

# UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• February • Volume 55 • Issue 2 •

Sunday Services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

# February 6 OUR BLACK HISTORY

In honor of Black History Month, we will hear the story of the African-American experience of Unitarian Universalism. We'll consider why our tradition has so often failed to attract and retain black people, and how to build a multicultural faith in a racist society.

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Rita Butterfield, Susan Bartholome

The Choir provides music at 11:00.

# February 13 SPECTACLES THAT KEEP YOU AWAKE

When inspiring young people to lives of social justice we have one important first step-- inspiring ourselves. A personal and collective story from communities in the USA, Mexico and India about the responsibility of all humanity to wake up, reclaim our agency and be stewards of the spark that keeps us alive.

Samantha Wilson is a young adult and life-long Unitarian Universalist from Riverside, CA. As an undergraduate at the University of California-Riverside, she founded the Child Leader Project (CLP), a transnational community organization of young people leading child and youth collectives in the USA, India and Mexico. She also serves as the Coordinator of Undergraduate Research in the Community for UC Riverside and is currently considering a Master of Divinity in order to pursue community ministry and continue her work locally and abroad.

Service Leader: Ms. Samantha Wilson, Andy Levine & Izzy Fischer

# February 20 LEADING THE WAY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AT 12:30!!

Whether your sphere of influence extends only to your own life, or to responsibility for many others, claiming your power and being a master of your self is the key to leading the way. On this President's Day, we'll explore what it means to *lead* your life (and thus become a servant, ultimately). We'll also give thanks for the leaders of our congregation.

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, David Hope

The Choir provides music at 11:00.

# February 27 RIGHT AND WRONG

Can we be clear about what is right and wrong, while still being forgiving and accepting? Can we grant a person inherent worth and dignity, while still judging their words and actions as bad? Are there universal (and/or UU) moral truths we can teach our children to guide them through these terribly muddy questions of life? Yes, yes and yes!

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Claire Beery

The Choir performs at both services.

# <u>March 6</u> WHERE YOUR TREASURE LIES...

Today we'll consider the blessings and the power we gain through sharing and combining our time, talents, and treasure, and how to increase those blessings and power for the future, as we kick off our annual exercise in faith, commitment and vision - the pledge drive. Come ready to dream big!

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Lucia Milburn, Susan Bartholome

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2011 12:30 P.M.

#### **Come Sunday**

This past Sunday was my week out of the pulpit. The Letter of Agreement that is my covenant with UUCSR only requires me to preach three times a month, and the little break every few weeks is great for refreshing my thoughts and opening space for other work.

On some Sundays off I like to enjoy some of the things that UUs often claim as the proper holy work of a Sunday morning, such as gardening or hiking or reading the paper. Other times, I proudly partake of a Homer Simpson Sunday: sleeping in, eating sugared cereal and watching football. But most commonly, if surprisingly, I want to "go to church." I don't get to attend worship very often, free of any of the responsibilities of leading it, and I miss that. (I'm hardly complaining, though; one of the main reasons I wanted to become a minister was so that I could have a say in the worship in which I was participating. Ah, ego, we find you everywhere!)

I thought about sneaking off to another UU congregation to see how they are doing things. I was also tempted to take in the service at a local congregation of another tradition, perhaps at one of our fellow member congregations of the North Bay Sponsoring Committee, to deepen my appreciation of the beauty and diversity of human religious expression. I find both of these experiences spiritually enriching and thought provoking when I do choose them. My grasp on, and of, the religious symbols of humanity - Jesus, Buddha, Communion, Allah, the Cross, and others - is loose enough that I find it possible to find a receptive, joyful, reflective spirit of worship in many settings. But the fact of the matter is that if I am in the mood to worship, I don't want to do fieldwork. I don't want to wonder why the Methodists do it that way, or what the Catholics really think about resurrection, or why the evangelicals are so appealing to many. When I need grounding, I want to sink down into a pew with that delicious feeling of home-coming that many of us sense when we walk into our sanctuary, take in our sparse but elegant space, and let the familiar sounds and smells and sights bring us back to our better self, and our deep, collective longings. I want to be with my peeps.

There really is nothing like attending your own congregation's worship service, particularly after the bonds of membership tie you together in a spirit of shared responsibility and regard. Like the best of what "home" can offer, we can safely be both comforted and challenged, helped to feel secure even as our boundaries are pushed. In such a community we can be seen and recognized and appreciated for who we are. We know ourselves as part of a people with a history, and a future. We share rituals. We belong.

