

The UUCF CommUunicator

November 2007

Web Edition

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Fullerton
1600 North Acacia Avenue,
Fullerton, CA 92831

Jon Dobrer, Minister



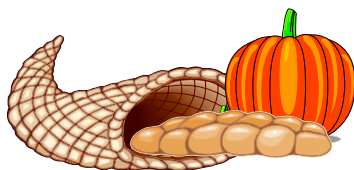
SERMONS in November:

Nov 4: *Time, Physics, Relativity & Religion*

Nov 11: *Let Me Find a Quiet Place*

Nov 18: *Thanksgiving Service & Ethnic Breads Communion*

Please bring a bread to share from your heritage real or adopted



Nov 25: *MAKING A DIFFERENCE: LOCALLY & GLOBALLY*

Presented by UUC Fullerton Intergenerational Service Committee.

Anne Thorward, Donita Fitzpatrick, James Lau, Aaron Stark, Katie Heaton, Briana Perlson, Danny Schneider, Juana Ventura, Doris Dressler-Clark. The UU Service Committee's mission is to advance human rights & social justice around the world. Young or old, your hands and your caring can make a difference. What are we doing to change our communities, our nation and the world? This service will inspire you, ignite your fire & instigate you to join in. All ages welcome.

A tribute for Jon and Members/Staff of the UUCF

Words cannot express my family's appreciation for all that you did to make Lorraine Rothman's memorial service so wonderfully memorable. Each one who assisted and participated in the service did an exceptional job and we are extremely grateful. You provided us a way to have closure and honor her - for this we sincerely thank you.

In Her Memory,
The Rothman Family



Our minister Jon Dobrer welcomes your calls and is available for appointments on Tuesdays and Sundays. He is also available any time in emergencies.

Welcoming Congregation workshops still to come!!!!!!

Nov. 4 - Gender Socialization and Homophobia

Nov. 18 - Religion and Homosexuality

Dec. 2 - Experiences of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender People

I cannot read about the school board of Portland Maine adding birth control pills to the health center at a middle school without feeling highly conflicted. The idea of supplying birth control to girls from the age of 11 without the knowledge and consent of their parents is, and should be, disturbing. We may not find agreement on what the age of consent should be, but 11 seems young for any girl to give informed consent to sex with all its physical and emotional consequences.

There is also a clear conflict between patient privilege, right of privacy they want in order to assure the girls the freedom to use their services, and the fact that in most states teachers, schools and school nurses are mandated reporters of suspected abuse.

In California, if a teacher or school nurse finds that an 11 year old is sexually active, they might have a legal duty to report to Child Protective Services. Here, there would be a crime taking place: Statutory rape. Officials would have to report it.

One could argue that the nurse may not know for certain that the young girl is actually having sex. She may want the pill to regulate her period or as a, "just in case" safeguard, like the young boys of my generation carrying condoms in our wallets in the then vain hope of needing them. I do not find this argument persuasive. Prescribing powerful hormones to an 11 year old should not be done without the health professional knowing why.

Now normally I am very pro-birth control and family planning services. We can rail all we want against sex and for abstinence but we will probably fail to change behavior for the better. My concern is that we can change behavior for the worse.

As someone who was a volunteer at Planned Parenthood in the late 60s and early 70s, I am not opposed to birth control, to counseling and to girls having some right of privacy. I'd rather have them safe than pregnant. But birth control only guards against pregnancy, not STDs—including HIV. It doesn't guard against psychic scars that 11 and 12 year olds are likely to endure.

For years I have argued that birth control doesn't make girls sexually active. It is not a cause. The birth control pill does not make someone choose to have sex any more than seat belts cause automobile accidents. I no longer feel that confidant in my metaphor. There is an issue of a cultural climate that changes taboo to possibility, possibility to likelihood and likelihood to expectation.

I will admit that having kids and five grandchildren—three boys and two girls—may play a part in my discomfort with this. I have to confess to being torn by this issue. I have no good answers. I have desires, wishes and hopes but no policy other than I believe that passing out the pill to 11 year olds helps to create an atmosphere of permission, and I do not believe that the 11 year olds are competent to say yes. I think the adults who voted this are not competent to be in leadership positions. This is tough stuff for schools, for parents and for kids—and reasonable people may differ. But this makes my gut hurt.

