



The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

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

September 2018

Worship Survey Results: One Service at 10:30 am Continues This Fall

The results of the recent survey about UUCS services indicated that the congregation would prefer to have a single Sunday service. **In response to the survey, UUCS will continue our summer pattern by offering a single 10:30 Sunday service this fall.** Plans are in the works to add an evening weekday service in the new year.

This decision will mean that the parking lot near the church will be very full. If you are able, leave space for those who are less mobile by parking in the grass lot across Center.

~ Worship Discernment Team (Rev. Rick Davis, Sara Pickett, Steve Rosen, Janet Stevens)

UUCS Choir Kick-Off September 6

Join us Thursday, September 6 at 6 pm as we kick off the 2018-2019 UUCS Choir season! This is a non-audition community choir welcome to anyone wishing to join. We meet every Thursday in the Sanctuary from 6:30-8 pm. **Childcare is available.** This is a great way to meet people, make amazing music and give back to UUCS. Email the Director of Music, Aimee Larsen-Amend, with any questions; music@uusalem.org. Hope to see you all there!



Women's Alliance Meets September 11

Among the UUCS groups resuming regular meetings in September is the Women's Alliance, as UU groups affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation have been known for generations. All women (and interested men) are welcome to attend meetings, so consider yourselves invited to the meeting on Tuesday, September 11, at 7:00 pm in Hanneman Fellowship Hall. UUCS member Sara Pickett will describe a proposal that grew out of the Worship Team's discussions about possible changes in our services—and in our sanctuary.

These discussions covered the use of our sanctuary's space from both a functional standpoint and an inspirational one and led to the formation of a small task force which has had input from everyone involved in Sunday services as well as from the questionnaires congregants filled out this summer. The Worship Team endorsed the resulting proposal and, since some parts of it will require both volunteer carpenters and considerable money, has a couple of fundraising ideas.

Alliance 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.

Family Dinner, September 14



Join us Friday, September 14 at 6:30 pm for a Harvest Dinner. Our menu has a variety of harvest vegetable foods, including veggie wraps, warm fall soups, fresh fruits, beautiful garden salads, apple cider and lemonade. Bring any fresh garden produce to share or a dessert of your choice. Enjoy an evening of getting to know your fellow UUCS members/friends. Feel free to invite your neighbors and come for an evening of socializing while children play. We will have some optional get to know you games. Weather permitting, lemonade and desserts will be served near the playground after dinner!

***Join the "know 20 member/friends' first names challenge"! Get started learning names at our family dinner.**



Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUUCS's minister

Near the end of a flight home this summer my seatmate struck up a conversation which turned into a nice chat. This young woman (30's) is a social worker who provides home health care for children – she loves what she does because she loves these children. What a pleasure it is to meet good people like this doing good things in the world. Such conversations can be so rich.

Just before we began our conversation I had been reading an article about widespread Catholic clergy sex abuse in Ireland and Pennsylvania and this became a topic of our conversation. We both expressed our sorrow and distress at the shocking abuse of dear children who have been irreparably harmed. It's such a heartbreaking and demoralizing scandal – continuing revelations of such abuse are major blows to the foundation of trust that is essential for the viability of religious institutions. (Not to pick only on Catholics – no organized religious group is completely immune to such abuses, but the vast scale of these is staggering.)

My seatmate told me she had long ago left the Catholic church of her youth and that now her preferred place of worship was the great outdoors as seen from her kayak. I told her that she had chosen a glorious cathedral in which to worship. This prompted me to tell her all about the beauties of our beloved state of Oregon (this was to be her first visit). I, too, find such deep pleasure being outdoors in this beautiful land, whether it's in the garden or mountains, desert or seashore. How we must cherish and protect it. O, my God, it is so beautiful here!

Yet I added that if the great outdoors is the only place people worship, something vital will be missing – the formation of loving, compassionate communities which can provide comfort, support, inspiration, vision, guidance and unique opportunities for us to work together to serve the needs of our community and world.

