

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

*The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Salem, Oregon
October 3, 2007*



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Addiction Recovery Ministry Support

The Board has approved a new lay-led ministry starting September 30. This ministry, called Addiction Recovery Ministry Support (ARMS), is focused on providing support to members of the congregation struggling with addictions of all kinds (alcohol, drugs, gambling, sex, etc.) and their families and friends. The members of the group will provide advice, information and support, but NOT treatment, on a strictly confidential basis. A support group open to addicts, families and friends will start meeting twice a month at the church 7 to 8 p.m. on October 8. The ministry group is looking for more members. Currently the group consists of Bill Devery, Julia Brown, Eric Everson, Barbara Joque and Mike Becker. Our mission statement is:

- Affirming their worth and dignity as human beings and their right to health, wholeness, hope, and a fulfilling productive life, ARMS, a lay ministry of the UUCS, is committed to helping people with addiction and supporting those affected by addiction with respect and caring.
- ARMS will strive to reduce the stigma attached to addiction and the people it touches and to respond to affected people in ways that ease their feelings of frustration, shame, and guilt and the barriers to recovery.
- To these ends, ARMS will devote itself to the ongoing process of providing resources for awareness, education, prevention, and treatment options.

ARMS members will commit their time, caring, and non-judgmental attention to people with addictions, and those affected by addiction, seeking help, educating themselves and being prepared to listen to and assist them in finding help in their struggles.

Michael K. Becker

This issue was edited by Kathleen Ehli and Lois Nodland. NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 11:30 a.m. October 14. Send news to editors@uusalem.org put it in workroom newsletter "mailbox," or mail it (marked "newsletter") to church.

Reverential Ramblings

Recently about one hundred Christian churches and organizations in Salem banded together to put on a weekend event — “Riverfest” — in Riverfront Park downtown. (It’s interesting to peruse the list of sponsors and note which Christian churches did not participate — possibly for similar reasons as I state below) I had no direct experience of the event, and thus, comment upon it with some caution. Yet this event did stir up some mixed emotions in me, so here goes.

Before Riverfest a couple of ministers supporting the event wrote in the *Statesman-Journal* about their outreach ministries to homeless and directionless youth downtown and about the establishment of a medical clinic in West Salem. I was touched and inspired by this, and it prompted me to wonder about our own calling to serve our community. We do serve the hungry and homeless, but aren’t there other opportunities to serve calling out to us? I think so. Perhaps you do, too, and I’d love to hear your ideas. (This year I will be attending several events to learn more about poverty in our state and our community and how religious communities can respond. More on this later.)

The primary purpose of Riverfest, according to promotional material, was to “reach the Mid-Valley with the good news of Jesus Christ.” Food and family entertainment was offered to draw folks in. And they did draw people in — 60,000 plus according to estimates, and 1,000 converts were said to have found Christ.

Now I appreciate people who want to share the message of a faith that gives their own life meaning and purpose. In fact, I do this on a regular basis. But sharing one’s faith in an appropriate manner requires a good deal of sensitivity and awareness that I fear is all too often lacking. Too many who do share their faith with others believe that they and their fellow believers have a monopoly on the truth, that anyone who disagrees with them or has alternative views is, ipso facto, wrong and needs to be converted. Any possibility that the other person’s faith tradition or philosophical orientation might also be truly meaningful is thus dismissed out of hand.

If those who held Riverfest were of this mind — and I daresay at least some were — then I have a concern about this. Why? Because they used what is generally a public space (albeit under a rental agreement) for an implicitly non-inclusive event. Perhaps the organizers would counter and say that anyone and everyone was welcome at Riverfest, but how welcome could someone of another faith have felt at an event whose promoters do not consider theirs a true faith? We need to realize that America is the most religiously pluralistic country in the world, and people of many faiths live here in Salem. Or how welcome could gays, lesbians and bisexuals feel at an event sponsored by those whose churches exclude them from full participation?

