

Umpqua Unitarian Universalist Church  
 2167 NW Watters  
 Roseburg, OR 97471

**UU MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of the Umpqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation is to create and maintain a diverse, caring community that encourages ethical, intellectual, and spiritual growth. To accomplish this mission, we covenant to welcome individuals and families; to share the joys and sorrows of life's passages; to educate children and adults in our UU Principles values and heritage, and to act personally and collectively on our UU principles and values in a larger world.

Web site: [umpquauuchurch.org](http://umpquauuchurch.org)  
 (541) 672-2250

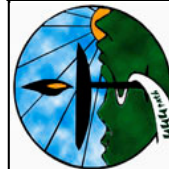
e-mail: [umquauu@cmspan.net](mailto:umquauu@cmspan.net)  
 Minister: [aholmes78@cmspan.net](mailto:aholmes78@cmspan.net)  
 cell: (541) 733-4017

**Minister**.....**Rev. Annie Holmes**  
 Director of Religious Education.....Kandie Kato  
 Music Director.....Aluna

**Church Officers**  
 President.....Gary Pischke  
 Vice President.....Anna Slemmer  
 Treasurer.....(Temporary) June Ervin & Gary Pischke  
 Secretary.....Paul Zegers  
 Member-at-Large.....Claire Dalzell  
 Member-at-Large.....Kasha Claire  
 Member-at-Large.....June Ervin  
 Member-at-Large.....Sara Byers

**Committee Chairs**  
 Adult Enrichment .....Paul Zegers & Lucy Harrington  
 Art.....Lucille Alfred  
 Cares & Concerns...Lorrie Agost-Caley & Pat Zemlin  
 Building.....Mel Watts  
 Green Sanctuary.....Open  
 Membership.....Lori Farmer  
 Committee on Ministry.....Judy Robertson  
 Music.....Barbara Alvis  
 Office.....Open  
 Community Action.....Jim Terry  
 Sunday Services.....Jim Pratt  
 Volunteer Coordinator.....Open  
 Webmaster.....Bernie Fox

**U M P Q U E S T**  
 UMPQUA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
 January 2010



**Sunday, January 3, 2010**

“Names and Naming” Uta Stelson  
 Find out why laughter is good for us and why we don't laugh more than we do. Hear a few good jokes and share a good one or two of your own!

**Sunday, January 10, 2010**

TBA Alex Holt

**Sunday, January 17, 2010**

“The Wisdom of The Little Prince” Sara Byers  
 This was written by Eva S. Hochraf and was given at the First UU Church of Ann Arbor Michigan in 1997.

**Sunday, January 24, 2010**

“Our Third Principle: Accepting One Another” Rev. Marcia Olsen

**Sunday, January 31, 2010**

“Corn Ditties” Uta Stelson  
 On the eve of African American History Month, learn about the role African American spirituals played in the lives of slaves and how they were used in the continual fight for freedom of this oppressed group of people. We'll be singing LOTS of hymns this Sunday!

## Committee on Ministry Reports

And so it is.....This winter, and on into spring, we will be honoring the contract/covenant we share with our minister, Rev. Annie Holmes, in a way that is new to us.

The norm for Unitarian Universalist ministers is that they are to take a sabbatical every few years to rest, renew and study. The length of the sabbatical equals one month for each year of a UU ministers service to their congregation. Rev. Annie will be away from UUU for 4 months

Past UUA research has resulted in a couple of important understandings: 1) the longer a minister stays with a congregation the more successful that congregation is likely to be, and 2) ministers who don't take time away from their congregational responsibilities are likely to experience burn out and end up leaving. If sabbaticals are the prescription for prevention of losing a fine minister then this sabbatical is a win-win for everyone.

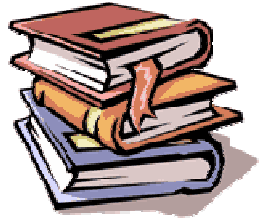
Sabbaticals assure growth for the minister and for the congregation. For Rev. Annie, her time away will afford her opportunity for deeper reflection and study; that kind of experience is intended to provide her with perspective on her mission. She will then return to us with her personal and professional batteries recharged.

