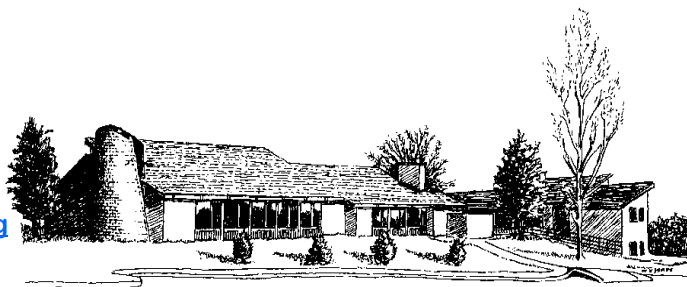


The InterCom

The Newsletter of Foothills Unitarian Church
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November 2007

Volume 72, Issue 11

SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

(All services at 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. except November 4)

November 4 Service 9:00 A.M. ONLY

Congregational Meeting at 10:30 A.M.

Sermon: "The Church of the Disillusioned"—Marc and a special surprise guest will discuss the challenges and paradoxes of Unitarian Universalism in a sermon suitable for long-time members and interested visitors alike. Our adult choir will perform today, with flute and harp accompaniment for one of their pieces.

November 11 Sermon: "The Wisdom of Reverend Lovejoy"

This is surely not the first sermon inspired by a moment from *The Simpsons*, but is perhaps unusual in its scope; as we consider an exchange between Rev. Lovejoy and Ned Flanders, we'll ask if the world is just and if God plays fair. This sermon was suggested by church member David Grumbles, who was the high bidder for the right to select a sermon at the church auction of last spring.

November 18 Thanksgiving Sunday Sermon: "Home Is Many Places"

Before Thanksgiving, we'll enjoy an All-Church Sunday with our children and youth, and then explore several different myths and manifestations of "home." We'll distribute the UU Service Committee's "Guest at Your Table" boxes today.

November 25 Service Theme: "Living In Time"

In recent "Joys and Concerns" we've celebrated a number of wedding anniversaries among our members. Since other kinds of anniversaries are important as well, our participatory service this morning will highlight different memorable anniversaries and celebrations of special moments among us. Celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary today, Vicki and Marc will preside at our services.

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 4 Choir Performance (p. 8)
- Nov. 10 Goods and Services Auction (p. 2)
- Nov. 15 Gift of Hope Breakfast (p. 11)
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Dinner at FUC (p. 4)
- Dec. 9 Children's Holiday Craft Wkshp (p. 6)



Have YOU signed up for a 5 Year Action Planning Team?

Chris Frey

If you attended the last Annual Meeting, you were a part of approving the 5 Year Goals and had the opportunity to sign-up for one or more eight Action Planning Teams designed to address the goals. The goals were based on the input of over 130 members participating in neighborhood meetings held in January and February, and prioritized based on the votes of nearly 200 members in March.

We are now ready to launch the Action Planning Teams, but don't want you to miss out on the opportunity to participate in defining the future direction of YOUR church! Each team will meet over the next several months to explore how other churches have addressed similar issues, learn from one another and develop an action plan to ensure we meet our 5 year goals. The action plans will be presented for approval at the congregation at the 2008 Annual Meeting.

Action Planning Teams — Expectations:

1. Each team will present their Action Plan, including what will be done, by whom, and a target date, at the May 2008 Annual Meeting.
2. Each team will provide a written monthly report to be reviewed by the Board of Trustees. The report should be sent to Chris Frey by the 2nd Tuesday of each month starting January 2008. All teams will receive copies of the reports on a monthly basis, and a summary will be published in the Intercom on a quarterly basis.
3. All teams are expected to work closely with the other Action Planning Teams to ensure consistency and continuity in the planning process.

Continued, page 3

Marc My Words



Vicki and I have just returned from the annual meeting of the Mountain Desert District of UU congregations, set this year in Billings, Montana. We presented a workshop the two of us had crafted together, and enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones in the largest geographical district in the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. A number of our church members also attended and most of us emerged from the weekend both inspired and exhausted by the whirlwind of addresses, workshops, and meetings formal and informal, as well as the eight hour drive between Fort Collins and Billings! Yet we left knowing that ours is a vital faith community indeed!

Returning home, I'm able to discern that many of the issues we are dealing with in our own church are shared among our neighboring congregations. At the same time, I am also able to reflect upon and appreciate the health and success of our congregation, not with an attitude of *hubris*, but rather with gratitude and measured pride.