So, to me, this event seems to be yet another instance of religious hegemonism in which one tradition, by virtue of superior numbers and resources, is able to dominate a public arena. Perhaps, in the balance, Riverfest was a positive event for our community — who could say? But I do have these concerns.

Not surprisingly, our congregation received no invitation from organizers for participation in this event — perhaps because ours is not considered a true faith. Yet I do dream of a day when all people of faith can meet on common ground here, engage in mutually enriching dialogue, affirm our own faiths without feeling compelled to negate another’s, learn from one another, and join together in bringing more love, compassion and justice into our hurting community.

*(P.S. – I am considering submitting some version of these thoughts as an editorial to the **Statesman Journal**, but wonder if they are too inflammatory given our religiously volatile climate, and thus might create more heat than light. What do you think? I would like your feedback on this in the next few days.)*

Love, Rick

Thoughts from the Board Chair

Dear Fellow UUCS members,

Here's a special thanks to those of you who attended and sat through our congregational meeting on September 30th. While I appreciate the role of minutes, they generally report decisions and do not reflect the meaty discussion or the complexity of the conversation. I want to take this opportunity to do that.

Important issues were raised. We were reminded of the value of "hearing the whole story." While members were invited to respond to the presentation in favor on Measure 49 on September 23rd, there were no speakers to present the opposite view. This was the primary concern that led to the motion to delay a vote on whether we would take a stance on this measure. We expect to have opponents to Ballot Measure 47 available for conversation after our service on October 7th. Members in attendance noted that clarification regarding what it means to "take a stance" is necessary. Does this mean that we put up signs, contribute money, make phone calls to members, use our facility, etc?

People began to ask questions about what guides us in deciding whether to take a congregational stance on a political measure or cause. What is our role as a liberal religious community within a political society? How do we speak to what matters to us (as individuals, as a community) without alienating others?

As is often the case, our convoluted, sometimes frustrating conversation did appear to generate some thoughtful and creative ideas. One member (who happens to live in my house) suggested that it might benefit us to separate specific political issues from our conversation about process. For instance, we could have a short series of conversations in February to explore what it means to take a stance as a congregation. What would guide us in doing so? Our current policy says that we can take a stance if we vote on it. But I think that many of us noticed today that it's not that simple. Do we really want to take a congregational stance on something if we know that 40% of our fellow congregants disagree with the issue? Do we want to open ourselves to voting on every other political issue? Is there something about certain issues that calls us to respond as a liberal religious community?

These are important questions to ponder. It is my hope that we will make the opportunity this winter to gather as conscientious and caring community members in a discussion focused on listening, learning and discerning. Conversations of this sort might help us to clarify what will guide our response when faced with issues that are certain to emerge in the 2008 election cycle. What do you think?

As it stands now, we are scheduled to meet after Sunday services on October 21st to determine if we want to take a stance on Measure 49 as a congregation. In the meantime, take advantage of opportunities to learn more about the measure. I also encourage to you consider the questions posed above.

I appreciate the support that I continue to get in my role as Board Chair, and I encourage each of you to be actively engaged in the conversations that shape who we are and what we do.

Thoughtfully,
Diana

Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting September 30, 2007

The special congregational meeting was called for September 30, 2007, by an electronic vote of the board on September 2, for the purpose of voting on supporting Ballot Measure 49.

(Continued on page 4)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Diana Nicholson-Nelson. The Chair announced that the required quorum (25 percent of the membership) was present.

Motion: It was moved and seconded “to delay voting on Measure 49 until we hear the other side.” The motion passed on a vote of 43 yes to 13 no.

Quorum: The question was raised whether a quorum was still present. It was determined that a quorum was not present, meaning that no further business could be transacted.

The meeting was therefore adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Phil Cogswell, secretary*

* * * * *

Church Staffing Report

We would really like a more consistent way to meet the needs of our congregation. A solution that provides continuity, and some assurance that these things will be handled in a timely and businesslike manner. We would also like to do more outreach into the community.

