



Our Church Circular

May 21, 2008
/ 21 de Mayo
2008

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

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.

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

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.

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. Snacks and tea provided.

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

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

June 25-29, General Assembly, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

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

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

August 5-10, Senior High Santa Cruz Island Campout

1 de Junio — 9:30 am

Un Mundo Feliz

Desde que Dios creo a Adán y a Eva, los humanos hemos tratado de buscar la manera de hacer de nuestro mundo, o en otras palabras, a nuestra sociedad, un mundo feliz, o sea, una sociedad feliz. Algunos piensan que eso es una idea utópica, mientras que otros nos dicen que estamos en el camino de lograrlo. ¿Ustedes a que bando pertenecen?

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

Brave New World

Ever since God created Adam and Eve, we humans have tried to look for ways to make our world, or in other words, our society, a happy world, that is, a happy society. Some people think that this is an idea based on a utopian ideal, while other people say that we are on the way to obtaining it. What side do you belong to?

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

June 1 — 11:00 am

Youth Sunday - All-Generations Worship Service!

This ritual of transition allows us to share the spirit of our graduating Senior High School youth, honor our OWL graduates, and recognize the transitions many of our youth are making to new stages of development. Our gratitude for the dedicated teachers of Religious Education will be palpable as we see the results of their care and influence in our community. We will bless all of these milestones as many of us embark on new directions with the beginning of summer.

Worship Leader: Sonya Sukalski with the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

¡Domingo de la Juventud - Servicio de Todas las Generaciones!

Este ritual de transición nos permite compartir el espíritu de nuestros jóvenes que se gradúan de la preparatoria, honrar a nuestros graduados de OWL y reconocer las transiciones que muchos de nuestros jóvenes están haciendo en las nuevas etapas del desarrollo. Nuestra gratitud por la dedicación de los profesores de Educación Religiosa

See UPCOMING SERVICES, page 5

Sensing the Spirit with Sonya

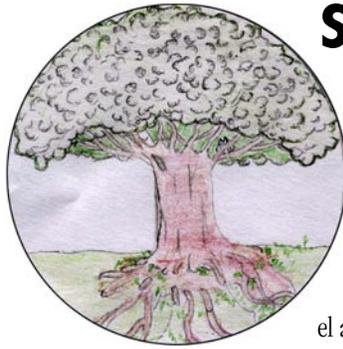
by Sonya Sukalski

During March and April, several San Jose UUs made the trek to Sacramento to Target, Walmart, and Trader Joe's. Why go so far to end up at a store that looks just like the one near your house, which you might or might not frequent anyway? The people. Thanks to Marla Scharf, and the savvy organizational skills of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry Action Network, as well as Equality for All, I felt trained enough to ask each person I could make eye contact with the question of the day as they exited the store. It was, "Excuse me, do you support the freedom to marry for gay and lesbian couples?" Before I got to the Target in Elk Grove, it wasn't a question that easily rolled off my tongue. I am sorry to admit that it wasn't something I ask most people in my life. Although, perhaps that is because I already know that many do support it.

During the training we were advised to leave our assumptions at the door, and just ask everyone we could that question. This part of the training I took to heart. It helped that my team leader, Mary Helen Doherty, had been doing this for the past month, and said, "How radical, to come to a conservative area, and just say the words, "gay and lesbian!" I agree. One of my moments of glee came when I saw a guy with a very military/government looking insignia on his shirt, and asked him anyway. He said "no," but for some reason I delighted in having said that to him. And sometimes, military people in fatigues had said "yes" to Equality for All volunteers. Sometimes, people looked like they were honestly searching their hearts, right outside Target, to know whether they supported it or not. Into their hand I offered a flyer where they could get more information about it. And 90 people that day said "yes" to our team, who consisted of Steve Stein, Sierra Sukalski (my daughter, a youth of 16), Mary Helen and me. It is hard to put into words how gratifying it was to sign up supporters who are willing to be contacted about showing their support.

