

# SeaLight

Volume 10, Issue 1

January 2010

News and Information for the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laguna Beach

429 Cypress Drive, Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (949) 497-4568

[www.uulagunabeach.org](http://www.uulagunabeach.org)

Sunday Morning Services Begin at 10:30 am

## From Your President

January will be a big month for the UUFLB. We will be approving new Officers in our annual meeting on the 17th, and we will kick off our first full year with a full time, settled minister.

Concerning the annual meeting, the list of nominees for leadership positions within the Fellowship for 2010 can be found on page 2. It is the result of many hours of thought and conversations with members by the Nominating Committee. In my opinion, we have a strong list of candidates that have made the commitment to give their time in service to the Fellowship.

During the Annual Meeting, we will also review and vote on the 2010 budget. It is very similar to 2009. It will be sufficient to maintain our settled minister, our improved music program, maintain the building and, in general, pay all our bills. New initiatives such as buying the Lutheran property will need to happen when we have a much larger income.

Finally, I'd like to add my wishes of thanks to Wendi Bender who has celebrated her five-year anniversary as our Religious Education Coordinator. Wendi is a committed and hard-working educator who has added a high level of professionalism to our program. Thank you Wendi.

Namaste,  
Terry

## Save the Date!

### UUFLB's Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 17

immediately following the service.

We will elect new Board officers  
and review and vote on the 2010 budget.  
For nominations, see the top of page 2.

### What's Inside!

Message from Your President.....	1
Yesterdays Create Tomorrows.....	2
Sunday Services.....	3
Message from Your Minister.....	4
Fellowship News.....	5
Circle of Light.....	5
Social Action at UUFLB.....	6
The Voyage Newpage.....	7
Wider UU World.....	8
Open Auction Items.....	9
Endowment Committee.....	9
Insert: January Calendar	

## **The Nominating Committee Presents the Nominees for the 2010 Board of Trustees**

Nominees for the open positions are as follows:

Jeff Morris, President

Tom McGrew, Vice President-Finance

Barbara Williams-Pemberton, Treasurer

They will be voted on at the January 17, 2010, Annual Meeting, which will immediately follow the service.

Continuing Members of the Board are: Pam Flodman, Judy Shepard, Candy Strock, and Amy Walzer as Members at Large. The candidates for the 2010 Nominating Committee are: Linda Frost, Helen Frederick, and Bill Foster.

**Newcomers Circle** Sunday, January 3 12-12:30pm - Come meet with our minister, Reverend Kent Doss, and learn more about the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laguna Beach. We will discuss ways to get involved and what it means to make UUFLB your church home.



### **Yesterdays Create Tomorrows...**

January 13, 1568, following the Diet of Torda on January 6 in Transylvania, Prince John Sigismund converted to Unitarianism and issued the Edict of Torda, which declared toleration for other religions. He was motivated to do so by Unitarian minister Francis David, who won debates with Calvinist

Bishop Peter Melius at the Diet.

In contrast, on this date in 1819, The Unitarian Association for Protecting the Civil Rights of Unitarians was formed at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street. It was formed to protest the severe civil penalties from laws and court decisions. It was a criminal offense to profess Unitarian belief. We are still often stand for unpopular principals.

### **Full Color SeaLight Electronically!**

If you are ready to receive the SeaLight and the photographs inside in full color via email, just contact our Office Administrator, Jane, at [office@lagunabeach.org](mailto:office@lagunabeach.org) and she will put you on the Green List. We can send you a sample via internet and then you decide. Please let Jane know what you would like to do. Thank you!



### **Roommate wanted in Leisure World**

A long time UU and delightful woman is looking for a roommate to share her condo in Leisure World. There is one bedroom available now for inexpensive rent, along with full house privileges. Some light help around the help would be appreciated. If interested, please call the UUFLB Office at 949-497-4568.

## Sunday Services



*The UUFLB Choir meets every Sunday at 9:30am and all are welcome.*

### **January 3 A Fresh Start**

This Sunday we celebrate new beginnings, a clean slate. Sometimes nothing is more refreshing than the ability to just start over again. You may have more opportunities for a 'do over' than you think. *Reverend Kent Doss*

### **January 10 Dancing with Spirit**

For thousands of years people have danced with the spirit. This Sunday we will explore the deep relationship between dance and religious life. We will also have some special talent coming to inspire and challenge our usual concept of worship.

*Reverend Kent Doss*

### **January 17 Beyond Our Dreams**

Dr. King had a dream. Some believe we have reached it; others think it is still a long ways off. This Sunday we will talk about the importance of dreams and our goals for the future. This Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, we come together to celebrate a great legacy, but also to take the risky step of dreaming up a better future for ourselves and our world.

