

SeaLight

Volume 10, Issue 4

April 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

Sunday Morning Services Begin at 10:30 am

From Your President

Every Sunday that I attend the service, I am amazed at the talent and passion of the members within our Fellowship. I am very proud to be a member of the UUFLB.

Also, I love Kent Doss and the message he gives us each time he preaches his sermon. We are blessed.

But this particular message is about two people that I really want to single out for performance above and beyond the call of duty.....Carole Cole, our incredible musical director and Wendi Bender, our RE Coordinator.

Let's start with Carole. Every Sunday I leave on a "spiritual high" listening to Carole play and sing. It is truly amazing. When she plays, I look around at all of my fellow members and see incredible joy on their faces. So thank you Carole!

Wendi Bender. You have been given a gift of making each child feel very special. You are an exceptional teacher. I marvel at the happiness I see when the kids leave the RE downstairs and then run up to join their parents. Thank you for sharing that gift with us. You are greatly appreciated!

(continued page 2)

Full Color SeaLight Electronically!

If you are ready to receive the SeaLight and any photographs inside in full color via email, just contact our Office Administrator, Jane, at office@lagunabeach.org and she will put you on the Green List. We can email you a sample and then you decide.

Please let Jane know what you would like to do.

Thank you!



What's Inside!

Message from Your President.....	1
Yesterdays Create Tomorrows.....	2
District Assembly.....	2
Sunday Services.....	3
Message from Your Minister.....	4
Fellowship News.....	5
Social Action	6
The Voyage Newspage.....	7
Wider UU World.....	8
Nurses Notes.....	9
Circle of Light.....	9
Inserts: Calendar & Auction donation form	

From Your President (continued)

A special thanks to our Social Action committee, who continue to make a difference in our world. Recently, our Fellowship ran across an opportunity to help with a North Laguna community garden. I attended a meeting (briefly, which is sort of my specialty), along with Jean Raun. There is a community garden in South Laguna and a group wanted to inform us “North Lagunatics” of the concept. I think that this is something that we would want to participate in. So I welcome any insight any of you have to help turn this concept into a reality. We as UUFLBer’s want to take a leadership role in this, if we can.

Thank you again for the privilege of being your President,

Jeff Morris

District Assembly News

This year, District Assembly (DA) is April 23 and 24, at the beautiful Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara. The title and theme is “Diversity: Between Aspiration and Reality.” The keynote speech will be given at the opening celebration on Friday evening.

More information is available with registration forms and the brochure at www.pswduua.org. DA is like a mini General Assembly and it’s a good way to get your feet wet in the business of Unitarian Universalism. The workshops look amazing. Our own Reverend Kent Doss is presenting one of them!

If you are not on line and want more information, see Barbara Williams-Pemberton, Association/District Representative. There is a packet of some information on the table at the back of the sanctuary.



Yesterdays Create Tomorrows...

Did you know that Hans Christian Andersen was a Universalist? Surprise! He was born on April 2, 1805, in Odense, Denmark. He wasn’t just a teller of fairy tales. He was also a successful novelist and poet. Anderson’s poetry won him the patronage of King Frederick VI of Denmark.

On April 8, 1652, the Rakovian Catechism was burned in London by the common hangman to signify that its publication was a criminal offense. It espoused Unitarian doctrines that Parliament considered blasphemous and seditious because they contradicted the Church of England. That sort of action was and is one of the reasons for separation of Church and State placed in our Constitution.

What Does That Acronym Mean?

HDS (Harvard Divinity School): Harvard Divinity School was established in 1816 as the first non-sectarian theological school in the U.S. Today, its students and faculty represent over fifty-five religious traditions. Students enrolled at Harvard study curriculum in three areas: Scripture and Interpretation, Christianity and Culture, and Religions of the World.

Sunday Services



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

April 4 Easter Sunday Wild Flowers and Roses

Come celebrate a beloved Unitarian Universalist ritual of flower communion. This Sunday we celebrate the joy of spring and the power and beauty of diverse community. **Please bring a single flower with you to church.** We will receive another flower from someone else's garden to take home at the end of our worship service.

Reverend Kent Doss



April 11 Unscripted and Unplugged, UUFLB Member Linda Frost

How the simple rules of improv just might enhance your ability to communicate authentically with others. Linda is a performer and the director of Take One, a local improv troupe who, we have the pleasure of hosting at the Fellowship each September.

