



Our Church Circular

April 2, 2008
/ 2 de Abril
2008

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

6 de Abril — 9:30 y 11:00 am

¡Música, Música Música!

¿Qué hace a la música un poderoso y universal lenguaje? ¿Cuál es la diferencia—en nuestros cerebros y en nuestros corazones—entre escuchar la música y realmente hacer música? ¿Podemos todos nosotros, sin importar nuestros talentos, realmente “hacer música”? En este domingo feliz y lleno de música, descubriremos algunas respuestas a estas preguntas y profundizaremos nuestra experiencia del lenguaje de la música.

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: a las 9:30 am, Miembros de SSM; a las 11:00 am, Bruce Halen.

Combined Service - Servicio Combinado — 10:00 am

En inglés (y español) con traducción al español. De modo que poder todos podemos gozar de nuestra subasta de servicios.

13 de Abril — 10:00 am

Una sed por respuestas: ¡Humanismo, Ateísmo, Evolución ... y Más!

¡Las preguntas de usted impulsan este servicio! Preguntas como: ¿Ahora que el método científico ha contestado a muchas preguntas que antiguamente se tenían de los dioses y las diosas, ¿cómo respetamos a los dioses de nuestros antepasados mientras que adoptamos el nuevo conocimiento? Y: ¿En que creen los ateos? ¿Por qué un ateo asistiría a la iglesia? ¡Traiga su sed de respuestas para explorar éstas y otras preguntas juntos!

Entonces permanezca para la Subasta de Servicios después del servicio religioso; es un evento fabuloso de recaudación de fondos y del construcción de amistad para la toda comunidad. **Las clases de educación religiosa se reunirán a las 10:30 este día y, se proporcionara cuidado de niños.**

Dirige: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: Ervin Barrios y Suzanne Marsh.

April 6 — 9:30 and 11:00 am

Music, Music, Music!

What makes music such a powerful and universal language? What is the difference—in our brains and in our hearts—between listening to music and actually making music? Can all of us, no matter what our talents, really “make music”? On this joyous and music-filled Sunday, we'll discover some answers to these questions and deepen our experience of the language of music.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: at 9:30 am, Members of SSM; at 11:00 am, Bruce Halen.

In English (and Spanish) with translation into Spanish so that we can all enjoy our service auction

April 13 — 10:00 am

A Thirst for Answers: Humanism, Atheism, Evolution ... and More!

Questions from you fuel this service! Questions like: Now that the scientific method has answered many questions formerly left up to the gods and goddesses, how do we respect the gods of our ancestors while embracing the new knowledge? And: What do atheists believe? Why would an atheist attend church? Bring your thirst for answers as we explore these and other questions together!

Then stay for the Service Auction following the service; it's a fabulous fund-raising and friendship-building event for the whole community. **Religious Education classes will meet at 10:30 on this day, and child-care will be provided.**

Worship Leader: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: Ervin Barrios and Suzanne Marsh.

See UPCOMING SERVICES, page 7

SAVE THE DATES

April 3, Thursday, Women's Alliance, 7:15-9:15 pm, Fireside Room.

April 4, Friday, Dances of Universal Peace, 8:00 pm under the dome in the Sanctuary

April 6, Sunday, UU Band of Writers, 12:20, Youth Room

April 19, Saturday, "Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible," Video and Discussion Workshop, 1:30-5:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sunnyvale, Sanctuary.

April 25-27, PCD-UUA District Assembly, Fremont Marriott, Fremont, CA. Check it all out at www.pcd-uua.org.

May 10, Saturday, Annual End-of-Giving-Campaign Party, 6-11 pm, Hattie Porter Hall

May 26, Monday, Memorial Day Picnic. 11 am- 3 pm, Central Park, Santa Clara.

July 9-13, All-Church Campout, McConnell State Recreation Area. Watch for more details.

July 24-27, Junior High Backpacking Trip; for more information, contact Pam Pell at johnpell@aol.com

Sometimes You CAN Always Get What You Want

SERVICE AUCTION
April 13 after the 10 a.m.
combined service



As We Build the Beloved Community...

