



The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

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

May 2017

Annual Congregational Meeting May 21

The Annual UUCS Business Meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 21, at 11:45 am, following the single 10:30 am service. On the agenda are election of Board and Nominating Committee members, voting to approve the 2017-18 annual congregational budget, and a vote on the Sanctuary Congregation resolution. There will be a light lunch provided and it will be a good opportunity for fellowship. Childcare will be available. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Look in this newsletter for the Nominating Committee's proposed candidates and the 2017-18 proposed budget. You can find short biographies of the proposed candidates on our website on the [2017 Congregational Meeting page](#) under About / Our Governance.

To conduct business, we need a quorum at the meeting which is 25% of our February 2017 UUA Certified membership. Ideally, we will have over 65 members in attendance to vote. You may provide another member with your proxy if you cannot attend, however a proxy does not count towards the quorum.

There will be a **membership verification table** in the foyer on **May 7** and **May 14**. Please be sure to stop by and **verify that your membership is current and certified**, as defined by our bylaws: Members must be 16 years of age or over, have shown sympathy with the Congregation's purpose as stated in Article II by signing the membership book, and have within the last twelve months made a financial pledge and an identifiable financial contribution.

Important issues or statements that rise to the level of a Congregational Resolution are welcome. Refer to the [UUCS Bylaws](#) for resolution submission procedures.

Be sure to review the 2017-18 [proposed budget](#) at the end of this newsletter.

Nominating Committee's Slate of Candidates

The Nominating Committee provided the following list of candidates for the 2017-18 Congregational Year:

Chair: [Lynn Cardiff](#) (1 yr. term)

Vice Chair: [Joanne Manson](#) (1 yr. term)

Secretary: [Robin LaMonte](#) (1 yr. term)

Treasurer: [John Prohodsky](#) (3 yr. term)

Director Seat #1: [Benjahmin Boschee](#) (2 yr. term)

Director Seat #2: [Joel Woodman](#) (1 yr. remains)

Director Seat #3: [Cherryl Rameriz](#) (2 yr. term)

Director Seat #5: [JP Batmale](#) (2 yr. term)

Director Seat #6: [Gloria Holland](#) (1 yr. remains)

Continuing on the Board: LJ Frederickson (Past Chair);
Susan Farris-Gosser (Director Seat 4)

Nominating Committee: [Rob Schiff](#) (3 yr. term)

Continuing on the Nominating Committee: Diana Bodtker & Mark Kendall

Additional information such as candidate bios and who is retiring can be seen on the [Annual Congregation Meeting page](#) on our website ([uusalem.org](#)).

Inside this Issue

Religious Exploration	3
Happenings & Highlights	5
20 Years Ago This Month	6
Membership News	7
The Calendar	8
Sunday Morning Services	10
Proposed Budget	12



Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

This year I was invited to deliver the invocation at the annual dessert fundraiser of the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (UUCS is one of the founding members). It's a wonderful organization that does much good in our community, thanks to people like the many members and friends here at UUCS who volunteer their time and energy to create a home for our guests several times a year. (Special thanks to members Denise Hughes and Stephanie Jernstedt, who coordinate all this here for us.)

Here's the prayer I offered:

Let us join our hearts and minds together in a spirit of prayer and pause now to reflect on our life journeys.

As each one of us walks along the path of life, we encounter choices: When I pass by one in need or an opportunity to serve the common good, how do I respond? Does the spirit of self-absorption render me oblivious and unaware of these conditions? Does the selfish spirit of indifference compel me to hurry onward? Does the callous spirit of judgmentalism lead me to see those in need as less deserving and worthy, at fault for the hardships they face? Does the frenzied spirit of overwhelmeditis compel me to scurry to the other side muttering "let someone else do this – I'm in a hurry – it's not my problem"?

Or when I pass by those in need, or the opportunity to serve the common good presents itself, does the spirit of love, compassion and understanding draw me to be present with and minister to those who have been cruelly beaten down by the hardships and adversities of life?

At such moments of decision – moments that come for all of us – may we feel your presence within us, O Loving God of all people and times and places. May we see the world through your eyes. May we be aware that we can surely spare some love and compassion, especially for the despised and neglected ones, for they are children of God, they are our neighbors, they are our sisters and brothers.

