



# The Torch

First Unitarian Church  
of Salt Lake City

February 22, 2010  
Volume 52, Issue 15

## Celebrate the Impact of First Unitarian Church!

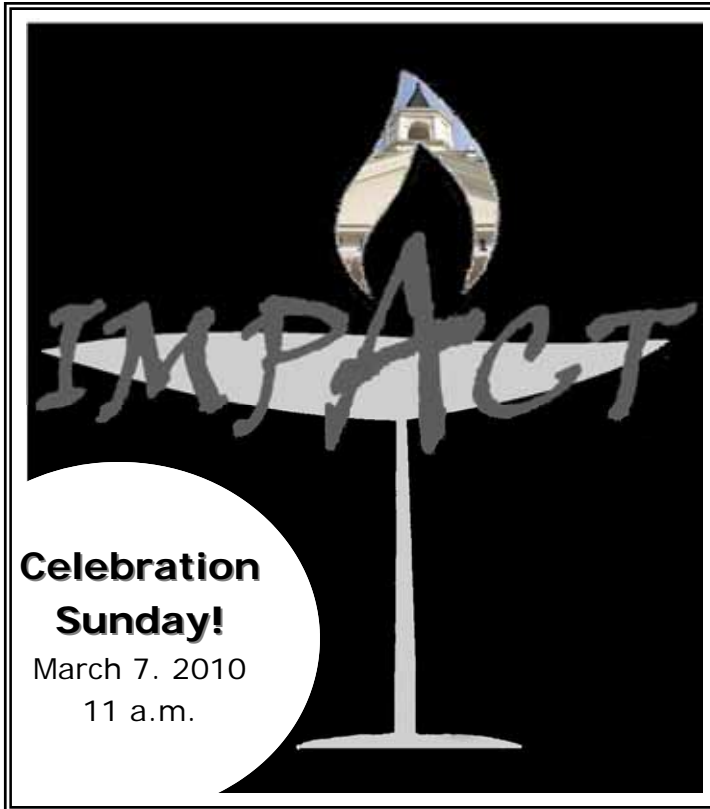
**Celebration Sunday on March 7<sup>th</sup>** one service, 11:00 a.m. First Unitarian Church.

Just an ordinary church? Hardly. As the theme "Impact" will demonstrate, First Unitarian Church impacts our personal lives and the life of our community locally and globally. Come listen to our members address the impact of our church as we kick-off the pledge drive 2010-2011. The music will captivate all through the choral

leadership of Rev. Anthony Bennett, director of Calvary Baptist choir and leader of many Salt lake community choirs.

One service? Yes!!!! We want to feel the vibrancy as one congregation and we will accommodate everyone. Just remember the story of the fishes and loaves. Miracles will abound although we are asking everyone to drop five pounds before March 7<sup>th</sup>. This will be a "Can't Miss" service. Be sure to be there and have faith.

In consideration of our limited parking, please consider carpooling, taking the Trax train, or parking in the Rice



Eccles parking lot.

### Documentary about First Unitarian Church:

If you missed the showing of "Charter to the Stars," and the wine and desserts, etc. on February 20<sup>th</sup>, you can still catch it all on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in Eliot Hall. PLEASE RSVP Sue Geary: sgeary58@msn.com or 801-466-3275.

The documentary shows the global impact of our congregation and the work of our Social Justice Council. It's a fun/social evening, totally free, and truly sets the tone for our Pledge Drive 2010-2011.

### Inside this issue:

Reverently Yours	2
Religious Education	3-4
Legacy Campaign	5
Circle Suppers	5
What's On Our Plate	6
Endowment Fund News	6
Calendar	7
Sunday Services	8

### The Torch

Next Publication Date:  
March 8, 2010

Submission Deadline:  
Mon. March 1, 2010  
by **9 a.m.**

Events to be listed should occur after March 9th to ensure timeliness.

