

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

September 2018

## 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 children (K-5th grades) are offered during the 9:30 A.M. service, and classes for youth (6th-12th grades) are offered at 10:30 A.M.

Nursery care is available for both services.

**Sept. 2 Wake, Now, My Vision: Letting Your Life Speak**  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

Throughout our lives we live a series of vocations and ministries (the ways we serve). Parker Palmer reminds us that the root of the word vocation is "vocare," to call, and that discerning vocation requires an act of listening. Rather than deciding what your vocation will or ought to be, listen to your life, he counsels, for what your living already tells you about your truest calling, and so wake your vision for the road ahead.

**Sept. 9 Wake, Now, Our Vision: Pooling Our Wisdom, Pulling Together (Annual Water Communion)**  
Lindsay Duncel, Rev. Kevin Tarsa, and others

Michael Hogue claims that the resilient democracy needed for our future requires more than community, people linked by common identities. It needs solidarity, people linked by common purpose. In this Full Community service, we lift up our congregation's mission and call to shared purpose. We ritualize our solidarity in a Water Communion: each person pouring water into a common container. That water may come from your home or someplace meaningful where you have spent time (feel free to bring some!) and we will also have water ready for you. Where are we headed and how, as a community of faith, as a solidarity?

We'll also celebrate our young people's just-completed summer-long journey through the epic of evolution, giving us a context for our own place and time.

**Sept. 16 Wake, Now, Compassion: Seeing One Another**  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

"I see you," say the indigenous beings in the movie, *Avatar*, when they greet one another deeply. "I see you." At the surface this refers to physical seeing, the physical information gleaned through the eyes. Several layers down, it speaks to the deepest possible seeing of another, through the heart to the soul or authentic essence. Here, in the midst of the Jewish High Holy Days, we are reminded to see, really see one another, as deeply as we can, and to cultivate the empathy and compassion that save us, each and together.

**Sept. 23 Wake, Now, My Conscience: Rebellion, Revolution and the Vulnerability of Democracy**  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

Justice, Michael Hogue says, is a form of relationship. "Not so much a moral principle or a political ideal as an aspirational form of relationship" that can only ever exist when it is lived. As Cornel West put it, "Justice is what love looks like in public."

If we understand justice as a form of relationship that must be lived in order to exist, what then, is our vision for this congregation's role in the community and world? And to what personal and collective creativity and courage might we be inspired in public life?

**Sept. 30 Wake, Now, My Senses: The Death of Sunday School**  
Kimberly Sweeney

Kimberly Sweeney's vision paper, "*The Death of Sunday School and the Future of Faith Formation*," has taken the UU religious educator world by storm. Kimberly invites us UUs to respond to the shifting needs of our families and children, releasing ourselves from the structures of our past and boldly experimenting to contribute to the evolution of faith formation. "It may just be the spiritual task of our time," Kimberly says. Hear from Kimberly directly this Sunday and envision a future for all of us that is creatively attuned to today's realities.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa  
UUCM Minister

## From the Minister

### REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday	4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Other times by arrangement.

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

[minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or (231) 883-1058

### SEPTEMBER: Wake, Now, Our Vision

*How we see the world matters. It is colored by the lenses we've learned to wear, what we expect to see, our openness to being curious rather than certain, and the accepted realities of our tribe.*

*We begin our new congregational year by focusing on how we see – bringing to awareness our unconscious vision for our community and our individual lives, invoking a conscious vision of what we want to be as we live our new and inspiring mission.*

*What will it look like when we live our mission fully, deeply, and well?*

*What part will each of us play?*

*Each week in September we'll explore an aspect of bringing our mission and our vision to life: our personal ministries; our shared purpose; our relationships to one another; living our values in the wider community, and serving families and children into the future.*

This month's theme at UUCM, as articulated by Rev. Kevin and UUCM's September Worship Associate, Gail Johnson Vaughan

We're trying out a new process for Sunday service planning. But, I'll come back to that.

You at UUCM and I are beginning our third year of ministry together. We have an increasingly real sense of one another and so can make plans and decisions based on our strengths and acknowledging our... "areas for growth."

