

# Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

December 2014

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THE  
*Mountain*  
 CHALICE

**TWO**  
**SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES**  
**beginning**  
**JANUARY 4, 2015**

**Early Service: 9:45**

**Shared Social Time: 10:45 - 11:20**

**Late Service: 11:30**

**RE at 11:30**

**Nursery Care will be available during both services.**



**No more scrolling through  
 this newsletter to find out  
 what's happening at  
 UUCM. Just click the  
 calendar link below and  
 view events for the  
 entire month!**

**December 2014  
 Calendar Link**

## *Minister's Reflections*



by Reverend David Usher

Dear Friends,

Three months into my Interim Ministry with you at UUCM, not only am I enjoying it very much indeed, I am genuinely excited by the prospects which lie before you.

There is a lot going on. UUCM is a great place to be right now.

On Sundays you are a very inspiring congregation for whom to lead worship - you are attentive, responsive and you even laugh at my jokes! What more could I ask? It is



## 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.



### Holiday Meals

In past years IFM has given out both Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to registered families. This year they are collaborating with the Nevada County Food Bank which will give out the Thanksgiving dinners to families registered with both agencies and IFM will give out the Christmas dinners to both. If you would like to sponsor a family for Christmas, send a check for \$20 to IFM, 440 Henderson St, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

so encouraging to see so many of you turning up for the Sunday services, and your response to the need to go to two services to accommodate everyone is deeply reassuring that you are committed to the future well-being of the congregation more than to the comfort of the familiar. As we go to two services in January, I am sure there will be some bumps and rough edges as we all learn to adjust to the new routine, but with goodwill and good humour we will take it all in our collective stride.

In addition to the switch to two services, the other exciting thing to happen next month is the visit by Bob Miess who will tell us all about the search process for the next settled minister. He comes with experience and wisdom, and we will do well to heed his good counsel. The choice of your next settled minister will be an important decision as you continue on your upward path of growth.

The other cause for excitement right now is the visit by George Swank. He is a Stewardship Consultant with an impressive track record of working with congregations of all sizes and types. He is helping UUCM to cultivate the spirituality of generosity and to look at our stewardship practices.

Of course there are also things which are not working as well as they might, changes which we would do well to make but which are difficult and challenging. All of us are creatures of habit; all of us prefer the familiar to the unknown, even when we know in our bones that change is necessary. It is my job as your Interim Minister to help you make those changes, so that you will be in a position of health and strength to welcome your new settled minister in 2016. If you are uncomfortable with some of the changes, please feel free to speak with me about it.

See you in church!

*David*

## **UUCM TO HAVE TWO CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

by Rev. David Usher

Last year, the Christmas Eve Service was full to overflowing. This year, with the 40% increase in Sunday morning attendance, it is likely that we will have even more people on Christmas Eve than last year and



## Deck the Halls at UUCM

### Saturday December 6th

Come help us decorate....  
come sing carols...  
and come start the holiday off  
with a feast of a potluck at  
UUCM

Potluck starts at 5:30pm...  
Bring your favorite holiday  
dish to share....we'll have a  
holiday punch

Decorating....  
ornament making ( Yes we  
need help with the paper  
chains and popcorn  
garland...and decorating our  
tree)



Caroling and Frolicking...  
tis the season. Hope to see  
you all there.

Call or email Shannon Dooley-  
Miller if you have any thing  
you'd like to add to the  
evening.346-6995 or

especially with everyone holding a lighted candle as the  
culmination of the service, this would present a serious  
fire risk. There will therefore be two services on Christmas  
Eve. They will start at 4:15 and 5:45, and each will be  
approximately 45 minutes long. As with previous years,  
the services will be a combination of music and readings,  
and the musicians in the congregation are being asked in  
which service they would like to play.

Please come to whichever service suits you better, and  
please bring your friends and neighbors to celebrate  
Christmas Eve with us.

### December 7

Rev. David Usher  
Worship Associate: Bev Lyon  
Musicians: Bill Nolan & friends

### December 14

Rev. David Usher  
Worship Associate: Jo Waters  
Musicians: Randy McKean, Jacque Bromm & Janet  
Bullock

### December 21

Rev. David Usher  
Worship Associate: Sam Lautzenhiser  
Musicians: Beryl Beckwith & Janet Bullock, and The  
Choir

### December 24 - Christmas Eve

Rev. David Usher  
4:15pm and 5:45pm

### December 28

Anita Wald-Tuttle  
Musician: Jim Lowe

sdooley-miller@got sky.com



### ***Hospitality House Dinner Prep and Serve at Utah's Place***

by Leal Portis

Third and Fifth Fridays of  
each month!

