

The Torch

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 22

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SALT LAKE CITY

JUNE 1, 2015

Summer Forum 2015

-submitted by Harold Straughn

A diverse and exciting new lineup of speakers awaits you for ten Sundays from June 21 through August 23. Programs begin at 10 a.m., and feature music and Q&A sessions. Conversations and refreshments continue in Eliot Hall. Child care is provided.

June 21

"How Progressive Institutions Can Grow"

-Jack Newell, Ph.D., president emeritus of Deep Springs College and professor emeritus of educational leadership and policy, University of Utah

June 28

"A Path with Heart: Mindfulness in Buddhism and Unitarianism"

-Shirley Ray, meditation director and leader of the new UU Buddhist Fellowship Sangha at First Church

July 5

"Was the Bard a Feminist? The Women in Shakespeare's Plays"

-Mark Matheson, Ph.D., professor of English and director of the MUSE (My U Signature Experience) Program at the U of U

July 12

"Obamacare in Utah: How Much Will We Get That We are Already Paying For?"

-Jason Stevenson, Education and Communications Director

RyLee Curtis, Medicaid Policy Analyst for the Utah Health Policy Project

July 19

"Lessons in Sustainable Living from Uganda"

-Kim Koeven, recently returned Peace Corps Volunteer



July 26

"My Life with James Dudley Barker - Before and After He Was Killed By Police"

-Heidi Keilbaugh

August 2

"Experiencing Excommunication, LDS Style"

-John Dehlin, founder of the Mormon Stories podcast and creator of several Mormon-themed blogs and websites

August 9

"Gender Roles in Cuba: Two Participants Report on the International Women's Conference in Havana"

-Summer Smith and Joanna Straughn

August 16

"Emotional Intelligence and Transformational Leadership"

-Rev. Harold Straughn

August 23

"The Fight for Our Children's Right to Breathe"

-Ingrid Griffiee, executive director, Utah Moms for Clean Air

The Torch

First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City

Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Minister, minister@slcuu.org

Mary Kroener-Ekstrand

Director of Religious Education,
dre@slcuu.org

David Owens

Director of Music, music@slcuu.org

Hal Gonzales

Church Administrator, admin@slcuu.org

Board of Trustees

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The Torch is published approximately 23 times per year, every other week during the regular church year & once per month during the summer.

Next Publication Date

June 22, 2015

Submission Deadline

June 15, 2015 (Monday)

by 10:00 a.m.

Events to be listed should occur after June 22nd to ensure timeliness.

Editor

Jennifer Killpack-Knutsen

torch@slcuu.org

To subscribe/unsubscribe, notify Jennifer at 801-582-8687 ext. 202 or torch@slcuu.org

Congregational Briefs

Art (and more) Wanted

The Refugee Resettlement Committee (RRC) needs framed wall art, new or like-new table cloths, place mats, twin sheets, and towels (inexpensively purchased at Big Lots). These enhancements make refugee apartments feel and look like home. Other helpful items are food-storage containers, mixing bowls, baking dishes, serving dishes and trays. The RRC's most pressing needs are highlighted on the RRC Bulletin Board in Eliot Hall as "The Item of the Month." Your generous donations may be brought to church and placed in the Little Chapel behind the east wall.

Communicate, communicate, communicate!

That is the core of policy governance - communication. So, take this opportunity to heap your praises, voice your grumbles, and share your thoughts about church life. Your board of trustees considers each and every response in planning for the future! The 1st U congregational survey can be accessed through the link on an all-church email distributed May 12, at www.surveymonkey.com/r/1stUU2015, on the church website - www.slcuu.org, and paper copies will be available in Eliot Hall after services the next few weeks.

Celebration of Service

Your board of trustees honored the dedication and hard work of church leaders with a party Saturday May 9. We shared delicious food and inspiring stories of the diverse and amazing activities ongoing throughout the church year. Thank you so much to all of you who give time and energy in service to our faith community!