With Rev. Karyn Packard's marvelous teaching and recent work with the Board in Myers-Briggs-rooted concepts, I have been delving into my own INFP nature and proclivities more deeply:

You have called a minister whose gift and strength are to work "behind the scenes," responding to and supporting what arises from others. You have called an introverted, creative person whose decisions are made most often by feeling, and who can function as a "harmonizer and healer." You have called a leader who is more likely to offer helpful and supportive information and accompaniment than to outright direct others, an idealist

who functions as a catalyst for the activation of other people's gifts. You have called a teacher whose native tongue is the language of metaphor, music and the abstract more than the concrete, a man with a rich internal life for whom organizing and administrating are taxing.

As we begin this year I am wanting to maximize the use of my gifts on the congregation's behalf, using the best of me to help you live your mission as fully as possible. I am looking to couple my efforts with those of people whose strengths are complementary to my own, organized, detail-oriented, see-exactly-what's-in-front-of-them, get-it-done folks. I'm also looking for processes that help me to draw sustainably on whatever organizing and administrating energy I do have.

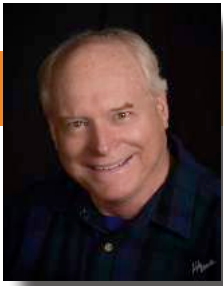


And so, we are trying out a new process for Sunday service planning based on a model by Marcia McFee: conceptualizing services three months or more in advance, inviting brainstorming on the theme by the congregation, working with an artist to attend to the visual elements, scripting orders of service a month or more in advance – all to free up our creativity, our chances to involve others, and to increase the depth and richness of our Sunday services together. And so that things will happen in a timely way.

We'll be asking you about your vision all month long. When it comes to this theme of vision, I go by feel. I have a vision for how the congregation can best feel as it lives its mission, more than how it might best look. I'll be following that feeling and listening for your vision, whatever your own nature and proclivities.

- Rev. Kevin

# Board of Trustees



Taylor Carey,  
President,  
UUCM Board of Trustees

The UUCM Board of Trustees held its annual Retreat over the weekend of August 18 and 19. Julie Tillinghast and Dennis Weiher generously lent their home for the occasion, which was much appreciated by all. Last year we held the retreat at my house, which is not air conditioned, leading to sauna-like conditions in the August heat. Not so this time.



Our new UUCM Board at their August retreat.

As you might imagine, a good deal of our schedule was taken up with getting to know one another. To this end our incoming Board Secretary, Rev. Karyn Packard led us through the intricacies of interpersonal relations employing the Myers-Briggs, Kersey tools of self discovery. I wish the entire congregation could experience the eye-opening insights and understanding both of ourselves and each other that these tools make available. Although I have heard some people express skepticism or misgivings about participating in this program, fearing that it might expose sensitive inner vulnerabilities or perhaps lead to unfair labeling, I urge you to put your concerns aside long enough to examine the process before writing it off. It's not EST. It's not a belief system. It is information. If you are unsure, but the least bit curious, talk to someone who has gone through it or talk to Karyn.

I stress this because the members of the Board found the process liberating. We learned how to utilize the information and insights acquired to gain critical understanding of how human personality types interact with one another and why some relationships are so fraught with difficulty while others are so peaceful. We also gleaned a measure of discernment of ourselves, which helped at least one of us (me) to unpack and let go of a galling event from long ago.

With these tools, we look forward to the Board year with optimism borne of a sense that we can tackle the issues and tasks before us focused on their merits without being diverted or deflected by our personal differences or proclivities.

And there is much to do. This year we will move the governance reorganization project into high gear and start putting in practice the changes that we believe ultimately will give our community the best structure for confronting future challenges. The new governance model will free the Board to direct its energies toward long-range planning and the future needs of our church family. But more importantly, it will empower the Minister to design the structure and trajectory of our ministry to advance our mission with the greatest effect. To a member, the Board feels that community outreach is a critical priority of our congregation. Our role in this regard, as Board members and as members of our unique faith, may find expression on any number of fronts. As we have already, sometimes we may advance our mission simply by showing up. Other times, as demonstrated by the very successful block party in June, it will be through cooperating with our interfaith brothers and sisters to benefit the local community.

Our nation and our world are confronting perilous times. Although it would be ludicrous to suggest that our little congregation's membership in a tiny denomination can solve the riddles of the world, when you consider the impacts that Unitarians and Universalists have had in history, it might be selling ourselves short to refuse to try.

