

March 7,

# *This Week's Happenings!* (Check the newsletter for details.)



### Sunday, Mar 7

Choir Rehearsal - 9:45a  
Worship & RE 11:00a  
Social Justice : 12:30p,  
Secret Pal Makeup -  
12:30p  
OWL - 1:30p

### Tuesday, Mar 9

Board of Trustees - 6:00p

### Wednesday, Mar 10

News & Notes deadline  
Membership @ Parker -  
2:00p  
RE Committee - 4:00pm  
UFETA - 6:00p  
Ethics Class - 6:30p

### Thursday, Mar 11

Women's Discussion -  
1:30p

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30p

### Friday, Mar 12

Single Again - 12:30p

### Sunday, Mar 14

Choir Rehearsal - 9:45a  
Worship & RE - 11:00a  
2nd Sunday Conversation -  
12:30p  
Secret Pal Makeup -12:30p  
OWL - 1:30p

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

# News and Notes

## Dear Fellowship,

Leaders in the Fellowship met with Ken Brown from the UU District Office with the goal to better understand what it would take to have a successful transition from Helen to a new minister. Over 35 people attended. We talked and questioned our way through the process for hiring an interim minister and for searching for a settled minister. Although we have NOT made a final decision, it was obvious that we are working on short timeline to complete a hiring information packet by 15Apr. The interim hiring process would be shepherded by the Interim Hiring Team. We are collecting names of members who would be interested in serving on this team IN ANTICIPATION of a decision to hire.

This 4-5 person team, appointed by the Board, will be comprised of UUF members who:

- Can quickly establish and maintain effective working relationships as team members
- Are big-picture people, understanding the hopes and dreams of the congregation, but not rooted in one particular group
- Are well-respected by their peers in the congregation
- Can spend as much as 10-15 hours a

week between March 15 and June 15 learning about the Interim Minister hiring process and carrying out duties as mutually agreed on by the Team.

- Are able to work well under time pressure
- Are comfortable with and have secure and confidential access to email and conference calling.

If you would like to be considered for membership on the Interim Hiring Team, please submit your name and brief qualifications to Eric Olsen at [eolsen@calpoly.edu](mailto:eolsen@calpoly.edu) or 805 782-9506.

Understand that the Team may be asked to work in anticipation of a decision that has not yet been made and that the work may be discarded or used for a later date or circumstance.

Cheers, Eric O.

## Remembering Al

We offer our deepest sympathies to Jinx and to the family and friends of Al Orcutt, who died on Tuesday, March 2. Al was a long-time member of our community and will be deeply missed. Arrangements for a memorial service will be available as they are finalized.

### **Sunday Worship Service and Religious Exploration Classes**

begin at 11 am at:  
at 2074 Parker (Suite 100) St in SLO

Contact Info:  
(805) 544-1669

Email: [uuslo@slonet.org](mailto:uuslo@slonet.org)

Website: [www.uufsloc.org](http://www.uufsloc.org)

Mailing Address: 2074 Parker  
(Suite 100)

San Luis Obispo, CA, 93401

### **UUFSLOC**

#### **Mission Statement**

**The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
of San Luis Obispo County  
is a diverse religious community  
providing a nurturing environment  
where individuals are encouraged  
in their search for truth  
and supported in acting  
on their beliefs.**

**We welcome all who would share  
in our open, challenging journey.**

## ***In Our Community ...***

### **Board President Edna Proposal Vote - Exit Poll Survey - Respond by 8March**

The Board is trying to collect information to help us understand why the congregation voted the way they did on the Edna Proposal February 2010 (14 Feb '10 vote). We will use this information to draft a revised proposal that hopefully addresses the more pressing concerns about the Feb 2010 Proposal.

Please go to this link to complete the survey : <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3HPRFRR>

This survey already has over 50 respondents. The survey link will be shut down midnight Monday, 8March so please get your response in if you have not done so already.

Each voting member of the Fellowship should complete the survey. One problem we noted while piloting the survey with the Board was that the survey website does not accept surveys from the same computer/browser combination. To complete two surveys on a shared computer you can either:

1. Use a different computer (I think).
2. Use a different browser (e.g. Firefox rather than Explorer. This works for sure.)
3. Fill out a hard copy at the Fellowship.

