



Our Church Circular

March 3,
2010 / 3 de
Marzo 2010

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

MARCH THEME: Aspects of the Holy — The Depth and Breadth of Life
TEMA DE MARZO: Aspectos de la Santidad, La profundidad y amplitud de la vida

9:30 a.m.

Servicios en español

DOMINGO CELEBRACIÓN

7 de Marzo — 9:30 am

Manejando el Miedo

¿Es posible hacer del miedo una virtud? Vengan y aprendamos juntos algo acerca del miedo.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

Handling Fear

Is it possible to make a virtue of fear? Come and let us learn something together about fear.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

11:00 a.m.

Services in English

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

March 7 — 11:00 am

Senior High Sunday

Join us as our youth celebrate both the creation of hope in a time of crisis and our own inner super heroes.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Worship Associates: High School Youth

Domingo de Preparatoria

Únase a nosotros mientras nuestros jóvenes celebran la esperanza en un momento de crisis y de nuestros propios súper héroes.

Dirige: el Rev. Geoff Rimositis; Asociados de Culto: Miembros de los clases de juventud

DOMINGO DE LAS FUENTES

14 de Marzo — 9:30 am

Enfrentando a nuestro enemigo

Usemos un poco de tiempo para viajar hacia el interior de nosotros mismos.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

Facing our enemy

Let us use a little time to travel into ourselves.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla

Worship Associates: SSM Members

SOURCES SUNDAY

March 14 — 11:00 am

The Legacy of Shiva: The Spirituality of Tantra Yoga

Rev. Nancy has invited her colleague, the yogi Dada Nabhaniilananda—originally from New Zealand, trained in India and around the world—to share with us his spiritual journey and the insights of the 7,000-year-old tantra yoga tradition. Dada, a professional musician, will underscore his story with his own beautiful music. What can we Unitarian Universalists learn from the ancient tradition of tantra yoga, which focuses on meditation, union with the divine and social reform? A unique worship service filled with the light of a gentle spirit—we hope you will join us for this collaboration!

Worship Leaders: Special Guest Dada Nabhaniilananda, with Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones

Worship Associate: Frank Bosche

See page 3 for more SUNDAY SERVICES

SAVE THE DATES

March 5, Friday, 8 pm, Dances of Universal Peace, Sanctuary

March 5, Friday, UU Legislative Ministry Special Event, 7 pm, First UU Society of San Francisco. Meet new UUA President, Rev. Peter Morales! Tickets and more info here: http://www.uulmca.org/images/event_promo/March5.pdf

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

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

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

March 21, Sunday, 10:00 am - Junior High Backpack Trip Informational Meeting — Classroom

March 26, Saturday, Haiti Benefit Concert, FUCSJ

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

June 23-27, UUA General Assembly, Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 27-30, FUCSJ Junior High Backpack Trip. Contact Pam Pell at johnpell@aol.com

July 14-18, Wednesday-Sunday, Church Campout 2010, McConnell State Recreation Area, Turlock, 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 or Bob Miess at 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

The Spiritual Practice of Giving Up Despair

“Easter, Passover, Spring equinox—festivals of liberation, new life, and new hope,” the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry reminds us (you can read more at <http://www.uulmca.org/main.html#40days>). To honor this season of liberation and hope, the UULM invites us to make “40 calls in 40 days” to our government representatives, urging them to pass health care reform. Opponents to health care reform are surely keeping up the pressure to defeat even the most modest of bills; the UULM asks that we be equally persistent in our commitment to creating a more just and accessible system of care. “Forty calls in forty days”—even if we start late in the Lenten season, this is a beautiful and potentially effective spiritual practice. You will find the phone numbers for our U.S. Senators and for the White House at this web site, along with a brief message we can borrow.

