

# **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos**



# **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

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February 2006 No.2; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

## **SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, February 2006**

**Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am**

**February 5: “Choose to Bless the World”** Each one of us decides with what kind of spirit we will go through life; critical, complaining, condemnatory, OR celebrating. Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld, Worship Associate, Katie Rall

**February 12: “Heart Knowledge”** The Hopi Indians have a tradition that contrasts “Head Knowledge” with “Heart Knowledge” - a tradition that respects the strengths of both ways of knowing. Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld, Worship Associate, Julie Doyle.

**February 19: “A Religion for Our Time” or “What is a Unitarian Universalist?”** What explains us? Why do we find ourselves here, in a religious movement of something over two hundred thousand people, instead of in a denomination of several million? Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld, Worship Associate, Chris Washburn.

**February 26: “Evolution and Intelligent Design: Does God leave Fingerprints?”** Physical science is currently being challenged by metaphysics in our nation’s courtrooms. How can these two fields inform the other and what do some people find threatening about that interaction? Peter J. Olandt is guest speaker from Starr King School for the Ministry. He has worked in biotech on the Human Genome Project and studied Galapagos Tortoise population genetics. His future plans include parish ministry with an emphasis on social justice and sustainable living. Lynn O’Keefe is lay leader.

**\*\*\* Please remember to wear your name tag on Sunday mornings  
- it makes it easier for visitors to talk to you when they can see your name!**

## Minister's Musings

I hope you've taken time to read the accompanying piece, "The Symptoms of Spiritual Growth." I've been cogitating, musing especially on #1. "A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experience." I think that's good advice, but realize that not everyone is comfortable "thinking and acting spontaneously." For those who are not comfortable with that, I would re-write it this way: "A tendency to think and act on what's happening now, rather than on fears based on past experience."

I also recommend #9. "An increasing tendency to let things happen, rather than making them happen." As the old saying goes - that may be easier said than done.

Here's something else to cogitate on - a quote from our Building Your Own Theology course: "One's attitude in facing each day is indicative of spiritual health or illness. As poet Stephen Dunn wrote, "To have any chance at a good life - a friend once wrote in a letter - you have to keep saying abracadabra even though nothing happens." Do we have a healthy sense of humor about ourselves and the contradictions, the paradoxes and the oxymorons of life? When in doubt, can we laugh at life?

Such a question! Life is often messy, but I can only hope that I can always laugh at myself. Abracadabra friends!

Yours in the faith, Nancy

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## Join the UU Coaching Network!

UUCN is growing and invites you to join! This non-profit association is a community of professionally trained life coaches anchored in the UU principles of compassion, integrity and inclusion.

To learn of its mission and how you can Benefit from membership, please visit [www.uucoachingnetwork.org](http://www.uucoachingnetwork.org) <<http://www.uucoachingnetwork.org/>>. if you are considering hiring a coach, UUCN is also a resource to find the right coach for you.

## The Symptoms of Spiritual Growth

1. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experience.
2. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
3. A loss of interest in judging other people.
4. A loss of interest in conflict.
5. A loss of ability to worry (this is a serious symptom!).
6. Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
7. Contented feelings of connectedness with people, places and things, and nature.
8. Frequent attacks of smiling.
9. An increasing tendency to let things happen, rather than making them happen.
10. An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others, as well as the uncontrollable urge to pass it on.

Author Unknown

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## Canvass News

Here's what to expect as the Canvass approaches:

February 5—Training for canvassers (provided by PCD)

February 6-March 9 —Canvass Team Prep

March 12—Kickoff luncheon at La Rinconada Hills Clubhouse—THINK GREEN!

March 13-April 9—Small canvass gatherings are held (here's where you make your generous pledges!)

April 10-24—Final wrap-up of all canvass activities

April 30— Post-canvas budget adjustments completed

May 21—It all comes together at the Annual Spring membership meeting where we'll vote on the budget

More news will follow as we begin all the activities. In the meantime, if you have questions or would like to volunteer your time and energy, please contact Walt Main ([wmain@earthlink.net](mailto:wmain@earthlink.net)) or Linda Krenicky ([lindakrenicky@comcast.net](mailto:lindakrenicky@comcast.net)).

## Did You Know?

by Kari Sparks, DRE

Did you know Saint Valentine's Day, the 14th of February, is named after a Christian martyr of the Roman period? As the story goes, there were two prominent martyrs, a priest in Rome and the Christian Bishop, St. Valentine of Terni, whose feasts were celebrated on February 14th. In the K-5 class we will explore the origins of this holiday while making heart letters and Valentine's Day gifts on February 12th.