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Our Whole Being Is Music

It must be ten years now since my good friend, actor/singer/musician Carl Daniels, gave me a small mystical book by Inayat Khan called, simply, *Music*. Until this week, I had never read past the back cover, where Khan says, "Our mind and our body, the nature in which we live, the nature which has made us, all that is beneath and around us, it is all music." I know this feeling! I am now looking forward to finishing the whole book, at last.

In our special "Music, Music, Music!" worship service on April 6, **Bruce Halen** and I will draw on Khan and on Dr. Oliver Sachs's

study of "musicophilia" in reflections meant to deepen our experience of music. The choir, soloists, Dianne Saichek, and Nayo Ulloa (playing the kena, a Peruvian flute) will enchant us with their singing and playing at both services, and we will make some music of our own.

We are a community that loves music; in some ways, we could say, with Inayat Khan, that we "live and move and have our being in music." Please read on to hear the heartfelt comments that our youth brought to us when they offered an 11:00 am worship service on the "Spirituality of Music" in early March.

(Dianne and I got to chime in, too.) You will find them in this edition of the newsletter in both English and Spanish.

And then, ask yourself the questions that the youth asked us:

1. What is your favorite type of music?
2. Why is music spiritually important to you?
3. Can you describe one time when music deeply affected you?

May this meditation open our heart to the music all around us!

With warmth and gratitude,

Nancy ●

Reflections on Music—from Worship Led by Senior Youth on March 9, 2008

1. From Sara Ketcham, Grade 12

There is a wide range of responses and feelings that can be created through just one piece of music. And the amazing thing about music, to me, is the fact that it is not necessarily "words" that cause this. In fact, it could just as easily have been the melody, or chord progressions, or tone of the piece that are personally affective. It's unique for each person, allowing everyone to enjoy, relax, or even grow as they need. There's a quote by a man named Gustav Mahler that I particularly like, and it says "If a composer could say what he had to say in words he would not bother trying to say it in music". I believe this statement. It's true regarding music from classical piano sonatas to the songs we hear on the radio. I feel encouraged, here on the listening end, and impressed by knowing that someone's music, a work of art created out of nothing and painted on nothing but silence, can reach me and even possibly affect me. And there are some gems, even in the incredible world of music, which can establish a sense of unity between the music and the listener.

These moments, where it is possible for humans to feel completely connected to

something outside of themselves, are what I hope for. Where the music does not have to be analyzed through lyrics, or felt in the body, it can simply go into the soul.

These moments allow me to get so much out of music.

2. From Brian Lanier, Grade 11

My favorite type of music is the kind that transcends the traditional boundaries of mainstream music. Whether it's by using some new finger style, slapping the guitar to make a beat, or trying to convey conversation through soloing, I enjoy all musicians who try to break new ground. Seeing all their particular interests and dedication to their own particular methods is amazing to me.

Music is spiritually important to me because it gives me a chance to step back and learn things about myself and about life in general, from the music itself and from my reactions to it. Spirituality for me is a process of self-examination, and listening to artists' songs, which are reflections of their point of view on life, is an important part of my own self-examination.

One time that music affected me was ... well, it's really many times. When I play music in front of a crowd of people, no matter how I

felt beforehand or what I was thinking about, all my bad thoughts and concerns float away and I am completely in the moment. I enjoy playing music for others, and it gives me an incredible thrill every time I do.

3. From Dianne Saichek, pianist

As a performer, my favorite music is whatever I'm playing at the time. Often in my life, I'm either ten minutes ahead of myself, or caught in some past moment. Music forces one to "be here now." I love that experience of being wholly with myself and the music. There's a Buddhist term for it, but I don't know what it is!

For the rest of Dianne's reflection, read the online version of this newsletter at: www.sanjoseuu.org.

4. From Rev. Nancy

My favorite type of music is anything that touches my heart, or that makes me want to move or dance or sing. Which means, really, all kinds!

For the rest of Rev. Nancy's reflection, read the online version of this newsletter at: www.sanjoseuu.org. ●



Mientras Construimos Nuestra Querida Comunidad...

por la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Nuestro Ser Entero es Música

Debe ser diez años desde que mi buen amigo, actor, cantante y músico Carl Danielsen, me dio el pequeño y místico libro de Inayat Khan llamado, simplemente, *Música*. Hasta esta semana, nunca había leído más allá de la cubierta trasera, donde Khan dice, “Nuestra mente y nuestro cuerpo, la naturaleza en la cual vivimos, la naturaleza de la que estamos hechos, todo esto esta debajo y alrededor de nosotros, es todo la música.” ¡Si, conozco esta sensación! Ahora estoy esperando con ansias acabar el libro completo, por fin.

