

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**



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

May 2017

Sunday Services at 10:30

May Theme: The Mother

May 7: “Exploring the Origin of Life”

Mark Ditzler

Join us for a look back (way back) to the origin of life on Earth. We will examine how research into the origin of life can enrich our appreciation of the interdependent web of existence. Life on our planet displays tremendous diversity and yet a shared origin connects it all. What do we hold in common with our brother the banana slug, our cousins the methanogens, and our long lost great aunt Euglena? We will consider both the amazing diversity available from life’s very beginnings and the striking commonalities that have persisted for billions of years.

Our discussion will be led by UUFLG member Mark Ditzler. Mark became a UU as a weird teenager and has grown up to be a mad scientist who studies the origin of life. He has a Ph.D. in biophysics and likes watching atoms bonk together in the lab.

May 14: Mother’s Day Service

Rev. Fa Jun

Let’s all come together and be a little bit sappy, a little bit serious, and a lot of appreciative, as we celebrate motherhood, and those who have mothered us. Bring your bio-mom, your adopted mom, both of your dads, your “soul family” or just yourself to a service of gratitude and compassion.

As we did last year, Rev. Fa Jun will give a review of the Buddhist meditation on “Mother Recognition” as a method to develop a compassionate and loving heart!

May 21: “Thank You Mother Earth”

Rev. Fa Jun

The earth does countless things for us without ever receiving a thank you note. This morning we will explore the countless, priceless tasks that are accomplished by our mother earth, and how we can honor her for them. With this spirit of honor in our hearts, we will explore ways to protect the fragile niche that we humans and other creatures inhabit, due to the health of the planet as a whole. Come prepared to count your blessings in gratitude, and be inspired to go forth and get to work!

May 28: “Oh Great Mother”

Rev. Fa Jun

In ancient lineages of people around the world, one of the most universal archetypes we see in ceremony and myth is that of the Great Mother. Today we will learn about all the diverse facets of womanhood and motherhood, through the lens of myth and story from our ancestors. When we (men, women, and non-binary) learn to embrace and embody these archetypes within, we have greater access to the fullness of what it means to be human and live a good human life.

We invite everyone to join us, without regard to race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.

We are a Welcoming Congregation, intentionally and openly taking steps to welcome in to our community people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Events

Cinco De Mayo Dinner 'ô'Egɔdɔcɔpi 'ɔj g' I ɪkɔ'qɪhO gɔzɛcp'Ewɔwt g#'

Friday, May 5, 6-9pm

The Fifth of May celebrates an unlikely victory in Mexico over the French army in the 1800s, but the celebration of Cinco De Mayo, especially in California, is an opportunity to learn about, and rejoice in Mexican culture. During this time of strained relationships with our Southern neighbor, we will come together and celebrate all the great gifts the world has received from Mexico.

In the spirit of victory, we will also be educating ourselves about our Green Sanctuary program and ways that we can heal and protect our earth. In this spirit, the food and beverages that we enjoy will all be sourced in ways that are regenerative and sustainable - giving us a chance to “eat our values” in a delicious way!

RSVP required! Open to members and non-members. \$15 Donation for cost of supplies (any remaining proceeds will go to the Green Sanctuary project).

Save the Date: Park and Trail Cleanup

Saturday, May 20, 9a-Noon

Join the team from UUFLG who will be helping to clean Vasona Lake County Park and the Los Gatos Creek Trail as part of National River Cleanup Day on May 20. This is a great family service activity (children must be accompanied by an adult).

Volunteers should wear long pants, closed shoes with socks (no sandals), a hat, and sunscreen, and bring a refillable water bottle and gloves. (A litter pick-up stick is also helpful!) Trash bags will be provided. Volunteers should meet at 9:00 am at the chain-link fence on Garden Hill Drive near Vasona Dam, opposite 298 Garden Hill Drive. Parking will be available nearby. (Access Garden Hill Drive from Lark Ave. near Highway 17, as there is a locked gate blocking access from Vasona Park.)

