

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

December 2020

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Our Sunday Services are held online and via phone – in Stay-at-Home mode - until further notice. 10:30 AM each Sunday.**

**TO JOIN THE SERVICE ON SUNDAYS:**

Online via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/746107217>  
Meeting ID: 746 107 217 # • **NEW! Passcode: 688010**

Audio by phone: Dial in: 1-669-900-9128  
Meeting ID: 746 107 217 # • **NEW! Passcode: 688010**

*Connection Time for Kids is led on Zoom by Lindsay and Walt at 5:15 PM on Wednesday Evenings*  
For access please contact [familyministry@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:familyministry@uugrassvalley.org)

### DECEMBER THEME:

**What Does it Mean to be a People of Stillness?**

**WORSHIP ASSOCIATES FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:**  
**Jeff Stone and Wendy Wernigg**

**Dec. 6** *Find a Stillness*  
Wendy Wernigg, Worship Associate

*In the midst of all the tumult, meditation is a key way to find inner peace. We can create our own safe harbor - a refuge in times of trouble. Being a people of stillness will create a brave space for us to heal, protect and sustain ourselves. Come, create the safe, still water together.*

**Dec. 13** *Find a Stillness in the Wholeness and Holiness of These Days*  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

*One of the gifts of the holidays and holydays is the way they engage our bodies. The rituals, scents, sounds, and tastes anchor our memories and our expectations. In wonderful ways neuroscience research affirms and informs our traditions and inspires ways to draw on them even more deeply. Let's breathe our way into the season..*

**Dec. 20** *Find a Stillness in the Music of the Season*  
Jordan Thomas-Rose, with Rev. Kevin Tarsa and musical members and friends

*Solstice, from the Latin "sōlstitium," means something along the lines of "the standing still of the sun." It marks the pause in the sun's annual migration southward along the morning and evening horizons. This*

*Sunday, in this month celebrating stillness, we'll receive the gift of music from our members and friends, and we'll honor the musical equivalent of solstice, recognizing not only the notes, but also the importance of the space between the notes.*

**Dec. 27** *Find a Stillness in the Inner Voices*  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa

*When we are in stillness, we are more apt to hear the still small voice, the one that sometimes comes with insistence - at other times, almost shyly. What is that voice? Is it the voice of God? Is it our higher self? Is it our inner knowing? Whatever it is, this is an opportunity to listen. What does it tell us? Maybe it is an invitation to come in out of the cold, come down out of the clouds, come up out of the muck. What we hear is probably what we need to hear to find ourselves after being lost in the tumult of our times.*

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa  
UUCM Minister

## From the Minister

*What does it mean to be a people of stillness?*

At the beginning of this journey with the coronavirus, in March, we offered Lynn Ungar's poem, [Pandemic](#), an invitation to consider this time "as the Jews consider the Sabbath – the most sacred of times."

It was an invitation to turn inward, to slow down, to cease the frantic, the automatic, the unnecessary. It was an invitation to release, and in so doing to discover, perhaps, what is ready to be revealed.

Since March, we've moved through several cycles of turning inward, releasing, discovering, and then, as if things ought to have moved on, some anxiousness as the pandemic journey entered another round.

The world, it seems, keeps upping the ante and asking us to invest yet more of our emotional and spiritual savings in letting go and in locating an internal anchor that is true and solid. Shallow anchors do not hold, these days.

Your own exploration of stillness may go in a different direction, of course, but our December services will approach stillness as both entrance to and manifestation of our internal grounding and alignment. I think of it as a liberating stillness that allows aspects of ourselves to come alive not through tremendous effort, but through an awake and aware surrender and release.

As always, this is a sermon to self. I, too, am invited by this extraordinary time into the spiritual journey of getting clear about what grounds me emotionally, spiritually, and cognitively, of sinking my roots in exactly there, of finding then internal alignment, so that I not only weather the current storms, but also prepare to enter with wholeness and integrity the future that is coming.

I know, this sounds like it's all way inside my head, but as I am reflecting and writing, it is all taking form and being expressed in my body. I "know" it because I feel it.

We will look for stillness there, too, this month. In our bodies. Just as the holidays and holy days invite.



This month I encourage you to notice where you are finding or wanting or needing or looking for stillness now.

I encourage you to notice what stillness, as you know it, feels like in your body. What shifts, what gives in you as you imagine and sense such a stillness in you?

I encourage you to notice what your stillness is rooted or anchored in. To what is it linked?

I invite you to notice what happens when you anchor exactly and completely there...

This month, as we prepare to turn the corner of the year, may we be people of stillness in ways that ground and liberate us at the same time.

*- Rev. Kevin*

### REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Wednesday	5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please contact Rev. Kevin or our Office Administrator to make an appointment for Rev. Kevin's office hours. Contact Rev. Kevin to schedule appointments at other times. [minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or (231) 883-1058 [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org) or (530) 274-1675



*Jim Perkins, President,  
UUCM Board of Trustees*

## Board of Trustees

Good morning. As I type this, it is a beautiful fall morning with the sun shining on the still beautiful fall colors. Too bad the Coronavirus can't get swept up in the wind and blown away. But maybe there is hope with the new vaccines coming onto the market. I'm going to need real assurances that they are safe before I take any.

If you are starting to notice activity around the church on Saturday mornings, it's because UUCM is supporting a new program. The Nevada County Left Coalition (NCLC) is a small group that runs a mutual aid program providing food and toiletries to the houseless and other people in need. They were set up at another location which they were forced to leave, so they petitioned UUCM to use our front patio to set up and give away their wares. The Board gave serious consideration to their proposal, deciding that it was completely congruent with our mission and fundamental values, and we approved it.

