

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

October 2017

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Two Service Times on Sundays:**  
9:30 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 9:30 A.M. service.

Nursery care is available for both services.

### OCTOBER THEME: COURAGE

What does it mean to be a people of courage?

**October 1 Courage - A Full Community Service**  
Rev. Kevin, Kristin Famula and more...

Come, enter this month's theme of courage with chances to consider the nature of courage, our own stories of courage, and the inspiring stories of others.

We'll also celebrate and thank Kristin Famula, who has served as UUCM's amazing Acting Director of Religious Education for the past year, we'll honor and thank the courageous RE Visioning Team, and we'll say hello to UUCM's new Religious Education Coordinator.

**October 8 Stories of Courage: A Tapestry Service**

Voices and stories of UUCM members and friends, maybe even you!

**October 15 White Supremacy Teach-In 2**

Through the insights and voices of persons of color we'll continue to face and examine white supremacy in our culture and in ourselves, engaging in the courageous spiritual/emotional work that can strengthen our wholeness as individuals and as a community. We'll join UU congregations across the country in this deepening, ongoing work.

**October 22 Resurrecting the Spirit: Beyond Addiction**  
Rev. Kevin with Carmen Riley

With a message of hope, courage and possibility we'll explore the nature and reality of addiction, recognizing the connections to our own lives, our spirituality, and the many kinds of addictions we may face.

**October 29 Readyng and Remembering:**  
An All-souls Reflection  
Rev. Kevin and Others

In this annual service of remembrance, at the time of year when so many traditions acknowledge the tender line between life and death, we'll name and honor our loved ones who have died, and invite each other to notice and tend to that tender line in our own existence.

Please bring to the service mementos or photos of those you wish to remember ... or... send photos of loved ones who have died to Rev. Kevin ([minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org)) by October 26.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa  
UUCM Minister

## Panning for Gold

### Installation Thanks

Right up to the September 16 Installation service and beyond, people have been asking me what an installation service is all about. "What does it mean and what difference does it make?"

At root an installation service is the public ritual that communicates, celebrates, affirms and witnesses the mutual decision already made by a congregation and the minister it has called. Technically, I was already as called as I was going to be when UUCM members took that vote in May of 2016 and when I accepted that call from across the street. At that level, nothing has changed.

Beneath that surface however, the celebrating, affirming and witnessing of our mutual decision does make a difference. I expect that many of you who participated in the service will have felt a difference. The laying on of hands, the charges to minister and congregation, the reaching outward, the witness and presence of UU clergy from around the region and blessings from local interfaith leaders – all help us to remember, recommit and enter more deeply the journey already underway. The day held a powerful and moving energy.

And for all of that, tremendous thanks are in order, including to all of you who took part.

Corrie Silva anchored the detailed planning around the service, with Laura Zimmerman. Beryl Maclean, with assistance from Brenda Morgan, organized the amazing reception. These were the planning team members. Please thank all of them when you have a chance!

Abundant thanks also to The Worship Committee for the very beautiful chalice lighting, Jordan and our UU Musicians for rich and energized music, to Mags Matthews and all you water dancers, to Charlie Zimmerman who handled the sound and video, to The Rev. Karyn Packard for a beautiful invocation, to The Rev. Dr. Judith Ellen O'Neill for an extraordinary waterfall of fabric, to Janet Bullock for the use of her beautiful paintings, to other artists for their wonderful water art, to Kathryn Young for her great design work, to board members and Liam McCarthy for offering the congregation's commitments to and expectations of me, to Taylor Carey and Lindsay Dunckel for welcoming us so thoughtfully, to Robin Hart, Kia Hatch and Judith Ellen for the very beautiful Yuba River stole given to me

in the service, to the water carriers, including founder Anita Wald-Tuttle, Jesse and Norah, to Clarita Nolan for capturing the day in photos, to Bob Branstrom for recording the sounds of the service, to all the greeters and ushers and movers and shakers and haulers and cleaners and workers behind the scenes – and everyone yet unnamed... I am so grateful, personally and on behalf of the congregation.

And please thank the Grass Valley United Methodist Church and The Rev. Becky Goodwin for their kind hospitality and the wonderfully generous use of their space.

Year number two is upon us. Here we go!

– Rev. Kevin

### Rev. Kevin's Schedule

Rev. Kevin will be off and/or away on the following dates:

**NOVEMBER 14-16:** In Boston with the UUA Music Leader Certification Committee

**NOVEMBER 17-19:** On Study Leave



**VALLEY MUSIC:**  
An evening of music with family and friends!  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 7:00 P.M.

