

## October 2015 Worship Services

### Oct 2015

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#### Sunday, October 4, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

“Our Life Together Can Be Better”

Rev. Jill McAllister

In the coming weeks and months, we will explore the necessary conditions and essential understandings for peace and justice to prevail. These conditions and understandings have to do with ourselves and our own lives – our habits, assumptions, fears, prejudices, aims, personalities and more. “Peace” and “justice” are both descriptions of relationships between people, between people and other living things, between people and the Earth. These states of relation will never simply arrive. They must be lived into, by us, step by step.

#### Sunday, October 11, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

“Ministry Means ‘Being With’ ”

UUFC Committee on Ministry

Religion is essentially about relations, and religion at its best is facilitates right relations. In the context of religion, ministry is an intentional way of being in relation to others with the aim of fostering, supporting and nurturing right relations. Our Committee on Ministry is charged with supporting and expanding ministry within and from the UUFC. Members of the committee will share stories of ministry at it’s best.

#### Sunday, October 18, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

“Outward From the Heart”

Rev. Jill McAllister

A well-known Taoist admonition states “If there is to be peace in the world.....there must be peace in the heart.” It is clear that there is plenty of room for more peace in the world, but we have just barely begun to address the dearth of peace in hearts, upon which peace in the world depends.

#### Thursday, Oct. 22 5:30-6:30 PM

**Earth Prayer** (description on page 3)

#### Sunday, October 25, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

“Come, Contentment”

Rev. Jill McAllister

How could one possibly be content in the world as it is? Wouldn’t contentment be a sign of ignorance or apathy, or worse? On the other hand, maybe contentment is a necessary condition for accomplishing change in the world.

## Between Us ...

*Jill McAllister*

The name of this monthly column is “Between Us” because this phrase conveys my deepest convictions about ministry and the religious life. So much of what is most important literally happens between us. Love, for example. Comfort, and recognition, and help. Friendship and sharing – there would be no such thing as sharing if there weren’t others to share with.

Ministry is one of the most important things that happens between us. I have long defined ministry as “being with” in ways that foster and support right relations. That is, ministry is an intentional way of relating to others which opens more possibilities for honesty, courage, beauty, understanding, compassion, justice and peace. There are millions of ways to “do” ministry – and all of them involve this kind of being with others.

*Ministry is a shared undertaking. It belongs to the whole congregation.*

The professional ministry is a commitment to being with. It’s not really an office kind of job. Sure, there is ministerial work that can be done in an office, but staying in an office is not the best way to accomplish ministry, in my experience. To be with people means to meet them where they are – and that can literally mean to meet them at home, in the forest, at lunch or coffee, at the hospital, in town, at a rally, scrubbing floors, taking care of children, cooking together, moving... You name it – where people are, while they are doing what they are doing, is where and when ministry happens. Which is not to say that the office isn’t needed – sometimes it is the best and safest place for people to share what they need to share.

The ministry of a congregation cannot be accomplished by one, or two, or eight professional ministers, because there is always far more ministry needed and wanted than a few persons can accomplish alone. That’s why ministry is a shared undertaking. It belongs to the whole congregation. All are called to provide ministry – to “be with” others and the world in ways that make a difference. I’ve long admired our local Congregational Church, which lists on its letterhead “Ministers: All the members of the church.” (Under “Clergy” are the names of the Revs. So and So.)

My main job is to see that ministry is getting done – as much ministry as possible, between all of us. I aim to help and support and train and nurture as many forms of ministry as possible by as many people as possible, so that we can serve each other and serve the world to the best of our abilities. This is the aim of Shared Ministry, which can only happen between us. Between you and me, between you and you, between us and the world.

See you Sunday – *Jill*

### Words for Reflection

“Waiting”

*Marta I. Valentin*

Step into the center  
    come in from the margins  
I will hold you here.

Don’t look out  
    or away  
life is in here  
    between you and me.

In this tiny precious space  
no words need be whispered  
to tell us we are one.

Don’t look back  
    or around.  
Feel my arms  
    the water is rising.

In this tiny space,  
where I end and you begin  
    hope lives.

You and I  
    we make the circle  
if we choose to.

I will hold you  
as you tremble.  
I will warm you.

Come  
    step in  
I am waiting for you.

