

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

October 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

• • See Page 10 for Kid-Centered Activities • • •

OCTOBER THEME: Cultivating Relationship

October 3 We Get There Side by Side

Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Jeff Stone, Worship Assoc.

We introduce and enter the new theme of “cultivating relationship” with story, song, reflection and invitation. How in the world do we cultivate relationship now?

October 10 In Respectful and Right Relationship:

Beyond the Words

Shelley Covert, Spokesperson for the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, with Rev. Kevin and UUCM's Nisenan Task Force, Jeff Stone, WA

UUCM members have chosen to include in UUCM's budget a contribution to the Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program, a community generated initiative to support and uplift the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, the original peoples of this land, through their tribally guided 501(c)(3) nonprofit CHIRP (California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project).

Why?

This Sunday, by our collective presence and our willingness to hear, we invest ourselves in and seek to live a respectful and right relationship with the people whose ancestors knew this land as “home” long before any of the rest of us arrived. We seek here to cultivate the relationship between two groups of people.

October 17 Me, Myself and I:

Cultivating our relationships with our self

Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Members/Friends, Jeff Stone, WA

How does living through a pandemic influence our relationship with ourselves, whether our pandemic home is shared with others or we live alone? A tapestry of members and friends reflect on this most intimate of internal journeys.

October 24 Play Cultivates Relationships

Wendy Wernigg & Chuck Champlin, WAs

As we continue to explore what it means to cultivate relationships, join Worship Associates Wendy and Chuck for a day of fun and games. We will get to know each other a little better with a cafe style service where we play, explore and share together.

October 31 What is Remembered, Lives

Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Beth Karow, Worship Assoc.

All Hallows Eve, Samhain, Día de Muertos, All Souls, and All Saints days invite us each autumn to remember our ancestors and our beloveds who have died. These tender days on the way to winter even open a window to working on our relationships with those who have gone before us. (It's never too late!) In a service steeped in ritual and music, we will remember with honesty, gratitude, courage, and hope.

We are hoping that local virus realities will allow us to hold this service on-site somewhere, so that we may together build an altar of memory with your photographs and mementos of those loved ones you are remembering this year. Watch for details as we get closer.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Kevin now has Zoom office hours from 1:30 to 2:00 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

<https://zoom.us/j/91942233874?pwd=UlhBaXpFQnNCVklzSlpDQWNXeGhPQT09>

Meeting ID: 919 4223 3874 • Passcode: 300295

Or by phone: Dial by your location
+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
(Same meeting ID and passcode as above)

Please contact Rev. Kevin or our Office Administrator to schedule appointments for other times.

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

Cultivating Relationship

Mother Teresa, the Albanian Roman Catholic nun who for 40 years ministered to the needs of the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying of Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), said, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

Mother Teresa was reflecting on war and peace at the time, but today I'm taking in her words and wisdom in the light of our October theme: cultivating relationship.

On October 4th we'll invite our reflection on various kinds of relationships, and then, over the course of the month, we will focus services through the lenses of our relationship(s!) with our self, our individual relationships with others, our relationships to other communities as a community, and our relationship to those significant figures in our life who have died.

I hear Mother Teresa's words in my heart with each kind of relationship I can think of, be it with the Earth, the incredible life upon it, or the various kinds and layers of human relationships that form and hold and challenge us – "If we have no peace" – whether internal or external peace – "it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

I'm taking it on as my mantra for the month (mostly for the internal peace, I confess) to remind myself and at the same time to commit myself to wrestle with the question of what "belong" means in this case and in these times, for me. Truly, it's an introvert's koan!

When I think I can find peace of heart and mind entirely by myself – "We belong to each other."

When I am frustrated that a person in the store is maskless despite the signs everywhere naming the mask requirement,



and when so many people have their masks pulled down below their noses in one section of the store that I leave without what I came for – "We belong to each other."

When I don't understand how my neighbor could possibly be so thrilled and inspired by a political ideology that I find so destructive – "We belong to each other."

When my patience and graciousness – okay, my Midwestern niceness – has worn thin and I'm about to snap in response to someone's anxious and incessant acting out behavior (don't worry, I'm not referring to you) – "We belong to each other."

When I'm not sure what to do, or what the answer is – "We belong to each other."

I've named elsewhere the powerful hunger so many of you have expressed for getting together in the same space, and your worry that a sense of community connection is fraying at the edges as the pandemic sequestering extends into these months. Cultivating relationship is the right theme for this month.

