



Our Church Circular

May 7, 2008
/ 7 de Mayo
2008

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

11 de Mayo — 9:30 y 11:00 am

Celebración del Día de las Madres

¡Continuamos en nuestra tradición anual de ofrecer un “Día de la Madre para todos” honrar a las madres y a la maternidad en todas sus múltiples formas!

Dirige: a las 9:30 am, Carol Stephenson; a las 11:00 am, la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: a las 9:30 am, Roberto Padilla; a las 11:00 am, la Rev. Donna Lenahan.



18 de Mayo — 9:30 y 11:00 am

Moviéndonos desde “yo” a “nosotros”:

¿Cómo realmente conseguimos llegar ahí?

En un servicio que resume nuestros temas de los servicios para este año en la iglesia, miramos cómo y donde nos estamos moviendo como comunidad y como fe. ¿Quizás estamos creciendo más allá de la necesidad de satisfacer nuestros propios deseos individuales en la creación de algo más grande que nosotros mismos? Para ponerlo de otra manera: Sabemos que nosotros los Unitarios Universalistas tenemos libertad frente a otros que nos dicen lo que hay que creer o qué hacer, pero sabemos para que tenemos libertad? ¡Traiga sus pensamientos y deseos para los temas y tópicos para servicios del el año próximo! ¡Recojeremos sus ideas como anticipo a lo que crearemos juntos!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: a las 9:30 am, Roberto Padilla; a las 11:00 am, Alice Lynch.

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

May 11 — 9:30 and 11:00 am

Mother's Day Celebration

We continue our annual tradition of offering a “Mother’s Day for All”—honoring mothers and mothering in all their many forms!

Worship Leader: at 9:30 am, Carol Stephenson; at 11:00 am, the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: at 9:30 am, Roberto Padilla; at 11:00 am, the Rev. Donna Lenahan.

May 18 — 9:30 and 11:00 am

Moving from “Me” to “We”: How Do We Really Get There?

In a service that sums up our worship themes from this church year, we look at how and where we are moving as a community and as a faith. Are we perhaps growing beyond the need to satisfy our own individual desires into the creation of something larger than ourselves? To put it another way: we know that we Unitarian Universalists have freedom *from* others telling us what to believe or what to do, but do we know what we have freedom *for*? **Bring your thoughts and desires for worship themes and topics for next year! We will be collecting your ideas as we look ahead to what we will create together!**

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: at 9:30 am, Roberto Padilla; at 11:00 am, Alice Lynch.

See **UPCOMING SERVICES**, page 2

ANNUAL YEAR-END PARTY STARTS AT 4:00 PM SATURDAY MAY 10!

Previous announcements in our newsletter have erroneously specified the starting time for our annual End-of-Canvass party as 6:00 pm, but that’s incorrect—the fun starts at 4:00 pm, dinner at 5:00 and if you don’t get there until 6:00 you might go hungry!

So remember to show up at the church at 4:00 pm to celebrate all the wonderful things we as a Spiritual Cooperative have done this year, and enjoy the food, music, program, and all-around celebration. No RSVP needed, and it’s FREE!

SAVE THE DATES

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

June 1, Sunday, UU Band of Writers, 12:20 pm, Youth Room

June 1, Sunday, Congregational Meeting after the 11:00 am service.

June 5, Thursday, Women’s Alliance, 7:15, Ramsden Fireside Room

June 6, Friday, Dances of Universal Peace, 8:00 in the Sanctuary.

July 9-13, All-Church Campout, McConnell State Recreation Area.

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

August 2-8, PCD Leadership School. Ask Joy-Ellen Lipsky for details (jelipsky@successwithjoy.com).

August 5-10, Senior High Santa Cruz Island Campout



As We Build the Beloved Community...

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Just an Ordinary Extraordinary Afternoon

In mid-April, my clergy group, the Sparks for Growth, spent our spring retreat on the Monterey Peninsula. We “Sparklers,” as we affectionately call each other, fill each of our two-day retreats with worship, check-in, and a varying program that allows us to dive deeply into some aspect of our congregational and ministerial lives. We learn from each other and from other teachers, and then we bring these learnings back to you. Knowing that at this April retreat many of us might feel just a wee bit weary, our “program” this time was a spacious afternoon to use as we wanted: to walk on the beach or into town, to nap, to read, but most of all, to contemplate two big questions: What is the purpose of my life? And how do I express this purpose through my ministry?

