



# Pacific Unitarian Church

A Unitarian Universalist Community

Committed to the Free and Responsible Search for Truth, Meaning, and Service

## The View



March 29, 2012

Deadline: Each Wednesday at noon

Hi,

...THE VIEW FROM PUC is inTENDING to give you the latest news about everything PUC!! Find out about what's happening here @ PUC...REEEEEAAAD AAALL ABOOUUTT IT!

If you're having trouble reading the View in your email, [click here to download the PDF version](#)

Please send all VIEW submissions to [Newsletter@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:Newsletter@pacificunitarian.org)



### Minister's Message

#### Tender Mercies

Our spiritual theme for April is **Tending**. Tending is derived from the middle English word *tenden*, which means to *lean towards another*. It has the same root as attentive and tender. It is a fitting word for this time of the year when we see new life bloom and we are reminded of the resurrection of life all around us. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey the Sunday before Passover, he was tending to a new truth that heaven would be made real on earth when those who were forgotten by the rich were remembered by God and made whole again. The Palm Sunday march into Jerusalem is a bittersweet journey; those who hailed him as the Messiah believed the day of God's tenderness had come, but he and his followers most likely knew they would meet a violent end. Still he came.

Tending for those in need is not always easy and often requires a great deal of courage. The broken among us don't always understand their own brokenness and we struggle to find the best way to help whether caring for those we know or those who we don't. If we are struggling ourselves it often so difficult to ask others to tend to our needs. Leaning in is often messy work. But it is necessary to our faith in the worth of others.

There are so many ways to tend to each other and ourselves. Acknowledging our own need for tenderness is the first and most important step. Tenderness beyond ourselves involves a willingness to offer what help we can and to recognize when we can no longer help. Tending your church means that you come as often as you can, offer to help and provide money to support our vision of a better world. Later this month we will be asking each member and friend to make a monthly financial commitment to the Church. This too is what it means to tend.

### This Sunday

**9:30 AM: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Forum:**  
A UU Exploration of Last Month's  
Theme: **TRUTH**

10:30 AM Service  
**Fools & Heroes**  
Rev. John Morehouse

9:40 AM Choir Warmup - H

11:30 AM 1st SUUnDay PotlUUnck  
BrUUnch - **CANCELLED**

11:45 AM Kids' Choir Rehearsal -  
CR1

12 PM Coming of Age Affirmation  
Mtg - V

6:30 PM Books In Our Lives  
Covenant Group - L

7 PM [Meditation Circle w/ Randy -  
H](#)

*Nobody signed up to bring  
Sunday's Flowers (SEE BELOW)  
—Craig Block*

**UUncle Sam Wants You (to Bring  
Flowers...)**

*Is it Your Turn to Bring Flowers on  
Sunday Morning?!?! Plenty of  
dates are still available:*

**April 1, 15, 22, 29**

**May 6, 13, 20, 27**

**Please contact the [PUC Office](#) to  
reserve yours!**

As Easter breaks upon us, let us remember that wisdom comes from the most unexpected corners of our world. As I handed some money to a homeless man on the street the other day and met his eyes he said, 'bless you my brother and may God keep you in his tender mercies'.

Tenderness indeed.

See you in Church,

—Rev. John

[Minister@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:Minister@pacificunitarian.org)

### **ARE Presents: Pathways to Love Workshop: 12-2 PM, Saturday, March 31**

Julie Orlov, MSW, MAOL will be following up her March 111 sermon with a workshop on the four stages of relationships. The workshop is \$15 /person and 50% will go to PUC General Fund. Purchase of the book or workbook is not required to attend the workshop. Please sign up in the PUC Office or via email [ARE@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:ARE@pacificunitarian.org).

—Kathy Rickey

### **Celebrate the Gift of Giving (Food to Those In Need)**

For many months it's been fun to put our hands together and provide a bridge for the children to walk under as they head to RE. This past Sunday, March 25 was the last day we will do this.

The reason for the change is that the children will be too busy collecting (healthy, hearty) food items, toiletries and household goods that yoUU, our congregants, will bring to help increase PUC's support for those in need. It also will be an excellent way to teach our children the gift of giving.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 1** (no April fool's joke), to remind you to bring an item for the children to collect as we sing them off to RE.

—Brad Shreve, on behalf of the Social Justice Committee

### **It's Time to Fill Up the Ea\$ter Egg\$ to Benefit Our 3 Social Service Partners!!**

Easter is fast approaching and you know what that means! A special Guest will come to PUC and help the RE kids with their festivities. What YOU can do to help in these festivities ahead of time is to fill the plastic Easter eggs you will see at the RE Information table starting **THIS SUNDAY, April 1**. Each year we ask the Congregation to put any spare change or dollar bills (of any denomination) into the eggs. We save them and the kids collect them during the Egg Hunt Easter Sunday. The children turn in their bags in exchange for a goodie bag, the Voyagers count the money, and we divide it up between the 3 Social Service Providers that PUC sponsors in San Pedro...*Toberman Learning Center, Rainbow Women's Shelter, and Harbor Interfaith Services.*

It's a win-win!! You don't need to bring any eggs....we provide them. So see you at the table **April 1**.

