

FIRSTNEWS

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco Monthly Newsletter



February 2012

www.uusf.org



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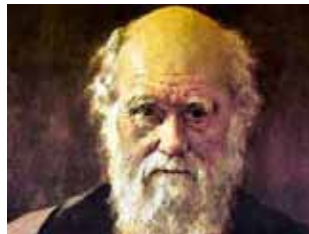
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Questions/Comments: FirstNews@uusf.org



FirstNews February 2012

Dear readers this month we present to you an abridged version of our monthly Newsletter.

-Jonathan Silk, *Communications Manager*

BECOMING BELONGING



MEMBERSHIP

1. New to UU Meetings
2. Path to Membership
3. Invitation to Membership Sundays
4. Questions



NEW TO UU MEETINGS

Is this your first time at a Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church? Are you curious what it means to be UU? Do you wonder what UU's believe? Would you like to find out more about the UU faith tradition and UUSF? Then join us on the First Sunday of every month in the Stebbins Library at 12:30 p.m. We'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

PATH TO MEMBERSHIP

1. Take a New to UU Class or attend a New to UU Meeting;
2. One-on-one meeting with Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae;
3. Attend an Invitation to Membership Sunday where you will sign the historic membership book, make your financial pledge and have your picture taken.
4. Once you are a member, you will be paired with another member who will serve as a mentor for the first year, introducing you to people, places and events in the life of the church;
5. Join in the fun! Pick a committee, activity or group to join - and help in building the UUSF community.

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP SUNDAYS

If you have found your spiritual home at UUSF and are ready to become a member of the Church, please join us on the third Sunday of every month in the Stebbins Library at 12:30 p.m.

QUESTIONS? Feel free to contact a staff Minister at the Church, or reach the Membership Committee/Hospitality Ministry co-Chairs via email at: **Jamie Krovontka** (Jkrovontka@gmail.com) and **George Cavage** (Gcavage@gmail.com).

Thanks again....

-Jamie and George, *co-chairs*, Membership Committee

SPIRITUAL COUNSELING

is spiritual care that explores issues of spirituality, religion, purpose, direction, and questions of ultimacy. It is meant to comfort and to challenge, and to consider life's questions from a holistic religious perspective. Our Beyond Sunday Minister, the Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae, offers sessions of spiritual counseling. You may schedule an appointment by emailing him at jkalendae@uusf.org or by calling the church at (415) 776-

PASTORAL COUNSELING

is spiritual care that explores grief, loss, and meaning from a religious grounding. It is not psychotherapy but is a supportive forum for exploring these issues with a professional pastor. Our Minister of Pastoral Care, the Rev. Fred Rabidoux offers sessions of pastoral counseling. You may schedule an appointment by emailing him at frabidoux@uusf.org or by calling the church at (415) 776-4580, ext. 132.



Spiritual Care Ministries

SPIRITUAL CARE MINISTRIES are made available to members of our congregation who are seeking to deepen their spiritual life, explore life's great questions, grieve losses, or celebrate life's joys. We encourage you to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

CARING COMMUNITY SERVICES

include pastoral services provided by lay members of our community who can provide a ride, go shopping, or offer a caring ear to members of our community who are in need of lay pastoral services. Caring community services can be accessed through our Pastoral Care Minister, the Rev. Fred Rabidoux at frabidoux@uusf.org or by calling the church at (415) 776-4580 ext. 132.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

provides prayer shawls to members who are hospitalized, severely ill, mourning a loss, or nearing death. If you are interested in joining our prayer shawl ministry as a needleworker, or would like to request a shawl for someone in our community, please email our Beyond Sunday Minister at jkalendae@uusf.org. (415) 776-4580 ext. 162.

PREMARITAL COUNSELING

is available to all couples who are preparing to get married. This form of counseling explores issues that span from finances to the bedroom. Our Beyond Sunday Minister, the Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae offers premarital counseling. You may schedule an appointment by emailing him jkalendae@uusf.org or by calling the church at (415) 776-4580 ext. 162.



UU Meditation Chapel Wednesdays, 6pm in the Chapel

Join the Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae in creating a sacred space for meditation, introspection, and/or prayer on Wednesday nights at 6 pm as we pilot a UU Meditation Chapel. Utilizing silent and guided meditations, this will be a space for cultivating a regular spiritual practice, in community, with support and guidance from peers during the week. During the first few sessions, we will begin with instructions about how to meditate, and will explore various forms of meditation from week to week. Beginners and expert meditators are welcome. Donations are welcome, but you need not contribute anything other than your time and commitment to spiritual growth and exploration with our liberal religious community.

UU Meditation Chapel Wednesdays, 6pm

Mentor a New Member!

Beyond Sunday Ministry

We are in need of additional mentors. If you are interested in serving as a mentor for a new member, please email the **Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae** at jkalendae@uusf.org.

Mentoring requires a quick phone conversation, taking the new member for coffee or lunch before or after a church service, and keeping them apprised of events in the life of our liberal religious home for the first few months of their membership.

