



# THE UNICORN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County  
6401 Freedom Boulevard, Aptos, California 95003, (831) 684-0506  
Website home page: Use <http://www.uufsc.org>

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April 2002

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### Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley

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## The UNICORN

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## April Sunday Services

- April 6 10:00 am: Peace Pilgrim**, a silver-haired, gentle woman, walked 25,000 miles for peace, while maintaining, "I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food."  
 Bill Meade is our guest speaker. Bill has worked as a Director for the Humane Society of the United States and as Director of Education for John Robbin's EarthSave Organization. Most recently Bill has focused his message on the life and work of Peace Pilgrim. Video of Peace Pilgrim's life will be shown in the Gallery after the service.  
 Service Associate: Fran S. Gertler  
**Potluck follows the Service**  
**Congregational Meeting follows the Potluck**
- April 13 9:00 am: Forum: Trust**  
**10:00 am: Finding Strength.** This morning fellowship members Fran Gertler, Karen Holl, and Elizabeth Van Dyke will share where they each find hope in times of personal and political turmoil.  
 Service Associate: Karen Holl.
- April 20 10:00 am: The Lorax-** This all ages service celebrates the return of spring with an adapted version of this well known Dr. Suess story. On this day, we honor the resurrection of life, and the hope of future generations. We will also celebrate this day by formally welcoming baby Travis into our community.  
 Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley  
 Special Guest Musicians: The Lee's (Oboe and Harp)
- April 27 9:00 am: Forum: Caregiving**  
**10:00 am: Service** Join us this morning as the Rev. Ann Goldsmith graces our pulpit with her wit and wisdom. The service topic will be announced in the order of service through out April.  
 Service Associate: Terra Collier-Young

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# Langston-Daley Thoughts

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As we enter our annual canvass, I encourage all of us to reflect on why this community is so vital and important in our own lives and in the world. The following thoughts are adapted from the canvass sermon preached on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

### *OUR MISSION STATEMENT:*

*We the members of the UUFSCC join together to foster our spiritual growth and to promote social justice. Honoring religious diversity and affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all people, we commit our combined actions and personal resources to these goals.*

This Fellowship was built by hands that believed in the liberal religious values of democracy, love, freedom and service. Because of their vision, we are here today. This religious home provides a refuge from the storms of hatred, intolerance and ignorance. Within the walls of this Fellowship, we have found a safe haven.

I have heard over and over again that people come here for community. A community of like minded people. People who are willing to disagree with respect, people who are willing to explore the difficult issues that face our world, our nation, and our own lives.

I know that many of you have come here searching-- searching for a comfortable home. Many of you sought out this Fellowship in the midst of personal struggle and pain. Here, you have found a community willing to open its arms and embrace you as you find your own path through healing to new discoveries.

We provide a place of refuge. Our forebears' commitment to this liberal religious faith has built a legacy, a ship constructed by many strong and determined hands. This place of refuge prepares and nurtures us so we may bring our sense of justice out into the world in an effort to create the kingdom of heaven here and now.

Our mission statement calls us to promote social justice. We are committed to a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; to justice, equity and compassion in all human relations; to the democratic process and to a world community, with peace justice and liberty for all. We practice these principles in our individual relationships within this community in an effort to bring these liberal religious values out into the world. Our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all people calls us to action.

Our world is in great danger. With war looming on the horizon our vision is essential. With cuts in state funding for education, resources to the homeless, job training, and other social programs, our vision is essential. With the threat to civil liberties and individual freedoms our vision is essential.

There is much that we have accomplished and there is still much to do. We must never lose sight of our purpose and our mission. The

hope that is the promise of our faith is needed now, more than ever. We will continue to care for each other, to provide support and encouragement. We will continue to add our voice in the global arena-- to call for tolerance, peace, compassion and justice. We will do this by continuing to carry out our long range plan and by offering our individual commitment to the work of this Fellowship and to the wider institution.

As we move into our canvass, each of you will be asked to give what you will to the mission of our Fellowship. I encourage you to search your heart and mind to determine for yourselves the value of this community in your life, and the value of our wider vision. And give what is right! What we offer here is far greater than a service once a week, or a dinner club once a month. What we offer here is hope for the future. What we offer here is an opportunity to express your values on a wider scale. What we offer here is the chance to leave behind a continued legacy of a strong and stable ship-- sustained by your committed and determined hands. One that is not afraid to set the sails and face the winds of time to bring about a peaceful and just world.

