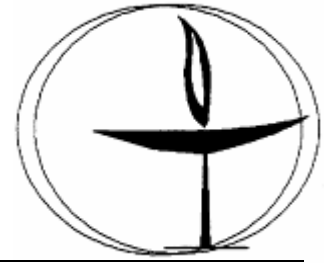


The CommUUnicator

August 2005



Published by the Unitarian Universalist Church in Fullerton -- Vol. 37 -- Number 8 -- Web Edition

Sermon Schedule

Sunday, Aug 7 – 10:30 AM
*Scopes, Darwin & Marching
Backwards*

Presented Rev. Jon Dobrer

Sunday, Aug 14 – 10:30 AM
Terror & Religion

Presented by Rev. Jon Dobrer

Sunday, Aug 21 – 10:30 AM
In This Refulgent Summer

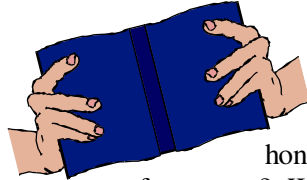
Presented by Rev. Jon Dobrer

Sunday, Aug 28 – 10:30 AM
*God, Prophets, Angels, Holy Books,
and the Day of Judgment – Muslims
in the World and the Holidays*

Presented by guest speaker
Maria Khani

Water Communion Service--September 11

Our Fourth Annual Water Communion Service will be held on Sept. 11. The last few years were a great success and we look forward to doing it again. Wherever you travel this summer collect just a tiny bit of water to pour together in the communal bowl with all the other fellow travelers. Even if you didn't leave the area you can bring water from your pool, the park or your backyard hose. We can all journey together as the water is combined at our special ceremony.



Hymnal Dedication

Have you noticed that in the front of many of our hymnals there is a dedication-- to honor, memorialize or just a simple acknowledgement of someone? We are now offering this done in calligraphy by one of our members Hilary Key. Just call her and the job will be done. There is a charge of \$30 per dedication which will go toward buying more hymnals and/or worship materials. We do run out of hymnals occasionally for our services so buying more would be beneficial to our congregation.

It Was a Grand Celebration of Our Nation's Birthday!

Thanks to all those who helped make our first Independence Day ol' fashioned barbecue on July 3rd a success: Catherine Gallaher for signing up folks to give us an idea of how much food to buy; Fran Doble and Ethel Sapico for pre-sales of tickets; Jim Gallaher, Bruce Johnson, Tim Blaine, Mike Mahaffey (and Chris), Dan Guy, and Lynne Spencer for showing up early and getting all the food ready for the party.

Thanks to our wonderful clean-up crew: The Johnsons, Juana Ventura and family. To our chefs and barbecue suppliers, Mike and Celeste Mendelson, Dean and Marilyn Fischman, Bill and Les Pryor, Mike Eisman and Judy Sterling, never was a hot dog or hamburger so tasty. To the many special ladies who brought special salads and desserts. 100 meals were served. We look forward to a bigger and larger celebration next year.

Our speaker Jennifer Dempsey, her student acrobats and clowns provided great entertainment and our Carnival Barker Christine Barnum-Garner made this Sunday a memorable occasion. A special treat was offered by Lesley Fallis, violinist, following our meditation.

And to all who attended and said many nice things to Judi and me, we thank you for making this party successful.

Al Danzig and Judi Herz



Over

Unitarian Universalist Church in Fullerton

1600 North Acacia Avenue - Fullerton, California

Service on Sundays at 10:30 AM

Out of My Mind: Our Real Hope for Peace ©2005 Jonathan Dobrer

What was a Muslim religious leader, an Imam, doing at the University of Judaism? Well, he was sitting with a Catholic priest, a Protestant minister and me. I had the honor of conducting a panel discussion as part of our Great Faiths program.

We had a wonderful discussion of the great religious and theological issues of salvation and tolerance. We also wrestled with the yet hotter questions that the students, mostly Jewish, had about the relationship of Islam and terror.

