



# Our Church Circular

September 2,  
2009 / 2 de  
Septiembre

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

**9:30 a.m.**

Servicios en español

**6 de Septiembre**—9:30 am

### Conversaciones en la Iglesia

¿Como nos comunicamos los unos con los otros? ¿Que tan profundamente podemos hablar entre nosotros? Y eso que decimos, ¿lo reflejamos en nuestras vidas o solamente se quedan como palabras?

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

### Conversations in Church

How do we communicate with each other? How deeply can we talk among ourselves? And what we say, is it reflected in our lives or are they just words?

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

**13 de Septiembre** —9:30 am

### Domingo de Regresar al Hogar!

Necesitamos corazones grandes y mentes abiertas para mantener dibujando el círculo de nuestro amor y de nuestra comunidad, más amplias y aún más amplias. El tema y la práctica de “dibujar el círculo amplio” nos guiará a través del próximo año. Venga, deje que el poder del amor abra nuestras mentes y corazones de nuevo. El círculo seguramente no será completo sin ti y tus amigos! Por favor, traiga una pequeña cantidad de agua que represente sus viajes de verano internos y externos para compartir en nuestra ceremonia anual de agua.

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

**11:00 a.m.**

Services in English

**September 6**—11:00 am

### Honoring the Labor Who Serve Us

This Labor Day Weekend, we honor the invisible service workers and look at different faith perspectives on Worker Justice. Interfaith Council representative Luther Jackson will convey the importance of this topic to our lives today.

Worship Leader: Dena Dickinson, Worship Associate: Bob Owen.

### Honrar el trabajo de quien nos sirve

Este fin de semana de día del trabajo, honraremos el invisible servicio de los trabajadores y consideraremos diferentes perspectivas de fe sobre la justicia de los trabajadores. El Concilio Interreligioso representado por Luther Jackson transmitirá la importancia de este tema para nuestras vidas actualmente.

Dirige: Dena Dickinson; Asociado de Culto: Bob Owen.

**September 13**—11:00 am

### Homecoming Sunday!

We need big hearts and open minds in order to keep drawing the circle of our love, and of our community, wider and wider still. The theme and the practice of “drawing the circle wide” will guide us through the coming year. Come, let the power of love burst open our minds and hearts again. The circle will surely not be complete without you and your friends! Please bring a small quantity of water that represents your summer’s inner and outer journeys to share in our annual Water Ceremony.

Worship Leaders: The Revs. Nancy Palmer Jones and Geoff Rimositis; Worship Associate: Luther Jackson.

See page 5 for more SUNDAY SERVICES

## SAVE THE DATES

**September 3**, Thursday, Women’s Alliance at the home of Jean vonKaenel in Los Gatos, 7:15-9:15 pm. Contact Nancy Coleman at [nbcomeman@gmail.com](mailto:nbcomeman@gmail.com) or (408) 985-5778 for more information.

**September 4**, Friday, 8:00 pm, Dances of Universal Peace, Sanctuary

**September 8**, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, HUUMANIST Group Meeting, Fireside Room

**September 10**, Thursday, PACT LOC meeting, 7:00 pm, at the church

**September 11**, Friday, All-Church Homecoming Party, 7:00-9:30 pm, Hattie Porter Hall, relax and share snacks, music, dancing, chat, and games, suggested donation \$5, sponsored by UUthful Spirits

**September 12**, Saturday, Service is Our Prayer church cleanup day, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm; JUUNTOS/Together Project Meeting, 12:30-2:30 pm, Ramsden Fireside Room

**September 13**, Homecoming Sunday 2009: “Draw the Circle Wide!”

**September 17**, Thursday, 6:30-8:00 pm, special Candlelight Labyrinth Walk

**September 20**, Sunday, 12:30 pm, Congregational Meeting to vote on the ordination of Suzanne Marsh

**October 16-18**, Friday-Sunday, 13th Annual PCD Men’s Retreat, Westminster Center, Alamo, CA

**November 21**, Saturday, 2-5 pm, Labyrinth Guild presentation about labyrinths and walking meditation



# As we build the beloved community...

By the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

## “Draw the Circle Wide!”

“**D**raw the circle wide, draw the circle wide. No one stands alone, we’ll stand side by side. Draw the circle wide; draw it wider still. Let this be our song! No one stands alone. Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide!”

These are the words to a wonderful song, with music by Mark Miller and words by Gordon Light, and I can’t get it out of my head. Sometimes that’s an annoying thing—if I mention “It’s a Small World After All” from the old ride at Disneyland, how many of you will be a little annoyed with me? But to have “Draw the Circle Wide” singing in my heart is a joyous experience. We’ll be sharing this song on Homecoming Sunday, September 13—but more importantly, we’ll be reflecting this year on how we can “draw the circle wide” in our lives.

It’s not that easy, is it? We’ve got to have big hearts and open minds to keep drawing the circle of our community, and of our love, wider still. Each of us has reasons to draw the circle of our friends and the circle of our attention narrower or closer from time to time. Sometimes our healing happens in small ways, in private corners, slowly.

And sometimes the power of love can burst our hearts and minds open all over again. Then the hard-won fruits of our love—compassion, that deep empathy for another’s feelings or situation; and forgiveness, that soul-searching acceptance that every one of us makes mistakes and can strive to set ourselves right again—can grow sweet once more, and our lives expand and deepen.

