

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

April 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.

APRIL:

What does it mean to be a people seeking a path to wholeness?

What is wholeness? How do we get there, especially in an age of fragmentation? The route might not be the one we first imagine. As Carl Jung teaches, "The right way to wholeness is made up of fateful detours and wrong turnings." Learning to listen to our own wisdom can point the way.

April Worship Associates: Holly Rice and Jeff Stone

April 7 A People of Wholeness
Lindsay Dunckel, Rev. Kevin Tarsa, and all

We enter our exploration of wholeness as a full community, engaging all ages in story and song. There may be birds involved. Just sayin'.

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

April 14 Apocalypse When? Weaving the World Anew
Rev. Dr. Leisa Huyck

In honor of Earth Day--the day after Easter this year--we will think about how apocalyptic rhetoric from both the Right and the Left prevents our culture from taking the action we need to heal our beautiful and devastated planet. What old stories underlie this rhetoric, and how can we replace them with different stories that empower us to do what is needed?

April 21 Something Always Sings
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

The stories of this season, including the Easter and Passover stories, celebrate personal and community wholeness and joy reached or discovered beyond winter, beyond exile, beyond pain, beyond death even. For many, these are stories of deep hope. Let us locate ours.

April 28 Invisibility
Tom Wernigg

UUCM member Tom Wernigg defines invisibility as not being seen for one's true self. In this sermon from last year's sermon seminar Tom looks at invisibility in three ways: as an attempt to hide one's true self, as a weapon to marginalize and handicap others, and for society as a whole, as a way to maintain relationships of inequality. Invisibility is antithetical to wholeness, and should be resisted with determination...and love.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

This year April includes Passover, Easter, a Japanese celebration of the birth of Guatama Buddha, as well as April Fool's Day, Earth Day, and the birthdays of William Ellery Channing, who defined Unitarian Christianity for the nation in the early 1800s and his contemporary, Hosea Ballou, who articulated Universalism for many generations of Universalists. It's a spiritual smorgasbord, of the type for which our Unitarian Universalist tradition prepares us.

When I think of wholeness, I think of the quality of being fully integrated, undivided at heart. While many religious traditions seek spiritual and theological integrity by defining and adhering to a narrowed center with clear and solid boundaries, we Unitarian Universalists seek our center, our undividedness, through an integration of the many and varied aspects of our selves, our experiences, our perspectives. and our communities. In our faith tradition, being whole as a community does not require uniformity, and being whole as an individual does not require rejecting ideas that challenge our current understanding or denying aspects of ourselves with which we are uncomfortable.

Rather, we are called to integrate the many within the one, to see that all is already part of the one. We are called to know ourselves as whole, undivided spiritually, emotionally, intellectually and socially. This does not mean that there is no center or that there are no boundaries. These are necessary for wholeness as well. Unitarian Universalism, however, asks us to

be as expansive as possible in our inclusion.

A UU congregation is not only where we inspire and encourage each other on this journey; it's also where we practice our personal and social integrity, building skills and ways of being that we can extend to the wider community through our participation there.

UUCM is due to review and renew its Covenant of Right Relations, the set of aspirational promises members make to one another for the sake of communal wholeness. Also coming up for review is the congregation's safety policy, safety for children and youth and for the congregation at large. Plans are underway to offer Our Whole Lives next year, the wonderfully comprehensive sexuality curriculum, with offerings

for several different age levels, including adults. The Challenging White Privilege group and the new Nisenan Project team invite us to live our values and work toward the wholeness of the wider community at the same time they ask us to integrate personal awareness of our racialized selves. The Climate Change task force encourages us to know that our human wellbeing and fate are wholly intertwined with those of the Earth.

Each of these efforts, and more, of course, calls us to wholeness and integrity, and while each will help us to navigate the outside edges, where are lives meet the lives of others, they will at the same time call us to our internal wholeness and integrity.

