



Our Church Circular

September
15, 2010 / 15
de Septiembre
2010

SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

SEPTEMBER THEME: Season of Transformation: Homecoming Sunday through the Day of the Dead Celebration!
TEMA DE SEPTIEMBRE: Temporada de transformación: Domingo de Regreso al Hogar a la Celebración del Día de los Muertos!

9:30 a.m.
Servicios en español

19 de septiembre – 9:30 a.m.

La Jornada de la Transformación

De Adán a Moisés, de Sócrates a Newton, de Buda a Jesús, de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz a Rosa Parks, del Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. a Cesar Chávez, desde la Revolución Francesa hasta la independencia de los países latinoamericanos, la humanidad ha recorrido una larga jornada de transformaciones. Cambia, todo cambia. Vengan e inspirémonos en las transformaciones de aquellos que nos han precedido, para continuar transformándonos nosotros mismos y al mundo.

Dirige: Roberto Padilla

Asociados de Culto: Miembros de SSM

The Journey of Transformation

From Adam to Moses, from Socrates to Newton, from Buddha to Jesus, from Sister Juana Ines de la Cruz to Rosa Parks, from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to Cesar Chavez, from the French Revolution to of the independence of the Latin American countries, humanity has walked a long journey of transformations. Things change, everything changes. Come and be inspired by the transformations of those who have preceded us to continue transforming ourselves and the world.

Worship Leader: Roberto Padilla

Worship Associates: SSM Members

11:00 a.m.
Services in English

September 19 – 11:00 a.m.

Forgive and Remember

With the Jewish Days of Awe ending on Yom Kippur yesterday, we stop to take stock of our lives. This is a time of truth and reconciliation. Who do we need to settle up with? What have we been holding on to for far too long? Forgive and forget? How could we, if justice has not been served, if we have put off that long overdue phone call, and continue to beat ourselves up for the sins and transgressions of our past? We will instead forgive and remember what makes us whole when we face the truth of our lives and bring them into reconciliation and balance once again. Our Coming of Age mentors and youth participants will be recognized as they launch their yearlong program

Worship Leader: the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Worship Associate: the Rev. Donna Lenahan

Perdonar y Recordar

Con los días judíos de temor que concluyen en Yom Kipur, ayer dejamos de hacer un balance de nuestras vidas. Este es un momento de verdad y reconciliación. ¿Quién de nosotros necesita arreglar las cuentas? ¿Qué hemos estado reteniendo durante demasiado tiempo? ¿Perdonar y olvidar? ¿Cómo podríamos nosotros, si la justicia no nos ha estado sirviendo, si nosotros hemos aplazado esa llamada telefónica desde hace mucho tiempo y continuamos dándonos golpes de pecho por los pecados y transgresiones de nuestro pasado? En lugar de ello, perdonemos y recordemos todo lo que hacemos cuando nos enfrentamos a la verdad de nuestras vidas y las traemos a la reconciliación y al equilibrio una vez más. Nuestros mentores de la mayoría de edad y jóvenes participantes, serán reconocidos mientras lanzan su programa anual.

Dirige: el Rev. Geoff Rimositis

Asociada de Culto: la Rev. Donna Lenahan

SAVE THE DATES

September 18, Saturday, Multidisciplinary Worship Planning Gathering, Sanctuary, 8:45 am-1:00 pm

September 19, Sunday, Advanced Health Care Planning: The 5 Wishes, at the church, time to be announced

September 20, Monday, HUUmanist Group, 7 pm, lower level conference room

September 25, Saturday, All-church Annual Coastal Cleanup Day at a Santa Cruz beach

October 2, Saturday, 8:45 am-5:00 pm, Consultation on our Multicultural Mission, with the Rev. Alicia Forde, Sanctuary

October 3, Sunday, at the church, HUUmanist Forum 9:45 am; Combined Service for Rev. Alicia Forde and Association Sunday; 10:30 am

October 6, Wednesday, Inspirational Reading Circle, first meeting, 6:20 p.m., home of Rev. Donna Lenahan

October 7, Thursday, Women's Alliance Meeting, 7:15 pm, Fireside Room

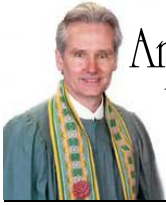
October 15-17, PDC Men's Retreat, Westminster Center, Alamo, CA

June 22-26, 2011, UUA General Assembly

July 14-29 and July 21-August 4, 2011, Partner Church Committee trips to Homoródszentmárton

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

La articulación de Nuestra Unitaria Universalista Fe

para el Rev. Geoff Rimositis

What Is Your Spiritual Growth Plan?

Some of us have what we call spiritual practices. We meditate, exercise, do yoga or Tai Chi, walk in the woods, walk our dogs, read inspirational literature, write poetry, and write in our journals. We care for others. We are parents raising children. We are adult children caring for older parents. We savor the moment, the pot roast, the tofu, and a laughing child. When we live our lives fully, the whole catastrophe, from soup to nuts, from the sublime to the ridiculous, from the holy to the profane, we are spiritually engaged.

But if we want to be more loving, compassionate, centered and at peace, it might be a good idea to draw up a plan for how we want to grow. Our spiritual life is best not left to chance. As we begin what we traditionally call the new church year that starts on Homecoming Sunday on September 12, and begin work on refining the mission and vision of this congregation, it is also a wonderful opportunity to look at our own personal mission and vision, our spiritual growth plans (SGP).