Thank you in advance,

—The RE Committee

### **PUC de BENNEVILLE PINES RETREAT IS A GO!!!!**

**We have our Camp Dean and are now seeking a team to help Andy Kissner (THANKS ANDY!!!) plan and organize this wonderful weekend in Nature.**

Watercolors by PUC's  
Watercolor Workshop  
invigorate PUC's Art Wall  
through  
Sunday, April 22.



**3/31, 10:30 AM: Human Rights  
Forum: Healthcare for All @ The  
UU Church of Long Beach**—

Join Social Justice Committee  
folks carpooling from PUC to the  
UU Church of Long Beach.

\* Meet at PUC @ 9:30 AM

\* Registration: 10 AM

\* Conference: 10:30 - 3:30 PM

\* \$20 Fee includes lunch

Contact **Lee Ann Hart** for further  
information: 310-378-1763

[http://pacificunitarian.org/heal\\_the\\_world/social\\_justice\\_forum](http://pacificunitarian.org/heal_the_world/social_justice_forum)

**4/29, 6 PM, Celebrate Beltane @  
PUC.** The Iseum of Isis Paedusis  
will hold its Beltane 2012 ritual at  
PUC at 6 PM, **Sunday, April 29.**

em hotep, em ma'at,

—The Iseum of Isis Paedusis

(310) 371-0274

**4/22, 12 noon: The Russians Are**

**Coming...Back!** Reserve your  
tickets NOW for the fabulous St.  
Petersburg Men's Ensemble's 1st  
concert of their California Tour,  
Sunday, April 22 in PUC's  
Henriksen Hall.

Tickets are: \$20 in advance; \$30 at  
the door; \$5 for children. Contact  
**Linn Jackson** for more  
information/to reserve tickets.

**5/12, 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM:  
2012 PV/SOUTH BAY SOLAR  
HOMES TOUR**

The Environmental Priorities  
Network is sponsoring its seventh  
annual Solar Homes Tour in the  
Palos Verdes/ South Bay area on  
**Saturday, May 12, 2012.**

Attending this tour or any home  
included in it will open up a new  
world of technologies to help you to  
participate in a sustainable energy  
economy. [Read More...](#)

*Upcoming Services*

**April's Monthly Theme:**

**TENDING**

The annual PUC All Church Retreat, at our beautiful [Camp de Benneville Pines](#) is coming **June 8, 9, & 10**. We share this weekend with 2 smaller UU congregations, Anaheim and Palomar, which is a great way to meet other UUs in our district as well as our own Church family. PUC has experienced this fUU weekend of rest, relaxation, and renewal since 1991! People of all ages, old and new to our Church, enjoy 48 hours of bliss in the mountains.....they come back refreshed and invigorated...and if they haven't done so yet, many come back and join the Church as their new friendships have been sealed!!

Thank you, and lets start a great beginning for the *next* 20 years of de Benneville joy!

### **Attn: New Members!**

### **New UU Class Class Moved to Wednesday Nights - With a New Start Date: Wed. April 11**

Rev. John will start an 3-week "NEW UU" orientation class starting on **April 11 -- Wednesdays, 7-8:30 PM**. This is a MUST for people new to the Congregation -- newly joined or still considering. Class dates are: April 11, 18 & May 2. Child care provided with advance notice.

At the end of the class we will recognize our newest members during the Sunday Service and they will be invited to continue to meet as a group. In other words, this is a great way to learn about what we believe and then be a part of a Small Group Ministry right away. **Rev. John** will lead most of the sessions.

### **Pot of Gold Filling Up At End of Anniversary Party Rainbow**

The rip-roaring St. Paddy's Day Anniversary Party was an astounding success with \$12,000 raised so far and more to come. But if you missed it, there are still a few silent auction items that will be available for bid on the Patio after Services Sunday. So see **Barbara Paulsen** to sign up.

*Barbara also wants to remind those who have not picked up their auction winnings to do so Sunday.* Bring your checkbook or your credit card.

—Lori Geittmann

### **Social Justice Moves Meeting Time to Friday Afternoons**

The Social Justice Committee is moving its meeting time to the **third Friday of each month** at 2 PM in the PUC Library. Please feel free to join us as we plan our Justice Projects.

Contact [Lee Ann Hart](#) if you have any questions.

