



Our Church Circular

September
17, 2008 / 17
de Septiem-
bre 2008

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

21 de Septiembre

— 9:30 am

**Haz Bien Sin Mirar a
Quién**

Tal parece que en nuestra sociedad actual siempre necesitamos una justificación religiosa o política para hacer el bien. Hablaremos sobre la filosofía de un movimiento altruista no afiliado a ninguna religión o partido político.

Dirige: Ervin Barrios,
Asociados de Culto: Miembros
de SSM

**Do Good Deeds for
Everyone**

In our contemporary society we always seem to need a religious or political justification to do good deeds. We will talk about the philosophy of an altruistic movement not affiliated with a particular religion or political party.

Leader: Ervin Barrios, Worship
Associates: Members of SSM

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

September 21 — 11:00 am

Sparks for Growth Pulpit Exchange

Rev. Nancy and Rev. Geoff find delight and inspiration in their quarterly retreats with their clergy study group called the Sparks for Growth—all Unitarian Universalist ministers serving midsize congregations in the Bay Area and beyond. On this Sunday, we'll share the wealth of these experiences, as "Sparkler" Rev. Vail Weller—whom UUA President Bill Sinkford considers one of the bright young stars of our movement—brings her invigorating message to us, while Rev. Nancy goes north to preach in San Mateo.

Guest Minister: the Rev. Vail Weller, Unitarian Universalist
Church of San Mateo; Worship Associate: Mary Martin.

Chispas para el Crecimiento

La Rev. Nancy y el Rev. Geoff encontraron el placer y la inspiración en sus retiros trimestrales con su grupo de estudio del clero llamado las Chispas para el Crecimiento—todos los ministros Unitarios Universalistas que sirven a congregaciones medianas en el Área de la Bahía y más allá. En este domingo, compartiremos la riqueza de estas experiencias, como "Motivador", la Rev. Vail Weller—quien el presidente de la UUA, Bill Sinkford, considera una de las jóvenes estrellas brillantes de nuestro movimiento—nos trae su vigorizante mensaje, mientras que la Rev. Nancy va al norte a predicar en San Mateo.

Dirige: la Rev. Vail Weller, de la Iglesia Unitario Universalista
de San Mateo; Asociada de Culto: Mary Martin. ●

See **SUNDAY SERVICES**, page 7

SAVE THE DATES

September 19-21, 5:00 pm Friday
to 4:00 pm Sunday, Psalms for
the Journey, Women's Contem-
plative Retreat, Mercy Center in
Burlingame, CA

October 3 - 5, 2008 All-Church
Retreat, Monte Toyon Conference
Center

October 10, Thursday, "Share the
Magic" Third Street Community
Center Fundraiser, 6:00 pm, Tech
Museum

Sunday, October 12, 12:20 p.m.
— UU Band of Writers, lower level

October 17-19, 12th Annual PCD
Men's Retreat, Westminster Cen-
ter, Alamo

December 14, Sunday, Fireside Gift
Faire, Hattie Porter Hall

"CIRCLING AROUND" EDITOR SOUGHT

Many thanks to Kelly Burnett who has kept us up to date on the doings of FUCSJ members in her "Circling Around" column (see page 6). She would like to pass this job on to someone who would like an excuse to get to know more people, and get more involved in our congregation. If you are interested, please e-mail circular.editors@gmail.com — you will have plenty of support to get you started!

Here's a Rare Opportunity to Comment on the UUA's Principles and Purposes

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Commission on Appraisal is going to recommend changes in Article II, usually referred to as "the Principles and Purposes" in the Association's By-Laws. The Commission invites you to review the draft and make comments. The draft of the changes to Article II that the Commission is thinking of proposing is available from this UUA web page: <http://www25.uua.org/coa/>. Article II of the By-Laws includes other important sections on the Sources of Unitarian Universalism, Non-discrimination, and Freedom of Belief. The UUA By-Laws requires that a review of Article II take place every 15 years.

This current review started in 2006. Now we have until October 16, 2008 to make comments in this review phase.

