



Our Church Circular

June 3, 2009
/ 3 de Junio
2009

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

7 de Junio — 9:30 am

Entre opresores y oprimidos

¿Cuántas veces nos hemos sentido oprimidos por alguien o por algo y no sabemos por donde salir de esta situación, y cuántas veces hemos sido los opresores y ni siquiera nos hemos dado cuenta de ello? Explore-mos juntos estas situaciones que se encuentran entrelazadas en cada uno de nosotros.

Dirigen: Miembros de nuestros Ministerios en Español; **Asociados de Culto:** Miembros de nuestros Ministerios en Español.

Between oppressors and those oppressed

How many times have we felt oppressed by somebody or something and we don't know how to get out of this situation, and how many time have we been the oppressors and we don't find out about it? Let us explore together these situations that are intertwined in each one of us.

Worship Leaders: Members of the Spanish-Speaking Ministries; **Worship Associates:** Members of the Spanish-Speaking Ministries.

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

June 7 — 11:00 am

Youth Sunday

Children and youth of the congregation are the worship leaders for our annual Youth Sunday. We will be recognizing those young women and men who are graduating from senior high school this year. They will be sharing with us some thoughts about how they are going to take their Unitarian Universalist values into the next phase of their lives. Our children's choir will be performing under the direction of Cordelia Willis. And after the service, everyone is invited to make (and eat) a Sunday Sundae!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Worship Associate:** Patricia Ohanian-Coffey.

Domingo de la Juventud

Los niños y los jóvenes de la congregación son los líderes del servicio en nuestro domingo anual de la juventud. Reconoceremos a esas mujeres y hombres jóvenes que se están graduando de la preparatoria este año. Compartirán con nosotros algunos pensamientos sobre cómo están llevando sus valores Unitarios Universalistas a la próxima fase de sus vidas. Nuestro coro de niños actuará bajo la dirección de Cordelia Willis. Y después del servicio todos están invitados a hacer (y comer) un helado de domingo!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Asociada de Culto:** Patricia Ohanian-Coffey.

See page 5 for more SUNDAY SERVICES



SAVE THE DATES

June 7, Sunday, 12:30, UU Band of Writers, Youth Room; 12:45 Partner Church Meeting, RE classrooms.

June 14, Sunday, Open-Air Worship Service, 9:15 am, Victory Parking Lot on Market Street between St. John and Santa Clara Streets, where the San Jose Pride Parade starts at 10 am; 11 am, Unitarian Universalist Revival Service, Sanctuary

June 16, Tuesday, Rehearsal for FUCSJ's presentation at General Assembly, 6:30-8:30 pm

June 20, Saturday, Service is Our Prayer Work party at the church, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

June 24-28, UUA General Assembly, Salt Lake City. (Find out more and register at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml>)

July 12, Sunday, pot luck and visit with author Shirley Ranck at the home of Jean von Kaelnel. For more information, contact Nancy Coleman at nbc Coleman@gmail.com.

July 15-19, All Church Campout, McConnell State Park, near Turlock. See article for more information.

August 10-15, UU Senior High Camping Trip, Channel Islands. For more info contact Matt Trask at mattrask@earthlink.net



Coming of Age Sunday, May 17, 2009

The eight participants in the year's program share their credos. At right, Meg Trask led the congregation for its part of the ritual.



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 or Bob Miess at bob@floweringenterprises.com



As we build
the beloved
community...

By the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Mientras construimos
nuestra querida
comunidad...

Para la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones



What a Year This Has Been!

We are nearing the end of our traditional “church year” as I write; at this time of year, I always grow reflective, wanting to look back so that I can be intentional about what I carry forward. This year has brought riches and losses for each of us, and for us *as a community*, too. Yet as I think back over all that has occurred in the past twelve months, my overwhelming sense is one of gratitude and blessing. Here are some of the memories that I will carry forward from our life together in the past year, restricting myself to just a few per season (though you know I have many more!):

From last summer: In my mind’s eye, the sanctuary is ablaze with light as we celebrated the weddings performed here (and in other spots nearby) of loving same-sex couples, —some of them our own beloved members, some new to us altogether, each family so unique, so beautiful. With each marriage, we could actually *see* the arc of the universe bending toward justice, and although we have now experienced the setbacks of Proposition 8 passing in November and being upheld in May, that arc is still bending, reaching toward its goal. Most of all, the love expressed here—by same-sex and opposite-gendered couples, and by singles, too—cannot be dimmed. Its power is what I will carry forward with me from last summer.

