

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

KALEIDOSCOPE

July 4–July 17, 2009

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, CA

Newsletter: Nancy VanAntwerp

Online print and video coverage of General Assembly

Web coverage of the '09 UUA General Assembly (GA) can be found at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/programming/18214.shtml>.

Over 20 hours of video are webcast. See them at: <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/2009/141864.shtm>

Bruce Hanna



On a Musical Note:

Our Chancel Choir will be meeting the first part of August. So if you have a (mild, of course) case of the summer doldrums, join us for a sure cure!

And don't overlook the music classes beginning on July 9th, and continuing every Thursday at 7:00 PM in Jefferson Hall throughout the month. See page 2.



Hearing Assistance Volunteers

July 5:
9:30 AM Al Melkonian
11:30 AM: Jerry Floyd

July 12
9:30AM: Al Melkonian
11:30 AM: Jerry Floyd

Social Justice

We are all deeply grateful for the dedicated service and leadership over many years by Paul Nay as Chair of the Social Justice Committee. As Paul steps down from his role as Chair of this committee, and failing to find a replacement for the Committee Chair, your Program Council discussed in our recent meeting the efficiency of a standing committee versus task forces to perform the social justice work of the congregation.

Recognizing that our congregation remains deeply and actively committed to living out its values through a ministry of social justice and action, task forces will continue to operate supporting the USSB social justice issues: Empowerment process, monthly offerings, Martin Luther King project, UUSC, Will-bridge, UU Legislative ministry, Prop. 8, and others as needed, even though the standing committee is disbanded.

The Program Council will continue to work toward developing a model for our social justice ministry that will be even more effective, sustainable and mission-focused.

FOR THE PROGRAM COUNCIL, GUN DUKES

Support Our Neighbor: The Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics

Thirty five years ago two doctors started an affordable, high-quality healthcare clinic for uninsured and low-income Santa Barbarans on the west side of town. Today, that clinic has grown into the Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics with three medical clinics, a dental clinic and over 100 employees. But just as the clinics have grown so has the need for their services—especially in today's economy. Santa Barbarans have supported the clinics from the start and the need for that support also has grown. Last year, USSB made a generous donation to the Westside Neighborhood Clinic. We want to continue to support their selfless providing of medical care that is needed all the more right now.

The Social Justice outreach collection on Sunday, July 19th will be dedicated to the Westside Neighborhood Clinic. While money is always needed, it is not the only need, nor is it the only way we can help out. Books and toys for children in the waiting room are also in short supply and need constant replenishing. For anyone wishing to donate a children's book or toy, a big Westside Clinic box will be available at the Social Justice Table each Sunday throughout July. _____Cont'd next Page

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

July 5th

PULPIT HOST: KEN RALPH

Courage

There are times in our lives when we marvel at the courage of others or even of ourselves. *Independence Day* is one such day when we stand in awe at the courage of those faced with extraordinary, life-threatening challenges.

Thankfully, most of us will never have to face such dire circumstances. But courage is still required in each of our lives. Where do you look for the inspiration that brings you courage? And what could be more scary and vulnerable than love? It requires a special kind of courage too.

July 12th

THE REVEREND AARON MCEMRYS

Sometimes It Has to Be Jazz

Jazz has always been the music of liberation. It is grounded in the great human struggle for freedom, and no other musical style holds the tension between discipline and freedom, composition and improvisation the way jazz does.

So...What can jazz teach us—musicians and listeners alike—about living a joyful, balanced, playful and liberated life? We'll find out in this service with an outstanding combo led by our own Ken Ryals So come curious, come open—and make sure to bring your groove!

Lifespan Religious Education News

Summer Sundays 9:30 AM

Children's Religious Education:

Summer Sunday services for children are off to a great start. And we have lots more to look forward to. Kids won't want to miss Dramatic Soccer, Music and Movement, Birds and Butterflies in Alice Keck Park Gardens, and lots more!

Peas and Justice Farmers Market

Donate extra produce from your garden to a good cause. Beginning Sunday, July 5, look for the RE Farmers' Market table in the garden on Sunday mornings. Drop off your produce donations in the baskets, and we'll take it from there. All proceeds will be donated to a social justice cause voted on by our RE children in the fall.

Family Fun Night

Join RE families for a beach BBQ on Friday, July 10, 6-8 PM. Watch your weekly RE Family e-mail for location and additional information. Or contact Charla Bregante at re@ussb.org, 965-4583 x227. Open to all RE families and their friends. Plan on bringing something to grill, a dish to share and plates, utensils and drinks for your family.

Childcare Assistants Needed

We have openings on our childcare on-call list for teens or others who enjoy working with young children. Assistants are paid hourly. For more information, please contact Charla Bregante at re@ussb.org, 965-4583 x227.

