



## **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

January 2008 No.1; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

**January 2008**  
**Sunday Services at 10:30**

### **Jan. 6: *Beginner's Mind***

Lynn Kelly and Wendy Bartel

How might we begin 2008 envisioning more possibilities? How might we, individually and/or collectively, set down our baggage that keeps us stuck? Please join seminarians Lynn Kelly and Wendy Bartel for a worship service including music, reflection, and a burning bowl ritual of release.

### **Jan. 13: *"If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who? A Personal Call for Compassion and Social Justice."***

Delorme McKee -Stovall,  
Santa Clara County Office of Human Relations

Dr. Martin Luther King once said, "An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." Are we ready to challenge violence, inadequate housing, inaccessible health care, eroding education, famine and planetary pollution? Are we willing to share power, resources and compassion to create a sustainable future? These are the questions that challenge each of us. If you think these concerns are overwhelming, you need to be asking yourself the question: "If not now, when? If not you, who?"

Delorme McKee-Stovall is a member of the staff of the Santa Clara County Office of Human Relations. Her work focuses on reducing prejudice, discrimination and hate violence. She works with victims of hate violence,

local government agencies, businesses, nonprofits, community groups, law enforcement, the DA's Office to develop policies emergency and long term response plans and education programs in support of Santa Clara County policy makers' goals and objectives for a hate free community.

### **Jan. 20: *Muslim Community Association***

presents an informative program designed to increase our understanding of the Islamic faith. The talk will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

### ***This is a Share-the-Plate Sunday***

Our recipient this month is the Minister's Discretionary Fund

### **Jan. 27: *The Wheel of the Year***

Walt Main and Kelly Smith

News from the sixth source: celebrating the sacred circle of life and living in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

### **Feb. 3: *A Principled Life: UU Principle #4***

Victoria Ingram, Minister

Continuing the series on Unitarian Universalist Principles, we'll explore the possible tensions between "free" and "responsible" searches for truth and meaning which the fourth Principle calls us to affirm and promote in our congregations.

## Minister's Column

We've heard many times over the last few years that the world is a different place since September 11, 2001. Concern for safety and security impact how we think about travel, immigration, privacy, and other aspects of day-to-day life. As changes have been made to various policies and procedures, reactions are mixed. Some feel that maintaining our national and personal safety outweigh the costs of heightened security and expanding controls on personal freedoms and civil rights. Others are concerned that infringements on civil liberties are eroding the core of the Bill of Rights and that Americans are losing freedom at too high a cost.

Whatever your personal feelings in this debate may be, there is before us an important matter affecting decisions about the annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in June, 2008. Some of you may be aware of this situation because of recent emails sent to congregations, their ministers and lay leaders.

To secure venues for UU General Assembly, the UUA must negotiate contracts years in advance to support planning and preparation for the multi-day event. Considerations about accessibility, cost, suitability to the needs of GA, and so forth are all a part of the decision. In June, 2007, GA is scheduled to be held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL at the Convention Center. The contract negotiated to secure this site was completed in 2004.

The Convention Center is located near the port area, within a "security perimeter," regulated by provisions of the national Homeland Security Act. People attending GA will be required to show "government-issued identification" to be admitted to the proceedings. When the original contract was negotiated, the UUA was informed that this requirement would (probably) not be still in force in 2008. However, in fact, it is.

Which raises the issue for UUs – Do you choose to attend an event that requires the presentation of government-issued identification to enter?

It may not seem like that big of a deal to some; after all, don't you have to show identification to get on the plane to get to GA? But what about youth, some of whom are not old enough to have driver's licenses or picture ID? What about members of our congregations who may be in the United States without documentation? GA is a conference by a religious denomination. Is it inconsistent with our values and Principles to submit to these requirements in light of our right to free assembly and free speech? What if someone is identified as "suspect" for some reason, and denied entry, even though they have paid their registration fee?

PG.2

There are lots of questions and "what ifs" and other considerations involved in this discussion!

Consider, for a moment, what it would be like to show up for church on Sunday morning and be required to show your identification to be allowed entry into the building. What if you were also required to pass through a metal detector? Or perhaps, submit to a body search to determine that you were not carrying weapons or explosives?

