



# The Flaming Chalice

NEWSLETTER OF STARR KING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH    SEPTEMBER 2007

## *A Month of Sundays*

### *September Celebration Previews*

---

**Summer Schedule: One Sunday Service at 10 A.M.**

---

- 2: *We Shall Not Be Moved*** (Bob Britton) Don't miss this special Labor Day service and the joyous music of solidarity! Union organizer Bob Britton will compare the 1909 garment workers strike in New York City, known as the *Uprising of 20,000*, to the struggle of immigrant workers today.

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

**Saturday 8 September 5-7 P.M. Back-to-Church Barbecue**

Let's kick off a new church year with fellowship and fun.

*Details on Page 5.*

---

**Return to Two Sunday Services at 9:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.**

---

- 9: *Return Again*** (Rev. Katie Kandarian & Carol Bodeau) Join us today for the annual Starr King Church water communion. Bring a small container of water to represent one of your summer journeys, far or near. Where is the home of our soul? Is it the place where we were born? The place of our roots? Can we develop new roots? *Chalice Deadline.*
- 16: *My Life Belongs to the Community*** (Rev. Katie Kandarian) As we formally welcome our newest members, we ponder the meaning of our lives in community. What makes this church larger than just a group of gathered folks? *Bookstore Open.*
- 23: *Forgiveness Has Its Rewards*** (Rev. Katie Kandarian) The Jewish high holy days include Yom Kippur's focus on forgiveness. Here we, too, have an opportunity to look at the past and make needed changes for the year ahead.
- 30: *All My Relations*** (Carol Bodeau) Our new intern minister shares some of her personal theology, which is grounded in earth-based spirituality. What does it mean in theological and practical terms to follow our Seventh Principle of Unitarian Universalism: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.



## *Inside . . .*

Minister's Message *Page 2*

Wheel of Life *Page 2*

September Birthdays *Page 2*

Board of Trustees Reports *Pages 3 & 6*

Children's Religious Education News  
*Page 4*

Intern Reflections *Page 4*

Announcements, Events &  
Ongoing Activities *Pages 5, 7 & 8*

*Dinner Theatre: Save the Date!*  
*Pages 5 & 8*

Committee Highlights  
Association Affairs *Page 6*

Outreach *Page 9*

FESCO *Page 11*

Bay Area Marketing Campaign  
*Pages 8 & 10*

What's the Word? *Page 9*

How to Reach Us *Page 12*

# Katie's Bay View

Rev. Katie Kandarian

## Imagine a Religion

During the next few weeks, we just might be discovering Unitarian Universalism all over again. Bay Area UUs have raised three hundred thousand dollars in order to share the love of their faith with people in our part of the world. The advertising campaign will begin 10 September. Listen for announcements on KQED and KQKE (Air America), then on TV on *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*. Giant postcards will get mailed to homes 24 September, and in October, newspaper inserts will run in all the major newspapers and in local GLBT papers. There will even be ads in selected parenting magazines. To top it off, a DVD has been created to share with visitors and newcomers who visit.



Lots of excitement! I'm expecting that the campaign will generate more than the usual quota of visitors to our congregation. Each of us will have opportunities to share our love of Starr King Church with new folks. We'll be able to showcase our beautiful property and church building. Although each committee will be working on beautification and tightening up our programs, we all will be able to serve as ambassadors for our congregation.

If you have ideas or enthusiasm to help in sprucing up the church, please inform a member of the board or a committee chair to volunteer your help. Besides introducing our faith and our church to more people, I believe the campaign will have the added benefit of reminding us of some of the reasons we came to find this free faith. It may have the benefit of helping us recall how our faith has grown and changed over the years, or that what we appreciate now might be an evolution from our original needs or intentions.

I hope you'll read the column from our new intern, Carol Bodeau, who will be joining us in September, and I hope you'll introduce yourself at the fall barbeque or in church on Sunday 9 September.

Remember to bring some water to represent your travels for our water communion on 9 September when we return to two services at 9:30 and 11A.M.

Welcome back!

Love,

*Katie*



# Wheel of Life

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

- ✿ Jean Gaylord is continuing well on chemotherapy. She must stay away from crowds, which unfortunately means church.
- ✿ Jim Forsyth is well after a fainting episode; all tests came out okay!
- ✿ Betsy Dye has returned from a wonderful trip to Delaware to visit her family.
- ✿ Memorial services were held for members Renate Ornea and Jim Van Scyoc. We remember them and send our best to their families.
- ✿ A memorial service was held for Marga Martin, mother of Karen Carrell. Marga was a former member of this congregation.



