

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

July 2022

UPCOMING SERVICES

Our Sunday Services are at 10:30 AM in person
and also via Zoom.

*If you are feeling unwell or have been exposed to COVID,
please attend online.*

TO JOIN THE ZOOM SERVICE AT 10:30 AM 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 6833 or 1 408 638 0968

Meeting ID: 746 107 217 # • Passcode: 688010

• • See Page 14 for Kid-Centered Activities • •

SUMMER THEME: What Do UU Principles Ask of Us?

July 3 **Principled and Purposeful:**
What does it mean to be UU in these times?
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Cheryl Morris, Worship Assoc.

We launch our summer theme – asking what our Unitarian Universalist Principles ask of us – by asking what it means to be Unitarian Universalist in these times. And how and why does being UU matter? Freshly informed by the gatherings of UU ministers and UU members from across the country just one week earlier, we'll look ahead with principles and with purpose for the spiritual center of this tradition.

July 10 **UU Principle #1: Let's Start at the Beginning**
Lindsay Dunckel, Worship Leader

The first principle might just be the bedrock of UUism: It calls us to accept, way deep down, the inherent worth and dignity of every person. What does this look like when we put it into action? And how would people change if they knew we thought this of them? Join in while we explore this in story and song and ... real life.

July 17 **UU Principle #3: Care and Feeding of Spirit**
Cheryl Morris, Worship Leader,
Gail Johnson Vaughan, Worship Associate

The third principle calls for the acceptance of one another and the encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. UUCM members have a rich array of ways we feed our spirits. Join us as members weave a tapestry in response to the question: "What feeds your spirit?" Perhaps you will add a few dishes to your spiritual diet.

July 24 **UU Principle #4: Truth or Consequences**
Dr. Pete Sabey and Gail Johnson Vaughan,
Worship Leaders

The fourth principle calls for us to affirm and promote the free and responsible search for truth and meaning. How do we do that when living in an era fraught with untruths? And how do we find spiritual meaning amidst the daily assault on reason? No doubt you have wondered the same. Join us as we explore this provocative topic together.

July 31 **UU Principle #6: Peace, Liberty & Justice for All**
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Chuck Champlin, Worship Assoc.

Between the January 6 insurrection, a red/blue divide in the U.S., a rise in authoritarian tendencies, and Russia's war against Ukraine, a community, nation, or world of peace, liberty and justice all seem mighty far off. But as UUs, that's what we've promised to affirm and promote in our lives. How in the world do we do that now?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| Item | Page |
|--|-------|
| Upcoming Services | 1 |
| From the Minister | 2 |
| Board of Trustees | 3 |
| Stewardship | 4 |
| Membership | 4 |
| Welcome Mary Lindsay | 5 |
| Explore UUCM's New Website | 5 |
| Vote for Our Lives | 6 |
| Share the Plate Partner of the Month | 6 |
| Parish & Lay Pastoral Care Teams | 7 |
| Art and Aesthetics | 8 |
| Building and Grounds | 8 |
| Special Feature: Profile of Chuck Champlin | 9 |
| Justice News and Activities | 10-12 |
| Community Connections | 13 |
| UUCM Family Ministry | 14 |
| Full Community Education/Soul Matters | 15 |
| Sunday Book Group | 15 |
| Monthly Calendar | 16 |
| UUCM Contact Info and Office Hours | 17 |



Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

Dear ones,
In an effort to actually live the self-care I say is important, I am not writing a column this month. I will return to offering a reflection in the August Mt. Chalice.

With care

- Rev. Kevin



The Shared Pulpit

Got a Message in You?

After a pandemic hiatus, and in preparation for the sabbatical renewal times next year, Rev. Kevin will once again facilitate a lay sermon-writing seminar for a circle of 6-8 people.

Using *The Shared Pulpit* book and the rich and connective process developed by the Rev. Erika Hewitt, each person will gradually develop a complete sermon over eight sessions, with support, feedback and encouragement from the rest of the circle. Then, willing members will work with Worship Team members and our Music Director to develop a service around the sermon and its theme.

This will be a significant and meaningful commitment, as the group will meet in July, and then every two weeks for three hours July through September. The experience will function as both a space of learning and self-discovery and as a small-group ministry, building deep connections en route to deep expression in one's authentic voice. Our hope is that these sermons/services will then be offered on Sunday mornings, and so benefit the Community as well.

The group will find a mutual meeting time once the membership of the group is settled.

Intrigued? Interested? Have questions about it?

Please contact Rev. Kevin soon: minister@uugrassvalley.org

REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

*Rev. Kevin's office hours are currently held
by appointment.*

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





*Pam Kisor, President,
UUCM Board of Trustees*

Board of Trustees

July marks the beginning of our new fiscal year and the beginning of my second year as your Board of Trustees President. When I think back to all of the challenges of this past year (and all that I needed to learn as your president) I am somewhat surprised to find myself feeling comfortable and looking forward to this new year. Because of the many challenges we have faced UUCM has become more flexible and adaptable as a church. We have learned to flex with the health and safety needs of our community and have supported each other through the challenges of climate change and its effects on our environment.

