

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

June 2023

## UPCOMING SERVICES

Our Sunday Services are at 10:30 AM in person  
and 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 9 for Kid-Centered Activities ...

### JUNE THEME: *The Path of Delight*

**June 4** *I've Got that Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart!*  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, Lindsay Dunckel, Worship Assoc.

*In the spirit of the Cider Sunday sharing circle and in the spirit of show-and-tell that helps us know each other, we'll sit down with Rev. Kevin just as he returns from sabbatical/renewal leave, to celebrate and to share what brings us joy and what delights us, to the tender good of our hearts. As we do, we'll honor why this matters.*

*Note: Please bring an object for the altar that symbolizes a current or a tried-and-true source of joy and delight for you.*

**June 11** *Love is the Door. Chanting is the Key.*  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, UUCM musicians, and you!  
Cheryl Morris & Gail Johnson Vaughan,  
Worship Associates

*Half-way along our journey around the sun since our December singing meditation service, we'll draw inspiration and a sense of connection, as well as joy and delight, from singing together. Rev. Kevin will be freshly informed by his study of kirtan during sabbatical/renewal leave and inspired by the path-of-love devotional traditions that seek a transcendent sense of oneness through shared singing. (NOTE: This service will involve singing songs and chants many times in a row. Some people find this deep repetition soothing and/or energizing. Others, not so much. Just so you to know in advance.)*

**June 18** *A Needle in the Haystack of Light:  
The spiritual practice of joy and delight*  
Rev. Kevin Tarsa, with Cheryl Morris and Gail  
Johnson Vaughan, Worship Associates

*In her poem, "Mindful," from which the title of this service comes, Mary Oliver writes that she was born to "instruct [herself] over and over in joy, and acclamation." On this Father's Day weekend bordering the celebration of Juneteenth and the Summer Solstice, we'll dive into the spiritual practice of joy – joy that does not ignore sorrow and pain, but rather joy that weaves itself through even the deepest woe.*

**June 25** *A Tapestry of Delight*  
Cheryl Morris, Worship Associate

*What does delight mean to YOU? Join us as three members of the congregation reflect on their experiences and thoughts about this subject, which has turned out to be deeper and less obvious than perhaps we first expected.*

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## Board of Trustees

*Pam Kisor, President,  
UUCM Board of Trustees*  
[president@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:president@uugrassvalley.org)

This will be my final month as your Board president and I want to share that, from my perspective, we are reeling a bit. We are a bit undone and have yet to find the words or understanding to fully realize how our needs have changed since Covid. How much has our Covid experience sapped our energy, changed the way we respond to things, reinforced our introversions, added to, or taken away from, our trust in just about everything?

We can take solace in the fact that we have held together, and we have found support in each other, but I do not believe that we have fully understood the ways in which we have been changed by this collective world-wide experience. This subtle undercurrent of disquiet affects us all and it may be that true understanding and healing will be a much longer process than first imagined.

I am saying this because it affects our community: the way we work, how we support our connections, and the energy we have to carry out tasks and to live our mission. Let's be sure and leave space for this healing and discovery of what we need in this liminal time between COVID's peak and whatever emerges in our post-COVID world.

Now on to my year-end report: The Board works within the framework of goals, policies, and procedures. We structure our agenda each month to pay attention to our goals and to assess our progress. We also spend time problem-solving current issues and keeping abreast of the plans and activities of our various committees and teams. And, in spite of our well-laid-out governance model, we still have surprises and challenges to take care of as they come up.

One of the major goals for this year was to accomplish a successful renewal year. At the recommendation of the Sabbatical Planning Committee, the Board took a giant

leap into the unknown and agreed to hire a virtual minister. Hindsight proves that we were wise indeed. We have virtually enjoyed the presence of Rev. Janet Onnie throughout Kevin's sabbatical. She has served us well and far beyond her "part-time" status. We have all benefitted from her insightful sermons and her wise counsel. She has been instrumental in achieving the goal of a successful renewal year, and I am most grateful for her presence. And though we call her "virtual," she has been a very real presence in our lives this year. Thank you Rev. Onnie for all you have done for us.

I think the community as a whole has done a pretty good job of achieving a successful renewal year. Our entire community of volunteers has continued to do the work of the church, continued to hold meetings, work toward goals, create Justice

opportunities, and support each other in need. We have done this without undue panic (though I had my moments) and proven that we are a capable and strong community. Kevin's absence has reinforced our self-image as capable UU'ers with faith in the betterment of our world.

