

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

April 2007 No.4; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

April 2007

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

April 1st is Celebration Sunday

Have You Made Your Reservation For the Celebration Lunch Yet?

Just call the office, 358-1212, and reserve your space. Let us know if you want veggie or chicken. There is no charge for the lunch. All are welcome! Kids too.

Service at 10:30 & Celebration Lunch at Noon

Fools for Love

Presented by the Stewardship Team:

Sharon Graham, Linda Krenicky, Walt Main, JJ Martin,
John Omvik, Connie Springer, and Irving Yabroff

JJ Martin & Carolyn Colbert , worship leaders
With The Nightingales, Larry Chinn at the piano

And You

April 8 at 10:30

Easter Sunday

What to Do Until the Messiah Comes

Worship Associate, Walt Main

Rev. Carolyn Colbert, Interim Minister

Larry Chinn, piano

What message does the Jewish prophet from Nazareth, who some called the Messiah, bring that has meaning for our times? What value emerges in our time out of this ancient poetic story and religious metaphor? If nothing else, we may find that the prophet's concern was for his neighbor. To be is to be for others. Now there's a radical proposition!

Our kids join us for singing and a story before they head to their Special Easter Egg Hunt.

April 15 at 10:30

Honoring the Elders

Bill Scarvie, Worship Leader

Worship Associate: Lynn O'Keefe

Worship Anchor: Walt Main

Dave Coldren, piano

Phyllis Foxcroft, Gilda Mazzanti, and Ruth Pfaff, piano/violin trios from Ignace Pleyel.

This is a time for us to celebrate the elders amongst us in song and story. We honor those who have contributed to the growth of our Fellowship over the years, and those who lend the wisdom

that comes with age, regardless of the length of their relationship with our community. All ages are encouraged to join in the fun at this intergenerational service. Wear purple!

April 22 at 10:30

Science and Religion Duke it Out

Rev. Carolyn Colbert, Interim Minister

Larry Chinn, piano and The Nightingales

The uproar about teaching "Intelligent Design" in our public schools as an alternative to evolution may seem silly to many of us. I mean, can you believe that we're sill fussing about this? Oh well. Perhaps we could use a review of our history and maybe a new understanding of the important intersection between science and religion.

April 29 at 10:30

Going Down the Same Tunnel

When There's No Cheese

Rev. Carolyn Colbert, Interim Minister

Worship Associate, Linda Krenicky

Anchor, Esther Kaplan

Larry Chinn, piano and Dean Marchant singing

Do you know someone who keeps getting stuck in old patterns? A person who keeps going down the same maze over and over again? Not you, of course. But maybe you should come anyway in case this topic might help a friend.

Weavings from the Web...



The Fellowship calendar for April is alive with celebrations. Celebrations are essential to a religious community. When a congregation gathers together in appreciation and joy it is energized.

This congregation has worked very hard over the past few years and you deserve to celebrate! You've made hard decisions. You've worked to mend the fabric of community, and you've opened your hearts in readiness for a new minister who will companion you into your longed for future.

So you deserve to do some celebrating. And you deserve to have some fun. Its time to be a little silly, even. Which is why your Stewardship Team came up with a sort of whacky approach to this year's pledge drive. A Sunday event where we can celebrate the silly, make our pledges in a joyful setting, and sit down together over a meal we don't have to cook ourselves. That's celebration One, Fools for Love Sunday.

Read through the information sent to you so you'll be ready to make your annual gift during the service. Yes, a pledge card will be included in every order of service. And during the luncheon we'll hear and cheer what your gifts have contributed so far toward funding your next exciting year.

The next April celebration is Easter. Our kids are busy dying eggs for their traditional hunt, and the service will give us a chance to connect, in a very UU sort of way, to this ancient celebration of new beginnings.

Celebration number three is the return of a very special service that honors the elders of this congregation. Bill Scarvie introduced this celebration last year and it was embraced with appreciation. Since Bill will be leaving us to gift another congregation in the Seattle area with his commitment and Social Justice skills when he and Karen move in June, this might also be a time of appreciation for his many contributions to UUFLG.

Perhaps the biggest and best celebration will come when you spend a busy week of getting acquainted with the Ministerial Candidate (who will be getting to know you too) that your Search Committee will present to you, after spending time with three excellent candidates. This exciting time will most likely come at the end of April.