We know that there will be new challenges, but we also know that we have developed some new coping skills to help meet those challenges. And, though I'm sure it is premature to say this, at this moment in time it feels like we are in a lull, enjoying a bit of normalcy. It may be the calm before the next storm, but maybe it will last for a bit while we catch our breath. I am hoping for the latter and feeling positive about the board and our work for this coming year.

Adding to my optimism is a sense of relief that I begin my second year with a consistent and experienced board. Almost all of this past year's board will be continuing to serve in the new term. At our annual meeting in May we elected one new board member (Lisa Haden) and two current board members who are moving into new positions. This continuity of board members provides for consistency and familiarity that makes our work easier.

In this past year board members have formed trusting and friendly relationships with each other and have learned that we each have unique talents and strengths that we share and rely on. Together we are definitely greater than the sum of our parts. We begin this new year with the knowledge that we are an experienced and cooperative team. We look forward to Lisa joining



*Lisa Hayden stepped up to
become our newest UUCM Board
of Trustees member.*

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Pam Kisor | <i>President</i> |
| Rene Wiley | <i>Vice-President</i> |
| Gail Schulz | <i>Treasurer</i> |
| OPEN | <i>Secretary</i> |

Members at Large:

Taylor Carey, Janet Dunstan and Lisa Haden

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.

our team and hope that she also finds the work fulfilling and beneficial.

We are still looking for a secretary to fill a one year opening that was created when René changed positions in order to become our new Vice President. If you are so inclined to take the plunge into working with this great group of board members, please step forward. UUCM and the board need YOU!

Namaste,

Pam



Stewardship

Maryann Currington,
Leader, Stewardship Team

Kicking Off a New Pledge Year!

The 2021-2022 fiscal year for UUCM ended June 30th! The 2022-23 fiscal year has begun! Deep appreciation to all of you who pledged so generously. We, the members of the Stewardship team, understand that you, our members and friends, are truly the stewards of our beloved community. Without your donations of your time, talent and treasure, our community could not flourish. We are aware that giving your treasure is often not seen as a spiritual act. But giving your money freely and generously is rooted in spirituality.

Although we are now in the 2022-2023 pledge year, if you have NOT completed your 2021-2022 pledge, please do that **BEFORE** you begin your 2022-2023 pledge. If you pay by check, **write the pledge year on your check** so we credit the correct fiscal year. If you pay online, you will be able to designate the appropriate pledge year. If your financial circumstances have changed, please feel comfortable letting us know. We are well aware that these are not easy or certain times. Please email Maryann Currington murrington1944@gmail.com or call (530) 307-9663. It is important for us to know, so we can adjust our budget. We value all our members and want membership to be comfortable.

Together we will weather these uncertain times, grounding ourselves in our relationships, our values and our spiritual centers.

With Love and Respect,

-Maryann

HERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GIVE TO UUCM...

- You can give through [UUCM's Online Giving](#) page. (Choose Share-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 Share-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 Share-the-Plate partner.



Membership

Kate Canan, Leader,
Membership Team

Want to Learn More About UUCM and Get Connected?

CALLING BOTH NEW AND EXPERIENCED SEEKERS!

If you've been attending services or checking out the website and are curious to find out more, or if you are already a member and wanting to renew your sense of community and of this religious tradition, join Rev. Kevin, other newer folks, and existing members for meaningful and fun connection as well as information.

UPCOMING UU 101 DATES:

Our summer UU 101 dates, held at UUCM, virus permitting, are:

Sunday, July 10, 12:00-2:00 PM

Tuesday, August 16, 6:00-8:00 PM

Come first for our single-session **UU 101**, an interactive, introductory session. We'll explore the history, principles, and sources of Unitarian Universalism and our congregation's mission statement. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion, because, after all, UU is a denomination where questioning is highly encouraged!

If that session piques your interest, you are invited to continue with a deeper look – **Starting Point** – five rich sessions of connection and learning. (This part of the series asks for a commitment to attend all five sessions.) Throughout both **UU 101** and **Starting Point**, we'll approach Unitarian Universalism and membership at UUCM as ongoing journeys. And rather than simply hearing about Unitarian Universalism, participants will have a chance to *experience* Unitarian Universalism, with awareness that each person brings important insight, experiences and perspectives to this shared journey.

We'll be scheduling **UU 101** sessions monthly and **Starting Point** series a few times a year. It is wonderful to have members mixed in with new folks. To sign up for **UU 101**, to get more information about the **Starting Point** series, or to learn more about UUCM and membership in general, please contact Kate Canan at membership@uugrassvalley.org, Rev. Kevin at minister@uugrassvalley.org, or Carol Fulkerson at admin@uugrassvalley.org.

Welcome!



Introducing Mary Lindsay

We are very pleased to introduce to you UUCM's new Minister's Assistant/Communications Coordinator, Mary Lindsay.

Mary comes to us having lived the past nine years in Nashville, Tennessee. She has years of experience in church and nonprofit management. Growing up in the Kansas City, Missouri area, Mary attended and worked for Unity Churches. She held the position of Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries in Kansas City and Houston before finding her way to Nashville, where she became the Operations and Administration Manager for the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville from 2015 to 2021.

