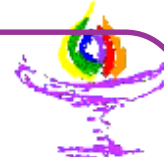


U2C2 Connection



Unitarian Universalist Community Church

8231-C East Stockton Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95828
(916) 689-2008 UUCC@cwnet.com www.u2c2.org

February 2007

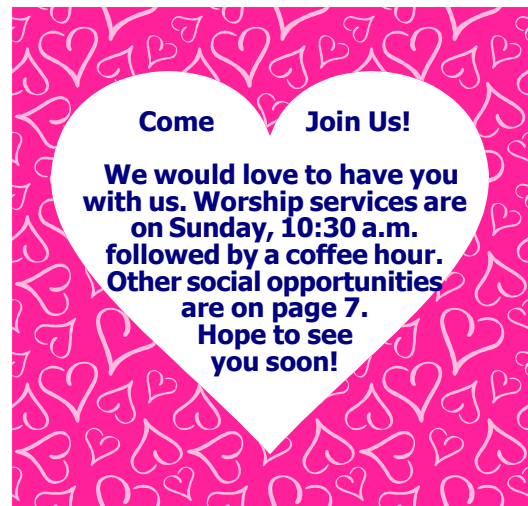
February Worship Services

Sunday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. The Truths Beyond Magic Unitarian Universalists have often underestimated the importance of stories. How might we look at stories in a new way? Worship Leader: Rev. Kate Rohde. Please consider staying after the service for a Workshop on Welcome with District Consultant to small congregations, Yvonne Rochon.

Sunday, February 11, 10:30 a.m. Reclaiming Old Words: God
A sermon by Rev. Kate Rohde — adapted and given by Allison Claire Unitarian Universalist Association President has urged us to “reclaim the language of reverence”. This sermon is a part of a series Rev. Kate has preached on reclaiming theological language. Worship Leader: Allison Claire

Sunday, February 18, 10:30 a.m. Not a Family Anymore I have been with this congregation since August and have seen you go through many changes. And yet my hope for you is that the most important changes are still ahead. This Sunday some reflections on what I have seen here and the path ahead. Worship Leader: Rev. Kate Rohde

Sunday, February 25, 10:30 a.m. Why I am a UU
In a lay-led service, members of our congregation discuss what motivated, inspired or puzzled them on their faith journey within the UU church. Worship Leader: TBD.



Joys and Sorrows

Beginning on February 4th, the worship committee will experiment with a new format for Joys and Sorrows. We will ask those of you with a Joy or Sorrow you wish to have shared aloud, to write it in a book that will be provided on Sundays or e-mail it to the week’s worship leader before Sunday morning. The worship leader will then share the joys and sorrows aloud as part of a pastoral prayer or meditation. Please include your name, the person and/or the event that is your joy or sorrow. (If you use e-mail, put Joy and Sorrow in your subject line.)

February 2007



Our new address is: 8231 East Stockton Blvd., Suite C, Sacramento, CA 95828 Phone: 916-689-2008

If you have a meeting this month and don't see it here, please contact the office at uucc@cwnet.com.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church	2	3
4 Sunday Worship 10:30am Workshop on Welcome 12pm Sr. High Group 6pm at church Theater Group reservations due	5	6 Special Board Mtg 7:15pm at church	7 Search Committee	8 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church	9 2nd Fri Suppers	10 Theater Group 7:30pm
11 Sunday Worship 10:30am OWL @ UUSS 1pm	12	13 Relig Educ Mtg 7:00pm at church	14 Search Committee	15 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church Newsletter Deadline	16	17 Men's Group Breakfast 9-12
18 Sunday Worship 10:30am Womens Group 4pm Sr. High Group 6pm at church	19	20 Board Meeting 7:15 at church	21 Search Committee	22 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church	23 All Church Pot Luck & Game Night 6pm at church	24
25 Sunday Worship 10:30am Daring Diners 12:30pm after church OWL @ UUSS 1pm	26	27	28 Search Committee			

ALTAR

02/04 Karen Gunderson
02/11 Amy Jaynes
02/18 Judy Schafer
02/25 Edie O'Laughlin

GREETERS

Frieda Fergus
Terri Riley
John Sugar
Rosemary Miles

LIGHTERS

Oliver B.
Sean M.
Jacob N.
Alex R.





