

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



February 2011

What Moves Us: UU theology;

A Tapestry of Faith Program for Adults

Providing a framework for Unitarian Universalists to engage in theological reflection as a process of meaning-making that equips one for living in the world as a Unitarian Universalist person of faith, this program explores the life experiences of both historic and contemporary UU theologians, highlighting that which caused in them a change of heart, a new direction, new hope and a deeper understanding of their liberal faith. These workshops offer a chance to engage and bring personal experiences to bear on the very questions explored by each theologian. The program offers a pathway for developing not only one's own personal theology but also one's deep understanding of the threads of our Unitarian, Universalist, and Unitarian Universalist theological heritage. The program was developed by Rev. Dr. Thandeka and will be taught by Jamila Tharp, B.A., M.A., U.U. Candidate for Ministry.

HUUF will offer this UU Adult Education course, "*What Moves Us: Unitarian Universalist Theology*" beginning **February 7** for 10 weeks every Monday from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. A sign-up sheet for taking the course will be in the Fellowship's entry foyer.

Jamila Tharp

Board of Trustees update

At our regular meeting on January 11, we continued a discussion about needs of the RE Committee with Jillian Mooney and deliberated the merits of Alder Grove Charter School providing a kindergarten on our site. The Board is striving to assist the RE Committee, and we have requested that Alder Grove Charter School submit a proposal.

Plans for the service auction set for May 14 were discussed. Jeff shared his research on best practices for fundraising. We are brainstorming ideas to make the annual spring canvass special for members. Jeff will submit an application to the UUA for assistance with fundraising and financial planning.

Building security, unfortunately, continues to be a problem for the Fellowship, particularly on Sundays after services. The Board approved to have the Building Use Committee recruit, hire and train new building stewards. We also approved paying a building steward to be present on Sundays approximately from 1:00 to 3:00 pm to ensure everything gets locked up, turned off, and put away.

The Board spent a long time identifying five options for our current efforts to secure a minister. The Board met in a special meeting Sunday morning on January 16 and narrowed the options down to three. We are preparing to recommend one option for the Congregational Meeting in March, and this will re-

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quire subsequent special meetings for us as well. Your board is working hard for you.

Wendy Rowan, Secretary

People

Elva Banducci had a stroke and is at home making a remarkable recovery.

Betty Sloane has shown some improvement since she was put on dialysis several weeks ago. Her spirits are up and she loves to receive cards.

June Thompson is housebound but enjoys visitors.

Kinara is fatigued from her radiation and chemotherapy but is pleased to report that she is still very involved with her music.

Joy Thomas was hospitalized overnight to remove a new cancer. Six months of chemo will address both kinds of cancer.

Karen Knapp



Dream workshop with Jeremy Taylor

Jeremy Taylor will be here for the annual Dream Workshop on Friday and Saturday, **April 15 and 16**. There is currently no one to organize the event. Barbara Clark, who has done it in the past, will not be doing it this year, so we really need someone to step forward (and you'll get to attend the workshop for free). Barbara has passed on plenty of helpful information if you would like to volunteer for this job. Please contact me at 839-3406 or kathrich@arcatanet.com as soon as possible if you're interested.

Katherine Almy,
Program & Worship

February/March Fellowship art show

The title of the show for the next two months is "Nineteenth Century Art by or of some of Ursula Osborne's Family Members." The art pieces come from the H. R. Solmitz Archive, for which Ursula is the amateur archivist. A booklet with detailed captions is provided to explain each of the images hung on the walls. They represent ancestors from both her mother's and from her father's side of the family.

On the maternal side of the family, Great-uncle Adolph Goldschmidt (1863-1944) became an influential art historian. As a very young man he aspired to become an artist. We can view some of his artwork in line drawings and a painting from those early years.