Seems impossible? In some ways, it's not that different than what is being proposed for entry into GA if Florida. Traditionally, worship services during GA are advertised in the local community and made open to the public. At the Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center, everyone would be required to show identification to attend, and be subject to search.

Our UUA staff members are working in good faith with officials at the Florida Convention Center to resolve these issues and concerns. I'm sure that as the negotiations and discussions continue within the UUA and among our congregations, plans and procedures will emerge that facilitate a safe and civil GA.

But, that said, the issue remains: at what price do we give up our civil liberties? What are we willing to give up or change in what circumstances? And, what is the appropriate response and action if, or when, we feel we are being asked to give up too much?

With love and light,  
Victoria

**Please Note:** I will be on Study Leave through January 28<sup>th</sup>. While I will not be keeping my regular office hours or filling the pulpit in January, I will be in the area and available, if needed. If you wish to contact me for any reason, please leave a message at the church (408.358.1212) or send me an email ([minister@uufg.org](mailto:minister@uufg.org).) Thank you.

## Share-The-Plate

Our recipient this month will be the Minister's Discretionary Fund. This fund is set aside by us to provide the minister with a fund from which gifts or loans can be made to people who need financial assistance because of some crisis or emergency in their lives. The fund is primarily for use in situations faced by members of the congregation or their families, but can be used for other "worthy" purposes, as well.

## Notes from the President

The Fellowship vote to approve our ordination of Victoria was overwhelmingly successful! We will install Victoria as our settled minister during the same ceremony as the ordination, which will be held in the late afternoon of April 20. Everyone is invited to the ceremony and reception that will follow. More details as the event approaches.

To kick off the New Year, we'll be trying an experiment with the placement of our after-service coffee and snacks in order to see if we can give the children's program more space for a longer period on Sunday mornings.

As we all know, we are stretching financially to fully fund our children's program, which is an indication of how well we understand the importance our children's program is to the health and future of our Fellowship. But there are other kinds of support that are needed, too. Currently the children's program is challenged for space during cold or rainy weather when the grownups invade the west room as soon as the service is over

Hence, our space usage experiment designed to alleviate this problem. Beginning Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, we'll set up coffee and snacks in the foyer and stay out of the west room until the children's teachers have opened the doors. We can spill (not literally!) into the back of the sanctuary for more conversation space until the west room is opened up. We'll try the experiment for several Sundays to see if we can get used to this arrangement on the Sundays when the weather keeps us indoors. It will take some ingenuity on the part of coffee brewers and snack providers, but we are an ingenious bunch and I'm sure the teachers and children will really appreciate the consideration this shows them!

An important outcome of the PCD Leadership Development Day in November was the formation of a Peninsula Cluster Group to provide a vehicle for collaboration and networking among members of our nearby Churches and Fellowships. The cluster includes all UUs on the Peninsula, from the San Mateo, Redwood City, Palo Alto, Los Gatos, Sunnyvale, San Jose, and Santa Cruz congregations. An email list for networking has been set up on the Palo Alto Church's server. I encourage anyone who's interested to join the list by going to [www.uucpa.org/mailman/listinfo](http://www.uucpa.org/mailman/listinfo) and scrolling down to select "Peninsula Cluster." The first meeting of the cluster will be held at the San Jose Church on January 27 at 2:00 PM. I plan to go and I encourage others to go, too. I see lots of potential benefits in sharing ideas and information with nearby congregations.

Happy New Year!  
Ann Campbell

## Administrivia

Welcome to the New Year

I'm trying to keep our web calendar updated with all activities related to UUFLG, but I need some input from you, the members. At this point, we can only schedule repeating events out for two years, and a lot of the ones that had been on the calendar are dropping off since it's been two years since they were originally scheduled. So what I would like is for you to let me know of anything that is not on the calendar that should be.

