



The Torch

First Unitarian Church
of Salt Lake City

April 5, 2010
Volume 53, Issue 18

High School's Mission Trip and Delicious Fundraiser



The YRUU group (Young Religious Unitarian Universalist) is proud to announce the details of their 2010 Mission Trip. We will be working at Javernick Family Farms, in southwest Colorado, just outside Canon City. Javernick is a third generation farm that strives "to be the best stewards to the land by raising beyond organic produce, enriching our soil through sustainable practices and improving the ecosystems on our farm." We are participating through the Willing Workers On Organic Farms (WWOOFing) organization. So if you hear a high schooler talking about being a WWOOFer they're talking about this year's organic farming social and environmental justice project. We will be WWOOFing June 10th to the 17th.

This year's Mission Trip is extra special because we are inviting youth from all over to come with us. We've already made strong connections with Ogden and South Valley and we're reaching out to other congregations and fellowships in Utah, Idaho and southwest Colorado.

In preparation for our trip, we will be working with Carole Straughn and Jim French, First Church members and members of the Urban Village Cooperative to learn why organic farming is a social justice issue as

well as an environmental stewardship issue. They will also be introducing us to the art of organic gardening through their full moon gardening parties. If you're interested, you're more than welcome to come along.

Our kick-off party and fundraiser is April 26th. From 5-7pm enjoy appetizers, music and a cash bar at Pago, the new farm to table restaurant on 9th and 9th. Then move over to the Tower Theater at 7pm for a special viewing of the movie *Locavore*, provided by the Slow Food Movement. Treat yourself to delicious appetizers from Pago, Cali's Natural Foods, Caputo's, and Liberty Heights Fresh and support First Church youth in their endeavors. Tickets for appetizers and movie: \$20 each. Just the movie: \$10, Just food: \$12.

Contact Jennica Davis at: jennicacaca@gmail.com, or (801) 201-6260 for more information about the Mission Trip or to purchase tickets for the fundraiser.

-submitted by Jennica Davis

For more information on the organizations referenced above:

www.JavernickFamilyFarms.com
www.UrbanVillageSLC.org
www.SlowFoodUtah.org

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The Torch

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April 19, 2010

Submission Deadline:
Mon. April 12, 2010
by **9 a.m.**

Events to be listed should occur after April 20th to ensure timeliness.

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Reverently Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



So there I was, minding my own business in an airport bar glancing occasionally at the sport scene on the TV. A chatty guy sits down next to me, but I'm not feeling particularly social. I give him half an ear, probably stemming from innate clergy politeness, and he latches on.

Turns out he's a Tea Partier and Sarah Palin is his calendar girl. I think to myself: What would Howard Zinn have done if he met Glenn Beck in an airport bar? Declare war or silent protest? My barstool neighbor was obviously trying to incite because a bearded man sipping wine at a bar reading a New York Times does not generally fit the profile of a Tea Party member.

He was oblivious, I guess, a missionary prepared to change the world and he might as well begin with me. He ranted on about health care. I received tremendous insight from the other side of our nation's cultural divide. When he came to what he cited as 36 million uninsured Americans, he said as though he carried the bank account of a Bill Gates: "I don't want to pay for them with my money." I said, "You strike me as a generous man. If you could help 36 million people receive medical care, why would you turn your back?" He said they were all trying to cheat the system. He would explain further but unfortunately had to catch his flight.

I guess Americans have personalized their tax payments. We have always had a curious relationship with taxes, I guess from the Boston Tea Party on. It's in our DNA, and by 1978 Californians had amended their state constitution with Proposition 13, limiting their real estate tax to 1% of its cash value. This netted a 57% loss in revenues by the state, ignited the tax revolt across the country, and ushered in Ronald Reagan as president in 1980. Following George Bush's program of No Rich Person Left Behind, we find ourselves today in a bit of a mess because We The People still want services.

Math was never our strong suit. And those politicians who understand the simple equation that reduced revenues cannot pay for beginning wars and ending poverty find that the word "tax" is more disgraceful than Tourettes-like outbursts that inappropriately scream "liar" or "baby killer."

Desperate for revenues to fill empty state coffers, unable to raise taxes in conventional ways because that seemingly brings us closer to socialism and we don't want our hard-earned money to pay for those bums, states are now forced to tax unconventional things which makes me want to protest. The next items to be taxed are love, death, and humor. Here's the menu of potential new taxes from around the country: Taxing dating services; taxing funeral and death care services; and the most outrageous which will drive even me into the Tea Party: a tax on entertainment performed by comedians, jugglers, and clowns. NO...NOT CLOWNS!!!! Is nothing sacred?

