



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, 11 am

Upcoming Services

Sunday March 2, 11 am

Rev. Bonnie Dlott: "Celebration Sunday" with
Worship Associate David Ross.

It's that time of year! Come celebrate how we've grown, hear what fellow members are saying about why they love this Fellowship, and dream about what we could do next year!

Come ready to tell us what you hope to be able to give next year.

Sunday March 9, 11 am

Drew Matott, Jon Michael Turner, Drew Cameron, and Phil Aliff: "The Combat Paper Project." with worship Associate Matt Metzler.

The story of the soldier, the Marine, the men and the women, and the journeys within the military service in a time a war is the basis for the paper project, a collaborative project that utilizes uniforms worn in combat in Iraq. Veterans cut, cook, beat, and form sheets of paper out of their uniforms, and in this way, use the transformational processes of papermaking to reclaim their uniform as art and begin to reconcile their experiences as a soldier in Iraq.

Sunday March 16, 11 am

Rev. Bonnie Dlott: "Telling our Stories" with
Worship Associate Lenore Hirsch.

Many of us remember beloved stories from when we were growing up; family stories, fairy tales, bible stories, or stories from picture books or novels. Stories are entertaining, but they can also be healing, empowering, and challenging. Come and hear about the power your minister finds in stories, and the way they can connect us to our families, our communities, and each other.

February 24, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of UUFNB,

Next Sunday is an important day; it is your opportunity to help the board start planning for next year by letting us know how much you hope to contribute to UUFNB for the year 2008-2009. We have dreams of hiring a bookkeeper and more administrative help so that our volunteers aren't overworked.

This is a healthy part of making the transition from a family-sized to a pastoral-sized congregation. Congratulations! For more details about next week, and the letter you will be receiving in the mail soon, see the "Board Buzz" page.

If you need to remind folks about a Fellowship-wide event or program next Sunday, please get in touch with David Ross, who will be our Worship Associate next week, and he will make your announcement or call on you to make it. If you would like an e-mail copy of any sermon I have given at UUFNB, send me a note. And don't forget, if you wish to have items included in the Sunday Digest for March 2, please submit them to me by noon on Friday, February 29!

See you in Church!

The Rev. Bonnie Dlott
minister.uufnb@mac.com
(925) 256-4334

UUFNB Calendar



Monday February 25, 8 p.m.

Monday Night Meditation

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

Thursday February 28, Noon

DVD Presentation: Rupert Sheldrake's "The Extended Mind"

A captivating presentation regarding fields of consciousness, including communication between owners and their pets, For a preview --www.sheldrake.org.

At the home of Barbra McCandless-2220 Yajome Apt 5, 255-2596

Thursday February 28, 7 p.m.

Chalice Circles, Vallejo and St. Helena

"Conversations that Count" for folks who want to get to know each other better! Topics vary. For Vallejo, call Rev. Bonnie at (925) 256-4334. For St. Helena, Call Mary Ellen at 294-2759.

Sunday March 2, 12:30

Worship Committee Meeting

Place to be Announced: Jim Craig, 258-0341

Sunday March 2, 1:00 pm

Pastoral Care Committee Meeting

at the home of Dolores Wilson, 2748 Elks Way, Napa.

Monday March 3, 7 p.m.

Social Justice Committee Meeting

68 Coombs Ave, Studio D4 Doug Taylor 226-7500

Wednesday March 6, 7 p.m.

North Bay CUUPS meeting to plan the Spring Equinox Celebration

68 Coombs Ave, Studio D4 Doug Taylor 226-7500

Monday March 10, 8 p.m.

Monday Night Meditation

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

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

- **March 2** - "New to UU" class this morning will be a preview of the Spring Programs we are offering here at UUFNB, including "The Artists Way" with Mary Ellen Morgan and Doug Taylor. All are invited to attend. Rev. Bonnie will also be on hand to answer general questions about UUFNB.
- **March 9** - "Make a Joyful Noise!" Adults, teens, and children are invited to join with Craig Payne to "feel the joy of your own music." Please bring your drums, rattles, bells, recorders or other music-making instruments, or just yourselves to explore rhythm, including your own. Craig also provides rhythm makers and a great appreciation for people and their potential. Children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult.
- **March 16** - "The Bible as Literature" with Jim Craig. This session will look at the stories in the book of Exodus which describe the origin of the Jewish observance of Passover, the crossing of the Red Sea (really??), Moses and the Ten Commandments, the Ark (as in Raiders of the lost . . ."), and the famous Golden Calf.

PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS!
THERE WILL BE DOUGHNUTS!
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOR EARLY BIRDS!
SUNDAY, MARCH 2! AT 9:40 AM!

