



# The Chalice and the Flame

*Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.*

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

## March 2017

### Report from the Nominating Committee

Here are the results from the Nominating Committee's candidate search. The following members have agreed to be candidates to be presented for the congregation's consideration at the Annual Meeting following the 10:30 service on May 21, 2017. (Summer schedule with a single service at 10:30 will begin that day.)

**Board Chair** - Lynn Cardiff

**Vice Chair** - Joanne Manson

**Secretary** - Robin Lamonte

**Treasurer** - John Prohodsky

**Director** - Joel Woodman

**Director** - Benjamin Boschee

**Director** - vacant

**Nominating Committee Member** - Rob Schiff

As of the newsletter deadline, we had not completed the search for a candidate for the third Director position.

There are four board members whose terms continue for the 2017 - 18 year.

**Past Chair** - LJ Fredrickson

**Directors** - Susan Farris-Gosser, Gloria Holland, and JP Batmale

*Submitted by Diana Bodtker, Nominating Committee Chair*

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### Love and Justice Postcard Campaign – Through Mid-March

The Social Justice Action Team is helping our congregation take part in #TheLdesofTrump, a mass postcard campaign in mid-March. At the SJAT table in the Fellowship Hall following the services, postcards that affirm UU values will be available for the congregation to sign. Postcards will be available **March 12**. They will be mailed on March 15.

### ACLU Livestream Event at UUCS March 11

Many in our wonderful, inclusive and welcoming congregation have been asking what they as individuals can do to effectively push back against injustice. On March 11, UUCS will be one of many sites across the country to present the ACLU's People Power Resistance Training event. More information is available on our website, [here](#).



### Sunday March 12 is "Dress Down, Identity T Shirt Sunday"

Yes, we will lose an hour of time due to the Daylight Savings Time change, but this is THE Sunday of the year when you can come in your jammies, and it will be deemed socially respectable here at UUCS. Or wear whatever is easy to toss on. Just getting your one hour sleep deprived self here is what matters. Also, perhaps it's good time to wear that T shirt that reveals your true identity. Wonder what Rev. Rick will wear?

### Sexual Harassment Training March 12

UUCS is presenting training on March 12, 2017 to promote a healthy work environment for our employees and a positive place of fellowship for our congregation and their guests. The focus will be on defining sexual harassment and behaviors that could be considered harassment; how to prevent harassment from happening; and, how to stop it if it does occur. The training will be held in the Sanctuary a few minutes after the second service ends.

### Women's Alliance Meets March 14

Our own Aimee Larsen-Amend will be the speaker at the Women's Alliance meeting on Tuesday, March 14, at 7:00 pm. Come hear our Music Director tell us about her enthusiastic support for music at UUCS and her ideas for its future, as well as about her background and training. Everyone is welcome to attend and to stay for the refreshments and business meeting that follow.



## Reverential Ramblings

### ~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

Twenty years ago, on March 2, 1997 - an overcast and blustery day - we ceremonially broke ground for our new spiritual home here.

It's gratifying to look back on triumphs and successes in life. In the nostalgic glow of satisfaction one tends to forget how challenging and uncertain it may have felt during the times leading up to these wonderful moments. As the existentialist philosopher Kierkegaard noted: "Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

Getting to that groundbreaking ceremony wasn't a piece of cake. The congregation had to decide whether to undertake a capital fund campaign - a significant challenge! A few folks chose to leave when we voted to do this, one of whom told me that he wasn't willing to make such a financial commitment. Yet mostly, members and friends recognized that we were called to meet this challenge whether or not it was easy - it was so apparent that our small facility was inadequate - Unitarian Universalism needed a much bigger pot to grow and flower in.

On the day we voted to undertake the campaign one member came up and said "I don't want to leave this place. My children grew up here. It holds precious memories. But I will vote to build because it'll be good for the congregation."

We weren't sure if we could pull it off - there were so many unknowns - could we raise all that money? Where would we build - was it a good idea to build so far out on the edge of town? Would we be able to get a zoning variance? Would we find a contractor who would come in with an affordable bid? Many congregations experience all manner of unexpected setbacks when they build a new home and I had been warned that this wouldn't be easy. So there were moments of uncertainty and anxiety.

Yet - as noted elsewhere in this newsletter - everything fell into place and we broke ground, built and celebrated our building dedication on Dec. 7, 2017. So let's look back and celebrate these triumphs and successes. It's wonderful!

Even as we understand life backwards we are still living forward into the present, and we can't peer into a crystal ball knowing that one day we'll be able to look back on today with a similar sense of satisfaction. It depends on how we meet the challenges and opportunities we now face. Which begs certain questions: "What great endeavor should we now envision? How should we be planning to break ground in building for tomorrow? It's up to us - and not some others - to discern the great tasks our congregation is now called to do now in these unsettling times. Stay tuned - we'll have more to say on this in the near future.

