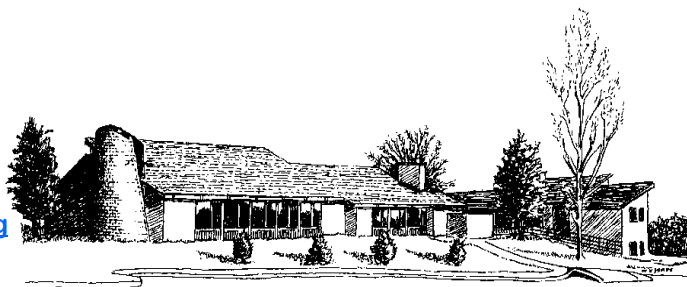


The InterCom

The Newsletter of Foothills Unitarian Church
1815 Yorktown Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80526-1658
www.foothillsuu.org, E-mail: uuinfo@foothillsuu.org
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December 2007

Volume 72, Issue 12

SUNDAY SERVICES IN DECEMBER

(All services at 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. except December 30th)

December 2 "Would Jesus Celebrate Christmas?"

On the first Sunday in December, our choir will sing, we'll conduct a recognition of some of our newest members, and Intern Minister Dr. Denise Hall and I will respond to this question in our shared sermon.



December 9 "Torah! Torah! Torah!"

Hanukkah began at sundown on December 4, offering us the opportunity to get to know a bit more about Jewish traditions and teaching. The sermon title I have borrowed unapologetically from a Jewish source, either Rabbinic or comedic is: "Torah! Torah! Torah!" Today will be a Family Sunday, with our children joining us for the first part of the service to enjoy our young children's choir.

December 16 "Letters From Santa - \$3.98."

This Family Sunday will be enriched by our choir of older children. I will conduct a Unitarian Universalist Service of Naming and Dedication at our services, if requested. The Homily is titled: "Letters From Santa - \$3.98."

December 23 Annual service of Child Naming, Carols, and Stories

Our adult choir will sing and Denise Hall and I will share readings, stories, and songs of the season at our regular 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. services as Christmas draws nigh.

December 24 Christmas Eve Services at 5:00, 7:00, and 9:00 P.M.

Join us for our family-oriented, kid friendly services at 5:00 and 7:00 P.M., with our always-enjoyable Christmas Eve Pageant at each. At 9:00 P.M. we quiet down for a service of readings, carols, and special music geared to adults and youth. Dr. Denise Hall, Intern minister, will be participating in our services this evening. Come to one, come to all three—you'll be most welcome!

December 30 Sermon: "The Man Who Saw Into the Future" ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 A.M.

Sermon: "The Man Who Saw Into the Future"—Standing on the threshold of a new year, we'll look back in admiration at a man who predicted a future we then came to inhabit. Courageous, truth-seeking and truth-telling, controversial, we celebrate his life and work today. His first name was Eric, and if you can guess the identity of our mystery hero from these few clues, you will be acknowledged in our service today; the first person to correctly identify our subject will receive a New Year's gift from Marc, also to be bestowed today.



Upcoming Events

- December 2 Choir Performance (p. 4)
- December 7 & 8 Madrigal Dinner (p. 5)
- December 9 Children's Holiday Craft Workshop (p. 6)
- December 14 Young Family Potluck and Caroling Party (p. 6)
- December 19 A-Caroling We Go... (p. 4)



Service of Naming & Dedication Set for December 16th.

This simple service of welcome for the new youngest ones among us is both ceremonial and personal. For more information, and to make sure your child or children will be included, please contact Marc no later than Sunday, December 9th. If you miss this service our next Naming and Dedication will be held on Easter Sunday.

Marc My Words

Warnings about this December and the holidays therein are already abroad in the media. Foreclosures rise! Stock markets fall! The economy is softening! Oil prices are rising! Consumers aren't buying enough! Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Joyous Solstice, by the way.

I'm reminded, though, of the work of anthropologist Victor Turner and the great Mexican writer Octavio Paz, both of whom studied holidays, fiestas, and sacred ceremonies, and who affirmed that the intention of our calendar rites and celebrations is to abolish time, not to be mired down in it. If "abolish" seems too strong (and unclear), then the fiesta, holiday, and ceremony erect a parallel time to be in contrast with ordinary time; we step out of daily routine into holy time, redeemed time, awesome time.

We can picture it this way: ordinary time and worries are suspended so we can attend to ultimate realities such as love and other miracles. Candles which should have gone out remained glowing, so we keep the lights burning on evenings of our own when darkness arrives early. Living in the special light of the season, we find selfish people, who may be ourselves, becoming giving and generous. We act directly to help the poor, the homeless, the hurting and needy. And we make time for family, for gift-giving, for being together.

Fiesta, holiday, and ceremony can never make ordinary time perfect or even ok. All they can do is erect moments of wonder and joy which remind us what we're capable of doing, what we're capable of feeling, and who we might yet, in the fullness of time, become.

