



# Circular



March 4,  
2009 /  
4 de Marzo  
2009

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

**9:30 a.m.**

Servicios en español

**8 de Marzo** — 9:30 am

### Affirmacion V: Buscar la verdad en libertad

En la afirmación que recitamos cada domingo, prometemos “buscar la verdad con libertad.” ¿Por qué esta “libre y responsable búsqueda por la verdad y el sentido?” ¿Merece dos menciones en nuestra afirmación? ¿Es esto tan fundamental en nuestra fe Unitario Universalista? ¿Qué clase de verdad estamos buscando?, bueno, ¿y cómo vamos a encontrarla? Y, ¿hay libertades que debemos tener antes de poder incluso a empezar a buscar la verdad? En la historia de Joseph Priestley, un ministro Unitario y científico que ayudo a formar este país y en las historias de nuestras propias vidas, descubriremos una riqueza de recursos para ayudarnos en nuestra búsqueda.

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

**11:00 a.m.**

Services in English

**March 8** — 11:00 am

### New-Member Ingathering

#### Affirmation V: To Seek the Truth in Freedom

In the Affirmation we recite every Sunday, we promise “to seek the truth in freedom.” Why does this “free and responsible search for truth and meaning” rate *two* mentions in our Affirmation? Is it that central to our Unitarian Universalist faith? What kinds of truth are we seeking, anyway, and how do we go about finding it? And are there freedoms we must have before we can even *begin* to seek the truth? In the story of Joseph Priestley, a Unitarian minister and scientist who helped to shape this country, and in the stories of our own lives, we’ll discover rich resources to help us on our quest.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones:

Worship Associate: Henry Ruddle.

See **SUNDAY SERVICES**, page 7

## SAVE THE DATES

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

**March 7**, Saturday, 8 am-1 pm, Whole Church: Service Is Our Prayer Day

**March 7**, Saturday, 3 pm, Sanctuary: Celebration of Life for Marilyn Saravati Carstens with Potluck Reception to follow in Hattie Porter Hall

**March 12**, Thursday, 6-8 pm, PACT LOC Regular Meeting, Fireside Room

**March 23**, Monday, 6:30-8:30 pm, Social Justice Council Meeting, Board Conference Room

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

## Candidates for Church Office This Year

by Steve Madden, Nominating Committee Chair

This year we have the following positions to fill in the church leadership:

- One Board Director position (to replace Marla Scharf, who is completing her term)
- The Program Officer, to head the Program and Operations Council (to replace Julia Rodriguez, who is completing her term)
- The Financial Officer on the Program and Operations Council (to replace Christopher Frey, who is completing his term)
- Three members of the Nominating Committee (to replace Gordon Smith, Barbara Derbyshire, and Stephanie Rynas).

We are actively seeking nominations for the Program Officer and Financial Officer. If you would like to learn more about these positions or would like to nominate someone, please contact me at [stevem@ucdavis-alumni.com](mailto:stevem@ucdavis-alumni.com).

### Biographies of two nominees:

**Madeline Althof** has accepted a nomination for the Nominating Committee:

*I first joined a UU church in Davis in around 2000. I joined FUCSJ in 2002. I am in the choir again now after a long absence. I have been an active member of UUthful Spirits (which began as TNT) since first attending, not long after the inception of the group. I've gone off and on to the Dances of Universal Peace. I coordinated CUUPS for a while. I've taught RE. I've been involved somewhat with some social justice activities. I was also involved with some attempts at creating a campus ministry. I look forward to getting to know more people (and remembering their names!).*

**Dena Dickenson** has agreed to be reappointed to the Worship position on the Program and Operations Council:

*I have been attending FUCSJ since January 1991 and have found my spiritual home. I greatly appreciate the spiritual breadth of UUism and the opportunity to learn and grow, as well as the commitment to social action. I have held many positions and jobs with the Church including the following: Vice President of Board of Directors (when the fire happened), President of Board (when we were having endless fundraising), Worship Associates Coordinator (during Interim Ministers time) and continuing Worship Associate (current), Pastoral Associate (current), Visitor Table (current), Children's RE teacher for 9:30 service, Adult RE teacher. I have been on the Program and Operations Council for 2+ years representing the Worship cluster. I recognize how important it is to take an active role in keeping our community thriving -- so I will continue to do my part. ●*



As we build the beloved community...

