

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

February 2017

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Two Service Times each Sunday: 9:45 A.M. or 11:30 A.M.**

Social hour is between the two services; either stay after the first service, or come early to the second one.

Religious education classes for all children and teens are offered during the 9:45 A.M. service.

Nursery care is available for both services.

### FEBRUARY THEME: IDENTITY

**February 5      Who Are You?**  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

*A sense of clear, compelling and shared mission anchors strong religious communities, especially those like this one, not bound by a creed, dogma or prescribed rituals. What is the purpose or mission of UUCM? What is the source of its identity? And is community a means, an end, a consequence or a source of its mission?*

**February 12      The "Love People"**  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Kristin Famula, Benjamin McPherson and Chuck Champlin

*A Full Community service exploring what it means to be identified as "the Love People," as a community and as individuals in community.*

**February 19      The Ever-Increasing Racial Divide:**  
*How did we get here? What's the way out?*  
Bill Drake and Jamal Walker

*Facilitators with Creating Communities Beyond Bias, Jamal and Bill return at the invitation of UUCM's new Racial Justice Task Force to help us continue our learning.*

**February 26      Title To Be Determined**  
Worship Committee

*This service is still in planning stages by our talented worship committee, and will be announced later in the month.*

### MARCH THEME: RISK

## February Pasties with the Pastor! THURS, FEBRUARY 23, 5-6:30 P.M. AT UUCM

Our neighbors, the members of the Grass Valley United Methodist Church, make delicious pasties as a fundraiser each month. I will purchase 10 pasties once again, and I invite you to join me for a free-wheeling, open-ended conversation over a simple pastie supper.

This is a chance to help me know what you are thinking and feeling and wondering, what requests, questions, and feedback you have for me, and whatever else comes up.

Nine pasties are available (on me) to the first 9 people who RSVP for one. Anyone else is welcome to bring your own brown bag supper. I look forward to hearing from, eating with and conversing with you.

- Rev. Kevin

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa  
UUCM Minister

## Panning for Gold

### Who are you?

Someone reminded me recently of a very powerful exercise. One person asks another, "Who are you?" Upon receiving the first answer, the person asks again, "Who are you?" And again, "Who are you?" And so it goes, after each answer, the question, "Who are you?"

The initial set of answers starts at the surface, usually, then answers get creative, clever even, in cycles of new categories. As the unrelenting question continues, answers go deeper and deeper, if a person is willing, and become surprisingly honest and revelatory, past the usual cautious boundaries and into a rare vulnerability.

In my own experience, if this goes on long enough and deeply enough, a silence comes eventually, an emptiness that holds no verbal answers, and in that silence arises an unexpected new awareness. A startling and transformative new sense of self. Or of no-self.

It is an incredibly intimate exchange, this simple questioning, this revealing, this receiving and witnessing of arising answers.

The partners exchange roles, and the questioner becomes the questioned. "Who are you?"

Underneath and through all the services and meetings and agendas and tasks in a community like UUCM, threads this question. Who are you? At our best, we continually ask the question of one another and continually stay open to one another's evolving answers. At our best we move past our own clever replies and risk revealing something more vital to our sense of self, as someone receives and witnesses our replies. Once in a while, at our best, we exhaust our known responses and reach the place of no known answers and we discover something remarkably unexpected and transformative.

UUCM may get a chance to follow this rhythm. We enter this month's theme of "identity" as you prepare to discern together the mission of the congregation. We will move, in March, to the theme of "risk," inviting a courageous vulnerability, and in April to the theme of "transformation."

To begin, I invite you simply to spend time this month with the question, "Who are you?" Answer it again and again. Find your way down through your own layers of self, surfacing all the answers en route. And as you interact with one another, ask the question in your heart, so that as you engage someone else, you are listening, really listening, for what that person is telling you about who they are.

And then, ask the question of UUCM, in your imagination as well as your observation. Work your way down through the layers of answers, spoken or seen or intuited. See if you can get to the place of no known answers. See what unexpected awareness arises.

*- Rev. Kevin*

### Singing Meditation Circle Begins

**THURS., FEB. 2, 7:30-9 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

Singing/chanting with others has long been a deep spiritual practice for me, and I am pleased to let you know that a local interfaith colleague, Rev. Donna Glory, and I are teaming up to host a monthly interfaith Singing Meditation Circle on the first Thursday of each month.

Our plan is to host the circle for the next several months and then to see where it goes. For me, this is a self-care venture as well as a chance to connect to other religious groups and the wider community.

We will draw upon music from a variety of traditions and sources, teaching the tunes as we go, weaving extended repeating chants and songs with silence. Regarding all the repetition, there is a saying: "The tenth time, the singing begins." Come, enter the moment deeply through song, and let your heart, your spirit and a chakra or two open wide.

