The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

A Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, OR

November 2016

First Friday Parent Gathering November 4

The Parents' Night Gathering activity this month will be November 4 at Young at Art, 1255 Broadway St. NE, Suite 190, Salem, at 6:15 pm. Please bring a dish or drink, (enough for 4-6 people) for the potluck. If you wish to paint with the instructor, (5 people needed and goes until 9:15 pm) please bring $20 (scholarships available) for the painting supplies and the lesson. You may also come to enjoy the meal and socialize. Children are welcome to come along and use the open art studio. UUCS will supply a supervisor for the children using the open art studio!

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First Friday Youth Gathering November 4

The Youth gathering activity for November is roller skating at The Hoop, 3575 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem from 6:45-8:30 pm, with advisors. $6.00 per participant, which includes skate rental. There is plenty of space to visit, if roller skating is not your thing!

Fruit Pie Pre-Sales November 6 and 13

You can place an order for delicious fruit pies on Sunday, November 6 and Sunday, November 13 in the fellowship hall after each service. Pies will be delivered on November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. While they last, you can choose from 200 apple, blueberry, cherry, plum, Marion berry, and raspberry-rhubarb pies. Gluten free pies are also planned. The pies are $12 each, or $35 for three pies. We encourage you to order three pies, and give two to your neighbors as a thank you for being a good neighbor.

The (few!) pies not reserved by pre-orders will be available for sale on Sunday, November 20.

Women's Alliance Meeting November 1

At 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 1, you are welcome to come hear Ruth Larson and Molly O'Dea talk about helping the recently arrived group of refugees with their English, as well as to see some photos of the class and meet some very good English speakers. This Women's Alliance meeting in the Fellowship Hall is being held on the first Tuesday of the month because a number of members wish to concentrate on election returns on the second Tuesday!

Coming of Age Sign-up Now through November 15

Are you the parent of a seventh through ninth grade youth? We will be offering the UUA Coming of Age program this year. This is an opportunity for youth to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and articulate their own beliefs. Each youth will have a mentor chosen by the youth and their parents, who will participate in the program along with the youth, beginning on Sundays in January. Each youth will work through a series of activities and experiences to delve deeper into their spiritual beliefs. At the end of the program in May, youth will have the opportunity to present their credo (statement of belief).

Parents of youth seventh through ninth grade may sign up for this program. For more information and to sign up your youth for the Coming of Age program, please talk to Christi Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, or email Christi@uusalem.org. We need a minimum of four youth in order to make it a good experience for all. Please provide the name of your youth and the two names for possible mentors by November 15.

Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

On a visit to New York City in August 2001, my family rode the ferry out to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty in the harbor. On our ride, we snapped a photo of the World Trade Towers, little suspecting that a couple of weeks later they would not be standing and that our understanding of the world would be profoundly changed. You never completely know what lies around the corner.

Yet sometimes what lies ahead can be an unexpected blessing - I had no idea I'd find a visit to Ellis island to be so spiritually moving. The exhibits provide vivid images and stories of the scores of immigrants who came to our country seeking a new life. Most who first set foot on this island had endured hardship, heartbreak and loss on their journey to beginning a new life in our nation. What profound changes they had to undergo. Looking at the old black and white images and reading the stories of these immigrants made me mindful of the challenging journeys we all must take at one time or another, for life is endless change.

Next, I viewed the displays showing the immigration patterns to our country over the past two plus centuries – first, immigrants came mostly from northern Europe and Africa *(i.e., the involuntary immigration of Africans forced into slavery)*, then from Southern and Eastern Europe, and then, Asia, South and Central America, Africa, the Mideast – in other words, from everywhere on earth. *(Not mentioned in this particular display was the original presence of those who had not immigrated - Native Americans.)*

The display presented a frozen snapshot in time of the various ethnic and racial tributaries of humankind that are continuing to flow together in America – it makes you aware of the vast confluence of the people of the whole world in our country. There is no nation or people that is not included - anyone viewing this display becomes aware that eventually there will be no race, religion or ethnicity that is destined to be dominant in our America's future, and that there is no wall or dam that can keep this from happening.

And why should we wish for that? This is what I love about our country – that it is the country most representative of the people of the world – it is not built on loyalty to ethnic, religious or racial identity but to the ideals of freedom and democracy.

Yes, I know this is an idealized view of America and that we have never lived up to our ideals - there is no past age when America was "greater" than it is now. Today there are deep divisions and disturbing discord we feel on the eve of this most disturbing and polarizing presidential campaign since the Civil War. Although many of us are fairly certain of the outcome of the presidential election we don't know how people whose favored candidate loses will respond – especially since there are baseless accusations afoot, believed by many credulous people, that this election is "rigged." This false assertion destroys trust in our democracy and may well lead to unrest and continued strife.

