



U2C2 Connection



Unitarian Universalist Community Church

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

January 2007

January Worship Services



Sunday, January 7, 10:30 a.m. Reptiles are Serious. They say one of the first signs of serious trouble is when we lose our sense of humor and playfulness. It certainly is true in church. Worship Leader: Rev. Kate Rhode
Worship Associate: Allison Claire

Sunday, January 14, 10:30 a.m. Little Rock One of the things we often forget about the Civil Rights Movement is that it was intergenerational. Children were an integral part of the struggle and were often braver than we can imagine. For this Martin Luther King holiday weekend, some memories and reflections on the children of Little Rock. Worship Leader: Rev. Kate Rhode
Worship Associate: MK Menard

Sunday, January 21, 10:30 a.m. Radical Hospitality What does it mean to be hospitable? What would make it radical? Could it be a part of a mission or a ministry for this congregation? Worship Leader: Rev. Kate Rhode
Worship Associate: Jim Skow

Sunday, January 28, 10:30 a.m. Beyond Tolerance: True

Diversity Religious tolerance is a Unitarian virtue that dates back to the 16th century. Tolerance means something more now than just promising not to burn each other as witches for our religious differences! Yet even at its best, tolerance may not go far enough. Worship Leader: Kate Rohde
Worship Associate: Jenn Richard



Come Join Us!

We are a warm congregation for these cold winter months. We would love to have you with us. Worship services are on Sunday, 10:30 a.m. followed by a coffee hour. Other social opportunities are on page 6.
Hope to see you soon!

January 2007



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 New Year's Day	2	3 Search Committee	4 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church (see page 6) Worship Comm 7pm @ Peter's	5	6
7 a) Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. b) Finance Meeting after church c) Sr. High Group Meeting 6 pm @church	8	9 Religious Ed Mtg at church 6:30 pm (see page 4)	10 Search Committee	11 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church (see page 6)	12 2nd Fri Suppers (see page 6)	13
14 a) Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. b) Reservations due for Theatre Group	15 Newsletter Deadline Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	16 UUCCB Board Meeting 7:15 pm at Church	17 Search Committee	18 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church (see page 6)	19	20 Men's Group Breakfast (see page 6) Theatre Group at Celebrations Art, 8 pm (see page 6)
21 a) Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. b) Sr. High Group Meeting 6 pm at church c) Women's Group d) Janus Conversations 12pm after service	22	23	24 Search Committee	25 Daytimers 10 a.m. at church (see page 6)	26 Fun & Food at church. Evening. (See page 4 & 6)	27
28 a) Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. b) Janus Conversations 12pm after service	29	30	31 Search Committee			

ALTAR

01/07 Tonie Darling
01/14 Jim Eastman
01/21 Peter Morse
01/28 Gene Anderson

GREETERS

Frieda Fergus
Terri Riley
Wynne Skow
Rosemary Miles

LIGHTERS

Hannah C.M.
James L.
Ben C.M.
Jesse C.M.

Head Usher: Barbara Schnabel





From Our Minister Kate's Corner:

It is hard to believe how fast the time has flown! January 2007! I have always liked the symbol for January, the two-faced god who looks forward and looks backwards. In your interim years you have been reflecting on the past: on the hopes and dreams you had when you began this congregation, on the good times you have had together, on some of the rough spots that you have traveled through. You have had to say good bye to your remarkable young minister, Melora, even as you wished her well. You said hello and goodbye to Mark Evans. You said good bye to long time administrator, Marion Pratt. You said good bye to Florin Methodist Church. That is a lot of good byes for a congregation.



**Janus is the
Roman god of
gates and
doors,
beginnings**

New things have been happening. Most prominent among them is the move to a new space and a new service time. You have a new pianist and Director of Religious Education for the children's programs. Soon you will have a new administrator. Soon you will be deciding on a new minister and welcoming her or him into your lives.

That is a lot of change for a small congregation. Change takes courage. It can be fun. It can be sad. It can be exciting. It can be annoying. There is some grieving even when a change is something you have hoped for and planned for.

January is a quieter month of the year. It is after the holidays and a little sleepy before the new energies of spring. You have completed your move, but it will be a few months before the search committee makes its decision on a candidate to present to you.

