

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

July 2021

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 # • Passcode: 688010

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

Connection Time for Kids is on Zoom

...will return in the Fall. Check out our Summer FUUn Activities!

SUMMER 2021 THEME: *Voices Near and Far*

July 4 **Two Wolves and a Lamb: Democracy this July 4**
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, with Beth Karow, WA

Benjamin Franklin wrote, "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what they are going to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote." The tensions in democracy are inherent and, ideally, managed, though never entirely resolved. Let us honor both our joy and our concern this July 4, celebrating our interdependence as well as our freedoms.

July 11 **Gathered Here! Beloved Community in the Park**
Rev. Kevin Tarsa and UUCM members and friends, with Wendy Wernigg, Worship Associate

In our first in-the-flesh community service since March 12, 2020, we will celebrate community outdoors at Condon Park in Grass Valley, not far from UUCM. (Imagine!) With music by Kathryn Young, Taylor Carey, Kate Canan, and Tom Wernigg, we'll honor the losses of the past 16 months, commission and bless the Board members, and, at the heart of it all, celebrate community!

NOTE: *Plan to bring water, arrive with a full belly, and bring chairs (likely), and otherwise to watch for final details.*

July 18 **Title TBD**
Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson, UUCSF in Bridgehampton, NY, with Jeff Stone, WA

The Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson, recent Berry Street Co-Lecturer and a seminary colleague of Rev. Kevin, communicates from the heart, with insight and compassion. Among her specialties are anti-racism

and youth ministry. Rev. Johnson will join us in real time via Zoom

July 25 **Close to home, Close to Heart: Learnings from these 16 months – A Tapestry Service**
Members and Friends of UUCM, Chuck Champlin, Worship Associate, and with Rev. Kevin

These sixteen months spent in our homes and navigating the pandemic have shed light into many corners, helped us look at ourselves in our mirrors, invited us to recognize long-time truths, and given us deep time with our own hearts. Here, some of our members and friends share what they've learned, what they see, what they now know, and what they now wonder.

August 1 **Title TBD**
Rev. Meg Barnhouse, Beth Karow, WA

The Rev. Meg Barnhouse is the wise, witty, and musical senior minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, Texas, and the author of several books and the composer of "All Will Be Well," a song some of you may remember from our services. Don't miss Rev. Meg's humor and wisdom.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

*While the pandemic keeps us home,
Rev. Kevin no longer has "drop-in" office hours.*

*Please contact Rev. Kevin or our Office Administrator
to schedule appointments.*

minister@uugrassvalley.org or (231) 883-1058
admin@uugrassvalley.org or (530) 274-1675

Which "normals" do you want to keep, which "normals" would you prefer to let go of (or need to let go of), and which "normals" will you choose to nurture into being?

I'm referring, of course, to the "return to normal" that's hung expectantly in the air since last March, changing color and shape and size continually as time has passed.

At this moment I am being confronted powerfully by several of my unhelpful personal norms, like my propensity to over function, for example, at the expense of other people's functioning. With more available in-person encounters, the rather sudden leap into social and frequently unmasked life, the early re-engagements with outside worlds, and with the quickening pace of each of these, it's as if someone suddenly turned a bright light on in my previously darkened room.

It's not that what I see is any surprise (for years I've named my over-functioning as an issue to address); it's that in important ways the demands of the pandemic have served as a distillation process, siphoning off the buffering surface layers and leaving a more concentrated, exposed, default self – at least in terms of my default behaviors.

Before gravity pulls things any more toward the previous "normal," I recognize the opportunity I have here, right now, to let the intensity, the discomfort, the bareness, and to be honest, the exposure, reveal more of me to me and motivate me to make changes. My goal is to let it, even though I'm discovering that my initial reaction to my own change attempts is to double down on the old behaviors! Yikes! And "of course." And "heavy sigh."

Before we get drawn into any more of the seductive normalcy that might comfort us with its familiarity, while we are still a bit raw and open, let's be conscious, each and together, about what we might want to change for good.