From last fall: The basement was abuzz with energy as we hosted phone banking to defeat Proposition 8, and we filled the streets with color as we protested in rain and shine for Equal Marriage Rights. We won a \$9,000 grant from the Fund for Unitarian Universalism for our JUUNTOS/Together Project. We also experienced anxiety and loss when the stock market crashed; some folks lost jobs, savings, or homes, and all of us felt the pinch. Many of us took part in presidential election campaigns, living our Unitarian Universalist values through the choices that we made—and all of us witnessed an amazing historical moment when the United States’ first African American president was elected. And we kept gathering, from Homecoming Sunday through Christmas Eve, feasting on the riches of worship, Small Group Ministry, classes, conversations, coffee, and more. From last fall, I will carry forward the urgent need for community and the proof that we are indeed stronger and better *together*.

From last winter: We launched the JUUNTOS/Together Project with the Building Relationships Campaign, one-to-one conversations between primarily English-speaking church leaders and primarily Spanish-speaking Latino/a members; we learned so

¡Que Año Ha Sido Este!

Mientras escribo, nos estamos acercando al final de nuestro tradicional “año eclesástico”; en esta época del año, me pongo a reflexionar, deseando mirar hacia atrás de modo que pueda ser intencional sobre lo que seguiré acarreado. Este año ha traído riquezas y pérdidas para cada uno de nosotros, y para nosotros como *comunidad*, también. Todavía pienso regresar sobre todo lo que ha ocurrido en los últimos doce meses, mi abrumado sentido es de gratitud y de bendición. Aquí están algunos de los recuerdos que llevaré adelante a partir de nuestra vida juntos en el último año, restringiéndome a mi misma a solo dos por estación (aunque ustedes saben que tengo muchos más!):

Del verano pasado: En el ojo de mi mente, el santuario esta ardiendo con la luz mientras celebramos las bodas realizadas aquí (y en otros puntos cercanos) de parejas amorosas del mismo sexo— algunos de ellos fueron nuestros queridos miembros, algo completamente nuevo para nosotros, cada familia es única, tan hermosa. Con cada matrimonio, podríamos ver realmente el arco del universo doblarse hacia la justicia y, aunque ahora hemos experimentado los reverses de la proposición 8 que paso en noviembre y que fue confirmada en mayo, ese arco todavía se está doblando, tratando de alcanzar su meta. Sobretudo, el amor expresado aquí—por parejas del mismo sexo y del sexo opuesto, y por solteros también—no pueden ser atenuados. Su energía es lo que seguiré acarreado conmigo desde el verano pasado.

Del otoño pasado: El sótano estaba zumbando de energía mientras alojábamos el Banco Telefónico para derrotar la proposición 8, y llenamos las calles de color mientras protestamos en la lluvia y brillamos por la igualdad de derecho al matrimonio. Ganamos una beca de \$9.000 del Fondo para el Unitario Universalismo para nuestro proyecto de JUUNTOS/Together. También experimentamos ansiedad y pérdida cuando la bolsa se derrumbo; algunos amigos perdieron sus trabajos, sus ahorros, o sus hogares, y todos nosotros pasamos necesidades. Muchos de nosotros participamos en la campaña electoral presidencial, viviendo nuestros valores Unitario Universalistas con las opciones que hicimos—y todos atestigüamos un momento asombrosamente histórico cuando el primer presidente Afro americano de los Estados Unidos fue elegido. Y nos mantuvimos unidos desde el domingo del regreso al hogar espiritual, hasta la víspera de Navidad, festejando las riquezas de los servicios religiosos, el Ministerio de Pequeños Grupos, las clases, las conversaciones, el café y más. A partir del otoño pasado acarrearé la necesidad urgente de la comunidad y la prueba de que somos de hecho más fuertes y mejores *juntos*.

Del invierno pasado: Lanzamos el proyecto JUUNTOS/Together con la campaña Construyendo Relaciones, las conversaciones de uno a uno

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Beloved Community

Continued from page 2

much, relationships were formed, and some of our all-too-often “invisibilized” members felt really seen and heard! I had an “ah-ha!” moment with the clergy leaders of PACT, when I saw how the goals of community organizing—building relationships and empowering the laypeople—could enrich every aspect of our congregational life, and I have been receiving mentoring on this from my clergy friends and PACT professionals ever since. We affirmed our policy-based governance model and elected new officers and board members, moving fully into the second generation of leaders under this governance model. From last winter, I will carry forward the power of taking the time to sit down with each other, face to face, to listen, to share, and to be transformed simply through conversation that goes to depth.

From this spring: My memories of this spring are all about color and movement! First, at the Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other retreats in March and April, more than 35 of our members and friends gathered under the astute leadership of Rodrigo García to take part in a delightful and thought-provoking series of activities, bringing participants to a deeper understanding of themselves, their fellow participants, and culture itself. For me, these multicultural gatherings, full of laughter, play, meaning-making, relationship-building, and depth, were what I envision “heaven on earth” to be!

