



**Announcements for Sunday, December 1, 2013
Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation**



Next Sunday: "SOS: The Spirituality of Salsa" by Julio Barrenzuela

***** Happening TODAY *****

Today will be a Change for Change collection. The Social Action Committee has selected the Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery as the December Change for Change recipient. Community volunteers started the Crisis Nursery in 1989. Its mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect by providing emergency, temporary care, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for children who may be at risk or whose parents are experiencing some type of crisis. Services provided by Crisis Nursery staff include in-home parent education classes, monthly parent support group meetings and crisis counseling. Families receive follow-up home visits, advocacy and referrals to other needed services such as drug or alcohol abuse treatment, medical, food, clothing and shelter. The family support services are free.

Thank you to everyone who's donated towards the **Children & Youth Family Services Christmas Party**. Thus far, we've collected just over \$700. We're well short of our goal of providing at least one nice gift per child, so if you haven't donated already, please write CYFS on the Memo line of your check – and thank you again for helping foster children have a nice Christmas.

Youth Holiday Pageant: A special "dress" rehearsal (parents will be notified if their child requires a costume) is scheduled for **Saturday, December 14, 2013 at 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm** here at the church. Please mark your calendars. Contact Kathy Schultz, Choir Director or Marla Johnson, DRE with any questions.

Celebrate the Guest at Your Table!

Our Guest at Your Table program is going strong! So many families and friends have brought human rights home and welcomed our "guests" into their lives. Thanks to your support, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is working throughout the United States and around the world to advance human rights.

Your beautiful Stories of Hope booklet introduces you to people whose efforts in partnership with UUSC have helped change people's lives. Each week, with family and friends, we can focus on a different story of hope as we gather and consider our many blessings.

This week*, meet Malya Villard-Appolon, a Haitian woman who is working to end gender-based violence in the tent camps in Haiti and to provide support to survivors. Malya was named a 2012 CNN Hero of the Year finalist for her efforts. She is educating and empowering women to know their legal rights and to talk to one another for mutual support.

If you have not yet picked up your Stories of Hope booklet and Guest at Your Table envelope, you can do so in the vestibule or by talking with Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, our Guest at Your Table coordinator. Your gift to Guest at Your Table is tax deductible - please be sure to complete the form on your envelope to receive your acknowledgement. And remember, gifts of \$100 are eligible to be matched by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, doubling the impact of your support! We will be having a **special collection of the envelopes (and boxes) on Sunday, January 5** or you can mail your contribution directly to UUSC.

Springfield Overflow Shelter: We will be serving dinner at SOS today, December 1, 2013.

Please note the following changes for the program this year:

LOCATION: The new location is 530 N. 6th Street. Enter from the 6th Street door starting at 6:45 p.m. This is on the corner of 6th and Carpenter. Serving will begin at 7:00 p.m.

TIME: Note the change in time for arrival--6:45 p.m.

Thank you very much. I look forward to working with you again this year. Delinda

***** COMING SOON *****

The News Group meets on the first Thursday of each month. Join us on December 5, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at Renata and Heiko Buchloh's 7901 Hunt Road. Everyone is welcome. Call the Buchloh's at 585-1944 if you have any questions.

Kids Club/District 12

Kids Club will celebrate a "Snow Day" on Friday, December 6, 2013 at 6:00-8:00 pm in the church. District 12 will meet at the same time in the church for a game night. Kids Club is for children in grades K-5. Kids Club is an opportunity for the children to socialize and to gain a feeling of "belonging" to the congregation. Please, RSVP for both to Marla Johnson, DRE at dre@aluuc.org. District 12 is for children in grades 6-8. District 12 is an opportunity for this age group to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere.

Paul Oakley will lead a **Blue Christmas service** at 6:00 PM on Friday, December 20. A Blue Christmas service is intended for those who are experiencing grief during the holiday season. If Christmas and this time of year painfully reminds you of the absence of people you have lost at this season in years past, if this will be your first Christmas after losing a loved one to death or estrangement, if Christmas used to be meaningful but is now difficult because of the things you no longer believe, or if there are other losses you are grieving while those around you are celebrating, this is a service for you. If you will attend this service, please contact Paul no later than December 13 by email at intern@aluuc.org or by phone at 618.214.0340 so that we will know whether there is sufficient interest in having this service.

Paul Oakley will lead a small group focused on exploration of the spiritual practice of prayer beginning in January. In order for this to be available to the largest number of interested persons, your feedback is needed. A sign-up sheet will be up through the month of December. Please let Paul know by January 1 which of these three options you would attend:

- 1) The second and fourth Friday of each month at 7:00 PM.
- 2) The third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.
- 3) The last Thursday of each month at 11:00 AM

****This Week at a Glance ****

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Room</u>
Sunday, Dec. 1	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am	Sanctuary
	Change for Change collection	10:30 am	
	Pagan Group Meeting	12:30 pm	
Monday, Dec 2	Dream Group	*7:00 pm	Emerson
Tuesday, Dec. 3	Choir rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Wednesday, Dec 4	"What Moves Us" Adult Ed class	6:00 pm	Channing
	Hanukkah Begins		
Thursday, Dec. 5	Meditation	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
	News Group	*7:00 pm	Buchloh's home
Friday, Dec 6	Kids Club/Dist 12	6:00 pm	Commons
Saturday, Dec 7	Zen Meditation	9:00 am	Sanctuary
Sunday, Dec 8	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am	Sanctuary

*Event is off site.