The group will set up in our front patio every Saturday morning from 8:00 AM to noon, with goods being dispersed from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. NCLC will do all of the work, including having volunteers to dispense the goods. The Board stipulated that if there is a church event scheduled for a Saturday such as a wedding, not to have NCLC use the church for that day. We anticipate very moderate traffic and disruption to the surrounding community.

In other Board news, our next Board meeting, December 16, will start an hour earlier than usual at 3:00 PM and run until 6:00 PM. This is not a permanent time change, although if it works out, we may make it permanent at a later time. Remember that Board meetings are open to the membership to sit in on; please contact our Board of Trustees Secretary Jo Waters ([jowaters@hotmail.com](mailto:jowaters@hotmail.com)) to get a Zoom invite.

We are in the process of setting dates for the by-laws study groups; watch your e-mail for more information.

We had a brief presentation by Gail Shultz, chair of the Finance Committee who said that we are basically in a good position financially, in spite of the virus, and advised us to stay steady as we go.

Hopefully we will have a new administration soon and put an end to all this ludicrous activity by our outgoing president. In the meantime, have a wonderful Thanksgiving and stay healthy.

*—Jim*

## UUCM Bylaws Update

*By Jim Perkins, President, UUCM Board of Trustees*

UUCM bylaws will have a fresh new look in January 2021. Among the changes are reformatting, sections moved, words updated or added for clarity, and duplicate statements removed. The proposed bylaws reflect our new governing structure with a focus on our mission. Modifications will be marked and annotated for distribution to Members and Friends. Several Q & A opportunities are scheduled for Thursday, December 3 at 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM, Saturday December 19 at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, and Wednesday, January 6 at 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM. Please join us at any (or all) sessions. Zoom links will be sent.

### UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021**

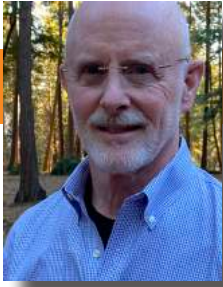
Jim Perkins	<i>President</i>
Pam Kisor	<i>Vice-President</i>
Jo Waters	<i>Secretary</i>
Bob Packard	<i>Treasurer</i>

**Members at Large:**

Janet Dunstan, Gene Gilligan & Reine Thibeault

*The Board of Trustees business meeting for December will be held on the third Wednesday, December 16, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. At the present time, all meetings will be held online so we can help contain the spread of COVID-19.*

*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.*



Bob Packard, Treasurer,  
UUCM Board of Trustees

## From the Treasurer

### Online Donations

#### THE BEST AND WORST WAYS, OR HOW TO KEEP THE FEES DOWN TO ENSURE UUCM GETS MORE OF YOUR DONATION

We're all aware of it. Things have changed recently, and they will probably never again be what we all thought was normal. No – I'm not talking about your social life. Remember, I'm the Treasurer, and as usual, I'm talking about your giving. And UUCM's fortunes.

Actually, it's a pretty good story, and today I'm congratulating you. Last spring there were purveyors of gloom and doom for the church: "Our financial pledges and weekly donations will suffer, and we'll never make our budgetary commitments, which are already budgeted to be in a rosy red hue." Without going into the details, there is no doubt at this point that you have outdone yourselves. Pledges are coming in early, as they usually do, and the weekly plate totals are putting a twinkle in our eye. They are considerably more than last year and our Pass-the-Plate partners are rejoicing, too.

There is something else different this year, too: a whole lot more of us are making our donations and payments online, proving that we really are "modern" after all. That fact has come to UUCM's rescue in these days where we cannot simply pass a basket up and down the rows and empty our pockets and wallets. Now we are using other means, and it's working, both for the givers and for the checkbook.

But this digital giving turns out not to be free. One of the budget categories we now regularly abuse is Bank Charges. These charges were chump change before COVID and Zoom, but now our digital age "partners" are taking their cut of a much larger slice of UUCM's revenue, and we've taken notice. This digital larceny would seem to be keeping the church from staying afloat, but the church is doing fine, even after we pay off our debt to PayPal and Vanco. With Online donations, people seem to give more, and give more often. But I'm still jealous of what the banks are taking, and I've learned how we can use them for less.

We have three ways for folks to pay their pledges and other planned donations. Here they are in ascending order of charges to the church, and indirectly, to us donors.

- **WEB BILL PAY** – If you already pay your bills through your online banking app, it would be simple to add your UUCM pledge as another "bill" and have your bank issue your

pledge check each month at no cost to UUCM. While not all of our banks provide this service, if yours does, it's a free way to set up payments to businesses and charities. Your bank sends a physical check, drawn on your account, to UUCM, and they charge very little, sometimes nothing at all. The check is received by the church office, credited to your record of payments and your pledge, and we deposit it in our bank – just like if you took the time to write the check, put it in an envelope with an address, put a stamp on it, and mail it. If you set up regular payments, they arrive on-time every month. This service has been around for many years, and those that use it swear by it.

- **VANCO** – Vanco is a financial service provider that specializes in serving church memberships. If you set up a donation or pledge payment on UUCM's website, your payment will use Vanco. The cost to make a Vanco donation varies, depending on what you specify when you set it up:
  - If you select payment from your checking or savings account, you will avoid additional credit card charges. This minimizes transaction costs by setting up an "ACH" payment. Vanco takes a very small percentage of your donation, and UUCM experiences this as a very modest Bank Charge.
  - However, if you select to pay with a credit card, our Bank Charge is more than doubled. That's still an option for you, but it begins to eat into our revenue.
  - The *most* expensive way to give through Vanco is to give with a credit card, and also select an option to "Help Offset Processing Fee". This option gives donors a chance to cover the dreaded Bank Charge by adding 2.75% to make up the difference. Although I love that many of our people appreciate that the banks are taking part of the donation that the church lives on, I hate to see people do it, because with this option, Vanco adds *yet another charge*, on top of the one on the donation itself. Please fellow member/friend, stifle the desire to select that "feel good" button, and instead add a little to the original donation – or, better yet, use one of the cheaper options above.
- **VANCO TEXT** – This option uses a credit card, so it's not really cheap, but it is soooo easy and quick, I think it is

*Continued on next page...*

## From the Treasurer

Continued from page 4...

really quite wonderful. It requires a cell phone and a text. Setup details are provided each week at the church service – very quick. Do not be afraid; it lets you move at the moment of decision and is easy for us to process. (But it does NOT divert 25% to Pass-the Plate, so all money goes to UUCM – and to the Bank Charges, of course.)

