

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Salem, Oregon
August 18, 2010



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UUCS Board Minutes Summary August 12, 2010

Present: *Chair:* Phil Carver; *Vice-Chair:* Barbara Stebbins-Boaz; *Treasurer:* Paul Rice; *Secretary:* Laura Stine. *Directors:* Ted Dingman, Barb Smith, Mieke Visser, John Gorman, Gloria Holland. Also present: *Minister:* Rev. Rick Davis; *Interim DRE:* Amy Beltaine and Carol Doolittle.

Carol Doolittle presented a proposal for establishing a Fundraising Strategy for the **Microfinance Committee**.

The goal of the proposed strategy is to raise \$5,000 each year to provide capital for microcredit to individuals/cooperatives in poor countries with the goal of raising individuals out of poverty through a sustainable business. The fundraising strategy does not include seeking funds from the congregational budget. The Board voted to approve the Microfinance Committee's proposal.

Rev. Rick briefly referenced the items in his written **Minister's Report** and directed special attention to the item about the early development of a forthcoming Congregational Discernment Process proposal. A short discussion led to an understanding that more is to come at the next Board meeting about the proposal for a Congregational Discernment Process. Meetings will be held with the new Discernment committee, led by Rev. Rick. Board members expressed pleasure at learning that Interim DRE Amy Beltaine and Intern Minister James Beebe will be invited to participate and that a PNWD workshop on the very topic, is to be conveniently scheduled at UUCS on October 16.

Paul Rice submitted a written **Treasurer's Report** and reported orally that he was pleased to note in the report that more income from last year's pledges came in than was budgeted. He also reported that careful monitoring is being done on a daily basis by Suzette Moyer, Office Administrator, in order to provide the details necessary to make decisions with regard to the overflowing trash containers. Along with these items and other news covered in his report, he and the Board discussed the challenge of finding a person(s) willing to take over the position of UUCS Treasurer.

It was decided that Rev. Rick, Phil Carver and Jerry Nathan will meet with the **Personnel Committee** to discuss its role and a proposal for expanding the committee's relationship with the existing staff. They will report back to the Board.

A person will be appointed by the Board to chair the **Copier Contract Task Group** at the April, 2011 board meeting to research the copier issues and provide information for further decision-making.

It was decided that information about the good work of the Homeschool Outreach Program and all the other UUCS **Ministries and Outreach Programs** ought to be communicated in as many ways as possible through the newsletter, Sunday Bulletin, web site, and announcements from the pulpit. Phil Carver will talk with the Information and Communications Team. *continued on page 6*

Reverential Ramblings

In August of 2001 my family and I rode the ferry to Ellis Island in New York City Harbor. On the way there we took a picture of my son Zachary on deck against the backdrop of the two monolithic World Trade Towers, little suspecting that just a couple of weeks later those towers would fall and almost three thousand would lie buried in the ruins. Thinking now of that cruel attack I realize yet again that we really never do know what dramatic changes may be about to occur in our world.

Frankly, I hadn't expected much from this visit to Ellis Island, but I now regard it as a treasured national pilgrimage site that can serve to reawaken a vision of the American dream, reminding us that we are a nation dedicated to the ideals of freedom, equality and opportunity for all who come here.

The historical and visual displays showing patterns of immigration over the centuries provide a vivid image of the flow of time and the ongoing evolution of our country; they made me aware that America is still a relatively young nation and that our demographic makeup will continue shifting profoundly until a time in the not too distant future when no one race or ethnicity will dominate. Many fear this change, but it is truly cause for celebration, for our greatest strength lies in our diversity. Imagine: our population will one day represent the peoples of the world more completely than any other nation's!

Much of our current diversity is due to Congressional reform in 1965 that overturned the racially discriminatory immigration policies which had given preference to white northern Europeans. This reform allowed many new immigrants from every continent to land on our shores, and we are the richer for it.

The story of immigration here is one of ongoing drama and conflict. Throughout our history there has always been a struggle between nativists who fear and despise immigrants from new places, whether from Ireland or Eastern and Southern Europe or now from south of our border, and those who believe that America is a land that is called to welcome those who seek a better life for themselves and their loved ones.