Ladies and gentlemen, it's time to stop and pause and reflect. Where have we evolved to as a nation? Humor may be the only thing we have left to save us. Those European socialists will really laugh at us now, as America pays for human and social services with pratfalls and punch lines. TRG

Endowment Fund News

Generous contributions have been received:

In memory of
Bill Brown
from Janet Minden

To honor the 90th Birthday of
Bob Kron
from Andrea Globokar



What's On Our Plate for April 18th?

Social Justice

Bad Dog Rediscovered America

Bad Dog Rediscovered America is an art-mentoring program which utilizes experienced artists/mentors to work with Salt Lake youth from ages 5-19, many of whom come from low income families and single parent households. The program's mission is to help young people develop their imaginations and to encourage them to strive for excellence in all facets of their lives.

Bad Dog has four main arts education programs, and our focus this month is on their Community Outreach program which targets refugee and immigrant students at the Hartland Complex. Over 75% of the Hartland youth are nonnative English speakers who come from all over the world. In addition to language difficulties they also struggle to assimilate to

our culture while still retaining their own. Bad Dog provides a communication outlet for these young people who cannot express themselves through traditional language skills.

Currently Bad Dog provides a 90 minute art session once a week at the Hartland Complex. Their allotted space is very limited and, consequently, all ages must be accommodated at the same time. Funding from our church would provide for a second session to be held each week and thereby facilitate having younger and older students on separate days. Art supplies and snacks are needed as well as additional personnel. Your generous support will have a great impact on these young people.

Request to the Congregation

Nominating Committee

Dear Church Members:

At our annual Congregational Meeting in May, the Nominating Committee will present three members of the congregation to fill positions on the Board of Trustees being vacated by Joan Gregory, James Griner and Clea Major. We ask that you submit the name of any member you wish to recommend to the committee for our consideration, and include a short paragraph describing the reasons for your recommendation. All recommendations will be confiden-

tial, and shared only with members of the committee. All submissions should be received by April 10th. Send them by email to: robertlindsley7@gmail.com or deliver them to Jenni or Hal at the church.

Sincerely,

Bob Lindsley
Nominating Committee

Letter of Thanks to First Church

An excerpt from a letter from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee:

Dear Friends,

Please thank the members of your congregation for supporting the work of the Unitarian Universalist Serve Committee with the UUSC/UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund \$1,924.00, which we received on February 5, 2010.

You can learn more about our work, our courageous program partners, and ways you can become involved in the struggle for human rights at www.uusc.org.

Thank you again for your generous contribution to our work promoting human rights and social justice. Your support will make a real difference in the lives of people in the United States and around the world.



Religious Education - News for the Village

RE Newsbits

March Children's Worship



The incomparable Barbara Kreek gave a wonderful presentation on folk instruments from around the world for our Children's Worship Service on Sunday, March 21st. Not only did the children have an opportunity to see and play instruments from every continent (which was a whole lot of fun!) but also they learned about music as a cultural universal and about the 6th UU principle affirming the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. We would like to warmly thank Barbara for sharing her time, talents, and collection with us!

Stewardship Sunday



In conjunction with our church pledge drive, the religious education program focused on the theme of stewardship of our church for our Social Justice Sunday service projects on March 28th. The goal of this program is to help the children and youth learn that stewardship means taking care of something we value and enabling it to thrive and grow. Our

young people worked hard to do a playground/garden clean up, to create bulletin board displays in the RE wing, to sort and box donated food for delivery to Crossroads Urban Center, and to move everything out of the upstairs RE classrooms in preparation for carpet installation. At the end of a hard day's work, we shared a wonderful snack time outside on a beautiful spring day. Thanks for all of your help kids!



Family Bees Day!

Save this date: May 16th is a family outing to a Salt Lake Bees game after church! Tickets will be sold at the Religious Education table in Elliott Hall in the coming weeks as a fundraiser for the Coming of Age Jr. high school Boston Trip.

Coming Up in RE

Schedule for Upcoming Sundays

April 4 - Easter Sunday: Annual Egg Hunt

April 11 - Classroom Sunday/COA Mentor Sunday

April 18 - Worship Sunday

March 28 - Social Justice Sunday - Environmental Ministry



Potluck and Game Night for All Ages



On the first day of spring, UUs from the very small to the very tall gathered to play board games and card games and eat delicious food at First Church for our Intergenerational Party. You can always tell it's a UU potluck because there are vegan, gluten free, free range, local, organic appetizers alongside the classic casserole! I learned how to play a Pokemon board game with some of the 3rd grade boys. It's actually a very complex game with battles and item cards and the like. My favorite part of the evening was the spontaneous

play the youth put on for the adults, directed by our own Julie Lielehr, a young adult new to our congregation. If you missed this event, make sure you don't miss the next one. We had a lot of fun and it was spiritually satisfying to get to connect with people in my community over more than just a quick cup of coffee. Our next Intergenerational Potluck and Party will be on Saturday, May 15th. It promises to be fun for all ages. Save the date!