May the resolve of the Buddhist Sage Shantideva be our own:

*May I become at all times, both now and forever
A protector of those without protection
A guide for those who have lost their way
A ship for those with oceans to cross
A bridge for those with rivers to cross
A sanctuary for those in danger
A lamp for those without light
A place of refuge for those who lack shelter
And a servant to all in need
For as long as space endures,
And for as long as living beings remain,
Until then may I, too, abide
To dispel the misery of the world.*

Amen.



Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

May is here and I have been enjoying being deep in the middle of planning for our summer and fall programming!

I am excited about our offerings and the plans we have been making for the summer and new program year. For us to provide the offerings we have planned for our children and youth, it is imperative that we have people willing to serve the Religious Exploration (RE) program in a variety of ways.

This last week I read an article entitled, "Your Church Does Not Need Volunteers", by Rev. Erin Wathen (A copy of the article is on the RE Bulletin Board). You can see how the title would catch my attention! Of course we DO NEED volunteers, what IS she talking about? What she talked about, I discovered, greatly changed my thoughts about my asking for help making RE possible for OUR congregation. To summarize her article will do it a disservice, (please stop by and read her wise words) but here is a sampling of her thoughts.

She writes that she knows she is not the only one that may cringe when her children are not with her and she is asked if her husband is home "babysitting" their children. I certainly have heard that question, a number of times, in my life raising my children! How can you be babysitting your own children, if you are their parent? She then said that she feels a similar comparison when someone is "volunteering" at their own faith church. "To volunteer means that you are an outside resource, stepping in to help an organization in need. Volunteering is what we do when we pick up trash at the park, or build a house with Habitat, or help sort food at the local food pantry. Volunteering is what I do at my kids' school on Fridays. In other words, **it's what you do at a place that is important to you – but not at a place that belongs to you.**" So there it is, UUCS belongs to ALL OF US. We are what make this building a congregation.

I felt immediately changed after reading this article and recognized that we all "serve" rather than volunteer at our congregation to make it what it is. While that word "serve" may not work for everyone, you will find that I am going to change my language a bit in my requests for help in the RE program in the future. It helps me to see it as not a matter of helping ME or helping RE, but rather affording an opportunity to service at OUR congregation. It may stem from my toddler years, but, I admit, I am not a fan of asking for help and always figure "I can do it myself perfectly fine!" Of course, that is not true!! Teaching or assisting in our RE program is serving our children and youth in ways that will support their spiritual growth in our Unitarian Universalist Faith. By serving our children and youth, it is another way to feel connected to something bigger than yourself and leave on Sunday feeling fulfilled with your important role in our congregation.

With all of that said, I hope that many of you will feel called to serve in the RE program this summer and fall. This summer we have opportunities to help in the nursery and with our Wisdom of Wondering offering (Pre-k-5th). Inserts will be in the Order of Service to sign up. In the fall, we will have opportunities for a team to co-lead classes for our 4th - 6th graders (new 2nd service offering), we need people to care for our nursery children (infant-three), we need people to assist with our Wisdom of Wondering program (Pre-k-3rd), we need two more advisors for our Middle School/High School youth, we will need people to help with class preparations for our 4th – 12th grade classes, and we always could use someone who would enjoy vacuuming and preparing our space for Sundays before first service! There really is something for everyone. Please let me know your availability!

**Watch for an outline of our new programming to be in the June newsletter and our website to be updated over the summer with a new RE calendar and updated program information! I am most excited about our Spirt Play classroom becoming our Spiritual Play Classroom over the summer months. It will be full of quiet, mindful, sensory opportunities that build an appreciation for mindful reflection and practice for all ages.

In faith,

Until next time....Christi

Christi J Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Other Notes of Interest From RE ~

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ACTIVITY May 13

Join RE Staff at Guthrie Park (4320 Kings Valley Hwy, Dallas, OR) on May 13 for the Old Time Dance 7:00 - 9:30 pm. Live music and no experience necessary! All ages are welcome. Admission is \$5 for adults ages 13 and older. Children free for 12 and under. Family rate is \$15 per family. More information you can check @ guthriepark.org. To arrange a carpool, talk to Christi Olsen or Marnie Jeffers.

APPRECIATION POTLUCK June 4

Join UUCS in appreciating all that we give to this community. See the article in this newsletter for details.

THANK YOU FROM RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Thanks to all of your generous donations of canned food for our annual Canned Food Hunt for Easter, the RE program was able to donate **375 pounds** of food to the Marion Polk Food Share in addition to the congregation's regular weekly contribution!