In the March 24 Inner Journey service I named that I continually navigate the dynamic line between the Universalist message that I am enough already, loved completely as is, and the Unitarian message that there is always room for improvement and opportunity to cultivate my character. For me, having integrity requires both, and I recognize a wholeness of sorts through coming to terms with that both/and reality. Learning to travel that dynamic edge and the desire for heart-centered traveling companions has called me to this vocation and to this congregation.

May your participation at UUCM and all that we do here call you to your own best self – best as you already are and best as you are ever becoming.

- 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 am very pleased that many of you attended and participated in the Board's presentation on the progress of the Governance Reorganization Project. Although relatively small, the group was extremely attentive and raised a number of important questions for the Board to consider as the project moves forward.

For those unable to attend, we reported how the new structure will affect the distribution of responsibilities among the three main branches of UUCM. First and foremost, the members of the congregation themselves are the source of all authority. With the assistance of the Board, the membership formulates our Mission, which sets our course and remains the guiding star for our spiritual journey. Further, the members elect the Board of Trustees, call the minister, and adopt the bylaws. In turn, the Board exercises the power of the membership and carries on the daily business of the church. The Minister directs the ministry, which is the spiritual heart and public face of the congregation and ushers the vast bulk of its work along our chosen path.

This has always been the case, but as we have grown through the years, the relationships of these duties and responsibilities have become muddled and lines of authority have blurred. The Reorg project seeks to clarify them. In doing so we have reordered and redistributed the workload to bring functional responsibilities in line with the natural subjects of their authority.

The Board's duties will shift away from being involved in everything toward the more common role of boards generally to provide vision for the future and long range planning. Managing the fiscal health of the organization, ensuring the safety of members and guests, paying the bills, policy development, and fiduciary oversight all remain core Board responsibilities.

The most significant effects of the reorganization will be seen in the Ministry's expanded role. I recognize that members who experienced the lengthy transition from Rev. Meghan to Rev. Kevin may have uncomfortable associations with some aspects of the interim period. Specifically, the image of a powerful minister may reawaken concerns about fractures in our membership during that period due to what many perceived to be an undesirable brush with authoritarianism.

The Board is aware of these concerns. The reorganization has been undertaken with full awareness of the need to retain a strong board and to reiterate unequivocally that except as provided in the bylaws, the Board remains the ultimate authority in the organization.

This leads me to my final point and a bit of advice. My term of office is almost up. I have been involved in this project from the beginning. As involved as it has been to get where we are today, some of the hardest work lies ahead. It now falls upon the Board to propose bylaws and adopt policies that give shape and clarity to the new structure. It should not be in a rush. We already have a comprehensive body of policies that may function quite well in the new environment. It is imperative that this board and future boards take the time necessary to evaluate every aspect of every rule and policy under consideration to determine its full implications before committing to it. This is the time to involve the lay leadership to the fullest extent to ensure that they have a part in creating the policies that will guide them. The fun never stops.

- Taylor

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2019

Taylor Carey	<i>President</i>
Jim Perkins	<i>Vice-President</i>
Charlie Zimmerman	<i>Treasurer</i>
Karyn Packard	<i>Secretary</i>

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



Prior to moving to Nevada City in 2017, Cedar and I were caretakers and hosts at Shasta United Methodist Camp, living year round at 5,000 feet in a tiny cabin in the Shasta National Forest, no fences, four miles from the nearest house. We both love the wilderness dearly.

At a writers' camp I was asked to craft an introduction of myself in 40 words or less. I can't put it better than this...

*My name is David Leeper Moss;
a hodgepodge of rag and bone,
breathing through joys and sorrows,
feeding still the beast of desire,
feeding the ghosts of regret still,
trying as best I can, as deep as I can,
to love as much as I can.*

Welcome New Members!

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa

UUCM is pleased to welcome four new members: David Moss, Allison Rivers Samson, David Samson, and Reine Thibeault. They each attended at least one New UU session, met with the minister, made a pledge of record, and signed the Membership book on March 17 between services. They are marvelous individuals. Please welcome them and get to know one another when you see them.

