

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

March 2019

UPCOMING SERVICES

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

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

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

MARCH:

What does it mean to be a people of journey?

March 3 The Journey Calls Us On
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Lindsay Dunckel, and more

What does a paper princess have to do with our theme of "journey?" Come and find out. There are some benefits to being lost, it turns out, and chance encounters can enrich our journey in surprising ways. With this, we kick off this year's stewardship campaign!
Music: Eric Howe, with Tom Wernigg, violin

First Sunday: Please bring food for Interfaith Food Ministries & Pets of the Homeless

March 10 The Joining of Roads - Yours, Mine, and Ours
Kristin Famula, guest speaker

Kristin Famula (once UUCM's Acting Director of Religious Education) returns with an interactive service where we discover the ways our individual and collective journeys intersect on the great journey of our life pilgrimages. (As one of Kristin's sponsoring congregations, we will be taking a special collection today to support Kristin's seminary journey.) Music: Eric Howe, w/ Michael Bankston, trumpet

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 10!
Second Sunday Soup Lunch at 12:30,
Cottage Conversations at 1:30, for all those who haven't yet had a chance to attend one. (This is our Spiritual Practice for this month.)

March 17 The Long Journey to Our Homeland
Ellie Kilpatrick, minister

Please join minister, Ellie Kilpatrick, as she explores what the concept of homeland means from a Unitarian Universalist perspective and how we journey in that endeavor. She will engage the history and present of immigration in our country and how we are called to create a home for everyone. Music: Rev. Kevin, & Kate Canan, flute

March 24 The Journey Beneath Your Feet
Rev. Kevin Tarsa and Gail Johnson Vaughan

The Tao Te Ching counsels that "A journey of a thousand miles starts beneath one's feet." The very first step of so many of our journeys is not a physical step, but rather new movement along an inner path.
Music: Karyn Packard, with Delaney Sherr, violin

March 31 Sing Out Praises for the Journey
Rev. Kevin Tarsa with many others

This Sunday we celebrate the 25-year journey of this congregation, the success of this month's stewardship campaign, the journey ahead, and your place within it all – in what we hope will be a rich honoring of this community's path and its promise.
Music: Musicians of UUCM, including the UUCM Choir

Special celebration after each service.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

25 years ago, on March 19, a visionary circle of 18 people met at the Magic Theater for the first “formal” service of what would become the Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains. A quiet, unassuming plaque commemorating this auspicious beginning hangs in the UUCM library, complete with the signatures of the pioneers present all those years ago.

The community that UUCM members and friends embody here, and the mission that UUCM names to guide its work, are powerful legacies of those first hearty souls who saw a possibility, and who trusted themselves, the value of their commitment, and the values of the tradition. They committed to journey together into an unknown future and so into this day.

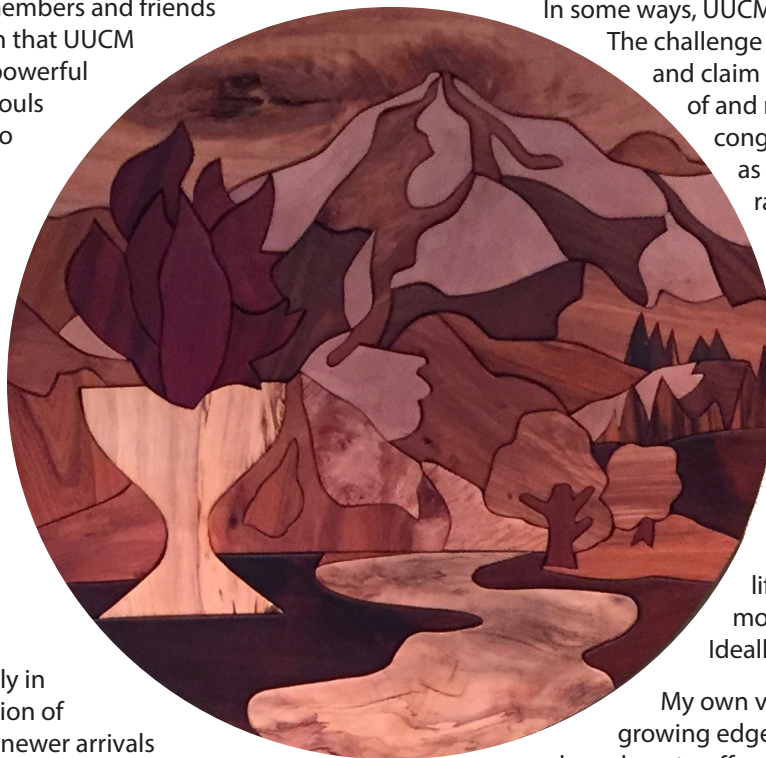
Let us lift up and offer our gratitude for such a brave and generous undertaking! (Anita Wald-Tuttle, Paul Elias and Maryann Hart were all around in the very early days. Please thank them when you see them.)

The journey is now increasingly in the hands of the next generation of members, many of whom are newer arrivals to this community. “The journey calls us on,” as our Stewardship Team reminds us, calls us to find our way into the new day together.