Vicki, Becky, and David, and I wish you and you're a magical December, 2007!

Yours in our Shared Ministry,
Marc



Caring Corner

Vicki Siska

Our love and sympathy is sent to Jennifer Crane and her family upon the death of Jennifer's mother. May you find support in the comfort of friends during this difficult time.

Our supportive and healing wishes are with Kay Hood as she undergoes treatment for a highly treatable form of cancer.

Healing wishes to Myrna Maier who has undergone back surgery. May you be up and about soon!

Healing thoughts are also sent to Ted Kramer. Ted is currently in Center Rehab recovering from a difficult infection, and we hope that he will be home soon.

Anne Semlac is back in Fort Collins and getting stronger at Center Rehab. Anne welcomes your visits, especially in the afternoon and early evening between 3 and 7 pm.

Thank You for the Stock, but...

Sue Ferguson, Treasurer

A special thank you to 2 church members who have fulfilled their 07-08 pledges through the donation of stock. The good news is that the church has received shares of US Bank Corp & HP stock. The bad news is that when the stock is transferred we do not get the name of the person transferring the stock to us. So if you think either of these donations is from you – Please contact the church office (493-5906) with that information.

The donation of appreciated securities can have very positive tax consequences and you may want to consider it as

an option for paying your pledge. If you do, please give the church office a head's up when you make the transfer. The office can give you brokerage information you will need to make the transfer. It's church policy to sell securities immediately upon receipt. As always, your financial support is most appreciated.

Christmas Giving

Lilys Price

Once again, the Caring Committee is asking our generous congregation for Christmas gifts for kids whose families are in the TANF program, receiving public assistance while the Moms get training for employment and self-sufficiency. Our church members have for years bought gifts for these kids to brighten their holidays. This year on Dec 1st and 8th, we'll have a list of kids who would love to find something under the tree. We ask that you bring the gifts to church a week after you sign up, so they can get delivered to the families in time for Christmas. For those who would like to participate but don't want to shop, gift certificates are always welcome, since these kids don't get many opportunities to shop for themselves. In previous years some people have bought grocery certificates at church for the families. That benefits both the church and the gift recipients. Thanks in advance for helping these struggling families.



So Sez the Prez

Bruce Wagner, Board President

On Sunday, November 4th, we held a Congregational Meeting. During the meeting we elected a new Board member, Cory Seymour, and shifted the positions of a few of the other Board members: I was elected President, replacing Conwell Dickey in that capacity, and Tom Griggs was voted President-Elect, replacing me in that position. Thanks to Stan Kidder and the Nominating Committee for their work in finding people to fill the open positions.

The congregation voted to adopt the bylaws revisions with one amendment. The revised bylaws, in addition to clarifying language and procedure, adds the Past President as a voting member on the Board, adds Secretary-Elect as an elected position, and adds an additional trustee to the board bringing the total to 11 voting members. Thanks to David Vancil for his part in this process, both for his attempts at bringing me up to speed with parliamentary procedure, and for the wonderful job he did in paraphrasing and presenting the bylaws revisions. Thanks to the Bylaws Committee, Bill Marquardt, Chair, David Vancil, and John Frey for the many hours they devoted to the difficult task of revision. Thanks to Chris Frey for her technical help during the meeting. Lastly, thanks to you, the Congregation, for your careful consideration and attention to the inner workings of our church.

Thanks for Gifting — Goods and Services Auction

Erica Dickson, Sandi Nesbit-Manning, Chris Frey, Karen Karpenin, Leonard Sokoloski, and Selena Paulsen

Heartfelt thanks to all members of our community who supported the recent *Thanks for Gifting* auction on November 10. The evening was a wonderful success, grossing more than \$16,000 for FUC!!

We are very pleased with the success of this fundraiser, only 7 months after the last auction. Though we anticipated a drop in the fundraising success of this event as we

moved it to the fall, we have a 10% increase over previous auction gross proceeds. Way to go!! We hope a good time was had by all who attended!!

The auction team will soon meet to review survey results and make plans for the next auction, in November 2008. If you enjoyed the auction and want to be on the 2008 team, this is the time to join the team; likewise, if you have ideas for improvement, consider bringing your energy to the team!!

Internship Committee

Jennifer Geraci

As part of Dr. Denise Hall's internship program at Foothills, an internship committee has been formed to provide Denise with feedback on her presentation style and sermons, and provide a backbone of support as she navigates this portion of her ministerial journey.

We are fortunate to have such a talented and enthusiastic intern at Foothills, and the committee is looking forward to helping her hone her many gifts so she can head into the world and do the work she is so passionate about. It is important that she receive feedback not only from the committee, but from the congregation members as well.

The committee members are: Linda Knowlton (chair), Jennifer Geraci, Marc Salkin, Cory Seymour, Vicki Siska, and David Wells.