As I write, some of us have just participated in a week-long spiritual practice called “Here If You Need Me.” Drawing a name at random, we called or wrote to someone in this congregation to say, “I’m here if you need me. If you want to talk, I want to listen. I just want you to know that I care.” When I got my call this week from the person who had drawn my name, I was astonished at the power of these simple words: “I’m here if you need me”—astonished, even though I had proposed this spiritual practice in the first place! What courage it takes to reach out in this way to another person, and what a difference such kindness can make in the everyday ups and downs of our lives. “No one stands alone; we’ll stand side by side.” When we practice “Here If You Need Me” week after week after week, our lives deepen and expand.

Also as I write, some of us will be answering a Call for Commitment by contacting our congresspeople to urge them to pass health care reform—another spiritual practice that embodies our care for

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# Mientras construimos nuestra querida comunidad...

Para la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

## Dibuja el círculo amplio

“**D**ibuja el círculo amplio, dibuja el círculo amplio. Nadie está solo, nosotros estaremos lado a lado. Dibuja el círculo amplio; dibújalo aún más amplio. Deja que esta sea nuestra canción! Nadie está solo. Estamos lado a lado, dibuja el círculo, dibuja el círculo amplio!”

Estas son las palabras de una maravillosa canción, con música de Mark Miller y letra de Gordon Light, y no puedo sacarla de mi cabeza. ¿A veces es una cosa molesta—si menciono “Es un pequeño mundo después de todo” de aquella vieja atracción en Disneylandia, ¿cuántos de ustedes estarán un poquito enojados conmigo? Pero tener “Dibuja el círculo amplio” en mi corazón es una experiencia jubilosa. Nosotros estaremos compartiendo esta canción el domingo 13 de septiembre en el servicio de Regreso al Hogar—, pero lo que es más importante, nosotros estaremos reflexionando este año sobre cómo podemos “Dibujar el círculo amplio” en nuestras vidas.

Esto no es tan fácil, ¿o sí? Tenemos que tener grandes corazones y mentes abiertas para hacer el círculo de nuestra comunidad y de nuestro amor, más amplio todavía. Cada uno de nosotros tiene razones para hacer el círculo de nuestros amigos y el círculo de nuestra atención más estrecho o más cercano de vez en cuando. A veces nuestra curación ocurre en pequeñas formas, en rincones privados, lentamente.

Y a veces el poder del amor puede abrir nuestras mentes y corazones completamente otra vez. Entonces, los duramente ganados frutos de nuestro amor — compasión, esa profunda empatía por los sentimientos o situaciones de otro y el perdón; esa búsqueda interna de la aceptación de que cada uno de nosotros tiene errores y puede esforzarse para poner lo correcto en nosotros mismos nuevamente — puede crecer dulce una vez más, y nuestras vidas se expanden y profundizan.

Mientras escribo, algunos de nosotros sólo hemos participado en una práctica espiritual a lo largo de la semana llamada “Aquí estoy sí me necesitas.” escoger un nombre al azar, llamamos o escribimos a alguien en esta congregación para decir, “ aquí estoy sí me necesitas. Si tú quieres hablar, yo quiero escuchar. Sólo quiero que sepas que me importas.” Cuando recibí mi llamada esta semana de la persona que tomo mi nombre, me sorprendió el poder de estas sencillas palabras: “aquí estoy si me necesitas ” — sorprendida, aunque yo había propuesto esta práctica espiritual en primer lugar! Que valor toma el buscar de esta manera a otra persona, y que diferencia puede hacer tal bondad en los avatares cotidianos de nuestras vidas. “Nadie está solo; estamos en cada lado”. Cuando practicamos “aquí estoy sí me necesitas” semana tras semana, tras semana, nuestras vidas se ampliaron y profundizaran.

También, mientras escribo, algunos de nosotros estaremos atendiendo una Llamada por el Compromiso para contactar a nuestros congresistas a urgirlos a que aprueben la reforma de cuidado de la salud — otra práctica

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# Inviting YOU to Join the JUUNTOS/Together Project!

Gathering on Saturday, September 12, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Ramsden Fireside Room

PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE IS OUR PRAYER DAY, TOO!

Arrive between 9 a.m. and noon, and enjoy lunch for SIOP volunteers, provided by the JUUNTOS/Together Project; then come to the JUUNTOS/Together Gathering.

Dear Friends,  
As part of the JUUNTOS/Together Project, **Roberto Padilla, Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones**, and other FUCSJ members brought to General Assembly in June an enthusiastically received multicultural worship service and a workshop on multicultural congregations, which was based in part on our Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other retreats last spring. The JUUNTOS/Together Project was part of a new and greater focus on multiculturalism throughout General Assembly.

Back home, we want to take that energy and deepen the connections among the Spanish-Speaking Ministries, the rest of our congregation, and the wider Unitarian Universalist community. We need broad participation from the entire congregation to realize this goal.

It's time to widen the circle, so on Saturday, September 12, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., please come to JUUNTOS/Together Gathering to find out how you can contribute. Our current plans include documenting our Conociéndonos/Getting to Know Each Other retreats for other congregations, contacting other UU churches to build partnerships, and writing a UU World article. These things can only happen if we support this effort as a whole church.