En nuestro servicio especial del 6 de abril “Música, Música, Música!” **Bruce Halen** y yo recurriremos al estudio de Khan y del Dr.

Oliver Sachs “músicofilia” en reflexiones lo que significa profundizar nuestra experiencia de la música. El coro, los solistas, Dianne Saichek, y Nayo Ulloa (tocando la kena, una flauta peruana) nos encantaran con su canto y su música en ambos servicios, y nosotros haremos algo de nuestra propia música.

Somos una comunidad que amamos la música; y en cierto modo podríamos decir, con Inayat Khan que, “vivimos y nos movemos y tenemos nuestro ser en la música.” Por favor lea lo siguiente para escuchar los sentidos comentarios que nuestra juventud nos trajo cuando ofrecieron el servicio de la “espiritualidad de la música” a las 11 de la mañana. a principios de marzo. (Dianne y yo

intervenimos también.) Usted los encontrará en esta edición del boletín de noticias en inglés y español.

Y entonces, hágase usted mismo las preguntas que los jóvenes nos preguntaron:

1. Cual es nuestro tipo favorito de música?
2. Porque la música es espiritualmente importante para usted?
3. ¿Puede usted describir una vez en que la música le afectó profundamente?

¡Pueda esta meditación abrir nuestro corazón a la música alrededor de todos nosotros!

Con cordialidad y gratitud,

Nancy ●

Reflexiones en Música-Servicio dirigido por juventud de preparatoria en marzo 9

1. De Sara Ketcham, una estudiante de preparatoria

Hay una amplia gama de respuestas y de sensaciones que se pueden crear a través de solo una pieza de música y la cosa asombrosa sobre la música, para mí, es el hecho de que no son necesariamente las “palabras” lo que causan esto. De hecho, esto fácilmente podría solo haber sido con la melodía, o con las progresiones de los acordes, o el tono de la pieza que son personalmente afectivas. Esto es único para cada persona, permitiendo que cada uno goce, se relaje, o aún crezca como cada uno necesite. Hay una cita de un hombre llamado Gustav Mahler que particularmente me gusta y que dice: “Sí un compositor podría decir que él tuvo que decir en palabras lo que no se molesto intentar decirlo con la música”. Yo creo en esta declaración. Es verdad con respecto a la música de las clásicas sonatas para piano, de las canciones que oímos en la radio. Me siento animada, aquí en el extremo que escucha e impresionada sabiendo que es música de alguien, una obra de arte creada de la nada y pintada con nada, sino silencio, puede alcanzarme y aun posiblemente afectarme. Y allí hay algunas joyas, incluso en el increíble mundo de la música, que puede establecer un sentido de unidad entre la música y el oyente.

Donde es esto posible para un ser humano

para sentirse completamente conectado con algo fuera de si mismo. Estos momentos son los que espero. Donde la música no tiene que ser analizada a través de las letras, o ser sentida en el cuerpo, esto puede entrar simplemente en el alma. Estos momentos me permiten que obtenga tanto de la música.

2. De Brian Lanier, un estudiante de preparatoria

Mi tipo preferido de música es la clase que trasciende los límites tradicionales de la música común y corriente. Si está usando un cierto nuevo estilo del dedo, dando una palmada a la guitarra para hacer un golpe, o intentando transportar la conversación con solo, yo disfruto de todos los músicos que intentan romper la nueva tierra. Viendo todos sus particulares intereses y dedicación en sus propios y particulares métodos, es asombroso para mí.

La música es espiritualmente importante para mí porque me da la oportunidad de dar un paso atrás y de aprender cosas sobre mi mismo y sobre la vida en general, de la música misma y de mis reacciones a ella. La espiritualidad para mí es un proceso de examen de conciencia y escuchando canciones de los artistas que son reflexiones de sus puntos de vista de la vida, son una parte importante de mi propio examen de conciencia.

