

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

May 2005 No.5; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, May 2005

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

May 1: “Talking About G_D in the 21st Century,” a sermon by the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers.

From whence come our ideas about the Holy One? Most people talk about God as if they know very well what/who they are talking about (and you had better darned well agree with them, too!) But much talk about God is meaningless noise. In truth, the word G-O-D is perhaps the biggest word we know, capable of virtually infinite interpretation. Yet it is so frequently spoken and heard in the narrowest of terms by “true believers” and skeptics alike! How do our ideas about God/Goddess/the holy (and our ability to express them to others) effect our own identity, our perceptions of the world, and our ability to cope with the reality of pluralism and change? This is the second in a two-part series on modern theology.

May 8: “A Mother’s Day Tribute”

Mother’s Day is a holiday recognized nationally to honor our mothers. Today we will hear the stories about three mothers, those belonging to fellowship members Lou Yabroff, Glen Marchant and Hudson Washburn. As true about most of our moms, their influence made extraordinary impacts on their lives. They will share with us the stories they will carry with them and pass down to those who will listen. J.J. Martin serves as today’s lay leader and will share quotations and songs about mothers. Please bring a picture of your mother to bring forth during the service for our altar. If you don’t have one, draw one.

May 15: “Coming of Age Service” Sermon: “Learning to Live the Questions”, a sermon for Coming of Age Sunday by the Rev. Ben Kocs-Meyers, guest minister.

Religions are often depicted as institutions with iron-clad answers that usually discourage questions about life’s meaning (e.g., catechisms, dogma, and creeds.) However, most of us cannot (dare not) escape asking ourselves deep, seemingly unanswerable, questions --the answers to which guide and direct us to living a good life without fear of retribution or damnation.

In his classic, *Letters to a Young Poet*, the philosopher and poet, Rainer Maria Rilke, encourages us to “*Live the questions now....Perhaps then, someday....you will.... live your way into the answers.*” Today’s sermon explores such a religious quest in these challenging times and its’ positive compulsion to question, to seek, and to find some guiding principles for life’s journey.

This morning Kendra Dunham, who recently completed the Coming of Age program, and her sponsor/mentor, Julie Doyle, will be lay-leaders. A ceremony to honor Kendra will be included in the service.

May 22: “Charlie Walton’s Peace Essay Scholarship Sunday”

Charlie Walton has sponsored the Peace Essay Scholarship contest for 17 years. Through his thoughtful essay questions, he has challenged high school students to think and write about their concerns and ideas on how to improve our world. This year’s question is “How Can Young Citizens Best Serve our Country?” He reports that the quality of the student responses for this year’s question is outstanding. Come hear the essays of the top four winners. J.J. Martin will be today’s lay leader.

May 29: “Memories for Memorial Day”

UUFLG member Dean Joy, author of *60 Days in Combat -- An Infantryman’s Memoir of WWII in Europe* -- shares some of his memories of boredom, pride and terror as he participated in events that changed his life and changed the world. We’ll also hear thoughts and poems from those currently serving in life and world changing events in many areas of conflict across the globe today. Hollie Dunham, lay leader.

June 5: “Planting Today for a Promising Tomorrow”

Walt Main and Hollie Dunham will lead us in our annual UU Flower Service and an appreciation of all those who have invested time and love in classes and activities for our children and youth over the past year. This will be an intergenerational service.

Membership Committee News:

The next **Fellowship Friday Film Festival** will take place on Friday, May 20th starting at 7:00 PM with wine and fellowship followed by a film (to be decided) about 7:30 PM. Bring a friend! It is an opportune time to socialize, enjoy a bag of popcorn and see a good (sometime GREAT!) film on a big screen.

Volunteer of the Month – May 2005:

The Membership Committee has selected **Ruth Webb** as volunteer of the month for May. Ruth has been a key person in our UUFLG music program for many years and she continues to contribute by providing piano music for our Sunday Services. Ruth also has put in innumerable hours improving and maintaining the landscaping around our building. Next time you see her make sure that you say “Thanks, Ruth”.

