



# 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](http://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 7, 11 am

"Homecoming: Gathering of the Waters" Service with Rev. Bonnie Dlott and Worship Associate Jim Craig. Bring a small sample of water from your travels this summer to help us mark the beginning of another church year together, with a Unitarian Universalist ritual celebrating our community.

### Sunday September 14, 11 am

"Weaving the Web" with Rev. Bonnie Dlott and Worship Associate Vicki Wolf. Our seventh principle tells us that we are each a part of the interdependent web of being. What does that mean to us as a small liberal congregation within a consumer-oriented corporate culture? Some believe that small congregations are uniquely qualified to model transformation, as their members strike a balance between caring for each other and working toward social change. Can we do it? Yes we can.

### Sunday September 21, 11 am

"Refusing the God Ticket" with Rev. David Sammons and Worship Associate Matt Metzler. Lots of people seem to believe that suffering is the result of doing something wrong - or getting on the wrong side of God or the Universe or some outside force. Buddhist say suffering just is. So, who is right and how do we deal with the painful side of life?

After over forty years in the parish ministry, the last twenty three of them serving our church in Walnut Creek, Rev. Dr. Dave Sammons accepted a position as Visiting Professor of UU Heritage and Ministry at Starr King, where he also served as Acting President during the sabbatical of Rebecca Parker. Dave has served in many denominational and community roles and is currently on the UUA's Committee on Socially Responsible Investing.

## August 31, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of UUFNB,

What are the two most important thing you need to know about next Sunday? The first is to **bring a sample of water** from a place that is important to you. It can be from a sacred site, or a vacation spot, or from your very own tap at home. During our "Homecoming" service next Sunday, we will mingle our waters in a ritual celebrating our unity. The second most important thing is to remember to **come at 11 am, as we resume our regular schedule.**

What are those UUFNB Board members up to this year? Those of you who would like a chance to hear firsthand from the board about the coming year, or to let them know what's important to you, are invited to join them for lunch after the board retreat next Saturday, Sept. 6th, at the Nicholson/Morgan home. See more details in the announcement on page 4.

If you need to remind folks about a Fellowship-wide event or program before then, please get in touch with Jim Craig, our Worship Associate, before Sunday and he 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 7, please submit them to me by noon on Friday, September 5!

*The Rev. Bonnie Dlott*  
[minister.uufnb@mac.com](mailto:minister.uufnb@mac.com)  
or (925) 256-4334

# UUFNB Calendar



Monday September 1, 8 p.m.

**Monday Night Meditation**

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

Wednesday September 3, 4:30

**Religious Education Council Meeting**

657 Montecito, Mary Ellen Morgan 294-2759

Wednesday, September 3, 7:15 p.m.

**Choir Rehearsal**

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

Wednesday September 3, 7:00

**CUUPS meeting**

68 Coombs Ave, #D4, Doug Taylor, 226-7500

Saturday, September 6, 12:30 pm

**Lunch with the UUFNB Board** (see announcement on page 4)

657 Montecito; Iris Barrie, 265-6926

Sunday September 7, 2-4:30 p.m.

**Popcorn Theology (teen group)**

657 Montecito, Mary Ellen Morgan at 294-2759.

Monday September 8, 8 p.m.

**Monday Night Meditation**

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

Wednesday, September 10, 7-9 p.m.

**Sonoma Chalice Circle**

Matt and Wendy Metzler, 935-7191

Sunday, September 14, 12:45

**Fellowship Lunch**

location TBA, Rev. Bonnie Dlott, (925) 256-4334

To view the UUFNB Calendar, go to <http://www.huntcal.com/cgi/calview.cgi/uufnb/UUFNB>

# UUFNB Announcements

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

- **September 14 - "Talks on the Bible"** with Jim Craig will resume this year on the second Sunday of each month, beginning on September 14 at 9:45 a.m. This first session will review briefly the first few books of the Bible and go on to discuss the political problems faced by the ancient Israelites, culminating in their decision to have a king.
- **September 21 - "Whole Lot'a Shakin'"** This is the debut of a new music program led by William Somerville. Come prepared to sing, rattle, drum, click, clack, and make all kinds of beautiful noise! All levels of experience welcome.

## A Message from Bob Jones

Many thanks to the 31 members and friends who have already contributed to our Celebration Fund. This Fund supports the historic service on October 12 that will formally install Rev. Bonnie Dlott as our settled minister. This is our chance to show Bonnie how much she means to us and to show the larger community the vitality of our congregation.

