

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

October 2007 No.10; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

October 2007
Sunday Services at 10:30

October 7

A Principled Life: UU Principle #1

Victoria Ingram, Minister

Our foundational statement of Unitarian Universalist values, the Seven Principles, was last reviewed in the 1980s. This year, congregations are being asked to provide input to a possible revision of this important document. This Sunday, we'll begin a series of sermons exploring our Seven Principles and how they might be updated.

October 14

Association Sunday

Linda Krenicky, Worship Associate

Suzanne Marsh, ministerial intern with the UU Legislative Ministry, speaker.

On this Sunday, we join with thousands of Unitarian Universalists across the nation celebrating our shared commitment on Association Sunday. In this service, we will strengthen the bonds of our common purpose and combine our resources to make Unitarian Universalism a stronger voice for liberal religious values in our country. We are better together. We increase our spirit and influence. We honor the "inherent worth and dignity of every person." Our values are needed to help heal the wounded world. So, we will be taking a special collection for the growth and vitality of our congregations. Funds raised will be used for a national marketing campaign and for grants to congregations for growth outreach projects.

October 21

Focusing on the Good Stuff

Victoria Ingram, Minister

Imagine a life lived from a perspective of "radical appreciation." When we consider conditions in the world, we may find it easier to dwell in a place of negativity and criticism. How could life be different if we changed our point of view?

October 28

Life Lessons: Fear

Intergenerational Service

Victoria Ingram, Minister

For our Intergenerational Services, we invite families to worship together. Using story and song, we'll explore the role of fear in our lives, both how it can help and hinder us in being fully alive.

November 4

A Principled Life: UU Principle #2

Victoria Ingram, Minister

The second in a series of sermons focused on our UU Seven Principles. UUs covenant to affirm "justice, equity, and compassion in human relations," in a world filled with injustice, lacking in compassion, and grossly unequal in many respects. We'll explore how we keep energy for the journey when the end seems far from sight.

New to UU?

Considering membership at UUFLG?

Beginning on Tuesday, October 9, the Membership Committee will host a 3 session workshop to introduce Unitarian Universalism and this congregation to those interested in knowing more about the history and theology of UU and the UUFLG community. Minister Victoria Ingram will participate as one of the facilitators. The workshops will be held on 3 consecutive Tuesday evenings, October 9, 16, and 23, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Fellowship. Please call the office to register. Childcare will be provided, if needed.

Those completing the workshop and choosing to become members of UUFLG will be welcomed by the congregation at a ceremony during the worship service on Sunday, October 28th. If you'd like more information, call the Minister at 358.1212.

Adult Religious Education: “Poetry as Spiritual Practice”

Using poetry, this monthly workshop will help you deepen your appreciation and use of the written word for spiritual reflection. Facilitated by Minister Victoria Ingram, we'll use reading, writing, and discussion to explore the imagery and metaphors of poetry and how these help us understand our own spiritual path. Workshops are scheduled on three Thursdays for fall, October 18, November 15, and December 6, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please call the office to register (358.1212) Childcare will be provided, if needed.

RE Schedule Change

To allow our children more time to be together in their RE classes, we will institute a revised schedule beginning on October 7th. Children will attend the first 15 minutes of Worship in the Sanctuary with their parents. At the end of Worship, children will remain an additional 15 minutes in their RE classes. Adults will exit to the patio via the front doors of the Fellowship. (During inclement weather, adults will share the West Room with the children.)

This adjustment in the schedule allows for additional time in RE classes for the children to learn and be together. It also allows parents to have time for conversation and community on the patio, following Worship services.

Sanctuary Beautification Update

Victoria Ingram, Minister

There are a lot of ideas for making our worship space more attractive, functional, and accessible. Through email and participation in the meeting on September 11, over 20 individuals have contributed suggestions for this project. Some of the ideas can, and will be implemented quickly and easily. Others will take more time for planning and funding.

Here's a representative sampling of the suggestions submitted:

- Remove the railings from the chancel area to create a more open, inviting space.
- Paint the Sanctuary, brightening the color and trim.
- Have fresh flowers every Sunday.
- Use hymn board to list the music for the service.
- Update the chancel area with new color, furniture, and possibly changes to the overhangs and/or back corner area. Get a new pulpit.
- Use wall hangings, murals, or other materials to add visual interest to the walls.
- Higher table and “lazy susan” for Joys & Concerns candles.
- Improving the audio system. Adding projection capabilities.
- Recarpeting and recovering the seats.

