



# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

## our mission

think about our lives   grow spiritually   care for each other  
act to make a better place   honor how all things connect

## May 2018

Sunday Services at 10:30 am

### *April & May Theme – The Stages of Faith in the World's Great Traditions*

Continuing from April, Rev. Fa Jun will lead our exploration of the Stages of Faith in the world's great traditions. Based on the pioneering work of James Fowler and other developmentalists, we'll explore the way we grow and mature in our "faith", whatever that faith may be.

### **May 6 – "A Many-Storyed Goddess"**

Neopaganism and Goddess worship are some of the most beautiful threads in the tapestry of our world's religions. But did you know that even in this earth-based, and often polytheistic group of traditions, there can be expressions of the many stages of faith that humans grow through? Is all animism the same? When one person says "Gaia", does it mean the same thing as when another refers to it? Can goddess worship co-exist with scientific thinking? Come explore these questions and more! –Rev. Fa Jun

### **May 13 – Guest Minister visiting from Transylvania**

UU Rev. Emese Bodor, visiting from Transylvania, will lead our service today.

### **May 20 – "Some Critical Thinking... about Critical Thinking!"**

Most of us who attend UU churches or fellowships are in favor of critical thinking. It's one of those things that we might feel you can never have too much of. You might even say that critical thinking is something that people put their "faith" in. Do the stages of faith play out if one's "faith" is in rationality and evidence? Join us this Sunday to find out! –Rev. Fa Jun

### **May 27 – Song Service**

Join our musical director Dave Coldren for a service of song that is sure to be jubilant and inspiring!

### **Save the Date! Saturday, June 16**

### **Fellowship's Annual Auction**

We've moved out our yearly auction to June 16. Our theme this year is the beautiful spirit of Aloha from Hawaii! Aloha conveys love, peace and compassion (in addition to hello and goodbye).

Always a fun event, we will have a lot of wonderful things to bid on donated by congregants and local businesses. Since services that our members offer are the biggest hits, please think of what you can do that is useful or fun for someone else and donate! For example, running some errands, "UUer" rides to the airport, gardening chores, a hike with lunch, dinner party. Be creative!

It takes a great team to put on a successful event. Our auction planning team could use your help! Please contact Ann Campbell, Laurie Roberts or Donna Brewer to lend a hand.

Sure to be an enjoyable evening, make plans to attend! Let's feel the aloha as we raise operating funds for the Fellowship to spread aloha!





## May Share-the-Plate Beneficiary: NAMI

This month, the Sunday service offertory on May 20 (except for checks and envelopes marked “pledge”), will go to the National Alliance for Mental Illness, Santa Clara County.

NAMI Santa Clara County offers practical experience, support, education, comfort and understanding to anyone concerned about mental illnesses and their treatment in Santa Clara County. In addition, they work with public organizations, private businesses and the media to increase organizational and personal knowledge of effective ways of treating the illnesses while advocating for increased research and improved services for individuals with mental illness.

NAMI is a nonprofit, grassroots, self-help, support and advocacy organization of consumers, families, and friends of people with severe mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic and other severe and persistent mental illnesses that affect the brain.

Founded nationally in 1975, today NAMI works to achieve equitable services and treatment for more than 15 million Americans living with severe mental illnesses and their families. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers participate in more than one thousand local affiliates and fifty state organizations to provide education and support, combat stigma, support increased funding for research, and advocate for adequate health insurance, housing, rehabilitation, and jobs for people with mental illnesses and their families. –UUFLG Social Action Committee

## April's Share-the-Plate with UUMFE

In April, we collected \$557 at our special collection for UU Ministry for Earth on Earth Day. Thank you for supporting UUMFE's environmental justice work to inspire, facilitate, and support personal, congregational, and denominational practices that honor and sustain the Earth and all beings.

**Thank you for your generosity!**



**UUFLG**  
**Recognized for**  
**Helping the**  
**Hungry**

Our Fellowship received a Silver Award this year from Second Harvest Food Bank. In addition to donating 117 pounds of food, we raised \$581. Thank you for helping to address hunger in Santa Clara County!



*together* women build  
May 6 | CENTRAL COMMONS

*A special build to bring together women clergy and leaders of all faiths*

*join us at*  
4369 Central Ave, Fremont, CA, 94536  
8 am to 4 pm  
lunch provided

*calling*  
**every woman of every faith**  
to **build** a bay area everyone can call home



To join in this unique event, sign up at <http://vhub.at/uuflg>. Contact Tori Bommarito at [TBommarito@habitatebsv.org](mailto:TBommarito@habitatebsv.org) or 510-803-3375. No experience necessary!

Submit items for the newsletter by the 20th of the month to Lance Jacobson (editor) at [news@uuflg.org](mailto:news@uuflg.org). Submit as single-spaced Microsoft Word documents in rich text format (.rtf) or plain text.

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## May 20: Annual Business Meeting and Leadership Mini-Summit

Sun, May 20, 12 pm

The Fellowship's annual business meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20, at 12 pm. Members will be electing next year's board and Nominating Committee and voting on the 2018/19 budget and a bylaw revision on gifts and endowments. Ballot materials and supporting information will be mailed out in advance.

Following the meeting, all UUFLG leaders (committee members, committee heads, and elected representatives) are invited to stay for a one-hour "mini-summit." We're in the midst of sprucing up the efficiency and interconnectedness of our board, our committees, and our Fellowship as a whole. The board and minister would like to present the flow of this process in person so that everyone who is working to make our Fellowship a better place can be on the same page, and can contribute their amazing ideas to the process. We'll have a short presentation and time for questions and discussion, which will set us up for a slightly longer leadership "retreat" to happen this summer (date TBA). We hope you can make it!

