

# Our Church Circular

www.sanjoseuu.org

April 15,  
2009 / 15 de  
Abril 2009



**EXTRA! EXTRA! / LATE BREAKING NEWS**

## Report on our March 29, 2009 Congregational Meeting

Notes by **Rick Merritt** standing in for Church Secretary—and new grandfather—**Bob Redfern** who was in New Mexico meeting his new granddaughter. Congrats, **Bob and Jenny Redfern**.

The meeting was called to vote on seven positions up for election or re-election. All seven of the candidates put forward by our Nominating Committee were accepted by a ballot vote. In total, eighty-five members voted including at least 23 who voted by absentee ballot.

### The newly elected officials are:

- ❖ **Bob Redfern**, Board Secretary
- ❖ **Cheri Goodman**, Board Director
- ❖ **Madeline Morrow**, Board Director
- ❖ **Tamara Payne-Alex**, Program Officer of the Program and Operations Council

### And three new members of the Nominating Committee:

- ❖ **Madeline Althof**
- ❖ **Jan Theis-Guffey**
- ❖ **Nancy Coleman**

Board President **Tracy Avent** thanked the following outgoing members for their service:

- ❖ **Marla Scharf**, Board Director
- ❖ **Julia Rodriguez**, Program Officer of the Program and Operations Council

And three outgoing members of the Nominating Committee:

- ❖ **Gordon Smith**, former chairman
- ❖ **Barbara Derbyshire**
- ❖ **Stephanie Rynas**

Tracy also thanked **Patrick Myers**, a relatively new member, who has volunteered to take on the non-elected position of facilities coordinator on the POC.

**Steve Madden**, the new chair of the Nominating Committee, said the group is still working to identify a suitable candidate for the position of Finance Officer and hopes to have a candidate named soon.

The meeting included brief presentations on the state of the church. They coincided with the formal release of our latest annual report, a 45-page booklet put together by a number of volunteers including **Sherry Howd** (editor) and **Henry Ruddle** (lay-out).

**Dena Dickinson** of the Program and Operations Council gave us a first look at results from a recent survey of attendees about what we consider our top priorities.

Ninety-nine people filled out the survey. The results showed worship services ranking by far as a top priority. Other priorities high on the list included children's religious education, small group ministry, pastoral care, social justice, Spanish-speaking ministries

and Third Street Community Center. Dena said the POC will make more detailed information available about the survey soon.

**Bob Howd**, church Treasurer, presented information about church finances that is also included in the annual church report (page 40). For the calendar year 2008 our revenues were \$446,677 and expenses were \$469,420, a net loss of \$22,743 that caused us to dip into our reserves. For our fiscal year to date (June 2008-February 2009) we are running a slight deficit of \$6,042. Rising costs of health care are one of the factors impacting our budget.

Bob noted the church may need to decrease expenses in the coming fiscal year, depending on the results of the current 2009-2010 pledge drive. He called for members to step up their pledges when possible. He also reminded members that they should notify the church if they need to make changes to their 2008-2009 pledge.

In a closing presentation, **Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones** noted a "spirit of re-engagement" she has witnessed in the church in the past year. She cited broad participation in the fight against Proposition 8, our March 7 Service is Our Prayer day, the recent memorial for **Marilyn Carstens** and work on a renewed vision for our religious education work under the new banner of Lifespan Faith Development.



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## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

**9:30 a.m.**

Servicios en español

**19 de Abril** —9:30 am

### Quando se terminen nuestras bendiciones

¿Como seres humanos estamos capacitados para evitar enfrentarnos a muchos problemas realmente importantes en nuestras vidas o nuestra naturaleza humana nos dice que cuando estos problemas lleguen más allá del límite, entonces es cuando deberíamos actuar para solucionarlos? Unámonos para reflexionar sobre nuestro futuro en nuestro hogar llamado tierra.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla; Asociados de Culto: Miembros de nuestros Ministerios en Español.

### When our blessings have finished

As human beings, we can avoid confrontation with many important really problems in our lives or, does our human nature say to us that when these kinds of problems are beyond the limit, then is when we must act to solve them? Join us to reflect on our future in our home called earth.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla; Worship Associates: Members of the Spanish-Speaking Ministry.

**11:00 a.m.**

Services in English

**April 19** —11:00 am

### Earth Day

We are interdependent in every sense, finely woven into a web of relationships that honors the existence of all that exists on this planet we call home. How shall we live in right relationship with the others in this web? On Earth Day, we ground ourselves in our love of nature and our recognition of its beauty and its limits. Can we discover the “sufficiency”—the sense that we have and we are enough—in our finite world?

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: Luther Jackson and Jeff Norment.