Currently there is political unrest concerning immigrants from Mexico who do not have legal status here. This issue has been simmering for years, but now it's reaching a raging boil. Why now? To some degree it's because of widespread anxiety about our weak economy – when the economy goes sour social unrest usually spikes and those most vulnerable are made scapegoats. Then, too, such unrest heats up thanks to politicians and pundits who fuel the fires of fear of inevitable change because it gains them votes and an audience.

Certainly, we need sensible and humane immigration reform to address our current dilemma, but I am distressed by the current levels of fear and bigotry concerning "illegal aliens." This dehumanizing term allows those who toss it around to forget that they are talking about fellow human beings who have hopes and dreams for themselves and their families, just as did our forbears when they came here.

We are living in tense times and many are feeling overwhelmed by alarming predictions of what lies ahead. I understand that. Yet fear too often manifests as hate, anger and intolerance. These are anxious times, and we don't know exactly what's coming tomorrow. Yet if we remember to practice staying centered, calm and compassionate today, we will be better able to respond to whatever tomorrow brings.

Love,
Rick



LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem
August 18, 2010

As many of you probably know by now, I am a dragon boat coach and captain. At one time dragon boating was a major mode of transportation and trade for the Chinese people. Today, it is a competitive sport. It requires focus and team unity to move a dragon boat through the water. At its best it's a graceful, quiet glide through space that exemplifies synchronicity and balance. At its worst, it's a wobbly, splashing, lopsided mess.

When a team is working together to move in the same direction, at the same time, there is less strain on each individual paddler; the boat lifts two to three inches out of the water and skims along the surface like a skipping stone. The boat feels lighter, because there is less resistance from the water around it. Each paddler is relaxed with a quiet mind and heart; focused together on a goal—to finish—and not on individual problems or challenges. There is underlying theory in dragon boating: “leave your troubles and individuality on the dock; they will await your return. We move forward as one.”

We could learn something from this philosophy. Now, before you jump from your chair, sputtering coffee, intent on penning me a sharply worded email about the vital importance of individual thought and morality, I am not advocating a whole-hog abandonment of the things that make us unique. Nor am I saying that we shouldn't follow our own paths and hearts. What I am saying is we need to learn there are times and places for individuality and times and places for setting aside partisanship and egos to fix the problems at hand. Now is the time to move forward with purpose. It is the time to stop debating solutions, to settle on one (even if it's not our first choice) and use that solution to move forward. In essence: we have debated; now we act. It is up to the tiller to adjust course as needed.

This is all much easier said than done, I know. I sometimes fear that our egos have become more precious to us than our well being as a species. I don't think this is unique to Americans, nor is it unique to any political party, religion, or generation. What is unique to this time and place in history is our plentiful amount of leisure, education, and wealth. We have all the tools we need to fix our numerous societal problems. What we need is to recognize that, just as there are many paths to enlightenment, there are also many paths to solving poverty, pollution, and prejudice. But we must decide on one path and move along it together; seeing it through to the end. This means letting go of the self-righteous, ego-driven need to be right—to have our solution or our theory be selected by the masses. It also means we can't stop paddling the boat even when the water gets rough, we are exhausted, or we think we've crossed the finish line.

There are two important rules in dragon boating: keep doing what you are told, until you are told by the people in charge to do something else, and don't argue with your tiller, because she is steering the boat and can see what's on the horizon. This takes a strong tiller, and perhaps that is what we are lacking in America, but I feel more likely it is the fault of the paddlers who are all paddling to their own beat, too intent on their individual goals to see the complete picture. We are rocking our little boat, splashing and wobbling and making little progress toward the finish line because we refuse to hear and heed the calls being issued.

Freedom to make decisions for ourselves about our own lives is vital, but when we take our individuality too far and it impedes our well being as a group, we have violated our own principles as Unitarian Universalists and we are at risk of capsizing our boat.

With Love,
Erin

*Erin Zysett is the RE Assistant and Summer Director,
Amy Beltaine, the Interim DRE, begins this month
Lise Adams Sherry is on sabbatical between August 2010 and June 2011.*

The Unitarian Universalist

published by

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of Salem, Oregon

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This issue was edited by Elsa Struble. NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 11:30 a.m. Sunday, September 5. Send news to editors@uusalem.org (or to Lois Nodland and Elsa Struble), put it in the work-room newsletter "mailbox," or mail it (marked "newsletter") to UUCS.

