



# Our Church Circular

February 3,  
2010 / 3 de  
Febrero 2010

## SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

February Theme: *Becoming a People So Bold!  
Dismantling Divisions, Celebrating Diversities Inside and Out*

**9:30 a.m.**

Servicios en español

### DOMINGO CELEBRACIÓN

**February 7** – 9:30 am

#### **Crecimiento de nuestras almas: Autenticidad y el camino hacia la igualdad**

Con demasiada frecuencia la sociedad le pide a cada uno de nosotros—y especialmente a aquellos cuyas identidades han sido marginadas: a “cubrir” algún aspecto esencial de nuestro yo. ¿Qué partes de nosotros mismos hemos tenido que esconder para encajar en o salir adelante? En este servicio festivo, comenzaremos a dismantlar las divisiones que matan partes de nuestras almas y que destruyen nuestras comunidades y celebramos el amor y la conciencia que nos puede traer a la plenitud.

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones  
Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

**11:00 a.m.**

Services in English

### CELEBRATION SUNDAY

**February 7** – 11:00 am

#### **Growing our souls: Authenticity and the path to equality**

All too often society asks each of us—and especially those whose identities have been marginalized—to “cover” some essential aspect of our self. What parts of ourselves have we had to hide in order to fit in or get ahead? In this celebratory service, we’ll begin to dismantle the divisions that kill off parts of our souls and that destroy our communities, and we’ll celebrate the love and consciousness that can bring us into wholeness.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones  
Worship Associate: Julia Rodriguez

### DOMINGO DE LAS FUENTES

**14 de Febrero** – 9:30 am

#### **Día del amor y la amistad**

¿Realmente celebramos el día del amor? Acompañenme y compartamos con amor esta reflexión acerca de este día.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla  
Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

#### **Day of love and friendship**

What really celebrates the day of love? Come let us share with love this reflection about this day.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla  
Worship Associates: SSM Members

### SOURCES SUNDAY

**February 14** – 11:00 am

#### **National Standing on the Side of Love Day...**

On this day, Unitarian Universalist congregations across the nation will participate in a day of worship and practice works of love. National Standing on the Side of Love Day <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/reimagining-valentines-day/> empowers each congregation to take action on issues that matter locally, and to pursue strategies that are effective and meaningful to them. Join us and celebrate a Valentine’s Day re-imagined. Love is about more than romance, greeting cards and chocolates. We want to celebrate love’s power to transform communities!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis  
Worship Associate: Jeff Norment

## SAVE THE DATES

**February 5**, Friday, 8 pm, Dances of Universal Peace, Sanctuary

**February 7**, Sunday, 12:30 pm, UU Band of Writers, Youth Room; Spectrum of Sexual Orientation Class, Ramsden Fireside Room, 2 pm; info at [grimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:grimositis@sanjoseuu.org)

**February 11**, Thursday, Common Security Club meeting, 7-8:30 pm, Conference Room

**February 14**, Sunday, New Member Ingathering at 11:00 am service, Sanctuary; Reading the Five Gospels along with Bob Miess, 6-8 pm, Ramsden Fireside Room; for info, contact Bob at [Bob@FloweringEnterprises.com](mailto:Bob@FloweringEnterprises.com)

**March 5-7**, UUA Women and Religion retreat, Enchanted Hills, near Napa

**March 18**, Thursday, 7-9 pm, Estate Planning Seminar, Ramsden Fireside Room

**April 30-May 2**, UUA District Assembly 2010, Newark, CA

**June 27-30**, FUCSJ Junior High Backpack Trip. Contact Pam Pell at [johnpell@aol.com](mailto:johnpell@aol.com)

**July 14-18**, Wednesday-Sunday, Church Campout 2010, McConnell State Recreation Area, Turlock, [mm@feldmo.com](mailto:mm@feldmo.com)

### 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)



As we build  
the beloved  
community...

by the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Mientras construimos  
nuestra querida  
comunidad...

Por la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

### *Becoming a People So Bold!*

Every month our PACT (People Acting in Community Together) organizer Karen Belote and I set aside an hour to check in: What is most alive for us at that moment about our twin passions for justice and for this congregation? At our most recent one-to-one, Karen said, “You know, we’ve been working together for a few years now, yet I’ve never asked you about your passion for antiracism. I know it is really important to you, but . . . why? What’s the story behind this part of your call to ministry?”

