



Our Church Circular

May 18, 2011

—
18 de mayo,
2011

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Season of Freedom — April 25 to June 19
Temporada de Libertad — 25 abril al 19 junio

10:15 a.m.
Servicios en español

Todos los domingos — 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 prelude para el servicio de múltiples idiomas a las 11:00 am. ¡Las palabras son en español; los abrazos hablan universalmente!

Every Sunday — 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!

11:00 a.m.
Services in English

May 22

Coming-of-Age Sunday

*“Roots hold me close. Wings set me free.
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.”*

Our yearlong Coming of Age Program for youth in Grades 8-10 comes to its triumphant crescendo as our nine participating youth share their credos, “belief statements” with the congregation. With youth from seven congregations in the South Bay, they have participated in three themed retreats and hosted a fundraiser for Second Harvest Food Bank with their adult mentors. Add your spirit to the celebration and join us for this important milestone in the life of the church and in these young people’s lives. Special guest Reverend Stephen Bigger and members of the Santa Cruz World Choir and Orchestra www.santacruzworldchoir.com will give us a preview of their June 5, 3:00 pm concert in our sanctuary.

Worship Leader: The Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Mayo 22

Domingo de la Mayoría de Edad

*“Las raíces me mantienen cerca. Las alas me liberan.
Espíritu de Vida, ven a mi, ven a mi”.*

Nuestro programa anual de la mayoría de edad para jóvenes del 8-10 grado, llega en su triunfante crescendo mientras nuestros nueve jóvenes participantes comparten sus credos, “declaraciones de creencias” con la congregación. Junto con jóvenes de siete congregaciones del sur de la Bahía, han participado en tres retiros temáticos y organizaron una recaudación de fondos para el Segundo Banco de Alimentos con sus mentores adultos. Añadan su espíritu a la celebración y únase a nosotros en este importante hito en la vida de la Iglesia y en la vida de estos jóvenes. El invitado especial, el Rev. Stephen Bigger y miembros del Coro y Orquesta del Mundo de Santa Cruz www.santacruzworldchoir.com nos ofrecerán un adelanto de su concierto en nuestro santuario el 5 de junio a las 3:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATES

May 20, Friday, 7:30-9:30 pm
Chant and Drum Circle at FUCSJ

May 21, Saturday Memorial Service
for V Kingsley, 1:00 pm at FUCSJ

May 21, Saturday, Opera Bravura
Concert, 8:00 pm, Sanctuary

May 22, Sunday, Congregational
Meeting to vote on budget, 12:30
pm, Sanctuary

June 4, Saturday, Service Is Our
Prayer Day, 9:00 am-2:00 pm

June 5, Sunday, HUUG First Sunday
Forum, 10 am Hattie Porter Hall

June 5, Sunday, 3:00 pm Santa
Cruz World Choir and Orchestra
Concert at FUCSJ

June 22-26, Wednesday-Sunday,
UUA General Assembly, Charlotte,
NC

July 4-9, Monday - Saturday,
PCD Middle School and Youth
Summer Camp

July 14-29 and July 21-August 4,
Partner Church Committee trips to
Homoródszentmárton

October 14-16, Friday-Sunday
All-Church Retreat *at the church* ●

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



Other Voices

Handmade a sermon by Rev. David Takahashi Morris, Mt. Diablo UU Church, delivered at FUCSJ on March 13, 2011

What does “spiritual” mean to you? Here’s what it means to me: The unity of our body, our reason and our emotions, all connected within, all reaching outwards to make contact with

something beyond the boundaries of our finite self.

For me the ability to “be spiritual” doesn’t depend on what you believe or what name you call the source of life and order. It doesn’t depend on what words you recite or on whether you sit down on a zabuton, or kneel or sway in the aisles with your hands over your head. The ability to “be spiritual” is the ability to find some way to put your whole being into conscious contact with the Universe.