Current Office Hours

Suzette Moyer is working fewer hours than Rose Drake did. The church office is now open **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Keep Coffee Hour Warm!

If you are willing to serve on the coffee team once every 6-8 weeks, please contact Megan Jensen. The team is asking for a one-year commitment.

Soup Kitchen

Our next soup kitchen is scheduled for **Sunday, August 22**. A donation basket to help defray costs for the commodities and a sign up sheet to work are located at the So-

cial Action Table in Hanneman Fellowship Hall. Please call John T. Maluski, Social Action Team Soup Kitchen Coordinator for more information.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

During July, the congregation hosted four families from the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network day center. Now, this wasn't our normal scheduled hosting week. When I saw a desperate email from Greg at the Day Center to all the hosting churches saying they had a hole in their hosting schedule and no church to take the families, I thought, well on such short notice, I'm sure we won't be able to do much. But it is no surprise that this congregation has a wonderful and caring group of volunteers. I put out an email soliciting for overnight hosts and got enough of a response that we were able to take the families for most of the empty week. The families stayed two extra days at the previous church and then spent the remaining nights with our congregation. I know several of our members also took meals over to the day center, as dinners were not hosted on site. I want to thank the volunteers who gave their time on such short notice to help out the SIHN program, especially when it really needed it. Thank you goes out to: George and Elsa Struble, Eugenia Becker, John Roy Wilson, John Maluski, Deann Rathbun, and Crystal and Justin Areal. Also a big thanks goes to Chris McDonald for coordinating meals at the day center, and to the members of the congregation who provided dinners. The day center was so grateful and could not express just how much our congregation had come through for them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce that our scheduled week is coming up September 5th-12th. We need dinner preparers, evening hosts, and overnight hosts to prepare food, spend time with the families and sleep at the church. Please contact me if you would like to sign up for a volunteer slot or have any questions. Thanks to everyone in the congregation for their continuing support of this program. –

Miranda Wood



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem (UUCS)

A free faith tradition in which diversity of views is honored

**5090 Center Street NE, Salem, OR 97317
(503) 364-0932**

NEW RECOVERY MEETING IN SALEM **Wednesday Evenings 7pm** **Starting September 1, 2010**

A Unitarian Universalist Spiritual Approach To Addiction Recovery

- ***Are you interested in seeking spirituality?***
- ***Are you seeking a place to learn and grow in a peaceful, open-minded and enriching environment?***
- ***Is your current recovery in need of rearranging or in need of something fresh?***

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem (UUCS) is sponsoring a recovery approach that uses the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism to illuminate the concepts behind the Twelve Steps of recovery. This is a free faith alternative to other recovery approaches. All are welcome and wanted, both people with addictions of any kind and family members of people with addictions.

Minutes Summary, continued from page 1

An extensive discussion of the content and function of the UUCS **Leadership List** led to an understanding that the list will be redrafted by Rev. Rick and Phil Carver and reviewed by the Board through an email process before the next Board meeting.

It was agreed that the article “*Visions of the Sacred*” should become a resource for the developing Discernment Process.

In answer to a question regarding presentations at church by **political candidates**, it was reported that care must be taken to avoid conflict with rules governing 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations. Candidates may be invited to be present at forums if all candidates for an office are invited, but the congregation must not favor one candidate over another.

Dates to Remember:

- Friday-Saturday, Sept. 10-11 – Board Retreat
- Saturday, Sept. 18 – Leadership Training
- Monday, Sept. 27 – Leadership Dinner
- Sunday, Oct. 3 – Volunteer Opportunity Fair

[The proposal for the Fundraising Strategy for the Microfinance Committee, the Treasurer’s Report, and the Minister’s Report can be found in the UUCS Office.]

Laura Stine, Secretary

* * * * *

Teacher Orientation

The annual required Teacher Orientation will be held Saturday, August 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. We’ll play games, learn how to keep ourselves and our charges safe, eat some snacks, share our ideas, get our curricula, and make our own teaching schedules for the year (don’t forget your calendars!). We’ll also get to know our 2010-11 RE staff, Amy Beltaine and Erin Zysett, and one another a little better. Come join our community! We still have some teaching positions

open, so please contact Erin if you’re interested.