Mindfulness Meditation

Mindfulness Meditation in the Haven 2:00 pm for June 18 and July 8 and 23. Guided Meditation: Intention and Attention, followed by walking meditation.

What does First Church have in common with the Marine Corps?

Both are seeking a few good men and women to serve. Facilitating a monthly discussion group is an opportunity to serve our congregation. So far, 12 have answered the call to be a facilitator in Small Group Ministry from October to May. Two more are needed. The job is rewarding and it requires only four hours a month. Please step up! An e-mail to John Rasmuson, njras@hotmail.com, is all it takes.

Reverendly Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



The hint of summer is in the air and around the church. The Annual Congregational Meeting is past, we're now on the summer worship schedule of one service at 10:00 a.m., the staff is discussing vacation plans, and General

Assembly in Portland is almost upon us. It also marks a fine time for reflection.

We've completed a good year, in fact a couple of them, but what does "good" mean in terms of church? We can measure that perhaps numerically with 92 new families making a financial commitment (pledge) to the church these past two years. We can measure "good" perhaps by the decibel level at coffee hour and church events where volumes of joyous tones lift the gathering. A new spirit has wrapped its arms around our church community where we support one another more fully. We have had many successful lay services this year with good attendance, unlike in previous years. Our congregation shows up for Youth Sunday when our high school population delivers the worship service. And we put up with all their fundraisers knowing and trusting that their ventures away from Salt Lake City in the duty of performing social services has value for them and for the church as a whole.

We have completed two years of Family Fun Night where monthly dinners for families with young children have built new and strong friendships. And then there's the music program. I simply cannot imagine a more professional level of commitment. The original music composed for Celebration Sunday with Carolyn McDade, the performance of the Rutter Requiem, the polish of each Sunday morning's music offering reflects the interplay between musical gifts and an appreciative congregation. We're at the point where we

don't even know which is responsible for the other. The support of the congregation and our music performances feed each other. And then a certain spice is added, a bit risqué, but when you have the backing of the congregation everything is possible, even a cabaret which was held over for six additional performances.

When all the wheels are turning in sync, good things fall into place. After a few years transitioning to policy governance, the Board has grown stronger in identifying its role to establish ends (goals) to further enhance the qualitative life of our church community. The Caring Committee receives greater resources of people who want to help. Volunteerism in general is getting stronger: Many new faces have joined the Auction Committee and a willingness to pitch in and help has received a vital boost.

It's helpful to pause and look back at a "good" year before peeking into the next. By mid-August Matthew Cockrum will be serving as our consulting minister for Congregational Life. Julie Miller will head up the Religious Education program for our kids. And come October, the World Parliament of Religions will hold its convention in Salt Lake City. What are the odds of that? I am delighted to report that I'll be participating in two programs: one with the UUA and Tim DeChristopher on environmental activism, and apparently I will do a workshop with the Jazz Vespers Quartet on Jazz and Spirituality. Although the proposal was accepted initially, I still need for the Parliament to confirm their ability to accommodate performance space.

It seems we're always looking ahead. But it feels invaluable to pause long enough to fully appreciate where we've been and where we are now after a really "good" year. TRG

Religious Education

Schedule for Upcoming Sundays

Sunday May 31, One Service at 10 am

The childcare room will be staffed and we will have crafts and games on the playground for older kids during the service. Parent or teen volunteers welcome to help!

Sunday June 7, One Service at 8:30 am followed by the Pride Parade

We will offer childcare, a rainbow craft activity, and supervised playground for elementary kids, then all are welcome to join the First Church group to march in or just watch the Salt Lake City Pride Parade, which begins at 10 am. For Parade route and other details, go to www.utahpridefestival.org/parade/parade-route.

Sunday June 14, One Service at 10 am followed by Church Picnic at Sugarhouse park

The childcare room will be staffed and we will have crafts and games on the playground for older kids during the service. Parent and teen volunteers welcome to help.