But this has not been an entirely easy year for us. We are all still dealing with whatever the post-COVID world is going to look like, we all struggled through the massive snow storms this winter, and we came to the aid of member Jenny Dewey when she lost her home to

the storms. We all managed to say farewell to staff who will be missed and to welcome new staff who are ready to support us as our community grows. And we found, and then released, what appeared to be a close-to-perfect church home on Squirrel Creek Road.

This year we have also struggled with giving - both in finding adequate volunteers to do the work of the church and with our ability to pledge enough to keep the church on an even keel. I believe these struggles are, in part, a result of our post-COVID exhaustion, in part the economy, and in part that we are missing Kevin's leadership. This coming year we must find a way to help our members discern what they need, what is most important to the UUCM community as a whole, and how much we are willing to support our findings with our time,

*...Continued on Page 3*

### UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023**

Pam Kisor	<i>President</i>
Rene Wiley	<i>Vice-President</i>
Gail Schultz	<i>Treasurer</i>
Janet Dunstan	<i>Secretary</i>

#### **Members at Large:**

Taylor Carey and Lisa Haden

*Board meetings are open to all members and friends starting at 1:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month.  
If you wish to address the board, please give at least two days notice so the agenda timing can be adjusted.*

# Board of Trustees

*Continued from Page 2...*

talents, and treasure. This will be a new piece of work for us.

But maybe this work will help us decide what is truly important to us and what we can let go of. Perhaps a new goal for the upcoming year will be to clarify and simplify. How do we most directly communicate, support collaboration, build community, and work toward our mission?

In closing, I would like to make a few statements as your out-going president. I am not sure how well I did this job of leading in Kevin's absence, but I do know that I was supported every step of the way by my amazing Board and by many in the congregation. I want to thank those of you who sent me your supportive emails when tough decisions were made and thank those of you who sent your concerns as well. Everyone was open to discussion and knew that my role this year was a tough one. You are a special gang of "Good Trouble" congregants, in every sense of the word. I got to know many of you better during the past three years of my service on the Board and I am so appreciative of your values, your caring and your intellect! I think we may be a group of unusually strong, smart, and opinionated people. Sometimes prickly, but mostly always loving, and that is saying quite a lot. I look forward to this new year with a new president, and I know that you will give René as much support and grace as you have given me. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president. I feel blessed to be a part of this community.

Namaste,  
*Pam*



## Stewardship

*Maryann Currington,  
Leader, Stewardship Team*

Our 2023-2024 Pledge Campaign ended with a triumph! I can almost hear a celestial orchestra playing, "We are the Champions."

We began this year's campaign concerned about both a loss of pledging members and an increase of expenses. UUCM was not an anomaly. Small businesses, churches, and civic organizations were feeling the effects of three years of financial uncertainty.

At the point in time when the Finance Team and Stewardship



were most concerned that UUCM would operate with a deficit budget, something brilliant happened. A wise anonymous member presented us with a challenge: this member would match any increase in a member's 2023-2024 original pledge, up to \$10,000. We could have, possibly, \$20,000 more in our operating budget! Our most generous members quickly responded, and we reached \$7,600. It was uncertain that we would reach \$10,000. Then the true heart and spirit of UUCM pulled through! A member posted that they could give up their favorite cup of coffee each month and add the \$10 to their original pledge. Many others (who I know watch their budgets carefully) followed this generous model and in no time we met the \$10,000 goal. In fact, we reached \$11,370. We added \$21,020 to our pledge totals and nearly closed our budget deficit!

"Money can't buy you happiness" is a wise old saying but, in certain circumstances it doesn't apply. In this instance, money, truly generously given, without expectation of personal gain, brings spiritual grace and inner joy.

This is the last article I'll be writing as Stewardship Chairperson. And I'm writing this with a sense of admiration and love for our UUCM membership. We rose to the matching pledge challenge. We rose to the "Stop the Mine" challenge. We rose to the restoration of the Nisenan Land challenge, and we are continuously working to challenge the carbon threat to our environment.