They will be welcomed more publicly in a Sunday service later this spring. Meanwhile, here is a self-introduction from David Moss. Look for introductions from the other three new members in the next issue of the Mountain Chalice.



DAVID MOSS

I was born in Indiana in 1943, and grew up in the midwest, graduating from college in 1965. I attended seminary from 1965 to 1969. I married Joan in 1967, and we drove from Boston to California in 1969 in a self-painted VW mini bus, ready to change the world.

I have four children: John, Erin, Gabriel and Kabir. Joan and I divorced after 10 years. My life partner is Cedar (married 1984 to present). I've been a United Methodist minister for 43 years, mostly in northern California.

From 1984 to 1994 I worked with homeless people in Sacramento, mostly for Loaves and Fishes. From 2010 to 2012, I worked as a liaison between Loaves and Fishes and Safeground (a homeless movement working to legalize inexpensive mini homes while maintaining temporary illegal tent communities on the river).

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

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:

- April 7 - last names beginning with A to E
- April 14 - last names beginning with F to J
- April 21 - last names beginning with K to R
- April 28 - last names beginning with S to Z

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...?

Fun(d)-Raiser Follow Up

The Sixties Auction was GROOVY! Thanks to Everyone Who Made it a Big Success!

By Bob Miller, 2019 Auction Project Team

Thanks to you all who made the "Sixties" Auction such a great night out. Those who came were in a "sixties" mood, sporting tie dye, beads, fringe and more. They sang, danced, drank, and ate with enthusiasm – perhaps recalling a misspent youth. Were you at Woodstock? (Gabe Ross was – he has stories.)

- Our musicians made the evening – Kathryn* and Taylor; Tom and Janet, Kylah and Tom (who was our music director) and the Agony Hill String Band (Frank, Rob, Margot and Charlie).
- Brenda and Bridget provided great food. We ate it up!
- The data entry team (Beth, Charlie and Steve) were on top of the job.
- Alice and Keith were barmaid and barman.
- Janet worked on setup.
- Claire single-handedly solicited all the donations and worked with people to extract creative offerings.
- Siobhan helped Claire with check-in.
- Christy, our emcee, made a good faith effort to keep us on track.

Special thanks are also due to those who help in less visible ways. They helped in the kitchen, Rob did backup sound, George helped keep track of the live bidding, and many put the building back together for the Sunday service.

We must be the only establishment in town that takes a dinner reservation and asks you to bring a table!
We had five loaner tables!

I think we may have used every square foot of space in the building.

You can go to the website www.togetherauction.com/uucm to discover what you won, how much you may still owe and who bought your items. I can help if this does not work. Please contact those that were winning bidders for your service. The system will send an email a few days in advance for events with a date. If you need to change the date, make sure you change it online.



WHAT DO WE DO NEXT YEAR?

In recent years the themes have been - St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo and now "The Sixties". We need to get on the calendar quickly – UUCM is a busy place these days and gets booked up quickly. What do you think? How about Valentine's Day? Carol, please make a tentative booking for Friday 14th and Saturday 15th. We need new leadership. In engineering terms, I am a "single point of failure". Let me know if you can work with me and the rest of the team next year.

Oh yes, I nearly forgot. It was a fund raiser. Looks like we will make a profit approaching \$9,000 which goes straight to UUCM's ongoing operations.

* Who points out once again that she is too young to remember the sixties.

Next Up: Save the Date for our Music in the Valley Spring Concert SATURDAY, APRIL 27 AT 7:00 PM

UUCM's Music in the Valley concerts are always special events. UUCM Music Director Jordan Thomas-Rose (fresh from his world travels) and Rev. Kevin host as UUCM's talented musicians serve up great music in a variety of styles. Guest musicians and a surprise or two have become part of the tradition. Mark your calendar, get your tickets, and get ready for a great evening.

