



# The Chalice and the Flame

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

## May 2015

### Summer Alert! Mark Your Calendar

Spread the word. Beginning **June 21 through September 6** our congregation will move to a **summer schedule** of one **10:30** Sunday service followed by Fellowship Hour at 11:30.

Also note that this publication, **The Chalice and The Flame**, will be published once a month in June, July, and August. There will be no Mid-Month Update. **Deadlines** for the monthly single issues are: May 29 (June issue), July 3, and July 31 (August issue).

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### UUCS Annual Meeting and LUNCH

Be sure to attend the **Annual Meeting Sunday, May 17 at 12:15** in the Sanctuary. Lunch consisting of Subway sandwiches, chips, and soft drinks will be served before the meeting in the Fellowship Hall. \$5.00 donation.

The three items on the agenda include approval of the new **Budget**, consideration of the continuation of the **two services** concept, and the election of new **Board members** for the 2015-2016 fiscal year starting July 1. Refer to The Chalice and the Flame Mid-Month Update for a detailed discussion of the Budget and two services concept. (All are welcome; only members vote.)

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for each of us to demonstrate our, "Affirmation and promotion of the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large."

### Candidates for 2015-2016

The following people have stepped forward to accept leadership roles as Board members pending the approval of the congregation. To help you in this process, the candidates are listed below followed by individual statements they wrote for your consideration.

**Chair:** LJ Frederickson  
**Vice Chair:** Jeff Geissler  
**Secretary:** George Struble  
**Past Chair:** Barry Halgrimson  
**Nominating Committee:** Mark Kendall

**Directors:** Stephanie Jernstedt  
 Paul Parmley  
 Elenie Smith

**(Two Director positions still require candidates)**

### Individual Statements

**Board Chair: (one year)** LJ Frederickson

I am a less-than-perfect woman seeking peace and spirituality while being a thankful member of UUCS. I have a passion for life, and it includes the desire to help our congregation reach its vision and mission while practicing the seven principles, which I dearly love. As the current Vice Chair of your Board of Directors, I have been privileged to work with so many of you. Being a leader can be difficult as one has to do what's best for the congregation while still trying to make it 'best' for each congregation member. I will strive to be a good leader, with integrity, transparency, consistency, and appreciation for the trust you give to your Board Chair.

*( continued on Page 4 )*



## Reverential Ramblings

Seems like I rarely travel very far these days. About the only time I even cross the state line is when I have my annual pulpit exchange with my good colleague at the UU Congregation in Vancouver, WA. Still, I do find myself being called to cross certain borders to have new encounters and experiences.

Late last month I got an email from a Christian minister I'd never met asking if we could meet to discuss our theological differences – not to debate or convert the other, but to engage in respectful dialogue. He was especially anxious to practice “Christian civility,” which he and some fellow Christians feel has too often been lacking. It took some gumption for him to initiate this conversation and visit me on my home turf here at UUCS, and I told him I appreciated this. What I did not appreciate, I added, was conservative Christians who had disparaged and dismissed my Unitarian views of Jesus and God. Neither of us had any interest in engaging in such coercive theological misbehavior. We had a warm and mutually informative dialogue. Yes, we do have different beliefs, but so what? He is a compassionate and caring person, and I told him his congregation was lucky to have him as their minister.

Then, a couple of months ago I had coffee with a retired police officer to discuss the tensions and misunderstandings that exist between law enforcement and others, especially minorities, liberals and progressives. The world of law enforcement is foreign to me so it was helpful to spend time with this good man, who offered new information and insight. Frankly, I have had misgivings about the increasing militarization of police forces nationwide, and the insidious manner in which the disastrous “war on drugs” has become a tool for racial and class control. This thoughtful and experienced cop let me know that police officers don't operate in a vacuum – there are cultural, political, legal and social forces beyond their control that affect them and that demonizing them in isolation is misguided. They do have hard jobs. I came away from the conversation wanting to learn more of what it had been like for him to be a cop and what remedies he sees for the impasse at which we find ourselves.

