

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

November 2004 No.11; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, November 2004

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

No Sunday Forums this month

Nov. 7: “To Know About the World; A Sermon About Transitions and Change”, the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers preaching. “We had the experience and the meaning came later”—T.S. Eliot. Our lives are filled with transitions—bridges between “old” and “new”, joy and pain, successes and failures, disappointments and surprises, beginnings and ends, holding on and letting go. Transitions are trying times: “trying” in the sense of difficult, but also in the sense of testing and learning who we are, which sometimes leads to greater understanding—but not always. In light of this being the first Sunday after the general election, I’m assuming this will be a good topic for all to hear, no matter the outcome.

Nov. 14: Sandra Madrigal, Executive Director of the Third Street Community Center which is located in the lower level of the San Jose UU Church, will be guest speaker. She will tell us of the difference they are able to make in helping local children achieve academic success and helping low income families learn English and technology. Sandra and others recently presented a Sunday Service in both English and Spanish at the San Jose UU church. She was also a guest at our Second Thursday women’s group in October and was urged to let others in our Fellowship know of social justice work with a local UU connection. Check out the Nov. 18th “Share the Magic in Havana Night” fund raiser on the Order of Service insert to see how you can help.

Nov. 21: “A Chip off the Old Block: A Thanksgiving Tale”, the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers, preaching. The famous 20th century Unitarian and two-time Democratic presidential candidate, Adlai Stevenson, said: “We can chart our future path most clearly and wisely only when we know the true path which has led us to the present.” In keeping with the spirit and tradition of gratitude, which makes Thanksgiving the best national holiday we have, the sermon will provide a Unitarian connection from the pilgrim landing on Plymouth Rock to all of us ‘immigrants’ who have found refuge upon the foundations of this faith.

Following the service, everyone is invited to a pot luck to welcome Rev Ben Kocs-Meyers and his family.

Nov. 28: “A Spiritual Center...A Civic Circumference.” The California Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry project (CLUUM) offers us deep and imperative challenges: After protest, what? What do we really need in our congregations to act justly? What does a mature spirituality and ethics call us to do in the world? Join the Rev. Kurt A. Kuhwald, a seasoned UU justice seeker as we engage our thirst for an authentic human path. A UU parish minister for many years, he has recently committed himself to working as a community minister with the Faithful Fools Ministry in the Tenderloin district of San Francisco. He writes, I am no longer able to sustain a life that keeps me separate from those most marginalized in our society. What is deepest in me calls me to explore what keeps us separate as a people. He loves the Bay Area with all its human and geographic diversity.

Coming in December:

Dec. 5: The Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers preaches on Advent.

WHAT DO YOU WANT IN A PERMANENT MINISTER?

Our Fellowship is looking forward to hiring an Interim Minister who will serve for a year or two and help prepare us for a permanent, settled minister. We hope to have an Interim Minister hired by July 1, 2005. However, we have much to do to prepare for that step of hiring a permanent Minister. We can't leave it all to an Interim Minister. We need to discuss why we want a settled minister, what we expect a settled minister to do and to be, what are the financial requirements of an Interim and settled Minister and how can we meet them? In order to make a success out of that endeavor, we must define and support a common goal. Each of you is needed to help in that task.

In order to answer the first two questions, the COM is organizing a series of small group (about 10-12 people) discussions coupled with a potluck in the Fellowship building. A different group of members will be invited to each with the intent of getting a range of points of view represented. All members will be invited to such a discussion at a date convenient for them.

The first four discussions and potlucks will take place on Thursday October 28, Thursday November 4, Friday November 12, and Thursday November 18. Four more discussions and potlucks will be scheduled in 2005. If you want to participate on one of the first four dates, contact Bill Scarvie, Julie Doyle or Robin Connelly. All members will be contacted eventually and invited to participate.

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Membership Committee News:

We will have our monthly Membership Committee sponsored Fellowship Friday Film Festival (FFFF) on Friday November 5, 2004 starting with social half-hour at 7:00 PM and the film beginning about 7:30 PM. The film for November is a great foreign film from Spain called Butterfly (La Lengua de las mariposas, 1999). It is a poignant tale of a young boy and his teacher set in the time prior to the start of the Spanish civil war. It is beautifully filmed and is a tale well told. Don't hesitate to bring a friend as this is a very nice way to introduce your friends to our Fellowship and vice-versa. At our September FFFF several guests commented on what a good time they had and asked when the next FFFF is scheduled.

