



The Chalice and the Flame

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

March 2015

Stewardship Contributions Update

On February 22, Celebration Sunday, 82 households pledged \$157,000 to fund our UUCS Operating Budget for July 2015 - June 2016. As the newsletter goes to press, member contributions total about \$170,000 from 105 members. We are off to a great start with a substantial commitment from our members.

To reach the same level as last year \$107,000 more is needed. That shouldn't be a problem since potentially 100 more households are likely to make commitments in the next few weeks. For comparison, the UUCS Annual Operating Budget in 2014-2015, our current year, was \$310,500, of which \$277,000 came from pledges.

Wisely, we never spend more than we have, so the UUCS budget is developed around annual projections of contributions. The board must recommend a tentative budget in April and post it in the newsletter to members at least two weeks before the annual meeting of the congregation in May, when members discuss and vote on the budget. That means that the budget committee is busy in March balancing the requests for funding that maintain our nurturing community for our members and friends.

In order to meet this rather tight planning calendar, there is an intense effort to reach every single member and contributing friend in the first week of March. Please remember that financial pledges to UUCS can be adjusted if people's circumstances change, but of course it is best if pledges are accurate as well as generous!

THANK YOU for your generous support of our congregation. Please complete the information sheet that you received and mail it back to UUCS. And please welcome any call from our Stewardship Team inquiring about your plans for funding UUCS this next year.

Chris Vogel at vogelpack@gmail.com 503-586-8314

P.S. Saturday, May 9th, please plan to join in with your UUCS neighbors in ZIP dinners to celebrate the success of our Stewardship for the upcoming Budget year. This is an opportunity to connect with those who live nearby. Please mark your calendars from 5-8 p.m. If you are willing and able to host an event for your ZIP code neighbors, please let us know how many you might seat for a cozy evening of visiting and celebrating UUCS.

Irish Dinner March 14

Let's celebrate St. Patty's Day together in Hanneman Hall, starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 14. With brisket brined to corned beef perfection, cabbage, potatoes, dessert, the Irish have never had it so good. Chef Joel Martin has already begun preparations. Seating is limited to 100 lucky diners. Takeout will be available on a limited basis. Bring your neighbors! There just might be a wee bit of a sing along, to help with digestion. A \$14 donation is requested. Don't miss it!

Tickets are available during coffee hours following Sunday services and (if any remain) at the door. For more information, contact Barry Halgrimson at bhalgrimson@gmail.com or 512-948-8842.

Joel Martin brines for St. Paddy's day 2015





Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

Recently a friend and colleague, the Rev. Liz Stevens in Moscow, ID, was creating a Sunday worship service celebrating long term relationships in her congregation. She asked me to write a bit about my long term ministry that she could share in that service. Here's a modified version.

Around the time I began my ministry here in Salem I happened to read a biography of William Greenleaf Eliot, the 19th Century Unitarian minister in St. Louis, MO, who offered some advice to his son Thomas Lamb Eliot, heading out west to begin his own ministry in Portland, OR, in 1867: "Stick to your post and let your effect be cumulative." Somehow, it struck me that I, too, was meant to hear and heed this advice – that I was called to stay in Salem and slowly build relationships within and without the congregation and "let my effect be cumulative."

Until I settled in Salem over 22 years ago, I had moved around a lot in my life. Likewise, the UU congregation in Salem had had ministers come and go, none settling in for very long. The longest ministry before mine was that of William Ellery Copeland (named after the "*Father of American Unitarianism*," William Ellery Channing), who served about seven years at the end of the 19th century until ill health forced him to retire to a utopian socialist commune up on the Olympic Peninsula. So, the congregation and I must have been primed to try something radically different – to see how a long term commitment might play out.

There's plenty of coming and going in our world, and, yes, it is true that everything changes, but creating some stability and a having sense of loyalty still has its place. These twenty two years we've been together has given our affections a chance to deepen. I've watched young ones grow up to young adulthood and officiated at some of their weddings. I've often wept with members as we've have said final goodbyes to beloved, occasionally quirky, always wonderful members at memorial services.

