

the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

August 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 13 for Kid-Centered Activities • •

SUMMER THEME:

What Do UU Principles Ask of Us?

August 7 With Courageous Love

Gail Johnson Vaughan, Worship Leader,
Jenny Dewey, Worship Associate in Training

In today's world our UUCM mission's call to Courageous Love is not just a sentiment, but a call to action in keeping with the 5th Principle – We promote and affirm the right of conscience and use of the democratic process. Today's service will highlight the courage of Margaret Chase Smith, a Republican from Maine. In 1950, she risked her political future and answered the call of her conscience to stand up against Republican Senator Joe McCarthy of Wisconsin and his supporters, who were running roughshod over American democracy. Please join special guest Beth Rose and Worship Leader Gail Johnson Vaughan as we bring this story to life.

August 14 Your Voice Matters

Gracie Kendrick, Worship Leader,
Allison Rivers Samson, Worship Associate

UU communities worldwide are in the process of formally adopting an 8th principle articulating a commitment to build diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions. Join us for a compassionate exploration of this principle from a personal, local and global standpoint with input from UUCM task force leadership, Reverend Kevin and our young leaders. Why is this important and how do we move forward as a community?

August 21 Justice, Equity and Compassion in These Times

Reine Thibeault, Worship Leader,
Gracie Kendricks, Worship Associate

This service is rooted in the 2nd UU Principle, in which we've promised to affirm and promote "justice, equity, and compassion in human relations." As Rev. Emily Gage puts it, the 2nd Principle "points us toward something beyond 'inherent worth and dignity.' It points us to the larger community. It gets at collective responsibility. It reminds us that treating people as human beings is not simply something we do one-on-one, but something that has systemic implications and can inform our entire cultural way of being."

August 28 The Earth, the Air, the Fire, the Water

Lindsay Dunckel and Carmen Riley,
Worship Leaders

Come celebrate the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part in a joyful, earth-centered service that lifts up the seventh principle of Unitarian Universalism.

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Rev. Kevin Tarsa
UUCM Minister

From the Minister

As we wind our way through the Unitarian Universalist principles this summer, life unfolds around and within us, everywhere inviting us to consider the principles that guide our decisions, the way we live our lives, the ways we treat others, and what we prioritize.

I think about our UU principles each time I watch another installment of the January 6 hearings, each time a Supreme Court decision is rendered, whenever the street flags go up or are taken down in Nevada City, when I see bumper stickers on the car in front of me, when I observe people's masking decisions in public spaces, or when I hear about the increase in bullying at local schools...

I've never subscribed to the idea that my desired ends justify any means necessary, but that notion gets more and more difficult to hold at bay when radical conservatives' methods and willingness to do whatever it takes to reach their desired ends appears to succeed no matter how destructive the path, and when so much that I value feels imperiled.

As I named at the beginning of July, our UUA principles are under review and will likely be altered or at least fine tuned. But at heart, they will not change entirely. The values that anchor progressive religion and our tradition remain steady, however articulated for the current day.

I invite you to take our principles to heart this summer, listening and feeling for what they are asking of you and asking of UUCM. As the commission charged with reviewing the UU Principles noted, our current principles lack verbs. The question is, "What are we called to DO if we hold these as guiding principles?" In a time when so much is unknown and in flux, our direction and our flexibility will need to be rooted in clarity about our values and our guiding principles.

At his point, I still believe that "how we get there is what we get."



Meanwhile, I share with you the Ministry Goals for this new congregation year, goals set by the Board in response to the moment and informed by what Board members and I are hearing from you:

1. Re-engage and Strengthen Member Connections

- Increase and promote opportunities for connection
- Involve all members and friends in at least one group or regular gathering

- Continue to support multi-platform opportunities for every gathering
- Build stronger UU and UUCM identity

2. Develop Growth Through Service (GTS) volunteer program

- In conjunction with the Board, gather, charge, and support the GTS Design Team (and when the time comes, a GTS Implementation Team)
- Create a culture of sustainable and glad service and volunteerism

3. Serve and engage young families

- Grow the number of engaged families by at least 100%
- Serve families meaningfully and helpfully
- Meet with families regularly to listen and to learn what will best serve them
- Provide opportunities for multi-gen connection

