

the Unigram

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

Vol. 39, No. 5

www.uuss.org

November 2008

An Open Invitation from VIA

VISION INTO ACTION

By Barbara Gardner

Although change is often easier to appreciate in retrospect, there are times when it's more palpable than others. We may be approaching one of those times. Last April our congregation came together to re-vision ourselves over a weekend workshop we called "Searching for the Future (SFTF)." We worked in small groups and explored what brought us here in the first place, what holds us here now, and our hopes and visions for the future. We came up with proposed new covenant and vision statements (both of these are in our order of service on Sundays); and as part of the grand finale, we voted on which of the 239 (count 'em!) ideas and proposals contributed by the group were most important to us individually.

The votes were tallied and analyzed, and a group formed (Vision Into Action or VIA) to help facilitate the implementation of the most supported goals. The biggest areas of interest relate to long-range planning issues and to "green sanctuary" issues (i.e., a desire for environmental/ecological issues to be interwoven with all aspects of our congregational life). Beyond these issues the list remains varied and substantial.

We are moving along on the following big issues:

- John McMillan is leading a Campus Development Task Force charged with developing a plan for updating our entryway to make it more welcoming and inviting to visitors and members of the congregation alike.
- On Sunday, November 2 at 1 pm, Colene Schlaepfer, together with architect Michael Malinowski (see below),

WHERE'S THE WELCOME?

Don't miss the Focus Group discussion at UUSS on Sunday, November 2, at 1 PM, with architect Mike Malinowski. See the "Open Invitation" article above..

will be moderating a focus group discussion designed to get congregational input on the entryway. This will be a good time to give your input regarding qualities and features in our entryway that are important to you.

- Our Board of Trustees decided at a recent retreat to collaborate with VIA and the congregation to help further the SFTF goals.
- The Green Sanctuary group is reviewing the goals from the SFTF weekend to see which goals they might work on in the short and medium terms that aren't predicated on having a long-term congregational plan in place.
- We (VIA and the Board) intend to launch a long-range planning group in the near future. *(Continued on page 2.)*

Month of Sundays

New Service Times: 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| October 26 | Rich Howard
<i>Dia de los Muertos</i>
<i>An All-Ages Service</i> |
| November 2 | Rev. Doug Kraft
<i>Collective Wisdom/Dialogue Service</i> |
| November 9 | Rev. Roger Jones
<i>Lincoln's Gettysburg Address:</i>
<i>Consecration and Inspiration</i> |
| November 16 | Rev. Doug Kraft
<i>Finding Happiness in Troubled Times</i> |
| November 23 | Rev. Doug Kraft and Rev. Roger Jones
<i>With A Grateful Heart:</i>
<i>A Service for All Ages</i> |
| November 30 | Rev. Roger Jones
<i>Waiting for the Gifts of the Spirit</i> |

UUSS Community Contributions

During the month of November, our Sunday morning offering will be shared with WIND Youth Service Day Center for homeless teenagers.

AT THE MOMENT

By Reverend Doug Kraft

Happiness exists in the fabric of reality. It's a matter of figuring out how to access it.

I learned this from a sweet, insistent teacher named Sylvie. He's a black, long-haired cat with white paws, muzzle and chest – just like the cartoon Sylvester. He came to live with us 16 years ago.

As a kitten, Sylvie followed me around every morning meowing until I picked him up, scratched his ears and stroked his head. He purred and purred and purred. After two minutes, he'd hop down and was content for the day.

As an old man, Sylvie is much the same. He insists on a few minutes of soul melding every day. If his dish is empty too long, he sits smiling at the cat chow cupboard. Beyond that, he loves the yard. He sniffs the plants or meditates on the trees and sky. He's so serene that the birds looking for bugs in the grass know he's no danger. I'm on the patio as I write these words. He's lying near my feet with his belly to the sun. He likes to hang around us when we are home. At night he crawls up onto the bed and purrs himself to sleep near our feet.

Sylvie is unperturbed by the market melt down, presidential campaigns, spam email, crowded calendars and multi-tasking. He wants some food and simple contact. Beyond that, he'd rather savor the moment. That's where he finds happiness – right here in the simple fabric of existence.

