

the Unigram

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

Vol. 42, No. 8

February 2012

Master Planning Update:

BROUGHT TO YOU WITH PLEASURE BY UUMPF AND THE MASTER PLANNING OVERSIGHT GROUP

By Barbara Gardner

Problems sleeping??? Do you stay awake at night. . .

- worrying about blowing another fuse in our kitchen?
- thinking about how nice it would be to have new – capacious and soundproof – bathrooms near the sanctuary?
- wondering about your next meeting with Roger – and if you'll both fit into his office at the same time?
- quizzical about how we'll ever manage to build out our newly-created Master Plan?

If so, perhaps you'd like to attend a master planning question and answer/dialogue session on Sunday, February 5, after each service (at 10:45 and 12:45) in the Fahs room. We'll give you an update, answer questions (and probably raise others!), and engage in dialogue about the process of transforming our emerging master plan into a three-dimensional place of beauty...to be followed by...

DREAMS COMING TRUE (!)

At a congregational meeting on the following Sunday, February 12, after the second service, our architect, Jeff Gold, will make a formal presentation to the congregation about our completed Master Plan. Any additional questions will be answered and discussed, and we will vote on:

- approving the completion of the Master Plan,
- beginning the Implementation Phase of our Master Plan, and
- maybe singing a round of 'Hallelujah' (as so moved...).



"PARIS: LIVING THE DREAM – ALLIANCE"

Clair and Tiffany Urness have come up with an unusual twist on how to spend one's retirement years: they live six months a year in Paris. Tiffany will share highlights of their everyday adventures as they wander the boulevards and cobblestones of the City of Lights, hang out in cafes and bookstores, take bus rides to nowhere in particular, and enjoy the colorful spectacle of the daily pedestrian parade. Presentation starts at 11:00. Fahs Room doors open at 10:45. Bring a brown bag lunch for after the meeting. Dessert will be provided.

SAVE THE DATE!

March 4th is Celebration Sunday!

One Service Only with Religious Education Snacks at 9:30 a.m. and Service at 10:00 a.m.

Month of Sundays

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

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|-------------|---|
| January 29 | Rev. Bryan Jessup
with Rev. Doug Kraft & Rev. Roger Jones
<i>The Gospel According to Fresno</i> |
| February 5 | Rev. Doug Kraft
<i>Thriving in Difficult Times</i> |
| February 12 | Rev. Doug Kraft
<i>Stuffed Animal Friends: A Service for All Ages and Stuffed Animals</i> |
| February 19 | Rev. Roger Jones
<i>How Did We Get Here? — The Disappearing, Reappearing UU Church in Sacramento</i> |
| February 26 | Rev. Doug Kraft
<i>Empathy and Economy</i> |

UUSS Community Contributions

During February our offering will be shared with Turning Point Community Programs that offers a path to mental health in this region through direct services, education and advocacy. Read more at <http://www.tpcp.org>.

AT THE MOMENT

By Reverend Doug Kraft

They called him “Lennon” at that SPCA: a black and white cat, long, playful, friendly and a bit of a klutz. We liked him. So now he lives with us. He has a new name: Bailey. It seems to fit him better. As I type these words he’s curled up asleep in my meditation chair behind me.

I’ve always liked cats because they are both independent and relational. People who don’t like cats say they’re aloof. True, some are shy. Most keep their distance if I ignore or mistreat them. But that’s hardly a character flaw. And they do have their own personality that is not so easily molded by my whims. I kind of like that.

If I treat them with kindness and respect, I find they like to hang out with me. Bailey comes when I call (well, usually). He greets me when I come home. He’s learned that I don’t like him walking on my desk. So he jumps up to the windowsill above the desk where he can look at me or check out the birds outside. He likes to play. And he engages in short conversations. I speak English. He speaks Meow.

The familiar quip says that leading a congregation of Unitarian Universalists is like herding cats. We laugh. But who wants to herd cats in the first place? Who wants to herd a congregation? I certainly don’t want people doing what I say just because I say it. I’d be afraid that everyone would run off a cliff just because I sneezed in the wrong direction.

Like cats, we like our independence. Some of us are shyer than others. We like to be treated with kindness and respect. We value our independence. And we value our relationships. We value uniqueness. And we value hanging out together.

