

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

March 2014 No.3; published 12 months each year. Glen Marchant, Editor

Our Mission

- Provide a place where people are inspired to think about and discuss values, ethics, and the meaning of their lives
- Stimulate spiritual growth in children and adults through exposure to a wide variety of religious thought and experience
- Provide mutual support, caring and fellowship to our members
- Provide support of the larger community through service and social action
- Appreciate and honor our connectedness with all living things

March 2014

Sunday Services at 10:30

March theme:

Free & Responsible Search for Truth & Meaning

Mar 2: “Filling Your Tank”

Rev. Fa Jun

Spiritual practice.... heck, just regular ol’ life can be hard. But we all know that we can all get “by with a little help from our friends.” In traditional Buddhism, one of the objects of refuge is the community that practices together, just like in Christianity, the church was considered like God’s bride. In this sermon we will discuss ways to fuel up your heart, your life, and your spirituality by taking full advantage of your spiritual community. As always, Rev. Fa Jun will attempt to share traditional wisdom, modern findings, and practical techniques to improve the quality of your world immediately!

Mar 9: “Thank-you Gutenberg!”

Rev. Lisa Wiggins

Anyone who is Unitarian Universalist will have a profound appreciation of Johannes Gutenberg and his printing press which blazed a path into free thought. This freedom to read and explore on our own, without the controlling dogma, opened up a journey of personal discovery which has changed the nature of truth and meaning in spectacular ways.

Mar 16: “The Joy of Justice”

Rev. Earl W. Koteen

We live in interesting times, which are very likely to become much more interesting. Realizing the full import of climate change and environmental injustice is daunting if not downright depressing. However, we can right ourselves again by rediscovering justice and solidarity. Please join us on this journey of joy and renewal.

Rev. Earl W. Koteen is Environmental Justice Minister, Unitarian Universalist (UU) Ministry for Earth and co-founder and executive committee member, 350 Bay Area. Before entering the ministry, Rev. Koteen had a 30-year career in strategic planning and organizational development. A lifelong UU, he has two adult daughters, but sigh, no grandchildren yet.

Mar 23:

“Meaning within the Monday Morning Matrix”

Rev. Lisa Wiggins

Caught between the Sunday’s spiritual ideals and the rest of the complicated and strained week we find ourselves getting up on Monday morning. In this life matrix, how do we step forward and move responsively with unfettered meaning?

Mar 30: "Spiritual Café”

Stacy Rademacher – Service Leader

The Spiritual Café service reflects on the theme of the month. After a short summary in the Sanctuary, the congregation goes to the West Room or deck (weather permitting) to reflect more directly in small groups to discuss Acceptance of One Another & Encouragement to Spiritual Growth.

This sharing is meant to deepen each’s understanding of the topic and also deepen the connections/friendships of people who come to our services. Guiding questions, as well as coffee and tea, will be available to facilitate the discussions.

Ministerial Musings: SHARE THE LOVE!

Whether it is for our public radio stations or for our religious fellowship, typically Pledge Drive time is approached with a sense of necessary obligation. For me, it is rather a time of reflection on love and my practice of discovering abundance, especially when it comes to UUFLG. I smile with contentment because I too have been touched by UUFLG's endearing magic. Here in this unique fellowship there are abundant opportunities for people to:

find ways to courageously give back and make a difference in their immediate lives and in the community;

focus on the big picture; a framework for meaningful living; a grounding, giving us an identity and support to our ideals;

participate in social justice education, extend our connections and take initiatives to build a more beloved world;

explore freedom and growth in religious thought and ethical living;

make wonderful friends that will be with us through thick and thin;

embrace hope and faith in the compassionate nature of humans;

be in a nurturing environment where we are seen, included, loved, comforted, accepted, affirmed and valued; and

wherein we can freely share ourselves and be more accepting of others?

What is there not to love about this place?!?

