

UUCEConnections

Volume 21
Issue 9
September 2017



Welcome, Brad Schultz, Music Director

UUCEMinister

Minister's Message September 2017

In these troubled times, it is good to come together. It is good to help one another live into the world of which we dream. It was good to enjoy the summer of great music, cob house building, earnest Board work, Sanctuary and Food projects, caring for one another; and the ministry of Intern Andy Chirch, celebrating a mutually heartfelt fare-thee-well.

If there is any gift I would wish to give in this my last year as Developmental Minister to UUCE, it would be to widen the space for the congregation and its ministers to be allowed to love and trust one another. Each of your past ministers has left gifts which I hope to recall this year, to solidify a firm foundation for your vibrant and zestfilled future.

This is going to be an amazing year, with a focus on cultures of covenantal inclusivity, multiculturalism and transformation. While my partnership with the Board has identified these activities as working with the UUCE culture, it is clear that these initiatives need to reach into the wider cultures all around us. How can we be inclusive and stay within the bounds of dignity, respect and covenantal agreements – both civil and sacred? How do we weave multiculturalism into community? What does transformation that is both centering and sustainable even look like? Feel like? Do?

This is a year to further develop the ways can we support one another through these hard days, and rejoice in the sustaining depths of our commitments. It is a joy, as always, to work with your amazing Board. And to rejoice with you in the everyday, steadfast, lovingkindness of your chosen faith and your voluntary work, the backbone of our religious movement.

A joy as well to welcome new and returning staff. Brad Schultz (look up the Decorah IA choir on YouTube) will be our half-time permanent Music Director. Ministerial Intern Sarah Skochko (pronounced scotch-ko) is a seminarian at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago, and in the Master's program in poetry at U of O. She will be with us 15 hours a week over the next two years. Our new office staffperson is Jennifer Williams. She will be sharing office work with Jen DelRosario and working on Thursdays and Fridays. Returning, not as an intern but as Congregational Life Consultant, is Kimberly Wootan. She is in the midst of advanced Clinical Pastoral Education Training and will come before the UUA Fellowship Committee in December.

Kimberly will be working in Pastoral Care and Contemplative Practices programs, administrative support for the board and minister, and preaching. She will be with us for 15 hours a week.

With our Lifespan Religious Education Director Katy Siepert, the Spirit Jam team Sean Hammond and Ezra Black and the RE program team; Business Manager Wayne Parker, with bookkeeper Dorna Bauman and continued volunteer staffing from Dave deCou; pianist Susanne Giordano and custodian Bob Smith, the creativity and commitment your staff offers is strong.

All together, member, friend, staff and guest, we serve the mission of this congregation, holding this sacred chalice of inclusivity, respect and determination. The flame you kindle with every meeting, song and conversation makes tangible a way of being which may yet redeem a broken world. Every movement you make builds the path we travel, into an unknown world rife with danger and with possibility. It is so good to travel together.

Rev. Sydney



UUCEMinister

This year we will live into our faith through monthly themes, addressing culture through: Covenantal inclusivity Weaving multiculturalism into our church community Transformation that is centering and sustainable

Most of our programs (Sunday services, Religious Education classes & events, the Developmental Minister Letter of Agreement, the winter/spring Small Group Ministries and others) will be aligned with these three activities, in the context of our larger church culture. What a good year we have ahead!

SEPTEMBER SERVICES THEME:

Inclusivity

September 3rd LABOR OF LOVE SUNDAY

A short half-hour service to celebrate, and then we will form work parties from 10:30 to noon-ish. We will work on weeding in the garden and various tasks in the playground. Bring your gardening tools and wear clothes that beg to get dirty. Light lunch provided, and potluck welcome! Rev. Sydney and Katy Siepert

September 10th INTERGENERATIONAL Ingathering Service. Bring a contain of water representing your summer and return to the new church year, for Water Communion. Kimberly Wootan and Katy Siepert and the choirs, with our new Music Director Brad Schultz.

September 17th EQUINOX “Balancing the Widened Circle” a service in the round with Rev Sydney and Shane Nelson. The poetical “Love and I had the wit to win/We drew a circle that took him in” (E. Markham) presents us with spiritual and religious opportunities. The Chamber choir will sing. Spirit Jam, lifespan religious education program begins today.

September 24th “Including...” Rev Sydney and our new Ministerial Intern Sarah Skochko will inquire into the scope and limits of our noncreedal faith. The Sanctuary Choir will sing. Please stay afterwards for lunch with Saro Hendrickson, who will lead a conversation on “Families relate to Transgender issues.”