The Membership Committee also asks members and friends to reserve the following dates for all-Fellowship social activities: November 19th we will have a pre-Thanksgiving Friday night desert and game night (kids more than welcome) starting at 6:00 PM. Please bring games that you would like to play and share.

On December 17th we will have an RSVP Friday night pre-Christmas turkey dinner and semi-potluck followed by music night/sing-along, also starting at 6:00 PM. Sing, Eat, Drink and Make Merry! We are attempting to have the turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy catered with guests bringing only side dishes and desert. There will be a nominal charge to cover the catering expenses. An RSVP to Harry Campbell via the internet (harryrcampbell@comcast.net) or at (408) 374-8844 by November 19th will be much appreciated.

The Membership Committee will have its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd at the Fellowship starting at 3:00 PM. All members are invited to attend.

**Ciao.
Harry**

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR DRE Phyllis Reid

Everything seems to be going smoothly in the RE department, and I have nothing new to report. On thinking about my work, I at times feel it lacks importance because of being on such a small scale. I imagine that some of you feel that way about your lives occasionally, and I would therefore like to share the following "Thought for the Day", by Eknath Easwaran, that came across my desk this past month;

"To lead the spiritual life, we need not play a part on a gigantic scale. Mogul art, one of the great periods of artistic achievement in India, often is in miniature. The artist concentrated on very small areas, on little things, and worked with tenderness and precision. Only somebody who understands art will be able to see all the love and labor that has gone into it. Family living is like Mogul art, worked in miniature. The canvas is so small, and the skill required is so great, that most of us really do not appreciate the vast potentialities of family life. Today we hear a great deal about the family becoming obsolete. Let us hope this is just the fantasy of those who do not understand the value of the family. To me, the family is like a free university, where we can get our finest education in living for others. The family can include dear friends and those who participate closely in all our endeavors. We begin by being tender and unselfish and putting up with innumerable discomforts for the sake of adding to the joy of our family. Then, gradually, we extend our love to include our friends, our community, our country, and our world."

May we all approach the coming time of Thanksgiving with a deep awareness of the blessings we share both as members of our particular families and of our precious church community.

Namaste, Phyllis

Calendar; Children's Chapel Nov. 28

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HARVEST THE POWER!

Pacific Central District - UUA Leadership Development Day - 2004

November 6, 2004 - \$35 per registrant

Registration begins at 8 a.m.; Program begins at 9 a.m. <<http://www.pcd-uaa.org/events/LDD-2004/>>

Dear Friends:

Is your congregation's Leadership Team in place for this wonderful event? Leadership Development Day is always a daylong adventure of learning, networking, worshipping, seeing old friends and making new ones - and this year will be better than ever!

Attached you will find all the information needed to attend LDD-2004: the list of workshops, the schedule and a registration form. We are also pleased to announce our special Keynote Speaker for the day, the Rev. Dr. Tracey Robinson-Harris, Director of the Department of Congregational Services at the Unitarian Universalist Association. She will speak on "The Power in What We Care About."

As space is limited, workshops will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis, so don't delay!
You may now also REGISTER ON-LINE!

Please visit us <<http://www.pcd-uaa.org/events/LDD-2004/>> for information and online registration. There are two on-line registration choices: a form that can be printed and mailed, and our new on-line registration system powered by Acteva! As an added bonus, our new system now takes credit cards for your convenience!

Please note that parking is limited in the area of the San Francisco church - please consider taking public transportation or car-pooling with your congregants. Also note that childcare is available, but it MUST be requested by October 27, 2004! If you have any questions about LDD, please feel free to contact me at the district office.

**Onward and Upward,
Chuck**

Charles B. Rosene, Registrar - PCD LDD-2004
6536 Telegraph Ave., C-102, Oakland, CA 94609 - pcd@pcd-uaa.org - (510) 601-1437

SEE OUR NEW WEB CALENDAR

Our official activities calendar has been moved from the large paper calendar sitting on the Hall table to our Web site. Click on the link labeled "Calendar of Activities" on the left of the home page. A hard copy of it in the form of a list will be posted on the wall behind the Hall table and updated weekly. All are welcome to view the web calendar. Those who have activities to post can do so themselves, or email Adrienne Gormley or Irving Yabroff to do it for them. Instructions for posting are available from Irving Yabroff.

