

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

September 2010 No.9; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

Our Mission

- Provide a place where people are inspired to think about and discuss values, ethics, and the meaning of their lives
- Stimulate spiritual growth in children and adults through exposure to a wide variety of religious thought and experience
- Provide mutual support, caring and fellowship to our members
- Provide support of the larger community through service and social action
- Appreciate and honor our connectedness with all living things

September 2010

Sunday Services at 10:30

Sept. 5: “Labor in the Pulpit”.

The Interfaith Council on Economics and Justice

This is the 12th year for this event in the Silicon Valley. Last year’s Labor in the Pulpits was part of over 165 religious services, one of the largest in the country, reaching over 60,000 people.

No other event gives a human face to the labor movement and brings a message of social and economic justice to such a large number of congregations. For people of faith it is an opportunity to remember and recommit ourselves to justice in the workplace, to the dignity of labor, and to the rights of all people to fair employment.

Sept. 12: Water Communion

We will celebrate the annual UU fall Ingathering service with a special **Water Communion** which includes a play, ‘*What will you bring to the Feast?*’, performed by the **Sunday Program and Social Action Teams**. This will be an interactive, Inter-generational service. Everyone is reminded to bring a small sample of water representative of a place or places, which were meaningful in their lives during the past year. This is also a giving service when we are encouraged to bring donations of pop-top canned foods including canned pastas, stew, chili and other ready to eat meals. Social Action has designated StandUp for Kids Silicon Valley as the recipients. This is an all-volunteer program committed to reaching out to the estimated 2,500 homeless youth in our area.

Sept. 19:

Russ Menk is starting his second carrier as a theology student at Pacific School of Religion (located in Berkeley, near Starr King). He has an interesting talk on memory, and role theology plays in our understanding of memory.

Sept. 26: “Saved by UU”

Walt Main of The Sunday Programs Team

Were you saved by UU? But “salvation” means different things to different folk. Come sing a song about that.

Oct. 3: “Stages of Recovery from Mental Illness”

Rev. Barbara Meyers

Recently the psychiatrist Mark Ragins has proposed that there are several identifiable stages in recovery of one’s mental health, similar in concept to the stages of death and dying identified by Elizabeth Kubler-Ross. We will reflect on these concepts and how they might be helpful in our lives.

Rev. Barbara Meyers is a Unitarian Universalist Community Minister endorsed by the Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Fremont. Her ministry is focused on mental health issues and includes educational, healing, social justice and priestly functions.

more on Rev. Barbara Meyers...

She has written the curriculum The Caring Congregation Handbook that is a program for educating a congregation about how to be more intentionally supportive of people with mental disorders and their families.

Barbara's work is largely motivated by her own experience as a mental health client. She works part time at a peer-run mental health drop-in center in Fremont. She has recently begun to produce a public access TV show called Mental Health Matters. And she gives worship services like this one at her church and other pulpits. In 2005 the UUA awarded her a grant to take the Caring Congregation program to other districts in the UUA.

Barbara graduated from Starr King School for the Ministry in 2004 and was ordained in 2005. Her entry into ministry marked a career change after working as a computer software engineer at IBM for 25 years.

Religious Education

As we say goodbye to summer, we also have to say goodbye to three of our teachers. Christine, who has spent this summer with us, is returning to college in San Francisco. Rebecca will be focusing on her new full time job as her daughter begins kindergarten, and Melinda will be hard at work as her tutoring schedule expands.

We thank all three of them for the love and dedication they have brought to our children and to the entire fellowship.

We also owe our gratitude to the parents and other volunteers who have done so much to get our new class off to such a great start, while keeping our other classes running smoothly as well. I hope they are all having as much fun participating in the program as we have seeing them there.

Tamara

UUFLG Board Meeting Notes

The following are items of general interest from the UUFLG Board of Trustees' meeting held on August 12, 2010

