



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• July 2008 • Volume 52 • Issue 7 •

Sunday Services at 10:00am

July 6th

"The Pagan Heart"

Service Leaders: The Pagans of UUCSR

Worship Associate: Leslie Giffen

The word "pagan" comes from the Latin "paganus" meaning "country dweller." Today a large percentage of those who describe themselves as pagans are city dwellers. The term encompasses many different forms of Earth based worship including the rituals of Wicca, Native American Religion and the eclectic Neo-pagans. In our congregation, there are representatives of many different kinds of paganism. We are guided by ancient wisdom, respected teachers and intuitive knowledge. Join us as a few UUCSR members share our personal worship styles, rituals and experiences with the congregation. Come share our journey as we explore the Pagan Heart.

July 13th

"Going Deep"

Service Leader: Jamie McReynolds

Worship Associate: Andy Levine

How do we engage each other in deeper ways, moving past social conversations to sharing the depths of our lives? How do we go deeper within ourselves, fanning our divine spark into flame? How does our UU faith help us engage the religious questions pondered by humans since the dawn of human history? Jamie McReynolds, a member of this congregation and a 3rd year student at Starr King School for the Ministry will explore these questions in the context of his experience during the past year as a hospital chaplain in a community hospital.

July 20th

"The Voice in the Whirlwind"

Worship Leader: Rev. Eva Českava

Worship Associate: Maureen Wallace

In the Old Testament, God speaks to troubled Job in a whirlwind. We who have lived more than a few years have experienced such whirlwinds. I'll tell you of one of mine, and the importance of community in facing them.

Reverend Českava is the Minister of Religious Education at the UU Church of Palo Alto. Welcome, Reverend Českava!

July 29th

"Job's Side of the Story,"

Service Leader: Rev. Craig Scott

Worship Associate: Lucia Milburn

Over the centuries, scholars, rabbis, priests, and ministers have had a terrible time reconciling the story of Job with traditional Jewish and Christian teachings.

And no wonder -- it's a very subversive text! Today we will hear the story from another angle: the point of view of Job himself.

Yes, today we will have a visit from that "righteous man" of the Hebrew Bible. You will be surprised at what Job has to say -- and you may find some new insights into ancient theologies.

Our guest presenter is the Consulting Minister for the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Tuolumne County - Rev. Craig Scott. Rev. Scott was ordained as a Unitarian Universalist in January 2005 at his home church, the UU Church of Berkeley, California. He is a 2004 graduate of Pacific School of Religion, in Berkeley, with an MDiv degree. He also has a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley and practiced law in a previous incarnation.



Inside & Outside—Rev. Chris

Because Janis, our able administrator and noble newsletter editor, gave us all extra time to complete our July newsletter articles, I'm writing from Los Angeles where I am participating in an educational training with the Industrial Areas Foundation.

The I.A.F. employs the core group of organizers who we work with through the North Bay Sponsoring Committee, a coalition of congregations, non-profits and others that is working toward a broad-based organization for social change in Sonoma and Napa counties. As those who attended our recent congregational meeting are well aware, UUCSR has just become a dues-paying member of this group, and I hope that through it we will play a leading role in creating a strong, enduring progressive religious voice in Sonoma County.

Big questions remain.

What form will that coalition take? What are our interests, and the interests of potential allies, and how do they overlap? What are the things we can work on together? We simply don't know yet.

There is only one way to find out, of course, and it is the heart of the I.A.F. process. We have to have internal conversations with each other at UUCSR and then we have to have conversations with people from other institutions that are focused on change (e.g., Congregation Shomrei Torah or Resurrection Catholic Parish, both well-represented here). The goal is to find our common ground, hear each other's pain and frustration as well as hope and inspiration and then work in "the world as it is" to make it a little bit more like "the world that should be." If our organizing is successful, we will be embedded in a widely inclusive political organization that endures over time, holding public leaders accountable and exercising its own power through education, advocacy and direct action. A major event or push for change may only happen every 2 or 3 years, but when it does occur - and 2000 people show up to demand affordable housing from the County Supervisors, or some such thing - it can be very, very effective. You can visit the I.A.F. website at www.industrialareasfoundation.org if you would like to learn more.

Conversational skills has been a theme of the last three months. Recently many of us at UUCSR have been engaging the method of Non-Violent Communication, with two workshops and a service devoted to it, all thanks to the Committee on Shared Ministry. NVC is a great tool for creating connection, particularly during a time of conflict. It encourages us to take our own emotional life and the emotional life of others seriously, but more importantly it

understands our emotions to function primarily as indicators of the fulfillment or frustration of needs. Being able to name and share our basic human needs (which are found to be universal across cultures and societies), can take us to a much deeper level of empathy and conversation. It can be transformative in intimate relationships, and also can be helpful within groups and between groups. The congregation now owns a number of NVC resources, and I would be happy to help people put it to use in their lives. I have found my effort (and occasional failure) to use NVC to be a humbling and productive practice.

