



The Torch

First Unitarian Church
of Salt Lake City

March 8, 2010
Volume 52, Issue 16

Congregational Briefs

Spring Circle Suppers

We are still seeking hosts for the months of April, and May. We have received two requests—one for someone to host a singles supper and another for a non-alcoholic supper. Anyone wishing to host either of these two or any other circle supper, please contact Tom or Kate Price at 801-883-9574 or e-mail kate-price@cybermesa.com. Circle 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 Eliot Hall on the clipboard next to the door by Hal's office.

UU Homeschoolers Group

As a homeschooling mom, I'm looking to establish a group of UU homeschoolers for the purpose of building friendships and reinforcing the Seven Principles our children are exploring in RE through social interaction among a broad range of ages. If you're interested in gathering to share your thoughts and hopes for such a group, please contact Charity at 801-582-9626 or cterry-lorenzo@gmail.com.

Helping with the Church Archives

Jane Grau's been sorting and filing the church archives for a couple of years and would dearly love some help bringing the project closure (we sent 9 boxes to Marriott Library a year ago). About 6 hours more and we'll be done. Meet at the cottage annex at your convenience -- weekdays, weekends, evenings -- for as much time as you can donate. A two-hour block would be ideal. Jane Grau, 801-355-1077 or janegrau@gmail.com.

Chancel Flowers

Is it wishful thinking on my part or will the lilacs be blooming soon? Is it wishful thinking on my part that many of you have gardens ready to pop and can bring tulips, roses, daffodils, and cherry blossoms for the chancel? No need to know how to arrange them, we'll do that for you. Grocery bouquets will do in case of snow! Keep your receipt for reimbursement. Call Jane Grau at 801-355-1077 to reserve a Sunday.

Open Minds Book Group

Next meeting is Thursday, March 18, 7pm in the Parlor. We will discuss **The Space Between Us** by Thrity Umrigar. This book is available in paperback at bookstores, on Amazon.com, and in both the city and county library systems. All are welcome.

Inside this issue:

Reverently Yours	2
What's On Our Plate	2
Sustainable Food	3
Religious Education	4-5
Environmental Ministry	6
Endowment Fund News	6
Calendar	7
Sunday Services	8

The Torch

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March 22, 2010

Submission Deadline:
Mon. March 15, 2010
by **9 a.m.**

Events to be listed should occur after March 16th to ensure timeliness.

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drop off at church office

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



Reverently Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



It's the first anniversary of the Tea Party mass protests begun in Olympia, Washington. Keli Carender, a 30-year old woman with a pierced nose is credited as its originator. She drew 120 people to the first rally, then 300 and 1200 after

that. It was quite a tea party, sprung from Keli's own frustration over the bailout, healthcare reform which she understood as government wanting to "give her money to someone else based on their supposed needs," and a peppering of the libertarian writing of Thomas Sowell. She began with a Blog (of course) called Liberty Belle. The power of the Internet can organize people and raise money faster than asking a Fairy Godmother to fulfill your wishes.

I used to enjoy tea parties as a seminarian, as students met weekly with the Dean of the Divinity School over tea and bad sherry. I usually chose the tea. And for anyone who is an Anglophile, tea and tea parties have a distinctly civilized quality. And no one but a Brit, like Lewis Carroll, could have written a children's book *Alice in Wonderland* without making a tea party essential.

It feels like all of us may have fallen down the rabbit hole and are confronting, like Alice, very strange rules and behaviors. The Mad Hatter

hosted the tea party which Alice frankly deplored as "the stupidest tea party." While looking for the white rabbit she encountered the Cheshire Cat who explained everybody was "mad." The March Hare could give her directions but he was mad, too. "But I don't want to go among mad people," Alice lamented. To which the Cheshire Cat retorted: "Oh you can't help that. Most everyone here is mad. You may have noticed I'm not all there myself."

