



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• January 2010 • Volume 54 • Issue 1 •

Sunday Services are at 9:00 and 11:00am

January 3rd

ANNUAL NEW YEAR MILESTONES SERVICE

Service Leader: Rev. Christopher Bell

Worship Associate: Andy Levine

Today we'll look backwards and forwards, hearing both our major milestones of the past year and our dreams for the future, in our members voices. A short message will address the challenges, and hope, of making a truly new start.

January 24th

THE VALUE OF OUR VALUES

Service Leader: Rita Butterfield

Worship Associate: Joe Como

Jesus said "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." By examining how we spend our money, what we truly love is laid bare. Do we like what we see? Among her various volunteer roles, Rita Butterfield is the Pacific Central District chair of the Annual Program Fund, which ensures fair share giving by our area congregations to the UUA.

January 10th

ON FRIENDSHIP

Service Leader: Rev. Christopher Bell

Worship Associate: Rita Butterfield

With the help of Aristotle, we'll consider the great virtue of friendship. What matters in a friend, and what doesn't? What draws people together, and what keeps us apart? Can we enjoy real friendship across barriers of class, race or religion? How?

January 31st

WOUNDED WORDS 3: "CHRISTIAN"

Service Leader: Rev. Christopher Bell

Worship Associate: Scott Miller

Our UU Principles emerge from our Christian heritage, but also go beyond it. Some UUs have rejected their Christian past, yet we have many Christians among our congregation. We hold Jesus to be a great prophet, but we are troubled by much that has happened in his name. Is there a way out of this tension and ambivalence? This is the third service in a series examining some of the more difficult words we work with as modern religious people.

January 17th

BENDING THE ARC

Guest Service Leader: Jamie McReynolds

Worship Associate: Michael Walsh

Working for social justice is one of the cornerstones of our UU faith, building the world we dream about. Where are we on our journey to the 'promised land' and 'beloved community' that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King spoke of? With so much work to be done to repair this broken world, how do we decide where to focus our efforts?

Jamie McReynolds, a former lay leader of this congregation, is training for the UU ministry and serving as a hospital chaplain.

9:00 AM SERVICE

It is a smaller gathering, we have the same readings and message that are given at the 11:00AM service, plus we have time for a discussion of the sermon topic. What UU doesn't like a discussion? There is childcare available. Any questions, contact Andy Levine at 887-9810



The Decade in Review



The good news is we've survived the first ten years of the 21st Century. The bad news is that we are thus subjected to endless offerings of "The Decade in Review" from every media outlet. Here comes another one. Forgive me.

I have to admit, there were a few moments over the last decade when things didn't look so good. We started it all off with the Y2K business, along with an ugly and disputed election leading to a worse presidency, the terrors of 9/11 and the tragic response of an unnecessary war. We finished it with stark news of climate change, continuing conflicts around the world, and a profound economic crisis. And, somehow, along the way I aged 10 years. What's up with that?

At first glance the move to the new building seems to be the central episode in the story of the last decade. With all the effort and emotion that comes with such a project, this is not surprising, and the cost and effort of keeping the Glaser Center up and running does demand a lot of our attention. There is a deeper and more inspiring story, however. The move was about growing and changing, and lifting up the heart of Unitarian Universalism. It was about finding a new way to express our deep and ancient liberal values. It was about mattering to our community, and to each other. The building is just a tool in that work.

Think about it. Over the last five years you started a meal for our hungry neighbors. You've presented many concerts, lectures, ceremonies and workshops. You fought for marriage equality. You stood in the public square for peace and understanding. You've hosted 12-step groups and homeless counts. You found a place to meditate. You started the TIE Groups program. You called a new minister, although I'm reserving judgment on *his performance for another decade or so.*

This sort of look-back always ends with asking what the future might hold. The book of Ecclesiastes notes that there is never anything new, and for everything a time and a season. It is good to remember this wisdom, as a decade fades away and a new decade dawns. Some are predicting the end of the world, yet again, and in spite of having been wrong every single time before. The world isn't going to end. In fact, I don't think it will change at all because, as always, it will constantly be changing. I predict a steady stream of weal and woe, life and death, sorrow and joy, of bidding welcome and farewell.