The calendar is at <http://prem.calendars.net/uuflg>. If you don't have access to a computer in order to review the calendar, and you're in the building when I am, I will gladly show the calendar to you so you can check it out. Any additions, deletions, or changes can be sent to me either via email at [admin@uuflg.org](mailto:admin@uuflg.org), by telephone at (408)358-1212, or dropped in my mailbox in the lounge. Thank you.

## UUSC Honors UUFLG

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has named UUFLG among its "Creating Justice Banner Societies" for 2007. This award goes to congregations where between 25 and 49 percent of the membership are also members of the UUSC. The award was announced in a recent letter to the Fellowship, accompanied by a 2007 blue ribbon. The letter and ribbon are displayed on the bulletin board in the foyer, for your information.

The UUSC is a social action outreach organization, affiliated with the UUA. Historically, both Unitarians and Universalists actively and publicly engaged in addressing issues of human rights and social justice. As a combined denomination, we have continued our efforts in these areas, not only personally and in our local congregations, but also through the national and international efforts of the UUSC.

Thank you to those of you who have made a contribution to the UUSC and become members in support of their ongoing social witness and humanitarian efforts.

If you would like more information on the work of the UUSC, their website is [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org).

## OWL Classes Starting in January

The OWL training for 7th-9th grade kids will be at the downtown San Jose church. UUFLG parents and youth interested in OWL training will attend classes there.

There will be a \*required parent orientation on Sunday, January 13 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.\* in the Ramsden Fireside Room for families who are considering having their son or daughter participate in the Unitarian Universalist Sexuality Program, Our Whole Lives (OWL).

This program is for youth in 7th-9th grades. The course begins January 27 and finishes on May 25. The class schedule is going through its final revision and will be published soon. The volunteer teachers for the class will be Elisabeth McKenna, Rick Morris, Liz Shivell and Steven Wallcave. We will also be offering a parent support group that will be held at the same time as the youth class. Liz Shivell and Steven Wallcave will be leading the adult class. Adults will follow the curriculum and learn what the youth are learning.

## Watch for the Spring Adult RE Schedule, Coming in January!

In January we begin a new selection of offerings in adult Religious Education with a BOOK DISCUSSION facilitated by Sue Fera. Meeting the second and fourth Saturday evenings of both January and February, bibliophiles joining this lively group will consider what makes them (and others) happy using Daniel Gilbert's book, **Stumbling Toward Happiness**.

Join us on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>! The day before Groundhog Day sees the return of our INPIRATIONAL FILMS, with a presentation of "Groundhog Day," starring Bill Murray and Andie McDowell. "Film Professor" Carl Ingram provides insight into the archetypes, metaphors, and imagery used in the film's storytelling before we watch the film together and discuss our experiences afterward.

During the month of February, we will again be inviting guests and potential UUFLG members to learn about Unitarian Universalism and the meaning of membership in our GETTING TO KNOW UU classes. Minister Victoria Ingram will also offer a class on UU history, ARE UU CURIOUS?, each month.

UUFLG has been selected as a test congregation for a new UUA-developed adult curriculum titled SPIRIT IN PRACTICE, a 10 session course on developing personal and communal practices to enhance and encourage spiritual growth. Some of the interesting topics include: spiritual partnerships, mind, body, and soul practices, justice as a spiritual practice, and communal worship. You can one, some, or all of these workshops facilitated by Rev. Victoria Ingram.

Linda Krenicky will offer a workshop on POSITIVE DISCIPLINE, great for parents and grandparents and anyone with kids in their lives. The introductory workshop in early February will offer tips and techniques for working effectively with children.

The full spring calendar of adult RE is still be finalized, but tentatively includes the following:

- Monthly drop-in discussion lunches with the Minister on topics of current interest.
- Bible Study for UUs – five workshops on reading and reclaiming the Bible for religious liberals.
- Nancy Mills "The Spirited Woman" workshops to honor the goddesses in every woman. We hope to have Nancy do two workshops, with one specifically for moms and daughters in May.