Editor:  
Jennifer Killpack-Knutsen

Email to:  
jennislcuu@yahoo.com or  
drop off at church office

To subscribe/unsubscribe,  
notify Jennifer at 801-582-  
8687 ext.5



## Reverently Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



Contest...struggle...anguish...all share the same Greek root: *agonia*. Our word extracted from the Greek is "agony." In ancient Greece, an "agon" meant a gathering for a sports contest in which prizes were awarded. Thus the Olympian games grew from athletic competitions on the fields of antiquity to its present manifestation in Van Couver, British Columbia. What never changes regardless of time and place is that the "agons" personify struggle and anguish. The Olympic games to which we're glued, despite the "anguish" of too many commercials, personify the struggle to overcome mortal limitations in order to ski and skate and glide and swoosh like the gods.

The Olympics, however, are always about so much more than medals. Like so much in life, the compelling aspects are found in the back-stories. The triumphs involve much more than speed agility and grace, but include personal triumphs over doubt, injury, loss, fear, catastrophe, and just being human. The term, "agonistes," denotes someone engaged in a struggle. The Olympics might as well be known as "Athletic Agonistes." It's all a struggle, and the back-story reveals the common humanity that weaves its thread through all of us, regardless how fast we can ski down the mountain.

Even the gods have back-stories that help us understand them better. For example, Buddha did not just awaken to enlightenment but struggled to overcome the riches of his princely upbringing by seeing life as the suffering it really is. It's the back-story that grips us emotionally. And Jesus, too. Not just a guy who walked on water and turned water into wine, but his back-story of be-

ing born into abject poverty demonstrated his true mettle. Without the back-story, Jesus' triumphs would prove meaningless.

It's not just about the gold-silver-bronze. It's about struggle and anguish, pink hair, a brother with cerebral palsy, 80 stitches in the face, a mother's death, everything that can deflate the spirit of mere mortals. The agony lies not with the brutal and punishing workouts, although that's tough enough. The agony is rising to the best one can be...despite. Despite what life and circumstances throw at you, the indomitable human spirit allows us to compete. And the medal offers what? A reward? No. I think the reason so many athletes shed tears on the medal stand is not due to the glitter of a prize held in their hand, but because the medal represents a confirmation that despite the daunting hurdles that pepper their own back-story, they have risen to the occasion and have triumphed in their own lives.

The back-story offers the context of our lives. Accomplishments are never automatic or magical. They are gained through "agonia." And being engaged in struggle is not limited to elite athletes. It's all of us, trying to win this game of life, given the unique back-story of what has brought us to this point. TRG

### Don't Miss Folk Vespers

Folk Vespers 2010 - Folk Vespers this year runs through March 7th. All Folk Vespers services begin at 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 21st - **Ken Shaw and the Sons in Laws of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers**

Feb. 28th - **Kristin Erickson & Jenn Hagg**

Mar. 7th - **The Nay Family Band**



# Religious Education - News for the Village

## Celebration Sunday Events for Children and Youth

On Sunday, March 7th, the church will hold only one service at 11 am for Celebration Sunday. The RE program will be hosting two amazing entertainers.

Paul Brewer, magician and comedian, can mesmerize two dozen kids, a roomful of adults, and amazingly, even a cynical teen—all at once! Paul has the humor, magic, and style for every situation. Your kids will be laughing and amazed at the magic tricks Paul will bring to our church on Cele-

bration Sunday.

We will also be having a visit from the DrumBus, a "mobile music room" featuring world percussion instruments in which Mike Liston, who facilitated our wonderful drum circles at the Winter Solstice party, will engage our young people in a dynamic, interactive percussion workshop. Your kids won't want to miss this wonderful, festive community gathering!

## Report from the Albuquerque Con

YRUU cons (conferences) are one of the best parts of being a teenager and Unitarian. They are a wonderful social experience with important themes and messages.

Bryce and I traveled to Albuquerque for the most recent high school con. This time, the theme was world religions and the message was universal acceptance. We listened to a motivational powerpoint presentation, participated in a culture walk, made skits on the negative sides of cultural appropriations, and went to workshops about our personal faiths, interesting religions from around the world, and apocalypse stories from religion, science, and Hollywood. We even watched a movie called Arranged about different cultures with arranged marriages and the societal issues they face in modern day America. The workshops complete the theme by offering a time of meditation and contemplation over what we have learned. The theme opened my eyes to continued struggles for acceptance in the world and how I can become more accepting to not just all religions, but all people.

