

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

September 2005 No.9; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING, September 2005

Sunday Services, 10:30-11:30am

September 4: 10:30--PANCAKE BREAKFAST In addition to getting the year off to a good start with our annual get-together, this year we will also be welcoming our new Minister, Nancy Roemheld. As usual, the breakfast will be in lieu of a regular program. Fee for adults will be \$6.00, kids 10 and under are free. Be sure to sign up for a chore, if you're able, as many hands make light work (besides, it's fun!).

Questions? Call Joanne Crane at 268-2199.

September 11: "Coming Home" These are powerful words, evoking strong emotions in us...Deep feelings accompanied by memories of loved faces, and familiar places. We will celebrate "Water Communion." Here we celebrate, symbolically, our individual selves and our immersion in our larger community by bringing small amounts of water that we have saved from our summer travels.

September 18: "Telling the Truth" Deceptions, evasions, lack of knowledge, and out-right lies compel us to live by wishes instead of reality. Where do they come from? Is it just the natural duplicity of the human animal?

September 25: "The Interim Year - The In Between Time" I would like, this morning, to share with you some of my thoughts on ministry...yours, mine, ours. I hope to help you recognize that you, as a congregation, are going into a time of high potential...perhaps the one time in which you have the greatest chance to influence the future.

Membership Committee News:

The Membership Committee will have its monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2005 in the West Room of the Fellowship starting at 3:00 PM. All members are invited to attend.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Membership Committee for the coming year, or if you just have some questions about what we do, please call Jim Beebe or Harry Campbell. They will be happy to answer any questions. We are planning great things for this year and could use some extra volunteers, and the work is rewarding and fun.

Member Photo Directory:

The Membership Committee is hard at work on the 2005-2006 Member Photo Directory. A photo session is planned for Sunday, September 11th. The session will start at noon in the Sanctuary. Priority during the session will be given to new members and to members who did not have their photo in the previous directory, but everyone is welcome.

Don't be bashful since everyone would like to see your bright visage in our new photo directory, and if you don't like your photo from last year you can try again.

Volunteer of the Month:

The Membership Committee is please to announce that Margo Smith has been chosen as Volunteer of the Month. Margo is Secretary of the Board of Trustees and as such she has done a great job in recording the minutes of our Board and Membership meetings. She has also done an outstanding job in preparing mailings to Fellowship members. Please give her your thanks and congratulations when you see her.

Ciao.
Harry

CHALICE CIRCLE UPDATE

The Tuesday morning Chalice Circle sponsored a "Nurture the Spirit Dinner" in July. We each brought our own dinner and ate together, then took turns answering a two-part question. We had so much to say that we didn't have time to get to part #2. After taking time off for a busy summer we will continue our Nurture the Spirit Dinner on September 12 from 6-8 PM. Bring your own dinner (not potluck) & come prepared to share about the spiritual question: "How can our community best support you on your own spiritual growth path?" There is no need to RSVP, but if you have questions, please call Katie Rall @ (369-0433).

We had positive feedback from all that attended and have plans to continue meeting in this way once a month. We hope to see YOU there!

Minister's Musings

At the time of this writing, I have just seen two of my daughters off to Wisconsin. They have been here helping me to settle in. And the settling in is going well: the Search Committee found me a nice apartment; the Safeway has my favorite salsa, which I have not been able to find since I lived in Tucson; those of you whom I have met have greeted me warmly; and the weather here is spectacular! Those of you who have lived in Great Lakes towns can appreciate this wonderful lack of humidity you have here. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you on the first Sunday in September at the Pancake Breakfast.

September 1st is my official starting date with y'all, however, during the month of August, I am available to you for any emergencies you may have. What do I consider an emergency? An emergency is when anything unusual happens that makes you think, "Should I call the minister?" My phone number is 370-3226.

Yours in the faith, Nancy

BOARD OF TRUSTEES THANKS LAND PURCHASE GROUP FOR EFFORTS

To everyone:

We have decided to no longer be actively pursuing the purchase of the land next to the Fellowship. Further due diligence was conducted and it wasn't possible to make a strong enough economic case for buying the land. In other words, the seller is asking too much for the land. I want to thank everyone who participated in the discussion group, and those that expressed an interest in the LLC. Also, Noor Billawala did put in time on our behalf with the property owners acting as a broker.