## A Spiritual Stimulus Plan for Tough Economic Times

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

How are you faring in these tough economic times? What is the state of your mind and heart under the barrage of bad news about money and jobs? *Most of all, how are you caring for yourself?* You are valued, you are precious to this community! Because this is so, I am hereby proposing *FUCSJ's Spiritual Stimulus Plan for Tough Economic Times*.

Although our financial resources may be meager, we are rich in spiritual resources. We offer priceless opportunities for the mind, heart, and spirit to heal and grow. Let me list just a few of them:

In this issue of the newsletter, look for announcements of two classes that deal with spiritual stimulus and recovery. **Rev. Geoff Rimositis** is offering "Spirit in Practice," beginning Sunday, March 15. You can attend one or all of this series of classes on building a spiritual practice that will sustain you in good times and in tough times. Please let him know you plan to be there: [grimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:grimositis@sanjoseuu.org).

On four Saturdays starting in April, **Rev. Donna Lenahan** is offering "How to Be a Healing Presence: Training to Be a Pastoral Associate." Our Pastoral Associates team partners with the ministers to broaden and deepen the care we offer this community. They are shining examples of this congregation's shared ministry. Class size is limited, so please contact Donna if you would like to participate: [djlenahan@aol.com](mailto:djlenahan@aol.com).

Join us as we explore the practices of "sufficiency"! How can we affirm that we have and are "enough"? This theme runs through our worship services and our Annual Giving Campaign this spring.

What can we do for others? In our midst, people are experiencing stress and loss. Are there services that we can and should provide to the wider community in these tough times? If you have the heart and energy to help create these responses, please get in touch with me: [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com). If you are in trouble or despairing, please contact Rev. Geoff or me; you need not walk alone.

Finally, come to worship, attend the JUUNTOS/Together gatherings later this spring, speak with someone new in Social Hour, and look up and out to see that the world still offers its beauty and calls us to be grateful that we are alive!

With great hope and affection,

Nancy



### CARE FOR YOUR CHURCH

Times are tough for everyone, even FUCSJ! Donations are running about 6% behind scheduled pledges, which means we may soon start running behind on paying our bills. If you can, please catch up on your pledged donations. If the fates have smiled on your household and you can consider an additional contribution to FUCSJ, this is the time to make a generous one. Please mark the check as an extra contribution.

## 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**

**March 8**

A Time To Be Free From Slavery-Pesah

**March 15**

The Gift of Friends

**March 22**

The Gift of Family

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

**A stepping stone year**

**March 8**

Clara Barton, the Shy Girl Who Learned To Be Brave

**March 15**

The Mustard Seed Medicine

**March 22**

The Road to Olepanti

**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/>

**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.

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

**Coming of age**

**March 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](mailto:GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org)

**REGISTER ONLINE!**

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



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



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

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## Upcoming Events

### How To Be A Healing Presence - Training to be a Pastoral Associate

One Saturday morning a month for four months **Rev. Donna Lenahan**, our Pastoral Care Coordinator, will help you learn how to compassionately companion those who are experiencing health challenges at home, in the hospital or at a care facility.

We will be reading and discussing these three books that are included in the fee:

- **Sacred Dying: Creating Rituals for Embracing the End of Life** by Megory Anderson,
- **The Art of Being a Healing Presence** by James E. Miller
- **The Art of Listening in a Healing Way** by James E. Miller

Class will be held on the following five Saturdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm: April 25, May 2, May 16, and May 23. Payment is due by April 11.

The fee for the course is \$45 and includes the three books. You may register or pick up a brochure at the Pastoral Care Table in Hattie Porter Hall after the 11:00 service on Sundays. This training will be limited to 8 participants, and attendance is required at each of the four sessions.

If you have questions, please send Donna an e-mail at [djlenahan@aol.com](mailto:djlenahan@aol.com) or phone her at 408-354-9024. The books will be available March 29 to get started with the reading.