As I look around and appreciate the beauty of the spiritual home we built for Unitarian Universalism years ago, I remember the words of my late friend and esteemed elder colleague the Rev. Dr. Peter Raible:

*We build on foundations we did not lay*

*We warm ourselves by fires we did not light*

*We sit in the shade of trees we did not plant*

*We drink from wells we did not dig*

*We profit from persons we did not know*

*This is as it should be.*

*Together we are more than any one person could be.*

*Together we can build across the generations.*

*Together we can renew our hope and faith in the life that is yet to unfold.*

*Together we can heed the call to a ministry of care and justice.*

We are ever bound in community.

May it always be so.

Love, Rick



## *Lifespan Religious Exploration*

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

MARCH .....

I especially enjoy this time of year! We start to see the bulbs come up in our gardens and we see the earth begin to “come alive” around us. With the changing season, we will resume work on our little RE garden spot by planting some spring flower bulbs that will bloom next year for us to enjoy!

In Religious Exploration (RE) for March, we are focusing on collecting cans for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt (April 16). It has been successful to have the children search for the collected cans of food and then exchange them for filled Easter Eggs to take home. It helped them to see the extra donation of cans that added to the weekly collection for Marion Polk Food Share. I hope that you all will help us by sending extra cans with your children or adding cans to the box in the foyer for our “egg” hunt.

Our Coming of Age program, a time when our middle school youth meet with a mentor and work on creating a statement of belief (Credo), is off to a good start. The time put in by our youth and mentors is so appreciated. I look forward to seeing the spiritual growth that will take place in all.

Please note that our **RE program will be off for Spring Break on Sunday, March 26. We will not be having any individual RE classes.** Children and youth are ALWAYS welcome in our service. The cozy corner is available to hear the service and soon to be able to see the service as well!

A reminder, our youth program (middle school and high school), attend the service every last Sunday of the month. We feel that it is important for our youth to have a connection to the congregation beyond their youth classes. This planning affords an opportunity.

When thinking about how you want to be a part of our community, I hope that you will consider helping in our RE program. In order for our program to be successful, we need committed people to make it happen. We are especially in need of youth advisors for our Middle School program. We have two awesome people currently and need four more to help in the rotation. We have a great group of middle schoolers who need consistent volunteers to lead their program! Materials and plans for the class are provided! Please help us make this happen. Talk to me about all of the volunteer opportunities!

Our **women’s retreat registration starts in March. Look for the registration forms to be available beginning March 12.** The forms will be at the Welcome Table and in the foyer. The retreat will be at the Oregon 4H Center April 28-30. It will be \$130.00 for the weekend, which includes lodging, meals, and activities! Hope that you will consider attending this wonderful event. Thanks to the support of the bake sale, we have scholarships available to those that need the financial assistance. Do not hesitate to ask. Thank you to Stephanie Jernstedt for making the women’s retreat possible. Contact Stephanie Jernstedt at [steffiej2947@msn.com](mailto:steffiej2947@msn.com), for more information.

Hope that you will find an activity to engage you in our Unitarian Universalist Community! If you need ideas where you might “find your niche”, feel free to chat with me for some thoughts!

*In faith and until next time, Christi*

Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

# Words from Our Intern Minister



Are you as ready for spring as I am? Between the cold and snow, and the stream of distressing news, it feels like it's been a long, dark winter. I'm looking forward to more daylight, to gardening and watching new leaves unfold, to the reminder that life is made up of endless cycles from beginning to maturity to ending, over and over again. To everything there is a season.

I'm reading some developmental theory right now, which looks at the specific "tasks" of each phase of our lives. Under one theory, we learn to trust as infants, to act autonomously as toddlers, to take initiative as preschoolers, to work industriously as school age children, to form identities as adolescents, to develop intimacy skills as young adults, to provide generative nurturing as mature adults, and finally to integrate all the experiences of our lives into wisdom as elders. But this same theory can be mapped out to different milestones, placing one "task" in each decade of our lives, and this application reminds me yet again how much is cyclical. We learn to trust not just once, but many times. We form our identities and later find pieces of them shifting and reforming. We develop the ability to be emotionally close with others and later refine our boundaries and choices. We are always striving to do some element of the core religious task of making sense of our lives, even in the midst of them.

Knowing that the seasons of our lives circle around just as the seasons of the earth do, similar and yet different each time, I wonder: what season are you in? What developmental task are you called to now? Are you growing in your commitment to causes and values you believe in? Are you exploring how to nurture the growth of others? Do you find yourself discovering wisdom as you trace the arcs of your life? Have you noticed a new playfulness coming forth? What's unfolding in you this spring?

It is a difficult time we live in. We are called to do so much in the world, which seems filled with fear and anxiety and need, where our hearts break. And we are called to balance: to hold our awareness of both the broken and the beautiful, to make progress toward the world we dream of and to attend to our inner lives. It is the eternal work of being human.

I want to leave you with a poem by Mary Oliver, which will make more sense if you know that Percy is her dog (and now you do!).

## **I Ask Percy How I Should Live My Life**

*Mary Oliver*

Love, love, love, says Percy.  
And run as fast as you can  
along the shining beach, or the rubble, or the dust.