But I also boldly predict continuing growth and transformation and joy in our shared life at UUCSR, if we continue to want it and work for it. For our congregation, I hope it includes more worship services, more service projects, richer spiritual practice, satellite congregations in Sebastopol, Sonoma and/or Windsor, and the creation of an enduring broad-based interfaith organization for civic power and social change, with us in the lead, and a hundred other good ideas we haven't thought of yet. And for each of us personally, I hope it includes peace, power, growth, understanding and enlightenment. I look forward to the next decade together!

Rev. Chris

Splinters from the Board

Anatomy of a Unanimous Board Vote

A nice little argument broke out at last month's Board of Trustees meeting. It was an extension of the same argument that had percolated the previous two months as the Board deliberated on a proposal of the Financial Stewardship Council (FSC) proposal to issue "member notes" that would help us pay down the mortgage on our building at a reduced rate of interest. I use the term "argument" with a great deal of affection and respect, actually. And with the dictionary definition of "a discussion involving differing points of view," rather than "altercation." But before I share more about that, let me sketch the basics of the plan, which still awaits further elaboration by the FSC.

The plan is simple enough, one that has been used successfully at other UU congregations, including Walnut Creek. Members who currently receive only a pittance of interest on savings and CD accounts in this low interest rate environment loan the congregation a sum of money that earns interest at a higher rate than they can get at a bank, but that is lower than what our congregation pays in mortgage interest. The congregation in turn uses that money to pay down mortgage principal. Essentially, we "save" the difference between the interest we pay on the member notes and the interest we pay the bank, so member noteholders and the congregation both come out ahead of where they otherwise would be. The FSC's calculations suggest the plan could save as much as \$50,000 over the 20 years remaining on our mortgage.

There are some cautions about the plan, having to do, among other things, with the risk inherent in the congregation not being a bank, and the member notes thus not being backed by federal deposit insurance. Also, the plan requires that we have the discipline to use the member note money to actually pay down the mortgage principal, rather than have it diverted to other seemingly more pressing concerns (say, in a difficult year when our roof blows off in a gale).

These cautions, and the entire process of familiarizing the Board with the pros and cons of the plan, took up good chunks of our Board meetings in October, November and December. Views were aired, the expertise and perspectives of various congregational members were solicited, and sometimes fairly strenuous debate took place. Each board member had the opportunity to question, speak, and finally, to state his or her position when the matter finally came to a vote.

A few items seem worthy of discussion at this point.

1. Unlike the vast majority of motions that come up for a Board vote, this one was not unanimous. It passed 6-3, meaning the member note program will move forward, but with its cautions duly noted and inputted by the three opposition votes.

2. Views were sometimes passionately exchanged. Always respectfully, in the spirit of listening and respect which are at the core of our tradition, but passionately nevertheless.

3. At the end, as is the Board's agreed-upon approach to all votes that come before it, we unite as one Board and one voice in support of its implementation. Which means those on the losing end don't go out and grumble about it during subsequent Sunday coffee hours, and don't get to shout "I told you so!" if the matter encounters difficulties after implementation.

All in all, completely aside from the worthiness of the plan, this was a heartening process to both participate in and observe. It was reminiscent of the discussion and resolution of the playground structure issue that took place last year. Differing opinions, sometimes passionate discussion, a deliberative process where all views are solicited, respected and heard, and finally, resolution. Bow to those who feel differently than you, shake the dust off, and move on ahead in the life of our congregation.

In other words, soooo UU.

