



UUFC Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis



May 20, 2014

2945 NW Circle Blvd.

Corvallis OR 97330

541-752-5218

office@uucorvallis.org

UUFC email list:

AboutUUFC@googlegroups.com

Website: www.uucorvallis.org

Office Hours:

M-F 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

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UPCOMING WORSHIP AND SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday services are at 9:30 and 11:00 AM

Childcare is available for Infant/Toddlers at 9:30 and 11:00 AM.

Religious Exploration for Children and Youth is at 11:00 AM.

Children and Youth are welcome at all services.

Sunday, May 25, 9:30 AM Circle Service

The Circle of Life

With Rev. Jill McAllister



On this Memorial Day weekend we'll consider the movements of the great circle of life and death, and help ourselves feel those movements within us. In meditation, movement and song we'll acknowledge the costs of war and current threats to life and Earth, and find again those sources of courage and inspiration which lead us to keep giving thanks.

Sunday, May 25, 11:00 AM

Love and Grief

With Diana Vezmar-Bailey and Rev. Jill McAllister

In this life we share, no one escapes loss and the grief that comes with losses small and large, for we are part of the circle of life and death. We'll share some of our losses and grief, and be reminded that these too can lead us to rich experiences of life, as love moves through us and we open ourselves to that love.

Sunday, June 1, 9:30 and 11:00 AM

What I've Learned of Love

With Rev. Jill McAllister and all

The nine months of a church year is not enough to fully explore all the meanings of love for our lives, but it has been a good exercise, none the less. Have our considerations given you new ideas or new hopes, affirmed your own experience or challenged your former understanding? Because we need to hear from each other to know more of what is true, we'll spend some time this morning sharing insights.

UUFC Staff and Hours

Other hours by appointment

Main Number 541-752-5218

Minister: Rev. Jill McAllister minister@uucorvallis.org ext. 224 *by Appointment*

Co-Directors, Religious Exploration

Children: Niya Standish niya@uucorvallis.org ext 226 9:00 AM-2:00 PM Tue. & Wed.

Youth: Michael Molk molk@uucorvallis.org ext. 225 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Sun. & 9:30 AM-2:30 PM Tue. & Wed.

Office Administrator: Yaney LA Maclver office@uucorvallis.org ext. 100 *Monday-Friday 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM*

Music Director: Dr. David Servias & Pianist: Lauren Servias music@uucorvallis.org ext. 222 *by Appointment*

Childcare Coordinator: Barb Holmes barbjholmes57@gmail.com 541-981-1147 *by Appointment*

Between Us . . .



When we began this church year in September, one of the first services we shared explored the need to be willing to look again, to be open to seeing more, especially in those places in our lives which are quite familiar.

To **look again** is a practice aimed at seeing more fully, in the hopes of knowing and understanding more. It can mean looking from different perspectives, with different *lenses*. It can mean asking new or different questions about what we think we are looking at. It is an important part of searching for truth.

As we come close to finishing the regular church year, before a summer change of pace, it is fascinating and satisfying to realize how much looking we have done this year. For example, in September the Board looked at more than ten high priority areas of focus which had arisen in several years worth of congregational discussions, and agreed to focus their work—their looking—on three main priorities: congregational communication, policies and procedures, and our facility's needs. Because of this focus, progress has been made: we have a Fellowship Facebook page, a nearly completed new web site, and two new furnaces coming—including one which will greatly improve air quality in the Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall.

We have started looking again our major fundraisers, to see if they need improving; at

how we coordinate the many kinds of justice work we do; to see if we can increase our effectiveness; and at what stewardship means, to see if we can broaden and deepen our capacities. (It turns out we can!). We are looking again at what Religious Exploration (RE) means when we include all ages and at new ways to staff RE for that undertaking. We are looking at the difference it can make for many more people to have a voice in the process of budgeting each year. We have looked at the possibility of articulating a mission statement for the Fellowship, and quickly discovered what we wanted to say!