### Día de la Tierra

Somos interdependientes en todo sentido, finamente tejidos en una tela de relaciones que honra la existencia de todo lo que existe en este planeta que llamamos hogar. ¿Cómo vivir en correcta relación con los otros en esta tela? En el Día de la Tierra, reforzamos nuestro amor por la naturaleza y nuestro reconocimiento de su belleza y de sus límites. ¿Podemos descubrir la “suficiencia” —el sentido que tenemos y somos suficientes—en nuestro mundo finito?

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: Luther Jackson y Jeff Norment.

See **SUNDAY SERVICES**, page 7

## SAVE THE DATES

**April 16-17**, Thursday-Friday, “Queer On Their Feet,” performing at Don Quixote’s Music Hall, Felton, April 16, 7:30 pm; and at the UU Church of Palo Alto, April 17; 8 pm.

**April 18**, Saturday, Let Justice Flow Water Justice & Climate Change Workshop, Mount Diablo UU Church, Walnut Creek, 9:15 am-4 pm

**April 19**, Sunday, Earth Friendly Cleaner Workshop, Hattie Porter Hall, 1:30-3 pm

**April 20**, Monday, Poverty Simulation, Rotunda, San Jose City Hall, 2-5 pm

**April 22**, Wednesday, Nuclear Weapons-Disarmament & Deterrence: The Moral Issues, Palo Alto UU Church, Main Hall, 7 pm

**April 24**, Friday, “Making the River” movie and Q&A Panel, Sanctuary, 7-10 pm

**April 25**, JUUNTOS/Together Conociendonos/Getting to know each other, Sanctuary and Ramsden Fireside Room, 1:30-5 pm

**April 26**, Sunday, 13th Annual Rivers of Chocolate Festival--fundraising event for the Youth Division of EHC LifeBuilders, The Mountain Winery, Saratoga, 1-5 pm.

**April 27**, Monday, Social Justice Council Meeting, Conference room (board room), 6:30-7:30 pm

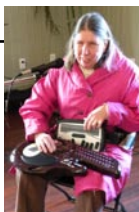
**April 27**, Monday, “Moving Forward Together,” Berkeley

**April 30**, Thursday, UUSC Human Rights Youth photography contest Deadline

**May 1-3**, PCD District Assembly in Fremont

**May 3**, Sunday, Spirit in Practice Workshop: Communal Worship Practices (Ramsden Fireside Room) **Note New Time!** 2-3:30 p.m.

### Partner Church Tea Memories



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

You make FUSJ what it is! Whatever your talent and availability, there is an opportunity for you to serve. Contact Volunteer Coordinating Team members Liz Owen at [lowen@data-time.com](mailto:lowen@data-time.com) or Bob Miess at [bob@floweringenterprises.com](mailto:bob@floweringenterprises.com)



As we build  
the beloved  
community...

By the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

**Rev. Nancy's Top Ten Reasons to Join Us This Year at District Assembly (May 1-3, Fremont) and at General Assembly (June 24-28, Salt Lake City):**

**Reason # 10:** There is no better cure for spring fever than to take a jaunt up to the Marriott in Fremont for District Assembly and spend the weekend with hundreds of Unitarian Universalists, celebrating, learning, laughing, singing, worshipping, and shopping together.

**Reason # 9:** And if you think Fremont is "cool" (you do, don't you?), just imagine Salt Lake City, Utah, filled for General Assembly with thousands of UUs from all over the country and the world, celebrating, learning, laughing, and so on together! What a chance to "turn the world around"!

**Reason # 8:** The cost can be reasonable! For District Assembly, you can pay your registration fees on a sliding scale, and then join with new and old friends in carpools up the road to Fremont, extending the FUCSJ fun. Visit [www.pcd-uaa.org](http://www.pcd-uaa.org) for a registration form and all the information. For General Assembly, Southwest Airlines flights to Salt Lake City are cheap right now, and once there, you can room with FUCSJ pals. Choose to attend just part of GA or all of it. Do register soon; fees for General Assembly will go up after May 1. Go to [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) to register and book a hotel room.

**Reason # 7:** At District Assembly, we'll get to meet the two candidates for president of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Rev. Laurel Hallman and Rev. Peter Morales—and at General Assembly, we'll get to vote for our next president!

**Reason # 6:** The Banner Parade, at both DA and GA! Need I say more?

**Reason # 5:** Worship is amazing at District and General Assembly—a transformative experience!

**Reason # 4:** Oh, and did I mention the shopping (UU jewelry, clothing, books, chalices, books, stained-glass windows, books, . . .)?

**Reason # 3:** Even if this year's budget doesn't encourage shopping, the workshops are all free with your registration fee! Feast on the offerings—and make lasting friends as you do.