We both seem to have understood from the beginning that change would be a constant part of the equation. In order to grow we had to leave our comfortable old home on 19th and Breyman and build a new home for ourselves. Then there was more building and more change. We had to get used to being in a new place. Now we're adjusting to two Sunday services (again), and this still takes getting used to. Along the way there have been bumps in the road (life is a bumpy road!), but we have been able to get over them. Seems to me that, although we never explicitly said this, we chose this path because we felt a strong sense of loyalty to one another and to our free faith tradition.

They say that you should never enter into a relationship with an eye toward changing the other – that you should accept what you're getting or you shouldn't get in at all. Paradoxically, that creates the freedom to grow. I can't speak to my congregation's experience of my ministry, but I can say that I have felt affirmed, appreciated, loved and encouraged, and this has enabled me to grow. Not every congregation, alas, knows how to relate in life affirming, encouraging ways with their minister, so I am profoundly grateful for their unfailing kindness. We've come far together, and I hope and pray we have many more miles to travel together as we help the light of our free faith shine brighter.

Love, Rick



Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ **Christi Olson, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration**

Christi's Thoughts:

As I write, I am waiting for the final rehearsal for the youth service to begin. I have the privilege of being a part of the preparations for the youth service. It is an awesome experience to see the high school youth put their heart and soul into preparing a service for the congregation that will be both meaningful and enjoyable for all. The courage it takes for youth to share their personal stories and their amazing musical talent is commendable. It takes many hands to create a Sunday service. I am appreciative of the opportunity for the youth to learn, first-hand, what it takes to put a Sunday service together. Their advisors, Gil Nicholson-Nelson and Roberta Robinson, have advised in a way that allowed the youth to choose their theme and have the service creation youth-led. They have guided them through the immense process of deciding on an appropriate theme all the way through to the final service presentation. I am anxious for you all to experience this special service.

The youth service gets our March Religious Exploration off to a great start. The following Sunday, March 8th, there will be a Religious Exploration program only during the second service, when we will be visited by animal ambassadors from Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center. We are pleased that they are able to take the time to come to UUCS. I believe that it is very important for the children and youth to recognize the connection with the natural world. In addition to this visit, later in the spring we will have the opportunity to volunteer for them and help them with a project that they will announce during their visit. Our "Principles in Action" (practicing the principles beyond UUCS doors) program is another way to extend this learning.

Our Adult Education program has a new offering beginning Sunday, March 15th, at 9:30 a.m. Petra S. Berger will be facilitating this monthly series entitled Writing Your Own Spiritual Playbook.

March 22nd is the opening of registration for our annual Women's Retreat. This event is held at the Oregon 4H Center from May 1st to May 3rd. The retreat features opportunities for crafting, canoeing, swimming, hiking, drumming, worshipping, eating and visiting! Stephanie Jernstedt and Julie Warncke will be leading this retreat.

With spring returning and a new area for the RE garden, Angela Gross, as the new RE Garden Coordinator, will be leading the children/youth in the process of creating a beautiful garden space.

Many activities are happening in our Religious Exploration program. Thank you to all who contribute to the program! Please be sure to follow UUCS on Facebook to be reminded of all of the happenings!

I am looking forward to the return of all of the spring flowers and beautiful flowering trees! It is a good time to slow down and take time to enjoy the many splendors of spring! Enjoy the season.

In faith and until next time, Christi

2015 UUA General Assembly

It will be many years before we at UUCS will again be only an hour away from the annual national gathering of UUs known as the General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association, so a number of us will want to spend some time in Portland June 24-28. More than 4000 UUs attended the 2014 GA in Rhode Island! These meetings began over 150 years ago, starting with ministers gathering and later adding congregation members and leaders. These general assemblies allow delegates to vote on UU Association matters, in keeping with our fifth principle "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." All attendees can learn and worship with fellow UU's from all corners of the US and the world.



