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# UUFC NEWSLETTER } AUGUST 2018

*“Have you remembered to relax yet, and be thankful for all the gifts of summer?”*

## Between Us.

Ah, summer. Don't you love the warmth? Have you remembered to relax yet, and be thankful for all the gifts of summer? Things will be very busy at the Fellowship this month – it probably won't be a great place for contemplation. But there will be lots of joining together and working together, so we hope to see you here.

Renovation of the Sanctuary is getting started this week. This is one of the goals of our building project. The walls are being patched and painted, the old (original!) carpet is being replaced with marmoleum, to improve air-quality and therefore accessibility in that room. A new hanging system for art will be installed. Volunteers are still welcome!

Our annual rummage sale, an extravaganza of up-cycling, re-cycling, re-using, and re-newing, will be held in the Sanctuary on Aug. 25. Donations are welcome now, to Room 8, and can be brought directly to the Sanctuary beginning Aug. 12. Volunteers for that big day are still needed – sign up in the foyer on Sundays. If you'd like someone

to pick up your donations and transport them to the Fellowship, contact Virgil Agnew, [agnewv@comcast.net](mailto:agnewv@comcast.net) or Rich Brainerd, [richmondbrainerd@comcast.net](mailto:richmondbrainerd@comcast.net) after Aug. 12.

The sanctuary will be closed and un-available beginning Aug. 26, through Sept. 3, for the flooring replacement.

**SUNDAYS AUG. 12, 19 and 26 Off-Site**  
 Remember, on Sundays Aug. 12, 19 and 26, we will **not** have services at 10 AM at the Fellowship. Our Sunday services on those three Sundays will be held at the **Church of the Good Samaritan, at the corner of Harrison and 35th in Corvallis, at 5 PM in the afternoon.** A potluck supper will follow each service, at 6 PM.

And, there will be **no Sunday service on Sept. 2** – not at the Fellowship and not at the Church of the Good Samaritan. Join the Fellowship camping trip at Cascadia State park on Sunday morning, Sept. 2, if you like. And, come to the Annual Tuna Roast at Avery

Park on Monday, Sept. 3. There are plenty of opportunities to gather that weekend.

One thing that won't be happening at the Fellowship this month, after all, is renovation work on the classroom wing, to meet current codes for building safety in case of earthquake (seismic stability). The estimates of structural engineers and construction consultants is that the project will be much larger and more extensive than we first imagined (and much more expensive), requiring a professional crew of about 20. That work is now postponed until next summer. This too is one of the priorities we set for our building enhancement project.

Sometimes, this is the way it is. Much to be done. Schedules changing. Lots of coming and going. And all of it is beautiful! Keep coming.

## See you Sunday --- Jill

P.S. Jill will be out of town from Aug. 3 - 18, spending a week with the UU fellowship in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and then driving with her spouse, Walter, to Michigan, where he'll be working for the coming year.

# Governance

## Board News from Craig Olbrich

The new board met for the first time in July. We are: Craig Olbrich - President, Uta Hussong-Christian- VP, Herky Gottfried - treasurer, Jerry Buthmann - secretary, Jen Akeroyd, Kathy Kopczynski, Daniel Landberg, and Brooke Landberg - trustees. We're excited to be working together for the Fellowship this year.

An all-Fellowship meeting is planned for October 28th after the Sunday service, to vote on our new bylaws and appoint new committee and council leadership as needed by those bylaws. Please mark your calendar and help us move forward on this important improvement to Fellowship operations. Most of the bylaws are the same as the drafts we looked at a few months ago. A few other additions are still needed, including codifying our financial oversight methods. Once those additions are made, we will update the drafts for everyone to review again soon.

As many of you may have heard, seismic upgrades to the classroom wing have been delayed. The engineers' plan for the work needed turned out to be more extensive than originally estimated. This has two impacts: more professional workers will be needed (with commensurate increases in cost) and the contractor does not have the time or capacity to accomplish everything in August of this year.

The Sanctuary flooring replacement and re-painting are still ON! Add your name to the volunteer list to help get the painting done!

