



# The Chalice and the Flame

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

## April 2015

### UUCS Annual Meeting

Letter from the Board Chair to the UUCS congregation regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting on **May 17**.

Please plan on attending the Annual Meeting scheduled for **Sunday, May 17** starting at 12:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. The agenda for the meeting includes three main components: 1.) the election of new board members for the 2015-2016 fiscal year starting on July 1st, 2.) approval of the new budget, and 3.) consideration of the continuation of the two services concept.

The Board-recommended budget and the Nominating Committee's slate will be published in the April 17 newsletter and posted on UUCS bulletin boards. Printed copies of the proposed budget will also be made available at that time.

Instructions regarding proxy voting, and motions from the floor will be made available upon request. We look forward to meeting with you and setting our course for the next year.

Respectfully, Barry Halgrimson, UUCS Board Chair

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### Celebrate our Peru Connection!

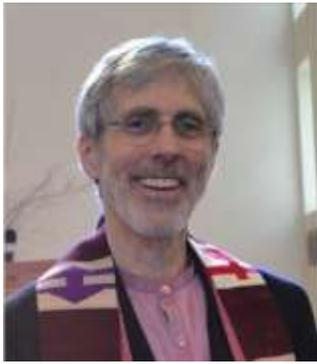
Celebrate our UUCS connection to Peru at the Microfinance Peruvian Dinner on **Saturday, April 25**, beginning at 6 p.m. in Hanneman Hall. Proceeds from the Dinner this year will help our partner, The Chijnaya Foundation, establish permanent revolving microloan funds to two impoverished and remote alpaca-ranching communities located above 14,000' elevation in southern Peru. The

funds will help community members as they improve the wool quality of their alpaca herds, their main source of income. Rolly Thompson, an alpaca rancher near Eugene and fiber consultant for this project, will be our (brief) dinner speaker.

Peruvian cuisine reflects local practices and ingredients including influences from indigenous Inca and cuisines brought in by Spanish, Chinese, Italian, German, Japanese, and African immigrants. Traditional staples are potatoes, soft cheese, chili peppers, corn, rice and quinoa. Peruvian cuisine, generally, is not spicy hot; rather a fusion of various tastes reflecting its diverse heritage. The dinner menu will reflect a number of these influences.

The program will also feature South American wines, photos from the four UUs who visited Peruvian villages last September, and raffle prizes including Peruvian craft items and bottles of South American wines. For the full menu and program, look for Dinner posters at UUCS or ask Dinner and raffle ticket sellers any Sunday in April.





# Reverential Ramblings

This month, instead of “rambling” myself I’d like to share wisdom from UUCS’s oldest member (97 years) – Roger Gillette, a gentle, wise and compassionate man whose long dedication to refining his theological views is worthy of our consideration. So....Roger, what do you have to say? ~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS’s minister

## **A Religion and Ethics for the Age of Science: Religious Naturalism**

**By P. Roger Gillette**

### **The Search Principle**

We can develop a religion and ethics for the current scientific age through a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. The search for truth involves evidence-based scientific research. The search for meaning involves experience based religious reconnection. (The Latin word “religare” – “to reconnect” – may be taken to be the root of the word “religion”; the prefix “re-“ is given the same meaning in “reconnect” as in “Research”).

### **Scientific Naturalism**

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

More particularly, we are an integral part of an interrelated, interactive, interdependent web of all life. We call this emerging and evolving web the biosphere, and our scientific knowledge of it biology.

An emerging and evolving information handling capability is an important factor in the emergence and evolving of the biosphere. This capability involves both instinctive and learned capabilities.

The biosphere can also exist only in combination with an atmosphere, and aquasphere, and a terrasphere. We call this combination an ecosphere, and our scientific knowledge of it ecology. Our ecosphere is a hollow shell extending from some distance below the surface of the earth to a greater distance above. We know of no other.

This ecosphere is also often called the natural world or nature, and those who study it naturalists.