Shanti, 

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## **April Congregational Meeting**

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There will be a Congregational meeting on April 6th. This is the agenda:

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll call of members
- c. Reading minutes of the previous meeting
- d. Special orders:

In April: Reports of Officers, report of Nominating Committee and nominations from the floor, and election of officers and board members

- e. Unfinished business
  1. Report on Survey by Committee on Ministry
  2. Report on progress by Building Committee
  3. Other
- f. New business
- g. Adjournment

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## ISSP Volunteers

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The Interfaith Satellite Program is a cooperative effort among area churches to offer a meal and a safe place to sleep for the homeless one night each week. Sunday evening is the Fellowship night to host 16 to 20 men. Volunteers from the congregation prepare the meals.

Many thanks to those who have already bought, prepared and served a meal this year. In January, Bobbi Jo and Jackie Palmer, Devi Tong, John Thiemann and MaryLou Lamb, and Woodie & Jenny Wood. February volunteers include Terra Collier Young, Jan and Ted Lester, Jim Weller and Linda Nehrer, and Sonja Hudson and Robynne Blume. In March our volunteers are Corinne Wood and Ray Valdez, John David Dupree and Jumaane Makalani, Bobbi Jo and Jackie Palmer, Missy Radcliffe and Joan Roberts, Cheryl Kelmar and Judy Anton with Robynne Blume and A Schektman.

Your help is needed. Please call Joan Rost 661 0623 or e-mail [cnjrost@cruzio.com](mailto:cnjrost@cruzio.com). It is an easy rewarding job. If each member volunteered once a year, we would have plenty of dinners. Dates available are May 4th and all Sundays from May 25th on through the year.

Since the board meeting this month comes after the Unicorn deadline, "What The Board Has Been Doing" will not appear this month

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### Unicorn Deadline

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The deadline for May is April 20th. Please place articles in the Unicorn office folder or email them to the editor by that date. Please email computer text and photos. Thanks.

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## President's Message

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### UNDER GOD

For now, it is the law of the land that the words, "under God" should not be part of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. That was the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and it will stand for all time unless reversed by the next and last higher court, the United States Supreme Court. The issue might not even be heard by the USSC. The USSC decides what cases it will hear and takes very few of the cases that are appealed to it. The losing school district in the pledge of allegiance case has announced that it would appeal and the Supreme Court itself will decide if this issue is important enough to command the time of the court.

Pledge scholars will remember that the pledge was created by one Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister, who called himself a Christian Socialist. Neither George Washington nor Abraham Lincoln ever said the Pledge because it wasn't written until 1892. Originally, the Pledge was to "my flag" but in the 1920s that was changed to "the flag of the United States of America". Then in 1954 the words "under God" were added after "one nation". The campaign to add "under God" was led by the Knights of Columbus and passed both houses of Congress by voice vote with no audible dissent. I mean where are you going to find a politician willing to vote against "under God"? Since I went to grade school without "under God" in the Pledge, I can't get used to the new rhythm. When I go through the Pledge in public ceremonies and that sort of thing, I usually say, "...one nation, mumble, mumble, indivisible.." so that I don't finish before everyone else. A friend of mine had a different system. He'd say, "...one nation, by God, indivisible..." That makes a little more sense grammatically. After all, I don't think that it is God who is supposed to be indivisible. Where is the public outcry from the Trinitarians?

I am writing this as Pledge Week is about to start, and I thought I'd write something about the Pledge that wasn't a nag for money. On other fronts, we're doing fine. The Congregational Meeting March 9, 2003 was an inspirational success. It was very well-attended and an example of the democratic process in action. We all owe our thanks to the Board of Trustees for crafting the proposal and to Ann McCrow, Marsha Hudson, Karen Aaker and Bill Sampson for ably presenting it. For those of you who left before the vote was counted, the proposal on revising the Minister's duties carried 53 "yes", 0 "no", and 1 "abstain".

Keep the faith,

Ed

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## First Friday Book Group

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Just as we promised in the last Unicorn, the First Friday Book Group came up with suggestions of what to read for the next several months. For April we'll be reading and discussing Anne Fadiman's "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down." In May we'll be looking at another Kafka book, "The Castle." In June it's Shakespeare's "Hamlet" and, if possible, we will be renting Sir Lawrence Olivier's movie version to watch the Saturday following the discussion on Friday. Our final choice is "Stones for Ibarra" by Harriet Doerr. That takes us through July and by that time we should be able to come up with more titles.



