

*THE SCENE AT SUMMIT*  
Newsletter of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
8778 Cottonwood Ave., Santee, CA 92071

Vol. 22 No. 7

July 2012

Monthly

Summit's services and programs are held at the address above, phone number, 619-562-0833. Our website is [www.suuf.org](http://www.suuf.org), where the Newsletter & Sermons can also be read. Mail should be sent to the office at the above address.

Office hours: Mon. 9:00 am - noon, Tue. - Fri. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Sunday Services - 10:00 am**

**July 1:** *"Helping Without Hurting"* Rev. Jim Grant

Someone wrote, "Caring is so often a dimension missing from our efforts to cure--by which we mean our efforts to change people and institutions." My understanding of this quotation is that sometimes "cure" can be used to try to change people from the outside, while "care" can be a way to help people grow from their own resources.

**July 8:** *"A Resurrection of Universalism"* Christina Pei-fang Shu, Candidate for UU Ministry

How do we revive the historical call of universalism for our lives today? How do we experience universal grace in our spiritual journeys and in our community? We welcome Christina Pei-fang Shu back to our pulpit, to help us reflect upon these key questions in our Unitarian Universalist faith. Christina grew up as part of our community, has graduated from Harvard Divinity School, is being sponsored as a candidate by Summit for ordination in the UU Association.

**July 15:** *"Acceptance"* Service Leader - Gwen Baldwin

Acceptance of oneself, of others, our afflictions, and of life in general are goals we all strive to reach. But many of us are our own harshest critics or have difficulty in accepting others. We may find ourselves angry about situations out of our control. Come hear Ed Henry, Christine Misoni, and Pierre Vaughn talk about their own struggles and successes with acceptance. The Close Enough Band will provide the music. (You may want to arrive early for the great gathering music!)

**July 22:** *"Old...But Yet New"* Carol Rawlins, Summit Member

In reviewing the 13 sermons she has given over the years, Carol found a personal credo she had shared with the congregation entitled "*I, Theist*," from 1995. Surprised by what she had said then, she sent it to her sister Jean, who replied: "...So much of what you write these days is similar but is here, now, as if it's all fresh experience for you. But obviously it's old and new at the same time." Yes, for Carol, her thinking involves ideas both old and new, but she feels that much of the new is rather brave of her to talk about at Summit. Now that she has turned 75, she is determined to speak her word to her beloved community...now or never.

**July 29:** *"Occupy Summit"* *The Occupellas*, with Donna Daum

The movements of abolitionism, suffrage and equal rights mobilized women to take to the streets. Following in their footsteps, local women leaders sparked by the recent Occupy movement have banded together to sing songs of protest and prophetic challenge. Come this Sunday and join in with Rev. Frank as they lead us, with honesty and humor, in song and call us to recognize the need, and stand up for, social change in our nation and our world.

*The Scene at Summit's August 2012 edition*  
**deadline will be Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **FROM THE MINISTER'S ROLLTOP:**

### **Rev. Frank Reports from the UUA's General Assembly**

*First, they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you. Then you win.* ~  
attributed to Gandhi

Every year at this time, ministers and delegates from Unitarian Universalist congregations across the country meet together to learn and deliberate on religious and social concerns that call for concerted, collective action and witness.

This year much of the focus has been on moral issues surrounding immigration. On Saturday evening, June 23, along with Summitarians Mary Carter-Vail, Sean Vail, Jennifer White, Mar Cardenas and Linda Ullrich, I marched with an estimated 2500 other Unitarian Universalists, representatives of Amnesty International, the United Church of Christ, and local organizing groups, to call for the ouster of Arizona's Maricopa County Sheriff, Joe Arpaio, and for an end to his administration's inhumane treatment of thousands of undocumented immigrants in Phoenix's infamous "Tent City" detainment camp. The gathering was also a protest of Arizona Senate Bill 1070--now being duplicated in states throughout our country--which effectively allows for racial profiling and the holding of undocumented immigrants in camps where mostly innocent non-criminals are warehoused in conditions worse than those experienced by animals in the local Humane Society shelters.

According to PBS lead reporter Maria Hinojosa, who was Saturday afternoon's 2012 Ware Lecturer at General Assembly, such detainment camps effectively serve the profit-making interests of the private and corporate prison industry. Because they are an integral part of a parallel system of enforcement which is free of many of the legal and ethical constraints within which our U.S. jails and prisons must operate, conditions in these camps and the treatment of detainees are the active concern of such groups as Amnesty International and other Civil Rights organizations. I would encourage you to go to UUA.org and locate Ms. Hinojosa's lecture, which I found both troubling and inspiring.