*Reverend Kent Doss*

**Plan to stay seated for the Annual Meeting, immediately after the service.**

Additional information about the meeting on pages 1 and 2.



### **January 24 On Social Graces**

What ever happened to "please and thank you?" Together we will explore the gifts and challenges of social norms in our culture. What does it mean to buck tradition and still live with deep respect for the people around us?

*Reverend Kent Doss*

### **January 31 The Many Faces of the Blues with Peter Dobson**

This local musician will offer a morning full of music. He has shared his music with UUFLB many times before and is back by popular demand. This is our yearly holiday gift to you.

Peter performs in many local clubs and has two popular CDs Come relax, enjoy the music and also enjoy the brilliant and delightful commentary.

*Sunday Service Leader, Daga Krackowizer*

### **February 7 Practice Makes Perfect**

Whether it's meditation, or prayer, music or sports, we all have some practice. As we enter a discussion of spiritual practice, this Sunday we will explore what it means to strive to grow in any field. We'll talk about taking the first step, how much effort is enough, and building a community that supports your development.

*Reverend Kent Doss*

## Message From Your Minister

As 2009 comes to a close and our Annual Meeting approaches, I can't help but reflect on the past year at the church. What a year it has been.

One major decision we made this year was about real estate. We looked at a larger building here in Laguna, which many of us fell in love with. However, it just didn't pan out to be a financial fit for us this year. In the process, many of us have come to appreciate what we have a little bit more. What a tremendous church home we have at 429 Cypress Drive. Maybe one day we will expand into a larger facility, but for now, we are enjoying a beautiful building that is all ours.

While we are in the same place, some of the faces we see on Sunday mornings are different. This year we lost two long-time members of our community, Fred Topik and Jody Brockiewicz. Both of them contributed in their own special ways, and both will be sorely missed.

We also welcomed some new members this year. Just this month, Dante Noto, Tom McGrew, and Toni Chase all joined the church. They have made a commitment to support the Fellowship with their time, money, and love, and in return, we hope to be a source of inspiration, support and learning. In addition to those official new members, a handful of other wonderful new faces are making regular appearances on Sunday mornings and other activities.

Also this year, UUFLB was selected as a test congregation for expanded technology capabilities. Along with four other congregations in the District, we will be given some hands-on consultation about the best uses of technology for our church, as well as some money to help achieve those goals. Keep an eye out for a jazzed up website and some new gadgets and gizmos to help record worship services. We should also soon have a UUFLB Facebook page, and perhaps maybe even Twitter.

While this is a development that goes back beyond the start of 2009, the Sunday morning music continues to be superb and the choir seems a little bigger and a little stronger each week. That energy is in large part due to the tremendous work of our Music Director, Carole Cole.

Personally, nothing can top the experience of getting ordained and installed as the Settled Minister at UUFLB. It was a tremendous personal milestone, recognizing years of school and work. Certainly there is still work to be done, but what a joy it was to have my friends, family, colleagues, and you, my congregation, come together to recognize me as a minister. I'm still reeling from that tremendous day. I hope it was as powerful for you as it was for me.

This has been a tremendous year for our little church. I hope you feel the excitement as well. Next year has some wonderful surprises, and no doubt a few challenges in store. I'm just glad we are on this journey together.

With Love,  
Kent



## Fellowship News

**Coffee Talk** Tuesdays 4:30-6:30p.m.at the Koffee Klatch, 1440 South Coast Highway in Laguna Beach. Hang out with Reverend Kent Doss and whoever else shows to get a bite to eat and chat. All are welcome. This is a great chance for new folks to meet UUFLB members in a casual setting.



**Book Discussion at Coffee Talk** – Tuesday, January 12, Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage stories by Alice Munro - A writer of Munro's ilk hardly needs a hook like the intriguing title of her 10th collection to pull readers into her orbit. Serving as a teasing introduction to these nine brilliantly executed tales, the range of mentioned relationships merely suggests a few of the nuances of human behavior that Munro evokes with the skill of a psychological magician. The next book discussed will be This Lovely Life by Vicki Forman.