Stewardship Team

Notes from Stewardship

By Keith Johnson, Chair, Stewardship Team

The 2019/20 pledge campaign has officially concluded. Thank you to everyone who has pledged so generously toward the mission and future of this Community. Pledge campaign results will be provided in the May Mountain Chalice.

If you have not already turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as you can. Time is of the essence as the Finance Committee is charged to present the Board of Trustees with revenue projections for next year's budget.

The last cottage meeting of the year was held on March 10. All of the meetings were well received by the attendees as well as the Stewardship Team. These meetings gave us a unique opportunity to build community, reflect on the spiritual practice of generosity, and to explore our vision for UUCM. We give a thank you to all who attended a cottage meeting and a special thanks to all who opened up their homes to host a cottage meeting. Well done!

Participants at the cottage meeting were given the opportunity to answer three questions as suggested in The Generosity Path by Mark Ewert. The questions were 1) Take a moment to think of a time that someone offered you tremendous generosity. How did you feel about that experience? 2) Where are you finding meaningful chances to give of yourself at UUCM in ways that feed your soul, feel right and good, and help you to grow? 3) Name one hope or positive vision that you have for UUCM or share one thing about UUCM that has been on your mind and in your heart.

Answers to these inquiries were interesting, thought provoking, and often inspirational. Responses to the first two questions will not be addressed here due to confidentiality and privacy concerns. As to question three, several members expressed the hope that UUCM would "attract more young families", or undertake "programs to attract young people and young families." Another recurring theme was the future of our building. One member hoped that we would "look for another home for UUCM – either here or elsewhere." Another member suggested that we "remodel UUCM or find a new facility," while another participant wishes that we can find "a bigger facility with breakout rooms and a better meeting space."

These cottage meeting discussions about our future were merely the starting point for further exploration with the Board, Minister, Committees and Teams, and the whole congregation. Indeed, the journey calls us on.

Happy Spring.

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 meal for the choir members.

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

March Work Day Thank You's

By Wally Holtan, Chair, Building and Grounds Team

A big thank you to Phil Hart for volunteering to help us during our March Work Day. It was great having him join with some of our regular volunteers: Kern, Connie, Gwen and Carmen who showed up and worked hard! We continued replacing the edging for the sidewalk areas and we have begun to address the spring yard cleaning. As we move into the growing season, the outdoor work will become more intense.

I want to thank all of our volunteers for the time they have given toward keeping our grounds and building maintenance under control.

Please note that due to Easter, the UUCM Work Day has been moved to Friday, April 12th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. I hope to see you there.

Caring Team

We're Here for YOU!

By Gwen Eymann, Acting Chair, Caring Team*

Spring is upon us and there is a lightness in the air. We can all experience the shared feelings of the coming of warmth, renewal and light. In our UUCM community we also share our joys and our sorrows, our celebrations and our losses. With this sharing we grow deeper in our connections with one another as we share this journey through life. We are given the opportunity of supporting some of our beloved UU family with meals and rides, calls and visits. In each day we can all reach out to one another to connect and be connected.

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: Gwen Eymann (530) 274-7965,
or email: caring@uugrassvalley.org

CARING TEAM MEMBERS:

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

Fire Preparedness Group

Fire Emergency Preparedness Group

By Gwen Eymann

UUCM has joined up with B'nai Harim Synagogue to form a Fire Emergency Preparedness Group to prepare a plan for an emergency evacuation of our combined communities. This group is working diligently to prepare for the next fire season. Our goals are:

- To plan for the safe removal of all the important financial, aesthetic, artistic and historical materials of our UUCM community in the event that our UUCM building is threatened.
- To create member area cluster groups to help provide members with smaller support groups that will work together to provide some assistance in preparing individual family groups to prepare for evacuations.
- To provide educational support to help individual families in preparing personal Go Bags and evacuation plans.