In the nonprofit industry Mary has worked with various organizations serving children and youth. She has had great success in growing membership, structural organization, event and program planning, marketing and fundraising.

Mary has just relocated to Nevada City where she will be the property manager for GratiDude Ranch. In her free time, Mary loves to play games (Bunco or Canasta anyone?) and turn on the southern charm by playing the character 'Sissy White' in Hillbilly Clue (HillbillyClue.com), an interactive live version of Clue with a Hillbilly twist. She is excited to join the team of the Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains.

In the Communications portion of her role Mary will be overseeing the UUCM website and picking up production of the eChalice and the Sunday orders of service and slides. Mary will also attend to UUCM's social media. We are excited for the skill, integrity, and heart that Mary brings. Watch for communication from, and chances to meet and welcome Mary.

Carol Fulkerson will continue to staff the UUCM office hours (weekday mornings), to be the primary office contact, to schedule building use, and to oversee the database. Plus, Carol will now pick up bookkeeping responsibilities for UUCM, allowing the congregation to bring the day-to-day bookkeeping work in-house. With the change in responsibility the name of Carol's position changes to Office Manager.

Congratulations, Carol! Here's to teamwork, and to great staffing that helps UUCM to live its mission!

UUCM's New Website!



Check Out Our New UUCM Website!

If you haven't yet, please check out [UUCM's new website!](#) (Same address, updated site.)

Use these links to explore!

On the [HOME](#) page, find access to:

- The Sunday service link
- A current news item
- The next six upcoming events

On the [NEWS AND EVENTS](#) page, find access to:

- The latest eChalice and Mt Chalice (and past issues, too!)
- The UUCM events calendar (from which you can link to event information)
- Past services

On the [MEMBERS](#) page, find access to:

- UUCM bylaws
- Board policies
- Board agendas, minutes and reports
- UUCM's Covenant
- A description of UUCM's governance structure
- Access to the member directory (for Members and Pledging Friends)

On the [CONNECT](#) page, find access to:

- Volunteer Opportunities
- The various UUCM groups, teams, and committees

Vote For Our Lives



*Join the
"Get Out-
the Vote
Postcard
Club"*

The tally jar poster is filling up fast and the word is spreading! At Juneteenth we signed up six new postcard club members (600 postcards) and gave out an additional eight packets (160 postcards). Additionally, a representative from the Business and Professional Women of Nevada County came and picked up 25 packets (500 postcards)!

HOW DOES THE CLUB WORK?

Members commit to sending a minimum of 20 cards a month (one packet) for June through October. Our June and July postcards get out the vote for the Florida Primary (August 23.) August through October cards get out the vote for the November general election. Postcards are targeted to registered Black voters who haven't voted in recent elections - many due to voter suppression laws. Our postcards encourage them and give them important information for navigating around the new laws.

HOW ARE WE PAYING FOR THE COST OF STAMPS, ETC?

We have three kinds of memberships -

- Writer/funders who pay the \$10 cost of each packet (\$50 for all five months),
- Writers-only whose packet costs are scholarshiped
- Funders-only who contribute to the Writers-only packets

Please consider joining the club. Individual packets of 20 are also available. For more information or to join the club, contact Gail Johnson Vaughan at gail@gjv4kids.com.

Share the Plate

Thanks to all of you generous UUCM members and friends, [Child Advocates of Nevada County](#) will receive **\$768.54** to support its advocacy for the best interests of abused and neglected children. **Child Advocates of Nevada County** work to provide healthy baby home visits, through which new and expecting parents learn to solve problems, manage, stress, and enjoy and understand their child at every stage, from infancy to kindergarten.

We are currently completing June collections for the [Nevada County Veterinary Disaster Response Team](#) (NCVDRT), also known as Nevada County Animal Evacuation, which houses, feeds and procures medical attention, if needed, for animals evacuated during fires or floods.



Our July partner, [Nevada County Habitat for Humanity](#), brings people together to build homes, communities and hope, in a county where more than 48% of residents pay more than they can afford in housing costs. Nevada County Habitat for Humanity envisions a community where everyone has the opportunity to have a safe, decent, affordable place to live.

Thank you for your compassion- and justice-centered generosity.



Everyone can help at a Vote For Our Lives Work Party!



Parish Care

Gwen Eymann
Leader, UUCM Parish Care Team

By Jenny Dewey, Member, UUCM Parish Caring Team

A line from a popular BBC series called "Call the Midwife" comes to mind as appropriate for our times. Sister Monica Joan, an elderly nun passionately fond of her television set, says the following when asked what she is watching: "I'm watching the news because I want to figure out which catastrophe to pray for."

We can all relate. One crisis and then another leaves us reeling, unsure of where to focus our caring instincts. Do we imagine saving the world? Do we give all of our caring to the environmental crisis? Is it war, is it politics, is it starving refugees?

Individuals tend to focus on what they can tolerate, what they can absorb. And then there is hope: the existence of it in our minds, or the absence of it. People say they are afraid, angry, and disgusted with our leaders. All of these feelings are valid responses to present day "catastrophes."

There is one way to overcome hopelessness: to express our human instinct for caring. In the UUCM community we have the Parish Caring Team Members and willing congregants who are finding ways to care. Some offer meal delivery, or a grocery pick-up, some drive people to doctor appointments, some pick up the phone and call to check in on someone. There are many ways to contribute. If interested, please be in touch with and of the Team listed below.

