

DIALOGUE

Published by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Diego in order to promote love, growth, and right relations both locally and globally.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR WONDERFUL BUILDING & GROUNDS VOLUNTEERS



**Our Youngest Building and Grounds Volunteer:
4.5 year Old
Kellen Heinrichsen**

**How Do I Relate To UUFSD
In This Time of Covid?**
by Julia Darling

How Does Your Garden Grow
by Richard Macdonald

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Rev Jo's Corner



Greetings and blessings UUFSD! This is my first Dialogue column and I am so excited to be with all of you. I really enjoy that you have, not only a weekly newsletter, but a Quarterly periodical in which to communicate and update each other. This is my first experience with a Quarterly Magazine and I love that this is one more way to communicate with you.

The journey is finally at rest for me. After candidating with you last Spring, it felt like eons before I was finally able to find a home and move down here with you. And I've been settling in a little bit more every day. Moving is usually strenuous and anxiety-ridden, and this was a bit of that, but on the whole, with all the moves I have done, it wasn't as bad as some! I've been able to attend Zoom meetings with quite a few committees here and my Committee on Ministry has actually met while social distancing.

It's a precarious avenue to take right now, with the pandemic heading into Fall, many are being very cautious about being in groups. We all so badly want to see each other in person, I know I do, and it adds a challenge to get to know each other when we can't be face-to-face. It's hard to read body language on Zoom, or feel the energy of each other, and that is becoming more and more frustrating for me. I look forward to a long and healthy relationship with all of you and patience has never been one of my virtues so to speak! I have begun to set up appointments individually with members here so that I can get to know you better. I am mostly available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, day or evening and I would be delighted if you all would like to meet and chat over Zoom or even outdoors if you prefer.

This pandemic has posed particularly challenging ways to minister and, I would imagine, to be ministered to. We are rising up to the circumstances I believe however, and it just affords us some creativity to be a congregation together in unusual times. My mother always used to say, "Necessity is the mother of invention," and using that term will allow us the opportunity to complete something in a different way. We are already doing that with our worship services on Sunday mornings and working with our children and youth so that they may still feel a part of our community, and many groups and committees are still meeting, even if it is virtually.

We will be able to accomplish so much together, I have faith! I look forward to learning what UUFSD is and what you all can become. I have always been an optimist and believe that this wonderful collection of members and friends that we have here can reach for the sky!

Blessings to you all,
Rev Jo

We Said Farewell to Christine Lehman

MUSIC HATH CHARMS...

Musicians are like magicians who can conjure up sounds that engage our emotions and carry us away. It takes talent of course, but also hours, weeks, years of sustained effort. Then comes the magic.

For the past four years our wonderful magician at UUFSD has been Christine Lehman, our Director of Music, who will retire from her position at the end of August. Her most visible work at UUFSD has been as director of the Choir and as a frequent Sunday soloist, but behind the scenes she has guided the whole music ministry here, collaborating with the minister, fellowship musicians, and staff.



Chris’s spirited direction of the Choir has built an ensemble of singers glad to be challenged to present inspiring music week after week. She never settled for “pretty good,” but asked for the best of her singers, and her thorough rehearsal skills inspired them to shine.

On Sundays when the Choir wasn’t scheduled, Chris often sang solos. She arranged for music from Fellowship members and guest performers, coordinated with our contemporary music group, The Band, and produced moving holiday services, sing-alongs, and children’s choir performances. When the pandemic closed in-person services, she quickly adapted and ensured we continued to have high quality music during

streamed services. She did it all.

Christine, we are deeply grateful for the beautiful music that has filled our Fellowship for our time together, and for the immense energy and devotion that have characterized your service. You are an inspiration to so many of us in so many ways! We will miss you very much. Enjoy your retirement and somehow keep on making your musical magic.

Dear Chris

I only had a snippet of time to know you. You departed as I was arriving, but the conversations we did have are truly appreciated. I know you did a lot of work for the Fellowship in your years here and I greatly appreciate the short time I’ve gotten to know you. Many blessings and joy for a time in your life where you get to explore new pathways.

