



The Chalice and the Flame

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

January 2015

Sacred Saturday Circle: Songs of Civil Disobedience and Hope

UUCS is pleased to present a very special benefit concert *Songs of Civil Disobedience and Hope* on **Saturday, January 10**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The concert will include music of Buffy St. Marie, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, and Bob Dylan performed by Ryan Amend, Marcia Christensen, Jana Loney, Ron Relaford and Steve Yant. Themes from well-known and loved songs particularly relevant today include topics on immigration, the environment, America, protest, and racial issues. Suggested donation for the concert is \$8-\$10 per person and proceeds will benefit the UUCS Music Fund and Congregations Helping People.



Additionally there will be a pre-concert program at 6 p.m. in Hanneman Hall. A discussion, *The Time is NOW: the Art of Peaceful Protest*, will be moderated by Peter Bergel, a long time local peace activist and former director of Oregon Peaceworks. Jamila Tharp, a Unitarian Universalist ministerial candidate and an experienced human rights and LGBT activist, will share her experience of staging a peaceful protest. Light refreshments will be served from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact Lynn Albright at publicity@uusalem.org or go to www.uusalem.org/Hot-Topics.

News From Simenfalva

We were happy to hear from Rev. Sandor Szen, our partner church minister in Transylvania, that the box of pain relievers and vitamins that we shipped in October arrived there the week before Christmas. Also arriving the same week were our envelopes of Christmas tree decorations and Christmas cards for the Simenfalva congregation.

Rev. Sandor said they would distribute the ornaments at the Christmas Day service, so that the members “would obtain not only the Lord’s Supper, but a little gift from their sister church too.” Sandor thanks everyone for all donations, and sends to “all members of the Salem church a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with God’s blessings and much love.” And again, thank you to everyone who donated meds, the children in RE who made ornaments, and those who signed Christmas cards. These are meaningful connections with our partners.

Jean Sherbeck, Partner Church Team

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Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

At the end of last year (i.e., late November and December) we lost three beloved men in our congregation, and we had three well attended memorial services to grieve these losses and celebrate Michael Eichman's, Dave Cozart's, and Wayne Seely's meaningful lives.

At memorial services I sit in front and watch in reverence as folks enter our sanctuary, aware that each person has made a choice to come and pay their respects. It moves me to see this. It's similar to the reverence I feel when I witness a large chorus sing a choral masterpiece - the singers seem angelic as they sing glorious beauty into this world. And before memorial services, attendees seem similarly angelic in the loving goodness they bring into the sanctuary.

So naturally, at the beginning of each memorial service I express my gratitude saying "thank you for the gift of your presence. It is a gift of kindness and compassion and means much more than you may realize." Indeed, I really don't think most folks actually do realize what a glorious gift their presence can be. I imagine that from the perspective of those who come it's just that they decided to show up and if perchance, they had not come— no big deal.

Yet it is a big deal. As Annie Dillard put it: "We are here to abet creation and to witness to it, to notice each other's beautiful face and complex nature so that creation need not play to an empty house."

At our Unitarian Universalist memorial services, our primary focus is on sharing our memories of the one who has died. Afterwards, folks often come to this belated recognition: "there was so much more to this person than I had realized. How I wish I had appreciated them more fully while they were still amongst us." And then we all seem to realize that there must also be much more to be appreciated amongst those of us still living than we have yet realized, and thus, we should get to know and appreciate one another much better.

The reason this often doesn't happen is because we don't show up to make connections. Underlying this is a failure to recognize what a gift our presence is to one another. After all, we are never present to observe the negative impact of our absence. You may hear "you were missed," but that doesn't fully register.

Trust me on this: on Sunday mornings your presence is a gift for which I and others are deeply grateful. And when you are not here, you are missed. An empty chair is a sad thing to look at on a Sunday morning. It's gratifying to note that with two Sunday services, our attendance is certainly up this congregational year, yet we still have some empty seats waiting for someone special.

If you're reading this and are someone who could fill one of those empty seats, it's a good time to resolve to fill one regularly in the coming year. It will be good for you to be present and make meaningful connections, and it will be good for us to get to know you better.

From my perspective, this is the key practice for us – showing up. If you don't show up, nothing else matters. If you do, we'll discover how much we do matter to one another.