I would like to encourage children/youth to continue to bring canned food items to our RE Worship time together on Sundays. It was a very positive experience.

Words from Our Intern Minister



When I pull weeds, as I do a lot in the spring, I am struck simultaneously by both my irritation – weeds! again! – and my amazement at the persistence of life. Weeds coming up in tiny spaces between paving stones, weeds forcing their way through concrete, weeds in unlikely and hostile places.... life finding a way. And also, other life finding a way, as plants convert sun and soil and water into berries and onions and peas. So I tend my corner of the world, bringing a little order, anticipating the gifts of the garden, and also trying to appreciate even the weeds.

Gardening is about trust and humility and a bit of amazement, I think. We plant seeds and put starts in the ground, try to do the right things to help them thrive, pull the weeds and add the fertilizer and plant marigolds to keep the deer away. Sometimes the deer come and eat the whole strawberry plant anyhow, at least in my yard. Sometimes I have to remember that I can do everything right and diligently, and yet the outcome is not assured to be what I want.

What everyday things are you engaged in, and what values do you find woven into them? I hope that as you're pulling weeds, or doing whatever common chore it is you do as the spring slides toward summer, you have a little space in your day to meditate on what's hidden in that task. Come find me on Sunday and let me know what's involved in washing dishes, or oiling your bike, or mowing the lawn.

And on May 21 at 4 pm, I hope you'll join me in Corvallis for a concert by UU singer-songwriter Peter Mayer. My home church, the UU Fellowship of Corvallis, is hosting Peter, who is probably best known for writing "Holy Now" (which Ryan Amend sang so wonderfully at a service in February) and "Blue Boat Home." Look for details [elsewhere in this newsletter](#), or send me an email (monica@uusalem.org) for more info.

Warmly,
Monica

Happenings and Highlights

Learn About UUCS Becoming a Sanctuary Congregation

If you have not yet attended a discussion about becoming a sanctuary congregation, you can participate in meetings on May 7 or May 14 following each service. After first service, the meeting will take place in the Library; after second service, it will happen in the sanctuary. You can also read [a summary of the information collected from previous meetings](#) and [a list of work yet to be done](#) in the **Social Justice** section of the [UUCS website](#). Written copies of these pages will also be available at Sunday services.

\$150,000 in Maintenance Needs Identified

This year's budget and the past several budgets have not added any money to the maintenance reserve fund, which needs \$150,000 to address current maintenance needs in our 20 year old building. Can you help by increasing your pledge by just \$5 to \$50 per month? The Board has set a goal of finishing all identified maintenance in four years. **The Board is asking for an additional \$40,000 in pledges beyond what has already been pledged to allow the 2017-2018 budget and the following three budgets to include funds for needed maintenance.**

Special Dances of Universal Peace May 5

Join the Dances of Universal Peace for a First Friday Dance to celebrate Bonnie Parr Philipson's certification as a dance leader. The May 5 event will also feature the quarterly finger-food potluck. As usual, all dances are fully taught and accompanied by musicians. No experience or partner is required. Donations are gratefully received to cover expenses of the Salem Circle. However, no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

Join the Garden Cleanup Party on May 6

Please come help clean up the garden area and other areas around the UUCS building. We will be gathering Saturday May 6, 9 am until noon. We will be moving dirt, dividing flowers, trimming bushes, moving rocks, pulling weeds and getting ready for summer flowers and veggies. There will be something for all levels of physical ability. Please bring your own work gloves and pruners/clippers (labeled with your name). Contact Angela Gross at uu4peace@gmail.com for more information.

Fall Auction Team Meeting, May 17

Want to join a fun group of people planning to make the congregation's Fall Auction a success? Well, you're in luck! The Auction Team is meeting on Wednesday, May 17 from 6 to 7:30 pm. We'll be planning the Fall Auction and having a few laughs along the way too. :-) The auction is a great opportunity to raise funds for UUCS and to bring the congregation together for a fun night. If you're interested in learning more or just helping in some other way, please reach out to JP Batmale at jpbatmale@gmail.com or (503) 961 4145. Thanks!

