



# The Chalice *and the* Flame

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

## September 2015

### Come Sunday, September 6, at 10:30 a.m. to SPARKLE & CLEAN

Sunday September 6, 2015 is a day for celebrating stewardship of this home for our spiritual community. Annually at the Sparkle and Clean Service we come dressed informally and, after a brief service, don our gloves for a couple hours and take special care of the facilities we are blessed to be stewards of. As a community, we will wash windows, vacuum in all the corners, dust our chairs and window ledges and art, oil the wood, sweep and damp mop our hardwood floors, deep clean our kitchen and generally take stock of the welcoming nature of a clean and safe home, so carefully watched over by our Facilities Team.

For our guests and congregants wishing a spiritual discussion that day, the Rev. Richard Davis will provide an engaging forum for lighting your spiritual path.

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### Two-Services Schedule Resumes September 13

We'll welcome visitors, members, and friends as we begin our fall congregational year with two one-hour services at 9:30 and 11:15 on Water Communion Sunday, September 13. Water Communion is a fall ritual in which members bring a small vial of water from home or from their travels to combine in a large container, usually choosing to share in words what it represents in their lives.

Potable Water is a precious resource that is not available throughout the world, and we'll hear about a special project in Waugoma, Haiti that addresses this issue.

### Reminder to Supporters of Our Congregation

The UUCS 2015-16 fiscal year began on July 1. If you are still paying on last year's pledge (made in early 2014), please write "for 2014-15" on the memo line of your check; otherwise the check will be credited to the current fiscal year. Thank you!

### From UUCS Board Chair LJ Frederickson

Dear Congregation:

Your Board of Directors spent its August meeting trying to figure out what would be the most important directions for us to develop this year. We had no other agenda.

Being a Board member is challenging. We try to do what's best for UUCS, but which ONE of us knows what's best for UUCS? We need courage, an open mind, and cooperation to share our ideas and concerns in a constructive manner. We try to empower all members of the Congregation to move UUCS in a united front to a successful future.

The Board has chosen three areas to focus on during this church year as critical to UUCS. They are Engagement, Social Justice, and Spiritual Growth. The Board is requesting that teams and committees develop strategies toward progress in these areas, taking steps that are simple and doable! Some teams – Celebrant Anchor Team, Committee on Ministry, Social Justice, and Membership – are central, but every team and committee, and every member have a stake in this endeavor! Everything affects everything else; you knew that!

*(continued on page 5)*



## Reverential Ramblings

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

Here's one memory that has stuck with me through the decades. One particular day in the sixth grade my class was buzzing with excitement – one of our classmates was throwing a grand party and everyone was talking about it. Someone asked if my invitation had come yet in the mail. "Not yet," I said hopefully. In fact, it never came. Why not? Because the party was for "the cool kids," and I didn't make the cut. Suddenly I was conscious of being cut out and I took it personally – I figured there must be something wrong with me. It's a hard feeling to shake.

Our Unitarian and Universalist religious forebears were often told they did not belong because of their religious views – that they were "heretics" (which derives from an ancient Greek term meaning "one who chooses") for bravely adopting views that ran counter to popular opinion but rang true for them. I daresay many of you reading these words can call to mind instances when you were told that you did not belong because of how you thought or how you were or how you were perceived by others. Being excluded is painful, made even more so when you internalize the message that you do not belong.

The deeper spiritual truth is that you and I and everyone do belong – and that's the core thrust of our free faith liberal tradition. We are here to counteract the painful exclusions and condemnations that have led so many souls to places of alienation, isolation and despair. Our presence in this community is an ongoing invitation to all.

Which leads me to tell you about "Soul Matters Sharing Circle" – a cooperative of over 90 UU congregations (including UUCS) who co-create and follow the same monthly themes in worship, small groups and religious exploration. Last year we used Soul Matters monthly themes as a resource for our "Covenant Groups" (facilitated spiritual discussion groups). This year we'll also have a Soul Matters Sunday (generally the last Sunday of the month) so we can all reflect upon these themes.

The Soul Matters theme for September comes in the form of a question: ***"What does it mean to be a people of invitation?"*** It's a great question for us, because, as I noted above, being an inviting and welcoming presence – especially for those who have felt excluded and unwelcome in other religious communities – is central to the historical purpose of Unitarian Universalism.

The broad invitation of our free faith also needs to offer us the opportunity to deepen personal relations with others in the congregation, and our covenant groups provide just that. If you were in a covenant group last year, I hope you'll join one again. If you weren't, I do hope you will join one – it's a wonderful opportunity! We'll have ample opportunities for you to sign up during the month of September, so stay tuned. This notice is just to whet your appetite.

I'll leave you with this Soul Matters question for now: "What Does it Mean to be a person of invitation?" Let that sink in, ponder it, and I think your answers will take you to some life affirming places.

