

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

April 2006 No.4; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, April 2006

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

April 2: “It’s Not Fair” We’ll look at the unfairness of life, and the unfairness in life, and ask the question, “Why do bad things happen?” and not just “to good people.” Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld, Worship Associate, Katie Rall.

April 9: “Why Jesus Matters” A look at the historical Jesus and his teachings of radical justice. Lynn Kelly, student at Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, preaches on Palm Sunday. She will also do our Time for All Ages with “Parable of the Vineyard”. Ms. Kelly hails from Corvallis, OR where she owned a home day care program serving families for thirteen years. She was active in her home congregation in creating worship and organizing their campus ministry program. She now lives in Albany with her 15 year old daughter. She also serves the UUA as a regional organizing consultant for campus and young adult ministry. Lynn O’Keefe is lay leader.

April 16: An Easter Sermon, “Thank You Magic Dragon” Let us consider the possibility of being a servant to others - of living a life of service where we reach out to others. Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld, Worship Associate, Linda Krenicky. Kari Sparks, DRE, will share a Russian Easter Story, Rechenka’s Eggs.

April 23: “More Than a “Feel Good” Religion” There is a timeliness about Unitarian Universalism now - a suitability, a fitness for our time. We will have a special ceremony in honor of our Religious Education Teachers. Service leader, Rev. Nancy Roemheld

April 30: “Growing up UU” Nina Kalmoutis is the daughter of Barbara and Peter Kalmoutis who were members of the Los Gatos Fellowship going back to the 1950’s. At the age of fifty one Nina decided to leave her career of eighteen years to attend Starr King School for the Ministry. After graduating with a Masters of Divinity degree in May of 2004 Nina worked with the National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice. This past summer Nina served as a creative consultant and assistant to the minister at People’s Church--the UU congregation in Ludington, Michigan. She is currently working as a chaplain intern at the University of California San Francisco Campus in the Comprehensive Cancer Center. Nina will speak to us of her experiences growing up in our Fellowship. Julie Doyle 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'm one of those people who love to go to church. That is a good thing, considering my line of work. One of the motivating forces behind my call to ministry is that when I was a child, "church" was one of the few places where I could go and find acceptance and unconditional love, and it was fun to be there. That's an experience that I hope all of the children who come here may have, and all of the adults too. This poem by Alice Walker tells of her childhood experiences of church, and how she feels about it now:

Sunday School, Circa 1950

"Who made you?" was always
The Question
The answer was always
"God."
Well, there we stood
Three feet high
Heads bowed
Leaning into bosoms.

Now
I no longer recall
The catechism
Or brood on the Genesis
Of life.
No.

I ponder the exchange
Itself
And salvage mostly
The Leaning.

We who are preachers hope and pray, wherever we go, that the Spirit of Love many shine through us sometimes when we speak on Sunday morning - and when it does not, that the sunbeam filtering through the windows, or a child's bright smile, or the beauty of the music, and especially the very "leaning" of us all together, will bring that spirit of love home to us once again.

Yours in the faith, Nancy

Announcement

On April 23rd, we will have a Newcomer's Circle after the Sunday Service. This is a chance to meet with Rev. Nancy and a long time member of the Fellowship, and take a rapid romp through UU history, and a jaunt through this Fellowship's history as well. It's also a good time to ask questions like, "What do UU's believe?"

The Katrina Disaster God's Will Or Human Error? The Role Of Race And Class

Join us in the 1st Annual "Henry Hampton Lecture Series": A public discussion of race, religion and social policy.

Featuring theologians and activists from New Orleans and the Bay Area.

Invited Panelists include:

Mtangulizi Sanyika
Rev. Dr. James Noel
Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker
Rev. Dwight Webster
C.C. Campbell-Rock
Imam Faheem Shuaibe

Saturday, March 11, 2006.

6:00-9:00 P.m.

Starr King School for the Ministry

2441 LeConte Ave.

Berkeley CA

Free and Open to the Public

Wheelchair Accessible

For more information, email ddezern@sksm.edu

Words from your DRE

“April showers bring May flowers,” as they say. Get ready for rain, rain, and more rain. What better time to help teach our children than during our Sunday services on a rainy day? This month we look forward to our annual Song Fest (4/9), Easter celebration (4/16), Earth Day (4/23), Teacher Appreciation (4/23), and a field trip #3 to the Shir Hadash Congregation in Los Gatos from 10-11am (4/30). Contact me if you would like to help.