The calendar was set up by Irving Yabroff who will be the Administrator, supported by Adrienne Gormley, our Administrative Assistant. The web calendar is part of a program of enhancements of our website being planned and led by Bill Crawford. Watch for additional enhancements to follow.

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The Women's Group will again meet in the west room on Thursday, November 10 at 10:00. All Fellowship women and friends are invited. Bring your latest edition of the UU World for discussion.

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The Christmas Sale is Dec 5th and Dec 12th from 11:30 to 12:30. Bring baked goods, craft/art items, gift baskets, etc. The second work/play time is Saturday Nov. 6th from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Questions - Jo Cooley 371-3862

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Autumn Exploring UU Class

For those who would like to understand a bit more about UU history, traditions and the people behind the scenes at UUFLG, join us in our Autumn Exploring UU class. There are four Tuesday classes for the following dates: October 19th and 26th and November 9th and 16th, from 6:30-8:30. Childcare will be arranged upon request. Please contact Hollie Dunham if you are interested in attending. 650-812-0525 or hollied58@yahoo.com

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Mahatma Gandhi

See if your submission becomes the chosen quote in next month's issue!

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND CHIT CHAT FROM THE DECK

Good news from JIM KRENICKY. His knee is making progress, and Jim is now using a walker around the house!!.

DEAN JOY is now in the re-hab center on Los Gatos Almaden Road. He is now receiving daily treatment for a bone infection. DEAN will be in this facility for the next 5 weeks, and would welcome visitors. Call ANN JOY for further information. (378-3999)

JOANNE CRANE is doing well after a cornea implant in her left eye. Recovery of her vision in that eye is slowly coming back.

GRATIA TREVEY celebrated a wonderful birthday week-end with her family in Yosemite Valley.

PHYLLIS REID and her husband are enjoying a vacation in Sidona, AZ.

BARBARA KALMOUTIS and her daughter have just returned from a 3 week vacation in Greece.

CONNIE SPRINGER had a wonderful vacation and family reunion in Texas, followed by a Crones Counsel in Las Vegas. Ask her about the Crones Counsel!.

October has been a busy time for Fellowship Members in entertaining their adult children coming home for a visit. BEULAH PEASE, RUTH WEBB, AND PAULINE AND LEN STONEHILL have all been busy with visits from family members

Many of our members were wined and dined with the meals that they purchased at the SPRING AUCTION. JO COOLEY, KATIE RALL, and the YABROFFS provided luncheons and dinner for the highest bidders. KATIE RALL gave a cooking demonstration with everyone helping to make the Vegetarian luncheon.

The gardens continue to bloom and bring pleasure to all who attend meetings and services at our building. Thanks to the members of the GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

October is the 55th ANNIVERSARY of this UU FELLOWSHIP. It is very interesting to see all the wonderful and beautiful pictures collected from over the years.

A committee from the MORNING WOMEN'S GROUP has been formed to gather information from all of the members and friends for some stories of the history of our Fellowship. Be thinking of some interesting stories you would like to share

ALLISON LEVY and SON DICK are on a "dream of lifetime" trip to the Galapagos Islands. FRANK LEVY would love to hear from you and have a visit or a chat. Give FRANK a call (356-8227).

What is new with YOU? Talk to Lou.

Home Grown: A Conference on New Congregation Formation in the Pacific Central District.

When: Saturday, February 5, 2005

Where: Location TBA

In order to support the establishment of new centers for Unitarian Universalism in our region, we are gathering folks to talk about how to build New Congregations. This will be a day to plan, to organize and to learn about models for planting and growing congregations.

If you have:

A passion for Unitarian Universalism

Skills in building organizations

Gifts in fundraising, friend-raising and networking

A capacity to lead, gather and nurture this faith (or know someone who does!)

Let us know that you are interested and we will forward an invitation and registration materials!

For registration material, contact the PCD office at: pcd@pcd-uuu.org or 510-601-1437.

