



The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

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

September 2016

Summer Services Schedule Ends Sept. 11

Beginning on **September 18**, UUCS Sunday services will return to having 2 Sunday services, at 9:30 am and 11:15 am.

Newsletter Changes

Mike and Petra Berger have moved to Prineville to pursue a new life under the stars. We will miss their many contributions, especially on the newsletter.

In the past, we produced a "mid-month update" with a few articles that missed the monthly newsletter deadline. In the last year, it became clear that the updates in the mid-month update were small. And the effort required to produce two newsletters a month is very high. So, we have decided not to produce a mid-month update any longer. If you have events or information that you would like publicized between monthly newsletters, you can fill out the [Event Publicity Request](#) form. On this form, you can select to place a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS website and/or on Facebook. If you have any questions about this change, please email editors@uusalem.org.

Thank You To All The Coffee Service Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who stepped up this summer and served coffee for the Sunday services. It was the work done by the few that served so many and you are appreciated for what you did.

Autumn is close at hand and our 2016-17 season is about to begin. Coffee service, which is so important for our connections and communication, both before and after Sunday services, has been organized and is ready to roll out. I want to thank all of the groups who have agreed to take a part in ensuring our Coffee Service is a success. We have all Sundays covered from September 11 through June 25. Again, next July and August, we will look for members of the congregation to step up and host coffee service on a weekly basis.

Please contact Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick if you have any questions, suggestions, or any information you would like to share about our Coffee Service. ~Arrhiannon

Kairos Community Lunch

Neither heat, nor heat, nor heat could keep our wonderful UUCS volunteers from helping make and serve lunch to the community on Sunday August 28. We served an (almost) record 97 diners a hearty lunch of soup, chili, pasta salad, hot dogs, chips and pie. Many thanks to Sharon Pierson, Caroline Bridges, Michael and Patrice Pollard, Victor Reppeto, Jane Maute, Kaja Wagner, Adele Moore, Lois Stanley, Dale Harris, Gayle Gilmour, Mary Chance, Loraine Stuart and Angela Gross. Interested in joining the fun next time? Put down **November 20** on your calendar, and sign up at the Social Justice table. Call Mary Beth Hustoles at [503-587-7949](tel:503-587-7949) with any questions.

Quarterly Potlucks Planned

In October, the **Autumn Harvest Potluck** will take place on Sunday, October 16 after the second service. In the October newsletter you should look for more information and what type of foods to bring that day for sharing. In January, the **Winter Wonder Potluck** will take place on Sunday, January 22 and the January newsletter will have more information about what to bring. In April, the **Spring Awakening Potluck** will take place on Sunday, April 23 and the April newsletter will have more information for everyone. In June, we are planning to hold a **Father's Day BBQ and Potluck Lunch**. I hope you will look forward to these times for sharing and conversation over a good lunch! Please contact Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick if you have any questions about the quarterly potluck lunches.

Come Join The Communications Team

The Communications team is looking for a few volunteers to join our group. Our Facebook editor would like to "retire." We specifically need a writer for the newsletter column, "News of the Community," which could change focus depending on your ideas. But we also need other volunteers; for special projects, website maintenance, newsletter production and editing, publicity (design, written, and online), and photography. Basic email and computer familiarity is needed for most jobs. We will train on the technical aspects. Come and see where you might fit in. Our meetings are the last Monday of each month at 4:00 pm at the church, (September 26 is our next meeting). Contact Vicki Cunningham at vickicunningham11003@gmail.com for more information.

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Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

Imagine that you were called upon to be a UU street evangelist. Yes, I know that's a stretch – just bear with me. What message would you be able to share?

A typical street corner evangelist has a particular “saving” message to share: viz., “you must believe a certain way and put your faith in God - as defined by us - to find salvation.” The message I would offer the passerby would be different. I wouldn't say “listen to me, I have the answers” but rather “Look within and listen to yourself - your best compassionate, kind and understanding self, that authentic self within you that is not misshapen by anger or fear or bigotry or any other toxic thoughts and feelings and let this be your touchstone for truth.”