For more information about the review process and the timetable go to <http://www25.uua.org/coa/>, and follow the links on the page for the draft of Article II (or go to <http://tinyurl.com/articleIIdraft>), and the online comment form (or go to <http://tinyurl.com/commentform>). The FUCSJ Program and Operations Council encourages you to take this time to comment. Comment deadline is October 16, 2008. *Sherry Howd*



As we build the beloved community and articulate our UU faith...

A collaborative column from Rev. Geoff Rimositis and Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones



Nurturing our spirits, helping to heal the world: Sharing our goals for the year

Every spring and summer, we, your ministers, begin the process of discerning how we can best serve you in the year ahead. We look outward—toward you—to ask, “What’s going on in our congregation in this very moment in our history, and how can we ministers best contribute our gifts, training, and perspectives to our community life?” And we look inward—to our own hearts, minds, and spirits—to ask, “What do we feel called to offer, as we grow and change with you?” We ask ourselves, “What’s pressing, what needs our immediate attention at the First Unitarian Church of San José?” as well as “How, in the coming year, can each of us best support the ‘500-year plan’ (as Buddhist teacher Jack Kornfield suggests) for FUCSJ?” Establishing the goals helps to focus our work in a vocation—ministry—that is as large as life itself.

In the late summer and early fall, we share our goals with each other and with the congregation’s leadership, and now we’d like to share them with you. Each of these goals will of course be accomplished through many specific tasks, some of which are hinted at in our lists.

We welcome your thoughts and responses. And we would love to hear about your own goals—for yourselves and for our community—as we begin this new year together!

Rev. Geoff’s Goals for 2008-09

- ❖ Serving as the lead minister for pastoral care in the congregation—providing pastoral counseling and outreach to our members and friends, in collaboration and consultation with Rev. Nancy, Pastoral Associates, and Caring Hands volunteers in the congregation.
- ❖ Working with the Religious Education Council to prioritize the Lifespan Religious Education Visions generated from feedback sessions in April and May 2008 and to develop an operational plan for Lifespan RE, so that we might bring our collective visions to life!
- ❖ Facilitating a deeper spiritual grounding and Unitarian Universalist identity for all ages through intergenerational community-building experiences in worship, social justice, and fellowship activities.
- ❖ Facilitating the full participation of our children and youth in the life of our church and faith through my work with the church board, Program and Operations Council, and programs such as Coming of Age.
- ❖ Integrating seekers and new members into the life of the church by offering classes on Unitarian Universalism.
- ❖ Creating an adult study and support group for spiritual growth, through my work with Wisdom University’s certificate program in spiritual direction.

Rev. Nancy’s Goals for 2008-09

- ❖ I will seek to model our Unitarian Universalist mission and faith in our own community and in the wider world. The range of tasks includes (a) helping Spanish-Speaking Ministries move to the next chapter in its life, both within FUCSJ and in the wider UU movement, by seeking outside resources for this ministry and discerning together its place in our current mission; and (b) serving as a link to the interfaith community on such projects as “Vow to Vote No on Proposition 8.”
- ❖ I will devote my energies and time to creating ever more effective and compelling worship services, in collaboration with Rev. Geoff, Roberto Padilla, the Worship Associates, and lay participants of all ages and cultures. I also hope to visit local UU churches on some Sundays when I am not in our pulpit, in order to be a “congregant” again and to gain inspiration from what works, and what doesn’t, in other congregations in our faith.
- ❖ I will support our congregational leaders with a nonanxious presence and all the resources that I can bring as we discern and implement our congregational priorities, resolve our budget crises, and deepen our congregation’s commitment to our mission.
- ❖ I will maintain my spiritual, emotional, physical, and intellectual health by keeping track of my on-the-job hours and increasing my focus on healthy exercise, diet, rest, and recreation, as well as on opportunities for spiritual and intellectual growth. If I can model maintaining a better balance in my life and if I can deepen my own life of faith and commitment, this will serve the whole congregation.