Working with our hands is one very good way to “be spiritual.” Maybe you’re not a gardener; maybe you’re a potter, slapping a lump of clay onto a wheel and raising it up from the flat surface into a graceful shape. Maybe you’re a musician, tucking your instrument intimately into the hollow of your neck, or bringing it to your mouth to fill it with breath, singing your own song of life through its vibrating surfaces. Perhaps for you it’s woodworking, origami, flower arranging or baking bread. Whatever it might be for you, it’s the “thing worth doing” Marge Piercy speaks of. Whatever it might be,

each of us needs some way to know we are fully engaged with the Universe and our own lives.

Perhaps an injury, an illness or a disability has limited our physical freedom or the changes of age have made movement difficult. We may even have been alienated from our own bodies by violence or trauma. Yet each of us is a physical being; our known life in this world unfolds in the context of this one body, our unique opportunity to find our physical place in what poet Mary Oliver calls the “family of things.” We all have a physiology with which we can renew our acquaintance.

All of us are instruments designed to interact with a world that offers itself to us at every moment. We need to know how to tune ourselves. The work we do with our bodies simultaneously strengthens and celebrates our capacity to connect and respond to the world: I would call that “grace.”

Move. Touch your surroundings. Feel your own presence. Know where you are. Connect.

What’s your way? It doesn’t matter so much whether your handiwork is a hobby or livelihood, artistry or arduous toil; what matters more is how we experience ourselves in the work. It isn’t how hard the work is or what kind of product comes out of it that’s important; it’s finding a way to help our bodies remember how to love the world. ●

Announcements

A Sabbatical Scrapbook

By the Sabbatical Steering Committee (Frank Bosche, Norma Alicia Lopez, Roberto Padilla, Geoff Rimositis, Patrick Smiley, Claire Wagner)

Rev. Nancy’s Sabbatical has been a time of growth and change for all of us, both as individuals and as a congregation. It’s not easy to step back into the “moving stream,” that is, the lives of 300 or so people, but we’ve devised a way to help Nancy catch up on our news. We’re going to create a return-from-sabbatical scrapbook with your answers to these questions:

What is one thing you would like Nancy to know about your life during the Sabbatical months (starting December 25)? Can you lift up one thing that has happened in our church community during the Sabbatical months that is really cool, meaningful, important, or inspiring?

Write your answers on a 4” x 6” card or piece of paper and give it to Claire Wagner, or send an email to cwagner21@gmail.com. (If you can’t find Claire to receive your written response, please give it to Rev. Geoff.)



If you or your children prefer to draw a picture, we can scan that, too. We’d love to hear from everyone. All answers will be kept

confidential by Rev. Nancy and our committee.

The deadline for submissions is June 1. We’ll compile your thoughts into a booklet for Nancy to read as she transitions back into ministry to our beloved community. We look forward to hearing from each and every one of you! ●

Third Street Parking Garage Rate Increase

The City of San José has announced it will begin charging \$4 on weekends in all city parking lots and garages in July. The Fourth Street garage at San Fernando Street, across from the King Library, will remain free. We suggest you use the Fourth Street lot rather than the lot on Third Street. For more information, contact Rob Strong at strong00@pacbell.net. ●

Briefly noted

The Unitarian Universalist Association sent FUCSJ a thank you letter for our contribution of \$970 on April 5 in support of its Japan Relief Fund. ●



Lifespan Faith Development

classes or activities, please contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

Nursery

Birth through Four Years Nursery, Lower Level

Open all Summer! 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

Classes for Pre K (4 years) through Eighth Grades have ended for the summer break. There will be no Sunday morning program from June 12 through September 11. Classes resume September 18. The nursery will be available throughout the summer.



Ninth through Twelfth Grades – Senior High Youth Group

The senior high youth group summer schedule is still being worked out. The group will meet at least once in July and August.