In those early, high-octane, DIY (do it yourself) “let’s start a new UU congregation” days of community formation, the

spirit is that of a barn raising, or maybe a barn raising crossed with a family meeting, a shareholder party and a parents’ play group. Everyone chips in, takes ownership of what they see needs doing, and realizes enormous satisfaction and pride in the “look what we are doing!” results. The spirit is of family and home and personal ownership, with a clear sense that if something is going to happen, it will be up to each person.

Growth and the calling of a minister eventually stretch those dynamics. Who does what and how things get done become less obvious and need to get spelled out, written down and communicated so everyone knows who is responsible for (or at least who is intending to do) what.



In some ways, UUCM is still riding that transition.

The challenge is for members to realize and claim meaningful ownership of and responsibility for the congregation and its journey as members of a community, rather than independent individuals. That requires organization and structure and communication. Congregations call upon a minister and craft a mission to help hold a center around which various efforts can stay connected. Rather than a family in which people are automatically connected and things simply get done, the life of the community becomes more organized and intentional. Ideally.

My own vocational challenge and growing edge dances in parallel: it is to learn how to offer meaningful leadership and encourage useful structure, while fostering a sense of high-energy ownership and personal responsibility among members.

Ultimately, this is important beyond our personal lives and the congregation’s walls, as the daily news makes clear. It is increasingly important as the ascendant political energy around the world drives a frantic grasp for certainty and presses toward authoritarian forms of leadership and ways of seeing.

Our Unitarian Universalist tradition calls us to move counter to the current currents, carrying on the legacy of our ancestors and UUCM’s founders. May the journey indeed call us on.

– Rev. Kevin

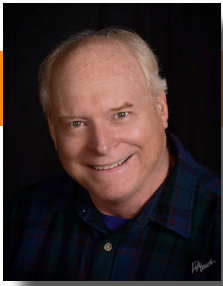
REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

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

Other times by arrangement.

Please call or email Rev. Kevin to make an appointment.
minister@uugrassvalley.org or (231) 883-1058

Board of Trustees



Taylor Carey,
President,
UUCM Board of Trustees

I know that many of you find the Governance Reorganization Project puzzling. Some regard it is an over-hyped distinction without a difference. Others like the idea but find it a long, winding road to a very small house. Still others, perhaps smarting from grievances that arose during our interim period, regard the whole idea of "governance" with suspicion. Each view may have some merit.

This project actually had its genesis during the presidency of Dave MacLeod, who, reacting to a crisis of confidence and rising tensions in the congregation that ultimately led to the resignation of a sitting Board President, agreed to step up and accept the challenge of leading members back to calmer waters. As a part of that effort, he convened the Governance Work Group. The Group's charter was fairly broad, essentially to look into things and make recommendations. Eventually, under Janet Dunstan's leadership, the GWG settled on the idea of overhauling our governance structure along the lines suggested in *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Leadership*, authored by Dan Hotchkiss.

Hotchkiss provides a detailed description and explanation of the kinds of issues common to church governance, regardless of denomination. Among the most compelling recommendations is for congregations to reimagine and realign their governance structures. I'm oversimplifying like mad, of course, but he suggests that congregations not simply borrow his or others' policy and bylaws suggestions. Rather, each Board to conceptualize for itself and its congregation the kinds of challenges and issues they want to address and using an iterative methodology, try out a number of options and treatments to see what fits, what resonates well among the lay and professional leadership and members before committing to them. Proceeding in this fashion takes time, but it also helps congregations develop policies and procedures to rearrange and manage their affairs in a manner that seems most natural to them.

So, yeah, this is all Dave's fault.

(Please read Board of Trustees Secretary Karyn Parkard's thoughtful description of our upcoming Town Hall Meeting scheduled for March 24.)

- Taylor

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TOWN TALK ABOUT GOVERNANCE REORGANIZATION

By Karyn Packard, Secretary, Board of Trustees

On Sunday, March 24, the Board will hold a congregation information forum to report on the progress of our UUCM governance transition.

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

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

Please join us for a short informative discussion on Sunday March 24 at 12:45. There will be handouts for clarification and time for questions and comments.

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2019

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

Members at Large:

Chuck Champlin, Maryann Currington & Dennis Weiher

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

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

Welcoming and Membership Team

Membership Team Seeking Chair and Team Leaders

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa

The Membership Team is gradually rebuilding itself after Claire Miller's strong, generous, and knowledgeable leadership. **We are looking for an OVERALL CHAIR**— someone with strong and happy team-building skills, who finds joy in coordinating a multi-faceted effort and has a passion for helping the people who need it to find a home in this community.

Bonnie Lattin-Hensel is organizing and scheduling Greeters and Ushers and our welcoming effort, while Brenda Morgan is investing in processes to get newcomer information in helpful hands in the most useful form.

In March, the Team will turn its attention to the ways we help interested newcomers get to know others, the tradition and the congregation, how we help people discern whether they are interested in membership, and how we accompany people on the journey from Newcomer to Member. **We are seeking an organized and warm-hearted person to lead this "Journey toward Membership" piece of the Team work.** All are welcome to join the Team for this conversation at its next meeting, Tuesday, March 5 at 11:00.