## September Birthdays

Best birthday wishes to . . .

- 1 Caroline Cady
- 6 Daniel Hitchings
- 9 Ruth DeSmidt
- 11 Marilyn Mosher
- 14 Kirk Smith
- 15 Terri Owen
- 20 Carey Sanchez Para
- 28 Allison Fink
- 29 Parker Bugosh





I love fall. As a former New Englander, it always meant brilliant fall foliage and the smell of burning leaves as householders tried to stay ahead of the constant drift of leaves on to their lawns and sidewalks. Fall has always meant a kind of beginning,

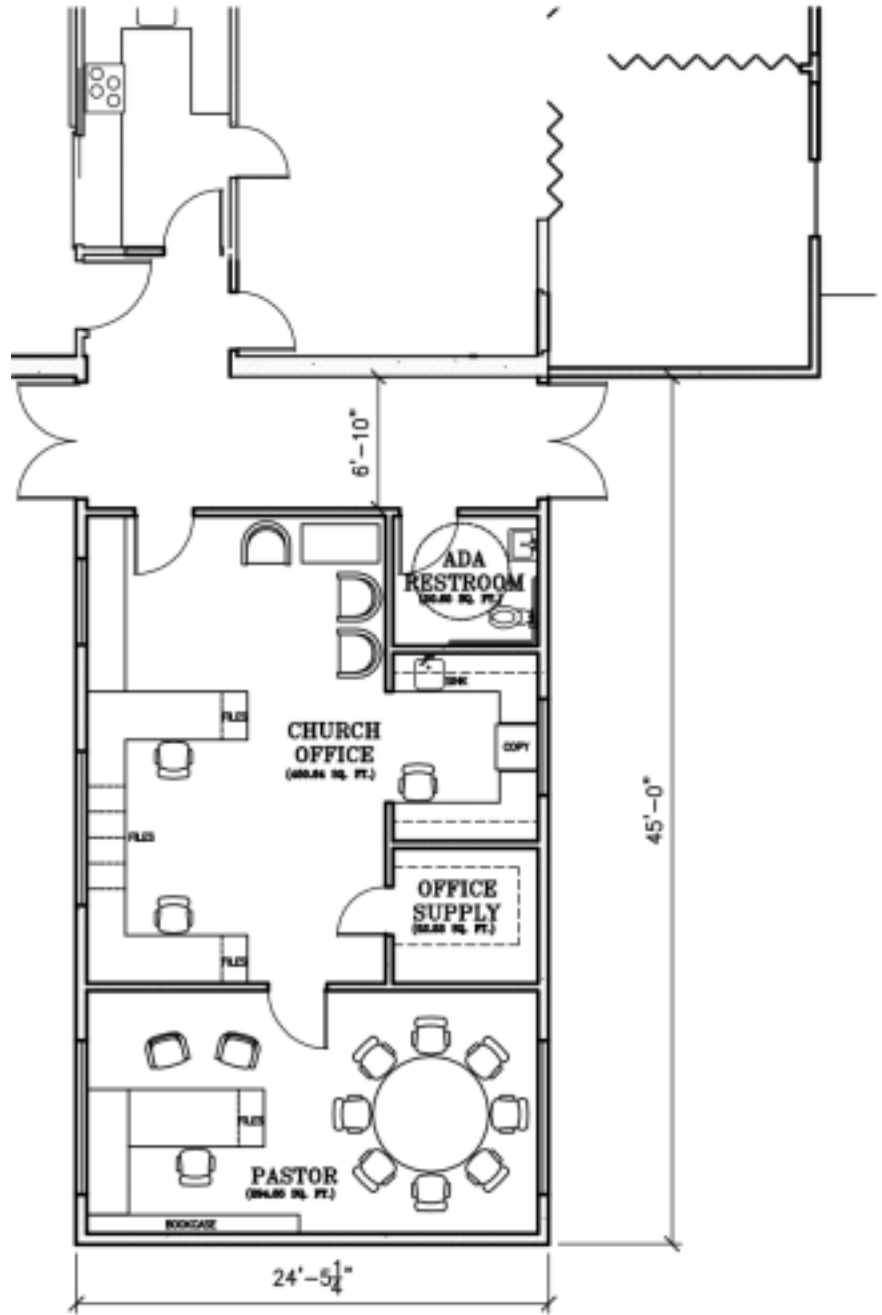
almost as much as the New Year holiday. So welcome back to those of you who have been away. Don't miss our Back to Church BBQ on 8September, coordinated by Robin Fink.

