



The  
**UNIGRAM**

Monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

VOL. 33 No. 2

OCTOBER 2002

## A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

(See Page 11 for more information.)

**Sunday Services** – 9 and 11 a.m. in the Auditorium

- 10/6 “Fire Unbound by Longing,” Rev. Doug Kraft.  
10/13 “Freeing the Monkey,” Rev. Kraft.  
10/20 “Generosity,” Rev. Kraft.  
10/27 “El Día de los Muertos,” Rich Howard, LUUNA.

**Adult Religious Education** – 9:30 a.m. in Room 12 - “Building Your Own Theology.”

- 10/6 “Sharing our Spiritual Autobiographies.”  
10/13 “Sharing our Spiritual Autobiographies.”  
10/20 “Varieties of Religious Experience.”  
10/27 “Sharing Our Religious Experiences.”

**Forum** – 1 p.m. in the Auditorium.

- 10/6 “Understanding Hate,” Wilson Riles, Jr.  
10/13 “Stop the Hate,” Marielle Tsukamoto.  
10/20 “A Case for the Simple Life,” Tim Holt.  
10/27 Forum on the Nov. 5 election. Laura Uranga.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- 10/5 “The Present Moment” (a one-woman play).  
10/26 Oktoberfest & Auction.  
10/27 Semi-annual Congregational Meeting.  
11/2 UUSS hosts PCD Leadership Day.

## Oktoberfest Dinner & Concert, Halloween Party & Auction

*Saturday, October 26, 4-9 p.m.*

What could be more fUUn than Oktoberfest Dinner (only \$5, and 12 and under eat free!), a concert by Taylor Carey’s Bluegrass band *Native Grass*, Halloween pumpkin carving, having fun with creepy, crawly things and other spUUky activities for the kids, and a silent auction and later a live auction with Michael and Marilyn Reynolds as auctioneers?

This is one of our two major fundraisers this year and for it to be very successful we need *you* there. Call the office to make your dinner reservations today. Fill out the auction contribution form with your service, activity, dinner, object of art, craft, specialty food or drink, condo in the south of France that you are willing to offer your fellow UU friends. In fact, fill out several. We only have one auction this year so we need items to fill out the whole year.  
*Clay Nelson*

## OCTOBER 27 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our Semi-annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, October 27, at 12:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. Active UUSS members who joined the Society before August 28, 2002, are eligible to vote at the meeting. To conduct our business we must have a quorum present, so please plan to stay after church on October 27.

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Voting on the UUSS Vision Statement and goals: The Board of Trustees adopted a Vision Statement last year. The congregation will be asked to approve it and also approve goals for the coming year.
2. It is proposed that one offering a month be considered a contribution to a community organization. We will discuss and vote on this policy and which groups should receive the offering.
3. Other upcoming matters; last-minute items may arise after this notice goes out to members.

## A One-Woman Play October 5

“The Present Moment,” a one-woman play written by Limor Ginzburg, will be performed by Michal Rubin at UUSS on Saturday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. Direct from a two-year run in Israel, this is a wonderful and fascinating play for anyone interested in meditation, liberation from suffering, the potential of the human spirit, or forgiveness.

In it, a young Israeli girl experiences the mysteries of a 26-day silent meditation retreat in Thailand. We listen in on the wild range of her thoughts, emotions, and experiences and watch as the meditation process gradually establishes balance and tranquility within her.

The performance is sponsored by UUSS, the Sacramento Buddhist Meditation Group, and Sacramento Insight Meditation; suggested donation is \$15. For reservations and information, call Dennis Warren at 447-9999.



Elaine Cooper

## **AT THE MOMENT ...**

The Reverend Douglas C.B. Kraft

How do you feel about the congregation giving one Sunday morning collection each month to a service organization? If you like the idea, what organizations would you want to support? In the next five years, what are some of the areas of the congregation you'd like to see strengthened?

These are some of the questions you'll be asked to consider at the October 27<sup>th</sup> Semi-annual Congregational Meeting. I'd love to hear your thoughts about these.

Here are a few details of what you'll be asked to consider:

### **Generosity**

By request of the Board of Trustees, the Social Responsibility Committee is collecting a list of local and/or denominational organizations that do direct service. Each October, a list of 15 to 20 will be presented to the congregation. You'll be asked to rank them as to which you'd most like us to support. The top twelve will receive our support over the next twelve months.

Arnie Godmintz is helping compile the list for the Social Responsibility Committee. If you would like to recommend an organization, please contact Arnie (332-5980) or me (doug@uuss.org or 483-9283 x 201) as soon as possible.

At the October meeting you will be asked to vote yes or no on the whole concept and to rank specific organizations.

This should raise interesting questions about generosity, practicality, abundance, scarcity, faith and our deepest values. It should generate some rich discussion.

### **Vision and Goals**

The second proposal presents a vision and list of goals for the church for next five years. Each person is invited to rank order the goals. This will give us a measure of where the congregation feels most united and in what directions we'd like to head.

Thelma White is compiling a list of possible goals so please call her (vp@uuss.org or 488-8867) or me (doug@uuss.org or 483-9283 x 201) if you have ideas you'd like included.

It's been said the Unitarian Universalists want to do so many things that they can't find a common focus. I think we have more direction than we recognize. This process should show us what that is.

Our denominational values place the greatest power in the hands of individual people rather than in church hierarchy. These proposals put decisions about our directions in all our hands. I invite your active participation.

You are essential to our wholeness.



### **Finding Doug ...**

I can be found at the church between 3 and 5 on Tuesdays and Thursdays and between 1 and 3 on Wednesdays and other times by chance or appointment. Give me a call (483-9283x201) or send me a note (doug@uuss.org).