As a country, I think we've lost our way. We've confused the pursuit of happiness with the pursuit of money, power and activity. But the planet can only provide so much stuff. For two generations, we've consumed more than we've produced. It's unsustainable. And it's so unnecessary.

We are not the first nation to get confused this way. Recall Moses' frustration when the Israelites built a golden calf to worship. We humans are vulnerable to the lure of money and power.

But if we relax and look around, it's clear there are plenty of unhappy people with a lot of stuff, and plenty of happy people with a modest amount of stuff. Once our basic needs are met for food, shelter and health care, happiness comes more from being generous and kind. It comes from loving connection and savoring what is around us already.

It will take us a while to sort through our economic, political and military messes. But the more mindful we are of the happiness right here, the wiser we are about what to do and what not to do.

Sylvie is not an intellectual. He doesn't understand hedge funds or credit default swaps. But I bet he's happier than most people who do. He knows how to take care of his modest needs and how to connect gently with those around him. If you come to visit us, he'll be one of the first to greet you with a gentle "meow." And he knows how to enjoy the sky and the sunshine. He may not understand that happiness is already a part of the fabric of reality. But he knows how to live in it.



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 (483-9283 x201) or send me a note (doug@uuss.org). Monday is my day off.

— Doug

OPEN INVITATION FROM VIA, CONTINUED . . .

AND – there are a lot of other opportunities/projects there for the picking. Part of the current plan is for each of the major church committees to review the goals from the SFTF weekend and determine which ones might "fit" with the work they are doing. However, we don't want this process to be limited to committees, and we encourage everyone to take a look at the SFTF goals. [They are available in the office, and online at our UUSS website (uuss.org) under "Useful Information" and "Other Files"—listed just after RE.] If you see an idea there that interests you, feel free to talk to others about ways you might be able to make it happen. All of these goals are only as alive as the energy people have for them. It was this type of interest and enthusiasm that resulted in the formation of Green Sanctuary.

So: Be Bold. Feel Empowered. We all matter and what you do makes a difference.

Feel free to contact any members of VIA, including Barbara Gardner, Barbara Hopkins, Carol Houseman, John McMillan, Candy McMorris, Colene Schlaepfer, and our ministers, Roger Jones and Doug Kraft.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

By the Reverend Roger Jones

The Secrets of Strong Families Around the World

In 1995 Meadville Lombard Theological School—my seminary—held a conference on the above topic.

A professor of family studies from the University of Nebraska told us that he and a colleague had reviewed 53 extensive studies conducted by 60 researchers on families, covering more than 15,000 people in all the states and in 27 countries. They consisted of long interviews with people who felt their families were strong and healthy.

The interviewers simply asked the participants to tell what their family lives were like. Their conclusions: Family strengths include (drum roll)...showing appreciation and affection, commitment, positive communication, time spent together, a sense of spiritual well-being, and the ability to cope with stress and crisis.

Each of the above could be an essay, sermon or course title, to be sure!

The remarkable thing to me was that the basic qualities of strong families are similar from one culture to another around the world. The researchers concluded that the ingredients of strong, emotionally healthy families do not differ much by the type of family or by culture. Best wishes to us all in building strong relationships of all kinds.

Yours in faith,

Roger

P.S. Does your family have a spoken grace or any other kind of mealtime ritual? Let me know as I'm compiling ideas for my Pastor Cranky/Pastor Smiley blog and a sermon. Also, don't forget the Family-Friendly Restaurant Dinner on November 19 at Fresh Choice on Howe Avenue!!

FINDING THE FAMILY MINISTER

For an appointment, feel free to call (ext. 203) or write roger@uuss.org. Among other times, you can find me at church Mondays and Wednesdays, from 4 to 6 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10 to noon. My day off is Friday. Note: I will be in New England November 11 to 17; I serve on a UUA panel that makes grants to grassroots social-justice groups.