-submitted by Jennica Davis

Update from the DRE Search Committee

We have received resumes for the DRE job posting and have reviewed them all. We anticipate moving on to our next level of selection after the April 15th response deadline. Our hope is to be able to interview the final candidates at the end

of April and have our decision made by early May. We would love to have our final candidate attend a service before the end of the church year.

-submitted by Allison Zafiratos



RE Contact Info

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Environmental Program with Special Guest, Søren Simonsen



Planning Challenges for 21st Century Salt Lake City

Environmental Ministry Lecture/Discussion features Søren Simonsen, Salt Lake City Councilman, addressing *Planning Chal-*

lenges for 21st Century Salt Lake City on Friday, April 16, 2010, 7-8:30 PM, Eliot Hall.

Søren's work as a regional and national leader in the sustainable planning field has focused on building partnerships. He has worked extensively—both locally and nationally—on advocacy with elected officials. State and local government leaders often claim to work for the benefit of citizens, but frequently lack the clarity of foresight and attention to detail to create lasting benefits. As an elected official, Søren sees a need for stronger coalitions of sustainable planning advocates. He has worked to improve the tools and resources to educate the public and our public servants through research, education and professional assistance over the past two decades. We are making progress as a community, but need the political will to do even better. Too often we have good intentions but fall considerably short of real progress in the execution. Our future depends on us.

The following comments from Søren will give you a flavor of the conversation we will have as part of this program:

"The 21st century is the 'Century of Cities.' According to 2000 census data a majority of the world population is now living in cities rather than rural areas, and population projections suggest that more people will be born between 2000 and 2100 than have lived in all of previous hu-

man history combined. With cities and towns of not much more than a century and a half in age, Utah is still a relatively new and untapped region with abundant land and natural resources. It is attracting new population in record numbers. Utah has one of the highest rates of population growth in the US, and the highest rate by far among states due to natural increase."

"As cities in Utah and the western United States expand rapidly, and as cities increase in complexity of systems—energy, transportation, water and waste—the need for sustainable planning becomes ever more apparent and important. Well-planned communities are self-evident, and all around us we see the need for our concerted work. As we look forward, the future will not only require our best individual efforts but also the increased leveraging of partnerships. I am reminded constantly of the great opportunity and responsibility we share as stewards of both the built and natural environment. The future is in our hands."

"This conversation will allow us to consider how cities are changing in the 21st century, what we know about impacts of human activity, lessons we've learned over the past two centuries of industrialization, and where our future efforts must focus. We will specifically talk about planning in Salt Lake City, what progressive policies we have adopted, and where we continue to fall short on implementation. We will focus specifically about the proposed Northwest Quadrant Master Plan, a proposal for "smart growth" that incorporates many positive strategies for building a low impact community, but in a location that will potentially destroy the last remaining large productive agricultural land in the Salt Lake Valley. The proposal may

Continued on next page



Environmental Ministry Program (continued from page 6)

solve some environmental concerns concerning the cleanup and mitigation of an environmentally contaminated former landfill, while also creating a whole host of new and potentially devastating environmental considerations—air quality, re-portioning of financial resources into 'greenfield' development and the loss of opportunity for infill and revitalization of our current urbanized areas, environmental impact to wildlife habitat, cost impacts, water and energy impacts—in one of the most significant wildlife habitats in the western hemisphere. Do two wrongs make a right?"

"This program will focus on grassroots advocacy

at one of our most important and pivotal times in the history of our city. I look forward to the opportunity to share a conversation about the past, present and future of Salt Lake City, and how we can work together to make this the city we can all live with—for us and for our future generations."

Join the Environmental Ministry and Salt Lake City Councilman Søren Simonsen as we focus on planning challenges for 21st century Salt Lake City on Friday April 16th at 7 PM in Elliott Hall.

*-submitted by Michael Mielke
Environmental Ministry*

Spring Cleaning Triple R

Environmental Ministry



Spring Cleaning Triple R: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Saturday, April 10, 2010 ~ 10 am – 2 pm Eliot Hall

Purpose: Share what we have with each other, our neighboring community, families being resettled in Salt Lake City by the International Rescue Committee, and with the People with AIDS Coali-

tion of Utah (PWACU).

