



# The Flaming Chalice

NEWSLETTER OF STARR KING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH APRIL 2008

## A Month of Sundays

### April Celebration Previews

#### Two Sunday Services at 9:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.

**6:** *Enriching Our Soil: Toward the Beloved Community* (Rev. Katie Kandarian) Today, let us attempt to answer the questions “How can I make a difference in the world?” and “How can one smallish congregation make a difference?” As we dedicate our resources and ourselves, we find we live a life not only can sustaining, but possibly even enriching to our planet and each other.

*Immediately following each service, the minister will hold a brief informational session in the Library for those with questions about Unitarian Universalism or interested in membership.*

**13:** *What Color is Our Sky?* (Rev. Katie Kandarian & Carol Bodeau) There’s a slogan that calls us *Church of the Boiling Globe*. How do we deal with the reality of global warming without letting it paralyze us á la Chicken Little? And what do we do with those critics who say that we’re all Chicken Littles? How do we ground our response in our own deep, respectful theology?

*Chalice Deadline.*

Friday 18 April • 6:30 P.M. • STARR KING SEDER  
Reserve your place! *See page 4.*

**20:** *Earth Day Service: Greening our Faith.* Members of Starr King Earth Ministry will introduce the Green Sanctuary program and reflect on what this means to our lives and to the Earth, our “Blue Boat Home.”

*Bookstore Open.*

Sunday 20 April • 12:15 - 2 P.M. • COMPOSTING WORKSHOP  
Family Friendly! Includes Lunch! *See page 4.*

**27:** *How to Live Slow* (Rev. Katie Kandarian) When even Starbucks has a drive-thru window, how can we attempt to live a life that moves at a bit of a slower pace? How can our food choices become an integral part of our choice to slow down and experience peace and contentment?



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# Katie's Bay View

Rev. Katie Kandarian

## April is Starr King Earth Ministry Month

We are dedicating the month of April to the work of the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth and to the seventh principle of our association, that of the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part. To that effort, I dedicate this poem by Kentuckian Wendell Berry.



### Sabbath Poem II (1988)

It is the destruction of the world  
in our own lives that drives us  
half insane, and more than half.  
To destroy that which we were given  
in trust: how will we bear it?  
It is our own bodies that we give  
to be broken, our bodies  
existing before and after us  
in clod and cloud, worm and tree,  
that we, driving or driven, despise  
in our greed to live, our haste  
to die. To have lost, wantonly,  
the ancient forests, the vast grasslands  
is our madness, the presence  
in our very bodies of our grief.

I invite you to somehow, in some way or form, get involved with this congregation's move toward a greater awareness of our footprint on this planet. May you have a blessed month of learning and growth.

Love,



Katie

## April Birthdays

Best birthday wishes to . . .

- 3 Andrea Kuffin
- 6 Eric Bugosh
- 10 Katie Kandarian
- 10 Karen Carrell
- 11 Frank Satterwhite
- 14 Caroline Mazur
- 14 Georgia Gruver
- 16 Molly Hitchings
- 21 Andy Matthews
- 28 Kay Athos
- 30 Bill Schuler



*Have we overlooked your birthday?*

To be included in these birthday greetings, send an email with your name and the month and day of your Annual Celebration to [editor@starrking.org](mailto:editor@starrking.org).



## Wheel of Life

*Please send information to the Pastoral Care Committee.  
Good news is welcomed, as well as your sorrows.*

- ♥ Sandra Walton is healing nicely from eye surgery on her retinas.
- ♥ Bryne Golec is home recovering from gall bladder surgery.
- ♥ We send prayers to Dirk & Colleen Dino on the loss of their beloved cat.



I joined Starr King Unitarian Universalist church three years ago. Making a commitment to this community is an investment in the kind of life I want for myself, a life grounded in voiced values and a shared search for meaning in this world. I find here a family of very individual people who pull together to sustain and build a congregation of believers: believers in social justice,

social equity, environmental responsibility, community, the power of intellectual inspiration, the sanctity of individual religious journeys, and the healing nature of love.