We are tremendously blessed in the dedication and talent of our volunteers, but particularly in those of our paid staff, including and especially Rose Drake who is our office. She has responded cheerfully and willingly to the many varied tasks that have been put before her. But the needs of the congregation and the facility keep growing. And growing.

The board asked a committee to look at this problem and suggest some solutions. This one-time special focus committee consisted of Vicki Cunningham, Phil Cogswell, David Boaz, Chuck Howard, Rev. Rick Davis, and Diana Nicholson-Nelson. We wanted to think ahead, and as opportunities arrive, have a context to move ahead.

We talked about and around the concerns we had, and came up with a plan. We proposed it to the board,

Here is the proposed plan. It has two phases.

Phase 1.

- Hire a part-time Church administrator, in effect a business manager, who would report to the minister.
- Create a more clerical/secretarial support position, also part-time.
- Establish an event coordinator
- Recreate the custodian/minor maintenance position

Phase 2 is very nebulous, but would include a recognition of our needs for

- More Religious Education staff
- More ministerial staff
- More music

The Board approved the concept of Phase 1 but wanted, and all of us on the committee wanted, more input from more of the congregation.

Again, this is only a concept. It needs careful consideration and filling in the details.

We are looking for your thoughtful response. We hope to have a meeting within one month, right after a church service, where you can respond in person, or you can email us.

What kind of staffing will help us meet the needs of our congregation?

*Vicki Cunningham,
for the Staffing Committee*

Women's Alliance

Looking for an evening of fun and fellowship? All women are invited to attend the first Women's Alliance meeting of the year. Come join us on **Thursday, October 4** at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Our featured speaker will be Ruth Larson.

Catherine Carlson

Elevator Speech Class

On **Sunday, October 7**, any member or friend is welcome to join Rick in his office after the service for a "Stand on One Leg Elevator Speech Class" in which participants will write their own short speeches describing Unitarian Universalism in their own words.

Salem Peace Lecture

The annual Peace Lecture, of which UUCS is a co-sponsor, will feature David C. Korten, who will speak about his book *The Great Turning: For Empire to Earth Community* at 7:30 p.m. **Wednesday, October 10** at Willamette University. The talk will be in Hudson Hall of the Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center and is open to the public at no charge. David is also the board chair and co-founder of Positive Futures Network, which publishes *Yes! Magazine*. His talk at the Portland UUA General Assembly was well received.

John Roy Wilson will be honored at the Salem Peace Lecture as this year's recipient of the Salem Peacemaker Award.

David Korten also will speak at Willamette University's Convocation on **Thursday, October 11** at Cone Chapel from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The convocation likewise is free and open to the public.

*Phil Carver
Dick Boyle, Social Action Team co-chair*

Moving Help Needed

New UU transplant **Victoria Leo** needs help unloading her stuff, probably on the weekend of **October 13**. She is a Life Coach who includes workbooks, seminars and coaching on her business card. She is moving here from the east coast and visited UUCS when she came to Salem to find housing. There is just one small truck load but she has physical limitations and can't do it all solo. Pizza, free reiki sessions for helpers; cash limited, but possible.

Notice for Newcomers to UUCS

If you are a newcomer to the Salem Congregation, you are invited to learn more about Unitarian Universalism on **Sunday, October 14**. After the service, Reverend Rick Davis and the Membership Team will host an hour-long mini-orientation class in the Sanctuary. In this first class, we will explore the development of Unitarian Universalism and its seven guiding principles. On November 4, there will be a Path to Membership class for those considering joining the Salem Congregation. Childcare is provided.

The Membership Team

Thinking on Paper

The new adult education class, Thinking on Paper, is still open to new members. Anyone interested in writing a memoir, essay, journal, spiritual odyssey, etc. is welcome. It meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is at 1 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 16** in the library at the church.

UUCS Landscape Work Parties

Our work parties meet the third Saturday of each month, and the next work party will take place on **Saturday, October 20** from 9:00 a.m. to noon. No need to call us; just show up. We hope you can find time in your busy schedules to join us. If you would like more information, please call Sharon Dearman or Iriis Sea.