Well! I had planned an invigorating walk along the coast, journal in hand, to be capped by an afternoon coffee in Pacific Grove. But lo and behold, I was too tired to battle the strong winds that day, so I drove partway to town. “No pushing,” I promised myself. In a sandy turnout, I parked the car and lay down on a bench where I could feel the sun warming my face. With my eyes closed, I could hear, to my right, the waves breaking offshore. To my left, I could hear the wind rustling through bushes, trees, and ice plant, and sometimes I could hear the thwack of a golf ball from the 18th tee of the Pacific Grove Golf Course, which reminded me sweetly of my spouse. I lay there just listening and drifting, for half an hour.

Later, I had walked only a few blocks toward town when I heard that inner voice say again, “No pushing” So I turned back toward the car, and instantly my still-weary body was so grateful that I began to talk to the animals: to squirrels darting in and out of holes in the cliff, to birds drifting by. This talking-out-loud to animals is a longtime habit of mine and always a sure sign that

spontaneity and joy are returning.

Still, the wind was fierce, a force to reckon with. On impulse I spread my arms out like wings, which somehow felt more natural than plodding along with my arms by my side. The ocean beckoned, so I climbed up on a rocky outcropping and spread my arms again. The wind blew me backward, made me hop on the rock. And suddenly, I knew with my whole being what it must feel like to be a bird! I could sense how, if I had feathers and a slightly different shape, the wind would lift me off the ground. I understood the kind of buffeting that birds must feel, the strength of the wind coursing along their bodies. It was a moment of transcendence.

Just then, as if to say “yes” to my imaginary flight, a flock of pelicans rose from

below the cliff, flying close by, at my level, as though to welcome me into their formation. I laughed and thanked them, and then clambered down to my car.

So, what learnings do I bring back to you from this retreat? First, if we will listen to our bodies’ needs, often we will find our joy again, with “no pushing.” And if we will open ourselves to this world, we may sense our place in the interconnected web in ways we might never have imagined.

What did I discover about my purpose in life? Ah, that’s a subject for another column, but it’s a great question, isn’t it? May you feel the wind beneath your wings as you consider it!

With warmth and gratitude,

Nancy ●

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

25 de Mayo — 9:30 am

Memorial Day, un Día para Recordar

Memorial Day es un día para honrar a los héroes” muertos en la guerra o es un día para reflexionar acerca de la vida, el respeto y la libertad. Vengan y descubramos juntos que debería de ser Memorial Day.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla; Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM.

Memorial Day: A Day of Remembrance

Memorial Day is a day to honor the “heroes” who have died in the war or a day to reflect about life, respect and freedom. Come as we discover together what Memorial Day should be.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla; Worship Associates: SSM Team Members.

May 25 — 11:00 am

The Healing Community

How can our church community help with emotional traumas and mental health stresses? Sometimes it can be as easy as a warm and caring smile, a gentle touch, an accepting attitude, a listening ear. Join us as we address ways that we can and do create a healing community.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Donna Lenahan; Worship Associate: Dena Dickinson.

Un Comunidad Curitiva

Cómo la comunidad de la iglesia puede ayudar con los traumas emocionales y las tensiones en la salud mental? A veces puede ser tan fácil como una calida y cariñosa sonrisa, un suave roce, una actitud aceptante, un oído que escucha. Unámonos para buscar las formas en que podemos y creamos una comunidad curativa.