The other gratifying part of the exercise started out with a little adrenaline peak. When we arrived at our designated place, there was someone collecting signatures to put ballot measures into place for November. Often these paid signature gatherers (who got 80 cents to \$2 per signature) carried several petitions, one among them called, "Limits to Marriage." As a team of Equality for All people, we wanted to have the chance to say to people considering signing how the measure hurts gay and lesbian families. Many of you heard Marla's poignant story about her parents not being able to get married in Texas, and the pain that caused. Many are calling the challenge to get marriage equality the "civil rights struggle

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Sintiendo el Espíritu con Sonya

por Sonya Sukalski

Durante marzo y abril, muchos UUs de San José hicieron el viaje a Sacramento hacia Target, Walmart, y Trader Joe's. ¿Por qué ir tan lejos para terminar en una tienda que se parece como el almacén que está cerca de su casa que usted puede o no puede ir frecuente de todos modos? Por la gente. Gracias a Marla

Scharf y las inteligentes habilidades de organización de la Red de Acción del Ministerio Legislativo Unitario Universalista así como de Igualdad para Todos, me sentí suficientemente preparada para preguntar a cada persona que podría hacer el contacto visual con la pregunta del día mientras que salían del almacén. Era, "perdone, ¿usted apoya la libertad para el matrimonio de parejas gay y lesbianas?" Antes de llegar a Target en Elk Grove, no era una pregunta que fácilmente saliera de mi lengua. Estoy apenada en admitir que esto no era algo que pregunto a la mayoría de la gente en mi vida. Aunque, quizás que es porque sé ya que muchos lo apoyan.

Durante el entrenamiento nos aconsejaron dejar nuestras suposiciones en la puerta y solo preguntar a cada persona si nosotros podríamos hacerle una pregunta. Esta parte del entrenamiento me la llevé en el corazón. ¡Esto ayudó a mi líder de equipo, Mary Helen Doherty, quien había estado haciendo esto por el último mes y dijo, "Que tan radical es venir a un área conservadora y solo decir las palabras 'gay y lesbiana!'" Yo estoy de acuerdo. Uno de mis momentos del jubilo vino cuando vi a un individuo que lucía muchas insignias militares/de gobierno en su camisa y de todos modos le pregunte. Él dijo "no", pero por alguna razón me encanto decirle eso a él. A veces, los militares por cansancio habían dicho "sí," a los voluntarios de Igualdad para Todos. A veces, la gente miró como ellos estaban honestamente buscando en sus corazones, justo afuera de Target, para saber si ellos lo apoyan o no. En su mano puse un volante donde podría conseguir más información sobre esto. Y 90 personas ese día dijeron "sí" a nuestro equipo que consistió en Steve Stein, Sierra Sukalski (mi hija, una joven de 16 años), Mary Helen y yo. Es difícil poner en palabras que tan gratificante fue el inscribir a los partidarios que están dispuestos a ser contactados para demostrar su ayuda.

La otra parte gratificante del ejercicio comenzó con un pequeño pico de adrenalina. Cuando llegamos nuestro lugar señalado, allí había alguien que estaba recogiendo firmas para poner medidas en la balota para noviembre. A menudo, estos recolectores pagados (quiénes obtiene de 80 centavos a \$2 por firma) llevaban muchas peticiones, una entre ellas llamada, los "límites del matrimonio." Como equipo de la Igualdad para Toda la gente, queríamos tener la oportunidad de decirle a la gente que en vista de que firmaron cómo la medida lastima a las familias gays y lesbianas. Muchos de ustedes oyeron la conmovedora historia de Marla sobre sus padres que no podían conseguir ser casados en Tejas y el dolor que les causó. Muchos están llamando al desafío para conseguir la igualdad de matrimonio la "lucha de los derechos civiles del amanecer del 3er milenio." Entonces, cuando vimos a los recolectores de

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Sensing the Spirit with Sonya

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of the dawn of the Third Millennium.” So, when we saw the paid signature gatherer there, we thought there might be some confrontation in our work that day. She decided to take a break though, and never came back. So not only did we sign up supporters in a prime location, but no one signed the “Limits to Marriage” petition outside Target that day.