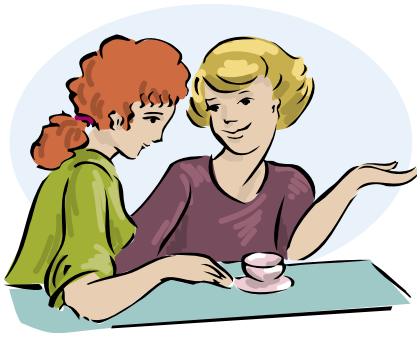
And, don't forget! Our **Chalice Circles** continue to be available, offering the opportunity to connect and reflect in a small group that considers a variety of topics for intellectual and spiritual growth.

Great Books, which meets monthly, and Buddhist Meditation, which meets weekly, will continue to be available to the UUFLG community.

For more information, or to register for any adult RE offering, please call the office (358.1212) or email your request to [minister@uufg.org](mailto:minister@uufg.org).

## News From Thursday AM Women's Group

The welcome mat is out at the Thursday morning women's group so come and visit January 10th in the west room from 9:45 to noon. We start promptly at 10 am after coffee and refreshments. The discussion will be led by Edy Young on "America's Founding Faith" which can be found on page 26 of the current UU WORLD MAGAZINE. Fourteen women gathered at the December meeting to tell of holiday experiences that stand out in their memories. Earlier in the month they had put together a gift box for a mother and her children to be delivered through Friends Outside. Gratia Trevey convenes the group, which was formed in 2002.



## Caring Network Resumes Meeting in January

Julie Doyle welcomes interested Fellowship members to attend the January 17th noon meeting of the Caring Network for a great potluck followed by sharing how we can make our Fellowship aware of our members' present needs. You can join us or give Julie a call at 353-2828 if you have suggestions you want to share.

## Decorators Wanted

Volunteers are needed for a sanctuary aesthetics enhancement work-group. Several weeks ago Victoria hosted a discussion of ideas for beatification of the Sanctuary. There were many ideas proposed – too many to immediately implement. A small sub-group was tasked to review the long list of ideas and has summarized the results in the form of recommendations. Several of the near term recommendations address the walls, doors and floor of the Sanctuary.

The task to be undertaken by the volunteer work group is to make final decisions for the walls, doors and floor improvements and organize the actual work. The suggested tasks include:

- Develop and implement an overall wall paint scheme, including consideration of removing or painting the paneling around the entrance doors and painting the closet sliding doors.
- Partial replacement of selected carpet areas (e.g. center aisle, chancel steps.)

This is your chance to demonstrate aesthetic decorating skills as well as organizational abilities, and maybe a little craftsmanship – and do something positive for the Fellowship.

Please contact either Ann Campbell ([annbcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:annbcampbell@gmail.com), 374-8844) or Jim Stahl ([jimpaulca@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimpaulca@sbcglobal.net), 866-6652).

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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?** A guest commentary time for members can be made available at the beginning of each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Ann Campbell ([annbcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:annbcampbell@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](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.

## Get the Stores You Buy From to Contribute to UUFLG

Did you know that you can get your merchants to donate to UUFLG without it costing you anything except a few minutes to register your credit/debit/grocery cards? This amazing procedure is called “eScrip”.

Here’s how it works: Register your cards over a secure connection online at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Use those cards to pay for purchases at participating merchants. Each month, a percentage of your purchases is sent in by the merchants to eScrip to be donated to UUFLG. Participating merchants include many grocery stores in our area, a few retail stores of which the main one is Macy’s, and some restaurants and specialty stores. In addition, there are thousands of stores participating through eScrip’s Online Mall.

The UUFLG coordinator for eScrip is Irving Yabroff. To date we have 13 families registered. UUFLG will receive approximately \$200 from the purchases these families have made during the last half of 2007. If we get additional sign-ups from our members, we can have a substantial source of annual income to supplement our pledges and fund raising at no cost to our members.

If you are new to eScrip, there are two ways you can use to register your cards:

1. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com).
2. click on “sign-up” and follow the instructions.
3. Designate your group name as “Unitarian Fellowship of Los Gatos” and your group ID as 500015642.
4. Print out a list of participating merchants in our area.

Alternatively, let Irving help you. Give him your name and card numbers you wish to register and he will register your cards online for you. Confidentiality is assured. He will then give you the list of participating merchants.

