

The Torch

Volume 50, Number 4

September 17, 2007

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Giving to the Mountain View Community

Once again as the summer heat begins to falter, our church and Mountain View Elementary begin a new cycle of activity. And once again we are hoping to find a number of church members and friends with the time, energy and inclination to volunteer at Mountain View Elementary.

Tutoring is our most important contribution to the students at Mtn. View. Those folk who work with the children in one-on-one or small-group reading or assist a teacher in the classroom come away with a real sense of accomplishment and of making a difference in these children's lives.

As most of us realize, Mtn. View is a Title I school on the west side (near 1300 West and 1300 South) with a student body so diverse that English is the native tongue for fewer than 17% of those who attend. Their years at Mtn. View help to socialize these newcomers as well as to teach them specific, basic skills in language - speaking, reading and writing- arithmetic, sciences and

other studies. All of these skills will enable them to become better, happier and more well-adjusted citizens in the long run which makes the time we contribute not only enjoyable but well worth the effort.

If you'd like to spend an hour or two each week for several months or just jump in whenever you have some free time on the calendar, Grant Esplin, the Volunteer Coordinator, will find a situation to fill your needs and theirs. Any time you can give to helping these students will be time well spent.

To find out more about Mtn View volunteer opportunities call Louise Ewing (485-9871) or Chris Fannesbeck (363-4848) And visit our table at the activity fair on Sept. 23.

Be sure any contribution of time will be much appreciated !!

-Submitted by Louise Ewing

BOARD MEMBERSHIP RESIGNATION

The Board of Trustees would like to thank Frank Musgrave for his leadership and service on the Board. Frank has resigned from his board position effective September 10th. His input on church issues will be missed. The entire congregation is grateful for Frank's deep commitment to First Unitarian Church.

The Rev. Tom Goldsmith with special guests Nancy Green (documentary films on KUED), Dr. Steve Horton and Dr. Cami Collett answer congregants' questions at the "Sicko; Medicine and Spirituality" service on September 2nd.



Reverently Yours

Rev. Tom Goldsmith



“Church has to provide a safe place that awakens the social conscience without dispatching tentacles into purses. “

One of the truly great preachers of the 19th century, Henry Ward Beecher, once said, “Some of God’s noblest sons will be selected from those who know how to take wealth, with all its temptations, and maintain godliness therewith. It is hard to be a saint standing in a golden niche.”

Although not many Unitarians worry a great deal about how hard it might be to become a saint, Unitarian churches are perhaps notorious for helping guide members away from temptation so that money can go to the service of creating a more equitable society. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church said, “Work as hard as you can, to earn as much as you can, to give away as much as you can.” John Wesley might as well be making announcements in Unitarian Churches on a weekly basis. Or so it seems.

Our church, probably like most churches everywhere, walk a tight-rope in appealing for money for saintly causes while not wishing to make church feel like a constant babble of pleading. Worship can easily lose its value when parishioners feel they must pay a tax whenever crossing the threshold into the chapel. Church has to provide a safe place that awakens the social conscience without dispatching tentacles into purses.

Competing interests for money make me as uncomfortable as I am sure it makes you. But I can juggle a few. Let me share with you two areas which I hope you will support and place high on your priority list. The first is our new social justice appeal that will take one collection plate each month and donate the funds to an agency that needs our help. I have learned much already about the many local organizations that can benefit from our giving once a month. Although I make a pledge to the church, I will still contribute generously to the special offering. Our September donation to Head Start at the Hartland Complex provides an excellent example of a great need that I would not have known about were it not for the eyes and ears of our social justice council. The October donation to Womenade (details to follow in subsequent Torch), is another such example of providing an opportunity to give to organizations that generally do not make it on our radar.

I hope our other priority in giving remains the church itself, with the auction coming up soon. The auction has a different context in that our

financial support goes to the institution that makes everything happen on the liberal religious front. It’s a painless contribution because it returns to the donor an evening of rollicking good fun, a scrumptious dinner, fellowship, laughter, and an opportunity to share an evening with one of our favorite celebrities, Pat Bagley. Nonetheless, the auction committee has kept the ticket price to a very modest figure because it is sensitive to the many financial asks as well as wishing to make the exciting event affordable for as many people as possible.

