



# ur Church Circular

November 2018

Noviembre 2018 / Nuestro periódico iglesia

*November Theme:*

**What does it mean to be a people of memory?  
¿Qué significa ser gente de memoria?**



**Biannual Service  
Auction set for  
November 11. See  
[sanjoseuu.org](http://sanjoseuu.org).**



# FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH *of San José*

**150** YEARS  
OF MAKING  
LOVE VISIBLE

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*Thanks for all the work you do and care you put into the newsletter.*

**We need photographers and writers. Come join the communications team! Contact Henry Ruddle at [rcreative1@gmail.com](mailto:rcreative1@gmail.com)**

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*FUCSJ had two tables at the PACT luncheon on October 8, 2018.*

# Remembering October's Altar to Our Sanctuaries

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

For October's theme—"What does it mean to be a people of Sanctuary?"—we asked, "Where, when, or with whom does each of us find peace, grounding, inspiration, and the chance to be our most authentic self?" We lifted up the places where we find comfort, which in its Latin root means "to make really strong," and we built an altar with the symbols and names of all the many places, relationships, and experiences that function as sanctuary for us.

Here are some of the sanctuaries we named, transcriptions, with repeats, of the slips of paper on the altar. The combined force of these sanctuaries is strengthening indeed! May the memory of them strengthen our commitment!

## All of my beloveds are my sanctuary.

Family  
Sunday evening dinner with our chosen family  
Jean, Elara, Johnny, Miles, Kristin  
Crystal  
Karen  
Paul  
Aquí friend circle  
My family, friends, boyfriend, and church community are my beloveds.  
Old and new friends  
Pets  
Friendship is sanctuary.  
Family  
My sanctuary is the love of my dad.  
Cats  
Isabella, she gives me sanctuary

Old friends  
Cats  
The touch, smile, eyes, sound, play of a dog

## The existence of UU churches

This church building and the community that fills it  
Our church building is a sanctuary, literally and emotionally.

Churches  
The Labyrinth  
First Unitarian Church of San José  
The People  
The Faith  
THIS BLESSED PLACE  
Chorus, book group, FUCSJ

## Nature

The beach and the ocean are my sanctuary.  
Willoughby Lake  
Farm bypass road, Rancho San Antonio  
Dirt road through forest  
The lake in Thousand Lakes Wilderness  
These leaves are for Camp Cann-edi-on, where I found shelter as a child, as well as all the walks in nature, then and now, that strengthen and inspire me.

Ocean  
My preferred Sanctuary is the ocean. Its vastness, beauty, and rhythms remind me of the Spirit of Life and Love, the divine, or G\_d. The sounds of nature open my heart and soul and allow me to find the peace within.

Gardens and Nature and Forest  
Earth is another Beloved.  
Redwood forest, beach  
Beach  
Forest

Yosemite Falls – Mirror Lake  
– North Pine – Half Dome –  
Curry Village – Glacier Point  
– Bridal Veil Falls

Redwoods  
Oceans  
Nature  
Gazing at an empty horizon  
Beach – meditating is my inner sanctuary.

## My home

My easy chair  
My backyard  
Balcony mornings with journal  
Our new backyard pagoda  
Home, with K'Ailsa and cats and sometimes with larger family  
My sanctuaries: parks and home—quiet and peaceful  
Meditation/yoga corner in my living room  
My bed  
Home – warmth – silence – light – sound – darkness – solitude – stillness

Nature  
My garden where, besides enjoying its beauty, I savor the weeding, watering, pruning for the peace it brings

## Books

Libraries  
Bookstores  
Good books  
Reading  
**Seeing so many people fighting for justice and against hate**  
March for Stopping Climate Change  
The French, Russian, Chinese, and Cuban Revolutions

## Creativity

Creating things

## Meditation

## Music

Listening to meaningful music with headphones

## And many more

San Francisco  
Restaurants  
Twitter communities  
Trying new things  
Office with coworkers  
Dr. Dahl  
Knitting needles  
Mystery  
Theater  
Campouts

In the secret theater of the mind where shapes shift forms fluid thought running rivulets of color in eddying swirls of meaning and un-meaning meandering memory slide in and out of focus and each other overriding overlapping intertwining and interposing shades of shapes bisecting and segmenting kaleidoscopic fractal in their tessellated matrix, each infinite facet at an intersection of the web a jeweled moment sparking in an infinite void

In college, my sanctuary was a study room atop a tower in the dorm. It was open to all, but quiet, and I could get away from all the distractions I created for myself.

Stop. Breathe. What's important now? Strike a balance. It'll work somehow ... Let it go ... Let it GROW! Let your intentions show, and be at peace with being perfectly imperfect.

Love is our Hope, happiness, Sadness, and our lives.

# Taking It Home: Re-Membering Who We Are

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones



*All that we have ever loved  
And all that we have ever been  
Stands with us on the edge  
Of all that we aspire to create:  
A deeper peace,  
A larger love,  
A more embracing hope,  
A deeper joy in this life we share.*

—Rev. Leslie Takahashi

“What does it mean to be a people of Memory?” asks our November theme. With pressing worries and urgent calls to action demanding our attention at home and in the world, and with midterm elections and important propositions on the November 6 ballot, it may seem odd to turn our attention to memory this month. Do we have time for this? More specifically, who has time for this? Isn’t rummaging through the past a spiritual practice that only well-off folks can do?

Our annual Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead celebration teaches us that the act of remembering can bring wholeness and strength to everyone. On Sunday, November 4, we bring to worship photos and mementos of our loved ones who have died—relatives, pets, and other important people who have had an influence on our lives. We place these symbols on our big bright altar, and we share memories about those lives. The spirits of those we love draw close, and we have a chance to learn from them once again.