If you are already an eScrip participant, you can change your cards or add new ones to support our group name and id.

## Kudos for a Successful Boutique Fund Raiser

Congratulations to the Sunday Chalice Circle and to Connie Springer for a very successful Christmas Boutique. The Boutique was budgeted to bring in \$1,000. Proceeds were \$1,376 last year and \$2,235.75 this year. Mucho thanks to the Chalice Circle members who are: Susan Parks, Tim and Robin Connelly, Chris Washburn, Coralee Linton and Barbara Kalmoutis, and to our ever supportive Connie.

**DINNERS FOR EIGHT** - 3rd Saturday of each month is coming to UUFLG in the New Year. Yaaaaa!\*

This is a really fun program that has been run successfully for years in other churches. It provides a great opportunity to get to know and enjoy your church friends, as well as giving newcomers and prospective members a chance to learn more about our church.

The dinners will be held in various members homes the 3rd Saturday of every month at 6:30 p.m. The time may be changed to suit the hosts and guests. The dinners can be as formal or informal as the hosts choose. Each of the hosts will have six guests for dinner. The hosting responsibilities will be rotated so everyone will have a turn to host a dinner. Members will be moved to a new group each month so we will have many opportunities to meet each other. The host supplies the entree and coffee and tea. Hosts will be given a list to contact their guests in advance to schedule who will bring vegetables, salad, dessert and wine.

Please sign up whether you are a single or a couple. The chair people will place another single to the party to make a total of eight or the host can invite a friend who is a member of the UU or a non-member. ALL ARE WELCOME!

\*Sign-up sheets will be available in January \*and we hope everyone will join in. Please sign up Sundays in January on the sign-up sheets or contact Edna Windes. The first Dinner for Eight will be \*February 16 at 6:30 p.m.\* in various members’ homes. New people may join at any time.

For questions, please contact Edna Windes at 408-386-5317 or [ednawindes@mac.com](mailto:ednawindes@mac.com) <<mailto:ednawindes@mac.com>>. Edna, Chair, will be assisted by Maggi and Merritt Benson and Irby Windes.

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

## News From "The Inside"

That was the best BOUTIQUE that I ever went to!!! And considering that all of the money went to our own Fellowship, was even better!!! Thank you, Sunday Morning Chalice Group, plus Connie Springer and the "Stitch and Bitch" group. Good job, and we all appreciate your good work in organization, presentation, preparing, and collecting the money. Thanks to all who brought items to be sold, and to all who purchased !!

How nice it is to have Victoria back with us!! We are all willing to help you with your work load, just ask!!

Another annual thank you to the Thursday A.M. Women's Group and Katie Rall . Katie and Ruth purchased the live tree, and Edy Young tied all the bows, and many of the other members helped on that Saturday morning decorating. Thank you, ladies!

Congratulations to Ann and Harry on becoming grandparents to a baby girl named Evelyn. She joins 3 year old brother Jack. And this little family lives close by so they see them often

It has been nice to have Cal Clauer's daughter visiting him and us. Did you notice that Lyn Clauer Foster did "signing" for some of the hymns? That has been her gift to sign for the UU congregation back in Conn. She signed for us to keep up her skill. Thanks. Cal is now in the Plum Tree Convalescent facilities on the corner of National Avenue and Samaritan Drive. He would welcome phone calls, cards, and visits.

Congratulations to Bill Robertson for his new position at Cisco.

A big thank you to John Omvik on the large panorama picture of us that hangs in the hall. John took the pictures when we were out on the deck, enlarged, and hung them for all to see. What a beautiful picture!! Did you find yourself? Will you do it again for the absent ones?

Did everyone get their new directory? Congratulations to Harry and Ann Campbell for assembling and publishing this much used book for all of us.

Interested in seeing the UU board in action? Ann Campbell does a very smooth job of being our president of the board and presiding over these business meeting. Give a board member a call, if you are interested in attending one of these meetings.

Interested in hearing about a movie, getting points for specifics things to watch for, etc, then seeing the movie, and having a discussion about the film and exchanging ideas? Carl Ingram has been the leader and the evenings have been very enjoyable and thought provoking. Such classes will be announced in the Newsletter during the coming year.