Una vez que la música me afectó estaba bien, realmente esto es muchas veces. Cuando toco música delante de una muchedumbre, no importa cómo me sentía de antemano o a cerca de qué pensaba, todos mis malos pensamientos y preocupaciones flotan lejos y estoy totalmente ahí. Disfruto el tocar música para otros y me da una emoción increíble cada vez que lo hago.

3. De Dianne Saichek, pianista

Como ejecutante, mi música preferida es lo que estoy tocando en ese momento. A menudo en mi vida, estoy diez minutos delante de mi misma o atrapado en algún momento pasado. La música lo fuerza a uno a “estar ahora aquí.” Amo esa experiencia de estar enteramente con migo y con la música. ¡Hay un término budista para esto, pero no sé cuáles es!

Para el resto de los comentarios de Dianne, visita www.sanjoseuu.org

4. De la Rev. Nancy

Mi tipo preferido de música es cualquier cosa que toque mi corazón, o que haga que desee moverse, o bailar o cantar. ¡Lo cuál realmente significa, de todo tipo!

Para el resto de los comentarios de la Rev. Nancy, visita www.sanjoseuu.org ●



Religious Education

Nursery (birth-5 years) - Church's Lower Level

We provide a safe, clean environment in which to support all children in initiating play activities at the developmental level they manifest. Structured activities, games, stories, and crafts are a part of the nursery experience.

Child Care Workers: **Stacey Vinyard** and **Mary Quéñones**

K-2nd Grades, Rooms 2- 3, Lower Level

TREASURE HUNTING

April 6 Trees, the Givers of Life

April 13 Thanks to the Animals

3rd-4th Grades, Rooms 4-5, Lower Level

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE, TIMELESS THEMES

April 6 P. T. Barnum

April 13 Beatrix Potter

5th Grade, Room 6, Lower Level

NEIGHBORING FAITHS

April 6 Visit to a Quaker Meeting

April 13 Quakerism Wrap-up

6th-8th Grades, Church Conference Room, Lower Level

TRADITIONS WITH A WINK!

April 6 The Golden Rule

April 13 Moses and Miriam

7th - 9th Grades (Parents Group meets concurrently)

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

April 6 4:30-7:30 pm

April 13 3:30-5:30 pm (Parents have Coming-of-Age orientation during this time)

9th-12th Grades, Upper Level, Youth Room

FILM AS THEOLOGY: MEDIA THAT MATTERS FILM FESTIVAL

This year we will be looking at short films, many made by youth, on social and ethical issues. We will engage in conversations about how those films reflect and inform our beliefs as Unitarian Universalists.

Youth Group Activities

To participate in junior or senior high youth group activities, please contact **Sonya Sukalski** 292-3858, ext.25, or [Sonya.sukalski@comcast.net](mailto:sonya.sukalski@comcast.net).

JUNIOR HIGH (6TH-7TH-8TH GRADES)

Staff: Sonya Sukalski

SENIOR HIGH (9TH-12 GRADES)

Advisors: Mike Williamson, Cordelia Willis, Richard Gould ●

Inicio del Programa de la Mayoría de Edad 2008-2009

Usted tiene un joven entre el 7 y el 9 grado que pueda beneficiarse de experiencias como el curso de retos, un mini retiro en la calle con los Bufones Fieles, o una vigilia en la naturaleza? El Programa de la Mayoría de Edad del Distrito Pacífico Central podría ser justo la clase de aventura y de unión con otros jóvenes Unitarios Universalistas que pueden hacer una gran diferencia en esa edad. Venga a encontrar más del programa el 13 de Abril de las 3:30 a las 5:30 en la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José en los salones de la parte baja, con el líder del distrito Riley McLaughlin. Esta orientación es para las familias con jóvenes quienes estarán en 8-10 grado en el año escolar 2008-2009 y para personas de la congregación interesadas en una profunda conexión con jóvenes de esta edad como un mentor.

El programa esta diseñado para ayudar a nuestros jóvenes a:

- explorar su propia espiritualidad
- desarrollar un profundo entendimiento del Unitario Universalismo
- continuar el proceso de toda la vida de clarificación de valores
- reconocer y aceptar la responsabilidad de las consecuencias de nuestras decisiones
- explorar sus opciones de servicio, tanto en la iglesia como en la comunidad
- profundizar sus relaciones con otros y con los adultos en la iglesia
- vienen a entender positivamente sus capacidades
- probarse a ellos mismos contra sus preconcebidos límites

Para cualquier pregunta, contacte a Sonya Sukalski: sonya.sukalski@comcast.net o 510-886-5931 (casa). ●

Sabbatical? Radical!