You can truly help to build our beloved community and integrate new members through this spiritual practice.

I hope you will consider sharing your time, wisdom, and love by becoming mentor.



Join Rev Fred Rabidoux for six Sunday afternoons starting Feb 19 to March 25 to take part in the UUA Building Your Own Theology Course. Classes will meet from 1pm to 2:30pm.

This is the perfect opportunity for newly joined church members as well as all others wanting to deepen your own theological understanding.

Please reply to Rev. Fred by email at frabidoux@uusf.org if you plan to attend.

**Building Your Own
Theology Course**

From the Director of Religious Education

January blew by and here it is February. To be up on Religious Education events and classes, consult the Calendar in this publication and those posted on both RE bulletin boards. One board is next to the greeter's table where the schedule, directions to classrooms and our safety policies are posted. When you look at the Board in the room across from the Chapel, you'll also see pictures of the teachers and the Course Outlines.

A special event notice is coming soon. It will include February 12th. Join us in the evening when our Choir will entertain our Shelter Guests. It's also not too late to apply to be a postal person, charged with handing out valentines. Note that no RE events are scheduled for **February 19th, from 11:00 to 12:00 p.m.** I'll be in the Sanctuary and I hope you and your families will join me there.

Speaking of families, our pre-K and/or young school age children clans have been growing. Often these families leave immediately after service because their children are ready for food or naps. I'd like all of us to take the time to get to know these families. One way to do it is to pop up to the pre-K room at the end of service. You can meet and greet and also observe what a fantastic job our pre-K teachers are doing.

Speaking of Pre-K, our lead teacher, Sarah Beth Chiosini (Helen, K & Day, 5th) will be leading volunteer training for Pre-K assistants. Join her Feb. 19th at either 10:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m., room t.b.d. We especially welcome teen volunteers who can learn more about child development and build up some references.

All hope to complete the job description shortly. From there we have the posting, interview and selection process. All hope that we'll hire by **June 1, 2012**. But we do have a back-up plan if the process takes longer or the new DRE cannot start right away: Me. I am fortunate to be able to serve as long as needed, to resign when needed, (thankfully, in this economy, my husband Robert has a job). Also, if the new DRE asks, I'll be around to volunteer my assistance.

Finally, it is never easy to talk about money in any context, particularly in church. But, that we must for UUSF to bring the DRE's hours from ½ time (and everyone has heard me whine about how the job cannot be done in 20 hrs.) to ¾ or beyond. For those who don't know, our Children & Youth Religious Education ("RE") program is funded from UUSF's general budget. That is why we urge families to support UUSF financially. The money, along with volunteer hours, is crucial to all of the good works UUSF supports, including RE.

You do not need to be a member to pledge. You just need a yellow card and a pen. Also, if you are not a member but wish to be, contact the Membership Committee to find out about that process, which includes making a pledge. Pledging prior to membership means that one hurdle will be out of the way.

Thanks for the opportunity you have given me to serve as DRE. It taps into, and expands, my skill set and sometimes tries my patience. But, in the final analysis I have enjoyed getting to know members of our community at a level that goes beyond a smile and a perfunctory greeting. Worth special mention are my schlepper and proofreader (she didn't review this one so don't blame her folks) Leslie Bader, and the mensch who brings us First News, Jonathan Silk.

-Laurie Moore



The search for a DRE continues. The chair of the DRE Search Committee is Jeff Cookston, a long-time member and professor of psychology (too bad we don't have mental health professionals, on all committees!). Jeff along with Riley McLaughlin, Phoebe Masterson-Eckart and Alison Ritger, have for months been working with District liasons, former DRE's, Stephen Furrer, Administrator Melinda Ewen, members of the Personnel Committee and Board, to perfect the job description. It's time-consuming for all due to professional and legal concerns.

Children and Youth Religious Education Calendar

Spring 2012			C & Y RE Calendar			
Date	9:45 a.m.	10:00:00 Activity	Room	11:00 Sunday School or All in Sanctuary	Room	12:15 p.m.
FEB		Choir	Chapel	K-1 In Our Hands	Emerson	
5		FUUNS	Fireside	2nd Moral Tales	D - downstairs	
		Parent Group	Kincaid	3rd - Rites of Passage	C-downstairs	
				4th-5th Love Connects Us	Thoreau	
				6th-7th Neighboring Faiths	Kincaid	
				8th-9th OWL	Fireside	
				10th - 12th Social Justice	Murdock	
12		Choir		Sunday school		
		FUUNS	see above	see above	see above	
		Parent Group				
				K-1 Parent OWL Meeting		
19		Choir		No RE Programming		YUUDA 8-12th
		FUUNS				
		Parent Group - FFC				
26		Art for Everyone	Art Room	Art for Everyone	Art Room	



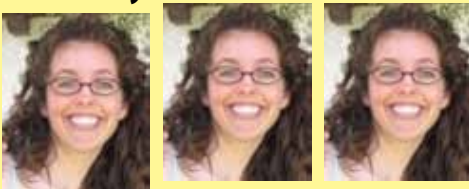
Sunday Forum February

February 5 @ 9:30 am



"A Return to Healing: Healthcare Reform and the Future of Medicine" Len Saputo, MD, a 1965 graduate of Duke University Medical School, is board certified in internal medicine. After his awakening to the deep flaws in conventional medicine, Saputo developed a new paradigm that is now known as integral-health medicine. Saputo founded the Health Medicine Forum in 1994, and went on to found and direct the Health Medicine Center in Walnut Creek -- one the first integrative clinics.

