



Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore

Volume 14, Number 6

June 2009

Sunday Services, High School & Middle School Youth Group, & Children's Religious Education

10:30 am

What's Happening at UUCiL?

Mondays in June

Young Adult Group

Thursdays in June

Job Support Group

June 2:

Sunday Services Committee

Caring & Concerns

June 3:

Minds on Fire

June 5:

Welcoming Committee Film: Fire

June 6:

Choir Rehearsal

Meditation Workshop

June 7:

Book Group

June 9:

Board Meeting

Men's Group

June 14:

BBQ for Rev. Alicia

June 15:

RE Committee Meeting

June 17:

Shawl Ministry

June 18:

Finance Committee

June 20:

Meditation Workshop

June 21:

Potluck (S-Z)

RE Committee

June 23:

Shawl Ministry

Men's Group

June 7

Moral Courage

Reverend Alicia McNary Forsey

UUCiL Choir

Wendy Mason - Accompanist

We all know that if there is any hope for real justice and equity on a global scale, we who have privilege need to learn to live more simply. How do we respond to learning about the dire condition of much of the world that seems so distant from our place on the map -- so different from us culturally?

June 14

More than a Flower

Reverend Alicia McNary Forsey

Pat Mielke - Accompanist

The flower that you choose to bring to our gathering on this morning represents a tribute to those who have found hope and beauty in their lives even though everything else seemed to be painfully slipping away. When you decide on a flower from your garden or elsewhere, think about who you want to honor (silently or sharing with the congregation) as you place your offering among others. Press the one you take at the end of the service in your journal or in a book, thus honoring the life of someone you may not have known who is connected to a member of your religious community. This will be Rev. Alicia's last Sunday in the pulpit of UUCiL.

June 21 **Fathers and Forgiveness**

Bob Breckenridge, Tim Bradley

UUCiL Choir

Wendy Mason - Accompanist

Four dads from the congregation will share their experiences as fathers and sons. Bring Dad's favorite dish to the potluck after.

June 28

Social Action:

Immigration

Pat Mielke - Accompanist

This is a Sunday Services Committee program.



UUCiL Staff

Interim Minister: Rev. Alicia McNary Forsey

Administrator: Renness Tomley

Director of Religious Education: Nada Velimirovic

Choir Director: Dee Wood

Newsletter: Desty Shoemaker

The UUCiL Newsletter is published 12 times each year. The editor, Desty Shoemaker, welcomes submissions from all sources. Please submit your input to Desty at shoemaker4@lml.gov. All input must be received by the 3rd Sunday of the month to ensure inclusion in the next month's edition.

Minister's Musings

This Sunday when I arrived at UUCiL I was greeted by a patch of ground with colorful, beautiful flowers that had been planted just the day before. I knew that a birthday party had taken place at the church and that planting a flower garden was the highlight of the celebration, but actually seeing the flowers there made me smile at the sweetness of them. The satisfaction of giving in a larger way, a way that gifts more than one individual, is especially welcome, what with most of us (including our children) already having too much "stuff."

One gift I have received is a tree planted in a National Park in my name. Another is a sheep living at an animal sanctuary in Northern California. Then there have been gifts to organizations that offer assistance to people with needs they cannot possibly hope to afford. Needs, not wants.

It feels right to shift our thinking to giving in this way, and when we do present our relatives and friends with gifts that will contribute to saving a person or saving a planet, the gesture becomes contagious. Already, another young person in our Religious Education program has asked to have a garden planted at UUCiL on her birthday. Imagine! Imagine these seeds of thinking spreading to fields of flowers and trees and a world where everyone has enough to eat and shelter to protect them from harsh weather. What better lesson in values could we give our children?

I will always remember you with warmth and appreciation, and imagine an expanse of trees, greenery, flowers, grapes adorning the arbor and much being offered to people in need -- people who become distant friends with your haven of liberal religion here in Livermore, California.

Love,
Rev. Alicia

Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.

