

June 20,  
2010

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

**Homeless Overflow** -  
daily from 5pm during June  
**Sunday, June 20**  
Choir Rehearsal - 9:45am  
Cafe Socrates - 9:45am  
Worship & RE - 11:00am

**Monday, June 21**  
Music Committee - 9:45am

Rummage Sale clean-up @  
Edna from 10am to 1pm  
UFETA - 6:00pm

**Tuesday, June 22**  
Edna Garden Gang 10am to  
1pm

**Wednesday, June 23**  
N&N deadline - 12:00

**Thursday, June 24**  
Women's Group - 1:30pm  
Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm

**Saturday, June 26**  
Ken Helfant Memorial -  
2:00pm in Oceano

**Sunday, June 27**  
Choir Rehearsal - 9:45am  
Worship & RE - 11:00am

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

# News and Notes



### **It's Time, Once Again, To Celebrate Gay Pride!**

July 11 marks the 13th Pride in the Plaza celebration for SLO's GLBT Community! It's a family-friendly fun day in the sun with free entertainment, and LOTS of color and excitement! UUFSLOC has hosted an interfaith booth at Pride in the Plaza for the last 12 years. And this year will be no exception! I will be looking for help setting up, staffing the booth and representing our Fellowship, then tearing down at 5:00 PM. Set up occurs at

9:00 AM, before church. We need four people to help set up two pop up shade tents and tables and chairs. Set up takes about 30-45 minutes. We usually schedule two people per hour to staff the booth from 12-6 PM, with the last folks helping tear down the booth. You will share this booth with members of several other faith traditions.

Staffing the booth is a chance to tell the public about our congregation, and I am seeking new and older members and friends--anyone who is proud of our Unitarian Universalist faith and our Fellowship! Don't be shy...you know what the Fellowship has meant to you, so it's just a matter of sharing that good news! Let folks know that there is a faith community where they can come and NOT have to check their sexual orientation or their beliefs at the door--we welcome all who come to share in our spiritual journey!!

Please let me know if you would like to help. That's Sunday, July 11, 12 noon-6:00 PM at Mission Plaza downtown! Check your calendars, please. Then contact Gina Whitaker about volunteering.

Gina  
481-0788  
[paganspirit@ginanken.com](mailto:paganspirit@ginanken.com)

**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.

## More In Our Community.....



### Admin News

The Office will be closed on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Independence Day.

Minor changes to the WiFi setup for those who use it. The Password has not changed, but you are now the Guest of Yellow Giraffe. If you have NO earthly idea what that means and can't log on to our WiFi – see David.

The end of the fiscal year is upon us. If your group or Committee has a line item (income or expense) in the current budget and you want to know where you stand, contact the Office. Any *Request for Funds* turned in after July 4<sup>th</sup> will be charged to NEXT year's budget (July 2010 – June 2011).

Thanks

David Robinson, Administrator  
544-1669; uuslo@slonet.org



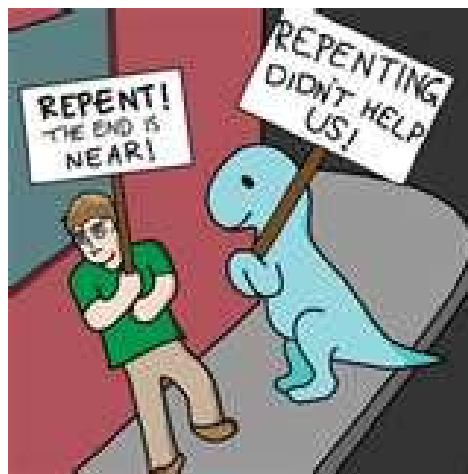
The Ladies of the Evening next meeting will be at June Minikel's house at, 2440 Ladera Court, San Luis Obispo, at 6 PM, June 29, 2010. This group is open to all women of the congregation. We break bread together, it's a potluck, but don't think you must bring food - that part is optional. The food ranges from items bought at the supermar-

ket or deli, delivery pizza, to homemade. But, mostly it's the love we share that makes it special. If you need directions to June's contact her at 805-545-8575. Want to know more, about Ladies of the Evening? Ask around before or after Sunday services, ask Ann Williams, June Minikel, Laurie Weymann, Jan Clarke, Laurie Napoli, Joan Sargen (and many more).