Love, Rick



# Lifespan Religious Exploration

## ~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

**Welcome to September!** With fall quickly approaching, I immediately begin thinking of the return of school and then the approaching holiday season. For me, this was a special time with my family, as my mom took time to create holiday rituals that we looked forward to each year. I have shared these with my husband and we have passed them down to our children and have created some of our own!

When you think about rituals, you may immediately jump to the bigger events in your lives such as weddings, other celebrations, and holiday rituals; however, the rituals of everyday also bring richness to your lives. Simple things such as intentionally having pizza every Friday night or playing board games every Wednesday evening or always waving to your children as they head off on the school bus each morning (my mom always did this!), are actually rituals. The routine of always reading a book or singing a song before bedtime with your children can be considered a ritual. I sing the "Riley Song" I created for my infant grandson to sing to him in the car when he was fussy. As he has grown, we still sing this song every time we travel in the car together. Rituals can provide ways to connect and bond with your family in a unique way; they can bring your family's culture to life, or provide a sense of identity with your religion.

During September, you may want to reflect on the everyday rituals that may already be a part of your life or consider creating new ones—perhaps something special around the return of school. For example, my first day of school was always a half day, so we had a ritual of going out for lunch. Our last day of school, we had a ritual of always getting a new book. Each day, at dinner time, we always had a ritual of going around the table and sharing about our school day. Though I did not recognize these as rituals at the time, I do now and hold these experiences close. If you are interested in reading more about rituals, there is a great article by Meg Cox entitled "New Family Traditions" at [uworld.org](http://uworld.org) along with other relevant links about traditions and rituals.

Because I feel rituals can be spiritual and because we have rituals and traditions at UUCS, I wanted to touch on this topic again. I personally don't think you could ever talk too much about the ideas around the richness of ritual for any age! Enjoy your exploration of your unique rituals.

All ages will join together at the September 13th services for the annual Water Communion ritual. Plan to bring a small sample of water from a place that is special to you. The water can be your own tap water that represents your special place. In this ceremony we will take turns combining our waters in a large bowl and sharing from where it came. The combined water is symbolic of our shared faith coming from many different sources. I look forward to seeing many of you there for this annual tradition, and I hope that your month of September brings you time to reflect on the joy of everyday rituals.

*Until next time, Christi*

### **RE NOTES**

**Volunteer Sign-ups** – Please help the RE program by volunteering to help one Sunday a month. This is a fun learning opportunity and a way to support the children and youth at UUCS. Sign-ups are available in the foyer!

No RE classes on **September 6<sup>th</sup>**. This is a volunteer day off before fall classes begin.

PLEASE REGISTER at our RE Table in the foyer and pick-up your RE Calendar on Sundays beginning **September 13<sup>th</sup>**. Forms are available before then on the greeter table and in RE Brochure rack.

**September 20<sup>th</sup>**, we will begin our Wisdom of Wondering program (preschool – fifth grade), during the first and second service and our Chalice Youth classes (middle school and high school) during second service. Nursery care is available at both services.

**September 24<sup>th</sup>**, our YRUU (high school youth group) program will begin meeting with their advisors on Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm – 8:15 pm.

**September 27<sup>th</sup>**, all ages will worship together in the sanctuary. An activity table staffed with an RE volunteer will be available in the fellowship hall for children, as needed.

## Summer Painting

UUCS got a facelift! The Facilities Team contracted with DreamHome Painting to install flashing over windows and doors where it was lacking and to prepare and paint the entire exterior of UUCS buildings with two coats of Miller Evolution paint (their best paint designed to last 25 years). According to George Struble, who headed the UUCS volunteer painting parties over the years, "This is the first time the entire exterior of UUCS was painted since 1997."

To warm up for painting the 40 ft. UUCS south sanctuary wall, DreamHome Painting painted the spike-like steeple atop the First United Methodist Church, which stands about three or four feet taller than the state Capitol's Gold Man. At 185 feet, this makes it among the tallest buildings in Salem. Upon reading the Statesman Journal news article about this project, Paul Manka knew that UUCS had chosen the right painting contractor for this job.

DreamHome painting started work on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and completed work two weeks later, using work crews varying from three to seven workers depending on the nature of the work to be accomplished that day. During our heat wave, when temperatures reached into the high 90s, they started spray painting at 6 A.M. in the morning to beat the heat. They applied two coats of paint involving 115 gallons of exterior latex paint and five gallons of direct-to-metal paint.



Power Washing the North Sanctuary Wall



Completed Surface Preparation July 28, 2015

This project was paid for by the donations of three UUCS members under "Fund a Need". They did this for the following reasons:

1. They were very concerned that the UUCS exterior should be made weather-tight to guard against a repeat of the 2012 repairs of water damage to the UUCS south sanctuary wall, several rooms in RE and the front office area, which cost \$40,000.