Most of the time when we talk we assume that substance is automatically far more important than form or style. But the not so simple fact of our being together, the form of our full, frank and respectful conversation was at least as important as the content.

There is so much bad news. In fact we understand news as what went wrong, as the one plane that did not land safely, the few people who kidnap or kill, the cars that crash and the drugs that have an adverse effect on a very few people. These are all tragedies for those involved to be sure, but they are rare, really rare, occurrences.

We seldom see or talk about the every day miracles of transportation, technology, medicine and the vast majority of decent human beings of all races, religions and nationalities who are, in Anne Frank's words, "basically good." News is the aberrant, bad and tragic.

When we watch TV, or read the newspapers, we can easily get disgusted and depressed. We can feel drowned in the noise, anger and pain. We don't see and feel in our souls the progress that humanity is making despite those very few who live to kill and destroy.

For most of the last 1,700 years just a Catholic priest in a Jewish institution would have been considered remarkable. A Catholic and a Protestant in dialogue before 1950 would have gotten press coverage. The Rev. Billy

Graham's comment two weeks ago that he was "looking forward to seeing Pope John Paul II in heaven," would have been big news, maybe even a scandal in Protestant circles, only 40 years ago.

Now, add to this already pretty special panel a Muslim! Take our picture and go back in time, to any other time, and people would be incredulous. Could such a group ever agree to meet? And if we did meet, would we either talk in safe platitudes or get into a fight? Well, no. We did not have to choose between such fatal alternatives. We talked to each other with respect, curiosity and candor.

One of the first questions the students had was for the Muslim. They wanted to know how Islam could tolerate terrorism in its name? His response was direct and to the point. "Islam doesn't. It isn't for terrorism. Killing innocents is against the Qur'an and the religion. There is no religious justification for terror."

To take some of the heat off my Muslim spiritual cousin, I observed that while the Crusades were pursued under the cover of faith and in the name of Christianity, they did not characterize either the message of Jesus or the full history of Christendom. Nor could we consider the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin by a so-called Orthodox Jew, an act of religious orthodoxy.

Not shy, one of the students pushed on and in a direct but not combative manner asked, "Where are the other Muslim spokesmen denouncing in such a straightforward manner the use of terror under cover of religion?"

This was a good question and it got the good answer it deserved. He explained that Muslim spokesmen, Imams and secular Muslim leaders had spoken out against terror, against 9-11 and against the recent bombings in London. Muslims had been part of our national day of mourning at the National Cathedral in Washington DC.

(continued next page)

Out of My Mind (cont.)

Muslim leaders are, in fact, participating in interfaith dialogues all over America and are members of interfaith communities and clergy associations in all our major cities. There are Cousins Clubs of Muslims and Jews who meet regularly and talk frankly with each other about real issues and concerns. Pioneered in Detroit, there are now bridge building programs between Synagogues and Mosques all over America.

In a panel I had moderated some months ago, also at the University of Judaism, another Muslim leader had responded to the same question with a poignant observation. He looked around the room and asked, not at all rhetorically "Where is the press? Where are the cameras? If I were standing in front of the University of Judaism with a sign reading, 'Death to the Jews!' does anyone doubt that a dozen trucks from all the TV stations would be here?"

The news is indeed when things do not work, when people fight, when there is blood—or the next best thing, pithy sound bites.

Sometimes, in fact most of the time, the planes arrive; we come home from our adventures on the road un-bloodied and physically unscathed. We are however psychically scathed by all the hatred, violence, rage and death we see. These are real events and we should not be protected from the truth, no matter how ugly or violent.

I ask for no suppression of the news nor seek any escape from the pain of the world. I want only that these relatively uncommon but still devastating facts of hate, violence and fear be balanced by the un-photogenic truth of our common human decency.

Good things are happening in our world, in our nation and in our community. Good people are meeting and talking honestly and peacefully at the University of Judaism. I thought you should know.