PARISH CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

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

QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT:

Caring@uugrassvalley.org
or hennifreed@gmail.com



Lay Pastoral Care Team

Are You Facing a Challenge in Your Life?

UUCM's Lay Pastoral Care Team (LPCT) offers a confidential, caring presence to congregants undergoing stressful life challenges. With the support and guidance of the minister, team members commit to be available for weekly caring conversations of up to one hour, and for the duration of a congregant's current challenge or until a time of closure arises naturally.

Please reach out to Rev. Kevin (minister@uugrassvalley.org or (231) 883-1058) or a member of the Lay Pastoral Care Team when you are facing difficult and stressful portions of your journey and if you feel that a companioning presence from one of our team members might be helpful to you.

LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

George Dunstan, Carol Richey, Corrie Silva, and Tom Wernigg





A & A Team

*Robin Hart, Leader,
Art & Aesthetics Team*

The team met in person at the church in June to go over some projects for the interior and exterior spaces at UUCM, discuss art shows in the library, and make some plans for the foyer that will involve Membership, Ushers and Greeters Teams.

As we are on hold in the backyard, Family Ministry is currently creating a garden space with several kinds of vegetables, including squash from last summer's Three Sisters PUUmpkin Patch. In addition, we are still investigating the idea of doing a removable mural on fabric so we won't run afoul of the Grass Valley Building department.

We are pleased that we have filled the schedule for this year for art shows in the library. We hope you enjoy them.

Jim Bair – Photography – May 15th to July 15th

Jillian Roberts – Ceramics – July 15th to September 15th

Laura Harter – Acrylic Paintings –
September 15th to November 15th

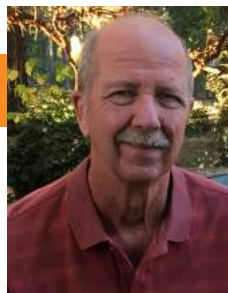
Jenny Dewey and Carmen Riley – Mixed Media –
November 15th to January 15th

I want to thank the Art & Aesthetics team for all the hard work they have put in during the 21-22 church year. At this time every year we ask each team member if they want to continue working with A&A for another church year, 2022-2203.

Melissa Ridgway and Joel Houtman have decided to leave the team. I want to thank them for all the creative projects they have helped us with with over the years and wish them well. That leaves us with four members: Shanti Emerson, Linda Siska, Phil Horning and myself. If you are a artistic person or see the world in an artistic way, we would love to have you join our team.

Take care and keep a rainbow in your hearts!

- Robin



B & G Team

*Wally Holtan, Leader,
Building & Grounds Team*

Cool Weather Makes for a Pleasant Work Day in June

Saturday, June 18th was this month's workday at UUCM and it was nice and cool. We had five willing people show up to help keep our grounds looking good. In addition, we were finally able to make progress on some special projects that have been lingering on our "to do" list for a while.

Kern prepared the upper story window sills for future painting. Paul repaired the bicycle parking area on Walsh Street – the rocks in the area were starting to break through the bender board by the side gate – and followed up with mowing the lawn. Meanwhile, Connie, Theresa, and Gwen trimmed the juniper and weeded the other planted areas as Wally tamed the area in the front where poppies were growing.

It was a good day of getting work done while enjoying interacting with other members of our community. Come join us next time!

- Wally



The Philosopher

A Profile of Chuck Champlin by Jennifer (Jenny) Dewey

This writer interviewed Chuck Champlin without having known him, except by sight, and ended up discovering a man with profound ideas about the world and the human role in the "web of life." His thoughts and ideas flow easily, and it is clear he has spent a lot of time in reflection in order to arrive at his beliefs.



When I visited Chuck, we sat in the shade of a wide umbrella by the swimming pool and talked about everything from Unitarian principles, (how basic and true), to views on the Universe. Chuck spoke easily of these things. I was struck by his self-confidence.

Chuck has had scary moments in his life. He

Chuck was raised a Catholic. He long ago left the Catholic view of human life on Earth and developed his own theories. These theories carry one's mind into areas of thought that are unique and challenging. At the same time, one rarely meets a person so down to earth and basically easy to talk to, someone open to discussion on a variety of subjects.

One subject is especially delightful: how Chuck and his wife Lesley originally met. They were high school sweethearts, aged around fifteen and sixteen. Their youthful romance ended and both married other people. Many years later they met again and were free to pick up where they left off so many years ago.

Visiting this pair is a joy. They live in a sunny, spacious house (with a swimming pool to envy), and have a couple of small dogs and a cat. Chuck's office has bookshelves sagging with a wide variety of titles. He has favorite authors, one of them being Carl Sagan. He also has his own books to share, books expressing a combination of innate optimism, scientific thought, and ideas about consciousness. He has one novel to his credit.

experienced cardiac arrest and were it not for quick action on Lesley's part, he probably would not have survived. The pair moved to this area seven years ago to be close to family. It is obvious when visiting them, that this is one happy couple with shared views on life.