- A budget of \$10,000 was approved for replacing the carpet in the Sanctuary, to include securing the back row seats to the floor.
- The Long Range Planning Committee will formulate and recommend three overall Fellowship objectives for this fiscal year. Each committee or other Fellowship group will be asked to identify activities in support of the overall objectives.
- The new visitor's packet is being updated. An updated approach for discussions with potential new members is also being developed. For the last few years discussions have been managed by the UUFLG Minister.
- Members are encouraged to wear UUFLG T-shirts at outside community support activities. They can be ordered on the web at <http://www.cafepress.com/uuflg>.
- An approved Board Operating Policy has been posted on the UUFLG web site (in the Policy-Procedures section under Administration.) The Operating Policy addresses the Board's responsibilities and its relationship to committees of the Fellowship.
- The Board approved a request by the Almaden Valley Women's Club to offer pre-purchase of Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival wine/beer glasses at the Fellowship. Glasses are planned to be available on 22 August and 5, 12 September, 2010. The Almaden Valley Women's Club is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) Organization and the UUFLG will be identified as a pre-purchase location in its advertisements.
- The Board is seeking a show of interest in continuing the current partner relationship with the church in Transylvania. Anyone wishing to act as sponsor for this relationship is asked to contact Paul Yeadon.
- December 4th and 5th were set as the dates for the 2010 Christmas Boutique.

Social Action

Pack-a-Back

Thank you to everyone for coming together and making our Pack-a-Back backpack drive such a huge success! Social Action's goal was to collect supplies and monetary donations to fill 10 backpacks for needy students. Thanks to your generosity, we almost doubled our goal by filling 19 backpacks!!! We also donated 12 grade school backpacks, and school supplies! We had donations of \$281.22 that came in after the Social Action Team purchased supplies, which has been donated directly to Sacred Heart Community Service (<http://www.shcstheheart.org>).



Standup for Kids Food Drive

This month we will be holding a food drive benefiting StandUp For Kids Silicon Valley, an all-volunteer program committed to reaching out to the estimated 2,500 homeless youth in our area (<http://www.standupforkids.org/local/california/sanjose/>).

This small but passionate group of volunteers work to make a positive and critical difference in the lives of these homeless and at-risk youth providing basic needs: food, clothing, and hygiene products as well as a wide array of services. They need non-perishable food: pop-top canned pasta, stews and other ready-to-eat meals, peanut butter and granola bars. Lists of the needed food will be provided on the food drive collection boxes, as well as printed copies in the Fellowship foyer. We will be collecting donations from September 5 – 26, 2010. If you have any questions, please see Jessica Spaulding for more information.

STP

In August Share-the-Plate collected \$165 for St. Luke's Pantry. Our September Share-the-Plate will benefit ACT for Mental Health, a private non-profit agency in downtown San Jose that provides counseling, assessments, and mental health services to anyone in need. Their programs include a downtown counseling center providing affordable counseling services for persons in emotional distress, parents and children reunifying after legal separation, and individuals referred by the courts or other social agencies; educational and training classes; and services to veterans including readjustment counseling, marital and family counseling and military trauma counseling. ACT for Mental Health is a not-for-profit mental health clinic that depends on donations and fundraisers to provide quality mental health care to adults and children who are without the means to pay for assessment and counseling services. UUFLG member Wanda Alexander is ACT's CEO.



Membership Committee Announcement UUFLG Photo Directory

The Fellowship's Membership Committee (MC) is getting ready to prepare our annual (2010-11) Membership Photo Directory.

If you and your family are not in our current photo directory or if you want a new/updated photo in the coming directory please attend one of the photo sessions. The planned photo sessions are:

Sunday September 26th following our Sunday service at the Fellowship

Sunday October 10th following our Sunday service at the Fellowship

The MC will also be updating and validating the information for each member and friend (email address, phone number(s), street address, etc) prior to publication of the directory in late September. If you have any changes since last year's directory please email them to Harry Campbell at harryrcampbell@gmail.com.

DINNER FOR 8 RETURNS!

After a "summer vacation", Dinner for 8 is back! These fun dinners take place the 3rd Saturday of every month and are held in members' homes. If you have not signed up to participate, please consider doing so. Each member or couple attending has a part in completing the menu that is determined by the host home. We welcome everyone, so please sign up at the Fellowship or contact me to participate! A monthly announcement is also published to be sure all are included in this invitation! Any questions, please let me know and thanks – we look forward to seeing new faces at Dinner for 8.