In its largest sense, *gratitude* is the opposite of *taking for granted*. Gratitude is an expressed feeling relevant to many aspects of our lives. We can be grateful for family and friends, for purposes, ideas, goals, and dreams. We can be grateful for our city, church, and schools, for the theater and music we can enjoy close at hand, for the libraries which serve our desires for both knowledge and entertainment. We can also be grateful for good health and mobility.

Feelings of gratitude need not be based on complacent materialism or head-in-the-sand optimism. Gratitude can be expressed in spite of misfortunes in the lives of others or in our own lives, as we take into account all that we have been given, all we have enjoyed, and all that we still might achieve. Gratitude doesn't declare that we deserve all we have; gratitude instead recognizes that in spite of our personal shortcomings, mistakes, and failures, we have been given beauty, the capacity for wonder, and the breath of life itself. Neither based on doctrine or dogma, gratitude is a spontaneous celebration of the very real and the quite possible. In this glorious autumn, gratitude is not a demand life makes upon us, but instead an emotion that rises within us in response to all we love. If I may phrase it this way, gratitude may be one of the wisest emotions we possess.

Yours in our shared ministry,

Marc

Caring Corner

Vicki Siska

Healing wishes are sent to Anne Sehlak, who recently underwent brain surgery. Anne is continuing her recovery after surgery at The Anschutz Medical Center in Denver. Cards and healing wishes can be sent to: Anschutz Medical Center, Anne Sehlak, Campus Mail Stop F765, P.O. Box 6510, Aurora Co 80045

Healing thoughts are also sent to Ted Kramer as he and his doctor's search to find the cause of Ted's lower back discomfort. Ted is currently receiving treatment at PVH and we hope that a medical answer will soon be found.

Our sympathy is sent to Rob Cifelli and his family upon the death of Rob's mother. May you know our love is with you.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Myrna DeMilt and her grandsons, Zane and Rand, following the untimely death of Myrna's daughter, Dawn Lee Tysko, from a heart attack on October 15. May you each feel the love and support of those who care.

Our healing thoughts and prayers are with Kay Hood who will be undergoing chemo and radiation treatment for a highly curable form of cancer. Our love is with you during this time.

Thanks for Gifting—Goods and Services Auction

Erica Dickson

Join in an evening of celebration, community, and support for our church on Saturday, November 10! This event will include long-time favorites and fresh twists including:

- ❖ **Professional auctioneer** Jeff Sweeney
- ❖ **Catered food** by Sackits, and
- ❖ **Live music** by *Perfect with Pop*, Vicki Pompea, Don Hahn and Al Kelly

We hope you've had a chance to see the catalog, with 50% more items, and some truly fabulous and generous donations from church members and our wider community. Many local businesses have chosen to support our auction, which reflects their support of our church. There is something for everybody this year, including a "UU store," with fixed-price items for folks who don't enjoy the bidding process. If you have never attended the auction or are new to the Foothills community, you will be welcomed and shown a good time!!

This is a wonderful opportunity to begin your holidays in a way that reflects your values. Doors open at 5:30, and the first live auction will start at 7:00. Childcare is provided; RSVP for childcare to Eleanor VanDeusen at 493-5906. Can't wait to see U there!

Action Planning Teams, continued

Chris Frey

<i>5 Year Goal:</i>	<i>Action Planning Team:</i>
Meet the variety of worship and pastoral care needs by achieving the UUA ministerial staffing guidelines.	Ministerial Resources
Develop an integrated Life Span Faith Development Program with appropriate staffing.	Life Span RE
Complete a physical site plan by May 2008 to address: A. more consistent and energy-efficient heating and cooling B. utilizing technology to improve sound and visual support C. more efficient space utilization, and D. identifying alternatives for providing additional space, as necessary.	Facility
Implement a more effective organizational structure by 2009.	Organizational Structure
Develop a plan to adequately and successfully welcome and integrate potential, new and established members into the life of the church by 2008.	Membership
Develop a plan by 2008 to improve the effectiveness of communications within our church community.	Communications
Enhance congregational stewardship by developing new funding strategies by 2009.	Stewardship
Become a recognized leader in the Fort Collins and UUA communities. Develop a process in 2008 by which the congregation can focus its efforts to have a greater impact on community issues. Take a leadership role in raising community awareness and addressing social justice issues. Implement a program to encourage greater participation in UUA/MDD activities and events.	Social Action
Develop a communications outreach plan to communicate more effectively with the Fort Collins community.	Communications

We have a diverse membership and want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to share their ideas and opinions as we move through this process. Please contact Chris Frey at 484-4524 or rockfrey@comcast.net if you would like to participate. Be a part of the solution!