We bring the past into the present in order to know that we are not alone. As the Rev. Leslie Takahashi says in her poem, “all that we have ever loved and all that we have ever been stands with us”—right now. When we reach down to touch our deepest roots, when we call on the strength of our ancestors, we remember what makes us who we are today. We lift up the messy and painful memories as well as the joyful and encouraging ones. Because, as one of our Soul Matters friends says, “it is in the space of memory that we are somehow held together, and also *re-assembled*. As we remember, we are *re-membered*.” Naming where we come, and from whom, puts us back together again . . . better than

before. With the practice of *re-membering*, we wake up to who we are now, to what we need to do, and to who we want to be as we do it.

## So here is the invitation to this month’s spiritual practice:

Make a list of all the people and creatures you have loved, all the people and creatures who have made a difference in your life. Living or dead, these are beloveds who dwell in the spaces of our memory.

Just jot down their names, or a brief description when you don’t know their names. Sometimes a chance encounter with a stranger can make a big difference in our lives, too.

This doesn’t have to be a perfect, or complete, or even a very long list. Just let each beloved appear in your memory’s eye and ear for a moment, and make a note of them.

As you add each name, let a specific memory or quality rise up about that beloved. Let it be the first thing or two that pops into your mind. Jot that down, too.

## For example, my list begins like this:

- My mother Jane: Generosity. Books.
- Rastus, our first dog: Companion. Softness.
- Ellen: Laughter. Trust.

Keep coming back to your list. Notice the gifts that each beloved has given you. Notice how they are part of who you are now, especially when you *re-member* them—when you bring them again into your awareness, when you let the accumulation of these gifts build and build into the complex, strong, shining person you are now.

You can weave this practice into your life first thing in the morning or last thing at night. You can share it with family and friends of all ages over a meal. You can ponder it on your way to work or school. You can add to it every day, every week this month. Notice what changes for you through this practice of mindful memory. Notice how connecting with your roots gives you an anchor strong enough to keep you solidly planted, even when outside events might shake us all.

“What does it mean to be a people of Memory?” Awake, alive, strong, ready to create a “larger love, a more embracing hope, a deeper joy in this life we share.” Come, let us re-member ourselves.

With love for who we are and all we bring,

Rev. Nancy

# Teniendo un Inicio: Re-Cordar Quiénes Somos

por la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

*Todo lo que alguna vez hemos amado  
Y todo lo que alguna vez hemos sido  
Puestos con nosotros en el borde  
De todo lo que aspiramos a crear:  
Una paz más profunda,  
Un amor más grande,  
Un abrazo más de esperanza  
Una alegría más profunda en esta vida que  
compartimos.*

—Rev. Leslie Takahashi

"¿Que significa ser gente de memoria?" pregunta nuestro tema de noviembre. Con apremiantes preocupaciones y llamadas urgentes a la acción que exige nuestra atención en el hogar y en el mundo y con las elecciones de medio término y proposiciones importantes en la votación del 6 de noviembre, puede parecer extraño a girar nuestra atención a la memoria este mes. ¿Tenemos tiempo para esto? Más específicamente, ¿quién tiene tiempo para esto? ¿No estar hurgando en el pasado de una práctica espiritual que sólo la gente acomodada puede hacer?

Nuestra celebración anual del Día de los Muertos nos enseña que el acto de recordar puede traer integridad y fuerza a todo el mundo. El domingo, 4 de noviembre, traemos al servicio fotos y recuerdos de nuestros seres queridos que han muerto—familiares, mascotas y otras personas importantes que han tenido una influencia en nuestras vidas. Nosotros colocamos estos símbolos en nuestro brillante gran altar y compartimos recuerdos sobre esas vidas. Los espíritus de aquellos a quienes que amamos estarán cerca, y tenemos una oportunidad para aprender de ellos una vez más.

Traemos el pasado al presente para saber que no estamos solos. Como la Rev. Leslie Takahashi dice en su poema, "todo lo que alguna vez hemos amado y todo lo que hemos sido siempre está con

nosotros", ahora mismo. Cuando llegamos a tocar nuestras raíces más profundas, cuando llamamos a la fuerza de nuestros ancestros, recordamos lo que nos hace quienes somos hoy. Nosotros levantamos los recuerdos desagradables y dolorosos como los alegres y alentadores. Porque como dice uno de nuestros amigos de Asuntos del alma "es en el espacio de la memoria que nos mantienen juntos de alguna manera y también nos vuelve a reunir. Mientras recordamos, somos *re-cordados*." Nombrar de dónde venimos y de quien venimos, nos pone de regreso juntos otra vez... mejor que antes. Con la práctica de *re-cordar*, despertamos hasta que nos encontramos, lo que tenemos que hacer y que queremos ser mientras lo hacemos.

## Así que aquí está la invitación a la práctica espiritual de este mes:

Hagan una lista de todas las personas y criaturas que han amado, todas las personas y criaturas que han hecho una diferencia en su vida. Vivos o muertos, son seres amados los que moran en los espacios de nuestra memoria.

Sólo escriban sus nombres y una breve descripción cuando no sepan sus nombres.

Esta no tiene que ser una perfecta o completa o incluso una lista muy larga. Dejan que cada ser amado aparezca en ojo y oído de su memoria por un instante y tome nota de ellos.

A medida que agrega cada nombre, dejen una memoria específica o calidad elevarse acerca de ese ser amado. Que sea el primer pensamiento o dos que aparezcan en su mente. Anote eso también.

## Por ejemplo, mi lista comienza así:

- Mi madre Jane: Generosidad. Libros.
- Rastus, nuestro primer perro: Compañía. Suavidad.
- Ellen: Risa. Confianza.

Sigan regresando a su lista. Tenga en cuenta los dones que cada ser amado les ha dado a ustedes. Observen cómo forman parte de quienes son ahora, especialmente cuando ustedes los *re-cuerdan*—cuando



los traen otra vez a su conciencia, cuando dejan que la acumulación de estos regalos construyan y construyan las complejas, fuertes y brillantes persona que son ahora.

Ustedes pueden tejer esta práctica en su vida, la primera en la mañana o última cosa por la noche. Usted puede compartirla con familiares y amigos de todas las edades en una comida. Usted puede reflexionar en su camino al trabajo o escuela. Usted puede agregarlo a ella cada día, cada semana de este mes. Observe lo que cambia para ustedes a través de esta práctica de la memoria consciente. Observe cómo conectar con sus raíces les da a ustedes un anclaje suficiente para mantenerse sólidamente plantados, incluso cuando los acontecimientos exteriores pueden sacudimos a todos nosotros.