Then, go to sleep.  
Give up your body heat, your beating heart.  
Then, trust.

Warmly,  
Monica

## Happenings and Highlights

### **RE is collecting cans for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt!**

Youth will hide the canned items we collect and children will go on an "egg hunt" at the Easter Service to find them. They will trade their found cans for filled egg surprises to take home! See DRE Christi Olsen's [article](#) for more information. Please help us increase our food donation to Marion Polk Food Share by bringing extra cans for the children to collect and donate! Put them in the labeled box in the foyer.

### March Share The Plate: Partner Church Fund



The March Share-the-Plate recipient is our own Partner Church Fund. This is our annual fund raiser, which we use for committee administrative costs, or share with our partner church in Simenfalva, Romania. We have had a relationship with Simenfalva since the late 1990s, and cemented our connection in 2002 when both churches signed a Covenant of Partnership. Since then we have exchanged visits and helped financially with several projects. The last several years we have helped fund finishing construction of a social hall on the grounds of the parsonage, as well as collecting needed items to ship to the church to be used by the doctors and folks in the village. We have recently sent OTC pain relievers, reading glasses, English books for students, etc. You may remember in December we sold crocheted ornaments made by the church women – they will use the money earned when

they host a gathering of women from 24 district congregations in April. Our partner minister, Rev. Sandor Szen, recently conveyed their gratitude for that help.

Rev. Sandor has asked for our help with the project coming up this summer. The 103-year-old parsonage needs extensive repairs – replacing seven windows, and repairing much of the deteriorating exterior of the building. The contractor gives an estimate of about \$6500 for the work. Sandor reminds us that most of the villagers have low incomes, and the Roma who attend the church, even less, so local funding won't be too helpful. As far as is known now, our support is the only other source of funding. I hope that it will be possible for us to make a meaningful dent in that total.

It would be helpful, if people are so inclined, to write checks to UUCS, with "Partner Church" on the memo line.

Thank you to all who have supported our Partner Church and fellow Unitarians in the past, and who will continue your interest and support! Rev. Szen and his congregation are very appreciative.

*Submitted by Jean Sherbeck, Partner Church Team*

### SJAT Meetings March 13 and March 19

The Social Justice Action Team is grateful and invigorated by the increased participation in our committee meetings and action. Many at UUCS feel a sense of urgency to affirm our values among political leaders and speak out against actions on federal, local and state levels that threaten democracy and individual rights. We are exploring ways we can join forces with community groups that affirm similar values, such as Salem Resists, and also looking into forming Resistance Huddles. Our team is also taking part in discussions about UUCS offering sanctuary or space to undocumented immigrants threatened with deportation. Sanctuary will be one topic we plan to discuss during our Monday, March 13 Social Justice Discussion Group. Our next Social Justice Action Team regular meeting is March 19. We meet the third Sunday of each month. Please join us.

### Add or Update Your UUCS Directory Photo March 19

We continue to welcome new people into our congregation. Individuals, couples and families are welcome to be featured in our Directory. Photos for the directory will be taken following both services March 19 in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone who would like to add or update their directory photo can stop by. Bring a smile! The purpose of the directory is to facilitate communication among the membership, help people put a name to a face, and to give recognition to those who actively participate in our congregation. The directory is available in several formats. Information about accessing the directory is on the website under [Connection > Membership Directory](#).

### Ostara: Spring Equinox March 20

Join Salem CUUPs on Monday, March 20th to celebrate the Spring Equinox as the Wheel of the Year turns to the time of new beginnings, growth, and the warmth of the Spring sun. Everyone is invited to attend. Sharing of desserts and snacks after the ritual. We will gather at 7:00 pm for information with the ritual at 7:30 pm.

### Welcoming Congregation Film "Tig" March 26



We all know the power of words. A few kind words can brighten our day, while a cruel remark can leave a scar. Words can fuel social change, illuminate spiritual paths and strengthen commitments. As Yehuda Berg, the former co-director of the Kabbalah Centre, said, "Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity. We can choose to use this force constructively with words of encouragement, or destructively using words of despair. Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate and to humble."

Language is, of course, integral to communication and to conveying respect. Inclusive language is one component of being a Welcoming Congregation to the LGBTQI community. On the UUA website Rev. Barbara Pescan says “Examining and extending our language gives us a chance to broaden our definition of the word we.”

At the heart of our Welcoming Congregation status is the first principle – affirming the inherent worth and dignity of each person. Language plays a big role. In the UUCS Welcoming Congregation recertification process we are examining the language we use to assure our words are inclusive.

The UUA website advises us to use non-gendered words for the divine, and to understand and respect the difference between sexual orientation and gender identities. We are urged to recognize that not all families and marriages are the traditional make-up of a man and a woman.

Language has the power to shape our reality, and allow us to include and acknowledge many in our fold. Through words we can open our minds and hearts to others.

As part of our Welcoming Congregation process, we will show the movie “Tig,” a documentary about the lesbian stand-up comic Tig Notaro and her personal journal of facing crisis with honesty and grace. Join us at 12:45 p.m. Sunday, March 26. Bring a sack lunch. For more details contact Benjahmin Boschee at [benjahminboschee@yahoo.com](mailto:benjahminboschee@yahoo.com).

