

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Musings on what "Standing on the Side of Love" looks like

February 2012

I have shared, via the green sheets and from the pulpit, a little bit about the Unitarian Universalist Association's Standing on the Side of Love social justice campaign. I hope that recognizing the Month of Love bracketed by Martin Luther King's birthday and Valentine's Day will help shed light on how our beliefs and our actions are connected.

As I planned for what I might lift up as examples of love expressed through action, I received some exciting and heart-warming news about work done by individuals and the Social Action Committee here at HUUF that exemplify just such a connection.

The Social Action Committee, as part of their individual and collective efforts to help address the needs of the homeless population in the community, had gotten support for a plan to offer inclement weather shelter this winter here at the Fellowship. Though some neighbors were concerned, the Board determined that such a plan was consistent with our shared values and supported giving it a try.

The major barrier was funding and providing transportation from downtown Arcata to our site. To address that need Ursula Osborne, on behalf of the Fellowship, requested grant funding from the Unitarian Universalist Association.

She recently discovered that the funding had been approved! Her faith and her effort paid off: Funds are available to remove the financial barrier to assuring safe lodging on wet and cold nights for some of the most marginalized members of the larger community. Congratulations to Ursula, the Social Action Committee and the Board. There are still some logistical issues to be resolved, but things are moving forward to make it possible to share our space.

Ursula and the committee, with support from the Board, put our shared Unitarian Universalist Principles to "Affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person" and "Justice equity and compassion in human relations" into action.

Words became hopes and hope became reality through action.

I have heard many reports of the loving and compassionate work in our communities that many of the members and friends of the Fellowship are involved in both individually and collectively. For some it is made manifest in the careers you have chosen, while for others it is engagement in a wide range of volunteer roles. You are doing important work in many venues.

I also am pleased to report that planning has begun to reactivate and en-

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We Stand on the Side of Love
WILL YOU?

www.standontheSideofLove.org

People

Elisabeth Harrington and Doug Metz went to Tulun, Mexico to explore the Mayan Riviera. They had a great time.

Mickey Strang is thrilled that she can feel her foot for the first time since her 2008 stroke as a result of having a hip replacement. She is walking solo for the first time (with the aid of a walker or cane) since her fall in September. Mickey is also pleased that her broken hand has rehabilitated enough to once again use the computer.

John Strang's World War II story as part of *The Red Tails* was released in a movie in January. He is glad that these brave men are finally getting the recognition that they deserve.

Ginger Gardner is not up for visitors but enjoys getting cards. Her address is 2060 Palomino Lane, Arcata, CA 95521.

Sally Thonson died January 11. She and her husband, Bill, were very active members at HUUF in the 1970s and 1980s.

Anna Mae Botley went to New Zealand to visit her first great grandchild.

If you have news to share through the People column, please email me at jessica@reninet.com.

Karen Knapp

Name tags

Have you noticed that some of our name tags have a small chalice sticker in the upper left-hand corner? Anyone can request a name tag, but those with a chalice sticker are identified as being a member of HUUF. As of January 20, we have 145 members and 9 pledging friends. Please talk to a greeter or someone from the membership committee if you have questions about how you, too, can become a HUUF member.

Awanna Kalal

Flowers in 2012

We had wonderful flower arrangements on Sundays during the past years, thanks to numerous flower providers, men, women and children. Some flowers were dedicated to deceased spouses, others were in commemoration of special days, such as birthdays and wedding anniversaries. The displays were not always of flowers, but at times some other objects to feast our eyes on. All provided a visual dimension to our worship services.

Sign-ups are needed by people willing to provide flower arrangements or beautiful objects to look at on future Sundays. Contact me at osborne@humboldt1.com or 825-8995 or in person.

Ursula Osborne
Flower Coordinator

The article above was submitted for the January newsletter, but I screwed up and inadvertently omitted it. Many apologies to Ursula.

