



# Our Church Circular

September  
16, 2009 /  
16 de  
Septiembre

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

September Theme: Inclusiveness — Draw the Circle Wide!

**9:30 a.m.**  
Servicios en español

**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.

**27 de Septiembre** — 9:30 a.m.

**Entre amigos y enemigos**

Todos los días nos enfrentamos a muchos enemigos, empezando con nosotros mismos, Pero el saber perdonarnos a nosotros mismos y a nuestros enemigos es parte de nuestra tarea de todos los días. “Perdona nuestros pecados como nosotros perdonamos a quienes nos ofenden” es parte de la oración que Jesús nos enseñó.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

**Between friends and enemies**

Every day we are facing many enemies, starting with ourselves, but knowing how to forgive ourselves and our enemies is part of our daily task. “Forgive our sins as we forgive those who offend us” is part of the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla

**11:00 a.m.**  
Services in English

**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.

**September 27** — 11:00 a.m.

**Wisdom's Cry**

*Does not wisdom cry out, and understanding lift up her voice? Prov 8:1*

Yom Kippur (Jewish Day of Atonement) begins at sundown on Sunday September 27 and ends at nightfall on Monday September 28. This is a time when repentance is made and forgiveness is sought with the people we have wronged in the previous year. Let us take this time to examine our lives, vow to do restitution and seek reconciliation, if at all possible, as we mend our broken relationships. This is deep spiritual work that can lead us to healing and wholeness.

Worship Leader: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Worship Associate: Bruce Halen

See page 5 for more SUNDAY SERVICES

## SAVE THE DATES

**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-Sun-**  
day, 13th Annual PCD Men's  
Retreat, Westminster Center,  
Alamo, CA

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

**January 9, Saturday, Silent**  
Auction

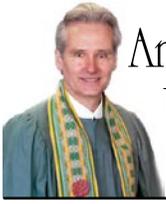


### Partner Church Visitors Tour Yosemite

Left to right: Gyula Timar, Timea Kovacs, Istvan Bancsi-Rigo, Sandor Antonya, Katalin Jakab, and FUCSJ members Monty Low and Pam Price. (See online *Circular* for more.)

### 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

## The Inner Work That Enriches Life

**L**ifespan Faith Development—rolls off the tongue like castor oil. You know it's good for you but you can't help but pucker up and wonder if there is something else you can take that goes down easier.

We often hear the quip, "If you stop learning, you start dying." The brain scientists say that the fountain of youth is in our minds—if we but turn on the faucet and learn something new. They say it probably doesn't matter what new thing you learn e.g. language, music, dancing, painting... They each create new pathways that stimulate the brain, which in turn rejuvenates the body.

**Lifespan Faith Development**—say it fast three times and it will improve your lung capacity as you breathe deeply to get all those words out in one breath! It is 24 letters that you assemble and reassemble over a lifetime. Those letters spell out, depending where you are on your life journey: child, student, parent, teacher, spouse, worker, person in recovery, pilgrim in search of truth, lover of beauty and baseball!

We are called as a religious community to help one another with the inner work that enriches life. This is not blind faith—but a wide-eyed open faith that understands that we are all "works in progress." We will never be able to say that we have seen it all, known it all, done it all. Tomorrow will always bring a new revelation. It is the nature of being human and it the nature of faith, as we Unitarian Universalists understand it.

The principles of Lifespan Faith Development closely follow Creation Spirituality as articulated by the Reverend Doctor Matthew Fox.

