



# KALEIDOSCOPE

“WE SEEK SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN A WELCOMING AND CARING COMMUNITY”

January 17–30, 2009

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, CA

Newsletter: Nancy VanAntwerp

Stay tuned to your email!

## Be The Change!

Congregation-wide

### Inaugural Celebration Event

to benefit USSB. It will be organized by our Young Adults

**Tuesday, January 20,  
6–9 PM, Parish Hall.**

### Buddhist Meditation

Have you wondered by whom and how it is practiced?

At the next Seasoned Seekers gathering Jan. 27 Debra Rogers will answer your questions about Buddhist Meditation. What does it mean to practice Buddhist Meditation? Do you need to become a Buddhist or what is required? How is the practice compatible with UU practice? What kind of commitment is involved? Debra is with the Live Oak Sangha held at the Goleta UU Congregation.

UU Seasoned Seekers welcomes everyone to this group of seniors and friends living on the South Coast. Bring your questions to the gathering on Tuesday, January 27th, 3 PM. We meet at the Vista del Monte Retirement Community in the Sierra Madre Room, 3775 Modoc Road. For details about the meeting call Ginny Crane, 682-3476, or for a ride call by Monday the 26th.

## New Year's Resolutions

This year will be different! I start the New Year off with the best of intentions to become the person I always aspired to be. I figure that with a little bit of tweaking here and there I could correct those flaws that stand between me being the person that I am and being... well, a captain of industry, Nobel winner, or revered wise man. No wonder that by the end of January I've completely derailed and by mid February I'm back to business as usual.

But not this year! I'm committed to work on a more realistic list that, with a little luck and a lot of hard work I might be able to achieve at least part of. Come to think about it, I'd be happy with one or two! So in no particular order here are my top ten resolutions for 2009:

1. I'll get my Kaleidoscope articles to Nancy Van Antwerp and Jared Dawson on time so that my Christmas List article won't be published with my New Year's Resolution List article.
2. Each Sunday morning I'll make the decision that attending services will be way more interesting than reading the *New York Times* at home.
3. I will wear my name tag to church so that I can be easily recognized by those who didn't like my last *Kaleidoscope* article.

4. In addition to my pledge, I will put money in the plate each week. (If my math is correct, each week if we have 100 people at each service and we each put an extra \$1.00 in the plate, we would have an additional \$10,400 by end of the year. WOW!)

5. I'll communicate things more simply instead of more complicatedly. Crisp, clean, and concise.

6. I'll listen more than I talk—and remember what I've heard.

7. I'll volunteer to take minutes at USSB board meetings and remember to turn them in before I forget who did what, when, and who seconded it.

8. I'll park down the street so I can benefit from the exercise.

9. I'll make the best decisions I can based on the information available at the time

10. I'll admit my mistakes and do my best not to repeat them.

May your list be half as long...Happy New Year!  
GARY WELTERLEN, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Remember! Save the Date!

#### Ministerial Installation

Sunday, February 22, 4:00 PM

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

January 18

The Reverend Aaron McEmrys

#### Inherit the Spirit

Despite all the achievements of the Civil Rights Movement, our country continues to struggle with the painful legacies of racism, poverty and intolerance.

As we celebrate MLK Sunday we will not honor Dr. King simply by remembering him, but by exploring the ways we can truly inherit his spirit and continue the transformative work for which he stands.

January 25

Service Host: Peter Hale

#### Touched By Fire

We live in a precarious world. The only constants are love, relationship and character.

We will talk about the recent Tea Fire and share experiences of what was lost, what was gained and what makes life worth living.

# Lifespan Religious Education News

## Children's Religious Education

Under the direction of our RE Assistant, Charla Bregante, on Sunday, December 21st our children and youth meditated about the winter solstice, made bird-seed pine cones to hang in the local forests and glittery stars to catch the first rays of the morning after winter solstice. And with the funds they raised they voted to purchase the DVD *Wall-e* for a gift to give a child whose family is with the Domestic Violence Solutions.

On Sunday, December 28th, in preparation for the New Year, our children and youth wrote letters about UU Principles and their deep hopes for our country and the world to President Elect Obama. Here are some insightful excerpts...

"I am a 4 ¾ year old girl. I see a world made more beautiful. I think we should have more flowers and trees. I think we should take care of our world..."

"I am a nine year old boy. I envision a world with less war. I think that talking is a better idea..."

"I am a 10 year old boy and I envision a world more of less war and more Obama. I wish you (will) stop war so people won't die. I would like that!"

"I am a seven year old boy. I envision a world with no war. I wish health care for all around the world..."

Our children and youth will soon begin their winter study of *Islam*, a curriculum the Rev. Melitta Haslund has compiled and written.

Our RE Program recently received a letter of gratitude from the Animal Shelter Assistance Program after the children and youth sent in a donation from their Farmers' Market proceeds of harvested vegetables from the Peas and Justice Garden.

## Coming of Age

We thank our Coming of Age youth and their mentors for providing a delicious Brunch Break on Sunday, January 4th. This fundraiser will benefit the orphanage they will visit in Mexico in April.

