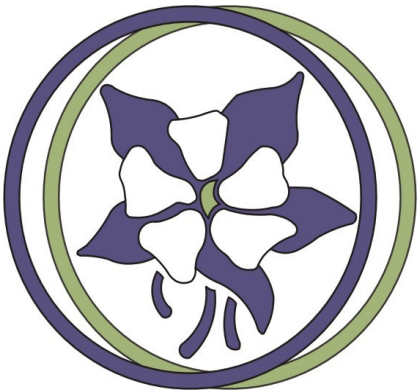


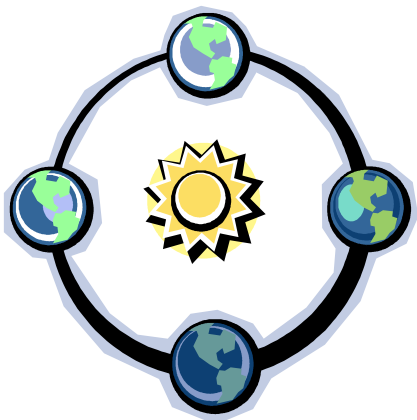
The Columbine Connection

Sunday Programs



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October 4 "A Mission Born of Mystery" Reverend Robert Latham

Here is the negative view. Unitarian Universalism has been languishing for over forty years. Compared to general population growth we are losing membership. Few people know that we exist. What has happened in our religious movement to cause this state of constant diminishment? Why are we moving steadily into the backwash of culture, recognition, and power? Here is the positive view. Unitarian Universalism exists for the same reasons as all religions, whatever they might be. If we were to commit to this mission we could become a powerful force in the shaping of our nation's future. We will look at why we lost this reason for our existence, what it is and what we must do for its reclamation. We will celebrate this awesome responsibility and grand privilege, this act of trust.

Reverends Latham and Coeyman will share leadership of this service. After the service, we will hold our first Worship Forum of the season, 12:15-1:15, led by Reverend Coeyman. All are encouraged to attend this forum.

October 11 "Standing on the Side of Love" Reverend Coeyman

Is race a factor in how President Obama's program are evaluated. Was gender a factor in the 2008 elections? Do other factors of personal identity such as body size, physical ability, sexual identity, and more, influence how we respond to others? Do we trust our commitment to honor the inherent worth and dignity of every person? "Standing on the Side of Love" is a public advocacy campaign sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association to counter exclusion, oppression, or violence because of identity. This campaign calls us to live out our values in every arena of our lives. Our service at CUUC complements a community UU service on the steps of the Colorado Capitol Building where the CUUC choir is participating.

October 18 "Starfish One by One" Connie and Ted Ning

Connie and Ted Ning, long time residents of Evergreen, CO, are the founders of this non-profit humanitarian organization that provides educational scholarships and support to rural Mayan girls and their families. They will be speaking about their work in Guatemala and Mexico, assisting with the short-term economic and nutritional needs of families who otherwise could not afford to send their children to school beyond the 6th grade, as they work toward the long-term goal of breaking the generational cycle of poverty.

October 25 "Thriving Youth, Thriving Communities: Filling the Bag" Stephanie Hoy

Research about healthy youth development continues to yield common sense strategies and approaches to raising children and youth who thrive. Yet, in many communities, these strategies and approaches are not common practice. Assets for Colorado Youth has a fresh way of looking at youth development and how to "put legs on the research and theory." You'll walk away with your own ideas for *filling the bag* and creating a community where all kids can thrive.

Stephanie Hoy has been working with youth, families, schools and communities across Colorado for the past 20 years. Stephanie helps to turn research into practice through storytelling, personal experience and frequent lessons learned from a full, fun family life with her husband and two daughters.



FROM THE MINISTER

Becoming a Mission-Centered Church

Here at CUUC, we are becoming a mission-centered church, and this is good. At last winter's congregational meeting, we decided to be intentional about our 'missioning' work this year. Being mission-based is energizing, because we exist with others in common purpose. I recently talked about the dance camp I attended back East: a full week with dozens of other folks, all focused on a particular type of dance, English Country Dance, that we all love. We were there, bound together in common mission. I'm sure you've been part of 'missioned' experiences: attending your favorite sports event team with a group of buddies, all focused on victory for the home team; working with others for the success of a particular political candidate; building a company that can transform sale and distribution of an energy-saving product. Think about what the phrase, 'She's on a mission' implies: dedication, focus, drive, commitment, clarity of purpose, and more. 'Mission' is the reason we exist: our purpose. Mission makes any institution a whole and creates an energy that compels each part to support the whole. Any group of people — families, companies, schools — may be bound together by mission. Mission is the core of a well-functioning organization. Mission matters.