All these celebrations speak to the health and vitality of your beloved UU community. The innovative, caring, hard working, determined, sometimes exhausting, and generous work that you lavish on each other and on this very special fellowship deserves to be celebrated!

See you in church,
Carolyn

Minister's Schedule

Carolyn will be traveling to Florida for the annual Interim Minister's Conference. She'll be gone from Sunday, April 15 to Friday, April 20. The conference includes workshops, consulting speakers, and practical information.

In June she will attend General Assembly in Portland Oregon as a ministerial delegate. These annual gatherings of the UU tribe are open to all. You'll find information about the Portland event at the UUA website: uua.org/g/a. So far Katy Rall and Ruth Webb plan to attend.

Carolyn's contract with UUFLG ends in mid August. Part of her contracted time, as with all full time ministers, calls for her to have a month of study and attendance at denominational and professional training events like GA, and a month of vacation. In the case of an Interim Minister, that vacation becomes moving time.

It is the custom that the Interim Minister will not be available during the fellowship's week of meeting and getting to know the candidate for settled ministry. When those dates are announced you will be sent a special mailing that will introduce the candidate and give you a full schedule for their week long visit.

Message from the President:

April and early May will be a busy and important time for our Fellowship.

With the hard, hard work of our Settled Minister Search Committee (Jim Beebe, Ann Campbell, Tim Connelly, Jo Cooley, Leslie Jones, John Omvik and Jim Stahl) and some good fortune we will soon be hosting a minister for a Settled Minister "Candidate Week". The exact dates have not been set, but it will most likely be in April, and all members will be notified of the dates and times of the events of this week. This will be a good opportunity for members to meet, greet and talk with our proposed new Settled Minister. At the end of this busy week we will have a special membership meeting after Sunday Service to vote for our new settled minister. Since our bylaws require that this special meeting has at least 40% of members in attendance I encourage each and every member to make a special effort to attend.

On Sunday, April 29th we have our scheduled annual membership meeting. At this meeting we will elect new board members, elect a new nominating committee, approve our budget for next year and approve a minor bylaws change. While this may sound like a lot of business to take care of, the meeting should only last about an hour or so (as many of you know I am not a big fan of long meetings). Materials relating to the items to be voted on will be mailed to members well in advance of the meeting and it is my hope that most of the discussion happens prior to the meeting. Board members will be happy to answer your questions in person or via our UUFLG discussion e-mail list.

Finally, I would like to relate to you that at our March board of trustees meeting there was unanimous agreement that the Fellowship is in excellent shape with growing membership (16 new members in 2006 and more this spring), an excellent and sound financial position, and a fun and healthy community with very high morale.

Ciao.
Harry



Board Nominations for 2007/2008

The following members' names have given to the board to be presented at the Spring Membership meeting.

President: Ann Campbell *

Vice President: Jim Stahl *

Building Trustee: Coralee Linton *

Sunday Programs Trustee: Chris Magee *,
Chair: Linda Krenicky

Social Justice Trustee: Jim Beebe *,
Chair: Connie Springer

** Bios of these nominees can be found on pages 4 & 5.*

Nominating Committee for 2007/2008

Sharon Graham
Joe Rafferty
Lida Kluzek
Tim Connelly

The Nominating Committee wishes to thank all of those folks who were willing to stand for nominations for next year's board and nominating committee. Nan Bixler, Joe Rafferty, Sharon Graham, Linda Krenicky, Julie Doyle

Meet the Candidates for Our Fellowship Board

Ann Campbell

I joined the Fellowship in 1974, when it was small and informal. During the '70's, I attended a General Assembly, served on the board as RE Chair and attended the Stebbins Institute and Mendocino Woodlands family camp every summer with Harry and our three children.

Upon retirement in 2000, I became active in the Fellowship again and have served on the building committee, the membership committee, the bylaws task force, nominating committees, an interim search committee and many ad hoc projects. I am currently the co-chair of our settled search committee.

Jim Stahl

I had been an intermittent friend of the Los Gatos Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for many years, a UU in thought if not in fact. My wife has been a Friend of the Los Gatos Fellowship since the late 60's and a member since 1980, and our daughter considers herself "raised as a UU." Both natives of California, my wife, Jinni, and I first moved to the Santa Clara Valley area in 1963 – we were both in College at the time. We have remained in the local area since, except for three years in the mid 70's when work took us to Binghamton, NY. While in Binghamton we attended the Unitarian Congregation there. My work life kept me very occupied until I retired a few years ago. Retirement has freed me to become more involved with the UUFLG and I became an official member early in 2006.