Let's not assume that what "was" worked, or that we should do things as we had. Let's not squander the price we've been paying for our pandemic education. Let's put it to use! Let's

find the heart of the what, and from it, imagine the how anew. As this new church/community year gets underway (as of July 1), let's not assume that Sunday mornings need look exactly the way they looked before, or that they are the only option for gathering our sense of community. Let's imagine more accessible and abundant ways and opportunities for people to bring, to share, and to grow their unique gifts. Let's ask

ourselves what we really want and need from this community, deeper than surface connection and surface like-mindedness. Let's ask what the wider community needs UUCM to be now. Let's ask ourselves what we will need to do differently if we truly want this community to be a haven – a place of healing and hope and inspiration and connection - for more of those who need it.

When we go to put on the old ways like old, familiar clothing, let's be ready to notice whenever something

no longer fits, when it pinches, or sags, or is too long or too short, or suddenly rips because the fibers have worn thin.

Just as with personal changes and the wider social changes in motion around racism, for example, chances are we'll double down on the old patterns before we find our way forward into the new. But maybe, just maybe, if we can stay aware going in, we'll notice when we are trying to fit a new reality into a previous shape and be able to say to ourselves and each other, "Oh, there it is. Will you look at that?" and so remind ourselves to nurture a new "normal" for the new day.

Which "normals" do you want to keep, which "normals" would you prefer to let go of (or need to let go of), and which "normals" will you choose to nurture into being?

with care,

- Rev. Kevin



Board of Trustees



*Pam Kisor, President,
UUCM Board of Trustees*

*As we weather winds of change,
may we have wisdom to cherish moments of stillness.
As we recollect times of challenge and of pain,
may we remember also the graceful blessings of our lives.
As we look to future unknowns,
may we have the boldness to trust that there is
unimagined Good yet to come.*

- Maureen Killoran, "Lifting our Voices"

I begin this year as your incoming Board President riding a sea of change. After a challenging 16 months of relative isolation we are entering a new phase of coming back together. This period of transition will bring new challenges that we, as a community, must embrace. I am heartened by the words of Maureen Killoran, "As we look to future unknowns, may we have the boldness to trust that there is unimagined Good yet to come." And surely there is much good to look forward to. Personally, I am looking forward to working with our new Board of wise and talented individuals, to navigating our way through the challenges of the ever changing pandemic restrictions and to further exploring our path forward as our UU Community continues to grow. I hope that I will bring the necessary leadership skills to navigate the transitional time in which we now find ourselves.

Our outgoing Board has worked diligently to provide the structure to support our ongoing work. Many thanks to outgoing President Jim Perkins and Secretary Jo Waters. Both dedicated countless hours and expertise to supporting the work of the Board. We will miss their insights and guidance. And many thanks to Board members Janet Dunstan and Bob Packard who are continuing to serve. Their wisdom and historical knowledge of UUCM have been essential to keeping us on track as we negotiated this challenging past year. I look forward to working with them again and with new Board members Rene Wiley, Sharon Walters and Gail Schultz. Each Board member brings unique talent and skill to their position, but the Board's true gift is in our ability to work as a team – always keeping our goals and the UUCM mission as our guiding light. I am a firm believer that "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts," especially when a group, large or small, Board or Community, comes together with a common mission. Our beloved Community is built on this premise and the work of the Board is to provide the necessary foundational support to achieve our mission. We will do our best!

This month your Board of Trustees developed and approved new charters for several committees. The challenge before

us now will be finding willing souls to volunteer time and talent to staff these committees. UUCM committees do the important (often interesting, sometimes fun) work of assisting the Board in managing the business affairs of our Community. Committee work is often filled with the "nuts and bolts" of running the organization and helping to support the organization in fulfilling its mission. Because UUCM is growing and has revised its governing structure to meet the challenges of growth, committees are needed more than ever to provide the necessary support. Serving on a committee is a direct and meaningful way to serve the mission of UUCM. Committee work also provides an opportunity to learn about the church while making new friends and connections. Please consider how you might participate in committee work to help support this community that you love. It takes the whole village working together to serve our mission – "With courageous love and a sense of wonder, we cultivate our spiritual, emotional, and intellectual strength to create a world more compassionate, sustainable, and just."