### **Religious Naturalism**

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

### **Religious Ethics**

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

P. Roger Gillette - July 7, 2014

### **References:**

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- Gillette, P. Roger, 2002; “A Religion For An Age of Science”. Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science, vol.37, no. 2
- Murry, William R., 2006; “Reason and Reverence: Religious Humanism for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Skinner House Books, Boston.
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# Lifespan Religious Exploration

## ~ Christi Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

**April is here!** I love seeing the leaves returning and the wonderful spring flowers. Every time there is a new season, I think it is my favorite! Though this year, I did keep holding out for a big snow storm before I could accept that it was becoming spring. My husband took me to Timberline Lodge so that I could experience “winter” and then embrace the new season...so now bring on the beautiful spring flowers! I hope that you all are enjoying the glories of spring.



*Photo by Danielle Olsen*

Like the poem, our RE Garden is already taking shape this spring....seeds are sprouting from “its wintry rest”! Angela Gross has been busy planning the garden and helping the children in RE be a part of the process. They have planted seeds inside and out. Some of the children were not sure about wanting to plant until they saw the miracle of the seeds sprouting out of the dirt in the toilet tissue rolls! Now they understand and are ready to help.

Spring brings the **Annual Women’s Retreat, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>**, at the Oregon 4H Center. It is \$130 for two nights lodging, meals, snacks, and activities. It is a great way to spend the weekend. A limited number of partial and full scholarships are available, so please do not hesitate to ask me if this is needed.

Children and youth will be participating in the “Principles in Action” activities. They will be planning and hosting the birthday party for Lydia’s Love ([lydiaslove.org](http://lydiaslove.org)), the RE Offering project this year, as well as volunteering to help at Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center ([turtleridgewildlifecenter.org](http://turtleridgewildlifecenter.org)). Watch for the upcoming dates to be announced! The high school youth have already volunteered for Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network ([salemihn.org](http://salemihn.org)) by hosting an Easter party for the children staying at UUCS in April. Middle School and High School youth will be helping **dig up plants** on **April 18<sup>th</sup>** for the Mother’s Day plant sale being held at UUCS. The children and youth will be busy this spring!

Join the **RE Team** for our monthly meeting on **April 26<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30 pm in the Library and help be a part of the busyness planning! Our regular meeting time is the first Sunday of every month. Due to Easter, we changed this month’s meeting. Hope you can come and be a part of RE development!

The High School (YRUU) Spring **Youth Conference** is happening **May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Please have your youth talk with the advisors to get more information. Registration is open.

Middle School youth will be having a **sleepover** at UUCS that same weekend on **May 2nd!** Please have your middle school youth talk with their advisors to get more information and to sign-up!

Please note – **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** is a Volunteer day off for Religious Exploration classes.

As you have read, a lot is happening in Religious Exploration. Please do not hesitate to talk with me about all of our many activities! Our UUCS calendar on the website ([uusalem.org](http://uusalem.org)) is a great resource to keep up with all of the things happening this spring.

In faith, and until next time - *Christi*

## Lifblood of Our Congregation

Membership is the lifblood of any religious community. Ours is no exception. The reality is the records show our membership has remained reasonably static for the last few years. With the advent of two Sunday services, a Board supporting community outreach, and a congregation eager to embrace new members we are on the threshold of renewed efforts to increase our numbers, thereby enriching the lifblood of UUCS.

Reverend Rick, Samantha (Office Administrator), and the Membership Team have worked together to modify the existing "Pathway to Membership" with the idea of enhancing the transition to membership by clearly defining program and specifically assigning the responsibilities of implementation and maintenance.