The tea party, sacrosanct among intellectuals, royalty, anglophiles, and civilized people, has had a hostile take-over from mindless people emulating the Boston Tea Party's historic rage against taxation without representation. But we're no longer fighting King George III, we have plenty of representation and the people spoke loudly at the polls in November 2008 about precisely what they wanted and how this country must change. Instead, we find ourselves like Alice, engulfed in the "stupidest tea party."

Lewis Carroll reminds us that "Everything's got a moral, if only you can find it." I suggest that the current Tea party folks celebrate their anniversary by finding the moral in healthcare reform and environmental legislation. And if the tea party folks of today refuse to even glance at the Biblical exhortations to care for the poor, then take it from Lewis Carroll himself: One of the secrets of life is that all that is really worth the doing is what we do for others." TRG

What's On Our Plate for March?

Social Justice

On Sunday, March 21st, our plate collections from each service will be donated to CASA. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is a relatively new organization that uses volunteer advocates to support neglected and abused children in the court system. Volunteers are appointed by a judge or magistrate and have the legal status to act as a "friend of the court," giving them the power to affect real change in the life of a child.

Specifically, funds raised by the First Church will be used to support training for these volunteers. Marynell Hinton will be at each service to introduce the WOOP collection - and to be available at each coffee hour to answer questions about volunteer opportunities.

-submitted by Judy Smith



Choices for Sustainable Living - Food

Environmental Ministry & Animal Ministry

The choices you and I make every day have an impact on the Earth, on the people and the animals, and on the future. One significant choice we make each day is what we choose to eat. What did you eat today? Where did you purchase that food? How far did it travel to get there? How much fuel was used to transport it? How were the ingredients grown? What was the impact of the farming techniques on the soil? How were the animals treated? Were all the people who grew and transported and sold this food to you paid a living wage, treated fairly?

These are the topics taken up in the *UU Congregational Study/Action Resource Guide on Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice, 2008-2012* [www.uua.org/documents/washingtonoffice/ethicaleating/studyguide.pdf] which is currently under review. This guide addresses issues of climate change and environmental destruction, hunger and malnutrition, factory farming and the ethical treatment of animals, and social justice and safe working conditions for those who grow and process our foods, and much more.

At the end of the guide is a list of ideas for action – just a few of which are highlighted below:

Encourage organic community gardening. Environmental Ministry's Garden Group is getting ready to begin a new season, consider getting involved – stop by the Environmental Ministry table for details.

Eat low on the food chain. The environmental cost to produce a plant-based diet is dramatically lower than that of a meat-based diet. Did you know that it takes 16 lbs. of grain to produce a pound of beef, but it takes only 1 lb. of grain to produce a pound of bread? By cycling our grain through livestock and into beef, we end up with only 6% as much food available to feed us. IF Americans reduced their meat consumption by

10%, enough grain would be saved to feed 60 million people. Consider going meatless one day a week – Animal Ministry encourages you to try *Meatless Mondays* [www.meatlessmonday.com/why-meatless/] – along with countless others working to improve their health and the health of our planet.

Choose organic food in season, from Fair Trade or local sources. Organic food includes crops grown without the use of conventional pesticides, artificial fertilizers or sewage sludge, and animals reared without the routine use of antibiotics or growth hormones. – Did you know that we have a local farmer who grows and sells locally grown, chemical free vegetables, all winter long? Chad's Produce can be found on many Saturday mornings throughout the winter at the Oasis Café, 151 S 500 E, SLC. Environmental Ministry has more information – stop by and ask us.

Support sustainable agriculture and farmers' markets. The SLC Farmers' Market won't start up until mid-June, but NOW (March) is the time to sign up for a share in one of our community supported agriculture programs [www.csautah.org/buy.html] where you pay a farmer up front to buy the seeds, plant the seeds, water and grow and care for the seeds and the plants until they produce delicious vegetables and all YOU have to do is pick up your vegetables from a convenient local pickup spot either at the Farmers' Market or in your neighborhood.