Unfortunately it does look like the measure will be on the ballot in November, because though they were turned in after the deadline earlier this week, over a million signatures were turned in. The Secretary of State and the counties need time to count and certify them before we will know. Unitarian Universalists can play a pivotal part in helping to defeat this measure because we do support marriage equality as people of faith. My reason is that I think society is stronger and more vibrant when love is recognized, supported, respected, and celebrated wherever it is found. Having gone out and asked strangers if they support the freedom to marry for gay and lesbian couples repeatedly, I feel more confident asking people I care about to come to a cottage conversation on the same topic (another UU Legislative Ministry (UULM) effort). I hope you will check out <http://www.uulmca.org> about the UULM, and see if you can make a difference somehow in the next 6 months on this topic as a person of faith.

Sonya ●

Sintiendo el Espíritu con Sonya

Continuación de la página 2

firmas a sueldo allí, pensamos que podría haber una cierta confrontación en nuestro trabajo ese día. La recolectora de firmas decidió tomar un descanso y nunca regreso. Entonces no tan sólo conseguimos partidarios en la primera localidad además, nadie firmo la petición de “Límites del matrimonio” fuera de Target ese día.

Desafortunadamente parece que la medida estará en la balota en noviembre porque estuvieron de regreso después del plazo a principios de esta semana, al rededor de un millón de firmas fueron regresadas. La Secretaria de Estado y los condados necesitan tiempo para contarlos y de certificarlas antes de que nosotros lo sepamos. Los Unitarios Universalistas podemos hacer una parte esencial para ayudar a derrotar esta medida porque apoyamos la Igualdad de unión como gente de fe. Mi razón es que pienso que la sociedad es más fuerte y más vibrante cuando se reconoce, se apoya, se respeta y celebra el amor dondequiera que se encuentre. Habiendo salido y preguntando a los extraños si apoyan la libertad para el matrimonio entre las parejas gays y lesbianas repetitivamente, me siento más en confianza preguntándole a la gente. Espero que vengan y tengamos una conversación en relación sobre el mismo asunto (otro esfuerzo del Ministerio Legislativo de UU - UULM). Espero que ustedes le echen un vistazo a <http://www.uulmca.org> sobre el UULM y vea si usted puede hacer la diferencia de alguna manera en los próximos 6 meses en este asunto como persona de la fe.

Sonya ●

Annual Giving Campaign Results

by Bob Miess, Chair of the Annual Giving Campaign Task Force

Our Annual Giving Campaign this year has been an overwhelming success! Thanks go to all who organized it, canvassed people, and most important, all who pledged!

At the time of this writing 224 households have been canvassed, representing 261 members. Only 11 households remain to be canvassed. We have never before been able to canvass as many as 95% of our membership, and this year we have already passed that goal. Congratulations!

You may be wondering how the canvass has turned out. Bottom line, we have so far received pledges for \$366,960, which is slightly above last year's total of \$365,532. In addition, we have pledged \$18,262 in UUA/PCD Dues, which is substantially above last year's total of \$15,555. This is a fantastic result given that some other congregations are looking at an overall 10% reduction in their pledging this year. But it is also well short of our goal of \$440,000, so the Board and the POC are working together with interested members of the congregation on adjusting our proposed budget. (See the article on the Congregational Meeting on June 1.)

Congratulations and thank you! ●

June 1 Congregational Meeting to Approve the Budget

by Bob Miess, Chair of the Annual Giving Campaign Task Force

On Sunday, June 1, following the 11:00 am service, we will hold a very important congregational meeting. Unlike previous budget meetings, there are important and very difficult decisions to be made regarding how we carry forward during the next year with a \$70,000 less in pledges than we had hoped for.

Town Hall Meetings were held on Sunday, May 18, and members reviewed and commented on many considerations for adjusting our budget. Now we need to make the actual decisions regarding our budget for the coming year.

All members are urged to attend the June 1 congregational meeting if at all possible. Come participate in choosing our congregation's future.