If you believe in building a multicultural antioppressive community, please come learn what you can do to take us further down the road.

RSVP to **Madeline Morrow**, [madelinemorrow@earthlink.net](mailto:madelinemorrow@earthlink.net), if you will be coming. We need your ideas and your energy! ●

## Beloved Community, continued from page 2

each other and for people whom we have never met. All of our work for justice, all of our work to build a beloved community of acceptance for all, are ways to "draw the circle wide," to expand and deepen our lives.

Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7rSxdCQVdM> if you'd like to hear "Draw the Circle Wide" sung by the Young Person's Justice Chorale in Washington, D.C. Better yet, join us at FUCSJ for Homecoming Sunday, September 13! You can join the Massed Choir for Homecoming by showing up for choir rehearsal on Wednesday, September 9, from 7 to 9 p.m.

"Let this be our song! No one stands alone. Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide!"

With much heart and hope,

Nancy ●

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

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# Invitación para que se unan al proyecto de JUUNTOS/Together!

Reuniéndonos el sábado 12 de Septiembre de 12:30 a 2:30 p.m., en el Ramsden Fireside Room.

¡POR FAVOR, SEA VOLUNTARIO PARA NUESTRO DÍA DE EL SERVICIO ES NUESTRA ORACIÓN TAMBIÉN!

Llegue entre 9 a.m. y medio día, y disfrute del almuerzo para los voluntarios de ESENO, Proporcionado por el proyecto de JUUNTOS/Together; Y luego vengán a la reunión JUUNTOS/Together.

Queridos amigos -  
Como parte del proyecto JUUNTOS/together, **Roberto Padilla, la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones** y otros miembros de la FUCSJ concibieron en la Asamblea General en junio un servicio religioso y un taller sobre congregaciones multiculturales los cuales fueron recibidos con entusiasmo, los cuales estuvieron basados en parte en nuestros retiros Conociéndonos/ Getting to Know Each Other en la primavera pasada. El proyecto JUUNTOS/together formó parte de un nuevo y mayor enfoque sobre el multiculturalismo en toda la Asamblea General.

Regresando a casa, queremos tomar esa energía y profundizar las conexiones entre el Ministerio en español y el resto de nuestra congregación, así como con el resto de la comunidad Unitaria Universalista. Necesitamos una amplia participación de toda la Congregación para alcanzar este objetivo

Es hora de ampliar el círculo, entonces, el sábado 12 de septiembre, de las 12:30 a las 2:30 pm. por favor, vengán a la reunión de JUUNTOS/together para encontrar cómo usted puede contribuir. Nuestros planes incluyen documentar nuestro proceso del retiro Conociéndonos/ Getting to Know Each Other para otras congregaciones, contactando a otras congregaciones, contactando a otras iglesias UU para construir alianzas y escribir un artículo para el UU World. Todo esto ocurrirá si nosotros apoyamos este esfuerzo como una sola iglesia.

Si usted cree en la construcción de una comunidad anti-opresiva y multicultural, por favor, venga a aprender lo que puede hacer para llevarnos aún más lejos por este camino.

Por favor Reserve a la Mayor Brevedad su asistencia con **Madeline Morrow**, [madelinemorrow@earthlink.net](mailto:madelinemorrow@earthlink.net), si usted desea acompañarnos. Nosotros necesitamos de sus ideas y de su energía. ●

## Querida Comunidad, viene de la página 2

espiritual que encarna nuestro cuidado para los demás y para las personas con las que nos no hemos reunido nunca. Todo nuestro trabajo para la justicia, todo nuestro trabajo para construir una comunidad amada de aceptación para todos, son maneras de "hacer el círculo amplio," para ampliar y profundizar nuestras vidas.

Ve a <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7rSxdCQVdM> si te gustaría escuchar "Dibuja el círculo amplio" cantado por coro Justicia de la persona joven en Washington, D.C., mejor aún, únete a nosotros en la FUCSJ para el domingo del Regreso al Hogar, el 13 de septiembre! Te puedes unir al coro para el regreso al hogar presentándote para el ensayo del coro el miércoles 9 de septiembre, de 7 a 9 p.m. " Hagamos ésta nuestra canción! Nadie está solo. Estamos en cada lado, dibuja el círculo, dibuja el círculo amplio! "

Con mucho corazón y esperanza,

Nancy ●



Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José • Page 3

# Partner Church Members Enjoy a Successful San Jose Visit!

By Connie Bloch

We got word from Rev. Jozsef: All the villagers arrived home safely in Homorodzentmaron, Romania, and send their thanks for a great visit!

We had a great time with our Partner church visitors for two weeks this August, and many thanks go to the many folks from our church that made the visit possible, and so memorable. As those of you who attended our events or church with them know, the trip included **Rev. Jozsef** and his wife **Erika**, church president **Gyula, Ishtvan**, and three high school students.



was signed by many from our church and given to our guests as a memento of their visit.

Many thanks to Pam Price, whose Monterey contact provided 14 passes to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Pam also provided equipment and time for the visit to Yosemite.

We wish to acknowledge Gage Stueve who gave us a 2-hour tour of the Stueve Organic Dairy, which produces for the Organic Valley label. We would also like to thank Guillaume Chartier, who took us on a tour of Pixar Animation Studios. A big high five goes to Matt Trask and high school camp-out crew for their wonderful hospitality on Santa Cruz Island.