Dirige: la Rev. Donna Lenahan; Asociada de Culto: Dena Dickinson. ●





Mientras Construimos Nuestra Querida Comunidad... por la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Solo una extraordinaria tarde normal

A mediados de abril, mi grupo de clérigos, Chispas para el Crecimiento, tuvimos nuestro retiro en la Península de Monterey. “Las luces de Bengala,” como nos llamamos cariósamente, llenamos cada uno de nuestros dos días de retiro con servicios de culto, charlas de evaluación y un variado programa que nos permita zambullirnos profundamente en ciertos aspectos de nuestra vida congregacional y ministerial. Aprendemos de cada uno y de otros profesores y entonces trajimos esas lecciones para ustedes. Sabiendo que en este retiro de abril muchos de nosotros posiblemente nos sintiéramos un poquito cansados, nuestro “programa” esta vez fue una larga tarde para hacer lo que quisiéramos—caminar en la playa o en ciudad, tomar una siesta, leer, pero sobre todo, contemplar dos grandes preguntas:

¿Cuál es el propósito de mi vida? ¿Y cómo expreso este propósito a través de mi ministerio?

¡Buena! Yo había planeado una vigorosa caminata a lo largo de la costa, carnet en mano, para ser tapada para una tarde de café en Pacific Grove. Pero esperen y he

aquí que yo estaba demasiado cansada de luchar con los fuertes vientos de ese día, así que maneje hasta cierto punto de la ciudad. “Sin presiones,” me prometí a mi misma. En un acotamiento arenoso, estacione el coche y me acosté en una banca donde pudiera sentir el sol calentando mi cara. Con mis ojos cerrados, podía oír a mi derecha, las olas rompiendo en la costa, a mi izquierda, podía oír susurrar al viento a través de los arbustos, de los árboles y de las plantas y algunas veces podía oír el golpe de una pelota de golf del hoyo 18 del Campo de Golf Pacific Grove, que me recordó dulcemente a mi esposo. Acostada allí, solo escuchando y vagueando por media hora.

Más tarde, había caminado solamente algunas cuerdas hacia la ciudad cuando oí la voz interna diciendome otra vez, “sin presiones!” Di vuelta hacia el coche e instantáneamente mi cuerpo aún—cansado estuvo tan agradecido que comencé a hablar con los animales—con las ardillas que se lanzaban dentro y fuera de los agujeros en el acantilado, con los pájaros que vagaban. Este hablar con los animales es un viejo hábito que tengo

y siempre es una muestra segura de que la espontaneidad y la alegría están volviendo.

Todavía el viento estaba furioso, una fuerza a considerar. En un impulso extendí los brazos como alas, los cuales se sentían de alguna manera más naturales que andando pesadamente con mis brazos a los lados. El océano me hizo señas, así que me subí en una saliente rocosa y separé los brazos otra vez. El viento sopló por atrás, lo cual me hizo saltar en la roca. ¡Y repentinamente, supe con todo mí ser, que esto debe sentirse como ser un pájaro! Podía detectar cómo si tuviera plumas y una forma levemente diferente, el viento me levantaría de la tierra. Entendía la clase de ráfagas que los pájaros deben sentir, la fuerza del viento pasando a lo largo de sus cuerpos. Fue un momento trascendente.

Solo entonces, como si dijera “sí” a mi vuelo imaginario, una multitud de pelícanos se levantaron del acantilado de debajo, volando cerca, a mi nivel, como para darme la bienvenida en su formación. Me reí y les agradecí—y entonces baje a mi coche.

¿Así pues, qué aprendizaje traigo de nuevo a usted de este retiro? Primero, si escuchamos las necesidades de nuestros cuerpos, encontraremos a menudo nuestra alegría otra vez, con “sin presiones.” Y sí nos abrimos a este mundo, podemos detectar nuestro lugar en la red interconectada de manera que pudiera ser que nunca nos hayamos imaginado.

¿Qué descubrí sobre mi propósito en la vida? Ah, eso es materia para otra columna, pero es una gran pregunta, ¿no es así? ¿Pueden ustedes sentir el viento debajo de sus alas? ¡Como quieran considerarlo!

Calurosamente,

Nancy ●

Ready to Become a New Member of the First Unitarian Church of San José?

Membership means you have found your spiritual home in Unitarian Universalism and here at FUCSJ; it means you feel called to offer your time, talent, and treasure to help build this Beloved Community. We welcome you! Please set up a meeting with Rev. Nancy, revnpj@yahoo.com, and then plan to participate in the next New-Member In-gathering on Sunday, March 30! ●



¿Listo para ser un Nuevo Miembro de la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José?

