



# THE SUUN

Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane Monthly Newsletter  
CREATE COMMUNITY • FIND MEANING • WORK FOR JUSTICE

April 2015 • Volume 22 Issue 4

## UP COMING SERVICES

- April 5**      **An Introduction to Islam**  
*Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, UUUS Minister*
- April 12**    **It's A Wonderful Church: Sermon on the Amount 2015**  
*Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, UUUS Minister*
- April 19**    **One God is Never Enough: Why Pure Monotheism Has Never Succeeded**  
*Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, UUUS Minister*
- April 26**    **Do You Really Want To Know?\***  
*Rev. Laura Shennum, Guest Speaker*

*\* Rev. Laura Shennum serves Cascade UU Fellowship as our Developmental Minister. She holds a Master of Divinity degree from Meadville Lombard Theological School. Rev. Laura was the Intern Minister at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln, NE and the Director of Religious Education for Second Unitarian Church of Omaha, NE.*

*Her theology is grounded in the reason of Unitarianism and the love of Universalism. It is fueled by the stories of human experience and connection. Rev. Laura's hope is by working towards breaking down assumptions of fear and hate with stories of humanity; slowly and surely a difference can be made in how we treat each other and the world around us. Rev. Laura enjoys spending time with her family: husband, Don and children, Siena, Conor, and Bree. They are blessed with a cat, Simon and a dog, Shadow.*

### April 19 — Special Collection for the Center for Justice

The Center for Justice was founded in 1999 by Spokane lawyer Jim Sheehan because as Sheehan saw it, the courts too often favored the strong while the powerless often could not afford representation. "Justice is about fairness, protecting the wider community from abuse by the moneyed few." The Center advocates for citizens in such issues prisoners' rights, reinstatement of drivers' licenses, and restoring voting rights. But that's not all. The work of the Center has grown to also include: **Spokane Riverkeeper**, a for-impact environmental advocacy program that works to protect the health of our Spokane River and **Smart Justice** which advocates for policy reform and working to create a more fair, just and effective regional criminal justice system. The **Health and Justice Initiative** assists healthcare providers in using the law as a tool to lower costs and improve health. The **Center for Justice** is also active in **Police Accountability** advocacy for the rights of citizens and independent police oversight in our community.

## Growing Generosity: 2015-16 Stewardship

The signs of spring are everywhere, and if the blooms have yet to appear in your yard, not to worry — predictions are for a wetter than normal spring! April is the month we will be pouring energy into growing something else at UUSC — generosity. Generosity comes in many forms, of course, but one of the most vital is the sharing of our financial resources with our church. Throughout April, we'll be concentrating on raising pledges for the funds needed for the work we do here at UUCS to Create Community, Find Meaning, and Work for Justice.

Shortly after the first of the month, every member of the congregation will be receiving a packet of information in the mail outlining the pledging process for the 2015-16 church fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. We encourage you to complete the green pledge form and return it as soon as possible to the church office. If you prefer, you can complete your pledge form online on the church website at [www.uuspokane.org](http://www.uuspokane.org).

On Sundays in April, members of the congregation will share how your generosity makes possible the work they do at UUCS. And, of course, you'll have an opportunity to complete and turn in your pledge form then, too.

Regardless of how you return your pledge, we encourage you to get it in as soon as possible so that we can begin planning for the upcoming year. Consider increasing your pledge — the average annual pledge needed to meet our budget needs is \$1200 per member. Many of our members give more than that, and we are very grateful. That amount is not reasonable for some of us, but do you know that if 10 percent of our members each gave \$10 a month, the resulting revenue would be close to \$5,000? No pledge is too small. Every amount is appreciated and put to good use.



## FOUR YEARS WITH TODD

We are fast approaching the end of our fourth year with Rev. Todd Eklof. I remember thinking before he arrived that we should all gather for one of our famous workshops to define personal goals (small or large) for how we would each assist Todd in being a success. This would be a measurable thing we could do to create an atmosphere of health and creativity in the accomplishment of our mission, then one or two years later, check in to see how we were doing.

Since we had never had those workshops, I wonder now if many of us didn't choose such a path, anyway by finding ways to work out our commitment to our congregation and Todd; so I wonder how we're doing?

Todd arrived with so much enthusiasm and with ideas "a mile a minute". The congregation was eager to help be a part of major social change as well as making changes in our church and in our world. Still, we had to really scurry to keep up. Some of us began to worry he'd burn out, so much to do, and only a finite amount of time. He kept reassuring us that he ate this stuff up, and he would be a good steward of his time and carve out time for rest and contemplation even though it's a tricky balance.

How does he come up with deep, researched, quality sermons three Sunday's a month, and attend city council meetings; attend all the church meetings, and meet with all the people who want to talk, and be aware of all the news, local, national, and world? How does he have time to be a husband, father and friend, and still organize gatherings on the spur of the moment like the one for the NAACP head who'd been threatened... every week!

He is wise enough and we are wise enough to know that helpers are a good thing. Some are staff, some are committed people who know it takes a lot of hands and hearts to encourage and make things happen. Todd's hearty and caring ways makes being a part of the bigger team worth it. It's nice to have a point man who's easy to love, tough when he has to be, and compassionate when it's right, but clear about his goals.

Some of our four years have been up's and some have been down's. The up's certainly out weigh the down's. Once again we've all had to learn "No one is perfect". In fact to expect perfection is damaging. We all do the best we can at the time. All we can do with mistakes is repair and that takes time and intention.

May our next four years be filled with as much excitement, involvement, growth, bravery, clarity, and intention as has the last four years. Thank you Todd, and to all of you who continue to work for this grand and vulnerable experiment.