### **Tuesday Meditation Circle Ends - Come On Sunday!**

Good news! Since we have ended the offering on Tuesday morning, the 7 PM Sunday night meditation session is accepting new participants!

One experienced mediator just commented, "This is the most effective meditation I've ever attended." And he's attended a lot! (He's very old.)

But he's right because:

~ Chanting cleanses your energy system

~~The presence meditation offers immediate contact with the self as "divine witness" and

~~~Tonglen cultivates compassion ~ for yourself, for your loved ones, for everyone.

## **TENDING**

### **4/1: Fools & Heroes**

The line between the two runs right through each of us; not so unlike Jesus when he rode into Jerusalem.

### **4/8: Easter Interrupts**

The story of Easter gives us a reason to look at our world again.

### **4/15: YRUU Sunday**

### **4/22: Tending the Garden**

### **4/29: Let Water Flow: Justice Sunday**

## **Recurring Events**

### **Sundays**

*Sunday Morning Forums, 9:30 AM, L*

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: A UU Exploration of Our Monthly Theme*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday—Humanist Perspective*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday—Spirituality and UU*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday—[9 AM] 12 Months to a*

*Compassionate Community: A reflection on The 12 Steps to a Compassionate Life*

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday—Choices in a Jar—Delightful*

*Dilemmas (4/29, 7/29, 9/30 & 12/30)*

*YRUU High School Group, 10:30 AM, L*

*All-Church PotLUUck BrUUunch, 1st Sun., P*

*Singles-Family Brunch, 4th Sun., 12:30 PM, Offsite*

*Monthly Town Hall Mtg, 3rd Sun., H*

*Great Books Discussion Grp, 2nd Sun., L*

### **Mondays**

*Tai Chi (Pekich), Mondays, 9:30 AM, H*

*Women's Circle, 4th Monday, 10 AM, L*

*Environmental Covenant Group, 1st Mon.,*

*7:15 PM, L*

### **Tuesdays**

*Addictions & Recovery Ministry Mtg, 2nd*

*Tues., 7 PM, L*

### **Wednesdays**

*Occupy Torrance, Wed. 3-5 PM, O [21323](#)*

*[Hawthorne Blvd. Torrance](#)*

*[Note earlier time]*

*Choir Practice: Wed., 7 PM, H*

### **Thursdays**

*Tai Chi (Beck), Each Thurs., 10 AM, H*

*Seniors Pow Wow to Share How, 3rd*

*Thurs., 11 AM, L*

*Environmental Priorities Mtg, 1st Thurs., 7*

*PM, L*

*Men's Ministry, 7 PM, V*

*Green Sanctuary/Transition Coffee Clatch.*

*2nd & 4th Thurs., 8-9 PM, Catalina Coffee Co.*

### **Fridays**

*Watercolor Workshop, 10 AM - noon, H*

*Friday Afternoon SGM, 2nd & 4th Fri., 1-3 PM, V*

How often are you encouraged to cultivate compassion for yourself? Come and join our communion. See you **Sundays at 7!**

—Randy Goff

## 12 Months to a Compassionate Community

A large group of us have been meeting at 9 AM on the 4th Sunday to reflect upon and discuss Karen Armstrong's book: *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*. It is always a delightful and insightful time. For those of you reading the book but not attending the discussion group, I wanted to let you know some of the things we have been discussing for your own reflection:

### Some sample discussion questions are:

Confucius believed in "a constantly expanding series of concentric circles of compassion" from family, to community, to the state, to the world (p. 43). In what ways does this philosophy apply to our UU philosophy today?

"How can you make your family a 'school for compassion'...? What would life be like if all family members made a serious attempt to treat one another 'all day and every day' as they would wish to be treated themselves?" (p. 71).

We are all imperfect. We are all influenced by our reptilian brain that reacts instinctively to real or imagined threats and can cause us to behave badly. We are all influenced by environmental factors that affect our behavior toward others. We all have a "dark side" (pp.78-79). Does knowing this help or hinder your ability to be compassionate toward others?

If you do not have the book and wish to start reading, please visit the PUC website or [CLICK HERE for a link to purchase the book](#).

—Kathy Rickey

## Film Screening: *FARMAGEDDON, THE UNSEEN WAR ON AMERICAN FAMILY FARMS*

Private screening for legislators and concerned persons at the home of Ray and Carolyn Waters, [615 24th Place, Hermosa Beach 90254](#), at 2 PM, **Wednesday April 11**.

Limited seating, RSVP to **Carolyn Waters**, [cwaters42@gmail.com](mailto:cwaters42@gmail.com).

—Carolyn Waters