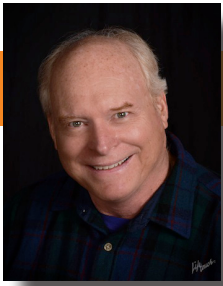
Rev. Kevin and Music Director Jordan Thomas-Rose team up to offer a wonderfully eclectic and entertaining evening of music with members of the congregation, friends and family. There will be chances for you to sing too. Watch for details and ticket sales, and mark your calendars for this is a not-to-be-missed fund- and fundraiser!

**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

## Board of Trustees



Taylor Carey,  
President,  
UUCM Board of Trustees

Our theme for this month is "Courage," a word that means many things to many people. I have been bedeviled by the word my entire life. As long as I can remember, complete strangers have approached me to unburden themselves of their admiration for my "courage." I've also been told how much God loves me and that I am the source of great inspiration. On the other hand, a few have offered, unsolicited, their conviction that they would rather be dead than trade places with me. Likewise, I'm sure. But in the real world where it counts, courage conjures up images of brave men and women in our uniformed services putting their lives on the line for the sake of their country, their communities, for their friends, and for complete strangers. Others see courage is the quiet expression of resolve in the face of overwhelming force, as when a lone, unarmed young man in Tiananmen Square stared down a massive tank.

It is these things, of course, it is also the young, frightened teacher on his or her first day in a school with a reputation for unruliness and violence. It is even a child in that teacher's class raising a hand in response to a question, knowing that they risk being marked in some way as a suck-up, apple polisher, smarty pants, or worse. They make movies about big acts of courage, which in the pantheon of human activity, are a tiny sampling of the courage it takes people every day to put one foot in front of the other, to confront their individual challenges and dreads, and to triumph, quietly, one more time. These are life's unsung heroes. Like everyone else, because they are everyone else, they watch their heroes on the big screen oblivious of their own greatness.

Okay, so what does this have to do with anything? Just this, it also takes courage to grow and to change out of the comfortable ways we have done things into the stiff, new, and untried methods that may open doors into our future.

This year the Board of Trustees is grappling with a number of new approaches to old challenges. Last year, the Board appointed the Governance Work Group, Chaired by



Janet Dunstan, to look at our governance structure and to recommend alternatives to the status quo in hopes of eliminating, or at least reducing, much of the duplication of effort that stifles creativity and innovation. Please read Janet's article in this month's *Mountain Chalice* on page 4.

As I mentioned in my very first *Mountain Chalice* article, we must courageously evolve our concept of Stewardship from the current model, in which we are periodically hectored and cajoled into parting, amidst great grumbling, with our precious, hard-earned cash, into the far more accurate and vastly more satisfying recognition that we are all full-time stewards of our spiritual home. We are the UU Community of the Mountains. It is not a separate entity with a life of its own endlessly tugging at our checkbooks. It is the living embodiment of our hopes and dreams for a better community and a better world. The talk of devoting our Time, Talent, and Treasure to UUCM is not just a chance for alliteration but a reminder that all three elements are essential to the spiritual health of our happy band of free-thinking, community-minded individualists.

Addendum: I am sorry to report that one of our free-thinking, community-minding individualists, Board member at large, Greg Fancher has decided to resign both his position on the Board and his membership in UUCM. We are sorry to see him go and wish him well. His departure leaves not only a void in our hearts, but also a spot on the Board. This is a vibrant and dynamic time and we need all hands on deck. If you would like to be considered as a candidate to fill this new vacancy, or if you would like to anoint someone else, please contact Nominating Committee Chair, Kathryn Young, ([kathryneyounguu@gmail.com](mailto:kathryneyounguu@gmail.com)) or any member of that committee or the Board to let them know of your interest. Contact information for Nominating Committee members can be found on page 7.

### UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

Taylor Carey, *President*  
Lindsay Dunckel, *Vice-President*  
Charlie Zimmerman, *Treasurer*  
Sandi Lauher, *Secretary*

#### **Members at Large:**

George Dunstan, Beth Freedman, Yvonne Mills

*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.*



# Governance Working Group

## Governance Working Group Status Update

By Janet Dunstan, Chair, Governance Working Group

In February the Board of Trustees established a Governance Working Group (GWG) to make recommendations on our governance structure. Our goal is to identify a model that 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.

GWG has developed a working model and in September introduced this to leadership representatives (out-going and incoming Chairs) to solicit their feedback. Many insights, questions, as well as concerns were identified. Some of the positive aspects acknowledged were: the model lessens Board role, gives ministry teams and committees more autonomy, helps the Board establish meaningful goals and objectives, and provides more clarity for Members.

Based on their insights, the GW Group is further developing the model for introduction to the congregation in November. The discussion will continue within our Community as our work group moves toward a final recommendation to the Board. At that point, the Board will make a recommendation to the Voters (members of UUCM), to approve the new structure. After your acceptance, appropriate changes would be made to the bylaws and policies. Stay tuned for more info about how you can participate in this effort.

