



Our Church Circular

January 19,
2011 / 19 de
Enero, 2011

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

JANUARY/FEBRUARY THEME: Season of Love: Christmas Day to Valentines Day
TEMA DE ENERO/FEBRERO: Temporada de Amor: Día de la Navidad al Día de San Valentín

10:15 a.m.
Servicios en español

Todos los domingos en diciembre

Alabanzas en Español

Vengan a unirse a nosotros para esta simple media hora de oración-meditación (sin sermón) a las 10:15 am en español en el salón de la chimenea. Creado para nosotros por los miembros conectados con nuestro Ministerio en Español, este servicio proporciona tiempo de culto y comunión en el lenguaje del alma para nuestros hispanoparlantes, junto con el íntimo abrazo alimentador que es tan significativo para algunos de nuestros oradores de inglés y español por igual. Una meditación atractiva que sirva como un preludio para el servicio de múltiples idiomas a las 11:00 am. ¡Las palabras son en español; los abrazos hablan universalmente!

Every Sunday in December

Spanish Lauds

Come join us for this simple half-hour prayer-meditation service (without sermon) at 10:15 am in Spanish in the Fireside Room. Created for us by members connected with our Spanish Speaking Ministry, this service provides time for worship and fellowship in the language of the soul for our Spanish speakers, along with the intimate hug-full gathering that is so meaningful to some of our English and Spanish speakers alike. This engaging meditation serves as a prelude to the multi-lingual service at 11:00 am. The words are in Spanish; the hugs speak universally!

See page 2 for more SUNDAY SERVICES/SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO más en la página 2

11:00 a.m.
Services in English

January 23

Holy Hearts in Sacred Places

Rev. Wendy Pantoja, consulting minister, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palisades (UUCP) in New Jersey, will inspire us with her vision of the sacred.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Wendy Pantoja

Worship Associate: Bruce Halen

Enero 23

Corazones Santos en Espacios Sagrados

"Cuando nuestro corazón está en un lugar santo..." Así comienza un himno en uno de nuestros nuevos himnarios. Hoy vamos a explorar lo que significa encontrar ese lugar y bendecir el espacio que habitamos.

Dirige: la Rev. Wendy Pantoja

Asociado de Culto: Bruce Halen

January 30

Awakening to Love

Do you have all the love that you want in your life? Do you get an aching feeling that there must be something more--more love, more light to illuminate the shadowy confusion of what you have to offer this world? We continue our Season of Love by contemplating how we would be if we were entertaining angels unaware, if every person in our life might be the next Buddha, Jesus, Einstein. Would we be different in how we present ourselves? This is a Celebration Sunday, and our children and youth will be joining us on our journey of self-discovery.

Worship leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Worship Associate: K'Ailsa Rowan

Enero 30

Despertando al Amor

¿Tienen todo el amor que desean en su vida? ¿Tienen un dolor que sienten que debe haber algo más: más amor, más luz para iluminar la oscura confusión de lo que tiene que ofrecer a este mundo? Continuamos con nuestra Temporada de Amor

SAVE THE DATES

- January 20**, Thursday, 6:30 pm, Candlelight Labyrinth Walk, Sanctuary
- January 23**, Sunday, Benefit Music Concert, "African American Composers: Yesterday and Today," 3:00-5:00 pm, Sanctuary
- January 25**, Tuesday, last day for input on Mission Statement (see page 3)
- January 27**, Thursday Partner Church Sponsored Folk Dancing 8:00 pm, Hattie Porter Hall
- January 29**, Saturday, "Sparks for Growth," Oakland UU Church, 9:30-2:30, led by Ginny Courter, UUA Moderator
- January 30**, Sunday, Everyone's Un-Birthday Party! 12:30-2:30 pm, Hattie Porter Hall
- February 12**, Saturday, Partner Church Benefit Tea, Hattie Porter Hall 1:00-3:00 pm
- February 13**, Sunday, Reading the Five Gospels along with Bob Miess, Fireside room, 6:00-8:00 pm
- March 12**, A "Stewardship Soiree," part of our annual canvass campaign. Stay tuned for more
- March 27**, Congregational Meeting - Election of Officers
- May 13-15**, PCD District Assembly
- May 22**, Annual Meeting and presentation of 2011-12 Budget
- June 22-26**, UUA General Assembly
- July 14-29; July 21-August 4**, Partner Church Committee trips to Homoródszentmárton

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

You make FUCSJ what it is! Whatever your talent and availability, there is an opportunity for you to serve. Contact Volunteer Coordinating Team members Liz Owen at lowen@data-time.com or Bob Miess at bob@floweringenterprises.com

Lifespan Faith Development

Nursery

Birth through four years

We provide a safe, clean environment in which to support each child in initiating play activities at the developmental level they manifest. Each week our paid staff members, Maria Elena Olvera and Sandra Soletto, provide a loving presence as they engage children in games, stories and crafts with seasonal and holiday themes throughout the year.