The youth will be joined on Saturday, January 17th, by our YRUU youth for a Wizard of Oz evening. Our older youth will share their wisdom about growing up with our younger ones and join with them in games.

## YRUU High School Youth Group

Our youth mightily dug holes and planted scores of indigenous flora on the old Foothill Landfill earlier this month. We are also considering social justice activities.

## Young Adult Group

The USSB Young Adult Group, for ages 18–40, has recently started up again. We meet after services on Sundays at 12:30 in the Garden. Our facilitator is Joya Thomas.

We get together weekly on most Sundays to discuss social and political issues of our interest and our beautifully different and interesting lives. We're also adding a social justice aspect to our group, so please join us with your ideas, your passions, and your friends! For more information, call or email Joya at 448-7711, mail to: jrthomas@ucdavis.edu and find us on *Facebook*.

## Adult Religious Education

Our winter Adult RE and Program Guide is available on the Adult RE Table in the Garden. Sign up on Sundays and attend classes because it is a wonderful way to meet others and engage actively in your own theological and spiritual growth. Here is just a sample:

*The Alphabet Versus the Goddess* DVD and discussion with Sylvia Abualy. Wednesdays, January 14, 21, 28th, from 7–9 PM. Classroom One. Come, engage in a lively discussion!

**Path to Membership class:** Saturday January 17th, 9–Noon, Blake Lounge with Rev. Aaron McEmrys.

Newcomers and those interested in joining the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara are invited to attend this class. We will get to know one another, gain knowledge about Unitarian Universalism, learn about our congregation and programs and how to become a member in a meaningful way. It is an enjoyable time to meet our ministers and staff and become acquainted with others who have found their spiritual home here. Childcare will be available. Saturday gatherings include lunch.

**USSB Film Nights** begin again!(Note the date change)

*At the River I Stand* (1993). Friday, January 16, 7 PM, Parish Hall

In the spring of 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. came to Memphis to support a strike by underpaid sanitation workers, and to demonstrate the ties between civil and economic rights. This powerful documentary reconstructs the events of this momentous campaign, which led to King's tragic death. Recipient of the 1994 Erik Barnouw Award for Best Documentary, from the Organization of American Historians, and directed by David Appleby, Allison Graham and Steven Ross.

**Course on Spiritual Fitness**, Tuesdays, January 20–February 24, 6:30–7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Facilitator: Rev. Sharon Kerwin will use a combination of specific foundational teachings, principles, daily practices and the perfect amount of humor to support participants in experiencing spiritually fit lives. For more information, please contact Rev. Kerwin at 722-2950.

Concerts, Music Appreciation classes, Films, groups, regional UU events, and much more!

## **Sketches by Aaron**

As I write this I am looking over the open cow pastures behind my parents' house in Redmond, Oregon. The field is hard, with patches of stubborn snow in the hollows. The sky is as big as ever, the air fine and clear and smelling of pine.

Later today we'll be picking up my kids and heading out for several days of sledding, snow-shoeing and hot chocolate in Sunriver. Oh how I love snow!

Then after a few days of vacation with my family, I'll be getting down to some serious studying. I have a (too large) pile of books set aside that have been beckoning me for months, but are too weighty to dive into in dribs and drabs. I'm sure you'll hear all about it in the months ahead as things pop up in this sermon or that.

But there is one thing you can do to help me right now. I would like to invite all of you to share your favorite poems and/or poets with me. I am not entirely sure what I will do with them yet, but I have an emerging idea for a service that weaves together the poems held dear by our community. I think it'll be fun, whatever it ends up looking like!

So please email me your favorite poems (minister@ussb.org). Make sure to note who wrote them and feel free (I would love to hear about it!) to add a few lines of your own about what it is about this particular poem that speaks to you. What makes it so special to you? If emailing is inconvenient, you can always drop your poem off at my office mailbox, which is right outside my door.

And now I will take my leave of you—I'm going to buy a new snow sled!!!

### **Annual Starr King Rummage Sale**

**Friday, February 6, 9:30 AM–5:00 PM**

**Saturday, February 7, 9:30 AM–1:00 PM**

This event benefits the Starr King Parent Child Workshop and this year will include a silent auction Friday, from 9:30 AM–4:00 PM, and on Saturday, from 9:30 AM–12:00 PM.

Please bring your donations to Starr King on Sunday, February 1, 1:00 PM–4:00 PM.

## **Pianist Natasha Kislenko and Cellist Alicja Dutkiewicz in a Memorable Concert Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 7:30 PM**

The Music Committee is delighted that Natasha will bring us another concert on Saturday, January 31st at 7:30 PM that will feature her recently formed "Slavic Duo" with cellist, Alicja Dutkiewicz. She and Alicja met several years ago while performing chamber music together in different venues in the States and are currently planning a concert tour in Russia with an appearance at the Chamber Music Festival in Warsaw this coming summer. Now we will have the opportunity to hear them play a program featuring works by Mendelssohn, Rachmaninoff and Faure.