If the technology does not work for you we will have hard copies available at the Fellowship in the Board Corner.

Please answer the questions as honestly as you can. You can remain anonymous by not providing your name at the end of the survey.

Also, remember that we are not professional pollsters. Do not become offended by individual questions. The responses to questions will be looked at in total and in relation to each other. Use the open-ended questions at the end to "set the record straight" and help us understand your concerns.

Thank you in advance for your help.  
Cheers, Eric O.  
Board President



Today in **Religious Education** its back to our *Toolbox of Faith, Neighboring Faiths*, and *OWL*. Another REALLY busy day! Check your email for the weekly RE Update for details. Not getting the weekly update? Shoot me an email and I'll make sure you're on the list.

It seems to be getting busier every week in RE. Why? Because it IS getting busier! New families are joining our Fellowship almost every week lately. Are you doing your part to make them feel welcome? Let's make sure we're practicing RADICAL hospitality. Make an effort to introduce yourself every time you see a new family. Show them around the RE space. Introduce them to other families, to Helen, to me (sometimes I can get a little frantic on Sunday morning and need to be dragged to a halt – have you noticed?).

And with the bigger crowd comes a need for more teachers. We've reached the threshold where we need another Assistant every week to help with the crafts and other activities. Please see David or an RE Committee member – Satia Hawken-Widmann and Janet Murphy - for more information.

In **Joy**, David Robinson  
544-1669, [uufslocdre@yahoo.com](mailto:uufslocdre@yahoo.com)

### **RE Teaching Schedule**

March 7: Ly-Lan Lofgren, Suzanne Phelan, Kerry Taylor, Volunteer Needed  
March 14: Katy Ayer, Andy Pease, Gina Whitaker, Nancy Steinmaus  
March 21: Satia Hawken-Widmann, Christina Zaro, Don Reynolds

### **Admin News**

It is vacation time and I'm looking for volunteers to staff the Office on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 1pm. The duties are pretty straightforward and uncomplicated (checking the mail and email; answering the phone; completing simple clerical tasks). Please contact the office if you can help.  
Thanks, David Robinson, Administrator  
544-1669; [uuslo@slonet.org](mailto:uuslo@slonet.org)

## **Service Thanks...**

To our dedicated Worship Associates:  
**Mar 7- Sylvia Willard**  
**Mar 14 - TBD**  
**Mar 21 - TBD**



To our Greeters:

Coordinator: Chris Cummings

**March 7 (1st Sunday)**

**Jan Clarke & Dick Dannells**

**Mar 14 (2nd Sunday)**

**Richard Besel & Quin Hauss**

**Mar 21 (3rd Sunday)**

**John Faulkner & Ralph Whitaker**



To our Welcome Teams:

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

**Mar 7 (1st Sunday)**

**Pat Boyd and Andrea Caulfield**

**Mar 14 (2nd Sunday)**

**Renee Besel, Nancy Norwood &**

**Mary Jeanne Bonaventure**

**Mar 21 (3rd Sunday)**

**Ann Williams, Frank Basich & Gina Whitaker**

To our Support Team & their Leaders

**Mar 7 - Various Volunteers**

**Roscoe Tanner**

**Mar 14 - 5 Cities Men's Group**

**Richard Knight**

**Mar 21 - Choir**

**Rebecca Sloan/Jan Lester**



To our Joys, Sorrows & Concern Volunteers :

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

**Mar 7 - Ann Williams**

**Mar 14 - Ron Sampson**

**Mar 21 - Jan Clarke**

### Ethics – An Exploration in Personal Morality

In the comic strip "Crock," the General complains to Crock, "Sir, I'm afraid the men are losing their moral ethics...they don't seem to know right from wrong." Crock replies, "That's no problem. Right is what you can get away with...wrong is what you can't."

Hmmmm...Mark your calendar to attend *Ethics – An Exploration in Personal Morality*, led by Rev. Helen Carroll beginning in March. Our classes begin at 6:30 each evening and on Wednesday, March 10 we'll focus on "Responsibility – The Difficult Art of Doing Good." The purpose of the class is to distinguish between the ethics of conscience and the ethics of responsibility. Join us.