Sunday Service Leader Jean Raun

April 18 Earning Hope

More than anything, Unitarians embrace the use of critical thought and the capacity for ethical development, but why? This Sunday we will trace some of the reasons we value open minds and acting out our values. We may be more Puritanical than we like to think.

Reverend Kent Doss

April 25 The Challenge of Universalism

Universal Salvation sounds to some like a free pass, but we know better. Acknowledging the inherent goodness in the world, and the love that rests in human hearts comes with a responsibility to respond. Out of gratitude rather than guilt, we live our lives and a "thank you" note to the universe.

Reverend Kent Doss

May 2 Eradicating our Sunkist Memories, Guest Speaker Gustavo Arellano

Orange County author and columnist Gustavo Arellano will talk about how "truth" is whitewashed in Orange County, California from the history books to the ballot box, from city names to anti-immigrant loons who nevertheless have Mexican nannies.

Message From Your Minister

I am writing this month's SeaLight article from a café in New York City. I have had a terrific few days here in the city enjoying great food and reconnecting with friends who I haven't seen in years. Just yesterday we made an unplanned visit to All Souls Church here in New York City.

Wow! What a joy to visit such a historic institution of our faith tradition. The congregation was formed in 1819 and the building is simply amazing. Sitting for a moment in the massive sanctuary filled me with two distinct feelings. I felt rooted in a tremendous tradition, and I longed for the unique little Fellowship that I call home. It is a tension that we exist in as Unitarian Universalists. We are a part of a broad intellectual and historical tradition that has molded much of America. It is a deep and inspiring history that can anchor our faith. And the other side of that tension is an appreciation for the uniqueness of our Fellowship and the individuals we know and love there.

For the most part, members of our congregation know the great work that UUFLB does in our community and the wonderful individuals who come here on Sunday mornings. That deeper sense of tradition however, is lacking. Either through human relationship or visiting some of the vast array of Unitarian Universalist landmarks, the power of connection with a tradition is not something to be read about but something to be experienced.

I am excited to have heard that a few of you plan to attend this year's District Assembly in Santa Barbara and I hope more of you will seriously consider going. Spending time with other Unitarian Universalists is a priceless and rare opportunity. Sure there are things to learn and new helpful ideas. But much more than that, District Assembly is an opportunity to tap into the power of broader reaching Unitarian Universalist community. As I said, connection to our tradition is not something to read about, but something to experience. So while I want to share with you a sense of tradition and history that informs my faith, the most important thing I can offer is an invitation, not to read, but to step into a wider circle of our faith tradition.

Peace

Kent



Coffee Talk - Tuesdays 4:30-6:30p.m. at the Koffee Klatch, 1440 South Coast Highway in Laguna Beach. Hang out with Rev. 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.

Fellowship News

First Friday UU Discussion Group, Friday, April 2, 2010

Topic: Grading the Obama Administration

Lu Wrede, hostess, lives at 3511-C Bahia Blanca, Laguna Woods

Everyone is welcome. Please bring your opinion and your lunch. Lu will provide liquid refreshments and a light dessert. For gate admission or directions call Lu at 586-8947



Book Discussion at Coffee Talk – Tuesday, April 13 - “Mindsight: The New Science of Personal Transformation” - Daniel J. Siegel combines Western

neuroscience with Eastern meditation in an exciting exploration of how a troubled mind can right itself. Drawing on current science and case studies, Siegel, a clinical professor of psychiatry at UCLA School of Medicine, reinforces the idea that the power of reflection allows us to approach, rather than withdraw, from whatever life brings us.

The UUFLB Social Event and Services Auction 2010 is May 22! Fill out the Auction Donation form in this SeaLight newsletter and plan to attend in support of our biggest and most fun fundraiser!



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 This was a 2009 Auction item, so the cost is \$10 per person.

You and UUFLB have more in common than you might think. Check it out!