February is the month in which we ask ourselves to reflect on the value of our relationships with our congregation and how we can support us all financially and in other ways.

I value our independence. And I’m very aware of all the things we can’t do by ourselves. We can’t have an interesting conversation by ourselves. We might win more arguments talking to the mirror, but we don’t learn as much. We can’t get interesting speakers on Sunday if there’s only one of us. A support group is not very supportive with only one member. We can’t teach kids community values if there’s only one kid. We can’t sing in harmony alone. We can’t enjoy a games night by ourselves. We can’t enjoy diversity alone. We can’t hold a vigil for peace if we’re the only one. It’s hard to improve a wonderful old building if there’s just one of us.

So whether you’re a cat person or a dog person or a bird person or just a people person, please reflect on our congregation and how you’d like to support it.

As if on cue, Bailey hops onto my lap and tries to bat my fingers as I type. “No,” I say. He crouches down. I pat him. He relaxes and purrs. It’s good to be together.

— Doug

FINDING DOUG

I can be found at the church between 3 and 5 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 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

INTERNAL CONSULTANT

By Rev. Doug Kraft

Carole Czujko is our new “internal consultant.” She used to be our Ministerial Student Intern before she was our Membership Connections Facilitator. Carole came to us three years ago through a special three-year grant that runs out the end of June. This spring she needs to put more time and energy into finishing her theological degree and preparing to enter the formal ministry. In her final months with us, she will be more focused on special projects where she has considerable expertise. This June we will send her off with fond wishes as her journey takes her out into the larger world of professional ministry.

GENEROSITY BEYOND THESE WALLS — FEBRUARY OFFERING TO HELP TURNING POINT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

By Rev. Roger Jones

In all Sundays in February, UUSS shares half our morning offering with Turning Point Community Programs. It offers a path to mental health in this area through direct services, education, and advocacy. Read more at <http://www.tpcp.org>.

Recent recipients: January—WIND Youth Services; December—\$1,601 for St. John’s Shelter for Women and Children; November—\$1,727 for Loaves and Fishes; October—\$2,158 for My Sister’s House.

Our Christmas Eve offering went in its entirety to Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services—\$1,150.

Thank you for making a difference.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

By Linda Klein

There is a sense of excitement and eagerness in the air as we begin the new year at UUSS. Our calendar is full of events of significance, education, and fun. Opportunities for involvement in the work and continued vibrancy of the church abound, including the upcoming elections in May for members on the Board of Trustees and the Program Council, as well as many committees and other groups that welcome member participation.

- **CALLING OF ROGER JONES:**

One of the most significant developments in our community is the recent vote by the Board of

Trustees to recommend to the congregation that we call Roger Jones as our settled Associate Minister. The process that resulted in this recommendation began with a committee, headed by Eric Ross, which had many talks with Roger and then held congregational conversations with members and Roger. The committee unanimously endorsed Roger for a called position as our Family/Associate Minister. Further discussions were held at board meetings and then even more discussions with a subcommittee of the

Board that did research concerning financial issues as well as a job description and the writing of a Letter of Agreement. ***There will be two Congregational Information Meetings about calling Roger between services on March 11 and 18.*** The congregation will vote on this important step in our congregational life at a meeting on **April 1**. Be sure to be there to cast your vote. The Board was particularly pleased that Alex Ozdemir, our Youth Trustee, was involved in the process and added some amazing insights.

- **STEWARDSHIP DRIVE:**

The Stewardship drive is off to a roaring start with Linda Clear as chair. Much of our congregational life depends on the results of the drive. Watch for announcements of events, especially Celebration Sunday on March 4 when we will have one combined service to celebrate our commitment to UUSS.

- **MASTER PLAN AND FEASIBILITY STUDY:**

The next steps in our long-range plan are approving the master plan for improving our building and grounds and looking forward to a feasibility study. The Master Planning Oversight Group is requesting a special congregational meeting after the second service on Sunday, February 12, after the second service, to seek congregational approval of the UUSS Master plan. Barbara Gardner, Ginger Enrico and Carrie Cornwell are finding out if a feasibility study is the next logical step in the process by checking out procedures and costs with the UUA and with the consultant who was involved in the process at the Davis UU congregation. Look for congregation meetings and updates within the next month.

