

Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

September 2014

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THE
Mountain
CHALICE

Greetings,

Interfaith Food Ministry

1st Sunday each month

Please remember to bring nonperishable food for Interfaith Food Ministry (of which we are a Member Church), and our furry friends via Carol Hyndman.

Welcome to this month's edition of the Mountain Chalice Newsletter from the Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains (UUCM). We hope you enjoy the contents and find it informative. Feel free to share the newsletter with friends or family by clicking on the link at the bottom of the page.

Please share any feedback with editor@uugrassvalley.org.

Your articles, stories and photos make this newsletter great. Please send your content by the deadline listed at the bottom of the last page.

- Enjoy!

Upcoming Worship Services

August 24
"Share in the Journey"

August 31
"Spirituality and Shoe Leather"

September 7
TBA

September 14
TBA

September 21
TBA

September 28

Minister's Reflections



by Reverend David Usher

Dear Members and Friends of UUCM,

I write this in the study of my home in England, amid emptied book shelves, bare walls and a strong sense of endings. There have been many leave-takings over the past several months as I wind up the many strands of my ministry with the London District as well as attending to important personal relationships. Amidst all of this there have been times of sadness and regret, mutual expressions of loving

TBA

CALENDAR of Upcoming Events

Saturday, Aug 23

8:00pm - Randy McKean
Concert

Sunday, August 24

11:00 - Sunday Service

Monday, August 25

8:00am - UUCM Garden
Work Party

Tuesday, August 26

9:00am - Morning
Meditation
6:00pm - PFLAG Meeting
6:30pm - Worship
Committee

Wednesday, August 27

8:30am - Men's Get-
together
4:30pm - Finance
Committee
6:00pm - UUCM Garden
Work Party

Thursday, August 28

8:30am - Men's Group at
What's Up Coffee
10:30am - Writers Group
6:30pm - Vegan Supper
Club Potluck

Friday, August 29

4:00pm - Dinner Prep at
Utah's Place

Sunday, August 31

9:00am - Social Justice
11:00am - Sunday Service
12:30pm - Lifespan RE

Monday, September 1

4:00pm - Stewardship
Committee
5:30pm - Choir Practice

appreciation and goodwill, some tears but also much laughter. It has all made me very aware of how blessed I have been, both personally and professionally. My awareness of having been so blessed will go with me.

And, amidst all of that, has been the anticipation of what awaits me in Grass Valley. I am experiencing the usual range of emotions at the prospect. I fluctuate between excitement and anxiety, two different names for much the same emotion. I am curious about what it will be like living in your beautiful town, what new interests and activities I will discover as well as indulging familiar favorites like hiking and skiing.

But most of all, I am looking forward to the next two years. After the protracted and frequently frustrating process of procuring my Immigration Visa, I am coming to a new style of ministry for me, in a new place, with new people. You! Interim Ministry is designed to do two things. First, to mind the store while you undertake the important task of appointing your next settled minister, a process which will take two years. Second, to help you address whatever issues, dysfunctions or frustrations there might be within your congregational system so that you will be better prepared to welcome that settled minister when s/he arrives. If we all know from the beginning that I will be moving on in two years, we can be more lovingly honest with each other.

As I have been simultaneously both looking back wistfully and looking ahead excitedly, doubtless so have you as you have been considering the life of UUCM. You will have your personal and shared memories of Rev. Meghan's ministry, memories which might bring tears of loving appreciation and perhaps some tears of pain. There are always both in any meaningful relationship. The life of a congregation, like our own lives, ever consists of poignant leave-takings but also of glad welcomings. Even as you look back and consider your past, I hope you are also now looking forward with anticipation to what beckons in the future.

I have been a minister now for thirty three years. I hope I have picked up a few skills along the way which will be of benefit to UUCM. I know that in return I will have much to learn and benefit from you.

See you in church!

