

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

What's Happening

open minds, loving hearts, serving hands

December 2 - December 16

Sunday Services Start at 11:00 AM

December 5, Sunday, 11am-12pm, In-person & Zoom

Scripture, Science, and Appeals to Authority

The appeal to authority has always been a necessity in logic and debate. It only becomes a fallacy when it's an appeal to an *inappropriate* authority. As we wend our way through the wicked problems of our modern age, we need our sharpest logical tools at hand. Meanwhile, casual debaters love to accuse others of using the appeal to authority fallacy while simultaneously using it themselves. Today we'll explore where *authority* fits in our reasoning process, and how to use it wisely to navigate this post-fact era that seems to drag on. —Rev. Fa Jun, Minister

<u>Guidelines</u> for in-person attendance are online and posted throughout the building. To join us remotely: Zoom online/phone-in <u>details</u> (PDF). Zoom details are also on our <u>website</u> and <u>calendar</u>. Contact Service Associate Katie Rall to plan UUFLG special announcements, etc.

Big thanks to those who help make this Sunday a special time!

Our invaluable volunteers include service associate Katie Rall, sound technician Sarah Ditzler, Zoom host Linda Osborne, greeters Karen, Joe & Matthew Fitch, Children's RE assistant Sierra Golbetz, snacks providers Sharmin Khan and Jerry & Christina Morgan, and social-hour clean-up team Jerry & Christina Morgan.

Our talented staff* includes pianist and singer Dave Coldren, religious exploration director Colleen Hamilton, and religious exploration lead Arthur Piersol.

*Financial support of UUFLG makes possible their paid positions. Thank you!

To share joys and concerns, please send an email to <u>joysandconcerns@uuflg.org</u> with a brief message anytime during the week and before the service begins. You may also share live during the service.

Children & Youth Religious Exploration (CYRE) – In-person RE catering to children 11 and under is held by the garden. Sign-in at the picnic table before the service. Youth aged 12 and up are welcome to join us outdoors or attend the service and are also invited to volunteer in a variety of roles around the Fellowship. Contact Director of Religious Exploration Colleen Hamilton for more information.

Celebration of Life: January 15, Saturday, 1pm, In-person & Zoom

Remembering Ellen Hill

We join together at this time in mourning the unexpected loss of our good friend Ellen Hill. If you've been around our Fellowship for any length of time, you will have known Ellen as the hardest worker of us all, setting a high bar for any aspiring servant of humanity to live



up to! She was one of the first people I (Rev. Fa Jun) worked closely with when I started as Director of Lifespan Learning, and she was the last person I'd see every Sunday, finishing up dishes or some other necessary chore.

Ellen gathered the paints from the Habitat Re-Store and led the charge on our foyer upgrades, made sure our deck and railings were safe and good-looking, built garden beds for our youth programs, was very active on our Social Action team, and a thousand other tasks, big and small. And we were just *one* of the several places Ellen volunteered!

Ellen leaves a hole that it will be impossible to fill, but I know that we can support one another through this difficult transition, and lighten the burden of grief by reflecting on how grateful we are that she was part of our lives.





Meditation Class/Practice

12/5, 12/12 & 12/19, Sunday, 12:30-1pm, In-person



CYRE Committee

12/5, Sunday, 5-6pm, Zoom



Makers Meetup

12/6, Monday, 12-2pm, In-person



Membership Committee

12/6, Monday, 5-6pm, Zoom



Chalice Circle

12/7, Tuesday, 10-11:30am, In-person & Zoom



Finance Committee

12/8, Wednesday, 10:30am-12pm, Zoom



Board of Trustees

12/9, Thursday, 7-8:15pm, Zoom



Climate Study Circle

12/11, Saturday, 11:30am-1pm, Zoom



CYRE Committee

12/12, Sunday, 5-6pm, Zoom



Great Books Discussion

12/13, Monday, 7-9pm, Zoom



Sunday Services Committee

12/14, Tuesday, 4:30-5:30pm, Zoom



Click for our web calendar with Zoom details of UUFLG events.

December

Happy Birthdays!

Erma Browning – Dec. 15 Charlie Holst – Dec. 20 Alison Hurwitz – Dec. 26 lack Stubstad – Dec. 30



And happy birthday to all our December babies!

To be added to our birthdays list, simply <u>email</u> us the month and day of your birthday. We send e-card wishes by default to be greener; postal cards may be requested.