— Devon Greyerbiehl  
*Healthy Relations Team*



## Board Slivers

My general philosophy has always been to learn something new everyday and that has been easy this month! I attended a workshop on the responsibilities of a board member of a non-profit organization and I participated in an un-official audit of our financial practices. These were both excellent ways to make me a better, more informed, board member... but now I'm ready to look out to the wider UU community for new ideas and inspiration... and YOU CAN JOIN ME!

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly is coming to the Northwest this summer! This is a rare chance to go in 'our own backyard' as these meetings are usually in the Midwest or on the East coast! General Assembly (GA) will be in Portland, OR, between June 24th and the 28th. The theme is 'Building a New Way', or how can congregations respond to the needs of our time in a creative imaginative way? Speakers and discussion facilitators will address important issues such as: How has shared vision and story helped you to be more engaged with the wider world? What are your efforts to build an inclusive community that supports justice and lives compassionately? How are you reaching out beyond your immediate Unitarian Universalist community to share the liberal religious values that transform lives? The 'headline speaker', Dr. Cornel West, is the author of Race Matters and 18 other books. He sounds like he is a passionate communicator who focuses on keeping alive the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and working for social justice.

Hundreds of UUs from all over the country will converge on Portland to discuss dreams, philosophy, actions, and priorities. There will structured programs, informal conversations, worshipping, delegation voting on priorities of the national UUA, and so much more! I plan to be a part of this exciting opportunity to be energized by a group of inspiring unique individuals. Join me! Register by 4/30/15 for the best registration rates and hotel costs. See the website for more info. (<http://www.uua.org/ga/registration>)

— Ann-Scott Ettinger,  
*Board of Trustee Member*

**The Board of Trustees meets the fourth  
Wednesday of each month beginning in July.  
Meeting times are 6:30 — 8:15 pm. All are welcome.**

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Your M-Team meets regularly to discuss the daily operations of the church, address concerns of congregation members and teams, and plan how best to move the mission and vision of the congregation forward as per our Policy Governance charge. Our 4 pm meetings in the Administration Office Workroom are generally every other Tuesday. And, of course, all are welcome to attend the meetings. If you are unable to attend, but would like something to be put on the agenda, please contact Rev. Todd at 509-325-6383 or [minister@uuspokane.org](mailto:minister@uuspokane.org). Our meeting schedule this month is April 7 and April 21.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

We are a generous congregation and together we do much to make our community and our world a better place. At eight months into our fiscal year, we're in good shape year-to-date, with over \$14,000 in the black. Our expenses remain fairly consistent throughout the year and our revenues vary quite a bit. We spent almost \$10,000 more than we took in during February, which represents our typical after-New-Year slump in collections.

The Board and Finance Committee are watching our finances very closely as there is a \$17,000 gap between our budgeted pledges and our actual pledges. I'm concerned with what the next few months may bring. We are delaying what expenses we can, but that alone won't solve the problem. Thank you for keeping up with your pledge commitments it takes all of us together to make this work.

If you don't remember what your pledge is, please call the church office at 325-6383 and someone will help you. If your circumstances have changed, and you need to change your pledge, please contact the church office, or myself at mariebjork@aol.com or 509-220-0986.

Thank you for working together to keep this church year in a healthy financial position and continue our positive impact in the world. Full financial reports are posted monthly on the bulletin board in the foyer, or you may contact me with questions. Thank you again for your continued support of our church.

Marie Bjork, Treasurer  
mariebjork@aol.com, 509-220-0986

## UUCS YTD Revenue & Expenditures

July 1, 2014 - February 28, 2015

	Feb	Year to Date	Annual Budget	% of Year Completed	% of Annual Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Pledges	\$21,948	<b>\$256,311</b>	\$404,000	67%	63%
Other	\$4,752	<b>\$50,432</b>	\$76,035	67%	66%
<b>Total Rev</b>	\$26,700	<b>\$306,743</b>	\$480,035	67%	64%
<b>Expenses:</b>					
	\$36,553	<b>\$292,614</b>	\$480,035	67%	61%
<b>Net Rev.</b>	\$(9,853)	<b>\$14,129</b>			
<b>Endowment Fund Balance 2/28/15:</b>			<b>\$326,834</b>		

## Submitting Articles to the SUUN

Please be SURE to put UU SUUN in the subject line. That way, even if I miss them I can search and find them. I respond to every article, so if you don't get a reply get in touch as I might have missed your submission. And, it would be great if you did not format your article – I just have to remove formatting, so you'd save me a bit of time by just sending it in simple MS Word format. Please send articles to: SUUN@uuspokane.org

Thank You! — Kathryn Alexander, *UUCS SUUN Editor* 3

## 2015 FINANCIAL REVIEW IN BRIEF

On Wednesday, March 18, members of the Board of Trustees (BOT) Finance Committee (Herb Bonallo, former UUCS Treasurer, and BOT members Ann-Scott Ettinger and Donna Bordon-Rhodes) conducted a financial review of church accounting systems, processes and procedures. The review consisted of interviews with church Business Administrator (Jet Tilley), Treasurer (Marie Bjork), and contract Bookkeeper (Connie Smith-Blackburn) regarding procedures and controls, as well as random tests using the congregation-approved budget to determine the reliability of the accounting system and conformance to the budget.

Based on the interviews and tests, the reviewers determined the procedures employed to manage church finances are in keeping with the accounting principle of internal control, which requires a separation of tasks and duties in order to protect assets. The reviewers also found the recording of pledges and other cash receipts to be appropriate and complete, and no discrepancies or exceptions when tracking payments to vendors, employees, and individuals from financial reports back through the system to source documents.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the review for making it a process that allows for both verification of good practices and enhancing our systems. Both the reviewers and those being interviewed made suggestions for procedural improvements that were accepted and put in place. If you'd like to see the full Financial Review Report, please contact any member of the review team or the church office.