At this Assembly I also greatly appreciated a lecture by Dr. Rebecca Parker, President of the Star King School for the Ministry, which built upon a provocative historical and theological work she co-authored entitled "Saving Paradise"...

...And I learned more about recent research on "The Doctrine of Christian Discovery,"(DOD) which, according to Gale Courey in an article published in *Yes!* magazine, was "a principle of law developed in a series of 15<sup>th</sup> century Papal bulls and 16<sup>th</sup> century charters by Christian European Monarchs... essentially a racist philosophy that gave white, Christian Europeans the green light to go forth and claim the lands and resources of non-Christian people and kill and enslave them—if other Christian Europeans had not already done so." According to a report and resolution submitted for consideration to the UUA Board of Trustees in January 2012, for over 500 years DOD--based upon the presumption that Christian explorers had the right to conquer , subdue and dominate non-Christian indigenous peoples--was institutionalized in the European colonization of much of the world. This idea was the basis for the ideology of Manifest Destiny. It was a core principle driving the conquest and genocide of native groups and the destruction of their languages and cultures, and is still operative and evident in guiding

U.S. policy toward Native American peoples today. The Assembly voted to call for a wholesale repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, so I expect we will be hearing more about it as this action ripples through our nation's philosophical and political discourse.

Every year, the General Assembly acts to recommend a Study/Action Issue for engagement by congregations throughout the UUA. This year's is "Reproductive Justice: Expanding out Social Justice Calling." Reproductive rights and health services for women are under serious attack nationally, making this a fitting focus for the year. I was pleased to see that the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, New Jersey, now served by Summit's former minister, the Rev. Kathleen Green, was the certifying congregation for this Study/Action Issue. Anyone who may be interested in organizing a study and possible actions around this issue in our congregation, please give me a call.

So this "Justice GA" was definitely focused on justice-making. I and those of us who attended this year's General Assembly look forward to talking with you all more about these and other experiences and learnings during our time in Phoenix.

Until then, let us continue to work for a compassionate, just and sustainable world—starting, of course, with ourselves, our families and friends, our Summit Community, and extending outward to our own precious U.S.A. and beyond.

En la lucha continua,

**Rev. Frank**

### **FROM OUR SUMMIT LEADERSHIP**

#### ***President's Message***

Dear Members and Friends,

Many of us are altering our routine during the summer. School may be out for the summer, for teachers and students, alike. Some of us are going on trips and others are simply taking time off. The Board too, is changing its schedule for the summer. We will not be having meetings at Summit in July or August. The July meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, at my home. In August, the Board Retreat is schedule for August 18<sup>th</sup> at Mission Trails Center. Instead of having a Board meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>, we will convene a short meeting, during the retreat at about 1:00 pm. If any member wishes to present an item to the Board, and attend the meeting, I ask that you contact me first. We will try to defer all such matters until September, so that the meetings can be kept short. At the meeting we will attempt to focus on the goals for 2012-2013. We then plan to discuss this with the congregation on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks,  
Pierre Vaughn

## ***Message from the Treasurer***

Another fiscal year has come to an end. We've finished the year well but not all of the transactions have been posted at the time of this writing. I'll have a report ready for the August *Scene at Summit* newsletter. Thank you to everyone for all you have contributed and all you have done to keep our "blue boat" of Summit sailing on smooth financial seas!

John McQuaide, Treasurer

## ***Staff Notes:***

### **"Shake, Rattle, *then* you can Roll!"**

This is Summit's slogan to remind everyone about making sure all doors are locked before you leave the campus. The doors must be pushed and pulled to verify they are actually locked in place. Please be mindful of this practice.

**Parking Notice:** Please, park only in designated parking spots. Additional parking is available in the lot immediately across the street from the Salon as well as the doctor's office at 10158 Buena Vista Ave. The driveway areas need to be kept clear in case of emergencies.

**Senior and Visitor Parking:** We would like to ask our able-bodied members and friends to use the above-mentioned parking areas and leave the lot spaces for our designated seniors and visitors. Thank you. SUUF Staff

## **Board of Directors Meetings**

Third Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Library at Summit. Observers are welcome. Minutes from recent meetings are posted on our website: [www.suuf.org](http://www.suuf.org)

## **RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION FOR ALL**

### **Children's Religious Exploration News**

I have just returned from Justice General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona. It was an amazing experience where Unitarian Universalists worked under the guidance of local activists to witness and to support their work on migrant's rights and responding to SB 1070. The Summit GA Delegation will be sharing more information with you later on this summer.