February 12 @ 9:30 am



"Stop Violence Against Women" Tarah Demant, Ph.D., activist with Amnesty International USA (AIUSA), chairs the Women's Human Rights Coordination Group for AIUSA. She served as a Stop Violence Against Women coordinator for Amnesty during its flagship campaign combating violence and discrimination against women. She has spoken throughout the US on issues of violence against women and women's human rights, focusing particularly on rape as a tool of war, gender and international law, and international sex trafficking. Tarah currently teaches at Mills College in Oakland.

February 19 @ 9:30 am



"African Spring 2012" with Grace C. Stanislaus, Executive Director of the Museum of the African Diaspora (Mission St. at Third) furthers the discussion of the contemporary African diaspora in relation to current events. Dr. Stanislaus will discuss the intersection of the Old World and New World, how the dispersal of Africans throughout the world resulted in the flowering of extraordinary forms of cultural expression across the global diaspora and how that diaspora intersects again with global movements, affecting the future of democracy in Africa and elsewhere.

February 26 @ 9:30 am



"Home for the Homeless", a celebration of the work of Raphael House, with Bob McMullin, along with that of the Faithful Fools and Conard House with its Executive Director, Richard Heasley---all in honor of our annual Winter Shelter month.

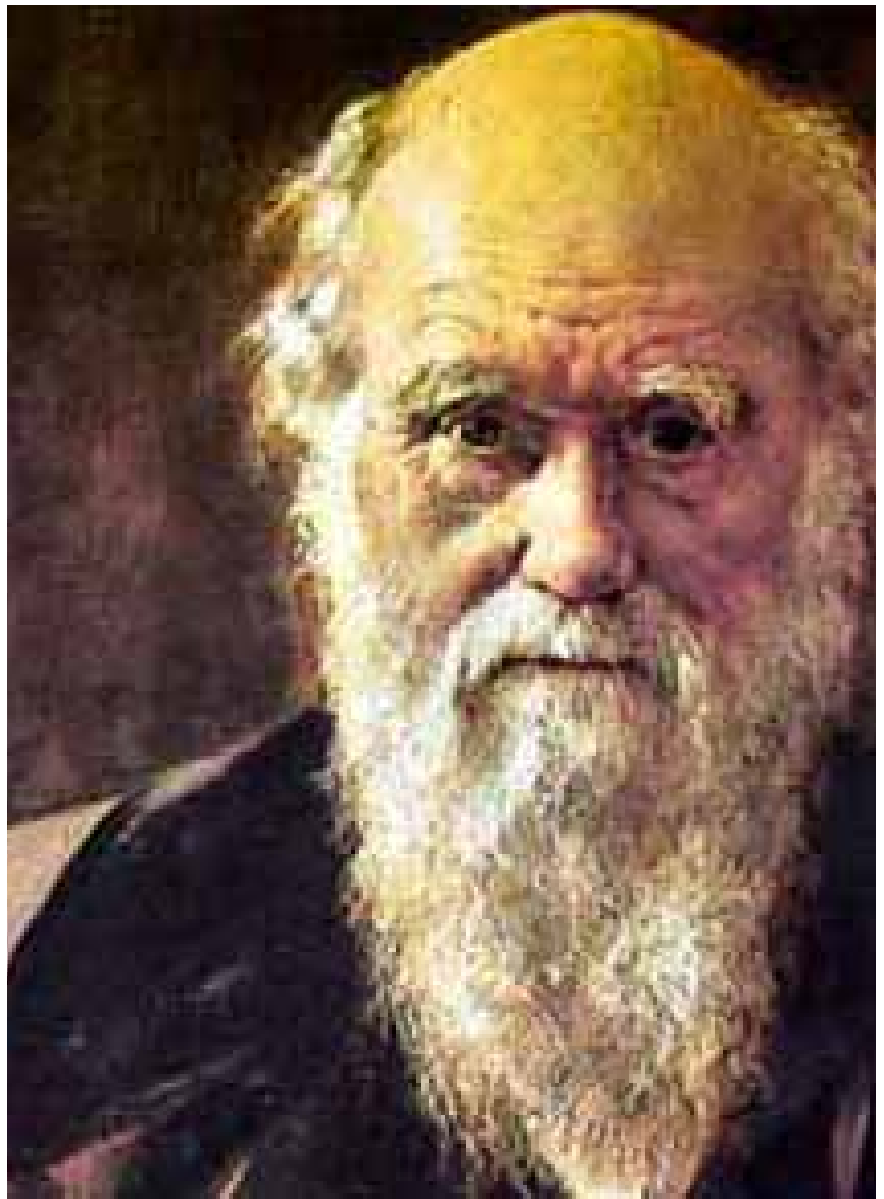
Darwin Day Celebration

Sunday, February 12 at 12:30 pm

Charles Darwin was born on February 12, 1809. His discovery of evolution of species by natural selection is the fundamental unifying theory of the biological sciences. The theory has profound implication for our understanding of ourselves and our place in the universe. To celebrate Darwin's birthday, join the Humanists and Non-Theist group for lunch, birthday cake, and a fascinating discussion of the "Evolution of Religion" with Dr. Sarah Strand, who will talk about parallels between biological and cultural evolution. Dr. Strand will discuss why religion has been present in human society since the dawn of humankind, and the psychological origins of religion, showing that human brains evolved to have a propensity to believe in the supernatural. She will conclude the presentation with evidence of how religion has "survived" by expanding and adjusting to changes in culture, or it's "environment."

Dr. Sarah Strand is an adjunct faculty at California State University, Sacramento and a research supervisor at the University of California, Davis. She received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience and Behavior in 2006 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

The lunch is \$8, wine \$2, soft drinks \$1. The lunch starts immediately after service and the presentation at about 12:45. Both events will be in the Starr King room. It is not necessary to purchase the lunch to attend Sarah's talk. These events are sponsored by our Humanists and Non-Theists Group. Everyone is welcome.



Humanists and Non-Theists Potluck and Discussion

Everyone is invited to our monthly potluck and discussion group

Sunday, February 5 in the Fireside Room.

Church member Lewis Ames, will lead a follow-up discussion, from last month of William Murry's book, *Becoming More Fully Human, Religious Humanism as a Way of Life*. The book presents humanism as a way to live a happy, meaningful and ethical life. In addition to the book, topics that came up in the January meeting will be discussed.

