

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

January 2019

UPCOMING SERVICES

Two Service Times on Sundays: 9:30 AM or 11:30 AM

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

Religious education classes for children (K-5th grades) are offered during the 9:30 AM service, and classes for youth (6th-12th grades) are offered at 10:30 AM. Nursery care is available for both services.

JANUARY:

What does it mean to be a people of POSSIBILITY

January 6 Wonder, Wisdom, Wishes, Possibility
with Lindsay Dunkel, Rev. Kevin Tarsa, and all

We begin the new year and our month of possibility at the portal between "what is" and "what can be," rooted in Susan V. Bosack's book, *Dream*, with its intriguing illustrations. Ring in the new year and new possibilities in good company and within a faith tradition that asks us always to keep our minds and our hearts open.

January 13 At the Edge of Hope
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

The year is young, the times are anxious, the future remains uncertain. Where and how are we to find hope, you and I and all of us together?

Stay for Soup Lunch at 12:30 and a Spiritual Practices Sampler 1:30-2:30.

January 20 The Courage of Possibility and the Possibility of Courage
Members and Friends, with Rev. Kevin

To celebrate the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, let's not simply cheer his life and work; let's ask what his legacy asks of us now. **This collage service invites the participation of many:** Do you have... a poem? A reflection? A prayer? A dance? A song? A piece of art? ...or anything that speaks to finding and living our own courage for the work of justice and inclusion? What have Dr. King and the many others who risked putting possibility before security inspired in you? **Please contact Rev. Kevin with your ideas and interest: minister@uugrassvalley.org**

Watch for news of January 21 MLK events throughout Grass Valley, including at UUCM!

January 27 The "Aha" Moment
Chuck Champlin

In our final service focused on what it means to be a people of possibility, service leader Chuck Champlin will explore those special "aha" moments when we experience an insight or a new understanding which leads to the possibility of better living.

(Note: This is the message Chuck began developing in last spring's Sermon Seminar at UUCM.)

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

Once, when I was finding my way through a set of very significant losses in my life, a congregant stopped me mid aisle as I was exiting the sanctuary of the community I was serving. "Where do you find hope?" she asked me, looking very intently into my eyes. It felt clear to me that she was looking for her own answers for her own challenges.

That is not the kind of question for which I typically have a ready answer. Most of the time I need quiet reflection and processing time to voice the unspoken. But in that moment my reply came flowing out. "I have faith in possibility," I said. "The future is not yet determined, and my experience leads me to believe that many things, if not exactly all things, are possible. Nothing guaranteed, of course, but possible."

Our Soul Matters authors point out that asking what it means to be a people of possibility is central to our Unitarian Universalist tradition and our theologies. We have been, on the whole, optimistic about human nature and human possibility, insisting on inherent human goodness rather than inherent depravity, insisting on the possibility of redemption, and insisting that no finite behavior could ever warrant infinite punishment.

In today's more secular terms, the optimism still holds, at root, though as I've noted before, it is challenged lately for many of us by the systematic dismantling of so many progressive structures of support, protection and inclusion. Holding hope now requires thinking in terms of much larger rhythms. It requires watching for the cracks within which something new might take root. It requires maintaining faith that the future is, as yet, unwritten.

This month, as the new calendar year begins, I invite you to explore your own sources of hope.

Imagine that someone has stopped you mid stride, rested

a hand gently on your arm, looked you intently in the eye, and asked, because they are seeking an answer for themselves,

"Where do you find hope?"

And then, true to our tradition, let's share our current answers with one another, knowing that we will be locating the path for the life of the congregation, even as we find our own footing.

Oh, therein lies possibility.

- Rev. Kevin



Join us for a
**Soul Matters Circle
Sampler**

JANUARY 23, 1:00-3:00

WITH REV. KEVIN AND
LIN JOVANOVIC

Soul Matters Circles are small groups of 5-8 people who commit to meeting once a month throughout the church year to deepen their connections to each other and to our community through the lens of monthly themes. As grist for reflection, practice and conversation, each member receives a packet of resources related to the month's theme. The circle time itself is structured to give each person opportunities to speak.

Curious? Come, sample a circle with Lin and Rev. Kevin. Sign up by contacting Soul Matters administrator Jo Waters: jowaters@hotmail.com

REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Thursday	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Other times by arrangement.

Please call or email Rev. Kevin to make an appointment.

minister@uugrassvalley.org or (231) 883-1058



Taylor Carey,
President,
UUCM Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees

Governance Project

Seeking to assess the thought processes of three rigorous professional disciplines, law, physics, and economics, a panel of philosophers posed a common question. First they asked the professor of economics. "Doctor Keynes, how much is two and two?"