From Our Minister Kate's Corner:

It is nice to be settled into the new building and have our new administrator, Jennifer Sato, on board and be looking towards the changes and opportunities of your future. This is an exciting time, but an unsettling one, even for a newcomer and transitional minister like me. It is exciting to see this congregation taking some risks in order to fulfill its promise and mission to bring our faith to UU's and potential UU's in this part of Sacramento. As a person who has moved home and churches twice in three years, I can say clearly that change can be exciting and energizing, but it isn't easy. That is one reason for interim ministers — we can be with you through the changes and when you feel angry at the discomfort you won't have to live long with the person you might identify as being the cause of the discomfort. Your new minister can come in without the onus of being the first to disturb the comfort of familiarity. With all the big changes that are going on, I want to use this column to address a couple of small ones.

The Order of Service is not what you are used to. This change has come about for one practical reason: church volunteers and I were doing it ourselves and we wanted to make it as short as possible. We included what you and your guests needed in order to follow the service, and brief reminders or announcements of upcoming events. Now that we have an administrator, it would be easier to do more. However, for several reasons, we are going to experiment for a few months more with a briefer format. Here is the reason for the experiment: One is that the briefer the handout, the more it is likely the key announcements will be read. You need to highlight the things you want attention paid to. A second reason is financial. The longer the weekly handout, the more it costs. (an extra page can cost \$500 to \$1000 dollars over a year's time with labor and copying costs). A third reason is that many of the items included were aimed at visitors, and the rest of you didn't necessarily need them on a weekly basis. Soon we will be sending visitors a nice bookmark with our purposes and

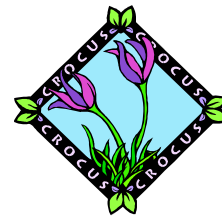
principles as well as giving them a list of groups and regular activities they might have an interest in. This will meet the need of visitors for more information, without copying it out for everyone every week. Once Jennifer has been working with us for a couple of months, let me know if you feel there are some things that have been taken out of the Order of Service that those who attend regularly need. If you have ideas about an information packet for guests, please share them (or even volunteer to help with it!).

Joys and Sorrows were changed last year to mixed reviews. Some of you like the increased brevity and the more worshipful feeling, some of you feel people could be briefer still. Some of you have some difficulty hearing what has been said, now that Joys and Sorrows are shared from within the congregation. The worship committee has had several discussions about this and we have agreed to a further experiment. Beginning on February 4, there will be a book located at the altar for you to write down your name, and the joy or sorrow you wish to have lifted up in the service. The worship leader will include all those joys and sorrows in a pastoral prayer. There will be advantages and disadvantages to this way of doing Joys and Sorrows as with each of the others. Ultimately, the experimentation you have been doing during this interim time will help your worship committee advise your new minister as you shape your worship together next year.

As unsettling as it sometimes is, I am learning from this opportunity to experiment with you. I appreciate your willingness to try so many new things.

Kate

P.S. I will be pre-candidating several weekends in the next two months as I look for a permanent settlement. Kurt Schmidt and Jennifer Sato have my cell phone number where I can be reached in emergencies, and I will be in Sacramento during the week before and after my weekends away.





From our Board President Kurt's Corner:

On Saturday, January 13th, an intrepid group of eight UUC members set forth at o-dark-early for Berkeley to attend a day-long seminar regarding church growth. This event was sponsored by the Pacific Central District of the UUA (PCD), and featured Larry Peers. The guy was inspirational and we were inspired. His workshop was not for the faint of heart. We brought back valuable ideas and information on improving this congregation's health and growth. One thing we found encouraging is that UUC is doing so many things right, and we have so much to offer. We're excited about this. The day was beneficial in another way - it gave us the chance to renew connections with other regional UU's (we have many friends!).

Don't be afraid to ask us about the seminar - those attending were: Annette Emery, Maggie Melnick, Eric Walle, Barbara Schnabel, Ken De Crescenzo, John Sugar, Rev. Kate, and me. ...and plan to attend the Sunday, February 4th church service and discussion about growing congregations that will feature a guest speaker from the PCD.