David

Tuesday, September 2

9:00am - Morning
Meditation

Wednesday, September 3

8:30am - Men's Get-
together
10:30am - Humanism
Discussion Group
7:00pm - Drumming Circle

Thursday, September 4

8:30am - Men's Group at
What's Up Coffee

Sunday, September 7

8:00am - UUCM Garden
Work Party
11:00am - Sunday Service
12:15pm - Kiva Party
12:30pm - DOVE

Monday, September 8

5:30pm - Choir Practice

Tuesday, September 9

9:00am - Morning
Meditation
4:00pm-Caring Committee
6:00pm - Women's Group

Wednesday, Sep 10

8:30am - Men's Get-
together
11:00am - Habitat for
Humanity Lunch Prep
6:00pm - What in the World
is a UU

Thursday, September 11

8:30am - Men's Group at
What's Up Coffee
10:30am - Writers Group

Sunday, September 14

8:00am - UUCM Garden
Work Party
11:00am - Sunday Service
12:30pm- DOVE

Monday, September 15

5:30pm - Choir Practice

Tuesday, September 16

P.S. You might be wondering, what should we call him? You have been in the habit of calling your minister Rev. Meghan, Rev. Denis, etc. I prefer just plain David. It's a name I have had all my life, and I have kind of got used to it.

President's Perspective

by Rob Ferroggiaro



It's hard to imagine that it was just nine months ago when we were beginning to say our good-byes to Rev. Meghan while facing the disappointment of being unable to find an interim minister who was a

match for us. Despite that apparent setback, though, an alternative path was found which led to Rev. Denis' ministry and the subsequent engagement of Rev. David Usher as our interim minister who will start here on Sept 1.

Our UU community owes a huge debt of gratitude to our Hiring Team. They persevered willingly and energetically while shouldering the ministerial search responsibility three times over a period of a full year. They were a positive force through this entire time and now are experiencing the satisfaction and joy of seeing their work bear fruit. When the opportunity presents itself, please express your appreciation to Amy Renee who provided such strong leadership as chair of the Hiring Team, and to her teammates Keith Johnson and Suzanne Ferroggiaro.

In anticipation of the Sept 1 arrival of our interim minister, David Usher, a Transition Team has been formed to support our new minister. This team will help him connect with our UUCM history, our lay leaders, staff, and our UU community at large. The team will also be a resource to him as he settles into his personal life in a new community in a new country. Serving on the Transition Team are Lindsay Dunkel and Keith Johnson, as well as Susan Sanford who will be serving as point person for the team.

David Usher is joining us as our interim minister to help us process all the changes we have been through, and to

9:00am - Morning
Meditation
1:00pm - Grandmothers for
Peace
6:00pm - Introduction to a
Practice
6:30pm - Climate Change
Coalition

Wednesday, Sep 17

8:30am - Men's Get-
together
6:00pm -
What in the World is a UU
7:00pm - Drumming Circle

Thursday, September 18

8:30am - Men's Group at
What's Up Coffee
6:00pm - Interfaith Scripture
Study
6:30pm - Board of Trustees

Friday, September 19

4:00pm - Dinner Prep at
Utah's Place
MOUNTAIN CHALICE
ARTICLES DUE

Saturday, September 20

9:00am - Building &
Grounds Work Party
12:30pm - B&G Committee

Sunday, September 21

11:00am - Sunday Service
12:30pm - TownTalk
12:30pm - DOVE

Tuesday, September 23

9:00am - Morning
Meditation
6:00pm - PFLAG Meeting
6:30pm - Worship
Committee

Wednesday, Sep 24

8:30am - Men's Get-
together
4:30pm - Finance
Committee
6:00pm - What in the World
is a UU

Thursday, September 25

8:30am - Men's Group at
What's Up Coffee

coach us as we look at ourselves objectively in order to find ways we can be more effective and get more of what we yearn for. Equally important, he will partner with us as we determine what we want for our future so we can call a settled minister with the skills, experience, and commitment to support us as we move forward.

In this light I'm excited to be able to say that in September your board of trustees will hold a two-day retreat with David's full participation. The retreat will be an opportunity to bring together our new leadership team and to begin charting a course for the coming months. Of course much more communication and dialog about this will follow in the weeks ahead.

Hospitality House Dinner Prep and Serve at Utah's Place



by Leal Portis

Third and Fifth Fridays of each month!

September 19th is this month's

date.

We have decided on a consistent menu of Enchilada Pie, Coleslaw, Cookies, Ice Cream, Lemonade. Breakfast items are variable.

We also have six spaces each time that need to be filled for servers/cooks/helpers.

We meet at Utah's Place between 4 and 4:30 to cook and serve.

Please contact Leal Portis at 265-3887.

