



Our Church Circular

May 6, 2009
/ 6 de Mayo
2009

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

10 de Mayo — 9:30 am

**Unitario Universalismo:
Nutriendo Nuestra Fe**

En este “extraordinario” servicio multimedia, haremos un viaje imaginario para descubrir cómo el Unitario Universalismo nutre con “justicia, equidad y compasión a las relaciones humanas” (junto con el resto de nuestros principios) en las culturas radicalmente diferentes a aquellas que hemos experimentado aquí en los Estados Unidos. ¿Puede el Unitario Universalismo dar a luz a niños que se reconocerán entre ellos como parientes, incluso a través de diversos escenarios? Las historias son heroicas, y así es nuestro propio viaje. ¿Como con todas las aventuras, la gran pregunta es: ¿Que aprenderemos de nosotros mismos en el proceso? Ven, ven, cual eres ven, nómada y devoto: ¡exploremos juntos!

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

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

May 10 — 11:00 am

**Unitarian Universalism:
Our Nurturing Faith**

In this “extra-ordinary,” multimedia service, we will take an imaginary journey to discover how Unitarian Universalism nurtures “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations” (along with all our other Principles) in cultures radically different from those we experience here in the United States. Can Unitarian Universalism give birth to children who will recognize each other as kin, even across different settings? The stories are heroic, and so is our own journey. As with all adventures, the big question is, What will we learn about ourselves in the process? Come, come, whoever you are, wanderer and worshiper: let’s explore together! We’ll also welcome three new members into our community; please come show them a true FUCSJ welcome.

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

TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS — YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1 PM, SANCTUARY

Town Hall Meeting

The Program and Operations Council brings you two important presentations for your input: the draft of our 2009-10 budget, with all the tough choices that the POC will be wrestling with; and an exciting new plan for Lifespan Faith Development (up till now known as Religious Education), including a change of time for classes! Come hear all about these crucial issues in our life together—and help make these plans even better with YOUR input! ●

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 12:45 PM, SANCTUARY

Congregational Annual Meeting

At this congregational meeting, the Board presents the final proposed budget for 2009-10, and we vote on whether to approve it. We’ll also formally vote to elect Dena Dickinson as our new Financial Officer. (She has been appointed by the Board until we can hold this vote—thanks a zillion, Dena and Board!)

See page 9 for more SUNDAY SERVICES

SAVE THE DATES

May 8, Friday, Annual Church Dinner, Hattie Porter Hall, 6:30 to 9:30 pm

May 17, Sunday, 1 pm, Sanctuary: Town Hall Meeting about budget and Lifespan Faith Development issues

May 17, Sunday, 4:00 pm, Ordination of Nina Kalmoutis, UU Fellowship of Redwood City, 2124 Brewster Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94062

May 25, Monday, FUCSJ Memorial Day Picnic potluck; 11 am - 3pm in Central Park, Santa Clara

May 31, Sunday, 12:45 pm, Sanctuary: Annual Congregational Meeting

June 7, Sunday, 12:30, UU Band of Writers, Youth Room

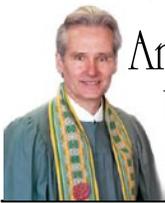
June 14, Sunday, Open-Air Worship Service, 9:15 am, Victory Parking Lot on Market Street between St. John and Santa Clara Streets, where the San Jose Pride Parade starts at 10 am; 11 am, Unitarian Universalist Revival Service, Sanctuary

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

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

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



Articulating Our Unitarian Universalist Faith

By the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

It is funny writing in the past tense for something that hasn't happened yet. I am sitting here at my desk at church wanting to tell you of a song we are going to sing this Sunday that will be history by the time you read this article. We will be singing Harry Belafonte's *Turn The World Around.*" I love this song and really liked it when Harry sang it on the Muppet Show <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2TZhrUT-Xs> . Why don't you treat yourself and watch it? It's glorious good fun!

Harry sings with those marvelous Muppets, a song that was inspired by a trip he took to Africa. In Guinea he listened to a storyteller talk about how the fire (sun), water, and mountains help turn the world around. And if people truly know each other, they turn the world around too. Harry sings that We are of the Spirit, Truly of the Spirit, Only can the Spirit turn the world around.

Well...we want to turn the world around at First Unitarian too! We help it turn around with our work for social justice. We help it turn around with our love and compassion for one another. We help turn it around with our voices, ideas, longings, and our deep connections in worship on Sunday mornings. We turn it around with our children and youth and their families by offering a creative environment for their spirits to grow and flourish and knock our socks off with their wisdom and insight.