It is not necessary to read the book to participate. If you want to help select topics of discussion for future meetings come at 5:00. The potluck begins at 6:00 and the discussion at 6:30.

All are welcome.



**On Tuesday, February 21
Society for Community Work
presents Sumbul Ali-Karamali.**

SCW meets at 11 a.m. with
social time until noon and the
presentation 1p.m.

Please make reservations online or
contact Christine Patch-Lindsay at
415-424-6964.



Society for Community Work Presents

Sumbul Ali-Karamali grew up in Southern California in an ethnically South Asian family. She earned her undergraduate degree in English, with Distinction, from Stanford University. After working as an editor in a publishing company, she attended law school and graduated with her J.D. from the University of California at Davis. She practiced corporate law in San Francisco for several years.

Although always a practicing Muslim, Sumbul began the formal study of Islam when she attended the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). She graduated from SOAS with her L.L.M. in Islamic Law, with Distinction. She has taught Islamic law as a teaching assistant at the University of London, worked as a research associate at the Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law in London, and lectured on Islam and Islamic law. She has had many articles published, both in mainstream news publications and legal journals. Her first book, an accessible yet scholarly, anecdote-filled introduction to Islam and Islamic law written for the lay reader, was published by White Cloud Press in September of 2008 and is called *The Muslim Next Door: the Qur'an, the Media, and that Veil Thing*. Her second book, a nonfiction chapter book on Islam for ages ten and up, will be released by Delacorte Books for Young Readers in August of 2012.

Sumbul is currently spending her time with speaking engagements, radio and television interviews, writing, raising her two children, and volunteering her time to various causes. She has served on the board of trustees of a nonprofit educational organization that teaches multicultural education and environmental education. She also serves on the steering committee of Women in Islamic Spirituality and Equality (WISE), an initiative dedicated to promoting women's rights from an Islamic perspective, and is a member of the Global Muslim Women's Shura Council, a group of women scholars who research and publish papers on issues relating to Islam and social justice.

For enjoyment, Sumbul plays violin, teaches the occasional Indian cooking class, and watches Star Trek reruns with her family.



Help at the Emergency Winter Shelter

from UUSF Winter Shelter Committee

Come to UUSF at 5 am and get your first cup of coffee with 70 homeless men. The coffee will be made your way... because you're the cook! Or, if you're not a morning person, join a dinner team to help rustle up the evening meal. Don't worry - no special skills or experience needed! The cooking, serving, and clean-up instructions – along with the day's menu - will all be ready for you when you walk in the door.

As part of the Interfaith Men's Emergency Winter Shelter, our congregation hosts 70 men at the Center during the month of February - providing breakfast and dinner each day.
Find out when YOU can help prepare and serve those meals!

Volunteers are still needed on many days.

How to sign up?

