

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

# KALEIDOSCOPE

July 18–July 31, 2009

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, CA

Newsletter: Nancy VanAntwerp

## Where Does the Time Go?

Back almost a year ago to the day, I got a call from Nancy Edmundson announcing in her typical cheery "you-can-do-it" voice that it would be "really good" if I could write an article about the latest Board Meeting for the July *Kaleidoscope*, and, oh-by-the-way, it's due by noon tomorrow. Since I was a new, fresh out-of-the-box board President and not being one to say, "I can't do that" I gave the only answer that I could think of: "Sure."

As soon as I got off the phone reality set in. I now had a deadline 24 hours away and no idea about what to write about or how to say it. What was I thinking, agreeing to write an article? I called to Nancy who told me to take a few deep breaths and assured me it wasn't going to be that difficult. She suggested two topics: our Support for Marriage Equality and the acceptance of the gracious gift of the Laurie Zimmer Memorial Bench. I wrote at the time: "...every once in a while items come on the agenda that make you reflect on why we are really here and what's important. In this meeting there were two especially important items I wanted to share with you: the passing of a board resolution to oppose the California Proposition 8 state ballot initiative and the acceptance of the gracious gift of the Laurie Zimmer memorial bench and garden."

That July *Kaleidoscope* went to press and the articles, like most other articles, soon were forgotten. In the past year more than twenty *Kaleidoscopes* have been published and so many events of the life of the Society written and reported on. We've had the awful fires, the wonderful arrival of Aaron and Eliza, the inspiring completion and dedication of the beautiful Jefferson Lawn—memorable events in our community—as well as the on-going activities that oc-

cur each week that make a place like the Unitarian Society work so well.

Maybe because they were in the first article I wrote, these topics remain important to me for they, in many ways, reflect values I continue to view as important. They speak to our community and our challenge to carry on for what is right. The Board's resolution set in motion our congregation's official position to support the inherent worth and dignity of all people and the unalienable rights to marriage. Each Sunday we reaffirm our position with the lighting of a candle of commitment until Marriage Equality for all Californians is achieved. There is still much work to do.

The Laurie Zimmer Memorial Bench project reminds us of the value of fellowship and how to persevere even when it would be much easier just to give up. Jules, Nancy, Alex Cole and others took on each bureaucratic hurdle the City Planning Board brought up and today, to the delight of all, construction is under way. Soon, as Jules had envisioned, people will be able to rest on Laurie's bench across the street from Alice Keck Park Garden, taking in the sights.

With the celebration of the Fourth of July, we begin again a new church year. The newly elected Board of Trustees will meet for the first time and we'll take up our business of the day just as countless other Boards have done in years past. We too will be faced by the unique challenges of the day and have our successes and disappointments. As before, the measure of success will be what issues we choose to take on and how we conduct ourselves in making decisions. If recent history is any indicator, there will be lots to write about in the upcoming year.

GARY WELTERLEN, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

July 19th

**The Reverend Aaron McEmrys**

**The Dr. Is In**

Financial crises, two wars, rising unemployment, global warming. These are all critical issues that we must address as a people right now. But as we set our priorities we cannot forget about the absolute necessity of reforming our teetering healthcare system. Congress is considering this issue right now, and the promise of universal healthcare has never been more real, yet many significant hurdles remain before us.

Why is universal healthcare important? What stands in our way? What can we do to make sure everyone in America can go to the doctor when they get sick?

July 26th

**Dr. Will Tuttle**

**Heart Teachings on the Dharma Path**

The essence of spiritual practice is awakening to our original wisdom, beyond the confining delusions of our cultural conditioning. The foundation of this awakening is practicing mindfulness and compassion.

Join author Will Tuttle, a former Zen monk and Buddhist practitioner for over 30 years, in a provocative and insightful exploration into the connections between Buddhist practice and our daily lives here in the West.

Dr. Tuttle will also weave uplifting original piano music into the service.

## Work Party to Celebrate with Ken! Saturday, August 2 Parish Hall and Garden

Come on everybody! Let's celebrate Ken Ralph's wonderful service as our Facility Manager and his recent retirement by working together to create a new and improved bike area off our Parish Garden. What could be a better "retirement gift" than making one of Ken's dreams come true?

