

The UUCF CommUunicator

February 2008

Web Site Edition

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

Jon Dobrer, Minister



Services begin at 10:30 am

Sunday Services and Jon's schedule for February:

Feb 3: Why Elections Matter and (so fitting for this topic) a **Mardi Gras musical parade.**

Feb 5: First Tuesday Movie & Dinner

Feb 9: SERVICE AUCTION!!!!

Feb 10: Why Love Matters

Feb 17: Dr. Breckenridge** - Black Contributions to American Music: Vocal, Rhythmical, and Spiritual
Inflections since the 1700s"

Feb 19: Spirituality and Religion: workshop jointly with Rabbi Ken Milander of Beth Tikvah

Feb 24: Why Matter Matters

Feb 26: Spirituality and Religion: workshop jointly with Rabbi Ken Milander of Beth Tikvah

****Dr. Breckenridge** - composer, performer (voice and piano), recording artist, producer, author, and university lecturer - holds a Ph.D. in Musicology from the prestigious Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, C. He has written two university textbooks *Popular Music in America: Forging the American Spirit* (pub. 2006) and *African American Music for Everyone*, now in its second edition (pub. 2005). He has performed internationally and domestically and has performed with Bill Cosby, Sam Riddle, Rowan & Martin, Greg Morris, Bobby Blue Bland, David Ruffin (member of the Temptations), Martha Reeves (of the Vandellas), Moms Mabley, Nancy Sinatra, O. C. Smith, The Young Hearts, The Stylistics, The Five Blind Boys of Alabama, the Gerald Wilson Orchestra, and many others: his most current release is titled "This is My Song" (2007),



UUCF Affirms Its "Welcoming" Commitment

At the Dec.16th congregational meeting our members voted to request certification by the UUA as an official Welcoming Congregation. This means UUCF agrees to actively welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people as full participants in the life of our church. We have thus committed to work together to pursue the following goals:

- Use inclusive language and recognize varied family relationships and structures as a regular part of the public communications and worship, educational, outreach, and social activities of the church.
- Publicly acknowledge that our church is a safe and welcoming place for GLBT people within our community.
- Include awareness of GLBT events and civil rights, safety and other issues in the regular work of church committees as appropriate.

We, as a congregation, will strive to meet these goals and by doing so continue to live our belief in *"the inherent worth and dignity of every person"*. (This is our first UU principle).

Committee co-chairs **Tom Thorward** and **Lesley Mahaffey** wish to thank the other committee members for their work is helping achieve this important first step in the on-going "Welcoming" process: **The Reverend Jon Dobrer, Liz Heaton, Shirleen Jones, James Lau, Bill Pavlicek, Susan Perlson, Jeanne Preble, Mary Rhodes, Bonnie Roncayolo, Paula Spiro, Tom Stark, Juana Ventura and Marlies Worley.**
(and the congregation thanks all of those listed above for making this a reality for UUCF.)

This week reminds me of why we belong to organizations such as our congregation. We, in some ways, belong to each other—not in an ownership (or onerous) way but joyfully and supportively. We do not come together to make each other the same. We find strength in sharing our traditions and beliefs—our journeys, our joys, our sorrows and ourselves.

Since my wife Helene went into the hospital for knee replacement, we have been surrounded by your loving thoughts, offers of help, emails, cards, books, food and flowers. The emails I print out for her and the cards I hand her. The books are piled up till she is sufficiently off medication to enjoy them. The flowers are a lovely and tangible symbol of the beauty in life that is a part of, not apart from, our transience.

You have been so kind to us—as you are to each other. When I make calls in the homes or hospital rooms of people recovering from an illness, I frequently trip over our members—also visiting, comforting and helping. Even quitting the congregation and moving away doesn't stop us from being serially supportive of one another. While phoning a former member, I was put on hold because a present member was already on the line. Not unusual—at least not unusual for us.

Thank you all from both of us.

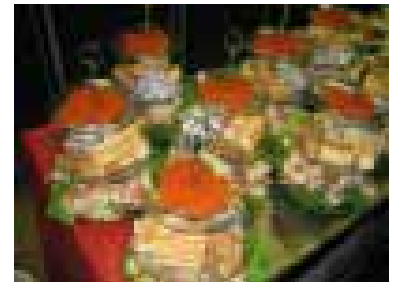


Jon & Helene

Youth polling provides insight into congressional beliefs

In a series of youth religious education classes about belief types, our junior high class conducted a congregational poll on “Ideas about God”. The survey questions receiving the most votes were; “We can use science and reason to understand our Universe” and “There are probably as many ideas about God as there are people”. The next most popular survey question made the analogy that God can be thought of as your conscience calling to make the world a better place. The survey statements most popular were those representing the humanist belief type, followed by the pantheist belief type.