2. Given the heights involved in accessing the exterior walls of UUCS, it's a job for professionals, not volunteers.

3. They wanted to honor George Struble for his work in organizing volunteer painting parties.

4. Freshening the exterior of UUCS enhances the welcoming message we are seeking to project to the Salem community.

The donors hope that this project will inspire UUCS members to volunteer for less physically challenging tasks to help strengthen and maintain our beautiful facility.



Recently Painted South Sanctuary Wall July 30, 2015

## From UUCS Board Chair LJ Frederickson *(continued from page 1)*

Engagement is perhaps the most critical; we want all of our members to be involved in the life of our Congregation, both for their own personal growth and for the contributions they can make toward the flourishing of UUCS programs. We want to engage more members of the Salem – and mid-Valley – community too; we have so much to offer – and they have much to offer us!

Our Membership Team, Celebrant Anchor Team, Lifelines Lay Ministry, and Committee on Ministry are well-functioning teams that can dig into this agenda successfully. Our Social Justice Team needs further development: we need active participation and leadership by more of our members, and also a focus on an area where many of us can contribute and we can be a force that makes a difference!

Your Board is a group of volunteers who want to help build a strong future for UUCS. We need your help, both by pitching in to make everything work, and by giving us your feedback to ensure we are moving in the right direction. Please send your feedback to [lifrederic@aol.com](mailto:lifrederic@aol.com) or call 503 602 2194.

Warmly,  
LJ

### 2015-2016 Board of Directors

<b>Chair</b>	L J Frederickson	<b>Directors</b>	
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Jeff Geissler	John Prohodsky	Stephanie Jernstedt
<b>Secretary</b>	George Struble	Elenie Smith	Tom Lancefield
<b>Treasurer</b>	Lorna Youngs	Paul Parmley	David Jeffers
	<b>Past Chair</b> Barry Halgrimson		

## Happenings and Highlights

### UUCS Choir

Do you enjoy music at UUCS? Why not come and be a part of it? Bring a dish to share at the choir potluck at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, **September 3**, meet some new people and then stick around for a short rehearsal. We even offer free child care at every Thursday rehearsal! Please contact Director Aimee Larson-Amend, [music@uusalem.org](mailto:music@uusalem.org), for more information.

### Women's Alliance

The first meeting of the UUCS's Women's Alliance will be early this year—Thursday, **September 3** at 7 p.m. We will be planning and discussing several projects for the year, including our famous Christmas Bazaar; we'll learn about an exciting Alliance history video project; we'll consider an earlier meeting time; and we'll enjoy a delicious dessert, thanks to Molly O'Dea and Ruth Larson.

We welcome newcomers to our stimulating programs, which last year included speakers from Compassionate Choices, Shelly's Place and Lloyd and Schryver Gardens as well as UUCS speakers who shared stories of their interesting lives. We have plenty of fun, we create great fundraising projects to support the many needs of UUCS, and we often put on receptions after programs at UUCS. For more in-

formation, contact Ruth Larson at 503-910-8970 or [erikandruth@gmail.com](mailto:erikandruth@gmail.com).

### Kairos Community Lunch

On a hot smoky August 23, volunteers from the UUCS came together once again at Kairos Community Lunch to serve those in need. Many thanks to Carolyn Bridges, Loraine Stuart, Danielle Shearer, Diane Mitchell, Liz Adamy (and son Pete Adamy and grandson George Adamy, visiting from Rhode Island!), Joan Erickson, Joan Stenbridge, Will Austin and Adele Moore. We served 66 diners with soup, chili, hot dogs, chips, drinks and plenty of companionship and air conditioning.

Our next opportunity to serve is right around the corner, **September 6** from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Consider yourself invited! Sign up at the Social Justice table after Sunday service or by calling Mary Beth Hustoles at 503-587-7949.

### Enjoy a Labor Day Hike

UUs are invited to join a lovely hike around Clear Lake on Labor Day, **September 7**. Total of seven miles in one of the most scenic places anywhere, including a side trip down to Sahalie Falls, at a moderate pace. This is a Chemeketans hike, so Chemeketans rules apply; for example, no dogs, and

stay with the group. Contact George Struble, 503-364-3929, to register.

## Kabbalistic Shabbat Salem

UUCS is hosting a new monthly series, Kabbalistic Shabbat Salem, beginning on Friday evening, **September 11**, from 7:30 until 9:00. Rabbi Jonathan Seidel will lead an accessible, mystically oriented service of joyful prayer, chant, kirtan and mediation with lots of music, as well as Drash (a short teaching or homily). The focus will be earth-based, Shekinah mystical Judaism, with elements of Rabbinic and Kabbalistic traditions in a Neo-Hasidic mode. The evening will conclude with a fruit and dessert potluck (Oneg).