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

If you are interested in participating in any of the child, youth or adult

Lifespan Faith Development Calendar

May 21

Saturday, Coming of Age Rehearsal, 10 am-noon, Sanctuary

May 21

Saturday, 1 pm, Celebration of V Kingsley's Life, Sanctuary

May 22

Sunday, No classes – Coming of Age Sunday

May 22

Sunday, 5pm-8pm - Coming of Age Celebration Dinner, Hattie Porter Hall

May 29

No children/youth programs

June 5

No Classes -- Youth Sunday

June 23-23

Junior High Backpack Trip

July 21-August 4

Youth Pilgrimage Trip to Romania

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

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Dirige: El Rev. Geoff Rimositis

May 29

Remembering to Remember

On this day before Memorial Day, let us look together for meaning, healing, and hope within the unpleasant realities of war. Our readings will come from Mark Twain's "War Prayer" and Chris Hedges' "War is a Force that Gives us Meaning." Our remembrance ritual will offer an opportunity for remembering loved ones by creating a communal joyful wreath. Come with an open heart. We may have tears of both sadness and joy!

Worship Leader: Marnie Singer

Worship Associate: Dena Dickinson

May 29

Recordando el recordar

En este día antes del día de Recordación, busquemos juntos el significado, la curación y la esperanza entre las desagradables realidades de la guerra. Nuestras lecturas

provendrán de la "Oración de Guerra" de Mark Twain y "La Guerra es una Fuerza que nos da Significado" de Chris Hedges y nuestro ritual de recuerdo ofrecerá una oportunidad para recordar a seres queridos creando una alegre corona comunal. Vengan con un corazón abierto. Es posible que tengamos lágrimas de tristeza y alegría!

Dirige: Marnie Singer

Asociado de Culto: Dena Dickinson

June 5

Youth Sunday

We will be recognizing those young women and men who are graduating from senior high school this year. They will be sharing with us some thoughts about how they are going take their Unitarian Universalist values into the next phase of their lives. Neighboring Faiths participants will receive a special pin for their studies and visits of the varied religions in our

valley. We will be bridging 5th and 8th graders respectively into the junior and senior high youth groups. And after the service everyone is invited to make (and eat) a Sunday Sundael!

Worship Leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Junio 5

Domingo de la Juventud

Estaremos reconociendo a aquellas mujeres y hombres jóvenes que se están graduando de la preparatoria este año. Ellos compartirán con nosotros algunos pensamientos sobre cómo están yendo sus valores Unitarios Universalistas en la próxima fase de sus vidas. Los jóvenes que han participados en Las Creencias Religiosas Vecinas recibirán un broche especial por sus estudios y las visitas de las diversas religiones en nuestro valle. Nosotros seremos el puente entre el 5 y 8 grado respectivamente en los grupos de jóvenes de preparatoria. Y después del servicio, ¡todos están invitados a hacer (y comer) un domingo de Helado!



Announcements

Travel Insurance for Church Travel

by Liz Shivell

The Programs and Operation Council has learned that our church's liability insurance does not cover church members traveling abroad, such as our trips to Cuba or Transylvania this summer. If you want travel insurance, you will need to buy it on your own before your departure date.

The following are some suggestions from one agent not affiliated with the church. **Christine Eichin**, owner of San Jose travel agency Above and Beyond Africa (<http://yoursafariexpert.com>), recommends tailoring your travel policy to your individual needs when going abroad. She recommend this site: <http://www.worldtravelcenter.com/Eng/index.cfm?affiliate=above2>, which lets you compare different policies and choose what fits your needs. In general, the most important benefits to consider are:

- ✓ Financial default – This covers the cost of your trip in case the travel supplier goes out of business.

- ✓ Medical expenses beyond Medicare and what your own health insurance may cover

- ✓ Evacuation in case of a medical emergency

- ✓ Missed flight connections
Christine also recommends trip cancellation insurance. ●

UULM Offers Activism Training Program

by The Rev. Sonya Sukalski, Consulting Minister for The Young Leaders Project

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of California is accepting applications for a new program called *Spiritual Activist Leadership Training*. SALT has openings for 20 people between the ages of 18-35 who want to deepen their leadership skills, grow in their UU faith, and reach into the public arena to effect justice.