4. Accomplish a successful renewal year

- Enter and engage renewal leave times with clear and shared expectations among all
- In advance, develop a proactive and effective plan for managing anxiety
- Maintain (or grow!) number of members
- Come out stronger
 - o Congregation not only maintains well, but is also more confident and more committed, with ministry, responsibility, and ownership more widely claimed and shared. ("Well, look at us! Look what we did!" We're ready for what's next to follow!)
 - o Minister returns not only renewed and refreshed, but also more spiritually grounded and with greater vocational/leadership clarity, ready to re-enter active ministry more sustainably, and able to share responsibilities more effectively

With care

- Rev. Kevin

REV. KEVIN'S OFFICE HOURS

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

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



*Pam Kisor, President,
UUCM Board of Trustees*

Board of Trustees

During the summer months the Board typically takes some time to establish our goals for the coming year. We discuss our goals in the spring and then re-assess and adopt them during our retreat in July. Our July retreat has been delayed this year, but we have the first draft of our goals for 2022/23. These goals will be given a bit more detail and refinement when we hold our retreat, but the basic intent will most likely follow what we have captured thus far. Goals are established with consideration for the expressed needs of the community and support UUCM's Mission.

UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEE ANNUAL GOALS:

1. **Develop the Growth Through Service (GTS) volunteer program**
 - In conjunction with Ministry, gather, charge, and support the GTS Design Team (and when the time comes, a GTS Implementation Team)
 - Create a culture of sustainable and glad service and volunteerism
 - Staff and Revitalize Committees
2. **Accomplish Successful Renewal year**
 - Hire sabbatical minister
 - Provide staff and sabbatical minister oversight
 - Provide oversight of sabbatical plan implementation
 - Participate in Leadership circle for collaboration and communication
 - Serve as a non-anxious presence
 - Come out stronger
3. **Identify facility options, costs and benefits**
 - Facilitate timely and informative communication with the congregation as planning develops
 - Build consensus leading toward a clear decision on the facility plan

These goals are a progressive continuation of last year's goals, moving us slowly forward toward completion which, in many cases, takes more than one Board cycle. The first goal, developing a Growth Through Service program, has been in the exploration phase

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.

this past year, and will now move into the development stage, with the intent of sharing information with the community and building a strong foundation for carrying out the program (which will most likely happen in year three). The second goal, a successful renewal year, has been a year in the planning and will be a second year in the completion. And the third goal, Facility Development, began last year and will be a three- to five-year goal, or longer, if needed.

In addition to working toward our goals we continue to do the ongoing work of the Board. As the year progresses, we plan – and adjust plans – pretty much on a continual basis. And hopefully we make steady progress toward our goals while being responsive to the needs of our Community and supporting the mission of UUCM.

Namaste,

Pam



Stewardship

Maryann Currington,
Leader, Stewardship Team

When I answered the call to serve on the Stewardship Team five years ago, I had no idea of the challenges and rewards that lay ahead. My willingness to serve began with a desire to become more involved in this spiritual community I valued. I felt I would meet people and develop friendships, as well as a greater sense of belonging. After all, I had only been a member of UUCM for one year. These seemed like worthwhile goals.

All that happened and so much more. As the challenge of giving more time (and patience!) grew, my own values were tested. Serving on Stewardship requires compassion and respectfulness in carrying out the practical duties of the team. I was given a book, *Serving with Grace* by Erik Walker Wikerstrom, in which he states that the practical and administrative work of the church is an integral part of the mission to spiritually nurture us. Viewing my work on Stewardship in this way has enriched my experience significantly.

Wayne B. Clark in *Beyond Fundraising* adds to this understanding of lay service with a focus on Stewardship:

"Healthy faith communities see stewardship as a vital component of their ministry. They understand that stewardship is an act of worship."

This month, the Stewardship Team is preparing for the next fiscal year by reflecting on our activities, assessing what we do well and where we need change, and taking a fresh look at our role in serving the congregation. The definition of a steward is "one who takes care of" – we'd like to expand how Stewardship takes care of you in our community. Our goal of promoting generosity and invigorating the concept of stewardship among members is a thoughtful, inspiring, creative—and ongoing—process.

Join us this year! If you wish to find out more about our Team and its work, please contact me Maryann Currington (530) 307-9663 or murrington1944@gmail.com. We have a fun and energetic group that embraces new members at any time.