- **STAFF REORGANIZATION:**

Congratulations to JoLane Blaylock who is now our new Congregational Support Coordinator. Several qualified candidates were interviewed, but JoLane's reputation for excellence and hard work assured her the job. We will all benefit from the talents she brings to our staff and congregation. The total reorganization is not yet complete as there is still the position of Facilities Coordinator to fill and other administrative details to attend to, but things are shaping up. Many thanks to our new receptionist, Elaine Cooper, and our continuing bookkeeper,

Michele Ebler, for their hard work and patience through this transition. Our temporary administrative consultant, Clark Emch, will be serving two more months and then will be retiring. We are grateful for his expertise. Roger Jones has taken on many administrative duties and will continue to do so if the congregation votes to call him in April. Carole Czujko will be serving in a new role as a consultant in various congregational matters as she finishes her three years of service to our congregation. We are also grateful to Carole for her many contributions to the growth and spirit of our congregation.

We welcome your presence and your ideas in the upcoming months as we make significant decisions regarding the future of our congregation. It's going to be a great year at UUSS.



UUSS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2011 - JUNE 2012

Tina Chiginsky, *President*
Linda Klein, *Vice-President*
Catherine Whitney, *Treasurer*
Meg Burnett, *Secretary*

Members at Large:

John Abbott • Linda Clear
Carrie Cornwell • Eric Ross
Alex Ozdemir, Youth Trustee



FAMILY MINISTER'S MESSAGE: THE STEWARD-SHIP IS SAILING

By Reverend Roger Jones

Our pledge drive is how UUSS raises funds for the next budget year. Members and friends make a financial commitment, and the budget is based on what we promise to UUSS. This month there will be events, testimonials, letters and the newsletter article, "Where Will the Money Go?"

I'm privileged to work with the volunteer Stewardship Team. We are working hard and happily for you all and in support of the UUSS Mission.

I invite you to consider giving as a percentage of your income when you make your decisions for UUSS and other organizations that matter to you. The Fair Share Giving guide helps you think about this. It will be available soon. My own goal is to donate about 10 percent of my yearly total income to UUSS and other organizations. I give half of that share to UUSS.

Please know that gifts of all sizes are valued and appreciated. We are all in this together.

Please come to a Stewardship Cottage Conversation. You may bring your questions and feedback about UUSS and future funding priorities and learn specifics about what pledging means for the congregation. When? Sunday, January 29, or February 26, 12:40 p.m. at UUSS.

There is an Early Pledge Drive of a few dozen members in February. This gives leaders a preliminary total to announce at Celebration Sunday. If you would like a face-to-face meeting with a Visiting Steward (or if you can be a visitor) let Linda Clear or a staff member know.

For the rest of us, pledge cards will be turned in at the big event: Celebration Sunday, March 4. We have one service at 10 a.m. with RE classes. Hope to see you there!

Yours in stewardship,

Roger

P.S. – My January 8 sermon "Money and Life" mentions my family dynamics and living relatives. Hence, it won't be podcast or posted on line. UUSS Friends and Members may request a printed copy or the password to find it on my blog by phoning the office. See other reflections of mine openly: www.ironicschmoozer.wordpress.com.



FINDING THE FAMILY MINISTER IN FEBRUARY

I'm here Wednesday to Sunday with afternoon hours. School starts January 31! I'll be gone Mondays (study day) and Tuesdays (day off). From February 4 to 15, I'm in the Philippines to attend the meeting of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists with delegates from India, Hong Kong, Burundi, Nigeria, Uganda, Australia, North and South America, the U.K., Transylvania and other parts of Europe.
– Rev. Roger

WHERE WILL THE MONEY GO?

By Patti Nogales

Think of the support we give to UUSS as sun, water and fertilizer for the wealth of our harvest: The RE program has drawn in 12 new families this year. Child care makes it possible for more new families to attend. Ministers provide us with enlightening sermons, care and guidance. Office and custodial staff juggle the upkeep and scheduling of rooms for our own needs and rent out some space. Our funds keep this community thriving.