People are sometimes confused to hear that our religious tradition is not premised upon a common belief system. Really, though, we do have a common faith – it just not belief in a particular theological creed. It's this: we have faith in our authentic selves. That is, we trust that in the right conditions we can discover within ourselves the sources of intuitive wisdom that are necessary for us to walk the path of spiritual growth.

This is NOT to say that we can walk our paths alone – paradoxically, we need one another to discover our authentic selves. The process of sharing our wisdom with one another serves to awaken personal insight. It's not our job to fix or save one another but rather to offer encouragement and support and thereby discover an empowering faith in our inner voice of wisdom. Finally, though - in our nonhierarchical liberal religious tradition, we acknowledge that the final arbiter of truth is one's self.

Yet we are called to be in spiritually authentic (aka “covenantal”) relationships with all others. Periods of solitude are fine for the contemplative types among us, but if we were totally isolated from one another, we will become disconnected and lost. We need religious community.

We create community when we gather here on Sunday mornings of worship and during this coming year I hope you realize how important your presence is. ***Without YOU we are less than we might be. So I invite you to resolve to make Sunday attendance a regular practice.***

Beyond that ***I hope you will consider joining one of our Covenant Groups. Sign ups on Sundays throughout September in the fellowship hall.*** Very briefly, these small groups meet once a month many different times during the month to accommodate as many people as possible. In a safe, respectful setting members have an opportunity to reflect upon the deeper meanings and purposes of our lives (each month there is a special theme for discussion). Members naturally come to know one another and build lasting friendships. It's a wonderful opportunity live out the promise of our free faith.

Love, Rick



Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

September brings with it all kinds of anticipation! This time of year we are looking ahead and anticipating the new school year, whether your children are homeschooled or go to public or private school. We anticipate the change of seasons and the many holidays and different family activities it brings. I have found that often the anticipation of fun events can sometimes be more fun or at least an extra element of the fun to the actual event. While I was working to get things done during half of July and half of August, the anticipation of the time off made the time of extra work so worth the effort! Even when my time off was far from what I planned it to be, the memory of anticipating the time to do fun things and relax a bit, turned out to be relaxing in itself and in the end - the anticipation became the break and the good memory! So a life lesson learned, enjoy each moment and plan some fun things ahead and look forward to them....even if they don't happen, you will have had the added benefit and great fun of anticipating!!

I have been anticipating the start of the new **RE Program year and it WILL HAPPEN on September 18!** We will all gather together to enjoy the start of a new year, complete with snacks and the sharing of music from Ted Cory. He will be sharing information with the children about his music and sharing his wonderful talent. Something fun to anticipate for all of us in RE!

Please see all of the other news below!

In faith and until next time,

Christi

Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Other Notes Of Interest From RE ~

RE REGISTRATION is being done through a Google document. A link has been sent to all of the parents currently on the Google email list. If you are new to our congregation and have not yet been added to the Google group, please pick up page of instructions in the RE hallway or follow the link on our website to the document. We will be glad to add you to the UUCS Family Communications group to keep you in the loop on all things RE! We also have a closed Facebook group called UUCS Family Connections to communicate with other families! Anyone not already a part of either group, please let me know so that you can be added!

RE FAMILY CALENDARS: A digital copy was sent out via the family Google group. If you have not received one, hard copies are in the RE Hallway rack.

FAMILY COVENANT GROUP: This opportunity will be the 2nd Sunday of each month from 12:45-2:15! Sign-ups available.

BUTTONS SHOULD BE WORN: All registered children/youth will have buttons to wear. Please help your children find and wear the buttons located in the hallway for RE (by the member buttons) when you come on Sundays! If a button is needed, please be sure to let us know!

NEW APRONS FOR RE VOLUNTEERS: Watch for our RE Volunteers to be wearing aprons when they are volunteering. We have added this detail to help everyone easily recognize the adults that are helping with the program for the day.