So I propose to you that this might be a time to have a couple of quiet conversations with each other and with me about where UUCG has been and the changes you are still contemplating: Janus Conversations for January — looking forward and looking backward. I would like to schedule a couple of conversations after services (if that is a bad time and you would like to schedule an additional time, let me know) where I can listen to you and you can listen to one another about looking forward and looking backward. You can sign up at church or call the minister's line at the church office or e-mail me. Initially the meetings are scheduled for either the 21st or the 28th at noon. Please sign up. Feel free to bring a sandwich if noontime means lunch-time for you.

*Rev. Kate Rohde,
Interim Minister*

From our Board President Kurt's Corner:

On December 3rd, a lively group of those most interested in ongoing Sanctuary Design met after church in a productive discussion. The vision and guidelines for decorating our worship space are solidifying. And it's time to consolidate and simplify the decision process. The group determined that the "Sanctuary Design Committee" will now be vested with this responsibility — replacing all prior incarnations and simplifying our process. Those stepping forward are: Karen Gunderson (chair), Gene Anderson, Peter Morse and Tonie Darling. Committee membership will be brought up for confirmation at the January Board meeting. These are the folks who will be charged with keeping quality standards and making artistic decisions. They'll be the ones to talk to with your ideas and plans for our sanctuary.

I put the above paragraph right here in broad daylight for the simple reason that I feel we should start this year off right. Tumultuous 2006 was a time of quick action, occasional miscommunications (and yes, accompanied by a few hurt feelings and bruised egos) as we moved to our new church home. Now is the time for us to step back for a bit of review and reflection. There are process improvements and lessons that this young church can glean from our experiences. For example, we are taking the time in next few weeks to have an extra Board and Finance meeting to discuss ideas and lessons learned. We'll even be taking notes for Constitutional revisions where appropriate.

Reverend Kate Rohde did a marvelous presentation on church growth on December 9th. A group is forming to go to the upcoming PCD Growth Day on Saturday, January 13th in Walnut Creek. The headliner is growth expert Larry Peers. Let me or Rev. Kate know if you'd like to come too. I think the most graphic illustration of Kate's talk was the two pictures of the same baby — growing a church entails real developmental change, not just growth! Have her show you the pictures, it's quite a memorable concept.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

With Love and Thanks,
Kurt Schmidt



Religious Education News....

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

"Each Person is Free to Search for What is True"

This month we explore our 4th Unitarian Universalist Principle. We believe that each person should be free to search and find for themselves what is true. Dr. Martin Luther King is a great example of a person who dedicated his life to such an ideal. In addition to our focus material from our curriculum "Carry the Flame", we will celebrate the life of Dr. King on January 14th.

Religious Education Committee News

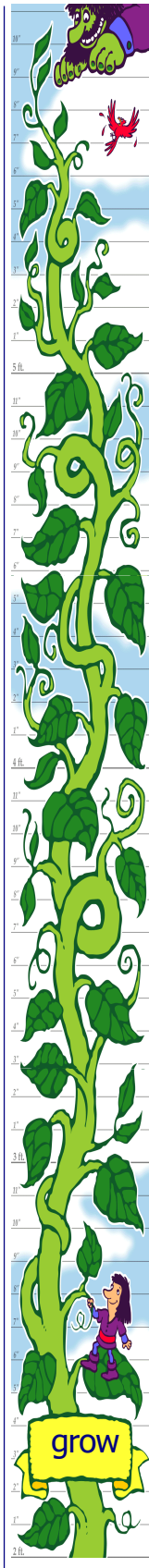
Our Religious Education Committee will be meeting on the Second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be on January 9th at 6:30pm. Anyone with an interest in our Religious Education Program is welcome to attend. We will be meeting at the church. Call Dawn Rose or Alison Navas for more information.

Fun and Food - All Church Potluck and Game Night

4th Friday/ January 26th

Games and Food for All Ages

One of our beloved traditions is sharing food together. Let our first 4th Friday of the month Pot Luck Dinner be the first of many "celebratory meals". Children and Parents are encouraged to bring their favorite game to share after our evening meal. Card or board games are suggestions, however, anything is possible! Charades or ??????? This is a great opportunity to enjoy and share and learn new games at the end of a busy week. Dawn Rose and Maggie Melnick will be organizing this event. They will both be glad to hear from you if you have questions or suggestions. (Also see Page 6)



.....Thinking About Growth

There are three opportunities in the coming months for workshops on Growth.

