

# The UUCF CommUunicator



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

November 2010

Nov 7: Time: Precious, Fleeting & Relative, *Jon Dobrer, Minister*

Nov 14: All I Couldn't Have Imagined, *Jon Dobrer Minister*



Nov 21: An Attitude of Gratitude and  
~~~~~`Ethnic Breads Celebration, *Jon Dobrer, Minister*

Nov 28: "The Spirit of Thanksgiving in the Tunes and Stories of Woody Guthrie" **Ross Moore**, Singer Song-Writer, and Storyteller. Many of WhittieWoody Guthrie's songs express an optimism and determination in the face of adversity that reflect a uniquely American spirit of Thanksgiving. The hard times caused by the Great Depression will also resonate with our current recessionary times. Ross Moore is originally from Kentucky, he now lives in San Diego and performs throughout Southern California. This program will be for both adults and children."

**Camp de Benneville Pines News** – lots of it. There is still time to register for our own UUCF camp weekend at De Benneville Pines to be held Veteran's Day weekend. We will be sharing this special retreat with the members of the Long Beach UU church. The weekend begins officially with Happy Hour on Friday November 12. However, since Thursday is the official holiday, the registration form allows you to come up Thursday this year. Contact Barbara Burns for registration information ASAP!!!!!!

An anonymous donor has pledged to match every donation, up to \$100,000, received or pledge by January 31, 2010, to the WATER WORKS! campaign, to save our PSWD camp by replacing the rusted-out water system. For all our children's children, keep the circle whole...Donate at <http://www.uucamp.org/> or by regular mail, to: Camp de Benneville Pines 41750 Jenks Lake Road West Angelus Oaks, CA 92305 Phone: 909-794-2928 Fax: 909-794-2418 Email: [admin@uucamp.org](mailto:admin@uucamp.org) 501(c)(3) organization. Tax ID# 95-2143254 Make your Contribution to WATER WORKS! (\$150 per foot of pipe)

Last minute good news Halloween party fund raising results: \$992 from event, \$113.75 for share the plate last Sunday, \$200 extra donation; a total of \$1305.75 or 13,057 trees! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to coordinate this awesome party!

## **Out of My Mind: Dedication**

## **Minister's Column**

Sunday Temple Beth Tikvah dedicated the new Haim Asa Center. It was a great day for both our congregations. Beth Tikvah has built a fitting tribute to their founding Rabbi Haim Asa and a beautiful center for study, for discussion and for learning.

We have shared space with Beth Tikvah for over 20 years—moving from the small downstairs chapel to the social hall and now to the sanctuary. We will now have a place in this wonderful new building. We will finally have our own dedicated space—an office and meeting place that is ours, with both an entrance through the lobby and our own door adjacent to the fountain, eternal flame and patio.

There will also be space for our mighty choir to rehearse in the music room and for meetings to take place in shared conference room space and in the library. A library!

I must tell you how excited I am to have an office—and for our community to have a permanent and attractive face to show to the world. Donnette will be in the office several days a week. Liz will also be a presence several times a week and I, at long last, can abandon Starbucks and meet with individuals, couples and committees in a quiet and private space.

I am grateful to the people of Beth Tikvah who had the vision and raised the funds to build this place of study, of peace and of hope. I am equally grateful to you, the people of our Unitarian Universalist community, who had the dedication and generosity to assure us a place on this campus for at least the next decade. It was for many a stretch both in vision and in finance but now we can feel settled. From one small room and no Religious Education we have grown in both size and intimacy. We have moved from month to month rent to a serious commitment to continue our spiritual journey together with each other and our hosts and partners of Beth Tikvah.

This month, Thanksgiving came early for me. I feel deep appreciation for all who made yesterday, today and tomorrow possible.

Jon

### **To serve human need . . . .**

As we enter the “giving season,” the Social Action Committee will be involved in a number of projects and many ways that you can get involved:

- The Armory cold weather shelter for the homeless needs volunteers (see Lou Arnwine if you would like to help with this)
- Crittenden Homes will be requesting holiday gifts for young women and infants in their program
- A basket to collect items for people using the Armory will be located in the Social Hall - - new underwear, new socks, and travel size toiletries are needed
- Sale of holiday cards and free trade products in the Social Hall to benefit UUSC
- Collection for FIES on Christmas eve
- And many other opportunities . . . . .