We are at a national impasse. As I write this I can see front page newspaper images of Baltimore in flames due to the unrest following the death of yet another black man in police custody. Ghettoized segments of our fellow citizenry feel cut off and abandoned, and too few of us cross racial and class borders to listen and learn and begin to understand what daily life is like for those who are marginalized because of their race and class.

As a middle class white male, who's privileged in so many ways, it's hard for me to imagine what it's like to experience the daily toxic stresses of racism, classism and poverty. Far too many experience our society as cruel, indifferent and hardhearted. Do you hear the call to cross social borders to listen and learn and to have empathy for others? Indeed, empathy is one of the essential hallmarks of true spirituality. Only if enough of us do hear this call and make the spiritual journey to the discovery of empathy, will we begin to find our way beyond our national impasse and make it to the promised land of beloved community. Can you hear? There are cries of pain, despair and rage now coming from those who have known too little empathy and understanding, calling us to cross the border and meet them.

Love, Rick



# Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

## Welcome to May!

How do the months fly by? As I wrote, “Welcome to May” my immediate thoughts went back to last summer. I thought about the fun planning this congregational year for your children and youth and WOW – it is already May! In my mind, I can’t even believe how quickly it seems we are nearing our summer time together.

Perhaps the time flies because I look forward to each Sunday and the learning and spiritual experiences I will share and learn from spending time at UUCCS – or does it fly by because I have not taken enough time to enjoy the everyday moments of the “now” and my mind is busily moving ahead to the following Sunday. Was I not as “present” as I had thought? Perhaps it really is a combination of both of those things that make time seem as if it is going too quickly. Eckhart Tolle, in his book, *The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment*, says, “Realize deeply that the present moment is all you have. Make the NOW the primary focus of your life.” I am going to hold on to these words.

Elisha Goldstein, PhD, the author of the book, *The Now Effect, How a Mindful Moment can Change the Rest of Your Life*, says that in any given moment three things are happening that make up your experience: thoughts, emotions, and physical sensations. Becoming aware of these three reactions, is the starting point for responding to the “now” moments as we go throughout our day.

This year, in our Religious Exploration (RE) classes, we have taken time to take deep breaths, and reconnect ourselves to the moments when we are together. Practicing different ways to “quiet” the mind with children and youth also provides a spiritual way for them to handle the stresses (good and bad) they, too, face in life.

Though it is especially important to be present for our everyday lives, it is also important to plan moments in which to be present! Alan Watts, an English philosopher, born in 1915, says, “No valid plans for the future can be made by those who have no capacity for living now.” Since we all have a capacity for living in the now – let me share the dates below of things happening in Religious Exploration for your future planning!

***In peace and until next time.....Christi***

**May 31** - The last day of our regular classes for Religious Exploration.

**June 5** - (4 p.m.) - Lydia’s Love Birthday Party for St. Francis Homeless Shelter children, the culmination of our RE Offering project. Please sign-up if you plan to attend and host.

**June 7** - Multigenerational Flower Communion Service, Child Dedication Ceremony, Bridging Ceremony

**June 15** - No RE classes as we prepare for summer programming

**June 21** - Summer Solstice Celebration in RE classes

**( LJ Frederickson, continued from Page 1 )**

I am a participative leader who believes in consensus building and providing support and appropriate training resources to the board directors, the Committee Chairs, and to the volunteers themselves. These are our future leaders too, so providing training is a key component to the next board's success as well as our congregation. There are also plans underway to invite many of you to our First Ever Thought Leader Summit (June 8th AM). This Summit is designed to provide an opportunity for you to share your ideas, desires, concerns, directly with me, and the new Board.