### Black Lives Mattering

**BANNER DEDICATION DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 2:00 P.M.**

The Racial Justice Task Force, with the Social Justice Committee, has identified Sunday, February 26 as the date for a public dedication of UUCM's new Black Lives Matter Here/ Standing on the Side of Love banner. Stay tuned for details!

Immediately after the February 12 Town Talk we'll take time for collective conversation regarding how you are feeling about the banner going up.

### REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 10:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.,  
Wednesday: 4 P.M. - 6 P.M. and Thursday: 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.  
*Other times by appointment.*

Contact Rev. Kevin to schedule an appointment:  
[minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or (231) 883-1058

# Membership Committee

## New to UUCM?

### Find out more about Unitarian Universalism and UUCM

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Minister

New to UU and/or UUCM? Join Rev. Kevin for an informal Q&A conversation after both services on **February 5**. (Or contact him any time for a personal appointment – [minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or 530-274-1661.)

Ready to find out more? Sign up for the February sessions: The "Welcome to UU(CM)" morning offers an overview of this religious tradition and this particular congregation. The "UU History" and "UU Principles and Theologies" evenings are chances to delve a little deeper. Each session offers chances both to learn and to connect to others.

**EVERYONE**, from new attendees to long time members, is welcome at any of these events. We'll repeat the series in April.

To RSVP for the Q&As or the February sessions, sign up on Sunday mornings at the Membership Table, or contact the UUCM office: [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org) or 530-274-1675.

## PATH TO MEMBERSHIP (AND MORE)

### WINTER 2017 SESSIONS

#### Question & Answer Conversation:

Sunday, February 5,  
with Rev. Kevin after each service

#### Welcome to UU(CM)

Saturday, February 4, 9 am - 1 PM

#### UU History with Rev. Kevin

Thursday, February 9, 6 - 7:30 PM

#### UU Principles and Theologies with Rev. Kevin

Tuesday, February 21, 6 - 7:30 PM

#### Joining Sunday

Sunday, March 12, both services  
(for those who have decided to join by then)

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathryn Young, chair  
Yolanda Bernasconi, Kathy MacLeod, Claire Miller  
and Marilyn Young

Committee meetings are on the second Tuesday of each  
month at 12:30 p.m. in the Anthony Room

*We're always looking for friendly people... Come join us!*

## Greeters & Ushers are Needed!

By Kathy MacLeod, Membership Committee

If you can commit to greeting and/or ushering once a month or every other month, please let someone at the Membership table know. It's a job that happens while you are already at UUCM, with no lengthy meetings or commitments. We can train you on the spot, but hope to provide a more extensive training soon with Rev. Kevin's guidance.

It's fun and easy and a great way to meet people and help our community. You do not have to be a long-term member to be effective, you just have to be friendly and willing. We need you, please help!

Please contact me if you have questions or wish to volunteer:  
Kathy MacLeod: [horsenana@sbcglobal.net](mailto:horsenana@sbcglobal.net) or 477-5824



## Join the UUCM Hospitality Team!

By Marilyn Young, Coordinator, UUCM Hospitality Hour

Each Sunday we need four to six people to either set up or clean up, and donations of goodies to serve.

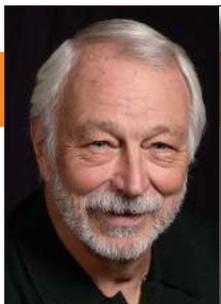
**SET UP:** This is done during the early service from 9:45 to ~10:30. You set the tables, make the coffee, arrange the food on plates and platters, and keep table and carafes stocked during hospitality time. You can then attend the second service.

**CLEAN UP:** Attend the first service, then come back for the Hospitality Hour, and when the second service starts, you clear the tables, put away the food, and clean the kitchen. This should take 30-45 minutes.

**FOOD DONATIONS:** Each week we need donations of two or three sweet treats and two or three healthy treats – preferably dropped off in the kitchen before the first service.

Please contact me at: ([hospitality@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:hospitality@uugrassvalley.org), or 916-203-5962.) If you wish to sign up on line both to work and/or donate food, you can open our on-line sign-up page (\*\*Make sure to click "SAVE" after you enter your availability on this form\*\*): <https://doodle.com/poll/kd5f6egedsqwegir>

## Board Perspective



*Dave MacLeod  
President, Board of Trustees*



*Theresa Houtman,  
Chair, Nominating Committee*

### Governance Working Group

As UUCM continues to grow, it is time for us to assess how we work together and make decisions together to carry out the work of our community. To do this, the Board established the Governance Working Group to research and recommend a governance structure which: is appropriate for our size and culture, allows people to have a voice, clearly defines how decisions are made, and facilitates achieving our UUCM mission.