Appreciation Potluck June 4

Join UUCS in appreciating all that we give to this community on June 4 after the service (single services at 10:30 start May 21), at approximately 11:45 am. So many serve on committees and teams as well as take time to support the Religious Exploration program! Let us all eat together and celebrate what we all bring to this community. Below you will find what you can bring to the potluck appreciation lunch, based on the first letter of your last name. – Submitted by Christi R. Olson

A to G	Dessert
H to N	Bread/Chips/Snacks
O to S	Main dish
T to Z	Side dish/salad



“Inside Peace” Film May 20

On Saturday, May 20, at 8:15 pm, the Social Justice Action Team is sponsoring the showing of “[Inside Peace](#),” a remarkable documentary telling the story of four people inside a Texas prison. The Social Justice Action Team would love volunteers to help out with the film showing! Volunteers can sign up on a sheet at our Social Justice table Sundays or via e-mail to Sarah Rohrs at srohrrs@gmail.com. The film has won several Best Documentary awards, and offers an empowering story of rehabilitation in prison.

SJAT meeting changed to May 28

The Social Justice Action Team usually meets the third Sunday of each month following the second service. In May, we will meet at the same time on **May 28**. We usually meet in the Minister's office. Please join us.

Peter Mayer Concert May 21

Peter Mayer, a Unitarian Universalist singer-songwriter from Minnesota, will be playing a concert on Sunday, May 21, at 4 pm at the UU Fellowship of Corvallis (2945 NW Circle Blvd, Corvallis, OR). Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased at Grass Roots Books in Corvallis (227 SW 2nd St, in downtown Corvallis; (541) 754-7668). Mayer is known for UU classics such as “Holy Now” and “Blue Boat Home”. Acoustic Guitar Magazine has said, “Mayer’s songs are crafted like shaker furniture, with no place for superfluous embellishments or throwaway lines... his world is bright and hopeful and the transcendent nature of his lyrics explore the mysteries of life... This is music for the soul.” Come to Corvallis after our Annual Congregational Meeting for an afternoon of rejuvenating music!

Thanks to the Cordon Road Cleanup Volunteers

Thanks to Caroline Bridges, Sharon and David Cary, Ted & Carolyn Cory, Sharon and Neil Pierson, Jennifer Rollings, John Rollings, Elsa Struble, and Angeni Tapscott. Also thanks to the members of the Aztec Dancers who showed up to help but were not able to due to lack of equipment. The county did not have enough vests and clippers for all the groups who chose Earth day for their road cleanup. The county had to limit each group to 10 vests and 6 clippers. ~Michael Pollard, Cordon Road Cleanup Coordinator

Find UUCS on Facebook!

Do you use Facebook to keep in contact with friends and family? [UUCS has a Facebook page](#) that keeps our family and friends informed about events and important announcements. Check us out! While you are there, consider liking the page and help us achieve 1000 likes by the end of June. Thank you. ~Submitted by Angela Gross, a Facebook editor

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse Training June 4

Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick is generously volunteering to offer our new annual training, “*Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect*”, from 12:00 – 2:00 pm on June 4, 2017. Plan to attend this training if you serve in our Religious Exploration program or work with children or youth. The training will follow the [Appreciation Potluck](#). Please RSVP to Christi Olsen, Christi@uusalem.org.

20 Years Ago This Month



There was a lot of rain in March and April 1997, so progress was slow. In April we acquired all the permits necessary, and that was an important step. On April 10, we had a congregational meeting, at which we presented to the congregation colors and fabric samples.

But in May, the weather was better, and our construction crew made good progress. The concrete slab for the floor of the RE and office sections was poured; that had to include plumbing rough-ins.

The first structural elements to rise above ground level were the laminated beams that define the sanctuary. I no longer remember the exact date, but sometime in the second week of May the beams

were raised. It was quite a production. Two laminated beams made an arch; we needed two cranes to lift the beams, one from each side. Then a worker in a cherry picker – a very tall cherry picker! – had to insert a bolt at the top to tie the two together. Very quickly, other men nailed on cross-beams to establish the spacing and added a couple of braces – you can see a couple of X’s in the photo – to keep the whole structure from collapsing to the north or south. We then had a rigid skeleton with integrity. Everything fit perfectly; I was thrilled!

After the beams were raised, other framing happened quickly. But the priority was the RE wing, not the sanctuary. The RE wing contained more plumbing and electrical work; the sanctuary was simpler, but did need a flooring structure over the crawl space, while the RE and office sections were built on the concrete slab.