Social Action Committee (SAC)

As Dan Guy was involved in a Results meeting in Washington, Bill Pryor led the meeting. Del Blanchard relayed the thanks of the Depression-Bipolar Support Alliance for the SAC donation in June. Glad Sharp told us the name of the young woman who has received the Social Action \$500 scholarship for youngsters coming off the foster care program: Natalia Yungerlevi. Even though she has cerebral palsy (not muscular dystrophy as reported last month), she is generally seen as having considerable potential. She'll also receive our \$500 scholarship for the Spring term. She will probably attend one of our services in August.

Bill told the SAC of three things in the group's future: We shall work with the Fullerton Interfaith Ministerial Assn to maintain/upkeep a FIES room for families heading back toward self-sufficiency. Also, the SAC fundraiser, Bunko Night, set for Sat., Oct. 15, will need some help; several people offered (Good!). Finally, while the congregation may not be able to safely endorse or oppose a US Supreme Court nominee, individual members certainly can tell our Senators their views. After some discussion, the group decided to hold its August meeting at a restaurant, possibly Steamers or Rutabegorz, main reason being to have a social aspect to the gathering. Marcia Taylor, who reported July 10 to the congregation regarding her attendance at the UU GA in Ft. Worth, proposed that we set up a program to help older, living alone members and friends should they become injured or sick. Many congregations have such groups, she learned. It turns out, UUCF already has such an operation in place but her mention of it served as a reminder to update and, possibly, expand its coverage. It was deemed to be more a Sunshine Committee than a SAC function.

Bill Pryor

Clarence Darrow Justice Tour

Saturday, August 6th

Performances at 2pm and 7:30pm

Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church

Clarence Darrow (1857-1938) was often referred to by the press as the "attorney for the damned" and the "lion of the courtroom." The fundamentalists, however, called him "the great infidel." Nevertheless, his message is regarded as one of hope, unity and justice for the world.

Famous for his work in the Scopes "Monkey" trial, Darrow fought against the death penalty, social injustice, racism, conspiracy laws, and civil liberties violations. He is considered by many to be the most famous lawyer in history.

Gary L. Anderson of Redding, California is the country's foremost portrayer of Clarence Darrow, with his Darrow performance being characterized as one in the same league of Hal Hobbrook's Mark Twain by such publications as the Eureka Times Standard.

On Saturday, August 6, Anderson will be bringing his Darrow portrayal to Orange County for performances at 2 and 7:30 p.m. at the Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church. The church is located at 1259 Victoria St. in Costa Mesa. Advance tickets are priced at \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the event and are available between services at the Justice table or from members of the committee.

Anderson's performances in Orange County will be part of a national tour. Co-sponsors for the Costa Mesa events include the ACLU, Amnesty International, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, South County UU Church and others. OCUUC profit will be in support of OCUUC's local justice work and the UU Legislative Ministry, California.

In the performance, Darrow will recount the greatest trials of his career, including the 80th Anniversary of the Scopes "monkey" Trial, the Leopold and Loeb plea for mercy, the Los Angeles Times terrorist and bombing trial of the McNamara Brothers and Darrow's own jury tampering trial, while providing personal insights into his character and philosophies through humorous and moving anecdotes and trial excerpts. For more information visit

<http://www.ocuuc.org>



Unitarian Universalist Association Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Youth Religious Education Page

“R.E.Treat”

The R.E. committee met early July for our annual R.E. Retreat. This is an opportunity to review last year’s program, come up with some ideas for the upcoming school year, and put together a committee to help carry out our plans.

Boy, do we have a great year ahead! Liz Heaton and David Ferencz will be back as Co-DREs. Susan Perlson has agreed to stay on as R.E. committee chairperson, Colleen Wieghorst as secretary, and Juana Ventura and Lesley Mahaffey as kid’s choir liaisons. We are happy to welcome Barbara Burns as our volunteer coordinator. (She’s not to be missed with a clipboard in hand!) Finally, Barbara and Celeste Mendelson will be in charge of publicity. Check out September’s newsletter for more information on the coming year’s program.