And the other memory from this spring embodies color and movement too: It took place at the conclusion of our beautiful Easter service, when everyone throughout the packed sanctuary raised high the flower they had received through Flower Communion and waved it in the air. It was a field of color, diversity, beauty, nature, and YOU, my dear friends, alive with the breeze of the Spirit of Love and Life! These “heavenly” experiences will bring me hope and joy as I carry them forward through all the months to come!

May your own summer be filled with gathering and worshiping, resting and playing, learning and growing! And may the memories you carry forward from the year just past make your life more whole and holy.

With much heart and hope,

Nancy

Querida Comunidad

Viene de la página 2

entre los líderes de habla inglesa de la iglesia y los miembros Latinos/as de habla hispana; ¡aprendimos muchísimo y las relaciones fueron establecidas, y algunos de nuestros comúnmente “invisibilizados” miembros realmente se sintieron vistos y oídos! Tuve un momento de “claridad” con los líderes del clero de PACT, cuando vi cómo las metas de la organización comunitaria—construyendo relaciones e inspirando a la gente laica, pudieron enriquecer cada aspecto de nuestra vida congregacional, y ahora, estoy recibiendo tutoría por esto de mis amigos del clero y los profesionales de PACT. Afirmamos nuestro modelo de políticas-basadas en el gobierno y elegimos a nuevos oficiales y a miembros de la Mesa Directiva, moviéndonos completamente en la segunda generación de líderes bajo este modelo de gobierno. A partir del invierno pasado, acarrearé la energía de tomarme el tiempo para sentarme con cada uno, cara a cara, para escuchar, compartir y ser transformado simplemente con la conversación que nos conduce hacia lo profundo.

De esta primavera: ¡Mis recuerdos de esta primavera son todos sobre el color y el movimiento! Primero, en el retiro Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other en marzo y en abril, más de 35 de nuestros miembros y amigos se juntaron bajo la astuta dirección de Rodrigo García para participar en una serie de actividades encantadoras y que hicieron reflexionar, trayendo a los participantes a una comprensión más profunda de sí mismos, de sus compañeros participantes, y de la cultura misma. ¡Para mí, estas reuniones multiculturales, llenas de risa, de juego, de crear significado—construyendo relaciones, y de profundidad, fueron lo que imagino que es “el cielo en la tierra”!

Y el otro recuerdo de esta primavera plasma el color y el movimiento también: Ocurrió en la terminación de nuestro hermoso servicio de Pascua, cuando cada uno, por todas partes del abarrotado santuario, levantó la flor que habían recibido en la Comunión de las Flores y las agitaron en el aire. ¡Era un campo del color, diversidad, belleza, naturaleza y, USTEDES, mis estimados amigos, vivos con la brisa del espíritu del amor y de la vida! ¡Estas experiencias “divinas” me traerán esperanza y alegría mientras las acarrearé en todos los meses por venir!

¡Pueda su propio verano ser llenado con reuniones y de culto, de descanso y de juego, de aprender y de crecer! Y puedan los recuerdos que ustedes acarrearán del año pasado, haga su vida más completa y santa.

Con mucho corazón y esperanza,

Nancy

MOVIE TICKET WINNERS!

The Glibas Family and Claire Wagner were winners in the drawing for the two pairs of free movie tickets as a result of sending in the email to say that they had read the online newsletter. Congratulations to them and thanks to all who read the newsletter online!

TSCC Most Grateful for Our Generosity!

If you are one of the many people who responded to Rev. Nancy's request for clothes, toys or household items to share with our Third Street Community Center families, you can be sure you made many people happy. It was especially delightful to see the kids scurrying around with eyes wide open, amazed that everything was free for the taking, filling up bags with treasures that only a child could fully appreciate. Special thanks to Deanna LaTorre for hours spent setting up and taking down the bounteous contributions.



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-5TH GRADES. LOWER LEVEL, ROOM 2-3

June 7 NO CLASSES-YOUTH Sunday

June 14 NO CLASSES

6TH-8TH GRADES, CONFERENCE ROOM

Building Assets Together

June 7 NO CLASSES – YOUTH Sunday

June 14 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.

June 7 NO CLASSES-YOUTH Sunday

June 14 NO CLASSES

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

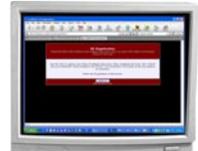
To participate in junior or senior high youth group activities, contact the Rev.

Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or

GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



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

Program and Operations Council (POC) Report for May 2009

By Sherry Howd, Outreach Ministry

This is the first monthly report from the Program and Operations Council (POC), which is the executive body of church government chartered with carrying out the Ends Policy (goals) established by the congregation and Board of Directors. The POC meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. This report highlights decisions and discussions.