Sharon Dearman

Pathfinders Circle Continues

Come and join a monthly circle of folks who want to expand their understanding and consciousness about UU principles and practice. Whether you are a newcomer, or have already come to UUCS for a year or more, you are welcome.

We will meet in the sanctuary after the service (around 12 noon) on **October 21**, November 18, and December 16 — usually the 3rd Sunday of the month

Petra S. Berger

UUCS Pagans

Crystal Wheeler has invited us to join other pagans at her home for a full moon ritual on **Friday, October 26** at 8 p.m. It's a potluck, so bring something to share.

Kate Walker

Meditation Group News

The mediation group has adopted a new name reflecting the inspiration we draw from both Buddhist and Unitarian Universalist traditions. It is "Compassionate Mind Unitarian Universalist Sangha of Salem, Oregon." We are also joining the national UU Buddhist Fellowship.

Seeking Events Liaison

Serves as Church's representative with parties renting Church facilities. Work is part-time and intermittent. It requires presence at the Church before, during, and after events put on by renters to ensure proper coordination and respectful use of the facilities. Must have own transportation. Most work will be nights and weekends. Pay is \$20/hour. For full consideration please submit a letter of interest and résumé to the Church office no later than **October 12**.

*Karen Piter for the
Personnel Committee*

The Poetic Journey

Explore what resonates in your own imagination and spiritual development through selected poetry. DeAnn Rathbun will lead the group and is trained in applied poetry facilitation. The group will meet the third Monday of the month. The next meeting is on October 17th in the UUCS library

Readers' Forum

The UUCS fall session of the Readers' Forum is meeting at 9:15 a.m. Please join us **each Sunday before church** in Hanneman Hall for coffee and discussion. The conversation is lively and far-ranging, so even if you haven't read the week's selection, you'll still fit right in.

Karen Armstrong's *The Battle for God: A History of Fundamentalism* guides us in an examination of how and why fundamentalism began, and what fuels it today. Armstrong follows the development of fundamentalist impulses in Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, as a response to the development of rationalism and modernity.

For more about the book, see the NY Times review by Chris Hedges, at: www.nytimes.com/books/00/03/26/reviews/000326.26hedgest.html

from *Don Wolf*

Thanks to Summer Musicians

Somebody needs to say, "Thanks, it was wonderful" to the people who provided the special music for our Sunday services over the summer. Over and over in our transition and planning surveys and discussions, people have said the music is one of the really good things about our congregation. Here are some of the people who make that happen, in the summer and at other times:

Susanna Gardner, Miles Brownson, and Jean Logan, singers and guitarists; Cheryl Randall, Barbara Stebbins-Boaz, John Roy Wilson, Jill Baker, and Dennis Ehrp, vocalists; Eric Valentine, Sara Greenleaf, Alma Marianos, Loraine Stuart, Zachary Gulaboff-Davis, Virginia Corrie-Cozart, pianists; George Struble and Noah Seitz, cellists; Walt Lawry and Ben Nicholson-Nelson, guitarists; and Christinanna Hannegan and Janet Neuburg, harpists.

We have great musicians all year, but these folks have gone the extra summertime mile. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Elsa Struble

Are you aware that Elsa Struble has co-edited our Unitarian Universalist newsletter since mid 2003? Neither was I until I dug through my newsletter files. Four years is a long time. Not only has she co-edited, but she has proofed my work, printed the newsletter on Mondays and coordinated volunteers who help with the mailing of up to 365 copies on Tuesday mornings. (Thank you to all those volunteers!)

At the May 2007 congregational meeting, UUCS members elected Elsa Struble treasurer of the UUCS Board, a position that requires a great deal of time, effort and dedication. Unfortunately, she has indicated that she has to give up some of her newsletter tasks. Which of the tasks she will give up is not yet clear, but a replacement has been found to help with editing.

