

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



December 2009

Fellowship moving ahead

Your participation in the Future Forum survey has borne exciting fruit. Actions resulting from the survey include:

—Scheduling several December meetings with our Pacific Central District consultant (more information to follow) who's advising us on ministerial feasibility and search, volunteerism, financing what we want, leadership, growth and other areas.

—Our Membership Committee is changing and adding to our support for visitors, prospective members and new members.

—Your Board is creating detailed plans for task forces to research and recommend action steps in the areas of ministerial feasibility, growth, financing, volunteerism and other important areas.

—Your Board will conduct a **January 17** Sunday service devoted to ideas for improving welcoming visitors, working with prospective members and integrating new members into the Fellowship.

—We've acquired copies of a highly recommended guide to stewardship, planned giving and capital campaigns, to study and adopt the most successful practices in those areas. Would you like to borrow a copy?

—Your Board is exploring using a stewardship consultant to advise us on how to improve our annual pledge process and any future capital campaigns.

—Nick Appelmans generously created a Future Forum internet blog that's bringing members together online to share (anonymously if they wish) views on Future Forum topics or other Fellowship matters. If you want to blog but don't know how, call or e-mail me for instructions.

—We've provided members the use of 24 copies of the Golden Colorado congregation's DVD video on their successful program of welcoming visitors, attracting new members, and integrating new members. Contact any Board member to borrow a copy.

—In general, we're exploring new ways of helping members, improving our ministries and programs, and being more effective in advancing the goals contained in our Covenant. What ideas do you have? How do you want to help?

Your Fellowship train is on the move, so get on board with your Board.

Jeff Knapp

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People

Bonnie MacGregor will go in for surgery on her knee on December 11.

Pat McCutcheon will have back surgery on December 17.

Mary Lou Jensen successfully had her surgery and is recuperating at St Joseph's hospital. She welcomes visitors, but please call first. She may too tired to have extended visits.

Katherine Almy, who has volunteered many hours to HUUF, is the newest member of HUUF.

Sue and Archie Mossman went to Zambia.

Howard Stauffer will visit Cameroon for three weeks doing a consulting survey of that country's forests.

If you have news that you would like to share in future editions of the People column, please contact me.

Karen Knapp

Need Stewardship Committee co-chair

As a lay-maintained congregation, we take care of the place ourselves; and it's challenging, productive and fun to keep our buildings and grounds looking their best. We always need people to operate and maintain equipment and systems, fix minor problems, make simple repairs, spec jobs and hire contractors, plan and lead work parties, prepare budgets, draft long-range maintenance and capital improvement plans, etc. I really need to train at least one other person how to do this job. Two or three others would be even better. Sound like your cup of tea? Contact me.

Scott Allen

Ben's 90th birthday bash

There will be a birthday bash on Saturday, **December 26**, 6-9 p.m. at the Fellowship for Ben Tankersley.

Bring memories and memorabilia relating to good times with Ben or contributions he has made to your life or to the community. During the evening, each of us will have a chance to create a page for "Ben's 90th Birthday Book."

If you are unable to come to the party, but would like to make a page for the book, let us know and we will send you a page to fill in any way you choose.

Refreshments, sparkling drinks and cake will be served. Music will be by the Meadowood Quartet.

RSVP to 601-1850 or terran.daily@gmail.com.



Parents' night out

Religious Education is looking for volunteers to share time with our youngest UUs on Parents' Night Out. Help serve pizza, read a book, share your lap, make crafts or play a game. You can volunteer for one hour or as many as you like. Saturday, **December 11**, 5-9 p.m. All the smiles and pizza you want! See me if you would like to give the gift of time to parents of young children during this holiday time.

Jillian Mooney

Arcata community Thanksgiving

The HUUF sign-up for Thanksgiving was completed -- hooray and thank you! As Unitarian Universalist will do, we did it. All food requested by the Humboldt All Faith Partnership was delivered to the Arcata Community Thanksgiving Day celebration in the Veteran's Hall at 14th and J Streets by 10 a.m. on Thursday November 26, and a grand time was had by all.

John McAlinn

Single services

Beginning with Thanksgiving weekend **November 29**, our Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. only. This will remain in effect until Sunday, **January 10**, on which day we will return to two services. This notice is meant to correct any confusion arising from the Service Schedule on our web page.

Greg Blomstrom

Lost and found

Several very nice jackets have been left on our coat rack for many months. If they are not claimed soon, we'll give them away.

Awanna Kalal

Lawn edging for sale

We have good, serviceable lawn edging salvaged from the Memorial Garden path for sale. Proceeds will benefit the Memorial Garden. Contact me.