**Final Wishes Series – Adult Religious Education** Wednesdays, February 3-17, 2pm  
This three-session class is designed to prepare adults for decisions around death and dying. In our first class we will get more acquainted and talk generally about the difficult topic of death and dying. In our second session we will complete the legal document, “Five Wishes,” that includes healthcare decisions and memorial concerns. Finally, our last session will be a time to reflect on and write some of your life story, so it can be told and passed down in a way that you want it to be heard. Each session will likely last about an hour and a half . For more information please call Kent at 949-310-9385

**The First Friday UU discussion** group wishes everyone a very happy New Year. We shall meet next at Nancy Burkholder’s on February 5, 2010.

### **Film Screening: “Fish Out of Water”– Sunday, February14, 12-2pm**

Join the Marriage Equality Task Force for a screening of this interesting new film “Fish Out of Water.” This 90-minute documentary uses animation and academic interviews to dissect the Bible verses seen as and used for condemning homosexuality and supporting marriage discrimination. It is an engaging, accessible, and entertaining look at the Bible and homosexuality. A short discussion will follow the screening.



### **Circle of Light**

Becky Chamberlain, Jean Raun’s daughter, still needs our loving, healing thoughts and support as she deals with cancer. Her family needs them too.

Patricia Blanchard still struggles with health issues so she still needs warm thoughts. She could also use a phone call or two.

Jim Burkette Is now healing after back surgery for the intractable pain he has been suffering. Please visualize him getting out of bed and becoming pain free. Cards and letters are much appreciated, but Jim is not up to visitors yet.

Barbara and Jim Pemberton ask that you keep Jim’s two young cousins, Brett and Christian Wasser, in your thoughts. One is in Iraq and his brother is in Afghanistan. Their grandson-in-law, Ty Montgomery, is also going to Iraq, so keep him in your thoughts too, please.

## **Social Action At UUFLB**

*Jean Raun, Social Action Committee Co-Chair*

### **From the Social Action Committee**

We take this opportunity to express our thanks to those who helped warm our hearts by our gifts to others. Mark Dimond with his signs and decorations made sure we were aware of the great value in donating to the **Heifer Project**. Helen Schofield again supplied us with the names of people in two families who needed our help in the **Adopt a Family** project.

### **Feeding the Homeless**

Laguna Beach has established a site for a Homeless Shelter at the Act 5 Parking Lot. Laguna's churches prepare and serve dinner for 60 people, which is the maximum number the shelter holds. First and third Thursday nights are the times UUFLB provides dinner. A team leader from our Fellowship organizes food donations and people to serve at the shelter. First Glenna, then Wendy Bender have acted as team leaders. Dante Nolte will head the effort on the first Thursday in January. Lots of work goes into this endeavor—but those engaged feel well rewarded by the response of those who are in such need of that hot meal. Expenses for the meals come from the Social Action budget, which in turn is funded by all of us in the annual budget, but is greatly supplemented by the money from our sandwich lunches. Thanks to those team leaders, those participants, and to all of you for making this possible.

### **Guest At Your Table**

Since before Thanksgiving our thoughts have been turned toward "Guest at your Table," the way we support the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. This is the UU effort to support humanitarian relief here at home and to the world. A church in New York will double any contribution of \$100 or more. We encourage your becoming a member of UUSC. A single membership is \$40, \$75 for a couple. Youth and students can join for \$10. Membership for seniors is \$20. Your boxes and donations will be collected on January 3. Late donations will be accepted at any time.

### **Peacemaking Statement of Conscience**

We met to discuss the Draft Statement of Conscience this last month. The suggestions made were thoughtful and will be forwarded to the Study Group. We will meet again on January 10, after the Annual Meeting to refine our comments and will then submit them to the committee.

### **Proposals for New Study**

The following suggestions have been made for a new three year study. Our congregation is to rank them, and submit them for consideration at the UUA Assembly:

1. Ending Slavery, 2. Energy, Peace, and Justice, 3. Immigration as a Moral Issue, 4. National Economic Reform: A Moral Imperative, 5. Nuclear Disarmament and 6. Revitalizing American Democracy.

### **Next Sandwich Lunch—Sunday, January 10 after the service**

Attend the next meeting of the Social Action Committee, enjoy a lunch of sandwiches and salad, add to your suggestion donation of \$5 to support Social Action programs, be a part of our final decision making of Peacemaking, and decide on which of the suggested issues you want to include in the next study.



## The Voyage-Religious Education Newpage

Wendi Bender, RE Coordinator



### Nursery/Explorers (Infants through Kindergarten)

UU based care giving and values exploration in the Family Room or adjacent Library. Our little Explorers will enjoy the stories of Dr. Seuss and apply the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism to their everyday lives. These stories are fun and engaging. But even more important, they are based on life situations and experiences and give us a way to reflect, to talk about things that are part of our lives.