We are also seeking someone to lead the third piece of this Team's work: helping new members to get meaningfully connected, engaged and actively participating in the life and leadership of the congregation. A person who is organized, who grooves on enabling social engagement, and who loves to help people make connections would be ideal for this role.

Please speak with Rev. Kevin if any of these leadership roles piques your interest.

Please speak with Bonnie Lattin-Hensel if you would enjoy being a **Welcomer/Greeter** (no other job than to be a warm and welcoming presence as you greet people on a Sunday), or an **Usher** (with more quiet tasks to do like handing out orders of service, collecting the offering, etc.)

Finally, know that in truth every member of UUCM is part of the Welcoming Team. It is said that newcomers decide in the first seven seconds of their first visit whether this might be a home for them and whether they are likely to return. You may very well be a significant part of a person's first experience of UUCM. We invite you to be warm, thoughtful, generous and to place the well-being of others in the forefront of your heart and thoughts on a Sunday morning or in any activity at UUCM.

Fun for All – UUCM Social Events!

All are welcome at these UUCM Social events:

SOUP SUNDAYS - SECOND SUNDAYS

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

THE UUCM AUCTION – SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019

We're having a Sixties Theme... come as you were! It's not too late to donate a service: Dinner parties, cabin stays, computer assistance, hikes, picnics, hand-crafted goods, handyman services, babysitting.... what can YOU offer that would build relationships, provide enjoyable experiences and help further our mission? Tickets on sale now! Read more on page 5.

AREA UU MUSIC/CHOIR FESTIVAL - SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 5 PM

Members and friends of the Auburn, Chico, Davis, Reno, Sacramento and Grass Valley congregations are invited to participate in this joint concert to be held next door at the Grass Valley United Methodist Church.

Hospitality Team

By Marilyn Young, Coordinator, UUCM Hospitality Hour

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

This month's schedule for contributing snacks:

- March 3 - last names beginning with A to E
- March 10 - last names beginning with F to J
- March 17 - last names beginning with K to R
- March 24 - last names beginning with S to Z
- March 31 - Everyone!!

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

SET UP AND CLEAN UP HELPERS NEEDED

We really could use more volunteers for both set up and clean up for our Hospitality Hour. It's not a difficult task, and you'll be working with others, so the job goes quickly. Please let Marilyn Young know if you can volunteer once a month, or...?



Stewardship Team & Auction

The Path to Generosity

By Keith Johnson, Chair, Stewardship Committee

The 2019/20 pledge campaign is about to begin. The theme for the campaign is "The Journey Calls Us On."

UUCM members and friends continue to be wonderfully generous as UUCM's journey unfolds. The social, political, and spiritual realities of our times and lives call us to live a courageous love in the world, and your gifts – of all kinds – help make that possible.

Knowing that a pledge campaign taps into all the feelings about money that we've garnered in life, we thought it might be helpful to face head on some of the common internal messages that play in our heads:

I DON'T HAVE MUCH MONEY – MY PLEDGE DOES NOT MATTER.

All pledges matter. We have 140 members at UUCM. If each member increased their pledge by \$10 per month, total pledge income would increase by \$16,800, or about 8% overall. Every little bit helps.

MY FINANCES MAY CHANGE – I CAN'T COMMIT FOR A WHOLE YEAR.

We understand that your financial situation may change due to job loss, medical emergencies, a winning lotto ticket (it could happen) or other unforeseen circumstances. If that happens to you, just let Kevin or a Stewardship Team member know and your pledge can be adjusted accordingly. No questions asked.

I LIKE THE CHURCH THE WAY IT IS – I DON'T NEED TO INCREASE MY PLEDGE.

The congregation approves the budget, but unfunded items are ever present. For example, we would like to balance our budget. Our wonderful staff members deserve a cost of living adjustment. We need a building maintenance reserve fund. Your pledge could help fund these items and more.

I WOULD LIKE TO PLEDGE MORE – BUT I KNOW PEOPLE WHO HAVE MORE AND PLEDGE LESS. THAT'S NOT FAIR.

Everybody does their own personal dance with money. Our mission calls us to cultivate our spiritual strengths, and without a doubt generosity is a spiritual strength. As Lynn Twist reminds us in *The Soul of Money*, money is like water. When it is flowing it can purify, cleanse, and create growth. But when it is blocked or held too long, it can grow stagnant and toxic to those withholding or hoarding it. "Give until it feels good," counsel many wise teachers.

Don't let these internal "potholes" deter you from your generosity path.

Our hope is that your journey in UUCM calls you to ever greater generosity in all aspects of your life.



Don't Miss our Sixties Auction on Saturday, March 23!

By Bob Miller, 2019 Auction Project Team

Doors open at 5:30 PM. Then enjoy a buffet prepared by our cooks Brenda and Bridget at 6:00 PM. Bidding sheets will be open from 5:30 PM on with a few live auction items starting at 7:00 PM.

This will be a fun evening with sixties numbers performed from time to time by your favorite UUCM musicians. Be prepared to sing-along.