Con't From Page 1—NEIGHBORHOOD CLINICS

Another way to help the clinic is to be a volunteer at the clinic doing administrative tasks such as maintaining patient records. Whether you volunteer for a single afternoon or on a regular basis your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Services at SBNC exceed one thousand clients per month and over fifty thousand visits per year. This volume nears the capacity of the current space. However, the facilities retain their welcoming, family-oriented, homey feeling and a continuity for clients as though they have their own doctor.

Services include adult and geriatric care, general physical exams, pediatric care, well-baby exams, and immunizations as well as family planning and HIV / AIDS counseling and testing.

The budget depends on donations for 40% for their operations. It is July now, so some time this month, think about dropping a book or a toy in the box at the SJ table for a little kid with a tummy ache. And on Sunday July 19th make a difference in the community by giving generously to our good neighbor, the Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics.

Teach RE this Fall

We are currently recruiting teachers for Pre-K through 7th grade for the fall of 2009. Please contact Charla Bregante for more information.

Summer Reading.

Summer is a time to slow down and enjoy some good books. Three children's books that inspire summer connections with nature and imagination are *Roxaboxen*, but Alice McLerran (the subject of our June 7th Children's Worship Service), *The Raft*, by Jim Lamarche, and *We-slandia*, by Paul Fleishchman. All three of these delightful books have beautiful illustrations and are guaranteed to spark your imagination and a desire for the simple pleasures of summer.

Adult Religious Education:

EET—Ethical Eating Discussion Group: Sundays July 26, August 23 in La Paz Lounge 12:45-2:30 PM. To learn more about USSB's Ethical Eating Task Force, contact Cat Robson, jitterbugranch@msn.com.

Music—De-Mystifying the Mystery!

Thursdays, July 9, 16, 23, and 30. 7-8:30 PM in Jefferson Hall. Join Chancel Choir Director, Ken Ryals, in this fun class designed for the church choir member and the congregational singer.

Music Concert! Sunday, July 12, 3 PM USSB Sanctuary

Adam Phillips, along with local favorites **Doug Clegg** and **David West**, will perform a concert of traditional hymns and gospel songs. It will feature classics such as *In the Garden*, *Amazing Grace*, and *In the Sweet By and By*, in new arrangements with fiddle, mandolin, and acoustic guitar.

Phillips is the cantor/psalmist at the Old Mission Santa Barbara, has recently been in the Young Artist Program with Opera Santa Barbara, and is a soloist with Choral Society, Quire of Voyces, and Adelfos. Doug Clegg, playing guitar, fiddle, mandolin and steel guitar, is a powerful presence on stage and in the local folk arena. He has released seven of his own projects, and is active in many musical venues in Santa Barbara. David West, playing guitar, banjo, and mandolin, is a much-sought-after instrumentalist performing with many musical luminaries and runs his own recording studio in Santa Barbara.

This concert is sponsored and organized by our USSB Adult Choir. Join us for a wonderful afternoon of music.

Sketches by Aaron

In the Summertime

This summer will be a bit different than others we've had around here – hopefully in good ways!

The biggest difference may be that most things will stay more or less the same. I schedule my time off throughout the year, so while I will be taking off some time here and there, I will be here as usual for most of the summer. In fact I have scheduled my time off so that I will never be away from the pulpit for more than two weeks in a row.

We will also continue holding our two services as usual. Attendance may dip as people travel or simply linger longer over their morning papers on Sunday mornings – but people's needs do not necessarily follow the academic calendar, so we will be as open and welcoming as always. So don't feel unduly guilty if you don't feel like coming to church every week – but do know that if you do need your community, we will be here just like always.

One thing I am going to do is seize the summer as an opportunity to do some experiments with worship. Ken

Ryals and I are collaborating on a "Jazz" service that will weave words and music together in worship, accompanied by a jazz combo and gifted members of our congregation.

Our children will be doing "Summer Sundays" again this year, where kids of all ages explore all kinds of cool things with talented adults from our congregation. For example, last week, Max Neufeldt shared his love of cartooning, Christyn Edmundson will be leading our children in an immersive experience of Africa and I will be offering a crazy fusion of soccer and creative drama at Alameda Park which I hope will raise both heart-rates and empathy-skills. Fun! Fun! Fun!

And whether I happen to be in town or not, I will always be available if one of life's painful emergencies occurs. I will be checking my messages every day and am always ready to offer whatever support I can.

Happy Summer, everybody!

So! What's the Buzz?

Last fall at the *Ministerial Start Up Retreat* members, leadership and staff agreed that becoming an increasingly age diverse congregation was a strategic priority that we wanted to achieve. This priority would guide our activities over the next five years and become the compass for our programs and ministry. Sometimes with long-term goals it's hard, if not impossible, to determine if you're really making progress, especially in the early going. With good faith and intentions we ride off, putting things in place until we really know if we are going in the right direction until we are well on our way. By the time results come in it's often too late to change course.