And I further noted that there is yet another role that religious communities are called to play: being a steadfast, courageous advocate for social justice. That this is especially important today when the forces of bigotry, intolerance and oppression have been unleashed by the current administration. You don't have to be an alarmist to be alarmed by the president's authoritarian, xenophobic traits and his cult-like following (so inimical to the spirit of democracy). In such a time as this we are called to resist – persistently and nonviolently – this government's wanton cruelty, its degradation of the environment, its racial and ethnic animus, its injustices and abuses of power, its attacks upon the free press, and its many falsehoods. We are now being called to witness to the truth, to remind society of our highest and holiest values, to project a vision of social justice and harmony. This is serious business and may call for some courage and sacrifice in days to come. Oftentimes in authoritarian and totalitarian societies, religious groups have been the ones who kept the spirit of hope and freedom and justice alive.

My seatmate was quite receptive to hearing my thoughts about the value of some organized religions and then thought to ask me about my vocational role. I told her that it was my honor to serve as a Unitarian Universalist minister and then told her a bit about our unique religious tradition. She'd never heard of us, but was glad to learn that we exist. Whether or not she ever tries out a UU congregation in her home state of Illinois is something I'll probably never know, but this I do know: it's very good that our UU congregations exist and the news of our existence should be shared with those who are open to learning about us.

Love, Rick



Lifespan Religious Exploration

~ Christi J. Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration

September is upon us! That means for our Religious Exploration (RE) program that we are going back to our individual classes for children and youth. We have our nursery for children from infant-3 years old. Wisdom of Wondering (WoW) class for children preschool-3rd grade. UU Explorers class for children, 4th – 7th grade. Youth Group, 8th – 12th grade.

In our classes, we follow the Soul Matters Themes that the adults are exploring in the Soul Matters Connection Groups. We feel that this is a great connection for our children/youth with our adults in the congregation. You can find more information about the adult groups and sign up on the website ([Connection Groups Signup](#)) or by visiting the sign-up table in the fellowship hall after the services. The sign-up period ends September 23.

Our Soul Matters theme for September is VISION. . . . I have a vision of RE full of children and youth exploring our themes while learning about Unitarian Universalism through their individual lenses. I see children/youth working on social justice projects and donating to our RE Offering project. I see children/youth participating in our services with all ages worshipping together and no one wondering if we are all in service together because we are not having RE classes. I see the children singing hymns with Noah Seitz and connecting to our movement through music. I see all ages learning about mindfulness and attending our monthly yoga offering. I see our youth spending time in their own space, lighting a chalice, worshipping together and hanging out (complete with snacks!) connecting with our new Youth Coordinator and advisors! I see our families getting to know each other better by attending our Family Dinners (September 14 @ 6:30 is our next one!) and connecting at our fellowship time following the service. I see children dedicated in a December service. I see Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education being offered this spring. I see many great things ahead for our 2018-19 program year!

I also see parents completing a challenge to let people know about our awesome youth offering. Since we have our new Youth Coordinator, James Snowcarp, I want to see us fill our youth room. If you know parents of children 8th – 12th grade, invite them to bring their youth to our youth group meetings on Sundays. Youth will be lighting a chalice, participating in a short youth-led worship, and truly just hanging out together and snacking while enjoying a very needed sabbath. Teens really do need a break in their busy lives! Encourage your youth to bring a friend with them on Sundays. Let's spread the word that we have a safe space for teens to feel accepted and able to have a break in a supervised environment that can rejuvenate them for their week ahead. Youth will create a covenant together to guide how they will be together for these Sunday offerings. Please help spread the word!!

I see people deciding to provide service to the RE Program by volunteering one Sunday a month! Please let me know if this is you and we can connect you with the best experience.

I see parents registering their children and youth for our RE Program on our [RE's Important Paperwork web page](#). This helps us with our program planning.

To stay connected with reminders and updates about our Religious Exploration Program, I see parents requesting to join our UUCS Family Connections Group on Facebook. This is a closed group with only families and RE Volunteers connected.

I see many things and I will SEE YOU all soon on our first back to RE Sunday, September 16!