We've had many opportunities in the past year to learn more about the importance of mission in congregations. A congregation united by mission is a congregation that understand what it can do for its members and for the world. Individual members understand their common purpose with one another and they understand they can accomplish much more together than alone. Mission work is holy work. It is practical work. Mission unites an institution and energizes its members.

Last winter many in this congregation attended a Transitions Workshop led by Reverend Robert Latham. We heard him emphasize the importance of mission for a congregation in transition such as CUUC. He suggested that religious mission exists at various levels. For starters, he reminded us why humans created this thing called 'religion' in the first place — to address the profound questions of life. Way back when, someone called a 'witch doctor' or a 'shaman' or a 'prophet,' was called to sit under a tree all day and ponder life's perplexing questions common to all humans. This 'meaning-making institution' came to be called 'religion' from the root 're-ligio,' meaning 'bound together.' All religions in the world have this common mission of finding meaning-making, finding a reason for being larger than ourselves. Mission helps us ask 'simple' question like, 'Why is there life on this planet?'

More particularly, people of liberal culture created religion with a liberal mission, free of dogma and respecting the evolving individual search for truth and meaning. Alas, Reverend Latham suggests that in the past half century or so, many religious liberals have lost a sense of mission. He calls all of us of liberal faith back to a commitment to mission. Most specifically, so that each of us may participate directly in religion, we also create individual congregations, and each thus generates its own particular interpretation of mission, just as we are doing this year.

Clearly, mission matters. Most significantly, mission provides a common view of reality. Scientists have identified the tendency of cells to want to be connected with other cells, to constitute a whole organism. So too with humans seeking religious affiliation, seeking connection to a whole.

Mission also provides focus, explaining why we are here and how we're connected, and where we are going. Robert Latham quoted R.F. Magar: 'If you don't know where you are going, you are liable to end us somewhere else.' Mission keeps us on track.

Perhaps most important, mission is transformational. A mission-centered church can transform the society in which it exists into a view of reality that matches its own values. In the process, the congregants are likewise transformed.

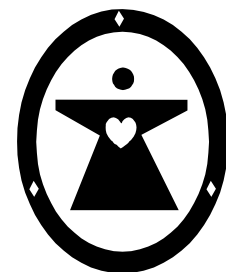
A mission-based congregation is going places. Be part of this forward motion here at CUUC. First, come to the worship service on October 4 (see p. 1 of this newsletter) when Rev. Latham returns to our pulpit. Then, on Saturday, October 10, attend the Mission Workshop led by the COM and myself (see. p. ___ - of this newsletter), and have your voice included in conversation about how we express our mission that will bind all of us already here at CUUC together in common purpose, and that will catch the hearts and minds of others seeking a liberal religious home in southwest Denver and.

See you at church!

Many blessings,

Barbara

Reverend Barbara Coeyman



Making a Difference

by *Frances Blizzard*

School Donations — As you know, 22 people in our congregation sponsored 22 children who were then able to return to school with new clothes, school supplies and backpacks. There were 698 students who were lucky enough to be on the list to be sponsored. There were many churches, companies, and civic groups who took part in this program. But there were over a thousand children who desperately needed school supplies, and a backpack. Many people who weren't able to sponsor a child contributed school supplies and backpacks, making it possible for Inter-Faith to help them all get ready for school.

Isabel Garcia is just one of the parents who were grateful to Inter-Faith. She has three daughters, her hours at work were cut in half, and she didn't know how to get them ready for school. Then a friend told her to contact Inter-Faith. She did, and was told to come over, and her three girls each received school supplies and a backpack.

That is just one of the ways in which Inter-Faith Community Services gives support to people who are in desperate need. They are a lifeline for the low-income people who need a helping hand.

It is wonderful to see the community baskets full of food and good used clothing every week. Please know that you are giving help where it is needed.



Shout it Out!

UUs on Public Radio!

Colorado Public Radio
KCFR KVOD



Announcing: The Colorado Public Radio Project of the **Boulder-Denver Cluster of UU Congregations**

Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church, in cooperation with six other Boulder-Denver UU churches and the Mountain Desert District staff, is helping to launch an exciting new project designed to increase awareness of Unitarian Universalism in the Boulder-Denver area. We would like to become a business sponsor of Colorado Public Radio (CPR) and air underwriters' announcements that will entice listeners to find out more about our faith. We can do this without an aggressive fundraising campaign by getting our members who already pledge regularly to public radio to donate through a special fund set up through the MDD. (Of course, those who do not now pledge to CPR will also be encouraged to give!) The CPR Project Steering Committee is comprised of representatives from each of the seven UU congregations from Lafayette to Parker.

If you are about to renew your pledge to CPR, please hold off for just a couple of weeks, so your charity dollars can do double duty! We will be providing more detailed information about this project to the congregation in early October.