Save Your Backpacks!!!

Thanks to the folks who have donated backpacks. We’ve received just a few. If you’re like my kids, summer’s still too fresh to start thinking about September and the new school year. But August is prime time to start those before school year traditions. So this month when you’re out buying all those back-to-school stuff and ready to give your old backpack a goodbye – remember your old backpack could be someone’s new one. A group called Share Our Selves (<http://www.shareourselves.org>) is an Orange County organization that provides free emergency assistance to those in need of basic living supplies. September means new backpacks for kids in need. So bring those “old” backpacks to church. Maybe while you’re out school shopping, you could pick up some school supplies for those “old” backpacks too!

Teen Group Co-Leader

David Ferencz, our new Co-Director of Religious Education, is looking for a female co-leader for the Tuesday night teen group. The group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please see David if you’re interested.



August Calendar

Summer’s a time when we take a break from our regular Religious Education program and have fun playing games, making crafts, and doing some different activities. Here’s a list of what’s happening in August:

August 7th: Gecko Key Chain The vanishing rain-forest is this Sunday’s theme. Children will be decorating their own leather geckos.

August 14th: Game Day

Bring in your favorite game to play, or learn to play a new one.

August 21st: Race Car Day

Build your own racecar and get ready to start your engine.



August 28th: Blast-Off Rockets

How high will they fly? Come build your own Alka-Seltzer fueled rockets and find out!

September 4th: Photo Album and Scrapbook

Bring in 3-5 of your favorite photos from summer vacation or any other subject. We’ll make a special album with secret pockets to store these memories.

UUCF Sunshine Committee Survey

Our caring committee responds to requests for assistance from members of our church community. We rely on your help to implement this assistance.

If you or a member of your family could use some assistance, you are invited to respond to **Part I**—Needs Assessment.

If you can Volunteer your services please check the right column, **Part II**—Resource/Volunteer Assessment. With a large group of volunteers you shouldn't be called often, but you will be a vital part of UUCF's caring community.

Part I <u>Needs</u> Assessment	Part II <u>Resource/Volunteer</u> Assessment
<p>I would like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A friendly visitor <input type="checkbox"/> A weekly phone call (s) <input type="checkbox"/> Someone to assist me with grocery shopping <input type="checkbox"/> Someone to read to me <input type="checkbox"/> A ride to church <input type="checkbox"/> I am taking care of someone homebound and would like additional support <input type="checkbox"/> I would like some help letter writing <input type="checkbox"/> I need help filling out forms <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	<p>I can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Be a friendly visitor <input type="checkbox"/> Make weekly phone calls <input type="checkbox"/> Assist someone with grocery shopping <input type="checkbox"/> Read to someone <input type="checkbox"/> Drive someone to church or to Doctors office <input type="checkbox"/> Visit someone who is homebound <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare and deliver a meal for someone who is recuperating from illness <input type="checkbox"/> Help with letter writing <input type="checkbox"/> Help fill out forms <input type="checkbox"/> Deliver flowers to hospital or home <input type="checkbox"/> During what times are you available? <p><input type="checkbox"/> I Wish to be on the committee</p>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this assessment. You are helping us immensely by sharing your time and talent with others. We will try to honor as many needs as we are able.

Name:-----
 Address:-----
 Telephone: (home)----- (work)-----
 Email:-----

Please return form to Gwen Fyke.