Get your free doughnut and preview upcoming Adult Programs!
Special appearances by by lively, attractive, talented
presenters of 2 new programs!
You'll be first to know what, where and when! First opportunity to sign up!
From the same folks who brought you JIM CRAIG AND THE BIBLE!
UU101! MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! OUR WHOLE LIVES!
Forms available for your critique and comments!
(Call Sylvia W. Jones for more information. 252-1885)

Share the Plate!

February's Share the Plate donation (10% of all non-pledge plate donations) will go to Puertas Abiertas, a community resource center dedicated to serving those in need in the North Bay.



Board Buzz . . .

BUDGET CAMPAIGN - CELEBRATION SUNDAY MARCH 2

We sometimes take our Fellowship and all that it does for granted. The list of activities and services that enhance your membership experience has grown enormously in the last few years. As we grow each activity requires more volunteer and staff support. Our budget has grown from about \$45,000 to \$83,000. Your contributions have grown by 23% and 27% in the last two years. We hope that most members will be able to increase by at least 15% this year.

In preparation for our annual budget campaign we asked some members this question. **WHY AM I A MEMBER?** Tom and Dolores Wilson say, "this Fellowship can create a better future for this community through action, service and example. It has demonstrated a capacity to restore our souls and stimulate our imaginations. For these reasons we are determined to give it all the support our energies and our budget can provide."

Barbara Kummer recalls how Lee Long invited her to attend and that after 7 years she decided to join, on January 15, 1995. Her support of the Fellowship is legendary.

Bob and Sylvia Jones have been very active in UU congregations ranging from 15 to 900 members. They know the joys and challenges that go with each size. They also know how important a UU congregation is to a community. They both hoped to find an instant extended family here. They hoped to find a congregation devoted to welcoming new members. Their hopes were fulfilled. They say, "We are grateful beyond words for those that established our Fellowship. We support the steady growth of our programs and membership as we evolve into a full service church. To that end we volunteer and contribute as much as we can. "

OUR BUDGET CAMPAIGN -

Your Board prepares the budget with income from your estimated contribution and expenditures from all of our committees and activities.

This week you will get a letter, a form on which you can enter your estimated contribution, and an envelope to carry it to the altar during our service next Sunday, March 2. Bring yours to church next Sunday. It will be like the flower communion service when we brought flowers to the altar and took one away. At this celebration we will bring our commitment and take away the satisfaction, yes even the pride, we all feel in supporting this our beloved community.

Save the Dates!

Saturday March 22

Spring Equinox Celebration

All are invited, and bring your friends and family! Our celebration of Spring will include music, a chance to take in the beauty surrounding Barbara Kummer's house up in the hills, lots of time for fellowship, and a potluck dinner. Stay tuned for more information!

Monday March 24

Michael Dowd: Thank God for Evolution!

UUFNB is sponsoring this presentation by Rev. Dowd at the Napa Library Community Room at 6:00 pm. Come and hear a story that's billions of years old and restores hope for people of any religion or belief system. For more information, go to www.thegreatstory.org.



Community Bulletin Board and Area Events

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

Hurry! Spaces are filling up!

SPECIAL NAPA APPEARANCE!

Gina Ogden, Ph.D. Relationship and Sex Therapist

February 26, 2008 ~ 7-9 p.m., Grapeshot Studios, 68 Coombs Street Studio D4

Spirituality, Sexuality, and Science: What Women Want

A premier researcher of women's sexuality, Gina Ogden will discuss the four energies that spark sexual desire, and give you great tools to enhance life and relationships.

For reservations and information call Rhea at 255-4249 or e-mail aslana@mac.com

March 7-9, 2008

Women & Religion invite all UU women to celebrate **Global Sisterhood, Spring Renewal, a weekend of Retreat, Relaxation and Rejuvenation**, Enchanted Hills, Napa. The retreat begins 3:00 on Friday and runs through lunch on Sunday. Join with 50 or more other UU women from throughout the District for conversation, singing, laughing, crying, learning. Contact [Clair Trujillo](mailto:clair.trujillo@sbcglobal.net) at clair.trujillo@sbcglobal.net to receive a registration form - space is limited and registrations accepted on a first come, first served basis. The cost for the weekend is \$225 by Feb. 4 or \$250 after that date. Meals and lodging included.

