e-mail or call Jim or Becky if you have questions (541-385-3908 or [jim\\_dobrowski@yahoo.com](mailto:jim_dobrowski@yahoo.com)). Come one and all!

**Stitching Group:** Gretchen Grivel is leading a group for those interested in stitching crafts (quilting, sewing, knitting, crocheting, etc.). The group is meeting on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 at various locations. Do contact Gretchen to add your name to the group list so that you will receive emails with details. If there is enough interest, a second group could be formed to meet during the evening. Please contact Gretchen for more information, and to voice your preferences for meeting times and locations for upcoming meetings. [westernskyranch@clearwire.net](mailto:westernskyranch@clearwire.net) /541-385-3908

**Movie Group:** The UUFCO film fans will meet Friday, January 21 at 6:00 pm at Carl and Anita Elliott's home. RSVP to Valerie Warren, the organizer of the movie group, at [valeriehwarren@gmail.com](mailto:valeriehwarren@gmail.com) or 541-385-3908 for address/directions. We will be watching two films from recent BendFilm festivals covering the topic of garbage/waste: *I Love Trash*, and *Dive!* More information on the films can be found at: <http://www.indieflix.com/film/i-love-trash-19890/> and <http://www.divethefilm.com/>. *Dive!* won Best Conservation Film at the 2010 festival.

We need to find hosts for future film events. The number of people attending has typically been small, so if you have a TV screen and can offer your home, the group can continue to have fun. Please contact Valerie to offer your home and/or express interest in attending ([valeriehwarren@gmail.com](mailto:valeriehwarren@gmail.com) / 541-385-3908).

**XC Skiing:** Three leaders have volunteered to help with xc outings this season: Lyn Mattei/Duncan Brown, Chandra Smith, and Dave MacGurn. Lyn and Duncan are planning on leading regular UU-related XC outings on Friday mid-mornings primarily (but not always) starting January 7, leaving from Meissner Snowpark parking lot. Carpooling is available from Lyn's home, which is just off Century Drive on the way up the mountain.

There will also be an "all species" Wanoga outing on Sunday, January 9 around 2:00 pm, after the service, WITH OUR DOGS (OPTIONAL). Participants can do an easy, almost vertical-free, loop or two on snowshoes (Lyn has some extras); or on XC, back country, XT, or even downhill skis. You can also pull a baby sled on snowshoes or skis. There will be cookies and hot chocolate at Lyn's house after the event (attendance optional). Please RSVP by email or phone to Lyn Mattei and Duncan Brown ([matteibrown@clearwire.net](mailto:matteibrown@clearwire.net) or [Lyn.mattei@clearwire.net](mailto:Lyn.mattei@clearwire.net) / (h) 541-385-3908).

Please contact Lyn or Duncan if you are interested in joining the group for any particular outing, and to be notified by email of upcoming events.

**Downhill Skiing:** Downhill/tele ski day is in the works at Mt. Bachelor in late January or February. Downhill/tele Hoodoo trip is planned in March. Please contact Lyn if interested 541-385-3908 or [matteibrown@clearwire.net](mailto:matteibrown@clearwire.net).

**Snowshoe Group:** Jerrie Jones and Toni Morris have volunteered to lead some snowshoe outings. Proposed times are alternate Mondays and Saturdays. Please contact Nan Williamson if you are interested in joining this group and to voice your preferences for times. [johnanw@bendbroadband.com](mailto:johnanw@bendbroadband.com) or 541-385-3908.

**WATCH** for announcements in the Order of Service, emails, etc. so you don't miss important dates for these activities. It promises to be another season of really Good Times!



## **SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

Charles & Wilma Campbell, Co-chairs (541-385-3908 / [cewjc@earthlink.net](mailto:cewjc@earthlink.net))

The Greater Community Collection in November for **Guest at Your Table** raised almost **\$800** for the UU Service Committee. Thanks to all for your support on this 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of GAYT. You are now part of this on-going UU autumn tradition.

The January GCC will help support the religious ceremonies of the Native American population at Deer Ridge Prison in Madras by providing wood for their sweat lodge.

On Thursday, January 27 the annual Homeless Count for Deschutes County will be conducted. Volunteers are needed to help with this count. Watch the local paper for further information about how you can be involved.

The Social Action committee continues to work with Ellen Mercer and the Adult Education program to support their exploration of immigration issues. This year-long study will examine the many different aspects of immigration. This is a great opportunity to educate yourself and share your thoughts and insights with others at the Fellowship. Watch for an event that would be of interest to you and join in the discussion this year.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Attention! 2011 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 UUFCO 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 UUFCO 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, Bob Barber, and Pam Allyn.

Our next Worship Committee meeting is Friday, January 21 at 1pm in the Cottage. All are welcome.