Sign-up sheet, volunteer information, and waiver forms will be in the UUFLG lobby on April 30. If questions, contact Jim Beebe (408-315-5066) or Ellen Hill (408-371-5776).



How To Meditate - Practice as a daily retreat

Sunday, May 28, 12:30-2:30pm

This month's meditation class will focus on the notion of “retreat” in two senses. First, probably the most important for most of us, is how to carve out that precious time to have a daily practice, what the rewards are of this, and how to make the best use of that time.

Second, and related, we'll explore traditional notions of how to do a meditation retreat - taking one, three, or even 21 days to focus on one's inner life and understanding of the mind and heart. Practitioners down through the ages have honed this down to a science!

We'll see how these two issues are related, and how they relate to the rest of our lives when we are out of retreat!

Rev. Fa Jun

Coming Soon! “New to UU” Evening

Thursday, June 1, 7-8:30pm

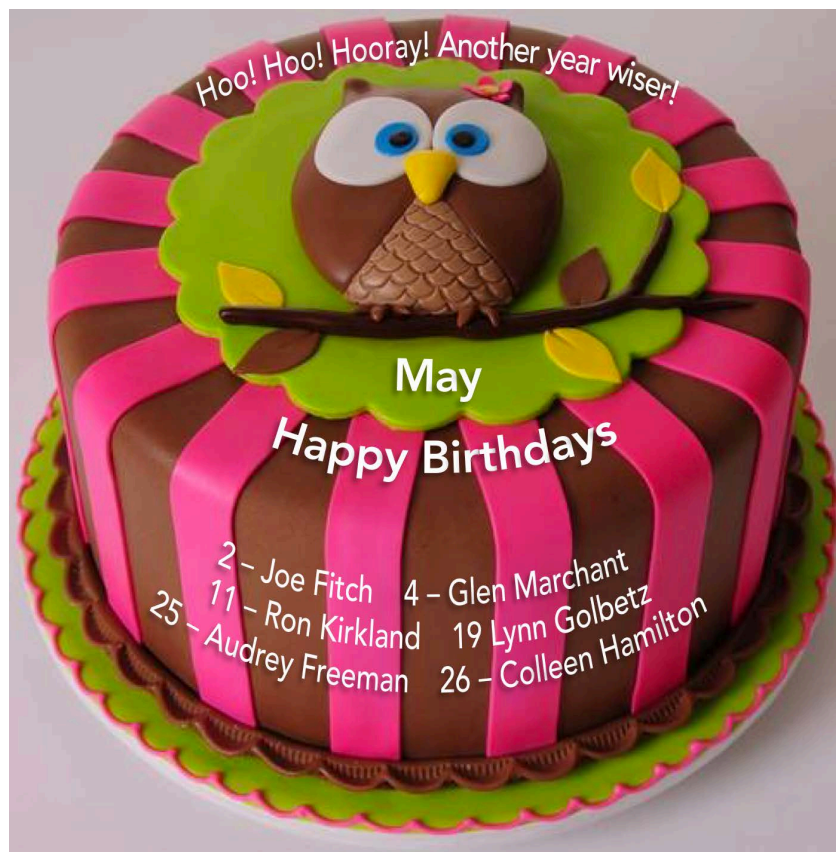
Join us for a warm gathering to get to know each other and get to know more about Unitarian Universalism and UUFLG. In this talk, we'll discuss our 7 UU principles, and the sources of our living tradition. There will also be time to get to know each other, and share about our own spiritual roots and journey.

This class will be a great introduction for newcomers, but long-timers are also welcome to participate in this educational discussion. Mark your calendars!

Rev. Fa Jun

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 of Trustees meeting. Contact Jim Beebe (jbeebeu@gmail.com) for more information.

Submit items for the newsletter by the 20th of the month to Glen Marchant (Editor) at UUFLGnews@att.net. Submit as single spaced MS Word documents, .rtf (Rich Text format), or plain text.