# WORSHIP

## WHEEL OF THE YEAR CELEBRATIONS: WHAT NEXT?

*Cliff Pereira*

For a number of years the Fellowship has had a group celebrating the Wheel of the Year (WOY). The WOY observes, celebrates and honors eight important points in the Earth's annual dance around the sun as described in many cultures including Celtic, Native American, and other indigenous traditions. We honor the wisdom in all these traditions as we craft our own forms of ceremony and ritual. The eight WOY celebrations happen at the summer and winter solstices, the spring and fall equinoxes and the four times half-way in between (the "cross quarter days"). These WOY events are intended to help us connect to the Earth, to ourselves, each other and to Life through connecting to the natural cycles that are mirrored within us and between us.

The most recent incarnation of the WOY celebrations began under the leadership of our previous settled minister, Gretchen Woods, and has continued since then under lay leadership. Our current minister, Jill McAllister, has been very supportive and has helped us to make the Wheel of the Year gatherings more formally into one of the several forms of worship offered by the UUFC. However, in recent months several who have been in leadership roles for the past four to six years have decided that it is time to move on. This raises the question: "Where do we go from here?"

We have asked Jessica Heiler, who moved to Corvallis last Fall and soon after began leading delightful dances at our Wheel of the Year gatherings, to put together a program that would foster the continuation and deepening of our WOY gatherings. This year-long program will offer experience-based learning that will support connecting deeply with self, nature, spirit and community. It is designed for people who are dedicated to building and strengthening their own connections, to become role models for others in creating nature connected rituals which recognize and honor connections with all life, including ancestors and generations yet to come.

### CALLING SPEAKERS OF LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

The Worship Committee is looking for speakers of languages used by UUs around the world, in order to include translations in our worship services each week. Are you able and interested? Please let Jill McAllister know.

An in-depth description of the training model posted on the UUFC website. There will be an informational meeting and/or potluck on Monday, October 19th with details to follow in the various weekly UUFC communications. If you are interested in taking part in the training we would love to hear from you! You can contact Jessica Heiler ([contact@jessica-heiler.com](mailto:contact@jessica-heiler.com)) or Cliff Pereira ([peartree15@comcast.net](mailto:peartree15@comcast.net), 541-760-4541).

### EARTH PRAYER: MONTHLY GATHERINGS

The Worship Committee will offer three Earth Prayer services this fall, similar to the Sunday service on Sept. 6, if there is interest. These services aim to provide ways to connect more deeply with the oneness of all life, and our home the Earth, through music, readings, prayers, movement, and silence. Each service will focus on at least one element of the web of life. Join us!

Thursday evenings, October 22, November 19, and December 17, 5:30 to 6:30 PM.

# RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

*Michael Molk*

### Thanks for OWL Training Support!

Our Fellowship hosted two trainings last month, for Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education teachers from throughout the western United States. People being trained came from other Unitarian Universalist churches, UCC-Congregational churches, Episcopal churches, Planned Parenthood, and other community service organizations. Thanks to all the members and friends of our Fellowship who opened their homes to hosts visitors, worked in the kitchen to help prepare and clean up the meals to feed everyone, and prepared and brought in delicious food to contribute. You all showed a great outpouring of generosity and hospitality which demonstrated this congregation's commitment to living our ideals. Special heartfelt thanks go to Mary Craven, who, with her menu planning, shopping, cooking, communicating and coordinating, took such great care to nourish everyone. We can all be proud that we played a part in helping these educators feel uplifted and inspired to do their work!

### Our Whole Lives (OWL) Parent Orientations

Starting in January of 2016, we will be offering Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education classes for Kindergarteners through 12th Grade. Our Whole Lives is age-appropriate curriculum developed by Unitarian Universalist and United Church of Christ-Congregationalist educators, based on values of self-worth, sexual health, responsibility, justice, and inclusivity. Honest, accurate information about sexuality changes lives. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, improves decision making, and has the potential to save lives.

In order for children and teens to participate in OWL, parents are required to attend an orientation in advance, to learn about the program and pre-register their children and youth. Parent orientations will be held in room 7 on Sunday afternoons in November, after second service worship. See the schedule below for dates. Contact DRE Michael Molk to arrange for childcare, or for more information ([molk@uucorvallis.org](mailto:molk@uucorvallis.org), 541-752-5218 x225).