GWG members are: Janet Dunstan, Taylor Carey, Dave MacLeod, Joel Houtman, Kern Hildebrand, and Bob Packard.



### ~ What is Governance? ~

A system by which the Congregation exercises its authority so that it is appropriate, reliable, fair and understandable to all involved.

The system defines decision-making carried out by the Board, Minister, and Committees on behalf of the Members, and defines decision-making authority of the Congregation as a whole.

It further defines responsibilities, relationships, authority, and accountability among these groups.

## Stewardship Committee

### Stewardship Committee Revitalized!

By Lin Jovanović, Chair, Stewardship Committee

In so many ways, UUCM is becoming revitalized under the able guidance of Rev. Kevin. Our committees are examining their mission, as is the whole congregation, and a new focus is emerging that helps all of us live our mission as UUs. The Stewardship Committee is right on track too and after a planning meeting with current Stewardship members, several members of the Board of Trustees, and Rev. Kevin, we are moving forward to revitalize our mission too.

Over the next few months you will see articles and hear members of the congregation express what stewardship is all about. We hope you will read them as part of your education about our congregation. The new Stewardship Committee will meet in a few weeks and we will be discussing how to learn from all of you what you think being a good steward means. We know that the time, talent, and treasure of our members and friends is what allows us to realize our spirituality and carry the flame of peace and love to others. Look for workshops we will be offering in the fall and spring to discuss the intersection of money and spirituality.

Welcome to our new church revitalized!

# Membership & Hospitality Committee

## Upcoming Classes about UUism

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Minister and  
Claire Miller, Membership Chair

Find out more about Unitarian Universalism in this series of sessions open to those who are new to UU as well as those who are long timers. Most of the sessions are held on Tuesday evenings. All are welcome.

The Saturday morning "Membership" session on October 28 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. is an opportunity to find out more about membership and UUCM in particular.

This class is a great way to get all your questions answered (even those you didn't know you had), and to get to know some other seekers. It too is open to everyone - people who are new to UUism, new to UUCM, or long time members wanting to reconnect.

Because a light lunch is included in the Saturday morning session, we will need an accurate count of who will be attending.

Please contact Claire Miller ([truckeeclaire@yahoo.com](mailto:truckeeclaire@yahoo.com) or 530-205-5324), or sign up at the Membership table on Sunday morning, for more information and to reserve a space.

### UU THEOLOGY & WORSHIP

Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### UU HISTORY: WHERE DO WE COME FROM?

Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### THE NEW UU - MEMBERSHIP, AN ORIENTATION

Saturday, October 28, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at UUCM

### THE NEW UU - HOW WE GROW IN FAITH

Tuesday, November 7, 6:30 p.m.

### NEW MEMBER WELCOME SERVICE

Sunday, November 12 at both services

### THE NEW UU - SOCIAL JUSTICE PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE

Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m.

### THE NEW UU - HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE:

#### GOVERNANCE AND POLITY

Tuesday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Claire Miller, chair  
Kathy MacLeod and Marilyn Young

Contact Claire Miller, [truckeeclaire@yahoo.com](mailto:truckeeclaire@yahoo.com)  
if you have any questions about membership, or are  
interested in joining the committee.

## We'd Love Some Shadows...

### GIVE GREETING AND/OR USHERING A TRY!

By Kathy MacLeod, Membership Committee

A great way to "dip your toe in" to see if greeting or ushering is a good fit for you is to shadow an existing greeter or usher. You can find out more about what the jobs entail, and whether you feel comfortable in the role.

Greeting involves a relatively short time commitment on a Sunday morning. There are no meetings to attend, or homework. It's a wonderful way to meet new people. No previous experience necessary – just your friendly face.

Please contact me if you have questions or wish to volunteer:  
Kathy MacLeod: [horsenana@sbcglobal.net](mailto:horsenana@sbcglobal.net) or (530) 477-5824.

## Snack Teams for October!

By Marilyn Young, Coordinator, UUCM Hospitality Hour

Hospitality time will be between the services from approximately 10:30 until 11:20 a.m. If you attend the first service, please drop your contributions in the kitchen before you sit down for the service. If you attend the second service, please bring your snacks back to the kitchen by 10:30 a.m. (or earlier!), then enjoy the hospitality time between services prior to attending the second service.

Here is the schedule for October:

1st Sunday of the Month: (October 1)	A to E
2nd Sunday of the Month: (October 8)	F to J
3rd Sunday of the Month: (October 15)	K to R
4th Sunday of the Month: (October 22)	S to Z
5th Sunday of the Month: (October 29)	ALL

Each week we need two or three "sweet treats" and two or three "healthy choices." Please remember to include foods for those with dietary restrictions whenever possible... gluten-free, vegetarian, etc. And it is especially helpful if you label what you've brought to help those with allergies or other health issues make good decisions.