In October we held our annual Halloween Party and fund raiser, this year to support “Trees for the Future,” a four-star charity which plants trees in deforested areas for ten-cents per tree. A very special thank you to all on the Social Action Committee who made this event happen, and **extra thanks** to the Teen Group for surpassing their efforts in creating a haunted house experience that we all enjoyed!

Also in October, a group from UUCF participated in the NAMI Walk on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Huntington Beach, earning \$620 to support individuals living with mental illness and their families. Many thanks to Susan Perlson for organizing this activity, and for all of you who walked or sponsored walkers.

The Social Action Committee provided literature from UULM-CA with information on ballot propositions at our new literature table. We hope this was helpful for you in marking your ballot for November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Over the next few weeks we plan to expand our literature table in the Social Hall to include information on various Social Action issues that may be of interest to members and friends of UUCF. . . . please stop by. Please join us for our next Social Action Committee meeting on Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary at noon. Everyone is welcome!

Debbie Langenbacher  
Co-chair, Social Action Committee

***Encore Careers***, a surprising number of our members have made significant career changes in the last few years and some of those career changes have been greatly influenced by being a UUCF member. Lesley MaHaffey is one of those members and here is her story.

1. What was/is your position? In my professional life I was a business manager at a large aerospace company.
  2. What were typical main tasks of this work?  
This entailed working closely with program managers to achieve cost and schedule targets on large engineering and manufacturing contracts with the U.S. and foreign governments. I was privileged to work with many dedicated engineers and scientists over my 15 years in this field. .
  3. What is your community-focused position? I am currently volunteering 2-10 hours a week at WTLC and FIES to help shelter residents get jobs.
  4. What are typical main tasks of this work? This might involve writing resumes, assisting with job applications, coaching interview skills, and helping the clients work toward getting their GED or other training.
  5. How is it going? The work is a real eye-opener to life on a level that I have never experienced. It can be frustrating to try to work with a client who has a multitude of problems and is not focused on getting a job.
  6. Is there anything else you'd like the readers to know about this choice? I can do some good, which may make a difference in the long run to break the cycle of poverty in that family.
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Each year the FIES “**Holiday Community Program**” provides toys and food to 800 less advantaged Fullerton School families, including 3,000 children. This year’s distribution will take place between Nov. 29 and Dec. 11 at the Distribution Center. We will be collecting your toy donations along with our regular food donations on Sunday mornings through Dec. 5.

A FIES “red tub” will accept your toy and book donations at the Social Action table in the Social Hall after our services on Sunday morning. The program requests new unwrapped toys valued at \$10 or less, and/or new or used books. Doris Dressler-Clark is asking for a volunteer to help with this special collection until Dec. 5. Please find her contact information in our directory.

### HOLIDAY GIFT BASKETS

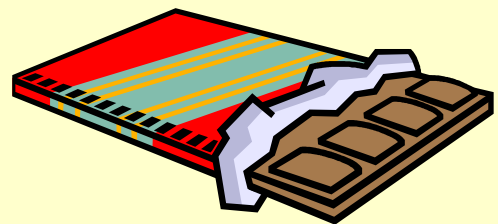
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The UUSC Coffee Project is a collaboration between UUSC and [Equal Exchange](#), a worker-owned, fair trade company. UUCF is one of about 500 congregations — nearly 50 percent of all UU congregations — who now participate in the UUSC Coffee Project, offering hope to small farmers at a critical time. In 2008 alone, Unitarian Universalists purchased 45.3 tons of fairly traded products through the UUSC Coffee Project. UUs have the highest participation rate of any denomination in [Equal Exchange's Interfaith Program](#).

For every pound of fairly traded products sold through the UUSC Coffee Project, Equal Exchange donates 20 cents to the **UUSC Small Farmer Fund**, adding up to almost \$18,000 per year. This fund supports UUSC in building long-term partnerships with small farmer and producer cooperatives. Together, we build sustainable livelihoods, while advancing human rights — particularly the rights of women, youth, and indigenous peoples.

Worker cooperatives are a powerful way to advance human rights. By organizing in cooperatives, farmers can improve their lives, as they work with other farmers and producers to develop their business and leadership skills and make investments in their land, education, and local communities.

Make UUCF Fair Trade coffees, teas and chocolates part of your holiday gift giving. They make wonderful gift baskets. Sign up at our “Coffee Table” during November if you plan to need extra chocolates or coffee in December. Doris Dressler-Clark, our “Coffee Lady” needs to submit special orders by November 28 for delivery by December 12. The new dark chocolate bar with sea salt is a rich, sophisticated bar of chocolate.