People, whatever their backgrounds, who are interested in Judaism, the Kabbalah, Jewish history, or Jewish liturgy are most welcome. For more information Contact Angela Gross, [uu4peace@gmail.com](mailto:uu4peace@gmail.com); the church office, 503-364-0932; or Jonathan Seidel, [rabbiseidel@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiseidel@gmail.com), 541-520-3434.

## UU Animal Ministry Chapter

"UU Animal Ministry is a group of concerned Unitarian Universalists and UU friends who desire to grow and express their faith as compassion towards all beings. We do this by asking these fundamental questions: What does it mean to be human in a mixed species communities? What is our response to this understanding?" (quoted from [uuam.org](http://uuam.org))

Please consider joining us and creating an Oregon Chapter at UUCS. We will decide as a group what our goals are and begin to consider what the fundamental questions look like for each of us individually and as humans in a mixed species community.

Our first meeting will be Sunday, **September 13** at 12:30. Please plan to bring a potluck dish to share. Childcare will be available. Meetings will be the second Sunday of each month from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. All ages welcome to join.

For more information, please contact Christi Olsen at [Christi@uusalem.org](mailto:Christi@uusalem.org) or Elizabeth Bauman at [elizbauman71@gmail.com](mailto:elizbauman71@gmail.com).

## Parent Covenant Group

A "Parent/Grandparent/Auntie/Uncle/etc." Covenant Group will meet for the first time at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, **September 20**. We will discuss the monthly UUCS themes from a parenting perspective. A covenant group provides a way for people to become connected and explore various topics on a deeper level.

This group will meet every first and third Sunday for two hours following the second service, taking a break for the holidays and resuming in the new year. Anyone is welcome to join. Please bring finger foods to share. If you are interested, please email Sheryl (who co-led one of last year's covenant groups) at [Sherylec@outlook.com](mailto:Sherylec@outlook.com).

## Kaleidoscope Preschool Program

The Kaleidoscope preschool program is based on the rainbow of colors that represent our Unitarian Universalist principles. We embrace that all children are marvelous and unique. The children will be encouraged to discover their world through hands-on interactive learning. There is nothing better than the richness of open-ended, purposeful play! Our program begins Monday, **September 21** and runs from 8:45-12:45 Monday-Friday. Tuesday/Thursday, and Monday/Wednesday/Friday schedules are also available, as well as scholarship opportunities.

For more information, call Ashley Geisel at 971-444-2439. Ashley has worked with preschool children for 25 years, including at Salem's Little Friends Montessori School. She has been at UUCS about a year.

## Fall Equinox

Come and celebrate the Fall Equinox, also known as Mabon, on Saturday, **September 26** with the Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. Potluck at 7:00 p.m. with ritual starting at 8:00 p.m. We will be collecting non perishable food donations for the Marion-Polk food share during the ritual.

Benjahmin Boschee, [benjahminboschee@yahoo.com](mailto:benjahminboschee@yahoo.com)

## Report from Mary Gear

Mary Gear, our former Music Director and now a candidate for UU ministry reports, "In September I will complete my 9-month internship at First Unitarian in Portland. It has been a wonderful and rich experience. While it will be hard for me to say goodbye to the good folks at First U, I am looking forward to returning to UUCS in October. In September, I will also begin serving the UU Fellowship of McMinnville quarter-time as their very first minister. Both the Fellowship and I are looking forward to building a shared ministry and growing together this next year. I will look forward to seeing you at church every other Sunday or so!"

## Planning Ahead

When the Communications Team met recently, we realized that "summer happened" and we all have been out of touch for plans for the fall and winter.

We have an advertising budget that we plan to use in the Willamette Weekly publication, as well as online advertising (for free) which connects us to Statesman Journal online calendars, KMUZ, etc., and our newsletter, Facebook and website.

**Please let us know as soon as possible about any events**, particularly outreach events, you have planned for the year, and particularly for the fall.

It would be most efficient to use our existing forms: Both the **Event Scheduling form** (to put

events on the calendar) and the **publicity form** (to request publicity) are available on the website. Go to [uusalem.org](http://uusalem.org) and click on the What's Happening tab. Choose Calendar from the drop down list. You will find the forms as links on the calendar page. And while you are on the page, you can check to see if the room/building is available.

If your plans are still rather nebulous, feel free to email me directly (Vicki Cunningham, [vickicunningham11003@gmail.com](mailto:vickicunningham11003@gmail.com)) and we can chat about it. Or, talk with the fundraising chair, Mark Kendall.

## Find Your Niche

### Looking for a Few Good . . .

The Committee on Human Resources (CHR, formerly known as the Personnel Committee) is looking for UUCS members who are interested in supporting our mission to provide a fun, respectful, efficient, and effective work culture for UUCS.