My answer to this question usually begins with stories from my growing up in Texas. Some of you have heard about how I didn’t get to go roller skating with my friend Everett —because he is African American and I am white—when we were only eight. That moment of loss pierced my heart; it made racism something personal and direct. There were other losses, too: broken bridges between Latina and European-American girls in junior high school; walls built up between family members and beloved employees. But it wasn’t just the ever-present racial prejudice and ethnocentrism that hurt, piercing peoples of color around me with a “thousand tiny [and not-so-tiny] cuts” and costing everyone our wholeness. It was also the systemic racism that was soul-killing, keeping the divisions and injustices intact from generation to generation, denying access and opportunity to some and giving unearned advantages to others, like me.

Yet my passion for the work of understanding and undoing racism in myself and in the world—and my call to the ministry of helping to build multiracial, multicultural, anti-oppressive communities—are not rooted solely in the wounds of my past, nor are they driven by guilt or shame, although I have had to wrestle with these emotions too. My passion and my call now spring from fresh and ever-renewing sources. They rise up out of life-giving and joyful relationships that bridge those old forbidden boundaries and that have bloomed ever since I began to engage in the work of antiracism. These relationships make multiracial, multicultural community something personal and direct. My passion and my call are fed by ever-increasing experiences of communities that are learning how to celebrate and enhance our diversities, even while dealing with the challenges, confusions, and conflicts that arise when we invite differences to speak out loud. Communities like ours here at FUCSJ. Communities I’m honored to be part of throughout our Unitarian Universalist movement. Communities I’m coming to know here in San José. Communities available to all of us—and that we can help create.

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### *¡Llegar a ser un Pueblo tan Osado!*

Cada mes nuestra organizadora de PACT (Gente Actuando en Comunidad Juntos) Karen Belote y yo reservamos una hora para una plática de evaluación: ¿qué esta más vivo para nosotros en ese momento sobre nuestras pasiones gemelas de la justicia y por esta congregación? En nuestro más reciente uno a uno, Karen dijo, “sabes, hemos estado trabajadas juntas durante algunos años, sin embargo, nunca le he preguntado sobre su pasión por el antirracismo. Sé que es muy importante para usted, pero... ¿por qué? ¿Cuál es la historia detrás de esta parte de la llamada al Ministerio?”

Mi respuesta a esta pregunta por lo general comienza con las historias de mi desarrollo en Texas. Algunos de ustedes han oído hablar de cuando no me dieron permiso para ir a patinar con mi amigo Everett —porque él es negro y yo blanca—cuando teníamos sólo ocho. Ese momento de pérdida desgarró mi corazón; esto hizo al racismo algo personal y directo. Hubo otras pérdidas, también: puentes rotos entre las niñas Latinas y Europeo-estadounidense en la escuela secundaria; muros construidos entre los miembros de la familia y los empleados queridos. Pero no fue sólo el prejuicio racial omnipresente y el etnocentrismo que lastima, desgarrando gente de color alrededor de mí con un “mil diminutos [y no tan pequeños] cortes” y costándole a todos nuestra integridad. También era el racismo sistémico que fue matando el alma, manteniendo las divisiones y las injusticias intactas de generación en generación, negando el acceso y las oportunidades a algunos y dándoles ventajas no ganadas a otros, como yo.

Sin embargo, mi pasión por el trabajo de comprender y deshacer el racismo en mí misma y en el mundo—y mi llamada al Ministerio de ayudar a construir comunidades multiraciales, multiculturales y antiopresivas—no se basan únicamente en las heridas de mi pasado, ni son impulsadas por la culpa o la vergüenza, aunque he tenido que luchar con estas emociones también. Ahora, mi pasión y mi llamada surgen de frescas y siempre renovadas fuentes. Ellas emergen de relaciones llenas de vida y felicidad que salvan los antiguos límites prohibidos y que han florecido desde que comencé a participar en la labor de antirracismo. Estas relaciones hacen a la comunidad multiracial, multicultural algo personal y directo. Mi pasión y mi llamada son alimentadas por las siempre crecientes experiencias de las comunidades que están aprendiendo cómo celebrar y mejorar nuestras diversidades, incluso mientras que hacen frente a los desafíos, confusiones y conflictos que surgen cuando invitamos a las diferencias a hablar en voz alta. Las comunidades como la nuestra aquí en FUCSJ. Comunidades de las que me siento honrada de ser parte de a lo largo de nuestro movimiento Unitario Universalista. Comunidades que estoy llegando a conocer aquí en San José. Comunidades disponibles para todos nosotros, y que podemos ayudar a crear.