My good wishes for your happiness from Rev Jo Green.

Dear Chris,

Working with you at UUFSD has been such a wonderful experience-your depth of knowledge and passion for music and singing is an inspiration. You will truly be missed here. Wishing you all the best.

Love from Katie Klaerich

Music fills the heart and soul and is always a very important part of our UUFSD services. Thank you for leading the choir in making a joyful sound!

Best wishes always, Linda Pratt

We Said Farewell to Christine Lehman

We have been so privileged to sing with and listen to Chris Lehman. She is an expert at putting programs together and bringing them off to accolades. We in the choir are going to miss her exhortations to do our best and then nail it. It was always a great experience.

Betsy

Thank you, my friend, for all the music and all the love. You brought out the very best in all of us, made us sound better than we thought we could, and always made us smile and cry (sometimes at the same time). I will miss singing for you and with you.

With love and deep respect, Alisa Guralnick

Dear Chris,

you are such a good-hearted, supportive person and an amazing Music Director, as well as an incredible singer. I will miss you so much and wish you all the best in the future. Please don't be a stranger.

Love you, Tracey

Dear Chris

You gave our small choir some BIG musical memories. Thank you for making Thursdays nights both educational and fun, with your professionalism and caring spirit! I look forward to your continued presence among us!

With loving appreciation, Karen (Eckhart)

Dear Chris-

Thank you for all you have done as our Music Director. Your professionalism and commitment to quality are obvious in all you do. I especially loved the Music Sunday programs, which expressed your depth of feeling and commitment to social justice. We were so lucky to have you, and I wish you the very best.

Love from Jill Ballard

Dear Chris,

You have brought such beautiful and meaningful music to our Fellowship for these past many years in the two different times you were our Music Director. Not only through our wonderful choir, special guest musicians, creating ways for us to sing in the special sing-alongs you created, but also offering us the gift of your beautiful voice. We have been so fortunate to have you as our Music Director and you leave giant-size shoes to fill! We will dearly miss you. We wish you blessings on your journey wherever it may take you.

Love from Livia & Irv

Meet Our New Music Director

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito is pleased to share some very exciting news!

We are proud to announce and introduce Marshall Voit as UUFSD's next Music Director. (A note from Marshall can be found at the end of this announcement.)

Marshall possesses a unique repertoire of musical talent, education, and experience that we look forward to welcoming into our fellowship. He has a remarkable depth of musicianship and experience as Congregational Music Director at Temple Emanu-El, a Reform Jewish Synagogue in San Diego. Since 2014, he has also worked with UU congregations as a "troubadour," leading worship music with more than 30 congregations throughout the country, including the 2015 UU General Assembly in Portland, OR. He is also a member with the Association for UU Music Ministries with a deep understanding of Unitarian Universalism principles.

With a wealth of talent and inspiration, Marshall is an accomplished vocalist, guitarist, cantorial soloist, with advanced training and skills in music theory, arranging and choral conducting. Holding a Master's Degree in Ethnomusicology from San Diego State University, he firmly believes in music and the arts as a means of empowerment for social justice, community, and change-making.

Through his studies, Marshall has brought people together in song all around the world including: Australia, New Zealand, China, South Africa and most of North America. He has led singing at protests, marches, and other events for progressive social-change campaigns.

Esteemed colleagues describe him as adept in all manners of music, having a charming connection with audiences, able to elevate a person in their vocal abilities, and someone who inspires harmony and comradery.

We look forward to making more music and connection together especially as we all continue to navigate this public health crisis and these uncertain times. We hope you all join us in extending a warm welcome to Marshall.

Dear UUFSD Community,

I greet you with deep gratitude and excitement as I step into the role of music director at the Fellowship. I acknowledge the foundations of a musical culture that Christine nurtured and developed during her time with the congregation, and look forward to exploring and experimenting with communal music making both during this time of physical distancing and also when we transition back into face-to-face interaction. I am particularly looking forward to working with our choir, band, and other volunteer musical groups.