We invite you to participate in this process by contacting any of the Intern Committee members with any constructive criticism and feedback you may have on the services Denise will participate in. The committee will bring it to the table during our meetings with Denise.

Denise will be participating in services on these dates:

December 2

December 23

All three Christmas Eve services

January 6

(Continued on page 4)

Have You Had Your Chalice Lit Lately??

The Nominating Committee and Recent Leadership School Graduates

Please join congregational leaders, church staff, and participants of leadership school for a day of "getting your chalice lit." This no-cost workshop is offered for friends and members of FUC and will be focused on inspiring new and long-time members to achieve a deeper understanding of what it means for you to be a UU and how to live your values through church participation. Save Saturday, January 19th for Finding Your Gifts: Pathways to Participation at FUC. The day will begin at 9:00 and end at 4:00. Meals, snacks and childcare will be provided.

A day of inspiration and uplift is in the works and will include song, worship & history. If you want to be able to articulate more clearly what UU is for you, and how you live the beliefs within your spiritual community, this day is for you. If you just took the membership class, and want the "Owner's Guide to FUC," you will enjoy this workshop. If you are a long-term church member and don't know where the attic is, please join us. Any member of the FUC community who is looking for deeper connection and the opportunity to dig in a little deeper is welcome! For more information or to reserve your place, please contact Bobbie Poole at 407-1514 or bobbiepoole@comcast.net.



(continued from previous page)

You may contact any of the committee members at coffee hour after church, or through our email addresses listed below:

Linda Knowlton -- llknowlton@gmail.com
Cory Seymour – cmour@lamar.colostate.edu
David Wells – davidwells90@comcast.net
Jennifer Geraci – jgeraci@frii.com
Vicki Siska – vsiska27@hotmail.com
Marc Salkin -- msalkin5@hotmail.com

Music Notes 🎵 🎵 🎵

Ryan Marvel, Music Director

Adult Choir

Calling all Tenors and Basses! Please see Ryan or speak to a choir member if you are interested in joining our diverse group. Welcome to new choir member Seahart!

Choir Rehearsals in December

Wednesday Dec 5, 12 – 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Choir Performances in December

Sunday, December 2 – “Stars I Shall Find”, a gorgeous piece with flowing piano and dissonant chords; poetry by Sara Teasdale.

Sunday, December 23 – “Still, Still, Still” - A favorite lullaby holiday carol.

A-Caroling We Go...take 2!

Last year, our biggest Winter storm hit on the day that this event was to take place. But we are ready to try again!

What: Family Caroling Party

When: Wednesday, Dec. 19 – 6:00 pm

Where: Meet in Social Hall

How: Bundled warm, ready to sing!

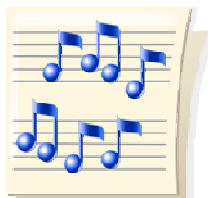
We will embark out to sing at 6:15; the choir will help to lead the masses in singing to our neighbors. Upon our return, we will enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, cider and time together. Come and celebrate the music of the season with our Foothills families! More info will be posted soon.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 19, 2008 – 7:00 pm
Winter Chamber Music Concert

This is becoming a highly anticipated musical event. Classical music performed by professional Foothills musicians. Look for ticket information to be posted in the social hall and on the church website. Mark your calendars!!!

In Song,
Ryan Marvel, 581-0120,
ryan@ryanmarvel.com



The Gourmet! The Gourmand! And the Giver!

Mark Wanger and RP Martin

The two-month season of eating good food and of giving is here!! Enhance the spirit by giving Grocery Certificates from "Our Little Gray Church in the Foothills". Each purchase means a 5% yield on your money spent, that yield going to the Church! (Where else can you get interest that good?) What could be a better gift! The participating stores are King Soopers, Safeway, Sunflower Market, Albertson's, Vitamin Cottage and Fort Collins Food Co-op (yes, that's a new one!). Be sure to read back of the Safeway and King Soopers cards for names of their associate stores across the country. Grocery Certificates can be purchased on Sundays in the social hall and in the office during the week. They make great "Stocking Stuffers"! Good for gasoline too! Happy Holidays!



Notes from the Bookstore

By Eve Enright

Our pre-holiday book orders have arrived, so the bookstore tables are overflowing with new selections for your reading pleasure. As requested, there are numerous hardcover children's books right now for gift-giving in addition to great Adult Fiction and Non-fiction books to choose from. Here are just a few of the new arrivals:

For Preschoolers: *The Snowy Day*, *I Love to Cuddle*, and *Charming Opal*.

For Early Readers: *Rotten Ralph*, *The Cafeteria Lady from the Black Lagoon*, and *Secrets of Doon* (Box Set).

For the 9-12 crowd: *Warriors* (Box Set), *The Phantom Tollbooth*, and *The Daring Book for Girls*.

For Teens: *The Dark is Rising* (Box Set), *A Great and Terrible Beauty*, and *Specials*.

Adult Fiction: *The Bolyn Inheritance*, *The Gathering*, and *Memory of Running*.