UUSS offers fellowship, music, learning, and support groups, Friends-in-Deed, a beautiful campus, Theater One, social groups, Adult Education, a website (with sermons waiting if we happen to miss a Sunday), Beacon Bookstore and UUrthsong garden.

We pay dues to national and district UU organizations to help spread the faith, train UU professionals, support congregations, and shine the **beacon of love and justice** on issues of importance, like health care, immigration, climate change, economic fairness, and LGBT inclusion. We hope to return to fully funding our share of the UUA dues!

Don't forget the cost of lights, water, heat, supplies, and repairs. We need to tend the material aspects of our **spiritual harbor**. Supporting the congregation can give us the pride of responsibility, the joy of living up to our values and Mission.

We invite you to join us in pledging your financial support to UUSS for the coming budget year. Don't miss Celebration Sunday, March 4, at 10 am (one combined service).

NEW YEAR, EXCITING NEW ROLE

By JoLane Blaylock,
Congregational Support Coordinator

I am so proud to be the new CSC in this amazing church. For the past three years, I have served this congregation in many volunteer roles, learning about UUSS and myself. I look forward to using those experiences to continue serving this congregation in new ways. Thank you to all for entrusting me with this new position, and for all the congratulatory e-mails and phone calls!

Things are hopping already. Here are a few things you should know:

PHOTO DIRECTORY: We are working internally on producing an updated Photo Directory. You can contact me to submit a picture or stop by the office to have a picture taken. If you receive a call from someone outside the church asking you to sit for a photo session, do not give out any personal information. Please notify me immediately. These callers are not affiliated with UUSS in any way.

WEBSITE CHANGES: I am your new contact for questions or requests relating to the UUSS website. The log-in process has also changed. If you do not have an account, be sure to apply for a personal user account on the website log-in page. The general log-in name and password are no longer valid.

SBC GLOBAL AND PACBELL E-MAIL ACCOUNTS: If your e-mail is received through one of these providers, you may not be receiving church e-mails. Please add the UUSS staff e-mails to your contacts or safe sender lists while we continue to resolve this.

Please call or e-mail me at jolane@uuss.org with any questions, comments, or new ideas. I would love to hear from you and look forward to working with each of you! I am in the office from 10 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

BOOKKEEPING NOTES

By Michele Ebler, Bookkeeper

Hopefully by the time you read this you will have already received your 2011 UUSS Contribution Statement. If we have your e-mail address, it should have arrived by e-mail; and



if not, it should have come by regular mail. Let me know if you did not receive it or if you have any questions. If you are a "regular mail" person and would like to receive future statements electronically, let me know by e-mail at michele@uuss.org!

There is still a handful of people who have not yet paid for their 2011 HarvestFest Auction purchases. Please do so as soon as you can so we can finish off this important UUSS fundraiser!

If you ever have any questions regarding your pledge or any other bookkeeping issues, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am usually in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The best way to reach me is by e-mail at michele@uuss.org.

STAFF NEWS

By Rev. Roger Jones

We bid farewell to Stephanie Silvas, who has been a Child Care provider in Room 11 for the past year. Good luck, Stephanie, and thanks for great work here!

We say congratulations to Miranda Massa. She has been selected to spend two months in Ghana with Signs of Hope International. She will take a leave of absence as our RE Assistant from mid-May to Mid-July when she goes to teach sign language to deaf children in that West African nation. This is a costly venture and a big commitment for her, but we hope it will be a transformative experience and look forward to hearing more about it.

We say thanks to Ricardo Sanchez, our Maintenance man. After pipes and "flushers" were stolen at night from Fahs Room toilets, he saved us money by installing new fixtures himself. While not happy about the theft—and now vigilant about locking restrooms even while groups use the church at night—we are happy to have "green" flushers for a choice of water volume for #1 and #2. Sorry for the potty talk.

THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

By Candy McMorris

The Endowment Committee thanks Delmar Janson for his generous contribution to the Endowment in memory of Michael Laughlin.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

UUSS BOOK GROUP:

LAST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

Join us for great discussions. The group now meets at UUSS on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Check with Book Group member Jim Glidden for further details.

"THE POWER OF NOW" –

ECKHART TOLLE BOOK DISCUSSIONS

By Roger Jones

Several members and visitors to church have said they find books by Eckhart Tolle to be of deep spiritual value to them. If all of you got together, you could have a great conversation. So let's do it! Let me know of your interest or sign an Adult Enrichment interest sheet at Sunday Connection Central.