CLASS NOTES

RE classes for children and youth continue during the 9:30 service this month. Children from age three through fifth grade are learning about Earth's environment and our 7th Principle. The Preschool/Kindergarten class is gathering acorns from valley oaks to be planted along the American River Parkway. First through third graders have talked about rain and made rainsticks in class. The fourth and fifth grade class has been studying rocks, soils and erosion.

The junior high class will soon go on its first field trip, visiting our "Neighboring Faiths." Within the next two months, we have planned trips to a synagogue and a cathedral. Senior High Youth Group (SHYG) continues to meet for weekly discussions, some of which will include learning about fellow UU Rod Serling and watching episodes of his TV show, *The Twilight Zone*.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

November 2008

Sunday, November 2:

9:15 AM - 12:45 PM *Childcare (age 5 and under) Rm. 11*
9:30 AM *Religious Education Classes*

Sunday, November 9:

9:15 AM - 12:45 PM *Childcare (age 5 and under), Rm. 11*
9:30 AM *Religious Education Classes*
12:30 - 2 PM *R.E. Committee Meeting*
1 - 2 PM *Coming of Age Meeting*

Sunday, November 16:

9:15 AM - 12:45 PM *Childcare (age 5 and under) Rm. 11*
9:30 AM *Religious Education Classes*

Sunday, November 23:

9:15 AM - 12:45 PM *Childcare (age 5 and under) Rm. 11*
9:30 AM *Intergenerational Service - No Religious Education Classes*
7-9 PM *Coming of Age Meeting*

Sunday, November 30:

9:15 AM - 12:45 PM *Childcare (age 5 and under) Rm. 11*
9:30 AM *Religious Education Classes*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR NOVEMBER

by Janet Lopes and Rev. Roger Jones

Parents/guardians need to sign in their children in the Sophia Fahs Room before worship; but then all ages begin their Sunday together in the Main Hall. After the first 15 minutes, the teachers, staff and children depart for RE classes. (November 23 is an all-ages service, so we're all together for the whole service.)

Professional nursery care for infants and toddlers is available every Sunday during both services in Room 11.

COMING OF AGE PROGRAM COMING OUR WAY AGAIN THIS YEAR

by Janet Lopes, Religious Education Coordinator

The UUSS Coming of Age (COA) program will be held again this year for youth in grades 8 through 10. COA has been called the UU equivalent of Confirmation and Bat or Bar Mitzvah. The seven-month program helps adolescents discern for themselves what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist, individually and as part of the larger faith community. The program involves individual activities, family participation, and working with a mentor. COA is in addition to regular youth programs at UUSS with its own schedule and separate registration.

Components of the program include a personal challenge, credo statement, mentors, service to UUSS, service to community, fundraising AND the now-famous trip to UUA headquarters and historic churches in Boston. The program is not an end to spiritual searching; it is an official recognition that the youth involved have begun to search for personal truth. Coming of Age is truly a rite of passage.

An Informational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 9, from 1 to 2 pm, in room 7/8, and a Parent/Youth/Mentor Dessert Potluck is planned for Sunday, November 23, from 7 to 9 pm in the Sophia Lyon Fahs room.

To register your youth(s) for this exceptional program, please contact COA Leader, David Libby, by phone at 646-3410 or by e-mail at nimrod7852@surewest.net. For more general information about the program, please contact our Family Minister, Rev. Roger Jones, at 916-483-9283 x 203 or roger@uuss.org. You can also read more about the Coming of Age program on the UUSS website at <http://uuss.org/RE/COA.pdf>.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT UUSS

by Roger Jones, Family Minister

People of all ages and configurations (singles, groups of friends, families, marching bands) are invited to have dinner at UUSS on Turkey Day. And you are invited to make it happen!

The rough schedule: gather, set up and mingle after 12:30; sing, say grace and chow down at 2:00, clean up and have more fun at 3:00. It's a planned potluck (what we Hoosiers called a pitch-in). All food needs to be prepared off-site, but it can be heated up or refrigerated after you arrive.

I will be out of town, so in order for this to happen, we need a couple of coordinators and a bunch of folks willing to sign up for a task, as well as to bring food. Let me know of your interest in helping and attending.