In faith, and *until next time, Christi*

Happenings and Highlights

CUUPs Autumn Equinox Ritual and Potluck, September 22

Join us on Saturday, September 22 at 7:00 pm to celebrate the turning of the wheel. The Autumn Equinox marks the time when Demeter is separated from her daughter and in her sadness doesn't allow fields to grow. This is also a time for transformation, when our growth turns from external to internal. We will be making corn dolls as we meditate on what we have been given and what we want to become with those gifts. The potluck will start at 7:00 pm and the ritual will start at 7:30 pm. This is timed with the setting of the sun. This is a family-friendly event so childcare will not be provided.

Master Gardener Class: Storing the Harvest: Fresh Veggies Throughout Winter September 29

On Saturday, September 29 beginning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, The Marion County Master Gardeners Association will present a FREE workshop called, "Storing the Harvest: Fresh Veggies Throughout Winter". You can eat fresh, summer grown vegetables from your garden all winter without preserving them. In this workshop OSU Master Gardener, Jane Sommers will tell you when to harvest, how to prepare your vegetables for storage and where and when to store them. Selecting vegetable varieties that store well will also be discussed.

Soul Matters Connections Groups Forming – Sign Up Now

Connections Groups (formerly called Covenant Groups) hold monthly meetings in small groups to discuss the monthly Soul Matters theme. The purpose of the meetings is for group members to enjoy each other's company, and to make connections between each other spiritually, and deeper within themselves. Groups will be offered at various times. You can [sign up using the online form](#) or after Sunday service from through September 23.

Dharma Gaia Circle

This fall, a new special interest connection group, called Dharma Gaia Circle, is forming. As the name suggests, this group will explore the nexus between Buddhist practice (i.e. meditation and Dharma readings and discussion) on one hand and Gaian consciousness (i.e. environmental advocacy and Earth-healing through Permaculture theory and practice) on the other. We will meet once a month for meditation and discussion of readings and other topics chosen by the group, and periodically we will sponsor Gaia Walks--mindful hiking in various parks and nature reserves in our area--which will be open to anyone, but limited to 12 participants for each session. The first session will be on Sunday, October 21 at 9 am.

For questions, contact Tom Ellis: **call 971-701-6965 (H)** or **text 503-385-5594 (C)**.

Contribute Returnables in August and September

During August and September, bring your returnable cans and bottles to UUCS to help the Resource Center (formerly the library), the Landscape team and Salem Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. Each Sunday in August and September, these groups will accept your returnable donations. After September, you can continue to contribute to this fundraiser by bringing your returnables on the first Sunday of the month. If you have any questions, contact Benjahmin Boschee at benjahminboschee@yahoo.com.

Men's Fall Retreat! October 5-7

This retreat will be at the Sunriver home of Rich Ford! The costs should be covered by what we raised on Father's Day. The Retreat is the weekend of October 5-7. We will be carpooling. Theme/agenda are yet to be developed, but there will definitely be time to wander the paths of Sunriver with each other. Call or email to let me know that you are interested, or with questions. Steve Rosen [503-551-5501](tel:503-551-5501)/sjr1948@gmail.com.

African Handcrafts Microfinance Support Sale October 7 & 28

On Sunday, October 7, and Sunday, October 28, the UUCS Microfinance Team will host sales by Thembanathi, a nonprofit working in South Africa. There will be a variety of hand-crafted items for sale, including beautiful beaded jewelry, enchanting beaded animals, colorful telephone wire baskets, and superbly embroidered cards. All items were made by Zulu women in income-generation projects in an area of South Africa struggling with extreme poverty, high unemployment, and disease. For more information, visit the [Microfinance Support Sale Hot Topic](#) on our website.

Health and Aging Workshops Series Begin October 8

Age 60+? Improve Your Health or Your Money Back! Four (free) workshops on health and aging will be offered at UUCS on Mondays, October 8, 15, 22, and 29, from 11:00-12:30 (bring food/drink, if you want). Content is different on each date. David requests that you register for the entire series.

David Haber, retired WOU gerontology professor and author of Health Promotion and Aging (8th edition, in progress), will distribute the latest health research findings, followed by discussion (if willing) of your own practices/ideas. Sign up for the series using [the online form](#) or stop by the sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall after services in September.