Kathy

Kathy Derrick

Musings

It's a great day to be alive!

I woke up this morning and felt great. Every couple of years I wake up in the morning with a great outlook on life. It's happened a couple of dozen times in my life. I don't know how to make it last but when it happens, it's great!

My life is great. I have two kids, one of each that I couldn't be happier with. They are healthy, cheerful and intelligent progeny that any parent would be proud to say they are theirs. That those two people call me "Dad" makes me happier than a person should have a right to feel.

I live in a great neighborhood. Sure, my house could be cleaner, bigger, fancier and have more, bigger, better stuff. But that's not what makes a home. A home is somewhere you choose to spend large amounts of time everyday, where you feel comfortable doing nothing or whatever you want to do. Your home is where your heart is. Hopefully it is in your neighborhood.

My neighborhood is incredible. I've lived here for 18 years now. We live on a cul-de-sac with 14 houses. I know who lives in every house on the sac, their phone number and the kid's names. We had our 17th annual Labor Day picnic a few weeks ago and our 17th Annual Memorial Day picnic in the Spring. Over the years we've had many Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve parties, July 4th picnics and neighborhood fireworks shows, Thanksgiving Dinners and neighborhood camping trips. Not everyone participates in everything. There has never been an event that every house has participated in. But over time, everyone has participated in something. Sure, there are some neighbors who wouldn't miss an event, and some neighbors you have to drag to the event. But every one participates some time and it's a great cul-de-sac to live and raise my kids.

The neighborhood has had it's share of turnover through the years. My next door neighbor to the left has changed four times over my 18 years in this home. My neighbor to the right has also changed four times. But two doors to the left has never changed while the neighbors five doors to left has changed so often I've lost track. What we do with each change is to welcome the new folks to the neighborhood. We bring then a sheet of paper with 14 houses drawn on it which has 13 names filled in. Only their house is blank. Then we ask them if they would like to be part of the neighborhood information sheet, which no one has ever refused during my tenure in the neighborhood. When they say yes, we gather their information, children's names, phone numbers, update the sheets and pass them out to all 14 houses within the week. Then we let the new neighbor how great the neighborhood is! I tell them we've had no problems here in years so if they start, we know it's them. They laugh, we shake hands and the picnics and parties continue. It's a great neighborhood.

I'm a member of a great church. I know most of the members and some of the friends. I raised my daughter in this church and I'm raising my son in it currently. I've been a member for over 15 years now. I stopped my membership twice; once because I had a brain tumor and once to try to make my ex happier. That subject is a whole book of Musings but I'll let it go for now.

My church has progressive values, a lot like mine, and people are genuinely happy. I may not agree with every policy and I even may disagree vehemently with some, but the church isn't here to make me happy. I'm here to make the church happy. I've been a part of enough organizations to know that no members can be made happy with every policy. But the church has great values and I could learn more. It's a great church and I'm happy to call myself a member.

I have a great life. I have great kids, a great home, a great neighborhood and a great church. Certainly I don't have everything that is great in my life. But everything important that I have is great. I'm grateful. And there is still room in my life for more great things. Who's luckier than me! It's a good day to be alive!

Peace & Love,

Carmen

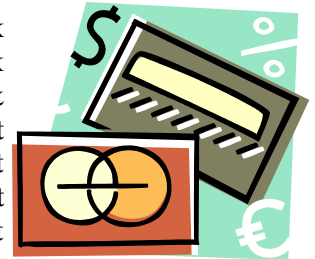
Carmen J. Corica, Editor of The Columbine Connection

Reloadable King Soopers Cards

Supporting our King Soopers gift card fundraising program just became easier. We've made the switch to the Reloadable King Soopers cards. With this change, once you purchase your initial King Soopers card, you can use cash, checks, or credit cards to reload the card with additional money.

The King Soopers Reloadable cards work just like a pre-paid debit card. You buy the card for \$50 and it contains \$50 that can be used to buy groceries, pay for prescriptions, and even pay for gasoline at stores with a gas center. You can reload or place additional money onto your card using cash, checks, or credit cards at any King Soopers cashier, service desk or gas station attendant. How much you put on at one time is completely up to you. You then use the card just like a normal debit card to make purchases at check-out or at the gas pump. Any cashier or gas pump can also tell you how much money you have remaining on the card at any time. When you recharge the card, CUUC receives 5% of your reload amount. Best of all, you can buy cards for family and friends and when they recharge it, CUUC will earn 5%! It's easy, quick, and a great way to support your church.