We want to turn around the Religious Education Program into Lifespan Faith Development. We continue to educate but we also

empower, transform and equip all of us to turn around our lives and thus turn the world around. We all need to be able to tap into the full power of our spirits, of our creative center, and be able to stand strong and secure in who we are, what we believe, and what we are called to do with our lives. That is faith development!

Please join us on Sunday, May 17, for a town hall meeting after church when we will have a discussion about next year's church budget and also hear and see (via Power Point) a model for Sundays focused on Celebration, Our Sources, Theology, Fellowship, and Service. Imagine opportunities for spiritual practice, pastoral care circles (e.g. prayer circles), adult classes on Unitarian Universalist topics, and children and youth following their bliss and developmental proclivities with opportunities for choice with workshop offerings. Exciting, huh?

We just want to turn the world around! We want our children to be as excited about attending church as their parents who find inspiration and nurturance in worship and connections with like-minded folks. Come and let us begin a conversation about how our Sunday morning programs can bring forth everyone's joyous and bountiful spirit.

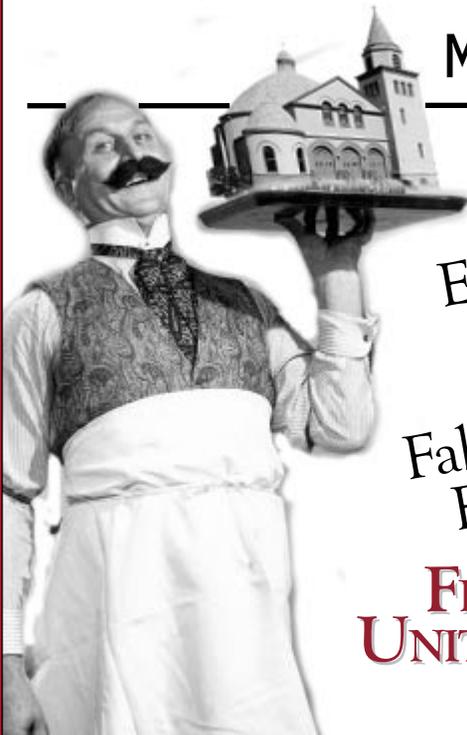
Turn the world around! ●

Lost and Found — Valuable Finds!

Our church Lost and Found has 3 important items belonging to someone out there--car keys, glasses and a leather jacket! There is nothing else in the Lost and Found box because everything collected before these items were found has been taken to the Salvation Army. These things will be taken there as well if they are not claimed fairly soon. Please contact **Iris** at church 292-3858, ext. 21, or fucs@sanjoseuu.org to claim or turn in lost items.

2009 Annual Church Dinner!

May 8, 2009 • 6:30 – 9:30



Exciting Entertainment!

Incomparable Company!

Frolicking Family Fun!

Fabulous Food!

Rollicking Recognition!

Delightful Door Prizes!

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
of San José

No need to RSVP.
Just show up and have fun!

Upcoming Events

MONDAY, MAY 25

Memorial Day Picnic!

Our Church's annual Memorial Day picnic potluck will be held Monday, May 25, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in Central Park, Santa Clara (Kiely Blvd. at Homestead). Please bring food to share and your own plastic ware (plates, cups, forks, etc.). Suggested items to bring according to your last name:

A thru D -- Desserts

E thru H -- Burgers, Hot Dogs, VeggieBurgers

I thru L -- Drinks, Buns

M thru R -- Chips, Dips, Munchies

S thru Z -- Salads

Also bring games - for kids and big kids (adults) - like ring toss, jump ropes, volleyball, flying saucers, etc. Activities will be organized through your efforts. Anyone who wants to help, please call **Dena Dickinson** (265-5919) or email at dickiden@comcast.net.



SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Pride Sunday

The San Jose Pride Parade starts even earlier this year (at 10:00 am) and we're not going to miss it! We will gather in the Victory Parking Lot on Market Street between St. John and Santa Clara Streets starting at 9:00 a., and we will hold an Open-Air All-Are-Invited Worship Service, with singing and Blessing of the Feet, in the parking lot starting at 9:15. **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.

Then, we'll invite all who would like to join us to return to the sanctuary for the 11:00 am service, a rock-the-house Unitarian Universalist revival for all who would like to come back from the parade, and for those who won't be marching.



