



August 2012 Newsletter
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sunnyvale
Services in the small chapel at the Congregational Church located
at Bernardo Avenue & Remington Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087
Children's Religious Education 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.



**We are a
Welcoming
Congregation**

August 5th 10:00 a.m. Who Are We and Where Are We Going?

In the shadow of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Some notes from the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly held in Phoenix Arizona and news from the 'home front' as our Fellowship begins a new year.

Rev. Nina Kalmoutis

This service will include a special Time for All Ages presented by UUFS member, planetary scientist Ross Beyer who will share news about the landing of the new Rover on Mars that is scheduled for this evening.

August 12th 10:00 a.m. Tell Me A Story

Human beings are natural storytellers. Given the opportunity, how able are we to create the narratives of our lives and to build our own theologies around them?

Rev. Nina Kalmoutis

This service will be followed at 11:30 by an update on our Fellowship's finances and a discussion about planning our future.

August 19th 10:00 a.m. What Constitutes A "Good" Education And How Do I Get One?

With rising costs and narrowing options of secondary and higher education what are some alternatives to obtaining an education that would be appealing to students and provide a possible path to earning a satisfactory living? How do these alternatives fit with our Unitarian Universalist Principles? Presented by UUFS member Brad Youngman

This service will be followed by a Sunday Supplement which will provide time for questions and answers with Brad as well as further discussion about his topic.

August 26th 10:00 a.m. Spiritual But Not Religious? Rev. Nina Kalmoutis

This service will be followed by our Annual UUFS Choir Concert.

Upon request, childcare is available for our Sunday Supplements after the services. Please send your request to Petrie at religious.education@uufs.org. Please submit requests one week in advance.



Living the Life I Imagined
Reverend Nina Kalmoutis

What follows is one version of a newsletter column written by Unitarian Universalist minister Peter Lee Scott whose words have

been adapted by many others over the years. So in case you've ever wondered, here are some answers to the question,

“When should I call the minister?”

When you don't know me, but would like to.

When you have problems you would like to discuss having to do with your job, your children, your marriage, or anything else when a sympathetic ear might help.

When you are going to the hospital or know of someone else in the congregation who is.

When someone close to you has died or is critically ill or you're dealing with a significant loss of some kind.

When you are planning to be married or divorced.

When you would like your child dedicated.

When you are pregnant and glad you are or wish you weren't; if you want to be pregnant but aren't.

When you feel ready to join the congregation.

When you have concerns or suggestions.

When you have religious or spiritual questions.

When you are seeking to deepen your spiritual life.

When you are upset with me or would like to express appreciation.

When you have won the lottery and want to make a large donation to the Fellowship. ☺

So there you have it - just in case you've ever wondered!

Please mark your calendars for our Welcome Back Water Service at 10:00 am on September 9th. This service is the one where you can bring some water from a trip you made during the summer or water from your garden hose or kitchen sink (!) to celebrate our coming back together after the summer months. This service will be followed by an All Fellowship Potluck Brunch which will be held behind the children's classrooms.

Nina



Children's Religious Education
Patty Petrie
Director of Religious Education

We are more than half way through the summer already. It really has gone by too fast. Just when the children get into the swing of things it will be over. In August we will learn more about how to be helpful by-standers, such as what actions we can take if we see someone being bullied. We will also be looking at fears and how we can face them or at least learn that fear does not have to always stop us in life.

In the coming months Carol MacFarlane will be heading up the Coming of Age program. This year we will be doing more activities with the San Jose youth in the Coming of Age program. The youth will be going on three retreats through the year, and be doing service projects. As the time gets closer to the start of the Coming of Age program, we will have more details on when the youth will be doing these events.

I would like to take this time to invite each and every one of you to consider becoming a part of the Religious Education program. We are in need of teachers for this coming year and with our growth we need more help. There are also openings on our RE Committee - which meets once a month. Both of these are wonderful ways to contribute to our children and to the future of our Fellowship. It would be a pleasure to talk to anyone who is interested in having fun on Sundays.