Jon Dobrer –minister

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—NOVEMBER 2007

The Board welcomes Ed Tschabrun, who was chosen by the nominating committee to fill the term vacated by Tim Blaine. Ed had served on the board several years ago, thus will bring a historical yet fresh perspective. His appointment will be formally ratified by vote at the December 16 congregational meeting. Kathey Schuster was elected vice president, and a few changes made in liaison responsibilities—Catherine Gallaher is now liaison for worship/program, hospitality, social committee, and circle suppers, while Ed is liaison for the music committee.

Dick Cole and Gloria May are the new co-chairs of the membership committee, relieving Jim Fyke after his many years of productive and dedicated service in that role. Jim worked with Dick and Gloria in planning the brand new newcomer classes, at which our minister presented a history and description of the denomination and other church leaders gave an overview of ways one can become involved. This two-part series, due to be repeated later in the year, was so effective that five new members signed the book on October 21. The congregation extends a special welcome and congratulations to Carolyn and Mark Brislawn, Brian and Debbie Cooper, and Helen Garden upon taking that step.

More exciting news! Cathy Boon has agreed to chair this year's service auction, and Mike Mendelson and Doug Schneider will be co-chairing the pledge/stewardship campaign. These very capable people will no doubt be calling on others for assistance as they direct these most important church projects. Please be willing to help out in any way you can.

Thanks to Jim Gallaher and Tom Stark we are running a weekly ad in the CSU-F Daily Titan, to make our existence known to students, faculty, and staff. Jim has designed four eye-catching and informative ads designed to appeal to those who may be seeking a liberal religious community.

The Welcoming Congregation educational programming is actively underway, offering a series of workshops and film viewing and discussion events, with the aim of reducing prejudice by increasing understanding and acceptance among people of different sexual orientations. The final step will be a congregational vote in December re applying to the UUA for certification. Being certified as a Welcoming Congregation would add us to the 62% of UU churches in the Pacific Southwest District already so designated.

In peace and fellowship,
Mary Rhodes

Foreign Food Friday will be on November 30 this month, 7 pm as usual. We will be dining at Hatam Restaurant (Fine Persian Cuisine) at 1112 N. Brookhurst Street, between the 5 and 91 freeways. There is no turkey and stuffing on the menu. Everyone is welcome to join us, just sign up in the Social Hall after services, or contact **Lou Arnwine**.



FISH is seeking drivers to help homebound seniors, contact Nancy Kinney if you would like to volunteer; any help is deeply appreciated and allows people to remain more independent.

Learn more about Unitarian Universalism:

<http://www.uua.org/visitors/>



UPDATE ON CHALLENGE GRANT FOR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN NAIROBI, KENYA

The Nairobi Partnership Committee has received almost \$500.00 in matching donations to the \$500.00 challenge grant. Doris Dressler-Clerk and Randi Hetrick will be attending the International Council of UU's bi-annual meeting beginning November 1 in Germany. We will be providing funds from the challenge grant for the **RUIRU** vocational school and funds from the African quilt raffle for micro-financing projects in Burundi. We will be meeting with the lay leader Maigui, from the fellowship we hope to partner with and lay leader, Fulgence from the Burundi fellowship.

At our annual UUCF meeting a proposal will be made to our congregation to formally become a partnership church. Doris and Randi will be providing an update on the growth and progress of African UU churches and fellowships in January. Maigui and Ben in front of Ruiru School



FIES Distribution Center is asking for more cereal until Christmas time and is always in need of feminine hygiene products as well as fresh fruit.

uuworldWeekly

"Reason and Reverence"

A new religious humanism is emerging that offers depth, meaning, and purpose without sacrificing intellectual honesty or the spiritual dimension. By William R. Murry (Winter 2006)

<http://www.uuworld.org/ideas/articles/6558.shtml>

AND FOR IRREVERANCE ...A man is stumbling through the woods totally impaired because of substance abuse when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in the river. The drunk walks into the water and subsequently bumps into the preacher. The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of booze. Whereupon he asks the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?"