I noticed early on, as I read my monthly *Flaming Chalice* newsletter, how many committees this church had and how many people pledge their time and energy to support this community. It takes many hands to create and operate this modest institution, and while Sunday morning is a central focus of our week, people are giving to Starr King every day to make our church live. I realized that giving my “fair share” meant committing to enrich the life of our community with my time and energy, as well as my regular attendance.

I also realized that giving my “fair share” required a significant financial contribution. We are a financially self-sustaining community, with no outside funding. Salaries are paid, music and other services are procured, our physical plant is maintained, our programming and committees receive their

tiny funding, our future is modestly protected, only when individual members reach into their pockets and pledge a significant portion of their personal resources to Starr King. And its costs, of course, increase each year.

For example, the Unitarian Universalist Association recommends pledging at least 3 percent of gross income for a household earning \$50,000 per year (which would be \$1,500), if one feels the church is a significant part of life and promotes one’s spiritual growth. The percentage increases or decreases with gross income.



I decided right away to reach or exceed this recommended pledging goal and increase my pledge each year, because I believe in doing my “fair share” and because I believe that my personal spiritual connection to this community is enhanced by making a significant gift of what I have.

I don’t want to sit on the sidelines in my faith community; I want to work for the common cause and eat from the common plate, give my individualism shelter under this common roof and live a life of shared and compared values. Financial support of this temple feeds my spirit and yields many rewards. If it is to be, it is, indeed, up to me.

I encourage each of you in making your annual pledges to be generous, to be “fair share” partners in sustaining our beloved community. Thank you.

## OUR CHURCH BOARD IN ACTION

March 2008

*The following is a summary of the Board’s business meeting. Feel free to discuss any of these items with Board members.*

1. **Disruptive Member Policy:** Policy was adopted with amendments.
2. **Unitarian House:** Garald Mosher will now be working with the architect to help get the permit situation at the County moving.
3. **RE Report:** RE task force meetings have produced several proactive steps, including a learning focus for the year for adults and children with the initial focus being Green Sanctuary.
4. **Membership Report:** New member luncheon will take place in May.
5. **Finance/Policies Report:** Sarah Gonzales is developing a book of church policies.
6. **Discussion of Draft Budget:** A first draft of the next fiscal year’s budget was presented for review. The budget will be formally presented to the Board in April.
7. **President’s Report:** Those who attended the January UU Growth Conference have suggested that the church focus on integrating new members and develop times for them to get to know existing members.
8. **Minister’s Report:** Proposed that we adopt a learning theme entitled *Enriching Our Community* building on the energy from the Ministry for Earth. This will be introduced to the congregation in April’s worship. A formal vote can be taken on this proposal at the congregational meeting in May. Unanimously approved.
9. **Treasurer’s Report:** We are currently running ahead on pledge income.



*Our Church Here . . . All are welcome to participate!*

## EVENTS & CLASSES

✦ **Building Your Own Theology** is an adult Religious Education series in which participants explore their own religious and spiritual journeys. In the class, we will talk about important people and experiences that have shaped our personal ideas about the meanings and mysteries of life, and about what is sacred. Each participant develops a personal credo, a statement of religious truth and meaning that is uniquely his or her own. We will have the chance to share portions of these credos in a worship service in late May. The class, to be led by Rev. Katie Kandarian, Intern Minister Carol Bodeau, and Darryl Ray, will meet on Sundays following the second service, from 12:30 - 2 P.M. on the following dates:



30 March

13 April

20 April

27 April

11 May

25 May



The workbook for the class is available in the office and costs \$16. To let us know you're interested, please call the church office and register.

✦ **Earth Spirituality Classes** continue on the first Sunday of each month from 1 - 3 P.M. Please join us for the following topics:

**6 April:** Mystical Visions (dream-work and meditation).

**4 May:** Shamanic Journeying (drums, chanting, trance states).

✦ **The New UU Course** to be offered on Tuesday evenings 15, 22 and 29 April in the church library at 7 P.M. This an opportunity for all newcomers to learn more about Unitarian Universalism. We will cover UU history, history of this church, how this church operates, plus much more. Please contact Karen Cook or Meg Jurich if you are interested in joining us.