Stewardship

Sue Ferguson

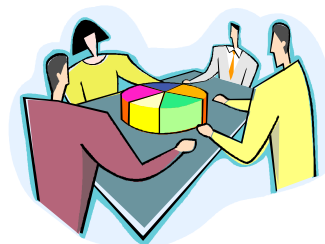
So why do YOU come to Foothills? Is it the great sermons? Terrific music? Exceptional Religious Education Program? The Garden? Social Justice programs? Liberal viewpoints? The people?

What ever or who ever brings you here – you might agree that part of what makes this congregation special is the level of involvement of its members. We've learned through the years that this is truly a community that reflects us all – our level of caring, involvement, social consciousness, and artistic & persuasive skills. What keeps us going? Well that would be our stewardship of this precious and beloved community. We are the temporary caretakers of a community that has been enriching Fort Collins and northern CO since 1898!

Giving and receiving in a variety of ways may be what it's really all about. It takes time and effort to build the type of community we have become. Many people sharing their

unique skills, their caring, their time and yes, their money are what make us a strong community – a community that offers us support as we move along this path to realizing our fullest humanity.

There is a group at work right now, committed to making stewardship an integral part of our annual pledge campaign – call it a Stewardship Campaign. We have always depended on 1 or 2 people to run the campaign – this year we need a TEAM. If you value this journey we are on together, think about your stewardship. If you'd like to get involved give Chris Frey (484-4524) or Sue Ferguson (472-5148) a call.



Activities and Events

Thanksgiving Dinner

Collea-Devi Goetz

For several years the Social Action Committee has put on a Thanksgiving Dinner. It has been open to church members, families, friends and the community. While everyone brings a dish to share, I have always made sure there was enough meat, vegetables, gravy and all the trimmings for everyone coming. I will still get the supplies but this year I'll need help with preparation, transportation, and set-up. People have always been wonderful about cleaning up but I might need volunteers for that also. I always have had sign up sheets to get head counts but more people show up than have signed up. There has always been enough and often food for people to bring home. So far, we have shared food with many good people – I would like to see it continue this year as in years past. If you can help, please call, email or let the church know, I need to know by Saturday, November 17, 2007 – Contacts: Collea-Devi Goetz – 970-402-5908, firemoon47@yahoo.com, Dottie Spivak: 970-472-0204, moseslake_61@yahoo.com, Church: Carolyn or Kathryn: 970-493-5906, uuinfo@foothillsuu.org.

Notes from the Bookstore

Eve Enright

We are up and running, and had brisk sales in September and October, but now we need your help. The Bookstore tables will be getting busier and busier (we hope) as the holiday season approaches which means we'll need extra people behind the tables. It's an easy job - just write down the book title and take the payment. If you'll be available during a Social Hour, call me (Eve) at home - 493-4858 - and thanks in advance!

We'll be offering some new items at the bookstore this year. I placed an order for Chalice imprint items such as pendants, key chains, lapel pins, and note cards. The shipment will arrive sometime this month, so keep watching for them! They're coming to us from the online UU store UniUniques and, like the books, all profits go to the Church.

Did you know that the Church Bookstore does Special Orders? Have you heard about a great book while listening to NPR? Or, a Best Seller List? From your neighbor? Teacher? Book Group? If its still in print, the Church Bookstore can get it for you. Single copies have the same 10% Discount we offer on most of our other books. And if you order two or more of the same title, we'll give you a 20% Discount! Just bring us the Title and Author, and it will usually be ready for you to pick up in two weeks or less. We're also happy to get your suggestions for what books should be included in our regular stock. We try to have a cross section of titles and subjects. Please let us know if you think we've missed anything, especially things you'd like to see for holiday gifts. **Keep reading those Banned Books!**

Book-loving UU Moms (BUUMs)

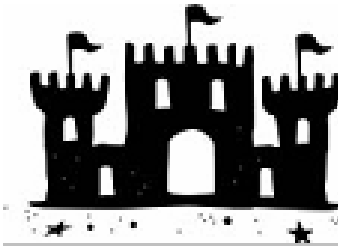
November 19th - **Kabul Beauty School** by Deborah Rodriguez. Wonderful book and fairly quick read - "With the help of corporate and international sponsors, Rodriguez founded the Kabul Beauty School and welcomed the first class in 2003. Well meaning but sometimes brazen, she stumbled through language barriers, overstepped cultural customs, and constantly juggled the challenges of a postwar nation even as she learned how to empower her students to become their families' breadwinners by learning the fundamentals of coloring techniques, haircutting, and makeup."

December - off for the holidays!