Our Associate Minister for Religious Education, the **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, will be on sabbatical leave until July 2008. You can keep up with him on his spiritual journey at his blog on the church website at www.sanjoseuu.org/revgrblog/index.php ●

Coming of Age Program 2008-2009 Kicks Off

Do you have a youth in grades 7-9 who could benefit from experiences like ropes courses, a Faithful Fools mini-street retreat, or a nature vigil? The Pacific Central District's Coming of Age Program could be just the kind of adventure and bonding with other Unitarian Universalist youth that can make a big difference at this age. Come find out more about the program **April 13 from 3:30-5:30 pm in the downstairs classrooms**, with district leader Riley McLaughlin. This orientation is for families with youth who will be 8-10th graders in the 2008-2009 school year and for people in the congregation interested in a deeper connection with a youth of this age as a mentor.

The program is designed to help our young people:

- Explore their own spirituality
- Develop a deeper understanding of Unitarian Universalism
- Continue the lifelong process of values clarification
- Recognize and accept responsibility for the consequences of their decisions
- Explore their options for service, both to the church and to the community
- Deepen their relationships with each other and with adults in the church
- Come to a positive understanding of their capabilities
- Test themselves against their own preconceived limits

For any questions, call **Sonya Sukalski** at 408-292-3858, ext. 25. ●



RE-Visioning Gatherings

By Sonya Sukalski

ER, la Visión de un grupo de personas.

Por Sonya Sukalski



I think of the human spirit as a flower. It starts from a seed, an imprint of past generations and traditions with information enough to follow a trajectory of growth. Its growth comes from fresh rain, sweet air, the warming sun, and the nurture of the earth. Or should I say fresh ideas, the warmth of love, a nurturing community, and a passion for life? I think of religious education as being a life-long process of growth in these areas and more. I am interested in your ideas about what religious education is, and does. What might your metaphors for the blossoming of the spirit add to our community? Do we offer religious education in a way that meets the needs and inspires the dreams of the people in our congregation? What feedback do we need to listen to about our current program in order to fulfill all the potential we possess? I hope you will join me and the Religious Education Council at one of the times below to consider these questions, and add your own to the mix.

Religious Education Visioning Sessions
— come to one or all!
Monday, April 21, 12-1:30 pm
Tuesday, April 29, 7-8:30 pm
Sunday, May 4, 1-3 pm

Pienso en el espíritu humano como una flor. Comienza de una semilla, de una impresión de generaciones pasadas y de tradiciones, con la información suficiente para seguir una trayectoria de crecimiento. El crecimiento viene de la lluvia fresca, del aire dulce, del sol que calienta y del cuidado de la tierra. ¿O debería decir de ideas frescas, del calor del amor, de una cuidadosa comunidad y de una pasión por la vida? Pienso en la educación religiosa como siendo un largo proceso de crecimiento de la vida en estas áreas y más. Estoy interesada en sus ideas sobre que es la educación religiosa y que es lo que hace ¿Qué podrían sus metáforas de la floración del espíritu agregar a nuestra comunidad? ¿Hacemos la educación religiosa de una manera que resuelva las necesidades e inspire los sueños de la gente en nuestra congregación? ¿Qué retroalimentación necesitamos escuchar acerca de nuestro programa actual para satisfacer todo el potencial que nosotros poseemos? Espero que usted se una a mí y al Consejo de Educación Religiosa en una de las fechas que están a continuación para considerar estas preguntas, y agregar las suyas a la mezcla.

Sesiones sobre la Visión de la Educación Religiosa—¡venga a una o a todas!
Lunes, Abril 21, de 12:00 a 1:30 pm
Martes, Abril 29, de 7:00 a 8:30 pm
Domingo, Mayo 4, de 1:00 a 3:00 pm ●

Correction to Board Minutes

In the last newsletter, the article entitled “Board Meetings of January 30 and February 27” stated that “Additional PACT meetings are planned at other churches on the topics of Marriage Equality and Immigration.” Program and Operations Council (POC) member **Marla Scharf** has asked us to explain that “our PACT LOC is involved in greening San Jose and not in any immigration or marriage equality issues” that other PACT Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) might be involved in. ●

For Volunteer Job Listings, read the online newsletter at www.sanjoseuu.org. New since last issue: R.E. TEACHER or ASSISTANT: lead Sun. morn. sessions, using prepared curriculum; 2 hr. a mon.; 1 yr. term

Is this Your Cup of Tea?