That replacement person is Kathleen Ehli who moved from Eugene to Salem in 2005. She became a member of UUCS in March of this year. Kathleen's many interests include writing and editing on Wikipedia. She is a humanities graduate of the U of O, has worked as a baker and as a copy editor on the staff of the Legislature. She currently works as an office specialist for the State of Oregon and is thinking of returning to school.

Thank you again, Elsa, for your continuing contributions to the newsletter – and welcome, Kathleen. We appreciate both of you.

Lois Nodland, Co-editor

SIHN Music Night

The interfaith community turned out well for the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network program at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, and Dennis Ehrp was a sensation, as usual. The event raised \$4400, including a 50 percent match from a Lutheran group.

Loraine Stuart

UUCS Auction, November 17

Thanks to those who have contacted Lois Nodland to donate auction items or to volunteer to work at the auction while UUCS Auction Chair George Struble is out of town. Contribution forms will be available at a table in the Fellowship Hall after church services.

Suggestions about what kinds of things you can donate to the auction can be found in the September 19 UUCS Newsletter at our website at uusalem.org.

Volunteers are needed to help provide hors d'œuvres, cakes, pies, and/or cookies for the auction on **November 17**. Snack food is always a crowd-pleaser! Please call one of the co-chairs listed below. If you don't call them, they might call you!!

*Pam Williams
Sharon Dearman
Sandra Meredith*

UU English Teacher Program

Entering its eleventh year, the English instruction program in Transylvania supports English language teaching for Unitarian ministry students at the Protestant Theological Institute in Cluj/Kolozsvár, Romania.

The program is sponsored and administered by Meadville Lombard Theological School and is partially funded by the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council. Meadville Lombard is seeking a half-time, permanent English Teacher/Coordinator to ensure English language proficiency among Unitarian ministerial students. S/he will also work with ministerial interns from North America who will assist in the work. An ideal candidate will either be a native speaker of English or a non-native speaker who has studied the language at the highest level possible.

This candidate should have several years' experience teaching, have excellent communication skills and be able to delegate responsibilities effectively. The position opens January 2008. Review of applications will begin immediately and will be considered until October 31, 2007. For more information or to apply, please send a letter of interest and a CV to Steven Mitchell at smitchell@meadville.edu. More information is available at www.meadville.edu.

UUCS Soup Kitchen Coordinator Needed!

I regretfully announce that due to being overextended with my work and family I find that I am no longer able to serve as the Soup Kitchen Coordinator for our congregation.

I've loved being the Soup Kitchen Coordinator because it allowed me to directly help people. It's an immediate reward for me because unlike sending in a check and not really knowing where my donation goes, I can experience a feeling like no other; handing a bowl of delicious hot soup (or two or three) to a hungry person.

The homemade soup is much appreciated and all of the volunteers from our church are so willing to do whatever is needed to help things run smoothly. It gives me great pleasure to circulate around the room, talk to the people, and hear their stories.

One of the reasons I sought out the UU church was to become involved in feeding the hungry. Our soup kitchen has been exactly the venue I wanted to help those in need. I will continue to volunteer as I've found the experience so fulfilling.

However, now I am looking for someone to take over the role of Soup Kitchen Coordinator. You'll be glad you did!

Need information? Call Shelley Kennen or former coordinator Dennis Ehrp.

Thank you,
Shelley Kennen

News of the UUCS Community

Not having heard from **CM Hall** for many months, we inquired and were delighted to read her replies to our queries. Clearly, congratulations are in order! She's finishing her Master's degree at OSU this fall in College Student Services Administration with an emphasis in lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender student services. She completed the studies in record time and just received word that she'd been awarded scholarships from two LGBT organizations! While in the OSU program, she also worked at Western Oregon University as staff ASL interpreter, and now continues to work at WOU on a federal grant promoting the field of sign language interpreting. This job comes with much nationwide travel, coordinating projects for eleven western states and territories.

Still the staunch and loyal UU, CM also continues her UUA volunteering, this summer in Louisiana training UU Youth Advisors in that district.