The essence of communicating non-violently is an attitude of curiosity and freedom from judgment. When using it we are encouraged to strive for understanding and to leave our opinions and moral assessments aside in order to invite full expression from the other. The basic NVC strategy of O.F.N.R. (*Observe, name or guess Feelings, name or guess Needs, make a Request*) can be very useful for breaking through heated emotions because it directly demonstrates caring and compassion.

One of the biggest differences with NVC is that the I.A.F. process - being concerned with larger social change and long-term institutional effectiveness - pays much more attention to the dynamics of power than NVC does. In a conflict with another person or another organization, we can't be blind to the effects that different degrees of power have on a conversation or its potential outcome. We have to live in "the world as it is." Power is simply defined as "the ability to act" and it is exercised when two or more people have gotten together with a plan for change. UUCSR has power. I have power and you have power.

Although the I.A.F. process is much more focused on public life and coalition-building toward concrete action than NVC ever would be, it is similarly focused on relationships and the process of deeply getting to know others. Here in L.A. we have been learning interviewing and relational skills and leadership development. We've worked with a fascinating case study from Homer (from Greece, not Springfield) describing talks between an ancient Athenian army and the Spartan colony of Melios that demonstrated what to do, and what definitely not to do, in negotiations. We had to play act the different parts, and we were all humbled when the Melians were put to the sword the first time, figuratively speaking, for lack of any ability to break through an impasse. We have also been analyzing the purposes and effectiveness of different types of public organizations.

Most importantly, we are strengthening the web of human connection.

Cont. on page 6

Splinters from the Board

Introducing the 2008 – 2009 UUCSR Board of Trustees New Members

ANN CHAMBERS: Career: Until moving to California, I worked as Executive Director of a small not-for-profit arts and cultural center (Cortez Cultural Center). My husband Bill and I ran a 40-acre organic farm near Cortez. We downsized to five acres near Sebastopol, planning to do the same thing but smaller. Sadly, he came down with A.L.S. (Lou Gherigs) in 2005 and passed away in April of 2006. UU Affiliation: Member of UUCSR since 2002. Formerly a member of the UU Fellowship, Durango, CO, for several years.

Leadership Activities: Currently on the Aesthetics Committee and volunteer some at the 9 o'clock service. Formerly active with Advocates for Social Justice. Currently serving on the boards of the following local organizations: Sebastopol Newcomers, Master Gardeners and Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods.

DENESE PENDER: Career: Currently the Accounting Manager for a local property management firm. I have a passion for accounting, and have worked in the field for the past 27 years. UU Affiliation: I joined UUCSR in 2002, but have been attending since 1999. Previously part of the UU congregation in Boise, Idaho.

Leadership Activities: Served on the Membership Committee since 2004 and have helped plan the Family Retreat since about 2002. I've served as usher and greeter for the past few years. Music is one of my hobbies. My band, Blue Sky, plays mostly 60's and 70's rock, folk and blues, and has played at the UUCSR for special events. Active with the Sierra Club.

CRAIG WORK: Career: Scientific programmer on the team that programmed the on-board computers for the Apollo flights and Space Shuttle; helped with programming the return flight of Apollo 13. Proud father of three. UU Affiliation: Member of UUCSR since 1992.

Leadership Activities: UUCSR Choir member. Formerly served two terms on UUCSR Board in role of Treasurer. Former member of the Finance Committee. As athlete, won four national championships in handball.

Continuing Members

BOB BARROWS: Career: Psychologist, Psych Strategies. UU Affiliation: A UU and a member of UUCSR since 2004.

Leadership Activities: UUCSR Board Member since 2007. Volunteer for Saturday morning work team. Formerly served as facilitator, Small Group Ministry, Board member of Psych Strategies, grief work volunteer and hospice volunteer.

BONNIE DAINES: Career: Retired Elementary School Principal, Part-time Tax Preparer. UU Affiliation: Became UU member in Bloomfield Hills, MI in 1965; joined UUCSR in 2002.

Leadership Activities: Currently UUCSR Board member and Co-Treasurer. Co-chair of UUCSR Small Group Ministry and UUCSR choir member. President of UU Board in Walnut Creek, CA in 1980,

ANDREW HIDAS: Career: Owner, Communications & Consulting Business. UU Affiliation: A UU and a member of UUCSR since 2005.