During the summer, the Unitarian House subcommittee has continued to meet with the staff of our selected architectural firm, Byrens Associates. You'll remember that, at our congregational information meeting in late February, the Board was considering more than the current site of our hundred year old Unitarian House. We are now enthusiastically looking at yet another site, located at a right angle to our church building at the side door and extending across the parking lot to the retaining wall where the stairs go up to our upper level. A copy of the drawing is to the right of this column to give you an idea of the addition's location.

The subcommittee likes the idea that this location will allow us to continue to use the patio until we might want to further expand in that direction. It has an easily accessible ADA bathroom, and it would allow for expansion of our kitchen and flexibility of meeting space and classroom use. We also think it would be more architecturally interesting than one oblong "box."

The subcommittee has asked for a three-dimensional drawing of this plan and a cost analysis. We also have questions regarding the sacrifice of parking spaces, impact on utilities, and relocation of the trash enclosure, among others. If you have questions, Frank Satterwhite, chair of the subcommittee, invites you to email them to him. We are hoping to have encouraging answers to our questions and that we will be able to call a congregational meeting to consider approving this site in early fall.

*Meg*



<p>ENLARGED PLAN STARR KING CHURCH ADDITION AND MODIFICATIONS 22577 BAYVIEW AVE, WILFRAND, IA 54581</p>	<p>BYRENS ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING 261 17TH STREET CHICAGO, IL 60611 TEL: 312.467.2000 FAX: 312.467.2001</p>	<p>Scale: 1/4\"/&gt; </p>
---	--	---------------------------



See more Board of Trustees information on Page 6.



# Refrigerator Page

## Children's Religious Education

Carey Sanchez Para, *Religious Education Chair*

Thank you to everyone who signed up to lead our Summer Religious Education Program! Thanks to Al and Jo Murdach, Terry Hunt, Lea Casini, Mary Lasack and Carey and Maya Para for sharing their talents with our children this summer. We've learned about plants, made clay projects, made lemonade, played cards and learned how to blow bubbles.

The ten-week Fall Religious Education classes begin on 16 September. Children in the K-4 class will learn about "UU Superheroes." This curriculum explores the lives of famous Unitarians, Universalists and UUs and encourages children to live their own lives fully and use their "super powers" to grow both spiritually and ethically. Children in the 5-7 class will use "In Our Hands: A Peace & Justice Program." This curriculum explores the concepts of peace and justice within oneself, with others and with our Earth. SKY (Starr King Youth), grades 8 and up, will continue to meet in Ornea Cottage with Carol Henrie and Dick Albert. They will explore what it means to be a UU and develop their own personal credos. Religious education enrollment forms will be distributed to families in early September. Baby and toddler care will continue to be provided in Fahs Cottage.

In addition, the Our Whole Lives (OWL) curriculum will be offered to 7-9 graders beginning in the late Fall/Winter. OWL is part of the lifespan sexuality education curriculum and helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. Carol Henrie and Dick Albert, trained OWL facilitators, will be leading the OWL group. They will hold an orientation session with parents before children are enrolled in the program.

The Religious Education Committee still has room for more members. The committee will be meeting regularly to re-define our religious education needs and programs; assist with the weekly Story for All Ages; and determine our congregation's need for a Director of Religious Education in the future. The RE Committee will be working with Rev. Katie and our intern, Carol Bodeau, on these important projects. Our children and youth are depending upon your participation to help guide them in their spiritual growth.

Don't forget to collect a small amount of water from your travels, journeys, pools or everyday activities to share in our Intergenerational Water Communion Ceremony on 9 September. We look forward to sharing those summer experiences, old and young, in this annual ritual.

Carey Sanchez Para, Religious Education Chair  
510/502.4098 or [careysanchezpara@comcast.net](mailto:careysanchezpara@comcast.net)

## Intern Reflections

Carol Bodeau



Dear new friends,

I'm so excited to be starting my time with you, as your intern minister for the coming year. I know that our journey together over the next few months will be wonderful.

By way of introductions, I thought you might like to know a little about me, and my hopes

for this year. I live just across the bridge in San Mateo, with my husband of 18 years, John, and our two children, Shannon (12) and William (8). We have a wonderful English Springer Spaniel puppy named Roxie, and the family spends a lot of time watching her swim in the bay.

I'm originally from Michigan, but love the mountains, forests, and ocean of northern California. My husband and I came to California for graduate school, and I have a PhD in English from UC Davis. (His is in biology, from Stanford.) In my previous career, I was a college professor teaching English and Native American Studies. I've just finished my course work at Starr King School for the Ministry, though I am still relatively new to Unitarian Universalism—I've only been a UU for 6 years—and I'm very excited about starting my work in UU ministry.