With Love and Respect,

-Maryann



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.

Start by participating in a single-session **UU 101 on Tuesday, August 16, 6:00-8:00 PM**. It's an interactive, introductory session in which 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 in late August and September.)

Throughout both UU101 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.

Sign up [HERE](#).

Questions? Contact Kate Canan at membership@uugrassvalley.org.

Vote For Our Lives



*Getting Out
the Vote
Postcard
Campaign:
UUCM can
Stand Tall!*

POSTCARD TALLY TO DATE:

- We now have 64 postcard club members sending a minimum of 1,340 postcards each month (6,700 total through the October)
- In addition we have 68 people who have picked up one or more packets of 20 postcards for another 1,380 postcards. (18 of folks are affiliated with UUCM, 20 are not affiliated, but are friends of UUCM folks or heard about our project through Color Me Human or other partner organizations.) Several of them have picked up more than one packet..
- That's a total of more than 8,000 postcards so I'm beginning to visualize us sending more than 10,000 through October.
- BE SURE TO PUT A DOT ON OUR TALLY JAR POSTER EVERY TIME YOU FINISH A PACKET OF 20. And if you are doing Vote Forward letters, put up a dot for every 20 of those that you write.

FLORIDA PRIMARY POSTCARDS.

- Hold those and put them in the mail between August 1-8 for their August 23 primary.
- Don't be shy about picking up an extra packet if you finish the ones you have.

GENERAL ELECTION NEWS

- Reclaim Your Vote will start General Election postcarding with Virginia. Why? Because they have the longest early voting period - it starts 45 days before the Nov 8 general election. If I calculated that right, early voting will start September 24 and postcards will need to be sent at least a couple weeks before.
- I anticipate getting the Virginia addresses and scripts the 1st week of August. It will take a few days to make the packets for you, then we start writing them.
- I'll let you know when they are ready to pick up.

So proud of all of you! Keep watching the Tally Jar Poster fill up.

Share the Plate

UUCM's June Share the Plate recipient, [Nevada County Veterinary Disaster Response Team](#) leapt into action that very month, housing, feeding and caring for animals evacuated from the local Rice's Fire. UUCM members and friends gave \$859 to support NCVDRT. Thank you, all!

We're just now finishing up collections for our July partner, [Nevada County Habitat for Humanity](#).



Our August Share the Plate recipient, [Color Me Human](#), was founded by new UUCM member Tracy Pepper. Color Me Human celebrates and supports the under-resourced communities in California's second whitest county. Its mission is to Celebrate, Elevate,

Educate, Advocate to create a safe, equitable world for Black, Indigenous, People of Color and LGBTQ+ folks.

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

Ways to Give to UUCM

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.



Parish Care

Gwen Eymann
Leader, UUCM Parish Care Team

By Jenny Dewey, Member, UUCM Parish Caring Team

A member of the UUCM community recently took part in the Tapestry presentation at one of our services. The theme was "What Feeds Your Soul." The individual said her garden feeds her soul. According to what she said, she spends a lot of time in her garden and this gives her a sense of peace. She also said it does not matter what the botanical names of her plants are – that she has no interest in identifying them beyond how she loves the effect these green-growing plants have on her. To plant a seed and watch a tiny green sprout emerge from the soil is a miraculous event. Simple and even predictable, the appearance of a living thing from a tiny seed, sometimes almost too tiny to see, provides a sense of satisfaction unique in our human experience.

That is, for people who create and love gardens.

Think, too, how growing plants for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds enlarges our sense of purpose and feeds our souls.

Caring for people feeds our souls as well. We may not realize the good we do when we call someone with a recently broken arm, a loss of a loved one, or a need of a drive to the doctor. The Caring Team is fully engaged in the sort of caring that feeds the soul. Helping people through hard times is akin to attending a green sprout in your garden. Watch for good results, not just for the person you care for, but for you as well.

The Parish Caring Team is always ready to accept anyone who wishes to join up. Contact a member and ask questions if you are interested. There is no requirement to commit. Hear what we do. And think of that garden where the least seed, too tiny to count or even set in rows, turns into something you are proud of and nourished by.

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 Life Challenge?

