



# 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>

Volume 2004, Number 8

September 2004

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## Minister,

### Rev. Pamela Langston-Daley

Study Phone ..... (831) 251-0324  
 Home Phone ..... (831) 689-9660  
 Email ..... [minister@uufsc.org](mailto:minister@uufsc.org)  
 My drop in hours are Wed. 12-4pm. Please call me to make an appointment if these hours are not convenient for you. Friday is my day off. I ask that you do not call on Friday or after 9pm unless you have a building or pastoral emergency.

## Religious Education Director, Sylvia Forsyth

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## The UNICORN

George Shackelford ..... Publisher  
 Marsha Hudson ..... Proofreader  
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## September Sunday Services

- Sept 5 10:00am: Labor of Love** - This Labor Day weekend we will have our annual Labor of Love Sunday. Dress in your best grubby clothes, bring your gloves, your favorite gardening tools, and be prepared to spruce up the Fellowship for our Homecoming Sunday next week. Lunch will follow. Coordinators: Dave Boone & Marina Bobadilla
- Sept 12 9:00am: Forum: All About Friendship**  
**10:00am: Homecoming: Water Ceremony**- Join us as we return to begin the fellowship year. We honor one another and our travels, both near and far, by briefly sharing where our water comes from and pouring it into a communal bowl. Help us celebrate this joyful occasion!  
 Rev. Pam Langston-Daley
- Sept 19 10:00am: It's About Justice** - There is no hierarchy of oppression, and all oppression is unjust. How do we build the world we wish to see? We begin by recognizing that justice is the answer to all oppression.  
 Rev. Pam Langston-Daley
- Sept 26 ALL FELLOWSHIP RETREAT** - The Sunday service will be held at the retreat center and will close the retreat. Join us for this fun filled, all fellowship event.  
**9:00am: Forum: Are there times when your principles won't allow you to do something?**  
**10:00am: Meditations** - While our Fellowship enjoys a retreat at Mt. Madonna, Fran Gertler will lead meditations starting at 10:00 a.m. Each meditation practice will last approximately 20 minutes: the first, a 20 minute silent meditation, the second, a guided meditation known as "The Mountain," and the last, a walking meditation around the Fellowship grounds. Please feel free to join for one or all of these meditations. Bring your own meditation pillow, if you wish.  
 Coffee, tea and light snacks will follow the meditations at 11:00 a.m.

*The minister's column, "Langston-Daley Thoughts," is taking a break during Pam's vacation. It will be back in October's Unicorn.*



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## PAXINE WYLDE 1916-2004

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Paxine Wylde, a long-time member of the Fellowship, died July 3 at Dominican Hospital. She was 88 years old.

Paxine was born in Chattanooga, Tenn. She worked many years in Illinois as a medical technologist. She moved to Santa Cruz 20 years ago and continued her career with Western Medical Associates.

Our UU Social Action Committee was one of many local organizations in which Paxine was active. Her Capitola Mobile Home was the site of many SAC meetings. She was a member of Temple Beth El, Hadassah, Women's Democratic Club, Alliance for Children and Santa Cruz Shakespeare Club.

Local survivors are her daughter and son-in-law, Gail Wylde and Chris LaRue, son Jamie and partner Andrea Berrin, and four grandchildren.

The service was at Home of Peace Jewish Cemetery in Santa Cruz, and she was buried beside her husband, James Wylde. Remembrances are preferred to the Alliance for Children, 131 Drake Ave., Santa Cruz, 95062

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## The Unicorn Seeks a Co-Publisher

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I've been preparing the *Unicorn* for a few years but lately the demands of graduate school are taking a toll. Requirements for school work have affected this month's publication and in the future I could find myself in England or elsewhere having to give a paper at the same time the *Unicorn* is due. I'd like to have someone to help publish the Unicorn for half the time, typically every other month.

Some computer skills are required. We are using Pagemaker 7.0 under Windows although it may be possible to run Pagemaker on a Macintosh as well. Layout experience is welcomed but not required (I sure didn't have any!). Average prep time is about eight hours a month.

- Your Publisher  
George Shackelford

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## Get To Know YRUU BBQ!

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When: Wednesday, Sept. 8th 5:30-8:00 pm.

Where: At the Fellowship!

Why: To get to know our Young Religious Unitarian-Universalists better!