The Membership Committee will select a volunteer each month for special recognition. If you have a suggestion for our consideration please contact Jim Beebe, Harry Campbell, Ann Katherine Walton or Lou Yabroff.

Membership Committee Meeting Notice:

The Membership Committee will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2005 at the Fellowship starting at 3:00 PM. All members are invited to attend.

Nominating Committee Announcement:

The following are the committee’s nominees:

Board of Trustees

President Walt Main

Vice President Harry Campbell

Trustee #1- Admin & Building Irving Yabroff

Trustee #2 – Sunday Programs Lynn O’Keefe

Trustee #3 – Social Justice Pam Rhodes*

Note: the other board members continue to serve until June 30, 2006

Endowment Committee

Trustee Ann Campbell*

Trustee Cal Clauer*

Trustee Lida Kluzek*

** Will serve a one year term ending June 30, 2006. Others will serve a two year term ending June 30, 2007*

Each of the volunteers above has agreed to serve in their respective positions as described in our bylaws. If you feel that you would like to run for one of these positions you may be nominated from the floor at the Spring Business Meeting scheduled for May 15th.

Harry Campbell, Chairperson

Ciao.

Harry

BIRD WALK for all ages SATURDAY MAY 7 AT 9:30

Your Social Justice Committee is offering a Bird Walk on Saturday May 7 at 9:30 . We will meet at Charleston Slough in Mountain View at 9:15. The walk will be about 1.5 miles long and will take about two hours. Wear sturdy shoes and dress in layers because the wind off the bay can be very cold. Please wear sun protection, hats and jackets with collars so the binocular neck straps will not irritate. Binoculars will be provided by Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society. The Bird Walk is offered as a gift by Audubon. The volunteer who will lead the group is Gordon Barrett. It is the hope of the Social Justice Committee that you will make a donation of \$10.00 per person, or more, if you are able. The money is used by Audubon to provide educational activities concerning birds and habitat conservation to schools and other community groups.

If you would enjoy having a picnic after the walk, please bring a bag lunch. If you are able to offer a ride or if you need a ride, please call Edy Young to arrange a carpool from the Fellowship parking lot at 8:45 am.

Stebbins, the PCD/UUA summer conference at Asilomar, has a few vacancies left.

Located between Monterey and Asilomar on the central California coast, Stebbins will meet July 10-15, 2005. This year we will feature theme speakers Connie Barlow and the reverend Michael Dowd who will present The Great Story, the 14 billion year science-based sacred story of cosmic genesis from the formation of the galaxies to the emergence of self-reflective consciousness.

Our Special Guest Presenter will be Til Evans, Professor of Religious Education, retired from Starr King School for the Ministry. She will present a workshop titled "Spirit of Place", exploring the meaning of places in our lives.

Joining Connie, Michael and Til in the beautiful redwood buildings on the sand dunes of Asilomar will be workshops on poetry writing, books readings, globalization and outsourcing, dreamwork, choral singing, mental fitness, tennis clinics, stretch, Tai Chi, soul coaching and the creative process, folk dance, nature walks, women's groups and whatever you bring.

For more information, check our website www.serve.com/stebbins or call registrar Judy LeBlanc 510-234-3524 or judyleblanc@sbcglobal.net.

These are fund raisers for the Fellowship and just plain fun events!

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY, MAY 14 8am-12noon

I hope that you are all saving your garage sale items! That means, books, good clothes, plants, dishes, jewelry and other great treasures. You can bring them by the fellowship on Friday night, May 13 from 4-7pm. We can use help that evening and on Saturday morning to move the items out and to sell them. Please come by to shop and share in the fun Saturday morning. You can sign up to help out on the poster in the hall way of the fellowship. For questions; Call Julie Doyle or Connie Springer.