Also, did you know that in this month we will celebrate Mardi Gras, followed by Ash Wednesday and Lent, on February 26th? In class we will learn about this festival day ending a period of celebration and excess followed by a period of spiritual discipline, fasting and moderation, in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. While making Mardi-Gras masks in the k-5 class we will learn more about this Christian belief.

In the youth group we will conclude our lessons on Islam. I would like to give thanks to Kelly and Jenny, with guest speaker Rosemary, for presenting to the fellowship The Afghanistan Women's Fundraiser Project on January 8th. Great job! And thank you to the volunteers and children that created a successful field trip to the South Bay Islamic

Association of San Jose on January 29th. This was a special time for us to learn about this neighboring faith. Our next lesson will be about Buddhism. Kristin Shinden will continue to lead the Youth Group every Sunday, and our next field trip will be in March.

Did you know that the success of our children's group depends on your support? Any help is appreciated, from volunteering in a class, reading a book during Time For All Ages, or donating snacks or juice to the classrooms. Thank you to all the dedicated moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, and friends out there.

Happy February!

## Committee on Ministry

The committee will hold its next meeting on Feb. 1 at 10 am. We are planning to repeat the survey done last year that looks at our Fellowship goals and how we are using them to meet our stated mission. We are working with the Caring Committee and the Board as the Fellowship moves toward a settled minister.

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## Caring Committee

A potluck lunch was held on Jan. 9 with a wonderful turnout of caring folks. Lou Yabroff shared the many tasks that the Caring Committee has done over the years. Rev. Nancy was unable to attend but sent information from the Tucson church and we all filled out forms stating who would be willing to do hospital visits, send cards, deliver the caring quilts, make an occasional meal, do emergency child care, do emergency pet care, among other services. There will be a binder created to hold this information and those in need of the care. The binder will then rotate monthly among those willing to coordinate the services. Any other folks willing to be apart of the committee are welcome.

The next meeting will be Feb. 13 at 12:15. Phyllis Reid volunteered to make the soup!

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## Marilyn Wilder

Memorial service will be held Sunday, Feb. 19, at 2:00 pm, at Congregation Shir Hadash, 20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos. 356-1751.

Please bring a dish or food item to share.

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**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](http://www.UUFLG.org).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Membership Committee News:

The Membership Committee will have its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2006 in the West Room of the Fellowship starting at 3:00 PM. All members are invited to attend. If you have any changes in your address, phone number or e-mail address please make sure that you let Harry Campbell know so that he can keep your membership information up to date.

We are looking for additional volunteers to work with our Membership Committee members to hand out the order of service prior to each Sunday service and to make visitors feel more welcome. If you can sign up for a month of Sundays your contribution will be most appreciated. Please talk to any member of the committee to volunteer.

## Member Photo Directory:

If you have not yet picked up your 2005-2006 Membership Photo Directory please contact Harry Campbell

## Long Range Planning Committee:

The Fellowship has a newly constituted Long Range Planning Committee. This committee will be preparing a long range plan to help guide our Fellowship in this third millennium. Members are Bob Bixler, Harry Campbell, Linda Krenicky, Katie Rall, Phyllis Reid and Jim Stahl.

Ciao.  
Harry

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## FELLOWSHIP MUSIC NEWS

We've been operating without a real Music Committee for some time now, and I'd like to make the effort to change that. I've been co-ordinating music for the past six months, and am now ready to put together a committee of people who are interested in re-vitalizing Fellowship music. We will be meeting monthly in the Lounge on the first Tuesday of the month directly after the Sunday Services Comm.meeting. Please join us at 7:45 and be prepared to bring your ideas.

I've had dreams of my own, and am now ready to try to make them a reality. To that end I am starting a Women's singing group that will meet at my home both in the evening and the daytime to accommodate people's

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schedules. The morning group will meet from 8:30 - 10:30 on Thursdays, beginning immediately. The evening group will meet on Mondays from 7:15 - 9:00 P.M., beginning ASAP. Women who belong to the Women's Spirituality Group or the Thursday AM Women's group will be excused from practice at the meeting times of their other group. One needn't be a Fellowship member to join. Sight reading ability is not necessary, but one must be able to sing on pitch and blend in with the group.

I'm also planning on starting a music class for young children and their parents, and, in partnership with Fun Lin Chen, will offer private or class keyboard lessons. All profits will go to the UUFLG or other charities. Please call me at (408) 448-4820 for more information, or plan on attending the Music Comm. Meeting on Feb. 7th.