What is Governance? It is the process of decision-making carried out by the Board, Minister, and Committees on behalf of and for the benefit of the Community. Governance determines the ways in which power and authority are structured in an organization such as UUCM. It also defines who has authority, who makes decisions, how others make their voices heard, and how accountability is determined. Part of a good governance structure is defining appropriate relationships among the Board, Minister, Staff, Committees and other members of our Community.

A governance structure changes as the size and mission of an organization change. The process of decision making in a 'mom and pop' store is different from the process used in a medium-size business, which is different from a large corporation. The same is true for churches.

The Governance Working Group has been busy reading, researching, and gathering information on a multitude of tasks performed at UUCM. The final decision on any changes to our governance structure will be made by the voting Members of our Community. Stay tuned for more info about how you can participate in this effort.

### Your Nominating Committee Seeks Board Candidates

Your Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for the board positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Board Member-at-large in March. We will also be recommending candidates for two positions on our committee.

This will give an opportunity to any who wish to run for offices and are not on the slate, to do so, thus ensuring democratic process. As per our by-laws, candidates can be nominated from the floor at the May meeting, but we hope to give these potential candidates more time to make themselves known and express their hopes for our congregation. The other advantages of this early slate are that we can provide candidates' biographical information for you and there is sufficient time for candidates to answer any questions you may have about their qualifications and visions for our congregation.

We welcome recommendations from the congregation for potential candidates and also would love to hear from those who desire to be considered for positions before our February 27th meeting. Please contact Theresa Houtman, Wally Holtan, Scottie Hart or Robin Hart with your ideas or send an email to [Theresa48@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Theresa48@sbcglobal.net).

## UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017**

Dave MacLeod, *President*      Lindsay Dunckel, *Vice-President*  
Dawn Bateman, *Treasurer*      Corrie Silva, *Secretary*

**Members at Large:**

George Dunstan, Beth Freedman, Kern Hildebrand, Carol Wong

*Board of Trustees meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the Channing Room at UUCM.*

*UUCM members and friends are cordially invited to attend!*

*If you wish to address the board, please give two days notice so the agenda timing can be adjusted.*

## Caring Committee

### Caring Committee Notes

By Gwen Eymann, Chair, Caring Committee

Here in the midst of winter as the cold winds blow and the rain falls, may we find warmth and comfort among the hearts and helping hands of our community.

We share within our community our joys and sorrows. Please keep the following people in your thoughts and in your deeds of kindness:

ANITA WALD-TUTTLE fell and broke her ankle on January 14. She is in a cast and will have several weeks of recovery before she's up dancing again. Please keep Anita in your thoughts. She appreciates phone calls and visits.

OTTO HAUEISEN passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 14. He was a founding member of UUCM and he turned 102 years old on January 1. He positively touched so many lives and he will be missed. No memorial date has been set at this time.

GAIL JOHNSON VAUGHAN asks that we keep her family in your thoughts. Gail's very young great-grandsons have been diagnosed with a rare and incurable neurological disease known as spinal muscular atrophy type 2. The children have been enrolled in a clinical trial at UCSF and are being referred to Shriners Hospital. The family is hopeful and asks that we share that hope and send healing thoughts to these two little boys.

CONNIE WRIGHT was in hospital with an irregular heart beat in mid-January. After being transferred to Roseville and receiving a stent, she is home and doing well. Please hold Connie and Ron close in your thoughts.

LEAL PORTIS is continuing her fight with a recurrence of cancer. She intends to win this battle just like she did her last round with cancer 6 years ago. Leal is no longer driving and could use our support and offers for rides to Sunday Services and doctor's appointments. Leal lives in Nevada City near the Rood Center.

ERNIE JACKSON is 92 years young. He doesn't make it to UUCM events these days, but his spirit is with us. Ernie would love calls and visits from old friends.

SUNNY HOLMES is no longer driving and she appreciates offers for rides to late Sunday Services and other UUCM activities. Sunny lives off Bitney Springs Road.

*The Mountain Chalice* Caring notes come from individuals and from specific notes on our *Joys & Sorrows Cards*. If you do not wish to have your words in *The Mountain Chalice*, please make a note on the card.

## CARING COMMITTEE

Gwen Eymann, *chair*  
Barbara Chesnut, Robin Hart, May Lawrence,  
Anne Lyon, Leal Portis, Corrie Silva,  
and Lynn Whitson

Committee meetings are at 4:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Anthony Room.

If you would like to reach out to members in need with rides, hot meals, home visits and more, please let us know.