POTS - Parents of Teens Group

Deb Marsden

Would you like to meet with other parents of teens for discussion and community? We are exploring the possibility of forming a support and discussion group for parents of teens. Please contact Deb Marsden at 227-5413 or Eleanor VanDeusen at 493-5906 if you are interested.



Foothills Castle Workers Wanted!

We are still in need of servers for our Madrigal Dinners. If you are interested in serving on one or both nights, please speak

to me either in the social hall after Sunday services or give Vicki a call. Serving gives you a fun way of participating in the Madrigal Dinner at no cost and *your help will be very much appreciated*. All servers are invited to dress up - or not at all - to match your inner Elizabethan spirit!

We also need people to help with set-up on Thursday evening (December 6th), dishwashing on Saturday morning and Saturday evening, and take down on Saturday evening to prepare for Sunday services. If you can help in any of these areas please let Vicki know.

Volunteer Opportunity

Kerri South

The Poudre Lego League will hold its **2007 Lego Robotics Tournament** Saturday, November 17th from 8-3 pm. 46 teams of 9-14 year olds will compete. Adult and teen volunteers are needed for a variety of positions. Adults are needed to judge and assist with other tasks. High school age teens can referee after a one evening training session. Adults and all ages of teens are needed to assist with set-up, registration, clean-up, or other misc. tasks. Contact me at kerrisouth@poudre-ll.net or 204-9025.



As my thoughts turn once again to Thanksgiving and the many blessings of my life, I think of the community we share at Foothills Unitarian Church. The Adult Enrichment program provides numerous opportunities for our members and friends to join together in learning and fun, celebration and worship. I am honored and grateful to fill the position of Adult Enrichment Coordinator, to explore relevant religious topics with you, share in fun evenings of companionship and music, celebrate the changing seasons with worship and song, and to get to know AE participants better and make new friends.

In mid-November I will be attending the joint conference of the Society for Biblical Literature and the American Association of Religion, the largest gathering of religious scholars in the world. I am busy working out which of the hundreds of workshops I will attend and looking forward to being exposed to some of the latest research and theories in religion. In addition, since the conference takes place in San Diego, I will be attending the second half of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit while I am there. I am very excited for this opportunity and thank the AE committee and the church for their financial contribution to support my attendance.

October was a month filled with the Mabon celebration and concert with Peter Mayer, our film and honoring of Daniel Pearl and Harmony for Humanity, *Wordplay* and our special guest Al Sanders, the first in our series on Buddhism, plus a number of other classes. November, while not quite as busy, promises to be just as interesting. Please consider joining us for the following classes:

What We Do In the Name of God

Join us on Sunday November 4, at 7 pm to listen to a tape of five distinguished speakers who share their unique perspectives on faith and the work they do in the name of God. Panelists include Chip Berlet, author of numerous treatises on civil liberties, right-wing groups, prejudice and systems of oppression; Mohammad Mahallati, a ranking clergy in Iran but resident of the US; Sara Miles, founder of St. Gregory’s Food Pantry in San Francisco; Godfrey Reggio, a former member of the Christian Brothers’ monastic order; and Stuart Schoffman, a resident of Jerusalem and columnist for the *Jerusalem Report*.

A Year of Magical Thinking

This class will take place on Thursday, November 1 at 7 pm and is based on the powerful 2005 memoir of Joan Didion. Participants of this class will discuss Joan’s journey through grief and share their own thoughts and experiences. This class will be lead by Rosemary Bergstrom.

A Short History of Islam

This class will take place on Thursday, November 8 at 7 pm, and will be a discussion of Karen Armstrong’s concise and readable history of this major world religion. Again, our classes are based on having participants read the work in question, so if you get this newsletter in time to read the book, please consider joining us!

PLEASE NOTE: A Year of Magical Thinking and A Short History of Islam are classes which rely on participants having read the books of the same name. The AE program has copies available of each of these works and if you get your newsletter in time and would like to pick up a book and join us, please give me a call.

MADRIGAL TICKETS ON SALE

Our 4th annual Madrigal Dinner with Opera Colorado will be held on Friday, December 7th, with doors opening at 6:30 pm and closing promptly at 7 pm. A second performance will take place on Saturday, December 8th with doors opening at 5:30 pm and closing promptly at 6 pm. Both nights feature the same wonderful program of music and drama, delicious food catered by the Rainbow Restaurant, and fun with family and friends. These dinners have become anticipated evenings of holiday merriment filled with pageantry, song, and good fellowship. We hope you can join us for this celebration to begin the winter season.