All our events and travel with our visitors were a lot of fun and brought out more people than we had planned, needing more tables to be set up. **Crystal** and **Chris Lanier** extended their family birthday party at Sunset Beach in Watsonville into the afternoon to help welcome our church and our guests for a picnic, beach fun, and bonfire.

The end of the two-week visit for the Travelers came all too quickly. It left many at the Farewell dinner asking, "What is next?" Of course; planning for our visit to St. Martins in the summer of 2011! Beyond that, we are expanding our scholarship program for High School youth from our Partner church village.

**Claire Wagner** asked, "What about inviting youth here for a longer visit, like 6 months, for a foreign exchange student program?"

Our partners said they will take back what they have learned to their village. Of course, a 2-week visit is very brief. Ishtvan, sponsored by **Lisa Hettler-Smith and Gordon Smith**, was able to stay over two months, and learned much more in the landscape architecture and permaculture field he is studying in college. Our partner church continues to work on restoring and maintenance of their church buildings and the conference center with money we have donated.

Of course, Monty was the glue and everything else that made the trip possible and kept everything working well. I hope I haven't left anyone out, but with a trip of this size, it is difficult to acknowledge everyone who helped in big and small ways throughout the planning and the visit. Believe me, it has really helped our Partnership with our brothers and sisters half way across the world, and continues to deepen our connections.

We hope that more of you will work with us as we continue the Partnership with our Transylvania friends, and our partnership continues to grow. If you are interested in sponsoring a student in his or her high school studies in Romania, our trip in 2011, or want to become involved in our committee, please email [Connie.Bloch@yahoo.com](mailto:Connie.Bloch@yahoo.com).

From the beginning, planning such an ambitious trip was only possible because of the support of our ministers, Nancy and Geoff, and our church board and many others.

The host families included **Geoff Rimositis, Jan Theiss-Guffey and Jim Guffey, Madeline Morrow and James Rumbaugh, Karen and Emma Schuler, the Trasks, the Laniers and Rob and Eleanor Strong**.

During their time here, we traveled with our visitors to San Francisco, Yosemite, Sunset Beach and the high tech sites of Silicon Valley. Also, the youth visited the Channel Islands while the adults locally toured Monterey and San Jose.

Thanks so much to those who made the visit possible, starting with the folks who donated their frequent flyer miles, and all of those who donated money before and during the visit. We had help on the pool party, welcoming potluck, and farewell dinner from **Nancy Hada, Genie Bernadini, Nancy and Alec Coleman, Mary Martin, Jean Embree, Pam Price, Bob and Carole Roszkowski**, and Rob Strong really helped as the clean up crew. **Monty Low, Jim Rumbaugh, Pam Price, and Tracy Advent** were great drivers for the group. Vinny Isola took a wonderful photo of our church and congregation with our visiting guests that

## Silent Auction Input Needed!

by Jan Theiss-Guffey

Hi friends! I'm in charge of the Silent Auction, tentatively scheduled for January 9th. I want to make this Silent Auction the most fun and successful auction we've ever had, and that's a tall order! I need everyone's ideas about what items or services you would most like to want to bid on in the Silent Auction.

Please meet with me at 10:00 am, Sunday, September 6th, in the Classrooms 3 and 4, or Monday, Sept. 7, at 7:00 pm, in the Church Office Conference Room. If you can't make either of those times, please email me your suggestions at [jantg@yahoo.com](mailto:jantg@yahoo.com).





## An Overlooked Treasure!

by Genie Bernardini

Most of us probably take for granted the labyrinth at our feet every Sunday morning, but for many in the community who have come to walk it at midday, it has had great spiritual meaning. Over and over, visitors have written in the guest book of their gratitude for this beautiful, quiet space being available in the midst of the bustle of city life. Often they speak of having gained new insights or spiritual healing by following its winding paths in silent meditation.

The lovely patterns the sun makes through the stained glass windows, the strains of beautiful sacred music playing in the distance and the welcoming smiles of the Labyrinth Host can make this a most memorable experience.

If you have not used the labyrinth in some time, we urge you to try it out some Sunday after church. Or you are welcome to come walk during the week, Wednesday-Friday from 11:30am-1:00 pm. And if you'd like to be a Labyrinth Host, please contact **Karen Harper**, [owlharper@gmail.com](mailto:owlharper@gmail.com).

### Candlelight Labyrinth Walk

A special candlelight evening walk is held the third Thursday of every month from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The Labyrinth Guild would like to announce that at the upcoming Thursday, September 17th Candlelight Labyrinth Walk, Frank Farris will sing and be accompanied by Patrick Smiley on harp. ●

#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

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

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

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**20 de Septiembre** —9:30 am

**JUUNTOS/Together: Ven, Ven, Qual Eres, Ven**

En Asamblea General en Salt Lake City este verano pasado, la Rev. Nancy y Roberto Padilla el coordinador de los ministerios en español reflexionaron ante cientos de UUs de todo el país, lo que es vivir, trabajar, jugar y adorar *juntos*, together, en una comunidad multicultural. Este domingo, traemos esta experiencia a casa, compartiendo nuestras reflexiones teológicas en formas nuevas y con música para levantar el gran domo de nuestro Santuario. Ven, ven, cual eres ven!