UNPLUGGING THE CHRISTMAS MACHINE

An Adult RE Class Taught by Rev. Roger Jones
Two Mondays: November 10 and 24, 7-8:45 PM

Do you long to put peace and joy back into your holiday experience? Is it more a time of stress than rest? Do you feel burdened by unrealistic expectations of yourself, or from your relatives? You are not alone. This adult RE course helps us to reclaim our values and plan for a more sane and satisfying holiday season. It's useful for those with children or grandchildren — and others who feel the drag of the machine on their spirits. Register (and request child care) by November 8 with me at roger@uuss.org.

FAMILY FRIENDLY RESTAURANT DINNER WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

by Roger Jones, Family Minister

Join UUSS members and friends of all ages for an easy night out in a family-friendly setting: dinner together at Fresh Choice Restaurant on Wednesday, November 19, 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Come when you can, dine, mingle and visit. Come for dinner before choir practice or your Ministry Circle or before a bath and bedtime story back at home. (The UU Fellowship in Sunnyvale has done this every month since 2004, and it was a good time for people to connect and share a meal together.)

The company returns 15 percent of our group's total purchase as a donation to UUSS, so pick up an event flyer at church or download from www.freshchoice.com/fundraising.html. Fresh Choice is a self-serve restaurant with a wealth of tasty salads, fresh veggies and fruit, pasta, pizza, potatoes, soups, breads and desserts, including the fun soft-serve ice cream machine (so fun that some ministers go twice). Prices make it a good value, and for those who seek seafood or poultry — that's optional. They have wine and beer, too. Fresh Choice is located at 535 Howe Avenue near Fair Oaks, just a 13-minute walk from the church. Phone is 916-649-8046. Our section will be marked with Unitarian Universalist table markers.

THANKS TO FRIENDS OF FAIRNESS

by Roger Jones, Family Minister

Blessings on all of you who have given time, attention and money to protect marriage equality by joining the No on Prop. 8 campaign! All across the Golden State, UUs have led the religious progressive community in working for fairness. There is still time to spend a few hours on a phone bank, put up a yard sign, or talk to friends and coworkers. Contact Roger, Doug, Tami Buscho, or Margaret Wilcox. There is still time to donate to put another ad on TV; visit www.NoOnProp8.com. *Thanks!*

SO WHAT DID OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES DO AT THEIR RETREAT?

by Margaret Wilcox, President/Moderator

UUSS Board of Trustees

On September 27, Board members met for a retreat with the goals of discussing the big issues facing our congregation and establishing Board priorities for the year. Our hope was that we might even develop action plans to begin making these priorities a reality.

Working from congregational input gleaned during the April Searching for the Future workshop and the refinement of that information by the Vision into Action Task Force, we identified four key issues currently facing us:

- Building and grounds planning
- Membership growth and support
- Strategic plan for use of bequests
- Ministry to children and families

Board members then addressed the challenge of defining next steps to move these priorities forward. A building and grounds strategic planning task force was formed to work with existing committees and groups to develop a plan for consideration by the Board and the congregation. Carrie Cornwell and Denis Edgren are members of this task force.

Recognizing that one of our challenges around membership growth and support is having accurate data to inform us, we decided to appoint a task force to gather and analyze visitor and membership data in order to determine the need for a part-time Membership Coordinator and, if appropriate, the job description for that position. Linda Klein and Lisa Malkin are members of this task force, which will work in conjunction with the ministers and will stay in touch with the Membership Committee.

Board members acknowledged the unique opportunity provided by our recent bequests. Our intent is to ensure that the funds go toward long-term benefits for UUSS. Developing a strategic plan for the use of bequests will be placed on the October Board of Trustees agenda.

Our commitment toward ministry to families and children is evident in our hiring of Rev. Roger Jones this year. He will continue to keep the Board informed about the progress of this ministry and his recommendations for any actions, including staffing for the future.

Our retreat was challenging, enjoyable and productive. We look forward to sharing our progress on these issues.