With much warmth and gratitude,

Nancy and Geoff ●

Service is our prayer

The Service is Our Prayer day conducted last Saturday, September 6 was a big success. More than 20 eager volunteers turned up to clean the church including the sanctuary, worship close, chancel, kitchen and the nursery. Light bulbs were changed, bushes pruned and other handyman work was completed. Thanks to Gene and Mary Martin, Bob and Liz Owen, Bob Meiss, Bill Ardery, Joyce Miller, Jan Thiess Guffy, Sherry and Bob Howd, Frey Leigh, Dena Dickinson, Lloyd Eater, Steve Madden, Alec Maclean, Vineet and Sundar Mudupalli, Katherine and Mike Pelizzari, Nancy Palmer Jones, Geoff Rimositis, Erika Johnson, K’Ailsa Rowan, Pam Price, Shawna Nixon and Moria Merriweather. ●

by Sundar Mudupalli





Mientras construimos nuestra querida comunidad y expresamos nuestra fe UU ...

Una columna en colaboración del Rev. Geoff Rimositis y la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.



Cultivando nuestros espíritus, ayudando a curar el mundo: compartiendo nuestras metas para el año.

Cada primavera y verano, nosotros, sus ministros, comenzamos el proceso de discernir cómo podemos servirle lo mejor posible en el año que comienza. Miramos hacia afuera-hacia usted-para preguntar, “¿qué está pasando en nuestra congregación en este mismo momento de nuestra historia y cómo podemos los ministros contribuir lo mejor posible con nuestros regalos, entrenamiento y perspectivas a la vida de nuestra comunidad?”

Y miramos hacia adentro-a nuestros propios corazones, mentes y espíritus-para preguntar, “¿qué sentimos al llamado a ofrecer como crecemos y cambiamos con usted?” Nos preguntamos, “¿qué es urgente, qué necesita nuestra inmediata atención en la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José?” al igual que, “¿cómo, en el año que viene, pueda cada uno de nosotros ayudar mejor del plan del año 500 (como el profesor budista Jack Kornfield sugiere) para la FUCSJ?” Establecer las metas de ayudas para enfocar nuestro trabajo en una vocación-ministerio- que es tan grande como la vida sí misma.

Al final del verano y a principios del otoño, compartimos nuestras metas con los demás y con la dirección de la congregación y ahora quisiéramos compartirlas con usted. Cada uno de estas metas, por supuesto, serán logradas a través de muchas tareas específicas, algunas de las cuales se hacen alusión en nuestras listas.

¡Damos la bienvenida a sus pensamientos y respuestas. Y nos gustaría oír hablar de sus propias metas-para ustedes y para nuestra comunidad-como comenzamos este nuevo año juntos!

Metas del Rev. Geoff para el 2008-09

- Sirviendo como el ministro líder para el cuidado pastoral en la congregación-proveyendo conserjería pastoral y al

alcance de nuestros miembros y amigos, en colaboración y consulta con la Rev. Nancy, los asociados pastorales y los voluntarios de las manos cuidadosas en la congregación.

- ¡Trabajando con el Consejo de educación religiosa para dar prioridad a las visiones de la educación religiosa generada de la retroalimentación de las sesiones en abril y mayo del 2008 y para desarrollar un plan operacional para el plan de la RE, de modo que podamos traer nuestras visiones colectivas de vida!
- Facilitar una base de profunda espiritualidad y una identidad Unitaria Universalista para todas las edades a través de construir una comunidad en las las experiencias en la adoración, la justicia social y las actividades fraternas.
- Facilitar la completa participación de nuestros niños y jóvenes en la vida de nuestra iglesia y nuestra fe a través de mi trabajo con la mesa directiva, el consejo del programa y operaciones, y los programas tales como el de la Mayoría de edad.
- Integrar a buscadores y a nuevos miembros en la vida de la iglesia para ofrecer clases del Unitario Universalismo.
- Creando un grupo de estudio y apoyo para el crecimiento espiritual para adultos, a través de mi trabajo con el programa certificado de la Universidad Wisdom, en la dirección espiritual.