CHR is currently meeting just once a month, and each monthly meeting runs about 90 minutes. Members of CHR may also have some projects to tackle between meetings, such as researching work flows for new job duties; updating employee procedures/manuals; or researching changes in Federal or Oregon employment laws.

If you would like to serve as a member of CHR and have a background in Non-profit organizations, Management, Human resources/Personnel, or Employment law, please submit the following information to the CHR Chair, Jo Nathan:

- A brief description of your professional background.
- Why you are interested & how you could contribute to the CHR mission.
- Your contact information.

Please direct your information and any questions to: Jo Nathan, Chair of CHR, at [jomama05@live.com](mailto:jomama05@live.com).

Gary M. Klein, CHR Member

### Communications Opportunities

The Communications Team is Expanding! Do you have a way with words? Do you like to spend time online? If you have a few spare hours a month for a UU project, read on!

Outreach PR Coordinator wanted. The Communications Team needs someone to manage publicity inside and outside UUCS. Must be organized with excellent computer skills. Write press releases, list events online with local media, and write targeted copy for our announcements, newsletter, website and Facebook.

Website Maintenance technician wanted. Get your feet wet learning about websites by updating pages on our website ([uusalem.org](http://uusalem.org)), a few hours a week. Responsibilities could expand as you feel comfortable, or stay at 1-2 hrs per week.

Newsletter editor wanted. Need basic word processing and email skills – we will train you on the fine points. This is a great way to learn about UUCS and help our community while working at home. The editors of The Chalice and The Flame cooperate to create a quality product, communicating almost entirely by email and rotating responsibilities to fit their schedules.

Newsletter formatter wanted – backup. Our newsletter formatter would like to take some time off. Can you help? Fit edited news into a standard template and add visual elements to make attractive editions of the newsletter, re-editing as necessary. Requires good computer skills, and an interest in design.

For any of these positions contact Vicki Cunningham, [vickicunningham11003@gmail.com](mailto:vickicunningham11003@gmail.com).

## Munsel Property Update

Dave and Kathy Munsel, the owners of the property to the east of UUCS, have been waiting patiently for their appraiser to complete the appraisal for their 2.33 acre parcel with 4 bedroom house, barn, and garage. The appraisal had originally been promised by July 21st, but evidently the real estate market is hot right now and appraisers are in short supply. Once the appraisal is in hand, UUCS will be

able to determine how best to respond to the opportunity. Contact Barry Halgrimson if you wish to be in on the process.

## More Niche Opportunities!

Check the updated list of team chairs and committees on **page 12** for UUCS volunteer opportunities that may match your interests, skills and time availability.

# UUCS Community News

For questions or comments, contact Column author Petra S. Berger at [petraoregon@comcast.net](mailto:petraoregon@comcast.net). You may send your stories to the UUCS editors at [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org) or call 503-400-7646. This column is dedicated to sharing news of the UUCS community, such as Vignettes of "Caught in the Act of Kindness," Health concerns, Accomplishments at all Ages, Volunteer Honors, and The Spirit of UU among us & beyond us.

## Caught in the Act of Kindness

**Phil Carver** never ceases to think about who in his community may be in need of something that he can assist with. One example is the annual harvest of two large plum trees at his home (now owned by his daughter). Phil is awesome at plum picking, high up on a ladder. And then he donates nearly the entire gleanings. In previous years, he has taken it to the local Food Pantry. He has also donated it to UUCS for members and friends, with the caveat that any payment go to UUCS. THANK YOU PHIL. You have a big heart.

## The Spirit of UU – Among us & Beyond us

### 4th UU Principle: A Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning

"As responsible religious seekers, we recognize that we are privileged to be free, to have resources to pursue life beyond mere survival, to continually search for truth and meaning, to exist beyond bonds of dogma and oppression, and to wrestle freely with truth and meaning as they evolve..." Rev. Paige Getty, Columbia, Md.

Yes, any of us may choose a variety of ways of "seeking our truth." **Mike Berger**, a confessed Taoist, chose observing the stars in the night sky. He says: "from star dust I came, to stardust I go, and in between, I feel connected to the Universe, at peace, when looking at the grandness, vastness, complexity, and the unknowingness of the Heavens." Mike joined his first UU congregation in Jacksonville, FL about 40 years ago.

