

Circular

February 4,
2009 / 4 de
Febrero 2009

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

8 de Febrero

— 9:30 am

La humildad

Aprender a inclinarse no siempre es sencillo. En la vía del budismo esta disciplina espiritual resulta fundamental. La humildad no es ni derrota ni humillación, antes al contrario, nos da una nueva perspectiva de nosotros mismos como partes integrantes de la trama interdependiente de toda la existencia.

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

Humility

To learn to bend is not always easy. In Buddhist life, this spiritual discipline is fundamental. Humility is neither defeat nor humiliation; on the contrary, it gives a new perspective on ourselves as integral parts of the interdependent web of all the existence.

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

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

February 8 — 11:00 am

**Tu Beshvat, The New Year for Trees,
Intergenerational Service**

We will all join together as one community as we celebrate Tu Beshvat, The New Year For Trees. Do you have a favorite tree? Is it very tall? Do its branches spread far and wide so you can sit under its shade and read a good book? Trees are of course sacred to many people. The Torah is known as The Tree of Life. The Buddha sat under the Bodhi tree and found enlightenment. And we know what happened to Adam and Eve when they ate from the tree of knowledge!?! In mythology, trees are the axis of the world connecting heaven and earth. Think of your favorite tree and bring that image with you as we sink in our roots and make a deep connection with life.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis; Worship
Associate: Dena Dickinson.

**Tu Beshvat, El Año Nuevo por los Árboles, Servicio
Intergeneracional**

Unámonos todos como una comunidad para que celebremos Tu Beshvat, el Año Nuevo para los árboles. ¿Tiene un árbol preferido? ¿Es muy alto? ¿Sus ramas están tan separadas que usted puede sentarse debajo de su sombra y leer un buen libro? Por supuesto que los árboles son sagrados para mucha gente. El Torah es conocido como el árbol de la vida. El Buddha se sentó debajo del árbol de Bodhi y encontró la iluminación. ¡Y sabemos lo que le sucedió a Adán y a Eva cuando ellos comieron del árbol del conocimiento!?! En la mitología, los árboles son el eje del mundo conectando el cielo y la tierra. Piense en su árbol preferido y traiga esa imagen con usted para hundirnos en nuestras raíces y hacer una profunda conexión con vida.

Dirige: el Rev. Geoff Rimositis; Asociada de Culto: Dena
Dickinson.

See SUNDAY SERVICES, page 7

SAVE THE DATES

February 5, Thursday, Women's Alliance meets 7:15-9:15 pm, at the home of Nancy Coleman, for more information, see the article in this newsletter.

February 6, Friday, 7:30 pm, Jim Scott, Popular UU musician, in concert at Los Gatos.

February 6, Friday, 7:30 pm, 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Social Hall, UU Church of Berkeley, William F. Schultz, speaker.

February 8, 5-7:30 pm, 2nd Sunday Dinner, JSI Team Serves the Homeless at Julian Street Inn. Please remember to prepare and deliver the food you agreed to bring.

February 10, Tuesday, at 7:00 pm, the HUManist Group will meet in the Fireside Room; for more information, see the article in this newsletter.

February 12, Thursday, from 4:00-8:00, Church Open House (more info in this newsletter).

February 12, Thursday, PACT LOC meets in the Fireside Room on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7 pm.

February 14, Saturday, Valentine's Day Celebration, Hattie Porter Hall, Spanish-Speaking Ministries-sponsored fiesta with DJ music for all ages, dinner, dancing, and children's activities. Tickets \$20/adults; children free.

February 17, Tuesday, 9:30 am-5 pm, Marriage Lobby Day, California State Capitol in Sacramento, UULMCA.

February 18, Wednesday, 3 pm, Step Up Silicon Valley Campaign to Cut Poverty, San Jose First Presbyterian Church, 49 N. Fourth St.

February 22, Sunday, 1 pm, community discussion of Brian Copeland's *Not a Genuine Black Man* at the church.

February 23, Monday, 6:30-8:30 pm, Social Justice Council Meeting, church Conference Room.

March 6-8, PCD Women & Religion retreat at Whispering Hills (near Napa); for information, contact Jean Embree at jaembree@aol.com.



As we build the beloved community...