With that said, you can imagine my trepidation in announcing an appeal by the Unitarian Universalist Association for what is called “Association Sunday.” It too has great merit in hoping to reach its \$1million goal. Half of the money raised will go to new marketing techniques to increase membership, a fourth will go to aid minority UU seminarians and the churches that call them, and a fourth will go to the districts to help fund local church initiatives for membership growth. I have decided not to make a church announcement asking for more money, not because I don’t believe in helping the UUA, but I have images of men walking into our church with a hand on their wallets and women tightly clutching their pocketbooks as though they were going through a pack of street urchins in New Delhi.

What to do? I want to appeal to those who have the means to support the UUA through this column. If you want to contribute to getting the word out about Unitarian Universalism and also support minority theological students, please join me in sending a check to our church office with the memo marked “Association Sunday.” Please consider sending your donation or dropping it off in the church office by October 14th. This will be the only announcement. I won’t be very popular along Beacon Street in Boston, but I want to create a safe environment for our congregation. So if you aspire to be a saint by not obsessing about your golden niche, help the UUA. And if you want to give solely to our local church and to social justice in the “What’s On Your Plate” initiative - - you will still be considered a good candidate for God’s noblest sons. TRG

RE: News for the Village



Welcome to our Religious Education teachers for the 2007-2008 church year!

Rayne Kollock	Andi W. and Steve Horvat	Penny Breiman	Becky Breiman	Sally Smith
Kira Kilmer	Christian Dimaano	Kevin Werner	Lori Shields	James Griner
Metta Driscoll	Becky Heal	Nancy & Philip Moos	Stephania & David Wilks	Emily Normandeau
Steven Horton	Steve Grizzell	Sandy Harty	Pam Roskelley Johnson	Kristen Quinn
Jim Harris	Jill Nutting	Suzie Diston	Jim Stitley	Tresa Stitley

Calling all College Students! Come join our campus ministry group!

Below is a schedule of activities and topics we will be exploring throughout the upcoming church year. As you can see, our program is a combination of discussion and activity--talking it up and living it out!

First Saturday of the Month	Conversations that Matter	<i>Dialogs on important and timely issues</i>
Second Saturday of the Month	Spiritual Practices	<i>Investigating different forms of worship</i>
Third Saturday of the Month	Social Justice Projects	<i>Activities that benefit our local community</i>
Fourth Saturday of the Month	Movie/Game Night	<i>Just plain fun</i>

Our first meeting will be September 15th, 5-6:30 pm in the high school room. At this meeting we will discuss our vision, what we would like to accomplish, and our schedule. As always, we will have lots of fun and lots of food. So come hungry and bring your friends!

RE Newsbits

Time to Register

Stop by Religious Education table and register your children and pick up a copy of the 2007-2008 program prospectus.

Where are the High Schoolers???

They've moved over to the north side. The High School Class (Grades 9th-12th) are now meeting in the annex—the house located to the north of the chapel.



Welcoming the RE program at Ingathering Sunday
Photo by Tresa Stitley

First Village Potluck of the year.

Friday, October 19: Halloween Celebration, 6-8 PM. Join us for an evening of spooky, creepy, fun!

Along with your dish to share, bring a pumpkin for carving. There will be a carving contest with prizes for everyone. We will also hear special Halloween stories and play games.



RE Contact Info

LeeAnn Williams, DRE
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LeeAnnslc@yahoo.com

Trisha Schelble, RE assistant
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Congregational Briefs

Children's Choir Resumes

Rehearsals are resuming September 16th for the children's choir under the direction of Marc Pehkonen and David Owens. The children's choir is open to youngsters who can match pitch and stay focused and on task for 35 minutes and are in grades 1st - 6th. Rehearsals are held in room 210 Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m.

Now is the Time!

The Chancel Choir has resumed practice. We meet Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in room 210 of the RE building. All are welcome—just show up. For more information. Please contact David Owens at 295-8938 or 582-8687 ext. 8.

Circle Suppers

CIRCLE SUPPERS: Share dinner with 6-8 members and friends Saturday October 13. Stimulating conversation promised. Host will call with shared food assignments. Sign up on clip board, South exit Eliot Hall. Call Judy Miller 277-6324 or email jmiller1@xmission.com for additional information.

