

UUCE Connections

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“Moving On Up!”
Rev. Lois Van Leer

UUCE Minister

Hello Eugene!

I am so very pleased to be returning to the place where I began my ministry 37 years ago. At that time, I was doing a campus ministry internship representing the United Church of Christ at the Koinonia Campus Ministry Center on Kincaid. Since that time, I have served the UCC in Corvallis in campus ministry, as a youth minister, and associate minister. I hold dual standing with the UCC and the UUA and have served our congregations in Bozeman, Montana and Woodinville, Washington. If you want all the details, you can go to my website (<https://www.revlolo.com/>) that my spouse, Lori, created for me. Like so many of you, Unitarian Universalism feels like a religious and spiritual homecoming.

I spent the last week in a training for interims and developmental ministers. Developmental ministry differs from both settled and interim ministry in some important ways. Interims come into a congregation for anywhere from 1-3 years after a settled minister has left. Their task is to help the congregation through all the stages of grief and transition so that the congregation can be ready to welcome a settled minister.

Developmental Ministry is a fairly new kind of ministry that helps congregations go deeper in building on their strengths and empowering lay leadership to focus on identified goals or on work that the congregation needs to do before calling a settled minister. It requires the creation of trust with both congregants and leadership. Although I have clear ideas about strategies for churches, ultimately, the choice to do or not do something is the congregation's. A Developmental Ministry has a clear ending from its onset. In my case it is four years, with an option for a fifth if mutually agreed upon by the Board and myself.

A settled minister "settles" in for the long haul with the congregation. What differentiates these three kinds of ministries is the pace at which they are undertaken. An interim often has only one year with a congregation to focus internally. The next year is focused on getting the search process up and running. A developmental minister has the luxury of more time and is therefore able to get to know a congregation better and learn its culture. Then the minister and lay leadership can focus on strategies that fit the congregation. A settled minister often spends years with a congregation, slowly getting to know them before even suggesting change, a vision or a direction.



My style is to ask a lot of questions and to listen to the life stories of the people in the congregation. I am also interested in knowing what this church offers those of you who attend. What drew you here and what keeps you here? The stories of persons being sustained, nurtured, and lifted up by this congregation. Rarely am I so busy that I cannot make time for a conversation. I believe that it is relationship and connection that creates a community. I am usually in the office Mondays-Wednesdays. Thursday is my sermon writing day, which I protect fiercely. Friday and Saturday are my days off, which I ask be respected so that Lori and I may have time together. Sunday, I'm all yours.

The work we will be doing together will be not only for ourselves but also for generations we will never meet. Kind of like the following quote attributed to a second-generation Canadian farmer, Nelson Henderson: "The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

May we plant many a tree together in our years together.

Peace, Shalom, Salaam,

Rev. Lo

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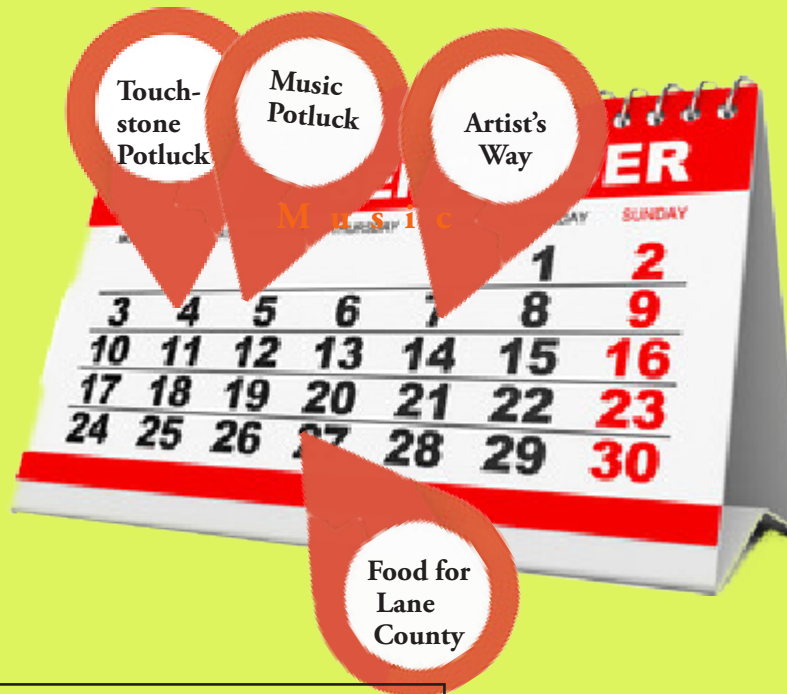
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UUCE Calendar



Touchstone Tuesday Potluck
Tuesday, September 4, 5:30-7:30pm

Welcome Music Potluck
September 5, 6:30 pm

Lynzie Kronheim in her book study of
The Artist's Way
September 7 through October 26,
6:30-8:30pm in Room 6.

