

THE SCENE AT SUMMIT

**Newsletter of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
8778 Cottonwood Ave., Santee, CA 92071**

Vol. 23 No. 11

November 2013

Monthly

Summit's services and programs are held at the address above, phone number, 619-562-0833. Our website is 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

Nov. 3: *"Muchas, Muchas Gracias"*

Rev. Frank Placone-Willey

Generosity, Graciousness and Gratitude are three manifestations of the authentic spiritual life. They are never the products of political correctness or legalistic thinking, but rather the fruits of our intention to ennoble, enrich, elevate and advance human consciousness and action in the direction of what Rev. Frank calls "compassionate correctness." In this 25th Anniversary service of celebration we will recognize Ed Davis's co-performer, Sylvia's retirement after many years of service and express our collective thanks to all who contribute to the life and work of our beloved community. Come and be appreciated for just being you!

Nov. 10: *"Lessons from the Epistle of Straw"*

Rev. Frank Placone-Willey

The Epistle of James in the Christian New Testament has many practical lessons for how to live the religious life. Ironically, traditional Christians consider it a book that should have little, if any, standing as part of their Scriptures. Rev. Frank's reflection will invite us to consider James a sacred text most suitable for the spiritual instruction of Unitarian Universalists, and highlight three lessons that will help us in our quest for a more compassionate and just world.

Nov. 17: *"Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy"*

Rev. Donald Stouder

National Donor Sabbath is part of an organ donation initiative launched by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in 1997. Observed on Friday through Sunday two weekends before Thanksgiving, the national designation consolidated the individual donation efforts of many faith communities into a national effort for all faiths who wish to participate. The three day observance seeks to include the days of worship of major religions practiced in the United States. On this day, donation and transplant professionals join faith communities to focus on the lifesaving and enhancing gifts passed to others through organ, tissue, blood, and stem cell donation. In his sermon on this special day, Don will share some moving stories from his ministry as a chaplain of the life-changing power of organ donation, as well as discuss some contemporary ethical issues involved in transplantation.

Nov. 24: *"Power in the Service of Love: A Thanksgiving Meditation"*

-Rev. Frank Placone-Willey

What is power? How is it expressed in and through our lives and communities of identity? Why do people who have the most power seem so blind and uncaring to everyone else? What power do you and I have to change the widespread abuse and neglect that results from the pursuit and accumulation of

power? In this Thanksgiving reflection, Rev. Frank will illuminate the workings of power in ourselves and our society, and challenge us to continue cultivating an alternative, transformative manner of relating to power--lest we ourselves become its lackies and its victims.

Attention! *Due to Thanksgiving, The Scene at Summit's December 2013 edition deadline will be *Friday, Nov. 22nd.**

Summit's Office Information

Minister: Dr. Frank Willey: UUFrankPW@aol.com

Emergencies and appointments: 619-889-0312

Office Schedule: Tues. - 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.

Thurs. - 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.

Children's Religious Exploration: DRE, Mary Carter-Vail, 619-562-0833, ex. 205 / summitdre@gmail.com

Office Admin.: Linda Peck, 619-562-0833, ex. 202 / summitunitarian@sbcglobal.net

President: Jennifer Gorman, captjg6@cox.net

FROM THE MINISTER'S ROLLTOP:

~ "What is YOUR path to beloved community?"

Religious liberalism can be reduced to this single statement: "Conscious committal and loyalty to worthwhile causes and goals in order that free and positive personality may be developed, intelligently associated, and cosmically related."

—Curtis Reese, Unitarian Minister, in his 1920 Harvard Lecture

We use the words "beloved community" a lot around Summit these days. It is a rich and historically meaningful term, coined by Harvard philosopher Josiah Royce in the 19th century and made popular in the writing and preaching of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the mid-20th century.

Royce was not only a smart guy—he held four doctorates in philosophy and taught at the University of California, Johns Hopkins, and Harvard—he also tried to put things in clear, simple terms that upheld the promoted the fullest possible development of the individual person in the context of spiritual community. He wrote, "My life means nothing, either theoretically or practically, unless I am a member of a community."