A task force will review the input and create a recommended plan for moving forward with this project. A report of their review and recommendations will be available in November.

Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas, suggestions, and drawings to support this project.

Flowers, Snacks, and Other Opportunities

As we begin our church year, please remember to volunteer to bring flowers to decorate our Sanctuary, to help with coffee and refreshments, and/or to bring snacks. These “extras” make it a pleasure for all of us to share our time together on Sundays. If you would like to designate your flower donation in honor of a loved one, a special anniversary or other occasion, please leave a note for Adrienne, or Church Administrator. Sign up sheets are in the lobby.



Fundraising Team News

The generosity of our members and friends continues to be a blessing. In August, we tallied a \$347 profit from the Peninsula Banjo Band concert. The pancake breakfast and raffle for Edna Windes' watercolor brought in an additional \$619.75. We are off to a wonderful start in funding our new Director of Religious Education and children's program.

Are you ready for some new (used) books? We're happy to help by hosting another book sale on October 14, right after the worship service. This sale will include videos, CDs, and DVDs, too, all for very reasonable prices. If you have any of these items to donate, please bring them to the Fellowship prior to October 8.

Other exciting, money-raising events in our future:

October 19: Dave Coldren, Esther Kaplan, and Susanne Mulcahy present an evening of comedy and music. You can buy tickets after the Sunday service. They will also be available online. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

November 18: Andrew McKnight, UU traveling musician from the hills of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, will provide a music worship service and an afternoon concert. Take a look at his website: <http://www.andrewmcknight.net>. *These tickets will be \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Andrew has quite a following in the Bay Area, so be sure to get your tickets early!*

December (date to be determined): Annual Holiday Boutique

February 9, 2008: UUFLG Auction Returns!

Ongoing: eScrip and scrip sales—see any member of the fundraising team for more information.

Thank you for your generosity of time and money, and for making our community strong.

In good financial health,
Linda Krenicky for the Fundraising Team
(Chris Magee, Dick and Shelley Powers, Irving Yabroff)

Chalice Circle News

Hi all –

An oasis of respite and care for each other. A place to catch and check in with one another. A time to set aside for listening to each other share on topics as varied as our 7 principles, Our Gifts, Change, Fear, Acting Courageously, Approval, Belonging in Community, What we Love, Friends, Self Esteem, Paradox (among many many others).

“What is this?” you ask. Our Chalice Circles. This is just to remind you that we are still welcoming new members to our gatherings. All it takes is a willingness, a small regular commitment of time, and your ears.

Chalice Circles are one way to allow you to deepen your commitment and fellowship with one another. They also are a great way to strengthen your listening skills (yes! and that means you) and explore more deeply your joys as well as sorrows. We meet in intimate gatherings, and follow a regular order of service, and we also commit to service projects for the Fellowship.

Currently there are three gatherings:

Sunday morning (every 3rd Sunday)

Tuesday morning (twice a month, 1st and 3rd week of the month)

Wednesday evening (twice a month, 1st and 3rd week of the month)

Please contact the church office about ongoing and newly forming groups and meeting schedules.

The Thursday Morning Women's Group will meet October 11th from 9:45 to noon in the west room with Gratia Trevey convening. All members and friends in our community are welcome to attend. Lida Kluzek and Phyllis will serve refreshments as we gather and Edy Young will lead a discussion from the fall UU WORLD on “Liberal Religion and the Working Class”, pages 33 to 37. Gratia welcomes telephone calls at 395-9036 for more information.

Administrivia

Admin Adrienne Gormley is changing her officer hours to start at 12 noon rather than 11 AM. She will still work 2 hours each on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and 3 hours on Tuesday and Thursday.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC



The Fellowship has a new chorus, and it is welcoming all voices. The first performance will be October 21. The group plans to sing during the Sunday service once a month. This is a fun and casual group with a passion for music and singing. If you share that passion, please join them. See Ruth Webb, Fidele Galey, or Linda Krenicky if you are interested.

The drum circle on September 16 was a hit. Wendy Bartel introduced us to some “drumming etiquette” as well as got us all keeping the beat in a glorious sound. We’ll be sure to invite her back!

And talk about hits – this month and November bring two more fabulous music programs, both planned as fund raisers for the children’s RE program.

On October 19th, 7:30 p.m., Dave Coldren, Esther Kaplan, and Susanne Mulcahy team up to present an evening of comedy and music. As you may know, Esther won this year’s stand-up comic contest at the South Bay’s premier comedy venue, Rooster T. Feathers. She is laugh-till-you-cry funny. Add to that the music of Dave Coldren and Susanne Mulcahy, and the evening can’t get any better! Dave and Susanne will present their own compositions, as well as a few “cover” songs. They have collaborated on a CD, and that will be available for sale. Be sure to mark this date, as you really won’t want to miss it.

