



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

the wise fool

April 2019

Sunday Services at 10:30 am

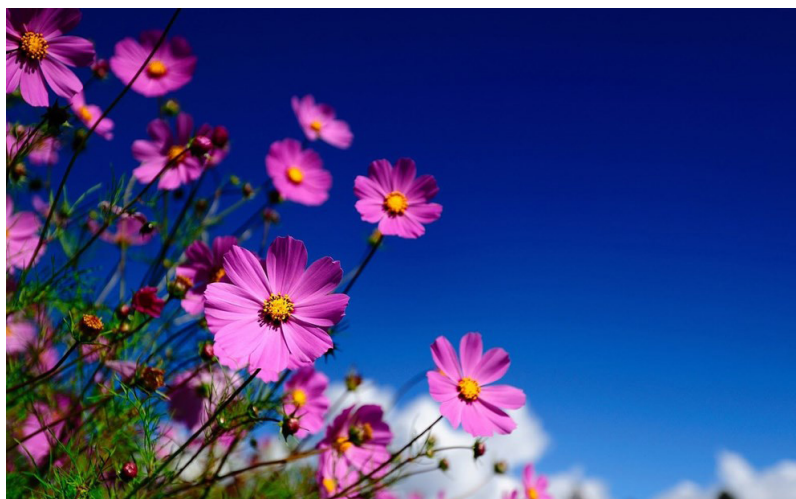
Apr. 7 – “How to Be a Fool for Love!”

It has been said that only fools fall in love, while at other times we see that love is the wisest possible choice. But to truly love, we have to overcome the need to be right, and to tear down the walls that put “my” perspective before yours. When we can surrender some of our armor, we can learn to be vulnerable and true sharing can begin, bringing us out of spite, cognitive dissonance, and the distance that may divide us. Learn practical techniques to empower the heart for ever wider and more skillful connection. –Rev. Fa Jun

Apr. 14 – “How the Buddha Was Right, and Wrong”

Our speaker this morning has preached at Los Gatos many times, sometimes drawing on the insights of Gautama, the Buddha. But despite his appreciation of Buddhism, Chris feels that some of its teachings might be questioned, especially when radically applied. To celebrate and reflect upon Buddhist doctrine, he will contrast Gautama’s words with the poetry of a famous English author. Which teachings serve us best, those of the ancient Indian prophet or those of the poet?

Rev. Dr. Chris Schriner is Minister Emeritus of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Fremont. He is also a retired psychotherapist and a scholar in philosophy of mind. One of his six books, *Feel Better Now*, was strongly influenced by Buddhism.



Apr. 21 – Flower Communion

In honor of both Easter and Earth Day, join us for our annual “Flower Communion”. A widely held UU tradition, the Flower Communion invites attendees to bring a flower from their own garden or nearby street or forest, to share in the symbolism of the beautiful bouquet we create together as a community! This intergenerational service will be short and very sweet, so bring the whole family, your flower, and your open heart! –Rev. Fa Jun

Apr. 28 – “Mysticism for Atheists”

“Mysticism” doesn’t usually sound like something available to those of us who long for solid evidence, and tangible theories, but research continues to show how the insights of meditators and mystics of old are in many ways surprisingly consonant with modern science. Is there a way that we could practice these insights about the deepest nature of what it means to be human, without having to resort to pre-modern myths and beliefs? Come find out this Sunday morning! –Rev. Fa Jun

Canceled New to UU Gathering Canceled

Thursday, April 4, 6:30-8:30 pm

New to us and curious about UU and UUFLG? Join Rev. Fa Jun to learn, share and connect, in a casual forum. Folks from our membership team and Board will be on hand, too. All are welcome. We'll enjoy refreshments. Please RSVP to Donna Brewer, donnaVB@hotmail.com.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos
Open Minds, Loving Hearts, Serving Hands



April Shared Plate: UU Ministry for Earth

This month, the offertory on Apr. 21 (except for checks and envelopes marked “pledge”) will go to the **UU Ministry for Earth**.

UUMFE provides UUs with organized ways to connect energy, ideas, and information about how their lives relate to the living Earth, environmental justice, and future

generations. They do this by:

- focusing on modern web and communications tools
- providing and sharing ideas and resources developed by many people
- engaging members and friends in connecting and partnering with each other
- finding ways to influence the infusion of earth ministry into all levels of the UUA, collaborating with those affecting policy and action
- supporting grassroots action

Please support UUMFE’s environmental justice work to inspire, facilitate, and support personal, congregational, and denominational practices that honor and sustain the Earth and all beings. Learn more at uumfe.org.

