



# 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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February 2005

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 My drop in hours are Tues. 10-2pm. 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.

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## The UNICORN

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## February Sunday Services

- Feb 6 10:00am: Cynic, Sage or Liberator?** - A few months ago I spoke about the historical Jesus. Several people asked for more on this topic. Today we will explore the six different perspectives of the historical Jesus and how these views shape one's understanding of Christianity today.  
Rev. Paul Langston-Daley
- Feb 13 10:00am: Swinging, Swapping or Committed Love?** - UU's for Polyamory Awareness (polyamory means non-monogamy) have created a panic in some circles. Today's polyamory is not the swapping and swinging of the 60's. But, is this the next step for UU's after gay marriage? Will we really support group marriage? Is it possible to have more than one serious, committed relationship without causing pain and confusion? We will explore these questions and more.  
Rev. Paul Langston-Daley
- Feb 20 10:00am: It Ain't Easy Being Green: The 7th Principle** - Our 7th principle states that we affirm and promote the interdependent web of which we are a part. How do we live a green life, not just at home, but in all that we do? Is being green really that hard?  
Rev. Paul Langston-Daley
- Feb 27 10:00am: Transforming Fear.** As our society increasingly acts in a state of fear, it is important that we as individuals transform our fear to a useful end. Fellowship member Karen Holl will draw on books by Rev. Forrest Church and Frances Moore Lappe to discuss different types of fear, and strategies to channel fear into a positive force.

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## Langston-Daley Thoughts

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Last month I attended a service at the San Francisco Unitarian Universalist Church. The guest speaker was a woman from Transylvania whose father had been martyred for religious freedom 25 years ago. She spoke with the power and authority of someone who had known and lived through the oppression of the communist era. She questioned America's understanding of freedom. With fiery words, she called us to task for taking for granted what so much of the world can only dream of.



Our rights are being slowly, but surely, chipped away. Our freedom is not something that comes as a birthright, but requires us to accept responsibility for maintaining it. We maintain that freedom, not just for ourselves, but for all those who live in America. Tyranny of the majority is what the founding fathers struggled to eliminate. They were very careful in setting up a form of government that would not create a nation based on the moral values of the ruling party.

Gay rights, women's rights (including access to reproductive services), religious freedom, the rights of african americans and latinos (and other so-called minorities), and the right to speak out are all civil rights. No one has the authority to place their moral values on these or limiting civil rights.

Our individual freedoms come from a deep theological principle: that humans are, at their foundation, beings of inherent worth and dignity. We can make good choices, and do not need the government to impose its morality upon us. The above civil rights are issues of equality and justice. They are about honoring the inherent worth and dignity of the individual.

As responsible parties in our own freedom, we are obligated to continue our work for justice and equity because they are the foundation of our freedom. We ignore this responsibility at our own peril and then the words of Pastor Martin Niemöller may, and will, come to haunt us.

***First They Came for the Jews***  
***First they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.***  
***Then they came for the Communists and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist.***  
***Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak***

***out because I was not a trade unionist.***

***Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me.***  
***- Pastor Martin Niemöller***

***First They Came for the Muslims***  
***First they came for the Muslims and I did not speak out because I was not a Muslim.***

***Then they came for the Queers and I did not speak out because I was not a Queer.***

***Then they came for the Women and I did not speak out because I was not a Woman.***

***Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me.***  
***- adapted by p.l.d. from Pastor Martin Niemöller***

Shanti, Paul

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## Caring Connection

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Please note the shiny new easel for the Caring Connection board. Helen Oxley was the winning bidder at the last auction, and she has donated it to this oh-so-worthy cause. Be sure to check it out, and while there notice the requests and offers which are posted on it (and be sure to post your own!)

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### Unicorn Deadline

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

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# PCD Disaster Relief Fund

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Dear Friends,

The disaster that resulted from the tsunami in the Indian Ocean this week has left us all feeling heartsick. The PCD is coordinating a disaster relief fund in the hope that this will make it easier for UUs throughout the district to express their compassion.