**Dirigen: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y Roberto Padilla.**

**September 20**—11:00 am

**JUUNTOS/Together: Come, Come, Whoever You Are!**

At General Assembly in Salt Lake City this past summer, Rev. Nancy and Spanish-Speaking Ministries Coordinator Roberto Padilla reflected before hundreds of UUs from across the country on what it is like to live, work, play, and worship *together*, juntos, in multicultural community. This Sunday, we bring this experience home, sharing our theological reflections in new ways and with music to lift the great dome of our sanctuary. Come, come, whoever you are!

**Worship Leaders: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and Roberto Padilla.**

## Church Office Manager Position Open

**Position: Office Manager, part-time (21 hrs/wk) for First Unitarian Church of San José**

**Position Summary:** The Office Manager is responsible for the smooth functioning of the office of a busy church located in downtown San José. Duties include greeting visitors, handling the phones, managing the office e-mail, maintaining membership data base, supervising the custodians, managing the administrative budget, coordinating aspects of church finances with the bookkeeper, maintaining an orderly office and filing system, preparing the weekly Orders of Worship and Announcements, updating the church calendar, maintaining and coordinating the church building-use calendar, supporting the professional staff and church lay leaders, and coordinating the work of church office volunteers.

**Qualifications:** The ideal candidate for First Unitarian's Office Manager has strong office management skills, including

expertise with Word and Excel, and is willing to learn our specific church database software. The Office Manager must be a friendly, genuine person who can deal with a variety of people with the utmost grace and respect, a person who thrives in an office that serves a highly diverse community, from Silicon Valley engineers to homeless individuals, elders and children, gay and straight, Spanish and English speaking. The Office Manager must be a team player with a sense of humor and a flexible, outgoing personality; he or she is sympathetic with Unitarian Universalist principles and philosophy (but does not need to be a member of a Unitarian Universalist church). Being willing and available to work an occasional Sunday is required. Fluency in Spanish is a definite plus but is not required.

**Education and Experience:** Bachelor's degree and at least 5 years' experience in office management.

Send resúmenes to [uuvppersonnel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uuvppersonnel@sbcglobal.net). ●



# Lifespan Faith Development

## 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

## Youth Group Activities

Staff: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

### JUNIOR HIGH (6TH-8TH GRADES)

Advisor: Pam Pell

The Junior High Youth Group meets the first Friday of the month for social and fun activities.

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

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

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

## Lifespan Faith Development

### Begins September 20th

#### THE ARTS & SPIRITUAL PRACTICE — KINDERGARTEN-5TH GRADE (Lower Level, Classrooms 2-6)

We want our children to embrace the fullness of their developing spirituality, feel the awe and wonder of human existence, ponder the great questions of life and meaning faced in every religious tradition, and tap into their own expressions of joy, love and compassion. We want them to be fully engaged in life and be creators of beauty and celebrants of wonder. We want them to be at the heart of our community life—and that is when we come together for worship. It is in worship that we sing our heart's song, raise up our cherished values and principles, mourn and celebrate, and energize our spirits to be our best selves as we work for the common good.

Unitarian Universalism calls us to study our lives and in a creative interchange with life come to know who we are, what we believe, and how best to put those beliefs into action.

Each Sunday children in kindergarten through fifth grade will have the opportunity to choose a path in music, drama, art, or games.

They will stay with their path (track) for the day but can choose a different path the following Sunday.

Each month we will have a Celebration Sunday when the whole community will worship together at 11:00 am. The children in the weeks leading up to Celebration Sunday will have been preparing the gifts they will offer the community at the 11:00 am service. They will create the chancel decorations, perform the special music and tell the story for all ages with skits, chancel dramas, and embodied experiences for the whole congregation.

Our children will get the opportunity to feel the power of worship at the heart of community life. It is from here that they will learn what the essence of Unitarian Universalism is as spirits are affirmed and relationships are deepened.

#### September 20 - Program begins

#### September 27 - Art, Drama, Stories and Games

#### October 5 - Celebration Sunday (no classes)

#### MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE-ASSET BUILDING ACTIVITIES TO HELP TEENS EXPLORE DIVERSITY — GRADES 6TH-8TH (Lower Level, Conference & Meditation Rooms)

Activities in this class will help youth develop their skills as competent global citizens, able to understand many of the issues surrounding diversity and culture. The goal is to raise the level of awareness about several diversity issues, while also giving youth an opportunity to pause and reflect on their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The purpose of these activities is not to promote any particular idea, value, or point of view, but to give youth the opportunity to develop greater understanding about the variety of issues surrounding diversity. They will learn about the broad definition of diversity that includes gender, age, religion, race, physical abilities, appearance, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

September 20 - Program begins

September 27 - Class Continues

October 5 - Celebration Sunday (no classes)

#### SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP — GRADES 9TH-12TH (Youth Group Room)

The senior high youth group meets weekly from 11:30-12:30. The group offers its members a safe place to share their lives and find support and friendship among open minded and loving peers. The group engages in discussions about issues relevant to youth's lives and communities. They plan social and service projects throughout the year. And they participate in youth conferences in area Unitarian Universalist churches under the auspices of the Pacific Central District of Unitarian Universalist Congregations and Y.R.U.U. (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists). The youth group's empowering philosophy educates youth to be leaders within the group, church community and denomination.