In Fellowship, Tim Connelly

The Board would like to thank Tim for bringing this opportunity to our attention and for the time and effort he and others have put into considering our various options. The Board concurs with Tim's assessment that the proposed LLC will not acquire the land and donate a portion to the fellowship, and the Board does not see the possibility for the fellowship itself to purchase the land at this time. We remain focused on strengthening and growing the membership. We will continue to explore other options for expanding the size of our facility in the future when that will become necessary.

The UUFLG Board

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE NEWS

The Social Justice Committee met August 14 and made some significant decisions regarding projects and fund raising. It has been our intention to choose two service projects for our Fellowship-- one local and one global. We were seeking projects to which we feel connected and committed as a group -- projects which present a need for a wide range of volunteers doing a wide range of activities-- that fit our diverse community and the new membership we hope to attract.

With that goal, we chose for our local project, Habitat for Humanity, which is planning to build 30 new and restored homes in the next three years and needs volunteers “of all ages... for construction, family support, office work..”

Our global project is supporting Rosemary Stasek’s work in Afghanistan. Rosemary has shared her important mission in Afghanistan with our Fellowship three times. We have a connection with her and it seems natural to choose her project as our global focus. More information regarding this project will be forthcoming when we decide the best ways we can help.

‘We will continue to support the UUA’s focus on global warming with updates on legislation and information at the Social Justice Action table at coffee hour and perhaps speakers.

If you have questions, comments, concerns regarding our decisions, please respond in the Discussion List online, call Pam Rhodes English @266-5942, and/or come to our next meeting: Sun. Sept. 11-- 12:15 - 1:30 west room

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.

TIDBITS FROM THE DECK SEPTEMBER '05

The time has come for us to thank our minister for this year's care and guidance. The Rev Ben Kocs-Meyer has given us so much during his Sundays with us. His sermons have been filled with food for thought, stretched our minds, and filled our souls with music, love and understanding of ourselves and others. Thank you, Ben!. We wish you the best as you continue on your life's journey.

Julie and Jerry Doyle drove across country to have R/R with daughter Tasha and husband in Montana.

Linda and Joe Rafferty are delighted to have their daughter attending U.C Monterey for the coming college year. It is a lot closer than Phoenix, AZ.

Ruth Webb had a great Elderhostel experience in Eugene, OR. The main subject of study was "Cole Porter" and his music.

Sharon Graham and Jim Beebe drove to WA and OR for R/R to be with cousins.

Marilyn Buelteman and her sister from Davis, and met their other sister from Montreal in Michigan for a family reunion. They attended a UU church in MI where their mother had been one of the founders. The minister paid tribute to them and their mother during his service.

Congratulations to Joanna and Brandon Connelly who were married recently in a lovely outside wedding near a small lake in Milpitas.

Thank you to Phyllis Foxcroft for being our pianist for several church services.

Ann Joy has had a complete knee replacement and is looking forward to "walking pain-free" soon as possible.

We will miss Pat Horton who has moved to Southern California. She plans to look up a UU church near her as soon as she is settled.

Sorry that I goofed! I listed Harry Campbell and Sharon Graham's August birthdates wrong! Hope your days were good, on which ever date you celebrated. If I don't have your birthday in my birthday book, see me on the deck and I will list your special day, or correct others that I might have incorrectly listed.

The Women's Thursday Morning monthly meetings will resume on Sept 14th from 9:45 to noon. All women of the Fellowship are invited to attend. The purpose of the meetings is fellowship with other women, and study of an article chosen from the UU World magazine.

We enjoyed celebrating Lou and Irving Yabroff's 50th wedding anniversary on the deck.

We all send greetings, warm healing thoughts, and prayers to: Terry Gordon, Barbara Kalmoutis, Stacey Dunn, Diana Payne, Frank Levy, Margaret Howard, Robin Connelly, Ann Joy and Bob Lindsay

BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sept 1, Max Jones, Sept 5, Sabina Omvik, Sept 9th, Jo Cooley, Sept. 11, Wanda Alexander, Sept 14th, Anna Marchant, Sept 15th, Chris and Nick Matthiessen, Sept 17th, Walt Main, Sept 18th, Ruth Webb, Sept. 19th Len Stonehill, Sept 20th, Betty Feldheym, Sept 24th, Phyllis Reid.

Building Bridges is an annual series of events in October celebrating diversity. This year UUFLG is participating with many of the other places of worship of in the Saratoga area. Everyone is invited to attend.