*Don't Miss the Annual*

## STARR KING SEDER

Friday 18 April 2008

Gather at 6 P.M. • Ceremony begins at 6:30 P.M.

*Share the ritual meal of Passover with Rev. Katie Kandarian*

The Passover story will be relived with ritual narrative and food, followed by an *almost* traditional meal prepared for you by Starr King chefs.

\$15. per person (\$8 for children 12 & under)

Sign up at the Community Table or contact Carol Henrie  
(510/886.1018, reachus@pacbell.net)

*Volunteers Needed!*



## COMPOSTING WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS!

Have you ever wondered what happens to all that "green" you send to the dump?

Would you like to know how you can make your own successful compost pile?

Learn the hows and whys at this fun-filled, kid-friendly workshop

*right after church* on **Sunday 20 April from 12:15 – 2 P.M.**

A free lunch will be served, followed soon after with the workshop.

DOOR PRIZES will be available, including your own Bio-stack composting bin, composting book, and more! Information and resources will also be available to take home with you, as well as a treat for the kids!

You don't want to miss this!

Please sign up at the back of the church, mainly for a lunch head count.

## Intern Reflections *Carol Bodeau*



As spring arrives, we are blessed with sunnier days, blooming flowers, and warm weather that hints of the coming summer. While there are likely still days ahead of rain and cold—rain that our reservoirs will appreciate—we can definitely feel the season turning towards the warm part of the year.

And just as nature turns through a cycle of seasons, the life of the church community also turns through natural cycles. These spiritual cycles reflect the natural changes that happen in the life of the soul or psyche, and we meet these cycles in the ways we gather together as a religious community.

In the fall, Unitarian Universalists often come together with a Water Communion Ingathering service, bringing into our shared time the enthusiasm and renewal of the summer months. During the fall, then, the church experiences a season of *Gathering*.

In the winter, we reconnect with the depths of our commitment as a community, sharing the stories and traditions of the holiday season and enjoying each others' company during the time of darkness. This I would call a season of *Reflection*.



As spring approaches, our canvass campaign and Celebration Sunday give us the chance to see the sprouts of the next year's growth beginning to rise up from the soil of our community. For me, this feels like a season of *Giving and Growth*.

And in summer, we allow our schedule as a community to shift so that we can focus on experiencing the joys of traveling, being outside, and relaxing. The summer, then, is a season of *Experiencing Abundance*.

Let us celebrate all these seasons together with gratitude for our community.

In Peace,

## *Committee Highlights*

### Grounds and Landscape Enhancement,

*Carol Henrie & Walt Korus*

**PLEASE JOIN US** for All-Church Grounds Work Days in April. Spring is upon us with a bounty of blooms and weeds **weeds WEEDS!**

Please volunteer to help on our TWO fun, productive Work Days on Saturday 12 April and Saturday 26 April. We'll work on both days from 9 A.M. into the afternoon, but we will be grateful for ANY time you can contribute.

We will be tackling those lovely weeds and invasive plants, using Green Sanctuary methods to preserve habitat and to create enjoyable social space. ALL are welcome; we will be able to find meaningful work for you, whatever your physical stamina. Bring your gloves.

Before we fenced our property, the local deer provided weed control by feasting upon the tender grasses, wild radish and mallow plants that plague us now; but unfortunately, the deer ate everything else!

Now it's up to us. And how will we reward you? With PIZZA, of course! So please join us: 12 & 26 April.



### Earth Ministry, *Karen Urbano*

April is Earth month at Starr King and 20 April will be our special Earth Sunday, in advance of the official Earth Day that falls on 22 April. Several members of Earth Ministry at Starr King will be participating in the celebration that Sunday. We will present the idea of the Green Sanctuary program and invite the whole congregation to participate. There will also be special music by the Sometimes SKUUC Choir.

As a part of Earth Sunday, we will take up a special collection to support UU Ministry for Earth, the UU affiliate that has been the creator and sponsor of the Green Sanctuary program that has grown by leaps and bounds.