The social aspect of the weekend makes cons so much fun even as we learn. Ample time is built into the schedule for cards, games, meeting friends and talking. The ten-hour bus ride from

Denver to Albuquerque may sound dreadful, but it was just the beginning of our fun. We played groundies on the playground, cards at two in the morning, and talked just about every free second available. A few hours of such time is worked into the day, and a lack of a bedtime Saturday night makes it easy to have time to talk to everyone. By the end of the weekend, everyone was unbelievably close and it was hard to say goodbye and get back to reality. Getting to know other Unitarians from other states in our region is an incredibly important part of the trip and by far the most fun part.

So if you get the opportunity to participate in a con go for it, it will enhance your life.

*-submitted Annalisa Hartly*

## Coming Up in RE

### Schedule for Upcoming Sundays

**February 21** - Worship Sunday in the Little Chapel, led by the K-1 classes

**February 28** - Social Justice Sunday

**March 7** - Celebration Sunday \*\*one service at 11 a.m.\*\*

**March 14** - Classroom Sunday \*\*daylight savings - "spring forward"



## Religious Education: Past, Present, and Future

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, the Director of Religious Education Search Committee conducted a lay-led service with the theme "Religious Education, Past, Present, and Future." This service aimed to promote a model of intergenerational worship while providing congregants with an opportunity to reflect on and cherish their own experiences with religious education at our church.

The service benefitted from contributions from many levels of our church and religious education communities. Our youngest RE participants and the Coming of Age participants shared what they liked about RE at First Church while participating in a chalice lighting that left all of us filled with "the warmth of love, the light of truth, and the energy of action." The Youth Choir under the direction of David Owens provided excellent musical reflections. In addition, David Horton's brilliant piano performances reminded all of us of the great resource represented by our young members. For the main event, we had a sermon comprised of reflections from adult RE participants, the high school group, and RE teachers about their experiences and gains with the Religious Education program.

These thoughts necessarily led us to consider and appreciate the roles and contributions of our previous two DREs, Sylvia and LeeAnn, as well as our current acting co-directors, Nicole and Mary. The high school students also expressed their appreciation of their "fearless leader" Jennica.

Now that we have taken a moment to honor the service of current and former directors, people's thoughts have naturally turned to the future of the Director of Religious Education position. The members of the Search Committee have assimilated information from various sources to create a job description that we will post starting on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in a copy of the job description or desiring to submit a resume may contact us at [dre.slc2010@gmail.com](mailto:dre.slc2010@gmail.com) We hope to have made a hiring recommendation to the board by May. We sincerely thank all of you who have assisted us in our work to date.

DRESC: Allison Zafiratos (chair), Charlie Johnson, Elaine Nielson, Kevin Peaslee, Maritza Sotomayor, and Dani Thorsted

*-submitted Charlie Johnson*

*February 7th RE Service Photos submitted by Steve Horton and Mary Kroener-Ekstrand*





## Legacy Campaign News

On Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, The Board of Trustees from the First Unitarian Church approved a motion to post for a newly created position for fundraiser for the Legacy Campaign. This will be a one-year paid position with scheduled milestones during this period. The Legacy Campaign will fund this position.

Both the Board of Trustees and The Legacy Committee wish to maintain total transparency about this process to our Church community. The position will be posted in a number of prominent places including The Torch, Utah Non-Profits, The Society of Utah Fundraisers, UU Website, and other featured places.

It has been problematic to garner the total needed funds for The Legacy Campaign by a volunteer. The work is too demanding and time-consuming as an unpaid position.

The Legacy Campaign Committee is very proud of the work done so far but realizes that to reach maximum financial potential, we need a professional.