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# Your Church Board of Directors Meeting, December 16, 2009

by Bob Redfern, Board Secretary

Your Board had a busy meeting December 16th. Here is a summary of what we discussed and decided.

Our ministers are involved in a variety of activities, which they reliably (and more timely than I) report in their columns in this newsletter. However, I should report that **Rev. Geoff** and **Jeff Norment** started the Common Security Club, a meeting of five sessions involving help for people re-ordering their lives: getting by with less, living a more “green” lifestyle, and other timely topics.

We discussed the “Listening Campaign,” which **Rick Merritt** of the Board is participating in. The campaign and its inspiration

from PACT started on December 15th, with an organizational training session for Listener Volunteers on January 14th. When your listener contacts you, let him or her know your concerns and hopes, especially in the area of Building our Community through Engaging our Differences.

We had a few unexpected expenses such as a failed downstairs dishwasher and permit and alarm repairs. Nonetheless, our finances are in the black and Treasurer **Bob Howd** is optimistic that will continue through the end of our fiscal year in May. After the year is over, we plan to have an audit and make that a regular yearly policy.

The Board discussed the Draft Policies we are charged with making permanent such as Lifespan Faith Development policy.

Finally, we voted to accept **Henry Ruddle** to the Program and Operations Committee as Stewardship representative. We voted to accept **Claire Wagner** and **Patrick Smiley** to the Committee on Ministry, and with great regret, we accepted **Michael Payne-Alex**’s resignation from the Board. Watch this space for an interim replacement, and don’t hesitate to say yes if a member of the nominating committee calls to ask you to join us. We will make you very welcome and comfortable when you say yes. ●

## Program and Operations Council (POC) Report: Generous Giving and a Church Fundraising Feat

Members of this congregation, you have contributed to three recent fundraisers. Your generosity supports Unitarian Universalist values. The result of each fundraiser follows:

**Guest at Your Table** — Thank you, all who contributed funds to your “Guest at Your Table Box” and brought them to the church for this Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) program. The \$540.14 collected will help change the lives of people around the world.

**Help for Haiti** — The January 11 Sunday service collection was donated to the joint UUSC-UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund. Additionally, many of you wrote checks to the Church for this relief fund. Through your generous donations, the Church has collected \$3,666.30 to send to UUSC-UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund. For information from UUSC about the relief fund, go to [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org). Quoting words of **Rev. Nancy**, “Thank you for your generous hearts and your sense

of connection to this hurting country and its people!”

**Service Auction** — This auction was a fundraiser for our church. Being auctioned were gifts of services and goods that folks of this congregation donated. The auction had two parts — a Silent Auction and a Service Auction — and a community dinner between them. **Dan Zulevic**, the auctioneer, teased the bidding higher and higher. The auction raised \$9,690.00. ●

### As We Build the Beloved Community, continued from page 3

In short, I am committed to the work of antiracism, multiculturalism, and anti-oppression because it makes me more alive and more whole. It lifts me up, it turns me on, it gives me hope, it grows my soul. It’s personal and direct.

Through worship this February, we’ll be experiencing ways to grow our souls, ways to discover more life and more hope, as we look at how we can dismantle divisions and celebrate diversities—both inside our own being and out in the wider world. How are we becoming a “People So Bold”?<sup>1</sup> I can’t wait to dive deeper into our learning and growing together!

With gratitude for your calling me to be all that I am and to bring to this work all that I have,

Nancy

### Mientras construimos nuestra querida comunidad, continúa para la página 3

En resumen, estoy comprometida con el trabajo del antirracismo, multiculturalismo y anti-opresión porque me hace más viva y más completa. Me levanta, me emociona, me da esperanza, hace crecer mi alma. Es personal y directo.

