

<http://uueugene.org/blog/ministry/stewardship/>



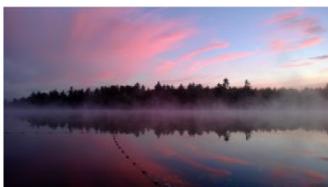
Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene

Empowered by love we transform ourselves and serve our world

HOME ABOUT VISIT WORSHIP CONNECT OUTREACH **STEWARDSHIP** ADMINISTRY GIVE RENTAL CALENDAR



MINISTRIES



Worship

COME AS YOU ARE, LEAVE WITH INSPIRATION We gather together as a people of faith, from many walks of...



Connect

Many Ways to Connect Join us in our commitment to lifelong learning through Lifespan Religious Education and Faith Development for...



Outreach

Empowered by love we transform ourselves and serve our world.



Stewardship

Stewardship invites us to use our physical and financial resources and nourish our spiritual power. We are committed to being...

here!

New Website Makes its Debut [\(page 18\)](#)

Message from the Minister

A sunny day is streaming through the window – an energy spill of the best kind – and I am marveling over the crocus shoots I saw in profusion on my walk this morning. I am looking forward to a quick jaunt to the ocean, so close and so refreshing.

While there is much turmoil in the world, the church seems on an even keel and moving forward. We are called to deepen our love, and keep the rudder steady. The sails fill with good winds (okay, occasional hot air) -- sermons, seminars on racism, creating art, conscious connecting through food, collaborating with local, state and national justice efforts. Singing, folding orders of service, deep listening in small groups, teaching kids, painting walls, all the shipshape efforts which keep us afloat. A tender of the larger UU flotilla, Moderator Jim Key, will be here to speak on the last Sunday of the month. The combined Annual Financial Appeal and Capital Campaign can be spotted on the horizon, intending to lessen the burden and buoy up the ship for further clear sailing.

Did I mention that the Tall Ships are coming to the Great Lakes this summer? Obviously, this is affecting my imagery, dear UUCE'ers. The last time I saw tall ships was at the bicentennial celebrations in Boston Harbor. This year I'll see them from Wisconsin shores. With ancient timbers restored or recreated, these old explorers have come through many a storm. In times past, the sailing ships were the vehicles of worldwide connectedness. Reminding me that our vehicles can be used for good or for ill, the ships sent ideas and commerce around the



world while enabling the slave trade and war: the mission of our voyaging is of the greatest import.

And so, "I must down to the seas again.../And all I ask is a tall ship/And a star to steer it by..." (John Masefield). Those old ships as something symbolic of the human spirit of creativity and quest. Now it's our turn to set course through the stormy seas of our times. Thanks for including me in.

Rev. Sydney

Sunday Worship

The theme for February, "Depth," comes from our Aspirations:

As a people of faith, grounded in our principles
We cultivate lives of meaning, reverence and depth;
We create sanctuary where all hands are held;
Together we act toward justice, healing and sustainability.

The Aspirations came out of the last two-year Dreamcatcher discussion process as a whole church. We are exploring where our Aspirations lead us through worship, outreach, support and education and other activities. On Sundays, four services will explore the concept of cultivating lives of depth.

February 7 Communion With the Cosmos Communion is an act or instant of sharing. The depth of this relationship can be explored when we walk the four paths: wonder, emptiness, making and home. Kimberly Wootan

February 14 A Deepening in Love celebrates that which empowers us: John Wagner will give the reflection and we will enjoy not only choir music, but also a special guest musician. Rev. Sydney.

February 21 Sounding the Depths will explore a particularly Unitarian Universalist faith in the mutual nourishment between personal transformation and serving the world.

February 28 Meanings of UU Membership Guest speaker, Jim Key, Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Elected at the General Assembly of our association of congregations, the Moderator is the lay leader who, with the UUA President and national Board, works for the health and well being of our larger UU religious life.

Contents

Message from the Minister	2	UUCE Outreach	13
Message from the Board President	3	Rally at the Capitol for the	
Upcoming Events	4	Healthy Climate Bill	15
UUCE Worship	5	UUCE Stewardship	16
Music Matters	5	UUCE Administiry	18
Notes from Your Intern Minister	6	Newly Designed UUCE Website	18

Minister
REV. SYDNEY A. MORRIS

minister@uueugene.org

Board President
SARAH FRANCE

president@uueugene.org

Dir. of Religious Education
KATY SIEPERT

uucedre@uueugene.org

Music Director
TOM SEARS

music@uueugene.org

Church Office Tues. – Fri., 9 am – 1:30 pm office@uueugene.org 541-686-2775

Mon-Wed, 9am-3pm

Th, 9am-Noon

Message from **the Board President**



Your Board is working to deepen its connection with its work. We very much look forward to our visit from UUA Moderator Jim Key this month. Lay leadership will spend the day focused on governance, training and honing our skills and commitment. And Moderator Key will even give a sermon the following Sunday! Our church has one of the most successful youth Religious Education programs in the nation. Did you know? Pastoral care associates bloom from the innermost trust and heart of our congregation. Did you know? Our church stands like a seedling tree. Its roots are breaking open the earth below, and sustaining life above. Can we, as congregants, step outside of ourselves and into our place in memory, in legacy?

