

The Torch

Volume 50, Issue 1

July 23, 2007

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YRUU Mission Trip 2007

This year's Mission Trip to the Hopi Nation was an incredible experience for the 23 youth and 7 adults who represented our church in service. The Setalla family welcomed us onto their land and into their home. Mother Pauline Setalla, in her 80's, is suffering from diabetes, and receives dialysis three times a week. She still managed to cook for our tribe, and offer stories and hugs to anyone who was near. Her husband, Justin, oversaw jobs from mixing mortar for walls, to erecting shade structures. Our group worked on various jobs, repairing a kitchen wall, rebuilding a portion of an outer wall, and reestablishing a well, among other things.



Of all of these things, it was the well that made the difference for our hosts, and for our group. In the short time of being on the Setalla's land, our group completed work on a well which was the life-blood of this small Hopi farm for many years. It had been laying dormant and mud filled for the past few years, and was completely unusable. Our industrious troop took it upon themselves to not only clean, but repair the well. The results were amazing, and completely astounded not only the Setalla family, but other elders of the tribe as well. In the Hopi desert, a well means life.

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A Perspective on Supporting Our Church

Many people seem to believe a small variation on the old adage "nothing is free." It goes like this; "nothing is free . . . except maybe church." Well, yes and no. It doesn't cost anything to walk in the doors, to enjoy the music, to listen to the inspiring sermons or to mingle with fellow liberals. But it does cost a lot to offer what is offered. Our church has a budget that includes a lot of unglamorous but necessary expenses like repairs, utilities and postage. It includes salaries, benefits for employees, sheet music, hymnals, and dish soap to wash the coffee

cup. It all adds up. So, as someone who thinks a lot about the fiscal needs of the church, here is my perspective.

The best way to have a dependable budget is to have dependable pledging. I firmly believe that everyone who regularly participates in church should make an annual pledge following the recommended pledging guide based on income. Pledging is extremely important to a church; it's what tuition is to a private school. It won't cover everything but it provides a solid fiscal base. In addition to pledging

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Reverently Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



"Perhaps we can become more conscious of how much we speak and how little we listen."

The weaker sex, the "speaker sex" we mortal males behold,
But though we joke, we wouldn't trade you for a ton of gold.

-Tony Bennett's "Girl Talk" from the 60's.

The punch line to an old joke about why men from Down East (Maine) are so taciturn is because the women talk so much they can't get a word in edge-wise. The stereotype has been shattered, not only in Maine but in the general common impression that women are...well, chatty. Studies just published in the journal *Science*, debunks whatever myth that led us to believe in the overwhelming loquaciousness of women.

After studying the conversational habits of 396 men and women over a six year period, we have conclusive evidence that men and women talk about 16,000 words a day. Women have a slight edge but it's negligible: Women speak 16,215 words daily and men speak 15,669 words daily. So, the guys certainly hold up their end of a chatty society.

I would like to ask researchers if there's a way to count quality words or words that prompt us to think and reflect, or are they only interested in how much we blither. Quality words are naturally too subjective so I think we're stuck with the disturbing notion that at the end of the day, after brushing our teeth and pulling up the covers, we have all delivered 16,000 words. A sermon is usually about 2500 words to put it all into some chaotic context. (Makes you contemplate becoming a Buddhist monk).

Several ideas exist behind the stereotype of women dominating conversations. Since women (at least suspected

until now) are more open to discussing their feelings while men clam up, we infer that women talk more. But apparently men expend a lot of words among themselves talking about sports, NASCAR, and technology. (Or is that just a stereotype as well?)

Another theory has it that once upon a time it was all true, like back in the 50's. Women stayed home with the children and did housework, cooking, and cleaning. When hubby came home, and she was fit to be tied, she let loose with a barrage of words usually interpreted as complaints. Now with women working in careers just as much as men, the talking ratio has evened out. Still, I never met a woman who was content to merely say "yep," "nope" or "fine."

Jacob Trapp, the most famous of our ministers in the church's history, wrote a great little meditation once about language. That language is not merely talking, but that half of all language is listening. The ability to listen is given short shrift. This would be an interesting point for researchers to consider. If we speak 16,000 words a day, how many words do we listen to deeply? Can you count the words we really hear?

What makes conversation an "art," I imagine, is the ability to speak worthwhile words to someone who can listen to them intelligently. And then return the favor without a word count necessarily, just exchanging ideas. Perhaps we can become more conscious of how much we speak and how little we listen. Every one of us can stand to learn from this, regardless of gender. Bring back the art of conversation.