Fortunately we get a sense when we're going in the right direction. Call them what you may: proof points, indicators, signs, but somehow you become aware that things are changing. You just can't put a finger on it. I started to notice a change sometime around Easter in the Garden during community hour. There seemed to be more new faces, a lot more. But, for the first time I sensed a "buzz," changes in body language and tone accompanying conversations and inquiries that I hadn't noticed before. "Huh," I thought, "this group of visitors really seemed interested." I chocked it up to a good sermon and the coming of spring and went about my official business of signing checks and arranging chairs.

Then a few weeks back I attended the New Members Luncheon. This is a twice-yearly event where Aaron and

Eliza open their home to welcome our new members. Close to twenty people attended and throughout the afternoon I heard the same buzz as I had the weeks before in the Garden. There was a palpable energy coming through that said "I am here because this place spoke to me in such a special way that I wanted to be a part of it." I thought cautiously, "I was excited too when I became a new member so let's not jump to conclusions."

Then last week at the RE Parents Pancake Breakfast and at the Annual Meeting there was that buzz again. New members with young families, excited to be a part of what we are doing, were willing to sit down with an older guy to talk about what the church is doing and how they will be a part of it. This same "buzz" characterized the annual meeting as we approved budgets, elected new leadership and celebrated the successes of the past year, and talked about next year's plans. Members talked about how good it feels to be a Unitarian in Santa Barbara. They were excited about what we've accomplished and what are the possibilities for the future. Hum, seems like a trend to me.

So, as my first act as newly re-elected Board of Trustees President, I officially declare we are headed in the right direction. I can't wait to see what's in store for us in the next year. And based on the continuing buzz, I think it's going to be a lot more of the same.

GARY WELTEREN, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Calendar

SATURDAY, JULY 04, 2009

7:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL

SUNDAY, JULY 05, 2009

9:00 AM CHILDCARE, STARR KING
 9:30 AM SUMMER SUNDAYS, JEFFERSON HALL
 9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE, SANCTUARY
 11:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE, SANCTUARY

MONDAY, JULY 06, 2009 — OFFICES CLOSED FOR JULY 4 HOLIDAY

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 5:30 PM LARK YOGA CLASS, JEFFERSON HALL

TUESDAY, JULY 07, 2009

5:30 PM USSB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BLAKE LOUNGE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 08, 2009

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 5:30 PM LARK YOGA CLASS, JEFFERSON HALL
 7:00 PM READING GROUP, CLASSROOM B

THURSDAY, JULY 09, 2009

7:00 PM MUSIC: DE-MYSTIFYING THE MYSTERY, JEFFERSON HALL

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 6:00 PM FAMILY FUN NIGHT, JEFFERSON HALL
 7:30 PM DANCEAWAY, PARISH HALL

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2009

7:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 9:00 AM PATH TO MEMBERSHIP, BLAKE LOUNGE
 2:30 PM ESPERANTO, BLAKE LOUNGE

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2009

9:00 AM CHILDCARE, STARR KING
 9:30 AM SUMMER SUNDAYS, JEFFERSON HALL
 9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE, SANCTUARY
 10:40 AM UU INQUIRY, RECEPTION OFFICE
 11:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE, SANCTUARY
 7:00 PM WOMEN'S GROUP, LA PAZ

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2009

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 5:30 PM LARK YOGA CLASS, JEFFERSON HALL
 7:00 PM USSB MEN'S COUNCIL, BLAKE LOUNGE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2009

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 4:00 PM FINANCE COMMITTEE BLAKE LOUNGE
 5:30 PM LARK YOGA CLASS, JEFFERSON HALL
 5:30 PM COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY, LAPAZ LOUNGE
 7:00 PM READING GROUP, CLASSROOM B

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009

9 AM PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE, LA PAZ LOUNGE
 6:00 PM CHILDREN'S RE COUNCIL MEETING, BLAKE LOUNGE
 7:00 PM MUSIC: DE-MYSTIFYING THE MYSTERY, JEFFERSON HALL

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2009

6:00 AM EARLY MORNING EXERCISE, WITH LINDA, PARISH HALL
 7:30 PM DANCEAWAY, PARISH HALL

HAVE A HAPPY SUMMER!

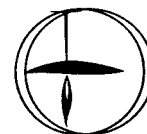
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Next Newsletter Deadline
 July 1, for material covering
 July 18-31, 2009
 E-mail: kaleidoscope@ussb.org

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
 Summer Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 AM-NOON; SUN: 10:00 AM-NOON

Aaron McEmrys, Parish Minister
 John Alexie Crane, Minister Emeritus
 Nancy Edmundson, Director of Administration



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