Money Matters

The budget for 2009-2010 fiscal year was the major focus of work for the POC. Members devoted several meetings and a Saturday retreat to its preparation. The POC drafted a balanced budget and submitted it to the Board, whose approval would mean that the budget meets the Ends Policy. In the Town Hall meeting on May 17, **Tamara Payne-Alex** presented the rationale for the budget to the congregation. (The presentation will be posted on the church website as time permits.) At the May 26 meeting, minor changes were made to the budget because of additional

financial information. **Dena Dickinson** moved and **Geoff Rimositis** seconded that the POC approve the budget. The motion passed and the POC sent the budget to the Board for its approval. The congregation has final approval at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 31.

A time limit for check requests for reimbursement was discussed because some requests had just come in for months-old expenses. The POC is considering a 30-day limit on requests so that the financial status shown by the church books can be current. If you think a 30-day limit is too restrictive, please talk to a POC representative about issues we might be overlooking.

The POC is implementing a new policy on approving expenses. The Finance Committee used to approve expenses, but now the POC representatives are to manage the expenses related to their areas and committees, and a POC member or designated committee chair will need to approve check requests. The

Check Request form will be updated for this new policy. Also, the POC plans to establish a policy on special collections because such a policy does not exist at this time.

Other Matters

Tamara and **Rick Merritt**, a director on the Board, will be getting both the POC and the Board up to speed on how these groups need to work together with their roles: the Board setting goals and overseeing their implementation; the POC executing policies to meet the plans. This is harder than it sounds.

The POC talked about how to further the discussion with the congregation on the Re-imagining of the Lifespan Religious Education program, which proposes a 9:30 a.m. time for Sunday religious education for youth and adults. This program was presented at the Town Hall meeting on May 16. Stay tuned for much more on this topic and many more opportunities to discuss it including a potential mini-seminar in the fall.

If you have questions about any issues, contact a POC member. Who are the POC members? To find out, go to the church website page at <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/AboutUs/Leadership/POC.html> or see the Annual Report. If you do not have a copy, you can pick one up at the Newcomer's Table after Sunday services in Hattie Porter Hall.



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SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

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14 de Junio —9:15 am, Victory Parking Lot

PRIDE SUNDAY! PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL TIMES AND SERVICES!

9:15 am in the Victory Parking Lot, Market Street near St. John

Open-Air All-Are-Invited Worship Service

Singing, readings, and Blessing of the Feet will take place in a big circle in the parking lot starting at 9:15 am. Members who usually attend our 9:30 service on Sundays are especially invited to join us as we take our Unitarian Universalist spirit and message to the streets! Carolyn Bowman and other hosts will be at our church to let folks know where we are, and to keep the labyrinth open for walking and meditation while some of us are marching.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associate: Liz Shivell.

DOMINGO DEL ORGULLO! POR FAVOR OBSERVE LOS HORARIOS ESPECIALES DE LOS SERVICIOS!

9:15 a.m. en el estacionamiento Victory Parking, en la esquina de Market y St. John

Todos están invitados al Servicio al Aire Libre

Las canciones, las lecturas y la bendición de los pies ocurrirán en un gran en el estacionamiento iniciando a las 9:15. ¡Especialmente se invita a los miembros que generalmente asisten a nuestro servicio del domingo de las 9:30 a que se nos unan mientras que llevamos nuestro espíritu y nuestro mensaje Unitario Universalista a las calles! Carolyn Bowman y otros anfitriones estarán en nuestra iglesia dejándoles saber a los amigos donde estamos, y manteniendo el laberinto abierto para caminar y meditar mientras algunos de nosotros estamos desfilando.

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociada de Culto: Liz Shivell.

21 de Junio —9:30 am

Será anunciado
To Be Announced

June 21—11:00 am

“What Do Men Want?” A Different Father’s Day Service

We Unitarian Universalists usually like to minimize the traditional gender distinctions of Mother’s and Father’s Day and emphasize the common values of parenting. So why have a gender-specific support group lead worship on Father’s Day? Because, as the Men’s Support Group would say, they too have grown away from something that is gender-centric, and what they want from their support group is universal. Come see if you agree as they describe their experiences.

Worship Leaders: Men’s Support Group;
Worship Associates: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and Colleen Cabot.

“¿Que Quieren los Hombres?” Un servicio diferente del Día del Padre

Los Unitarios Universalistas generalmente nos gusta minimizar las diferencias tradicionales de género del día de la madre y del día del padre y de acentuar los valores comunes de la paternidad. ¿Entonces porqué tener un específico género apoyando al grupo que dirige el servicio en el Día del Padre? Porque, como el Grupo de Apoyo de Hombres dirían, ellos también han crecido alejados de algo que esta centrado en el género, y desean que su grupo de apoyo sea universal. Venga y vea si usted esta de acuerdo mientras que ellos describen sus experiencias.

Dirigen: Grupo de Apoyo de Hombres;
Asociadas de Culto: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y Colleen Cabot.