News of the Community

Our Own Zach Gulaboff Davis Triumphant at Carnegie Hall

On July 26, a violin concerto composed by Zach Davis was performed at Carnegie Hall in New York. Read all about it and see an image of the program on our website in the post "[Our Own Zach Gulaboff Davis Triumphant at Carnegie Hall](#)". Thank you to Joel Woodman for the write-up.

Rhea Devery Memorial September 29

On Saturday, September 29 beginning at 2pm, longtime UUCS member Rhea Devery will be remembered and celebrated. All are welcome to attend. [Read Rhea Devery's obituary.](#)

Help Needed and Appreciated!

Bateman Woods - Fall Planting October 13

The landscape team's goal is making Bateman Woods a relaxing, beautiful and harmonious environment. The next major activities include Fall planting of NW native plants (on the East side) and Spring planting of NW native plants (on the West side).

For Fall planting, there will be about 200 plants and help will be needed. Ways to support this goal are:

1. Donate \$ for the purchase of plants and planting soil. The cost is estimated at \$1,000. Make checks out to UUCS and mark the check with "Bateman Woods Plants".
2. Attend a WORK PARTY: On Thursday-Saturday, October 11-13 beginning at 9 am, show up at UUCS to help with marking, digging and planting. Planting will be on Saturday, October 13, weather permitting. (October 20 is an alternate date for planting).

Worship Team is Recruiting New Members

Would you enjoy being part of the Worship Team that assists Rev. Rick and guests in putting on our Sunday services? Important parts of our services are done by Celebrants, who have speaking parts during services; by Anchors, who operate the slide presentations; and by Sound Team members, who operate the microphones and AV system. Right now our teams are short of members. We will be recruiting over the next month, and then schedule a training workshop. Look for our table during Fellowship Hour, ask about being a Worship Team member, and fill out an application form.

Be part of the "face" of UUCS, bringing inspiring and creative Worship Services to our congregation.

Art Works News - Computer Expertise Needed

One of Art Works' first goals is to locate, inventory, and catalog the UUCS art collection. To this end, we need some computer expertise. Anyone willing to help us develop a simple system please contact Bonnie Hummel bmhummel2004@yahoo.com or Kathleen Giorgi flowers5art@yahoo.com.

Partner Church Update and Thank You

Thank you all for your generous support of our August collection of various needs for our Unitarian partners in Simenfalva, Romania. Two full boxes of school supplies, reading glasses, vitamins, and fabric will be on their way soon in a container via rail and ship to Romania, to be delivered eventually to Rev. Szen's home. Cash donations for the English classes in the village school will be forwarded by the UU Partner Church Council to the Simenfalva church bank account, to be dispersed as directed. This is a wonderful free service that the UUPCC provides for its members. We are grateful that we can enhance the lives of our partners in this way. Again, thank you all for your generosity.

~Jean Sherbeck, Partner Church Facilitator

Splinters from the Board

Staff Salaries - At its August 9 meeting, in a closed session, the Board voted to approve the staff salary adjustment recommendations from Lorna Youngs, chair of the Finance Team, and Jo Nathan, chair of the Committee on Human Resources (CHR). The recommendations were developed in response to a motion that was passed at the Annual Meeting of UUCS to "... adopt the budget as presented and direct the Committee on Human Resources, the Finance Committee and the UUCS Board to work together to address staff salary inequities with the funds available by September 1, 2018". The recommendations were based on a consensus at the Annual Meeting that staff at .50 Full Time Equivalent or greater should be at least at the 50% of the Unitarian Universalist Association salary range. The child care assistant position (filled with 3 job share positions), which was below the

beginning salary in their range, was also adjusted. The current salary adjustments for this fiscal year will be funded primarily from the ending fund balance, with the remainder funded out of the Memorial Fund.

UUCS currently lacks a policy for administering staff compensation. This has resulted in salaries lagging behind current UUA guidelines. The board action is a first step in addressing this issue. CHR will present a Salary Administration Policy and implementation procedures for Board review in November. The expectation is that if the Board adopts the proposed policy, it would be applied to the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Both CHR and the Finance Team are committed to a standardized and sustainable process for administering salaries at UUCS.