Thoughts For February, 2008



Message from the Minister: The Meaning of Membership

Rev. Bonnie Dlott

I have been asked several times in the past month or two what it means to join our Fellowship, and exactly how one goes about it. In the past, our Membership Committee handled this whole process very well, by providing mentors who met with prospective members to get to know them better, discuss their interests and needs, and answer any questions that might come up. Mentors also provided spiritual companionship, helped newcomers find a place to fit in as a volunteer, and discussed expectations regarding financial support.

Because we have grown so much, and now have a called minister, we are in the process of modifying the "Path to Membership". We'll still be using mentors for companionship and support, but before a prospective member is given a mentor, I will arrange to visit with them so that we can get to know each other better. This gives prospective members an opportunity to ask any questions they might have about Unitarian Universalist history or theology, or about our community.

During this discussion I will let prospective members know about the "rights and responsibilities" of membership. Although there is really only one "requirement", which is to sign our membership book, my "theology of membership" includes the idea that members are people who are **committed to building a religious community together** (or spiritual community, if you prefer). Exactly how and to what degree each member chooses to engage in that community-building will vary, of course, and that is where one-on-one conversations with me and with a mentor can be helpful.

The other change we are making in the process is that this year we will have two New Member Ingatherings, one in the Spring and one in the Fall, with a special dinner the evening before. This gives us the opportunity to really celebrate with our new members! Our Fall ingathering is currently scheduled for Sunday April 20, with the dinner on Saturday April 19. So if you are considering membership here at UUFNB, get in touch with me! Let's build this community together.

Stay warm and dry,
Rev. Bonnie Dlott
(925) 256-4334

REflections

In the Sunday Religious Education classes last month, the children learned about “Spirituality and Movement”. They were taught and practiced how Muslims pray, and learned a walking meditation. They also learned how to express themselves physically through mime. This month their curriculum will ask them to learn about different forms of prayer, such as meditation and will explore why and when other people pray.

We are continuing to have the children join us in the service once a month on what we are calling “Community Sunday”; our next will be February 17th. Please know that we will always have child care available for the youngest children, who may not be able to sit through a service. In fact, we will now be offering child care during any Adult RE classes held at 9:40 at the Boys and Girls Club. We hope that this will make us more accommodating to families with young children who will be looking for a family church. As always, if you can volunteer to help with child care, please let me know.

In faith,
Mary Ellen Morgan
Director of Religious Education



Child Care, Can You Help?

As I said in my article, we need adults who can work with our teens to offer loving child care on Sundays, from 9:30 to 10:40 and again from 11:15 to noon. If you can help from time to time, please call me at 294-2795.

**For Sale: Napa Valley Savings Books
(Full of Discounts for Services and Restaurants!)
and only \$25!**

**\$5 from every purchase goes to the
Weber/Jungerman Children's Education Fund**

See or call Tracy Ruhs for further information, 253-8310

NEWS FLASH!

Nation Alerted to UU Wine Tour Opportunity!

Working at breakneck speed on Tuesday, our President, Bob Jones, sent more than 1,000 email releases to UU churches and fellowships across the nation. The release, see below, outlines the opportunity to enjoy two day tours of our beautiful valley in the company of our often charming members while contributing to our building fund.

In less than 24 hours we had our first response. Many members have volunteered to be a part of this effort. If you would like to join them please contact Tom Wilson, 254-7443. Members are also encouraged to send this release to UU friends and sympathizers in other cities or give their addresses to Tom and he will send the release.

**WANT TO GET AWAY?
WANT TO RELAX AND REJUVENATE?
WE CAN HELP!**

WINE COUNTRY EXCURSIONS TO THE NAPA VALLEY

An hour north of San Francisco are the lush vineyards, world class wineries and picturesque small towns of the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. We invite all UUs and friends to share the beauty of our "home" through the UU Fellowship of North Bay's "Wine Country Excursions."

We offer small customized two day tours of our valleys which can include wine tastings, art galleries, museums, scenic trails and much more. We provide private rooms with bath in the homes of our members and experienced guides to conduct tours in their cars.

Napa itself is alive and vibrant with galleries, boutique shops, world-class restaurants, wine tasting rooms and entertainment. Sites of special interest include COPIA (The American Center for Food, Wine and the Arts); Jack London's home (now a state park); the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone; the diRosa Art and Nature Preserve.

Tours are offered from May through October. Plan for two days of touring and a two or three night stay with all local transportation provided. Home hospitality without tours is also available. Our fees are much below market rates for similar services. All proceeds to help our Fellowship grow and purchase property in this expensive real estate market. We have limited openings, so contact us now for details. Tom Wilson 707.254-7443 or 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

"Napa was as delightful as I had expected. What was equally important and somewhat unexpected was the profound connections I felt with my hosts and hostesses."

Carol Lim, Los Angeles