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Mientras construimos nuestra querida comunidad...

por la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

FUCSJ Participates in Silicon Valley Reads

Near the beginning of Brian Copeland's *Not a Genuine Black Man*—this year's selection for Silicon Valley Reads—there's a story that packs a punch. Young Brian, who is black, sets out to explore his new neighborhood in 1970s 99.9 percent white San Leandro. He's got his baseball bat with him in case he finds a pickup game in the park nearby. But a car full of teenagers squeals to a stop beside him, taunting him and threatening to "kick his . . ." Brian doesn't hear the rest of that sentence, because he has "taken off running somewhere between the words 'kick' and 'his.'" He hurtles toward a police car, thinking he'll find protection, but instead the cop, with a hand on his gun, interrogates him: "Do you have any identification?" "I'm eight!!" Copeland writes. The policeman locks Brian in the back of the police car, drives him back to his apartment, and tells Brian's mother that "he was running around the neighborhood causing trouble, using this [bat] as a weapon."

When I first read the policeman's lie, I felt like I'd been punched in the stomach with the bat. Copeland writes, "I know that you've heard stories like this a . . . hundred thousand times. The problem is that, no matter how many times you hear these stories, you can't understand them if you haven't lived through them."

There are so many good reasons for us here at First Unitarian to participate in Silicon Valley Reads. When we share a story like this one, it touches our common humanity; it helps us discover relationships and truths about each other and ourselves that we might not have found without this "prompt."

And there's another gift this project offers: It gives us a chance to learn about our *differences*. Opening ourselves up to a specific story like Copeland's can release us from the cage of our own limited range of experiences. It can help us to fall in love with the full array of human life: with its hardness and its beauty, its injustice and its redemption, with the humor and love and hope that arise, amazingly, in all manner of circumstances.

I hope you will find a copy of Brian Copeland's *Not a Genuine Black Man* and read it. Then **join with us on Sunday, February 22, at 1 p.m., for a community discussion of what we've read.** For children in grades 4 to 7 and families, Silicon Valley Reads suggests the chapter book, *The Liberation of Gabriel King*, by K. L. Going, and **we will offer an intergenerational discussion on that book, too.**

As we set off on this adventure together, let us look for our common humanity and find it joyfully, and let us also say, Wow. We *can't* know another's experience completely, but in listening deeply, we can be forever changed: less likely to make assumptions, more open to new visions of what life is and can be, more connected by both our similarities *and* our differences. What would it be like if everyone in this valley took part in *that*!?

With great affection,

Nancy



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

Page 2 • Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José

La FUCSJ Participa en Silicon Valley Reads

A l inicio de *Un Hombre Negro no Genuino* de Brian Copeland— de la selección de lecturas para el Silicon Valley este año— Hay una historia que empaqueta un puñetazo. El joven Brian, que es negro, salio para explorar su nuevo vecindario en los años 70s, el 99.9 por ciento de San Leandro era blanco. Él lleva su bat de béisbol con él en caso de que pudiera participar en un juego en el parque cercano. Pero un coche lleno de adolescentes rechinando las llantas se detuvo junto a él, burlándose y amenazando "con patear su . . ." Brian no escucho el resto de esa oración, porque él "salió corriendo en alguna parte entre las palabras 'patear' y 'su'" Él paso volando hacia un coche de policía, pensando que encontraría protección, pero al contrario, el policía con la mano en su arma lo interroga: "¿Tienes alguna identificación?" "Tengo ocho!!" Copeland escribe. El policía encierra a Brian en la parte posterior de la patrulla, lo conduce de nuevo a su apartamento y le dice a la madre de Brian que "él estaba corriendo alrededor del vecindario causando problemas, . . . usando este [el bat] como una arma."

Cuando inicialmente leí la mentira del policía, sentí como sí me hubieran golpeado en el estómago con el bat. Copeland escribe, "yo se que usted ha oído historias como esta. . . cientos de miles de veces. El problema es que, no importa cuantas veces usted oiga estas historias, usted no puede entenderlas si usted no las ha vivido."