- Taylor

## UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2019

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

### Members at Large:

Chuck Champlin, Maryann Currington & Dennis Weiher

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

UUCM members and friends are cordially invited to attend!  
If you wish to address the board, please give two days notice so the agenda timing can be adjusted.

# Membership Committee & Hospitality

## Updates from your Membership Committee

By Claire Miller, Chair, Membership Committee

There is a lot going on at UUCM as we welcome back from vacations/ travel/ summer goings on, old friends and new to the new church year.

### PATH TO MEMBERSHIP -

Several of you have already said that you are very interested in becoming a Member of UUCM this fall. The process will be slightly different than in the past, but the key milestones remain:

- Attend one of the "Meet the Minister" events – after the service on 1st Sundays of the month
- Let the Membership committee know that you are interested. (Talk with Claire Miller, chair of Membership, or any of the ushers.
- Talk with Rev. Kevin about Membership- the privileges and responsibilities.
- Plan to attend one of the "Small Group Dinners" with Rev. Kevin, someone from Membership committee, and a few other interested new people. These will be casual events – part social, part informational - to help you feel more at home at UUCM. Talk to Claire Miller for details.
- Plan to attend the next "Intro to UU" class on Saturday, November 10th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This workshop is a time to learn more, to get questions answered, and to experience time with others who are in a similar point in their spiritual journey. It will be a fun day together!

## Snack Teams for September

By Marilyn Young, Coordinator, UUCM Hospitality Hour

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

This month's schedule for contributing snacks:

- September 2 - last names beginning with A to E
- September 9 - last names beginning with F to J
- September 16 - last names beginning with J to R
- September 23 - last names beginning with S to Z
- September 30 - 5th Sunday EVERYONE is ON!

If you plan to bring a snack, please contact Marilyn Young ([marilyny04@gmail.com](mailto:marilyny04@gmail.com)).

## Social Events for All: Save the Dates!

By Claire Miller, Chair, Membership Committee

Here are a number of activities for anyone and everyone who is interested in getting to know other UUCMers better, and getting out and having some fun. All ages are welcome.

### SALAD SUNDAYS -

#### SECOND SUNDAYS OF SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

After the second service, we'll have a casual Salad Potluck Lunch where we'll eat and have conversations with other UUs and friends.

### HIKE TO CASTLE PEAK, 2ND TRY - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Due to heavy smoke from the fires, our August 4th attempt was not successful. Please join us on Saturday, September 22, at 10 a.m. near Donner Summit, and let's try it again! Brenda Morgan will send a reminder email to the original group, and if anyone else would like to join us, please email her at [bren2go@gmail.com](mailto:bren2go@gmail.com), or text/call her at 916-869-5794 to be included on the list to receive a reminder and more detail.

We will miss the blooming flowers but with luck can enjoy some emerging fall color and a smokeless day!

### OPEN MIKE NIGHT - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

An evening of 'down home' entertainment. Watch for more details and sign up for your 'performance spot'.

### VALLEY MUSIC FALL CONCERT - NOVEMBER 3

Plan to join us for our third Valley Music concert... and prepare to be delighted by the talent and musical variety that will be showcased.

### THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER - 1:00 P.M. - NOVEMBER 22

Share the bounty of a wonderful pot luck meal, with turkey and all the trimmings. All are welcome. There will be a sign up sheet closer to the date.

### CHRISTMAS DINNER – 1:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Another potluck feast. All are welcome.

## Circle Suppers Coordinator Needed

We would like to continue these popular potlucks in members' homes, but we need someone to take on organizing them. If you would like to help, please let Claire Miller know that you are interested.

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

## Building & Grounds

### Hard Work Pays Off

By Wally Holtan, Building & Grounds Committee Chair

August's work day went by without a hitch. It was a hot day, but our outside crew worked hard to get as much as they could done before the heat really hit. Take a look at the backyard and you can thank Gwen, Theresa, Carmen and Kern for their hard work toward making it look so much better.

Inside we had Joel and Paul Elias trying to figure out what circuit breaker goes to which room. (They were still labeled for the mortuary rooms, and let me tell you it is very complicated!) We now have a better idea which switch does what. Scottie and Bruce Hart joined us to help with room cleaning, and Scottie sharpened the knives in the kitchen. (Be warned!) Mike, Bonnie and Keith tackled the chairs cleaning. Christy and Delaney brought nourishing donuts for the workers! Thanks!