### The four components of the proposed program include:

1. **"UU 101"** - This new introductory class is open to current members and those considering joining our faith. In this class, Rev. Rick will provide an overview of the history of our free faith heritage, our UUA Principles and Purposes, and the eight practices of meaningful membership. There will be an opportunity for the exchange of ideas and questions among the participants.\*
2. **Membership Orientation Class** - This session will focus on the nitty gritty of transitioning into full membership. It will provide further opportunity of prospective members to bond and receive practical information about the meanings, responsibilities and benefits of membership. It will culminate in the significant ritual of signing the Membership Book.
3. **New Member Covenant Groups** - Two Covenant Group sessions are planned as supportive follow-up. The sessions will be facilitated by Rev. Rick. They will be informal with fellowship enhanced by a light pot-luck dinner.
4. **New Member Recognition** - As in the past, this is a simple ceremony conducted during our Sunday services to welcome new members. This is an opportunity for the congregation to reach out to those wishing to join our congregation. The power of each member to embrace new people cannot be overemphasized. It is an essential component of retention.

As you can see, we are continuing with what works and taking some new direction to enrich the experience for new members. Hopefully, you can share this process with those who ask, "How do I join UUCS?" Share this information with friends and family who have expressed a desire to join a faith community but simply don't know how to proceed. Also, existing "Friends" who attend services but have not yet made the commitment to join are encouraged to add their presence to the "Lifblood" of UUCS.

### \*Important Note

The new membership plan will be launched with the first "UU 101" class scheduled for **Thursday, April 16**, at 6:00 p.m. Child care will be provided to make it easier for families to attend. Easily prepared finger food, light snacks, and beverages will be provided. Those who should consider attending include visitors, prospective members, regular members, anyone who would like a refresher course in UUism and the meanings of membership. Please RSVP with your intent to attend at [membership@uusalem.org](mailto:membership@uusalem.org)

If you forget to RSVP, don't be concerned. You are still more than welcome to join the class.

Joel Woodman, Membership Team Co-Leader 2015-16 [Carolynjwoodman@comcast.net](mailto:Carolynjwoodman@comcast.net)

# 2015 UUA General Assembly

## UUA General Assembly: Portland, Oregon June 24 – June 28, 2015

Notes for UUCS Members and Friends:

Please remember to register this month before May 1<sup>st</sup> for the lower registration rates. If you plan to attend less than full time, consult the preliminary schedule of workshops to help you decide which day(s) to choose. Wednesday/Thursday, June 24 and 25 are considered a one day registration, as is Saturday/Sunday, June 27 and 28. Google "UUA General Assembly 2015" and up will pop the website with all the information I think you will need. In May and June, we will try to match up car poolers for attendees who plan to commute.

Would you like to be a delegate from UUCS? We have five spots available. The Board will designate delegates at the May 14 Board meeting. If more than five people apply, selection will be based on date of registration receipt, or in the case of accepted volunteers, the date the persons indicated their intent.

Questions? Jean Sherbeck will try to help. [jean@sherbeck.net](mailto:jean@sherbeck.net)

## Happenings and Highlights

### Plant Sale! --- Mother's Day Weekend

SATURDAY May 9 (10-4pm) & SUNDAY May 10  
(11-4PM)



Flowers, veggies, herbs, bulbs, perennials, tree starts, cuttings, you name it, you're bound to find it at the UUCS Mothers Day Plant Sale May 9 and 10 at

the corner of Cordon and Center Streets in NE Salem.

Every Unitarian with a green thumb will have brought the fruits of their labors to the spacious parking lot in time for the sale. Get there early for the best selection! Hybrids & heirlooms, lots of surprises.

Bring along your dull hoes, spades, loppers, lawn mower blades, axes, and even kitchen knives to take advantage of a **Tool Sharpening event**. An expert sharpener from Edgemaster will be on hand to take care of all your sharpening needs.

The plant list as of April 1 can be found online in [Hot Topics](#) We know there is more to come!

### Finger Food Potluck

Singles of all ages, you're invited to a finger food potluck at 12:30 on **Sunday, April 12**. Finger food is any food that doesn't need eating utensils. This is the kick-off event of a new group. Come share lunch with us! For more information, contact Jessie Hopkins as [naturelvr818@gmail.com](mailto:naturelvr818@gmail.com).