Immigrant Lobby Day at the State Capitol

Monday, May 15, 9am-3:30pm

UU Justice Ministry of California (UJMC) continues to be a vital participant with our partner California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) in the annual 3rd Monday Immigrant Lobby Day in Sacramento. We live out our values by showing up and participating in a rally on the capitol steps then visiting our own state senators and assembly members. A few years ago, 70 of us showed up in our LOVE shirts to lobby for the Trust Act which passed and has made a positive difference in so many people's lives. CIPC each year chooses (with our help) 3 important bills to lobby. Sometimes we choose to lobby on 1 or 2 more that we are particularly passionate about.

To register, go to uujmca.org/immigrantday. Check updates on the UJMC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/uujmca>. May 8 is the absolute last day in order to get a lunch. *

Here are the 3 bills for which we plan to advocate:

- SB54: (De León) The California Values Act. SB 54 would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies, including school police and security departments, from engaging in immigration enforcement or using any state or local resources in carrying out enforcement activities.
- SB6: (Hueso) Due Process for All Act. Would allow universal access to legal representation for everyone held in detention as well as others in deportation procedures.
- SB31: (Lara) California will not allow targeting or registering community members based on their religion.

In addition, many of us will be lobbying for SB29 (Lara), this year's Dignity Not Detention Act, co-sponsored by Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC). This bill would 1) stop local government from being complicit in the creation and renewal of certain contracts with for-profit immigration detention facilities, 2) make the currently unenforceable national immigration detention standards the law in California and provide additional protections for detained LGBTQ immigrants, and 3) allow the state to enforce violations of these protections.

Join the UJMC Immigrant Justice Action team for a conference call on Monday, May 8, at 7 pm. Call-in details will be automatically sent to registrants. We will prepare for our legislative visit.

If you haven't already attended a UJMC-sponsored border issues immersion trip to Tijuana, or if you want to attend again, please consider joining us July 14-17. These trips are transformative in many good ways. For more information, including testimonials and agendas, and to register, visit www.uuborders.org.

Jan Meslin, Chair, Immigrant Justice Action Team of UU Justice Ministry of CA

* *Fellowship News* editor's note: We edited this announcement for conciseness and relevance.

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Apr 30	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:30-11:30a Service/CRE	6:30-8p Women's Spirituality Group	10-11:30a Chalice Circle 12:30-1:30p Connections C. 2-3:30p Caring C.	World Press Freedom Day 	12-1:30p Retired UU Men's Lunch (RUUMs)	6-9p Cinco de Mayo Dinner 	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9-10:15a Lifespan Learning Committee (C.) 10:30-11:30a Service/Children's Religious Education (CRE)				9:45a-Noon Morning Women's Group	2-4p Memoir Writing Group (MW) 4-6p Minister Office Hours by Appt. (MOH)	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9-10:15a Social Action C. 10:30-11:30a Service/CRE	6:30-8p Women's Spirituality Group	10-11:30a Chalice Circle		10:30a-Noon Finance C. 12-1:30p RUUMs 7-8:15p Board	National Bike to Work Day 	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30-11:30a Service/CRE 12-1:30p Annual Membership Business Meeting				Tap Dance Day  Wine Day	2-4p MW 4-6p MOH	
28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2	3
10:30-11:30a Service/CRE 12:30-2:30p How to Meditate – Practice as a Daily Retreat	Memorial Day & Compost Day 		World No Tobacco Day 	12-1:30p RUUMs 7-8:30p New to UU	2-4p MW 4-6p MOH	 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Editor's Note: We do our best to publish an accurate calendar in the monthly newsletter. In case of errors, omissions and changes after publication, find the most up-to-date UUFLG calendar online at www.uuflg.org under Welcome/Calendar. To request updates to the online calendar, email admin@uuflg.org. For recurring event details and contacts, refer to [Activities & Programs](#) under Community at www.uuflg.org.