When it is your team's Sunday, please let Marilyn Young ([marilyn04@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn04@gmail.com)) know if you will be participating, and also let her know if it's a "Sweet Treat" or a "Healthy Treat." We will send out a weekly reminder.

If you have questions, wish to help set up or clean up, or have something to donate, please contact Marilyn Young: ([hospitality@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:hospitality@uugrassvalley.org), or [marilyn04@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn04@gmail.com) or 916-203-5962.)

# Mission Renewal Process Team



UU COMMUNITY OF THE MOUNTAINS

## MISSION

### Our Renewed Mission is Underway!

By Rene Wiley, Mission Renewal Process Team Member

On Saturday, members of the congregation were skillfully led by Linda Laskowski in the discovery of meaning that will develop into a new mission statement. The children and youth started us off with their inspiration of what church and community means to them.

There were 45 people in attendance. Here are some comments from the day:

*"Pretty awesome. The whole process made me think deeply and philosophically"*

*"I feel excited and hopeful."*

*"Well-planned, very open and engaging. Good process, we worked hard! Everyone was focused and concentrating"*

*"Just right!"*

The congregation thoughtfully opened their hearts and minds giving renewed life to our faith, renewed purpose to our community. As Robert Latham reminds us, the ultimate social and transformative power of a congregation is commensurate with its measure of focus on its religious mission.

The end of the day brought a shared sense of accomplishment with hope and enthusiasm to spare, as evidenced by this word cloud:



If you attended the workshop and have not completed your survey for Linda Laskowski, please do! Click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K3DTBCM>



### ...and the journey continues!

The big reveal!

We proudly announced your Mission Refining Team:

- Lesley Champlin
- Susan Merrill
- Gail Johnson-Vaughan
- Tom Wernigg

This dynamic team will collaboratively craft our mission statement based on the collective input gathered at the workshop. They have important work ahead. Please thank them graciously when you see them.

### ...next steps! Save these dates!

We have scheduled three opportunities to attend Small Group Discussion meetings to review Mission Covenant Draft 1:

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH AT 11:30 A.M. (DURING 2ND SERVICE) AND 12:30 P.M. (AFTER 2ND SERVICE), AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND AT 6:00 P.M. WITH PIZZA**

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH:

All Congregation Meeting to review Mission Covenant Draft 2

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH (Target Date)

All Congregation Meeting to vote on new Mission Statement

We look forward to continued work together.

Your Mission Renewal Process Team:

Beth Freedman, Jim Perkins, Rev. Kevin Tarsa and René Wiley





## Committee on Ministry

### The New CoM

By Janet Dunstan, Chair,  
Committee on Ministry

Fall is a time when plants and animals slow down and begin the process of building strength for rebirth in the Spring. And so it is with UUCM as we enter a time of reflection and planning for rebirth. A new Mission statement will give us a shared purpose, and a new Governance structure will give us the framework for accomplishing this.

How will we know if we are effective in fulfilling our Mission and if our Governance structure is functioning optimally? This evaluation is the task of the Committee on Ministry. With a focus on potential rather than problems, we will be assessing the alignment among our ministries and synergy with our governance, all relative to UUCM's mission. Our functions are: assessment, education, and consultation; our sole authority is that of recommendation.

Some questions we will work with are: How are our ministries relevant to our Mission Statement? Are UUCM goals Mission-focused? Are effective processes used and consistent with bylaws, written policy, and authority? We will spend several months on a single area of ministry or governance (membership, board, stewardship, finance, RE, etc) and use various methods to gather data: surveys, meeting with committees and ministry teams, one-on-one conversations, soliciting input from Members, and casual CoM open meetings. We will keep you informed on which area we will be focusing to give you an opportunity to assist us in our work.

Your Committee on Ministry is open to questions or comments at any time. Members are Gwen Eymann, Kate Canan, Rev. Kevin, and Janet Dunstan.

## Interfaith Prayer Vigil

### Interfaith Prayer Vigil for World Unity

SPONSORED BY BAHÁ'IS AND INTERFAITH  
NEVADA COUNTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 7 AM – 9 PM

at Grass Valley United Methodist Church (our neighbors)

Welcome and Peace Rose Ceremony	10:00 a.m.
Singing Meditation Circle	3-4:00 p.m.
UUCM hosts prayer	6-7:00 p.m.
Closing Ceremony	7:00 p.m.

*All day, continuous prayer. All welcome.*

## Nominating Committee

### Passing the Torch

By Kathryn Young, Chair, Nominating Committee

The 2016-17 Nominating Committee met with the new 2017-18 Nominating Committee on Wednesday, September 20th to share a delicious potluck lunch at the Houtman's home, and to pass on their wisdom and experiences to the newly elected committee.