September 20 - Program Begins

September 27 - Youth Group Continues

October 5 - Celebration Sunday (no classes)

#### GRADES 7TH-9TH

#### OUR WHOLE LIVES: SEXUALITY EDUCATION BY PAMELA WILSON, M.S.W. Class Begins September 13 (Ramsden Fireside Room)

Our Whole Lives is based on the philosophy of comprehensive sexuality education, which helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, comprehensive sexuality education provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but also helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, social, and political aspects of sexuality as well.

Comprehensive sexuality education has been shown to be effective. A review commissioned by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, released on October 22, 1997, concluded that quality education about sexuality and/or HIV helps to delay first inter-

Continued on page 7



course and protect sexually active youth from STDs, including HIV, and from pregnancy. The review also concluded that responsible and safe behavior can be learned, that sexuality education is best started before the onset of sexual activity, and that sexuality education does not encourage increased sexual activity.

### Our Whole Lives offers:

- up-to-date information and candid answers to all participants' questions
- activities to help participants clarify values and improve decision-making skills
- effective group building to create a safe and supportive peer group
- education about sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment
- opportunities to critique media messages about gender and sexuality
- acceptance of diversity
- encouragement to act for justice
- trained leaders
- required parent orientation programs that engage parents in the sexuality education of their children
- UU materials that incorporate worship and religious values

Youth who sign up for this program must agree to attend all sessions. Our Whole Lives depends on the consistency of youth attendance because so much of the program is based on the trust that grows with improved communication skills. Irregular attendance erodes trust and the formation of community that enables youth to get the most out of the program.

**September 13, Sunday, 2:30-5:30 pm** — Introduction to the Program/Examining Values

**September 19, Saturday, 3:30 pm-September 20, Sunday, 6:30 pm** — Overnight Retreat

(Youth will stay over at the church on Saturday and then move to a yet to be determined location for Sunday.)

TOPICS: Sexual Language, Anatomy & Physiology, Personal Concerns about Puberty, Understanding Gender Roles, Disability and Other Diversity Issues.

OWL Parent Group will meet at the church from 1:30-3:00 on Sunday, Sept. 20. ●

# News from Third Street Community Center

By Rosemary Baez

**Youth Programs** - Third Street is all set for a new and exciting year for our After School Academic Program (ASAP).

Returning from last year are Blanca Barraza and Horace Bean as well as two former Ameri-corps members **Timothy Ho** and **Masaki Takeda**. **Blanca, Horace** and **Tim** will be our Academic Instructors. Masaki is our new Science & Technology Instructor. We also have a former volunteer, **Rudy Suarez** joining us as our Health & Fitness Instructor. Our newest member, **Alma Caravarin**, was involved with the Summer of Learning Program and will be staying on as an Academic Instructor for our 2nd grade class. This year, we are extending our hours of operation by ½ hour (to 6 pm) in order to better serve our English Language learners with small group and one-on-one tutoring, to strengthen our science instruction, and to implement a new fitness component to help reduce the likelihood of obesity in Latino youth.

**Adult Programs** - Our English as a Second Language (ESL) and computer classes start the week of September 14. Classes will be held Monday through Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We are in need of ESL instructors who can make a 6-week commitment, two times per week.

This fall, we are also offering a Yoga Class for Women on Thursday evenings. This class is designed for Latinas and will very likely be held in Spanish. **Estela Cardona**, a volunteer yoga instructor, will be leading this class. If you speak conversational Spanish (basic) and are interested in forming friendships with Third Street women, you are welcome to join us and put your Spanish to

work! A donation of \$10 is recommended for this 8-week series. Please contact Rosemary at [rosemary@3street.org](mailto:rosemary@3street.org) for more information.

If you are interested in volunteering for ASAP or teaching an ESL class, please contact Nalleli at (408) 295-8722 ext. 303 or by email at [Nalleli@3street.org](mailto:Nalleli@3street.org).

### Leading Strong & Healthy Lives Initiative ~ Una Vida Fuerte y Sana

The Third Street Community Center is starting a new program focused on improving the fitness levels and healthy food choices of older adults ages 60 plus. Activities include nutrition

workshops, cooking classes, walking & hiking groups, and yoga classes. Activities will take place Tuesday through Thursday and some Fridays from 9 am to 1 pm. This initiative is funded through a grant from

the City of San José Healthy Neighborhoods Venture Fund and is focused on providing Latino seniors options for maintaining healthy lifestyles. Because of this focus, some activities like the nutrition workshops and cooking classes will be offered only in Spanish. Staff will assist with translation into Spanish for the morning yoga classes. When space permits, adults under the age of 60 are welcome to participate. When possible, we are recommending that adults bring their parents (seniors) or other older adult relatives to help turn this into a multi-generational program.