### Youth Opportunities

**7th/8th Grade UUFC Coast Retreat:** *October 16-18, South Beach State Park*

Seventh and eighth grade Fellowship youth and their adult advisors stay in yurts, play on the beach, worship, and more. Pick up a registration form from an advisor on Sundays, or contact DRE Michael Molk ([molk@uucorvallis.org](mailto:molk@uucorvallis.org), 541-752-5218 x225).

#### OUR WHOLE LIVES PARENT ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

##### 9th-12th Graders

Sunday, November 1st, 12:30-2:00 PM

##### 5th/6th Graders

Sunday, November 8th, 12:30-2:30 PM

##### 7th/8th Graders

Sunday, November 15th, 12:30-3:00 PM

##### K/1st Graders

Sunday, November 29th, 12:30-2:30 PM

#### October Topics

for 1st through 6th Grade RE Sessions

Oct 4th: What is Peace? & Children's Chapel

Oct 11th: Being Peacemakers

Oct 18th: What is Justice?

Oct 25th: We Are Part of the World

**Childcare Training:** *Sunday, October 11, 12:30-1:30 PM, UUFC room 7*

This training is for any UUFC teens who would like to provide childcare, either for pay or as service to our community. Once trained, teens may be called upon as helpers with younger children in RE on Sunday mornings, for other UUFC events, and as babysitters for UUFC parents. Contact DRE Michael Molk for more information: [molk@uucorvallis.org](mailto:molk@uucorvallis.org).

**YRUU Pacific Northwest District Fall Conference:** *October 23-25, Camp Cispus, near Randle, Washington*

Fall Youth Con is for UU Youth age 14 to 18 years old, in 9th-12 grades. The theme this fall is “UU Rocks! Specifically, ‘5 Jagged Rocks’” (a new translation of the 7 principles of Unitarian Universalism):

- There is unity that makes us one
- All souls are sacred and worthy
- Courageous love transforms the world
- Truth continues to unfold
- Salvation in this life

If you plan to attend, you must let DRE Michael Molk or a YRUU advisor know, so we can arrange transportation and sponsorship. To learn more and to register, go to: [www.pnwd.org/content.aspx?ID=63](http://www.pnwd.org/content.aspx?ID=63)

**ADULT RELIGIOUS GROWTH AND LEARNING***Ann Mbacke*

Our Fall programs have begun and I am pleased and grateful for the wonderful Fellowship we have and those awesome volunteers that make this work a lot easier. This past week I completed the Our Whole Lives Sexuality (OWL) training for Adults/Young Adults while preparing for kick off activities at Oregon State University for Campus Ministry, and Adult RE programs here at the Fellowship. (To learn more about OWL go to [www.uua.org/re/owl](http://www.uua.org/re/owl).)

It is very exciting to see the new families and visitors each Sunday and be able to welcome them into our community. I am looking forward to another year of positive progress and continued lived shared values. As we plan for the coming year I invite you to let us know what helps you connect to your highest self and or what inspires you to be better. Our themes for this church year are Justice, Peace and the Interdependent Web of Life.

**Escalating Inequality: A Look at Economic Disparities**

One of the ways we are exploring this year’s theme is continuing the Escalating Inequality discussions. In the first gathering participants listened to Robert Reich’s short video clip (<http://billmoyers.com/2013/07/10/inequality-is-created/>) and watched a portion of an interview hosted by Bill Moyers with Angela Glover Blackwell, titled “An Optimist for our Time.”

Escalating Inequality discussions are held every other Monday night at 7:00 PM in UUFC room 7. However, our next meeting on October 5th will be spent at the screening of the documentary film “White Like Me” by Tim Wise at the Corvallis Public Library, 7:00-9:00 PM.

For more information, contact DRE Ann Mbacke ([reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org), 541-752-5218 ext. 226).

**Chalice Circles Facilitator Training:** *Sunday, October 4, 1:00-3:00 PM, UUFC room 7*

Anyone interested in facilitating a Chalice Circle is invited to learn the skills of being a facilitator for our small groups. Whether you're in a group or interested in joining one, come learn more. We hope to soon start new groups and we will need facilitators for those. It would be great to have co-facilitators for every group, for greater continuity. For more information, or to sign up to attend, contact Marcia Olsen ([marcia.olsen29@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.olsen29@gmail.com), 541-661-0889).