Metas de la Rev. Nancy para 2008-09

- Buscare modelar nuestra misión y fe Unitaria Universalista en nuestra propia comunidad y en el resto del mundo. La gama de tareas incluye (a) ayudar a los Ministerios de Habla Hispana a moverse al siguiente capítulo de su vida, entre ambos, la FUCSJ y en el resto movimiento UU, buscando los

recursos exteriores para el este ministerio y discerniendo juntos su lugar en nuestra misión actual; y (b) servir como un eslabón para la comunidad inter fe en proyectos tales como “la promesa a votar No sobre la proposición 8.”

- Dedicaré mis energías y tiempo a crear servicios religiosos siempre más eficaces y convincentes, en colaboración con el Rev. Geoff, Roberto Padilla, los asociados de culto, y participantes laicos de todas las edades y culturas. También espero visitar iglesias UU locales algún domingo cuando no estoy en nuestro púlpito, para ser un “congregado” otra vez y ganar la inspiración que trabaja, y de lo que no lo hace, en otras congregaciones en nuestra fe.
- Apoyaré a nuestros líderes congregacionales con una presencia despreocupada y todos los recursos que pueda traer como percibir e implementar nuestras prioridades congregacionales, resolver nuestras crisis del presupuesto y profundizar el compromiso de nuestra congregación en nuestra misión.
- Mantendré mi salud espiritual, emocional, física, e intelectual no perdiendo de vista mis horas en el trabajo y aumentando mi enfoque en el ejercicio, la dieta, el descanso y el esparcimiento sanos, así como en las oportunidades para el crecimiento espiritual e intelectual. Si puedo modelar manteniendo un mejor equilibrio en mi vida y si puedo profundizar mi propia vida de fe y de compromiso, ésta servirá a la congregación entera.

Muy calurosamente y con mucha gratitud,

Nancy and Geoff ●



Religious Education

Nursery (birth-4 years) - Church's Lower Level

We provide a safe, clean environment in which to support each child in initiating play activities at the developmental level they manifest. Each week our paid staff, Stacey Vinyard and Stephanie Andaya Vallejo, provide a loving presence as they engage children in games, stories, and crafts with seasonal and holiday themes throughout the year.

K-3RD GRADES. LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 2-3

Special times

September 21

A Time To Say Hello—Ingathering

Theme: To feel welcomed, valued, and a sense of belonging, and to begin to discover what the children will learn and celebrate in this year of Special Times together.

September 28

A Time for The Year To Begin—Rosh Hashanah

Theme: To learn about the autumn celebration of the Jewish New Year.

October 5

A Time for Worship—Shabbat and Sabbath

Theme: To learn the importance in both Judaism and Christianity of a day of rest and worship.

3RD-5TH GRADES, LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 4-5

A stepping stone year

September 21

Introduction to Beginning Myths

Theme: To make children feel welcome and introduce them to the “beginnings theme.”

September 28

A Story from the Kalahari Bushmen

Theme: To present and discuss a creation story from another culture.

October 5

A Story from the Miwok Indians Of California

Theme: To foster the children's appreciation of the diversity of human thought and imagination.

6TH-8TH GRADES, CONFERENCE ROOM

Building Assets Together

September 21 What are Your Assets?

Theme: Youth analyze their own assets and compare them to their responses to those of 148,189 other youth who have been surveyed by the Search Institute.

September 28 Lesson to be determined

October 5 Lesson to be determined

9TH-12TH GRADES, YOUTH ROOM

Senior High Youth Group

The youth group meets every Sunday after the first part of the service. The youth group provides a safe place for personal sharing and discussion of diverse issues effecting society and youth today. The group will be using the curriculum Real Stories by teens making choices and keeping it real.

8TH-10TH GRADES, LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 4-6

Coming of age

September 21

Mentor Youth Installation in 11 a.m. Service
Mentor-Youth Kickoff Meeting, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 27 Mentor Training, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (Fireside Room)

October 17-19 PCD Threshold Retreat, First Unitarian Church of San José

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

JUNIOR HIGH (6th-7th-8th Grades)

Staff: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

SENIOR HIGH (9TH-12 GRADES)

Advisors: Mike Williamson, Cordelia Willis, V Kingsley

If you are interested in participating in junior or senior high youth group activities please contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Information sent only
to the RE Minister.

