



the SUUNday Focus

January 15, 2012

Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

4340 W Fort Wright Dr
Spokane WA 99224
509.325.6383
www.uuspokane.org

Upcoming Services

Sunday Services at 9:15 & 11 am

- Jan 22** Rev. Paul Benz, Co-Director of the Faith Action Network (FAN)
We are God's Advocates for Justice
- Jan 29** Partner Church Sunday
Praise for the Journey
- Feb 5** Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, Minister *Wars of Word: From Discussion to Dialogue*

Notices & Upcoming Events

Today's Humanist Presentation

Please join our UU Humanist Focus Group at 12:45 pm in the Chapel to hear about a local, "No New Jail" organization from speaker, Breean Beggs.

UUCS at MLK Parade tomorrow!

Monday, Jan 16 at 10 am: Listen to Speaker Rev. Stephen Thurston followed by a group walk to Riverpark Square—meet at the UUCS banner at the old Convention Center across from the INB Performing Arts Center. All are welcome!



Tickets for February 4 Hungarian Dinner

It's time for one of our church's heart-warming winter festivals. The food and events of the evening celebrate our partnership with the Unitarian Church in Felsőrákos, Romania. We will eat an authentic meal, watch a program by the folks who visited there last September, and dance folk dances. Karen Wilson-Bell will lead the dancing for all ages. *We guarantee your feet will be warm on Sat., Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. in the Friendship Hall!*

Adults: \$10. Up to 3 children under 12: \$5. Buy raffle tickets at \$2 each or 3 for \$5 for a chance to win a wool blanket woven near Felsőrákos. All proceeds support the partnership.

Learn About Our New Audio Loop System Today



Today after the 11 am service, Brenda Drake, Owner/President of Audio Loop Solutions, Inc., will be on hand to make a presentation about our new audio loop system. Brenda will also evaluate hearing aids and help people with T-coil aids activate them. Brenda's consultation will be free-of-charge for UUCS members & friends.

Resolved to Getting Your Affairs in Order? Sign Up now for *Getting It Together!* from the AE and Pastoral Care Teams

Whether you are 20 or 70 years old, the Adult Enrichment & Pastoral Care Teams hope to help you with *Getting It Together!* We will be hosting 4 Sunday workshops (1/22 — 2/12) at 12:30-2PM, in the Chapel.

Class goals are to: **Reduce stress** and burdens on your loved ones; **Experience the freedom** of facing your mortality, addressing unfinished business and valuing your days; **Enjoy** the satisfaction of organizing your affairs in a useful manner.

Please register for the workshops in the Friendship Hall the first 2 weeks in Jan.

For more class details, please see the January 2012 SUUN.

Special to the Focus from the SUUN

Due to a series of slip-ups and blunders by yours truly, our music director's article never made it into the January 2012 SUUN. It is submitted here with my apologies to all. Geez ;- 0— Jet Tilley, UUCS Business Administrator

✦ UUCS Musical Notes

Here's hoping all your holidays were bright and that some (or all!) of our many December services added to your feelings of closeness to others at this time of year. The week before Christmas was especially filled with services—our Pageant was on Sunday, December 18th with Solstice Night close on its heels. Then add in Todd's Cosmic Advent service on Christmas Eve AND a Christmas Day service, and you have a veritable smorgasbord set before you! I enjoyed the different perspectives that each service brought... how about you?



January is a big planning month for me after all the holiday bustle and I've been thinking of doing things a little differently this late winter/spring. Many of you have very busy lives and cannot commit to doing music at the church over prolonged periods of time. I'd like to include more of you in the music program, so I've decided to experiment with doing relatively "short shot" commitments (about four weeks) in small groups. We'll do women's and men's ensembles as well as youth/children's choir for the singers AND, with Kelly LaGrutta teaching a percussion/drum class, I'm hoping to use people in that group for a church service or two. So be sure to check the music info in subsequent issues of the SUUN for a group to join! Also, if you have a bright idea or two that would work for Sunday service or music class, please email or call me at the church.

Right now I'm on the lookout for youth and children over age 8 to sing for our Partner Church Dinner on Saturday, February 4th. So PARENTS—please contact me by Monday if your child wants to sing. We start rehearsals early NEXT WEEK! It's a wonderful opportunity for young people to sing in Hungarian and enjoy a great ethnic AND intergenerational atmosphere. Plus, the food is so very good!