AUGUST 10 - 15

FUCSJ Senior High Camping Trip

by Colleen Cabot

For UU youth who have or will attend high school in 2009, plus FUCSJ Youth who traveled to Romania in 2007.

The Senior Youth Group will be repeating its favorite trip to the Channel Islands August 10-15. Be sure to sign up for this fabulous trip. Traveling down to Ventura Harbor, we will board a ferry to cross the Santa Barbara Channel to dock in a small bay on Santa Cruz Island, with porpoises surfing our bow waves and maybe seeing whales. Once we carry all our gear into the campground, we'll spend most of the six days snorkeling in the wonderful clear waters and kelp forest in the bay; kayaking around the island and into sea caves; hiking across the island; hanging out in camp (literally, in our nest of hammocks) beading, and getting to know each other. Little wild foxes are our campground hosts! This is an especially good chance for teens who will join the Senior Youth Group in the Fall to meet their peers.

Dates: August 10 to August 15

Contact: Matt Trask, 408-655-1991, matttrask@earthlink.net

Cost: \$200 (Scholarships are available)

Embarkation: Ventura Harbor, Santa Barbara

Destination: Scorpion Valley Campground, Santa Cruz Island, Channel Islands National Park.

Maximum group size will be 24 youth. FUCSJ youth have first priority until June 1. Payment deadline: May 30. Non-FUCSJ youth will need leader approval.

Activities: Crafts, Hiking, Swimming, First Aid workshop, orienteering, kayaking, snorkeling, youth-led classes, music

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the May 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). See you on the trails!

Wednesday, May 6

Calero County Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond at Almaden Plaza Shopping center at 8:30 am or at my house at 8:00 am.

Saturday, May 9

Big Basin Berry Falls hike, 11 miles, moderate. This is a long and beautiful hike. It is not too hard, just long. Plan to get back around 4:00 pm. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, May 13

Saratoga Gap/Grizzly Flat, car shuttle hike, 6-7 miles, moderate. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 16

Sierra Azule, 6-7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond at Almaden Plaza Shopping Center at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, May 20

Huddart County Park, 7 miles. This is the longer hike up to Skyline. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 23

Butano State Park, 9 miles, moderate. This is a longer day due to travel time and pie eating and a trip to Phipps ranch for bean shopping. Plan to get home around 4:30 to 5:00 pm.

Wednesday, May 27

Windy Hill, 7 miles, moderate. This is the longer hike. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

Saturday, May 30

Alum Rock Park, 6 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at VTA Park and Ride on Capital and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.



Religious Education

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

We provide a safe, clean environment in which to support each child in initiating play activities at the developmental level they manifest. Structured activities, games, stories and crafts are a part of the nursery experience. Child Care Workers: Marta Jo Forse & Maria Elena Olvera

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

Special times

May 10 The Gift of Love

May 17 The Gift of Friends

May 24 Fun & Games with Friends

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

A stepping stone year

May 10 Deciding to Cooperate

May 17 Coming-of-Age Sunday – NO CLASSES

May 24 Fun & Games with Friends

6TH-8TH GRADES, CONFERENCE ROOM

Building Assets Together

May 10 Activities include: Celebrities and Newsmakers -- youth will identify positive and negative celebrity and newsmaker role models and Your Relationship Skills - people tend to be good at some relationship skills and not as good at others. Developmental Assets: adult relationships, adult role models,

positive family communication, interpersonal competence.

May 17 Coming-of-Age Sunday – NO CLASSES

May 24 Activities include: Following the Safe Path - youth observe positive and negative peer pressure and My Life This Month - personal goals can be short term or long term. Youth will discuss short-term goals and how to accomplish them. Developmental Assets: resistance skills, sense of purpose, positive view of personal future.

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

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

Coming of age

Saturday, May 9

Reincorporation Ritual for Youth & Parents, 9:30-11:30 am

Saturday, May 16

COA Sunday Rehearsal, 10-Noon

Sunday, May 17

COA Sunday Service, 11 am

Sunday May 17

COA Sunday Dinner & Affirmation Service, 6-8 pm



Rob Aversa-Goodman and friends at the Pacific Central District Coming of Age Retreat at Mt. Madonna County Park, April 17-19.

9TH-12TH GRADES, YOUTH ROOM

Senior High Youth Group

The youth group meets every Sunday after the first part of the service. The youth group provides a safe place for personal sharing and discussion of diverse issues affecting society and youth today.

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

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

Advisor: Pam Pell

SENIOR HIGH (9TH-12 GRADES)

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

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

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Information sent only to the RE Minister.