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UUCEWorship

Thank you Summer Musicians



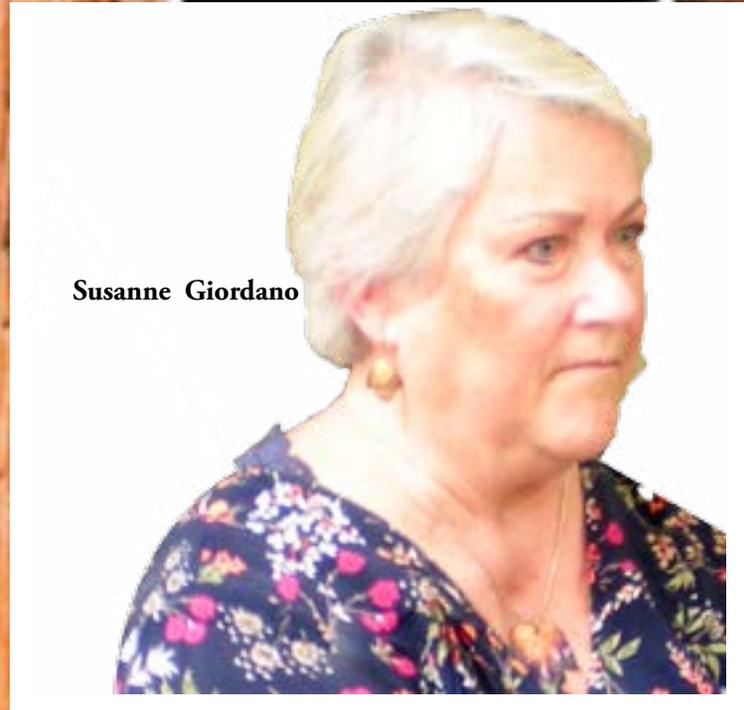
Lawrence Barasa



Andy and Wife Merideth



Mark Dean and Jean Cottrell



Susanne Giordano



Andy, Shane,
Katy



Janice Rutherford,
Martha Snyder,
Rebecca Miller



California Visitors

Thank you Summer Musicians



Christine Anderson,
hand bells



Jean Cottell, Holly Helton, Shannon O'Leary



Sam Rutledge, Kris Olsen, Jenny Tucci



Kara Eubanks

UUCEMusic

Music Potluck Wednesday, September 6, 6:30-8:30

Rehearsals begin for Chalice Choir on Monday, September 11 (7-8:30), Chamber Singers on September 13 (5:15-6:45), and Sanctuary Choir (7-8:30)

Any non-returning singers interested in the Chamber Singers this fall should complete a brief audition with Brad Schultz. This is very informal, and can be done either after worship in the music office on August 27 or Sept. 3, or after the choir potluck on Sept. 6. Please email music@uueugene.org if none of those dates work. No preparation is necessary, and those who sang with the Chamber Singers last year need not complete an audition.

Brad Shultz



2016 Music Potluck



UUCEBoard

Looking Forward Taskforce and Board

Welcome fall and the beginning of a new church year. We are blessed with some new and returning staff members to help carry the load. I'm excited to meet our new intern Sarah Skochko, get to know our new Music Director, Brad Schultz, and our newest office person, Jennifer Williams. It is a special pleasure to welcome back Kimberly Wooten, our 2015-2016 intern, who is joining us as a Congregational Life Consultant this year.

For this month, I wanted to share a little of the planning process that your Board of Trustees has been engaged with over the past several months.

Our Board operates through taskforces developed for specific purposes. Our current taskforces include Quarterly Conversations, focused on communication with the congregation; Covenantal Conversations, focused on developing training to deepen our congregational practice regarding covenant and the Committee of Inquiry on Ministerial Transition.

In April, we created a new board taskforce with the goal of mapping out our work for 2017-18, called the Looking Forward Taskforce. Peter Powers is the chair and participants include Katy Colburn, Lizzy Utterback, Janelle Heidenreich and myself.

The planning process started with the group brainstorming a list of objectives and then creating a grid that included who, what, when and notes for each specific item. Objectives included things like: Increase board visibility, explore new fundraising, successful inquiry process regarding ministerial transition, and harness volunteer opportunities. It turns out we have a lot of objectives, nineteen to be exact. The next step was to group our objectives into four main categories: Successful ministerial transition; congregational engagement; financial stability; and staffing and governance.