**Reason # 2:** District Assembly will be relaxing and fun, as we let others lead us. General Assembly will be energizing and exciting, as we play a major role in leading UUs from all over the country, offering worship for the Multicultural Track of UU University on Thursday and a JUUNTOS/Together Project workshop on Saturday. Joy-Ellen Lipsky and Rev. Lilia Cuervo are offering a workshop on spiritual practices, too. And at the Service of the Living Tradition, you'll get to hear your minister's name called out, as I receive my Final Fellowship (~"tenure") as a UU minister. We need your help and your support—do come!

**And Rev. Nancy's # 1 reason to join us at District Assembly and General Assembly this year:** We will all have so much more fun if you are there!

In hope and anticipation, and with lots of exclamation marks,

Nancy.



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

Page 2 • Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José

Mientras construimos  
nuestra querida  
comunidad...

Para la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones



**Las diez mejores razones de la Rev. Nancy para unirnos este año en la Asamblea del Distrito (del 1 al 3 de mayo, Fremont) y en la Asamblea General (del 24 al 28 de junio, Salt Lake City):**

**Razón # 10:** No hay mejor cura para la primavera que tomar un paseo hasta el Marriott en Fremont para la asamblea del Distrito y pasar el fin de semana con centenares de Unitarios Universalistas, celebrando, aprendiendo, riendo, cantando, venerando y comprando juntos.

**Razón # 9:** Y si usted piensa que Fremont está "cool" (si esta. ¿No?), entonces imagine a Salt Lake City, Utah, llena, para la Asamblea General, de millares de UUs de todos lados del país y del mundo, celebrando, aprendiendo, riendo, y así sucesivamente juntos! ¡Como una oportunidad de "dar la vuelta alrededor del mundo"!

**Razón # 8:** ¡El costo puede ser razonable! Para la Asamblea del Distrito, usted puede pagar la tarifa de su inscripción en una escala descendente y entonces, unirse con nuevos y viejos amigos compartiendo el automóvil para ir a Fremont, extendiendo la diversión de FUCSJ. Visite [www.pcd-uaa.org](http://www.pcd-uaa.org) para conseguir una forma de inscripción y todo el resto de la información. Para la Asamblea General, los vuelos de la aerolínea Southwest a Salt Lake City están baratos ahora, y una vez ahí, usted puede hospedarse con los compañeros de FUCSJ. Elija asistir a solo una parte de la GA o a toda ella. Inscríbase pronto; ya que las tarifas para la Asamblea General irán en aumento después del 1 de mayo. Vaya a [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) para registrarse y reserve su cuarto de hotel.

**Razón # 7:** En la Asamblea del Distrito, lograremos conocer a los dos candidatos a la presidencia de la Asociación de Unitarios Universalistas, la Rev. Laurel Hallman y al Rev. Peter Morales—and en la Asamblea General, ¡votaremos por nuestro próximo presidente!

**Razón # 6:** ¡El desfile de las banderas, en DA y GA! ¿Necesito decir algo más?

**Razón # 5:** ¡Los servicios religiosos serán asombrosos en la Asamblea del Distrito y en la Asamblea General—una experiencia transformadora!

**Razón # 4:** ¿Oh, y mencioné las compras (joyería UU, ropa, libros, cálices, libros, ventanales, libros, . . .)?

**Razón # 3:** ¡Aunque el presupuesto para este año no anima para hacer compras, todos los talleres son totalmente gratis con su tarifa de inscripción! Todo un banquete de ofrecimientos-y haga amigos duraderos como usted lo es.

**Razón # 2:** La Asamblea del Distrito será relajante y divertida, como dejamos a otros guiarnos. La Asamblea General será energizadora y emocionante, como nosotros desempeñamos un papel importante conduciendo a los UUs de todas partes del país, ofreciendo el servicio para el camino Multicultural de la universidad UU el jueves y de un taller del proyecto JUUNTOS/Together el sábado. Joy-Ellen Lipsky y la Rev. Lilia Cuervo están ofreciendo un taller sobre prácticas espirituales, también. Y en el servicio de la Tradición Viva, usted escuchará el nombre de su ministro dicho en voz alta, como recibo mi beca final (~ "ocupación") como un ministro UU. ¡Necesitamos su ayuda y su apoyo—venga!

**Y la razón # 1 de la Rev. Nancy de unirnos en la Asamblea del Distrito y la Asamblea General este año:** ¡Todos nos divertiremos mucho más si usted está allí!

Con esperanza y anticipación y con muchos signos de exclamación,

Nancy.

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# JUUNTOS/Together Project: Successes, Invitations, and Ways You Can Help

By Madeline Morrow

**O**n March 28, 14 members of the congregation attended the pilot Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other retreat, offered by the JUUNTOS/Together Project Multicultural Leadership Team and **Rodrigo García**. Rodrigo—who creates such retreats as part of his work with Teatro Visión—guided a mix of Spanish and English speakers through a series of fun and thought-provoking activities that sparked communication and deepened connections.