On the paternal side a stitchery on silk honors banner carrier Joseph Feist Traube in 1814. He represented a crown prince in the war against Napoleon. Joseph's brother Nathan was Ursula's great-great-grandfather. In 1850, his wife painted him in domestic scenes as he studied inside their home. He worked as Court Jew in Dessau and financed a trip to England for Crown Prince Wilhelm. An artist from Kassel, named Katzenstein, painted a large portrait of Nathan's wife Therese née Cohn in 1850. A sketch of their only child Felix as a three-year-old, in Kassel in 1840, is also included in the show.

In the 1890s, two daughters of Felix Traube had their mother and each other serve as models for portraits. The three portraits, two in oil, one pastel, are in the show.

Ursula Osborne
Irith Shalmony,
Aesthetics Committee Art Curator

Becoming women of wisdom

On **February 18**, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., the Reverend Dr. Dorothy May Emerson, offers a workshop "Becoming Women of Wisdom," exploring what it means to be a wise woman today. Through ritual, small group discussion and guided meditation through a triple spiral labyrinth, participants will gain a deeper appreciation of the spiritual and social significance of being a crone. The workshop will also introduce a new self-guided curriculum in 13 circles, designed to prepare women to take on the important role of wise women in their communities. The Sunday Services listing for February 20 provides biographical information about Rev. Emerson.

Wendy Rowan

May date, May date

If the March date for the Super Service Auction was holding you back from volunteering to serve on the Auction Committee, rest easy. We have changed to our second date option, Saturday, **May 14**. This will allow us to use the patio area for serving dinner, be creative with a new theme, and be free from those tricky leprechauns. It will also give us more time to work on details. Hopefully it will also allow you to join in preparing for this major Fun Fundraiser.

The last time we held this event, three years ago, we had a great time and raised close to \$8,000. Please contact me at 442-5962 if you would like to help.

JoAnn Thomas,
Co-president

High notes from the HUUF choir

Welcome back to Kinara Erickson. We are especially glad to report that Kinara has been attending choir rehearsals and singing following her surgery in November. She and partner Steve were even able to participate in the service on Christmas Eve. Thank you both for sharing your talents.

March 6 is Music Day. We are back on our regular rehearsal schedule and are busily preparing new songs to share with everyone. Our third annual Music Day will take place on March 6. We have some great music lined up to perform, but, we seem to be missing something – you.

If you like to sing and are interested in participating, please join us for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at HUUF from 7:00-8:30 p.m. We typically sing at two services each month and will learn lots of fun and challenging music for services in February and March. Our repertoire for Music Day will be especially diverse and will feature multicultural themes and global rhythms.

New and visiting members are welcome at any time, and you do not need to be a trained singer to join. Really!

If you have questions about the choir, please contact choir director me directly.

mUUsically yours,
Elisabeth Harrington,
choir director



Where are we with hiring a minister?

At our Scoring One for HUUF event in October, the congregation asked members to make an additional “ministerial only” pledge on top of their regular pledge to help us move forward with hiring a minister. Our goal was to find additional money to back up the congregation’s desire to have at least a quarter-time minister. The results in this deep recession were not encouraging as we have received only about a quarter of the amount we would need to hire even a quarter-time minister. Based on this, the Board will recommend how to move forward at the March congregational meeting.

We’ve used regular board meetings and special board meetings to come up with a recommendation to the congregation. We’ve discussed using the following assumptions to help us describe a way forward that we’ll present at the March meeting. We’d love to have your input about our assumptions and any recommendations as to how to move forward.

- ◆ We want nothing less than the equivalent of a half-time minister.

- ◆ To afford a minister while maintaining a prudent budget, we need new revenue but also need to change our spending pattern which is 43% personnel, 18% committees, 14% building and grounds, 11% on services and the balance in other.

- ◆ It is unrealistic to assume that pledges will increase substantially in the near term. Hiring a minister would increase members and attendance, but we should not expect a dramatic increase in pledging.

- ◆ We will pursue grant funding from Pacific Central District’s Chalice Lighter growth program, and also seek financial advice from UUA’s Congregational Stewardship program. Chalice Lighters Program has

the potential to increase growth and pledging in future years.