POST ELECTION WORSHIP CIRCLE ON NOVEMBER 5

By Rev. Roger Jones

Will you have the post-election blues (and reds)...or joy unspeakable? It may depend on who wins the presidency or the mayoralty, or how those propositions turn out. In any case, you are invited to a Worship Circle for post-election reflections. Instead of crossfire or crosstalk, we will speak from the heart and listen deeply to one another, which is a spiritual practice. We'll sing a bit and sit in silent prayer, too. Wednesday, November 5, 7 to 8:30 pm. Room is TBA, so check www.uuss.org for more details. Let me know if you're coming AND if you need nursery care by Saturday, November 1.

ALLIANCE TAKES THE SILK ROAD

by Virginia Dunstan

"The Silk Road and the Oriental Carpet" is the title of the Alliance program, Thursday, November 13. The presenter, Diane Kelly-Abrams, M.A., will take us along The Silk Road with slides and a discussion about the relationship of oriental carpets to the cultural exchange that occurred among people of diverse societies, places and religions. Diane was a Professor of Art History for 15 years at American River College and has traveled in Europe and Africa as part of her interest in art history.

Coffee and social time begin at 10:15 am with the program at 11. Bring your own lunch for after the program. Desserts will be provided. Location: Main Hall. A \$2.00 donation is appreciated. For more information call Muriel Drakeford at 486-2914.

UUSS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2008 - JUNE 2009

Margaret Wilcox, *President*

Linda Klein, *Vice-President*

Lisa Malkin, *Treasurer*

Carrie Cornwell, *Secretary*

Members at Large:

John Abbott • Denis Edgren • Barbara Hopkins

Judith Morrison • Fred Schlaepfer



ONGOING CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION

by Tiffany Urness and Colene Schlaepfer

At the September 2008 Congregational Conversation, chaired by Jo Ann Anglin, it was announced that the Board has formed a Campus Development Task Force, led by John McMillan. The Task Force will tackle the Vision into Action (VIA) group's first "brick and mortar" project: how to make the UUSS entryway more welcoming and accessible to visitors and members. Members are Ginger Enrico, Barbara Hopkins, Bob Oyofuso, Colene Schlaepfer, and Tiffany Urness. As a first step, John handed out questionnaires to gather impressions and stimulate thoughts about the existing entryway and what improvements might be beneficial. Some of the comments follow:

Journey from the parking lot to the auditorium/ remembering "your first impression of UUSS":

"Confusing." "Not accessible." "Hexagonals filled with ugly orange plastic/glass." "Fair." "Poor." "I missed the entrance on my first pass along Sierra Blvd. Then I had to ask someone to find the sanctuary." "Trees, peaceful setting." "Ill-maintained wood structure; untended plants." "Nothing seemed to be an entrance." "I liked the materials, color, building shape." "Pavers may be dangerous for physically disabled."

Signage: "Good." "Bad." "Need a permanent sign at a clear entrance that shows where rooms are." "Paving the entry, improving signage are excellent ideas."

Suggested improvements: "Maybe the entrance should be the west entrance; the office/kitchen is currently in the way." "Could be improved by a wide path directly to parking lot." "Can the post that is erected to keep out vehicle traffic be made removable for Sunday and special events foot traffic?" "Make things look well taken care of and you will entice more events." "Construct a clearly visible gateway (without a gate) from parking lot to patio."

The next regular monthly Conversation was held after church in early October. Chair Colene Sawyer Schlaepfer led a lively discussion about several topics and started the discussion with ideas from the prior month's meeting about the welcome and entry to our church. That led to a discussion of greeting and incorporating new people to our group. Each of us could become a "committee of one" to be on the look-out for people coming for the first or second time, get to know something about them and connect them with others with whom they may share an interest. The groups previously formed from zip codes were mentioned. Singles groups were of interest. More social events for FUN were suggested. We searched for ways to incorporate new people into existing groups.

Another subject discussed was the possibility of starting satellite churches in outlying areas. Classes for the community and a care-givers group were suggested.

The next Conversation will be held on November 2 at 1 pm and will be special. To further expand the discussion and give more UUSS groups, members and friends an opportunity to participate, the November 2 Congregational Conversation will be transformed into a Focus Group entirely devoted to the entryway project. This design exploration event will be professionally facilitated by local architect, Michael F. Malinowski, AIA.