Mike has had an interest in Astronomy for decades, beginning with a class he took at the Salt Lake City planetarium, and he built a 6 inch reflecting telescope. Recently he acquired a used fully equipped 8 inch push-to computerized Dobsonian reflector telescope that can guide him to more than 14,000 celestial objects. Given this telescope needed a real test, he ventured to the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Oregon Star party (<https://www.oregonstarparty.org/oregonstarparty/>) held on a 5000 ft high dusty plateau in the Ochoco National Forest east of Prineville. He spent five days with 660 attendees enjoying the camaraderie and clear dark skies lit only by the light of the Milky Way; no lights were allowed other than dim red lights to protect observers' night vision! He was there during the Perseid meteor shower and saw at least 30 meteors. Throughout the night one could hear loud expressions of awe and wonder at the celestial display! Mike appreciated the helpfulness of total strangers as they gladly assisted him in setting up his equipment and helping him get familiar with prominent stars and constellations.

## Volunteer Honors

Our UUCS office has now added volunteer roles since Samantha has taken on more work responsibilities in the Membership department. Thus, the following volunteers have become indispensable and deserve our special acknowledgment and hugs:

- Angela Gross - overall office support (can cover when Sam is out of the office) & facility liaison;
- Mary Sohlstrom - 16(!) years of folding our orders of service!
- Lynn Cardiff - data entry, database set up, sending cards to visitors, helping to get our badge rack up to date – she is always helpful where ever and whenever we need her;

- Cecilia Craig - formatting, printing and posting the calendar in the foyer and the Sunday announcements;
- Craig Rowland - formatting the first drafts of the order of service & PowerPoint presentation, making new badges – and he continues to add to his tasks, in a wonderful spirit.

Samantha and all of us are immensely grateful for ALL of the energy and time that office volunteers put into UUCS!!

### Accomplishments at all Ages

It seems only a couple of years ago when **Logan Geissler** and sister **Kirbey** attended our RE program nearly every Sunday. Their mom, **Linda Lockwood**, was the RE director for a few years while their dad, **Jeff Geissler**, pursued his teaching career. But now, Logan and Kirbey have become amazing adults.

**Logan** went off to Massachusetts this summer to teach at a camp called Explo. He taught Improv Theatre class and workshop, as well as Ultimate Frisbee. He had a fabulous time with students as well as the stellar group of young adults he has worked with. During that time, **Kirbey** got to attend GA as a youth/young adult. She came away so invigorated on issues around AIWs for Black Lives Matter and for stopping LGBTQIA+ Conversion Therapy. She was also moved by the work all of GA did to support the Lummi Nation's fight against coal transport. Then on July 29th she headed to Denver to participate in the UUA's Summer Seminary. She applied and won a coveted spot and a scholarship from the UUA's Katy Tyson fund to spend 5 days learning about being in seminary, types of ministry and bonding with an incredible group of UU youth from all over the country. Now very soon, both kids head to UO -- Logan for his senior year and Kirbey for her freshman year. We are proud of you, Logan and Kirbey!

Interested in the exotic world of ancient Mayas? See it through the eyes of successful writer and UUCS member **Leonide (Lennie) Martin** in her historical fiction books. The third book in a four-book series about ancient Mayan queens was just published. Lennie is receiving 4 and 5 star ratings on Amazon.

The Mists of Palenque series tells the stories of four powerful women who shaped their people's destiny, but who are virtually unknown to most readers. These women are in the dynasty of K'inich Janaab Pakal, the most famous Mayan king whose opulent tomb is compared to that of Egypt's King Tut.

Book 3 of the Mayan Queens series is about The Red Queen, whose rich burial is linked to famous

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

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**Intern Minister:** Theresa Soto

[Tisoto@gmail.com](mailto:Tisoto@gmail.com)

**Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:**

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

**Music Director:** Aimee Larsen-Amend

Sara Greenleaf Seitz, **Pianist**

[music@uusalem.org](mailto:music@uusalem.org)

**Board Chair:** L.J. Frederickson

[lifrederic@aol.com](mailto:lifrederic@aol.com)

**Office Administrator:** Samantha Scales

**Office open Tuesday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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**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 by Elsa Struble and formatted by Mike Berger.

### **DEADLINES:**

**Newsletter Submissions** for *The Chalice and the Flame* must be received by the Friday before publication. The next deadline is midnight on Friday, September 15.

Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to the editors at the following email address: [editors@uusalem.org](mailto: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! 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 (September thru May), email your request to the UUCS office at [office@uusalem.org](mailto: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.

king Pakal of Palenque. Shy, homely Lalak, wife of Pakal, is overwhelmed by the royal court and her mother-in-law's hostility. She struggles to find her place and win Pakal's love, using sexual alchemy to help him restore the spiritual portal to the Gods, as he brings his city to an apex of artistic and political power.

Lennie became fascinated with ancient Mayan women while living in Yucatan, Mexico. She studied Mayan history, archeology and culture for years and apprenticed with Mayan elders to gain the indigenous view.

"I want to stay true to historical facts and archeological findings," Lennie says. "My goal is to paint an accurate picture of ancient Mayan life, so readers can experience the pageantry of high court culture, the mysticism of shamanic practices, and the advanced knowledge they had of architecture, astronomy and medicine."