**December 19 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 Hour on the Patio**

What a treat it was to enjoy social hour on the patio for those two Sundays in November while the sun was still shining. Thanks to those who did the extra work to make it possible. We might have to stay inside now during the winter months, but roll on Spring so we can enjoy the outdoors again.

### **Program Council**

At a meeting on November 17, a comprehensive program was planned for the first six months of 2015, including adult and youth religious education, social action and fun events. Watch for full details in the January issue of The Mountain Chalice.

## ***Calling all Worship Associates***

by Rev. David Usher



Are you interested in being a Worship Associate? David Usher will lead an introduction and training session for current and prospective Worship Associates on Thursday 22nd January, 7

- 9pm. Come and find out what is involved in being a Worship Associate, and learn some of the skills of leading worship. Be assured: it is okay to become a Worship Associate without having also to be on the Worship Committee!

Please let David know in advance if you would like to attend.

## ***President's Perspective***

by Rob Ferroggiaro

Early in 2015 we will be begin preparation for our settled minister search process. The Board of Trustees is delighted to announce that on Sunday, January 25th, Bob Miess, our UUA Pacific Central District Ministerial Settlement

Representative (MSR), will join us for worship and will





## Green Power Points

Since it's getting darker earlier I thought I'd talk about LIGHTS!

### Festival of Lights

Commercial candles often contain a fair amount of lead. Make sure that all the candles you're using or giving for gifts this holiday season are lead-free, soy based, and scented with natural ingredients. It's best to buy plain candles and place them in reusable holders, but if you do buy scented candles in their own receptacles, remember to reuse their glass containers. Soak to remove wax and use as juice glasses or vases. And Then -



### Get the LED Out

If you're in the market for new holiday lights, consider LED, or light-emitting diode lights. They use 90 percent less electricity than standard holiday bulbs, emit hardly any heat (so they're low fire risk), and often last up to 20 years. Get them at your local home-and-garden center. And One More Holiday Hint -

offer a sermon at both services on the principles behind an effective search for a new minister.

After the second service we will have a light lunch prior to reconvening for discussion during which Bob will explain the details of the UUA's recommended ministerial search process and how we can apply it to choose our next settled minister.

Bob has been the district MSR since 2008, and has worked with more than 20 congregations, coaching them to successfully find their ministers, and he will be a consultant to us during our settled minister search process. The Board has found Bob to be an extremely knowledgeable and supportive resource, with a keen sensitivity to the importance of this process to our congregation.

The Board of Trustees has been encouraged to learn there is a "best practice" for the conduct of a ministerial search that has been successfully used by UU congregations across the country. This process will ensure that every member of the congregation has a voice, that members of our Ministerial Search Committee are committed to and comfortable with their role, and that the congregation is represented by a well-balanced and effective committee.

By laws changes - In order for us to have the flexibility to use the UUA recommended search process, we will need to make a few revisions to the sections of our UUCM bylaws which address the search process and the selection of a called minister. The updated bylaws also will put UUCM in position to follow whatever UUA recommendations are in place at the time of another search that might occur in the future. Details about the bylaws changes will be forthcoming in a separate communication. On 1/25 after the discussion with Bob Miess, a brief congregational meeting will be convened at which time we will vote to approve these necessary bylaws changes.

We look forward to the opportunity for everyone to meet Bob Miess, to hear his inspiring message, and learn about how the search process will unfold in the months ahead.

Rob Ferroggiaro for the Board of Trustees



### It's a Wrap

Recycled wrapping paper is a must, but you can go one better by buying or making reusable cloth sacks, or buying recycled paper boxes that can be used from year to year. Dress them up with new ribbons or usable/edible decorations. Or go really rustic, with newspaper or tear sheets from magazines, giving them one last hurrah before they head off to the recycling bin.