An intentional, religiously liberal, community—such as ours— is unique among organizations and institutions. One of Its chief aims is to realize in the present world the fullest possible expression of human being and ability, because it is in the meaningful contributions of our time and energy, through the expression of our individual gifts and acts of service, that we can taste the deeper truths of transcendent reality. As Royce saw it,

Human life taken merely as it flows, viewed merely as it passes by in time and is gone, is indeed a lost river of experience that plunges down the mountains of youth and sinks in the deserts of age. Its significance comes solely through its relations to the air and the ocean and the great deeps of universal experience.

...and he saw these "great deeps of universal experience" are made real as we participate in community.

In recent months, we've seen a tremendous increase in gatherings which elevate us to appreciate what we can and will accomplish together. Gifts in music, varieties of labor, and new vision and vitality in our communal life and outreach are burgeoning. Members and friends are climbing on board the Summit train, are reaching even higher for the Summit of our individual and collective potentials. So, I ask YOU, and intend for YOU, the discovery of answers to what are for me perennial questions as your minister: "What is your deepest calling?" "What gifts and skills do you want to develop and contribute in the building of beloved community here and now, and for future generations?" How can you realize, in your personal experience and freely chosen association with Summit Fellowship, a more loving, faithful self?" What is your path, your part, in building beloved community?

I'm interested...and available to witness your answers.

Namaste, ~ Rev. Frank

November is "Living Our Covenant of Right Relations" Month at Summit

During the month of November The Committee on Shared Ministry (Formerly the Committee on Ministry) will encourage all Summit members and friends to focus their energy and attention on "The Covenant of Right Relations" our congregation adopted last year.

As a member or friend of Summit you will soon be receiving an email from the Committee on Shared Ministry that will include (1) a description of the Committee's purpose and functions, and (2) an attached digital copy of the Covenant of Right Relations. Practicing the Covenant and accompanying guidelines will advance our quest for unity in diversity, and our mission to build beloved community in compassionate, just and sustainable ways. Together let's deepen our commitment to live in loving relationship.

Open Meetings With the Minister:

Rev. Frank will meet with any people who may be interested in an open group discussion. These *Sanctuary Chats* are a good way to find out what's happening around Summit these days, or to share your thoughts and feelings about your Summit experience. No subject is out of bounds, including what you think of Rev. Frank's performance as our called minister.

Meeting times will be:

Sunday, November 10th, 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 12th, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 14th, 6:00 p.m.

All are welcome!

FROM OUR SUMMIT LEADERSHIP

From Your President of the Board of Directors

Hello Fellow Summitarians!

First of all, I want to encourage all of you who can to attend the auction, Saturday, November 9. Especially if you've never been before, but even if you have, it's THE EVENT of the year and not to be missed (unless you have to). There is a range of options to bid on things, from a small bid on a Silent Auction item or purchase of Raffle Tickets to the fun and exciting Live Auction Event. There's also food and drinks and the fun of meeting and greeting all your Summit friends and people you don't know yet.

Thank you to everyone who attended the **Summit Park Service and Picnic at Santee Lakes** on Sunday, October 20. Everyone had a great time and there was a lot of food and fun, including a story from Frank and organized games for the children. While this was part of the year-round 25th Anniversary Celebration, I hope it will become an annual Summit Tradition. A big thank you to Toni Rogers and her team of musicians, cooks, equipment and food transporters, and other helpers to make the event a huge success!

Thank you also to everyone who participated in the September 29 **Town Hall Meeting** and gave the board valuable input on the proposed **Bylaws Amendments**. As a result of your input, the board has voted to postpone the vote on the Bylaws Amendments, so the November 3rd Congregational Meeting has been cancelled. Following official board approval of some changes to the proposal, probably at our November board meeting, we will publish in writing the new proposed Bylaws Amendments for everyone to review once more and give additional input. Then another date will be set for a vote, perhaps in January or February. We had already tentatively set up January 19 for a Town Hall Meeting and February 2 for a Congregational Meeting, both to discuss and vote on the new proposed Summit 5 Year Strategic Plan, so keep those dates in mind. The plan will be released for your review as soon as possible and prior to a public discussion.

As always, your input is greatly needed and appreciated, so please contact me or any board member if you have further questions or concerns, or just give input you were unable to give at the meeting or by other means.

Jennifer Gorman

Denomination Connections Committee & Summit's Legislative Ministry Team

Summitarians: Take note of this timely upcoming local event. UULMCA and UUSC (national) sponsoring. Our own Jack Shu is on the panel. This environmental justice issue will be presented by many others working on The Right to Water.