I am deeply grateful for your willingness and your capacity to look again, to look carefully and deeply, and to consider what you are finding. When we voted at the Annual Meeting to begin the process of reallocating our investments away from fossil fuel industries, it was clear that so much consideration and research and discussion had taken place that we had seen much more than ever before, even to the point of beginning to understand the relationship between the effectiveness of the acts of re-investment and the power of the symbolism of making that change.

There is always more to see if we are willing to look. This is love in action. This is the religious life at its best. If this is where we are starting, I am very excited about where we are going. I hope you are glad to be on this journey together as well.

See you Sunday! Jill

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

Write the wrongs that are done to you in the sand, but write the good things that happen to you on a piece of marble. Let go of all emotions such as resentment and retaliation, which diminish you, and hold onto the emotions such as joy and gratitude, which increase you.

Arabic Proverb

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT



Of the 340 members of the Fellowship, 143 attended the May 18, 2014 Annual Meeting. UUFC President Judy Malouf presided over the meeting which commenced at 12:45 PM and ended at 2:30 PM. With several *momentous decisions* to be made, a super quorum of 40% (or 136 members) was necessary to conduct business.

Kyle Jansson served as the Parliamentarian.

Reverend Jill McAllister opened the meeting with ten thoughts from former UUA Moderator, Denise Davidoff, including breathe deeply, play fair, be patient, and listen intently.

Judy gave the Board report which summarized a year of remarkable work by the Board of Trustees and the new Minister as they focused on four broadly defined areas: communications, board organization, fiscal stewardship, and physical stewardship. Judy reported on creation of two new Committees (Stewardship and Ministry). She thanked out-going Board Members Mina Carson and Claudia Keith. She ended by acknowledging the hundreds of hours of service provided by the many UUFC volunteers who keep the Fellowship moving forward.

Jed Irvine, Chair of the Nominating Committee, recognized the Committee members and presented the slate of candidates for Committee Chair positions and for the Board of Trustees. **Eileen Maxfield moved, Lee Holt seconded, the UUFC all candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.** Carolyn Madsen conducted the Installation.

The 2013-14 Financial Report to-date was presented by Finance Chair, Claudia Keith. She acknowledged the eight members of the Committee who work many hours on church finances. Readers are referred to the 2013-14 Annual Report for more detailed information. For these notes, let it be said that the financial status of the UUFC is quite good at present.

Virginia Shapiro reported for the Stewardship Committee the exhilarating results of the pledge drive and gave a shout-out to her Committee members. Pledges continue to come in, so she was comfortable reporting UUFC well-exceeded our pledge goal.

With the kind of detail to attention one would

expect from the UUFC Treasurer, Tim Emery walked participants through the proposed 2014-15 Draft Budget. Again, readers are referred to the 2013-14 Annual Report for more detailed information. Because of the 20% increase from the pledge drive, UUFC is in a position to move some costs to the operating budget rather than drawing from reserves. During questions and answers, Tim and others explained some of the finer details of the budget including this is the first year in many that there is no deficit spending and 100% of eligible staff receive health insurance (which did see a 10% increase in premiums). **Martha Clemmons moved, Gene Lund seconded, the UUFC accept the draft 2014-15 Budget as proposed. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.** Tim continued to review with Members the Reserve Funds. Again, UUFC's status in this area is positive.

Susan Christie spoke on behalf of the Climate Justice Steering Committee (CJSC) Resolution about reallocation from fossil fuel investments. She recognized the many members of the SJSC and spoke about the UUFC Beloved Community and the spiritual, moral and political need to have UUFC investments reflect our values. **Nick Houtman moved, Sandy Houtman seconded, that we accept the resolution as proposed.** There was equally passionate discussion by members opposed to the resolution. Time for comments was held to ten minutes. Paper ballots were distributed for this *momentous decision*, gathered and counted. **The motion passed with 135 votes in favor, four opposed, and two abstained.**

Explore. Love. Act. Three simple words introduced the new Mission Statement for the UUFC. Kyle and Monica Jacobson-Tennessee described the collaborative process of developing the mission. **Angie de Morgan moved, Virginia Shapiro seconded, the UUFC accept the new Mission Statement.** Comments included reformatting the statement, but this was an up/down vote. **The motion passed with 140 in favor and one opposed.** The new mission statement is: ***“Explore. Love. Act. We gather as an inclusive religious community to search for meaning, build deep connections, and inspire action toward a better world for all”***

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ANNUAL MEETING REPORT CONT.