Contact: Gwen Eymann, 530-274-7965  
[caring@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:caring@uugrassvalley.org)

## Building & Grounds

### B&G Goes with the Flow!

By Wally Holtan, Chair, Building & Grounds Committee

We started the New Year with a cancellation of the UUCM Work Day due to the Nugget Fringe Festival. I hope some of you took advantage by enjoying this event. As many of you are sure to have noticed, it did impact our building.

The year ended and started with our building being heavily challenged by the weather. The heavy and constant rains stressed the building with its persistent leaks and basement water seepage. Over all we did really well. Mel Berry has been working on fixing the upstairs bathroom window leak. He has reduced the water intake from gallons to cups per day. Three cheers for Mel. The kitchen door leak remains persistent, but we had a roofing company look at the area and are securing a plan to deal with that area when the skies clear in the spring.

Our biggest surprise was a plugging of a sump pump drain in the basement which backed up into the shower upstairs and created a potential water disaster. Thanks to a group meeting on a Sunday night we were notified and Mel, his son, Rev Kevin and David MacLeod were on the spot and developed temporary solution so we did not end up with a complete disaster. The problem was resolved the next day. The one thing about our committee is that there are times when it is never a dull moment.

### JOIN US AT OUR NEXT WORK DAY!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 9:30 A.M. TO 12 P.M.**

Please join us at our February UUCM work day. May I remind everyone again that this is a wonderful opportunity for anyone wanting to volunteer a limited amount of time to make our community a better place for all. Hope to see you there.

# Social Justice News & Activities

## Social Justice News

By Keith Johnson, Chair, Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee continues to develop a revised work plan for 2017 and beyond. The new plan is based on the principles outlined by Reverend Richard Gilbert in *The Prophetic Imperative*. Briefly, Gilbert relies on the creation of congregational task forces to do the work of social justice. At least five UUCM members or friends must commit to working on a social justice issue that touches their heart. As a departure from the existing work plan, the chosen issue need not be limited to economic or environmental justice. But the task force members must demonstrate how their work will incorporate the five pillars of social justice – service, advocacy, education, witness, and organizing.

Note that under the new plan justice is task force driven. The Social Justice Committee acts as a steering committee and helps with financing, strategic planning, and administrative support. But the congregation itself through the creation of task forces is the ultimate authority for social justice at UUCM.

Sound interesting? Do you have a justice issue that calls you? Can you enlist at least four others from the congregation to form a task force? Stay tuned for more information about the revised work plan. For now you may direct your questions to me ([kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com](mailto:kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com)) or any other member of the Social Justice Committee.

## Utah's Place Dinner Crew Needs YOU!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 4:00 P.M.

By Keith Johnson, Chair, Social Justice Committee

UUCM volunteers make dinners at Hospitality House on the third and fifth Fridays of the month. We serve 40 to 60 people at each dinner. We also leave food for breakfast. If you would like to help prepare and serve meals, please contact Keith Johnson at [kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com](mailto:kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com). **Your help is welcome, but PLEASE notify Keith in advance as the kitchen is very small, and can only accommodate a small number of volunteers.**

UUCM is seeking funds to purchase food for the meals. Each dinner costs anywhere from \$150 to \$225. If you would like to donate funds for this worthy cause, please contact me at [kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com](mailto:kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com).



## Social Justice Committee Members Volunteer with SYRCL

By Joel Houtman, Member, Social Justice Committee

Social Justice Committee members have been active as volunteers for the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL). One of the big projects taken on by SYRCL has been to

raise awareness about the highly controversial Centennial Dam on the Bear River proposed by N.I.D. They suggested that we volunteer for the SYRCL outreach booths at the Wild and Scenic Film Festival. The purpose of this effort was to sign up as many film goers as possible as "Damwatchdogs". Their goal was to sign up 1000 "watchdogs".

We organized about 10 members to help in this effort. A total of about 1300 people signed up as "Damwatchdogs". Although the hours were long, we all had a great time interacting with movie-goers. An added benefit was watching the movies at our venues and receiving a ticket for an additional movie of our choice. It was a very pleasurable and rewarding experience for us all.

If you haven't already, you can sign up at: [www.damwatchdog.org](http://www.damwatchdog.org)



UUCM member Bob Branstrom volunteers at the SYRCL booth



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF  
**LOVE**

## Social Justice, cont.

### *“Working with Our Edges; Exploring Prejudice and What Holds Us Back”*

AN AFTERNOON WORKSHOP WITH  
JAMAL WALKER AND BILL DRAKE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2:30 - 4:30 P.M.