Another interesting discussion happened between the Finance Committee and the Campaign for Growth Committee along with other interested folks after church on Sunday, January 7th. Partly, this was a post-mortem on the events of 2006 as we moved into our new church home. Much was said, and many concerns were brought forth about how policies should be adapted and improved as this church moves forward. One concept was that each month's Board meeting (starting right away with January 16th) would focus on a major area of concern to the church. January's Board meeting hosted a discussion of the Ministerial Search committee's needs this spring as we select our next minister (discussions are happening NOW...and they asked first!). The February Board meeting will focus on Finances - the 2006-7 Canvass, Campaign for Growth, policies for procurement, and communications about money. Future Board meetings will visit the issues of Membership, Religious Education, Sanctuary Design, and so on. We feel this will be an orderly and timely way to make sure we are hearing the voices of our committees and members, and to make realistic policy decisions and plans.

With Thanks and Love,
Kurt Schmidt

Religious Education News....

by Dawn Rose, our Director of Children's Religious Education

"Every one should have a vote about things that concern them."

Each person has a right to be heard and their voice counts. Usually we are more conscious of this in November when we go to vote for various political leaders. But what about in everyday life? Do we have the opportunity to "vote" on things in the work place or at school or at home? Do our children share leadership at school in their classrooms or out on the playground during recess? This is our theme for the month. Why don't you join us in exploring what it means to have the right to vote about what you believe in.

LET'S CELEBRATE THE "SOUPER BOWL"!
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4TH

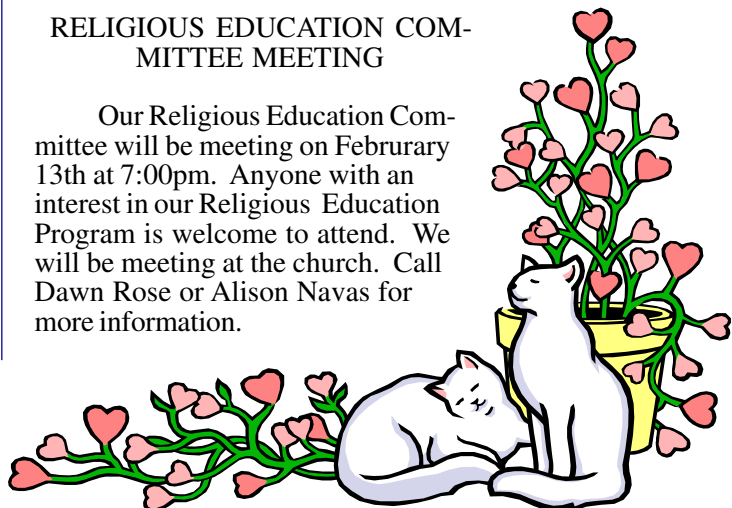
This is a national effort. On February 4th, Super Bowl Sunday, churches will be putting out a "soup bowl" asking members to give money to feed the needy in recognition of the large amounts of junk food that will be eaten that day while watching the game. Religious Education will have its soup bowl out on a table during coffee hour. Please be generous with your contributions.

COMING OF AGE

Two youth members of our congregation are participating in our PCD Coming of Age program. This program is designed to provide youth with the opportunity to explore what it means to become an adult in a Unitarian Universalist community and helps to guide them in defining their own beliefs and views about the world. We have two youth and their mentors who are participating in this program. They are Oliver B. and his mentor Steve Bakken and Thomas L. and his mentor Peter Morse. This program will culminate in a PCD district ceremony and here in late spring at our church. We wish them well and celebrate their commitment to our liberal religious tradition.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

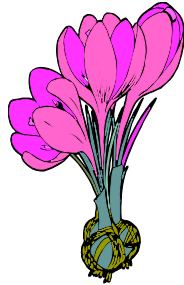
Our Religious Education Committee will be meeting on February 13th at 7:00pm. Anyone with an interest in our Religious Education Program is welcome to attend. We will be meeting at the church. Call Dawn Rose or Alison Navas for more information.