"Yes I am" replies the drunk, so the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the river. He pulls him up and asks the drunk, "Brother have you found Jesus?"

The drunk replies, "No, I haven't." The preacher, shocked at the answer, dunks him into the water again, but for a bit longer this time. He pulls him out of the water and asks again, "Have you found Jesus, my brother?"

The drunk again answers, "No, I have not found Jesus." By this time the preacher is at his wits end so he dunks the drunk in the water again, but this time he holds him down for about 30 seconds.

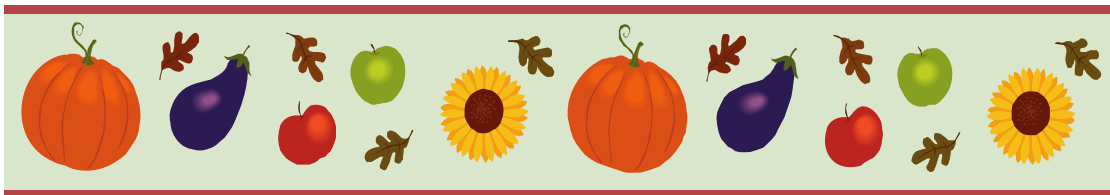
When the drunk begins kicking his arms and legs, the preacher pulls him up. The preacher asks the drunk again, "For the love of God (Spirit of Life), have you found Jesus?"

The drunk wipes his eyes and catches his breath and says to the preacher, "Are you sure this is where he fell in?"



Fair Trade The holidays are looming. Need a gift idea? Fair Trade chocolates, coffees, teas, etc. make a wonderful gift basket. In order to have enough items in stock, please let Doris Dressler-Clark or her "helpers" know on Sunday mornings what you will need in December.

Save the date "Holiday Stories" a glorious opportunity to be together.
Join us for a traditional family dinner Saturday, December 8th-6:00 P.M.



Religious Education NEWS

Welcome to UUCF!

We would like to welcome Edie White to our program. Many of you may have already met Edie or have seen her around the church assisting our children in the classroom or helping with childcare. Edie's also helped out at various social events. Edie lives with her husband in Garden Grove and is the mother of five children. She is actively involved in her children's school and with Girl Scouts. We're excited to have Edie join the R.E. team and hope you can all stop by and say hello.

Are you Registered?

All children and youth in the Religious Education program must be registered each year. At the time of registration, parents are asked to sign up for at least eight volunteer hours in the program. Please see Barbara Burns, Liz Heaton, or Susan Perlson if you have not registered your child or signed up to volunteer.

deBenneville Pines Weekend

Just a reminder, we will not have our regular scheduled religious education program on Sunday, November 11th as many families will be at our church's wonderful weekend retreat in deBenneville Pines. However, childcare for ages 1 through 3 will be available with our regular caregiver, Alex Sylvester. Older children should plan on remaining upstairs with their parents. Let's all hope for SNOW!

Religious Education in November

Sunday, November 4th: Regular Classes

Sunday, November 11th: NO R.E. Program – deBenneville Pines Weekend

Sunday, November 18th: Regular Classes

Sunday, November 25th: Regular Classes

“After Hours” YRUU Group YRUU's should watch for upcoming announcements and e-mails for information on after hour events. If you're a YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalist) over the age of fourteen and not on our e-mail list, please be sure to contact Celeste Mendelson.

Kid Talk Are you a parent looking for a way to for you and your child to learn more about Unitarian Universalism in a hands-on way? Then check out **Kid Talk** at <http://clf.uua.org/kidtalk>. It's a site designed for kids with online activities. Each monthly issue talks about how cultures around the world celebrate holidays. There's a section called “*We Honor*” about a Unitarian, Universalist, or Unitarian Universalist who did something special. Also feature monthly in Kid Talk is “*Putting Principles in Practice*” and “*Act*”, a section that has suggestions how kids can make the world a better place.

Who am I?

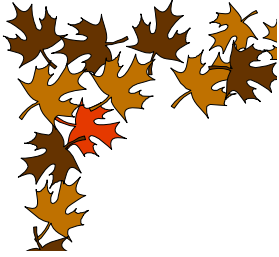
“I don't think everything happens for a purpose. I know that life isn't always fair. But I still believe that the world holds out possibilities that are open to every one of us ... And I believe in the power of people of goodwill to make a difference in the world. This is my credo as a Unitarian Universalist. It's what superman and I have in common.”