Landscaping

Our next work party will be held on **Saturday, August 28** (the fourth Saturday, not the third) from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There will be refreshments. We will need many hands and arms to gather all the yard debris into one area so that when we rent a chipper, it will be easier to get to all of it.

We also need someone who has experience with laying water pipes for our **sprinkler system** around the parking lot. Something has happened to our system and it is not working. Bill Sea has taken care of it for years but is unable to do it this year. If you could help us with that, please let us know. For more information, please call me or Iris Sea.

Sharon Dearman

More Volunteer Opportunities

Religious Education: Erin Zysett needs to fill a few more summer RE shifts. Also, there are some positions still vacant for 2010-11.

Souper Sunday: Christi Olsen is looking for teams, committees, or individuals to take charge of some last-Sunday-of-the-month soup preparation and clean-up, so that our recently started fourth-Sunday lunch time “tradition” may continue. Many hands will make light work!

Painters: George Struble says he’d welcome a couple more painters who don’t mind ladders Friday and Saturday mornings (August 20 and 21), and perhaps Sunday afternoon, August 22.

Meditation Group

Buddhist meditation teacher Lee Ann Nail is now joining with our own meditation group once a month, on **September 8**, October 6, and November 3. She will provide beginning meditation instructions for

newcomers and also be available to provide guidance to other meditators who seek it. Please join us and find the peace and calm that is available to all who seek it.

Rick Davis

Keep off the Floor

Hanneman Fellowship Hall is scheduled for refinishing **August 23 – 28** and cannot be used during that week.

"Thank you" to our musicians

Thanks, Jerry and Mary Bray, for coordinating music for our services over the summer. Nobody will ever know the hours and attention to detail this task required; you have done it well and thoughtfully. And belated thanks to Don Fries and Lynn Cardif, who did this job in 2009 but weren't recognized in the newsletter. We are grateful!

Thanks also to all the people who "performed" during our services, during the summer and throughout the year. I'm going to forget some of them, but here's a partial list: Alma, Barbara, Barry, David, George, Janet, JohnRoy, Loraine, Noah, Sara, the Senataires, Ted, Virginia, Walt, Zachary,

And, of course, there's the choir, our really, really good choir: April, Andrea, Barbara, Barry, Cathy, Cheryl, Claudia, David, Dennis, Don, Elsa, Gerry, Janet N. Janet S., Jerry, Jill, Joel, John, John Roy, Loraine, Lynn, Mary, Mieke, Susan, and sometimes Beth, Erica, Jean, JoAnn, Jon, Kelli, Miranda, Suzanne, and others. And the Children's Choir, and Sara again.

Thanks to you all. I love it and I really appreciate it. We are all grateful for your time and effort and for your beautiful music.

David Boaz

Thanks from PNUU

UUCS has received thanks from the Pacific Northwest UU Growth Foundation for the \$146 in our special collection that we donated to the Hewett-Hopper-Raible Internship Fund, which helps support ministerial students during their internships.

Kids' Art Class

Registration is now open for the 2010-2011 Kids' Art Class. The class is sponsored by the Homeschool Outreach Program and taught by local artist Richard Fenwick. The class will run from September through May, concluding with an art exhibition to showcase the kids' work. Public school students are welcome!! For more information, please contact ...

Samantha Scales

Want a Week in Hawaii?

It's sunny and warm here now, but in November or December Hawaii could be a nice escape. The Strubles have a timeshare week at the Waikoloa Bay Club, near Kona on the big island; it can be yours to schedule and use sometime in the rest of 2010. It's a one-bedroom unit in a comfortable resort near the beach; a good sofa bed in the living room makes the maximum capacity four people. Highest offer over \$500, **payable to UUCS**, gets the week. Place your bids with Strubles by September 10. The offer does *not* include airfare or the needed rental car. Besides more info from Strubles, you can get reviews from the Nicholson-Nelsons, who bought the Strubles' week at the UUCS auction three years ago.

Foster Parent Night Out

UUCS participates in this unique program, in which local congregations cooperate with Department of Human Services (DHS) to offer foster parents an evening "off duty" once a month. We are one of nine programs operating in the county, and have been in operation for nearly two years.