Hay muchas buenas razones para nosotros aquí en la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José de participar en las lecturas del Silicon Valley. Cuando compartimos una historia como esta, toca nuestra humanidad común; nos ayuda a descubrir las relaciones y las verdades acerca de otros y de nosotros mismos que no hubiéramos logrado encontrar sin este "mensaje"

Y hay otro regalo que este proyecto ofrece: Nos da la oportunidad de aprender sobre nuestras diferencias. Abriéndonos nosotros mismos a una historia específica como la de Copeland puede liberarnos de la jaula de nuestro propio rango limitado de experiencias. Puede ayudarnos a enamorarnos de la gran variedad de vida humana: con su dureza y su belleza, su injusticia y su salvación, con el humor y el amor y la esperanza que surgen, asombrosamente, en toda forma de circunstancias.

Espero que usted encuentre una copia de *Un Hombre Negro no Genuino* de Brian Copeland y lo lea. Para después, unirnos el domingo 22 de febrero a la 1pm. para una discusión en comunidad acerca de lo que hemos leído. Para niños del 4º al 7º grado y familias, Silicon Valley Reads sugiere el capítulo del libro *La liberación de Gabriel King* de K. L. Going y ofreceremos una discusión inter generacional de este libro también.

Así como nos hemos embarcado en esta aventura juntos, permítámonos buscar nuestra humanidad común y encontrarla alegremente y permitimos también decir, Wow. No podemos saber de otras experiencias completamente, sino que escuchando atentamente, podemos ser cambiados por siempre: es probable que hagamos menos suposiciones, más abiertos a nuevas visiones de lo que la vida es y puede ser, más conectados por ambos, nuestras semejanzas y nuestras diferencias. ¿Qué pasaría si todos en este valle tomamos parte en esto!?

Con gran cariño,

Nancy

Our Church Circular • February 4, 2009 / 4 de Febrero 2009

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. Child Care Workers: Marta Jo Forse & Maria Elena Olvera.

K-2ND GRADES, LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 2-3
Special times

February 8

Tu Beshvat, The New Year For Trees, Intergenerational Service-NO CLASSES

February 15

A Time to Say "I Love You"—Valentine's Day

February 22

A Time to Help Others--Lent

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

A stepping stone year

February 8

Tu Beshvat, the New Year For Trees, Intergenerational Service-NO CLASSES

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



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

February 15

Emily Stowe, Pioneer for Women's Rights

February 22

Lewis Latimer, the Man Who Lit Up Cities

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/>

February 8

Tu Beshvat, The New Year For Trees, Intergenerational Service-NO CLASSES

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. The group will be using the curriculum *Real Stories* by teens making choices and keeping it real.

February 8

Tu Beshvat, The New Year For Trees, Intergenerational Service-NO CLASSES

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

Coming of age

February 15

Mentor-Youth Meeting (12:45-2:00 pm)

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Staff: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

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

Advisor: **Pam Pell**

SENIOR HIGH (9TH-12 GRADES)

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

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

**PACIFIC CENTRAL DISTRICT
YOUNG RELIGIOUS UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALISTS (14-20 YEARS OF AGE)**

Elections Con 2009: LepreCON

Elections Con 2009 will be held in Santa Rosa Feb 13-16th. There are a few things of note about this con: As the title suggests, we are electing our new council! Participants are encouraged to read up on the council positions (at <http://pcdyruu.org/main/?p=234>) and consider running. This is a great opportunity to help direct the future of PCD YRUU. ●

Remembering Marilyn Carstens, Music Teacher

(from the *San Jose Mercury News*)

Marilynn Carstens, music teacher, went on to her next great adventure on the morning of Tuesday, January 27th, 2009. During her more than 42 years of teaching music from her Willow Glen home, Marilyn taught hundreds of children music theory, improvisation, composition, music history and piano. Marilyn believed that every person had music in them, and that it was her mission in life to help bring it forth. Many of her students remained with her from kindergarten age through high school and remained lifelong friends. She was active in the Music Teachers Association where she was the driving force

behind including improvisation in the MTAC syllabus, and for whom she wrote two books on teaching music improvisation. She was also a member of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, which is dedicated to the creative approach of teaching music devised by composer Carl Orff. Marilyn also led the Dances of Universal Peace, which honor all the world's religions through simple dance and song. Marilyn was born in Detroit, Michigan, on February 24th, 1930. She is survived by her husband **Patrick Smiley** of San Jose, daughters Joy Thalman and Carroll Buckwald of Portland,