Love, Rick



Lifespan Religious Exploration

Christi's Thoughts:

Happy New Year 2015! I have looked forward to it being a new year. I figured that I was ready for 2015 when I discovered that I had dated two different documents with the incorrect year of 2015 before it was even December!! I decided that it was my unconscious telling me that I needed an opportunity for a new beginning. My last year was filled with solving some health issues from the year before, with surgeries, etc. I am glad I am getting past those things and was excited to ring in the new year!! Unfortunately, I have to say that January 1st started off with a bang – and not in such a good way. Along with a long stretch of migraines during the week and a violent flu by the 2nd, I have had very serious issues with three of our pets on our sanctuary and the need to offer support to family members. None of this comes without serious concern, hard decisions, sadness and expense. With that written, I realize that some will feel I share too much personal information, but I do so because I know that I am a part of a community that supports me. I feel that sharing our life's joys and sorrows is what brings us all closer together as a community. For me, being part of a faith community, is what I see as an opportunity for all of us to grow spiritually and to come together.

I would like to offer this sentiment to 2015 as I center myself and gain the extra energy to emotionally and financially get through the next weeks in a positive way...

Welcome 2015...Thank you for the opportunity to slow down and to consider how we wish to spend our new year. We are grateful for being alive and full of the energy each of us needs to begin this new year. Whether 2015 gets off on a positive or negative note, there is always another week, another day, another minute, another second that begins anew and can bring us hope. Each of our spiritual journeys travel many paths and many new years, which make us who we are right now. 2015, we look forward to the balance that we will find in our lives to live through the joys and sorrows that this new year will bring to us. May you be filled with many days of peace and happiness for all...in faith, Until Next Time - Christi J Olsen, DLRE

Religious Exploration Notes:

The UUA Common Read, "[*Reclaiming Prophetic Witness: Liberal Religion in the Public Square*](#)", by Paul Rasor, guides weekly discussion beginning **January 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the library**. Come join a book discussion calling for liberal prophets to learn the tools to make changes in our world.

January 26th, RE will have a visit from Lydia's Love Founders, to learn from the organization how the RE Offering project directly helps them fulfill birthday wishes for the homeless children.

January 31st, Youth Sleepover.

The UUCS youth will be able to participate in the Willamette Cluster Winter Retreat **January 30th, 31st and February 1st**. The **deadline to turn in the forms is January 11th!**

Thank you to all that made our holiday multigenerational service a success! Many nice comments were shared with me. The children especially enjoyed being a part of this experience again this year! I think that we have unintentionally begun a tradition of "holiday parades" to finish out our year.

THANK YOU also for the MANY donations of the hats, mittens, and scarves. The children (with your help) certainly met their goal of creating a Christmas tree that looks more like a pile of mittens, hats and scarves than a tree! Items will go to homeless in need. Way to go!

We begin our new year with the Coming of Age Program. This program is a time that with a mentor, seventh and eighth graders will explore their own personal beliefs and then share their personal credos.

2015 UUA General Assembly

The UUA General Assembly is coming to Portland this summer, June 24-28!

UUCS has the opportunity to have delegates at the assembly, and it would be wonderful to have a large presence from our congregation in attendance.



Ask any UU who's been to a General Assembly (GA) and you'll get an enthusiastic answer detailing what parts of this amazing event were his or her favorites. These meetings began over 150 years ago and started with ministers gathering and later adding congregation members and leaders. For more information, please contact Jean Sherbeck at jean@sherbeck.net.

Happenings and Highlights

Covenant Group Sign-Up thru January

Covenant Groups are lay-led small groups that will deepen and expand the shared ministry of UUCS and strengthen the bonds of fellowship. Each covenant group can have a maximum of 12 people (ideally 8 to 10). Experience shows that groups of this



size provide a great opportunity for folks to relate on a more intentional level and build deeper relationships. Groups will meet monthly (dates TBD) for about ninety minutes.

Monthly Themes: Each month covenant Groups will

explore one of many themes proposed by "Soul Matters" – a UU worship resources network to which UUCS belongs. Facilitators will be prepared to initiate the sharing process with readings and pertinent questions.

Power and Promise of Covenant Groups are Intimacy, Ultimacy and Growth.

Intimacy: A depth of relationship comes from meeting over time, willingness and ability to *listen* without comment or advice, to *learn* from others, and to *share* from the soul.

Ultimacy focuses on meaning and significance, rather than details, information or outcome.