They all agreed that they had a wonderfully enriching experience serving on the Nominating Committee, and that they were grateful for having the opportunity to serve.

*"Who knew Nominating Committee would be so much fun?"*  
- Scottie Hart

*"We were a great team on Nominating Committee. Meetings were concise and focused. Everyone did their tasks wonderfully!"*  
- Theresa Houtman

*"The Nominating Committee was one meeting that I looked forward to attending."*  
- Wally Holtan

And best of all, we all got to go out and harvest tomatoes and more from Theresa's amazing edible landscape before we left! Yum. See photo below of both the incoming and outgoing teams (except for Robin Hart) standing in Theresa's garden.

Knowing we have big shoes to fill, our new crew is eager to get started on the important job of finding willing and qualified members of our congregation to carry on the work of the UUCM board and the nominating committee in 2018-19. If you have any interest in or questions about how to serve on a future UUCM board or on next year's Nominating Committee, please contact one of the members of the current team: Kathryn Young, 478-1329, Melissa Ridgway, 952-239-3969; Robin Hart, 271-7121; and Dave MacLeod, 477-5824.

*Thank you!*



# Social Justice News and Activities

## Social Justice Evenings:

COMING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 5:30 P.M.

By Laura Zimmerman, Member, Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee is bringing important social issues of our times to our congregation and to our wider community by hosting a series of Social Justice Evenings. These events are both informative and create opportunities for action.

The last event was a presentation on the state of homelessness in Nevada County on September 14th. Nevada County Supervisor, Heidi Hall and Brendan Phillips, Nevada County's Housing Resource Manager (and son of folksinger and co-founder of Hospitality House, Utah Phillips) described the history and current problem of homelessness in our area.

Not only was there a lively discussion about the condition of homelessness in our county but also what we can do about it. One idea discussed was the possibility of forming an interfaith coalition of local congregations in the near future to proactively address homelessness.

Our next Social Justice Night will be on Thursday, October 12th at 5:30 p.m. We will be discussing Climate Change. So bring a family member and a friend to learn and become involved.

The Social Justice Committee requests that attendees please RSVP to the committee chair, Stu Chuang Matthews, at his email address: [stu@fourmajor.com](mailto:stu@fourmajor.com). Thank you.



## Hospitality House Dinner Crew Prepares Meals at Utah's Place FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 4 P.M.

By Keith Johnson, Member, 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).

## Animal Blessings

By Carol Hyndman, Member, Social Justice Committee

The Animal Ministry is planning to have an animal blessing service sometime this Fall; the date has not been set yet. We are collecting donations for Nevada County Pets of the Homeless on the first Sunday of each month, when other food donations are collected for the Interfaith Food Ministry. Nevada County Pets of the Homeless provides food and services for our local homeless and their pets. Contact Carol Hyndman with any questions ([countrycattery@gmail.com](mailto:countrycattery@gmail.com)).

## Constitution Day Parade

UUCM was well represented at the 51st Annual Constitution Day Parade in Nevada City after services on September 10th. We held our up our UUCM logo, carried our "Black Lives Matter" banner, and literally wore our hearts on our sleeves with our bright yellow "Standing on the Side of Love" shirts, courageously witnessing our point of view. Thank you to all who participated.





# Soul Matters

## Soul Matters This Month

### OUR OCTOBER THEME:

*What does it mean to be a people of courage?*

Here is **FOOD FOR THOUGHT** from the Soul Matters small group materials:

*"Courage doesn't always roar."*

*-Mary Ann Radmacher*

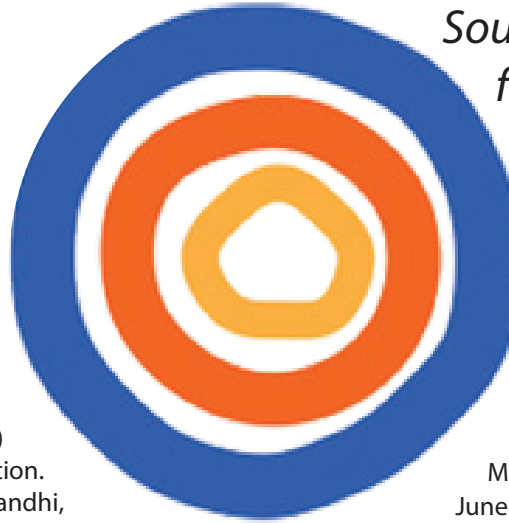
Courageous people change the world. There are so many examples of that this month. October is LGBTQ history month and reminds us of the many who bravely moved (and continue to move) our world toward greater acceptance and affirmation. The revolutionary prophet of peace, Mohandas Gandhi, was born on October 2. Our Christian friends celebrate Reformation Day and Martin Luther's courage that changed how we all think about religious authority. We rightly honor such giants. The problem is most of us aren't that tall.