### Concern and Joys from Feb 28 Service

Joyce Knight reports that John Bonaventure called to say that after Mary Jeanne's hip replacement surgery on Thursday, Feb 25th, she was released to home Saturday. She is not ready yet for visitors or phone calls, but please keep cards and healing thoughts going her way.

Meredith and Ralph Whitaker would like you to know their Joy that their granddaughter, Lauren Harper, played an important part in getting the SLO High girls' soccer team to the semi-finals for the first time ever!

June Minikel shared her Joy for the Sophomore Reunion held last Friday. She was thankful for a very spirited discussion and sharing of great food.

### UUFETA REPEAT DOUBLE SHOT!

1. UFETA (Unitarians for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) Meeting: **Wednesday, March 10 at 6PM.** Meeting starts with a vegetarian potluck. Everyone is invited!! Please bring a dish to share and your own place setting. You need not be a vegetarian to attend. In addition to the potluck, Richard Besel, Cal Poly professor, will share with us some insights he gained from a meeting he recently moderated. He will talk about the link between agricultural practices and meat consumption (hog farms, etc.) as well as climate change and pollution issues. Rich is a very knowledgeable, clear presenter. For more information call Lois Barber 773-1232

2. UFETA (UUs for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) and Animal Emancipation of San Luis Obispo County are hosting a tasty and informative event celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Great American Meatout (meatout.org) on **Sunday, March 14, 5 PM** at the Atascadero Library Community Room, 6850 Morro Road. The public is invited to come sample vegetarian fare, take home vegan recipes and see the entertaining and informative film, "A Delicate Balance." Free.

The Great American Meatout is a special day dedicated to alert the public to the destructive impacts of intensive animal agriculture upon consumer health, world food supplies, environmental quality, wildlife habitats and farm animal welfare.

### Social Justice Meeting to Share Our Camp Courage Experiences

Sunday, March 7 will be a special Social Justice Committee meeting, open to all as all our meetings are, but special in that we will have a gathering of the eight Fellowship folks who attended Camp Courage for a report of their experiences! Camp Courage was so powerful an event that we want to share our stories with you. Please plan to join the Social Justice Committee at 12:30 after service in the sanctuary for this moving and powerful event! That's today, March 7 at 12:30 in the sanctuary! See you there!

### Board Meeting Agenda for Tues, 9 March

By Scott Cleere, Trustee

The following discussions are planned for this month's Board Meeting:

- 6:00 - Welcome and chalice lighting  
Changes to the agenda and input from the floor
- 6:05 - Consent agenda
- 6:10 - Review current budget and budgeting process
- 6:35 - Transition plan including Interim Minister discussions
- 7:25 - BREAK
- 7:40 - Executive Session (Board Members only)
- 8:40 - Close meeting



### Hospitality notes:

Wow! I'm glad we put out a message about feeding the coffee kitty after the service. Your contributions increased the revenue from about \$17 per week to \$26 this week!

We so appreciate the donations put in our basket on Sundays. Be sure you're helping us keep our pledge to Fair Trade by contributing your share. We might make our budget for this year after all.

Thanks, Meredith Whitaker 594-1133 [rmwhit@charter.net](mailto:rmwhit@charter.net)



It's that time again!

We have begun drafting next year's budget. And we need your participation to plan for the future. If you have a program to offer, activity to plan or general interest and support for the financial life of the congregation, mark your calendar for March 16, 30, and April 6. We'll be meeting at 6:30 p.m. to decide what to propose to the Board and general membership for the 2010-2011 Program Budget.