My daughter was with me when I visited Chuck. They got on famously, and immediately, and discussed esoteric (to me) subjects as if they'd known each other for years. My daughter is a librarian at a charter school. She has recently acquired a grant to bring speakers into the library to talk to kids. She asked Chuck if he'd be willing to be a speaker and he instantly and enthusiastically agreed.

Chuck is open to the world. He obviously enjoys sharing his ideas with others. It is also clear he absorbs information easily without prejudice. Such a person is a gift to the UUCM community, and to the community at large.

If you are curious, Chuck Champlin's books are "Think Like a Molecule" and "Wand" (a novel). Both are available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Kindle, etc.

Justice Team Update

Lots of things are happening with the Justice team at UUCM. Here are just three projects you should know about.

- **THE BENDING THE ARC TASK FORCE**

SAVE THE DATE to watch the documentary Rigged - **Tuesday, July 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM**. This will be a Justice Night co-hosted by the Bending the Arc task force and the UUCM Justice team. Rigged is a very powerful expose of the many ways that voting rights have been suppressed in Georgia, North Carolina, and other states. This will be a potluck so bring a dish to share if you are willing and able. There will also be a zoom link if you are unable to appear in person.

The evening will conclude with a discussion about your impressions of the documentary as well as short presentations from task force members concerning what we at UUCM can do to combat voter suppression. Watch for more event details in the eChalice, UUCM general, and our Sunday slides. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Keith Johnson a (kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com)

- **GUN VIOLENCE**

Rev. Kevin recognized the need of many members to respond to the recent acts of gun violence.

He initiated a series of three conversations:

In the first, participants expressed and shared their grief
In the second participants, who believe in common sense gun control, answered a series of questions. The questions were intended to clarify their own experience with guns and explore how they might discuss gun related issues with others who have different views.

He asked the Justice Team to consider the form of the third conversation.

I believe that debates or discussions between individuals with different views risk further polarizing those involved. One of the participants in the second conversation decided to simply listen to the views of others. Perhaps this is the approach we should take for the third conversation. What do you think? Bob Miller, Justice Team Co-Leader, bob@sierramiller.com

- **RAPID RESPONSE AND OPT-IN EMAIL LIST**

The Justice Team is close to completing their planning for the Rapid Response Project as described in last month's Mountain Chalice. They have placed the Opt-in Email list project on hold pending initiation of Rapid Response. You can still get yourself on the planned Opt-in Email list by contacting Keith at kjohnson.uucm@gmail.com



I was born and raised on a farm in South Dakota.

I got a degree in Physics and was working on my PhD when the Vietnam war intervened and I faced the draft. I became ardently opposed to the war. I originally decided to refuse induction and go to jail, but in 1969 it became apparent that there was a rising revolt in the military against the war. So like many young men, I decided to comply with the draft and go into the army and join in the antiwar movement in the military.

I joined with other guys to form **GIs United Against the War** on Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. This effort was highly successful. We started a monthly newsletter and participated in many actions. The most successful was our demand that we had the right to circulate a petition on fort against the war. Much to our amazement the brass allowed us to do so. It was spectacularly successful. Shortly thereafter I found myself out of the Army as result of being investigated by the FBI for being a subversive security risk.

After my stint in the Army I continued my activism. The war continued for several more years and I joined Vietnam Veterans Against the War. I also was the Colorado Socialist Workers Party candidate for US House of Representatives in 1972. Naturally, I was resoundingly defeated, but it was fun. I moved to the Los Angeles area and became highly active in the solidarity movement with the people of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

When the first Gulf war began, I became active in the movement against that war. During that protest movement I met Theresa in a protest on a street corner in Claremont, California. That was probably the best thing that happened. We got married. We later moved to the Central Coast and then to Grass Valley.

Continued on page 12

Justice News and Updates

Justice Warrior, continued from page 11

We decided to check out UUCM. As an atheist I resisted joining anything “churchy,” but I was drawn to UUCM’s activism in social justice. I liked both the tradition of UUCM as a community and its activism in the wider community.

I was also pleased to discover that UUCM had a Humanist group. This allowed me to have a community that also did not require one to be “spiritual” but championed the science and naturalism of Humanism.

Over the years I began to be drawn into the organization of UUCM itself. To enjoy the benefits of membership of UUCM requires one to actively volunteer for the organization itself. I became active in various roles in the community including the Building and Grounds committee. I also was Treasurer and member of the Board of Trustees for three years.

Although I enjoyed that work, I feel the heart and soul of UUCM should be its social Justice work. That will continue to be the source of our growth.

Stop the Mine Task Force Finding False Claims by Rise Gold Mine

By Jim Bair, STM Task Force Leader

Active Members of the STM Task Force have been continuing to discover falsehoods perpetrated by Rise Gold Mine Inc. Most recently, we presented our economic findings to Bob Branstrom, Grass Valley City Council Member. He found our discovery of false claims* in the Rise Gold Economic Impact Study to be valuable and recommended we make our findings available to the public. (Of course, local government officials must abide by the policy of not taking a position until “final” results of the Environmental Impact Report and the County’s Economic Impact Report are completed). An “economic subcommittee” of diligent volunteers is meeting to translate the economic impacts into eye-catching sound bites.