UU Ministry for Earth has also issued a special challenge to UU congregations for individuals to become members. As an incentive, the congregation that signs up the most members as a percentage of their certified membership between 1 March and 15 May will win a free workshop from Gaia Workshops based on *The Work That Reconnects* developed by Joanna Macy. Details are available in a flyer on the Earth Ministry bulletin board in the library.

# Committee Highlights



## Association Affairs, *Ramón Urbano*

### Pacific District Assembly: *Simple Gifts*

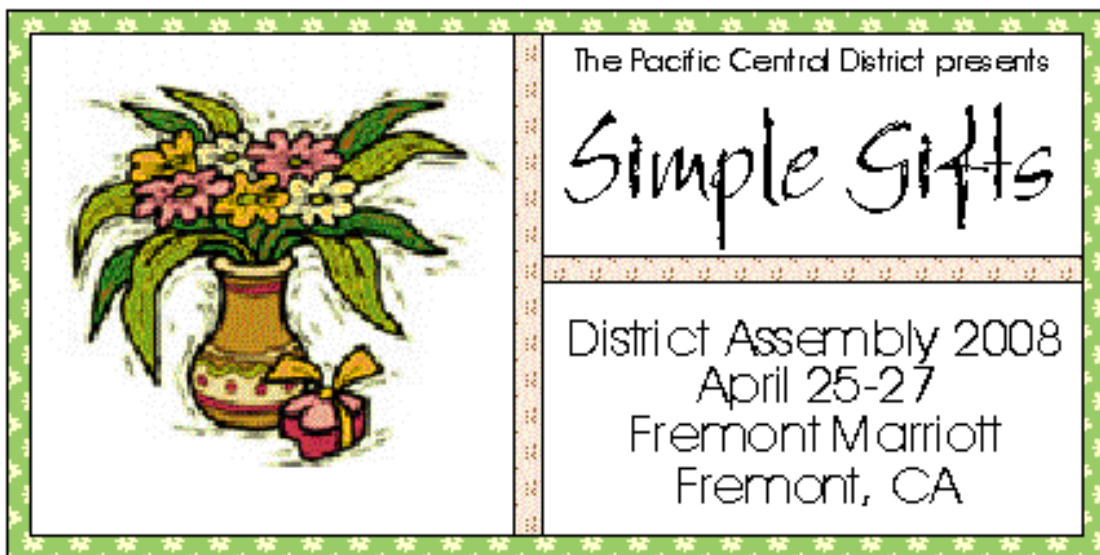
We have an opportunity to experience UU life beyond our SKUUC congregation at the upcoming PCD District Assembly at the Marriott Hotel in Fremont. Starting with the Banner Parade on Friday 25 April and ending with the closing worship on Sunday, we can meet with fellow UUs from congregations throughout the District, learn more about UUism, see what's happening in our area and enjoy entertainment by Roy Zimmerman. Led off by keynote speaker the Reverend Robert Latham, and featured presenter the Reverend Victoria Safford, over 24 workshops will be offered, programming for children and youth and a reception for congregational presidents. Of special interest is the chance for our high school aged teens from the district to meet and get together (games and a swim party) under the auspices of DYGT (say digit), District Youth Groups Together.

A sampling of the workshops of possible interest, among the many being offered: Fling Wide The Doors: Children And Church Growth; \Shakespeare: Who Was He Really? The Religious And Social Implications Of His Work; Seven Mandatory Prerequisites for a Growing Congregation; Cakes For The Queen Of Heaven/In Ancient Times; Global Warming, Energy Consumptions and the Interdependent Web of Existence; Valuable Volunteers; and Endowments: Raising It and Managing It. There will also be a PCD business meeting where various administrative issues will be presented, to include the election of six members to the PCD Board (I am on the slate).

The registration fee is \$95 for adults. The deadline (with meals) is 18 April; 11 April is the deadline for children and youth. Walk in registration (no children or meals) is accepted. For more details and to register, see the PCD website. If you want to stay at the hotel, a special rate of \$89 for a single or double room is available; reservations can be made online. Daycare and programming for nursery through teens is described on the PCD website. To volunteer to help with the event, call Chuck Rosene at the PCD office (510/601.1437).