The next UU Orientation for membership will be in February of 2008. If you have questions and don't want to wait that long, please contact Victoria Ingram at the office at (408) 358-1212.

That's all for now! See you in church.

with hugs, Lou



## Another Chance to Write For Your Family

Join other UUs and community people for the winter series of Life Stories with Sheila Dunec, popular Palo Alto teacher, at our own Fellowship west room on Monday mornings January 7th through March 24th, 10 --12 noon.. You are the only one who can give the gift of your life and times to your family--and yourself. Call Sheila at (650) 565-8087 for fee and other information or to register.

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos**

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



**Fellowship News**

**January 2008**

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.

# January 2008

	30	31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5
			Building closed. No activities or office hours.		12:00 - RUMs on the deck 1:30 - Building & Grounds Committee 7:00 - Choir Practice	2:00 - Recorder Group	9:00 - Worship Associates Meeting
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30 -Sunday Service: Beginner's Mind, Lynn Kelly and Wendy Bartel			10:00 - Chalice Circle 1:00m - Admin & Communications Committee Meeting 7:00 - Finance Committee Meeting	7:30 - Meditation Class	9:45 - Thursday Morning Women's Group 7:00 - UUFLG Board Meeting 7:00 - Choir Practice	2:00 - Recorder Group	7:15 - Book Discussion Group Growth Conference at UU Church of Berkeley in Kensington
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:30 -Sunday Service: If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who? ... Delorme McKee-Stovall		7:15 - Women's Spirituality Group 7:30 - Great Books		7:30 - Meditation Class	11:00 -, Peninsula Cluster Ministers' meeting at UUFLG 12:00 - Caring Committee 7:00 - Choir Practice	2:00 - Recorder Group	
12:15 - Social Action Committee	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30 -Sunday Service: Muslim Community Association presentation Newsletter Deadline				12:15 - Stitch & Bitch 7:30 - Meditation Class	7:00 - Choir Practice	2:00 - Recorder Group 6:00 - Social Action Soup Supper	7:15 - Book Discussion Group
	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2
10:30 - Sunday Service: The Wheel of the Year Wait Main & Kelly Smith		7:15 - Women's Spirituality Group	1:00 - Long Range Planning Meeting	7:30 - Meditation Class	7:00 - Choir Practice		

## SOCIAL ACTION

*Now that UUFLG's new website is available, we'll be putting more social action information on it, including hints on the global warming challenges, activities, survey, and more. We will no longer have paper handouts. So, check out [www.uuflg.org/socialaction.html](http://www.uuflg.org/socialaction.html). If you do not have internet access, you may request paper handout from Sue Fera.*

### **Soup Supper - Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

Enjoy a delicious meal, help the fellowship and do something good for the environment (win,win,win). Mark your calendar now!

Dinner includes a choice of delicious homemade soups, salad, bread and ice cream sundaes. Preceding the dinner we'll have a brief presentation and discussion concerning an environmental cause and you will be able to take supporting action at the supper. Suggested donation is \$8:00 or more .... after covering the cost of the food, all proceeds will go the fellowship (to help balance our budget). We need help from several fellowship members to make this event possible. So, please consider helping with setup and/or cleanup. "Many hands make light work"

RSVP to Kate Taylor (katescottage@gmail.com, 625-9622) with your soup selection: vegetarian (with dairy), non-vegetarian (no dairy). And let her know if you can help with setup or cleanup.

### **NEW Green Practices Survey On-Line**

Imagine our Fellowship as a model of environmental responsibility and sustainability. The Social Action team wants to move us closer to that vision by developing policies and guidelines to ensure that we factor concern for the environment into all our congregational activities and decisions.

Thanks to Paul Yeadon, we now have an on-line survey for you to share your ideas and suggestions. If you missed the announcement email go to the Social Action webpage for the link to this short, easy survey. Your input is appreciated. And you are always welcome and encouraged to talk to us in person, by email, or by dropping a note in the Social Action mail slot. Or, best of all, come join the discussion at a Social Action meeting.