Namaste, *Pam*

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

Pam Kisor	<i>President</i>
Gail Schultz	<i>Vice-President</i>
Bob Packard	<i>Treasurer</i>
Rene Wiley	<i>Secretary</i>

Members at Large:

Janet Dunstan & Sharon Walters

UUCM Committees:

Finance • Governance • Endowment
Nominating • Personnel • Health and Safety

With a new board starting up, we still need to decide on the best date and time for our future Board of Trustees business meetings.

In addition, we may meet both in-person and by Zoom.

Watch for an email at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

*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.*



Stewardship

Maryann Currington,
Chair, Stewardship Team

Starting Afresh with a Brand New Fiscal Year Full of Possibilities

For those of us who are involved with the finances of our UU community, July 1st marks the beginning of a new fiscal year. The Stewardship Team is in the midst of “closing the books” on the 2020-2021 Pledge year and starting our 2021-2022 year. For us, then, this is a fresh start, our New Year!

Last year we faced the new fiscal year with trepidation. How do you navigate Stewardship without face to face contact? How do we conduct a Pledge Campaign online? How do we hold fundraisers online? We did it!! Our wonderful UUCM family responded with enthusiasm and generosity.

With so much joy we are anticipating being together in person this next year. The planning of our Stewardship activities will be exciting. Already, the plans for our first event are being germinated. We are brimming with ideas. Our enthusiasm is in stark contrast to our confusion of last year.

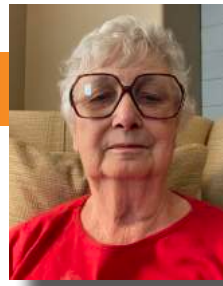
We have added two new members to our Team. Our beloved Anita Wald-Tuttle enjoyed her role of Visiting Steward and envisioned an important role that Stewardship could have in our Community. Anita is filled with enthusiasm and wisdom. What a blessing for us. Phil Hart saw that his vision for Endowment could be better served with the collaboration of the Stewardship Team. Phil is a very committed member, with a strong marketing background. With these two wonderful additions, Stewardship has a clear direction. We will focus on connection and communication with members.

If you haven't finished your payments for your 2020-21 Pledge, please finish before you begin the 2021-22 year. If you pay by check, please write the percentage of the check to go towards your pledge, and include the correct pledge year to which it should be credited.

If you have any questions or concerns please call me, (530) 307-9663, or send an email to: murrington1944@gmail.com.

With love and respect,

Maryann Currington



Finance

Gail Schulz, Outgoing Chair,
Finance Committee

A Gentle Reminder

Now that pledges are in, we are beginning our new fiscal year on July 1. For those of you who pay through periodic automatic payments by credit card, through our website, or from your bank, please set up any changes based on your new pledge amount. For those paying by credit cards through the website, you will enter the amount in the “Current Period” category.

If you need any help with the changes in these credit card payments, please contact the church office and you will be referred to a volunteer who will help you through it.

Thanks so much for your wonderful generosity!

Online Giving & More

HERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GIVE TO UUCM...

- If you do online banking, you can set up your UUCM Pledge as a monthly "bill" and then relax...your bank will automatically send a check out on the date(s) you specify.
- 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 (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 our Pass-the-Plate partner.



Caring Team

Gwen Eymann
Chair, UUCM Parish Care Team

Welcome to summer. Welcome to seeing faces without masks. Welcome to reconnecting. Welcome to UUCM's first in-person Sunday gathering in 16 months. It has been a long time coming and there will be joy and celebration among us all.

This past month we have celebrated Anita's 94th Birthday, and there have been many other special anniversaries and birthdays. There has also been illness, surgeries, and other losses within the lives of our community. It is an amazing thing to witness the loving care that is shared among us and it speaks to the strength of UUCM as a community of people who care. I feel blessed to be a part of it all.

As our lives open up and Covid restrictions are lifted, there is more that the Parish Care Team can offer in terms of direct contact. We have volunteers who are happy to reach out with phone calls, to send cards, to shop or run essential errands. If you or if someone you know has need for any of these services, please let us know how we can be of help.

-Gwen

PARISH CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

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

PLEASE CONTACT:

Caring@uugrassvalley.org or gweneymann@gmail.com



Art & Aesthetics

Robin Hart, Chair,
Art & Aesthetics Team

Now that we are coming to the end of the current church year I want to thank the Art & Aesthetics Team for all their hard work during these crazy pandemic times.