The theme *Simple Gifts*, as noted by District Executive Cilla Raughley, "invites us to remember our core blessings, and to extend the gift of ourselves to one another. We are the ones who create, maintain and bless our larger movement; we do it together. It will be a blessing to be together at DA 2008."

Let us explore our wider UU world together and learn from one another to help us grow our beloved SKUUC at this time of our expansion! If you have any questions please let me know at church or call me at 530/848.2920.



## Committee on the Interior, *Lavon Hodges*



### Reminder Regarding Posting and Providing Fliers

Please date any fliers you wish to share with our Starr King community. Also, please ask a member of the Interior Committee before posting or placing any fliers or posters, so that you can be directed to the appropriate display location. Your cooperation is appreciated!

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES & FUN

♣ **SKIFFLE dates have changed again to Wednesdays!** Starr King Instrumentalists for Fun, Laughter and Entertainment gather in the Sanctuary for instrumental music every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 P.M. All instruments, levels of musicianship welcome.

♣ **Morning Discovery** meets in the Library from 10 to 11:15 A.M. on first and third Wednesdays (2 & 16 April). All are welcome to join us to explore community and spirituality, discussion and shared silence.

♣ **Evening Discovery** meets in the Library at 7 P.M. on first and third Wednesdays (2 & 16 April) for thoughtful reflection on different topics that focus on the spiritual, the religious or the personal.

♣ The **Book Group** will meet Thursday 10 April at 7 P.M. at the home of Marge Schwab (510/538.3226) to discuss *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah. All welcome! Please ring to let the host know you will be coming.

♣ **SKIT** improv group meets in the Sanctuary on second and fourth Thursdays (10 & 24 April ) at 7:30 P.M.

♣ The **Social Justice Committee** meets on second Sundays (13 April) after second service. All welcome.

♣ Join the **No Room for Racism** vigils that are held in Hayward every third Friday (18 April) from 4 to 5 P.M. at the intersection of Jackson-Mission-Foothill. An opportunity to stand for your values! Sponsored by South Hayward Parish.

♣ The **Film Group** will gather on Saturday 19 April at 7 P.M. The film will be *A Face in the Crowd* starring Andy Griffith in his 1957 film debut, along with Walter Matthau and Patricia Neal. A country guitar player becomes a media superstar in a classic political satire. Let host Stuart Fink (510/537.4421) know you are coming, and please bring a movie snack to share.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

☉ **How are chalice lighters and readers for services chosen?** The Worship Associate for the service asks someone to do it. If you would like to participate in worship by lighting the chalice and/or reading from the pulpit, just tell any Worship Associate, who will add your name to the list of interested participants. *Please note* that you must be at church 15 minutes prior to the start of the service in order to be asked.

☉ **Do you know our Church history?** *An Ordinary Miracle* and *The Miracle Continues* are available in the church office, \$15 each or two for \$25.

☉ **Help make our website brilliant!** Please submit your contributions of photos of church events and/or activities for the website (<http://starrking.org>) to [webmaster@starrking.org](mailto:webmaster@starrking.org).



☉ **To schedule an event,** visit the online calendar at our church website ([http://www.starrking.org/skuu\\_committee\\_meetings.htm](http://www.starrking.org/skuu_committee_meetings.htm)) to check availability, then call the office and we will add your event. View the website calendar for all church events.

☉ Please submit written announcements for the Sunday bulletin to Nancy by 1 P.M. on Tuesday. Office contact info: [office@starrking.org](mailto:office@starrking.org) or 510/581.2060.

☉ To preserve a sense of worship on Sunday mornings, please remember to **switch off cell phones** and other devices before entering the Sanctuary.

☉ **Committee chairs/events coordinators:** To avoid schedule conflicts, notify the Church Office Administrator of dates and times of ALL meetings and events (even if ongoing or off-site).

☉ Donate interesting books in excellent condition to our **Church Bookstore** for resale. Shop in our bookstore on third Sundays. See Evelyn Cormier.

☉ Our **SKUUC Food Donation Basket** for South Hayward Parish Food Pantry is located just inside the eastern entry door in our Sanctuary. Please be generous every week and donate healthful nonperishable food items .