Food for Lane County
Food Rescue Night
Thursday, September 27th, 6:30-8:30 pm

Book Sale
October 6 and 7, 2018

Interfaith Night Shelter 2019
January 7-14, 2019.

UUCE Worship

Music Program Announcements



1) Let's get singing! Join music director Brad Schultz and your fellow singers for a welcome back potluck and first rehearsal at church on Wednesday, September 5 at 6:30pm.

Bring a dish to share. Once we're good and full, Brad will introduce the music program for the year, and we'll prepare two pieces to sing in morning worship on Sunday, September 9.

Returning and curious singers are welcome, and families too!

2) Following the welcome potluck on September 5, regular rehearsals for the choirs at UUCE will begin on Wednesday, September 12 in the sanctuary.

All singers are warmly welcomed into the Sanctuary Choir, which rehearses on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30.

The smaller Chamber Singers rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:15-6:45 and childcare is available. A brief, informal audition (range check and a hymn or song of your choice) is necessary of all new Chamber Singers.

Brad Schultz
UUCE's Music Director
uueugenemusic@gmail.com

UUCE Worship



Summer Music



Mark Dean and Jean Cottell



UUCE Communications

Dear UUCE,

I am so happy to be with you again and getting ready for a new year here at the church. I cannot thank you enough for the time away on sabbatical. I plan to present to you about that experience on

September 30th during the service, and I hope that you can come to hear about my time on pilgrimage. They say that when the walking ends, that's when the true pilgrimage begins, and I think there must be truth to this – I can feel the changes inside me as I continue to practice being true to who and what I am, to ask for what I want and need, and to honor and celebrate the amazing feat

that I undertook along with so many thousands of other pilgrims and seekers the world over. Please do join me during service to see pictures and hear stories from my time away.

This month, we are starting back up in SpiritJam and youth groups on September 23rd, and I am so excited for the year ahead! We will be working with Soul Matters this year, and the materials are integrated, interesting, and very accessible. Everyone from the children's program on up will be able to think, talk, and work together on the themes. September's theme is Vision.

The calendar for the month ahead looks like this:

September 2nd – Labor of Love: After the church service, we will have our annual Labor of Love Church Party. The focus will be on working on the church grounds. Dress casually. There will be fun projects for people of all ages and abilities. Connect with new and old friends as we beautify the space for our beloved community.

September 9th – Barking at the Choir: Meet, welcome, and celebrate our new minister, Rev. Lo!

September 16th – Gathering of the Waters: This annual tradition is an all-ages service, and children are encouraged to actively participate in blessing the holy waters of our lives and our community, to be used in ceremonies like weddings, memorials, and baby blessings for the rest of the year!

September 23rd – Vision: Rev. Lo will be discussing the power and process of envisioning the world we want to see. In SpiritJam, we'll be covenanting for the coming year, and celebrating our community with a SpiritJam Kick-off Party!!!! All are welcome to come envision a world of collaboration and confirmation of our deepest held values – it's going to be a great kick-off!

September 30th – Inner Vision: Katy will be in the pulpit, sharing her experience of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. SpiritJammers are welcome to stay in service, or to explore their own inner vision through interactive, kinesthetic, and/or contemplative projects and practices with Ezra and the SpiritJam faculty.

Look to October for 8th grade OWL information. If you or your youth is interested in participating in OWL this year, please reach out to me. OWL is open to UUCE members and friends as well as community members, so please do spread the word.

I look forward to seeing you in Church!

Katy



UUCE Communications



Lifespan Religious Education

As you all know, the Cobb House building has been a hefty undertaking. It has relied on contributions from volunteers in the congregation when possible, and when not, on RE staffing.