The sanctuary update is getting close to completion. We still have shades to go in the front windows, a few walls to paint, and some finishing touches on the electrical. We expect to have the rest wrapped up this fall.

We have some fun projects coming up when the weather starts to cool. There will be specific projects that we hope to have a given day to do the work. These will be one-time commitments and I am personally hoping that we will get some new volunteers to help.

I will end as always: Whether you are new to UUCM or an old friend, if you like to explore helping this wonderful community in a meaningful way, come join us on our monthly adventures. There are jobs for all ages and abilities. We'll find a place for you! I hope to see you soon.



*Carmen and Gwen pose by the evidence of their hard work cleaning our backyard.*

## Endowment Committee



**THANK YOU  
to Those  
Who Made  
Bequest  
Pledges**

By Joel Houtman, Endowment Committee Chair

If you wish to participate in the *Simple Gifts* Program, brochures and envelopes are available in a rack near the main double doors.

### UUCM ENDOWMENT LEGACY GIFTS:

A special thank you to Kern Hildebrand, as well as Suzanne and Rob Ferroggiaro for adding the UUCM Endowment Fund as a beneficiary to their retirement funds.

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

Joel Houtman, Chair	<a href="mailto:jhout46@att.net">jhout46@att.net</a> 530-273-2925
Kern Hildebrand	<a href="mailto:khildebrand13@gmail.com">khildebrand13@gmail.com</a> 925-818-3758
George Dunstan	<a href="mailto:gvgeode@gmail.com">gvgeode@gmail.com</a> 530-205-8159
Dawn Bateman	<a href="mailto:dawn.bateman@sbcglobal.net">dawn.bateman@sbcglobal.net</a> 530-273-6471

## Caring Committee

### Caring Committee Update

By Anne Lyon, Chair, Caring Committee

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

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

Contact: Anne Lyon, (619) 933-1618  
[caring@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:caring@uugrassvalley.org)

## Library Team

### Our UUCM Library has a (Slightly) New Look!

By Carmen Riley and Anita Wald-Tuttle, Library Team Members



Many thanks to Joel Houtman for the beautiful new book case. It was much needed and is very much appreciated! Yet again – another fine piece of craftsmanship by Joel. Thank you!

All books and materials pertaining to Unitarian and Universalism are now housed in our new bookcase located on the right wall.

Another heart-felt thank you goes out to Ken Harris for the donation of his delightful new book – Malakoff School (with feather pens and berry juice.) Thank you, Ken, for your generosity, and to everyone else who may have donated books this past month. UUCM authors are located on the top shelf of the built in case on your left.

And, don't forget to check out our library team's recommended "Reads of the Month," located on the dictionary stand in the back left corner. If you have a special book you'd like to recommend, please contact one of our team members.

Also, FYI, reference books are located in the far right bookcase with two new additions. Jim Hightower's monthly *Lowdown* newssheet (and previous issues) can be found in the plastic holder sitting on top of the case. Check out Jim's "take" on the present "doings" in our nation's Capitol. On the shelf below, a new container holds recent copies of *The Nation* with other views to be considered. If you want to take either of these publications home to read check them out in the usual way.

Remember, this is your library! The Library Team is only here to assist you. Should you have comments, suggestions, or questions, please feel free to contact any one of us for answers.

Library Team Members: Carmen Riley, Anita Wald-Tuttle, Helen Williamson, and Barbara Chesnut



## Stewardship Committee

### Update on Plans for 2018 - 2019

By Keith Johnson, Stewardship Chair

Here is the latest from the Stewardship committee.

#### COTTAGE MEETINGS –

We will begin our cottage meetings in September. The meetings will be hosted by UUCM members in their homes with about eight people invited to each meeting. Since we have about 140 members, we will schedule approximately 17 meetings from September through March. If you would like to host a meeting please let us know. All members will be invited to one cottage meeting during the year. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss the future of UUCM and to explore the concept of generosity as a spiritual practice in a relaxed, informal setting. If you have questions about our cottage meetings please let me know.

#### FUNDRAISER CALENDAR –

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE 2018/19 FUNDRAISER EVENTS!