The 3<sup>rd</sup> book in the series The Mayan Red Queen: Tz'aakb'u Ahau of Palenque is available through Sept. 7 (Labor Day) for the introductory price of \$1.99 for eBook (normal price \$5.99). A book review is appreciated by the author.

## The Calendar

### Need to Reschedule an Event?

When scheduling an event at UUCS, you go to the website ([uusalem.org/Calendar](http://uusalem.org/Calendar)). While you are on the calendar page, you click on the Event Scheduling Request Form link to reserve the room and time. If you later need to reschedule your meeting or event, please submit a new Event Scheduling Request Form for the correct date, **and** follow up with an email to [office@uusalem.org](mailto:office@uusalem.org) asking that your prior meeting or event time be cancelled. If you don't have access to email, call the office; leave a message if your call isn't answered. Please do not ask office staff to remember spoken information when they're away from their desks.

### Wednesday September 2

#### 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!

#### UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. 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.

### Thursday September 3

Choir potluck & rehearsal - 5:30 p.m.

Membership Team meets - 6:30 p.m.

Women's Alliance meets - 7:00 p.m.

### Friday September 4

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](http://SalemDances.com) for more information.

### Saturday September 5

Lifelines Lay Ministry - 9:30 a.m.

### Sunday September 6

Kairos Community Lunch (offsite) - 12:30 p.m.

### Tuesday September 8

Archives Work Party - 9:00 a.m.

### Wednesday September 9

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

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

### Thursday September 10

Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m. (Visitors welcome)

Choir rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

## Friday September 11

Kabbalistic Shabbat Salem - 7:30 p.m.

**Submission Deadline** for the September 15 Mid-month Newsletter is **Midnight tonight!**

## Sunday September 13

Compassionate Connection - after each service

Membership Orientation - 12:30 p.m.

Animal Ministry - 12:30 p.m.

Team Council meets - 12:30 p.m.

## Wednesday September 16

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

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

## Thursday September 17

Choir rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

Dances of Universal Peace - 7:00 p.m.

See September 4 entry.

## Friday September 18

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.

SCUUPS Meet & Greet - 7:00 p.m.

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.

## Sunday September 20

Religious Exploration - 9:30 & 11:15

Parent Covenant Group - 12:30 p.m.

Social Action Meeting - 12:30 p.m.

## Monday September 21

**34 Days of Peace** begin. (See August issue or contact Barry Halgrimson.)

## Wednesday September 23

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

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

## Thursday September 24

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

Committee on Human Resources - 6:30 p.m.

NW Permaculture 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](http://nwpermacultureinstitute.org) or call 503-449-8077; [facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute](https://facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute).

## Saturday September 26

Mabon Celebration - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Come and celebrate the Fall Equinox, also known as Mabon with Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. Potluck at 7:00 p.m. with ritual starting at 8:00 p.m. We will be collecting non perishable food donations for the Marion-Polk food share during the ritual.

## Sunday September 27

Religious Exploration - 9:30 & 11:15

Partner Church Travelers Meeting - 12:30 p.m.

Social Action Meeting - 12:30 p.m.

RE Team Meeting - 12:30 p.m.

## Monday September 28

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

## Tuesday September 29

Facilities Team Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

## Wednesday September 30

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

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

## Board of Directors LJ Frederickson, Chair

### Staff

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Richard ("Rick") Davis
<b>Intern Minister</b>	Theresa Soto
<b>Office Manager</b>	Samantha Scales
<b>Director of Religious Exploration</b>	Christi J. Olsen
<b>Music Director</b>	Aimée Larsen-Amend

### Committees of the Congregation

<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Mark Kendall
<b>Committee on the Ministry</b>	Kristy Hollen
<b>Internship Committee</b>	Diana Nicholson-Nelson

## Administrative Teams (Reporting through Liaisons to the Board)

<b>Communications Team</b>	Vicki Cunningham	<b>Committee on Human Resources (Personnel)</b>	Jo Nathan
Facebook	Chad Halsey		
Newsletter	Elsa Struble		
Publicity	<b>Open</b>	<b>Facilities Team</b>	Paul Manka
Web Team	Mieke Visser	Archives	Sancha Alley
		Building Use	<b>Open</b>
<b>Finance Team</b>	Phil Carver	Green Sanctuary	Beth Myers-Shenai
Budget	Phil Carver	Kitchen	Brian Kirkpatrick
Endowment	Chris Vogel	Landscaping	Paul Manka
Fundraising	Mark Kendall	Library	Benjamin Boschee
Memorials	Chris Vogel	Planning	<b>Open</b>
Stewardship/Canvass	Chris Vogel	Safety	<b>Open</b>
Treasurer	Lorna Youngs		