YOUNG ADULT GROUPS: Young adult groups will meet twice monthly. For more information, see the *Young Adults Groups* article on [Page 5](#).

RE PICK-UP TIME: This year, RE classes end at 10:45 for first service and 12:30 for second service.

September 11 – Water Communion Service. All ages attend this service together. We will not have individual RE Classes.

September 18 – Welcome Back to RE party!

September 25 – First day of fall RE Programming.

October 2 – Animal Blessing Service. All ages attend this service together. We will not have individual RE Classes. More information is in the [Services](#) list.

Words from Our Intern Minister

Greetings, UUCS!

My name is Monica Jacobson Tennesen, and I'm delighted to be your Intern Minister from September 2016-May 2018. I'm excited about learning what you have to teach me, and seeing what we can do together in this time.

I am in my second year of full-time study for my Master's of Divinity at Meadville Lombard Theological School. The MDiv is the standard graduate degree required for ministers. During my two years as your half-time Intern Minister, I'll be taking low-residency courses through Meadville Lombard and traveling to Chicago a few times a year for "intensives" – the Meadville Lombard term for the practice of taking 35 hours of classroom time per course and putting them in a single week.

Currently I live in Corvallis with my husband, Jacob, an evolutionary biologist and population genomicist who is research faculty at Oregon State University, and our four-year-old daughter, Anne. I'll be commuting to Salem as often as I can while maintaining a balance with the needs of my family.

I understand my call, my sense of my suitedness to ministry, to be specifically to parish or congregational ministry. The congregation is a place where humans come together in their beautiful, flawed ways to offer each other grace and chances to grow (which often come masked as other, less appealing things) – this is true of every congregation I have known. Congregational life is essential to our discovery of those things that live between us: Truth, Love, and Justice. I describe myself as deeply in love with the parish, and congregational life and service, a love which has endured through years of high-level lay leadership, sometimes-contentious annual meetings, and unbearably glamorous details like holiday decorating each December. My love for Unitarian Universalists and our congregational life seems unlikely to ever fade. I am so pleased to be joining you in your congregational life for this time.

In the simplest words, my life is oriented around living into this: my answer to the question, "What do I do with the love I have to give?" is "Everything."

I look forward to meeting you soon. If you want to get in touch with me for whatever reason, including simply saying "Hi," email me at [mjacobson Tennessee@meadville.edu](mailto:mjacobsontennesen@meadville.edu).

Warmly,

Monica

Happenings and Highlights

Partner Church Project – Continued Through September

Due to shipping dates, we have the chance to extend our collection of items for our Partner Church friends in Simenfalva, Transylvania. The October shipping date will allow our box to arrive at Christmas-time. The Simenfalva minister's wife, Csilla Szen, has given us a list of suggestions for needed items:

- Reading glasses
- English books for students ages 10 – 14
- Ball point pens

Books do not need to be new; used books in good condition will be great. Does your family have outgrown books you would like to share? All contributions will be very much appreciated. Questions? Contact Jean Sherbeck at jean@sherbeck.net.

Women's Alliance Meets September 13

"Women's Alliance" is the time-honored name of UU groups affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation. All women (and interested men) are welcome to attend meetings, and the UUWF no longer asks us to pay dues. Come to the first fall meeting on **Tuesday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m.** to hear Cherie Ulmer tell us about Salem's Pentacle Theater and its history. Cherie is our regular "signer" at the first Sunday service, and often our drama coach for special events.

As Cherie, Pentacle Theater's Historian, says, "Salem's live theater scene is growing....performing arts opportunities are springing up in unique and interesting places! Some may linger, some may pass. Local theaters come and go yet there is one community theater that stands the test of time...Pentacle Theater! It was founded in 1954 by a group of Willamette University staffers and friends and today it is growing, thriving and making amazing contributions to our community: 62 years strong!! Come hear a bit of the history, peruse our history scrapbooks from all 6 decades, and celebrate the art of live theater right here in Salem!!"