If you have a book you'd like the group to discuss why don't you join us at 7:30 on the first Friday of the month at Joan Roberts's home. That would be the time to put your suggestion in the hopper. Call 688-7598 for more information.

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## Help for Children and Indigenous People Around the World!

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We received thanks from the UU Service Committee on February 24th for a total donation of \$1,341.85. That is a wonderful increase over last year. Beth Coats would have very proud of us!

Sylvia,  
Program Coordinator

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## PCD District Assembly!

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### To Love the World: Embracing Our Call

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With fire and passion, we respond to a call to love and to serve. Join five hundred festive and feisty Unitarian Universalists for a weekend of learning, leadership and lasting hope at our 2003 District Assembly. Our theme presenters, workshops and worship services will draw our attention to justice, mercy and the humble witness of religious liberals striving to celebrate with heart and mind, body and spirit.

District Assembly will take place on April 25 – 27, 2003 at the Sacramento Hilton Arden West. Registration opens at 5 p.m. on Friday night. For directions to the hotel, please see: [www.SacramentoArdenWest.Hilton.com](http://www.SacramentoArdenWest.Hilton.com)

Activities include a Banner Parade, Friday Worship (with the Sacramento ministers, Rev. Melora Crooker and Rev. Douglas Kraft), a Sufi Peace Dance, the PCD Awards Breakfast, 14 workshops, a candidates' forum for the UUA Trustee election, the Banquet and Keynote Speaker (Rev. Thomas G. Anastasi, from the Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church, will rock the house!), a Bridging Ceremony, a Saturday night dance, the Sunday Forum featuring the Faithful Fools play, "The Witness" and the Sunday Worship Service led by Rev. Elizabeth Banks and the Worship Team of the First Unitarian Church of Davis.

There will be exhibits, affinity groups, old friends to greet and new friends to make. You can hang out by the pool and hot tub, play volleyball, or just plain relax in the company of UUs from all over northern California, Nevada and Hawaii.

We have also planned a number of activities for our young members – there will be nursery care all weekend, childcare on Friday and Saturday nights, a Children's Camp on Saturday, High School aged activities and Young Adult activities. There will also be "alternative banquets" (pizza party!) for our young people. The registration fee for our members under 18 is just \$20.00 for the entire weekend!

For more information, registration forms, a list of workshops and the schedule of events, please visit us at: <http://www.pcd-uaa.org>, or give me a call at the PCD office: 510-601-1437. For hotel reservations, call the hotel at 916-922-4700 and tell them you are with the Unitarian Universalist District Assembly, or register on-line at: [www.SacramentoArdenWest.Hilton.com](http://www.SacramentoArdenWest.Hilton.com) and use the code "SUD" for our group rate of \$85.00 / night, single or multiple occupancy.

I hope to see you there!

Chuck Rosene  
Pacific Central District - UUA



In March, we had a wonderful hike guided by Patt Taylor and Margaret Seidler, who had been to Pinto Lake before. There is more there than picnic areas! If you've never wandered in, check it out. Parking is free and there are trails all around the lake. We saw ducks, white pelicans and visited an amazing shrine decorated with hundreds of pictures and thousands of flowers where a vision of The Virgin of Guadalupe appeared. In April we will return to one of our favorite places, Elkhorn Slough. We will carpool from the Fellowship since there is a parking fee there. It's a little early for nesting but we should see lots of birds. Since we have a few bird lovers in the group and the trails there are pretty level, this is a good time to join us if you're afraid we're only serious hikers. We aren't, and this promises to be a stroll at a leisurely pace (you can jog ahead if you're coming for exercise). We will leave after the potluck (If potluck is not on the first Sunday in April bring a lunch. It's a great place for a picnic!)

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## A Benefit Concert for V and Pam

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**April 5th 7:30 PM**

**Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd.,  
Oakland**

**\$15-50 Sliding Scale, Doors open at 7:00**

**510-339-1832 or [renvolpe@mindspring.com](mailto:renvolpe@mindspring.com)**

FEATURING: Nedra Johnson, with one of the great blues voices of our time, her powerhouse combo of funk, rock, R&B and jazz will get you dancing in the aisles!