The esteemed practitioner of this most esoteric art paused a moment before answering. "Clever, most clever indeed," he responded. "But not so fast, of what do we speak? Is the 'two' within your contemplation composed not only of more than one, but also of distinct and severable parts? Given inevitable market volatility, can we even know that at a given moment, as the first 'one' awaits joinder with the second, whether there has been an intervening event either raising or lowering its value? I fear that within the parameters of my profession the question cannot be answered with the information provided. But, with this caveat, I will concede that in common parlance, the sum of two and two is understood to be four."

The panel thanked and dismissed Professor Keynes and called in the physicist. "Professor, De Grasse Tyson," they asked, "how much is two and two?"

The physicist seemed to glow with excitement. "Oh!" he exclaimed, "how I long for the discovery of the equation that will unite these identical, yet infinitely different concepts within the space time continuum. The beauty of the Universe lies in its complete, yet utterly indecipherable simplicity." He paused, enraptured by the possibilities. "But, I know what you want. Two and two equals four."

Finally, the panel called the lawyer. "Mr. Rumpole," they queried, "how much is two and two?"

The lawyer's glance darted quickly from side to side, his eyes drawn to a squint. He dimmed the lights and closed the blinds then, leaning in very close to the panel, answered in barely a whisper, "How much do you want it to be?"

Our theme this month is "Possibility." What do YOU want it to be?

Please read Janet Dunstan's article in this column. There is a great deal of possibility to be realized in the coming months as the Board of Trustees and Rev. Kevin continue implementing the Governance Reorganization Project with Janet as our shepherd.

- Taylor

By Janet Dunstan, Project Coordinator,
Governance Transition Project

On Sunday, February 3, there will be a congregational information and update meeting on the status of our UUCM governance transition.

The Board and Rev. Kevin have been working with the proposal for a new UUCM governance model presented in November 2017. The proposed model is a shared collaborative structure composed of a Governance function (led by the Board) that enables a Ministry function (led by the Minister) to carry out our Mission.

Experimentation with realignment of ministries under the Minister is in progress. Ministries have initially been defined as: worship, stewardship, membership, social action, religious exploration, and buildings & grounds. The Board's function (governance) is one of planning and oversight to ensure that UUCM resources and assets are used to serve its mission, that goals and strategies are developed, and that guidelines are in place to allow appropriate decision-making authority and responsibility.

Please join us for a short informative discussion on February 3 after the second service.

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2019

Taylor Carey	President
Jim Perkins	Vice-President
Charlie Zimmerman	Treasurer
Karyn Packard	Secretary

Members at Large:

Chuck Champlin, Maryann Currington & Dennis Weiher

Board of Trustees meetings are held:
the third Thursday of each month at 5:15 PM
in the UUCM Channing Room.

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.

Welcoming and Membership Team

Introducing our New Name

To be consistent with the new governance structure and terminology at UUCM, the former "Membership Committee" will now be known as the "Welcoming and Membership Team."

Many of the day to day tasks previously done by this group will remain the same. However, some adjustments will evolve over the near future to help us better reflect our new UUCM Mission Statement. Would you like to be part of this Team? And part of this evolution? There are several areas that could use your time and talents. In all cases, training and support is provided – as you ease into your new role.

1) Sunday Morning Welcoming Team

These team members are charged with creating a warm, inviting and inclusive environment for everyone before and after Sunday early and/or late services. This is an ideal starting place for getting involved in the work of UUCM, and features much flexibility in scheduling.

Requirements – a friendly nature, and ability to be comfortable talking to someone you don't know.

2) Social Events: planning, organizing, hosting

Requirements – enjoy working as a team with one or two others to create events. Truly enjoy having fun with others and willing to try new things.

3) Supporting People on the Path to Membership

Requirements – must be a member of UUCM and involved in the life of the community yourself. Moderate level of computer literacy – or willing and able to learn – and your own computer. Good communication skills, record-keeping, and team work with other Welcoming Team members.

4) Supporting Existing Members

Requirements – be involved in the life of the congregation and be willing to get to know a wide range of people. Good communication skills, record keeping, and team work with other team members. Minor computer skills.

PATH TO MEMBERSHIP

You may become a member of UUCM at any time during the year. Here are the steps that will take you along that path. If you are interested, or would like more information, please talk to Rev. Kevin.

Whether you are a member or not, please know that wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome at all services and most social events and activities.