Membersía significa que tú has encontrado tu hogar espiritual en el Unitario Universalismo y aquí en la FUCSJ; significa que tú has sentido el llamado de ofrecer tu tiempo, talento y tesoro para ayudar a construir a esta amada comunidad. ¡Le damos la bienvenida! Por favor, tenga una reunión con la Rev. Nancy revnpj@yahoo.com y entonces planea participar en el siguiente Reunión de Nuevos Miembros el domingo 30 de marzo. ●



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

May 11 Play in Peace

May 18 The Joy of Learning Together

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

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

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE, TIMELESS THEMES

May 11 Learn First Aid

May 18 Clara Barton

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

5th Grade, Room 6, Lower Level

NEIGHBORING FAITHS

May 11 Unitarian Universalist Wrap-up

May 18 Neighboring Faiths Celebration and Game Day

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday- Bridging

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

TRADITIONS WITH A WINK!

May 11 Mother's Day

May 18 Closing Day

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

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

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

May 11 3:30 - 5:30 pm

May 18 4:30 - 6:30 pm - Final Celebration

June 1 Youth Sunday - Come receive recognition for your OWL attendance

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

Advisors: Mike Williamson, Cordelia Willis and Richard Gould

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.

Return Again! Return Again!

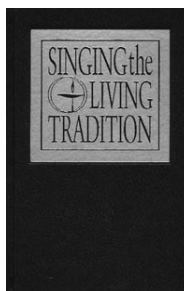
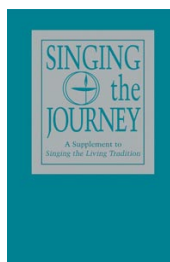
Return a Hymnal to Church!

Despite having purchased some new hymnals fairly recently, the church seems to be missing quite a few of them. Please check to see if you have a church hymnal at home.

If you have a hymnal that belongs at church, please, please, return it to its rightful home! And if you borrow hymnals from the sanctuary for a meeting, please return them where you found them before you leave the church.

How can you tell if it belongs to the church? The gray hymnals usually have a bookplate in the inside cover. And all hymnals, both the gray ones and the teal ones, have the church name and address stamped on the bottom edges of the pages (if they were taken in the past year). Check by turning the closed book upside down, and looking at the bottom.

If you would like to have your very own hymnal, you can purchase it from the UUA bookstore at <http://www.uuabookstore.org/showproducts.cfm?FullCat=49> *Singing the Living Tradition* (gray hymnal) is \$28, and *Singing the Journey* (paperback, teal-colored) is \$16, plus shipping.



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

REGISTER ONLINE!

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



<http://sanjoseuu.org/RE/br.html>

Upcoming Events

Congregational Meeting After Services on June 1

There will be a congregational meeting held on Sunday, June 1, after the 11:00 am service to approve the 2008-09 budget. Members of our congregation, please attend if you can.

Wanna Have Fun? Come to the Annual Memorial Day Picnic!

Our church's Memorial Day Potluck Picnic will be held Monday May 26, 11:00 am-3:00 pm in Central Park, Santa Clara, on Kiely near Homestead. Please bring food to share and your own plastic ware (plates, cups, forks, etc). Suggested items (according to your last name):

A thru D -- Burgers, Hot Dogs, Veggie Burgers

E thru H -- Drinks, Buns

I thru L -- Chips, Dips, Munchies

M thru R -- Salads

S thru Z -- Desserts

Also bring games, for kids and big kids (adults), such as ring toss, jump ropes, volleyball, flying saucers, etc. Activities will be organized through your efforts. Anyone wanting to help, please call Dena Dickinson (265-5919).



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.

Did any of you realize that the chancel decoration done by **Rob Strong** the Sunday of the Silent Auction was made with a garden hose? I thought it was bamboo! It looked like bamboo. Also, If you looked at the shadows, it appeared as though there was an arm and a hand coming down holding the flame.

How about **Michael Payne-Alexander** in his tuxedo at the Service Auction! Pretty sharp, eh? I hate to say he was the best dressed there but I'll say it anyway.