So, instead of doing anything else, I attended our 9:15 worship service. I am so glad I did. It explored "The Heart of Science." As Monty Python rang in my ears, I was reminded again of why I am UU, and why I love this congregation so deeply. Maybe I am a *little* biased in my assessment, but I just don't know why anyone would worship anywhere else. That's why I regularly invite my friends to worship with us. I want to share this thing!

In addition to being transported by fine singing and meditation, I was overjoyed to see our understanding of faith has matured as a people and a congregation. There was none of the "religion a is foolish myth" while "science is the only truth" dichotomy that I have heard at similarly-themed UU services elsewhere, from folks apparently unaware that they were speaking in a church. Instead, here there was a graciousness, a profound sense of wonder, a yearning to know our place in the family of things and powers, an invitation to behold and honor and be transformed by the miracle of matter and energy that is existence. There was a beautiful sense of play.

I felt great kinship with the speakers, for a scientific understanding of the world has not drained my sense of awe for creation, but increased and sustained it. Science humbles me in reminding me how much I don't know, and how much will always be left to learn. When I occasionally doubt the natural intelligence of the Universe, I remember bird migration, mitochondria, the periodic table, self-organizing systems, the universal laws of physics and chemistry, the amazing brain, and the mystery of consciousness. I try to never say "it's just gravity" when speaking of the invisible force that holds the whole universe together, whose effects can be seen, but whose mechanics are still a mystery. They've never found a "graviton" in particle physics. That doesn't mean they won't, I suppose, but when I add sweet unseen gravity to pi, and phi, and the facts of self-awareness and love, my faith in the Spirit of Life significantly grows. To encounter nature is to worship Gaia, for me.

What a great blessing it is to be a part of a people who worship and pray together with such openness to new knowledge and insight, who have such yearning for truth, who appreciate endless and ever-changing manifestations of creativity and beauty, who love first and opine second. We don't hold the patent on these attitudes, and we are hardly the only community where one can find them, but I think we are doing a beautiful job expressing them here at UUCSR. We are growing ever more rooted in our Sources (kindly look them up if you can't remember them!), and the manifestation of a good, contented and principled life is becoming easier and more natural. Look at how generous we are with our talents and treasures. Now, if only we could get enough kitchen volunteers!

Cont. on page 4

### **Anatomy of a Fundraiser**

So Rev. Chris and I were sitting around at the height of budget season last year. Figures had been flying back and forth and around from committees to councils to the board and back for months. Many hands, many minds. Many hopes, many calls out for replacement green eyeshades delivered promptly to 547 Mendocino. (Just kidding about the last part...)

After countless hours of herculean work from countless volunteers in this congregation, Chris and I were staring at the latest spreadsheet that showed us about \$10,000 short of a balanced budget. Though our budget is getting larger every year as befits a thriving downtown congregation, \$10,000 is still a serious chunk of money around here. But upon a moment's reflection, that statement falls into one of my oft-used pet phrases these past few years: "It is...and it isn't."

It is when I think of walking up to one of you and asking, "Hey, might you have an extra \$10,000 in your wallet to help us balance our budget?"

But it isn't if I think about employing an ancient mathematical function known as "division."

One person, \$10,000: one big ouch. That same \$10,000, divided by 100 people: many much smaller ouches of \$100 each.

So there Chris and I were, mulling the usual fall-back positions of a budget that had already suffered more cuts than any of you would ideally want. Only thoroughly unpleasant options remained, such as: "Come up \$10,000 short on our dues to UUA and PCD?" (Our national and regional governing bodies, Unitarian Universalist Association and Pacific Central District.)

This is when the writer Anne Lamott's book, Bird by Bird, came to mind for the sage advice her father had given her brother when a massive school report on birds was due: "Just take it bird by bird."

And so it could be, I realized, with a \$10,000 budget shortfall: We could break it into small chunks and suddenly not have it feel so onerous. Which is when I looked across the table at Chris and said: "You and I need to do a fundraiser for this \$10,000, and if we can't find at least 100 people in this congregation who can give another \$100 each for something cool that we're going to arrange for them, then we've got more trouble than we know. But I know we can find those 100 people."

Chris, of course, being the dour naysaying pessimist that he is, immediately started listing all the reasons why the whole idea was preposterous. (INSERT BIG SMILEY FACE HERE!! []) O.K., let me rephrase: Chris, being the most optimistic and faithful person I

know, immediately uttered some version of "Right on, Bro!"

All of which is pretty much how the Michael Krasny fundraiser on March 5 came into being. Most of you are likely familiar with Mr. Krasny, who will surely be inducted into the first specifically Talk Radio Hall of Fame class whenever they get around to building it. Famously erudite and civil and curious and an amazing listener (not all that common a quality among talk radio hosts), Krasny's recent book, Spiritual Envy: An Agnostic's Quest, is an engaging read on matters at the very heart of our UU tradition. And we get to pair him up here in conversation with our own, famously erudite and civil and curious and amazing listener Chris Bell. Right here at Glazer Center—live, unscripted and sure to be delicious and memorable.

