



# Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore

Volume 16, Number 7

July 2011

Sunday Services, High School & Middle School Youth Group, & Children's Religious Education at 10:30am

## What's Happening at UUCiL?

*Mondays in July*

*Young Adult Group*

*July 1-3:*

*Young Adult Water Justice Roadtrip*

*July 6:*

*Sunday Services Committee*

*July 11:*

*Finance Committee Meeting*

*July 13:*

*Men's Group*

*Shawl Ministry*

*July 14:*

*Caring and Concerns Committee*

*Board Meeting*

*July 15:*

*Stargazers*

*July 17:*

*Potluck (all)*

*July 19:*

*Shawl Ministry*

*July 27:*

*Men's Group*

## July Sermon Topics

July 3

**Guest Speaker**

*TJ Kahn, preaching*

TJ is a seminarian at Starr King School for the Ministry and candidate for the Unitarian Universalist ministry.

July 10

**Guest Speaker**

*C. Zachary Mathews, Youth Group leader, preaching*

Zach has a background in education. This year, he helped lead our youth on a five day service trip throughout the Central Valley.

July 17

**Guest Speaker**

*Michelle Favreault, preaching*

Michelle teaches liturgy and religious education at Starr King School for the Ministry. An ordained Unitarian Universalist minister, she has a background in organizational leadership.

July 24

**Guest Speaker**

*Matthew McHale, preaching*

Matthew is a seminarian at Starr King School for the Ministry and candidate for the Unitarian Universalist Ministry.

July 31

**Guest Speaker**

*Marcus Liefert, preaching*

Marcus Liefert is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist currently pursuing an MDiv at Starr King School for the Ministry. He grew up in the First Unitarian Church of Oakland and will serve as intern minister next year at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley.

## What's Inside?

Standing on the Side of Love. pg 2  
 Social Justice Opportunities. . pg 3  
 OWL Update. . . . . pg 4  
 Choir Notes . . . . . pg 5  
 Playground Comm Update. . . pg5  
 Things to Do This Month. . . pg 6  
 July Calendar. . . . . pg 7



## UUCiL Staff

*Minister: Reverend Lucas Hergert (Office Hrs: W-F Noon –2:00 p.m. & by appt.)*

*Director of RE: Renness Tomley (Office Hrs: Thursday 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. & Sun. Noon – 2:00 p.m.)*

*Administrator: Jennifer Neff (Office Hours T – 9:00 a.m. – Noon.; W – F 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)*

*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@llnl.gov. All input must be received by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month to ensure inclusion in the next month's edition.

## ***Standing on the Side of Love/No More Deaths Action Request***

Please join with Standing on the Side of Love & their partners at No More Deaths, a ministry of the UU Church of Tucson to demand that Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) & the Border Patrol stop all deportations through Texas.

Those in danger of deportation face the fear of being kidnapped or murdered if they are deported through the border states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, & Tamaulipas. In these states, organized crime now has more power than the local government & migrants are regularly targeted upon arrival for extortion, violence, & forced conscription as gunmen & drug traffickers.

Over 34,500 people have been killed over the last four years in drug cartel & gang related violence.

- Gangs use methods like torture & death threats to coerce migrants to traffic drugs or serve as hit men.
- Migrants given prison sentences for crossing the border are routinely separated from their belongings, including identification, money, & phone numbers of family members. The lack of resources, proof of identity, & ability to contact support intensifies existing dangers.
- Migrants who have spent many years in the U.S. & maintain connections here, are especially vulnerable to predation by the cartels, who use their family to demand ransom payments.
- Drug cartels target assassinations of people from the state of Sinaloa & the rest of the western coast due to regional conflicts, even though most migrants have no connection to the drug trade.
- Migrants who have been kidnapped & survived have stated that they were told they were on a list targeted for kidnappings.
- Cartels use corrupt police & government agencies intended to assist migrants to funnel recent deportees directly into their hands.

There is NO excuse for putting people at risk for being kidnapped or killed, especially when there are safe options that are intentionally neglected. The border ports of Agua Prieta & Naco, Sonora, Mexico haven't been used for repatriation in over 8 months, even though they're among the safest border towns & are, in fact, often closer to the detention facilities than the dangerous cities where migrants are being sent instead.