- Attend one of the "Meet the Minister" events between the two services on the first Sunday of each month.
- Let the Welcoming and Membership Team know that you are interested. (Talk with any of the ushers.)
- Talk with Rev. Kevin about the privileges and

responsibilities of membership.

- Plan to attend one of the "Small Group Dinners" with Rev. Kevin, someone from Membership Team, and a few other interested new people. These will be casual events – part social, part informational - to help you feel more at home at UUCM.
- Plan to attend the next "Intro to UU" class -- date to be determined. If you are interested, let an usher/greeter know, and they can take your name and contact you once it has been scheduled.

Fun for All – UUCM Social Events!

Get to know other UUCMers and have some fun at these upcoming UUCM Social events:

SOUP SUNDAYS - SECOND SUNDAYS

After the second service, join in a casual Soup Potluck Lunch - eat and enjoy conversation with UU members, friends and newcomers. Willing to bring a soup? Or bread or a dessert? Contact Marilyn Young: MarilynY04@gmail.com

THE UUCM AUCTION – SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019

Watch for more information and start thinking of services you might want to donate to raise money! Dinner parties, cabin stays, computer assistance, hikes, picnics, hand-crafted goods, handyman services, babysitting.... what can YOU offer that would build relationships, provide enjoyable experiences and help further our mission?

Hospitality Team

By Marilyn Young, Coordinator, UUCM Hospitality Hour

Every Sunday we enjoy snacks and refreshments, along with socializing, between the two services - 10:30 until 11:20 AM

This month's schedule for contributing snacks:

- January 6 - last names beginning with A to E
- January 13 - last names beginning with F to J
- January 20 - last names beginning with K to R
- January 27 - last names beginning with S to Z

If you plan to bring a snack, please contact Marilyn Young (MarilynY04@gmail.com).



Stewardship Committee

Cottage Meetings and More

By Keith Johnson, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Several members have asked how the cottage meetings are going. The answer is "wonderful." As a reminder, cottage meetings are informal gatherings of six to eight UUCM members in the homes of fellow members. So far cottage meetings have been hosted by Janet Bullock, Elizabeth Fries, Connie Wright, Bob Branstrom, Brenda Morgan, Maryann Currington, and Bob and Karyn Packard. Thank you all for your hospitality.

It is impossible to summarize the cottage meetings as each has been a unique experience. However, every meeting has allowed the participants to become more connected. A small group meeting is an ideal venue for building relationships, and the feedback we have received tells us that the cottage meetings have done just that. Further, this is a great opportunity to explore what UUCM means to you and your dreams for the future of this community.

Personal stories have invited some wonderful connections. We are also listening for recurring themes expressed at the cottage meetings as we approach our pledge campaign and funding for the 2019/20 budget. Top hopes to date have been the desire to attract young families to UUCM, to increase our outreach efforts, and to make a meaningful difference in the wider community.

There are three cottage meetings scheduled in January and four in February. Please watch for your invitation. If you have previously declined an invitation but would like to attend a meeting, please let me know and I will make sure you get an invitation. We would like everyone to attend a cottage meeting. Remember -- the pledge campaign and related financial matters are not on the agenda for these meetings.

Best wishes for a happy and meaningful 2019.



FUNDRAISER CALENDAR –

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE 2018/19 FUNDRAISER EVENTS!

Saturday, March 23

UUCM Auction

Saturday, April 27

Valley Music Spring Concert

Saturday, June 8

Annual Yard Sale

Endowment Committee



Your Simple Gifts and Endowment Legacy Gifts are Appreciated

By Joel Houtman, Endowment Committee Chair

SIMPLE GIFTS

Recently UUCM had the opportunity to honor Gail Johnson Vaughan on the occasion of her obtaining a doctorate degree. The Endowment Committee wishes to thank the following donors to the *Simple Gifts* program for their generous gifts honoring Gail on this occasion.

*Bob & Dawn Bateman, George and Janet Dunstan, Custis Haynes,
Joel and Theresa Houtman, David and Allison Samson*

Thanks also to Pete Sabey and Judith Ellen O'Neill for their *Simple Gift* to honor Dorothy and Ralph Hitchcock's 50th anniversary!! *Congratulations Dorothy and Ralph!*

If you wish to make a *Simple Gift* to honor Gail, or to give a holiday gift for a loved one, or for any other reason, brochures and envelopes are always available in a rack near the main double doors. Envelopes can be mailed in or left in the Endowment Committee box in the office.

UUCM ENDOWMENT LEGACY GIFTS:

Thank you to Pete Sabey and Judith Ellen O'Neill for adding the UUCM Endowment Fund as a beneficiary to their retirement fund, and thank you to both Marilyn Winters and Gail Johnson Vaughan for making UUCM a beneficiary in their estates.