Joy Thomas, editor

International pizza extravaganza brunch

SAC has declared February as International Pizza Month. It may not be in Wikipedia yet (and may never be), but that should not keep us from celebrating this wonderful occasion. Join us **February 19** and experience the culinary delight of pizza from many parts of the globe. Brunch will also include salad and dessert.

Suggested donation: \$5 per adult and \$1 per child.

Proceeds from this brunch will go to support our own local branch of the Independent Observers.

Eve Anderson

Get to know the Minister and help HUUF

Facilitators at our services ensure smooth and orderly progress on Sunday mornings, and they get a chance to interact with the presenters and with Dennis. The work of a facilitator takes a couple hours of preparation in advance and about an hour over and above the time of the actual service. Most facilitators do a half dozen or fewer services a year. You can become a facilitator by attending the training session that will take place after the **February 12** service. Join Dennis and the Program & Worship committee to help make our Sunday services possible.

Stephen Sottong



Calling all artists

We would like to find one of our HUUF artists to create an image we can use to represent the ReFashion Fashion Show fundraiser planned for **March 10**. We see this image repeated on posters to distribute to community recycle agencies, thrift stores, etc., announcements on our WebSite, greensheet blurbs, the newsletter — anything and everything we use to promote the event. We would also like to be able to silent auction the original piece during the event.

We hope one of our artists will take on this portion of the ReFashion Fashion show project. If you want to know more, have an interest or ideas, please contact me at 826-9492 or reatie@suddenlink.net.

Irith Shalmony

Our covenant and the Re-Fashion show

“We, as a Fellowship, affirm our covenant to explore and embrace openly the fundamental mysteries of existence, to nurture a sense of family, and to enhance the quality of life for ourselves, our children, and the larger community.” The Re-Fashion Show is an opportunity to experience our covenant and express yourself. Reserve the evening of **March 10** and consider how to participate. What’s your style? Junior kitsch? Youth flash? Adult pragmatics? Drop dead elegance? Timeless chic? Culture vibe? Heirloom closet? Got some fancy handknit socks you want to show off? The Re-Fashion Show is the place for you. There will be lights, cameras, music, action, refreshments and much excitement as recycled, repurposed, refurbished, reclaimed, reused and rejuvenated clothing and accessories are modeled.

Celebrity watchers tells us that Bev Allen has already staked out her turf, claiming, “I have a vested interest in this event.” No doubt there are others who plan to challenge Bev for the glamour and attention of the fashion flock. So stay tuned to the Green Sheet, the bulletin Board, and the March newsletter for more details. For those who just can’t wait to get started, call us — Wendy Rowan at 677-3709 or Dave Harris at 725-9043.

Deadline Monday, February 20

Please email articles to joythomas3828@gmail.com. Print and .pdf items are not accepted. If you need a copy of the newsletter guidelines, contact me.

Joy Thomas, editor

Who’s the new guy?

Recently, Kim Moor interviewed the new guy, our partner in shared ministry, Dennis Reynolds.

KM: You had a long career. Could you talk about that? Why not just retire and enjoy yourself?

DR: Some days I ask myself that same question, though, for the most part I really am enjoying myself. I had the good fortune in my prior career to enjoy deeply my work, first as a teacher of young children and then for 20 years as director of a developmental child care program at the University of Oregon.

KM: How does your previous career influence your work as minister?

DR: I see my current career as another aspect of the human development process. As an educator I advocated constructivist theory, which speaks of children “constructing” their unique sense of meaning about what they experience in the world. There is a school of thought called Constructivist theology that invites each of to “construct” our own sense of deep meaning.

KM: Where are you in the process of becoming a minister?

DR: I am currently a candidate, which is kind of like a journeyman. In late March I go before a committee in Boston which has the authority to “Fellowship” me as a UU Minister, then a congregation can ordain.

KM: If we followed you around for a day when you were here being our minister, what would we see you doing?