- ◆ We need a two-year budget projection because the first year of paying even a quarter time minister will exhaust our \$26,000 ministerial reserve fund, and we want continuity in having a minister.

Most of all, we need you attend the **March 13**, 12:30 p.m., congregational meeting, to join the discussion of this important Board decision. If you have comments or suggestions, please contact any Board member listed on the back page of this newsletter.

Greg Blomstrom, Vice President,
HUUF board of trustees

Classified ads

Mobile Home in Lazy J senior park

2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large master bedroom with walk-in closet. Bathrooms have low-flow, ADA height toilets.

>Living room has vaulted ceiling, skylight, new double-pane vinyl windows.

>Built-in access ramp to front door.

>Attractive 8 x 12 storage shed with electricity.

>Park offers community garden plots with free well water.

>One pet is allowed (nice dog walk area in the park).

>Space rent is currently \$331 and includes yard maintenance and well water for lawns.

1978 model is 24'x52'.

\$59,900

Carman Gentile and Martha Hunkins, (707)826-0453

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Classified ads are 10 cents a word. Send text of your ad to jthomas3@csulb.edu. Send check for the amount of your ad to HUUF.

Guest at Your Table report

Thirty-one Guest-at-Your-Table donations from our Fellowship this past holiday season (ranging from \$17 to \$300) totaled \$1582.62, including gifts mailed directly to UUSC. A heartfelt thank-you for your generosity to Barbara Barratt; Anna Mae Botley; Allison and Robert Bronkall; Nancy Cook; June and Dave Davis; Mary Freedlund; Ginger Gardner; Thea Gast; Awanna Kalal; Karen and Jeff Knapp; Kathy Layton; Darsty and John McAlinn; Sue and Archie Mossman; Ruth Needham; Ursula Osborne; Marianne Pennekamp; Jan Rowen; Celestine Armenta and Chip Sharpe; JoAnn and Carl Thomas; June and Bill Thompson; Edith Watson; and Berti Welty and Jo Weisgerber.

You may send your contribution directly to UUSC at

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

P.O. Box 845259

Boston MA 02284-5259

If you do mail it to UUSC, please mention that you are with Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Our congregational code is 2111.

Contributions of \$100 or more are matched; contributions of \$40 or more qualify for UUSC membership (\$75 for dual memberships, \$20 for seniors, \$10 for youth).

Chip Sharpe

Deadline Sunday, February 20

Please e-mail articles to jthomas3@csulb.edu. Print and .pdf items cannot be accepted.

If you need a copy of the newsletter guidelines, contact me.

Joy Thomas, editor

Money as fuel for mission

Your Fellowship prospers from inspiration, volunteerism, organization and money! Great music, a minister, religious education, Sunday programs, helping members in need or making the world a better place -- all require money.

Our annual Canvass pledge drive needs you to help, however you'd enjoy helping. Some examples:

The fun exciting Canvass Sunday, April 3 event:

---The skit! Producer(s), actors, script writers, set or costume designers or hustlers, all have a great time.

--- Music! Our choir director and choir entertain and inspire us, but they may need additional voices or help.

---Producing: These members oversee others doing their respective parts. It's imagining, planning, and coordinating.

---Refreshments: Deciding what to offer, getting and serving it and getting helping hands to present it and to tidy up afterwards.

---Decorations, posters and banners require ideas, visualizing, creating, ordering, installing.

---Lining up a special guest or special presentations: What or who will create inspiration and generosity?

What would you enjoy doing, either before or during the event ?

We create inspirational messages and engage with members about pledging:

---Our opportunities: We need members to draft letters about our successes and challenges, or showing the impact of generosity.

---Testimonials: members, in brief statements, tell why they support our Fellowship.

---Communicating: We need envelope stuffers and stampers for mailings.

---Organize: We need leaders to oversee the effort, keep things moving, and support others in their tasks.

---Follow up: If we haven't heard from members, we check to confirm they know we're awaiting their pledge decision.

Are there tasks in this list that fit your interests and experience?