In a famous song, Bill Staines taught us that "All God's critters got a place in the choir." I really believe that. So no matter what God you believe in, or don't, and no matter what kind of critter you are, please know that I would love to get to know you as part of our choir community, which will resume meeting on Thursday evenings in October.

Thank you to the search committee for this opportunity, and I simply cannot wait to make music with all of you. With love, Marshall



Water Communion Meet & Greet

Shelter in Place Drive-Up at UUFSD Rev Jo and Alison ALG McLeod, RE Director, held a “Drive Up Water Communion” - Saturday, September 5

Our Ingathering Sunday which is our Water Communion Service took place on September 13. Rev Jo has always loved this ritual, and it was different this year because of our shelter-in-place restrictions.

To make this virtual service special, Rev Jo and Alison ALG McLeod (DRE) held a drive up meet and greet on Saturday, September 5, from 9:00 am - 11:00 am. In preparation for the ritual on the 13th, members and friends were asked to bring water and were filmed pouring it into the communal bowl.

Those who could not make the September Drive-Up were encouraged to take pictures of themselves pouring water and Joe Cantrell, our audio visual guru, put them into a movie for our Water Communion Service.



Water Communion Meet & Greet



How Do I Relate To UUFSD In This Time of Covid

How do I relate to UUFSD in this time of Covid?

by Julia Darling

I have participated in UUFSD through zoom in lieu of face to face activities. I enjoy listening and connecting during Sunday services, especially the breakout coffee hour following the services. It has helped me remember it's Sunday when all the days seem to run together. I've also been involved in other UU committees and activities that have kept me going.



How has the UUFSD community made a difference in how I am managing and getting along during this epidemic?

Committee participation has anchored me and I continue to be inspired by many in the Fellowship who adapted to this time, have jumped in to help those in need in different ways, spoken out against injustice and offered special kindness to those among us who needed a leg up. Watching some of our strong members make a difference in our church and the world makes me grateful and motivated to do more myself. Participation in actions and reflections related to racial justice have strengthened my sense of purpose and connection to living my UU values of dignity and justice for everyone.

I have also continued to participate in our weekly meditation meetings via zoom. I meditate more (having more time at home) and the teachings on living with uncertainty (among other things) have made a big difference in coping day to day.

Having some informal contacts with UU members has been a relief and very important in feeling connected. Continuing our Sacred Circle helped as well. Also, I have taken advantage of flowers being offered to brighten the space where I am spending so much time.

I appreciate having such a long standing relationship with this community to help through what could be a very isolating time. Thank you all.



A Tribute to Our Wonderful Building and Grounds Crew



During the lockdown we have performed a tremendous amount of work to help maintain our sacred space with the limited amount of volunteers. It was relaxing and safe as we kept our social distance in the outdoor environment.

Ed Mlakar, Chairperson, Building and Grounds

July 7

Jim Hagan removed an enormous amount of tree branches & filled the dumpster. Jim also sanded and painted both of the bridges from the parking to the amphitheater last week

Debbie Hecht was there on Monday and performed quite a lot of power washing around the core area.

Ed Mlakar spoke to Blake & Joe Brandley to discuss painting the front stairs and amphitheater benches that also need a lot of prep work to fix the rotting wood. Blake is going for his eagle scout merit badge and is hoping to supply additional volunteers from his troop and may be able to Home Depot to donate some supplies .

Ed Mlakar replaced a few burnt-out path lights.

Jul 17

Charles Alvarez power washed the red brick pavers around the core area while Ed Mlakar repaired a few path lights and replaced batteries in the watering solenoid for the drip hoses around the kitchen. Debbie Hecht was on-site last week and power washed in front of the fellowship hall .

July 21

Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar re-arranged the brick pavers in the Core Area to prevent water building up around the kitchen.