Adult Non-fiction: *What is What*, *The Glass Castle*, and *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

Did you miss getting Roy Jones' book *Random Musings* last year? Well, you have another chance to buy it. This book of poems, letters, sermons, and, well, random musings, is a great addition to your library from our own Minister Emeritus. We also have more copies of Ryan Marvel's CD – *Left Hand Right Hand*. If you like to hear Ryan play the piano during our Church services, why not get a CD and enjoy listening to him in the comfort of your own car or home. (Supplies of both items are limited.)

Finally, the Chalice Imprint items have arrived! There are glasses, Travel Mugs, Sun Catchers, Key Chains, Water Bottles, Magnets, and a selection of Lapel Pins you can wear to proudly show your UU affiliation.

Happy Holidays to everyone!

December is a busy month for Adult Enrichment, with our 4th annual Madrigal Dinner and our 2nd annual Yule celebration. The madrigal dinners have become a high point in the church year for many people; an opportunity to begin the holiday season with friends and family in a colorful and festively decorated transformed church sanctuary, surrounded by good music from Opera Colorado and some of our own Foothills UU musicians, while enjoying good food. Wow! That was a long sentence, but there is much to enjoy on this magical evening, and if you haven't placed your reservation yet I highly encourage you to do so!

Our Yule celebration on December 16th is also a very special seasonal celebration. Acknowledging the Winter Solstice and the changing season, we gather for a service of readings, ritual, music, food and activities. Our time together provides a quiet time of reflection in a time of the year which can seem overwhelming and materialistic. It also is the occasion for a joyous, noisy welcoming of the sun, which beginning on December 21st will provide a bit more light each day. Please plan to join us for this unique evening. Children are not only welcome, but encouraged to attend; however, if you have especially young children you might want to talk with me so that we can decide together if the service will work for them. There is no charge for this event, although donations are gratefully received.

And finally, we will close the calendar year with the viewing of the wonderful film adaptation of James Joyce's short story, "The Dead." Don't be put off by the title; the story and film are both masterpieces and the majority of the "action" takes place at a festive Dublin New Year's Eve party. This short film is the last work of renown director John Houston, and is considered to be the crowning glory of this career. It is a beautiful and haunting film, and one which you won't soon forget. \$5 donation includes film, dessert and a copy of the story.

Looking Ahead

We will be offering a number of great classes in January, and we encourage you to mark your calendar now and plan to join us! Our offerings include:

Releasing Your Creative Spirit:

This class will focus on learning how to tap into the creativity which resides in each of us. We will be using UU Dan Wakefield's book of the same title. This class will be held on Sunday, January 13, 7-9 pm. \$15 donation includes book. Please note the date change: January's Bud-

dhism lass will meet on the first Sunday of the month (January 6) and Releasing Your Creative Spirit will meet on the second Sunday (January 13).

The Wound of Religion

Please join us for this excellent DVD presentation by the Reverend Richard Halloway, writer, broadcaster and retired Bishop of Edinburgh in the Scottish Episcopal Church. The presentation will highlight Halloway's deep and insightful thoughts on the nature of humanity and religion. Thursday, January 10 and Sunday, January 20, 7-9 pm. No donation fee.

Christian Voices in Unitarian Universalism

Come explore with us the role that the contemporary Christian movement has in our larger UU denomination, and join us for an evening of sharing as we review the book *Christian Voices in Unitarian Universalism* and share our thoughts on the relevancy of Jesus and Christianity in Unitarian Universalism and our own lives. Thursday, January 24, 7 – 9 pm. \$15 donation includes book.

Slow Down and Remodel Your Life

Join us for this series of four classes (once a month January through April) as we explore ways of slowing down and making life more meaningful. Using the books *In Praise of Slowness: How a Worldwide Movement Is Challenging the Cult of Speed*; *The Not So Big Life*, and *Sabbath*, we will address issues and engage in exercises that touch our heads, hearts and spirits. A potluck dinner will precede each class. Watch for more details in your January newsletter.

Wise Blood

We will end the month with a discussion of the astonishing and haunting novella, *Wise Blood*, by southern writer Flannery O' Connor. The class will be followed in February by the movie. Book and more information available by contacting me or stopping by the AE table after church services. Class will be held on Thursday, January 31, and Thursday, February 7, 7 – 9 pm. \$15 donation includes book and movie.

Are You New to UU?

If you have only recently become acquainted with Unitarian Universalism and still aren't clear what it is all about, this class is for you! On Sunday, December 2 we will be holding a Introduction to Unitarian Universalism evening which will include a Baker's Dozen of questions concerning basic elements of our faith, a short history of our movement, and of course, your questions! Join us from 7 – 8:30 pm with your interest and your questions.



Hello Church Families

December is a busy month in our church community. Our annual Holiday Craft Workshop will be held on Dec. 9th in the afternoon.