Please join us for a delicious barbecue at the Fellowship where we will provide the food, including vegetarian snacks. Yum! So come and join us where you can get to know the youth group and what we are all about! We need your support!

Bring your teenage friends! Our youth group is hoping to have more teens join us to have a great year as Young Religious Unitarian-Universalists!

Ages 13-19 are welcome!!

Please RSVP at: 440-9060

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## July Board Meeting

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- Decided to establish a policy which states that delegates of the General Assembly must stay and attend all plenary sessions. This arose out of concern that delegates are being sponsored to attend GA and weren't attending sessions.
- Approved getting a Rocking Chair for the Sanctuary to help soothe crying babies.
- Planned having the installation of the new Board Members as part of homecoming weekend ceremony, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Congregational Goals have been put together and will be part of congregational retreat when Pam comes back.
- Set date for Congregational retreat. Sept. 24-26<sup>th</sup>.

- Kamala Franseth

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## Endowment Funds Available

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Up to \$2,000 is available to fellowship committees and members from our UUFSCC Endowment. In the past, the Endowment Fund has supported outreach efforts at UCSC and Cabrillo, our YRUU teenagers, and our Membership Committee. Priorities for funding are projects that improve society, support education, and otherwise benefit the Fellowship as a whole.

Application forms have been distributed to committees, and individual members can pick up a form either from the Endowment Committee file in the Fellowship office, or from Jane Boone or Brent Haddad. Applications are due no later than Thursday, September 30, at 5:00 p.m., at the Fellowship office, or handed to Jane or Brent.

The Endowment Committee will review proposals and make funding recommendations to the Board of Trustees. Funds could be available as early as the end of November, 2004, and should be spent before the end of December, 2005. Everyone who gets funded must submit to the Endowment Committee a brief report on how their project went.

Warm thanks to the donors who have helped build our Fellowship's endowment, as well as to all of the founding and prior members of the Endowment Committee.

Please contact Brent (429-1539) or Jane (684-0410) if you have questions.

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## Unicorn Deadline

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The deadline for **October** is **September 19th**. 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 Letter

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As we swing into our fall season I reflect on a summer that has brought both fellowship and personal growth and I also consider what's on the horizon.

My first General Assembly was, as expected, both a positive experience and an opportunity for growth in understanding UU polity and leadership roles. A major highlight for me was the establishment of a new network of congregation presidents, the direct result of Bill Sinkford's dedication to growing lay leadership and communication.

I return with new inspiration and a deep appreciation for all of your work.

I enjoyed the great variety of our Sunday services. Of course, the Sunday, July 4 Aptos "shortest parade in the world" wasn't exactly a service, but we had the biggest UUFSCC turnout ever ( $\pm 20$ ), but our Peace t-shirts and UN and UU flags were a message to those who were there who participated and watched. What an education each of the services provided. From the hands-on demonstration of the relative distances in our solar system and beyond to the current state of Cuban culture, we were treated to well-planned and interesting subjects. I experienced being a service associate for the first time. Doing that will make anyone appreciate what our minister and service associates do every week for us.

The retiring, new, and returning board members had a great Saturday early in August getting to know each other at our celebration-mixer-retreat. I'm pleased and excited to have a dedicated and competent group to work with again this year. We anticipate refining and prioritizing our objectives with the committees and with each other.

So... summer was good. And now to look ahead. In trying to visualize all that we will experience, both planned and unplanned, I realize that most of us must trust the universe or who/whatever not to surprise us too much or too little. Too much creates anxiety and too little, boredom. Our first big event is our all-Fellowship retreat at the Mount Madonna retreat center September 24-26. It will be a great chance to renew our purpose, define how we want to meet our goals, and to share in fun, fellowship, and deeper relationships with our friends and families.

I welcome Pam's return from her sabbatical and vacation and anticipate that she will be sharing with us a new fervor and vision. She has been missed.

I expect next month to share with you my goals and priorities for this year ahead.

In Faith,  
Kären

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## A Report from the Fellowship Event Planning Committee

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Dear fellow Unitarian /Universalists,

Our membership numbers have been the same for the past 10 years. The ideals & beliefs of our Fellowship are needed now more than ever in this community and the world. We need to outreach to the greater Monterey Bay community to bring additional members to the Fellowship. Increased membership and increased income will make it possible for us to intensify our impact. A plan for this was presented to the Board; they listened and approved. We have a new committee to address these problems.