So, yes, there is a cloud of uncertainty hanging above us right now and we don't know what lies ahead. Yet the memory of my visit to Ellis Island where I saw that America is where humankind comes together leads me to believe that America's greatest days lie not in the past, but in our future together. May it be so.
Love, Rick

Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

November is one of my favorite times of the year! I don't know about you, but every time I see the beautiful leaves changing colors, I am sure that fall is my favorite season. Fall remains my favorite season until I see the first snow and get excited about all of the snow activities I will enjoy! Spring flowers and the return of the green leaves then make me sure that spring is my favorite season! Then summer happens and I can't wait to get out on the lake. SO, I have decided that my favorite thing is actually the "change of the season," not the actual season! After all, I really do not have to choose a favorite season and can take time to enjoy what each season brings.
One thing about November being a part of the fall season that I especially enjoy is that it seems to be a time that people are encouraged to consider what they are thankful for with the Thanksgiving holiday upon us. I personally think this is such a nice way to reflect on your life. While one of my daily spiritual practices is to take time to always think about something to be thankful for, (especially helpful in times where I might be wishing things were going a different way or that I could buy something that may be out of my means), in November, I take extra time to add to my "Thankful Journal" and reflect on my past year. This is a nice tradition you may wish to share (or already do!) with your family as you approach this holiday season. In our closing circle on Sundays in RE, we are taking time to reflect on things we are thankful for and enjoyed about our time together. I am enjoying this Sunday ritual with your children.
I hope that your family is able to take the time to spend some time outside, rain or shine, in this wonderful time of year!

In gratitude and until next time, Christi
Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Other Notes Of Interest From RE ~

FIRST FRIDAY ACTIVITIES November 4! Roller skating at The Hoop for our high school and middle school youth and Parents Night "in" at Young-at-Art. See the articles on Page 1 for specifics. Contact Christi@uusalem.org if you have questions.

RE MULTIGENERATIONAL (ALL AGES) HOLIDAY SERVICE November 20 – Come enjoy worshipping with all ages for our Thanksgiving Service. We will not have individual RE Classes. Please remember ALL AGES ARE WELCOME in the service; however, if you feel your children need to be more active, you can hear the service in the nursery, foyer, and fellowship hall.

NO RE CLASSES November 27 - We will not have individual RE classes this Sunday.

COMING OF AGE SIGN-UPS NOW – for 7th – 9th grade youth. See the article on Page 1 for more details.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FUN IN DECEMBER: Mitten Drive starts December 1, Chalica begins December 5, Child Dedication will happen at our Holiday service on December 18, Family Holiday Celebration on December 24 at 5:30 pm an earlier celebration followed by traditional Candle Light Service), NO RE on December 25 and January 1.

Words from Our Intern Minister

In our Soul Matters covenant groups, the theme for exploration and discussion this month is "story." I'm excited about this – stories are a central part of how I engage the world and my life, both the stories I tell and the stories I hear which, even when they're about other people, sometimes help me understand myself as well as giving me a peek into someone else's life.

A core task of the ministerial internship, and of ministry, is to get to know the stories of people in the congregation and the story of the congregation as a whole. Last year as part of my seminary coursework I researched the history of my home congregation, which turned out largely to mean asking many people for the stories of how they became UUs, how they became involved with that particular congregation, and as many stories as they could remember about major and minor events in the congregation's history. It was such a delightful experience that now I want to do it again, here in Salem with you!

I have been so enjoying meeting some of you and getting to hear your stories. It's a gift, each and every time. If we haven't talked much yet, please know that I want a chance to meet with you and hear some of the stories you have to tell about your life and the life of this church. I'm slowly getting to know Salem, and I explore best when I have a companion – so email me and we'll find a time to meet for coffee or take a walk in a park, and as we get to know each other I'll be getting a little more geographically oriented too. Sometime this winter, tell me how you came to be a UU in Salem and what pieces you know of the UUCS story, whether you lived them or read them in the archives. I can be reached at monica@uusalem.org.

And I'll have a few new stories of my own to tell – during the first week of November I'll be in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for a special class through Meadville Lombard Theological School, my seminary. I'm getting the chance to learn some of the history of Tulsa, and along with 20 classmates I'll be spending a week at All Souls Unitarian Church of Tulsa, getting immersed in what Unitarian Universalism looks like in a 2000-member multiracial congregation. It's sure to be fascinating! I'll be back with you on November 8, with lots to talk about.

Warmly,
Monica

Happenings and Highlights

Many more events are listed in the Calendar section, including several events of interest sponsored by other organizations, taking place around Salem.