Foreign Foods Friday will be meeting on February 22 at the Restaurant Dunarea, 821 N. Euclid #C in Anaheim. This attractive restaurant specializes in foods from Eastern Europe, the owner is from Romania. The UUCF advance crew enjoyed Chicken Paprika, Beef Stroganoff and Romanian Pork Cuts, and pronounced each of them delicious. You can visit the website at <http://www.dunarea.us> As usual we will meet at 7 pm. Sign up in the Social Hall or see Lou Arnwine.



"UU delegation heads to Kenya"

Aid fund established to help victims of violence in Kenya.

By Jane Greer, 1.21.08

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/63017.shtml>

UU African Leadership conference is scheduled for February 2-6, 2008 in Nairobi, Kenya

Here it Comes, the always Incredible Service Auction

DOZENS OF ITEMS UNDER \$20. Come one, come all! Stock up on: entertainment, dining, gift ideas, services and more!

Bid on:



Annual Favorites: Barbara Keller's Bittersweet chocolate Sauce, Ladies Tea, Balderdash, Charades, Cribbage, and Scrabble nights, Scenic Motorcycle rides, 5 nights at a townhouse in Sedona Arizona.

For Families/ Children:

Swim party/BBQs
18-speed mountain bike
Child's Acoustic Guitar
Karaoke Machine

Unique Opportunities:

Victorian Painted Lady Doll House
Festival of Sagra di Pinolo
Bollywood dancing

Gift Ideas: (for yourself and others!) Hand-made, knitted items, gift baskets galore, coffee table book, jewelry, collectibles, framed pictures and much more.



The Auction fun begins soon and people can hardly wait.

WHEN: Sat. Feb. 9, 2008

Where: Here in the social hall at Temple Beth Tikvah.

\$5 Per Adult Admission, children under 10 no charge

Time: 5pm-7pm Dinner (Western Grill) and Silent Auction

7pm-9 pm Live Auction with our fabulous Auctioneer Rev. Jon Dobrer.

8pm 50/50 raffle

Dessert, children's table, music, excitement and lots of fun, fun, fun!!

FREE CHILD CARE DOWNSTAIRS WITH PIZZA AND LOTS OF FUN!

Remember to bring your personal calendar so you can bid on those items that have set dates. We need all items paid for by evenings end. Unfortunately we cannot accept credit cards so bring your checkbook, or cash.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THIS FUND RAISER? To have a REALLY good time—have fun with your fellow UU's while raising funds for our important programs.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—FEBRUARY 2008

As last month's column on the topic of gratitude as a resolution for the New Year engendered positive response, let's explore the subject a bit more and see what a few cultural figures have had to say about gratitude over the course of time. These quotations may provide an impetus for our own further reflection.

"Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful."

Buddha

"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Epictetus

"No longer forward nor behind
I look in hope or fear.
But, grateful, take the good I find,
The best of now and here." John Greenleaf Whittier

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that **gratitude** is happiness doubled by wonder." *G.K. Chesterton*

"Feeling grateful or appreciative of someone or something in your life actually attracts more of the things that you appreciate and value into your life."

Christiane Northrup

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate." *Oprah Winfrey*

I'm especially conscious of being thankful for this magnificent church community and all who make it so--those new to us and those with years of history here, individuals of all ages whose presence enriches our lives in so many ways, our outstanding minister and staff, and the myriad volunteers who give of themselves so generously to make our organization succeed and grow. And our growth is real. This year the number of members that we certify to the UUA has made a significant gain, from 138 to 144, despite the expected attrition due to life transitions. This increase is indeed a welcome event to celebrate, to be proud of, and to be grateful for. Congratulations to everyone!

In peace and fellowship,

Mary Rhodes

FEB. 24th ADULT RE OFFERING: RUMI, POET OF THE HEART

Jelaluddin Rumi was a 13th century Sufi Muslim mystical poet who, 700 years later, is the **bestselling poet in America**. A DVD will shown that, as the jacket cover announces, "celebrates the earthy, joyous, and spiritual passion of Rumi's poetry". Each participant will receive a selected collection of Rumi's odes and quatrains to read and discuss as time permits. **See you in the Social Hall, 9AM sharp.** Contact Dennis Spiro if you have questions.