Please let your members and friends know that checks (in any amount!) may be made payable to "PCD Disaster Relief Fund." Contributions are fully tax deductible, and 100 percent of the monies raised will go to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee which will send the aid to the affected communities.

The mailing address for the PCD office is:

The Pacific Central District  
6536 Telegraph Avenue, Suite C-102  
Oakland, CA 94609

Donations by credit card are also being accepted on the UUA site.

This note is being sent out to all members of our UUMA chapter, congregational presidents, administrators, newsletter editors, the PCDNews list, and the PCD Board.

Wishing Everyone Blessings in the New Year,  
Cilla

Cilla Raughley  
District Executive, Pacific Central District  
[cilla@pcd-uua.org](mailto:cilla@pcd-uua.org), [craughley@uua.org](mailto:craughley@uua.org)



## President's Letter

*As our Coordinating Council gathers...*

I'm looking forward to our Coordinating Council meeting later this week. It has been a long while since this group has gotten together. The Council is comprised of the board of trustees and the leaders of all the committees and affiliated groups. Our purpose is to facilitate internal Fellowship communication and planning, both of which were cited as concerns in our survey and in several town hall meetings.

We will begin with a discussion of our status in the development of our future goals with the idea that each committee will base this and next year's budget and activities on these goals. Then our board vice-president and treasurer will add clarity to the budget process.

Each committee chair or representative will have an opportunity to speak and tell the rest of us how well they are doing, what goals have been set and met, and how others can help out in their efforts to achieve new goals.

A primary task of the Council is to set the Fellowship calendar for the year with the input we get at this meeting. It is the job of this group to ensure that the calendar is a timely, useful document for everyone in the Fellowship.

I will have my arm in a cast for a month longer. I appreciate the cards, calls, and emails I've received supporting the successful healing of my hand. It reminds me of what a caring community we are.

***Blessed are those who know that the work of the church is the transformation of society, who have a vision of Beloved Community transcending the present, and who do not shrink from controversy, sacrifice, or change.***

— Rev. Dr. John Buehrens  
UUA President, 1993 – 2001

In faith,

Kären

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## SIGN UP for GOURMET DINNERS

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The first seven gourmet dinners for members to "win" are Norwegian, Persian, Mexican, English Country, Greek, French and Scotts Ribs. These dinners are the types of dinners formerly available at our annual pizza auction. In addition, we have a gourmet orchard luncheon. No annual auction is scheduled this year.

We hope to have at least 10 dinners donated. Signups for the dinners will be after Sunday Services on Feb. 6, 13 and 20, payment required at time of signup. Diners are allowed to sign up for only one dinner each for the first two Sundays. Members unable to secure dinners this way may sign up by mail (with a check) by calling Rosalie Kraft, 475-5660.

New members, or old members, who like to cook and would like to contribute a dinner for eight or more guests should call Rosalie Kraft.

The more the merrier.



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## First Friday Book Group

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After discussing Stella Gobbons' "Cold Comfort Farm" on Friday, February 4th we'll move on to "Guns, Germs and Steel" in March, written by Jared Diamond.

Almost without fail we meet the first Friday of each month at 7:30 at Joan Roberts' home. You'll be welcome if you decide to join us. Call 688-7598 for more information or directions.

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## Social Action Updates

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The Fellowship collected over 500 dollars to place a double Brick on the Pathway to the Family Shelter with the Fellowship's name engraved on it. A special thank you to all those who helped finish the details of this effort during the holidays--thank you Scott, Brad and Paul!

The Dunbar Family was assisted in their efforts to send large supplies for infants in the TLC orphanage in South Africa. A donor from the Fellowship, who asked to remain anonymous, donated the necessary funding and Woody Wood helped pack and move items. A suggestion to hold a baby shower with small items for the orphanage has been proposed for a project this summer.