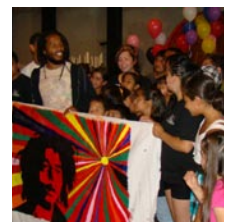
Our Community Educator, **Vanessa Alcantar**, will be coordinating all senior activities and **Shirley Worth** will also be joining our team as our morning Yoga Instructor. If you have any questions regarding this new program, please contact Vanessa at (408) 295-8722 or by email at [Vanessa@3street.org](mailto:Vanessa@3street.org). ●



### Highlights from the 2009 Summer of Learning Program



Meeting author and Professor Francisco Jimenez at a tour of Santa Clara University



Thanks to the Mountain Winery Kids Foundation, children got to meet Ziggy Marley after a concert and presented him with a canvas painting they created.



## Upcoming Events

### Come to the All-Church HOMECOMING PARTY in Hattie Porter Hall

**This Year's Theme: RELAX!**

Friday, September 11, 7 to 9:30 pm, let's start the church year with spiritual balance and fun! Come relax and spend an evening with the community, sharing fun activities for all, as well as snacks, music, dancing, and quiet spaces for conversation and board games. If you like, please bring some finger food, a board game, and/or music CDs to share. \$5 suggested donation, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds! Organized by UUthful Spirits, our age-centered but age-inclusive group of lively young adults. We'll see you there! ●

### Service Is Our Prayer Workday September 12

Come one, come all! Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, we'll have our quarterly Service is our Prayer work party at the church. No special skills are needed to join the fun! We'll meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am 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 for a couple of hours - any assistance is appreciated! Please contact **Bob Howd** or **Patrick Myers** if you need additional information. [bhowd@aol.com](mailto:bhowd@aol.com), [jpatrickmyers@yahoo.com](mailto:jpatrickmyers@yahoo.com). Also See JUUN-TOS Project article on Page 3 ●

### Meg Bowman's 80 Birthday Party July 26, 2009



### Congregational Meeting Sunday, September 20

There will be a congregational meeting right after church on Sunday, September 20 for the sole purpose of voting on whether or not to ordain our own Suzanne Marsh as a Unitarian Universalist Minister. Suzanne was a committed member of our church when she received the call to become a UU minister. She has completed all the requirements that have been established by the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee and has accepted settlement as an Associate Minister for the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Committee on Ministries and the Board of Directors urge you to come and add your voice to this wonderful opportunity for our church and for Suzanne. ●

### UUA-PCD Men's Retreat

The 13th Annual PCD Men's Retreat will take place October 16-18 at the Westminster Center in Alamo, California. This year's theme, Happiness, will be explored through experiential workshops and kinship groups, examining what happiness means to each individual, what obstacles are in the way, and "how to get there from here," along with the ever-popular No Talent Show on Saturday night. For more information, contact **Harry Mersmann** at [pcdmenstretreat@gmail.com](mailto:pcdmenstretreat@gmail.com) ●

### Fireside Gift Faire Vendors Wanted

The Fireside Gift Faire, our church's annual fund-raiser and celebration of holiday warmth, is seeking artsy and crafty people to be vendors. The fair, on Sunday December 13 from 11 am to 3 pm, features original, handmade items, no imports or mass-produced items. Tables start at \$30 and can be shared. Vendors need a California Sellers' Permit, which is free and easy to obtain. For information, please e-mail **Cecilia Deck** [ceciliadeck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ceciliadeck@sbcglobal.net). ●

### Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker at UUSM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, SERVICES AT 9:00 AM AND 11:15 AM, BOOK SALE AND SIGNING AT 10:15-11:00 AM

Come join us for a special service and book signing with the Rev. Parker, President of Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley and one of our foremost theologians. She recently published an amazing book (with co-author Rita Nakashima Brock) entitled *Saving Paradise: How Christianity Traded Love of This World for Crucifixion and Empire* that profoundly challenges all that we know about Christianity. For more info: [office@uusanmateo.org](mailto:office@uusanmateo.org) or 650-342-5946 x 11. The Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo address is 300 E. Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401. ●

### Ready to Try Out Circle Suppers?

By Barbara Derbyshire

Circle Suppers offer an opportunity for church members to share a potluck in members' homes. The mix of people is different each time. People who attend have found this to be a good way to get to know others within the church community. Everyone on the Circle Supper list receives an email each month with the dates of the coming suppers. Some people participate regularly and others attend just occasionally. If you would like to join this program or if you have questions, please contact me at: [CircleSuppers@aol.com](mailto:CircleSuppers@aol.com).

Ready to give it a try this month? The suppers this month will be Friday, September 18 and Saturday, September 19. If you would like to attend, please send an email before Monday, September 7. Be sure to include your name(s) and a phone number. I will email details about your group, host, and food assignment by September 9. ●

### MOVED RECENTLY? CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER(S)? HAVE A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS?

Help us keep your information up to date in the church database and, if you are a member, with the UUA to ensure your UUWorld magazine gets to you. Email your address or contact information changes to Susan Burke-Diquisto at [sbdq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbdq@sbcglobal.net) and she will ensure the changes are made. ●







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 [torchy.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:torchy.hunter@gmail.com). Ok, gentle readers, this week:

## Who is beset by demons? *Who got married at 8 years old?* Where can you catch a glimpse of the Campbell version of the Algonquin Round Table? *Where is the item you sent?*

**B**eset by Demons!!! New ones! Electronic ones! My AOL email account has been overtaken by them so my new address is [torchy.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:torchy.hunter@gmail.com). But my PC is now insisting it has to be fed cookies before showing me the mail. Beset on all sides. Not besotted, even a little. The point of all this is all the info you have so charmingly sent to me at my old address is frozen in their universe and I don't know what it is.