HURRY – TICKET PRICE TO INCREASE AFTER SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH. Tickets are on sale after each church service or by picking up a reservation form from the church office. Donation is \$40 per person if purchased prior to November 5th and \$45 if purchased after the 4th. Lord and Lady tickets, which cost a bit more at \$55 per person, provide you with the honor of helping to make the evening available to people not normally able to attend. All Lord and Lady ticket purchasers are listed in our program and receive our deepest gratitude.

Please note that the time for the Friday Evening Celebration is as follows: DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM and CLOSE at 7:00 PM. Times listed on reservation form for Friday are incorrect!

The holidays are here!

We all strive to make our holidays less about commercial things and more about the heart. The holidays can be occasions to deeply connect with one another, to nature, to express creativity and appreciation, and to laugh, eat and make merry!



Here are some ideas for a meaningful Thanksgiving -

- Prepare your favorite foods together; teach the kids how to make your traditional favorites.
- Help the kids make place cards for the dinner table (*my personal favorite family memory.*)
- Take a long walk together outdoors, before or after dinner.
- Make a Thanksgiving centerpiece from dried leaves and flowers you collect outdoors.
- Say thanks. If you are having trouble knowing what to say - pick up a copy of *A Grateful Heart: Daily Blessings from Buddha to the Beatles.*
- Go around the table, each person naming one thing they are particularly grateful for.
- Invite someone you know who will be alone to your home for thanksgiving dinner and include them in your traditions.

Blessings for your holidays, *ELEANOR*

FAB FAMILY FRIDAY

Friday November 10th 5:30 pm
in the church Social Hall

Families of all kinds - single parents, parents with children of any age, blended families, seniors, singles - everyone is 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 have a brief worship circle followed by a presentation from church member Laurie Cullor about The Heifer Project. Laurie traveled to Guatemala for a service learning trip with Heifer this summer. This will be the launch of our Family Holiday Social Action Project! Kids of all ages are inspired by the work of Heifer International and eager to get involved.

A note of thanks...

To all of the church members who helped out with our Pumpkin Carving Night & Spook House. Also, a heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who helped put together our Children's Quilts for the Services Auction!

November Church School Schedule

Sunday November 4th

Church school classes meet at 9am and 11am today
Children's Worship Service for younger kids in the RE Building room 217.

Sunday November 11th

Church school classes meet at 9am and 11am today
Children's Worship Service for older kids in the RE Building room 217.

Sunday November 18th

All Church Sunday - Children join their families in the Sanctuary for the beginning of our service today to celebrate Thanksgiving. We will also launch our traditional "Guest at Your Table Program" - families take home a box for their holiday table for to hold donations for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Sunday November 25th

Church school classes meet at 9am and 11am today.
Teachers will enjoy a day off and the kids will gather for Children's Worship Service and Thanksgiving activities.

Looking Ahead to Dec Events...

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop

Sunday December 9th - 2:00 - 5:00 pm in the Social Hall. Kids make unique holiday crafts to give as gifts or decorate their homes for the Holidays! We need lots of adult and youth volunteers. Look for a sign up sheet in the Social Hall.

Family Christmas Eve Services and Pageant

Monday, December 24th at 5pm and 7pm

Join us for one of our two Christmas Eve services for families. Our Children's Holiday Choirs will perform, we will share carols and Christmas readings and our annual Holiday Pageant. Watch the Social Hall for a sign-up sheet if you would like to participate in our Holiday Pageant.

See Kimberly's article on the music page of the Intercom about our Children's Holiday Choirs!

CHILDREN'S OWL "Our Whole Lives" PROGRAM PARENT'S INFORMATION MEETING

Tuesday, November 13th 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

Join us for an informational meeting about our Children's Owl programs for K-1st graders and 5th graders. Childcare will be provided. These comprehensive sexuality education programs will be offered on Sunday evenings during Jan. and Feb.



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

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 members Olivia Engkvist and Kimberlee Imig!

Choir Rehearsals in November:

Thursday, Nov 1 – 7:30 – 9:00 pm
Wed, Nov. 14, 21, 28 – 7:30 – 9:00 pm
(No rehearsal on Nov 7th)

Choir Performances in November:

Sunday, Oct 4th --“Simple Gifts”
A great arrangement with harp and flute by Dale Warland.

Russ Crowder Scholarship Recipients

On behalf of the Music Committee, I would like to offer my congratulations to all of the musicians who auditioned for this year's scholarship. We had a wonderful group of students with abundant talent. This year, the judges awarded the scholarships to:

Annika Bergen

Nate Bethke

Ian Koss

Please welcome me in congratulating these musicians as we look forward to watching their musical journey continue. These three will also perform for a Sunday service this church year.

