

DIALOGUE

THE UUFSD QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Inspired by our UU principles, we are a vibrant, intentionally diverse congregation that models and promotes both locally and globally: love, spiritual growth, service, right relations and sustainable living.

Happenings Jan - Mar 2017

Million Woman Marches San Diego/San Marcos, Jan 21, 2017

Over 150 members of UUFSD and San Diego County cluster UU congregations joined in solidarity with the Million Woman March. Estimates are that about 60,000 people attended the rallies and marches in downtown San Diego and at Palomar College.



Welcome Reverend Meghan Conrad Cefalu Our Settled Minister

Hurray! Rev. Meghan is going to be our "forever minister." On Sunday, January 22, with a vote of 144 yes and 8 no, the congregation called Rev. Meghan to be our settled minister, starting August 1, 2017. The Search Committee is grateful to everyone who participated in the search process - filling out a questionnaire, attending a small group meeting, joining one of the Candidating Week sessions, and coming to the congregational meeting to cast your vote. This is an important decision for UUFSD, and the extensive engagement of members gives us confidence that we made a good choice.



Handing Out The Ballots



Preparing For The Count



Joyful Acceptance



Welcoming Our Settled Minister



Declaration of Conscience

At this extraordinary time in our nation's history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.

In the face of looming threats to immigrants, Muslims, people of color, and the LGBTQ community and the rise of hate speech, harassment and hate crimes, we affirm our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

In opposition to any steps to undermine the right of every citizen to vote or to turn back advances in access to health care and reproductive rights, we affirm our commitment to justice and compassion in human relations.

And against actions to weaken or eliminate initiatives to address the threat of climate change – actions that would threaten not only our country but the entire planet – we affirm our unyielding commitment to protect the interdependent web of all existence.

We will oppose any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil.

As people of conscience, we declare our commitment to translate our values into action as we stand on the side of love with the most vulnerable among us.

We welcome and invite all to join in this commitment for justice.

The time is now.



Thirty Days of Love 2017

For 30 Days of Love this year, we are exploring what it means for Unitarian Universalism to be a nurturing, humble and steady hand on the side of justice in 2017.

The Human Rights Task Force petitioned The Honorable Kevin De Leon, Senate President pro Tem of the State of California in support of SB54, the California Values Act. The Act ensures that state and local resources are not used to fuel mass deportations, separate families, or divide Californians on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, immigration status, or national or ethnic origins.



The Dakota Access Pipeline - We petitioned President Trump to

- 1) Ensure that the full environmental review process—for the entire pipeline—is completed in an inclusive and transparent manner; and
- 2) Deny a permit for the pipeline in ANY area that will pose a threat to the water of the Native people of Standing Rock or any of the millions of people downstream from where the pipeline may pass.

Petition in support of a Federal Revenue-neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend We petitioned the Cities of Encinitas and Carlsbad to vote on a proposed CFD resolution. Our second step is to encourage members to be “Witnesses for Environmental Justice” and appear before the Encinitas and Carlsbad City Councils when the resolution is considered. The Environmental Justice Task Force continued to petition the cities of Solana Beach, Carlsbad, and Oceanside to pass similar resolutions.



ASK
ASKINGSAVESKIDS

Gun Violence Prevention Initiative Our Religious Education program embarked on a multi-level approach to Gun Violence Prevention. Our first step was to encourage the parents of our children to sign the Brady Campaign "ASK" pledge. (Sundays, February 5 & 12). ASK encourages parents to ask the following question when their children visit other homes: "Is there an unlocked gun in your house?" Another step being considered is to approach school PTAs and propose that this initiative spread to the community at large

Munchies and Messaging, Saturday January 28 & Sunday, January 29

About 70 people of members, friends and neighbors got together, in two groups, to follow up on the Million Woman March with a post card writing campaign. Participants discussed key issues to convey to our Members of Congress, and the media.

Catherine Blakespear who coordinated one group wrote: The American governmental structure is our protection against tyranny and fascism. We need to empower and pressure our legislative branch to be the needed check on President Trump. Our congressional representative Darryl Issa has to feel our heat. This letter writing party one week after the Women's March was designed to keep the fire on him. Sitting alone and feeling outraged doesn't accomplish change. We have to tell our decision makers what matters most to us. Any way you can reach them is worthwhile.



Linda Pratt who coordinated a second group wrote: We sent an invitation out to our friends and asked them to gather at our home on January 29th and nearly 30 people responded. The objectives were to demonstrate that WE ARE NOT ALONE IN OUR OUTRAGE and to educate ourselves about the various ways that we can make our voices heard. We helped each other craft messages that we wrote on postcards and notecards to elected officials and the media. For many this was the first time they had participated in any type of political action outside of voting.

Forming the UUFSD Indivisible Group Saturday, February 4



Twenty-three members and friends met to form the UUFSD Indivisible Group. The group will concentrate its efforts on influencing local Members of Congress (MoC) to take stands protecting human rights. We currently have a weekly call to action, suggesting we write or call our MoCs on particular issues and positions. At the second meeting the group decided on a name. We are "The UUFSD Indivisible Patriots."