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



Job opening – Religious Education Assistant

6 hours per week @ \$13 per hour

The Religious Education Assistant (REA) under the supervision of the Associate Minister for Religious Education provides assistance to the children and youth ministries of the First Unitarian Church of San Jose.

The duties of the REA include:

- Greeting new families on Sunday mornings, answering their questions about the church's Religious Education Programs, giving out brochures, showing new families where the classes are located and when possible introducing new children to their teachers.
- Teaching or assisting occasionally in the Sunday morning classes.
- Keeping a list of youth from 1st-12th grades and each week recruiting two youth to be a chalice reader and lighter for the 11 a.m. service. If the children are new at being lighters or readers, s/he will meet with them in the sanctuary at 10:40 a.m. to practice lighting or reading.
- Arriving at the church by 10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings to set up classrooms. set out class containers and teacher evaluation forms, and then at the end of classes at 12:30 p.m. put containers away. The REA reviews the teacher forms and fills requests for supplies. The REA keeps track of class attendance numbers and fills them in weekly on the bulletin board in the Associate Minister's office. The REA leaves completed teacher forms with the Associate Minister for review.
- Maintaining the supply cabinets and ordering supplies.
- Keeping track of new registrations, putting new families in the church database and updating registration and class lists.
- Making occasional phone calls for recruitment or event notification.
- Providing other assistance for the religious education program.

The REA must be at least 18 years of age and willing to fill out an application form, supply references and agree to have a fingerprint scan done at the Sheriff's Office. The First Unitarian Church of San Jose is an equal opportunity employer.

Interested applicants can obtain an application form by contacting the Rev. Geoff Rimositis at 292-3858, x25, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org



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

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The “¡JUUNTOS!/ Together!” Project

Our grant application for 2009 now at the UUA!

Our grant application for the now-named ¡JUUNTOS!/ Together! Project for 2009 is in! With support and input from the Board, from Spanish-speaking members, and from others in our community, FUCSJ has applied for a large grant from the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program’s Fund for Unitarian Universalism.

Here is the summary that heads up the grant application:

“¡JUUNTOS!/ Together! transforms the Spanish-Speaking Ministries (SSM) of the First Unitarian Church of San José from a single-congregation project into a program benefiting the entire denomination. Through deepening the program’s effectiveness, encouraging UU partnerships, and expanding the reach of our faith, JUUNTOS brings Unitarian Universalism closer to its vision of multicultural inclusion.”

In the first year of what we hope will be a two-year project, we will focus on building multicultural and leadership skills within our congregation, on making connections and forming partnerships with other UU congregations, and on spreading the word about SSM and our community through a workshop at General Assembly in June 2009. Over the course of the project, we envision forming a consortium of “partner churches” with whom we will share resources, gaining needed income for our program and offering the wealth of materials we have created in Spanish (hymns, Stories for All Ages, Small Group Ministry sessions, sermons, UU Intensives, and more) to those who would like to grow our faith and offer a relevant presence in our changing society.

If you would like to read the full grant application, please contact Carol Stephenson at socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org. You can go to <http://www.uua.org/giving/fundingprogram/index.shtml> to find out more about the UU Funding Program (with whom we already have a good working relationship); then click on “Fund for Unitarian Universalism.” We have asked for \$20,000, the fund’s maximum, about which Rev. Nancy offers this motto: “Ask for what you want; deal with what we get!”

Stay tuned for more information about the opportunities this grant may open up for a richer and healthier community for all. *Si se puede*—yes, we can! ●

Proyecto “¡JUUNTOS!/ Together!”

Nuestra aplicación de la beca para el 2009, ahora en la UUA!

¡Nuestra aplicación para la beca ahora llamada ¡JUUNTOS! ¡Together! ¡para el 2009 está adentro! Con la ayuda y el aporte de la Mesa Directiva, de los miembros de habla hispana y de otros en nuestra comunidad, la FUCSJ ha solicitado una gran beca del Fondo del Programa de Financiamiento Unitario Universalista, fondos el Unitario Universalismo.