November 19th is the date for an afternoon concert by Andrew McKnight, environmental engineer turned performing folk songwriter, guitarist and poet (and UU). Andrew will also be providing the worship service that day. To hear a sample of his music, go to his website, <http://www.andrewmcknight.net/>.

There will be a fundraising lunch between the service and the performance, so you’ll be able to enjoy the music with a nice full belly!

Bless you all for the music in our lives!
Linda



Inspirational Film Friday, October 12

This Month’s Feature Film

Star Wars, Episode IV, A New Hope (PG)

The popularity of this Star Wars episode rests in the application of universal themes, particularly spiritual development and the “hero’s journey.” We will explore and apply the meaning of the movie themes to our personal lives.

As the Movie Professor, Carl Ingram offers an engaging presentation and discussion that will open your eyes to the previously unseen deeper messages of inspiration.

Sanctuary:

6:30 p.m. Presentation on film themes

7:00 p.m. Full-length feature film

Following the film

- Facilitated discussion of the film

You are invited to come to all/any parts of the evening’s program, as you are interested.

Coming Attractions:

November 9 *Don Juan DeMarco*

December 7 *It’s a Wonderful Life*

To all PCD Leadership School Graduates:

The Annual Leadership School Reunion will take place on October 6, 2007 at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore. Please join the LS staff and your fellow graduates as we gather again this year for reconnection, renewal, and celebration! Bring your UU spirit (& your instrument!) as we learn and share again. Our program includes “Hand on Heart “ opening ceremony, a workshop to be confirmed, worship, food and sharing! To volunteer or to register, please contact April Hill (aprhil52@sbcglobal.net) by Monday, September 24. Be prepared for spiritual leadership renewal!

For more information about Leadership School, please contact Julie Springer (julspring@comcast.net), or Drew Wilson (dandjwilson@comcast.net).

Thanks much,
Susan Parks



GREETINGS FROM THE DECK !

Welcome back to the Fellowship to all our members and friends! Special welcome to all new comers who are visiting us for the first time and getting slowly acquainted to our members and friends. I know we each had some fun during the summer months and are just waiting for you to ask. So ask each other, good beginning for conversations.

Congratulations to Julie and Jerry Doyle on the birth of their first granddaughter, Summer! Congratulations to Lynn O'Keefe on the birth of her first great grandson, Trent! We send warm wishes to the parents and grandparents of these little ones as they love and guide these wee ones!

Did you buy a few tickets on the raffle of the beautiful Sunflower watercolor contributed by Edna Windes? At the Pancake Breakfast, we held the drawing for the picture and the winner was Chris Magee. Chris was out of town at the drawing, so she learned by phone the next day of her winning. She was thrilled to receive the pictures and said "thanks to all you losers."

Our sympathy to Robin and Tim Connelly and their families, on the death of Robin's father. Mr. Leon Rosenberg was a resident in a retirement home in Cupertino.

Get well wishes to Irby Windes and Ann and Dean Joy.

Have you picked up the latest Adult Education bulletin that has been flying around? It is bright ORANGE, so you can't miss it. There are talks, workshops, and films. You won't want to miss a thing. Some you have to register for, so get your name on the list NOW. Child care is provided IF you request it, so call the office if you are in need of child care.

We will all be meeting our new Director of Education, Tamara McClellan, soon. Her specialty is the children's program, and we welcome her to our Fellowship.

Did you miss the Drumming program? Following a delicious pot luck lunch on 9/16 of 3 soups, salads, "yummy bread", and lots of desserts, the drumming began. Kendal, one of our guest seminarians, led the group of 16 folks of all ages in a wonderful hour of drumming. She gave instructions as they played as a group, smaller groups, solos, etc. After drumming, there was a short time for maracas and shakers. It was great! Next time, hope you can come too!

Another attraction that you won't want to miss is our concert on Oct. 19. This time is our own talent of Esther Kaplan, stand-up comedy, Dave Coldren, piano, and Suzanne Mulcahy on the guitar and singing. Tickets are now available from Linda Krenicky. Save the date now, and we'll see you there!.

Our new Fall term has begun, and we welcome everyone to participate in these new programs!