## One Grain of Sand Puppet Theater presents:

### *The Mysterious Case of the Missing Star*

**Severin Behnen**, our fabulous Music Director has composed and will be performing music for a puppet show (produced by Severin's wife, Beth Peterson) this **Sunday, April 1** as a part of the *Skirball Center Day of Puppetry*.

The cost of admission to the museum enables you to attend shows throughout the day. Please go to the Skirball website [skirball.org](http://skirball.org) to see a complete listing.

Show Times: 2 PM, 3 PM & 4 PM

2 PM show features Dominique Moody story

3 PM show features Sandra Romero story

4 PM show - if time allows - double feature

*The Mysterious Case of the Missing Star* is a folk-style puppet and mask show with live music. Join three children as they search for a real star and along the way find the true stories of ordinary/extraordinary people in Los Angeles who have experienced great obstacles, and have rebuilt their lives from the fragments through making art, healing lives and environment, and building

7:15, V

*GBLTQ Movie, 2nd Fri., 7 PM, L*

### **Saturdays**

*French Conversation Grp, 2nd & 4th Sat., 10 AM, V. Call Frank Paulsen or Betty Chevron*

*7 Principles/12 Steps Discussion Grp, 11 AM, 2nd & 4th Sat., CR #1.*

## **The Week At a Glance**

### **Thursday, March 29, 2012**

7 PM Men's Ministry - V

### **Friday, March 30, 2012**

10 AM Watercolor Wkshp - H  
12:30 PM Burke Lunch @ Scottie's - O [TS]

### **Saturday, March 31, 2012**

12:30 PM Pathways to Love Wkshp-H  
2 PM Membership Task Force - V  
1 PM Free Quilting Class w/ Kellie-L  
4 PM New Member Reception - P

### **Sunday, April 01, 2012**

9:30 AM Forum: UU Exploration of Monthly Church Theme - L  
9:40 AM Choir Warmup - H  
10:30 AM Sunday Services-H  
11:30 AM 1st SU Uday PotlUUCK BrUUnch - **CANCELLED**  
11:45 AM Kids' Choir Rehearsal - CR1  
12 PM Coming of Age Affirmation Mtg - V To Be Rescheduled  
6:30 PM Books In Our Lives Covenant Group - L  
7 PM Meditation w/ Randy Goff - H

### **Monday, April 02, 2012**

9:30 AM Tai Chi [Pekich] - H

### **Tuesday, April 03, 2012**

8:30 AM Aerobics - H  
10 AM Meditation w/ Randy Goff - L  
2:30 PM Practicing UU Covenant Grp - L  
6:30 PM RE Committee - Panera Bread  
6:30 PM Stewardship - L

### **Wednesday, April 04, 2012**

1 PM Staff Meeting - L  
3:30 PM Worship Team - V  
7 PM Choir Practice - H  
7 PM NEW UU Class w/ Rev. John -L

### **Thursday, April 05, 2012**

8:30 AM Aerobics - H  
10 AM Tai Chi [Beck] - H  
7 PM Men's Ministry - V  
7:30 PM Strategic Planning Committee - O [Bosler]  
7:30 PM Env. Priorities Network - L

## **First Sunday Hospitality**

**Potluck Brunch: Has ended - Please DO NOT bring potluck**

community. Both fun and poignant, the show is for all ages.

This episode will begin with the story of Tikkun Olam, and will feature artist Simon Rodia, who built the Watts Towers; Dominique Moody who lost her sight, but creates a life of great vision; and the making of Mama, the story of Sandi Romero of Mama's Hot Tamales who works to bring about peace one tamale at a time.

### *Around the District and Beyond...*

#### **District Assembly - "Beyond Borders" in Los Angeles**

Please visit the [PSWD website to register](#) for this year's District Assembly: "Beyond Borders", **April 27-28** at [First UU Church, Los Angeles](#).

Registration is \$75.00 for both days and \$60.00 for Saturday if paid before April 6. There are over 20 workshops to choose from and the Keynote Speaker is author, musician, artist and NPR commentator Ruben Martinez. *Please let Kathy Rickey know if you would like to be a delegate.* [www.pswduua.org](http://www.pswduua.org).

#### **Justice GA is Coming to Phoenix June 20-24, 2012, Are YoUU? - Registration Is Underway!**

There will be something for everyone at this GA, no matter where you may be in the spectrum of social justice work - whether you're just beginning and coming to learn, or whether you're a seasoned activist - there will be programming and opportunities for you to have meaningful involvement.

**Registration, Housing Reservations and much more information about the upcoming Justice General Assembly is available at [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).**

***food this Sunday, April 1...No joke!!!***

**Ushers:** George Yenoki &  
Tracy Blender

**Welcome Table:** Marty Gorman

**Greeters:** Nancy Hofland &  
Kathy Rickey

**Pacific Unitarian Church**  
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**Sunday Service @ 10:30 AM**  
**Office Hours: Sun.: 9 am - 3 pm**  
**Mon. - Thurs: 10 am - 4 pm**

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