Our Fellowship keeps the chalice burning bright in our spirits. There is nothing owed here—it is just another chance for you to secure our fellowship so that you and others can continue to grow this beacon of a good life. So as you turn in your pledge, make it a pledge to support the preciousness of UUFLG; and then bring a friend or family who are in need of some loving hearts and open minds and serving hands which light up the world anew in some very ancient ways. It is time for each of us to share the love all around.

Even after all this time
The sun never says to the earth
“you owe me.”

Look what happens with a
Love like that!

—It lights up the whole Sky.

—Hafiz

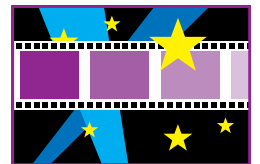
Rev. Lisa

SoulCollage®

Saturday, March 15, from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Join Kathryn Harper and delve into a new creative outlet! SoulCollage® is a fun, relaxing way to play with images and explore new avenues for inner wisdom and discovery. All supplies are provided. A donation of \$10-15 would be appreciated to offset the cost of supplies, but no one is turned away for lack of funds. Class size is limited to 12. Please email kathryn@pobox.com by March 7 if you plan to attend.

March 7th, 7 PM Spiritual Cinema Night “This is Martin Bonner”



In this Sundance Award winning film, two men each begin a new life and a search for connection. (There is some adult language and references.) Popcorn, drinks and an after-viewing conversation will be shared. Come join us as we consider new beginnings. Yes, Spring is just around the corner!

From the Lifespan Learning Specialist

I love March. It's a time of changes, seeking equilibrium, when as Charles Dickens wrote in *Great Expectations*, "the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade."

We've spent the last couple of months working with folktales from around the world, acting them out, talking about their themes, and connecting them to Unitarian Universalism. It's been a lot of fun watching the younger children ham it up while the older youth engage in serious exegesis. I can't imagine any of them would call it exegesis, but that's what their analysis is. Trust me. I've been to seminary.

Over the next few weeks, we'll be switching over to a new program whose goal is to develop skills of reflection. The youth will be taken out to a nearby park for a bit each Sunday to observe the world and their responses to it, then log those experiences like scientists. Unless it rains. We need the rain so much, I'm actually hoping in a weird way that the program doesn't work out.

We're also beginning to discern which programs would be best for next year, looking at the various curricula that are available through the Unitarian Universalist Association. The hurdle we keep running into is the same though: curricula are developed for classes that are ideally ten or more (which is more than we have in any two-year age group) with the assumption of regular attendance. Which we don't have. Some of our youth show up once a month, while a few come just about every single week.

The thing that amazes me about this congregation is the financial commitment you all have made to educating our youth. You aren't willing to leave it up to chance that these kids will become adult UU's. You are giving them the tools they need to understand our faith and our principals and the covenant that binds us all together. But the congregation I'm afraid won't be able to continue that commitment long-term if parents are not willing to commit to having their children present.

The bottom line is that if you have your children present, the adults who don't have children will be more likely to continue supporting them.

Meanwhile, we're still trying to hire another teacher so that we can more consistently break the youth up into age-appropriate groups. If you or anyone you know may be interested in 2-hour per week job, let me or Katie Stubstad know. This is the kind of job that is perfect for a teacher-in-training or an elder looking to keep young and earn a little extra cash.

Sometimes it feels daunting, but the truth is the possibilities are endless. If you get a chance join us in youth RE, either as a volunteer or a guest. You won't be disappointed by the energy, creativity, inquisitiveness and lovability of these amazing kids.

Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul

What Moves Us: Unitarian Universalist Theology

Join Rev Denis and Monika Hege for a class from the Tapestry of Faith, a series of curricula offered by our UUA. On four Sundays this spring, we'll engage in four of the workshops on influential Unitarian/Universalist personages of the past and present:

3/30 Hosea Ballou
4/20 Margaret Fuller
5/4 James Luther Adams
6/8 Thandeka

We'll meet at the fellowship at 12:30 for a couple of hours. You can look at the advance reading online.