— Submitted by Herb Bonallo, *UUCS Finance Committee*

## FYI FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

### Help Still Needed

The day-to-day business of this church is accomplished in large measure by the generous donations of time and talents our members and friends. We still have volunteer opportunities available. Please consider donating yourself to one of these important tasks. Thanks in advance for stepping forward

### Monday Office Volunteer

We have an opening for a volunteer to staff the office on Monday from 10 am – 2 pm. If you are interested in learning more about how the church runs on a daily basis, this is the job for you. For more information, call me, Jet Tilley, during office hours at 509-325-6383.

### Board of Trustees Needs a Secretary

The Board of Trustees is still in need of a secretary to take minutes at their monthly meetings. They meet the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30 - 8 pm. If interested please contact Sue Stirtz at 509-475-1376 or any other Board member.

Finally, thanks to Kathryn Alexander, our SUUN editor, for stepping forward to compile our Wheel of Life column. If YOU have a landmark event in your life and would like to share it in the Wheel of Life in the May SUUN, please email Kathryn at wheel\_of\_life@uuspokane.org.

— Jet Tilley, *UUCS Business Administrator*



## CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Tracy's Reflections

Years ago, when my sons were young, they were excited for a play date. We drove to get the friend, but when we got there the boy said, "I changed my mind, I don't want to go." He wasn't upset or worried. He just wanted to do something else.

The mom shrugged with a half apologetic smile, and that was that, he wasn't going. My children were devastated. They had been looking so forward to the play date. I was shocked. When my children made a commitment, they kept it, because I knew it was hurtful to break commitments. This mom let her son know that what he wanted and his happiness were more important than being thoughtful and kind.

Children in our society have learned that lesson. Happiness is more important than kindness and so is personal achievement. When the Making Caring Common Project, a program at Harvard, surveyed 10,000 youth, 80% said achievement and happiness were their life priorities. Only 20% said being caring was a priority.

Meanwhile, in another study, 96% of all parents said their children's moral character was a "very important, if not essential." However, that is not what the youth thought. Eighty-one percent said happiness or achievement was their parent's top priority for them. Most said that their parents would be prouder of them if they got good grades than if they did something good in their community.

For Unitarian Universalists empathy and kindness ground our faith. However, it can be easy for any parents to get caught up in the cultural ideals of personal happiness and achievement.

The Making Caring Common project reminds us that our children learn what we teach. If we tell our children caring matters, model kind behavior, and help our children practice caring, they will become more compassionate and kind. So instead of saying to our kids, "the most important thing is for you to be happy," we say, "the most important things are for you to be happy and kind to others."

When we help our children make decisions, we remind them to consider the impacts of those decisions on others. When they want to leave the band or sports team, we ask how that will affect others who are counting on them. When they don't want to go to church or a family event, we remind them being in a community is not just about their own enjoyment, but about the ways their presence matters to others.

We act as role models. We are compassionate and kind toward people. We offer service to those in need. We ask our children not only "how was your day?" and "what did you learn?" but also, "what did you do that was kind?"

We share this earth with many people. Everyone has a responsibility to treat others with care. My hope is that our church community offers us all hundreds of opportunities to practice that art.

— Rev. Tracy Springberry  
*Consulting Minister of Religious Education*

### Tasty Tuesday. A Community Gathering, April 21

Mark your calendars for Tasty Tuesday, a community gathering, on April 21 from 5:30 to 7. We will have conversation activities for children and a worship service focused on being compassionate.

Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:15, so come at the time that best works for your family. Food will include vegetarian and gluten-free options and be offered on a sliding scale. Our multigenerational worship will begin at 6:30.

We still need cooks, set up and clean up people. Let Tracy Springberry know if you can help by emailing [re@uuspokane.org](mailto:re@uuspokane.org) or texting her at (509)638-5316.

### Easter Helpers Needed

We are seeking two or three adults to run our one room schoolhouse on Easter morning, April 5 at 11am. The program will include fun Easter activities and an egg hunt. Children will be having fun and so will you. Contact Tracy Springberry at [re@uuspokane.org](mailto:re@uuspokane.org) or [tspringberry@uuma.org](mailto:tspringberry@uuma.org) or text at (509)638-5316 if you are interested.

### Assistance Needed in RE

- Childcare: Seeking people to childcare on an as needed basis. Youth are welcome.
- RE Substitutes: We also need people who will volunteer one Sunday a month to substitute when our teachers cannot make it.
- Preschool Childcare: We are seeking two people willing to offer supervision for preschoolers on Sundays at 11 am services once a month.

### Camp Starwheel is Coming!

Join our church community for Camp Starwheel — our annual church campout. Camp happens Memorial Day weekend (May 23-25) at Camp Reed. It's summer camp fun for all ages! Enjoy campfire sing-alongs, swimming, canoeing, workshops, the much anticipated cardboard boat races, and more. Just relaxing in nature is good too.

Discounted Early Bird Registration takes place Sunday, April 12th through Friday, May 1st. Late Registration takes place Saturday May 2nd-Sunday, May 17th. Registration forms will be available at UUCS beginning in April.

Volunteers are needed to help make Camp Starwheel work. We need plenty of people who will share in the work of planning, clean-up, helping with activities, etc. That part is a good time, too! Contact Sarah Mortenson-Gauss at 509-290-9584 or [sarirae73@yahoo.com](mailto:sarirae73@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Calling all UUYouth!

Join us for a planning meeting for a new UUCS youth group for all middle- and high-school age students. This is separate from your usual RE classes, and our goal is to create community, find meaning, work for justice, and have fun doing it. The group will do and be what you want it to, but we imagine it will include meals together, outdoor and indoor activities, thoughtful conversations, and real work in the community. We will start the planning together with a pizza dinner at the church on Wednesday, April 29th, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Join us to have a hand in making this what you want it to be. For more information, contact David Boose [boosedl@gmail.com](mailto:boosedl@gmail.com) or Tracy Springberry [re@uuspokane.org](mailto:re@uuspokane.org).