A MORMON PRESIDENT? – TO BE SCHEDULED IN SPRING

Join Roger Jones for a discussion with Michael Reed, Ph.D. student in religious history at the Graduate Theological Union, and a published author about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

adults and children of a UU village on Negros Island. I will post more about it on my weblog.

NEW MEMBERS AND A LONG VIEW

By Rev. Roger Jones

Eleven people joined UUSS last month! They have joined our spiritual harbor and our beacon of love and justice. Welcome!

In the recent Membership Orientation, Kathryn Canan gave a historical campus tour and showed the new architectural plans in the main hall. I provided a list of the "Building the Future" long-range goals. These goals were established through a series of workshops, and then voted on by members. The goals include:

- development of the building and grounds to meet the needs of the coming generations of members and friends,
- deepening connections among members and helping folks get involved and make friends, and
- strengthening ministries to families and children. This includes building community across the generations.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

February 2012

Sunday, February 5:

9:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. *Child care (age 5 and under)*
9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. *RE Class Day*
11:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. *7th & 8th Grade OWL Class - Fahs Rm*

Sunday, February 12:

9:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. *Child care (age 5 and under)*
9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. *All Ages Service*
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *RE Committee Meeting, all welcome!*

Friday, February 17, until Monday, February 20:

PCD YRUU PineCON in Berkeley

Sunday, February 19:

9:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. *Child care (age 5 and under)*
9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. *RE Class Day*

Sunday, February 26:

9:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. *Child care (age 5 and under)*
9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. *RE Class Day*
11:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. *7th & 8th Grade OWL Class - Fahs Rm*

SACRAMENTO – PHILIPPINES: A UU CONNECTION?

UPDATE ON A UUSS PARTNER CHURCH GROUP

By Rev. Roger Jones

On February 4 I leave for my second trip to Negros Island, home of the UU Church of the Philippines. This time they are hosting a meeting of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists.

In January I met with a group of members here to consider engaging with a Philippine congregation as a partner church. Right now there are Philippine UU churches paired with congregations in San Diego, L.A., Honolulu, Wisconsin, and Maine!

Let me know if you might help in connecting UUSS to the

NEXT SHOW RUNS MARCH 16 THROUGH APRIL 1

Theater One's upcoming performance will run Friday, Saturday and Sundays starting March 16 through April 1. Please save the dates for you and your friends.

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 28

MEG BARNHOUSE CONCERT

By Doris Simonis

What a treat we have in store this spring! On Saturday evening, April 28, UUSS members and friends will be entertained by the Rev. Meg Barnhouse, senior minister of the First UU Church of Austin, Texas. Rev. Barnhouse is a wonderful speaker, singer/songwriter, and humorist as well as a former commentator for North Carolina Public

THEATER ONE

Radio, columnist for UU World magazine and the author of five books. This will be our 2012 Betty Ch'maj Fund Event. So mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss it!

RE: RE

By Miranda Massa,
Religious Education (RE) Assistant

CHALICE LIGHTERS YOUTH CHOIR

Eric and Meg's youth choir is transforming into a music program for Spirit Play. Once a month you'll find the musical duo together in the Sunday morning Spirit Play class. Teaching, singing and practicing songs with the youth as a whole class is likely to create music to our ears! Listen for upcoming dates when their voices will sing for us during service.

UUSS YOUTH TRUSTEE

Alex Ozdemir, who now sits on the UUSS Board of Trustees as our Youth Trustee, has jumped right into the position. The board reports that he actively participates and does a wonderful job of asking and answering questions. Way to go, Alex!

SUMMER 2012 ARTWORKS

Are you artistic, musical or have a fun way of creatively expressing yourself? Can you match that with our UU spiritual practices and the youth of Religious Education? Back again this summer, RE holds our ArtWorks program. We are looking for volunteers to help teach and spend time with the youth. Contact miranda@uuss.org if you have ideas, thoughts or questions.

CHALICE CAMP, 2012

A few hands were raised after my Chalice Camp volunteer request in last month's Unigram. Thank you! If you missed the article, Religious Education is seeking active and dedicated volunteers to organize and run Chalice Camp this summer. Commitment levels vary. Even a slight bit of help means a lot!