Now: you can listen for free to Michael Krasny four days a week on KQED, and you can do the same with Chris Bell pretty much every Sunday and on many occasions in between. Is it worth a hundred bucks to hear them in conversation with each other?

Well, I think it is, and I also think this question of "worth" is thoroughly beside the point. My beloved friends: this is primarily a chance to support your congregation in the utterly worthy goal of keeping our budget balanced and fully funding our UUA-PCD dues, all while enjoying the company of your fellow congregants at a unique event that promises to be enlightening, provocative, and a helluva lot of fun.

Plus we're serving champagne afterwards. Are there 100, 110, 125 of you out there who can afford \$100? I hope so, I trust so. I look forward to meeting up with you there. If your budget simply doesn't allow it, we will have a \$20 option seating option as well. Your generosity and passion for your congregation are what matter, and that can be scaled to your circumstances.

But for all the rest of you who will quickly forget and not miss the cost but will long remember the occasion, I simply ask that you be one of our birds. Seat by seat, \$100 by \$100. Just show up for your congregation. I know it's a familiar flight.

— Andrew Hidas President, Board of Trustees

## Come Sunday Continued

Cont. from page 2

Later the same morning I attended the Family Service in the Religious Education wing. There were about 60 parents and children, discovering together how we might articulate our UU faith with, and for, each other. I felt great joy at the sight of so many children running about the courtyard while their parents and care-givers got acquainted after the service. How delightful to know that another generation will be raised with the same openminded thirst for truth, a firmly rooted trust in Life and Love, a willingness to be changed and to learn from all that life presents. I pray that ever more children and parents will join us.

I think they will, and soon, and all at once. If my view of our congregation is accurate, we are at a time of great opportunity. Our chalice is over-flowing. We are growing in size and spirit and vision everyday. We are bumping right up against the inevitable limitations of our governance (still too often rooted in a small fellowship model), our finances (there is enough, but a lot more would

be better), and an incredible reliance upon volunteer efforts (for which I could never thank you enough). The tension is there, but the spring is open, and the water is flowing, and it shall not be stopped. As we navigate that stream, I am so grateful that in addition to the holy books, and the great teachers, and each other, we also have the scientific method and the great gift of reason at our disposal, as we strive to answer Micah's ancient question, "What does the Holy require of thee, O mortals?"

His answer was "To love mercy, to do justice, and to walk humbly with your God." That's reasonable. Another answer is "open minds, loving hearts, and helping hands." Proven to be worthy, too! Still another is "celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another, and building a better world." What that final answer means is still unfolding every day among us.

I can't wait to worship with you again. See you Sunday.

# Save the Date! Saturday, March 5, 2010

Come enjoy our own Rev. Chris Bell in conversation with KQED "Forum" host Michael Krasny, author of the recently released "

Who: Rev. Christopher Bell and KQED "Forum" host Michael Krasny, author of the recently released Spiritual Envy: An Agnostic's Quest

What: A special UUCSR fundraiser featur- reception with ing a conversation on matters of religion, Messrs. Krasny spirituality and more...

Bell (sliding sca

When: 4 p.m. Saturday, March 5, 2011

Where: The UUCSR Sanctuary

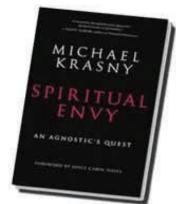
Why: Intellectual stimulation, spiritual inspiration, and a chance to gather with fel-

low congregants and contribute significantly to the financial health of UUCSR

How Much: \$100 Benefactor tickets include premium seating and a champagne

reception with
Messrs. Krasny and
Bell (sliding scale
seating available
closer to event date)

Tickets on sale at UUCSR



## **Religious Education for Children and Youth**

What do families need from a religious community like UUCSR? That is one of the questions we tackled in the first meeting of the Expanding Religious Education task Force last month. As we begin the work of finding ways to improve our program and welcome more families into the congregation, we are starting at the beginning. What do people need? Members of the task force came up with a wide range of needs: acceptance & belonging, an adult community, a community of peers for children, an articulated faith, a place for exploring and yes, even time away from the kids. And there were many, many others.