Oregon, sisters Carol Kern of North Richland Hills, Texas, Kathie Gilmore of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Judy Webster of Rockville, Maryland, and brother Bob in Traverse City, Michigan. But she is also

survived by the thousands of children and adults whose lives she has touched and immeasurably enriched! She will shine down forever on all who knew her. A celebration of Marilyn's life is being planned for Saturday, March 7, at our church, time to be announced later. ●





Spotlight on Social Justice

by Lucy Proulx,
Social Justice Council
Communications Volunteer

Cheskskates Unite! “Frugal Environmentalism”

Talk about making a virtue of necessity: just in time for the recession comes “Frugal Environmentalism.” Lots of folks are pinching pennies these days, and that turns out to be a good thing for the planet. Using fewer natural resources in your home can also save you a lot of money. For starters, you might want to visit Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory’s exhaustive Home Energy Saver, (<http://hes.lbl.gov/>). And don’t miss Sierra magazine senior editor Paul Rauber’s “Frugal Environmentalism: Saving the earth on the cheap.” (<http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/200901/frugal.aspx>) where you can learn that instead of acquiring new stuff, you can acquire a different standard of living—not necessarily a worse standard of living, but a different one.

“Things you can do in your home to save lighting energy”

As we all work to “Green” our homes, workplaces, and church, I’ve found this helpful site at the UC Davis’ California Lighting Technology Center Top 10 list: http://cltc.ucdavis.edu/images/images/Downloads/michael_top-ten.pdf. It is a good resource for questions about CFL safety and health-related concerns.

A significant amount of energy can be saved in our homes today with the use of energy-efficient lighting technologies; many of these approaches also improve lighting quality and comfort. The site lists of some of the best technologies you can use today. Some of these retrofits involve electrical work and may require a qualified electrician. However, many involve simple replacements and can be done by the homeowner.

City of San Jose Plastic & Paper Bags Ban – how will it affect low-income people?

The City of San José is considering adopting an ordinance that would require all retail establishments to charge consumers 25 cents

for each disposable plastic and paper shopping bag they use. Attend a public meeting to provide input and learn how the fee will help reduce and clean up litter. One of the arguments against it is that it hits low-income people harder.

The City is interested in us (meaning PACT LOC) helping get the word out that that isn’t necessarily so, and getting input from our low-income constituents as to how true that is and how they can mitigate the effect to get wider support. To get involved, come to our PACT LOC meetings in the Fireside Room on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7 pm. Call Diana Wirt at (408) 993-1003 for more information, just show up, or see our church’s PACT LOC information at <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/Ministries/SocialJustice/pact.html>.

UUSC to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Join UUSC as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on Friday, February 6, 7:30 pm, in the Social Hall at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, CA 94707-1015. William F. Schulz, UUSC Board of Trustees chair and former executive director of Amnesty International and former president of the UUA, will give an address on “The Legacy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Where Do We Go from Here?” Free! All are welcome, wheel chair accessible, child care provided. Donations are welcome. Space is limited. RSVP to rsvp@uus.org.

UU musician in concert at Los Gatos February 6th

Popular UU musician Jim Scott will appear in concert at our Los Gatos congregation, 7:30 pm, on Friday, February 6. Tickets for this rare opportunity to share an evening with Jim and his music are \$10, and may be reserved by contacting admin@uufg.org. See the LG website for more information.

Step Up Silicon Valley Campaign to Cut Poverty

You are invited to a rescheduled brainstorming meeting of Catholic Charities End Poverty Campaign on Wednesday February 18th at 3 pm at San Jose First Presbyterian Church, 49 N. Fourth St., San Jose. Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has initiated a Campaign to Cut Poverty in Santa Clara County. By bringing together faith community leaders, nonprofits, government, research, legal experts, and business, they hope all will “Step UP” to do their parts to meet the goal of cutting the poverty rate in half by the 2020.

Local statistics show the reality of poverty in Santa Clara County: 120,000 households (1 in 4) have to choose between paying the rent, buying food, or paying for health care. The income gap continues to widen, with 39% of local jobs paying less than \$30K/yr., while the income needed by a family of four just to survive in this area of high rents is over \$70K/yr. The definition of the poverty line is “what it takes to live here.”

If you are interested in sharing your knowledge or concern, please RSVP to the February 18th meeting by emailing Pat Plant at pat@sanjosepb.org, or contact Terrie Iacino at 408-325-5132 or tiacino@ccsj.org. Cutting poverty will take the gifts of each one of us!