We want to ensure we are conducting Board Business with your agenda items considered. We also want to ensure we are always open to feedback - so give it to me straight! We will be supporting the New Membership Team's Development, working with the Team Council (formerly the Program Council) to improve congregation wide communications, and providing support to the Ministry whenever and wherever we can. Our budget for the new fiscal year is down, however, so we will be striving to work smarter, not harder and building positive relationships and partnerships.

As an aside, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to thank you for every kind word you've given me. As most of you know, my husband died last year. I survived his dying process and death with the gentle and steady help of this congregation. You made my life so much easier and better. For those who don't know me well, I hope we get to know each other better in the future, and for those who do know me and overlook my many flaws, I thank you. And for all of those who do know me...and like me, well, thank you and Hugs.

**Vice Chair: (one year) Jeff Geissler**

In 2014 I renewed my commitment to the UUCS by volunteering to serve as a director on the Board. In the past year I have worked alongside passionate, goal-oriented people who, like me, want our congregation to continue to grow yet also maintain the qualities that our members come to expect every Sunday. If selected, I would be honored to help the Board Chair and the Board of Directors strengthen the programs that the UUCS offers and encourage members to discover ways to serve the greater congregation. I am encouraged by the positive changes happening at UUCS and invite members to seek out the other Directors and me with questions, concerns, and/or suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Geissler

**Secretary: (one year) George Struble**

I have done many tasks in this congregation; they have been rewarding and I have grown through them. I treasure the relationships you have let me build with you. I have not been a member of the UUCS Board, but I was a Board member -- including treasurer and chair -- of the Eugene UU church. I have had experience as secretary for several other organizations, and believe this is within my skill set.

After trying to do too much in UUCS in 2013-2014, I needed a "time out." I was surprised to find that I am ready to take on the responsibility of Board secretary, but I ask for your support.

**Director: (two years) Stephanie Jernstedt**

I graduated from Oregon State University, retired from a career with the Department of Human Services as a Social Worker and Program Analyst in 2012. I live in Silverton with my husband Don Wolf and our two dogs where I enjoy watercolor and acrylic painting.

I have been a member of the UUCS for 12 years. Currently I am co-coordinating Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network for our congregation as well as coordinating the Women's Retreat. In the past, I've served on the Membership Committee, as a delegate for UUCS at General Assembly and volunteered for Foster Parents Night Out. For 4 years I served on the board of Congregations Helping People as our congregation's delegate including serving as board chair.

I would like the opportunity to serve on the board as a way to give back to a place that has meant so much to me.

**Director: (two years) Paul Parmley**

I have been a member of UUCS for more than 10 years now. In that time I have been involved in various activities including Operations (building maintenance), Foster Parent Night Out, Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network, and Covenant Groups. Currently I volunteer to run the Sound System at the second service every

week and I am on the board of Congregations Helping People. My wife and I are also committed to bringing food each week for the Marion Polk Food Share to help those people who cannot afford to eat.

Professionally I have been self-employed for the past 7 years, where I write and sell software for trading in the stock markets. Before I started my own business, I was in management for a large company where I was responsible for multiple departments and their financial budgets. I also worked for many years as a Senior Programmer/Analyst, developing business applications and managing databases.

I am passionate about and committed to Unitarian Universalism. I really feel that the more people understand about our religion the more they will want to be part of it. I am looking forward to being on the board of UUCS.

**Director: (two years)** Elenie Smith

My name is Elenie Smith. I was born in Chicago, IL and grew up in northwest Indiana. I am married to Rollie who is a retired high school teacher and a potter. We have 2 sons, Greg, married to Memry, and Daniel, married to Lea. Each has a son, Archie and Syllas. They are amazing grandbabies and we are so blessed that they live nearby. We raised our family in southern Illinois where I worked as a labor and delivery nurse until 1996 when I became a nurse-midwife. We moved to Salem in 2006 for a job opportunity here. One of the best things about being a midwife is that it has allowed me to work overseas in places like post war Kosovo and Haiti following the earthquake. I now work in Portland at St. Vincent Hospital in association with Columbia Women's Clinic.