Our children's Holiday Choirs will perform at our Dec. Sunday services and during our annual Christmas Eve services for families. We hope you will share the joy of the season with us!

Eleanor VanDeusen Children's RE Coordinator

Sunday December 2nd

Church school classes meet at 9am and 11am today

Sunday December 9th

All Church Sunday - Children join their families in the Sanctuary for the beginning of our service
OUR YOUNG HOLLY HOLIDAY CHOIR performs today. **Children's Holiday Craft Workshop 2 -5pm**

Sunday December 16th

All Church Sunday - Children join their families in the Sanctuary for the beginning of our service
THE CHILDREN'S SPIRIT HOLIDAY CHOIR performs today.

Sunday, December 23rd

We will have holiday activities for children and childcare today during our 9am and 11am services

RE TEACHERS WILL ENJOY THE DAY OFF.

Monday December 24th

Family Christmas Eve Services - 5 & 7pm
Join us for carols, Christmas readings and our annual Holiday Pageant!

Our *Young Holly Holiday Choir* performs at 5pm.
The Children's Spirit Holiday Choir performs at 7pm.

Sunday December 30th

Single Service today at 10 am. Activities for children and childcare will be provided.

Children will enjoy a New Year's Celebration.

RE TEACHERS WILL ENJOY THE DAY OFF.



Family Christmas Eve Services

Monday December 24th at 5pm and 7pm Join us for this Foothills Family tradition! We will share carols, Christmas readings and our annual Holiday Pageant! This year's pageant, titled *Angel Pig and the Hidden Christmas* will feature a loveable family of piggies who discover the true hidden joy of Christmas. Our Young Holly Holiday Choir will perform at the 5pm service. The Children's Spirit Holiday Choir will perform at the 7pm service. Join us for a Foothills Holiday tradition!



22nd Annual Children's Holiday Craft Workshop Sunday, December 9th 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. ADMISSION \$6.00

Join us for an afternoon of holiday creativity! Our Children's Holiday Craft Workshop features 16 stations for children to make wonderful holiday gifts and decorations. **We need lots of adult & youth helpers. Please sign up on the poster in the social hall to help at a craft station for a 2 hour shift.** You need not be "crafty". Complete instructions are provided and projects are designed for children to complete in 10 to 15 minutes with a bit of help.

Fab Family Friday Potluck & Caroling Party!

December 14th at 5:30 pm

in the church Social Hall. Families of all kinds - single parents, parents with children of any age, blended families, seniors, singles - all are invited to gather in community. Will start with a potluck at 5:30 - bring a dish to share, table service and beverages will be provided. After dinner we will go caroling around the neighborhood, then back to the church for hot chocolate!



If you have questions about the Children's Religious Education Program or anything posted here, Please contact Eleanor VanDeusen, Children's Religious Education Coordinator at the church (970) 493-5906 or (970) 484-6090 home. My office hours are M, W, TH, F 9-1 and SUN 8-1

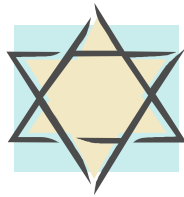
Youth Programming News

7th Grade News

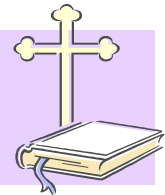
Our 7th grade class continued our exploration of UU'ism by studying famous figures from our UU history including Michael Servetus & Francis David. We made chalices from flower pots and learned about our UU symbol. During December we will study winter holiday traditions and the birth stories of prophets from major world religions. We also helped Eleanor present a skit to the congregation to promote the Guest at Your Table program of the UU Service Committee. Many thanks 7th graders!

8th Grade News

Our 8th graders are continuing our study of different religions. We enjoyed a speaker from Har Shalom synagogue, Nina Rubin, who introduced us to some of the major beliefs and philosophies of **Judaism**. The following week, we sat attended a service at the synagogue, and saw Har Shalom's three torahs, one of which was brought to Colorado by pioneers in a covered wagon. We also had a fun movie night at church and watched "Evan Almighty", a humorous, modern take on the story of Noah's ark.



Next, we explored **Catholicism**, talking about Jesus' life and death, his followers, and the importance of ritual in the Catholic Church. We participated in a Eucharist in class, with saltines and grapes. In the Unitarian spirit, we discussed some 20th century Catholics who fought for justice in the world and within their own religion, including Archbishop Oscar Romero and Dorothy Day. The following Sunday, we saw a film on the Day of the Dead, and decorated calacas (skeletons).



Next then moved on to study **Islam**. We began with a discussion of Islam and how our perceptions of have been affected by the war in Iraq and general unrest in the Middle East. This led to a discussion of fundamentalism, not only in Islam, but in religions in general. We learned about the prophet, Mohammed, and explored some of Islam's main beliefs. We will be concluding our study of Islam with the film, The Haj, about an American Muslim's pilgrimage to Mecca, and a speaker from the Muslim Student Association.