Afterward, praise for the event was universal: **Javier Chávez** loved “getting together to share different ideas, not taking life so seriously, getting to know people more deeply, and finding out we have many things in common.” **Madeline Morrow** reported, “I was skeptical that fun activities would be meaningful and I thought I would feel stupid, but I loved getting to know people I had never talked to before. I am recommending it to everyone!” **Rev. Nancy** loved Rodrigo’s leadership and was thrilled to see new friendships blossoming right there in the sanctuary. **Marla Scharf** said, “The retreat showed how building our inclusive multicultural community can be pure fun. Now, how can we expand this retreat to reach more members of our congregation, across more cultures and ethnicities and colors and languages?” So that’s what we’re doing next:

**You’re Invited:** The next Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other retreat will take place Saturday, April 25, from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. and is open to 30 participants. If you would like to participate in this fun and transformative time together, RSVP ASAP to **Roberto Padilla**, [paor69@yahoo.com](mailto:paor69@yahoo.com), or Rev. Nancy, [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com).

The JUUNTOS/Together Project Multicultural Leadership Team is working on other activities to strengthen connections between Spanish-Speaking Ministries members and the rest of FUCSJ, as well as to make connections and spread the word in the wider Unitarian Universalist community. The project is being funded in part by the Fund for Unitarian Universalism. A brief survey about our Spanish-Speaking Ministries and our multicultural congregation is coming out soon. Please offer us your input!

**You Can Help:** The JUUNTOS/Together team is developing a workshop to be presented at General Assembly in June. We need a larger group to plan and present this project! We especially need help with a multimedia presentation.

At home here in our church, we need a volunteer to help coordinate music volunteers for the 9:30 service. If you are interested in helping, please contact Rev. Nancy or Roberto Padilla, Spanish-Speaking Ministries Coordinator. ●

# Proyecto JUUNTOS/Together: Éxitos, invitaciones y maneras en que usted puede ayudar

por Madeline Morrow

**E**l pasado 28 de marzo, 14 miembros de la congregación asistimos al retiro piloto Conociéndonos/ Getting to Know Each Other, ofrecido por el equipo del proyecto Multicultural JUUNTOS/Together y **Rodrigo García**. Rodrigo—quien crea tales retiros como parte de su trabajo con Teatro Visión—dirigió a un grupo mixto de personas de habla hispana e inglesa a través de una serie de actividades divertidas y que estimulan el pensamiento que motivaron la comunicación y que profundizó las conexiones ente ambos grupos.

Luego, el elogio para el acontecimiento fue unánime: a **Javier Chávez** le gusto el “reunirse para compartir diversas ideas, no tomándose la vida tan seriamente, reuniéndose con la gente para conocerla más profundamente y descubrir que tenemos muchas cosas en común.” **Madeline Morrow** comentó, “Yo estaba escéptica acerca de que las actividades divertidas pudieran ser significativas y pensé que me sentiría estúpida, pero me gusto el familiarizarme con la gente con quienes nunca había hablado antes. Yo lo estoy recomendando para todos!” A la **Rev. Nancy** le gusto la dirección de Rodrigo y estuvo emocionada por ver florecer nuevas amistades justo ahí en el santuario. **Marla Scharf** dijo, “el retiro demostró cómo la construcción de nuestra comunidad multicultural e inclusiva puede ser diversión pura. Ahora, cómo podemos ampliar este retiro para alcanzar a más miembros de nuestra congregación a través de más culturas y etnias, colores e idiomas?” Entonces, esto es lo que próximamente estaremos haciendo:

**Usted esta invitado:** Al próximo retiro Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other que se llevara a cabo el 25 de abril de la 1:30 a las 5 p.m. y estará abierto para 30 participantes. Si a usted le gustaría participar en este divertido y transformador tiempo juntos, reserve su lugar lo más pronto posible con **Roberto Padilla** [paor69@yahoo.com](mailto:paor69@yahoo.com), o con al Rev. Nancy [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com).

La dirección del equipo Multicultural del proyecto JUUNTOS/Together está trabajando en otras actividades para consolidar las conexiones entre los miembros de los Ministerios de Habla Hispana y el resto de FUCSJ, tan bien como hacer conexiones y esparcir el mensaje con el resto de la comunidad Unitaria Universalista. El proyecto está siendo financiado en parte por el fondo para el Unitario Universalismo. Una breve encuesta sobre nuestros Ministerios de Habla Hispana y nuestra congregación multicultural estará saliendo pronto. ¡Por favor ofrézcanos su aportación!