July 22

Betsy Gilpin filled the dumpster with cuttings and dead wood from the path to the two upper classrooms .

Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar designed the plans for the project to fix up the area around the kitchen. This involved replacing & repainting the exterior siding around the kitchen and re-sloping the brick pavers to prevent water build-up.

Ed Mlakar fixed faulty path lights, and started replacing the florescent bulbs with LEDs.



A Tribute to Our Wonderful Building and Grounds Crew



July 29

Betsy Gilpin came in over the weekend and filled another dumpster load of weeds & branches.

Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar worked on the rotting paneling on the kitchen on Tuesday. They cut out rotten parts, replaced the flashing and removed the lower panels.

Aug 1

Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar replaced the damaged exterior paneling on the kitchen.

Michael Scott was there earlier in the week to tune up the irrigation system.

Jim Hagan painted the library bridge after filling in the damaged slats with Bondo.



Aug 4

Over the weekend Betsy Gilpin filled the dumpster with more weeds & brush. Then Jim Hagan compressed the dumpster with 2 additional loads of banana tree fronds.

Jim Hagan refinished the patio set on the minister's patio.

Aug 13

Erilynn and Kellen Heinrichsen got some trimming and weeding done at Pinecones; it definitely was a jungle! Dumpster was full, so they made a pile behind. They will be back next week to do more trimming and weeding.



Aug 16

Chris Faller Ed Mlakar investigated the replacement of the failed water heater in the audio closet next to the restrooms. They cleaned the patios of the Sandy Hill classrooms with the leaf blower and cut brush & weeds.

Jim Hagan started the day filling the dumpster with succulents and filled his Suburban with many loads of weeds, brush & branches that he took to the wood pile.



A Tribute to Our Wonderful Building and Grounds Crew



Aug 28

Stu Anderson, Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar drained the failed water heater while Stu designed the piping and electrical components for the new installation.

Chris Faller cleared-out the closet in Founders hall to make room for the partition construction.

Jon Luft disassembled the storage racks in the closet

Ed Mlakar assembled three new chairs for the Minister, Worship Associate and RE Director, for when we are back with regular services



Sep 1

Betsy Gilpin filled the dumpster half way with weeds and brush and then sanded the front steps.

Jim Hagan removed the failed water heater and hauled it away and then filled in and sanded the front stairs.

Ken Shultz fixed a knocked over path light.

Chris Faller replaced the molding & trim around the new exterior kitchen paneling.

Ed Mlakar filled in & sanded the front steps.

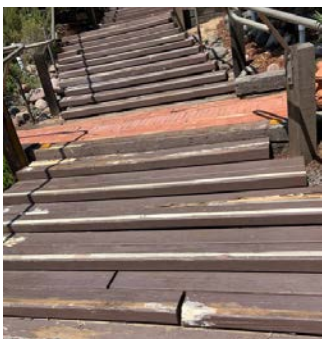


Sep 4

Stu Anderson installed the new water heater, expansion tank and base.

Ed Mlakar repaired the Sandy Hill office door,

Jim Hagan painted the front staircase after filling in the cracks and holes with over 4 gallons of bondo & sanding:



the steps, before & after

A Tribute to Our Wonderful Building and Grounds Crew



Sep 9

Betsy Gilpin sanded the benches in the amphitheater while Ed Mlakar applied bondo to the damaged areas. It seems like a few more days of prep work before the crew can start painting.

Chris Faller and Jon Luft started the Hall partition project as part of the Dream Builders committee.

Sandy Hill purchased a sink and the B&G group will supply a water source. This sink will be located next to the playground so the kids can wash their hands.

Sep 10

Chris faller and Jim Hagan installed the Sandy Hill sink next to the playground

Sep 18

Betsy Gilpin , Ken Shultz & Ed Mlakar completed the first coat paint on the Amphitheater benches.