March Shared Plate

In March, we collected **\$476** for the **International Women’s Convocation’s Global Initiative for Women’s Leadership Fund**, providing culturally sensitive leadership training, networking opportunities and resources, and building capacity for sustainability and long-term success to empower women in developing countries.

Thanks for your generosity!

APRIL HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



1ST LYNN O’KEEFE
3RD KAREN FITCH
16TH DAVID THORPE
27TH RICK ROBERTS
28TH JIM BEEBE



Environmental Justice Class Series: “Our Place in the Web of Life” **Last Two Sessions: Sun., Apr. 7 & 14, 12:15 - 2:15 pm**

Join us as we continue our Environmental Justice classes titled “Our Place in the Web of Life”, part of our Green Sanctuary program. Participatory and collaborative, this course will help us learn new practices and skills to create a more just and sustainable world. **Children are encouraged to attend!**

Since February, we have held three sessions, which were well received. Our last two sessions are April 7 and April 14.

We’ll enjoy a light lunch before digging into this vital work so please sign-up in the foyer so we know how many people to expect. Email Robb Stolberg (bigbrownbat@yahoo.com) with any questions or to be added to the list.

Please spread the word to family, friends, neighbors and colleagues that we have a venue suitable for recitals, weddings, memorials, parties and more!

We welcome your ideas to increase our rental income!

Contact Donna Brewer, donnabv@hotmail.com or (408) 358-1212.

**UUFLG RENTAL SPACE
AVAILABLE!
GREAT FOR ALL
SORTS OF EVENTS!**

As a Welcoming Congregation, the UUFLG welcomes everyone into our community, without regard to race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.



Save the Date!

Saturday, May 4

UUFLG Annual Auction

Doors Open @ 5:30 pm



Come celebrate UUFLG's Cinco de Mayo a day early! The Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year, and it requires **your** participation. We need items for the live auction, silent auction, and raffle.

Can you host a brunch, a lunch, a dinner, a Margarita Party, a wine and cheese gathering? Can you **UU**ber a congregant to the airport, a doctor's appointment, a shopping trip or even an afternoon ride to a movie? Can you provide a meal, a pie, a pot of soup or even offer to do a brunch, lunch or dinner at someone else's home? Do you have a vacation home you could offer for a weekend getaway? Can you lead a hike, coach a little one in a sport or provide an evening of babysitting? There are so many ways to contribute. Use your **imagination!**

We also need **solicitors** to visit merchants around town for donations. If you are interested, give us a call and we will provide an introductory letter to present.

So don your sombrero and huaraches and make this a **memorable** event!

-Ann, Donna, Robb, Laurie & Rick



Update from the Board

Greetings, beloved community! Here is a quick update on some things your UUFLG governing board has been discussing.

Guided by the Stewardship Working Group, we have recently been focusing on facility needs, particularly regarding the HVAC system and the bathrooms. Planning is proceeding apace.

The board is also looking at ways to increase the Fellowship's **outreach**, especially via social media. Rev. Fa Jun has sent an email to the discussion list asking for volunteers interested in helping with this effort. If you are such a person, please let him know.

The annual UUFLG **auction** is scheduled for May 4, and both donations and a committee chair are needed! If you are interested, please talk to Rick Roberts.

Finally, if you are a committee chair, be prepared to be asked for a brief annual report on the key doings of your committee for the past year and/or plans for the next. The goal is for the board to review these in the context of preparing the materials for the annual business meeting.

A few key **dates** to calendar:

- Sat., May 4, 5-9 pm: Auction (bid early and often!)
- Sat., May 11, 1-4 pm: Third leadership retreat (at the Fellowship, for all who identify as leaders)
- Sun., May 19, 12 pm: Annual Fellowship business meeting (for all members; elect officers, approve budget for next fiscal year)

If you would like more **information** on the board's doings, you can access the full minutes of our meetings at the UUFLG website (click Administration, then Administration and Governance, then Board of Trustees Minutes). They will always be one month behind, as we do not post them till they are officially approved, and we approve each month's minutes at the next month's meeting.

You are also welcome to **attend** the meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the office, and to ask your board members questions at any time! At present your trustees are Linda Osborne (president), Karen O'Brien (vice president), Lynn Golbetz (secretary), Rick Roberts (treasurer), and Ron Kirkland (trustee at large).

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) for more information. View the minutes of Board meetings online at uufg.org/board-of-trustees-minutes/.