June 14—11:00 am, Sanctuary

PRIDE SUNDAY! PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL TIMES AND SERVICES!

Rock The House Revival

After we march in the parade, and for all who won’t be marching, please join us for a rock-the-house Unitarian Universalist revival honoring the themes of the day. This will be a great chance to welcome newcomers to our home and to enjoy an energizing hour together.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associate: Liz Shivell.

DOMINGO DEL ORGULLO! POR FAVOR OBSERVE LOS HORARIOS ESPECIALES DE LOS SERVICIOS!

Únansenos Para Revivir

Después de que marchemos en el desfile y para todos aquellos que no estén desfilando, por favor únansenos para revivir una celebración Unitaria Universalista que honra los temas del día. Una gran ocasión de dar la bienvenida a los nuevos miembros a nuestro hogar y de gozar de una energizante hora juntos.

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociada de Culto: Liz Shivell.



Finance Committee Needs Your Help

Members of the Finance Committee are committed to staying on track of our finance status—embracing our responsibility and creating a system/structure that will help our church and all of us to be part of a stable and transparent financial future. The Finance Committee plans to meet one Tuesday night a month to do this tracking. **Sue Evanicky**, our bookkeeper, is the church staff member supporting this committee.

The Committee needs help. If you are interested, contact **Dena Dickenson**, Financial Officer, at dickiden@comcast.net or **Bob Howd**, Treasurer, at bhowd@aol.com. ●



SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Partner Church Meeting

By Monty Low, Partner Church Committee co-chair

There will be a Partner Church meeting on Sunday, June 7 at 12:45 in one of the downstairs RE classrooms. First, we will talk about plans for our village visitors who will visit us from August 5 to August 19. Second, we are excited to begin planning for our trip to Homoródszentmárton in Romania in 2011. We will present our basic vision for the trip and talk about how people can raise money for expenses. Come to the meeting if you are interested in learning more or signing up for the trip.

Also, we need a place to stay for the Balazs scholar, Endre Nagy, and his wife Eva Patko in the evening of June 10th. You may have heard Endre's sermon at our Easter service. They will be flying in and out of the San Jose airport and we can help with transportation if needed. Please let us know if you have a place where Endre and Eva can stay.

Please contact **Monty Low** (403 348-2778, low.monty@gmail.com) if you can help or would like more information. ●

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Service Is Our Prayer Workday June 20

Come one, come all! Saturday, June 20, from 9 am to 2 pm, we'll have our quarterly Service is Our Prayer work party at the church. A full slate of jobs is planned, from installing a new light fixture to basic scrubbing and cleaning. No special skills are needed to join the fun! We'll meet in the Sanctuary at 9 for a blessing and job assignments, break for lunch (provided) at noon, and finish up afterwards. Please come down and help for the entire period or just a couple of hours - any assistance is appreciated! Please contact Bob Howd or Patrick Myers if you need additional information. bhowd@aol.com, jpatrickmyers@yahoo.com ●

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

JUUNTOS/Together!

All Are Invited: Rehearsal for AFUCSJ's Presentations at General Assembly! Tuesday, June 16, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, come hear and see parts of the worship service and the workshop that **Rev. Nancy, Roberto Padilla, Marla Scharf, and Ed Massey** will offer during this year's General Assembly in Salt Lake City. Offer your praise and your constructive feedback so that the First Unitarian Church of San José can shine for our whole movement this June! ●

SUNDAY, JULY 12

Women's Alliance Potluck: Author Visit!

Please join us for a potluck at the home of Jean von Kaenel on Sunday, July 12 beginning at 4:00 pm. We'll visit with Shirley Ranck, the author of *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*, and plan our sessions for 2009-2010. Contact **Nancy Coleman** for information or directions at 408 985 5778 or nbcoleman@gmail.com. ●

MARTES 16 DE JUNIO

JUUNTOS/Together!

Todos están invitados: Ensayo para la presentación de la FUCSJ en la Asamblea General! Martes 16 de junio de las 6:30 a las 8:30 pm, venga a escuchar y ver parte del servicio religioso y del taller que **la Rev. Nancy, Roberto Padilla, Marla Scharf, y Ed Massey** ofrecerán durante la Asamblea General en Salt Lake City este año. ¡Ofrezca su elogio y su constructiva retroalimentación de modo que la Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José pueda brillar en la totalidad de nuestro movimiento este junio! ●