"¿Qué significa ser gente de memoria?" Despierta, viva, fuerte, lista para crear un "gran amor, un abrazo más de esperanza, una alegría más profunda en esta vida que compartimos". Vengan, dejémonos re-cordar a nosotros mismos.

Con amor por quienes somos y todo lo que traemos,

Rev. Nancy

# In the Interim: What Is the Heart of Unitarian Universalism for You?

## Thoughts on Our Interim Conversation

by Susie Idzik, Interim Director of Religious Education



On Sunday, October 14th, we had our first “Interim Conversation” with soup and bread following worship. While enjoying a wide array of delicious soups, we explored the questions:

- What is the heart of Unitarian Universalism for you?
- What core Unitarian Universalist messages have made a real difference in how you live your life?
- In our congregation, how does being a Unitarian Universalist call us to be in relationship with each other?

As Unitarian Universalists, we are rarely asked to name out loud what this faith means to us. Rev. Nancy and I have asked these questions in meetings over the last couple of months, and each time we have been moved by the answers.

That Sunday afternoon in October didn't disappoint. The responses were thoughtful reflections on what it means to join together in this faith. The conversations were lively, with each person, across all ages, expressing how this tradition affects them day to day and how it adds to their life. Sharing these answers out loud, speaking to how we are living as Unitarian Universalists, is essential for understanding ourselves as faith-full people.

In these Interim Conversations, we are diving deep into what we mean by the term “*faith formation*.” According to Merriam-Webster, *faith* is something that is believed, especially with strong conviction, and *formation* is an act of giving form or shape to something. So “*faith formation*” is *giving shape to that which is believed with strong conviction*.

The questions posed in October asked what is it that we believe, with strong con-

viction, as Unitarian Universalists and how does this community give shape to those beliefs. We asked those participating to write down their thoughts, and out of the 55 people who attended, we received over 40 responses. Here is a brief summary of what they said:

The heart of Unitarian Universalism: Empathy, acceptance, inclusivity. Inherent worth and dignity of all. Equity and equality. Interfaith actions. The Principles and our Affirmation. The voice of God speaks to the heart of each person. We choose to be here. The heart of UU lies in the shared values expressed. Compassion for myself and the rest of the world. Deeds not creeds.

Core messages that have made a difference: This community has made me a more thoughtful person and citizen. I am challenged to be more open to others. I am called to be my best self, to push myself out of my comfort zone, and to use my white and class privilege to change the world. I'm living out shared values by acting in community to help with causes that Make Love Visible.

Relationships in this community: Helping other congregants is the heart and first call of a UU, as love dwells in us and shows us needs we cannot see. Unconditional love. Respectful discussions where I don't feel fearful to disagree. Expressions of caring and involvement are constant. Love connects us and illuminates our interconnectedness. Relationship is a faith.

Our next conversation will take place on November 18th after worship, with more soup and bread (I can't wait to try them all!). We will explore the History of Religious Education at FUCSJ. This is an essential component of the Interim Period. While I could research and write up the history for you, the congregation actually needs to

hear the history from you. We ask that you share your recollections of the Religious Education program – good, bad, indifferent – over the years. Here are the questions:

- What do you remember about FUCSJ's religious education program(s) and when was that? (Remember: religious education can span all ages.)
- What happened that you may (or may not) have participated in?
- What have you heard about our RE programs—about what they are and what they have been?
- What has been most important in the RE program at FUCSJ?

What's most important is what stands out for each of you. This includes those who have had children go through the program, those who have participated in any Adult Religious Education, and families currently engaged with the Children's RE program.

Your sharing could be something like this: Fall 2008 – Coming of Age with other UU congregations. We'll put all of these recollections together to tell the story of Religious Education at FUCSJ.

No need to wait until November 18 to share your memories! Please feel free to share via email to Susie [fucsire@gmail.com](mailto:fucsire@gmail.com). Or you can use this surveymonkey form [www.surveymonkey.com/r/REHistory](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/REHistory). Or you can use the lavender sheet that is in the Order of Service on Sundays. We look forward to hearing what you remember!

In Joy,

Susie

# We Packed 10,000 Meals for the Homeless on October 13!



## Report on September Church Work Party (aka Service Is Our Prayer)

by Bob Howd

We had a good turnout for the September 15 church work party – 14 people including Rev. Nancy to bless us and cheer us on!

Participants included **Mary Martin, Ram Kakalara, Julia Rodrigues, Steve Saunders, Maggie Norris, Bob Owen, Jim Guffey, Sundar and Nilesh Mudupalli, Bob Howd**; three Third Street Community Center (TSCC) volunteers, **Wynton Yu, Cindy Hernandez, and Yaneli Gaora**; and **Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones**.

As usual, we accomplished a lot, including cleaning out drains outside the church, fixing a wobbly chair and that wobbly bell stand in the Sanctuary, checking out emergency lights, fixing a bathroom soap dispenser, replacing burnt-out bulbs, sanitizing toys in the nursery, repairing a chair in the sanctuary, and a lot of general cleaning. The TSCC volunteers cleaned the downstairs kitchen, sanitized the bathrooms and classrooms, and helped with several other tasks.

We finished with a simple lunch, partially



provided by **Rosemary Baez**, executive director of TSCC. This is rewarding work! We hope that others can join us for the next work party on Saturday, December 8.

### Final Note

**Bob Howd**, who has been organizing these work parties for several years, will be “retiring” from this job at the end of this year, and hopes that other church members can step forward to carry on this important leadership role.

# Adult and Youth Classes



## Children and Youth Programs for 2018-19

by **Susie Idzik, Interim Director of Religious Education**

**W**e welcome all children and youth to join the community for the first part of worship at 11 am through the Story for All Ages and then go to their respective classes until 12:30 pm.