- **PAYPAL** – Pricey. I have not used PayPal for church donations because there are cheaper choices. And I'm more comfortable with the other options I've discussed above. But about 5% of our pledge payments and donations come to us through PayPal. We have 10 or 15 people who like it, and we will support it at that level. I'm guessing that for people already using PayPal, the ease of setting up a new payment on that platform makes it attractive.

So, there you have it. We are digital, and it's going pretty well. I don't think we will ever go back – at least not all the way. If I have stimulated questions, call me. If you need some advice to help set up one of the less costly options, please ask.

– BOB

## Pass the Plate

Each Month UUCM donates 25% of all undesignated Sunday offerings to an organization whose work aligns with UU values and UUCM's mission. People are also welcome to designate 100% of their offering toward the Pass-the-Plate partner of the month.

Thanks to UUCM's generous members and friends, UUCM's October Pass-the Plate partner, *Nevada County Habitat for Humanity*, will receive \$706.25!

Thank you, everyone!

We are currently completing November collections for *Interfaith Food Ministry*.



December's partner is *Hospitality House*, a legacy of UUCM member Utah Phillips (1935-2008) and other UUCM members, which shelters homeless Nevada County residents and helps them get back on their feet.

*Your ongoing support for our partners makes a difference!*

## Stewardship



Maryann Currington,  
Chair, Stewardship Team

Our pledges for our 2020-2021 fiscal year were made last March after a joyful and robust celebration of "Roaring 2020's". Then our world literally shut down. We were all confused, worried, and socially disconnected. What was wonderful and revealing was our UUCM adaptation. Our ministry and members met the challenge in many, many ways. Our online bake sale auction was a big success, netting over \$1250! And a quarterly review of pledges was uplifting. Our members are faithfully honoring their pledges and our financial outlook is positive at this time. We are still "roaring" as we close out 2020!

We have more good news. Linda Horning has joined our Stewardship Team. Linda comes to us with experience in fundraising and a talent for writing. In fact, she has had a book, *Buhari, A Family Odyssey in Nepal*, published!

Our hard-working Stewardship team is planning something special for our congregation in January. *Shhh, it's ..... a secret!*

We urge you to continue your generosity. You may make pledges by check or online. (BTW - If you haven't sent in a check for your bake sale "winnings," you can use one of the Online Giving methods listed below. Just note that it is for the "bake sale.") For more payment information, please read Bob Packard's column about "Online Donations" on page 4.

– Maryann

Questions? Contact:

Maryann Currington (530) 307-9663 or

[Stewardship@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Stewardship@uugrassvalley.org)

## Online Giving

*YOU MAY GIVE ANYTIME IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SEVERAL WAYS...*

- You can give through [UUCM's Online Giving](#) page. (Choose Pass-the-Plate, General donation, or Pledge.)
- You can mail in a check for your current pledge or plate offering to UUCM, 246 South Church St, Grass Valley, CA 95945. (Please designate in the memo line whether your check is for your pledge, including the pledge year, general donation, or Pass-the-Plate.)
- You can give through PayPal at: [paypal.me/uucm](https://paypal.me/uucm) (Please leave a note as to whether your offering is for your pledge, general donation, or Pass-the-Plate.)
- For a general offering donation, you may text your amount to 833-579-0483. 25% will automatically go to Pass-the-Plate.



## Caring Team

Gwen Eymann  
Chair, Caring Team



## B & G Team

Wally Holtan  
Chair, Building & Grounds Team

### UUCM Parish Caring Team Update

The Holidays of 2020 are going to be looking much different from what we have known in years past. Through all the differences and with experiencing this new and temporary way of living, we still have much to be thankful for. As we approach Thanksgiving, the Winter Solstice, and Christmas, and all the holidays that normally find us bundled with family, friends and fellow UU's, we must find new ways of being together, new ways to celebrate. Our UU faith calls upon us to be guided by love, hope, kindness and compassion. Please, stay connected with one another, offer support, make a call, reach out. We all need it. Happy Holidays to you all.

The traditional Holiday Giving Tree Project is cancelled for this year. UUCM is looking for another helpful way to give, so please watch your email and e-chalice for invitations.

We, at the Caring Team, want you to know we have volunteers who are happy to reach out with phone calls. We also have volunteers who have offered to shop or run essential errands, if you have need of those services. Please reach out if we can be of help during these difficult times.

We are staying connected in the safe ways we can and we are working to keep the community whole. If you have suffered the loss of a beloved pet, UUAM offers a nationwide support group on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00PM PST. The link for the zoom meeting is: [tinyurl.com/UUAMChaplain](https://tinyurl.com/UUAMChaplain)

Please feel free to contact us by email:  
Gwen Eymann (530 274-7965),  
Tom Wernigg (530) 575-8766  
or [Caring@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Caring@uugrassvalley.org)

*-Gwen*

#### Parish Caring Team Members:

Gwen Eymann, *chair*,  
Jenny Dewey, Penny Harlan, Robin Hart, Carol Hyndman,  
Anne Lyon, and Holly Rice

### Fresh Paint!

The window sill painting project is progressing. We have almost all the windows painted except the windows on the Walsh Street side which we may have to try to paint from the inside due to the lack of safe external access. Thanks again to all who helped get those painted and thanks to Rene Wiley who painted both the front doors (see photo below!) and the patio door. Now we just have to wait for some drying days. With a few more helpers that project can be completed, and hopefully we will be able to work on some window frames that need patching and painting. The yard work still needs to be addressed, but we are considering getting bids for a lawn crew to do the major work because of the scale of the project.