Last month the children of all ages enjoyed the Canvass Cook Off on March 12th. There we enjoyed live music, face painting, games, food, and arts and crafts. What a way to pledge ourselves to the fellowship. Thank you to Linda Krenicky and all the volunteers that helped make the party a success.

Also, in March the children made spring hats for the Elder Celebration on March 26th. We made twenty six hats, all with flowers, ribbons, love, and appreciation. Wow! And, we celebrated the arrival of The Jo’s baby boy and The Connelly’s baby girl Megan. They were days to remember. Congratulations!

This month keep your eyes open for a furry friend hopping down the aisles and into the classrooms. Maybe this bushy-tailed brute will leave us some eggs filled with goodies. Let’s hop to it on April 16th.

And, most importantly, on April 23rd all of our Religious Education teachers and volunteers will be recognized this day for teaching our children in the preschool, k-5 group, youth group, or for Time For All Ages. Please show your appreciation (in alphabetical order) for Nan Bixler, Brandon Connelly, June Curtis, Julie Doyle, Chris and Hollie Dunham, Barbara Feldman, Sharon Graham, Karen Jarrett, Suzanne and Charles Jo, Leslie Jones, Linda Krenicky, Patricia O’Hare, Kassandra

and Sabine Omvik, Jewel Peyton, Joe Rafferty, Phyllis Reid, Pam Rhodes-English, Michelle Sierra, Margo Smith, Jonathan and Kari Sparks, Kristina Strand, Hsiao-In Wang, Chris Washburn, and others who have donated their time, snacks and toys to the classrooms.

If you would like to be apart of our many activities this month please contact Kari Sparks, Director of Religious Education, at dre@uuflg.org, or (408) 761-6990, or sign-up on the board by the front door. Thank you for your help.

Blessings,
Kari Sparks, DRE

UU NIAGARA EXPERIENCE

July 16-19, 2006

If you have ever wanted to visit Niagara Falls or if it is already one of your favorite places, this is a chance to experience the wonder of Niagara Falls including some great educational opportunities while in the company of UU’s from around the country. The UU Church of Niagara is conducting a four day UU Niagara Experience which is a lifetime opportunity to encounter the Falls up close from every perspective, even safely riding beneath a tethered balloon. Spend four days with us exploring the rich history and natural wonders around the Falls. For information visit our web site :

<http://www.uunex.net/>
Email : info@uunex.net
Telephone : (716) 791-4453

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? 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.

The Social Justice Committee is sponsoring the next Habitat for Humanity work day on May 13th. The timing of the workday is from 8AM to 4PM, and you do need to be there for the full workday to participate. We have ten slots which we can fill, and I will fill them up on a first-come first-serve basis. I will have a couple Sunday sign ups in April after the Sunday Services. You can also simply email me to sign up, and I will keep a running list of participants. I will provide you with more information as the date gets closer (what to wear, directions, etc.). Please note too, that participants need to be at least 14 years of age, so this isn't an activity for younger children. The teens, however, are great workers (my 15-year-old, Benjamin, participates). So if you have a teen who needs service hours, or is simply interested in the project, this might be a good fit.

In case your are interested in what kind of work will be done, we will be working on renovations to two Victorian rooming houses on 13th Street and E. Julian Street (the Murphy site house was booked until mid-summer). The two houses are being converted into four condominiums. All of the extra partitions, plumbing, and electrical systems are being removed, and the houses restored to their full Victorian appearance. The work includes extensive de-construction, then building in contemporary services and appliances. If this sounds interesting to you, and you would like to help out, please add May 13th to your calendar, and let me know so that I can add your name to the list.

Kristina Strand
(408) 395-5886
kers@mindspring.com

Diana Payne reminds us of one of her favorite programs – The Heifer Project. Those not familiar with the Heifer Project might look them up on the web at <http://www.heifer.org>. The Heifer Project provides animals and other support to help lift families from hunger and poverty throughout the world. They encourage recipients to “pass on the gift” by sharing their animal’s offspring with others. Through their web-site you can help fund many different selections from their title Heifer through llama’s, chickens, geese and many others. Diana says she plans on sponsoring a goat.

