



Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore

Volume 17, Number 1

January 2012

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

January Sermon Topics

What's Happening at UUCiL?

- Mondays in January*
- Young Adult Group*
- Thursdays in January*
- Building & Grounds Work Days*
- January 2:*
- Finance Committee Meeting*
- January 3:*
- Men's Group*
- January 7:*
- Choir Rehearsal*
- January 8:*
- Program Council*
- First Sunday Book Group*
- January 10:*
- Tuesday Evening Chalice Circle*
- Thursday Evening Chalice Circle*
- January 11:*
- Shawl Ministry*
- Choir Rehearsal*
- January 12:*
- Caring & Concerns Committee*
- January 13:*
- Friday Morning Chalice Circle*
- January 15:*
- Potluck (S-Z)*
- January 16:*
- Thirty Days of Love Campaign Begins*
- January 17:*
- Men's Group*
- January 19:*
- Board Meeting*
- January 20:*
- Stargazers*
- January 22:*
- East County UU Neighborhood Group*
- January 24:*
- Tuesday Evening Chalice Circle*
- Thursday Evening Chalice Circle*
- January 27:*
- Friday Morning Chalice Circle*
- January 28:*
- Annual Service Auction*

January 1 ***Amazing Grace and the Wretch's Asterisk***
Rev. Lucas Hergert, preaching

January 8 ***From Nomads to Pilgrims***
Rev. Lucas Hergert, preaching
 We will celebrate volunteerism at UUCiL today. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at our church, please contact Rev. Lucas Hergert.

January 15 ***Bold Grace: The Story of Martin Luther King***
Rev. Lucas Hergert, preaching

This is an all ages service with leadership from our Religious Education program!

January 22 ***Guest Minister***
Rev. Denis Paul, preaching
 Rev. Paul is a Unitarian Universalist community minister with the Faithful Fools in San Francisco, an organization that serves the homeless and underprivileged.

January 29 ***In Praise of Fire***
Rev. Lucas Hergert, preaching

February 5 ***How to Occupy Your Soul***
Rev. John Buehrens, preaching;
Rev. Lucas Hergert, worship leader

Rev. Buehrens is the minister of the First Parish in Needham and is the former president of the Unitarian Universalist Association. He will offer a talk on his new book, *Universalists and Unitarians in America: A People's History*, following the service.

What's Inside?

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WATCH REV. LUCAS' SERMONS ONLINE:
www.uucil.net

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@lmln.gov. All input must be received by the 3rd Sunday of the month to ensure inclusion in the next month's edition.

Service Auction, January 28

Our annual service auction will be January 28, 2012. We will start at 5:30 for wine and conversation; 6:00 for dinner; 7:00 for the start of the auction. Babysitting & pizza for the youth starts at 5:30 p.m.

This year Alice Bennert's auction item will be the auction dinner. Suggested "bid" is \$10 per person.

So put on our "thinking caps" and come up with a service you could perform, a dinner you could host, an activity you could lead, or a craft you could teach. If you're in need of ideas ask Joan Dickinson or read Jane's list below- it may be of help and will definitely bring a smile! Signup sheets will be available in the Sanctuary in January, or you can e-mail Joan at bobjoan@comcast.net with your offer(s).

Need Ideas for the 2012 UUCiL Auction???

Throw a bash for Mardi Gras.

Teach me to make baklava.

Help me get my checkbook straight.

Show me how to inline skate.

Bring a picnic to the park.

Teach my puppy not to bark.

Cater a supper. Knit a sock.

Plant my flower bed. Fix my clock.

Help me write beautiful verse in iambic pentameter, (Or in the lyrical lines of dactylic hexameter).

Host a brunch to welcome Spring.

Demonstrate the Highland Fling.

Show me how to tie a fly,

Start a scrapbook, grow bonsai.

Clean my windows. Hang my door.

Paint my bathroom. Wax my floor.

Here's the point: **Just save the date
And be there January 28!**

A People's History of Unitarian Universalism

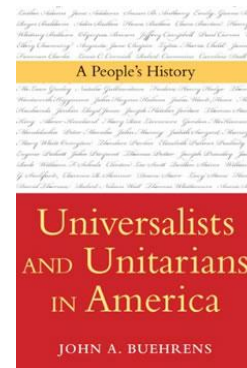
A Class Taught by Rev. Lucas Hergert

Sunday, Feb 5, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. AND

Thursdays, Feb. 9 to March 15, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Cost (including book): \$30 (individuals) \$45 (couples sharing book)

This class, based on John Buehrens' *Unitarians and Universalists in America: A People's History*, will explore our religious heritage through the stories of the men and women who lived it. The class will be interactive, with videos, activities, readings, and an optional field trip. The course kick-off will be a sermon and talk by Rev. John Buehrens on Sunday, Feb. 5. You may submit payment to the Office Administrator. Please RSVP using the signup sheet in the back of the Sanctuary.