Or at least soooo-the-best-of-our-UUness. Because in reality, disagreement—and expressing that disagreement forthrightly but civilly, in a group, is difficult. It is a spiritual discipline, as much as anything else, to listen actively to opposing arguments, to feel your way into the perspectives of those on the opposite side of the table. It involves tremendous intention of your own—to trust in the process you are engaged in as a deliberative body, to acknowledge the opposition's legitimacy, to trust that your own respect and understanding (and humility, because it just may be possible that you're not in sole possession of the one final truth on the matter at hand) will contribute to a positive outcome—even if it's not the outcome you desire.

And so it went—another tribute to the democratic process, and to a way of being and doing that meets the highest standards of our faith tradition. It's going to be a great 2010.

—Andrew Hidas
President, Board of Trustees

Treasurer's Report

WOW. Is it just me, or did December go by in a flash this year?? Seems like we were just getting ready for Thanksgiving, and here it is, coming on the New Year, with all the blessings of hope and peace behind us. Well, I'm not quite ready to let it go. I've still got a few fa-la-la's left to sing.

But, the New Year it is, and time to get back in the swing of things. There's not a lot to report on this month from a numbers stand-point. Most of the budget worksheets have been turned in.. however, if you're a committee chair who hasn't yet finished yours, if you could please do that ASAP. (You wouldn't want to be on the Accounting-Meister's "bad" list.) The Accounting Committee will soon start putting together all the data collected so we can see where we stand. Thanks to everyone for your help at this early stage in the year; thankfully, this means that the accounting folks will not have the pressures and stress of year-end deadlines as we did last year.

There was recently a meeting between the Human Resource Committee, members of the Board, and the Accounting Committee to review the budget (and future budgets) from a personnel standpoint. This was a very important and much-needed meeting, and helped to get everyone on the same page. The HR Committee ex-

plained their methods for determining salary increases and merit raises, based on comparisons between our employees and employees of other UU churches - looking at how our staff and salaries measure up against other churches nationally. It is actually a very complicated process - based not only on congregational statistics, but also local and economic variables. Since payroll is a very big portion of the annual budget, this is certainly an area that demands much attention.

From a revenue standpoint, December is usually our best month for pledge income, as people are eager to catch up with their pledges before the new (calendar) year. Which is certainly fine and dandy! If you haven't yet come current with your payments, please mail a check soon, so it can still be counted in '09. (Late pledges are also, of course, warmly welcomed).

And so... on to the New Year! And just because the holidays are over, that is no reason to stop dreaming of peace and imagining hope, harmony and tranquility in the world. That's a full-time occupation for Us UU's. And don't mind me if I sing a few more refrains of fa la la la.... just a little leftover holiday Joy. Call me sentimental.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denese Pender

It's Amazing—It's the Extravaganza!!

We are awestruck and amazed that our Congregation raised \$20,000 + NET (after expenses) at the Annual Auction Extravaganza in November. Every dollar goes toward our mission and programs - yup - just to pay the bills around here. It's AWESOME that over 48% (160 members and friends) DONATE their time, wine, food, dance, sewing, quilting, song, sermons, and energy as a service to the auction. It's AMAZING when over 10% of our Congregation (35 + members and friends) volunteer for the night of the event! It's SPECTACULAR that over 30 businesses in our community find that we are such a worthy cause as to donate to our auction with their gift certificates, massages, wine and food. It's EXTRA-VAGANTLY wonderful that 150 people (45% of our Congregation) attended the night of the event, sharing a meal and enjoying our community together! Our GRATITUDE

goes to those that also BID on all our items to bring home over \$22,000 in auction and raffle revenues to support our wonderful programs.

We are humbled by the outpouring of our community of members and friends which adds up to over 110% participation to assure the continuation of our mission and goals of our every day commitment to our Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa. It's AMAZING!

You make this happen. We Thank YOU! Each and Every one.