I have dreams of people in our congregation writing up their own SGPs and then getting together with a small group of people to do yearly reviews and revisions. I would love to sit with a group of people who help each other to clarify their goals and to hold each other accountable to follow through with their plans.

What might be in a Spiritual Growth Plan? It might include what we will do in the coming year to reach out to those groups of people we don't have any personal relationships with.

If we want to be a multicultural congregation, then it makes sense that we have a multicultural life. Could it mean that we might learn about the families who send their children to the Third Street Community Center and assist them in their programs or get to know our Chinese elders that are dancing at the church, doing yoga or singing traditional opera? What about the African Americans in San José? What is their story? What are their needs? How might we bridge the divide of our own fear and awkwardness and find ways to get to know them and weave new relationships into the rich tapestry of our own lives? The possibilities are limitless with the wide diversity of our valley.

I imagine an SGP would include what we will do for the health of our Mind, Body, and Spirit. How will we feed, care for, stimulate, and enrich them all? What needs healing? What needs to break through old patterns? Where is the joy and ecstasy?

Of course, we would have to look at our relationship with the church and Unitarian Universalism. Where are we on our faith jour-

¿Cual es Su Plan de Crecimiento Espiritual?

Algunos de nosotros tenemos lo que llamamos prácticas espirituales. Meditamos, hacemos ejercicio, yoga, Tai Chi, caminata en el bosque, caminamos con nuestros perros, leemos literatura inspiradora, escribimos poesía y escribimos en nuestros diarios. Nos preocupamos por otros. Somos padres criando a los hijos. Somos niños adultos cuidando a nuestros padres ancianos. Saboreamos el momento, la carne para azar, el tofu y un niño riendo. Cuando vivimos nuestras vidas totalmente, toda la catástrofe, desde la sopa a las nueces, desde lo sublime a lo ridículo, desde lo Santo a lo profano, espiritualmente estamos comprometidos.

Pero si queremos ser más cariñoso, compasivos, centrados y en paz, podría ser una buena idea elaborar un plan para cómo queremos crecer. Nuestra vida espiritual no es mejor dejarla al azar. Al comenzar lo que tradicionalmente llamamos el nuevo año de la iglesia, que inicia con el servicio de regreso al hogar el 12 de septiembre y comenzar a trabajar en refinar la misión y la visión de esta congregación, también es una oportunidad maravillosa para mirar nuestra propia misión y visión personal, nuestros planes de crecimiento espiritual (PCE).

Tengo sueños de personas en nuestra congregación escribiendo sus propios PCE y entonces, juntarse con un pequeño grupo de personas para hacer reconsideraciones anuales y revisiones. Me encantaría sentarme con un grupo de personas que se ayudan mutuamente a aclarar sus objetivos y para sostenerse unos a otros responsablemente a seguir con sus planes.

¿Que podría ser un plan de crecimiento espiritual? Podría incluir lo que haremos en el próximo año para llegar a esos grupos de personas con las que no tenemos ninguna relación personal.

Si queremos ser una congregación multicultural, entonces tiene sentido que tengamos una vida multicultural. ¿Podría esto significar que podríamos aprender acerca de las familias que envían a sus hijos al Centro Comunitario de la Calle Tercera y asistirlos en sus programas, o conocer a nuestros ancianos chinos que están bailando en la Iglesia, haciendo yoga o cantando ópera tradicional? ¿Qué pasa con los afroamericanos en San José? ¿Cuál es su historia? ¿Cuáles son sus necesidades? ¿Cómo podríamos cerrar la brecha de nuestro propio miedo e incomodidad y encontrar formas para llegar a conocerlos y tejer nuevas relaciones en el rico tapiz de sus propias vidas? Las posibilidades son ilimitadas con la gran diversidad de nuestro valle.

Me imagino que un PCE incluiría lo que haremos para la salud de nuestra mente, cuerpo y espíritu. ¿Cómo nosotros alimentaremos, cuidaremos, estimularemos y enriqueceremos a todos ellos? ¿Qué necesita curación? ¿Que se necesita para romper los viejos patrones? ¿Dónde está la alegría y el éxtasis?

Por supuesto, tendríamos que mirar nuestras relaciones con la Iglesia y el Unitarismo Universalismo. ¿Dónde estamos en nuestra jornada de fe?

Continued on page 3

Continúa en la página 3



ney? Where do we need to grow in our faith? Do we need to get back to basics and go through a reading list of Unitarian Universalism and get this tradition and theology into our bones? What would be fulfilling ways for us to serve our mission that has been most recently articulated by our Board of Trustees (See Church President Madeline Morrow's article) that: Bound together by our commitment to making Love visible, we gather to deepen our spirits, to work for justice, and to create one sacred human family.

Perhaps coming out of the consultation on October 2-3 with Rev. Alicia Forde from the Unitarian Universalist Association, there will be those inspired to gather together to create spiritual growth plans, not only for themselves but also for the church. Don't we have to do both together anyway? Let me know if you are intrigued by the idea and would like to work on your spiritual growth as we help our congregation in its spiritual growth too.