Finally: recommendations for tsunami relief organizations are : UU Service Committee---to donate by phone call UUSC at (617)868-6600; OXFAM America--(800)776-9326; Doctors without Borders at (888)392-0392; and the Salvation Army whose local number is (831)392-0392. These recommendations are based on the knowledge that the funding received is used primarily for projects and not administrative costs and that these organizations have connections with local groups in the area.



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.



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# PCD Women & Religion Spring Retreat March 11-13, 2005 Enchanted Hills Camp Napa, CA

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Opening the Gender Box  
Honoring our True Selves

This year, we explicitly welcome all who identify as  
women  
as well as all who have XX chromosomes.

Join a caring circle in a time away from the everyday  
world.

Take a pause for reflection and connection.

How are we boxed in by gender?  
What does society do to us? What do we do to  
ourselves?

How can we open the boxes and break free?  
What is our resistance?

As always, we will have workshops led by those  
attending the retreat,  
as well as lots of time (but never enough!) for  
silence, solitude, meditation,  
speaking our truths, listening to one another, laugh-  
ing, crying,  
singing, dancing, drumming, and walking in the red-  
woods,  
with old friends and new.

For further information contact Marnie Singer  
Home: (408) 246-5250 Cell: (408) 605-3225 Work: (650)  
859-2640  
marniesinger@sbcglobal.net

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## The Welcoming Congregation Classes

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The Welcoming Congregation classes have been going strong since the first class on January 11. We would like to thank Lee Cavanaugh, Lorraine Sandoval-Vigil, Fred Seamon, Jenny Wood, Jan Shirchild, Deanne Pernel, and Fran Gertler for leading January's classes. Classes were well attended and we look forward to bringing the following classes to you at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall on the following Tuesdays. (Please note the last class is being held on March 1, not February 29 as listed in the January Unicorn):

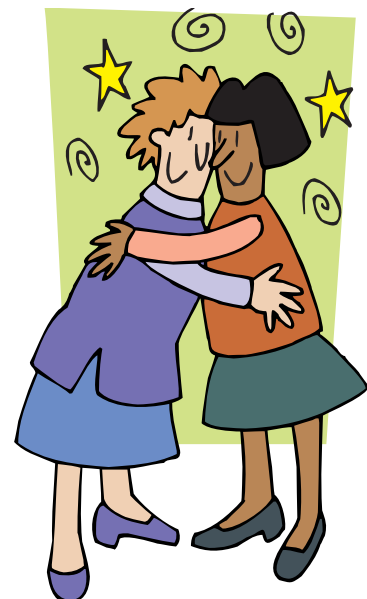
**Feb 1** - Bisexual - Kathy & Scott Norton  
(Film: "Kissing Jessica Stein")

**Feb 8** - Transgender - Paul Langston-Daley  
& Bruce Fihe  
(Film: "You Don't Know Dick")

**Feb 15** - Triangle Speakers  
(Jane Boone & Fran Gertler coordin-  
ating)

**Feb 22** - Biblical Passages - Paul Langston-  
Daley & Patt Taylor

**Mar 1** - Where Do We Go From Here? -  
Paul Langston-Daley, Karen Aaker, Fred  
Seamon



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## Dinner Club for February

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Dinner Club is open to all members of the Fellowship. Friends may join as a substitute if they wish. Hosts, please call your group ASAP to set up time. If you need a substitute, use the list at the end of the columns. Remember: 1 is host, 2 brings main dish, 3 brings salad, and 4 brings dessert. If anyone wishes to join dinner club, please email [imohsenin at comcast.net](mailto:imohsenin@comcast.net) or call 479-0105.