Also: Sini Anderson (spoken word artist), Lynne Breedlove (of dyke punkdom fame), Santa Cruz's own folk Goddess Diane Patterson and Voices Lesbian Choral Ensemble will help round out the night.

If you want to help set up or break down at the Women's Club in Oakland, contact Ren Volpe (email address above.) If you want to bake goodies for the intermission bake sale, call Bobbi Jo Palmer at 724-8636. The idea is that each person packs up goodies that will sell for \$2 and then makes arrangements to give them to Bobbi Jo who will get them to Oakland. Thanks everyone!!

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## Dinner Club for April

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Dinner Club is open to all persons interested in meeting once a month, usually on the 2nd Saturday at different host homes. If that time is not convenient, the host can schedule another mutually convenient evening. If you know you cannot attend, please call the host as soon as possible so that he/she can make other plans. The first person on the list is host, serving hors d'oeuvres and beverages, 2nd brings main dish, 3rd brings salad, 4th brings dessert, and 5th brings a vegetable.

### Group 1

- 1 Dupree/Makalani
- 2 Seamon
- 3 Meyer
- 4 Hudson/Shackelford

### Group 2

- 1 James/McCrow
- 2 Lamb
- 3 Smith-Merrill
- 4 Newman
- 5 Oxley

### Group 3

- 1 Mohsenin
- 2 Rogers
- 3 Aaker/Fihe
- 4 Lewis/Martin-Travis

### Group 4

- 1 Thiemann
- 2 Kane
- 3 Wood D
- 4 Lester
- 5 Wilson

### Group 5

- 1 Boone
- 2 Bailey/Alexander
- 3 Holden
- 4 Forsyth
- 5 Morairty, M

### Group 6

- 1 Collier-Young
- 2 Anton
- 3 Hinz/Killeen
- 4 Keith-Spiegel/Racimora

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## Meet Our New Members

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**Fred Seamon** likes to go to movies and plays and also enjoys travel, and doing things with friends such as going to dinner, the theater and visiting museums. He also enjoys walking on the beach, exercising, reading, going to movies, and playing with his two small dogs. His main reading topics are history and biographies. He was raised as a Roman Catholic and was a Notre Dame graduate. He was an active member of the church for 50 years, including being president of parish councils, men's organizations and prayer groups. He has a degree in counseling and has counseled people with AIDs, patients' parents and also first offenders prior to their release from jail. Counseling is a skill that he would like to share with the Fellowship. He is a pacifist who was a career army intelligence officer. Since 1990 he has been actively involved in defense conversion and nuclear non-proliferation activities in the former Soviet Union.

**Jodi Holden** likes to hike, read, be an activist volunteer in the community, enjoys movie discussion groups, is involved with ceramics, yoga, French lessons, guitar lessons, water skiing and tennis. She is a board member of the Northern Cal. Human Resources Association, the American Society for Training and Development, International Performance Society, Inc. Santa Cruz Movie Discussion Group, LightHouse Venture Forum, and a networking group for human resources professionals. She enjoys reading about social studies, psychology, history, spiritual self-help, and poetry. She was raised as a Catholic but was baptised and confirmed during her teen age years in a fundamentalist religious group. She is in the process of learning and understanding her spirituality, comparing religions and spiritual groups. Some skills that she could share with the fellowship is information about the human resources business, coaching and development, how to look for a job, and how to network. She is knowledgeable in recruitment and staffing, organizing, leading/directing and giving presentations to various diverse audiences. She has traveled extensively to Australia, Mexico, Canada, United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands and Spain. She has a B.A. in Marketing and an MBA in International Management. She has parachuted out of an airplane, went up on three hot air balloon rides, scuba dived on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia and Cozumel, Mexico, went 3000 feet underground in a potash mine in Saskatchewan, Canada, and survived Minnesota winters with 30 days in a row of -20 degree temperatures.