Check out the items in our catalog at: www.togetherauction.com/uucm

Don't miss out - buy your tickets for \$10 or less from Bob Miller at a Sunday Service or reserve one by emailing him at bob@sierramiller.com.

You will also have an opportunity to make silent bids in the church before the auction.

It's not too late to offer something. Think dinners, vacation home rentals, guided tours, hikes, cakes, pies, games night, car washing, baby minding, bike maintenance, harp lessons, gardening help, hand-crafted items, handyman help, professional consultation or new unused items.

Claire Miller (530) 205-5324 or truckeeclaire@yahoo.com is standing by to help you with the wording of your offering and setting the minimum bid. She can also help you navigate the website or do it for you.

Finance Committee

How Are UUCM's Finances?

By Bob Packard, Chair, Finance Committee

As the new year began, many of us took time to see how we were doing financially. Some of the questions I might have asked myself include: Am I spending too much? Am I saving enough? Are my savings doing OK? Can I do what I want to this year? . . . Or next year?

Whether you did this or not for your finances, you will probably be comforted to know that someone is doing this for UUCM's finances. In addition to formulating the UUCM budget, the Finance Committee monitors UUCM's financial performance and provides financial advice to our Board. So now is a good time to provide information to our members and friends too.

You probably have a vague idea of our current budget. By way of review, last May the congregation approved a yearly budget that included a deficit of just under \$5 thousand, based on projected revenues of \$226 thousand and expenses of \$231 thousand. You may not know that this annual deficit would be the most recent of six straight years of operating deficits that had come to \$59 thousand, effectively cutting our cash reserves in half.

At first blush, this red ink looks darker than rosy, but there are at least two reasons for optimism. First, we are in the final two years of retiring our mortgage, so most of the almost \$28 thousand of mortgage payments we will pay this year is going into equity, not interest. Therefore, our net worth is actually growing with this budget. Secondly, our membership, and – equally important – our income, has been inching up each year over at least the last seven years, and with the continued generosity and support of our members, the annual budget deficits can be a thing of the past, strengthening our position to pursue new possibilities.

The church and our community have obvious needs, and a healthier budget will enable us to consider some alternatives. One obvious possibility would be to begin reconstituting our reserves. Our predecessors built up reserves that UUCM was able to use during our recent transition, and replenishing them should be a high priority. But there are other possibilities too. Several areas are waiting for attention, and we should be able to begin dealing with these needs. How about strengthening our RE program? What about working off some of our deferred maintenance items? How about updating furnishings? The possibilities are endless with your help.

Wise people know that a church budget is not exactly reality: it is a plan consisting of what we think we know about the year's

revenue and expenses. Much, but not all of it, is quite certain, and actual financial performance comes pretty close. Last year, UUCM outperformed our budget, and the expected deficit was reduced by thousands of dollars. The Finance Committee has just completed a mid-year review of our current budget. We now forecast a surplus this year of over \$10,000. Some of the reasons for this turn are cuts in Religious Exploration, deferred maintenance projects, and frugality across the entire Ministry. But we have reason for optimism too. The brightest insight from this review is our strong pledge performance. Members are honoring the pledge challenges we accepted last spring at a rate close to 100%. This shows a resilience and a determination that should make us all proud. If we can retain this spirit through this year's stewardship campaign, our journey forward will be a happy one indeed.

UUCM Nisenan Team

Introducing the UUCM Nisenan Team

By Susan Sanford, Nisenan Team Member

There is a new team coming together for this initial purpose: to create a resolution of support for the indigenous Nisenan people acknowledging them as the original inhabitants of this land. Four UUCM members (Carmen Riley, Eileen Hale, Holly Rice, and Susan Sanford) met in mid-February to begin the conversation. What "support" means and how it will take form will be explored, defined, and refined as the process of the team and ultimately the whole congregation.

If you would like to be part of this team, please contact Carmen Riley by March 5 at (530) 272-2803 or by email: copythat2413@yahoo.com.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 19th from 7-8:30 pm at UUCM.

For more information about the Nisenan, visit these websites: California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project <http://www.chirpca.org/> and <http://www.nevadacityrancheria.org/>.

The Nisenan have created the Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program. Individuals, and perhaps someday our congregation as an organization, might choose to support this program. Info at: <http://ancestralhomelands.org/>

Endowment Committee



Announcing a Change in Personnel

By Joel Houtman, Endowment Committee Chair

The Endowment Committee wishes to thank George Dunstan for his esteemed service on the Endowment Committee. He is retiring, and Lesley Champlin has agreed to bring her extensive administrative experience to our committee, as our newest member. Welcome Lesley!

SIMPLE GIFTS

The Endowment Committee wishes to thank Robert Harris and Stephanie Brown for their donation to the Endowment Fund. This gift was made in the names of Cynthia Schuetz and Jim Perkins as a Christmas gift.

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:

Special thank you to Janet and George Dunstan for their generous bequest of adding UUCM as a beneficiary in their will.