The theme of this year's General Assembly is **Building a New Way**. New approaches for working in community, engaging in ministry, religious education programming, fund raising, and congregation building will be featured in workshops, worship, and exhibits. See the full 2015 schedule at uua.org/ga in May.

All attendees must register. Early registration (March 2 through April 30) cost for the full five days is \$350 for an adult, and \$135 for one day. For a youth early registration is \$205 for five days or \$85 per day. You can also volunteer at the General Assembly for 24 hours in 4 hour shifts, and attend for free when you are not volunteering. Volunteer applications are accepted March 2 to March 31: contact Jean Sherbeck, jean@sherbeck.net. Also see the information on page 4 of the previous issue about making housing reservations (while space lasts) and applying for financial aid.

Happenings and Highlights

Friday is the Newsletter Deadline!

Many people have acknowledged that our UUCS newsletter, "The Chalice and the Flame", looks fabulous these days! One of the reasons is that the newsletter team (copy editors and formatter) spend a number of days working to get it that way. The chief editor of the month and the formatter have their work cut out to publish the newsletter email version by our Monday evening deadline. This deadline was established with the primary aim of using the newsletter to inform the congregation of upcoming events in a timely manner! The deadline mentality and pressure is intense once Saturday afternoon arrives as we are committed to meeting this deadline.

Any newsletter submission received after Friday makes the editing and formatting process more time consuming and frustrating. Please note that while we make every effort to include a late submission, we **cannot guarantee** it will appear in the requested newsletter!

The **Friday** before the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays** of the month is the deadline for newsletter submissions during most months. It is posted in the Calendar and in the Staff Box (the boxed column on an inner page). During the summer (June, July and August), there is only one issue published each month and the

deadline is the Friday before the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Newsletter editors are all volunteers who enjoy the responsibility and task of publishing a quality newsletter on a timely basis. We thank all contributors in advance for working with us and doing their best to meet the Friday deadline!

UUCS Newsletter Team, editors@uusalem.org

Have you been AWE'd yet?

Curious as to what's going on? **AWE** stands for *Alternative Worship Experience* and we've been steadily building an audience for these Saturday night events which take place monthly. Beginning in March the Sacred Saturday Circles will be held on the **THIRD** Saturday of each month.

Appealing to a wide audience, we celebrated **Bounty** in October and learned about some awesome Pagan rituals. In November our theme was **Devotion** and we held a Kirtan in the Sanctuary with our very own UUCS Kirtan band. December's theme was **Wonder** and David Gortner compiled a slide show of images of nature and animals which was awe-inspiring.

In January we had a unique opportunity to partner with a group of very talented musicians who offered songs of civil disobedience and of hope. Our

pre-concert program "The Art of Peaceful Protest: The Time is Now" was moderated by local peace activist Peter Bergel and attracted almost 70 attendees.

Our March through May programs will include a Reader's Theater presentation on the women's suffrage movement in America, directed by our own Gloria Holland; an indigenous peoples' celebration in April (close to Earth Day); and in May, we'll learn more about Sufi dancing, zikrs and other interesting rituals from the Muslim tradition. Our themes loosely follow the **Soul Matters** program in which our small covenant groups are participating.

As you can see, we have appealing and evocative topics. Why not join us at an upcoming Circle and find out what other UU's are excited about!



BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL
WOMAN ARE A LOT OF
OTHER WOMEN.

March Sacred Saturday Circle

March's theme is **RESILIENCE**. At the March Circle, on Saturday, March 21, from 5 – 7 p.m., AAUW (American Association of University Women) will present a Readers' Theater production of "Breaking Through Barriers: The Suffrage Movement in America," directed by UUCS member

Gloria Holland. The play features eleven women who played significant roles in getting women the right to vote. At least two of these women had significant ties to the Unitarian faith. The play, using these women's voices, will tell the story of the suffrage fight from the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention – the first such gathering of women in the U.S calling for suffrage – to the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920.

