

Services are held at 11:00 am at the Old Stone Church, 157 NW Franklin Ave., Bend.
UUFco: (541) 385-3908 Ě www.uufco.org Ě P.O. Box 428. Bend, OR 97709-0428



UUNews



STANDARD TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4. REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR BEFORE GOING TO BED SATURDAY NIGHT.

November 2007 Sunday Services

Sunday November 4 11:00 am	Rev. Roy Green: “End of Life Issues for the Living”: We will look at issues which present themselves at end-of-life, particularly issues of the heart, soul, spirit, along with stories to explore what insight they may have for us who are not yet at end-of-life. Rev. Green says, “I believe peace of heart (different from peace of mind) is achievable, and achievable now, and that peace of heart is what makes of death a victory. One of my primary spiritual teachers, Brother Roger of Taizé, wrote in a book of meditations entitled <u>And Your Deserts Shall Flower</u> , “Peace of heart waters not only the desert of death, but as well the ground of our every-day waking.”
Sunday November 11 11:00 am	Rev. Brad Carrier: “Word to Use”: The words we use can heal or hurt. We can speak accurately or arbitrarily. We can share meaning or meander in a morass. We can have fun with fine words or flounder like fools. Rev. Carrier says, “I’ve been saving some interesting and useful words to share with you. This will be light-hearted and high-headed. Come along, and bring a friend!”
Sunday November 18 11:00 am	Discussion Group With Rev. Heather Starr (substituting for Tom Wykes): “Spiritual Beliefs? or Political Beliefs? Which Comes First?”: See newsletter inside for details.
Sunday November 25 11:00 am	Rev. Heather Starr, Minister: “Fierce Gratitude”: It is so easy to feel overwhelmed and discouraged by the demands and problems of the world. How can the determined, defiant act of being grateful renew our spirits and transform our perspectives? Join us for this Intergenerational Thanksgiving Celebration. The Collection for the Greater Community today will be given to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee’s Guest At Your Table program. This is the day to bring in your Guest At Your Table boxes!

NOVEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 3:30 pm Stewardship Comm. Cottage	2	3
4 11 am Service Old Stone Church Rev. Roy Green	5 1 pm COM meeting Rev. Heather's office 155 NW Irving	6 6 pm, Choir Practice Old Stone Church 7:15pm - 8:45pm Adult RE Global Warming Diane Dedrick, Old Stone Church	7	8	9	10
11 11 am Service Old Stone Church Rev. Brad Carrier	12	13 12 noon Take Lunch to Habitat for Humanity Contact B Dobrowski 6 pm, Choir Practice Old Stone Church 7:15pm - 8:45pm Adult RE Global Warming Diane Dedrick, Old Stone Church	14 6:00 pm Board Meeting Max Merrill's Office	15 12 noon - 4 pm Drop-in Brown Bag with Minister 155 NW Irving	16	17
18 11 am Discussion Old Stone Church Rev. Heather Starr	19	20 2 pm - 5 pm Drop-in Visit with Minister 155 NW Irving 6 pm, Choir Practice Old Stone Church 7:15pm - 8:45pm Adult RE Global Warming Diane Dedrick, Old Stone Church		22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25 11 am Service Old Stone Church Rev. Heather Starr Intergenerational (Collection for Community)	26	27 6 pm, Choir Practice Old Stone Church 7:15pm - 8:45pm Adult RE Global Warming Diane Dedrick, Old Stone Church	28	29	30	



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As promised in my last letter I want to update you on some of the things that went on at our board retreat at the end of last month.

First, for all board members, and myself I want to thank Bob Barber for serving as a facilitator at the meeting. His guidance and suggestions were invaluable.

We have decided to spend considerable time this year in furthering the work of last year's board by preparing a UUFCO mission statement; establishing ongoing goals for the board and preparing an action plan to attain those goals. I will be working with Heather and Bob to develop the mission statement to present to the board. We have already begun work on the action plan. We believe that by establishing procedures for this board, staff and volunteers to follow it will allow smoother future board transitions and cut down the need to reinvent the wheel each year. We also see advantages to our committee chairs who will become part of the overall vision for the year rather than being quite so autonomous and undirected. Please bear with us as we work through the issues that come with such planning endeavors.