On August 9, UUCS hosted 24 children from six local foster families. The weather cooperated perfectly, allowing the children to remain outdoors to build cardboard "houses", and to thoroughly enjoy themselves being active and noisy. Pizza, salad, and popsicles were consumed by the two toddlers, eight preschoolers, and 14 school aged children. The older children enjoyed painting T-shirts to take home, and the younger children enjoyed a lesson about butterflies led by the Gilbert

House volunteer. Our UUCS volunteers were Janet Neuberg, Charles Hannegan, Joan and Jim Stembridge, Jackie and Ed Klimowicz, Keith York, Laura Stine, Ruth Larsen, Kim Trumbo, Heather Collee, and Tom Lancefield. Volunteering from Temple Beth Shalom were Randy Fishfader and Abbey Vanderbeek. Anyone interested in learning more about the Foster Parent Night Out program please contact Janet Neuberg.

Marion-Polk Food Share

A total of 1,402 pounds of food was donated at UUCS from January 1, 2010 through June 30. Cash contributions over this same period were \$1,660.00. The estimated cash-equivalent donations for HOAP (Homeless Outreach Advocacy Project) totalled about \$80.00. Your generous food and monetary contributions are greatly appreciated.

Dick Boyle, Co-Chair,
Social Action Team

Life Lines

Life Lines Lay Ministry members are always available to help in any way they can. Look for the people with the lavender badges. Visit the table with the lavender cloth on the first Sunday of the month for conversation and information. To leave a confidential message, call the church and a Life Lines member will return your call.

Auburn School Outreach

Once again you have the opportunity to make a real difference in the reading ability of students at Auburn Elementary school, by volunteering to spend 1-2 hours a week helping students with their reading comprehension and vocabulary.

If you are interested in volunteering, the first step is to get your background check in. There are forms in the church office (in the tray to the left of the mailboxes). Or go to <http://www.salkeiz.k12.or.us/content/list-approved-volunteers>

Your background check is good for three years. If you think you might already have

Auburn School Supplies Needed

Backpacks (sturdy)
Calculator (small cheap ones OK)
Crayons, box crayons (24 or 48 pk)
Erasers, Pink pearl erasers
Glue, container liquid glue (4oz)
Glue sticks
Kleenex, box facial tissue
Notebook, Composition notebooks
Notebook, Composition notebooks-"Draft Book"
Notebook, side spiral notebooks (1 subject)
Paper, ream white copy paper
Paper, Pkg. standard notebook paper (wide ruled)
Pencils, box colored pencils
Pencils, #2 yellow - no mechanical pencils
Pens, Ball-point pens (blue or black)
Scissors, student scissors
Scissors, safety scissors

Bring to Church By August 29, 2010

one on file, contact Salem-Keizer School District Volunteer Coordinator Kathy Holt.

Take your completed background check to Auburn school office, 4612 Auburn Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301, (503) 399-3128. They will send it in. It takes about three weeks to process, and then you can be scheduled to work with the kids. Just keep in touch with the school until you are scheduled.

We are now collecting school supplies and clothing for children grades K-5. Please see the above list of school supplies needed. You may bring the school supplies and clothing to the church between now and August 29. This is a great time to buy school supplies!

Questions about Auburn School Outreach? Contact UUCS Affiliated Community Minister Rev. Connie Yost.

News of the UUCS Community

John Roy Wilson and the mural he is creating at the School for the Deaf, where he taught for 25 years, were featured on the front page of the August 14 *Statesman Journal*. He earlier made a sculpture for the school. UUCS knows him as a singer and actor—and congratulates him on these further accomplishments!

Richard and **Betsy Scott** recently returned from a “wander” around central and northern California. In Mariposa, the heart of the gold country, they attended a reunion of descendants of Betsy’s third great-grandparents, and Betsy did geneological research there as well as at the California State Archives in Sacramento. Richard devoted an entire day to the California State Railroad Museum, rode the Yosemite-Sugar Pine Railroad, and drove a diesel locomotive for a memorable hour at the Western Pacific Railroad Museum in Portola. En route home, they visited Tule Lake and the site of the WW II internment camp where over 18,000 Japanese-American citizens were interned.