Whether you have minutes, hours or days available, we can use that time. Whether you're physically able or have physical limitations, we have tasks you can do. And whether you're creative or instead a "straight ahead" person, your ideas and experience are valuable.

So, when you're asked to help, the pledge drive has tasks you can enjoy that match the time and effort you have available.

If you're ready to sign up now, before you're contacted, contact me at headhunter1942@gmail.com, or 825-7674.

Jeff Knapp

SAC brunch

Since February is the month in which Valentine's Day is celebrated, your Social Action Committee has decided to serve foods that are good for the heart. We will have a variety of low cholesterol, low-fat, healthy, wholesome, nutritious foods. Don't worry, we guarantee they will also taste delicious. And, since chocolate is not only good for us, but also enhances our sense of well-being, there will be a nice selection of relatively low-cal chocolate desserts.

Brunch will be the third Sunday, **February 20**, following the second service. Proceeds from the brunch will go to Humboldt Domestic Violence Services.

Eve Anderson

Loleta project

To help the patrons of the Loleta Food Pantry during the holiday season, Gillian Sparrow (head of the Food Pantry) and Marina Cortez-Hash (Director of the Loleta Community Center) put together 55 food baskets for the holiday season. The Social Action Committee gave \$300 out of the \$1100 that members of the congregation have donated specifically for the Loleta Project. Members of the congregation also contributed food. We will now go back to the usual list for members and friends of the congregation to contribute on the third Sunday of the month. Thanks for your support of this important project.

Four members of the Loleta community will speak at the Fellowship on the Sunday service on **February 27**. You can get an update on this very important project in which we are all involved. Speakers will be Gillian Sparrow, Marina Cortez-Hash, and Sally Hadden (Superintendent of the Loleta School District). Be sure to attend to find out what is going on in the Loleta Project as well as to pose any questions that you may have about it.

Jack Munsee



Standing on the side of love

“Monday, **February 14**, is the second annual “National Standing on the Side of Love Day” when the very heart of the Standing on the Side of Love campaign comes to life. On this day and the days surrounding, we re-imagine Valentine’s Day as a holiday of love and acceptance for everyone.” This is the beginning paragraph in an article on standingonthesideoflove.org. Those of us with the bright yellow T-shirts may want to wear them this day. I have available a slightly worn medium T-shirt. They are \$15 or what you can afford to pay.

Thea Gast for the Social Action Committee

Religious Education



February 6

Curriculum Sunday

Preschool: We will learn about a powerful Celtic Goddess, Bridgid. She has three rivers named for her and she appears on a coin in England. What makes her so important? Come find out through stories, dancing and crafts.

Kdg-2nd: We have been discussing friends and enemies last month. This month we will talk about bullies. What does this mean to you?

3rd-5th: We will continue our different projects of finishing our chalices, and scrapbooks while talking about our UU Principles. Which one is your favorite?

Intermediate: We will have a discussion on Jewish traditions and beliefs. Come share your experiences and hear other’s.

February 13

All Worship Sunday/All ages together

We will talk about treasure. What do you treasure? How do you show that you treasure some one? What is a treasure chest and how do you decide what to keep in it? Maybe we will have a treasure hunt.

February 20

Preschool: We will have a full moon celebration. Why is the moon important to some people? How does it affect us? Come learn about this far away beauty through dance, crafts and fun.

Kdg-2nd; We will continue our discussion of bullies from last week. Have you ever been bullied? Seen some one else bullied? How did it feel? What can we do about it?

3rd-5th : We will finish up our art projects and talk about our UU principles. Can you name all seven? Jillian will give a prize to anyone who can.

Intermediate: We will continue our discussion about our church visits and our own beliefs. Guest visitor.

February 27

Social Action Sunday/All ages together

We will make comforting cards and care treats for those in our congregation that are homebound or need some support. We talk a lot about keeping other’s spirits bright. Is there some one in your neighborhood that you can help too?

Jillian Mooney

Green sheet

Just a reminder to send news or information to maureenlawlor55@yahoo.com. Please put "Green Sheet" in the subject line.

