

MINISTRY TEAM MAGAZINE

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO



Young Adult Mystery Squad (18 to 24 year olds) on Retreat in the mountains.

A Ministry Team is a collection of church volunteers who create positive progressive change and live out our liberal religious values in meaningful community with one another. A Ministry Team is like a smaller “tribe” within the larger church village. All activity that goes on in the life of First UU Church happens through the hearts, hands and minds of the following seven Ministry Teams:

- **Caring**
- **Community Life**
- **Denominational Affairs**
- **Generosity**
- **Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning**
- **Social Justice**
- **Worship & Program**

Inside this magazine you’ll find dozens of vibrant, active groups that make up the Ministry Teams of this community. To find out more about a specific group, contact the leaders for the Ministry Team with which it is associated. How to get in touch with Ministry Team leaders can be found on the back of this publication.



Summer 2008



CARING



Care Giving resources on the Sunday patio.

Mission: To strengthen our caring community, as we live out our Church Affirmation, “May love be the spirit of this church and service be its prayer.”

Leadership: Rev. Kathleen Owens and Peggy Holl

- Care Advisory Group
- Lay Pastoral Care Associates
- Practical Care Network

The Ministry Team Council

It is the mission of the Ministry Team Council of First UU Church of San Diego to facilitate the work of ministry teams. The council may serve in an advisory capacity to ministry teams, ministers, and staff.

This council is made up of representatives from each Ministry Team. The Ministry Team Council meets the third Thursday of the month from 6 to 8 pm. This is an open meeting and guests are welcome. For more information on the Ministry Team Council please call (619) 298-9978.

COMMUNITY LIFE



Women's Federation "Harry Potter" Tea Party.

Mission: To maintain and strengthen the bonds of community at First Church both for its own sake and to enable the church to accomplish its mission.

Leadership: Rev. Kathleen Owens, Suzette Southfox, Director of Community Life, and Steve Howard

- All Church Camp
- Affinity Groups
- Awards
- Community Building
- Covenant Groups
- Discovery
- Dynamic Duos
- Hospitality
- Kitchen
- Membership
- Men's Fellowship
- Neighborhood Groups
- Singletarians
- Women's Federation
- Women Together
- Voluntary Simplicity
- Young Adult and Campus Ministry
 - Young Adult Mystery Squad 18 to 24
 - USCD students, faculty & staff
 - Young Adults 25 to 35

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS



UU Military workshop at 2008 General Assembly.

Mission: To initiate and support activities that connect First UU Church of San Diego to our larger family of Unitarians and Universalists in our district, our association, and our world.

Leadership: Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube and Ardath Schaibly

- Denominational Relations
- Friends of de Benneville Pines
- Partner Church
- UU Service Committee



Pilgrimage to our sister churches in the Philippines.

GENEROSITY



Viewing Bard Hall renovation plans.

Mission: To develop financial and spiritual resources for the current and future needs of First Church with integrity and with an awareness of the joy inherent in cultivating generosity as a spiritual virtue.

Leadership: Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube, Thelest Stewart, Church Administrator, and Lay Leader TBD.

- Grants Panel
- Planned Giving
- Channing Society



Adult Religious Growth and Learning *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

The purpose of the Adult Religious Education Growth and Learning Program is to nurture and stimulate the religious and personal growth of the adult church community and the community at large by offering a varied and cohesive program within the context of the larger Unitarian Universalist tradition and religious community.

Affinity Groups *Community Life Ministry Team*

Open, small groups of like-minded individuals who meet regularly for conversation, activity and play.

All Church Camp *Community Life Ministry Team*

Sponsors an annual all church, intergenerational weekend retreat filled with workshops, entertainment, socializing, support, and a worship service. so-

Archives *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

The archives are devoted to preserving the church history in text, sound, and graphic forms.

Art Guild *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Brings beauty and culture to church members and grounds in the form of diverse art, art shows, and artist discussion groups.

Awards *Community Life Ministry Team*

Works within the church community to celebrate volunteers and projects worthy of special recognition.

Book Room *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

Expand knowledge of Unitarian Universalism by selling new and used books and magazines.