### Nursery: Birth–Five Years

#### Lower Level Starting 10:45 to 12:30

We provide loving attention and care, support each child in initiating play activities at their own developmental level. Each week our paid staff, **Alicia Keene** and **Mayra Cerda-Klinkhammer**, provide a loving presence as they engage children in games, stories and crafts with seasonal and holiday themes throughout the year. Each week, preschoolers and older will join in a chalice lighting, sharing time, and story.

### Grades 1-5: Soul Matters & Stories of Courage & Wisdom

This class will be engaged in Soul Matters themes that will be explored in Sunday services. In November they will explore What does it mean to be a people of Memory?. The children will experience this theme in the stories of people who have acted with courage and wisdom in their attempts to fully live their lives and make the world a better place. Each session strives to be experiential and is designed to engage children in three fundamental spiritual experiences; what we call “the three S’s.” Silence = meditation, listening, mindfulness. Service = leadership, helping others. Sunshine = connection with our bodies through movement.

#### In November:

**Nov. 4** Whole Church Worship: Day of the Dead – Wonder Making Area during Worship

**Nov. 11** Remembering the Shoulders You Stand On: Creating a chain of remembrance

**Nov. 18** Remembering the wider gifts: Honoring the gifts of the individual that make up the whole.

**Nov. 25** Remembering What Really Matters: Random Acts of Kindness

### Grades 6 through 9, Middle School+

The Middle School group will meet to explore the monthly themes and the Lode-stone curriculum. Each session will include a chalice lighting, focusing questions that will provoke a relevant and meaningful conversation, activities and a closing. The group will meet during the Sunday worship service in the Conference Room.

### Interim Conversations

We had a wonderful Interim Conversation on October 14th. We explored the question of “What does Unitarian Universalism mean to you?.” **On November 18th we will be meeting again to discuss the history of Religious Education at FUCSJ.** Please join us for this crucial and interesting conversation. To find out more, **please see Susie’s column on page 6: In the Interim.** We look forward to seeing you there! All ages are encouraged to attend.



*Just chattin' in the labyrinth: (left to right) Sarai, Felix, Ruby's back, Bennett, and Julien*





# Democratic Governance

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

12:40 PM

## Congregational Meeting: Consider Ordination of Rodney Lemery

by Robert Strong, President

### Sanctuary

The First Unitarian Church of San Jose has a wonderful opportunity before it. After a successful and (at least for us!) delightful two years of work with our Church as a volunteer ministerial intern, after having finished his studies with Meadville Lombard Theological School, and after his being admitted into Preliminary Fellowship by the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee just this past month, we have the opportunity to ordain our recent intern, **Rodney Lemery**, as a Unitarian Universalist minister!

The sacrament of ordination of a minister within Unitarian Universalism is decided and performed via the congregational polity of individual congregations. This will most likely be a co-ordination, with FUCSJ and Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, Rodney's "home" church.

*To allow us to ordain Rodney, I, as President of FUCSJ, am calling a "special meeting" of the Congregation for Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 12:40 pm.*

A special Congregational meeting can only be about the announced subject, so this meeting should be over by 1 pm. (I recognize that this meeting time is in conflict with both the Homeless Concerns meeting and the meeting of Band of Writers. I hope that the Band of Writers will be able



to delay their start to 1 pm, and that those involved with the Homeless Concerns can arrive there a bit late.)

The schedule for the ordination ceremony itself will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019. More details, time and place to be announced.

Please save that date, and also plan to attend the congregational meeting on December 2nd!

If you would like to help work on the draft of the resolution in support of the ordination, please contact **Robert Strong** at [strong00@pacbell.net](mailto:strong00@pacbell.net).

## Pledge Statements Switching to Email

by Jim Rumbaugh, Treasurer

Quarterly statements listing your contributions toward your pledges for this year were sent to all donors at the end of September.

If you have not received yours or if you find any discrepancies, please contact **Mary Idso**, Finance Officer, at [mridso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mridso@sbcglobal.net) or 408-257-1217, or **Jim Rumbaugh**, Treasurer, at [jimrumbaugh@earthlink.net](mailto:jimrumbaugh@earthlink.net) or 408-741-1150.

In the future, to save resources and reduce environmental impacts, we will be sending quarterly statements by email; if you need to continue receiving a paper copy or want to update your email address, please contact our Office Manager, **Sharmeen Enayat**, at [fucsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fucsoffice@gmail.com) or at 408-292-3858, ext. 221. We thank you for your support of this covenantal community.



*FUCSJ members filled two tables at the October 8 PACT luncheon.*

# Sunday Services / Servicios Domingo

**ALABANZAS EN ESPAÑOL 10:15 AM**

Venga a unirse a nosotros para este servicio simple de oración-meditación de media hora (sin sermón) a las 10:15 am en una mezcla de inglés y español en la biblioteca de la iglesia.

Come join us for this simple prayer-meditation service (without sermon) at 10:15 am, held in a mixture of English and Spanish in the Church Library.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 11 AM**



**El Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead:**

## Remembering the Gifts of Loved Ones Who Have Passed

What to Bring: For our annual Día de los Muertos service, please bring photos, mementos, or flowers in honor of your loved ones (people or pets) who have died, and place them on our colorful ofrenda (altar) before the service. If you can, please bring some of your loved one's favorite food (finger foods preferred) or drink to share at your table in Hattie Porter Hall.

The Service: We open the service with song and story. We bring into the heart of the sanctuary all who have lost a beloved in the last three years, and we sing our comfort to them. Then we move into Hattie Porter Hall to gather at tables (please pick a table based on the birth month of one of your loved ones). There, we will share stories and our loved one's favorite snacks. We focus on the gifts that their memory

brings us! Come ready to share a vivid story, and to laugh, Mexican style, at how even Death cannot separate us from Love!

In the service, the Alegría Singers bring us "El Amor Nunca Pasará" (Love Will Never End), by Mexican composer Eleazar Cortés.