☉ Stuart Fink has placed a Lions' Club collection box on the Community Table. **Eyeglasses you no longer use** will go to Latin American countries, along with eye doctors who will fit people in need.

☉ The Religious Education Committee would like to remind parents with small children that **the service can be heard in the library** should you need to leave the sanctuary due to crying or antsy children. The volume adjustments are near the speakers .

☉ The **Outreach Committee** suggests recirculating the *UU World*. Leave old copies in waiting rooms, or put them in the Outreach Committee box in the church office for use at public events.

☉ **A Gentle Reminder** from the Worship Committee: Candles of joy, sorrow and concern should be brief and pointed, or the service may run too long.

☉ **Babysitters Needed.** The Religious Education Committee is in need of babysitters during Sunday services. Please contact Karen Kramer (783.2221).

☉ Our Sanctuary serves as an all-purpose room; things get moved several times each week to accommodate meetings and activities. *PLEASE* after an event or meeting, **leave the Sanctuary in the worship configuration**. Put chairs back *each time* they are moved.

☉ The Worship Committee reminds us that the **musical postlude** at the end of the service is a part of worship; please remain seated to maintain a reverential quiet until the last note.

# Save the Date!

## Friday 18 April

### *Annual Starr King Seder*

A family-friendly UU-style Seder. Ritual led by Rev. Katie Kandarian begins at 6:30 P.M., to be followed by a traditional dinner prepared for you by Starr King chefs. \$15 (\$8 for children 12 and under).

Sign up to reserve your place! Volunteers are needed. Contact Carol Henrie (510/886.1018, reachus@pacbell.net). See Page 4 for details.

## Sunday 20 April

### *Family-Friendly Composting Workshop*

Lunch will be served and afterwards we'll learn all about how to turn our kitchen scraps and garden waste into beautiful rich soil! Lots of fun, with doorprizes. Sign up to participate. See details on Page 4.

## Friday — Sunday 25 - 27 April

### *District Assembly (Pacific Central District)*



## Saturday 3 May

### *Annual Open Mic (Talent) Night*

This is a free event, with a dessert potluck to share, open to the congregation and friends.

Share your talents! Bring your appreciation! To perform, please sign up at the Community Table.

Doors will open at 7 P.M. Showtime will commence at 7:30 P.M. and the event will run until about 10 P.M. (this includes clean-up time).

See Bill and Ruth DeSmidt for details (510/582.7297).


## Sunday 4 May

### *Come Celebrate May Day with us!*

Come Dance around the May Pole, eat, meet and be merry! The May Day Celebration will start promptly after Second Service. There will be a short prayer, then the Haida Dance, then doing the May Pole to be held outside in the parking lot.

Please bring a finger food lunch item to share; if you do not wish to bring a finger food for the Lunch Potluck, please bring your own lunch. Drinks (plates, napkins too) will be provided.

See Bill and Ruth DeSmidt for details (510/582.7297).



**Shelter Shuffle**  
Saturday, May 10, 2008  
San Leandro Marina

Join us to raise funds for FESCO, The Family Shelter  
Contact Diane Meyerson for more information.



*The Celebration Sunday table was a bounty of generosity.*

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

✦ **Serving Sunday Morning Coffee** is a great way to meet members and spread happiness! *Your help is needed* in the set up position. This person would arrive at church about 35 minutes before first service, start the coffee and set everything up, then remain and serve coffee after first service. Please let Terry Babbidge (889.9462) know if you can fill this important slot on Sunday.



✦ **Calling All Volunteers!** Please join our All-Church **Grounds & Landscape SPRING Clean-Up Days** on Saturday 12 April and Saturday 26 April. We will work from 9 A.M. into the afternoon. Our main focus will be to tackle the weeds on our cultivated plateaus, but we're flexible and can find a way to include you. Bring gloves to protect your hands. Our mission is to create a beautiful, water-wise environment of native and Mediterranean-adapted plants that affords inspiring beauty and spiritual solace, while providing habitat. Work ranges from light weeding and cultivation to irrigation maintenance to vigorous weed-clearing and mulching. We always have fun! Contact Carol Henrie (886.1018).