Glynda Cotton, daughter of **Kelly Burnett**, is the Costume Designer for the exciting new circus/hip hop/wow show, *And If We Shadows*, a passionate and poignant portrait of life in the Bay Area circus and hip-hop communities, featuring three generations of professionals aged 14-34. *Shadows* is a groundbreaking collaboration between hip hop and circus performers working in the urban circus arts. It runs weekends April 18th through May 11th at the Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th Street (at Portrero) in San Francisco. For more info or to purchase tickets: go to www.citycircus.org or phone 415-665-2276. Glynda says, "come and see my show!"

Sorry to say, we have several sad news items for the past month, including the passing of long time congregation member, **Nancy Carr**, the death of **Luther Jackson's** father, and of **Dan Zulevic's** son Stephen. (You can contact **Diana Wirt** at diwirt@sbcglobal.net to pass on sympathy to Nancy Carr's family.) I know you all join in sending the families loving thoughts/letters/notes/energy.

Good news is that **Liz Shivell** is on her way back to health! She is out of the hospital and recovering at the White Blossom Care Center, 1990 Fruitdale Avenue in San Jose (408-998-8447). Liz no longer needs to have her visits scheduled. She is feeling well

enough to receive whoever and whenever. Visiting Hours are 11 am to 8 pm. Liz is starting to be on her feet a little and is feeling good about her progress. She would like books on history and politics and mysteries. Her favorite mystery authors are Sandra Brown and James Patterson (she has read all of his up to Cross). I have also suggested and she liked the idea of Lee Child's Jack Reacher series and Dismas Hardy series by John Lescroart, so if you have any of these books, please let me know and I'll make sure she gets them. Many blessings to her and I hope — as I know you do — to see her in church before long.

I went to part of YRUU at District Assembly (the room was too warm to stay) and I was absolutely in awe of **Mike Lanier's** leadership and his leading the spiritual service. Way to go, Mike! Kudos! Hope to see you in Leadership School in August!



There were lots of folks from FUCSJ at District Assembly and it was wonderful to see so many faces of people that I love. Here's Julia Rodriguez carrying our banner.



And here's a photo of Julie Springer, a new member of FUCSJ, but a long-time UU who is the convenor of Leadership School, along with Charles Miles, who made the chalice won by this nice woman whose name I do not know. All of the funds from the raffle of this beautiful chalice went to the Leadership School scholarship fund. ●

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

by Joyce Miller

Here is the hiking schedule for May. 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!

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Sanborn County Park 7 miles moderate. Meet at parking lot behind Downey Bank in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 10, 2008

Mission Peak, 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capital and Alum Rock at 8:00 am or at Ohlone College at 8:20 am. Drive up the hill to the farthest parking lot that is open. There is major construction going on and some of the lots are closed.

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Huddart County Park, 7 miles, moderate. We will do the longer hike up to Skyline. Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Butano State Park, 7 miles, moderate. This is long day due to driving distance and pie eating after the hike. Plan on getting back around 4:00 pm. This is really a fun day! Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Montebello/Grizzly Flat, 6 miles, moderate. This is a car shuttle hike. Meet at Page/Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 24, 2008

Joseph Grant County Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capital and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Saratoga Gap/Grizzly Flat car shuttle hike. Let's do it in reverse order this time starting at Saratoga Gap while it is cooler; 7 miles, moderate. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 31

Huddart County Park, 7 miles, moderate. Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:00 am.





Spotlight on Social Justice

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



This mother's day weekend marks the one-year anniversary of the New Sanctuary Movement (new-sanctuarymovement.org). This national campaign brings together a wide range of religious leaders to stand with immigrant families who face human rights violations in the United States. The movement does not call for specific immigration reform; instead, it seeks to change the terms of the debate to consider human rights and the complexity of immigration.

Last year, dozens of people from our congregation attended the first South Bay Area meeting to begin organizing for the New Sanctuary movement. Then in June, we held a congregational meeting and approved a statement in support of New Sanctuary Movement. At General Assembly, members from FUCSJ worked in support of the Action of Immediate Witness that called for an "immediate moratorium of all inhumane raids and resulting deportations" that was passed. (<http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/socialjustice/state-ments/31603.shtml>)

Now that a year has passed, we have lost much of the energy we had when the New Sanctuary Movement started, both in our congregation and nationally. Congress was unable to pass any comprehensive im-

migration reform, for better or for worse. But millions of people remain vulnerable to deportation and ICE raids continue. We know that this issue of immigration is close to our hearts and our lives. Opportunities are available to bring immigration issues to the congregation; any one interested is invited to contact the Social Justice Coordinator at (408) 292-3858 x27 or socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org.