Or are we? Here's what we have to help each other remember: In addition to the heroic acts that alter history, there are also the daily choices that prevent history from altering us. Battling evil and bending the arc of the universe toward justice deserves praise, but there's also the ordinary work of integrity and not allowing yourself to be bent. This needs to be noticed as well. There's the bravery of embracing your beauty even when it doesn't fit the air-brushed images surrounding you. There's the courage of calling out the micro-aggressions that happen almost every day at work. And what about resisting the persistent seduction of status and stuff?

The list is long: Turning down that drink one day at a time. Making yourself get out of bed when the depression tells you to stay there. Holding your partner's hand in public. Make no mistake, there are dozens of ordinary acts of bravery we rise up to everyday!

Or maybe we should say there are dozens of ordinary acts of bravery we help each other rise up to every day. Courage is not only noble; it's contagious. The bravery that makes it into the history books may save the world, but our ordinary courage keeps each other going. Watching someone else make it through another day helps us endure. Witnessing someone else confront bigotry allows us to bravely be more open about who we are. They say that courage is found by digging deep, but most often it is passed on.

So don't worry so much if you haven't changed the world yet. And certainly let's stop comparing ourselves with those giants. Our work rests less in looking up to them and more in looking over at and gaining strength from each other. And remembering that others are looking over at and needing strength from us.



## Soul Matters Themes for 2017-18

*What does it mean to be a people of...*

October:	Courage
November:	Abundance
December:	Hope
January:	Intention
February:	Perseverance
March:	Balance
April:	Emergence
May:	Creativity
June:	Blessing

## UUCM Library Team

### UUCM Library is Open for Business!

*By Mary Orr, Library Team*

On Sunday, October 1st, the UUCM Library will be opened with a short dedication ceremony between services. After several months of work by many people, we hope you will be pleased with the results!

- Fresh paint
- Three new handcrafted book cases and a window seat with storage, thanks to Joel Houtman and Charlie Zimmerman
- Many new books to choose from, including an extensive donation by Dr. Alicia Forsey
- A beautiful display of artwork by UUCM artists, coordinated by Eileen Hale
- Each book in the collection contains a book plate designed by Kathryn Young

The Library Team (Anita, Carmen, Helen and Mary) will be handing out copies of the Library Procedures list. The check-out binder will be ready for your use. We invite you to scan the shelves, check out all the categories, and take two books home with you. We'd like your comments and suggestions. We appreciate your support and patience over the last few months.

# Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

## Speed Bumps of Life Affinity Group

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAYS, 10:30 A.M.,

ANTHONY ROOM ANNEX

*Like all addictions, \_\_\_ (Fill in the blank) \_\_\_ kills the spirit.*

Individual addictions often cover a wide range of behaviors that far exceed the use of drugs and/or alcohol.

**Speed Bumps** is a newly established support group where both men and women can come together in a safe and confidential setting to explore the many challenges of addictive behaviors. This is not a Twelve Step program, nor is the goal to fix or offer counseling, but a drop-in gathering in which to provide UUCM members the opportunity to share any number of outside influences that distract from the sense of the spiritual.

Whether you're already established in long time recovery, new to recovery, or just exploring the possibly, please feel welcome to join us every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 10:30 to noon in the annex room of the UUCM Library.

Although we encourage folks to arrive on time with plans to stay the full hour and a half, we would rather you arrive late than not arrive at all.

For additional information: Carmen Riley (530) 272-2803, Scottie Hart (530)388-8612, or Gwen Eymann (530) 274-7965.

## Women's Circle in October:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2017, 6 P.M. AT UUCM

Please join other UUCM women for a potluck dinner and conversation on Monday, October 9 at 6:00 p.m. A reminder will be send out by email to all in the Women's Circle email list.

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.

## 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. 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))

## 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](mailto:shelley10493@gmail.com)

## 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.

## Drop-In Support Circle Has Moved

SUNDAYS AFTER THE FIRST SERVICE,

UUCM ANTHONY ROOM ANNEX

The Drop-In Support Circle has moved to the library annex, the back section of the library. We meet each Sunday at 10:50 a.m. for about 35 minutes. Grab something to eat and drink and come join us if you're needing a little extra support or inspiration from other caring folks, or if you have some extra support to offer. The circle is not a therapy group; it is a confidential sharing circle, and is facilitated by congregation members on a rotating basis. (Even if you don't feel like talking but just want to sit among caring people, you are welcome to come.)