TRG

RE: News for the Village



Mission Trip of 2007

by Dani Jo Ashland

The warm summer breeze sweeps up the sand
and makes it dance through the air like rain
Sand enters my eye and for a moment I cannot
see-tears fall down my face

The dogs are roaming all the open land
Sniffing and licking all our new faces

A tan tall man speaks and welcomes us
I look to the left and see a small peach and
grey rocky house

Then to the right I look out
Out to the trees and dirt

As far as the naked eye can see
I smell the Native American food coming from
the freshly muddled hour

Teens are talking loudly under the hard earned
shade of a tarp

Muddy kids are walking up from the well
laughing and calling out the order of who gets
showers

Complaining about how uncomfortable it is
Adults are walking about making sure every-
one is hydrated and breathing

One sick girl is asleep in the cloth chair
Her nose red and irritated

I make my way down to the well

Excited to get covered in mud
The mud is black and looks inviting

I take off my shoes first my left then the right
Peeling away the sweaty socks off my feet

I walk down 3 stairs and step down
I'm sucked and for a moment I loose my bal-
ance

I try and make my way to a solid ledge

A teenage boy from the reservation tells me
that I'm bleeding

Blood is pouring out of my foot

After I was convinced that I needed medical
attention

I walk up a steep dirt hill

And I sit down on a chair

And my foot got cleaned and then I was told
that I needed stitches

Although I walked away from this magical
place with five stitches

I will remember this experience with lots of
happy thoughts



YRUU Mission Trip 2007 (Continued from pg. 1)

Farms do not have running water or electricity. Justin and Pauline have been relying on a well a half-hour's drive away to provide water for their needs. They were so touched by our group's effort that a special prayer ceremony was held, in which elders travelled from afar to witness the work. What an incredible gift to give our YRUU youth and advisors- that the Hopi people would bless and honor the work that we came down to do, in complete service to them.

I know that each and every person that went on this trip will walk away with memories and lessons to last a lifetime. I also know that they left a priceless memory behind them in the Hopi village: the knowledge that our small Unitarian group was intent on giving to the tribe what the tribe itself valued, and restoring, rather than removing, an important way of life for all.

*-Andrea Kalvesmaki
Youth Advisor*

We will be featuring more of the kids' mission trip experiences in next month's *Torch*.

Summer Activities for UU Families

Summer Cool Mornings UU Playgroup

Thursday mornings, July & August, 9 to 11am.

Schedule:

1st week * Liberty Park (1100 S & 600 E; Meet by NW playground)

2nd week * Sugarhouse Park(1300 E & 2100 S; Meet at the playground by the lake)

3rd week * Tanner Park (2700 E Heritage Way & 2760 S - Close to Parsley's Gultch; Meet in playground-right of baseball diamond in NE Corner)

4th week * Murray Park (5109 S Murray Park Ln, Murray, Utah 84107; Meet at playground across from entrance to outdoor swimming pool)

*Optional 5th week * Hogle Zoo (2600 E Sunnyside Ave, SLC, 84108; Meet at entrance)

Unitarians Hiking Together

At our recent potluck in Fairmont Park, we planned the following schedule of family-friendly hikes. All are

welcome to join us as we get to know each other and discover, rediscover, and explore the natural world around us.

Monday, July 30th 7 pm
Wheeler Farm
Meet at: the big barn

Sunday, August 12, 2 pm
Brighton Twin Falls (Big Cottonwood Canyon)
Meet at: Mt. Majestic Lodge

Monday, August 27, 7 pm
Red Butte Garden - trail surrounding the garden (NOT inside the garden)
Meet at the back (special events) parking lot south of student housing and east of Lot 75 identified on the campus shuttle map: <http://www.parking.utah.edu/shuttles/YellowRoute/YellowRouteMap.pdf>

For more info about either of these activities, please contact Sonia Hult at mountainclub87@yahoo.com or 904-3709.

A Perspective on Supporting Our Church *(Continued from pg 1)*

ing, members can donate to the endowment fund which is there to secure the future of the church. My husband and I named the endowment fund as part of our will.

Finally, pledging, members can donate to the endowment fund which is there is an additional and fun opportunity to donate to the church, it is the annual auction which this year will be on November 2nd. Proceeds from the auction are very important to the baseline budget. Sometimes I hear complaints that the auction isn't like it used to be. Someone says they liked it better when it was in Elliot Hall, when it was a pot luck dinner, when most items went for around \$10. I sympathize with the nostalgia but the purpose of the auction is to raise as much money as possible. Here are ways that you can help make the auction a successful event:

Be a sponsor; sponsors donate money to help us pay for the event itself. If you are interested in sponsoring, please email Cathy Chambless at chamblessut@yahoo.com or call her at 467-2926

Make a donation; Donations will be accepted up

until the week of the event. If you have a donation in mind, email Patti Horton at paohorton@msn.com or call Jackie Menk at 253-9462. Auction items can be anything from a theme basket to a weekend at a vacation home!