Saturday, November 3	Valley Music Fall Concert
Saturday, November 10	Wine Tasting with Dave Luce
Sundays, December 2 and 9	Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, February 16	UUCM Auction
Saturday, April 27	Valley Music Spring Concert
Saturday, June 8	Yard Sale

## Wayfinding Follow Up

### Oceanic Voyaging Canoe "Hikianalia" coming to California

At the August 12 service, *Wayfinding - Hōkūle'a and the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage*, Susan Sanford said that one of the oceanic voyaging canoes from Hawai'i, *Hikianalia*, will be arriving in California in mid-September. Here's the link to the main Hōkūle'a website: <http://www.hokulea.com/>. And here's one to a recent post about *Hikianalia's* voyage to California, which is called *Alahula Kai O Maleka*: <http://www.hokulea.com/voyage/hikianalias-voyage-to-california/>.

From the website: "The name of the voyage, *Alahula Kai o Maleka*, honors the "frequented pathway," *alahula*, across the ocean between Hawai'i and California, *kai o Maleka*. "Kai o Maleka" literally means "sea of America," a traditional reference to the Pacific waterway connecting the Hawaiian Islands and the West Coast."

# Social Justice News and Activities

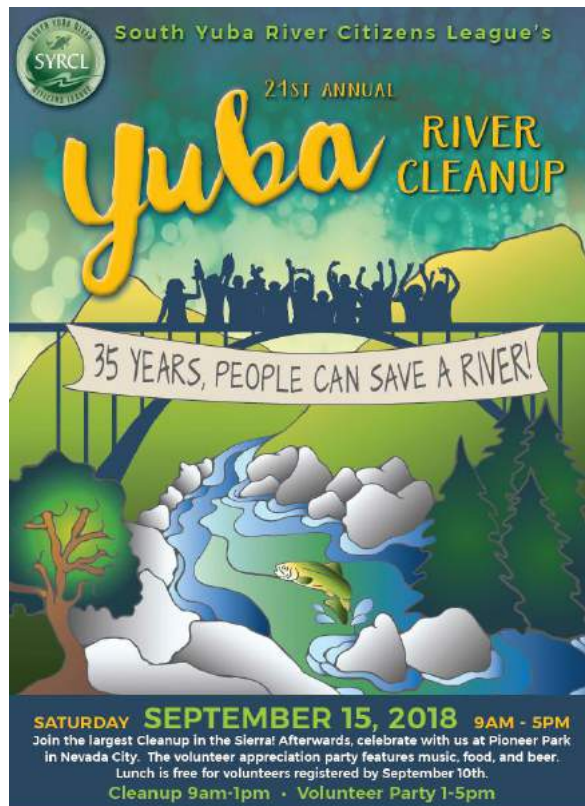
## Yuba Cleanup with SYRCL

SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

By Keith Johnson, Member, Social Justice Committee

The 21st annual SYRCL cleanup will take place on Saturday, September 15. As in past years, UUCM volunteers will work together at one site. Children accompanied by a parent are welcome. We have been assigned a Wolf Creek location in south Grass Valley, with Josie Crawford from the Wolf Creek Community Alliance as our site supervisor. Let's make this an enjoyable event (again). We'll be meeting at the church at 8 a.m. to share coffee and bagels and carpool to the site. We need to provide a list of volunteers by August 31 if possible, so please contact Steve Temple by email or phone: [srtemple@ucdavis.edu](mailto:srtemple@ucdavis.edu) – 530-220-0995.

For more information, or to get involved directly with the Social Justice Committee, please contact Stu Matthews at [stu@fourmajor.com](mailto:stu@fourmajor.com) or 530-362-8456



Friends has a great foster program, adoptions are up, they help with medical needs and food for pets whose caretakers are in need. Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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

Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

### HOSPITALITY HOUSE

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

UUCM purchases, prepares, and serves dinner to our guests at Utah's Place on the third and fifth Fridays of every month. Contact Wally Holtan (530-559-0050).

Hospitality House manages the Bread and Roses Thrift Store and help is needed in all aspects of store operation. Contact Cassandra Holdeman (530-575-4428).