Super Successful Survival Sack Drive at UUFLG

This year UUFLG congregants contributed record amounts of supplies, cash, and check donations to our Survival Sack for the Homeless Drive. As a result, our Religious Exploration students were able to pack 25 backpacks – 10 more than last year – and 18 hygiene bags, which were delivered to Sacred Heart Community Service on Feb. 25, in time for its survival sack distribution in early March. Thanks to all who contributed, and to our RE students, who worked in pairs to pack the sacks carefully and efficiently.

Board Approves UUFLG As “Participating Congregation” with Multifaith Voices for Peace and Justice

The UUFLG Board of Trustees recently approved our Social Action Committee's recommendation to become a Multifaith Voices for Peace and Justice (MVPJ) “Participating Congregation”. This provides our Fellowship the opportunity to offer MVPJ our input and ideas for actions and events, without a financial commitment and without a requirement to plan and execute events. In addition, the name of our fellowship and a link to our website will be included on the MVPJ website: multifaithpeace.org.

Kristi Iverson, who represents the UU Church of Palo Alto on the Steering Committee of MVPJ, reached out to UUFLG about this opportunity. MVPJ identified UUFLG as a congregation that has a commitment to peace and justice and that has participated in some of MVPJ's events in the recent past.

Here's how MVPJ envisions involvement such as ours:

MVPJ, as a multifaith organization, is intrinsically diverse. Coming from different faiths and spiritual traditions, we will not all agree on everything! In response to a concern about justice or peace, some will feel called to pray, some to study, some to speak, some to act. Our programs and activities have ranged from prayer gatherings to protests, from meeting with elected officials to making public statements, from studies, panels and teach-ins to visible actions of solidarity. Some members have been called to engage in peaceful civil disobedience. We encourage “participating” congregations, organizations and individuals to participate when these programs align with their own values and sense of call, understanding and respecting that not all of our programs feel appropriate for everyone. We celebrate that diversity and learn from it how to live together in peace with justice, even when we disagree. Our programs and statements are offered only on behalf of our steering committee, and do not pretend to represent consensus from the rich, beautiful array of religious and spiritual traditions who join us in the larger, sacred journey of seeking peace and justice.

Our congregation's formal participation is an invitation to continue, and to even expand, our advocacy of peace and justice through a local multifaith coalition, living our shared values and principles!



**DO GOOD, FEEL GOOD
VOLUNTEER!
PICK FRUIT WITH
VILLAGE
HARVEST!**

Keep fresh fruit from spoiling away and benefit our low-income neighbors with delicious, nutritious food.

Talk to Kendra (our Village Harvest coordinator at UUFLG) for more info, or sign up at villageharvest.org/events. Please enter “UU Fellowship of Los Gatos” in the space for group. Enjoy the great outdoors in our backyards!

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

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:30-11:30a Service & Children's Religious Exploration (CRE)		10-11:30a Chalice Circle		12-1:30p Retired UU Men's Lunch (RUUMs)	1-2p Connections C. 2-4p Memoir Writing (offsite)	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9-10:15a CRE Committee (C.) 10:30-11:30a Service & CRE 12:15-2:15p Environmental Justice Class 4 (Children welcome!)		10:30a-12p Finance C. 2-3:30p Caring C.	7-9p Stewardship	9:45a-12p Women's Group 4-6p MOH 7-8:15p Board	2-4p Memoir Writing (offsite)	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30-10:15a Social Action C. 10:30-11:30a Service & CRE 12:15-2:15p Environmental Justice Class 5 (Children welcome!)		10-11:30a Chalice Circle		12-1:30p RUUMs 12p Sunday Services C. (online only) 4-6p MOH	2-4p Memoir Writing (offsite)	6-9p Game Night
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30-11:30a Service (Shared Plate: UU Ministry for Earth) & CRE				4-6p Minister Office Hours by Appt. (MOH)	2-4p Memoir Writing (offsite)	9a-12p Building & Grounds Workday
28	29	30	May 1	2	3	4
10:30-11:30a Service & CRE				12-1:30p RUUMs 4-6p MOH	1-2p Connections C. 2-4p Memoir Writing (offsite)	5:30-8:30p Annual Auction

Note: This calendar is intended for events relevant to the life of the Fellowship. For a complete calendar of UUFLG facilities use, which includes rentals, view the online calendar at www.uuflg.org. In case of errors, omissions and changes after newsletter publication, find the most up-to-date calendar online. To request updates to the online calendar, email admin@uuflg.org. For recurring event details and contacts, refer to [Activities & Programs](#) online.