I am active in the Fellowship Building and Grounds Committee, the Long Range Planning Committee and co-chair of the Settled Minister Search committee. My professional experience provided many tools useful in the activities in which I am involved with the Fellowship.

I value my association with the Los Gatos Unitarian Fellowship – the congregation's liberal, open and intelligent thought creates a welcome and caring extended "family".

Coralee Linton

I joined the Fellowship very shortly after visiting on the first Sunday in January, 1998. Within a few months I became aware there was need of a bookkeeper to fill a recently vacated position. Since I had been keeping books for the company I owned with my husband, it was familiar territory. It proved to be a great way to get to know the people of the congregation. I held the position until 2003 when I resigned to give needed time to caring for my first grandchild.

Since being a member of the Fellowship I have participated in other areas: I served as secretary for Social Justice meetings when Ed Nauss was chairing; I was a member of the Search Committee which brought Ben Kocs Myers in as a part time Consulting Minister; I have been a member of the Caring Committee for many years.

Chris Magee

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos is a community of intelligent and caring individuals who have added blessings of friendship and support to my life. I cannot imagine being included in a better community.

I joined the fellowship about one year ago and have tried with the time I have to contribute to the stability, joy, and growth of the fellowship with food, with attendance at services, and with participation in the special events that spice the evolution of this wonderful organization. I now have the opportunity to serve on the board, an honor that I truly value. I will do my best to fulfill the responsibilities of this position, keeping an eye out for opportunities to contribute extra little bits of energy here and there.

Thank you for inviting me to become a trustee. What a wonderful opportunity to know more about the fellowship, my co-members, and myself.

Welcome to spring,

Board Nominees, continued

Jim Beebe

I joined UUFLG in 2002 and soon joined and then Chaired the Membership Committee, I then served on the Board for 5 years. Last year I chose to serve on the Settled Minister Search Committee instead of running for reelection to the Board. In the coming year, I look would like to support Social Justice as its representative on the Board.

Administrivia

From the keyboard of Adrienne Gormley

Administrator Schedule: Worth Repeating

Last November, we changed my scheduled office hours for me to arrive at 12 Noon rather than 11 AM, because of a part time contract job I work mornings during tax season. Well, that job is ending, so beginning *no later than* April 2, my office hours change *back*.

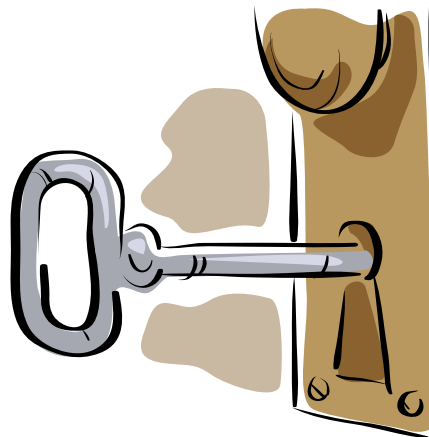
Admin Office Hours after April 1:
MWF 11:00-1:00
TTh 11:00-2:00

Building Keys Redux

There are a few people who still have not contacted either Irving Yabroff or me to get their new building keys. I did send an e-mail to those who were not at the fellowship on March 4, the day we passed out most of the keys, telling the recipients how to get their new keys. If you received that e-mail and have not yet gotten a new key, please contact me during my office hours, and I'll get your keys to you. If you do *not* want a key, let me know, too, so I can remove you from the list of those who are supposed to receive one.

Speaking of Locks

If I'm at the fellowship alone during the week, I keep the building locked. If you need to get in while I'm here and don't have a key, please use the doorbell at the main entrance. If I don't reply to the doorbell immediately, try again.



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 (harryrcampbell@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.

NEWS FROM THE WEST ROOM

Thanks to the “green thumbers” for our beautiful gardens!! Thanks to the “house cleaners” for cleaning up the inside of the building. Thanks to the handy persons for installing lots of new light bulbs all over the building. And soon we will be putting on new coats of paint on the walls!!! Spring is HERE!!!

Did you notice all the pretty colored socks that went into the basket for the children at the San Jose Children’s Shelter? Our children will be sorting socks and putting them into colorful bags for each child at the Shelter. Thanks to the congregation for contributing the socks! This project is the result of cooperation between the RE Dept, the Tuesday A.M. Chalice Circle, the Thursday A.M. Women’s Group, with Edy Young as coordinator. Thanks to each of you!!