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

## Local Volunteer Opportunities

By Keith Johnson, Member, Social Justice Committee

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

### ANIMAL PLACE, SAMMIE'S FRIENDS SHELTER, &

### GRASS VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER

Animal Place cares for rescued farm animals. Sammie's Friends and the Grass Valley Animal Control Shelter care for rescued pets. All three of these organizations need help feeding, cleaning, walking, and socializing with animals. Sammie's

### IFM

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

### NEVADA COUNTY PETS OF THE HOMELESS/PETS IN NEED

Please bring pet food donations on the first Sunday of each month when we also collect food donations for the Interfaith Food Ministry. Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).

### SIERRA ROOTS

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

### SYRCL

The South Yuba River Citizen's League is dedicated to preserving and protecting the South Yuba River. Volunteer opportunities include river monitoring, becoming a river ambassador, and clerical support.

Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

# Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

## September Women's Circle: Vision Collages and Potluck MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 6:00 P.M., UUCM

By Janet Bullock

UUCM's theme for the month is "VISION"; and that will be our theme for the evening as well. As we finish the heat of the summer and enter the fall; as we cool down, take stock, and savor the fruits of our harvest; what new insights will we carry into the new church year which will inform our choices and commitments? In our collages we will explore: *What is my vision for the months and year to come?*

Bring a couple magazines and/or colorful pictures to share, Elmer's glue, glue stick or acrylic matte medium, scissors and rags. We'll provide plenty of extra supplies in case you need them. *Please don't decide not to come from lack of materials!* Acrylic medium (glue) is kind of expensive, so we may ask for a small donation toward the cost if you need some. This is a "can't fail" type of activity, and a fun way to get acquainted with others.

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

## Humanism Discussion Group FIRST WEDNESDAYS FROM 10:30 A.M. TO 12 P.M.

By George Dunstan

The UUCM Humanist Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, September 5 at 10:30 in the Channing Room.

For our September meeting we will be discussing an article by Riane Eisler titled "Building a Caring Economy and Society".

Here is the link to that article.

<http://rianeeisler.com/building-a-caring-economy-and-society/>

We will also briefly review our August 19th service with the intent of gleaning ideas to make next year's service even better. I hope to see you at our September 5th meeting.

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).

## Singing Meditation

FIRST THURSDAYS, 7:00-8:30 P.M.

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

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

## Men's Groups

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

## Drop-In Support Circle

SUNDAYS FROM 10:50 UNTIL 11:25 A.M.

IN THE ANTHONY ROOM ANNEX

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

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

## Recovering Spirit is on Hiatus

Beginning in September, *Recovering Spirit* will be taking a hiatus from the twice a month meetings at UUCM until further notice. However, I continue to be available by phone for anyone seeking substance abuse support and resource information, or for those living with someone using. We can meet anywhere you'd like, or just chat over the phone.

I would like to also point out the Tuesday night meditation support group that meets in the UUCM library. Give me a call for more information, or refer to the Mindfulness Recovery flyer on the UUCM Community bulletin board.

For additional Information: Carmen Riley (530-272-2803)



# Full Community Education

## UUCM's Family Ministry

By Lindsay Dunckel, Co-Chair,  
Family Ministry Co-Coordinator

The Religious Education Visioning Team is rebranding itself as Family Ministry. The last day for the summer evolution curriculum, *The Great Story*, will be on September 2 and we will be celebrating the conclusion of that vibrant project along with our annual water ceremony in a full-community service on September 9. Classes for children and youth will re-launch on September 16.

We are particularly excited about participating in the regional gathering about religious education, *Pot of Gold*, at the UU community in Sacramento on September 29 (more info on that gathering here: <https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/calendar/pcd/pot-gold-7th-annual-religious-education-conference>). Interested in helping us reimagine our offerings for children and youth? We'd love to have you join us!

The following day, the keynote speaker from that event, Kim Sweeney, will be joining us here at UUCM. Her article, *The Death of Sunday School*, is an intriguing look at how Family Ministry might be reimagined to better meet the needs of 21st century families (read the article here: [https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/the\\_death\\_of\\_sunday\\_school\\_and\\_the\\_future\\_of\\_faith\\_formation\\_ksweeney\\_june2017.pdf](https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/the_death_of_sunday_school_and_the_future_of_faith_formation_ksweeney_june2017.pdf)).