There are many reasons to seek a spiritual community, but for families in the 21 century it can sometimes be hard just to find the time to add another activity to the long list. But when one considers the challenges of raising children, what could be better than having a loving, inter-generational community to provide support and spiritual nurturing through the ups and downs of family life. Children today are barraged by the pressures of hyper-consumerism, media images of sex and violence, and popular culture trends that may be scary to parents. Daily family life can be so consumed with the tasks at hand (school, homework, extra-curricular activities, and the necessities of work and running the household) that finding the energy and those moments to counter-balancing these influences is a real challenge. That's why they invented the Sabbath. A time to cease - to take a break from the daily routine of life. A time to pay attention to other things. A time to take care of our inner lives.

In our Religious Education program there is time every Sunday to express gratitude, there is always a moment for reflection on hope and light. There is a lesson that lifts up some aspect of the quest for wholeness in our lives. We teach about the abundance of love as a counter-point to the desire for an abundance of things. We teach about justice and compassion in a world that can too frequently appear harsh. We teach that it is up to us to see this world through with our open minds, loving hearts, and helping hands.

In faith, Deborah

#### What's Happening In R.E. This Month:

2/6 Children's Chapel
2/13 Justice Sunday
2/20 Grades K-2: Spirit Play - Crow Boy
Grades 3-5: Love Connects Us - The Power of Peace
Grades 6-8: MUUGS - The Story of Stuff 7<sup>th</sup> Principle
2/27 Grades K-2: Spirit Play - The Magic Seed
Grades 3-5: Love Connects Us - Kindness Is Key
Grades 6-8: MUUGS Letting it Go - 3<sup>rd</sup> Principle

Sr. High Youth Group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month from 4pm to 6pm.



#### PLEASE—The UUCSR Work Room is NOT a thrift store!

Please do not leave unmarked donations in the workroom. If you wish to donate an item to the church, please find out what group wants it and give it directly to a member of that group. If you are taking up a collection, i.e. toiletries for the homeless, please supply a clearly marked box with your contact information on it. We currently have 10 good quality jackets in the lost and found. There are also several coffee pots, vases and unclaimed dishes in the staff kitchen that will go to the trash this month if left unclaimed. If you call the office to report a lost item, the office volunteers have been asked to attach a note with your name and phone number to item and hold it at the volunteer desk.

(ALL UNMARKED ITEMS found in the workroom are placed in the lost and found for 2 weeks and then PUT IN THE TRASH.)

If you have any questions, please contact AnnaLisa at 836-0758 or carfree@sonic.net

#### **Advocates for Social Justice**

#### Share the Basket

On Sunday, February 13th, one half of the collection will go to support our Saturday Breakfast program. As those of us who volunteer on Saturday mornings know, the number of guests keeps growing. We are averaging around 200 hungry folk a week!

This program is one of our 2 hands-on services to those in need in our community so when the basket comes your way, please be as generous as you can!

And on Sunday, February 27th, half the collection will go to the Council on Aging's "Meals on Wheels" program. Each day a nutritious hot meal is delivered to the homes of needy seniors, sadly this is often their only meal of the day. They serve over 3,000 people a year, day in and day out! Please support this program when the basket comes to you.



## **Hot Topics**

On Sunday, February 6th, representatives from M.E.N. (Men Evolving Non-violently) will discuss their program for helping men develop skills to sustain relationships and manage anger. Violence is not only physical but also emotional such as subtle messages of disrespect

and violating boundaries. Join us from 12:30 to 2pm in the Board Room for what surely will be a thoughtprovoking program!

A light lunch will be available for a donation.

## **Lunch before Congregational Meeting**

The Advocates for Social Justice will be selling a spiritual, in that battered community. delicious lunch at 12:15 on Sunday, February 20. We will donate the proceeds to the Greater New Orleans Unitarian Universalists, our sister organization still spearheading the work of reconstruction, both physical and

If you would like to help prepare and/or purchase food for this event, please contact Mary Louise Jaffray, 538-4668 or mljaffray@earthlink.net.

### **Women Together**



"How's your life?" "It's complicated." "How's your family?" "It's complicated" "Job going okay?" "It's complicated."

To enjoy and laugh with that complication, all UUCSR women are invited to a showing of the film It's Complicated with Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin on Saturday evening, February 5th at 6:30 in the Board Room. Women Together will provide wine and other beverages, please bring dessert type munchies to share. (If you can't imagine what to bring, the film will give you great ideas for the future!) I've already seen it three times and am looking forward to another opportunity!