UU FELLOWSHIP OF LOS GATOS AUCTION !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The annual auction will be held on Saturday, May 28 6-9pm. There will be a BBQ in the early evening, the silent auction, and then the great bidding event! Please plan on coming and give us some fun dinners, pies, pieces of art, vacation rentals and whatever your creative spirit comes up with to help raise funds for this good fellowship. You can use the blue donation form for your items and if you have questions, call Jo Cooley or Bill Scarvie. If you would like to help with set up or the BBQ, call Doug Doughty, Leo or Doris Boyd or Jim Beebe. Child Care will be provided.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY UPDATE

The Small Group Ministry Program continues to thrive with our three groups meeting on a regular basis. Through sharing our feelings, insights, points of view, and history with each other, bonding within each group has deepened with time. Participants have reported a new self-awareness as well as a deeper sense of connection to each other and to the Fellowship.

Some of the recent topics that our sessions have covered are: A Sacred Place, Acting Courageously, Time Flies, and Hotel Earth. In the very near future, we have sessions planned to cover our UU Principles.

If you have an interest in joining one of our Small Group Ministry groups either as a participant or as a facilitator, please contact a member of the Small Group Ministry Steering Committee: Coralee Linton, Susan Parks, Katie Rall or Bill Scarvie.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Acting/Interim Director of Religious Education

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

Contact:

Kelli Murray, Co-Chair Children's Religious Education Committee

11 Magdalena Ct.

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Email: Pulgramsf@comcast.net

Position: The Interim Director of Religious Education (DRE) is responsible for the development and implementation of the Lifespan Religious Education Program for children, youth and adults under the direction of the Society's executive team as well as the Children's and Adults Religious Education Committees.

The primary responsibilities of the Interim DRE include:

- Recruit, train and support approximately 25 teachers for Sunday School
- Lead weekly chapel services for Children's RE
- Develop and implement Adult Religious Education classes, including the production of a bi-annual catalog
- Meet regularly with both Children's Religious Education Committee and Adult RE
- Attend weekly staff meetings

Requirements: This position requires considerable initiative, commitment to Unitarian Universalist principles, and successful experience working with children, youth and adults. It also requires proven experience in volunteer recruitment, excellent time management skills, and strong interpersonal skills.

It is preferred that the candidate have previous experience running a religious education program. Candidate should have strong communication and organizational skills and enjoy working at team building. Candidate should have basic computer skills and familiarity with Microsoft Office suite software. Desktop publishing software skills are a plus. The interim DRE is a 3/4 time, 12-month exempt position beginning July 1, 2005. There is a possibility of an extension in position duration depending on the status of the ongoing ministerial search process. Whether the interim DRE will be eligible for the permanent DRE position remains to be determined.

Salary: \$44,000 - \$49,000 plus benefits including healthcare and retirement.

Applications will be accepted through April 15th.

Send cover letter and resume (including references) to:

Kelli Murray, Co-Chair Children's Religious Education Committee

11 Magdalena Ct.

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Email: Pulgramsf@comcast.net

NEWS FROM THE WEST WING

Our Small Group Ministry groups are really busy planning upcoming activities. Let's all support the Big Yard Sale when you bring your Good items to sell, and take time to find Good treasures to take home. And the Auction sounds new and different and fun too. Get your auction articles in as soon as possible. Everyone come and have fun!

Doesn't the sanctuary feel, look, and smell clean and good! Thanks to the Tues. SMG for lots of "elbow grease".

Jo Cooley has done a fine job of displaying our name tags. Be sure and wear your name tag every Sunday A.M. so visitors will know who we are. If you are a visitor, please ask for your own "more permanent" tag to be prepared for you.

Thanks to Julie Doyle for loaning us her heavy and beautiful Mexican jacket that held our name tags for several years. It served us well!

Linda Krenicky and Phyllis Reid had a surprise meeting in a New York City airport this month—all unplanned!! Ask them about it.