Mother Theresa

Stewardship Success

Our stewardship campaign this year has been quite successful. The UUCiL Board set a budget goal of \$200,000 for FY 10 (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010) and our total from 84 pledge units is \$203,000. Looking at the FY 09 budget of \$212,000 for 86 pledge units, and considering the state of the nation's economy, we did well. We had 11 new pledges, and will be receiving several more pledges. We would like to thank the congregation for their continuing generosity. In addition, we appreciate the support of the Board and Rev. Alicia.

Your stewardship committee--Leslie Lemieux, Janice Paquette, Ron Dueltgen and Murray Bullis

Bar-B-Q for Rev. Alicia

June 14 at 1:00 p.m. at Adele Irvin's House (7873 Shady Creek Rd., Dublin)

Please bring a salad, dessert or an appetizer to share. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, beer, wine and sodas.

Please RSVP with the number of adults and kids attending to adele_irvin@yahoo.com by June

Religious Education News

Get Ready for Summer Fun!

Mark your calendars for two important dates in June:

1) **Sunday June 14 is “SUNDAE SUNDAY!”** This is a chance for our RE classes and RE Teachers to celebrate a rich and rewarding year together by building ICE CREAM SUNDAES for one another!

2) **Our Sunday mornings from June 21 through August 30 will transform into “Chalice Camp.”** There are still opportunities to SIGN-UP and join the volunteers who will help our kids have a great **Summer Program. If you like to paint t-shirts, make things out of clay, sing songs and/or lead skits, then YOU are needed!** If you can help for one, two or more Sundays this summer -- see me for more details!

See you at church!

Nada

Reverend Nada Velimirović
nadavel@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Wednesday 10-4 and by appointment



“IT TAKES A VILLAGE...”

An Honor Roll of 2008-2009 Religious Education Helpers

RE Committee: Jean Moran, Chair; Alyce Rossow, Leslie Lemieux, Claire Nelson, Stephanie Fish, Charlie Bennett, Cyndy Salmon.

K-2: Teachers Mark Miller, Mark Sobrepena, Nora Taranowski, Melissa Hodous, Michael Read, Jill Quick.

Grades 3-5 Teachers: Marilyn Graham, Cyndy Salmon, Alice Mayall, Michelle Selfridge, Barton Lane

Middle School Group: Leslie Lemieux , Dave Endacott., Hank

High School: Group: Laura Pederson, Jes Pederson, Barton Lane, Jody Harcourt, John Lemieux, Eric Serdahl, Jean Moran, Katherine Mahoney

Thank you one and all: we could not do it without you!

Report from PCD General Assembly

May 1st – 3^d, 2009

UUCiL was represented by Lois and Ron Dueltgen, Pat and Keith Mielke, June Schaefer.

A highlight this year was that Rev. Peter Morales and Dr. Laurel Hallman, candidates for UUA President spoke and responded to questions. The election will take place at General Assembly (GA) in Salt Lake City, June 24-28. Gini Courter is running unopposed for reelection as UUA Moderator. You can learn more about these candidates by asking any of the above people and reading about them on the UUA website.

Also at GA in June, there will be an up or down vote on proposed changes to the UU Principles. If they pass this year, there will be a year for further discussion followed by a second vote in 2010 before any changes are made. If they don't pass this year, there will be no further discussion and the purposes and principles will remain unchanged. The proposed changes are posted on the UUA bulletin board and our UUCiL website. Please take a moment to consider them and give your feedback to Ron or Lois Dueltgen who are attending GA and will be voting on your behalf.

For those who have never attended District Assembly (which happens every spring), the program includes worship services on Friday night and Sunday morning, with educational and business sessions on Saturday. Ask any of the above people what they liked best about the experience this year and what they learned in the sessions they attended.

District Assembly sessions attended by UUCiL members were as follows:

UULM-CA Health Care (UU Legislative Ministry)

New Member Integration

Is it Time for Changes to the UU Principles?

Preparing for General Assembly

To Bring Our Gifts: Inspiring Lay-Led Worship

From caring comes courage.

Lao Tzu



Committee Opportunity

The Caring and Concerns committee is looking for new members. We would love for you to join us at an evening meeting on June 2 at 7:00 p.m. to talk about what we do on the committee and how you can help. Hope to see you there. Contact Kim Rowe at 606-9531 if you have comments or questions.