Access to Water in a Changing World--The Impact of the Human Right to Water

November 2 (Sat), Bard Hall, First UU Church, Hillcrest Campus (4190 Front St)

Registration & light breakfast at 8:30 am, Program at 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Join us for a presentation and a panel discussion on the Human Right to Water and ways to take action on this important environmental justice issue. Patricia Jones, Manager of the Environmental Justice Program of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, will be with us to share about the work of

UU's and partner agencies on the international and state-wide level to secure the right to water for all. Jack Shu from the UU Legislative Ministry will present about the passage of Human Right to Water legislation in CA, and Ian Slattery will debut UULM's film "Thirsty for Justice." Local panelists will include Shasta Gaughen, Environmental Director of the Pala Band of Mission Indians and Conner Everts of the Southwest Watershed Alliance. You won't want to miss this opportunity for education and engagement. To register, please contact Kathy Smith at 858-587-9207 or ksmith04@san.rr.com.

An update from your Summit LMT

Governor Brown signed the TRUST Act into law and began to turn the tide in this country from restricting, punishing and persecuting immigrants to one that respects families, protects communities and provides for basic human dignity.

Below are some quotes from Governor Brown when he signed the bill on 10/7:

"The Immigration service can still come and pick people up, that's their business. What we're doing here is, we're not using our jails as a holding vat for the immigration service."

"So I think just as California's changed, Arizona's going to change. And Texas. And other states. So, I think we're part of a grand and great transition."

"And now it's a bill that both protects public safety yet also protects immigrants who are basically living upright lives and working hard for the people."

The Board of Directors...

has announced that the planned 11/3/13 Congregational Meeting to vote on proposed Bylaws changes has been cancelled. Due to input from members, the board is considering a few changes to the proposed amendments. After approval by the board, the new version of the proposed Bylaws amendments will be communicated to the congregation in a variety of ways, probably in December, inviting additional member input, prior to announcing a new meeting and vote date, probably in January or February.

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.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION FOR ALL

Children's Religious Exploration News

Last month I had the opportunity to attend the annual Fall Conference of the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA Fall Con), held in St Paul, MN at the Crown Plaza located on the Mississippi River. I was able to attend thanks to the support of Summit and a generous scholarship from LREDA. That weekend was a great learning and growth opportunity for me and I want to share some of the experience with Summit.

Religious Education in our Unitarian Universalist denomination is a unique and diverse ministry. It was incredible to meet with and learn from over 170 people who are passionate about this field. Attendees included ministry students, new religious educators, ministers, Directors of Religious Education (DREs) for children youth and life span educators youth leaders lay leaders Unitarian Universalist Association

(UUA) staffers and retired ministers and other religious educators.

Our weekend started with new attendees, like me, to buddy up with an experienced conference veteran. I was teamed up with Liz Jones who has been my mentor and is the DRE at First UU Church of San Diego. She was an excellent guide in helping me select where to spend my time and energy.

Friday night included our first full group gathering with welcoming, orientation and worship, with the theme “Who loved you into being a religious educator?” This was a very special time to share our journeys with one another. The work of a religious educator is sacred work and should not be done alone. We then got crafty, inspired by participating in a learning center activity sponsored by the UUA Office of Growth Strategies. There were 8 “Play Stations” with fun activities for us to experience. The Growth Office provided this because “religious educators are the natural incubators, inciters and keepers of faith formation and identity.” It was a great way to get our creativity flowing and move the “community” to a place of deep sharing very quickly.

Our Saturday was full and rich. Our day started with worship that included incredible music leadership by Mark David from the UU Musicians Network. There was much information on what is currently happening in our denomination, including a report from the Ministries and Faith Development team at the UUA. Dr. Mark Hicks, developer of the Fahs Collaborative at Meadville Lombard Theological School presented. The Collaborative is named for the mother of religious education, Sophia Fahs. “*The Fahs Collaborative for Leaders in Faith and Learning* is both a holder of the Unitarian Universalist tradition of liberal religious education and a pioneer for faith-based practices that empower and sustain the human spirit.”