CUUPS

By Laurie Jones

UUSS will celebrate the two Equinoxes and two Solstices in 2012 around the 20th of the months of March, June, September, and December. CUUPS and the Labyrinth Training Team will be holding planning meetings on the



Our new UUSS Board of Trustees member, Alex Ozdemir, representing the youth point of view.



Above: PCD MUUGs middle school participants spending their weekend retreat at UUSS in mid-January.



Left: SHYG member Eli Baily graciously making pancakes for the UUSS Senior High Youth Group (SHYG) New Year's Lock-In Breakfast, below.



2nd Sundays (to meet the Unigram deadlines) of February (2/13), May (5/13), August (8/12), and November (11/11) from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Later we may add another one in October. See church board for rooms. These meetings are open to all church members and friends. Please come and bring your ideas. We will also at least have the labyrinth available to walk near the cross-quarter holidays at the beginning of the months of February, May, August, and November. For those of you who like to walk the labyrinth free of the Celtic calendar, the Labyrinth Training Team will also have the labyrinth available several times during the year. The first one of these walks will be around either February 24 or March 2. Look for a confirmed date in the Blue Sheet. Questions? Please contact Laurie Jones at laurievaljo@gmail.com.

CUUPS/LABYRINTH TRAINING COMMITTEES

By Laurie Jones

The CUUPS/Labyrinth Training committees are making the labyrinth available in the lobby/foyer on Friday, February 3, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in honor of the Celtic holiday of Imbolg. In Irish Gaelic, Imbolg means “ewe’s milk”. At this time of year, in pregnant mammals, milk is beginning to form in preparation for births (e.g., lambing) in the spring. The arrival of spring is celebrated about March 20 with the Vernal Equinox (equal length days and nights), fewer than two months away. We are hoping that Family Promise participants who are in the Fahs room that night might also be able to take advantage of the opportunity to walk the labyrinth, which has been used for centuries for meditation and healing.

EATING VEGETARIAN... WHY?

By Cathy George

On February 19 the second session of “The ABCs of Vegetarian Eating” Series will explore and discuss the many reasons for eating a plant-based diet. Film clips from two recent documentaries will be shown and discussed to explore the health advantages of a plant-based environment; the moral reasons to save animals from suffering on factory farms; and how eating a plant-based diet reduces global warming, water pollution and deforestation. Please join the discussion on February 19 at 12:30. For more information about the vegetarian eating series, contact Anne Bandy at abandy100@gmail.com. The series will conclude on March 25 with a discussion and food samples for a vegan diet.



HOW DOES THE UNIGRAM HAPPEN? ... AND LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD EDITORS AND A GRAPHIC ARTIST!

By Christine Webb-Curtis

Have you ever wondered how the Unigram is put together to provide the most timely and significant UUSS news each month? Truth be told, behind the scenes are some rip-roaring editors and a graphic artist. After all, you write the article and submit it to us at unigram@uuss.org, and as if by magic, it suddenly appears on the UUSS newsstand! How does it happen?

The first editor thanks you for the article, edits it and then inserts it into a draft of the next month’s issue. After the deadline, the first editor passes it forward to the second editor. The second editor double-checks the document for additional edits, double-checks the articles received to make sure they are all included in the document, then passes it on to the graphic artist. Then the graphic artist massages the document to fit into the two-column uneven-page format, pulls in whatever graphics she thinks might make the issue more zippy, then returns it to the final editor for an additional edit. Then the graphic artist sends the Unigram to the UUSS office where it is printed and distributed via mail or e-mail. The Unigram is then posted on the website.

Our internal deadlines are as follows: 1) Deadline for articles submitted—15th of the month, 2) deadline to go from the first editor to the second editor—17th of the month, 3) deadline to go to the graphic artist—19th or 20th of the month, 4) deadline to return to the final editor—20th or 21st, and 5) deadline to the office—22nd of the month. While we’re always pushing things along, each person’s editing job is not overwhelming. The graphic layout is more challenging, but it all flows surprisingly easily.