Visit the Winter Shelter table after services to sign up for a volunteer slot and chat with members of the Winter Shelter Committee.

OR

To sign up via email, please contact John Sage (johnsagesf@gmail.com) or call at 415-673-5508.

Might we be your vehicle into the Great Unknown?



A Legacy is like a vehicle for you into your future and beyond. Our church might be considered a way not only to develop your present spiritual life and social activism, but a method of assuring you that your impact will continue, joined with that of other like minded folk for years to come. When I walked through the doors of the Unitarian/Universalist Society of San Francisco, the breath of fresh air and hope lacked the taste of fear that I had known elsewhere, in other places where I had sought a spiritual life. Perhaps you had something like this experience.

Sunday, February 19 at 1 pm in the Fireside Room, please join me for a discussion of opportunities for you to help UUSF become not only your vehicle for a Legacy, but for our beloved community and its work. Remember: " Love is the Spirit of this Church, and service is its prayer. This our Great Covenant: to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in freedom, and to help one another." If we can strengthen UUSF for our individual passage through time and space, we will make it a stronger vehicle in our community, in our nation, and upon our planet.

I hope to see you on Sunday, February 19th after the morning service.

-David Dupree

Sensible Cinema

(Sponsored by the UU-United Nations Office and Green Committees)

Presents

“February One”

Thursday, February 9 at 6:30pm

In honor of Black History Month and the 50+ anniversary of the student lunch counter protest.



This documentary is based on first-hand accounts and rare archival footage of the lunch counter sit-in action in Greensboro, North Carolina.

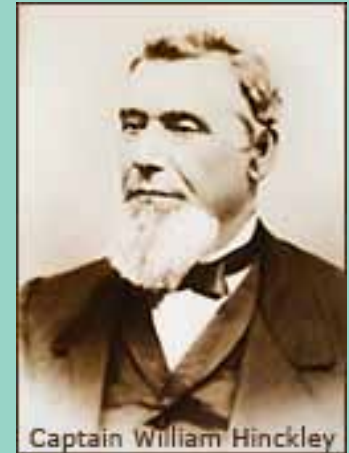
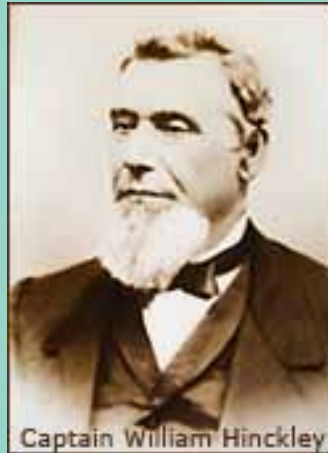
Through these interviews and film footage we will get an in-depth view of the lunch counter sit-in started by four students from North Carolina State.

It was this protest that revitalized a dormant Civil Rights Movement-- a blueprint for future nonviolent actions.

As usual, popcorn and other snacks are available.

Contact: Larry Danos (ldanos@sbcglobal.net), Melvin Starks (mcs104@hotmail.com), Jesse Parrish (jessee@me.com).

Hinckley Fund Graduate Studies Scholarship Applications Available



Applications for scholarships funded by a charitable trust established in 1876 by members of our Society, William and Alice Hinckley, are available online at the web address below* or in the church office. Please print and turn in the completed application by 5 p.m. **March 31, 2012.**

The will of Captain William Hinckley directed that a scholarship be given "to some worthy, talented, industrious, and needy young man who is pursuing liberal studies either in the University of the State, or any other school..." Since then the program has been expanded to include women.

To honor Captain Hinckley's intent, preference is given to candidates whose career plans are directed toward humanitarian goals. The number of applicants for the scholarships requires the Hinckley Scholarship Committee to limit applications to those living in the nine Bay Area counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma).

A grant from the Hinckley Fund helped create the Church's Society for Community Work (SCW). Today Hinckley provides scholarships for graduate students while SCW scholarships are given to undergraduate students.

The William and Alice Hinckley Fund is also accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations through noon on Sunday, January 29th. In 2010 the Hinckley Fund distributed approximately \$93,000 to foster learning, religion, and charity.

- www.uusf.org/Flame/docs/HinckleyScholarshipApplication2011-2012.pdf

The William and Alice Hinckley Fund Application for the Scholarship Program 2012–2013

The William and Alice Hinckley Fund scholarships will be awarded, primarily to graduate students from the Bay Area, for study during 2012–2013 academic year. Financial need, career plans reflecting humanitarian concern, and good academic work are given priority by the selection committee. Applicants chosen for final consideration will be interviewed by a member of the scholarship committee. The Scholarship Committee may limit the number of scholarships awarded to students following the same career paths. Students who have been awarded a scholarship must make a midterm report by December 15 and a final report by June 15 to the Hinckley Fund as stipulated in the IRS letter.

Application deadline 5 p.m. March 31, 2012 (received) No Email or Fax substitutions

Name _____

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____ (c) _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Academic History

Please send the Scholarship Committee a copy of your most recent unofficial transcript.