The Fahs Fellows are educational entrepreneurs who have support to spend a year exploring innovative solutions to the challenges in faith development in our denomination. Three Fellows shared their work with us and I found it very inspirational. Here is a brief synopsis:

Innovations in Technology – Phil Lund: His work includes exploring how we, as a religious organization, can use tech[nology] to create a richer and more accessible faith experience. He has found that smaller groups worked better than larger ones, and that the experience of connecting digitally in real time, face to face, created a powerful human connection in small groups of 8 or less. He talked about the challenges and discoveries he has experienced and the apps available for digital connections.

Cross Cultural Engagement – Kat Liu: Raised a Buddhist, Kat was inspired to seek ways to include her culture in our UU liturgical calendar and stories. She discovered that it was not as easy as just plugging in a few new celebrations or service elements. She is using crowd sourcing with other UU’s to see what they are doing and sharing that collective wisdom so that we can all grow in our unique faith journeys. Visit her website at <http://www.wizduum.net> and be part of the conversation.

Innovations in Multi-Generational Faith Formation – Karen Bellavance-Grace: Our post- modern-era-UU-families are very busy, making it hard to fit Sunday morning service into their schedules. Karen explored the idea of “Full Week Faith.” What if our religious exploration programs did not depend on Sunday mornings? What if we had faith development opportunities for all ages all week long? The goal of this study is to create a way to make full-faith-development more accessible. Visit her website at <http://fullweekfaith.weebly.com/> to discover more. There is even an app that congregations can easily adapt to offer an accessible digital-faith-formation tool.

After listening to the Fahs Fellows my head was buzzing with ideas. We had two opportunities to break into small groups to process together. I participated in a discussion on supporting UU parenting and developing children's spirituality. In the Parent Group many excellent ideas were shared. One great idea was to offer classes to parents called "Parent as Resident Theologian." We talked about this in the second small group, as well as all the challenges facing our children as they seek to develop a spiritual foundation. We learned about the 12 germinal spiritual experiences of a child (Sophia Fahs) and the consumer attitude predominant in our culture today. Both groups stated that the parent is the primary spiritual educator for their child. I left the groups wondering how we can enrich what we offer as a congregation and where this critical area of family faith development can be fostered and supported.

On Sunday morning we started with another incredible and inspiring worship service, followed by participation in various workshops we could choose from. I learned about using social media to provide inspiration and growth for a faith community. This was on the edge of my comfort zone and boy did I learn a lot! The Big-4 of social media is where a cutting-edge faith community needs to focus their energy. These are: Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Pinterest. Why? Because people are already THERE! Social media has moved from *information sharing* to *inspiration sharing*. This is why a faith-community needs to move beyond Sundays and have a presence in these media to expand congregational reach and support faith development. It is inexpensive, and when done right, nurtures community building and collaboration. More to come about how we can use these tools at Summit.

This is just a bit of what happened during LREDA Fall Con. There is so much more to share, so please let me know if any of these ideas intrigue you. My hope is to find ways to incorporate some of what I learned to support our very special faith community.

Bright Blessings, Mary Carter-Vail
Dir. of Children's Religious Exploration

Adult Religious Exploration

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

Memoir Writing Group / Lois Santalo: Friday, Nov. 8th, 10:00 a.m. to noon, in the Summit Library. This is an ongoing workshop. Everyone is welcome.

Poetry Workshop: Saturday, Nov. 23rd, 10:00 am in the Library. Come play with words and discover the poet within. All levels of writing experience welcome. Questions? Please call Margo Mariana. No registration necessary.

Meditation- Sunday, 8:00 a.m. -Sanctuary; Wed., 8:30 a.m. -Salon:

Meditation is a practice, and needs to be practiced, like anything worth doing. We sit in chairs, in meditation and/or silent prayer for the concerns of our hearts or of others who have asked to be remembered. You needn't be experienced. We are lifted by the shared intention and spiritual energy of one another. "[In meditation] you watch your thoughts and they start to flatten down, and your breathing level, and pulse, all slow down. And in that space...there's this feeling of well-being...I think that's the presence that we're all looking for." ~ Phil Jackson

Upcoming Adult Learning Programs and Activities

You might want to calendar the following special programs and classes now, and certainly stay tuned for more information about upcoming offerings by me, other Summitarians and very special guests in this new year of religious exploration. -Rev. Frank