A través de los servicios religiosos este febrero, estaremos experimentando formas para crecer nuestras almas, formas para descubrir más la vida y con más esperanza, mientras vemos cómo podemos dismantelar las divisiones y celebrar la diversidad, tanto dentro de nuestro propio ser y en el resto del mundo. ¿Cómo llegaremos a ser un “Pueblo tan osado”?<sup>2</sup> No puedo esperar para sumergirme más profundamente en nuestro aprendizaje y crecimiento juntos!

Con gratitud por llamarme me a ser todo lo que soy y a dar a este trabajo todo lo que tengo,

Nancy





# <sup>not-so-secret</sup>The Circle Supper Society by Shirley Worth

Who doesn't enjoy a dinner party? Sitting next to someone you may have just met, perhaps with an old chum on your other side. Exchanging pleasantries and polite remarks over canapés and drinks. Progressing on to amusing anecdotes and personal stories over salad and entree. Sharing jokes and laughs over dessert. Going home with funny stories, and perhaps a new friend or two. And always, of course with that frisson of excitement – what disaster could happen? The entree dropped on the floor? The prim parishioner in his / her cups revealing a dark secret past? Being unexpectedly recruited for a volunteer post?

Perhaps you dread the idea of sitting at a table with six or seven others you have never met. "What could we possibly have to say to each other?" you may think. Not to worry, says Circle Supper regular **Henry Ruddle**. "It is centered around food," he reminds us. You and your fellow guests have "at least one thing in common – the church – and a major incentive to entertain (or at least not offend) each other, doing the most natural thing in the world – eating and drinking."

In the days before movies, TV and Super Mario Brothers, dinner parties were a major form of entertainment. Today, we may have to learn about this fine old tradition by watching Jane Austin movies. "Some guests work hard and come prepared. They have topics and anecdotes in mind, try to share the conversation

so that everyone has a chance to speak, and bring tasty food. Some guests wing it and hope for the best", says Henry. Rarely, "one guest has tried to hog the conversation, and it has been a pleasure to see the other guests work together to rein things in without ever being rude."

To **Dave Proulx**, "the Circle Suppers provide a formal means for us to spend informal time with other folks from church in a relaxed social setting, and get to know them better. There is no other agenda, unlike meetings etc, and it's a smaller group than other church social activities, so it fills an important niche."

Hosts provide a table and beverages; guests are asked to bring either appetizers, salad and bread, entree or dessert. Sometimes the host suggests a game of some kind; sometimes conversation takes its entertaining course. In any case, says Henry, "you have a delightful time... (or at least) a funny story to tell later."

Each month, Circle Supper Coordinator **Barbara Derbyshire** suggests a couple of possible dates and asking for willing hosts. She then announces who your host and fellow diners will be, suggests each person's contribution, and provides contact information. The host takes it from there, setting the time and organizing any other details for the supper. E-mail is the primary medium, but telephone users can also be accommodated.

Sign up at the table in Hattie Porter Hall after the service, or contact Barbara at [CircleSuppers@aol.com](mailto:CircleSuppers@aol.com), or 408-370-2219. ●

## Upcoming Events

### Women's Alliance

The Women's Alliance continues its exploration into the varied traditions in earth-based spiritualities. We will meet at the home of **Jean vonKaenel** in Los Gatos on Thursday, February 4, from 7:15 to 9:15 pm. Please call **Nancy Coleman** at 408 985 5778 or email [nbcoleman@gmail.com](mailto:nbcoleman@gmail.com) for directions or more information. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 4. ●

### Peninsula Interweave Gathering at FUCSJ

Peninsula Interweave, a UU Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender & Allies group for the South Bay and Peninsula, will meet Tuesday evening Feb. 9, 7:00-9:00

pm in the Ramsden Fireside Room. You are invited to join us for socializing and discussion of current topics of interest. ●

### UUA-PCD Women and Religion Annual Retreat

The Women and Religion's Annual Retreat is around the corner. This year's retreat, "Creating Peace in a Chaotic World," March 5 - 7 in Enchanted Hills, Napa, features a variety of workshops, conversations with like-minded women, great food and great surroundings. Retreat is \$250. Scholarships are available and NEW THIS YEAR only \$125 for first-time attendees. For more information contact **Jewel Whitaker** at 209-683-8072 or [jwhitaker45@msn.com](mailto:jwhitaker45@msn.com). Rooms are filling up fast, so don't delay. ●

## UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the February 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!

