From the Prez

Beneath Our Feet

There is a vibrant world beneath our feet. I'm not thinking about the soil that is chock full of organisms that are too small to see with the human eye. Nor am I thinking about the subterranean complexity of an ant colony with tunnels as intricate as city streets.

Today I am thinking about our smallest members of UUCSC – our children. While we older folks come together to enjoy Sunday services in the Sanctuary, beneath our feet our youngest folks and their parents inhabit a vibrant and magical world of learning and exploration. The very smallest ones can play safely in the nursery; the older kids come together for circle time, learning time, sharing time. Midway through the hour, the middle schoolers are eager to go into the youth room to play Dungeons and Dragons with Dungeon Master, Andrew White. Even more exciting is that there is also an OWL (Our Whole Lives) class for K-1st graders from 11-noon. So, when circle time and craft time are over, those kids go to their class and everyone else has free play.

The RE world is alive with the energy and enthusiasm that happens when kids come together in community. New families are arriving and there are now in the range of 13-20 (!) kids in RE on any given Sunday. It seems to me that this is the best kept secret of UUCSC! However, it concerns me that this wonderful world is so separate from what's going on upstairs, even though on occasion we all come together as one intergenerational community. How many of you have spent the time between 10-11am on a Sunday, or even half-hour, with the kids downstairs? Did you know that you are invited? I've now finally fully absorbed that we have an entire world downstairs and have now twice shared that time with the kids and enjoyed it immensely.

Most recently, last Sunday, Bina and I joined the kids and parents in RE to show our Tanzania safari slides. Weaving in the theme of interdependence, the kids were curious and very engaged in seeing videos and photos of elephants, giraffes, lions, baboons… all in their natural habitats. It was so much fun to share our special adventure with them – and to teach them a song in Swahili!

Finally, I hope that you are all aware of the **The Wünder Academy of Metamorphosis**! aka UUCSC's Summer Program. For the week of August 19th, from 9am-3pm every day, RE will be transformed into a magical realm of exploration and play where we all can grow more deeply into ourselves. Let's join Madame Monarch and Professor Goo to help plan or make the program happen. Contact Lee for more information.

There is a vibrant world beneath our feet. Let's get to know its wonderful richness.

In peace,
Nancy