Our congregation began our *daily* cleanup on site. Late every afternoon, two of our members picked up all the lumber scraps, and swept the floors. It took a good deal of phoning to line up those daily volunteers; for a while

Jo Bateman took that task off my hands. Our members' work on the daily cleanup accomplished several very good things. First, it meant the construction crew could continue working almost another half hour a day. Second, it showed the workers that *we cared!* If we cared, *they did too!* The quality of work done was consistently excellent, and attitudes played a part in that. Third, by investing our time on the project, we invested our hearts and souls as well! We built not only a building for our church; we built a cohesive congregation. Each of us could proudly claim "This is *my church*" in a very personal way.

I *think* we drilled our well in May. I was anxious, but when I told the well driller where we were he said "No problem; I know that area. We'll dig down a hundred feet and find you plenty of water." And that's exactly what happened. (Did you even know we *have* a well? The well is under the doghouse-like building northwest of the kitchen.)

- Submitted by George Struble

Membership News



Hi! My name is **Mike Preston**. I moved back to Salem 6 years ago, from Baltimore, MD. I have two sons: James, age 17, and Garrett, age 20. They both live in Oregon, at the moment.

I have had a bunch of jobs: mostly in teaching. I was once an Education professor, teaching Math Education, Educational Psychology, and Philosophy of Education. I have also been a regular classroom teacher, teaching second grade in inner city schools in Baltimore, and at Friends School of Baltimore. I was once a DRE at First Unitarian Church of Baltimore.

I was raised a Christian in the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church. I began my relationship with UUism in 9th grade at a High School in the Boston area. In college I learned Zen meditation, and have had a practice ever since. I am currently working to earn an MDiv. and become a board-certified chaplain. I work as a volunteer chaplain affiliated with the Salem Zen Center and Compassionate Mind Sangha, and Wat Buddha Monastery in Turner. My chaplain work is done in prisons and hospitals, and I am very active in a movement called Refuge Recovery: a Buddhist approach to healing addictions of all kinds. I work for the UUCS ARMS ministry, and am a member of the UU Buddhist Fellowship.

I discovered UUCS when I started making visits from Baltimore to Salem, to help with taking care of sick parents. I eventually moved back to Salem to offer care.

I enjoy making music in Southern Appalachian Old Time, Bluegrass, Blues, Jazz, and Folk styles.. I once had the honor of preaching a sermon from the same Baltimore pulpit from which Wm Ellery Channing gave his famous sermon on "Unitarian Christianity." My sermon was on "Mindfulness and Neuroscience."

I am grateful for the love and opportunities I have been given at UUCS.

One Never Knows...

We all have our story of the many factors that took us from frequent visitor to making the commitment to UUCS membership. I remember so many of you who reached out to Carolyn and me in genuine kindness to bid us welcome and encourage our participation in this congregation. However, there is one gentleman who became our anchor. His warmth, kindness, and interest in us gave us a comfortable place to sit during the Sunday service. **Ted Dingman** became our unofficial mentor. He answered our questions, shared his own life, and demonstrated sincere interest in ours. Not too long ago, Ted told us he was having memory issues and couldn't drive safely anymore. Subsequently, he made the difficult, life changing decision to sell his home and move to a retirement facility. With the help of his sons, he sold his Salem property and relocated to a retirement facility in King City, close to his youngest son. It was here we had our most recent visit with Ted.



It took us about an hour to drive from Salem to King City. Some recent friends, George and Carol Moeller, accompanied us. Ted and George became friends while working together on the Marion County Parks

Commission. Ted was ready for our prearranged visit. He gave us a tour of the facility, welcomed us to his apartment which featured a living room, small kitchen, spatial bedroom and bath. We were all impressed with the large lanai overlooking the garden. In addition, he receives two meals a day enjoyed in the main dining room. His thoughts still take him back to his longtime home in Salem; however, he finds comfort in the fact he's not alone and there's staff available to help if needed.

Close to his apartment is a small mall containing a variety of shops, grocery store and restaurants. The five of us walked the short distance to a Mexican restaurant he was familiar with for a beer and lunch. Conversation was lively, laughter was hearty and the bonds of significant relationships were reinforced. The afternoon drifted away with good times and sharing memories with a man who probably never knew how much he meant to the four of us.