Registration Costs:	Weekend	Late fee after May 5th
Lakeview Lodge (over 18)	\$80	\$90
Adult in Cabin	\$60	\$80
Youth/Child (5-18)	\$45	\$55
Little one (under 5)	Free	Free
Family (2 adults, 2 kids)	\$185	\$200
Saturday only day fee	\$25 per person	

Camp will be Memorial Day weekend from 5 pm Friday night, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, to 3 pm Sunday afternoon, May 24<sup>th</sup>. **The regular registration deadline will be May 5<sup>th</sup>, please mark your payment Camp Starwheel in the memo line. No registrations will be accepted after May 20<sup>st</sup>. There will be no refunds after May 15<sup>th</sup>.** Send your registration form and payment to the church office, 4340 W. Ft George Wright Dr., Spokane, WA 99224, or drop it off at the church office. A limited number of partial “camperships” are available. Contact Tracy Springberry for additional registration information at 325-6383. More information will be mailed or e-mailed before camp. (Map and directions are on the Camp Starwheel page on the church website at [www.uuspokane.org](http://www.uuspokane.org).)

Camper Name	Lodge or Cabin	Weekend/Saturday	Age	Fees
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
_____	_____	Weekend/Saturday	_____	_____
Campership? _____		Totals:	_____	_____

**Please remember to make check payable to “UUCS” with memo “Camp Starwheel”**

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Anyone (11 or older) interested in doing the Adventure course? Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday morning, \$30 to be paid with registration, 10 person min, 12 person max.

Do you have a cabin preference \_\_\_\_\_ Cabin mates \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a High Schooler interested in High School cabin? \_\_\_\_ names \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special needs we should be aware of — severe allergies, vegetarian, physical challenges — on back of this form.

Do we have you permission to post any photos of you and your family on the church website and other media or printed format? Yes or No

## Welcome Happy Campers

We are excited you will be joining us at camp this year! Enclosed are packing suggestions, specific ideas for youth and children, the Cardboard Boat Race rules, and directions to the camp.

A few reminders this year: We will be transporting luggage both to and from a spot near your cabin, so please pack in something that is easily transported. You are also welcome to carry your luggage yourself. Luggage transportation will be Friday evening from 5:30 till about 8:30. On Sunday there will be designated spots for each cabin to put luggage, which we will pick up after worship. If you need to leave early on Sunday please let us know; you may need to carry your luggage to your car.

All meals will be provided by the camp from Friday dinner (6:30 - 7:30) through Sunday breakfast. Camp officially ends Sunday at noon, but we are free to stay at camp for the afternoon. If you would like to hang around on Sunday to swim or visit, please do. Bring a snack for lunch if you choose to stay as the kitchen will be closed after breakfast.

All the cabins have heat and electricity. The cabins have bunk beds, sleep about 10 people, and are usually shared by two or three families or groups. The restrooms and showers are in a separate building. An exception is Lakeview Lodge, which is in the basement of the dining hall/lodge and has bathrooms inside. If you are in Lakeview Lodge, please check in upstairs before you move in downstairs. You will be sharing the bunk area with others so please be considerate.

Every camper should bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and clothes for every kind of weather. Bring a warm coat, toiletries, comfortable shoes, insect repellent, and flashlight.

A lifeguard will be on duty Saturday afternoon so please bring swimsuits and water toys. Canoes and rowboats are available when the lifeguard is on duty. Any camper who would like to bring their own boats is welcome to do so and may boat at any time, no lifeguard necessary! Please feel free to bring fishing gear and sports equipment, soccer balls, baseball, football or Frisbee stuff. Be sure to put your name on anything you want to take back home with you.

There will be massage therapists available again this year on Saturday. If you are interested bring your checkbook (they will be charging about \$60 an hour) and sign up in the lodge Friday night.

Camp is a community-based endeavor; please sign up to volunteer for camp activities. Everyone is responsible for cleaning their own cabin and helping with their assigned cleanup task Sunday morning.

Call for more information on car pooling, cabin assignments, or any other questions you might have. We're looking forward to spending the weekend with you!

We will have structure programming on Saturday morning, please find a way to participate. There will be active options, thinking options and sharing options. Glad that you are joining our community for the weekend!! Thanks!!

Tracy Springberry, MRE

## UUCS MUSICAL NOTES

Sunday, March 22nd was a truly wonderful day for me! How can I ever thank all of you enough for your warm personal comments, generous support for my Felsorakos trip AND the beautiful silver bracelet commemorating my time with you? I will never forget the sparkling eyes and bright smiles on your faces as you spoke individually to me of your experiences of music here at church and I loved reading your lovely cards and notes. I will treasure the day and all of you always. Please accept my heartfelt thanks.

I WOULD like to list the people who helped me with the service and did such a stellar job with the beautiful reception. I spent several delightful hours with both Susan Virnig and Marilyn Carpenter crafting the service. I couldn't have asked for two better people with whom to collaborate. Thanks you both for your invaluable help. Many wonderful people also gave their time and energy creating that lovely reception, including: Stephanie Samson, Doug Huigen, Maggie Montana, Amy Howard, Karolynn Clark, Carol Canterbury, Donna Borden-Rhodes, Mary Ann Soltis, Rachelle Strawther, Carol Bryan, Deena Romoff, John Hedrick, Marc Whitman, Kailynn Glubrecht, Lee Smith, Hope Rolland and Nancy Hand. I also heard that several people, whose names I do not have, jumped in to help spontaneously at the time—many thanks to you, too.