1. Our relationship with the universe fills us with awe.
2. We experience the Divine in all things and all things are in the Divine.
3. We are liberated from the need to cling to a God in one form or one literal name.
4. It is through the work of spiritual practice that we find our deep and true selves.
5. Our inner work can be understood as a four-fold journey involving:
  - awe, delight, amazement, (known as the Via Positiva)
  - uncertainty, suffering, letting go (Via Negativa)
  - birthing, creativity, passion (Via Creativa)
  - justice, healing, celebration (Via Transformativa)
6. We weave through these paths like a spiral danced, not a ladder climbed.
7. We are born full of wonder and can recover it at any age.
8. Whatever the expression of our creativity, it is our prayer and praise.
9. Our prophetic work is to interfere with all forms of injustice and that which interrupts authentic life (Via Transformativa).
10. We rejoice in and courageously honor the rich diversity within the Cosmos and expressed among individuals and across multiple cultures, religions, and ancestral traditions.
11. We acknowledge our shared interdependence; we rejoice at one another's joys and grieve at one another's sorrows and labor to heal the causes of those sorrows.
12. We respect and embrace the wisdom and oneness that arise from the diverse wells of all the sacred traditions of the world.
13. Ecology is the local expression of cosmology and so we commit to live in light of this value: to pass on the beauty and health of Creation to future generations.

**Lifespan Faith Development**—it is a mouthful and it is spirit filled. It is our lives-and we give our thanks and praise for all life is a gift, which we are called to use.

Blessed Be. ●

## Spotlight on Social Justice

The Social Justice Council generally meets the second Friday of each month. See Online Calendar for all FUCSJ listings at:

<http://my.serviceu.com/public/frame.asp?OrgID=3442&bShowCalendar=True>

Social Justice BLOG on Church Webpage at: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/>.

YahooGroup For Social Justice News & Events at: [sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sjsjuu-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). ●

## Lost and Found

If you are the owner of any of the following items, please claim them as soon as possible at the front office desk. Unclaimed items will be soon given away.

- a brown hardcover journal, written in
- a spiral notebook
- 2 pairs of glasses, one with a case
- an orange child's bathing suit top
- a navy cardigan sweater
- a black umbrella
- a black collapsible walking stick
- a straw hat
- a blue zippered vest
- a child's black leggings
- a pink protractor
- a well-worn beige hoodie ●

## Third Street Community Center Seeks Volunteers

We have two specific service needs. The first is for a bilingual (Spanish speaking) instructor who could teach an evening computer class for adults. This requires a 2 hour per week commitment for 13 weeks. Please contact **Nalleli Sandoval** at [nalleli@3street.org](mailto:nalleli@3street.org) for details.

The second need is for a bilingual (Cantonese/Mandarin) volunteer who can help us communicate with an elderly Chinese population interested in our fitness activities. Please contact **Vanessa Alcantar** at [vanessa@3street.org](mailto:vanessa@3street.org) for details. ●



# Upcoming Events



## Why Walk the Labyrinth?

Some comments in the Guest Book from walkers: "I'm grateful for this beautiful and sacred space of healing and well-being." "soothing, mystical" "I love this place." "I have received answers to prayers here." "My first time here. This is amazingly beautiful. Thank you."

### Labyrinth Hours:

Wed.-Fri., 11:30-1:00; Sun. after service;  
every 3rd Th., 6:30pm-8:00pm ●



## Street closings for Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, October 4

You may want to consider an alternate route to church on Sunday, October 4, as streets will be closed for this marathon from early morning until 10:00 a.m. in the area bordered by Hedding to the north, 11th to the east, 1st and San Pedro to the west, and Santa Clara to the south. During the race, residents can leave/enter this portion of the course via Market/Coleman Avenue. Use St. James and Julian Streets to access the inner portion of the course. On the south, Santa Clara will open at 8:45 am. To the east, 11th Street will open by 9:15 am. Northbound Hwy. 87 off-ramp to Santa Clara St. as well as the North- and Southbound Hwy. 87 off-ramp to Santa Clara St. will be closed from 4:00 am to 1:00 pm. The entire area encompassed by the first four miles of the course will reopen at approximately 10:00 am. If your route to church takes you through the Rose Garden, Rosicrucian and Cory neighborhoods you may want to check road closings in those areas as well. More information at competitor.com/community. ●