Originality is the essence of true scholarship; creativity is the soul of the true scholar.

Nnamdi Azikiwe



UUCiL will be staffing Open Heart Kitchen on January 31. If you would like to participate please contact Joan Dickinson, bojjoan@comcast.com or 447-6454.

Warm Clothes for Jackson Avenue School

Thank you all for the warm clothes you brought for the families of Jackson Avenue School. Leslie Lemieux distributed them last Wednesday, December 14th. They were much appreciated. The mothers were especially delighted with items for them, since they often put off buying clothes for themselves. Leslie said she saw many of the coats worn to school the next day.



The Social Justice Committee Thanks You

TO ALL OF YOU WHO donated one or more gently used suitcases, we want you to know that some Alameda Co. child is glad to have the use of it. You all donated 11 suitcases and we found placements for all. We will continue to collect them because new needs arise and we would like to fill them. Thank you from Chilli and Maureen, Social Justice Committee

Thirty Days of Love Campaign Starts January 16th

We are anticipating the Standing on the Side of Love campaign, *Thirty Days of Love: The Story of Us, The Story of Now*, running from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday on January 16 to Valentine's Day.

For the THIRTY DAYS OF LOVE Standing on the Side of Love can provide resources for guided theological reflections, activities for creating a collective vision, as well as opportunities for self-reflection, sharing our stories, lifting up courageous love, and taking concrete actions now as we examine where we go from here.

[Click here to see an overview of the month and the resources we are offering.](#)

This past year has opened up tremendous new opportunities. *Time Magazine* named its 2011 Person of the Year "The protester" – from the demonstrators across the Arab world to the Occupy Wall Street movement that continues to make headlines.

"There's this contagion of protest," *Time* managing editor Richard Stengel said on NBC television. "These are folks who are changing history already and they will change history in the future."

Standing on the Side of Love is about far more than just protests – it's about a movement that begins with our selves, and is rooted in our congregations and communities. It's a movement that translates our faith in a better, more loving world into individual and collective actions with those who are marginalized and discriminated against because of their identity. And yes, it's a movement of tremendous activism! THIRTY DAYS is a celebration of all of this.

I hope the New Year will be a time of positivity and renewal for you, as well as for our whole, beautiful, encompassing community.

Love,

Dan Furmansky

Campaign Manager, Standing on the Side of Love

Environmental Justice Forums

What's up? Many of us are deeply concerned about the climate crisis. Turns out that the Bay Area can play a significant role. During the next 25 years, California law requires each region to make a substantial commitment to reduce greenhouse gas pollution while still incorporating more people. How do we do that in the Bay Area when we are expecting to grow by another 2 million folks?

As Unitarian Universalists who care about both sustainability and equity for the disenfranchised, we are partnering with outstanding Environmental Justice organizations to learn more and get involved. We want to make sure that as land use, housing and transit decisions are made, the concerns of historically marginalized communities are at the table.

In each of the nine Bay Area Counties, from Santa Rosa to Santa Clara, public input **workshops are being held in January 2012**. We hope Alameda County UUs will attend the [One Bay Area Winter Workshop](#) at Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza) on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 from 5:45 – 8:30 p.m.

An additional opportunity to discuss UU involvement in environmental justice is the “Creating Sustainable Bay Area Communities” forum being held at the UU Fellowship of Berkeley (924 Cedar St.) on **Saturday, January 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.** Cost is \$15 at the door. No one turned away for lack of funds. R.S.V.P. via e-mail to [Amy Petré Hill](#) or call 510.272.9029.

Sponsored by: the UU Legislative Ministry, CA and the Berkeley UU Fellowship.

Chalice Circles Reconvene in February

Our Chalice Circles will continue in a four-month cycle beginning in February 2012. Circles will meet the second and fourth week of each month, February through May.

Chalice Circles are a unique experience that differs from Adult Religious Education study groups, social networks, support groups, or anything else in church. They will give you an opportunity to:

- Participate in an open and inclusive environment that promotes spiritual growth and theological inquiry.
- Search and grow at your own pace through telling your story, learning, and contributing yourself and your resources.
- Experience a deeper level of connection with other members.
- Give back to with a one-time social service project.