Leadership Activities: Currently Vice-President of 2007-2008 UUCSR Board, Member of 2008-2009 Canvass Team, Chair of 2007-2008 Canvass. Board of Directors for Prison Ministry, hospice volunteer, and member of various boards and committees (YMCA, Family Service, etc.)

SUZIE MCPHEE: Career: Retired Banking Executive, Trainer/Consultant. UU affiliation: A UU and a member of UUCSR since 2002.

Leadership Activities: Current UUCSR Board member and Co-treasurer. Member of Worship Associates, Operations Team, and former member of Long Range Planning Task Force.

ORLANDO RAOLA: Career: Chemistry instructor at Santa Rosa Junior College. UU Affiliation: Became UU member of San Francisco Church in 1994; joined UUCSR in 2005.

Leadership Activities: Current UUCSR Board member and Worship Associates. Former Webmaster for our Internet site. Active volunteer at various other UU congregations; leader of Esperanto International in Cuba and U.S.

KAREN LILLARD: Career: Court Reporter. UU Affiliation: Joined UUCSR in July of 1999.

Leadership Activities: Current UUCSR Board member and former Treasurer. Past Endowment Chair. Formerly served on Finance, Membership and Kitchen Committees. Enthusiastic volunteer for many UUCSR canvasses.

Past President and Ex-Officio Member of Board

LINDA PROULX: Career: Linda owns her own career counseling and consulting firm, Worklife & Learning, Inc. UU Affiliation: Joined UUCSR in 2000. Former member of First Unitarian Church of San Jose.

Leadership Activities: UUCSR Board President for 2007-2008 and Board member since 2004. Formerly served on Adult Education Committee and participated in several canvass leadership teams. Fellow, Leadership Institute for Ecology and the Economy. Former volunteer with Memorial Hospice.

Treasurer's Report

We have a successful financial year under our belts and with the wonderful work of the Canvass Committee and the commitment of our members it looks as if we are on the way to another one. At the Congregational Meeting we approved a budget that included several exciting initiatives.

This year we are going to focus on people and programs. We will be hiring a volunteer coordinator which will help committees to be 'peopled' and able to carry out their programs. Joining the North Bay Sponsoring Committee will provide opportunities for leadership development, coordination with other community groups and support for activities near and dear to our hearts.

Last year members and friends were so faithful in honoring pledges in a timely manner that our cash flow from month

to month stopped being a constant crisis. You have no idea how much more sleep the finance committee and treasurers are getting every night. We were also able to make our Fair Share Commitment to the PCD and the UUA. This is no small item - we all can be congratulated! Let's keep the momentum going in this new financial year.

UUCSR is changing to a "program congregation" - meaning we are known in our community as a center for social causes, artistic endeavors, theatrical and musical events. Our membership is growing. We are continually expanding in depth and breadth of spirituality and we are solidifying our financial base. Our coming 2008-2009 year will be even more exciting!

Bonnie Daines and Suzie McPhee, Co Treasurers

Advocates For Social Justice

Share the Basket

On July 6th when the basket comes to you, please make a generous contribution to help The Living Room. When school is out, the demand for services goes up as the children often have no place to go, and with no school lunch, the meal they get at The Living Room may be the best (or only one) of the day.

Many thanks!

Human Trafficking in Sonoma County

Yes, it's happening, and you can learn about it on Wednesday, July 2nd at Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa 95404. We will see the film Cargo: Innocence Lost followed by a panel discussion with local, state and national experts. There is a Reception at 5 pm and the screening at 6 pm. The event is free but reservations are highly recommended: nohumantrafficking@sonoma-county.org or 565-2693.

1 Day Buddhist Meditation Retreat

August 16, 10 am to 5 pm at UUCSR.

Deepen your practice with a day of silent sitting meditation, walking meditation, mindful eating practice, and meditative movement.

Sitting meditation sessions are 30 or 45 minutes and are interspersed with Qi Gong practices, body awareness exercises, and walking meditation.

Encouragement, instruction, and guidance are provided for all aspects.

There is a non-silent Q&A period.

Please register by telling Rose Saint John you are coming.

Please pay \$4 for lunch. Before August 10. Some meditation experience is required, but not much.



Movie & Popcorn with Spectrum Fellowship

Spectrum Fellowship is the monthly GLBT social gathering. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month, in the religious education wing about 15 minutes after worship.

☐ Newcomers, guests, and other non-members are always welcome. In honor of the recent state Supreme

Court decision, this month's movie will be "The Wedding Banquet", a warm-hearted comedy about the family ties we choose and those we're born into. Contacts:

Heather French <heather.french@sonoma.edu> or Carina Zona <carina@cczona.com>.