Spiritual Praxis Group meets in the Summit Salon on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September through May, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on November 12th. In this meeting we will continue with discussion of Rick Hanson, Ph.D.'s book, *Buddha's Brain*, and the first four chapters in his book of spiritual reflections and exercises, entitled *Just One Thing*. -Rev. Frank

"The Big Questions" This study group, facilitated by Bernard Samtoy, M.D. and Rev. Frank Placone-Willey, Ph.D. will meet in the Summit Sanctuary on the 4th Friday of each month from September 2013 through May 2014, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We will read and discuss brief essays by scientists, religious scholars and philosophers, all commissioned by the Templeton Foundation. The Essays will help us focus our discussion on the following BIG questions:

- 1) "Does the Universe have a Purpose?"
- 2) Does evolution explain Human Nature?
- 3) Does Moral Action depend upon Reasoning?
- 4) Does Science make belief in God obsolete?

"From Soul Work to Social Action: Conflict and Transformational Processes" 2nd Meeting, November 2, 2013, 9:30-1:00 p.m.

The Rev. Frank Placone-Willey, Ph.D. is facilitating this seminar/workshop series over four Saturdays in September and November (2nd) of 2013 and in January (8th) and February (15th) of 2014, from 9:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. All meetings but the one on February 15th, 2014 are open to anyone. This final meeting will be only for people who have attended two prior meetings and who wish to work on a project in which they can apply their learning. On November 2nd, we will have a quick review of the information on "Conflict Style," "The Conflict Management Continuum," and "Methods for Addressing Conflict," then move on to consider and practice "The Basics of Effective (Non-Violent) Communication and "The Spirituality of Non-Violent Activism." A suggested donation of \$10.00 is requested from non-members.

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| 9/28: | Part I -What's My Conflict Style? |
| | Part II -The Conflict Management Continuum |
| | Part III -Methods for Addressing Conflict |
| 11/2 | Part IV -The Basics of Effective (Non-Violent) Communication |
| | Part V -The Spirituality of Non-Violent Activism |
| 1/8 | Part VI -Advocacy, Protest, Public Demonstration |
| | Part VII-Civil Disobedience |
| 2/15 | Part VIII-Social Action Project Development |

Freethinkers...

The Madison Quakers partially fund a project dedicated to the rebuilding My Lai, a war-devastated community in South Vietnam. Mike Boehm, a volunteer, will speak to us on November 15th as a fundraiser for this project. At INDY last month, we watched "The Sound of the Violin," a DVD presentation about the project. It was uplifting and healing for those who had experienced Vietnam. Please join us.

Tai Chi Chih is available on Tuesdays

...from 8:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. Join us in the Salon as we improve our flexibility, strengthen our balance and de-stress. You'll be glad you did!

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 Has Changed the Day and Time

The Loving Hands group will now meet on the first SATURDAY of the month at 10 a.m. in the library at Summit. Our next meeting will be on Sat., November 2nd. All are welcome and we invite you to join us! 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:

HUNGER! Did you know that 1 in 6 Americans face hunger daily? Or that 17 million US households are food insecure? Or that nearly 460,000 people in San Diego County are impacted by hunger, including more than 162,000 children? The theme for social action at Summit in the coming year is hunger. Watch for hunger-related SAC events in upcoming newsletters and the e-news.

The Greater Community

Compassion for African Villages: The service and collection on October 13 benefitted Compassion for African Villages, an organization founded in San Diego that is currently working towards improving conditions in small villages, starting with Rundongo, Zimbabwe. Current projects are focused on education, clean water, suitable living conditions, and slowing the progression of disease. Thanks to your generosity and some matching donors to whom we are very grateful, Summit's donation to CAV was approximately \$1750!

How Can You Help Summit's Social Action Efforts?

Collection for Veterans' causes: November's SAC collection (Nov. 17) will go toward aiding military veterans in our area. Watch the e-news for details!

Social Action Sunday: Summit's SAC meets on the third Sunday of the month after the service. We welcome you to join us on Nov. 17 for the next Social Action Committee meeting in the library at 11:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Rene Schad.

DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL!

The Amnesty International SD East County chapter is back. We will meet in the Salon the last Monday of every month (Nov. 25th) at 7:00 pm. Join us and help change the world. Questions? Contact Renée Altson.