If you wish to participate in the UUCM Endowment Legacy Program please contact any of the following committee members:

Joel Houtman, Chair – jhout46@att.net – 530-273-2925

Kern Hildebrand – khildebrand13@gmail.com – 925-818-3758

Dawn Bateman – dawn.bateman@sbcglobal.net – 530-273-6471

Building and Grounds

Santa's Elves Come Early to UUCM

By Wally Holtan, Chair, Building and Grounds Team

Last month it felt as if Santa and his elves arrived early at UUCM. On Saturday, December 15th eleven hardy and willing elf volunteers arrived at UUCM at 9:00 AM. Over the next three hours they really worked to improve the appearance of the building and outside areas. If you look outside at the edges of the walkway up to our main door entrance, you will notice the new plastic lawn edging that George Dunstan installed for us. At the Walsh Street entrance all the leaves on the sidewalk, the mulch, and the side garden areas were removed. Go into the backyard and you will see another leaf- and weed-free area. You may also notice that our dead tree is missing. All the wood and branches were hauled away. For this we can thank our in-house tree remover Kern Hildebrand, yard workers Gwen Eymann and Theresa Houtman, as well as our new volunteer Sam Bailey.

Inside we had Anita sewing a chair cushion to repair a tear and cleaning the sanctuary window sills. Look at the upper left front of the sanctuary and notice the support mechanism for our TV monitor which was installed by Joel Houtman and Bob Packard. The sound closet was uncluttered by the removal of our old wooden stage and now there is actually room to move around. The chairs were again thoroughly cleaned by our own Keith Johnson. Thank you so much for doing this on a monthly basis Keith. Go upstairs to the RE kitchen and you will find a new light fixture for the kitchen thanks to Paul Elias.

When you see these people at a service give them your thanks for the work they do for this community.

As always, if you would like to get involved in a meaningful and fun way at UUCM, volunteering for a three hour stint during a work party is an easy commitment that is greatly appreciated and rewarding.

Caring Team

Welcome to the New Year

By Gwen Eymann, Acting Chair,
Caring Team

Please note: Gwen will be serving as acting Chair of the Caring Team until Anne Lyon is ready to resume her position. We all hope Anne is back with us soon.

Thank you all who participated in the UUCM Giving Tree Project for the Women of Worth Families. Our community provided generous gifts for 7 family units plus at least one gift card for groceries for each family. I know this action makes a big difference to the people we reached. Thank you so much for your care and your generosity.

As always, we continue to monitor the congregation for folks who might need a hand, a ride, a meal, or a listening ear. Our strength as a congregation is reflected in the wonderful people who have stood up and offered to help in so many ways. If you know someone who could use help and support, please let us know.

If you are drawn to support the well being of others through care and kind attention, please contact me. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 4:00 PM at UUCM, and we'd be glad to speak with you about the possibilities.

Contact: Anne Lyon, (619) 933-1618, Gwen Eymann (530) 274-7965, or caring@uugrassvalley.org

CARING TEAM MEMBERS:

Anne Lyon, *chair*, Gwen Eymann, *acting chair*,
Maryann Currington, Penny Harlan,
Maryann Hart, Robin Hart, Carol Hyndman,
May Lawrence



Social Justice News and Activities

Social Justice News

By Stu Chuang Matthews, Chair, Social Justice Team

Please join us for our monthly Social Justice Nights on the fourth Thursday at 5:30 PM where we present a topic we are concerned about and share a meal of pizza. Watch for announcements in the eChalice for current information.

For more information, or to get involved directly with the Social Justice Team, please contact Stu Matthews at stu@fourmajor.com or 530-362-8456

Local Volunteer Opportunities

By Keith Johnson, Member, Social Justice Team

The Social Justice Team encourages all members and friends to volunteer for justice work with local non-profit organizations. UUCM'ers are already doing outstanding work for the groups listed below. Please read the brief description of the group and the volunteer help that is needed, and if you are moved to do so, please contact the UUCM contact people to volunteer. They will have further information about the organization and may suggest other volunteer opportunities. If you would like to recommend other service organizations to be included, or if you wish to join us on the Social Justice Team, please contact team chair Stu Matthews (530-362-8456).

ANIMAL PLACE, SAMMIE'S FRIENDS SHELTER, GRASS VALLEY SHELTER

Animal Place cares for rescued farm animals. Sammie's Friends and the Grass Valley Animal Control Shelter care for rescued pets. Sammie's Friends has a great foster program, and adoptions are up. They help with medical needs and food for pets whose caretakers can't afford it. All three of these organizations need help feeding, cleaning, walking, and socializing with animals.

Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

UUCM makes lunches for Habitat workers on the second Wednesday of each month at 11 AM at the church.

Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

HOSPITALITY HOUSE

Hospitality House manages and operates Utah's Place, the local homeless shelter. Hospitality House needs help in three program areas:

UUCM purchases, prepares, and serves dinner to our guests at Utah's Place on the third and fifth Fridays of every month. Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277). Hospitality House manages the Bread and Roses Thrift

Store and help is needed in all aspects of store operation. Contact Cassandra Holdeman (530-575-4428).

Utah's Place needs volunteer monitors. Contact George Dunstan (530-205-8159).

IFM

Interfaith Food Ministry provides food at least two times per week to those in need. Currently they need both drivers and packers. Contact Anne Lyon (619-933-1618).

SIERRA ROOTS

Sierra Roots is a local homeless advocacy group which requests assistance in operating a cold weather shelter and their one-on-one advocacy program. Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

SYRCL

The South Yuba River Citizens League is dedicated to preserving and protecting the South Yuba River. Volunteer opportunities include river monitoring, becoming a river ambassador, and clerical support. Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

DONATIONS FOR NEVADA COUNTY PETS OF THE HOMELESS/PETS IN NEED

By Carol Hyndman, Member, Social Justice Team

Please remember donations for Nevada County Pets of the Homeless will be collected on the first Sunday of each month when food donations are collected for the Interfaith Food Ministry. Nevada County Pets of the Homeless provides food and services for our homeless and their pets. Nevada County Pets of the Homeless is now also called Nevada County Pets in Need, serving not only pets of the homeless but also pets of lower income people. Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).



Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

January Women's Circle & Potluck: MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 6:00 PM at UUCM

ANNUAL PLANNING PARTY

The time has come to look back at what we did this past year and look forward to what we'd like to do in the coming year. We'll start with a potluck, then review the things we liked best from past meetings. Please bring your ideas for future meetings, too! Remember, it takes all of us to make our get-togethers enjoyable and meaningful, so your suggestions and willingness to step up and lead are very welcome. And since January's theme is Possibility, it's a great time to try something NEW!

RSVP to Kathryn Young (kathryneyounguu@gmail.com, 916-743-5688).

All UUCM women (and friends!) are invited to any Women's Circle gathering. If you are not on the Women's Group email list, please send an email to Carol Fulkerson at: admin@uugrassvalley.org and she will add you. Then you'll get monthly updates and reminders of our upcoming meetings.

Humanism Discussion Group

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9
FROM 10:30 AM TO 12 PM

By George Dunstan

The UUCM Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, January 9 at 10:30 in the Channing Room at UUCM.

Please note that this is not our usual first Wednesday of the month meeting day.

Our topic for January is Inherent Bias. We all have inherent biases that we carry around. Some of them we have become aware of and some remain hidden to us. As a step towards trying to get some degree of measure of our biases, here is the link to Project Implicit out of Harvard.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

There are 14 different tests that gauge implicit bias, probably more than our time or interest will cover but I'm sure at least some of them will be interesting to you. Take those that catch your eye and we can discuss the test methodology, results, implications, the difference between inherent and implicit, and more at our meeting.

I hope to see you on January 9th.

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).

Meditation Group

Tuesday mornings 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 info: Shelley North-Gerson, 272-8930, shelley10493@gmail.com.

UUCM Walking Group News

By Theresa Houtman

Our walking group is thankful for Bridget's baking. Join us for walking, coffee and treats on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 AM, at Houtmans', 418 Chapel, GV. Well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome on this gentle two mile walk. RSVP to Theresa: 530 277-9294

Singing Meditation

FIRST THURSDAYS, 7:00-8:30 PM

Singing Meditation is an interfaith spiritual practice in which singing and shared silence alternate in a deepening rhythm. The songs and chants are drawn from a variety of religious traditions and participants are invited to bring song ideas. The music is taught as we go.

The Singing Meditation Circle is open to all. We will be glad for your presence, your voice, your heart, your spirit.

Men's Groups

On Wednesday mornings, 8:30 to 10:00 in the Channing Room, and on Thursday mornings, 8:30 to 10:00 at Summer Thymes, (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.

Drop-In Support Circle

SUNDAYS FROM 10:50 UNTIL 11:25 AM
IN THE ANTHONY ROOM ANNEX

We have found our new designated space in the "library annex" to be cozy and intimate. Please join us if you would like a safe, confidential place to share your feelings about life's challenges and give support to others.