Peace and Blessings,
Geoff ●

¿Dónde necesitamos crecer en nuestra fe? ¿Necesitamos volver a los principios básicos e ir a través de lecturas recomendadas Unitario Universalistas y tener esta tradición y teología en los huesos? Cuales serían las maneras satisfactorias para nosotros para servir a nuestra misión la cual a sido recientemente articulada por nuestro Consejo de administración (véa el artículo de Madeline Morrow, Presidente de Iglesia) que: Nos obliga juntos por nuestro compromiso de hacer visible el amor, a reunirnos para profundizar en nuestros espíritus, a trabajar por la justicia y crear una sola sagrada familia humana.

Tal vez, saliendo de la consulta con Alicia Forde, de la Asociación Unitaria Universalista, el 2-3 de octubre, habrá quienes se inspirarán a reunirse para crear planes de crecimiento espiritual, no sólo para sí mismos, sino también para la Iglesia. ¿No tenemos que hacer las dos cosas juntas de todos modos? Déjeme saber si están intrigados por la idea y les gustaría trabajar en su crecimiento espiritual mientras ayudamos también a nuestra congregación en su crecimiento espiritual.

Paz y Bendiciones,
Geoff ●

How To Save Money And Green Your Home

FREE WORKSHOP: Let us show you how to save your green on September 25th from 9:45 am to 1:00pm.

INCLUDES FREE ENERGY SAVING PRODUCTS (\$50 value) - and a drawing for a "Smart" Power Strip (\$40 value)!

Come to this free workshop and learn how to save money with simple changes that you can do yourself. Let us help you with your monthly expenses by cutting your utility and water bills!

Quick Energy Fixes Around the Home and Heating, Cooling and Water Savings

Sacred Heart Community Service is hosting this workshop where you'll learn how to make simple energy-saving changes in your home. Learn how to measure your power use, use energy and water saving products, and do your own weather stripping and caulking. Find out how to get help paying your utility bill, and income-qualify for government sponsored programs for additional weatherization, home repairs and upgrades of appliances. Sacred Heart Community Service, 1381 S. First Street, San Jose, CA. 95110

SNACKS and FREE CHILDCARE PROVIDED (for potty-trained children, please)

There will be some great energy saving products given away at this workshop and it will fill up fast so sign up today! Registration required. Call (408) 300-4645 or email energysaving@sacredheartcs.org. THIS WORKSHOP IS PRESENTED IN SPANISH. Este taller se presentará en español.

The workshops were developed by the San Jose Green Vision Resource Team, which is part of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's community outreach program. ●

Como Ahorrar Dinero Y "Enverdecer" Su Hogar

TALLER GRATIS: Permítanos mostrarle cómo puede ahorrar y mantenerse verde con energía limpia, el 25 de septiembre de las 9:45 am a las 1:00pm.

INCLUYE PRODUCTOS QUE AHORRAN ENERGIA GRATIS (por valor de \$50) - y un sorteo para ganar un cable eléctrico "Smart" (¡por valor de \$40!)!

Venga a este taller y aprenda como ahorrar dinero con algunos cambios simples que usted mismo puede hacer. ¡Permítanos ayudarle con sus gastos mensuales, recortando sus facturas eléctricas y de agua!

Arreglos Rápidos de Energía alrededor de su casa y Ahorros en Calefacción, Aire Acondicionado y Agua

El Servicio Comunitario del Sagrado Corazón (Sacred Heart Community Service) ha establecido un taller donde aprenderá cómo hacer algunos cambios simples que ahorrar energía. Aprenda a medir su uso eléctrico, a utilizar productos que ahorran electricidad y agua, también a hacer su propio aislamiento y sellador. Aprenda como encontrar ayuda para pagar su factura eléctrica y qué programas patrocinados por el gobierno existen, dependiendo de los ingresos personales, para aclimatización adicional, reparaciones de la casa y para conseguir electrodomésticos que estén más al día. Sacred Heart Community Service, 1381 S. First Street, San Jose, CA. 95110

SE PROVEERAN REFRIGERIOS Y CUIDADO DE NIÑOS GRATIS (Sólo para niños que sepan ir al baño solitos, por favor)

Habrán productos que ahorran energía que se repartirán gratis en este taller. Las plazas son limitadas y se llenarán rápido, así que ¡inscríbese hoy mismo! Llamen al (408) 300-4645 ó por correo electrónico a la dirección: energysaving@sacredheartcs.org. Este taller se presentará en español.

Estos talleres fueron creados y desarrollados por el Equipo de Recursos de Visión Verde de San Jose (San Jose Green Vision Resource Team), que es parte del programa de información a la comunidad del Distrito de Control de la Calidad del Aire en el Área de la Bahía. ●



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. Each week our paid staff members, Maria Elena Olvera and Glynda Cotton, provide a loving presence as they engage children in games, stories and crafts with seasonal and holiday themes throughout the year.

Children & Youth Classes Begin On September 19

Children and youth in Preschool (4 years) through high school begin this year's Lifespan Faith Development Program on Sunday, September 19 by joining the community for the first part of worship at 11 a.m. and then going to their prospective classes until 12:30.

PreK (4 years) through First Grade – Creating Home

Children will participate in the Unitarian Universalist Association curriculum, Creating Home for 15 Sundays this year.

Second through Fourth Grades – Moral Tales

Children will participate in the Unitarian Universalist Association curriculum, Moral Tales for 15 Sundays this year.

Fifth Grade – Neighboring Faiths

This yearlong curriculum helps youth learn about their own faith and other faith traditions through interactive experience such as field trips and interviews. These encounters with other religions are given meaning through periods of reflection and discussion about Unitarian Universalist and personal beliefs and values.