Collection Counter

Do you like work that:

- Is simple and routine
- Is short and sweet
- Provides an important service to our church

When: 1 Sunday a month, after the service, 30 min.-1 hr.

Length of Commitment: 1 year

Training: provided with pleasure

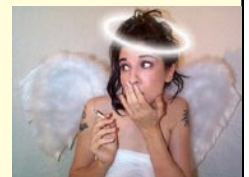
Reward: the satisfaction that comes with knowing you are doing your part to contribute to our Spiritual Cooperative ●

There Is an Angel in Our Midst!

The PACT Action with Mayor Chuck Reed on February 25, 2008, which brought a full house from the congregation and the community to our sanctuary, has inspired an Anonymous Angel to pay the first quarter's dues for our membership in PACT (People Acting in Community Together) for 2008! Thank you, thank you, whoever you are! May your generosity inspire us all to Walk our Talk!

!Hay un Ángel entre Nosotros!

La acción de PACT con el Alcalde Chuck Reed en febrero 25, 2008, la cual nos trajo una casa llena de la congregación y la comunidad a nuestro santuario, ha inspirado a un Anónimo Ángel a pagar la cuota del primer cuatrimestre de nuestra membresía en PACT (Gente Actuando en Comunidad Juntos) para el 2008! Gracias, quien quiera que seas, pueda su generosidad inspirarnos a todos a vivir nuestros credos. ●





Spotlight on Social Justice

By Carol Stephenson, Social Justice Coordinator,
socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org (408) 292-3858 x27



Support Third Street Learning About Environment

If you were impressed by the plucky Third Street kids telling the Mayor what they thought he should do for the environment, then you'll want to support how much they have been learning for the "Green Knowledge Bowl." The kids have created teams that are studying all about sustainability and will compete on April 18 at 5:30-6:30 in Hattie Porter Hall in front of a panel of judges that includes our downtown Councilperson, Sam Licca-

rdo. Come cheer them on and let them know how proud we are to have them here! ●

Social Justice Calendar

Friday, April 4, 6:00 pm, "Asphalt Gospel" film and speakers, Sanctuary

Friday, April 18, 5:30 pm, "Green Knowledge Bowl", Hattie Porter Hall Third Street Community Center

Sunday, April 20, Earth Day at First Unitarian, Service and Coffee Hour

CIRCLING AROUND

Milestones in the lives of the First Unitarian Community

by Kelly Burnett

Please Send **Kelly Burnett** your honors, joys, plans, and any other news that needs to be shared with our community so that she can keep us all informed. Her email address is kelly@kellybur.com. Her telephone number is 408-810-3182, but she'd prefer to receive your news by email, if possible.

Debra Fenzel-Alexander reports that her husband **Steve Alexander** and their niece in San Mateo, Karen Alexander, helped the chef for Google's cafeteria (which is above and beyond most cafeterias and free to employees) write a terrific cookbook. It's called **Food 2.0** by Charlie Ayers with *Karen Alexander* and Carolyn Humphries (emphasis added by Aunt Debra!). It's a fun book --emphasizing fresh, local, nutritious, real food--check it out!

Patricia O'Hanian-Coffey reports having had a very interesting experience on her way to work the last few weeks. When she leaves at a certain time, she ends up on Capitol Expressway near highway 87 behind a black Honda SUV with a big Unitarian Universalist bumper sticker on it. The perplexing thing to her is that she does not recognize the woman driving the car. Not that she knows everyone at church, but she is a bit surprised to not even recognize the driver. She guesses it could be a UU who does not attend church or attends Sunnyvale or Fremont. She asks that something be included in Circling Around saying thanks for brightening her morning. She surely does like seeing the big white bumper sticker on her black SUV (She has a small blue chalice on my Honda Civic). ●

Don't miss PCD-UUA District Assembly 2008!