I am pleased to say that all team members are planning to stay on the team for the 2021-22 church year. Thank you Shanti Emerson, Linda Siska, Melissa Ridgeway, Eileen Hale, and Phil Horning for your contributions to help the congregation have a creative spark while we are apart. With the exception of Shanti doing the center of interest at UUCM all these months, we have been creatively working on projects for the church remotely over Zoom.

Some of the projects we have worked on over the past year were to collaborate with Bob Miller and Jordan Thomas Rose for the Spring and Summer Café concerts, and the Halloween Spooktacular over Zoom. We had the Chalice Challenge that ran for a few months encouraging congregants to do a creative home chalice. Last Summer we encouraged UUCM to build a community sculpture made of all kinds of found materials. It was a success and a lot of fun to watch it evolve and grow. In February we encouraged the congregation to send out messages of love and cards to three people in the congregation for Valentines Day and the monthly theme of Beloved Community. We actually had our first in-person team meeting in the church garden this last month and it was so good to see everyone after such a long absence. Stay tuned for information in the coming months about the re-visioning of the back yard space that will be a collaboration of multiple teams.

I also want to give big kudos to Carol Fulkerson, who behind the scenes, has aided our efforts in so many ways, taking photos and helping us get out the messages in the E-chalice and UU General for these many projects.

Stay well and keep a rainbow in your hearts!

- Robin



Enjoy a close up of
A&E Team member
Linda Siska's Lego Chalice
used at our June 20 service.

Justice News and Activities

Justice News

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JULY 15, 5:00 PM

The UUCM Justice Team meets monthly for planning and welcomes your particular energy and talents. It also alerts members and friends to arising justice opportunities. For more information, please contact Steve Temple or Stu Matthews at 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

A Hunger Food Drive benefiting IFM and the Food Bank of Nevada County will be held on July 2nd. It will be in Penn Valley at Commodore Park from 5 to 9 PM and is sponsored by IFM and Grocery Outlet. Bring the family for a great event!

IFM will be riding in the Local Hero parade on July 4th in Grass Valley. Please make signs in support of IFM!

Volunteers are still needed for most shifts of food distribution at IFM. Please feel free to drop in M - F, 8 - 12.

Development Director of IFM, Naomi Cabral, will give a brief presentation at UUCM for Pass the Plate. Stay tuned for the exact date!

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

Carbon Dividend Task Force News



If the Shoe Fits...

By Bob Miller, Carbon Dividend Task Force Leader

Over a year ago, a group of UUCM members and friends concerned about climate change decided to build a giant shoe as a fun and memorable way to illustrate the amount of carbon dioxide we create each time we consume a gallon of gasoline.*



In the various pictures you see: Rev. Kevin (teal shirt), Kern Hildebrand, Dave Whitehead (CCL CA Nevada County Chapter leader), Geoff and Richard (neighbors of mine at Wolf Creek Lodge) and me.

Now that our community is beginning to reopen as Covid subsides and vaccinations increase, the giant shoe has emerged from the UUCM garage where it has been stored for over a year. Katerina Scourtes and Ginny Hoyt get credit for doing most of the work to build the shoe. Robin Hart is working on explanatory posters.

A hearty band of intrepid members and friends lifted the giant shoe out of the garage onto a purpose-built trailer. It is off for final detailing, then on to the July 4th parade in Grass Valley. Come and give us a cheer!

****If you burn one gallon of gasoline, perhaps in your car, the volume of carbon dioxide generated equals the volume of air in our giant shoe.***

Late Breaking News!

At their June 16th meeting, the UUCM Board of Trustees approved a proposal to have our congregation endorse the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (H.R. 2307).

They made the following statement:

"UUCM recognizes the global need to reduce emissions. The EICDA offers a simple yet effective way to use market forces to reduce emissions. It has the potential to attract bipartisan support."

Citizens Climate Lobby

By Bob Miller

Your UU yard is just not complete without a sign that announces your concern for the environment! Here is your opportunity to get your very own Citizens' Climate Lobby yard sign!

We have the signs. And we deliver to your door! We just need YOU to place a sign in your yard.

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



Chuck and Lesley Champlin show off their latest yard art.