Happy Holidays to All!  
(reprinted from my 2009 Page-A-Day Calendar)

**Lifespan Religious  
Education/Spirit Play  
teaches...**

***Insist on Freedom,  
Justice, and Peace for  
all People.***

## ***RE Reflections***

by Snow Hernandez

A lot of changes are coming up here at UUCM! In terms of RE, there are three main things to note. Firstly, all children (in the K-5 and middle school groups) will be starting off in service for the first 15 minutes or so, and then will head upstairs to their groups. They will no longer be sung out but the time for them to head out of the sanctuary will be noted in the order of service. Secondly, when we move to two services in January, the RE program will be held during the 11:30 service only. Lastly, nursery care will be available during BOTH services.

Recently our middle school and high school youth joined together for a spaghetti and movie night at the church. There was a great turnout and Rev. David joined the youth for dinner and games before they settled in on couches and bean bag chairs to watch Edward Scissorhands. We look forward to more fun events like that in the future!

All our groups did the UUSC's Guest At Your Table social justice RE curriculum on November 16th and had a good time learning about that organization and brainstorming about ways they can contribute to their communities and the world at large.

Starting in February we are hoping to run the Junior High OWL (Our Whole Lives) program, so please let us know if you have a youth who might participate! More details will be coming soon as the plan firms up.

We are also preparing our Adult RE schedule for January through June. We have a number of classes to offer and some in a new format- potlucks followed by programming! A number of classes will be led by Rev. David himself. We are always looking for new ideas for recurring or one-time sessions, so if you have a skill or passion you'd like to share as part of Adult RE in the future, please let myself or a committee member know!

## ***Harmony in the Changes***

## Our Unitarian Universalist Principle (6 of 7)

(Indigo Promise)



### UUCM Contact Information

#### Minister

**Reverend David Usher**  
**530.274.1661**  
minister@uugrassvalley.org

#### UUCM Office 530.274.1675

admin@uugrassvalley.org

Marion Peterson -  
Office Administrator

#### Office Hours:

Mon - Thu: 3:15- 6:15  
Sunday: 10-12:30

#### LRE Director

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

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Annie Haymaker

#### Mt. Chalice

editor@uugrassvalley.org

By Annie Haymaker, Director of Music Ministry

Along with going to two services in January, transformations are happening in UUCM's music program. First is our Holiday Choir, which Janet Bullock is rehearsing during November and December to sing for the service on Sunday, Dec 21. Response has been enthusiastic, and we hope it will become an annual tradition.

Starting in January is Musicians' Night, where our Sunday pianist Jim Lowe will rehearse with individuals and groups who would like piano accompaniment. Vocalists and instrumentalists who want the chance to add Jim's unique jazz comping and great classical and contemporary accompaniments to their service offerings can sign up with Annie at 477-0701 for half-hour practice slots with Jim on Monday evenings.

Evening Choir will continue in January with Janet as facilitator, rehearsing on Monday evenings and singing for occasional services. Janet is also working with small vocal groups to encourage more ensemble participation in our services. Call Janet at 477-8760 for more information.

Morning Choir begins in January, led by Annie once a month between the two services. This pickup group will practice the hymns of the day and help lead the congregation in song during the second service. If you like to learn songs well and add some pizzazz to our hymns, with no commitment or evening rehearsals, call Annie at 477-0701 to get on the email list, or just show up! The date of this monthly event will appear in the Mountain Chalice.

### *Transition Team*

by Suzanne Ferroggiaro

The Transition Team meets as needed monthly with Rev. David Usher as we journey through our Interim Ministry together.

Since the Committee on Ministry is now part of the Transition Team, this is the group to contact regarding our

**UUCM Board of Trustees**

President - Rob Ferroggiaro  
[president@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:president@uugrassvalley.org)  
 Vice President - Amy Renee'  
 Treasurer - Janet Dunstan  
 Secretary - Scottie Hart  
 At Large - Dawn Bateman,  
 Bonnie Bennett, Dave MacLeod,  
 Carol Wong

**Committee Chairs**

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



shared ministry and congregational relations.

As a reminder, our guiding principles for harmonious relationships are found in our "Covenant of Right Relations" and in "Living our Covenant of Right Relations". Please ask Suzanne for a copy if you don't have one.

After becoming familiar with these two documents, if there's anything you'd like to bring to the Transition Team's attention, please contact one of the members below.

Attendance is by prior arrangement only, since people may be bringing deeply personal situations to the team.