The Caring Committee met on March 13 and Barbara Kalmoutis will be caring for the note book for this month. If someone you know would like a phone call or card please call her at 378-4770. Our next meeting will be April 10.

Concerned About Privacy?

If you don't want your last name to appear in either our UUFLG newsletter or on our web site all you have to do is let us know via an email to admin@uuflg.org or call and leave a message on our Fellowship phone mail at (408) 358-1212.

If someone calls or e-mails the Fellowship and asks for names and/or phone numbers we don't give them any personal information, and our UUFLG photo directory is only distributed to members and friends as a printed document.

UUFLG Long Range Planning

The Long Range Planning Committee is going to have an informal information session at the Fellowship after our Sunday service on April 16th. The meeting will take place in the Sanctuary and you will have a chance to find out what the committee is up to and to ask questions or make comments concerning our future plans.

The committee has been meeting since January and consists of Bob Bixler, Harry Campbell, Linda Krenicky, Katie Rall and Jim Stahl.

CIRCLES WITHIN A CIRCLE:

Embracing our Theological Diversity!

Pacific Central District - UUA District Assembly 2006!

April 28-30, 2006

Hosted by Mt. Diablo UU Church (Walnut Creek, CA)

<http://www.pcd-uaa.org/events/DA-2006/>

The Concord Hilton,

1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord, CA 94520

1-800-HILTONS

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private_groups/conchhf_uua/index.jhtml

Dear Friends:

As Karnack the Magnificent would say:

The Answer is: 40 days and 40 nights! 40 days and 40 nights!

And the Question is (opening the envelope): How long is it to District Assembly 2006?!!!

Yes, DA2006 is almost here!

This year we have a great program, featuring:

Mt Diablo Worship Team (Friday Night Opening Worship and Banner Parade), UUA President Bill Sinkford (Saturday Keynote Breakfast) SF Chronicle Columnist Jon Carroll (Saturday Banquet Speaker), and Starr King School for the Ministry President Rebecca Parker (Sunday Worship)!

We have 30 workshops and activities, 5 levels of programming for Children and Youth, four worship services (including YRUU and UUYAN worship), the PCD Awards Lunch and the PCD Annual Meeting, all for your enjoyment and edification!

COME JOIN THE GATHERING OF THE TRIBE: DISTRICT ASSEMBLY IS FOR EVERYONE!

Come visit us on the web at: <http://www.pcd-uaa.org/events/DA-2006/> for all of the information: workshops, schedule, programs and registration material.

Now is the time to make your reservation at the Concord Hilton at: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private_groups/conchhf_uua/index.jhtml.

As always, please contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions or concerns!

I hope to see you there -- please spread the word!

Onward and Upward,

Charles B. Rosene, District Administrator

Pacific Central District - UUA

6536 Telegraph Avenue, C-102

Oakland, CA 94609

(510) 601-1437

Stebbins Summer Gathering at Asilomar,

July 29-August 3, 2006, a PCD Conference

Stebbins is still accepting registrations. We have housing for a hundred people and we have commitments from sixty. We have excellent meeting rooms and housing this year. April 20 is accommodation registration deadline. If you wish to register late, co-registrars Judy and Dick LeBlanc may be able to get you housing on the grounds but odds are high that your housing will not be near the rest of the conference. Please plan ahead. We want you to be able to come. Check the Stebbins website (www.serve.com/stebbins) or call the LeBlanc's at 510-234-3524.

Come join co-theme speakers Reverend Cathleen Cox Burneo, Berkeley Community Minister speaking on "Integrated Consciousness" and Dr. Fred Luskin co-founder and director of the Stanford Forgiveness Project. We also have fifteen workshops planned, ten of them new to Stebbins. If you are interested, register soon.

WINE COUNTRY EXCURSIONS

"Far exceeded our expectations. We would love to do it again!" - Valerie & Larry Foley, Wellesley, MA

UU's of Napa, California announce the second season of our UU Wine Country Excursions, a delightful way to tour the scenic Napa and Sonoma Valleys.

These small tours are customized to your interests, e.g. wine tasting, art, history, gourmet dining, or exploring the beauty of our hills and valleys. The tour includes private room/bath and breakfast in the homes of congregation members.

Special places include COPIA (the American Center for Food, Wine and the Arts), Jack London's home, the Francis Ford Coppola winery and movie museum, fine restaurants, many museums and galleries, miles of bicycling and hiking trails, etc.