Stop by our tables in Eliot Hall or come to our meetings to get involved. Animal Ministry meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm in the Youth House. Environmental Ministry meets on the 1st Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm, in a room on the 2nd floor of the RE Building.

-submitted by Joan M. Gregory, Environmental Ministry, and Tresa Stitley, Animal Ministry



Religious Education - News for the Village

Impact in Religious Education

In keeping with this church's tradition of service to others and the theme of this year's pledge drive, the children and youth in our programs are seeking to make an impact in our community.

On the third Sunday of each month, the children collect an offering of nonperishable foods for donation to the food pantry at Crossroads Urban Center. We have delivered 160 pounds of food so far this year. If you would like to support this important cause and help our young people learn about food insecurity in our community, please remember to bring a food donation on our next **Sustenance Sunday** scheduled for March 21st.

We also schedule a social justice project for children and youth on the fourth Sunday of each

month. On February 28th, we had a special visit from church member Cheryl Marzec of Sumi Nungwa, a non profit organization whose mission is bringing together people from many cultures to help preserve the Native American way of life. Our activities included a classroom presentation on the lives of Hopi and Navajo elders living on reservations and a hands-on service project sorting food and medical supplies into care packages for Easter delivery (please see photos below and on next page). For more information about Sumi Nungwa, visit their website at www.suminungwa.org.

-submitted by Mary Kroener-Ekstrand

Potluck and Game Night!

Spring will soon be here - it's time for a party! All are welcome to join in the fun on Saturday, March 20th from 5-8pm in Eliot Hall for a potluck dinner and game night. This event should be fun for all ages. Let's find out who likes card games, strategy games, chess, Candyland, Ticket to Ride, etc. - bring a dish to share for supper along with your favorite game and/or a willingness to play along with friends new and old. As we like to sing in the preschool room, "The more we get together the happier we'll be..."

Coming Up in RE

Schedule for Upcoming Sundays

- March 7** - Celebration Sunday **one service at 11 a.m.**
- March 14** - Classroom Sunday **daylight savings - "spring forward"
- March 21** - Worship Sunday - Celebrating World Music
- February 28** - Social Justice Sunday - Stewardship

Social Justice Sunday photos submitted by Jennica Davis and Mary Kroener-Ekstrand.

The kids learned about the Navajo and Hopi tribes and made care packages for the Navajo and Hopi elders.





Celebration Sunday!
 March 7, 2010
 11 a.m.

Adult Life Span RE

The following classes still have openings. You may register at the RE Table during coffee hour after Sunday Services or contact Jennica Davis at jennicaca@gmail.com. Class description brochures are available at the RE Table and on the Church website.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Carbon Detox	March 25
Caregiver Support Group	March 30
Theology for a Secular Age	March 31
Death with Dignity 101	April 5
Basics of Estate Planning	April 22
Animals in Translation	April 27
Family Birding at Farmington Bay	May 1
Safe Biking on SLC Streets	May 8

Exclusive First Church Family Event

Exploration and Discovery at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts

Parents and children will have a fun-filled afternoon exploring and discovering the many cultures and artistic movements at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Through the use of the family backpacks, families will learn about a variety of subjects that include: Art of the Americas, African, American Indian, Asian, Greek, Egyptian, and European. The backpacks include activities, games, and puzzles that explore the permanent

collections of the UMFA. (This program is generously funded by Angela and Mark Skolnick. Special thanks to the Denver Art Museum for sharing their knowledge on this program.)

Date: Saturday, March 27, 2010, 2:00-4:00pm

Sign Up: Contact Andrea Globokar, anglobe@comcast.net or 801-518-7461. Maximum of 40

Location: Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Meet at the front desk just inside the lobby.





