

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



May 2011

Fiesta de Mayo

The catalog filled with tantalizing descriptions of the many wonderful items up for auction will be mailed around May 1 so that everyone will have time to browse it, decide what to bid on and be prepared to join the fun. This is our major fundraiser and promises to be a lot of fun. So invite your friends to come celebrate.

When: **Saturday, May 14**,
from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Silent Auction: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Dinner: 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Live auction begins at 6:00 p.m., directed by our own Auctioneer Supremo, Mack Owen.

Mexican dinner made especially for us by ladies from Loleta - featuring homemade tamales and enchiladas, Spanish rice, beans and salad. Vegetarian entrees available.

Combination plate: \$10.00

Children's taco bar: \$ 2.50

Beer and wine will be available for purchase at the Cantina.

Very special dinner entertainment featuring dancers from Loleta Elementary School in addition to our own dog trainer extraordinaire, Beverly Morgan-Lewis and her beautiful, multi-talented Corgis.

Remember to visit the Mercado (country store) where you will find crafts, delicious goodies and all sorts of treasures and delights.

For additional information or to volunteer to help, contact me at 442-5962.

JoAnn Thomas

Meet a UU money specialist

During the weekend of **May 20-22**, we'll welcome Mary Gleason of the Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA) Congregational Stewardship Services group, who will conduct a financial Assessment Visit of our fellowship.

This UUA consulting service was requested by your Board, and helps congregations improve their finances, including pledge drives, revenue sources like building rentals or special fundraisers, promoting special lifetime or bequest gifts, loans or grants, investments and managing expenses. Financial measures are compared against the congregation's demographic, location, and mission, and specific recommendations made to improve how finances support a congregation's mission.

Mary will receive and review extensive information on HUUF before her visit, conduct in person interviews with Board members, committee chairs, and staff. We'll schedule time on Saturday **May 21** for members to meet Mary and present information or ask questions. She'll also attend our 11:00 May 22 Sunday service. After that service, Mary will conduct an open forum for questions, observations or suggestions about our planning and finances. Next she will meet with Board members to review the visit and make specific, next-step rec-

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ommendations.

Members with questions or suggestions regarding the visit can contact any Board member. More information about this UUA service can be found at www.uua.org. Just type "assessment visit" in the search box to reach a link explaining Assessment Visits.

Jeff Knapp
for the Board of Trustees

People

Mayer Segal is home from the hospital after having problems with his leg. He welcomes visitors.

Phyllis Helligas is happy to know that improved vision, after cataract surgery, is just around the corner.

Congratulations to **Carol and Steve Newman** as they celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in May with a trip to Ireland.

Congratulations also to **Beverly and George Allen** who celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on April 16.

Healing wishes to **Jessie Wheeler** after her knee replacement on April 20.

Our condolences to **Steve Newman**. His mother passed away this month, and Steve and Carol went to Indiana for her memorial service.

We also send condolences to **Dave Harris**. He and Ilene went to Albuquerque because of the sudden death of his younger brother, Richard, who was a legend in his family.

Kinara is doing well with her chemotherapy treatments. She appreciates HUUF member's hugs and loving support.

Joy Thomas is halfway through six months of chemo and feels remarkably good.

Welcome to our three newest members—**Nancy Engel, Cedric Seaman and Ruth Needham!**

Karen Knapp

HUUF website

Our website has a few new pages, including the Google Event Calendar and the Congregational Record which is now viewable by everyone. Check it out.

Shay MacKay

Canvass event and Canvass progress

On April 3, our annual Canvass Event Sunday service had inspiration from Board member Wendy Rowan, frivolity from the HUUF skit version of the Wizard of Oz, and great food and drink, including mimosas, chicken a la Jan Rowen and a rainbow cake urging Members to "Follow the Yellow Pledge Road!"

This started our annual pledge drive which, among many other things, finances hiring a half time consulting minister, with the search for minister candidates well underway. If you've already pledged, thank you! If you haven't, contact any Board member with questions about pledging, or about what amount would be, within your means, a generous pledge.

As of Monday, April 18 we'd received \$89,000 in pledges, with 49 members yet to pledge. It will be a stretch to reach our goal of \$125,000, so if you haven't yet pledged, make us the fellowship we want and need to be, with a generous pledge.

Jeff Knapp
for the Canvass Committee

Deadline Friday, May 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

Theater party

Mark your calendars **June 4** for our theater party fund raiser. We will see *The Government Inspector*, a witty, smart and wildly satirical comedy. Tickets will be available after the last service each Sunday. The play will be followed by a reception.

All that for \$20.00—such a deal!

I need some volunteers to help, so please call me at 442-3390.