## Religious Education NEWS

**Nurturing Your Spirit** Thanksgiving is the time of year when many food banks or places like (FIES) Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Services rely on getting donations to help people who might not be able to afford food to enjoy their holidays. A good November project is to go through your cupboards and collect extra canned goods or other foods that won't spoil to donate to FIES. Or, if you're parents are up for it, take a special trip to the grocery store and pick up items that remind you of Thanksgiving – like canned pumpkin or stuffing to donate.



One of the most important spiritual practices the world over is that of gratitude, being thankful for all of the countless gifts that life gives us. And “paying it forward” is one of the best ways to show gratitude. So this month before leaving for church on Sunday, make a special effort to bring a can (or extra can) of food for our FIES collection.

### Classroom News

We are happy to have our children and youth in their classes and hope they are enjoying their time with friends old and new. There's a lot planned for November and here's just a summary of what we will be doing with our RE kids. Our **Pre-School and Kindergarten** class will be focusing on our sixth UU Principle, with lessons such as **“Each Tree is Special,”** **“The Moon Belongs to Everyone,”** and **“Native Americans.”** Children in the **Early Elementary** grades will explore the concepts of empathy, forgiveness, welcoming. The group will continue to participate in an activity called **Gems of Goodness**. The **Gems of Goodness** project encourages the group to recognize, document in their own journal, and tell the group about acts of goodness and justice that they witness.

**Older Elementary** children in third through fifth grade will explore a variety of themes in sessions titled, **“Building a Community of Forgiveness,”** **“The Blessing of Imperfection,”** and **“All Ages Offer Gifts.”** The group will continue with their ongoing art activity on their individual Window and Mirrors panels which allows them to explore looking inward and looking outward in terms of the week's topic. **Middle School** youth continue to explore mythological archetypes behind the characters in Harry Potter stories and discuss how they relate to our UU Principles and Sources. This month, the group will learn about the holiday “Samhain,” which marks the end of summer for the Celtic year, Perseus, the legendary hero of Greek mythology, and the great messenger of the gods, Hermes.

**Teens** will meet with youth advisers and special teen guest speakers. They may also have the opportunity to attend the adult sermons when the topic or speaker is of particular interest to the group.

**DeBenneville Pines** : November means deBenneville Pines for many of our UUCF families and friends. As a reminder, we will not have our regular scheduled religious education program on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Childcare is available for children under the age of 5; older children should plan on remaining upstairs for the adult service with their parents. **R.E. Committee Meeting will not meet in November.**

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**Would you like to be a part of our holiday music program?** If you play a musical instrument, come join our pick-up orchestra. All players/instruments welcome. We'll have a few after-service rehearsals on Sundays (to be announced) and one Saturday rehearsal. Please call or email me with your name and email address. If you'd like to sing holiday music with the choir, please give me a call/email. Handchime ringers also welcome. Who knows – we might discover some hidden talents in our group! Judi Herz

## **Adult Religious Education**

November 21, 2010

There will be a second discussion, led by Dale Botts, of the book **God is not One: The Eight Rival Religions that Run the World and Why the Differences Matter** by Stephen Prothero. You can hear a podcast of the NPR's "On Point" with

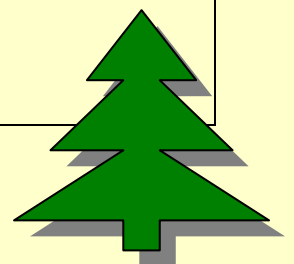


Tom Ashbrook speaking with Professor Prothero at <http://www.onpointradio.org/2010/04/is-there-an-interfaith-god>. Just click on "Listen to this show."

*“ The world’s religious rivals do converge when it comes to ethics, but they diverge sharply on doctrine, ritual, mythology, experience and law...What we need on this furiously religious planet is a realistic view of where religious rivals clash and where they can cooperate.”* You can order the book through Amazon or I just downloaded it on Kindle for \$12.95 (RH) Reading the book is not necessary to join the class !!