## FROM A DROP IN SUPPORT CIRCLE PARTICIPANT:

*The Drop-In Support Circle that meets between our Sunday Services is a tool for improving the status of our lives.*

*When we meet to share what is happening in our lives that may need some light shown on it for better understanding of how to handle or view it, we can receive the slightly different perspective that makes the difference.*

*The good work of our collective Life Spirit Presences (or our collective consciences and guides) gathered together in one small room (now the Library Annex) is able to help us enough that we feel better at the time just from the exposure. And it is also possible that these influences continue on into a person's life.*

*This is not to negate the value of the persons who listen in the room and sometimes have responses, usually about how they have handled something like what is the subject matter being shared.*

Circle Facilitators: (rotating) Janet Bullock (530-477-8760, [janetbullock41@gmail.com](mailto:janetbullock41@gmail.com)), Corrie Silva, Tom Wernigg, and Penelope Williams.



# Full Community Education

*Kristin Famula,  
Acting Director of  
Religious Education*

*What a joy it was to spend a Saturday with our fantastic RE Visioning Team for our annual retreat – to plan our religious education offerings for people of all ages. Your team acknowledged their function not only as a visioning body, but also as a committee of the congregation – and elected Lindsay Dunckel and Rene Wiley as co-chairs. Together we envisioned goals for this coming year and dreams for as far out as 2027.*

*Your Religious Education team – 10 dedicated and loving individuals – are ready to support your new RE Coordinator and to carry the momentum of our faith formation programming into the future.*

*It has been such a pleasure to serve you all over this past year – and I am so grateful for the learning we have all done together. You have shown an immense commitment to ongoing personal, spiritual, and religious growth and I feel excited and confident about your ability to offer vibrant religious education to people of all ages and to grow and transform as you are called to do so.*

*With much gratitude and love,*

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

## TRANSITIONS

We have moved through deep grounding, infrastructure building, and future-thinking in order to get to this transition point in our Religious Education at UUCM. We are excited to have hired a new RE Coordinator AND new child care providers!



*It is my pleasure to introduce you to Butterfly Montgomery, your new Religious Education Coordinator!*

*Hi! I am Butterfly, and I am delighted to become a part of the UUCM Religious Education team. I come*

*to UUCM to share my spiritual love after having served in roles as: an Elementary School Teacher, Junior Church Minister, Reiki Healer, and Spiritual Mentor during the past 15 years. My diverse heritage provides me with a unique view for inclusiveness. I honor ALL spiritual paths that unite us as one human kind race. It will be my joy to offer my services to children of all ages at the UUCM in Grass Valley.*

## TEACHING TEAMS – GRAB A FRIEND!

- Teachers will have a team of folks to work with – you won't be alone!
- Teachers get a full lesson to use – you can be creative with your class or just use the lesson as-is!
- Teachers will be in the classroom up to two times per month (unless you want to be there every Sunday!)
- Teachers get the awesome opportunity to help people of all ages change the way they see the world.

We are currently recruiting teachers for all ages of religious education programming.

## LOOKING FOR WAYS TO EASILY SERVE?

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LIAISONS ARE NEEDED

Our programming is supported on Sundays by an RE liaison. This person helps greet new families as they come in, floats between all of our classrooms during the service making sure teachers have what they need, and answers questions of our families after the service. It's a fun and very important role! The next training for Greeters and RE liaisons will be October 15th at 8:30 a.m.! RSVP to Kathy MacLeod: [horsenana@sbcglobal.net](mailto:horsenana@sbcglobal.net) or (530) 477-5824.

## UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- October 1:  
9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Full Community Religious Ed. Kick Off  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Religious Education Training (*all teachers and volunteers are encouraged to attend*)
- October 8: Classes for Children and Youth; 9:30 a.m.
- October 13-15: District youth retreat (all youth in the Pacific Central District, 9th-12th grade invited to attend) – registration deadline is September 28th: <https://register.pwruua.org/event-registrations/pcd-youth-retreat/>
- October 15: Welcoming Training - 8:30 a.m.  
Classes for Children; 9:30 a.m.  
Brunch Bunch for Youth; 9:30 a.m.
- October 29: All Ages Activity for Children & Youth, 9:30
- November 1 Family Gathering at 6:00 p.m.  
Potluck for all families  
(*We hope to make gatherings like this a monthly event.*)

