

The UUCF CommUUnicator

July 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 – ROOT BEER FLOATS THIS
YEAR





SUNDAY SERVICES

Rev. Jon Dobrer will be on vacation during the month of July.

July 1, "4th of July Music and Reading Service"

July 8, "What Does It Mean To Go To General Assembly?" presented by some of the attendees of this year's GA. We had the largest group ever attending GA this year and they will share with you what the experience was like – alleluia!

July 15 "Current California Legislation Mandating The Use of New Technology That Will Reduce Gun Crimes" **Charlie and Mary Leigh Blek.**

Mary Leigh and Charlie Blek of Laguna Hills, Calif., lost their 21-year-old son, Matthew, when he was shot and killed by a teenager in New York City. They are founding members of *Orange County Citizens for Prevention of Gun Violence*.

July 22 "The Power of Sacred Listening".
Rev. Kay Lindahl

July 29: "To Know Where You Are Going, You Have To Know Where You Have Been".
Rabbi Kenneth Milhander from Temple Beth Tikvah

Unitarian Universalist Partnership Church Program

UUPC strives to "establish global citizenship as a common commitment of liberal religion, transforming ourselves and our congregations, and thus make international engagement a moral and spiritual principle of UU congregational life."

UUPC connects and supports North American Congregations in partnerships around the world. These partnerships create transformational opportunities for pilgrimage, hospitality, learning and service. The Nairobi UU Fellowship would like to partner with UUCF; a proposal will be submitted to the board and congregation in July.

Minister's Column *REPRINT*

Out of My Mind: Happy Birthday!

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I am so happy to be turning 40 again! Okay, I'm not personally turning 40; we all are. This is the relativity of time. 40 is old for just about anything in California. A congregation at 40 is mature. A restaurant at 40 is extraordinary. A marriage at 40 is an accomplishment.

In other lands, and even on the other coast, 40 may not be such a big deal. There churches are still young at 100, and while 100 may be unusual for a restaurant, it is not unheard of. (Please forgive the double negative and final preposition. I recognize the sin in weird syntax). As for marriages, tragically the east is catching up with the west.

While we usually think of 50 as the BIG ONE, 40 is for us more relevant from the point of view of tradition. Biblically the Jubilee celebrated at 50 is a year of rest. It is a kind of super-sabbatical. The land is to lie fallow and men, women and earth are to rest from their labors. This is not what this year calls to us to observe.

In the biblical tradition 40 is a far more important number. (Am I starting to worry you by bringing up the Bible? Really, it's okay. It's a Good Book). It is not accidental that there is a pattern of important 40s. There are the 40 days and nights of Noah's Flood. There are the 40 years of wandering in the desert. Moses went up to Mt. Sinai for 40 days.

Jesus meditated in the desert for, yes, you guessed it, 40 days. And, of course Lent, the period between Ash Wednesday and Easter, is 40 days.

All of this is to say: This is a time to celebrate time our accomplishments, a time to mark our gains and losses: the friends we've made over the years and, yes, those whom we have also lost.

This is a time, not to rest on our laurels, but to take inspiration from our achievements—so far—and to give thanks to those who have brought us to this happy day. This is a time to look back at our founders and sustainers, both lay and clergy, and to recommit ourselves to keeping alive and vibrant the precious legacy we have received from them. We look back so that we may move forward together.

Happy 40th Jubilee!

Jon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — JULY 2007

July marks a time for R&R, vacation trips, and a summer break for the students and teachers among us. For me it is also a time for reflection. Although this is the start of a new fiscal year and before long we'll be actively preparing for the exciting months ahead, right now I'm inspired to reflect on what this last year has meant in the life of our church. So many things come to mind.