Social Justice

by Anita Wald-Tuttle

This committee normally meets on the 4th Sunday of the month. The August meeting has been changed from the

10:30am - Writers Group
 6:00pm - Interfaith Scripture Study
 6:30pm - Vegan Supper Club Potluck

Friday, September 26

1:00pm - Joyce Kay Memorial
 7:00pm - Fourth Friday Film
 Mountain Chalice Published

Sunday, September 28

8:00am - UUCM Garden Work Party
 9:00am - Social Justice
 11:00am - Sunday Service
 12:30pm Lifespan RE Meeting
 12:30pm - DOVE

Monday, September 29

8:00am - UUCM Garden Work Party

Tuesday, September 30

9:00am - Morning Meditation



24th to the 31st because of the Church Camp-Out on the 4th Sunday. We also have changed the meeting time to 9 a.m. to allow for more discussion time. The September meeting will be on the 28th at 9 in the Anthony Library. Visitors are welcome to sit in and find out what

we are about.

Hospitality House - Leal Portis, contact - 265-3887 - August 29th we'll be serving our 5th Friday meal. Our September date is the third Friday, the 19th. The standardized menu has been well received by the guests who also enjoy the bingo party afterward. If you haven't yet been involved in this labor of love (either by donating meal ingredients or staffing the kitchen) call Leal and say you're willing and able. New faces are always nice to see!

Faithful Friends/Immigration - Carol Ann Jones, contact - The Board is still considering the Faithful Friends Project proposal. The need for help regarding the children seeking asylum at our Southern border is urgent so our August Pass The Plate went to this fund promoted by the Pacific Central District's Management Team. The September recipient of Pass The Plate will be Hospitality House. Jail visitations continue every month. Call Carol at 277-9090 about joining her Faithful Friends group - speaking Spanish is not a requirement!

UUCM

Contact Information

Minister

Reverend David Usher
minister@uugrassvalley.org

UUCM office
530.274.1675

Mountain Chalice Editor
editor@uugrassvalley.org

UUCM Board of Trustees
 President - Rob Ferroggiaro
president@uugrassvalley.org
 Vice President - Amy Renee'
 Treasurer - Janet Dunstan
 Secretary - Scottie Hart
 At Large - Dawn Bateman,
 Bonnie Bennett, Dave MacLeod,
 Carol Wong

Interfaith Food Ministry - Pat Paddock, contact - 268-6576

There is a continuing need for volunteers at the new facility so that those in need can receive food help every week instead of only twice a month. If you can spare 3, 4, or 5 hours one day a month you'd be welcomed with open arms. Drivers with ample space in their vehicles for boxed donations are most needed. Call Pat to volunteer.

Progressive Alliance - David Briggs, contact - 274-9236
 This umbrella group is involved in many different activities. Talk to David for a run-down of who and what's involved currently.

Nevada County Climate Change Coalition - Carol Kuczora, contact - 273-7771

On September 16 this group will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. right here at UUCM. Come and sit in to find out what's happening around the county - climate-wise!

LRE Director

Brittany Snow Hernandez
dre@uugrassvalley.org
 DLRE Office Hours:
 TBA

Director of Music Ministry

Annie Haymaker

Committee Chairs

Religious Education - Jo Waters
 Membership - Kathryn E. Young
 Social Justice - Anita Wald-Tuttle (temporary chair)
 Worship - Lindsay Dunckel
 Building and Grounds - Wally Holtan
 Finance - Joel Houtman
 Caring - Gwen Eymann
 Stewardship - Wally Holtan
 Green Sanctuary - Anita Wald-Tuttle
 Committee on Ministry - Suzanne Ferroggiaro
 Endowment Fund - Christy Barden

Office Administrator -
 Marion Peterson

admin@uugrassvalley.org
 Office phone: 530.274.1675

Office Hours:

Sunday 9:30-12:30
 Tuesday 2-5
 Friday 10:30-4:30

Fourth Friday Film Forum - Carol Kuczora, UUCM

contact - 273-7771
 UUCM shares the management of this program with the Nevada County Center for Peace and Justice.

"How to Boil a Frog" is a comedic documentary about Overshoot: too many people using up too little planet much too fast. Yes, we've taken the kind of material that makes people jump off bridges, put it in a blender, and churned out a Smoothie o' Fun that gives you the Big Picture of what the hell is going on with our so-called civilization, and tells you what you and I can do about it that will not only actually make a difference (no light bulbs!) but also make our lives better right now!