A potluck will follow the performance at 6:30 – bring a dish to share. Admission is by donation, to benefit AAUW and UUCS. For more information contact Lynn Albright at publicity@uusalem.org.

Dick Weissman Concert April 17

Folk music lovers throughout the Willamette Valley, mark **Friday** evening, **April 17** on your calendars! That's when longtime folk musician and banjo virtuoso Dick Weissman will share his songs both old and new, along with stories about the evolution of the folk music era back in the 50's and 60's. Learn more about Dick, one of the founders of the famed "Journeymen," at www.dickweissman.com.

Microfinance Dinner April 25

Also save **Saturday** evening, **April 25**. Starting at 6:00 p.m., the third annual Microfinance Dinner will again feature Peruvian cuisine

February Foster Parent Night Out

The wonderful FPNO program hosted six children from two families on February 9. They and volunteers Ruth and Erik Larson, Beatriz Fallios, Fred Hemann, Molly O'Dea, Cara Filsinger, Nancy Murphy, Joan Stembridge, and Rick Davis had a grand time celebrating "Olympic feats" and each child won a prize. After a delightful dinner we made masks following a mardi gras theme, complete with feathers and beads. We can be very proud of what we provide for these children and the very deserving parents.

Joan Stembridge, Chair

Find Your Niche

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!

Could you help UUCS by working for our web team, updating pages on our website (uusalem.org) and coordinating with other UUCS groups in their use of the website?

Do you like to create press releases, articles and online information about events? No experience is needed, though any background in public relations,

marketing or using social media would be a plus. To find out more, contact Lynn Albright at publicity@uusalem.org.

Can you edit, and want to help but need to work from home? The editors of this newsletter cooperate to create a quality product, communicating almost entirely by email.

For any of these positions contact Vicki Cunningham, vickicunningham11003@gmail.com.

Writing Your Own Spiritual Playbook

This new monthly Adult Exploration series is offered to all UUCS members and friends who like to write about their contemplations in the arenas of spirituality, religion, and/or seeking the truth about life's mysteries. Writings can remain private, or may be shared and discussed within a group of fellow writers, and could be shared at some point in UUCS publications and/or presentations. If you're interested, please contact facilitator Petra S. Berger at petraoregon@comcast.net or 503-400-7646. The first meeting, in the UUCS Library, will be on **Sunday, March 15**, from 9.30 a.m. until 10.45 a.m., so attendees can attend the second service.

Kairos Community Lunch

Celebrate the beginning of spring by preparing and serving lunch to those in need on **Sunday, March 22**. At St. Mark's Lutheran Church UUs will prepare wonderful soup and stew and get the very direct pleasure of serving a meal to those who need one. Sign up and/or donate at the Social Justice table after Sunday services. For more information contact Mary Beth Hustoles at 503-587-7949 or mbhustoles@gmail.com.

Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network



SIHN will be hosting families at UUCS **March 29 - April 5** and needs volunteers to serve meals, stay overnight and spend time with the families. To volunteer for this important project, sign up at the Social Action table during coffee hour or contact Meredith

Jaynes at SIHN.coordinators@uusalem.org or 503-585-0910.

Welcome Young Easter Visitors

Many visitors, including children, will attend the Easter services on **April 5** and we want all of them to feel welcome. Please contact Christi Olsen, christi@uusalem.org, if you can be a greeter and give extra support in RE that day.

Earth 411 Festivities on April 11

The City of Salem and the Straub Environmental Center are getting an early start on Earth Day with *Earth 411*, a family-friendly, educational, and celebratory event at Riverfront Park on April 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Demonstrations by organizations and businesses will show residents practical ways to reduce their footprint on the Earth. There will also be music, storytelling, food, and boat rides on the Willamette River.

UUCS member Beth Malouf is on the City's Public Works Storm Water "Clean Streams Team" and is recruiting volunteers for Earth Day. She writes, "We have all kinds of jobs for all kinds of people to do that day and in the weeks before the event." To volunteer or to learn more, contact her at emalouf@cityofsalem.net or 503-588-6211.