My personal spiritual focus is on earth-based spirituality and environmental action, and I also have five years experience directing Religious Education programs for the Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo. Though I won't be serving as the DRE for this congregation, I hope to share some of that RE experience with the RE Committee and the congregation as you make plans for the future of your Religious Education program.

This year, as I work closely with Katie in all areas of congregational life, I know that I will be learning so much from you all about Unitarian Universalism about this community, and about your individual dreams and gifts. I'm looking forward to being with you all.

In peace,



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

## EVENTS

### Back-to-Church Barbecue

Saturday 8 September 5-7 P.M.  
The barbecue will be fired up.  
Bring something to sear  
and a side dish to share.

Plates and such will be provided, also coffee, iced tea and punch. (Please bring serving utensils to accompany your potluck dish.) Let's kick off a new church year with fellowship and fun.

**Dance as a Moving Meditation** will be offered by Maureen Atkins on Saturday 15 September from 7 to 9 P.M. in the Sanctuary. Experience dance/movement as a way of finding inner peace. Come and learn another way to de-stress, experience joy and be in community. All dances taught first. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. A \$5-\$10 donation or whatever is affordable is appreciated, but no one will be turned away. All proceeds go to the church.



Save the Date!

### Dinner Theatre at Starr King Church

Mark your calendars right now!

**Election: 2084**

Saturday 3 November • 6:30 P.M.

Sunday 4 November • 2:30 P.M.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**SKIFFLE Nights Have Changed!** Starr King Instrumentalists for Fun, Laughter and Entertainment gather in the Sanctuary for instrumental music every Monday evening from 7 to 9 P.M. All instruments and levels invited.

**Morning Discovery** meets at Church from 10 to 11:15 A.M. on first and third Wednesdays (5 & 19 September). All are welcome to join us to explore community and spirituality, discussion and shared silence.

**Evening Discovery** returns from summer holiday to meet at Church at 7 P.M. on first and third Wednesdays (5 & 19 September).

The **Social Justice Committee** meets on second Sundays (9 September) after second service. Join in to plan future activities. All welcome. Discussion will focus on prioritizing issues we plan to address in the coming year.

The **Book Group** will meet Thursday 13 September at 7 P.M. at the home of Marian Babbidge (510/889-9462) to discuss *March* by Geraldine Brooks. 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 (13 & 27 September) at 7:30 P.M.



The **Film Group** will gather on Saturday 15 September at 7 P.M. The film will be the classic comedy *Born Yesterday* starring Judy Holliday, William Holden and Broderick Crawford. It shows that all blondes are not so dumb as the lead character gets a quick education on a visit to Washington D.C. All welcome! Let host Stuart Fink (510/537.4421) know you are coming; bring a movie snack to share.

## 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.



Join our **Grounds & Landscape Enhancement** activities at Church. Lately we have been keeping our weekends free and are working on Fridays from 9:30 A.M. into the afternoon, as well as one other weekday TBA. We're flexible and can find a way to include you. Our project 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).

## OUR CHURCH BOARD IN ACTION

August 2007

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

1. Unitarian House Progress Report: After a review of drawings of the proposed expansion plan and a brief tour of the site, the board voted to approve this site direction with more specific drawings and pricing information for the next board meeting. At that point a congregational meeting will be scheduled.
2. A Board Policy on Committee Liaisons to RE, Finance and Membership Committees was approved.
3. Changing Policy on Mailing Newsletter: The Board approved moving to an online or emailed newsletter only, with buddies in the congregation printing out the *Chalice* for those without computer access. It was requested that there be a note in the *Chalice* about this upcoming change in format and an encouraging statement for people to print out a copy for a buddy without computer access.
4. It was approved to replace the computer in the office, which is near the end of its life, with a new model and to allocate up to \$1,000 from the Board's off-budget technology fund (donations for such purchases).
5. We will suggest to the Finance Committee that there be a review of the facility's rental rates every year.
6. RE Report: Curriculum has been chosen for the fall.

## Five Year Vision

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church  
(adopted March 2007)

A vibrant, dynamic community where meaningful transformative spiritual practice flourishes in an intergenerational environment.