Earlier this month **Jo Bateman** took a whirlwind tour of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, including two days in Canada’s Waterton Lakes area. The tour group’s 30 enthusiastic members, including many Capitol Manor residents, travelled by air, train, and the park’s inimitable red surreys. The return trip brought them westward via Seattle. Ask Jo or Kay Young about tours organized by Sylvia, a favorite of theirs.

Dick and **Margaret Boyle** practically had tickets in hand for yet another trip to Norway, which always includes visiting Margaret’s first cousins, but this trip was not to be. On July 2, Dick became ill, felt too weak to move and was transported to Salem Hospital, where physicians diagnosed dehydration as well as a urinary tract infection and a small kidney stone. A stent was then installed to prevent sepsis, and a few days ago Dick had two stones removed.

We should all avoid dehydration during this summer heat; Dick and Margaret have learned that diabetics are susceptible to urinary tract infections and should be especially conscientious about being fully hydrated!

George and **Elsa Struble** have had a busy summer, beginning with a May Elderhostel in the Canadian Rockies, followed by a family gathering in Pennsylvania. Recently their three children and two grandchildren were in Oregon for a couple weeks. In between, George attended chamber music workshops in Ashland and Arcata, CA, and a stamp show in Minneapolis!

Word has come from former UUCS member and now ordained UU minister **Angela Herrera**, who begins her first ministerial assignment this week in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She writes, “We’ve arrived in Albuquerque after a fun, week-long drive through the South and are settling into our beautiful home which we’re renting from a parishioner who is abroad for a year. It’s adobe, with naturally-landscaped yard filled with cacti, flowers, and desert grasses. What a contrast to our second story Cambridge, Massachusetts apartment!” Angela’s husband, Carlos, continues to look locally for work, though he is also working on contract for Harvard Business School for the next few months.

Condolences to **Marion** and **Sharon Dearman** at the recent death of Marion’s brother Clyde, in Oklahoma.

Mary Ann Kaestner was here for a three-week visit this summer.

When the anticipated financial aid did not materialize for **Nicholas Brownson**, Cherie Ulmer’s youngest son, to attend an eastern college’s theater arts and music program, he accepted the reality with the same energy and enthusiasm he’s taken to other theater opportunities. He’s been cast in the semi-professional Seattle Musical Theater’s “Camelot” as a member of the ensemble and is staying in Seattle with friends while looking for more work. If you’re in the area, “Camelot” opens September 10 and runs through October 2.

Correction to a paragraph in the July issue: The social justice conference Lee Coyne, John Roy Wilson, and Loraine Stuart attended at Seabeck Conference Center was organized by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, not by a UU group.

If you're willing to share news of your summer travel adventures or other joys and concerns in your life, please contact me.

Joan Erickson

Outside Events

Interfaith Peace Festival

This festival will take place on Saturday, August 21, at 10:30 a.m at Unity of Salem, 1777 Fabry Road SE. For information, go to www.interfaithpeacefestival.com.

Confluence Chorus

Congratulations to Confluence Chorus, the premier Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered (and Straight) chorus in the Willamette Valley, on their tenth anniversary. They will kick off their Anniversary Tour September 24 here at UUCS, which has been a supporter from the beginning. They need some help organizing the concert: Rev. Rick asks that volunteers leave messages on the office voice mail or email him. (Rick is on sabbatical in August.)

* * * * *

No Left Turns

(Thanks to Mary Sohlstrom and her son David, who forwarded the story by newsman Michael Gartner from which the following is excerpted.)

My father never drove a car. Well, that's not quite right. I should say I never saw him drive a car. He quit driving in 1927, when he was 25 years old. "In those days," he told me when he was in his 90s, "to drive a car you had to do things with your hands, and do things with your feet, and look every which way, and I decided you could walk through life and enjoy it or drive through life and miss it." My mother added that he had once hit a horse.

When my older brother turned 16 in 1951, my parents bought a used 1950 Chevrolet. It more or less became my brother's car, but the next year my mother, when she was 43 years old, decided to learn to drive. For the next 45 years or so, until she was 90, my mother was the driver in the family. Neither she nor my father had any sense of direction, but he loaded up on maps -- though they seldom left the city limits -- and appointed himself navigator. It seemed to work.