**Worship Leader:** the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Worship Associate:** Inés Zapiola

**DOMINGO, 4 DE NOVIEMBRE 11 AM**

**Día de los Muertos:**

## Recordando los Regalos de los Seres Queridos Quienes Se Han Ido

Qué traer: Para nuestro anual servicio del Día de los Muertos, favor de traer fotos, recuerdos o flores en honor de sus seres queridos (personas o mascotas) quienes han muerto y colocarlos en nuestra colorida ofrenda (altar) antes del servicio. Si pueden, por favor traigan alguna de las comidas favoritas de su ser querido (preferentemente comida para picar) o beber para compartir en su mesa de Hattie Porter Hall.

El servicio: Abrimos el servicio con una canción y una historia. Traemos al corazón del santuario a todos los que han perdido a un ser querido en los últimos tres años, y cantamos nuestro consuelo para ellos. Luego nos vamos al Hattie Porter Hall para reunirnos en las mesas (por favor elija una mesa basada en el mes de nacimiento de uno de sus seres queridos). Allí, compartimos historias y la comida favorita de nuestros seres queridos. ¡Nos centramos en los regalos que nos trae su memoria! ¡Vengan dispuestos a compartir una historia viva y a reír, al estilo mexicano, en cómo incluso la muerte no puede separarnos del amor!

En el servicio, Alegría Singers nos trae "El Amor Nunca Pasará" (Love Will Never End), del compositor mexicano Eleazar Cortés.

**Dirige:** la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Asociada de Celebración:** Inés Zapiola

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 11 AM**



## Diwali: The Power of Memory!

On this Sunday we celebrate the annual Indian Festival of Lights, Diwali! Offering special music, lighting the diyas, and sharing stories with substance, we build a homegrown Diwali tradition that honors its origins and blooms with new meaning in our sanctuary. How does memory guide the protagonists in the Ramayana, one of the root texts for Diwali? How does memory help to create community for Indians in diaspora? For those of us for whom Diwali is new, how do the memories we create with these rituals expand our consciousness and our capacity to love?

The Alegría Singers offer the "Ganesh Mantra," arranged by Jaie Tiefenbrunn.

**Worship Leaders:** Gautam Biswas, Ram Kakarala, Sundar Mudupalli, and Kasthuri Veeraraghavan; **Worship Associate:** Diana Mecum

**DOMINGO, 11 DE NOVIEMBRE 11 AM**

## Diwali: ¡El Poder de la Memoria!

¡En este domingo, nosotros celebramos el Festival anual de la India de las Luces, Diwali! Ofreciendo música especial, iluminación de las velas y compartir historias con sustancia, construimos una versión propia de la tradición de Diwali que hace honor a sus orígenes y las floraciones con

nuevo significado en nuestro Santuario. ¿Cómo la memoria guía a los protagonistas en el Ramayana, un de las raíces de los textos para el Diwali? ¿Cómo ayuda la memoria para crear comunidad para la diáspora de los indios? Para aquellos de nosotros para quienes el Diwali es nuevo, ¿cómo los recuerdos que creamos con estos rituales amplia nuestra conciencia y nuestra capacidad de amar?

Alegría Singers ofrecer el "Mantra de Ganesh," arreglado por Jaie Tiefenbrunn.

**Dirigen:** Gautam Biswas, Ram Kakarala, Sundar Mudupalli, y Kasthuri Veeraraghavan; **Asociada de Celebración:** Diana Mecum

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 11 AM**



### Sankofa: Go Back and Get It—Memories of Our Unitarian Universalist Past

On this Sunday, we celebrate the gifts of our Unitarian Universalist past. We lift up the history and work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. We remember the mistakes and the miracles of our predecessors. And we bring forward these memories into ways we can Make Love Visible now.

We also honor Transgender Day of Remembrance with the reading of names of those trans kindred who have died. And we start the Gift Exchange drawings, in preparation for our celebration of Yule on Sunday, December 23!

Eric Meece brings our organ back to life, and all who want one can receive a Guest at Your Table box for the holidays!

**Worship Leader:** the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Worship Associate:** TBA

**DOMINGO, 18 DE NOVIEMBRE 11 AM**

### Sankofa: Regresar y Conseguirlo — Recuerdos de Nuestro Pasado Unitario Universalista

En este domingo, celebramos los regalos de nuestro pasado de Unitario Universalista. Nosotros elevamos la historia y el trabajo del Comité de Servicio Unitario Universalista. Recordemos los errores y los milagros de nuestros antepasados. Y traemos estas memorias en la forma de que podemos Hacer el Amor Visible ahora.

También honramos el Día del Recuerdo Transgenero con la lectura de los nombres de aquellos trans que han muerto. ¡Y comenzamos a sacar el intercambio de regalos, en preparación para la celebración de Navidad el domingo, 23 de diciembre!

Eric Meece trae a nuestro órgano a la vida, ¡y todos los que quieren uno pueden recibir un invitado en la caja de su mesa para las fiestas!

**Dirige:** la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Asociados de Celebración:** TBA

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25 11 AM**

### You, me, we and Prison Reform

Please join us on this Sunday as we recall how our Unitarian Universalist past inspires us to engage in prison ministry and its reform. There will be stories of our faith's past merged with stories from the present experiences of our recent Ministerial Intern, Rodney Lemery, as he shares

his experience as a Chaplain at the Solano County Jail. This service will provide all of us ways to actively participate in Making Love Visible in our justice system!

**Worship Leader:** Rodney Lemery; **Worship Associate:** Ram Kakarala



**DOMINGO, 25 DE NOVIEMBRE 11 AM**

### Ustedes, Yo, Nosotros y la Reforma de la Prisión

Por favor únense a nosotros en este domingo que recordamos cómo nuestro pasado Unitario Universalista nos inspira a participar en el ministerio Penitenciario y su reforma. Habrá historias del pasado de nuestra fe que se fusionan con historias de las experiencias presentes de nuestro Interino Ministerial reciente, Rodney Lemery, mientras comparte su experiencia como Capellán en la cárcel del Condado de Solano. ¡Este servicio proporcionará a todos, los medios a participar activamente en Hacer el Amor Visible en nuestro sistema de justicia!