A congregation that:

- ❖ Celebrates our unity in common worship and nurtures each individual's search for truth.
- ❖ Provides adults and children with a rich array of opportunities for personal and spiritual growth and service to others.
- ❖ Embraces visitors and welcomes them into our spiritual community.
- ❖ Actively addresses critical social justice issues, making a real difference in people's lives through moral, spiritual and material support.
- ❖ Cultivates an aesthetically pleasing environment that enriches our community and spiritual life.

## Committee Highlights

### Association Affairs

Ramon Urbano

This is the first of a series of articles on UUA organizations, their focus and what it means to us at SKUUC. If it prompts any questions or you need more detail let me know.

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry California is a statewide justice ministry that gives voice to UU values in the public arena. Guided by Unitarian Universalist principles, UULM California educates, organizes and advocates for public policies.

There are two organizations. The UU Legislative Ministry California organizes education and training, fosters UU civic engagement and develops UU justice leadership. At the same time, the UU Legislative Ministry Action Network coordinates UU actions at the state capitol, issues online alerts and advocates for specific legislation consistent with UU values.

Presently the four issues they are focusing on (put forth by our California congregations) are:

Marriage Equality

Health Care reform

Water Justice and Global Warming

Reclaiming Democracy



What do these issues mean to SKUUC?

There will be a Cottage Conversation talking about gay marriage and marriage equality on 30 September. All are welcome, and stay tuned for details.

You are invited to be a part of a healthcare care rally starting in Los Angeles and ending in Sacramento on 20 August.

On 25 August, starting at the Davis UU church, a day trip to a proposed dam site in Colusa will be led by Eldridge Moores, a member of that congregation and active in global warming issues. Let me know if you have an interest in going with the group.

The UULM California counts on the participation and support of some 50 congregations and approximately 3,570 members in California. Talk to me if you have an interest in learning more about UULM California and possibly joining.

UULM California is being used as a model for other states (14 are presently interested) for wanting a UU legislative presence in their states.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

☉ **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).

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

☉ **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 in the library.

☉ 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.

☉ **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.

☉ Our Sanctuary serves the church as an all-purpose room; things get moved several times each week to accommodate various meetings and activities. *PLEASE* if you use the sanctuary for an event or meeting, **leave the Sanctuary in the worship configuration**. Put the 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.

### *Marriage Equality*

Cottage Conversations will take place on Sunday 30 September.

*Watch for details!*

## *... Our Church There*

☉ Join the **No Room for Racism** vigils that are held in Hayward every third Friday (21 September) 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.

☉ **Prices are rising for Fair Trade Coffee** due to new guarantees to coffee farmer cooperatives. Please keep this in mind as you make your coffee donation on Sunday morning. Benefits of Fair Trade affect 28 farmer cooperatives in 14 countries. For background about how Fair Trade puts our principles into action: <http://r.vresp.com/?EqualExchange/da95ca45fb/950275/d0f9d32d6b/40328cb>.



☉ **Eleventh Annual UU Men's Retreat** will be held 19-21 October 2007 at Westminster Retreat Center in Alamo CA. for more information contact Ed Massey (408/297.9478 or [massey1281@yahoo.com](mailto:massey1281@yahoo.com)) or Steve Kurtagh (408/294.0498 or [skurtagh@hotmail.com](mailto:skurtagh@hotmail.com)).

☉ **Ministries to Incarcerated UUs.** The Church of the Larger Fellowship, a cyber-space congregation providing Unitarian Universalism to isolated religious liberals, offers a spiritual lifeline to incarcerated UUs. Over 300 prisoners across the US have joined the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship. With no access to the web or UU Sunday services, their only way of learning more about UUism is through written publications and letters exchanged with other UUs. Members of any UU congregation who might like to write to a CLF prisoner-member are invited to visit the CLF website ([www.clfuu.org](http://www.clfuu.org)). Click on *Prison Ministry* to learn more about CLF's Prison Programs and apply for the Letter Writing Ministry.

# The Play's the Thing

(Experts from an interview by Sammy McWhammy  
of the Daily Entertainer)

SM: I'm talking to Glen Jacob, who is writing and directing another dinner theatre presentation. How are you doing?

GJ: Just fine, thank you. I'm excited about this year's play. I think it will be fun, and that people will have a great time.

SM: Most of the people I have spoken to enjoyed last year's play, "Believe it or Not." How does this new one compare?

GJ: I was trying to put a bit more thought and drama into that one. I figured that people wanted more than just a funny farce. I snuck some social commentary in, and that seemed to go over well. This one is a very different subject, but it will also have some things to say about our culture, and particularly our current government and world situation.

SM: Can you give us any details? What is it called?