In 2011 I began to look for a spiritual home. I took an online quiz to see what faith suited me the most. Unitarian Universalist came up first. Interestingly the faith community I was raised in, Greek Orthodoxy, came in last. I did find Orthodoxy constraining and soon visited UUCS. I was happy to find a community that truly respected other faith traditions and was also concerned with social issues. In 2012 I experienced a combination of personal and professional crises and found a great deal of comfort and support by UUCS and the people I engaged. Once the dust settled, I felt so connected to the community I chose to become a member hoping to return to the community what I have received.

**Nominating committee: (three years)** Mark Kendall

Mark Kendall has been a member of UUCS since 2009. In that time he has been an active participant on the Celebrant Anchor Team, Facilities Team and Board. In those capacities he has been able to get to know a large number of UUCS members. Experience in those roles and with the operational needs of the congregation positions Mark to do well in serving the needs of the Nominating Committee.

**Board members Continuing**

**Past Chair:** Barry Halgrimson (one year)

**Treasurer:** Lorna Youngs (two years)

**Director:** John Prohodsky (one year)

**Nominating Committee Members Continuing**

Mary Bray (one year)

Phil Carver (two years)

*As of press time, there are still no candidates for the remaining two director positions. The UUCS By-Laws allow the Nominating Committee to announce at the Annual Meeting additional candidates or, once there is a vote to open nominations, allow any member to make a nomination of a consenting candidate.*

## 2015 UUA General Assembly

**Don't Be Left Out**

It's never too late to consider attending **General Assembly in Portland, June 24 – 28**. Choose what interests you from the Preliminary Program Schedule and come along! Go to [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga) to find the Summary Schedule Grid and the Preliminary Program Schedule. Wednesday/Thursday and Saturday/Sunday registrations will be counted as one day each. Don't forget the traditional evening programs: the Opening Celebration featuring the stirring parade of banners from churches everywhere; Service of the Living Tradition that recognizes new and retiring ministers; the Bridging Worship service; the WARE lecture with speaker Cornel West. There is lots of excitement every day!

Questions? Jean Sherbeck [jean@sherbeck.net](mailto:jean@sherbeck.net)

# Happenings and Highlights

## A Weekend Celebration with Mother Nature

The UU **Plant Sale** is an act of faith. Rather than resell some nursery's seedlings like everybody else does, approximately 25 UUCS members and friends decided to grow their own. Before too long, these "green thumbs" had collectively donated more than **700 plants** and that's what you're going to see in the UUCS parking lot this weekend from 10-4.

So what else about this plant sale is unique? Well, it just so happens to be **Mother's Day**, so these plants could go right from the backseat into the ground as a gift to Mom. And since Mother's Day is traditionally the last freeze date in Oregon, you won't have to worry about covering them. Then start looking at the varieties on the list, and you'll discover that more than half of them are really hard to find like Bee balm, Persicaria, Orange Hot Pokers, Pink Hyssop, yellow raspberry canes bursting with new growth, ten kinds of tomato plants nearly two feet high already, mature ferns and hostas people actually dug up from their yards and potted up. You're not going to believe it! A lot of these plants would make great gifts for friends and neighbors, too. In fact, bring your neighbors along!

One more thing - we also invited the **Edgemaster Sharpening Van** to set up a tent on Saturday so every UU gardener could start out the season with sharp spades, and hoes, and nippers. Bring 'em along and UUCS gets a portion of what Edgemaster charges.

**Earlybirds** get the best selection, so word to the wise, anytime after **8am on Saturday** is fair game. There's a flyer being circulated with a complete list of plants, so check the ones you want and bring the list with you. There will be people to help you search and load your plants in your car.

We hope you enjoy your selections as much as we enjoyed growing them for you.