Facilitators: Janet Bullock (530-477-8760, janetbullock41@gmail.com), Corrie Silva, and Tom Wernigg



For Families

By Lindsay Dunckel, Co-Chair, Family Ministry

Recently, the RE kids discovered a paintbrush in their Toolbox of Faith and with it we learned about expression to illustrate that:

- Unitarian Universalism is a faith that will help you express your inner voice and your inner thoughts
- Unitarian Universalism affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and values acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth
- Unitarian Universalism looks to the direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life

We will continue to learn about more tools in our UU faith this month!

Questions? Contact education@uugrassvalley.org

December festivities included the Tree Trimming party which kicked off the holiday season at UUCM. The annual event brought in our beautiful tree, with thanks to Kathryn Young's forest, and all of the members and friends who helped to decorate with lights and crafts. Special mention to Carol Kuczora for the greenery boughs and Anita Wald-Tuttle for her golden ornaments of mystery!

Two families accepted the Congregation B'nai Harim invitation to join their Hanukkah Festival of Lights celebration. Warmly welcomed by Rabbi David Azin and members, they sang traditional songs, tasted delicious latkes, learned about the first recorded battle for religious liberty, and felt the glow of the menorahs. It was a great experience for the kids to explore and witness another deep and meaningful faith tradition.

Family Ministry's first Parent Get-Together was a wonderful time! Our goal is to meet families where they are and discover what our families uniquely need to feel connected. We shared our most meaningful experiences with UUCM and found that they were almost unanimously ...the inter-generational connections that we make in our congregation. We are one big family, after all, and we look forward to more opportunities for all ages to come together. Keep your eyes out for a puzzle table to appear during Snack Hour!

NOW HEAR THIS!

The new podcast, UUCM Radio, will be available for listening and download soon! The inaugural episode features our beloved Anita Wald-Tuttle's candid interview about her life and the surprising roots of UUCM, conducted by our teen and teacher crew. Stay tuned for more info!

FAMILY MINISTRY TEAM:

Walt O'Maley, Jo Waters, Marilyn Winters, Jennifer Tayler, with Co-Chairs, Lindsay Dunckel and Rene Wiley

Introducing



Radio UUCM

Here at UUCM, we are a community of fascinating individuals with an abundance of compelling stories and captivating talents. In an effort to highlight and preserve that abundance, the Religious Education Teen group has started UUCM Radio. We hope to have a series of interviews with various members. With such a diverse community, this should be a fascinating project in the coming months.

As you will hear in this episode, the teens came up with some very insightful questions.

Our first interview was with Anita Wald-Tuttle who needs no introduction. She is quite a lady and gave a very interesting interview. As her dance instructor says (yep she is still dancing) she is a young lady at only 91. I think from the interview you will agree.

The interviews can be found in the online forum and can be accessed through the forum.

PART 1

Here we cover the following questions:

- Tell me your story
- Did you envision UUCM would be what it is today and what is your hope for the future?
- What is your strongest memory from childhood?
- What are the most significant events in your life

PART 2

- Why is volunteering important?
- What music did you like as a teen?
- What is your biggest regret?
- What is your biggest accomplishment?
- What advice would you give us teens?

PART 3

- What do you know for sure? (This is vintage Anita.)

Adult Religious Exploration



...Cultivating our spiritual, emotional and intellectual strength to create a world more compassionate, sustainable and just.

Adult RE Classes for January

THE AGING WORKSHOP SERIES: AUDACIOUS AGING SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1-3 PM - CHANNING ROOM

The experience of aging is undergoing a radical transformation. After 60 is no longer the "go gently into the night" stage of life. With added decades of quality living ahead, audacious elders can now expect to live a fully engaged and exciting life for years after 60. Come and hear about the ideas and lives of some of the 32 authors in this compendium, *Audacious Aging*, edited by Stephanie Marohn. If you came to the other Saturdays in this Aging Series, great, and if this one is your first, that's OK. Each workshop is designed as a separate experience. But, don't miss this one! You will find dozens of ideas to open your mind to new horizons of possibilities for the second half of life. The tsunami of the aging baby boomer population is already under way and redefining aging in our society and our way of living. **Contact Anita Wald-Tuttle (anitaw1t3@gmail.com) to sign up.**

SECOND SUNDAY SPIRITUAL PRACTICES SAMPLER "SEEKING A WORD"

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 1:30-2:30 PM

Our Spiritual Practices Samplers are held the second Sunday of each month, after the Soup Potluck, from 1:30-2:30. They are designed to offer a hands-on introduction to various spiritual practices that members and friends find meaningful and sustaining.