We offer Excursions from April through October. Plan for two days of touring and two or three overnight stays. Home hospitality without tours is available. All proceeds benefit our small fellowship. We have limited openings, so contact us now for details. Tom Wilson (707) 254-7443 or twilson9@sbcglobal.net.

News from the West Room

It was a fun time to have the party for the kick off of the pledge drive!! It gave everyone warm fuzzy feelings to have a good luncheon, followed with fun and music!. Thanks go to lots of folks for such a successful time---Sharon Graham for organizing and planning for the food, Jim Beebe for delivering the food early on Sunday morning, Coralee Linton and Phyllis Reed for organizing the food in the hall which gave more room for all of us in the West Room. A good time was had by all. The small canvass group meetings are being held as we write. Thanks again to Linda Krenicky for her planning this canvass. I loved singing the "money songs" at Sunday services, they were "fun and catchy words to familiar tunes. Good Job, Linda.

Congratulations to Pauline and Len Stonehill for their 60th wedding anniversary!

Barbara Kalmoutis is the Caring Committee Chairman for the month of April. Need help, please give her a call.

Did you know that Joanne and Norman Crane will be moving soon to Ashland, OR.? They have been members of this Fellowship for many many years, and have given so much to our community. I can not count the number of committees that they have served on from building, social justice, membership, social activities, caring, children and adult education, music, board, and the list goes on and on. Thanks Norm, for all your wonderful music that you have shared with us. From the guitar, mandolin, tuba, french horn, autoharp and voice, you have inspired us with songs. You and Joanne have been the "backbone" of the recorder group. You were ones of the original music group that the Fellowship had for many years. We hope you will come back often to visit us here. We wish for you a happy time in your new retirement home in Ashland, and just remember we will miss you and love you forever. Thank you for being members of this community and for all your contributions to so many ways to each of us, and to this organization. Go in Peace.

We shared a caring memorial service for Shirley Rosenberg on March 18. Rev. Nancy and Nina Kalmoutis led the service with Ruth Webb at the piano. Shirley's three children, Paul, Lou and Gilbert shared experiences from childhood during the service, as well as other friends and members. We will miss Shirley.

Are you watching the "gardens growing" each week? Our grounds are bright and beautiful and we are grateful for this beauty. Thanks go to all who are caring for the gardens.

It was good to meet Brandon and Joanne Connelly's new baby Megan at her welcoming party. Congratulations to all the families on her arrival. We give them love and support.

Our warm and healing thoughts to John Livingston. He will be in Spokane, WA for his treatments.

April Birthdays are coming up-----April 1---Lynn O'Keefe, April 4---Bob Shebesta, April 14---Isabelle Bradley, April 14 Ryan Heath, April 21---Linda Rafferty, April 24---Chris Dunham, April 26---Beulah Pease, April 26---Libby Rafferty, April 28---Jim Beebe, April 30---Fidele Gailey, April 30---John Omvik.

Happy Birthday to each of you, have fun, with love from all of us.