We are also getting approval for and preparing (cheers for Marion Blair and Anita Wald-Tuttle) to run a table at Briar Patch publicizing the Mine’s impacts and obtaining MineWatch petition signatures. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** for this fun interaction with the community.

BRIAR PATCH: Sign up for one of two 2-hour shifts:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Friday, July 1 | 10 AM to 12 PM and 12 PM to 2 PM |
| Friday, August 19 | 10 AM to 12 PM and 12 PM to 2 PM |
| Saturday, September 10 | 10 AM to 12 PM and 12 PM to 2 PM |

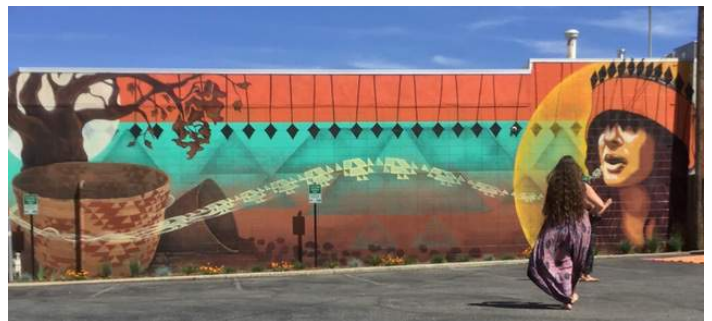
**My favorite deception is the claim Rise Gold will hire 312 persons within Nevada County: There is no way they can restrict their hiring based on place of residence. Then they claim that there will be 300 more jobs created in the County NOT employed by the Mine, but just happening because of the of the Mine’s employees. Perhaps they believe that medical care, especially ER visits, will dramatically increase jobs because of the extremely dangerous work in the tunnels, several hundred feet underground, 12 hours a day...!” - Jim Bair*

The next STM Task Force meeting is Monday, July 11 at 4:00 PM via Zoom to enable all to attend. I hope to see you there. Onward!

Nisenan Project Task Force Update

Jenny Dewey has been contributing bits of information about the Nisenan, taken from Richard Johnson’s *History of Us*, to pre-service and in-service slides. We have other plans in the works to communicate helpful information to the community, as well.

A number of us showed up for the opening celebration of the Nisenan Mural Community Celebration, which was wonderful and interesting. If you missed it, the recording of it is now up on the tribe’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NevadaCityNisenan>



We would like to host a visit to the ‘Uba Seo Gallery, with conversation (and ice cream??!) afterwards. We will put out the notice for this in the Mountain Chalice, eChalice, uucmConnect and UU-Gen email.

Eileen Hale plans to get together with Robin Hart, Dawn Bateman, and Laura Harter to weave into their streamlined foyer design plans more visibility for the congregation’s relationship with and support of the Nisenan.

Reflections on US Democracy in the Light of the January 6th Events

By Steve Temple, Justice Team Member

I am writing to share my anguish over the revelations of the House Select Committee investigating the Jan 6th insurrection. And I do this because putting my feelings into words sometimes succeeds in moving me to a better place, and I suspect that others in our UUCM community might find a bit of relief in my sharing. Much of the evidence being presented was already available, but somehow seeing such a forceful organization of the following facts have hit me very hard, and I feel mentally (and to some degree physically) depleted.

- I find it incredible that a politician (from any political party), having taken the solemn oath of the US Presidency, would be capable of planning and conducting a campaign to break the laws of the orderly transfer of power that characterize our democracy.
- I also find it incredible that, with a few notable and courageous exceptions, the President's entire family, legal and advisory staff, and elected Republicans in both houses of Congress, either supported his illegal coup attempt, or kept their mouths shut.
- I find it tragic to listen to the hatred and violence heaped on public officials who resisted illegal pressures and respected their own oath of office.
- And more than anything else, I find it incredible that a huge percentage of our fellow citizens (and some public media) continue to deny the mountain of evidence, refuse to condemn the attempted coup d'etat, and continue to honor the villain who heaped so much evil on our country.

At this moment, it is difficult to say if I experience more pain personally from feelings of betrayal by our elected leaders, and/or the ache that comes from asking myself where we are headed as a society and as a democratically free (and dare we say informed) country. If we cannot agree that an attempted and illegal coup is not acceptable in the United States and to its people, what do we have left to believe in and bind us?

Thank you for reading. I would welcome meeting with others interested in sharing feelings and discussing the way forward, which seems quite difficult right now.



Interfaith Food Ministry Update

By Anne Lyon

IFM is humming along, welcoming July, with many thanks to you all for your help! They still REALLY need paper grocery bags and paper egg cartons! These are for their clients' food.

SAFeway FUNDRAISER

Safeway's **Nourishing Neighbors** campaign will return this summer from June 29 through July 26, 2022. Customers can remove a tear sheet and donate \$10 at the check stand. Please consider donating to support IFM's food distribution program.

THRIVE FESTIVAL

The Thrive Festival will be July 2 in Western Gateway Park, Penn Valley. IFM and the Food Bank of Nevada County will both be there accepting food and monetary donations. It will be a fun-filled day of music, food, children's events and more! Admission is \$5/person or \$10 for a car load.