A big "Thank You" to all musicians who contributed to our services during the month of January: Pianists; Phyllis Foxcroft and Ruth Webb; Song Leaders; Norm Crane and Pauline Stonehill; and Jenny Heath, Ruth Pfaff, Joe Rafferty, Dean Marchant, Dave Peyton, Norm Crane, Kari Sparks and Andreas and Kassandra Omvik for their gifts of music.

*"If I keep a green bough in my heart, the singing bird will come".* Phyllis Reid

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**The Mount Diablo Universal Unitarian Church proudly presents "Handy Dandy"** by one of America's leading playwrights, William Gibson. Sister Molly Egan participates in a peaceful anti nuclear demonstration by trespassing on private property. Arrested, she is brought before Judge Henry Pulaski who believes his job is to uphold the laws regardless. Brilliantly acted by Jann Rose Schaub and Bob Lane, the play reflects the age old conflict between what is right and what is Right. Though written in the 1980's, the conflict between the right of protestation and the law is as fresh today as it was then.

Performances will be at 8:00PM on Saturday, Feb. 11th and 1:30PM on Sunday Feb. 12th at the Church (55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek). Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Reservations may be made by calling MDUUC (925-934-3135) and leaving your name, telephone number, number of tickets and performance on the answering machine or with the secretary. Tickets may be picked up the day of the performance. Cash or check only please.

## Social Justice Committee News

The SJ Committee met Sun, Jan. 8 and reported the following activity:

Five more people took part in the HfH work day at the Murphy Ave. site last Sat. and Ben Strand and his dad volunteered on Sun. Participants reported a very satisfying day. The committee decided to try and make this a monthly event for our Fellowship.

Last Sunday was our second Share the Plate Sunday. Everything came together -- from our amazing speaker, Rosemary Stasek, to Kelly and Jenny of our youth group, to our bountiful collection plate with generous donations benefitting. . . a little help and the Fellowship. The committee will be selecting another charity for StP for March.

Our sale of fair-traded coffee has not been very impressive; however, Ann Campbell will hold another sale in February. It was decided that we should continue to purchase fair-trade coffee to serve at the coffee hour, even if we do not continue to sell it to the congregation.

Ink jet recycle-- We could use some help with this project. It could be more of a money maker for the Fellowship if someone wants to focus their energy on it.

Global warming-- There are plans brewing to have a forum featuring local leaders in solar energy and a video entitled "Lighten Up"-- a religious response to global warming- This film was created by The Regeneration Project-- an exciting endeavor by California Interfaith Power and Light. If you are interested in helping with this forum, please contact Nan Bixler.

Next meeting: Sun. Feb.12 -- 12:15 - 1:15

Pam Rhodes English

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**The UU Women's morning group** will have their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 9, at 10:00 AM. Lynn O'Keefe will lead the discussion on traditions: Common Ground, Solstice Celebration, and A Story True, found in the Winter edition of UU World Magazine. All women of the Fellowship are invited to attend. Hope to see you there. Contact Joanne Crane, 268-2199 if you have questions.

## Dear UUFLG friends,

Over the past year I have been proud to be the SJ Chairman. With the help of many we were able to create several new social justice activities in the Fellowship. Sadly, I am unable to continue with my job as Chair. My husband is gravely ill and as his wife and caregiver, there will be no time to fulfill the duties of SJ Chair the way they should be done.

It is my hope that someone from the Fellowship who really wants to will take over this job for me. I can still be the Board Trustee, as that is complicated to change right now; but, we need someone to be the Chair --- hold monthly meetings and oversee the success of our several projects.

Fortunately, we have an active SJ Committee with individuals who are taking responsibility for: fair-grade coffee, ....a little help, ink jet cartridge, sending environmental updates; but we need more help with maintaining the Habitat for Humanity program and Share the Plate.

In conclusion-- I am asking for your help in taking over this leadership role and making sure we don't lose the momentum gained in the last year re. social justice actions. There will be an informational binder forthcoming which will contain the what, where, and who's of the job.

Thank you for your understanding.

In fellowship,  
Pam Rhodes English

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## FRIENDS OUTSIDE COLLECTION,

Feb. 19th

Get a jump on your spring cleaning! Please bring clean, usable items of clothing, small household appliances and kitchen utensils for collection. Make sure all items are in bags and boxes, and leave in designated area in hallway or on deck (depending on the weather) for pick-up at noon.

Questions? Call Phyllis Reid at (408) 448-4820.

Thank you!

## CHATTER FROM COFFEE HOUR

She has arrived!! Congratulations to Joanna and Brandon Connelly on the birth of their baby Megan Nicole born Jan 18, 2006. Baby is beautiful, so say grandparents Robin and Tim. We welcome her into our Fellowship family.