JoAnn Howell



El Mercado

Do you have items you would like to donate to our country store at the Service Auction? Crafts that you have made, treasures that you have received, but have never used; homemade goodies such as jams and jellies — all are welcome and may be dropped off at the Fellowship. Baked goods may be dropped off on **May 13 or 14**. Please have them wrapped so they may be purchased as individual pieces or whole items.

Questions? Maureen Lawlor or Debby Coggins at 668-1633.

All donations are greatly appreciated as the Fiesta de Mayo is our major fund raiser for this year, and many people enjoy the opportunity to shop and buy at the country store, aka El Mercado. Viva Fiesta de Mayo!

JoAnn Thomas

HUUF Board update

HUUF Board members are engaged with a range of activity, with our Co-Chairs being particularly busy. Jeff continues to be involved with the annual canvas as well as the work necessary to secure a new insurance carrier. JoAnn is working on the Super Services Auction and is very attentive to the consultant minister search process.

Did you know a kindergarten will be in place here at the Fellowship in the Fall? Currently, we are finalizing necessary details for Alder Grove Charter School to provide a kindergarten program in the RE wing beginning in the next school year. It will be a good use of the space during the week, generate revenue for the Fellowship, and provide a desired service for families.

Shay tells us that rental of the Fellowship building for weddings is significantly increasing; it looks like we are becoming a popular place for weddings. Weddings are a revenue source, and it's a good feeling that folks want to launch their life together in our space.

We are also working on improving our personnel procedures, seeking ways to further support RE, and starting to plan for our annual retreat in June.

Wendy Rowan, Secretary

Council of Chairs meeting

A Council of Chairs meeting is scheduled for early May with the date to be determined sometime the first week of May. Potential dates include May 1 after the service and the early evening of May 3. Committee chairs have already received an email requesting dates so that as many people as possible can attend.

Committee chairs from the following committees are urged to attend along with anyone else from the Fellowship: Aesthetics, Building Use, Communications, Denominational Affairs, Endowment, Environmental Action, Finance, Fund Raising, Halloween, Hospitality, Information Technology, Library, Membership, Music, Newsletter, Nominating, Pastoral Care, Personnel, Planned Giving, Program and Worship, Religious Education – Adults, Religious Education – Children, Social Action, Stewardship, Volunteers. The agenda for the meeting will include each committee describing committee goals for the year, comments on the draft budget prepared by the Board in support of gaining a minister, and suggestions for items for the board to consider at its retreat. The meeting will not last longer than an hour and a half.

*Greg Blomstrom, Vice President
HUUF Board of Trustees*

Program and Worship open meeting

Ever wonder how the Sunday services come about? Have a few ideas you think might make good services? Want to register some feedback on the services this year? The **May 8** Program and Worship Committee meeting will be an open meeting to get input from the Fellowship. The meeting will take place at 12:30 in the RE room in the main building. Bring your ideas and comments and feel free to bring your lunch as well.

*Stephen Sottong,
co-chair, P and W*

Book review

In her groundbreaking book *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows*, Melanie Joy explores carnism - the invisible system that shapes our perception of the meat we eat, so that we love some animals and eat others without knowing why.

Joy claims that carnism is most harmful when it is unrecognized and unacknowledged. *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows* names and explains this phenomenon and offers it up for examination. Unlike the many books that explain why we shouldn't eat meat, Joy's book explains why we do eat meat — and thus how we can make more informed choices as consumers.

This book is available from the UUA bookstore. Save 20% on your purchase of this item before July 1 by entering the discount code FOOD at checkout.

UUA Bookstore



UU Principles and sexual ethics

One of the Leader Resources in *Creating Safe Congregations* restates our Seven Principles in terms of sexual ethics, and appears in every age level of *Sexuality and Our Faith*, the companion volume to *Our Whole Lives*.

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person. Every person's sexuality is sacred and worthy of respect, and is not to be violated.

2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relationships. We treat others as we would want to be treated; therefore, sexual exploitation is wrong.

3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth. Accepting each other as we are means not taking advantage of what we have or don't have, physically, psychologically and spiritually.

4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning. In our relationship to others, freedom of sexuality is important as the responsibility for it.

5. The right to conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations. As a community and as an institution, we have the responsibility to create a secure and safe environment.

6. The goal of a world community with peace, liberty and justice for all. We have the opportunity to create an environment that lends itself to peace, liberty and justice in human sexuality, and we can become a model for the rest of society.

7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. When we respect each person's sexual integrity we honor the wholeness of life, and we respect the web of all existence.

For more information contact safecongregations @ uua.org.

Ed Uyeki

Pacific Central District Assembly

May 13 – 15

Newark Fremont Hilton Hotel

“The Permanent and the Transient”

Featuring: Saturday Keynote Speaker Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed, Minister, Theologian, and Author of *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination*. “We Took a Collection and Sent Him on His Way: A Lament for Opportunities Lost, A Celebration of Those Who Dream”

Saturday Banquet Presentation

Rev. Dr. William Schulz

President and CEO, UU Service Committee,

Past President, Unitarian Universalist Association

“Memories of the Future:

Major Imperatives for Unitarian Universalism's Future”

Enjoy a weekend of fun & friends, laughter & learning, with over 300 Unitarian Universalists from across the Pacific Central District!