But this spiritual practice is larger and more far-reaching even than health care reform. Here is the line from the UULM that caught my mind and heart: “Some folks give up chocolate for Lent. We recommend that we give up despair.” The spiritual practice of giving up despair . . . How can we make such a practice our way of life? Let’s puzzle this out together:

Just what is despair? In French and Spanish—*désespoir*; *desesperación*—the roots of the word are crystal clear: it means literally the loss of hope. Many of us have experienced moments, or more, of despair in our lives. When I think about my own moments of despair, I can see how fear—fear about the future—almost always plays a major role in that “loss of hope.” Sadness spirals into despair when we fear that the current bleak situation, whatever it may be, will never ever change.

And yet . . . the one thing we are guaranteed in life is that everything does change. Despair is a kind of misconception, then—a projection that the future will feel as difficult as the present does. And of course, the very best way to ensure that this projection does not come to pass is to get engaged in creating that future. As the UULM’s “40 calls in 40 days” illustrates, we can take action to help move the change—which will come, with or without us—in the direction that

Continued on page 3

La Práctica Espiritual de Deshacernos de la desesperación

“Pascua, Passover, equinoccio de primavera—festivales de liberación, nueva vida y esperanza”, el Ministerio Legislativo Unitario Universalista nos recuerda (usted puede leer más en <http://www.uulmca.org/main.html#40days>). En honor a esta temporada de liberación y esperanza, la UULM nos invita a que hagamos “40 llamadas en 40 días” a nuestros representantes de Gobierno, urgiéndoles a pasar la reforma de salud. Los opositores a la reforma de salud están sin duda manteniendo la presión para derrotar incluso los más modestos proyectos de ley; el UULM pide que seamos igualmente persistentes en nuestro compromiso con la creación de un sistema más justo y accesible de cuidado médico. “Cuarenta llamadas en cuarenta días”—incluso si empezamos a finales de la temporada de cuaresma, esta es una hermosa y potencialmente eficaz práctica espiritual. Usted encontrará los números de teléfono de nuestros senadores y de la Casa Blanca en esta edición del boletín, junto con un breve mensaje que podemos pedir prestado.

Pero esta práctica espiritual es más grande y de más largo alcance incluso que la reforma de salud. Aquí está la línea de la UULM que atrapo mi mente y corazón: “Algunos amigos renuncian al chocolate en la Cuaresma. Recomendamos que renunciemos a la desesperación.” ¿La práctica espiritual de renunciar a la desesperación . . . ¿Cómo podemos hacer esta práctica nuestra forma de vida? Descubramos este problema juntos: ¿Que es la desesperación? En francés y en español—*désespoir*; *desesperación*: las raíces de la palabra son cristalinas: literalmente significa la pérdida de la

esperanza. Muchos de nosotros hemos experimentado momentos, o más, de desesperación en nuestras vidas. Cuando pienso en mis propios momentos de desesperación, puedo ver como el temor—el temor sobre el futuro—casi siempre juega un papel importante en la “pérdida de esperanza”. Espirales de tristeza en la desesperación cuando tememos que la sombría situación actual, cualquiera que esta sea, nunca cambiará.

Y sin embargo... la única cosa que garantizamos en la vida es que todo cambia. La desesperación es una especie de idea falsa, entonces, una proyección que el futuro se sentirá tan difícil como es el presente. Y por supuesto, la mejor forma para garantizar que esta proyección no vaya a pasar es mantenerse involucrado en la creación de ese futuro. Como se ilustran en “40 llamadas del UULM en 40 días”, podemos actuar para ayudar a mover el cambio — el cual vendrá, con o sin nosotros — en la dirección que deseemos! “La acción es el antídoto contra el miedo” es uno de mis aforismos favoritos, porque he experimentado su verdad en mis huesos.

Continúa en la página 3



Quality, Affordable Healthcare for All
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry, California

Sen. Dianne Feinstein • (202) 224-3841
Sen. Barbara Boxer • (202) 224-3553
Speaker Nancy Pelosi • (202) 225-4965
House of Rep Switchboard • (202) 224-3121
White House • (202) 456-1111

A MESSAGE YOU MIGHT LEAVE:

I'm calling as a Unitarian Universalist and I urge (Sen/Rep/Speaker/Pres NAME) to make healthcare legislation a priority. We need this. Our country needs this.