### **Splinters From The Board**

It has been some time since my last newsletter post – I know you all missed me. There are lots of good things going on with the UUCS board. Highlights are as follows...

In September, Gloria Holland was appointed/approved to fill an open Director position.

In November, John Prohovsky was appointed/approved to fill the vacant Vice Chair position.

In February, Joel Woodman was appointed/approved to an open Director position. The board is now fully staffed.

Arrhannon Kirkpatrick asked for approval from the board for the CUUPS charter renewal. The board unanimously approved this.

The Safer Congregations Committee has been established to address sexual safety within the congregation. Work is being done on short and long term building rental agreements, including Kaleidoscope which is the child care/school that is run out of the UUCS building.

The Finance team is working on a collection plate app, for people to be able to give money electronically.

The Audio/Video upgrade is still ongoing with several more smaller projects yet to complete. Keep an eye out for a new TV in the Fellowship Hall, in the Cozy Corner, that will live stream the service for parents with young children who need a little space and don't want to disturb the service.

The auction has been postponed to May 12th. (See the [article](#) in this newsletter.)

The Board asked Facilities to work on an Inclement Weather Policy.

The UUCS Board meets at UUCS on the second Thursday of each month. The next board meeting will be on March 9 at 6:00pm. You can view minutes of the board meetings and the current board members on the website under [About > Our Governance > Our Elected Leaders](#). Additionally, a hard copy version of the finalized board meeting minutes is kept in a binder in the hallway of the church. Normal board meetings are open to all visitors. We do ask that if you wish to address the board at a meeting that you contact the board chair in advance of the meeting so you can be added to the agenda.

*Submitted by Paul Parmley, Board Secretary*

## **Help Needed and Appreciated!**

### **UUCS Auction Needs Volunteers**

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem is holding its Spring Auction on Friday, May 12, 2017 from 6 – 9 pm in the fellowship hall. This Friday night out event will include dinner, a silent auction, entertainment and a bidding auction. This will be a fun opportunity for fellowship and to share your talent, craft or bounty with our community as we quest to broaden interest and participation in the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem. We are hoping to raise funds for a new sign.

If you have items or services of interest, keep an eye out for Auction Item Commitment Forms coming to the Sunday Service Bulletin near you. We would love to auction one of your items. And your auction item doesn't even have to be a “thing.” We'll auction anything that the congregation might consider valuable, from precious

antiques and timeshare weekends to meditation guidance from an experienced meditator, or just a unique craft or hobby that you're willing to share. We can use your help.

Right now, we are looking for a few enthusiastic souls to help us keep an inventory of auction items, and to help with set up, serving and clean-up after dinner. We expect this service to take between 5 and 15 hours between now and the event, depending on your role, with between 2 and 4 hours on the day of the event. Contact JP Batmale ([503.961.4145](tel:503.961.4145)) or Mark Kendall ([503.400.2620](tel:503.400.2620)) if you're interested in this service opportunity.



### Requesting Flower Starts and Garden Tools

Looking ahead is the job of a gardener. As your crocus, snow drops, cyclamen, grape hyacinth, tulip and daffodil bulbs finish blooming this year, I am asking for divisions for more spring color at UUCS next year. I would also like cuttings from a "firecracker" witch hazel shrub. Any witch hazel cuttings would do nicely. Purple coneflower divisions, daisies and black-eyed susans are also on my wish list. The children want to have more flowers to pick. I need a large metal mailbox to store tools in for people who wish to come work in the garden after office hours. If you can help, please email me at [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com) to arrange for a place to drop off the bulbs and cuttings. Thank you for helping make UUCS a beautiful, pollinator-friendly zone.

*Submitted by Angela Gross, Garden coordinator*

## Membership News

### Fellowship Pads

At the March 5 services the Membership Team introduced the use of "Fellowship Pads," common in many congregations. A pad was placed on each row of seats, to be handed down the row during the service. Members and guests were encouraged to print their names and any information they desired to share (new email address, request to receive the *Chalice & Flame newsletter*, request to receive a phone call, etc.) Completed pad pages were collected following the services, the information to be recorded or updated in our congregation management software.

The fellowship pads provide an easy way for guests and members to record their presence while giving our Membership team a valuable tool for collecting and correcting basic information. The aim is to enhance our beloved community. We can better serve members and guests by having up-to-date information. We can communicate more accurately with everyone. And we can improve our ability to express our caring through following up with those who have been absent.

### Meet New Member Sara Pickett



For the past 15 years I have been employed as an Occupational Therapist at Oregon State Hospital. There I work with clients on emotional and physical health as well as community re-integration. Lately I have been teaching a lot of Tai Chi which I have enjoyed. I think the best thing about working there is helping to instill hope into someone's life and watching them feel better and get on with their lives. Prior to that I was involved with dance – ballet and modern mostly – performing, choreographing, teaching. When you are involved in something like dance, that is your church.