GJ: It's called "Election: 2084." It centers around a debate between the two main political parties of the time. The right-wingers are called the Christublicans and the left-wingers are known as the Peaceocrats. The Christublicans have been in power for many years. They control all of the major corporations and so forth, so the Peaceocrats need to get their message out to the common man in order to stand a chance. Plus in the future you have to pay to vote, so the party with all of the billionaires tends to win.

SM: Sounds heavy! But I assume it will also be funny?

GJ: Of course! At first the humor was coming out pretty dark. Lots of social satire. But I got the idea — what if in the future a political debate might be a little bit more like the Miss America pageant? I can't say much more about that, but there will be an opportunity for some showmanship, as well as some big laughs. There will also be some audience participation. During the debate, each table of delegates will be able to ask the candidates a question. This will be totally improvised; actors will have to come up with answers on the spot.

SM: Sounds like fun! What else can you tell us?

GJ: As usual, there will be a fantastic meal. Renee Ray has told me of some food ideas that sound really fantastic. Plus there will be a live musical performance or two. And the conclusion will be an actual election. The audience will be able to decide who wins.

SM: I can't wait! When can I buy a ticket?

GJ: I don't know when they will go on sale, but it will be soon. Keep an eye out for more announcements. And mark the dates on your calendars right now! The evening show will be Saturday 3 November at 6:30 and the Sunday matinee will be on 4 November at 2:30.

SM: Thanks again. I will urge all of my readers to come out and see it!

# Company is Coming!

submitted by Karen Urbano

On 15 September, 17 congregations in the Bay Area will be launching a major advertising campaign to increase awareness about Unitarian Universalism and to welcome guests to our church homes. *This is the first UU event of its kind in our area and it will be exciting!*

In many ways the preparation for this campaign is like planning a party. What do you do when you are planning a big party? You . . .



- ✿ Send out invitations with directions about how to get to your home and a phone number in case folks get lost (Is your website up-to-date with contact information and directions? Is your church answering machine working properly and does it have a message that will help the visitor?)
- ✿ Mow the lawn, weed the flower beds, make sure that the street address is visible and turn on the outside lights. Even put out a sign on the lawn perhaps!
- ✿ Clean the house, sparkling clean! Hide old boxes, replace worn curtains and furniture, wash the bathroom stall walls. Make sure there is enough toilet paper!
- ✿ Tell people where to park. Maybe even have someone outside to help direct traffic. You make sure that friends needing assistance can park near the house.
- ✿ Ask your most outgoing friend to help hostess by greeting people at the door.
- ✿ Have name tags available.
- ✿ Plan a conversational ice-breaker so that folks can meet each other and make a special effort to introduce folks that don't know each other. (Have your greeters been trained?)
- ✿ Serve good food and show your guests where the refreshments are located.
- ✿ Make sure you have enough chairs and never sit down until all your guests are seated.



Let's begin to plan for our party so that we can share our hospitality with guests, celebrate the joy of our great faith, and most importantly, have lots of fun!

# 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.19: **Demons**

The subject of demonology is largely unknown in UUism today and, when mentioned, is usually dismissed as a primitive artifact of the Dark Ages when the world was ruled by superstition and magic. However, demonology was alive and well in the early ages of the Christian tradition and is a prominent feature of the New Testament.

In classical Greece before the advent of Christianity, a demon signified an inferior deity, whether good or bad. The term meant *a knowing one*. However, in the New Testament, the meaning was changed to signify an evil spirit, usually mistranslated in the English Bible as *a devil* or *devils*. In the New Testament the term is usually used to denote an inferior pagan deity or spiritual agent active in all idolatry. The idol itself was seen as nothing, according to these writers, but every idol had a demon associated with it who disseminated errors among people and sought to seduce believers into abandoning the true faith (in this case, Christianity).

Demons also were believed to afflict humans with bodily disease, unclean thoughts and spiritual possession, in which they actually took control of an individual's body, thoughts, behavior and sometimes entire personality. These spiritual enemies, acting under the command of Satan (the prince of demons), were both male and female and differed in degrees of wickedness. According to the New Testament writers, such demons had the single goal of making war against God and his Christ so that in the end Satan and not God could rule all humankind and the world.

There are numerous recorded instances in the New Testament in which Jesus strikes back at demons and Satan by curing unfortunate individuals of disease, possession and madness. Strangely, Jesus' adversaries in Judaism accused him of being possessed by demons because of his startling

ability to effect such cures. His famous retort was to say that if Satan casts out Satan then his House cannot stand.