Linda Harlow/Women Together

#### **Evening Book Group**

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 7:00 pm at 547 Mendocino. Our selection this month is The Help by Kathryn Stockett. The March selection is The Devlin Diary by Christy Phillips. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

Linda Lampson

#### **Unitarian Universalist Conversation and Action Network**

# <u>Unitarian Universalist Conversation and Action Network</u> HOUSE MEETINGS - Feb.27th

Are you concerned about our schools? Worried about your job? Research/Action Teams from our community organization,

The North Bay Sponsoring Committee, have already had many productive meetings with civic and political leaders in the issue of police/community relations and mental health services. Now, as a result of our recent inter-institutional House Meetings, two additional Research/Action Teams are forming. These will focus on the issues of education and jobs creation here in Sonoma County. To better understand the concerns

of our congregation regarding these two subjects, we will be conducting House Meetings on Sunday, February 27 from 12:30 to 2:30 at the Glaser Center. You will have an opportunity to tell a story about how educational or employment issues have affected your own life, or the life of your family. Those who wish to get further engaged can then join teams to work with interested members of other institutions as we find a path of action together.

Please plan to attend and explore these exciting possibilities! Lunch will be available for a donation.

UUCAN/Linda Harlow & Rev.Chris Bell

## **Politics—First Experience**

It has been said that "politics is the alternative to war." What exactly is politics? My first political experience was learning that my best friend could not enroll in dance class with me at our local dance studio because she was "Negro." It was 1952 and I was nine years old.

Sharing our first political experiences in Phoenix, Arizona at the 5-Day IAF (Industrial Areas Founda-

tion) "community organizers" training was a great way for Linda Harlow, Maureen Wallace, Cassandra Lista, and I to get to know other trainees from around the Southwest.

We would like to know what were your first political experiences. Email them to me, Jo Ann Robson at jorobson2003@yahoo.com.

#### **Committee on Shared Ministry**

The members of the Committee on Shared Ministry are Cathy Read (Chair), Rev. Chris Bell, Roger Corman, Nancy Hargis, Andy Levine, Elizabeth Marrs, Mary Wagner. If you have conflicts, concerns or just need to talk; the Committee on Shared Ministry is always available to listen. Please feel free to contact any of us.

The committee encourages members to get involved. You will find that the more you put in, the more you get back. There are many volunteer opportunities

here at UUCSR. Please take a look at the Directory of Members. In the front of the directory is a list of Committees and Interest Groups.

Look for something that interests you and contact the chair of that group if you are so inclined.

In fellowship, Andy Levine

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2011 Newsletter@uusantarosa.org E-mail submissions Greatly Appreciated! Newsletter Assembly February 23, 2011

### The Chalice Project

The Chalice Project, an idea conceived by one of our resident Visionaries, David Templeton, has blossomed! The borders of our imagination exploded and the project has been launched!

We invite you to be dazzled, to gain new appreciation for the arts and to collect pieces you will always treasure.

An auctioneer of distinction will guide your choices from start to finish.

We invite you to experience an unforgettable evening of surprises, music, food and wine, and to awaken to the mystery of the Chalice through the works of over 50 artist from Sonoma County.



#### **ESCAPE WINTER BLUES**

Gala Party and Auction
Saturday February 26th @5:30 p.m.
547 Mendocino Ave
Tickets
\$15.00 in advance \$20.00 at the door



## **UUCSR Writers**

#### **UUCSR** Writers

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa, Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., 707-568-5381. Information: Georgette G. deBlois, GGdeB@aol.com,

http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com

Regular Monthly Meeting Presentations and Feedback - 1st Monday of the month.

February 7 from 4 - 6 pm. Participants give presentations and receive feedback on a "Work in Progress".

Write-In's - 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. February 14 and 28, from 6 - 8 pm.

Bring your computer, parchment and quill, yellow lined pad with pen or notebook and join us for a couple of hours of writing, writing, writing...

Guest Speakers or Workshops 2nd and/or 4th Monday,

from 6 - 8 pm.

TBA - Confirmations being finalized.

Thursday's at the "Haven Coffee House" Every Thursday morning, 10 am - 12 noon Located in one of the few remaining authentic video stores in Sonoma County, the Video Droid on 1901 Mendocino Avenue in the Santa Rosa JC area. It's in the same parking lot as CVS Pharmacy. Parking is free.

Buy yourself a good cup of coffee or hot chocolate and a morning pastry of your choice. Enjoy the ambiance at the "Haven" as well as the pleasure of our humor, clever conversations and the periodic, spontaneous outburst of laughter that permeates the atmosphere.

Take Care, Georgette G. deBlois

## **Circle Dinner Groups for Spring 2011**

Welcome to our Spring Circle Dinner Groups! If your name is in **bold** at the **top** of a dinner group, please contact the others in your "circle" to arrange for your first gathering. You get to decide on the time and place with your group. Also you get to decide who brings what (ie: appetizer, salad, main dish, dessert, beverages/bread)! Please try to contact everyone within two weeks so no one feels forgotten!! As part of your after dessert conversation, don't forget to decide where and when you all will meet for the next month's gathering.