Meetings usually begin with a speaker, followed by refreshments and a business meeting. It's perfectly acceptable to leave before the business part, but visitors often like to stay and learn more about us and about projects they might participate in. September is not too early to hear about the December Holiday Bazaar! Regular meetings will follow on the second Tuesdays of October, November, February, March, and April. In addition to running the Holiday Bazaar in early December, Women's Alliance usually decorates the sanctuary before Christmas and ends its year with a dinner meeting in early May.

UU Seven Principles Class

A new adult RE class will begin on November 14, 2016 and will continue monthly on the second Monday of each month, ending in June (no class in December). The group will explore the UU Seven Principles in depth, deepening our understanding of the guiding sources, and expanding our vision of applying them in our daily lives. Group members will examine how these spiritual and wisdom sources have contributed to their life choices and their personal spirituality. Contemporary and emerging issues and visions that relate to the Principles will be included.

One Principle will be discussed each of the seven months. Two members will co-lead each monthly meeting, rotating through the group of 14 members. The co-leaders will select reading material in preparation for the discussion, and send this information (with links to resources) at least 2 weeks before the meeting date. Group members are responsible for getting their own copies of selected reading material.

The group will be coordinated by Lennie Martin and Lynn Albright. The class is from 7 - 9 pm, with meditation & chanting (Kirtan) from 6:30 - 7 pm. Email Lynn at shazam57@gmail.com or Lennie at lenniem07@yahoo.com to register or for more info. You will receive a confirmation email along with an outline of the class structure. Please register no later than October 31.

Welcoming Congregation Re-Certification

It is time to renew our Welcoming Congregation status with the UUA. In the 1980s and 90s, the Unitarian Universalist Association **launched** a Welcoming Congregation Program to help us learn how to undo homophobia—and later, transphobia (prejudice against transgender people)—in our hearts and minds, our congregations, and our communities.

UUCS completed the initial certification process in 1993. So much has changed in the past 23 years. The Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) asked the UUCS Board of Directors for permission to host the re-certification process. The request was approved at the August 2016 Board meeting.

Each month there will be a documentary shown covering various topics, followed by a discussion if time allows. The re-certification effort will also include: a newsletter article each month, a review of the congregation's efforts over the past 5 years in regards to worship and ministerial support for LGBTQA (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer and asexual), education, community outreach and a review of the bylaws for inclusive language. The process will be completed in time for the congregation to vote on renewing our Welcoming Congregation certification at the annual meeting May 21, 2017.



Our first gathering will be on **Sept 26 at 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm** in the UUCS Fellowship Hall. We will be watching a documentary followed by a discussion. For the re-certification process to be successful, it is important for the congregation to participate. For more information about the re-certification of our Welcoming Congregation please contact Benjammin Boschee.

Young Adults Group (18-25 years old) Starting in October

Have you bridged from your youth group? Do you wonder what to do next? Would you like to be with a group of people your age to talk about things that interest you in the world? Are you between the ages of 18 and 25? If so - we have a group for you!

Beginning **October 9**, young adults will meet from **10:15 am - 11:15 am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month** to share a chalice lighting and check-in, snacks, a favorite YouTube or Ted Talk, and discuss together. Participants can take turns "hosting" a get together. If you host, you get to organize bringing the snack and the YouTube or Ted Talk to share. For more information, Morgan Forster, nactary@gmail.com and Danielle.Olsen0411@gmail.com (and cc Christi@uusalem.org) Please put UU Young Adult Program Questions, in the subject line of your email so your questions do not get missed by the leaders.

The Munsel Strip

The attempted purchase of the 0.3-acre strip of land east of our church property could not be completed. We thought we had met all requirements and completed all the steps. But in May we learned that Marion County required a septic system evaluation of the entire Munsel property, and the Munsels' septic system did not meet County standards. Repair -- or more likely, replacement of much of the drain field -- would be required. By that time Munsels had a buyer for the entire property, and did not want either the time needed nor the expense of meeting the County requirements to delay their sale. We are disappointed, but can understand and appreciate the Munsels' decision to cancel the sale of the strip to us. We continue to be grateful to the Munsels for their many acts of good neighborliness over many years, and wish them well in their new home in Hermiston.