I still miss having a full work crew to tackle these projects, but it will be awhile before that happens. In the mean time we will address things on a smaller basis as they arise. If there is anyone who would like to take on painting a bathroom, let me know. ([uucmgv@gmail.com](mailto:uucmgv@gmail.com)) Working inside is even more restrictive at this time.

Here is hoping that you all have a good holiday season. I am sure for many it will be a different style than normal, but enjoy your time with friends and family as best and safely as you can.

*-Wally*



## Open Questions

### Open Questions?

At Rev. Kevin's urging, UUCM leadership is working to incorporate an exploration of one to three Open Questions in UUCM's annual rhythm. Since this is yet a new process and not well understood, here's an explanation.

Exploring Open Questions is a recommendation of Dan Hotchkiss, whose governance model the congregation has adopted. Exploring Open Questions is meant to be a way for the Board and Minister to engage the members of the congregation each year in the big forward-thinking and forward-looking questions that need to be asked and for which leadership does not yet have answers: Who are we? Where are we going? Where ought we be heading? Who are we wanting and needing to serve? Who is our neighbor?

Rather than leadership saying to members, "Hey, here are the answers we've come up with. What do you think of them?" the idea is to bring members into the conversation early on for the sake of both member engagement and the quality of the exploration. The result is not an immediate answer, but abundant wisdom and insight that inform and support the leadership's ability to help the congregation pursue its mission.

The Open Questions identified by the Board and Minister last summer have to do with sustaining community while physically distanced. Though these are at the surface pragmatic "how to" questions, beneath them are the larger questions of what "community" means and what community (this community in particular) needs to, will, or ought to look like as we come out of the pandemic:

***How do we sustain and strengthen community now?***

***How do we cultivate and sustain our spiritual and emotional strength in this time?***

***How do we keep a sense of wonder? (the "wonder" identified in UUCM's mission statement)***

We ask you to please join Rev. Kevin and your UUCM Board members in dancing with these questions for an hour and a quarter via Zoom. We will prioritize the first question. Your wisdom, insight, feelings and experience will be very valuable and much appreciated. Plus, you'll have a chance to connect to others.

We have set up three opportunities for Open Question Conversations:

1. Tuesday afternoon, December 8 at 1:00 PM
2. Wednesday evening, December 9 at 7:00 PM
3. Saturday morning, December 12 at 10:00 AM

Which opportunity works best for you?

Contact: [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org)



## Art & Aesthetics

*Robin Hart, Chair,  
Art & Aesthetics Team*

Our Halloween Spooktacular concert was a success with all you talented UU's performing, our live scavenger hunts, and pumpkin contest. Kudos to Jordan Thomas Rose, Wendy Wernigg, and Bob Miller for keeping things rolling along and making it a fun evening for all.

The Art & Aesthetics team is continuing our community project so we can support the congregation together while we are apart. We are well along constructing the community sculpture in the garden behind the church. We are still asking the congregation to come by the backyard of the church if you haven't yet done so, and safely add branches, plastic pipe, wire, fabric, etc. or whatever interesting material you can think of. This towering piece of art will symbolize the interconnectedness and unity of our congregation. Please sign your piece with some permanent marker so we can identify your contribution.

We will be photographing the progress and posting the photos in the e-chalice. Let's see what a wonderful unity art piece we can create. It's up to you.

***Stay well and keep a rainbow in your hearts!***

***- Robin***



# Justice News and Activities

## Justice News

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 5:00 PM**

The UUCM Justice Team also alerts members and friends to arising justice opportunities. The Team meets monthly for planning and welcomes your particular energy and talents. This month, the Justice Team meets on the Third Thursday, December 17 at 5:00 PM.

Please contact Steve Temple or Stu Matthews at [Justice@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Justice@uugrassvalley.org)

## Local Volunteer Opportunities

*By Keith Johnson, Member, 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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** During Covid, volunteers are needed even more, but contact the organization to find out their needs and hours before showing up. The descriptions for each organization's activities may not be exactly what is happening at the moment.

### **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 11:00 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).

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

### **INTERFAITH FOOD MINISTRY (IFM) UPDATE**

IFM and volunteers are busy gearing up for the Holiday Season! Paulette's Spaghetti Dinner & Hunger Run were both successful, fun and fruitful community events.

IFM and United Way of Nevada County are partnered to provide supplemental groceries to students and their families at three local high schools this fall.

Food drives have been a great way to get involved, supporting those in need this challenging year! Twin Cities Church offers drive-through food drop-offs one time per month at their church. IFM volunteers help unload and sort donations on the spot. In September, Mrs. McDonald's 7th grade class held a food drive for IFM that focused on peanut butter and jelly! In October, they were collecting canned soup.

### **HOLIDAY DISTRIBUTION DAYS:**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
December: 14th, 16th, 18th, 21st & 23rd.

### **SPONSOR A FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

\$20 pays for both a Holiday Meal and a family's regular food distribution. (\$40 covers two families, \$60 for three.) Checks can be made payable to IFM, and mailed to: 440 Henderson Street, Grass Valley, 95945, or donations can be made online at: [feedingfamilies.org](http://feedingfamilies.org).

