

May 2,
2010

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



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

News and Notes

Sunday, May 2

Choir Rehearsal - 9:45am
Worship & RE - 11:00am
Social Justice - 12:30pm
Spaghetti Bingo Nite - 5pm

Monday, May 3

Music Committee - 9:45am
Worship Arts - 6:00pm

Tuesday, May 4

UFETA - 6:00pm
Lit Wits - 7:00pm
Men's Group - 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 5

N&N deadline - 12:00
Sins of Scripture - 6:30pm

Thursday, May 6

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30p

Friday, May 7

Q Youth forum - 4:00pm

Saturday, May 8

Creative Exploration -
1:00p

Sunday, May 9

Choir Rehearsal - 9:45am
Worship & RE - 11:00am
2nd Sunday Conversation -
12:30pm



UUA Responds to Arizona's Anti-Immigrant Law

The recent anti-immigrant legislation enacted in Arizona has drawn criticism from secular human rights organizations and a broad range of religious groups, including the Unitarian Universalist Association(UUA). UUA President Peter Morales denounced the legislation in a statement on April 23, 2010. Morales' statement was included in a press release issued by Faith in Public Life (<http://tinyurl.com/SB1070Release>) and was noted in the media (<http://tinyurl.com/SB1070inStatesman>).

Despite passage of this legislation, the situation in Arizona remains volatile. The law will be subjected to constitutional scrutiny and may well prove to be unconstitutional; the Justice Department is reviewing the law to see if it violates civil rights; and proposed national immigration reform legislation might supersede the Arizona legislation.

Representatives from the UUA Board of Trustees, the General Assembly Planning Committee, and the UUA staff are monitoring the situation in Arizona and have been in contact with local Unitarian Universalist congregations and coalition partners. Because the 2012 General Assembly is scheduled to be held in Phoenix, the UUA will consider how best to bear witness against this reprehensible legislation and to support both those groups marginalized by the law and Arizona Unitarian Universalists who are speaking out against it.

More information about Unitarian Universalist protests against the Arizona law and the Association's long history of support for immigrants is included in this article on UUA.org: <http://tinyurl.com/SB1070Protest>

If you have questions about this message or if you would like more information on the UUA's work for immigration justice, please write: socialjustice@uua.org

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

Website: 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 ...



Admin News

An updated Member Directory is now available. Copies are available in the Community Room or electronically by request to the Office.

Office Assistants fill a vital role in the life of our community. They keep the church office open on days when the Administrator is not working. They keep our most important communication tool – the *News and Notes* – published and available in multiple formats. They keep the Administrator's time free by accomplishing some routine clerical tasks. And the job is not as daunting as it might seem. But we need more help. Keeping the office open on Thursday and Friday and during the Administrator's vacation or sick days requires a pool of volunteers to draw from. It shouldn't depend on 2 or three volunteers doing 90% of the work. Can YOU help? Want to know more about the job before you volunteer?

How to Run a Church (Office) is the class that will answer all your questions. Join me in the Office on Friday May 21st or Wednesday, May 26th at 9am. If you're interested, but can't make either of those times, please contact me.

Thanks

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



Calling all seamstresses

We need people who are willing to sew stoles (surplices) for the choir. We will give you the cut fabric and pattern. There will be a total of 24. Please Email Carol Norton at rumby1@charter.net to volunteer. Thanks.

Mark Your Calendar...

Lit Wits Book Discussion

Our May meeting is Tuesday May 4, 2010. The book for discussion is *All the Fishes Come Home to Roost* by Rachel Manija Brown, a memoir of a girl taken to an ashram in India by her hippie parents.

Meet at the Fellowship 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. All are welcome to come and discuss the book. Richard Knight,
Lit Wit Coordinator 489-9777

UU Giant Yard & Rummage Sale

Saturday, June 12th
8am-2pm at the Edna property. Start your spring clean-up, and Set aside your good used items to donate.

Sign up to volunteer: Joyce Knight Joycek777@gmail.com, 489-9777 or Bonnie Wamsley, bonnie29@sbcglobal.net 788-0683.



Adult Enrichment Class

Sins of Scripture – Exposing the Bible's Texts of Hate to Reveal the God of Love By John Shelby Spong, former Episcopal Bishop of Newark, New Jersey

In the *Sins of Scripture*, Spong takes on a thematic exploration of the Bible, carefully analyzing those passages that inform some of our key debates, like the role of women in the church and in society, and homosexuality, to name just two.

The class will delve into the points made in Spong's book and look at them in depth with Unitarian Universalist values and insights. Books are available to purchase.

Begin Wednesdays May 5, 12, 19, 26 at the Fellowship - 7:00pm to 8:30 pm. To be followed in June at a location to be determined.