To accomplish this, we are planning on holding two or three workshops that will give evacuation education, information and visual examples of Go Bags, and will answer your questions about what is needed in order to be prepared for evacuation if and when it becomes necessary. We realize that timing before fire season is important so we are planning the workshops for late May or early June.

We are also preparing a regional map showing where congregants of both our community and the B'nai Harim community are physically located in order to help aid in the development of regional group clusters. This map will be developed and posted in our respective congregations so that it can aid in organizing the cluster groups.

After the Paradise fire, we all know that in our area it is not **if** but **when** a fire will happen. Our purpose is to help you be prepared for that event and we hope you will participate. By working together, we can help protect ourselves, our loved ones and our community.



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

UUCM Nisenan Project Team

By Eileen Hale, Member, Social Justice Team

Please join us at the monthly Social Justice Night on Thursday, April 11th at 5:30 PM. The UUCM Nisenan Project Team will be present to introduce themselves, and talk about why they are here and how they want to support the Nisenan. They will discuss their goals, and offer resources for more information. You will have a chance to ask questions and find out more about this new UUCM team.

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).

DONATIONS FOR NEVADA COUNTY PETS IN NEED

By Carol Hyndman, Member, Social Justice Team

Please remember donations for Nevada County Pets in Need will be collected on the first Sunday of each month when food donations are collected for the Interfaith Food Ministry. Nevada County Pets in Need serves not only pets of the homeless but also pets of lower income people. Contact Carol Hyndman (530-477-0693).

Community Connections – Social & Spiritual Activities

April Women's Circle & Potluck: MONDAY, APRIL 8, 6:00 PM at UUCM

SING, SING, SING!

Come one and all for an evening of SINGING! (We had so much fun last year, we're doing it again!) After our potluck, we'll be singing simple rounds, favorite hymns, camp songs, chants...and maybe some pop tunes. This will be informal and fun. You do not need to be a trained singer... just come and have fun. Janet Bullock will be leading.

Questions? Email or call Janet at:
janetbullock41@gmail.com or
(530) 477-8760

A reminder email will go out closer to the date for RSVPs of who is coming and what potluck item you plan to bring.

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.

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 8:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays 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 Theresa Houtman (530) 277-9294 to confirm.

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 TO 11:25 AM
IN THE ANTHONY ROOM ANNEX

Join us in the cozy and intimate "library annex" between the two services at 10:50 AM. If you would like a safe, confidential place to share your feelings about life's challenges and give support to others, this group should be a good fit for you.

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

Note:
The image in the center of the page is the lucky rainbow that painted the sky the night of our Sixties Auction.

Family Ministry Update for April

By René Wiley, Family Ministry Co-Chair

Beginning with the month of April, we are excited to re-engage the kids with the monthly themes to find meaning and identity in our UU values. In Sunday classes we will ask, "What Does It Mean to be a People of Wholeness?" We are excited about the four rich angles we're taking on Wholeness this month:

- Session 1. Widening the Circle
- Session 2. You are Enough
- Session 3. Rebirth
- Session 4. All the Slices

Family and Parent Resources

These resources help parents as they engage the question: "What does it mean to be a family of Wholeness?"

Ideas to Engage Wholeness as a Family with your Kids

FAMILY ADVENTURE IDEAS

Making Pizza

Passover Matzo Pizza

https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/15924/kids-favorite-passover-pizza/?clickId=right%20rail0&internalSource=rr_feed_recipe_sb&referringId=231522%20referringContentType%3Drecipe

In honor of the traditional unleavened bread served during the Jewish holiday of Passover this month, make these matzo pizzas and reflect on the slices of life which you celebrate, and which are ignored or minimized. The pizza represents the whole person with intellectual, spiritual, emotional, vocational, financial, physical and social slices.