I feel my spiritual path is just beginning in earnest. Although christened a Unitarian Universalist in Putney Vermont, my parents did not push any organized religion on either my brother or me. We would go to church once in a while, for special occasions. This was usually at a Congregational or UU church. I have attended different Christian churches through family members and friends. My brother and I were always encouraged to explore and develop our own beliefs and spirituality, through Eastern and Western influences as well as pagan beliefs.

I have come on and off to UUCS for several years, and always felt that if I were going to join a church it would be a UU church. After this past election, I felt strongly that I needed to align myself with organizations that I believe in and help them as I could to remain strong during these times. Becoming a member of UUCS was my first step

and I have felt very welcomed by the community. I really appreciate the diversity of the community and of services offered and am enjoying taking part in all of it.

Most of my family now is scattered across the nation, with my niece and nephew both in Canada involved with different universities. An interesting story about my nephew is that as a child he had a pet hedgehog and then lo and behold, Aunt Sara was given one of his hedgehogs as a pet. That grew into a family/friend get together every February 2nd to celebrate Imbolg/Hedgehog Day (or as you know it here in the US, Groundhog Day). Anything to get spring started around here, right?! Anyway, I now have over 50 stuffed animal hedgehogs or figurines people have given me! And they keep coming!

## Meet Jo Bateman



One of the most brilliant gems in our UUCS jewel box is a remarkable woman who celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday in January. Jo Bateman and her deceased husband Keith were members of our fledgling congregation when services were celebrated in rented halls and private homes. Over time the congregation was able to purchase the building used for many years on 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Finally, they outgrew that facility and made plans to construct our current spiritual home.

Our story about Jo begins when she was a young, single woman residing in her hometown of Hinsdale, New Hampshire. She graduated from college and worked as a teacher for four years before being recruited by a representative of the Portland School District. It was an adventurous offer not to be dismissed easily. After careful deliberation, a twenty-three-year-old Jo packed up her belongings and made the relatively long journey across the continent by train to a new job in St. Johns and a new home in Portland, Oregon. It was here that she met Keith, who worked for the Oregon Forestry Department. They were married in 1949 by a Unitarian minister who made the trip from Eugene to Portland to perform the ceremony. Jo's religious background in New England up to this point had been primarily in the Congregational Church.

Keith's job with the State brought them to Salem, where new friends got them involved in the Unitarian movement. Jo's involvements through the years have included the RE program and serving as a trustee on the Board. She has always been involved with the Women's Alliance, and with what was then "Greeters" and is now the Host program Lynn Cardiff, describing Jo's activities over at least 60 years, adds that, "Jo has been a part of the Lifelines Lay Ministry for many years. She rarely misses church and continues to keep track of the UU residents at Capital Manor, where she lives."

The small congregation took advantage of a good deal on the current property and held it for several years before building. The parcel of land was being overgrown with Himalayan blackberries. Keith, by now retired, devoted hours each week to battling the blackberries and cleaning up garbage. Sometimes it was doubtful who was going to win the battle, Keith or the blackberries. Keith eventually gained the advantage; the new building was built on the land he helped prepare. The back wooded parklike area is named "Bateman Woods" in his honor. Other members of the Bateman family have made their contributions as well. The beautiful weavings mounted on the back wall of the sanctuary were woven by Melinda, Jo and Keith's daughter. They are beautiful but were also commissioned to help solve an acoustical problem.

Longtime member Diana Bodtke describes Jo as having "... very northeastern US values – staunch, hard-working, independent, unsentimental (at least outwardly) and pragmatic. She is at the same time kind, giving, thoughtful and generous. She doesn't believe in wasting time – hers or anybody else's. She is a wonderful human being that I really admire and look up to."

Rev. Rick recalls how he was making a visit to Capital Manor, where several of our members live. "I was taking five flights of stairs instead of the elevator. I move at a decent clip but someone was behind me who was moving faster so I had to speed up so as not to be passed. When I got to the ground floor I turned around and saw – yes - it was Jo the peripatetic, always in motion nonagenarian wonder. How blessed we are to have her."

May this gem continue to shine brightly. In her own words Jo recently said, "I do love that church." It's easy for us to respond, "We Love You Too, Jo."

# Events Around Salem

## National Popular Vote – What Is it and Why Is It Needed? March 12

Learn about how states could direct presidential electors to vote for the candidate with the greatest popular vote. Dr. John Koza, who leads this non-partisan campaign, will explain more on Sunday, March 12, 3:30 pm, Salem Public Library.

## The Conversation March 16

On Thursday, March 16, former governor John Kitzhaber; Dave Cook, former director of the Oregon Department of Corrections; and Frank Thompson, former superintendent of the Oregon State Penitentiary will sit down to provide the inside story on extremely difficult discussions that took place among respected and trusted state officials in 1996 and 1997 in anticipation of the executions of Douglas Franklin Wright and Harry Charles Moore.. The public event will take place at the Willamette University School of Law, 245 Winter St. Salem, Paulas Lecture Hall #201, beginning at 7:15 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets will be required. The event is sponsored by Willamette University, Office of the Chaplains and Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.