Help Make the Holiday Bazaar a Success

Donations of artistic, useful, or edible items for sale at the December 4 Holiday Bazaar will make shoppers happy and raise money for our building's needs. Bazaar set-up will be on Saturday, December 3; please bring your items then if possible. Also, Women's Alliance members will be in the Fellowship Hall assembling baskets for sale at the Bazaar on Wednesday, November 9, between 9 am and 5 pm . Feel free to stop by and lend a hand.

"Living The Seven Principles" Begins November 14

A new adult RE discussion group will begin on Monday, November 14 and will continue on the second Monday of each month, ending in June (no class in December). The group will explore the UU Seven Principles in depth, deepening our understanding of the guiding sources, and expanding our vision of applying them in our daily lives. One Principle will be discussed each of the seven months. Two members will co-lead each monthly meeting on a rotating basis. The class is from 7-9 PM, with meditation & chanting (Kirtan) from 6:30 - 7 pm. Limited space remains. Email Lynn at shazam57@gmail.com or Lennie at lenniem07@yahoo.com to register or for more information.

Want some online help with deciding how to vote?

For nonpartisan explanations of ballot measures 94 – 100, as well as statewide candidates' answers to questions asked by the League of Women Voters, check out the online version of the OREGON VOTERS' GUIDE FOR GENERAL ELECTION 2016, available at http://lwvor.org/home/VOTEResources.

UUCS Circle Suppers December 9, 10 and 11

The Membership Committee is coordinating Fall Circle Suppers December 9th, 10th and 11th. Circle Suppers are potluck-style gatherings at members' homes. Hosts provide their homes to gather in, and guests bring food to share. These are a great opportunity for an evening of fellowship and fun with a handful of members and friends of UUCS. Hosts decide the menu and call/email people who have signed up. The purpose of 3 days of circle suppers is to allow flexibility in people's busy schedules. Sunday, December 11 will be an afternoon "supper" for those who prefer not to drive after dark. **Signup sheets will be available at the welcome table on November 19, 26 and December 3.** Contact Anna Tally at (802) 417-1080 if you have questions or if you would like to volunteer as a host.

Welcoming Congregation Re-Certification Movie November 15

The November focus for the Welcoming Congregation Re-certification process is the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), November 20. This is a time for individuals and communities to remember the loss by murder of transgender people, gender-variant individuals and those perceived to be transgender.

The lives of transgender individuals are often difficult. They face disproportionate rates of unemployment, poverty, harassment, homelessness, assault, and various forms of discrimination and mistreatment. Each year, many are murdered because of anti-transgender hatred and prejudice. The TDOR site lists all of the souls memorialized on this day in 2016.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30 pm Tuesday, November 15 for a movie and discussion on transgender issues. **Good congregation participation is vital for the re-certification to be successful.** A Welcoming Congregation certification confirms the congregation's openness toward LGBTQA (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer and asexual) individuals and communities. Re-certification efforts involve a monthly movie with a discussion group, a monthly newsletter article, and a review of the congregation's efforts over the past five years for inclusive language. The process will be completed in time for the congregation to vote on renewing our Welcoming Congregation certification at the annual meeting on May 21.

For more information, contact Benjahmin Boschee, secretary of Salem Covenant of UU Pagans, at benjahminboschee@yahoo.com.

Thanksgiving Day Potluck at UUCS November 24

Please join us, November 24, from 5-8 pm, for the 3rd annual Community Thanksgiving Day Potluck hosted by the Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (S.C.U.U.P.s). Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to feed 8-12 people. S.C.U.U.P.s will provide dinner rolls and mashed potatoes. The building will be open at 3 pm. Please bring a label with the ingredients in your dish to help people with food allergies make healthy choices. This is a non-alcoholic event held in the UUCS Fellowship Hall. – Angela Gross at uu4peace@gmail.com

News of the Community

We recently received greetings from former newsletter editor Lois Nodland (loisnod@gmail.com), who keeps up with UUCS through the newsletter as well as via Facebook friends. She moved back to Bismarck, ND in 2013, where there's more sunshine in winter, as well as family and old friends, though only a small UU congregation. She had a stroke in June and is adjusting to needed changes like giving up her car keys and ordering groceries online for home delivery—but she's still playing bridge three times a month. She reports that her son Chad is currently working as a lawyer for Peaceful Water Protesters arrested last week at Standing Rock: fracking has brought changes to North Dakota!

Last month, the Portland Art Museum featured a special exhibit of wood carvings by Leroy Setziol. But, you can admire his work much closer to home; two of his wonderful panels are mounted near the back of our sanctuary. We thank Janet Neuberg for her role in acquiring these for us!

Help Needed and Appreciated!