Scott Allen



Coffee, chocolate and cocoa - yum!

Come one, come all to the **December 6 and 13** Social Action Committee Sales of holiday gift or daily use coffees, cocoa, chocolate bars and other items. We keep our prices competitive with local stores selling the same merchandise. These Equal Exchange Organic products benefit the small Central American farmers who grow the raw materials and are paid a living wage. The UUSC newsletter includes an interesting article entitled "UUs Choose Justice Through Fair Trade." See http://www.uusc.org/content/rights_now_fall_2009.

By purchasing these products, you support the education of 13-year-old Kayla living with her mother and siblings in a village in Nicaragua. Additional help goes to the village's Health Clinic and the family's holiday needs. Education is the key to the future for Kayla and other youngsters like her. This effort is coordinated on the ground by Circulo de Amigas. Full information about this work is available from Ursula Osborne, who is the SAC link to Circulo.

Beyond the holidays, consider becoming a routine customer for your coffee, cocoa and chocolate needs. With your support, we can help more. Happy holiday and gift giving season.

Marianne Pennekamp, SAC

Guest at Your Table

For more than 30 years, the Guest at Your Table tradition has helped UUs build lasting connections to UU principles and support the movement for universal human rights.

During Guest at Your Table, a colorful Guest at Your Table box — with photographs of special guests from around the world — is kept in a prominent place in your home, such as the dining room table. Boxes remain available in the foyer. You collect daily contributions and bring them to the Fellowship on the first two Sundays of 2010.

You and your family members can also earn UUSC membership by giving at the membership level during Guest at Your Table. Contributions of \$100 or more are matched by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, NY. Contributions of \$40 or more qualify for UUSC membership (\$75 for dual memberships, \$20 for seniors, \$10 for youth).

Chip Sharpe

From the UUA

As the holiday season approaches, we remind you that the 2009 IRA option for donating expires December 31. This option makes it easier for donors who are over 70½ years of age to contribute up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to their congregation, the UUA or other entities under the UU umbrella. There can be significant tax benefits to taking advantage of this opportunity.

What should the Commission on Appraisal (COA) study next? To answer this question, take our online survey at <http://www.uua.org/coa>. The deadline is **January 7**. COA is charged to "review any function or activity of the Association which in its judgment will benefit from an independent review and report its conclusions to a regular General Assembly." To see what the COA has studied in previous years, see www.uua.org/coa for details and reports.

Ed Uyeki

Strengthening our HUUF community

It is often said that you don't have to reinvent the wheel, just strengthen the spokes. Your Membership Committee spent a couple of hours discussing the inspiring DVD from the Jefferson UU Church in Golden, Colorado, and agreed that there are many ideas we can use to strengthen our "spokes" and build a stronger community. It's very exciting to see what can happen with growth and how the Jefferson congregation works together in promoting growth with new membership. Many of their ideas are already used by our Membership Committee, and there are many that we are working on beginning soon.

What part can you play? It's obvious that the total congregation at Jefferson is working together on the goal of reaching out to others. Watch the video, catch on to some of that enthusiasm, and join in the excitement of strengthening our community. Copies of the DVD are available for individual viewing, and plans are being made for additional group viewings.

JoAnn Thomas

Tuna Sundays

Lisa Roberts will coordinate Tuna Sundays for the Fellowship. As a fisheries biologist, Lisa felt it was a natural calling to coordinate the collection and distribution of fish in a can. Tuna Sundays occur the first Sunday of each month. Collections of cans of tuna or money for the purchase of tuna can be made in the foyer on these Tuna Sundays. Your generosity results in the distribution of an excellent source of protein to the North Coast Resource Center (aka Arcata Endeavor). According to the Arcata Endeavor's website: "In the 2000 census ... 32.3% of the city [Arcata] population subsists below the Federal Poverty Level. It is to this population the services offered by AE are focused, particularly the Nutrition Program. With little money with which to purchase food, it has been well documented ... that low-income families and individuals will tend to turn to less expensive foods with higher fat content and calories and lesser nutritional value, to assuage their hunger."

Please be generous in helping to address the issues of hunger challenges in our local community. Any questions please call me.

Lisa Roberts



Religious Education



Parents' night out

Families are welcome to sign their children up for a free childcare and fun night at the Fellowship on Saturday, **December 11**, 5-9 p.m. Children will have a meal of pizza and apple juice, read books, play games and make holiday crafts. At the end of the evening we watch a holiday DVD and have a treat. This is a gift of time we give to families with young children to shop or spend time together. Deadline to sign up is **December 1**. See Jillian to make reservations.