Pass the Plate

Each month, UUCM members and friends support UUCM justice partners through the Sunday Pass-the-Plate offering. Watch The Union for photos or our check handoffs. Our hope is that such visibility helps the organizations with which we partner, as well as communicates UUCM and UU values.

Thanks to generous UUCM members and friends, [Nevada County Citizens for Choice](#) will receive \$924.50! Thank you, everyone!

We are currently completing June collections for [Sierra Streams Institute](#), a local watershed monitoring, research, and restoration group whose mission is to link water, science and people for the benefit of human and environmental health.



Feeding Families, Fueling Hope for 30 Years

Our July partner is [Interfaith Food Ministry](#), which works tirelessly and creatively to feed the hungry and reduce food insecurity in Nevada County. Last year IFM served 11,261 individuals! UUCM is one of the member communities of IFM. Several of our members are steady and generous volunteers. Watch for a new, and we hope regular, opportunity for UUCM members and friends to volunteer together to support Interfaith Food Ministry.

Your ongoing support for our partners allows us to make a meaningful difference together! Thank you.



**ORGANIC SHADE-GROWN FAIR
TRADE COFFEE AVAILABLE!**

By Joyce Banzhaf

Please consider buying *Just Coffee*, the organic, fair-trade coffee where all the profit goes to the coop workers in Mexico.

You may order coffee by emailing me at joycebanzhaf@yahoo.com and asking for Robusta (high caffeine), Arabica, or Decaf. Also, please specify 1 or 5 pounds, regular or dark roast, whole beans or ground. Coffee is \$9 for a one pound bag, and \$38 for a five pound bag. Decaf is \$10 for one pound, and \$42 for five pounds. Once I get 30 pounds of orders, I will send in the order.

Sunday Book Group

**UUCM SUNDAY BOOK GROUP -
FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1:00 PM**

Here is the list of upcoming Book Group selections for the next several months. Order early so you get them in time!

July 11 (note date change due to July 4th holiday) -
Meeting IN PERSON AT THERESA'S HOUSE! 418 Chapel St., GV
A Funny Kind of Paradise by Jo Owens
A first novel about end of life and caregivers that's guaranteed to challenge your preconceived notions and leave you uplifted. There is even a suggested music playlist. **Please** RSVP to Theresa at (530) 277-9294 if you plan to come!!

August 8 - *The Postscript Murders* by Ella Griffiths
This is our summer beach read.

September 5 - *The Transit Of Venus* by Shirley Hazzard
Start Looking now for this republished book.

October - *The Holy Men Trilogy* by Susan Trott
We have committed to reading and discussing the first book but we have the whole summer to delve into the others if we wish.

November - *Wintering, The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times* by Katherine May
A poignant and comforting meditation on the fallow periods of life, times when we must retreat to care for and repair ourselves.

All meetings will be scheduled every month on the first Sunday at 1:00 PM by Zoom and starting this month, in person. All are welcome to join for any or all discussions. Please contact Theresa Houtman at (530) 277-9294 or BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org if you have questions or wish to be added to the email list.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING FOR SUNDAY BOOK GROUP:
<https://zoom.us/j/92711118322?pwd=c2w5M0VoMEdvKzVLQkIFUzJ3S2Zndz09>

Meeting ID: 927 1111 8322
Passcode: 472984

Join by phone: 1 669 900 9128 (Same ID/passcode as above)



Community Connections – Online Activities

Staying Connected through Zoom

UUCM is partly open, but most meetings are still available via Zoom.

The Board has eased restrictions to allow outside gatherings of up to 20 people and gatherings within the Sanctuary of up to 10 people, social-distanced.

WEEKLY @ UUCM

Watch your email for links and phone numbers. If you need links, please contact 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 AND In-Person

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. In addition, a few groups are opening up to in-person meetings, observing social-distancing and wearing masks if some in the group are uncomfortable without. Please contact the individual organizers if you are interested in joining!

HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 11:00 AM



Here is the Zoom meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/92259246223?pwd=ZG10YlpxSkRHcDkxaGRSMWV1enVsdz09>

This month we will delve into ethics. Where do they come from; what is the value of having an ethical approach; what do we do if we are interacting with someone who isn't ethical?