On Oct. 3-7, there will be a series of 5 evening lectures at the Saratoga library, each on a different world religion. We are contributing a page describing UU and our Fellowship to a booklet to be handed out at each lecture, describing the different religions participating in Building Bridges.

On Sunday, October 9, we will have table at the free festival at West Valley College, from 12 noon to 4 pm. Last year there were 5,000 visitors. We plan to have an interactive presentation to interest and inform the attendees about UU. If you have ideas for our table or want to helping on the 9th, please contact Jim Beebe, 408-378-3521 or jebeebe1102@yahoo.com.

On the 9th we will invite visitors to the Festival to see UU for themselves, at a special service at our Fellowship, on Oct. 16, to be led by Bill Scarvie.

Schools, community organizations, and other houses of worship in the Saratoga area will also have events discussing diversity during the two weeks after October 9.

A flyer in September will provide more details.
Please contact Jim Beebe if you have questions.

Women's Spirituality Group

The Women's Spirituality Group is a place for Fellowship women to explore aspects of spiritual growth with other women. Every September the group invites new members to join and participate in the selection of a curriculum for the coming year. In recent years the group has selected a book to use as a basis for the curriculum. Last year we used "A Path with Heart" by Jack Kornfield. In recent years we've used "Essential Spirituality", "The Four Agreements", and "The Goddess Path". Since the group is based on following a chosen set of topics for the year, the expectation is that those who join the group make a commitment to participate regularly for the course of the year.

The group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 7:15 PM to 9:00 PM in the lounge. New members are invited to attend our September meetings, 9/12 and 9/26. If you have questions please call Ann Campbell at 374-8844 or Sharon Graham at 356-5532.

CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sep 1 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.
- Sep 4 10:30a -12:00a** Pancake Breakfast - West & deck: No Sunday Service. Welcome for Nancy. See Joanne Crane or Harry Campbell for more info.
- Sep 6 10:00a -12:00p** SGM meet - Lounge By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O'Keefe.
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).
- Sep 7 7:00p -9:00p** SGM meeting – Lounge: By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Sep 8 4:30p -6:30p** Committee on Ministry – Lounge: By Invitation. Contact Bill Scarvie or Julie Doyle
6:30p -9:00p Board Meeting – West: Contact Margo Smith 408-674-8933 ricepaper@sbcglobal.net All are welcome
- Sep 11 9:00a -10:15a** Finance Committee meeting
12:00p -1:30p Membership Photo Directory - Second Photo Session (Sanctuary). For information contact Harry Campbell at 408-374-8844.
12:15p -1:30p Social Justice Meeting – West: All are welcome. See Pam Rhodes English for info.
12:15p -1:30p Building Committee Meeting – Sanctuary: Come with your ideas for projects to improve the building and grounds. See Bob Bixler for info.
7:30p -9:00p Rental: Recital: Hsiao-in Wang
- Sep 12 10:00a -12:00p** Life Stories: Morning Session: Sheila Dunec West
1:00p -3:00p Life Stories: Afternoon Class: Sheila Dunec West
6:00p -8:00p “Nurture the Spirit Dinner” - bring your own dinner. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by the Tuesday Chalice Circle. Contact Katie Rall for more info. 369-0433
- Sep 13 10:30a -1:00p** Tuesday Mums-East: See Kristina Strand for information
1:00p -2:30p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge: All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main
12:30p -2:30p SGM Sunday Meeting-East
- Sep 19 10:00a -12:00p** Life Stories: Morning Session: Sheila Dunec West
1:00p -3:00p Life Stories: Afternoon Class: Sheila Dunec West
- Sep 20 10:00a -12:00p** SGM Meeting – Lounge: By Invitation. Contact Katie Rall or Lynn O'Keefe.
- Sep 21 7:00p -9:00p** SGM meeting – Lounge: By Invitation. Contact Julie Doyle or Doug Doughty
- Sep 26 10:00a -12:00p** Life Stories: Morning Session: Sheila Dunec West
1:00p -3:00p Life Stories: Afternoon Class: Sheila Dunec West
- Sep 27 10:30a -1:00p** Tuesday Mums: See Kristina Strand for Information
1:00p -2:30p Bylaw Task Force – Lounge: All are Welcome. Contact Walt Main

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



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September 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.