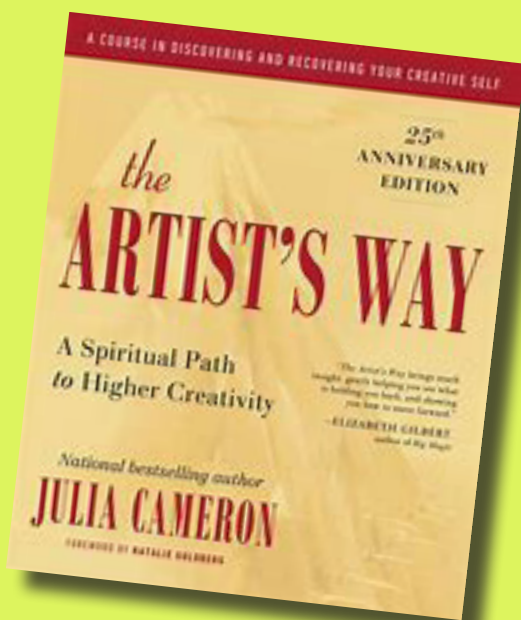
Unfortunately, our program budget can no longer sustain progress on this project. Our focus and priority is the children of UUCE - their growth and life enrichment. This is where our budget spending (and energy!) is needed.

Thus, we pass the torch and present to you a service project for our youngest congregants. If you know about roofing, or someone who knows someone who... now is your chance!

Thank you sincerely,
Katy Siepert, Ezra Black and the rest of the RE crew.

The Artist Within

Join Lynzie Kronheim in her book study of *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron.
September 7 through October 26, from 6:30-8:30pm in Room 6.



This 8-week class provides steps to spiritual, artistic, and creative recovery, which will lead you toward personal transformation and have you unearthing, reclaiming, and inspiring your true nature, gifts and talents.

Lynzie has been an Art Teacher and Coach for the past 25 years, and has taught *The Artist's Way* to students from all walks of life. Through her guidance and coaching, we honor self-expression, identify core values, and set intentions for our current life's purpose.

The cost is \$20 per session, which includes all supplies. The class will meet on 8 consecutive Fridays, from September 7 through October 26, from 6:30-8:30pm in Room 6. There is a free introductory session on Friday, August 31 from 6:30-8:30pm in Room 6.

Registration is requested, but drop-ins are also welcome. For questions and to register, contact Lynzie Kronheim, lifecoach-lynzie@gmail.com, 541-228-1033.

UUCE Outreach

Looking Forward to Revival of Access Committee



*David W. Oaks and
UUCE August Artist David Ivan Piccioni*

I use a power wheelchair because I had a major accident in 2012. By coincidence, for more than 40 years, I have worked as an activist for human rights and mental health. So I have a keen interest in both physical and mental disability issues, and this is why I am especially enthused about the potential revival of the Access Committee for the UU Church in Eugene.

This essay is only speaking for me, but over the years I have met many other church members who want to see an active Access Committee. A few months ago, I was glad to hear that Jo Hollister-Victoria is leading a little group to re-start the Access Committee. I asked Jo about why this is important?

Jo said, "What I most want is for our congregation to engage in open conversation about how we unintentionally exclude folks based on assumptions we make, including around disability. We can engage together in the joyful work of expanding our community to include a more diverse membership through raised awareness of and comfort with disability."

For me, access addresses all topics of marginalization. For example, class is often a barrier in our society.

What are Jo's initial goals? "For starters, I want to create a safe space for folks to meet once a month to talk about their experiences in our church and to brainstorm on how we can make our church more welcoming. As a queer trans disabled person, I'm motivated to help make sure that all people are welcome here."

I am also involved in another, separate emerging new committee at our church, a disaster preparedness group. For me, challenges involving disability mean that we need to build strong communities to prepare for disaster. Those interested in the disaster preparedness group can contact Bob Fraley at fraleybob@gmx.com. One of the other members, Bill Wiley, has a lot of experience in disaster preparedness. He agrees with me about the importance of connecting concerns about disaster preparedness and disability. I am always glad to make a new friend!

Jo Hollister-Victoria hopes to revive the Access Committee starting in September. Watch for announcements. Jo told me the goal would be to have a meeting each third Sunday at 12:20 pm. For more info and to be informed about future activity, you can email Jo at jo@robarthq.net.

Are you interested in issues involving disability and/or disaster preparedness? I would love to hear from you, davidwoaks@gmail.com.