We are coming upon renewal of our lease for the Old Stone Church and will be working with the new owners to establish the terms of a new lease by the end of the year.

Thanks to Dick Falxa and Grace Kennedy for their successful leadership in putting on the Fun(d) Service Auction on the 27th of October. The food was great, the decorations very seasonal, and a great time was had by all. For those of you who missed it there were many wonderful items to bid on so please try and attend next year. For those who did attend and contribute auction items thank you all for your support. We will have a great time redeeming the auction items over the next few months! Thanks again for the efforts of all.

Well, it is almost Halloween, and the holidays will soon be upon us. Please take this opportunity to think about this season and how best to celebrate, not to please Madison Avenue, but to strengthen your spirits and your lives. May this holiday season be a joyous one for all. It is a wonderful time to practice our UU principles by giving of our abundant lives to those less fortunate in our community. May it be so.

Max Merrill, President



EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD WORKS

Wow, look what we're doing!! In October 2007, UUFCO members and friends made the following significant community contributions:

- Ø 7 UUFCO members and friends participated in the October 7, 2007 road clean up.
- Ø UUFCO provided lunch for 7 Habitat for Humanity volunteers.
- Ø The UUFCO Care Team supported 5 members and friends in need.

- Ø And, congregants donated a total of \$780 to Basic Rights Oregon during our Collection for the Greater Community and for an emergency offering to help the fire victims in California.

Attendance numbers: 226 people attended Sunday Services between September 30 and October 14, 2007 and 38 people attended the Fellowship's October 21 Discussion Sunday.

Have good works information to add to this column? Contact Alyssa at 383-1444.

DROP-IN CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR MINISTER

I now inhabit a lovely office space not far from the Old Stone Church. This is a private, handicapped-accessible office located at 155 NW Irving (on the corner of Harriman and Irving, about six blocks north of the church). There is parking behind the building and a rear entrance right by my office. If you come in the front door, my office is down the hall on the left. I look forward to being able to meet and talk with you more often and more easily in this centrally-located and comfortable space!

In November, you can find me at the Irving Avenue office at the following times, in addition to other times that I'd be happy to schedule with you individually. These are times when you can count on me being in the office and available to chat with you about whatever you'd like to talk about.

**Tuesday, November 6, 12:00 – 3:30pm / Thursday, November 15, 12:00 – 4:00pm /
Tuesday, November 20, 2:00 – 5:00pm**

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.

-Heather (hstarr@uuma.org / 390-6052)

NEW WEBSITE UNDER DEVELOPMENT

One of our web-savvy members, Rocco April, is working on a redesign of the UUFCA website. Rocco is gathering up photos of the people and activities of our Fellowship to put on the web. The photos will be posted without names or any identifying information—they'll simply be snapshots interspersed throughout the site to give people a feel for the energy and warmth of our community. (If you'd like to make sure that your photo is *not* included on the website, please let Rocco, Kathy, or Heather know.)

Do you have any photos of Fellowship people, outings or activities that you could share? Rocco can receive these via e-mail or on CD, in .jpg format. Contact Rocco at rocco@aliceandrocco.com His mailing address is: *Rocco April / 221 Canyon Drive / Redmond, OR 97756.*

COME ONE, COME ALL!

We are planning our congregation's presence in the Bend downtown Christmas parade on Saturday, December 8. Our theme will be "We Are All Connected" using a red-ribbon interconnected web to tie us all together. The all-parade theme is "Christmas Dreams Come True" and we will be celebrating "Unitarian Universalist Dreams -- for Love, Peace, Justice, Acceptance of One Another, Equality, Joy, etc." Come hold up your dream and march in the parade! The parade starts at 12 noon and line-up for

participants is at 10 AM. Let Anne Barrett (382-7776) know if you and your family and friends can be a part of the UUFCO contingent in the Christmas Parade. The more the merrier!