✦ Please see Betsy Dye if you would be interested in operating the **sound system** one or two Sundays a month.



✦ Sign up at the Community Table to bring **flowers or plants for the altar**. Let us know if you are honoring a loved one or celebrating a special occasion.

✦ **Volunteer pianists:** Share your talents when our regular accompanist is off. Contact Joyce Kinnear (885.0781).

✦ **Babysitters needed!** The Religious Education Committee is in need of babysitters during our Sunday services. Volunteer to offer your services on a regular basis or on occasion. Please contact Karen Kramer (783.2221).

## What's the Word? Al Murdach

*This monthly column explores today's meaning and significance of some important religious words from the Christian tradition.*

### No.26: **The Savior**

UUs and religious liberals generally dispute the importance of this hallowed Christian term, along the lines of “we (or I) don’t need someone else to save us because I’m OK and we can do it ourselves anyway if we need to.” This attitude seems to stem from the fact that well-meaning and tolerant religious liberals and secularists have long ago shed any desire for divine help in this matter and no longer feel any need for *redemption* or *salvation*, other ancient Christian terms which have ceased to have meaning in their religious vocabulary.

The ancient term *savior* or, alternately, *deliverer* and *preserver*, is used many times in the New Testament, mainly in St. Paul in reference to Jesus. In essence, it reflects the strong Jewish belief in the Messiah, whose coming was to herald a new day in which the Jewish kingdom would return, enemies would be vanquished and peace and justice would reign forever. Christians gradually transferred this archetype to Jesus, who came to be seen as (and appears to have believed himself to be) a new type of Messiah, one who stressed love and healing instead of earthly victory. In this transformation, Jesus became for Christians their *Lord and Savior*.

So what significance, if any, does the term have for UUs today? Although it is not a religious term UUs currently now use, perhaps it should be reexamined. Although few UUs would today want to claim allegiance to any particular “saviors” such as Jesus, it might be helpful to recall this term now and then as a reminder of our constant mutual need for the help of others in working out our group or individual redemptions and salvations in this life. Increasingly, as a society, we are dropping the notion of rugged individualism and realizing that we can no longer, if we ever could, go it alone. Our recent national political and foreign policy adventures in this country and overseas have only served to underscore and highlight this fact in ghastly detail.

Perhaps the term *savior* can now be seen to reveal an essential truth: that each of us must serve as “savior” to each other if we are to survive and develop. Christians would only add that it is the grace of divine help that enables us to persevere in these essential efforts. Failing this, we are confronted with the bleak prospect of Matthew Arnold’s famous image from “Dover Beach” in which

... the world, which seems  
To lie before us like a land of dreams,  
So various, so beautiful, so new,  
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,  
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;  
And we are here as on a darkling plain  
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,  
Where ignorant armies clash by night.



## Committee Highlights

# Friends of FESCO (Family Emergency Shelter Coalition)

*A Slice of Life* written by Martha Trigueros, FESCO Program Director

CF is a FESCO client who has shown considerable personal growth in the Linkages Program. The Linkages Program provides rent subsidy, case management and employment services to individuals coming out of homeless shelters as they begin their path to self-sufficiency.

FESCO works closely with the Linkages Program to establish housing and coordinate case management for FESCO clients.

CF is a mother of three, ages 8, 3 and 2 years old. CF became homeless after fleeing from an abusive husband. She came to FESCO from one of our partner shelters in the Tri-Valley area. After going into the domestic violence shelter, she was able to find employment, maintain great savings and work on her GED. CF was referred to FESCO so that we could evaluate her for the Linkages Program. CF met the qualifications and was taken on as a FESCO Linkages family.

CF did very well in the beginning. She met with the Linkage case manager frequently as she continued working and going to school. CF really didn't like the hours that she worked or the pay while employed in the home care business; however, she continued to work.

Some months later, FESCO's coordinator, Doris Freeman, was informed that CF was four months behind on her rent, and it appeared that she was no longer working. In the months that Doris and CF met, CF had not disclosed this to Doris.