Sep 19

Jim Hagen cleaned out all of the gutters, the trap, blew everything down, and Re-cemented the bricks in the Amphitheater:

Sep 21

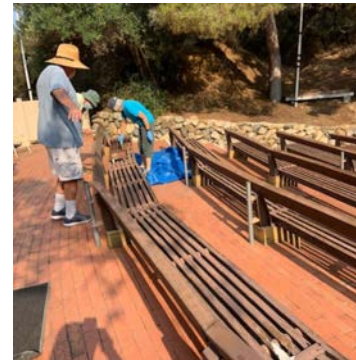
Jim Hagan applied a second coat of paint to the Amphitheater benches.

Sep24

Chris Faller and Betsy Gilpin painted the exterior kitchen paneling. Later Betsy hauled weeds & pine needles to the dumpster.

Jon Luft started sanding the pipe rack between the buildings.

Chris Faller and Ed Mlakar evaluated the Sand Hill office (on the other side of the kitchen) and decided to replace the rotting door jamb.



Still To Do for September/October

- Sand & paint the pipe rack
- Paint the white bricks on the amphitheater steps
- sand & stain the amphitheater keyboard façade
- Fix the 5/8" drywall inside the Sandy Hill office

Our Wonderful Building & Grounds Volunteers

Charles Alvarez , John Luft, Debbie Hecth, Danny Wright, Brian Furby, Betsy Gilpin, Ken Schultz, Greg Brown,, Jim Hagan, Chris Fowler, Nick Baltis, Erilynn, Darren and Kellen Heinrichsen Michael Scott, Kathryn Struch , Stu Anderson, Clint Stoddard, Saren Thompson, Mike & Karen Kowalski. Rich Franzwa, Hanna and Noah Carey, Richard McDonald, Joe and Blake Brandley.

You can join our B&G crew and enjoy working in the great outdoor. Contact Ed Mlaker at:

ed67000@hotmail.com

Social Justice - "Helping Our Neighbors"

"DRIVE THROUGH" TOILETRIES DRIVE FOR CRC

Saturday, November 7 from 9am to 5 pm

Sunday, November 8 from 9 to 10 am and 12pm to 5 pm



We will collect

Toiletries

**Shampoo - Conditioner - Deodorant - Body Lotion - Body Wash
Bar Soap - Sun Screen - Tooth Paste and Brushes - Diapers**

and Small Bottles of

Cooking Oil - Mayo - Mustard - Ketchup - Relish - Spices

This year the drive will indeed be a drive. Just drive to UUFSD with items from the list to the foot of the stairs up to Founders' hall and someone will be there to receive them.

Good places to shop are 99-Cent Store, Dollar Store and Aldi's

Cash & checks (to UUFSD, Memo Line CRC) donations are very much appreciated, the CRC can buy food products from large local food bank organizations for pennies on the dollar.

Cartoon Courtesy of Edward Himelblau



**Outdoor
Services
with
Social
Distancing**



Follow the Signs - Discover Our RE Classrooms



Blake Brandley: One of the final steps in achieving Eagle Rank (the highest rank for Scouts) is to choose a service project for the benefit of my community. Similar to my Scout training, the RE program at UUFSD also has taught me so much about being a good person. So, when the time came for me to perform my Eagle service project, I knew I wanted to do something for UUFSD and heard there was a need for directional signs to help parents and kids find their way around campus. I hope everyone likes the new handmade RE classroom signs and thank you Alison and UUFSD for all the support!



Rev Jo: Oh these look great! Thanks so much to Blake for making them! It will help me immensely I know, because I still don't know my way around.

Dale Gottdank, Board of Directors I can't count the number of times over the years that visiting parents have asked about, or even gotten lost, trying to figure out the locations of our RE classrooms



How Does Your Winter Garden Grow?

My Winter Garden

by Richard Macdonald

We are heading into one of my two favorite times of year -- the Fall (the other is Spring). The tourists are gone, the weather is moderate, and it is again time to remake the garden. We are fortunate in southern California that we have two growing seasons -- summer and winter. (Where I grew up, winter was snow on the ground and no garden.) Since our climate is Mediterranean (which means dry summers and rainy winters), we have to think about what to plant, and when. Let me give you an idea what is in my garden as I write this note (September 2020), and what I expect to plant for the winter harvest.