If you wish to join a new group or to continue in an existing group, look for signup sheets 1) at your group meetings in January, 2) in the Sunday order of service during January, or 3) at the table at the back of the sanctuary. Contact Jane Staehle or Rev. Lucas Hergert with questions.



Chalice Circle Dates & Times

Tuesday Evening Circle – 1/10 & 24, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle – 1/10 & 24, 7:00 p.m. (not a misprint)

Friday Morning Circle – 1/13, 27, 10:00 a.m.



Religious Education News



Celebrating Winter

January 1st Religious Education program will be for grades K through 8th grades. We'll celebrate Winter Solstice in the Founders Building at 10:45.



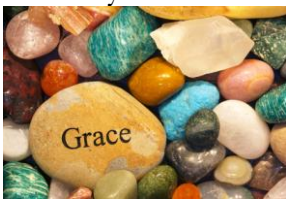
Changes for Religious Education, 2012

- RE classes will now begin at 10:30am beginning Sunday January 8th.
- Children and youth in grades 4,5,6,7 and 8 should go directly to their Religious Education classes beginning on Sunday, January 8th.
- Children in grades K, 1 and 2 should be escorted to their classes by an adult before the service begins at 10:30am. A teacher should be in each classroom waiting for the children to arrive.
- Intergenerational services will be increasing in number, so that we can welcome children into the full experience of the Sunday Services.
- The Religious Education insert will be posted on our new board outside the Sanctuary and individual inserts will be available on the board as well. Beginning on January 8th, the insert won't be included in the Order of Service.
- We are making these changes in the hope that we will have more time to complete all the activities in the RE classes, make more room and chairs available in the Sanctuary for new visitors early in the service, and help reduce the amount of paper we are using each Sunday. Your feedback is always welcome!



High School Youth Holiday Bazaar Update.

The high school youth raised over \$1000.00 at our Holiday Bazaar and Pot Luck. All your generous donations that were received will benefit the youth trip to General Assembly in June to Phoenix. Thank you so much to everyone!!! We will keep you posted on our next fund raising project.



UUCiL Service for All Ages

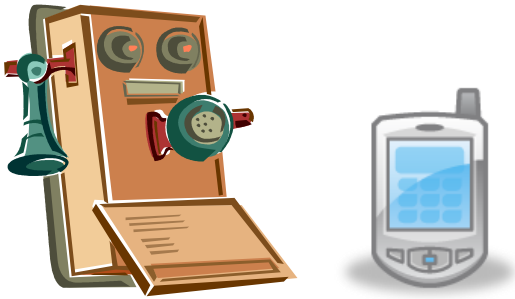
Our Intergenerational Service will be on Sunday, January 15th. All ages will celebrate this month's theme of "Grace". Please join us at 10:30am.

New Children's Worship Associate Program at UUCiL

We are beginning a new children's worship associate program for children ages 8 to 18 yrs of age. The duties for this new program will include reading an opening at the Sunday service, lighting the chalice, and more. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Rennie at 925-485-3652 for more information. We will have an orientation and coaching session in early February.

Taking Out the Old and Moving in the New: A Post-Holiday Thought

As you unwrap and enjoy those new appliances, toys, clothes, remember that for someone else your old may be new and a treasure. Wash the old, clean off the grease, package it nicely and save it for the Church Parking lot sale.



Choir Notes

The UUCiL Choir had a busy Christmas Season with an Interfaith performance at the Mormon Temple in Livermore on December 11th, the Christmas Pageant on December 18th, and the beautiful Christmas Eve Service on December 24th. We greatly enjoyed sharing our music with the Unitarian and the larger community – we hope you enjoyed our efforts as much as we did!

There will be a Choir Retreat sometime in the Spring of 2012 – details will follow as they develop.

EVERYBODY has a voice. Why not discover yours? Would you like to sing with us? The UUCiL Choir is always open to new members. If you would like to sing with us please contact our director, Dee Wood, or see her after service on a Choir day.