Sunday Task Volunteers AUGUST 2005

<i>2 Greeters</i>	<i>2 to set up Sanctuary</i>	<i>2 to set up Social Hall</i>	<i>2 to take down Sanctuary</i>	<i>2 to take down Social Hall</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>2 for Refreshments</i>
7TH Service Associate: Dick Cole						
<i>Margee Hills & Marcia Taylor</i>	<i>The Mahaffey's</i>	<i>The Mahaffey's</i>	<i>The Langenbachers</i>	<i>Tim Blaine, Rafe Margolin & Katie Hettinger</i>	<i>Dorothy Barrett</i>	<i>Linda Sommers & Rose Bale</i>
14TH Service Associate: Mary Rhodes						
<i>Jack Theibert & Alice Dyer</i>	<i>The Schneiders</i>	<i>The Schneiders</i>	<i>Dean Fischman & Terry Selby</i>	<i>Dean Fischman & Terry Selby</i>	<i>Catherine Gallaher</i>	<i>The Reismans & The Yaddows</i>
21ST Service Associate: Christina Garner						
<i>Del Blanchard & Daniel Guy</i>	<i>Dean Fischman</i>	<i>Dean Fischman</i>	<i>The Starks</i>	<i>Charlie Everett & Lorraine Rothman</i>	<i>Katie Hettinger</i>	<i>Barbara Burns & Fran Doble</i>
28TH Service Associate: Jim Garner						
<i>Glad Sharp & Will Nettleship</i>	<i>Claude Coppel</i>	<i>The Huffnagtons</i>	<i>The Hetricks</i>	<i>The Johnsons</i>	<i>Mary Rhodes</i>	<i>The Hetricks</i>

Thank you for volunteering. If you are unable to do a task, please---

1. Ask someone in the same task group to trade places with you.
 2. Let Judi Herz know that you are swapping Sundays with someone so that she can put this in the program.
- Please contact Lorraine Rothman if you would like instructions for any of these tasks

UUCF Calendar August 2005

Aug 1	Mon	8:30a Fuddy Duddies.	Conversation & libations at a home, then breakfast at a restaurant. Contact Dawn & Bill Pumphrey .
		7:00p Women's Circle.	Call Barbara Keller for topic and location.
Aug 4	Thu	11:45a Men's Lunch group	Meet at Carrow's in Fullerton .
		7:00p Choir Practice.	
Aug 5	Fri	Good Neighbors	Informal Gathering 1st Fri. evening, monthly
Aug 7	Sun	9:30a Adult R.E. Committee	Meet downstairs.
		10:30a Service	" <i>Scopes, Darwin & Marching Backwards</i> " presented by Reverend Jon Dobrer.
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Aug 9	Tue	7:00p Board Meeting.	Held at Temple Beth Tikvah .
Aug 11	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice.	
Aug 14	Sun	12:00p Social Action Committee	Meet in the Sanctuary after Services
		10:30a Service	" <i>Terror & Religion</i> " presented by Reverend Jon Dobrer.
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Aug 15	Mon	7:00p Investment Club.	Call Gwen Fyke, or Jack Theibert , for details.
		7:00p Women's Circle	Call Barbara Keller for topic & location.
Aug 17	Wed	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrow's in Fullerton .
Aug 18	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice.	
		Reading Circle	Contact Claude Coppel or Evan Van Ginneken.
Aug 19	Fri	7:00p Bridge Night.	Call Claude Coppel for information.
		Writer's Group	3rd Friday Afternoon, monthly
Aug 21	Sun	10:30a Service	" <i>In This Refulgent Summer</i> " presented by Reverend Jon Dobrer.
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Aug 25	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice.	
Aug 28	Sun	10:30a Service	" <i>God, Prophets, Angels, Holy Books, and the Day of Judgment</i> " presented by guest speaker Maria Khani.
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .

The **Reverend Jon Dobrer** welcomes your calls and is available for appointments on Tuesdays from 10:30am-6pm and before or after church on Sundays.

UUCF Officers

President: Marlies Worley

Board Members: Lou Arnwine, Tim Blaine, Carolyn Champagne, Will Nettleship, Lorraine Rothman, Mary Rhodes, Dennis Spiro and Tom Stark

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**The deadline for the next issue of the
CommUunicator is NOON August 19**

Please submit all items to Lesley Mahaffey.

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.