If, for some reason, you are not contacted by the folks at the top of the "circle" group or another problem arises, please contact Cathie Wiese at 829-3634 or cathie@sonic.net or Shirley Williams at 537-9790. We'll do our best!

\*\*If you cannot make a dinner, have to cancel, or (as the host) need to fill in an empty seat or two, please consider calling someone from the "Substitute List".

They will be glad to hear from you. Enjoy your time together in food, fellowship, and fun!

(**Daytime Groups)		Bruce and Judy Taylor	794-9743
**Dorris Lee	836-1576	Michael Randolph and Judith Redding	585-1118
Nathan & Susan Miron	833-4683	Judy Withee and Steve Sweaney	538-3404
Millie Tripp	523-2351	Pat Warner	539-4572
Nahydrah Rhodes	508-8096	Frieda Tomlin	576-6611
Suzette Metz and Patricia Chavez	894-3891	Cathie Wiese and Robert Lunceford	829-3634
Nancy Wilkins	823-7196	Roger and Roger DeBeers	816-2659
**Carolyn McLeese & Charles Rettke	875-3542	Cathleen Read and Victor Cummings	527-8635
Diana and David Bower	785-9725	Kitty and Brian Wells	953-0620
Cassandra Lista	584-4293	Pam Tennant	823-1845
Elizabeth Olson	573-0543	Heather Lawton	843-9936
Nancy Fitzpatrick	539-7753	Cristin Talley	620-0556
**Phyllis Nesbitt	542-5754	Amy Young	546-3016
Judy Schwalben	523-4470	Elsa Torres and Orlando Roala	776-2746
Dorothea Proctor	546-2913	Ralph and Jen Murray	837-0276
Claire Beery	823-4351	Jeanie Bates	824-0530
Ann Chambers	823-6902	Debbie and David Hope	337-3046
Calvin and Susan Simons	527-7191	Jill Hager	566-8846
Lynn and Leonard Riepenhoff	525-8424	Judy Meyer	824-0388
JoAnn Robson	823-5122	Mary and Jim Wolfe	544-3134
Janet and Loch Grant	538-3937	Marge Wright	887-7752
Ed Pine	528-8447	Nancy and Brian Hargis	571-1987
Tom Bond and Laura Jean Hagemann	539-3694	Kit Taylor	546-2035
Len and Marianne Holt	527-6797	Elizabeth and Robin Marrs	528-6939
Phyllis Matalis	481-4689	Bonnie Daines and Bob Boone	537-7247
Lee Kitchens usscatfis	h@gmail.com	Noé Kupunna	541-234-4848
Helga Lemke	579-2629	Phyllis and Bob Clement	823-0925
Art Rosenblum and Maureen Rumford	539-5104	Maureen Wallace and Eric Peterson	578-7665
Betty and Sid Gordon	545-0560	Linda and John McGinity	537-1662
Rick and Marilyn Beckerbauer	542-1779	Carol Weisker	776-4856
Linda Reck	769-1080	Delilah Crosby	208-230-1023
Dan Nuebel	280-9888		
Linda Marie Stubblebine	585-2212		Court on Doca 10
			Cont. on Page 10



# The Chalice Project Celebration & Auction Saturday, February 26 5:30 p.m.





Live Music by jazz pianist
Roger Corman
plus French trio
Un Deux Trois



Gala Food & Drink Raffle for week-long stay in France • Raffle of dinners & theater events • gifts & prizes



A grand celebration of the Chalice Project exhibition, featuring 52 original art pieces created by Sonoma County artists as visual meditations on the word "chalice"

The Glaser Center 547 Mendocino Ave. Santa Rosa



Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the Door Available at Copperfields Book Stores and online at www.brownpapertickets.com

Money raised from this event will benefit C.O.T.S., the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa, and the artists whose work will be auctioned

#### The Chalice Project Launches—but is Far From Over

On Saturday, February 15, more than 100 guests and artists arrived for the official kick-off event of our long planned Chalice Project art show. If you've been inside the Glaser Center over the last few weeks, you've surely noticed the 52 pieces of art work that were created by 45 Sonoma County artists, each one reflecting that artist's definition of the word 'Chalice." From sculptures to paintings, collages to comics, the array of work is extraordinary. If you'd like to see the exhibit during weekday hours, it is open to the public Monday-Friday from 10:00 to 4:00 p.m., so please swing by-and bring some friends. You might be surprised at how many pieces were created by folks you already know.