**Usted puede ayudar:** El equipo de JUUNTOS/Together está desarrollando un taller que se presentará en la Asamblea General en junio. ¡Necesitamos a un grupo más grande para planear y presentar este proyecto! Especialmente necesitamos ayuda con la presentación en multimedia.

Y en casa, aquí en nuestra iglesia, necesitamos un voluntario para ayudar a coordinar a los voluntarios de la música para el servicio de las 9:30. Si usted está interesado en ayudar, por favor póngase en contacto con la Rev. Nancy o con Roberto Padilla, Coordinador de los Ministerios de Habla Hispana. ●



# 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. Structured activities, games, stories and crafts are a part of the nursery experience. Child Care Workers: Marta Jo Forse & Maria Elena Olvera

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

#### Special times

##### April 19

A Time to be free from slavery—Pesah

##### April 26

The Gift Of Ourselves

##### May 3

A Time to Return Home—Yom ha-Atzmaut

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

#### A stepping stone year

**April 19** The Very Short Rule

**April 26** The Good Samaritan

**May 3** Deciding and Acting

### 6TH-8TH GRADES, CONFERENCE ROOM

#### Building Assets Together

*(Each week teachers bring alive The Search Institute's 40 developmental assets with exercises and discussion. <http://www2.search-institute.org/assets/>)*

### EIGHTH-TENTH GRADES, LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 4-6

#### Coming of age

##### April 17-19

Coming of Age Retreat—Mt. Madonna County Park, Gilroy

##### April 25

Mentor-Youth Meeting, 12:45-2 p.m. —Final Credo Preparation

### 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 affecting society and youth today.

#### YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

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

Advisor: Pam Pell

##### SENIOR HIGH (9TH-12 GRADES)

Advisors: Dani Hope, V Kingsley, Mike Williamson, Cordelia Willis

To participate in junior or senior high youth group activities, contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or [GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org)

**REGISTER  
ONLINE!**

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



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



## Board Meeting March 25, 2009

by Bob Redfern, Secretary

(With invaluable help from Rick Merritt, Scribe for the March 29 election)

A considerable amount of time at our last board meeting was devoted to preparation for the Congregational Meeting March 29<sup>th</sup>, for the election of officers. One of the items we discussed was Absentee ballots. We probably should have had ballots available for those who could not attend this meeting, but the task of filling the openings on the Board, Program Operations Council and Nominating Committee ran up until the last minute. The Election of Officers is typically the last Sunday in March, as the officers' terms run from April 1- March 31. We spent a considerable amount of time planning the meeting and working out the details, but conscientious members should watch *Our Church Circular* and announcements of the results of the election.

**Rev. Nancy** discussed JUUNTOS. This is NOT an acronym. The Spanish word juntos is

a perfectly wonderful word for "Join Together" and the extra U has Unitarian-Universalist joining together in this effort. Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 5:00 will be an "All-Welcome" meeting of this program. Mother's Day, May 10, will also be a special day, with a video by **Olga Flores** about U-U activities in Latin America.

Treasurer **Bob Howd** discussed the budget and the Finance report **Christopher Frey**, Finance Officer, submitted as he steps out of that position after 4 years of outstanding service. The overall picture of the budget was presented on March 29<sup>th</sup> by Bob to those present for the election of officers. Also discussed at that time was our church's annual report, prepared by **Henry Ruddle** and **Sherry Howd**, and the "99 Person survey" supervised and summarized by **Dena Dickenson**. How did she come up with 99?

That was the number of us who responded to this outreach effort.

The Annual Giving Campaign is off and running. Rev. Nancy spoke of hard times and keeping our community of faith running on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and individual and group meetings are underway. If you have not heard from a fellow member or attended a group session by the time you read this, do not fret — just call **Bob Miess** (AGC Chair), a friendly Board Member, or anyone you know who is in the church who has already pledged. As Bob Howd said on Sunday, we want everybody to give as much as you can, but we need to adjust if the economic gloom settled on the country hits someone in our community.

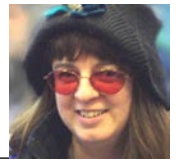
**Rev. Geoff** spoke of a new emphasis for RE called "Lifespan Faith Development". He will be presenting more details about this in these pages and in church. Stay tuned! ●





# Spotlight on Social Justice

by Lucy Proulx,  
Social Justice Council  
Communications Coordinator,  
[socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org)



## Social Justice blog on web page!

The New York Times famous slogan, “All the news that’s fit to print” has to be modified for *Our Church Circular*. We have a much smaller budget, and would have to say, “All the news that fits, we print”! Fortunately, there is the Internet! You will find more Social Justice news at <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog>, and you can subscribe to a Yahoo! group for social justice news and events at [sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Additional articles can also be found in the HTML version of the newsletter.