Mike is President of the 850-member American Institute of Architects Central Valley chapter, former Chair of the City of Sacramento's Development Oversight Commission, and President of Applied Architecture, Inc. Mike has met with the Task Force, is familiar with our campus, and has planned some truly ingenious exercises to help us see ourselves and envision our future "path" more clearly and creatively. We encourage all to come and share their ideas.

MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION

by Roger Jones, UUSS Family Minister

If you are interested in joining our society, our next Membership Orientation class will occur on Saturday, December 6, at 8:45 to 1:15 pm. Please contact our Family Minister at roger@uuss.org or call the church to sign up!

SUPPLEMENTAL PICTURE DIRECTORY

By Maryly Reinertson

The Membership Committee and helpers have been working on a supplement to the last UUSS picture directory so that newer members' faces, names and addresses can be more accessible. If you are not pictured in the last colorful directory and have not been reached yet by telephone, please contact Maryly Reinertson so that you can be included. We love to see more of you! Maryly Reinertson can be reached at 739-1083.

UUSS CHOIR NEEDS SINGERS!

by May Tucker, UUSS Music Director

There is one more way to participate in the life of this congregation. Every Wednesday night at 7 pm, the choir rehearses, and then sings at the 11:15 am service on Sundays. We are a fun group of friends and singers who enjoy the time we spend and the music we make together. If you enjoy the choir on Sunday and it lifts you up in your spiritual journey, consider being one of us!



UUSS PEACEMAKING

UUSS PEACEMAKERS' NOVEMBER NOTES

by Pat Naylor and Candace McFarland

UUSS Peacemakers will hold their monthly Peacemaker Potluck and Video night. We are searching for a movie that reflects our concern and desire for peaceful resolutions and will advise as the date is nearer. Please feel free to make suggestions. As always, we will share peaceful music, good food, laughter, and peace event information.

- Date: Saturday, November 15, 2008
- Time: 6 – 8:30 pm
- Location: UUSS Fahs Room
- Donation: Bring a dish to share or a small donation.
- Email: peacemakers@uuss.org

Our monthly Peacemakers' planning meeting will be on the third Sunday, November 16, at 12:45 pm. Pat Naylor has several "peace" topic books to lend. In addition, we have a beautiful Peace Flag set and a new Peace banner! This will be a great year of visibility for our group and cause. We invite you to commune with us and welcome your ideas and passion on issues relating to peacemaking. Contact Pat at plnaylor@comcast.net or Candace at 916-813-1356 for further information or questions.

LABYRINTH/CUUPS

by Diane Kelly-Abrams

Come one, come all. Soon we will be offering one of two courses, either *Rise Up and Call Her Name*, or *Cakes For the Queen of Heaven*. Join us Monday, November 17, at 7 pm in the library to help us to decide which one. Come a little early and walk our new Labyrinth (available after 6:15 pm). There will also be a slide presentation: Stone Age Goddesses: Worshipping the Women? Questions: call Diane Kelly-Abrams at 485-8140, Pat Naylor at 391-6274, or Laurie Jones at 743-0469.

ART EXHIBIT:

THE WOODLAKE ARTIST GROUP

by Patricia Pratt, Chair, UUSS Art Exhibit Committee

NOVEMBER 7, 2008 - JANUARY 5, 2009

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 5:30-7 PM

This art exhibit will be different from the past exhibits. This time we will have nine artists that form the The Woodlake Artist Group. They are Mario Esbri, Taylor Gutermute, Carol Hawkins, Bertha Hughes, Mary Ann Low, Mike Mayda, Gary Miller, Sea Miller, and Marie Wilson. Taylor is the wife of Zach Taylor, a member of UUSS.

The nine artists who form the Woodlake Artist Group (WAG) have a dynamic partnership with each other. The members of the group all live in the unique 20s and 30s Woodlake neighborhood of North Sacramento near the up-and-coming Del Paso Boulevard arts and business district. Originally formed in February 2004, the WAG members started meeting at each other's homes once a month to critique their work and share information on supplies and materials.