DR: Lots of reading, writing and rewriting. One minute of sermon often takes an hour of writing. I have attended all committee meetings, met with the rest of the HUUF staff and other local clergy, and am developing connections with community groups. I have also had a lot of coffee, tea and meals with many members to learn individually and collectively who you at HUUF are.

KM: For this year, you spend half your time here and part of your time serving Klamath Falls UUs. If we went to Klamath Falls, would we hear a different sermon or see you doing different things as part of shared ministry?

DR: I am in Klamath Falls one week each month and occasionally add a Sunday. You might hear a similar sermon sometimes, other times they are totally different to meet needs of very different communities.

KM: Are you planning on continuing with Klamath Falls next year?

DR: As a very small fellowship, it is highly unlikely they can continue to have a Consulting Minister for an additional year, which is consistent with my hope to be fully focused on one congregation.

KM: Could you talk about your experiences being a UU and a Fellowship member? I heard you’d been a UU for 30 years. How many committees have you served on, anyway?

DR: I encountered UU in high school, 40+ years ago. I was not involved for nearly 20 years and then became deeply involved in the Eugene Church where I was on the committees for Finance, RE, Safe Congregations, Ministerial Relations, Building and Grounds, Search, Worship Associates and served on the Board. I was also lay minister and officiated at weddings and memorials. I served as Youth group advisor and taught Our Whole Live (OWL) sexuality curricula for middle and high school youth and an adult study group. Men’s Group was also vitally important.

KM: What’s something about being a minister that has surprised you?

DR: I am spending more time than expected just being with people and less
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Musings,

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hance actions to meet the needs of the members and friends of the Fellowship who face difficulties. You are working and thinking and loving globally and locally

You are building on a proud HUUF legacy of compassion and care. You follow in the footsteps of others here who have worked for racial equity and justice for all, taken a loving stand on behalf of the natural environment, and made the lives of children and families richer.

That's what standing on the side of love looks like.

Dennis Reynolds

Return of the dance party

The Dance Party originally scheduled for January and previously reported as cancelled is coming to you live at HUUF on **February 10**. The event, co-hosted by Joshua and Jovannah Hoboo and Suzanne and Dennis Reynolds, has "Love In" as its theme.

So don your favorite tie-die or garb that might have been worn to the Filmore in the 1960s and groove and float to Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane, The Dead, *et al.*

In addition to tunes and dancing there will be a pasta bar for feasting. Please bring a salad or bread or a sweet treat to share, no brownies please ;-)

Food will be ready around 6-ish with music to follow. All ages are welcome. We hope that you will come and feast and dance and join in or just watch the fun.

Pasta will be provided.

Dennis Reynolds

Make a joyful noise!

News from the HUUF choir

The Choir is busily preparing for the fourth Annual Music Day to be held Sunday, **March 25**. All interested persons are invited to join the fun. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at HUUF.

For Music Day, we are looking for additional singers to join the Choir as well as instrumental musicians who might be interested in presenting a piece during the service or playing with the choir. As always, there will be many opportunities within the service for everyone to participate, so don't worry if you aren't a public musician by trade or practice. The point is to celebrate the gift of music by coming together in rhythm, melody, and mood. Please contact me if you would like more information about Music Day.

In the meantime, we look forward to sharing our songs with you on **February 12 and March 4**. As always, new choir members are welcome at any time. We are especially in need of tenors, but all voice types are welcome. You do not need to have prior music reading experience to join.

Elisabeth Harrington
Choir Director



Board update

Your HUUF Board continues to be very engaged beyond business as usual. Greg has worked hard on a plan for the annual canvass; Kim is serving on the Ministerial Relations Committee; Chip's treasurer duties continue to expand; Judy leads the charge for RE; Wendy and Dave are collaborating on the Re-Fashion Show Fundraiser; and JoAnn is helping the Board to think through our commitment to the annual pledge drive. With the addition of Dennis to the leadership team, we continue to generate spark and enthusiasm for our work together within the Fellowship.

