

The UUCF CommUunicator

June 2007 Web Edition



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



CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY
ON SUNDAY JULY 1, 2007
AFTER THE CHURCH SERVICES WE WILL
HAVE OUR ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY
BARBECUE - HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS,
SODA POP, ICE CREAM AND ALL THE
TRIMMINGS.

BEER WILL BE AVAILABLE (\$2)

Adults \$5

Children under 12 \$4

Please buy your tickets in advance on Sunday
mornings so that we will know how much food
to purchase. We want to have more than
enough for everybody.

PledgeDriveUpdate:

As of May 21, 2007 total pledged:

\$135, 618.00

119 pledges received

Huge thank you to both those who
pledged and those who organized and
conducted the pledge drive

Sunday Services

June 3: Jubilee Celebration Jon's message:

Our own living tradition

June 5 First Tuesday: Dinner/movie

June 10: Time, Movement, Choice and Meaning

June 12: Board

June 17: Father's Day Celebration: On Being Present

June 19: Adult Discussion On Evil

June 24--"34 Million Friends ..."

Jane Roberts

Women's Advocate to Speak on June 24

Jane Roberts, a retired French teacher, is co-founder of 34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund

(www.34millionfriends.org and/or

www.unfpa.org/support/friends/34million.htm)

and author of the book 34 Million Friends of the Women of the World. She has traveled to 20 states, spoken at 40 colleges and universities about 34 Million Friends and the deeper issues of population and development and the human rights of women and girls. She has been interviewed about 40 times on radio and TV. In 2005, the 100th anniversary of the first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize, she was one of 1000 grassroots women throughout the globe nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. She comes highly recommended by members of UUCF and we are very fortunate to have her come speak.



Campaign founders Lois Abraham (left) and Jane Roberts open letters at UNFPA headquarters. (Photo by: William A. Ryan/UNFPA)

THE FAMILY CHALICE
EXPLAINING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM
GROUP THEMES AND LEARNINGS

William Doherty and C. J. Peek

Dr. Doherty was the keynote speaker at PSWD

This is an excerpt from a prior article that highlights some of the content of the presentation

We set out to create a vehicle to better explain Unitarian Universalism, and why we are part of it, to ourselves, our children, and other people in our lives. We began by exploring the challenges we face in being articulate about a non-traditional religious faith that cannot be captured by a specific set of doctrines or spiritual practices. We struggled with the question of whether there is a core to Unitarian Universalism—a unity within its diversity, something more than the sum of its individual members or congregations—and what this core would look like. We found ourselves dissatisfied with individualistic explanations of Unitarian Universalism that reduce it to personal stories without a communal story, like musical variations without an underlying musical structure or theme. Instead, we came to see the core UUism as embracing three dimensions: a process of personal exploration, a communal tradition, and a special competence for living religiously in the world.

- The Unitarian Universalist movement with its history, traditions, institutions, Principles, and Sources
- Local congregations that embody a particular strand of UUism
- Families who weave together their members' experiences, the UU movement, and the local congregation's embodiment of UUism
- Individual members who put this all together with their personal experience in the world...

Ideally, all UUs accept the value of each of the Sources of our faith tradition; in fact, holding them all in delicate balance (such as learning from both science and from earth-centered traditions) may be what is most distinctive in Unitarian Universalism. Congregations, families, and individuals have their own emphases among the Sources—for example, some more theistic and some more humanistic—

As we worked on these complex issues, we were continually drawn back to the three conundrums:

- Most of us are new to this religion and do not understand it well ourselves. It is not in our hemoglobin from childhood.
- Our children need explanations different from those for adults. How can our children learn a religion that is complex even for adults?
- Despite our involvement in this group over the past year, most of us did not undertake any study of UU history, and those of us who did could not relate what we read to our contemporary concerns.

Using our own experience, we realized the futility of an approach to the larger congregation that would emphasize traditional classes or book discussion groups on Unitarian Universalist history and current trends. ..this led to two breakthrough ideas.