Women's Retreat May 1-3

Registration for the annual Women's Retreat opens March 22. Held at the Oregon 4H Center, the retreat features opportunities for crafting, canoeing, swimming, hiking, drumming, worshipping, eating and visiting! The retreat leaders Stephanie Jernstedt (steffiej2947@msn.com) and Julie Warncke (juliewarncke@comcast.net) would like to hear from women who could plan and shop for art activities and supplies, set up the art activities, organize registration and cabin assignments, and be the contact with UUCS while at the retreat.

Mothers' Day Plant Sale

UUCS gardeners are potting up seedlings and cuttings, watering and transplanting, with a their shared goal of having a ravishing array of beautiful greenery for bargain-minded Willamette Valley gardeners who will rush to the UUCS parking lot on Mothers' Day Weekend, May 9-10. Donations of plants are welcomed with open arms. Contact Barry Halgrimson if you have an overage of plants that we can dig up for you. Please ask yourself, "How can I contribute to the Mothers' Day Plant Sale"? For more information, contact Barry Halgrimson at 512-948-8842 or bhalgrimson@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead to Summer

Mark your calendars for the **First Annual Family and Friends Retreat**, August 26-29. Celebrate the end of summer with your family and friends at this retreat for ALL AGES. For more information and/or to be part of the planning team, please contact Christi Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, at christi@uusalem.org.

Parking Lots

Thanks to all those who have been parking on the North side of Center Street to free up parking space in the paved lot. First time visitors appreciate it, as do people delivering things to the building, and those for whom walking is an arduous workout. There is still lots of room in the north lot. Come join us!

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. For questions or comments, contact Petra S. Berger, page editor, at petraoregon@comcast.net.

Farewell to UUCS members and friends

We lost **Ken Erickson**, a precious, very long-standing and loyal UUCS member, on February 27. Ken graduated from Milwaukie High School to join the Army in 1945, to be stationed in Vienna, Austria. After returning to Portland, he enrolled at Lewis and Clark College, and subsequently began a career in education, culminating in Union contract negotiation work. He married Joan in 1969 and they raised eight children. He earned a doctoral degree in Negotiating skills at the University of Oregon in 1970. Later he became superintendent at Perrydale School District, and returned to farming as a cherry grower and vineyard owner. A memorial service will be conducted on **Saturday, April 4** at 2.00 p.m. at UUCS.

News of the death of **John Gibson** reached us yesterday. He was an exceptional man, a loyal and most helpful friend to our UUCS community. With a clear vision of the meaning of stewardship, he walked his talk and played a vital role in helping us during our capital fund campaign. His was a life well lived!

Caught in the Act of Kindness

Thank you to Communications Team members for their valuable, friendly, and kind services during our Sunday coffee hour on March 1st.

Accomplishments

Nine amazing young people from the RE High school group conducted both Sunday services on March 1st. Musical and speaking talents were demonstrated by the youth. Yes, listening to these creative and sincere UU girls and boys /women and men, it inspired deep joy and hope in the adult audience. It brought a reminder that our future indeed lies in all of our children and youth; thus, no investment can be too great to strengthen them over their years of growing tall in body, mind, and spirit.

One performance by **Spence L.** turned out to be a hilarious recitation of the song: "You've Got a Friend in Me" (by Randy Neuman). **Elsa M.** and **Jewell W.** dramatically read aloud the RE Children Story for all Ages called "Love you Forever" (by Robert Munsch) with the core message of "I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always, As long as I'm living, my baby you'll be," spoken by a mother over the advancing age of her child growing into adulthood. The appreciative audience was spell-bound at the central thought of our early human need of comfort and connection with, and trust in, a parent figure.