STORIES TO READ TOGETHER

Meet Jesus

by Lynn Tuttle Gunney *Illustrated By: Jane Conteh-Morgan*
<https://www.uuabookstore.org/Meet-Jesus-P17599.aspx>

"*Meet Jesus* introduces children to Jesus' life and message of love, kindness, peace and tolerance with simple text and lively, full-color illustrations. This book is a resource for a wide range of liberal religious parents and teachers, appropriate for Unitarian Universalists, progressive Christians, humanists, non-Christians and families blending more than one religious tradition; ideal for church groups and home." - UUA Bookstore

Theme Message: Jesus' message of love, kindness, peace and tolerance is a path to wholeness in a broken world.

Last Stop on Market Street

by Matt de la Peña (Author), Christian Robinson (Illustrator)
https://www.amazon.com/Last-Stop-Market-Street-Matt/dp/0399257748/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1547564360&sr=8-1&keywords=Last+Stop+on+Market+Street

"A little boy and his Nana take the bus after church to a shelter. There they help serve food to people living there. The inclusiveness comes in how Nana speaks to CJ, her grandson, about all the different people they encounter on their journey"
<https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2018/03/picture-books-promote-diversity-inclusion.html>

Theme Message: The grandmother models how to be part of a diverse community that not only accepts but celebrates everyone. This is the widening of the circle for wholeness.

FAMILY JOURNEYS

Can Hunt

We are made whole by helping others. Instead of an Egg Hunt, offer a Can Hunt. Hide the cans the same way that Easter Eggs are hidden on a lawn. You will need sturdy baskets or the children could bring one or two at a time. Make the journey to donate the cans to a Food Bank.

An additional angle is for Earth Day. Avoid using plastic (such as eggs and plastic easter grass) on a day when we want to take care of the earth.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IDEAS

The Wizard of Oz

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/the-wizard-of-oz>

Theme Connection: Becoming whole..." If I only had a brain, a heart, some courage, a home."

Ideas to Engage Wholeness for You

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AS FAITH FORMATION GUIDES

What Does Mindful Parenting Mean (hint: Self-Love)

Blog by Chris Scheller, First Parish of Sudbury UU
<https://fpsudbury.org/2016/01/27/what-does-mindful-parenting-mean-hint-self-love/>

Brokenness (check out the great quote!)

Minister's Message by Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael
<http://uusterling.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/UUCSNewsletterMarch2015.pdf>

The Good Enough Mother

Sermon by Rev. Karen Gustafson, Michael Servetus Unitarian Society
<https://msuu.org/files/sermons/sermon-pdfs/The%20Good%20Enough%20Mother.pdf>

UUCM Family Ministry

SOULFUL HOME FAMILY GUIDES

Explore the themes at home with your family by subscribing to our monthly parent guides, Soulful Home.

Here's the link to the Soulful Home page on our website:
<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/soulful-home.html>.



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/>



6th to 12th Graders are invited to the Monthly

UUCM YOUTH BRUNCH BUNCH

WHEN:

Second Sunday of each month

WHERE:

Meet in the UUCM Entry at 10:25 AM

WHAT:

Walk to Summer Thymes for breakfast with other youth!

COST*:

Depends on what you order!

WHY?:

- Get to know other UU youth
- Have **authentic** conversations about things that matter
- Explore monthly themes such as Mystery, Trust, Beauty & More

...and have FUN!

** Financial assistance available... please talk to Rev. Kevin*



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 April

LOOKING AT THE WHOLE OF WHAT YOU LEAVE BEHIND SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1-3 PM

With the help of local Estate Planning Attorney Valerie Logsdon we want to take a look at the arrangements we have made for the future – such as medical decisions, disposal of assets, etc. and make sure that they are carried out as we wish whether that time comes tomorrow or twenty years in the future. You may think you are set but it is wise to make sure.

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

SECOND SUNDAY SPIRITUAL PRACTICES SAMPLER SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 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.

Tom Wilson will be guiding our spiritual practice this month.

SAMPLE A SOUL MATTERS CIRCLE SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1:30-3:30 PM WITH REV. KEVIN AND LIN JOVANOVIC

Been curious about Soul Matters Circles? Come sample a special Easter Sample Circle, in our April theme of "wholeness."