If we indeed belong to each other, what does that belonging ask of us now? How do we cultivate relationship in these times, whatever the current safety protocol? Is it really possible to find peace by remembering that "We belong to each other"? What do you think, what do you feel? How and where will you cultivate relationship?

with care,
– Rev. Kevin

Board of Trustees



*Pam Kisor, President,
UUCM Board of Trustees*

This past month has continued to provide UUCM with many challenges. It's been smoky and hot, and COVID has been on the rise. As a community we have struggled to find creative ways to support each other and to thrive. Our desire to enjoy each other's company in-person was further challenged when we were unable to hold our much anticipated September service in the park. So – a difficult period for sure. But, as the air clears and COVID numbers begin to drop in our county, we are looking ahead to new opportunities to meet again in person. We are exploring the possibility of meeting in larger spaces that allow for social distancing as well as providing protective cover from sun or rain. We are also thinking creatively about how to hold social gatherings that will provide some of the human contact we are all missing. Hold on for more on that in the future ...

At our Board meeting this month we focused on progressing with our Board goals while keeping in mind the challenges our community continues to face. Our meeting included exploring new directions for endowment, developing a new policy for establishing Justice Task forces, and deciding on how best to engage the community in helping with the many volunteer tasks required to effectively support the work of UUCM.

To those ends, the Board had a very insightful Zoom meeting with Phil Hart from his new home in Michigan. He provided the Board with some great ideas to enhance the growth of the UUCM endowment fund. Phil has provided his expertise and leadership for endowment during his time at UUCM and his creative ideas for the future were much appreciated.

The Board also discussed the draft of a new policy for the establishment of UUCM task forces. This is a timely matter as UUCM will soon be considering the formation of the 'Stop the Mine' Task Force. The Justice Ministry Team and the Board are moving together in developing and approving the Task Force Policy. At the same time Jim Bair is working with Justice Ministry to move the Stop the Mine Task Force forward to a Community-wide vote. Expect to see more action on this task force in October.

And, last but not least, the Board is working toward the establishment of a Sabbatical Committee to plan for the upcoming minister's sabbatical in 2022. We have a full year before Kevin's sabbatical begins, but experience has taught us that a plan needs to be in place well before this event. We are confident that we will be prepared – and that Kevin will enjoy the benefit of a much needed time for reflection without worry about the well-being of his beloved community in his absence. We hope that you all will support this goal as we move forward with our plans.

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: Taylor Carey, Janet Dunstan
& Sharon Walters

UUCM Committees:

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

Board meetings are open to all members and friends starting at 10:30 AM on the third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are currently being held in the UUCM sanctuary as well as on Zoom. An email announcing the meeting and a Zoom link will be sent to the community each month, one week prior to the meeting

If you wish to address the board, please give at least two days notice so the agenda timing can be adjusted.



*Tom Wernigg, Chair
UUCM Lay Pastoral Care Team*

Lay Pastoral Caring Team

WHAT IF...

You could meet with someone who has respect for your spiritual needs, who cares about your distress, who is a part of the UUCM community, and would hold your situation in strict confidence?

WHAT IF...

You could explain everything to someone who wants to hear the whole thing all the way through, the entire range of your experience, and you could finish your thoughts without interruption?

WHAT IF...

You didn't have to hear about how so-and-so handled it such-and-such a way, or get any other well-intentioned but sometimes irrelevant advice?

WHAT IF...

You had compassionate support and the time to talk completely through an issue?

LAY PASTORAL CARE IS...

UUCM offers two kinds of organized care, beyond the beautiful person-to-person care members offer each other:

- 1) **The Care Team or Parish Care Team**, currently led by Gwen Eymann, **offers practical short-term support to UUCM members during times of need** and when support will help: meals for a time, rides (as COVID-19 allows), grocery shopping, simple errands, etc. The Care Team also sends cards of care, joy, and sorrow and to celebrate members' birthdays.
- 2) **UUCM's Lay Pastoral Care Team (LPCT)**, currently led by Tom Wernigg, **offers a confidential, caring presence to congregants undergoing stressful life challenges**, the kind of caring presence hinted at in the questions above.

Lay Pastoral Care Team members are trained to listen with sensitivity and supportive empathy, to maintain confidentiality, and to companion a person on their journey without advising or "fixing." They commit to be available for weekly caring conversations of up to one hour, and for the

duration of a congregant's stressful challenge or until a time of closure arises naturally.