Children & Youth Classes

Children and youth in Preschool (4 years) through high school join the community for the first part of worship at 11:00 am and then go to their respective classes until 12:30 pm.

Pre K (4 years) through First Grade – *Creating Home*

Children participate in the Unitarian Universalist Association curriculum *Creating Home* for 15 Sundays (began September 19, 2010) this year.

Second through Fourth Grades – *Moral Tales*

Children participate in the Unitarian Universalist Association curriculum *Moral Tales* for 15 Sundays

(began September 19, 2010) this year.

Children from PreK through Fourth Grade are engaged in music with leaders **Sally Cooperrider** and **Nayo Ulloa** <http://www.nayoulloa.com> for 6 Sundays in January and May. The morning includes 30 minutes of singing and music using Orff percussion instruments with the opportunity for children to participate in Sunday services. And for the second 30 minutes the children will experience yoga.

On two Sundays there will be a Social Justice Project and on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Monday birthday celebration (January 17) we are inviting all the families of the church to participate in a day of service. And on nine Sundays through the year, from September through June, children will be together with the whole community in worship on Celebration Sundays.

Fifth Grade – *Neighboring Faiths*

This year-long curriculum helps youth learn about their own faith and other faith traditions through interactive experience such as field trips and interviews. These encounters with other religions are given meaning through periods of reflection and discussion about Unitarian Universalist and personal beliefs and values.

Sixth through Eighth Grades – Junior High Youth Group

The junior high youth group meets on Sundays from 11:30-12:30 and learns about Unitarian Universalism by visiting congregations in our area. They organize monthly social activities on the first Friday of the month.

Class Coordinator: Pam Pell johnpell@aol.com

Ninth through Twelfth Grades – Senior High Youth Group

The senior high youth group meets from 11:30 am-12:30 pm most Sundays. The group engages in discussions about issues most relevant to youth's lives and communities, plans social and service projects throughout the year, and participates in youth conferences in area UU churches under the auspices of the Pacific Central District of Unitarian Universalist Congregations and YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists). The youth group's empowering philosophy educates youth to be leaders within the group, church community, and denomination.

Youth Group Advisors: V Kingsley, Greg Muller, Terra Woods-Taylor and Cordelia Willis

If you are interested in participating in any of the child, youth or adult classes or activities, please contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org ●

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

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contemplando cómo sería si fuéramos entretenidos Ángeles inconscientes. Si cada persona en nuestra vida fuera el posible próximo Buda, Jesús, Einstein; ¿sería diferente en cómo nos presentamos nosotros mismos? Este es un domingo de Celebración y nuestros niños y jóvenes se suman a nosotros en nuestro viaje de autodescubrimiento.

Dirige: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Asociada de Culto: K'Ailsa Rowan

January 30

Love, Hate, and Compassion

Look for a description of this service in the next newsletter. You can find a bio of

the guest speaker at <http://www.ctzen.org/sunnyvale/enMasters.htm>

Worship Leader: Master Jian Hu, Abbot of the Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Worship Associate: Dena Dickinson

Amor, Odio y Compasión

Buscar una descripción de este servicio en el próximo boletín. Ustedes pueden encontrar una biografía de la oradora invitada en el <http://www.ctzen.org/sunnyvale/enMasters.htm>

Dirige: El Maestro Jian Hu, Abad del Centro Zen de Sunnyvale culto

Asociada de Culto: Dena Dickinson ●

2011 Lifespan Faith Development Calendar

January 23

PreK-4th grade: Music/Yoga

5th grade visits Hindu Temple

6th-8th grades debriefs visit to Mission Peak Congregation and plans for bake sale, researching and choosing where the proceeds from the sale will go

9th-12th grades holds regular meeting

January 30

No classes: Celebration Sunday

February 6

PreK-1st and 2nd-4th grade classes resume with the UUA curriculums: *Celebrating Home* and *Moral Tales*

5th grade debriefs Temple visit and Hinduism wrap up

6th-8th grades visits another UU Congregation

9th-12th grades holds regular meeting



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Board of Directors Meeting: December 5, 2010

By Bob Redfern, Secretary, Board of Directors

Tamara Payne Alex gave us a brief report on Program and Operations Committee (POC) activities. She discussed multicultural inputs from many different cultures, worship needs of the 10:15 service, evaluations of staff and discussion of Board responsibility for Minister evaluations.