See you in Church! Lou Yabroff

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 Harry Campbell (harrycampbell@gmail.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.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Due to an insufficient number of sign ups, we had to cancel the Sept. 29th workday. We will try again in March and hope that more of you can participate in this meaningful and satisfying activity. But we did collect \$183 for Habitat for Humanity from our Sept. "share-the-plate". That is enough to buy pre-hung doors, a sink plus other supplies (a little goes a long way)! And we are pleased that we will be able to contribute more with endowment fund money (see below).

GLOBAL WARMING CHALLENGE PROJECT

Most of you understand the problems posed by global warming and want to help solve them. But sometimes it is difficult to break habits or go beyond our comfort zones. The Global Warming Challenge project aims to get you to take specific actions, which may in fact be challenging! Some of you may be having difficulty meeting the challenges. So, we will give you a chance to catch up and won't introduce a new challenge this month. So, keep working on the 1st two challenges. Remember to do the follow-up actions as well as the 'immediate' actions. And be creative!

CHALLENGE #1: AIR DRYING LAUNDRY

Immediate Action: Install clotheslines and/or drying racks for yourself or a friend or relative.

Follow-up Action: Air-dry at least 1/3 of your laundry for two months

CHALLENGE #2: LIGHTING

Immediate Action: Buy and install 5 compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). If you already have all you need, give 5 bulbs to someone else.

Great Opportunity: We will be collecting CFLs to give to Second Harvest Food bank families. What a great way to get more people tuned in to saving energy! You can meet Challenge #2 by donating 5 bulbs (but smaller donations are also encouraged). Just put your bulbs in the box in the foyer.

Follow-up Action: Turn off lights in all rooms you are not using (or plan to use within the next ½ hour). Do this most days for two months.

Hint: The Dollar Tree has 18 CFLs for \$1 a piece. Also try Big Lots or Home Depot.

More helpful hints coming soon to website and hand-out

DONATIONS FROM ENDOWMENT FUND MONEY

The Social Action committee received \$679 from UUFLG endowment funds with the restriction that it must be donated to outside organizations. We voted to spend the majority of the funds to purchase compact fluorescent light bulbs to donate to Second Harvest Food bank. These light bulbs, together with those you donate (see above) should provide about 4 bulbs for each of the food bank's 130 families. The remaining funds will be donated to Habitat to Humanity.



SHARE-THE-PLATE

Our Share-the-Plate recipient this month will be Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence. For over 36 years, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence has healed lives shattered and beaten by abusive relationships. Next Door exists to end domestic violence both in the moment and for all time. Next Door has grown into Santa Clara County's most comprehensive domestic violence service agency. It offers a full range of programs and services to help break the cycle of violence, from those that give immediate relief to families in need, to proactive services that help women and families move their lives in healthy directions.

Please join us at our next meeting, Oct 7th 12:15 - 1:30 in the Lounge. Newcomers are welcome.

And/or feel free to contact us:

Connie (cfspringer@earthlink.net)

Sue (sueanon@sbcglobal.net)

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30-Sep	1	2	3	4	5	6
		2:00 – Membership Committee Meeting		12:00- RUMs on the deck 1:30 – Building & Grounds Committee	12:30 – Music Committee 2:00 – Recorder Group	-
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:30 – Sunday Service <i>A Principled Life: UU Principle #1</i>	7:15 – Women's Spirituality Group – West 7:30 – Great Books - East	1:00 – Admin & Communications Meeting 7:00 – Getting to Know UU	7:30 - Meditation Class	7:00 – UJFLG Board Meeting - West	2:00 – Recorder Group 6:30 -Inspirational Films Series: Star Wars, Episode IV	6:00 – Parents Night Out; child care provided
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:30- Sunday Service Spiritual Center & Civic Circumference 11:45 – Book sale/ coffee shop		7:00 – Getting to Know UU	9:30 – PCD AUUA Meeting, Walnut Creek 7:30 – Meditation Class	7:00 – Poetry as Spiritual Practice	2:00 – Recorder Group 7:00 – A Night of Comedy and Music	Newsletter Deadline
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30 – Sunday Service Focusing on the Good Stuff	7:15 – Women's Spirituality Group - West	7:00 – Getting to Know UU	12:15 – Stitch & Bitch 7:30 – Meditation Class		2:00 – Recorder Group	Annual Halloween Party. Save the date.
28	29	30	31	1-Nov	2	3
10:30 – Sunday Service Intergenerational Service Life Lessons: Fear		1:00 – Long Range Planning Meeting				
			7:30 Meditation Class			

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

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



Fellowship News

October 2007

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.