Once, when he was 95 and she was 88 and still driving, he said to me, "Do you want to know the secret of a long life? No left turns. Several years ago, your mother and I read an article that said most accidents that old people are in happen when they turn left in front of oncoming traffic. As you get older, your eyesight worsens, and you can lose your depth perception, it said. So your mother and I decided never again to make a left turn. Think about it. Three rights are the same as a left, and that's a lot safer. So we always make three rights."

"You're kidding!" I said, and I turned to my mother for support.

"No," she said, "your father is right. We make three rights. It works." But then she added: "Except when your father loses count."

"Yes," my father admitted, "that sometimes happens. But it's not a problem. You just make seven rights, and you're okay again." I couldn't resist asking if they ever went for 11. "No," he said "If we miss it at seven, we just come home and call it a bad day. Besides, nothing in life is so important it can't be put off another day or another week."

SUNDAY SERVICE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

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

Sunday, August 22

The Noose of Child Abuse

Holly Williams

Holly Williams interviews children at Liberty House, a nonprofit organization specializing in the assessment and prevention of child abuse. She will describe how staff members help ease children's pain, as well as what the signs of abuse are. We all have a share in rolling back its impact.

Sunday, August 29

Poverty and Ethnicity: Wake-Up Call

Miguel Loredano-Reyes

Poverty/hunger/lack of work are grim, and kids may have it worst of all. This Department of Human Services caseworker, an outspoken human rights advocate, asks us to join in finding viable solutions.

Sunday, September 5

Dealing With Bullies

The Reverend Richard R. Davis

It's Labor Day weekend. Next week many will come off vacation to go back to school and work, and too often some will have to deal with bullies, whether they are fellow students or fellow employees or bosses. Then, too, there are bullies in so many other realms of life. How can we deal with them and keep our values intact?

Sunday, September 12

Our Annual Water Communion Sunday

Rick Davis' homily is titled "On Having Courage." Amy Beltaine, Interim Director of Religious Education, and celebrant/anchors Tim Patterson and Pam Prichard will also participate in the service.

Bring a small vial or container of Water that symbolizes something meaningful in your life – perhaps water from a river or ocean from recent travel, or water from a nearby lake or stream you love, or water from a well or your own faucet. The water you bring symbolizes your unique presence in our community. On this Sunday we will mix our waters together during our Annual Water Communion Ceremony.

Sunday, September 19

Author and activist Naseem Rakha will speak

(Rev. Rick will be speaking at our covenanting congregation The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of McMinnville, OR)

Sunday, September 25

"A Brief History of Sin"

The Reverend Richard R. Davis

"Sin" is not a word we use around here very often – except in jest. That's because we have a problem with the whole idea as it has come down to us. What, if any, use do we have for sin?

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

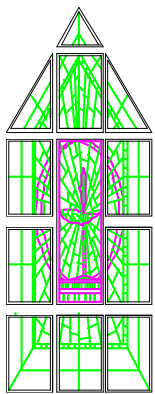
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THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

August 18, 2010

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Permit No. 10
Salem, Oregon

UUCS Calendar



- Wednesday, August 18 UU Meditation, 7:00 p.m. (**every** Wednesday)
 Chat & Craft, 7:00 p.m. (**1st & 3rd** Wednesdays)
- Thursday, August 19 Dances of Universal Peace, 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, August 22 Soup Kitchen at St. Mark's, 12:30 p.m.
- Monday, 8/23-Saturday, 8/28 Fellowship Hall off limits: floor refinished
- Saturday, August 28 Landscape Work Party, 9:00 a.m.
 RE Teacher Orientation, 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, September 1 Addiction Recovery Ministry, 6:30 p.m.
 UU Meditation, 7:00 p.m.
 Chat & Craft, 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 5 Next Newsletter Deadline, 11:30 a.m.
- Sunday, 9/5-Sunday, 9/12 SIHN, evenings and nights
- Monday, September 6 Labor Day: office closed
- Tuesday, September 7 Social Action Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 8 Addiction Recovery Ministry, 6:30 p.m.
 UU Meditation, with Lee Ann Nail, 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 9 Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.