New UUCS Sign - The Board approved the proposal for a new sign, which had been discussed at the July Board meeting. The Board expects that volunteer labor will be solicited to help reduce costs associated with extending electricity to the sign.

New Pianist – At a special meeting, convened via email, the Board approved the recommendation from the Human Resources Committee to hire Kandace M. West into the Pianist position for UUCS.

Social Justice News

SJAT Monthly Update for September Newsletter

It was another busy summer month for SJAT members. Members sponsored the lovely Japanese Concert to raise funds and awareness of the Healing Peace Garden that is planned for the Salem Penitentiary. Signatures were collected to help the Oregon UU Voices for Justice place their endorsement against Measure 105 in the voters' pamphlet. Enough valid signatures ensured that UU congregations throughout the state did not need to pay a share of the otherwise-required \$1200 fee. The new banner is now in place and yard signs have been ordered. Team members attended a Causa-led workshop on August 25th to learn and share strategies to oppose Measure 105. Team members also spoke at the city council meeting to support the resolution to oppose Measure 105. At this time the main focus of the SJAT is to help defeat Ballot Measure 105, which is in direct opposition to our shared UU values and principles.

Peace WITH Justice Film Series - September 9 - BROTHER OUTSIDER

On Sunday, September 9, the Peace WITH Justice film series will present "Brother Outsider, The Life of Bayard Rustin" at the Friends Meeting House, 490 19th Street NE, beginning at 4:00 pm. The film is free of charge and open to the public. Bayard Rustin followed Gandhi and was an inspiration to the Rev. Martin Luther King. Rustin received a posthumous Medal of Freedom from President Obama.

Community Conversations: Income Inequality September 27

Interested in learning more about income inequality? Salem's chapter of Democratic Socialists of America and the Willamette Chapter of Our Revolution for Income Inequality are presenting a program on Income Inequality on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6 pm Loucks Auditorium at the Salem Public Library. Juan Carlos Ordonez (from Oregon's Center for Public Policy) and a representative from Family Forward will present. Vegan, gluten-free, snacks and refreshments will also be provided.

Healing Garden Benefit Concert Huge Success

On August 5, UUCS hosted a benefit concert to raise funds for the Japanese Healing Garden inside the Oregon State Penitentiary. The concert was well-attended and raised over \$1,400 from donations and the sale of inmate art and crafts! You can read all about it and see many pictures of the musicians performing on our website in the post "[Healing Garden Benefit Concert Huge Success](#)". Thank you to Mako Hayashi-Mayfield for the nice expression of gratitude for everyone who helped and for taking all the pictures.

Kairos Update

If you needed a warm meal, and a dry, safe place to eat where you knew you would not only be allowed but welcomed and celebrated, every Sunday the place to go was St. Mark Lutheran. The doors were open at the Kairos Community Lunch. If you wanted to give to your community, and participate in the direct charity of preparing and serving a meal for anyone in need, while sharing stories and humor and just a little bit of physical labor, every week the Kairos Community Lunch welcomed your help. Kairos Community Lunch will serve its last meal on Sunday, September 30. For those of us with history preparing and serving to our community, and to the community we served, this will be a great loss.

Our congregation has had close ties to this program for almost its entire history. Back in 1983 the Jason Lee Kairos Soup Kitchen started serving Sunday meals in a Salem without many options: this was several years before Marion-Polk Food Share opened its doors. Members from different congregations, including the UUCS,

agreed to staff the lunch four or five Sundays throughout the year. The Sunday service continued until July of 2008 when the larger kitchen and eating area of St. Mark Lutheran was opened to Kairos, and the name was changed to Kairos Community Lunch. The popularity of the Sunday meal only grew, and from 2010 through 2017 an average of 3,900 meals were served a year. When I joined the church (and started volunteering for Kairos) back in 2010, John Maluski (with his killer clam chowder recipe) was the UUCS coordinator, and there was a reliable roster of volunteers eager to help, serve, and have fun in the process. Since 2012, having shamelessly stolen John's recipe, being the UUCS coordinator has been my privilege. We have had new volunteers roll in, alongside volunteers like Joan Erickson and Loraine Stuart, who have been helping practically since its inception. As Caroline McMillan, longtime director and co-director of the program said, "Each and every person who has been involved has given a huge gift to hungry people. The generosity of so many to give their time and caring has been amazing and humbling."