This work provided the foundation for our summer retreat, August 11th and 12th. This is the time when we orient our new board members, set our calendar and flesh out the details of the work ahead.

Barbara Kellogg, President
UUCE Board of Trustees

The promised article of the development of the Covenantal Communications training is now scheduled for the October newsletter. Hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and welcome back to an exciting year!



UUCEBoard

Photos Thanks to Poppy Lochridge



Peter Powers and Lizzy Utterback



Wanda Kuenzli and Janelle Heidenreich



Abby Tuttle-Shamblin and Barbara Kellogg



Katy Coburn



Katy Coburn, Bob Fraley and Poppy Lochridge

UUCE Board Retreat

UUCEConnecting



Registration

Regardless of your past registrations, we ask that you please update your child's registration each new church year. You can easily do this for the 2017-18 church year by clicking this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepPZRUIKHfKJZEMbARoRdGyT9253p4hFPDrXG6GttH9I3NA/viewform> We will also have a registration station set up after church for you to register online while you are at the church during the month of September – look for it in the Social Hall!

Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Childcare is provided each Sunday for our youngest congregants. Babies are welcome to stay with their parents in the sanctuary during service, or they can go to Room 4 where they can learn and play with Teachers Emily and Mattie. Preschoolers are also welcome to stay for service, or can be dropped off at Room 3 with Teachers Bridgett and Bryan. All of our youngest congregants are served a small nutritious snack during childcare unless otherwise directed by parents.

SpiritJam (Kindergarten to Elementary age children on up to Senior Adults!)

This month in Spirit Jam, we will explore the theme of inclusivity by establishing our expectations of right relationship in the SpiritJam classrooms.

Our first SpiritJam session – Welcome Back Jam - is September 17th. We'll celebrate the return of the church year through music and dance, story and song. I hope you are able to join us! Then, on September 24, we'll offer three jam sessions for you to choose from - look for the SpiritJam grid to come to the pamphlet rack mid-September!

Middle School

Also on September 24th, we'll host our first Middle School youth group. This will start our year off on the right foot, with middle school youth meeting as a separate group on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Shane and Emily have agreed to be advisors for this group – if this is something you are interested in participating in, please contact me for more information!

High School

High school youth group will begin on September 17th, but before youth group officially begins at the church, there is an opportunity for youth to join the Corvallis youth group for a rafting adventure on September 10th! See more information on the youth facebook page: "UUCE Youth Group" – if you're not yet in the group, please send a request to be added to the group!! We will need permission slips signed for rafting adventure, and if you have extra paddles and/or life vests you can lend to the effort, please bring those along as well!

Dear UUCE,

It's the start of the church cycle and the beginning of a new cycle in my own life. My son, Sage, will have successfully launched into his college career by the time you read this. As I type it, I can feel my heart beat begin to hasten, my palms begin to sweat, my shoulders scrunching up around my ears... I prefer to think of this response as one of excitement rather than fear, but if I'm honest, it's a mix of both. Every new beginning is also an ending, after all, as we have been learning together from the pulpit this past month. This new beginning in my life leaves me feeling breathless and weepy and full of gratitude: gratitude that my child has found something he is passionate about (theater and music), gratitude that we still value these things in our society, gratitude for the opportunities he is pursuing and all those opportunities I have no real idea of but which are hovering on the horizon for him... and gratitude too for the opportunities opening up in my own life as a result of this change in status. We are embarking on a kind of long-distance relationship now, and that takes some work. How will I know what is going on with him day to day? How will I help him from so far away? Does he have the tools he needs to be successful? Do I?

The month of September is all about inclusivity. These fears, excitements, joys and concerns that I've mentioned are not unique to me – we all share them at peak times in our lives. Part of the way I know how to navigate my own emotional churning is through the knowledge that I am not alone in it – in myriad ways throughout cultures and history and on into the future, mothers will grieve and celebrate their sons. And in the end, it is the love we leave behind when we're done is the thing that most matters.

UUCEConnecting

Adults

The Adult RE Pamphlet is on the pamphlet racks and posted online, as is filled with information about upcoming classes, workshops, book groups and discussion groups that you can participate in. Some highlights include an upcoming guest artist and minister who will lead us in creating our very own cards for gifting to friends and loved ones (or for framing and hanging on our walls!), and a class entitled “Building the World We Wish to See” which is focused on addressing white supremacy and which is designed for people from all different backgrounds to come together and learn in a supportive environment.