Thanks to your quick response, the Celebration Committee (Tom Wilson, Gayle Keane and Lenore Hirsch) is already hard at work making the hundreds of arrangements for this service and reception. It is not too late to add your support. Send your contribution to our UUFNB Treasurer noted for the Celebration Fund.

Paula Eisenbarth,  
our Church Musician, would like to hear from any of you who play instruments and might be interested in performing (solo, accompanied, or with a group) on occasion for worship service. Also, to contact Paula with any suggestions of musicians outside of our Fellowship who might be available as well. Paula can be reached at

[paulaeisenbarth@yahoo.com](mailto:paulaeisenbarth@yahoo.com)



IT'S TIME TO SIGN-UP  
FOR OUR  
CIRCLE DINNERS!!

The list is forming now for these delightful bi-monthly gatherings of 6 to 8 people for an evening of lively conversation and culinary delights. Each dinner will bring together a new blend of people. The only requirement? Be a friend or member of UUFNB, sign-up or email your wish to be included and wait for your hostess to contact you. You will be asked to bring a dish that will help complement the menu.

To be included contact Gayle Keane:  
227-7754 or [gaylekeane@msn.com](mailto:gaylekeane@msn.com)

If you can host a dinner, please let me know and how many your table can comfortably seat.

**Tracy Ruhs** would like you to know that she has a new home phone number and email address. Her new land line is 927-5330 and her new email is [billruhs@att.net](mailto:billruhs@att.net)

Make a note!

## An Invitation from your Board

Who is on the Board this year, and what are their priorities for 2008-09?

Find out by attending a potluck lunch on Saturday, September 6, at 12:30, after the annual Board Retreat.

Join your Board Members, along with Rev. Bonnie and Mary Ellen Morgan at the Nicholson/Morgan, residence, 657 Montecito in Napa. As parking is limited, carpooling is encouraged. Just bring a salad to share; drinks and bread will be provided.

We'd like YOUR input!



# *REflections*

Well, I am excited to tell you that the RE program of science lessons for our elementary and middle school class is ready to roll out on September 14<sup>th</sup>! Thanks to Lenore Hirsch's Napa Valley Unified School District contacts and her remarkable tenacity, we have seven credentialed teachers ready to bring the wonders of the interdependent web to our children and their friends. You'll be receiving your RE packet in the mail in the next week, and I'm sure that you will be impressed with the level of classes these teachers will be offering.

Some of you have volunteered to serve as a teacher's aide on one or two Sundays this year. I am so grateful for your interest and willingness to help! If anyone else is interested, please let me know. It's not a difficult job, mostly just lending a hand with a project, or serving as a chaperone and driver for the field trips that are planned. Please let me know if I can put you on our schedule or if you would like to discuss how you can donate some time to our children.

You should also know that we will always have someone available for childcare for those children from infants to five years of age. If you have friends with children, who have considered coming to the Fellowship, please let them know that there are programs for their families, no matter their age.

It's going to be a great year!

In faith,

Mary Ellen Morgan  
Director of Religious Education, 294-2759

## **Some Dates to Note**

**September 7, 11 am**

Homecoming Sunday and our service time shifts back to 11 am.

**October 12, 4 pm**

Installation and 25th Anniversary Celebration

**November 9, 11 am**

UU Revival Service at the Santa Rosa Church  
(What?!? Stay Tuned!)



## Board Buzz . . .

Several months ago the Board developed a new way for folks to propose programs and activities which incur expense and/or involve significant volunteer time. It involves filling out our new "Approval and Accounting for UUFNB Activities" form and submitting it to the Board V.P. (Jim Craig) who will then bring it to the Board meeting for our consideration. Our hope is that this new procedure will help the individual(s) making the proposal "flesh out" their idea to consider its cost and volunteer hours needed and help the Board consider these new programs/activities in light of budget.

For example, We Stand for Peace is a wonderful activity. It needs no budget and only a coordinator to run it. Therefore this activity does not require Board approval or filling out the new form. The Carbon Rings program also sounds like a wonderful program. But it requires expending money not already in the budget and may - or may not - require additional financial and volunteer support from the congregation and the Board. So Dale Craig and Maggie Ingalls, who are taking the lead on this project, filled out the new form which gave the Board the necessary information to say "Go for it!"

If you have a great idea for a one-time activity or an ongoing program which involves money going out and/or coming in and is not currently in our budget, please ask one of your Board members who will gladly give you our new form. I will try to keep a few on the table on Sundays as well.

