



UUFNB SUNDAY DIGEST

A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay
PO Box 4051, Napa, CA 94558 (707) 226-9220 www.uunorthbay.org
Services held at 1515 Pueblo Ave, at the Boys & Girls Club of Napa
10 am July and August

Upcoming Services

Sunday September 28, 11 am

"The Meaning of Membership" with Rev. Bonnie Dlott and Worship Associate Lenore Hirsch. Why do people join religious communities? Does Unitarian Universalism have a "theology of membership"? What is it that congregations owe their membership, and what do members owe to their congregation? Join us today for an exploration of what classical theologians would call our ecclesiology.

Sunday October 5, 11 am

"Right Relations: The Real Religious Work" with Rev. Cathleen Cox and Worship Associate Rainer Hoenicke. Living out our vision and mission in communities requires more than being actively involved. We need practice in relating to each other authentically and constructively when the going gets tough! It is the practice itself that creates bonds of trust that renew our spirits – and attract newcomers. Rev. Cox is a UU spiritual director and a community minister associated with the UU Church of Berkeley.

Sunday October 12, 11 am

"Principals and Purposes for us All" with Rev. Bonnie Dlott and Worship Associate Suze Bobzien. Many UU's identify strongly with the language used to describe our "Principals and Purposes." Did you know that a committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association is currently suggesting that we change the way our UUA Bylaws describe our principals and purposes? Come hear the details, and find out how you can weigh in on this important decision.

And at 4 pm, join us for the Installation and 25th anniversary Celebration (see page 4).

September 21, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of UUFNB,

Monday morning at 9:45 a.m. will be the Autumnal Equinox, the time when the light and dark hours of the day are equal in number. In the next few weeks, those of us who feel the turning of the wheel will be noting the daily decrease in light, and readying our homes and our spirits for the dark time of the year. We will be harvesting the last of those tomatoes and squash, and maybe preparing to plant a winter garden. As we enjoy the time of harvest, we also take stock of our personal harvest, and reflect back over the events of the year.

I'm getting very excited about the Service of Installation that we will have on October 12. Many ministers from the district, along with my friends and family will be in attendance. It's important that the members of UUFNB attend, as YOU will be performing the "Act of Installation." If you haven't yet let Tom Wilson know that you will be there, please get in touch with him today. We want to have enough great food for everyone!

If you need to remind folks about a Fellowship-wide event or program before then, please get in touch with Lenore Hirsch, our Worship Associate, before Sunday and she will make your announcement or call on you to make it. If you would like an e-mail copy of a sermon I have given at UUFNB, send me a note. If you wish to have items included in the Sunday Digest for September 28, please submit them to me by noon on Friday, September 26!

The Rev. Bonnie Dlott
minister@uunorthbay.org
or call (925) 256-4334

UUFNB Calendar



Monday September 22, 8 p.m.

Monday Night Meditation

Susan Levine's home, 2341 Joanne Circle, 226-3975

Wednesday, September 24, 7:15 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

Kate MacPherson's, 1135 Olive Hill Lane in Napa. 255-5687

Thursday, September 25, Noon

DVD Club, "The Mystery of Chi" a Bill Moyers program on mind/body relationship.

At the home of Abbie Silva--1177 El Centro (driveway between 1178 and 1181)--224-8716

Thursday September 25, 7-9 p.m.

Vallejo Chalice Circle: Medical Ethics

Please note location change: Lindsay/Ingalls residence, 124 Carlisle Way, 747-5205

Sunday September 28, 1-3 p.m.

UUFNB Board Meeting, all are welcome to attend.

Location TBA. For more information call Iris Barrie at 265-6926.

Wednesday October 1, 7-9 pm

North Bay CUUPS Meeting (Covenant of UU Pagans) Discussion topic is "Magikal Ethics"

Grapeshot Studios, 68 Coombs St., Bldg. D, Ste. D-4. Doug Taylor, 226-7500.

Wednesday, October 1, 7:15 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

Kate MacPherson's, 1135 Olive Hill Lane in Napa. 255-5687

Thursday, October 2, 7-9 p.m.

St. Helena Chalice Circle at Tra Vigne Pizza in St. Helena.

Join us for a light dinner and conversation. Mary Ellen Morgan, 294-2759

Sunday, October 5, 2-4:30

Popcorn Theology (youth group)

657 Montecito, call Mary Ellen Morgan at 294-2759.

To view the UUFNB Calendar, go to www.uunorthbay.org and click on "Calendar."