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Apr 2** 8:30a Chalice Circle – Lounge. By Invitation. See Susan Parks
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – Building. See Nan Bixler nbixler@jps.net
- Apr 4** 10:00a -12:00p Chalice Circle Meeting. By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall
4:00p -5:30p Long Range Planning Committee. Contact Harry Campbell
6:30p -8:00p Sunday Services Committee Meeting – Lounge. Contact Nan Bixler
- Apr 5** 9:00a -1:00p Janitorial Service. Building.
7:00p -9:00p SGM Meet – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle
- Apr 6** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – Lounge. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call her for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call her at 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.
1:15p -2:30p Building and Grounds Committee Meeting - East. All are invited. See Bob Bixler for info.
- Apr 7** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - West.
- Apr 9** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – Building. See Nan Bixler nbixler@jps.net
- Apr 10** 7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group – Lounge. Contact Ann Campbell - 374-8844
- Apr 11** 2:00p -3:30p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge. 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).
- Apr 12** 9:00a -1:00p Janitorial Service. Building.
- Apr 13** 9:45a -12:00p Women’s Group – West. All Women are invited. Call Joanne Crane at 268-2199 for more info.
10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – Lounge. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call her for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call her at 370-3226.
6:30p -9:00p Board Meeting – West. Contact Margo Smith 408-674-8933 ricepaper@sbcglobal.net All are welcome
- Apr 14** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice – West.
- Apr 16** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – Building. See Nan Bixler nbixler@jps.net
11:45a -1:00p Long Range Planning - a Fellowship Meeting to discuss progress and solicit input. Sanctuary. Contact: Harry Campbell (408)374-8844
- Apr 18** 10:00a -12:00p Chalice Circle Meeting By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall
4:00p -5:30p Long Range Planning Committee. Contact Harry Campbell
- Apr 19** 9:00a -1:00p Janitorial Service. Building
7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting – Lounge. By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Apr 20** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – Lounge. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call her for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call her at 370-3226.
Deadline for items for next Newsletter. Submit items to Glen Marchant at: UUFLGnews@att.net. Submit articles as single spaced MS Word documents, .rtf (Rich Text Format), or plain text, and limit to less than 200 words.
- Apr 21** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice - West.
- Apr 23** 8:30a Chalice Circle – Lounge. By Invitation. See Susan Parks
10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – Building. See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net
7:15p -9:00p Women’s Spirituality Group –Lounge. Contact Ann Campbell – 374-8844
- Apr 25** 2:00p -3:30p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge. All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main
- Apr 26** 9:00a -1:00p Janitorial Service. Building
- Apr 27** 10:30a -1:00p Minister’s Office Hours – Lounge. Come talk to your minister, Rev. Nancy Roemheld. During office hours, call her for an appointment at 358-1212. Outside of office hours, call her at 370-3226.
- Apr 28** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Practice – West.
- Apr 30** 10:30a -11:30a Sunday Service – Building. See NanBixler nbixler@jps.net

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

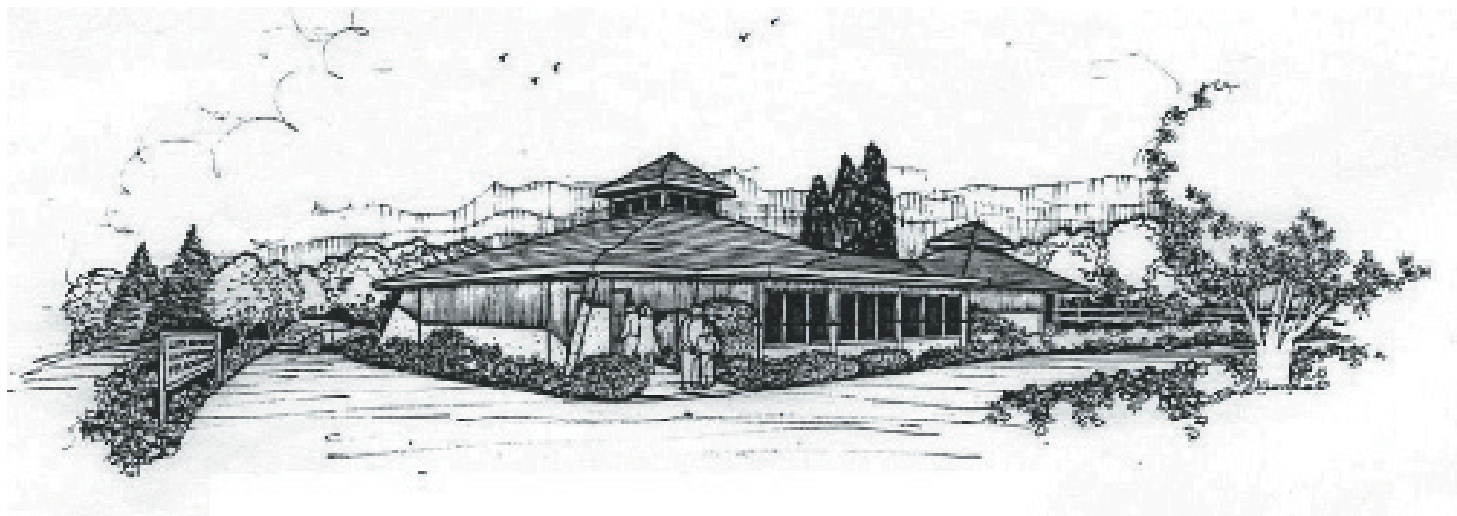
15980 Blossom Hill Road

Los Gatos, 95032

(408) 358-1212



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



Fellowship News

April 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. 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.