While you are purchasing your King Soopers Reloadable card at CUUC, be sure to check out all of the other (non-reloadable) merchant gift cards that are available. We carry in stock cards for Sunflower Market, Applebee's, Office Depot, Office Max, Home Depot, Barnes & Noble, Starbucks and many more. If we don't have gift cards for your favorite merchant, let us know. There's a list of hundreds of stores, restaurants, hotels, gas stations, and more that we can order. CUUC receives anywhere from 2% to 20%, depending on the card. And best of all, it doesn't cost you anything. You get a dollar spending power for every dollar that you spend to purchase a gift card.



Splitting the Plate

Starting this October, CUUC will be sharing our generosity with local non-profits. We will share 50% of our offering taken on the third Sunday of each month. This "splitting of the plate" was proposed by the Finance Committee and approved at September's meeting of the Board of Trustees on a six-month evaluation basis. Our sharing has the support of both the Worship Committee and Just ACT, and the board directed Just ACT to determine the beneficiaries.

Reverend Barbara points out that we come to church for internal and external reasons. Our offering on Sundays, in giving for ourselves in the congregation, contributes to our internal well-being. But the external reasons for coming to church are just as important. We grow as we give in expression of our UU imperative to heal our world. These two directions, inward and outward, are symbolized by the 'split' of the plate.

Our beneficiaries will be local organizations working in our immediate neighborhood or in the metro Denver area. Information about the beneficiary for each month will be provided in weekly Eblasts before the third Sunday, so you will have the opportunity to become familiar with non-profits that may be unknown to you. This opportunity for us to reach outward as a congregation is also an opportunity for us to become active in our community in new way. We may find that we will also see ourselves in new light.

Here's how this will work: Checks or cash received in the offering on Split the Plate Sunday will be shared 50-50 between CUUC and the Split the Plate beneficiary UNLESS your check or cash envelope clearly says "Pledge" on the memo line. However if your pledging is not current your check will be credited to your pledge. So to make your contribution to both CUUC and the beneficiary you just make your check payable to CUUC, put "split" on the memo line, and drop it in the offering basket. Unidentified cash will automatically be split. If you have questions about splitting the plate, or about your pledge, please talk with Loraine Kreznar, our Treasurer.



CUUC Book Club Meets



The Outlander by Gil Adamson is the book for discussion October 28.

A reviewer writes: “In 1903 a mysterious young woman flees alone across the west, one heart-pounding step ahead of the law. At 19, she has just become a widow — and her husband's murderer. As bloodhounds track Mary Boulton through the mountains, she is tormented by mad visions and by the knowledge that her two cold-blooded brothers-in-law are hot on her trail, determined to hunt her down in revenge for their brother's death. Responding to little more than the primitive fight for life, she flees further and further [*sic*] into the wilderness, and into the wilds of her own mind, encountering an unforgettable cast of eccentrics along the way.”

Gil Adamson's extraordinary debut novel weds a brilliant literary style to the gripping, moving, picaresque tale of one woman's desperate journey.

The Book Club meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the church lounge.

CUUC Mission Workshop

EVERYONE in the congregation is encouraged to attend!

Saturday, October 10, 2009 * 9:00am – 3:00pm

Lunch and childcare provided

Thanks to everyone for participating in the writing of our congregational covenant! This collaborative community process is benefiting us all. The process of creating the covenant is as important as the covenant itself. While a covenant is a living document subject to change as the writers change — in this case as our congregation changes — the goal is to have a completed covenant statement ready for acceptance at our Mission Workshop.

The first part of the Mission Workshop will include an opportunity for people to sign the new Covenant, signifying our commitment to the promises we make with each other. The rest of the workshop is the beginning phase of identifying CUUC's mission. **Why does CUUC exist?** Start asking yourself that question. Think big! If we as a congregation had no limits to what we could be in this world, what would be our reason for being?

In a way, a mission statement is a philosophical statement and less focused on the laundry list of what we do. What we specifically do as a church is our vision, our concrete action in the world. To determine those actions, we first need to agree on why we exist. An Oklahoma UU church's mission is “To transform the people who transform the world.” Former CUUC members Ann and Gary Wederspahn report that the mission statement of their new church home in Minneapolis is to “engage people in a free and inclusive religious community that encourages lives of integrity, service and joy.” What is the mission of CUUC?

Come, be a part of creating CUUC's mission. Lend your voice in determining our reason for being! If we all engage in this process, then, most likely, we will all be inspired to truly live our church mission. Sign up for the Mission Workshop today!

Questions? Contact the Committee On Ministry at any of the following:

Laura Scott (303) 931-9506 laurarscott@comcast.net

Karen Cody-Hopkins (303) 808-8730 kjch@att.net

Bob Pinkham (303) 954-8576 bob.pinkham@gmail.com

The deadline for *The Columbine Connection* for the next 12 months is as follows:

October 14, November 18, December 16, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 14, May 19, June 16, July 14, August 18, September 15

These dates are the Wednesday prior to the second to last Sunday of the month. The *Connection* will be available for members and friends at the last Sunday Service of the month at CUUC. Then it will be mailed to the remainder of the subscribers. The deadline for the next thirteen issues will be at midnight on the above dates. Be prepared to have all submissions to the *Connection* by 12:00AM (midnight) on the deadline date. If it is a problem meeting the deadline, please contact the editor to make arrangements for the submission. No guarantees, explicit or implied are made for any submission which become the property of *The Columbine Connection*.