Pie Day Volunteers Still Needed November 19

About 20 volunteers will meet Saturday, November 19 at 9 am for a 4-hour pie-making extravaganza at the church. If you wish to join the "Board of Crusteaze" in this pie making frenzy, email Vicki Cunningham at vickicunningham11003@gmail.com and join the returning crew for a slice of the fun. All the fruit, pie dough, and ingredients will be ready to go, just needing the willing volunteers. Will train! If you have been receiving Pie Day email updates, you are already on the list. Thank you!

Facebook Guru Needed

Love Facebook? Want to help UUCS? We are looking for a replacement for our retiring UUCS Facebook guru, Chad Halsey.

As UUCS Facebook administrator, you would generate posts to inform the community of congregational events and news and educate the community about UU principles. Through Facebook we connect the congregation with UUs across the state, country, and world.

Posts would be expected at least once a week. Contact Vicki Cunningham at communications@uusalem.org for details.

The Finance Team Wants and Needs Your Help

A few years ago cars running on alternate fuels had signs saying “This vehicle runs on _____”. UUCS should have a sign saying “This Congregation runs on volunteers”. Every Sunday we see volunteers in action, greeting you at the door, singing in the choir, serving coffee and helping with Religious Exploration and more.

Other volunteer teams work more in the background, providing governance, accountability and structure for the congregation. One of those groups, the Finance Team, works with the Treasurer to oversee the congregation’s financial health. They coordinate the annual pledge drive, develop the annual budget and oversee church finances.

The Finance Team has an ambitious agenda. We are exploring ways to use electronic giving applications, to increase opportunities for events generating rental income, and to improve our annual pledge drive. The Team plans to update the Financial Policy and Procedures Manual, and last but not least, to develop a Financial Strategic plan in coordination with the Board’s strategic planning efforts.

How you can help: If you are interested in any aspect of finance there are short term and long term opportunities. We are forming two ad hoc committees. One committee will explore the electronic tools available to facilitate giving at the collection plate. The second committee will explore how to increase income from renting the building while striking a balance with the congregation’s building use needs. The committees will meet for as long as it takes to do the research necessary to help develop recommendations that the Finance Team will bring to the Board.

Finally, if you are interested in becoming a member of the Finance Team, we need broader congregational points of view as well as help in accomplishing our agenda.

To find out more about the Finance Team’s activities and/or join either an ad hoc committee or the Team itself, please contact the Finance Team Chair, John Prohodsky, at johnmpro@gmail.com.

Fantastic Landscape Cleanup – Many Thanks!

We had a very successful landscape cleanup on October 22. The Sacred Circle in the Woods is shaping up nicely. The garden area by the roosters' coop is cleaned and ready for fall crops of lettuce, beets and chard. The garden area behind the building is clean and tidy with fresh bark chips in the pathways. THANK YOU to Ted Cory, Caroline Cory, Brian Kirkpatrick, Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick, Paul Manka, George Struble, Elsa Struble, Jo Bateman, Meg Green, Ashley Acers, Gayle Gilmore and Mike Preston and Sam Inglis from the UU Compassionate Mind Sangha. Special thanks to Pixie for her supervision. Submitted by Angela Gross, Cleanup Coordinator

Thank You for a Successful UU Voices Gathering!

I would like to thank the following people for all their help with the UU Voices for Justice gathering on October 29: Dana Brown, Sarah Rohrs, Michael & Patrice Pollard, Victor Reppeto, Barbara Dow from Portland, and the Strubles for housing our visitor from Grants Pass. The event was an outstanding success. – Cecilia Craig

Membership News

Are You Ready for Membership?

If you've been attending UUCS for a while and are moving toward making the commitment to membership, the *Pathway to Membership* may be helpful**.** The full year schedule is available online at the UUSC website.

UU101 is a gathering where Unitarian Universalism is explored from a historical point of view. This is followed by **UU102,** where our UUCS community is discussed. It's here you get an overview of our governance, organization structure, teams, committees and programs. These classes are offered alternate months, following the 2nd service, during the church year. Rev. Rick provides the content and encourages questions and active participation.

The first Sunday of each month **"Membership Invitation and Information"** is available during fellowship time. This informal setting is where your questions regarding the nuts and bolts of membership are answered. The *Pathway to Membership* is designed to support your knowledge base. It is not a requirement for membership. You can sign the Membership Book whenever you know the time is right for you.

UU102 will be offered on November 6, UU101 on December 4. All classes start at 12:45, in the sanctuary. A light lunch will be served. It's helpful but not required to register by sending an email to office@uusalem.org.

New Faces at the Welcome Table

At the October Board of Directors' meeting, the Membership Team requested that Board members assist with hosting the Welcome Table. The Board graciously agreed. They will join Lifelines, Hosts, and Members at Large in a four-week rotation for both services.