The Most Sincere Thank You,
The UUCSR Auction Committee
Kirsten, Cathie, Linda, Kitty, Nancy



Children's and Youth Religious Education (RE)

A lily bloomed this week. There is a dreadfully neglected house plant kept in the church office between my desk and David's. Living between the chaos and clutter of our work spaces, this plant is often unseen, always neglected; watered only when an office volunteer takes pity, or Janis thinks to offer it a drop or two. With more leaves brown than green drooping over its faded plastic canister, it manages to survive. And this week, when dark and cold prevailed in our electrically challenged building, this hearty soul of a plant bloomed a flower. White, delicate, paper-thin this blossom triumphed over its wilted and humble body.

Life force is an amazing thing. In my previous career I worked with children who had no advantage in this world. They had been neglected and mistreated by those they were supposed to be able to count on unconditionally. And yet, in many of these children there was a spark of light in their eyes; a creative force that kept them, not just alive, but engaged in life, hopeful and playful.

Good fortune has brought me to this work with children who are nurtured in deep and profound ways by the abiding love of their parents, encouragement by extended family, and engagement in a faith community. But underlying these blessings is a time of tremendous insecurity in our culture. Many families have just come out

of a holiday season that only increased financial pressures and woes. Some families face job loss or decreased salaries, some struggle to pay the monthly bills. Challenges such as these tend to create isolation, making people (and families) feel alone and uncared for.

We have an incredible advantage - we are a part of a community where we have made a covenant to stand by each other and to live in loving relationship. This is not the time to neglect each other. Is there someone you haven't seen around on Sundays lately? Why not give them a call? Is there a new parent, or a new kid in RE? (Yes, there are - every week!) Why not get to know them? Are you in need of moral support? Why not reach out and connect with someone? For my part, I will continue to connect you up in any way I can. Let's all take the initiative to make this an even stronger and more nurturing community.

My New Year's resolution is to take good care of our plant. I promise to water it regularly, feed it, trim it, and give it the nurturance it needs. And we'll see what miracles will be in store for it next year.

In faith,
Deborah



This Month IN Religious Education:

Date	Theme	Teachers
1/3	Children's Chapel - A Blessed New Year	Deborah Mason
1/10	K-2: Caring & Uncaring for Others 3-5: Deciding for Peace & Justice 6-8: What About Hunger & Poverty	Robyn Hidas Joy Lonnes Kitty Wells
1/17	K-2: Friends & Enemies 3-5: Respecting Others, Valuing Diversity 6-8: What About War & Peace	Robyn Hidas Joy Lonnes Kitty Wells
1/24	Justice Sunday	Deborah Mason
1/31	Arts Sunday	TBA

Curriculum: "In Our Hands- A Peace & Justice Program"

Musical Notes for January

Music in the New Year

New Year's Resolution: make music a part of my life!
Here are a couple fun and easy ways to do it...

Go hear some live music.

Music is always better when it's right there! We get live music every Sunday at UUCSR, but there is so much out there to experience. I hope you will find an opportunity to make the local music scene a part of your life.

Join the UUCSR Choir!

Our choir is now learning new music of all sorts for upcoming services. The choir is a fun bunch of people and an uplifting way to start a Sunday morning! If you would like to join us for some fun and singing, please talk to me (phone, email, after services) or just drop in at a rehearsal to try it out! It's a low-commitment way to get involved in church life, and it's fun! We cover a variety of musical styles!

Regular rehearsals: Sundays, 9am, in the Board room.

Join the Band!

The UUsual Suspects is a splendid blend of unique characters, each with special and various talents. The line-up of musicians is different each time, making it a great way to know new folks in new ways. The music is easy to learn and rehearsed in a friendly atmosphere. We're always looking for new instruments, too! If you would like to be a part of our UU band, please talk to me or to Susan Panttaja. Rehearsals are scheduled based on musicians' availability.

Musically yours,
Ben Taylor, Music Director



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. at 547 Mendocino. Our selection this month is *The Spell of the Sensuous* by David Abram.