Why did the organization decide to stop providing this service? Over the past couple of years the makeup of the guests has changed and safety concerns for both guests and volunteer staff grew. In March, reluctantly, the decision was made to stop sit-down service, with Kairos changing to serving a full sack lunch (along with water and toiletries) outside the church proper. Sandwiches could not contain meat or cheese to keep in line with regulations for unrefrigerated meals. Our numbers dropped, and with the winter months approaching a decision had to be made. The leadership felt that with the expansion of meal service at ARCHES, a downtown homeless service organization operated by the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, and meal service in Marion Square Park, the Kairos service had become less essential than it had been in the past.

To those many, MANY, who have helped over the years, my thanks seem inadequate. Salem has been blessed by your service. You done good.

~Submitted by Mary Beth Hustoles

Mary Beth Hustoles has been our UUCS representative with Kairos for many years. About four times a year, UUCS has hosted the Sunday luncheon meal at St. Mark Lutheran Church. Mary Beth would ask for volunteers, purchase the food, meet all of us who volunteered at the door of St. Mark's at 12:30 and together everyone would work non-stop until all the hungry guests were served. Then, Mary Beth continued until the kitchen was cleaned and garbage emptied. Mary Beth led by example: she was always cheerful and treated all the guests with respect. It was obvious that Mary Beth saw the "sacred" in every hungry guest. Her coordinating skills assured that everything went smoothly. All of us who worked beside her respected her kindness, compassion, dedication, and sense of humor. Thank you, Mary Beth, on behalf of our community, our congregation and all of us who had the opportunity to work beside you.

Calendar

Membership Team Meeting

Tuesday, September 4, 6:30 pm

UU Compassionate Mind Sangha Silent Meditation

Every Wednesday, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

A welcoming place for meditation practice.

Session I is for experienced meditation practitioners.

Session II provides attendees with basic instruction, and explanation. The last hour, 8:00 – 9:00 pm, is for discussion, compassion, about how to use meditation as a spiritual practice.

Habitat and Hope Meeting

Every Thursday, 12:30 pm

Homeless Coalition partnership with other Interfaith groups.

Choir Rehearsal

Every Thursday, 6:30 pm

Finance Team Meeting

Friday, September 7, 10:30 am

Dances of Universal Peace

Friday, September 7, 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.

Refuge Recovery

Every Friday, 7:00 pm

UUCS' Addiction Recovery Ministry and Support program is glad to sponsor the Refuge Recovery group meeting every Friday from 7 to 8 pm at UUCS. The mission of this national non-profit organization is to build an extensive and comprehensive network of groups, meetings, and communities that practice and promulgate Buddhist teachings and meditations for anyone seeking recovery from addiction. Drawing inspiration from the core teachings of the Four Noble Truths, emphasis is placed on both knowledge and empathy as means for overcoming addiction and its causes.

Sunday Services Host Training & Orientation

Sunday, September 9, 12:00 pm

Social Justice in Action Team Meeting

Sunday, September 9, 12:30 pm
The monthly SJAT meeting.

Women's Alliance Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 7:00 pm
Monthly program and meeting

Board Meeting

Thursday, September 13, 5:30 pm

UUCS Artworks Meeting

Friday, September 14, 6:30 pm
Monthly business meeting

Family Dinner

Friday, September 14, 6:30 pm
See article.

RE Team Meeting

Sunday, September 16, 12:30 pm

Worship Team Meeting

Monday, September 17, 5:30 pm
Monthly Meeting of the Worship Team to plan & discuss Sunday Services

Safer Congregation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 6:30 pm

Danza Azteca

Every Tuesday beginning September 18, 7:00 pm
(Formerly listed as *Titlakawan*). The teachings of the Aztec Dance are tied to the Pre-Hispanic roots of ancient Mexico. It serves to connect the dancer to a

universal view of the Anawak culture and the Nawatl philosophy, a worldview of nature. Aztec dance awakens and develops various human faculties which are essential across society but which the current educational system fails to implement in a conscious and permanent manner. All are welcome to attend.