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

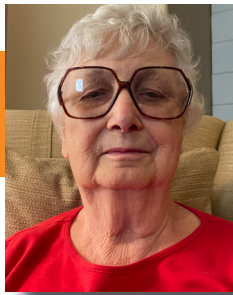
The Art & Aesthetics Team is taking the month of August off and will reconvene in September to start planning for the new church year. We are still busy, though: Shanti Emerson and Linda Siska continue to provide the altar settings each week. Phil Horning and I also installed a new art show in the library in July for Jillian Robert's ceramic work.

We are very pleased that to have filled the library Art Shows' schedule for the rest of this year and into 2023, as follows:

- Jillian Roberts – Ceramics – July 15 to September 15
- Laura Harter – Acrylic Paintings – September 15 to November 15
- Jenny Dewey and Carmen Riley – Mixed Media – November 15 to January 15
- Barbara Chesnut – Wall Quilts – January 15 to March 15

Take care and keep a rainbow in your hearts!

- Robin



Facilities Exploration

*Gail Schulz, Leader
Facilities Exploration Team*

Facilities Exploration Update and September 24 Workshop and Party

Your Facilities Exploration Committee has been working to develop more information to share with you and wants to get more ideas and thoughts from you.

To that end, we are scheduling a series of quarterly meetings, at which we will together gradually try to develop a consensus on what kind of facility we need in order to best carry out our community vision and mission. We will be asking you for your thoughts as they relate to each aspect of our community life, and we will also be sharing the information we are gathering this summer about our Church Street home, its potential and other options. For example, we are meeting with city officials to find out just what is required and feasible if we wish to change our building. We also hope to take a look at other buildings used by religious communities to see what might work best for us.

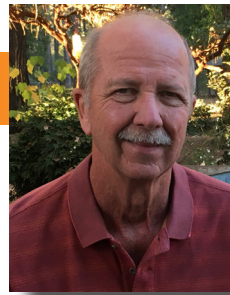
So, please put on your calendar the date of Saturday, September 24, 1:00 to 4:00 PM for our first session. And since this is just before Reverend Kevin heads off for the first part of his renewal leave, we will end our workshop with a party to celebrate and wish him bon voyage!

Finally, to help us learn more about other spiritual facilities, whether UU or not, please take our short questionnaire with you on your travels to gather a bit of information as you visit other facilities. The more we know about what appeals to our community, the more informed is our facilities exploration. Click this link or go to the UUCM website for the questions:

[Facilities Exploration Questionnaire](#)

YOUR FACILITIES EXPLORATION TEAM:

Jeff Gold, Wally Holtan, Joel Houtman,
Gail Johnson Vaughan, and Gail Schulz



B & G Team

*Wally Holtan, Leader,
Building & Grounds Team*

Crew Shows Up Despite the Heat

Saturday, July 16th was this month's workday at UUCM, and it was hot! Six hardy souls were willing to come out and help us do the required maintenance of our building and grounds. George Dunstan did the lawn and yard work, while Mary Pickett, Connie Wright, and Phil Horning worked on trimming back the plants alongside of the garage. Paul Elias and a new volunteer, Robert Holden, put cardboard and bark on the growing area on upper Walsh Street to keep weeds down. We quickly moved inside where Paul and Robert vacuumed and cleaned the chairs, Mary cleaned the window sills, George replaced the light bulb in the foyer fans, and Phil did some touch up painting in the library . . . and then we called it a day.

I want to thank all who showed up to help. It was a good day in spite of the heat, and we enjoyed interacting with members and friends of our community. Come join us next time!

-Wally





Let's Chat... or post, blog, email, or...

Mary Lindsay
Communications Coordinator
Communications@UUGrassValley.org

Hello! I'm your new Communications Coordinator.

This past month has been a flurry of fun while I've been getting to know the congregation and learning about the various avenues of communication at UUCM. At Rev. Kevin's request, my goal is to streamline our communication processes to help ensure that the information going out is accurate and up to date. This means that some changes will be unfolding as we go... so stay tuned!

One change we are implementing right away is how to submit announcements. The easiest way to get your news everywhere is to submit your announcement using the online [Announcement Form](#). Your announcement will be placed in

every suitable publication (listed below) that is requested and for which the publication deadline has not yet passed.

Where do I find the Announcement Form?

