



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO

Rev. ARVID STRAUBE, Senior Minister ♦ Rev. KATHLEEN OWENS, Associate Minister
ELIZABETH M. JONES, Dir. of Religious Education ♦ KENNETH HERMAN, Dir. of Music ♦ THELEST STEWART, Church Administrator

*Happy UU
Anniversary!*

August, 2007

Dear Church Member,

On behalf of the staff of First Church, I'm writing to acknowledge that this month marks the **XX** anniversary of your formal membership with First UU Church of San Diego. Happy UU Anniversary! I am deeply grateful that you are part of this dynamic and meaningful community.



In your time here, I hope you have found a personal path, and that your spiritual and social life has been nourished, comforted and challenged. Some folks spend each and every Sunday on our campus, while others attend when they can. Perhaps you have recently taken (or even taught) a class in the Religious Education program or have been part of one of the many active groups in our seven Ministry Teams. You may be wondering about ways to deepen your involvement or you may be planning on making a change in your regular activities. You may even be considering a "sabbatical" from your current level of involvement. I'd like to support you on your journey.

Most people feel that the deeper they become involved with this church, the more meaning and support they receive. I hope that you have found meaning in your membership with First UU Church, whether you attend regularly or occasionally (or both). I also hope that you have found a place within this large, busy congregation where you feel at home and able to add your voice and your hands to the work of making this a better world.

If you are looking for a way to become more involved, or are seeking a different level of involvement I would be honored to help you. For new members, we have a process of meeting with them to discern their Gifts (skills, interests and needs) in order to best connect them with people and programs here. For folks that are already members and may have not found a niche, this sort of connection may be very helpful. If you would like to meet with me, either in person or on the phone, I would be delighted to help you along your Unitarian Universalist path.

If you are in need of spiritual or emotional support, we have a wonderful team of trained Lay Pastoral Care Associates available. In fact, there is one available in the Meeting House every Sunday after each worship service. You can also make an appointment with one of our ministers. If you are in need of practical

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Revs. CAROLYN & THOMAS OWEN-TOWLE, Ministers Emeriti

support such a ride to a medical appointment or help with shopping during a recovery from illness or injury, you can contact our Practical Care Support Network at (619) 298-9978 extension 8011. We also have an emergency pastoral cell phone which the ministers keep with them at all times. If you find yourselves in an emergency situation needing ministerial support, you can call (619) 370-0891.

As you know, our church hosts a number of different Unitarian Universalist groups. Each group is sheltered under one of seven ministry teams. Those teams are: Caring, Community Life, Denominational Affairs, Generosity, Lifespan Religious Growth & Learning, Social Justice, and Worship & Program. There are over 70 individual groups which include a theater company, a book club, a meditation group, a pagan circle, humanist discussion group, anti-racist soul work, peace and democracy events, couples social events, LGBT rights, a concert series, and voluntary simplicity among others. You can find a complete listing of all of the groups in our **Ministry Team Magazine** at the Generosity Table on Sunday. Another way to learn about the many activities is by viewing our Annual Report. This year our report is full of wonderful photographs. You can access this on our website at www.firstuusandiego.org, just click on the Events page and follow the link to the 2007 Annual Report. If you would prefer to view a hard copy, let me know and I'll print you one.

We are always looking for new faces to be Greeters, Docents, Parking Lot Hosts and work the Welcome Table. This kind of volunteering makes an important impact on the way visitors and guests experience our faith community. To pick up one Sunday shift in any of these areas is about 45 minutes of volunteer service each month.

I would love to hear from you on your experience, growth and activities here at First UU Church. You can send me an E-mail or phone me. If you would like to schedule an appointment to further discuss your involvement here, please let me know. There are many, many ways to get involved.

Consider this an open invitation!

With Bright Blessings,

Suzette Southfox
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