The U.S. government has a moral responsibility to avoid unnecessary risk to human life & increased suffering. Those awaiting deportation have a right to return to their county in the safest manner possible, including a complete return of their belongings & identification papers.

### **TAKE ACTION!**

1. [Send faxes now.](#)
2. **Call** Janet Napolitano, Director of the Department of Homeland Security: (202) 282-8485
3. **Call** John Morton, Director of ICE: (202) 732-3000
4. **Call** Alan Bersin, Commission of Customs & Border Protection: (202) 344-1780
5. **Call** Franklin Jones, CBP Diversity & Civil Rights Executive Director: (202) 344-1610

### Talking points:

- ICE & Border Patrol must stop all deportations through Texas. It's just too dangerous, & there are safer options, such as Douglas & Naco, AZ.
- There is NO excuse for putting people at risk for being kidnapped or killed, especially when there are safe options that are intentionally neglected.
- Everyone to be deported to Mexico from anywhere in the U.S. must be offered a choice of:
  - Interior repatriation, year-round, subject only to the consent of the Mexican government;
  - Repatriation to the same point of the border where they entered, if they entered within the last year; &
  - Repatriation to the point of the border closest to their place of origin.
- Everyone to be removed/deported to Mexico must receive their personal effects on departure. This can mean the difference between life and death for many.
- Safety of each port should be regularly assessed, & deportations mustn't occur in any port where those deported face imminent danger.

## ***Food and Supplies Needed***

My name is Katherine Rowe and I am a member of Girl Scout Troop 32428. My troop and I are collecting non-perishable food and personal items for the Tri-Valley Haven for our silver award project. A container will be available at church to drop off items until September 11, 2011. The items most needed are diapers sizes 3-5, baby wipes, \$10 or \$15 gift cards to Target or Safeway, and Wheels/Bart passes. Food needed includes canned goods, rice and pasta. For more information on our project or more suggested items to give, pick up a pink flier at the back of the sanctuary or contact me through my parents' e-mail at [ankrowe@wecare.net](mailto:ankrowe@wecare.net).

## ***Human Right to Water Campaign***

Last month, the five bills of the [Human Right to Water](#) package were passed off the floor in the first house with bi-partisan support for all but one bill. UUs across California helped make this happen by making phone calls and sending more than a thousand letters to their representatives. A large box was needed to carry them all and last minute special delivery of some letters helped save the votes of wavering representatives.

### **Next Steps**

This summer the bills must pass out of the other house via various policy and appropriation committees before going to the floor for a final vote, and then on to the Governor's desk. Now is a great time to gather with other UUs and visit your legislator's office. Ask them where they stand on environmental justice. If you need talking points, more information, or encouragement, visit the Human Right to Water [website](#).







## ***Can You Help?***

The Social Justice Committee is helping the Tri-Valley Haven collect new school supplies for low-income families in the Tri-Valley Area. Last year TVH outfitted more than 400 children. You can drop off your donations at the back of the church from July 24 through August 7. Check out the wish list for needed supplies and you can contact Maureen Hamm at 925 961-7239 if you have any questions. We especially need binders and protractors! Thank you for your help, and remember, your donations are tax deductible.



### **Supplies needed include:**

-  Binder paper (wide & college)
-  Binders
-  Notebooks (marbled or wired)
-  Scissors
-  Glue Sticks
-  Pens (red, blue & black ink)
-  Colored Pencils
-  Pencils
-  Markers
-  Erasers
-  Rulers
-  Crayons
-  Backpacks
-  Calculators
-  Compasses
-  Protractors
-  **Payless Shoes gift cards** in \$10 denominations (to help families whose children need shoes for school)



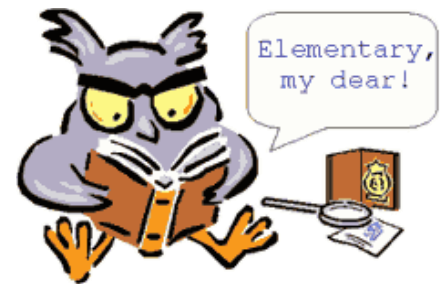
## ***Our Whole Lives (OWL) Update***

The UUCIL Religious Education Department is pleased to announce that we will be offering 2 “Our Whole Lives” classes this winter, starting in January of 2012. We will be offering the class for the Early Elementary (K-1) grades and for the Later Elementary (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>) grades starting after church on January 8, 2012. Each class runs about 8 weeks. Classes are approximately 90 minutes long.