### Foster Parent Night Out

Foster Parent Night Out is a joint partnership between the Oregon Department of Human Services

and local churches. The churches provide 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, and from the beginning, UUCS teamed with volunteers from Temple Beth Shalom. The final year of the program at UUCS will end **Monday, April 13**, with a potluck for all the foster children, their families and all our volunteers. Many thanks to all the volunteers since 2008, with special thanks to leaders Joan Stembridge, Janet Neuburg, and Ruth Larson!

### Dick Weissman Concert April 17

Folk music lovers throughout the Willamette Valley, mark **Friday evening, April 17**, at 7:00 p.m. 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 here at UUCS. Learn more about Dick, one of the founders of the famed "Journeymen," at [www.dickweissman.com](http://www.dickweissman.com).

### Women's Alliance Annual Dinner

Women's Alliance members (and non-members, space permitting) are invited to the Annual Dinner, which will be held on **Wednesday, May 6**, at Roth's in West Salem. A no-host bar will open at 5 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. The cost will be \$26, which includes gratuity. Reservations can be made by calling Jane Manning, Ruth Larson or Diana Bodtker. At that time a dinner entree can be selected. Please make checks payable to Women's Alliance. We will need an accurate count of attendees by **April 20**. There is access to the dining room by elevator.

Lynn Cardiff

## Local Hikes

UUCS members and friends are invited to join George Struble for any (or all!) of three Chemeketa hikes he will lead (to celebrate the end of tax season):

**Saturday, April 18:** Silver Falls State Park, the waterfalls tour -- 7 miles

**Tuesday, April 21:** McKenzie River Trail -- 6 miles

**Saturday, April 25:** Little North Fork trail -- 9 miles

If you are interested, please phone George at [503-364-3929](tel:503-364-3929) for more information or to sign up and learn the departure time and place.

## Transforming Discipline

On **Sunday, April 26**, from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at UUCS, join Unitarian filmmaker and Licensed Professional Counselor Laurie Simons to present a screening of more scenes from the Transforming Discipline Video Series. Come and see how the Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) model has been changing the way kids are disciplined, while at the same time building affinity and mutual respect. Film clips will be followed by discussion. Everyone is welcome.

## March Landscape Work Party

On March 21, the Landscape team had a very successful work party to construct four raised beds with cinder blocks for growing vegetables. Three of the beds are behind RE and the fourth is on the east side of RE next to the playground.

The Landscape team thanks the following people who turned out for this work party: Jo Bateman, Karen Chambers (Meditation group), Ted Cory, Angela Gross, Tom Lancefield, Larry McCarin (Meditation group), Carol Manka, Paul Manka, Charles Scales, Samantha Scales, Ellie, and Isabel.

The Landscape team thanks Angela Gross for volunteering to manage the RE garden this year and helping recruit volunteers from the meditation group for this work party. As always, Ted Cory was there to supply his energy, enthusiasm and expertise to getting the job done. The Landscape team thanks all who showed up!

Woody Allen was right when he stated that "Eighty percent of success is showing up." We think the RE gardens combined with the new fenced area in front of RE will add a new dimension to the RE experience this year.

## New Direction for UUCS Landscape Team in 2015

The Landscape team is taking a new approach in managing the UUCS landscape in 2015.

The first change is that we will no longer have regularly scheduled work parties on the third Saturday of each month. Rather, we prefer to call work parties when there's a specific need for a group effort such as building the RE gardens noted above.

The second change is that the Landscape team has adopted an approach where specific groups within the UUCS congregation adopt specific areas on UUCS property to manage. This strategy reflects the changing nature of people's work schedules and personal commitments where it's extremely difficult for everyone to meet on specific days.

In addition, it acknowledges that gardeners have a diversity of interests and skills. Thus far, RE has volunteered to create a vegetable garden area and maintain it. CUUPS has committed to create an herb garden in the Hanneman Hall patio area. Another congregant has committed to maintaining the front entrance garden area. The Landscape team is pleased with their commitments to these projects since it will help knit the UUCS community more closely together.