Marriage Lobby Day February 17th

Join activists from across the state “Standing on the Side of Love” for Marriage Lobby Day at the California State Capitol in Sacramento on Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 9:30 am-5 pm. (Training locations TBD). UULM and UULM Action Network are collaborating with Equality California and CA Faith for Equality to bring clergy and people of faith to this lobby day.

At a moment when the CA Supreme Court is weighing the future of marriage equality in California, and as people absorb the impact of Proposition 8, this is an important time for a strong showing from people of faith. Be there to urge your Assembly members and Senators

Continued on page 5



Social Justice

Continued from page 4

to support legislative resolutions calling for the repeal of Proposition 8. Join us and tell your stories about the importance of marriage equality in your lives. For more information and registration details see <http://uulmca.org/programs/events.html#lobby>.

On the previous day, February 16th, there will be a Love and Marriage Rally for Equality. 12-3pm at the steps of the capitol. Wear WHITE. And from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, there will be a Partners in Faith Marriage Equality Meet & Greet, hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry, CA and California Faith for Equality at the home of Rev. Lindi Ramsden and Mary Helen Doherty (3058 17th Street, 95818). Call 916-708-3390 for directions or other information.

Silicon Valley Health Equity Summit & Theatre Performance

If you missed the Silicon Valley Health Equity Summit and associated theater performance of "The Woman Who Fell from the Sky," on February 3, the good news is that additional performances of this play are scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, February 5, 6, and 7 at 8:00 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

The play is based on the true story of an indigenous Tarahumara woman who was institutionalized for 12 years because doctors did not understand her language or culture and assumed she was insane. The cast includes FUCSJ's Rodrigo Garcia. Teatro Vision is located at The Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Ave., San Jose. More details and tickets on-line are at: <https://secure2.cconvio.net/tht/site/Ticketing/2131047262?view=Tickets&id=100162&JServSessionldr006=94mxcnt995.aapp8b>.

"La mujer que cayo del cielo"

Teatro Visión se encuentra en The Mexican Heritage Plaza, en el 1700 de la Ave. Alum Rock en San José. Para más detalles y boletos en línea en: <https://secure2.cconvio.net/tht/site/Ticketing/2131047262?view=Tickets&id=100162&JServSessionldr006=94mxcnt995.aapp8b>.

SOCIAL JUSTICE BONUS ARTICLES

Visit <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/WhatsHappening/Newsletters.html> for:

Fair Pay Act Passes Senate/House, Obama Signs!
An Interfaith Declaration for Peace in Israel and Gaza

Upcoming Events

Open House to Show Church at Its Wedding Best

Tell everyone you know who might be interested in a wedding or special event at the church about our Open House on Thursday, February 12, from 4:00-8:00 pm. Better yet, invite them.

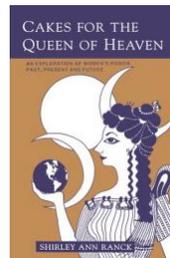
The Open House features gourmet teas, pastries, and finger sandwiches. The sanctuary, Hattie Porter Hall, and the Ramsden Fireside Room will be decorated. There will be tours of the kitchens, nursery, and all the rooms typically used for a wedding and reception.

The church is available for all the following special events: weddings, parties, commitment ceremonies, memorial services, quinceañeras, lectures, and concerts. ●



Women's Alliance

Please join us on Thursday, February 5, for the next session in our series from the updated *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* curriculum. This time we'll be looking at Mary Magdalene's story as well as at our own religious journeys. We are meeting from 7:15 to 9:15 pm at the home of **Nancy Coleman**. Please contact Nancy for directions or details at nbc Coleman@gmail.com or 408 985 5778. ●



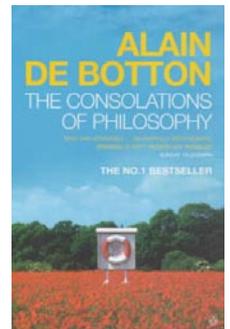
Two Interesting Talks at Palo Alto UU

- *The Gospel of Jesus and the Gospel ABOUT Jesus: From Galilee to Proto-Christianity*, A talk by Prof. Tom Sheehan, Sunday, February 22 at 7:00 pm, at the Main Hall, UU Church of Palo Alto
- *Common Ground: Zoroaster and the Persian Religion*, A talk by Courtney Roberts, M.A., Sunday, March 29 at 7:00 pm, in the Fireside Room, UU Church of Palo Alto. <http://www.uucpa.org/are/winter2009.html>

