

# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

*The Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Salem, Oregon  
May 28, 2008*



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## Bloomin' UU Brunch

Tickets are still available for the Bloomin' UU Brunch on **Saturday, June 7**, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Look for Jo Bateman in the foyer before and after Sunday services. Tickets are \$20.00. Doors open at 9:30. Brunch will be served starting at 10:00, followed by three presentations: "Getting the Most Out of Your Tomato Plants", "Low Maintenance Gardening" and "Adaptive Gardening". We will have a plant sale, a white elephant table and craft table, plus everyone will receive a raffle ticket.

These tickets would make a wonderful gift for Father's Day or a "thank you" gift for a that neighbor who waters your plants and picks up your newspaper when you are away, a friend who is always there for you, or a gift for your Aunt Maggie, who is hard to buy for.

We are looking for donations for the raffle, and for the tables. Do you have a bottle of wine, a potted plant, a delicious cake or pie that you would be willing to bake? Your item would not need to be garden-related. For more information call Iris Sea or Sharon Dearman.

## The UUCS Congregational Picnic!

Our picnic will be at the Riverfront Park Pavilion on **Sunday, June 8** between 12:00 and 4:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a wonderful day at the park with our UUCS family. In addition to sharing a meal you will enjoy an afternoon of relaxing conversation, join others playing croquet, bocce ball, or one of the varieties of board games that will be available.

Your RSVP helps us know how to plan, so don't delay! RSVP by signing up to bring a potluck dish or other items listed on the sheets in the fellowship hall. If you would prefer not to cook, there is an option to help cover the cost of site rental. Please bring your potluck dish/salad or dessert to the Riverfront Park. Other items, such as meat, bread, and condiments should be taken to the Fellowship kitchen on June 8.

Bring your own place setting and a beverage of choice (non-alcoholic); water will be provided.

If you have questions or would like to help with this event, contact Lydia Gutierrez or a Fellowship Team member: Sandra Meredith, Chris Hochendoner, Margo Eliescu, and Lois Nodland.

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*This issue was edited by Lois Nodland. NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 11:30 a.m. Sunday, June 8. Send news to [editors@uusalem.org](mailto:editors@uusalem.org) (or to Lois Nodland AND Kathleen Ehli— please put "UUCS" in the subject line), put it in workroom newsletter "mailbox," or mail it (marked "newsletter") to church.*

## Reverential Ramblings

Here's a recent healthy development that comes from the field of medicine. As you may know, over the past several decades malpractice claims have skyrocketed, along with the cost of malpractice insurance for doctors. Doctors, being human, do make mistakes and have generally been counseled by hospital administrators, insurers and lawyers not to admit to this lest they be sued. This strategy has been a disaster for all concerned—especially patients and doctors. Now several medical centers around the nation have seen the light: they are advising doctors to readily admit to their errors, earnestly apologize and fairly compensate patients who suffer. In the places where this practice has been adopted it has been a resounding success—patients have felt they were treated respectfully and fairly, thus lawsuits have dramatically declined, malpractice premiums have gone down, and doctor's consciences are clearer.

This new approach might be summed up thusly: when all else fails, do the right thing.

Or maybe that's a little too glib. It's easy to sit in judgment of others who are part of larger systems that sweep them along into established patterns of ethically questionable behavior. In such settings, even if an individual might be personally inclined to do the right thing, there may be very powerful institutional pressures to do otherwise. Yet this does not completely absolve individuals from doing the right thing. There is an ethical interdependence here that calls for both individuals and institutions to seek the higher ground.

In the example cited above there must have been some honest soul searching at different levels of these medical institutions which resulted in a courageous resolution simply to risk doing the right thing. Surely others will witness this inspirational example and, if only for practical financial reasons, follow suit.

Sometimes it can feel risky to do the right thing in our lives. There is no guarantee that doing so will spare you suffering. There are many who did do the right thing and got fired, ostracized, condemned, imprisoned, or killed. Then, too, sometimes it's hard to decide what the right thing to do is because not every ethical situation is as clear as night and day. Yet how much we all suffer, how all our lives are diminished when few seek to do the right things in their lives.

What I find especially heartening about this newly emerging practice in the medical profession is what it says about human nature. It's a good reminder that yes, we all do make mistakes. But then, when our mistakes have caused harm to others, if we have the courage to take responsibility for this—not shift the blame or make excuses—and honestly apologize, then forgiveness will often be given.

Oftentimes, not only will a broken relationship be healed, it will be strengthened.