## MAY HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



2<sup>ND</sup> JOE FITCH  
4<sup>TH</sup> GLEN MARCHANT  
11<sup>TH</sup> RON KIRKLAND  
19<sup>TH</sup> LYNN GOLBETZ  
25<sup>TH</sup> AUDREY FREEMAN  
26<sup>TH</sup> COLLEEN HAMILTON

To be added to the birthday list and to request a mailed card instead of an ecard via email (default), simply email [admin@uufg.org](mailto:admin@uufg.org) or leave a message at (408) 358-1212. The office will forward requests to our Caring Committee.



**BE A HERO**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

**NATIONAL RIVER  
CLEANUP DAY**

**Saturday, May 19, 2018 | 9 a.m. - Noon**

Volunteers needed to pick up litter. For more information:  
[www.cleanacreek.org](http://www.cleanacreek.org)

#NRC2018 | [volunteer@valleywater.org](mailto:volunteer@valleywater.org) | 

## National River Cleanup Day

Sat., May 19, 9 am to 12 pm

On Saturday, May 19, volunteer to help clean the Los Gatos Creek Trail for National River Cleanup Day!

Our Fellowship will help clean from Leigh Ave. to Meridian Ave, starting from an assembly point at the Blackford Elementary School parking lot, 1970 Willow St., San Jose.

Watch the Weekly Updates in May for more information on this great earth-friendly family activity.

A sign-up sheet and waiver forms will be in the UUFLG lobby. Contact Ellen Hill.

## Good Times at UUFLG Day in the Redwoods

To celebrate Earth Day, the Social Action Committee held a UUFLG Day in the Redwoods at Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park on Saturday, April 14. Thank you, Ellen Hill, for your tremendous work in organizing this day!

All ages and abilities participated, from children to seniors and from those running in circles to those being more cautious with a cane.

We started out with a self-guided tour of the Redwood Grove trail. We explored, talked, played, and learned about the forest and the life it sustains, including banana slugs! Katie Rall informed us that these beautiful, bright yellow, slimy, slithering, redwood natives are the mascot for U.C. Santa Cruz. Also, if you lick one your tongue will go numb! Ask Katie how she knows that last tidbit.

Of course, we enjoyed viewing the magnificent redwood trees, which can live to be 2,000 years old. They demonstrated with a rare albino redwood how survival depends on maintaining hope and helping each other. The albino, which is white because it doesn't produce chlorophyll, can't survive on its own. Its neighbors reach out with their interconnecting roots network and provide what it needs to thrive, a lesson we can all learn from.

After the tour, we met up for a relaxing picnic lunch and everyone talked about how we should visit the forest more often. Following lunch, Rev. Fa Jun led us in a brief, perfect meditation to round out our day, with all ages standing in a circle and holding hands, connecting with each other and with nature.

Our time together in the forest renewed our spirits, to show us that we truly are all interconnected, and to reassure us that together we can make this a better world. We must follow the example of the redwoods by networking, sustaining each other, and never giving up hope.

Be sure to join us for the next UUFLG Day in the Redwoods. Stay tuned!

*Photos:  
The Ditzler Girls  
enjoying the  
redwoods.*



Do you have something to say to the Board of Trustees? A guest commentary time for members can be made available at the beginning of each monthly Board meeting. Contact Lynn Golbetz ([lynngolbetz@comcast.net](mailto:lynngolbetz@comcast.net)) for more information. View the minutes of Board meetings online at [uufg.org/board-of-trustees-minutes/](http://uufg.org/board-of-trustees-minutes/).

## May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Apr 29	30	1	2	3	4	5
10:30-11:30a Service & Children's Religious Exploration (CRE) 12:30-1:30p How to Meditate	7-9p Resistance Choir	10-11:30a Chalice Circle		12-1:30p Retired UU Men's Lunch (RUUMs) 4-6p Minister Ofc Hrs by Appt (MOH)	1-2p Connections C. 2-4p Memoir Writing	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8a-4p Together Women Build Event 9-10:15a CRE Committee (C.) 10:30-11:30a Service & CRE 3-4p Men's Circle		10:30a-12p Finance C. 2-3:30p Caring C.		9:45a-12p Morning Women's Group 4-6p MOH 7-8:15p Board	12:30-1:30p Sun. Services C. web only 2-4p Memoir Writing	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>Mother's Day</b> 10:30-11:30a Service & CRE 3-4p Men's Circle	7:30-9:30p Great Books Discussion	<b>Ramadan starts</b> 10-11:30a Chalice Circle		12-1:30p RUUMs	2-4p Memoir Writing	9a-Noon National River Cleanup Day (Los Gatos Creek Trail)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9-10:15a Social Action C. 10:30-11:30a Service (Share-the-Plate: NAMI) & CRE			6-7:30p Men's Circle	4-6p MOH	2-4p Memoir Writing	9a-12p Building & Grounds Workday 6-9p Game Night
27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2
10:30-11:30a Service & CRE	<b>Memorial Day</b>			4-6p MOH	1-2p Connections C. 2-4p Memoir Writing	

**Note:** In case of errors, omissions and changes after publication, find the most up-to-date calendar online at [www.uuflg.org](http://www.uuflg.org). To request updates to the online calendar, email [admin@uuflg.org](mailto:admin@uuflg.org). For recurring event details and contacts, refer to [Activities & Programs](#) online.