Belated birthday wishes to Bill English. We know Bill thru his wife Pam Rhodes English. We send warm greetings and get well wishes and hope he enjoys the warm "Comfort Quilt" to snuggle down in as he is healing.

Sharon Graham and son Bejan had an interesting trip in Mexico recently. Welcome home.

Thank you to Dean Marchant for his song "If I had a hammer" for the gift of music recently. And to Joe Rafferty for accompanying him on the guitar.

Some folks are missing church and fellowship with us due to bad colds and flu. "This is your grandmother speaking. Take care of yourself, drink lots of water and juices, get plenty of rest, and come back soon as we miss you."

Members of our Fellowship worked another day for Habitat for Humanity, thanks to Pam Rhodes English for making arrangements. Workers were: Jim Beebe, Jim Stahl, Ann Campbell, Susan Parks, Ben and Brad Strand. A job well done, which will be appreciated by the new owners.

Coralee Linton and Nan Bixler have recently had cataract surgery. They now can see more color in this world of ours.

Speaking of color, have you noticed the deep purple iris alongside the delicate lemon-yellow ones in our gardens? Lots of things blooming. Look around you and enjoy all the new blooms and growth in the gardens, including the butterfly area. Thanks to our grounds people "with the green thumbs".

It is always good to see Emily and Laura Doughty back in the church school. And we welcome their parents Kathy and Doug also.

Good to have Richard Thorpe back in church school. Welcome.

The Care Committee is getting started again with Julie Doyle as the organizer. If in need, please feel free to call on any of the new helpers in this group, who are: Barbara Kalmoutis, Jo Cooley, Lida Kluzak, Nan Bixler, Norman and Joanne Crane, Audrey Freeman, Phyllis Foxcroft, Phyllis Reid, Coralee Linton, Leo Boyd, Lou Yabroff, and Rev. Nancy Roemheld. Please contact them by phone or speak to them during fellowship time after church services.

We send greetings to all who are unable to be with us in person.

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS** -- Feb. 1 --Tasha Doyle, Feb 2 --Kay Chon, Feb --6 Pat Horton, Feb 12--Allyson Levy, Feb 13--Margaret Howard, Feb 13--Katie Rall, Feb 16--Ann Joy, Feb 18--Pauline Stonehill, Feb 24--Pamela Robinson, Feb 27--Susan Thompson.

FYI, a belated Happy Statehood to all Kansas current and former residents for 145th statehood birthday on Jan. 29.

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### PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

JASON SHELTON MUSIC WORKSHOP:  
FEB. 24-26 AT THE UU CHURCH OF DAVIS

The Rev. Jason Shelton, a noted Unitarian Universalist composer-minister, will lead a choral music workshop at the UU Church of Davis February 24-26. All UUs are invited to attend.

Workshop attendees will embrace our UU heritage by learning to sing UU choral pieces-including Rev. Shelton's "Standing on the Side of Love," "The Fire of Commitment," and "Morning Has Come"-and by enhancing our awareness of the significant role of music in our worship services.

The workshop opens Friday evening, continues during the day on Saturday, and culminates with Rev. Shelton conducting workshop participants in song for Sunday morning services at the UU Church of Davis. The cost for the workshop will be \$25 per person or \$40 for families of two or more. Registration deadlines will be announced soon. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Nancy Lower, music director, UU Church of Davis, at (707) 678-6567 or at [nlower@onramp113.com](mailto:nlower@onramp113.com).