In December, we will be studying **Quakerism**. We will host a guest speaker on Dec. 2, and hope to attend a Quaker meeting. Since we have a large class, we have found that working in small groups during part of the lessons works well. What a great group of eighth graders!

YRUU (Senior High Youth Group)

YRUU is primarily led by our Youth with assistance from volunteer adult advisors. A sub-group of our youth members are taking leadership in organizing and planning CON's, planning and leading weekly meetings discussions and worships, and organizing fun outside activities such as a Sunday lunch group. We are also in the early stages of plans for local and national social action projects

YRUU participated in a couple of CONs (District Youth Conferences) last month, a Leadership training CON on 10/5 - 10/7 and a Fall business CON on 10/26 - 10/28.

RUU members have been volunteering at Foothills congregational events.

David Wells and Willow Cooper-Barton are on the evaluation committee for intern minister, Denise Hall. We prepared and served food at the church services auction.

Our youth have also represented our church at social action projects around town.

The Youth Interface Committee is actively pursuing the creation of a post high school group, specifically in the 18-25 year age range, due to a lot of recent interest from older and former YRUU members. Stay tuned for further developments on this group.

9th graders participated in 9th grade trip activities and YRUU meetings and CONs. This is a very active 9th grade group.



Upcoming YRUU Events:

Several youths and family members will be traveling to Juarez, Mexico to build a house for a needy family over Christmas break at their own cost and vacation time.

Many youth members will be helping out at the Holiday Craft Fair at church this season.

Our next MDD CON will be the business CON January 25-27 in Denver

Our Youth Program Coordinator Position is currently vacant. We are in the process of re-evaluating the job description and will post the job opening as soon as this process is complete. If you have questions about the Youth Education Program or anything posted here.

Please contact Eleanor VanDeusen, Children's Religious Education Coordinator at the church (970) 493-5906

Children's Music Program

Kimberly Sena Moore

Here are the exciting music offerings that will be available to your children this year:

Children's Worship

Music is an important component of a spiritual life. All children enrolled in the Religious Education Program at Foothills Unitarian Church learn a variety of fun, age-appropriate music as part of their worship experience. Parents get an opportunity to learn the same songs during the Intergenerational (All-Church) Sunday services.

RE Holiday Choirs

Any child enrolled in Religious Education will have the opportunity to celebrate the holidays through music! Two (2) holiday choirs will help our church community celebrate the holidays:

The Young Holly Holiday Choir (grades K-2), directed by Joann Hedleston and accompanied by Cherry Sokolowski, began rehearsals on November 11th. You will have the opportunity to hear this choir during services on Sunday, December 16th and at the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service. Questions? Contact Joann Hedleston at 484.7494.

The Children Spirit Holiday Choir (grades 3-6) began rehearsals on November 4th and is under the direction of Kimberly Sena Moore. The accompanist for this choir is Ryan Marvel and the Youth Music Assistant is Hannah Meek. You will hear this choir perform during services on Sunday, December 9th and at the 7:00 pm service on Christmas Eve. Questions? Contact Kimberly.

Children Spirit Singers

The Children Spirit Singers choir is open to any child in grades 3-6 who loves to sing and is interested in learning and performing more advanced music. This choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:00 pm for approximately four months in the spring. The Children Spirit Singers have the opportunity to perform at a variety of events, including Foothill Unitarian Church's Earth Day Service, the Front Range Choral Festival, a joint performance with the Adult Choir, and at regular Sunday services. More information will be available in early 2008. Stay tuned to service announcements and read the Intercom!



Help Wanted

Visitors' Table Volunteers

Connie Marvel, Membership Chair

If you enjoy greeting new faces, please consider helping out at the visitors' table before and after services one Sunday each month. You don't need to be an expert on matters of the church; just help visitors fill out a visitor's card, hand them information provided at the table, and show parents with children where the RE classrooms are. Orientation for volunteers will be provided. Two volunteers are needed for the 11:00 service 4th Sundays. Contact Connie Marvel at 482-8428.

Coffee Servers

Dottie Spivak, Hospitality Committee Chair

The coffee hour is a most important part of our fellowship at Foothills. We are always in need of volunteers for this. The work is not hard and we can help orient you. Please sign up in the Social Hall or contact Dottie at 472-0204 or by email at

moseslake_61@yahoo.com.



Ushering Coordinator Needed

Margie Caswell, Ushering Tri-Coordinator

There is a trinity that we talk about in Foothills Unitarian Church – it is the Ushering Committee. I coordinate the ushers both services in December and January and during the summer. Chris Andre coordinates the 9 a.m. service Feb.–May and Sept.–Nov.

With the retirement of Lyn Atencio-Thurston who served ably for so many years as our 11 a.m. coordinator, we need one or two volunteers to help locate and remind ushers for that service. It could be one person who does the 11 a.m. service Feb. – May and Sept. – Nov. or it could be shared with two people coordinating the 11 a.m. service, one doing Feb. – May and one doing Sept. – Nov.