### Group 1

1 Parker  
2 Wilson  
3 Bailey  
4 Aaker/Fihe

### Group 2

1 Lamb  
2 Crahen  
3 Cavanaugh/Sandoval-Vigil  
4 Seamon

### Group 3

1 Sprague  
2 Dancing/Partlow  
3 Gertler  
4 James/McCrow

### Group 4

1 Farhi  
2 Collier-Young  
3 Keith-Spiegel/Racimora  
4 Meyer

### Group 5

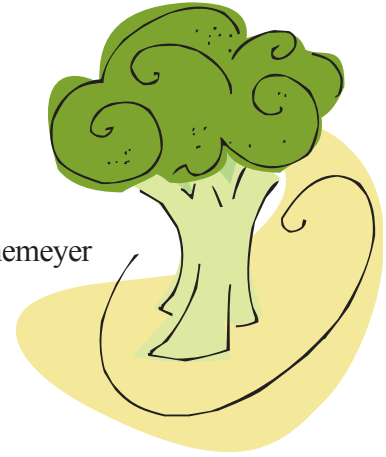
1 Hoernschemeyer  
2 Newman  
3 Anton  
4 Newman

### Group 6

1 Milgate/Trusso  
2 Wood  
3 Oxley/Newfarmer  
4 Hudson/Shackelford

### Substitutes

Boone, Haddad, Pakulis, Franseth, Keth,  
Thiemann, Forsyth



*From the Board Installation - some new trustees and old.*

*Pictured are: Gerry, Andrea, Rich, Jodi, Mark, Kären, Scott, and Don.*

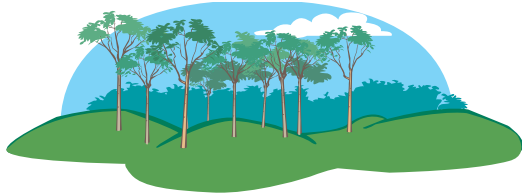
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## CUUPS The 6th Source and 7th Principal

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Greetings CUUPS Celebrators!

On February 1st, Imbolc, we honor Brigit and the stirring of the seeds underground: the promise of Spring!



I have an idea that I would like to propose to CUUPS in particular and the Fellowship in general. We have often mentioned the desire to create a ritual circle up the hill behind the Sanctuary and I would like to schedule a few days in the coming months to do this [look to this column for future dates and/or contact me with ideas]. This suggestion will have been proposed to the Coordinating Council on Jan 20th by Scott, acting as a liaison for CUUPS. Let's set our sights forward to a time when we can gather for Sabbats in our own outdoor sacred space.

Be Blessed, Terra

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## Greeters for February

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Jan. 30 Fihe  
Feb. 6 Blume  
Feb. 13. Franseth  
Feb. 20 ?  
Feb. 27 ?

Please call Judy Anton 684-9608 or Iran Mohsenin 479-0105 to volunteer.

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## Member of the Month: Sue Meyers

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Most of us living here in California are about as indigenous as eucalyptus or pampas grass, but Sue Meyer was born here and never left. Born in southern California during the Great Depression, her father's ingenuity and resourcefulness kept the family together. He would fly Sue in Mexico in his private airplane, beginning Sue's lifelong interest in Mexico. Sue graduated from UC Santa Barbara, with a degree in Sociology, a major that promised slightly more jobs than Classical Philology. She married, raised three daughters and briefly taught in the public school system in San Mateo. When her daughters were teenagers, she divorced and moved to Berkeley. Sue often taught crafts workshops at UU camps, and became President and then Secretary of the Berkeley UU Fellowship. She met Rick at the Fellowship and they founded a commune with friends, which ended up as her bed and breakfast two years later. They moved to Palo Alto and then Los Gatos in 1986, so Rick could pursue his high tech management career. Sue became V.P of the Los Gatos UU Fellowship, worked as a travel agent, taught English as a second language, and pursued her arts and crafts interests. For the last few years Sue has been studying painting, and has recently begun to display and sell her work publicly. Sue taught a Creativity workshop and a Simplicity study group for our Fellowship. Her most noticeable contribution has been the inspiration and assembly of the community quilt which hangs in Fellowship Hall. Two years ago the Meyers simplified their lives by moving from a large house in Soquel to a smaller house above Seacliff Beach with no lawns and low maintenance. The Meyers are now retired and have spent several months in the last three years living in San Miguel de Allende, a cultural center and art colony in Central Mexico.





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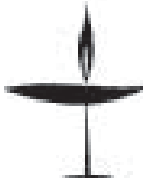
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