Do you know who said these words? Share your answer with Liz for a special prize.

UU Church in Fullerton Calendar

NOVEMBER 2007

Nov 1	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Nov 4	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Time, Physics, Relativity, & Religion	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dourer
		12:00p Youth RE Committee Meeting	Contact Liz Heaton
		12:00p Welcoming Congregation Workshop	Topic: Gender Socialization and Homophobia . Contact Lesley Mahaffey
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Nov 5	Mon	9:30a Fuddy Duddies	Contact Jan Lillibridge
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	At the home of Donnette Gultinan . Topic: Tell Us About a Day You'll Never Forget and Why .
Nov 8	Thu	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton
Nov 9	Fri	deBenneville Pines Weekend	Friday through Sunday
Nov 11	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Let Me Find a Quiet Place	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Child Care Today, but No RE	
Nov 13	Tue	7:00p Board Meeting.	Held at Temple Beth Tikvah .
Nov 16	Fri	7:00p Bridge Night	Contact Claude Coppel
Nov 18	Sun	10:30a -11:45a On Feeling and Showing Gratitude	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
		12:15p Welcoming Congregation Workshop in the Social Hall	Topic: Religion and Homosexuality . Contact Lesley Mahaffey
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Bread Communion	During the service
		UUSC Guest at Your Table	Contact Brad Woodhull
Nov 19	Mon	7:00p Investment Club	Contact Gwen Fyke or Brad Woodhull .
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller for topic and location
Nov 20	Tue	7:00p Discussion Group with Rev. Jon Dobrer	Meet at the Temple. Topic: Ethics Without Religion
Nov 21	Wed	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton , every 4th Wednesday.
Nov 25	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Making a Difference Locally and Globally	Presented by The UUCF Intergenerational Service Committee
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Tree of Thanks	
Nov 27	Tue	5:30p Welcoming Congregation Workshop	In the Social Hall. Contact Tom Thorward
Nov 29	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Nov 30	Fri	Foreign Foods Friday	Contact Lou Arnwine. Hatam Restaurant (Persian)



UUCF Board: President: Mary Rhodes

Board members: Lou Arnwine, Ed Tschabrun, Catherine Gallaher, Will Nettleship,
Tom Stark, Kathy Schuster, Susan Perlson, and Mike Steiner.

Church Information Phone: (714) 871-7150

Unitarian Universalist Church in Fullerton
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The deadline for the next issue of the
CommUUnicator is NOON, November 21th

Please submit all items to Randi Hetrick

The ComUUnicator is published monthly. Visitors will receive a free newsletter for five months.

Annual subscriptions (paper) are \$25 or are free to members.



Certain personal information (such as contact information) has been removed from this
edition of the newsletter, for publication on the world wide web.

Sunday Task Volunteers November, 2007



Greeters	Set Up Sanctuary	Take Down Sanctuary	Flowers	Refreshments	Milk for Coffee Service (1 Quart)
4th					
Donita Fitzpatrick Eleanor Nichols Jeanne Preble Tom Thoward	Michael & Chris Mahaffey	Terry Selby, Bonnie Roncyolo	Dana Bianco	Jan Lillibridge	Barbara Keller
11th					
Patrick Barbush Lou Arnwine Dick Cole Gwen Fyke	Doug Schneider Tom Thornward	Tom & Aaron Stark	Catherine Gallaher	Irv & Cheri Reisman	
18th					
Del Blanchard Linda Summers Judy Sterling	Dean Fischman	Charlie Everett Mike Steiner	Katie Hettinger	Glad Sharp Helena Malek Shirleen Jones	ELEANOR NICHOLS
25th					
Amy Whelan Patrick Barbush, Bev Covertino	Claude Coppel Gordon Lillibridge	Deborah & Harry Langenbacher	Dana Bianco	_____ * _____ *	_____ *

* *Volunteers Please!* Sign up for “*” tasks in social hall or contact Catherine Gallaher or Dana Bianco