Lay Pastoral Care Team members are recruited by, report to, and serve as an extension of the Minister in our community. UUCM members may contact Rev. Kevin or Tom any time to request this kind of lay pastoral care, or Rev. Kevin or Tom may learn of someone for whom a caring presence might be beneficial, and so may reach out.

We will be introducing our Lay Pastoral Care Team members in the Mt. Chalice over the next several months, so that you know who they are: Tom Wernigg, Carol Richey, Corrie Silva, and George Dunstan. They are wonderful, kind, heart-centered persons, and we are very fortunate for their caring and skillful presence and their willingness to give of themselves in this way.



*THIS MONTH, MEET
CAROL RICHEY*

"My name is Carol Richey and I am new to Unitarian Universalism with UUCM being my introductory experience. As an Interfaith Minister, trained to serve in practical ministry outside of church walls, I was called to chaplaincy working with hospice and hospitalized patients and families. Now retired, I serve in a variety of spiritual care roles as a volunteer for Hospice of the Foothills.

The opportunity to offer spiritual care to our UUCM members in support of Rev. Kevin's ministry is an honor. If you yearn to share parts of yourself and experiences with life's sometimes tangled weaving that are too heavy to hold on your own, I am here to witness your healing journey and offer a safe chamber for fearless honesty."

FACING A CHALLENGE IN YOUR LIFE?

Please reach out to Rev. Kevin (minister@uugrassvalley.org or (231) 883-1058) or Tom Wernigg (tomwernigg@gmail.com or (530) 575-8766) when you are facing a difficult challenge in your life, and if you feel that a companioning presence from one of our team members might be helpful to you.



Caring Team

Gwen Eymann
Chair, UUCM Parish Care Team



B & G Team

Wally Holtan
Chair, Building & Grounds Team

In these past couple months we have seen a resurgence of Covid cases across our Nevada County community. It affected UUCM when two in-person Sunday Services in the park were cancelled and it has affected others in much more profound ways. Please be careful with your health and the health of others.

We are entering the autumn, the air is cooler and the days are shorter, but fire season is not over yet. If you have not signed up for Code Red Alert you can do so by going to: <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/2713/Emergency-Alerts> There is a new system that has established evacuation zone areas; you can find out your evacuation zone by going to: community.zonehaven.com Know your zone! Be Safe. Be Ready.

The Parish Care Team has volunteers who are happy to reach out with phone calls, to send cards, to shop or run essential errands. If you or someone you know has need for any of these services, please let us know how we can be of help.

Pet loss support is available through UUA Animal Ministry. If you are hurting and need-ing support for the loss or illness of a pet, this group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00 PM pacific time. The zoom link to join the meeting is: tinyurl.com/UUAMChaplain

-Gwen

PARISH CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

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

PLEASE CONTACT:

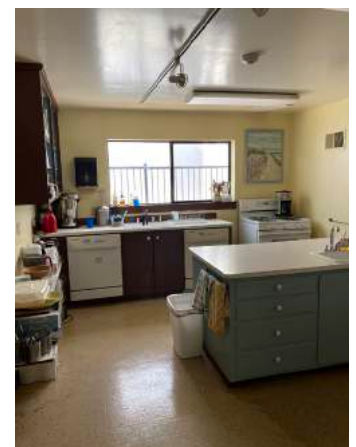
Caring@uugrassvalley.org or gweneymann@gmail.com

A big thanks to all the volunteers who showed up for the September UUCM work day. We had a nice cool day and accomplished a number of projects. Connie, Gwen and Kern worked on yard maintenance and trimming of the shrubs that needed our attention. George repaired a broken back flow valve that was leaking in our drip system. Martha Turner and Leslie Champlin did the first real deep cleaning of the kitchen in over a year; they even washed the kitchen window on the inside and out. Paul Elias and Kern then spent time in our basement repairing the stairs and doing some cleaning and organizing that needed to be addressed for months. Overall, we had a great day and it is always fun seeing people on an in-person basis.

On the long term projects the upstairs bathroom is essentially done. I want to thank Gwen, Martha and Martha's husband Pete for all the time they spent on this project. It looks fantastic.