What is a modern UU to make of such bizarre sounding world views? Of course the popular media (the film *The Exorcist* comes quickly to mind) has capitalized on such notions for decades, as have *The Lord of the Ring* stories in book and film. But for those of us steeped in the scientific, naturalistic and rationalistic world views of Western society, these efforts of popular culture are seen as mere fantasy and/or entertainment, definitely not something to be taken seriously. Consequently, versions of human existence (like the Bible) that seriously promote the existence and activities of demons are seen as either pernicious or laughable.

Nevertheless, Christian theologians have of late developed a broader and more nuanced approach to this issue. They now stress that the intent of stories like those in the Bible that describe demons and their activities are not meant to frighten or intimidate readers, but are instead drama-

tizations that illustrate the persistence and prominence of certain types of radical evil in the world despite our best efforts to combat and eliminate it. In addition, these authors say that such stories also try to highlight ways in which this evil could be either controlled or rendered harmless, such as by harnessing both divine and human action to confront, challenge and drive out these evil influences so afflicted individuals can then follow the Way or, in secular terms, develop fully and happily according to their true potential.

Seen in this light, demonology thus becomes a wake-up call to all of us because it shows us the possibility that a shadow world we thought had long disappeared may still be around and may still require our attention before it bites us when we are least expecting it!



---

## Downtown Hayward Street Parties — Still Going Strong!

Who would have imagined what fun a simple bean bag toss game could be? This year we added a jungle animal bean bag game to our booth and it has proved to be quite an attraction. Just having the game at the booth attracts many more people to come over and check it out. Then it takes awhile for kids to aim and throw, followed by the lengthy deliberation required to select the perfect prize. During this time, we have a chance to provide information, ask and answer questions from the parents.

We have had many meaningful conversations and have seen some visitors come check out SKUU as a result of their stop at the booth.

If you'd like to be part of the outreach team staffing the booth, call Susan Blanc (510-278-6761) for more info. You can take a short shift, even one hour, and perhaps make a connection with a new UU.

A perfect way to spend a summer evening!

# Covenant of Good Relations

In the covenantal tradition of Unitarian Universalism, we strive to build our religious community on a foundation of kindness, understanding and tolerance and to be guided by our principles in all our actions and interactions. We covenant to welcome one another as unique individuals and to celebrate our diverse beliefs as we walk our chosen paths together. We promise to share our gifts and to encourage and appreciate the contributions of others. To foster a community of respect, we will speak kindly of one another and to one another and, should difficulties arise between or among us, we will speak directly to those concerned with the goal of reconciliation. We will not engage in harmful gossip, and we will urge others to resolve difficulties directly with the person/s concerned. Should we need assistance to restore good relations, we will call upon the process and resources provided by Starr King Church. We will participate in the democratic process by which our religious community governs itself, and we will respect the outcomes of the collective wisdom. For the health and wellbeing of our beloved community, we make this pledge together.



## Can You Believe ... ?

submitted by Karen Urbano

Our non-dogmatic, non-evangelistic denomination is about to begin a \$300,000 marketing campaign right here in the Bay Area, to spread *the good news* Unitarian Universalism! The good news is also that we are among the 17 Bay Area UU congregations which will be very visible come mid-September. People from San Jose to Napa, Santa Rosa to Livermore will see and hear about our open, inclusive faith. Here's what we know now:

The campaign will begin the week of 10 September with a few radio announcements on KQED to warm up our audience. The media plan includes:

**KQED:** Four weeks of General Service Announcements on many of your favorite shows: All Things Considered, Morning and Weekend Edition, News and A Prairie Home Companion.

**KQKE:** Six weeks on Air American with Thom Hartman, a new environmental show called Green Seed Radio and the Progressive News Hour with John Scott.

**The Daily Show on Comedy Central (cable):** To attract the young, liberal audience we will run 4 weeks of commercials on this popular show!

**Newspaper Inserts:** About 400,000 four-page, four-color inserts in the major newspapers the weekend of 4-7 October.

**Direct Mail:** 250,000 oversized postcards sent to households in our market the week of 24 September. Those same households will get the four-page insert mailed directly to their homes the week of 15 October for a one-two punch!

**Specialty Publications:** Newspaper ads in the major LGBT weekly publication, the *Bay Area Reporter*, and full-page four-color ads in regional editions of *Parents*, *Parenting*, *Family Fun* and *American Baby* magazines.

**50 billboards in BART stations** the month of October.

**Internet:** Google ads and web banners on specialty sites.

**Guerrilla Marketing:** Small ads in newsletters, the web, etc.

Ads will direct people to [uuba.org](http://uuba.org), a website with information about UUism and links to all 17 congregations.