FREE HEALTH CLINIC

California CareForce will have a Free Health Clinic at Nevada Union High School Campus on July 15, 16 and 17 providing medical, dental, vision, and supportive care, open to everyone – no verification is required. Services are given on a first come, first served basis as capacity allows. Local professionals will provide general medical, vision, and dental services (including x-rays, cleanings, fillings, and extractions). Bring proof of COVID vaccination or proof of negative test within the 24-hour period before Clinic Service.

COVID 19 protocols state that anyone with symptoms of respiratory infection (e.g., cough, runny nose, fever) must not attend the Free Health Clinic. For more information, go to the California CareForce website at: <https://www.californiacareforce.org/Clinics#Nev>



Community Connections – Online Activities

Staying Connected through Zoom

UUCM is open again, but most services and meetings are still available via Zoom.

The Board has eased restrictions to allow full in-person services and masks are not required, but not discouraged.

WEEKLY @ UUCM

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

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 VIA ZOOM OR ON-SITE

REGISTRATION NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

Please do not attend in person if you are feeling unwell or have had a COVID exposure. Masks not required, but recommended for those at high risk for illness. Should CDC guidelines change or Nevada County's infection rates increase, our attendance policy may also change.



SUNDAY DROP-IN SUPPORT CIRCLE - 12:00 PM

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

First Thursdays, 7-8:30 PM, on-site and via Zoom
Contact SingingMeditation@uugrassvalley.org

HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 10:30 AM

The next meeting of the UUCM Humanist Discussion Group will be on Wednesday, July 6 at 10:30 at UUCM and we will have Zoom set up for anyone who won't be able to attend in person: [Humanist Zoom Meeting](#)



I hope to see you on July 6 for what's always an interesting discussion. To be added to the Humanism Discussion Group email list, please contact George Dunstan: Humanism@uugrassvalley.org

WALKING GROUP - NOW AT 7:30 AM

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 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 POTLUCK – SECOND MONDAYS, 6:00 PM

On July 11, we are planning a mini version of our past SWAP so now's the time to set aside clothing (and more) that is in good condition but you're ready to give up. Bring it on the 11th, set it out on tables, and then the fun begins! SHOP FOR FREE! Leftovers go to charity. We're thinking the potluck food should be simple and portable... sandwiches, finger foods... more time for browsing!

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 will continue to potluck so long as the virus is somewhat at bay. 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 meetings, and you can participate in discussions about our activities.

MEN'S GROUPS - VIA ZOOM

Men gather to enjoy each other's 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

July: We're Growing...

By Jo Waters, Leader, UUCM Family Ministry Team

It is with joy that I can report to you that our UU families are a vital and growing part of our reemergence as a beloved community. You may have seen Ruby playing in the Kids Corner in the Sanctuary during a Sunday service or noticed Jesse running the AV booth in the back or enjoyed Nakai playing the xylophone with Lindsay during the All Ages Service on Fathers Day. Our young people are part of every event and bring us all hope for the future.

Reviving our programs to serve these young people is a big task. We find ourselves in need of more volunteers for several different tasks, most importantly being a Classroom Helper during the Kids Connection on Sunday mornings. Other ways to be involved include Picnic/Event Coordinator, Performing Arts Lead, bringing snacks on Sundays (for the kids during Kids Connection), and donating supplies. If any of these tasks (or something else) appeals to you, please contact Jo Waters. No donation of either time, talent or treasure is too small.

Check out our backyard to see the progress of our Service Garden! And many thanks to the folks who were on their hands and knees digging fence post holes for the new fence to protect the anticipated garden (Steve, Shannon and Andy pictured below.) Also, note the photos of the seed blessing!

Watch the eChalice and UUCM Connect for more details of upcoming events involving families.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR FAMILY MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

| | |
|---------|---|
| July 10 | All Ages Service at 10:30, childcare available |
| July 24 | Parents' Day Service & Festival, <i>still planning, There may be ice cream....!</i> |

Be sure to check the eChalice and UUCM Connect for more dates and details of upcoming family-oriented events.



Full Community Education



Soul Matters Circles

Are you looking for deeper connection with others and a space within which you can explore your deepest values and your deepest self?

Soul Matters Circles are small facilitated groups of 5-8 people who meet once a month from September/October through June to connect to others and to one's own deeper self, using the monthly theme as a springboard and lens for reflection and sharing.

Each month, participants receive a packet of resources via email (or a printed packet, if needed). The packets offer quotes, poems, suggested practices, questions to consider, books suggestion, music ideas, links to articles, videos and movies and more. Each person chooses how deeply they will explore these resources as tools for reflection and conversation.

Participating in a Soul Matters Circle is one rich way to get connected at UUCM, to get to know a few more people meaningfully and well as you explore your own inner life.

NOTE: There is also a related *Men's Circle of Trust*. For information about the Men's Circle, contact George Dunstan at GeorgeDunstan@uugrassvalley.org.

LEARN MORE

Check out a sample packet [HERE](#), focused on the theme of "Embracing Possibility."

Click [HERE](#) to see the *Soul Matters Circle Participant Guide* on the UUCM website.

In these times, some circles offer both Zoom and face-to-face participation, while others are solely on-line, or primarily on-site (in-person) as pandemic realities allow.