But the summer's high point was the proposal of marriage to girlfriend Kendra, and planning a wedding for sometime next year! Kendra will move to Oregon by month's end and, utilizing her Master of Social Work degree, hope to obtain employment in the state's foster care system. If all of that isn't enough to make us breathless, CM will run for the second time in the Portland Marathon this coming weekend!

The Brownson brothers are the sons of **Cherie Ulmer** and former UUCS member **Jeff Brownson**. **Galen** began classes last month at Western Oregon University and reports having a "fantastic time" so far. At UUCS we know him as a musician though he's majoring in philosophy and spending time with the jazz band. Brother **Miles** is a senior at South Salem High School and President of the Symphonic Choir and member of the jazz vocal group, the Southernaires. He has a role in the upcoming Pentacle Theater production of "Gypsy" (which mother Cherie is choreographing!). **Nicholas**, a sophomore at South, is enrolled in four honors classes, in the vocal jazz group, Jazz, Etc. He's also in rehearsal with the Improv Troupe and will be performing the

first weekend of next month. Not enough, he plays violin with South's Symphony Orchestra and will be traveling to Germany next spring!

Diana Cunningham has begun her junior year at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, majoring in business with an accounting emphasis, and also taking writing classes. Her brother, Allen, is excited about starting college at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, majoring in mechanical engineering.

UUCS members **Bonnie Heitsch** and **Brian Reeder** write of their three offspring: **Anne Reeder** has returned to Macalester College for her junior year after a great time honing her Norwegian language skills at an international summer institute in Oslo, Norway. Brother **Alex** has begun classes at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, and younger sister Kate is a happy, middle school, soccer-playing student!

Katherine Tomscha, who delighted members during a recent Sunday service with a fine violin performance, has begun studies in instrumental music at University of Oregon!

Congratulations to Board Vice-Chair and UUCS activist **Vicki Cunningham** who has just accepted a year long, half-time position with Sprague High School, teaching freshman science and earth space science! Teaching every other day allows her to continue substitute teaching on the "off days" as she adjusts to her schedule of classes.

Rhea Devery has been hospitalized this week for additional coronary surgery, a second attempt to install a stent in a coronary artery, a decision prompted by recent echocardiogram and profusion stress tests.

Condolences to **Carmela Coyne** who flew to New York City recently to attend a memorial service for her eldest sister, Ely Villadiego, who died of gall bladder toxicity. Returning home, Carmela and Lee took a respite from grief with a trip last month to Yellowstone and Teton national parks.

Condolences to **Marge and Dick French**, whose sister-in-law, Jeneve Bowden, died recently in Yakima. She was the widow of Marge's brother Paul, who died only four months prior. A memorial service will be held mid-month in Yakima.

Youth Advisor **Erin Zysett** reports that YRUUs have begun their program year, ori-

ented their parents to the activity calendar and expectations of the group and its advisors, and finalized plans for the upcoming "Con," conference of UU youth of the District, to be held in Spokane the end of this month, traveling with the groups from Corvallis and Eugene. Mid-month they'll hike to Opal Creek in the Santiam Canyon.

Good news for group members came from **Biran Sey**, the young Gambian man, whose high school completion was supported financially by our YRUUs with multiple fundraisers. He's been accepted to St. Augustine Senior Secondary School, a huge accomplishment for a youth in his country.

YRUUs are glad to have **Sophia Knudsen** back from the summer's visit with her father in Denmark and travels in neighboring countries. They're also proud of member **Lauren Boher**, who shared her struggle with drug addiction at a Sunday service several months ago. She is graduating this month from her post-rehabilitation program and moving ahead with life-transforming changes. **Ben Nicholson-Nelson** is back with the group and newly active youth **Christiana Hannegan** and **Nicholson Brownson** are especially welcomed. A new meeting time, Sunday mornings, will perhaps draw interest and involvement from additional high school age youth.