Growth: Covenant Groups provide opportunities for members to develop skills and grow in confidence as leaders within and beyond the group, and the potential to grow our congregation in numbers, and in generosity, cooperation, and sense of well-being. This growth occurs when people feel supported.

The Covenant: Covenant Group members are asked to abide by these relational guidelines as best as they are able: 1) To make attendance at the monthly meeting a priority. 2) To respect the confidentiality of personal sharing that takes place within the group and 3) To listen and to share.

How Do I Join? You can sign up during the social hour or email office@uusalem.org indicating your preference for days and times you could meet. Please indicate ALL of the times you are available and willing to attend a Covenant Group. Times offered are:

- First Sunday, 4-5:30 pm
- Potluck for all Sunday groups 5:30-6:30 pm
- First Sunday, 6:30-8 pm
- Second Monday, 6:30-8 pm
- Third Tuesday, 6:30-8 pm

For more information about Covenant Groups, visit www.uusalem.org/Hot-Topics.

Seminary for a Day

Seminary for a Day will be returning to First Unitarian Church in Portland on **January 24**. The keynote presenter will be Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, the recently retired President of Starr King School for the Ministry. Her presentation, "Entering the Sanctuary of Openness", will explore how emerging theologies deal with these questions in surprising ways that can inform, intrigue, and inspire us to new expressions of reverence and devotion. To learn more about Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, visit www.skism.edu/people/rev-dr-rebecca-ann-parker.

Photos Wanted

Do you have a great photo of a UUCS event or activity? We are collecting photos for a slide show of our church year for our May annual meeting. Contact Vicki Cunningham to arrange for collection. Thank you.

Contribute

Did you know you can contribute to UUCS via Pay Pal by using our website at uusalem.org? Just click on "Contribute" on the Home page and the link will send you to a page that will guide you through the process. Pledge payments or one time contributions are possible, by members or by non-members.

Recycling Tip of the Day: Update

The editors of *The Chalice and the Flame* received this helpful information from Richard Scott regarding a previous article in the December monthly issue regarding this statement, "milk/juice cartons (not jugs), are very difficult to recycle." Here is what Richard wrote:

That is true, difficult but not impossible in Salem. The Garten Foundation at 3334 Industrial Way NE has a big (4'X4') bin in which to put them, along with bins for newspapers & magazines, mixed paper, plastic containers most numbers, colored & clear glass, tin & steel, aluminum, and cardboard and Kraft paper. They also accept almost all kinds of electronic machinery and various media (discs, "jewel boxes", etc.) along with books. As to the "difficulty,"

the milk/juice cartons have to be "filtered" into their "mixed waste." I have just confirmed this with Will Posegate, a recycle manager there at 503-581-4472 Ext. 6.

For an even more exhaustive source of recycle information, he referred me to the Marion County email address, which is:

apps.co.marion.or.us/Recycle.

I hope this information will be helpful to all your readers who, with me, are anxious to be knowledgeable, active recyclers.

Richard Scott

Year and a Day Classes

Lyceum of Trees, located in Oregon, is happy to announce the next Year and a Day series beginning this month. The classes begin on **Saturday, January 24**, at 3:00 p.m at UUCS. Each class is three hours long and held monthly through February 2016. Salem CUUPs are co-sponsors of these classes.

Year and a Day classes are designed to give you a broad understanding and thorough introduction to modern paganism and the practices of the most common pagan beliefs. The goal is that upon completion of these classes, you will be informed enough to be able to incorporate spirituality into your daily lives and evaluate a variety of spiritual paths to determine which - if any - appeals most to you. Also, you should hope to be proficient in the some of the most common practices and be familiar with several others.

Find Your Niche

Mother's Day Plant Sale: Gardeners Needed

We are looking for gardeners with greenhouses who are willing to germinate extra seedlings for the next Mother's Day Plant Sale.

Also needed are new or used plastic pots! We need 1,000 of them by February 1st. Stop by the Visitors Table during Coffee Hour.

Kairos Community Lunch

December 14 was a great day to serve a meal to hungry community members in need, as was experienced by the UUCS crowd that served 78 diners at Kairos Community Lunch. Many thanks to Ann Hanus, Lois Stanley, Nelly Wright, Meredith Jaynes, Loraine Stuart, Michael Nevarez, Pam and

Bill Vorachek, Caroline Bridges, Cameron Mueller, Dale Harris and the wonderful John Maluski.