Aquí está el resumen de los encabezados de la aplicación de la beca:

“¡JUUNTOS! ¡Together!” transforma los ministerios de habla hispana (SSM) de La Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José de un proyecto de solo una congregación en un programa que beneficia al resto de la denominación. A través de la profunda eficacia del programa, las sociedades UU que animan a ampliar el alcance de nuestra fe, JUUNTOS trae más cerca al Unitario Universalismo a su visión de la inclusión multicultural.”

En el primer año de lo que esperamos que sea un proyecto de dos años, nos enfocaremos en construir una comunidad multiculturales y las habilidades de liderazgo entre nuestra congregación, haciendo conexiones y formando sociedades con otras congregaciones UU y en diseminar la palabra sobre SSM y a nuestra comunidad a través de un taller en la Asamblea General en junio de 2009. Sobre el curso del proyecto, prevemos el formar un consorcio de “iglesias socios” con quién compartiremos los recursos, ganando los ingresos necesarios para nuestro programa y ofreciendo la abundancia de materiales que hemos creado (los himnos, las historias para todas las edades, las sesiones de los Ministerios de Pequeños Grupos, los sermones, UU Intensivos y más en español) a aquellos que quisieran crecer en nuestra fe y ofrecer una presencia relevante en nuestra cambiante sociedad.

Si usted quisiera leer la aplicación completa de la beca, por favor, contacte a Carol Stephenson en socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org. Usted puede ir a <http://www.uua.org/giving/fundingprogram/index.shtml> para saber más sobre el programa de financiamiento UU (con quién ya tenemos una buena relación de trabajo); entonces haga clic en el “Fund for Unitarian Universalism.” Hemos pedido \$20,000, el máximo del fondo, sobre el cual la Rev. Nancy ofrece este lema: “Pide todo lo que quieras y trabaja con lo que obtengas!”

Manténgase en sintonía para más información sobre las oportunidades que esta beca puede abrirse para una comunidad más rica y más sana para todos. ¡Sí, puede-SI, podemos! – *Yes we can!* ●

COMING OF AGE NEEDS ADULT CHAPERONES (SHADOWS) FOR STREET RETREAT IN JANUARY

Coming of Age needs adults to serve as shadows for youth who will be doing the Faithful Fool’s <http://www.faithfulfools.org/> Street Retreat in Saturday, January 24, 2009. The shadows walk the streets of the Tenderloin in San Francisco during the retreat keeping an eye on youth assigned to them for the day but keep a safe distance from the youth so they have their own unmediated

experience. Shadows need to have gone on a street retreat themselves before they serve as shadows. The Faithful Fools will hold a shadower training on Saturday, September 6. If you are interested in serving in this important role please contact Riley McLaughlin (riley_mclaughlin@yahoo.com)





Spotlight on Social Justice

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



No on 8! Stop the Marriage Ban!

There are many ways for you to be involved in this critical campaign!

Phone Banking:

Every phone bank has training, food and support. All are welcome to all phone banks. Bring your cell phone and a friend!

- ❖ Thursdays right here at FUCSJ in the classrooms, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- ❖ Tuesdays at Billie De Frank Center, 938 The Alameda, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesdays at Congregation Shir Hadash, 20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos, 6:30-9:30 p.m., September 17 through October 29 (except October 8)

For more info on how to help on this campaign contact Carol at (408) 292-3858 x27 or socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org

Social Justice Calendar

Thursdays	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Classrooms	No on 8 Phone Bank
Sunday, Sept 28	1:00-2:00 p.m.	Sanctuary	Unnatural Causes
Friday, October 10	6:00 p.m.	Tech Museum	Share the Magic

Phone Bank Support:

We need food and cell phones every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. here for our phone bank. Let's be great hosts and show how much we appreciate the phone bankers who are coming from all over the South Bay to ensure marriage rights for all.