Don’t know much about “Our Whole Lives” and want to know more? GREAT! Contact Leslie Lemieux, our OWL (“Our Whole Lives”) Coordinator who can give you some more information ahead of time. In addition, we will have a couple of parent information meetings coming your way in the fall, with one in September and one again in November. “Our Whole Lives” is a comprehensive, age- and developmentally-appropriate sexuality education program.

Our Whole Lives is built upon four core values:

1. Self Worth
2. Sexual Health
3. Responsibility
4. Justice and Inclusivity.



Participants are encouraged to use these values in decision-making concerning their own sexuality and relationships. Throughout the program, participants are encouraged to explore and learn to articulate their own values. It may sound funny that we start with the Early Elementary-aged child, but this is truly where open and honest communication about many things begins. Classes will be limited in size to ensure the best possible experience for our children. Leslie can be reached at 925.606.5863 or [jlmm@pacbell.net](mailto:jlmm@pacbell.net).

### **REMINDER:**

Rennie Tomley, Director of Religious Education, will be on vacation from July 18th through August 9th.



Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.

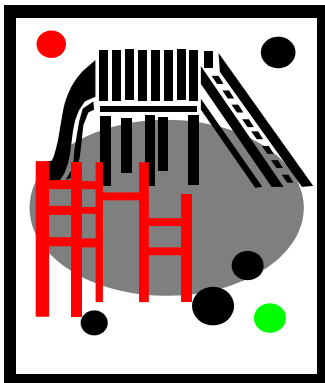
*Gilbert K. Chesterton*

## Playground Committee Update

Our Playground Committee has been brought to life again. Leslie Lemieux is the Chair of this committee and other members include Margaret Cooke, Alyce Rossow, Claire Nelson and Rev. Lucas. We invite you to join us at our next meeting if you are interested in helping us decide on the next steps. That meeting is Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 7 PM in the Tot Green Building.

Prior to that, you will be seeing some other activities and notes from us. As you and your families play this summer, visit some local playgrounds and do some scouting work for us. Tell us where you go and *WHY*. What makes that playground your child(ren)'s favorite? What do they play on when they are there? What ideas do you have about play? In the next few weeks, we will be handing out (electronically and other ways) some lists of local playgrounds you can go to visit and scout out for us. We will do a survey as fall comes closer, so watch for that.

Please contact one of the above committee members if you have ideas about our playground—such as, what it looks like, how to build it, and how to pay for it. Thank you in advance for your help!



## Choir Notes

With the choir off for the summer, you might say that I'm on vacation until September. Well, sort of. Though I won't need to plan and manage rehearsals and come to church early for a while, the work DOES continue through the summer, albeit on a more relaxed scale.

Sometime in July I will spend the better part of a day doing the administrative tasks that go along with the job. I'll be sorting and filing the remaining few pieces of music just performed; removing paper clips and sticky notes from the pages, checking all of our 120 plus file folders to make sure all the copies are there and in numerical order; cross-checking against my library list to make sure every song is accounted for (sometimes we loan them out to other groups); adding the new songs to my list for an updated version; and SOMETIMES actually throwing away copies of really old songs that we will probably never use again. This process paves the way for a clean and orderly start come September.

Then in August I will be reading through hundreds of pieces of music looking for just the right ones to purchase for our library.....not an easy task. From the decidedly sacred Christian text on one end of the continuum to the fluff on the other, there is a narrow segment of choral music that I think truly supports our collective theologies and speaks to our values. Once I find a text that fits these criteria, I must make sure that it also has musical integrity and is something that can be managed by a small choir. MOST music is rejected on one of these three counts and the search continues.

Somewhere between these two projects, I will be attending the ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) California Conference in Oakhurst. For four days I will be with colleagues from all over the state, sharing experiences, learning new skills, broadening knowledge and being together in the dining hall, the workshops, the services, or just reflecting at the edge of the lake with the swans. This part is sort of a vacation!



Happy summer,  
Dee

## 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 Fisher at [wendyjanemason@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjanemason@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list to learn specific location details.