On our website! Go to uugrassvalley.org, click the 'Members' tab at the top right then scroll down and click on 'Leadership Resources'. There's a button to the form there along with other Leadership Information.

UUCM offers the following avenues of communication available to Committee Chairs, Team and Group Leads, Board members, and staff to publicize UUCM activities, events, or other newsworthy items.

Communication Avenue	Description	Deadline
The UUCM Website	Calendar of Events Group Information	ongoing
Social Media Page	Facebook and Instagram posts sharing events and upcoming news	ongoing
The e-Chalice	Midweek Email highlighting upcoming events and activities for the week.	noon Tuesdays
Sunday Service Slides	Announcements for activities taking place that day or within the week.	noon Wednesdays
The Mountain Chalice	Monthly Newsletter highlighting upcoming events and activities for the month as well as church related articles.	20th of each month

WHO DO I CONTACT?

With the addition of the Communications Coordinator role, our amazing Office Manager, Carol Fulkerson, has shifted responsibilities and is handling different duties. Below is a chart to help define who to contact when you need us! Please note that this is a work in progress as we all transition to our new roles. If you have questions just let us know!

Office Manager	Communications Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule room use in the church building Schedule Zoom meetings Bookkeeping questions Contact Info/Directory Updates Group Email list management Sharepoint requests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any announcements, posts, or info that needs to be shared with the greater church community through the communication avenues listed above. Information to go on the website or updating information on the website Details regarding Sunday morning services for the slides or order of service (volunteer names, etc.)

Fire Cluster #3

Report on our Social & Sharing Gathering, July 10, 2022

By Martha Turner, Fire Cluster #3 Point Person

The most important thing I'd like to share with you is this: we can make the Fire Cluster into a useful tool for many emergencies – power outages, fire evacuations, and other unexpected community events... even ride sharing to church! It is good to know our neighbors.

As the point person for Cluster #3, I hosted everyone on my patio, after the heat of the day had passed, to get to know each other and share ideas. I provided iced tea and others brought finger foods to share. Only one person (struggling with COVID) was unable to attend.

Although most of us knew most of the people in our cluster, there were some new folks, and it was good to put names and faces together. We also got a clear sense of who was in our sub-clusters.

We talked informally about Go Bags and shared ideas about what to include; some peoples' choices made us laugh! We also explored other fire readiness topics/concerns. While the thought of a wildfire headed our way is frightening and overwhelming, we all felt encouraged that we have a kind UUCM community, and we will face the threat together.

SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- I encourage every cluster to identify a point person and consider subdividing your cluster. As recommended by the Fire Council folks, we have subdivided our cluster into three manageable units of 3-4 households each, making things more functional in an actual emergency.
- Looking at the list of sub-cluster members, we have agreed to contact the person before and after us on the list if we learn it is time to take action.



- We noted that if our cluster/zone is being evacuated, each of us may be too busy to do much to help others in our cluster... we will all be trying to get to safety. It would be useful to discuss possibilities in advance with a friend or family member who is distant from the evacuation zone.
- Take a look at the master list when it comes out; think about who you might be able to help if they are threatened and you are safe.

REMINDER:

- Ruth Edwards and I are experienced at using the Zone map and would be happy to assist your cluster in planning sub-clusters. Let us know if we can help.
- Carol Fulkerson, Office Manager at UUCM, keeps the master list. It is YOUR responsibility to update her, and your cluster members, if your contact information changes.

COMING SOON:

- Carol Fulkerson will share the "Master List" with all of us as soon as it is ready.
- The "Master Map", showing all the Western Nevada County evacuation zones, the same map Ruth and I used to shape the clusters, will be posted at UUCM soon. Stand by!

I'm praying that fires will be quickly controlled this summer and the air will stay clear and sweet. Blessings on the work we all do!

– Martha Turner

A Matched Pair

A Profile of Kathryn Young and Taylor Carey by Jenny Dewey

"Music is the art of arranging sound...

Music, then, is a relationship.

Kathryn and Taylor share a relationship to each other and to music. Both are fundamental to their lives.

Taylor Stewart Carey and Kathryn Elizabeth Young live in a beautifully designed house on Banner Mountain where one feels the wilderness close at hand. With her degree in Environmental Design, Kathryn drew the floorplan for their house, with adaptations to make it more comfortable and accessible for Taylor. She is a professional graphic designer, and her sense of design is apparent throughout the house.