If you wish to participate in the UUCM Endowment Legacy Program please contact:

Joel Houtman, Chair	jhout46@att.net 530-273-2925
Dawn Bateman	dawn.bateman@sbcglobal.net 530-273-6471
Lesley Champlin	lesleyp723@hotmail.com 805-403-5340
Kern Hildebrand	khildebrand13@gmail.com 925-818-3758

Area UU Choir Festival

Area UU Music/Choir Festival - Saturday, April 6

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa

At the annual UU Musicians Network Conference (now the Association for UU Music Ministries) last summer, Jordan and I met with the ministers and music directors from our Reno, NV and Davis, CA congregations. We imagined a joint choir/singing event to connect the UU congregations in our area.

Jordan's and Rev. Kevin's participation in last summer's annual conference led to a conversation with other UU ministers and music directors from our area, which led to a music/choir festival to be held here at the UU Community of the Mountains on Saturday, April 6! Members and friends of the Auburn, Chico, Davis, Reno, Sacramento and Grass Valley congregations are invited to participate.

Plans include an afternoon of rehearsal and learning with leadership from the music directors of several of our congregations, to prepare for a 5:00 PM concert to be held next door at the Grass Valley United Methodist Church, a concert that may include songs from some of the individual choirs, as well as sing-along hymns for all. We'll conclude the day with a potluck meal for participants.

This looks to be a grand time of music and connection. Jordan will be back, fresh from his international adventures, and we'll have a chance to connect to members of our sister congregations. Singers, please plan to participate. And if you are thinking of taking part, please let our Administrator know (admin@uugrassvalley.org) so that we can best plan for numbers.

UU General Assembly

The Power of We

JUNE 19 - 23, 2019 IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations send voting delegates.

In a time of great challenge and heartbreak in our world, what does our faith demand from us? At this year's General Assembly we will explore the power, possibility, purpose, struggle and joy of finding the path forward together as Unitarian Universalists. Attendees will leave inspired, with the tools needed to carry on the work into their own congregations and communities. <https://www.uua.org/ga>

Building and Grounds

Hearty Team Braves the Snow to Make it to the February Work Day

By Wally Holtan, Chair, Building and Grounds Team

My deep thanks to the hardy souls who braved the winter weather and showed up for the snowbound work day. We accomplished some jobs that have been on the back burner for a long time. We even had three new volunteers, welcoming Andy and Shannon Dooley-Miller and Mike Corey to our fun-filled Saturday.

In addition to cleaning the wainscoting throughout the building, the old tape residue was removed from the sanctuary floors and a multitude of scratches were treated with stain. We thoroughly cleaned the upstairs R.E. rooms and the kitchen as well as the minister's office. Our recycle bin is filled with a large quantity of cardboard that was broken down, plus we pasted felt patches on the bottoms of our coffin boxes, and dusted and cleaned all the chairs.

Hopefully, next month we will be able to move back outside so we can continue getting ready for the spring that will be here soon. Lastly, a special thanks to Bob Miller, Kern Hildebrand and Bob Packard for the great job they did installing the T.V. in the sanctuary this last month.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 16th of THIS month.



Caring Team



We're Here to Serve

By Gwen Eymann, Acting Chair, Caring Team*

In our community we share our joys and our sorrows, we share our celebrations and our grief. With this sharing we grow deeper in our connections with one another and trust is built. In our community we have the opportunity of supporting some of our beloved members with meals and rides, calls and visits. In every day we can all reach out to one another.

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

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

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

CARING TEAM MEMBERS:

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

**Please note: Gwen will be serving as acting Chair of the Caring Team until Anne Lyon is ready to resume her position.*

Social Justice News and Activities

Social Justice News

By Stu Chuang Matthews, Chair, Social Justice Team

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

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

Greenery: A Call to Social Action

By Ginny Hoyt, Member, Social Justice Team

For those of us who went to the movie, "The Work", Sunday night we all had a painful glimpse of what our culture of money, consumer values and greed has wrought. This is a multi generational problem that took time to develop and will take time and an attitudinal change to rectify.

As important as a future cultural change is, I believe attention to global warming must still be our number one priority. Again I refer you to Citizens Climate Lobby. Bob Miller is doing a wonderful job of concentrating attention on both the problem and a viable avenue of approach to the needed solution. Our local start-up chapter is gathering membership and very soon will be recognized by the parent organization. Thank you, Bob!! In case you haven't been lured in yet let me encourage you to join. Just go on line and you will learn what is necessary and how little of your time it will take.

Most important, the CCL organization is having an effect on Congress because it represents an increasingly large section of the voting population. Even Mr. LaMalfa is aware of its presence and worries a bit about his job security. Please, please join the movement so we can solve the global warming problem and get on with curing our culture. Love is its solution but getting there on a universal scale is going to take a lot of work!!

Local Volunteer Opportunities

By Keith Johnson, Member, Social Justice Team

The Social Justice Team encourages all members and friends to volunteer for justice work with local non-profit organizations. UUCM'ers are already doing outstanding work for the groups listed below. Following are descriptions of each group and volunteer help that is needed. If you are moved to do so, please reach out to the designated UUCM contact person to volunteer. They will have further information about the organization and may suggest other volunteer opportunities. If you would like to recommend other service organizations

to be included, or if you wish to join us on the Social Justice Team, please contact team chair Stu Matthews (530-362-8456).