An email notification of our next meeting will be sent out about a week before the meeting.

Lindsay Dunckel <[lindsaydunckel@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaydunckel@gmail.com)>  
 George Dunstan <[gvgeode@gmail.com](mailto:gvgeode@gmail.com)>  
 Suzanne Ferroggiaro <[suzanneferro17@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneferro17@gmail.com)>  
 Keith Johnson <[kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com](mailto:kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com)>  
 Bev Lyon <[bml@mtnlyon.com](mailto:bml@mtnlyon.com)>  
 Susan Sanford <[ssanford@sonic.net](mailto:ssanford@sonic.net)>

***New Member Bio's*****Brendan Banister**

Brendan Banister grew up in Nevada County and has returned after spending ten years in the Bay Area. He works in a style of education called Waldorf Education that focuses on student empowerment and creative thinking. Brendan currently works at a Waldorf-inspired school called Yuba River Charter School in Nevada City. He hopes to start an ecologically-focused school in the future, and then apply for it to become a Waldorf school.

Brendan has been coming to UUCM for about six months, and looks forward to getting to know the church community even better.



**Stacy Harr**

Stacy Harr has lived in the foothills since 1976, running a restaurant called Cafe Les-Stace in Nevada City with her mother and sister for the first 12 years. She became a real estate agent in 1995 and still is. Stacy has four children in their 20s and 30s, whom she adores, and she splits her time between here and Mexico where her husband, an architect and artist, lives full time. In her spare time, Stacy enjoys gardening and play dates with her friends. She is very happy to be joining our community.

**Melissa Ridgway**

Growing up in both Southern and Northern California, Melissa returned to Nevada County this summer after 19 years in Minnesota, realizing she already had found paradise here and had not needed to look elsewhere. In fact, she fell in love with the Sierras when she was 12-years old, backpacking with the Girl Scouts!

Retired from a career in sales and marketing, Melissa is a practitioner of yoga and meditation, a dog lover and a gardener. Raised Catholic, she found the dogmatic theology cold and judgmental, and left the church in her teens. She then embarked on a search for a spiritual community with a focus on love and acceptance, openness, peace and justice - the best environment to support her ongoing life work to become a better person, friend and community member. She believes she has found that home at UUCM and is proud to become a member today.

**Benjamin McPherson**

Benjamin McPherson was born and raised in Santa Cruz, but always felt connected to the Grass Valley area as his parents both had family here for many years. About three years ago, Benjamin was working as a flight attendant. Desperate for a change, he and his partner Sarah and their kids, Kylee and Alex, moved up here to find out what life would be like in Grass Valley. Benjamin is now studying Library Science online and looking for meaningful work. He looks forward to getting more connected at UUCM.

**Sarah Scott**

Sarah Scott was born in Antioch and raised in Nevada County by her grandparents. She is currently attending Sierra College where she is working on a degree in biology. She already has earned Associate degrees in both biology and natural science. She loves raising her two children, Kylee and Alex, and also enjoys cake decorating -- in fact, Sarah made the colorful decorated cake we all enjoyed at our 20-year anniversary celebration last spring! Her long spiritual journey has led her to UUCM, thanks to her partner Benjamin, and she feels more at home here than almost anywhere else.

***Stewardship Committee***

by Beryl Beckwith

Stewardship is about taking care of something we value and enabling it to grow. When we become stewards, we take responsibility and contribute our time, talent, treasure and commitment.

As a member of UUCM, to what extent you respond to these expectations is for you to determine, but the more wholeheartedly you do so, the more likely that your membership will be meaningful to you and others.

Take your spiritual life seriously. This means coming to worship, the most significant way to be part of the community.

Offer some of your time and talent to the community. This is not only because this is necessary for the well-being of the organisation, it is necessary for your own well-being.

Contribute financially. Your money is needed not to maintain an institution, but to support the work and mission of that institution. Your money supports meaningful, inspirational and inclusive worship every Sunday. How much you give will depend on your personal circumstances. The important thing is that your financial contribution is a true reflection of the place UUCM has in your life. Generosity is key to spiritual well-being. Give because your heart is open.

Commit to making a beneficial difference to the wider world. Whether you choose to do this individually or

collectively with others at UUCM, expect to take our liberal-hearted, inclusive and love-based values into the world with you.