This intensive 10-month program begins with a retreat in Sacramento August 25-28, toward the end of the state legislative session. SALT Fellows

will gather at two other retreats and participate together in monthly phone calls. The group will have *Northern California and Southern California Justice Plunges* once a month (except when there are retreats) to experience a California justice story, develop leadership skills, and reflect together on each of our unique calls to be people making justice in our communities.

There is no cost to apply. Early admission deadline is May 31, 2011. Early applicants will be notified by June 15. Regular admission deadline is July 15 with a notification date of August 1. For more information contact sonya@uulmca.org or go to <http://www.uulmca.org> ●

PCD Middle School Youth Summer Camps

July 4-9

The first week-long Pacific Central District Middle School Camp will be held at Mendocino Woodlands Camp 3 this year for sixth through ninth graders. To find out more and to register, see <http://www.pcd-uua.org/MUUGS/muugsmendo2011.pdf>

The Western Unitarian Universalist Karmic Youth (WUUKY) summer camp for youth ages 14-20 will be held in the

Mendocino Woodlands, Camp

2. To be guaranteed a spot at camp, your

registration must be postmarked by June 20. For more information contact deans@wuuky.org or go to <http://pcdyruu.org/wp-content/uploads/WUUKYXFlier.pdf>

To learn more about the MendocinoWoodlands, see <http://www.mendocinowoodlands.org> ●



Board Notes

May Board Meeting

Following reports by the Treasurer and Program Officer, the Board approved the following motions:

1. To accept the proposed 2011-2012 Budget and Rationale as compliant with Board policy and consistent with the values of the congregation and Unitarian Universalism, and recommend that the congregation approve it at the annual May 22 Congregational Meeting.
2. To direct that the POC create a permanent plaque to record the recipients of the Watkins Award, past, present and future, as a way to build and honor community.

3. To approve the addition of Volunteer Labor coverage to the Church insurance policy.

The Board continued its self-evaluation process. The minister's report highlighted the upcoming Youth Sunday activities on May 22.

Members present: **the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, Madeline Morrow** (President), **Dave Proulx** (Treasurer), **Rodrigo Garcia, Cheri Goodman, Rob Strong, Nancy Taylor** (Directors), **Nancy Coleman** (Secretary)

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 1, at 7 pm in the conference room.

— Nancy Coleman, Secretary



Upcoming Events

Memorial Day Picnic

Monday May 31, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Potluck picnic with lots of family fun in Central Park, Santa Clara (Kiely Blvd at Homestead). Please bring food to share and your own plates, cups, forks, napkins, etc. Suggested items:

A thru D – Drinks, Buns

E thru H – Chips, Dips, Munchies

I thru L – Salads

M thru R – Desserts

S thru Z – Burgers, Hot Dogs, Veggie Burger

Also bring games for kids and big kids (adults) like ring toss, jump ropes, volleyball, flying saucers. Activities will be organized through your efforts. Anyone wanting to help, please call Madeline Althoff (834-6262) ●

Service Is Our Prayer

Saturday, June 4, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Come one, come all! A full slate of jobs is planned for our quarterly Service is our Prayer work party at the church, from changing light bulbs to basic scrubbing and cleaning. No special skills are needed to join the fun. We'll meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am for a blessing and job assignments, break for lunch (provided) at noon, and finish up afterwards. Please come down and help for the entire period or just a couple of hours--any assistance is appreciated. Please contact Bob

UU hikers and friends

by Joyce Miller

Here is the May hiking schedule. Be sure to call if you want to hike unless you are a regular, then let me know if you are not coming. Only big rainstorms cancel hikes. In case of rain, call the morning of the hike to find out if we are changing the venue to the Stanford dish or if the hike is cancelled. My home phone is (408) 730-1052 and cell is 570-7052. Use my cell phone after 7:30 am. All other times use my home phone. See you on the trails!