As we move on into the fall, I hope the cooler weather continues to become the norm. I am looking forward to our October workday. Hopefully, we will be getting ready to have some in-person services. Remember, we are always looking for extra volunteers to help us keep our building and grounds in the best shape we can.

-Wally





Art & Aesthetics

Robin Hart, Chair,
Art & Aesthetics Team

In September the team met over zoom and we further discussed various kinds of things we might do to make the back garden area a visually pleasing and spiritual outdoor space. This seems all the more necessary since we won't be having indoor activities or services anytime soon with the Delta variant and high Covid numbers in Nevada County.

There were suggestions for having some seating with umbrellas, a small water feature, stone paths with designs in them like a labyrinth, sculpture, and some growing plants, maybe in some pots. We have an extremely limited budget and there are concerns about planting anything that isn't really drought tolerant or is high maintenance, considering the current weather patterns and drought conditions this year. Team member Shanti Emerson has a contact outside the church who does estate sales and thought it would be a good resource for buying umbrellas, the stone benches, and the water feature at a reasonable price. If we do stone designs in the back area, we should make sure that we have weed cloth to cover the area underneath the rock, to reduce weed maintenance.

Since the Building and Grounds Team and Wally Holtan have their hands full with maintaining the existing building and grounds, the A&A Team are going to start doing the planning for the back Garden. When Phil Horning, our member who has landscape experience is available, it was agreed that we should get some ideas and plans drawn up that could be presented to B&G, Rev. Kevin and the UUCM Board.

This year we will again try to engage the congregation in projects that are spiritually creative and hopefully can have some in-person small groups to work on these.

Stay well and keep a rainbow in your hearts!

- Robin



Pass the Plate

Each month, UUCM partners with a local organization that is working to create a more just, equitable, compassionate and sustainable world. UUCM's Justice Team makes the connections and the decision about each year's list of partners.

Thanks to generous UUCM members and friends who made donations in August, [Community Beyond Violence](#) will receive **\$709.25!** Thank you, everyone, for your continuing generosity!

We are currently completing September collections for [Color Me Human](#), whose mission is to "Celebrate, Elevate, Educate, Advocate to create a safe, equitable world for Black, Indigenous, People of Color and LGBTQ folks." There is still time to give via UUCM's website - uugrassvalley.org - through Sept 30.



Our October partner is [Habitat for Humanity](#), which brings local people together to build homes, communities and hope. Habitat for

Humanity envisions a community where everyone has the opportunity to have a safe, decent, affordable place to live.

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

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.

Justice News

By Keith Johnson, Co-Chair, Justice Team

Pandemic? What pandemic? Justice is alive and well at UUCM. On September 9 a hearty band of 13 UUCM'ers participated in the first UUCM Work Day at IFM. We cleaned solar panels, chipped ice off the freezer, swept and mopped the floors, beat the rugs, wiped off the grocery carts, and sorted food. A good time was had by all. Our next work day is Tuesday, October 12 at 2:00 PM. If you would like to join us please contact Keith Johnson at kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com.



The annual SYRCL Clean Up was held on Saturday September 18. As always UUCM members helped support the event. Eight of us worked the site at Champion Mine Road and Newtown Road. Our haul was unique – a box of potatoes, hot tub cleanser bottles, and much more. See you next year.



This year's SYRCL Clean Up crew from UUCM included Linda and Phil Horning, Carol Kuczora, Keith Johnson, Ellen Van Fleet, Mary Pickett, Jasper and Jo Waters, Warren, our SYRCL leader in the pink shirt, and Bob Miller (behind the camera.)

This month the Justice Team will begin the process of evaluating our existing task forces. The team will recommend whether the task forces should be renewed for another year, with the final decision to be made by the congregation at the January Business Meeting. More on that later.

The proposed "Stop the Mine" Task Force is raring to go – see Bob Miller's article on the next page.



Justice Warrior of the Month: Joyce Banzhaf

By Steve Temple, Justice Team Member

Joyce Banzhaf began her justice life as an elementary and junior high school student reading about Gandhi, Africa and African American apartheid/racial concerns. That background led "Joycie" to pursue a health educator career and activities in civil rights and antiwar movements. After retirement, she has focused on Alternatives to Violence (prison and local school programs), indigenous water rights (present at Grandmothers' pipeline protest in Minnesota), and support for Mexican coffee farmers' free trade by hosting "Café Justo" for UUCM.