We are re-assessing the seismic plans and moving forward with engineering studies for the seismic upgrades to the Sanctuary and the Social Hall, with the target of scheduling a whole package of upgrades next summer.

Finally our friends from the Corvallis Zen Circle want to form an ecumenical cooperative with us -- a small joint working group to navigate shared needs and interests. We need one interested lay member of the Fellowship to be on the team. Contact Craig or Jill McA know.

## UUFC Summer Office Hours

Continuing through Labor Day, the UUFC Summer office hours are:

- ~Tuesdays, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM
- ~Wednesdays, 10 AM-2 PM
- ~Thursdays, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

## SLOWLY, PLEASE, IN THE PARKING LOT

Parents of children in the Magic Flute pre-school, operating in our classroom wing on weekdays, ask for greater awareness of safety as they pick up their children. Please drive SLOWLY into the Firwood Parking lot -- children and parents are crossing there.

# Worship Services

**"When someone told me I live in a fantasy land, I nearly fell off of my unicorn", or 'How to Participate Joyfully in the Sorrows of the World.' Earle Canfield, Wolfgang Dengler**

5:00 PM at Good Samaritan Church  
Guest speaker J. Earle Canfield is a UU living part-time in Seattle and part-time in Kathmandu, Nepal. He is the director of ANSWER Nepal, a non-profit organization that matches Nepali students with sponsors from around the world. Wolfgang Dengler will host the service.

# Justice Work

## Corvallis Men's Shelter

The city and the county both approved funding for the shelter for the coming season, and the controversy around the location of the shelter continues.

The UUFC board agreed in April to continue in the role of fiscal agent for the shelter. We are hearing of plans for "multiple lawsuits" but have no information other than rumors. Since the Fellowship is deeply involved in this work, we are seeking legal advice from a lawyer familiar with issues around homelessness and shelters.



### "Beside Still Waters"

10:00 AM at UUFC The Rev. Diana Vezmar-Bailey

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No one escapes life experiences that result in fear & anxiety. These emotions can make it very hard fully, truly connect to ourselves and others, and our lives are diminished without these connections. The religious life aims toward healing and wholeness. Are we moving toward wholeness, and how can we continue on this healing journey?

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## August Events at the UUFC

- 4 Annual Summer Picnic at Ann Marchant and Russ Anderson's home, 3-8 PM
- 11 Men's Monthly Gathering, 9:30 AM, LIB
- 13 UUFC Board Meeting, 7 PM in Room 7
- 25 The Rummage Sale! 9 AM - 3PM in the SH and SFH
- 27 New FLOORING installed in the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary will be closed all week.

\*Reminder, worship services on August 12, 19, and 26 will be at 5:00 PM at Good Samaritan Church and there is NO worship service on Sept. 2

### Words for Reflection

**"We gather together, sometimes with fear, sometimes with trust, sometimes in pain, sometimes in joy, but always in hope that we can support and strengthen one another in our common quest for healing and wholeness."**

**~Rev. Jay Atkinson**

# Religious Exploration Fall News

## Registration info:

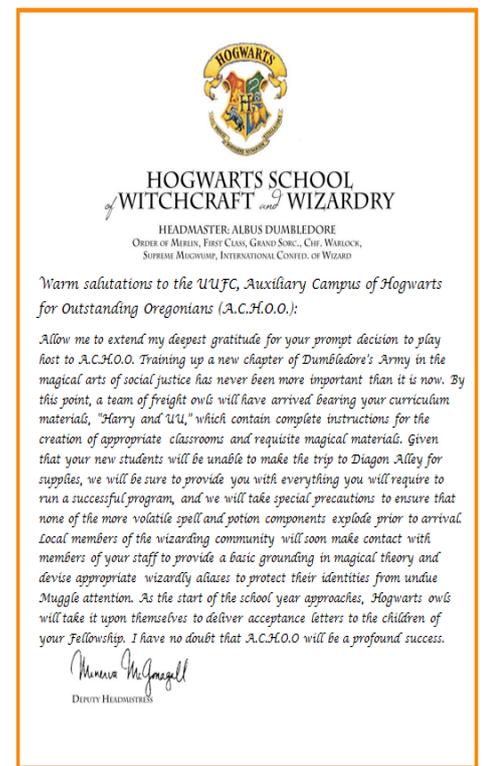
It's almost time to register children and youth for the 2018-2019 Religious Exploration program! When you fill out a registration form at the beginning of each year, it ensures that we have all the information we might require in case of emergencies and helps accurately track our enrollment numbers. 2018-2019 registration forms will be available in the foyer and in RE Director Michael Molk's office starting in August, and you can also access them online on our website at <https://uucorvallis.org/religious-exploration/registration/>. We'll also have registration forms available at the Parent Orientation following the first day of RE on September 16th.