## Thinking ahead to Halloween...

A pleasant surprise will greet nearly a quarter million people distributing candy at their door, when youth reverse the Halloween tradition to hand adults a sample of vegan-friendly, Fair Trade dark chocolate. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is participating in this effort to help end poverty among cocoa farmers, end abusive child labor in the cocoa industry, promote Fair Trade and protect the environment. Free kits include chocolate and information cards; participants are asked to pay shipping costs. For more information, see <http://tinyurl.com/ReverseTrickOrTreating>. If you are looking for Fair Trade certified chocolate to give away from your own doorstep as trick-or-treating chocolate, please visit [www.globalex-changestore.org](http://www.globalex-changestore.org). ●



## What will it take for you to be happy? 13th Annual PCD Men's Retreat

**Friday-Sunday,  
October 16 -18, 2009**

Come join men from all around the Pacific Central District for a weekend of fun, community-building, kinship, singing, workshops and more! We will be gathering once again at the Westminster Center in Alamo (10 miles south of Walnut Creek).

Our theme this year is Happiness. Through experiential workshops and kinship groups, we will explore what happiness means to each of us, what prevents us from reaching it, and how to get there from here. There will also be free time for hiking and other pursuits on Saturday afternoon – plus the always-popular No Talent Show on Saturday night.

The cost for the weekend is \$225, with a deposit of \$100 at time of registration and the remainder due at or before the Retreat check-in. Scholarships are available.

### For more information and to register

Go to <http://pcd-uaa.org/men/frames.htm> and see the link for Register for Upcoming Retreat in the left-hand navigation bar, or contact us: Harry J. Mersmann at 209-955-0291 or [pcdmensretreat@gmail.com](mailto:pcdmensretreat@gmail.com), **Gordon Smith** at 408 393 6182 or [gordonsmith100@gmail.com](mailto:gordonsmith100@gmail.com) ●

## Children's Music Program Begins Sunday, Sept. 20

**N**ayo Ulloa, <http://www.nayoulloa.com/> church

member and renowned Peruvian musician, along with Sally Cooperrider and other church members will be helping to establish a children's music program at the church this year. The children's program (K-5<sup>th</sup>) will begin each Sunday with music. We will learn songs in English and Spanish. We will play instruments that even the younger children can join in with. And beginning at the Day of the Dead Service on November 1 children will offer a musical piece for the all-ages Celebration Sunday, which will happen approximately once a month until June 2010. Come on Sunday September 20 and join us in our exciting musical beginnings. ●





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:

## Sure an' begorrah, whose Mum is a 'comin for a visit? Who has seen small children playing with dinosaurs? While sober? Who has finally found out where her husband is all day? More family visits. Betcha can't guess who.

Ah, September--fall--smell of the forests burning. I've never liked fall because right after it comes the long slide into darkness - winter. I've been trying to do the good UU thing of calling it rest and renewal. Doesn't work.

It's still time for back to school. How many of you have never gotten away from the nightmare of feeling that something is wrong about September? It's you haven't enrolled for school. Still.

From **Mary MacGuinness**: Please read this with the best Irish brogue you can manage:

There are a number of things going on in September and October. My Mum, **Sally**, is coming out again for four weeks this time to visit. We have a few trips planned, some are one day, others up to ten days. We are going whale watching to the Farallon Islands, wine tasting, to see King Tut, and a vacation to New Mexico. My childhood friend from Ireland, **Anne**, is coming out to the East Coast for a conference. She is going to come and stay with me for a long weekend. I am going to have surgery on September 15th. I found a mole on the back of my leg in August, it turned out to be a Malignant Melanoma. It has been caught VERY early, and I just need to go through the removal of some more skin from the back of my knee and a lymph node in my groin. This should cure me. Please know that I am OK, and that I am not worried about this.