Sixth through Eighth Grades – Junior High Youth Group

The junior high youth group meets on Sundays from 11:30-12:30 and follows a planned curriculum exploring themes of empowerment, diversity and compassion. They organize monthly social activities on the first Friday of the month. Class Coordinator, **Pam Pell** johnpell@aol.com

Ninth through Twelfth Grades – Senior High Youth Group (Youth Group Room)

The senior high youth group meets from 11:30 to 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 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.

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

If you are interested in participating in any of the child, youth or adult classes or activities please contact the Rev. Geoff Rimositis, 292-3858, ext.25 or GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

Eighth Through Tenth Grades – Coming of Age

Coming of Age is a rite of passage program for Unitarian Universalist Youth.

The mission of The First Unitarian Church of San Jose's Coming of Age Program is:

To provide experiences for our youth that will help them integrate their childhood into their emerging adulthood with a clear sense of themselves and their place in the church and in the world. For a complete description of this valuable program, please see the September 1 issue of this newsletter. For a brochure and registration form please contact **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org, 292-3858, 25. ●

Class Guides & Curriculum Leader Trainings

For Pre-K(4 Years) through First Grade and Second through Fourth Grades:
► Sunday, September 19, 9-10:30 a.m.

What are Class Guides and Curriculum Leaders?

Class Guides volunteer in either the PreK-1st or 2nd-4th Grade Classes. They are community builders, the ones who get to know our children the best and help them to feel connected with their peers and church community. They initiate getting-acquainted games and energy activities to help children to get the most out of their church experience and free up the Curriculum Leaders to present the morning's lesson or activity without having to worry about also managing children's behavior. Curriculum Leaders teach the assigned lesson, accessed on-line, for Pre-K - Grade 1, Creating Home at: <http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/creatinghome/index.shtml>

And for Grades 2-4, Moral Tales at: <http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/moraltales/index.shtml>

With the Class Guides serving as homeroom teachers, the Curriculum Guides can focus on the lesson they are presenting.

Parents, prospective volunteers and curious folks who are interested in learning more about our Sunday Program for children in Pre-K - Grade 4 are invited to attend the training session on Sunday, September 19, 9-10:30 a.m. at the church in the lower level classrooms. Please RSVP to **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

2010-2011 Lifespan Faith Development Calendar

Sun., Sept. 19, Class Guide and Curriculum Leader Training, 9-10:30 a.m., Classes begin at 11:30

Sat., Sept. 25, Coming of Age Mentor Training, 9-3 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 26, Classes for Pre-K through High School, 11:30-12:30 a.m.

Sun., Oct. 3, Pre-K - Grade 4, Music and Yoga (music and yoga alternate in both classes)

Sun., Oct. 10, Pre-K - Grade 4, Music and Yoga (music and yoga alternate in both classes) ●



Adult Class: Introduction to Unitarian Universalism

This class will address important themes in Unitarian Universalist congregational life: worship and theology, history, covenant and polity, religious education, faith development, social justice, and membership. The class will provide an opportunity for participants to interact and share their own experiences, a process that echoes the Unitarian Universalist commitment to individual theological exploration. Participants will learn about Unitarian Universalism not only by hearing about it, but by doing it—exploring their own theology and its intersection with the Unitarian Universalist tradition.

Leader: Rev Geoff Rimositis

Rsvp GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org

Classes are free and held on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the church's lower level classrooms.

October 28, Theology and Worship

November 4, Where Do We Come From? Unitarian Universalist Roots

November 11, How We Grow in Faith—Philosophy of Religious Education

November 18, Social Justice Philosophy and Practice

December 2, How Are Decisions Made? Governance and Polity

December 19, Membership ●

NEW MEMBER INGATHERING, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

Our next New Member Ingathering will be held during the service on Sunday, October 3, when our new members will be introduced to the congregation. To explore membership in our church community please contact, the Reverend Geoff Rimositis, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org



If you shop at Safeway, please be sure to link eScrip to your Safeway card with First Unitarian Church of San Jose as the charity. The church raises \$1,000-\$1,500 a year at no expense to members this way. www.escrip.com

Help Needed for Coming of Age Retreat

By the Rev. Geoff Rimositis

San Jose will be hosting the first district Coming of Age Retreat on October 15-17 at our church. We will be spending Saturday at Walden West in Saratoga doing their ropes course. A school bus will take us up and back from the course. We will need help with food for the weekend.

We need people to volunteer to bring the items listed below (the quantities may change after we get our final numbers). People sign up for one of the meals or snacks. The biggest job is being cook for Saturday's dinner. A team of 5 people would be ideal. It would mean cooking, serving, and cleaning up. The youth would help (somewhat) but we will want to steer them into activities. Please let me know in what ways you could help with the retreat.

Saturday Lunch (We need fixings that youth will make at the ropes course)

1. Sandwich bread, peanut butter and jelly (double that), mayo, mustard, turkey, cheese, lettuce, cookies, apples, oranges, large container of lemonade and Tang and water (anyone have large water containers with valves we can borrow?)
2. Paper towels and personal water bottles that could be refilled, sharpies to mark the bottles.
3. It would be helpful if everything could be boxed up and put in coolers (I have one)

for us so we can put them on the bus on Saturday morning and take them with us to the ropes course.