We are truly blessed to have the Nightingale Singers give us music on Sunday mornings!! Thanks for your contributions that enrich our Sunday’s services. Fidele Gailey is their leader.

Thinking about vacation? Just talked to Phyllis Foxcroft about her exciting vacation that she took a few weeks ago. She joined a group of 18 retired school teachers from Concord and took an exciting cruise from Valparaiso, Chile, and sailed around the Horn!! They had 12 wonderful days of ocean sailing as well as visited 6 interesting ports along the way. They flew back from Buenos Aires to Dallas and then home. Thru all the activities and fun, she still only gained 3 pounds of weight. Just ask her and she has lots of stories to tell you.



On March 17th, several attended a Hospitality Workshop at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church. This workshop was sponsored by the PCD (Pacific Central District) of which we are a part. We learned and shared on how to make our congregations more inviting, and friendly. We are going to try some of the new ideas in the future, so be ready!! Those attending were Barbara Feldman, Sarah Mozelle, Rev. Carolyn Colbert, and Lou Yabroff.

Wasn’t the soup, salad, bread, and cookies a wonderful idea to have after church service? Thanks to the music committee for the organization of the lunch, with Linda Krenicky spear heading the lunch. Thanks to all who contributed both food and money!.

Enjoy!!

Lou

Barbara and Nina Kalmoutis Travel to Greece

A chance to return to the country that they both lived in for many years has claimed the mother daughter team until late April. When they return Nina, who grew up in this congregation, will be with our Religious Education program until she starts her Ministerial Internship in Redwood City in late summer.

This is a wonderful development for Nina and a lose for us. Nina, a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry, the UU theological school in Berkeley, is excited to be moving another step closer on her path to becoming a UU Minister. Nina grew up in this Fellowship, and it is a joy to see her dream taking shape.

The UUFLG board recently approved sponsorship of Nina as she completes another step in her long process. Until she starts her internship, she’ll be continuing to teach and work closely with the RE Committee to plan for next year’s programs. You can read all about what Sponsorship of a developing minister entails on the bulletin board at the Fellowship.

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

Social Justice Associates

Thanks to all who attended our monthly meeting on March 18: Kristina Strand, Edy Young, Cynthia Schmidt, Nan Bixler, Judy Richardson, Charlie Walton, Connie Springer and Lynn O'Keefe. We had a lively discussion on a range of subjects, as usual.

Habitat for Humanity: Kristina reported a very low turnout at our March work day. While many of our members have expressed a desire to participate, they may be unable to do so because of schedule conflicts. We discussed the possibility that scheduling a work day early in any given month may conflict with the work of committees trying to meet before the monthly Board meeting. We agreed to limit our participation to twice a year, and to schedule work days toward the end of the month. Our next work day will be Saturday, September 22. Contact Kristina Strand for details.

Share the Plate: The generosity of the congregation present on Sunday, March 11, resulted in a gift of \$158.50 to the Low-Income Self-Help Center of Silicon Valley. We have identified Save the Bay and the San Jose Peace Center as recipients for April and May, respectively. Edy Young is the sponsor for Save the Bay on April 15, and Charlie Walton will sponsor the Peace Center on May 27. We are open to suggestions for June: We are looking for a local organization whose focus is on environmental issues.

Green Sanctuary: Connie Springer led a discussion of the Green Sanctuary certification program that is offered by the UU Ministry for Earth. Connie, Lynn and Cynthia offered their thoughts on how the Fellowship might go about participating in this program. All agreed that it isn't feasible for us to apply for candidacy this year. Green Sanctuary certification requires the commitment of the whole community, participation by every committee, and the support of our new minister. Connie, Judy and Cynthia agreed to form the nucleus of a study group whose goal would be to apply for candidacy in May of 2008. Success depends on adding two or three more people to the study group. If interested, contact Connie.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Scarvie
Trustee, Social Justice

Share the Plate and Save the Bay

“Save the Bay” will be the organization with which we “Share the Plate” on Sunday April 15. This first, modern, grass roots environmental movement in the San Francisco Bay area began when three women mobilized thousands to stop the City of Berkeley's plan to double in size by filling the Bay, shallow, marshlands in 1961. Save the Bay caused the state to form the Bay Conservation and Development Commission or BCDC to regulate shoreline development and ensure public access. Since 1969 bay, public access has increased from only four miles to over two hundred, today.