Attend the event: Mark your calendar for November 2nd and come wearing your generosity hat. Bring a friend. Bid on lots of items and bid high. Honor those who have generously donated services, gifts, art work, their vacation homes, their talents (many who have generously contributed year after year).

However you give, keep in mind, the pledge committee, the endowment committee and the auction committee all have a common goal: 'to ensure fiscal security for the future of our church.' And that goal, my fellow Unitarians, needs to be a common goal that each of us understands and shares.

-Submitted by Julia Rossi

Sharing the Offering Plate with the Community

For the past several years, UU churches around the country have found a new way to support social justice in their community by sharing the proceeds from Sunday plate offerings with needy local nonprofit organizations. The concept has been very successful – even in those churches that were having difficulty raising pledge money for operating budgets! It also has been a good way to keep members informed about social justice programs in their community in need of both money and volunteers.

In the past, our church has funded a number of specific social justice projects with some or all of our annual auction proceeds. Currently the International Refugee Committee (IRC) Youth Program is the recipient of these funds.

Auction proceeds, however, will now be used to fill gaps in the church's operating budget. It is the right time to find a new way to support social justice causes. To this end, the Social Justice Council proposed – and the Board approved – the sharing of one plate offering a month to a local, non-profit agency, starting in September.

A sub committee of the Social Justice Council will select the first few organizations, while a procedure is put in place for members/friends of the church to submit names for future recipients. Likely criteria will be that the organization is local, non-political, and nonprofit with diverse populations not currently assisted by our church.

-Submitted by Judy Smith, Social Justice Committee

Green Tips from the Environmental Ministry

Green Tips: Coolkeepers

Easy Step: Air conditioning accounts for nearly 30% of power used locally. To lessen the energy demand during peak times, Rocky Mountain Power is offering a \$20 credit to those willing to install a Coolkeeper device on their central air conditioning units. During peak times, this wireless device may receive a signal to turn off the power for short periods of time (~15 minutes). Sign up at <http://coolkeeper.net/>.

Next Step: Consider taking this step at work (<http://coolkeeper.net/index-biz.html>) or for your rental property (<http://coolkeeper.net/index-ten.html>).

Green Tips: Utah Sustainability Calendar

The Utah Sustainability Calendar, developed and administered, as a community service, by Hans G. Ehrbar at the Economics Department, University of Utah, is a great resource for finding out about environmental events happening this summer and throughout the year. Check it out at: <http://gaia.econ.utah.edu/calendar>

- Submitted by Joan Gregory



Endowment Fund News

Gifts have been given in the memory of :

Betty R. Greenhalgh

By: Jack Greenhalgh
Irene Fryer
William and Alice Brown
Cosette Joesten

and to:

Ronald Maves

By: Robert and Mary Collins Jr.

Gifts may be directed to the Endowment Fund as a tribute or a memorial.

The Endowment Fund is invested to increase the value of these gifts which in turn supports the mission and work of our church in perpetuity.

End of the Year Small Group Ministry Potluck



The following SGM members this year met on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. and they were: Christine and Bill Ashworth, Merrie Campbell-Lee, Metta Driscoll, Mindy Hardy, Nancy Howard, Emily Normandeau, Lori Taylor, Craig Vanzante, Kevin Werner, Reed Holt and Rosemary Holt, facilitator.

Potluck was held on June 14th at the home of Reed and Rosemary Holt.

Communications Committee Update

First Church has a Communications Committee and the committee members have a few accomplishments to report and a major project underway this summer!

First the accomplishments:

Torch

The Torch continues to implement design changes to keep the newsletter fresh and easy to read. In upcoming issues, board members will contribute to a new section designed to feature a board member each month and to keep us informed on their work on our behalf.

Order of Service

You may have noticed that the order of service has been reorganized and that announcements are now easier to find and follow.

Announcements

Responding to feedback from the congregation to shorten and focus announcements at the end of services, a sign-up sheet with announcement etiquette has been posted in Elliott Hall where announcers queue up. The goal is to encourage brevity and to only announce items which are new and of immediate (within 2 weeks) interest to the congregation and visitors.

On to the summer project:

SLCUU.org redesign

In June, the congregation approved endowment funds for the redesign of our First Church website.