Of course, the exhibition is only part one of the Chalice Project. Following a full six weeks of public viewing, there will be a festive party and auction on February 26 (that's a Saturday), starting at 5:30 p.m. In addition to music by Roger Corman and Un Deux Trois (Robert Lunceford's French trio), there will be plenty of food and drink, plus gifts, surprises and three separate raffles, including a drawing for a week in France. Many of the paintings and sculptures will be auctioned as Silent Auction items that evening, and then, with Rev. Chris as auctioneer, ten of the most sought-after pieces will be auctioned off in a grand end to the Chalice Project. Money raise will be split equally between C.O.T.S. (the Committee on the Shelterless), the UUCSR, and the artists themselves.

Many of you have already zeroed in on pieces you'd like to own yourselves. In addition, Rev. Chris has noticed a number of pieces that would make wonderful additions to our permanent collect. So please consider this: perhaps, in addition to bidding on works you'd like to display in your own homes, you might consider purchasing a piece to donate to the UUCSR (Chris thinks a nice little plaque: "Donated by . . . . " would be appropriate. And here's another idea: why not collect a group fo people and bid together, splitting the purchase among you? It would be a great way to contribute to the financial and cultural health of our congregation.

Plus . . . . the auction is going to be FUN. Even if you feel you probably won't bid on any art work, consider coming for the fellowship and entertainment—and maybe a chance to win a week in France, an original piece of artwork, or a whole bundle of free dinners and theater tickets. Your tickets (\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door) help make the event possible, so do consider whom you might invite to join you for this very special, very elegant celebration of the arts.

#### **Our Favorite Love Songs**

On Friday, February 11, come celebrate Valentine's Day, as we present an all "love songs" version of the popular "favorite songs" series. We've collected nominations, and from them selected an evening's worth of beautiful songs, to be performed by members of the congregation. Additionally, we'll be joined by La Guingette, the French trio featuring Robert Lunceford on accordion, and (this being almost Valentine's Day) the celebrated Love Choir of Sonoma County. The show begins at 7:00 p.m., and tickets are offered on a sliding scale between \$1 and \$1000. Please plan to join us for this very special evening-and don't forget to bring someone you love.

## Circle Dinner Groups for Spring 2011 Cont.

Lee Chase	538-8329	Phil and Jenny Harriman	206-0488
Linda Lampson	585-1206	Marley Fein	575-8946
Skipper and John Taylor	521-0141	Barry and Marian Quirk	525-1943
Kathy Norman	523-2787	Olive Horrell	545-5065
Sam and Betty Miller	539-3654	Stacy Sincheff	528-6603
Melora McArdle	546-0455	Louise and Ollie Ostlund	578-8619
Meiora McAraie	540-0455	Mary Louise & John Jaffray	538-4668
SUBSTITUTE LIST:		Barbara and Jules Glaser	538-4870
Mary and Wells Wagner	523-1366	Joan and Dick Thatcher	544-9130
Mike and Joan Reid	431-8757	Antonia & Dick Rodriguez	836-0757
Chris Bell & Rita Butterfield	528-2714	Jewell and Don Ford	538-2768
Karen Lillard	575-1255	Gretchen Paradis	763-1910
Linda Harlow	526-3528	Shirley Williams	537-9790

#### **Partner Church Festival**

#### **Partner Church Festival**

With the UU Partner Church Council Board of Directors Saturday, Feb. 5, 7:00-9:00 pm Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo 300 E. Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401

Come learn more about what's new and exciting in the UU international partner church movement. The UU Partner Church Council Board of Directors will be sharing exciting news about partner church relationships. There will be wine and cheese, dancing and international guests. This event is free and open to all interested parties. Invite a friend!

What Will My Investment Earn?

## **Aging with Grace**

In order to better serve the time commitments of the "Aging With Grace" group, there will be duplicate sessions:

First Wednesday of the Month: 10:30am—12:00n Second Thursday of the Month: 10:00am—11:30am

There will be four (4) interconnected programs for the Spring semester.

March 2nd and 10th



February 2nd and 10th Will I Outlive My Income?

April 6th and 14th What Are My Taxes?

May 4th and 12th What Are My End Of Life Expenses?

Moderator: Bob Watkins, 707-775-8627

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON OUR FINANCES
JOIN US AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH IN THE SANCTUARY

# Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa 16 December, 2010

Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Andrew Hidas

Members Present: Bob Barrows, Ann Chambers, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (Co-Treasurer), Phyllis Heagney, Andrew Hidas (President), Mary Louise Jeffray (Vice President), Lois Nagle, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Craig Work

Members Not Present: Bonnie Daines (Co-Treasurer)

Non-members Present: Rose St. John (Financial Stewardship Council), Linda Stabler (HR Committee Chair), Terry Graham (Recording Secretary)

Opening Words: Andrew: "My Love for All Things Warm

and Breathing" by William Kloefkorn

Open Mic: None

Minutes of 18 November 2010 approved as amended: Phyllis had been erroneously listed as present.