To join contact Karen Reimus at reimus1@aol.com

2017 Courageous Love Awards February 5 & 12

Courageous Love Awards were awarded to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated tireless devotion to social justice issues. We were very proud to honor our own **Bev Conner, Roger Harmon and Irv Himmelblau** for their devotion, participation, enthusiasm and for being progressive role models for all members of the congregation. Rev. Beth Johnson, Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and the North County Immigration Task Force (NCITF) were other recipients of the 2017 Love Awards



Tabling in the Core Area for the 30 Days of Love



California Values Act SB 54



RE & Brady ASK Program



Making of a GVP /ASK Poster



Making Protest Signs



Petition Table

Action Planning “Huddle” Meeting Sunday, February 19

UUFSD member Linda Pratt organized a “Huddle” meeting as a follow-up to the Sunday, January 29 “Munchies and Messaging.” There were conversations about recent and planned events. People listed their priorities for social justice change and there was an exchange on ideas about what people were willing to do to make those changes a reality. Three major topics were discussed: immigration, how to use the media, and voter registration and rights. Climate change, women’s rights and health care will be topics for the next meeting, which will take place in April.



San Diego Food Bank Service is our Prayer In Action!

January 2017: Eight members from UUFSD helped out the SD Food Bank bagging 8,000 pounds of apples that went to people in need the next day. Thanks everyone!

February 2017: This month we bagged over 8,500 lbs of veggies that went to local people who need just a bit extra.

March 2017: Six hundred and four seniors received a box of food by you putting ‘Service is our Prayer’ in ACTION.

To participate in this meaningful monthly activity contact Sara Ohara at sara@saraohara.com

Sip and Savor Piano and Violin Concert Saturday, March 4

Our SIP & SAVOR CONCERT featuring UUFSD’s own Monique Kunewalder & Lynne Talley on piano and Jorge Roman Kurth on violin was an incredible musical treat and received rave reviews from so many. With about 60 in attendance, these talented musicians helped raise more than \$800 for our UUFSD Concert Program.



UUFSD Indivisible Patriots, Tuesday, March 21 Protesting the repeal of the Affordable Care Act

Our UUFSD Indivisible Patriots gathered at Congressman Issa's office at today's "Die-In" at Rep Issa's office. When organizers asked for people to share how they would be personally affected by an ACA repeal, our own Nancy Cohen went to the mic and shared how a repeal would negatively impact her daughter and her family. It was a very powerful. testimonial.



UUFSD Members at the Encinitas City Council, March 22, 2017

Six members, Betsy Gilpin, Greg Brown, Mary Lou Schultz, Ed Ulm, Christie Turner and Irv Himelblau were present to support the Citizens Climate Lobby as the Encinitas City Council considered a Carbon Fee and Dividend (CFD) Resolution. **The City Council passed the resolution by a vote of 4 to 1.**



New Member Ceremony, Sunday, March 26

Our UUFSD family is growing! Welcome to the following new members: Lindzie Wood and Swagatam Mukhopadhyay, Daniel and Nancy Kassel, Linda Charles, Elaine Lewinnek, Hayley Milbourne, Stephanie Wells, Stefanie Callander, Angela Hudson, John Drew, Michelle Devor, Lili Hsieh, Elizabeth Herrick, Simona Barti, Angela Hudson, Betsy Herrick, Fatima Esfahanizadeh, Nick DeMarco, Maggie Rinalta, Connie diGirolamo, Carol Coulter and Naomi Lowe.



COMING IN APRIL

Serving With Grace: Lay Leadership as Spiritual Practice

Rev. Meghan will again offer this six-week class on Wednesday evenings from April 12 to May 24, (skipping April 26 when she will be away.)

This class is for anyone looking for a creative way to relate to our community. The theme is congregational leadership as part of a spiritual path. It is based on a very short book which will be available for loan or purchase (\$12) which is packed with innovative ways to make engagement both more fun and more meaningful. Serving with Grace is one module in our evolving curriculum for leadership and personal growth. Contact Tracey at office@uufsd.org to sign up or ask questions.

Save the Date

Social Justice Forum

**“Beloved Conversations
Teaching Hearts and Minds to Open for
Multicultural Change.”**

Sunday, June 4, 2017, 12:30 pm

Founders Hall

Light Lunch Will be Served

Join Rev. Meghan and the Social Justice Human Rights Task Force for an introduction to the “Beloved Conversations” day and a half retreat and eight week workshop. Beloved Conversations is a teaching and learning curriculum that holds both the tensions and joys of an intentional multicultural community. Beloved Conversations creates the first step—a learning laboratory—for how to live healthily in a multi-racial, multicultural, and often theologically diverse community, and how to use those learnings to work for a racially just world, both within and beyond the congregation.