In typical UUFC fashion, the meeting went off agenda and Kyle presented Judy with a gift of gratitude from the current UUFC Board of Trustees for her tireless, 3-year service as UUFC President. Judy gave heartfelt thanks to the UUFC and her husband, Bob.

Jill provided closing words, drawn from Annette Marlquis, a self-described writer, technology trainer, social change activist, and Unitarian Universalist evangelist, that embraced those present with love and respect, and that encouraged us to continue to search for meaning while building deep connections here and globally.

Respectfully submitted: Heather Emberson

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH

Vina Moses Center Needs Our Help!



Vina Moses Center assists people in need in Benton County in many ways. They provide new parents with an infant layette, the homeless with a survival kit that includes a sleeping bag and camping gear, and clothing for everyone: families, people preparing for a job interview or those working outdoors in agriculture.

For the last few years we've focused our fundraising on Vina Moses' work to give all children a good start to the school year. Each August 800-1000 children receive a back to school package that includes new shoes, socks, underwear, school supplies, two school outfits and a coat.

The cost of sponsoring a child through their program is \$35.00. Last year we raised \$2136.00—that's 61 children in our community that we impacted in a positive way simply by us living our principle-embracing the inherent worth and dignity of every person, with the goal of a world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. Proceeds from bake sales and the Social Concerns side of the basket for the month of June and half of July will go to Vina Moses.

We hope you will support this important work. If you'd like to learn more or get more involved with

Vina Moses go to <http://www.vinamoses.org/services.htm>. If you'd like to help with a bake sale please contact this summer's bake sale coordinator *Jeannie Ramsey at jeannie.ramsey@gmail.com*.

Other Vina Moses needs are:

Agricultural Work Gear

For those starting a job working outdoors there are heavy work clothes, raingear, boots, gloves and hats.

Clothing for Work and Job Interviews

Professional work attire, suits, slacks, dresses, shirts, ties, scarves and shoes are reserved for individuals transitioning to new employment.

School Program

<http://www.vinamoses.org/school.htm>

Each year in August the Center provides over 800 schoolchildren with new shoes, socks, underwear, school supplies, two school outfits and a coat.

Emergency Household Assistance

We reserve a full line of household goods for individuals and families whose homes have been destroyed by fire or other disasters.

Clothing and Household Goods

Each family can come in once every calendar month to fill two grocery sacks with merchandise.

Thank you – the Social Concerns Committee.

Why my Facebook profile says I'm a Cis Woman

A few months ago, Facebook changed its **gender** field on users' profiles. Originally the choices for gender were *male, female?* and *no answer*. This did not even come close to covering the spectrum of gender identities. Fortunately, in February Facebook's **gender** field expanded to 51 possible choices. People can now identify on Facebook as *genderqueer* or *trans* or *agender*. Someone who was assigned as *female* at birth and now identifies as a man can choose *trans man*. and so forth. You can read an explanation of all of them here:

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/02/15/the-complete-glossary-of-facebook-s-51-gender-options.html>

So why does my Facebook profile now say that I'm a *cis woman*, when the old option of *female* fit me just as well? What does *cis* mean? The prefixes *cis* and *trans* come from organic chemistry: they simply mean that certain parts of a molecule are **on the same side** or **cis**, and **on the other side** or **trans**.

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SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH CONTINUED

In terms of gender, these prefixes have been adopted to mean someone whose biological sex at birth and gender identity are the same - *cisgendered* - and someone whose biological sex at birth and gender identity are different - *transgendered*. I was assigned as *female* at birth, born into a female body, and I identify as a woman: therefore I am a *cis woman*.