I am really looking for more folks to send information about their committees, meetings, sales and just what is going on in the hood. I am hearing from the same four folks often (and I do appreciate it) but know there is more going on out there.

You can send me things to go into the Green Sheet until 6:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you.

Maureen Lawlor



Thank you, Jean and Leon

Thanks to Jean and Leon Wagner, plans can now begin for a pathway to our Memorial Garden. The Wagners, long time active members of our Fellowship, generously remembered us in their wills and designated the pathway as a project they would like to see completed, with the remainder of their bequest to help our music program. We thank them and their family for honoring us and look forward to building a path.

Jeff Knapp

Planned giving

We have a long history of member gifts to the Fellowship during their lifetime or upon their death; these gifts, whatever the amount, increase our ability to serve members and advance our mission. Our Planned Giving Committee answers questions about lifetime gifts or bequests by will or trust. The Committee can also refer members to recommended attorneys experienced with wills, estate planning and charitable gifts, such as gifts to HUUF.

For members who need income from a portion of their investments but wish to leave something to the Fellowship, our UUA manages a gift annuity program under which members purchase a secure annuity providing a high rate of interest for that member's lifetime, with the remainder passing to the Fellowship upon the member's death.

Members making donations to the Fellowship by lifetime gift or will can make unrestricted, general purpose gifts or designate a specific purpose for the gift. Both types are very welcome; however, it's advisable to discuss special purpose gifts with a member of the Planned Giving Committee to work out language that makes it unambiguous and practical.

Under our current policy, unrestricted gifts are placed in the Fellowship's Endowment Fund. Gifts to this fund remain in perpetuity, with only the investment income spent for purposes determined by a separate Endowment board elected by the congregation. Such gifts or bequests carry out the Fellowship's mission for many years, over many generations.

To reach a member of the Planned Giving Committee with questions or discuss (in confidence if desired) your ideas for a gift or bequest to the Fellowship, contact Dave Davis at junedave@gmail.com or 826-1770.

Jeff Knapp, for the Board

SAC equal exchange coffee sales project

The Social Action Committee has sold coffee, cocoa, chocolate bars, cranberries and other items at the Fellowship on the second and fourth Sundays for several years. This is a UU Service Committee Social Justice Project. Our small proceeds from these sales fund the education of young girls in Jinotega, Nicaragua through Circulo de Amigas (CdeA), a non-profit whose president and treasurer reside in Southern California. SAC coordinates with CdeA.

We are currently at a turning point. Our sales have decreased, cutting down on funds supporting our sponsorship. Currently, instead of supporting a particular girl's schooling, we are sending monthly checks for the General Fund of the Jinotega school.

There is no crisis because we still have carry-over funds, but we are looking at the future of this project. Marianne Pennekamp, aided by Ruth Needham, has managed the sales program for several years. Marianne is ready to retire from the task. The effort needs new energy. Would you be willing to take it on? Perhaps with a friend? If so, you could count on being carefully introduced to all the details of ordering, displaying and selling our sales items. SAC would continue to carry the overall responsibility for the project. Jack Munsee and Ursula Osborne are SAC co-chairs. Please feel free to contact them or Marianne Pennekamp with questions.

*Marianne Pennekamp
and Ruth Needham,
SAC Coffee Project Coordinators*

Thanks for coming to the January work party

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Fellowship's monthly work parties on the third Saturday of each month. Please remember to thank the following people for taking part in the January Monthly Fellowship Work Party. They replaced three fluorescent lamp ballasts in the Sanctuary, installed two additional speakers in the Sanctuary (wiring will be complete soon), washed windows and wiped away spider webs on the Sanctuary Building, washed out the exterior light globes above the decks and doors, cleaned off old bird's nests, dug up blackberry roots in the landscaping and generally took care of little projects around the property. Bob Billstrom displayed his considerable carpentry skills repairing the broken storage credenza in the foyer. (You can hire him, see his ad on the bulletin board.) Here's who participated: Bob Billstrom (not even a member yet!), Cheryl Furman (not even a member yet!), Carl Thomas, Steve Sottong, Awanna Kalal, Scott and Susan Allen, Bert Taylor, Jeff Knapp.