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

Spirit in Practice – Monthly Adult Program Begins in March

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. ●





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:

Now it can be told: a group of very bad members have escaped once more! **Who has a new body part?**

Those fabulous ladies **Carol Greene**, **Barbara Tonneson**, and **Torchy Hunter** will be holding Open Studios at their studio at Race & Alameda (the largest concentration of artists in this county!) on Mother's Day weekend. They will be sitting, lonely, anxiously, peering down the halls looking for you. Come by a have a drink of cheap wine (artists, remember) and look at their stuff, and at other arty types.

News from Beyond: **Jan Theiss-Guffy** reports, "We just came back from Sierra Vista, Arizona, a trip we got by being the highest bidder at service auction last year. We stayed with **Tina Hemenway's** parents, who are just great people. Sierra Vista is near Tucson, and while there we visited the Saguaro National Park. We noticed that the Saguaro cacti are quite anthropomorphous, and several of them seemed to be sending us the peace. Other interesting facts about the Saguaro: they don't bloom until they're about 55 years old - yay for late bloomers! And they live very long lives, sometimes a couple hundred years."

Colleen Cabot sends this: "My sister is coming to visit in June or early July. Cate has long offered workshops in writing personal memoir for adults and for students, which provides a stirring process of reaching within and articulating personal experience.

The Memoir Writing intensives would not be technical writing workshops, nor focused on the art and craft of editing and publishing per se, but on the act of writing itself and relationship with the creative experience.

She is also a Human Design consultant, drawing on science and esoteric traditions like the I Ching, Biogenetics, Chakra System, The Tree of Life and astrology to offer individual sessions and charts. Human Design gives insight into your predisposition through a clear and graphic chart. Some of its premises

are part of established science, others are from the esoteric traditions of the Kabbalah, the chakras, the I Ching and astrology.

Are you curious? Send me an email at colleencabot@earthlink.net and I can send you specific descriptions of courses offered and prices. And talk to your friends and send any email addresses of people I should share this info with to me."

But They Are Only Little Kids Department: **Connie Bloch's** infant son is considering which high school to choose, and **Susan Burke-deQuisto's** son is said to be graduating. Welcome back, Susan.

While watching the supremely talented **Monty Low** folk dancing, I decided to ask him what in his background led him to folk dancing of all things. His wife **Carol** did. Well, he actually met her folk dancing, dropped it for a while, and the trips to Transylvania reawakened his interest.

Quick Sightings: **Kelly Burnett** is recovering from the implantation of a femoral stent. I have an arterial one, so she and I were discussing how 50 years ago, we'd both be dead. She has new contact numbers: Cell phone: 408-512-7876; Land line: 408-266-7683. **Lisa Hettler-Smith** said the e.e. cummings poem used at the Easter service was also said at her brother's funeral... According to **Liz Owen**, who knows these things, the choir currently has 2 Brits who came to one rehearsal and sang well, and she hopes they return... **Dan Z** congratulated the choir on having every performance better than every rehearsal... **Chris & Crystal Lanier** are forming a band, maybe including Dan Z, who hasn't had one since the other band members left, saying 20 years together was enough, and one of them was the only person who knew all the words to La Bamba... **Michelle Nohavitz** was recovering from flu (not that kind)... **Jeff Norment** adapted

music for the Easter service, saying he's been doing that for 30 years, when he's not being the head of Assessment (Testing) at Evergreen Valley College...

Alice Lynch came very close to being a felon!!!! Along with all the members of the notorious hiking group. You knew they'd get caught sooner or later. This time they were busted for walking on a trail that was clearly marked closed. The ticket was \$245 EACH!! And the nice ranger lady told them she'd bargained it down to an infraction from a FELONY!!!! Who knows how many times these scofflaws have gotten away with these crimes.

Madeline and **Tim Blackwood** stopped by San Jose in between trips, and left the following about UU's in Australia. "We attended a Unitarian Fellowship in Christchurch, New Zealand. That day's topic, "Cricket Theology", was obviously challenging. The speaker took expressions and features of the game such as "it's not cricket" and "bit of a sticky wicket" to spin off some theological remarks. A couple of weeks later, at the Melbourne Unitarian church, we were introduced during the service as coming from First Unitarian Church of San Jose. A woman in the congregation responded that she had been a minister at our church. Her name is **Gretchen Thomas**, and we couldn't wait to talk with her at the coffee hour following the service. We had heard many good things about her and were very pleased to meet her. She had been our RE Minister in the early 90s. She had followed her husband, a native Australian, when his job first took him to Canada and then Australia. We still can't believe that this could happen over 7,000 miles from home."