**See you this Saturday and Sunday, the 9th and 10th of May from 10-4pm in the UUCS parking lot.**

Barry Halgrimson, [bhalgrimson@gmail.com](mailto:bhalgrimson@gmail.com), 512-948-8842

## UU101 Successfully Launched

The first **UU101** class was held Thursday evening, April 16, in our Fellowship Hall. Rev. Rick, Samantha Scales, and the Membership Team organized and presented the program. Six current members attended along with seven prospective new members. UU101 is the first of four steps to membership.

Following an informal fellowship and dinner, Lana Von Prussing, Carolyn Woodman, Petra S. Berger, and Joel Woodman helped facilitate the Format which focused on Rev. Rick's presentation of the history of our free faith heritage, our UUA Principles and Purposes, and the eight practices of meaningful membership. There were opportunities for questions and sharing by the participants. A fun and instructive time was had by all. The next UU101 class is scheduled for **June 18**. Plan to attend and bring a friend or family member who has expressed interest in our congregation.

**UU101** will be followed by: **UU102: Membership Orientation**, **UU103: Personal Exploration & Reflections with Rev. Rick** (two sessions), and finally the traditional **New Member Recognition**.

## UU102: Membership Orientation

**UU102: Membership Orientation** is scheduled for **Sunday, May 10**, at 10:30 and 12:30 in the Minister's Office. This 45 minute session is open to anyone interested in joining UUCS. **UU101 is not a prerequisite**. Anyone can participate in UU102: Membership Orientation no matter where they are in their pathway to membership. It is planned to give prospective members practical information about the meanings, responsibilities and benefits of membership. It will culminate with an invitation to sign the membership book.

Submitted by: Joel Woodman, Membership Team, [membership@uusalem.org](mailto:membership@uusalem.org)

## Spring Fling: Ceili

Kick up your heels for spring and join us **Saturday, May 16**, from 5 to 7 p.m. for a Ceili. *Ceili*, an Irish word for folk (social) dancing, is easy, fun and no partner is needed. Members of **Ceili of the Valley** will be present to provide instruction, calling and live music. Wear comfortable dancing shoes or just come and listen to great music! This event is appropriate for families with children and people of all ages.

This program is presented as part of the *Sacred Saturday Circle* series at the *Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem*. A potluck at 7 p.m. follows the dance – please bring a dish to share. \$10 suggested donation at the door.



## Partner Church Team Update

Thank you to all who donated to the Partner Church fund in March. Your gifts make it possible to send \$950 to Rev. Szen for continued finishing touches on the social hall building project we have supported for the last several years. We are delighted to know that the building is being used for youth meetings; however, a connection to water is necessary and appropriate furnishings to conduct worship services.

Rev. Szen has invited visitors from UUCS to visit Simenfalva in July 2016. There will be a series of classes starting in September for prospective travelers and people who would like to learn more about our Unitarian partners. We will also get together briefly in June to touch base with each other. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jean.

Jean Sherbeck, Partner Church Team  
[jean@sherbeck.net](mailto:jean@sherbeck.net).

## ZIP Gatherings are Morphing into Summer BBQs & Ice Cream Socials

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 rainy 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 or backyard. Chris Vogel [vogelback@gmail.com](mailto:vogelback@gmail.com) 503-586-8314.

## SCUUPS Meet and Greet

Join with Salem area Pagans **May 15, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** in the RE Wing to chat, network, share ideas, and meet with others who share an Earth-based or Nature-based spiritual journey. We usually share finger foods and there is coffee, tea, and water.

This MONTHLY event happens on the 3rd Friday of every month! Come once, come often! Anyone and everyone with good intent and any age are welcome. Good company makes good times! Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick: [arrhiannon@gmail.com](mailto:arrhiannon@gmail.com) (971) 208-5705.

## OADP Annual Meeting and Banquet

**Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (OADP)** has announced plans for their 2015 annual meeting, dinner and program **Friday, June 12th** at the Keizer Civic Center.