Get the word out:

Can you staff a table at Sunday Coffee Hour, recruit your friends and family? This is an all-put effort to defeat this unfair legislation. Talk to everyone you know about Proposition 8 and tell them you plan to vote NO!

CIRCLING AROUND

Milestones
in the lives of the
First Unitarian Community

by Kelly
Burnett

Bob and Liz

Owen attended a performance of *The Comedy of*

Errors by the **Shady Shakespeare**

Theatre Company at Sanborn Park

because Vera Sloan, who has been coming to FUCSJ regularly for several months, told them modestly that she was playing a part in it. Well, she was one of the leads and wonderful! Their performances of *Twelfth Night* and *The Comedy of Errors* ran through September 14.

"Bob and I took a picnic dinner to enjoy before the show on a wonderful balmy evening," says Liz. "There are picnic table in the park near the outdoor theater — and it was fun to see fellow UU's, Jean VonKaenel, MaryJeanne Oliva, Stephen Estes and their daughter seated in the front row."

Moving on... On another note, this will be my next-to-the-last Circling Around column as it is time to turn it over to someone who has a yearning to become more involved in our church. If you would like to edit the Circling Around column, please let me or the editors know and I will be happy to tell you all that I know. It has been fun and rewarding for me.

Send Kelly Burnett your honors, joys, plans, and any other news that needs to be shared to kelly@kellybur.com. Kelly's number is 408-810-3182, but she prefers email, if possible.

Upcoming Events

Unnatural Causes . . . Is Inequality Making us Sick?

**Sunday, September 28,
1:00-2:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary**

Join us for a special screening of Episode Three of Unnatural Causes, the PBS Documentary series that sounds the alarm about our huge and alarming socio-economic and racial disparities in health. This episode, "Becoming American" explores health issues of immigrants and why recent immigrants tend to be healthier than the average American, but that their health advantage erodes the longer they spend in the United States. After the 30 minute episode, we will have a discussion led by our congregant and health advocate Diana Chung. Don't miss this opportunity to better understand our community and the issues we face together.

Third Street Community Center Share the Magic

The event that you have long been waiting for! TSCC's Annual Share the Magic fundraiser returns to the Tech Museum on Friday, October 10. Buy a ticket, buy a table, but be sure to come support the non-profit that FUCSJ founded in our basement. TSCC keeps on growing, and we are all still invested in its continued success! More information is available at www.3street.org or from Rosemary at (408) 295-8722. Friday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 3-5

Time to Sign Up for Our All-Church Retreat!

By Diana Wirt

The All-Church Retreat will be October 3-5 this year. Watch for information and sign-up forms at tables in Hattie Porter Hall during August and early September. All members and friends of the church are invited to attend this relaxed, fun weekend. In addition, members of the Mission Peak UU Congregation in Fremont and the UU Fellowship of Los Gatos will join us this year. What better way to get to know your fellow church members than sharing delicious food, playing games, doing crafts, hiking, and talking with them. Sign up this Sunday!



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28 de Septiembre – 9:30 a.m.

El sexo como expresión espiritual

Muchos de nosotros hemos aprendido a través del cristianismo y el catolicismo que el sexo es malo, que es algo sucio. Entonces como en algo tan mundano podemos encontrar una expresión espiritual?

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

Sex as spiritual expression

Many of us have learned through Christianity and Catholicism that sex is bad, that is something dirty. Then, as in something so worldly, can we find a spiritual expression?

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla

Worship Associate: Members of SSM

September 28—11:00 a.m.

Forgiveness, acceptance, compassion ...and the chance to begin anew

“Forgiveness,” one of you has written—it’s “simple to say but difficult to practice.” How is forgiveness linked to our own self-acceptance? How is feeling compassion for others linked to our own living with authenticity? The beginning of the Jewish High Holy Days inspires us to look at these timeless themes, with ritual, words, and music to take us deeper.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Worship Associate: Dena Dickinson

Perdón, aceptación, compasión...