We thank the contributors to the project. The contributors are being offered refunds or the opportunity to reassign their contributions to other uses. At the Munsels' request, the fence between our properties had been moved to the expected new boundary; it has now been moved back as a joint project of the new neighbors and church members -- our first step of neighborly cooperation.

One reason some of our Congregation members wanted to buy the strip was to have more of a buffer in case the new owners would be a problem to us. We can be relieved; the new owners are a nice young couple, Jim and Jessica Davis, with a one-year-old son Harrison -- and two dogs who enjoy the greater

(Munsel Strip, continued)

space! We will enjoy having them as our neighbors. I regret that we were unable to complete the purchase. Neither I nor any of us need apologize for trying; not everything we try can work out, and this was a good idea that was worth pursuing!

~ **George Struble**

'Splinters' from the Board Secretary...

The August 11, 2016 board meeting was called to order at 6:07pm. Highlights are as follows...

- On July 15 2016 Petra Berger resigned as Vice Chair effective July 21 2016. On July 16 2016, the board accepted Petra's resignation effective July 20 2016.
- On July 16 2016 at 9:05 AM Lorna made the following motion by e-mail: I move that the Board approve of the Facilities Team request for up to \$2500 for a professional evaluation of the heating and air conditioning system. The money should be taken from the Emergency Fund, specifically from the \$14000 in income over budget from the last fiscal year. On July 19 2016 at 11:16 AM the vote was closed and passed with 7 yes votes and 1 abstention.
- On August 4 2016 at 2:06 PM Rick asked the board by e-mail "Will you please vote to empower our new intern Monica Tennesen Jacobson to officiate at weddings?" On August 4 2016 at 5:41 PM the vote was closed and passed with 7 yes votes and 1 abstention.
- There is a general agreement by the board that we should not pursue the property purchase with the new neighbors at this time. The board would like a letter sent to the people who contributed to see if they would like their funds returned.
- Benjahmin B. requested that the board vote to initiate the welcoming congregation renewal process. John P. made a motion that the board approve the Welcoming Congregation Action Plan as presented, where CUUPS is responsible for the action plan and wherever possible they should involve the LGBTQA community. Additionally, CUUPS reports their progress on the action plan back to the board on a quarterly basis. Susan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- There will be a UUCS Auction on October 22nd.

The next board meeting will be on September 8 at 6:00 pm.

The full drafts of the meeting minutes are available on the [Congregation > Governance](#) page of the UUCS website - usually just a couple of days after the board meeting. Additionally, once finalized, the board meeting minutes are kept in hard copy in the binder in the hallway.

Normal board meetings are open to all visitors. We do ask that if you wish to address the board at a meeting that you contact the board chair in advance of the meeting so you can be added to the agenda.

2016-2017 Board Members (effective 7/1/2016):

Chair (term ending June 30th, 2017): LJ Frederickson

Vice-Chair (term ending June 30th, 2017): (open)

Secretary (term ending June 30th, 2017): Paul Parmley

Treasurer (term ending June 30th, 2017): Lorna Youngs

Directors (term ending June 30th, 2018): John Prohodsky, JP Batmale, Susan Farris-Gosser

Directors (term ending June 30th, 2017): Stephanie Jernstedt, Elenie Smith, (open)

Past Chair (term ending June 30th, 2016): vacant

34 Days of Peace at UUCS September 21 — October 24

To help foster peaceful coexistence and sustainability, Oregonians for Peace will initiate 34 Days for Peace on September 21, 2016, the International Day of Peace. It will end on Monday, October 24, United Nations Day, here at UUCS. That evening, Oregonians for Peace will sponsor a speaker at 6:30 pm, followed by a potluck dinner. Area churches and other organizations will also sponsor peace-related events during the 34 Days.