### **Global Warming Challenge #4 – Home Heating**

Most of us know that it is important to reduce the energy we use heating our homes. And most of us try to do so. But often it is difficult and we don't do as much as we can. This month's challenge is to examine the roadblocks and see if we can do even more.

#### CHALLENGE ACTION:

Carefully study the chart below. Honestly evaluate which measures you do fully and which you don't. If there are some for which you take an 'easy way out', try the energy saving solutions.

→→ See our webpage for more details and helpful hints

NOTE: some of the biggest savings involve things that are expensive; those are not included in our chart. But if your budget allows (remember you'll save \$\$ on heating), consider more insulation, energy-saving windows, more efficient heater etc

### **Second Harvest Light Bulb Donation**

In December we donated over 500 compact fluorescent light bulbs to the Second Harvest Food Bank (Rosemary School site). The energy-saving light bulbs were donated by fellowship members and purchased with endowment fund income. RE director Tamara McClellan and our youth wrapped some of the bulbs in beautiful paper they created themselves. It was a lot of fun and a great introduction to "Service To Others". And we literally lit up the Holidays for 130 low income families!

### **Climate Action Workshop**

Changing the Forecast, a Climate Action Workshop for Unitarian Universalists will be held Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 am -2:30 pm at Mount Diablo UU Church in Walnut Creek. For additional information see the flyer on the Social Action bulletin board or contact Connie Springer.

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Our next meeting is on **Jan 13th, 12:15 - 1:30** in the Sanctuary. Newcomers are welcome.  
And/or feel free to contact us: Connie( cfspringer@earthlink.net) Sue (sueanon@sbcglobal.net)

ENERGY-SAVING MEASURE	POSSIBLE ROADBLOCKS	EASY WAYS OUT	ENERGY-SAVING SOLUTIONS
Set thermostat to 68 or less in the daytime	You feel cold or uncomfortable	Increase temperature “a little”. Have a blanket on the sofa	Blankets are good but when you are sitting or lying down <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Layer clothing</li> <li>• Wear warm socks</li> <li>• Dedicate 1 or 2 comfy jackets for use at home</li> </ul>
	It is colder in some rooms than other.	Raise thermostat “a little” when you are in a colder room.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put fans near vents or at doorway of warmer areas.</li> <li>• Run heater fan (even when heater is not on) <u>IF</u> your air intake is in a warmer area</li> <li>• Reduce heat loss in colder rooms (see below)</li> </ul>
Set thermostat to 63 or less at night	You feel cold or uncomfortable	Keep temperature almost the same at night as in daytime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear warmer nightclothes (sweatshirts are great) and socks. Use more blankets</li> </ul>
Reduce heat loss through doors and windows.	Inertia.	Do little or nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add weather stripping</li> <li>• Use door-bottom draft guards (some are 2-sided or fasten to door)</li> <li>• Get better window coverings (especially on older / poorer windows). Or add a 2<sup>nd</sup> layer! REMEMBER: cost is offset by the \$\$ you save on heating!</li> </ul>
Close vents in unused rooms	Don’t think it helps.	Don’t do it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing vents DOES help – heats less space, increases air flow to other rooms.</li> <li>• But do NOT close off too many vents ... about 20% of your vents should be fine</li> </ul>
Turn OFF thermostat OFF when you are out 2 hours or more	It’s too cold when you get home	Do nothing or just lower temperature a degree or two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn on thermostat as soon as you get home.</li> <li>• Keep your coat on a while</li> <li>• Have a nice hot beverage.</li> </ul>
Maintain your heating system	Didn’t think of it.	Do minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep filters clean (resuable / washable ones are available)</li> <li>• Have old vents cleaned</li> </ul>
Use the sun	Didn’t think of it!	Do nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you have any windows that get sun several hours a day, open blinds/curtains during sunlight hours (and close promptly when sun is gone!).</li> </ul>
Try new approaches	You’re skeptical	You see advice but don’t follow it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search the web (or publications) for new ideas and helpful products.</li> </ul>