**Volunteers needed for fundraiser**

May 15 we will have a Spaghetti & Bingo Night at the Fellowship. We need volunteers for the many small tasks involved in making this a successful fundraiser. All you good members of our congregation will want to volunteer. Please contact Orval Osborne, Stewardship Circle Chair 235-8178 [oosborne@charter.net](mailto:oosborne@charter.net)

**JUSTICE SUNDAY**

Many social justice issues are unduly influenced by money in politics. This year we have seen this with the stalemated national health care bill. The recent Supreme Court ruling, allowing corporations to spend unlimited amounts of money for "independent expenditures" (usually ads for or against a candidate and supposedly not coordinated with the candidate), has many people concerned. In California, the influence of money reduces the diversity of people who can run for office, communities are under represented in Sacramento, and good candidates are not able to compete with those with large amounts of money.

Changing this will require real change in campaign finance. The California Fair Elections Act seeks to do this with fundamental election reform.

On March 28<sup>th</sup> our sermon is titled "Restoring Justice, Restoring Democracy". It will be given by Nancy Neff, the Palo Alto Area coordinator for the California Fair Elections campaign. Nancy works with UULM, UU Legislative Ministry of California, on the newly forming issue team for Restoring Democracy. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto she is on the Board of Trustees, Action Council, and Fair Elections Task Force.'

After the service Nancy will remain to answer questions and give additional information.

**OPORTUNITIES TO WALK YOUR SOCIAL JUSTICE TALK!!!**

Our neighbors who use the Homeless shelter and the Prado Day Center are constantly in need of towels (used are fine), backpacks, warm jackets and sleeping bags. We can collect them at the Fellowship. All we need is one or more volunteers to be responsible for putting the box out every Sunday and for taking the donations to the Homeless Shelter when the box is full. One person needs to make sure it happens. That person can recruit one or more folks to help. If you are this person, please call Sylvia Willard at 546-8718

**Want to Help Build a One-Stop Homeless Services Center in South County?**

It's time South County had some services for homeless individuals! If you want to help create a one-stop services center, with many amenities, and have fun doing it, plan to attend this dinner on **March 13!** You could be served dinner by Supervisor Katcho Achadjian!

The **5 Cities Homeless Coalition** will be holding a fund-

raiser at Huckleberry's Restaurant in Pismo Beach on Saturday March 13th. There will be two dinners served at 5:00 and 7:00pm. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Please contact Matt Lombardini at (805) 710-4370 to purchase tickets. The Coalition has plans to create a one-stop care facility that would provide a permanent location for the People's Kitchen in addition to a health clinic, mental health, drug & alcohol counseling, a veteran's affairs office, help with housing and applying for jobs, showers that open at 6am for the people who need to get cleaned up before they go to work, telephones, computers, washing machines, and a mail drop. Please visit [www.5chc.org](http://www.5chc.org) for more information.

Huckleberry's is at 300 5 Cities Drive in Pismo, right across from the Outlet Center.

Thanks! Your Social Justice Committee

**Immigrant Families Can't Wait for Reform! Standing on the Side of Love "Cards for Congress" Campaign**

At this very moment, a daughter is fearful that her immigrant mother will not come home from work. Our immigrant neighbors have citizen children and spouses, they own businesses and homes and have deep roots in our communities, yet fear deportation every day. Immigrant families are paying too high of a price for an immigration system that is inefficient, incoherent, and inhumane.

*There is some good news, but it will take people like us to help turn good intentions into reality!*

Illinois Representative Luis Gutierrez has introduced comprehensive immigration reform (H.R. 4321) that addresses all three dimensions of a pragmatic and humane immigration policy reform: enforcement, legalization and future flows of immigrants into this country. This is the best piece of legislation advocating comprehensive immigration reform in a long time, and we need to move fast to support it.

Every day that Congress puts off immigration reform, more immigrant families are torn apart by our broken system. Yet Congress is reluctant to act. And if they don't act soon, they probably won't act at all. Time is of the essence!

**Standing on the Side of Love is launching a campaign to call on Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform this year. Thousands of "Cards for Congress" calling for comprehensive immigration reform will be delivered to Congress on April 12, the very first day Congress returns from a two-week recess.**

If you believe, as the UUF Social Justice Committee does, that immigration reform is overdue, look for a Card for Congress to sign at church during March. We will be collecting them until March 28, then sending them to Standing on the Side of Love to deliver to Congress on April 12.

Your Social Justice Committee thanks you, but immigrant families in our county thank you even more!