- “Pressure points:” The path towards greater personal competence in understanding and explaining UUism can focus on the struggles, dilemmas, challenge for which we seek spiritual meaning and want to know how the UU tradition can help. In other words, we decided to start with living spiritual struggles (such as death and loss, or the language of reverence, or how to talk to our children about religion) and ask how our religion can help us, rather than starting with our religion and then trying to apply it to our life struggles.

- Levels of complexity: The core themes of Unitarian Universalism can be expressed in levels of complexity ranging from simple to complex, from nursery rhymes to symphonies, allowing us to engage our children developmentally and adding layers of complexity throughout the life course. For example, the core theme of Universalism could be expressed simply, in nursery rhyme form, in this way: “You are loved in this world.” And the core theme of Unitarianism, expressed simply, could be “You are good.”...We decided to create a process, ... aimed at developing UUs who are literate and articulate about their faith.... And use UU history that resonates with today's concerns—such as the challenges of Abolitionism and feminism in the nineteenth century and the humanist controversy in the twentieth century. In all of these efforts, we will use the Families and Democracy Model, which emphasizes democratic process, lay leadership, and the development of “community property” to be shared with and owned by the congregation—as opposed to traditional classes or other opportunities for personal enrichment that reflect a provider—consumer model and lack the potential to transform the larger community. We see this approach as reflecting the special tradition of Unitarian Universalism by creating vehicles for personal spiritual exploration within a vibrant democratic community of faith..

Three Fundamental Questions We Want to Be Good at Answering

1. What is Unitarian Universalism?
2. Why am I part of it?
3. What difference does it make for how I live in the world?

For complete text go to:

<http://westshore.umd.uua.org/families/fmtf/2004Summaryof2003learnings.pdf>

Religious Education News

By Liz Heaton

Beach Party Bonfire

A nighttime beach party is being planned to kick off our summer program. Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 24th and look for fliers and e-mails announcing this family-oriented event soon!

Upcoming Events in R.E.

- June 3rd: Regular Curriculum
Committee Meeting
- June 10th: Regular Curriculum
Teacher Appreciation
- June 17th: Regular Curriculum
- June 24th: Summer Program
Beach Party Bonfire!

Snack & Volunteer Reminder

Parents and friends, please mark your calendars:

- June 3: Terry and Sean Selby
- June 10: OPEN
- June 17th: Schneider / Wieghorst Family
- June 24: Cathy & Cheyanne Boon

If you did not sign up for a date to assist in the R.E. program, a date may have been assigned to you. We ask that families with children in R.E. volunteer about once every quarter. Kindly, let Barbara Burns know if you are unable to assist R.E. on your scheduled day.

We can now reimburse families for up to \$20 for providing snacks! Please see Liz Heaton for more information.

YRUU

The high school teen group has a new name. It's YRUU and it stands for Young Religious Unitarian Universalists. Check out the display board in the social hall.

District Assembly

Several members from our congregation attended District Assembly in Riverside in April. Paige, from our teen group offered her insights:

My mom and I spent the weekend in Riverside to attend the conference. We went to three teen workshops on Saturday that were very interactive and helped everyone understand what's important to teens. Kids were from all over. It was cool to see how many people are UU's and believe the same things we do.

Teens who are interested in opportunities to interact with other UU's teens should check out the YRUU display board in the social hall.

Museum of Tolerance

Several members of the teen group visited the Museum of Tolerance over spring break. An American flag that was hand-sewn by Mauthausen inmates for their American liberators moved one teen, Rachel. Pen pal letters exchanged between two young girls – one an American, the other a German, also impressed her. The teens also listened to a Holocaust survivor share his painful experiences during World War II.

‘AFTER HOURS’ Teen Group

- Tuesday, June 5th from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Garner’s home.
- Sunday, June 24th from 4:00 p.m. to ?? at Corona del Mar

Please check e-mails and/or telephone messages for changes and special events.