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

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

Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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

Contact Keith Johnson (530-265-0277).

HOSPITALITY HOUSE

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

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

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

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

IFM

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

SIERRA ROOTS

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

SYRCL

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

Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

March Women's Circle & Potluck: MONDAY, MARCH 11, 6:00 PM at UUCM

GAME NIGHT!

We will be playing a fun, fast and funny game called Celebrity, a slight variation on Charades.

Players will each write on separate slips of paper the names of 10 famous (or infamous) people. They can be living or dead, fictional (Sherlock Holmes), even a cartoon (Bugs Bunny) or animal (Lassie.) Try to choose less obscure names (maybe Steve Jobs over Steve Wozniac), someone you think all of us will know. There will be no theme attached to the potluck unless someone wants to make Elvis's favorite bacon, peanut butter, banana pie with marshmallow fluff. So bring your imagination, thinking cap, and a pen or pencil. Let the games begin! An RSVP email will be sent at the beginning of the month.

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

Humanism Discussion Group

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
FROM 10:30 AM TO 12 PM

By George Dunstan



The UUCM Humanist Discussion Group will meet at 10:30 on Wednesday, March 6th, in the Channing Room at UUCM. Our topic for March will be: how to apply humanism to living our lives and how to explain our beliefs to others.

Here is the link to one person's thoughts about how to live the humanist life:

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/daylightatheism/2008/02/living-the-humanist-life/>

And here are two links to thoughts about elevator speeches explaining humanism. These might be a starting point for developing our own thoughts about how to explain our belief system to others.

<https://humanistsofmn.org/master-blog/2018/6/4/what-is-humanisms-elevator-speech>

<http://www.thefrugalhumanist.com/a-humanist-how-about-that-elevator-pitch/>

I hope to see you on March 6th.

For further information, or to be added to the Humanism Discussion Group email list, please contact George Dunstan (530-205-8159 or gvgeode@gmail.com).

Meditation Group

Tuesday mornings at 9, a self-directed group of congregants meets for an hour of meditation in the Sanctuary. Enjoy a time of inner peace and reflection with others. For more info: Shelley North-Gerson, 272-8930, shelley10493@gmail.com.

UUCM Walking Group News

By Theresa Houtman

Join intrepid walkers at UUCM 8:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays through March 14. On Tuesday, March 18, walk will resume meeting at the Houtmans', 418 Chapel, Grass Valley. We walk a gentle two miles and then have coffee, conversation and treats. Cat-friendly dogs on leashes are welcome. Please contact Bridget, (661) 319-5976 to confirm until March 14 and Theresa Houtman (530) 277-9294 from March 18 on.

Singing Meditation

FIRST THURSDAYS, 7-8:30 PM

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

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

Men's Groups

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

Drop-In Support Circle

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

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

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

UUCM Family Ministry



Announcing Family Camp!

CAMP TWO OF THE MENDOCINO WOODLANDS

Week One: July 7-13, 2019

Week Two: July 14-20, 2019

At the end of the road, deep in the Redwood forest, by the Little North Fork of the Big River, is a place to go... where people are happy to welcome you for who you are, not what you are... where you are encouraged to be and let be... where you are included in the Family, not despite who you are, but because of who you are... a place where it is safe for kids to be kids. It's a mystical place, where the simplest things are spiritual: dancing, singing, drumming, walking, and talking. Once you've been to Family Camp, you'll wonder what you did without it. It is a wonderful respite in your busy life, whether you can come for one week or two, you owe it to yourself and your family to do it this year.

Each week consists of four days of daily activities and child care, one free day (no activities planned), and a whole week's worth of delicious meals and evening activities!

<http://www.ncuucc.org/calendar/family-camp/>

FAMILY AND PARENT RESOURCES

Ideas to engage Journey as a Family

FAMILY ADVENTURE IDEAS

Pilgrimage - the Journey Out

What places would be considered pilgrimages in your family? A special bench in a park where you shared news of a new family member? A place where a pet is buried? A National Park where a child made their first big hike? Name these places as places of pilgrimage for your family.

STORIES TO READ TOGETHER

Journey, Quest, Return (Aaron Becker's Wordless Trilogy) by Aaron Becker (Author, Illustrator)

Share all three. They are wordless so use it as a silent moving picture book.

Journey: <https://is.gd/jKnqx8>

Quest: <https://is.gd/1t2WBY>

Return: <https://is.gd/X3PQeL>

FAMILY JOURNEYS - MARKING THE END OF THE JOURNEY OF LIFE
When Families Grieve - Sesame Street

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2VpflpbOmk&t=23s>

<https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/activities/explaining-what-happened/>

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IDEAS

Lion King (G)

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/the-lion-king>

Theme Connection: The journey of life is a circle of birth, life and death.

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AS FAITH FORMATION GUIDES

Unitarian Universalist Child Dedication Ceremonies -

Marking the Beginning of the Journey of life

If you are interested in the UU Child Dedication Ceremony, contact your worship leader or minister.