Taylor paid his way through law school playing bluegrass guitar for the popular South Loomis Quickstep Band. He is now a member of the Banner Mountain Boys, a local bluegrass band. He and Kathryn often perform during UUCM services. Together they conjure warm, mellow sounds reminiscent of bluegrass, folk, and grass roots music. Kathryn writes song and is learning to play mandolin. Ironically, as a child, Kathryn was discouraged from singing. She has proved her critics wrong.

They came to Unitarian Universalism through different paths. As a teen, Kathryn attended a mainstream Congregational/United Church of Christ church in Santa Cruz. Taylor says that while he attended a Lutheran school K-6, he has never felt that "...religion was for him." He describes himself as "...very liberal." When they met, they had a combined total of five children, ages 4 to 9. They were married at UU Society of Sacramento in 1996, and this blended family became the center of their lives. Sharing UU principles has deepened their



bond. They joined our congregation in 2012 after moving to Nevada City, and they describe their first impression of UUCM as "like coming home."

Anyone knowing Kathryn and Taylor is aware of their eagerness to take part in the UUCM community in a range of positions. Sometimes the impact of their activities is not visible. In addition to serving on several committees, Kathryn

puts the Mt. Chalice together every month. Taylor has been President of the Board and is presently a Member-at-Large. He also was the Chair of the Search Committee that brought us Rev. Kevin.

Although as a baby Taylor was stricken with polio, he has never considered himself disabled. He has been an Olympic-level gymnast, downhill skier, solo sailor, and award-winning wheelchair road racer. His legal mind has been an invaluable asset in the roles he has played in the UUCM community.

The word harmony comes to mind when thinking about Taylor and Kathryn. Taylor says he has always loved to harmonize. Kathryn says singing together is a special joy in their relationship.

There are many members of the UUCM community indispensable to the smooth continuance of services, committees, and various volunteer positions. Shining light on a matched pair like Taylor and Kathryn brings this message home.

As in music, arrangement and harmony are often the core of successful relationships.

Justice Team Update

By Bob Miller, Justice Team Co-Leader

The Rapid Response Procedure has been approved by the team. Look for an email with further details from Steve Temple, the Justice Team's Rapid Response Contact Person. If you become aware of a forthcoming justice event that you would like UUCM to be involved in, please contact Steve Temple for next steps.

We are embarked on our new series of Justice Nights. The next one, after the movie "Rigged", is a panel lead discussion by UUCM EV owners. They will talk about their experiences with their vehicles. We will also ponder a transition to a clean energy economy.



Bending the Arc of Justice Task Force Update

By Jim Perkins, BTAOJ Task Force Member

The Juneteenth Family Picnic was a success. Several UUCM members showed up to support our BIPOC residents in this annual event.

The Bending the Arc Task Force and the Justice Team sponsored a showing of "Rigged," a documentary on voter suppression on July 26. It was a great opportunity to learn more about voter suppression and what we can do about it.

We have completed a congregational survey regarding the 8th Principle. Most members feel they don't have enough information to make a decision. The August 14th Sunday service will focus on the 8th Principle.

Keith, Sue, and Jim will be meeting with the Nevada Union Joint School District in August to discuss setting up preregistration tables at NU in the fall. If people under the age of 18 preregister to vote, they will automatically be registered when they turn 18.

Bending the Arc is exploring signing up to be a "Good Trouble Congregation." This is a UUA program that recognizes congregations that meet certain numeric goals for encouraging people to vote (so many postcards sent, texts sent, etc.). It's a prodigious task but we have such a head start with our post card campaign that we may be able to pull it off. (For more about our "Vote For Our Lives" Postcard campaign, see page 6.) Stay tuned for more information.



Justice Warrior of the Month: Jim Bair

By Bernell Scott, Justice Team member

Jim Bair was born and raised in suburban Philadelphia by parents who loved classical music and the arts. After earning BS and MA degrees in college he served in the US Air Force during the Viet Nam War as a Human Factors Scientist. Jim has had an illustrious career in both research and strategic development. He worked at Stanford as a Senior Scientist and continued with Bell-Northern Research, Hewlett Packard, and Xerox. He has also worked internationally and published four books and over 70 research papers. Besides all that, he co-founded three software companies, served on boards of directors, and taught at the university level.