The good word from Dave Reiter is that he is feeling much better these days. Good for You!

Congratulations to Ann and Harry Campbell on the birth of their new grandson Jack. Ann is now in Utah being an "on hands" grandmother, to Jack and his parents.

Ann Katherine Walton is enjoying her grandchildren in Austin, Texas.

Kay and Won Chon are in Korea, Japan, and China for business and pleasure.

The Thursday A.M. Women's Group welcomed Marion Peterson, Phyllis Foxcroft, and Linda Blodgett at their last meeting.

Our Fellowship was well represented at the April PCD meeting in San Ramon. Those attending were Walt Main, Susan Parks, Katie Rall, Tim Mathiessen, Irving and Lou Yabroff.

Nan and Bob Bixler were representing our Fellowship at a mini-assembly at Asilomar also in April.

We send best wishes and good health to all members and friends who are unable to meet with us regularly. Peace to ALL.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 4---DIANA PAYNE, May 4 ---GLEN MARCHANT, May 17---BARBARA FELDMAN, May 18---MARILYN BUELTEMAN, May 20---CLAIRE STEELELY, May 21 ---JENNY HEATH, May 25---AUDREY FREEMAN, May 27---DEAN MARCHANT, May 31---FRANK LEVY. *HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!*

Time to Sign Up for Summer Classes!

No, not classes for you to take, but for you to teach! However, I guarantee that it will be an education. We will soon be at the end of our scheduled Sunday children's program and will be filling the summer with activities and crafts. We'll still have childcare in our preschool room but will have activities for the older kids on the deck. Since we can enclose the deck and preschool room as one area that can be shared, we only need one person to oversee an activity, story or craft with the older kids (although you can certainly buddy up!)

I'm going to take a Sunday to show the kids how to do origami. Another class will involve a scavenger hunt. What ideas do you have? How about yogi, photography, puzzles? What Sunday's are you available? The summer schedule runs from June 12th through September 4th.

Please email or call to let me know the Sunday(s) you can offer some of your experiences or hobbies to our kids.

hollied58@yahoo.com 650-812-0525

Hollie Dunham - Lifespan Education Trustee

Hospitality and Belonging Workshop.

If you were at District Assembly this year, you heard a rousing message from UUA Moderator Gini Courter about the need for each one of us to welcome those who seek a Unitarian Universalist home...

Well here's a chance to learn about and practice radical hospitality without the proselytizing!

Hospitality and Belonging

at the Starr King UU Church in Hayward California

Saturday May 7, 2005

9:30 - 2pm

A workshop for UU Congregations on welcoming and integrating guests...building membership through radical hospitality and creating strong communities with a sense of purpose, service and joy.

All are Welcome!!!

Registration (includes workbook and lunch) is \$20 per person.

Please email the names of your team with emails and phone numbers, plus any dietary restrictions, directly to me at mfavreault@pcd-uaa.org.

Send your check payable to PCD directly to:

Pacific Central District

6536 Telegraph Avenue, Suite C-102

Oakland, CA 94609

(510) 601-1437

UU WINE COUNTRY EXCURSIONS

The UUs of Napa, California invite you to a unique opportunity to enjoy two of America's most scenic valleys, Napa and Sonoma.

We will help you choose from over 600 wineries and hundreds of world class restaurants, COPIA (the American Center for Food, Wine and the Arts), Jack London's home, Francis Ford Coppola's winery and movie museum, art galleries, miles of trails with breathtaking views and more.

Locally savvy UU guides will drive you to selected wineries, historic sites and mountain trails with breathtaking views. You will stay in UU homes for good conversation, good breakfasts and warm hospitality.

Our offer is limited to June, July and August. Plan three nights with two days of touring. Our fees are well below market rate for similar services. All proceeds benefit our Fellowship. We have limited openings, so contact us now for details. Tom Wilson (707) 254 7443 twilson9@sbcglobal.net.

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.