Buddhist Sangha *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

A teaching, learning, and sharing spiritual community of Buddhist study and practice.

Campaign Finance Reform Action Group *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Supports a ballot measure for the city of San Diego whereby candidates volunteer to earn the right to public funding and not spend any of their own money or solicit money from others.

Channing Society *Generosity Ministry Team*

The church's endowment to help ensure a strong liberal religious program for our future.

Children's Religious Education Committee – *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

Programs to nurture and stimulate our children's spiritual and personal growth and to teach and model the values that hold us together as Unitarian Universalists.

Choir - Adult *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Performs three times a month at Sunday Services and performs a major choral work with instrumental accompaniment twice a year.

Choir – Bell *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

A musical ensemble of adults, each ringing several handbells. Each bell has a different pitch- something like the keys on a piano, and offers musical beauty to our Sunday worship.

Choir – Chalice *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

A musical ensemble of people from high school age and up, singing a wide variety of styles of choral music several Sundays a month.

Choir - Children and Youth *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Children ages 4 to 9 and youth ages 10 to 14 perform during Worship Services, and on special occasions, and rehearse Sunday mornings in the Chapel.

Christian Fellowship, UU *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Offers an alternative to the Christian right: you can be a UU and a Christian too! Weekly worship service with communion is offered.

Clean Elections *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Working on Clean Election campaign finance reform.

Communications Action Group *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Monitors and reviews internal and external church communication.

Community Building *Community Life Ministry Team*

Strives to deepen the bonds among members and friends of the church, and is the driving force behind Neighborhood Groups.

Concert Series *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Since 1978, a wide variety of musical traditions and styles in a chamber music setting.

Cosmos *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Explores the story of our evolving universe, as revealed by science, and our role in it. Meets monthly for celebration followed by salon discussion.

Covenant Groups *Community Life Ministry Team*

Small groups of people who meet regularly for topic-driven, facilitated sharing which brings opportunities for deep and meaningful connections.

Denominational Relations *Denominational Affairs Ministry Team*

Supports activities that connect First Church to our larger UU family and serves as a link with cluster, district, and continental UU organizations.

Discovery *Community Life Ministry Team*

A facilitated social and spiritual forum for single adults in a non-threatening atmosphere with an emphasis on individual discovery and growth rather than on persons as part of a couple.

DRUUMM, Diverse Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries *All Ministry Teams*

Provides support and advocacy for People of Color as well as leadership for creating an anti-racist UU identity and practice.

Dynamic Duos *Community Life Ministry Team*

Sponsors social activities for couples of all ages and orientations with similar values to become acquainted through enriching experiences.

Earth-Centered Spirituality Circle *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Holds ritual worship, drumming, prayer circles, labyrinth walking, and pagan classes. Families welcome.

EarthSpirit Team *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Implements a Green Sanctuary Program, bringing awareness of environmental issues and builds a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness.

Fair Banking Coalition *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Focused on bringing an end to economic apartheid and bringing banks and full banking service back to low and moderate income communities and communities of color.

Family Ministry *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

Dedicated to creating and nurturing programs that will support our families and help them thrive.

Flowers *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Coordinates flowers for Sunday worship. Sign up for donating flowers through the coordinator.

Freedom to Marry *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Working to support the California's same sex marriage initiative.

Friends of deBenneville Pines *Denominational Affairs Ministry Team*

Supports our church camp and conference center in the San Bernardino Mountains through fundraising, publicity and hands-on work projects.

Grants Panel *Generosity Ministry Team*

Creating opportunities for giving and receiving UU grants.

Helen Meyers Forum *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Arranges and publicizes special church programs "for the purpose of providing for lectures and sermons by outstanding Unitarian Ministers and lay people, by meeting transportation costs, fees and expense needs thereof."

Homeless Outreach & Advocates *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Advocate for the needs of the homeless including their need for affordable housing solutions irrespective of nationality, race, greed, religion, gender, sexual orientation or citizenship status through outreach, support, direct action, and education.

Hospitality *Community Life Ministry Team*

Hosts the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings, visitor orientation sessions and provides Sunday morning docent tours, greeters, nametags, and visitor follow-up.