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Spreadsheet Maintenance
  - Donor letter stuffing
  - Hand letter writing to donors
  - Phone calls to donors
- Contact Naomi Cabral at [naomidd.ifm@gmail.com](mailto:naomidd.ifm@gmail.com)

Volunteers are needed for all weekly packing and distribution shifts:  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 7 AM - 2 PM  
Tuesday and Thursday from 8 AM - 11 AM  
Contact Anna Gloria @ [agloria.ag@att.net](mailto:agloria.ag@att.net)

### **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).



## UUCM Donation to CHIRP

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa

UUCM members voted to include in this year's budget a \$1200 contribution to CHIRP (California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project). With this investment UUCM joins CHIRP's Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program (AHRP), a community generated initiative to support and uplift the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, the original peoples of this land.

The goal of the Reciprocity Program is to raise visibility and awareness so that "all who work or live here can come together to honor the past and grow the future."

Many UUCM members have written CHIRP into their own monthly budgets, and a number of members volunteer their time and talents at various Nisenan venues and fundraisers. In all these ways, our congregation supports the Nisenan effort to realize their tribal goals of restored federal recognition and local culture.

Here, in the photo below, UUCM Nisenan Task Force chair Carmen Riley and Rev. Kevin happily hand over the "big check" to Shelly Covert, CHIRP Executive Director and Spokesperson for the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, and Ember Amador, CHIRP Executive Assistant. Our hope is that publicity around our UUCM donation will inspire other local congregations and institutions to do the same.



## How UUCM Can Currently Help Hospitality House

By George Dunstan

In response to the Covid19 pandemic, Hospitality House (HH) has changed from a single overnight shelter to a 24/7 operation at multiple locations. HH is supporting about 85 people per day at Utah's Place and across six motels in partnership with County of Nevada, Turning Point and FREED. HH is providing three meals a day, mental health counseling, job training, and customized case management. To provide these services HH has had to hire additional staff and purchase significantly more food.

Note that the UUCM HH dinner crew is no longer serving meals, but continues to pay for dinners served on the third and fifth Fridays of every month.

In lieu of the traditional volunteer opportunities that UUCM has provided here are some ways to help now:

- Hosting a winter warming drive – collecting twin size blankets (new or gently used - urgent need); handwarmers for people on the streets; beanies; gloves; and weather-resistant jackets (larger sizes most needed).
- Hosting an individually packaged food and/or basic necessities drive – any individually packaged foods (i.e. granola bars, chips, protein bars) are extremely helpful. Necessities include toilet paper, paper towels, hand sanitizer, disposable masks, large size shampoo, etc.
- General donations (financial or in-kind): For those who would like to be more involved on their own vs a group idea, each week HH posts their greatest needs, such as t-shirts, deodorant, etc. These needs can be found here: <https://hhshelter.org/giving/donate-food-clothes-or-other-items/> (also covered weekly on KVMR on Fridays at 8:15 AM and on HH Facebook page). HH also welcomes financial support. Donations can be made online at [hhshelter.org/donate](https://hhshelter.org/donate) or via mail to:

Hospitality House at 1262 Sutton Way,  
Grass Valley, CA 95945.

## Invasion of the Yard Signs!

By Bob Miller, Justice Team Member

The election is over and we look forward to support at the federal level for action on climate change. The news is not so good in our congressional district although there is hope at the local level.

Climate activists have not attempted to seek attention among the clamor of the election other than to support those candidates sympathetic to life as we know it on our planet.

Now the election is over we have the opportunity and imperative to work again.

Your UUCM Carbon Dividend Task Force, in conjunction with the local chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby, has a new initiative. We have been seeking ways to demonstrate support for climate change mitigation that is compatible with avoiding the virus.

Here is your opportunity. We want to populate the yards of Grass Valley and Nevada City with yard signs as shown above. We have the signs.

Please place a sign in your yard. You can do this for a week or two and then pass it on to a friend or you can keep it there until we have made real progress.

If you really love the planet then get three signs. Place one in your yard and ask two friends to put them in their yards and encourage them to get two more. This is called going viral. It works for you-know-what so why not for CCL yard signs?

We are paying about \$13 for each sign. If you want to contribute, we'd be happy to accept donations, but we are happy to make the signs available at no cost to you.

Plus, we deliver.

We are collecting photos of signs in people's yards with or without the property owner.

To get your sign(s) contact me at: [bob@sierramiller.com](mailto:bob@sierramiller.com)



# Community Connections – Online Activities

## Staying Connected through Zoom

*Though the building is closed, UUCM is open.*

In order to care for each other and the community, UUCM's building is essentially closed, and all meetings and services are happening online or via phone. Caring people are thoughtfully contacting members who might not have email or internet connections.

As long as we are in this virus-slowness mode, there are several ongoing weekly opportunities for UUCM Members and Friends to connect via Zoom or phone in addition to other circles and meetings you may be participating in.

### WEEKLY @ UUCM

Watch your email for links and phone numbers. If you need links, please contact [uucmOnline@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:uucmOnline@uugrassvalley.org)

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON CHECK IN - 4 PM

An open, end-of-the-week, TGIF conversation and sharing for members and friends, processing the week and getting ready for the weekend, with encouragement to tune up our personal spiritual practices.

### SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 AM

*(Kids' RE now meets Wednesday at 5:15 PM)*



### SUNDAY DROP-IN SUPPORT CIRCLE - NOON

Confidential Peer support. The circle's mission is to provide a place for UUCM folks to drop in (now via Zoom) to give and get a little extra support. Our meetings usually last for 45 to 50 minutes, and the format is a circle where we take turns

(usually about 3 minutes) to share what is present for us. Sharing is confidential. If there is time remaining we do extra sharing in a popcorn fashion. (Advice should be given only when requested or with permission.) We are a sharing and support circle rather than a therapy session.

Please join in as it will serve your spirit, knowing that your presence will be a gift to others.