The purpose of the Welcome Table is to provide a comfortable, informative setting for visitors during fellowship following both first and second services. Because some visitors find it awkward to navigate the coffee line, a new feature will be coffee and treats served at the table.

The membership team still needs members to help with Welcome Table assistance following the first service. If you would like to sign up for this once a month commitment, contact Carolyn Woodman: carolynjwoodman@comcast.net, (503) 364-8065

Meet Our New Members

Brad Dull

I enjoy my life, and the company of many new friends. I recently sold my home outside Eugene and moved to Dallas, where I live with my best friend, 2 cats named Zuke, and Kenya, and a 12-year-old dog named Bella.

As a native Eugeneian, my roots are in Oregon. Graduating from high school in 1968, I was drafted into the United States Army. After my tour of duty in Vietnam, I came home to Eugene. I'm not going to say I led a great life, nor did I trust or believe in much. For the next 3 plus decades, my life was spent in addictions, periods of homelessness, and transitional homelessness. I maintained good employment, but the rest of my life was very dysfunctional.

I have worked at Fairview Hospital and Training Center, for the federal government in Europe and the United States, for the State of Oregon, and as a chef and in local retail. My 14 years of employment with the State of Oregon in Mental Health, the Prison System, the food industry in Salem, Pendleton, and Coos Bay, as well as North Bend and New Mexico all afforded me a lot of life's experiences.

I received disability from the V.A. from my prior service in 2005. It was through the help of the V.A. and a renewed faith that I was able to give up my addictions, begin treatment, and find my life's path for healing.

I retired in 2008 and purchased my first home. I enrolled in the Spiritual Director's program at the Sisters of The Benedictine Monastery in Mt. Angel, Oregon in 2011. I graduated in 2013 and have been helping people find strength and hope through Spiritual Direction and their beliefs in God as they see Him or Her. I am currently involved in volunteer work at the Monastery and have conducted workshops on Spiritual Healing, P.T.S.D., and Moral Injury. I currently volunteer for a group of 20+ adults with T.B.I..(Traumatic Brain Injury) in the Salem area.

Today, I enjoy traveling to other countries to better understand their views on God and how spirituality has influenced their cultures. Last spring, I spent time in Bali, Indonesia with a wonderful Hindu family. After the first of the year, I will be travelling to the Amazon Jungle to visit people in Peru.

I've concluded there is much to learn and many enriching relationships to enjoy in this short lifetime. I look forward to continuing my work assisting others in finding a way that works for them, and brings peace to their lives.

Megan Altofer

I've been attending UUCS for about a year. We moved to Independence, Oregon after living in Gresham and attending East Rose Unitarian Universalist congregation for ten years. Coming to UUCS was like returning home.

I'm blessed with two wonderful daughters Jadyn, age 13 and Zoe, age 10. They divide their time between me and their father who still lives in Gresham. They're typical young women actively involved in volleyball, swimming, and dance.

Although I'm somewhat limited by some disabilities, I still enjoy doing a variety of volunteer work both in my community and UUCS. The Start Making a Reader Today (SMART) program is a place I can share my joy of reading with young children. Another community service with which I'm involved is providing peer to peer support through the Project Able program. This is a nonprofit organization providing counseling support services to people who may not have finances to pursue other resources. Within the UUCS community, I'm volunteering as a Youth Mentor in the RE high school program.

Calendar

Coming of Age Sign-up Begins
Tuesday, November 1
See related article for details.

Membership Team Meeting
Tuesday, November 1, 6:30 pm

Women's Alliance Meeting
Tuesday, November 1, 7 - 9 pm
See related article for details.

Salem Peace Vigil
Wed, November 2, 12pm – 1pm
Come join this vigil held at the corner of Liberty and Chemeketa Streets, sponsored by the Salem Friends Meeting and the Salem Area Fellowship of Reconciliation. You can use one of the available peace and economic justice signs or bring your own. For more information call (503) 371-6109

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha
Wednesday, November 2, 5:30 pm, 7 pm - 9 pm
A welcoming place for meditation practice. Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners. Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8 - 9pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Microfinance Committee meeting
Wednesday, November 2, 6:00 pm
The UUCS Microfinance Committee will meet to discuss the fundraising efforts in October, Partner groups in Nicaragua and Kenya, and future fundraising ideas.

Salem Sleeping Bag Project
Thursday, November 3, 6 pm – 8 pm
Come help the homeless by making simple sleeping bags from recycled fabrics and distributing them FREE to those who need them. Our only purpose is to help the homeless be warm until they can be helped or healed by others in our society. We'll be making bags at the Broadway Coffeehouse, 1300 Broadway St NE #100, Salem, OR 97301, United States (map). For more information, see the SalemSleepingBagProject page on Facebook.

Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, November 3, 6:30 pm

First Friday Parent Gathering
Friday, November 4, 6:15 pm
See related article for details.

First Friday Youth Activity
Friday, November 4, 6:45 pm
See related article for details.

Dances of Universal Peace
Friday, November 4, 7:00 pm
Simple, easy-to-learn movements and songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world. The dances bring together sacred phrases from the world's religious traditions in heart-awakening circle dances dedicated to peace within and without. See SalemDances.com for more information.

Mill Creek Riparian Repair Project
Saturday, November 5, 9 am – Noon
Join the Mill Creek Riparian Repair Team! We want your help to clear ivy and other invasive plants from Mill Creek. We'll provide tools and gloves, but you're welcome to bring your own too. It's rain or shine, so dress appropriately. We'll meet at 1320 A Street NE, Salem (map).

SIHN Hosting Week
November 6 – 13
In cooperation with other area churches and the YWCA/YMCA the UUCS offers shelter for homeless families for one week several times a year. Opportunities to volunteer abound!

Holiday Pie Pre-Sales
Sunday, November 6, 9 am – 1:30 pm
See related article for details.

Loving Kindness Meditation
Sunday, November 6, 9:30 am
Loving Kindness is a short guided visualization that helps us develop a mind of loving kindness towards all living beings regardless of differences. A daily practice that calms the mind and allows it to focus on developing harmlessness towards others. It encourages self-confidence and inner happiness. A written and recorded version is offered to each participant. The guided version takes 16 minutes to complete. We'll meet in the Green Room (Middle School classroom).

Membership Open House
Sunday, November 6, 10:30 am and 12:15 pm
Do you have questions about your membership at UUCS? Questions about what it means to be a member of UUCS? You are invited to stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall and chat with our Office Manager, Samantha Scales.
And, if you are ready to become a member, the Membership Book will be open and available to sign.

UU 102: A UUCS Overview

Sunday, November 6, 12:30 pm

At UU102 we shift the discussion to our UUCS community. We'll cover what it means to have a democratic governance, share our organizational structure, and offer an overview of our teams, committees and programs. Come find out more about where you can get involved!

Salem-Keizer NAACP Meeting

Monday, November 7, 6 pm – 7 pm

Chemeketa Community College 4000 Lancaster Drive NE, Salem, OR 97305, Building 2, Room 232 (map)

OADP Death Penalty Discussion

Monday, November 7, 7pm – 8pm

On the first Monday of each month, Oregonians Against the Death Penalty (OADP) is sponsoring an informal discussion about repealing the death penalty in Oregon. Everyone is welcome to come and share your ideas about making Oregon a more peaceful place. We meet at Ike Box Café, 299 Cottage St NE, Salem, OR 97301, United States (map).

350 Salem OR Meeting

Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

350 Salem OR evolved out of a loose network of Salem Oregon climate activists. In the spring of 2014 we affiliated with global climate action group 350.org. To contact us or to get involved, please email salem.climate.activists@gmail.com. The meetings are open to the public. We meet at Ike Box Café, 299 Cottage St NE, Salem, OR 97301, United States (map).

Women's Alliance Holiday Prep Party

Wednesday, November 9, 9am – 5pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, November 9, 5:30 pm, 7 pm - 9 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. See November 2 entry for details.

Board Meeting

Thursday, November 10, 6:00 pm

UUCS members are welcome to observe.

Salem Sleeping Bag Project

Thu, November 10, 6pm – 8pm

See November 3 entry for details.

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 10, 6:30 pm

Holiday Pie Pre-Sales

Sunday, November 13, 9 am – 1:30 pm

See related article for details.

Theological Discussion Group - Exploring The Old Testament

Sunday, November 13, 9:30 am

Are you curious about the bible or looking to change your relationship with this often controversial text? Bring your baggage, your questions, and curiosity. Together we will traverse passages from a historical perspective to finding meaningful interpretations. No experience necessary. We are all explorers in this open and free discussion of Biblical passages and stories. Bible Discussion Group is on the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month. You can bring your own copy of the New Revised Standard Version or copies will be provided. Drop in -- explore -- Discover new questions.

Nonviolence Reading Group

Sunday, November 13, 2 pm – 4 pm

Meet at the Friends' Meeting House, 490 19th St NE, Salem, OR 97301, USA (map). Open to public. For more information, contact Mark Babson, markbabson@gmail.com, (503) 569-7223.

Full Moon Celebration

Sunday, November 13, 6:00 pm

Celebrate the Full Dark Moon with a pot luck supper beginning at 6:00 pm followed by a ritual at 7:30 pm. This is a family friendly event and everyone is invited. Email Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick for details.