<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-do/celebrations/births>

<https://www.questformeaning.org/rites-of-passage/baby-child-dedications/>

UU FAMILY RITUALS FOR OTHER TIMES ON THE JOURNEY OF LIFE

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/creating-rituals-with-for-children>

NEW RESOURCE!

Soulful Home Family Guides

Parents and caregivers can explore the themes at home with their family by subscribing to our monthly parent guides, Soulful Home.

Here's the link to the Soulful Home page:

<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/soulful-home.html>



If you have questions, comments, or suggestions regarding UUCM's Family Ministry, please email us at: education@uugrassvalley.org

Adult Religious Exploration

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



Adult RE Classes for March

TEMPERAMENT THEORY FOR YOU, YOURS, AND US, PART 2 EXPERIENTIAL SESSION

WITH REV. KARYN PACKARD

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1-5 PM, SANCTUARY

To register, contact Karyn Packard: karyn@seagoer.net
or call 562-900-9546 (Prerequisite: completion of Part 1)

Using your results on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Kiersey Temperament Sorter, join Rev. Karyn Packard for a focused time to try out your newly acquired knowledge, and apply it to actual life/church situations.

Please bring your previous packets with you. There will be a theory review. You will have the opportunity to problem-solve in teams of both like and un-like temperament types.

Karyn has been licensed on these inventories for many years and has provided these sessions for church boards, couples planning on marriage, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and in HR related team building. Your presentation team has been working together to design opportunities that are relevant and fun!

COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH PEACEFUL COMMUNICATION WITH JOYCE BANZHAF

TUESDAY - THURSDAY, MARCH 5-7, 9:30 AM EACH DAY

UUCM member Joyce Banzhaf leads workshops for the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). The workshops are designed to be fun, using interactive exercises and games to examine ways people respond to situations where injustice, prejudice, frustration and anger can lead to aggressive words or behavior. The learning often leads to better relationships with yourself and others, a deeper sense of community, better conflict resolution skills and a more peaceful life.

To find out more about the AVP, consider watching a film, "The Work" which can be seen on the online magazine Topic.Com in the June 2018 issue. Small film of Eldra after release is listed just below "The Work". His Toxic Masculinity Ted Talk is by Eldra Jackson III.

To register, please contact Joyce Banzhaf:
joycebanzhaf@yahoo.com, (530) 477-7455

NAVIGATING THE AGING JOURNEY

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1-3 PM

From housing and homecare to transportation and volunteerism, how can we plan ahead to live healthy, connected lives as we age? Join Ann Guerra and Heather Heckler of Connecting Point to learn more about the resources available to seniors in our community and what to consider as you look into the future.

Please sign up with our administrator, Carol Fulkerson (admin@uugrassvalley.org or 274-1675).

SECOND SUNDAY SPIRITUAL PRACTICES SAMPLER

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1:30-2:30 PM

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

This month, we'll have a Cottage Conversation – for those who haven't yet had a chance to attend one.



March Soul Matters Reflections

FROM THE SOUL MATTERS

ORGANIZATION

What Does It Mean to be a People of Journey?

We UUs love to tell our journey stories. And hear each other's journey stories. Whereas other religions have newcomers stand up and confess their fallen ways or declare a commitment to one way, we invite each other to talk about how our way is like no other.

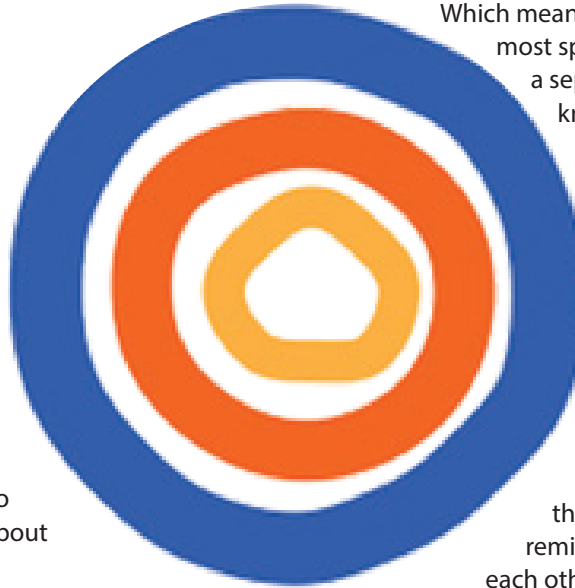
It's a curious thing when you think about it. We welcome people to our fold not by asking them to commit to thinking exactly as the group does, but by having them declare how their journey is not like anybody else's in the group. It's about space not similarity. We bind ourselves to each other not by sharing the same journey but by offering each other the room to discover the unique journey that fits us. It's about making room for people to write their own stories.

Or maybe it's about making room for people to *re-write* their stories.

It's become popular in our society to talk about spiritual journeys as a process of living into your full or true self. That's a helpful frame. And yet there's something deep within UUism that resists it. Historically, we've been the people that struggled not so much to find ourselves but to untangle ourselves from the religious identities we were given. Our spiritual journeys did not begin with a blank slate; they began with the hunger to wipe the slate clean and begin anew.