Our next monthly work party will be on **February 19**. Call me for details.

Scott Allen



Used clothing collection by SAC

Thank you for your ongoing contributions of gently used clothing into the container in the pantry next to the kitchen. In the process of managing and distributing these donations, I have learned what works and what does not work for community recipients.

Most of the adult-size clothing goes to the Hope Center in Eureka, a drop-in facility for persons facing chronic mental health issues. The center maintains a clothes closet. Needed items are sturdy jeans, pants, sweats, shirts, sweaters, warm jackets and rain gear, particularly in large sizes. Clothing appropriate for job interviews for women are also welcome.

I have another outlet for practical children's clothing for infants through elementary school age, both boys and girls. Clothing items for the Loleta population must be only those requested by them.

Storage, or the lack thereof, is an issue. However, the above listed items, along with toilet articles, get to those who need them very quickly. I hope you find this update useful in selecting your donations which we look forward to distributing. Many thanks.

Marianne Pennekamp,
used clothing coordinator

Caring circle

As chair of the Caring Circle for over two years, I've enjoyed many HUUF members who I might not have otherwise met. This enjoyment motivated me to call people I care about to see how they were doing. Writing the newsletter's People column let me better know HUUF members and gave me a stronger sense of community. It's gratifying to see the success of "Lotsa Helping Hands," the web site some members use to receive information on the status of others' situation and what help is needed. If you're interested in being added to the Lotsa Helping Hands website list, please contact me; there is no commitment to help, and some members use it simply to keep in touch.

Recently, the Caring Circle has had no official meetings, instead communicating by e-mails or phone calls. I would be contacted when someone needed help. The news is then sent to interested members via Lotsa Helping Hands, and with permission is added to the People Column of our newsletter.

During my absence these past two months, I received many cards and calls from Fellowship members with whom I normally have little contact. This confirmed what I have always believed: We have many caring Fellowship Members who are "unofficial" but very important participants in our Caring Circle. Some offer rides to HUUF events or a medical appointment. Others visit members when they're in a hospital, at home recuperating, or simply need company. Some deliver food to a family with a new baby or to someone challenged by physical limitations.

My absence (brief hospitalization, a holiday and out-of-town guests) required a leave of absence from my role as Chair, but we have

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Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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(707) 822-3793
www.huuf.org
e-mail: office@huuf.org
Administrator Shay McKay
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents	Jeff Knapp JoAnn Thomas
Trustees	Greg Blomstrom Wendy Rowan Beverly Morgan Lewis Kim Moor
Treasurer	David Harris
Newsletter Editor	Joy Thomas
Calendar Editor	Shay McKay

Caring circle, continued from previous page

no members to back up the Chair. The Board offered to have our Administrative Assistant, Shay MacKay (who has volunteer coordinator experience) be the contact person who matches special needs of members to volunteers or social services, whichever is most appropriate. Shay's experience, our dependable office hours, and the office's data management and communication capabilities are well suited for this purpose.

Shay will share member needs information with the Caring Circle Chairperson, who will continue to keep in touch with members experiencing difficulty. The search for volunteers or services will be done by Shay except when she is not available due to vacation, illness, etc.

My family and other demands require I now pass on the role of Caring Circle. I'll continue to receive information on members in need, and will work with Shay as she creates a database of volunteers and members. However, I will be less available as time goes on to coordinate and write for the People Column, so consider this a "help wanted" notice for a service opportunity that's one of the most rewarding the Fellowship has. I will certainly be one of the volunteers in Shay's database, willing to, as time permits, serve members in need. If you want to know more about the Chairperson's duties, time commitment and excellent support Shay will provide, please call me.

My thanks to all those who have served, and will serve in the future, in this vital and rewarding way we build and benefit from being in community in our Fellowship.

Karen Knapp