Great fun was had by all who attended the Soup and Game night last month. Thanks to the Moor family for hosting this fun night out. Our next fun night is coming up in **January, Saturday the 23rd**. We are looking for someone to co-host with the Appelmans Family. It's a Dance Party!

December 6

Come and practice your part for our Holiday Service. We will sing our songs, get our costumes together and get ready for the service next Sunday.

December 13

RE Holiday Program

Come perform with your class in the Service in the main hall. We will sing songs, hear stories and spread some holiday cheer. Treats afterward.

December 20

We will all stay together in the service to sing holiday songs, make crafts and decorate cookies to give to others (and sample some for ourselves) We will make our traditional care bags to give to elders of our congregation.

December 27

Childcare will be available for families who wish to attend the service.

Holidays of different perspectives: The students in Religious Education invite you to our holiday performance. We will share traditions from other countries and beliefs as we celebrate the season together. Come ready to sing and be entertained.

A Holiday gathering: sharing music, crafts and fellowship to celebrate the blessings of the season. We will gather in Fellowship to sing Holiday songs, make ornaments for the tree and decorate cookies. We will send our wishes and hopes into the Universe and make care bags to share with the elders of our congregation. Please bring warm underclothes, socks, blankets, or tarps to donate to the homeless.

Jillian Mooney

UU're Home

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

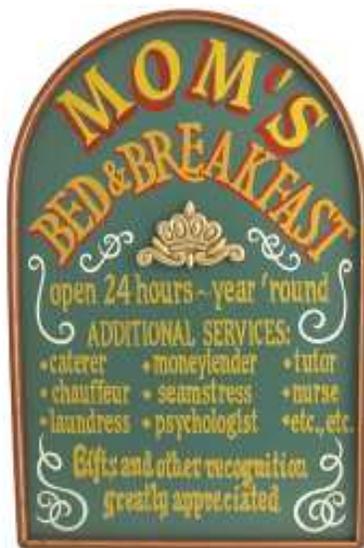
The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) can fulfill your dream. For 31 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory see www.UUreHome.com for an application. If you have questions, contact us at info@uurehome.com or call 828-281-3253.

Host listings on the *UU're Home* website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published once a year in April. For a copy of the 2010 directory and a year's access to the website listings, please click on "become a member" to pay by credit card, or send a check for \$25 and your e-mail address to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

Deadline: Sunday, December 20

E-mail articles to Joy Thomas at jthomas3@csulb.edu.



Facilitator and producer training

We need more facilitators for Sunday services. It is a great way to become involved in the program life of the Fellowship. Facilitators are the masters-of-ceremonies for the Sunday service. Facilitator training will be during the monthly SAC brunch on **January 17**.

Don't like to talk in front of crowds? Then maybe you'd rather become a producer. The producer handles behind-the-scenes organization, coordinating with the presenter, writing up the summary for the newsletter, selecting a facilitator, choosing hymns, etc. Producer training will take place during the February brunch on **February 21**.

Roberta Welty

CLASSIFIED ADS

Arcata rental: 3br, 2b, one garage, no pets, no smoking, shared yard, \$1,700/month. Owner pays utilities. Available 15th of January 2010. Call 825-8995.

I am looking for one of Bob's books written by our friend Reanne Hemingway Douglass, *One Man's Dream*, *One Woman's Nightmare*. Perhaps he may have loaned it to a Fellowship member. Anna Mae Botley 839-3341.

Newly remodeled Eureka cottage, 3 bedroom 1 bath, enclosed porch, mud/laundry room w/d and sink, detached secure storage, deck and fenced yard. New, larger windows provide excellent light. Close to hospital yet on quiet, small street. Excellent garden space. Pets negotiable. First, last and deposit moves in immediately. (Note: Google photo is pre-remodel.) 2362 Togo St, Eureka. Call Brian Hapgood: 707-502-6382

Classified ads are 10 cents a word. Please e-mail your ad to Joy Thomas and send your check, made out to HUUF, to the Fellowship.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Co-President Maureen Lawlor

Co-President Jeff Knapp

Vice President Greg Blomstrom

Treasurer David Harris

Secretary Roxana Hand

Trustees Beverly Morgan Lewis
vacant

Newsletter Editor Joy Thomas

Work in the new year at the January work party

We will continue our monthly Saturday work parties on **January 16** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join the fun as we prune trees, organize storage, do some winter weeding, clean the kitchen and pantry, wash windows, replace leg tips on tables, etc. We are looking to you to help us along. Call me if you want to work and can't make it that day or if you have questions or suggestions.

Scott Allen



MAYBE A BROKEN LEG IS YOUR
GUARDIAN-ANGEL'S WAY OF REMINDING
YOU THAT YOU'RE NOT A TEENAGER.