Last level of school completed _____ Date of completion _____

Proposed course of continued study _____

At what school will you be studying? _____

What degree(s) are you working for? _____

When do you expect to complete the degrees? _____

Please list schools you have attended, beginning with high school. Include dates and degrees received.

Financial Plan and Work History

Please indicate your anticipated budget for next year.

Known income:

Savings _____

Loans _____

Grants _____

Work _____

Family _____

Other _____ (explain) _____

TOTAL _____

Expenses:

Housing & food _____

Dependents _____

Transportation _____

Medical _____

Tuition _____

TOTAL _____

May we publish your name and mid-term and final report? [] Yes, [] No

List your employment history including the job, dates, where, and for whom you worked.

Candidates for Pacific Central District and General Assembly



The Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend to the Congregation a slate of candidates for the General Assembly and Pacific Central District. The election will be held in the Starr King Room on **Sunday, March 18 at 12:30 PM.**

We nominate for General Assembly: **Robert "Bob" Bacon, Mary Castiglia, Emily Drennen, Stephanie Gowin, Lizzy Gruner, Marie Kazan-Komerek, Amy Kelly, Carla McCasland, Mary Jane Mikuriya, Laurie Moore, Dolores Priem, and Stephen Schwichow.**

We nominate for Pacific Central District: Matthew Anderson, Jim Barnett, David Dupree, Marie Kazan-Komerek, Amy Kelly, Carla McCasland, Riley McLaughlin, Mary Jane Mikuriya, Karen Melander-Magoon, Kelli Murray, Christine Patch-Lindsay, Luanne Schulte, Stephen Schwichow, Thad Smith, and Anna Sylvester.

The Nominating Committee has nominated twelve candidates for General Assembly and fifteen candidates for Pacific Central District. The membership of the Society will elect ten candidates for each office. Additionally, two alternates will be elected for each office.

Biographies of all candidates will appear in the March newsletter.

Sincerely,

John Klopacz, *Secretary*, Nominating Committee

Members desiring to represent UUSF at General Assembly and membership on the Pacific District Council for a term of one year are encouraged to submit their petition and a brief biography to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees for inclusion on the ballot. The deadline is March 4th, voting will occur at the Congregational Meeting, March 18th. Email: sjhartze@pacbell.net

If this email doesn't display well,
read it on your browser at <http://tinyurl.com/87vhf8u>

Which Way Forward? Direct Action, Electoral Politics, and Other Paths to Progressive Change in America

WED, FEB 15, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

**First Unitarian Universalist Church
1187 Franklin St. (at Geary Blvd.) San Francisco**

**A public forum presented by
The San Francisco 99% Coalition**

Inspired by the nationwide and international Occupy movement, this program will explore how activists can devise effective strategies to bring about a more just, peaceful and humane society.



Participants:

ROCKY ANDERSON, Justice Party candidate for US President.

MARGARET FLOWERS, Occupy-Washington DC , Physicians for a National Health Program.

TOM GALLAGHER, Progressive Democrats of America-SF, former Mass. State Representative.

DAVE WELSH, SF Labor Council, US Labor Against the War, ILWU Longview port support.

Moderated by ROSE AGUILAR, host of KALW's "Your Call."
Question and Answer session will follow the panel discussion.

Admission: \$10 (nobody turned away for lack of funds)
Wheelchair accessible.

More on this event and to order tickets on-line:

<http://tinyurl.com/6vbut45>

Tickets also available at the door.

Sponsored by the SF99% Coalition.

"The purpose of the SF99% Coalition is to work in coalition with and offer support to groups which promote nonviolent advocacy for more equitable social, economic and environmental public policies."



Board Notes

Stephen Schwichow,
Moderator,
Board of Trustees

Here it is February and we seem to be still waiting for the winter.

The January board meeting had an unusually full agenda and it certainly portends a busy time for our congregation as we move through our church year.

The “Governance Review & Learning” focused on the relationship between the board and the nominating committee and how they work together and afforded a peek at the Ministerial Search Committee that we will be voting on at our Annual Meeting in June. As speaking of the Ministerial Search Committee process, I would like to request that those of our members who have been on a previous Ministerial Search Committee please contact me at: moderator@uusf.org

Every year the Unitarian Universalist Association asks that each member congregation be certified with the UUA by February 1st. This process is used to report congregations’ official membership numbers, which determine both the number of member delegates allowed at General Assembly (GA) and the Annual Program Fund (APF) Fair Share contributions to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). It also serves to update congregation information for the UUA Directory.

One of the tasks that the board asked our Church Administrator to take on, working with our Finance Committee, was to clear our membership rolls so that we will have realistic picture of the size of our congregation. It appears, as of this writing that we will report to PCD/UUA a membership of 370 pledging units.