And I want to especially thank our minister, Todd Eklof, for coming in to support me on such an important day for me. He was actually on vacation during this time — something ministers, with their heavy loads, really need to have. He also was the shopper for the congregation's present to me, that lovely silver charm bracelet. So thank you, Todd, for your gift of precious time and energy. That means a lot to me. And Peggy is right! You really ARE a "present picker" extraordinaire!

I want to close by re-emphasizing an important personal belief from my sermon. EACH of us is valuable for who we are and what we do in this world. So even though I cited a few examples by naming names at the beginning of my sermon, I did not mean to hold up some in lieu of others. My experience of looking out at all of you from that piano was that each is precious and adds immeasurably to the whole. So mote it be! My love to you all

—Deb Jacquemin  
UUCS Music Director

### A Chance to SING for SPRING!

Calling all **kids** from 8 through 12 years old! In the month April you are all invited to sing in the **spring** session of Children's Choir! We will sing "The Garden Song" which was popularized by Pete Seeger in our April 26th church service. We will also sing some other songs just for fun!

**Parents:** Be looking for an informative email or pick up a printed information sheet at the RE office. You can also contact Deb Jacquemin, our Music Director, directly at [uumusic@uuspokane.org](mailto:uumusic@uuspokane.org) or by phoning 325-6383, ext. 303. Deadline for participation is noon on Wednesday, April 8th.

## SUNDAYS AROUND OUR CHURCH

### Sweets for the Sweet

Got a sweet tooth? Want a little extra something to go with your coffee after church? We've got you covered! Cookies are now available in the Friendship Hall on Sundays for a small donation. The Grounds4Change coffee cart has chocolate, coffee and hot cocoa from Equal Exchange for sale whenever the cart is open. Enjoy!

### Books, Books, Books

Wow! Generosity is growing everywhere around the church! If you haven't noticed the TWO tables of books available for sale on most Sundays, it might be because of all the folks gathering around them to peruse and purchase. What started on a whim has taken on a life of its own. Since its inception in January, the used book sale has brought in over \$500. The new round tables in the Friendship Hall have been purchased with these funds. Several books have been purchased, returned, and purchased again! Most exciting for me, and for Sunny, is the community that has been created through this venture. We've gotten to know so many new friends, gotten reacquainted with some old ones, and have also been pointed in the direction of a great read or two. You can make donations of both hardback and soft cover books any day of the week — either leave with a volunteer in the church office or at the tables on Sundays. We don't seem to have any trouble getting donations — but we could use a couple of volunteers to help staff the tables when choir members or Sunny and I are not available. If you're interested, contact me, Cindy Phillips, at [cindyphillips@centurytel.net](mailto:cindyphillips@centurytel.net), or Sunny Cook at [gramasunny@hotmail.com](mailto:gramasunny@hotmail.com). Happy reading!

## DEADLINES:

### The SUUN (monthly newsletter)

*Upcoming Deadlines for Submissions*

May 2015 issue — Noon on April 30, 2015

April 2015 issue — Noon on May 28, 2015

Send SUUN submissions to [suun@uuspokane.org](mailto:suun@uuspokane.org)

### SUUNday FOCUS (Sunday bulletin)

Every Wednesday by 10 a.m.

Send SUUNday FOCUS submissions to [focus@uuspokane.org](mailto:focus@uuspokane.org)

### Check Run Cut-off Dates

Requests for checks from members, teams and staff need to be submitted, along with invoices or expense documentation, to the office by the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. Check request forms (green slips) are attached to the front of bookkeeper's mail box in the office.

## TEAM & GROUP NEWS

### Attention Team Leaders

Are you wondering how the office staff and volunteers can support your Team's activities and projects? Here are some ways we can help: Make copies; help with mailings, including envelopes and postage; provide supplies, such as tape, paper, folders, markers, pushpins; offer use of staplers and paper cutters. We are happy to work with you and for you. Just ask!

FYI: Our church office is open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. The phone number is 509-325-6383.

### Singular Unitarians

The Singular Unitarians are a mutually supportive group of single people who are either members or friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane. We invite one another to specific events through email. We schedule a wide variety of activities. Choose those that appeal to your interests and please join us. Events that have been scheduled in the past include potlucks, movie nights at homes or at a theater, music and theater performances, happy hours, restaurant breakfasts and dinners, picnics, walking, biking, canoeing, hiking, ski trips, and camping. While you do not need to call the contact person before the event, you may do so if you wish more information.

Please join us. Just email a request to SUUUCS@msn.com (triple U) (Singular Unitarians, Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane) and, do include your full name, mailing address, and phone number in your email.

### Healthy Relations Team

The Healthy Relations Team is open to helping you initiate difficult conversations, listen, trust and move through difficult times in the church. Difficulties happen here, just like everywhere else in your life.

### Pastoral Care Team

#### Can You Give Someone a Ride to Church?

People in the congregation need rides to church and the Pastoral Care Team has had trouble filling these requests. If you are able to give someone a ride to Sunday Services from time to time, please contact Amy Howard, Co-Leader of the Pastoral Care Team. She can be reached at 509-443-2204. Thank you.

The Pastoral care Team focuses on needs of congregation members and friends who may be facing a crisis or life transition. Please keep the team in your thoughts and contact a member of the Pastoral Care Team if you have a need or know of someone who does.

#### Team members are:

Todd Eklof, Minister	Amy Howard, co-leader
Joan Nelson, co-leader	Cynthia Cilyo
Majil Fausel	Doug Huigen
Chris Kent	Torge Lorentzen
Ruth French	Eileen Martin
Cheryl Rohrig	Lee Smith

### UU Women

Wednesday, April 8th. 11:30. Lunch at the Morning Sun Bakery. 5602 North Wall (between Wellesley and Francis). The bakery is owned by UU's Chad and Lisa Taylor. They are known for their cinnamon rolls but have recently doubled their space and have a lunch menu that includes chicken-leek pie, quiche, salads, soup and cookies. Please RSVP Phyllis Thayer at Phil2mail@gmail.com if you would like to join the group, enjoy lunch and conversation. Look for the big white rooster on Wall!!