Humanist Group to Discuss Epicurus

By Tim Blackwood

On February 10 at 7:00 pm, the HUManist Group will meet in the Fireside Room. We will consider the ideas of Epicurus, 341-270 BCE, a hedonistic philosopher. But don't get your hopes up, it is not quite what you may think. We will begin by viewing the 30-minute segment of *Philosophy: A Guide to Happiness* on Epicurus. For those who wish to prepare, please read pp 50-72 of Alain de Botton's *The Consolations of Philosophy*.



Reminders:

First, February 12th is the 200th birthday of Charles Darwin. Second, the humanist service is set for Sunday the 15th of February. Please come and support our participants. Third, consider what the group should do while I am absent (physically) in March. ●





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 dzu@aol.com. Ok, gentle readers, this week:

WHO DID COOL THINGS AND DIDN'T INVITE US? Who got misled by the cops but it all turned out ok? **FIND OUT WHY WE CAN'T HAVE AN ADD SUPPORT GROUP!**

We have new kids on the block. Betcha didn't know them.

And service is our prayer: **Joyce Miller, Sandra Iwamoto, Sally Cooper-ridger, and Alice Lynch** spent MLK Day picking up, for LULAC, a Latino youth organization. You guys, you could tell people about such cool things ahead of time and lots of us could do it. OK, a rule: if you, any of you in the great readership, are going to do something cool like this, please let me know waaaaay ahead of time so we can all do it.

Inauguration Eve, lots of us showed up at Santa Clara University for the interfaith celebration and to hear **LaDoris Cordell** speak. SOME of the people **Mary Martin** and I saw: **Liz Owen, Nancy Sutton, Bruce and Meredy Halen, Pam Price, Carrie Doolittle and Stephanie Rynas, Gene Martin, Carolyn Bowman, Jen Castro, Gertrud Cory, Joy-Ellen Lipsky, Alice Lynch, Moria Merryweather.** I know there were more of us, but with ADD like mine, I show up to such things without a pen, never mind paper. I was thinking of starting an ADD support group for us, but this would be worse than a procrastinator's group (everybody comes late), because all of us ADD folks would forget the date entirely.

Report from the front: **Ed and Patti Massey** did, in fact go to the Inauguration without tickets, and found police and volunteers giving conflicting directions on how to get to the Mall. I, personally, just head for the Washington Monument. But Patti says all kinds of roads were blocked and they were freezing so they decided just to watch the parade at 13th & Pennsylvania, and so saw everything. They ended up at the Irish Times Bar, where even the Irish were all in a

good mood, before going back to Baltimore to spend the night with **Claire Wagner and Greg Ashley.** So a piece of us was there.

If you were in church last Sunday, you might have heard some "Amens", "you go, girl!", and "that's right!" being said by a very happy person in the front row. Made me think of how sober-sided we seem. Turns out this is **Chris Long,** a friend of **Rev. Nancy,** who is in the very last semester at Star King. Born in Memphis in '68, ended up here as a result of a dream: dreamed of 3 names (MLK, Viola Leu and Mary Ann Macklin) and learned "you will study in a place you've never been." Geez. I only dream about total strangers, or whether the stop light will ever change. Chris came with **Sean Potts,** who's holding a workshop on the Christian hegemony in Berkeley (where else). Now you see the benefit of me going up to total strangers every week. That is not to say if I come up to you, it's because you're strange.... You know what I mean.

How about **Carolyn Bowman's** reading of the 3 Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig! She was sooo good. Her voice would even crack when she was reading as the BB Pig. Everybody was ROFL. Ask your kid.

Vera Sloan is in a production of the "Vagina Monologues" to be presented Feb 13 and 14 at the Center for Spiritual Living on Clark Street, a benefit for something good... I also met **Doug Zody,** who's been coming to us for about a year, and said I could publish his email: dbzody@hotmail.com. He has a couple of teenage daughters, so if any of you have been through that exercise, please go sympathize with him.

White Light Corner: this is a new feature in which I'll name anybody who needs to have white light put around them until they get better from whatever it is. **Lucy Proulx,** you're in. And **Patrick Smiley.** All the rest of you, think of them surrounded by the light.