The selection of February is *City of Falling Angels* by John Berend. Newcomers and visitors are welcome.

Linda Lampson

Thursday Evening Meditation

If you are interested in the practice and theory of Buddhist meditation, please come on Thursday evenings 7 - 8:30 p.m., UUCSR. The text for both practice and discussion is Stephen Batchelors "Buddhism Without Beliefs" which is a practical, secular approach for Western people. New meditators and seasoned meditators are encouraged. For more info, call Rose 865-0755.

Economic Justice Read/Study Group

Specific psychological character structures and features are necessitated by and molded by the social and economic arrangements by which a people lives and works.

Come on Tuesday evening, January 12, to see an Adam Curtis, BBC documentary which describes the history and development of a psychological structure characteristic of people living in 21st century corporate, monopolistic, consumer capitalism.

The Economic Justice Read/Study/ Discuss Group meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., UUCSR. For more info call Rose, 865-0755.



Ya' Wanna Have Some Fun?

Join the volunteers who prepare "Saturday Breakfast for our Guests". We still need "regulars" (who volunteer one Saturday a month), and "substitutes" (to call for vacation relief, etc.). We wish for a "2nd shift". A couple of volunteers each Saturday who come regularly

to help with clean-up. The 6 AM crowd really needs relief. This is such a labor of love and so rewarding! And last Saturday, we fed 190! Call Gretchen Vap for info: 568-3290.

Meditation Retreat—February 6, 2010

There will be an all-day meditation retreat at UUCSR on Saturday, February 6th - 10:00am - 5:00pm. It will be a silent retreat led by Rose St. John and held in the Board Room. The retreat is open to all, even beginning meditators and non-UU members. There will be sitting and walking meditation, with some instruction. Please

bring a bag lunch. There is no charge for the retreat but a donation to UUCSR would be appreciated. Space is limited so please call Rose (865-0755), Jan (528-8063), or Mary (523-1366) to confirm your attendance. Please join us, we all need a little peace after the holiday season.

Program Council Highlights

Greetings: This article highlights recent Program Council activities. I hope all of you fine readers find this illuminating. Let me introduce myself. I am Mary Wolfe, elected at the most recent Council meeting as the Co-Chair-Communications. I will handle Council record keeping and communications functions. Ted Miller was elected Chair of the Council. In addition to the two officers, the other Council members are: Jeanie Bates, Bruce Hope, Joan Wion and Deborah Mason (Staff Advisor) Georgette deBlois is a friend of the Council.

The Council was organized to a) provide congregational access to the many UUCSR ongoing programs, b) endeavor to have such programs meet congregant needs while upholding UU values and principles, c) act as a "clearing house" for information regarding the govern-

ance and activities of currently active program groups, d) provide support and advice to existing program groups when needed, e) assist such program groups in assessing fiscal needs and preparing budgets and f) suggest new ideas for programs where unmet needs exist.

Currently, Council members are gathering information about ongoing UUCSR programs. That information will be written up in a pamphlet and made available to members, visitors and friends. Georgette deBlois has volunteered to design the pamphlet. There are at least 22 committees and groups currently active within the congregation. which offer varied programs. All are open to UUCSR members and friends.

Mary Wolfe

Crumbs from the Kitchen

Thanks for the cookies! Please sign up to bring a snack for Sunday Service. Sign up sheets are on the tables. If you have left a plate or bowl with us, it will be left on the table by the kitchen. We have plenty of plates so extras will be donated to a worthy cause.

Please remember to clean up after you use any part of the kitchen. here is no one assigned to this job and your mother doesn't live here. (Just a joke !) If you put

something into the refrigerator, put your name and date on it. Half-eaten food will be thrown out after a week.

How many oven mitts do we need? We seem to have a whole bunch. Submit your ideas to Carol Weisker on any Sunday, or e-mail cmweisker@sbcglobal.net.