Childcare will be provided. ●



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 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

June 8 Intergenerational; no RE classes

June 15 One 9:30 service, then Pride parade (no RE)

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

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE, TIMELESS THEMES

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

June 8 Intergenerational; no RE classes

June 15 One 9:30 service, then Pride parade (no RE)

5th Grade, Room 6, Lower Level

NEIGHBORING FAITHS

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday- Bridging

June 8 Intergenerational; no RE classes

June 15 One 9:30 service, then Pride parade (no RE)

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

TRADITIONS WITH A WINK!

May 25 Intergenerational Transylvania Day

June 1 Youth Sunday

June 8 Intergenerational; no RE classes

June 15 One 9:30 service, then Pride parade (no RE)

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

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

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

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

June 1 Youth Sunday

June 8 Intergenerational; no RE classes

June 15 One 9:30 service, then Pride parade (no RE)

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](mailto:sonya.sukalski@comcast.net) sukalski@comcast.net.

May 15, 2008:

A Red Letter Day as State Supreme Court Affirms Freedom to Marry for Same Sex Couples

From the offices of the UU Legislative Ministry, California

Prayers of thanksgiving and praise will be offered in houses of worship across California in gratitude for today's watershed state Supreme Court ruling allowing same-sex couples to get legally married. While no clergy person, nor faith organization, will ever be forced to marry a couple that does not fit their religious requirements, today's ruling means that no longer will faith communities who do offer the religious rites of marriage to same-sex couples be required to treat them differently.

Over 400 religious organizations, congregations and clergy from a wide range of faith traditions, signed the Interfaith Amicus Brief in support of the Marriage Case before the CA Supreme Court, voicing their deeply held commitment to end the prohibition against marriage for same sex couples. The Unitarian Universalist Association, the Union for Reform Judaism, the United Church of Christ, Soka Gakkai International-USA (Buddhist), and the Metropolitan Community Church are among the signatories that demonstrated their support for human dignity and religious freedom.

The **Rev. Lindi Ramsden**, Executive Director of the Unitarian Universalist Legisla-

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>

tive Ministry, whose organization sponsored the Interfaith Brief, stated "Today's court's decision answers the prayers of people from many faiths. How beautiful that the commitment and courage of California's same-sex couples can finally be recognized and protected, and that all Californians will now be able to marry the person they love. Today the court affirmed that the religious views of some cannot be used to restrict the rights of those with differing religious beliefs."

Kerry Chaplin, Interfaith Organizing Director with CA Faith for Equality, a key collaborator in creating the interfaith brief stated "As a person of faith, I believe that today's ruling reinforces what many of us were taught as children – to love and treat our neighbors like we want to be treated."

For information about what people of faith can do to support freedom to marry, and for contacts with same-sex couples who have been married in our congregations, straight allies, and supportive clergy, please contact the UU Legislative Ministry www.uulmca.org or California Faith for Equality www.californiafaithforequality.org. Contact: Vivien Hao, director of communications at UULM-CA (626) 818-2900.



General Assembly – June 25-29, and UU University – June 24

The Unitarian Universalist Association's annual General Assembly (GA) is in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida this year. GA is a great opportunity to meet up with thousands of other UUs, participate in your choice among hundreds of workshops, and help to make decisions about the future of the UUA. See <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/> for details.

Just before GA, UU University, a one-day intensive lay leadership opportunity is also offered in Ft. Lauderdale. See <http://www.uua.org/events/uuuniversity/index.shtml> for details.

If you are planning (our just thing about) going to GA or UU University this year, contact **Bob Miess**, Bob@FloweringEnterprises.com so people going from our congregation can all keep in touch

First Unitarian's Delegates to UUA General Assembly 2008

Our Board of Directors will need to confer delegate and alternate status for the Ft. Lauderdale General Assembly (GA), which will take place June 25-29, so the Board needs to find out who is going. If you are interested in being a delegate, please send an e-mail saying so to Board President **Tracy Avent** at darkmuzik@yahoo.com.