-submitted by Judy Miller

Next Highway Clean Up

Saturday, October 6, will be the day of the next highway cleanup. Twice a year we de-litter a beautiful stretch of highway in the Mountain Dell area. More details in the next *Torch*.

- submitted by Hugh Gillilan

Sound Off - Unitarian Alliance

Sound off at the Unitarian Alliance on Wednesday, October 10th at 12:30 in Eliot Hall. A discussion on current events will be led by Flo Wineriter. There will also be the election of officers and details of plans for the coming year. Dessert and beverages will be served. No reservations are needed, so please come and bring a friend!

- submitted by Adelyn Polevoy

New RE Lifespan Course this fall

The New Atheism & Unitarian Universalism. There has been a proliferation in current popular literature and books on secularism and the dangers of religion. In keeping with this year's theme of understanding Unitarianism, we will read current atheist literature alongside some standard Unitarian texts.

This class asks the question, "Why be a Unitarian Universalist?" Why not just be a secular humanist or join a political party? The class is year-long and requires certain commitment - we will be reading entire books. More details to come. Questions? Contact victor at 718-4212. Sign up for this and other lifespan classes at the activities fair on September 23rd.

-submitted by Victor Gener

YRUU Update

YRUU is off to a great start! All High School age teens are invited Sunday night from 7:00- 8:30 pm at the Annex Building. (Make sure you register with RE, and have your parents sign the form!)

We are also asking parents to volunteer buying/bringing snacks for our group. Popcorn, crackers, snack bars, juices, lemonade mix, hot cocoa mix and tea would be great! Any home-made items weekly are also fantastic. Really, we will eat anything!

Also, this year, we will need parent volunteers who are willing to: Drive to events or chaperone sleep-overs and other events

Please contact Andrea- akalvesmaki@yahoo.com to volunteer your time and talent!

-Submitted by Andrea Kalvesmaki

Environmental Ministry Events

Environmental Ministry First Friday Programs

*Submitted by Michael Mielke and
The Environmental Ministry Team*

The inconvenient *truth* of global warming looms. Breathing is labored as Wasatch Valley dirty air particulate affects our very young and those most vulnerable. Meanwhile, our Utah State Legislature is considering rewriting state law to make it easier to develop nuclear power in Utah. Will we want increasing numbers of coal plants to power our way-of-life? Will we suggest that nuclear energy is right for our air and thereby right-for-Utah?

Environmental Ministry, will present a series of **First Friday Programs** to help you to get involved and be informed. Co-sponsored by Post Carbon Salt Lake, the first program will kick-off on Friday, October 5 from 7-9 pm in Elliot Hall. HEAL Utah (<http://www.healutah.org/>) will present the pros and cons of the *Nuclear-card*.

Then, on November 3, (a Saturday to coincide with the national Step-It-Up No New Coal events), Dr. Brian Moench, from Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment (<http://www.uphe.org/>) will present, followed by an interactive discussion of the *more-Coal-card*.

Get information on these events and more at the Environmental Ministry "Green" Team table after services while you sign up to volunteer your support and receive our Green Team program notifications.

Upcoming Environmental Events of Interest

*Submitted by Joan Gregory and
The Environmental Ministry Team*

The Utah Sustainability Calendar, developed and administered, as a community service, by Hans G. Ehrbar at the Econom-

ics Department, University of Utah, is a great resource for finding out about environmental events. Check it out at: <http://gaia.econ.utah.edu/calendar>. The Environmental Ministry would like to highlight the following upcoming environmental events:

Wednesday, September 19, 2007, 9-10 pm. Help Utah "go dark" for **Lights Off Utah**, a campaign to raise awareness of how simple actions to save energy can make a big difference. Turn off all non-essential lights for one hour to demonstrate the "power" of conservation. Details at: <http://lightsoffamerica.com/>.

Thursday, September 20, 2007, 6:30 pm, Salt Lake City Main Library Auditorium. The Water Wise Utah Partnership (<http://waterwiseutah.org/>) and **Utah Interfaith Power and Light** (<http://www.utahipl.org/>) will launch UtahIPL, an interfaith response to climate change. Free and open to the public. **Greener Buildings, Bluer Skies** will be screened followed by a panel discussion on **Faith and Conservation Connections**. Panelists represent: Congregation Kol Ami, Holladay United Church of Christ, First Unitarian Church, Water Wise Utah, Utah Clean Energy, and Salt Lake Quakers.