Camp de Benneville Pines Announces

**A Weekend at Camp for Everybody
Friday June 12 - Sunday June 14, 2009**

De Benneville Pines is the perfect place to bring family & friends for a celebration of the end of the school year, a reunion, a graduation or just the beginning of summer.

The camp is opening its doors to all UU's & their guests on the weekend of June 12 – 14.

You will want to be here to enjoy the pool, hot tub, canoes, archery or the chance to relax. All the fun of a family outing without all the fuss!

There is a cabin waiting for you & your friends! What better environment than Camp de Benneville Pines to enjoy an early summer celebration?

It's unusual for the camp to have an opening like this in June. It won't happen again for many years.

Food, fun & lodging are all included for one price. The weekend is perfect for small groups, individuals, church youth groups, families & reunions. We'll do the work-you have a good time!

Adults: \$125

Teens: \$100

Children: \$ 80

Easy registration online: Early Summer Weekend Registration

For questions or special cabin requests please email Caroline Quintanilla, caroline@uucamp.org or call (909) 794-1252.

The best way to keep the camp going in this economy is simple:

Come to camp and bring your friends!

UU Camping July 24th to 26th

Thanks to the Hedges, Lemieuxs, Rossows, Rows and Serdahls, we have 12 sites at Camp Shelly at Lake Tahoe for the weekend starting Friday, July 24, 2009. The campground belongs to the City of Livermore and is well maintained. The cost is \$25 per night, or \$50 for the two nights. The rangers are friendly and helpful, and they organize activities in the evenings like ice cream making and volleyball. Maybe the bears will visit us - oh no! On Saturday, most of us go out to Lake Angora for swimming, boat rowing and lunch. Children really enjoy the experience and talk about it for years. If you are interested in coming, please see Mike Ong, or call 784-8736 or e-mail at mike.ong3@gmail.com. Please make your commitment early.



And this, our life, exempt
from public haunt, finds
tongues in trees, books in the
running brooks, sermons in
stones, and good in
everything.

William Shakespeare

New Virtual Social Group

Have you ever wished you had someone to go with you to a movie or out for dinner? Lois Dueltgen is collecting e-mail addresses for people who are spontaneous and adventurous. This group will function (or not) with minimal organization. She envisions that this group will be active primarily on weeknights when movie theaters and restaurants are less busy. However, lunch on Sunday after church is another possibility.

Here is how it will work. Lois will distribute names and e-mail addresses of those interested to everyone in the group. When anyone in the group wants to propose an event, she or he will send out an e-mail giving time and place. If it is dinner somewhere that is being proposed, the initiator of the activity may ask for people to respond by a certain time so a reservation can be made. If it is a movie being proposed, it would be considerate to let the organizer know whom to expect, but all will be expected to show up at the stated time and buy their own ticket.

Let the fun begin! There is a great new movie with Michael Caine coming this spring to a theater near you. To sign up for this group, send e-mail to lois@dueltgen.net.



Escape to Vermont

October 9 – 11, 2009

Fifteenth Annual B&B Weekend offered by the UU Church of Rutland, VT. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, nature walk, kayaking, bicycling, antiques/arts, cider making historic tour, soaring tour, touring historic sites and quaint towns, and much more. Registration by August 15, \$275 (single) and \$475 (double). After August 15, \$325 (single bed) and \$525 (double bed). For more information contact uufoliagevermont@yahoo.com or (802) 353-7969.

[http:// fallweekend.wordpress.com/](http://fallweekend.wordpress.com/)

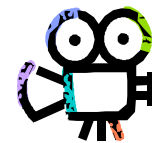
See Fire on June 5th at 7:30 p.m.

The Welcoming Congregation Committee will be screening the film *Fire* (1996, unrated) on Friday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. at UUCiL in the Tot Green Room. Set in Delhi, *Fire* is the first of Director Deepa Mehtas Elements Trilogy, which included the films *Earth* and *Water*.