El “perdón,” uno de ustedes ha escrito—esto es “fácil de decir pero difícil de practicar.” ¿Cómo es que el perdón se liga a nuestra propia aceptación? ¿Cómo es el sentimiento de compasión para otros ligados a nuestra propia vida con autenticidad? El inicio de los principales días santos judíos nos inspira a que miremos estos temas intemporales, con ritual, palabras y música para tornarnos más profundos.

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Asociada de Culto: Dena Dickinson

5 de Octubre 5—9:30 a.m.

Que se anunciará To be announced

October 5—11:00 a.m.

The Spirituality of the labyrinth

We have in the middle of our sanctuary a labyrinth that is a smaller version of the labyrinth found at The Cathedral of Chartres in France built around the year 1220. Why a labyrinth? The great need of our times is for people to be connected to spirit. The labyrinth is an archetype and a metaphor for the spiritual journey. There is only one way in and one way out of both the labyrinth and of life. It is the symbol of the divine feminine that emphasizes flow not force, cooperation not competition. Patrick Smiley will grace us by playing the harp and we will hear from the many voices that have found peace and awakening walking the labyrinth.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

More about labyrinths... online

La espiritualidad del laberinto

Nosotros tenemos en el centro de nuestro santuario un laberinto que es una pequeña versión del laberinto que se encuentra en la Catedral de Chartres en Francia, construida alrededor del año 1220. ¿Por qué un laberinto? La gran necesidad de nuestros tiempos es que la gente este conectada al espíritu. El laberinto es un arquetipo y una metáfora para el viaje espiritual. Hay solo una forma de entrar y una de salir del laberinto y de la vida. Es el símbolo de la divinidad femenina que enfatiza flotar sin forzar, cooperación sin competición. Patrick Smiley nos halagará tocando el arpa y escucharemos de muchas voces que han encontrado la paz y el despertar caminando el laberinto.

Dirige: el Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Más información acerca de los laberintos ... online

12 de Octubre—9:30 a.m.

Afirmación I: El amor es la doctrina de esta iglesia

Hoy es domingo de asociación, un servicio anual que nos liga a todas las congregaciones Unitarias Universalistas de la Asociación de Unitaria Universalista, y el tema relativo a este año es “Creciendo su espíritu.” Es tan particularmente apropiado que en este domingo emprenderemos una serie a través del año de servicios de nuestra afirmación, comenzando con la primera línea. ¿Cómo puede el “amor” ser la “doctrina” de esta iglesia? ¿Qué hace esto particularmente una idea UU? ¿Cómo lo ponemos en práctica? ¿Qué nos estamos prometiendo el uno al otro cuando decimos estas palabras cada domingo?

Los nuevos miembros son bienvenidos a nuestra congregación cada segundo domingo del mes a partir de octubre hasta mayo. ¡Si usted quisiera unirse a la FUCSJ este domingo, por favor, entre en contacto con el Rev. Geoff o con la Rev. Nancy a la Mayor Brevedad Posible!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

October 12 – 11:00 a.m.

Affirmation I: Love is the doctrine of this church

Today is Association Sunday, an annual service that links us to all Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Unitarian Universalist Association, and this year’s theme is “Growing Your Spirit.” So it’s particularly appropriate that on this Sunday we launch a yearlong series of worship services on our Affirmation, beginning with the very first line. How can “love” be the “doctrine” of this church? What makes this a particularly UU idea? How do we put it into practice? Just what are we promising one another when we speak these words each Sunday?

New Members are welcomed into our congregation on every second Sunday of the month from October through May. If you would like to join FUCSJ on this Sunday, please contact Rev. Geoff or Rev. Nancy ASAP!

Worship Leader: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones





FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José
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Want to Receive the Newsletter?

To receive the newsletter on paper, fill out the form at this link:

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

Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, September 17, 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 **Rev. Geoff Rimositis** feel honored to serve this congregation, and we cherish your trust! Here is how reach us: **Nancy:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com. **Geoff:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

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 necesitaren 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 **El Rev. Geoff Rimositis** 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 **Geoff:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

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Sherry and/or Shirley will be editors for the September 17 and October 15 issues. Catherine will be editor for the October 1 and November 5 issues.

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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