I'll bet there are a number of patients who now feel a new sense of respect and admiration for the doctors who honestly apologized to them. Those doctors had the courage to do the right thing, admit to their errors and admit they are human—not gods.

Which leads me to say that if I ever do make a mistake in my ministry I will apologize. So far, I have skillfully avoided them all. OK, OK, that's not true. Talk to most people in leadership positions here and they can fill you ear with stories of my trip-ups. I'm human. So are you. Let's earnestly strive to do the right thing but also cut each some slack when we falter.

*Love, Rick*



**LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**  
**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem**  
**May 28, 2008**

**Lise's Letter**

I am a little flummoxed, and maybe a bit embarrassed and ashamed too. The last few weeks I have been thinking more about how humans detrimentally affect the environment. The reason I am giving it more attention now, (she said with chagrin) is because of gas prices. This last week alone gas went up \$0.30/gallon where I get my gas. Why does it often take extreme measures to get us to face facts?

The fact that we as humans need to change our ways is nothing new. I remember seeing a commercial when I was in grade school (in the 1970s) stating that if humans continued in earth unfriendly habits all trees would be gone by 1999. My childhood family recycled and my husband and I read *50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth* shortly after it was published in 1989; we do a lot of those simple things as I'm sure many of you do, too. But for all those simple things that we do to help, we have also added greater complications to our life styles that it seems we can't live without.

Many homes have air conditioning now. It seems that landscaping requires as many power tools as "Tim the Toolman": leaf and snow blowers, bark munchers, weed eaters. How did we get along without these things before? When I was growing up, all three of my parents had jobs within two miles of their respective homes. Today my husband and I, as do many other couples, drive 20 miles in opposite directions to get to our jobs. Children are driven a mile, and often less, to their schools.

I am usually a hopeful person, but this has been weighing on me. It seems that as a society we are more concerned with personal freedom (being able to drive where we like, and use conveniences) than with the health of our world. At the same time we are much more afraid than we have ever been (of losing freedom, that our children or other loved ones will be harmed) and this fear causes us to hunker down and think only  
Lise Adams Sherry, Director of Religious Education  
503/364-0932

Office Hours: Wed. 9:30 – 2:30 and by appointment

about ourselves.

I don't think simple changes will work anymore and that concerns me because that seems to be all people (including myself) are willing to do. How can we frame the change we need to make in a positive, exciting way? How can we find more credits than debits in a possibly very different way of life?

I would truly *love* to hear your thoughts!

- Remember to sign up to help teach for this summer (the theme is based on the Heifer Project) or next year. Information sheets are posted around the church and sign up sheets on the RE door. RE staff does all the class planning for you. Your ministry is to play and learn with our children and youth. Our theme for next year is World Religions.
- Do you have a passion that contributes to the world and/or feeds you spiritually? If you'd like to share it with others let me know—you could be part of our adult religious enrichment! All ideas are welcome, just talk to Lise or Rick.
- Interested in a summer UU camp for your family? Check the Hillsboro congregation's web site: [uuccwc.org](http://uuccwc.org). They are planning a family camp open to all UUs July 3-6.

**Religious Education Dates to Note**

**Adult/Youth Wed. May 28** – Meditation (every Wed.), Sanctuary, 7 PM.

**Adult Sun. June 1** – Teacher Recruitment continues for children's/youth's church school.

**Youth/Their Parents Sun. June 1** – Planning meeting for next year's high school group, 12:10 in RE wing.

**All Sun. June 8** – Flower Communion and Senior Bridging Intergenerational Service. Bring a flower to contribute to our communal bouquet and wish our senior youth well.

Mark Babson, Associate DRE

## Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting—May 18, 2008

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Diana Nicholson-Nelson, who announced that the required quorum was present and announced the agenda.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 20, 2007, Congregational Meeting were presented.

**Motion:** Kate Walker moved and Jo Bateman seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion passed.

The Chair suggested a change of procedure by which the Board would approve the minutes of the congregational meeting at the next regular Board meeting after the minutes had been published in the newsletter. Without objection, the Congregation agreed by consensus to the change.

**Proposed Budget:** The Chair introduced the proposed budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2008. Treasurer Elsa Struble, assisted by Paul Rice, answered questions concerning the proposed budget.

**Motion:** Kay Cogswell moved and Janet Stevens seconded that the budget be approved as recommended. The motion passed.

### ***Covenant between UUCS and UU Fellowship of McMinnville:***

**Motion:** Chuck Howard, chair of the Covenanting Committee, moved and John Gorman seconded that the Congregation approve the proposed covenant between UUCS and the UU Fellowship of McMinnville. Chuck described the covenant and answered questions.