White Light Department: **David & Lucy Proulx**. Take care, beloved community. These are hard times. ●



Continued from page 1

17 de Mayo —9:30 am

¿Estamos Necesitando Más que Nunca de la Fe?

El mundo esta pasando por una época de crisis en muchos aspectos, en donde los seres humanos no logramos encontrar las soluciones a los problemas a los que nos estamos enfrentando, ¿estaremos perdiendo la fe? Ven y avivemos nuestra fe juntos.

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

Do We Need Faith Now More Than Ever?

The world is experiencing a time of crisis in many ways, in which human beings have not succeeded in finding solutions to the problems which they are facing; are we losing faith? Come and intensify our faith together.

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

May 17—11:00 am

Coming-of-Age Sunday

“Roots hold me close. Wings set me free. Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.” Our year-long Coming-of-Age Program for youth in 8th-10th grades comes to its triumphant crescendo as our eight participating youth share their credos, “belief statements,” with the congregation. With youth from seven congregations in the South Bay, they have participated in three themed retreats and hosted a fund-raiser for Second Harvest Food Bank with their adult mentors. Add your spirit to the celebration and join us for this important milestone in the life of the church and in these young people’s lives.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis; **Worship Associates:** Members of the Coming-of-Age Program.

Domingo de la juventud

“Las raíces me mantienen cerca. Las alas me ponen en libertad. Espíritu de vida, ven a mí, ven a mí.” Nuestro programa a lo largo del año de llegando a la juventud para los jóvenes del 8vo-10mo grado vienen en triunfante crescendo como nuestros ocho jóvenes participantes para compartir sus creencias, con la congregación. Con jóvenes de siete congregaciones del sur de la bahía, han participado en tres retiros temáticos e hicieron un evento de recolección de fondos para el segundo banco de alimentos con sus mentores adultos. Agregue su espíritu a la celebración y únanos para este importante hito en la vida de la iglesia y en la vida de estas jóvenes.

Dirige: el Rev. Geoff Rimositis; **Asociados de Culto:** Miembros de la Programa de la Juventud.

24 de Mayo —9:30 am

Un Paseo por el Baúl de los Recuerdos

Hay una época para cada estación: una época para mirar atrás, una época para mirar hacia adelante, una época para ser arraigado sólidamente en el presente. En este fin de semana del Día de Conmemoración a los Caídos, celebramos los regalos de la memoria en sus numerosas formas. Con un discreto ritual, elevaremos los recuerdos a partir del año pasado que deseamos llevar hacia adelante y liberar a aquellos que ya no están más con nosotros. Unámonos para este servicio dulce y curativo.

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

May 24—11:00 am

A Stroll Down Memory Lane

There is a time for every season: a time to look back, a time to look forward, a time to be rooted solidly in the present. On this Memorial Day weekend, we celebrate the gifts of memory in its many forms. With a gentle ritual, we will lift up the memories from the past year that we want to carry forward and release those that no longer serve us. Join us for this sweet and healing service.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; **Worship Associate:** Bruce Halen.

Sunday Service Tape Recording Status Report

Hi, I’m John Burk. I am your Sunday Service Tape Duplication Committee Chair and Committee. This may be my last communication with you as tape duplicator. Since January 2009, the service recordings are digital, not tape, and we are entering a new age of delivering the services to you in audio. We still need to work out the details on how to provide those new digital service recordings by way of our website, so please be patient and be aware that I am not in charge of that.

A new committee for sound recordings is forming (and I hope they don’t forget me). My hope is that the tape recordings will still be part of this committee.



I will still provide tape duplication for you for any service in 2008 or before, provided we were able to record that service. I will take requests in writing on Sundays after the 11:00 service.

And we can still use volunteers. Many jobs only take 5 to 15 minutes. We need people to collect or organize the Orders of Service to reuse or recycle them after church. We need someone

to set up and take down the Sunday Service Tape Duplication table. Tape duplication itself takes 20-30 minutes once you know how to do it and now that we are only duplicating old services, there won’t be much to do. It’s the perfect job. Right now, we still have tapes to make for Rev. Lilia Cuervo, so she and I could sure use your help. Come talk to me on Sunday, email mus6@aceweb.com or call me at 947-7834. And thank you for the opportunity to serve you. ●





New Member Welcomed

Our new member **Sally Cooperrider** was welcomed into our congregation on Sunday, April 26. She was introduced by Jan Thiess-Guffey. Sally shared this autobiographical material with us.