Saturday Dinner (We need people to cook, prepare, and clean up at the church)

1. 3 party-size Stouffers lasagnas (one veggie, one meat)
2. 50 sorbet cups for snack or dessert
3. Salad fixings and dressing
4. Garlic bread
5. Cookies or brownies for dessert

Saturday and Sunday Breakfast (We need people to bring this stuff to the church)

Bagels, cream cheese, milk, soy milk, dry cereals, packaged oatmeal assortments, fruit, tea, coffee, orange juice.

Snacks for Friday and Saturday

evenings (We need people to bring this stuff to the church)

Ice cream and the fixings for sundaes; soda (non-caffeinated), chips, crackers, cut up cheese, veggies, fruit.

All purchases are reimbursable and cash advances are available if needed. Please contact **Rev. Geoff Rimositis**, GRimositis@sanjoseuu.org if you can help with the retreat. ●

TSCC Looking for a Bookkeeper

The Third Street Community Center is looking for bookkeeper to manage our books. This person must be knowledgeable and proficient with QuickBooks nonprofit accounting software. Tasks include managing A/R, A/P, payroll, and producing monthly financials including bank reconciliations, P&L, Balance Sheet, and Cash Flow projections. Some higher



level analysis and communication with funding sources regarding the invoice process will be required. Two years or more of experience managing nonprofit financial records is preferred. This is a contract position averaging 12-15 hours per month. If you are interested, please email your resume and 2 professional references to rosemary@3street.org. Please email in PDF format. ●



SUNDAY SERVICES / SERVICIOS DE DOMINGO

Continued from page 1

26 de septiembre – 9:30 a.m.

Para Crear una Familia Humana Sagrada

Si nosotros en FUCSJ estamos llamados, como dice nuestra nueva declaración de la misión, “para crear una sola familia humana sagrada,” ¿qué significa esto, y esto que nos parece? Muchas voces traen sus verdades en este domingo, modelando cómo todos podemos traer nuestras verdades a la consulta la siguiente semana (el sábado, 2 de octubre). En la Rueda del Año, Mabon y el equinoccio de otoño nos trae el festival del Tejedor. Exploremos lo que significa trenzar juntos los cables multicoloridos de nuestras vidas.

Dirige: La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y un Coro de Voces

September 26 – 11:00 a.m.

To Create One Sacred Human Family

If we at FUCSJ are called, as our new Mission statement says, “to create one sacred human family,” what does this mean, and what does it look like? Many voices bring their truths on this Sunday, modeling how we can all bring our truths to the consultation the following week (on Saturday, October 2). On the Wheel of the Year, Mabon and the Fall Equinox bring us the weaver’s festival. Let us explore what it means to braid together the varicolored cords of our lives.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones and a Chorus of Voices

October 3 – COMBINED SERVICE AT 10:30 a.m.!

Reflections from Our Consultant, the Rev. Alicia Forde

Rev. Alicia has been working with the ministers and the board through the summer in preparation for the congregation-wide consultation on our multicultural mission, which takes place the day before, on Saturday, October 2. She brings her perspectives from her work with our wider denomination, and from her own life, combined with wise reflections on our own First Unitarian of San José. This is Association Sunday, “Celebrating 50 Years of the UUA and the Future of Our Faith”—a recognition shared by Unitarian Universalist congregations around the country. We will take up a special collection for the Unitarian Universalist Association—and we will share our Joys and Sorrows.

Worship Leader: the Rev. Alicia Forde; Worship Associates: the Revs. Nancy Palmer Jones and Geoff Rimositis

3 de Octubre — SERVICIO COMBINADO A LAS 10:30 a.m.!

Reflexiones de Nuestra Consultora, la Rev. Alicia Forde

La Reverenda Alicia ha estado trabajando con los Ministros y la Mesa Directiva durante el verano en preparación para la consulta para toda la Congregación sobre nuestra misión multicultural, la cual será el día anterior, el sábado, 2 de octubre. Ella trae sus perspectivas de su trabajo con el resto de la denominación y de su propia vida, combinadas con sabias reflexiones en nuestra propia Primera Iglesia Unitaria de San José. Es el domingo de Asociación, “Celebrando los 50 años de la UUA y el futuro de nuestra fe” — un reconocimiento compartido por las congregaciones Unitarias Universalistas alrededor del país. Tendremos una recolecta especial para la Asociación Unitaria Universalista—y compartiremos nuestras alegrías y tristezas.

Dirige: la Rev. Alicia Forde; Asociados de Culto: Los Revs. Nancy Palmer Jones y Geoff Rimositis ●

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. ●



Interested in Circle Suppers?

By Barbara Derbyshire

Circle Suppers offer an opportunity for members of the church community to get to know one another at casual pot luck suppers. These suppers are held monthly in members’ homes. Some people attend regularly and others only occasionally. As our most frequent participant, **Dave Proulx**, says, “Good food, good conversation, getting to know other church folks better, why would someone NOT participate?” If you want more information or would like to be on the list to receive email announcements, please email me your name(s) and phone number.

The next suppers will be Saturday, October 16 and Sunday, October 17. Let me know by Monday, October 4 if you would like to attend by sending an email to CircleSuppers@aol.com. ●



The all-new all-different Circling Around

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.



by Torchy Hunter

You’ll see Torchy’s always-interesting column in our next issue. In the meantime, we thought you’d enjoy this from the latest issue of PCD Currents:

“It was fun seeing how quickly the story spread this week, the one (which I think

originated on NPR) about Theodore Parker’s famous “arc of justice” quotation, how the words are on the rug in the Oval Office, misattributed to Martin Luther King, Jr. I saw it picked up by the *Washington Post*, and it even ran in the *Hindustan Times*.” ●



Upcoming Events:

OCTOBER 6, 13, 20, 27
AND NOVEMBER 4, 11 AND 17

Inspirational Reading Circle

This Reading Circle, facilitated by **Rev. Donna Lenahan**, will meet in her home on seven Wednesday evenings from 6:20 to 8:50 pm, on October 6, 13, 20, 27 and November 4, 11 and 17.