It is the story of two daughters-in-law Sita and Radha, who have joined the family through arranged marriages. They are unhappily married to two brothers and find themselves attracted to each other. This is complicated by their culture and religion.

The film was controversial when it was first released in India, with protesters sometimes storming the theatres to frighten away the audiences. The films supporters had to file a petition to the Indian Supreme court for protection so that it could be shown.

Director Deepa Mehta expressed frustration in interviews that the film was consistently described as a lesbian film. She said, "lesbianism is just another aspect of the film...*Fire* is not a film about lesbians," but rather about "the choices we make in life."



Choir Notes

The Unsung Song that Saved a Nation

*Finland behold the light, your day is dawning.**

As the 19th century drew to a close, Imperial Russia was intent on reducing the autonomy of the "autonomous" Grand Duchy of Finland. The Czar's hand of censorship gripped the press, and so Finns sought to express in art what they could not say in words.

The threat of night has been banished away

A series of historical tableaux were designed as a contribution to the resistance and music was composed to go with the tableaux. The compositions were an instant hit and began to be performed in concert.

And hear the lark of morning in the brightness

The final tableau was a metaphorical "Finland Awakes" and the music was composed by 35 year-old Jean Sibelius. The music became a symbol of Finnish identity. Everyone was humming it, playing it on their pianos. Sibelius became a Finnish hero.

Who sings as though the universe could sing.

In 1900, Sibelius revised "Finland Awakes" as a separate concert piece. A fan, Alex Carpelan, suggested it be called "Finlandia" and Sibelius adopted that title. As Sibelius' music became popular internationally, his melody, remaining wordless in Finland, was adapted for hymns in other nations.

The power of night is vanquished by the morning.

The Russians noticed and banned performances or "Finlandia," "Finland Awakes" and other titles of the tune from programs and advertisements. But a mindworm is not exterminated that way, and the music continued to be performed as an impromptu or an encore.

When the Czar fell, Finland declared independence. But the new nation nearly fell apart in conflicts between right and left. Sibelius' music, as much as anything else, held the Suomi together.

Your day has dawned, oh homeland of my birth.

Remembering the days when the hopes of a nation could not be spoken and the music said everything, "Finlandia" had no Finnish words until 1937 when an Opera singer, Waino Sola, wrote some. But when Stalinist Russia invaded Finland in 1939 the poet, V.A. Koskenniemi, was inspired to provide a better text. This was first performed in 1941, and got Sibelius' approval.

Now a song with words, this unofficial national anthem sustained Finland through another round of Russian domination and its emergence as a modern Scandinavian social democracy. In one of his last creative works, the 83-year-old Sibelius arranged the work for mixed choir in 1948. When one hears "Finlandia" sung in Finnish, it is usually this version.

Outside of Finland, many people have written words to Sibelius' music, somewhat to the consternation of purists among his heirs and countrymen. It appears twice in our Unitarian hymnal; once as "We would be one," which is of Unitarian origin, and then as the Methodist "This is my song."

*These words are a very slight revision of the literal translation found in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finlandia_Hymn

Gerald Nordley,
15 May 2009



THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

YAG (Young Adult Group) Mondays 8:00 p.m.

This is a weekly gathering of folks age 18-35. Hang out with us as we continue to alternate Popcorn Theology nights with mellower game & conversation nights. We take turns hosting YAG at our homes, so contact Wendy Mason at wendyjanemason@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list to learn specific location details.

Job Discovery Group Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Bring your resume (& maybe a few extra copies to pass around), ideas, roadblocks & any resources you'd like to share in a supportive & proactive atmosphere.

Contact Patricia Thorstad or Maureen Hamm (patriciathorstad@comcast.net)/(mhamm33@earthlink.net) for more info.

Book Group June 7 at noon

Book Group will meet the first Sunday at 12 noon and this month we will discuss Thos. Friedman's book *HOT, FLAT AND CROWDED*. It raises some provocative questions about the future of our planet and our culture. Come join in. Bring something to eat and drink and your perspective.
Hildy Pebrson and Alyce Rossow



Many of us look forward to the potluck after church on the third Sunday of the month. Everyone is welcome, and you are invited to join in the fun even if you are a newcomer or forget to bring a dish to share. Members and friends are reminded that the set-up and clean-up chores are shared by everyone according to an established alphabetical rotation schedule.