The motion passed.

(During the discussion, it was suggested that information be passed along on the late Dr. Harold Hutchinson, who made the stained glass window that was donated to the McMinnville Fellowship, so his work would be remembered. It was also suggested that the newsletter include information on the Fellowship events and contacting the Fellowship.)

**Proposed Bylaw Change:** The Chair introduced a recommendation by the Board that the following provision be added to the Bylaws:

*No person may be a member of the Board of Directors who has a family relationship with a paid employee. "Family relationship" means spouse, partner, parent, child or sibling. The Board, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all its members, may waive this provision in the case of a person hired on a temporary basis.*

**Motion:** Egon Bodtker moved and Dennis Ehrp seconded that the bylaw change be approved. The motion passed with one dissenting vote and two abstentions.

**Report from Nominating Committee:** The report from the Nominating was received.

**Motion:** Jo Bateman moved and Kay Young seconded that the slate of officers and Board members recommended by the Nominating Committee be approved. The motion passed. The following persons were elected for the year beginning July 1, 2008:

Chair: Vicki Cunningham

Vice Chair: Phil Carver

Treasurer: Paul Rice

Secretary: John Gorman

Director for one year: Don Wolf

Egon Bodtker

Ernest Perez

Director for two years: Claudia Koch

Danna Parmley

Wayne Seeley

(Diana Nicholson-Nelson serves one year as Past Board Chair)

**Motion:** Lois Nodland moved and Ellen Howard seconded that the congregation approve the slate of Nominating Committee members recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion passed. The following persons were elected to the nominating committee:

For one year: Christine Ertl

For two years: Linda Geissler

For three years: Phil Smith

**Transitions:** Rev. Rick Davis reminded the congregation of members who had died during the past year and also of births to congregation members.

**Looking forward:** Phil Carver asked members to fill out a form seeking suggestions for a theme for next year's congregational focus.

**Acknowledgments:** Diana thanked the outgoing Board for its work.

The Congregation expressed its thanks to the Women's Alliance for its many contributions through the year.

Vicki Cunningham thanked Diana for her service as Chair for two years. The congregation gave Diana a standing ovation.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Phil Cogswell, secretary*

## Treasurer's Corner

Thanks to those who responded to the pledge updates I distributed by hand, U.S. mail, or e-mail. If you have email but didn't receive an email notice, it's probably because I didn't have an up-to-date address for you. [uucsoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:uucsoffice@yahoo.com) would be glad to hear from you!

The current (2007-08) fiscal year ends June 30. When you write a pledge check these next few months, Paul Rice will record it the way you want if you indicate whether it's for your 07-08 pledge or whether you're prepaying on your 08-09 pledge.

A number of members now pay their pledges by having their bank send us a check every month. This is usually easy to set up: Your bank will want our bank's name, routing number, and account number. The Strubles or the church office can give them to you.

*Elsa Struble, Treasurer*

## Soup Kitchen

UUCS will sponsor the soup kitchen at Jason Lee Methodist Church on **Sunday, June 1**. The soup kitchen is open each Sunday and feeds the hungry in the Salem area. Six times each year UUCS takes its turn. We need a few more workers to heat

and/or serve soup, to prepare the dining room, and to clean up.

The County Health Department no longer allows serving soup cooked in home kitchens. Instead, we must buy commercially produced soup or soup ingredients for preparation at the Jason Lee Methodist Church meal-site.

Soup can be purchased at NORPAC on Madrona, just west of the airport. Costco and Cash & Carry also sell soup in large quantities. Checks for tax-deductible donations to purchase soup should be made out to UUCS with "soup kitchen" written on the "for" line. Please contact John Thomas Maluski for more information.

*John/Thomas Maluski*

## Bloomin' Brunch Donations

Don't forget to make your donations to the June 7 "UUCS Bloomin' Brunch" raffle and tables. Items should be in good condition Use your imagination!

Please deliver to the church during the daytime on **June 6** or call Bev Anderson

*Thanks,  
Bev Anderson*

## Plant Sale Volunteers Needed

The UU "Bloomin' Brunch" is on **Saturday, June 7**. Part of this fundraising event is a plant sale, which will run from 9:30 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed for one-hour shifts to cashier and to answer questions. We will accept healthy, well-established plants for the sale; these can be dropped at the church Friday afternoon. Boxes are needed for taking plants home. If you have extra, please bring them. If you have questions or would like to volunteer an hour of service to the plant sale, please contact me. This is a fun way to participate and the brunch/plant sale will add to our enthusiasm for our gardens.