RE Teachers Needed

Next year will bring some exciting changes to the RE program, with our new structure and new personnel. We are gearing up to put things in place for the fall. Although there will be some new aspects to the program, we will still be grateful for the assistance of teachers at both the elementary and the upper grade levels. If you are interested in either continuing to teach or have been thinking about it and would like more information, please contact Nancy Moos at reassist@slcuu.org for more information. We can't run this valuable programs without your help!

Our Auction is Happening November 14th

-submitted by Julia Rossi

November 14th is the date of our 2015 Church Auction

It's never too early to begin thinking about how you can contribute to this important church fundraiser. Consider hosting an event such as a dinner, a performance or an outing. Perhaps you have a special talent to share with others. Donate a vacation opportunity by offering a cabin or a timeshare. Example donations:

- Host a breakfast, lunch or dinner with an interesting guest speaker
- Plan a hike and provide a picnic to your favorite mountain vista
- Lead a birding expedition
- Host a wine tasting

- Put on a play or show (think this year's wildly popular Cabaret!)
- Have a Book Night with a local author
- Prepare a specialty dinner (Italian, Chinese, German, Southern)
- Lead a guided museum tour

The auction committee is seeking new and creative experiences for this year's auction. If you have questions or want additional information, please get in touch with Jan Crane, 801-870-1222, joyfulheartjan@gmail.com.

November will be here before we know it!

Spring Highway Cleanup

-submitted by Frank Steffey



Many thanks to the following 8 volunteers who cleared a considerable amount of litter from SR-65 on a less than balmy May 16th: Nancy & John Rasmuson, Joe DuBray, Jim Coffey, Craig Goodrich, Helen Stanhope, and Vickie & Frank



Steffey. The hard-core award is shared by Nancy and John Rasmuson for tackling the toughest section at the overpass. Craig Goodrich walks away with the rookie award and, hopefully, has not been discouraged from participating in future UU activities. Sadly, no treasures were found this time around. This could be YOU when we do our next cleanup in early October.

Environmental Ministry News

-submitted by Joan M. Gregory

The Ocean Gyres ... Plastics in the Ocean
Presentation, Discussion, and Potluck
Fri, Jun 5, 2015, 6:30-8:30PM Eliot Hall

Come be part of the formation of a Plastic Free Community, not an organization, but an idea just now birthing. We invite you to come and share a potluck meal with us, to help us teach each other about the problems of plastics pollution in our lives, and most importantly, to help us create solutions to them. We will learn more about Plastics in the Ocean – the 5 (yes, 5) plastic gyres and what we can do about them.

Without even thinking, without ill intent, we are, most of us, complicit in our everyday lives with terrible pollution and terrible suffering, both human and animal. Standing alone,

none of us can truly stop adding to plastics pollution. But together we can help each other find practical and affordable ways to stop the trashing of our rivers and seas with plastic garbage, while we also stop our inadvertent continuing financial support of BIG OIL.

We can do this while enjoying a meal together. We'll supply the bread and butter if you'll bring a dish to share with five or more people, plus your own serviceware. Please bring your own drink.

Also, please do your best to bring your food in non-disposable containers, if at all possible. But know that you are welcome, whether or not your container is non-disposable. We look forward to seeing you.

Summer Torch Dates

Issue	Submissions Due	Publication Date
Volume 57, Issue 23	June 15th (Monday) at 10 a.m.	June 22, 2015
Volume 58, Issue 1	July 15th (Wednesday) at 10 a.m.	July 20, 2015
Volume 58, Issue 2	August 10th (Monday) at 10 a.m.	August 17, 2015
Volume 58, Issue 3	August 24th (Monday) at 10 a.m.	August 31, 2015

2015 UU Inter-Congregational Camping Trip

-submitted by Bill Reed

SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE so register, pay, and mark your calendars now. Church Summer Campout Online registration and payment is available now at <http://www.slccu.org/component/rsform/form/6-intermountain-unitarian-universalist-camping-trip>.