---

## **DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **PCD Leadership Development Day is at UUSS November 2 -see Page 5**

**Did You Know:** On the average, Unitarian Universalists lose 90% of our youth when they graduate from high school. Many of them never come back. Please consider ways we can remain connected to our 14-35 year-olds.

*Be Patterson*

### **Indonesian Art and Craft Sale**

#### **Benefit for Starr King School is October 6**

Starr King School for the Ministry cordially invites you to an Indonesian art and craft sale and reception on Sunday, October 6, 2-5pm at Starr King School for the Ministry, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley. Traditional textiles, paintings, wood carving, and puppets will be available in many sizes and at many prices. RSVP by October 2 to pamallenthompson@sksm.edu or 510-845-6232.

*Chuck Rosine*

### **Lawrence Lecture is October 11**

#### **Follow-up Seminar October 12**

This year's Lawrence Lecture, "What is Ecofeminism? What Should Churches Be Doing About It," will be given at 8 p.m. Friday, October 11 at the UU Church of Berkeley, One Lawson Rd., Kensington. Speaker Rosemary Radford Ruether is a leading feminist theologian, author, and professor. The Seminar is at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, October 12. For information call Martha Helming at (510) 528-3417. Tickets at the door. Suggested donation: \$10 Lecture and \$10 Seminar (\$7 for seniors and students).

### **Women & Religion Meets Twice in October**

**10/19** Two women from the Afghan Women's Association will share first hand experiences of what they saw and what is needed to help get the schools and life back together for the women and children of that devastated country. Redwood City Fellowship, 2124 Brewster St., 10:30 a.m.

**10/26** "Journey to the Goddess. Carol Eagleheart will present a workshop with music, meditation, and movement exploring the culture of the ancient Minoans, where women were respected, peace was cherished and the celebration of the Goddess was central to their lives. Palo Alto Church, 10 a.m.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

*Dear parents and friends,*

One Sunday in October 1997 (long before I became Director of Religious Education), I greeted a new couple after church. Their names were Diane and Bill Forrest, and they were soon to become parents of Liam, who will be five years old this month. They in turn welcomed and began to socialize with others who were just starting down the parenthood path, and before long their ranks had grown to about 18 parents and 15 children, with two new babies on the way this fall. They called themselves the Mom's Group for a while, (maybe they still do?) but I have seen evidence of participation from all parents in this active and always-on-the-go bunch! They meet once a week now at UUSS, during the day, and the parents enjoy supportive conversation while the kids do what kids do best.

Recently I talked with several of those parents about how we might package their particular brand of community-building skills so that even more families could partake. Kim Ingram and Diane Forrest (pioneers from the original group) are ready and eager to help get a new group started. They will tell you what worked, what didn't, and they will help us bring together the next generation of parents and kids who thrive on this special brand of UU community.

I will be the clearinghouse for requests and information, and will provide refreshments and childcare for your first organizational gathering. What greater gift could you give your child than to spend time during the week with others who believe that each and every person is important, that all people should be treated fairly and kindly, and that we should accept one another and keep on learning together? Please call me if you are interested.

In the spirit of love and community,

*Kate*

## **A BIG Religious Education Thank-You to:**

Kari and Scott MacDonald, for donating 200 lbs. of sand to keep the "sand-box gang" happy; to Janet Lopes for last-minute help with bulletin boards, signs, and moral support; to Linda Clear for expert office assistance; to the Mom's Group parents for sorting and cleaning toys in Room 11; to Alexis Inamine, for designing our Children's Chapel worship space; to the Junior High Youth Group for serving 84 snow-cones; and to the many friendly faces who greeted me on Sunday Sept. 8 with these welcome words: "What can I do to help?"!

## **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

Marci Chambers	10/26
Miles Mitchell	10/1
Liam Forrest	10/21
Mitchell Montbriand	10/21
Matt Ford	10/15
Glyn Lewis	10/19
Ted Marsden	10/24
David Briggs	10/27



## **October Calendar**

- Oct. 5-6** Saturday evening overnight for Senior High OWL class begins at 5 p.m and continues Sunday until 11 a.m. (Speaker from Planned Parenthood Sunday morning at 10 a.m.)
- Oct. 6** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. After the first 20 minutes in church, Grades P-K through 5th-6th gather in Room 7/8 for Children's Chapel. We will have a special guest, Mr. Roy G. Biv, and we will hear a story about his life and about the UU Principles. Each week, Children's Chapel will include an offering. We will talk at this first Chapel Service about what it means to make a gift of your own money to support our church.
- Oct. 13** 9 & 11 a.m. The harvest festival of Sukkot follows five days after Yom Kippur. Sukkot celebrates the season of the harvest and reminds the Jewish people of the very hard time when they lived in the desert for forty years. Summer is over, farmers have gathered the crops from the fields, but they have left some for the gleaners to gather. What wisdom can we glean from this harvest-time religious tradition?
- Oct. 20** 9 & 11 a.m. Building the Sukkah. Bring a branch or a board from home to add to our sukkah. Once construction is completed, we will share a festive meal!
- Oct. 26** 4:30-6 p.m. UUSS Halloween Party for all ages. Games, pumpkin carving, and costume parade. See Harvestfest information elsewhere in this Unigram for all the details!
- Oct. 27** 9 & 11 a.m. In September, the first R.E. Community Service workshop came up with ideas for social action projects that UU kids could do. Today, as the adults in our congregation vote on which social responsibility issues our church will support, we will follow our fifth principle—all persons should have a vote about the things that concern them. We'll vote, and then we'll get to work!

## CABBAGES & KINGS

Recently I was asked why I call my column “Cabbages & Kings.” Those who share my love of poet/author Lewis Carroll will recognize it as a reference to his nonsense poem *The Walrus and the Carpenter*. Space does not provide for printing the whole poem but the pertinent verse is:

“The time has come,” the Walrus said,  
“To talk of many things:  
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax—  
Of cabbages—and kings—  
And why the sea is boiling hot—  
And whether pigs have wings.”

