

UUFSD FOCUS – FEBRUARY 2012



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito is a safe haven and community of inspiration creatively meeting the spiritual, social, educational and emotional needs of members and their families in ways consistent with our UU principles. Through this mutual support,

Rev. David A. Miller, Minister

Alison A.L.G.M. Crotty,
Director of Religious Education
Gianna Drogheo, Choir Director
Patricia Weld, Congregational Admin.



Phone: 858/755-9225
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Email: office@uufsd.org
Website: www.uufsd.org
Office hours: 8:30-4:30, M-F

SUNDAY SERVICES – 10:00 a.m.

Child care is provided

Monthly theme: God

February 5: Guest Speaker, tbd.

February 12: *National Standing on the Side of Love Day – Is God Love? UUFSD Choir sings!*

Rev. David A. Miller

Luncheon follows the service.

February 19: Unitarian Universalism and God: A Complicated Relationship - As Unitarian Universalism enters the next 50 years, how will we live in the tension between theism and nontheism.

Rev. David A. Miller

February 26: Celebration Sunday - Giving Hands, Caring Hearts and Moving Feet: Funding our dreams in a restless world. *UUFSD Choir sings!*

Rev. David A. Miller

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Sunday, February 26, is **Celebration Sunday**, when members and friends are invited to a free luncheon. On that day you will be asked to turn in your pledge for the 2012-2013 fiscal year if you have not already done so. We are a loving, caring spiritual community. Our pledges keep our Fellowship strong so we can care for each other and our neighbors.

In early February, you will receive your pledge card and a brochure with useful information that can assist you in determining your pledge amount. Come celebrate the wonderful Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito, a spiritual home we have built and sustained through our Giving Hands and Caring Hearts for more than 50 years. We ask you to dream of what we will be able to achieve in the years to come, and to pledge generously. Thank you.

John Sherman, Stewardship Chair



DAVID'S DIALOGUE

This summer, there will be an unusual opportunity for us to come together. **June 20 – 24** in **Phoenix** where the Unitarian Universalist Association will be holding Justice General Assembly. I know I have talked about this a bit but I want to give you a little bit of background and information. General Assembly is an incredibly important part of our tradition. According to the UUA website, "*The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is a voluntary association of autonomous, self-governing local churches and fellowships, which have freely chosen to pursue common goals together. The Association's polity is congregational; Association decisions are made by congregational delegates in business sessions at the annual General Assembly (GA).*" Or according to our UUA bylaws Section C-4.2. Powers and Duties, "*General Assemblies shall make overall policy for carrying out the purposes of the Association and shall direct and control its affairs.*" We actually have delegates who vote. I always feel that it is important that the voice of UUFSD is heard in this gathering.

This year, based on a number of important issues addressed in recent sermons including the UUA's determination to value the inherent worth and dignity of all people, this GA will be a little different. Justice GA "*will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Joining with the people of Arizona, we will worship, witness, learn and work together. We will leave General Assembly grounded in our faith, energized for justice and with resources to bring this work home to our congregations.*" (UUA website)

General Assembly is also a wonderful place to be with Unitarian Universalists from all over the world, to learn new things that can help our congregation, and to experience a sense of who we are as a community that reaches out far beyond what we

already know. It also can be exhausting, overwhelming and a great deal of fun. I have treasured my trips to GA and it has made me a better minister and a more whole Unitarian Universalist.

We are doing what we can to provide financial aid for those who would like to go and could use some assistance. The registration fees and travel expense are considerable for some. If you are interested or able to go, please contact me directly. We hope to gather a group that can experience this together and bring a wealth of experience and knowledge back to UUFSD. I look forward to continuing this amazing journey together. Thank you!

Rev. David

Below are some GA links that will provide you with further information.

The Main GA Link -

<http://www.uua.org/ga/2012/index.shtml>

Children's Programs Link -

<http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/14768.shtml>

Registration and Financial Information Link -

<http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtml>

WELCOME

Darlane Hctor Mulmat grew up as a UU. She is a Research Analyst at the San Diego Association of Governments in the Applied Research Division focusing on Criminal Justice and Public Policy. Her husband, David, and children Abigail (12 yrs) and Bruce (14 yrs) enjoy Sunday mornings at home. Darlane enjoys hiking, sailing, playing the piano, singing, listening to music, and being with family and friends. She is drawn to UUFSD partly because of our beautiful outdoor amphitheater and view from Founders Hall. **Welcome Darlane!**



THE FEBRUARY POT LUCK

Friday, February 24 - 6:30 pm.