### YEAR END CLEARANCE SALE

Check out the Fair Trade Market for bargains on selected items.

Your purchase makes a big difference to less fortunate people in developing nation



### The End Is Near

Of the UUFSLOC Fiscal Year, that is. The Fiscal Year ends at the end of June and we need your help to ensure that we end the year in the black. Right now we're slightly above break even. Anything you can do to help us end the year that way is very much appreciated.

Thanks in advance,  
Terry Throop, Treasurer

### "UU World" Magazines

Have you read yours and are ready to share it with others? The Welcome Team gives them to visitors as part of our Welcome Package. Please bring any past magazines and either give them to Andrea Brown or put them on the table in the office with a note indicating that they are for the Welcome Team. Thank you.

## Service Thanks...

To our dedicated Worship Associates:  
**June 20 - Ingrid Pires**  
**June 27 - Carol Norton**  
**July 4 - Carol Norton**



To our Greeters:

Coordinator: Chris Cummings

**June 20 (3rd Sunday)**  
**John Faulkner & Chris Cummings**  
**June 27(4th Sunday)**  
**Jan Clarke & John Alongi**  
**July 4 (1st Sunday)**  
**Erna Kristensen & Dick Dannells**



To our Welcome Teams:

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

**June 20 (3rd Sunday)**  
**Ann Williams, Frank Basich & Gina Whitaker**  
**June 27 (4th Sunday)**  
**Lauri Napoli, Lefevre Family & Bonnie Wamsley**  
**July 4 (1st Sunday)**  
**Mary Bonaventure, Andrea Caulfield & Volunteer Needed**

To our Support Team & their Leaders

Coordinator: Joe St. Clair

**June 20 - Joe's Marauders**  
**Joe St.Clair**  
**June 27- Santa Maria Group**  
**John Faulkner**  
**July 4 - The Stay in Towners**  
**To be located**



Joy, Sorrows & Concern Volunteers :

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

**June 20 - Jan Clarke**  
**June 27 - Barbara Watson**  
**July 4 - Ann Williams**



### UU COMM LINK

Gene Fabricius maintains an e-mail roster of those members who want to be included. He makes the roster available to everyone on the roster and keeps it up to date as he is notified of changes.

**AND** - - he sends out messages about church events and information to those who are on the roster. If you want to be included, send a message to Gene at [efabrici@calpoly.edu](mailto:efabrici@calpoly.edu).



Several of our regular cooks/servers for our monthly **People's Kitchen** shift are unavailable this month, so we are in desperate need of volunteers to help make our noon meal on June 27th a success. We feed between 100-150 men, women and children who otherwise have a difficult time getting a nutritious meal. If you are interested in helping out this month, please email me at the address below, or come see me at Fellowship this Sunday (the 20th) when I will be doing sign-ups. Volunteering with People's Kitchen is a vastly rewarding experience and is a chance for us to get out into the community and really make a difference.

Thanks! Renee Besel  
[renee.smith.besel@gmail.com](mailto:renee.smith.besel@gmail.com)



### BANG THE DRUM SLOWLY!

"Find your Inner Rhythm and make a joyful noise. Our service on Sunday, June 27 will feature drums and other instruments. Bring your own to play along, or come to share the instruments to be provided. Francesca Bolognini will lead us."

Thanks, Carol Norton



### *In Memory of Tessa York*

We offer our sympathies to the family and friends of Tessa York, who died in Cabrillo Care Center, May 8. Tessa was a member of our congregation for 13 years and her gentle presence will be missed. We'll announce details for a Celebration of her Life as they are finalized.

### *In Memory of Ken Helfant*

We offer our sympathy and support to Nancy Hilyard and the family and friends of Ken Helfant, who died May 17. In recent years, Ken, a long time member of our congregation, was a member of the senior men's group. A Celebration of Ken's Life will be held at 2:00PM Saturday, June 26 at the Tierra Nueva Co-Housing in Oceano.



### JOYS, SORROWS & CONCERNS

Joyce Knight: My Joy is that our UU Rummage Sale at the Edna property on Saturday, 6/12, netted \$1804! All the great teamwork, all our combed efforts made it all possible. With the enormous amount of items donated, and a suggestion by Ron & Vern, it's been decided that it will be continued all day Friday, 6/18, and ½ day on Saturday, 6/19. It makes me proud to be a UU and our ability to work so well together. Thanks to all who participated. You are amazing!