April 25 - 27, 2008 at the Fremont Marriott

Come join 400 vibrant and vital UU's from across the Pacific Central District for a weekend of laughing, learning, worship, meeting old friends, and making new ones!

This year's DA features:

- Rev. Robert Latham, Saturday Keynote Speaker!
- Rev. Victoria Safford, Saturday Banquet Speaker!
- Roy Zimmerman, Satirist (Saturday night)!

With over 20 different workshops, 5 levels of child/youth programming,

Friday night Opening Worship, the PCD Annual Meeting, and Sunday Closing

Worship, there is something for everybody at DA2008!

For more information, please see: www.pcd-uua.org and click on the

DA2008 link. We hope to see you there! ●

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

by Joyce Miller

Here is the hiking schedule for April. In case of severe rain storms I may cancel, but usually we change the venue to the Stanford Dish or the Baylands. Both have paved trails. Call me the night before or in the morning if you are wondering if a hike is on. As always, if you are planning to hike let me know so I will look for you at the car pool spot or at the trail head. You can call in the morning from 6:30 am on at (408) 730-1052. I turn my cell phone on before I leave, so you can reach me at (408) 507-7052. I check my email in the morning, so feel free to email me if you are planning to come on a hike (at j408miller@sbcglobal.net).

Also, you may have noticed that the Wednesday hikes start at 8:30 am. The Saturday hikes remain the same, starting at 8:00 am. See you on the trails!

Friday, April 11, 2008

Pinnacles National Monument. Please note that this the second Friday of April instead of the third. I had to change it this year to accommodate a weekend at Tahoe. It may be better anyway, since last year we missed the peak of the wildflowers. I will send out more information closer to the date.

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Russian Ridge, 5 miles, moderate. Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, April 19, 2008

No hike planned. Some of us will be at Tahoe.

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Castle Rock State Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at the Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Big Basin State Park, Berry Falls trail, 12 miles, moderate. This is a truly spectacular hike. It is long but worth every minute of it. We will get back around 4:30 pm. Meet at the Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Fremont/Older/Stevens Creek, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at the parking lot at Stevens Creek Park at 8:30 am. Directions: From 280 take Foothill Expressway as though you were going to Rancho San Antonio, but go straight on Foothill, which becomes Stevens Canyon Road at McClellan. Continue about a mile to the entrance of the park, which is on the left. Parking fee is \$5.00. ●



Humanist Group Formation

An organizational meeting for a humanist group will take place at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 22nd, in the Fireside Room. Many members of our church have expressed an interest in such a group. This group may attract atheists, agnostics, skeptics, and others who like to emphasize left brain or rationalistic approaches to life, but all are welcome.

There are a number of possible approaches and formats we could use. I believe the members of the group should decide which approach and format is best. ***The questionnaire below will aid us in deciding the direction we should take.***

Please try to complete and send it to me before the 22nd. This is especially important if you will not be able to attend that meeting. Please RSVP whether you will attend or that you are interested but unable to attend. Failure to RSVP is not a bar to attendance.

Tim Blackwood, 1260 Greenbriar Ave., San Jose, CA 95128 H: 408-244-8580, M: 408-623-3168, tjb@timblackwood.com

Name _____

Telephone _____

Email: _____

1. How often would you like the group to meet?

2. What days and times are best for you?

3. How long should each meeting last?

4. Do you prefer to meet at church homes?
5. Is there a particular format, such as SGM, that you prefer? yes (explain below) no

6. In preparation for a meeting would you commit to a study of a reasonable amount of written material? yes no

7. Would you want to use of videos such as Bill Moyer's Faith and Reason (www.PBS.org) or Alain de Botton's Consolations of Philosophy (www.alaindebotton.com)? yes no

8. Would it be valuable to use time to review concepts, and proofs for the existence, of God? yes no

9. Unitarianism has a long tradition of humanistic beliefs, e.g., the HUUnnaists publish a journal "Religious Humanism." Should the group attempt to make that connection, at least periodically? yes no

10. Should we work on explaining humanism to the public, which often has severe misperceptions and attitudes, especially toward atheists? yes no

11. Are you willing to lead or facilitate one of the meetings? yes no

12. Other relevant ideas or suggestions?

Upcoming Events

May We Have This Dance With You?