Here's something I know: **Genie & Gene Bernardini** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 22. You see, she was a resident of some southern state where there is no age of consent, so she was married at 8. Explains everything.

**Bruce Halen** sent me something about a bike race or a marathon thing, also embedded. But I'll print it if it ever is rescued.

I talked to **Joy-Ellen Lipsky** about what most impressed her at GA and she said the passion everybody had. The infectious passion... **Suzanne Marsh** said GA had one hundred times more community feeling than ever. She has a Preliminary Fellowship in Harrisburg PA. When I grimaced about a government town, she said, "but it's near

Philadelphia..." **Kelly Burnett** just had a birthday... I'm always pretty glad to notice birthdays, given the other option.

**Know Your Editors: Sherry Howd** followed hubby Bob to MIT after college and got a job as a secretary in a marketing firm, which she thought was fun but not as much fun as working for Control Data, who hired her because she knew an aboriginal language called Fortran. She worked at Tandem with **Pat Rodgers** in the Beer Bust days. But she has this peculiar personality trait: if you tell her you'll see her in five minutes, she'll look at her watch, which met with amazed laughter from me and from **Catherine Leeson Pelizzari**. She also admits to cleaning her house before going on vacation, even if for 24 hours.

If any of the rest of you do this, do not tell me about it. I clean if somebody's coming over.

Editorial lunches are held on the 4th Wednesday at Panera Bread in Campbell, if anyone wants to come. Usually there are 3 or 4 of us and we discuss the vital issues of the

day: movies, novels, fashion, and gossip. But last week **Henry Ruddle** showed up and we discussed points of religious belief, the origin of the cosmos (not the flower), and then he and the others started discussing policy!! Can you imagine? At lunch? I promptly left, not wishing to be tainted by anything so vulgar.

Speaking of the verbose Henry, he has been writing articles about "Liberal Religion and

Spirituality" for Examiner.com. <http://www.examiner.com/x-19918-San-Jose-Liberal-Religion--Spirituality-Examiner>

It has come to my attention that certain of us do not actually read *the Circular*, or even this column! They simply scan it for their own name. I have decided to foil this practice by embedding

certain names **bobowen** in the regular text.

I will struggle hammer and tongs with my electronic demons (I take drugs for the other kind). Please keep sending me stuff to feed them. ●



Catherine Leeson, editor; Gretchen Levitt, assembly coordinator; and Sherry Howd, editor emeritus, at the monthly Circular staff meeting at Panera Bread.

## UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

**H**ello Hikers, here is the September hiking schedule. Be sure to call if you want to hike unless you are a regular, then let me know if you are not coming. Only big rain storms cancel hikes. In case of rain, call the morning of the hike to find out if we are changing the venue to the Stanford dish or if the hike is cancelled. My home phone is 408 730-1052 and cell is 570-7052. Use my cell phone after 7:30 am. All other times use my home phone. See you on the trails!

**Sat., September 5**  
Joseph Grant County Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at the VTA Park and Ride on Capitol at Alum Rock across from cemetery at 8:00 am.

**Wed., September 9**  
Sanborn County Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at Downey Bank Parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

**Sat., September 12**  
No hike planned; there is a work day at the church.

**Wed., September 16**  
Portola Redwoods State Park, 7 miles, moderate.

This is a longer day due to travel time. We will get back around 2:30 pm. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

**Sat., September 19**  
Sunol Regional Park. We will do McGuire peaks trail, 6 miles moderate. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capitol and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.

**Wed., September 23**  
Saratoga Gap to Grizzly Flat, 6 miles, moderate. This is a shuttle hike. Meet at Downey Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

**Sat., September 26**  
Calero County Park, 6-7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath & Beyond parking lot at Almaden Plaza Shopping center at 8:00 am.

**Wed., September 30**  
Purissima State Park, 10.4 miles, moderate. This is new hike and longer than usual. Plan to finish around 3:00 pm. Meet at Page Mill/280 Park and Ride at 8:30 am.

**Sat., October 3**  
Alum Rock, 6 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at VTA Park and Ride on Capitol at Alum Rock at 8:00 am. ●





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

### Want to Receive the Newsletter?

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

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

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

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

**Next issue deadline:** 3:00 pm Wednesday, September 9, 2009

**Next issue assembly:** Tuesday, September 15, 2009

**Next issue mailing:** Wednesday, September 16, 2009

**View this newsletter online in HTML or PDF format at:**

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



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

### For Pastoral Care

Our community strives to offer compassion, companionship, healing, and joy to all its members. Our pastoral care coordinators can help you find the listening ear or helping hands that you may need in difficult times. For pastoral care in English, please contact our lay Pastoral Associate Coordinator, **Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (home) 408-354-9024; (cell) 408-204-6565; e-mail: [djlenahan@aol.com](mailto:djlenahan@aol.com). For pastoral care in Spanish, please contact our Spanish-Speaking Ministries Coordinator, **Roberto Padilla**: 408-991-3212; 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**: 408-991-3212; 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 the September 16 and the October 21 issues. Catherine will be editor for the October 7 and the November 4 issues.*

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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

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