So we have this important awareness that spiritual journeys are not simply about finding your true self, but also about untangling from your old self. We agree with Albert Schweitzer who wrote:

"The path of awakening is not about becoming who you are. Rather it is about unbecoming who you are not."



Which means we are also sensitive to the fact that most spiritual journeys begin with a leaving, a separation, a decision to walk away. We know that the first step is often laced with mourning and isolation. We know that "unbecoming" is not easy work.

We also know that it isn't a one-time thing. We find ourselves routinely tangled up in all kinds of identities and journeys that aren't truly ours. "Unbecoming who you are not" is a journey we walk every day.

So what does all this mean for us this month? Well, first, it's an important reminder that we're not just here to help each other hold steady and persevere on our current paths; often our primary gift is to help each other find the exit ramps.



It also means remembering that being a people of journey involves tenderness. We are here not just to make room for each other's unique stories; we are also here to make room for each other's pain. Again, "unbecoming who you are not" involves bravely walking away, isolation and mourning. And so, if we are going to complete our journeys of unbecoming and becoming anew, we're definitely going to need pit stops of kindness and tenderness along the way.



Soul Matters

THEMES FOR 2018-19:

- | | |
|--------|-----------|
| March: | Journey |
| April: | Wholeness |
| May: | Curiosity |
| June: | Beauty |

March 2019 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
MARCH 2019			
2	Saturday	1:00 PM	Temperament Theory, Part 2
3	Sunday	9:30 AM	First Sunday: Bring Food for People & Pets
		9:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:45 AM	Meet the Minister
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Full Community Sunday Service
4	Monday	1:00 PM	Stewardship Committee Meeting
		6:30 PM	Soul Matters Exploratorium
5	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		9:30 AM	AVP Basic Workshop, Day 1
		11:00 AM	Welcoming & Membership Team Mtg
		4:00 PM	Caring Committee Meeting
6	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		9:30 AM	AVP Basic Workshop, Day 2
		10:30 AM	Humanism Discussion Group
		6:30 PM	Choir
7	Thursday	8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry
		8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:30 AM	AVP Basic Workshop, Day 3
		12:00 PM	Shared Pulpit Seminar #2
		7:00 PM	Singing Meditation Circle
9	Saturday	9:00 AM	Intro to UU Class
		1:00 PM	Adult RE Aging Workshop
10	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		9:30 AM	Classes for Children
		10:25 AM	Brunch Bunch for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:30 PM	Second Sunday Soup Potluck
		1:30 PM	Cottage Tea Circles
11	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Potluck
12	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		4:00 PM	Stewardship Committee Meeting
		4:00 PM	Challenging White Privilege
13	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		10:00 AM	Nominating Committee Meeting
		11:00 AM	Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep
		4:30 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
		6:30 PM	Choir
14	Thursday	8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry
		8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at UUCM)
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		5:30 PM	Social Justice Night

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
15	Friday	4:00 PM	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place
16	Saturday	8:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party
		2:00 PM	Adult RE Improv
17	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		9:30 AM	Classes for Children
		10:30 AM	Classes for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:45 PM	Family Ministry Team Meeting
19	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans')
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		7:00 PM	Nisenan UUCM Project
20	Wednesday		Mt Chalice Articles Due Today
		8:30 AM	Men's Group
		5:30 PM	Social Justice Committee Meeting
		6:30 PM	Choir
21	Thursday	8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry
		8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans')
		12:00 PM	Shared Pulpit Seminar #3
		5:15 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
		5:30 PM	Social Justice Committee Meeting
23	Saturday	5:30 PM	UUCM Auction - The Sixties
		2:00 PM	Adult RE Improv
24	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		9:30 AM	Classes for Children
		10:30 AM	Classes for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:45 PM	Town Talk - New Governance Update
26	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans')
		9:00 AM	Morning Meditation
		10:00 AM	Fire Preparedness Team
		4:00 PM	Challenging White Privilege
27	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		6:30 PM	Choir
28	Thursday	8:30 AM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry
		8:30 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans')
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		5:00 PM	Vegan Potluck
		6:30 PM	Worship Committee Meeting
29	Friday	4:00 PM	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place
30	Saturday	2:00 PM	Adult RE Improv
31	Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday Service
		9:30 AM	Classes for Children
		10:30 AM	Classes for Youth
		10:40 AM	Social Time
		10:50 AM	Drop-in Support Circle
		11:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:30 PM	Stewardship Celebration



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945
Telephone: 530.274.1675 **Website:** www.uugrassvalley.org

Two Sunday Services: at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Rev. Kevin Tarsa Office Hours:

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

UUCM STAFF MEMBERS	E-MAIL ADDRESSES	TELEPHONE
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Mountain Chalice Newsletter Submissions are due by the 20th of the month prior to publishing.

Submit by email in Word/Pages format (not as a pdf) or simply by typing directly into an email to:

MtChaliceTeam@uugrassvalley.org

All images should be sent as good quality jpg files separately... not imbedded in your text document.

*Volunteer Team Members: Joanne Harris, Pre-Editor, Kathy MacLeod, Final Editor,
Kathryn Young, Design & Layout*

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