

"WE SEEK SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN A WELCOMING AND CARING COMMUNITY"

# KALEIDOSCOPE

November 22–December 5, 2008

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, CA

Newsletter: Nancy VanAntwerp

## WE Did It! We Reached Our Goal!

We have completed the Power of Three and reached our Capital Campaign goal of \$2 million in commitments.

This is all because of our wonderfully generous and sharing congregation. This is an extraordinary achievement. We are proud!

### Hello!!! Calling all Musicians: Singers! Instrumentalists!

Maybe a commitment for the year is a bit much—or maybe you're just not sure if participating in worship music is the right fit for you. But here's an opportunity to check it out without a big time commitment: come sing with us for Christmas!

All are welcome! While we always strive to be musically excellent, the honest and uplifting expression of spirit is equally important, if not more so. Through our love for music we are able to contribute to our congregation, touching hearts and bringing comfort and joy as only music can.

So come be a part of the Music Team! Contact Ken Ryals (805-248-0100) or Ellen Rockne ([ellen@storypeople.com](mailto:ellen@storypeople.com)) and let them know how you would like to participate.

### Let the Music Ring!

*Yes, it truly is our time.*

## The Auction

Thank You, Superfriends for making this year's services auction such a successful event. The sharing and giving of your SUPER POWERS at the event raised over \$30,000—and growing—for the Unitarian Society. Without you we would not have been able to raise this amount!

A Big SUPER THANK YOU to the committee who made this event possible! So here's to...

*Donnis Galvan and Thia LaMarche* for their dedication and relentless work in acquiring auction items. *Nancy Edmundson* for keeping

us focused on getting the task done and for all her Wonder Woman support. *Peter Hale* for taking over the Big Board Auction. *Ellen Rockne* for organizing the entertainment. *Carol Doose* for her administrative support. *Bob Roan* for his technical support. *Joanne Bishop* for acquisition data input. *Kathy Eastman* for cover graphics & mailing support. *Mimi Bradley* and *Cat Robson* for booklet production. *Mary Grimm* for mailing support. *Richard and Terry Nelson* for bid sheet production. *Virginia Barret* for all around clerical support. *Alan Edmundson* for support to the adminis-

—Auction Con't on Page 2

## Sunday Morning Services 9:30 and 11:30 AM

November 23rd

November 30th

The Reverend Aaron McEmrys

### "Thanksgiving"

Please join us for our annual multigenerational Thanksgiving service. The walls will fill to the brim with music, song and story as we celebrate the many blessings in our lives and renew our commitment to the holy practice of gratitude.

### Where Have the Honeybees Gone?

Did you know that we depend on bees? We do, for our very lives. Bees pollinate many of the plants we (and all kinds of other critters) need to live. Without their lazy, buzzing, bumbling efforts we are all in pretty deep trouble. So the fact that bees seem to be mysteriously disappearing by the millions is alarming.

But even more alarming is the fact that hardly anyone is talking about it! In this service our friends, the bees will help us better understand the profound and delicate interconnectedness we all depend upon for life, love and all good things.



The Chancel Choir will sing

trator by marriage. *Je Goolsby* for reuseable bag graphics. *Ross Beardsley* for graphic support. *Gary and Debbie Welterlen* for helping with set-up and amazing entertainment powerpoint. *Ivor John* and *Sayre MacNeil* for serving as auctioneers. And *Ken Ralph* for keeping our final renovation detail on track so we had a great new space.

Additionally, I would like to also thank the numerous volunteers who helped throughout the evening with registration, auction table closings, property room management, and clean up. I cannot help but thank you, the congregation, for your donations and for your support of USSB.

Thank you to everyone for making this the best services auction yet! I already look forward to next year's event, when we will take a stroll down memory lane and back to the age of DISCO! It's not too early to start thinking of what you can do to make next year's even better!

PERCY SALES, AUCTION CHAIR

## **Distinguished Musicians from Northern India Present a Concert of Indian Classical Music,**

**December 7th at 3:00 PM**

The Music Committee is delighted to present Vikash Maharaj and his son Prabhash, expert Sarod and Tabla musicians from Varanasi, India. They will perform in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 7th at 3:00 PM.