The book we will use is *For the Love of God; Handbook for the Spirit* by Richard Carlson and Benjamin Shield, available used online. It is a wonderful collection of original writing by 25 extraordinary writers (such as The Dalai Lama, Matthew Fox, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Huston Smith) celebrating their personal experiences of the divine. Marianne Williamson says: "Books such as this one are maps back home. They bridge us back to the essential self. They remind us who we are and grant us the peace of remembering at last." Come enjoy tea and discussion with like-minded journeyers on the path. \$5 per session is suggested.

Please e-mail Donna at: djlenahan@aol.com or call her at 408-354-9024 to let her know you are interested. The group is limited to ten participants and there are a few spaces remaining. ●

Annual Pacific Central District Men's Retreat

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15-17, 2010

Come join UU men for a weekend of fun, kinship, workshops and more at the Westminster Retreat Center, Alamo (near Walnut Creek). To register, go to www.pcd-uua.org/ and click on the link under "PCD Men's Retreat." For more information, contact **Gordon Smith** at pcdmensretreat@gmail.com or call at 408-393-6182. ●

Meditation Group

Dada Nabhaniilananda will be our special guest at our Monday, September 21 group from 6:30-7:30 PM in the church sanctuary. Dada is a monk and yogi;

UU Art Gallery Open Again on Sept. 26!

Featured Artist: Joyce Miller

Take a stroll around Hattie Porter Hall to admire the artistry of **Joyce Miller** on the 26th as you enjoy your coffee and donut. This is how she developed her magical powers with quilting:

"I have been sewing since I was 7 years old. I worked on an old Singer treadle machine until my Dad put an electric motor on it. I used that machine until I was 18 when I got my own feather-weight Singer machine. I have always loved fabric. I did not start quilting until I retired in 2000. I knew that I wanted to get into quilting, and had been thinking about it for years, but I never had the time to pursue it. Once I had the time, I bought a couple of books about quilting and started frequenting quilt shops. I quickly got hooked and started making quilts for my grandkids. I took a class in Japanese quilting and started to think differently about color and texture. I began to learn new quilting techniques using appliqué and embroidery. Since I had many years of sewing experience, quilting was very easy for me. I have always considered myself a technically competent craftsperson but not a real artist. Lately I have branched out a bit into more artistic uses of fabric and want to continue to develop and explore new ideas. Recently I have enjoyed making kaleidoscope squares, which combines finding the right fabrics with making your own designs. The precision required in cutting and sewing appeals to me. I hope you enjoy seeing my work."

If you have art that you would like to share with the congregation in HPH on a Sunday morning, please contact **Genie** at geniebee@hotmail.com. ●

he led a meditation retreat at our church last June and was a guest leader at a church worship service last Spring.

Our group is continuing to form and all

September

HUUMANIST Meeting

By **Tim Blackwood**

The September meeting of the HUUMANIST group will be on Monday the 20th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the lower-level conference room. We will first hear from Jay on his experience at the recently held San Francisco Atheist Film Festival. We will



then discuss Amy's idea of having a Sunday morning forum from 9:45 to 10:45 am on the first Sunday of the month. She sees this as an opportunity for people to speak more freely about

a whole host of topics that are probably less humanistically and philosophically focused than many of those covered at our meetings. I cannot say that I agree with her assessment but I do believe that we should consider her proposal and the relationship between the forum and our HUUMANIST Group practices. Finally, we need to come up with meeting plans, which includes topics, for the next 4 to 6 months. Here are some ideas that I've taken from the UU PA humanist group:

1. Discussion of Michael Specter's new book "Denialism: How Irrational Thinking Hinders Scientific Progress, Harms the Planet, and Threatens Our Lives"
2. The implications of the growth of the Tea Party movement
3. The implications of trends in computing and synthetic biology
4. Showing of excerpts from and discussion of the movie "Nuclear Tipping Point"

I would add: issues surrounding the building of a mosque near Ground Zero and burning of Qurans in Gainesville. Please bring your own ideas. ●

are welcome to attend. The regular meetings continue the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:30.

For more information, contact **Connie Bloch** at ConnieBloch@yahoo.com. ●



First Unitarian Church of San Jose Board Meetings

July 28, August 25 and September 1, and Board Retreat August 14

By Bob Redfern, Board Secretary

Your Church Board met 4 times in 5 weeks, and the Board Secretary (yours truly) fell behind in his communication responsibilities with you, the Church Community. Time to catch up!

July 28 Board Meeting

Some of the topics we have dealt with include drafting new vision and mission statements, adding people to various committees and (most important) welcoming **David Proulx** to the Board as Treasurer. We had excellent "Harvest the Power" leadership training from our PCD Leadership School graduates, and we worked on the Alicia Forde visit on October 2 and 3, which we want everybody to participate in. The focus of her visit, as discussed elsewhere in this and earlier newsletters, is on becoming a better multicultural community.