UUFNB Announcements

Adult Programs: Sunday Mornings 9:40 to 10:45 a.m. Boys and Girls Club, 1515 Pueblo

- **September 28** - Social Justice Forum. Join us today as we hear from member BJ Pheiffer, who is working with the Napa Community Garden Association to bring a community garden to our community. Come and hear about the plans and how you might get involved.
- **October 5** - **"New to UU"** with Rev. Bonnie Dlott. This is the first in a series of monthly sessions especially for (but not limited to) those who new to Unitarian Universalism. In this class we will review Unitarian Universalist theology, including what we believe about the nature of God or the divine, the meaning of sin and salvation, our view of other faith traditions, and our beliefs about life after death.
- **October 12** - **"Talks on the Bible"** with Jim Craig. This week we will discuss politics in ancient Israel, especially the story of how a shepherd boy named David became king (downing Goliath helped). 1 Samuel, chapters 16--31.

PLANT EXCHANGE

Soon it will be time to divide those bulbs, thin out crowded flower bed, and pull up that plant that needs shade when all you have is sun! I propose a plant exchange after church on 10/19. So start saving milk and yogurt containers, cans and whatever else will work to put your "discards" in and get ready to add some new life to your garden on October 19! Anyone need a bazillion calla lilies?!

Iris B.



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay

*Is pleased to
Invite you to join and celebrate with us
The Installation of*

The Reverend Bonnie Dlott

Sunday, October 12th, 2008 at 4pm

**At Congregation Beth Sholom
1455 Elm Street in Napa, CA**

Reception to follow

RSVP to Tom Wilson by September 28th

707-254-7443

or

2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

REFlections

Our science curriculum continued today, with four of our children learning about animal hands. They looked at x-rays of hooves, paws and claws and learned how they evolved and what jobs they were designed to perform. Next week, Lee Dalbey will be presenting a lesson called, “Fun with Fingerprints”, when students will observe the differences in fingerprints and understand the unique characteristics of each individual. Who knows, we may have a budding “CSI” in our RE program! And it all started with us!

I know that some of you may be curious about what is happening across the hall in these science classes. Please know that you are always welcome to observe so feel free to join any of the classes, to see just what happens on a Sunday morning during the service.

How many of you have spent any time with a four or five year old? If you haven't, or it's been awhile, I need to remind you about what wonderful philosophers they are! This is a magical age; these children say the most amazing things. I can afford some of you with an opportunity to spend some time with our amazing kindergarten aged children. Could you donate one or two Sundays every month? We need to build this part of our program with children and adults who are willing to teach, as we have lost families to other UU Churches in the last few years because we had no program for children this age. Your RE Council is committed to providing a place for these families, but we absolutely cannot do it alone! How important is it to you to have a program and place for everyone?

I also have need for one more RE Assistant. This is a paid position, with no preparation needed, but a willing pair of hands to help wherever the need may arise on Sunday mornings.

Please call me at 294-2759 if you can help in any way. Your RE Council and staff have spent a great deal of time planning and executing a wonderful plan to bring Unitarian Universalism to all, but that job is bigger than the five of us who sit on that committee. We need you. Can you help?

In faith,

Mary Ellen Morgan

Director of Religious Education

Share the Plate!

This month, ten percent of our non-pledge plate collection will go to Napa Humane, whose mission is to promote the welfare of companion animals through protection, advocacy, education, and example. Please be as generous as you can!



Board Buzz . . .

Your Board had a productive retreat Saturday September 6, and dare I say, a good time defining our goals and strategizing how to accomplish them this year. In addition we developed this year's calendar of Fellowship events; what a busy congregation we are!! It was also a pleasure sharing lunch with those of you who joined us after the meeting.

A few highlights of the retreat:

1. We applauded the efforts of previous Boards and volunteers who made it possible for UUFNB to have already exceed the goals of our 2006-11 Long Range Plan
2. To improve communication between the Board and the congregation we will provide a link on our website for board minutes; have "Conversation with the Board" after service in January and next September to provide a forum for questions and concerns; and start our budgeting process earlier, providing more opportunities for conversation about it with the congregation.
3. We began the process of setting up a task force to develop criteria for evaluating our RE program next January
4. We addressed ways to improve leadership development and succession of Board officers and committee chairs

So you can see we accomplished quite a bit in our 3 hours. The year is off to a great start!

Iris B.

Do you have family and/or friends who would love to spend time with you and enjoy visiting the Napa Valley but just aren't comfortable staying in your house? The solution is a home stay at the Wilsons, minus the Wilsons. We are going to the Middle East in November and are looking for responsible people who might like to spend some time in Napa and would look after a low maintenance dog in exchange for the use of a house (sleeps 4) and a car. We'll be gone from Nov. 7 to the 24th but taking even a week or so would be helpful since our daughter can take Argos (the dog) part of the time. Our number is 254-7443 or e-mail 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net Tom & Dolores Wilson.