The board has designated March 25th as the Pledge Drive Kick-off date and **Rev. Furrer**, assisted by **Rev. Rabidoux**, is willing and anxious to work with all members willing to volunteer to help with this year’s Pledge Drive. The more skills available the better and easier the task will be. We are specifically looking for folks with “event planning” skills. Please contact the reverends or any member of the board if you’re interested.

Continued on next page.

Speaking of Rev. Furrer, at the meeting the board voted unanimously to request that he stay with our congregation for a second year, which he has accepted, and the board began to work on his 6-month appraisal, required by the UUA.

Merle Easton, who worked so diligently on the installation of our elevator, has volunteered to take on the task of chairing a committee to research renovating our restrooms. The current restrooms are original to the construction of our Center and in great need of repair. Our Facilities Reservation Manager, **Jay Roller**, reports that we are losing rentals, particularly weddings, because of the condition of our restrooms. The board has asked Merle to put together a committee and has authorized the expenditure of up to \$500 to procure a "scope of work and cost estimate" for the renovation.

Jeff Cookston, who has assumed leadership of the DRE Search Committee, made an excellent presentation and, on behalf of the search committee, has asked the board to increase the hours for the prospective director from 20 to 30 hours per week in next year's budget. Although the current budget, passed by the congregation last year, set the DRE hours at 20 hr/week, the clear message from the board was that it considers our ministry to our youth and children to be a top priority and with the help and support of our entire congregation such an increase is feasible. Being able to accomplish this will take all of us, as a community of faith. In this case I see it personally as faith in the future of our youth and children.

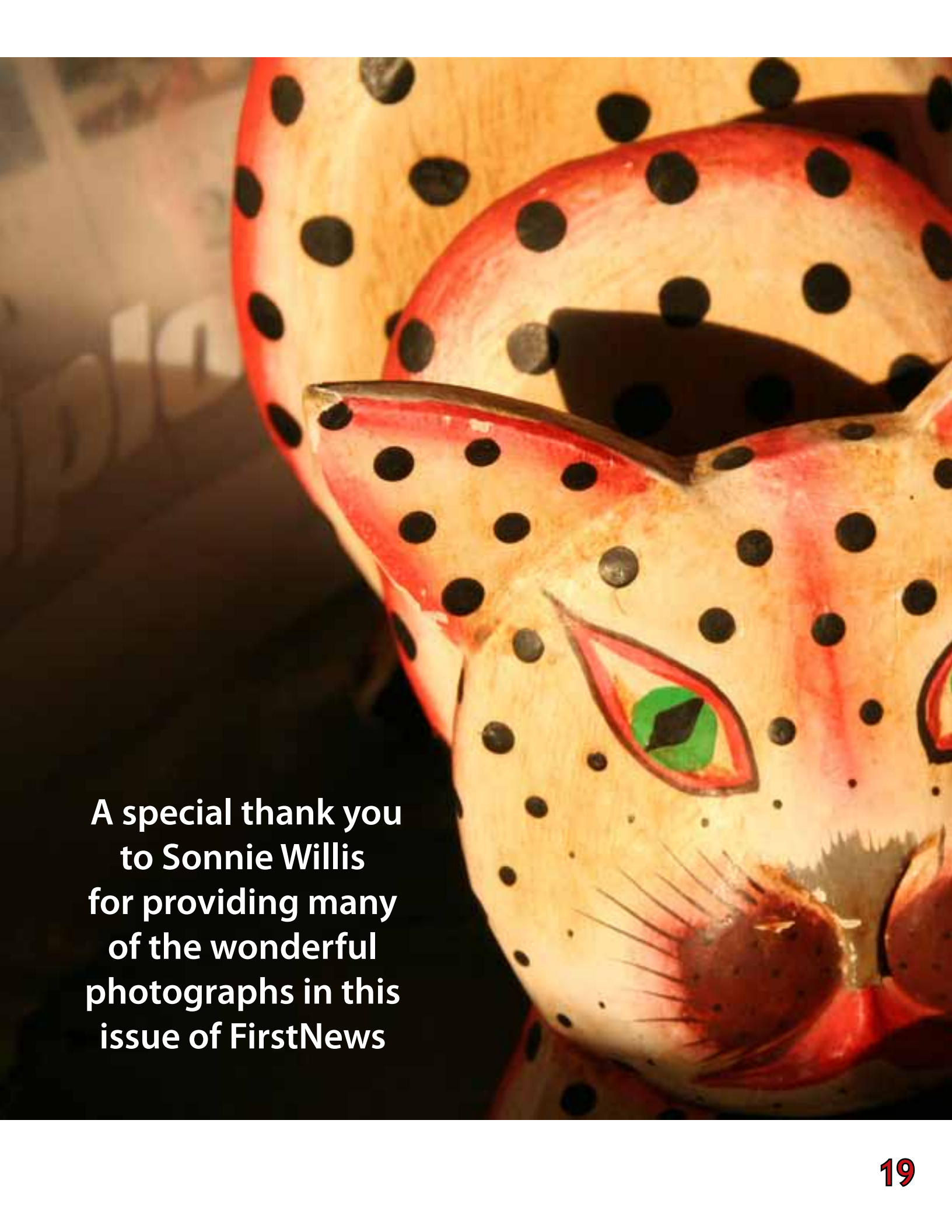
There are two proposed By-Law changes that the board will be bringing before the congregation at our Annual Meeting in June, one is a tightening up of the verbiage regarding pledging, and the other is the creation of a third type of membership. Currently the By-Laws list "Member" (with voting rights) and "Friend". The board proposes to add Member Emeritus/a, in order to honor those of our members who are no longer able to participate fully in the life of the congregation for reasons of age and/or health. The board will be conducting meetings to enable everyone to better acquaint themselves with the proposed changes and the reasoning behind them.