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The Board of Directors of the Pacific Northwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association, along with the UU Church of Spokane, Washington, invites leaders of all PNWD – UUA congregations to:

Leadership Council: Saturday, November 17, 2007 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane / 4340 West Fort Wright Drive; Spokane, Washington

Learning Topic is “Human Resources Policy: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly” with Rev. Ralph Mero, Director, UUA Office of Church Staff Finance. Topics include: (1) How do policies and practices related to staffing and compensation reflect (or negate) UU values? (2) What’s the latest thinking regarding roles in staff management for board members, congregational leaders, and UU Ministers? (3) What are the best practices for performance evaluations for employed and ordained staff?

This conference is for board members, lay leaders, and professional staff. The cost is \$100 per congregation for ALL ATTENDEES. Lunch is included. A goodwill offering will be invited for a community service initiative sponsored by the host congregation. For home hospitality and lodging options, inquire when you RSVP. Travel scholarships are available for smaller congregations.

Please contact Kathy Day (385-3908 / uufoc@yahoo.com) if you are interested in attending this valuable District gathering. We need to RSVP as a congregation by November 12. For more information: pnwd@uua.org; (425) 957-9116 or toll free at (800) 313-7693.

LOCALS BRING SYMBOLIC OLYMPIC TORCH TO CENTRAL OREGON RAISING AWARENESS OF DARFUR, NOVEMBER 11.

Local students and community members will raise awareness of the situation in Darfur on November 11, 2007 by holding the Central Oregon leg of the symbolic Olympic Dream for Darfur Torch Relay. The Olympic Dream for Darfur torch relay will be visiting more than 20 cities across the United States and several cities around the world. Activists, joined by genocide survivors, athletes, students and local leaders, aim to pressure China to use its unique position to lead the world in bringing an end to the ongoing violence and humanitarian crisis in Darfur. The pressure is directed toward China as Sudan’s chief diplomatic sponsor, major weapons provider, and largest foreign investor and trade partner, as well as host of the 2008 Summer Olympics. On November 8 – 11, 2007 cities around Oregon including Portland, Bend and Eugene will symbolically carry the torch for Darfur.

Central Oregon Dream for Darfur is an all-ages event focusing on what is possible: making a positive change in the world. The event will feature Camp Darfur—an interactive refugee simulation camp, speakers, a symbolic torch relay, local music, and a family-friendly art station for creating messages of hope and peace for Darfur. The artwork and messages depicting our “Dream for Darfur” will be hand-delivered to children in refugee camps on the border of Darfur and Chad where they will be displayed in their school.

WHO: Central Oregon Dream for Darfur
 Camp Darfur: an interactive refugee simulation camp from Stop Genocide Now

Music from Aliou Diouf, Ubuntu, and others. Participants include local students, non-profits, athletes, leaders, activists, and genocide survivors

WHEN: Sunday November 11, 2007, from 1:00 pm to 5:00pm
WHERE: Troy Field (Corner of Bond St. and Louisiana Ave. in Downtown Bend)



About Central Oregon Dream for Darfur—Central Oregon Dream for Darfur is a grassroots group of concerned Central Oregonians standing up to do our part in ending genocide now and forever. We believe everyone has the power to make a difference.



About the Save Darfur Coalition – The Save Darfur Coalition raises public awareness about the ongoing genocide in Darfur and mobilizes a unified response to the atrocities that threaten the lives of people throughout the Darfur region. It is an alliance of more than 180 faith-based, advocacy and humanitarian organizations. The coalition’s member organizations represent 130 million people of all ages, races, religions and political affiliations united together to help the people of Darfur. For more information on the coalition, please visit www.SaveDarfur.org. To obtain footage from the Darfur border region, coalition events, various interviews, and more, please visit the Save Darfur Coalition media gallery at <http://media.savedarfur.org>. All footage may be previewed in non-broadcast quality and may be purchased in broadcast quality by filling out the purchase request form provided on the site.



About Dream for Darfur – Olympic Dream for Darfur is a global advocacy campaign. Our goal is to secure protection for civilians in Darfur. Our strategy is to use the 2008 Olympics to focus attention on the special relationship between Sudan and China. China, host of the next Olympics, is uniquely positioned to exert real and consequential influence to help resolve the crisis in Darfur. For more information, please visit www.DreamForDarfur.org.