The Landscape team encourages those of you who would like to care for and nurture the UUCS landscape to contact Paul Manka at (503) 371-6352 or [ptmanka@comcast.net](mailto:ptmanka@comcast.net) to determine how you can best help.

## New Dates for ZIP Dinners!

ZIP gatherings are morphing into SUMMER yard BBQs and ice cream socials - **Saturday, July 18**.

We have encountered a scheduling challenge for the ZIP dinners **initially scheduled for May**. Seems that is the night before Mother's Day. It is also near the UUCS Annual Meeting. Finally, some have suggested they prefer to entertain outside, but the weather is chancy in May. UUA General Assembly in Portland is a highlight for June.

**So, we have moved our Zip Code Gathering - to July 18.** Daryl and I will be hosting for West Salem and Polk County. We'd appreciate hosts for Keizer, Silverton, Downtown Salem, South Salem, and East Salem.

Please email or phone if you'd open your home and backyard. Chris Vogel, [503-586-8314](tel:503-586-8314) [vogelpack@gmail.com](mailto:vogelpack@gmail.com).

## Printed Sunday Bulletins

UUCS is being greener now, as well as saving time and money, by discontinuing insertion of Sunday Bulletins (announcements) into the Orders of Service the greeters hand out. Copies are available in a basket attached to the bulletin board on the short wall that conceals the restroom doors in Hanneman Hall. It's easy to spot the large-print copy (large

enough to read over someone's shoulder!) posted above the basket.

Alternatively, you can look for the Sunday Bulletin on the web page under "What's Happening" or you can request to have a copy emailed to you ahead of time by contacting the office.

## Area Events of Interest

### **Portland: Sustainability and the Soul: A Lecture by Susan Griffin**

On **Thursday, April 9**, at 7:00 p.m., at First Unitarian Church in Portland, Susan Griffin will address the complex threat of climate change, the false divisions our culture makes between body and soul, masculine and feminine, self and other all of which allows us to hide from our own knowledge. Our efforts to avert even the worst effects of climate change will be far more effective when we gain a deeper understanding of the reciprocity and interdependence that define and sustain every aspect of existence. Following the lecture, there will be a reception and a community gathering of social justice groups. Tickets are \$5-\$20 on a sliding scale. Available at the door or on-line at [FirstU-PDX](#).

### **Salem: 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 **Saturday, 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.

### **Corvallis: Emma's Revolution at the UU Fellowship of Corvallis**

Travel to the UU Fellowship of Corvallis for a concert by *Emma's Revolution* on **Saturday, April 11**,

at 7:30 p.m. at 2945 NW Circle Blvd. Smart, funny and informative--like Rachel Maddow and Jon Stewart with guitars. Called "inspiring, gutsy and rockin'", Emma's Revolution's songs have been sung for the Dalai Lama, praised by Pete Seeger and covered by Holly Near. Tickets are \$17 in advance and \$20 at the door.

For tickets and more information: 541-752-5218, [minister@uucorvallis.org](mailto:minister@uucorvallis.org), or [emmasrevolution.com](http://emmasrevolution.com).

### **Salem: Active Hope - How to face the mess we're in without going crazy**

Active Hope is an empowering, creative stance for meeting the many challenges we face: With our planet and economies in crisis, our political process in chaos, and our cultural story in transition, many of us may feel hopeless, cynical, or despairing.

On **Saturday, April 18**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., First Congregational UCC in Salem is hosting a workshop, based on the work of eco-philosopher Joanna Macy, exploring new ways in which we can face these issues, find inspiration, and embody our gifts for the healing of our world.

Through the use of deep dialogue, group ritual, music, and our own wild imaginings, we will explore together the ground of gratitude, honor our pain for the world, and grow our deepened sense of interconnectedness and empowerment as we face, together, the peril and beauty of our changing world. *Take time out for a day of respite, healing, creativity and fun.*

Facilitated by Barbara Ford: Activist, therapist, facilitator, singer, and artist with over 30 years experience working with individuals and groups to explore the convergence of spirit, creativity, and living an engaged life.