See your congregation's healthcare team for the latest talking points on Healthcare Reform.



SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

El legado de Shiva: La espiritualidad del Yoga Tantra

La Rev. Nancy ha invitado a su colega, el yogi Dada Nabhaniilananda— originario de Nueva Zelanda, formado en la India y alrededor de todo el mundo: para compartir con nosotros su viaje espiritual y las ideas de la tradición del yoga tantra de 7.000 años de tradición. Dada, un músico profesional, subraya su historia con su propia hermosa música. ¿Qué podemos los unitarios universalistas aprender de la antigua tradición del yoga tantra que se centra en la meditación, en la unión con lo divino y la reforma social? Un servicio religioso único lleno de la luz de un espíritu suave—¡esperamos que se unan a nosotros para esta colaboración!

Dirigen: Invitado especial Dada Nabhaniilananda, con la Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Asociado de Culto: Frank Bosche

March 21 – 9:30 am

Teología del Pecado Unitario Universalista

¿El Unitario Universalista tiene un concepto de pecado y del mal, o son estos conceptos que muchos de nosotros nos sentimos profundamente agradecidos haber dejado atrás? ¿La visión del Unitario Universalista del “pecado” sería incluso vagamente similar a la de otras religiones? ¿Mientras nos esforzamos por vivir nuestra fe, con su profundo respeto por el valor y potencial humano, no necesitamos también una manera de entender los actos destructivos que nosotros los humanos cometemos? ¿Estamos dispuestos a mirar nuestro propio potencial para hacer gran daño? ¿Qué lenguaje, entonces, puede ayudarnos a comprender este aspecto de nosotros mismos, para que nos movamos a través de la vida con una esperanza realista y estrategias saludables para favorecer lo mejor de nosotros mismos y construir comunidades de amor y justicia?

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

March 21 – 11:00 am

A Unitarian Universalist's Theology of Sin

Does Unitarian Universalism have a concept of sin and evil—or are these concepts that most of us feel profoundly grateful to have left behind? Would a Unitarian Universalist's view of “sin” be even vaguely similar to that of other religions? As we strive to live our faith, with its deep respect for human worth and potential, don't we also need a way to understand the destructive acts that we humans commit? Are we willing to look at our own potential to do great harm? What language, then, can help us to understand this aspect of ourselves, so that we move through life with a realistic hope and healthy strategies for becoming our best selves and building communities of love and justice?

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones; Worship Associates: Mary Martin and Dave Proulx

As We Build the Beloved Community, continued from page 3

we desire! “Action is the antidote to fear” is one of my favorite aphorisms, because I have experienced its truth in my bones.

So when despair shrouds our hearts—whether such despair is prompted by discouragement with the workings of Washington, D.C., or by deep personal loss—let us remember that our feelings are gifts of discernment about where we need to focus our loving attention. If we feel stuck in sadness and discouragement, then we are called to reach out to others who will remind us how good it is that we are alive. If we feel fearful that the future holds only more of the same discouragement that we are feeling today, then we are called to reach out to help lift others' spirits, to help make others' lives brighter and more hopeful. Let our experiences deepen our compassion for all who are suffering; let these experiences, even of loss or discouragement, invite us into deeper engagement with each other and the world.

Our Sunday worship services in March, with the theme “Aspects of the Holy—the Depth and Breadth of Life,” will dance with the questions I've explored here. Please join us as we try out many languages for naming our surest sources of hope.

My friends, let's never “give up”; let's give up despair instead!

With warmth and hope,

Nancy

Mientras construimos nuestra querida comunidad, continúa para la página 3

Cuando la desesperación envuelve nuestros corazones — si tal desesperación es rápidamente desalentada con el funcionamiento de Washington, D.C., o por la profunda pérdida personal, recordemos que nuestros sentimientos son regalos de discernimiento sobre donde debemos centrar nuestra cariñosa atención. Si nos sentimos atascados en la tristeza y el desánimo, entonces estamos llamados a buscar a otros que nos recordarán lo bueno que es que estemos vivos. Si nos sentimos temerosos de lo que depara el futuro sólo más del mismo desaliento que estamos sintiendo hoy, entonces estamos llamados a buscar a otros para ayudar a elevar los espíritus de otros, para ayudar a hacer las vidas de otros más brillantes y más esperanzadoras. Permitamos que nuestras experiencias profundicen nuestra compasión para todos los que están sufriendo; dejar que estas experiencias, incluso de pérdida o desaliento, nos inviten a un compromiso más profundo entre sí y con el mundo.