Doris confronted CF about why she was not forthcoming with her. CF had quit her job after loaning her ex-husband money for a business that he wanted to establish and promised her that they could work together in the business. The ex-husband ran off with the money and left CF penniless and without a job. CF told Doris that she did not have the courage to tell her of this setback. CF was really hoping to find a good-paying job and pay back her owed rent, before telling Doris. CF had to ask for her old job back.

Doris placed CF in a fixed and probationary contract plan to pay off the \$1400 in back rent, as well as budgeting CF to keep up with her current rent. As a result of her consistency

with her contract and budget, CF successfully paid all of her back rent and kept up with her rent.

Historically, when clients go to such extremes to lie and hide what is really going on in the household, they tend to lose their independent housing. They usually leave the program, and the case manager is left in a difficult situation with the landlord. CF was different. In the end she decided to take responsibility for her mistakes and made do with what she had. She picked herself up by living on an extremely tight budget so that she could pay back the rent and make amends with the landlord and to Linkages. FESCO staff felt that CF had grown to accept her mistakes and has moved forward. Staff believes that it

took a lot of courage and endurance for CF to get over this error in judgement. Although CF fell back pretty hard, she was given the support that she needed to help her manage her responsibilities. CF did not give up, and we did not give up on her. When she took on the probationary contract, she knew it was going to be very hard, that she would have to be extremely diligent. We have a greater deal of respect for CF for taking ownership of her mistakes and taking the appropriate steps to rectify them.



**Shelter Shuffle**  
**Saturday, May 10, 2008**  
**San Leandro Marina**

Join us to raise funds for FESCO, The Family Shelter  
Contact Diane Meyerson for more information.

Diane Meyerson represents Starr King UU Church on the FESCO board.

# How to Reach Us

## **Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church**

22577 Bayview Avenue  
Hayward CA 94541

Church Office: 510/581.2060  
office@starrking.org

Parish Minister: Kathryn Kandarian  
minister@starrking.org  
Home Telephone: 537.6565

Church President: Meg Jurich  
510/886.3080  
margaretjurich@yahoo.com

Church Website: <http://www.starrking.org>  
Crystal Carroll, webmaster  
webmaster@starrking.org

Chalice Editor: Carol Henrie  
510/886.1018  
editor@starrking.org

### **Church Administrative Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
9 A.M. – 1 P.M.

### **Minister's Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
9 A.M. – 1 P.M.

*Note:* Please observe the minister's *uninterrupted*  
reading & writing time on Monday.

### **How to Reach Your Chalice Editor**

Deadline is the second Sunday of each month. Please put  
your contribution in writing.

Post to: Carol Henrie  
24929 Minnie Court  
Hayward CA 94541

Email to: editor@starrking.org

Leave in: The box marked *Newsletter Editor*  
in the Church office

## **Church Leadership**

### Board of Trustees

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Marilyn Mosher  
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Intern Minister — Carol Bodeau

### Church Committee Chairs

Association Affairs — Ramón Urbano  
Adult Religious Education — Andy Hansen  
Bookstore — Evelyn Cormier  
Buildings — Dick Albert  
*Chalice* Newsletter — Carol Henrie, editor  
Endowment/Memorial Fund — Bill Schwab  
Finance —  
FESCO — Diane Meyerson  
Grounds — Carol Henrie & Walt Korus  
Interior — Lavon Hodges  
Intern — Bob Meyerson  
Kitchen Manager — Sherry Thomas  
Membership — Wendy Robertson  
Committee on Ministry — Lee Berger, Doris Haskell,  
Carol Henrie, Keith Lewis, Kirk Smith  
(Convenor), Karen Yearout  
Nominating — Bob Stortz  
Outreach — Susan Blanc  
Pastoral Care — Bob Stortz, Convenor  
Pledge Secretary — Marilyn Mosher  
R.E. Chair — Carey Sanchez Para  
Social — Robin Fink  
Social Justice — Evelyn Cormier  
South Hayward Parish —  
Jim Forsyth & Barbara Storms  
Sunday Coffee — Terry Babbidge  
Volunteer Coordinator — Karen Cook  
Welcoming Congregation — Mary Lasack  
Worship — Betsy Dye