To secure a ticket for this event, call 503-990-7060. Seating is limited and will be provided on a first come, first serve basis. A “free will” offering to support the work of OADP will take place following the event.

## Being Muslim In America March 29

A presentation and discussion with Soraya Deen, founder of the Muslim Women Speakers Movement, and Co-founder of Peacemoms (Promoting Christian/Muslim Dialogue) will be held at the at the Salem Public Library Loucks Auditorium, 585 Liberty St. SE, Salem, OR 97301 on March 29, beginning at 6:30 pm. More information about Soraya Deen can be found at <https://www.malanational.org/sorayadeen>. The event is free and open to the public.

## MaMuse Concert at UUCS March 30

MaMuse (“Ma” as in Mamma; “Muse” as in the one who inspires) will be performing their music in the UUCS Sanctuary on Thursday, March 30, at 7:30. Doors open at 7:00. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 day of the show. Purchase advance tickets online on [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).



With deep roots in the folk and gospel traditions, and their hearts in the present, MaMuse (Sarah Nutting and Karisha Longaker) create uplifting music for the next seven generations to thrive on. Interweaving brilliant and haunting harmony with lyrics born of honed emotional intelligence, MaMuse invokes a musical presence that inspires the opening of the heart. Playing a family of varied acoustic instruments including upright bass, guitar, mandolins, ukulele, and flutes, and backed by inspired drummer

(Mike Wofchuck) these two powerful women embody a love for all of life. The synergy that is created through this musical connection is palpable and truly moving to witness.

*Submitted by Michael Preston*

## Safety Compass

Have you heard about SafetyCompass.org? It's a local non-profit based in Silverton to assist victims of human trafficking and sexual abuse. View the three-minute promo at <http://www.safetycompass.org/> You might like to become a volunteer.

*Submitted by Randy Jones*

## Jesus Christ Superstar

Join Salem's Pentacle Theatre in enjoying Jesus Christ Superstar, a thought-provoking rock opera set in modern times. The musical runs April 14-May 6 at Pentacle Theatre, 324 52nd Ave., NW, 97304. For tickets or more information, call the box office at [503-485-4300](tel:503-485-4300) or visit [www.pentacletheatre.org](http://www.pentacletheatre.org). Discounts available for seniors, groups, students, military.

# 20 Years Ago This Month



Twenty years ago, we built our church building. This column in each newsletter until December will trace how the project unfolded.

On March 2, 1997, we had a Groundbreaking Celebration. Of course, there was no parking lot yet, so we hired a school bus to shuttle us from our old church at 19th and Breyman, while some people parked on Center Street and along Cordon Road. It took a while to get us to the site. It was a chilly and rainy day, but our hearts were warm and we dressed for the weather. With difficulty, we got a chalice to light, five people turned over shovels of earth, and Rick gave a short homily that not many of us could hear.

The event needed a party, and we rented space at Houck Middle School for it. The bus shuttled us from the church grounds to the school. The room we had rented was locked, so most of the party had to be in the corridor, until the room was eventually opened. We had a good time anyway!

A lot had to happen before we could even think of Groundbreaking! We had outgrown our old church even six years earlier. The congregation had bought a three-acre lot at Center Street and Cordon Road in 1977, and Keith Bateman had been keeping it free of Himalayan blackberries, but our minister, Maureen Killoran, wanted us to be a downtown church. That appeared prohibitively expensive, so nothing happened. After Maureen left, congregation members came around to thinking that building our new church on the property at Center and Cordon was acceptable. A building committee was formed. Cottage meetings discussed why and what, and formed a strong consensus that YES, we wanted to build a new church. Rick Davis was called as our minister. We made it clear that he would not be responsible for pushing to get the new church financed and built; that was *our* job! As a favor to the congregation his wife Catherine belonged to, Craig Carlson produced some preliminary drawings of a possible new church, and we liked what we saw.

In 1994 we did a capital campaign to raise money for the new church. We didn't think we knew how to do that, so we brought in a consultant, John Gibson. John made it clear that *he* would not raise the money for us; that was our responsibility. But he explained how we could do it, and helped us wrap our minds around it. That three-year campaign raised about \$260,000 from our congregation of about 60 families. The Building Committee went to work seriously, and hired Craig Carlson as our architect after learning through our due diligence that he was distinctly the best church architect for miles around!

By 1996, our plans had progressed far enough that Craig could price the building project for us. It came to about \$800,000. We were in shock, because we did not believe we could handle a mortgage that would be at least \$540,000. After some soul-searching, we held a Major Gifts Campaign, asking -- we promised we would only do this *once* -- for contributions of \$5000 or more from our members' savings. The congregation understood, and gave another \$260,000. We could proceed.