## UUCM Groups Meet via Zoom

There are many groups that meet regularly at UUCM which have moved their meetings to the Zoom app while the danger of exposure to COVID-19 continues. You may also call into Zoom by phone. Please contact the individual organizers if you are interested in joining!



### HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP First Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

Here is the December 2nd Zoom meeting link:  
<https://zoom.us/j/92259246223?pwd=ZG10YlpXSkrHcDkxaGRSMWV1enVsdz09>

Our topic will be to read an article (or more than one if length permits) from a conservative standpoint and to discuss it. The idea is to look at what for most of us constitutes the other side and to try to understand that viewpoint and discuss how it compares to "ours". Hopefully we will gain some insight and understanding from this exercise. Link(s) to the article(s) will be sent soon

To be added to the Humanism Discussion Group email list, please contact George Dunstan: [Humanism@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Humanism@uugrassvalley.org)



### WALKING GROUP

Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please contact Theresa Houtman at [Walking@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Walking@uugrassvalley.org) to get on the list.

### SINGING MEDITATION CIRCLE - VIA ZOOM

First Thursdays, 7-8:30 PM  
Contact [SingingMeditation@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:SingingMeditation@uugrassvalley.org)

### WOMEN'S CIRCLE – VIA ZOOM SECOND MONDAYS, 6:00 PM

All UUCM women (and friends!) are invited to any Women's Circle gathering. Normally at our December Meeting we have a potluck Holiday Feast, exchange gifts or do a collection for a charity that is dear to our hearts. However, with COVID19 restricting our ability to gather in person and potluck, our meetings are more of a check-in and social outreach for those who appreciate some human connection. If you are not on the Women's Group email list, please send an email to Carol Fulkerson at: [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:admin@uugrassvalley.org) and she will add you. You'll get monthly updates and reminders of our upcoming meetings... watch for the Zoom link for our next meeting.

### MEN'S GROUPS - VIA ZOOM

Men gather to enjoy each others' company. Wednesday mornings from 8:00 to 10:00 AM, and/or Thursday mornings from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Contact for either group: [mensgroup@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:mensgroup@uugrassvalley.org)

Family Ministry offers many ways to serve the life of the community.

Contact Rene Wiley if you'd like to find out more! [familyministry@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:familyministry@uugrassvalley.org)

## Chalice Home

By Rene Wiley and  
Soul Matters Creator, Katie Covey

It's hard to be away from church. Online worship and RE helps us stay connected to our church friends, but not getting to meet in the building is a real loss. Covid has made us all realize how meaningful the tangible objects are to spiritual lives. Physical objects and sacred physical space hold our spiritual journeys and values in a unique and irreplaceable way.

Chalice Home is designed to address this loss brought on by Covid-19. While we may not be able to visit our treasured sacred spaces, we can carve out sacred space in our homes.

Welcome to Chalice Home for December and its theme of Stillness. We offer this home worship that is especially engaging for all ages.



So set up your home altar with a chalice and invite a space for stillness!

*I will share a personal story about how I've found hope in stillness of the dark wintertime. The long nights have brought my family indoors and I've found beauty in the quiet stillness of all of us reading our books while gathered in our small, glowing living room. The slower pace invites hope for more connection and peace. Our imaginations are brimming with story and dreams.*

In this home worship, we honor the winter solstice. In the sacred stillness of the longest night of the year, we are reminded that darkness is not a depleted or dangerous space, but instead a fertile space where hopes and dreams are planted, like a seed buried deep into the dark, rich soil. It is a time of being still and noticing all that wants to be born and wondering what new hopes and dreams will emerge in the coming year.

### ✿ CENTERING SOUND ✿

Move from "regular time" to "sacred time" by sounding your bell, chimes, singing bowl, or ringing glass.

#### RITUAL WORDS TO GO WITH YOUR CENTERING SOUND:

*"To this quiet place of beauty, we come from busy things. Pausing for a moment for the thoughts that quiet brings."*

### ✿ CHALICE LIGHTING ✿

(Use this one or write your own...)

*As we light this flame and watch it grow, may we remember all that is beautifully born in the dark. In the nighttime, dreams arise. And so during our long winter nights, may we too dare to dream and hope.*

**LIGHT YOUR CHALICE.**

### ✿ CENTERING MUSIC ✿

Here is a song about stillness for this time of connecting to the theme through music.

"All Will Be Well" -- Words from Julian of Norwich, sung by UU minister, Meg Barnhouse

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9LwCtOm4nk>

### ✿ THE GIVING BOWL ✿

Remember that money is not the only way we are generous to others. So in addition to or instead of money, consider writing down on small pieces of paper ways you can support others or special organizations this month. Be sure to bring in the monthly theme by talking about how the organization you are supporting helps you heal the world.

#### RITUAL WORDS:

*"We drop our coins (papers) in and fill the bowl. Serving others makes us whole."*

*Continued on next page.....*

# UUCM Family Ministry

## SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Invite each family member to pick up a rock and share something they are thankful for about the past week while dropping the rock into the bowl of water. The aim here is to make room to notice the good things all around us even though times are hard.

After this first round of joys, invite each family member to choose another rock and share something or someone they have a concern for - someone or something they are holding in their hearts and prayers.  
This is a way to bring the struggles of others into our hearts.

And don't forget that the rocks love being used in this ritual and they can be pulled out of the water and used as "double rocks" if there are more joys and concerns. :-)

### **RITUAL WORDS:**

*"We listen to each other; it is a holy act. To share our joys and sorrows, with grace it flows on back."*

## STILLNESS NURTURES HOPE

Winter solstice is a time when the night is the longest and the day is the shortest in the Northern Hemisphere. In the sacred stillness and darkness of the longest night of the year, we plant our hopes and dreams, like a seed buried deep into the dark, nurturing soil.