Children's and Youth Religious Education (RE)

Each week as I plan Youth Worship for the children I am consumed by stories. Wonderful stories that illustrate the struggles, the triumphs, and the connections we make in this life. As one who loves nothing more than to curl up with a good novel, I am inspired by the fantasy and metaphor of a good yarn. Author C.S. Lewis wrote:

"What then is the good of ... occupying our hearts with stories of what never happened and entering vicariously into feelings which we should try to avoid having in our own person? ... The nearest I have yet got to an answer is that we seek an enlargement of our being. We want to be more than ourselves. We want to see with other eyes, to imagine with other imaginations, to feel with other hearts, as well as our own. ... In reading great literature I become a thousand men and yet remain myself."

This is so for adults and perhaps even more so for children. I spent an afternoon this week with Simon French and his mom Heather at the County Clerk's office. As Heather and I handed out flowers to newlyweds, Simon was completely engrossed in tales of dragons, and labyrinths, and intrigue. So consumed was he that he barely noticed what was going on outside the pages of the book. Children learn so much from stories that capture their imaginations. They gain new perspective, explore new concepts and ideas, and are sent, in mind and spirit, to places never before dreamed of.

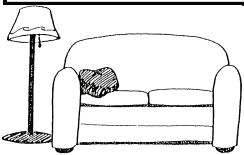
So, it is no wonder that I like to use stories as the centerpiece of children's worship. Stories are a portal to the heart and spirit.

There are other stories that inform and deepen our lives; family stories passed down through generations carrying rich family history (and mythology) that give one a sense of place in the grand scheme of things. Did you have parents who did not speak of "the old days", or were you told stories from generations before? Did you hear all the juicy gossip about relatives, or was there a cloud of silence that left questions unanswered? My family was rather mute about the past, and I feel bereft of the family folklore that I am sure is a part of my heritage. My vote is to tell your children lots of stuff - let them hear about the challenges, and the silly mistakes that were made along the way, as well as the successes and the times of overcoming odds. In doing so, you will provide them with new eyes to see you and to see themselves.

If you have a children's story or a personal life story that you love, that meant a lot to you growing up, or meant a lot to your children when they were young, let me know about it. I would love to pass it along to our young UUs.

In faith,
Deborah

The Living Room



THE LIVING ROOM

Urgent Needs List

As of 5-26-2008

GENERAL SUPPLIES:

Dry cereal
Women's size 7 underwear
Sanitary pads
Sunscreen
Women's socks
Bottled water

CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES:

Diapers size 6
Swimming Diapers ("Little Swimmers")

VOLUNTEERS:

Office: copy, computer input
Program room: front desk and food server
Board Member, Advisory Committee Member
Special event help

\$\$CASH DONATIONS are gladly accepted and immediately put to use!

636 Cherry Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 707.579.0138

www.thelivingroomsc.org info@thelivingroomsc.org

Inside & Outside—Cont.

The basis of I.A.F. organizing is the eliciting and telling of stories, usually with an emotional element, that help us connect with our power. Some examples: Tell about a time when political affairs made you angry, and what did you do about it? Tell about a time when you witnessed an injustice and stood up to it. Tell about a time when you alone made change happen, or when you failed to do so.

This is hard work for me. Generally speaking, I float around up here in the abstracted world of big ideas: history, philosophy, ethics. I pick theology over fiction for pleasure reading, which strikes even me as weird! I love to hear other people's stories, but I have trouble thinking of my own, and those I do remember bore me. My most interesting stories tend to involve moments of terrible judgment, and I prefer to keep them private. And at any rate my memory is shot, so I usually shouldn't tell a story without Rita nearby to keep me from exaggerating or getting the basic facts wrong. Fortunately, she's here too.

So, I may not be inspiring anybody here, but I am certainly feeling inspired. "Helping to build a better world" and "caring for one another" are going to take exciting

forms in our congregation over the next few years.

I hope that as we live and work and worship together the foundation of NVC training we've received will help us to attend more wisely and sensitively to our own and other's emotional cues, and encourage us rise above ego's selfish reflexes to the broader view where others' needs can be heard and addressed, too. I also hope our I.A.F. work will expand that work, and carry us across boundaries of race, class and belief toward real community cooperation.

I want to thank the Committee on Shared Ministry again for organizing our Non-Violent Communication trainings and for taking the lead on helping to create a congregational culture of honesty, empathy and integrity. I also thank the Board for leading us into our new relationship with the North Bay Sponsoring Committee. Exciting actions, profound connections, and great untold stories await us!

Enjoy the heat and brown and beauty of summer, friends, and I'll see you in August.