Saying that I am a *cis woman* points out that it's just one way of being a woman. It's a way of living out our first and second principles, that all people have inherent worth and dignity, and that we strive for justice, equity and compassion in human relations. A just world, with equity and dignity for all, doesn't imply that some people are *real* women while others are *trans women*. We know that some people are cis women and cis men, and some are trans women and trans men, and some are genderqueer, and some are agender, and so on. A just world isn't divided into *normal* people and everyone else. In a just world, there's room for everyone to describe their identity with equal standing, whatever it might be. *Monica Jacobson Tennesen*

The Work That Reconnects: Engaging Our Passion and Power to Act for Life on Earth



This one-day experiential workshop, based on the work of visionary elder and eco-philosopher Joanna Macy, helps build motivation, creativity, courage, and solidarity for the challenges we face in transitioning to a more sustainable world.

Saturday, June 21st, 9.30 AM to 5:30 PM

PT Barnum 3-Ring Circus (6ABC)—Donation

Drawing from deep ecology, systems theory, and spiritual traditions, *The Work That Reconnects* offers powerful transformative practices to experience the healing power of gratitude, deepen compassion through honoring our pain for the world, explore new insights and perspectives, and strengthen our capacity to act for life on earth.

Facilitated by Lara Lyn Treadaway, who trained with both Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone, the co-author of Joanna Macy's most recent book, *Active Hope*.

For more information visit: www.wholeheartedpath.com

Contact: Jean Townes, townesj@peak.org, 541-745-5210

UUFC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services Auction

Carnaval do Rio, our 2014 Services Auction is getting it's second wind! If you were one of the many with a scheduling conflict the night of the auction, you still have time to snap up some great dinners, events, and items. But not a lot of time! Our online auction ends Monday, June 2 at 8:00 PM. You can find it all here: <http://bit.ly/UUFCauction2014>



Joni Zander

SIGN UP NOW

UUFC Men's Spring Work Party Saturday, May 31, 8:30 AM-2:00 PM



UU Men – Come help on building and maintenance projects to benefit our UUFC community! **All UU men are welcome. No special experience is necessary.** If you have specific skills and tools, though, we would welcome them. All work projects will be supervised. Projects will include

play area maintenance, painting curbs, parking lot striping, gutter cleaning, roof and solar panel cleaning, upgrading deck railings, edging, weeding, and small construction projects. Plan to wear work clothes and bring gloves.

LUNCH IS INCLUDED

SIGN UP NOW so we can plan the food for the day. There is no charge. (Donations will be accepted to offset the cost of food.)

To register: visit the sign up table on Sunday, or contact Jim Good at 541-754-9398; e-mail: jmg4@yahoo.com

Fall Women's Retreat

On-line Registration and Information

Power Down and join your fellow UU women, new and not-so-new, for nourishment of body, mind, and soul at our annual Women's Retreat September 26-28 (Friday through Sunday) at the Silver Falls Conference Center. Registration is now open, online at: bit.ly/registerUUWR (<http://www.uucorvallis.org/uufcwomensretreat/registrationform.html>) and in person after services in the Social Hall.

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UUFC ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT.

Explore Silver Falls State Park, learn something new, finish a project you've been meaning to complete, get centered, make a new friend (or 70), reconnect with old friends, take naps, read a book... all while not cooking, cleaning, or doing dishes.

We've increased our early bird discount this year, so by signing up now, you'll be paying less than last year! Fulltimer early bird rate is just \$135 and for day trippers (Saturday only) it's \$27 through July 1. We've also increased our scholarship options, so check it out. More information can be found at: bit.ly/UUWRinfo (<http://www.uucorvallis.org/uufcwomensretreat/information.html>) or on the registration form at church.

And as of Sunday, May 18 we have received only a dozen or so registrations. We need 70 registrations by the Early Bird Deadline of July 1 to reserve all of Silver Falls. So please register soon—thanks.

Joni Zander and Yaney MacIver



PARTNER CHURCH

Cards sent to Reverend Kati and her husband Boti

We received sad news that Rev, Kati, our Partner Church minister, gave birth to a premature baby that only survived for several days. Kati is now home and physically fine, but she and Boti were very much looking forward to having a second child and sibling for Mati their six year old son. Last Sunday morning after service a couple of cards were passed around for people sign. Those cards are now in the mail to Romania. The family will be grateful to know that we are thinking of their loss. After visiting last fall, they may well even recognize many of the names of the people who signed.