Minister's Message

“How do I become a member of UUFNB?”

This is a question I love to hear, and it has a short answer and a long answer. The short answer is that to become a member, you need to sign our Membership Book. But we'd rather you not sign until you've heard the long answer.

When you express to me or to someone on our membership committee that you feel ready to join the Fellowship, I like to pay you a visit. During my visit I try to get to know you a little better, and find out if you have any questions about Unitarian Universalism and/or UUFNB. I let you know that you CAN sign the book right away, but that we prefer to have prospective members take some time to get to know us well.

After my visit, the Membership Committee will assign you a mentor. The mentor provides companionship and support as you begin integrating into the Fellowship. The first time you meet with your mentor he or she will give you a “New Member Packet” which contains lots of information about the Fellowship. Your mentor will review the information, answer any questions that might come up, and discuss possible opportunities for deeper involvement.

The final step is to participate in an Ingathering, which is a simple ritual that is incorporated into the rest of the order of service on a given Sunday. To prepare for the Ingathering, you would submit a short biography to your mentor. This may be autobiographical, including life events and/or information about your spiritual journey. Most new members choose to write this themselves, but another option is for your mentor to interview you and write the biography for you. The night before the Ingathering you will be invited to a dinner for all new members and their mentors, hosted by the Membership Committee. I usually attend these dinners, along with our Board President.

The next morning at the Ingathering, each new member is introduced by their mentor, who reads their biography. The membership book is signed at that time, and we pledge to each other our mutual support.

And what do we expect of you once you have joined? We sincerely hope our members will commit to participating in UUFNB events at a level that feels comfortable. Regular attendance at services is encouraged. Adult classes and programs can deepen a member's spiritual life. There are many opportunities for learning new skills and for using existing skills at UUFNB, and many ways to get involved as a volunteer. In addition, we hope that all members will want to be involved at some level in our governance and decision making process.

Our Fellowship is entirely self-funded, and so we also ask that members make a contribution of record each year. When you join you will be asked to send our treasurer a confidential note about this. Subsequently, each Spring during our Canvass Drive you will be asked to estimate how much you will be able to give the next year, so the Board can propose a budget. The amount can be reduced at any time should you incur financial hardship, simply by speaking to the treasurer or me.

Our dates for this year's Ingatherings are October 5 and April 26. It's not too late to participate in the October Ingathering! If you are interested please contact me or our Membership Committee Chair, Barbara Kummer at 226-1191. Many thanks to Barbara for her hard work, and to the other members of our Membership Committee; Gerane Park, Barbra McCandless, Guy & Connie Kay, Margaret Kelso, Bob Lux, & Meredith Harris.

Community Bulletin Board and Area Events

Disclaimer: The announcements in this section are not UUFNB endorsed or sponsored.

THE NAPA INTERFAITH COUNCIL PRESENTS

THE SACRED WATERS OF THE NAPA VALLEY

Tuesday, October 7, 6-8 p.m.
Napa Public Library, downtown Napa

Religious traditions revere water. Initiations, rites of passage, and healings use water as a symbol of death and rebirth. Water is also a symbol of grace, and spirit. Coins and other objects are often thrown into water for wishes and luck.

This evening salon will be a discussion of the sacredness and purity of our local waters. We will discuss sources of our water, what water does for our environment, the energy and potential of water and current pollution and sources of our local water's destruction. We will open the discussion to members of the audience as we open our hearts and minds to the potential of restoring our local waters for life sustenance.

Facilitators

Gary Vann is the author of "To Take The Waters," a local guidebook to mineral, hot and healing springs throughout Napa, Lake and Mendocino Counties.

Alan David, Professional Dowser, will speak on the energy and transformational properties of water and what makes it sacred.

Chris Malan is a Water activist and the Executive Director of the Institute for Conservation Advocacy, Research and Education, with a focus on the health of the Napa River and its tributaries. She advocates for all watershed stakeholders to join in the protection of our water resources which mean every person living in our county must stop polluting the river and taking water where little is left to take. In most areas of the county streams are drying, aquifers are in depletion and wetlands are vanishing.

All attendees are asked to bring water from a local waterway for blessing. The waters will be combined, blessed and redistributed so that it can be returned to the source from which you brought it.

DINE & DONATE to the Napa Valley Chorale

at

COMPADRE'S RIO GRILLE

505 Lincoln Ave., Napa, Tuesday, September 23, 2008

11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

(does not include Tuesday Tacos)

Fifteen percent of sales generated (excluding Tuesday Tacos) will go to the Napa Valley Chorale. Present this flyer or tell your waitperson that you're supporting **Napa Valley Chorale**. Available for Dine-In, Take-Out, or Gift Card purchases.