There are many sources of information about ethics and you can spend hours looking into the topic. Here is an article from the American Humanist Association about the human basis of laws and ethics:

<https://americanhumanist.org/what-is-humanism/human-basis-laws-ethics/>

Often the question about the difference between ethics and morals arises in these discussions. Here's a brief discussion about the differences.:

https://www.diffen.com/difference/Ethics_vs_Morals

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

WALKING GROUP

Tuesdays: Wolf Creek Trail, meet at the Northstar Mine Parking Lot, 7:30 AM. Thursdays: meet at 418 Chapel St, GV at 7:30 AM for local walk with social time afterward. Well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome. Please contact Theresa Houtman at Walking@uugrassvalley.org to get on the list for walks.

SINGING MEDITATION CIRCLE - VIA ZOOM

First Thursdays, 7-8:30 PM

Contact SingingMeditation@uugrassvalley.org

WOMEN'S CIRCLE – IN PERSON?! LET'S PLAN! SECOND MONDAYS, 6:00 PM

All UUCM women (and friends!) are invited to any Women's Circle gathering. Come make connections with other UUCM women, and have a few laughs, share stories and concerns. 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. You'll get monthly updates and reminders of our upcoming meetings... and you can help plan our first in-person (outdoor) gathering in 16 months!

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

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

Contact Jo Waters if you'd like to find out more! familyministry@uugrassvalley.org

Easy Breezy Summer of FUUn:

By Jo Waters, UUCM

Your Family Ministry Team has planned an exciting summer of fun activities for ALL ages including monthly Zoom cooking classes and Hikes for All Ages.

To register for any event, contact Jo Waters at: jowaters@hotmail.com

Once you register for an activity, you will be sent the details for the activity, and each family unit will receive a Summer Scrapbook after their initial registration. Then, you'll get a new Scrapbook Page after each event you attend.

UPCOMING SUMMER FUUN:

July 10 at 8:30 AM – Hike at Empire Mine led by Beth Rose

Friday, July 23 at 4:00 PM – "Happy Hour for All Ages" Cooking Class by Kathryn Young

July 31--Hike in the tunnels of the Historic Donner Pass led by John Burnside (time TBD)

Be sure to watch for more details and August offerings through UUCM general emails.

Three Sisters' PUUmpkin Patch

By Rene Wiley

Spend time relaxing with friends at the Three Sisters' PUUmpkin Patch, a children's RE class garden project that is growing in spirit with the traditional planting of squash, corn, and beans.

The space is held in the Wiley family's back garden with a chance to visit and engage in multi-gen connection. We value our elders, we value the children, we value their families. Come share and grow with us! Contact Renemarie@gmail.com to secure a spot and get directions.

Thank you, Jo and Scottie, for donating old blue jeans as planters for our fabulous hard-shelled gourd plants and sunflowers!

To find out more about the indigenous planting tradition, enjoy this chapter from the book *Braiding Sweet Grass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

<https://earthlingopinion.wordpress.com/2018/07/06/full-chapter-the-three-sisters/>

We meet at the the Three Sisters' PUUmpkin Patch every other Wednesday evening and one Saturday per month.

UPCOMING PUUMPKIN PATCH DATES:

Wednesday, July 7th at 6:30 PM

Wednesday, July 21st at 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 24th at 9:30 AM

UUCM KIDS CONNECTION - RE PROGRAM ON SUMMER BREAK

Lindsay and Walt will start up **59Kids Connection** group again next fall with excitement and options for connection! Until then, please enjoy the many other summer activities we have planned. Contact familyministry@uugrassvalley.org with any questions.



NEW EMERGING ADULT TEAM!

Are you a UU Young Adult (18-35ish)? If so, we invite

you to join us, The UU Young Adult Revival Network (YARN), for a worship service centered and designed by and for young adults.

As UU young adults, our spiritual needs are often different and not met in our everyday lives or by our congregations. This space will focus on our needs as we Circle Round YA Community for worship.



Voices From Near and Far

The Soul Matters themes we use each month from September through June give us lenses through which to examine the current issues in our lives. UUCM subscribes to resources for Sunday Services, materials for our Soul Matters Circles (small groups of 6-8 who meet monthly for thoughtful reflection and connection), and ideas and resources for learning, growing and playing for use with our youngest members.