The *Sarod* is a 25 stringed instrument, that along with the *Sitar* is the most popular instrument used in Hindustani classical music. Vikash is one of the leading Sarod players and composers in India and he and his son, an outstanding Tabla player who has won many prestigious awards, perform all over the world. Vihash has composed and performed for numerous films and documentaries, and produced over 200 CD's and DVD's.

The artists last performed at UCSB in 2006 when Professor Scott Marcus and the Ethnomusicology Department sponsored their concert. They are in Southern California for a few weeks, and their good friend Jim Wimmer, a noted Santa Barbara violin maker, suggested that we present these outstanding artists in our series.

Vikash and his son are 14th and 15th generation musicians born into a greatly respected musical family and we expect that the extraordinary music from these master artists will provide us with a memorable experience.

Donations of \$15 general and \$10 for Society members are requested for this concert. Tickets will be available at the door.

For further information, don't hesitate to call me at 965-4235.

JOHN WARNOCK, CHAIR, MUSIC COMMITTEE

## **USSB Announces New Parking Ministry**

In the spirit of being a welcoming and growing community, we are excited to announce the startup of our all new Parking Ministry. This will help to insure that all members, especially our elders, are able to attend Sunday services.

On any given Sunday morning it is not unusual for first time visitors to have difficulty finding parking (because they don't now the "secret tips"...that we will be sharing more with you!). On any given Sunday morning it is not unusual for those in our community with restricted mobility to struggle to find nearby parking to encourage their participation.

What can you do?

*Park Responsibly and Thoughtfully.* Those who are able to walk a short distance will be invited to park at the University Club, the nearby parks or other nearby parking lots in which we have been given permission to park, leaving spaces close to the Society for our elders and guests.

*Volunteer.* Celebrate this new ministry by volunteering to be a valet or shuttle driver before or after each of our services.

*Take Advantage.* Relax and let a volunteer member park your car once you've pulled up to the curb or relax and take a shuttle to the Society once you've parked at the University Club. After the service, a volunteer member can retrieve your car or you can take a shuttle back to the University Club.

Let's all take part in this new ministry by doing what we can. We will have a trial run on November 23rd and our Grand Opening will be November 30th during Thanksgiving weekend.

Have we captured your attention? Call or email Tammy Shorb at 683-9160 or inorbit@ix.netcom.com for more info and to volunteer.

## **A Seasoned Seekers Discussion November 25th, 3:00 PM**

Can you imagine Thanksgiving in a WWII POW camp in Japan?

Helen Gordon will lead the group by beginning with this family story. Thanksgiving in families all over the US serves as a landmark in the flow of days through the year. We carry memories of this day when we gather with family and/or friends for the big feast.

This November meeting falls just two days before Thanksgiving. We will share with each other our memories (good or bad) of this day in our families, whether when we were young or in later years.

All retirees and friends are welcome to the UU Seasoned Seekers gathering on Tuesday, Nov. 25, 3 PM at the Valle Verde Retirement Community, 900 Calle de los Amigos. For details or a ride phone Ginny at 682-3476.

## **Super Heroes Unite! You Haven't Missed Out!**

If you were unable to attend our Super-Duper Spectacular Sustainability Super Hero Services Auction on Saturday, November 8th, fear not! Look over the insert in this issue of *Kaleidoscope* for events and items that remain available for your generous donation. If you "got skunked" at the auction, this is a great time to round out your social calendar for the year. See all details on the insert.

## **Alliance—December 5th**

The December Alliance meeting is scheduled for December 5th at 2:00 PM in our beautiful new Parish Hall. All are welcome to come and enjoy a program of Holiday music provided by Ken Ryals, our new enthusiastic and so talented Choir Director.

Refreshments to be provided by members from A-L.

XXXXXXXXXX

## **USSB Movie Theater "Grand Opening"**

Saturday November 22nd, 7:00 PM, Parish Hall.