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Green Team Meeting

The next Green Team will start on October 26th at 7pm at CUUC in the community room. Please contact George Mandeville at mandev4@q.com or 303 973-3383 to join or for more information. There will be a signup at church. The Team plans to meet approximately 6 to 8 times, usually about every two weeks, for about two hours (including possible field trips to be voted on). We will decide on our second meeting location during our first meeting. Material cost is \$20 per participant which includes a useful workbook.

Our focus will be creating a more sustainable, environmentally friendly, and greener lifestyle for you, your family and friends. Topics that will be studied include household energy usage, waste management, renewable energy, composting, and recycling as well as other improvement ideas. Some field trips that have been suggested include visits to a recycling facility "to see what really happens", to NREL (National Renewable Energy Lab) in Golden, and to houses using different technologies (wind, solar, geothermal) which save energy. Please join us. You will learn to create a better world for our community and our children.

Witness for Earth's Health

The accelerating crisis of global warming is one of the most dramatic signs that our Earth, and the life dependant on it, is suffering. On Saturday, October 24, we can join in a global day of public witness, to lift up our prayers and hopes for the viability of the whole Earth community.

For over 800,000 years, Earth's climate and the level of greenhouse gasses (CO2) have changed together. In that long period, CO2 levels in the atmosphere have ranged between 200-300 parts per million (ppm). In just the last few decades, human impacts such as the burning of coal and oil have raised CO2 levels to almost 400 ppm, and they continue to rise. Many leading scientists tell us that 350 ppm is the highest "safe" level. Staying above 350 ppm is almost certain to cause sudden climate changes that threaten human civilization.

350 ppm is a number that calls us back to the range where the complex and interrelated systems of this beautiful earth can function adequately. 350 can shape our prayers for a world that avoids the worst threats of rising seas and melting glaciers, of drought and famine. 350 expresses our hope for justice and sustainability for human communities, and survival for the rich diversity of the rest of creation.

On October 24, people in communities around the world -- in over 100 nations -- will join in a day of witness around that safe number of 350. In thousands of settings, we'll urge the world leaders gathering for the climate negotiations to be held in Copenhagen this winter to act quickly and strongly in getting us back down to 350.

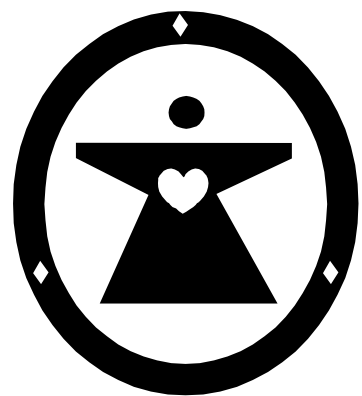
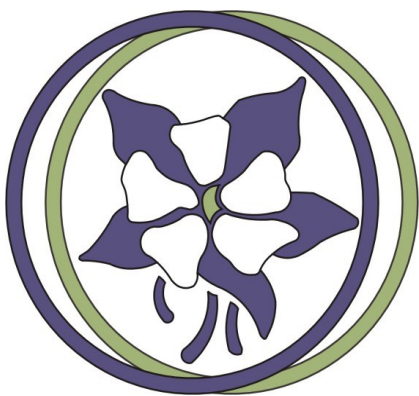
In the metropolitan Denver area that weekend, several dozen events are planned, ranging from informational to artistic, spiritual to political. (See the growing list of area events at www.350Denver.org.) Two of these events are of special interest for CUUC members and friends.

- At 9 AM on Saturday, October 24, an Interfaith Worship Service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, 1350 Washington St in Denver (4 blocks east of the State Capitol). In a service of prayers, song and readings, Unitarian Universalist, Jewish, Christian, Islamic and Buddhist commitments to Earth's health will be lifted up.
- At 3:30 PM that afternoon, a public rally will be held on the west steps of the State Capitol, with music and a diverse group of speakers. This -- the largest event of the weekend in Colorado -- will be an exciting opportunity to gather with people from around the area to voice our care for Earth.

As people of faith, we care deeply about good Earth stewardship. Join with the "350" movement on October 24 to bear witness to our faith, and our commitment to caring for all of creation. Sign up at the back of the Sanctuary to car pool to the Interfaith Service or the rally.



Unitarian Universalism Is for You!