For the congregation, we will be stepping up to meet the tasks of

### Reflections of a Bookworm

By Julienne DeMarsh

**IN NATURE'S HONOR: Myths and Rituals Celebrating the Earth.** Patricia Montley, Skinner House Books, 2005.



On December Fridays here at UUU we gather together to celebrate a holiday of one of many assorted faith traditions. Ever wonder why so many cultures have gathered in the darkness of winter...for thousands of years? "Ah..well, the solstice and the return of the sun" you say...and you have just touched the cover of this book...

**IN NATURE'S HONOR** give us the entire story for every "solstice" celebration from Rome to Scandinavia and explains how those celebrations have changed over time. Why do throngs gather in Times Square on Dec. 31st and cheer wildly as the ball drops? Patricia Montley tells us why we do it

**IN NATURE'S HONOR** details 8 distinct holidays whose origins can be found in ancient earth-based traditions. Lest you think this is a dull topic..Patricia gives us the text for a play for each holiday, musical resources and even supplies recipes appropriate to each occasion! I have so thoroughly enjoyed reading this book that I can unreservedly recommend it to you.

**BLESS THIS FOOD: Ancient & Contemporary Graces From Around the World.** Adrian Butash, New World Library, 2007.

The concept of "gratitude" expressed by faiths & cultures the world over. Graces simple enough for young children to eloquent ceremonial speeches - if you desire to cultivate gratitude in your daily life, spend even a few minutes daily with this little treasury. Included are the most ancient blessings discovered to date; the words "bless this food" in 19 languages (!) and graces in American Sign Language. Put this in your personal library and reach for it daily or just for special occasions...especially effective for those rare moments when you might not be as infused with "gratitude"...as you would wish to be! **BLESS THIS FOOD** will adjust your attitude immediately!

The Booktable will be open the last 2 Sundays in December for your browsing pleasure....if you wish to browse at alternate times just contact the Bookworm and she will happily accomodate you.



## Treasurer's Report



This Treasurer's Report and the Budget Report October 31, 2009 within the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Our total pledges for 2009-2010 are \$77,566.00.

Fish Contributions for October were \$164.00 plus food collected for the month.

Total pledge income received in October was \$3,829.00.

Total Plate Cash income received was \$277.15.

Passthrough for the First Sunday's Candle was \$151.00.

Book Store income was \$58.90.

Total Income \$7,872.22 Total expense \$8,103.79 (Income & expenses include the Pass through money)

Our Membership is 70 members and 49 friends of the Church.

Gary Pischke, Temporary Co-Treasurer



daily operation and the needs of our members. We will be renewing skills we have not had to use for a while. Scary? Maybe. Empowering? Definitely! As a congregation we will be ready when Rev. Annie returns in the spring for a discussion about who we are as a church, what we believe and what we want to be in the world.

As members of the Committee on Ministry we believe that when we come back together on that first Sunday in May, we will be wiser in ourselves and stronger in our skills and so will Rev. Annie!

And so it is.....a win-win.

We invite you to contact us (Mary Ann Wilcox, Pat Zemlin and Judy Robertson) if you have comments or ideas about sabbaticals or what we have written here.



## In Gratitude We Share with the Community

“A hungry man is not a free man.” ~ Adlai E. Stevenson

The FISH of Roseburg, a local food pantry, provides food, short-term shelter, emergency transportation, and pediatric medications to those in need. Each month FISH serves about 900 families and the needs in our community are steadily increasing. In November, 2009 nearly 1000 families were given emergency food boxes.

The UUU Church is one of six local churches that have joined together to support FISH in its mission to respond with compassion to the needs of people in crisis. Each church has two representatives on the board of directors. Currently Jan Fritz and Phyllis Zegers represent our church and for many years Doris Heyman was on the board.

Your contribution of food and/or money during our Sunday service is important and appreciated. The most needed food items include canned fruits and vegetables, rice, beans, soups, cereal, tuna, pasta and baby food.