This year's keynote speaker will be **Mike Farrell**, a political and social activist best known for his portrayal of Army Capt. B.J. Hunnicutt in the TV-series "M\*A\*S\*H" and Dr. Jim Hansen in the weekly NBC series "Providence". Mike is the president of Death Penalty Focus, the "grassroots organizing" group comparable to OADP, seeking alternatives to the death penalty in California.

**Rev. Rick** serves on the Advisory Board for OADP. If you would like to join him in attending this event please contact him ASAP as there are a limited number of reserved tables. If there is enough interest he will reserve a table for UUCS members. A reception with the guest speakers will take place at 5:00. **Individual tickets are \$40** which includes dinner starting at 6:00 with the program to follow. Contact Rev. Rick if you would like to join him in attending this event: [rdavis@uuma.org](mailto:rdavis@uuma.org).

## 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).



### Microfinance Peruvian Dinner

Plate honoring the Microfinance Committee for their work with the Chijnaya Foundation. It was presented to the committee at the April 25 fundraising dinner.

# Find Your Niche

## Be SMART. Help a Child

Alana McDonald shared recently that she and three others from UUCS volunteer to read with the children at Four Corners Elementary School every Thursday through the SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) program. The program concept for SMART is simple..... pair an adult volunteer with children for two, one-on-one thirty minute sessions. Children read with two different volunteers each week for seven months, totaling up to twenty eight hours of individual volunteer attention. Volunteers model the joy of reading while supporting the child's efforts to read independently. Alana reports it's great fun and they would welcome more volunteers.

For information contact Alana McDonald: 503-363-4452.

## Looking for a Few Good . . .

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

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

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

-A brief description of your professional background.

-Why you are interested & how you could contribute to the CHR mission.

-Your contact information .

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

# 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).

## Caught in the Act of Kindness

Here is an amazingly generous offer from **Barry and Marilyn Halgrimson** for any of our UUCS kids age 10 or younger enrolled in the UUCS RE program and attending regularly – just in time for summertime and beyond: "In honor of the recent birth of our first grandchild, we would like to donate \$1000 to UUCS to be used for helping UUCS bonafide members enroll their children in **swim classes at the YMCA**. The offer should cover the \$65 fee currently charged by the YMCA for a five or ten week session, and is discontinued when funds are depleted." Members should present a paid receipt from the YMCA to UUCS for reimbursement, and the YMCA also said that they would accept a letter on UUCS letterhead with the name of the person on it, and that they would bill UUCS for the classes. Please **contact Christi Olsen, RE Director, for more information, and to apply**. What a legacy for so many of our RE children to benefit from – THANK YOU.

## Health concerns

We lost a dear UUCS member to illness on April 19<sup>th</sup>. **Fred Ratzeburg**, a longtime supporter of the musical group Camerata, supported our congregation in every way he knew how. Memorial service are to be held at Capitol Manor, Saturday, May 9 at 2:00pm. Rev. Rick will be officiating.

## Accomplishments

The **ordination of Katie Larsell** who recently was our intern minister will take place May 30 – congratulations Katie! You can contact Eastrose Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at [\(503\) 665-2628](tel:5036652628) for information regarding the ordination.

**Youth Leadership in our world:** the 12-year old sixth grader daughter of UUCS member Jamila Tharp, **Abigail Hasting-Tharp** (Abby), is a most amazing young lady, kicking off a national social media campaign and already giving national interviews available on You Tube! [Huffington Post Interview](#)

The social media campaign - #OurTurnNow – evolved from a Valentine’s Day idea thought up by Abby, and a group of her friends in Oregon. The group wanted to send the U.S. Supreme Court Justices Valentine’s Day cards as a gesture to urge them to support love. “Anyone, anywhere, should be allowed to declare their love for anyone and feel safe to do so regardless of gender,” said Abigail. [Family Equality News](#)

Abby joined her two moms as a Marriage Equality USA (MEUSA) advocate and leader at a young age. She led a national MEUSA Golden Gate Bridge march the spring of 2007. In 2012, she grabbed the public attention with a Valentines Day card, published in the Salt Lake City Tribune asking citizens to support marriage equality. Abby loves learning, swimming, and volunteering at a local wildlife rescue center. She hopes to someday be a marine biologist. Abby's mom, Jamila Tharp, has been a long time marriage equality leader.