ALL-CHURCH CAMPOUT

Our All-Church Campout will be held at McConnell State Recreation Area, near Turlock, about 2 hours from San Jose. This campground has it all: easy access to the Merced River with sandy beaches for the kids, showers and flush toilets, lots of picnic tables, and running water right in the campsite. All you need to bring is your tent and sleeping bag! We do communal cooking, and all the food and cooking equipment is provided. We have the big group campsite, which can accommodate up to 50 people, at the same wonderful location as last year's campout. The dates are Wednesday, July 15 through Sunday, July 19, 2009. The cost is \$50 for adults, \$25 for kids 4-11, and free for little kids up through age 3. Some campships are available. Dogs are permitted, but they're supposed to stay on leash. The cost covers campsite fees, supplies, and food. For more information and a registration form, email me at mm@feldmo.com. Don't delay -- space is limited. ●



Spirit in Practice – Monthly Adult Program Continues Through August

Leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

The Spirit in Practice workshops help Unitarian Universalists develop regular disciplines, or practices, of the spirit—practices that help them connect with the sacred ground of their being, however they understand it. Spirit in Practice affirms religious diversity while seeking unity in our communal quest for meaning and wholeness. Whether participants follow a path they identify as Humanist, Jewish, Christian, Pagan, Theist, Atheist, Agnostic, Mystic, and/or any

of the other paths we follow in our diverse congregation, the Spirit in Practice workshops offer a forum for learning, sharing, and growth that can enrich your faith journeys.

Workshops are suitable for a first-time visitor or a longtime member. You can attend one or more of the workshops.

Please RSVP with **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org, 292-3858, 25

• **Workshop 4: Spiritual Partnerships**
Sunday, June 7, 2:30-4:00 p.m.,

Ramsden Fireside Room

• **Workshop 5: Mind Practices**
Sunday, July 12, 2:30-4:00 p.m.,
Ramsden Fireside Room

• **Workshop 6: Body Practices**
Sunday, August 12, 2:30-4:00 p.m.,
Ramsden Fireside Room

Fall workshops yet to be scheduled will include: Soul Practices, Life Practices, Justice Practices and Looking Back and Moving Forward. ●



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CIRCLING AROUND

Milestones
in the lives of the
First Unitarian Community

The all-new all-different Circling Around

by Torchy Hunter



Torchy Hunter is taking a well-deserved vacation this week, but never fear, she'll be back for the next issue. She passes along some photos from Henry Ruddle's cruise and this information from Colleen Cabot:

I've told many of you about my sister, Cate, and we have now set the dates for her visit: she is coming June 16-22 to offer several opportunities for creative expression.

A long-time writer and workshop presenter, Cate has developed intriguing and soulful opportunities using personal story for reaching within and articulating personal experience. She is also a Human Design consultant, and can develop and interpret a chart from your birth information in individual private sessions. Human Design is similar to astrology, but with more layers.

I hope you'll want to join us! Let me know if you have questions or want to register for

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:

her classes. We'd love to hear by the first week in June, because the Design Chart will require prepayment and your birth information, as Cate must do the work in advance. My phone number is 251-2101. Over her week here, Cate will offer:

- A day and a half workshop on using personal story to spark your muse, June 19 & 20
- An afternoon workshop just for kids doing the same, June 16
- A two-evening workshop for couples using writing to explore their relationship, June 17 & 18
- Opportunities to have Cate do a private reading of your Human Design Chart ●

Henry Ruddle got a great deal on a 7-day Canada cruise for himself and two of his children, **Lily** and **Zach**, during the week of May 17. He credits the decision to go to the secretary of their school. When he called to ask about taking them out for a week, she said, "Yeah, STAR testing will be over by then so it's no big deal."



The hats are drawings of "Funship Freddy."



Nooooo!!!



When it was his turn at the talent show, Zach grabbed the mic and confidently started singing.

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the June hiking schedule. As always in the summer months, most of the hikes are up north where there is the most shade, although I have included some of the shaded venues in south county. I will be gone much of July, so have listed Sue Size as the contact person. Remember to let me know if you are coming unless you are one of the regulars, who only need to let me know if they are not coming. My home phone number is 408 730 1052. My cell phone is 408 507 7052. (I turn it on at 7:30 am the day of the hikes.) Use my home phone all other times.

See you on the trails!

Wednesday, June 3

Stevens Creek/Fremont Older, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at the parking lot at Stevens Creek Park at 8:30 am. Directions: From 280 take Foothill Expressway as though you were going to Rancho San Antonio, but go straight on Foothill, which becomes Stevens Canyon Road at McClellan. Continue about a mile to entrance of park, which is on the left. Parking fee is \$5.00.

Saturday, June 6

Wunderlich County Park, 5 miles, easy. Meet at Page Mill/280 at 8:00 am. I need to do shorter hike, since I have a meeting at the church at 1:00 pm. If anyone wants to do the longer hike up to Skyline, feel free to do so.