IN SEPTEMBER WE HOLD OPENING CIRCLES, *sample circles for all who are curious and considering being part of a circle in the coming year*. Members and Pledging Friends, watch for an email and survey in late summer and early fall each year.

Curious? Questions? Ready to sign up for the fall?

Please contact Soul Matters Coordinator Jo Waters: SoulMatters@uugrassvalley.org or (530) 414-6941.

To sign up online, visit the [Soul Matters page](#) on the UUCM website.

Sunday Book Group

UUCM SUNDAY BOOK GROUP -

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 12:30 PM OR AS LISTED

Here are the Book Group selections for June of 2022 until January of 2023:

July 3 *The Heights* by Louise Candlish
Ellen Saint sees a familiar man in an apartment window. This man had been murdered by Ellen two years earlier. The investigation begins and continues with many twists and turns you never would have anticipated.

August 7 *Madame Secretary* by Madeleine K. Albright
During Bill Clinton's two presidential terms, Madeleine Albright as Secretary of State was a participant in the most dramatic events of recent times—from the pursuit of peace in the Middle East to NATO's humanitarian intervention in Kosovo. Now, in an outspoken memoir, the highest-ranking woman in American history provides an insider's view of world affairs during an incredibly turbulent period.

September 4 *The Ministry for the Future* by Kim Stanley Robinson

October 2 *Crome Yellow* by Aldous Huxley

November 6 *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson

December 4 *Once There Were Wolves* by Charlotte McConaghy

January 8 *A Country Doctor* by Jane Orne Jewett



All meetings will be scheduled for the first Sunday at 12:30 PM, and held in the UUCM Channing Room, *unless noted otherwise*. All are welcome to join for any oral discussions. To request to join via Zoom, please provide at least one week's notice. Please contact Theresa Houtman at (530) 277-9294 or BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org if you have any questions, or wish to be added to the email list.



July 2022 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

JULY 2022

Please note: Most meetings and services are being offered in person, but also held by Zoom to allow folks to attend remotely. Watch for links and meeting numbers through your email from UUGeneral or the meeting hosts and updates on on-site events.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| 3 | Sunday | 10:30 AM | Sunday Service |
| | | 10:45 AM | Kids' Connection |
| | | 11:30 AM | Social Time |
| | | 12:30 PM | Book Group |
| 4 | Monday | | Office Closed for Independence Day |
| 5 | Tuesday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Northstar Mine |
| | | 10:30 AM | Habitat for Humanity Lunches |
| | | 4:00 PM | Caring Team Meeting |
| 6 | Wednesday | 8:30 AM | Men's Group |
| | | 10:30 AM | Humanism Discussion Group |
| | | 6:00 PM | Worship Team |
| 7 | Thursday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' |
| | | 7:00 PM | Singing Meditation Circle |
| 9 | Saturday | 3:00 PM | Spirituality Sharing Circle |
| 10 | Sunday | 10:30 AM | Sunday Service |
| | | 11:30 AM | Social Time |
| | | 12:00 PM | Entry Point UU 101 |
| 11 | Monday | 4:00 PM | Stop the Mine Task Force |
| | | 6:00 PM | Women's Circle Gathering at UUCM |
| 12 | Tuesday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Northstar Mine |
| | | 6:00 PM | Bending the Arc |
| 13 | Wednesday | 8:30 AM | Men's Group |
| | | 4:30 PM | Ministry Council Meeting |

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

| | | | |
|----|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 14 | Thursday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' |
| | | 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 |
| | | 11:30 AM | Social Time |
| | | 12:45 PM | Family Ministry Team Meeting |
| 19 | Tuesday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Northstar Mine |
| 20 | Wednesday | 8:30 AM | Men's Group |
| | | 10:00 AM | Board of Trustees Meeting |
| | | 5:00 PM | Justice Team Meeting |
| 21 | Thursday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' |
| | | 9:30 AM | Men's Circle |
| 24 | Sunday | 10:30 AM | Sunday Service |
| | | 11:30 AM | Social Time |
| 26 | Tuesday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Northstar Mine |
| | | 5:30 PM | Justice Night |
| 27 | Wednesday | 8:30 AM | Men's Group |
| 28 | Thursday | 7:30 AM | Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans' |
| | | 10:30 AM | Writers' Group |
| 31 | Sunday | 10:30 AM | Sunday Service |
| | | 11:30 AM | Social Time |



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

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

Sunday Services are held at 10:30 AM by Zoom or on-site

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

Rev. Kevin Tarsa Office Hours:

Rev. Kevin's office hours are currently held by appointment.

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

UUCM STAFF MEMBERS

Reverend Kevin Tarsa, *Minister*
Carol Fulkerson, *Office Manager*
Mary Lindsay, *Communications Coordinator*
Music Director

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

minister@uugrassvalley.org
admin@uugrassvalley.org
communications@uugrassvalley.org
music@uugrassvalley.org

TELEPHONE

530.274.1661
530.274.1675
530.274.1675
530.274.1675

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.

VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS:

Kathryn Young, *Design/Layout*, Lesley Champlin, *Editing/Proofreading*
Staff Contributors: Rev. Kevin Tarsa and Carol Fulkerson