Opening Worship / Keynote Presentation / 20+ different workshops / Awards Lunch

Annual Meeting / Saturday Banquet Presentation / Spirited Worship

5 levels of Children & Youth Programming / Sunday Forums / Exhibit Hall

Sunday Worship & much more!

Regular Registration - April 30 = \$95

Late Registration: Deadline May 9 = \$105

Children & Youth Deadline = April 30th

For registration information, workshop descriptions, hotel reservations, and meals, please see: <http://www.pcd-uua.org>

Questions?

Chuck Rosene, District Administrator

(510)530-1437

pcd@pcd-uua.org



Introducing SALT

Are you an activist who endures cycles of burnout? Would you like to take your UU voice into action in the public arena? If you are between the ages of 18-35, the Spiritual Activist Leadership Training (SALT) could be for you. Do you know someone perfect for this program? Encourage him or her to apply. Twenty young adult Californians who want to deepen their leadership skills, grow in their UU faith, and reach into the public arena to effect justice will be selected to start an intensive 10-month program at the end of August. There is no cost to apply.

The application is online, consisting of some short answer questions and two essays, one about the applicant's inspiration for justice work, and the other about the applicant's UU involvement. The selection committee will have two review periods, applications received by May 31 will be reviewed by June 15, and those received by July 15 will be notified by August 1. Contact sonya@uulmca.org for more information.

This first group of SALT Fellows will gather at three retreats and participate together in monthly phone calls. The group will have Northern California and Southern California Justice Plunges once a month (except when there are retreats) to experience a California justice story, develop leadership skills, and reflect together on each our unique calls to be people making justice in our communities. This first group of SALT Fellows will not only learn from each other and community teachers but also enjoy a unique kind of UU activist fellowship this pilot year. Be part of an historic moment in young adult leadership development and UU advocacy.

Rev. Sonya Sukalski
Consulting Minister for The Young
Leaders Project

Religious Education



May 1: Last day of class together

Preschool: We will make a rainbow, review our seven Principles and talk about what we did this year.

K-2nd: We will review our 7 Principles and plan for the upcoming Milestone Ceremony

3rd-5th: We will spend time with our Sunday school friends and finish up our projects/ notebooks to display for the Milestone Ceremony.

Intermediate: We will plan what we will do for the Milestone ceremony to share our experiences of visiting other congregations this year.

May 8: Friendship Sunday

Play with friends and make cards for your Mom. Reminder- We will not have our Family Day tea this year. We encourage families to attend the breakfast at the Bayside Grange that benefits the Emma Center, then come to our service and enjoy each other. Happy Mother's Day!

May 15: All ages will gather together in the CARE building to practice for our upcoming Milestone Ceremony. Parents, please let your teacher know if you will attend.

May 22: Milestone Ceremony

Meet in the CARE building at 10 AM. We will have a final run-through to practice songs, etc. Dress up! We'll have a quick snack before we start.

May 29: Friendship Sunday. Childcare will be provided for all ages.

It's been another enjoyable and active year in Religious Education. The RE Committee is looking for new members to help us keep our momentum in the exciting year ahead, as we look to have a new Minister and continue our important work of nurturing and educating our children and youth. Our wonderful K-2nd grade teacher, Cheryl Rau will join the RE Committee to add her years of teaching expertise. So we won't totally lose her in our RE program, but we will need to find a new teacher for next year. We will miss her as a teacher, but hope she will return for our new favorite All Worship Sunday-Spirituality through Art. Come see the results in the sanctuary with the children's art show. Thanks to Irith Shalmony for all her help as well.

Parents, set your calendars for the upcoming family camp **July 16** at Williams Grove in Weott and our RE retreat where we will set new goals and review what changes we want to make to keep our program vibrant and thriving. You will continue to receive postcards about these events. Most important, thank you to all of the folks who continue the hard work and commitment that keeps RE an enjoyable and busy place, where children are challenged to think for themselves.

Jillian Mooney



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

Board of Directors:

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

Craft group fun

HUUF members interested in crafts gather monthly for conversation, tea and whatever portable craft interests them: knitting, crocheting, photography, paper-folding, stamp-making, etc. Bring your own craft, and come join us. Help is available if you are stuck with a project. We meet at the McKinleyville home of Beverly Allen on the first Wednesday of each month from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. Call Beverly at 839-1954 for directions to her home.

Joy Thomas



Beverly Allen and Katherine Almy share a laugh at a recent Crafts group gathering.