**Thursday, April 16th.** The Third Thursday Book Group will be meeting to discuss Emily Bronte's classic *Wuthering Heights*. Please contact Donna Borden-Rhodes dbordenrhodes@comcast.net for more information about the meeting. New readers are always welcome. The book selection for May is *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

In the tradition of the UU Women's Federation all the women of the church are invited to participate in UU Women's activities.

### Small Group Ministry

#### Family Small Group Ministry

Does Small Group Ministry (a way to build community in a setting smaller than the congregation as a whole) appeal to you, but juggling kids and meeting times is hard? There are parents interested in forming a small group and sharing childcare during meetings so that a ministry with shared meaning can be created. Please call Patty Bedalov, Small Group Team Leader, at 509-624-4750 to find out about this opportunity.

### Membership Team

#### Missing Your Nametag?

If you are a member whose dog has eaten your permanent nametag you can request a replacement on the clipboard located under the nametag board in the back of the sanctuary. They cost \$11 each. You can write a check for that amount and show "nametag" in the memo portion of your check. We also accept cash- be sure to tag it showing it is for a nametag. Nametags will be ordered on April 6th and not again until the fall. — Linda Greene 509-926-7616

### Buddhist Meditation Group

April 13 – May 18

#### Meditation — the nuns are coming back!

Buddhist nuns from Sravasti Abbey are completing their 3-month silent retreat and will be teaching meditation again on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8pm starting April 13 and going at least through May 18. April 6 will be the last of the student-led meditation sessions. Beginners and drop-ins are always welcome! The classes, whether student-led or taught by the nuns, will include two meditation sessions, homework, discussion/questions about meditation, and reflection on the book "Living with an Open Heart" — though it is not necessary to have the book. Contact Susan Virnig <susan@newstories.org> for more information.



## TEAM & GROUP NEWS

### Covenant of Good Relations

Several years ago about 100 or more of us gathered at Church to process and create ways of being together and to create some covenants to live by. We assumed that all of our lives would be better if we did. The covenants are simple, basic constructs for healthy relationships and respectful peaceful living. Many of us try to live by these everywhere in our lives. We all find them hard to do, all of the time and sometimes our lapses surprise us, but as with all things it's good to review, and start again.

New members will receive a copy because it's one of the things that draws them to us and it's good to be reminded! As well, we will be reprinting all of the covenants over the next several months. Look for them here. — Devon Greyerbiehl Team Leader, Dr. George Girvin, Dr. Bill Greene, and Nancy Hand, Healthy Relations Team

### Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane Covenant of Good Relations

#### Preamble

This is our covenant as members and friends of The Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane. We hereby agree to join with fellow congregants in relations conducive to the harmony of our community, while maintaining room for all to enjoy independence of thought, practice, and action. We seek to be kind to one another, and to respect our differences.

This document speaks to us individuals. It marks the covenant we each make with ourselves, other congregants, the minister, the staff, the board of the church, and the community at large. We accept this covenant solemnly and in good faith, with the understanding that it simply offers guidelines for the conduct of these relationships.

#### Good Relations with Myself

1. I will take responsibility for my personal well-being. By doing so, I will be able to relate more harmoniously to others, my church, and the larger community.
2. I will treat myself with kindness and respect.
3. I will be honest with myself.
4. I will make the kinds of choices that balance the various needs of my life. I will also respect my own boundaries and limits. I will say "no" when it is appropriate.
5. I will communicate my needs to others when appropriate.
6. I will accept that change is a part of my life.
7. I will remain open to diversity.
8. I recognize that, like others, I am fallible. I will try to treat myself and others with acceptance or forgiveness and will make amends when necessary.
9. I understand that I am responsible for my own personal journey.
10. I will attempt to live my life according to my values and with integrity.

### UUCS Usher Team

The Usher Team would like to welcome our new members: Meghan Baroni, Kathy Dixon, Patricia Johnson, Cameron Parkin, and Kira Stewart-Watkins. Some are new members of our church and some are familiar faces. We're happy to have you with us! — Dave Gard, UUCS Usher Team Leader

### Art Exhibit Team

#### Art Team Displays Handmade Crafts in April

During April the Art Team will display handmade crafts and jewelry by UU church members or friends in Fellowship Hall, featuring the work of one or two new artists on consecutive Sundays. The calendar includes necklaces, earrings and bracelets of Japanese and Czech glass beads, pearls and crystals, as well as clay, wood and stone pieces by two different jewelers on April 5 and again on the 19th. Next come beaded earrings featuring a variety of colorful dogs and other animals on April 12, fanciful pottery houses and birdhouses on both the 12th and 26th, and "mystery" jewelry on the 26th. The crafts and jewelry are available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds returned to the church.

The Art Exhibit Team welcomes church members to join in choosing and exhibiting the monthly selections of art and crafts. If you're interested in helping, please contact team leader Anna Vamvakias at bambaka13@comcast.net.