Since I was a child, I have been charmed by this poem that recounts a seemingly nonsensical walk on the beach by a walrus and a carpenter, during which they entice young, naïve oysters to leave their beds and join them on their stroll. While diverting their attention with conversations about “cabbages and kings,” the Walrus, the Carpenter and the oysters “do lunch,” leaving oyster shells in their wake.

Aside from the fact that my column meanders from the often mundane to the sometimes momentous as it speaks to the administrative and financial aspects of our common life, I also chose this title to remind us to keep focused on our vision for the congregation, lest we find ourselves shucked and left useless on the beach.

At its August meeting the Board of Trustees reaffirmed the previous Board’s proposal to the congregation: **“Our vision for the next five years is to build a congregation that will serve 900 members, friends, children and youth who will become a strong force for spiritual, intellectual and social enlightenment and change in the community.”**

As we have been conditioned to work in one-year cycles, not five or ten-year ones, keeping focused on a vision is not easy, for any visions worth having take years to accomplish. As a result it is easy to be diverted. The only way not to be diverted is to ask every time we are caught up in our busy-ness contributing to our congregational life—be it mundane or momentous—“How will doing this help achieve our vision?”

Keeping the vision in mind makes doing the mundane momentous. Forgetting the vision makes the momentous mundane.



Clay Nelson  
Business Manager

## PRESIDENT’S LETTER

It’s only October but already your Board of Trustees has begun to tackle some meaty, multifaceted issues not precipitated by any immediate crisis. We’re being proactive, by gosh. One in particular that we’re delving into has to do with membership. What does it mean to be a member of UUSS? Currently, you sign the Membership Book, make at least a minimum pledge or contribution of record, and you become a full-fledged voting member, with *Unigram* and Directory listing. You get your very own official name tag. Or you can become a Friend, if you don’t come to services and don’t care about voting, or you are willing to make a modest contribution to simply receive the *Unigram*, or you have moved out of the area but still want to be listed in the Directory and feel connected.

One aspect of the issue is inclusiveness. Doug has suggested that we consider offering several gradations of membership to better reflect different levels of commitment and participation. If we had, say, intermediate levels of membership, would that make it easier for some people to “try us out”? Would it allow some people to stay connected and remain affiliated even when they could no longer actively participate in congregational life? The idea is that it would give people more options. On the negative side, would this perpetuate procrastination? Would it devalue the meaning of commitment?

There is also a big financial aspect to this issue. For example, our Fair Share dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations are based on our number of voting members, at \$65 per member. Are we undermining our solvency by opening our arms wide and giving voting status to all, regardless of level of support, or, as we give, so shall we reap, hopefully?

I told you this was a multifaceted issue. It’s got **drama**. We are at the threshold of exciting changes. We are taking a bold look at how we define ourselves. It’s got **suspense**. Will you all like what we eventually come up with? Will you appreciate our efforts? There’s **mystery**. Does any of this make sense? It’s got **humor**. Just imagine some of the more fanciful names for membership categories that creative UUs might have to suppress. I can hardly wait to see how it all turns out.

Looking forward,

Tiffany Urness

## Building Your Own Theology

### *Sunday discussion group continues*

As a group and as individuals we are asking some hard questions. What justifies our existence? What are our purposes? What is wholeness? Join us in an open discussion group. We are using the book *Building Your Own Theology*, but are modifying the curriculum to meet the needs of our drop-in Sunday morning group. All are welcome. We meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in Room 12. For more information, call me at 631-0615. *Jessica Munoz*

## NEWS & EVENTS

### **Vision Statement on 10/27 Agenda** *Goals to be considered also*

At our semi-annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday October 27 we will be voting on acceptance of the Vision Statement, which the Board of Trustees approved:

*“Our vision for the next five years is to build a congregation that will serve members, friends, children and youth who will become a strong force for spiritual, intellectual and social enlightenment and change in our community.”*

We will also be voting on the Goals compiled by rank at the March 3 service:

1. Increasing ministry to church and community through funding a student intern and adding another minister;
2. Developing a pastoral care program (i.e. lay people trained to do pastoral care for members and friends);
3. Adapting governing structures appropriate to a congregation of 900;
4. Expanding adult enrichment programs;
5. Strengthening staff support;
6. Enhancing physical facilities;
7. Other

In order for everyone to have a voice in our Goals, we would appreciate your input. Please e-mail me at [vp@uuss.org](mailto:vp@uuss.org) or call me at 488-8867 for any additions to the above.

*Thelma White  
Vice President  
Board of Trustees*

### **Board Authorizes UUSS Audit** *Appraisal of our property is coming up*

Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Trustees has authorized a complete audit of the financial records of UUSS, to begin as soon as a suitable auditing firm is obtained. It has been several years since a review of the records was performed, and the board recommended a full audit as it is more thorough. The focus will be to arrive at an accurate valuation of all assets and liabilities in a clearer Balance Sheet format.

The Board of Trustees, again upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, has authorized a certified appraisal of the property and buildings owned by UUSS. This will allow us to accurately state the valuation of all assets as noted in the previous paragraph.

As your treasurer for the past two years, I am pleased with steps that the Board of Trustees and other members of the congregation involved in finances are taking to help insure the future financial health of the Society.

*Dennis Riechmann  
Treasurer*

### **UUSS Hosts PCD Leadership** **Development Day**

#### *Plan to attend Saturday, November 2*

Hear ye! Hear ye! Come one, come all Saturday November 2 to the Pacific Central District's (PCD) Leadership Development Day at our very own UUSS. The workshops are always informative and the fellowship warm. Registration deadline is October 25 (deadline to request childcare or to note of dietary restrictions is October 18).