Living the Seven Principles

Monday, November 14, 6:15 pm

The group will explore the UU Seven Principles in depth, deepening our understanding of the guiding sources, and expanding our vision of using them in our daily lives. Group members will examine how these spiritual and wisdom sources have contributed to their life choices and their personal spirituality. Contemporary and emerging issues and visions that relate to the Principles will be included. The class is from 7-9 pm, with meditation & chanting (Kirtan) from 6:30 - 7 pm. Contact Lynn at shazam57@gmail.com or Lennie at lenniem07@yahoo.com to register.

Social Justice Discussion Group

Monday, November 14, 6:30 pm

The Social Justice in Action Team invites you to join us to discuss current social justice topics in an informal setting. Topics are decided by participants.

Please join us and consider bringing a snack or non-alcoholic beverage to share. Hope to see you there!

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Business Meeting

Monday, November 14, 6:30 pm

Monthly business meeting for the executive team of Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, discussing items that are relevant to the spiritual and business needs of the group, planning for events, and addressing and supporting the greater pagan community at UUCS. The meeting is open to anyone to attend.

Welcoming Congregation Film

Tuesday, November 15, 7:30 pm

It is time to renew our Welcoming Congregation status. UUCS did the initial certification process in 1993. So much has changed in the past 23 years. The Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) asked the UUCS Board of Directors for permission to host the recertification process. The request was approved at the August 2016 Board meeting. The process will be completed in time for the congregation to vote on renewing our Welcoming Congregation certification at the annual meeting May 21, 2017.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, November 16, 5:30 pm, 7 pm - 9 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. See Nov. 2 entry for details.

Salem Sleeping Bag Project

Thursday, November 17, 6 pm – 8 pm

See November 3 entry for details.

Dances of Universal Peace

Thursday, November 17, 7:00 pm

See November 4 entry for details.

Journey to Belonging

Thursday, November 17, 7:00 pm

A three month covenant group that explores the spiritual journey: where we come from, where we are, what we look forward to exploring.

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meet & Greet

Friday, November 18, 7:00 pm

A place for pagans to gather, connect, and share. All are welcome to discuss and learn about each other, events, and shared spirituality. Bring a snack to share and a smile. We'd like to get to know you.

Holiday Pie Baking Day

Saturday, November 19, 8 am – 5 pm

Holiday Pie Sales

Sunday, November 20, 9 am – 1:30 pm

Soul Matters Sharing Circle

Sunday, November 20, 9:30 am

Similar to Covenant Groups the Sharing Circle will discuss a topic based on timeless spiritual themes. The Sharing Circle offers a way for those who aren't able to attend a regular covenant group a place to find spiritual grounding and deeper conversation. New members and visitors are free to join in. We meet on the third Sunday of each month. You can find a link to read or download each month's topic on the Covenant Groups page of the UUCS website. Additional copies of Soul Matters material will be available at each meeting.

Social Justice in Action meeting

Sunday, November 20, 12:30 pm

Kairos Community Lunch

Sunday, November 20, 12:30 pm – 3:30pm

Help celebrate the Thanksgiving season by making a meal for your fellow community members at the Kairos Community Lunch. On Sunday, Nov. 20, volunteers from UUCS will meet at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 790 Marion St NE, Salem, OR 97301 (map) at 12:30 pm to prepare and serve a lunch for whomever needs one. We'll be cleaned up and out by 3:30 pm. It really is great fun and very satisfying. Please sign up at the Social Justice table on Sundays. Questions? Call Mary Beth Hustoles at (503) 587-7949.

RE Team Meeting

Sunday, November 20, 12:45 pm

Silverton Monthly Peace Vigil

Monday, November 21, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Monthly Peace Vigil in its 14th year is sponsored by Silverton People for Peace (SPFP@yahoogroups.com), at Town Square Park, near the corner of Main & Fiske streets in downtown (map). More information is available on our Facebook page or by calling (503) 873-1446

Worship Team meeting

Monday, November 21, 6 pm – 8 pm

Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan & discuss Sunday Services

Facilities Team Meeting

Tuesday, November 22, 6:00 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, November 23, 5:30 pm, 7 pm - 9 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. See Nov. 2 entry for details.

Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed

November 24-25

Earth Care, People Care, Fair Share Film Series

~~**Thursday, November 24**~~

Canceled. This film series will resume in January.

Community Thanksgiving Potluck

Thursday, November 24, 5 pm – 8 pm

Please join us for our 3rd annual community Thanksgiving Day potluck hosted by the Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (S.C.U.U.P.s). Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to feed 8-12 people. S.C.U.U.P.s will provide dinner rolls and mashed potatoes. The building will be open at 3pm. Please bring a label with the ingredients in your dish to help people with food allergies make healthy choices. This is a non-alcoholic event held in the UUCS Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Angela Gross at uu4peace@gmail.com.