I do a lot of the coordinating by phone or email since I live in Red Feather Lakes. I have had excellent luck just passing around a sign up sheet during the service to get ushers for an entire month. Thank you to everyone who signs up willingly. Now, Chris and I are asking for one or two people to join us on the Ushering Committee as the 11 a.m. ushering coordinator. To volunteer please call me at 881-3559 or email me at margiemc214@aol.com. You can also call Chris at 493-8475.

Thank you to coordinator Chris Andre and to all the ushers that volunteered this fall. You add to the sense of community that visitors and members feel as they enter the sanctuary

Activities and Events

Foothills Women's Group

Dru VanDoren

Beginning January 5, 2008 the Foothills Women's Group will begin study from Volume One of the long-awaited update of the popular feminist theology curriculum, *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven, "IN ANCIENT TIMES"*. "In Ancient Times" introduces participants to ancient Goddesses, weaving their stories together with major concerns of women today. Members and Friends are invited to participate in this 5-session course of study which will meet every other Saturday afternoon for 9 weeks. To be added to the "Cakes" discussion/information email group please email druvandoren@yahoo.com.



Foothills Book Group

Myrna Maier

The Fun Committee book discussion group will meet on Tues., Dec. 18th @ 7:00PM. The book for December is: *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen. We meet in room 212 RE building (basement eastside).

Kirkus Review: "Gruen brings to life the world of a Depression-era traveling circus. Jacob Jankowski, a retired veterinarian living out his days in an assisted-living facility, drifts in and out of his memories: Only days before graduating from vet school in 1931, young Jake learns his parents have died and left him penniless. Leaving school, he hops a train that happens to belong to the Benzini Brothers "Most Spectacular Show on Earth." Read the book and come participate in the discussion.

Ongoing Meetings & Activities

Foothills Covenant Groups

Covenant groups are small intimate groups composed of UU members and friends for the purpose of connecting with one another and discussing topics of mutual interest. Darcie Bailey Pientka (686-7287).

Sunday Morning Adult Discussion Group

Come join us for a weekly discussion group at 9:30 am in the RE Building, Room #226.

The Foothills Women's Circle

The mission of this group is friendship and inter-generational community growth. Dru Van Doren druvandoren@yahoo.com.

YFF - Young Family Fellowship

All family groups with young children are invited you join the Young Family Fellowship. Upcoming events include potlucks and playgroups--the first and third Wednesday of the month in the social hall at 9:30--grandparents or other family members are most welcome to bring infant-preschooler family members for an enjoyable morning of activities.

Erica Dickson , erica460@comcast.net

MUUMs (Mostly UU Moms)

Join in the fun as we explore interesting topics and enjoy special events. Amy Roberts amysjnk@comcast.net or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/muums/join>.

BUUMs (Book-loving UU Moms)

Shawn at csuramsrule@gmail.com

BGLT Outreach Committee

The BGLT Outreach Committee and Interweave members are actively working to end oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity Interweave@foothillsuu.org.

Feminist Discussion / Activism Listserv

To discuss feminist issues and participating in some activism, contact Jill at kuhngale@earthlink.net for questions or if you wish to join the listserv.



Foyer Art

Lorie Nielsen, our current artist, exhibits an accumulation of work done over past years. Lorie's training has been in the Artist's Studios in Omaha, The Fine Art Center in Minneapolis, Evanston Art Center, American Academy of Art in Chicago, Figure Drawing classes at CS U and group classes with Barb Marquardt.

For well over 25 years, Lorie has met once a week, on location and in homes, with The Tuesday Sketch Group, The sketches in the case, done by the Tuesday Group, serve as a companion exhibit. Both these displays will hang until December 29.

The Larger Community

Social Action Info

Richard Conn, Social Action Committee Chair

At a meeting in the public library on Nov. 14th, John Kafalas led a panel of criminal justice officials to discuss ways of cutting costs of running prisons. Documentation showed that giving prisoners education and creative work to do would cut the costs of incarceration. Early childhood programs and after school activities would greatly reduce potential crime. Half-way houses for the mentally ill and drug abusers would be far cheaper than warehousing individuals in prisons that lead to hopelessness and despair and eventual recidivism.

But market incentive makes these scenarios impossible. According to the panel, it would be political suicide to be "soft on crime" and there is much profit to be gained from the privatization of warehousing prisoners. There are increasing numbers of prisons in the U.S. all of which we as taxpayers are assuming. Write your congressman and Governor Ritter to help influence legislation that would reduce costs of warehousing non-violent prisoners and give these individuals another chance in society. If you would like more information, please contact Richard at awesomeart@mail.com.

The InterCom newsletter is delivered by the first of each month and is sent free to pledging members and friends. \$12 per year is requested from others who wish to receive it. The InterCom is also available on the church website, www.foothillsuu.org

The deadline for copy is the 15th of each month at 5:00 p.m. Submissions should be sent electronically to the editors at intercom@foothillsuu.org.