Social Justice Calendar

May 7, 7:00 pm, PACT Local Organizing Committee, Fireside Room

May 19, 6:30 pm, Social Justice Council, Conference Room

May 26, 11-4, Memorial Day Picnic Remember to Go Green!

June 15, Pride Parade, watch for details to participate!

And, by the way, in case you missed the Third Street Community Center's Robotic Program competition on Saturday, May 3, the TSCC Robotics Program will hold their own Closing Ceremony on Thursday, May 15, from 6:30- 8:00 pm in Hattie Porter Hall. TSCC will provide refreshments while the students display the devices that they created. They will also recognize all the brilliant students and their hard-working mentors! Please stop by on the 15th! ●

CLASSIFIED ADS:

Opportunities to "Pay Back" Our Spiritual Cooperative

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATOR: operate sound system during 9:30 & 11:00 services; 1 Sun. a mo.; 1 yr. term

LABYRINTH HOST: set up table & music & be present, 11:30-1:00, Wed.,Th. or Fri.; according to availability; 1 yr. term

CHANCEL DECORATOR: use creative talents to decorate chancel, using flowers, fabric, etc. ; serve when available; 1 yr. term

TAPE DUPLICATOR: make & provide tapes of services in HPH after church for 1 1/2 hrs.; 1 yr. term

NEWCOMER TABLE HOST: welcome newcomers, ask to fill out card, give info.; 1 Sun. a mo.; 1 yr. term

CHOIR MEMBER: no exp. nec.; practice Wed. 7-9 pm; perform Sun. lowen@data-time.com

R.E. TEACHER or ASSISTANT: lead Sun. morn. sessions, using prepared curriculum; 2 hr. a mon.; 1 yr. term

WORSHIP HOST: greet & welcome people coming to Sun. service, collect offering; 1 Sun. a mo.; 1 yr. term

COFFEE HOUR HOST: set out snacks, drinks before service; clean up after; 1 Sun. a mo.; 1 yr. term

LIVE YOUR VALUES—SHARE YOUR TALENTS—FORM WARM FRIENDSHIPS

Call Genie at 997-6292 or Ed at 712-4157

Special Event!

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! ●

Annual Church Campout 2008

Great news, UU campers! We have found a wonderful location for the campout this July, and just secured the reservation. The dates are Wednesday, July 9 through Sunday, July 13, 2008. (That's a week earlier than usual, but this way it won't conflict with the junior high backpacking trip.)

The location is McConnell State Recreation Area, near Turlock, about 2 hours from San Jose. **Alec MacLean** drove out there to reconnoiter the site and brought back pictures and

glowing reviews. The group campsite has easy access to the Merced River with sandy beaches for the kids, a bathhouse with showers and flush toilets, lots of picnic tables, and running water right in the campsite. It has everything we need for another fantastic campout.

If you'd like to be added to a "church-campout" email list, please email **MM Feldman** at mm@feldmo.com. Otherwise, watch for information about signups a little later in the spring. ●



Contribute Your Stories to Our Congregational Leaders

For “Gather the Spirit: A Conversation about Rev. Nancy’s Ministry”

You are invited to share your thoughts on Rev. Nancy’s ministry here at the First Unitarian Church of San José! Members of the Board, the Program and Operations Council, and the Committee on Ministries will meet with Rev. Nancy in mid-May for “Gather the Spirit,” a conversation about her ministry. Our congregation’s relationship with our ministers is covenantal (ministers are called, not hired), so the Committee on Ministries has created an evaluation process that reflects the respect, mutuality, love, and support embodied in this relationship. We are using the Appreciative Inquiry approach, which builds on a person’s strengths and the best of our past experiences in order to create what we want for the future.