And did you miss that touching article about Obama's grandmother's funeral in the Unitarian Church in Hawaii (where he went to Sunday School when he was a little kid)?

You *did*? Well, it's in the .html version of our January 7 newsletter. Log in with the user name and password you get with each online newsletter and check it out! Look in the Inside This Issue section at the beginning (like a table of contents) for the Spotlight on Social Justice section, and under Bonus Articles, it's the third Bonus Article. Enjoy!

On the Affordable Housing Front...

Following a lot of community support, the City Council of San Jose, in December, approved the creation of an inclusionary zoning ordinance. This law will require housing developers to set aside 15% of their units to be affordable to moderate and low income households. Although the ordinance will not include extremely low income people, housing advocates believe it will result in the construction of more affordable housing in San Jose.

FUCSJ member **Saul Wachter** spoke to the City Council on behalf of the proposed ordinance as an authorized representative of the Social Justice Council of the First Unitarian Church of San Jose, as well as of the Affordable Housing Network of Santa Clara County. ●



SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

15 de Febrero — 9:30 am

La religión del amor

En este fin de semana en que celebramos el amor, permitámonos descubrir todas las formas en las que el Unitario Universalista es la religión del amor. Traiga sus historias de amor de toda clase ¡y unámonos en este festín espiritual de amor!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados/as de Culto: Miembros de nuestros Ministerios en Español.

The religion of love

On this weekend when we celebrate love, let's discover all the ways in which Unitarian Universalism is the religion of love. Bring your stories of love all kinds! and join in this spiritual love-fest!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: Members of the Spanish-Speaking Ministries.

TSCC Needs Mentors & ESL Teacher

Third Street Community Center (TSCC) is still looking for volunteers to mentor for the Robotics Program. There are details in a flyer available from them. It's okay to have missed the orientation; your help will still be appreciated. We're all invited to see the finished work of the teams have created! They're on view at the Tech Museum for the Tech Challenge Competition coming up on April 25th.

Also, TSCC is looking for an ESL teacher for the spring session. Contact them at 408-295-8722 for details. ●

February 15 — 11:00 am

Humanist-flavored Unitarianism

Humanist teachings are one of the UU sources. We will celebrate reason and humanism as seen through the eyes of some fellow congregants. In the children's story we recognize the 200th birthday of Darwin (2/12/1809), who has become an icon/hero of humanists.

Worship Leader: the FUCSJ Humanist Group; Worship Associate: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

Humanista con sabor Unitario

Las enseñanzas humanistas son una de las fuentes de los UU. Nosotros celebraremos la razón y el humanismo a través de los ojos de algunos compañeros congregantes. En la historia para los niños, nosotros reconocemos el aniversario número 200 de Darwin (2/12/1809), quien ha llegado a ser un icono/héroe de los humanistas.

Dirige: El Grupo Humanista; Asociada de Culto: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones.

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the February hiking schedule. As usual, please call if you want to hike, so I will know to look for you at the car pool spot. If you are a regular (and you know who you are) you don't need to call unless you are not coming, so we won't wait for you if you are late. You can call me on my home phone from 6:30 until 7:30 am when I leave. After 7:30, call my cell phone. If you want to email me that you are coming, that is fine. I try to remember to check my email the morning of the hike.

My phone numbers are: 408 730-1052 (home) and 408 507-7052 (cell). In case of rain I frequently change the venue to the Stanford Dish, which is paved and solves the mud problem. I will cancel if we have a big wind and rain storm. If you wonder what decision has been made, give me a call the morning of the hike.

See you on the trails!

Febrero 22 — 9:30 am

Un hombre bueno: La persona de tras del icono de Abraham Lincon

Acabamos de celebrar el 200 aniversario del nacimiento de Abraham Lincoln. Desde las campañas presidenciales, hasta la inauguración de nuestro presidente número 44 hemos oído hablar mucho de "Abe el honesto" en el último año. ¿Pero más allá de la fama del gran hombre, hay una historia humana que Lincoln personifica y que puede enseñarnos algo sobre nuestras propias vidas ahora, ¿como nos esforzamos a crecer en bondad? ¡Descubrámoslo juntos!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociados de Culto: Miembros de nuestros Ministerios en Español.