Co - facilitated by Richard and Joyce Knight.

Service Thanks...

To our dedicated Worship Associates:
May 2 - Zaro/Reynolds
May 9 - TBD
May 16 - Scott Taylor



To our Greeters:

Coordinator: Chris Cummings

May 2 (1st Sunday)

Erna Kristensen & Dick Dannells

May 9 (2nd Sunday)

Richard Besel & John Alongi

May 16 (3rd Sunday)

John Faulkner & Chris Cummings



To our Welcome Teams:

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

May 2 (1st Sunday)

Mary Bonaventure & Andrea Caulfield

May 9 (2nd Sunday)

Renee Besel, Nancy Norwood & John Alongi

May 16 (3rd Sunday)

Ann Williams, Frank Basich & Gina Whitaker

To our Support Team & their Leaders

May 2 - The Board

Joyce Knight

May 9 - The Unwilling

The Unknowing

May 16 - People's Kitchen

Renee Besel



To our Joys, Sorrows & Concern Volunteers :

Coordinator: Andrea Brown

May 2 - Ann Williams

May 9 - Ron Sampson

May 16 - Jan Clarke

Progress report from the Interim Hiring Committee:

We have been working diligently on behalf of the Fellowship to screen and conduct telephone interviews with candidates. The next step is to check references and then to recommend an Interim Minister to the Board of Trustees. If our work remains on schedule, we will recommend a candidate at the May 11 Board Meeting. We will make a brief introduction and report about the Interim Minister to the membership at the May 16, 2010 Congregational meeting. Thank you for your confidence in us and for the support you have shown for this process,
Kate Throop, chair, Chris Cummings, Eileen Pritchard, Susan Stenovec, Gina Whitaker.



UFETA (UUs for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) Meeting Time Change; First Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 PM at Parker Street

Next UFETA meeting: Tuesday, May 4; 6 to 8 PM

The meeting starts with a VEGAN/VEGETARIAN POTLUCK.. Please bring a dish or food item to share and your own place setting. All are welcome. You need not be a vegetarian to attend! If you can, bring a friend.

The PROGRAM will be a 43 minute CD titled "ETHICAL ISSUES AND FOOD CHOICES" by Dr. Neal Barnard, President and Founder of Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM).

About the CD; "An increasing number of people are motivated by the effects their eating habits may have on the world around them, whether it's animals, the environment or other people. Most importantly, it takes an optimistic view of how we can improve the world in which we live."

We expect a lively discussion to follow. For more information contact Lois Barber at 773 1232, or Email at loisand3dogs@att.net



Hospitality notes:

Sad news from your coffee crew: Eve Jeys a faithful helper for many years has resigned. She'll be going up to Cambria to celebrate with the U-U group there. Her leaving makes a huge hole in our coffee making schedule. Now is the time to step up if you can spend one Sunday a month coming early to make the coffee, set up the table, be sure that the hour after church goes well and clean up at 12:30.

I have no coupon to offer new people: I, personally, find the interaction with everyone is reward enough. There is always additional help if you need it in an emergency.

Call or email Meredith Whitaker, 594-1133 or rmwhit@charter.net

Coming Out and Staying Out - Do It With PRIDE!

If you know any High School students who might be interested – the *Gay And Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast* and the *Gay Straight Alliance of San Luis Obispo High School* are sponsoring a Pride Prom to celebrate the GLBT youth and their allies. It takes place at the Veteran's Hall in SLO on **May 7th** from 8pm to midnight. We're still looking for a few Chaperones for the Prom. Contact me if you're interested in helping.

Our RE program is cosponsoring an Education Forum to be held here at the Fellowship from 4-6pm that afternoon (Friday, May 7th) on the joys and difficulties of coming out as a teenager. See me for more information and PLEASE spread the word.

David Robinson, Religious Educator
uufslocdre@yahoo.com 544-1669

From Religious Exploration

Today we have a bunch of SUPER SECRET projects to work on, so no spilling the beans to the adults. Next Sunday we're back to our story of Jack – the boy who could never say goodbye to anything – as he faces a big challenge. Saying goodbye isn't always a choice. Sometimes it MUST happen, whether we like it or not. So how do we make it a good thing, instead of nothing but sorrow?

Tonight the Fellowship will be having a night of fun with Spaghetti Bingo. Everyone is welcome. There will be fun and prizes and a special place for the younger UU's to enjoy themselves. RE has been tasked with the best contribution of all – DESSERTS! Make sure it's a "finger food" dessert – no utensils or bowls required.

If you're a new family to our Fellowship, please be sure you get on the list for the weekly **RE Update**. It's sent by email in the middle of the week with in-depth information about upcoming programs and events. Email me to get on the list. Hard copies are available on Sunday on the RE Welcome Table (at the Suite 110 entrance).