Joycie is also active in our UUCM Mine Task Force and BLM, and is planning to serve as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Grass Valley Police Dept. Asked what justice work does for her, Joyce replied that justice work gives meaning to our lives. She says her efforts with Alternatives to Violence, with its focus on others (students and inmates) allows her to experience more openness and generosity, and she has gained self-esteem from contributing to others in need.

*"Justice is what love looks like
in public."*

– Cornell West

Justice Team – Task Force News

Task Force Updates

By Bob Miller, Co-Chair, Justice Team

JUSTICE NIGHT – STOP THE MINE TEAM

Members of the proposed “Stop the Mine” task force hosted a UUCM Justice Night Zoom meeting on Thursday 16th. 32 people attended the meeting, demonstrating there is much support for this campaign within UUCM.

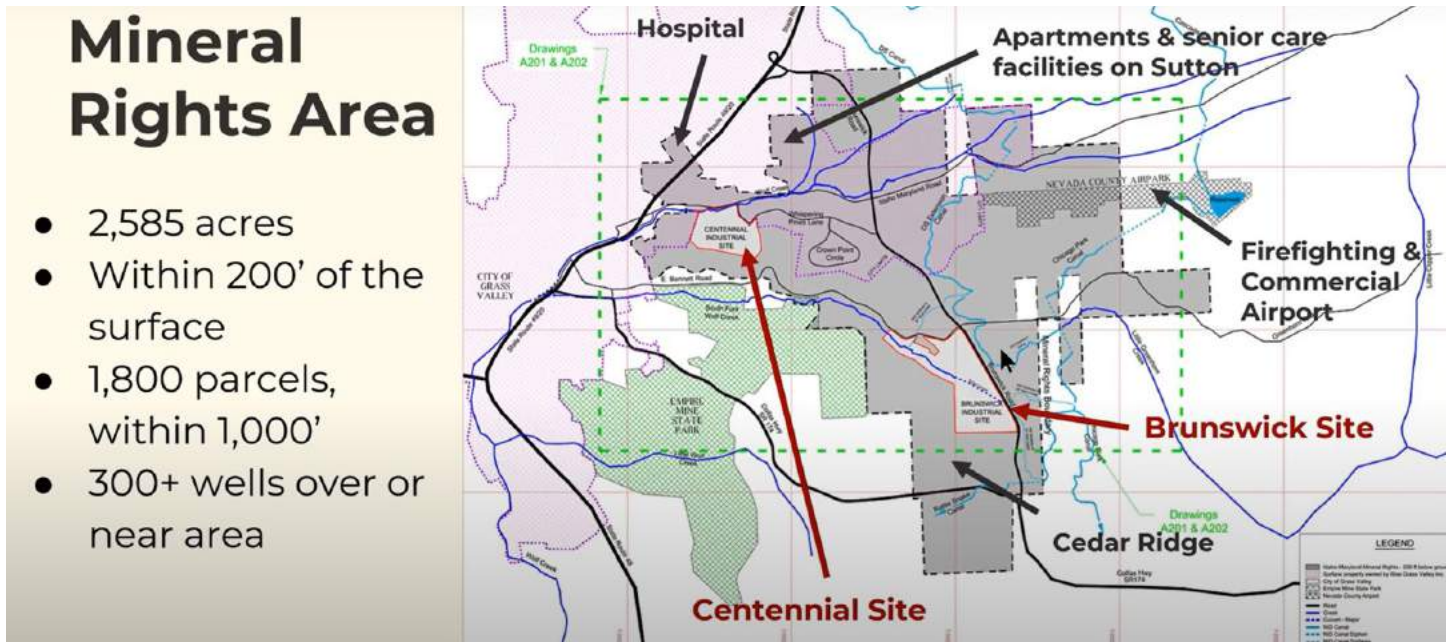
Jim Bair, leader of the proposed task force, summarized the impact of the mine, and introduced Dr. Christine Newsom and members of the team. She gave a compelling talk about the mine and its impacts on public health. Other members of the team (Joyce Banzhaf, Steve Temple, Martha Turner, Marion Blair, Jim Perkins and Anita Wald-Tutt) each presented different anticipated impacts. The mine must be approved by the Board of Supervisors of Nevada County.

The team wants to become a UUCM Task Force. There are defined steps to get there. It requires support of the congregation. Those at this meeting demonstrated their determination to stop the mine. The success of this meeting suggests they have every chance of becoming a task force.