**Adult Religious Exploration Programs**

Visit the Adult Religious Exploration table in the Social Hall after service. You can get information about upcoming classes for fall and winter, and sign up for them. Contact DRE Ann Mbacke for more information ([reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org), 541-752-5218 ext. 226). Suggestions for Adult Religious Exploration programs at UUFC may be made to DRE Ann Mbacke ([reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org)) or any of the Adult RE Steering Committee members (Patti White, Carolyn Madsen, Alan Kirk, Janet Farrell, or Marcia Olsen).

**Media Literacy Skills for Parents**

Learn how to teach important media literacy skills to children and youth based on your own beliefs and values, as well as their personalities. We will discuss and practice techniques to limit, guide, and inform children's use of electronic media in ways that will take advantage of the positive aspects and minimize the negative ones. Based on a research project conducted at OSU. All adults are welcome.

*Class 1:* Saturday, November 7, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

*Class 2:* Saturday, November 14, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

*Information:* Rachel Ozretich (541-758-3221, [racheloz@peak.org](mailto:racheloz@peak.org))

**Adult RE Program  
Submission Deadlines**

**Fall term:** Deadline was August 10

Classes run mid-September through December.

**Winter term:** Deadline is December 1

Classes run January, Feb, and March.

**Spring term:** Deadline is March 1

Classes run April, May, and June.

## PROGRAM COUNCIL

**UUFC 2015 Holiday Bazaar**

The 2015 Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Are you interested in renting a space to sell your handmade goods? Would you like to donate some to sell so that the proceeds go directly to the UUFC? Contact Holiday Bazaar chair Jeannie Ramsey ([uuholiday.elves@gmail.com](mailto:uuholiday.elves@gmail.com)).

**Living with Chronic Debilitating Disease Group**

Many of us have had our daily functioning compromised by a chronic debilitating disease. These include stroke, Parkinson's Disease, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, and other conditions. Our symptoms frequently involve ongoing pain, fatigue, and memory problems. We often feel overwhelmed, and sometimes hopeless. We wonder if we will ever feel "normal" again, able to do the things we used to do so easily.

Several members are starting a UUFC peer support group for folks with chronic debilitating diseases and their families and friends. We'll share support and information, and discuss coping strategies, resources, and options. The first meeting will be Tuesday, September 29, 2:00-3:30 PM in UUFC room 7. If you are interested, please call Christine Robins (541-738-2610).

## New Holiday Bazaar Chair Sought

Perhaps you could be the new chairperson for the 2016 Holiday Bazaar! You have an opportunity this year to shadow the current chair and learn what's involved before chairing a bazaar on your own. Curious? Questions? For more information, contact Jeannie Ramsey ([uuholiday.elves@gmail.com](mailto:uuholiday.elves@gmail.com)).

## Art Exhibit for October

Charles and Jean Leach were long time members of the Corvallis UU Fellowship. It is a pleasure to exhibit his work in the Sanctuary from October 13th to November 26th. This exhibit includes a sale of his art work that will benefit the Greenbelt Land Trust, with a reception on Sunday October 25th.

The artwork of Charles Leach celebrates the history and natural settings of the Willamette Valley. From wooden bridges to grain silos and rivers, his watercolors brought to life the daily musings and pastoral settings of western Oregon. Charles was largely a self-taught visual artist who spent his professional life as a biological scientist. Charles' artwork has hung at the Benton County Historical Society, OSU's Art About Agriculture, and Art in the Valley among other venues.

Upon the passing of Charles (1924-2011) and his wife Jean (1925-2013), their three children chose to conduct a sale of the artwork from their parents' estate and contribute the proceeds to Greenbelt Land Trust, a local non-profit conservation organization that their parents avidly supported. The show and sale includes nearly 100 matted watercolors and a few acrylics (primarily 22"x28"), with pieces priced in the \$100 range. A public reception will take place on Sunday, October 25th at 3:00 PM in the UUFC Sanctuary, with the show continuing through November. Please join the Leach family, Greenbelt Land Trust, and friends and neighbors of Charles and Jean for a celebration of friends, art and the lands we all love here in the Willamette Valley. For further information about the sale of the artwork, contact Jessica McDonald at the Greenbelt Land Trust.