During the summer each year, the UUCM worship team chooses its own summer theme. Two summers ago, we focused on the Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles. Last summer, our services lifted up the Sources from which Unitarian Universalism draws wisdom and guidance.

This summer, the UUCM services will unfold within the theme of "Voices Near and Far," alternating local voices with the voices of Unitarian Universalists outside of our area.

After a July 4 service with Rev. Kevin, we'll launch the summer with a July 11 service in the Park - our first on-site gathering in almost exactly 16 months. It will be a celebration of community above all, celebrating nearness in ways we have not been able to celebrate for a long time.

Over the warm summer weeks to follow, we'll hear from:

- The Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson, a seminary colleague of Rev. Kevin and recent Berry Street Co-Lecturer who serves the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Fork in Bridgehampton, NY.
- UUCM Members and Friends who will share their learnings and insights from these pandemic times.
- The Rev. Meg Barnhouse, the wise, witty, and musical senior minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, Texas, and the author of several books, including *Did I Say That Out Loud? Musings from a Questioning Soul*.
- Our own wise and wonderful Rev. Karyn Packard – not to be missed! Outside in the park!

- The Rev. Leela Rajani Sinha, a lifelong UU and now an entrepreneurial community minister, founder of the Intensives Institute and professional supporter of people with big personalities in embracing and using their power for good.
- UUCM's own Gail Johnson Vaughan, drawing on her deep thoughtfulness and the power of the learnings from the book *Caste*, by Isabel Wilkerson.
- The women of the UU Hysterical Society. (Yes, you read that correctly.)

Then we'll wrap up the summer with the return of Rev. Kevin's presence in the pulpit Labor Day weekend, before we kick off the new church/community year with another celebratory service in the park on Sept 12.

It looks to be a wonderful summer of services.

And to give you a preview, here are the Soul Matter Themes for next year:

These 2021-22 themes focus on our relationship with our times, on some of the central work and spiritual practices needed during this period of radical change, challenge, crisis and opportunity.

They will explore the challenges and adventure of...

September: Embracing Possibility

October: Cultivating Relationship

November: Holding History

December: Opening to Joy

January: Living with Intention

February: Widening the Circle

March: Renewing Faith

April: Awakening

May: Nurturing Beauty

June: Celebrating Blessings



Soul Matters

July 2021 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

JULY 2021

Please note: Most meetings and services are held by Zoom until further notice, but a few are opening up for in person opportunities: Watch for links and meeting numbers through your email from UUGeneral or the meeting hosts and updates on in person events.

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
1	Thursday	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' Men's Group Soul Matters Facilitators Meeting Singing Meditation Circle
2	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check-In
4	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle
5	Monday		Office Closed
6	Tuesday	7:30 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine Caring Team Meeting
7	Wednesday	8:30 AM 11:00 AM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Humanism Discussion Group Worship Team Retreat UUCM PUUmpkin Patch Choir
8	Thursday	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' Men's Group Writers' Group Finance Committee Meeting
9	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check-In
11	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM	Sunday Service at Condon Park Drop-in Support Circle Sunday Book Group
12	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Gathering
13	Tuesday	7:30 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine Challenging White Privilege Reading Group

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
14	Wednesday	8:30 AM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Ministry Council Meeting Choir
15	Thursday	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 5:00 PM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' Men's Group Social Justice Meeting
16	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check-In
17	Saturday	8:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party
18	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle
20	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
21	Wednesday	8:30 AM 3:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Board of Trustees Meeting UUCM PUUmpkin Patch Choir
22	Thursday	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' Men's Group Writers' Group
23	Friday	10:00 AM 4:00 PM	Pet Loss Support Group Friday Afternoon Check-In
24	Saturday	9:30 AM	UUCM PUUmpkin Patch
25	Sunday	10:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Service Drop-in Support Circle
27	Tuesday	7:30 AM 4:00 PM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine Challenging White Privilege Task Force
28	Wednesday	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Group Choir
29	Thursday	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' Men's Group
30	Friday	4:00 PM	Friday Afternoon Check-In



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945
Telephone: 530.274.1675 Website: 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

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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

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

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