Conferences of Interest

Climate Change & Faith Conference, Nov. 13-14, Arvada. Hosted by Colorado Interfaith Power and Light. **For all faith traditions, to expand our knowledge of climate change and our spiritual call to care for Creation.** Nationally known keynoters, science update, action-oriented workshops. Details and online registration at www.coipl.org. Register now for early discount and best workshop selections (\$25 before 10/26).

Faith Conference, Nov. 13 (eve.) & Nov 14 (day), Arvada. Hosted by Colorado Interfaith Power and Light. **For people of all faith traditions, to expand our knowledge of climate change and explore our spiritual call to care for Creation.** Nationally known keynote speakers **Hunter Lovins & Rev. Sally Bingham**. Science basics & updates, panels of faith teachings & actions congregations are taking, action-oriented workshops, & green vendor exhibits. Complete details & online registration at www.coipl.org. Register now for early discount and best workshop selections (\$25 before 10/26, discounts for students/low/fixed income; tickets available for Hunter Lovins keynote address Friday for non-conference attendees).

The Namaqua Forum

The Namaqua Forum, formerly the Open Forum, celebrates its 5th year. This Lecture series meets on Sunday Evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and is free and open to the public. The Forum is sponsored by Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Loveland. They have moved and are now meeting at the New Ferson High School, 1101 Hill Top Dr., turn west from Taft at 11th St.

Fall Lecture Series

October 11 - Making Sense of Health Care Reform
Earl Baumgartel, MD, retired surgeon and former Chief of Staff, McKee Medical Center.

October 25 - The future of the Supreme Court
Speaker - Mr. Eric Wapples – Teacher, with a special interest in the Supreme Court.

November 15 - Asian Agendas
Setting priorities for the Obama Administration.
Speaker – Sue Ellen Charlton, professor of political science at CSU.

December 6 - Understanding Russian Leaders
Speaker – Richard Life, retired Naval Intelligence Officer.



Save the date! Please feel free to pass on the information!

OCTOBER 10, 2009, 7:30 P.M.

Leon Littlebird

TICKETS \$10

With roots in both pioneer and native cultures, performer, songwriter and storyteller Leon Littlebird embodies the spirit of the mountains. Leon’s great grandfather was one of the original settlers in Blackhawk, and his great-uncle was a classical composer and performer in Silver Plume and Georgetown. Navajo ancestry inspires Leon’s flute music. His performances shape compelling stories into a musical show that leaves audiences asking for more.

Reception after to meet the performer!

For more information and to reserve tickets, please email music@uucboulder.org.

Laurel Seppala-Etra
Music Administration Committee Chair
Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder, CO



CornUUCopia

Originally a cornucopia was a curved goat's horn filled with harvest grains and fruits symbolizing the horn belonging to the Greek nymph Amalthea that mysteriously kept refilling itself with whatever was desired. Our annual dinner and auction that we call **CornUUCopia** draws on that same tradition of abundance: our abundance of sharing our talents and gifts to support all the programs and ministries at CUUC.

Please plan on joining us on Saturday, November 7th. Doors open at 5:30pm for the Silent Auction, Dinner starts at 6:00pm and the Live Auction starts at 7:30pm. There will be entertainment and wonderful people to celebrate with!

This is our biggest fund-raiser of the year, and you have an abundance of ways to be part of it. You can come and share in the fun. You can donate your very own special auction item(s). And you can volunteer to help. Your donations, your time, and your participation will make this evening a successful fundraiser filled with friends and joy.

Do you have a special skill, passion, hobby, service or interest you'd like to donate? It might turn out to be just what someone else is looking for! A sampling of last year's auction items include: quilts, carpentry, photography, paintings, homemade holiday treats, a private chef, lots of feasts, haircuts, dance lessons, bike overhauls, massage, a white elephant or two, and opportunities to escape and relax. To make your auction donation, fill out the donation form (available at church or by email) and turn it into to the CUUC office.

You can also help by asking your favorite business to donate a sample of their services or goods for the auctions. We provide a formal solicitation letter and proof of non-profit status for you to give to businesses. Ask for a packet from Julie at church or we can email one to you.

You will also be a huge part of our auction by volunteering. Volunteer to help set up, or clean up, or take bid numbers — you'll still have a great time during the evening! Please contact Sue if you can help.

Please join us in our abundance through your donations and your participation!



Sue Zloth

720-733-7935 or zloths@q.com

Musicians Wanted!

You're Invited!

- to share your musical gifts!
- in the CUUC Sunday Services!
- Gratitude and Thanks in Advance!
- We welcome well-prepared pieces for the prelude and the offering.
- Please contact Sheila Hamaker for details & dates at: (303) 791-1922 or shamaker@yahoo.com for more information.



"Grocery Coupons!!"