In January, we were ready to advertise for bids. Six contractors replied. Elliott-Sheets construction was the low bidder; Craig Carlson vouched that they were good to work with and did quality work. An error in their bid led to a wonderful partnership. At our first meeting with the contractors, we noted that their add-on bid for paving the parking lot was \$1600, while their competitors bid between \$9000 and \$18,000 for that work. Joe Sheets pursed

his lips and allowed that he thought they made a mistake on that one. We all knew that they could be held to their bid. But I had the honor of saying "We would like to be partners with you in building the best church we can for our money. Partners don't take unfair advantage of partners; tell us what that figure should be, and we will accept." The contractors heard the whole message, and we *did* cooperate as partners through the whole project -- including paving the parking lot for \$14,400!

With that, we were ready to break ground!

*Submitted by George Struble, 1997 Building Committee Chair*



## Calendar

### **Membership Invitation and Information**

**Sunday, March 5, 10:30 am and 1:00 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 Membership Table in the Fellowship Hall during our coffee hour to chat! If you are ready to become a member, the Membership Book will be open and available to sign.

### **UU 102: A UUCS Overview**

**Sunday, March 5, 12:45 pm – 2:15 pm**

At UU102, the discussion is about 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!

### **Membership Team meeting**

**Tuesday, March 7, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Tuesday, March 7, 7 pm – 9 pm**

The teachings of the Aztec Dance are tied to the Pre-Hispanic roots of ancient Mexico. It serves to connect the dancer to a universal view of the Anawak culture and the Nawatl philosophy: a worldview of nature. The Aztec dance depends on understanding nature and draws its sustenance from it. Hence, the dance does not depend on the Western pedagogical approach but depends on the physical activity, with heavy symbolism in each dance and its specific steps. Aztec dance awakens and develops various human faculties which are essential across society but which the current educational system fails to implement in a conscious and permanent manner. The group meets on Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9 pm. All are welcome to attend.

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm**

A welcoming place for meditation practice. The 5:30 session is for experienced meditation practitioners. The 7:00 pm session provides attendees with basic instruction and explanation. The last hour, 8 - 9 pm, is

for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

### **Board Meeting**

**Thursday, March 9, 6 pm – 8 pm**

All are welcome. However, if an executive session is required, visitors are asked to leave.

### **Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, March 9, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, March 10, 7 pm – 8 pm**

UUCS' Addiction Recovery Ministry and Support program is glad to sponsor the Refuge Recovery group meeting every Friday from 7 to 8 pm at UUCS. The mission of this national non-profit organization is to build an extensive and comprehensive network of groups, meetings, and communities that practice and promulgate Buddhist teachings and meditations for anyone seeking recovery from addiction. For more information please visit [refugerecovery.org](http://refugerecovery.org) or email [rruucs@gmail.com](mailto:rruucs@gmail.com).

### **ACLU People Power Action Event**

**Saturday, March 11, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **Compassionate Connections**

**Sunday, March 12, 10:30 am – 11:00 am**

Life Lines Lay Ministers and sympathetic members of the congregation meet with those who want to share their life challenges with a small group and receive "hands on" comforting. While the circle is not comprised solely of Life Lines Lay Ministers and therefore matters spoken of there should not be assumed to be held in confidence, many derive solace from sharing and connecting with a small group.

### **Salem Covenant of UU Pagans meeting**

**Monday, March 13, 6:30 pm – 8:00 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.

### **Social Justice Discussion Group**

**Monday, March 13, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **Women's Alliance Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 14, 7 pm – 9 pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, March 15, 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm**

See March 8 for details.

### **Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, March 16, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

### **Dances of Universal Peace**

**Thursday, March 16, 7 pm – 9 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.

### **Journey to Belonging**

**Thursday, March 16, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

"Spiritual growth is an individual affair that is best pursued in groups." -Henry Miller This is a 3-month covenant group that explores the spiritual journey: where we come from, where we are, what we look forward to exploring. All are welcome to join! The group will be facilitated by Reverend Richard Davis or our Intern Minister, Monica Jacobson Tennessen.

### **Finance Team meeting**

**Friday, March 17, 6 pm**

### **Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meet & Greet**

**Friday, March 17, 7 pm – 9 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.

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, March 17, 7 pm – 8 pm**

See March 10 for details.

### **Social Justice in Action Team meeting**

**Sunday, March 19, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **Ostara: Spring Equinox**

**Monday, March 20, 7 pm – 10 pm**

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Tuesday, March 21, 7 pm – 9 pm**

See March 7 for details.

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, March 22, 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm**

See March 8 for details.

### **NW Permaculture Film Series**

**Thursday, March 23, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

Permaculture is: "Earth Care, People Care, and Return of Surplus", creating systems that are not only sustainable but also enriching to the soil and all life. Please join us every 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm for a finger food potluck & showing of a permaculture inspired film. New film and discussion every month! Contact the NW Permaculture Institute for more information: (503) 449-8077, or on [Facebook](#).

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Friday, March 24, 6 pm – 11 pm**

See March 7 for details.

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, March 24, 7 pm – 8 pm**

### **Welcoming Congregation Film**

**Sunday, March 26, 12:45 pm – 2:30 pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **Communications Team Meeting**

**Monday, March 27, 4 pm – 6 pm**

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

### **Facilities Team Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 28, 6 pm – 8 pm**

### **Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self**

**Tuesday, March 28, 7 pm – 9 pm**

See March 7 for details.