Meagan S. very nicely played with passion the music to "My Immortal" by Evanescence at the beginning of the service. **L. J.** shared a sincere, moving homily about where he is in life with his feelings and experiences with comfort. Another student, **Angel B.** confessed that she only recently self taught the guitar, which sounded quite professional when she played the popular song "Desperado" by Eagles. Also performing on her guitar was **Kodiak C.** expertly playing "Thinking Out Loud" by Ed Sheeran. A heartfelt song was offered by Elsa M.

and **Ezekiel M.** "You are my Sunshine." The personal stories by the students were profound and brave at the same time.

Dakota P. demonstrated his interest in philosophy by presenting his own writings that you can read below, playing on the words of Neal Walsch: "Life begins at the end of your comfort zone."

*Change is the antithesis of comfort. Change can destroy everything we've built. If you try one thing, or make one misstep, this house of cards we call life, is blown away. And so we're afraid to add to this house of cards. Because we love knowing that things won't change. Even if that means sacrificing growth and knowledge. Because deep down inside, we know in order to learn, or grow we must have some failure. Some sacrifice. **Something.** So we let our learning opportunities pass. We make the most egregious mistake you can make. However, you can choose to not make that. As soon as you learn that simple truth, you can change your life. You get to choose. That's the truth. Truth. Another destroyer of our comfort.*

C.S. Lewis once said "If you look for truth, you may find comfort in the end; if you look for comfort you will not get either comfort or truth, only soft soap and wishful thinking to begin, and in the end, despair."

Truth is hard. A lot of us would really rather be told we look beautiful in that outfit, instead of the truth that it makes us look horrible, even if it's the truth. Some of us may be thinking "I'd always prefer the truth," but let's be honest. Lies can be a lot better than the truth and can often make you feel better. We become comfortable with the knowledge. Even if the initial truth is as shocking as jump into an icy lake in the morning, eventually, we get used to the temperature. We become comfortable with the truth. But if we avoid it, in the end we despair at a life wasted. Because in the end truth can be comfortable, especially about ourselves, perhaps the hardest truth.

Becoming comfortable with yourself could be the most important aspect of anything. Because everything else can come and go, you are not absolutely tied to people that you surround yourself with. We are, however, tied to ourselves. We are the only person we have to live with for the rest of our lives. If we cannot become comfortable with ourselves, then what can we truly do? If we cannot sit in silence with our thoughts, then what can we change in ourselves? Change begins with us.

Truth can be found, and it can cause comfort in the end. We can love ourselves, and it will benefit us. In order for us to learn, to grow, this must be accomplished. Or we shall wait and despair for things to happen on their own. Rarely do good things happen on their own. We must start them if we want to see them. No amount of annoyance at ourselves will change ourselves. We must act on that annoyance. Then, and only then, can true comfort be achieved. And we can all do it. Comfort is something we can all achieve.

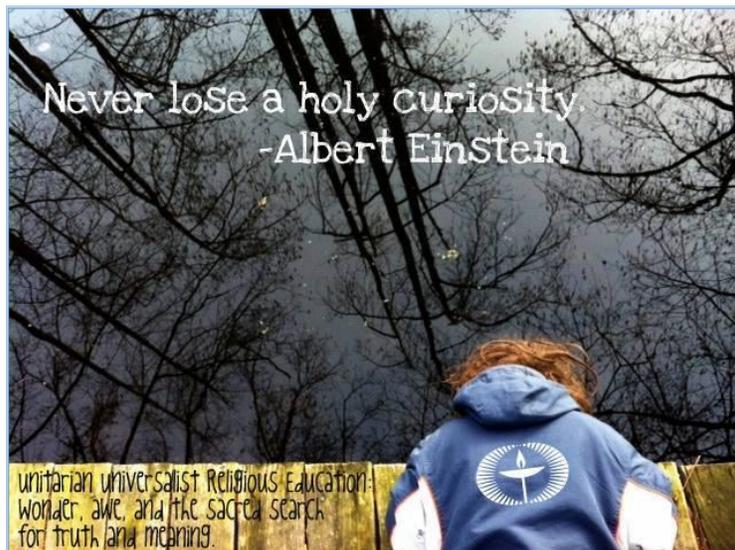


Photo and design by Teresa Honey Youngblood
Image from [UU Media Works](#)

"Unitarian Universalist religious education: wonder, awe, and the sacred search for truth and meaning" allows youth to explore the world and their own experiences in a nurturing community as they develop their own beliefs and meet their spiritual needs.