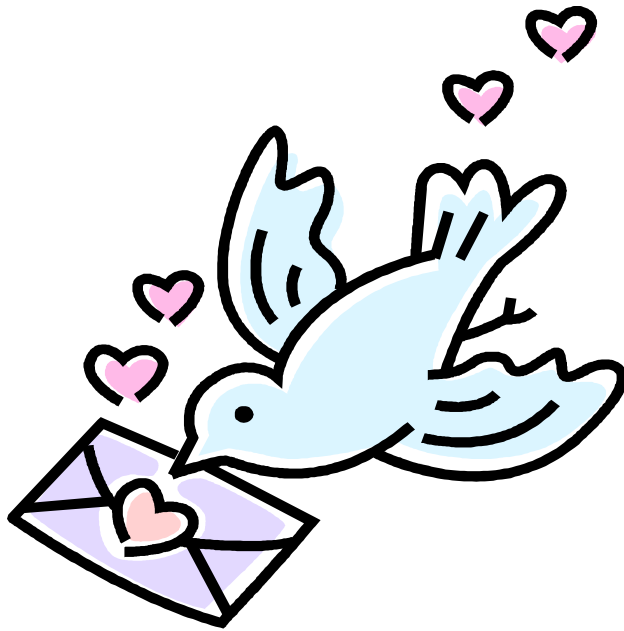
Welcome New Members

UCC is happy to welcome our new members. **Jackie Kelly** is new to the area and is a chaplain at Mather. **Julia Walle** is a college student who introduced her parents, **Eric and Merry Walle** to UCC. **Fred Denke and Jim Eastman** have been attending UCC for awhile, and are regular 2nd Friday dinner participants, who have taken the next step and signed the book. We are happy to welcome all as new members.



Membership Anniversaries!

The following people will celebrate their 15, 10, 5 or 1 year UCC membership



Workshop on Welcome

How can we do a more comprehensive job of welcoming guests into our congregation? Yvonne Rochon, a consultant from PCD will offer a workshop from noon to 1:30 on Sunday, February 4th. Plan to come!

anniversary in 2007. Congratulations! We appreciate your presence!

15 Year Membership Anniversary:

Celia Buckley 1-5-92
Marion Randall 1-5-92
Annette Emery 7-12-92
Chris Carter 7-26-92
Peter Morse 7-26-92

10 Year Membership Anniversary:

Ginny Barcus 1-19-97
Allison Claire 11-12-97

5 Year Membership Anniversary:

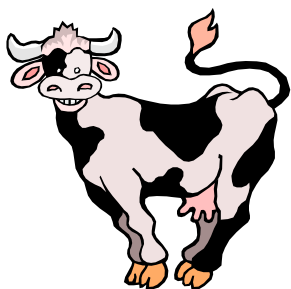
Bob Garfinkle 6-2-02
Christy Clark 6-5-02
Tom Rintoul 6-5-02
Jennifer Richard 12-8-02

1 Year Membership Anniversary:

Terry Chekon 6-4-06
Irene Luc 6-4-06
John Sugar 8-27-06



WOW!!
Let's help the
kids buy the
animals!!



Help for Heifer

The Religious Education children have set a goal of raising money for the Heifer Project. The kids will present information on the Heifer Project and have created a poster to encourage donations for the 1st Sunday offering in February. The Heifer Project helps end hunger by supplying farm animals and trees that can sustain a community. Please support the Heifer Project. Submitted by **Hannah, Ben & Jesse C.M., Alex R., Sean M.**

Publicity in the Church

How to let people know about church activities:

Monthly newsletter: This goes to everyone once a month. Most people receive it online, but those who don't use computers get paper copies. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Write out your submission as you hope to have it published and submit it (email if possible) with "monthly newsletter" in the subject line.

Weekly All Church e-mail: Submissions should be in before Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Please write out the message as you want it to appear. Put "All Church e-mail" in the subject line. Don't forget that this is not really "all-church" since those among us who are financially or technically challenged may not have access to a computer.

Weekly Order of Service: Submissions should be in by Thursday morning, 8:00 a.m. These submissions should lead with date, time, and name of the event and must be extremely brief, as in reminders. "Order of Service" should be in the subject line. Only those attending worship will receive these reminders.

We hope you will use all three of these channels when you plan an event!

SSIP Food Closet

UUCC is a member of the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership. SSIP, founded in 1969, has built understanding, tolerance and friendship among the 15 member churches. The major activity is maintaining, operating and directing the Food Closet, located at Bethany Presbyterian Church. If you would like more information, or to volunteer with SSIP Food Closet activities, please contact Gina Guarneri.

Notice from the UUCC Treasurer's Department

Dec 2006 - UUCC congregants gave \$418.54 to UU Service Committee "Guest at Our Table"

Jan 2007 - UUCC congregants gave \$218.50 to the Nkoaranga Secondary School in Tanzania."