### Wednesday, February 3

Sanborn County Park, moderate to strenuous. This can be a long hike up to Summit Rock (about 9 miles) or we can stop at Indian Rock (7 miles). We can decide at the trail head. Meet at US Bank (formerly Downey Bank) parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

### Saturday, February 6

Joseph Grant County Park. 6 miles, moderate. (We could make it 9.8 miles if we want to by doing an additional loop.) This should be a beautiful winter hike with unrestricted views of the hills. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capital and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.

### Wednesday, February 10

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

### Saturday, February 13

Almaden Quicksilver, Mockingbird entrance, 7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath and Beyond at Almaden Plaza at 8:00 am.

### Wednesday, February 17

Stevens Creek/Fremont Older, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at trail head at 8:30 am. Directions to trail head: Take Foothill Expressway as though you were going to Rancho San Antonio. Don't turn off Foothill. Go about 1.5 miles to entrance to Stevens Creek Park on the left. You can see the parking lot below you as you go around a curve. Turn left and go straight ahead to the parking lot. There is \$6 parking fee.

### Saturday, February 20

Sierra Azule, 6-8 miles (we can decide that morning how much we want to do). Meet at Bed, Bath and Beyond at Almaden Plaza at 8:00 am.

### Wednesday, February 24

Huddart County Park, 7 miles, moderate. We will do the longer hike up to Skyline. Meet at Page Mill/280 at 8:30 am.

### Saturday, February 27

Mission Peak, 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at VTA park and ride on Capital at Alum Rock at 8:00 am or at the trail head at Ohlone College. Call for details. ●



# SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

## Día Nacional de Estar en el Lado del Amor...

En este día, las congregaciones Unitarias Universalistas en todo el país participarán en un día de servicios religiosos y la práctica del trabajo del amor. El Día Nacional de Estar en el Lado del Amor <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/reimagining-valentines-day/> permite a cada Congregación a que tome acción sobre los asuntos que son importantes localmente y para buscar estrategias que son eficaces y significativas para ellos. Únase a nosotros y celebremos un día de San Valentín re-imaginado. El amor es más que el romance, tarjetas de felicitación y chocolates. ¡Queremos celebrar el poder del amor de transformar las comunidades!

Dirige: Rev. Geoff Rimositis  
Asociado de Culto: Jeff Norment

## DOMINGO DE LA TEOLOGÍA

21 de Febrero – 9:30 am

### Cuestionando el Privilegio

Mientras llegamos a ser un “pueblo muy osado”, trabajando para dismantelar las divisiones, para derribar sistemas de opresión y construir comunidades amadas, encontramos radicalmente diferentes perspectivas, incluyendo diferentes respuestas a los propios términos “opresión” y “privilegio”. ¿Cómo enriquecer diariamente nuestras vidas y agrandar nuestro trabajo para mantener más de una perspectiva a la vez? ¡Un servicio animado que nos lleva hacia las soluciones espirituales para los “ismos” que nos dividen!

Dirige: la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones  
Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

## THEOLOGY SUNDAY

February 21 – 11:00 am

### Questioning Privilege

As we become a “people so bold,” working to dismantle divisions, to tear down systems of oppression, and to build up beloved communities, we encounter radically different perspectives, including different responses to the very terms “oppression” and “privilege.” How does it enrich our daily lives and our larger work to hold more than one perspective at once? A lively service leads us toward the spiritual solutions for the “isms” that divide us!

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones  
Worship Associate: Luther Jackson ●

Gift of Service  
by Genie Bernardini

## Volunteer Recognition: Dianne Saichek—Beyond the Call of Duty

Please send your one-sentence salute to me at [geniebee@hotmail.com](mailto:geniebee@hotmail.com)

We have had the pleasure of listening to Dianne’s musical gifts for five years, including her beautiful offertories and charming traveling music as the children are assembling on the labyrinth. And, fortunately, it has been a pleasure for her too. “I LOVE my job,” she says, giving special thanks to **Rev. Nancy** and **Frank Farris** for their guidance and support.

But Dianne has done far more than her paid staff position requires, due to her deep devotion to this church and an unusually generous spirit. She has donated her time to provide an after-school music enrichment program for TSCC children; made a CD of

popular hymns for the SSM; and played for many, many church functions, including the seven weddings of same-sex couples married in our church. (She also arranged for free photos for each of these couples.) And the special service she has given to our church choir in a multitude of ways is remarkable and very much appreciated.