Lastly, please try not to congregate near the kitchen entrance so worker ants can come and go with ease.

Carol Weisker, Kitchen Chairperson

Women Together

On Saturday, January 16th, from 2 to 4 pm in the Lake Room, Olive Horrel will tell us the rest of her story. Her life is so rich and long that she couldn't tell us about it all at our meeting in December!

We know Chapter 2 will be delightful whether or not you got to hear Chapter 1!

Please bring finger-foods to share.

Linda Harlow, 526-3528

Advocates for Social Justice

HOT TOPICS: Unmet Health Needs in our County Share the Basket

On Sunday, January 3rd, a panel of medical providers from clinics around the county will talk with us about how things are and what we can do to improve them. This event will be from 12:30 to 2, so eat lots of snacks after the service or bring a bag lunch. The speakers are excited about sharing their experiences and ideas with us so I know it will be informative and constructive. Please bring any friends you think would be interested.

On Sunday, January 3rd, one half of the collection will go to support our Saturday Breakfast program. In December we had 190 + guests at least twice. We often hear that it's the best breakfast in town and our guests are genuinely appreciative of what we do. So when the basket comes your way, let's start off 2010 with generous support for this important activity!

Committee on Shared Ministry

The Committee exists to facilitate the smooth running of our congregation. We are a subcommittee of the Board of Trustees. This is our charge:

- Oversee the general health of the congregation
- Support the Minister in his various roles
- Provide conflict resolution

Our monthly meetings are confidential. If you are concerned about unmet needs within the congregation, in-

involved in a conflict with another congregant, staff member, committee or the Minister, you can call on any of us to be heard.

We are happy to hear from you regarding what you think is going well also!

Elizabeth Marrs- Chair, Rev. Chris Bell, Roger Corman, Nancy Hargis, Andy Levine, Cathy Read, and Mary Wagner.

UUCSR Writers

UUCSR Writers will meet from **4 - 6 pm** in the "Green Room" on **Monday, January 4, 2010** at UUCSR, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, Ca 95401, 707-568-5381, Can't attend monthly meetings? Live in another City, State or Country? Request an Invitation to join our Online Writer's Blog. Information: UUCSR Writers, Georgette G. deBlois, GGdeB@aol.com, <http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>.

"TaP" Thursdays at Peet's

The UUCSR Writers meet once a week for coffee and conversation at Peet's Cafe in Copperfield's located in Montgomery Village at the corner of Montgomery Drive and Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa. Parking is Free.

Come, join us on Thursday mornings at 10 am. Buy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate, add a Danish pastry and enjoy the pleasure of chatting with writers about writing. We have no set agenda. Also, be sure to save some time to browse the books at Copperfield's.

Georgette G. deBlois
GGdeB@aol.com



What is "The Chalice Project"



Happy New Year!



Before laying out the details of The Chalice Project, coming up in mid-2010, I think it's appropriate to talk a little about the year 2009.

On a personal and professional level, this has been an action-packed, roller coaster of a year for me and my family. In addition to one daughter graduating from UC Davis in June and the other packing off to Southern Oregon University in September, my year was dominated by several major events, happenings and projects at the Glaser Center, and also by my solo performance piece, *Wretch Like Me*, which many of you were generous enough to attend when it held its workshop run here at the Glaser—and as a footnote, let me mention that the show brought in over \$1000 in donations to the UUCSR! (By the way, many of you have been asking what the next step for *Wretch* is. I am happy to report that the show, about my youth inside the Southern California Evangelical movement of the 1970s, will have three performances this month in Mill Valley, at the Throckmorton Theater. As to what happens after that, there are many exciting nibbles of interest—and the possibility of one more one-night-only performance of the honed-and-polished show at the Glaser this Spring or Summer. Thank you again for all of your support on this very personal project.)