2007 Tax Law Changes

There are some tax law changes for the new year. Beginning in 2007, all cash donations must be substantiated by a canceled check or a dated, written receipt. This includes Sunday plate collections and any in-kind donations, so if you need a receipt for any donation, please place your donation in an envelope with your name and put it in the collection plate. Please also write on the envelope if the donation is to be applied to your yearly pledge. At the end of the year, we will provide you with a receipt for your total contributions. We will try to provide envelopes on the table with the Order of Service. -The Finance Committee

**Newcomers are
always welcome
to all these
gatherings !**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP...

All Church Potluck Dinner and Game Night

4th Friday/ February 23rd. Our theme will be Chinese New Year! We will share various traditions connected with this holiday. Please bring a salad to share. Doors will open at 6pm. We will be serving traditional Chinese teas, creating a Good Luck altar and honoring the Chinese Kitchen God!

UUCC Women's Group

The next UUCC Women's Group will be on Sunday February 18 at 4:00 at Annette Emery's home. The UUCC Women's Group is open to all women who wish to share joy, pain, life and food with a group of friends. Contact Annette for directions to her home or questions about the UUCC Women's Group.

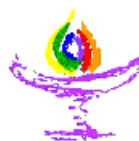
Theater Group

We will see "The King and I", the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, produced by the local Interactive Asian Contemporary Theater on Saturday, February 10, 7:30 pm, at the 24th Street Theatre, 2791 24th St. Reservations (\$18 & \$16) to Frieda Fergus by Sunday, February 4.



UUCC Men's Group

Testing favorite pancake and waffle recipes. All UUCC men are invited. Contact: Patrick Cody. Meeting 9am-12pm at church on the third Saturday of each month.



Second Friday Suppers

Due to our January hosts, Barbara Schnabel and Annette Emery/Patrick Cody. A good time was enjoyed by all. The next supper is February 9th. Gina Guarneri/Doug McDougall will host all of us in their home. If you would like to host in March or attend in February, please notify Gene Anderson by phone or email.

Daring Diners

We will try "dining" after church on Feb. 25. The destination will be "On the Border Mexican Grill" at Marketplace Center, 9164 E. Stockton in Elk Grove. We will plan to meet there at 12:30 after church. Tell Amy Jaynes at church or call, so we can tell them how many to expect. Amy also has menus for ideas, prices and directions.



UUC Website Revamp

Late breaking news... UUC is the recipient of a \$750 PCD Special Funds grant to revamp our website. Our web redesign process has begun, using the same person who was the graphic designer for our Ministerial Search packet. We will let you know when our new site is up and running!

Music Director Position

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento is looking for a music director. Send your letter of application, resume, three professional references, and supporting materials (tapes, CD,s DVD's, printed programs, web pages, etc.) to UU Society of Sacramento
2425 Sierra Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95825
ATTN: Music Director Search
Application deadline: February 12, 2007
Email your questions or application to musicdirector@uuss.org.
Visit our web site at www.uuss.org/musicdirector

UU Women And Religion Retreat: March 9 – 11

The Pacific Central District's Women and Religion Taskforce is sponsoring a weekend retreat for all women in the district. This is a time to refresh and renew your spirituality among UU women. Planning Meeting at San Francisco UU, Fireside Room. Early bird cost by Feb. 4 is \$225.00; otherwise \$250.00; deposit of \$50.00 due with reservation; final payment due by Feb. 28. Reservations to: Sally Eccles, 1575 Montellano Dr., San Jose, CA 95120.

Liberal Voices in a Conservative Landscape

February 24, 2007 9:30AM - 4:30PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno. Join us for a day of interactive learning, fellowship and fun. Build skills to respectfully articulate your ideas with more conservative neighbors, friends and media. Involve your whole congregation in justice ministries. Get the latest news from the State Capitol. Registration fee: \$20 regular admission and \$5 for high school or college students. Register by Monday, February 19, 2007.

<http://uulmca.org/programs/events.html>

UU Legislative Ministry, CA
717 K St #514
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 441-0018

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay - Wine Country Excursions

In 2007 we will offer wine country excursions from mid-May through mid-October. Plan for two days of touring and a two or three night stay with all local transportation provided. Home hospitality without tours is also available. Our fees are below market rate for similar services with all proceeds donated to our small fellowship. We have limited openings, so contact us now for details. Iris Barrie, 707.265.6926.



