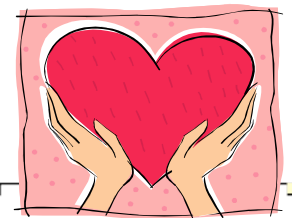


Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia



February 2006 Newsletter

From the Editor: *“That best portion of a good man’s life - his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love.”* From “Tintern Abbey” by William Wordsworth

February Services: 5:00 pm worship service followed by a potluck

February 5: “Candlemas”, presented by Marilyn Giese

February 12: “Sex and Aging”, presented by Dr. Jim Yates
Followed by Social Justice meeting during potluck.

February 19: “Abraham Lincoln - The Realities and The Myths”, presented by David Hodges
Preceded by UUF Board meeting at 3:30 p.m. and followed by newcomer’s orientation.

February 26: “Evensong Gathering Two: Religious & Spiritual Experiences” presented by April Hill

Energy Conservation

In early 2005, the UU Fellowship of Visalia accepted a challenge started by the Portland UU Church – “The 1-2-3 Campaign to reduce Global Warming”. Have you?

- Lowered your thermostat by 1 degree in winter & increase by 1 degree in summer
- Slowed your driving speed by 2 MPG
- Replaced 3 regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs

Do your part to clean up the environment and more! Learn about the Social Justice Committee’s “Green Sanctuary” proposal.

Publicity

The Grassroots Regional Marketing Group has received a PCD Chalice Lighter grant to develop a portal web site for the “mountain-valley” congregations, which include Visalia, Porterville and Fresno, and ranges north to Reno. They plan to invest in radio advertising to send visitors to the portal site and then to the websites of individual congregations, and hope to have ads running as early as February.

Membership - If you have changes for the address list or would like to be added as a regular visitor, please talk with or e-mail info@uuvisalia.org. If you would like to learn what it means to be a member of the Visalia UU Fellowship or to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, please join us after service at potluck on February 19 or arrange an appointment with April.

Ongoing Events

- * UUFV Board Meeting - 3:30 on third Sunday of month at Visalia Friends Meeting House
- * Meditation – PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME 6:00-7:00PM at Kaweah Rehab Center, Visalia with Rick Meyers (speechguy47@hotmail.com).
- * South Valley Peace Center - 2nd & 4th Sundays at Visalia Friends Meeting House. 1-4PM. Peace Rallies on the 1st Sunday of each month on the northwest corner of Mooney and Walnut. Check www.svpc.org for more information.
- * Sierra Club-Mineral King Group. Socials 2nd Wed. of month. (<http://kernkaweah.sierraclub.org/mineralking/>)

* Friends of Tulare Co. Library Meetings - Second Monday, upstairs meeting room at Visalia Library

Special Events

February 17, 2006 (Friday) – 7:00 p.m. at COS. Erin Rogers of Union of Concerned Scientists will be speaking on the **Impacts of Global Warming on the Central Valley**. She will also discuss the related lawsuit with the major automakers. Visit <http://www.ucsusa.org/> to learn more about the Union of Concerned Scientists. This talk is cosponsored by the South Valley Peace Center, Sierra Club Mineral King Group, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia, Tulare County Audubon Society, and the Visalia Democratic Club. Ms. Rogers will be speaking at the College of the Sequoias Lecture Hall, Room 350, 915 S Mooney Blvd, Visalia.

SAVE THE DATE

March 11, 2006 (Saturday) – 9:00 -@11:30 a.m. Crop Walk raises awareness about hunger in our midst, raises funds for Food Link of Tulare County and for disaster relief efforts of Church World Service. Walkers collect pledges and walk a route around downtown Visalia down Main Street and past Rescue Mission, Emergency Aid, Good News Center, CSET, Samaritan Center. Good fellowship, exercise and “walking the talk”. Last year Visalia UU Fellowship donations were \$565 – can we increase?? Please contact Don or April to receive a pledge envelope. Sponsors may make contributions on-line at www.cropwalk.org under the California/ Visalia Cropwalk page.

March 18, 2006 (Saturday) – PCD Leadership School Reunion @ Starr King Church, Hayward. For additional information please contact Drew Wilson at dandjwilson@comcast.net.

April 28-30, 2006 – PCD District Assembly – Concord Hilton (<http://www.pcd-uua.org/DA-2006.pdf>)
Come join us as we welcome UUA President Rev. William Sinkford, SF Chronicle columnist Jon Carroll (author of Unitarian Jihad!) and Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker along with 400 Festive and Feisty UU's from all over the Pacific Central District! You can make your hotel reservation at www.Hilton.com or by calling 1-800+HILTONS. Be sure to tell them that you are with the UU District Assembly to get our special rate! Reservation material will be released by the end of January 2006. For additional information contact the PCD office at pcd@pcd-uua.org or 510+601-1437 or see the [District Assembly web site](#)

June 21-25, 2006 – UUA General Assembly, St. Louis, MO. For additional information www.uua.org/ga.

July 22-29, 2006 – PCD Leadership School @ Westminster Retreat Center, Alamo, CA. For additional information see www.pcd-uua.org/pcldrshp/pcdleadershipschool.htm or talk with Debbie, April or Don.

General Interest

Several South Valley Peace Center members have formed an editorial writing group called Progressive Writers Bloc. Editorials are submitted to local papers and archived on progressivewritersbloc.com. If you are interested in participating, write an editorial (500-1000 words) and send it to [David Chandler](mailto:David.Chandler@svpc.org).

Teaching Tolerance is a magazine published by Southern Poverty Law Center, which seeks to create a national community committed to human rights. Tolerance.org is their Web site. Their goal is to awaken people of all ages to the problem of hate and intolerance, to equip them with the best tolerance ideas and to prompt them to act in their homes, schools, businesses and communities. They offer a program and brochure called “Speak Up! – a Guide to Interrupting Everyday Bias and Bigotry” to download at <http://www.tolerance.org/speakup/index.html> or request as a mailed print copy.

VISALIA UU FELLOWSHIP – Please visit our updated website www.uuvisalia.org

UU Visalia Officers (2005-06):

President - Don Chapin
Vice President - April Hill
Secretary - Pam Meyers