What will emerge for you and your family from the sacred stillness and darkness of the longest night of the year?

*With this in mind, create a short ritual using a small bowl of seeds.*

Have each family member take a seed and think about what hope or dream is currently taking root in this dark time. Tie it to the theme of stillness by talking about how we are most in touch with our hopes for the future when time slows, and we are still. Ask each family member to share one big hope or dream they have for the coming year. What is now "just a seed" but hopefully will grow into something wonderful and real in the coming months.

### **ADDING YOUR SYMBOL:**

Add your bowl of seeds (hopes) to your Chalice Home.

### **CLOSE WITH THESE WORDS:**

*"We add these seeds to symbolize the hope that grows in the stillness."*

Family responds: *"May our hopes and dreams grow!"*

## BLESS YOUR OBJECTS

*"[Spirit of Life and Love], Thanks for the nurturing darkness and stillness of this season. May we remember to help hope emerge as the light grows. May we help bring hope to the world around us."*

## SETTING AN INTENTION

As you bring your family worship to a close, pause for a moment to think about the dreams and hopes you named in the seed ritual. Invite each family member to share one thing they promise to do to help that dream or hope to grow and come true in the days ahead.

Each person states their intention, one at a time, using the statement below as a guide.

*"In the coming weeks, I will help the seeds of hope grow by \_\_\_\_\_."*

## EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

*"We gather the warmth of love, the light of truth, and the energy of action into our hearts. We return to the world of do and say: Carry it forward into the dawning day. Go Now in Peace, Amen."*

## Family Ministry

### 59Kids Religious Exploration

59KIDS RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION GROUP,  
WEDNESDAY EVES AT 5:15 TO 6:00 PM.

NOTE: NO MEETING ON DEC. 23 OR DEC. 30

Children of all ages can join *59Kids Religious Exploration* group this month as we explore the many ways our UU faith invites us to become "A People of Stillness." Our sessions are led by Lindsay and Walt and centered around four of these lessons or "stillness invitations." Come check out how silliness and games plays right into Stillness. Our theme of Stillness invites and calls us to...

- Step Away from Busyness (Lesson A & 1st UU Source)
- Listen for the Voices of Angels (Lesson B & How to be Guided on a Journey/ Christmas Story/ 4th UU Source)
- Rekindle Hope by Watching for the Light (Lesson C & Winter Solstice/ 6th UU Source)
- Wait for Freedom (Lesson D & Watch Night/Anti-Racism, and 8th UU Principle)

Each month we take time to focus on Anti-Racism. Learning about the tradition of Watch Night/Freedom's Eve as a "wait for freedom" lens for stillness helps support our Eighth Principle: "journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions." Our faith has taken up this work and called on UU's to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community. So what's one of the ways our faith guides us into becoming a people of stillness? It says, "Learn about what it means to wait in the stillness for freedom to come."

Nina Simone - I Wish I Knew (How It Would Feel To Be Free)  
(Live at Montreux, 1976)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vq3sdFOYXkM>

### Care Packages for our Young Adults ages 18-35

If you wish to contribute items or make Chalice style ornaments by December 11, contact Rene Wiley ASAP.

[familyministry@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:familyministry@uugrassvalley.org)

### Teddy Bear Christmas Pageant!!

Drop off your favorite teddy bear or plushie to take a role in the UUCM Christmas Eve pageant. More info to come!



## Book Groups



### FIRST SUNDAY BOOK GROUP - DECEMBER 6, 1:00 PM

The First Sunday book group enjoyed Michael Chabone's *Moonglow* in November. We wondered if this novel was an accurate portrayal of his grandfather and were delighted with beautiful descriptive writing.

Our next discussion will be December 6, at 1:00 PM. Jo Waters will help us explore *American War, A Novel* by Omar El Akkad. In a post apocalyptic America there is a second civil war. This is a story that asks us what might happen if America were to turn its most devastating policies and deadly weapons on itself.

On January 10, (please note date change) at 1:00 PM, we will meet Gloria Steinem in her book, *My Life on The Road*. This funny, moving and profound book is the story of Steinem's growth and the growth of the movement for equality and how surprising encounters on the road shape both.

### THIRD WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP - DECEMBER 16, 2:00 PM

The Wednesday Book Group met to discuss *Squeeze Me* and chuckled as we pondered the cathartic value of this satire that aptly addressed the social, cultural and political issues of the past year in a delightful thriller.

Our next Wednesday group is on December 16 at 2:00 PM. It should be an entertaining browse through the history of the Los Angeles Central Library and the investigation of the burning of that library in 1986. *The Library Book* by Susan Orleans will satisfy all ardent readers with its marvelous style and fascinating treatment of our favorite institution.



Meetings for both groups will continue be on Zoom until further notice. Readers are welcome to attend either or both groups at any time. Contact Theresa Houtman, (530) 277-9294 or [BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org) with questions or to be included in the mailing list.



## What Does It Mean to be a People of Stillness?

From the  
Soul Matters Authors

*Don't tell me to be calm  
when there are so many  
reasons  
to be angry...*

*I didn't say to be calm,  
said the wind,  
I said to breathe.*

*We're going to need a lot of air  
to make this hurricane together.*

- Rev. Lynn Unger,  
from her poem "Breathe"

Often when stillness weaves its way into our discussions, it's framed as a retreat strategy. A balm from the frantic and frequently wounding world. But as wise ones like Rev. Unger remind us, that's not quite right. It's less like a locked room that keeps all the enemies out and more like an oxygen mask that brings us back to life, that fills us with power. Stillness doesn't simply slow our breath and energy; it fills us with it.