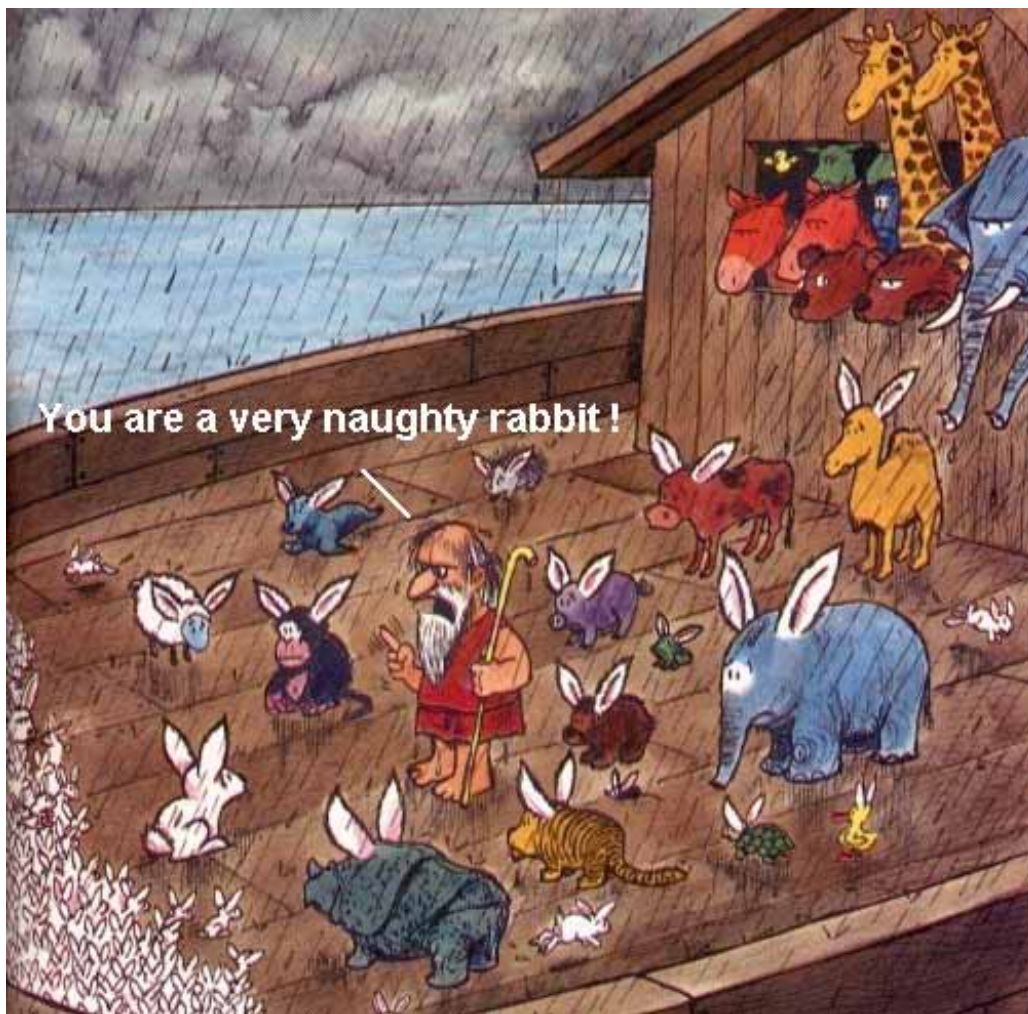
Last summer we hired a paid administrator, which has added great efficiency and expertise to our operation. The fall UUA advertising campaign served as an impetus for us to look closely at how we appeal to newcomers and resulted in very positive changes, including our procedures for greeting guests and the ambience of the foyer, sanctuary and social hall. Last September's service at the Arboretum was awe-inspiring in itself and also set the stage for improving our music and sound system.

Our choir has expanded in size and repertoire, and we're all benefiting from the new hymnal. Children and youth have been given expanded opportunities; increased attention is being focused on the meeting the needs of the teens. Our strong social action commitment was typified by UUCF congregants raising a record sum for this spring's CROP Walk. Fair trade coffee now is served and available for purchase. We've had large turnouts at social events, especially the Ruby Jubilee weekend that marked our 40th birthday. An ethnic-dining interest group has been reborn.

Planning has recently been completed to start the process for us to become a Welcoming Congregation, with a seminar series and other activities scheduled for the fall. These are a few of many highlights of the year as I look back.