In Loving Service,
Patty

NEWSLETTER UPDATED

We have been trying to consider options and determine what is the best way to get information about the activities of the Fellowship to you. It seems clear that what's important is timely notification of events and activities as well as a schedule of Sunday services. What follows is a description of what we are going to do, starting this month. This month, you'll get your regular newsletter as well.

What we've come up with is a monthly one page, fringed paper with a monthly calendar of events on one side and a list of the Sunday services with Supplements on the other. With this you will be able to see at a glance what the upcoming month has to offer. You can generally pick this up at church starting the last Sunday of the previous month. By email, you'll receive a weekly calendar with announcements of activities and anything special to that week.

We think that this is a better format for information. Feel free to give us feedback about your experience. Please send comments to newsletter.editor@uufs.org. We'd like to hear from you.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Our Second Sunday Offering August 12th

On Sunday August 12th all offerings with the exception of cash donations in envelopes designated as PLEDGE or UUFS ONLY and checks with the same designations in the memo line will be given in support of Second Harvest Food Bank. Second Harvest is the largest nonprofit provider of food to low income families in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Through their network of partner nonprofit agencies and direct service programs they are the main source of food for the hungry in our region providing from 50% to 85% of the food distributed by such groups as The Salvation Army, Our Daily Bread and Sunnyvale Community Services.

Annual Food Drive and Strawberry Social A Success!

At the July 15th food drive and strawberry social, the Social Justice Committee collected \$1000 for Sunnyvale Social Services. Summer can be a lean time for families that depend on school lunches to help with food purchases every month. This \$1000 will help Social Services help them. (Seeing that we had collected far over \$900, a member of the committee put in the extra bit and rounded it up, hence the unlikely number.)

The weather was perfect and provided an opportunity for everyone to chat and enjoy fresh organic strawberries from the Sunnyvale Farmers Market. 65 bowls of strawberries, cake and whipped cream were given out at the annual event which has been planned and supported by the Social Justice Committee since 2005. Thank you for your amazing generosity.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Genesis Discussion Group Wed., August 8th

The Genesis Group meets once per month for the purpose of discussing various topics such as religion, politics, the environment, the economy and others. We start by watching a video presentation followed by a discussion period. The meeting is generally held on the first Wednesday of each month. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Dick Wentz genesis.group@uufs.org

Fresh Choice Dinner Wed., August 15th

Come when you can between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and enjoy dinner with members and friends of the congregation. Coupons will be available. UUFS receives 15% of your dinner receipts. Any questions, please email family.friendly.dinners@uufs.org. Your host for this event is Kathleen Mossotti.

Book Club Meeting Thurs., August 23rd

The UUFS Book Club meets monthly and everyone is welcome! This month's selection: "The Sportswriter" by Richard Ford. Held at the home of Marge Goka.

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS AND SUPPORT GROUPS AT UUFS

If you are interested in one or more of the offerings that are listed below please contact the presenters directly or send an e-mail with the best way to contact you to adult.programming@uufs.org

Weaving the Stories of our Life's Journey

Given a different topic each week, we will write about two pages during the week, weaving the memories from our past as they relate to each topic. Sharing our stories with the group will enrich all of us, as we take note of differences and similarities with our own life's journey. A minimum of six participants is needed, though a group of eight is even better. Facilitated by UUFS member Carol McFarlane activities@uufs.org

A Support Group for Personal and Spiritual Growth

Forming in September: A support group for personal/spiritual growth.

Come and explore and share practices and experiences that support you in decreasing stress and fear and help you to connect with your "higher self." Facilitated by UUFS member Janna Mitchell jannaemg@gmail.com

Parents As Resident Theologians

This class is designed to help parents consider their own religious beliefs and experiences so that they can better discuss religious issues with their children. We will learn to translate our religious and spiritual beliefs into language that children can understand. We will also discuss the diversity of theological positions among Unitarian Universalists and the ways children respond to life crises. This is a great opportunity for parents, grandparents, religious education teachers, or anyone interested in exploring their own spiritual journeys and learning how children process religious and spiritual ideas.