Hymn Sings Between Services

I am looking to explore new ways to build our hymn repertoire and start singing more new, upbeat music for our services. I would like to try a casual hymn-sing before our second service. (If this takes off, we can also do it before the 9:00) For now, I envision meeting at 10:45 on certain Sundays at the front half of the sanctuary. Sometimes we will sing through new hymns; sometimes look at the hymns of that day. I would like to make this very casual and comfortable for all who wish to participate. I will make an announcement during social hour on Sundays that this will occur. Please come and join us in building our musical repertoire!

In Song, Ryan Marvel 970.581.0120
ryan@ryanmarvel.com

Children's Music Program

Kimberly Sena Moore, Children's Music Coordinator

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.

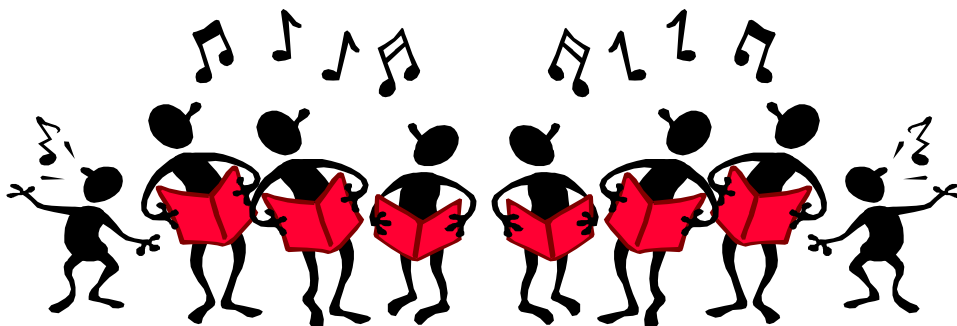
RE Holiday Choirs

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 is open to ANY child in grades K-2. Directed by Joann Hedleston, this choir will rehearse in the RE Building, room 227 (the Children's Worship Room) on Sundays from 10:05-10:55 am beginning Sunday, November 11, 2007. You can register for the choir at the first rehearsal. The Young Holly Holiday Choir will perform for the congregation during a Sunday service in December and on Christmas Eve. Questions? Contact Joann Hedleston at 970/484.7494. If you will NOT be at the FIRST rehearsal, please call Joann at 970/484.7494.

The Children Spirit Holiday Choir is open to ANY child in grades 3-6 and is under the direction of Kimberly Sena Moore. This choir will rehearse in the RE Building, room 222 (the Youth Worship Room) on Sundays from 10:05-10:55 am beginning Sunday, November 4, 2007. You can register for the choir at the first rehearsal. The RE Holiday Choir will perform for the congregation on a Sunday in December, for a community audience, and on Christmas Eve. Questions? Contact Kimberly Sena Moore at 970/988.5326. If you will NOT be at the FIRST rehearsal, please call Kimberly at 970/988.5326.

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 Foothills 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!



Foothills Unitarian Church Calendar

November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																											
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4	<p>Yoga Class 10:00am in Rm. 217</p>	6	<p>Election Day</p> <p>Personnel Committee Meeting 5:30pm in Library</p>	7	<p>8th Grade OWL Class 6:30pm in Rm. 221</p> <p>YFF Playgroup 9:30am in SH</p>	8	<p>AE: History of Islam 7:00pm in Library</p> <p>Buildings and Grounds 7:00pm in Library</p> <p>Childrens RE Committee 6:00pm in Rm 227</p> <p>Yoga Class 10:00am in Rm. 217</p>	9	<p>Fab Family Friday 5:30pm in SH</p>	10	<p>Thanks for Gifting Services Auction 5:30pm in Sanc/SH</p>																																																																																																						
11	<p>Yoga Class 10:00am in Rm. 217</p>	13	<p>Finacne Committee 7:00pm in Library</p> <p>MUUMs Group 6:30pm in Rm. 226</p> <p>Neighborhood Meeting 7:00pm in Sanc.</p>	14	<p>8th Grade OWL Class 6:30pm in Rm. 221</p> <p>Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm in Sanc.</p>	15	<p>Yoga Class 10:00am in Rm. 217</p>	16	<p>9th Grade Trip Retreat 8:00pm in whole building</p>	17	<p>9th Grade Trip Retreat, all day, whole building</p>																																																																																																						
18	<p>M. Ranney Recital 4:30pm in Sanc.</p> <p>Spirit Choir in Rm. 222/Holly Choir Rm.227 10:05am</p> <p>Sunday Service 9:00 & 11:00am</p> <p>Veronica Limm Recital 2:00pm in Sanc.</p> <p>Veterans Day</p>	19	<p>7:00 PM FUN - Book Group - Rm. 222</p> <p>Board Meeting 7:00pm in Library</p>	21	<p>YFF Playgroup 9:30am in SH</p>	22	<p>Thanksgiving</p>	23		24																																																																																																							
25	<p>Spirit Choir in Rm. 222/Holly Choir Rm.227 10:00am</p> <p>Sunday Service 9:00 & 11:00am</p>	26	<p>Social Action: Colorado against resourse destruction 7:00pm in Sanc.</p>	27	<p>MUUMs Group 6:30pm in Rm. 226</p> <p>Peace Circle 7:30am in SH & RE</p>	28	<p>8th Grade OWL Class 6:30pm in Rm. 221</p> <p>Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm in Sanc.</p>	29	<p>AE= Adult Enrichment</p> <p>MUUMs= Mostly UU Moms</p> <p>YFF= Young Family Fellowship</p>	30																																																																																																							