<http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/movesus/index.shtml>

Don't worry...they are all short readings, easily completed in a hour, but still very informative and thought-provoking. If you would like to join us, contact either Rev Denis denispaul@gmail.com or Monika Hege mrhege@sbcglobal.net

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



Ooh La La!!! Prepare for Paris, the City of Love!

Bon jour, Mesdames et Messieurs!

The romantic *City of Paris* and its complement of lovers and artists have arrived at UUFLG to help us celebrate the **UUFLG Pledge Drive** and share the love and gather our resources for our exciting new 2014-2015 Fellowship Year. Be sure to fill out your pledge card and return it to our Treasurer Ann Campbell well before our special “*Evening in Paris*” on **Saturday, March 15, at 5PM**. Come dressed in tutus, berets, artist smocks, or come as ladies and gentlemen of the Parisian “*nuit*”. (Just remember it’s a family event.)

Paris, The City of Love ---and UUFLG, the Fellowship of Love---you won’t be able to tell “*la différence*”.

Remember - get your pledge in early! It can even be done by simply emailing the amount to me at annbcampbell@gmail.com - *Ooh La La!!!*

A bientôt, Ann



Our Great Books discussion group at UUFLG will discuss "A Still Moment" by Eudora Welty at our next meeting on March 10, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

On April 14, 2014, we will discuss "To room 19" by Doris Lessing.

So and Sew – a big success!

A new group has formed within UUFLG – So and Sew! If you have a project you’d like to see progress, come join us! Twice a month, on the second and fourth Tuesday’s, we’ll meet in the West Room beginning at 10:30. For a couple of hours you can stitch, knit, scrapbook, collage or whatever your heart desires while enjoying conversation and ideas. Reservations are NOT required – show up and enjoy. Questions? Contact Bonnie George – Bonnie.E.George@comcast.net or 408.221.6606.

March Birthdays

- 4 - Ike Dadek
- 7 - Merritt Benson
- 7 - Jim Stubstad
- 10 - Ann Campbell
- 14 - Ken Bull
- 21 - Julie Doyle
- 24 - Dwight Wygant
- 30 - Jen Dadek



INTERESTED IN WHAT THE BOARD IS UP TO? The Board minutes are listed under “Administration” on the right 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 Jim Beebe (jebebe1102@yahoo.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.

March 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						8:30a-4:00p Habitat for Humanity - All Faiths Work Day 10:00a-11:30a UUFLG Job Club
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:15a -11:30a Children's Religious Education Classes 10:30a - 11:30a Sunday Serv. 12:00p -1:15p Social Action Team Meeting	6:30p-8:00p Women's Spirituality Group	10:00a - 11:30a Tuesday Chalice Circle	7:30-9:00p, UUFLG Choir Rehearsal	12:00-1:30p, Retired UU Men's Lunch	9:00a-4:00p, Rev. Lisa Offc. Hrs. By Appt. 10:30a-12:00p Finance Com.Mtng. 7:00pm Cinema nite	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:15a -11:30p Children's Religious Education Classes 10:30 -11:30a Sunday Service	7:30p -9:30p Great Books Discussion Group:	10:30a-12:30p "So and Sew"	7:30-9:00p, UUFLG Choir Rehearsal	9:00a-4:00p, Rev. Lisa Offc. Hrs. By Appt. 9:45a-12:00p Thurs. Morn. Women's Grp		10:00a-11:30a Job Club 9:30a-1:30p SoulCollage Session
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00a -10:15a Membership Committee Meeting 10:15a -11:30p Children's Religious Education Classes 10:30 -11:30a Sunday Serv.	6:30p -8:00p Women's Spirituality Group	10:00a - 11:30a Tuesday Chalice Circle	7:30-9:00p, UUFLG Choir Rehearsal	12:00-1:30p, Retired UU Men's Lunch	9:00a-4:00p, Rev. Lisa Offc. Hrs. By Appt.	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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30	31					
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*“Affirming the Inherent Worth and
Dignity of Every Person”*



Fellowship News

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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. If you would like to be added to our email list to receive our monthly newsletter, please call or email our administrator: admin@uuflg.org or 408-358-1212.