### **Volunteer Honors**

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

Meet new **Membership Team** leaders **Carolyn and Joel Woodman**, who are now working in transition with previous leader Lana van Prussen – thank you so much Lana for your valued work! Carolyn and Joel are fully in charge come July 1<sup>st</sup>. At this time, they give focus to the implementation of a new membership model developed by Rev. Rick as assisted by Samantha – see more details in the June newsletter. The Membership team is also looking for **additional folks to join the Membership Team**, with opportunities for a variety of service. Thank you for your consideration!

**Teaching the UU way of Principles and Practice to our children:** “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part” is a natural **RE teaching topic**. Volunteer **Angela Gross** saw a need for someone to set up planting spaces for the RE students. They can mark what they themselves planted with their name and type of plant. Once the plants are established, there will be something to harvest all summer long. Helpers in this project are young people Tori Scales, Crystal White and Clara Seitz. In this amazing Oregon Springtime, especially when it arrives almost a month early, our RE children are so fortunate to enjoy our environment back of the building that includes several roosters, trees, a creek, and lots of plants, flowers, and grass. Thank you Angela for such engaging and ‘organically beneficial’ services for RE kids.

**Cordon Road Spring Clean-Up** report from **Laura Stine**, **UUCS Adopt-a-Road** Coordinator: All four sections of UUCS’s portion of Cordon Road are cleaned of litter thanks to **Caroline Bridges, Karen Chambers, Phil Carver, Ed LaPaz, Jane Maute, Rob Schiff, Loraine Stuart, Elsa Stuble, and UUCS youth Camron Mueller and Adian Tison** who also pitched in and worked hard.

And sincere Thanks to the 77 members and friends of UUCS who have cleaned up litter over the past **five years**, with special thanks to **Mary Hart** for the use of her truck. You may already **Sign up next October (2015)** for an Annual Fall Cleaning of Cordon Road – it’s one of the best projects to make new friends!

**Foster Parent Night Out** at UUCS, lead by **Joan Stembridge, Janet Neuburg, and Ruth Larson** is a joint partnership between the Oregon Department of Human Services and local churches including UUCS. 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 UUCS teamed with volunteers from Temple Beth Shalom. The final year of the program at UUCS ended on April 13, with a potluck for all the foster children, their families, and our volunteers. A special ‘Thank you’ goes to all the volunteers since 2008:

**Davit Andghuladze, Petra S. Berger, Mary Murphy Casey, Charlene Clemons, Heather Collee, Rick Davis, Michael Eichman, Beatriz Fallios, Fred Hamann, Cara Filsinger, Randy Fishfader, Gloria Holland, Stephanie Jernstedt, Andrea Kramer, Harvey Kramer, Tom Lancefield, Erik Larson, Jean Logan, Marilyn Halgrimson, Barry Halgrimson, Marnie Jeffers, David Jeffers, Jackie Klimowicz, Ed Klimowicz, Allana McDonald, Nancy Murphy, Molly O’Dea, Danna Parmley, Paul Parmley, Lynne Percevey, Peter Rasmussen, Jim Stembridge, Dina Triest, Kim Trumbo, Abbey Van Der Beek, Don Wolf, Keith York.**

You all were involved at some time, and were important to the success of the program. Your work will be valued beyond the years to come.