We are turning into the work, into a place where we face a question: “Where do we best focus the attention of our leadership?” This question is larger than any one individual, larger than your Board or any particular congregational silo. It can be so easy to forget ourselves in our roles, to confuse our identities with the hats we wear here at church. Each of us is a congregant, first and foremost. How can we best remember to set aside the agendas set before us in our roles and ask ourselves: “What ideas do I feel ready to stand behind? What does our crew really need to carry us to righter shores?”

Before I set out on my task or try to accomplish an objective, I try to remember that the work of cultivation, of culture-growing, has ever-increasing importance to our identity as a congregation. What if we each set an intention to remember, every time we walk into our church, to say quietly to ourselves: When we enter these doors, we enter a holy space. Love is the spirit of this church.

This is one suggestion, one iteration of the idea, and I welcome every one of us to interpret the spirit behind that idea and try it on. When I read the above, I hear the many speaking where italicized, mostly because our dutiful worship associates remind us that they speak in the straight text, and we speak in italics.

To do this work, we have to face into reconciliation and rise into a common purpose. I would wish for us that we can renew our sense of belonging in togetherness in the times ahead. And that we remember that every empty seat at Sunday service holds the promise for a bright future.

The seat in which you sit is one of great importance! Ensuring the success of our work as a church in this community means rising to the occasion. This is the welcome table. Friend, what do you bring?

Looking Forward with Bright Hopes,

Sarah France
UCE Board President

Upcoming Events

New Membership Class

February 10th, 17th and 24th
6:30-8:00

In this series you'll learn about Unitarian Universalist history and principles. February 10th, 17th and 24th, 6:30-8:00pm in room 6. (child-care available by request) We look forward to getting to know you!

[page 10](#)

Touchstone Tuesday Potluck

Bring a kid or a dish
Tuesdays 5:30 - 7pm

Lizzy Utterback
858-204-3538 or
tuesdaypotluck@uueugene.org

We are looking for safety team guardians who can make decisions on their own within the framework of our UU principles and values.

for more information contact Susane Giordano, Susangio@comcast.net or 541-517-7234.

UUCE Safety Team

Race and Religion Seminar Series

Thursday evenings, beginning
January 28, 6:30-8 pm

A 5 week seminar series of creative conversations led by Eugene/Springfield, OR, NAACP Chapter President Eric Richardson.

[page 9](#)

Fundraising Gathering

Tuesday February 9 @
7:00pm

There will be a gathering in the Chapel for all of us interested in raising FUN and Funds. process. For information contact Dave DeCou at treasurer@uueugene.org treasurer@uueugene.org or call 541-513-5360.

[page 17](#)

Health Care for ALL Oregon

HCAO' s monthly meeting Tue. Feb. 2, at First United Methodist Church, 13th & Olive, Eugene. Ample parking, free to all. Pat Bitner, patbitner@gmail.com.

[page 10](#)

Caring Thoughts

Take a moment to send a card to member or friend who may need a caring thought. Cards are provided on table under the ministers' pictures in the lobby hall. Thank you! Care Team Janice Rutherford jwruther@conmcast.net

Come To Salem

Concerned about our Climate Change? Feb. 3, 2016. We will be car pooling together....maybe by bus. YOUR voice needs to be heard.

Call Sue Craig 541-607-0204.

[page 15](#)

Discussion Group – the Ten Commandments in Modern Terms

Sunday afternoons, beginning
February 7, 11:45-12:45

This discussion group is intended to introduce congregants to the writings of Carl Nelson.

[page 10](#)

Ministeries Reprise

Sunday, February 21st from 4 to 6pm. With food!

The work of the church falls roughly into 5 areas: Worship, Outreach, Stewardship, Administry and Connecting (all things support & education). Come and share what you are doing!

[more page 14](#)

UUCEWorship

Viva Viols will present a musical soirée titled "Beyond Compère: French, Franco Flemish, and English Renaissance Music" on **Saturday, March 5 at 3pm**, in the Chapel. Tom and Elnora Sears, and Darlene Tillack will perform on a variety of viols, 5 sizes of recorders and percussion. Featured composers will include Compère, Dufay, East, Morley and Byrd, among others, ending with a suite of Playford dances. The concert is free and the acoustics in the Chapel are wonderful!

For more information please contact Tom by email at music@uueugene.org, or by phone at (541) 86-2775, x4



UUCEWorship

Notes from Your Intern Minister

This month marks the half way point in my internship here at UU Eugene and I am pleased to report that my experience here has enhanced my faith in our movement and the people that make it so very special. In the last six months I have explored various styles of preaching, designed and introduced a pastoral care program and worked to support community social justice.