Here at the Glaser, as we've shifted toward more rentals to non-profit groups, the days have been full of challenges, met always with the creativity and enthusiasm of a great team of volunteers and other brilliant people. It seems that we've established three new annual events: the Our Favorite Songs Concert (coming up again in March, pushed back from February), the Darwin Birthday Party (join us again on February 11, when Darwin will be 201!), and the Holiday Sing-Along.

Some have already hinted that The Chalice Project could end up another yearly happening. With a project this big and this exciting, however, we initially need to concentrate on making the first one happen.

The Chalice Project, germinating for several months, will be part art-show, part fund-raiser, and part community outreach. And it will require the support and assistance of many people, from within UUCSR and without.

With the support of the Sonoma County Arts Council, we will be asking many notable North Bay artists to create and donate pieces of artwork designed on the theme "chalice." While a chalice has its own meaning to us as UUs, the word "chalice" can mean many things to different people (a cup for water or wine, a serving dish, the sacred feminine, the communion chalice, a part of a flower, anything holy or sacred); so it will be interesting to see what people create from this simple one-word beginning. Eventually, probably in May or June, following an art show displaying the works, we will have a grand gala and auction, with the art-pieces auctioned off to the highest bidders.

Proceeds will be shared with COTS (Committee on the Shelterless), who will also be a major partner in pulling this off. Such a large project will require the assistance and ideas of a whole team of people, so in January we will be putting together a group to assist me in making this happen. The result will, I believe, be a very special collaboration that will not just raise money for some good causes (including the work of the UUCSR); it will be a unique blending of art, introspection and community service. If The Chalice Project sounds like something you'd like to support with some of your time and effort, please give me a call at 568-5381 X103 or email me at talk-pix@earthlink.net.

TIE Group's POTLUCK

TIE Group's Potluck-Saturday, January 16, 2010 at noon

Who: Everyone who is or has been a member of a TIE Group, past or present

What: A great Potluck Luncheon

Where: UUCSR Social Hall

Bring: A dish to pass for 8 to 10 people

This event is hosted by the TIE Group Facilitators. Coffee will be provided.

Any questions? Call Carolyn McLeese, 875-3542

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa Presents

Our Favorite Songs III

A Joyous Live Musical Evening of
songs chosen and performed by the
musicians of the UUCSR Congregation



Saturday, March 13, 7:30 pm

The Glaser Center
547 Mendocino Ave.

Donations Accepted on a sliding scale of \$1 - \$1000

WE HAVE NOT COME TO TAKE PRISONERS

We have not come here to take prisoners,
But to surrender ever more deeply
To freedom and joy.

We have not come into this exquisite world
To hold ourselves hostage from love.

Run my dear,
From anything
That may not strengthen
Your precious budding wings.

Run like hell my dear,
From anyone likely
To put a sharp knife
Into the sacred, tender vision
Of your beautiful heart.

We have a duty to befriend
Those aspects of obedience
That stand outside of our house
And shout to our reason
"O please, O please,
Come out and play."

For we have not come here to take prisoners
Or to confine our wondrous spirits,

But to experience ever and ever more deeply
Our divine courage, freedom and
Light!

~ Hafiz ~

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

**From your
Board of Trustees**

In Memoriam, [Ring out, Wild Bells] by Lord Alfred Tennyson

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:

The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

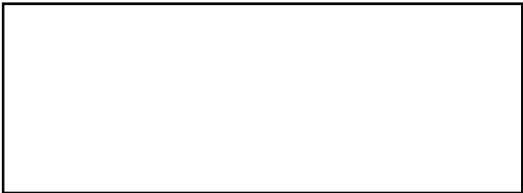
Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Spirit that is to be.

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**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



January 2010

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Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa
Mailing Address: 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Telephone: 707-568-5381
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Editor: Janis Brewster
Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

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Editor: Janis Brewster

Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All electronic deadlines are noon Monday.

Please place any hard copy submissions in the Newsletter mail slot in the office by noon Sunday.

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