Ted Dingman's contact information is:

Pacific Point Retirement Inn, #236
11777 SW Queen Elizabeth St.
King City, OR 97224
Cell: (503) 871-4706

- Submitted by: Joel Woodman, Membership Team

Calendar

Membership Team meeting

Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 pm, Library

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, May 3, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners. Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8 - 9 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 4, 6:30 pm

Dances of Universal Peace

Friday, May 5, 7 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.

Refuge Recovery

Friday, May 5, 7 pm, Green Classroom

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. Drawing inspiration from the core teachings of the Four Noble Truths, emphasis is placed on both knowledge and empathy as means for overcoming addiction and its causes.

Loving Kindness Meditation

Sunday, May 7, 9:30 am, Green Room

Loving Kindness is a short-guided visualization that helps us develop a mind of loving kindness towards all living beings regardless of differences. A daily practice, it calms the mind and allows the mind to focus on developing harmlessness towards others. It

encourages self-confidence and inner happiness. A written and recorded version is offered to each participant. The guided version takes 16 minutes to complete.

Membership Invitation and Information

Sunday, May 7, 10:30 am & 12:15 pm

Do you have questions about your membership at UUCS? Questions about what it means to be a member of UUCS? You are invited to stop by the 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.

Sanctuary Discernment Discussion

Sunday, May 7, after each service

Cottage (small group) meeting after first service in Library

Town Hall (large group) meeting after second service in the Sanctuary

Living the Seven Principles

Monday, May 8, 6:15 pm, Blue Classroom

Sanctuary Committee meeting

Monday, May 8, 6:30 pm, Minister's Office

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans meeting

Monday, May 8, 6:30 pm

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

Social Justice Discussion Group

Monday, May 8, 6:30 pm, Green Classroom

The Social Justice in Action Team invites you to join us to discuss current social justice topics in an informal setting. Topics will be decided by participants. This meeting will be in addition to our regular monthly meeting, but will be more focused on allowing people to talk about issues in a deeper way than we have time for in our 'business' meetings. No commitment to attend both meetings is expected or required. Please join us with an open mind, an open heart, and open ears. If you are able, please consider bringing a snack or non-alcoholic beverage to share. Hope to see you there!

Women's Alliance Annual Dinner

Tuesday, May 9, 5:30 pm, Offsite

Monthly program and meeting

Youth Service Rehearsal

Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, May 10, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

(See May 3)

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 6 pm

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

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 pm

Refuge Recovery

Friday, May 12, 7 pm

(See May 5)

RE Family and Friends Gathering

Saturday, May 13, 7 pm

See [article](#) for more information.

Kids Art Annual Show

Sunday, May 14

Coming of Age

Sunday, May 14, 9:30 am

Compassionate Connections

Sunday, May 14, after each service

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.

Sanctuary Discernment Discussion

Sunday, May 14, after each service

(See May 7)

Sanctuary Committee meeting

Monday, May 15, 6:30 pm

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, May 16, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall

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. All are welcome to attend.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, May 17, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

(See May 3)

Fall Auction Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 17, 6 pm

See [article](#) for more information.

See article for more information. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm

Dances of Universal Peace

Thursday, May 18, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall

(See May 5)

Journey to Belonging

Thursday, May 18, 7:00 pm, Minister's Office

"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 Tennesen.

Finance Team meeting

Friday, May 19, 10 am, Library

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meet & Greet

Friday, May 19, 7 pm, RE Commons

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, May 19, 7 pm, Green Classroom

(See May 5)

Inside Peace film

Saturday, May 20, 7 pm

See [article](#) for more information.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 21, 11:45 am

Communications Team Meeting

Monday, May 22, 4 pm, Library

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

Worship Team meeting

Monday, May 22, 6 pm, Minister's Office
Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan & discuss Sunday Services

Facilities Team Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 6 pm

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, May 23, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall
(See May 16)

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, May 24, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm
(See May 3)

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 25, 6:30 pm

Coming of Age rehearsal

Friday, May 26, 5:30 pm

Refuge Recovery

Friday, May 26, 7 pm, Green Classroom
(See May 5)

Coming of Age

Sunday, May 28, 9:30 am

Social Justice in Action Team meeting

Sunday, May 28, 11:45 am

RE Team Meeting

Sunday, May 28, 12:45 pm

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Tuesday, May 30, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall
(See May 16)

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Wednesday, May 31, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm
(See May 3)

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 1, 6:30 pm

Newsletter Deadline

Friday, June 2, 8 pm

Dances of Universal Peace

Friday, June 2, 7 pm
(See May 5)

Refuge Recovery

Friday, June 2, 7 pm, Green Classroom
(See May 5)

Life Lines Lay Ministry meeting

Saturday, June 3, 9:30 am, Library

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect Training

Sunday, June 4, 12pm, RE Commons
See [article](#) for more information.