This group is a great example of neighbors getting together around an area of common interest and then moving out into the community to do what they love to do. Each member contributes his or her individual talents to making the group function like a well-oiled machine.

The work of the nine artists in the Woodlake Artist Group includes very diverse media and content, but when displayed together, consistently presents a cohesive, thought-provoking, and unique exhibit. While the artists are at various stages in their careers, each body of work presents the viewer with a new set of considerations and aesthetic sensibilities.



Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2</p> <p>Daylight Saving Ends Joining Sunday 8:30am-Food Basket 9:15am-Childcare 9:30am-Service & RE 11:15am-Service 12:30pm-Catered Lunch 12:45pm-Cong. Conv. 5:00pm-Private Rental</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am-Art Exhibit - Take down & hanging 1:00pm-UUSS Harmonies 6:00pm-Property Management 7:00pm-Adult Enrichment: Conflict Mngmnt</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Election Day 7:00am-Election Day Polls 9:00am-Adult Enrichment: Tai' Chi Chih 10:00am-Ted's Web 2:00pm-Program Council Steering</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am-Ministry Circle 10:00am-DayDreamers 7:00pm-Ministry Circle 7:00pm-Choir Practice 7:00pm-Spiritual Journey 7:00pm-Post Election Worship Circle</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am-Adult Enrichment: Tai' Chi Chih 11:00am-Adult Enrichment: Vegetarian Main Meals 6:30pm-Theater One 7:00pm-Adult Enrichment: Self- Discovery</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30pm-Art Reception 6:30pm-Private Rental</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00am-Private Rental Hold</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:15am-Childcare 9:30am-Service & RE 11:15am-Service 12:30pm-RE Ctte 12:30pm-Catered Lunch 12:30pm-Personnel Ctte 1:00pm-Coming of Age 1:15pm-Forum 3:00pm-Servetus 5:30pm-UUSS Film Club</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Deadline for Unigram Articles 6:30pm-Social Resp: Deep Ecology 6:30pm-Private Rental 7:00pm-Men's Group 7:00pm-Adult RE: Unplugging the Christmas Machine</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00am-Adult Enrichment: Tai' Chi Chih 10:00am-Ministry Circle 10:00am-Ted's Web 7:00pm-Sharing the Path 7:00pm-GCBA 7:30pm-Men's Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am-DayDreamers 6:30pm-Private Rental 7:00pm-Choir Practice 7:00pm-Spiritual Journey</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am-Adult Enrichment: Tai' Chi Chih 10:15am-Alliance Program 7:00pm-Finance Committee 7:00pm-Adult Enrichment: Self- Discovery</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:00pm-Private Rental</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00am-Theater One Practice 10:00am-Public Forum Planning Committee 6:00pm-Peacemaker Potluck & Video</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:30am-Food Bank 9:15am-Childcare 9:30am-Service & RE 11:15am-Service 12:30pm-Catered Lunch 12:45pm-SocResp: PeaceMakers Task Force 1:15pm-Social Resp Committee Meeting 4:30pm-Private Rental</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1:00pm-UUSS Harmonies 6:30pm-Theater One Practice 7:00pm-Labyrinth / CUUPS</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am-Ted's Web 12:00pm-Executive Committee 6:00pm-Private Rental 7:00pm-Program Council</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00am-Ministry Circle 10:00am-DayDreamers 5:30pm-Family Friendly Dining at Fresh Choice 7:00pm-Ministry Circle 7:00pm-Choir Practice 7:00pm-Spiritual Journey</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am-Volunteers Mail Unigram 3rd Thurs 6:30pm-Theater One Practice 7:00pm-Book Group 7:00pm-Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00pm-Private Rental</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00pm-Theater One Production- Greetings</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00pm-Theater One Production- Greetings</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:30am-Food Bank 9:15am-Childcare 9:30am-All Ages Service 11:15am-Service 12:30pm-Catered Lunch 12:45pm-PeaceKeepers 1:00pm-Green Sanctuary 2:30pm-Private Rental 3:00pm-Theater One 7:00pm-Coming of Age</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00am-Loaves & Fishes Food Prep 11:00am-Loaves & Fishes Servers 6:30pm-Social Resp: Deep Ecology 7:00pm-Men's Group 7:00pm-Adult RE: Unplugging the Christmas Machine</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am-Ministry Circle 10:00am-Ted's Web 6:30pm-ReligiousSrvcs/ WshpLdrs 7:30pm-Men's Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00am-DayDreamers 4:00pm-St. John's Shelter 7:00pm-Choir Practice 7:00pm-Spiritual Journey</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Thanksgiving Holiday(Office Closed) 12:30 pm Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner at UUSS</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Thanksgiving Holiday(Office Closed) 10:00am-Private Rental</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00pm-Theater One Production- Greetings</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30am-UUSS Food Bank 9:15am-Childcare 9:30am-Service & RE 11:15am-Service 12:30pm-Catered Lunch 3:00pm-Theater One Production- Greetings 4:30pm-Private Rental 5:00pm-Private Rental</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>November '08</i></p> <p>Please Note: Some meetings/classes are not open to the public without pre-registration. If unsure, call ahead.</p>					
<p style="text-align: right;">Don't Miss the 12th Annual UUSS Harvestfest & Auction! Saturday, November 1st 5 - 8:30 p.m.</p>						