The Calendar

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

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Minister: The Rev. Richard R. Davis
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Intern Minister: Theresa Soto
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Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:
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Facebook: facebook.com/UUSalem

Newsletter Editors: 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, which is scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of most months. During June, July and August there is only one issue, published on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Please send your submissions, including personal news, directly to the editors at 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, 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

March 3

Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

March 4

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. 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

March 5

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

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

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

UUCS member Diana Nicholson-Nelson, a Medical Social Worker at Willamette Valley Hospice, will describe its services and work. This presentation will be followed by our monthly meeting. We will be making plans for our annual dinner in May. For more information contact Ruth Larson at 503-363-6253. All are welcome.

Friday

March 6

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.

Saturday March 7**Lifelines Lay Ministry Meeting - 9:30 a.m.****Sunday March 8****~~~ Daylight Savings Time Reminder ~~~****Compassionate Connection - 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.**

Are you going through a hard time? Would you like to feel the compassionate support of others? Please join us in the front of the sanctuary, following service, for Compassionate Connection, a time when we lay our hands upon those in distress and our minister offers a prayerful reflection. We also invite other members to join us and offer compassionate support.

Program Council Meeting - 12:30 p.m.**Monday March 9****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. To learn more, please contact Joan Stembridge at 503 363-2433.

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 March 10**Archives Work Party - 9:00 a.m.****Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.****HOWP Annual Meeting - 6:30 p.m.**

Heart of Willamette Pagans Annual Meeting -
This is the annual meeting and potluck of the Heart of Willamette Pagans that is being sponsored/hosted by the Salem Covenant of UU Pagans. The potluck starts at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7 p.m..

Wednesday March 11**Budget Committee Meeting - 9:00 a.m.****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.**Thursday March 12****Board Meeting - 5:00 p.m.**

UUCS members are welcome to attend.

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.**Friday March 13****Aztec Dancers - 7:00 p.m.****March 17 Newsletter Submission Deadline - Midnight****Saturday March 14****St. Patrick's Day Dinner - 6:00 p.m.****Sunday March 15****Writing Your Own Spiritual Playbook - 9:30 a.m.****Social Action Meeting - 12:30 p.m.****Tuesday March 17****Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.****Wednesday March 18****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.**Thursday March 19****Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.****Committee on Human Resources Meeting - 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 March 20

"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.

Saturday March 21

Sacred Saturday Circle - 5:00 p.m.

"Breaking through Barriers: The Suffrage Movement in America"

Monday March 23

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

Microfinance Team Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday March 24

Sacred Saturday Circle Planning Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Aztec Dancers - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday March 25

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.

Thursday March 26

Choir Rehearsal - 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 or call 503-449-8077; facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute.

Friday March 27

Nonviolent Communication Workshop - 6:30 p.m.

Fred Sly, PhD, founder of the Oregon Prison Project, will offer a free introduction to Nonviolent Communication (NVC). NVC has changed the lives of hundreds of inmates in five state prisons. His work led to development of a stress reduction program for Corrections officers. Prison reform - from the inside out. The evening will include 90 minutes of NVC experience, an invitation for growth and connection.

Saturday March 28

Perils of Religious Fundamentalism - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday March 29

New Member Orientation - 11:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Monday March 30

Communications Team Meeting- 4:00 p.m.

Hosting SIHN Families - 5:00 p.m.

Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network

Permaculture Essentials - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday March 31

Hosting SIHN Families - 5:00 p.m.

Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network

Facilities Team Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services and Religious Exploration

9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

March theme: "Resilience"

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.

~~~ Daylight Savings Time Reminder ~~~

**Sunday, March 8**

**"Why Me?"**

**The Rev. Rachel Lonberg**

**David Jeffers**, Celebrant Both Services

**Gloria Holland**, Anchor Both Services

Music Early Service – **Aimee and Ryan Amend**

Music Late Service – **UUCS Choir**

Why do bad things happen to good people, particularly us? Why is the universe so profoundly unfair sometimes? How might we make sense of this? Rev. Rachel Lonberg will delve into how the world's wisdom traditions answer these questions, offer her best answers, and explore how we might support one another in our questioning.

When Rev. Rachel Lonberg was four years old, her grandmother died. She asked her parents, "Why did Jesus get to come back to life, but grandma didn't?" That question brought her family to a Unitarian Universalist congregation -- and Rachel has been nurtured by our faith ever since. Rev. Rachel continued to ask questions during two years of volunteer service in the former Yugoslavia, during her studies at Union Theological Seminary, and while serving UU congregations and as a hospital chaplain resident.

**Sunday, March 15**

**"The Pilgrimage"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick**, Celebrant Both Services

**Mark Kendall**, Anchor Both Services

Music Early Service – **Sara Greenleaf Seitz**

Music Late Service – **UUCS Choir**

On this Sunday we'll celebrate our ongoing relationship with our Partner Unitarian Church in Simenfalva, Romania. Those interested in making their pilgrimage to the birthplace of Unitarianism can learn about plans for this in 2016 and we'll also look at the call ALL of us have to go on a pilgrimage.

**Sunday, March 22**

**"The Final Frontier"**

**Theresa Soto, Intern Minister**

**Mark Kendall**, Celebrant Both Services

**Petra S. Berger** Anchor Both Services

Music Both Services – **Dale Harris Combo**

We will take lessons from the Spring Equinox and consider the limitations that we impose on both our achievement and growth. We will remember the legacy of Leonard Nimoy through the character Dr. Spock from the original Star Trek series. We will consider the characters and stories in a way that will be interesting for both people encountering them for the first time and seasoned fans. Come ready to engage!

**Sunday, March 29**

**"Just Holding"**

**The Rev. Craig Moro**

**Lennie Martin**, Celebrant Both Services

**David Gortner** Anchor Both Services

Music Both Services – **Jon Chinburg**

The best children's stories are among the best ones that we have. They are made to be told, retold, voiced, performed. They become part of us, just like "religious" stories do (like the Easter story that will be told in many churches next week). Here is my idea for a children's story that I would write and illustrate, if I could--a work in progress with something for the child in every one of us, and for the adult in every child.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SALEM  
**SACRED SATURDAY CIRCLE**  
SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2015 FROM 5 - 7 PM

MARCH'S THEME IS *RESILIENCE*



BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL  
WOMAN ARE A LOT OF  
OTHER WOMEN.

AAUW PRESENTS

**BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS:  
THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN AMERICA**

*DIRECTED BY GLORIA HOLLAND*

- A *Reader's Theatre* production featuring the stories of eleven women who played significant roles in getting women the right to vote; detailing the suffrage fight from 1848 through success in 1920.
- The women include the following: Alice Paul, Lucy Burns, Lucretia Mott, Amelia Bloomer, Lucy Stone, Sojourner Truth, Carrie Chapman Catt and more.
- Several of these women had ties to the early Unitarian Universalist Association including Abigail Scott Duniway Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony.

Admission by donation.  
*Proceeds will benefit AAUW & UUCS*

**BE A WE'D . . .**  
ATTEND OUR ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE  
FOR ALL AGES *EVERY* THIRD SATURDAY

- Each month we will explore a different theme in an informal, participatory type of setting; integrating teachings and rituals from world religions and cultures.
- Learn more about our grassroots spirituality and celebrate with us through song, dance and a community potluck.

*Everyone is truly welcome!*

For more info contact Lynn Albright or email [publicity@uusalem.org](mailto:publicity@uusalem.org)

The March circle will be in our Sanctuary  
at 5090 Center St NE, Salem. ♦ Bring a dish to share!



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