Our summer RE program started on June 24. We are returning to Hogwarts Summer School for Year II by popular request. Our younger children will be exploring the works of Eric Carle in A Story Filled Summer – a curriculum that I am writing. There is lots of energy and enthusiasm for both classes. We had 26 children and youth here for the first Sunday of summer programs!

Believe it or not it is time to start our planning and preparation for the fall. This is when I need your feedback and guidance for our RE programs. I encourage participation in the planning process by attending the RE Retreat (see below), joining a fall teaching team, being part of the CRE Committee or sending me an email.

On July 14<sup>th</sup> we will have our second annual Children's Religious Exploration retreat. This will be a one day gathering of all who are interested in CRE at Summit. This will include CRE Committee members, parents, teachers, child care workers, and anyone who is interested in being part of this planning process.

Our CRE Chair, Elinor Weed, will facilitate, as we explore what our RE program did this past year and plan for next year using our mission statement as our guide. We need your participation in this process to be successful.

You are invited to:

**The Children's Religious Exploration Planning Retreat**

*July 14 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM @ Summit in the Salon*

Lunch will be provided.

**Childcare will not be available unless requested July 12th.**

**RSVP** by July 12<sup>th</sup> to Mary Carter-Vail at [SummitDRE@gmail.com](mailto:SummitDRE@gmail.com)

or Elinor Weed at [MeWeed@aol.com](mailto:MeWeed@aol.com)

Peace, Mary Carter-Vail / [Summitdre@gmail.com](mailto:Summitdre@gmail.com)

Dir. of Children's Religious Exploration for SUUF

## **Adult Religious Exploration**

**Freethinkers:** Monday July 16, at 7:00 pm in the Salon. The program has been changed from the original schedule. Instead there will be a video presentation of the Panetta Institute for Public Policy, followed by discussion. Mrs. Panetta introduces two of the best experts on the economy - Allan Simpson, retired senator from Wyoming and coauthor of the Bowles Simpson Committee Recommendations, and economist, Robert Reich, who served under Bill Clinton as secretary of labor. These two friends, though from different parties, agree on much and tell us much about where we are and where we are likely to be economically in the future. Wendell Rawlins

Third Monday each month, 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Salon

**Writers Workshop/** Lois Santalo: This group meets every Tuesday morning, 9:30 to noon, in the Salon.

**Memoir Writing Group /** Lois Santalo: Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to noon, in the Summit Library. This is an ongoing workshop. Everyone is welcome.

**Poetry Workshop:** Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Summit Library. Come play with words and discover the poet within. All levels of writing experience welcome. If you have any questions please call Margo Mariana. No registration necessary.

## **SUMMIT MINISTRIES**

### **Caring Committee**

We would like to remind everyone that Juana Page and JoAnn Swanson are the "ride coordinators" for our committee. If you need assistance with transportation to Summit or appointments, call them, preferably a few days ahead of time.

### **Loving Hands Ministry meets Tues., July 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.**

If you like to knit, crochet, or quilt, please join us in the Salon. The Loving Hands Ministry works on blankets for Linus Project, dishcloths for Crisis House, comfort shawls for Summitarians in need of comfort, and is always open to new ideas for outreach projects. Contact Laurel Bernstein for more info.

**Social Action Corner - *Service Is Our Prayer***  
**Helping Others in East County and Beyond**

**Summitarians acting locally:**

**Pride Parade 2012:** The San Diego LGBT Pride festival takes place on July 20-22, so mark your calendars! Summit has had a parasol drill team in the Pride parade for several years. Come join us on July 21<sup>st</sup>, as part of the team or as a marcher or spectator, and enjoy the lively crowd that makes this such a fun event for all ages. Contact Rosemary Morrison for more info.

**Supporting our teens:** June's Social Action collection to send some of our Summit youth to Camp de Benneville Pines yielded an incredible \$1051, so each youth will receive a half scholarship! Thank you for your generosity.

**A reminder- food collection basket:** Crisis House is in need of food pantry donations, which have decreased in recent years even as the need has increased. Please remember that a basket is always present in Summit's greeting room to receive your canned and boxed food items- why not pick up one or two extra items this week while doing your grocery shopping, and drop them in the basket on Sunday?

**Summitarians acting globally:**

**Maquiladora tour (Tijuana):** City College Professor Enrique Dávalos led a day trip to Tijuana on June 2 for people interested in learning about maquiladoras and border issues in general. Mar Cárdenas reported that about 20 UUs (mostly from First Church) attended. Feedback was very positive and another trip may possibly be scheduled next year.