WITHIN THE CONGREGATION

Member & Friend News

♥ We are keeping in heart and mind Karen and Jamie Cleland, Roy and Virginia McDonald, and Harriet Nissenbaum, and their families.

♥ Please remember Margo Mariana as her brother died very recently.

♥ Congratulations to Linda Peck and her family on the marriage of her son Joshua, and his long-time love, Jennifer!

♥ **Come join your Summit family as we celebrate Thanksgiving** with one another on November 28th. Celebration to be started at 4:30, with dinner served shortly thereafter. Call or email Trish Ladd to make your reservation and volunteer for what you will bring to join in the feast.

♥ ARE YOU A SUMMITARIAN WHO WILL BE HOME ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY?

You don't have to be. I am inviting up to eleven single people to come to my home and have a Christmas Day meal at 1:00 p.m. Just tell me what you'd like to eat, pay me to prepare or obtain it for you, and come over for fellowship, some games, and a gift exchange. Afterwards, if there are some willing drivers, we could even go touring to see many of the magnificent Christmas Light displays around the County.

If you would be interested in participating, please call the Summit Office and leave your name and contact information. Registration for this gathering will close when 11 people have signed up or by December 18th, whichever comes first. I'll then contact you to arrange meal details. -Audrey Forrest

♥ **The Walden Project** is a very special work in progress! The photos show Margo and Michele of our recent paint crew inviting us into the tiny house, as well as showing a portion of the interior. We are happy to report that we have added four new, very highly valued and appreciated members to our work crew for painting, carpentry and plumbing. All have a busy life and/or busy full time jobs but will find hours here and there to contribute to The Walden Project. We have received a request from the greater San Diego community to drive The Walden Project to their location for teaching regarding voluntary simplicity, spiritually grounded activism and green technology. This request is a bit early since we are not ready, but exciting since it speaks to the purpose of The Walden Project.

Margo was inspired to write the following poem:

To Walden Project

*We build a cottage
as living celebration to Thoreau,
a man who found beauty, bounty
in a pond and its surroundings.
Though now wrapped
in the heart of earth, his presence emanates,
is a reminder to see ourselves
in every connection with nature,
and pause to hear deeper messages
in the language of stillness.*

Margo Mariana
Summit UU Fellowship

♥ We NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION. Donate an hour or two of work. The Walden Project thrives on a patchwork of stitched-together good-will, cooperative spirits and helping hands!

Summit Now has a Memorial Garden

It is the patio area under the Chinese Elm Tree between the office wing and the salon. If families would like to have a paver stone in this garden dedicated to their departed Summit member they may purchase the engraving for \$150. For this fee the first and last name and the month and year of birth and death would be put on the stone. The letters would be 1 1/2" high. Please contact me or Linda Peck if you would like to have a paver stone carved for your loved one.

Another Way to Be Informed

The newsletter you are reading is our monthly *Scene at Summit*. If you wish to receive our weekly eNews in your email, contact Pam Kerr at Suuf_volunteer@sbcglobal.net and she will be happy to add you to the email list.

If you would like to contribute an article, or classified ad, or 'something of interest' to the eNews:

- Send your item to Suuf_volunteer@sbcglobal.net by 8:00 a.m. Wednesday
- Have your complete information in the body of the email, no attachments
- If you have a picture, include it. If you don't, suggest a theme or just trust me

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, in the office or 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.

SUMMIT'S POTPOURRI OF PROGRAMS

Choir Notes

We meet every week on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in joining our choir or have questions please contact our director, Jill Reis.

Hiking Group

As the weather is getting cooler it's time to start our hiking group back up. We invite you to join us for our first hike of the season on Sunday November 17th at 1:15. We'll be hiking at Lake Hodges along the North Shores Trail. If you have joined us on previous year's hikes, you'll receive an email with all the information. If you haven't joined us in the past and are interested in coming, email k.crowe4@cox.net to be added to the list.

I'm Not Done Yet! (a.k.a. INDY)

On November 25th at 2:30pm in the Salon. At the time of this writing we haven't decided on a topic. Please join us regardless as we will have lively conversation no matter the topic!

In addition, INDY is sponsoring a "**games day**" on the first Tuesday of the month, Nov. 5th, at 2:30, with the hope of improving our memories, and having some fun. All are invited. Contact nealbiggart@mac.com.