More information at <http://www.barbaraford.net/> and required registration at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

## Find Your Niche

### **Lucky Twice...**

UUCS now has two new co-chairs of the Membership team – Joel and Carolyn Woodman - as they are going forward beginning in July 2015, AND we are receiving greatly expanded support from our wonderful office administrator Samantha Scales as guided by Rev. Rick Davis. And thank you Lana for all your good work this past year!

Three makes a charm? Indeed: now we want to welcome several of You readers to join the Membership team. There is no task too small or too

large that we can't offer. And this team has fun – we work for social interactions that strengthen our UUCS community. Please contact Joel and/or Carolyn if interested: [carolynjwoodman@comcast.net](mailto:carolynjwoodman@comcast.net) or phone 503-364-8065. Petra S. Berger, Membership Team

### **Cordon Road Clean-Up**

It's That Time Again! Time for the Spring Cordon Road Clean-Up Day on **Saturday, April 25**, at 9:15 a.m. Help clean up our mile section of Cordon Road as part of Marion County's Adopt-a-Road Program.

All are welcome, as you are able, and the county's rules allow youngsters 10 years and older to participate (those under 18 must have their parents' permission). We'll meet in front of the UUCS to plan the work and pick up vests and equipment. Sign up at the Social Action Table after church services or email or phone me at 503-991-4534, [lstine@ide-nw.org](mailto:lstine@ide-nw.org), to let us know you can help. Thanks.

Laura Stine, Coordinator.

### Women's Retreat May 1-3

Registration for the annual Women's Retreat opens April 22. Held at the Oregon 4H Center, the retreat features opportunities for crafting, canoeing, swimming, hiking, drumming, worshipping, eating and visiting! Retreat leaders Stephanie Jernstedt ([steffiej2947@msn.com](mailto:steffiej2947@msn.com)) and Julie Warncke ([juliewarncke@comcast.net](mailto: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 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](mailto:bhalgrimson@gmail.com).

### Kairos Community Lunch

Rain was the perfect incentive for 97 diners to join us at St. Mark Lutheran for another successful lunch service by UUCS volunteers. Many thanks to Bill & Pam Vorachek, Joan Erickson, and friend Phyllis Webb, Will Austin, Diane Mitchell, Danielle Shearer, Caroline Bridges, and her grandson and friend Adian Tison and Camron Mueller. Again we made the world famous clam chowder, etc. and received high compliments from program coordinator Kate Boyne. It's really lots of fun and satisfaction -- consider joining us next time, on **May 10**.

Mary Beth Hustoles

### 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](mailto:christi@uusalem.org).

## 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](mailto:editors@uusalem.org) or call 503-400-7646. For questions or comments, contact author Petra S. Berger [petraoregon@comcast.net](mailto:petraoregon@comcast.net).

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

Quotes from attendee Jose Guerrero of the new UUCS Adult Exploration group ***Calling Your Own Spiritual Playbook*** (you may join the next meeting at **9.30 a.m., Sunday April 12** in the library):

"We are in the Universe (God) and the Universe is in us. I believe we are all given the opportunity to inhabit this world as humans to continue our evolution towards the Source. So what draws me to this place, to the Unitarian Universalist congregation of Salem, Oregon?"

I appreciate what I found at UUCS because to me it provides a space for each one of us to understand the Source without making the mistake of fully defining it--which as we've seen is quite unreasonable and likely impossible. It is the cues, small miracles, the feeling, of the Source that is important for us. I can no longer deny the Source. To deny the Source would be to deny myself. I no longer strive to fully understand the Source; the Source does not exist to be understood, it exists to share and provide direction back to itself."

### Caught in the Act of Kindness

**Paul and Carol Manka** want to help first-generation students at Chemeketa Community College. So they established the *Paul and Carol Manka First-Generation Scholarship* which will award four scholarships of \$1,200 each annually to first-generation college students. Paul himself once was a first-generation college student. To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a first generation college student at CCC and carry at least 12 credit hours per term;
- Provide evidence of a minimum of 2.0 and maximum of 2.5 GPA.