FISH also distributes essential non-food items such as toilet paper, toothpaste, disposable diapers, shampoo, and soap of all kinds (hand soap, dish soap, laundry soap). These are very important and cannot be purchased with food stamps. Pet food is also greatly appreciated. Large bags of pet food are re-packaged into smaller containers at the pantry.

The importance of cash donations cannot be overstated. Cash allows FISH to buy perishables such as milk and eggs. Cash is also used to buy food from the UCAN Food Bank at wholesale prices or from Oregon Food Shares for the cost of transportation (14 cents a pound). These kinds of partnerships make your donation dollars go farther. Since FISH is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization all cash and food contributions are fully deductible.

There are 13 food pantries in the county. FISH is the largest and the only one that allows clients to make their own selections. FISH strictly adheres to a policy of non-discrimination. They serves 30-40 % of the clients in the county. Clients are limited to one visit to the pantry per month. The food pantry is located off NE Stephens at 405 Jerry's Drive in Roseburg (in the Winchester area). The pantry hours are Mon. & Wed. 2:00 – 3:30 PM and Thurs. & Fri. 9:30 – 11:30 AM.



January 2010

## Musings

Gary Pischke  
Church President

We are in our first month with Rev. Annie on Sabbatical. We have our folk to help with ministry in place, and Rev. Marg Keip from Grants Pass can help. Our Sunday Services committee has Sunday's order in good form. We should be in good form for a time on our own.

Our church is in a search for a vision of how we want to proceed in the future. The congregation has agreed at the last meeting that we should start the process to move on to a new location. Our initial vision is for a more accessible location, more space, and more sanctuary. We are presently in a big multiuse type of room upstairs and not all members can use the downstairs area. We don't want to spend the money on the present place if we are going to move.

So some of the early visions include: a large separate sanctuary or room to have our services; access to the community, particularly so that we can be found more easy, rather than behind some other building a place to meet, a place to dance, and a place to sing. We overlap too much and that hampers the process. An area to meditate, an area to contemplate, and an area to ruminate. Our present configuration has too many ways to bump into each other and not enough to separate each other.

After all, to some this is a church, to others this is a place for gathering of like minds, and to others to catch up on the community.

So what's your vision- please add to the list from last summer if you wish.



The 6th annual Wine Tasting Event will be Jan 23rd at the Umpqua Valley Art Center. Tickets are on sale for \$35. We will be tasting 10 different wines paired with appetizers. Don't forget to buy your raffle ticket too!

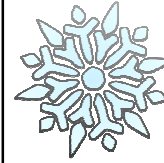


#### RAFFLE BASKET

We need donations for our Wine Tasting Fundraiser Raffle Basket. If you have any special treats (nuts, dips, crackers etc) or a nice wine or port that you would be willing to donate, please bring your item to church or call Connie at 672-7458.

## COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

### JANUARY 2010 UMPQUEST



Ten Thousand Villages Sale was held for the fourth year at UUUC. \$3,500 of goods were sold and the remainder of the goods returned with the money. While we sold considerably more in previous years, 10,000 Villages reported to us that many groups decided not to host a sale this year and most who did also experienced lower sales. The committee is looking forward to hosting next year's sale here. Next year (2010) we plan additional sale days.

November First Sunday Collection went to Day of Sharing and \$181 check was received by Meg Story. Our collection barrel overflowed as we as a church and as individuals joined the community in sharing this day of help for our fellow citizens.

December First Sunday Collection went to the support of the Head Start Program in Douglas County. Our GIFT TREE also collected items for Head Start and also items for NEW BEGINNINGS.

Recycling Athletic Shoes. Used athletic shoes were collected by UUUC and groups around the County in a friendly competition among Oregon Congressional District and District 4 WON the competition. The used shoes are ground in a process to pave playgrounds. Proceeds were directed to help Boys and Girls Club by Rep. DeFazio

JANUARY FIRST SUNDAY COLLECTION will go to support the Harm Reduction program managed by Ellis Poole. Ellis will present a five minute update on his program and after the service, while we enjoy SOUP SUNDAY, he will present a short film at the front of the room on the program's work.