I'm particularly impressed by the number of congregants who chose to attend the UUA General Assembly in Portland in June, showing their commitment to our church and the denomination as a whole, and their interest in getting ideas and inspiration so that we may grow and improve even further. Our July 8th worship service will feature those GA attendees sharing their experiences from that five-day conference. Don't miss hearing their news!

In peace and fellowship,
Mary Rhodes



Music Notes

A southern Baptist minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

Sermon complete, he sat down. The song leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn #365, "Shall We Gather at the River."



Check out The Brick Testament, using quotes from the Old and New Testaments and tableaux constructed entirely of Lego blocks, I especially liked "Paul Circumcises New Companion" – the editor
<http://www.thebricktestament.com/>

The nouveau editor wishes to thank Harry Langenbacher for virtually holding my hand while trying to fill the shoes of Lesley Mahaffey, thanks to everyone else as well as you were so kind about not pointing out the errors in a blatant manner.

Religious education news

By Liz Heaton

Ruby Jubilee

The children and youth enjoyed a wonderful evening of foods, games, and activities during our congregation's fortieth birthday celebration. Intergenerational activities included beading with handmade peace symbols, tattoos, face painting, and the popular hula-hoop contest. Katie Heaton took first place in the kid's division with a time topping 15 minutes. Andrea Jones proudly hula hooped her way to win the adult trophy with a time of 17 seconds. All the kids looked great in their tie-dyed shirts. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make it such a festive evening!

Father's Day

Something warm and homey was in the air on June 17th, when the children and youth got together in the kitchen to bake cookies for Father's Day. The kids also made handsome polymer clay chalice pins for their special guy. Our two special singing guys, Chris and Gary, joined us in the Youth Chapel and led us in song. The children and youth are learning a new song called "Flaming Chalice."

Summer Program – Yea!

Our elementary-age children will enjoy a fun, hands-on, craft-based program that is tied to our seven principles. A number of dedicated congregants have volunteered to lead these activities.

Our middle school and high school youth will be together for a spiritual and self-discovery journaling program. Participants will be encouraged to express themselves artistically in writing and through art. Janine Resco and Liz Heaton will present these sessions. The middle school and high school group will also have the opportunity to attend three adult sermons as part of the summer program.

Upcoming Events in R.E.

July 1st: Each Person is Important Keeping a Journal

July 8th: Who's in a Family? Who Are You? Part One

July 15th: Be Kind in All You Do Who Are You? Part Two

July 22nd: We're Free to Learn Together Adult Sermon – Rev. Kay Lindahl

July 29th: Search for the Truth Adult Sermon – Rabbi Milhandler

UU Church in Fullerton Calendar

July 2007

Jul 1	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Patriotic Service With Music and Readings	Put on by our choir and congregants
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Independence Day Barbeque	After the Service
Jul 2	Mon	9:30a Fuddy Duddies	
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller for topic and location
Jul 4	Wed	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton , every 4th Wednesday.
Jul 5	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Jul 8	Sun	10:30a -11:45a What Does It Mean To Go To General Assembly?	Those who attended GA will speak about their experiences
		12:00p Social Action Committee Meeting	Contact Bill Bryant
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Jul 12	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Jul 15	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Current California Legislation Mandating the Use of New Technology That Will Reduce Gun Crimes	Guest Speakers are Charlie and Mary Leigh Blek
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Jul 16	Mon	7:00p Investment Club	Contact Gwen Fyke or Brad Woodhull .
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller
Jul 19	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Jul 20	Fri	7:00p Bridge Night	Contact Claude Coppel
Jul 22	Sun	10:30a -11:45a The Power of Sacred Listening	Guest Speaker is Rev. Kay Lindahl
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Jul 26	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Jul 29	Sun	10:30a -11:45a To Know Where You Are Going, You Have To Know Where You Have Been	Sermon by Rabbi Kenneth Milhander
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .

Treasurer Corner

July 2007

Lots of changes!!!! Recently the church bookkeeping records were converted to internet access. By converting the church bookkeeping records to an internet based bookkeeping software, it allows the church the ability to access their bookkeeping records from any computer at any time.