## Justice Theatre/Holiday pageant info:

In June of 2017, RE Associate Rachel Kohler and a group of UUFC members and community actors performed an adaptation of Julius Caesar to raise money for the ACLU. Last December, a different group of UUFC children and adults performed an adaptation of the Oxfordshire St. George Play as a holiday pageant. Both of these performance events were

so successful that this year we've decided to combine them! On October 15 and 16, we'll be holding auditions for our Justice Theatre/Holiday Pageant production of The Wakefield Second Shepherd's Play, a comedic re-imagining of the Nativity story from the perspective of the shepherds. Rehearsals will take place through October and November, culminating in a full pay-what-you-will performance on Saturday, December 8, with all proceeds to benefit the Corvallis Cold Weather Men's Shelter. At the 11am Sunday service on December 9, we'll have an encore performance of the Nativity portion of the play with additional songs and animal roles provided by younger children of the Fellowship. We are looking to cast as many adult and youth Fellowship actors as possible in the larger roles, so do consider auditioning! No experience necessary. Email Rachel for more details at [reassociate@uucorvallis.org](mailto:reassociate@uucorvallis.org).

**Don't miss this exciting letter from Hogwarts about RE this fall ---->**



**"This Religious Life: A Question Box Sunday"**  
Rev. Jill McAllister and All  
5:00 PM at Good Samaritan Church

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A service for all ages. Everyone can bring or write a question to put in the question box, and we'll take turns pulling out questions and answering them. All questions are welcome, especially about life, death, love, fear, courage, suffering, honesty, wholeness, etc. And anything you'd like to know about UUism or the UUFC.

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**"Summer Earth"**  
Rev. Jill McAllister and All  
5:00 PM at Good Samaritan Church

In story and song, movement and meditation, we'll celebrate the gifts of summer and what it teaches us about how to live. A service for all ages.

## Notes from Jamie Petts

~The UUFC website has been made more secure! We purchased a SSL Certificate for the Fellowship, ensuring that our web site has secure, encrypted communication. Our new website address is <https://uucorvallis.org>.

You may have noticed the website was down and had glitches for a few days at the beginning of July while this was happening, and you may need to update your "bookmarks" to ensure that you have HTTPS (instead of the old HTTP) in front of [uucorvallis.org](https://uucorvallis.org).

~We want to create a list of "minute people" who are willing to be called on when last-minute things come up at the Fellowship and we need volunteers. Ideally, these are folks who live close by and are often readily available. Email the office if you're willing to put your name on such a list!

## Men's Retreat

Save the date: UUFC Men's Retreat: Fri – Sun, October 19 – 21, Menucha Conference Center in Corbett, OR. We will explore the idea of visiting the deeper layers: open-hearted encounters with ourselves in a beautiful setting overlooking the Columbia Gorge. The theme this year is "Visiting the Deeper Layers: Open-hearted encounters with ourselves. Reverend Mark Gallagher, formerly minister at the UU Fellowship in Vancouver, Washington and visiting minister at our UUFC, will help us to probe beneath the surface layers. We will also have fun and get to know each other by sharing experiences and insights. You can learn more on the UU web site ([http://uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=2660](http://uucorvallis.org/?page_id=2660)) or by contacting Lloyd Wagenschutz 541-753-9071 (e-mail [lpwz124@comcast.net](mailto:lpwz124@comcast.net)) or other members of the planning committee (Jed Irvine, Alan Kirk, and Steve Strauss).