In addition to these contributions to the church, she is an absolutely delightful person with a devilish sense of humor and a fun-loving spirit, and you would do yourself a favor by getting to know her, if you haven’t already.

For all that you are and all that you have given us, Dianne, we are most grateful!

### One-Sentence Salutes

“Many thanks to Kathy Johnson who keeps our brochures ordered and orderly!”  
—Liz Owen

“I’d like to thank Dan Zulevic for steering and organizing the Ad Hoc singing group.”  
—Claire Wagner

“I thank Genie Bernardini for her inspirational leadership of Band of Writers.”  
—Catherine Pelizzari

“I thank John Burk for carrying the torch for social justice, a foundation of our church.”  
—Dena Dickinson ●

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

Contact Rev. Nancy,  
[revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com).

## Spotlight on Social Justice

The Social Justice Council blog appears on the Church Webpage at: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org/socialjusticeblog/>. You can subscribe to the YahooGroup For Social Justice News & Events at: [sjsjuu-subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:sjsjuu-subscribe@yahogroups.com). ●



# Lifespan Faith Development

## Nursery (birth-5 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: Maria Elena Olvera & Glynda Cotten

## Youth Group Activities

Staff: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

### The Arts & Spiritual Practice — Kindergarten-Grade 5 (Lower Level, Classrooms 4-6)

Each Sunday after they are sung out of the service, our children come together to make music with Nayo Ulloa (<http://www.nayoulloa.com/>), Sally Cooperrider and other volunteers for the first half hour. We sing, play with rhythm instruments, and have fun doing musical games. Music is the language of the soul and an important component of children's spiritual growth and learning. Occasionally throughout the year the children will present a musical offering in the Sunday service.

### Make A World of Difference—Asset Building Activities to Help Teens Explore Diversity—Grades 6-8 (Lower Level, Classrooms 2-3)

In this class 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. The will learn about the broad definition

of diversity that includes gender, age, religion, race, physical abilities, appearance, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

**Junior High Advisor: Pam Pell (and parents of youth leading classes)**

### Senior High Youth Group—Grades 9-12 (Youth Room)

The senior high youth group meets from 11:30-12:30 most Sundays. 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 YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists). The youth group's empowering philosophy educates youth to be leaders within the group, church community and denomination.

**Youth Group Advisors: V Kingsley, Cordelia Willis, and Greg Muller** ●

## PCD YRUU Election Con

YRUU's Election Con, for youth between the ages of 14 and 20, will be held February 12-15, at our Santa Rosa congregation. First-timers will receive a 50% discount of the standard \$40 registration fee, but registration closes February 7. For more information and registration materials, see [www.pcd-uua.org/conregister.pdf](http://www.pcd-uua.org/conregister.pdf). ●

## FUCSJ Junior High Backpack Trip June 27-30, 2010

Lace up your boots, put on your backpack, and hike the High Sierra on this 4-day 3-night backpacking trip. We will cover about 13 miles over the course of 4 days as we backpack through the wilderness of Meiss Country near Carson Pass (Hwy 88). This trip is open to youth in our church entering grades 6-8 in the fall of 2010. For more information, contact **Pam Pell**: 408-287-4453 or [johnpell@aol.com](mailto:johnpell@aol.com). An informational meeting will be held at church on Sunday, March 28th from 10:30-10:55 am. ●

## UULM Young Adult Justice Weekend Feb. 12-14th

There is a unique opportunity coming in February for young adults ages 18-35 across the state to engage with each other and the urban ministries that have sprung up since in the last decade in Los Angeles. This promises to be a relevant and engaging chance to take Unitarian Universalism out of the sanctuary and into the heart of the city. The Justice Weekend is held at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Los Angeles February 12-14, 2010. It begins Friday evening at 6 pm and closing celebration is at 11 am on Sunday morning, followed by lunch at church. There is also a Young Adult Allies training on Sunday from 1 - 3:00 pm. Cost is \$75.00 regular price, or sliding scale between \$45 - \$74 for those who cannot afford the full cost. Housing and meals are covered by registration fee.