Our booming nursery will soon need a little extra help. Tori Patterson, our child care worker, does a great job involving the littlest UU's in our activities every Sunday. But we're getting to the point where it's more than one person can safely handle. So, I need to ask the parents to sign up to take one or two shifts a year in the nursery helping her. Watch for the sign up list, and it's not just parents I'm looking for. Anyone who would like to spend an hour helping out is welcome – talk to David.

Put it on your calendar NOW, more details to follow – Family Fun Night at Edna – Friday, June 11th!!!

In **Joy**, David Robinson
544-1669, uufslocdre@yahoo.com

RE Teaching Schedule

May 2: Ly-Lan Lofgren, Andy Pease
May 9: Katy Ayer, Suzanne Phelan, Nancy Steinmaus
May 16: Satia Hawken-Widmann, Christina Zaro, Don Reynolds, Andy Pease, Gina Whitaker



JOYS, SORROWS, & CONCERNS

Sylvia Willard shared her Concern that the doctor in LA told her that surgery wasn't the answer. She also is grateful for good friends like Richard Knight who drove her to the doctor in LA and took excellent notes. She will be moving to her sister Norma's home in Fallon, NV. All of her other surviving siblings also live there.

Meredith & Ralph Whitaker said it was good to be back in this supportive community! Also, Ralph just celebrated his 86th birthday.

Carol Norton announced that several fortunate people joined her for a Creative Expression Class given by Joan Scott. The class will be continuing for two more Saturday afternoons.

Scott and Jeremy Cleere are celebrating the success of the UU Doubles Benefit Tennis Tournament. They raised \$350, not as much as last year, but more than the year before when there wasn't an event. Plus, Joe Cohan is a great tennis player.

Joan Sargen has been recognized by the SLO County Chapter of the American Red Cross as the 2009-2010 Person of Distinction. She also received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition by Congresswoman Lois Capps for the same.

Davenport Latner is happy to announce that he lost two teeth this week – his first to come out. Also, the Tooth Fairy visited both times.

Christina Lefevre Latner's Joy is that the City of SLO has authorized a ban on smoking in most public places starting May 20th. This measure will go far to protect our community from second-hand smoke, reduce death & disability from tobacco use and the impact of tobacco litter. She also says if anyone wants to stop smoking, she can help.

The Sea Life Center of Avila Beach had its Grand Opening Saturday.

Joy from Gina Whitaker: Ken and I and several other members of the Fellowship went to Santa Barbara to attend the annual assembly of our great Pacific Southwest District on Saturday. It was a time to connect and to feel

proud to be a UU in this awesome district of ours!

Concern from Gina: At check-in, none of the UUFSLOC attendees was given the special Fair Share ribbons for our badges that signify we are a Fair Share congregation...because we are not any longer carrying our fair share of the financial load either for our district or the UUA. We have been Fair Share for most of the 18 years I have been active in this Fellowship. It was a stark reminder of the fact we are unable to carry our financial commitment as a member congregation of the district and the UUA, and I felt sad and embarrassed.



June is our month to shelter our homeless neighbors. There are some exciting changes from years past. First we will be housing the folks in our church for the entire month of June. UUFSLOC will provide overnight volunteers for June 16 through June 30, while SLO United Methodist Church members will provide volunteers from June 1 through 15.

Since I am moving to Nevada very soon, Mary Jeanne Bonaventure and Richard Knight will be coordinating sign-ups this year. Look for them at church in the next several weeks, and sign up for an evening. Contact Richard Knight with questions at 489-9777 or at richardk489@gmail.com Another change is that our families will arrive at about 5:30 PM, so children can participate in the new Good Neighbor Program. Good Neighbor volunteers will be here to help children with reading, math and other academic skills and just to interact with them. Some people in the community are regulars in this program, but yes, this is another way we can participate, too. People who sign up for this have a commitment of two hours from 5:30-7:30 PM on any given evening, including Saturdays and Sundays.

Last year members of our Fellowship were very generous with their time, gifts of fruit and home baking. Our guests were extremely grateful last year and I'm sure that we will make them just as welcome this June.

I'm proud to be part of a Fellowship that is very responsive to the needs of the community. The generous donations of towels, sleeping bags, warm jackets, and backpacks over the last several weeks have overflowed our collection box! Bonnie Wamsley has volunteered to take the bounty to the Prado Day Center on a regular basis. This is an ongoing need, so please continue to fill the box.

Thank you for your continued support of these worthy programs to help our homeless families. Richard and Mary Jeanne will be asking you to step forward once again if this is your calling. I trust enough of you will say yes, just like you have for years.

Sylvia Willard