UUCM's new Racial Justice Task Force is hosting its second monthly learning event, a workshop with locals Jamal Walker and Bill Drake.

At \$10 per person, this 2-hour workshop is a great investment for those desiring to grow in self-awareness. Through discussion as well as exercises, Jamal and Bill will guide participants through personal and collective learning opportunities. Pass the word. The workshop is open to the public! If you wish, join in a potluck lunch after the second service, before the workshop. If the \$10 workshop fee is prohibitive, please contact Rev. Kevin ([minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or 530-274-1675).

To RSVP for the workshop or to contribute to the potluck, contact Yolanda Bernasconi ([yolandabernasconi@yahoo.com](mailto:yolandabernasconi@yahoo.com)). For more information about the workshop, congregants and community members can contact Yolanda, or Mary Orr ([anniesmum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anniesmum@sbcglobal.net)).

To learn more about Bill and Jamal, see the Creating Communities Beyond Bias website. You can see/hear several interviews at [www.healracism.com/video--audio-recordings.html](http://www.healracism.com/video--audio-recordings.html)

#### *THE PRESENTERS:*

**JAMAL WALKER's** love for social justice work began as a youth when he was introduced to an organization called “New Bridges” at one of their week-long youth camps designed to assist young people in dealing with issues of social and cultural oppression. For a young black man, it was a transformative experience. Jamal has since traveled to several states to facilitate learning on such matters as race, culture, class, and sexual orientation, as well as other social issues.

**BILL DRAKE** was born into a white racist family in the South in 1945, when segregation was the law of the land. Three generations of his ancestors owned slave plantations, and his great-grandfather was a Civil War hero who, as a Mississippi state senator, helped create the Jim Crow era, during which Southern blacks were oppressed for almost a century. As an adult, Bill has written articles, done radio programming, offered public presentations and co-facilitated workshops related to civil rights and racism. In 2014, Bill published the book *Almost Hereditary: A White Southerner's Journey Out of Racism, A Guide for Unlearning and Healing Prejudice*.

## Forum Working Group

### Forum Update

By Suzanne Ferroggiaro, Chair, Forum Working Group

As many of you know, the Forum is an online tool, started in September of 2015 for UUCM members and friends to communicate about topics of community interest. After using it for a couple of months it became clear that there was a need to have more clarity about its use.

Using input from the UUCM community, the Forum Working Group has spent the last year revising and improving the Forum.

*The FWG is thrilled to announce what's coming...*

### **NEW FORUM KICK OFF MEETING** *Sunday, February 5 after the second service!*

(before that other, less important kickoff)

Please bring FINGER Food and come to...

- Learn about our NEW Guidelines
- Meet our NEW Moderator Team
- Learn the easier navigation on our NEW Forum, and then...
- Sign up to use our NEW Forum!

### *“THE TECHIES ARE IN” –*

**SUNDAYS STARTING FEBRUARY 12 FROM 10:50 – 11:20 A.M.**  
**IN THE CHANNING ROOM**

Between Sunday services there will be volunteers with computers available for anyone needing help in using the New Forum.

### *IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE:*

#### **MARCH 1, 2017**

Workings of our Forum will be transferred from the Forum Working Group to Moderator and Tech Teams.

#### **SEPTEMBER 2017**

Moderator and Tech Teams will re-evaluate our Forum

*Thanks for your patience throughout this process!*

Please contact Suzanne Ferroggiaro with questions (530-477-5344 or [suzanneferro17@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneferro17@gmail.com)).



## Soul Matters Circles are Here!!

By *Scottie Hart*,  
Facilitator and Organizer,  
Soul Matters Circles

The “gleam in Phil Hart’s eye” has materialized at UUCM as a full-fledged program. Phil’s long experience with intimate small groups in many settings gave him a sense of possibility soon after he crossed the threshold at UUCM. It has taken a while for that vision to catch fire, but in February, with Design Team support from Rev. Kevin, Scottie Hart, and Karyn Packard, six Soul Matters Circles will begin.

Around forty people gathered at UUCM Saturday, January 7, to explore what the new Soul Matters Circles (SMC) might have to offer them. After a brief introduction, small groups (8 or fewer folks) spent two hours experiencing the SMC style of thoughtful, personal interaction around UUCM’s monthly topic; in this case (January), they focused on the implications of “Prophecy” in their lives. By the end of the morning, there was enough enthusiasm to warrant six on-going Circles.

With that in mind, the volunteer Facilitators gathered with Rev. Kevin the following Saturday (January 14) for an all-day process to prepare to lead Circles. It was an amazing day of deep sharing, both of life experience and of leadership wisdom.