<p>You care about social causes.</p> <p>You want to help people in need now and in the future.</p> <p>You have income (employment and investments).</p> <p>You have expenses (bills, bills, bills!).</p> <p>You have a budget for your home to keep income and expenses in balance.</p> <p>You try to save for the future (investing in retirement plans and other vehicles).</p> <p>You make plans to try to give to the next generation and the community after you are gone (bequeaths and donations).</p>	<p>UUFLB cares about social causes.</p> <p>UUFLB wants to help people in need now and in the future.</p> <p>UUFLB has income (pledges and investments).</p> <p>UUFLB has expenses (bills, bills, bills!).</p> <p>UUFLB has a budget for the organization to keep income and expenses in balance.</p> <p>UUFLB tries to save for the future (investing in our Endowment Fund).</p> <p>UUFLB makes plans to try to give to the next generation and the community in perpetuity (distributions from the Endowment Fund).</p>
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Please consider making a donation now, or in your will as a bequest to the UUFLB Endowment Fund. For more information, contact Charlotte Decker.

Social Action News

Jean Raun and Riva Morton-Dimond, Co-Chairs

Based on statements approved by the General Assembly, an analysis of how they can be most effective, and a commitment to be accountable to traditionally marginalized communities, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) established for the 2009-2010 Congress, the following Legislative Objectives: Economic and Racial Justice, Environmental Justice, Gender and Sexual Justice, and International Justice. Our congregation was sent a poll on issues for the next Congress, to which we and many other congregations responded. We were persuaded by the recent Supreme Court Decision on campaign financing, by the recent doubt about fraud in our elections, and by the “sound bite” interpretation of the issues, to place “Revitalizing American Democracy” first. Other Unitarian Universalist Association members congregations did not agree. Here is the result of our ranking, and results from the entire UUA.

UUFLB

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



UUA

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



Thanks to those of you who participated.

I understand the phone lines between Laguna and environs and our nation’s capital have been busy with phone calls from people expressing their opinions on the health care vote. It will probably have been done by the time this newsletter is received. Thanks to all who exercised their democratic responsibility to let their representatives know how they feel.

And thanks to those of you who joined Diane Morris and her son who went to Washington to march for peace and by making our presence known on that same Saturday at the Main Beach Peace demonstration.

Bulletin! We have been informed that we have a person who will match our receipts from Sandwich Lunches to benefit our program for feeding the “residents” of our temporary night shelter. I understand the men and women there appreciate the good food prepared by our congregation (and our congregation’s friend, Linda Brown.) Thanks to all who are participating in this effort. Riva has her permanent crew performing miracles on one of the Thursdays. Thank you, Thank you, to all who have cooked, served, or given encouragement in other ways.

The Voyage-Religious Education Newpage
Wendi Bender, RE Coordinator



UU based care giving and values exploration in the Family Room or adjacent Library for Infants through Pre-Kindergarten

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)
Youth (grades 7th and up)

- 4/4 Easter Sunday - Flower Communion
- 4/11 Principle IV: Free and Responsible Search for Truth
- 4/18 Principle V: Right of Conscience, Use of the Democratic Process
- 4/25 Wishing Well Sunday/Social & Earth Justice

We have begun a new curriculum, *Carry the Flame*: a Self-Discovery and Religious Identity Program for UU Youth. Each section in *Carry the Flame* offers activities that relate to one of the seven principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association. This curriculum is designed to expand each child's level of self-awareness, spirituality, and religious identity. It is fun and educational at the same time ... Try not to let your children miss Sunday at UUFLB!

In March, the children started working on the Principles of Unitarianism Universalism through discussion and workbooks. They have been learning from each other and exploring ideas of how to apply what they have learned to their everyday lives.

In February for Social and Earth Justice the children prepared socks with personal care products for the homeless. A special Thank You to the Lemps who collected and donated the contents for the socks. They will be delivered to the ACT V project where our congregation volunteers prepare the meals for the homeless twice a month.

The children really enjoyed preparing these gifts for the homeless and wanted to do more!

Easter Sunday is April 4 ... the Fellowship always enjoys seeing the children carry the flowers and deliver them to everyone! Hope to see you on Easter.

Wendi

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.



Your Connection With the Wider UU World

Barbara Williams-Pemberton, Denominational Representative



Chalice Lighter News

Every few months, I write about what Chalice Lighters and what they fund and why we should support the program. The grants have helped with the expenses involved with searches for called ministers. They have helped furnish a new worship space and a new fellowship hall at various times and for various congregations. If we had 20% of our congregation's members as Chalice Lighters, we could apply for a grant. We could use it to improve our technology considerably more than we can now.