“Stewardship Soiree” to expand member input into church planning

But the most interesting topic for the congregation as a whole was a proposal for a “Stewardship Soiree” scheduled for Saturday March 12, to feature the board and POC hosting a meeting for the all-Church Canvass and Stewardship drive for our 2011-2012 budget needs. The Board signed on for this event and will provide further inputs, time and organization so that as many of you as possible will attend and become a part of this annual process. Getting your input about church goals and process will be a prime goal.

Important dates reviewed

We also reviewed some important dates in the near and medium term:

January 8 – Service Auction

March 27- Congregational Meeting – Election of Officers

May 22- Annual Meeting and presentation of 2011-12 Budget

Dates for individual consideration:

Saturday January 29 – “Sparks for Growth” gathering at Oakland UU Church, 9:30-2:30, led by Ginny Courter, UUA Moderator and electric speaker/motivator. All church leaders, clergy and members are invited.

May 13-15 – Annual Pacific Central District Conference at the Newark-Fremont Hilton, an assembly for the regional UUA district. Nancy mentioned in her “Leadership Guide” for her sabbatical that any and all members should attend and represent our church community there.

Multicultural Sharing

We discussed our initial contact with the Tulsa Congregation as part of our multicultural sharing and growth initiative. President **Madeline**

Morrow will consult with the Tulsa President about interacting and sharing on Skype, rather than a less personal collecting of written questions and summarizing. First meeting will be later this month.

Mission and Vision 2015

For those of you who had input about our Mission and Vision 2015 statements, we have set January 25 as the final date for your input – in writing or e-mail. We will finalize those statements at our next meeting (February 2).

Central Calendar planned

The Board discussed the 2010-11 goals established last August, activities of the Nominating Committee, selection of a Bylaws Committee, and establishment of an operational calendar and a template for its implementation. All the dates, times and places I have referenced here should have a central location where one and all can look up at any time. We discussed seeking a volunteer webmaster, who, among other things, would update and maintain the church website, including such an operational calendar for any member to see.

Treasurer’s Report

Finally, Treasurer **David Proulx** stated that as of December 31, more than halfway through our church fiscal year, that our income and outgo is within \$2,000 overall of the budget adopted last May. Thanks, Dave for that inspiring report.

Newsletter Team Grows

With that, I welcome **Rick Merritt** to the Newsletter editing team. He will be contributing his talent once a month and this issue (January 19) will be his debut.

Inviting Your Input on Our Mission and Vision by January 25

Just a reminder – the Board continues to invite feedback on our draft Mission and Vision statements. We

would like to move ahead to remove the word “draft” and adopt final versions of these statements during the month of February, so we are asking for any additional input by January 25.

Draft Mission Statement

Bound together by our commitment to making Love visible, we gather to deepen our spirits, to work for justice, and to create one sacred human family.

Draft Vision 2015

We seek to build a religious community that makes Love visible in word and deed.

Therefore we are called to:

1. Create a congregation that actively reflects the richness and diversity of our community, honoring and nurturing with justice and compassion all that makes each one of us unique.
2. Undertake bold initiatives in pursuit of our mission, transforming ourselves and our community.
3. Worship together so that we connect with the divine, transcending the boundaries that limit us, to become part of something greater than ourselves.
4. Care for, nurture, and empower the growth of our children and youth through vibrant and engaging faith development and social programs.

Of course, these statements will never actually be final. They will evolve as our congregation evolves. But the Board believes it is important to affirm that yes, our Mission is a good current summary of who we are and why we are, and our Vision is a good reflection of our priorities over the next four or five years—the things we need to focus on now to help move us toward fulfilling our mission.

Please send any further input you might have to uusj-board@yahoo.com. Or feel free to give your input directly to any of us: **Madeline Morrow** (president), **Bob Redfern**, **Dave Proulx**, **Nancy Taylor**, **Rodrigo Garcia**, **Rick Morris**, and **Cheri Goodman**. ●



Program and Operations Council Meeting Report

January 11 Focus: Ministry Coordination

The Program and Operations Council (POC) is the executive committee in our church's form of governance. This was the first POC meeting in a series, inviting committee chairpersons and leaders to discuss coordination of specific ministries involved in meeting the congregation's goals (Ends) for worship, education, service, fellowship, work for social justice and stewardship.

Just as a reminder, here is the Global Ends statement adopted by the Board of Directors in 2010.