August 14 Board Retreat

First and foremost was the revised draft version of our Mission Statement and Vision Statement for 2015. The Homecoming Sunday service will feature a formal presentation of them by the Board. They are reprinted in our Board President **Madeline Morrow's** article on the next page.

We had agreed at earlier meetings that previous versions included many of these themes, but our Mission Statement was a bit wordy, and our models suggested it should be concise and rarely in need of change or modification. The Vision Statement, on the other hand, states goals to reach for in a finite period of time, and can change or be modified as needed.

We continued reviewing the monitoring reports prepared by the Program and Operations Committee. Social Justice and Communications were reviewed during the July and September Board meetings, respectively. This process is taking a while because it is new to all involved, but it lays down a template for

future reports on how these reports should become a fixture for your leadership.

The most exciting part of our retreat was the "15 Questions" prepared in advance. We prepared answers in advance concerning why we are here at FUCSJ, what we like, what troubles us, what is inspiring, and more. It was one of the liveliest exchanges we have had as we dealt with questions individually, in pairs, and as a group of the whole.

Our goals as we developed them included:

1. Develop a Mission Statement and Vision Statement for the near future and communicate it to the Congregation and gather their input.
2. Make a Plan for Leadership of a Congregational Conversation about our identity and mission.
3. Fill in remaining blank spots in our Policy (Role and Reporting by Committee on Ministry is most important for Rev. Nancy's sabbatical). Also involve Nominating Committee and Endowment Committee for consideration.
4. Remain actively involved in reviewing policies for compliance and self-evaluation,
5. Create our process for an annual report.
6. Set up a bylaws committee.
7. Develop communications about church leadership structure and make our governance transparent to the congregation.
8. Appoint an Audit Committee (done). This committee has prepared a report for the Finance Committee and delivered it for implementation. Thanks for your dedicated, hard work.

August 25 Board Meeting

On August 25th, most of the Board meeting was our third and final "Harvest the Power" leadership training. What a great

group and what a dynamic performance! Contributions to all three meetings by **Kelly Burnett, Joy Ellen Lipsky, Crystal Lanier** and **John Burk** were outstanding. Thanks also to **Rev. Geoff** for coming up with the idea and helping guide its development and presentation.

Marla Scharf was approved as a member of the Committee on Ministry. And we sent a thank you note to the audit committee, **Monty Lowe, Gene Martin** and **Ro Morris** for preparing a report whose need was pointed out at the Congregational Meeting in May.

It is worth noting that the Alicia Forde visit is also part of our response to issues brought forward at that meeting about our multicultural community and how to support and expand it.

Why did we have a Board Meeting one week after our August Meeting? Well, very little business was conducted on August 25th, and we agreed at our retreat to move our monthly board meeting from the last to first Wednesday each month. So our next meeting will be October 6th. We approved the addition of **Norma Alicia O'Connell** to the Committee on Ministry.

September 1 Board Meeting

On September 1st, we discussed a conference call held at midday the day before (August 31st), with Alicia Forde. The call went well and she introduced and expanded upon her "Glass Half Full" approach to inquiry. She also appreciated our input on the issue of a multi-cultural, multi-dimensional community. Involvement of Board Members in that weekend's activities both Saturday and Sunday was discussed, as well as Small Group Ministry participation. The Saturday October 2nd event is a "Big Deal" and we want all enthusiasts and less-than-enthusiasts to be there to participate in the dialogue in which we will all be involved. ●



Let's Start a Journey Together

by Madeline Morrow, Board President

Since I was elected as president of our beloved congregation, I have been working to understand what the Board is supposed to do. We have a very competent and busy Program and Operations Council that together with the staff and ministers keeps the lights on and the activities going. According to our policy, the Board covenants to articulate the congregation's evolving mission and monitor progress bringing that mission to life. We commit to a proactive governing style that emphasizes strategic leadership rather than administrative detail and looks to the future. We on the board think this means we have to look at the big questions: Who are we? What are we called to do? Who are our neighbors? Are we doing what we are called to do?

After the difficult conversations involved in passing a budget that didn't include a full year of funding for our SSM coordinator, we decided that our congregation needed to consider the same big questions. We as a Board have called for a congregation-wide discussion of these issues over the coming year. We will begin with a conversation about our multicultural mission on October 2 and 3, facilitated by Rev. Alicia Forde from the UUA. I encourage all of us to mark that weekend on our calendars. We have a wonderful opportunity to deepen our connections to each other and our core values by participating in this conversation.

For our part, the Board knew we needed to work on articulating a mission and a vision statement to provide a road map for our journey as a congregation. Our last 5-year mission statement was developed 7 years ago. We worked hard this summer to articulate our deepest values and concerns to discern a vision for the future. We wanted to have it ready for all of us to "try on" by Homecoming Sunday. We think our draft mission and vision provides a look at how we define ourselves. Please read it and reflect on it. Let us know what you think.

Mission Statement

Bound together by our commitment to making Love visible, we gather to deepen our spirits, to work for justice, and to create one sacred human family.

Vision 2015

We seek to build a religious community that makes Love visible in word and deed. Therefore we are called to:

- 1) Create a congregation that actively reflects the richness and diversity of our community, honoring and nurturing with justice and compassion all that makes each one of us unique.
- 2) Undertake bold initiatives in pursuit of our mission, transforming our community and ourselves.
- 3) Worship together so that we connect with the divine, transcending the boundaries that limit us, to become part of something greater than ourselves.
- 4) Care for, nurture, and empower the growth of our children and youth through vibrant and engaging faith development and social programs.