Looking forward to my next six months we will be working to create and train a strong and compassionate team to support our community by providing pastoral visits for those in need. My internship will also continue to focus on expanding my repertoire of worship services as we seek new ways to enhance and support the spiritual growth of our congregation. I am also very excited to begin work on two different social justice projects which is central to my Unitarian Universalist faith. We will be working together to identify and implement ways to support and assist refugees/asylum seekers after the devastating challenges they have faced. I have also joined a committee to investigate how our community can support veterans as they continue their journey to return home.

My work in Eugene has been a tremendous opportunity as I continue to deepen my knowledge of the northwest culture and realize the beauty of its lands and the people.

Kimberly Wootan
Intern Minister



UUCEWorship

Contemplative Practices

Mondays, 5:00 - 5:45 in the Chapel

“Love is the key. If we start to express the spring of love within that is our true essence, our Truth, our spark of Divinity... and allow it to flow more... then all is revealed. Love becomes our guide in life, our connection with All, and our path back to Source.”

—Peter Shepherd.

We invite you this February to come join us as we move back into a more traditional meditative program centered on the theme of Love. Throughout the month we will sit together and allow the love in our hearts to guide us deep into realization of the beauty and joy that love evokes.

Please join us each Monday from 5:00pm until 5:45pm in the Chapel at church as we join together to sit with open hearts and let love guide our connection with ourselves, our community and our source.

“You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection.” —Buddha

Our journey in love begins **February 1st** as we explore the beauty and tranquility of Open Heart Meditation. We will sit together and touch the center of our being, our greatest source of love, as we meditate to open our hearts to allow love to flow.

On **February 8th** we will continue to practice love in meditation as we seek greater love, understanding and compassion for ourselves and our fellow beings

February 15th enhances our practice as we sit together in Loving-Kindness or Metta meditation. There are two aspects of working with bodhicitta (loving kindness), both of equal importance. One is connecting with the flow of bodhicitta we already feel—the longing to help others, and the second is being awake to where that flow is blocked. Once we become aware of the block we can move past them to embrace all beings including those we don't care for and wish them the gift of enlightenment. Our willingness to do this practice—visualizing all people—opens our hearts to love and enables us to realize an unbiased and compassionate attitude towards whatever arises.

Our meditation for **February 22nd** will once again focus on connecting ourselves to our hearts that we may learn to listen to its messages and accept and love them just as they are without feeling the need or desire to change them.

Food is as essential as breath. If we love ourselves, we need to practice so that we can take care of our bodies. On **February 29th** we will be meditating using Thich Nhat Hanh mindfulness eating to deepen our awareness of the intersections between what we eat and reverence for ourselves and our earth.

We will provide additional weekly updates about the specific meditation for the upcoming Monday through the Sunday Order of Service each Sunday. We hope that you all will continue to be a part of the program. As always, we would love to hear your input and have you join us as either as a participant or a guide. Please email us at meditation@uueugene.org.

Adult Education: End of Life

“If you would indeed behold the spirit of death, open your heart wide unto the body of life. For life and death are one, even as the river and sea are one.”—Kahlil Gibran

We will offer the End of Life Course again this winter on **Wednesdays 10am-12pm March 2, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 20**. Classes will be held at the church. Look for sign up in the front hall or you can sign up by email. For information, contact co-facilitators Sally O'Donnell LCSW info@sallyodonnell.com or Kimberly Wootan at intern.minister@uueugene.org. The class is limited to 15. To save space for new learner's enrollment it is only open to people who have not taken the class before.

The objectives are to encourage and help participants take steps to ensure their end-of-life arrangements will be carried out in accord with their preferences and to encourage and help participants to take steps that will guide their survivors and make their responsibilities easier.

The six sessions will deal with spiritual, legal, medical, and practical aspects of planning for the end of life. Participants will hear from attorneys, funeral directors, hospice and compassionate choices experts, and the Rev. Sydney Morris.

Death and Dying Small Group Ministries

This program uses the small group ministry model to facilitate a process of personal reflection, learning, and spiritual growth focused on the topic of death and dying. It brings death, dying, and grief into the light of our daily lives and out of the dark, macabre recesses to which we often relegate it. The program is not a grief support group, nor is it an intellectual study of death. It includes sociological information and reflection, theological reflection, personal and shared narrative, creative expression, and journaling. It helps participants move from viewing death as an abstract concept to developing a personal recognition of its meaning in their life, with the goal that all who participate in the program find a closer and more comfortable relationship with their own inevitable death. This program invites participants to experience death and dying as a healthy part of life, including the preparation, the moment of death, the grieving, and the living on.

The class will meet **Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30pm** for 6 sessions at 2 week intervals starting **Thursday, March 17**, with subsequent sessions on **March 31, April 14, April 28, May 12, and May 26**.