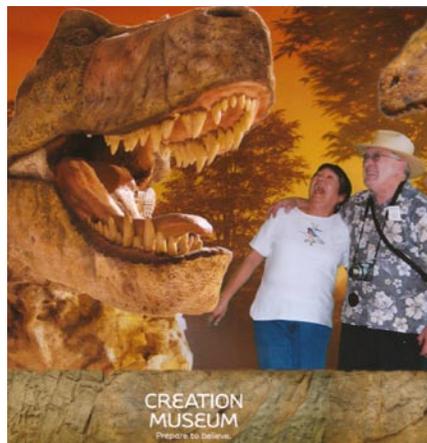
From our peripatetic travelers and well-known interpreters of the world generally,

**Tim and Madeline Blackwood**:

### Creation Museum Visit

Madeline and I arrived, about midday on a June 17, 2009 at the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. [When they told your intrepid editor, she schreeched: "You gave THOSE people money???" Rev Nancy said, "Bless your heart." which ought to show you who is in line for their eternal reward and who is not. -- Editor] It's located a half an hour from downtown Cincinnati. We stepped out of our rental car into a bright, very warm and humid day. We noted that there were two armed security guards with Smokey hats watching over the parking lot. Two large dinosaur replicas were near the entrance.

Even with our senior discounts, we paid over \$50 for our entrance fees, which included a half-hour planetarium show. We were hungry and so we immediately repaired to Noah's Café. Once refreshed, we went into the hallway to have our picture taken while looking at an image of a dinosaur, Tyrannosaurus rex.



We were instructed to try to look scared. Did we succeed?

In the Stargazer's Planetarium we saw a show called The Created Cosmos: Experience a Biblically Based Exploration of the Universe. It started out reasonably enough, but after a while the "facts" seemed to be contrary to those that I knew prior to the show. As the presentation continued, it became obviously unscientific as it gained more religious content. I just wanted to block the whole thing out after a while.

Later, we went to hear a presentation by **Tommy Mitchell, M.D.** on "Is Genesis Relevant in Today's World? Why can't A Day Mean a Day?" He is a good "preacher", an apt descriptor because his presentation was more passionate than scientific and rational. From signs in the Museum we knew that his answer would be that the biblical six days of creation were 24-hour days. This means, of course, that the whole universe is only about 6000 years old; metaphorical interpretations were unacceptable. His style was very argumentative and attack oriented towards those who might disagree with him and carried a strong sarcastic tone. He tried to get the audience involved through various promptings, but was only moderately successful. I couldn't take any more than 15 minutes of this and, with Madeline's agreement, we departed the auditorium. [The guards tried to prevent their leaving, but Madeline used Tim as an excuse. Editor]

We noted that throughout the Museum there were many dinosaurs shown, and except for the ones for the photo I just mentioned, they were all friendly appearing. None of them looked like they would attack you. We learned that the dinosaurs, referred to as "dragons" in the Bible, were vegetarians in the days before the Fall, the Fall being



the point where Adam and Eve were evicted from the Garden of Eden. So the paradise of Eden meant no meat, sex, or work. The Ark contained some 55 dinosaurs, but there was no account of what happened to them after the floods subsided.

Between exhibits, we went to see the Dragon Hall Bookstore. I only bought a few postcards depicting some museum scenes, and then mailed them off to our *Circle of 8* group. I certainly didn't want to give the institution any more money than I already had. Apparently they have a good source of funds from a foundation called *Answers in Genesis*, which spent \$27 million to build the Museum (65,000 sq ft of exhibit space) on spacious grounds that have a botanical garden and a petting zoo.

Throughout the Museum, which opened in May 2007, there appears, after "Creation Museum", the phrase "Prepare to Believe." Well, I guess, we were not so prepared, because we are still the heathens we had long been. But we are glad we made the trek for it opened our eyes to this literalist view of the Bible in ways we had not previously discovered. The museum was a real challenge because we did not have ready answers to all the misleading and incorrect statements that were made about the world of science. We could see how many people, especially the less scientifically literate, would more readily accept the pseudo scientific positions that were presented with the usual indicia of modern scientific presentations. And that is scary.