This month, we draw a New Year's practice from our Soul Matters guides.

Catholics speak of a time in the third and fourth centuries when people would go to the desert and seek out monk-like hermits for guidance and wisdom. This tradition is referred to as "seeking a word." These wise "desert mothers and fathers" would offer people a word or a phrase to ponder for weeks, years and even a lifetime.

The idea behind this practice was that a simple word - when reflected upon with discipline - has the power to create possibilities in us and in the world. These words weren't instructions as much as invitations to open oneself in new ways. As one writer puts it, they are about deepening and unfolding, rather than fixing and improving.

So this New Year's lets lean into that work of unfolding, rather than fixing. Forget about making a list of resolutions to improve yourself. Instead try out this ancient practice

of picking a word that will help keep you open to new possibilities throughout the year.

We'll explore a set of creative doorways to seeking your word, and then offer you a chance to spend a little time with your word to get your practice started. All are welcome!

SHARED PULPIT THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1-4 PM

Got a sermon in you? A message to offer?

In the new year, Rev. Kevin will again lead a 10-session sermon seminar for a circle of 6-8 people. The experience was rich and deep last year and led to some wonderful services!

Using *The Shared Pulpit*, a book and a process developed by the Rev. Erika Hewitt, each person will gradually develop a complete sermon, with support, feedback, and encouragement from the rest of the circle. Then, willing members will work with Worship Team members and our Music Director to develop a service around the sermon and its theme.

This will be a significant and meaningful commitment, as the group will meet every two weeks for three hours from January 24 through May. The experience will function as both a space of learning and self-discovery as well as a small-group ministry, building deep connections en-route to deep expression in one's authentic voice. Our hope is that these sermons/services will then be offered on Sunday mornings over the summer and early fall, and so benefit the Community as well.

Sessions are scheduled from 1:00-4:00 PM on Thursdays, adjusted as needed with the members of the group.

If this message-crafting possibility calls to you for the new year and you are interested in being part of this experience, or if have questions, contact Rev. Kevin: minister@ugrassvalley.org

MYERS BRIGGS TYPE INDICATOR & KEIRSEY TEMPERMENT SORTER WITH REV. KARYN PACKARD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1-4 PM, SANCTUARY

TEMPERAMENT THEORY FOR YOU, YOURS, AND US, PART 1

This is a repeat of the previous two workshops for those who weren't able to attend or for those who want a refresher before the Part II class, which will be on March 2. Part 2 will be limited to those who have taken part 1.

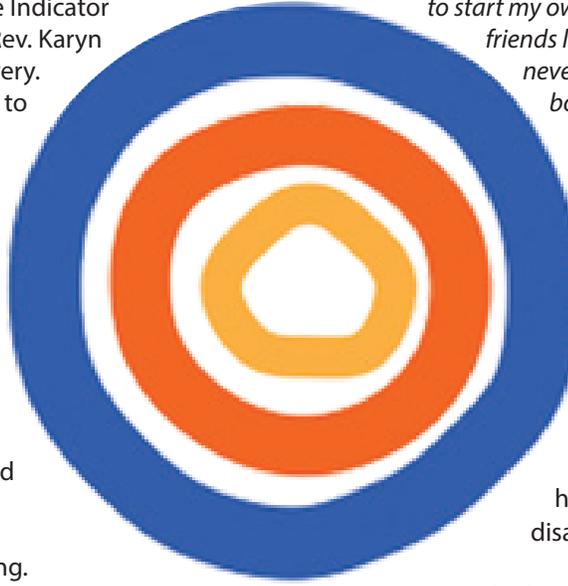
Spend an afternoon learning more about yourself, your spouse, your children or even the folks you work and worship

Full Community Education

with at UUCM. Using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Kiersey Temperament Sorter, join Rev. Karyn Packard for an insightful time of self-discovery. You'll complete your inventory online prior to the discovery session (information will be sent to each registrant). Each participant registered will receive a packet of descriptive materials related to their unique temperament type. The session will include learning about the theories and putting them into practice, with fun exercises that help us to better understand both ourselves and others.

Karyn has been licensed on these inventories for many years and has provided these sessions for church boards, couples planning on marriage, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and in HR related team building. Contact Rev. Karyn Packard (karyn@seagoer.net) or call 562-900-9546 to enroll.

Register early and receive your inventory for completion. Maximum 25 people.



to start my own business' 'I will never have close friends like I had where I used to live.' 'I will never really make a difference, so why bother?' 'UUs will always be a small faith.' "

We tell ourselves so many small things about who we and others are. And we know that's not really because we're pessimistic. More often than not, it's about protecting ourselves. There's comfort in convincing yourself that the work is hopeless; that way you don't have to try and risk failure, hurt or disappointment yet again.