CALENDAR ITEMS

E = East Classroom, W = West Classroom, B = Building, L = Lounge, S = Sanctuary.
Recital Rentals are always in the Sanctuary and West Classroom.

- 1-May Sun** 9:30a -10:15a Finance Committee Meeting - All are welcome.- Contact Cal Clauer 265-4472
10:30a -11:30p Sunday Service in B - Contact Nan Bixler (nbixler@jps.net)
11:45a -1:00p Sunday Services Committee in L - All are welcome. Contact Nan Bixler
1:00p -3:00p SGM Meeting in L - By Invitation. Contact Susan Parks
- 2-May Mon** 10:30a -1:00p Monday Mums in E - Contact Kristina Strand 395-5886
- 3-May Tue** 10:00a -12:00p SGM meet in L - Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O'Keefe.
3:00p -4:30p Membership Committee Meeting - all members are invited - Contact: Harry Campbell
- 4-May Wed** 7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting in L - By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- 5-May Thu** 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.
- 6-May Fri** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Group Practice in W - By Invitation. Contact Pauline Stonehill.
- 8-May Sun** 10:30a -11:30p Sunday Service in B - Contact Nan Bixler (nbixler@jps.net)
11:45a -1:00p UUFLG New and Prospective Member Orientation Session Two in L - Contact: Harry Campbell 374-8844
- 9-May Mon** 10:30a -1:00p Monday Mums in E - Contact Kristina Strand 395-5886
7:15p -9:00p Women's Spirituality Group in L - Contact Ann Campbell
- 12-May Thu** 10:00a -12:00p Women's Group in W - All women are welcome. Contact Lida Kluzek
6:30p -9:00p Board Meeting in W - Contact Margo Smith 408-674-8933 ricepaper@sbcglobal.net All are welcome
- 13-May Fri** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Group Practice in W - By Invitation. Contact Pauline Stonehill.
- 14-May Sat** 8:00a -12:00p UUFLG Yard Sale - Parking Lot - Great Bargains. Contact Julie Doyle for info.
- 15-May Sun** 10:30a -11:30p Sunday Service in B - Contact Nan Bixler (nbixler@jps.net)
12:30p -2:30p SGM Sunday Meeting in E
1:00p -3:00p Spring Business Meeting in S.
- 16-May Mon** 10:30a -1:00p Monday Mums in E - Contact Kristina Strand 395-5886
- 17-May Tue** 10:00a -12:00p SGM Meeting in L - By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O'Keefe.
4:45p -6:45p Rental: Recital Rehearsal
- 18-May Wed** 7:00p -9:00p SGM meeting in L - By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- 20-May Fri** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Group Practice in W - By Invitation. Contact Pauline Stonehill.
7:00p -9:45p FFFF - film to be announced - Contact: Harry Campbell
- 21-May Sat** 8:00a -4:00p Rental: Recital
- 22-May Sun** 10:30a -11:30p Sunday Service in B - Contact Nan Bixler (nbixler@jps.net)
1:00p -3:00p SGM Meeting in L - By Invitation. Contact Susan Parks
- 23-May Mon** 10:30a -1:00p Monday Mums in E - Contact Kristina Strand 395-5886
7:15p -9:00p Women's Spirituality Group in L - By Invitation. Contact Ann Campbell
- 27-May Fri** 2:00p -4:00p Recorder Group Practice in W - By Invitation. Contact Pauline Stonehill.
- 28-May Sat** 6:30p -9:15p Auction - In Lobby and West Room.
Childcare provided. Wines, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and coffee served. Silent and live auctions.
- 29-May Sun** 10:30a -11:30p Sunday Service in B - Contact Nan Bixler (nbixler@jps.net)
- 30-May Mon** 10:30a -1:00p Monday Mums in E - Contact Kristina Strand 395-5886

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos
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*“Affirming the Inherent Worth and
Dignity of Every Person”*



Fellowship News

May 2005

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.