—Tim Blackwood, July 27, 2009

For those of you still reading the *Murky News*, over your coffee a couple of weeks ago, you would have seen a mention of **Gene Martin** and his lust for railroads on the third page, not the "Local Arrests" section. A couple of weeks ago, Gene got an award at the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation's annual recognition barbecue for putting in a total of 5,000 hours. As the emcee (and president of the group) **Rod Diridon** put it, that's about three year's worth of full-time work. Gene has worked on restoring the 2479, a retired Southern Pacific locomotive that used to be at the county fairgrounds, but what he mostly does now is volunteer four mornings a week at History San Jose, where he

works on the trolley cars. His latest project was extending the line from the history park over to Happy Hollow. He is also a VP of the CTRC, responsible for grant writing.

From long-time member **Jerry Cluny** comes the following:

My mother's, (**Phyllis Cluney's**) 90th birthday party was August Her sister **Marion** who is 89 was going to fly in from San Diego and would have needed a wheelchair. Unfortunately my aunt fell and broke her hip. I would like to thank those who responded to our need for a wheelchair. It is unfortunate that I had to give them a negative response. Hopefully my aunt will be able to visit after she recovers. They are the two youngest of 10 siblings and the only ones left in their family. Neither of them is in good health. My mother is afraid that is the last chance they have to see each other. This is a legitimate concern. My father and only sibling died. When my mother dies I will be an "adult orphan," the only one left of my nuclear family. Her concerns are very real and personal to me. Fortunately I have my wife, children, and some of my brother's children to support me along with our congregation. **Laura** and I have been members for a long time. While I was in graduate school, we attended infrequently.



My mother was 18 in the attached portrait.



The lady in pink is my mother in 2006.

AVAILABLE IN ONLINE VERSION: My Family: Ewen "Aaron," Rachel, Stacey, Jerry, Laura, and Deborah. Ewen, Rachel, and Deborah grew up at First Unitarian.

\*\*\*\*\*OK, it's time to be serious about things generally. The new semester is beginning, and this time, do your homework on time and do not write papers the night before they are due. The wrinkles this sort of thing will cause are very expensive to remove. And come to church!

*White Light Corner:* dear dear **Lucy Proulx**, and **Dave**. ●

## Around Our District

**Thursday, September 17, 7:00 p.m.**

- Our Palo Alto congregation will host Stanford University's Dr. Pavel Podvig speaking on A Russian Perspective on Nuclear Disarmament. Topics include the current status and prospects of the Russian nuclear forces, attitudes toward nuclear disarmament, and the issues on the agenda of the US-Russian disarmament dialog: the new arms control treat, missile defense, and nuclear nonproliferation. <http://tinyurl.com/PodvigInPaloAlto>

**Sunday, September 20, noon** - Our

UU Fellowship of Redwood City invites you to join Louise Nayer, co-author of *How to Bury a Goldfish: Celebrations and Ceremonies for Everyday Life*, who will discuss unique rituals for life transitions, holidays, and the everyday events that can deepen our bonds with our families, friends, and communities. <http://www.uufrc.org/calendar.html>

**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.

**Thursday, September 24, 7:00 p.m.**

- Our Berkeley Fellowship will present the film, *Caring for the Dying: the Art of Being Present*, followed by a discussion. <http://tinyurl.com/ArtOfBeingPresent>

**Our Standing on the Side of Love**

campaign has just launched their new website. Check it out - <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org>. ●



# 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

## Lifespan Faith Development Begins September 20

### The Arts & Spiritual Practice

#### KINDERGARTEN-GRADE 5 (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 a.m. The children in the weeks leading up to Celebration Sunday will have been preparing the gifts they will offer the community at the 11 a.m. 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 is the essence of Unitarian Universalism as spirits are affirmed and relationships are deepened.

### Make A World of Difference-Asset Building Activities to Help Teens Explore Diversity

#### GRADES 6-8 (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.

### Senior High Youth Group

#### GRADES 9-12 (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.

#### GRADES 7-9 (RAMSDEN FIRESIDE ROOM)

Class begins September 13

Curriculum: *Our Whole Lives: Sexuality Education* by Pamela Wilson, M.S.W.

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 intercourse 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

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## Lifespan Faith Dev.

Continued from page 6

- 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.