*Artist members of the Fellowship who are interested in exhibiting their work should contact Sue Noel (541-224-6546, [sue@thenoels.us](mailto:sue@thenoels.us)).*

## Glass Bead/Memory Wire Workshop

Free one-hour workshop in fashion jewelry making using glass beads and memory wire. Free and open to all, donations welcome but not required. Diane will provide all materials/tools and instruction; this easy class welcomes beginners! Participants will be making primarily bracelets and/or choker necklaces (instruction can be provided on making earrings and rings). For more information, contact Diane Van Orden ([dianedianevo@aol.com](mailto:dianedianevo@aol.com), 541-285-6139). Sessions are Sunday, October 4, and Sunday, October 11, 12:30-1:30, UUFC room 8.

## Membership Classes

Quarterly Path to Membership classes will be offered this month. The UU Path class is the second in the 3-part Path to Membership series, for those new to Unitarian Universalism or to the UUFC. Learn about UU history and ways to get involved in our Fellowship. Light brunch food is included. Registration is required. Sign up at the Welcome Table. Class offered Saturday, October 10, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM.

The Membership class is the third in the 3-part Path to Membership series, for those interested in becoming members of the UUFC. Participants will learn about the rights and responsibilities of membership, the UUFC's relationship to regional, national and international Unitarian and Universalist organizations, and have the opportunity to formally become members of the UUFC. Sign up at the Welcome Table. Class offered Sunday, October 11, 12:30-2:00 PM. Contact Melinda Sayavedra ([sayavedl@onid.orst.edu](mailto:sayavedl@onid.orst.edu)) if you have questions about any of the classes

# JUSTICE COUNCIL

## FROM THE JUSTICE COUNCIL

*Dan Shapiro*

Act.

Just a small, three-letter word. The final verb in our mission statement. Yet it represents the powerful contributions of (in Margaret Mead's words) "thoughtful, committed citizens" within the UUFC who, for decades, have marched, sung, carried signs, circulated petitions, brought issues to our annual meetings, and—in many other ways—called us to take action to right perceived wrongs.

Over the years, numerous UUFC members have coalesced into many, varied, justice-related committees and groups, some of which are still active today. Last winter, a small group of thoughtful, committed volunteers met over the course of four months and developed the draft charter for a new council which would complete the geometry of our mission statement:

**Explore**

**Love**

**Act**

**Religious Exploration Council**

**Program Council**

**Justice Council**

In the hands of the Board of Trustees, the draft charter became Policy 5.1 with its stated mission and goals "to provide support, guidance, coordination, decision making, enhancement, and evaluation of ongoing and proposed social service, charity-related, and other justice programs sponsored by the UUFC, as well as to coordinate emergent justice-related responses."

The Board appointed Susan Christie, Jesse Ford, Claudia Keith, Roberta Smith, Jean Townes, and Elizabeth Waldorf as the initial Justice Council members. I agreed to serve as the Council chair, as well as a member of the newly formed Coordinating Council, which includes representatives of all three Councils, who will communicate directly with the Board and with Jill about their collective activities. The seven of us on the Justice Council represent a combined total of *nearly 150 years* of activism supporting social justice, peace, environmental health, food safety, and other local, national, and global causes!

The Justice Council held its first meeting on September 28 to begin to clarify and define its role. Jill attended to provide guidance and support to help us distinguish our work from the work of the individual committees engaged in justice and outreach efforts. Rather than discussing and making decisions about specific programs, grant proposals, or issues, the Justice Council will begin its assignment by developing the policies and procedures by which the UUFC engages in justice-related activities. As she put it, "The primary goal of the Council should be the Fellowship's ability to engage efficiently, effectively, and appropriately to the needs of the world in which we live, instead of any of the issues which we agree to address and engage. The issues are the work of the committees and task forces. The Fellowship's ability to meet its justice and outreach goals is the work of the Council."

You can follow the Justice Council's progress in future issues of the newsletter, as well as occasional announcements in other UUFC media.