*Helen Beckman*

## **Auburn Elementary School**

Please join us **Monday, June 9** at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and discussion as we meet with folks from Auburn Elementary School.

We will plan how we can enter into a special partnership with the school to support the children who attend this school so near to UUCS. Please RSVP at the UUCS office so we can know how much food to prepare.

## **Landscape Work Party**

Thank you to Barbara Hanneman, who showed up for the last landscape work party on Saturday, May 17, to help weed and water. We have gone from one extreme to the other with weather. At the April work party we had snow falling; one month later we had record-breaking heat. Even with just the two of us, we got quite a bit done.

Several usual volunteers called to say that they had other commitments. Thanks to Paul Rice, who brought his weed whacker in on Thursday and shortened a lot of the tall grass on the west side of our property. Another thanks to Ted Cory who has been removing weeds near our church sign for the past several weeks. And thanks to the volunteers who are keeping up their adopted areas: Lise Sherry, Jo Bateman, Kristen and Bruce Hunt, and Michelle Prather.

The next work party will be on **Saturday, June 21**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. If you would like more information, call Iris Sea or Sharon Dearman.

*Sharon Dearman*

## **Interfaith Hospitality Network**

Last week UUCS hosted another successful round of guests of the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (SIHN), with Rosa Barton and Loraine Stuart at the helm. Thanks are due to meal preparers, who included Barbara Joque, Lynn Percevat, Janet Stevens, Delores Lusk, Joan and Ken Erickson, Teenci Kunkel, Trinity Methodist Church, Mary Jo Eyler, Sharon Dearman, Ruth and Eric Larson, Allana McDonald, Valerie Neevel, Susan Farris and Skip Gosser.

Overnight hosts were Dani Adams, J.T. Maluski, Barbara and David Stebbins-Boaz, Don Fries, Elsa and George Struble, and Loraine. They also prepared breakfast.

Other hosts, who visited with guests during and after dinner, included Samantha Sales, Susanna Gardner, Jill Baker, Gloria and Allan Holland, John Gorman, Marian Milligan, Bill Dugan, Kristy Hollen, Cherryl Randall and Rosa.

Finally, thanks to John Roy Wilson and Phil Carver, who helped so much with the moving out process.

## **Coffee, Tea or Nothing!?**

No one has volunteered to take over the job of Coffee Team Coordinator and it may not continue after Sunday, August 31. Sandra Meredith has served as coordinator and has resigned after serving in this position for three years. She offers to help train/advise/coach anyone who is willing to take over this task.

Sandra is recruiting volunteers to serve coffee for the months of July and August. If you are willing and able to help with this task one or two times during these summer months please call Sandra or email her.

Thanks Sandra for your hours of service.

*Newsletter co-editors*

## **Tai Chi in the Park**

Did you win the bid at the UU Auction for Tai Chi lessons? This is your chance to take your lessons. Please contact John Maluski. We meet each morning at 6:30 at McRae Park at the corner of 21st Street and Chemeketa.

## **CHP Volunteers Needed!**

As a UUCS member, you can have a direct impact on the lives of people in need. Congregations Helping People (CHP) needs intake volunteers to assist the staff.

Intake volunteers greet people who come to the CHP office seeking help and assist them in filling out a brief application form. A safe work environment is a priority and volunteers never work with clients in isolation.

Intake volunteers will also perform simple office tasks, such as making copies, filling out and filing forms, and making brief phone calls.

If you can commit to three or more hours per week, please contact one of the CHP staff.

*Rev. Connie Yost*

### **Interested in travel to Simenfalva?**

Let's talk about it after church on **June 1**.

If you cannot make it and are still interested, please call Bonnie or Brian.

*Bonnie Heitsch*

## **UUCS Summer Sermon Series**

The Sunday Services Team is setting in motion a homegrown Summer Sermon Series.

Paul Rice will speak on a relevant social issue on June 15, followed by Susan Scott and Kate Walker sharing the pulpit on June 22. Their timely topic is: "Meaning of the Summer Solstice". Concluding the month is RE's Lise Adams Sherry on June 29. It's sure to be a lively wake-up call challenging us toward greater horizons.

The Sunday Services Team consists of Rev. Rick Davis, Jeff Geissler and myself.