I am personally thankful to have had this opportunity to serve my beloved community. Generosity, like service and giving your time, is an act of spirituality. The rewards grow as your commitment grows. I feel a strong bond to UUCM. I developed friendships with team members that I value. I got to work closely with Anita, who will always be my role model. She's living a strong, committed, generous, active, and very long life. Lesley Champlin, Lin Jovanovich, and Susan Merrill each had skills that blended to create a thoughtful, diligent team that got us through the difficult tasks of Stewardship during our Covid years.

Finally, a very sincere thank you to all who have generously pledged for our 2023-2024 fiscal year. There are still a few members who have not sent in their pledges. Making a yearly pledge and fulfilling the previous year's pledge are a condition of membership. If you need a pledge form or have special circumstances this year, please contact me at:

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

*With Love and Respect,*

*-Maryann*





## Parish Care

Gwen Eymann  
Leader, UUCM Parish Care Team  
[Caring@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Caring@uugrassvalley.org)

*We all need extra care sometimes on our journey through life.*

The UUCM Parish Care Team is here to help organize practical support for members and friends through times of need, offering support such as home or hospital visits, transportation to local appointments, a ride to UUCM on Sunday, preparing or delivering a meal, shopping, and essential errands. The Parish Care Team also sends cards of caring and celebration, makes friendly phone calls and visits, and assists with hosting and refreshments at memorial services.

As Unitarian Universalists we believe that we all share in the responsibility for one another's care, and we invite all members and friends of UUCM to become actively involved in this wonderfully important opportunity for service. If interested in supporting this work, please fill out this brief [Parish Care Team Volunteer Survey](#) to identify tasks you would be willing to do on occasion. The Parish Caring Team will contact you as needs arise.

For more information, to request care, or to share word of someone in need of care, please contact us at: [Caring@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Caring@uugrassvalley.org)



### PARISH CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

Gwen Eymann, *chair*,  
Jenny Dewey, Magdalene Florence, Robin Hart,  
Carol Hyndman, Anne Lyon, Cheryl Morris



## Lay Pastoral Care Team

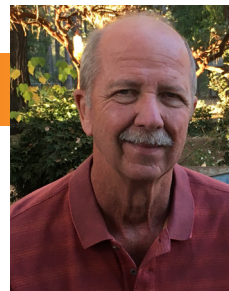
### Are You Facing a Life Challenge?

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 contact 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 or email: [laypastoralcare@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:laypastoralcare@uugrassvalley.org)



## B & G Team

Wally Holtan, *Leader*,  
Building & Grounds Team  
[B-G@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:B-G@uugrassvalley.org)

### Getting Stuff Done While Having Fun!

The Building & Grounds Team manages our day-to-day facility needs and goals for improvements for our church's physical environment. We seek volunteers that are willing to help us meet those needs through work parties and project development. These are individuals who like doing projects, repairs, cleaning, or working outside in gardens and yards. There are no requirements for joining, other than enjoying hands-on tasks and working with others.

Whether you are new to UUCM or have been a part of it for a while, if you would like to meet people while doing some fun and interesting things, the UUCM Building & Grounds Team is a good place to start.

*-Wally*

### Bright Blue Eyes

#### A Profile of Siobhan Boylan by Jenny Dewey

When first meeting Siobhan Boylan, one is struck by her bright blue eyes. And then, immediately, her big smile and welcoming expression.

My first encounter with Siobhan occurred some years ago when she was circling from room to room in the UUCM building, urging people in the congregation to sign up for something. I can't remember what she was "selling," but I remember the fresh openness of her approach. I was struck by her lack of shyness, her ability to go from one person to another with an almost childlike eagerness. She was dressed, if I remember right, like an elf.

For some, her name has been a stumbling block. Siobhan is a Gaelic name. Siobhan's older sister was christened with all the requisite family names, so none were left over when Siobhan made her appearance. She has always liked her name.

Siobhan's history reflects strong intellectual energy, the story of someone determined to think and act in forceful, meaningful ways. Her experiences and passions include map-making. She made maps with fabric and homemade paper. At one point she thought about opening a paper-making studio.

Siobhan trained to be a teacher. In her words: "I love teaching best of all." Her teaching career ended when the Covid pandemic made its appearance. Returning

to the classroom meant dealing with children who had been isolated for too long, separated from friends, unable to develop social skills. The youngest children had no concept of being away from home. They required

the reassurance of an adult at their side every minute. In a class of twenty-plus little kids, this is an impossible expectation.

Siobhan claims she was not a good teacher, this despite her well-defined list of what she views as essential teaching tools: learning through play, writing personal narratives, learning about language through writing, and more.