Every time you purchase scrip you are contributing to the financial health of the church. Scrip are redeemable at King Soopers, Starbuck, Barnes and Noble and many other merchants. If you buy **\$50.00** per week in scrip, in 10 years you will have contributed **\$1,300.00** to CUUC! And it did not cost you anything since you receive a dollars worth of merchandise for every dollar of scrip you buy. It is a great way to support CUUC!!!!





Join Us On October 11th

Dear Supporter,

Once a year since 2006, First Unitarian of Denver, has gathered on the steps of the Colorado State Capitol building instead of in our sanctuary. We are joined by members of the wider community to bless the unions of same gender couples on state property. We pray and celebrate, sing and worship, all in order to end marriage discrimination in Colorado.

Can you join my congregation by hosting a Coming Out on the Side of Love event in your community on October 11th?

I cannot describe what a powerful and energizing annual event this has become for our church. At any point in the year, the mere mention of this witness brings loud cheers, applause, and oftentimes tears of gratitude from the congregation. This year, on October 11th, we will be joined by members of Jefferson Unitarian and expect to have 500 people gathered.

As a faith and pastoral leader, I witness inequality daily. I minister to dozens of fine and faithful couples who are prevented (by law!) from rights and responsibilities granted to other couples.

As a citizen, a voter, and a believer in democracy, I say to my government, "You can make discrimination legal, but you can't make it right!"

As a father of two children, I teach them that America is founded on equality, freedom, and fairness. How do I explain to them that under current law, some are more equal and free than others?

For all of these reasons, I will continue to bring my congregation to the Capitol Building every year. We will sing, praise, worship, protest, and stand on the side of love.

This year we will be gathering the signatures of all who assemble for the Petition for Full Equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. We will share those signatures with our local legislators and fax them to the Standing on the Side of Love campaign for inclusion in national efforts.

Please consider what YOU can do next month to join us in body, in spirit, and in solidarity. Let us know that we're not alone! Let everyone know what you stand for!

Please host a Coming Out on the Side of Love event in your community on October 11th.

If we stand together, our love will win.

Love,

Reverend Mike Morran



Reverend Mike Morran
303. 831.7113 ext. 104
Denver, Colorado

Music Corner

The CUUC Choir is headed to the Capitol in downtown Denver, to take part in a "Standing on the Side of Love Event" sponsored by First Unitarian of Denver. This event takes place the morning of Sunday October 11th. Any interested singers who would like to make a short-term commitment to the choir just to sing in this event are encouraged to attend choir rehearsal on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9. The main piece we will be singing features Guitar, Choir and Soloist and it titled "Stand." This piece was performed in the General Assembly of June 2009 held in Salt Lake City. "Stand" is written in a Folk or Country style. I will be providing sound files of each individual singing part — soprano, alto, tenor, and bass — to facilitate learning "Stand" for all those who would like to sing in this unique event.

In harmony,

David



David Burrows, Director of Music Ministry
heartflute@yahoo.com

Singers Wanted!

For the Columbine UU Church Choir.
Expand your voice and heart.
Refresh and Recharge with Song.
Take part in Sunday services and musical events in the larger Denver community. Enjoy new musical experiences. For more info contact David Burrows at 303-455-2110 or email music@columbineuuchurch.org.

Notes from Reverend Barbara

October 2009

Covenant Group Ministry (CGM): This fall, CUUC will bring a program of Covenant Group Ministry. In the Fall, I will be 'training-the-trainers:' leading one covenant group consisting of 6 - 10 persons who will then become leaders of small groups open to the entire congregation after the New Year. This training will consist of four 2-hour sessions, from 7 - 9 p.m., on Thursdays October 8 and 22, and November 5 and 19. I have several future trainers interested, but there is room for a few more. Please contact me at minister@columbineuuchurch.org or by calling the church office.

Adult Education — UU History: I will be offering a course on UU History, in five sessions on Monday evenings: November 2, 16, 23, 30, and December 7. Call the office to register: deadline Friday October 30. For more information about the course, contact me at minister@columbineuuchurch.org.

It is the editorial policy of this newsletter to print whatever is sent to us for inclusion, unless we think the item will be offensive or hurtful. It occurred to us that it would be interesting reading to hear how others came to call themselves Unitarian Universalists. This, then, is an invitation to share that part of your faith's journey with our readership. All other topics are open for submission also. Members of CUUC will be given preferential treatment where publishing is concerned. Thank you for understanding.