Finally, the board has set some important dates that we will all want to note. March 18th— Congregational Voting Meeting to elect delegates to the 2012 Pacific Central District Assembly (April 27-29) and the UUA General Assembly (June 20-24); June 3rd— Congregational Budget Voting Meeting; and June 10th— Annual Meeting of the Congregation, at which we will vote on proposed By-Law changes and hold elections for the Board of Trustees and the Ministerial Search Committee.

Several years ago, our board created a "Covenant of Right Relations" to help guide us as we work together. It is posted on the board's Internet page at www.uusf.org. There is one specific phrase that resonates with me when I look around our sanctuary on Sundays realizing just how much we, as a community, have practiced it with each other. "Listen deeply to each other and assume that others have positive intent and the best interests of the Society at heart." This is how and why we are growing together as a community.

Faithfully,
Stephen Schwichow, Moderator, Board of Trustees





**A special thank you
to Sonnie Willis
for providing many
of the wonderful
photographs in this
issue of FirstNews**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			1:00 PM Needleworkers 6:00 PM UU Meditation 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM SGM: Alison/Julia 7:30 PM Ministerial Relations	5:00 PM Executive Team 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM SOA Watch 7:15 PM Choir	6:00 PM Winter Shelter	9:00 AM Men's Breakfast 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM Pagan Interest Circle
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 AM Forum 10:00 AM Children's Activities 11:00 AM Neighboring Faiths 11:00 AM OWL class 11:00 AM WORSHIP 12:30 PM Legacy Sunday 12:30 PM New to UU 5:00 PM Humanists/Non-Theists 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM Forum Planning	10:30 AM Staff Chapel 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:00 PM Green Cmte. 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM Addiction & Recovery 7:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM Guardian Circle 7:15 PM Art Committee	5:30 PM CPMC Committee 6:00 PM UU Meditation 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 6:30 PM Sensible Cinema 7:15 PM Choir	6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Winter Shelter
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 AM Forum 10:00 AM Membership 11:00 AM Neighboring Faiths 11:00 AM OWL class 11:00 AM Religious Education 11:00 AM WORSHIP 12:00 PM Darwin Day 12:30 PM Personnel Committee 2:00 PM Singletarians 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM Nominating Committee	10:00 AM SCW Board 11:00 AM Staff meeting 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 6:30 PM Agenda Setting 7:00 PM Addiction & Recovery 7:00 PM Family Faith Committee	6:00 PM UU Meditation 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM SGM: Alison/Julia	5:00 PM Executive Team 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:15 PM Choir	6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Winter Shelter
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30 AM Forum 10:00 AM Children's Activities 11:00 AM WORSHIP 12:30 PM Invitation to Membership 12:30 PM Legacy Sunday 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	7:45 AM Holiday Closure - Presidents' Day 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	10:30 AM Staff Chapel 11:00 AM SCW Business 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:00 PM SCW Luncheon 12:15 PM Gray Panthers 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:00 PM Addiction & Recovery 7:00 PM Board	6:00 PM UU Meditation 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM Winter Shelter 7:15 PM Choir	6:00 PM Winter Shelter	6:00 PM Winter Shelter
26	27	28	29			
9:30 AM Forum 10:00 AM Children's Activities 11:00 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM Winter Shelter	7:00 PM Nominating Committee	11:00 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Addiction & Recovery	6:00 PM UU Meditation			

If you have any questions concerning this calendar
 please contact Jay Roller at jroller@uusf.org (415-776-4580 x202)

February 2012

Sunday Worship

Service begins at 11:00 am



**“Ecclesiological Update”
By The Reverend
Dr. Stephen H. Furrer
February 5**



**“Charles Darwin and
Contemporary
Creation Myth”
By The Reverend
Dr. Stephen H. Furrer
February 12**



**“George Washington:
The Che Guevara
of Fairfax County, Virginia”
By The Reverend
Dr. Stephen H. Furrer
February 19**

**An Invitation
to Membership to join our
liberal religious community.
Rev. Jeremiah Kalendae
February 19 at 12:30 pm
in Stebbins Library**

**By The Reverend
Dr. Stephen H. Furrer
February 26**