May Day: RE children, volunteers and staff celebrate Spring

You are invited to:
New Lives with..."**Hearts, Hands & Hammers**"
Training Day

Come join us for construction training - learn new skills or brush up on old ones!
There will be music, refreshments, featured speakers, & opportunity drawings.
Women Build offers a non-intimidating, fun and positive environment
for women to give back to the community. It isn't about excluding men.
It's about including women and opening new doors of opportunity.
For more information, please contact Vanessa Tumminello.

When: Saturday, June 30, 2007

Time: 10AM - 3PM

Where:

475 Anton Blvd. Costa Mesa, CA

<http://www.habitatoc.org>

On **June 17th** after the service, we will be showing an 18 minute **DVD on Circulo de Amigas** for a second time. Circulo de Amigas is a charity in Jinotega, Nicaragua. Their goal is to break the cycle of poverty for deserving young women.

This DVD will explain in detail the work done by this UU based charity, I have sponsored three girls myself and look forward to the letters I currently receive from Francisca who is 12 and so full of life.

Sponsorship is \$39.00 pre month and visits to Nicaragua are encouraged!

Randi Hetrick



UU Church in Fullerton Calendar

June 2007

Jun 2	RUBY JUBILEE BLOWOUT at 6 pm in the Social Hall.	
	Human Rights Forum in Costa Mesa	
Jun 3	10:30a -11:45a Jubilee Celebration. Jon's Message: Our Own Living Tradition.	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
	12:00p Youth RE Committee Meeting	Contact Liz Heaton
	12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull.
	1:30p Memorial Service for Dick McEvers	In the sanctuary
	Special Jubilee Social Hour	Plan to stay after the service
	Congregational Meeting	After the service
Jun 4	9:30a Fuddy Duddies	Contact Jan Lillibridge
	7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller
Jun 5	Tuesday Night Talk with Teens	Meet at the Garners
	Movie and Dinner with Rev. Jon Dobrer	Time and Location TBA. contact Marlies Worley
Jun 6	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton , every 4th Wednesday.
Jun 10	10:30a -11:45a Time, Movement, Choice, and Meaning	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
	12:00p Social Action Committee Meeting	Contact Bill Bryant
	12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull.
	Teacher Appreciation Day	At the service
Jun 12	7:00p Board Meeting.	Held at Temple Beth Tikvah.
Jun 15	7:00p Bridge Night	Contact Claude Coppel
	Foreign Foods Friday	Contact Lou Arnwine for more information
Jun 17	10:30a -11:45a On Being Present	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
	12:00p Circulo de Amigas DVD	See Brad Woodhull for details
	12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull.
	Father's Day	
Jun 18	7:00p Investment Club	Contact Gwen Fyke or Brad Woodhull.
	7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller for topic and location
Jun 19	7:00p Discussion Group with Rev. Jon Dobrer	Meet in the Social Hall. Topic: Looking at Evil: The Legal, Therapeutic, and Theological Views.
Jun 20	UUA General Assembly in Portland, Oregon	June 20 through June 24
Jun 21	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton , every 4th Thursday.
Jun 24	10:30a -11:45a 34 Million Friends of the Women of The World	Sermon by Jane Roberts
	12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull.
	Tide Pool Trip	
Jun 26	5:30p All Souls Potluck	
	6:30p Salon Discussion	DVD on Global Warming

UUCF Contact Information

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.

President: Mary Rhodes

Board Members: Lou Arnwine, Carolyn Champagne, Susan Perlson, Tim Blaine, Will Nettleship, Mike Steiner, Tom Stark and Kathey Schuster

For information on becoming a member of UUCF

please contact Jim Fyke or Judy Sterling,

Church Information Phone: (714) 871-7150

The UUCF CommUUnicator

Deadline for the next issue is NOON, June. 19th

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.