Have a merry January — Deb Jacquemin, Your Music Director





✦ **Senior High OWL Classes**

Parent Orientation for our Senior High OWL class will be Sunday, February 5, at 12:30 pm in the Sanger Room. This is just for the parents. The Senior High OWL classes actually begin Sunday, February 12, at 12:30 pm in the Sanger Room. There will be 14 sessions for the youth. Please contact Diane Huigen as soon as possible as space is limited – re@uuspokane.org or 328-3158x306.

✦ **Guest At Your Table Boxes/Checks – 2 Participant Stories**

- ✦ Chuck Smith brought in a heavy, full GAYT box one Sunday and told me he had kept it on his dresser all last year. Each evening he would put any change he had accumulated that day in the box. Thus the full box. Chuck picked up an empty box to start the new year with. Great idea, Chuck! Thank you!
- ✦ Tammey & Eric McMaster and their son, Ewan, age 5, had their GAYT box on the dining room table. One day Ewan brought his piggy bank out to the table. Tammey ask him what he was going to do. Ewan said he wanted to help our community, so he took money from his bank and put it in the box. He did this several times saying the same thing, "I want to help our community." His parents said they would match whatever he put in the box, which ended up being \$17! This story warms my heart! Thank you, Ewan.

Don't think it is too late. Bring your GAYT box to Diane!

✦ **Classroom Donations for SCRAPS**

Herb Bonallo stopped me in the hall one Sunday and gave me some money for the children's donation to SCRAPS. That was so nice of you, Herb! Thank you! Please remember to send your child with some change for their class's offering for SCRAPS. This is the organization all the children in the RE Wing chose to help this year. Thank you!



✦ **Senior High Youth Group**

Meetings are on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm in the Bartok Room. Come join us!

✦ **RE Family Potluck!**

Spend the evening of Saturday, Jan 21 goofing off with other UU families. Starts at 5pm in the Thoreau Room. Bring a game, your kids, and dish to share. Questions? Call Sarajoy at 443-1186 or email her at sarajoyvb@yahoo.com.

Questions about our Religious Education programs and events can be directed to Diane Huigen, Director of Religious Education at re@uuspokane.org or 509-325-6383 x306.



✦ **Mark your Calendar: Saturday, January 28, 2012 from 1-4 pm**

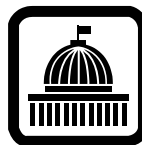
Don't miss the upcoming public speaking and message training for Marriage Equality. Even if you never thought of yourself as the "public speaking" type, this training will give you valuable skills and prepare you to effectively share your story and convince others to support Marriage Equality. Among other things, this training will cover:

- Becoming a spokesperson for a campaign
- What to expect in public forums and debates
- Speaking to groups of supporters, aka "preaching to the choir"
- Talking to the media
- How much of our own stories should we tell vs. using the talking points that poll well
- How to go from energetic activist to engaged leader for a cause you believe in
- Best talking points on Marriage Equality from national polling
- Talking to people you already know
- How your personal story fits in with the larger talking points

Hope to see you there STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE!

✦ **Warm Socks = Warm Feet = Warm Heart**

Thank you so much for bringing in warm socks for St. Margaret's Shelter for Women & Children & the Union Gospel Mission. Warm feet are incredibly important to one's sense of well-being in these cold months. To participate, bring a pair or pairs of new socks to church and put them in our Sock Box located in the Friendship Hall. This Social Justice project will continue through March.



✦ **Faith Action Network 2012 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference**

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012
8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Episcopal Cathedral of St. John
127 E. 12th Ave. - Spokane

The Rev. Paul Benz, Co-Director of Faith Action Network (FAN) and our UUCS guest speaker next Sunday, invites all UUCS members and friends to attend FAN's legislative conference on Saturday. Here are some highlights and details:

- **Keynote**
The Global Economy and Us
Julia K. Stronks, JD, PdD
- **Panel: Economic Justice Statements of Churches**
- **Workshops Sessions**
State Budget and Revenue Issues • Environmental Stewardship
Advocating Congregations • Being a Prophetic Pastor
Interaction with Keynoter & Panelists on Faith and the Economy

For more information, contact Malcolm Haworth - The Fig Tree - (509) 535-4112 OR The Rev. Paul Benz - Faith Action Network (206) 625-9790.

TO RSVP: Send suggested donation of \$20 (scholarships available) to The Fig Tree • 1323 S. Perry St. • Spokane WA 99202