If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please contact the editors at the above e-mail address or Carole VanGorder, at 493-7206 or Linda Kothera at 407-1217.

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Dr. Denise Hall, Intern Minister
Carolyn Myers, Church Administrator
Kathryn Huckins, Office Assistant
Gaylin Altfeld, Bookkeeper
Vicki Siska, Adult Enrichment Coordinator
Eleanor VanDeusen, Children's RE Coordinator
Anne Semlak, Youth Programs Coordinator
Ryan Marvel, Music Director
Ann Schnaidt, Associate Pianist
Kimberly Sena Moore, Children's Music Director
Eve Enright, Interim RE Assistant



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556-4711, cmour@lamar.colostate.edu

Foothills Unitarian Church Calendar

December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Nov 2007</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Jan 2008</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			1 Children's Spirit Choir performs with Frankie Avalon at Lincoln Center, 7:00pm
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2 AE: Into to UU Class Endowment Cmt. 12:15pm in Library Kids Choir Pract 10:05am, Rm. 222, 227 Sunday Service 9 & 11 am	3 Foothills Leadership Planning 7:00pm in Library	4 Personnel Committee 5:30pm in Library	5 8th Grade OWL Class 8:30pm in Rm. 221 Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm in Sanc. YFF Playgroup 9:30am in SH	6	7 Madrigal Dinner Doors open at 6:30pm, close at 7:00pm, in the Sanctuary	8 Madrigal Dinner Doors open at 5:30pm, close at 6:00pm, in the Sanctuary																																																																																					
9 All Church Sunday Holiday Craft Workshop Sunday Service 9 & 11 am Young Holly Choir Performs	10 Debut Theater 7:00pm in Sanctuary	11 Debut Theater 7:00pm in Sanc. Finance Committee 7:00pm in Library MUUM's Group 6:30pm in Rm. 228	12 8th Grade OWL Class 8:30pm in Rm. 221 Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm in Sanctuary	13 Buildings & Grounds 7:00pm in Library Children's RE Cmt. 6:00pm in Rm. 227 Ft. Collins Audobon 5:30pm in SH	14 Family Night Potluck & Caroling 5:30pm in Social Hall	15 Theresa Sedlack Recital 3:00pm in Sanctuary																																																																																					
16 AE: Yule Celebration 6:30pm in Sanc. Children's Spirit Choir Performs Sunday Service 9 & 11 am YRUU 6:00pm in Rm. 221	17	18 Board Meeting 7:00pm in Library Fun Book Discussion 7:00pm in Rm. 212	19 Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm in Sanctuary YFF Playgroup 9:30am in Social Hall	20 Debut Theater 5:00pm in Sanctuary Intercom Folding 9:30am in Library	21 Madeline Asbury Piano Recital 6:30pm in Sanctuary	22 Winter begins																																																																																					
23 Kids Choir Pract 10:05am, Rm. 222, 227 Sunday Service 9 & 11 am	24 Family Christmas Eve Services 5, 7pm Medatative Christmas Eve Service 9 pm	25 Christmas Church Office Closed	26	27	28	29																																																																																					
30 AE: "The Dead" 7:00pm in Sanctuary Sunday Service 10:00am Only	31 New Year's Eve																																																																																										

*Activities scheduled as of November 15. Some activities or events may have changed since publication.

Foothills Unitarian Church
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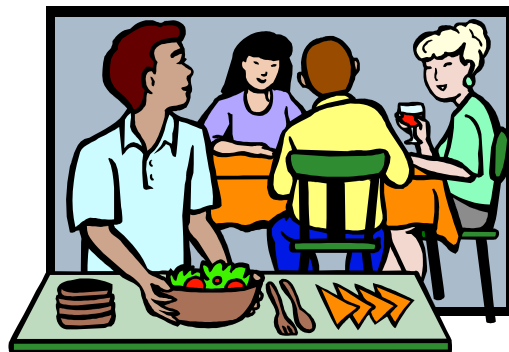
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Dinners in the Home

Susan Snyderman and Gretchen Weller

Spice up long winter evenings with good food and conversation by participating in the next round of Dinners in the Home! Groups of eight to ten people are now being formed for the January/February/March dinners. Each group will decide on mutually agreeable dates and times for getting together. They will also design a plan to rotate hosting and food preparation duties.



Chairpersons for these dinners are Susan Snyderman and Gretchen Weller. We welcome any members or friends of the church, both singles and couples. New members and friends of the church are especially encouraged to join, as the dinners are a great way to get to know people on a more personal level. Please sign-up no later than December 31st by calling Susan Snyderman or Gretchen Weller at 204-9219 or by e-mail at: susanstudio888@yahoo.com.

We also need people willing to be on the substitute list. Current participants, please e-mail or call to let us know if you would like to be a part of the winter session. Happy eating and happy friendship making!