About Camp Darfur –Camp Darfur is a project of Stop Genocide Now. Used as a teaching tool, this interactive simulation camp provides hands-on and multimedia experiences for students and adults to gain a better understanding of living as a refugee.



DISCUSSION GROUP

On the third Sunday in lieu of service, UUFCCO has a discussion meeting led by Tom Wykes. Everyone is welcome. Meetings are held in the Old Stone Church at 11:00 am. Articles are distributed by email in advance – the second week of each month. If you would like to be on the UU Discussion Group email list, please contact Tom Wykes at www.uufcco.org. On November 21, Rev. Heather Starr will be substituting for Tom Wykes.

November topic: “Spiritual Beliefs? or Political Beliefs? Which Comes First?”:

Does our spirituality inform our political engagement? Or do our politics determine where we go (or don't go) to church? Which comes first, spirituality or politics? And how do they intersect and inform one another--or not? Join us for this lively conversation. An article will be sent out by e-mail in advance of the discussion. E-mail Tom Wykes at wykes@bendcable.com by November 5 to add yourself to the Discussion Sunday e-list if you're not already on it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Melissa Adams, Chair

Have you ever thought about joining UUFCO in the past but the time just wasn't right for one reason or another? Maybe that has changed now? Whether you are a long time friend or a relative newcomer December 2nd presents another opportunity for you to make that move and join UUFCO as an official member. Want to join but haven't been able to attend one of our New Member Orientations? That's okay too! While we hold these orientations as an opportunity to learn more about the fellowship, attendance at one is not an absolute prerequisite of Membership. Contact Myself or another member of the Membership Committee or Reverend Heather Starr if you are interested.

We will be welcoming and celebrating our new members on Dec. 2, and we invite you to join us.



SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Tammy Tewalt & Rebecca Boyer, co-chairs

Collection for the Greater Community: On October 7, our congregation donated \$370 for *Basic Rights Oregon*.

Guest At Your Table: The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC) "Guest At Your Table" program is currently underway. From October 14, 2007 until November 25, 2007, all UUFCO friends and members are encouraged to participate. Your participation will help raise funds for UUSC's many service projects. These include programs that help indigenous groups, end the genocide in Darfur, defend the right to water, promote Labor Rights and Living Wage campaigns, and respond to humanitarian crises.

You can participate in this 30-year UU tradition by taking a "Guest At Your Table" donation box and placing it on your family table. Then share the provided "Stories of Hope" and discuss with those gathered at your table what it means to welcome a guest at your table. Talk with each other about how we can each help people around the world and in our own communities. After the meal, make a contribution into your box. On November 25, return your box and your donation(s) to the Fellowship. All collected funds will be sent to the UUSC.

Boxes, "Stories of Hope," and additional information about UUSC programs are available in the Sanctuary on each of the following Sundays: Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, and 25, 2007. Questions? Contact UUSC representatives: Wilma Campbell 317-2953 or Alyssa Bennett 383-1444.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sharon Evey, Director of Religious Education

We are continuing with our Story Curriculum.

November 4, 2007: This Sunday, the students will learn about love and acceptance and also about the need for rules. The students will listen to some stories about Moses. They will hear about his birth, about all his difficulties getting his people out of Egypt and finally about the 10 commandments. The younger students will create a diorama from materials found outside about baby Moses and how he was saved by his sister and the older students will create an ark and rewrite some rules for people to live by.

November 11, 2007: This Sunday the students will learn about how a conscience works. They will hear a story about the adult Goldilocks and then do some fun activities around conscience.

November 18, 2007: This Sunday is discussion Sunday. Childcare available.

November 25, 2007: This is an intergenerational service around Thanksgiving. There will be child care for the youngest children downstairs but no RE.

ADULT EDUCATION

Tuesdays, November 6, 13, 20 and 27

7:00-8:00

Diane Dedrick

Global Warming: Changing CO₂urse (all sessions held at the Old Stone Church)

The November focus of Adult Education will be on our environment. Diane Dedrick is offering the course developed by the Northwest Earth Institute. The purpose of this course is to: (1) Learn more about the history and science of global warming, (2) Explore personal values and habits as they relate to climate change, and (3) Consider actions to curb global warming.