1.0 Global Ends

Through our worship, education, service, fellowship, work for social justice, and stewardship, we build a loving compassionate multigenerational community that embodies our Unitarian Universalist values and that is multilingual, multicultural, multiracial, and anti-oppressive. We are willing to extend ourselves by giving our time, talent, and treasure to meet these expansive ends.

This meeting focused on the efforts of the Ministry Coordinating Team to meet these goals. Attending were POC members **Tamara Payne-Alex** (Program Officer), the **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, **John Burk**, **Patrick Myers** and **Sherry Howd**; and invited visitors **Colleen Cabot**, **Melanie Lanstrom**, **Mary Martin**, **Liz Owen**, **Catherine Pelizzari**, **Pam Pell**, **Marla Scharf**, **Anand Solest**, **Cordelia Willis** and **Diana Wirt**.

At the meeting, Tamara presented our governance structure, in which church members share ministry with the called ministers to achieve the Global Ends. Then the leaders discussed how their committee activities help achieve our goals. Last, everyone discussed how we could be more effective in the future.

A current example of promoting our multigenerational goal is the Senior High Youth leading three services a year. Another

example: the chancel decorations promote our multicultural goal by providing nonverbal (not language dependent) expression of spiritual life.

Here are a few of the suggestions that were made to meet our goals:

- Get elders more involved with young children.
- Use the Third Street Community Center more for multicultural events.
- Intentionally reach out to Spanish speaking members.
- Have a "Bring a Friend/Family to Church Day" and provide activities for guests to see who we are, what our goals are, and so forth.
- Hold functions for families.
- Provide more opportunities for fellowship.
- Promote participation in Circle Suppers.

— Report submitted by Sherry Howd ●

The Rev. Donna Lenahan leaving

The Rev. **Donna Lenahan**, our Pastoral Associate Coordinator, will be leaving FUCSJ at the end of February.



For many months she has felt called to rediscover her Catholic roots. She became a Catholic when she was 17 and drifted away a few years later. Now 50 years after her baptism, she realizes that she has a new-found trinity and that her new theology will be much more at home at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Los Gatos, where she has been taking classes.

"No one is more surprised and shocked by this turn of events than I am," says Donna. "Although I loved my five years with you, and am sad to be leaving, I am also very happy." She will be at our Pastoral Care table January 16 and February 20.

With deepest gratitude, we thank the Rev. Lenahan for her years of service at FUCSJ, and wish her well on this next phase of her spiritual journey.

Stay tuned for more news in the next newsletter about our pastoral care work. ●

Season of Renewal:

Update on Rev. Nancy's Sabbatical

by The Committee on Ministries

Our Senior Minister, **Nancy Palmer-Jones**, is on sabbatical until June 2011. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Claire Wagner**, chair of the Committee on Ministries (COM), at cwagner21@gmail.com, or get in touch with any of the other COM members: **Frank Bosche**, **Norma Alicia López**, **Roberto Padilla**, the **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, **Marla Scharf**, and **Patrick Smiley**. We enter into the Sabbatical period with the faith that while the Rev. Nancy is renewing her spirit and deepening her ministerial calling, all of us here at the First Unitarian Church of San José will be growing our own ministries. Welcome to this Season of Renewal! ●

Temporada de Renovación

Información Actualizada sobre el Tiempo Sabático de la Rev. Nancy

por el Comité de los Ministros

El Comité de los Ministros (COM) está disponible en cualquier momento si usted tiene preguntas o preocupaciones. Póngase en contacto con **Claire Wagner**, Presidente del COM, en cwagner21@gmail.com o póngase en contacto con cualquiera de los otros miembros del COM: **Frank Bosche**, **Norma Alicia López**, **Roberto Padilla**, el **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, **Marla Scharf** y **Patrick Smiley**. Entramos en el período sabático con la fe de que, mientras la Rev. Nancy está renovando su espíritu y profundizando su llamado ministerial, todos nosotros aquí en la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José estaremos creciendo en nuestros propios ministerios. ¡Bienvenido a esta Temporada de Renovación! ●



Upcoming Events:

Benefit Music Concert

Sunday, January 23 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

African American Composers: Yesterday and Today features vocalist **Yolanda Rhodes**, pianists **Josephine Galdolfi**, **LaDoris Cordell** and **Deanne Tucker**, clarinetist **Carol Somersille**, and violinist **Susan Brown**. Proceeds will benefit our very own music program. Suggested donations are \$15 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students. Tickets will be available only at the door. Join us for what promises to be an exquisite afternoon of entertainment! ●

Open Enrollment for Small Group Ministry

Sundays, January 23, 30

Our Small Group Ministries (SGM) program offers an opportunity to meet other UUs and explore our own and one another's personal spiritual paths. www.sanjoseuu.org/FUSJC_SGM.