- Where: Wolf Creek Campground group site #1.
- When: Thursday, July 23, 2015 – Sunday, July 26, 2015 (3 nights).
- Check-In Time: 2:00 PM
- Check-Out Time: 1:00 PM
- How Much: \$30 per car for the 3-day weekend. Price is \$30 regardless of number of days you plan on staying. Please Carpool if possible (up to 6 people per car). Cost is per car because of limited parking.
- INFO: Wolf Creek Campground is in the Unita & Wasatch-Cache National Forest at

an elevation of 9,400 feet in stands of aspen and fir trees. It is a Nonelectric campground. An amphitheater sits above Site 1 and has a cement stage, wood benches and a campfire circle. The 3.5-mile Trail Hollow Trail begins in the campground and offers great hiking and mountain biking into the West Fork of the Duchesne, offering unparalleled views of the surrounding Wasatch Range. Colorful summer wildflowers fill the mountain meadows on the summit and wildlife is abundant in the area. All ages are welcome.

- Bring your own camping gear and food. Bring something to share at a potluck supper on Friday evening. There will be loosely organized fun, including crafts and activities for kids.

Helping Hands Welcome - Church Picnic June 14th

The annual end-of-year picnic is almost here. This event is fun for all ages, and we hope that you are planning to attend. If you would like to be part of the team that makes it all happen, please contact Joe at jherring5@gmail.com or 801-440-5521. We need some extra hands to assist with set up, grill tending and other food service tasks, planning and running some simple games, and of course, clean up.



Church Picnic 2013

Annual Church Picnic Details

When: Sunday, June 14th at 11:30, following our 10 am service

Where: We have reserved our usual spot - the Mt. Olympus Pavilion at Sugarhouse Park.

What to bring: Please bring a salad or dessert to share with everyone, and if possible, bring your own nondisposable dishes and utensils so that we can limit the recycling and refuse that we generate. Please label vegetarian, vegan, nut free, and gluten free options clearly to help those with particular food allergies, sensitivities, and preferences enjoy our community event. We will be providing beef burgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers, as well as drinks, condiments, and chips.

How much?: Cost is \$5.00 per person, \$3.00 for children payable at the park (checks made out to First Unitarian Church or exact change if paying in cash would be much appreciated).

June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 One Sunday Service only at 10:00 a.m.	1	2	3 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	4	5	6
7 One Sunday Service only at 8:30 am followed by Pride Parade (see pg. 8 for more info)	8 Board Meeting 5:30 pm	9	10 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	11	12	13
14 One Sunday Service only at 10:00 a.m. followed by the church picnic at Sugarhouse Park (pg. 6)	15 Torch Submissions Due 10 am	16	17	18 Meditation 2pm (pg. 2)	19	20
21 Summer Forum begins 10:00 a.m. (see pg. 1 for schedule)	22	23	24	25	26	27

Sunday Services

May 31st

One Service only at 10:00 a.m.
"Dealing with Assholes"
-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

June 7th

One Service only at 8:30 a.m.
"Time and Enlightenment"
-Rev. Tom Goldsmith
This is a special service held at 8:30 a.m. By 9:15 we will proceed in joining the Pride Parade.

June 14th

One Service only at 10:00 a.m.
"Happiness"
-Rev. Tom Goldsmith
Followed by our annual picnic at Sugarhouse Park.

First Unitarian Church
569 South 1300 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

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Return Service
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March with First UU in the Pride Parade!

Pride 2015 is almost here. The annual Pride Parade is Sunday, June 7, 2015 at 10am. As a congregation, we have an entry in the parade again this year. We will be walking and singing dressed in our 'Standing on the Side of Love' t-shirts. The theme for this year's Pride is "Pride is ____". This year we have many things to celebrate, especially marriage equality and the passing of the anti-discrimination bill during the legislative session. Please come and celebrate with us as we march as Unitarians, proudly showing our support and love for the community. We will meet at 400 E and 400 S by 9:30am to line up for the parade. If you have any questions, please contact socialjustice@slcuu.org.



First Unitarian Church nurtures and challenges the spiritual and intellectual journey for all generations and actively engages in building a progressive and just world.