Another event at UUCS during the 34 Days is the Oregon UU Voices for Justice meeting from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday, October 15. Check their website (<http://www.uuvoicesoregon.org/>) and the UU Voices article more for information.

UU Voices for Justice at UUCS October 15, 2016

Oregon Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice invites you to our Seventh Annual Meeting in Salem on Saturday, October 15. We gather together to celebrate our accomplishments, make plans for the coming year, and commit ourselves to supporting each other in our quest for a more just Oregon.

The ORUUVfJ board has suggested 4 broad campaigns for the coming year: Environmental Justice, Deepening Democracy, Human Rights, and Income Inequality.

Our meeting agenda includes choosing specific issues within each area and organizing to be effective advocates. The Oregon legislature will be meeting for a long session in 2017. Much will be on the table; much is already happening in Salem. Let us make sure UU voices are represented during the legislature's deliberations.

Come prepared to share what your congregation is doing for social, economic, and environmental justice in your community, tell us how our statewide group might support those efforts, join one of our four justice campaigns and renew your membership in Oregon UU Voices for Justice.



UU Voices, continued...

Visit our web site at www.uuvoicesoregon.org to learn more about our campaigns and find out how to propose specific issues to address within a particular campaign. Then register on our web site and join us in Salem. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. Pre-register here: www.uuvoicesoregon.org/registration.html.

Beverages and light snacks will be provided. We are working on having lunch available for a modest fee (maybe \$5). Please RSVP to oregonuuvoices@yahoo.com by Oct. 10 so we know how much food to have on hand.

UUCS members, you can also support Oregon UU Voices for Justice by offering to house UUs from other towns so they can attend the meeting without incurring hotel bills. Please advise Cecilia Craig at cccraig24@yahoo.com or 949 235-8577. Thank you!

Membership News

These new member profiles were provided by the Membership Team

Meet the Pollards

The new members of our congregation include Michael and Patrice Pollard. Theirs is an inspiring love story of personal commitment and dedication best told in their own words.



Michael shares, "I was born in Belize in 1952. I attended college in Lacrosse, Wisconsin where I met Patrice. Patrice and I are now married 40 years and have a son and daughter. Our daughter and her three children are regular attendees of the UUCS. It was through them that we found our way to this congregation. I discovered the covenants aligned with my values and the members of UUCS were very welcoming. UUCS has allowed me to practice my values through its many volunteering opportunities. Currently, I'm a member of the Social Justice team and will soon be on the Host team. Volunteering for the coffee service and Kairos Kitchen has provided opportunities for further bonding with other members. I look forward to future opportunities in the years to come."

Patrice adds, "I grew up on a small dairy farm in Eau Galle, Wisconsin and met Michael in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He is my closest friend and loves me unconditionally and I am truly blessed to have him in my life. We took a leap of faith and moved to Salem in 2008 when our granddaughter, Tabitha, was 4 months old. Less than 2 years later, our grandsons Lucius and Nathaniel, were born. The children actually led us to UUCS. We brought them to RE the last Sunday in April and we have been coming ever since. I am hoping and trying to live a more joy-filled, compassionate life and become the person I am meant to be. I am looking forward to serving my church and making a positive difference in people's lives when I have the opportunity to do so. Wishing all of you peace, love, friendship, and joy."

Finding Joy/ Moving Forward

Our UUCS community is so enriched with the potential to be found in each new arrival. **Debbie Ridenour** brings to us skills of introspection and personal survival following a life changing event.



"My name is Debbie Ridenour and I came to UUCS in hopes of finding a spiritual community where I could feel comfortable being me, while expanding my spiritual beliefs. I feel I found it here and am happy to be a new member. I have met many kind and friendly people.