February 22 — 11:00 am

A Good Man: The person behind the icon of Abraham Lincoln

We have just celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. From the presidential campaigns through the inauguration of our 44th president, we have heard a lot of talk about Honest Abe in the past year. But beyond the great man's fame, is there a human story that Lincoln embodies and that can teach us something about our lives now, as we strive to grow into goodness? Let's find out together!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associate: Alice Lynch.

Wednesday, February 4

Sanborn County Park. This can be a long hike up to Summit Rock (about 9 miles) or we can stop at Indian Rock (7 miles). We can decide at the trail head. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

Saturday, February 7

Joseph Grant County Park, 6.6 miles, moderate. (We could make it 9.8 miles if we want to by doing an additional loop.) We will do a short car shuttle. This should be a beautiful winter hike with unrestricted views of the hills. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capital and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, February 11

Windy Hill, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, February 14

Almaden Quicksilver, Hacienda entrance, 7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond at Almaden Plaza at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, February 18

Stevens Creek/Fremont Older, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at trailhead at 8:30 am. Directions to trail head: Take Foothill Expressway as though you

were going to Rancho San Antonio. Don't turn off Foothill. Go about 1.5 miles to entrance to Stevens Creek Park on the left. You can see the parking lot below you as you go around a curve. Turn left and go straight ahead to the parking lot. There is \$6 parking fee.

Saturday, February 21

Portola Redwoods State Park, 6 miles, moderate. I want to do a different hike called the Tarwater Loop, which is in Pescadero Creek County Park, adjacent to Portola Redwoods. This will be a longer day due to travel time. Count on getting back around 3:30 pm. Meet at PageMill/280 Park and Ride at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, February 25

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

Saturday, February 28

Mission Peak, 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at VTA Park and Ride on Capital at Alum Rock at 8:00 am or at the trail head at Ohlone College. Call for details.





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

Want to Receive the Newsletter?

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

<http://sanjoseuu.org/form/index.php?sid=2>

or call (408) 292-3858, ext. 31.

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

Next issue deadline: 3:00 pm Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, February 18, 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. 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.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Editors: Catherine Leeson Pelizzari and Shirley Worth
Circular.Editors@gmail.com

Shirley will be editor for February 18 and March 18, 2009 issues. Catherine will be editor for the March 4 and April 1, 2009 issues.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Our Church Circular is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Circulation is about 500.

Layout: **Henry Ruddle** henry_L@ruddle.com
 (www.ruddle.com) 408-234-3670

Photographer: **Dani Hope**

Translator: **Roberto Padilla**

Assembly Coordinator: **Gretchen Leavitt**

Assembly Crew: **Genie Bernardini** and **Lloyd Eater**

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

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
 Tracy Avent, darkmuzik@yahoo.com
SECRETARY
 Bob Redfern, rredfern@charter.net
TREASURER
 Bob Howd, BHowd@aol.com

POC PERSONNEL OFFICER
 Joyce Miller, j408miller@sbcglobal.net
POC PROGRAM OFFICER
 Julia Rodriguez, quixoposto@ix.netcom.com
POC FINANCIAL OFFICER
 Christopher Frey,
cjfrey@cjfrey@alum.berkeley.edu

DIRECTORS

Cheri Goodman, cheri.goodman@sbcglobal.net
 Rick Merritt, rbmerrit@cmp.com
 Michael Payne-Alex,
michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com
 Marla Scharf, marla.scharf@gmail.com

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Minister Ext. 23
 The Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, revnpj@yahoo.com
Assoc. Minister For Religious Education Ext. 25
 The Rev. Geoff Rimositis, grimositis@sanjoseuu.org
Office Administrator Ext. 10
 Iris Gonzalez, fucs@sanjoseuu.org
Coordinator of Spanish Speaking Ministries Ext. 24
 Roberto Padilla, paor69@yahoo.com
Social Justice Coordinator Ext. 27
 Carol Stephenson, socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org

Bookkeeper TBD
Sexton Edgar Cruz
R.E. Assistant TBD
Nursery Staff Marta Jo Forse & Maria Elena Olvera

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: (408) 292-3858 Fax: (408) 292-4744
 E-mail fucs@sanjoseuu.org
 URL <http://www.sanjoseuu.org>
 Facilities Rental (408) 841-7542