We are still working on the final details of the job description. It will be posted in The Torch and on our website. The Legacy Campaign Committee performed a salary survey to benchmark this position to other positions within Salt Lake City development community. The position will be posted in March and the committee hopes to have someone in place by June. The Hiring Committee will consist of Margaret McGann, Judy Barnett, Julie Swaner, and Rebecca Heal. All of these individuals have strong experience in the non-profit and development community.

*-submitted by Julie Swaner*

## Spring Circle Suppers

We would like to have more hosts for circle suppers the months of March, April, and May. Potluck suppers are hosted by anyone who would like to volunteer, and the host may choose the date, time, number of guests, and an optional theme for their event. This is a social activity that can be enjoyed by anyone – you do not have to be a member to attend. You will find that it is a fun

way to meet new people at the church. Once an event is scheduled, a sign-up sheet for guests is posted in Elliot Hall on the clipboard next to the door by Hal's office. If you would like to host a circle supper, please contact Tom or Kate Price at 801-883-9574 or e-mail [kateprice@cybermesa.com](mailto:kateprice@cybermesa.com).

## UUs in Alaska

**WhaleCoast Alaska 2010:** Five Alaskan UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program this summer in our 14<sup>th</sup> year! See *REAL* Alaska, with UU homestays in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka. UU's host events and lead tours. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Observe wildlife, including bears, moose, caribou, whales, sea otters and bald ea-

gles. Visit Denali National Park. Dave Frey, a 29-year Alaska resident, leads the programs. Visit [www.whalecoastak.org](http://www.whalecoastak.org). Don't delay, reservation deadline is March 10. Email [dfrey@whalecoastak.org](mailto:dfrey@whalecoastak.org) for information, or call 907-322-4966. The tours usually fill quickly. We would love to share our Alaska with you!



## What's On Our Plate Looking for New Members

Social Justice

Since 2007, the "What's On Our Plate?" committee of the Social Justice Council has requested nominations from our church community for local non profit organizations. When selected by the committee, the chosen group receives a Sunday plate offering in support of their organization.

THANK YOU to the First Church community! Since the Fall of 2007, we have donated almost \$45,000.00 to Salt Lake CAP Head Start, Womemade, Youth Mentoring Program, Ingles Para Latinos, Utah Pride Center, Utah Division of Indian Affairs – RAIN, Family Promise, Earth Ways, Utah Moms for Clean Air, Odyssey House, Art Forms, Kindred Spirits, Hser Ner Moo Community Center, The Sharing Place, Human Rights Center, Salt Lake Bicycle Collective, Maliheh Clinic, Salt Lake ACT, Alliance House, Walk-ons and UUSC – Haiti.

If you are interested in joining, please contact one of us for details. This is a very practical way to be involved in social justice through the church.

Thank you again for your generosity,  
Sharon Strong  
"What's On Our Plate?" committee, Social Justice Council

Louise Ewing at [louiseewing@msn.com](mailto:louiseewing@msn.com)  
Jan Gillilan at [hjgill55@gmail.com](mailto:hjgill55@gmail.com)  
Judy Smith at [chuckandjudy@hotmail.com](mailto:chuckandjudy@hotmail.com)  
Sharon Strong at [sharonstrong55@msn.com](mailto:sharonstrong55@msn.com)

THE COMMITTEE IS IN NEED OF NEW MEMBERS!

### *Endowment Fund News*

Generous contributions have been received:

**In memory of**  
*William Brown*

from

The John S. White Family  
Leonard Lewis  
Andrew and Carolyn Schilly  
Virginia Judd Leonard  
Carol Elliott  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Harrison

**In memory of**  
*Pete Petersen*

from

Paula Julander

The Endowment Fund preserves contributions in perpetuity to support the mission of the church. As the Endowment Fund grows, it provides a secure financial safety net for the church just as a savings account ensures a family's financial well being. The Endowment Fund is prudently invested and over time distributions are made to support church projects of merit.