At first glance it is surprising to see Siobhan sitting at the Audio-Visual table during Sunday services. A dedication to getting it right – as in perfect – is evident, exactly as it was when she was a teacher or an elf.



*Siobhan's Mantra: "Never Grow Up!"*

Summing up Siobhan's abilities, pinning down the composition of this person, is difficult. Her range of interests and experiences is broad and defies categorizing. Some of us are adept with technical matters, others with artistic and creative endeavors. Siobhan covers both bases. She is someone easily described as multi-talented. Skills in communicating are clearly evident in the openness of her smile, and of course those bright blue eyes.

# PRIDE FAMILY PICNIC



## FOOD, GAMES, & FUN!

Saturday, June 24th | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Gather to celebrate our love  
and diversity in LGBTQIA+

- Kid-centric fun for all ages
- Sides potluck, hot and veggie dogs provided
- Save the planet, bring your own plate



Condon Park, BBQ Pavilion, Grass Valley

Volunteer! Email: [QueerFamiliesNC@gmail.com](mailto:QueerFamiliesNC@gmail.com)

Presented by:



Stanford Sierra  
Youth & Families



NEVADA  
COUNTY  
CALIFORNIA

Behavioral  
Health





## Justice News and Activities

### *Bending the Arc Task Force Asks: WHAT ARE YOUR JUSTICE INTERESTS?*

*By Jim Perkins*

The Bending the Arc Task Force held its retreat last month in which we named our initiatives for the coming year. Now we would like to give you an opportunity to tell us how you would like to be involved in our activities to "create a world more compassionate, sustainable, and just." Follow this link to a brief survey listing our initiatives and opportunities for participating in each of them:

#### [Bending the Arc Task Force Interest Form](#)

Please take a few minutes to review and complete the survey. Then we will contact you when opportunities arise.

## Share the Plate

UUCM's April Share the Plate recipient, [Nevada County Citizens for Choice](#), will receive \$1,020.81, thanks to generous UUCM members, friends, and visitors. These weekly donations add up - thank you all!

As of this writing, we are currently finishing up collections for our May partner, [Child Advocates of Nevada County](#) - Services That Empower and Protect Children.

*The KARE Crisis Nursery, Inc.*



*Kids Assistance and Respite in Emergencies*

Our June Share the Plate recipient is [Kare Crisis Nursery](#). It is the vision of the KARE Crisis Nursery that all children in our community will be able to grow and thrive, free from the threat or possibility of child abuse and/or neglect. The mission is to provide shelter and respite for the children and assistance to their families who are facing a crisis and to safely and effectively supervise court-ordered visitations for families seeking reunification.

*Thank you, each of you, for your continual compassion- and justice-centered generosity.*

### *Stop the Mine Task Force Update* THE "STOP THE MINE TASK FORCE" MAKES A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION

*By Jim Bair, Stop the Mine Task Force Leader*

Our Justice Team was a major force! When the five Nevada County Planning Commissioners voted unanimously to recommend rejecting the Rise Gold Corp. ("the Mine") proposal, many of us in the packed (several hundred attended) Nevada County Board Chambers cried tears of joy. The Commissioners cited our overwhelming community opposition as one of the important reasons they voted no.

The UUCM Stop-the-Mine Task Force was second only to the MineWatch organization in actively opposing the project. We initially enlisted UUCM members to write 359 letters of opposition to the county, citing heinous damage to our people and environment by reopening a huge gold mine. We set up and ran information tables at key locations around the area and attracted hundreds of citizens who signed the MineWatch Stop-the-Mine petition (over 5,500 signatures were submitted to the county.)

We developed reports, fact sheets, handouts, posters, and presentations to show the negative environmental impacts. One of our task force members even wrote to the Rise Gold Corp. Board of Directors in Canada asking them to consider the destructiveness of their huge industrial factory in the midst of family residences. We provided detailed analysis to the county on the economic reports that falsely claimed the Mine's financial benefits to our community. Our letters to the editor of The Union were posted on the MineWatch websites.

We became a resource for the Board of Supervisors and had meetings with three of them. In addition, when the Planning Commissioners made their declarations at the hearing, they used our material and identified our UUCM task force leader as one of two key contacts. Overall, there wasn't a single public meeting about the Mine where we were not present.