The Board is recommending a joint meeting between the Religious Education Committee, the Program and Worship Committee, and the Membership Committee to plan for the remainder of this fiscal year and to prepare for the following year. We hope to host this meeting in early February.

The Board agreed to continue the arrangement with Terry Tripp for the placement of a kindergarten program in the RE wing next Fall. Terry tried to start the program last fall, but enrollment was not strong enough to assure success. With increased promotion, it is more likely to be a success in the coming year.

The Board agreed to host a Knut Jensen Concert in the fall of 2012, and Elisabeth will assist with planning for that. Notice that we have enjoyable Fellowship-wide events coming up soon with the pre-Valentine 'Love In' on **February 10**, and the 'Re-Fashion Show' set for **March 10**. Look for more details on these events—HUUF is a happening community.

Wendy Rowan, Secretary,
Board of Trustees

Religious Education



Classified ad

FOR SALE

2003 Ford Focus ZTW Wagon

VG condition. 106K. New battery, near new tires; roof rack, f & s air bags & curtains, 6-CD/AM-FM, traction control, ABS, air, PS, tilt wheel, clean. 25 mpg-30+ hwy /w cruise control. Clean, rear seats fold-huge flat 37.5 cf cargo. Fun to drive. Body good. Arctic green. Licensed through 1/13. \$5500.

Brother Intellifax 2820 Plain Paper FAX, PHONE & COPIER.

Used once.
14.4K bps Fax Modem, 8MB memory stores up to 500 pages for reception or transmission. Cost \$219. Sell \$170.

10" Memory Foam Twin Mattress.

Still in unopened box. Cost \$400. Sell \$225

Twin iron bed frame c. 1930s. Arts & Crafts Motif. Great for boy's room. \$99.

Craftsman radial arm saw, \$69

Suzanne 476-8082

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Classified ads are 10 cents a word. Send text of your ad to joythomas3828@gmail.com and your check to the HUUF office.

February 5. Curriculum Sunday

Preschool

Bridgit's Birthday. Who is this famous woman and why do we celebrate her birthday? Come find out with music, dancing and fun.

K-2nd

Be Careful and Stay Safe. How do you stay safe, keep other safe? Come make fun crafts and practice safety.

3rd and 4th

Dussehra. We will hear the story of Ram & Seta, a love story. We will celebrate Dussehra together with fun and food.

5th

Moses. Who was this man in the Bible? We'll learn about his life.

February 12: Social Action Sunday – Cards for Caring

We will make cards for the Caring Circle to give to others in our congregation to help them feel better. We will also make some valentines for those we care about in our own home and neighborhood.

February 19: Curriculum Sunday

Preschool

How can we be helpful? The story of Uncle Willy. How do you show that you care for others?

K-2nd

Understand and Care. How can we care for others we don't know? How do we help them?

3rd and 4th

Susan B. Anthony, a woman who cared for women's rights even more than for herself. We'll learn and celebrate this famous person in our history.

5th

More Moses. He had enough love and strength to talk about twice.

February 26: Friendship Sunday

All ages will gather together in the CARE building to read and play with their friends.



Jillian Mooney

Diary of a pledger

1997 We attend HUUF occasionally. John says “We should become members. It costs \$150 a year.” Huh? Who is this guy I’m dating?

1998 We attend HUUF a few times and put a few dollars in the basket. We’re getting married, but there’s no minister at HUUF to marry us. This is one reason it takes us so long to create an attachment with HUUF.

1999-2003 Once in a while we attend HUUF and drop a few dollars in the basket.

2003 John’s mom comes to visit. She takes Zoe to the Seventh Day Adventist church. I say to John, “Your mom just gave our daughter her first religious experience.” We go to Church of the Joyful Healer for a while, but it doesn’t quite fit. Soon we head back to HUUF.

2004 We’ve sat in on Zoe’s RE class for a year. We like it and decide to become members. When asked what we will pledge, I suggest \$40 a month. This sum is based on our needs with no thought to the needs of the Fellowship.