If you support that ambition, see Barbara Williams-Pemberton or grab one of the brochures in the pamphlet rack. The request is for \$20, but the Chalice Lighter Committee will accept more if you wish. You can now make your contribution online, either by credit card or by electronic funds transfer as well as by check

De Benneville News

This is about a great Camp Dog named Mica, a big, caramel-colored, waggy-tailed dog. It's not a happy story, but it's not really sad either. Mica died of old age in December of last year.

He was a very brave dog. He chased several bears away, receiving a grievous injury in one incident. Mica recovered and chased that same bear out of camp later.

One day, two coyotes decided that Dakota, camp manager Janet James's boxer, looked delicious. Staff people ran yelling and throwing rocks, to no avail. Mica was deaf and a bit feeble, but he went to see what was up. He saw those coyotes dragging Dakota backwards and flew into action! Mica tore those coyotes up and sent them running, with their tails between their legs! Dakota has recovered, but his chin still has no fur from having it scraped in the dirt.

If there is an afterlife, Mica is in some dog Valhalla, chasing bears and coyotes, barking joyously, "woo woo." Camp De Benneville won't be the same without a big caramel-colored dog patrolling the perimeter, keeping everyone safe. RIP, Mica, Camp Dog of De Benneville Pine Camp and Conference Center.

Schedule for April at de Benneville Pines

2-4 Camp Available for lease (Easter Weekend)

9-11 San Dieguito UU Congregational Retreat

For info, contact 858-755-9225 or office@uufsd.org

16-18 UU Men's Fellowship Retreat

For info, contact 619-466-5952 or mdorfi@cox.net

23-25 Camp Recovery, For info, contact <http://camprecoveryinfo.com>

30-5/2 UU Women's Retreat, See www.uucamp.org for info



Health Notes

Helen Frederick RN



I received this at a conference I attended. It brought together all the reasons I went into my life work.

WHAT IS HEALTH?

*Health is wholeness. It integrates the body, mind and spirit as One.

*Health is not solely medical--It is also economic, social, emotional, psychological and spiritual.

*Health is a justice issue--a primary cause of disease in the world is poverty.

*Health is an issue of lifestyle and respect of the human body. More than 80% of illness and death can be attributed to destructive lifestyles.

*Health is a spiritual issue--those in harmony with their Spirit and their fellow humans survive suffering or tragedies better than most people, and also grow stronger in the process.

*Health is a peace issue--the churches are called to be peacemakers. No medication can cure the personal and social illnesses arising from violence, etc.

I WISH YOU GOOD HEALTH!



Circle of Light

Becky Chamberlain, Jean Raun's daughter, still needs our loving, healing thoughts and support as she heals from cancer surgery and deals with further treatments.

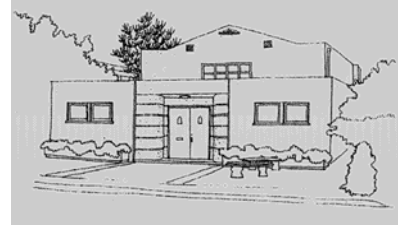
Jim Burkette has improved considerably. He and Diane much appreciate the support they have received from our Fellowship and they will visit when they can. Their daughter is returning to university to earn her Master's degree, so they will be in Temecula most of the time. We are happy for their daughter, but we'll miss Jim and Diane.

Patricia Blanchard still has the same health issues and needs our support. She loves visitors.

Our hearts are with Glenna Matthews as she grieves for the loss of her beloved Aunt Norma. It's been a difficult time. Glenna will have a memorial for Norma sometime this spring.

Fellowship Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8:30 am-1:30 pm
Phone: 949-497-4568 Email: 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	jpemberton@earthlink.net
Religious Education (RE) Coordinator:	Wendi Bender	949-338-8003

Board of Trustees: Officers and Board Members at Large

President:	Jeff Morris	949-497-2249
VP Finance:	Tom McGrew	949-497-5901
Treasurer:	Barbara W-Pemberton	jpemberton@earthlink.net
Members At Large:	Pam Flodman	949-654-2526
	Judy Shepard	949-464-1275
	Candy Strock	949-497-2003
	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	jpemberton@earthlink.net
	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	jpemberton@earthlink.net
Endowment	Charlotte Decker	949-587-0772
Finance VP, Pledging/Fund Raising	Cal Hullihen	949-364-1943
Lay Pastoral Care	Barbara W-Pemberton	jpemberton@earthlink.net
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