You are invited to join Chuck Wolfe for the "Grand Opening" of our spectacular, new theater system in Parish hall. We have surround sound, a 14" rear-projection screen and new extra comfortable chairs. Chuck is going to surprise us with a movie that will really showcase the capabilities of our new system. We'll have popcorn and drinks. Bring the whole family. It should "knock your socks off".

## **Happy December Birthdays**

XXXXXXXXXX



## **Where is... the Starr King Rummage Sale?**

You have not missed the Annual Starr King Parent Child Workshop Rummage sale! Every year USSB is host to a gigantic rummage sale that utilizes the entirety of our campus for a full week...and is an annual happening in the rummage sale world. Due to our building project construction, that sale (normally held late in October or early November) has been scheduled for February, 2009. So fear not! You will notice the sale in February for certain, utilizing our new Jefferson Courtyard and Terrace to the fullest!

# Lifespan Religious Education News

## Did you know...?

In 1562, the Synod at Pinczow, Poland, granted ALL preachers the right to interpret the Helvetic Confession, the statement of faith of the Reformed (Calvinist) churches, as their consciences dictated, for several decades paving the way for the spread of Unitarianism.

~From *This Day In Unitarian Universalist History* by Frank Schulman, 2004, 11/4

## Adult Religious Education

Winter class and workshop applications are now being accepted by the Adult RE Council and Rev. Melitta Haslund. Please include your name, title of class, brief description, your background and qualifications. Please submit to [lifespan@ussb.org](mailto:lifespan@ussb.org) no later than November 24.

UU Inquiry Visitors and newcomers are invited to join members of our Ministerial Team in the Sanctuary from 10:40–11 AM on Sunday, November 30th to learn about our congregation and the Path To Membership.

Path To Membership: Join the Rev. Aaron McEmrys, the Rev. Melitta Haslund, Director of Administration, Nancy Edmundson and our Membership Committee to get to know other newcomers, to become acquainted with the Unitarian Society and learn about our UU history. Lunch included. Saturday, November 22, 9–1 PM in Parish Hall. Child care will be provided in Starr King. Please sign up in the Garden at the Adult RE table or contact Carol Doose at 965-4583 x 224 or [assistant@ussb.org](mailto:assistant@ussb.org).



## Young Adult UUs

The USSB Young Adult Group is starting up again! If you are between the ages of 19 and 40, you're invited to our 2008 kick-off event at Ledbetter beach on Sunday, December 7th at 1 PM. (If you are over 40, mention this opportunity to the "under-40s" you know!)

Meet us in the garden at 12:30 PM after the late service on December 7th to carpool! If you or someone you know is looking for a community of peers that shares your Unitarian Universalist values, this group is for you. We focus on community, social justice, community outreach, and supporting each other in our diverse lifestyles enriched by the Unitarian principles. For questions or to get involved, please call Joya at 448-7711.

## Young Religious Unitarian Universalists

We thank the YRUUsers for their great help with the Service Auction this year! They also offered a service: *Captain Planet Saves UU Money!* And offered to green your home by changing incandescent bulbs to CFLs, weathertstripping doors and windows, cleaning fridge coils, and more!

## Coming of Age

Our COA youth and their mentors created artful sculptures together on Hendry's Beach earlier in November. The youth also lent a hand to our Children's *El Dia de los Muertos* Festivities on November 2nd. Thank you!

## Children's Religious Education

On November 2nd, we celebrated our third annual *El Dia de los Muertos* Ceremony and Celebration, beginning with a thoughtful worship service which remembered and honored our beloved ancestors and pets. We thank all of the parents and grandparents who helped make the celebration a grand success!

On Sunday, November 23rd, parents of Secret Pal recipients will host a Secret Pal Brunch during our Community Hour in Parish Hall at 10:30 AM. Thank you Secret Pals for your letters and goodies for the last month!

Our children and youth continue to learn about Unitarian Universalism this fall semester.

## Program Council Notes

The Women's group, along with the able assistance of the Coffee Boys, put on a successful Brunch Break featuring various stradas and Pan de Muerto.