2006 We’ve incrementally increased our pledge. We still don’t get the connection between what we pledge, how much it costs to run the place, and what the Fellowship could do if we contributed more.

2007 We hold John’s 40th birthday at the Fellowship. I mention to John’s mom that the microwave doesn’t work well. She offers to buy HUUF a new one. I realize she invests a lot of money in her church and the charities it supports. It is natural for her to think of using her money this way.

2008 or 2009 Someone mentions to me that it costs about a \$1000 per person to run the place. I had no idea. I know we’re not pledging that much, so we start to crank it up.

2010 There’s a lot of talk about wanting to get a minister, but HUUF doesn’t have enough money. I start thinking, “What could I cut from our budget so we can offer more to Fellowship?” “Would I be willing to take on extra clients to be able to contribute more?” What’s the solution? I want a minister.

2011 The Board asks people to make additional pledges. We agree to increase our pledge over 50%. There’s a recession. We are buying a house. It makes no sense financially to try to give more. But we really want a minister. Everyone is showing signs of burnout at HUUF, folks are leaving; and besides Jeanylse, the PCD consultant, tells us that about six people pay 50% of our budget. I am shocked and embarrassed. She says she hopes that they don’t go out to eat together and get into a car accident.

2012 I think we are giving our fair share, but this doesn’t mean that HUUF will reach its budgetary goals. Also, I know that at least six people are giving way more than their fair share, so this probably isn’t the only measure we should use.

Canvass is coming! How much more are we willing to give? How will we do it? Who else is trying to figure out how they can give more? We really value this place and what it offers to our family. We plan to invest in our priorities and figure out how to make it happen.

Kim Moor



Spring forward with the Symphony

You are cordially invited to join us on Sunday, **March 11**, daylight savings day, 4 p.m., as we gather at the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to synchronize our watches and listen to a concert of trios performed by concertmaster Terrie Baune, conductor Carol Jacobson and pianist John Chernoff. They will perform the gamut from A to C, playing trios by Russian romantic composer Anton Arensky, titan Ludwig van Beethoven, and the witty Italian composer Alfredo Casella, who was the conductor of the Boston Pops responsible for the 20th century Vivaldi revival. The performers will talk about the music and composers. This concert is a fundraiser for the Eureka Symphony. Admission is \$25 per person, refreshments will be on sale at intermission; and all proceeds will go toward the support of our symphony concerts. Come hear some of our finest musicians performing some of their favorite music in the gorgeous and intimate setting of the Fellowship Hall. It’s a great way to celebrate the onset of spring and to help your symphony thrive.

Shay MacKay

Art on our walls

Carol McFarland is the artist/photographer exhibiting at HUUF in February and March. Cityscapes from her visit in Italy will bring memories to some and desires to many, I am sure. I am pleased that she is sharing this aesthetic journey with us. Her Artist's Statement is printed here and will be on the wall during the exhibit.

Irith Shalmony

Artist's statement

In my early teens I became a photo-journalist when my editor thrust an 8x10 Graflex and several film holders into my hands on the way to an assignment. Since I had spent many hours in the darkroom learning the ropes from veteran photographers, it was a natural fit.

At college I studied photography as part of my journalism curriculum for a semester, graduated to a Rolleiflex, and brought home blue ribbons from the county fair. A decade or so later, the lure of the single-lens reflex added a Nikon F to my equipment repertoire, but recently I've moved to a digital Nikon because of its compact precision.

The photographs I made over the years with different camera formats and darkroom practices naturally evolved, but the subjects I have printed remain the same. My pictures always seem to be parts of an unfolding story, the work of a photo-journalist.

Carol McFarland



Jeremy Taylor advanced workshop

On **April 20 and 21** as Jeremy Taylor will present his 17th dream workshop at HUUF. The theme of the weekend will be "Leading Edges of Dream Work Theory and Practice: Jungians, Post Jungians and Wild Card Artists." Not only does everybody live out an unconscious myth, but the planet as a whole lives out its own myth in which we humans play a crucial part

This will be an advanced workshop. Anyone who has taken his basic workshop previously or who has taken one of the many OLLI dream workshops can go deeper into dreamwork with Jeremy and the group.