Here are the members from our church who are going to GA that we know about:

- Julie Springer
- Joy-Ellen Lipsky
- Tamara Payne-Alex
- Bev Harrison
- John Burk
- Bob Miess

Non-Members Attending:

- Kalaya Payne-Alex
- Kathleen Hering
- Marie Houck

Want to join them? Want to be a delegate or alternate? Please send Tracy an e-mail about it.

The UUA is also accepting nominations for the following denominational posts:

- Commission on Appraisal
- Financial Advisor
- UUA Trustees At Large (2 adult, 1 youth)
- GA Planning Committee (5 positions)
- Ministerial Board of Review (1 minister, 1 lay leader)
- Nominating Committee (3 for six-year-term, 1 for four-year-term)
- Commission on Social Witness (2 positions)

To notify the UUA Nominating Committee of your willingness to serve, go to the UUA website at www.uua.org, fill out the form there, and follow the instructions there to send your application to the UUA. ●

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

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será palpable cuando vemos los resultados de su cuidado e influencia en nuestra comunidad. Bendeciremos todos estos momentos importantes del desarrollo mientras que nosotros emprendemos nuevas direcciones con el inicio del verano.

Dirige: Sonya Sukalski con la Rev Nancy Palmer Jones.

8 de junio — 9:30 am

El Espíritu de Aventura! Servicio religioso para todas las generaciones

¿Cómo las Aventuras (con A mayúscula!) son parte de toda nuestras vidas? ¿Y los Unitarios Universalistas tenemos un especial acercamiento a las aventuras que la vida nos trae? ¡Ven a descubrirlo! ¡Este servicio será especialmente diseñado de modo que la gente de todas las edades gocen desde el inicio hasta el final!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM.

The Spirit of Adventure! All-Generations Worship Service!

How are Adventures (with a capital A!) part of all our lives? And do we Unitarian Universalists have a special approach to the adventures that life brings us? Come find out! This service will be especially designed so that folks of all ages will enjoy it from beginning to end!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

June 8 — 11:00 am

The Spirit of Adventure! All-Generations Worship Service

With love and blessings, we will send off our Mount Kilimanjaro hikers, as well as other beloved members and friends who are embarking on special adventures in the months to come. And we will think about how Adventures (note the capital A!) are part of all our lives. This service will be especially designed so that folks of all ages will enjoy it from beginning to end!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

¡El espíritu de Aventura! Servicio Religioso para Todas las Generaciones

Con amor y bendiciones, enviaremos a nuestros excursionistas al Monte Kilimanjaro, así como a otros queridos miembros y amigos que estén emprendiendo aventuras especiales en los meses por venir. Y pensaremos en cómo las Aventuras (¡observe la A mayúscula!) es parte de todas nuestras vidas. ¡Este servicio será diseñado especialmente de modo que la gente de todas las edades gocen desde el inicio hasta el final!

Dirige; La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

June 15 - 15 de Junio - ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 a.m.!

Pride Sunday, Father's Day, and New Member In-Gathering!

We will welcome a happy cluster of New Members, reflect a little on Fathering, and we will bless the feet of all who will take part this morning in the short and lively San Jose Pride march, as well as the feet of others who want to be blessed for all the paths we trod! We will sing and light candles, and in general, it will be wonderful to gather as one community, in joy.

Worship Leader: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones ●





Spotlight on Social Justice

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



Go Green at the Memorial Day Picnic!

Sun is shining, three-day weekend is coming, hmmm... it must be time for an environmentally friendly Memorial Day Picnic!

Let's make it the most sustainable picnic Santa Clara has ever seen! Other picnics will be in awe when they see a hip and friendly group that makes NO TRASH.

How will we do it? First, think about every single item you will be bringing: A salad? How about an organic one! A casserole, let's go light on the meat! Consider the packaging of the chips and buns and how those will be recycled.

Next, go to <http://transit.511.org/trip-planner/index.aspx> where you plug in your address and Central Park in Santa Clara. In, like, one split second it told me that I could take one bus right from downtown to the park! If you don't take the bus, at least find a friend to carpool.