## Social Concerns and Action Lunch

Social Concerns in October will raise money for UUSC's Nepal Education Project to help rebuild schools. 5,000 schools were destroyed in the April earthquake. UUSC is partnering with Chetana, a grassroots teacher-run organization, which is focusing on junior schools in the Gorkha, Lamjung, and Tanahu districts. Student populations there are respectively largely from scheduled castes and tribes (Dalits), who historically face discrimination. Polly Kaye and Bobbi Hall (and probably others) have spent time helping in this beautiful country where Buddha was born (southern Nepal was culturally Indian then) and where Buddhists and Hindus today live together in peace. Nepal requires that groups helping in Nepal work with local organizations and Chetana seems ideal. Please consider bringing soup or other food to the Action Lunch on Oct. 4 and to weekly snack tables.

## Borderlinks: Service Learning Trip to the U.S.-Mexico Border

Human rights are at stake on the U.S.-Mexico border, and Roberta Smith and Nancy Kyle are heading out on a service learning trip with the UU College of Social Justice to the town of Nogales on the Arizona-Mexico border. We feel compelled to take this journey by our first principle: the inherent worth and dignity of all persons (regardless of their immigration status). We will be on our journey October 18-25. If you would like to learn more about this trip, see the UUSCJ Study Guide ([uucs.org/study-guide/](http://uucs.org/study-guide/)) or talk to either one of us.

## UUFC Compostable Utensils and Cups Update

The Environmental Action Council has learned that the supposedly-compostable utensils and cups bought to use in memorial services CANNOT be deposited in Republic's organic waste carts. Food waste and pizza boxes and plain white paper napkins and paper towels are okay, along with yard waste. For the meantime, we need to NOT use these items, which will be put in storage until they are acceptable to use. The plastic, glass and ceramics cups and plates, and our usual utensils, are easy to handle in our very quick and efficient washing process and should be used for memorial services, action lunches, and other events.

## Help A Neighbor Get Solar Power

Is your roof shaded so that solar collectors are not practical? Help someone else who wants a solar collector but does not have enough income to claim the Oregon tax credit. You give the householder \$5,400 and receive from the State of Oregon \$6,000 in tax credits spread over the next 4 years. Help the climate, help a householder of very modest means! For more information, contact Seeds for the Sol at [juliewa@comcast.net](mailto:juliewa@comcast.net). This is a way you can help personally. The climate justice committee and the investment committee are looking at other ways to assist Seeds for the Sol in their program to get solar collectors on Corvallis residences.

## Adopt-A-Highway Pick-up Day

UUFC has been participating in the Oregon Department of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway program for about 15 years. It is a quarterly commitment to pick up litter from the two miles of Philomath Blvd from 53rd Street to Philomath. Ideally, eight folks work in pairs, with each pair picking up one side of the highway for half of the distance, about one mile. This usually takes about an hour and a half and can be a very social time. We will meet in the northwest parking lot of the 53rd Street BiMart at 9:00 AM on Saturday, October 3, rain or shine. ODOT provides "grabbers", reflective vests and bags.

For those of you who have a teen (16 or older) who needs to earn volunteer hours, this is a perfect opportunity. If you would like to help out (just show up) or need more information, contact Bob Ozretich (The Trash Tsar) at ([boboz@peak.org](mailto:boboz@peak.org), 541-758-3221).

## Environmental Film Offering

The Environmental Action Council will show a film, Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 PM in room 7. Bill Moyers interviews Kumi Nadoo, executive director of Greenpeace at the time (the interview was filmed in 2013). Kumi boarded a Russian oil drill rig in the arctic while being sprayed with ice water from a power hose. All are invited to attend.

## Oregon UU Voices for Justice

This year's meeting of Oregon UU Voices for Justice, our Statewide Advocacy Network, will be held Saturday, October 17, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Eugene. Members of all twenty-one Unitarian Universalist congregations in Oregon are invited. For more information or to arrange an overnight homestay, contact Sue Craig ([suecraig@gmail.com](mailto:suecraig@gmail.com), 541-607-0204).

# GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

## BOARD CONTINUES TO LOOK AT FACILITY NEEDS

*Kyle Jansson*

The Board of Trustees is looking at a two-step process this year toward resolving the UUFC's facility challenges. This follows up on last year's congregational conversation in which Fellowship members clearly indicated a preference for remaining in our current location rather than moving to a new site.

This fall's first step was appointment of a research task force to determine how changes to our current building might intersect with city planning and zoning ordinances. This task force is asking basic questions such as:

If we expand our building's "footprint", what kinds of requirements kick in? Would we need to upgrade utilities throughout the building? Meet earthquake and energy efficiency requirements? Parking? Get a new conditional use permit?