The FISH PANTRY is very important to all caring persons, especially in current conditions. PLEASE READ PHYLLIS ZEGERS' ARTICLE ABOUT FISH found elsewhere in this Umpquest.

FINALLY, MANY, AND CONTINUING, KUDOS TO OUR COMMITTEE AND THIS CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO WORK SO HARD TO BENEFIT EVERYONE. WE MEET MONTHLY ON THE SECOND SATURDAY AT 10:00 UNTIL 12:00. PLEASE JOIN US THEN OR CONTACT ANY OF US AT ANYTIME.

JIM TERRY (817-5173); ANNA SLEMMER (673-1378)

## UUU Church Board Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2009



In Attendance: Paul Zegers, Claire Dalzell, June Ervin, Anna Slemmer, Rev. Annie Holmes, Sara Byers, Gary Pischke

The Board has decided that the monthly minutes should not be published in the newsletter until they have been reviewed and approved by the Board. This will delay the minutes by a month and also mean skipping a month, but the published minutes would reflect any changes and corrections.

The need for an Office Committee was discussed. Kara has too much on her plate to accomplish in the hours we ask her to work. Committees assign her tasks, as well as the Board and the Minister. Gary will come in on Fridays to help prioritize tasks. Annie will discuss additional hour options with Kara. We need a Treasurer to relieve Kara the task of posting financial data.

Paul moved, Sara seconded and the October, 2009 minutes were approved by voice vote.

### Treasurer's Report:

Pledges are not meeting current bills. There are now 71 members. Anna Slemmer asked that the funds earmarked for Capital Improvements and Building be segregated from other funds and reported separately. It was agreed by unanimous consent that the designation should be called "Building Fund". There is currently \$2,051 that is currently earmarked for this fund. The money collected from the auction is currently in the checking account. Rev. Annie suggested that we use the auction money to pay back the savings accounts that was used for refurbishing the rental property. It was agreed that the acting Treasurer will move excess money from the checking account and move into the savings account to better reflect balances for actual monthly income and expenses.

Sara moved, June seconded and the Board approved that we ask Doris if she would do the Quicken posting for the quarterly reports. Paul moved, Anna seconded and the board approved a motion to create an Internal Audit Committee to check the books. Anna will ask past Treasurers if they would serve in this capacity. There is currently a small discrepancy in the bank statement and our books. Fortunately the error is in our favor. Rev. Annie suspects it may be a result of book sales deposits that were not posted into the system.

### Building Grant update:

Grants through the UUU have been investigated. They all require us to investigate local funding sources first. There are some urgent repairs that need to be made to the church. The Building Committee is investigating the drainage issue in the stairwell and we need to act before the basement floods again. The Chalice Lighter Grant is not available until 2013. It was suggested that we investigate equity loans and it was mentioned that Cascade Community FCU is currently offering equity loans under 2.7%. We could also establish it as a line of credit so we could use the money as needed and save on interest charges. This will be an item to discuss at the Congregational Meeting.

The Board also accepted Marilyn Stephens's resignation from the Board and discussed a need for a new member to replace her. Gary will ask for volunteers at the Congregational Meeting.

### Auction Committee Report:

The auction was deemed a success considering the economic climate. Sara reported the raffle basket made \$271, the silent auction \$2223.50 and the oral auction \$2957.50 for a total of \$5452. All has been deposited except \$376 that has yet to be collected. An idea for fundraising next year is a dinner open to the public like the well attended Lutheran Church Dinner last weekend.

### Sabbatical Update:

Sunday Services Committee has all sermons filled except for 3 Sundays.

### Nominating Committee:

Progress is underway. Anna Slemmer volunteered to serve as the Volunteer Coordinator.

Claire suggested that we make a photo directory or at least put up photos of new members on the bulletin board.

### Congregational Meeting:

The Board will ask for gifts from the members for specific improvements, such as ADA ramp, etc. and also ask for approval for a line of credit equity loan not to exceed \$20,000 to make necessary repairs to the existing church.

### Next meeting will be December 8.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by:

Paul Zegers, UUU Secretary