UU 102: A UUCS Overview

Sunday, June 4, 12:45 pm, Sanctuary
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!

Microfinance Committee meeting

Monday, June 5, 6 pm, Library

Youth Service Rehearsal

Tuesday, June 6, 6 pm

Membership Team meeting

Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 pm, Library

Titlakawan - The Flowering of the Self

Worship Services and Religious Exploration

May Share the Plate: [HOME Youth and Resource Center](#)

Sunday, May 7

9:30 am and 11:15 am
"Perspectives from DACA "

The Rev. Richard R. Davis
and DACA Students

Celebrant: Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick; **Anchor:** Steve Rosen
Music Both Services: Ted Cory

What is life like for those youth who have mostly grown up in the U.S. but were not born here? What struggles, tensions, challenges do they face? A HOME Youth and Resource Center representative will speak during service and host a table during fellowship hours.

Religious Education: RE participants will hear "Rupert's Tale" as he learns about the Wheel of the Year. Youth are working hard on their youth service, June 11th.

Sunday, May 14

9:30 am and 11:15 am
"Holy Ground"

Monica Jacobson-Tennessee

Celebrant: Benjahmin Boschee; **Anchor:** David Jeffers
Music Second Service: UUCS Choir

It's a tradition for folks to bring some form of chocolate on Mother's Day to our Sunday service, so please, "Bring chocolate to celebrate!"

What does "holy ground" really mean? We might understand it as a place where two different worlds come together: the divine and the ordinary. In this service, we'll consider what "holy ground" has to offer us in the spheres of interfaith relationships, environmentalism, and making change for justice.

Religious Education: We'll share a story about Mother's Day and learn about Julia Ward Howe, a Unitarian who started "Mother's Day for Peace." Youth are working on their youth service.

Sunday, May 7

10:30 am
"Authority Issues?"

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

Celebrant: Steve Rosen; **Anchor:** Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick
Music: Ryan Amend and Aimee Larsen-Amend

Do you have "authority issues"? What kinds of authority have you experienced in your life? Who should have authority?

Begin summer schedule – one service.

Annual Congregational Meeting and lunch follows the service.

Sunday, May 28

10:30 am
"Religious Prescriptions"

The Rev. Mark Gallagher

Celebrant: David Gortner; **Anchor:** Lennie Martin
Music: UUCS Choir

Religion surely has something to do with how we live our lives. Accordingly, many religions issue "commandments" to their adherents. Can there be religious prescriptions which are important but not authoritarian?

About our speaker: The Reverend Mark Gallagher was the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Vancouver, Washington for twenty-one years, having previously served several other congregations on the west coast. He is currently engaged in a free-lance ministry of teaching and preaching.

Religious Education: For Memorial Day, we are going to read *My Old Pal Oscar*, a story about loss of a beloved pet and welcoming of a new pup that found the little boy in need. Youth will attend the service.

Sunday, June 4

10:30 am
Flower Communion

Monica Jacobson-Tennessee

Celebrant: Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick; **Anchor:** Ann Hanus
Music: UUCS Choir

On June 4, we'll have our annual celebration of the Czech Unitarian Flower Communion - a recognition of the beauty and diversity of our congregation. Bring a flower for the bouquet! To further recognize transitions in the membership of our congregation, this service will include bridging our youth into young adulthood, child dedications, and a welcome to new members.

Bring a dish and stay after for a potluck lunch to appreciate all who have volunteered their time and abilities this year. See the Appreciation Potluck article for more information.

Religious Education: No RE Program

2017-18 Proposed Budget

Explanation of 2017-18 Proposed Operating Budget

The total projected income for the Proposed 2017-18 Budget is \$313,695. While pledges still provide the majority of the income (88%), total pledges were less than the current year. Projected Pledge income was discounted by 1% rather than 2% used in the past because only the actual pledges received by April 7, 2017 were used as the basis of next year's projected pledge income.