You can't find a more immediate way to connect with your community. In 2015, consider joining in the fun! Our dates are March 22, May 10, June 26, September 6, and December 13. Donations and sign-ups are taken at the Social Justice table after Sunday services.

Religious Exploration

Winter/Spring Volunteers needed for our children and youth!

Please consider observing Spirit Play in action on Sunday mornings - it will give you an idea of the roles of our RE teachers. Religious Exploration volunteers for the nursery are also needed.

UUCS Community News

This column is dedicated to sharing news of the UUCS community such as vignettes of “Caught in the Act of Kindness,” Health concerns, Accomplishments, Volunteer Honors, and The Spirit of UU among us & beyond us. Please send your stories to the UUCS editors at editors@uusalem.org or call 503-400-7646.

Caught in the Act of Kindness

Mark Kendall, our past Board president, has generously shared with us for several years his large scope of vision, talent, and policy work in order to help us move smoothly into the status of a thriving, growing, and well- coordinated “Programmatic congregation.” He was observed to resolutely and efficiently move a vacuum cleaner over the Foyer carpet 40 minutes before the start of the first Sunday service on the last Sunday of December to pick up left-over small, light colored debris – an act of unexpected kindness by a prominent UUCS leader. Thank you Mark for your on-going, persevering stewardship of our congregation!

Janet Neuburg’s passion for youths’ well-being is well known due to her involvement with the monthly UUCS program of *Foster Parents Night Out*. For the 100% benefit of that program, she produces and sells beautiful glass stars as Holiday ornaments every year. When two young boys (age 8 and 12) offered to help her this past Dec. 21st with the display and sales process, she gave them instructions, and wrapping material to work with. They felt proud that she would trust them to perform those tasks with delicate glass material. Their genuine gratitude came when Janet told them they could each select a star for themselves as reward for helping – what an exciting moment for each of them to find just the right color combination of their own star. As a follow-up, Janet gave them a detailed educational tour of her studio and equipment the next day. The boys won’t ever forget Janet’s kindness and trust for sure.

The Spirit of UU, Among us & Beyond us

Chad Halsey is one of the UUCS’ Facebook (FB) editors with a most intuitive touch and daily industriousness as to what is so right for the UUCS congregation to share with the world. Sam, Aimee Amend and Christi Olsen are also editors and post on the Facebook page. UUCS has revitalized a page on Facebook called “Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem.” Chad’s notices are accompanied by relevant and attractive graphics and photos. Facebook use can help remind us of events. Also, once we are ‘out there’ in public media, it is impossible to say who else might detect us and our important messages about what we believe, about events and activities, and if we might be worth a visit to get to know us better.

This is where YOU come in, if you have an established Facebook account. The best and most simple thing you can do after you note the UUCS Facebook posting in your ‘newsfeed’ is to click the “like” button, or share the post with a friend. Congregants are welcome to submit suggestions for posts to the Facebook Page either by leaving a message via Facebook, or sending an email to facebook@uusalem.org. Submissions will be posted at the discretion of the Facebook Team. Why “like” a UUCS posting? It conveys a message of pride in the UU philosophy, and how it is practically demonstrated. It opens the door for others to also “like” the postings until perhaps hundreds of Facebook users ‘like’ who we are and what we do.

SO THANK YOU FOR EACH ONE OF YOUR “LIKES”. ☺ As a frequent Facebook user, this writer’s heart will sing with each of them.

UUCS Volunteer Honors

THANK YOU! Despite the coffee service plans starting out from behind a couple weeks ago, Brian Kirkpatrick, Lynn Cardiff, Jane Maute and Angela Gross saved the day and made sure everyone got to enjoy their Sunday coffee during the Women’s Alliance Bazaar. Samantha Scales rushed out to buy the cream. John Rollins (a guest), Chris Vogel, Lynn Cardiff, Catherine Carlson, and Phil Smith took care of the dishes and tables. What a wonderful reminder of good people making a beautiful community. THANK YOU.

Accomplishments, Leadership, and Awards

Once again, the **UUCS Women's Alliance 2014 Holiday Bazaar** and fundraiser met with great success. In fact, it was the most successful bazaar so far. Many volunteer hours were involved in creating this fun happening. The baskets displayed contained an attractive and thoughtful variety of items. One basket with intriguing art supplies was greatly appreciated by the teenage recipients, for example. The resulting revenue will go toward the full benefit of our wonderful facility, namely new and improved lighting in Hannemann Hall. From all of the members of the UUCS Women's Alliance, please accept sincere THANKS for your support.