I grew up in Seattle, with the American Baptist church that we attended being an important part of our lives. I rebelled against it later, and didn't want anything to do with churches for many years. However, I did miss the sense of belonging to a community, as well as the music, and the encouragement to try to be our best selves.



I moved to Santa Clara County with my parents when I was in high school, and have lived in the area ever since, except for two years at Oberlin College in Ohio, where I got a taste of East Coast culture and East Coast weather.

I was married last year to Kaye-Ailsa Rowan. I have two children, Shawna Nixon, who is a member of this church, and Laura Nixon, who has been living in Ecuador for the past 3-1/2 years but is returning this week.

I work as a family lawyer, emphasizing mediation and collaborative law, and I also do estate planning. I like to play my flute and sing, and I volunteer teaching music in a school classroom. I also like gardening, cooking, being with friends, hiking, and bike riding.

I have been coming to this church sporadically for several years, particularly since I met K'Ailsa, and recently have enjoyed coming fore regularly. I'm happy to be in a church family again, and one that works for me. ●

Reflection

Helping Ourselves -- and the World

By Jean Embree

This reflection was offered by **Jean Embree** as part of the March 15 Sunday Service, and afterwards, Jean was asked by several people to share it in print.

Want to try an experiment? Suppose first that you're offered a seat on an advisory panel to discuss a new article or feature in a current U. S. magazine, to be entitled something like "the ages of American women."

The cover the designers show you says "American Women—20s, 30s, 40s, 50 and over." What's your reaction? Do you immediately ask, "How can one age of 50 and over constitute a single group? What do women 50, 60, 70, and 80 have any more in common than those 20 to 40 do?"

Here's another possibility: You're asked to help cast a typical American family for a new TV show. You begin with the children—let's say a toddler, a school-age kid, an adolescent. The parents are in their late 30s. The grandparents (maybe just one) are tentatively cast as either hobbling on canes or providing comedy relief or both, looking "old," whatever that means these days. How do I, age 83, fit into either of these pictures?

Now here are a couple of facts: In 1900, the average U.S. citizen died at age 37. Today we've gained about 40 years—that's more than one whole generation—my generation. How does this "new old" generation fit into the current U.S. culture? We are ignored almost completely in the society, which tends to

divide itself into young, middle-aged, and old. We are quite literally off the charts of the financial planners, ignored by the government, by-passed by the media almost completely, not even considered by employers. Why would a person over 70 want to have a job?

I'll tell you why. I graduated from U.C.

Berkeley, then married and stayed home 16 years to raise 4 children, then ended up divorced in my forties when I went back to college for a teaching degree. The story of my life from ages 18 to 48 is told by Betty Friedan in "The Feminine Mystique." But for my story in what

I think of as the second half of my life, I refer you to her later book, "The Fountain of Age," in which she analyzes the situation I've just outlined and notes what those in my nearly ignored generation need to do about it. We need to re-invent our own lives. Most of us don't have great retirement pensions, but we do still have brains and energy, which the culture does not encourage us to use. Many of us have faithful family members and friends, but even those tend to ask, "When are you going to sit back and relax?" Deep down we wonder whether we really are ready for the rocking chair, but we still hear a voice that says "Why?" We certainly can't live on Social Security, and we'd rather not depend on our younger family members—many of whom are nearing retirement themselves. We want to contribute!

So we're a little miffed at the general cultural atmosphere that ignores what we may still be able to give to society, but we need to realize that we need to avoid being our own worst enemies. Like every disadvantaged minority in U.S. culture, we need to avoid being prejudiced against ourselves. We need to focus on what we CAN do, and then DO it, however many eyebrows are raised around us, and meanwhile try to remind the culture that the year is 2009, not 1909, and the world needs all the help it can get. Maybe we've been granted the extra 40 years for a reason. Yes, we—and the culture—can change. ●



THURSDAY, MAY 7

Women's Alliance

Women's Alliance will have our final meeting of the year at the home of **Jean von Kaenel** on Thursday, May 7 from 7:15 to 9:15 P.M. Please contact Nancy Coleman at 408 985 5778 or nbc Coleman@gmail.com for directions and further information. All are welcome. ●





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

May 7th, Thursday, Bill Wilson Center's 5th Annual Building Dreams Luncheon, Santa Clara Convention Center, Noon-1 pm.