### Let Justice Flow: California Water Justice and Climate Change Workshop

Join the UU Legislative Ministry of California and UUSC for a day of learning and action on the water crisis in California. Learn from experts and activists in water planning and governance, conservation and the environment, social justice and human rights in a day of sharing and mobilizing for California water justice.

**Date:** Saturday, April 18, 2009

**Time:** 9:15 am to 4:00 pm

**Place:** Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, Calif.

For questions and to RSVP, contact Kara Smith [ksmith@uusc.org](mailto:ksmith@uusc.org) or call 617-301-4392.

**Cost:** \$15, \$5 for students. Lunch provided.

Learn more at [http://www.uusc.org/content/environmental\\_justice](http://www.uusc.org/content/environmental_justice). ●

## Spirit in Practice Monthly Adult Program Begins In March

Leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

The idea of spiritual practices encourages individuals to take responsibility for their own spiritual development by spending time working on it, deliberating on its meaning and how best to pursue it, seeking to understand the sacred through reading and the counsel of others, and seeking to have contact with the sacred through personal reflection and prayer. —Robert Wuthnow, scholar of American religious history

The *Spirit in Practice* workshops helps 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](mailto:GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org), 292-3858, 25

**Workshop 1: Toward a Rich and Meaningful Unitarian Universalist Spirituality**

Sunday, March 15, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

**Workshop 2: Personal Spiritual Practices**

Sunday, April 5, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

**Workshop 3: Communal Worship Practices**

Sunday, May 3, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

**Workshop 4: Spiritual Partnerships**

Sunday, June 7, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

**Workshop 5: Mind Practices**

Sunday, July 12, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

**Workshop 6: Body Practices**

Sunday, August 12, 2:30-4 pm, Fireside Room

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

## UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the March hiking schedule. As in the past, if there is a heavy rain and wind storm I may cancel. If it is only raining I usually don't cancel but frequently will change the venue to the Stanford dish, which is paved and solves the mud problem. Call me in the morning to find out what decision has been made any time after 6:30 am (on my home phone: 408 730 1052). I will turn on my cell phone (408 507 7052) after 7:30 am in case you need to get in touch with me after I leave for the hike

Remember to let me know if you are planning to hike (except the regulars and you know who you are) so I will look for you at the car pool lot. We have been having 8-11 people on Wednesdays, a lot of fun and good conversation. So come and join us. See you on the trails.

### Wednesday, March 4

Stevens Creek/Fremont Older, 6 miles, moderate Meet at trailhead at 8:30 am. Directions to trailhead: Take Foothill Exp exit off of 280 and go as though you were going to Rancho San Antonio but go straight on Foothill. Continue on Foothill, which becomes Stevens Canyon Road at McClellan. Continue for about a mile to the park entrance on the left. Parking fee is \$6.00.

### Saturday, March 7

No hike planned. There is a work day at the Church.

### Wednesday, March 11

Sierra Azule Open Space Preserve, 6-7 miles, moderate. This is new hike for the Wednesday group. It is a beautiful area just below Mt Umunum. Meet at Bed, Bath, & Beyond at the Almaden Plaza Shopping center at 8:30 am. Palo Alto folks can meet at my house at 8:00 am to car pool.

### Saturday, March 14

Santa Teresa County Park, 6-7 miles, moderate Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond at Almaden Plaza Shopping Center at 8:00 am.

### Wednesday, March 18

Castle Rock State Park, 6 miles, moderate Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

### Saturday, March 21

Sanborn County Park, 8 miles, moderate to strenuous. We will go to Indian Rock, which is about 8 miles. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:00 am.

### Wednesday, March 25

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

### Saturday, March 28

McGuire Peaks at Sunol Regional Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at VTA Park and Ride on Capitol Ave and Alum Rock across the street from the Catholic Cemetery at 8:00 am. ●







# Spotlight on Social Justice

by Lucy Proulx,  
Social Justice Council  
Communications Volunteer

## What's YOUR "Passion?"

Is your head spinning from all the volunteer opportunities there are? Want another way, a more "personal" way to connect? You got it! Right here, as often as I can, I'll be posting one of YOUR "passions." Here's what we need YOU to do! Bring us what it is you do as a volunteer—your "passion." Bring in some pamphlets about it if you can, tell us how you got involved and why you stay, what fuels your passion about it, and we'll share that in the newsletter. If someone else want to participate too, they'll either contact you or us, and then you'll have someone from church to share your passion with!