UUUCEConnecting

UUUCEReligious Education

Dear UUUCE,

I noticed daffodils pushing up through the earth two mornings ago on my daily walk. At least, I think they were daffodils – maybe crocus? The leaves were small and green, huddled tightly together and rising to a rounded point. I am impatiently awaiting the surprise of what they will flower into. Because my walk is on a new route from our new home, I don't have the repetition of previous years to inform me. I must wait. Each day, the leaves extend a little bit further from the unsettled soil, reaching – like me – toward the sun. The few days of sunshine we've been given this week have been such a blessing to my rain-soaked soul. The grey upon grey upon grey days that have gone by, wet and heavy and oppressive, are beginning to lift and the sun is beckoning forth the daffodils, the crocus, the tulips, and me.

Every break in the clouds, let us lift up our faces and breathe in deeply the fresh light. Though we are not daffodils ourselves, sometimes I feel we have a kinship with them and their impatience to begin the new season. Though spring is not quite here yet, we can definitely feel it coming.

Coming of Age

As the season slowly shifts from winter to spring, things here at the church continue to evolve and grow, too. The Coming of Age program is underway, thanks to the help and support of a multitude of people, families and mentors and helpers along the way. This year, the COA program is the result of the efforts of over 20 people, and the impact the program has on Unitarian Universalist youth can be profound.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars for the Coming of Age Celebration Dinner, **Saturday evening, June 4th**. At this dinner, Coming of Age participants will share their credos, or personal statements of purpose. All congregants are welcome. More information will be provided as we get closer to that date, but we are hoping that a large number of congregants will attend in support of our youth.

Religious Education Committee

Are you looking to get more involved at the church, but are uncertain where to begin? The Religious Education Committee might be the place to start! We are looking for another member. The committee works closely with the Director of Religious Education (DRE), Katy Siefert, to plan and implement the religious education program for children and youth in our congregation. Committee members research and develop curriculum for RE classes, provide backup and support to the DRE, and organize numerous community-building activities during the church year. The commitment is once monthly meetings, September thru June, and a retreat day each summer (TBD), as well as some Sunday morning support as needed. If you are interested in learning more, please email or call me at uucedre@gmail.com or 541-686-2775, ext. 2. Applications will be accepted through the end of February.



UUUCEConnecting

UUUCEReligious Education

Religious Education for Children and Youth

This term, we are studying three of the world's major religions – Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity – and how they relate to Unitarian Universalism. A huge thank you to our volunteers!

K-1: Christine Santoro and Melissa Robinson, 2-3: Justine Enes and Barb Dumesnil, 4-5: Cynthia Munyun and Jason Kimball, Middle School: Quincy Wise-Dorbolo and Liz Hart, and High School: Amber Alexander, Erik Troberg, and Eric Swanson.

The ideal high school advising team is comprised of 4 to 6 individuals who can make a long-term commitment to twice-monthly Sunday morning youth group time (does not meet during the summer months). Other events include off-site field trips from time to time, and a twice-yearly weekend retreat. Must enjoy young people and be available to support youths' growth and learning by modeling appropriate boundaries and behaviors. If you are interested in working with high school youth as an advisor, please contact me at uucedre@gmail.com or 541-686-2775, ext. 2. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

Adult Religious Education

Please take a moment to check out the Adult RE pamphlet located in the pamphlet rack to see all of the Adult RE classes we are offering this term – we have everything from Race and Religion to Death and Dying and many topics in between!

Bright blessings,
Katy



Race and Religion Seminar Series

Thursday evenings, beginning January 28, 6:30-8 pm

A 5 - week seminar series of creative conversations led by Eugene/Springfield, OR, NAACP Chapter President Eric Richardson. We will explore historical, spiritual, and political roots of racial relations and work to forge a creative and active vision of equality and equity for the future.

Eric Richardson grew up at the center of social activism for African Americans in Eugene. His family led an African history workshop series and spearheaded the development of culturally inclusive curriculum and pedagogy in Oregon school districts. Richardson has built on the legacy of his parents' leadership by advancing the mission of the NAACP in Southern Oregon.

Katy Siepert, DRE

UUUCEConnecting

The Ten Commandments in Modern Terms Sunday afternoons, beginning February 7, 11:45-12:45

This discussion group is intended to introduce congregants to the writings of Carl Nelson (Minister at The UU Church in Eugene, 1962-69) as a jumping-off point for further discussion and exploration. His work, *The Ten Commandments in Modern Terms*, will be provided to registered participants. Each week, we will come together to discuss one of the commandments. Led by Dan Robinson and Truleen Delgado, this class will meet in Room 2 at 11:45 for ten Sundays: **February 7, 14, 21, and 28; March 6 and 13; April 3, 10, 17, 24.** Pre-register at the registration table in the South Entry hallway after Sunday service.