Facilitated by UUFS member Virginia Shea and our Director of Religious Education Patty Petrie religious.education@uufs.org

Do you have a class, a workshop or a one-time event that you are interested in presenting to members and friends of the Fellowship? This Fall is a great opportunity to be able to do so. We have the use of the Chapel on Monday and Friday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 and can also arrange for other places and times that might fit your schedule. Please contact me if you are interested. Nina minister@uufs.org

SIMPLICITY AT UUFS

One of our projects, our "Sharing Circle" continues to thrive. Members and friends of our community can feel free to borrow items from one another. We desire the function of the items more than ownership of more stuff.

At our June 27th meeting, we discussed the use of the UUFS Community email to ask for borrowing items from members and friends of our community. We urge everyone to make your subject line descriptive (e.g. want to borrow: XXX). This way, if others do not have the item, they can quickly delete the email and do not feel overwhelmed with unwanted email. Over time, we will attempt to add this type of information into the guidelines for use of the community email group, so it can periodically be distributed to members of the community email group. We also discussed creating recommended wording about our group's purpose and activities for the UUFS Operations Manual. At this time, we decided that we don't require regular meetings. While additional work remains, most of it can be done via email. This tends to fit better for most of the members of this group.

Over time, we may create a database of items that can be borrowed. However, that will take some time. In the meantime, don't wait. You can buy your own toothbrush and comb. For everything else, ask our Sharing Circle! For questions, contact Teri Wiss or email simplify@uufs.org.
Trying to live well, but simply.

—submitted by Teri Wiss

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Board of Trustees Meeting board@uufs.org 7 p.m. (Open to all)	2 Meditation 8:30-9:30 a.m. Chapel meditation@uufs.org UUFS Choir 7 p.m. Chapel music@uufs.org Covenant Group 7:15 p.m. covenant.groups@uufs.org	3	4
5 10 a.m. Service	6 RE Committee 7:15 p.m. religious.education@uufs.org	7	8 Genesis Discussion Group 7:30 p.m. genesis.group@uufs.org	9 Meditation 8:30-9:30 a.m. Chapel Women's Group 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. womens.group@uufs.org UUFS Choir 7 p.m. Chapel	10 Social Justice Committee Meeting 10 a.m. social.justice@uufs.org	11 Circle Lunches & Circle Suppers Contact Ursula Gobets circle@uufs.org
12 10 a.m. Service Sunday Supplement 11:30 a.m.	13	14 Membership Committee Meeting 10:30 a.m. Men's Group mens.group@uufs.org	15 Dinner at Fresh Choice 6:00-8:00 p.m	16 Meditation 8:30-9:30 a.m. Chapel UUFS Choir 7 p.m. Covenant Group 7:15 p.m. covenant.groups@uufs.org	17	18
19 10 a.m. Service Sunday Supplement 11:30 a.m.	20	21	22	23 Meditation 8:30-9:30 a.m. Chapel Book Club 10 a.m. Women's Group 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. UUFS Choir 7 p.m. Chapel	24	25
26 10 a.m. Service Our Annual UUFS Choir Concert 11:30 a.m.	27	28 Men's Group mens.group@uufs.org	29 Board of Trustees Meeting board@uufs.org 7 p.m. (Open to all) 5	30 Meditation 8:30-9:30 a.m. Chapel UUFS Choir 7 p.m. Chapel	31	

UUFS Staff Office Hours and Absences

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The office is open Tuesday, Thursday and
Friday mornings.
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Rev. Nina Kalmoutis
Email: minister@uufs.org
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Meetings by appointment

Office Manager: Jayme King, office@uufs.org
Office Hours: Tuesday 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.,
Thursday 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. &
Friday 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Patty Petrie, Director of Religious Education
Email: religious.education@uufs.org
(650) 254-2069
Here every Sunday. Meetings by appointment

Communications –
Do you: want to send e-mail to UUFS?
need to report a change of address,
telephone number, etc?
have an event you want posted on the web?
Go to www.uufs.org and click on
“Communications” link.

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