U2C2 Connection

The U2C2 Connection is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Community Church (UUCC) of Sacramento

Sunday Services held at 10:30 a.m. at 8231-C East Stockton Blvd Sacramento, CA 95828

Mailing address:

**8231-C East Stockton Blvd
Sacramento CA 95828**

Website: www.uucc.sacramento.uua.org or
www.u2c2.org

E-mail: uucc@cwnet.com

UUCC is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Pacific Central District (PCD) of the UUA.

INTERIM MINISTER:

Rev. Kate Rohde, 689-2073
krohde@uuma.org

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Dawn Rose
uucc@cwnet.com

U2C2 Connection EDITOR:

Newsletter contributions should be sent to the UUCC church address, phoned in to 689-2008 or e-mailed to uucc@cwnet.com by the 15th of each month.

EDITORIAL ADVISOR - NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE:

Nancy Flagg

CHURCH-WIDE EMAIL:

uucc@cwnet.com

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

UUCC office 689-2008 or uucc@cwnet.com

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:

Church Office 689-2008
Church Calendar: 689-2008 (church office)
Church e-mail address: uucc@cwnet.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Kurt Schmidt
Vice President: Dick Tarble
Secretary: Wynne Skow
Treasurer: Steve Bakken
At-Large Members: Laura Osborne, Maggie Melnick, Ken DeCrescenzo
Endowment Trust: Mark Callicotte

COMMITTEES

Church Operations Committee: Laura Osborne
Canvass Committee (Spring 2007): To be determined
Committee on Ministry: Wynne Skow (Chair), Allison Claire, Jerry Melnick
Finance: Mark Callicotte
Membership: Chair: Annette Emery
Openers/Closers Supervisor: Rev. Kate Rohde
Religious Education: Alison Navas
Social Action (Bag Days): Celia Buckley,
Worship Committee Chair: To be Determined

MEMBERSHIP...

Would you like to be a formal member of this congregation? We would love to have you as a member! If you would like membership information or if you feel ready to sign our membership book, you may talk to Rev. Kate Rohde, Annette Emery, or Laura Osborne (contact information is in the column to the left). Membership requirements are that: 1) you are at least 16 years old, 2) you accept our principles and purposes, and 3) you make and fulfill a commitment to an annual contribution of record through a pledge of money and/or services. We are a wonderful congregation and we will welcome you with open arms.

SHARED MINISTRY BEYOND UUCC... Social Action Opportunities

- (1) **First Sunday Offering:** If you have ideas for organizations you would like to be the recipient of our first Sunday offering collection, please contact Amy Jaynes.
- (2) **Bag Day Collections:** If you have ideas for organizations to be the recipient of our bag day donations, please contact Celia Buckley.
- (3) **UU Legislative Ministry:** Contact Karen Gunderson for information about how to get involved with this organization.



PCD stands for the Pacific Central District. It is the district of Unitarian Universalist churches, located in northern California, northern Nevada, and Hawaii. By subscribing to their electronic newsletter, you can see what is happening with Unitarian Universalists, district-wide.

If you would like to receive the district newsletter, go to the PCD web site at www.pcd-uua.org, and click on the "Subscribe to PCD Currents" icon at the center-bottom of the home page.

Unsubscribing is easy if you find you do not want the newsletter.



Are we growing?

February 1 is when our annual membership numbers are due to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA – our parent organization). At the end of 2002 and 2003, our membership numbers peaked at 88. 2004 and 2005 our numbers dropped to and remained at 82. This year we are reporting a membership of 81 members. While these numbers look like a downward trend, there are some very encouraging statistics that have become apparent since our move:

- We have almost tripled the number of visitors each Sunday! (from 8 in the last 2.5 months of 2005 to 23 in the last 2.5 months of 2006!)
- Our average attendance on Sundays increased from 48 to 62 (includes adults and children and is a comparison of our move date to Dec 31 and the same time period in the previous year).
- Last year (2006) we had 56 visitors sign our register. Half of them came in the last 2.5 months of the year (after we moved).
- How are people finding us? Of the 56 visitors who signed in last year, 20 found us via our web site and 20 found us via friends or family (both 36 percent). Five (9 percent) found us via a telephone book and the same number found us via our sister church, UU Society of Sacramento (UUSS). The remaining 10 percent either did not state how they found us or checked “other”. Word of mouth and our web site remain very important ways of letting others know we are here and are worth visiting!



Unitarian Universalist Community Church
8231-C East Stockton Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95828