Keynote speakers Rev. Richard Gilbert and Joyce Gilbert, will discuss the “call” to ministry for each one of us, in “Faith Works: The Half-Life of a UU Volunteer.”

Workshops from which you may choose are:

“Transforming the Spirit of Social Justice in Your Congregation,” “How to Stop a War,” “Community-Building Through Cooperative Games,” “Committee On Ministry,” “Small Group Ministry,” “The Arts in the Church,” “Say the Word (Incarnational Growth),” and “Youth-Adult Teams: Working Together!”

Registration is at 8:45 a.m., followed by Opening Worship at 9:30 and Workshop Session #1 at 10 a.m.

Lunch and conversation from noon to 1 p.m.; Keynote Speech; Workshop Session #2; and Closing 4-4:30 p.m.

Pick up a registration form after church or in the Office. Fee is \$25 per person; \$100 for a carload of five and \$20 for any additional attendees. Send your fee with check/money order to PCD – Leadership Development Day; 6536 Telegraph Ave; Oakland CA 94609. For more information, see the notices on the Kiosk; call Chuck Rosine at (510) 601-1437; or visit [www.pcd-uua.org](http://www.pcd-uua.org). *Be Patterson*



### **Bring Your Ofrenda October 27** *Sunday service welcomes objects for the altar*

Remember to bring an “ofrenda” to the Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) 9 and 11 a.m. services on Sunday October 27. The ofrenda is an object that gave pleasure to someone you know who has died: photos, candles, flowers, favorite food or drink. There will also be an opportunity to say a word or two about your ofrenda and your departed loved one. (Please remember to retrieve your ofrenda after the service.)

*Rich Howard (488-7030)*

## UUs GET TOGETHER

### Book Club Meets Oct. 17

This month's Book Club selection is "Lovely Bones," by Alice Sebold. The book is a moving exploration of loss and mourning that ultimately reminds us that life is sweet and funny and surprising. The book can be purchased at Amazon.com for \$13. All are welcome to attend Thursday, October 17, in Room 9 at 7 p.m. *Carol Jacobs*

### Fall Into Poetry

#### PoemSpirits resume October 6

You are welcome again to the First-Sunday PoemSpirits series. We resume on October 6, 6-7:30 p.m. in Room 7/8.

The season's first special guest poet is Allegra Silberstein, poet, dancer, member of Davis UU church. After a brief talk on the works of a famous poet, Open Mic will follow. Refreshments provided.

What a good way to start the week *and* the month. For more information, contact Nora Staklis or Tom Goff 481-3312; or contact me at 451-1372 or joannpen@attbi.com

*JoAnn Anglin*

### GAP Group Meets Twice in October Movie & dessert and a play

The Gap Group is a loosely organized group of middle-aged people, both married and single, who enjoy getting together for social occasions. New people are always welcome. Please call me at 481-9568 or e-mail me at cgeorge255@cs.com for more information or to let me know if you'd like to coordinate a future event.

**Sunday, October 20.** Join Judy Bell for a movie and dessert. Contact Judy for more information at jlbell@jps.net or call 961-0316. **Saturday, October 26** "The Odd Couple" at Chautauqua Theatre. Let me know if you'd like to join us or contact Chautauqua Theatre for tickets at 489-7529. *Cathy George*

### Senior Support Group Welcomes Elders

The Senior Support Group meets every other Monday morning in the UUSS Library. Upcoming dates are October 7 and 21. All seniors are welcome. Contact me at 457-9057 for more information. *Barbara Amberson*

All are invited to attend HAGSA (Humanists of Greater Sacramento Area) in the Fahs Room:  
**Friday, 10/4, 7 p.m.:** "Proportional Representation for Democracy," Pete Martineau.  
**Sunday, 10/20, 4 p.m.** "The Face of Violence," a dramatic reading directed by Judy Radu.

*Anna Andrews*

### UU Young Adults Meet 5 Times

UU Young Adults are Unitarian Universalists from UUSS and the UU Community Church (UUC) in their 20s and 30s. Some of us are single, some are married, and some are in between. Newcomers are always welcome! The group meets on Sundays at 7 p.m. in the Library except as noted below. Contact UUC member Mark Callicotte paixnow@yahoo.com or call Laura Dickinson 447-5605 to check on the latest plans. To join our e-mail collective, send a message to Dean Baird at dean@phys.org.

**10/6 Sunday, 7 p.m.:** Review of the "Costs of Endless Wars." Michelle Wood will give a review of the Social Responsibility Committee's two-day Teach In and lead a group discussion about the U.S.'s ongoing war in Afghanistan and potential war with Iraq. We will also plan activities for November, so bring (or e-mail) your ideas!

**10/13 Sunday, 7 p.m.:** "Make Your Own Movie." Back by popular demand! Our own Nate Mahoney will guide us in experimental filmmaking. We'll hand-etch our own designs onto "found footage" (e.g., 1950s-60s educational movies), tape the film together, and run our own show. Nate will provide all supplies and a projector. Here's your chance to be creative and subversive!

**10/20 Sunday, 5 p.m.:** (*Note the earlier time.*) "Mind the GAP" Service followed by potluck at UUC at 7560 Florin Road. The "gap" is the age group, 18 years old to late 20s-30s, that is often absent from UU and other churches' activities. More details about the service and directions to UUC will be e-mailed.