## Earth Friendly Cleaners Workshop & Fundraiser

Learn to make environmentally-friendly household cleaners from non-toxic substances, do good for the earth and your health, and save money in this workshop.

Sunday, April 19, 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. in Hattie Porter Hall

Cost: \$12

Registration due by 3 pm April 12

Contact: Erwin at (408) 807-3059, or John at [mus6@aceweb.net](mailto:mus6@aceweb.net)



Sponsored by the Social Justice Council  
<http://sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/?p=74>

## “Making the River” Movie & Q&A Panel \* Raised by the state \* institutionalized as a youth \* imprisoned as an adult \* tragedy transformed \*



A dramatic documentary about the transformation of Jimi Simmons’ life and his search for justice, this is a powerful film about human rights. Jimi will be here on the Q&A Panel. Shown in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the movie is an official selection of the United Nations Association Film Festival and touches on child welfare issues,

racism, prison reform, civil and religious rights, justice and freedom, 20th-century American Indian history and politics, and more. Presented by the church’s Social Justice Council in cooperation with San Jose State University, local Peace, Inter-Faith, and Social Justice Groups.

Friday, Apr 24. 6:45 to 10:00 pm-- Doors open at 6:45 pm in the Sanctuary

Free • <http://sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/?p=73>

## April’s Action of the Month: Environmental Justice

Unitarian Universalists are invited to study and reflect on how both environmental problems and many of their proposed “solutions” have had a disproportionate impact on women, low-income families, and communities of color both in the U.S. and around the world. More at: <http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/actioncenter/128311.shtml>.

## Jubilee Act in 2009

Did you know we are/were a Jubilee congregation? Jubilee is gearing up for the reintroduction of Jubilee Act in 2009 which would cancel impoverished country debt, prohibit harmful economic and policy conditions, mandate transparency and responsibility in lending, call for a new legal framework to restrict predatory “vulture funds,” and call for a U.S. audit of odious and illegitimate debts. More at [www.jubileeusa.org](http://www.jubileeusa.org).

## Nuclear Weapons-Disarmament & Deterrence: The Moral Issues

After a decade of very serious decline, there has been a resurgence of hope for progress in controlling or even completely eliminating nuclear weapons. These and other moral dilemmas will be the subject of a panel discussion on Wednesday, April 22, 7 pm, at the Palo Alto UU Church, Main Hall. Printable flyer/full article at: [http://www.uucpa.org/events\\_news/faithEvents.html](http://www.uucpa.org/events_news/faithEvents.html).

**BONUS ARTICLES AVAILABLE IN ONLINE VERSION at [www.sanjoseuu.org](http://www.sanjoseuu.org)**

## “Queer on Their Feet” at Palo Alto UU Church

Friday, April 17, 8 pm--Queer on Their Feet will be performing at our Palo Alto congregation. This is an evening of stand-up comedy and improv, bridging the gap between straight and gay worlds, letting us all laugh at the craziness of the world. Tickets are \$15 in advance, through [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com), or \$20 at the door. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Palo Alto Church and to the Billy DeFrank Center in San José. More information at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/59231>.

## 700+ Gather to Urge Officials to End Chronic School Failure & Dropout Crisis in East SJ

Alum Rock School Board President Gustavo Gonzalez and Trustee Esau Herrera committed to leading a new partnership between the District, PACT, and high-performing charter schools. Full article at: <http://sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/>.

## Akeena Solar Makes Deal to Install Panels on Low-Income Homes

Los Gatos-based Akeena Solar has signed a contract with a Morgan Stanley subsidiary to supply solar panels for low-income homes for at least 200 installations. It will be the exclusive solar-panel supplier for two years to MS Solar Solutions, part of the global financial services company. More at: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci\\_12039381](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12039381).

## How to be a healing presence

— Training to be a Pastoral Associate  
There is still limited space in this workshop to learn how to compassionately companion those who are experiencing health challenges at home, in the hospital or at a care facility. Saturday mornings from April 25 to May 23, \$45 course fee includes books. E-mail Rev. Donna Lenahan, our Pastoral Care Coordinator, at [djlenahan@aol.com](mailto:djlenahan@aol.com) or phone her at (cell) 408-204-6565.





I want to be up to date with you, so here's what we need: birthdays (especially those with zeros), parties of any kind, promotions, college destinations, anything that you diverse groups are doing is interesting to everyone else. "Tell Me Everything" when you see me at church, or e-mail me at [dzuo@aol.com](mailto:dzuo@aol.com). Ok, gentle readers, this week:

*What three ladies are going to expose themselves? And where?  
Whose return is making Dan Zulevic salivate?*

**Who is using her very own daughter as an excuse for traveling?**

**WHO WANTS US ALL TO DO IT IN THE DIRT? WITH LOTS OF ONLOOKERS?**

**R**ebecca Mason is obsessed. And maybe "Crazy". Highly recommends seeing "Patsy Cline. Discount tix through Artsopolis.