Soul Matters Circles are small groups of 5-8 people who 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. As grist for reflection, practice and conversation, each member receives a packet of resources related to the month's theme. The circle time itself is structured to give each person opportunities to speak.

Curious? Come, sample a circle with Lin Jovanovic and Rev. Kevin.

COME, COME, WHATEVER YOU READ - NEW BOOK GROUP PLANNING MEETING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 10:45 AM EMERSON ROOM

If you have longed for a book group, we have great news for you. Adult RE will be sponsoring a group that will dip into both fiction and non-fiction for in-depth discussion. Join Theresa Houtman and Karyn Packard at 10:45, Sunday, April 28, in the Emerson room for an organizational meeting.

All are welcome. If you are unable to attend the organizational meeting, please contact Theresa (530) 277-9294 ahead of time and let her know of your interest so a place can be reserved for you in the group.

Coming in May

'WHITE FRAGILITY' BOOK STUDY THREE SESSIONS: MAY 8, 15 AND 29 1-3 PM OR 6:30 -8:30 PM

The Social Justice Task Force, "Challenging White Privilege," is offering a 3-session book study on Dr. Robin DiAngelo's 'White Fragility'-Why It Is So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism?" This study is designed for white people to talk about what it means to be white and how we can begin to see our privilege and fragility. Our Task Force is in discussion with Robin DiAngelo to come to Grass Valley in the fall for a presentation. She will also be at UUA General Assembly in June.

The book is only 145 pages and can be purchased on-line. A few copies will be made available in the UUCM Library. Group size is limited to 6-8 people with one three-session class offered on May 8, 15, and 29 from 1:00-3:00 PM. For those who prefer evening sessions, the same class will be offered on May 8, 15, and 29 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Additional three-session classes can be offered if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Gwen Eymann at (530) 274-7965 or Janet Dunstan at (530) 205-8154 to reserve your space.

April Soul Matters Reflections

FROM THE SOUL MATTERS

ORGANIZATION

What Does It Mean to be a People of Wholeness?



is no going back. The current of time is just too strong.

We Unitarian Universalists understand the urge to restore what once was. Nothing is more human. Who doesn't want to reverse the damage? Who doesn't hold on to the humpty dumpty hope that all can be put back together again? But our faith teaches us that this is just not how the world works. Transition and change rule the flow of life. There

And so the wholeness offered us is not that of returning our lives to their original state but working with what remains to make something new. The shards are not pieces of a puzzle that needs to be put perfectly back together, but building blocks waiting to be molded into a yet to be imagined form. To be made whole again is to be reorganized, not restored.

Another way to put this is to say that there is freedom in the breaking. The cracks make room for creativity. That's not to minimize the pain. And it's certainly not a way of justifying tragedy as "part of God's plan." Rather, it's a call for us to perceive the broken pieces of our lives as more than just a pile of worthless and ruined rubble. "Look closer," says our faith, "that ash, if worked with, can give birth to a Phoenix."

So, what piles of rubble in your life need to be revisited? What longing for what was needs to be let go so a new wholeness can emerge?

And how might you break open even further? Because that's part of this too, isn't it? "Your broken pieces are more than rubble" is not the only counter intuitive thing our faith tells us about wholeness. It also urges us to "Crack wider!"