The goal of the new committee is to increase our visibility in the community, membership, and income. It will be called Fellowship Event Planning Committee. The first meeting of FEP was August 8th. I have agreed to get this started and welcome any suggestions and help you can give. We will need many volunteers to make decisions and to follow through. I hope to see you at the next meeting on September 12 at 11:30. At that meeting we will choose 2-4 (?) events to investigate to produce successfully in 2005. One of them should be a "signature event."

This is a summary of FEP ideas discussed at the first meeting:

Membership Enhancement:

4th of July Parade. We have done this in Aptos. Other communities would also be desirable.

Information tables at various local events.

Member Workshops: conducted by members, for members. Subjects to be decided by members

Greater Volunteer Recognition.

At this time we do approximately 12 activities for members. These should be publicized in some way.

Perhaps listed in the newsletter and the Sunday Service handout.

Fund raising & New Membership Attractions:

Auction-----Continue with new plans. Open to the greater Santa Cruz community with innovative program. Chairperson, Bobby Jo Palmer.

Art Sale. ----- Sale of art works by members and friends.

Art Demonstration.-- Invite a local artist who has led art/tour groups to other countries to show her art, demonstrate how it is executed, and show slides or film of the areas painted.

Award Dinners----- Select 1-3 local people to receive an award for outstanding service in the community . Have a festive award dinner. Charge a fee. Donate 1/2 of the profit to the charity chosen by the award recipient.

B&B for local events- Advertise in *The UU World*, UCSC paper, and local papers. Invite anyone to stay in members' homes in guest quarters. Accommodate parents of students from out of town, UU's who want to vacation here, and all out of town people who want to attend community events in Santa Cruz or the greater Monterey Bay area. Advertising should be specific and mention events happening here. Total amount charged would be for the Fellowship.

Cooking Lessons----- We have a great kitchen. Give cooking lessons. Invite our member chefs -- Lorraine & Lee and /or other local chefs -- to demonstrate their skills and talents. Could be 6-8 lessons. Fee for classes and percentage given to the teaching chef.

Canned Programs---- Many are available. For example, the "Singing in Baghdad" group that travels around the country with songs and film about peace. Solo singers and musicians.

Dance Night----- (A)Square, folk dancing with a caller. (B) Popular dancing. Fox Trot, Samba, Tango,

Lindy, etc. A dance floor would have to be rented. A competent DJ would be needed. Refreshments available. A fee charged to cover costs plus profit.

Dinner Parties----- Catered dinners with a speaker. Topic should be of wide interest. Could be an add-on for one of the authors who talks at local book shops. Fee to cover costs plus profit.

Film Night----- Show a film, have a discussion with wine & cheese. Perhaps an expert can talk. Could be someone in the film business, a critic from a newspaper or if the film is about ,i.e. a court case: have an attorney speak about the subject. Fred Seamon is working on this already.

Game Night----- Weekly game nights. Collect or buy various popular games for people to play. Set a time limit that is realistic and give prizes for the winners. Refreshments. Fee charged to cover costs plus profit.

Ice Cream Social----- Serve ice cream creations. You create your own calories, and you create your own sweet concoction. Combine with guitar etc. for folksy sing-a-long. A good afternoon happening. Fee to cover costs.

Lecture Series----- Topics of "General Public" interest . Have a speaker who is very savvy in a particular subject / field. There could be an add-on talk by one of the authors who comes to town to speak in the local bookstores. Must have a wine and cheese

Mardi Gras----- Costumes, parade, celebrate a King & Queen, sell masks and noise-making things. Have mask making and costume creating classes a month before.

Monthly Sing-a-Long-- Must have a gimmick, ie. great musician, theme, i.e. folk, 70's ,Cole Porter, chanting, spirituals, etc. Maybe part of the evening could be amateur night or karaoke.

Spiritual Gurus----- Talks by notable spiritual speakers.

Used book sale----- Sell books donated by fellow-ship members.

All of the above will be more successful with the offering of no-host refreshments.

All of the above will NOT be successful without advertising and enthusiastic volunteers.

## Rentals

Rental Promotion-----A professional brochure should be printed describing the rental facilities.