Since we have choices, this will either be a game night, movie night or line dancing (no voting). There will be a sign up list for set-up and clean up help. Come for Joyful fun and fellowship. Contact **Bev Conner** at JoyAndFellowship@uufsd.org.

CAMP DE BENNEVILLE PINES UU WOMEN'S RETREAT 2012, APRIL 20-22

Join other women in nurturing old and making new friends. Treat yourself to a fun-filled weekend. Read, relax, or participate in activities such as belly dancing, drumming, singing, dancing, hiking, playing, listening, sharing and attending a variety of workshops. Relax in the hot tub or schedule a private massage. Zen away tension and stress with an acupuncture facial and aroma therapy session. Ahhhhh! The keynote speaker is **Rev. Jennifer Owen-Quill** and the theme for the weekend is **Your Faith Matters**.

Register at <http://www.UUCAMP.org>.

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE BACK IN BUSINESS--AND YOU CAN HELP

The newly regrouped Design Review Committee met recently after a long period without leadership. As part of our "new business" we took a walking tour of the site and saw a pile of old chairs by Diversity Grove, assorted junk in the balcony space of Founders Hall, loose bricks left over from a project in the Core Area, unkempt trashcans, and watering hoses lying uncoiled on the ground.

Design Review decided to research how we can provide you with a better overall trash disposal and recycling system and sturdier reels for hoses. In the meantime, every member can help now to keep our grounds clean and uncluttered. Please put tools and materials away and coil hoses after use. Trash should be placed in trashcans with liners and lids. If furnishings and equipment will no longer be used at UUFSD, please route them off the grounds properly, either as trash or donations elsewhere.

As new Co-Chairs of the Design Review Committee, we would like to remind members that any proposed addition or change to UUFSD's physical environment must be approved by Design Review. Also, any furniture, furnishings or art pieces anyone wishes to donate should be submitted for review. Please contact us if you have an item that needs our consideration.

Thank you for helping us maintain and enhance our beautiful campus.

Greg Brown UbX'Elizabeth Michel'Uh
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Co-Chairs, Design Review Committee



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RE NEWS

It is national Love Month!!!

Without Valentine's Day, February would be... well, January. ~Jim Gaffigan

A whole month dedicated to the idea of love is not unusual in our "Hallmark holidays" culture. February fever surrounding Valentine's Day kicks off just a few weeks after the New Year. We are inundated with red hearts, stuffed animals and plump cherubs as we enter a grocery store. The wrapped red roses are a little wilted as I peel back a layer of plastic in a vain attempt to smell the forced hot house rose. Laying the wrapped bud back in the vase from which it came, I cannot help but feel a sense of sadness. There was no smell. No fragrance. I feel as if the beautiful looking roses are plastic, yet wilting at the same time. The whiff that I caught was not of flowers and joy, just something that had been mass cultivated and is soon to decay. As a metaphor for love, roses are a beautiful symbol. But I want the roses that symbolize my love to be lush, fragrant and vibrant.

I push my cart further into the store away from the cloying smell and the traditional trappings of Valentine's Day. I feel a tremendous pressure to "amp up" my giving of love at this time of year. I need to remind myself that advertising executives and marketing specialists should not define how I give and receive that precious gift. So, if not with plastic roses and pre-packaged cards, how can I express love for people in my life in a very real and heartfelt way?

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday marked the beginning of the "National Month of Love" from the Standing on the Side of Love campaign by the UUA. A wonderful touchstone, the Standing on the Side of Love campaign has daily thoughts and ideas for the whole family on it's website www.uua.org/love/index.shtml. It asks poignant questions and focuses my musings into a healthy channel of introspection and meditation. Today's active reflection is, "Powerful actions emanate from profound self-reflection." Today's question is, "How is love part of your personal identity?" I love the question because it takes us to the heart and mission of the campaign: to harness love's power to stop identity-based bigotry and oppression, as well as to promote the inherent worth and dignity of

every person. Poignant and well written, I find this site very useful. The campaign reminds me that love has many facets and that "Standing on the side of Love" does not mean standing still. Working toward a clearer understanding of the issues surrounding love through the lens of social justice is a wonderful resource for individuals and for our UUFSD families to ponder and discuss over the dinner table.