Ken has been deeply committed to creating beautiful facilities that are user friendly as well as to continually improving our practices toward more sustainable and "green" living—and this project embodies all of that! This will be a super-fun day, with tasks that folks of ALL ages

can participate in and enjoy (naturally we'll find something for everyone)!

Please contact Nancy Edmundson, Director of Administration to let her know that you will attend, and to talk over what special talent, tool, time or task you might provide. Even if raking, digging, shoveling, weeding, planting—Gardening!—is not your cup of tea you might bring a goodie, share a hug, and/or pass out drinks. Don't miss the opportunity! < director@ussb.org;> or 965-4583, x225

## Path To Membership

**Saturday, August 22, 9 AM to Noon, in Blake Lounge**

Newcomers and those interested in joining the USSB are invited to attend. We will get to know one another and learn about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation and membership. It is an enjoyable opportunity to meet and get to know Rev. Aaron McEmrys!

Childcare and light refreshments provided. Please register in advance with Jen Stroh, Membership Coordinator, membership@ussb.org, 965-4583 x221

UU Inquiry is held several times a month on Sundays from 10:40 to 11 AM. Upcoming dates are July 12 and 26, August 2 and 16, September 6 and 20. Join us in the reception office for an informal conversation with Nancy Edmundson, Director of Administration; Jen Stroh, Membership Coordinator; and a member of our Membership Committee.

This is an informal opportunity for you to learn more about our congregation, and for us to learn what brings you here to USSB!

## Lifespan Religious Education News

**Summer Sundays 9:30 AM**

### Children's Religious Education:

Summer Sunday services for children continue through the summer during the 9:30 AM service. Following a rousing morning of "Dramatic Soccer" with Rev. Aaron McEmrys on July 5 (ask Aaron or the kids to tell you all about it), children can look forward to bird watching, native American flutes, the buzz about bees, and much more. Childcare is available for young children in Starr King at both services.

**The RE Peas and Justice Farmers' Market** is a wonderful way to share our resources, eat locally, and support our RE children in their social justice work. Drop off your produce at the Farmers' Market table in the garden on Sunday mornings, and we'll take it from there. All proceeds from the market will be donated to a social justice cause voted on by our RE children in the fall.

### Welcoming New Families to Family Fun Night

We would like to extend a special invitation to new RE families to join in the fun during these monthly family potlucks. **Family Fun Nights** are a wonderful way to meet new friends and make lasting connections for both parents and children. Please join us.

On Friday, August 14, 6-8 PM, RE families will celebrate their own Fiesta. 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 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.

### 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.

### Adult Religious Education:

**Music—De-Mystifying the Mystery!** Thursdays, July 9, 16, and 23, 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.

**The World Peace Diet with Dr. Will Tuttle.** Saturday, July 25, 7 PM, Parish Hall.

The Ethical Eating Task force is happy to bring to Santa Barbara Dr. Will Tuttle, acclaimed pianist, composer, educator and author, who has lectured and performed throughout North America and Europe, and is a recipient of The Peace Abbey's Courage of Conscience Award. He's also is a Dharma Master in the Zen tradition.

**Will Tuttle** delivers a no-nonsense talk about the food we choose, where it comes from, and how it may be harming us physically and spiritually.

# Sketches by Aaron

## Unitarian Society Hires New DLRE!

I love to be the bearer of good news, and boy do I have some good news for you this week!

As you probably know, our diligent, dedicated and always daring search committee has been laboring long and hard to find the right Director of Lifespan Religious Education to lead our program into the future.

Tammy Shorb, Kir Zecher, Rosaleen Lancet, Ken Saxon and Carla Neufeldt Abatie joined me in reviewing more than fifty applicants, many of whom were well qualified for the position. We then narrowed our search down to nine, which was much more difficult than you might imagine. We interviewed each of them in a two-day marathon session, and then compared notes—and found that we were in complete and unanimous agreement.

**LeeAnn Williams** was the candidate for us!

We flew her out here to meet with us from her home in Salt Lake City and spent five more hours talking with her in person. She was everything we had hoped she would be—and more.