*Janet Throop and Beverly McFarland,
Partner Church Committee*



UUFC COMMUNITY SUPPORTED

Confluence

Willamette Valley LGBT Chorus *Common World*

Sunday, June 8, 4:30 PM, UUFC

Featuring Uta Hussong-Christian on Flute

Common World



Imagine a world where everyone is equal...regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, or sexual orientation; a world where we embrace our differences and diversity; a world where it doesn't matter what country you're from, what accent you

have, or what language you speak; a world where every person can love and marry who they want; a world that is full of love, laughter, tears, and comfort without fear and hate, then join us as we explore that world, *Confluence Style*.

Ticket prices:

Advance sale concert tickets:

\$15 adult/\$12 seniors and students

Tickets at the door:

\$18 adult/\$15 seniors and students

No one turned away from lack of funds

Go to confluencechorus.org to buy tickets online or make a donation to help Confluence meet this season's concert expenses. Tickets are also available from any Confluence member or contact Karen Winget (kwinget@icloud.com).

Corvallis Community Choir Summer Session

The Corvallis Community Choir will begin its Summer Term on Tuesday, June 24th from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Blvd. Rehearsals will continue until August 26th.

No audition is needed, and no memorization is required. Although music training is helpful, it is not a necessity. The membership fee is \$40 for summer term, and some scholarships are available.



For more information, visit <http://corvalliscommunitychoir.us> or email Nan Chaney

nonandjay1@gmail.com or phone at 541-740-6068.

Explore. Love. Act.

We gather as an inclusive religious community to
search for meaning,
build deep connections,
and inspire action toward a better world for all.



Remember to Fill the Baskets for the South Corvallis Food Bank

Cereal, cold or hot, raisins or other packaged dried fruits

Contact Martha Clemons at 541-757-9627.



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Fellowship of Corvallis**
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Return Service Requested

| Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis Upcoming Events (Sunday Services Front Page.) Hours are PM unless noted. | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | May 21 | May 22 | May 23 | May 24 |
| | | | 1:00 Women's Lunch Bunch 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 7:00 UUFC Choir | Noon Living with Loss | 10:00 AM-4:00 Pressure Washing Social Hall Deck 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics | |
| May 25 | May 26 | May 27 | May 28 | May 29 | May 30 | May 31 |
| 9:30 AM First Steps 12:30 EAC Meeting 4:00 EAC Reading Circle | UUFC Closed for Memorial Day Holiday 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 5:00 Insight Meditation Group 6:30 Veterans for Peace 7:00 Campus Ministry | 7:00 Community Choir 7:00 Communications Publicity Committee | 1:00 Women's Lunch Bunch 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 7:00 UUFC Choir Newsletter Deadline (for June 3 edition) Covers events from June 6 to June 20 | | 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics | 9:30 AM Men's Work Party |
| June 1 | June 2 | June 3 | June 4 | June 5 | June 6 | June 7 |
| Noon Action Lunch Benefits Vina Moses 12:30 PCC Meeting 3:00 Community Choir Concert | 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 7:00 Women in Mid-Life 7:00 Shawl Ministry 7:00 CAYAUU | 1:00 Newsletter Folding 6:30 Stewardship Committee 7:00 Community Choir 7:00 Building Committee | 1:00 Women's Lunch Bunch 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 7:00 CAMTA Meeting | | 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics | |
| June 8 | June 9 | June 10 | June 11 | June 12 | June 13 | June 14 |
| 4:00 EAC Reading Circle | 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 6:30 UUFC Board Meeting 6:30 Insight Meditation Group 7:00 Campus Ministry | 7:00 Community Choir | 10:00 UUFC Staff Meeting 1:00 Women's Lunch Bunch 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics 7:00 UUFC Choir Newsletter Deadline (for June 17 edition) Covers events from June 20 to July 4 | 6:00 Program Council 7:00 Dances of Universal Peace 7:00 TG Support Group | 4:00 Exercise/Aerobics | 9:00 AM Men's Monthly Gathering |

*More Newsletter Deadlines/Coverage & Folding Dates: <http://www.uucorvallis.org/currentdeadtitcont.php> Email items to office@uucorvallis.org.