We are able to extend our caring for one another when we share both the joys and sorrows that, predictably, enter our lives. Call or e-mail with your news.

Joan Erickson

Community Events

Social Action Volunteers Needed

The UUCS Social Action Team and SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism) need volunteers for two current projects.

1.) A community litter clean up from 8:30 to noon on **Saturday, October 20**. The meeting location is the park and ride lot on the NE corner of Market and Hawthorne in Salem. (This project is in a high traffic area and is not recommended for younger children.)

2.) A park clean-up and potluck/BBQ from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Saturday, October**

27 at Northgate Park on 3260 Northgate Avenue in Salem. This project is appropriate for ages 6 and up. Chores include cleanup, drop off debris, landscaping, litter pickup, mulching around plants, roadside cleanup, trail maintenance and weeding. Contact Erin Zysett to sign up for either day.



CONnectivity

Young Adult Fall Con 2007, **October 12 through 14** at West Hills UU Fellowship, Portland, Oregon. Contact Kristy @ hoguek@u.washington.edu to get Connected! Registration forms available at www.pnwd.org.

ARMS

Members of the Addiction Recovery Ministry Support group are always available to provide assistance to UUCS members struggling with addiction, whether their own or that of a family member or friend. They can be reached through the "warm" line at 503-485-6233, which is monitored daily.

SUNDAY SERVICE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

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

Sunday, October 7 “Possibly Some Bad News for Dogmatic Pessimists” **The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

Theologians, historians and just common folk often wonder if the world is “going to hell in a hand basket” or not. It’s not hard to find evidence of human folly and cruelty. Yet is this the whole story. Does the media skew our perspective? These are significant questions - the answer to which can lead either to hope or despair.

Sunday, October 14 “Should You Feel Guilty?” **The Rev. Richard R. Davis**

To be guilty or not to be guilty, that is our question. Where does it come from? What role does it play in our spiritual and ethical lives? What happens if you throw it overboard? Is there an alternative? Good questions all. Let’s ponder this together.

Sunday, October 21 *Letters from Madelyn, Chronicles of a Caregiver* **Elaine K. Sanchez**

Elaine K. Sanchez is an author/speaker whose passion is helping people find hope and humor in aging, illness, and long-term caregiving. Her book, *Letters from Madelyn, Chronicles of a Caregiver*, is based on the true life experiences of Madelyn Kubin, a Kansas farm woman who overpowers her own failing health in order to care for her husband after he suffers a debilitating stroke. Madelyn's letters are tender, gritty, and uproariously funny. You will be amused and inspired when Elaine shares stories about her mother's experiences, her profound and sometimes irreverent faith, and her remarkable spiritual journey.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

October 3, 2007

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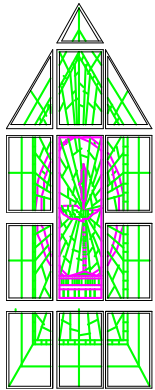
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UUCS Calendar

- Thursday, October 4** Woman's Alliance, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, October 5 YRUU Sleepover, 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 6 Life Lines Lay Ministry, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday, October 7 Readers' Forum, 9:15 a.m. (every Sunday)
Elevator Speech Class, 12:00 noon
Green Sanctuary Team, 11:45 a.m.
Tuesday, October 9 Weaving the Fabric of Diversity, 7-9 p.m. (every Tuesday)
Wednesday, October 10 UU Meditation, 7 p.m. (every Wednesday)
Sunday, October 14 Readers' Forum, 9:15 a.m.
NEXT **Newsletter Deadline**, 11:30 a.m.
Monday, October 15 Poetic Journey, 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday, October 16 Weaving the Fabric of Diversity, 7-9 p.m.
Wednesday, October 17 Thinking on Paper, 1 p.m.
UU Meditation, 7 p.m.
Chat and Craft, 7 p.m. (1st & 3rd Wednesdays)
Thursday, October 18 Dances of Universal Peace, 7 p.m.
(Also see RE calendar on page 3)