### Innovators (grades K - 4th), Seekers (grades 5th - 6th) and Youth (grades 7th and up)

- 1/3 Earth-centered Religions: *Meet Rowan*
- 1/6 Earth-centered Religions: *Meet Tiva*
- 1/17 Sikhism: *Meet Davasheesh*
- 1/24 Wishing Well Sunday/Social & Earth Justice



The UUFLB children and youth are really enjoying our new curriculum, *A World of New Friends: An Introduction to World Religions*. We are exploring the eight largest world religions; Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Traditional Chinese religions (Confucianism, Taoism), Earth-centered religions, Sikhism, and Judaism. This new program allows our Youth (7th grade and up) to help teach our Innovators and Seekers (K-6). This multi-aged style of learning allows the children to have movement while learning since they are traveling between learning centers during the lessons. It is fun and educational at the same time ... Don't let your children miss Sunday at UUFLB!

In December the RE Children went to China. They met Wen who practices Confucianism. In Confucianism the children found out it is not so much a religion as it is a way of living. They were taught 5 basic virtues: 1) kindness, 2) righteousness, 3) sobriety, 4) wisdom and 5) trustworthiness.

They also met Mei, a six year old girl, and her family is Buddhist and Taoist. It is not unusual for Chinese families to combine these religions. The children found out Tao means "way" and it is pronounced "dow". The Way, according to Taoists, is the spiritual force that underlies the universe and is found in all things. In our own Tea Ceremony we discovered the process of making and drinking tea reflected a beauty that only could be found in nature.

In January we have a lot to discover. We are going to focus on the Earth and its power. We will learn about Sikhism and the 'guru', as well as, Judaism. There is a lot to discover about world religions and we are just touching the surface. Come and join the fun!

Please remember, the last Sunday of the month is our children's Wishing Well Service downstairs. We collect donations for the those less fortunate and focus on Social & Earth Justice. In December, the children voted to donate their collection of \$50 to Heifer International. Congratulations children for helping make the world a better place!

See you on Sunday!  
Wendi

## Your Connection With the Wider UU World

Barbara Williams-Pemberton, Denominational Representative



### What Does That Acronym Mean?

**CYF (Church of the Younger Fellowship):** An online young adult congregation that is part of the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF).

**DRUUMM (Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries):** A UU organization for self-identifying People of Color.

### Supporting Our Military

The USO has been helping our military men and women for a long time. Everyone knows that. But you may not know what some of the programs are, where your money goes.

During the Second World War, the USO had Canteens, here and overseas. Now the Canteens are Cyber Cafes, with coffee, conversation and computers with internet access. There are mobile Canteens with coffee, donuts and internet access that go almost anywhere there are troops. Operation Enduring Care supplies clothing and toiletries to injured soldiers and sponsors USO Day Rooms in military hospitals where they can relax and be entertained.

And yes, entertainers still go where the troops are, often very near the combat areas. There aren't really any front lines in this war!

The USO can always use help. The address is USO World Headquarters, Post Office Box 96860, Washington, DC 20077-7677. Any amount will be helpful.

### De Benneville News

De Benneville is having a Capital Campaign to update, repair and replace the water system at our camp. Gifts of appreciated stock help you save twice on your taxes. You don't have to pay tax on the capital gains, De Benneville can sell it at market price and you get to deduct the full value as a charitable contribution if you itemize deductions. Win, win, for you and our camp!

De Benneville has an account with a UU stockbroker and camp supporter. He will help you make your gift. You may call Janet James, Executive Director, at 909-794-2928 or uu-camp@aol.com for his contact information.

### January 2010 at de Benneville

- 8-10 Neighborhood UCC Church (private)  
and UCR BGLT Student Retreat (private)
- 14-18 Society for Creative Anachronism (private)
- 22-24 USC Scholars (private)
- 29-31 Peninsula Girl Scout Neighborhood (private)  
Santa Monica UU Families (private)

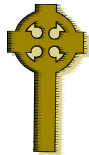


### Coming Up: PSWD Winter Camp, My Heart is in the Mountains, February 13-15!

For those currently in grades 3 - 6 or K - 2 with Parent/Guardian. Visit [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org) or call 909-794-1252 for info.