Another loving dinner table to create community and to celebrate loved ones is at "**Restaurant Valentino!**" The Italian dinner our YRUU prepares every year at the Fellowship is a perfect way to celebrate Valentine's Day. These festivities will include a four-course meal and dancing! It will be held on **February 11**, starting with appetizers and wine on the patio at **5:30**. Dinner starts at **6:30** and will be served to you by our amazing youth. Families of four can eat for \$25 and individuals for \$9. I am looking forward to bringing Chris for a true Valentine's Day celebration, surrounded by my beloved UUFSD family. I cannot think of a better way to celebrate this over-commercialized event with something true and heartfelt.

It is astonishing how little one feels alone when one loves. John Bulwer

Love, Alison



DEBENNEVILLE PINES WEEKEND
March 30 – April 1, 2012

Our UUFSD weekend at Camp deBenneville Pines is just a few months away! The registration form is enclosed with this newsletter. Be sure to register early if you are interested in **Craig's Cabin**, as those rooms always sell out fast!

If you can please make a donation to our scholarship fund to ensure that all those from our community who want to attend will be able to do so. Thank you!

If you have any questions or want to help set up a workshop or other program for the weekend, contact **Pamela Parker** or Judy Osman at debennevillepines@uufsd.org.

**FEBRUARY 5, 2012, 11:30 ART LESSON
& 1:00 P.M. TIDE POOLING**

On February 5th, right after the service, there is a drawing lesson of natural objects including ocean subjects by Linda Luisi. After the drawing class, Steve Bartram will lead a tide pool walk at Swami's Beach.

Join us at the fellowship for carpooling, or meet at Swami's Beach at 1 p.m. The walk will last about 90 minutes. Bring clothes that can get wet, shoes to walk on rocks and slippery stuff, your imagination, laughter, and curiosity. Also bring a snack or sack lunch. Give yourselves some extra time as parking at Swami's Beach might be difficult.

Contact Bev Conner at:

joyandfellowship@uufsd.org

or Linda Lousi lindamlouisi@gmail.com

or Steve Bartram bartram@sdsu.edu



BOOK CLUB NEWS

The UUFSD book club meets the **second Monday** of each month at **7:00 pm** in the UUFSD library to discuss the month's reading selection. This month, we will be discussing "The Death of Josseline" by Margaret Regan. This is this year's "UUA Common Read" selection. For more information about the book and the UUA's common read program, go to <http://www.uua.org/re/multigenerational/read/josseline/index.shtml>. So, pick up a copy, read it, and come ready to discuss! Contact **Sharilyn Parr:** bookclub@uufsd.org.

V-Day The Vagina Monologues

7:00 p.m., March 24 in Founders Hall

We are planning on presenting the Vagina Monologues as a fundraiser to support programs addressing violence against women.

Bev Conner: joyandfellowship@uufsd.org; or
Kathy Faller: socialaction@uufsd.org for details.



SAVE THE DATE!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FUNDRAISER

March 17 – 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Founders Hall

This is a fundraiser for scholarships to **General Assembly** for the staff and others depending on the amount of money raised. **Patricia, Alison, Gianna and Rev. D** will be your chefs and hosts. Cost to be announced pending determination of menu.

NEWSLETTERS ON THE WEB

*Newsletters are being posted on the UUFSD website. Board members or Committee chairs not wishing their personal email addresses to appear on the website newsletter may use email aliases as they appear on the UUFSD website. An alias such as committeex@uufsd.org links you to the individual without divulging personal email address. Updates to committee chairs and board members will be easier. To request an alias contact **Sarah Wright:** webmaster@uufsd.org*

UUFSD LIBRARY

The UUFSD Library is for all members and friends. Checking out books is easy. There are flyers in the library to tell you how. We have a wonderful collection of UU books as well as many other books of interest to members. We have an excellent Buddhism section, and an extensive "family life" section with books about parenting. We also have a nice collection of vegetarian cookbooks. We welcome you all to use the library! The best time to visit the library is Sunday morning before the service. (There are often meetings in the library after the service, but you are welcome to check.) Or, if you would like to visit the library during the week, you are welcome to do so. Just call the office first to make sure that Patricia is going to be around, and she will open the library for you.



We are grateful for members and friends who donate books to the library and who buy books at the Sunday Book Sale. The money we earn through the book sales allow us to buy new books to add to our permanent collection.

Submitted by Sharilyn Parr
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