### Buildings & Grounds

Are you just itching to get your hands in the dirt? Or maybe you want to spend some time outdoors with friends. We have the event for you! On Sunday, April 19th please join the Building and Grounds Team for the Spring Clean up. We will be working from 12:30 to 3:30 with a break for lunch. (lunch will be provided). Sign up will be in the back of the fellowship hall soon. Hope to see you there — Bonnie

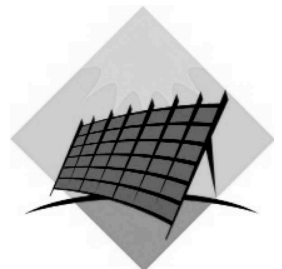
Overlie, Building & Grounds

### UUCS SOLAR SNAPSHOT

As of Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at approximately 2 pm, our 75 panel solar array has produced **52 MWh** of electricity since it went on-line in November 2012. This equals the amount of energy it takes to:

- Equivalent to 17,317,439 AA batteries
- Power a light bulb for 456.2 years
- Average mobile phone 1,611.6 years
- Run a refrigerator for 31.5 years
- Produced the capacity of 16,703,563 AA batteries
- Drive 2,302.8 laps of the Monaco Grand Prix
- Light up the Eiffel Tower for 21 nights

As well, planting a tree offsets the same amount of CO2 as 55.3 kilowatt-hours of clean energy production, which means  
9 our system has off-set the carbon equivalent of 940 trees!



## NEW MEMBER BIOS

**Mike Ayers** has moved to Spokane, helping his mother during her chemotherapy for leukemia. He is a disabled combat veteran and musician, playing the piano and drums. Mike also enjoys being a barbershop singer and an abstract reverse glass artist. His daughter Elizabeth is 12 years old.

**Alexis Beaman** is a student at EWU majoring in social studies education and minoring in English education and American Indian studies. She moved here in August and didn't know anyone, so she came to the UU church and has found community and connectedness. Her major hobby is reading.

**Jim Dawson** is the Campaign Director at Fuse Washington, spending the last 5 years engaging grassroots activists and leaders to assure our democracy works as it should. He most recently worked as the Field Director of the Washington State Toxic Coalition, winning the passage of the nation's best standards for toxic chemicals in children's products and a ban on toxic flame retardants. He enjoys, biking, hiking, carpentering and growing, cooking and preserving organic foods. He is proud to report that "he has yet to die from botulism." A long time Buddhist, Jim helps organize the Monday night meditation at our church. He was drawn to UUCS for the "wonderful community of open minded justice oriented people. Jim and his fiancé Mariah McKay will be married in our church this summer.

**Milo Griffin** is a physical therapist and owner of Full Circle Physical Therapy in the Valley. He enjoys spending time outdoors hiking, biking, kayaking and camping. He also has a black belt in Karatedo Doshinkan, a traditional martial art and this spring he started studying Ikebana. Milo discovered that Joseph Priestley was a Unitarian, which led him to our church. He says, "Never belonged to a church before, but this one shares my values."

**Caryl Heller** has recently joined a firm that helps seniors downsize when they move to assisted living. Interestingly, she was an Oscar nominee in 1992 for set decoration for The Prince of Tides. Currently she enjoys DIY projects, gardening, exercise, walking her dog, movies, discussion groups and reading. When asked what brought her to our church Caryl said she is a "liberal, non-practicing Jewish Democrat from NYC". "Where else would I go?" Her 20 year old daughter, Nicole attends SFCC.

**Dennis and Sandra Horn** are joining our church because of Sandra's good experience in the past at the Newburyport MA UU fellowship. Dennis is retired after 15 years as Dean of Engineering at Gonzaga, although still doing some part time work for GU. He is asking if anybody needs a partner for contract bridge, because he would like to do it again after a long hiatus. Sandra has retired from her custom tailoring sewing business, but still does sewing for herself as well as enjoying reading, gardening and painting in oils. Both Dennis and Sandra love to cook, working on complicated classic dishes or trying out new recipes. They also take frequent trips to places with good museums, galleries and restaurants. They have six boys, ranging in age from 28 to 49.

**Laura Huddleston** is a volunteer coordinator and foster home recruiter for Morning Star Boys Ranch. She is a holistic healer and mental health counselor. She is an artist

who loves nature. Laura came to UUCS from the Highland UU Fellowship in Kettle Falls. She is married and has 2 grown boys and a grandson.

**Stephanie Clark Kennedy** devotes her weekdays to "getting better to return to school and work with passion in the community." She is newly arrived in Spokane from Alabama and was brought to our church by members at an NAACP rally. She enjoys gardening and her pet. She has a daughter, Faith.

**Inga Laurent** is an educator at Gonzaga Law School. She leads students in a seminar where "we reflect on the realities of the law and the system." Inga is a proud Haitian and loves dancing, reading and making friends. She is definitely a people person. When asked what brought her to our church she said, "the lack of dogma and your parking lot... you can learn a lot from a church by their parking lot!"

**Jim Lee** is the founder and executive director of The Citizens Institute for Public Policy, a non-profit whose mission is to educate and empower citizens, and whose purpose is to provide a forum and vehicle for citizen engagement. Jim enjoys walking and reading non-fiction relating to public policy and futurism. He was invited to our church by Marilyn and Warren Carpenter, although he knew of Unitarianism early on through the writings of Emerson. Jim's wife Linda, son Tom and daughter, Anne Deitch all joined the church last fall. His oldest son Evan lives in the Seattle area. Jim has 4 grandchildren.