Much more information is available online at <http://uulmca.org/programs/events.html>. ●

## New Member Ingathering, Valentine's Day, Sunday, February 14

Youth (14 years of age and older) and adults who have decided that this church community and faith deserves their commitment because it affirms the values that they hold most dear are invited to join The First Unitarian Church community as an official member. There will be a new member ingathering on Sunday, February 14. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of this congregation, please contact the **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, 408-292-3858, ext. 25, [GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org). Show your love for this faith and make it known to the world! ●







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:

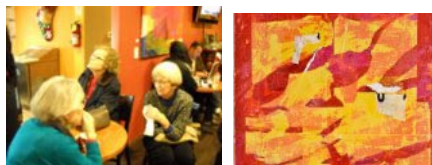
Who is giving you a New Year's Rant? *What European country that you'd never guess is having a drought?*

## Which 12 people have hopes for the New Year?

### Who is just beginning an unbelievable art career?

**G**entle Readers: what follows is a rant. If you don't want to be ranted at today, please skip this and go to tart remarks made about friends of yours. Rant: It is beginning to come to my attention that some of you are having birthdays you don't tell me about. This is serious bad. Do not think of telling me stuff like this as private, or you're too shy, or why would anybody want to know. Because we're all part of this community! Otherwise, if I don't get stuff from you, I have to go around HPH interrupting you and asking you whatever question occurs to me. It also seems to me that some of you have children who are not going directly to prison after graduating this coming spring. We've seen these kids for most of their lives, and by now have an interest in where they're going next. Did you get a new dog or lose an old cat? Have you changed jobs or found one, or lost one? You don't really have to tell me about lost ones unless you want to. What movie did you like? Tell me this stuff or else. It's easy: [torchy.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:torchy.hunter@gmail.com). Maybe we'll get to you turning in your neighbors who know these things. Vee haff vays. Talk to me. End of rant.

And now the announcement that nobody saw coming: **Torchy Hunter**, who took her first art class at age 60, not only was invited to show two new paintings in the Alumni Show at Evergreen Valley College, but also had two paintings accepted for a group show at a gallery in Oakland, which will run for six weeks. This is the first time I have ever submitted anything to a show when I didn't already know the person. It's really kind of woweeeee. There will be an opening reception, and if you'd like to come, consider this your invitation (demand). It's February



Several UUSJ members, such as Barbara Grover, Jean Embree and Carol Greene pictured here, took in Torchy's December showing at Crema Coffee Roasting Co. on the Alameda.

13th, time not decided yet. Please ask me about it, or you could contact the gallery at [www.expressionsgallery.com](http://www.expressionsgallery.com). It's on Ashby just off San Pablo. Puhleeze come. I'm really excited, as this is a role I haven't yet played. My stuff in two galleries at once! I'm pretty darned impressed with myself. I wonder if this will make me clean up the house.



Don't forget Cinequest is coming up. Last time I watched a 5-hour movie. In Spanish.

**Katy Dawson** changes her whole life for Cinequest. So does **Dana Grover**. Ask any of us about it.

**Mary McGuinness's** update: "So here I am at the end of week number three. The time has really flown by. I've been able to tolerate the dose OK, my counts have not dropped too much, and the side effects have not been unmanageable. It was Mum's birthday yesterday, and she had talked about a restaurant she remembers going to when she was first here in the US in the 50's, it called Trader Vic's. So I took her there for dinner last night, My friend Anne Tobin arrives in today, as long as she can get out of Dublin. Everyone has been great, bringing Mum and myself wonderful food, and chauffeuring me back and forth to the hospital. Once I finish on Friday 1/29, I'll have a week off from all drug therapy. Mum and Anne will

still be here, so I really hope I'll be well enough to go do a few things with them. Keep your fingers crossed for me."

It's Ireland with the drought. Mary's mum **Sally McGuinness** told me the winter has been so cold that people have been letting faucets run all night to keep them from freezing. Ergo: drought in the land with a hundred shades of green.