The latter requirement is intended to assure that not only the usual “A” students receive scholarship but also students who still need a chance to prove themselves academically; thus, the scholarship is meant to become a game changer.

People who believe in the goals of the *Paul and Carol Manka First-Generation Scholarship* are free to contribute whatever they can to the scholarship fund to create additional scholarships by pooling their contributions. It’s our hope that this will happen.

Thank you Paul and Carol for your generosity!

**Jennifer Campbell** from Keizer, the daughter of proud parents **Anne and Jim Crum**, is a member of the PDX Police Highland Guards where she serves in parades with a Scottish band. She is also a member of the Oregon Defense Force National Guard. We felt lucky that Jennifer joyfully performed for us at our **St. Patrick’s day party** with authentic **Scottish music played on authentic instruments**. The audience was fascinated and asked for more. Thank you so much, Jennifer – see her photo elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Accomplishments

UUCS Board member **Bill Vorachek** (Ph.D. in Biochemistry) conducted Molecular biology research in 1983. However, funded research priorities change over time. Bill’s most recent, part-time involvement is as member of an on-going OSU Research team working on preventive animal health in the field of Veterinary Science and Medicine. It has been found that when animals ingest an elevated level of the micronutrient Selenium (Se), it results in better calf and lamb health, which is very important for ranchers in Oregon, where Se is low, especially in the Willamette valley. Bill’s team has received small research grants but continues to apply for larger grants. We wish his team good luck, and also thank Bill for two productive years as UUCS Board member!

On February 12, 2015, our past Music director **Mary Gear** passed an important milestone in the process to become a minister. Mary saw the Regional Subcommittee of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee and was granted candidate status. This allows her to join the UU Minister’s Association and continue on her path to becoming a minister. Congratulations, Mary!

In celebrating **Women’s History Month**, an engaging stage production directed by UUCS member **Gloria Holland** was offered to a highly appreciative audience on a recent Saturday evening – thank you Gloria! The six actresses /presenters performed multiple roles with a most authentic flair. The topic was the 72-year-long and mighty struggle that was begun before the time of the Civil war by many brave and persistent women to achieve women’s right to vote across our land. One of the activists was from Oregon, Abigail Scott Duniway, with at least one descendant who is a UUCS member. As we know, the topic of free access to the voting ballot in every State continues to be important today.

### Volunteer Honors

"When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace; when I breathe out, I'll breathe out love." -Sarah Dan Jones



Gloria Holland and Sally Hollemon

**Jon Chinburg**, a UUCS choir member has shared with us his amazing drumming skills as well on Sunday mornings – singing and drumming at the same time! Jon’s family heritage is Swedish and German. He has played in a rock band since age 14. In 1996 he formed the local 3-member “Flex Tones Band” offering music on Guitar, Base, and Drum; it is active throughout the Willamette valley.

# The Calendar

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

**Minister:** The Rev. Richard R. Davis

[rdavis@uuma.org](mailto:rdavis@uuma.org)

**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:** Barry Halgrimson

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

**Office Administrator:** Samantha Scales

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**Phone:** 503-364-0932

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**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 Elizabeth Bauman 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](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, 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.

**Tuesday**

**April 7**

**Membership Team meeting - 11:00 a.m.**

**Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday**

**April 8**

**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**

**April 9**

**Board Meeting - 5:00 p.m.**

UUCS members are welcome to attend.

**Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.**

**Friday**

**April 10**

**Aztec Dancers - 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday**

**April 11**

**Permaculture Design Course – 10:00 a.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. Create food security and abundance with a permaculture design certificate course. Learn ethical, self-sustaining food growing, water, housing, and energy systems for any size. Feed your family or consult for others. Call 503-449-8077 to register

**Sunday**

**April 12**

**Calling Your Own Spiritual Playbook - 9:30 a.m.**

Do you seek more clarity about your own Spiritual path? What direction does your curiosity take you?