Nuestros servicios religiosos del domingo en marzo, con el tema “aspectos de la Santidad, la profundidad y amplitud de la vida” bailarían con las preguntas que he explorado aquí. Por favor únase a nosotros nos experimentar mientras probamos en muchos idiomas para asignar nombres a nuestras fuentes más seguras de esperanza.

Mis amigos, permítanos nunca “abandonarlos”; déjenos abandonar la desesperación en su lugar!

Con calidez y esperanza,

Nancy



Upcoming Events

UPCOMING EVENTS: COMMUNITY

Women's Interfaith Dialog Encounter on March 14, 2010

The Women's Interfaith Dialogue Encounter will be co-led by **Joy-Ellen Lipsky** at the Center for Spiritual Enlightenment (CSE) on Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 2:30 pm. CSE is located at 1146 University Avenue in San Jose. The meeting is in the Community Room in the Compassion Building (look for the sign).

We will learn about the Parliament of the World's Religions and our own Silicon Valley Partner City Group. Through small group and large group interactions we will imagine ways to further unfold our vision of interfaith relations into the larger community. This might include ways to join with government, non-profits, education and business to increase peace, understanding and shared action in our valley.

We are eager to be exposed to each other's practices, music, food, prayer, philosophies and histories. However, we seek more than

information about other religions. Rather we wish to deeply understand the lived experience of different cultures and faiths. The emphasis is on interaction, dialogue and "encounter." We hope that you will join us for this meaningful discussion. Please feel free to forward to other women you think may be interested.

RSVP to: **Sharla Kibel**, (408) 353-4349, shandmirow@verizon.net or **Joy-Ellen Lipsky** 408 513-4418, JELipsky@successwithjoy.com, by March 10 if possible. ●

Theater Performance: Bury the Dead

Come to see this SJSU's production of Irvin Shaw's *Bury the Dead*, an expressionist drama about a group of soldiers killed in a battle who refuse to be buried.

Rodrigo Garcia will be playing the role of one of the Generals. Performances will be March 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 at 7 pm at San Jose State University Theater, Fifth and San Fernando, San Jose. Get tickets at SJSU Event Center or at Ticketmaster or at the door; seniors and students \$10, General Admission \$20. ●



Seminar offered by member Sally Cooperrider

ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

Thursday, March 18 • 7-9 p.m.

Stop procrastinating about writing or updating your will, setting up a living trust, crafting an advanced health care directive or making a bequest to your church community.

Register by contacting Gordon Smith at 408-393-6182 or gordonsmith100@gmail.com

The Annual Canvass Starting Soon

Now is the time for all good UUs to come to the aid of their community (and the bad ones too ... you know who you are).

If you are available to serve as a canvasser or as a party host this year, please contact the POC member for Stewardship and Fundraising, **Henry Ruddle**. (408-234-3670 or stewardship@sanjoseuu.org).

If you'd like to just get your pledge card and get it over with, that's fine too. Henry will be glad to help.

Classifieds

Career Counseling

I am offering free career counseling to 3 people. I have a free trial of the new version of Skill Scan and I am looking for 3 different types of people, i.e. artistic, realistic, investigative, etc. I will also include Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Strong Interest Inventory as well as personal counseling. Anyone who is interested should e-mail **Jerry Cluney** at cluneycluney@yahoo.com or call 408 292-1781.