How this works:

- bring what you don't need (working items only) & put them on a table;
- take what you need from what others have brought;
- no money is exchanged;
- bring only what you don't need, take only what you do need;
- what is not taken will be donated to the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and to the People with AIDS Coalition of Utah (PWACU) Alternative Thrift Store;
- the church does not have space to store donations before the swap, if you are not able to bring items on the day of the swap, consider asking a member, a friend, or a neighbor to drop items off during the swap hours.

*-submitted by Joan M. Gregory
Environmental Ministry*



Congregational Briefs

Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on May 23 following Sunday Services.

Art Festival Sign Up Now

The First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City Art Festival is near. Mark your calendars for this annual event to be held Saturday April 17th at 6:00 pm. There will be music, poetry, dance, and art. Hope to see you all there when for a magical time our church is transformed into a gallery of color. **Artist please sign up after service in Eliot Hall. Space is limited.** Sign-up sheets and schedule are also available from church website (<http://www.slucu.org/files/sign-up.pdf>, and <http://www.slucu.org/files/Art%20fair%20rules%20and%20schedule.pdf>).

Scottish/English Country Dancing

Sunday, May 2, 2010 from 12:30 – 3:00 PM in Eliot Hall. This is a Fund Raiser in support of the First Unitarian Choir Trip to New York to Sing at Carnegie Hall. Scottish, English, and Welsh Country Dances will be taught by Martha Veranth. Includes a light lunch with Scottish Shortbread for dessert. \$2 for kids 12 and under (prepaid) or \$3 at the door. \$5 for adults (prepaid) or \$10 at the door. Ticket sales will begin in April on Easter Sunday. Contact Cami Collett for Details and how to pur-

chase tickets in advance: ccollett@pol.net or phone 801-278-8518

Circle Suppers

Circle suppers are social events hosted by anyone who would like to volunteer. The host may choose the date, time, number of guests, and an optional theme for their event. They can be enjoyed by anyone – you do not have to be a member of the church to attend. 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. Anyone wishing to host a circle supper, please contact Tom or Kate Price at 801-883-9574 or e-mail kateprice@cybermesa.com.

MDD Conference October 8-10, 2010

If you enjoyed General Assembly in SLC this past summer, you can relive the fun and magic of playing, working and worshipping with your fellow UU's this Fall. The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ogden is hosting our Mountain Desert District Conference October 8-10, 2010.

The call has gone out for volunteers, workshop presenters, and conference participants. If you have time and/or talent to offer for this event, please contact Christine Ashworth @ cash@xmission.com or (801)589-1919.

First Unitarian Church is invited to South Valley UU's Art Carnival on Saturday, April 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at SVUU (6876 South Highland Drive). This is a community event with food, entertainment, and hand-crafted items. Please see the community bulletin board in Eliot Hall for more details.



From the March 21st Lay Service "The Paradox of Equinox" . Photos submitted by Ann Petersen. For more photos of this service, please see the photo album on First Unitarian Church's Facebook page.



April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
4 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 10)	5	6	7 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	8	9 Food Co-op orders due (see below) Coffee House 6 p.m.	10 Spring Triple R 10 -2 (pg. 7) Board Nomination Deadline (pg. 3)
11 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 10)	12 Torch Submissions Due 9 a.m. Board of Trustees Meeting Room 201 7 pm	13 RE Council Meeting 7 p.m.	14 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	15 Open Minds Book Group 7 p.m. (pg. 10)	16 Environmental Ministry program with Søren Simonsen 7 p.m. (pg. 6)	17 Arts and Crafts Fair (pg. 8)
18 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 10) WOOP Sunday Arts and Crafts Fair (pg. 8)	19	20	21 Salvation Army Sandwich making 4:30 p.m. in Kitchen Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	22	23 Coffee House 6 p.m.	24 Food Co-op pick up (see below) Contra Dance 6 p.m.
25 Sunday Services 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (pg. 10)	26 Torch Submissions Due 9 a.m. Mission Trip kick-off party and fundraiser (pg.1)	27	28 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	29	30	May 1 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.

- April 4: **Café Med** 420 East 3300 South
- April 11: **Olive Garden** 2272 South 1300 East
- April 18: **The Dodo** 1355 East 2100 South
- April 25: **Z'tejas** 191 South Rio Grande Street

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 April shares by April 9th for pick-up on April 24th 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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Sunday Services

Sunday, April 4th - Easter Sunday

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"Unpacking the Message"

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Sunday, April 11th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"A Unitarian Perspective on Joseph Smith"

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Sunday, April 18th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"Our ValUUs"

-First Unitarian Church's Board of Trustees

Open Minds Book Group: Next meeting is Thursday, April 15, 7 p.m. in the Parlor. We will discuss the non-fiction work **Neither Wolf Nor Dog** by Kent Nerburn. This book is available in paperback at bookstores, on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), and in the city library system. All are welcome.