No matter what your passion is—sorting food donations at Second Harvest Food Bank, teaching kids to love the Earth and all it's creatures as a Docent for the Open Space District, handing out the cookies at blood drives—we want to know about it. Send an email to **Lucy Proulx** at [socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org), or find and talk to **Madeline Althoff** in Hattie Porter Hall during coffee hour, or, contact her at (408) 834-6262 (cell) or [moonlet@garlic.com](mailto:moonlet@garlic.com).

## Update on SJ Crossing Guards vs. TSCC

The programs at TSCC are safe, for now! **Rosemary Baez**, Executive Director of Third Street Community Center (TSCC), wants to thank all the church members who followed this issue and supported Third Street by contacting their representatives on behalf of TSCC. The latest update indicates that the SJ City Council's Rules Committee decided that it would not move this forward but it will likely surface again at city budget meetings in March. One of the three City Council Members who originally made the request, has dropped her name from the list leaving two Council Members who still want to shift the funds away from TSCC. The next step is to continue monitoring the situation and to continue stating that "taking HNVF funds away from nonprofits to pay for cross guards is not acceptable."

Baez states that the writer at the *San Jose Mercury News* who keeps bringing this up has a biased perspective that pits nonprofits and anti-tobacco work against school crossing guards. She requests that church members who have contacts at the *Mercury News* ask for a

more balanced perspective and believes having other writers do a counter piece would be really helpful to make sure that the public, many of whom are not informed/aware of valuable work that nonprofits provide to needy families or the need to continue anti-tobacco work, are not misled to believe nonprofits and the city are wasting tax payer dollars.

## "Who's on First" at Cecil B. White Center/Montgomery Street Inn?

Sometimes we're so good at providing Outreach services in our community that the group that does it so seamlessly falls off the church's radar, operating independently of the church. This seems to have happened with the group of people who had been providing meals at the Cecil White Center/Montgomery Street Inn. The Social Justice Council is trying to identify the contact person(s) for that group if there is one. Do you know if we are even still providing meals there? Are you part of that Team? Who is in charge? Has it become an Inter-Faith project? Please email **Lucy Proulx** at [socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:socialjustice@sanjoseuu.org) with your answer.

## Cancer Support Available Here at First Unitarian

Has your life or someone you know been touched by cancer? Did you know we have a Cancer Support Group here at church that can help? An informal group of cancer survivors in our congregation offers support through companionship, listening, and resources as other members encounter cancer in their lives or in the lives of their loved ones. Please contact one of the Ministers at the church office for more information, or contact **Jenny Redfern** at 408-782-0833 or [jredfern1@charter.net](mailto:jredfern1@charter.net).

## Emergency Housing Consortium (EHC) "Rivers of Chocolate Festival" April 26

The 13th annual Rivers of Chocolate Festival, a fundraising event for the Youth Division of EHC LifeBuilders, will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2009, from 1-5 pm at the Mountain Winery, Saratoga. EHC LifeBuilders has been helping children, teens, families and homeless persons for nearly 30 years. The Festival is an opportunity for some of the best Bay Area restaurateurs,

Chocolatiers, Wineries and other participants to show off their talent, and enables you to taste some amazing chocolate, pastries, hors d'oeuvres, ice cream, gelato, wine, beer, and spirits—all in support of at-risk and/or homeless youth. There will also be live music, and a live and silent auction. General admission tickets may be purchased at the special "Chocolate Lover's Discount" of \$75 at <http://www.ehclifebuilders.org/roc/>. The estimated received value (in the form of food and entertainment) is \$50. Any additional payment is tax deductible. If you have any other questions, please email [jvanevery@ehclifebuilders.org](mailto:jvanevery@ehclifebuilders.org).