Several people in our congregation have been working hard over this past year to get us ready for company. Now everyone is invited to join the excitement. Let's ask our friends, neighbors and co-workers if they've seen the ads, and answer their questions. Let's watch for visitors and do everything we can to help them feel comfortable. We know how proud we are of our congregation; this is a chance to help others find what we've found here.

Here's something else to be proud of: funds for this campaign came from 630 members of local churches. Three other areas have run media campaigns (Kansas City, Houston and Orange County). Ours is the first campaign to raise this much money with this breadth of support. Many thanks to all the contributors and to the UUA for developing the campaign materials and for providing staff time to support this effort.



## Committee Highlights

# Friends of FESCO (Family Emergency Shelter Coalition)

### *A Slice of Life* Katie Johnson, MFT

Being homeless sometimes requires second chances. A family may enter the shelter and given all the chaos in their lives they find it just isn't time to make the changes needed to live independently. There are a variety of reasons why families may not be successful the first time around. Maybe they are newly sober or perhaps still struggling with addiction or fleeing a domestic violence situation or have been chronically homeless for the majority of their lives or aren't emotionally able to take on the challenge of finding employment, childcare and housing. Whatever the reason, we sometimes encounter families that struggle to make it work the first time around. We don't fault them, and we hope that perhaps we are planting seeds, showing them that it is possible to live independently.

When I think of second chances, one particular mom comes to mind. She was in our shelter years ago and wasn't able to maintain independent living. She wrestled with her own drug addiction and a violent ex-husband who kept her daughter from her and had been unemployed for a number of years.

This mom entered the shelter about three months ago with her youngest child. Her two oldest children remain with their fathers. When she arrived it was understood that she had been at FESCO years before. There was some trepidation about how she would fare, given her history and circumstances. However, this mom has proved to us how valuable second chances can be.

She entered the shelter in a state of being overwhelmed. She seemed unable to effectively parent her toddler, she described herself as depressed and was struggling with sobriety, as well as dealing with a daughter whose father had turned her against her mother.

Against these odds, this mother almost immediately found a job and has been steadily working for the duration of her stay at FESCO. She has done a fantastic job of putting away money in savings each week and now has a sizeable amount that will help her when she moves out.

In addition to finding employment, this mom has secured childcare for her son and has reestablished contact with her two older children, including her daughter. She is in court

proceedings to gain custody of her and is willing to fight for her. She regularly attends N.A. meetings, as well as counseling. Best of all, this mom is about to move out into her own housing through our Linkages program. She is excited to live on her own again and is very proud of all of her accomplishments during her stay here.



We are proud of her, too, and it is inspiring to see a family come together and make it work this second time around. It is families like this that make the work rewarding. It gives us hope when we might be dealing with a family that just isn't ready at this time. We can be sure that in one way or another FESCO is planting seeds of hope. Perhaps we won't see those seeds grow this time around. It may be months or even years later when we encounter a

family again. But maybe the second time around we might be lucky enough to bear witness to the growth and blooms of those seeds planted years ago.

*Celebrate* with FESCO, the Family Shelter

## Fourth Annual Dinner and Auction *Swinging on a Star*



**Saturday 20 October 2007**

Dinner • Silent Auction  
Live Auction • Entertainment



Agape Hall  
Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church  
Center Street • Castro Valley

\$45 per person



*For ticket information or donations for auction items,  
please contact Diane Meyerson.*

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](mailto:office@starrking.org)

Parish Minister: Kathryn Kandarian  
[minister@starrking.org](mailto:minister@starrking.org)  
Home Telephone: 537.6565

Church President: Meg Jurich  
510/886.3080  
[margaretjurich@yahoo.com](mailto:margaretjurich@yahoo.com)

Church Website: <http://www.starrking.org>  
Crystal Carroll, webmaster  
[webmaster@starrking.org](mailto:webmaster@starrking.org)

Chalice Editor: Carol Henrie  
510/886.1018  
[editor@starrking.org](mailto: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](mailto:editor@starrking.org)

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

## **Church Leadership**

### Board of Trustees

President — Meg Jurich  
Vice President — Darryl Ray  
Secretary — Joyce Kinnear  
Treasurer — Frank Satterwhite  
At Large — Natalie Forrest  
Sara Gonzales  
Andy Hansen  
Mary Lasack  
Marilyn Mosher  
Donnie Rett



Office Manager — Nancy Novicio

Minister — Rev. Katie Kandarian

### Church Committee Chairs

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