Please send feedback to
uusj-board@yahoo.com.

Please join us for the
Congregation-Wide
Conversation on
"Exploring Our Multicultural
Mission--Where Do We Go
from Here?" at the church
on Saturday, October 2,
from 8:45 am to 4:30 pm,
led by UUA Facilitator Rev.
Alicia Forde

UU HIKERS & FRIENDS

By Joyce Miller

Here is the September hiking schedule. You will notice that I have scheduled most of the hikes in areas where there is an abundance of trees and limited exposure to the sun and heat. Again let me know if you are joining us unless you are a regular and you know who you are. Call on my home phone 408 730 1052 or email me. I will check it in the morning before the hike. You can call my cell phone 408 507 7052 after 7:30 am the morning of the hike. If I am driving I will not answer, so just leave me a message and I'll check it when I get parked. See you on the trails!

Saturday, September 18

Sunol Regional Park. You can decide if you want to do McGuire Peaks or another trail at Sunol. Let Alice know if you are hiking. Meet at VTA Park and Ride at Capitol and Alum Rock at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, September 22

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

Saturday, September 25

Santa Teresa County Park, 6-7 miles, moderate. Meet at Bed, Bath and Beyond parking lot at Amaden Plaza Shopping center at 8:00 am.

Wednesday, September 29

Skyline Trail from Sunnyvale Mountain in Sanborn Park to Summit Rock. Trail is in Sanborn, but access is off of Skyline Blvd. (Highway 35) This is new hike some of us wanted to try the last time we hiked at Sanborn. It will be a shuttle hike. According to my calculations it is about 6 miles give or take .5 miles. Meet at Saratoga parking lot behind US Bank at 8:30 am.

Saturday, October 2

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





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

Want to Receive the Newsletter?

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

<http://sanjoseuu.org/form/index.php?sid=2> or call (408) 292-3858

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

or join the church's Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uusj/>

Next issue deadline: 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 28, 2010

Next issue assembly: Tuesday, October 5, 2010

Next issue mailing: Wednesday, October 6, 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!

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

Contact Rev. Geoff, grimosis@sanjoseuu.org

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:** 408-824-8831; 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: grimosis@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 necesitar en épocas difíciles. Para el cuidado pastoral en inglés, por favor, comuníquese con nuestra Coordinadora Laica Asociada 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: 408-824-8831 (celular); e-mail: paor69@yahoo.com

Contactando a los Ministros

La Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones y **El Rev. Geoff Rimositis** se sienten honrados de servir a esta congregación y apreciamos su confianza! Aquí esta como puede contactarnos: **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: grimosis@sanjoseuu.org.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Editors: Catherine Leeson Pelizzari and Shirley Worth; Circular.Editors@gmail.com

Shirley will be editor for the October 6 issue. Catherine will be editor for the October 20 issue.

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; (www.ruddle.com) 408-234-3670

Translator: **Roberto Padilla**

Assembly Coordinator: **Gretchen Leavitt**

Assembly Crew: **Gretchen Leavitt** and

Genie Bernardini

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Madeline Morrow, madelinemorrow@earthlink.net

SECRETARY
Bob Redfern, redfern@charter.net

TREASURER
David Proulx, dproulx@gmail.com

PERSONNEL OFFICER
Joyce Miller, j408miller@sbcglobal.net

PROGRAM OFFICER
Tamara Payne-Alex, paynealex@sprintmail.com

FINANCIAL OFFICER
Dena Dickinson, dickiden@comcast.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cheri Goodman, cheri.goodman@sbcglobal.net

Nancy Taylor, nancyt54@comcast.net

Rodrigo Garcia, rodrigo.garcia@sbcglobal.net

Rick Morris, rickmo@feldmo.com

CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR MINISTER
The Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones
Ext. 23, revnpj@yahoo.com

ASSOC. MINISTER FOR LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT, The Rev. Geoff Rimositis, Ext. 25, grimosis@sanjoseuu.org

OFFICE MANAGER
Susan Burke-Diquisto
Ext. 10, fucs@sanjoseuu.org

COORDINATOR OF SPANISH SPEAKING MINISTRIES
Roberto Padilla, Ext. 24 or (408) 824-8831, paor69@yahoo.com

BOOKKEEPER
Sue Evanicky
bookkeeper@sanjoseuu.org

CUSTODIAN
Edgar Cruz

NURSERY STAFF **Glynda Cotton & Maria Elena Olvera**

CHURCH OFFICE

HOURS: Monday: closed; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 9:00-12:00 am and 1:00-4:00 pm.; Friday 9 am to noon, staffed by a volunteer.

Phone: (408) 292-3858; **Fax:** (408) 292-4744
E-mail: fucs@sanjoseuu.org
Website: <http://www.sanjoseuu.org>

Rentals: (408) 841-7542 or rentals@sanjoseuu.org

PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS COUNCIL (POC)

John Burk, Social Justice, mus6@aceweb.com

Sherry Howd, Outreach, outreach@sanjoseuu.org

Patrick Myers, Building, JPatrickMyers@yahoo.com

Ben Cadena, Worship, bencade1@hotmail.com

(open), Stewardship and Fundraising, stewardship@sanjoseuu.org

(open), Inreach

(open), Lifespan Religious Education