Committee Activities

Social Action Committee

Richard Conn, Social Action Chair

Hi, SA's, I've encountered some interesting social action issues in the last few weeks!!

1. In the last three meetings with the Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform there has been ongoing debate about who should take responsibility for health care for all Colorado: Individuals, Employers, or Government. The outcome was almost unanimously : GOVERNMENT. There was much research done by the Commission showing that costs are lower, everybody has coverage, and no one makes a profit from sickness! For more information, log onto www.colorado.gov/208commission, or call their office at 1-888-776-2332, or write to them at 303 E. 17th Av., Suite 400, Denver, CO 80203

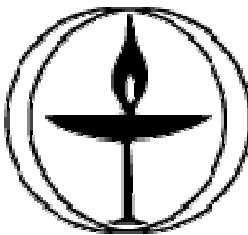
2. I've talked with Cherry Sokolosky who referred me to Valerie Baker who directs the Homeless Intervention Initiative. Their phone is 407-7021 from which you can obtain information about rental assistance, food availability, and free medical care, and four churches in Ft. Collins who provide counseling for individuals in need.

3. There are exciting developments with the *Food Not Lawns* group here in Ft. Collins. We've received word that a simple greenhouse can be built that could help grow your own food all year around. Developed by a Loveland women gardener, the greenhouse is simple to build, costs very little, with materials that are light weight and can be anchored down against high winds. Her phone is 970-461-1135, email: lightascolor@frontier.net

Want to get involved? Contact Richard at awesomeart@mail.com.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Sue Ferguson, local UUSC representative



Did you know that the flaming chalice, the symbol of Unitarian Universalism worldwide, was designed in 1941 by Austrian artist Hans Deutsch? A Jewish refugee from Paris, he created the symbol for the newly founded Unitarian Service Committee (USC). The committee needed a visual identity

to function as an easily recognizable symbol of those working on the side of refugees.

By the end of World War II – UUSC founders Martha & Waitsill Sharp had help save nearly 2,000 lives and provide vital relief to countless others. The flaming chalice was chosen to symbolize both service and hope.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) still stands for faith in action. Its mission is to advance human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. Today the UUSC carries forth the legacy of its founders by focusing on the genocide in Darfur.

I participated in a UUSC **Just Journey** to Chiapas Mexico in August. I had the opportunity to see first hand the struggle of the indigenous Zapatista peoples to control their own land and its resources and thus determine their future. It was an amazing and eye opening trip.

I hope you will consider becoming a UUSC member and supporting its vital work worldwide. Talk to me or visit their web site for more information. <http://www.uusc.org>

Fun Committee

Myrna Maier

On Wednesday, Nov. 28th, the Fun Committee book discussion group will be talking about *Guns of August* by Barbara Tuthman. This is an open session. Read the book and come join the discussion. We meet in the RE building downstairs in room 212 (west end of building). Hope to see you, and your friend there! Myrna

Hospitality Committee

Deborah Shields

I am pleased to announce that Dottie Spivak has agreed to Chair the Hospitality Committee, effective October 14th. Let us welcome her by volunteering to make coffee on Sunday and helping with other Committee activities. Dottie can be reached at moseslake_61@yahoo.com.

Serving as Hospitality Committee Chair for the past two years has been a rewarding and educational experience. I have enjoyed working with the Council, the Board, and our numerous volunteers, to each of whom I offer a heartfelt thank you!

Namaqua UU News

NUUC is embarking on a one-year learning experience that will help make our congregation welcoming, inclusive, just, and affirming for people of diverse races, ethnicities, and cultures. Why is NUUC participating in this test curriculum? Our church has been chosen as one of 45 pretest sites for this new UUA Adult Curriculum that seeks to interrupt the working of racism and transform how people from various racial/ethnic groups understand and relate to one another. This will allow NUUC to support our already diverse population (especially our young people) and to continue to attract and grow from all segments of our community. There is no course fee. For more information, contact Carol Radcliff at carol3114@comcast.net or 970-667-0221.