And so, beginning this month, Soul Matters Circles are launched at UUCM! There are still a handful of openings. Want to know more? Contact Phil ([philhart115@gmail.com](mailto:philhart115@gmail.com) or 530-272-6870), Scottie (530-272-5022), Karyn ([karyn@seagoer.net](mailto:karyn@seagoer.net) or 562-900-9546), or Rev. Kevin ([minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or 530-274-1661).

## Drop-In Support Circle

**SUNDAYS, ANTHONY ROOM, UUCM, 10:50 A.M.**

*By Janet Bullock, Facilitator, Drop-In Support Circle*

This weekly circle on Sunday continues to be open, on a drop-in basis, for UUCM people needing a little extra support and those with extra support to give. Our circle meets in the period between services, at about 10:50, in the library. Quickly grab a snack and join us.

It is not a therapy group; it is a confidential sharing circle, and is facilitated by congregation members. (Even if you don’t feel

# Soul Matters

like talking but just want to sit among caring people, you are welcome to come.)

To learn more, please contact Janet Bullock (530-477-8760, [janetbullock41@gmail.com](mailto:janetbullock41@gmail.com))

## Women's Circle in February: Book Swap

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

Do you have a book you've loved but are ready to pass on to someone else? This month we'll each bring one book, tell what it has meant to us, and (unless you simply can't let go of it because it continues to spark joy) give our book away and receive someone else's in return. Choosing and describing our books will help us get to know each other on a deeper level. And if, like me, you have a whole pile of books or magazines to pass on, bring those too! One woman's trashy novel could be another woman's philosophical treasure, so we'll pile those on a separate table and let the wild rumpus start!

We'll start with a potluck – perhaps your dish can be related to your book, but that's optional. RSVP to Kate Canan, [kacanan@yahoo.com](mailto:kacanan@yahoo.com), 916-996-7932, and let her know what you plan to share so we don't end up with 50 Shades of Kale.

All UUCM women are invited to any Women's Circle gathering. If you are not on the Women's Group email list, please contact Kathryn Young, or send an email to Conrad Sisk at: [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org) and he will add you. Then you'll get monthly updates and reminders of our upcoming meetings.

## Men's Groups

On Wednesday mornings, 8:30 – 10:00 in the Channing Room, and on Thursday mornings at What's Up? Coffee, (1110 E Main St., Grass Valley), men gather to enjoy each other's company and discuss the issues of the day or whatever takes their fancy, in an open and free-flowing way.

## Men's Group Book Club

A group of men meets to discuss books at 10:30 a.m. on first and third Thursdays at What's Up Coffee. These meetings follow the regular Men's Group meetings that start at 8:30 a.m. every Thursday. Contact Mel Berry at [melnannie@yahoo.com](mailto:melnannie@yahoo.com) or 530-559-0904 for more information.

# Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

## Meditation Group

Every Tuesday morning at 9, a self-directed group of congregants meets for an hour of meditation in the Sanctuary. Enjoy a time of inner peace and reflection with others. For more information, call Shelley North Gerson at 530.272.8930 or [shelley10493@gmail.com](mailto:shelley10493@gmail.com).

## Humanism Discussion Group

By George Dunstan

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month from 10:30 A.M. until noon at UUCM in the Channing Room. The topic for our meeting on February 1st is "How Do We Live Humanism". A good first reference to humanist principals is the Humanist Manifesto III (2003) <http://aha-files.s3.amazonaws.com/2/238/HumanismandItsAspirations.pdf>

Hope to see you at our discussion.

For further information, or to be added to the Humanism Discussion Group email list, please contact George Dunstan (530-477-7635 or [gvgeode@gmail.com](mailto:gvgeode@gmail.com)) or David Briggs (530-274-9236 or [davidbriggs100@yahoo.com](mailto:davidbriggs100@yahoo.com))

## WhaleCoast Alaska 2017

Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2017 is for you!

Four Alaska UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program next summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Seward, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, seals, and otters. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture.

Forget the cruise ships – our program is the best way to visit Alaska! Programs led by Dave Frey, member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and Alaska travel expert. Find out more about this Alaskan trip of a lifetime before our tours sell out! Visit [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org), email [dfrey@whalecoastak.org](mailto:dfrey@whalecoastak.org), or call 907-322-4966.

We would love to share our Alaska with you!

## International Women’s Convocation Welcomes bell hooks -

FEBRUARY 16-19, 2017

ASILOMAR CONFERENCE CENTER, MONTEREY, CA

Do not miss this opportunity to hear Dr. bell hooks, one of the most influential voices in the American feminist movement! She will speak at the Third International Women’s Convocation, Asilomar Conference Center, Monterey Peninsula, CA, February 18, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Writer, professor, feminist theorist, and activist, Dr. hooks is the author of numerous critically acclaimed books on the function of race, gender, class, and culture. She is the Distinguished Professor in Residence in Appalachian Studies at Berea College, KY, where she founded the bell hooks Institute. The institute

strives to promote the cause of ending domination through critical thinking, teaching, events, and conversation that seek to understand the ways systems of exploitation and oppression intersect.