EXPANDED MAP LEGEND

- Idaho-Maryland Mineral Rights - 200 ft below ground surface
- Surface property owned by Rise Grass Valley Inc.
- City of Grass Valley
- Empire Mine State Park
- Nevada County Airport
- Road
- Creek
- Culvert - Major
- NID Canal
- NID Canal Siphon
- NID Canal Spillway

Here's a map of the proposed Rise Gold Mine showing the 2,585 acres to be mined and the proximity to medical facilities, homes and businesses:



UPDATE FROM INTERFAITH FOOD MINISTRY

IFM's 4th annual Hunger Run will take place both in person at Alta Sierra Country Club, and from virtually anywhere! The in-person event will take place on Saturday morning, October 30, at 8:00 AM. Be there by 7:00 AM to register. The virtual option will take place over several weeks, wherever you feel like running. Contact Naomi Cabral at IFM. Her email address is: Naomidd.IFM@gmail.com.

Nevada County Food and Toy Run has been cancelled. IFM will let eligible families know that IFM can provide their holiday meals. IFM will once again offer Sponsor A Family opportunities, beginning November 15th. Your donation of \$20 will provide Thanksgiving groceries for one family. Watch for your opportunity to help families in need.



Meanwhile, our world famous carbon footprint SHOE made an appearance at the Nevada City First Friday Artwalk

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, socially-distanced and masked.

WEEKLY @ UUCM

Watch your email for links and phone numbers. If you need links, please contact uucmOnline@uugrassvalley.org

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 AM VIA ZOOM



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!

SINGING MEDITATION CIRCLE - VIA ZOOM

First Thursdays, 7-8:30 PM

Contact SingingMeditation@uugrassvalley.org

HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 11:00 AM

The UUCM Humanist Discussion group is via Zoom this month. Here's the link to join us: <https://zoom.us/j/92259246223?pwd=ZG10YlpXSkrRHcDkxaGRSMWV1enVsdz09>



Join us for what is always a lively and interesting discussion of a topic from a Humanist perspective.

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, 8:00 AM. Thursdays: meet at 418 Chapel St, GV at 8:00 AM for local walk with outdoor social time afterward. Well-behaved, leashed

dogs welcome. Please contact Theresa Houtman at Walking@uugrassvalley.org to get on the list.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE – 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. We have been doing Zoom meetings for the last year and a half and are continuing due to the Delta variant, smoky air and hot weather. Watch for updates through our group email list.

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.

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 OR jowaters@hotmail.com

Fall is in the Air!

By Jo Waters, UUCM

The month of October is generally when I start really believing that Summer has gone, and Fall has arrived. And although the fire season has not ended, I am grateful for cooler weather, clearer air, and the bright color of Fall leaves. This month we explore the theme of *Cultivating Relationship*, with ourselves, with our friends and family, and with our UUCM community. Unfortunately, our eagerly awaited Harvest Feast has been postponed due to covid and the difficulties of staying safe while eating together. If it becomes possible at any point this Fall, we will put it back on the calendar. What is on the calendar for October are the following events:



YOUNG & EMERGING ADULTS

For our Young Adults/Emerging Adults, many of whom no longer live at home, we mailed care packages in September. If you did not receive one and would like to be on the list, contact Jo Waters. One of the youngest Young Adults, Jasper Waters, participated in a Tapestry of Faith service on September 26. If you missed it, check the sermon archive at uugrassvalley.org.

Other offerings in the wider community for this age group include the Young Adult Revival Network (YARN) at yarn.org and the Free Radical Ministry.

As always, watch the eChalice for details and updates. And, new this month, the eChalice will also include selections from the Soul Matters RE Curriculum which can be done at home.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

For families looking for community service opportunities, consider joining the UUCM workday at Interfaith Food Ministry on Tuesday 10/12 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. This is a time in which only UU folks and IFM staff are in the building, so all ages are welcome. Late arrival is also fine in order to accommodate school schedules; just let Jo Waters know at jowaters@hotmail.com or 530-414-6941.

THREE SISTERS' PUUMPKIN PATCH

Wednesday, October 13 at 6:00 PM is a PUUmpkin Patch gathering for all ages at the home of Rene Wiley (email renemarie@gmail.com or call 925-325-8395 for the gate code).

FAMILY FUN OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday, October 27, the 2nd Annual Pumpkin Altar and Costume Contest is to be held outside at UUCM at 5:00 PM.