**10/27 Sunday, 7 p.m.:** Book Seminar. UUYA Daniel Hamilton will lead a book seminar on "A Heart-Breaking Work of Staggering Genius" by Dave Eggers. A description and link to the book at Border's can be found at:

[http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0375725784/qid=1031671090/sr=2-1/ref=sr\\_2\\_1/102-0497055-8760941](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0375725784/qid=1031671090/sr=2-1/ref=sr_2_1/102-0497055-8760941)

**Oct. 31, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.:** Halloween Party at Carolyn Wiggin's. Let's celebrate Halloween at Carolyn's new home! To RSVP and obtain directions, please e-mail Carolyn (Carolyn\_Wiggin@fd.org) or call Laura Dickinson (447-5605). *Michelle Wood*

### Servetus Club Meets October 6 Guests welcome at monthly potlucks

Servetus Club is a social group founded many years ago at UUSS by young singles. Our members have by now moved into the "older singles" category, and we welcome couples to our monthly potluck gatherings. The next meeting is Sunday, October 6, 6 p.m. in the Fahs Room. Bring a potluck dish to share, beverages provided. Cost is \$2 for members of the club, \$3 for guests. Guests are always welcome to come. For more information, call me at 481-5845.

*Dorothy Engelstad*

## OUTREACH

### Food Basket Appears

Did you notice the “laundry basket” in the Lounge? It has always been a social concern of this Society to be aware of the larger community and to help in many ways.

During Novembers in the past our Society has shown great generosity with special contributions to a number of Sacramento service agencies, and giving has become a meaningful part of our services. Many of us like the notion so much that we want to make it ongoing—for food only.

So please think about it. When you come to church, grab a can or a dry package of food and drop it in the basket. We will distribute the contents regularly.

Can it be so hard? Remember, share, feel good, HELP.

If you have any questions please call me at 739-1083 or Jan Dennis at 369-2254.

*Maryly Reinertson*



### Religious Education Fundraiser

#### *Chinaberry Book Sale starts October 13*

It's never too early to start thinking about holiday gifts. Starting on October 13, the Religious Education Committee will begin its Chinaberry Book Sale to benefit our programs. Chinaberry offers books and other items to support families in raising their children with love, honesty and joy and to be reverent, loving caretakers of each other and the earth. Grandparents and others who value the “art of reading” are welcome to shop, too!

This year we offer the opportunity for outreach and support for Will C. Wood Middle School (our member Julie Snider teaches there!). Will C. Wood, in south Sacramento, has its first-ever school librarian this year, and our gifts will help them build their collection of books. Questions? Call me at 486-4977.

*Shirley True*

### Bike Trail Cleaned by Soloists

#### *Make it a whole chorus October 12*

For two months in a row only one person has turned out to clean the UUSS mile of the American River Parkway; nevertheless thanks to Rich Howard's solo performance in August and mine in September the area looks good. Our next clean-up will be Saturday, October 12. Please come join us in this worthwhile outdoor community service. Meet at church at 9:30 to bike over, or meet at Milepost 4 at 10 a.m.

*Jeff Voeller*

### Community Contribution Plan Will be Considered October 27

At the congregational meeting on October 27, we will consider giving one Sunday offering each month to an outside organization. These organizations will be either local or denominational and do direct service. Some of the organizations we might consider include: The Birthing Project, Loaves & Fishes, South Areas Emergency Housing, St. John's Shelter, and our partner church in Debrecen Hungary. If you have ideas of worthy organizations to add to the list of those we will consider, please contact Arnie Gormintz (332-5980) or me (doug@uuss.org or 483-9283 x 201).

*Doug Kraft*

### UU Service Committee Seeks Rep

#### *Learn more about this affiliate organization*

Do YOU know about the UU Service Committee (UUSC)? This fine UU affiliate organization, headquartered in Boston, has worked for justice globally since WWII. They also sponsor wonderful service camps for youth—you might think about that for your teens in 2003. UUSC needs a UUSS member to be a local Representative. This Rep will work to increase awareness of, and increase membership in this affiliate organization. You would be helped by a wonderful regional coordinator, Marjorie Parks. Call Marje at (415) 388 8518, or Nancy Gilbert or Joyce Miller in the congregation. Look for informational pamphlets in the pamphlet rack, or on the small table near the Sunroom.

*Nancy Gilbert*

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

The deadline for announcements to be included in the blue sheet for both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Orders of Service is now Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Thanks for your cooperation!

*Cindy Creter  
UUSS Office*

## COMMITTEES AT WORK

### Membership Committee News

The Membership Committee had a very successful New Member Social at Clay Nelson's home in August. Twenty-six people who joined in the last year and a half attended. In time, we'll invite all those who have joined within the last year to four Socials, hoping that they'll attend all four functions to meet the staff and some people in leadership positions in the church and get to know them a bit. Childcare will be provided. Our next Social is set for Sunday, November 3 at Doug Kraft's home. New members will be receiving invitations with directions to Doug's house later.

We hope you'll all take the time on occasion to talk with new members and visitors before and after the services. We can't field enough Greeters, especially with two services, to get the job done to the extent we'd like.

We want to do a good job of serving visitors at both of the Sunday church services, but we're a bit short-handed at the 9 a.m. service. If you would be willing to serve as Greeter or Welcome Table worker for one or two 9 a.m. services during the year--even if you normally attend the second service-- We would really appreciate it!

*Clair Urness*



*Look for this clay sketch  
by Lisa Reinertson  
at the Auction October 26*

### A Class for Newcomers

We are happy to announce that a Newcomer's Class will be offered on Sunday, October 20 from 1-2 p.m. This will be an opportunity for visitors to the church to get a brief introduction to Unitarian Universalism and to this congregation. Following a short introduction, minister Doug Kraft will be available to answer questions about our diverse and multifaceted faith. The meeting will take place in the Fahs Room and childcare will be available. To sign up, please call me at 731-5838.

The regular orientation series will be held November 3 and November 10 from 10-11 a.m. in the Fahs Room. People may call 731-5838 to sign up for the series, or may sign up in the book at the welcome table before or after Sunday services.

*Julie Snider*

## UUs GET TOGETHER

### It'SSS Baaack — On Saturdays!

#### *All-church family suppers return*

Look for the announcements for the Saturday Sandwich Socials (SSS). These special all-church, all-ages, families-and-all events will be held on Saturday evenings November 23, January 23, February 22, and March 29. Mark your calendars now.