One of our contributions was making public the Mine's attempt to erase an earthquake fault line running through their industrial facility. After the revelation of that attempt at the hearing, an earthquake shook the Chambers and set off alarms! What could be more improbable . . . and more timely?

Our work is not done. We need to help the Supervisors make the final decision in August.

***Let's continue to counter greed with truth.  
Onward together!***

[www.uugrassvalley.org/justice/stop-the-mine-task-force/](http://www.uugrassvalley.org/justice/stop-the-mine-task-force/)

# Community Connections – Online & In Person

## Staying Connected

### WEEKLY @ UUCM

[Subscribe to the weekly e-chalice](#) for Zoom links and phone numbers. If you need links, please contact [uucmOnline@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:uucmOnline@uugrassvalley.org)

### SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 AM VIA ZOOM OR IN PERSON

*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/mask policy may also change.*



### SUNDAY DROP-IN

#### SUPPORT CIRCLE - 12:00 PM

The Circle's mission is to provide confidential peer support for UUCM folks on a drop-in basis (now also via Zoom - get link [HERE](#)) 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.

## Make Connections at UUCM

Please contact the organizers if you are interested in joining!

### WALKING GROUP - NEW START TIME!

Hey sleepy heads! With the warmer weather and longer days, our walking group now meets at **8:00 AM**. We meet on **Thursdays** at 418 Chapel, Grass Valley, and on **Tuesdays** at the Wolf Creek Trail. Be sure to ask our Administrative Assistant to include you on our walking group mailing list so you can be informed of last minute changes.

Email [Walking@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Walking@uugrassvalley.org) for info.

### MEN'S GROUPS

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



### HUMANISM DISCUSSION GROUP

#### FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:30 AM

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.

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](mailto:Humanism@uugrassvalley.org)

### SINGING MEDITATION CIRCLE

#### FIRST THURSDAYS, 7:00 PM, ONSITE AND VIA ZOOM

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

### WOMEN'S GROUP MONTHLY POTLUCK –

#### SECOND MONDAYS, 6:00 PM

All UUCM women (and friends!) are invited to any Women's Group gathering. Come make connections with other UUCM women!

Our next meeting is **Monday, June 12 at UUCM**. We plan to have an outdoor meeting at a local park, have a potluck picnic, followed by arts and crafts with Robin Hart. We'll send out more details to the Women's Group email list a week ahead of the meeting.

If you are not on the Women's Group email list, please send an email to our Administrative Assistant, Siobhan Boylan, at: [admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto: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.



## Expressing Delight Completely

By Cheryl Spaulding,  
UUCM Family Ministry Team Member

At this time of year, delight seems abundant. We take delight in the spring weather, foliage, and flowers. We take delight in making plans for our summer excursions to places near and far. Soon we will be taking delight in welcoming Rev. Kevin home from his sabbatical. Delight seems to rise up in us spontaneously, without much in the way of planning, thought, or effort.

C.S. Lewis reminds us, however, that the process of fully experiencing delight requires more of us than simply waiting for it to spontaneously appear. "Delight is incomplete until it is expressed," according to Lewis. Children have a special ability to express their delight with squeals and skips and wide-eyed smiling faces. For them, delight is complete because it is spontaneously felt and effortlessly expressed. By the time we reach adulthood, many of us have learned to hold our delight privately, to avoid overt expressions of delight in the mistaken belief that it is not of interest or significance to the people around us. This month our theme of delight invites us to experience our delights completely by intentionally sharing them with each other.

May we all experience child-like delight, may we express our delights freely and generously, and may our delights be complete.

### ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH INCLUDE:

**LGBTQ+ Pride Family Picnic, Saturday, June 24, 4-7 PM:** Picnic will take place at Condon Park Picnic Pavilion. For more information link to [nevadacountypride.org](http://nevadacountypride.org) and look for the events page. Also, see the flyer on page 6 of this newsletter.

**Brunch Bunch Sunday, June 25:** Meet in front of the building on the patio after the service (11:30-11:45 AM). Young people (11 and up) walk to a local sandwich shop to eat, talk, and get to know each other. Forward questions about this event to [familyministry@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:familyministry@uugrassvalley.org).

**Kids' Connection**, every Sunday service in June.

### FUTURE ACTIVITIES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

**UUCM Camping Trip, August 18-20** at Plumas Eureka State Park. See the camping announcement under Membership News. *It's not too late to join the trip.*

Forward questions to Beth Rose at [membership@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:membership@uugrassvalley.org) or Shannon at [shannondooleymiller@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:shannondooleymiller@uugrassvalley.org).