And the rest, as they say, is history. Our lifespan religious education program has a new leader.

LeeAnn is from Louisiana, and has spent much of her adult life in Texas where she attended the First Unitarian Church. She has been through seminary, taught in both conventional and alternative schools and completed her Masters Degree in Library Science. For the last five years she has been the Director of Religious Education at our sister congregation in Salt Lake City, where she has done truly amazing work.

When she isn't working (and sometimes when she is), you can find her knitting up a storm or playing with her three (incredibly lovable) bloodhounds.

She will begin work with us in the beginning of August, and can't wait to get started. There will be tons of opportunities to get to know her, so stay tuned.

Let me close by once again thanking all the people whose hard work, long hours and creative scheduling made this announcement possible. **Thank You, Search Committee!!!!**  
IN FAITH, AARON

P.S. LeeAnn is looking for a rental in the Santa Barbara area, a search made more complicated by her three dogs. If you have a rental or know someone who does, please let me know as soon as possible.

## All in the Family

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## Music Concerts!

### 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.

Like all concerts here at USSB it's \$15.00 for adult and \$10.00 for seniors, students and USSB members. This concert is sponsored and organized by our USSB Adult Choir. Join us for a wonderful afternoon of music.

### Sunday, August 2nd at 3:00 PM, Sanctuary

Violist Kirsten Monke was the principal violist for the Santa Barbara Symphony and Chamber Orchestra for many years. She moved last year to Maine to join the notable DaPonte String Quartet.

Since the quartet will be touring on the West Coast in August, Kirsten has asked us to host a concert in joint sponsorship with the Chamber Music Society of Santa Barbara. This outstanding ensemble will play works by Mozart, Ades and Debussy.

A reception follows so you may welcome Kirsten "back home."

# Calendar

## Saturday, July 18, 2009

7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

## Sunday, July 19, 2009: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM Worship Service

9:00 AM Childcare, Starr King

9:30 AM Summer Sundays, Jefferson Hall

## Monday, July 20, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

2:00 PM AI Anon, Classroom B

5:30 PM Lark Yoga Class, Jefferson Hall

## Tuesday, July 21, 2009

5:30 PM Board of Trustees, Blake Lounge

## Wednesday, July 22, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

5:30 PM Lark Yoga Class, Jefferson Hall

7:00 PM Wednesday Book Discussion, Classroom B

## Thursday, July 23, 2009

7:00 PM MUSIC: De-mystifying the mystery, Jefferson Hall

## Friday, July 24, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

7:30 PM DanceAway, Parish Hall

## Saturday, July 25, 2009

7:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

7:00 PM Will Tuttle Lecture, Parish Hall

## Sunday, July 26, 2009: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM Worship Service

9:00 AM Childcare, Starr King

9:30 AM Summer Sundays, Jefferson Hall

10:40 AM UU Inquiry, Reception Office

12:00 PM Library Committee, Classroom B

12:45 PM Ethical Eating, LaPaz Lounge

7:00 PM USSB Women's Group, LaPaz Lounge

## Monday, July 27, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

12:00 PM AI Anon, Classroom B

5:30 PM Lark Yoga Class, Jefferson Hall

7:00 PM USSB Men's Council, Blake Lounge

## Tuesday, July 28, 2009

12:15 PM USSB IT Committee, LaPaz Lounge

## Wednesday, July 29, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

5:30 PM Lark Yoga Class, Jefferson Hall

7:00 PM Wednesday Book Discussion, Classroom B

## Friday, July 31, 2009

6:00 AM Early Morning Exercise, with Linda, Parish Hall

7:30 PM DanceAway, Parish Hall

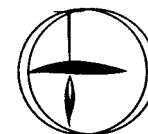
## Looking Ahead

August 6: Adult Choral Rehearsals Resume

September 13: All Congregation InGathering

**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
 July 15, for material covering  
 August 1-15, 2009, 2009  
 E-mail: [kaleidoscope@ussb.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@ussb.org)

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 Aaron McEmrys, Parish Minister  
 John Alexie Crane, Minister Emeritus  
 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  
 Summer Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 AM-Noon; Sun: 10:00 AM-Noon



The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

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