A resolution isn't what you "should do"; it is a chance to move your life forward!

Religious Education for February

- February 1st: **R.E. Committee Meeting** at 6:00 p.m.
Liz Heaton's Home
All welcome. Childcare provided.
- February 3rd: Regular Classes
Mardi Gras Celebration!
OWL Youth & Parent Class – UU Church of Long Beach
- February 10th: Regular Classes
Chinese New Year Celebration!
OWL Class – UU Church of Long Beach
- February 17th: Regular Classes
OWL Youth & Parent Class – UU Church of Long Beach
- February 24th: Regular Classes
OWL Class – UU Church of Long Beach



“After Hours” YRUU Group

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito in Solana Beach is hosting a spirituality themed mini-con from March 14th – 16th. Scholarships to cover registration and transportation are available. Please be sure to check your e-mail for mini-con information and local YRUU activities.

Caring Hearts Visit

On Sunday, February 24th we'll make our annual “Caring Hearts” visit following service. If you know of a friend or loved one in an assisted living facility who would enjoy the company of our children, please see Liz Heaton. More information about our “Caring Hearts” visit will be provided in the coming weeks.

African Chalice and gourd instruments made by YRUU on January 13, 2008 and YRUU participated in the drumming/percussion section of the choir on January 20, 2008.

Parent Meeting and Luncheon

Save the date!!! On Sunday, March 2nd, the Religious Education will host a parent meeting and luncheon. More information will follow.

Walk, run, dance, and jump a little every day.

UU Church in Fullerton Calendar

February 2008

Feb 1	Fri	6:00p Youth RE Committee Meeting	At the home of Liz Heaton
Feb 3	Sun	9:00a Service Auction Committee Meeting	
		10:30a -11:45a Why Elections Matter	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Mardi Gras Parade	
Feb 4	Mon	9:30a Fuddy Duddies	Contact Jan Lillibridge
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	At Barbara Keller' home , topic: Ignoring all financial considerations, where would you like to live for the next five years?
Feb 5	Tue	Movie and Dinner with Rev. Jon Dobrer	Contact Marlies Worley for movie title, time, and location
Feb 7	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Feb 9	Sat	5:00p SERVICE AUCTION	Silent auction and dinner at 5 PM. Live auction starts at 7 PM.
Feb 10	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Why Love Matters	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
		12:00p Social Action Committee Meeting	
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Chinese New Year Parade	
Feb 12	Tue	7:00p Board Meeting	
Feb 13	Wed	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	Meet at Carrows in Fullerton , every 4th Wednesday.
Feb 14	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Feb 15	Fri	7:00p Bridge Night	Contact Claude Coppel
Feb 17	Sun	10:30a -11:45a Black Contributions to American Music	Sermon and demonstration by Dr. Stan Breckenridge
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
Feb 18	Mon	7:00p Investment Club	Contact Gwen Fyke or Brad Woodhull .
		7:00p Women's Wisdom Circle	Contact Barbara Keller for topic and location.
Feb 19	Tue	7:00p Discussion Group with Rev. Jon Dobrer & Rabbi Milhander	Joint event with the temple. Topic: Spirituality and Religion
Feb 21	Thu	7:00p Choir Practice	
Feb 22	Fri	7:00p Foreign Foods Friday	Contact Lou Arnwine to sign up and for restaurant information
Feb 24	Sun	9:00a Adult RE	A DVD Rumi, Poet of the Heart will be shown in the social hall.
		10:30a -11:45a Why Matter Matters	Sermon by Rev. Jon Dobrer
		12:30p Lunch Bunch	At Marie Callender's , Placentia. Contact Pat Woodhull .
		Caring Hearts Visit	
Feb 26	Tue	5:30p Discussion Group with Rev. Jon Dobrer & Rabbi Milhander	Meet in the social hall. Part 2 of a joint workshop with the Temple entitled Spirituality and Religion .
Feb 28	Thu	11:45a Men's Lunch Group	

UUCF 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

The deadline for the next issue of the CommUUnicator is NOON, February 18th, 2008.

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.

Unitarian Universalist Church in Fullerton

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Certain personal information (such as contact information) has been removed from this edition of the newsletter, for publication on the World Wide Web.