On **January 13th** there will be a workshop currently scheduled for Walnut Creek (but may be moved if space demands it) with Alban institute consultant, Larry Peers. Larry is a UU minister, ran briefly for president of the UUA, and is a lively, engaging presenter. This workshop would normally cost \$150, but with district subsidies will cost \$35, 40, or 50 dollars depending on how soon you sign up. Our president, Kurt Schmidt, has already sent in many names, but it is not too late for you to sign up. You can contact Kurt or sign up directly by going to the PCD website (www.pcd-uua.org). More information is available there as well.

On **February 4**, your district small church consultant, Yvonne Rochon will be here to talk with UUCC members about growth. Mark the date on your calendar and plan to stay after church.

The weekend of **April 27-28** is the annual district meeting. One of the major presenters there will be Rev. Peter Morales whose church in Golden, Colorado has seen the most rapid growth in the UUA. Rev. Morales will be sharing the successful techniques they have developed for greeting and assimilating new members.

At UUCC's Quarterly Meeting in December, our group discussed the fact that UUCC has long been a family sized congregation (under 50 at worship and the Children's Religious Education classes) and has reached a predictable growth plateau (50- 70 at worship). There was some discussion about how congregations change in order to get off the plateau and become a Pastoral sized (70-150) congregation. Some of the changes necessary in this include wider communication, more advanced planning, assuming that many people may not have the information you have, and clearer and transparent processes. You will hear more about this transition in times to come, but feel free to ask those who attended the meeting or take a look at Alice Mann's book on the topic: [The In-Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations](#) (available online from the Alban Institute).

FEBRUARY 4 SAVE THE DATE

As mentioned above, after church on February 4th Yvonne Rochon will be at our congregation to work with UUCC on growth issues. More information in the February newsletter.



Important Note from our Treasurer

Those of you who pay your pledge via a check payment service, please help us get your check by ensuring the checks come to our new address:

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

The Postal Service forwards mail for a limited time, so please check that your bank is sending your checks to our new address.

~ Steve Bakken, Treasurer

Settled Minister Search Committee News

Rev. Kate is with us as an interim minister, for a one year contract ending June 30, 2007. Our church is currently searching for a permanent or “settled” minister. The congregation and the Board has authorized a Search Committee of eight individuals to go through this year-long process of finding the right settled minister for us.

The Search Committee is happy to announce, *Our “Packet” is done!* As presented during service on December 17, we have completed and published our “Packet” which could be described as an advertisement of ourselves, our church, our community and the larger region. Our packet includes graphic arts features that incorporate images that have become part of our identity, and an attractively unified appearance to tell about ourselves, our history, our aspirations, how we work, how we play, where we live, and most important what we hope to find in our next settled minister. Thanks to everyone for your contributions through surveys and forums. A copy has been left in the church sanctuary for you to inspect.

Action Auction Update

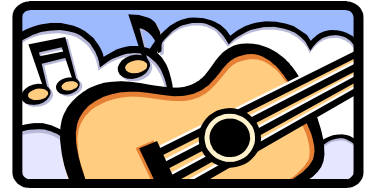
We are happy to report that the Action Auction has grossed \$7686 to date. Expenses are \$183 giving us a net of \$7503. This is a new record for the Action Auction and we all had such a good time participating. The Rock, Scissors, Paper game was a welcome addition to the affair and will be continued. Several other ideas have been proposed to develop an even better affair next year. Thanks again to all those that pitched in to help and to those who bought all of the wonderful items offered.

Dick and Georgene Tarble

Composer Jim Scott in Stockton !

UU Composer Jim Scott to Lead Choral Workshop and Concert at First Unitarian Church of Stockton.

Guitarist, singer, and composer Jim Scott writes powerful music that furthers the ideals of ecology, justice, and peace. He has visited more than 300 UU churches across the country, leading services, presenting concerts, and offering workshops. Now he



is coming to Stockton! On Saturday, January 27, 2007, Jim will be presenting a choral workshop and concert at the First UU Church of Stockton, 2737 Pacific Avenue (a few blocks south of the University of the Pacific campus.)