*PS: did you know 55 homeless people died on the streets of Santa Clara County in 2008?*

## Scholarships Available; Apply by March 31

The William and Alice Hinckley Fund, a charitable foundation associated with our San Francisco congregation, awards grants to nonprofit organizations and scholarships for graduate studies in the helping professions. Scholarship applicants must be full time graduate students and permanent Bay Area residents. Applications and a written essay (specifying the financial need and the social/humanitarian impact of your planned career) are due no later than 5 pm on March 31. Further details are on the application form at <http://www.uusf.org/Flame/docs/HinckleyScholarshipApplication2009.pdf>.

## Marriage Equality: March Forth on March 4 & Equality Train on March 5

Marriage Equality Silicon Valley is sponsoring a vigil on Wed., March 4 on the eve of the California Supreme Court's oral arguments on Proposition 8. Bring friends and some candles for a silent vigil for full rights for everyone and equality for all. Join them from 6:30-8 pm at the intersection of Winchester Blvd. and Stevens Creek Blvd. in San Jose. Then, take the Equality Train to San Francisco to watch the California Supreme Court as it hears arguments on the constitutionality of Proposition 8 on Thurs., March 5th. For more information on both events see <http://www.marriageequalitysiliconvalley.org/>.



## Social Justice

Continued from page 4

### Immigration and BGLT Equality, Together At Last

On Thursday, Feb. 12, **Rep. Nadler** and **Sen. Leahy** reintroduced House and Senate versions of the Uniting American Families Act, a bill championed by the organization Immigration Equality. The Uniting American Families Act, of UAFA for short, would address the plight of same-sex binational couples who are unable to be together legally in the U.S. by allowing U.S. citizens to sponsor a same-sex partner for immigration, as married heterosexual couples are able to do. In the House, the bill already has 74 original co-sponsors, five more than it had last Congress. Stay tuned for action alerts to support the bill.

### Former Gang Members Go "Green"

Former felons and gang members in LA are getting solar panel installation training and it's turning their lives around. ABC News' "Good Morning America" has a short segment called "From Gangs to Green Collar" (February 22) that shows this amazing transition from jail cells to green jobs. In it, **Father Greg Boyle** of Homeboy Industries, a California nonprofit that has been finding jobs for ex-cons for over 20 years, relates how they are installing solar panels all over the state using this unique workforce. He says there is a waiting list of over 300 more former felons waiting to take the training classes to become solar technicians. View this segment at <http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=6932000>.

### Stimulus Package's Effect on Affordable Housing

**Saul Wachter** informs us that the recently passed Stimulus Package that **President Obama** has signed into law provides \$1.5 billion for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing through HUD's Emergency Shelter Grant Program, \$4 billion for the Public Housing Capital Fund for renovations, energy conservation and rehabilitation IOF projects, \$2 billion to fund the Neighborhood Stabiliza-

tion Program for Redevelopment of Foreclosed and Abandoned Homes, \$2.2 billion for capital investments in low income housing tax credits, and \$11.4 billion for rural home ownership loans and guarantees. It does not include funding for the recently passed National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, nor any of the needed increase in Section 8 housing vouchers.

The newly enacted Economic Recovery Act does provide resources for homeless prevention and the redevelopment of foreclosed and abandoned homes. A broad housing bill is expected soon from the White House that will include the Trust Fund. For more information on "The Housing Change We Need," see [http://shelterforce.org/article/1239/the\\_housing\\_change\\_we\\_need/](http://shelterforce.org/article/1239/the_housing_change_we_need/).

### New Inter-Faith Project-- Downtown Refugee & Homeless Program to connect with!!

**Pat Plant** of the "Step Up Silicon Valley Campaign" announced that she and her husband, Presbyterians by faith and long-time affordable housing advocates, are moving downtown from Sunnyvale after 30 years to start a "worker house" and refugee and homeless transitional housing apartment building. It will be part of Catholic Charities' Refugee and Homeless Programs. They are looking for volunteers to become part of an inter-faith team to minister to the homeless. For more information contact her at [pat@sanjosepb.org](mailto:pat@sanjosepb.org)

### Social Justice Calendar

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## Third Street Community Center



### Thank You's & Updates

by Rosemary Baez

As usual, I have to start with thanking all the UU's who continue to show a tremendous amount of support for our kids and families! I especially want to thank **Henry Ruddle** for his wonderful design work in our annual report for FY2007-08. There is a team of SJSU student volunteering working on updating our website and the report should be up shortly.