Rev. Chris

Musings from your Caring Committee

Some of the members of UUCSR have Hospice training, and of course our Lay Pastoral Associates have had a wonderful training to help them assist other members of our spiritual community in times of difficulty. There are so many caring individuals at UUCSR, but there may be those who feel a bit awkward visiting the dying or visiting others in difficulty. What do I say? might be your inner thought as you long to be helpful. We have just learned from Rev. Chris, that Bruce Kennedy is now part of Sutter-VNA Hospice and they have funds to provide community education. At a recent visit with Rev. Chris, Bruce offered some wonderful courses to

anyone at UUCSR who is interested, and also the greater community if desired. These courses may include such topics as preparing for your own death, and what you might find helpful to make this easier for family. He can also offer courses on visiting ill or dying friends or relatives, and how to do this in a way that comforts them. I am paraphrasing here, but watch for announcements about these and related topics coming soon. And as always, remember that your Caring Committee wants to be of service when you need: food, medical equipment, transportation, or a visit from a caring fellow UU.

Inquirer's Meetings

These are brief, informal meetings held once a month following the 10 am Sunday Service as indicated below. They provide an opportunity for visitors and guests to meet with our minister, Rev. Chris Bell, and one or two lay leaders. Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged! Bring your coffee or tea and join us in the Green Room, located at the opposite end of the hall from the social area.



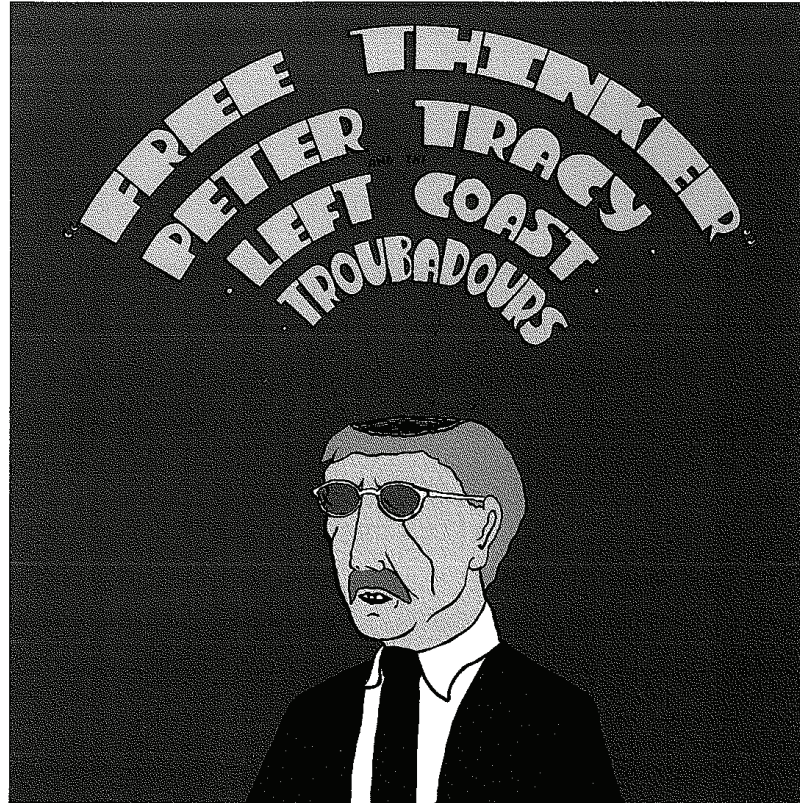
July 13 (following 10 am service)

August 10 (following 10 am service)

The Glaser Center presents an evening of sharp-witted folk music under the stars

FREE THINKER

Featuring the songs *Tiny Little Planet*, *Woman of the People* (The Ballad of Molly Ivins), and *Let's Send some Balls to Congress*.



The Brand New CD from Sonoma County's
Masters of "Radical Peace" protest tunes

PETER TRACY AND THE LEFT COAST TROUBADOURS

Record Release Event
 Saturday, July 12, 7:30 p.m.
 Outdoor Courtyard @ The Glaser Center
 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa

\$18 includes copy of
Free Thinker CD

\$12 Entry only,
no CD

Tickets Available at
 The Last Record Store,
 Back Door Disc and Stanroy Music Center
 and on-line at www.brownpapertickets.com

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2008

Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail submissions Greatly

Appreciated!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GLASER CENTER

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 7:30 P.M.

Peter Tracy & the Left Coast Troubadours

A courtyard concert celebrating the release of Peter Tracy's brand-new CD *Free Thinker*

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 7:30 P.M.