Now the kicker. We’re looking for some additional editors and a graphic artist to jump into the process. Are you the kind of person who finds those little errors in every book you read? Do you see paragraphs here and there that could be said more clearly? Do you have about an hour and a half to offer up every few months? OR are you a graphic artist—either already at a professional level or looking to practice your craft? And you feel you have a contribution to make to UUSS but would prefer doing it in the comfort of your own workspace? Then the Unigram is for you. Contact Christine Webb-Curtis at cpwcurtis@gmail.com and we can arrange a time to chat. Or contact any of the Unigram editors listed on the last page of your current Unigram. Any of us would be glad to give you the low-down. We’re a fun group of people. We meet every couple of years or so and communicate pretty exclusively over the ether(net).



Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento
2425 Sierra Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95825-4803

Phone: (916) 483-9283, **Fax:** (916) 483-4934
E-mail: office@uuss.org **Website:** www.uuss.org
Office Hours: Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Office will be Closed on Presidents' Day, February 20, 2012

UUSS Staff:

Senior Minister: Rev. Douglas C.B. Kraft, ext. 201; doug@uuss.org
Family Minister: Rev. Roger Jones, ext. 203; roger@uuss.org
Interim Administrator: Clark Emch, ext. 202; clark@uuss.org
Congregational Support Coordinator: JoLane Blaylock, ext. 204;
jolane@uuss.org
Bookkeeper: Michele Ebler, ext. 205; michele@uuss.org, M-Th
Receptionist: Elaine Cooper, Tue - Sat, elaine@uuss.org
Music Director: Eric Stetson; eric@uuss.org
Accompanist: Rachel Kang; rachel@uuss.org
Internal Consultant: Carole Czujko, ext. 251; carole@uuss.org
Religious Education Asst: Miranda Massa, ext. 207; miranda@uuss.org
Custodians: Miguel Neri, Armando, Aaron and Jason Molina, ext. 254
Child Care: Susan Gollaher

UNIGRAM SUBMISSIONS

The Unigram Committee accepts articles until the 15th 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 e-mail 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, Cathy George, Jan Kelley, Judy Lane, Margo Marvin, Doris Simonis, and Kathryn Young



MONTH OF SUNDAYS

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

January 29 **Rev. Bryan Jessup**
with Rev. Doug Kraft and Rev. Roger Jones
The Gospel According to Fresno

Bryan Jessup is our Unitarian Universalist minister from Fresno. He has been deeply involved in social justice issues in the Central Valley as well as building community. He's also a dynamic speaker.

February 5 **Rev. Doug Kraft**
Thriving in Difficult Times

Difficulty can arise in any arena of our lives: partners, children, friends, work, finances, church, community, the larger world. When things are really bad we just hope we can survive. This morning we'll explore possibilities for thriving in difficult times.

February 12 **Rev. Doug Kraft**
Stuffed Animal Friends: A Service for All Ages and Stuffed Animals

Please bring your stuffed animals to this service. There will be something for everyone: young and old, animate and inanimate. We will meet each other's stuffed animal friends, give them our blessings and reflect on what they teach us about who we are as soft-hearted creatures.

February 19 **Rev. Roger Jones**
How Did We Get Here? —
The Disappearing, Reappearing UU Church in Sacramento

As members consider whether to vote to call Roger, let's think about our 150 years of ministry in this region. Come learn how Unitarianism came to California and the Capital City, and how it vanished twice. Hear stories of our UU "greats" and also some great music. Let's think about our impact on the world. What impact has UUSS had on your own life—and what impact do you hope for?

February 26 **Rev. Doug Kraft**
Empathy and Economy

The growth of empathy is not just a mystical development. It has roots in how we interact with one another in society. Economic justice is becoming a more and more pressing social issue. We'll explore how all these tie together.

March 4 **Rev. Doug Kraft and Rev. Roger Jones,**
Only One **Plus Special Music and Refreshments**
Service **Celebration Sunday! Giving Safe Harbor:**
at 10 a.m. **Sharing our Beacon of Love and Justice**

This is the theme of this year's pledge drive to sustain the programs, outreach, facilities, staff and outreach of our congregation. If you've already made a pledge, come to celebrate. All are welcome, even new visitors! Religious Education classes begin at 10 a.m. instead of 9:30 a.m.