### **UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation**

**Wednesday, March 29, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm**

See March 8 for details.

### **Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, March 30, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

### **MaMuse Concert at UUCS**

**Thursday, March 30, 7pm – 9pm**

See [article](#) for details.

### **Refuge Recovery**

**Friday, March 31, 7 pm – 8 pm**

See March 10 for details.

### **Newsletter Deadline: 8 pm**

**Friday, Mar 31, 2017**

### **Membership Invitation and Information**

**Sunday, April 2, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm**

See March 5 for details.

### **UU 101: A Historical Perspective**

**Sunday, April 2, 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.

# Worship Services and Religious Exploration

March Share The Plate Recipient: [Partner Church Fund](#)

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

**Sunday, March 12**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**"Intent and Impact"**

**Celebrant:** Joanne Manson; **Anchor:** David Jeffers

**First Service Music:** Sara Greenleaf; **Second Service Music:** UUCS Choir

Interpersonal relations is not rocket science. It's more complicated and there's always something new to learn as we strive to create covenantal community here – that is, a community based upon trusting relations.

**NOTE:** \*\*Our Safer Congregations Team will offer a helpful training after this service on how to avoid sexual harassment. All are urged to attend. See [article](#) for details.

**Sunday, March 19**

**The Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel**

**"Gratitude 101"**

**Celebrant:** Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick; **Anchor:** LJ Frederickson

**Music Both Services:** Jon Chinburg

A mother and son were visiting their local farmers market. They stopped at a stall, the vendor smiled at the little boy and gave him an orange. "What do you say to the nice man?" asked the mother. The child mulled it over, handed the orange back to the man and said, "Peel it." OUCH! Not even a simple Thank You? Join us. Let's talk about the Spiritual Practice of GRATITUDE.

**NOTE:** This week, it will be 20 years since the March 21, 1997 groundbreaking ceremony for our church. See the [article](#) for more details.

**Sunday, March 26**

**The Rev. Marcia Stanard**

**"Spread Joy Over This Land"**

**Celebrant:** David Jeffers; **Anchor:** Benjahmin Boschee

**First Service Music:** UUCS Choir

**Second Service Music:** Ryan Amend and Aimee Larsen-Amend

**NO RE today -- Spring Break!**

We probably can't be happy all the time, but we can move through life with a deep sense of joy. Come hear about what joy is, and how it can be found even in the midst of the everyday--and is perhaps more present there than anywhere else.

Rev. Marcia serves as the minister at Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Willamette Falls, our sister congregation in Oregon City. Rev. Rick and Rev. Marcia will be observing their annual pulpit exchange today.

**Sunday, April 2**

**Rabbi Eli Herb**

**"Boycott, Divestments and Sanctions: Why It's Counterproductive"**

**Celebrant:** Steve Rosen

**Anchor:** Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick with Laura Christian

**Music Both Services:** Ted Cory

As Jewish Spiritual Advisor at Northeastern University in Boston, Rabbi Eli moderated conversations between Students for Justice in Palestine (BDS) and Israel advocacy groups, including Hillel. During this time he traveled to Israel and the West Bank and came away realizing that he could not advocate for BDS or stand with most Israel advocacy groups. In this talk, he will describe his falling out with both the left and the right and his current aspirations for the people in the Holy Land.

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

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**Minister:** The Rev. Richard R. Davis  
[rdavis@uuma.org](mailto:rdavis@uuma.org)

**Intern Minister:**

Monica Tennessen Jacobson  
[monica@uusalem.org](mailto:monica@uusalem.org)

**Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:**

Christi J. Olsen, [christi@uusalem.org](mailto:christi@uusalem.org)

**RE Sunday Assistants:** Marnie Jeffers,  
Elsa McKinney-Menchaca

**Music Director:** Aimee Larsen-Amend

**Pianist:** Sara Greenleaf Seitz  
[music@uusalem.org](mailto:music@uusalem.org)

**Board Chair:** L.J. Frederickson  
[ljffrederic@gmail.com](mailto:lffrederic@gmail.com)

**Office Administrator:** Samantha Scales

**Office open Tuesday-Friday,** 9 am to 1 pm

**Phone:** 503-364-0932

**Fax:** 503-364-3280

**E-mail:** [office@uusalem.org](mailto:office@uusalem.org)

**UUCS Internet Links to:**

**Website:** [www.uusalem.org](http://www.uusalem.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/UUSalem](https://facebook.com/UUSalem)

**Newsletter Editors:** [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org)

This issue was edited and formatted by Sharon Pierson, edited and proofed by Elsa Struble and Vicki Cunningham.

**DEADLINES:**

**Newsletter Submissions** for *The Chalice and the Flame* must be received by the Friday before publication. The deadline for the **April 4** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **March 31**. Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org).

**Announcements** for the separate **Sunday Bulletin** must be at the **office** by 9 am **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.