We hope you will join us in exploratory conversations this Fall about what we offer for young people at UUCM. 2018/19 will also see the launch of a Coming of Age program for our youth. Much excitement! Contact co-chairs Lindsay Dunckel ([lindsaydunckel@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaydunckel@gmail.com)) or Rene Wiley ([renemarie@gmail.com](mailto:renemarie@gmail.com)) for more information about how you might get involved!

## UUCM BRUNCH BUNCH



Open to 6th -12th Graders on the second Sunday of each month  
Meet in the UUCM Entry at 10:25 a.m.  
and walk to a Grass Valley restaurant  
for breakfast with other youth and adult mentors.



*Get to know other youths, have authentic conversations, and explore monthly themes.*



Please "like" and join our RE at UUCM Facebook group in order to encourage more of the youth and families to be in the know of what is happening at UUCM.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/REatUUCM/>

## Adult Religious Exploration Update

By Cynthia Schuetz, Adult RE Coordinator

The Adult RE team has taken what you told us you wanted in order to (as our mission statement states) "...cultivate our spiritual, emotional and intellectual strength..." and created a 9-month calendar beginning in October and running through June 2019 (specific dates for some topics TBD).

Here are the five topics that will be the focus of the offerings: Communication; Aging; Social Justice; Fun; Spirituality/Theology. In addition, Soul Matters small groups (new theme every month) will be formed. And in early November, as a build up to the holiday season, we're planning a Pot Luck: Stirring memories of family. Everyone will be invited to bring food that has been created from a treasured family recipe and share their story of that recipe and its connection to family.

Come learn more at the Adult RE Kick-Off between services on Sunday, September 23. Facilitators of the workshops/classes will be available to talk more about what they have planned. There also will be registration forms so you can sign up for the classes that interest you. But, not to worry, if you're not quite ready to sign up, there will be other opportunities to register. We're excited about the offerings and grateful to the members of our UUCM community who have stepped up to plan and facilitate the classes. Join us on September 23 to meet them and learn about their vision for the classes.

## September Soul Matters Reflections

(FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND REFLECTION FROM THE SOUL MATTERS ORGANIZATION)

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

There's one quote we all need to remember this month. The unknown author has given us a great gift. Here it is:

*"What will mess you up most in life is the picture in your head of how it is supposed to be."*

It's not the place one usually starts when it comes to the topic of vision. Most often, conversations about vision tell us to hold on tightly to our pictures of how it is supposed to be, not be suspicious of them. We're encouraged to "stay true to your vision." We're told, "Without vision, the people perish." We're warned that without a clear vision, we're vulnerable to whatever winds blow. And let's be clear: all of that is true.



# Full Community Education – Soul Matters

A clear vision anchors us. It gives us direction and hope. It is, indeed, a precious thing to which we should hold fast.

But as our quote of the month makes clear, all that holding fast is also dangerous. In short, no vision is perfect. They are all flawed and limited. Every vision distorts even as it clarifies. On top of that, life changes. Some doors close, new ones open. If you stay true to the vision of what's behind that closed door, you'll just end up spending your life banging your head against the wall. And as Unitarian Universalists, we also know that one vision isn't enough. As clear as our perspectives may be, we all know by now that none is complete. To see the entire view, we need everyone's vantage point.

So clearly being a people of vision is hard work. Knowing when to stay true to your vision and when to let go is a very tricky task. Figuring out when to keep your vision front and center and when to de-center it and make room for others intimidates the best of us.

Yet, here's the thing. If danger and hard work dominate the tone of this month, we will have done ourselves a disservice. Besides being dangerous, holding tightly to one single vision is also just no fun! We don't just have to see things from others' points of view; we get to see things from others' points of view! Learning about the visions of others isn't just a way of making up for your flawed perspective. It's also an invitation to see the world anew! And while having to let go of precious visions and dreams is painful, it's also exhilarating to evolve and grow.

Maybe that's the most important vision of all this month. It's not that of a stern-faced people sticking to their single vision through thick and thin, but that of a playful people exchanging visions and helping each other encounter new and larger worlds. Can we be people who don't just ask each other "Are you staying true to your vision?" but who also say with a smile, "What new vision is calling to you?"