David W. Oaks
davidwoaks@gmail.com

UUCE Outreach

Here are some facts and reminders
(with thanks to the World Wildlife Fund for the information)

One hundred years ago, 99.9% of people got by without cars. They took the train; they lived near their workplaces...and they walked. Using fuel-efficient cars is important, but we can save even more fuel by simply driving less.

Recycling doesn't mean only separating your cans and bottles. It can mean using things a second (or a third) time. That nice padded envelope you got in the mail, for example? Instead of throwing it away, scratch out the address, tear off the stamps and use it again.

By taking reusable bags to the grocery store, you can cut down on the 350 bags that the average American uses each year and



reduce needless deaths of marine life caused by plastic bags that end up in streams, rivers and oceans. (Eugene is ahead of the game on this, but we could do better.)

Last year Americans went through about 50 billion plastic water bottles. Fill up a reusable water bottle at home and bring it with you. Don't like the taste of your tap water? Buy a filter! (Remember, much of the bottled water sold today is filtered tap water anyway...)

Rouanna Garden
Earthkeepers



Everyone Brings Something to the Table.

Touchstone Tuesday Potluck
Tuesday, September 4, 5:30-7:30pm (Social Hall, Kitchen)

The September Touchstone Tuesday potluck will have a homecoming theme, welcoming our new minister and church families as we gather to celebrate the beginning of a new school and church year.

You're invited to bring a comfort food, foods made with items from your garden, a family recipe, or another dish to share. Adults with children can take the night off from cooking and be our guests! We get together on the first Tuesday of each month



Attention All Book Sale

October 6 and 7, 2018.

If you have books, sheet music, CDs, DVDs and videos for the sale that you cannot store until then, OR if you have space to store them, please contact Judy Sawyer at jsawyer712@comcast.net, or 541-556-7776. ALSO let her or Sue Craig (sueacraig@gmail.com) know if you will be able to help set up or work during the sale. It's fun!

UUCE Outreach

Who is My Neighbor?

Written by Rev. Rick Davis, senior minister of UU Congregation of Salem, OR

Over my three plus decades in ministry, I have attended many social justice rallies, but on August 14, I took a step I've never taken: along with five fellow members of the clergy, I engaged in an act of civil disobedience by ignoring the command of police officers from the Department of Homeland Security to cease blocking the entrance to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Portland. We were arrested and briefly detained and will go to our court hearing on Friday Nov. 2.

...A few minutes before our arrest, I saw a family exiting ICE offices. Their sad and solemn faces told a story of hardship and heartbreak that pierced my heart and called to mind all the many millions of people in our country who are living under a virtual reign of fear and terror intentionally engineered by ICE, whose chilling, systematic machinations threaten to disrupt the family lives of millions of our sisters and brothers. Under the current administration, ICE is free to zealously, ruthlessly pursue all

undocumented people, heedless of the horrendous consequences for so many. The alarming growth of this governmental agency of internal oppression bodes ill for the health of a free and open society.

So when the invitation came from the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMMiRJ) to join other clergy in nonviolent resistance to governmental abuse of power, I knew I had to accept, because this was what love required of me – love for my neighbor. And who is my neighbor? Centuries ago, when Jesus was asked by a lawyer, “Who is my neighbor?”, he replied with the parable of the Good Samaritan, which unequivocally affirms that we're all neighbors. All of us. No exceptions.

I invite those of you reading these words to ask yourself, “during these times of fear and oppression, what does love require of ME?”

submitted by Jennifer Rowan-Henry
Source: UU Refugee Sanctuary Project



Interfaith Night Shelter 2019

Many of you participated in the Interfaith Night Shelter Program run by First Place Family Center. We housed and served breakfast and dinner to 8 families for one week in January 2018. A brief survey was overwhelmingly positive about the experience. We are looking forward to serving again from January 7-14, 2019.

We will be working in a new, more stable environment at the new First Place Center Annex. There will be no housing at

UUCE and no overnight volunteers or drivers. Moving week to week is a hardship, especially for the children.

The new space will be able to shelter up to 17 families. We will still provide breakfast and dinner and activities for children as well as interacting with the adults. We may be serving 40 to 60 people. Please save the dates and begin thinking about how you might enjoy participating.

We are still working out the details and will communicate more in future newsletters.