The Columbine Connection

This monthly newsletter of the Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church is for the benefit of its members and pledging friends. Visitors receive the newsletter for six months, after which time, if they have not made a pledge to the church, they may subscribe for \$12.00 a year by calling (303)972-1716. To contribute an article to the newsletter, send email to: oldehippy@comcast.net

Or call (303) 882-1896

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CUUC Website: [Http://www.columbineuuchurch.org](http://www.columbineuuchurch.org)

Blue's Clues

CUUC's Religious Education Update

The Fall Solstice has come and gone. The days grow shorter with each sunrise and sunset and I look eagerly forward to Halloween. That time of year when my family fills its weekends with corn maize's, decorating for the season, and making caramel apples. The house is a buzz with excitement as we stitch together this year's desired costume.

During this busy bee hive of activity time of year the Columbine Youth Religious Education Committee (YRE) is also preparing for a Halloween gathering for the children. As with all YRE efforts we want to use every opportunity to make our activities a teachable moment. Pauline Hopkins and I have chosen to have the children participate in the 'Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF - Making Halloween Count' campaign. What is UNICEF? The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is a global organization that saves kids' lives in over 150 countries by providing clean water, nutrition, medicines, education and aid in emergencies.

The Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign was started by kids 59 years ago and since then, children have collected over \$144 million to help change children's lives. Every dollar raised allowed UNICEF to fund their programs enabling children to have access to nutritious food, vaccines against preventable childhood diseases or the ability to attend school, luxuries we take for granted daily. On Saturday October 24 children of all ages will gather, in costumes, at the church and go into the local neighborhood to participate in this social justice effort to collect funds for children around the world. After convincing for UNICEF the children will return to enjoy an old fashion Halloween Party. There will be games, activities and treats for everyone! Watch for more information, about the timing of this fun filled social action activity, on the bulletin board and in your E-blast announcements.

I hope every family has had a chance to look over the YRE program for our Sunday children's classes! We will be studying our Unitarian Universalist roots within the Hebrew and Christian traditions. The YRE Committee has selected the *Bibleodeon* faith curriculum that was developed by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock of New York.

But what is *Bibleodeon*? Think about Nickelodeon, the kids channel on TV. Nickelodeon tells lots of stories; funny stories, sad stories, scary stories, and exciting stories. *Bibleodeon* Tells stories, too. But instead of Nickelodeon characters such as Screech and Sabrina, and Mr. Krabs, we get Daniel and Esther and Mr. Noah. Instead of space ships and witches, we get ancient times with devils and angels, snakes and crimes and more.

Bibleodeon tells stories from the Hebrew and Christian Bibles, which is packed full of interesting stuff. The children will be acting out some of the stories, and listen to some and investigating others. They'll take about a mystery question every week and make things and listen to music and look at art.

By the end of their *Bibleodeon* experience the children should be familiar with and interested in a range of well-known Bible stories. They should have a basic understanding of the Bible's history and power. The children will have an understanding of the importance of the Bible to millions of people, possible including some friends or family in their own lives. The *Bibleodeon* curriculum is an experiential and fun, and dynamic rather than didactic study.

I have been asked, "Why the Bible?" I chose this curriculum for several reasons. To start, both the Hebrew and Christian Bibles have had a profound impact on the world and western cultures, as well as the local communities in which our children live. The Hebrew and Christian Bibles for centuries played critical roles in helping shape today's Unitarian Universalism and the early religious movements that spawned it. Millions of people today base their lives and actions in their understandings of these works. Unitarian Universalists can best practice the acceptance and tolerance our religion advocates by understanding where others find motivation and meaning. By studying these Bible stories the children will have a window into myth, religious thought, and world views of the past. I believe that the *Bibleodeon* curriculum will be an enjoyable experience, as suggested by its name, which is fascinating, informative, and down right fun.

Before I close, I thought I would let you know about the beginning of the *Our Whole Life – Sexuality and Our Faith* (OWL) program for the middle and high school age youth. We begin on October 2nd and 3rd with a 'Lock-In' at the church. A Lock-In is an overnight kick-off of OWL where three sessions of the curriculum are taught in the course of fifteen hour. The building is closed to use by any other activity or group during all OWL classes. Our regular OWL classes will be meeting in the church on Sunday afternoons or evening through out the year and all times will be posted. Please see me if there is a scheduling conflict.

Happy Halloween everyone!

Blue

Martin J. Blue-Norton, Director of Lifespan Religious Education for Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church

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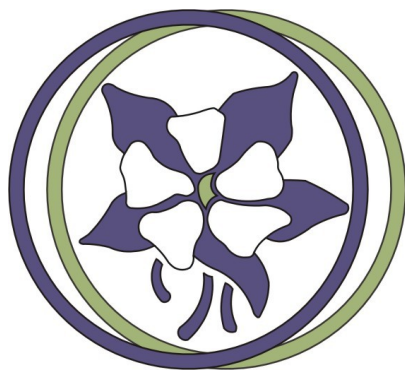


Sunday Morning Worship Begins at 10:30am
Coffee & Conversation Served After Service



www.columbineuuchurch.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!!



The Columbine Connection

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