*Lee Coyne (for the Team)*

### **Date and Presenter**

June	1 Rev. Rick Davis
	8 Rev. Rick Davis (Intergenerational, Flower Communion)
	15 Paul Rice
	22 Kate Walker/Susan Scott
	29 Lise Sherry
July	6 Rev. Craig Moro
	13 Victoria Leo
	20 Beth Myers-Shenai
	27 Rev. Connie Yost
August	3 Tim Patterson
	10 Angela Herrera
	17 Joy Overstreet
	24 Rev. Connie Yost
	31 Rev. Craig Moro/Kate Walker
September	7 Kate Walker/Susan Scott
	14 Rev. Rick Davis

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## **News of the UUCS Community**

As **Margaret and Dick Boyle** discovered earlier this month, Iceland presents a flat, bleak landscape of ancient lava covered with moss to arrivals at Reykjavik's International Airport. That introduction contrasts with the liveliness of its rich, international culture and thriving economy. Iceland is considered to be among the wealthiest in the world and prices for goods and services match! Margaret and Dick declined group sight-seeing, allowing them to move at their own pace by walking into the very sophisticated central city in

whose metro area approximately two-thirds of the 300,000 Icelanders live. There they found the first-rate National Museum and the Culture House with its excellent exhibit on the Medieval manuscripts of the acclaimed Saga writings and Edda poetry. The city center also includes the national symphony and opera and shopping opportunities beamed at tourists, tourism being a primary source of income.

One of their trip highlights was a tour of Thingvellir National Park, the site of Iceland's first parliamentary gathering in A.D. 930,

making it the world's oldest legislative body and the place where eons prior the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates met. The plates are now separating at 5-6 millimeters per year, leaving a gash in the landscape that is now three miles wide and 131 feet deep.

Other recent UUCS Icelandic explorers include **Egon and Diana Bodtke**, who, along with Margaret and Dick, are eager to share information about the little-known land.

**Mary Edith Gilbertson**, and her son Grant Gilbertson drove to Helena, Montana early in the month to celebrate the graduation *magna cum laude* of granddaughter/daughter Clair from Carroll College, a bachelor's degree with triple majors: math, computer science, and Spanish. She will begin graduate studies in computer science at Oregon State University this fall.

**Jo Bateman's** family will join for a family reunion at David and Karen's home in Scio this weekend to welcome the just-born, third great-grandchild for Jo, Megan Alexis Reisig, born to granddaughter Michelle and her husband Chad. She joins four-year-old Nathan. Also attending from Bethel, Alaska will be granddaughter Angela and her husband Jason Hochreiter and their infant, Joseph, in the lower forty-eight to introduce the baby to the extended family on the east coast as they return home. Jo expects that the fest will also include son Doug and his wife Melinda from Corvallis.

Cheers for **Danielle Curylo and Christine Bennett** who were recently certified to be foster care providers for children with special needs! At a recent Sunday service, Danielle introduced Jordan, their first foster son. Speak with either of them if you'd like to know more about the certification process; the need for welcoming homes is enormous!

Condolences to UUCS office administrator **Rose Drake** at the recent death of her sister.

**Bill Nazaroff** and his partner, **Skip Stone**, joined UUCS some time ago, after which we saw little of either of them. Last week's *Statesman* printed a May 17 death notice for Bill. How did we lose contact with one another?

UUCS members **Gloria and Allan Holland** were in Lake Placid, New York this past week to celebrate Gloria's daughter Annie's wedding!

*Joan Erickson*

### **Stella Jean Hill Memorial**

A memorial service for Stella Jean Hill is being planned by her family. Stella Jean was a long time UU and member of UUCS. The memorial will be Saturday, May 31 at 2 p.m. There will be a reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

*Sandra Meredith*

### **Ric Masten**

Hero and songwriter idol to hundreds of thousands for more than a half-century, Ric Masten has died. Perhaps you were one of the thousands who heard Ric read in his deep, spiritual voice at some west coast UU church or college or university during the '60s or '70s. You couldn't forget his message or the fervent intensity of his delivery.

Eric Schuman wrote about Ric from his memory of a 1969 UU General Assembly in Boston: "The crowd was raucous, paying no attention at all, when he suddenly screamed, 'Damn you, Notice Me!' It took a few lines of the song to realize he wasn't cursing the audience...it was the song's first line!" Ric's best-known song, "Let It Be a Dance", in our hymnal, is an outstanding legacy. Want to know more about Ric Masten? Contact Eric or me.