For the most current version of the calendar, please go to: www.uuss.org and click on the Monthly Calendar tab under Current Information.



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MONTH OF SUNDAYS

Two Services, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

October 26 Rich Howard
Dia de los Muertos
An All-Ages Service

The Mexican remembrance of Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, celebrates the presence among us of those who have gone before. Join us as we build an altar to our departed loved ones. This year's services will be intergenerational. Children are encouraged to participate, perhaps remembering a beloved pet who has died. Bring a small item to put on the altar — a favorite food, a photo, or a meaningful item.

November 2 Rev. Doug Kraft
Collective Wisdom

What are the concerns that are most on your heart and mind this season? With your participation, Doug will create a sermon in dialog. There will be a question box at the church to receive your questions. He won't look at any of them until the service itself. Questions that have a strong pull for you help pull a greater wisdom from all of us. All questions are fair

November 9 Rev. Roger Jones
Lincoln's Gettysburg Address:
Consecration and Inspiration

On this Sunday after a major election and before Veterans' Day, we look to President Lincoln's battlefield-cemetery commemoration — one of the scriptures of the American heritage — for comfort, hope, high resolve and strength for the times to come.

November 16 Rev. Doug Kraft
Finding Happiness in Troubled Times

Difficult times can encourage us to look more deeply at where our true contentment comes from. This morning we will reflect on the nature of happiness and what it means to live enriching lives during anxious times.

November 23 Rev. Doug Kraft and Rev. Roger Jones
With a Grateful Heart
A Service for All Ages

For what shall we give thanks? How do we express our thanks? Music, stories and personal reflections from our two dudes, about an attitude of gratitude. Note: No Sunday School today; but nursery care is available at both services in Room 11.

November 30 Rev. Roger Jones
Waiting for the Gifts of the Spirit

In the Christian calendar, today is the first of four Sundays of Advent, a time of spiritual introspection, hope, and learning to wait. In the merchandising calendar, however, this weekend begins the season of waiting...in the check-out line. What are you waiting for?

UNIGRAM SUBMISSIONS

The Unigram Committee accepts articles until the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication. Please note this deadline as you prepare future articles. In addition, please send articles as Word text or as text in an email to unigram@uuss.org. Please do not send articles in PDF formatting. Your submission to the Unigram may be edited for content and length. Guidelines may be downloaded from www.uuss.org or picked up in the UUSS Office.

A LOW-TECH ALTERNATIVE

UUSS members or friends without computer access may submit their articles for publication by dropping them into the mail box slot for the Unigram which is located in the hallway near the restrooms.

Unigram Production Crew: Christine Webb-Curtis, Jan Kelley, Judy Lane, Margo Marvin, Doris Simonis, and Kathryn Young