This is a four-session course where participants hold discussions based on common readings. The discussion guide which contains the readings needs to be purchased or checked out prior to the first session as that session is based on Part I material. Participants will have reading assignments each week. Sign up by Sunday, November 4th. The group is limited to twelve participants. Contact Ellen Mercer at 382-7232 or email her at emercer@bendcable.com.

We need to have a pretty close idea of how many people plan to participate in an upcoming activity being offered in order for presenters to plan for their organization and materials needed. We don't want to risk people hesitating to commit because of uncertainty of their calendars, but neither do we want volunteers preparing in vain. We will be asking people to check in by a designated date for all offerings. That may not mean drop-ins are precluded, but it will insure a quorum is in place.

We are currently planning the January – June schedule of events and are looking for all of your suggestions for programs. Thank you to those that have given ideas so far, and keep them rolling in. Contact Bob Barber, Ellen Mercer or Heather Starr for details.

Make sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, December 2 as Paul Bennett will be leading us in an intergenerational experience in art immediately following the Sunday Service.



LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Every day I am struck by how much we each *need* community and fellowship in our lives. This Unitarian Universalist Fellowship provides a welcoming, intergenerational, liberal religious community—a haven and a sanctuary that is both crucial and unique. And each person’s participation is an essential part of creating this vibrant whole.

It feels to me as if this congregation is on the cusp of a new step forward in its story. 2008 will be the 50th Anniversary of the formation of this Fellowship—and what a journey it has been! Especially in the past five-to-ten years, with the influx of new folks, the Fellowship has surged forward in its dreams and its accomplishments. We are becoming more of a consistent presence in terms of community building efforts through our ongoing Social Action efforts and our monthly Collection for the Greater Community. We are becoming more visible locally through our centrally-located gathering place and our more vocal presence individually and collectively around the region. We are offering reliably high-quality worship services and religious education offerings for both children and adults. We are strengthening the informal ways that we care for one another as a community and helping to make sure people feel connected, one to another. We are becoming more in tune with the efforts and activities of our regional Unitarian Universalist Pacific Northwest District, the national Unitarian Universalist Association office in Boston, and our international Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

There are so many ways you can support the depth and breadth of this congregation. As we move into the season of gratitude, I invite you to think about how gratitude moves you to care for those people, places, and communities that are important to you. At UUFCO, there are many ways to express your gratitude by making sure that the Fellowship continues to grow and thrive. Here are some possibilities: the Worship Committee would benefit from new members, input, insight and energy—if you’re interested in thinking about and developing our worship services, please let me know. Our Social Action Committee is looking for more members as Becky Boyer prepares to step down at the end of December and move on to other projects; please speak with any of our Social Action Committee members about getting involved. Our Caring Committee continues to develop its list of people who are willing to be available on an “on-call” volunteer basis to help with rides to church, meals, cards and phone calls, and visits to our less-mobile members and friends; if that’s a way that you can help, please speak with me, Alyssa Bennett, or June Slaughaupt. Elsewhere in this newsletter you’ll read of our hopes for the December 8 Bend Christmas Parade—please mark your calendars and plan on parading as we celebrate all that we can do and strive for, together, as a much needed, welcoming, intergenerational, vibrant community of faith.

Warmly, *Heather Starr*



Our services are held at 11:00 a.m. the 1st, 2nd, & 4th Sundays (3rd is Group Discussion) at Old Stone Church, 157 NW Franklin Avenue, Bend. Visitors are always welcome and childcare is provided every Sunday; Religious Education provided when there is a service. UUF^{CO}'s office phone number is: 541-385-3908. www.uufco.org

Minister	Rev. Heather Starr	390-6052	hstarr@uuma.org
President	Max Merrill	388-0075	max@merrill-osullivan.com
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Newsletter deadline is the second to last Sunday monthly. Please email, mail, or phone submissions to Rebecca Boyer by that date. **To be added or removed from our mailing list, please contact Kathy Day.**



UUF^{CO} is a Welcoming Congregation. This is a volunteer program for UU congregations who seek to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people.



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