Write about your contemplations in spirituality, religion, and/or seeking the truth about life's mysteries! Questions, contact Petra S. Berger, [petraoregon@comcast.net](mailto:petraoregon@comcast.net) or 503-779-7797.

**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.**

**Singles Group Gathering - 12:30 p.m.**

Finger food potluck for singles of all ages. That is any food that doesn't need eating utensils. This is the kick off event for our new singles group. Come share lunch with us!

**Aztec Dancers - 5:00 p.m.**

**Monday April 13**

**Foster Parent Night Out—Final program starts at 5:00 p.m.**

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 April 14**

**Archives Work Party - 9:00 a.m.**

**Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday April 15**

**Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.**

**UU Compassionate Mind Sangha**  
Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday April 16**

**Celebrant Anchor Training - 12:00 p.m.**

**UU "101 Class" - 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Friday April 17**

**CUUPS Group - 6:30 p.m.**

**Dick Weissman Concert - 7:00 p.m.**

Dick is a long-time folk musician and banjo virtuoso dating back to the origins of folk music in the 50's and 60's. He will tell stories and play compositions both new and old.

**April 21 Newsletter - Submission Deadline is Midnight!**

**Saturday April 18**

**Sunday April 19**

**Aztec Dancers - 5:00 p.m.**

**Monday April 20**

**Microfinance Committee Meeting - 6:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday April 21**

**Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday April 22**

**Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.**

**UU Compassionate Mind Sangha**  
Session 1 - 5:30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday April 23**

**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](http://nwpermacultureinstitute.org) or call 503-449-8077; also see [Facebook](#).

## Friday April 24

Salem Philharmonia - 5:00 p.m.

## Saturday April 25

Cordon Road Spring Cleanup - 9:00 a.m.

Peruvian Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Microfinance Committee.

## Sunday April 26

Transforming Discipline - 9:30 a.m.

By special request, Unitarian filmmaker and Licensed Professional Counselor Laurie Simons returns to present a screening of more scenes from the Transforming Discipline Video Series. Come and see how the Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) model has been changing the way kids are disciplined, while at the same time building affinity and mutual respect. Film clips will be followed by discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Interfaith Service - 6:30 p.m.

Oneness Coalition Interfaith Service.

## Monday April 27

Communications Team Meeting - 4:00 p.m.

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

## Tuesday April 28

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

Facilities Team Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Aztec Dancers - 6:30 p.m.

## Wednesday April 29

Coffee Klatch - 10:00 a.m.

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

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

## Thursday April 30

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 p.m.

## Friday May 1

Women's Retreat Begins - 1:00 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](http://SalemDances.com) for more information.

**May 5 Newsletter - Submission Deadline is Midnight!**

# 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

## April Theme: "Revelation"

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

**Sunday, April 12**

**"The Greatest Game"**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**Gloria Holland, Celebrant Both Services**

**LJ Frederickson, Anchor Both Services**

**Music Both Services – Walt Lawry**

Do you like to play games? Chess, Bridge, Poker? Well, don't call Rev. Rick to join in - he's not into games that much. EXCEPT - there is one game, the greatest game, he does feel we're all called to play. What is it? Come find out.

**Sunday, April 19**

**“The Secrets Behind the Identities of Superheroes: How Integrity Can Give You the Life You Want”**

**Theresa Soto, Intern Minister**

**Lennie Martin, Celebrant Both Services**

**David Gortner Anchor Both Services**

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

Music Late Service – **UUCS Choir**

How are our lives affected by our secret identities? This sermon will examine how integrity will allow us to live into a larger vision, both for ourselves and in Beloved Community.

**Sunday, April 26**

**“The Pursuit of Happiness”**

**The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

**Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick, Celebrant Both Services**

**Mark Kendall, Anchor Both Services**

Music Early Service – **UUCS Choir**

Music Late Service – **David Gortner, Viola, and Mark Babson, Violin**

Do you really know what will make you happy? Or unhappy? Do you understand the most effective ways to find this? Maybe not. It's worth deeper consideration.

## St. Patrick's Day Dinner at UUCS





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