We'll assume a working knowledge of his methods. If you need the basic intro, you must contact me during February. I'll set up a basic intro for those people in March so you'll be ready to go.

Our group has supported a strong workshop with Jeremy for 16 previous sessions, but it was cancelled last year because no one could step forward to be the chief organizer. Should that remain the case, this could be his last workshop here, and that would be sad. I would welcome someone coming forward to work with me on this one and letting me hand over attendant documents afterwards so that the tradition can be carried on in the future.

A teacher in group projective dream work for forty years, Jeremy helps us learn how to access the symbolic wisdom in the nightly visits from our psyches. He has written three books on the topic. His popular *Where People Fly and Water Runs Uphill* has just been republished as *The Wisdom of Your Dreams* with a new chapter about becoming more lucid in our dreams and how our personal dreams are part of the evolution of human consciousness. He is also a UU minister. His web site at www.jeremytaylor.com offers many of his writings on dreams and UU traditions.

Jeremy will speak at the April 22 service. It will be fitting to be talking about dreams and the unconscious on Earth Day. Good reading for this session will be *The Earth has a Soul*, the collected nature writings of C. G. Jung.

I'll follow up with registration information and pricing next month. Please call me at 442-0743 if you have questions.

Barbara Clark

New guy, continued from page 3

on specific tasks and realizing that being fully present, individually and collectively, with a community is what being in fellowship is truly all about.

KM: What are your hobbies?

DR: I love being outdoors, running, hiking, rafting, kayaking, and just being "out there." At home I dig in the dirt a lot. Sometimes, things grow as a result.

KM: Suzanne and you are getting to know the area. What are your favorite local haunts?

DR: We live next to Sequoia Park and walk or run there most days. We also go to the beach for sunsets and have explored Manila dunes. We have discovered Arts Alive, and I love to check out secondhand stores. Ramone's, by the hospital, is becoming a favorite hangout and meeting spot.

KM: Is there anything else you'd like us to know about you?

DR: I am the proud dad of three amazing adult children and a major grandparent wanna be.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Guest-at-Your-Table report

Twenty-six Guest-at-Your-Table donations from our Fellowship this past holiday season totaled \$1918.55 (including two gifts mailed directly to UUSC). A heartfelt thank you for your generosity to these contributors: Beverly Allen; Scott and Susan Allen; Barbara Barratt; Debra Harrison and Greg Blomstrom; Thea Gast; William and Bernardine Hansell; Ilene and Dave Harris; Phyllis Helligas; Awanna Kalal; Richard and Ginger Kossow; Raquel Lee; Darsty and John McAlinn; Sue and Archie Mossman; Jack and Jean Munsee; Ruth Needham; Ursula Osborne; Marianne Pennekamp; Pat McCutcheon and Cheryl Rau; Jan Rowen; Celestine Armenta and Chip Sharpe; Mark and Susan Smelser; Jack Stoob; JoAnn and Carl Thomas; Karen and Stephen Underwood; Berti Welty and Jo Weisgerber; Bob and Edie Wolterbeek.

If you send your contribution directly to UUSC, the address is Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, P.O. Box 808, Newark NJ 07101-0808.

If you 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

Spanish taught

A Spanish class meets at HUUF every Thursday morning from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. with Julie Raich as teacher. Fee for the 12-week segment is \$180 to \$200, which covers the teacher's compensation and textbook. We meet in the classroom opposite the nursery. There will be homework. Childcare is provided. We are fortunate and grateful that Julie was able to arrange this for us. She teaches Spanish at HSU and CR. Learning Spanish was recommended at UUA GA in Charlotte, NC, for those going to GA in Phoenix, AZ, next June; but we are not required to go to UUA General Assembly after we study Spanish. We are merely swept along in the enthusiasm.

Ursula Osborne