As Unger suggests, we don't really want to be told to be calm these days. There is indeed so much to be angry about. So much that needs defended, resisted and restored. Which means that there's a lot at stake in how we talk and think about stillness. A stillness that invites us simply to escape the world is dangerous. A stillness that merely anesthetizes our nerves comforts us but widens the wounds of the world. To listen deeply to our troubled times is to hear a call to challenge the view that stillness is the resting place at the bottom of the hill we've climbed and instead imagine it as the basecamp that launches us into the long trek up the mountain.

And alongside this vision of stillness enabling us to gather strength also sits the equally important idea of stillness as something that clarifies our perception.

One of the most powerful and heart-breaking examples of this comes from the movie Schindler's List. In what is possibly its most famous scene, Oscar Schindler is sitting still upon his horse at the top of a hill looking down at atrocities being committed by the Nazi soldiers. Up until that moment, Schindler couldn't see past his rationalizations. But in that still moment, which was filmed in black and white, we watch through his eyes and see one small burst of red emerging from

the sea of gray. It's a single small girl in a bright red coat. In that moment his perception is transformed and the stillness allows him to notice that which calls him back to his humanity.

So friends, stillness does this too. It allows us to perceive that which is truly precious. And in doing so, it calls us back to our humanity.

When we pause and find that sacred point of balance, that which is precious in life lights up as if in neon. The blur that usually dominates our attention fades to gray and we are able to notice that which truly deserves our focus. Our care. Our commitment. Our love.

And when we are surrounded by and connected to those precious things, a type of magic happens. We suddenly know ourselves anew. We suddenly feel at home in ourselves and the world. That sense of home can calm us or it may challenge us, but either way life comes alive again.

So home, maybe that is the true aim of this month. Maybe stillness is not an end but a means. Maybe it is not the destination but the road. The road that leads us home.

## Upcoming Soul Matters Themes

By Rev. Kevin Tarsa

Throughout the year, UUCM draws on monthly themes to help us explore our spiritual, emotional and intellectual lives. The Minister and Worship Team members are always looking for stories, poems, artwork, music, rituals, readings, reflections, quotes, and images related to the themes.

We invite you to look ahead to the upcoming themes. What comes to mind and heart for you? Please share any resources you know or have created, and please keep your hearts, eyes, and ears open all year for anything that might help us help each other enter these themes meaningfully.

Please send your suggestions and ideas to [worship@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:worship@uugrassvalley.org) or [minister@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org) or to any of the worship associates:

### What does it mean to be a people of ...

December:	Stillness
January:	Imagination
February:	Beloved Community
March:	Commitment
April:	Becoming
May:	Story
June:	Play

# December 2020 Calendar of Events at UUCM

## DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

### DECEMBER 2020

*Please note: All meetings and services are held by Zoom  
until further notice: Watch for links and meeting numbers through your  
email from UUGeneral or the meeting hosts.*

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
1	Tuesday	8:30 AM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM	Walking Group Caring Team Meeting Starting Point Series
2	Wednesday	8:30 AM 11:00 AM 3:30 PM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Humanism Discussion Group via Zoom Worship Team Meeting Kids Connection Hour Choir
3	Thursday	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group via Zoom Walking Group Writer's Group Bylaws Q & A Session Letters & Postcards for Georgia Bylaws Q & A Session Singing Meditation
4	Friday	10:00 AM 4:00 PM	Executive Council Meetings Friday Afternoon Check In via Zoom
5	Saturday	4:00 PM	Non Violent Communication Workshop
6	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Book Group
7	Monday	6:30 PM	Soul Matters Exploratorium
8	Tuesday	8:30 AM 1:00 PM 4:00 PM	Walking Group Open Questions Conversation Challenging White Privilege Book Group
9	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Finance Committee Meeting Kids Connection Hour Open Questions Conversation Choir
10	Thursday	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:00 PM	Men's Group via Zoom Walking Group Letters & Postcards for Georgia
11	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check In via Zoom
12	Saturday	10:00 AM 4:00 PM	Open Questions Conversation Non Violent Communication Workshop

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
13	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle
14	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Check In/Conversation
15	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group
16	Wednesday	8:30 AM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Wednesday Book Group Board of Trustees Meeting Kids Connection Hour Choir
17	Thursday	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Men's Group via Zoom Walking Group Writer's Group Letters & Postcards for Georgia Social Justice Meeting
18	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check In via Zoom
19	Saturday	10:00 AM 4:00 PM	Bylaws Q & A Session Non Violent Communication Workshop
20	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM 7:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle Solstice Eve Service
22	Tuesday	8:30 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group Challenging White Privilege Task Force
23	Wednesday	8:30 AM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Kids Connection Hour Choir
24	Thursday	7:00 PM 10:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Christmas Eve Singing Meditation
25	Friday	2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Christmas Zoom Dinner Christmas Carols and Stories Friday Afternoon Check In via Zoom
27	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle
29	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Walking Group
30	Wednesday	8:30 AM 5:15 PM	Men's Group Kids Connection Hour
31	Thursday	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:00 PM	Men's Group via Zoom Walking Group Letters & Postcards for Georgia





## Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945  
Telephone: 530.274.1675      Website: [uugrassvalley.org](http://uugrassvalley.org)

**Sunday services are currently held at 10:30 AM via Zoom**

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

### Rev. Kevin Tarsa Office Hours:

*While the pandemic keeps us home, Rev. Kevin's office hours are by appointment.*

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

### UUCM STAFF MEMBERS

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Carol Fulkerson, *Office Administrator*

Jordan Thomas-Rose, *Music Director*

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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:

[MtChalice@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:MtChalice@uugrassvalley.org)

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

### VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS:

*Kathy MacLeod, Editing, and Kathryn Young, Design/Layout*

*Staff Contributors: Rev. Kevin Tarsa and Carol Fulkerson*