Alicja is among the most internationally successful Polish musicians of her generation. Born in Warsaw to a distinguished family of musicians, Dutkiewicz came to the U.S. in 1987 to continue her music education. She graduated from the Eastman School of Music and earned her master's degree in cello performance at the University of Southern California. An avid chamber musician, she has collaborated with distinguished artists including Yo-Yo Ma, Paul Katz and James Buswell. She now lives in the Los Angeles area and is looking forward to performing often with Natasha.

As most of our members and friends know, Natasha is a faculty member at the University of California, Santa Barbara as well as at the Music Academy of the West. She graduated from the prestigious Moscow Tchaikovsky

Conservatory and later earned a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at Stony Brook University. A prizewinner of numerous international piano competitions in Europe, she was invited to play a debut recital at Carnegie Hall after taking the Grand Prix in the Missouri Southern Competition at Joplin, Missouri. Natasha concertized extensively as a soloist and a chamber musician throughout Russia, Europe and the United States and has performed with many notable artists. She joined our music staff at the Society in 2008 and has delighted everyone with her wonderful playing on Sundays and her solo concerts in the Sanctuary. Now we will have the pleasure of hearing her play a chamber music program with her colleague, Alicja.

The Sanctuary is not available on the Sunday of this weekend so the concert will take place on Saturday evening, starting at 7:30 PM. The rest of our concerts through May will be on Sunday afternoons; however if this Saturday evening scheduling is popular we may add more events at that time slot. Please let us know what you think!

And, invite your friends to come enjoy this concert in our beautiful sanctuary and meet Natasha and Alicja at the reception that will follow.

For more information, contact Natasha or call John Warnock at 965-4235.

# Calendar

## Saturday, January 17, 2009

- 7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 9:00 AM Path to Membership Class, Blake Lounge
- 12:00 PM Wizard of Oz Weekend, Blake Lounge
- 5:30 PM Congregation Potluck, Parish Hall

## Sunday, January 18, 2009

- 12:00 AM Wizard of Oz weekend, Blake Lounge
- 9:00 AM USSB Childcare, Starr King
- 9:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Youth Choir, Jefferson Hall
- 11:30 AM Children's RE Council, Blake Lounge
- 11:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary

## Monday, January 19, 2009

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 6:00 PM Women's Writing Group, LaPaz Lounge

## Tuesday, January 20, 2009

- 7:00 AM Toastmasters Club #5, Parish Hall
- 5:00 PM Inauguration Celebration, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM USSB Board of Trustees, Blake Lounge
- 6:30 PM Course on Spiritual Fitness, Sanctuary

## Wednesday, January 21, 2009

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 5:30 PM Committee on Shared Ministry, Blake Lounge
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 6:00 PM USSB Circle of Friends Potluck, LaPaz Lounge
- 7:00 PM USSB Circle of Friends, LaPaz Lounge
- 7:00 PM Book Group, Classroom B

## Thursday, January 22, 2009

- 5:30 PM USSB Social Justice Committee, LaPaz Lounge
- 7:00 PM USSB Choir, Sanctuary

## Friday, January 23, 2009

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 8:00 AM Coffee Boys, Lazy Acres Market
- 7:30 PM Danceaway, Parish Hall

## Saturday, January 24, 2009

- 7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 8:00 AM PSWD Leadership Day, Costa Mesa

## Sunday, January 25, 2009

- 9:00 AM USSB Childcare, Starr King
- 9:30 AM Coming of Age, Blake Lounge
- 9:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:40 AM UU Inquiry, Reception Office
- 11:00 AM Youth Choir, Jefferson Hall
- 11:30 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM USSB Women's Group, Jefferson Hall

## Monday, January 26, 2009

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

## Tuesday, January 27, 2009

- 7:00 AM Toastmasters Club #5, Parish Hall
- 12:15 PM USSB I.T. Committee, LaPaz Lounge
- 3:00 PM Seasoned Seekers, Vista del Monte
- 5:30 PM USSB Worship Committee, LaPaz Lounge
- 6:30 PM Course on Spiritual Fitness, Sanctuary

## Wednesday, January 28, 2009

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 4:00 PM USSB Finance Committee, Blake Lounge
- 5:30 PM Lark Yoga Classes, Jefferson Hall
- 7:00 PM Book Group, Classroom B

## Thursday, January 29, 2009

- 7:00 PM USSB Choir, Sanctuary

## Friday, January 30, 2009

- 6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall
- 8:00 AM Coffee Boys, Lazy Acres Market
- 2:00 PM Alliance Board Meeting, LaPaz Lounge
- 7:30 PM Danceaway, Parish Hall

## Looking Ahead

- February 22 Rev. Aaron McEmrys, Ministerial Installation
- March 15 Building Project Dedication & Celebration

## 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

January 14 for material covering  
January 31-February 13, 2008  
E-mail: [Kaleidoscope@ussb.org](mailto:Kaleidoscope@ussb.org)

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