Here are the questions that will guide this conversation:

- Describe a time when you experienced Rev. Nancy’s ministry with our congregation to be spiritually engaging and meaningful. What made this experience possible? (Consider our clergy’s many areas of ministry, which include: worship, pastoral care, rites of passage, lifespan religious education, prophetic witness including community and denominational service, operations, and administration.)

- What do you most value about Rev. Nancy’s ministry with our congregation? _____

- What three concrete wishes for the future of Rev. Nancy’s ministry with us do you have? _____

- Is there anything else you would like Rev. Nancy to know about your experience of her ministry at the First Unitarian Church of San José? _____

YOUR NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Please indicate whether Rev. Nancy may contact you if necessary for clarification on any of your comments. Send your comments to Board President Tracy Avent, darkmuzik@yahoo.com; Program Officer Julia Rodríguez, quixoposto@ix.netcom.com; Committee on Ministries Chair Michael Payne-Alex, michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com, or to any of the

members of the board, POC, or Committee on Ministries. You can find the full list of our officers and directors at the end of this newsletter.

Nancy welcomes your insights and sees this as an important opportunity for her ongoing personal, professional, and spiritual growth and development. Thank you for contributing to this Gathering of the Spirit.

Contribuya con sus Historias con Nuestros Líderes Congregacionales

para “Reuniendo el Espíritu”: Una conversación acerca del Ministerio de la Rev. Nancy

Ustedes están invitados a compartir sus pensamientos sobre el ministerio de la Rev. Nancy aquí en la primera iglesia de Unitaria de San José! Los miembros del la Mesa Directiva, el Consejo de Programas y Operaciones (POC), y el Comité sobre los Ministerios se reunirán con la Rev. Nancy a mediados de mayo para el “Reuniendo el Espíritu,” una conversación sobre su ministerio. La relación de nuestra congregación con nuestros ministros es un pacto (los ministros son llamados, no contratados), así que el Comité sobre los Ministerios ha creado un proceso de evaluación que refleja el respeto mutuo, el amor y el apoyo expresados en esta relación. Estamos utilizando el acercamiento con un cuestionario de preguntas, que construye las fuerzas de una persona y lo mejor de nuestras experiencias previas para crear lo que deseamos para el futuro.

Aquí están las preguntas que guiarán esta conversación:

- Describa una vez en que usted experimentó el ministerio de la Rev. Nancy con nuestra congregación a ser espiritualmente agradable y significativa. ¿Qué fue lo que hizo esta experiencia posible? (Considere todas las áreas del ministerio de nuestro clero, que incluyen: el servicio religioso, el cuidado pastoral, los rituales de iniciación, la educación religiosa, testimonio profético incluyendo el servicio en comunidad y denominacional, las operaciones, y la administración.)

- ¿Qué es lo más valioso acerca del ministerio de la Rev. Nancy con nuestra congregación? _____

- ¿Quiere hacerle tres deseos concretos para el futuro del ministerio de la Rev. Nancy con nosotros? _____

- ¿Hay algo más que usted quisiera que la Rev. Nancy supiera sobre su experiencia del su ministerio en la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José? _____

SU NOMBRE: _____ FECHA: _____

Indique por favor si la Rev. Nancy puede ponerse en contacto con usted en caso de necesidad para aclarar cualquiera de sus comentarios. Por favor, envíe sus comentarios a Tracy Avent, Presidente de la Mesa Directiva, darkmuzik@yahoo.com; Julia Rodríguez, Oficial de Programa, quixoposto@ix.netcom.com; Michael Payne-Alex, Moderador del Comité sobre el Ministerio,

michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com, o a cualquiera de los miembros de la Mesa Directiva, POC, o Comité sobre el Ministerio. Usted puede encontrar la lista completa de nuestros oficiales y directores al final de este Boletín Informativo. Nancy agradece sus perspectivas y ve esto como una importante oportunidad para su actual crecimiento personal, profesional, y espiritual. ¡Gracias por contribuir a esta reunión del espíritu!





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Want to Receive the Newsletter?

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steve.carr@earthlink.net

Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm, Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, May 21, 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:** 408-292-3858 ext. 24; 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:** 408-292-3858 ext. 24; 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
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Thanks for all the work you do and care you put into the newsletter.

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