Humanist Discussion Group *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Holds regular discussion and study groups and promotes humanism as being common ground among all people of good will.

Immigration Equality San Diego *Social Justice Ministry Team*

A grassroots organization that through support, education, outreach and advocacy addresses the wide spread discriminatory impact of immigration laws on the lives of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgendered people, binational couples, and those living with HIV/AIDS.

Interfaith Shelter Project *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Organizes participation in the Interfaith Shelter Network's Rotational Shelter program. Our congregation hosts the program for two weeks a year.

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Journey Toward Wholeness *All Ministry Teams*

Implements the congregation's anti-racism, anti-oppression commitment on a church-wide basis. This group focuses on dismantling racism, eradicating other oppressions, and bringing about transformation through increased awareness, healing, and inclusivity.

Kitchen *Community Life Ministry Team*

Maintains and coordinates two highly used kitchens and supports Sunday social hour.

Lay Pastoral Care Associates *Caring Ministry Team*

Trained church members work alongside the professional ministers in caring for members who are experiencing significant losses or life transitions, or have other needs.

Leadership Development *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

Promotes learning and leadership skills of individuals and committees, assists with organizational development issues, and recruits leadership school candidates.

Library *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

Maintains a lending library of books and related material on UUism and general theological issues and other topics of concern to current groups within the church.

Looking Glass Theatre *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

A multi-generational acting company dedicated to presenting theater that reflects UU beliefs and values.

Meditation *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Open, ongoing meetings to learn and practice seated, standing, and walking meditation.

Membership *Community Life Ministry Team*

Helping people become members of this church and find a place within the community.

Memorial Wall *Worship and Program Ministry Team*

A memorial sculpture in which tiles carry the individual name and dates of birth and death.

Men's Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist (UUMF) *Community Life Ministry Team*

Personal support, intellectual stimulation, creative growth, spiritual deepening and social outreach to the men of the church and community.

Music *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Activities include four choirs, music for worship services, and the Concert Series. It also maintains the organ and pianos and assists with children's musical activities.

Neighborhood Groups *Community Life Ministry Team*

Gatherings of people who live in common areas who meet in social gathering for support and fellowship.

Network of Spiritual Progressives *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Building a network of spiritually alive people who are working to bring about the urgently needed paradigm shift of our age – from competition, consumerism and isolation to compassion, planetary stewardship and community connections.

Organizing for Justice *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Affiliated with the San Diego Organizing Project, advocating and promoting programs that deal with issues of economic justice, poverty, affordable housing, healthcare, and racism.

Partner Church *Denominational Affairs Ministry Team*

Nurtures the relationship with our sister Unitarian Churches in Romania and the Philippines through activities and events here and abroad.

Peace and Democracy Action Group *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Ongoing lectures, workshops, and participation in community events, in order to educate, empower and to promote peace and democracy.

Peacemaking Study/Action Group *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Presents to the congregation of First UU Church of San Diego opportunities for study, dialogue, reflection on peacemaking, for the purpose of contributing to the statement of conscience to be presented for adoption at the 2009 Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly.

Planned Giving *Generosity Ministry Team*

Informs and encourages members and friends to consider all types of planned gifts that can benefit the Church and its work.

Practical Care Network *Caring Ministry Team*

Provide services to church members in need, such as rides to church or medical appointments, and errands and chores for the homebound.

Rainbow Action Group *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Facilitates activities dealing with topics of interest to lesbian, gay, transgender, and bisexual persons, as well as to heterosexual and celibate persons and AIDS awareness.

Reproductive Rights *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Informs the congregation and wider community in matters and activities concerning reproductive choices.

San Diego Organizing Project *Social Justice Ministry Team*

A Congregation Based Community Organization (CBCO) with 25 member churches serving 40,000 families. Current focus is on healthcare for all children and affordable housing.

Singletarians *Community Life Ministry Team*

Social opportunities for single persons over 50, including brunch after church at a local restaurant and occasional gatherings hosted at members' homes.

Social Justice Endowment *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Generously founded in memory of devoted social justice leader/member together with other donations fund one-time or start-up group projects that benefit and are in accord with the Social Justice Ministry Team's mission.