Katy Siepert, DRE
Unitarian Universalist Church in Eugene
Office Hours: 11:00-4:00, W-Th
541-686-2775, ext. 2



New Membership Class February 10th, 17th and 24th 6:30-8:00

In this series you'll learn about Unitarian Universalist history and principles. We'll talk about UUCE's mission, and programs and what it means to be a Member. There will be opportunities to connect with others and sign the Membership book. We invite anyone returning to UU, brand new to UU, and those coming to UUCE from other UU congregations to join us for one, or all, of the upcoming classes. We will meet Wednesday evenings, February 10th, 17th and 24th, 6:30-8:00pm in room 6. Visit the Welcome table after service or contact the Membership Chair Erin Troberg erin@troberg.net 541-344-8259 to sign up (childcare available by request). We look forward to getting to know you!

February Poetry Give-Away

Each month this year, the UU Poetry Groups are giving away a poem to anyone interested. Poems are now hung with the art show in the hallway across from the art gallery. If you would like a copy, there will be one folder geared more toward adults, and one aimed for children or young adults in the rack on the SW wall across from the art show. Feel free to take a copy; if you find the folder empty, contact Bonnie Phipps and we will get it filled for the next week. (Please take only one copy.) February features "100 steps apart" by Cynthius Scanlon for adults, and "Homelessness" by Lexi Scanlon for children and young adults.

Health Care for ALL Oregon

HCAO's monthly meeting **Tuesday, February 2, 7:00 to 8:30pm** at First United Methodist Church, 13th & Olive, Eugene. Ample parking, free to all. HCAO is now focusing on local organizing to further our goal of a successful ballot measure in 2020 making publicly supported universal health care a reality in Oregon. Our February meeting's focus is ground level work to educate and recruit support for our aim. Volunteers needed to table, host house parties, perhaps become a speaker to organizations on HCAO's behalf. Petitions for Resolution of Support of HCAO from the Eugene/Springfield City Councils will be circulated for signature. Join us. HCAO is a Service in Action sponsored organization.

Pat Bitner, patbitner@gmail.com.

Ministeries Reprise

Uh-oh! The winter is passing and will slip away without a Ministeries gathering - so let's get together on **Sunday, February 21st from 4 to 6pm**. With food!

For the sake of having smaller settings, the work of the church falls roughly into 5 areas: Worship, Outreach, Stewardship, Administry and Connecting (all things support & education).

Come and share what you are doing and would like to see happening. Come if you'd like to find a place to get involved. There will be some ministry-specific conversations around tables in the social hall and then we'll end in the chapel with a ritual of affirmation.

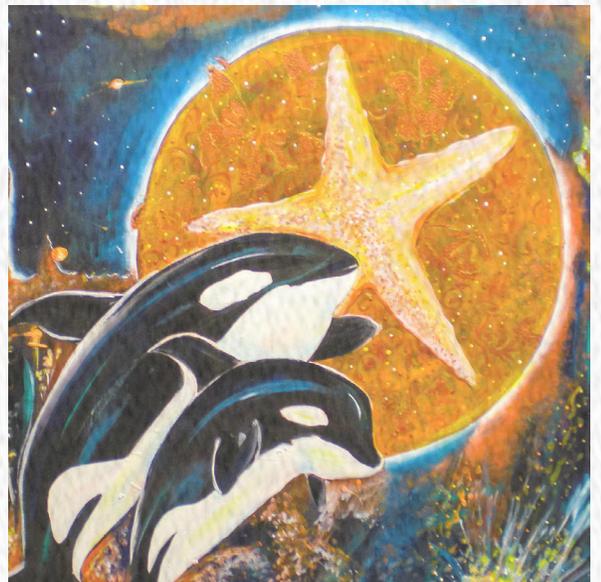
Artist Statement

Carol E. Fairbanks combines her love of nature and hiking with her creative life. Her art images, inspired by her experiences in nature, express a relationship with the natural world that she feels is vital for a healthy and prospering planet. Carol taught for about 30 years in public schools in Ohio, specializing in natural science and art. After retiring and teaching yoga for about 5 years, she adventurously made a solo move to Oregon, where she continued her study of art and creative expression. Carol now paints with acrylics and sometimes including ink, pastels and assemblage in her art, created at her home studio, HeartCreation Studio.



Heart Creation Studio ~ heartcreation.blog.wordpress.com

HeartCreation Studio st.net 541-654-1765



UUCEConnecting

Art Gallery
February



This is our family art, photography and poetry show featuring works by Cynthius Scanlon, Susan Schneider and our daughter Lexi.

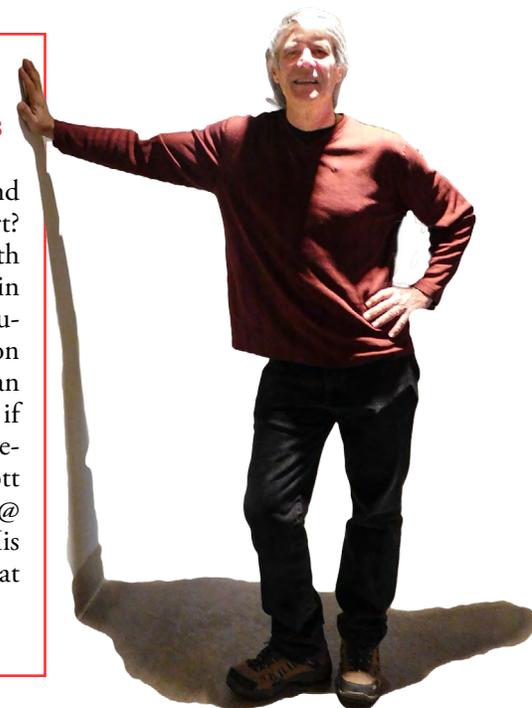
Susan - Thinking about homelessness led me to want to represent some of the many little things I often take for granted. I decided to focus on the gratitude I feel for the everyday. A series of everyday goddesses and guardians was the result.