## Lifespan Faith Development Schedule

### The Arts & Spiritual Practice

#### KINDERGARTEN-GRADE 5 (LOWER LEVEL, CLASSROOMS 2-6)

Sept. 20 Program Begins

Sept. 27 Music, Art, & Games

Oct. 4 Celebration Sunday (No Classes)

### Make A World Of Difference— Asset Building Activities To Help Teens Explore Diversity

#### GRADES 6-8 (LOWER LEVEL, CONFERENCE & MEDITATION ROOMS)

Sept. 20 Program Begins

Sept. 27 Class Continues

Oct. 4 Celebration Sunday (No Classes)

### Senior High Youth Group

#### GRADES 9-12 (YOUTH GROUP ROOM)

Sept. 20 Program Begins

Sept. 27 Youth Group Continues

Oct. 4 Celebration Sunday (No Classes)

### Our Whole Lives

#### GRADES 7-9 (FIRESIDE ROOM)

6:30 Saturday, September 19-3:30 Sunday, September 20 – Overnight Retreat at the Isola Studio in Mountain View

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

Sunday, September 27 – NO CLASS

Sunday, October 4, Fireside Room, 2:30-5:30 – Topics: STD Facts & Prevention

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

**27 de Septiembre** – 11:00 a.m.

### El grito de la sabiduría

*¿Quién llama? La sabiduría. ¿Quien levanta la voz? La inteligencia Prov 8: 1*

Yom Kippur (Día del perdón Judía) comienza al caer el sol el domingo 27 de septiembre y termina al anochecer el lunes 28 de septiembre. Este es un momento en que se realiza el arrepentimiento y perdón se busca con la gente que nos hemos ofendido en el año anterior. Tomemos este tiempo para examinar nuestras vidas, comprometiéndonos a hacer la restitución y buscar la reconciliación, si es posible, mientras enmendamos nuestras relaciones rotas. Se trata de un trabajo espiritual profundo que nos puede llevar a la curación y la plenitud.

Dirige: Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Sociados de Culto: Bruce Halen

### READY TO BECOME A NEW MEMBER OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SAN JOSÉ?

Membership means you have found your spiritual home in Unitarian Universalism and here at FUCSJ; it means you feel called to offer your time, talent, and treasure to help build this Beloved Community. We welcome you!

Please set up a meeting with Rev. Nancy, [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com), and then plan to participate in the next New-Member In-gathering!

October Theme:

### The Power of Love

**October 4 – 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

### The Power of Love

In our relationships, and in our world, what does it mean for love to have power? Is love powerful enough to conquer the persistent divisions in our society and in our lives? An ancient story speaks to the love between two unlikely sisters, and opens us to think about love in all its diversity and about love as a practice of our faith. On this second annual Association Sunday, we will take up a special collection to support our denomination's projects aimed at "Growing Our Diversity."

Worship Leader: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

9:30 a.m. Worship Associates: Members of the Spanish-Speaking Ministries

11:00 a.m. Worship Associate: Dena Dickinson

### El poder del amor

En nuestras relaciones y en nuestro mundo, ¿qué significa por amor tener poder? ¿Es el amor lo suficientemente poderoso para conquistar las divisiones persistentes en nuestra sociedad y en nuestras vidas? Una historia antigua habla del amor entre dos insólitas hermanas y nos pone a pensar acerca de amor en toda su diversidad y acerca del amor como una práctica de nuestra fe. En este segundo domingo anual de la asociación, tendremos una donación especial para apoyar proyectos de nuestra denominación, encaminadas al "Crecimiento de nuestra diversidad."

Dirige: Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

11 a.m. Asociado de Culto: Dena Dickinson

### 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).





**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:

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

**Next issue deadline:** 3:00 pm Wednesday, September 30, 2009

**Next issue assembly:** Tuesday, October 6, 2009

**Next issue mailing:** Wednesday, October 7, 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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*Catherine will be editor for the October 7 and November 4 issues. Shirley will be editor for the October 21 and November 25 issue.*

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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

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