Carbon Detox Class

Environmental Ministry

Join us for an Environmental Ministry book discussion focusing on George Marshall's *Carbon Detox: Your Step-by-Step Guide to Getting Real about Climate Change*. **Facilitators:** Hans Ehrbar, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Utah, and Joan Gregory, Coordinator, Environmental Ministry, First Unitarian Church. **Description:** If you have ever tried to have a meaningful one-on-one conversation with a family member, friend, or colleague about the seriousness of climate change and the

urgency of consequential action, you know how notoriously difficult it can be to have these conversations. Join us as we explore ways to communicate climate change so that others will listen. **Book available:** Environmental Ministry Table. **Date/Time:** Thursdays, March 25, April 1, 8, 7-8:30 pm. **To Register:** contact Joan Gregory, green@slcuu.org, 801-581-5269.

-submitted by Joan M. Gregory, Environmental Ministry

Update on Tim's Trial

Environmental Ministry

Just in case you have not gotten the word, Environmental Ministry wants you to know that Tim DeChristopher's trial has been postponed. It was going to be on March 15th. But, on February 17th, Judge Benson decided to use March 15th for a hearing to consider Tim's lawyers' contention that Tim is being prosecuted selectively (meaning other people have bid on leases and never paid, and were never

prosecuted). No new trial date has been set. For those unfamiliar with Tim's case or for those who would like to refresh their memories, additional information may be found at: <http://www.peacefuluprising.org/?p=55>.

-submitted by Joan M. Gregory, Environmental Ministry

Endowment Fund News

Generous contributions have been received:

In memory of
William Brown

from

Robert and Virginia Peterson
Edwin and Martha Felt
Bill and Ruth Crockett
David Hughes

Guy and Martha Toombes
Norma and Marianne Campbell
Frank and Carol Tribe
Wallace and Evalyn Bennett

Jack and Margaret Coombs
and Kathleen Korkishko
Beverly Love
Ann Jarcho Thomas

The Endowment Fund preserves contributions in perpetuity to support the mission of the church. As the Endowment Fund grows, it provides a secure financial future for the church. The Endowment Fund is prudently invested, and over time distributions are made to support church projects of merit. Committee members are happy to answer questions: Ron Anderson, Alan Coombs, Bill Ohlsen, Danny Schoenfeld, or Carol Blackwell



March/April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
7 Celebration Sunday! 11:00 am only (pg. 1 & 8) Folk Vespers 7:30 pm	8 Board of Trustees Meeting Room 201 7 pm	9 RE Council Meeting 7 p.m.	10 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	11	12 Food Co-op orders due (see below) Coffee House 6 p.m.	13
14 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 8)	15 Torch Submissions Due 9 a.m.	16	17 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	18 Open Minds Book Group 7 pm (pg. 1)	19	20 RE Potluck and Game night 5-8 pm (pg. 4)
21 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 8)	22	23	24 Salvation Army Sandwich making 4:30 p.m. in Kitchen Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	25 Carbon Detox class begins (pg. 5)	26 Coffee House 6 p.m.	27 Food Co-op pick up (see below) Family Exploration at UMFA 2 pm (pg. 5) Contra Dance 6 p.m.
28 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.	29 Torch Submissions Due 9 a.m.	30 Caregiver Support Group begins (pg. 5)	31 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Theology for a Secular Age class begins (pg. 5)	April 1	2	3 Folk Dance 6 p.m.

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.

- March 7: **MacCools** 1400 Foothill Dr.
- March 14: **Macaroni Grill** 110 West Broadway
- March 21: **Café Niche** 779 E. 300 S.
- March 28: **Red Iguana** 866 W. South Temple

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 (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



First Unitarian Church
of Salt Lake City

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801-582-8687
www.slcuu.org



Please Recycle Your Torch

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Sunday Services

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 Wil-
son and the choir of First Unitarian Church.

7:30 p.m.
Folk Vespers

Sunday, March 14th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"Lives of Extraordinary Love"

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Sunday, March 21st

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"Celebrating Spring"

-Lay Service Committee