Treasurer's Report: Rose presented a summary report of Congregation finances since June 2007. The improved financial condition specifically addressed the cash situation vis-à-vis loans from members ("member notes"). The loan principals have been reduced from \$41K to \$25K. FinStew recommended that that the loans not be renewed when they expire in January 2011. Loan payment does not require BOT action.

Rose presented a suggestion that the Congregation open an account with Ever Bank for the separate Emergency Fund. A motion should include a list of authorized account signers, and authorized Janis Brewster to obtain account information. Bob moved, Cathie seconded to pursue these actions. Motion passed unanimously viva voce.

Rose presented a list of authorized signers for the Luther Burbank mortgage account. She suggested authorizing Janis Brewster and Rose St. John to obtain account information. Craig moved, Cathie seconded to pursue these actions. Motion passed unanimously viva voce.

Landscape Report: Ann reported that the shrubs at the building main entrance are diseased. The poor soil requires replacement via hand digging due to the large number of pipes in the bed. Replacement is expected to be complete in approximately 3 months.

Fundraiser: Michael Krasny: Andrew discussed an upcoming fundraiser budgeted for this year. Michael Krasny, host of KQED's "Forum" and author of a recent book, Spiritual Envy: An Agnostic's Quest, will appear at the Glazer Center with Rev. Chris Bell in a conversation of matters of religion, spirituality, etc... \$100 Benefactor tickets will include premium seating and a champagne reception with Messrs. Krasny and Bell (sliding scale seating available closer to event date).

**Goals:** New Member Contacts: All BOT members have new member contacts to make. Phyllis requires assignments.

**Bylaws Report**: Mary Louise and Craig reported that an ad hoc member had resigned but progress is being made on plans, approach and distinction between bylaws and procedures.

**HR Committee**: Laura Jean reported that the focus has been on review of minister's compensation.

Financial Stewardship Council: Laura Jean reported that (1) the Pledge Drive Committee has been formed and is making much earlier progress than in former years, (2) the Budget Committee has been reorganized with new procedures being developed, and (3) a Quarterly Budget Review Committee is being formed.

Youth Group Interaction: Mary Louise reported that progress has been minimal thus far.

**Board Transparency**: Andrew accepted ACTION to add BOT agenda to Focus List communications.

Membership Council: Craig presented Chris's "Wish List." The detailed list prescribes specific objectives in areas of member integration, hospitality, caring and denominational affairs. Potential candidates to join the team are being identified. ACTION: Terry to pdf a copy of the list to BOT members (complete 12/16).

Closing Words: Andrew: Reading of "Grazing" from Mitsui Futabako.

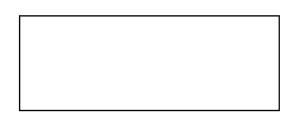
Adjourned: 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Graham TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

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#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED







February 2011

Please Recycle

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

Mailing Address: 547Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Telephone: 707-568-5381 Email: office@uusantarosa.org Fax: 707-568-5387 Website: http://www.uusantarosa.org

#### **Board of Trustees**

President: Andrew Hidas, President@uusantarosa.org

Vice President: Mary Louise Jaffray Vice President@uusantarosa.org

Co-Treasurers: Bonnie Daines and Laura Jean Hageman Treasurer@uusantarosa.org Secretary: Cathie Wiese

#### **Board Members:**

**Recording Secretary Bob Barrows** Terry Graham

Ann Chambers John Farison

Laura Jean Hageman Phyllis Heagney Lois Nagle Cathie Wiese Craig Work

#### Order of Service Announcements:

Send submissions to Orderofservice@uusantarosa.org

Editor: Janis Brewster

Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

#### **UU Update Newsletter:**

Send submissions to Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

Newsletter by E-mail is available. To sign up, send an e-mail to Administrator@uusantarosa.org with your name and e-mail address

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.

#### Staff

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Director, Religious Education: Deborah Mason, Ext. 131 DLRE@uusantarosa.org

Administrator: Janis Brewster, Ext. 106, Administrator@uusantarosa.org Music Director: Nancy Hayashibara, Ext. 112, musicdirector@uusantarosa.org Glaser Center Director: David Templeton, x103, glasermanager@uusantarosa.org

Sexton: Art Hernandez

**Sunday Religious Education Staff** Jeremy Cummings Aly Holloway