Thinking of Decluttering your home? How about rounding up those empty ink cartridges and used cell phones. The Fellowship can trade them in for \$\$\$. We've found a source where the HP, Dell, and Lexmark cartridges will again bring \$3.00. All others bring \$2.00. It adds up! Plus bring your used cell phones. They bring in up to \$7.50 in our experience. Get these useless items out of your house and into our recycling box, located in the foyer of the Old Stone Church. Bring them anytime you are at Fellowship. Many thanks to an unknown donor who recently blessed our recycling box with over 75 cartridges. That gift was converted into \$170.00 which will be used to purchase office supplies. *Thank you!!!*



## DISCUSSION GROUP

On the third Sunday in January, in lieu of service, UUFCO will hold a discussion meeting. Everyone is welcome at 11:00 am in the Old Stone Church. Articles will be distributed by email about 2 weeks in advance of the January 16th 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).

**January Topic: "Sex Education, by Dorothy Canfield Fisher":** Aunt Minnie tells three versions of the same event – but over the interval of many years. This 1947 short story explores our changing perception of reality and asks the question, "What is true?"



Unitarian Universalism affirms that Creation is too grand, complex, and mysterious to be captured in a narrow creed. That is why we cherish individual freedom of belief. At the same time our convictions lead us to other affirmations . . .



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Rebecca Fender, Director ([becksfender@gmail.com](mailto:becksfender@gmail.com) / 541-385-3908)

Happy New Year! May love, abundance and good health be yours for 2011!! Our Religious Education classes resume on January 9 with Children's Worship. As a reminder, the following is our monthly schedule:

**The First Sunday** of each month, UUFCA hosts three classes.

Preschoolers & Kindergartners gather in the Cottage and participate in lessons from *Celebrating Me and My World*.

Grades 1 – 3 gather in the Cottage and participate in lessons from *Love Surrounds Us*.

Grades 4 – 6 gather at The City Church space and participate in lessons from *Riddle and Mystery*. The City Church offices are located on NW Hill Street a short, 30-second walk from The Old Stone Church.

**The Second Sunday** of each month all children from Grades 1 – 6 gather together for Children's Worship. Worshiping together is an important part of our religious education program, and our Children's Worship involves rituals, stories, songs, and reflections on religious and/or spiritual themes.

**The Third Sunday** of each month is Discussion Sunday and there are no RE classes.

**The Fourth Sunday** of each month, UUFCA hosts two classes.

Grades 1 – 3 gather in the Cottage and participate in lessons from *Love Surrounds Us*.

Grades 4 – 6 gather in the Cottage and participate in lessons from *Riddle and Mystery*.

**EXCITING NEWS!!** – UUFCA is offering an Our Whole Lives (OWL) class for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades this spring. OWL is a sexuality education curriculum developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ. Ayla Halberstadt and Jan Hildreth, our teachers for this class, will equip participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. OWL affirms parents as the primary sexuality educators of their children, offers up-to-date information and honest, age-appropriate answers to all participants' questions. There will be a Parent Orientation on **Wednesday, January 19** at 5:30pm. This is an informational session so parents can gain a clear understanding of OWL and how it would benefit their child. On **Wednesday, February 2** from 5pm – 7pm will be a Parent/Child Orientation to familiarize participants with the OWL curriculum, to begin to build group trust and support, and to engage parents as partners in the OWL program. If you have any questions, please contact me.

*Rebecca Fender*

*Director of Religious Education for Children & Youth*

## ADULT EDUCATION – JANUARY UPDATE

After suspending any adult education activity for the month of December, we are now back in operation with a variety of opportunities from which to choose. Hopefully you will find something of interest here.

**Unitarian Universalism and Buddhism: A Momentary Study Group**: This is a group-guided study that will meet three times to study three different books and writers who speak on personal spiritual development. All are welcome. We ask that you plan to attend all three sessions if possible. Note there has been a change in the dates from those previously announced:

**Monday, January 24** The Art of Happiness/The Dalai Lama & Howard C. Cutler, M.D.

**TBA in February** Taking the Leap: Freeing Ourselves From Old Habits and Fears/ Pema Chodron

**TBA in April** This Very Moment; A Brief Introduction to Buddhism and Zen for Unitarian Universalists / James Ismael Ford

The first session will be held from **6:00-7:30pm in The Cottage**. Those participating in the first session will establish the date, time and place for discussing the second and third books.

**Living the Welcoming Congregation:** *Living the Welcoming Congregation* is a new UUA curriculum developed to help congregations deepen and expand their welcoming status. This is an opportunity to review what it means to make sure our practices indeed do reflect our convictions. This is work designed to deepen understandings, create change, and make a difference. All fourteen sessions will be held on Thursday evenings from **6:00-8:00pm in the home of Ellen Mercer** and co-facilitated by Rev. Heather Starr and Ellen Mercer. Though we understand that everyone who participates will not be able to attend every session, we do ask that you make a commitment to the program and **sign up with us by January 6, 2011. The first session is January 13.** If you have already signed up and would like to peruse/review the original curriculum, *The Welcoming Congregation Handbook*, we have two copies available. Contact Ellen Mercer if you would like to check one out.