The Women's Group will continue with the second set of Evensong. The women meet the second and fourth Sunday of the month in Jefferson at 7 PM on November 9 and 23. The meetings are open but we ask for a commitment to do the homework and to attend as many sessions as possible.

A Small Group Ministry Implementation Team has been selected: Jean John (who attended the North Carolina conference on Small Group Ministry), Anita Blume, Carol Schwyzer, and Doug Thomas. They will train leaders of Small Groups and launch the program next fall.

The first monthly potluck was a success and will be continued.

A Thanksgiving feast is planned for November 27 and all are invited. Please notify Donnis Galvan 453-6374 if you plan to attend.

## Sketches by Aaron

I am writing at thirty-some thousand feet in the air, on a plane between Dallas and Boston. I am writing on my laptop and listening to my iPod, as are many of my fellow passengers. And did I mention that I am flying?

Amazing.

What would people have thought of this even twenty years ago? What would many millions scattered around our world think about this even today if they knew airplanes from the inside instead of as distant metal birds soaring impossibly high above all the lives playing out below?

We humans are plugged in. This is, of course, a wonderful thing in many ways. Between our ingenuity and imagination it seems nothing is impossible for us. We can unravel all the secrets of the universe; even cheat death (for a time) with our medicine. And we can watch sitcoms anytime we please while talking on the phone, surfing the web and sending email—all on one little device that fits into an ordinary pocket. I'm sure some of us even manage to do all these things while (ostensibly) having dinner with their family or (gulp)—driving.

We are plugged in! We can do almost anything, invent almost anything, envision, build and engineer almost anything. As songwriter Andy Partridge puts it, "We are the smartest monkeys." But for all our ingenuity, human life is still marked by deprivation, poverty and hopelessness as much as ever. How odd.

It may be that we simply don't often turn our fierce and creative gaze onto these kinds of problems, or it may be that these kinds of challenges cannot ultimately be solved through the shallow science of technology, but rather requires a deeper, more adaptive response. Who knows.

But today, as I fly so impossibly high in the sky, I hope that we will not fall, Icarus-like, brought down by our blind hubris. Today, the music of the spheres sounding through my iPod, I pray that we will become mature enough, wise enough, to wield the power we wield and to walk humbly on this great majestic earth that we so often take for granted.

I love to fly, but my feet belong on the ground.

## Social Justice Matters

Hooray and alas! Barack Obama will be our next president; and it now looks as if Proposition 8 has passed, diminishing our state's constitution by denying for some the rights others enjoy.

There's still hope for the right of marriage for all, though. One or more Supreme Court justices will almost certainly be replaced during the next four years. And then a more liberal Court might consider whether state statutes or amendments can stand if they deny to some people the equal justice under law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Stay tuned...

But in the meantime there are the effects of the financial crisis on employment, housing values, prices, and on down the list. Obama administration changes won't start until after January 20, and with the state budget also in crisis it seems certain that many public services to vulnerable populations will decline for at least the next few months.

That's why it's important that our November 16 offering will help to empower one such population, the Consumer Advocacy Coalition, a truly grassroots group of mental health consumers, in organizing to have a voice in decisions affecting them.

The next Social Justice Committee meeting will be November 20. Thanks, Joanie Jones, for ably chairing the last one.

From Joanie: After nine hours working at a Polling place on Election Day on the *No on Prop 8* informational campaign, I am saddened by the direction that the ballot measure is taking us. Progress has been made and we thank all those who gave so much as volunteers and donors to the cause of equality and justice in this election. The Rev. Lindi Ramsden of UULMCA, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry sends her "thanks for all the love and support you gave to protect GLBT families. In the meantime, the ACLU, NCLR and Lambda Legal are going forward to challenging Prop 8..."

You may want to check on *Equality for All* and the Secretary of State web sites for updates. The local and statewide Friday evening Candle Light Vigils for *No on Prop 8* on November 7th once again affirmed that love cannot be taken away from our friends and families and that Californians will continue to work toward justice and equality for all.