Service Opportunities

Cob House

Are you an experienced builder who likes a creative challenge? We could sure use your help in getting a roof on this thing! If you have roofing experience, natural building experience, or are just interested in creative problem solving, we need you!

And, as always, many hands make light work. We are still cobbing weekly – come play with mud pies with us!

The cob building schedule has changed for the month of September:

Wednesday evenings from 5:00-Sundown

Friday mornings from 8:00-noon

Sunday mornings from 8:00-noon

Brainstorming (co-creator lab)

One of the best parts of SpiritJam is the process of coming up with the different jam sessions – different angles to help us think about and learn about our monthly themes. Jam sessions can focus on world religions, story-telling, music, physical movement, science, art... the sky, and your imagination, are the limit! Whatever you're good at and interested in, it is guaranteed that there is a young person in need of what you have to offer. Come to our next brainstorming session after church on September 24th to find out more about how SpiritJam works and how you can play a part.

Much love to all of you,
Katy



UUCE Outreach



Junction City LOCAL AID

Community Offering for September

Junction City Local Aid is the recipient of our Community Offering on September 17th. JCLA provides basic needs assistance to people living in the Junction City School District and the Junction City area of rural Lane County. This includes food, utility and energy assistance, prescription/medical assistance, transportation assistance, clothing, and serves as a referral source for area resources.

Junction City Local Aid is staffed by over 70 volunteers and helps more than 20% of the population of the Junction City school district, providing food to an average of 250 households monthly. JCLA relies entirely on donations from the community to fund their operations and greatly appreciates our support.

Tasha Ashworth, community-offering@uueugene.org



Food for Lane County Food Rescue Night Thursday September 28th, from 6:30-8:45 Food for Lane County facility at 770 Bailey Hill Rd

Fifty percent of children in Lane County are food insecure. Here's one way you can help: meet at the Food for Lane County facility to repackage food donated for those in our community experiencing food insecurity. Volunteers must be 14 or over OR 12-13 accompanied by an adult. Wear a ponytail or hat AND closed toe shoes. Contact Berry Broadbent, Justice Network at 541-344-9037 OR hunger@uueugene.org OR JUST SHOW UP!

Don't forget our FFLC donation barrel at church, which is now located across from room #1 at UUCE.



Jen and Ed label packs of dried pinto beans

UUCE Outreach

That's My Farmer Low Income Fund Benefit Dinner
Monday September 11 at 6:00 PM
Party Downtown
64 W 8th Alley, Eugene, OR 97401

Owner/chefs Mark Kosmicki and Tiffany Norton at Party Downtown will cook up a fantastic menu with farm fresh meat and produce contributed by Laughing Stock Farm, Winter Green Farm, Camas Swale Farm, Deck Family Farm, Good Food Easy, Ruby and Amber's Organics Oasis, Turnip the Beet, Horton Road Organics and others.

\$50 per dinner reservation. \$30 of this goes to That's My Farmer for its Low Income Fund. The fund subsidizes farm food boxes for those unable to afford them.

Make checks out to That's My Farmer and send to Winter Green Farm, 89762 Poodle Creek Rd. Noti, OR 97461
Attn: That's My Farmer

No tickets will be issued. You will be placed on the reservation list when payment is received. Include your email or phone number on the check, and you will be notified. Party Downtown is located at 64 West 8th Alley in Eugene, behind Red Wagon Creamery on West 9th St.

That's My Farmer is a coalition of local faith communities and farms.



UUCE Outreach

Food for Lane County's Produce Plus is at UUCE!

Produce Plus brings high quality fresh fruits and vegetables to people in need at community and neighborhood locations. Food for Lane County reports that access to fresh produce is the single largest unmet need of people who qualify for food assistance.

Produce Plus is at UUCE the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 3:00-6:00, at the east entrance of the building.

Through this program, produce is provided free of charge to income qualified individuals and families. The income requirement is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (see chart below for details). This is a higher income allowance than for a food box, in recognition that people of all income brackets can struggle with food insecurity. It is an opportunity to focus on the quality of diet, and not only on a sufficient quantity of food.

Produce Plus allows more people to eat closer to the earth – to avoid packaging and processing that use unnecessary resources and to avoid added, often unhealthful ingredients. Food for Lane County has found that 94% of Produce Plus participants eat more fruits and vegetables and 84% report having more food at each meal.