Locally Jim was a Grass Valley Planning Commissioner, and he says he likes to be busy working with people and currently is seeing how many positions he can juggle while keeping physically fit and enjoying the outdoors. At UUCM he is the leader of the Stop the Mine Task Force and a member of the Justice Team. His musical activities include being Song Leader at Gold Country Kiwanis, Baritone in the Grass Valley Male Voice Choir, and Patron of InConcert Sierra. The owner of "JimBairPhotography.com", he is also Chairperson of the Gold Country Welcome Club Camera Group and Photographer with the Nevada County Camera Club. If that's not enough, he is the leader of the Architectural Control Committee for the Sierra Blanca subdivision, a contributor to the Community Environmental Advocates MineWatch Committee, and a member of the Elders Action Network. Whew!

We are so fortunate to have Jim in our church and larger community. Thank you, Jim.

Community Connections – Online & In Person

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 AM VIA ZOOM OR ON-SITE

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/or In-Person

Please contact the individual organizers if you are interested in joining!

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.



HUMANISM DISCUSSION GROUP

The Humanism Discussion Group is a gathering for both those who identify as Humanists and those who are interested in learning about this philosophy. Discussions explore aspects of Humanism, as well as various topics and their connections to this belief system, with a focus on how Humanism relates to today's world. Subjects for group discussion are chosen by members and optional readings on the subjects are made available prior to the discussion.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM. When health precautions allow, we meet in person at UUCM. We Zoom the meeting for those who are not able to attend in person: [ZOOM LINK](#)

Please view the UUCM Website [CALENDAR](#) for the most up to date meeting information. For questions, please contact: Humanism@uugrassvalley.org

SINGING MEDITATION CIRCLE

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

WOMEN'S CIRCLE POTLUCK – 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 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.
Wednesdays from 8:30 to 10:30 AM at UUCM;
Thursdays from 8:30 to 10:30 AM at various offsite locations.
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

Summer Update

By Jo Waters, Leader, UUCM Family Ministry Team

Summer is always a time of turbulence in the lives of our families with young people. School is out and schedules are frequently erratic. Many people go on vacation, both long and short, and some take a vacation from UUCM. Nevertheless, our young people continue to provide a source of energy and fun in our congregation even during these hot, summer months.

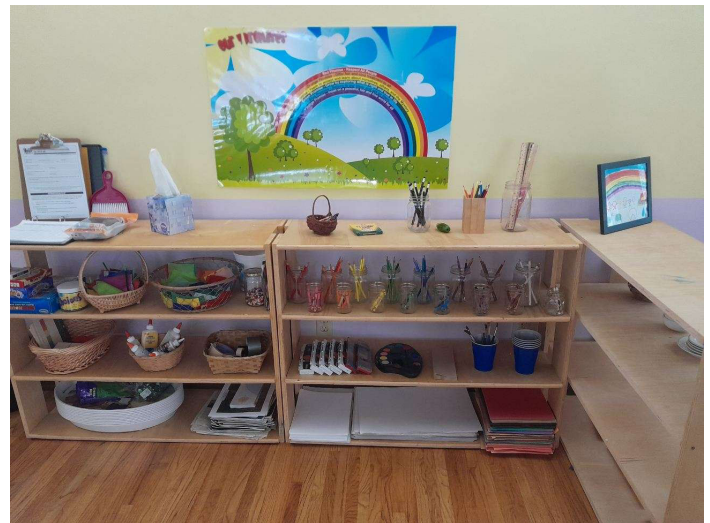
After a brief hiatus due to another vacation, Hot August Game Nights will be resuming on Wednesday nights at the Waters home: 14542 Echo Ridge Drive in Nevada City. We will gather for a potluck meal at 6:00 PM followed by a chalice lighting and an evening of games. Please RSVP to Jo Waters at (530) 414-6941. At the end of August, we will evaluate whether we want to continue into the school year.



The Service Garden continues to grow, and we should be able to provide some produce to our Nevada County Left Coalition's Mutual Aid program this month. Please contact Rene Wiley or Linda Siska if you'd like to pick some veggies.