Save the Bay fought to close the garbage dumps ringing the shoreline and stop the cities from draining raw sewage into the bay. They helped establish the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. They mobilized to stop the proposed Peripheral canal which would have drained much of the remaining fresh water from upstream, sending it to southern California and causing the degradation of wetlands which are habitat for small organisms, the basis of the food chains supporting fisheries and wildlife.

In 2005 Save the Bay ensured restoration of tidal marsh habitat by successfully demanding the U.S. Navy do a full cleanup of Toxic Superfund site 25 at Moffett Field. The question of a Peripheral Canal to divert more fresh water to industry and Southern California continues to be introduced to the California legislature. For more than 40 years “Save the Bay” has given a voice to the Bay.

Today, there are opportunities for “hands on” participation. Planting cord grass in wetlands, and taking a bird census are examples. Contact San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Save the Bay for volunteer opportunities. Help at home by reducing your use of toxic chemicals and auto exhaust pollution.

Half of the funds collected on April 15 which are not marked as pledge payments will go to “Save the Bay,” the other half will fund Fellowship programs as usual.

The Thursday Morning's Women's Group will meet Wednesday, April 12 at 9:45 a.m. Please read article, "Ethical Eating" pages 28-34 in UU World magazine, Spring edition. Pauline Stonehill will lead the discussion. Nan Bixler will bring refreshments and Doris Boyd is in charge of table décor. Contact Ruth Webb, convener, for information or participation: 356-1735.

Doris Boyd

Let's Paint!!!

Saturday, April 14, 9:00 AM to Noon

Calling all tapers and painters! Put on your painting togs and join in brightening up the West room and Lounge with a new coat of paint. We'll just tackle the walls in both areas, not the woodwork, so it should be fun and quick. Tell Sarah Mozelle or Ann Campbell if you are able to pitch in.

The building committee will meet on Thursday, April 5, at 10:30. All are welcome!

The Caring Network has learned of a new friend needing a ride on Sundays. She has recently moved to the Atrium on Blossom Hill. If you could consider bringing her to Fellowship please give me a call.

Thanks a lot.
Julie Doyle, 353-2828

Worship Associates Write Original Blessings

When the Worship Associates/ Sunday Service/Music team gathered last month they were invited to create a prayer, a meditation, or poem on the theme of Spring, or change, or transformation. A prayer for the rolling away of the stone, for new growth, or resistance to leaving the cave.

We thought you might enjoy a few pieces of their writing. More from others next month.

Cherry Tree
Bare branches begin to
burst with blossoms
Pale pallet of pink petals.

--Linda Krenicky

This is the Time of Transition
From dark to light,
from cold to hot,
from plans to actions
night and day are equal length
my neighbors tree to the south
no longer casts its shadow
on my yard at lunch time
And the plums have flowered.
My winter's quiet, meditations, reflections
have to be distilled into actions.
What actions?

--Walt Main

New, unexpected beginnings —
the many changes that are wrought —
A view to the resistance
not ready to let go of the familiar;
fear and uncertainty of the unknown.
An excitement and new adventure
brings the counter response:
a certainty that all obstacles
can be met
triumphantly.
The challenge of letting go
and accepting what is.
Welcome new growth!

--Lynn O'Keefe

April 2007

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Celebration Sunday 10:30- Sunday Service 		1:00- Long Range Planning Committee 2:00-Membership Meeting	7:30- Meditation Class	10:30- Building and Grounds Committee Meeting 12:00- RUMs Lunch on deck (Retired Unitarian Men)	12:30- Music Committee 2:00- Recorder Group	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Easter Sunday 10:30- Sunday Service	7:15- Women's Spirituality Group	1:00- Admin & Communications Committee Mtg	7:30- Meditation Class	9:45a- Thursday Morning Women's Group 6:30- Board Meeting	2:00 - Recorder Group	9:00- Painting Party
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:30- Sunday Service		1:00- Long Range Planning Committee	7:30- Meditation Class	12:00- Caring Network	2:00 - Recorder Group Deadline for Newsletter submissions	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:30- Sunday Service	7:15- Women's Spirituality Group	1:00- Admin & Communications Committee Mtg	12:00- Stitch & Bitch 7:30- Meditation Class		2:00 - Recorder Group PCD District Meeting starts; runs through weekend	
29	30	1-May	2	3	4	5
10:30- Sunday Service 12:30- Annual Membership Meeting						

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



Fellowship News

April 2007

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