Estate sale:

Jean vonKaenel is getting ready to move and would like to sell these items: a 5' x 3' wooden kitchen table and 5 matching chairs, 3 cast-iron patio tables and 4 matching chairs, a waist-high refrigerator, tablecloths, teapots, holiday decorations, and much more. Call Jean at (408) 356-1953 for prices, descriptions, or to arrange to see the items. ●

Upcoming Events

Annual Elections Slated for Sunday March 28

By Rick Merritt

The FUCSJ Board of Directors has set Sunday, March 28 at 12:45pm as the time for our annual members meeting to elect officers, directors and a nominating committee for the new church year. Elections will be held in the sanctuary. Absentee ballots should be available from the church office manager no later than March 14. If you are interested in taking part in the policy-based governance of the church there is still time to talk to one of our nominating committee members—**Steve Madden, Nancy Coleman, Bob Meiss or Jan Theis-Guffey.** ●

Women's Alliance Meeting

The Women's Alliance will meet at the home of **Jean vonKaenel** in Los Gatos on Thursday, March 4, from 7:15 to 9:15 pm. Please call **Nancy Coleman** at 408 985 5778 or email nbc Coleman@gmail.com for directions or more information.

Meg Bowman will bring materials for a readers' theater "performance" of one of the many scripts she has written about the life "herstory" of a courageous woman you will wish you had met. Great timing for Women's History Month. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 1. ●

SJSU Hosts Transgender Awareness Week, March 8th- 11th, 2010

San Jose State University is proud to host Transgender Awareness Week, March 8th -11th, 2010. This collaborative event will feature nationally renowned Trans experts along with local activists to educate the SJSU campus and local community about Transgender people. The week will feature art, film, scholarship and performance to present the intricacies of life for people who identify as transgender. Some events are in the afternoon and some are in the evening, all are free

and open to the public. To see more details and RSVP, follow the link below:

<http://www.facebook.com/n/?event.php&eid=372391469828&mid=1f1166aG2f7c354aG43939deG7> ●

UPCOMING EVENTS: PCD AND UUA

Power in Your Congregation (or Governance 101) with Gini Courter, UUA Moderator

Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo
300 E. Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401

On Saturday, May 15, 9:30 am-12:00 noon, UUA Moderator **Gini Courter** will explore the foundations of governance in our liberal religious congregations. After her presentation, there will be time for dialogue and questions. If you ever wondered how things work, who makes what decisions and why, don't miss this event! Gini Courter is the Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association, which means (among other things) she facilitates the democratic process for 5,000 UU's at our annual General Assembly. In her professional life, Gini is an Information Technology consultant, author of twenty-eight books, and a nationally-recognized speaker on collaboration and productivity software.

For information: office@uusanmateo.org or 650-342-5946 x 11. This event is free, child care provided. ●

Monday, March 1: Register for General Assembly in Minneapolis, MN, June 23-27

FUCSJ always sends a lively delegation to our national Unitarian Universalist gathering! Register early to ensure the best housing possibilities. Visit <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml> starting this Monday--and stay tuned for more information about who else will be traveling to GA from FUCSJ.

If you are worried about the expense, check out the February 22 issue of PCD Currents here <http://www.pcd-uua.org/currents/20100222.htm> and read **Cilla Raughley's** suggestions for substantially reducing the cost of this great experience. ●

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay: Wine Country Holiday
"Napa was as delightful as I had expected. What was equally important and somewhat unexpected was the profound connections I felt with my hosts and hostesses."

--Carol Lim, Los Angeles

The UU's of Napa, California proudly announce a new season of our Wine Country Excursions. We offer a variety of options for an inside look at one of America's most beautiful areas, internationally known for fine wines, gourmet dining and spectacular vistas.

There's much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys: e.g., wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; and exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads.

We offer two choices: Both start with comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a 2-day "Wine Country Excursion," a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of our members or lodging and self-guided touring. If desired, we provide guidance, maps, etc.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are below market rate for similar services and all proceeds go to our small fellowship. For complete details contact: **Tom Wilson** (707-254-7443) or 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

We look forward to sharing our lovely "home" with you! ●



FUCSJ Board Updates, Ratifies Ends Statement By Rick Merritt

As a UU church community organized under policy-based governance we articulate our goals in what we call an Ends Statement. We have been operating under a draft Ends Statement since February 2008. Recently the Board of Directors approved language for the goals of our new Lifespan Faith Development program and ratified the resulting Ends Statement [available at the link] below. This is a living document that is intended to change with our times and the growth of our community. The board welcomes input from members of the congregation about our goals.