If you've stopped by on a recent Saturday, you may have noticed that our **Robotics Program started**. This year, we have 8 teams ranging from fifth to twelfth grade preparing for the Tech Challenge this year. Kids & youth from San Jose, Cupertino, Campbell, and even Union City are enrolled. In addition, we have many returning Tech Challenge Mentors from MAES, SJSU and Stanford University. Our Robotics Program Closing Ceremony will be on Saturday, May 9 (location TBD). Please let me know if you are interested in attending this so I can place you on a distribution list.

The children from the **After School Academic Program** will be celebrating Earth Day on Thursday, April 23 with a Science Fair. Please feel free to stop by and see their exhibits.

Thank you to everyone who contacted your councilmember to urge them to not divert funding from the City's Healthy Neighborhood Venture Funds away from many nonprofit organizations, including Third Street. For now, it appears these calls, emails, and letters were successful. However, we don't know what the future holds. Please stay tuned because we may need your voice at a future public meeting to make sure our City Council knows that the community does not support eliminating much needed community based programs.

I know this is a tough time for all and your encouragement, service and contributions continue to be very inspirational. ●

**SOCIAL JUSTICE BONUS ARTICLES**

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

**2009 Lobby Day a Huge Success**

**TSSC Parents Join PACT LOC**





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](mailto:dzu@aol.com). Ok, gentle readers, this week:

## Who had sextuplets! And you don't have to pay for them! Or get plastic surgery! Whose mom are we all going to adopt?

### Who is actually paying to endanger wildlife? Who finished a PhD pregnant? Openly?

The **Smith/Hettler-Smith** household has welcomed 6 new lives into the world. **Ditto's** puppies were born early Monday morning, 1/19/09. One boy and the rest are girls. **Lisa** is thrilled because for the first time, their house has more girls in it than boys! It is just a treat to see normally calm, serious people absolutely lose it over puppies. Not that I know anybody besides Lisa like that. See pic.

**Vinny Isola's** mom has a fridge with "Real Food" in it. Real food is one-step food - see it, eat it. She keeps things like already cooked steak, meatballs, and lasagna all the time. Just in case anybody dropped in and god forbid she wouldn't have any food for them. In high school, Vinny asked if he could invite a couple guys from his lacrosse team home for dinner the next night after the game. They and all the rest of both teams plus both coaches and their wives arrived, and they never ran out of food! Ah, Italians!

**Lloyd Eater's** response to "What's new?" is "a dead horse in the bathtub." Apparently memories of college days. He's going to SoCal to swim in the ocean (they do that down there)

in a 1993 wet suit. My son, **Greg Hunter**, reminds me "Mom, when you go in the ocean, you are entering the food chain and you are not at the top." ....**Tim Blackwood's** new scooter is candy apple red. ... **Katy Dawson** is a right thinking Cinequest freak and we'll not see her this Sunday because she's going to 5 or 6 movies the same day. **Dan Zulevic** and I and the **Grovers** will see her there.

**Bob Meiss** is on the staff of Leadership School. Claims to be elated because 17 folks showed up. ....I'm so envious of **Renee Jones** I could bite stuff. She's off to Cabo, and yes, going out in one of the tiny boats to see the whale moms and newborn calves. Jealous, jealous, jealous. The moms used to get between the boats and the babies, but a couple years ago somebody petted a baby jealousjealousjealous, and now all the moms bring the babies over. jealousjealousjealous. I hope she gets seasick. And another cool trip: she has a friend working for NASA and she's going to Florida to the actual Cape to watch a rocket launch - with a NASA pass just like a big shot. She was her usual calm-seeming self even though as she said, she was leaving in 36

hours. Calm, yes, I'm very calm, very calm, very calm why? I'm a nurse; we're always calm, always calm why? Frantic, no not frantic, I'll just clean up these coffee cups and no I'm not frantic; I'm calm, very calm, why? I promised not to tell anyone.