### **Men's Group July 13 & 27 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](mailto:craigbfish@comcast.net).

### **Shawl Ministry July 13 at 7:00 p.m. July 19 at 12 Noon**

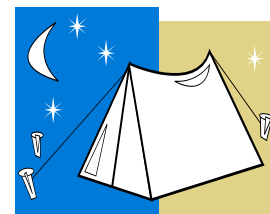
Do you knit? Crochet? Do you want to learn? Come join us! In this group, we work on projects for those in in need of an extra dose of kindness. You can work on on a shawl, chemo caps or on a project you have already started. We meet in the Tot Green building. Call Kim Rowe at 606-9531 if you have questions.



## Camp Shelley at Lake Tahoe

Come to Livermore's beautiful campground in the woods of South Lake Tahoe this summer, and get away from it all.. Enjoy the company of other UUCiLers while swimming, hiking and enjoying nature. The campground has well spaced sites, each equipped with a picnic table, fire ring and several tent spots. Some sites will accommodate a trailer or camper. The bathroom has flush toilets and hot showers. We usually have an expedition to a lovely mountain lake on Saturday, and have a potluck and a group campfire that night.

We now have twelve camp sites reserved at Camp Shelly for August 5-7<sup>th</sup>. Two are left for anyone in the congregation to reserve for \$77 for the weekend, payable to Alyce Rossow. Later there MAY be the possibility of doubling up in a camp site and sharing the expense, but no guarantees. Don't put off making a reservation, or it may be too late. Contact Leslie Lemieux at 925.606.5869 or [jlmm@pacbell.net](mailto:jlmm@pacbell.net)



EVERYONE IS INVITED to come to the SUMMER POTLUCKS. They will be July 17, 2011 and August 21, 2011. Summer helpers are anyone who can come to help. HELPERS are people who help get the food and everything needed on the serving tables and/or stay after to help clean up.

SOS – TABLE HELPERS NEEDED This entails helping to put up: (1) 3 serving tables first and (2) tables and chairs for eating. When the weather is too cold or rainy and we must eat inside the chairs in the sanctuary need to be moved.

POTLUCK or AFTER CHURCH COFFEE questions or to help please contact:

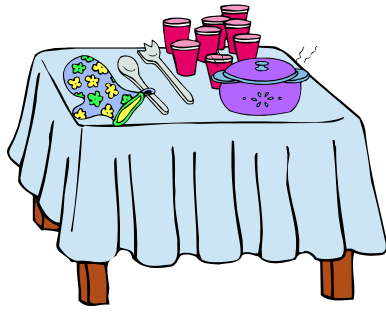
Beth Dowling 925-249-1581  
or Laura Pedersen 925-426-9789

[bethdowling@comcast.net](mailto:bethdowling@comcast.net)  
[ljpedersen@comcast.net](mailto:ljpedersen@comcast.net)

<i>July</i>						
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
26 10:30 a.m. <i>You Came Here to Die, Didn't You?</i> Sheri Labedis	27 8:00 pm YAG*	28	29	30	1 Third Annual Young Adult Water Justice Road Trip	2 Third Annual Young Adult Water Justice Road Trip
3 10:30 a.m. <i>TBD</i> TJ Kahn  Third Annual Young Adult Water Justice Road Trip	4 8:00 pm YAG*	5	6 7:00 p.m. Sunday Services Committee	7	8	9
10 10:30 a.m. <i>TBD</i> C. Zachary Mathews	11 8:00 pm YAG*  7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting	12	13  7:30 p.m. Men's Group  7:00 p.m. – Shawl Ministry	14  12:00 p.m. Caring & Concerns Committee  6:45 pm Board Meeting	15  7:00 p.m. Stargazers	16
17 10:30 a.m. <i>TBD</i> Michelle Favreault  12:00 p.m. Potluck (all)	18 8:00 pm YAG*	19 12:00 – Shawl Ministry	20	21	22	23
24 10:30 a.m. <i>TBD</i> Matthew McHale	25 8:00 pm YAG*	26	27  7:30 p.m. Men's Group	28	29	30
31 10:30 a.m. <i>TBD</i> Marcus Liefert						

[Click here](http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=G1I3G1I3G1K5O9L6I3) to view our calendar on-line at <http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=G1I3G1I3G1K5O9L6I3>

\*Not held at UUCiL. Please check with organizer for location.



**Monthly Potluck  
Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>  
at  
11:30 a.m.**



*Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore  
1893 N. Vasco Road  
Livermore, CA 94551-9793  
925.447.8747      [www.uucil.net](http://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](http://www.uucil.net)*