## Program Teams (Reporting through Liaisons to the Board)

<b>Team Council Chair</b>	Jeff Geissler	<b>Fellowship Team</b>	<b>Open</b>
		Coffee Hour Host Scheduling	Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick
<b>Affiliated Ministries</b>		Lunch Bunch	James Koch
Addiction Recovery Ministry	Barbara Joque	Mens Group	<b>Open</b>
Compassionate Mind Sangha	Lee Ann Nail	Souper Sunday Souperintendent	Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick
Congregations Helping People	Paul Parmley		
Covenant of UU Pagans	Benjamin Boschee (liaison)	<b>Lifelines Lay Ministries</b>	Karen Piter
Dances of Universal Peace	Angela Gross (liaison)	Memorial Wall	Karen Piter
Homeschool Outreach	Christi Olsen,		
	Samantha Scales	<b>Religious Exploration</b>	Christi J. Olsen
Kairos Soup Kitchen	Mary Beth Hustoles		(Director of Life-Span Religious Exploration)
Marion Polk Foodshare Liaison	<b>Open</b>	Covenant Groups	Rev. Rick Davis
Microfinance	Ann Hanus	RE Team	Joy Dunlap (acting)
Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network	Stephanie Jernstedt	OWL	Christi J. Olsen
	Denise Hughes		(Director of Life-Span Religious Exploration)
	Meridith Jaynes	YRUU	<b>Open</b>
UU Voices for Justice	Barbara Dow		
Women's Alliance	Ruth Larson	<b>Social Justice in Action Team</b>	Laurie Simons
		Cordon Road Stewardship	<b>Open</b>
<b>Membership Team</b>	Joel and Carolyn Woodman	Partner Church	Jean Sherbeck
Badges and Member ID	Lana Von Prussing,	Social Justice In Action	Rick Davis (interim)
	Samantha Scales		
Host Program	Joel Woodman	<b>Worship Services</b>	
Welcome Table	Carolyn Woodman	Celebrant Anchor Team	Lennie Martin
Pathway to Membership Classes/Encounters		Chalice Circle Players	Gloria Holland
	Rev. Rick Davis	Choir	Aimée Larsen-Amend
	Samantha Scales	Music Committee	Aimée Larsen-Amend
Refreshment Coordination	Joel Woodman	Music Planning/Fundraising	<b>Open</b>
	Lana Von Prussing,	Special Music	Aimée Larsen-Amend
	Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick		
	Assisted by Brian Kirkpatrick		
Newsletter Liaison	Joel Woodman		
Visitor/ New Member Follow-up	Carolyn Woodman		
Existing Member Connections	<b>Open</b>		

# Sunday Morning Services and Religious Exploration

September Theme: *What does it mean to be a People of Invitation?*

**REMINDER:** Only one service on September 6!

On September 13, we begin our two service schedule. The sermon topic is similar at both the early and later services, with the early 9:30 a.m. service being more interactive. 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, September 6**

**"Sparkle and Clean Service"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Mark Kendall**, Celebrant  
Music, **Aimee Larsen Amend and Ryan Amend**

Once a year (on Labor Day Weekend) we celebrate by laboring together to help make UUCS Sparkling Clean. We'll have a short worship service, clean, and Rev. Rick will lead a discussion for those who choose to join him.

**Sunday, September 13**

**"Springs of Compassion:  
Water Communion Sunday"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis  
& Susan Lea Smith**

**9:30 & 11:15 a.m.**

**David Gortner**, Celebrant  
**Lennie Martin**, Anchor  
Music, **UUCS Choir**

This is our annual Water Communion Service for all ages, so bring a small vial of water from home or your travels for this annual ritual. Potable Water is a precious resource that is not available to everyone. Come learn about a special project in Waugoma, Haiti, which we can support.

**Sunday, September 20**

**"Which God Do You Worship?"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**9:30 & 11:15 a.m.**

**Gloria Holland**, Celebrant  
**LJ Frederickson**, Anchor  
First Service Music, **Ted Cory**  
Second Service Music, **UUCS Choir**

Unitarian Universalism is a non-creedal religion and we do not assume that everyone "believes" in God. Yet theists and non-theists alike have to choose how to live in relation to others. Our choices make a world of difference.

Fall Religious Exploration program begins today.

**Sunday, September 27**

**"Let's Tumble"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**9:30 & 11:15 a.m.**

**Petra S. Berger**, Celebrant  
**Mark Kendall**, Anchor  
First Service Music, **UUCS Choir**  
Second Service Music, **Sara Greenleaf**

Welcome to our first Soul Matters Sunday - a service for all ages. Our theme for this Sunday is the question: "What Does It Mean to Be a People of Invitation?"



**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem**  
**5090 Center Street NE**  
**Salem, Oregon 97317**