Barb Prentice, Kay Crider, Jeanne-Marie Moore

UUUCE Outreach



Artist works with teen residents to create vibrant artwork



Third Sunday Community Offering for August

UUUCE gives away one Sunday offering a month to an organization working to support and improve the world in alignment with our values and principles.

On September 16, the offering will be given to the new St. Vincent de Paul shelter for homeless girls. On any given night in Eugene/Springfield, more than 400 homeless and unaccompanied high school students struggle to find a place to sleep. Many teens end up on the streets, where they are vulnerable to violence, drugs and a thriving human-trafficking trade along the I-5 corridor. To address this growing problem, SVDP opened the first Youth

House for homeless teens in the former Cascade-Presbyterian Church on Willamette Street. The facility features 14 small-efficiency apartments and includes a resident manager's unit, large common space, a community kitchen, laundry facilities, offices for casework, a computer lab and study area and more.

Hoever large or small is each individual's contribution, our generosity, can change lives, and change the world!

For information about this program,

contact: communityoffering@uueugene.org

**Food for Lane County
Food Rescue Night**
Thursday September 27th, 6:30-8:30 pm
Food for Lane County facility at
770 Bailey Hill Rd



Did you know that 36% of food box recipients water down their food or drinks to make them last longer? Here's one way you can help. We meet to repackage food donated to those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old OR 12-13 if accompanied

by an adult. Wear a hat/ponytail 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 UUUCE.

UUCE Stewardship



Planks of wood have been glued together to form the base of the chalice.

Update, Sanctuary Wall

In a garage in Eugene, beautiful pieces of wood are being carved into a chalice for our sanctuary. The chalice and its contrasting base are being carved by Martha Snyder, an artist and church member. We are grateful for her contribution of talent!

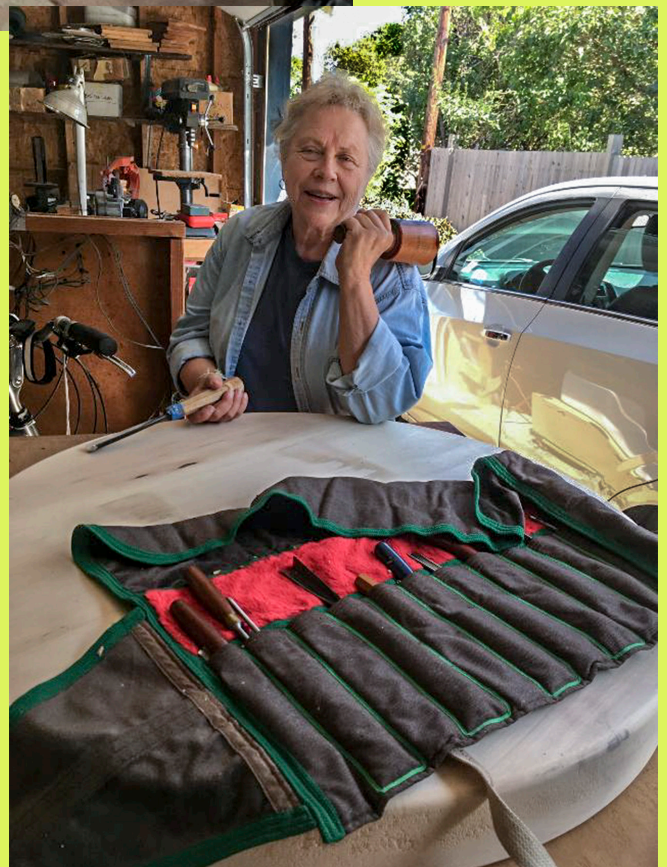
When she has finished carving and staining the wood, metalsmith Greg Wilbur from Portland, who had a gallery show at our church, will be collaborating with Martha to add a visual flourish, using either copper and/or brass.

The artwork will hang on the sanctuary's wood wall, to the right of the screen.

We don't have an ETA – art can't be rushed – but the installation will anchor the space and identify the church to congregants and visitors.

Meanwhile, Building and Grounds volunteers are installing wood sections that bridge the space between the current wood wall and the drywall side walls. The sections will improve the acoustics for our choirs. The sections are built from tongue-and-groove hemlock that was saved during the building's remodel.

Thank you to all who have made this wonderful project possible!



Martha Snyder is using her woodcarving tools to create the chalice.