SUMMERTIME MOVIES IN THE COURTYARD
The Marx Brothers' Classic Comedy

Duck Soup

Plus cartoons and shorts. At dusk in the courtyard, the smell of popcorn will fill the air as this timeless comedy is screened outdoors.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 8 P.M.

Ghost Readers in July

The annual courtyard performance of spine-tingling ghost stories performed live by Sonoma County's most "spirited" actors—with spooky campfire songs by Steve Pile (of Steve Pile & the Piledrivers)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 7:00 P.M.

All Together Now

Annual Beatles Sing-along with the tribute band Beatlesque
Join the North Bay's hottest Beatle-themed band for a night of great songs; every audience member gets a lyric book, and is invited to sing along from their seats as Beatlesque leads some of the greatest songs ever written. A great event to share with family & friends

Grass Roots Activism with Sam Dailey-Harris

On Thursday, July 10th, I have arranged for my friend, Sam Dailey-Harris, to use our facility for a workshop on grassroots activism. Sam organized the 2006 Global Microcredit Summit, with delegates from 112 countries, including the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the President of Honduras, the Queen of Spain and the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Dr. Muhammad Yunus. Sam is a good friend of Dr. Yunus and watched him receive the Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway. Sam is President and founder of RESULTS Education Fund, an organization dedicated to mass educational strategies to generate the will to end world hunger and poverty. Sam founded

RESULTS 28 years ago. There are now 100 chapters in the U.S as well as chapters in 6 other countries. The Washington Post said, "There's not a rich lobby in Washington that wouldn't trade its limos for the group's achievements" This is a wonderful opportunity to meet an amazing man. Come listen, be inspired, and perhaps consider becoming a part of this organization. It would be helpful to have an idea of how many will be coming so if you know for sure please let me know. The event will be held from 7:00 to 9:45.

Shirley Williams 575-9322 or skwill36@earthlink.net

A Letter From David

Happy post-Solstice! Things are hot around here, these days, and I mean that in more ways than one. With temperatures reaching near 100 some days, we are planning more and more evening events for our beautiful outdoor courtyard. Take a look at full the listing elsewhere in this month's newsletter, and remember to check the website (www.glasercenter.com) for updates and additions. For the month of July and August, we've a spate of events that were inspired, requested, or suggested by members of the congregation. On July 12, due to popular demand and to celebrate Peter Tracy's release of the new CD 'Free Thinker,' we're having Peter and the Left Coast Troubadours back for a concert of politically-tinged folk music. The following Friday, on July 18, we'll have the first of three outdoor movies: the Marx Brothers' Duck Soup, with shorts and cartoons, and live entertainment preceding the dusk-time screenings. Bring your family (and a blanket) for this community-friendly event (suggested by movie-fan Jules Glaser). On the following Saturday, it's the annual Ghost Readers in July, an evening of funny-and-scary ghost stories

and campfire tales read by 8 of the North Bay's best actors; this year, we're bumping up the entertainment factor even more, with special theatrical effects and soundscapes added to some of the stories, plus, local legend John Moran performing Michael Jackson's 'Thriller!' Then in August, everybody's favorite band, the Beatles, will be celebrated with the first annual 'All Together Now,' a Beatles sing-along featuring local tribute band Beatlesque. Later, Narrow Way Stage Co. will be back with two great dramas running in repertory, and in the fall, Fools' Circle Repertory will present a hilarious 50s-era musical, Zombies from the Beyond! Tickets are available after every service at the box office, where you can also pick up information about these and other upcoming events, and ask how you can help with the wonderful events program featured all year long at the Glaser Center.

Have a great summer!

David Templeton
Glaser Center Manager

Sonoma County Campaign Coalition for Marriage Equality

This November, California voters will decide whether to change our state constitution. If passed, the "Limit On Marriage Amendment" will permanently strip marriage equality out of our state's constitution.

In partnership with Marriage Equality USA (MEUSA) and Advocates for Social Justice, we are building a Sonoma County interfaith coalition of organizations and

individuals uniting to protect the constitutional right and principle of equality for all. UUCSR is the host site for the coalition's July volunteer orientation. New volunteers will get inspired, energized, trained, and connected with teams to get busy on this important campaign! Coalition volunteer signup sheets and other info are at the Advocates table.

Women Together—Farewell to Summer!