*Joan Erickson*

### **Community Events**

#### **South Salem HS Wind Ensemble**

A Benefit Concert and Silent Auction will be held to support musicians from South Salem High School Wind Ensemble who are headed for China this summer. The benefit is at Hudson Hall on the Willamette campus on May 31. Tickets are \$25 and include dessert and drinks at intermission.

The South Salem High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Mary Lou Boderman, was selected as one of the few high school bands in the nation performing at events leading up to the 2008 Summer Olympics. Please join the community in supporting this opportunity. For ticket information, contact Christine Ertl

### **Congregations Helping People**

Are you interested in how UUCS can help people in need in our community? Then come to the Annual Meeting of *Congregations Helping People*, **Wednesday, June 4**, 7 p.m., at UUCS.

UUCS is a member of CHP, which responds to requests for emergency assistance by people in need. At the CHP Annual Meeting, we will celebrate our accomplishments, discuss our challenges, and elect new board members. Dessert will be served! For more information contact CHP board chair Janet Burkhardt.

*Rev. Connie Yost*

### **Foster Parent Night Out Program**

Plans are being made for the Foster Parent Night Out Program (FPNOP) to be up and running sometime in the fall. A group of volunteers from UUCS will be attending a mandatory training session at First Congregational Church **Saturday, May 31** from 9 a.m. to noon.

We could use more volunteers. If you are interested, please contact me. If you are interested, but are unable to attend the upcoming training session, contact me so that I can add you to the mailing list and let you know when the next training session is scheduled. Thanks.

*Janet Neuburg*

### **Salem’s World Beat Festival**

The World Beat Festival is looking for volunteers. There are tons of roles to fill and you get a free t-shirt! The World Beat is always the last weekend in June, this year it’s the 28th and 29th. For volunteer sign-up, contact Social Action Co-Chair, Erin Zysett or go online at [www.worldbeatfestival.org](http://www.worldbeatfestival.org)

*Erin Zysett*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **SUNDAY SERVICE AND CHURCH SCHOOL**

**10:30 a.m. (Child Care Available)**

**Sunday, June 1                      “Summer Memories”                      The Rev. Richard Davis**

Remember those summer days of childhood? So do I. Today, it’s vastly different for children and youth. What with the omnipresent lure of high tech media—computer games, HDTV, the internet, cell phone, ipods—the forests, fields and streams are largely abandoned. A new phrase has recently entered our vocabularies—”nature deficit disorder”—to describe a widespread condition among young people. Does it matter or not?

**Sunday, June 8                      “Planting Flowers”                      The Rev, Richard R. Davis  
Lise Adams Sherry, Director of Religious Education**

### **Our Annual Flower Communion**

In early June of every year, we celebrate a traditional Unitarian ritual introduced by the Rev. Norbert Capek of the Unitarian Church in Prague, Czech Republic, almost a century ago. ***Please bring a flower trimmed so it can be placed in our congregational bouquet.***

During this service there will be a Bridging Ceremony in which we recognize graduating seniors.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem  
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## ***THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST***

May 28, 2008

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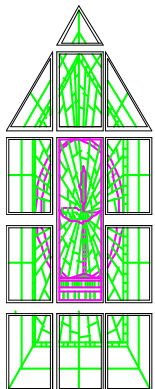
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## **UUCS Calendar**

Wednesday, May 28	UU Meditation (Compassionate Mind UU Sangha), 7 p.m. (every Wednesday)
Sunday, June 1	(No Readers' Forum until September) Soup Kitchen Young Adults, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, June 4	Chat & Craft, 7 p.m. (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays) Congregations Helping People, 7 p.m.
Friday, June 6	Drop off donated items for Bloomin' Brunch during the day
Saturday, June 7	Bloomin' UU Brunch, 10 a.m. to noon
Sunday, June 8	Team Leaders Meeting, 9:15 a.m. Congregational Picnic, Riverfront Park, noon to 4 p.m. <b>NEXT Newsletter Deadline, 11:30 a.m.</b>
Monday, June 9	Auburn Elementary Planning, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, June 11	UU Meditation, 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 15	Young Adults, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, June 18	UU Meditation, 7 p.m. Chat & Craft, 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 21	Landscape Work Party, 9 a.m.
Sunday, July 13	July <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> , 11:30 a.m.

***Don't forget that the next three newsletter deadlines will be June 8, July 13 and August 10. Plan ahead for your summer announcements!***