**A Plea for Compassion and Common Sense: The Senseless and Optional Detention of Undocumented Immigrants by Local Law Enforcement in Deschutes County:** Immigrant Family Advocates is a local group whose mission is . . . “To promote a safe and welcoming local community for our immigrant sisters and brothers through research and information sharing, constructive dialogue, coalition-building, educational outreach and public policy advocacy.” Members of the group will present and explain the background of their concern and the need for community involvement. **Sunday, January 9 following the Sunday service in the sanctuary, 12:30 - 1:45pm. Snacks will be provided.**

**Six Qualities of Strong Families** presented by Dennis Lynn: **Sunday, January 23 11:00am Sunday Service Presentation followed by a continuation of the material from 12:45-2:15pm after the service in the sanctuary.**

Drawing on research from families across the country, Dennis will share some insights and applications about characteristics of strong, healthy, resilient relationships. Rather than focusing on our areas of weakness and struggle, let us celebrate and cultivate the qualities which contribute to family satisfaction and stability. One of the qualities, “A Spiritual Lifestyle”, will be explored during Sunday Worship Service. The remaining five qualities will be discussed in an afternoon session from 12:45-2:15pm. Dennis is an instructor in the Human Development and Family Sciences Program at OSU-Cascades. *Childcare will be provided and light snacks available.*

## LOOKING AHEAD . . .

**9500 Liberty – Film and Discussion:** **Sunday, February 13 following Sunday Service. Meet in the sanctuary at 12:30pm.** This is a documentary of Prince William County, Virginia in the explosive battle with immigration policy. Shown in conjunction with COCC’s “Season of Non-Violence” events.

**Reflections on Readings - Immigration as a Moral Issue:** **Sunday, March 13 following Sunday Service. To be held in the sanctuary from 12:30 - 1:45pm.** The following reading list is provided as a “heads-up” for this scheduled gathering so you will have the opportunity to read one or more of the books from which we will be drawing our information and ideas. The discussion will focus on insights and reflections about immigration formed while reading the book(s). Titles to choose from:

*They Take Our Jobs: and 20 Other Myths About Immigration* / Alviva Chomsky

*Illegal People: How Globalization Criminalizes Immigrants* / David Bacon

*Kids Like Me: Voices of the Immigrant Experience* / Judith M. Blohm & Terri Lipinsky

*Immigrants and the Right to Stay* / Joseph Carens

*The Devil’s Highway: A True Story* / Luis Alberta Urrea

*Enrique’s Journey* / Sonia Nazario

*Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail* / Ruben Martinez.



## LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

As we embark into the new year in our individual lives and in our communities, I want to print here some of my words from our December 19 Solstice Service:

“Think for a moment about this, at this time of the year when we are so awash in stories, myths, traditions, narratives: What is your favorite creation story—and why? If you were to write your own story of the beginnings of life, not a factual analysis but a mythical story, what would your story be? From what would life emerge? And how would the sun, the light, the balance between light and dark that defines our days—how would that figure into your story? ... What is a story that you have held onto, in your life, in your worldview, that has kept you from stepping more fully into lightness, into expansiveness? How do you, how will you, guide yourself out of that darkness?”

We each have things we are working on letting go of in our personal lives, and we will share some of those with one another during the January 2 service, “Choosing to Let It Go.” Later this winter and spring, we will also be engaging in a congregational process of looking ahead, together, with local congregational consultant Rev. Charles (“Chuck”) Christopher. Chuck’s purpose will be to work with our Board and active lay leadership to conduct small-group conversations with each of you, with the overarching goal being “to provide facilitation and support for a renewed and fully accepted vision of what the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon (UUFCO) will look like in five years, the articulated shared ownership of our strategic goals, and a strengthened congregational community.”

This is our chance to create, together, our story for the next chapter of this beloved community. There will not be a lot of meetings about this—it will primarily be small-group conversations conducted in a variety of formats, and it will all be wrapped up well in time for our May Annual Meeting. I simply want you to have a “heads-up” and to be thinking about what is most important about UUFCO, to you. What first brought you here to this community? What is vital to you that we preserve, and what are you ready to see change?

Here are my closing words from that December 19 service—may they carry us forward into all the many activities of the new year.

“...May it be, for all of us, that we have the chance to reconsider the stories we have lived in, up ‘til now; that we take the time to rewrite and own the stories that give us joy and spaciousness and help us feel that we can live our lives out loud. May we feel, in this season of darkness, that we can cultivate lightness within ourselves and each other that will buoy us all up through the months ahead. May we see more clearly the ways that we can pull together—in our families, in our communities, in our country—to care for each other, to bring warmth, lightness, and joy into each other’s lives. May it be so, for you, and for all those you love. Amen, and Blessed Be.”

Warmly,

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

- **Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals**
- **Learn about hosting people in your home to earn extra money**



The UU bed and breakfast directory UU're Home (formerly Homecomings) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.

For more information, visit [www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com)

Email: [info@uurehome.com](mailto:info@uurehome.com)

Write to: UU're Home / 43 Vermont Court / Asheville, NC 28806

Phone: 828-281-3253

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