# February/March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
21 <b>Sunday Services</b> 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 8)  <b>Folk Vespers</b> 7:30 pm (pg. 2)  What's On Our Plate Sunday (pg. 10)	22	23	24 <b>Salvation Army</b> <b>Sandwich making</b> 4:30 p.m. in Kitchen  <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:30 p.m.	25	26  Coffee House 6 p.m.	27 <b>Food Co-op pick up</b> (see below)  Contra Dance 6 p.m.
28 <b>Sunday Services</b> 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  <b>Folk Vespers</b> 7:30 pm (pg. 2)	March 1 <b>Torch</b> <b>Submissions Due</b> <b>9 a.m.</b>	2	3 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:30 p.m.	4	5 <b>Pledge Event</b> <b>"A Charter to the Stars"</b> 7 pm in Eliot Hall (pg. 1)	6 Folk Dance 6 p.m.
7 <b>Celebration Sunday!</b> 11:00 am only (pg. 1 & 8)  <b>Folk Vespers</b> 7:30 pm (pg. 2)	8 <b>Board of Trustees</b> <b>Meeting</b> Room 201 7 pm	9 <b>RE Council</b> <b>Meeting</b> 7 p.m.	10 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:30 p.m.	11	12 <b>Food Co-op or-</b> <b>ders due</b> (see below)  Coffee House 6 p.m.	13
14 <b>Sunday Services</b> 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 8)	15 <b>Torch</b> <b>Submissions Due</b> <b>9 a.m.</b>	16	17 <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:30 p.m.	18	19	20

## UU Lunch Bunch

A family-friendly group for anyone and everyone who would like to get together for lunch and chat with like-minded people. Meet at the Restaurant on Sundays at about 12:45 p.m. For more information contact Tresa at 801-671-2858.

February 21: **Café Niche** 779 E. 300 S.

February 28: **Red Iguana** 866 W. South Temple  
(the newer location)

March 7: **MacCools** 1400 Foothill Dr.

March 14: Celebration Sunday

**Macaroni Grill** 110 West Broadway

## Community Food Co-Op

First Unitarian Church is an official host site for the Community Food Co-Op of Utah, helping people get access to affordable, nutritious food. Please order January shares by January 15th for pick-up on January 30th between 9 and 10 a.m.

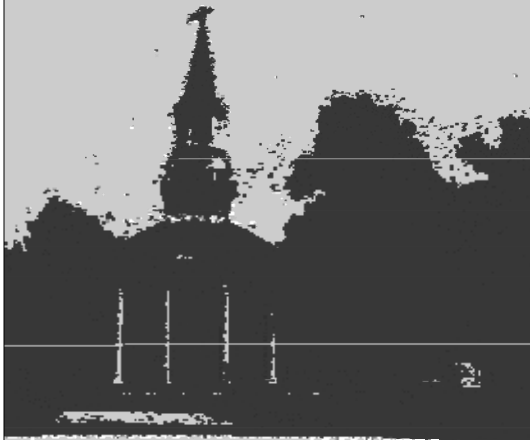
You can order online or print forms to mail in at: [www.foodco-op.net](http://www.foodco-op.net) (please note new web address). Place orders by mail -- 1469 S 700 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84104; phone - (801)746-7878; or fax - (801) 975-0336. For more information, contact Nancy Lindsley at 583-8566 or [NALindsley@gmail.com](mailto:NALindsley@gmail.com)



First Unitarian Church  
of Salt Lake City

569 South 1300 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

801-582-8687  
www.slcuu.org



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## Sunday Services

Sunday, February 21st

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

**"Unitarian Reforms:**

**An Historic Perspective"**

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

This service honors the 119th anniversary of First Unitarian Church, Salt Lake City

7:30 p.m.

Folk Vespers

Sunday, February 28th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

**"Environmental Trade-Offs"**

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

7:30 p.m.

Folk Vespers

Sunday, March 7th - Celebration Sunday!

One Service Only at 11:00 a.m. at First Church  
**"IMPACT"**

-Alan Coombs, Tim DeChristopher, Rev. Tom Goldsmith, Becky Heal, Erin O'Connell, Matt Wilson; Special music: Rev. Anthony Bennett, choral director of Calvary Baptist Church leading the choir of First Unitarian Church.

7:30 p.m.

Folk Vespers