## Soul Matters Themes for 2018-19:

September :	Vision
October:	Sanctuary
November:	Memory
December:	Mystery
January:	Possibility
February:	Trust
March:	Journey
April:	Wholeness
May:	Curiosity
June:	Beauty

## Soul Matters Circles to Begin Again

By Jo Waters

### JOIN A CIRCLE AND CHECK OUT THE NEW MONTHLY SOUL MATTERS EXPLORATORIUM!



Soul Matters circles are starting up again this month.

Now is a great time to join.

These small groups of 5-8 people will commit to meeting once a month throughout the church year to deepen their connections to each other and to our community through the lens of monthly themes. The themes are presented as a packet of materials made available to Soul Matters circle members with suggested monthly practices as well as an enormous amount of other resources including quotes, poems, books, music, articles, videos and movies.

As a member of one circle and co-facilitator of another, I have developed a profound appreciation for the value of these Soul Matters resources. And yet, as the saying goes, the more you put into it, the more you get out of it.

To help make this as moving and enriching an experience as possible, I have decided to host a monthly gathering that I am calling the **Soul Matters Exploratorium**. The purpose of the Exploratorium is to provide a time and place to allow circle members to prepare for their Soul Matters circle meetings. In addition to the recommended practices, we will explore the resources in each packet, watching some of the suggested videos, reading some poetry and listening to music.

My personal vision is to widen the circle, provide the packet to the entire congregation, and welcome every interested person to participate in the Exploratorium. All, please feel free to join us. Our first Exploratorium will be held on Monday evening, September 17 at 6:30.

For **Soul Matters Exploratorium** scheduling or questions, check the calendar or contact me, Jo Waters, at [jowaters@hotmail.com](mailto:jowaters@hotmail.com).

If you would like to participate in a Soul Matters Circle, and/or if you have questions about the circle experience, please contact Phil Hart at [philhart115@gmail.com](mailto:philhart115@gmail.com) or (530) 263-9679, or contact Rev. Kevin.

# September 2018 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
<b>SEPTEMBER 2018</b>			
2	Sunday	<b>First Sunday - Bring Food for People &amp; Pets</b>	
		9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
4	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		9:30 AM	Membership Committee Meeting
		4:00 PM	Caring Committee Meeting
		6:00 PM	Mindfulness Recovery
5	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		10:30 AM	Humanism Discussion Group
		4:30 PM	Youth Music (Beginners)
		5:00 PM	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30 PM	Choir
6	Thursday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's
		7:00 PM	Singing Meditation Circle
9	Sunday	9:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
		10:25 AM	Brunch Bunch for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
		12:45 PM	Second Sunday Salad Potluck
10	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Potluck at UUCM
11	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		4:00 PM	Stewardship Committee Meeting
		6:00 PM	Mindfulness Recovery
12	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		11:00 AM	Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep
		4:30 PM	Youth Music (Beginners)
		5:00 PM	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30 PM	Choir
13	Thursday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		5:30 PM	Social Justice Night
		6:30 PM	Worship Committee Meeting
15	Saturday	8:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party
16	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:45 PM	RE Visioning Team Meeting

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
18	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		5:30 PM	Global Affairs Discussion Group
		6:00 PM	Mindfulness Recovery
19	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		4:30 PM	Youth Music (Beginners)
		5:00 PM	Youth Music (Advanced)
		5:30 PM	Social Justice Committee Meeting
		6:30 PM	Choir
20	Thursday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's
		5:15 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
		7:00 PM	Climate Change Coalition
21	Friday	4:00 PM	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place
		5:30 PM	Interfaith Gathering for World Peace (at GV United Methodist Church)
22	Saturday	10:00 AM	Hike to Castle Peak - off site
23	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
24	Monday	9:00 AM	<b>MOUNTAIN CHALICE ARTICLES DUE</b>
25	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
26	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		4:30 PM	Youth Music (Beginners)
		5:00 PM	Youth Music (Advanced)
27	Thursday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
30	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
<b>OCTOBER 2018</b>			
2	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		9:30 AM	Membership Committee Meeting
		4:00 PM	Caring Committee Meeting
		6:00 PM	Mindfulness Recovery
3	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		10:30 AM	Humanism Discussion Group
		4:30 PM	Youth Music (Beginners)
		5:00 PM	Youth Music (Advanced)
		6:30 PM	Choir



## *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 Friday, 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 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*

Carol Fulkerson, *Office Administrator*

Jordan Thomas-Rose, *Music Director*

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