Les & Bonnie Wamsley: Yesterday, June 12th, we celebrated our 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. Let's hear it for "hanging in there."

Ingrid Pires: Yippee – This week I hit 40 lbs. of weight loss and got off blood pressure meds – and family members who aren't dying are all well!!!

Jessica Lynn: My sorrow is I received a phone call last Wednesday that meant I wouldn't be able to attend the Women's Retreat. My Joy is that particular phone call was one of the best of my life. My doctor moved up my surgery from next January to October 5<sup>th</sup>. It will be in San Mateo instead of my having to travel to Colorado.



### *Top Picks for Conflict Management*

Hello, I'm Terasa Cooley, District Executive for the Massachusetts Bay District.

As a District staff member, I frequently get calls from congregations struggling with conflict. Conflicts can be scary when they threaten to rupture or divide our precious community connections and relationships with one another, and we often seek help to resolve these issues.

Yet I've learned that conflicts actually present great opportunities for building community by examining together what we value the most, and clarifying our purpose and mission as a community.

Conflicts arise naturally simply because of the basic fact that we are different from one another! As Unitarian Universalists, we honor and celebrate difference, but often struggle with how to negotiate these differences when it comes to making decisions or taking positions. Congregational growth, perspectives on ministry, staffing decisions, budgetary issues—all provoke sometimes wildly varying viewpoints among us. It would be strange if we didn't have conflicts about these very important concerns.

In my work with conflict I have found a number of things to be helpful:

- **Manage your own anxiety.** As scary as conflicts may be to us, if our fears or anxiety overtakes us, we will not be effective in helping a congregation manage conflict. It's not that you shouldn't allow yourself to feel your emotions, but it is important to find a way to manage them so that there is maximum ability for everyone to feel some openness in expressing their concerns without overwrought feelings shutting things down. Breathe!
- **Try to find the learning opportunity in a conflict.** What is it that all of us need to learn about what is important to us as a community? Asking the broad and deep questions in an open and deliberate way can get you "unstuck" from haggling over a particular issue.
- **Understand that a particular issue is always a part of a larger emotional system operating in a community.** Rarely is a conflict only about a particular issue or person, as much as it may seem like that at the time. Find some help in uncovering the deeper con-

cerns at play without scapegoating a particular person or engaging in the fantasy that you can "solve the problem."

- **Build safety into your communal interactions.** Create congregational or group covenants in which you can name behaviors that might get in the way of healthy exchanges and deep dialogue. Using techniques such as "listening circles," appreciative inquiry, and story-telling exercises can actually build community in the midst of conflict.

**Above all, ask for help!** Call your [District Services](#) office and utilize outside facilitators whenever possible so that you can gain the largest possible perspective on what's happening. We are happy to help.

Terasa Cooley

[conflictmgmt@uua.org](mailto:conflictmgmt@uua.org)

## Understanding Systems and Leadership in the Midst of Conflict

[\*A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix\*](#), Edwin Friedman, Seabury Books, 2007. The posthumously published lectures of the preeminent theorist of systems in congregations, this book offers great perspective on taking a larger systemic view of what leaders need to know in times of change.

[\*Leading Change in the Congregation: Spiritual and Organizational Tools for Leaders\*](#), Gil Rendle, Alban Institute, 1997. Gil Rendle provides wisdom and perspective for leaders to understand the cycles of change and how to navigate in the midst of conflict.

[\*Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times\*](#), Peter Steinke, Alban Institute, 2006. Peter Steinke is a leading congregational consultant who helps congregations understand the systemic roots of the conflicts they experience.

[\*The Practice of Adaptive Leadership\*](#); Ron Heifetz, Alexander Grashow, Marty Linski; Harvard Business School Press, 2009. Understanding leadership as something which requires learning, adaptation and perspective, this book provides strategies for navigating complex situations and problems.

## Tools and Strategies

[\*Polarity Management\*](#), Barry Johnson, HRD Press, 1996. A tool for understanding the ways in which we can navigate between seemingly intractable polar positions.

[The Art and Architecture of Powerful Questions](#) (PDF, 7 pages), Eric Vogt. A process for framing your important questions in a way that opens up rather than shuts down conversation.

More information at:

<http://www.uua.org/leaders/conflict/index.shtml>