Cynthius - After December's last minute angel-creating, my love of playing with color and form was rekindled. It's been fun exploring mediums in January! Photography and poetry have been lifelong companions; these are some captured moments.

Many frames are gently used. Hope you have as much fun viewing as we did creating!

Call For Submissions From Youth

Do you know people 17 and younger who enjoy making art? Our 2nd annual National Youth Art Month Show will happen in March at our UUCE Community Art Gallery. It's not too soon to save art for this show. We can help get work ready to hang if needed. Your support is appreciated. Contact person is Scott Hovis at scotthovisfineart@gmail.com or 541-731-3412 (His contact info is always posted at the gallery.)



UUCE Outreach

The Earth EqUUity Food: Nourish Others and Ourselves / Sustain the Earth Group

Earth EqUUity projects address both social justice and environmental sustainability. They seek to illustrate the link between the two and move towards a better world. Strongly rooted in our seven UU principles, our congregation's aspirations, and our congregation's mission, the first project of our first year is unfolding as we create it. While, of course, it does not nearly accomplish everything we'd truly want, it does move us in the right direction. This is an incredible opportunity with multiple doors of entry. We welcome everyone at the table. Please join us.

The first project is about Food – Nourish Others and Ourselves (the social justice perspective) / Sustain the Earth (the environmental sustainability perspective). Food is a basic requirement for life -- and it is so much more. The obvious painful discrepancies need to be righted of some people having enough, while others have too much and many more are in desperate need. Whether or not people eat, the quality of what enters our mouths, what the food itself is, and how it does or doesn't get to our tables, and more are all linked matters of social justice and environmental sustainability. Our humanity is inseparable from all of it.

Over the next few months, there will be multiple opportunities to explore relationships between food, the environment, and social justice. From now through June we'll take up three topics – Water and Waste, Foods and Local Resources, and Community and Celebration. At the beginning of each topic you will receive a wide-ranging list of invitations. Choose to accept as many of the invitations as you would like and are able. At the end of each designated time period (end of March, end of May, and end of June), we request that you record your activities in a "passport." The group will use the passports to collect data, both in order to assist in the planning of future projects and for celebration. Research has shown that it takes approximately a month to successfully change a habit. Our hope is that we will all have an impact that extends well beyond June.

We are all at different places, with different experiences, knowledge, ideas, and interests. For this reason, invitations for educational opportunities and activities vary widely. They also vary from the private (as individuals or as families) to the whole church events here and out in the community. There will be some related work going on within the building as well, and everyone will be informed as opportunities for volunteers arise and as progress is made. The important thing is that we all move forward – from wherever we are. And in the midst of it all, that we maintain our humor and have fun.

First and foremost, UUCE is a church, a beloved faith community. Our mission statement states that "Empowered by love, we transform ourselves and serve our world." The Earth EqUUity Food planning group has kept this front and center as we worked together to develop this church-wide justice project.

It is powerful to come together for specific actions. Our own daily habits also contribute in positive or negative ways. In the face of such social injustice and global destruction it's so very easy to feel overwhelmed. However, the actions of individuals can combine to create a major force. That's the goal of this project as we work together, as a group and individually – to become a major force for positive change. We will lay the groundwork for even more work in the future. There is so much to learn about the impact we can make. Imagine if one child decides to learn for the first time how to plant a garden and they love it so much that they do it for the next 50 years. The ripple effects are unknowable and the potential is great.

We invite you on a learning journey with us – raising awareness, changing personal habits, making improvements in the operation of our church building, deepening our spiritual practice, increasing our connections, and making a difference in our community. We hope that you will join us, take a seat at the table if you will, and together we will move forward – from wherever and however we are, we'll progress, improving the situation of our world and all in it, and nourish our own souls as well.

Justine Enes
EEFood@uueugene.org



UUUCE Outreach



Community Offering

On February 21, our community offering will be given to the NAACP ACT-SO program to support African-American youth in our community. ACT-SO provides a forum for youth of African descent to develop and demonstrate academic and artistic skills. The 29 categories for competition include the sciences, engineering, performing arts, humanities, visual arts, and more. Students work with mentors from the community to develop projects and performances, then compete locally. Winners travel to the national competition at the NAACP Annual Meeting. Excellence is expected, supported, and rewarded. You can learn more at: <http://www.naacpconnect.org/pages/act-so-101>

Our church community's generosity continues to support our world. In January, we gave \$1,844 to the UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) project to help Syrian refugees.