Each month members whose last names begin with specific letters are encouraged to pitch in by setting up tables and chairs, putting food on serving tables, putting plates, bowls, utensils and napkins out and restocking as needed, bringing dirty serving dishes to the kitchen, putting away tables and chairs, and cleaning up the kitchen.

June 21st potluck volunteers are people with last names of S-Z. Looking ahead, July 19th potluck volunteers will be all letters, A-Z. Of course, if it's not your month to volunteer and you have time to do so, please feel to help.

Minds on Fire

June 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Minds on Fire will meet at the home of Helen Meier. The topic will likely be responsibility. For details and directions, contact Shelley Covey, shelcovey@comcast.net or Helen Meier, hmeier@earthlink.net. The group will not meet in July or August.

Men's Group

June 9 & 23 at 7:30 p.m.

The Men's Group meets twice a month for fellowship and discussion in the Church Office, on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. If you would like to join us, please contact Craig Fish: craigbfish@comcast.net.

Shawl Ministry

June 17 at 7:00 p.m.

June 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Do you knit? Crochet? Do you want to learn? Come join us! In this group, we work on knitting or crocheting projects for those in need of an extra dose of kindness. You can work on a shawl or on a project you have already started. We meet in the Tot Green building. Call Kim Rowe at 606-9531 if you have questions.



<i>June</i>						
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
31 10:30 a.m. <i>Youth Sunday!</i> Reverend Nada Velemirovic 12:00 Special RE Discussion	1 8:00 pm YAG	2 6:30 p.m. Sunday Services Committee 7:00 p.m. Caring & Concerns	3 7:00 p.m. Minds on Fire	4 10:00 a.m. Job Support Group	5 7:30 p.m. <i>Fire</i> – Welcoming Committee Film in Tot Green Room	6 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. Meditation Workshop
7 10:30 a.m. <i>Moral Courage</i> Reverend Alicia McNary Forsey UUCiL Choir 12:00 p.m. Book Group	8 8:00 pm YAG	9 6:30 p.m. Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Men's Group	10	11 10:00 a.m. Job Support Group	12	13
14 10:30 a.m. <i>More than a Flower</i> Reverend Alicia McNary Forsey	15 11:45 a.m. RE Committee Meeting 8:00 pm YAG	16	17 7:00 p.m. Shawl Ministry	18 10:00 a.m. Job Support Group 7:00 pm Finance Committee	19	20 10:00 a.m. Meditation Workshop
21 10:30 a.m. <i>Fathers and Foregiveness</i> UUCiL Choir 12:00 p.m. Potluck (S-Z) 12:00 p.m. RE Committee	22 8:00 pm YAG	23 2:00 p.m. Shawl Ministry 7:30 p.m. Men's Group	24	25 10:00 a.m. Job Support Group	26	27
28 10:30 a.m. <i>Social Action: Immigration</i> Sunday Services Committee	29 8:00 pm YAG	30	1	2 10:00 a.m. Job Support Group	3	4



Come One, Come All!

***Potluck BAR-B-Q
for Rev. Alicia***

***Sunday, June 14th
1:00 p.m.***

(Details Inside)



*Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore
1893 N. Vasco Road
Livermore, CA 94551-9793
925.447.8747 www.uucil.net*

The Unitarian Universalist Church
in Livermore is a caring, diverse
community of open-minded people.
We provide a supportive non-creedal
environment for spiritual and
intellectual growth.

We encourage living respectfully and
fostering the religious aspect of life
through serving the larger community.

*We are a
Welcoming Congregation*

*The Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore is located at 1893 North Vasco Road in Livermore, California.
Founded as a Fellowship in 1957, we are proud to have been a voice for liberal religion in the TriValley for the over 50 years.
To learn more about our congregation please join us for Sunday Service at 10:30 am and visit our website at: www.uucil.net*