If you have questions, ideas or \$1 million dollars to share, contact:

Michelle Favreault,

PCD Growth Consultant

mfavreault@pcd-uuu.org

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Stebbins Summer Gathering at Asilomar July 10-15, 2005

Reach for the Stars while Grounded on Earth

The Stebbins executive committee is looking for workshop leaders: Those who are new to Stebbins; people who haven't presented in a while as well as regulars. You have a talent to share! Please do so. Do you know a good presenter? Ask them if they are interested. Stebbins drew a hundred people this year and wants to continue growing. We can only do this by including a dynamic staff and new workshops as well as the classics. We choose staff 11 A.M., December 11, 2004, at the San Mateo church.

Our theme speakers/chaplain are The Reverend Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow, a long time UU, author of four books of popular science, including a 1997 book that was excerpted as the cover story for the UU World in Nov/Dec 1998. Their theme is "The Great Story."

Til Evans will present a workshop "Spirit of Place". In story and conversation she will explore the meaning of place in our lives.

Check our website (www.serve.com/Stebbins). For more information, or to be included in our mailing list, call Co-Deans Ruth Lorain at: (707) 468-4347 / letstalk@adelphia.net or Dick LeBlanc at: 510 234-3524 / djleblanc212@aol.com.

CALENDAR ITEMS

Tuesday, Nov. 2 - Membership Committee meeting @ 3pm.

Thursday, Nov. 4 - RUMS noon lunch. Men with flexible time invited to brown bag lunch & hour of sociability.
- potluck & discussion about a settled minister as arranged

Friday, Nov. 5 - Social time and Film Festival beginning at 7pm

Saturday, Nov. 6 - UUA Leadership Development Day, regis. begins @ 8am, programs begin @ 9am
- Christmas Sale work/play time from 10am to 1pm

Sunday, Nov. 7 - Sunday Service Committee meeting @ 11:45am for about an hour of basic planning,
Nan Bixler, contact 356-5697 or nbixler@jps.net

Thursday Nov. 11 - Women's Group meeting @ 10am

Friday Nov. 12 - potluck & discussion about a settled minister as arranged

Thursday Nov. 18 - potluck & discussion about a settled minister as arranged

Friday Nov. 19 - last day to RSVP for Dec. 17 pre-Christmas dinner
- dessert and game night @ 6pm

Sunday Nov. 21 - Everyone is invited to a pot luck immediately following the service to welcome Rev. Ben Kcos-Meyers and his family . Please bring a salad, a side dish, or finger food to go along with the sandwiches, cake, coffee and tea that will be provided.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 4 - BOB BIXLER
Nov. 8 - TIM MATTHIESSEN
Nov. 12 - LIDA KLUZEK
Nov. 15 - SYAMBRA MOITZOZO
Nov. 18 - GUNITA SAXENA
Nov. 20 - ROBIN CONNELLY
Nov. 21 - BRANDON CONNELLY
Nov. 22 - EDY YOUNG

INTERESTED IN WHAT THE BOARD IS UP TO? Board of Trustees President, Walt Main, will email a copy of the meeting agenda to anyone who is interested.

Walt: wmain@earthlink.net

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE BOARD? There will be a guest commentary time for members at the beginning of each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Walt Main for more information and to schedule your 3 or 4 minute slot.

Walt: wmain@earthlink.net

Items for the monthly newsletter are to be submitted (by the **20th** of the month) to **Glen Marchant** at: **UUFLGnews@att.net**. Please submit articles and e-mail attachments as **single spaced MS Word documents, .rtf** (Rich Text format), or **plain text**, and limit to less than 200 words. The purpose of this newsletter is to foster communication and planning among friends and members. However, due to the size constraints of the printing, we regretfully cannot print opinion pieces.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos
15980 Blossom Hill Road
Los Gatos, 95032
(408) 358-1212

Return Service Requested



*“Affirming the Inherent Worth and
Dignity of Every Person”*



Fellowship News

November 2004

The Newsletter is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos (UUFLG). The Newsletter is available to everyone on the web at www.uuflg.org. Members may elect to receive a printed copy. Individual friends and visitors may receive the printed Newsletter free for three months. After three months, the suggested subscription rate for non-members is \$10 per year.

(Send to: Newsletter, c/o Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos, 15980 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032.) The subscription expiration date appears on the name line of the mailing label.