PAUL NAY AND JOANIE JONES

# Calendar

## Saturday, November 22, 2008

- 7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 9:00 AM New UU: Path to Membership, Parish Hall

## Sunday, November 23, 2008

- 9:00 AM USSB Childcare, Starr King
- 9:30 AM Coming of Age, Blake Lounge
- 9:30 AM Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Youth Choir, Jefferson Hall
- 11:00 AM Secret Pals Luncheon, Parish Hall
- 11:30 AM Thanksgiving Service, Sanctuary

## Monday, November 24, 2008

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 7:00 PM USSB Men's Council, Blake Lounge

## Tuesday, November 25, 2008

- 7:00 AM Toastmasters Club #5, Parish Hall
- 12:15 PM USSB I.T. Committee, LaPaz Lounge
- 5:30 PM USSB Worship Committee, LaPaz Lounge
- 3:00 PM Seasoned Seekers, Valle Verde

## Wednesday, November 26, 2008

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 7:00 PM Book Discussion Group, Classroom 1
- Charlotte Tal Memorial, Sanctuary, time TBD

## Thursday, November 27, 2008

Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving

## Friday, November 28, 2008

- Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving
- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 8:00 AM USSB Coffee Boys, Off Campus
- 7:30 PM Danceaway, Parish Hall

## Saturday, November 29, 2008

- 7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 7:00 PM Movie Theatre Grand Opening, Parish Hall
- Jackie Gist Memorial, Sanctuary, time TBD

## Sunday, November 30, 2008

- 9:00 AM USSB Childcare, Starr King
- 9:30 AM Coming of Age, Blake Lounge
- 9:30 AM Children's RE Classes, Classrooms
- 9:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:40 AM UU Inquiry Sundays, Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Youth Choir, Jefferson Hall
- 11:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary

## Monday, December 1, 2008

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 8:00 PM UCSB Choral Concert, Sanctuary

## Tuesday, December 2, 2008

- 5:30 AM USSB Executive Committee, Blake Lounge
- 7:00 AM Toastmasters Club #5, Parish Hall

## Wednesday, December 3, 2008

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 6:00 PM USSB Vespers Potluck, LaPaz Lounge
- 6:30 PM Path to Membership Class, Blake Lounge
- 7:00 PM Book Discussion Group, Classroom 1
- 7:00 PM USSB Vespers, LaPaz Lounge

## Thursday, December 4, 2008

- 7:00 PM Articulating Your Faith, LaPaz Lounge
- 7:00 PM USSB Choir, Sanctuary

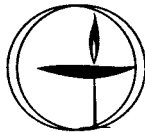
## Friday, December 5, 2008

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 8:00 AM USSB Coffee Boys, Off Campus
- 2:00 PM Alliance General Meeting, Parish Hall
- 3:00 PM COA deBenneville, Off Campus
- 6:00 PM Film Night: "The Elf" Auction Event
- 6:00 PM Danceaway Committee, Jefferson Hall
- 7:30 PM Danceaway, Jefferson Hall

**Looking Ahead...** Dec 7 Brunch Break  
Dec 7 Music Concert  
Dec 14 Holiday Craft Party

## The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

1535 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Office: (805) 965-4583  
Fax: (805) 965-6273  
e-mail: [ussb@ussb.org](mailto:ussb@ussb.org)  
Internet: [www.ussb.org](http://www.ussb.org)



Aaron McEmrys, Parish Minister  
John Alexie Crane, Minister Emeritus  
Melitta L. Haslund, Consulting Minister for Religious Education  
Nancy Edmundson, Director of Administration

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM; Children's Program: 9:30 AM  
Nursery & Children's Care: Sunday, 9:00 AM-12:45 PM, STARR KING  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 AM-4 PM; SUN: 10:00 AM-NOON

### Next Newsletter Deadline

November 19 for material covering  
December 6-December 19, 2008  
E-mail: [Kaleidoscope@ussb.org](mailto:Kaleidoscope@ussb.org)

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
SANTA BARBARA, CA  
Permit 99