Ends Statement

Adopted by the FUCSJ Board of Directors on January 27, 2010

1.0 Global Ends — Through our worship, education, service, fellowship, work for social justice, and stewardship, we build a loving compassionate multigenerational community that embodies our Unitarian Universalist values and that is multilingual, multicultural, multiracial, and

anti-oppressive. We are willing to extend ourselves by giving our time, talent, and treasure to meet these expansive ends.

1.1 Worship — We gather for meaningful worship to connect with our deepest selves, with each other, with what we hold of highest worth, with transcending mystery and wonder, and with both timeless questions and the questions of our time.

1.2 Lifespan Faith Development — Faith development is at the heart of our community. We provide an ongoing program of engaging, useful and relevant opportunities for children, youth and adults to grow in our understanding of who we are, what we value, and how best to put those values into action. We embrace the full and diverse expression of our ever-evolving 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 our own expressions of love, joy, and compassion.

1.3 Service — Our congregation embodies

an ethic of service through our shared ministries. We nourish and use our unique gifts to serve our wider community, and to serve one another through pastoral care, congregational leadership, building maintenance, and a host of other volunteer tasks.

1.4 Fellowship — Our members, friends, and guests experience warmth, hospitality, and welcome. We support a variety of gatherings and groups that nurture relationships among people of all ages, fostering fun and spiritual growth, and overcoming the barriers that sometimes divide the human family.

1.5 Social Justice — We join with others in the wider community to work for justice, equity, and compassion for all, thereby transforming ourselves, our neighborhood, city, and world.

1.6 Stewardship — Our growing generosity in contributing our time, talent, and treasure provides the essential foundation that supports our staff, building, and programs. All of these elements make it possible for us to meet our ends. ●

Safety First!!! By the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

We are blessed to be a community of all ages. It is one of the great joys of a religious community to have children, youth and adults coming together under one roof to celebrate life and find here among us support and friendship. One of the challenges for an urban congregation like ours is not having a play space for our children to blow off some steam.

Their exuberance and swiftness of foot, though a joy to behold, does pose safety concerns and the possibility that someone could inadvertently be knocked off balance and come crashing to the floor, breaking a hip or suffering other injuries. Yes, children are the responsibility of their parents after their morning program ends at 12:30; but if I may voice a well used but still valid idea, We are the village that raises the children.

Everyone (children and youth too!) should take it upon themselves to stop anyone they observe running around the church and with a firm but loving voice, tell them that it is not allowed. We can be both a child friendly and safe congregation! And this goes for adults too—if we observe someone doing something that is potentially dangerous.

Remember safety first and then the Spirit can unfurl its wings! ●

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@yahoogroups.com. ●



Aren't You Getting the UU World Magazine?

By Sherry Howd, Program and Operations Council

The UU World is the magazine of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It is published quarterly and mailed, by snail mail, to all members (or households) of UUA congregations.

If you are a member of this congregation and are not receiving the UU World, you should be, and you can remedy this situation by contacting **Susan Burke-Diquisto**, Administrator. She will notify the UUA to include your name and address on the mailing list. To contact Susan, either send an e-message to fucsjs@sanjoseuu.org, or phone (408) 292-3858 x21. ●



Standing on the Side of



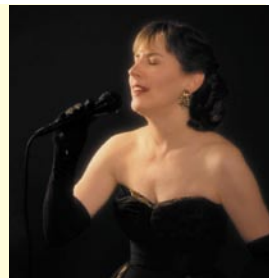
BENEFIT CONCERT FOR HAITI

Friday, March 26, 2010 ♥ 7-10 p.m.