First Unitarian Church of San Jose • 160 North Third St., San Jose, CA 95112 • (408) 292-3858 • www.sanjoseuu.org

Howd at bhowd@aol.com or Patrick Myers at jpattickmyers@yahoo.com if you need additional information. ●

HUUG First Sunday Forum

June 5, 10:00 - 10:45 am

The Killing of Osama bin Laden will be the topic of the First Sunday Forum on Sunday June 5 in Hattie Porter Hall. Many of us have both positive and negative feelings about this major event. How do we deal with our apparent contradictions in feeling and belief? When is vengeance or retribution that involves killing morally permissible? What role does justice play in this process? What about political stability? Please join us to share your views. Contact: Tim Blackwood, TJB@TimBlackwood.com. ●

Memorial Service for V Kingsley

Saturday, May 21, 1:00 pm

In lieu of flowers, V asked for contributions to her son Parker's College Fund (see <http://tinyurl.com/V-Kingsley>). Cards and correspondence can be sent to Dani Hope at 5495 Jackson Way, Felton, CA 95018. ●

Wednesday, May 18 – Huddart County Park, 7 miles. This is the longer hike up to Skyline. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 21 – Big Basin Berry Falls hike, 11 miles, moderate. This is a long and beautiful hike. It is not too hard, just long. Plan to get back around 4:00 pm. Meet at US Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, May 25 – Windy Hill, 7 miles, moderate. This is the longer hike. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 28 – Wunderlich County Park, 10 miles, moderate. I plan to do the long hike up to Skyline, but if anyone wants to do shorter hike we can adjust car pooling to accommodate. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:00 am. ●



Music Box

Upcoming Music Events at FUCSJ

Don't miss these events that feed the restless soul and support the music programs of our church!

- ◆ Friday, May 20, 2011, 7:30-9:30 p.m. – **Rhythm and Rhyme: Getting into the Groove** – Join us for a chant and drum circle hosted by Anand Solest. All singers and drummers are welcome. Suggested \$5-\$15 donation to support music at FUCSJ. Please bring any hand drums and shakers you have for yourself and others to use. Those wanting to help lead us in chants, please contact Anand. Please RSVP to 2solest@gmail.com.
- ◆ Saturday May 21, 2011, 7:30 p.m. – **Love, Lust, Revenge & Death – An Opera Concert in Costume presented by Opera Bravura** – Tickets \$25, order at <http://www.OperaBravura.org> or call (408) 673-7228.



- ◆ Sunday, June 5, 2011, 3:00 p.m. – **Lights on the Horizon, Santa Cruz World Choir & Orchestra** – A spirited musical performance by the Santa Cruz World Choir & Orchestra, a fun, multi-generational vocal group and orchestra that entertain and energize Northern California audiences. See videos on their website at <http://www.santacruzworldchoir.com>. The ensemble will perform ancient to modern music from India, Ireland, Mongolia, Republic of Georgia, Scandinavia, and compositions by Director Stephen Bigger (photo at right). This is a great opportunity to enjoy an eclectic sampling of world music performed by bright lights of the Santa Cruz music scene. Suggested \$5-\$15 donation to support music at FUCSJ. Please RSVP to pattyjeaton@gmail.com. ●



Classified:

FUCSJ Member Kelly Burnett is now available to notarize documents. She can be reached at home, (408) 971-9930, or on her cell phone, (408) 512-7876.





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 May 25, 2011

Next issue assembly:

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Next issue mailing:

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

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format at:

<http://www.sanjoseuu.org/>

[WhatsHappening/Newsletters.html](http://www.sanjoseuu.org/WhatsHappening/Newsletters.html)

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. Please contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis.

Contacting the Ministers

Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and **Rev. Geoff Rimositis** feel honored to serve this congregation, and we cherish your trust! Here is how reach us: **Nancy** is on Sabbatical until July, 2011. Meanwhile, please contact **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell)408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

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, por favor, comuníquese con el Rev. Geoff Rimositis.

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** está en su tiempo sabático hasta junio de 2011. **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; (cell)408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

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

Contact Rev. Geoff, grimositis@sanjoseuu.org

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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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