Question:

Who is the lucky Religious Exploration (RE) **Volunteer who won the December random drawing** of a 2-day stay at a charming, full kitchen **beach condo** for a group of up to five in **Pacific city**? It is **Lynn Cardiff** who coincidentally is a most reliable, long-term helper in RE and more than deserves the prize!! Sometimes, coincidences are so welcome. And THANK YOU Lynn for freely and graciously lending your skilled helping hands to wherever UUCS needs you.

Would you like a chance to win the next drawing for the same prize coming up in May 2015? All you'd have to do is spend at least a bit of time volunteering for our Religious Exploration program sometime between January and May 2015. Our RE Director Christi Olsen would be happy to share more details. Her email address is christi-olsen@hotmail.com

Congratulations to the full **UUCS choir** and Director **Aimee Larsen-Amend** for a fine performance of holiday favorites sung at noon in the Capitol Rotunda! **Sara Greenleaf-Seitz accompanied** our choir. An appreciative audience responded with rounds of well-deserved applause.

Publishing fame:

Roger Gillette (our oldest member at 97) has written and was published on the *Religious Naturalist Association.org* web-site. You may find the article in the December News link of the web-site: religiousnaturalism.org/p-roger-gillette-a-religion-and-ethics-for-the-age-of-science-religious-naturalism-arftaos/

Here is a brief excerpt:

A Religion and Ethics for the Age of Science: Religious Naturalism (ARFTAOS)

The Search Principle

We can develop a religion and ethics for the current scientific age through a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. The search for truth involves evidence-based scientific research. The search for meaning involves experience based religious reconnection...

Scientific Naturalism

Evidence-based scientific research indicates that we humans are an integral part of an interrelated, interactive, and interdependent web of all that exist. We call this emerging and evolving web the cosmos and our scientific knowledge of it cosmology.

Religious Naturalism

Religious beliefs normally call for the extension of respect, honor and love to one's family and community. Religious Naturalism calls for their further extension to biosphere and ecosphere.

Religious Ethics

Modern science and technology have been seriously affecting the health of anthroposphere and ecosphere. Religious naturalistic ethics holds the human species responsible for optimizing the net effect of their behavior on the wellbeing and progress of the ecosphere.

P. Roger Gillette July 7, 2014

The January Calendar

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

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This issue was edited by Elizabeth Bauman,
Mike Berger and Petra S. Berger.

DEADLINES:

Newsletter Submissions for The Chalice and the Flame **monthly edition** (published the 1st Tuesday of every month) are requested by the Friday prior to publication; the firm deadline is noon that Sunday. Please send your submissions, including personal news, directly to the editors at editors@uusalem.org. An editor also checks the workroom's Newsletter "mailbox" for paper submissions after the second Sunday service.

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! Note that all fields are required. When complete, remember to click the submit button. .

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION: to subscribe to The Chalice and the Flame monthly newsletter and mid-month update, 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.

Tuesday

January 6

Celebrant Anchor Team Meets - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

January 7

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UUCS' Coffee Klatch meets at The IKE Box coffee house, located at 299 Cottage St NE. There is a room reserved especially for UUCS, so the atmosphere is private and quiet. Please note that no beverages or food may be brought in from the outside. The IKE Box prices are quite reasonable, and the munchies are excellent! We look forward to seeing you!

Compassionate Mind Unitarian Universalist Sangha of Salem

Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.

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 - 9 p.m. is for discussion, compassion, and how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Families of Inmates Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

A Support Group for families/friends of inmates. Come meet with other family members at our new support group. Support yourself, others, and your family member on the inside. Facilitated by the family member of an inmate. Confidential open sessions and education/resources. The cost is free and walk-ins are welcome. For more information contact: forinmatefamilies@outlook.com.

Thursday

January 8

UUCS Board Meets - 5:00 p.m.

UUCS members are welcome to attend.

Friday

January 9

Aztec Dancers - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday

January 10

Songs of Civil Disobedience and Hope

The next Saturday Sacred Circle is a special benefit concert, Songs of Civil Disobedience and Hope, and will be performed at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. See page 1 for more information.

Sunday**January 11****UUA "Common Read" 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

This UUA "Common Read" discussion group will meet on Sundays in the UUCS library and will help you on your path to helping the world. The book, "[*Reclaiming Prophetic Witness: Liberal Religion in the Public Square*](#)" by Paul Rasor (Skinner House Books, 2013) will be discussed.