**Stephanie Rhynas** and **Carrie Doolittle** became page 1 news with their picture in the Merc about the toxic waste site they live near/on that the city is dragging its feet on.

Super correspondent **Claire Wagner** tells of a visit to "North Carolina visiting **Marie** and **Lonnie Houck** (former members here). I missed **Julia** and **Audrey (Rodriguez)** by a week. (Audrey was looking at UNC at Chapel Hill for graduate school.) It was so nice to see the Houcks in their new element. (New by like 4 years, right?? I lost track.) Their house has an attached mother-in-law unit that **Shasta** lives in, and **Lauren** lives nearby. Shasta actually works for Lonnie's company, too. The back yard of their house is woods with a trail that leads to a big, lovely park. I went to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greensboro with them on Sunday and sang in the choir. It was a great worship service. Lonnie is on the Finance Committee and will be the Board Treasurer next year. Marie is on the Music Committee. They both sing in the choir and sometimes Lonnie is the only bass, so he is very much appreciated. Marie works as a part-time DRE at another UU church about 100 miles

away and likes her job a lot. We are moving to San Jose on April 14. See you soon!"

Three of us are going to be all together for Silicon Valley Open Studios, coming up Mother's Day weekend. That would be **Carol Greene, Barbara Tonneson,** and **Torchy Hunter**. What better way to satisfy all your gift giving commitments than by buying our stuff. More warnings to come

How do you deal with crisis? This is not my usual content, but like a lot of us, I have been under a monster amount of stress in the last few months, and while looking for ways to handle it, I was curious about how all of you handle stress. Do you curl up in a fetal position ball and cry (like me?), or remain relatively impassive (like Dan?)

Do you take a series of lung-filling deep breaths. Go for a walk? (how intense, how far, and how does it work?)

Have a shot of brandy (like me?) Call a friend (like me?). Think about elephants? Take a bunch of different kind of prescription drugs (like me). I have a mind that goes immediately to worst-cast, frightening me completely. If you get these dark thoughts, what do you do? Yell? Hit stuff? Wonder what in the world evolutionary role this could play? Please write/call (929-0259) and tell me what exactly you do.

Down south of here, a new baby has turned two of our otherwise scholarly minds to pudding. See **Jenny Redfern** hold **Rosi Marie**. "It has been reported here and there that I am now a Grandpa and Jenny is a Grandma," says **Bob "Gramps" Redfern**. "Jenny prefers Oma, I'll respond to Gramps. Our daughter Joanna and son-in-law Tom had a baby girl on March 26, Rosi Marie. What a little sweetie. She even lets me hold her and doesn't yell."



We have a double mini trampoline champ in our midst! **Parker Langston**, member of our Junior High Youth Group, recently won a gold medal and will go on to the National Competition at the end of June in San Jose. **V** and **Dani** hope Parker can meet or exceed his own qualifying score of 58.00 (out of 60) in Level 7 Age Division 11-12.

White light corner: **Barbara Tonneson**, who will shortly become an entirely new person: has new hips, now anticipating shoulder surgery. **Juliana Richardson, Lucy & Dave Proulx.** ●

## Memorial Day Picnic

**M**onday May 25 - 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Central Park, Santa Clara (Kiely Blvd. at Homestead)

POTLUCK -- Please bring food to share and your own plastic ware (plates, cups, forks, etc). Suggested items:

**A thru D -- Desserts**

**E thru H -- Burgers, Hot Dogs, Veggie Burger**

**I thru L -- Drinks, Buns**

**M thru R -- Chips, Dips, Munchies**

**S thru Z -- Salads**

Also bring games - for kids and big kids (adults) - Like ring toss, jump ropes, volleyball, flying saucers..... Activities will be organized

through your efforts. Anyone wanting to help, please call **Dena Dickinson** (265-5919) or email at [dickiden@comcast.net](mailto:dickiden@comcast.net) ●

### BONUS EVENT ARTICLES

Spirit in Practice  
How to be a Healing Presence  
General Assembly



## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

**26 de abril – 9:30 a.m.**

### **Afirmación VII: Con el Fin de que Todas las Almas Puedan Crecer en Armonía con lo Divino**

En este domingo, cerraremos nuestra serie de los servicios en nuestra afirmación a través del año. Hemos visto qué demandamos ser como una congregación (líneas 1-3) y en las promesas que nos hacemos el uno al otro cada semana (líneas 4-6). Ahora miramos el propósito para el cual estamos y hacemos todas estas cosas. ¿Cómo traducimos estas palabras, escritas por un ministro Universalista a principios de los 30s, en un lenguaje que signifique algo para todos nosotros hoy? ¡Unámonos para la emocionante conclusión de esta serie servicios religiosos! También en este domingo, recolectaremos los temas de los servicios para el año que viene, entonces, por favor traigan sus anhelos, su curiosidad, su hambre, sus preguntas y su pasión para comenzar a crear un arco para los servicios religiosos del año próximo.