We'll have the sandwich fixin's, you come, meet others, and see what the program of the evening will be.

Please watch for more information closer to these dates. See you there!

*Maryly Reinertson (739-1083)*

*David Paul (422-3732)*

### Women's Alliance Harvest Lunch at Sogno Winery

#### *Guest welcome – sign up by October 3*

On Thursday October 10, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., members and friends of the Women's Alliance will gather this harvest time to celebrate their friendship and connectedness on the grounds of the beautiful Sogno Winery in Shingle Springs. Stroll through the vine-covered rolling hills. Visit the new wine tasting rooms, restored farmhouse, underground storage cave, and banquet facilities. A gourmet box lunch will be available to take to the tasting room patio, the lovely gazebo in the garden, or the expansive veranda of the farmhouse overlooking the vineyards. Guests are welcome to sign up. Donation \$10. Please reserve by Thursday, October 3. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. at the church parking lot and will need drivers for those who choose not to drive themselves. Please phone me at 353-0376 to order your gourmet lunch or if you need a ride.

*Fran Oyafuso*

P.S. Yearly dues for 2002-2003 Women's Alliance membership is due. Prompt payment will insure that your name is included and that you receive a copy of the Women's Alliance Membership and Activity Schedule. Please complete this form and bring it with your check for \$20 made out to Women's Alliance to the church office or mail it to Women's Alliance/UUSS, 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento CA 95825-4896.

-----  
WOMEN'S ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP 2002-03

Amt enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### **Dream Group's Weekend Workshop** *"El Dorado Dreams" coming October 26 & 27*

Our annual dream workshop (El Dorado Dreams) will be held on October 26 and 27, 2002. We have planned a delightful weekend with our favorite dream teacher, **Kathleen Sullivan**, at the beautiful meeting hall at **Sogno Winery** in Shingle Springs.

Jackie and Richard Davis, owners of Sogno Winery, have also graciously donated their hall and Tasting Room walls for a **Dream Art Exhibit** for the whole month of October in honor of the dream. A private wine tasting reception for the artists and workshop participants will be held at the conclusion of the workshop. Don't miss out on the fun! For more information and reservations call me at 353-0376 or watch for the flyers. *Fran Oyafuso*

### **Women's Ritual Group Opens**

**October 7 and 21, Mondays 7-9 p.m.** in the Library. Potluck and welcome for potential new members, information, sharing. Contact me at 455-3401.

**October 28, Monday 7-9 p.m.** Halloween Party 7-9 p.m. at Mary Stanton's, 840 46th St (between H and J), 454-5455. Costumes not required, but highly recommended. Please eat a light dinner first and bring finger food to celebrate Samhain. Open to all women of the church, teenagers included, and female friends. *Laurie Jones*

### **Want to Join a Ministry Circle?**

*It takes just three easy steps:*

1. Ask for a Ministry Circle brochure and application form in the church office.
2. Read and sign the application form, selecting three Ministry Circles in order of preference.
3. Return your application to the church office.

Your application will be processed as quickly as possible. You will then receive a phone call from the facilitator of one of the circles you have selected, who will inform you of the orientation process. *Fran Oyafuso*

### **Let UUSs Entertain You**

Each year at this time we have one of our more painless fundraisers. We make ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS available to the congregation. If you are not familiar with them, they are collections of money-saving coupons to fine restaurants, fast food place, local entertainment, golf, car washes, movies, amusement parks, theater, symphonies and so much more. Look at the sample in the church office. Cost is still \$40.

In the past you had to purchase your Entertainment Books from some faithful soul sitting at a card table in the patio after the service. In this electronic age you just have to email or call us and tell us how many you want (they

make great gifts). You can pay by MasterCard/Visa or even cash. When they arrive we will call or email you that yours is available for pick-up in the office.

*Clay Nelson*

### **Sunday Office Volunteers Needed**

Every Sunday, a volunteer keeps the church office open before and after the church service. Four of us have been serving in this way on rotating Sundays for many years—Edith Isaacs, Annette Kregel, Helen Vanderford, and I. Each of us is willing to donate additional time to keep the office open to cover both services, but we need to expand the list of volunteers. Duties are light—we greet members and visitors, answer the telephone, help members find various items needed for the service, and generally make the facilities in the office available.

We'll give you a written description of the job, and one of us will work alongside you at first. The hours will generally be from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. or from 10:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The office is locked during the service so volunteers can attend church during their scheduled time.

If you can volunteer for this worthwhile service to the church and the members, please call the Office (483-9283 ext. O) or me at 452-1940.

*Prudi Kantz*

### **Independent Media Center (IMC)** *Rodney King. The Battle of Seattle. Donovan Jackson.*

Some of the most important news stories of the last ten years might not have been reported at all if it weren't for ordinary people who were in the right place at the right time, knew that what they were seeing was newsworthy and knew how to get the story out. How many other stories have gone unreported?

Imagine thousands of people around the world, armed with notebooks, cameras, tape recorders and camcorders. Now, imagine that each of these would-be reporters has access to a global media network where they can tell their story to the world.

This network exists, and we're bringing it to Sacramento. Want to help start one? Join us! We are residents of the greater Sacramento area committed to bringing non-commercial, local, grassroots media coverage to the capital region.