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

5090 Center St. NE, Salem, OR 97317

**Minister:** The Rev. Richard R. Davis  
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**Intern Minister:** Theresa Soto  
[Tisoto@gmail.com](mailto:Tisoto@gmail.com)

**Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:**  
Christi Olsen, [christi@uusalem.org](mailto:christi@uusalem.org)

**Music Director:** Aimee Larsen-Amend  
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### UUCS Internet Links to:

**Website:** [www.uusalem.org](http://www.uusalem.org)

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

**Newsletter Editors:** [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org)

This issue was edited by Joel Woodman 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.

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

The story of the UU chalice: [The Flaming Chalice](#)

The chalice and the flame were brought together as a Unitarian symbol by an Austrian artist, Hans Deutsch, in 1941. Living in Paris during the 1930s, Deutsch drew critical cartoons of Adolf Hitler. When the Nazis invaded Paris in 1940, he abandoned all that he had and fled to Portugal.

There, he met the Reverend Charles Joy, executive director of the Unitarian Service Committee (USC), which was new, founded in Boston to assist Eastern Europeans, among them Unitarians as well as Jews, who needed to escape Nazi persecution.

From his Lisbon headquarters, Rev. Joy oversaw a secret network of couriers and agents. Deutsch was most impressed, soon was working for the USC, and brought together the chalice and the flame as a Unitarian symbol.

To Artist Hans Deutsch, the image had connotations of sacrifice and love as he observed it in the work of Rev. Charles Joy. Unitarian Universalists today have many different interpretations of the flaming chalice, including the light of reason, the warmth of community, and the flame of hope.

## The Calendar

**Tuesday**

**May 5**

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

**Wednesday**

**May 6**

**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. and Session 2 - 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Thursday May 7**

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

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

**Friday May 8**

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

**Saturday May 9**

**Mother's Day Plant Sale and Tool Sharpening - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday May 10**

**Mother's Day Plant Sale - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (no Tool Sharpening this day)**

**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.

**UU102: Membership Orientation - 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.**

See page 6 for details.

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

**Tuesday May 12**

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

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

**Wednesday May 13**

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

At the Ike Box coffee house.

**UU Compassionate Mind Sangha**

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

**Thursday May 14**

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

UUCS members are welcome to attend.

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

**Friday May 15**

**SCUUPS Meet and Greet - 6:30 p.m.**

**Friday Night Folk Circle - 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 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.

**May 19 Mid-Month Newsletter - Submission Deadline is Midnight!**

Please note that the May 19 newsletter will be the **final mid-month issue** until September!

**Saturday May 16**

**Spring Fling: Sacred Saturday Circle**

The Ceili begins at 5:00 p.m. with the Ceili Potluck at 7:00 p.m. See pages 5 & 12 for details.

**Sunday May 17**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 12:45 p.m.**

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

**Tuesday May 19**

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

**Wednesday May 20**

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

**UU Compassionate Mind Sangha**

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

**Thursday May 21**

**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.

**Sunday May 24**

**Social Action Meeting - 12:30 p.m.**

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

**Monday May 25**

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

**Tuesday May 26**

**Facilities Team Meeting - 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Wednesday May 27**

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

**UU Compassionate Mind Sangha**

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

**Thursday May 28**

**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; [facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute](https://www.facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute).

**Friday May 29**

**Board Retreat (offsite) - 6:30 p.m.**

**June 2 Newsletter - Submission Deadline is Midnight!**

**Saturday May 30**

**Board Retreat (offsite) - 9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday May 31**

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



**Spring Fling**

**Ceili**



*No experience or partner needed.*

**Live Band!  
Set Dancing!  
Instruction!**



*Wear comfortable dancing shoes or just come and listen to great music.*

**Saturday May 16, 2015  
5 - 7 pm  
with  
Ceili of the Valley**

**Bring your family and join us for  
the final Sacred Saturday Circle of the season!  
*Potluck follows immediately afterward***

**Suggested Donation  
\$10 at the door**

For more info call 503.364.0932







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