South Bay Organizing Group *All Ministry Teams*

This group is charged with taking our liberal religious voice to an underserved population by growing First Church into a multi-site church with a second campus in the South Bay. The South Bay Project is one of four Strategic Initiatives First Church adopted for its Five Year Plan (2007-2012.)

Unitarian Cooperative Preschool *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

An on-site school with child oriented activities which encourage the development of whole children.

Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry Liaison *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Part of a statewide social justice ministry that gives voice to UU religious value in the public arena.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee *Denominational Affairs Ministry Team*

A voluntary, non-sectarian organization working to advance justice throughout the world.

Unitarian Universalist United Nations Envoy *Social Justice Ministry Team*

Represents First Church in events and circumstances regarding the United Nations including the yearly United Nations service and children's food fair.

Ushering *Worship and Program Ministry Team*

Provides ushers for Sunday services and monitors and prepares Meeting House supplies.

Voluntary Simplicity Group, San Diego *Community Life Ministry Team*

Supports people in living simpler lives more in line with what is important to them, being intentional about the way they spend their time, energy, and money and taking care of the planet

Women's Federation, Unitarian Universalist (UWF) *Community Life Ministry Team*

Enables church women to join together for mutual support, personal growth, and spiritual enrichment via monthly programs, discussion groups, and special events.

Women Together *Community Life Ministry Team*

Sponsors an annual empowering women's weekend retreat filled with workshops, entertainment, socializing, support, and a worship service.

Young Adult & Campus Ministry *Community Life Ministry Team*

Spiritually alive, radically inclusive and justice centered. Working with the student, faculty and staff population of UCSD and the young adults 18 to 35 involved with our church.

Young Adults 25-35 *Community Life Ministry Team*

Gatherings and activities for young adults ages 25 to 35, age related experiences are processed, shared and explored.

Young Adult Mystery Squad *Community Life Ministry Team*

Young people between the ages of 18 and 24 get together weekly to discuss political, social, spiritual and personal issues that affect our age group. Thursday nights 7 to 9 pm.

Youthful And Openminded *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

A welcoming group where adults who are 20ish to 40ish can make friends, have fun, enjoy a diverse, and spiritual community as well as participate in the larger life of the church.

Youth Programming *Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning Ministry Team*

A working group of both Adults and Youth who work to support the Youth Programs of the church and assist in bringing the youth into meaningful relationship with the larger church community.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS GROWTH & LEARNING



Sunday School celebrates Chinese New Year.

Purpose: To empower individuals to make a difference in the world by: Living our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Values with integrity; learning to understand the world in which we live and how we engage with it; (Acknowledging the richness of the past, using it today, and recording it for the future.) Providing opportunities and support for Personal Growth and Development; in age and gender appropriate settings, in cross-age programming, with appreciation and attention to our diversity and our multicultural community, [and] with an awareness of anti-racism and anti-oppression issues.

Leadership: Liz Jones, Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry, and Betty Grant

- Adult Religious Growth & Learning
- Archives
- Book Room
- Children’s Religious Education
- Family Ministry
- Leadership Development
- Library
- Unitarian Cooperative Preschool
- Youthful And Openminded
- Youth Programming

SOCIAL JUSTICE



First Church peace activists.

Mission: To educate the congregation on the many needs of a just world, to invite individual involvement in addressing these needs through congregational groups; UUA linkages, community and coalition-building organizations, to utilize our faith in effectively working toward a more just, equitable, and compassionate society, and to take loving and responsible care of our environment.

Leadership: Rev. Kathleen Owens, and Jan Gallo. The Leadership Council is made up of two vice-chairs and one representative from each Action Group and Affiliate.

Action Groups

- Clean Elections Action Group
- EarthSpirit Team
- Homeless Outreach & Advocates
- Interfaith Homeless Shelter Project
- Organizing for Justice
- Peace and Democracy
- Rainbow Action Group
- Reproductive Rights

Affiliates

- Freedom to Marry
- Immigration Equality San Diego
- Journey Towards Wholeness
- Network of Spiritual Progressives
- Peacemaking Study/Action Group
- San Diego Organizing Project
- San Diego Fair Banking Coalition
- UU Legislative Ministry California
- UU United Nations Envoy

WORSHIP & PROGRAM



Looking Glass Theatre does *Oliver!*

Mission: is to move hearts and minds, heal the planet, and provide opportunities for sacred learning and spiritual growth.