Membership Committee

We meet every first Tuesday of the month (Nov. 5) at 3:00 pm in the conference room in the office wing.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

We meet in Summit's library at 7:00 pm on the second Monday (Nov. 11th) of each month. PFLAG is an international organization (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. For more info contact Bob and Mary Dryden at r.dryden@cox.net.

Book Club

On Tuesday, November 5th at 7:00 pm in the Salon, we will be discussing: "*WILD: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*," by Cheryl Strayed. "Spectacular....A literary and human triumph." - THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

Piano Club

If you like to play piano, and for others to listen as you do, please join us on Nov. 21st, at 3:00 at a Club member's home. Contact Ed Davis, 619-448-0790, or Roy McDonald, 619-463-2895, for information and this month's location.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Auction Tickets On Sale!!!

Do you want to be part of the action at the '*Stay'n Alive at 25*' Summit Auction happening here on Saturday November 9th?

Of course you do! Because this is not just any auction, this is a Summit Auction where you will be guaranteed the following:

1. Taste-bud teasing, palate-pleasing food
2. Wild entertainment that will make Rev. Frank blush
3. Over-the-top raffle items that Paris Hilton will envy
4. An easy-on-the-wallet wine and beer bar where the drinks aren't watered down
5. Delectably delicious desserts that should be illegal
6. A timeless boutique where everything ages well.

And . . . finally . . .

7. Bidding items that are so varied they will fit anyone's tastes, even a Unitarian Universalist!

Tickets are just \$8.00 and will be sold after the November 3rd service

If you are interested in Native Americana, multi-culturalism, or social justice you won't want to miss a special seminar in the Sanctuary of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Saturday November 23, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.:

"American Indians as Infidels in U.S. Law: The Theological Roots of U.S. Dominance Over Indian Nations"

Steven T. Newcomb will give a fascinating 2-part lecture and facilitate discussion on the legal and theological justifications for the conquest and subjugation of indigenous peoples, rationales that continue to permeate American constitutional law and judicial opinions to the present day. The lectures will be on:

- (1) "The Doctrine of Christian Discovery," and
- (2) "The Dynamics of Domination."

Mr. Newcomb is co-founder and co-director of the Indigenous Law Institute. He is author of *Pagans in the Promised Land: Decoding the Doctrine of Christian Discovery* (Fulcrum, 2008) and was a featured presenter at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona in 2012. Of the Shawnee and Lenape people, he lives in San Diego, and does scholarly research and advocacy in cooperation with the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

The seminar is free for Summit Members. A donation of \$5.00 is requested from non-members, to help defray some of the seminar cost. A light lunch with vegetarian options will be provided. Reading *Pagans in the Promised Land* before attending is recommended.

To register and to let us know of any special dietary needs you may have, please call the Summit Office at 619 562-0833 or contact the Rev. Frank Placone-Willey at UUfrankpw@aol.com.

Summit Arts and Crafts fair

9:00 am to 12:30 pm, Sunday, Dec. 1st

Calling for Summit Artisans to participate!!

Please contact Neal Biggart if you wish to participate.
nealbiggart@mac.com or 619-441-9874

Bring your Christmas shopping money!

SAVE THE DATE!

The San Diego UU Network (formerly called the Cluster), is a Board made up of UUs from the 5 congregations in our area. Representatives from each meet monthly in part to establishing better support and communication between our congregations. It is far more beneficial to share resources with each other than to “go it alone” as we spread the Unitarian Universalist denomination. So, with this intention, there will be a workshop:

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR UUs

When: Saturday, January 11, 2014 from 9:00 am -2:00 pm

Where: First UU Church of SD (in Hillcrest)

What: The theme of this training is primarily learning Leadership skills to use in a variety of roles in our congregations. The seminar will be particularly useful for those in Board of Directors' positions, Committee Chairs, leaders of Covenant Groups, and other important roles in our community, as well as professional staff in the areas of Administration, Religious Exploration, and Music. Anyone interested in finding out what it takes to be a leader is invited.

So please, put this date on your calendar and watch for news about registration, details of the day, etc. It is going to be a great way to meet other leaders in your area of interest and talk about UUs in the 21st Century.

Submitted by Jennifer White, Interim Coordinator with SUUN and
Denomination Connections Committee Chair