You may be surprised to find that you qualify for this program. At least two of our organizers do. This program is intended for everyone who qualifies, and if you do, we hope you come to church on Produce Plus Tuesdays!

The next Produce Plus dates are **Tuesday, September 5 and Tuesday, September 17.**

On Produce Plus Tuesdays, we are also able to accept produce from your garden to include with items provided by Food for Lane County. To help us keep things manageable, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

Please get our approval before bringing large quantities of produce. Our space is limited and we are still learning how much produce we can distribute.

Please bring your gifts of produce only on Produce Plus Tuesdays after 2pm. We currently do not have the capacity to store advance gifts of food.

If you would like to help on Produce Plus Day, volunteer hours are currently from 2:00-6:30 on first and third Tuesdays. Please call or text Berry to set up your shift, or visit the Earth EqUuity Food table after services on Sundays. With enough volunteer interest, we would consider expanding hours to include Tuesday evenings, a very busy time for meetings at church. Spanish language skills are appreciated, but not necessary.

Contact us at EEFood@uueugene.org or call/text Berry at 541-344-9037.

On August 15, our first day offering Produce Plus, we were visited by 14 people who feed a total of 34 people. We distributed nearly 200 pounds of bread and fresh produce!



Produce Plus 2017 Income Guidelines/Guia de ingresos 2017

Size of Fmaily Tamaño de la Familia	Monthly Income Ingreso Mensual	Annual Income Ingreso Anual
1	\$2,010	\$24,120
2	\$2,707	\$32,480
3	\$3,403	\$40,840
4	\$4,100	\$49,200
5	\$4,797	\$57,560
6	\$5,493	\$65,920
7	\$6,190	\$74,280
8	\$6,887	\$82,640
For each additional person/ Por cad persona adicionalpp	\$697	\$8,360

Join St. Mary's Earth Stewards and
the Interfaith Earthkeepers to

**Learn How You Can Contribute
to Local Restoration
Planting Efforts and
Help Address Your Carbon Footprint**

**Introduction of the Faith Funds with
the Long Tom Watershed Council
and the McKenzie River Trust**

12:15pm, Sunday, September 10, 2017
Berk told Hall, St. Mary's Episcopal Church
1300 Pearl Street, Eugene, Oregon
Free and Open to the Public

12:15pm—Lunch

12:40pm—Water Inspired Invocation, The Reverend Christine Marie

12:50—River and Nature Aerial Photo Presentation, Phillip Bayles

1:10pm—Quick Overview of the Faith Fund, St. Mary's Earth Steward Volunteer

1:20pm—Introduction to the Work of the Long Tom Watershed Council (LTWC)
and McKenzie River Trust (MRT), LTWC and MRT Staff

For more information, email Betsy at betsyhalpern@comcast.net, or call
St. Mary's at 541.343.9253. For Spanish interpretation or accessibility accom-
modations, please contact us by August 31. The hall is wheelchair accessible.