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

**3 de mayo – 9:30 a.m.**

### **“No queremos a la Virgen”**

Este domingo tendremos el honor de volver a tener entre nosotros a Annette Falcón, quien nos trae un mensaje inspirado en un ensayo de la Puertorriqueña Magali García Ramis. La iglesia Católica dice que el modelo a seguir para todas las mujeres debe ser el modelo de la Virgen María. Vengan, traigan sus corazones y mentes abiertos para reflexionar sobre esta idea que muchas de las mujeres católicas tienen.

**Dirige:** Annette Falcón

**Asociado de Culto:** Roberto Padilla

### **“We don't want the Virgin”**

This Sunday we will have the honor to have Annette Falcón with us again, bringing to us a message inspired by an essay by Puerto Rican writer Magali Garcia Ramis. The Catholic Church says that the model for all women to follow must be the Virgin Maria. Come and bring hearts and minds opened to reflect on this idea that many Catholic women have.

**Worship Leader:** Annette Falcón

**Worship Associate:** Roberto Padilla

**April 26 – 11:00 a.m.**

### **Affirmation VII: To the End That All Souls May Grow into Harmony with the Divine**

On this Sunday, we bring to a close our yearlong worship series on our Affirmation. We have looked at what we claim to be as a congregation (lines 1-3) and at the promises we make to each other each week (lines 4-6). Now we look at the purpose for which we are and do all these things. How do we translate these words, written by a Universalist minister in the early 1930s, into language that is meaningful for all of us today? Join us for the rousing conclusion of this worship series!

We'll also gather worship themes for the coming year on this Sunday, so please bring your longings, your curiosity, your hunger, your questions, and your passions as we begin to create an arc for next year's worship.

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

**Worship Associate:** Bob Miess

**May 3 – 11:00 a.m.**

### **Parenting: The ultimate responsibility and the greatest joy**

What could be a greater responsibility that to be charged with the growth and learning of children? And what could be a greater joy than to see them succeed in small and big ways and to be a witness to their unique unfolding lives? What does it mean to be a parent in these times? What support do they need to help raise the next generation? And what is our responsibility as a spiritual community to make sure our children and youth grow into the fullness of their being?

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Geoff Rimositis; **Worship Associate:** Jennifer Castro

### **Paternidad: La maxima responsabilidad y la alegría más grande**

¿Que podría ser de mayor responsabilidad que ser el encargado del crecimiento y aprendizaje de los niños? ¿Y que podría ser de mayor alegría que verlos a ellos tener en pequeños y grandes éxitos y para ser un testigo a sus individuales vidas desarrolladas? ¿Qué significa ser un padre en estos tiempos? ¿Qué apoyo necesitan para ayudar a crecer la siguiente generación? ¿Y cuál es nuestra responsabilidad como una comunidad espiritual para cerciorarnos que nuestros niños y jóvenes crezcan en la plenitud de su ser?

**Dirige:** Rev. Geoff Rimositis; **Asociado de Culto:** Jennifer Castro ●

## Annual Campout 2009

by MM “Waiting for July” Feldman

Great news, UU campers! We managed to book the large group campsite again at the same wonderful location as last year's campout. The dates are Wednesday, July 15 through Sunday, July 19, 2009, just when you feel like getting out of town and soaking in a river.

The location is McConnell State Recre-

ation Area, near Turlock, about 2 hours from San Jose. The drive is worth it, because this campground has it all: easy access to the Merced River with sandy beaches for the kids, a bath house 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. All you need to bring is your tent and sleeping bag! We

do communal cooking, and all the food and cooking equipment is provided.

This campout is appropriate for pretty much anyone of any age. It's easy camping. And you can bring your dogs!

Email me at [mm@feldmo.com](mailto:mm@feldmo.com) if you want to be added to an church-campout email list. Or just watch your newsletter and email for announcements. ●

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

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**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José**  
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or call (408) 292-3858, ext. 31.

To receive the newsletter via email: [steve.carr@earthlink.net](mailto:steve.carr@earthlink.net)

**Next issue deadline:** 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, 2009

**Next issue assembly:** Tuesday, May 5, 2009

**Next issue mailing:** Wednesday, May 6, 2009

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com). **Geoff:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: [grimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com) **Geoff:** (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: [grimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:grimositis@sanjoseuu.org).

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*Shirley will be editor for May 20 and June 17, 2009 issues. Catherine will be editor for the May 6 and June 3, 2009 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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