I choose to live a positive and joyful life no matter what life brings. I am happy by nature and love to support and encourage others to find peace in their lives. I work full time in finance for the Maintenance and Operations Branch (MOB) of ODOT. I am very grateful for and love my job. I also work with clients on the side as a coach/mentor helping them clear their limiting beliefs, blocks, and fears to move forward in their lives. After experiencing a life change after 25 years as a mother and spouse, I know how hard it can be to let it all go and move on. I love helping people find happiness again after a life changing event.

I jumped into volunteering at UUCS right away helping with coffee service, the cleaning crew after the stay of the homeless families, and am joining the Host team program. I look forward to meeting those I haven't met yet."

Be An Ambassador!

Have you ever thought about joining a Host team? The letter below written by Carol Manka after her "retirement" from the program in July, 2016 provides an excellent insider's view of what it means to be UUCS Host. There's currently a need for additional volunteers. Please express your interest to Joel Woodman (carolynjwoodman@comcast.net) or Brenna Norval (brennanorval@yahoo.com), Membership Co-Chairs.

All of us know that being a UUCS Host is not easy. It requires special skills. You have to focus on why you're there and you have to be available to help anyone who needs information, assistance, or just wants to talk. You have to keep your eye on the door and the people coming in, detect a newcomer, and greet and guide them.

That often means that you can't talk at length with friends and members of other teams, which is often one of the heartfelt reasons you come to UUCS.

The Host Teams are UUCS' Ambassadors. We are ushers and hosts; information gatherers and disseminators; helpers and enablers; the first representatives of the congregation that visitors see, hear, and meet.

Being an ambassador is an honor and a pleasure even for those of us who are introverted and who struggle to reach out to speak to strangers with the goal of touching another person's life and perhaps changing it, as UUCS often does.

When UUCS Hosts are effective in all these roles, people will join UUCS, adding to its diversity and strengthening it with new ideas, new knowledge and new experiences. This grows UUCS' collective energy into more robust and effective congregational programs that nurture and support the Salem community. Think about it. Each Host is an Ambassador for the only Unitarian Congregation in Salem!

Carol Manka, July 19, 2016

Calendar

Host Orientation & Training

Tuesday, September 06, 6:30 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, September 07, 5:30 pm, 7-9 pm

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

Board Meeting

Thursday, September 08, 6:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 08, 6:30 pm

Compassionate Connection

Sunday, September 11, 11:30 am

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.

Membership Open House

Sunday, September 11, 11:30 am

Do you have questions about your membership at UUCS? Questions about what it means to be a member of UUCS? You are invited to stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall and chat with our Office Manager, Samantha Scales.

And, if you are ready to become a member, the Membership Book will be open and available to sign.

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Business Meeting

Monday, September 12, 6:30 pm

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

Social Justice Discussion Group

Monday, September 12, 6:30 pm

The Social Justice in Action Team invites you to join us to discuss current social justice topics in an informal setting. Topics will be decided by participants. This meeting will be in addition to our regular monthly meeting, but will be more focused on allowing people to talk about issues in a deeper way than we have time for in our 'business' meetings. No commitment to attend both meetings is expected or required.

Please join us with an open mind, an open heart, and open ears. If you are able, please consider bringing a snack or non-alcoholic beverage to share. Hope to see you there!

Welcome Back to RE! Volunteer Dessert and Orientation

Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, September 14, 5:30 pm, 7-9 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice. See Sept. 7 entry for details.

Dances of Universal Peace

Thursday, September 15, 7:00 pm

Simple, easy-to-learn movements and songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world. The dances bring together sacred phrases from the world's religious traditions in heart-awakening circle dances dedicated to peace within and without. See SalemDances.com for more information.

Salem Covenant of UU Pagans Meet & Greet

Friday, September 16, 7:00 pm
A place for pagans to gather, connect, and share. All are welcome to discuss and learn about each other, events, and shared spirituality. Bring a snack to share and a smile.
We'd like to get to know you.

Social Justice in Action meeting

Sunday, September 18, 12:30 pm

RE Team Meeting

Sunday, September 18, 12:45 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, September 21, 5:30 pm, 7-9 pm
See Sept. 7 entry for details.