Many local musical guest artists, including renowned jazz vocalist

Nancy Gilliland

"Gilliland is a torch singer in an era of disposable lighters, a martini with an olive in the age of light beer." – San Jose Mercury News



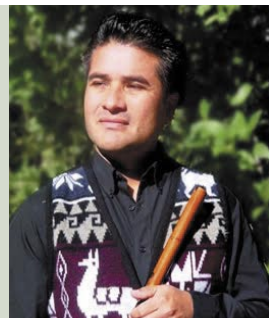
Refreshments available!

and world-famous Peruvian flute and panflute stylist

Nayo Ulloa and his band

"... until you've heard a virtuoso like Nayo Ulloa blow it on the Andean bamboo flutes, you've missed the real deal..."

– San Francisco Bay Guardian



Suggested Donation: \$25 (Any donation welcome. Nobody will be turned away while seats are available.)

100% of the proceeds will go to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund

Reserve your seat today by calling Susan at (408) 292-3858 or by e-mailing fucs@sanjoseuu.org (be sure to include your name, contact number and number of seats requested)

Location: 160 North Third Street, San Jose, CA 95112 (between St. James and St. John)

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. They 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

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. An informational meeting will be held at church on Sunday, March 21st from 10:00-10:50 am. ●

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the March 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 canceled. 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, March 3

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

Saturday, March 6

Sunol Regional Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at VTA Park and Ride on Capital at Alum Rock at 8:00 am. We will do McGuire Peaks hike.

Wednesday, March 10

Sierra Azule Open Space Preserve, 6-7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath, and Beyond at the Almaden Plaza Shopping center at 8:30 am. We meet at the small lot across the access road from the large parking lot in front of Bed, Bath and Beyond. Palo Alto folks may want to meet at Page Mill/280 at 8:00 am to car pool to Almaden Plaza.

Saturday, March 13

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

Wednesday, March 17

Castle Rock State Park, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at US Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am. Turn right just past the Union 76 Station on Big Basin Way.

Saturday, March 20

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

Wednesday, March 24

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

Saturday, March 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 at 8:20 am. Parking fee \$4.

Wednesday, March 31.

Saratoga Gap to Grizzly Flat car shuttle, 6 miles, moderate. Meet at US Bank parking lot in Saratoga at 8:30 am.

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

Contact Rev. Geoff,
grimositis@sanjoseuu.org



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Page 8 • Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José

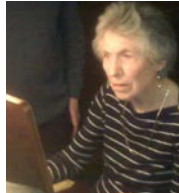
Our Church Circular • March 3, 2010 / 3 de Marzo 2010



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. Ok, gentle readers, this week:

Which of us is really crazy? *Somebody has come in from the cold.* A lovely girl is re-named. Who else is absolutely crazy? Multiple answers on this one.

Was pleased to see **Libby Codd**, a consummate New Englander, back in church. She used to be around playing the organ a whole lot more than lately. She said she's been off earning money by playing the organ, which she's willing to substitute for the love she gets here. One of the places is a very conservative Anglican church. Since she and I were both Episcopalians in former lives, my ears perked up at the term "Anglican." This is a church that has broken away from the regular Episcopalians because of their outrageous decisions to let women, gays, and who knows else, into the ministry. She's living at The Forum in Cupertino and



having a great time. She doesn't have to cook and there's a great park where she can hike practically out her back door.

Another correction: **Bev Clifford's** dog's name is Chamise, not whatever I said it was. She's such a beauty, standing so quietly, that I couldn't resist screwing up the whole training by letting her smell my hand. She looked up because I smell like dogs, I'm happy to say. But I only did it once and was embarrassed. Her training is going well, according to Bev.

Do you know **Arthur Henrick** is a Roman re-enactor? Ever known a re-enactor? They are sunk in the past, any past they choose. Civil War, Hundred Years War, War of the Roses, or in Arthur's case, 1st century Roman in England. He'll probably correct me on this because I think he said he did a couple

of other periods, too. We were talking about 1st century Rome because I was there on a dig, and we both talked at the same time, and excitedly talked over his wife and son, whose names I'll get later. The Civil War re-enactors that I know go to crazy lengths to make sure their outfits are authentic — even sewing them from the right kind of fabric. Just as Arthur has a set of chain mail. Yes, they are all crazy.