Rick Thorne



Potlucks Revisited

We're going to try a new approach to our monthly potlucks. We will be substituting bi-monthly fundraiser meals at various restaurants, during the coming year. The funds raised will go toward our new playground equipment. Mark your calendar to join us after the Sunday services on the 3rd Sundays in February, April, and June (restaurants to be announced). Regular potlucks will take place on the 3rd Sundays in January, March, and May. We need more volunteers to help with clean up on these pot luck Sundays. Please consider helping by washing serving bowls, taking your leftover food with you, taking table clothes and dish towels home to wash, and emptying all garbage cans to the receptacles in the parking lot.

Hopefully this will also make it easier to recruit a new volunteer coffee maker for 3rd Sundays. Anyone interested in getting to know your fellow UUsers a little more? Please contact Beth Dowling with your suggestions. (925-249-1581)



January Potluck

EVERYONE IS INVITED to come to the Monthly POTLUCK. It will be January 15, 2011. Helpers are people with last names – S-Z. The February POTLUCK is February 19th and helpers are people with last names – A-E. 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 as it is bound to be in Winter we must eat inside and the Chairs in the Sanctuary need to be moved first before the tables are put up.

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

Beth Dowling 925-249-1581

bethdowling@comcast.net

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 wendywisemanfisher@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list to learn specific location details.

1st Sunday Book Group January 8 at Noon

The First Sunday Book Group will meet at noon in the High School Room on January 8th. We will be discussing *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. If you have read this book and would like to share your point of view, or if you would like to hear about this book, please join us. Bring your lunch or something to share. We usually adjourn at 1:30 PM. *Alyce Rossow and Karen Lincoln*

Men's Group December 6 & 20 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Shawl Ministry-Evening January 4 at 7:00 p.m. - Afternoon Date/Time TBD (Contact Joan Dickinson)

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

Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string. Accept the place the divine providence has found for you, the society of your contemporaries, the connection of events.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Building & Grounds Work

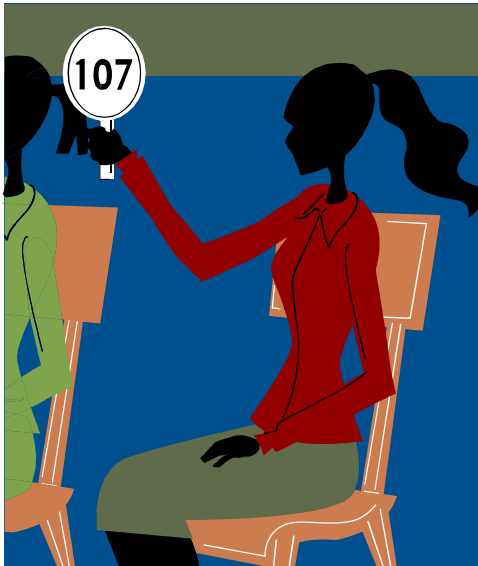
*Every Thursday from
9:00 a.m. - Noon.*



<i>January</i>						
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 10:30 a.m. <i>Amazing Grace and the Wretch's Asterisk</i> Rev. Lucas Hergert	2 8:00 pm YAG* 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	3 7:30 p.m. Men's Group	4	5 9:00 a.m. Building & Grounds Work Day	6	7 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
8 10:30a.m. <i>From Nomads to Pilgrims</i> Rev. Lucas Hergert 12:00 Program Council 12:00 First Sunday Book Group	9 8:00 pm YAG*	10 7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Chalice Circle 7:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Chalice Circle	11 7:00 p.m. – Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 a.m. Building & Grounds Work Day 12:00 p.m. Caring & Concerns Committee	13 10:00 a.m. Friday Morning Chalice Circle	14
15 10:30 a.m. <i>Bold Grace: The Story of Martin Luther King</i> Rev. Lucas Hergert 12:00 Potluck (S-Z)	16 8:00 pm YAG* Thirty Days of Love Campaign Kicks Off	17 7:30 p.m. Men's Group	18	19 9:00am. B&G Workday 6:45 p.m. Board Meeting	20 7:00 p.m. Stargazers	21
22 10:30 a.m. <i>Guest Minister</i> Rev. Denis Paul 1:00 p.m. East County UU Neighborhood Group	23 8:00 pm YAG*	24 7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Chalice Circle 7:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Chalice Circle	25	26	27 10:00 a.m. Friday Morning Chalice Circle	28 5:30 p.m. UUCiL Dinner & Service Auction
29 10:30a.m. In Praise of Fire Rev. Lucas Hergert	30 8:00 pm YAG*	31	1	2	3	4

[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.



Saturday, January 28th

Annual Service Auction

Reception: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Auction: 7:00 p.m.

Childcare (pizza included) provided



*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 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*