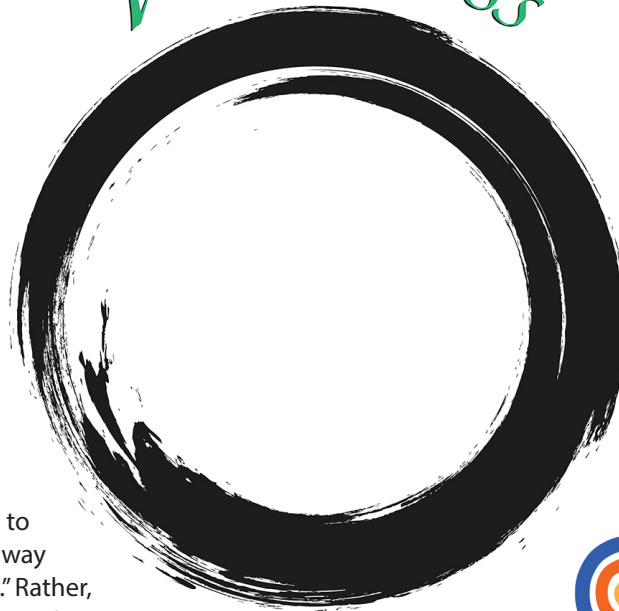
As odd as it sounds, we were meant to be broken, broken open to be exact. Over and over again, our faith reminds us that protecting our personal wholeness is only half the game. The equally important part of life's journey is about letting in the wholeness of the world!

It's about cultivating cracks on purpose. It's about becoming intentionally exposed. As Leonard Cohen famously put it "Cracks are how the light gets in."

Broken hearts hurt but they also let in and allow us to connect with the pain of others. Protected hearts may seem safe, but our armor only ends up being a prison. It's one of the most important but paradoxical spiritual truths there is: Broken people end up bigger people.

So, in the end, maybe that's our most important "wholeness question": How are your cracks inviting you to become larger? What cracks do you need to cultivate on purpose?

Wholeness



Soul Matters

THEMES FOR 2018-19:

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

April 2019 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
APRIL 2019			
1	Monday	6:30 PM	Soul Matters Exploratorium
2	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Welcoming & Membership Team Mtg Caring Committee Meeting
3	Wednesday	8:30 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Humanism Discussion Group Choir
4	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Singing Meditation Circle
6	Saturday	12:30 PM 5:00 PM	UU Choir Festival Rehearsal/Gathering UU Choir Fest. Concert at GV at United Methodist Church
7	Sunday	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:45 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM	First Sunday: Bring Food! Full Community Sunday Service Social Time Meet the Minister Drop-in Support Circle Full Community Sunday Service
8	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Potluck
9	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 3:45 PM 4:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Stewardship Committee Meeting Challenging White Privilege
10	Wednesday	8:30 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM 3:00 AM 4:00 AM 5:00 AM	Men's Group Habitat for Humanity Lunch Prep American Immanence Conversation with the Author Youth Music (Beginners) Finance Committee Meeting Choir
11	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 5:00 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Writers' Group Social Justice Night
12	Friday	9:00 AM 1:00 PM	Building and Grounds Work Day Adult RE Workshop: Looking at the "Whole" of What You Leave Behind
14	Sunday	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:25 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Sunday Service Classes for Children Brunch Bunch for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Second Sunday Salad/Soup Potluck

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
		1:30 PM	Spiritual Practices Sampler with Tom Wilson
16	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation UUCM Nisenan Project
17	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Youth Music (Beginners) Choir
18	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 5:15 PM 5:30 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Board of Trustees Meeting Social Justice Committee Meeting
19	Friday	4:00 PM	Dinner Prep at Utah's Place
21	Sunday	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 12:45 PM 1:30 PM	Easter Sunday Service Classes for Children Classes for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service Family Ministry Team Meeting Soul Matters Circle Sample
23	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation Challenging White Privilege
24	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM 6:30 PM	Men's Group Youth Music (Beginners) Choir
25	Thursday	8:30 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM	Men's Group at Summer Thyme's Bkry Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Writers' Group Worship Team Meeting
26	Friday	TBD	Rehearsal for Valley Music Concert
27	Saturday	7:00 PM	Valley Music Concert
28	Sunday	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:40 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM	Sunday Service Classes for Children Classes for Youth Social Time Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Service
30	Tuesday	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Walking Group (Meet at Houtmans') Morning Meditation



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

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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.

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