Over the summer, the committee is busy at work soliciting input from current and former committee chairs, staff and members of the congregation. Interviews with web design companies happened in May and Sylvia Nibley was selected do the initial redesign of SLCUU.org. We welcome input from the congregation and ask that contact any of the committee members (contact info is in your church directory:) Carol Fineagan, Frank Musgrave, Ed Dieringer, Jane Grau, Lee Shuster, John Major, Jenni Killpack-Knutsen, and Sean Fraser

Volunteers Needed in the Fall

The Communications Committee is looking for volunteers interested in ongoing design and updates of the site beginning in the fall, once the new site is launched. As with all websites, ours will be a continual "work in progress." If you have web design skills and can commit to a few hours a month to enhance the website, please contact the First Church office.

The Communications Committee looks forward to working with you to respond to First Church's ever evolving communications needs. Thank you to those who have expressed their need for information and to those who have given us so many great ideas for sharing information. There is no limit to the amount of information we can share with each other. Look for exciting changes and many more ways to learn about First Church and to engage in our vibrant and diverse community!

*-Submitted by Carol Fineagan,
Communications Committee Chair*

Community 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.

For the month of August, **shares must be ordered by Friday, August 17** for pick up on **Saturday, August 25 from 9:30-10:30am in Elliot Hall.**

Order forms are available online at www.foodco-op.org. Place orders by mail -- 347 South 400 East, SLC, UT 84111; phone – (801) 364-7765 x 125; or fax – (801) 364-7228. No orders will be accepted at the Church during the summer. For more information, contact Nancy Lindsley at 583-8566 or RNLIND-SLEY@MSN.COM.

-Submitted by Chriss Meecham

First Unitarian Church Announces:

A NIGHT at the MUSEUM
 celebrating
The Fine Art of Generosity
 and presenting the first annual
 "Fairly Free Thinker Award" to
 Pat Bagley
 Friday, November 2, six p.m.
 Utah Museum of Fine Arts



The Torch calendar shows First Unitarian Church Events Only



July / August 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 22 Summer Forum: 10 a.m. (see pg. 8)	23	24	25 UU Vacation School 1 - 5 p.m.	26 UU Vacation School 1- 5 p.m. UU playgroup (see pg 4)	27	28
29 Summer Forum 10 a.m. (see pg. 8)	30 UU family hike (see pg. 4)	31	August 1	2 UU playgroup (see pg 4) Humanists of Utah 7:30 p.m.	3	4
5 Summer Forum 10:00 a.m. (see pg. 8)	6	7	8	9 UU playgroup (see pg 4) Humanists of Utah 7 p.m.	10	11
12 Summer Forum 10:00 a.m. (see pg. 8) UU family hike (see pg. 4)	13 Deadline for Torch articles noon Board of Trus- tees meeting 7 p.m.	14	15	16 UU playgroup (see pg 4) Humanist Board 7:30 p.m.	17	18
19 Summer Forum 10:00 a.m. (see pg. 8)	20 RE teacher train- ing (K - 1st)	21 RE teacher train- ing (2nd - 5th)	22 RE teacher train- ing (Jr. High)	23 RE teacher train- ing (High School and YRUU)	24	25 Co-op pick up 9:30 - 10:30

The Torch

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Events to be listed should occur after
August 21st to ensure timeliness.

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church office

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Summer Forum

Sunday, July 29

10:00 a.m.

"Thank God for Evolution "

-Rev. Michael Dowd

Sunday, August 5

10:00 a.m.

**"Teaching Ethics in Hard
Times "**

-Prof. Jackson Newell

Sunday, August 12

10:00 a.m.

**"Utah Indians in the 21st
Century "**

-Forrest Cuch

Sunday, August 19

10:00 a.m.

**"Creating Healthy
Communities: Banks and the
Community Reinvestment
Act"**

-Prof. Cal Boardman

Meetings and Events

Over 30 UU Singles Group

- July 29th **Café Trio** (680 S. 900 E. 533-8746)
- August 5th **La Frontera** (Brickyard Plaza, 1250 E. 3300 S. 463-7770)
- August 12th **La Cucina Deli** (1026 2nd Ave, 322-3055)
- August 19th **Anna's Restaurant at Ivy Place** ((4700 S. 900 E. 261-5399)

Meet for lunch around 12:00 during Summer Forum. Be sure to let the restaurant's hostess know you're with the "church" group and to direct newcomers to our tables.

Looking for Local UU Realtors

UU Referral Network has received a request for assistance in Salt Lake City and is seeking local UU realtors. The website is a resource for UU members and friends at www.UURealty.com. Currently they are a network of UU Realtors® and Lenders across the Country that help UU's and their friends when they relocate across town or across the Country.

-Submitted by Barbara Eyler