## ***Caring Committee Notes***

Gwen Eymann

The Caring Committee serves the UUCM community by offering support, help, and connection to folks during times of special need. We can all be part of the UUCM Caring Team by reaching out to each other to offer support, kind words, offers of help, and good works. Please give a little extra support and caring to the following people:

Sharon Moore please keep her in your thoughts  
Barbara Lowell with her healing journey  
Sharon Kenedi as she heals from a recent hip fracture  
Scottie Hart

UUCM Giving Tree Project is up and running thanks to the great work of /robin Hart. Five Family Units were chosen for a total of 15 individuals. There are 46 gift tags on the tree and we are asking that all gifts be returned to UUCM wrapped and with the gift tags attached by Sunday, Dec. 7th. Thanks for your giving and caring for our greater Nevada County Community.

The UUCM Caring Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00pm. We may be contacted via email at [caringcommittee@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:caringcommittee@uugrassvalley.org) or by calling Gwen Eymann at 530-274-7965 or Jerry Jacoby at 530 263-6099 for more information.

## ***Social Justice Coordinating Committee***

The committee has been meeting on the 4th Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Anthony Library. Visitors are always welcome to sit in and discover what we're up to!

**UUCM Animal Ministry News and Recipe:** A small group of us visited Animal Place and had a good time.

We got to meet the new rescued calves and the piglets. The chickens and turkeys loved the company. The weather was just perfect for our visit. I hope more of us can go next time.

- The Vegan Supper Club will start again after the New Year. Hopefully I can come up with an idea of day and time that will be better for more people. Any ideas let me know.

- The recipe this month is from Maryann Hart  
Fiesta Salad

3 small tomatoes, chopped  
1 small zucchini, chopped  
2 green onions, chopped  
1 10oz bag of frozen corn  
1 15 oz can black beans, rinsed  
1 firm ripe avocado  
Fiesta Salad Dressing  
2 Tbsp lemon juice  
1 tsp salt  
1-2 tsp fresh oregano or 1tsp dry  
2 or more minced clove garlic  
1/2 tsp chile powder  
1 or tsp cumun  
pepper  
1/4 c olive oil  
Mix together

- Mix with salad dressing and refrigerate for a couple of hours. Chop avocado into bite size bits and add just before serving

- "May we speak in all human councils on behalf of the animals, plants and landscapes of the earth." John Seed

#### **Fourth Friday Film Series:**

**"The Future of Food"** presented by the Fourth Friday Film Forum will show

**Dec. 26, 2014, 7:00 p.m..** The way we eat - the kind of food we buy, where we get it, how it's prepared - has become a part of our identity, a guiding force that shapes how we live. It unites us. And divides us. "The Future of Food " shows Friday, Dec. 26 at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalists Community of the Mountains, 246 S. Church Street, Grass Valley. Suggested donation \$6.00-\$10.00 and no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Organic popcorn & treats available, with discussion to follow film. All proceeds shared with UUCM and the Peace and Justice Center of Nevada County whose mission of



bringing information to the public about matters of local and international concern are addressed. For more information call (530) 615-7859 or visit website [ncpeace.org](http://ncpeace.org), or email at [ncpeace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ncpeace@sbcglobal.net)

## ***Are We a Welcoming Congregation?***

by Claire Miller

Congratulations!  
You have all passed the audition,  
and are now officially a part of the UUCM  
"Welcoming Committee."

This is an offshoot of the Membership Committee, and carries a lot of advantages.

It does NOT require any meeting attendance, formal training, manuals to read, scheduling co-ordination, or any particular time commitment. YOU already have all the skills you need to do a fabulous job!!

How it works:

People 'join' churches for many different reasons - a search for something in their lives, they enjoyed the sermon, they thought their children "should" have some education about religion, there is no good TV programing on a Sunday morning, their parole officer demanded it, etc. etc.

People 'Stay Joined' over the long term, mainly because they have made connections, and feel involved and accepted. They are welcomed, not only by 'official' welcomers, standing at the door, but also by others who greet them by name, start a conversation with them, share their hymnal, etc. They have discovered people with common interests and interesting viewpoints. They have been invited to participate in small group projects, and meals. They begin to recognize faces that they see every week. They have made friends

Today's assignment: Let's make UUCM a truly Welcoming Congregation. It is a big job. It will be worth it. But it will take every single one of us to make it happen.