**Dirige:** Rodney Lemery; **Asociado de Celebración:** Ram Kakarala



*The Alegria Singers performed "I Choose You" at the October 21 service.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS 12:45 PM**

## Young-at-Heart Fellowship Group Sunday Lunch

### Hattie Porter Hall by Newcomer's Table

Join our young adult/young-at-heart fellowship group for Lunch! Meet in Hattie Porter Hall near the Newcomer's table at about 12:45 pm. Questions? Contact [uuthful\\_spirits-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:uuthful_spirits-owner@yahoo.com)

**TUESDAYS 8-9 PM**



## Guitars Aloud!

### Ramsden Fireside Room

Guitarists! Let's get together each Tuesday to play UU hymns and other music suitable for services. This free event (for multiple levels) will help you develop your musicianship as you serve the church and its ideals. Ages teen through adult are welcome. Please call **Sally Cooperrider** (408-204-1046) before attending for the first time as the group occasionally skips a week.

**WEDNESDAYS 7-9 PM**



## Alegría Singers Choir Practice

### Sanctuary

Join the FUCSJ choir in singing at Sunday services, special events such as solstice celebrations and Coffeehouses, and various church activities. Questions? Liz Owen [lowen@data-time.com](mailto:lowen@data-time.com).

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1 1-3 PM**



## Women's Alliance

### Ramsden Fireside Room

Please join the members of the Women's Alliance on Thursday, November 1, from 1 to 3 pm in the Ramsden Fireside Room. Join us for Cakes for the Queen of Heaven Session 2, "In the Name of the Mother and the Daughter." We will compare past and present views of the life stages of women and use the myth of Demeter and Persephone to think about our own mother-daughter relationships. For further details, contact **Nancy Coleman** at 408 256 1622 or [nbc Coleman@gmail.com](mailto:nbc Coleman@gmail.com).

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 8 PM**



## First Friday Quarterly Dances of Universal Peace

### Sanctuary

The Dances of Universal Peace are now being held quarterly, so the final dance in 2018 will be on Friday, November 2.

Come join us on the labyrinth under the dome of our church. The Dances of Universal Peace are a spiritual practice honoring the inherent worth and dignity of every human being, celebrating the interconnected web of all existence. The words of the sacred phrases, as well as the melodies and the movements, are taught each time. If you have questions, you can email **Patrick Smiley** at [patrick.smiley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patrick.smiley@sbcglobal.net) or telephone and leave a message at his cell-phone: 408-421-6492.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 12:45-2:15 PM**



## Homeless Concerns Committee Meeting

### Classroom 4-6

At our last meeting we completed about 60 Hygiene Kits to give to PATH, the organization that works with the Homeless in our church neighborhood. Many thanks to all who helped put the kits together, and many thanks to all of you who donated such a generous supply of items! We intend to compile these kits quarterly, so your continued donations are very welcome.

Our next meeting on the first Sunday in November is an important one. (November 4 at 12:45-2:00 pm in Classrooms 4-6.) We will be reexamining our focus and where we want to put our energies. There are some very interesting possibilities! Please come be part of the discussion!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 10-11 AM**



## HUUMANATI Forum

### Hattie Porter Hall

We gather, socialize, check in, read aloud, write haiku, play games, or whatever. Come by to tarry awhile, share your thoughts, or just listen. It's fun, and interesting talk always happens. We meet at the table nearest the coffee. For more information, contact: **Amy**, 408-730-9622.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 12:45 PM**



### Band of Writers

#### Youth Room

The UU Band of Writers is a place for writers, readers, and those who like to listen. We have a monthly prompt-driven assignment, and a 10-minute writing session at each meeting. But if you'd rather not share your own literary masterpieces, come and read aloud someone else's. Comic, dramatic, fantastic, poetic; memoirs, dreams, musings, novels a 'birthing' — it's all good. Join us in the upstairs Youth Room on the first Sunday of the month. New folks are always welcome. Next meeting's prompt for non-obligatory homework assignment: *Guests*.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5 7-9 PM**

### Social Justice Council Meeting

#### Conference Room

The Social Justice Council now meets on the first Mondays of the month in the downstairs conference room. Please join us on Monday, November 5, at 7:00 pm in the downstairs conference room. We can preview and plan movies. Also, should the UUA have Congregation Study/Action Issues (CSAIs) or Statements of Conscience (SOC), we can discuss them. What other Social Justice processes should there be? What would you like to discuss?

Please join us to make your voice heard! For more information or if you are locked out, call or text **John Burk** at 408-259-3781.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 7-9 PM**

### Community Sing with Dr. Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock!

#### Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA

Want to restore your spirits? Want to get motivated for Making Love Visible and helping to heal our broken old world? Singing with Dr. Ysaye Barnwell is the ticket!! As she says, "music heals, educates and

agitates." She offers inspiration for singers and non-singers alike! Consider this proposed field trip and join others from FUCSJ on Friday, November 9, 7-9 pm.

Suggested donation: \$20 for adults; \$10 for students—No one will be turned away for lack of funds.



RSVP to Sharmeen Enayat, [fucsjo-office@gmail.com](mailto:fucsjo-office@gmail.com) by Monday, November 5! Please let Sharmeen know if you can drive a carpool and how many people you can take, or if you need a ride. Then look for an email confirming our plans later that week.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 12:15 PM**



### Fabulous Service Auction and Free Lunch

#### Hattie Porter Hall

You are invited to our fabulous fundraiser! The Service Auction is coming on Sunday November 11, right after the service. Come for a lovely free lunch, and have fun shopping! Your presence will make our biggest fundraiser of the year awesome!

**SUNDAY, NOV. 11 4:30 – 8 PM**

*(one-time change of time)*

### San José English Country Dance

#### Hattie Porter Hall

Enjoy truly social group dancing to classical and folk music from the last five cen-

turies! In our pattern dances, you dance with the whole room. Come alone or with friends — we change partners after every dance. All group dances taught and prompted, no experience necessary, no complicated footwork. For the best experience, come at the beginning of the dance — later patterns are more complex. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

**SUNDAY, NOV. 11 5:30 PM**



### Second Sunday Supper for Julian Street Inn

We will serve a baked chicken dinner for the residents of Julian Street Inn, a LiveMoves homeless shelter.