Gretchen Miller



Food Rescue Night
Thursday February
25 6:30-8:30
770 Bailey Hill Rd.



Souper Bowl

UUUCE has made a commitment for at least 6 volunteers for our monthly evening at FFLC. We meet to repackage food donated for those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity. Wear a hat or ponytail and closed-toe shoes. Volunteers must be 14 or older or 12 years old accompanied by an adult. Contact person is Berry Broadbent, Service in Action, 541-344-9037 or berrybroadbent@gmail.com.

In honor of Super Bowl Sunday, the most requested food item for our FFLC barrel is SOUP. Soups with protein are most appreciated by those in our community experiencing food insecurity. All food donations are welcome as long as the food items are conventionally packaged and no expired or opened food containers. The FFLC barrel at UUUCE is located at the north entrance. Be sure to check out our FFLC bulletin board also located at the north entrance.

Thank you,
Berry

Sewers and Quilters, Come on Down!

The quilting project to make quilts to give to women coming out of prison continues. Forty-something beautiful pieced quilt tops are ready to be batted and quilted. If you have sewing experience (40 years ago counts!) or want to learn you can make a difference. Mondays and Fridays, 9:30 to 1:30, Room 6. Rouanna Garden, sewing@uueugene.org



UUUCE Outreach

Oregon Lobby Day, Rally at the Capitol for the Healthy Climate Bill



Join hundreds of Oregonians in Salem on **Wednesday February 3** to call on legislators to support the Healthy Climate Bill.

In February, legislators in Salem will consider the most important climate legislation in our state's history, the Healthy Climate Bill. The bill would limit climate pollution and account for its cost in Oregon, accelerating the transition to clean energy and creating a healthier future for our children.

Events:

8:45-9:50am: Prayer into Action Gathering by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

10am-noon: Lobby Day training, including a morning training, lunch, and meetings with lawmakers.

VERY IMPORTANT: Register with OLCV (Oregon League of Conservation Voters) for training and lunch.

Noon: Big Rally on the Capitol Steps

2-4 pm. Visit your legislators

Come To Salem

Concerned about our Climate Change? Would you like to let your state elected officials know how you feel? Join us as we travel to the Oregon Ecumenical Lobby Day Feb. 3, 2016. We will be car pooling together...maybe by bus. Yes, we will leave early in the morning, probably around 7am. Groups meeting will be Oregon UUVoices for Justice, 350.org, League of Conservation Voters, Sierra Club, and others. Do join us. YOUR voice needs to be heard.

Call Sue Craig 541-607-0204.

UUCE Stewardship

Free Our Future, Embrace Our Dreams



Get ready, get set, for a fabulous time on April 10!

That's the date we're launching our combined campaign. You know you're excited. Just wait 'til you see the logo next month! "A combined campaign? What, pray tell, is that?" you ask. In a combined campaign we make two pledges, the first for all our programs and the second for capital expenses. The annual pledges support our Worship & Music, Lifespan Religious Education, Community Within, Outreach/Social Justice, and Denominational Connections. The capital pledges will allow us to pay down a portion of our mortgage on our beautiful, accessible building.

At our campaign launch, we'll break bread together (gluten-free options available, of course) and celebrate all the time, talent and treasure that so many of you provide to make our UUCE community engine hum. And we'll have some fun and games as part of the mix.

Why? Because we like you! Wait - we love you! We are empowered by your love, for each other, for the world, as our UU values inform what we do now and going forward.

So please save the date (Yep, APRIL 10!) and let's join together for fun, food and fellowship.

Your campaign co-cronies,
Kay & Judy



UUCE Stewardship

Treasurer Tidbits

Fundraising Gathering Tuesday February 9 @ 7:00pm

There will be a gathering in the Chapel for all of us interested in raising FUN and Funds. How many ways can we enjoy ourselves and help meet the financial needs of our beloved community outside of our normal pledging process? Bring your ideas and energy to start having more fun and work together for all of us. For information contact Dave DeCou at treasurer@uueugene.org or call 541-513-5360.

Our Money

One of the hardships for parents within any church setting is childcare while they attend church events. To facilitate parents' attendance to any churchwide event we provide childcare at the church's (all of our) expense. During a normal year this totals to almost \$5,000. I believe that this is a very good use of our money – for our community.

Your Treasurer: Dave DeCou

New Seasonal Quilts Adorn Sanctuary



The panels in the Sanctuary are from a line of fabrics by Robert Kaufman called “The Sound of the Woods”, designed by Katherine Lovell. They appeared on the market perhaps a year ago, and the large panels we have are almost sold out (if not already gone) at any location on the internet. I purchased the fabric and did a majority of the quilting, but I had a lot of help from Nita White with laying out the base pattern and with binding. My wife Fanny did all of the free motion quilting on the borders and helped with hand-sewing the sleeves for the hanging bars. Although these look like postage stamps on the walls, they are large (80” x 50”) almost the size of a small quilt for a single bed. Companion hangings are now in progress and should be up by the middle of February.