This is a call for us to learn the tools to create change in our world. For more information, please contact: Christi@uusalem.org

Monday**January 12****Foster Parent's Night Out, starts at 5:00 p.m.**

Foster Parent Night Out is a joint partnership between the Department of Human Services of Oregon and local churches. The church provides an evening of fun activities and dinner for foster children in our community so that their foster parents can have a free night 'off duty' each month. UUCS has been involved in this program since 2008.

In compliance with the Department of Human Services regulations, only DHS trained volunteers can be on property while foster children are attending FPNO activities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making the UUCS FPNO a successful and fulfilling program for our community foster families.

Tuesday**January 13****Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.****Wednesday****January 14****Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.****Compassionate Mind Unitarian Universalist Sangha of Salem**

Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.

Families of Inmates Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**Thursday****January 15****Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.****Dances of Universal Peace - 7:00 p.m.**

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.

Friday**January 16****"Meet & Greet" Sponsored by the Salem CUUPS Group - 6:30 p.m.****Friday Night Folk Circle - 7:00 p.m.**

Folk Musicians from all over the Willamette Valley, and anyone who enjoys folk music, are invited to bring their instruments and stories and a favorite song to share. We'll improvise and harmonize and otherwise raise the roof. Bring snacks and soft drinks to share.

Sunday**January 18****UUA "Common Read" 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

See January 11 for details.

Social Action Meets - 12:30 p.m.**Tuesday****January 20****Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.****Wednesday****January 21****Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.****Compassionate Mind Unitarian Universalist Sangha of Salem**

Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.

Families of Inmates Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**Thursday****January 22****Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.****Earth Care, People Care, Fair Share film series - 6:30 p.m.**

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 p.m. 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: nwpermacultureinstitute.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute, or call 503-449-8077.

Sunday**January 25****UUA "Common Read" 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

See January 11 for details.

Program Council Meets - 12:30 p.m.

Monday**January 26**

Communications Team Meets- 4:00 p.m.
 Celebrant Anchor Team Meets - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday**January 27**

Sacred Saturday Circle Planning Meets - 5:00 p.m.
 Facilities Team meets - 6:00 p.m.
 Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday**January 28**

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.
 Compassionate Mind Unitarian Universalist Sangha of Salem
Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.
 Families of Inmates Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday**January 29**

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services and Religious Exploration 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

January theme: "Integrity"

The sermon topic is similar at both the early and later services, with the early 9:30 a.m. service being more interactive. The former 10:30 a.m. service has moved to 11:15 a.m. Childcare is available at both services, as is Religious Exploration (RE) classes for children through 5th grade. RE for grades 6 through 12 is offered at 11:15 only.

Sunday, January 11**"Am I a Pacifist"****The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

David Gortner, Celebrant Both Services
 Lennie Martin, Both Services
 Music Both Services – Jabberwocky

Unitarian Universalism does not dictate whether or not we should embrace pacifism, but it does challenge each one of us to think about our beliefs concerning the use of force. I'll share my views and hope to inspire you to think about your own views.

Sunday, January 18**"Martin Luther King, Jr's Message to Unitarian Universalists"****The Rev. Richard R. Davis and Joyce Bynum**

Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick, Celebrant Both Services
 Gloria Holland, Anchor Both Services
 Music Early Service – Aimee Larsen-Amend and Ryan Amend
 Music Late Service – UUCS Choir

UUCS Member Joyce Bynum will share her memories of hearing Martin Luther King, Jr. speak in 1957 and Rev. Rick will reflect on the message Dr. King shared with Unitarian Universalists at our UUA General Assembly in 1966. King's message is more pertinent than ever for us.

Sunday, January 25**"Conflict and Covenant"****The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

Music Early Service – UUCS Choir
 Music Late Service – Noah Seitz and Sara Greenleaf Seitz

If you rest upon a firm foundation then life isn't so shaky. What spiritual foundation can Unitarian Universalists rest upon when conflict arises?



The Ceaseless Flow of Time

The ceaseless flow of endless time
no one can check or stay;
we'll view the past with no regret,
nor future with dismay.

The present slips into the past,
and dream-like melts away;
the breaking of tomorrow's dawn
begins a new today.

The past and future ever meet
in the eternal now:
to make each day a thing complete
shall be our new year vow.

Hymn #350 from Singing the Living Tradition.



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