The Dances of Universal Peace use sacred phrases from the spiritual traditions of the earth and set them to melody and movement. They are both simple and profound. They are for everyone and no previous dance experience is necessary. Each evening is a new event.

May we have this dance with you?

It will be quite simple to do.

You may see beauty in it too,

And find a feeling that is new.


The Dance meets Friday, April 4, and on the first Friday of each month at 8:00 pm on the labyrinth in the sanctuary. Call **Marilynn** and **Patrick**, 265-8937, with questions. ●

Women's Alliance

Please join us for the April 3 meeting in the Fireside Room for our *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* curriculum. We will meet from 7:15 to 9:15 pm. All are welcome. Contact Nancy Coleman at nancybcoleman@mac.com for more information. ●

South American Expressions

An Evening with **Nayo Ulloa** and Friends, a benefit concert for the Margarita Medina Sevillano Foundation and the First Unitarian Church of San Jose, will be held Saturday, May 24, 2008 at the First Unitarian Church. Doors open at 7:00 pm; the concert starts 7:30 pm. Suggested donation is \$10.00. Come and hear some wonderful music! ●



SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

20 de Abril — 9:30 & 11:00 am
Servicio de la Celebración del Día de la Tierra: Esperanza para el Planeta Tierra
 Unámonos para explorar el perdón, la diversión y la fe en el ecologismo. También tendremos una procesión de elementos y una historia ecológica para todas las edades. Ven y deja que aflore tu sentido verde. Después del servicio del las 11:00 am, durante hora del café, habrá mesas de información y de actividades para los niños de todas las edades en el Hattie Porter Hall. Y de 1:00 a 2:00 pm estará un orador (será anunciado más adelante) en el santuario.

Dirigen: 9:30 am Kathleen Bardin y Roberto Padilla; 11:00 am, Kathleen Bardin, Carol Stephenson y Jeff Norment.

April 20 — 9:30 & 11:00 am
Earth Day Celebration Service: Hope for Planet Earth

Join us as we explore forgiveness, fun, and faith in environmentalism. We'll also have a procession of the elements and an ecological story for all ages. Come and let your green self be uplifted. After the 11:00 am service, there will be informational tables and activities for children of all ages in Hattie Porter Hall. Then stay for our special guest speaker (to be announced) from 1:00 to 2:00 pm in the sanctuary.

Worship Leaders: 9:30 am, Kathleen Bardin and Roberto Padilla; 11:00 am, Kathleen Bardin, Carol Stephenson, and Jeff Norment.





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>

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To receive the newsletter via email, emessage steve.carr@earthlink.net

Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm, Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, April 16, 2008

View this newsletter online in HTML or PDF format at:
<http://www.sanjoseuu.org/WhatsHappening/Newsletters.html>



Remember to bring your recyclable bottles and cans to help us improve the print quality of this newsletter!

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, **Rev. Donna Lenahan:** (home) 408-354-9024; (cell) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com. For pastoral care in Spanish, please contact our Spanish-Speaking Ministries Coordinator, **Roberto Padilla:** (cell) 408-841-1011; e-mail: paor69@yahoo.com.

Contacting the Ministers

Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and **Sonya Sukalski** (for **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, on sabbatical) 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. **Sonya:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; e-mail: sonya.sukalski@comcast.net.

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 nuestro Coordinador Asociado Laico en Cuidado Pastoral, **la Rev. Donna Lenahan:** (casa) 408-354-9024; (celular) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com. Para el cuidado pastoral en español, por favor comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador de los Ministerios en Español, **Roberto Padilla:** (cell) 408-841-1011; e-mail: paor69@yahoo.com.

Contactando a los Ministros

La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y **Sonya Sulkalski** (para **El Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, sabático) se sienten honrados por servir a esta congregación, y nosotros apreciamos su confianza! Aquí nosotros estamos a su alcance: **Nancy:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 de Lunes a Jueves; (celular) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com **Sonya:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; e-mail: sonya.sukalski@comcast.net.

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Sherry Howd, 257-6844, s_howd@msn.com
Sherry will edit the April 19 and June 4 issues.

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THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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Thanks for all the work you do and care you put into the newsletter. **Assembly starts at 4:30 pm - your help is very much welcome!**

Mailing: **Libby Codd**

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