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 22, 6:30 pm

Earth Care, People Care, Fair Share film series

Thursday, September 22, 6:30 pm

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 6:30pm 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: 503-449-8077, nwpermacultureinstitute.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/nwpermacultureinstitute

Fall Equinox

Saturday, September 24, 6:00 pm

Communications Team Meeting

Monday, September 26, 4:00 pm
Join the communications team for discussion of progress on our UUCS newsletter, website, Facebook, publicity and video projects. Newcomers or visitors welcome.

Welcoming Congregation Film

Monday, September 26, 7:30 pm
It is time to renew our Welcoming Congregation status. See the article in this newsletter for more information.

Facilities Team Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 6:00 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha

Wednesday, September 28, 5:30 pm, 7-9 pm
A welcoming place for meditation practice. See Sept. 7 entry for details.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

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Minister: The Rev. Richard R. Davis
rdavis@uuma.org

Intern Minister:
Monica Tennessen Jacobson
mtennessenjacobson@meadville.edu

Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:
Christi J. Olsen, christi@uusalem.org

RE Sunday Assistants: Marnie Jeffers,
Elsa McKinney

Music Director: Aimee Larsen-Amend

Pianist: Sara Greenleaf Seitz

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This issue was edited and formatted by Sharon Pierson, edited and proofed by Elsa Struble and Vicki Cunningham.

DEADLINES:

Newsletter Submissions for *The Chalice and the Flame* must be received by the Friday before publication. The deadline for the **October 4** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **September 30**. Please send your submissions, including personal news items, directly to 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 to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

PUBLICITY: please use the [Event Publicity Request](#) form on the UUCS website! This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website and or Facebook.

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

Worship Services and Religious Exploration

Share the Plate Recipient: [The Northwest Hub](#)

Sunday, September 11

10:30 am

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

" Are You a Hamal?"

Celebrant: Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick; **Anchor:** Benjahmin Boschee

Music: UUCS Choir

No RE classes.

Please join us for our annual **Water Communion Sunday**. Bring a small vial of water that symbolizes something meaningful for you. *This is the last week for summer schedule.*

Sunday, September 18

9:30 and 11:15 am

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"Living Our Covenant"

Celebrant: Lennie Martin; **Anchor:** David Gortner

First and Second Service Music: Ted Cory

What does it mean to be in "covenantal relations" with others?

Sunday, Sept. 25

9:30 and 11:15 am

Monica Tennessen Jacobson

"Lion-hearts"

Celebrant: Gloria Holland; **Anchor:** Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick

First Service Music: UUCS Choir; **Second Service Music:** Sara Greenleaf

Life offers many opportunities for transformation, large and small, wrapped up in suffering and in the habits of our days. How we meet and navigate them makes all the difference in the ways we transform ourselves.

Please join us to hear our newest intern minister, Monica Jacobson Tennessen, speak."

Sunday, October 2

9:30 and 11:15 am

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"Annual Animal Blessing"

Celebrant: Steve Rosen; **Anchor:** L.J. Frederickson

First Service Music: Aimee Larsen Amend; **Second Service Music:** UUCS Choir

No RE classes.

The UUCS Annual Blessing of the Animals Service will be held (**both services**) in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of animals and the environment. St. Francis was a lover of nature and all of what he considered God's creations.

For this special multigenerational service (all ages stay together for the service), you are welcome to bring your well behaved two-legged and four-legged animal friends. Please be sure that they are on a leash or in a carrier. Stuffed Animals may stand in for your furry friends.

The service will include a time to celebrate the life of your pets that have passed away. Please bring pictures to place on the altar.

During fellowship/coffee time, local organizations that help animals will have tables set-up in the fellowship hall sharing about the volunteer opportunities available. RE will have dog treats and cat toys for sale. These items can be purchased with a donation. Purchases can be taken home or put in the donation box for Willamette Humane Society. You can also bring in dog or cat food for donation.