Bonnie George – 997-9894
or Bonnie.E.George@comcast.net

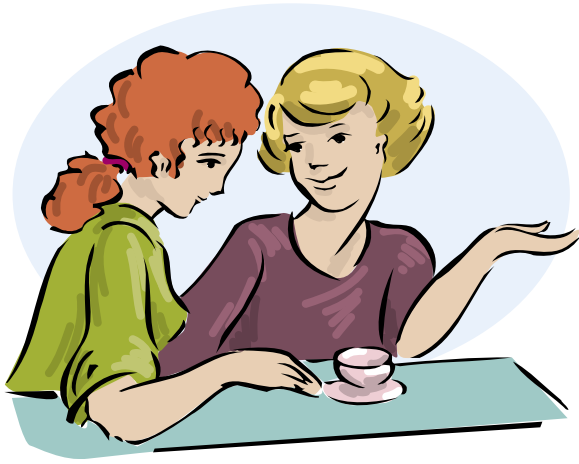
All Ages Pool Party

Join us on Saturday, September 11th 1-6 pm for an afternoon of family fun at the Cloverdale Cabana Club 183 Radford Drive, Campbell, CA 95008. We will have use of their shady, covered picnic area and lots of other poolside tables/chairs. There will be lifeguards on duty 1-5pm in the pool (depth 3ft to 8ft-the 3 ft section is roped off from the rest of the pool).

Please bring your own plates/utensils, beverages, a dish to share and something for the grill! We'll fire up the BBQ about 4:30, so join us anytime!

Please RSVP to Cheryl Kupras 379-2658 with the # in your group and the # of swimmers.

*Thank you for wearing your name tag on Sunday mornings,
and for parking on the street when possible to make room for our newcomers.*



Women's Spirituality Group

Meets every 2nd and 4th Mondays in the Lounge
(7:15-9:00PM)

Come join the Women's Spirituality Group in sisterhood and spiritual growth. Enjoy lively conversation, opportunities for friendship and sharing of community. Currently the book, "Women's Lives, Women's Legacies" by Rachael Freed is the focus for discussion. (loaner copies are available for new comers).

Contact Jo Anne Kondo at (408) 268-2240
Email: kondoj@juno.com

Annual Pacific Central District Men's Retreat

Friday-Sunday, October 15-17, 2010

How long has it been since you last got together with a group of men and talked about what's really important to you? Not the latest baseball game, not the cool summer weather we've been having, not the price of gas. I mean instead what's really close to your heart.

For many years now, UU men of the Pacific Central District have gathered on the third weekend in October and have played, explored, meditated, sung, made new friends and learned from one another. This year's retreat, the weekend of Oct. 15-17, will focus on three issues:

- * Making friendships, deepening friendships
- * Coping with retirement and semi-retirement
- * Men's perspective on taking charge of our personal health

Come join UU men for a weekend of fun, kinship, workshops and more!

Location: Westminster Retreat Center, Alamo (near Walnut Creek)

Cost: \$225 (accommodation, meals, materials) -- Limited scholarships are available

How to register: www.pcd-uua.org/2010mensretreat.pdf

Contact: Gordon Smith pcdmensretreat@gmail.com or call 408-393-6182

INTERESTED IN WHAT THE BOARD IS UP TO? The Board minutes and agendas are listed under "Board Meetings" on the left hand side of the home page of our website www.UUFLG.org.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE BOARD? A guest commentary time for members can be made available at the beginning of each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Paul Yeadon (paul_yeadon@yahoo.com) for more information.

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.

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service		10:00a-11:45a Tuesday Chalice Circle 1:00p-2:30p Membership Committee Meeting	7:15p-9:30p Dulzin Dragpa Buddhist Meditation	9:30a-Noon Thursday Morning Women's Group 7:00p-8:30p UUFLG Board Meeting	7:30p-9:30p Wyrld Wanderers	9:30a -10:00a Building and Grounds Meeting 1:00-6:00 All-ages Pool Party
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service Noon-1:15p Social Action Team Meeting	7:15p-9:00p Women's Spirituality Group 7:30p-9:30p Great Books Discussion	7:00p-8:30p Finance Committee Meeting- West Rm. 7:15p-9:15p Evening Chalice Circle	7:15p-9:30p Dulzin Dragpa Buddhist Meditation	Noon-1:30p RUUMS Lunch	7:30p-9:30p Wyrld Wanderers	6:30p Dinners for Eight
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service		10:00a-11:45a Tuesday Chalice Circle NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	7:15p-9:30p Dulzin Dragpa Buddhist Meditation			9 a.m.-Noon California Coastal Clean-up Day
26	27	28	29	30	October 1	2
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service 11 .a.m.-Noon, Stand up for Kids Food Drive Deadline	7:15p-9:00p Women's Spirituality Group		7:15p-9:30p Dulzin Dragpa Buddhist Meditation		7:30p-9:30p Wyrld Wanderers	

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



Fellowship News

September 2010

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.