Save the date...August 16th! Women Together is hosting our annual End of Summer Gathering. (End of Summer on August 16th??? Isn't that a bit early? Thousands of students will be asking the same question when they start school again the following Monday!) All women of our congregation are invited to join for food and conversation at the Sebastopol home of Cathie Wiese on Saturday, August 16th from noon to 3:00 pm. We will soak up the summer sunshine, share summer stories, take a dip in the pool if you want, and enjoy those great Women Together potluck dishes as we say

farewell to summer in Cathie's spacious backyard. There will be plenty of shade, too! Bring your favorite potluck lunch dish to share, a beverage of your choice, and a swimsuit and towel if you think you might like to have some wet recreation. Plates, utensils, and iced tea will be on hand. We would love to have you RSVP at 829-3634 so we can look forward to your company. Spontaneous gatherers are welcome, too! The address is 220 Frankel Lane in Sebastopol. It is in town and very easy to find. Call for directions if you'd like.

Thank You

Thank you everyone for your letters, notes, phone calls and other kind and thoughtful expressions of condolence and support in my recent bereavement.

They were/are all much appreciated.

Margaret P. Diether

Afternoon Book Group



The Afternoon Book Group will meet on Tuesday, July 29 at 1:00 p.m. Please bring your lunch; beverages will be provided. The book for discussion is "In

the Time of the Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez. For location or other questions please call Susan Simons, 527-7191.

Under the Hill Fun in the Sun Day!

Under the Hill "Fun in the Sun Day" at Dillon Beach On July 12th join UUCSR's young and young-at-heart for a lazy day of sun, sand, and socializing. Carpool leaves at 10am from 516 Shay Ave, Santa Rosa. Or meet us on the sands of scenic Dillon Beach (look for

the balloons) at 11am. Newcomers and guests welcome! Contact: Carina Zona <carina@cczona.com> or Denese Pender 575-3229.



UU Fiber Artists

The next meeting of the UU Fiber Artists will be on Sunday, July 13th from 12:00—2:00pm in the Lake Room. We knit, crochet quilt, needlepoint...and all levels

are welcome to come and learn or improve skills and create in community. Call Heather Lawton at 707/843-9936 to find out more.

Evening Book Group



The Evening Book Group is on summer vacation for July and August. Meetings resume on Thursday, September 11 from 7-9 p.m. at 547 Mendocino.

Below is a list of books selected for the coming year. An e-mail announcement will be posted to the Focus List. Linda Lampson

Sept

Paula Hammett, Watermelon Nights by [Greg Sarris](#), 432 p.

Oct

Jeanne Crawford, Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story by [Timothy B. Tyson](#) 368 p.

Nov

Linda Lampson, The Book Thief by [Markus Zusak](#) 576 p. Alternate,

final selection to be determined:

Oracle Bones: A Journey Through Time in China by [Peter Hessler](#) 528 p

Dec

Judy Taylor, A Moveable Feast by [Ernest Hemingway](#), 219 p.

Jan

Ruth Crawford, Rats, Lice and History by [Markus Zusak](#) 576 p.

Feb

Judy Withee, Out Stealing Horses: A Novel by [Per Petterson](#) 256 p.

Mar—TBD

Apr—TBD

May—TBD

June—Select for next year, finger food potluck

UUCSR Writers

The next UUCSR Writers meeting date is Monday, July 7, 2008, from 4 - 6 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

About the UUCSR Writers

Whatever your creative endeavor: memoirs, letters, history, biography, the Great American novel, short story, poetry, essays, dissertation, Master's thesis, song lyrics, report, term paper, cook book, web pages, blogging, etc., our focus is to provide an atmosphere where serious writers improve and hone their writing skills.

The UUCSR Writers is open to the novice, the more experienced, and the published author. Membership at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa (UUCSR) is not required. We meet once a month at UUCSR in Santa Rosa, CA on the First Monday of the month from 4:00-6:00pm.

UUCSR Online Writers

Can't attend monthly meetings? Live in another City, State or Country? Request an Invitation to join our "Online Writers" Blog. You can learn more about our group, and current "Works-in-Progress", at the UUCSR Writers Blog.

UUCSR Community Outreach Projects

"Literati" A quarterly Publication - release date TBA, "Write a Book in 30 days" Summer Workshop, "Sonoma County Book Festival" A September Community Event in which UUCSR participate.

Information

UUCSR Writers, Georgette G. de-Blois, GGdeB@aol.com, and/or visit the Writers Table in the Social Hall on Sunday mornings.



Cross Cultural Exchange Opportunity



EF Educational Homestay Program is seeking interested families to host 25 German High School students arriving to the Santa Rosa area June 30 - July 26. Students will be attending English language courses 4 to 5 mornings a week from 8:30 until 12:30, and then organized cultural activities in the afternoons.

Host families are asked to open their homes and hearts with a place at the table, and an available bed. Students do not need their own room. And, EF can provide

a roll-away bed for a host family that has the space, but is in need of an extra bed. A network of host families is developing to coordinate car-pooling, summer time BBQs, trips to the beach, and other scenarios to share our culture and community with these young people.