NO RE Classes

Sunday November 27

Communications Team Meeting

Monday, November 28, 4 pm – 6 pm

Join the communications team for discussion of progress on our UUCS newsletter, website, Facebook, publicity and video projects. Newcomers or visitors welcome.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, November 30, 5:30 pm, 7 pm - 9 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. See Nov. 2 entry for details.

Salem Sleeping Bag Project

Thu, December 1, 6pm – 8pm

See November 3 entry for details.

First Friday Parent Gathering

Friday, December 2, 5:30 pm

First Friday Youth Activity

Friday, December 2, 6:15 pm

Salem Philharmonia Orchestra

Friday, December 2, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Discover the Salem Philharmonia Orchestra and experience great symphonic music performed in welcoming concert settings by outstanding musicians from your community. Pre-concert talk at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Concert at 7pm in the Sanctuary. For more information, see http://www.salemphil.org/concerts/upcoming-performances/

Dances of Universal Peace

Friday, December 2, 7:00 pm

See November 4 entry for details.

Chalice & Flame Newsletter Deadline

Friday, December 2

Cordon Road Clean Up

Saturday, December 3, 9 am – 12 pm

Join us for an opportunity to build community and work for a cleaner environment. Meet in the lobby of UUCS. Children under 18 must have a waiver of liability and indemnification form signed by their parent or guardian. Children age 10 and 11 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Mill Creek Riparian Repair Project

Saturday, December 3, 9 am – 12 pm

See the November 5 entry for details.

Women's Alliance Bazaar

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Artistic, useful, and edible "giftable" items for sale. There will also be a gift table for kids to shop at as well as Chalica Kits for sale.

Loving Kindness Meditation

Sunday, December 4, 9:30 am

See November 6 entry for details.

Membership Invitation and Information

Sunday December 4, 10:30 am and 12:45 pm

See November 6 entry for details.

UU 101: A Historical Perspective

Sunday, December 4, 12:45 pm – 2:15 pm

Join us for a discussion about Unitarian Universalism, the history, the movement, and what it means to be a UU. The discussion is designed for those who are new to Unitarian Universalism, but all are welcome and encouraged to come and share their experiences.

Salem-Keizer NAACP Meeting

Monday, December 5, 6 pm – 7pm

Chemeketa Community College 4000 Lancaster Dr NE, Salem, OR 97305, Building 2, Room 232 (map)

OADP Death Penalty Discussion

Monday, December 5, 7 pm – 8pm

See November 7 entry for details.

The Chalice & The Flame Published

Tuesday, December 6

Membership Team meeting

Tue, December 6, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

See November 1 entry for details.

Worship Services and Religious Exploration

November Share the Plate Recipient: Meals On Wheels

Service Times: **9:30 am and 11:15 am**

Sunday, November 6 **The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

A Healing Effect

Celebrant: Ann Hanus **Anchor:** LJ Frederickson
Music Both Services: Loraine Stuart

Everyone gets wounded in life. Some heal and some don't. Why?

Sunday, November 13 **Monica Jacobson Tennessen**

How We Want the World to Be

Celebrant: Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick ; **Anchor:** David Jeffers
First Service Music: Ryan Amend and Aimee Larsen-Amend ;
Second Service Music: UUCS Choir

Our ability to imagine how the world might be is a powerful tool in our work for love, justice, and peace. In the aftermath of this 2016 election, what imaginings might help us move forward? How do our religious lives support us in doing this?

Sunday, November 20 **The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

Stories Told and Untold

Celebrant: David Gortner ; **Anchor:** Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick
Music Both Services: Ted Cory

This will be a multi-generational service (all ages welcome) in which we ponder the role of stories in our lives, including the Thanksgiving story.

Sunday, November 27 **The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

Islam & The Western World

Celebrant: Gloria Holland ; **Anchor:** LJ Frederickson
First Service Music: UUCS Choir; **Second Service Music:** Sara Greenleaf

No RE classes.

Can our ancient wounds be healed?

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION: to subscribe to *The Chalice and the Flame* monthly newsletter, email your request to the UUCS office at office@uusalem.org and include your full name and email address. If you are a pledging member and want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter in the mail, also include a physical address.

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DEADLINES:
Newsletter Submissions for *The Chalice and the Flame* must be received by the Friday before publication. The deadline for the **December 6** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **December 2.** Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to editors@uusalem.org.
Announcements for the separate **Sunday Bulletin** must be at the **office** by 9 a.m. **Tuesday**.

EVENT SCHEDULING: please use the Event Scheduling Request form on the UUCS website to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

PUBLICITY: please use the Event Publicity Request form on the UUCS website! This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website and or Facebook.