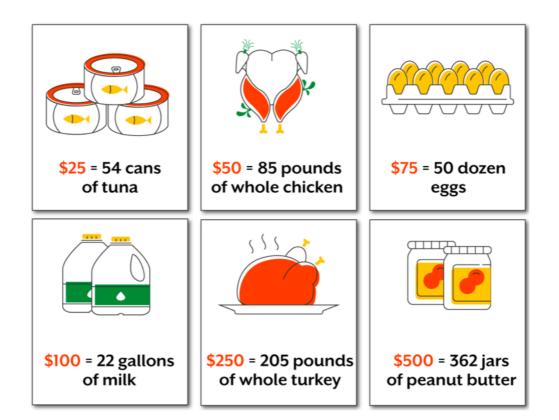
November 21 - December 5

Final Week: UUFLG Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank

Due to the lingering effect of Covid closures and the high cost of rent in Silicon Valley, Second Harvest is now distributing food to 80 percent more people than before the pandemic. To meet this huge demand, Second Harvest has had to drop its well-known, but very labor intensive, food barrel program and purchase food in bulk to provide balanced meals to a much larger number of people.

UUFLG continues to collect monetary donations for Second Harvest. Place cash and checks in the collection jar in the Fellowship foyer or hand donations to a Social Action team member. Mailing checks to the Fellowship is also an option. Please write checks to UUFLG with Second Harvest in the memo line.

Second Harvest estimates that every \$1 donated provides two meals. See the graphic below for more examples of how far your donation can go!



December 5 & 12, Sunday, In-person

UUFLG Collective Holiday Boutique

Our UU creatives are putting together a boutique. Please shop before and after the services on Dec. 5th and 12th, and by all means, donate any of your handmade items to benefit our Fellowship.

Items for sale: arts & crafts, baked goods, greeting cards, jewelry, art, photography, fabulous hand-crafted items.

Please consider donating! Bring items for sale as soon as you can. Baked goods are best delivered on the 5th or 12th. Looking for your favorite breads, cookies and yummiest of yums. Please price donated items on your own.

All proceeds benefit UUFLG. For questions, please contact Karen Fitch or Laurie Roberts.

December 5 & 12, Sunday, 12:30pm, In-person

Holiday Singalong

Join a holiday singalong in the west parking lot during social hour, music provided. Singing outdoors is allowed with masks and at least six feet apart so bring a comfortable mask.

December 5, 12 & 19, Sunday, 12:30-1pm, In-person & Zoom

Weekly Meditation: New Time

Join Rev. Fa Jun three Sundays per month for our weekly meditation class at its **new time**: 12:30-1pm, after social hour. This short weekly class is focused on *practice* and includes brief instruction at the beginning and a brief check-in at the end. Open to all levels of experience from beginner to adept! This month's classes are on 12/5, 12/12, and 12/19.

December 11, Saturday, 11:30am-1pm, Zoom

Climate Study Circle

Youth and adults are welcome to join our online discussion of *Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest* by Suzanne Simard. The fourth and fifth chapters will be our focus.

December 14, Tuesday, 7pm, Zoom

New to UU, Principles in Practice

Join us for an orientation to Unitarian Universalism, the community of UUFLG in particular, and a great chance to discuss how our UU Seven Principles and Six Sources inform our lives. This online meeting is a great chance for newcomers to get to know our community, and also for long-timers to continue exploring how our living tradition informs our real lives! –Rev. Fa Jun, Minister

Don't Get Scammed! – During the holidays, scams increase. In light of this, you may like to remind or educate yourself about some <u>top scams</u>. (Ignore the Morgan Stanley client account references; these scams apply to everyone and are explained well.) The <u>FTC</u> also has basic information to avoid and report scams.

December 12, Sunday, 11am-12pm, In-person & Zoom

Dear Lord, Save Us From Your Fandom

A fandom is modern slang for groups who rally around a certain movie, comic book, musician, etc. You could also call it a subculture. With no offense intended, our title today plays on the old trope about Christianity, "Dear Lord, save us from your followers!" While the teachings of Jesus are all about peace, many of us have observed that religious people can be some of the meanest out there (and that might be all religions, to be fair). The same can be true with any in-group or subculture. Today we'll side-step the thorny inquiry into religion per se, and enjoy an exploration of the phenomena of fandoms, both the wholesome and the toxic. We'll gain insights about why we *need* subcultures, and how to use them for the greater good, rather than for division and harm. —Rev. Fa Jun, Minister

Covid Safety Remains a Priority – We continue to reassess our recommendations to keep everyone as safe as possible at UUFLG. One way to do this is to wear masks whenever indoors. Another way is to not sing indoors. Singing outdoors is allowed with masks and at least six feet apart. Finally, to circulate fresh air in the sanctuary, we recommend keeping open the two sets of outside doors and the hallway doors with the HVAC system running cool or warm air, depending on the weather. This may prove chilly during the winter months. Please dress accordingly to keep yourself comfortable. Zoom remains an option if this is too cumbersome. We appreciate your cooperation and support during these trying times! With love and safety, UUFLG Covid Task Force

Send announcements to comms@uuflg.org by 7 pm Tuesday for that week's issue.

Announcements are edited for brevity, clarity, and style.

Reading this on our website and want to receive future issues in email? Sign up

Send any of your contact updates (phone, email, mailing address) to admin@uuflg.org.

donate

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos

15980 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos 95032