It should include: description inside & out, price, rules & regulations, Lorraine & Lee in-house catering, a list of possible rental occasions, a picture of the outside & inside, etc. Additional rental occasion possibilities---- recitals, birthday parties, reunions, workshops. The Fellowship is an ideal facility for a workshop for businesses. Members and the general public should be made aware of our space for this purpose. Have a weekly ad in the UU newsletter as well as ads in local papers---- *Metro*, *Good Times*, *SC Sentinel*, and Scott's Valley, Pacific Grove and Carmel local papers.

What does the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship give you ?

What are you giving to the Unitarian Universalist Community?

Give your time. Attend this meeting on September 12, 11:30 at the Fellowship. Volunteer a few hours to help spread the word.

Marylou Lamb

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## **TWO SEPTEMBER YARD SALES**

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The Fellowship's Annual Fall Yard Sale will be Saturday, Sept. 11 from 9 to 3 at the Fellowship. A new event this year will be a Pre-Sale Dessert Party from 5 to 8 Friday evening, Sept. 10, on the patio. This is a chance for members to socialize and buy some of the best donations early.

Members are asked to bring their surplus saleable items to the Fellowship Sunday, Aug. 29, or Sunday, Sept. 5. Housewares, small pieces of furniture, sweaters, jackets and jeans are especially needed.

Volunteers are needed to join our hard-working, happy crew for 2 or 3 hour shifts on Saturday. Call Rosalie Kraft, 475-5660, for information. Donations of cakes or other deserts for the Friday party will be appreciated. Call Iran Mohsenin, 479-0105, to contribute.

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### **OurUU Story Starts Sept. 20**

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"Our Unitarian Universalist Story," a six session course developed by the UUA, begins Monday, September 20 at 7:00 to 9:00 in the Gallery. This course invites participants to understand the historical evolution of Unitarian Universalism, appreciate that which has kept our movement alive, discover how one's own faith journey parallels and differs from those of our UU forebears, and develop a sense of pride in UU history. This is an excellent opportunity for new and old UU's to become more familiar with our movement.

The course is offered by the Adult Faith Committee and Andrea Webster and Iran Mohsenin of the committee will team teach the course with Rev. Pam. A fee of \$25 will be charged; however fee waivers are available as needed. To sign up, leave your name and the fee with Fran in the office. Please call any member of the Adult Faith Committee (Marsha Hudson, Iran Mohsenin, Patt Taylor, Andrea Webster) with your questions or comments.

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## **UUF Retreat Mount Madonna Center September 24 – 26, 2004**

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All members and friends of the Fellowship are invited to the fall retreat for a wonderful weekend getaway to relax and enjoy family and friends, reconnect with fellow UU's, and build new friendships. Come for the entire weekend, for Saturday night only, or just for the day on Saturday. There will be lots of activities for adults, teens and kids: hiking, yoga, storytelling, games, arts & crafts, music, meditation, massage, a 2-hour Dream Workshop by Marsha Hudson, and plenty of good conversation.

It will also be an opportunity to come together and focus on our congregational goals for 2004-05 by visualizing what success in these goals will look like and clearly defining the steps to reach them. To prepare for this process, we invite you to fill out a pre-retreat questionnaire to contribute your insights and ideas on the critical issues identified in the Integrated Growth plan. A synthesis of the themes from this questionnaire will be reported back at the beginning of the planning workshop at the retreat and will serve as a springboard for discussion to define our vision and purpose as a congregation, and articulate our shared values as Unitarian Universalists. Please see the insert for information on the survey and how to register for the retreat. The deadline for registration is Monday, September 13, the day after Homecoming Sunday, so please sign-up soon to get your first choice in housing.

Any questions? Call Ann McCrow (458-4213) or Sue Meyer (662-0507)

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## **Social Action Committee**

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1. A big thank you to the congregation for its generosity to Pastors for Peace who will be taking medicines and school supplies to Cuba. The Social Action Committee collected over \$400, plus various articles such as towels, sheets, soaps, pencils, dental items, and over the counter medicines.
2. In September, Social Action will be tabling a survey for the UU Legislative Ministry. The information is being collected to assist the Legislative Ministry to determine their priorities for the coming year.
3. In reviewing the Public Policy Issue Survey for the UU Legislative Ministry at the August meeting of Social Action, the committee was motivated by all the important issues needing action and support.