Wednesday, June 10

Purisima Redwoods, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at the Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, June 13

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

Wednesday, June 17

Foothill Park, 7 miles, moderate. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, June 20

Almaden Quicksilver, Hacienda Entrance, 9 miles. Meet at Bed, Bath and Beyond parking lot at Almaden Plaza at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, June 24

Skyline Ridge Loop, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, June 27

Huddart County Park, 8 miles. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:00 am. We'll do the longer hike up to Skyline. I won't be leading this hike since I will be camping with family that weekend. Please call or email Sue Size if you want to hike. Her email is chefnsue@aol.com and phone number is 408 410-2510. ●





Spotlight on Social Justice

by Lucy Proulx, *Social Justice Activities Communications Coordinator*, socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org



Social Justice BLOG: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE DATES TO SAVE

June 2nd, Tuesday, "Green Living"
Classes begin with Our City Forest

June 6th, Saturday, Livable Communities--Transit Oriented Development, United Way Building, 1922 The Alameda, Room 105, San Jose, 9:30 am-12:00 pm

June 9th, Poverty Simulation on Tuesday, June 9th, at 1381 S 1st St., San Jose.

June 14th, Sunday, Pride Sunday, Open Air Service, Parade, Blessing of Feet and more!

July 11th-18th, UUSC's Sixth Annual Freedom Summer--Civil Rights Journey, Atlanta, Georgia, to Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery, Alabama.

*See Online Calendar for all FUCSJ listings at: <http://my.serviceuu.com/public/frame.asp?OrgID=3442&bShowCalendar=True>

10 Pedicabs Now in SJ Eco City Cycles' fleet!

Eco City Cycles has a fun, door-to-door pedicab service available Wednesday-Saturday from 7 pm-2:30 am. A unique, alternative transportation system for beautiful downtown San Jose, they provide fast and friendly door-to-door pedicab services while contributing to a more environmentally responsible community. The cost is negotiable, which makes Eco City Cycles an affordable and convenient way to travel. Their drivers are knowledgeable of the downtown area and are happy to provide suggestions on the many destination spots downtown San Jose has to offer. Call ahead for reservations or pick ups 771-7723. For more information, see www.ecocitycycles.com.

Sign Up For FREE "Green Living" Course!

"Green" your home in just 6 sessions--its easy, free and FUN! Classes begin the week of June 2 with Our City Forest. Topics include: Recycling & Reuse, Water Conservation, Saving Energy, Local & Organic Food, Eliminating Toxins, and Healthy Landscaping. Form a group or join a group. To sign up or request more info, e-mail Our City Forest at: jcai@ourcityforest.org or call (408) 99-TREES, X107.

Livable Communities--Transit Oriented Development

A free workshop on Livable Communities hosted by The Great Communities Collaborative* will be held Saturday, June 6, from 9:30 am-12:00 pm, at the United Way Building, 1922 The Alameda, Room 105, San Jose. Intended for people who are unfamiliar with Transit Oriented Development (TOD), smart growth, and walkable neighborhoods, it will hopefully engage and connect residents to the impending planning effort for Diridon Transit Station. RSVP: Michele Beasley at mbeasley@greenbelt.org or 408-983-0856. (*Greenbelt Alliance, Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, and Urban Habitat.) More at: http://www.greatcommunities.org/intranet/library/sites-tools/great-communities-toolkit/2-0_whatistod_apr08.pdf.

Second Chance to Participate in a Poverty Simulation

If you missed the one at SJ City Hall, Sacred Heart Community Service will be hosting another Poverty Simulation on Tuesday, June 9th, from 5:30-9 pm, at 1381 S First St., San Jose. Sponsored by Step Up Silicon Valley, the Poverty Simulation offers participants an opportunity to understand the challenges facing our neighbors who try to get by on low incomes. With more understanding and compassion, they hope to call

others to action in order to make changes in society that will reduce and eventually end poverty. If you are interested, please RSVP to rebeccac@sacredheartcs.org or call 408-278-2179 (Rebecca Cole). Include in your RSVP a name, e-mail address and phone number for each participant.

San Jose Limits Water Use

San Jose residents can't water their lawns from 8 am to 6 pm under new rules passed by the City Council. But rather than soaking residents' pocketbooks, the regulations are intended to wring out some extra conservation amid the ongoing drought. There won't be water cops or fines. Instead, if neighbors report rule-breakers, the city plans to send letters asking violators to comply. Similarly, if city employees see violations, they'll hang a door sign spelling out the rules. Full article at: http://www.mercurynews.com/valley/ci_12406436

Prop 8 Upheld by CA Courts

Gay and lesbian state lawmakers said they were disheartened by Tuesday's California Supreme Court ruling upholding Proposition 8, which upheld the voter-approved initiative limiting marriage to between a man and a woman, but compared the fight for gay marriage to the long struggle for civil rights. More at: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12451991. However, the court's decision left intact the more than 18,000 marriages for gay and lesbian couples who wed last year before the ballot measure went into effect. Prop 8 does not impact the state's strong domestic partnership protections for same-sex couples. More at: http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_12451435?source=most_viewed.