Wednesday September 26, 2007, 7:00 pm, Salt Lake City Main Library Auditorium. Great Salt Lakekeeper, Salt Lake City Library, Sam Weller's Bookstore, and KCPW will host a lecture by Akiko Busch, author of "**Nine Ways to Cross a River**." Known for leading community swims across several important American rivers, Ms. Busch will discuss the importance of connecting with our natural rivers and waterways. Free and open to the public. More info: Jeff Salt, 801-485-2550, jeffsalt@greatsaltlakekeeper.org.



First Unitarian Church is proud to be a part of the Salt Lake City Green Program



September/October 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m. (pg 8) Social Justice plate	17	18	19	20	21	22 Food Co-op pick up 9:00 - 10:00* (see below) Campus Ministry 5 p.m. (see pg. 3)
23 Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m. (pg 8) Activities Fair After both services	24	25	26	27	28	29 Campus Ministry 5 p.m. (see pg. 3)
30 Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m. (pg 8)	October 1	2	3	4	5 Environmental Ministry's First Friday 7:00 p.m. (see pg.5)	6 Campus Ministry 5 p.m. (see pg. 3)
7 Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m.	8	9	10 Unitarian Alliance "Sound Off" 12:30 p.m. (see pg. 4)	11	12 Co-op orders due	13 Campus Ministry 5 p.m. (see pg. 3)

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 October, shares must be ordered by Friday, October 12 for pick up on Saturday, October 20 from 9:00-10:00am. **Please note the change of time for pick up.**

Order forms are available online at www.foodco-op.org. Place orders by mail -- 347 South 400 East, SLC, UT 84111; phone – (801)746-7878 .

For more information, contact Nancy Lindsley at 583-8566 or RNLINDSLEY@MSN.COM.



Activities Fair

On Sunday, September 23 after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services we will hold our annual Activities Fair.

This fair is dedicated to ways in which **YOU** may become involved in the life, work, and shared ministries of the First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City. Our Unitarian Universalist congregation comes alive as our members and friends participate in the life of our church community.

Our religious direction is founded on a belief in "congregational polity", which means that our lay leaders, our committee and team members, our volunteers, and all those who participate in our groups, programs and activities, **ALL** help to determine the shape and direction of our congregation.

If you would like a table, please contact: Julie Swaner, jswaner@sa.utah.edu 801-519-9018

Small Group Ministry at First Unitarian Church

We are about to enter our fourth year of small groups, and are fine-tuning the process as experience dictates. Some people want to continue with their same small groups, Others want the chance to meet new people. Brand new people wish to sign up. We hope to accommodate everyone.

For those considering small groups for the first time:

Groups are configured with about 10-12 people who meet once a month for an hour and a half to two hours. Each group has a facilitator, and each facilitator meets with the minister on a monthly basis to get acquainted with the subject matter for that month. The subjects for discussion are designed to provide grist for reflection more than intellectual discourse.

The basic premise is that we all have stories to tell, and the respective stories provide a wonderful entrée to group sharing and forming connections with others on a far deeper level than our customary superficial ways of conversation.

Everyone must fill out a new resgistration form for the 07-08 Small group Ministry. New groups to start in September.

I wish to remain in my small group which meets on _____ (day of the week) at _____ (time). The facilitator is/was _____.

I wish to sign up for a new group. Please circle days and times most convenient for you.

Monday	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Tuesday	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Wednesday	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Saturday	Morning	Afternoon	
Sunday		Afternoon	Evening

I wish to be more geographically centered with a group in (circle one):
 Bountiful Park City Other _____

I would like to be considered as a group facilitator

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Please return or mail this page to the church office. Question? Call Rev. Tom at 582-8687 ext. 2

The Torch

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
OF SALT LAKE CITY

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Sunday Services

Sunday, September 16th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

“The Doors of Perception”

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Sunday, September 23rd

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

“Terrorism and Spirituality”

-Rev. Tom Goldsmith

Sunday, September 30th

9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

“The Strange Wisdom of Song”

-Erin O’Connell and David Owens

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 2nd at 6 p.m.
Utah Museum of Fine Arts