If we are just changing the interior, such as adding restrooms and a larger kitchen, what permits will be needed? If we need to request a conditional use permit, how much will permit cost? How much will the entire permitting process likely cost?

The research group will finish its work this fall. Meanwhile, the Board is determining the process that will be used to determine the priority remodel design. At its September meeting, the Board began discussing how a committee including both Board members and other UUFC members might lead the process involving the congregation. Board members talked about the possibility of deciding the priority by May's congregational meeting.

The facility issue is one of several goals the Board drafted during its September meeting. The Board will likely finalize its goals for the year at its October 12 meeting. For more information, contact board chair Kyle Jansson ([kjansson1@minetfiber.com](mailto:kjansson1@minetfiber.com), 503-838-2313).

## Communication Change: Weekly Announcements

The transition is now complete from the Weekly eNews (distributed by email each Friday morning) to the Weekly Announcements (distributed on paper and electronically each Sunday). The Weekly Announcements allow a little more room for explaining upcoming and emerging events, and allow us to more efficiently share information by making a single publication that can be printed, emailed, and posted to the website. As before, to submit an item for the Weekly Announcements, send an email to [news@uucorvallis.org](mailto:news@uucorvallis.org) by 12:00 PM (noon) on Thursday.

## UUFC Policies Now Available on Website

The UUFC relied during its first few decades on verbal communication for making its policies known. Then for the next few decades the Board adopted written policies which were stored on paper and not always accessible. Now, those policies are available on the congregation's website. Just go to the "file cabinet" section of the UUFC website ([http://uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=421](http://uucorvallis.org/?page_id=421)) and you will find more than 40 policies, including the policy approved by the Board in August that defines the new four-council coordinating group.

Policies are those basic principles and guidelines, adopted by the Board, to direct and limit the action of the UUFC in pursuit of its goals. They provide the framework and general direction, the "why" we do things, and are generally long-lasting. Some of the policies are more than 20 years old and badly in need of updating. Other groups of policies were written during the same period and need to be examined to see if they meet today's changed circumstances.

In order to create a common understanding about policies, the Board adopted last year a Policy on Policies. A procedure gives tips on how-to-write a policy was created to give advice about policy writing. Your committee will want to review existing policies that relate to its work. If a policy needs changes or if the group wants to recommend a new policy, have your committee (along with other groups and individuals with an interest in the policy) draft a new version and submit it to the Board for adoption. For more information about policy adoption, contact president Kyle Jansson ([kjansson1@minetfiber.com](mailto:kjansson1@minetfiber.com), 503-838-2313).

## Abandoned (unwanted?) bowls, plates, casseroles

The Fellowship kitchen has shelves over the microwave which are partially used for dishes left after events. The shelves are very full of some very nice pieces. Please check to see if any of those are yours and remove them from the kitchen. Soon they will all be packed up for donating or for the rummage sale. Thanks!

## Meet the Global UU Community, July 2016 in the Netherlands and Transylvania

Are you interested in knowing more about and connecting with UUs from around the world? If so, you are invited to attend the bi-ennial meeting of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists, July 18-23, 2016, in the Netherlands. Information will soon be available at [www.icuu.net](http://www.icuu.net). In addition we're considering a visit to our UUFC partner congregation in Transylvania following the ICUU meeting. Let Jill McAllister know if you are interested.

## Welcome Desiree Senechal – New Business Manager at the Fellowship

The new Fellowship position of Business Manager has been accepted by Desiree Senechal, who worked for many years in the finance department of a large Episcopal diocese. She is happy to join the UUFC in this 1/3 time position which will focus on payroll, employee benefits, and coordination of regular bookkeeping. Desiree is busy meeting all the people she'll be interacting with and helping in this new role. Eventually she may be in the office one day per week.

The personnel committee continues to review the position of Office Manager, thanks to great help from Jean Gilbert as the interim in that position. We aim to have a revised job description by mid-November.



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**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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**Looking for the calendar?**

For the most up-to-date information, see our website at [http://uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=211](http://uucorvallis.org/?page_id=211)  
Our online calendar is updated weekly or sometimes even more frequently!