As such, beginning this month UUCF bookkeeping functions will be performed by various church individuals. Effectively immediately Donnette Guiltinan will be handling the day to day bill paying of the church. This means any matter that involves a church check to be issued, should be handled by Donnette. So, if you have any church receipts that you are requesting reimbursement, or have a check request, they should be submitted to Donnette. Please feel free to provide any reimbursement receipts to her at church, or mail them directly to her home address listed in the church directory. As always, please provide sufficient details as to what expense reimbursements were for, and what category of the church budget they should be expensed.

Also, please be advised that Lou Arnwine is handling all matters pertaining to depositing the church funds to the church operating account, as well as ensuring such deposits are properly entered into the church bookkeeping. So, if you have any checks issued to UUCF, and you do not wish to include them in the church offering, please feel free to provide them or mail them directly to Lou. As always, please provide sufficient details as to what each check(s) represent, so Lou can handle them appropriately.

Frank Thomas will continue to manage all other bookkeeping and accounting functions, as well as any government/state compliance requirements of the church. Also, Frank will continue to provide any research and/or special report request by the board and/or committees of UUCF. If anyone should have any questions, please feel free to contact Frank or Donnette for assistance.

\$\$\$\$ Frank has handled these many tasks with expertise and grace, thank you from UUCF and thank you for continuing to facilitate the financial management of UUCF.



UUSC urges end to Iraq war

The United States should work with the United Nations, Arab League, NATO, and other international agencies as well as the wider international community to bring about a ceasefire that would permit a rapid and orderly U.S. withdrawal.

Read UUSC's statement on Iraq. <http://ewire.c.topica.com/maagKWlabzgMcbPUyVQeahqt4/>

Opportunity and redemption"

LIFE: It's time to make good on the unfulfilled promise of a racially and culturally diverse Unitarian Universalism.

By William G. Sinkford, 6.11.07 (Summer 2007)

<http://www.uuworld.org/life/articles/23685.shtml>

Another Anniversary to Celebrate!

"While there is little evidence that human nature has changed for the better over the past two millennia, a few historical events, like Britain's abolition of its extremely profitable slave trade, suggest that human history has also been something more than an endless contest of greed and power."

- **David Brion Davis**, a Yale University historian, in a column by Michael Gerson. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the end of the British slave trade, which Gerson calls "history's strongest counterexample" to the claim that religion in public life only spawns hatred and extremism. (Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/19/AR2007061901737.html>)

UUCF Information

President: Mary Rhodes

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

Church Information Phone: (714) 871-7150

Website: <http://www.uufullerton.org>

**The deadline for the next issue of the
CommUUnicator is NOON, July 20, 2007**

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.

Sunday Task Volunteers July, 2007

Greeters	Set Up Sanctuary	Take Down Sanctuary	Flowers	Refreshments	Milk for Coffee Service (1 Quart)
1st					
Donita Fitzpatrick, Eleanor Nichols, Jeanne Preble, Tom Thoward	Michael & Chris Mahaffey	Terry Selby, Deborah & Harry Langenbacher	Dana Bianco	BBQ today Cathy Boen	Keren Clements
8th					
Patrick Barbush, Lou Arnwine Dick Cole, Gwen Fyke	Doug Schneider, Tom Thornward	Tom & Aaron Stark	Catherine Gallaher	Patrick Barbush _____* _____*	Bonnie Roncayolo
15th					
Del Blanchard , Linda Summers, Judy Sterling, Sandy Mills	Dean Fischman	Charlie Everett, Mike Steiner	Katie Hettinger	_____*	Patrick Barbush
22nd					
Tim Blaine, Amy Whelan Patrick Barbush, Bev Covertino	Claude Coppel, Gordon Lillibridge	Deborah & Harry Langenbacher		Amy Whellen, Litzi Barker _____*	Bill Pryor
29th				Dana Bianco, Fran Doble	

*Volunteers Please! Don't miss out! Sign up in social hall or contact **Dana Bianco**