And now (cue trumpets): How The Beloved Community answered the original question "What are your hopes for the New Year?" **Jim Rumbaugh**: for the Democrats to get together. **Frances Schwab**: a teaching job. **Anne Gunn**: Peace. And find a way to manage our oil. **Crystal Lanier**: To not hurt. And to find happy ways to be of service. **Bob Redfern**: That the roof stops leaking. **Dena Dickinsen**: Health and balance. **Dani Hope**: Ease and simplicity. **Joyce Miller**: The health care bill. **Bob Meiss**: That I'll be fully alive at the end of it. **Henry Ruddle**: A happy home and more clients. **Bob Owen**: Health reform. **Catherine Pelizzari**: That Obama's effectiveness increases. **Bill Ardrey**: That it's better than '09. A little of Amen to that. ●

## Classifieds

### Safe, reliable car for sale:

1997 silver Volvo 850 sedan, good condition, automatic transmission, power steering, air bags, ABS, cruise control, radio, CD player, just smogged. \$2800. Call Catherine Pelizzari at (408) 945-9848 or email to [caleeson@aol.com](mailto:caleeson@aol.com) ●





## FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José

160 North Third Street

San Jose, CA 95112

### Want to Receive the Newsletter?

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**Next issue deadline:** 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 10, 2010

**Next issue assembly:** Tuesday, February 16, 2010

**Next issue mailing:** Wednesday, February 17, 2010

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

### For Pastoral Care

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

### NEWSLETTER EDITORS

**Editors:** Catherine Leeson Pelizzari and Shirley Worth; [CircularEditors@gmail.com](mailto:CircularEditors@gmail.com)  
*Shirley will be editor for the February 17 and March 17, 2010 issues. Catherine will be editor for the March 3 and April 7, 2010 issues.*

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Our Church Circular is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Circulation is about 500.

Layout: **Henry Ruddle** [henry\\_L@ruddle.com](mailto:henry_L@ruddle.com)  
([www.ruddle.com](http://www.ruddle.com)) 408-234-3670

Translator: **Roberto Padilla**

Assembly Coordinator: **Gretchen Leavitt**

Assembly Crew: **Jeff & Ellie White**

*Thanks for all the work you do and care you put into the newsletter. \*\*Assembly starts at 4:30 pm - your help is very much welcome!\**

### OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
**Tracy Avent,**  
[darkmuzik@yahoo.com](mailto:darkmuzik@yahoo.com)

**SECRETARY**  
**Bob Redfern,**  
[redfern@charter.net](mailto:redfern@charter.net)

**TREASURER**  
**Bob Howd,**  
[BHowd@aol.com](mailto:BHowd@aol.com)

**PERSONNEL OFFICER**  
**Joyce Miller,**  
[j408miller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j408miller@sbcglobal.net)

**PROGRAM OFFICER**  
**Tamara Payne-Alex,**  
[paynealex@sprintmail.com](mailto:paynealex@sprintmail.com)

**FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
**Dena Dickinson,**  
[dickiden@comcast.net](mailto:dickiden@comcast.net)

### DIRECTORS

**Cheri Goodman,** [cheri.goodman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cheri.goodman@sbcglobal.net)

**Rick Merritt,** [rbmerrit@cmp.com](mailto:rbmerrit@cmp.com)

**Michael Payne-Alex,**  
[michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelpaynealex@yahoo.com)

**Madeline Morrow,**  
[madelinemorrow@earthlink.net](mailto:madelinemorrow@earthlink.net)

### CHURCH STAFF

**Senior Minister** ..... The Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones  
Ext. 23, [revnpj@yahoo.com](mailto:revnpj@yahoo.com)

**Assoc. Minister For Lifespan Faith Development**..... The Rev. Geoff Rimositis  
Ext. 25, [grimositis@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:grimositis@sanjoseuu.org)

**Office Manager**..... Susan Burke-Diquisto  
Ext. 21, [fucs@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:fucs@sanjoseuu.org)

**Coordinator of Spanish Speaking Ministries** ...Roberto Padilla  
Ext. 24 or (408) 824-8831, [paor69@yahoo.com](mailto:paor69@yahoo.com)

**Bookkeeper**..... Sue Evanicky  
[bookkeeper@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:bookkeeper@sanjoseuu.org)

**Custodian** ..... Edgar Cruz

**Nursery Staff** ..... Glynda Cotton & Maria Elena Olvera

### CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: (408) 292-3858 Fax: (408) 292-4744

E-mail..... [fucs@sanjoseuu.org](mailto:fucs@sanjoseuu.org)

URL..... <http://www.sanjoseuu.org>