The Tea we held for our Transylvanian friends raised \$1900. 35 people worked on it, and if you were there, you saw the dancing, service, food. What you might not have seen is sticky-fingered **Vicky Merryman**, a vision in pink and red, trying to snatch my even more amazing pink and red purse. You have to watch her.

**Jenny Redfern's** daughter **Joanna** will present a grandchild in 5 weeks. She almost blushed when I asked how much stuff she had bought already. Joanna finished her doctorate while pregnant and nauseated. Jenny says she comes from a long line of tough broads. Ain't we all.

White Light Corner: **Lucy Proulx**, **Patrick Smiley**, **Carolyn Bowman** (broken foot), **Juliana Richmond**, and **Lily Ruddle** (broken arm) this week. ●

## Welcome New Member Jeff Norment

I was born and raised and lived all my life in San Jose. But more than 22 years ago I discovered another place where I feel equally at home, the *tierra de mi corazon* (land of my heart), my wife **Martita's** home town of Uruapan, Michocan in Mexico.

I have been coming to the First Unitarian Church off and on since 2001, but I have known about the Unitarian Church and considered myself Unitarian since the mid 1970s. I was a volunteer doing church services at Agnews

Developmental Center for about 12 years working with and being mentored by the Unitarian Minister **Rev. Charles R "Rick" Carney**.

I have also had experience attending and doing liturgical work and singing in many different religious traditions, especially Methodist and Franciscan/Catholic. From each tradition I have learned a loving humanity. But I have never felt as comfortable participating in worship as I have here at First Unitarian and that is why I wish to finally become an official member. ●

### OPERATION TRAVELING SHOES

**Mary Ellen Rico** is still collecting shoes for people being released from Valley Medical Center's acute psychiatric unit (Barbara Aarons Pavilion or "BAP"), who often come in without shoes on their feet. On their release, these patients need shoes to ride public transportation to get home. Mary Ellen's community project as an Masters of Social Work student is to create a reserve of donated shoes so that discharged patients have an opportunity to start out again from a place of empowerment and self-sufficiency. She'll be picking up your generous donation on March 15 and 22. You can also arrange to drop them off with Ellen. Just email her at [maryerico@aol.com](mailto:maryerico@aol.com) or call 408-279-6944. ●





## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

**15 de Marzo** – 9:30 am

To be announced / Por anunciarse

**March 15** – 11:00 am

### Acknowledging Our Fears and Finding Our Faith

With thousands of workers losing their jobs and not being able to reenter the workforce to find meaningful employment we as a society are running smack up against one of our most insidious discriminations: ageism. The boomers are going bust and there doesn't seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel except the oncoming train carrying our most prevalent fears: betrayal, poverty, abandonment, isolation and loss of power and control.

*What do we behold when we look fear full into the face?* asks David Appelbaum. To find our faith we must face our fear and in the naming remember our essential humanness. Young or old we have an integrity that has value and wisdom that this religious community calls inherent worth and dignity.

After the service there will be a networking opportunity for workers of any age to share their struggles and find support in the pursuit of meaningful work.

Worship Leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Worship Associate: Bob Miess with help from Jerry Cluney and Jean Embree

### Reconociendo nuestros miedos y encontrando nuestra fe

Con millares de trabajadores perdiendo sus trabajos y no logrando entrar a la fuerza laboral de nuevo para encontrar un buen empleo, como sociedad estamos corriendo golpeándonos contra una de nuestras discriminaciones más insidiosas: la discriminación por razones de edad. Los boomers se están quebrando y no parece haber una luz al extremo del túnel, excepto el tren que viene en sentido contrario trayendo nuestros miedos más frecuentes: traición, pobreza, abandono, aislamiento y pérdida de energía y de control. ¿Qué contemplamos cuando miramos cuando vemos nuestra cara llena de miedo? pregunta David Appelbaum. Para encontrar nuestra fe debemos hacer frente a nuestro miedo y en el llamado recuerde nuestra esencial humanidad. Joven o viejo tenemos una integridad que tiene el valor y la sabiduría que esta comunidad religiosa llama valor inherente y dignidad.