May 8th, Friday, Salvadoran dinner, "Raging Grannies" documentary and a sing-along with the Grannies and with "Annie & The Vets," Teamsters Hall, 1452 N. 4th St., San Jose, 6 pm

May 14th, Thursday, PACT LOC Meeting, Rev. Lindi Ramsden Fireside Room, 7-9 pm.

May 17th, Sunday, JUUST Peace Meeting, Fireside Room, 12:45-2:45 pm

May 19th, Tuesday, Special Election. Please vote!

May 21st, Thursday, PACT LOC Action--Mayor Reed, time/location tbd

May 25th, Monday, Social Justice Council Meeting, Conference Room, 6:30-8:30 pm.

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

Notes:

- See Online Calendar for all FUC-SJ listings at: <http://my.serviceuu.com/public/frame.asp?OrgID=3442&ShowCalendar=True>
- Some articles may not appear in the print edition of the newsletter, so be sure to check the Social Justice BLOG on Church Webpage at: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/> for all announcements.
- Subscribe to YahooGroup For Social Justice News & Events at: sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Support Ethical Eating/Sustainable Living: Two Downtown SJ Farmers' Markets

1) At San Pedro Square on Fridays, 10 am-2 pm (along San Pedro Street between Santa Clara and St. John streets). Along with a variety of fresh seasonal produce, handmade goods, and ready-to-eat fare, averaging more than 40 booths per week, the Farmer's Market features themed activities each month. Call (408) 279-1775 or visit www.sjdowntown.com.

2) At City Hall on Tuesdays, from 3pm-7:30 pm on 5th St. between San Fernando Street and City Hall Plaza. A 12-week pilot project and "Zero Waste" event. Please bring your own reusable shopping bag or basket. You're encouraged to walk, take convenient VTA Public Transit, or ride your bike to their free bike-parking area. If you must drive, they have two-hour parking validation for shoppers only.

"Holy Mackerel!" The Statue of Thomas Starr King is to be replaced with one of Ronald Reagan in the Capitol Rotunda!

In the National Statuary Hall Collection in the Capitol Complex in Washington, D.C., there are statues representing every state. Representing California are Father Junipero Serra and Unitarian minister Thomas Starr King. King was once called "the orator who saved the nation." His statue is getting replaced by the gipper in June! Abraham Lincoln credited Thomas Starr King with his impassioned pro-union, patriotic fiery speeches as the man who brought in and kept California in the union during the Civil War. More at: <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/6116.shtml>.



May 19th Special Election-- Ballot Measure Positions

Absentee ballots were mailed out recently; if you don't vote absentee, we urge you to go to the polls on May 19. This is an important election; it could significantly affect California's future. Please vote! At the last PACT board meeting, they voted to oppose ballot measures 1D and 1E, though many teachers will be supporting them all to avoid deeper school cuts. PICO Calif has done the same. The *San Jose Mercury News* opposes 1D but supports the rest. Cal Teacher's Association and the Chamber of Commerce are the only groups recommending YES on all measures. UULM urges NO on all measures. For a table of UULM and other groups' recommendations on all of the ballot measures, go to: http://www.uulmcaaction.org/documents/legislation/an_may_2009_ballot_measures.pdf

Work2future Summer Jobs for Youth ages 15-24

Work2future is a federally funded program which aims to support summer youth employment programs through Workforce Investment Act Training and Employment Services. Approximately 800 to 1,200 eligible youth, ages 15-24, will be employed for eight weeks of summer. For additional information, please call 408.794.1156.

PACT LOC Needs Your Help

We all want Safe, Vibrant neighborhoods! On May 21st 10 PACT congregations will come together to remind Mayor Reed that he is the Mayor of ALL of us—and that he CAN do something about the horrifying dropout rate, the frightening rise in crime, the desperate foreclosure rate and the unacceptable lack of jobs and job training for our youth. Your LOC has a stake in this action! We need you to help us plan and create a powerful action, and now is the time to start getting commitments from friends, family, co-workers and complete strangers to attend this important event! Contact **Karen Belote** at karenbelote@pactsj.org.



Spotlight on Social Justice, continued

UU World is Finalist for Utne Reader Award

Woo-hoo! The *UU World* (our denomination's magazine at <http://www.uuworld.org/>) is finalist for the *Utne Reader's* 2009 Independent Press Award in the Spiritual Coverage category! The competition is impressive, including such publications as *Parabola*, *Image*, and *Tricycle*. We expect the awards to be announced some time in May. Congratulations to editor Chris Walton, all the staff, and their fine contributors for all your consistently excellent work! More at <http://www.utne.com/Media/Independent-Press-Awards-Best-Magazines-Nominees-2009.aspx>.

