Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos



August 2015 No.8; 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

August 2015

Sunday Services at 10:30

monthly theme: "The Path of the Sacred Warrior"

Aug. 2: "Pilgrimage to Manzanar"

Pam Gehrke (see bio on pg. 2) Worship Associate - Robb Stolberg

Reflections on a visit to Manzanar National Historic Site, commemorating the incarceration of some 10,000 people of Japanese Ancestry from 1942-45. How does pilgrimage differ from other kinds of travel, what wisdom emerges from this particular journey?

Aug 9: "Learning to Receive"

Christy Baker

Many of us are happy to give and help, but struggle to receive and acknowledge when we need assistance. There are virtues to be learned in times of dependence and interdependence from vulnerability and humility to grace and gratitude that can enhance our connections and open us to deeper, more whole relationships with each other.

Aug. 16: "The Qualities of a Warrior!"

Rev. Fa Jun

Throughout all the world's myths, the role of the Hero shines forth as an example of how we can live our lives with meaning and purpose. On our ever-changing planet, these qualities of heroism can not only help us to be stronger in our own hearts, but to give the service that others around us most desperately need.

Join us for an exploration of the fundamental qualities of a Warrior, and relish the power of our warrior assembly, strengthening each other's hearts for the spiritual "battles" we confront every day.

Aug. 23: "Ambivalent Warriors"

Rev. Jay Atkinson (see bio on pg. 2)

Receiving homecoming war veterans back into our communities presents some of us with tension between the impulse to honor their service and commitment to our country's ideals on the one hand, and on the other, grave doubts about the legitimacy of our country's recent military actions from which they return. To compound the ambiguity, many soldiers come home morally wounded and more in need of gentle compassion and healing than of traditional displays of military pomp. How should our gratitude to them be nuanced and balanced against our legitimate prophetic protest against war and militarism?

Aug. 30: Spiritual Cafe "The Power of our Community"

As UUFLG gets ready for it's 2015 and 2016 church year, we are planning what areas of social action that are most important to us. We've already laid the groundwork through meetings over soup, visioning together, and the leadership of our social-action committee.

During today's spiritual cafe, the questions will center around what issues are most important for us to take action on NOW, what are priorities are, and what specific visions we each have to help our community in it's mission to help the world community.

Pam Gehrke is a Unitarian Universalist minister and a graduate of Starr King School of the Ministry. Before attending seminary, she taught writing, literature, and mythology for many years. Recently she spent a week in the Mendocino Woodlands with other UUs at Family Camp.

Rev. Jay Atkinson retired in June 2011 from 32 years of full-time service in Unitarian Universalist parish ministry, most recently twelve years in Studio City (Los Angeles) and, before that, thirteen years in Davis, Calif. During those ministries he also served at various times on the adjunct faculties of our UU seminaries in Chicago (Meadville Lombard Theological School) and Berkeley (Starr King School for the Ministry). Before turning to professional ministry, he did research in nuclear physics for eleven years. Currently he is a Research Scholar at Starr King with a focus on UU history.

SoulCollage®

Join Kathryn Harper on Saturday, August 15, from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and delve into creativity! 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 is 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 August 12 if you plan to attend.

August Birthdays

- 2 Carmella Condino
- 8 Harry Campbell
- 16 Sharon Graham
- 23 Matthew Fitch
- 24 Brent Browning
- 27 Robb Stolberg





Save the Date for Fall Creek Cleanup

Saturday, September 19, 9 am to noon

Help clean up creek-side trash before this winter's predicted storms wash it into the bay! Cleanup will be in the Vasona Park/ Los Gatos Creek Trail area. Details will be in September newsletter, but mark your calendar now!

Introduction to Wicca

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos (UUFLG) is offering Introduction to Wicca 101 to honor the living tradition we share that drawsfrom many sources. From the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Sixth Source is "Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature."

The class begins on Friday, August 7 and runs through Friday, October 30, 2015 – with twelveactual weeks of class. There will be no class on Friday, September 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The class is scheduled from 7:00 to 9:30 pm and all are welcome. Total cost is \$13, payable to the UUFLG on the first night.

The class is designed to meet the needs of four types of students: 1) the merely curious, 2) the seeker who is gathering information about many religious paths, of which Wicca may be one of the many, 3) the beginner who already knows Wicca is the path they choose, and 4) the Wiccan who wishes to refresh. If you have questions about the class or wish to RSVP, please contact Carmella at condino82@yahoo.com or 720-244-2707. Following your reservation for the class, you will receive additional information and curriculum for the course.

Bright blessings! Carmella

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

Walking the Walk

Registration is still open for the 5th Annual Walking the Walk Justice Summit & Camp, August 8-12, at Camp deBenneville Pines in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California, about an hour from Ontario airport.

This event brings together justice-seeking UUs for rejuvenating worship, practical skill development, networking, and community building. Workshops will help develop strategies to address climate change; work on housing insecurity; advance immigrant justice; tackle race, class and cultural divides; address wage inequalities; and more. The four-day format this year will allow time for recreation and reflection.

The cost is \$275, which includes food, lodging, programming, and materials. UUJM members get 10% off registration. There are scholarships and hardship assistance funds available. Children and Youth (ages 2-17) are \$165. There is also a "weekend only" rate of \$230, which includes overnight for Saturday only (use code "weekendonly" when you register.

For more information and to register, visit: http://uujmca.org/training-education/walking-the-walk/ Camp de Benneville link UUJMCA registration and website link I went to the UUJM's Walking the Walk camp near Sausalito last November and enjoyed it very much. I learned a lot, networked with UUs from across the state, and deepened my faith in Unitarian Universalism. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I do recommend it.

Sue Ann Lorig
Together we can change the world.

Event Location Camp deBenneville Pines 41750 Jenks Lake Rd W Angelus Oaks, CA 92305

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.

<u>HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE BOARD?</u> A guest commentary time for members can be made available at the beginning of each monthly Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Jim Beebe (jebeebe1102@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.

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

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"Affirming the Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person"



Fellowship News

August 2015

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.