The Budget Committee used prior history to project expected income in other categories such as the Sunday plate offering, non-pledge income, and investment income. Projected Fundraising Income was increased by \$4000 with the expectation of the auction next fall. Net building rental was increased by \$5000 based on the additional rental from the preschool. The current amount in the childcare fund was transferred into the operating budget to cover the costs of providing childcare for activities. The total projected income for 2017-18 is \$9,815 more than the current year's budget. That is a 3.2% increase.

Following last year's process, the Budget Committee met with all of the Teams to better understand their goals and what resources they need to further those goals. The process enhanced the Budget Committee's understanding of the impacts of any budget reductions or new investments before the total income was known. It also helps improve the Teams' knowledge of the budget process.

The proposed Budget funds a 2% salary increase for all current employees, increases in costs for essential services in Facilities and makes strategic investments in Religious Exploration and the Music program. The two RE Assistants staff hours were increased from three to four hours a week for each assistant. A position was created for the childcare workers to bring the church into compliance with state labor laws. The Staff Salaries and Benefits amount includes a \$2,500 stipend for the Intern Minister position. The Minister Salary and Benefits amount is slightly lower due to lower cost of medical insurance.

To accomplish these changes, money was reallocated among budget categories based on current spending patterns. In some cases where a team or activity had a corresponding Other Fund, the budget process relied on the use of both the Operating Fund and Other Funds to pay for the total needs of the Team.

This is a tight budget with a small contingency. Greater communication between the Budget Committee and the Teams improved forecasting of costs and allowed the Committee to meet Budget goals.

Budget Committee members: John Prohodsky, Carol Manka, Paul Manka, Susan Farris Gosser, Robin LaMonte and Lorna Youngs

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

Proposed UUCS 2017-18 Operating Budget

			2016-17 Budget	2017-18 Budget	
INCOME:					
		Share the Plate	\$6,000	\$6,000	<i>45% of plate offering</i>
		Non-Pledge Income	\$8,000	\$8,000	
		Current Year Pledges and Grants	\$275,380	\$275,335	<i>99% of total pledges</i>
		Prior Year Pledges	\$3,000	\$3,000	
		Fundraising Income	\$3,000	\$7,000	<i>(Coffee, Pie Sale, auction.)</i>
		Net Building Rental Income	\$5,000	\$10,000	<i>includes rent from daycare</i>
		64% of Total Investment Income	\$3,500	\$3,500	<i>(36% deposited in Memorial & Endowment Funds)</i>
		Transfer from Childcare Fund		\$860	
		TOTAL INCOME	\$303,880	\$313,695	
EXPENSES:					
		Minister Salary and Benefits	\$97,341	\$96,571	
		Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$106,623	\$113,625	
		Total Minister and Staff Expense	\$203,964	\$210,196	
	Admin Exp				
		Includes copier, printing, bookkeeper, PNWD/UUA dues, etc.			
		Total Administrative Expense	\$46,915	\$44,962	
	Teams				
		Facilities	\$34,230	\$36,555	<i>(utilities, janitorial, landscape, systems tests & monitoring)</i>
		Religious Exploration	\$3,400	\$3,600	
		Fundraising	\$1,000	\$1,500	<i>(formerly Fellowship Team)</i>
		Social Action	\$1,600	\$1,400	
		Performing Arts	\$0	\$0	
		Communications	\$3,177	\$3,177	
		Sunday Services/Worship	\$5,600	\$5,600	
		Music Team	\$625	\$1,125	
		"Other" Budgeted Teams	\$2,389	\$2,390	
		Total All Teams	\$52,021	\$55,347	
	Contingency		\$980	\$3,191	
		Total Budgeted Expense	\$303,880	\$313,695	

A more detailed budget with a breakdown of these categories is available on request from the Treasurer, Lorna Youngs

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

Minister: The Rev. Richard R. Davis

rdavis@uusalem.org

Intern Minister: Monica Tennesen Jacobson

monica@uusalem.org

Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:

Christi J. Olsen, christi@uusalem.org

RE Sunday Assistants: Marnie Jeffers,

Elsa McKinney-Menchaca

Music Director: Aimee Larsen-Amend

Pianist: Sara Greenleaf Seitz

music@uusalem.org

Board Chair: L.J. Frederickson

ljfrederic@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

UUCS Internet Links to:

Website: www.uusalem.org

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

Newsletter Editors: 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 **June** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **June 2**. Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to editors@uusalem.org.

Announcements for the separate **Sunday Announcements** 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.