My summer crop of peaches, plums, and early apples (Golden Dorset & Anna) are all eaten or frozen; my figs are just ripening now, and I need to protect them from the fruit flies and fig beetles with ripening bags (see picture).

My avocados are still on the tree to be harvested starting in December, and my fall apples (Fuji & Pink Lady) are not ready yet. My tomatoes are almost finished, zucchinis are still coming, and the melons are all gone. Peppers will continue for longer. I took cuttings of tomatoes to replant some varieties, but the warm weather may not last long enough to ripen those tomatoes.



But the winter garden is really what is on my mind these days, and what I want to tell you about. My for-sure winter crop is broccoli, cauliflower, peas, onions, lettuce, arugula, spinach, kale. These all do well for me. I have terrible trouble with root vegetables -- carrots, radishes, beets, turnips, and parsnips. The leaves grow big and tall, but the roots are barely formed, so I don't plan them much. My family loves Brussel sprouts, but they do not form tight sprouts for me -- they open up into leaves all along the stem! And invariably they have aphids that then attack other members of the family too. We like to eat cauliflower and some cabbage, but the plants are so big and only yield one head per plant, that I hesitate to use the space they take up (plus they are inexpensive to buy).

Finally as winter comes into spring, my asparagus will begin to come up in their beds. That is a sure sign of returning spring, and time for another transition in the garden.

I would be excited to show you my garden, and visit yours, even during Covid (outdoors with social distancing). We could share our best practices and learn from each other."

HAPPY GARDENING!! Rich Macdonald, coastal Encinitas ridumac@gmail.com

From Irv Himelblau: I consult with Rich at the beginning of every planting season. Take him up on his offer, he is very knowledgeable and helpful.

Stay Connected

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Wants You to Stay Connected!

Sundays at 10:00am - Worship Service via Zoom and YouTube

Sundays at 4:00pm Young Adult Group Contact Alison A.L.G. McLeod at alison@uufsd.org

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 6:00pm Storytime with Alison Contact Alison A.L.G. McLeod at alison@uufsd.org

Tuesdays at 7:00pm R.E. High School Youth Group Contact Alison A.L.G. McLeod at alison@uufsd.org

Wednesdays at 9:30am Mindfulness Meditation Contact Livia Walsh at mindfulnessmeditation@uufsd.org

Second and Fourth Wednesdays of each Month Women of the World Contact Marylou Schultz at schltzfmly@cox.net

Fridays at 10:30am Buddhist Meditation Contact Janet at janetmelugin@gmail.com

Fridays at 7:00pm Emerging Adults Contact Alison A.L.G. McLeod at alison@uufsd.org

Saturdays at 4:00pm Middle School Coming of Age Contact Alison A.L.G. McLeod at alison@uufsd.org

First and Third Thursdays of each Month Buddhist Sangha Contact Bob Isaacson at buddhistsangha@uufsd.org

Ministry Drive Up Sessions

Cartoon Courtesy of Edward Himelblau



During the time of Covid 19, it is easy to feel isolated and apart. Seeing each other on Sundays during services and during the break out rooms afterwards has been so fulfilling. But we miss seeing you in person. Reverend Jo and Alison ALG McLeod will be hosting "Drive Up's" the first Saturday of each month, This is an opportunity to come say hello and see one another at a socially responsible distance. At these visits, Rev Jo and Alison will be handing out something to every household. For families with children, it will be a packet or box that holds all of the handouts and art projects for all of the RE classes that month for their specific age group. For households who do not have children or youth in Religious Education classes, you will be getting a packet of materials based on the monthly worship theme that Reverend Jo has chosen. These packets can be mailed to you if you can't make the "drive up" hours. We are so looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, October 3 and every first Saturday of each month thereafter until we can gather together again