www.saint-marys.org

UUCE Outreach



**Tuesday, October 3rd
6pm**

Eugene Public Library

Admission is free and open to the community

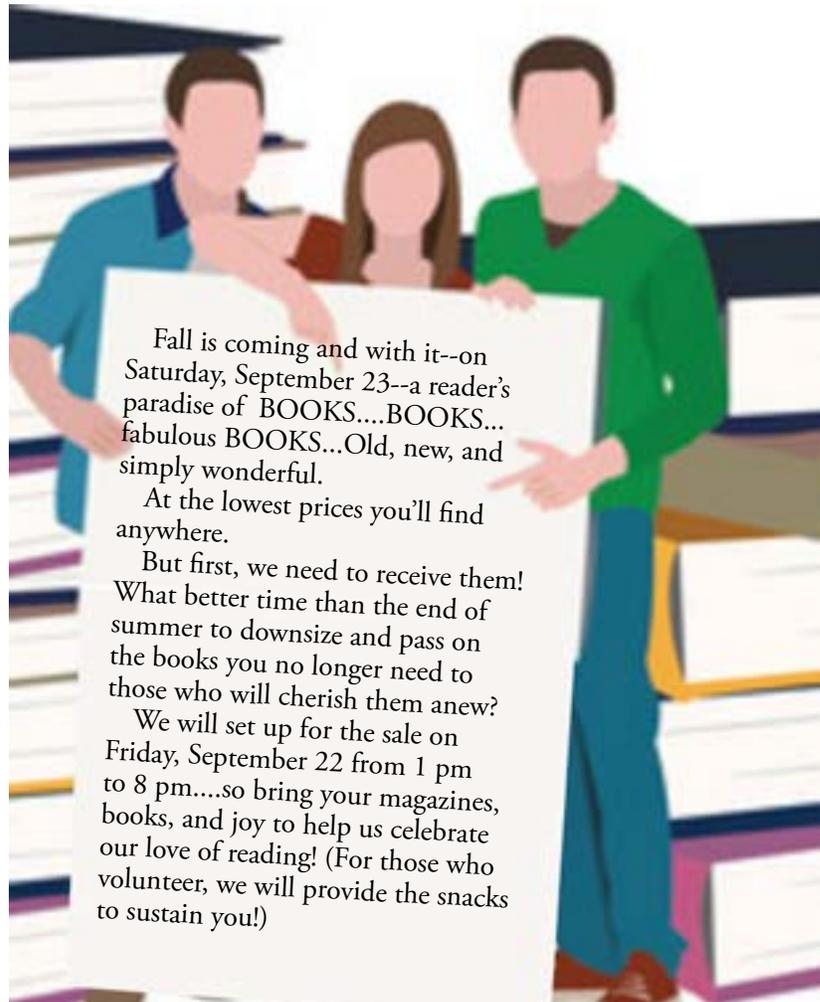
The UUCE Refugee Sanctuary Project is collaborating with the Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County and the Eugene Public Library to present the Eugene premier of AFTER SPRING, a 2016 feature documentary (executive producer Jon Stewart, formerly of The Daily Show), that focuses on the Syrian refugee crisis.

The Syrian conflict is in its seventh year and millions of people continue to be displaced. "After Spring" is the story of what happens next. It follows two families at the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan and the aid workers who fight to keep the camp running. In the on-going crisis, everyone must decide if they can rebuild their lives in a place that was never meant to be permanent.

UUCE Book Sale Returns

The sale itself will start at 9:00 am on Saturday, Sept. 23 and continue until 4 pm.... Then resume on Sunday morning after church--from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Please call Judy Sawyer 541-556-7776 or Sue Craig 541-607-0204



UUCE Outreach

Welcome Tom!

We are very pleased to welcome Tom Pike as our new conestoga resident. Many of you know Tom as our faithful Sunday morning dish washer. Please say hello to Tom and welcome him if you see him.

Our former resident, Ray Quilt, has returned to the Sioux reservation in South Dakota. We wish him well.

Barb Prentice

First Place Family Shelter is Coming to UUCE

The Justice Network proposed, and the Board approved that UUCE become a site for the First Place Family Shelter Program for 2017/18. Everyone who I've talked to about it has been eager to have it here.

This program houses homeless families during the school year at various churches for one or sometimes two weeks. First Place provides bedding, and dividers so that families have some privacy. We plan to use the chapel and one classroom for sleeping. We will be serving breakfast and dinner.

This project will call on all of us to participate, including our youth, to be welcoming and sociable, bring food, cook, serve,

clean up, help out with childcare. We will host families here from Jan. 8-15, 2018, so put it on your calendars. Soon, we will be planning and recruiting you to participate. We hope that you will respond with enthusiasm!

This is a quote from Marsha Miller of First Congregational church:

"There are so many wonderful things about the program and what a blessing it is for the families. In addition, participation really provides opportunities and benefits to the congregation."

Barb Prentice and Janell Heidenreich

Justice Network

Welcome back to a new church year. Justice Network will have its first meeting on Sunday, September 10 at 11:30 in room 7. We will be discussing the plans for the First Place Family Shelter's January stay at UUCE and hear reports about the summer and future work of Interfaith Earthkeepers, Health Care for All Oregon, Oregon UU Voices for Justice and Food for Lane County. We are always interested in hearing about new ideas and justice concerns. All are welcome.



First Family Shelter

Finding Homes for the Homeless September 8th, at 9:15 am at UUCE

Heather Sielicki of Southwest Neighbors will speak. This is presented with Church Women United ---men have a special invite! Winter will soon be here! Ruth Duemier 541-484-6145.



UUCE Outreach

Art Gallery Welcomes City Scapes All Comers Show



September will be our third annual all comers photography show in the UUCE community art gallery. All members and nonmembers are welcome to submit one ready to hang photo. This year's theme is "Cityscapes". Contact person is Scott Hovis: scotthovisfineart@gmail.com