Katy Dawson and I sat in the stairwell as I copied her list of movies to see at Cinequest. I saw three the first day, looking forward to a much tighter schedule. Also saw **Candice Stein** at the movies.

White Light Corner: **V Kingsley** as she begins chemo.

New Class Opens Closet Doors

"This class was a wonderful experience. As a bisexual (and polyamorous) woman, I feel it is important that people know more about bisexuality so that they can see that bisexuals are people just like them, regardless of who, or how, we love. I feel that biphobia (especially within the LGBT community) stems from a disconnection from bisexuality, and/or from a fear of the unknown. By having a curriculum like what was in [this] class, we are breaking down walls that divide and creating a more healthy, well-balanced, accepting community"
- **Verna Kirkendall.**

"I valued the level of sharing within a group with very diverse experiences."

"It was wonderful to get to know some of our church folks at a much deeper level and to ... see how important it is to have a safe and affirming space to share our personal stories." "Polyamory does not freak me out as it once did."



Photo by Verna Kirkendall.

What are these people talking about??

Our church's Lifespan Faith Development and Welcoming Congregation programs recently held the class "Spectrum of Sexual Orientation," adapted from Interweave Continental's new Bisexuality Curriculum. The interactive workshops were facilitated by **Rev. Geoff Rimositis, Marnie Singer, Bill Baldwin and Frey Leigh; Moria Merriweather and John Burk** were also on the class task force. Participants challenged dualities (like the gender binary), discovered different ways of seeing sexual orientation and bisexuality, and learned about polyamorous relationships. These topics and more were explored openly and respectfully through exercises and discussion by people willing to share their own life experiences. One more comment: "The church should do this again!" ●





FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of San José

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

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, March 17, 2010

View this newsletter online in HTML or PDF format at:

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



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

For Pastoral Care

Our community strives to offer compassion, companionship, healing, and joy to all its members. Our pastoral care coordinators can help you find the listening ear or helping hands that you may need in difficult times. For pastoral care in English, please contact our lay Pastoral Associate Coordinator, **Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (home) 408-354-9024; (cell) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com. For pastoral care in Spanish, please contact our Spanish-Speaking Ministries Coordinator, **Roberto Padilla**: 408-991-3212; e-mail: paor69@yahoo.com.

Contacting the Ministers

Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and **Rev. Geoff Rimositis** feel honored to serve this congregation, and we cherish your trust! Here is how reach us: **Nancy**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com. **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 Mon.-Thurs.; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

Cuidado Pastoral

Nuestra comunidad se esfuerza en ofrecer la compasión, el compañerismo curativo, y la alegría a todos sus miembros. Nuestros coordinadores en cuidado pastoral pueden ayudarle a encontrar un oído que escucha, o las manos que ayudan cuando ustedes lo pudieran necesitaren épocas difíciles. Para el cuidado pastoral en inglés, por favor, comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador Asociado Laico en Cuidado Pastoral, **la Rev. Donna Lenahan**: (casa) 408-354-9024; (celular) 408-204-6565; e-mail: djlenahan@aol.com. Para el cuidado pastoral en español, por favor comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador de los Ministerios en Español, **Roberto Padilla**: 408-991-3212; e-mail: paor69@yahoo.com.

Contactando a los Ministros

La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y **El Rev. Geoff Rimositis** se sienten honrados por servir a esta congregación, y nosotros apreciamos su confianza! Aquí nosotros estamos a su alcance: **Nancy**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 23 de Lunes a Jueves; (celular) 408-952-9418; e-mail: revnpj@yahoo.com **Geoff**: (408) 292-3858, ext. 25 de Lunes a Jueves; (cell) 408-309-7796; e-mail: grimositis@sanjoseuu.org.

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Editors: Catherine Leeson Pelizzari and Shirley Worth; CircularEditors@gmail.com
Shirley will be editor for the March 17 and April 21, 2010 issues. Catherine will be editor for the April 7 and May 5, 2010 issues.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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*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! ***

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