“Provocative, thoughtful, fiercely intelligent and, for believing and nonbelieving, formal and informal students of religion, a must-read. --Kat Kan

**The December ARE will be a winter solstice celebration with guest neo-pagans who will lead us in a WICCA service, we will have participation from our UUCF teen and middle school group during this class. We will meet in the sanctuary for this very special ARE class.**



***The 2011 Entertainment Books are Here. The books this year are much larger than in previous years. Only \$35. Great features include: 50% off coupons, coupons for free fast food with no minimum purchase, discount movie tickets (save an average of 24% off the box office price), guaranteed lowest rates on 5000 hotels and car rentals nationwide, 2 for 1 dinners, and \$30 bonus cards for extra savings at selected restaurants in Orange County. If you plan to travel in 2011, books are available for many popular cities.***

**UUCF REGULAR CALENDAR EVENTS**

| <b>Interest Group/Activity</b>                                   | <b>Schedule</b>                                  | <b>Contact Person</b>                     | <b>Location</b>                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lunch Bunch                                                      | Sunday 12:30PM<br>After the service              | Pat Woodhull                              | Marie Callender's<br>Placentia                                 |
| <b><u>Fuddy Duddies</u></b>                                      | 1st Monday 9:00AM                                | <b><u>Jan Lillibridge</u></b>             | Rotating. Contact<br>Jan for location.                         |
| Women's Wisdom Circle                                            | 1st & 3rd Monday 7PM                             | <b><u>Barbara Keller</u></b>              | Rotating. Contact<br>Barbara for location.                     |
| Investment Club                                                  | 3rd Monday 7PM                                   | Gwen Fyke or<br>Brad Woodhull             | Contact Gwen for<br>location                                   |
| Movie and Dinner with Rev.<br>Jon Dobrer                         | 1st Tuesday                                      | Marlies Worley or Rev. Jon<br>Dobrer      | See Sunday<br>Announcements                                    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Discussion Group<br>with Rev. Jon Dobrer | 3rd Tuesday 7 PM                                 | Rev. Jon Dobrer                           | Church—location<br>rotates                                     |
| Men's Lunch Group                                                | Alternating Wed. &<br>Thurs. 11:45AM             | Brad Woodhull                             | Contact Brad for<br>location                                   |
| Choir Practice                                                   | Every Thurs. 7PM<br>(also Sunday 9 AM)           | Judi Herz                                 | In the chapel<br>downstairs                                    |
| Red Hat Society                                                  | Once a month                                     | Fran Doble                                | See Sunday<br>Announcements                                    |
| Meditation Group                                                 | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs. 7PM                       | Marlies Worley                            | Contact Marlies for<br>location                                |
| Circle Suppers                                                   | 2nd Sat. (times vary)<br>(Oct., Jan., Mar., May) | Jim & Gwen Fyke                           | Rotating. Contact<br>the Fykes to sign up<br>to host or attend |
| Foreign Foods Friday                                             | 4th Friday                                       | Lou Arnwine                               | Contact Lou for<br>restaurant                                  |
| Adult Religious Education                                        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 12 PM                  | Dale Botts or Randi Hetrick               | Youth Chapel                                                   |
| Social Action Committee<br>Meeting                               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the<br>service      | Debbie Langenbacher or<br>Lesley Mahaffey | Sanctuary                                                      |
| Board of Trustees Meeting                                        | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the<br>month          | Doug Schneider, President                 | Youth Chapel                                                   |

**Always check monthly church calendar (on the website) and announcements in the Order Of Service for exact time and location of events. There are occasional changes. Announcements will usually give you more details about the groups or you can ask the individuals listed above. If any of this information is incorrect please contact Donnette Gultinan. Last update: 7/10.**

☀Please check circle and return if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

UUCF Board: President; [Doug Schneider](#)

**Vice president**--[Al Danzig](#), **Secretary**--[Dana Bianco](#), and **Treasurer**--[Lois Nettleship](#). Other Board members are: [Dale Botts](#), [Thomas Contreras](#), [Doris Dressler-Clark](#), [Catherine Gallaher](#), and [Ed Tschabrun](#). .

Church Information Phone: (714) 871-7150

Email: [uucf@uufullerton.org](mailto:uucf@uufullerton.org)

Website: [www.uufullerton.org](http://www.uufullerton.org)

The deadline for the next issue of the CommUUnicator is NOON, November 19th, '10

Please submit all items to [Randi Hetrick](#) [livelihood@msn.com](mailto:livelihood@msn.com)

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN FULLERTON

P.O. BOX 4151

FULLERTON, CA 92834-4151

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