George Carroll

Welcome

Welcome!

Are you looking for a community where...

- Spiritual and intellectual exploration is encouraged?
- The interdependent web of all existence is respected?
- Children and adults learn and celebrate all the world's religions?

You are welcome here!



Presenting The Newly Designed UUCE Website

Have YOU seen the newly designed UUCE website yet? Some of the reasons for the change:

- now mobile-friendly
- new look to keep up with the evolving web
- more photos/videos to help tell the UUCE story
- easy to update
- and more...

We encourage you to look around, following the menu drop-downs (and their fly-outs) to see what is available there.

Mobile friendly – One of the changes that you will notice on your phone or tablet is that the website is now mobile-friendly which means it works on all devices and screens. Try it out.

Appearance – The “look” is streamlined even though the site is still over 100 pages strong. We believe the Menu Headings can help you find what you seek in less time than ever before, especially when you recognize how our Five Ministries are represented in the menu choices.

Work in Progress – The site is, and will always be, a growing place for UUCE stories and information.

Feedback – You can help continue to improve the site when you notice issues or have ideas. Just click the little tab that appears on the left of every screen.

Search – The fourth symbol at the top right of each page is a magnifying glass, signifying the SEARCH function. It's still being refined. One of the ways it can work is that you can click to open its text box, and when you see the flashing cursor there, you can begin typing in that box. You would search for the unique word/s or synonyms you would assume you'd find on the potential

page. For example, if you are seeking sermon topics, you might start with “sermon” or “sermons.” If that did not show you a selection of pages with the correct page included, you could try “Sunday Services” or “Sermon Titles”. When searching for “women’s groups,” if you do not see the page you want in the selections that come up, consider using a synonym such as “Sister” or “Circles.”

Videos – The site will have more and more videos to tell the UUCE story in an intriguing way. On the lower part of the home page, you will notice some featured videos, including one that presents UUism in 30 seconds! Other videos appear there too, reached clicking on the graphic/photo itself. The Contemplative Practices page, currently featured on the home page, links to an actual meditation video right on the page that explains the program.

Visit – On the VISIT page, there are “accordion” dropdowns that save space. To read about Accessibility, for example, click on the related question and watch how the information appears to you.

Connect – When you click on the CONNECT menu item (and it turns red), you'll notice that as your cursor hovers over the (red) word CONNECT, there are several items in the dropdown menu there. Let's say you are interested in getting together with the Birders group. You'd look through the dropdown menu, hovering your cursor over each item to see what it might show you in a “fly-out.” At “Affinity Groups”, you will notice the Birders page flies out to one side. Move your cursor to it to make the item turn red. Then click on the red Birders fly-out to be taken to the Birders page.

continued on page 15

UUCEAdMinistry

Website continued

Calendar – Some pages are so popular they should be in the main menu, so you see the GIVE, RENTALS, and CALENDAR pages linked there. Notice the Upcoming Events calendar on the home page – it updates itself hourly from the main calendar!

Handy links – Handy links integrate the page with your other applications. You'll find these small symbols in the upper right corner of each page. When you hover your cursor over them, they will spin, and when you click them, they will carry out your request. There's a Facebook symbol leading to the interactive UUCE Facebook page, a Twitter symbol (for when we get a church Twitter account and Head Tweeter), and an envelope symbol leading to the Connect-with-Staff page.

Social media – To share a specific page via your Facebook account, you would use the Facebook symbol near the word Share on the right of each page below the blue page-title banner. In that same area, you will also find a Pinterest symbol. You can click the P symbol to save that page, indexing it by category, to your own Pinterest account. If you don't have such an (outside) account yet, clicking on it will describe it and let you begin one (if you wish).

Legacy – The new site is built on the foundation, structure and content of the prior web site, and benefits from many years of work by dozens of people.

Future – There are exciting plans envisioned for the future, including featured pages such as the Advent Spiral, Christmas and other events, retrospectives, local videos, sermon hot spots, and Facebook and Twitter messages.

Thank you

Many thanks to all the volunteers and staff who have made this possible, and especially to Owen Ott for leading this transition. That continuing help is very much appreciated. We invite you to explore the new site at the same "old" address: www.uueugene.org and provide feedback using the form that appears on the left of each page.



Owen Ott

Membership

Becoming a Member

To become a member is to belong to a faith community. We invite you to join so that together we can examine the meaning of our lives and beliefs, and discern where we are called to help.

When you join, you strengthen our Unitarian Universalist presence in the world. It is a commitment to a radically free religion: to stand up for free thought, for tolerance and for progressive theology.

As members we agree to be guided by Unitarian Universalist values. We covenant together as caretakers of this church. It takes the whole of us to make the holy.

Membership is...

- Worshiping together
- Building friendships
- Working on justice projects
- Offering service to the church
- Pledging
- Connecting to the larger UU movement