**Kiva:** Over the past 4+ years we have used your donations (from two past collections) to make microloans to women around the world through Kiva, the world's first online lending platform connecting online lenders to entrepreneurs. As money is repaid it is used to make new loans, and we reinvested another \$200 this month.

**How Can You Help Summit's Social Action Efforts?**

**Environmental:** It is no longer allowable to dispose of your used household batteries in the trash- they must be recycled appropriately. Bring them to Summit and we'll dispose of them safely for you. Look for the collection basket in the greeting room.

**Financial: Fair Trade Coffee- July 15.** Put your money toward a great cause – purchase fair trade coffee! You can also place a special order to make sure you never have to go without. Remember that chocolate is not shipped to us in the warm summer months, however. Summit's teens are now running this program- if you have any questions, please contact Gary Baldwin.

**Social Action Sunday: The third Sunday of the month (July 15) is Social Action Sunday.** Please join us on that day for the next **Social Action Committee meeting** in the library at 8:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Rosemary Morrison.

## WITHIN THE CONGREGATION

### **Member & Friend News**

♥ We extend our love and care to Valerie Sims at the death of her beloved husband, Jim. A community celebration of Jim's life will be held on **Saturday, June 30th**, at 10:30 a.m. -Rev. Frank

### **Who will next be caught Standing on the Side of Love?**

Who would you like to nominate? If you would like to recognize someone for their loving and faithful service in our Fellowship, please send an e-mail (or fill out a form, available in the office or the Greeting Room) to member Donna Daum describing who you would like to have publicly acknowledged and why. The acknowledgement takes place during Community News time in the Service on the 2nd Sunday each month.

### **Rev. Frank Invites you to Read and Discuss a Book:**

I have been encouraging people to read a recent work by moral psychologist Jonathan Haidt, entitled *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion* (2012). If you are interested in how and why Liberals and Conservatives think differently, and up-to-date research that challenges us to communicate more effectively with those who live on a different part of the religious and political spectrum from us, then I recommend it. I will be leading some discussion classes on this book in the fall, and would like to encourage anyone who is interested in participating to read and become familiar with Haidt's research and his interpretations of the question represented in the book's title.

*Warning:* While this book has definite implications for how we live out our UU Principles and Purposes, it will probably not be of much interest to anyone but those who like to think about and discuss some of the more profound questions about religion, psychology and philosophy about human nature, community and spirituality.

While you are at it, go to [yourmorals.org](http://yourmorals.org), and have fun responding to some or all of the many questionnaires. Haidt and colleagues have been using this website to do research and to help people see where they fall on the liberal-conservative spectrum, as he defines it.

Haidt's book is available on Amazon, in both Kindle and book format.

### **Classifieds in the eNews!**

There are changes in the format and content of our weekly eNews. First change: We're adding a new "Classifieds" section, at the end. (Scroll down if you want to read it. Don't scroll down if you're not interested.) Here, you'll find services offered, items for sale, interesting events in the community, non-Summit-related announcements, etc. Email your submission to [suuf\\_volunteer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suuf_volunteer@sbcglobal.net), and I'll print it in next week's eNews. (Note: It will appear only once. If you want it to appear each week, you'll need to re-submit each week.) **Deadline:** Submit your item by midnight, Wednesday of each week.

### **Did you know Summit has its own Facebook page?**

Check it out! (And feel free to add your voice to the mix!) Don't worry -- we'll "Friend" you!! <http://www.facebook.com/SummitUUF> Questions? Contact Trish Ladd, Summit's Facebook guru.

## **Sunday Café**

**Revised System of Sunday Café: To Be Piloted During July and August** -will consist of Coffee/Decaf/Tea/Ice Water, Cookies and Nuts. (Will be re-evaluated in September.)

## **Another Way to Stay Informed:**

The newsletter you are reading is our monthly *Scene at Summit*. If you wish to receive the weekly Summit Enews in your email, or to make a submission, contact Pam Kerr at [Suuf\\_volunteer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Suuf_volunteer@sbcglobal.net) and she will be happy to accommodate you.

## **Bloggers Wanted:**

If you enjoy blogging (or want to learn), take note: Summit is developing a new website. We plan to include lots of regular blog entries, from different members (and at least once monthly, from each committee). Interested? Email Diane Slagle.

## **Who will next be caught Standing on the Side of Love?**

Who would you like to nominate? If you would like to recognize someone for their loving and faithful service in our Fellowship, please send an e-mail to member Donna Daum describing who and why you would like to have them publically acknowledged during Community News time during Service on the 2nd Sunday each month. If you don't have email, pick up a form in the office or Greeting Room. You can leave them in the office or snail-mail them to Donna.