During the month of January, we welcome everyone who would like to enroll in our small groups. New participants can sign up at the SGM table during Social Hour following the services in January. ●

Women's Alliance

Thursday, February 3, 7:15, Fireside Room

Share political and historical women's events and discussion. It is different every month but always fun and lively! Contact **Nancy Coleman** at nbc Coleman@gmail.com or 408 985 5778 for more information. ●

Valentine's Bake Sale

Sunday, February 13, Hattie Porter Hall

Delight your sweet tooth and support our Junior High youth as well as a local non-profit by buying a yummy goodie or two or three during social hour. Come and buy a treat for your sweet tooth or your sweetie. ●

Support your local artist

Now through March 25

Our "Circling Around" column editor **Torchy Hunter** is participating in the "All You Need is Love" art exhibit at Expressions Gallery, 2035 Ashby Ave, Berkeley.

...and your local actor!

January 22-30

Torchy's significant other, **Dan Zulevic**, is playing *eight* roles in "Annie" at the McAfee Performing Arts Center in Saratoga. It opens Saturday, January 22 and runs through January 30. Tickets at <http://www.zvents.com> ●

Learn improvisational acting

Tuesdays in February and March, Ramsden Fireside Room

Theatre improvisation has tremendous power to liberate creativity, inspire confidence and build enthusiasm and playfulness. Join a nine-week free improv class, 7:30-9:00 pm all Tuesdays in February and March in the Fireside Room. Led by **Amy Baldwin**. RSVP or ask for more information by emailing ABaldwinBiz@aol.com. ●



Spotlight on Social Justice

The Social Justice Council blog appears on the Church Webpage at: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/>. You can subscribe to the YahooGroup For Social Justice News & Events at: sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. ●



by John Burk, POC Social Justice Representative

Social Justice Council

Monday, Jan. 25th, at 7pm.

We will be discussing the Monthly Special Collection. Please come with your research on a non-profit that has already been submitted and the name of someone who has agreed to make sure directions for Special Collections are followed. Please contact **John Burk** for more info at mus6@aceweb.com

Reunión del Consejo de Justicia Social

lunes, 25 de enero, 7 pm

Analizaremos la colecta especial mensual. Por favor venga con su investigación sobre una agencia sin fines de lucro que ya haya sido presentada y el nombre de alguien que este de acuerdo en asegurarse de seguir las instrucciones que estamos siguiendo para las Colectas especiales. Por favor, póngase en contacto con **John Burk**

para obtener más información, mus6@aceweb.com.

Special Collection Coordinators Needed

Special Collections Coordinators communicate with the non-profit we are giving to, inviting speakers from the non-profit to come to our church, notifying our counters and bookkeeper about special collections, filling out paperwork as described in the job description in the office, making sure the check gets sent, and writing a thank-you note. If necessary, someone will help with these responsibilities. Please contact the Social Justice Council or **John Burk** if you will be able to be Special Collections Coordinator for one or two days.

Second Friday Events

The Second Friday events are on hiatus pending new leadership. Are you interested? Contact **John Burk** at 408.259.3781 or mus6@aceweb.com. ●





FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José

160 North Third Street

San Jose, 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: fucs@sanjoseuu.org
or join the church's Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uusj/>

Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm Wednesday January 26, 2011

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, February 2, 2011

View this newsletter online in HTML or PDF format at:

<http://www.sanjoseuu.org/WhatsHappening/Newsletters.html>

READY TO BECOME A NEW MEMBER OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SAN JOSÉ?

Contact Rev. Geoff, grimositis@sanjoseuu.org

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. For pastoral care in English, please contact our lay Pastoral Associate Coordinator, the **Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (home) 408-354-9024; (cell) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com.

Contacting the Ministers

The **Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones** and the **Rev. Geoff Rimositis** feel honored to serve this congregation, and we cherish your trust! Here is how reach us: **Nancy**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com. **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org. *Note: Nancy is on sabbatical until June, 2011.*

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. Para el cuidado pastoral en inglés, por favor, comuníquese con nuestra Coordinadora Laica Asociada en Cuidado Pastoral, **la Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (casa) 408-354-9024; (celular) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com.

Contactando a los Ministros

La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y **El Rev. Geoff Rimositis** se sienten honrados de servir a esta congregación y apreciamos su confianza! Aquí esta como puede contactarnos: **Nancy**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 de Lunes a Jueves; (celular) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org. *Nota: Nancy está en su año sabático hasta junio de 2011*

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Our Church Circular is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Circulation is about 500.

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

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