Green Sanctuary/Green Power Point - Anita Wald-Tuttle, contact - 277-6195**Wipe Your Print**

Wanton printing at the office (and in your home) doesn't just waste paper. It also wastes toner, which is rough on the environment, and the highly packaged cartridge it comes in. And it's expensive - a 2006 cost comparison found that printer ink costs \$66 per ounce, compared to \$44 an ounce for Chanel No. 5 and a mere \$5 an ounce for Dom Perignon! To get the most out of your cartridges, set your default print settings to "draft". When printer cartridges run low, give them a shake to get at the last bits of ink. Finally, always ask yourself if you really need that printed document: store your files electronically instead.

Wipe Your Print from the 2009 Page-A-Day Calendar

Progress continues s l o w l y on the Recertification Process for Green Sanctuary.

Garden Team Report - Suzanne Ferroggiaro, contact - 477-5344

If you want to get your hands dirty (but it's good UUCM dirt!) call Suzanne. Work continues on the demonstration garden bed with beginning thoughts about the "Whole Grounds" plan. Come and join in the fun!

Here are the September dates.

Sunday/7th, 8-10am
 Sunday/14th, 8-10am
 Monday/15th, 6-8pm
 Sunday/28th, 8-10am

Monday/29th, 8-10am

Animal Ministry - Carol Hyndman, contact - 477-1003

UU Animal Ministry recipe and news

Berry Apricot salsa

Try this sweet salsa as a topping for pancakes, yogurt or in the center of a small melon

1 c raspberries, divided

2 Tbsp apricot preserves

1 c diced fresh apricots, nectarines or peaches

1 c fresh blackberries

3 Tbsp chopped candied ginger

Mash 4 raspberries in a bowl, stir in preserves to make sauce base

Add fresh apricots, remaining raspberries, blackberries and ginger.

Toss to coat being careful to keep berries whole.

Let stand 5-10 min to allow flavors to meld

Animal Place tour

I would like to organize a tour of the farm animal sanctuary for sometime this fall. If you would be interested please email me Carol Hyndman countrycattery@gmail.com or call 477-0693. The date will probably on a Saturday, to be determined

Remember Sammie's Friends donations for our animal friends on the first Sunday of the month.

Vegan potluck on the last Thurs of the month at 6:30 pm

"Do not think only of your own joy, but vow to save all beings from suffering"

Dalai Lama

Kiva - Keith Johnson, contact - 265-0277

If you don't know what Kiva is, come to the meeting after church on Sunday, September 7. We'll be gathering at the front of the church with our coffee and treats in hand to discuss the ongoing plans for supporting small businesses in faraway lands or even here on our own continent. We get the teens involved in this, too, so if you have one or two in your household perhaps you need to come and see what it's all about!

New "Finding Community" Brochure!

by Kathryn Young

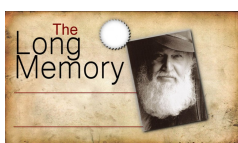
Hot off the press! If you have been wanting to get more

connected at UUCM, you are in luck.

The membership committee has created a colorful new brochure titled "Finding Community at UUCM" which lists many of the activities and affinity groups offered through UUCM. The brochure gives a quick synopsis about each activity, and includes contact names, phone numbers and emails of the people who can tell you how to join in, as well as the days and times each group meets.

Look for one in the foyer next Sunday!

The Long Memory



by Anita Wald-Tuttle

On Sunday, August 17, after service some of us viewed a short video clip of our own Utah Phillips narrating a short piece from the four-part documentary of his life being created by Bevin and Charlie Hall.

Labor, Poverty, Justice & Peace will comprise the whole story in The Long Memory.

UUCMers wishing to help fund this labor of love can see more and can contribute at <http://igg.me/at/longmemory>. All donations gratefully accepted.

Our Unitarian Universalist Principle (2 of 7)

Lifespan Religious Education/Spirit Play
teaches...

Offer Kind and Fair Treatment to All

(Orange Promise).

Next Newsletter

Friday, September 26

Please submit content to editor@uugrassvalley.org
and put "newsletter" in subject line.

by Friday September 19