There are many issues that others in the congregation may want to become involved with or already are involved with. If you have an issue or initiative that you are interested in having the Social Action Committee work with you on, call Harriet Blue at 684-1401 or e-mail Linda Milgate at [lmilgate@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lmilgate@ix.netcom.com)

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## Dinner Club

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We will begin dinner club in October. If you would like to be a part of a dinner group that rotates each month, please see Iran Mohsenin or take a flyer from the membership table. Details of the dinner club and how to join are all explained there.

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## From the Caring Connection

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The Fellowship has an email and phone contact list which is available to communicate emergency needs and also updates on other personal concerns. Therefore, if you would like to be on (or off) this list please call Linda Neher, at 471-2109 or email her at [lindaneher@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaneher@yahoo.com). Also, please be aware that if your email address changes you may be dropped from the list. Please let Linda know this, too.

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John Isherwood has been dealing with a lot of pain from compression fractures in his vertebrae caused by osteoporosis. He's scheduled to try a new treatment by September 1st--hopefully that will bring him significant relief. Until such time as he and Helen can again come to the Fellowship, they would love cards, calls, or visits.

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## First Friday Book Group

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The First Friday Book Group will venture into another culture, another way of seeing the world. On Friday, September 3rd we'll be talking about Gabriel Garcia Marquez's unique view of the world in "Love in the Time of Cholera"; on Friday, October 1st it will be "The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency" by Alexander McCall Smith, and on November 5th we'll be discussing Coetzee's "Elizabeth Costello."

Won't you join us? We meet at Joan Roberts' home at 7:30. You'd be very welcome. Call 688-7598 if you need directions (or for any other information).

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## Member of the Month: Sarah Weiss Olson

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My name is Sarah and my daughter Evan and I began coming to the Fellowship last year. I have never come regularly to any services before, although in the course of my life I have rigorously investigated the Society of Friends, NSA, Taoism, Buddhism, Catholicism, and witchcraft.

We lived in India when I was small. I had an ayah, a nursemaid, named Narynima. I loved her. My childhood terrors: tigers, cobras and leprosy. I went to The Oxford School for Tiny Tots where I learned to read and write rudimentary Hindi, Urdu and English by the age of 3.

Back in the States, life sucked for many years. I grew. Time went on. Drank a lot. Cats helped. Vodka helped. I met my first love. [It lasted for] six years. Ended with her getting involuntary ECT and losing three years of memories. So I drank more... until 14 years ago [when] I stopped drinking. Life got better.

Got married, bought a house, white picket fence, had an adorable baby daughter, Evan Kelly Weiss. Moved to Aptos, got sick, got Lyme disease, Ehrlichiosis and Babesiosis, husband left. Got healthier. Got a job doing what I did years before, working in recovery, this time as a drug & alcohol counselor with the severely mentally ill. Nice job, useful, wonderful child, all good. five cats: my friend Christian Eugene; the balance-challenged cat, Catkin; one troubled rescue, Gink, (not to be trusted with litterbox issues); fierce huntress Diamond and the incredibly passive-aggressive, alternately hostile and very affectionate rescue named Duchess.

Married Edwin Olson & became a mother figure of sorts to a 17 year old & 20 year old, Eddie & Arron, both wonderful young men. So for the time I have three children, Evan, 7, Eddie, 20 and Arron, 17, but we are also expecting a baby in January (I'm just HUGE, not twins!).



Women Walkers is a very loose group that tries to take a walk or hike the first Sunday of the month after the service or potluck. We usually decide that day depending on time, weather and who's participating. If you are interested you can talk to Erica Crawford, Linda Neher, Edy Rhodes or Judy Anton.

Since the first Sunday is a clean-up day, the first walk will be in October.

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**YARD SALE, YARD SALES**  
**Sept. 10 and 11 are the dates.**  
**See story inside for details.**

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**ALL FELLOWSHIP RETREAT**  
**Mount Madonna Center**  
**September 24 – 26, 2004**

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**Potluck on Homecoming Sunday Sept. 12**  
**Please bring a favorite dish to share.**  
**Volunteers needed to set up and clean up.**  
**contact Iran Mohsenin at**  
**imohsenin@comcast.net or call 479-0105.**

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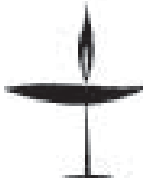
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