Maybe being a people of possibility has more to do with being a people of vulnerability and courage than we've thought. The work isn't just about believing in possibility. It's about being willing to endure a few wounds along the way. It can hurt to be hopeful, especially with all that is going on in our world and society right now. We need to make room for that.

So maybe the question this month isn't "Are you ready to lean into possibility?" but "Who's beside you and who are you bringing along?" "Who have you gathered to patch and pick you up when the path gets bumpy?" After all, no one makes it down the road of possibility alone.

And perhaps that's the real secret: remembering that "Why not?" is something we all have to say together.

January Soul Matters Reflections

FROM THE SOUL MATTERS ORGANIZATION

What Does It Mean to be a People of Possibility?

Of all our topics this year, possibility is arguably most central to our faith. It has distinguished Unitarian Universalists from the start. Historically, when others saw depravity and sin at the core of human identity, we saw potential--sometimes with hardly any boundaries. When many were preaching that this world was fallen, and we should look instead to the hope of an afterlife, we found ourselves falling in love with the possibility of heaven on earth. Theologically, you might say that we were the people that believed that God hadn't given up on any of us and so we shouldn't give up on each other or this world. Psychologically, it's led to us being a people of "why not?" Why not give people another chance? Why not fight what seems a losing battle? Why not risk a little failure? After all, to us the possible has always seemed more likely than not!

So that's our religion. But what about us personally? How open have you been recently to "Why not?" How's your faith in possibility doing? As we honor our religion's trust in what's possible, we need to allow space for the reality that trusting possibility isn't so easy for many of us. Here's how one Soul Matters member puts the challenge:

"When I think of possibility, I think of all the people and opportunities we close the door on such as: 'I will never see eye to eye with my sister.' 'I couldn't possibly leave this job



Soul Matters

THEMES FOR 2018-19:

January:	Possibility
February:	Trust
March:	Journey
April:	Wholeness
May:	Curiosity
June:	Beauty

January 2019 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
JANUARY 2019			
1	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation
2	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Youth Music (Beginners) Choir
3	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtman's) Singing Meditation Circle
6	Sunday	First Sunday: Bring Food for People & Pets	
		9:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
		10:25 AM	Brunch Bunch for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:45 AM	Meet the Minister
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
7	Monday	6:00 PM	Soul Matters Exploratorium
8	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Welcoming & Membership Meeting Caring Team Meeting Youth Music (Advanced) Stewardship Committee Meeting Challenging White Privilege
9	Wednesday	8:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 4:30 PM 4:30 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Nominating Committee Meeting Humanism Discussion Group Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep Youth Music (Beginners) Finance Committee Meeting Choir
10	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 5:30 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Writers' Group Social Justice Night
12	Saturday	1:00 PM	Audacious Aging Adult RE Workshop
13	Sunday	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM 1:30 PM	Sunday Service Classes for Children Classes for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Second Sunday Salad/Soup Potluck Spiritual Practices Sampler
14	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Potluck at UUCM
15	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Youth Music (Advanced) Mindfulness Recovery
16	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:30 PM	Men's Group Youth Music (Beginners) Social Justice Committee Meeting

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
		6:30 PM	Choir
17	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Board of Trustees Meeting Climate Change Coalition
18	Friday	4:00 PM 4:00 PM	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place Nugget Fringe Festival
19	Saturday	8:00 AM 11:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party Nugget Fringe Festival
20	Sunday	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 12:45 PM 1:00 PM	Mountain Chalice Articles Due Sunday Service Classes for Children Classes for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Family Ministry Team Meeting Nugget Fringe Festival
21	Monday	10:30 AM	Grass Valley Love Walk (10:30-4:00)
22	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Youth Music (Advanced) Challenging White Privilege
23	Wednesday	8:30 AM 1:30 PM 4:30 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Soul Matters Circle Sampler Youth Music (Beginners) Choir
24	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 1:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Writers' Group Shared Pulpit Nugget Fringe Festival Worship Committee Meeting
25	Friday	4:00 PM	Nugget Fringe Festival
26	Saturday	11:30 AM	Nugget Fringe Festival
27	Sunday	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM	Sunday Service Classes for Children Classes for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Nugget Fringe Festival
29	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Youth Music (Advanced) Mindfulness Recovery
30	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM	Men's Group Youth Music (Beginners)
31	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 1:00 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Shared Pulpit