Dirige: Rev. Geoff Rimositis; Asociados de Culto: Bob Miess con la ayuda de Jerry Cluney y Jean Embree

**22 de Marzo** – 9:30 am

### La energía de la suficiencia: ¡Somos suficientes!

Esta mañana lanzamos nuestra Campaña Anual de Recolección de Fondos con reflexiones en el “alma del dinero.” ¿Cómo el dinero y el espíritu están conectados? ¿En épocas económicamente difíciles, cómo descubrimos la verdad de que tenemos y somos suficientes? ¿Cómo Jesús alimentó a toda esa gente con tan poca comida? Ven: ¡permitámonos crear nuestros propios “milagros,” basados en tierra sólida!

Dirige: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de los SSM

**March 22** – 11:00 am

### The Power of Sufficiency: We Are Enough!

This morning we launch our Annual Giving Campaign with reflections on the “soul of money.” How are money and the spirit connected? In tough economic times, how do we discover the truth that we have and *we are* enough? How *did* Jesus feed all those people with so little food? Come: let us create our own “miracles,” based on solid ground!

Worship Leader: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Worship Associate: Kelly Burnett and Colleen Cabot ●

## Partner Church Committee Roundup

Our Tea was a great success. We wish to thank the performers who gave of their talent. We wish to thank the cooks who shared their food to provide delicious treats. We wish to thank the people who gave of their labor to prepare the space and serve the food. We give a special thanks to **Jean von Kanel** and **Vicki Merryman** who really mentored us in the process of how to put on a Tea. These people and many more helped to make the event a joyful celebration of our community. In the process, we raised \$1900 to support our village visitors from Homoródszentmárton this summer.

The villagers applied for their visas at the US consulate in Bucharest. All were granted except for **Zita Szasz**. We made an appeal but were denied again. She is on the board for the church and the reasons for denial are generally unclear. We are sorry that the visa was not granted. We will hope there will be a chance for her to travel to visit us in the future.

There will be a total of seven people coming to visit us this summer. **Istvan Bancsi-Rigo** is 3rd year college student majoring in landscape design. Istvan, hosted by **Lisa Hettler-Smith & Gordon Smith**, will be with us from June 19 to August 19. The rest of the villagers will be here from August 5 through August 19. Traveling will be: **Rev. Jozsef Sombatfalvi** and his wife **Erika**, the lay president **Gyula Timar**, and three youth: **Timea Kovacs** (F. Age 17), **Sandor Antonya** (M. Age 16), and **Katalin Jakab** (F. Age 17). We hope we can give our visitors the same hospitality that we were shown on our visit to their home.

In other Partner Church news, we are continuing our village high school student support. Individuals and groups are sponsoring a total of eight students this year. Each student will receive \$300 to help with part of the cost of attending high school.

Finally, Booth Creek® Resorts donated two ski lift tickets in support of our Partner Church. The tickets are good mid week at either Northstar-at-Tahoe™ Resort and Sierra-at-Tahoe® Resort ski resorts. We have one left (\$30). Also Monty Low (snowboard instructor at Sierra-at-Tahoe) is offering private snowboard lessons. Proceeds will go to the villager visit. If you are interested in the ticket or lessons, contact Monty Low (408 348 2778).

Reverend Jozsef informs me that snow has fallen in the village but it has been less than normal. We hope that the congregations in San Jose and Homoródszentmárton will be warm and safe this winter. ●





**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José**  
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Next issue assembly: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

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**Remember to bring your recyclable bottles and cans to help us improve the print quality of this newsletter!**

**For Pastoral Care**

Our community strives to offer compassion, companionship, healing, and joy to all its members. Our pastoral care coordinators can help you find the listening ear or helping hands that you may need in difficult times. For pastoral care in English, please contact our lay Pastoral Associate Coordinator, **Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (home) 408-354-9024; (cell) 408-204-6565; e-mail: [djlenahan@aol.com](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 March 18 and April 15, 2009 issues. Catherine will be editor for the April 1 and May 6, 2009 issues.

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