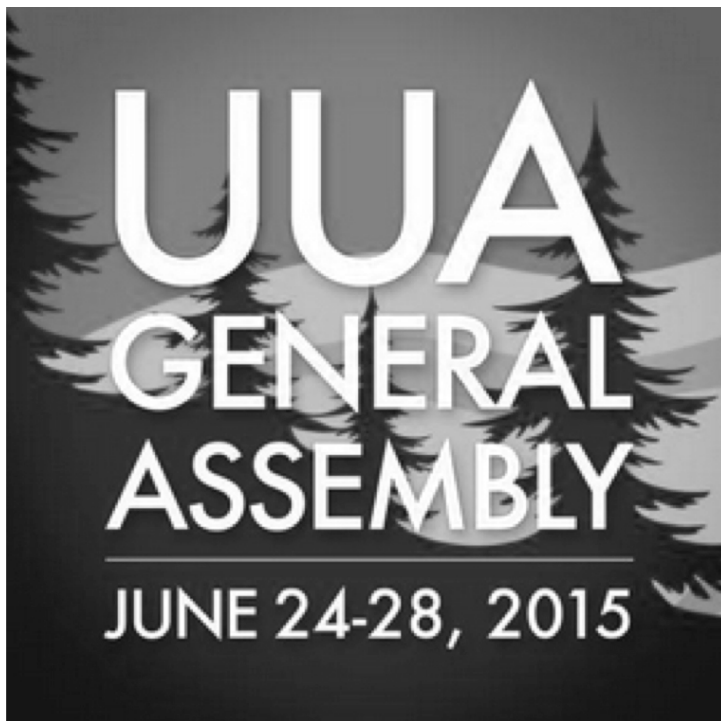
**Shad Miller** says he devotes his days to "One day at a time please". His interests include camping, family time and football "i.e. Seahawks". Shad's girlfriend, Lisa brought him to our church. His household consists of Lisa, his son Joseph and Lisa's 4 children.

**James Miron** was formerly an iron and gold miner. For the past 32 years, however, he has been a psychiatric RN. Being a music aficionado, he has a 1.5 terabyte music collection. He came to the UU Church because of a desire for a "more formal approach to my spiritual development."

**William Pitre** is a full time student at SCC and a master composter who enjoys gardening and playing chess. He has been a metaphysician for about 30 years and is a Level IV Pranic Energy healer. He likes Unitarian Universalism for its openness in accepting other beliefs.

**Donna Ann Pitts** is retired. She enjoys cooking, was brought to our church by a friend, and is the partner of Autumn Wilcox, who enjoys walking, knitting and hiking.

**Gwen and Quannah Spencer** have come to our church because of UU principles and our emphasis on social justice and diversity. Gwen runs her own strategic communications firm, Sapphire Strategies, Inc. She is on the Board of Directors at Windsong School, their children's school. Gwen likes to run, sew, cook and bake. Quannah is an attorney with his own law firm, Q. Spencer Law. He is a tribal member with the Yakama Nation and was born and raised on the Yakama Reservation. He enjoys playing most sports including racquetball, basketball and tennis. He and Gwen have two children, Cecelia age 6 and Evani, 3.



### Registration Scholarships Available for GA

Several scholarships to cover the \$350.00 registration cost for this year's General Assembly in Portland, OR, June 25-29 are now available. Recipients of the scholarships must be willing to serve as a voting delegate for our congregation during the Plenary Sessions and to attend Social Justice workshops so as to report back to our community.

Interested applicants please email Nancy Avery at [NancyTAvery@comcast.net](mailto:NancyTAvery@comcast.net) or Peggy Eklof at [peggyeklof@gmail.com](mailto:peggyeklof@gmail.com) by April 15.

### H.O.M.E Program Annual Spring Tea to benefit childcare scholarships

*April 22, 2015, 2:00 to 4:00 pm in Monroe Hall Lounge  
205 on the Campus of EWU*

*\$20.00 by April 17, \$25.00 at the door*

The HOME program is designed to connect students with the campus and community services that are essential to continue their education. It also provides Eagles and Eaglets a parent/child activity group aimed at creating an enjoyable college experience for single parents and student families. HOME offers a number of annual childcare scholarships each academic year and sponsors the Giving Tree, a holiday gift giving campaign for the children of low-income EWU students. FYI: Current average costs for childcare per Month: Infants — \$724.00; Toddlers — \$668.00; Preschool — \$613.00.

Please see our table in the Friendship Hall after service to purchase your tickets and you can see Elizabeth Keeler or Bonnie Overlie at church for more information.



### SAVE THESE DATES!

There are many things coming up on the Springtime horizon around our church. Here are a few to mark on your calendars so you don't miss them.

- **Buildings & Grounds Spring Work Party — April 5**
- **Stewardship Sunday — April 12**
- **Emma's Revolution Concert — April 18**
- **Annual Dinner — April 25**

Keep your eye out for details about these and other church happenings here in the SUUN and in the SUUNday Focus bulletin.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE IS WHAT WE DO!

#### Holmes Elementary Volunteers Needed

Our own Curt Chambers, School Community Liason at Holmes Elementary, is looking for volunteers to get involved at Holmes in a variety of ways. One way is through the "walking school bus" program highlighted in the Spokesman Review. Or perhaps you would like to serve as a mentor for a student who could benefit from the support of a caring adult. For more information on how you could best serve, please contact Curt at Holmes Elementary at 509-354.2954 or by email at [CurtisC@SpokaneSchools.org](mailto:CurtisC@SpokaneSchools.org).

On another note, if you are a carpenter/artist/creative thinker extraordinaire, Curt has a task for you! It seems the bust of one Unitarian Oliver Wendall Holmes on display at Holmes Elementary has a missing head and needs some help being reattached. Ideas?



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WORK FOR JUSTICE



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The SUUN is a monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane.

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Rev. Tracy Springberry,  
Consulting Minister for Religious Education.....re@uuspokane.org

### ***Covenant Statement***

*We, the Unitarian Universalist congregation of Spokane, promise to:*  
*support and care for one another,*  
*embrace diversity of persons and spiritual paths,*  
*search for truth and understanding, and*  
*work for social justice and environmental stewardship.*  
*With this covenant, we honor each other with our laughter and*  
*tears, our compassion, and respect.*  
*We are a community of open hearts, open minds, and open hands.*

If you no longer wish to receive the SUUN, please contact us at [admin@uuspokane.org](mailto:admin@uuspokane.org)

### **Board of Trustees:**

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### **Management Team:**

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Lee Dominey  
Cly Evans  
Phyllis Thayer  
Jet Tilley, *Business Administrator*

### **Church Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.