Kick off Mother's Day Weekend with the Raging Grannies!

Enjoy a tasty Salvadoran dinner, a new documentary: "Raging Grannies," Q&A with film director Pam Walton, and a sing-along with the Grannies and with "Annie & the Vets" Friday, May 8, 6 pm at the Teamsters Hall, 1452 N. 4th St., San Jose. Plenty of free parking; wheelchair accessible; suggested donation: \$15-25. Reserve your tickets for this San Jose Peace & Justice Center's Annual Spring Fund-raiser by calling them at 408-297-2299.



Affordable Housing Week Lecture Series



The City of San Jose is holding four free lectures on Affordable Housing from May 13th-May 20th. Topics include: Community By Design, Foreclosure Help, Why It's A Good Time To Buy, and One Paycheck Away. Affordable housing is the linchpin to making living costs reasonable, preventing poverty, and keeping communities stable. This topic will be discussed by a panel that will provide a perspective on social equity, policy and the new poverty standard. For times, locations see: http://www.sjhousing.org/program/hb/AHW_5.20.09.pdf.

Bill Wilson Center Luncheon May 7th at SC Convention Center

All are invited to the Bill Wilson Center's 15th Annual Building Dreams Luncheon on Thursday, May 7 from Noon to 1:00 pm at the Santa Clara Convention Center. There is no charge to attend or obligation to give, but they will be asking for donations. RSVP by calling (408) 850-6178 or sending an email to buildingdreams@billwilsoncenter.org. Check-in at 11:30 am, program begins at Noon at the Santa Clara Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A, 5001 Great America Pkwy.

BWC is committed to working with the community to ensure that every youth has access to the variety of services needed to grow to be healthy and self-sufficient adults. More at: <http://www.billwilsoncenter.org/>.

SJ City Council Votes Down Porn Filters at Library

After a year and a half of debate over filtering pornography out of San Jose public library computers, the City Council rejected spending money on the technology. Instead, they will remind computer users of existing policies to be courteous to others. Councilman Sam Liccardo compared filtering to "fighting a global naval strategy by deploying all our ships to Lake Tahoe." More at: http://www.mercurynews.com/topstories/ci_12195045.

UUA Immigration Advocacy

According to a NY Times article, President Obama plans to take on immigration this year. The UUA's May 2009 Action of the Month is "Crash Course for Immigrant Justice." Keep up with news stories relevant to UU immigration advocacy at <http://uua.org/socialjustice/actioncenter/131207.shtml>.

Anti-Bomb Website Launched at Good Friday Demonstration

The Annual Good Friday Demonstration organized by Tri-Valley Cares at the gates of the Lawrence Livermore Weapons Lab—where the DIME bomb was perfected—served as the launching point for the website "Not Another DIME! the Campaign against US Terror Weapons." Check it out at www.notanotherdime.net. Full-color flyers are available for purchase. Contact Marc Sapir MD, MPH, 510-848-3826, marcsapir@gmail.com.

Freedom Summer: A Civil Rights Journey

Please join the UUSC for the Sixth Annual Freedom Summer—Civil Rights Journey, to be held July 11–18. Participants will travel by bus from Atlanta, Ga., to Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery, Ala., tracing the historic steps of the U.S. civil rights movement. For more information, please contact Anna Bartlett at 617-301-4367 or abartlett@uusc.org.

A Small Candle

By Michael Payne-Alex

For the past eleven years I have been leading groups of teenagers from Santa Teresa High School, where I teach, to participate in a phenomenal leadership and communication camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It started as Camp Anytown and then changed to Camp Everytown, but under both names the experience has been transformative for more than five hundred teens and dozen of teachers and police officers. A colleague of mine has written and published a small book entitled *A Small Candle* about the impact of camp on our lives and the lives of our students. The fact that the book's title resonates so strongly with our own chalice is only the tip of the iceberg of connections that this book has to our faith. If you would like to see one way that I have been living my Unitarian Universalist values over the last eleven years, you can purchase or borrow a copy of this wonderful little book. See me in Hattie Porter Hall after church or send me a message at michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com. All profits from the \$10 dollar cost will be donated to help fund future camps for Santa Teresa High. Thank you for your consideration.





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

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Next issue assembly: Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, May 20, 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 May 20 and June 17, 2009 issues. Catherine will be editor for the July 1 and June 3, 2009 issues.

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