There are two youth-oriented services in August. On August 14, Olivia Rivers Samson and Aspen Kendrick will be participating in the service exploring the proposed 8th Principle. And on August 28, Lindsay Dunckel will be leading our next All Ages Service.

In Family Ministry adjacent events, there will be a Drum Circle on Thursday August 25 at 6:30 PM.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- August 14 Two of our teens, Olivia Rivers Samson & Aspen Kendrick will participate in Service
- August 25 Drum Circle - all ages welcome
- August 28 All Ages Service, 10:30 AM, childcare available

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



Full Community Education



Making Meaningful Connections in Soul Matters Circles!

*Are you looking for deeper
connection with others, with
yourself, and with your
deepest values??*

Soul Matters Circles are small, facilitated groups of 5-8 people that meet once a month from September through June using the monthly themes as springboards and lenses for reflection and sharing. They have fostered many treasured relationships as well as surprising personal insights.

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, book suggestions, 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.

SAMPLE A CIRCLE!

In late August and early September, we'll hold Sample Circles for those who are curious and want to learn more.

- Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00-8:00 PM - at UUCM and via Zoom
- Sunday, September 11, from Noon-2:00 PM - at UUCM and via Zoom

Check out the September packet focused on the theme of "**BELONGING**"

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

If you know you are interested in participating in a Soul Matters Circle this year, or you have questions, 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.

2022-23 Soul Matters Themes

September:	Belonging
October:	Courage
November:	Change
December:	Wonder
January:	Finding Our Center
February:	Love
March:	Vulnerability
April:	Resistance
May:	Creativity
June:	Delight

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 through January of 2023:

August 7	<i>Madame Secretary</i> by Madeleine K. Albright
September 4	<i>The Ministry for the Future</i> by Kim Stanley Robinson
October 2	<i>Crome Yellow</i> by Aldous Huxley
November 6	<i>The Warmth of Other Suns</i> by Isabel Wilkerson
December 4	<i>Once There Were Wolves</i> by Charlotte McConaghy
January 8	<i>A Country Doctor</i> 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.



August 2022 Calendar of Events at UUCM

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

AUGUST 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.

1	Monday	4:00 PM	Stop the Mine Task Force
2	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
		10:15 AM	Habitat for Humanity Lunches
		4:00 PM	Caring Team Meeting
3	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Wednesday Men's Group
		10:30 AM	Humanism Discussion Group
		6:00 PM	Game Night (offsite)
		6:00 PM	Worship Team
4	Thursday	8:30 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		7:00 PM	Singing Meditation Circle
7	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		10:30 AM	Kids' Connection
		12:00 PM	Social Time
		12:30 PM	Book Group
		12:30 PM	Drop In Support Group
8	Monday	6:00 PM	Women's Circle Gathering
9	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
		6:00 PM	Bending the Arc
10	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Wednesday Men's Group
		1:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
		4:30 PM	Ministry Council Meeting
		6:00 PM	Game Night (offsite)
11	Thursday	8:30 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		2:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
13	Saturday	3:00 PM	Spirituality Sharing Circle

DATE DAY TIME EVENT DESCRIPTION

14	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Social Time
		12:30 PM	Drop In Support Group
15	Monday	5:45 PM	Family Ministry Meeting
16	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
		8:00 AM	Emergency-Shooter-Evac Session
		5:15 PM	Nisenan Project Meeting
		6:00 PM	Entry Point UU 101
17	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Wednesday Men's Group
		5:00 PM	Justice Team Meeting
		6:00 PM	Game Night (offsite)
18	Thursday	8:30 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		9:30 AM	Men's Circle
20	Saturday	8:00 AM	Building and Grounds Work Party
21	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Social Time
		12:30 PM	Drop In Support Group
23	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
		6:00 PM	Soul Matters Samples
24	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Wednesday Men's Group
		6:00 PM	Game Night (offsite)
25	Thursday	8:30 AM	Walking Group/Meet @ Houtmans'
		10:30 AM	Writers' Group
		6:00 PM	Family Ministry Drum Circle
28	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sunday Service
		12:00 PM	Social Time
		12:30 PM	Drop In Support Group
30	Tuesday	7:30 AM	Walking Group/Northstar Mine
31	Wednesday	8:30 AM	Wednesday Men's Group
		6:00 PM	Game Night (offsite)



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

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TELEPHONE

530.274.1661
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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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