**Eve Seamon** uses the name of Eve Tone Seamone as an artist. She likes to watch TV., go to movies, travel, listen to music,

spend time with children and grandchildren, and have discussions with friends. She creates art, likes to read books about other people and cultures, is interested in metaphysics and speaks Italian. She likes to visit areas where there are cultures which are disappearing from the earth. She belongs to the Santa Cruz Art League, Portrait Painters Group and AARP. Some of her favorite authors are Chaim Potok, Shirley MacLaine, Amy Tan and Pat Conroy. Her religious history was one of non-religion but she is very spiritual and metaphysical. The rule that she tries to live by is treating others as she would wish to be treated. She is a sculptor and painter, and lately has been specializing in portraits of children, skills that she would be willing to share with our Fellowship. Her uniqueness is captured in the following statement, "We are unique and have life's experience to share with one another. We are all each other's teachers and I look for the lessons in this lifetime. I am convinced that we are all reincarnated time and again, which to me is proved by the trials and tribulations we encounter. There are the lessons all must learn on our way to nirvana."

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### New Member Information

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Please add to your membership book

Margarita Rivas  
210 Shoreview Drive, Aptos 95003  
662-2832

Jesse Lewis and Katrina Marvin-Travis  
9012 Soquel Drive #19 Aptos 95003  
685-3996  
kl@dreambox.com  
jesse@dreambox.com

Jodi Holden  
POBox 66661 ScottsValley 95067  
722-9700  
jodiholden@yahoo.com

Eve and Fred Seamon  
7171 Mesa Drive Aptos 95003  
684-0271



*The Fellowship banner flies high at the peace march in Santa Cruz.*

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## CUUPS: the 6th Source

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i thank You God-dess for most this amazing  
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite  
which is yes

[i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday; this  
is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings:  
and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth]

how should tasting touching  
hearing seeing  
breathing any—lifted from the no  
of all nothing—human merely  
being  
doubt unimaginable You?

[now the ears of my ears awake  
and  
now the eyes of my eyes are  
opened]

ee cummings



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## Member of the Month: Ed Ratcliffe

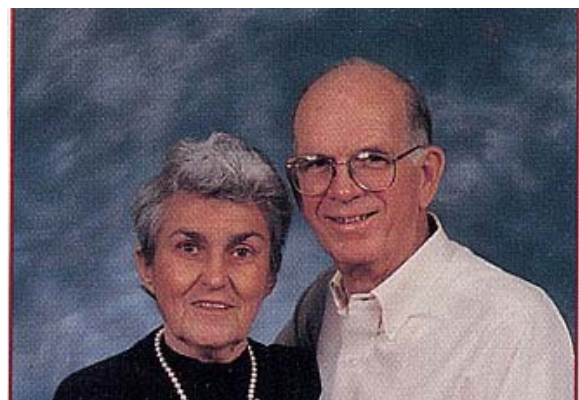
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I was a born Baptist, but I'm a born-again Unitarian-Universalist. In my teens I just couldn't believe the religion I had been given from (literally) my cradle. The world wasn't like that. I disconnected from all kinds of religion for years—I knew of none I could believe, and I hadn't even heard the word Unitarian. When our children were a few years old, Missy and I lived next door to a fundamentalist family who invited our children to attend church with their children. Since we didn't want our children to be taught that there was a loving god who condemned some of his children to eternal torment, we looked for an alternative so that we could politely decline the invitation. A local Unitarian Fellowship was listed in our Livermore phone book (It Pays to Advertise!) and we attended the do-it-yourself services for several weeks and liked them. We had finally found a set of religious ideas we could believe in, and a group of people we were comfortable with, and we have stayed with the ideas and the people for more than 40 years. I'm not a believer, but I belong here.

Our children grew up in the UU Sunday School, learned about a number of religions, and were surprised and pleased to discover that they knew more about the Bible than some of their Catholic friends.

I like the absence of a pre-packaged religion and the sense of guilt and obligation that religions are so adept at imposing. I think we all need to make up our own religion, with a little help from our friends. Nobody has got it all figured out. I like the freedom to ask questions, to try to sort out what's important, to wonder at the universe and be glad I belong in it—that's the only other thing I really belong to.

Years ago I heard the best summation of Unitarian-Universalism when a UU minister told me, "I've been a UU minister for 23 years, and I've learned just two things. The first thing is, people are important. The second thing is, we should do something about that!"



# Congregational Meeting and First Sunday Potluck April 6th

the hospitality committee will prepare a sandwich lunch before the congregational meeting for a donation of \$3.00, \$1.00 for children 10 and younger.

There is no need to bring a potluck this month.

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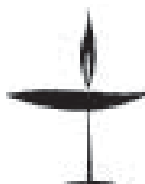
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