More social justice articles can be found on the Social Justice Blog on the Church Web Page at <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/> ●



New Members Welcomed

Our new members **Marnie Singer, V Kingsley, Dani Hope**, and family were welcomed into our congregation on Sunday, April 26.

Marnie Singer

Marnie was born into a Unitarian family in Wilmington, Delaware, where her mother is still an active and involved member of the congregation at 85. Marnie's travels have taken her on many paths:

- Married at 19 (it was a different era!)
- B.A. Music from University of Michigan at 20
- Wife and mother in Pittsburgh, PA and Edwardsville, IL
- Paralegal in San Francisco while her husband was a student at Starr King
- Paralegal in Wilmington, DE, where she birthed their third
- Deli counter clerk at Wellspring Grocery in Durham, NC, where she birthed their fourth
- Paralegal providing litigation support for SuperFund in Northern Virginia
- Data reduction manager at Temple University's Institute for Survey Research in Philadelphia, PA
- Statistical programmer/analyst doing survey research at SRI International in Menlo Park until the Federal Department of Education ended funding for a major longitudinal study
- Student at Starr King School for the Ministry

Marnie and Brian, now an English teacher at Monte Vista High School in Cupertino, were married in 2003. Their family includes four married children and five grandchildren, plus two cats. Next year, Marnie will be in a chaplain residency program at Stanford Hospital, and she expects to graduate in May 2010. She balances her UU involvement by singing with Transcendence Gospel Choir, based in City of Refuge UCC Church in San Francisco.



V Kingsley and Dani Hope

Although they have been volunteering and driving over the hill from the Santa Cruz Mountains to attend services for many months, V Kingsley and Dani Hope finally made their membership official on Mother's Day. In case you haven't had a chance to get to meet them, allow us to introduce Team Go-Go!

Their family consists of Dani and V, their 12-year-old son, **Parker Langston**, and their very young-at-heart octogenarian mother, **April Moen**. The decision to leave the much loved UU Fellowship in Aptos, (where V and Parker were involved for many years), was because of the renowned RE program here in San Jose. It has been lovely to get to know people here and they look forward to connecting more deeply. FUCSJ will always hold a very special place in their hearts because of the honor of being married here, on the very first day that lesbians and gay men could be legally married in the state of California!

Dani's mother, April, and her family are members of Los Californianos and have been in California for many generations. She was raised in the Catholic Church and has had experience in many spiritual homes, including the Center for Spiritual Living, where they still occasionally attend services. April is a resident of Santa Clara, where she is in the final stages of printing a genealogy book that was decades in the making. She also enjoys sewing, cooking, and working out at the beautiful new Senior Center. Her son, (a fundamentalist Christian preacher) and his family live in Ohio and her daughter (an artist for Hollywood movies) and her family live in Southern California. Dani is April's youngest child.

Dani was raised with a variety of spiritual homes, including a Unitarian church where she remembers the folk music. For over twenty years, Dani has been an active member of SGI (Soka Gakki



International), a Buddhist network that actively promotes peace, culture, and education through personal change and social contribution. She chants Nam Myoho Renge Kyo daily and is very open to answering any questions about her practice. Dani enjoys gardening, cooking, and figuring out puzzles. She loves animals (especially her beloved Whippets) and even brings them to the office in San Francisco where she works for a small software company!

Parker is most often in a state of movement. He is a champion gymnast who will be competing with the nation's top athletes this June at the HP Pavilion. He enjoys Parkour (a form of free running and urban gymnastics) because of the risk and diversity of the sport. Parker is a home school student who has lately been focusing on his graffiti art and tagging (a modern form of calligraphy). He has grown up in UU churches since birth, and, because his father is a UU minister, churches are like a second home to him. He is excited to become part of the vibrant youth community here in San Jose.

V's grandmother and mother attended a Universalist Church in Maine in the 1940's and 50's. V's parents took her to a Unitarian church in Rhode Island in the 1960's, but her childhood was largely without a spiritual home. She became a practicing pagan in the mid-1980's and rediscovered the UU church in the late 80's. She delights in working with youth, especially teens and people in their early twenties, and has been actively involved with Religious Education for 15 years. V is a studio art quilter and her work can be seen on line at alotoflife.com. She continues to battle cancer (and a host of related health issues) with as much grace as she can muster. She loves being a home schooling mother and a political activist, raising awareness of sex, sexuality, and gender issues whenever possible. ●





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

Next issue deadline: 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, June 17, 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.

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Editors: Catherine Leeson Pelizzari and Shirley Worth; Circular.Editors@gmail.com
Shirley will be editor for the June 17 and the July (single) issue. Catherine will be editor for the August (single) issue and the September 2 issue.

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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