From 1 to 4 p.m. choir members and music lovers will gather at the church for a choral workshop led by Jim Scott. The workshop fee is \$15 per person. Both UU and non-UU singers are welcome. A special rate of \$120 is available for UU choirs of nine or more from congregations outside the Central California UU Cluster, which is the sponsor of the workshop. Choir leaders should contact Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig with information about the number of singers who will be coming, as the number of participants is limited. Childcare is available if requested by January 15, 2007.

Registration is now open, and seating is limited. Checks and information should be sent to First UU Stockton, c/o Rev Laura Horton-Ludwig. She can be reached through the church office.

At 7 p.m., Jim will give a family-friendly concert in the Stockton sanctuary, joined by participants in the afternoon choral workshop! Tickets are \$15. This concert is a fundraiser to benefit our Stockton and Modesto churches and their music programs. The event is open to the public and childcare will be provided.

These events are separate, but you may wish to “make a day” of it. Stockton has a variety of restaurants, so workshop, dinner (on your own) and concert would make a great combination!



Newcomers are always welcome to all these gatherings !

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP...



Daytimers!

UCC's weekly Adult Discussion Group aka "Daytimers" will be back on track Thursday, Jan. 4th at 10:00 a.m. at the Church following a brief Holiday hiatus. Our Moderator, Rev. Kate has much in store for us as we enter the New Year. Coffee, tea & light refreshments will be served; Newcomers are especially welcome and encouraged to attend .

New Opportunity!

Fun and Food

Save the date - Jan 26th, 2007. "Fun & Food" is a new All Church Intergenerational Program being put together by RE Director Dawn Rose, Rev Kate, and the Melnicks (who miss our old potlucks). The event will run on the fourth Friday of each month. Expect a variety of activities, media stuff, church projects etc. Have ideas, talents, time, to share ? Contact any us. (Maggie Melnick, Dawn, or Rev. Kate. More info on page 4 (Dawn Rose's column) and to follow soon !

Theater Group



We will see the a production of the Atol Fugard drama "Statements While Under Arrest for the Immorality Act" (forbidden love during the era of Apartheid) at Celebration Arts, 4469 D St., at 8 PM on Saturday, January 20. Reservations (\$15 & \$13) to Frieda Fergus by Sunday, Jan 14.

UCC Men's Group

The Men's Group: **Men's Breakfast:** By Men, For Men. The UCC Men's Group will host breakfast at the Church, Saturday, January 20 at 9:00 a.m. We will be testing our new facility's kitchen and our favorite pancake and waffle recipes. All UCC Men are invited. We'll belly-up and coffee-down. Call Patrick Cody for info.



UCC Women's Group

The UCC Women's Group is an opportunity to share stories, be inspired, offer insight and share food with friends. The UCC Women's Group normally meets at member's homes the third Sunday of each month at 4:00. Our January brunch is being changed to a lunch that is still be determined. If interested in joining us, call Annette Emery.



Second Friday Suppers

A special thank you to our December hosts, Judi Schafer /Ernie Tomasselli and Terri Riley/Richard Leimbach. They made it a festive occasion. The next supper is January 12. In February, Gina Guarneri/Doug McDougall will host all of us in their home. If you would like to host (hosts are needed for January) or attend, please notify Gene Anderson by phone or email.



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

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

Mailing address:

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Sacramento CA 95828**

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

E-mail: uucc@cwnet.com

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

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U2C2 Connection EDITOR:

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

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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 purposes and program, 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 UCC...

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.

November's First Sunday Offering

We are happy to announce that our collection from the first Sunday in November brought in \$349. The recipient of our *First Sunday Offering* was the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership (SSIP) Food Closet.

Submitted by Stephen Bakken, Treasurer



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.



Ways to help UUCC Grow in 2007!

- During Coffee Hour, spend time visiting someone you don't know very well.
- Sit toward the front and next to someone during services.
- If you start visiting with someone soon after coming in the church door, turn and face the doorway. This not only allows you to know if you're blocking someone's way, but it also prevents someone from walking in and seeing only people's backs.
- Wear your nametag every Sunday.
- Introduce yourself to a newcomer. Then introduce the newcomer to another person too.
- Remember the sabbath. Try to keep it holy, by avoiding committee work during coffee hour.
- Continue to be your warm, wonderful self!



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