Her books include *Ain’t I A Woman: Black Women; Feminist Theory from Margin to Center; Feminism and Talking Back: Thinking Feminist, Thinking*

*Black; Rock My Soul: Black People and Self-Esteem; Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom; Feminism Is for Everybody: Passionate Politics; Where We Stand: Class Matters; and We Real Cool: Black Men and Masculinity.*

The event is open to the public and includes dinner and a musical concert with award winning musician activists emma’s revolution.

A limited number of tickets are available online at [IntlWomensConvo.org/shop/](http://IntlWomensConvo.org/shop/) for \$100 per person. Overnight accommodation at Asilomar is available. For further information contact the International Women’s Convocation at [admin@icuuw.com](mailto:admin@icuuw.com) or phone 713-269-2892 (Laura Nagel).

International Women's Convocation Presents

**bell hooks**

**Rock Out! emma's revolution**

*Including:*

- Dinner (organic and locally sourced)
- UU Worship
- Chocolate Bar
- Plus Happy Half-Hour (cash bar)

4-9 PM, Saturday, February 18, 2017  
(overnight accommodation available)  
Asilomar Conference Center  
Pacific Grove, CA

**bell hooks, PhD**  
Writer, professor, feminist theorist

**emma's revolution**  
Award-winning activist musicians

Tickets: \$100 Order Online: [IntlWomensConvo.org](http://IntlWomensConvo.org) Send your check to: IWC, 7 Dunecrest Ave., Monterey, CA 93940



*Kristin Famula,  
Acting Director of  
Religious Education*

## Religious Education for All Ages

### Full Community Religious Education and Faith Formation

This month your Religious Education Visioning Team begins a process of exploring our goals, mission and vision for education at UUCM. We are intentionally starting with questions about the future of Unitarian Universalism and religion in general – and about how our educational programming can reach the needs of the present and the future. It is exciting to invite ourselves to be innovative and open-minded as we dive into this process. We'll keep you updated on what we're learning – and will certainly be bringing these ideas to the UUCM community effort to build a congregational vision. We also welcome your thoughts about the role religious education can play as we prepare our children, youth and adults for navigating life through the worldview of Unitarian Universalism.

*- Kristin*

**FULL COMMUNITY SERVICE ON FEBRUARY 12TH**  
Interested in participating? Contact Kristin ([education@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:education@uugrassvalley.org))!

### SOCIAL JUSTICE TRIP TO THE ARIZONA/MEXICO BORDER

We are excited to offer a service learning trip this summer to the Arizona/Mexico border with the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice. Five youth from UUCM will journey with youth from the UU fellowship in Reno.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE WORKSHOP SERIES

As part of their preparation for the trip, our youth will be exploring issues important to any long-term justice work: personal identity, worldview, systems of power, etc. In tandem with the youth workshops, we will offer similar workshops for our adults. Part of our time will be spent in

all-ages activities & part of our time will be spent in specific generational groups.

Together, we will answer deeper questions about ourselves and the places we come from. We hope you will stand in solidarity with our youth on their journey by attending these workshops.

### SAVE THE DATES!

- ALL SUNDAYS FROM 1-3 P.M.:**
- March 5: moving viewing and discussion
- March 19: Workshop #1
- April 9: Workshop #2
- April 30: Workshop #3

### Join Us!

#### SUNDAY MORNING RE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH Sundays, 9:45 A.M. at UUCM:

Classes are offered for children and youth during the first service. Child care is provided during both services.

#### YOUTH MUSIC

**Most Wednesdays, New Times!**

**4:30 to 5:15 P.M. AND 5-6 p.m. in the Sanctuary:**

All ages are invited to our youth music program. Join us whether you've had lots of musical experience – or none! (Check the calendar beforehand – schedules may change). Our beginning group meets from 4:30-5:15 P.M. and the advanced group meets from 5-6 P.M.. If you are unsure which group you are in, come at 4:30 P.M. and our Music Director will help you figure it out!. Contact Jordan: [music@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:music@uugrassvalley.org)

#### BRUNCH BUNCH:

**First Sunday of the Month, 9:45 A.M.**

**Meet at UUCM**

All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to attend "Brunch Bunch" on the first Sunday of most months. Bring your own \$\$ or contact Kristin for support ([education@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:education@uugrassvalley.org)).