To help prepare and serve the meal, please contact **Mary Mary Feldman** at [mm@feldmo.com](mailto:mm@feldmo.com) or **David Proulx** at [dp@dpsw.tech](mailto:dp@dpsw.tech).

**THURSDAY, NOV. 15 1-4 PM**



### Family Dance

Join for super fun, kid-friendly dances for all ages! InTentCity band from Idaho is four siblings who grew up playing music

and now tour the country playing for contra dances, house concerts, and community events. Claire Takemori will call exciting but easy dances that are picked out just for you.

All dances are taught then called while you dance to live music (fiddle, guitar, keyboard, percussion). We will walk, skip, stomp and clap in circles, lines, squares and scattered around the room (families can always stay together if needed). We might sing, play a game, and have the band play fun tunes during a break .

All ages are welcome! Babies and toddlers could be worn in a backpack or front carrier. Younger or shy children may like to dance as "one" with an adult or older sibling to assist. Typically we have families with kids under 10. The dances are easy for anyone who can walk and hold hands. Adults and older siblings are wonderful to model and help younger ones learn the dances. Everyone will have fun.

Wear cool, comfortable layers as dancing is good exercise. Wear comfortable shoes for walking (heels or heavy shoes are not recommended). Bring a water bottle and a snack to share if you'd like.

**COST: \$15 Family; \$8 Adult; \$5 Child \$5 BACDS members**

**Babies & FUCSJ members FREE!**

Co-sponsored by FUCSJ & BACDS with donations.

**RSVP:** [bit.ly/SanJoseFamilyDance](http://bit.ly/SanJoseFamilyDance)

**Event:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/296050580949627/>

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5 DEADLINE  
SAT/SUN, NOVEMBER 17/18 SUPPERS**



**Circle Supper!**

**Member's Homes**

**Have you been hearing about Circle Suppers? Try one this month.**

Circle Suppers offer an opportunity for members of the church community to get to know one another at casual pot luck suppers. Small groups come together in members' homes to share food and conversation. Hosting is not a requirement for all attendees. Singles and couples, long-time church members or new to this church community, all are welcome. Some folks attend often and others only occasionally.

The suppers in November will be Saturday the 17th and Sunday the 18th. The deadline to sign up is Monday, November 5. Contact **Barbara Derbyshire** at [CircleSuppers@AOL.com](mailto:CircleSuppers@AOL.com).

**SUNDAY, NOV. 18 12:45-1:45 PM**

**Rights of Nature Group Meeting**

**Ramsden Fireside Room**

The Rights of Nature group meets in the Ramsden Fireside Room after the service at 12:45 pm. We will be discussing the EcoChallenge ([ecochallenge.org](http://ecochallenge.org)) and the UUA common read, Justice on Earth.

The next meeting is November 18. Everyone is welcome!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 12:15 PM**

**Interim Conversations**

**Hattie Porter Hall**

We had a wonderful Interim Conversation on October 14th. We explored the question of "What does Unitarian Universalism mean to you?." **On November 18th we will be meeting again to discuss the history of Religious Education at FUCSJ.** Please join us for this crucial and interesting conversation, which will replace the normal social hour.

**SUNDAY, NOV. 18 2:30 – 6 PM**



**South Bay Contra Dance**

**Hattie Porter Hall**

Introduction to Contra 2:30 pm, Dancing 3-6 pm. Social dance for all ages to live music. No experience or partner needed. All dances taught and called. If it's your first time trying Contra dance, and you come to the Introduction at 2:30, then your admission is free. Dance starts at 3 pm. Wear comfortable shoes. Suggested donation — \$5-\$15; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. All details available at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SouthBayContraDance/>

**Stay Up-to-Date with Facebook & [sanjoseuu.org/whats happening](http://sanjoseuu.org/whats happening)**



The latest church events, photos, and updates can be found on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/FUCSJ](http://www.facebook.com/FUCSJ) and our website [sanjoseuu.org](http://sanjoseuu.org) — find out about upcoming services on the homepage, and all other events under "What's Happening."





# Circling Around

by Torchy Hunter

So I pick up an old notebook and casually flip through it, and am amazed to find the answers that I wrote down from questions from a long time ago.

Here's how long ago: some of the people have moved away, and some have passed away! Talked to my editor **Catherine Pelizzari**, and we have decided to run it.

## The question was: Who, living or dead, would you like to have dinner with?

**Barbara Grover** says Erma Bombeck.

**Bev Clifford** says Leo Buscaglia.

**Frank Farris** says somebody you never heard of: Hugo Wolf.

(I just looked him up and learned that he was a German composer of art songs; died of syphilis.)

**Mary Martin** wants Julia Child.

**Steve Stein** says Julia Morgan.

**Jean Embree** says Shakespeare, of course.

**Alice Lynch** would dine with Desmond Tutu.

**Heather Bridger-Ulloa** says Mary Magdalene.

**Henry Ruddle** says Dorothy Parker

**April Moen** says Jesus.

Aren't we a group?

**Bob Meiss** also said Jesus, but changed to Paul of Tarsus.

**Alec MacLean** also says Jesus, but tells me Emmalinda is the new religious education coordinator in Canoga Park (this information might be a clue as to when this conversation occurred).

Jean Embree also changed her mind and instead of Shakespeare wants dinner with the Santa Clara County Democratic Organization. Seems like a pretty big come-down from Shakespeare to me.

**MM Feldman** wants Agatha Christie. (I think she actually thinks about these responses.)

**John Harris** wants dinner with Jackie Kennedy.

**Frank Bosche** wanted dinner with Abe Lincoln. He'd probably be sitting next to **Ed Massey** and Buddha.

I'm thinking I'd like to talk with any Etruscan.