Leadership: Rev. Dr. Arvid Straube, Ken Herman, Director of Music, and Lay Leader TBD

- Art Guild
- Buddhist Sangha
- Choirs (*Chalice , Bell, Children, Youth*)
- Communications Action Group
- Concert Series
- Cosmos
- Earth Centered Spirituality Circle
- Flowers
- Helen Meyers Forum
- Humanist Discussion Group
- Looking Glass Theatre
- Meditation
- Memorial Wall
- Music
- Nominating
- Ushering
- UU Christian Fellowship

UUS OF THE SOUTH BAY!

We are taking our liberal religious voice to a diverse underserved population by growing First Church into a multi-site church with a new campus the South Bay.

Our new church site is located in Chula Vista at **Parkview Elementary School** on the east side of the 805, off E. Palomar.

Worship services and religious education for children, adults and families will begin in October 2008.



Carol Layne, South Bay Intern Minister

Being a multi-site church means that both Hillcrest and South Bay campuses will be served by: one board, one ministry team, one professional staff funded by one budget.

For more information and to join the team of lay leaders who are helping us grow in the South Bay, contact Carol Layne, our South Bay Intern Minister at (619) 947-4612 or email her at carol@firstuusandiego.org or Manual Llera at (619) 420-3849 or by e-mail to lleram@cox.net

OUR OUTCOME STATEMENTS

- ◆ We are comforted and challenged by worship and programs that appeal to our hearts, minds, and values and where a variety of spiritual paths are not only welcomed but celebrated.
- ◆ We are an intentionally diverse, multicultural, and welcoming community where gifts can be discovered, nurtured, and shared.
- ◆ We identify and challenge oppression within and beyond our church community so that all people may have their worth and dignity affirmed.
- ◆ We create a space that fosters growth in spirit, person, knowledge, and skills in a safe environment; a space that supports families in all their configurations.
- ◆ We cherish compassionate relationships that enable us to care for and support each other in times of joy and sorrow.
- ◆ We address the needs and issues necessary to produce a more just, equitable, and compassionate society for each other, all beings, and the planet.
- ◆ Our facilities are well maintained, environmentally responsible, accessible, aesthetically pleasing, and technologically current.
- ◆ We affirm Unitarian Universalism and its Seven Principles at the congregational, cluster, district, and continental levels.
- ◆ We are generous with our resources, time, and talents both to our church and to others in need.



OUR COVENANT OF GOOD RELATIONS

Preamble: We members, friends, staff, and ministers of First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego covenant to treat ourselves and one another with respect.

We vow to live our values, to learn, and to serve in ways that are fulfilling and responsible.

We respect and honor ourselves and others when we:

- listen, speak, and act with integrity and compassion;
- communicate openly without anonymous criticism; and
- express gratitude and appreciation.

We value ourselves and others when we:

- invite and welcome into our church the diverse populations and cultures of the wider community;
- enjoy each other with playfulness and good humor;
- act with awareness of ecological issues.

We learn when we:

- educate ourselves about church structure and governance, and the responsibilities of ministers, staff, and volunteers;
- appreciate our own limitations as well as those of others; and
- practice the established process of resolving differences.

We serve when we:

- contribute our financial resources, time, and skills according to our ability whenever possible;
- model Unitarian Universalist beliefs and values;
- and strive to reflect more accurately the demographics of the wider community in our church.



GETTING INVOLVED...

Ministry Team Contacts

Caring

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Generosity

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Life-span Religious Growth & Learning

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Social Justice

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Worship & Program

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Ken Herman Ken@firstuusandiego.org
Lay Leader TBD



If you have an idea or question about what we do as a congregation, want information about the Ministry Team Council, or do not have e-mail access and want to get in touch with a Ministry Team or group, please phone Suzette at (619) 298-9978.

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This document is published quarterly by First UU's Director of Community Life. Please report updates, changes or corrections to Suzette Southfox at (619) 298-9978 or email suzette@firstuusandiego.org