An outdoor movie will be shown the last weekend of October on Saturday, October 30 at 6:00 PM at the home of Rene Wiley—we will start with the classic "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" and perhaps end with another Halloween flick for the older youngsters.

The Unitarian Universalist Association
presents:

FREE RADICAL MINISTRY

A campus / gap-year / post-bridging online
ministry for emerging adults

INCLUDING VIRTUAL WORSHIP
EXPERIENCES, PERSONAL CONNECTIONS
(HANG TIME), AND SOCIAL / SOCIAL
JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES IN A UU EMERGING
ADULT GROUP SETTING

Sign up:
<https://forms.gle/QPkCbVvTTZsQfE86>

Full Community Education



Soul Matters:

CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS

Pandemic time is teaching us so many things about relationships.

It's undone our assumptions about work, calling into question the worth of "going into the office" and exposing how we pass most of the economic pain down to those on the so-called lowest rungs of the ladder.

It's clarifying that there is no real replacement for in-person connection, and certainly reminding us how precious human touch really is.

Our friendships were weeded out and realigned, inviting us to now prioritize those that are essential over those that are instrumental.

We noticed how much costuming is required of us, not just making it clear how sweats are so much more comfortable than suits and fashionable heels, but also helping us notice how insidiously our "required gear" ranks us and separates us from each other.

Routines once forsaken were welcomed back in and suddenly the sacredness of unhurried habits like sit-down dinners, dog walks and making our own bread reasserted themselves.

The promise and precariousness of the common good has been placed center stage, reminding us that when people aren't willing to make small sacrifices for the larger whole, pandemics don't end.

We've learned and are learning all this because Covid brought so much to a halt. It put on the brakes and made us pause. We've had time to look around. To notice.

And maybe that's the most important thing we've learned about cultivating relationships, the central thing we need to remember when we are finally able to move on: To go slow.

How long has it been, friends, since we carefully considered our relationship to speed? A slower pace. A quieter way of moving. A more careful way of dancing with each other. It's the secret so rarely mentioned, and so often overlooked. Simply put, relationships are really hard to build and care for when we are running.

May this month help us hold on to that. May it be one of the lessons we remember most. May we all be blessed by the sacredness of moving at a snail's pace.

SOUL MATTERS THEMES FOR 2021-2022

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

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 couple months.

October 3 - *The Holy Men Trilogy* by Susan Trott

In a hermitage at the top of a mountain lives the Holy Man. Every summer a trail of pilgrims lines up to see him, hoping for words of wisdom that will heal their lives. Each chapter of this charming book tells the tale of a pilgrim and his problem.

November 7 - *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 now, also 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=c2w5M0VoMEduKzVLQkIFUzJ3S2Zndz09>

Meeting ID: 927 1111 8322

Passcode: 472984

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

October 2021 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
OCTOBER 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.

3	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Drop-in Support Circle
		1:00 PM	Sunday Book Group
		7:00 PM	Choir
5	Tuesday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
		4:00 PM	Caring Team Meeting
6	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		10:30 AM	Humanism Discussion Group
		4:30 PM	Worship Team Meeting
7	Thursday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		8:00 AM	Men's Group via Zoom
		7:00 PM	Singing Meditation Circle
10	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Drop-in Support Circle
		7:00 PM	Choir
11	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Gathering
12	Tuesday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
13	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		4:30 PM	Ministry Council Meeting
		6:00 PM	UUCM PUUmpkin Patch
14	Thursday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		8:00 AM	Men's Group via Zoom
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		2:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
16	Saturday	8:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party
17	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Drop-in Support Circle
		7:00 PM	Choir

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION
19	Tuesday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
20	Wednesday	10:30 AM	Open Board of Trustees Meeting
21	Thursday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		8:00 AM	Men's Group via Zoom
		5:00 PM	Justice Team Meeting
24	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Drop-in Support Circle
		7:00 PM	Choir
26	Tuesday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
27	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Men's Group
		5:00 PM	2nd Annual Pumpkin Altar & Costume Contest
28	Thursday	8:00 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		8:00 AM	Men's Group via Zoom
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
30	Saturday	6:00 PM	Family Ministry Movie Night
31	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Drop-in Support Circle



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

UUCM STAFF MEMBERS

Reverend Kevin Tarsa, *Minister*

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

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

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