I don't know about you, but I got a stab of smiling when thinking about our absent ones.



## Hiking Schedule (November 2018)

Dear Hikers, please call or email me if you plan to hike so we know that you are joining us and can tell you if plans have changed: home phone 408-730-1052 or cell 408-769-0534; [j408miller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j408miller@sbcglobal.net). — **Joyce Miller**



### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3 8:30 AM

Wunderlich County Park. Two hikes: One 3+ mile loop, longer hike 5-6 miles depending on what loop is chosen. Meet at the Page Mill/280 Park and Ride.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 8:30 AM

Los Gatos Creek Trail, 4 miles, easy. We stop at coffee shop. I plan to do the whole hike. Meet at trail head. Directions: Meet at Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos. It is near the intersection of Lark and Highway 17. Take Lark exit off of 17 and go straight across Lark to Garden Hill Drive. Continue on Garden Hill for about 5 blocks. There is plenty of street parking.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10 8:30 AM

Russian Ridge Open Space, 3-5 miles. Two hikes. We will start out together, but folks doing

the shorter hike will take a shorter loop off of the Ancient Oaks trail. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 8:30 AM

Saratoga Gap/Achistaca Loop. Two hikes: 3+ miles and regular 5+ miles. The short hike will start at the trailhead at Long Ridge, and the longer hike will start at the parking lot at the intersection of Highway 9 and Skyline Blvd. The folks doing the shorter hike will car pool separately. It is all in the shade. Meet at Saratoga parking lot. Turn right into first driveway past the Union 76 station and drive to back.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17 8:30 AM

Saratoga Gap Trail, 6 miles out and back, moderate. There will be a shorter version where some of us will turn around after 2 miles. Meet

at Saratoga Parking lot. Turn right into first driveway past the Union 76 station and drive to back.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 8:30 AM

Mt. Umunhum, 7.4 miles round trip. Some of us will meet folks at the top and walk down. I may try to walk up if my fitness has improved by then. I will put out car pool information closer to the date.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24 8:30 AM

Arastradero Preserve. Two hikes; 3-4 and 6 miles. The short hike will be a loop within the park and the longer hike will be the one that goes into Foothills Park and back. Meet at the Trailhead parking lot on Arastradero Rd.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 8:30 AM

Almaden Quicksilver, Mockingbird entrance. Two hikes: the usual one, 6 miles, and a shorter version, 3.3 miles. Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond.



160 North Third Street  
San José, CA 95112

### Want to Receive the Newsletter?

To receive the newsletter on paper, fill out the form at this link: <http://sanjoseuu.org/form/index.php?sid=2> or call (408) 292-3858

To receive the newsletter via email: [fucsjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fucsjoffice@gmail.com) or [fucsj+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:fucsj+subscribe@groups.io)

Next issue copy deadline: 3 pm Wednesday, November 14

Mailing: Thursday, November 22

View this newsletter online in PDF format at: [sanjoseuu.org](http://sanjoseuu.org)

Donations are welcome to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. Suggested donation: \$18-\$20 per year — please mail to Office Manager — or bring returnable bottles/cans for us to recycle!

## Save the Dates

**November 1**, Thursday, 1-3 pm, Women's Alliance, Ramsden Fireside Room

**November 2**, Friday, 8 pm, First Friday Quarterly Dances of Universal Peace, Sanctuary

**November 4**, Sunday, 10-11 am, HUUmanati Forum, Hattie Porter Hall

**November 4**, Sunday, 12:45-2 pm, Band of Writers, Youth Room

**November 4**, Sunday, 12:45-2 pm, Homeless Concerns Committee Meeting, Downstairs Classroom 4-6

**November 5**, Monday, 7:00-9:00 pm, Social Justice Council Meeting, Conference Room

**November 9**, Friday, 7-9 pm, Community Sing, Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, Kensington; sign-up deadline Monday, November 5

**November 11**, Sunday, After Service, Service Auction and Lunch, Hattie Porter Hall

**November 17 & 18**, Saturday & Sunday, Circle Suppers, contact Barbara Derbyshire @ [CircleSuppers@AOL.com](mailto:CircleSuppers@AOL.com); sign-up deadline Monday, November 5

**November 18**, Sunday, 12:45-1:45 pm, Rights of Nature Group Meeting, Ramsden Fireside Room

**December 2**, Sunday, 12:40 pm, Congregational Meeting: Consider Ordination of Rodney Lemery, Sanctuary

**READY TO BECOME A NEW MEMBER OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SAN JOSÉ? Contact Rev. Nancy, [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com)**

### For Pastoral Care

Our community strives to offer compassion, companionship, healing, and joy to all its members. Our pastoral care coordinators can help you find the listening ear or helping hands that you may need in difficult times.

### Contacting the Ministers

**Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones** feels honored to serve this congregation, and she cherishes your trust! Here is how to reach her: Nancy (408) 292-3858, ext. 223 Mon.-Thurs.; cell (408) 952-9418; e-mail: [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com).

### Cuidado Pastoral

Nuestra comunidad se esfuerza en ofrecer la compasión, el compañerismo curativo, y la alegría a todos sus miembros. Nuestros coordinadores en cuidado pastoral pueden ayudarle a encontrar un oído que escucha, o las manos que ayudan cuando ustedes lo pudieran necesitar en épocas difíciles.

### Contactando al Ministra

**La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones** se siente honrada de servir a esta congregación y aprecia su confianza! Aquí puede contactarla: Nancy (408) 292-3858, ext. 223 de lunes a jueves; célula (408) 952-9418; e-mail: [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com).

### How You Can Support This Congregation:

#### Your Presence and Time

*Attend Sunday services, join a Small Group or one of the many social/activity groups, serve on a committee, come to events, like us on Facebook. Visit [www.sanjoseuu.org](http://www.sanjoseuu.org) for more ideas!*

#### Contribute to Fundraisers, Weekly Collections

*Make an annual pledge of support (fulfill it by check, EFT, stock transfer or Paypal), attend fundraisers such as the service auction and mystery musical, watch for special collections.*