Please contact: Lisa Breschi Almond, the local EF EHP Program Leader, for more information at 823-0744 or email: lisabreschi@comcast.net. To learn more about EF Homestay at www.efhomestay.org.

EF will donate \$25 to the Unitarian Universalists for every family that signs up to host a student!

Attention Gualala Lovers!!!

NOW is the time to register for Camp Gualala! See the full-page flyer and registration form in this newsletter. The Retreat table will be set up in the social hall until July 20th—which is the final day for signing up. Or, you

can fill out the registration form in this newsletter, and mail it to: Pat Wilson, 465 Boas Drive, Santa Rosa 95409. This is a great weekend Retreat that shouldn't be missed!! Fun will be had by all!!!



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Santa Rosa, CA
Permit #298

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
CALENDAR ENCLOSED**



July 2008

Please Recycle

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

Mailing Address: 547 Mendocino 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: Linda Proulx, President @uusantarosa.org
Vice President: Andrew Hidas,
Vice President@uusantarosa.org
Treasurer: Bonnie Daines, Treasurer@uusantarosa.org
Co-Treasurer: Suzanne McPhee
Secretary: Marlene Kaulum
Board Members:
Bob Barrows
Marie Fox
Suzanne McPhee
Karen Lillard
Orlando Raola

Recording Secretary
Michael Walsh

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

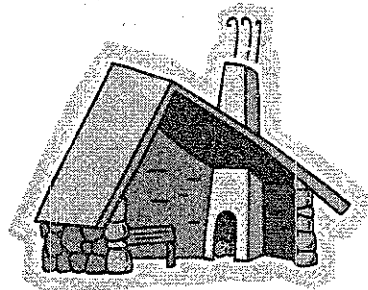
Minister Rev. Chris Bell, Ext. 108, Minister@uusantarosa.org
Director, Lifespan Religious Education: Deborah Mason, Ext. 101 DLRE@uusantarosa.org
Administrator: Janis Brewster, Ext. 106, Administrator@uusantarosa.org
Music Director: Ben Taylor, Ext. 112, musicdirector@uusantarosa.org
Rental & Events Manager/Artistic Director: David Templeton, x103, glaser@uusantarosa.org
Church Sexton: Tony Crevelli

Sunday Religious

Education Staff
Anne Blevins
Kara Margolis
Erin Stewart

UUCSR ALL-CONGREGATION RETREAT

*Under the redwoods
at Camp Gualala
August 1 - 3, 2008*



Join your
UU extended family
for a weekend of
fun and relaxation

Registration is from June 29th - July 20th

Visit the "Camp Gualala" table in the Social Hall on these Sundays

See reverse side for Registration form >>>



For information contact:
Pat Wilson at 537-8562 or Denese Pender at 575-3229

ALL CONGREGATION RETREAT

REGISTRATION FORM

August 1 - 3, 2008

The Retreat is open to UUCSR Members, Pledging Friends, and their Guests

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email Address	
Phone # (Day)	(Eve)
EMERGENCY CONTACT	(Phn #)
INSURANCE COMPANY	
Ins Policy #	Ins Co Phn #:

ATTENDEES	
Name	Age (if under 18)

- 1) UUCSR Status (please circle one): Member / Pledging Friend / Guest*
 (*If Guest, please enter members' name: _____)
- 2) Would you prefer: cabin or lodge accomodations?
 (Lodge has inside [shared] bathrooms; no small children)
 (Cabins = 8 people per room max; lodge = 4 people per room max)
- 3) Anticipated arrival time (3pm Friday at the earliest) _____
- 4 Do you require ready access to a restroom, or do you have any other special (or health) requirements? _____
- 5) Do you request / prefer vegetarian meals? _____

Category	# of people	Price per person	Total
Adults: Berger Lodge		\$150	
Adults: Cabins (18 or older)		\$140	
Teenager: (12 - 17 yrs)		\$105	
Students: (6 - 11 yrs)		\$75	
Children: (3 - 5 yrs)		\$35	
Toddlers: (0 - 2 yrs)		--	--
		Donation to Retreat Fund:	
		Grand Total:	

Final payment due by 7/20/08 PAID: CK # _____ \$ _____

* * YOUR CHECK RESERVES YOUR SPACE! * *

REFUND POLICY: If notified by July 23, a full refund will be given
 If notified by July 29, a 50% refund will be given
 NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 29

REGISTRATION CUT-OFF: July 20

*Regrettably, this camp site may present accessibility issues to some persons with physical disabilities.
 If you have any questions regarding accessibility, please contact the Camp Director: Tom @ 886-5351*