## Social Concerns

### Summer Bake Sales benefit K-12 Students

To be successful in school, students need the basics, such as school supplies, winter clothing, money for transportation, fees for sports, soap, shampoo and laundry detergent. Not all parents can provide these, nor do all children have permanent homes. That is why we are raising funds for Vina Moses in June and July, and for the McKinney Homeless Education Program in August and September. During the summers our fellowship typically raises between \$1,200 and \$1,500 for each charity, thus allowing each charity to help well over 30 children. You can help by donating money during Sunday services, and by donating, or purchasing, refreshments during the social hour.

## Building Design Team (BDT)

Our Land Use application to the City of Corvallis was submitted on May 23, and on June 21 they replied with an "SRC Letter" (staff review committee) noting items needing further clarification and information. On July 24 we met again with the City Planning and Public Works staff to make sure that we have a shared understanding of their needs. Now we're working to provide the additional information requested. When the application is declared complete, our hearing before the Planning Commission will be scheduled.

The seismic work on the classroom wing has been postponed until next summer. A few less intrusive seismic tasks will take place in the intervening months, with the big push planned for August 2019.

This summer will likely be the time for completion of the sidewalk improvements along Circle Blvd. frontage of the Corvallis Zen Center and UUFC.

# Connections Council

## CONNECT UP....

...offers opportunities for us to gather in a variety of interest based small groups to better get to know one another. SIGN UP on Sunday, August 26, to participate in or to host an activity in September! July activities included Lunch Bunch after service, Healing Through Mindfulness and Self Awareness - a 6 week workshop, SAGE concert, Craft Day with Soup Lunch, Wine Tasting, and Book Club. What are your interests? Questions: contact Wendy Sutton [connect@uucorvallis.org](mailto:connect@uucorvallis.org). For current events, visit Connect Up on the UUFC website: [http://uucorvallis.org/?page\\_id=3776](http://uucorvallis.org/?page_id=3776)

## UUFC Annual Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Extravaganza: August 25 at the Fellowship

Please put the Rummage Sale on your calendar. Your help is needed:

~Donate items to be sold. Start now to find small things to donate and bring them to Room 8. You can start bringing large items directly to the Sanctuary starting August 12.

~Help sort and price, starting August 19, in the Sanctuary and Social Hall. Many hands are needed.

~Come shop and buy on August 25. Again, many folks are needed to be cashiers, help customers, and clean up.

Contact Judy Westlake, [judywestlake@comcast.net](mailto:judywestlake@comcast.net), or Sylvia Geddes, [geddessylvia@yahoo.com](mailto:geddessylvia@yahoo.com), to help.

This enormous and wonderful event raises money for the Fellowship, builds community and helps our environment by promoting reducing, reusing, and recycling.

**\*Reminder: worship services on Sundays, August 12, 19, and 26 will be at 5:00 PM at Church of the Good Samaritan, at 35th and Harrison Ave in Corvallis. A potluck supper follows each of these services. Also, there is NO worship service on Sunday, September 2.**

## A Thank You From Elizabeth Sollie

Dear Congregation,

Thank you so much for ordaining me -- both the act and the work you put into it. Thank you to all who set up and brought beautiful food and those who stayed to clean up. I will cross into Colorado today, and though I will miss all of you dearly, I do look forward to desiccating. I expect I will have aged 5 years by the end of the week. I shall endeavor to be worthy of all you have taught me and the gift of your ordination. I take this responsibility seriously. May your individual and UUFC endeavors be blessed by your amazing capacity for love.

Elizabeth

## Ribbon cutting for the Ronald Naasko Playground

To UUFC members and friends: I'd like to invite your congregation to the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Ronald Naasko Playground on the riverfront this Saturday, Aug. 4 at 3 PM. Ronald Naasko is a former longtime member of your congregation and religious education teacher/volunteer who passed away in 2011.

Julie Deutscher Naasko (Ron's daughter)

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