Before you go, be sure to bring your own reusable plates, utensils and cups. Green Sanctuary Action Group will provide 5 gallon jugs of water. If you must, con-

sider compostable products (www.worldcentric.org).

While you're picnicking, be sure to check out the solar cooker that **Meredy and Bruce Halen** are bringing and learn about the incredibly cool work that Meredy's mom has been doing in Africa with solar cookers.

Then, we'll be sure that absolutely every last thing that is recyclable gets bagged and taken to a recycling center.

Finally, consider what to do with leftovers—maybe they can they be taken to Emergency Housing Consortium (www.ehclifebuilders.org).

Have your own ideas? Share them with me at socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org and I will spread the word! I can almost smell those soy dogs grillin'!

Social Justice Calendar
Monday, May 26, Memorial Day Picnic,
Central Park Santa Clara, 11-3

Sundays, Food Not Bombs, Cesar Chavez Park, 5:00pm

Sunday, June 15, Pride Parade, Victory Parking Lot, 11:00am ●

CLASSIFIED ADS:

Ways to Give

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 ½ 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

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

LIVE YOUR VALUES / SHARE YOUR TALENTS / FORM FRIENDSHIPS

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

Have Fun at the Annual Memorial Day Picnic!

The 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 plasticware. 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). ●



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

How do you know when you're ready to become a member of this community? You have a strong feeling that you have found your spiritual home in Unitarian Universalism and here at FUCSJ, and you want to make a commitment to this community.

And you want to participate more fully: You feel called to offer your "time, talent, and treasure" as we continue to create a Beloved Community. You want to vote when we have congregational meetings, or you want to fill certain roles that are reserved for members, like being a Worship Associate or a Small Group Ministry Leader.

Then "come, come, whoever you are!" 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 at our ONE service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 15! ●



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.

Here's news from our long-time congregation member **Jerry Cluney**: "After 2.5 years of graduate school I am finally graduating with my MA in Counseling Education. I am planning on working in Career Counseling for a college or community agency and a small amount of private practice. This will give me a chance to get to church!"

Henry Ruddle shared an interesting coincidence recently: His mother, **Dolores**, went into the hospital around the same time as **Liz Shivell**. Then not only was she released around the same time as Liz, but she had to go back in around the same time as well. Finally, she was released and sent to White Blossom about the same time as Liz. Henry says it will take several weeks of physical therapy before she can go home.

Liz says she has stopped by a few times but Dolores was sleeping. Hopefully, they will get to meet soon.



Liz Shivell and Dolores Ruddle ... just a few doors away at White Blossom ... will they ever have a chance to meet?



Steve Madden (left) and Bob Owen (above right) put on a skit about "Keeping the World Safe from the Jesus Seminar" to honor Bob Meiss, past president (and just about everything else).



The End of the Year Celebration Party held last Sat. was great fun for all, I hear. I had a good time and many people shared that they did, too.



Rev. Nancy called up a few "superstar" volunteers" for recognition (and t-shirts!) during the End of Year Celebration. Of course there was neither enough room along the wall of Hattie Porter Hall nor enough t-shirts to honor everyone who has put their time and effort into the church community over the past year.

Bev Harrison and Barbara Derbyshire are on the road again (with Grover and Jaspurr) driving to their home in Rhode Island. They expect to be back with us sometime in October.



Its not too early to start planning for the All Church Retreat which is held at Monte Toyon in Aptos each year. The Retreat will be held the first weekend in October and the planning committee hopes to see you there.

Please let **Diana Wirt** (diwirt@sbcglobal.net) or **Kelly Burnett** (kelly@kellybur.com) know of your ideas and desires for the Retreat.

If you have skills to present a relevant seminar, have a talent to share, or want to contribute in any way, please let us know.

Mask-making is a topic that we think might be fun, so if you have experience in making masks, we would really like to hear from you. ●

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! ●



Photos courtesy of Michelle Ruddle





FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José
 160 North Third Street
 San Jose, CA 95112

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Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm, Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, June 3 2008

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, June 4, 2008

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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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THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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

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