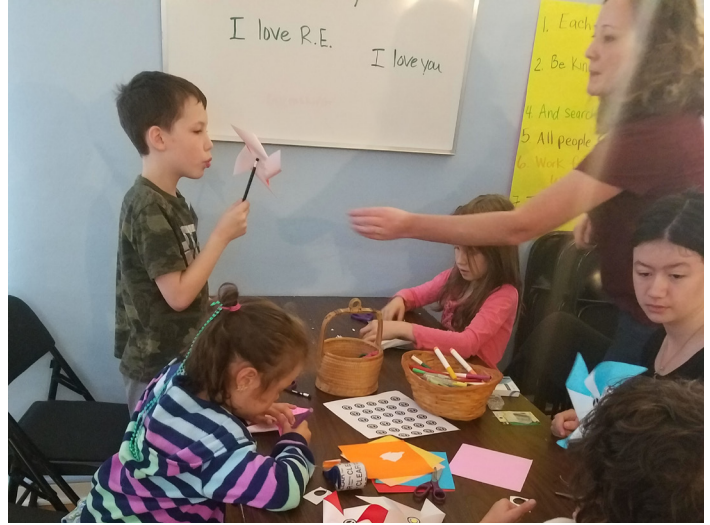


# Full Community Education, Continued

## Authentic Rocks!



## Pinwheels for Peace



R.E.  
Visioning  
Team  
at work.



# October 2017 Calendar of Events at UUCM

## DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

### SEPTEMBER

29	Friday	4:00	Dinner Preparation at Utah's Place
30	Saturday	all day	Pot of Gold – RE workshop in Oakland

### OCTOBER

1	Sunday	<b>First Sunday: Bring Food for Pets &amp; People!</b>	
		9:30	Sunday Service
		9:30	Full Community Religious Ed Kick-off
		10:40	Library Dedication Ceremony
		10:40	Social Time & "A Board Member Is In"
		10:50	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30	Sunday Service
		1:30	Religious Education Training
3	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation
		4:00	Caring Committee Meeting
		6:30	New UU - Theology & Worship
4	Wednesday	8:30	Men's Group
		10:30	Humanism Discussion Group
		4:30	Youth Music (Beginner)
		5:00	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30	Choir Rehearsal
5	Thursday	8:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee
		7:30	Singing Meditation Circle
8	Sunday	9:30	Sunday Service
		9:30	Classes for Children & Youth
		10:40	Social Time & "A Board Member Is In"
		10:50	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30	Sunday Service
9	Monday	6:00	Women's Circle & Potluck
10	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation
		5:00	Board of Trustees Meeting
11	Wednesday	8:30	Men's Group
		10:30	Speed Bumps of Life
		11:00	Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep
		4:30	Youth Music (Beginner)
		5:00	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30	Choir Rehearsal
12	Thursday	8:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee
		10:30	Writers' Group
		5:30	Social Justice Night
13-15	Fri-Sunday	All Day	District Youth Retreat
15	Sunday	8:30	Welcoming Training for Greeters, Ushers, RE Liaisons
		9:30	Sunday Service
		9:30	Brunch Bunch for Youth
		9:30	Classes for Children
		10:40	Social Time & "A Board Member Is In"
		10:50	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30	Sunday Service

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
17	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation
18	Wednesday	8:30	Men's Group
		4:30	Finance Committee Meeting
		4:30	Youth Music (Beginner)
		5:00	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30	Choir Rehearsal
19	Thursday	8:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee
		5:30	Social Justice Committee Meeting
20	Friday	4:00	Dinner Preparation at Utah's Place
21	Saturday	all day	Interfaith Prayer Vigil for World Unity Grass Valley United Methodist Church
22	Sunday	9:30	Sunday Service
		9:30	Classes for Children & Youth
		10:40	Social Time & "A Board Member Is In"
		10:50	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30	Sunday Service
23	Monday	9:00	<b>Mountain Chalice Submissions Due</b>
		1:00	Governance Working Group Meeting
24	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation
		6:30	New UU - History: <i>Where Do We Come From?</i>
25	Wednesday	8:30	Men's Group
		10:30	Speed Bumps of Life
		4:30	Youth Music (Beginner)
		5:00	Youth Music (Advanced)
26	Thursday	8:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee
		10:30	Writers' Group
		6:30	Worship Committee Meeting
28	Saturday	9:00	Intro to UU(CM) Class
29	Sunday	9:30	Sunday Service
		9:30	All Ages Activity for Children & Youth
		10:40	Social Time & "A Board Member Is In"
		10:50	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30	Mission Renewal Cottage Meeting
		11:30	Sunday Service
		12:30	Mission Renewal Cottage Meeting
31	Tuesday	9:00	Meditation

### NOVEMBER

1	Wednesday	8:30	Men's Group
		10:30	Humanism Discussion Group
		4:30	Youth Music (Beginner)
		5:00	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:00	Family Gathering & Potluck
		6:30	Choir Rehearsal
2	Thursday	8:30	Men's Group - What's Up Coffee
		7:30	Singing Meditation Circle
4	Saturday	7:00	Rev. Kevin/Jordan Concert Fundraiser
5	Sunday	<b>First Sunday: Bring Food for Pets &amp; People!</b>	



## *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)

**Two Sunday Services:** at 9:30 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*

Butterfly Montgomery, *Religious Ed Coordinator*

### **E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

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