## ***Women's Study Circle***

by May Lawrence

The December party will be held on Tuesday, December 9, at the home of Donna Foddrell. All women, members or visitors at UUCM, are invited. However, due to limited space, only the first 15 who RSVP will be able to attend. Call Donna at 274-2309 to reserve your space, and get directions and information about food and gifts.

## ***Has the Snack Table Gone on a Diet?***

by Kathryn Young

Here's a little something to chew on...

Have you noticed that the snack table is not quite as well stocked as it has been in the past? One reason is that Donna Foddrell has "retired" from being in charge of hunting down congregants willing to bring goodies to snack on every Sunday. Donna worked hard over the past few years making phone calls and more phone calls to ensure there was always a bountiful selection of goodies to eat. (If you see her, please let her know how much you appreciate all the hours she devoted to keeping us happy and well-fed.)

Although she's no longer making weekly phone calls, she and a few other dedicated individuals still regularly bring snacks, set up the tables, arrange the food on plates, clean up afterward, load the dishwashers, unload the dishwashers and more. But they could sure use some help.

If everyone who snacks pitches in occasionally, we can still have an awesome array of munchies every Sunday without over-taxing (and consequently burning out) a small group of very generous people.

### How can you help?

First of all, there is a sign up sheet on a clip board where you can volunteer to bring snacks for future weeks. The clip board can be found on the snack table each week; otherwise it is located on the cork board in the Alcott

Room, just outside the door to the kitchen. And even if you didn't get around to signing up, you can always show up on Sunday with some goodies... you and your unscheduled offerings will be welcomed with open arms.

#### What to bring?

If you love to bake cookies and whip up gourmet dips and arrange vegetables on trays... fabulous! Please do!

However, even if you are not very accomplished in the kitchen, there are many ways you can contribute.

Grocery stores are full of possibilities. Bakery sections have freshly baked cookies, muffins, breads and cakes.

The deli sections often have platters of crudites with dip, cheeses, meats, hummus, guacamole and more. You can bring crackers, cheese sticks, chips and salsa, your favorite packaged cookies, bowls of fruit, bunches of grapes, mandarins, apple slices, baby carrots, cherry tomatoes, mini peppers, olives, seasonal fruits and veggies from your gardens, and other finger foods. If you are trying to save yourself from over-indulging, bring that box of chocolates from Aunt Mabel, or Uncle Wilbur's famous fruit cake.

#### What else can you do?

If you have the time and energy, come a bit early and help set up tables, carry out coffee pots and napkins, and/or stay a bit late and collect up cups and plates, load the dishwasher, wipe the counters in the kitchen, or take home a tablecloth or dish towels to wash.

Three cheers to the fabulous crew who have worked so tirelessly in the past... Shannon Dooley-Miller, David Ferrier, Donna Foddrell, and Carol Kuczora and more can often be found in the kitchen slaving away to make sure we have a great Social Time. Let's all pitch in and lighten their load.

Many hands make light work, and great snacking!

## **Albert Thelander**

Albert Hill Thelander passed away in Grass Valley, on Oct. 20, 2014.

As memorial service information becomes available, we will share it with you.

## ***David Usher's Sermons on the Website***

Not all of David Usher's sermons are in manuscript form: some are in notes or entirely extempore. Those that are in manuscript will be available on the website, and a note to that effect will be in the order of service for that day.

## ***UUA 2015 General Assembly***

The UUA holds its Annual Meetings (General Assembly) in a different city each June, and in 2015 they will be held in Portland, Oregon, June 24-28. Registration details will soon be available in The World and through other media.

These meetings are an exciting mix of lectures, worship, workshops, seminars and presentations on all manner of topics, plus plenty of opportunities to socialise and network with other UUs from around the country and overseas. Cornel West will be a featured lecturer, and Rev Marlin Lavanhar, minister of our largest congregation in Tulsa, OK, will be the preacher at the main service. Several UUCM members have been to previous General Assemblies and come back much enthused by the experience. With it being so close, it would be excellent if there can be a large UUCM contingent in attendance.

## **Next Newsletter**

**Tuesday, December 30**

Please submit content to [editor@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:editor@uugrassvalley.org)  
and put "newsletter" in subject line.

**by Friday December 19**