### We Are Hiring!

Do you know of someone who would be terrific at caring for our youngest members? We are hiring a child care coordinator and would love your support in finding someone to join our team of folks caring for our children. The full job description can be found here: <http://www.uugrassvalley.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Child-Care-Provider-job-description.pdf> . Resumes and questions can be sent to Kristin at [education@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:education@uugrassvalley.org).



# February 2017 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
1	Wednesday	8:30 10:30 4:30 5:00 6:30	Men's Group Humanism Discussion Group Youth Music - Beginners Youth Music - Advanced Choir Rehearsal
2	Thursday	8:30 10:30 7:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee Men's Group Book Club – WUC Singing Meditation
4	Saturday	9:00	Welcome to UU(CM) Class
5	Sunday		<b>First Sunday: Bring Food!</b>
		9:45 9:45 10:50 10:50 10:50 11:30 12:45 12:45	Brunch Bunch for Youth Sunday Service & RE Classes Social Time & "A Board Member is In" Q&A with Rev. Kevin Tarsa Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Q&A with Rev. Kevin Tarsa New Forum Kickoff Meeting
7	Tuesday	9:00 12:30 4:00	Meditation Membership Committee Meeting Caring Committee Meeting
8	Wednesday	8:30 11:00 4:30 5:00 6:30	Men's Group Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep Youth Music - Beginners Youth Music - Advanced Choir Rehearsal
9	Thursday	8:30 10:30 6:00	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee Writers' Group UU History with Rev. Kevin
11	Saturday	10:00	Religious Ed Visioning Team Meeting
12	Sunday	9:45 10:50 10:50 10:50 11:30 1:00	Full Community Sunday Service Social Time "A Techie is In" & "Board Member is In" Drop-in Support Circle Full Community Sunday Service Second Sunday Soup Lunch with Town Talk
13	Monday	6:00	Women's Circle & Potluck
14	Tuesday	9:00 5:00	Meditation Board of Trustees Meeting
15	Wednesday	8:30 4:30 4:30 5:00 6:30	Men's Group Finance Committee Meeting Youth Music - Beginners Youth Music - Advanced Choir Rehearsal

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
16	Thursday	8:30 10:30 5:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee Men's Group Book Club – WUC Social Justice Committee Meeting
17	Friday	4:00	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place
18	Saturday	9:00 9:30	Building & Grounds Meeting Building & Grounds Work Party
19	Sunday	9:45 10:50 10:50 10:50 11:30 1:00 2:30	Sunday Service & RE Classes Social Time "A Techie is In" & "Board Member is In" Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Potluck Lunch Racial Justice Workshop
20	Monday	9:00	<b>Mountain Chalice Submissions Due</b>
21	Tuesday	9:00 6:00	Meditation UU Principles & Theologies/ Rev Kevin
22	Wednesday	8:30 6:00	Men's Group Pizza, Beer & Movie Night
23	Thursday	8:30 10:30 6:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee Writers' Group Worship Committee Meeting
26	Sunday	9:45 10:50 10:50 10:50 11:30 2:00	Sunday Service & RE Classes Social Time "A Techie is In" & "Board Member is In" Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Black Lives Matter Banner Dedication
28	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
<b>MARCH</b>			
1	Wednesday	8:30 10:30 4:30 5:00 6:30	Men's Group Humanism Discussion Group Youth Music - Beginners Youth Music - Advanced Choir Rehearsal
2	Thursday	8:30 10:30 7:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee Men's Group Book Club – WUC Singing Meditation
5	Sunday		<b>First Sunday: Bring Food!</b>
		9:45 9:45 10:50 10:50 11:30 10:50 10:50 10:50 11:30 1:00	Brunch Bunch for Youth Sunday Service & RE Classes Social Time & "A Board Member is In" Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Social Time "A Techie is In" & "Board Member is In" Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Social Justice Movie Viewing and Discussion



## Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

Telephone: 530.274.1675

Website: [www.uugrassvalley.org](http://www.uugrassvalley.org)

Sunday Services at 9:45 A.M. and 11:30 A.M.

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.

### Rev. Kevin Tarsa Office Hours:

Tuesday: 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Wednesday: 4 - 6 P.M.

Thursday: 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

### UUCM STAFF MEMBERS

Reverend Kevin Tarsa, *Minister*

Conrad Sisk, *Office Administrator*

Jordan Thomas-Rose, *Music Director*

Kristin Famula, *Acting Religious Education Director*

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES

[minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org)

[admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org)

[music@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:music@uugrassvalley.org)

[education@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:education@uugrassvalley.org)

### TELEPHONE

530.274.1661

530.274.1675

530.274.1675

530.274.1675