Dances of Universal Peace

Thursday, September 20, 7:00 pm
(See September 7)

CUUPs Autumn Equinox Ritual and Potluck

Saturday, September 22, 7:00 pm
See article.

Transylvania Travelers Meeting

Sunday, September 23, 12:00 pm
Discussion to determine priorities for sites to visit on July 2019 trip. All interested people are invited to attend.

RE Staff Meeting

Sunday, September 23, 1:00 pm

Communications Team Meeting

Monday, September 24, 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.

Facilities Team Meeting

Tuesday, September 25, 6:00 pm

Rhea Devery Memorial Service

Saturday, September 29, 2:00 pm



*Sparkle & Clean
September 2*

Worship Services and Religious Exploration

September Share the Plate Recipient: [Mano a Mano](#)

Service Time: 10:30 am

Sunday, September 9

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"When I Was a Stranger" (Water Communion Sunday)

Celebrant: Janet Stevens; **Anchor:** Joanne Manson
Music: UUCS Choir

A few years ago I visited another UU congregation as a stranger. How did it go?

Water Communion is a fall ritual in which members bring a small vial of water from home or from their travels to combine in a large container, usually choosing to share in words what it represents in their lives.

RE Information: Welcome back!! All ages will participate in the annual Water Communion Service!

Sunday, September 16

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"How's Your Spiritual Vision?"

Celebrant: Laura Christian; **Anchor:** Sara Pickett
Music: Guy Hallman

Whether we are conscious of this or not, we look at life through certain lenses which profoundly affect our spiritual vision, for good or ill.

RE Information: Today, we return to individual classes for our RE Program. Welcome back!

We are highlighting our youth group Sunday offering - youth will start in their classroom, light a chalice, participate in a short spiritual practice and then relax and snack while being in covenant. Know any teens (8th-12th) that need a safe accepting space to get rejuvenated for the week ahead? Invite them to connect with our youth and our new Youth Coordinator and advisors!

Sunday, September 23

The Rev. Richard R. Davis and Jimmy Jones

"The Social Cruelty of Homelessness"

Celebrant: Janet Stevens; **Anchor:** Joanne Manson
Music: UUCS Choir

Homelessness is a growing concern in our community. Like many cities on the West Coast, Salem's homeless population seems likely to grow. What is the scope of this problem? What is our role as a congregation? Jimmy Jones from ARCHES will participate in the homily.

RE Information: Today in Religious Exploration, we will be exploring the Soul Matters theme of VISION. Have a youth in your life? (8th-12th grade). Do they need an accepting - relaxing place to spend with peers and get uplifted for their week ahead? Have them connect with our youth group! Let's make this a happening thing this year 🍷❤️!

Sunday, September 30

The Rev. Richard R. Davis

"Why in the World Would I Ever Want to Join a Connections Group?"

Celebrant: Name; **Anchor:** name
Music: Name

We used to call them "covenant groups" until we realized that this word "covenant" was a barrier for some. Now we call them "Connections Groups." Our groups have had some wonderful experiences together - friendships have been born and there is more opportunity for caring, connection, compassion. We have more to say on this matter so do please join us.

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.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

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Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration:

Christi J. Olsen, christi@uusalem.org

RE Sunday Assistants: Elizabeth Bauman,
Marnie Jeffers, Elsa McKinney-Menchaca

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

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 and ANNOUNCEMENTS: Fill out the [Publication Request](#) form on the UUCS website for any announcement, event or news item. This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the Sunday announcements, the UUCS newsletter, the UUCS website, the *This Week* email and or Facebook.

DEADLINES:

Newsletter: The deadline for the next newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **September 28.**

Sunday Announcements and This Week submissions are due by noon, **Tuesday.**

Use the [Publication Request](#) form for all submissions.