## **SUMMIT'S POTPOURRI OF PROGRAMS**

### **Earth Centered Spirituality Group sponsors:**

**Lakota Beliefs and Ceremonies:** Please join Lynn ManyFires on Sat., July 7th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Salon as she shares the beliefs and ceremonies brought by White Buffalo Calf Woman to the Lakota/Dakota nations. Honored by being chosen as a 'Pipe Carrier' for The People, Lynn has followed the Lakota "Red Road" for nearly 30 years. Traveling to reservations, attending ceremonies and listening to the wisdom of the Elders, she has gained the wisdom of Lakota values, ceremonies and beliefs and utilizes them to help guide The People during this time of change. Please bring your heart and a small personal item you wish to be blessed, as there will be a small ceremony at the end."

**And ECSG:** Tues., July 3rd at 7:30 pm on the Summit campus to celebrate the Full Moon. We will be meeting outside the sanctuary at Summit to bask in the light of the moon and embrace oneness with nature and the earth. Please wear white or light colors and bring a non-breakable vessel from which to drink. Hope to see you there!

### **I'm Not Done Yet!**

The next "I'm Not Done Yet!" discussion group will be on July 24th at 2:30 pm in the Salon. If you would like to be on the list for these meetings contact Neal Biggart.

### **Book Club**

Come join us Tuesday, July 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Salon to discuss the life of Mark Twain. Just read any biography concerning Mark Twain and come ready to share what you've learned. We will also determine our future book list at this meeting. Everyone is welcome. Questions? Contact Gwen Baldwin or Elly Dotseth.



### **Choir Notes...**

Choir practice is done for the summer, but will resume about mid-August. If you have questions contact Jill Reis, Choir Director, at 619-244-6965, or [jillerinr@gmail.com](mailto:jillerinr@gmail.com).

### **Hiking Club**

We will be taking a break over the summer, and we'll meet again in the fall when the weather is cooler. Thanks to everyone that joined us for a hike this spring. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

### **Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays**

We meet in the library at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of each month. PFLAG is an international organization ([www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)) created by families and friends to gain understanding of and support for our gay loved ones.

Our mission is to promote the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons, their families, and friends through support. Our role is to be good listeners, to share some of our experiences when appropriate, and to acquaint them with other resources. For more info contact Bob and Mary Dryden.

### **Piano Club**

If you like to play piano, and for others to listen as you do, please join us on July 19, at 3:00 at a Club member's home. Contact Ed Davis or Roy McDonald for information and this month's location.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**An Introduction to the Bible for Unitarian Universalists:** Saturday, August 11th, 9:30-12:00 noon, in the Summit Sanctuary. What is the Bible, really? How was it written and organized? Why is it the source of guidance and inspiration for so many? Does it hold any religious significance or inspirational value for Unitarian Universalists? Come join Rev. Frank as he answers these questions and others you might have in a lecture and open discussion on one of the most significant books in human history.

### ***OMG!!! Space! Well? TA-DA!! UU Jokes-***

Overthinking is a serious UU problem. You may have a thinking problem if:

You crave at least three thinks a day.

Your thinking begins earlier in the day than it used to.

You have blacked out as a result of thinking.

Your thinking caused you to do something which you later realized was incredibly stupid.

Just because you don't think every day doesn't mean that you don't have a thinking problem. Many problem thinkers go for days or weeks without thinking only to eventually find themselves on that inevitable three or four day thinking binge.

THINKENDERS can help you stop thinking. Call for our free brochure, “No Thoughts for Today.”

A UU meeting must seem strange to outsiders. One person speaks and says nothing. Nobody listens then everyone disagrees.

Three children in a UU RE class were drawing pictures. The teacher asked on little girl: “What are you drawing?”

“I’m drawing god.”

“But no one know what god looks like,” said the teacher.

“They will when I’m done.”

## **Summit’s Office Information**

**Minister: Dr. Frank Willey:** 619-562-0833, ex. 203 / [UUFrankPW@aol.com](mailto:UUFrankPW@aol.com)

Emergencies and appointments: 619-889-0312

Office Schedule: Tues. - 9:00 a.m. - 12: noon and 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Thurs. - 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Children’s Religious Exploration:** DRE, Mary Carter-Vail, 619-562-0833, ex. 205 / [summitdre@gmail.com](mailto:summitdre@gmail.com)

**Office Admin.:** Linda Peck, 619-562-0833, ex. 202 / [summitunitarian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:summitunitarian@sbcglobal.net) **President:** Pierre Vaughn, [pv@pierrevaughn.com](mailto:pv@pierrevaughn.com)