Send email to [imc-sac@indymedia.org](mailto:imc-sac@indymedia.org) or visit us on the web, currently at <http://flag.blackened.net/sacimc/>

*Jim Vanderveen*



*Remember to set your clocks  
back--Pacific Standard Time begins on  
Sunday, October 27!*

## OCTOBER 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1)</b> 10 am Rm 12 Ministry Circle #5	<b>2)</b> 10 am Lib Daydreamers 7 pm Rm 12 Min Circle #6 7 pm Lib Music Committee 7 pm Fahs Choir	<b>3)</b> 10 am Lib Wms Alliance Board 12 Rm 11 play group 7 pm Lib PMC	<b>4)</b> 7 pm Fahs HAGSA	<b>5)</b> 7:30 pm Aud "THE PRESENT MOMENT" one-woman play performed by Michal Rubin
<b>6)</b> 8:45 Rm 11 Childcare 9 am Aud Worship Service 9 am RE Preschool-6th grade 9:30 am Rm 12 Adult RE 10:15 am Aud choir 11 am Aud Worship Service 11 am RE Preschool-Senior High 1 pm Aud Forum 6 pm Fahs Servetus Club 6 pm Rm 7/8PoemSpirits 7 pm Lib UU Young Adults	<b>7)</b> 10:30 am Lib Support Group 6 pm Lib Wms Ritual Group 7 pm Fahs Iron Bell Zen Sitting Group	<b>8)</b> 4 pm Lib Policies & Procedures Task Force 5:30 Lib Exec. Ctte 7:30 pm Rm 12 Closed Orange Ctte	<b>9)</b> 10 am Lib Daydreamers  7 pm Fahs Choir	<b>10)</b> 9 am Rm 7/8 Legislative Action Ctte 10 am Offsite Wms Alliance Harvest Lunch 12 pm Rm 11 play group 6:15 pm Lng Worship Leaders 7 Lib Relig. Services Ctte	<b>11)</b>	<b>12)</b> 9 am PMC/Sheriffs Work Day 10 am Rm 12 Forum Program Committee
<b>13)</b> 8:45 Rm 11 Childcare 9 am Aud Worship Service 9 am RE Preschool-6th grade 9:30 am Rm 12 Adult RE 10:15 am Aud choir 11 am Aud Worship Service 11 am RE Preschool-Senior High 1 pm Aud Forum 7 pm Lib UU Young Adults	<b>14)</b> 7 pm Fahs Iron Bell Zen Sitting Group.	<b>15)</b> 10 am Rm 12 Ministry Circle #5 7 pm Rm 6 Finance Ctte	<b>16)</b> 10 am Lib Daydreamers 7 pm Rm 9 Globalization 7 pm Fahs Choir 7 pm Rm 12 Min Circle #6	<b>17)</b> 12 pm Rm 11 play group 7 pm Rm 9 Book Group	<b>18)</b> 10 am Lib Collating	<b>19)</b>
<b>20)</b> 8:45 Rm 11 Childcare 9 am Aud Worship Service 9 am RE Preschool-6th grade 9:30 am Rm 12 Adult RE 10:15 am Aud choir 11 am Aud Worship Service 11 am RE Preschool-Senior High 1 pm Aud Forum 5 pm Offsite UU Young Adults	<b>21)</b> 10:30 am Lib Support Group 6 pm Lib Wms Ritual Group 7 pm Fahs Iron Bell Zen Sitting Group	<b>22)</b> 7:30 pm Rm 12 Closed Orange Ctte	<b>23)</b> 10 am Lib Daydreamers 7 pm Fahs Choir	<b>24)</b> 12 pm Rm 11 play group 6 pm Lib Board of Trustees	<b>25)</b>	<b>26)</b> 4-9 pm Aud OKTOBERFEST & HALLOWEN PARTY & AUCTION 5pm Rm 6 Forum film
<b>27)</b> 8:45 Rm 11 Childcare 9 am Aud Worship Service 9 am RE Preschool-6th grade 9:30 am Rm 12 Adult RE 10:15 am Aud choir 11 am Aud Worship Service 11 am RE Preschool-Senior High 12:30 pm <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> 1 pm Fahs Forum 7 pm Lib UU Young Adults	<b>28)</b> 7 pm Fahs Iron Bell Zen Sitting Group	<b>29)</b> 10 am Rm 12 Ministry Circle #5	<b>30)</b> 10 am Lib Daydreamers 7 pm Fahs Choir	<b>31)</b> 12 pm Rm 11 play group 7:30 pm Offsite UU Young Adults		

## **A MONTH OF SUNDAYS – OCTOBER 2002**

### **10/6**

8:45 a.m.-12 p.m. Room 11. Childcare.

9-10 a.m. Religious Education for Preschool – 6th grade.

9 and 11 a.m. Auditorium – Service: “Fire Unbound by Longing.” Rev. Doug Kraft. Heaven exists right here, Jesus said. For he who has eyes,

let him see. Enlightenment is our essential nature, the Buddha said. Yet it is ineffable. Heaven and nirvana are difficult to see because they have no charge. We are not the only culture that has become so enamored of the rush, the aesthetic pleasure and the thrill that we find it difficult to notice the subtle moments of heaven-like freedom that arise all the time. Yet, we can learn.

9:30 a.m. Room 12 – Adult R.E. “Building Your Own Theology: Sharing Our Spiritual Autobiographies.” (See page 4.)

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Religious Education for Preschool- Senior High.

1 p.m. Auditorium – Forum: “Understanding Hate.” Wilson Riles, Jr., who ran against Jerry Brown for Mayor of Oakland, speaks.

### **10/13**

8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Room 11. Childcare.

9-10 a.m. Religious Education for Preschool – 6th grade.

9 and 11 a.m. Auditorium – Service: “Freeing the Monkey,” Rev. Kraft. One method of trapping monkeys is to chain a milk bottle to the trunk of a tree. Balls of aluminum foil are placed in the bottle. The monkey sees the shiny foil, puts its hand into the bottle, grabs the aluminum, the monkey can’t get its fist out because it is too big. Some people see the obvious parallel to human behavior. But still, they concentrate on breaking the chain rather than releasing the hand. Imagine trying to swing through a tree with a milk bottle on one hand?