Or you can pick one up if you join the Board for lunch on 9/6 at 12:30 after our Board retreat.

Thanks!  
Iris Barrie, Board President

Iris Barrie received a note recently from Kris Goodrich, a doctoral candidate in Counseling and Human Services at Syracuse University, who is currently engaged in dissertation research exploring the experiences of heterosexual parents with lesbian, gay or bisexual-identified children. Kris is hoping for a large number of responses from persons with different types of experiences. If you think you might be interested in participating in this study, please contact Iris Barrie for more information at 265-6926.

# *A Social Justice Proposal for 2008-09*

The time has come at last to unveil the proposal we have received for our all-church social justice project for 2008-2009. The proposal comes from the members of our Social Justice Committee, in partnership with members of the “Bread ‘n Soup” group, and is being spearheaded by Dale Craig, Maggie Ingalls, and Iris Daigre. I will summarize the project here, but copies of the entire proposal are available from me by e-mail.

This project is part of a statewide effort by the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of California (UULM-CA) to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions of UU’s in California by 1,000,000 pounds by Earth Day 2009. We will be following the format laid out by the UULM-CA, allowing us to move quickly into implementation without having to develop the program format ourselves. This program begins by forming “Carbon Rings” – “circles of 5 to 8 UU households (non-UU friends welcome) who can meet together for eight sessions to build community and help each other identify and make changes in our lifestyles so as to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5000 pounds per household”. The sessions will use two study guides: *Global Warming: Changing CO2ourse* by the Northwest Earth Institute, and *Low Carbon Diet: A 30 Day Program to Lose 5000 Pounds* by David Gershon of the Empowerment Institute. The Carbon Rings will provide support for a “deeper exploration of the issues” involved, allowing participants to work on making their lives “more congruent with their values”.

The Carbon Ring Task Force will set up 2 or 3 Carbon Rings. Since each ring can have up to 8 households participating, this will involve 10 to 24 households. Each ring will have 2 co-leaders who will be in charge of logistics for each group. This will mean arranging meeting time and location, keeping track of members, ensuring that each member receives the books. The job of leading each discussion is rotated among the members of each Ring. Iris Daigre and Dale Craig will lead one Ring which will meet at a member’s home once a month on Friday night. This ring will meet, beginning in September, for 8 months. David Lindsay and Maggie Ingalls will lead the second Ring, which will meet every other Sunday after the Service starting in October. We hope to need a third Carbon Ring, which would meet at a different time and place which has yet to be determined.

The Carbon Ring Task Force will be in charge of developing additional activities for the rest of the congregation associated with the overall goal of reducing CO2 emissions. These might include educational and/or Social Justice forums, sermons, and developing smaller in-home projects for people not in a Carbon Ring. The Task Force will also develop a related community service project which will give people with limited time a way to be involved as well as providing community outreach. Some possibilities include planting trees, developing a community garden, or a native plant garden.

This project is a great All-Church project because of its outreach to the Napa community, because of its important goal, and because people of all ages and genders can participate. The Carbon Rings themselves provide an avenue for drawing newcomers into the UUFNB community, since we will seek participants from the outside community. The Carbon Ring participants will be deeply involved, but we will also develop programs that will involve the whole church. For example, the Carbon Ring participants will create one or more Sunday Services to discuss their participation with the rest of the congregation. This will be educational for all. The Carbon Ring committee will also plan a short-term community service project to provide community outreach. Children of the UUFNB community will participate as their families wrestle with the issues involved in lowering CO2 emissions, and in Sunday morning programs developed by the DRE. This project is also important because it deals with a crucial issue for the human race. Through participation in this project, the UUFNB community will learn to live more intentionally, with greater attention to the web of life which supports our whole lives and to which we are connected.

If you have feedback for the Carbon Ring Task Force, please send it to me, and I will pass it on. In the next few weeks we will be asking YOU if you would like to take this on as a project this year. Stay tuned!

Keeping the Faith,

*Rev. Bonnie Dlott*

## 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.

#### Jeremy Taylor is Coming Back to Napa!

Friday, Sept. 19 from 7-9 (Introductory session)  
Saturday, Sept. 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Father Edwards Center at the Carmelite House of Prayer in Oakville Lunch will be provided.**

**The cost of this event is \$100 for both days, and lunch. Please bring one dream to work on at the workshop.**

**Please RSVP to Yvonne at: 707-226-7127, or email back. Send check to:  
Yvonne Baginski, P.O. Box 6863, Napa, CA 94558**