## Open Auction Items

**36. An Evening of Poetry – Irish Style** – with Jean and Jack Paris. Irish Coffee will served along with other delectable goodies. Saturday, January 9, 2010, 7 PM, 949-830-2270, **2 openings - \$20**



**51. A Night of Celtic Music** Presented by Steve Bloch. Includes fabulous desserts, snacks, wine and a Guinness or two. Saturday, January 23, 2010, 7 pm, 949-249-7797, **3 openings - \$15**

**4. Family Disco Game Night** Kathy Temple hosts a game night for all ages at the Fellowship, includes dinner. Friday, April 30, 2010, 949-760-3067 **\$10**



**40. Mammoth Mountain Getaway Part 2** courtesy of Bill Foster. A deluxe condo at scenic Mammoth Mountain, newly renovated and refurbished retreat for up to 3 nights, it sleeps 4 comfortably. Between June 1 and November 2, 949-494-7358 **\$250**

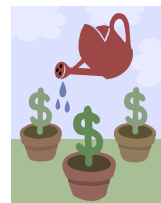
## Endowment Committee

Endowment funds create special opportunities for institutions. For example, at a university, an endowed chair enables the institution to offer a position that is not funded by the university's budget. Or endowment funds can be used to secure opportunities that otherwise might not otherwise be available. The funds in the UUFLB Endowment Fund, according to the restrictions in our by-laws, can only be spent on specified expenses. Those are:

- facility improvements
- long-term growth and enhancement of the Fellowship and its programs, but not including day-to-day operations of the Fellowship
- contributions to a Unitarian Universalist charity or service authorized by the Board of Trustees

In the past, money from the Fund have been used to repair our roof and to renovate the children's classrooms. The Fund could also be used to support other activities at the Fellowship, such as the Dinners for the Homeless program, or, as in the past, to match the congregation's donation to Heifer International or to purchase more headsets to assist people who have trouble hearing the sermons without them.

**If you would like the Endowment Fund to be used to support a UUFLB-related charitable activity, contact any Board member for more information.**



**Fellowship Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8:30 am-1:30 pm  
 Phone: 949-497-4568 Email: [office@uulagunabeach.org](mailto:office@uulagunabeach.org)

**Fellowship**

Minister:	Reverend Kent Doss	949-310-9385
Office Administrator:	Jane Barnett	949-497-4568
Lay Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Barbara W-Pemberton	<a href="mailto:jpemberton@earthlink.net">jpemberton@earthlink.net</a>
Religious Education (RE) Coordinator:	Wendi Bender	949-338-8003

**Board of Trustees: Officers and Board Members at Large**

President:	Terry Heiney	949-497-7302
VP Finance:	Cal Hullihen	949-364-1943
Treasurer:	Pat Flynn	818-237-7621
Members At Large:	Pam Flodman	949-654-2526
	Judy Shepard	949-464-1275
	Candy Strock	949-497-2003
	Kathy Temple	949-760-3067
	Amy Walzer	949-499-1245

**Committee on Shared Ministry**

Ken Schuelke 949-661-8878, Chair, Oakley Frost 949-494-0193, Daga Krackowizer 949-715-3879, Diane Morris 949-497-2249 and Amy Lemp, 949-216-9440.

**Leadership**

Adult Activities	Oakley Frost	949-494-0193
Aesthetics Co-Chairs	Barbara W-Pemberton	<a href="mailto:jpemberton@earthlink.net">jpemberton@earthlink.net</a>
	Kathy Temple	949-760-306
Auction	Laura McArdell	949-642-4126
Building & Grounds	To be selected	949-497-4568
Circle Suppers	Jean Paris	949-830-2270
Communication	Terry Heiney	949-497-7302
Denominational Rep.	Barbara W-Pemberton	<a href="mailto:jpemberton@earthlink.net">jpemberton@earthlink.net</a>
Endowment	Charlotte Decker	949-587-0772
Finance VP, Pledging/Fund Raising	Cal Hullihen	949-364-1943
Lay Pastoral Care	Barbara W-Pemberton	<a href="mailto:jpemberton@earthlink.net">jpemberton@earthlink.net</a>
Membership Coordinating	Janet Fischman	949-916-2389
Music	Carole Cole	949-497-4568
Personnel	Lorraine Reafsnyder	949-494-4219
Publicity	Gary McArdell	949-642-4126
Religious Education (RE)	Wendi Bender	949-338-8003
Shared Ministry	Ken Schuelke	949-661-8878
Social Action Co-Chairs	Jean Raun	949-494-2247
	Helen Scholfield	949-481-8976
Support Group	Dr. Aileen Goodson	949-452-0236
Webmaster	Amy Lemp	949-454-8864
Worship	Amy Walzer	949-497-4568

~Reminder: Deadline for article submission is 12noon on the 15th day of the months.  
 Send articles to: [office@uulagunabeach.org](mailto:office@uulagunabeach.org)