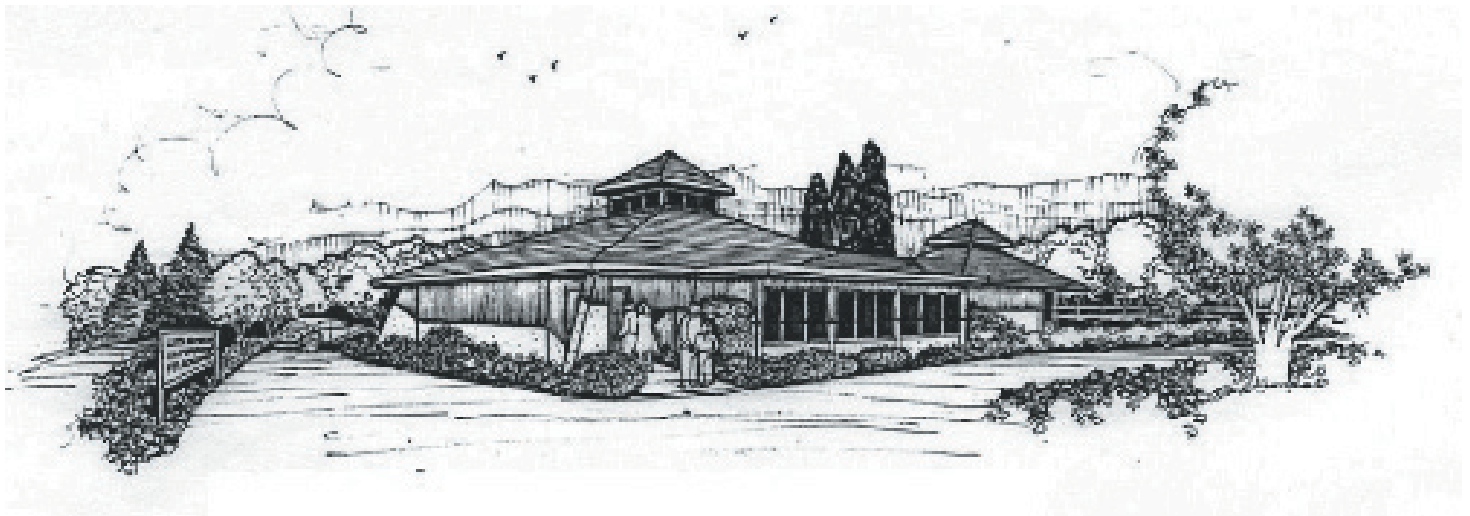
## CALENDAR ITEMS

- Feb 1** 6:45p -8:45p Build Your Theology Class – W. Led by Rev. Nancy Roemheld and Walt Main.  
7:00p -9:00p SGM Meet – L. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle
- Feb 2** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – L. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call 370-3226.  
12:00p -1:00p RUMS Lunch on the deck. Brown bag lunch on the deck (or inside if it is cold or rainy) for men with flexible time. Come and enjoy an hour or so of sociability. Contact Bob Bixler 356-5697, rbixler@jps.net for information.  
1:00p -2:30p Building and Grounds Committee Meeting All are invited. See Bob Bixler for info.
- Feb 3** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - W  
7:00p -8:30p Board and COM Meeting – W. Special Closed Meeting. See Walt for Info.
- Feb 5** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – B. See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net
- Feb 6** 10:00a -12:00p Life Stories Class - W.
- Feb 7** 10:00a -12:00p Chalice Circle Meeting. By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall  
6:30p -7:45p Sunday Services Contact Nan Bixler  
7:45p -8:30p Music Committee – L. contact Phyllis Reid
- Feb 8** 6:45p -8:45p Build Your Theology Class – W. Led by Rev. Nancy Roemheld and Walt Main.
- Feb 9** 9:45a -12:00p Women’s Group – W. All Women are invited. Call Joanne Crane at 268-2199 for more info.  
10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – L. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call 370-3226.  
6:30p -9:00p Board Meeting – W. Contact Margo Smith 408-674-8933 ricepaper@sbcglobal.net All are welcome
- Feb 10** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - W.
- Feb 12* 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – B. See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net
- Feb 13** 10:00a -12:00p Life Stories Class - W  
7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group – L. Contact Ann Campbell - 374-8844
- Feb 14** 10:30a -1:00p Tuesday Mums See Kristina Strand for information  
2:00p -3:30p Bylaw Task Force – L. All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main  
3:00p -4:30p Membership Committee Meeting (in West Room). Everyone is welcome to attend. For information contact Harry Campbell (Secretary of the UUFLG Membership Committee).
- Feb 15** 6:45p -8:45p Build Your Theology Class – W. Led by Rev. Nancy Roemheld and Walt Main.  
7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting – L. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Feb 16** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – L. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call 370-3226.
- Feb 17** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - W.
- Feb 18** 1:00p -4:00p Memorial Service for Marilyn Wilder. Marilyn was a longtime member, beloved to all who knew her. Service conducted by Rev. Nancy Roemheld.
- Feb 19** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – B. See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net
- Feb 20** Deadline for items for next Newsletter.
- Feb 21** 10:00a -12:00p Chalice Circle Meeting By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall
- Feb 22** 6:45p -8:45p Build Your Theology Class – W. Led by Rev. Nancy Roemheld and Walt Main.
- Feb 23** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours - L Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call 370-3226.
- Feb 24** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - W .
- Feb 26** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service - B See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net
- Feb 27** 10:00a -12:00p Life Stories Class - W .  
7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group --L Contact Ann Campbell - 374-8844
- Feb 28** 10:30a -1:00p Tuesday Mums See Kristina Strand for Information  
2:00p -3:30p Bylaw Task Force - L All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main

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



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



**Fellowship News**

**February 2006**

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](http://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.