9:30 a.m. Room 12 – Adult R.E. “Building Your Own Theology: Sharing Our Spiritual Autobiographies.” (See page 4.)

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Religious Education for Preschool- Senior High.

1 p.m. Auditorium – Forum: “Stop the Hate,” Marielle Tsukamoto. Stop the Hate is the Anti-defamation League’s comprehensive anti-bias and hate crime education training for school administrators, teachers, parents, students, and the community, and it is currently being implemented at McClatchy and Mira Loma High Schools and California Middle School. Marielle Tsukamoto now serves as the program’s director, having “retired” in 2001 after 42 years in education. She was vice-principal of Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School, the school named after her mother. She has taught at Florin Elementary School, Alum Rock Union School in San Jose, was principal at Dillard Elementary School, and was vice-principal at both Leimbach and Feickert Elementary Schools. Marielle holds degrees and credentials from the University of the Pacific (UOP), University of Santa Clara, and San Jose State University. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at UOP.

### **10/20**

8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Room 11. Childcare.

9 and 11 a.m. Auditorium, - Service: “Generosity,” Rev. Kraft. This Sunday will be the third in the series of sermons this month. We will look at how cultivating generosity cultivates the very qualities that lead to the deepest sense of freedom and well-being.

9:30 a.m. Room 12 – Adult R.E. “Building Your Own Theology: Varieties of Religious Experience.” (See page 4.)

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Religious Education for Preschool- Senior High.

1 p.m. Auditorium – Forum: “A Case for the Simple Life: Rethinking the American Dream,” Tim Holt. It was Sacramento’s loss and Dunsmuir’s gain when Tim Holt gave up publishing an excellent weekly newspaper, *The Suttertown News*, in the capital city. He offers a searing critique of our materialistic society. He is returning to us from the old railroad town of Dunsmuir, population 2,300, some 200 miles north of Sacramento. He does a lot of serious thinking in Dunsmuir and writes books. He is the author of a novel, “On Higher Ground,” a wake-up call about global warming and rising ocean levels. His latest book, “Songs of the Simple Life,” celebrates and recommends his new life.

### **10/27**

8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Room 11. Childcare.

9 and 11 a.m. “El Dia de los Muertos,” Rich Howard and Latino/a Unitarian Universalist Networking Association (LUUNA). Since before the arrival of Europeans, Mexican families have renewed their spiritual connection with the ancestors in an annual holiday in late summer or fall. We celebrate the Mexican Day of the Dead with a background of the holiday, a Litany of Remembrance, and placing of offerings on our communal altar in remembrance of our departed loved ones.

9:30 a.m. Room 12 – Adult R.E. “Building Your Own Theology: Sharing Our Religious Experiences.” (See page 4.)

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Religious Education for Preschool- Senior High.

12:15 p.m. Auditorium – Semi-annual Congregational Meeting.

1 p.m. Fahs Room – Forum: “First of two successive forums on the Nov. 5 election. Laura Uranga, state outreach coordinator for Prop. 52, will speak on why California should join six other states in allowing voters to wait until election day to register to vote. Both sides are spending heavily on this initiative. Uranga is a graduate of UC Davis with a major in a political science.

Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento  
2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento CA 95825  
(916) 483-9283 Activities ext 208  
Office@uuss.org      www.uuss.org  
*Return Service Requested*

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Sacramento CA  
Permit No. 257

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

- 1** A Month of Sundays, Special Events, Congregational Meeting, One-woman Play.
- 2** The Minister, Denominational Affairs, Bike Trail Cleanup.
- 3** Religious Education News.
- 4** Business Manager, President's Letter, Adult R.E.
- 5** Vision Statement, Audit, PCD Leadership Development Day, Day of the Dead service.
- 6** Book Club, PoemSpirits, Gap Group, Senior Support Group, UU Young Adults, Servetus Club.
- 7** Food Basket, Chinaberry Book Sale, Bike Trail, Community Contribution Plan, UU Service Committee.
- 8** Membership Committee, Newcomers' class, Saturday Sandwich Socials, Women's Alliance.
- 9** Dream Group, Women's Ritual Group, Ministry Circles, Entertainment Books, Sunday Office Volunteers, Independent Media Center.
- 10** October calendar.
- 11** A Month of Sundays.

*The Unigram* is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento, 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento CA 95825. Annual subscriptions are \$36; Members and Pledging Friends of the Society receive *The Unigram* free.

**Electronic version of the Unigram is free.** To request that, send an email to office@uuss.org.

The deadline for each issue is the tenth of the previous month. (For the November issue, the deadline is Thursday, October 10.)

Items submitted may be edited to fit space available.

**We'd love to print your drawings—children's included.** Please bring drawings to the church office.

**NOTE:** The *Unigram* no longer prints Want Ads. (If you bring a want ad to the office we will post it, if appropriate.)

**Minister:** The Reverend Douglas C.B. Kraft  
(483-9283 ext. 201; Doug@uuss.org)

**Board of Trustees President:** Tiffany Urness  
(president@uuss.org)

**Director of Religious Education:** Kate Throop  
(483-9283 ext. 203; Kate@uuss.org)

**Business Manager:** Clay Nelson  
(483-9283 ext. 202. Clay@uuss.org)

**Music Director:** Mary WillAllen (737-7464)

**Organist:** Barbara Lazar (483-9283)

**Bookkeeper:** Carole Petracek (483-9283 ext. 205;  
carole@uuss.org)

**Office Assistant:** Cynthia Creter (483-9283 ext. 206;  
cynthia@uuss.org)

**Office Coordinator:** Bobby Stewart (483-9283 ext.  
204; bobby@uuss.org)

**Facilities Maintenance Manager:** Robert Hosley  
(483-9283 ext. 251; 752-0882, 24 hrs.)

**Custodian:** Elaine Cooper (Pager 730-8803 when on  
duty)