

MINISTRY TEAM MAGAZINE



Spring 2010



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO



Worship and Program's Earth Centered Spirituality Circle leading a May Pole Dance.

The business of First UU Church of San Diego is to create whole human beings who heal the world. We do this through the various activities of our seven Ministry Teams. A Ministry Team is like a smaller neighborhood within the larger church community. The members and friends of this church work, play, laugh, create, help, heal, love and transform together through the work of the following Ministry Teams:

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

Inside this magazine you'll find the groups that make up each Ministry Team. 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.

www.firstuusandiego.org

(619) 298-9978

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

- Lay Ministers
- 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



Dynamic Duos tour of Chicano Park.

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 and TBD

- All Church Camp
- Affinity Groups
- Community Building
- Dynamic Duos
- Hospitality
- Kitchen
- Membership
- Men's Fellowship
- Neighborhood Groups
- Singletarians
- Spiritual Friendship Groups
- Unitarian Universalist Women
- 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



Living our UU values throughout the world.

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 Benita Berkson

- Denominational Relations
- Friends of de Benneville Pines
- Partner Church



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, Karen Walter, Director of Operations, and George and Louise Klinke.

- Book Room
- Grants Panel
- Planned Giving
- Channing Society



ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES AT FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO.

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.

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.

Book Room *Generosity 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.

Chalice Choir - *Adult Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Performs three times a month at Sunday Services and leads festival services with instrumental ensembles twice a year.

Channing Society *Generosity Ministry Team*

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

Children's Choir - *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

A basic music-learning experience for children ages 4 ½ to 9 based on music from many world traditions. Age
-appropriate vocal technique is taught, and this group sings several times throughout the church year.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Environmental Justice *Social Justice Ministry Team*

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

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."

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 common ground among all people of good will.

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.

JUUL Tones Vocal Ensemble - *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

An auditioned vocal ensemble of people from high school age and up, singing a wide variety of styles of choral music. In addition to outreach performances, the ensemble sings monthly for Sunday worship.

Kitchen *Community Life Ministry Team*

Maintains and coordinates two highly used kitchens. Manages the Sunday social hour after each service.

Las Campanas Handbell Ensemble - *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Our advanced musical ensemble of adults that rings three-octave sets of handbells and hand chimes. It offers musical beauty to our Sunday worship and does community outreach.

Lay Ministers *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. Provides Sunday caring listening presence.

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.

Continued....

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.

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 (SDOP) *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.

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. Provides phone outreach and loans medical equipment.

Rainbow Action *Social Justice Ministry Team*

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

Reproductive Rights *Social Justice Ministry Team*

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

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.

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.)

Spiritual Friendship 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 (formerly known as Covenant Groups.)

UUBellation Handbell Ensemble – *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Our entry-level ensemble of adults that rings three-octave sets of handbells and hand chimes. It offer musical beauty to our Sunday worship and does community outreach.

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 *Social Justice Ministry Team*

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

Unitarian Universalist Women *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.

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 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. Tuesday nights 7 to 9 pm.

Youth Choir - *Worship & Program Ministry Team*

Junior and senior high youth learn four-part music, theory, and vocal training. They perform monthly during Sunday services.

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.



Donations collected at our South Bay campus in Chula Vista, heading to earthquake victims in the Mexicali Valley, across the border.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS GROWTH & LEARNING



Easter Egg hunt on the plateau above the canyon.

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 Patty Hinojosa

- Adult Religious Growth & Learning
- Archives
- Children's Religious Education
- Family Ministry
- Leadership Development
- Library
- Unitarian Cooperative Preschool
- Youth Programming

SOCIAL JUSTICE



First Church supports Immigrant Rights.

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, and 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, Bonny Russell, and Social Justice Ministry Team Coordinator, Kristen Kuriga. The Leadership Council is made up of one representative from each Action Group and Affiliate.

Action Groups

- Clean Elections
- Environmental Justice
- Organizing for Justice (SDOP)
- Peace and Democracy
- Rainbow Action
- Reproductive Rights
- South Bay Social Justice and Service Task Force

Affiliates

- Caring Council
- Freedom to Marry
- Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice
- Network of Spiritual Progressives
- UPTOWN Faith Service Center
- UU Legislative Ministry California
- UU Service Committee

WORSHIP & PROGRAM



Youth performing during a Worship Service.

Mission

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 Roger Lundbohm

- Art Guild
- Buddhist Sangha
- Choirs (*Chalice, Bell, Children, Youth*)
- Communications Action Group
- 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!

ONE CHURCH, TWO WORSHIP SITES!

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



Standing on the side of love at the border wall on the Mexican side.

Services Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
at
970 Broadway
Chula Vista, CA 91911

www.uusouthbay.org

For more information on our church site in the South Bay,
South Bay Ministry Coordinator
Mar Cárdenas-Loutzenhiser, M.Ed
Martha@firstuusandiego.org
(619) 298-9978

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; and
- 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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Celebrating and blessing the launch of our South Bay Worship Site.

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