The Larger Community

Denominational Connections

Lenny Scovel, Denominational Connections chair

The annual Mountain Desert District Conference was held October 12-14 in Billings, Montana. Foothills members in attendance were Gretchen Snowden, Erica Dickson & Keith Hupperts, Sandra Nesbit-Manning, Tom & Bonnie Inscho, Dru Van Doren, Bruce Wagner, Stan Kidder & Bobbie Poole and Lenny Scovel. In addition, Rev. Marc Salkin presented the workshop *Seven Sure-Fire Suggestions for Spoiling a Sunday Service*.

Over the course of the conference attendees participated in workshops, conducted the business of the District, networked, and were treated to some powerful worship experiences. Highlights included the key note speakers on both Friday and Saturday nights. The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, President of the Starr-King Seminary School spoke on her upcoming book *Saving Paradise*, in which she explores the earliest traditions in Christian art and the discovery that neither the Passion nor the corpse of Jesus was portrayed in art until the 11th century. Dr. Janine Pease, Crow Indian Educator and Civil Rights activist (and Unitarian Universalist) shared the rich living tradition of Crow story telling.

The conference concluded with a moving worship service on Sunday morning with a powerful Call-to-Conscience sermon delivered by Rev. Lois Van Leer of the UU Fellowship of Bozeman. This annual conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow UUs from our district, and to be reminded that the Unitarian Universalist mission is a shared one, that we are stronger when we work together, and that by cooperating with our neighboring UU churches we enhance our own spiritual experiences in our home congregations. As Rev. Van Leer reminded us at worship, We Are the Ones who will be the change for peace and justice in the world, so make a joyous noise!

Hope Infant and Children's Center Update

Anne Hall

The board of directors of Hope Infant and Children's Center would very much like to thank the members of Foothills for their continued financial support. On Sunday, September 29 the church presented Hope with a \$5000 check that was approved at last year's annual meeting. This donation will very much help us provide quality daycare for low income parents. Approximately 65% of our families at our new location at 1225 Redwood qualify for CCAP assistance (Colorado Children's Assistance Program). This means their income is no more than 150% of poverty level which for a family of three would be \$2146 per month. CCAP reimbursement to Hope is approximately 85% of our actual costs for providing daycare and why this donation is so important to Hope.

A Special Invitation: On Thursday, November 15 Hope will be holding our annual Gift of Hope breakfast from 8:00 to 9:00. This year we are very proud to announce that we will be holding this event at the new North Aztlan Community Center at 112 East Willow. The community center is very excited about our being one of the first groups to hold an event there and is looking forward to proudly showing the community their new facility. This event has a two fold purpose. First of all, we want to continue to introduce the work of Hope to the Fort Collins community and secondly, we want to continue to raise funds that will help continue to provide daycare for low income families within our community. Do keep in mind that donations to Hope qualify for a 50% tax credit on your Colorado taxes. Please call Anne Hall at 282-3829 if you are interested in attending or if you have any questions concerning Hope.

National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month!

Denise Hall

National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month is celebrated to recognize the intertribal cultures and to educate the public about the heritage, history, art, and traditions of the American Indian and Alaska Native people.

One of the early proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian who was the Director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, New York. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans," and for three years the Scouts adopted such a day. In 1990 President George Bush, Sr. approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations have been issued each year since 1994.

Let's Learn Together! One way to begin is to have the understanding that there were indigenous cultures in this land we call Colorado prior to its discovery by peoples of European descent. Who are they? They are Apache, Arapahoe, Bannock, Cheyenne, Comanche, Jicarilla, Kiowa, Kiowa Apache, Navajo (Dine), Pueblos, Shoshoni, and Ute nations.

What's next? This is an excellent question. There is much to do. It is important to dedicate time for educating ourselves and each other regarding the history of indigenous peoples in the western hemisphere. In addition, it is imperative that we avail ourselves of the stories that have been left out of the history books. There are many resources available, and I challenge you to seek them out. As we continue to discover right relationships, beloved community, and accountability, let's find opportunities to live in solidarity with our indigenous sisters and brothers who continue to suffer oppression. For more information, go to <http://www.ihs.gov/PublicAffairs/Heritage/Index.cfm> Peace, love, and grace to you! Denise

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



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 or by e-mail. Please contact the Church Office at uuinfo@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.