Robin Hart, Leader,  
Art & Aesthetics Team  
[art@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:art@uugrassvalley.org)

## Art and Aesthetics Team

The Linda Siska art quilts exhibit is currently in place and an artist's reception in May was very well attended.

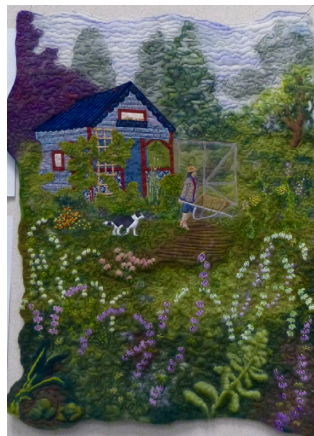
### MURAL UPDATE:

The A&A team has chosen to rework the approach to the Mural Contest, as announced last month, and instead will develop a more collaborative project for the mural creation. Stay tuned for details.

### LIBRARY ART GALLERY SHOW SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Linda Siska – Art Quilts – May 15 – July 15

Lisa Haden – Art Works – July 15 – September 15



### Linda Siska

Featured artist  
at our UUCM Library  
Art Gallery from  
May 15 – July 15

Take care, enjoy the sunshine,  
and keep a rainbow in your hearts!

- Robin

# Full Community Education



## Soul Matters: Welcome to the Path of Delight

*Because the road  
turns long and lonely sometimes,  
I built this box of delight.  
I picked up the lid  
and into it I put...*

My children laughing, together.  
The look of giddy disbelief on my  
mother's face when that black-  
capped chickadee swooped in and  
landed next to her knee, waking her up  
from her Alzheimered daze.

The bitter bite of rhubarb pie smothered by a  
spoonful of half-melted vanilla ice cream.  
That field of fireflies at the bottom of the West Virginia hills.  
Roahl Dahl or Neil Gaiman's books read at bedtime.  
Kick ball.

Being pulled through a snowy field on a saucer sled  
tied to the bumper of my dad's Chevy Vega with tire chains  
wrapped around every wheel.

Deep dish pizza. The smell of a tangerine. French press.  
The first bite of a perfectly made croissant, proving that  
decadence sometimes purifies the soul.

An artichoke, with no limits on the butter.

Mixtapes made with tunes from the eighties.

Sweatshirts worn faithfully for 20 years, their holes a reminder  
that to be used up is a gift.

The first fall tree to boldly burn red while its less-brave siblings  
stay safely green.

Stumbling on black raspberries while walking in the woods;  
No, scratch that. Instead let's put in having a loved one save  
you some black raspberries they found in the woods.

Seeing the smile on my claustrophobic wife's face  
after finally snorkeling in the waters of St. John.

That sweet, night owl quiet when worries don't seem  
so big or so scary.

My 6 year-old daughter writing "I love you Mom and Dad" on  
our car seat, in permanent marker.

The way subway street musicians suddenly turn strangers  
into fellow humans.

The feeling of getting warm after being cold.

My wife's laugh, and how much I love her toes.

And the knowledge that all this will be gone,  
but is not gone yet.

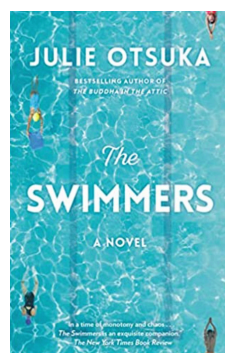
That's what's in my box.  
I wonder what you'll put in yours.

## Sunday Book Group

USUALLY THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 12:30 PM  
IN THE CHANNING ROOM AT UUCM

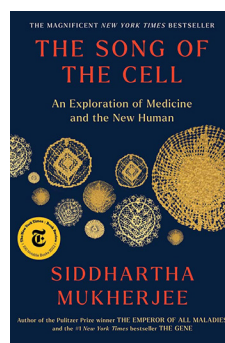
CONTACT: Theresa at [BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:BookGroupInfo@uugrassvalley.org)

Our summer reads will be the two books listed below. We will  
take a break in August and have removed the August selection  
from our list.



**Sunday June 11, *The Swimmers***  
by Julie Otsuka, (Pub. 2022, 192 pages).  
An intensely touching novel – part  
memoir highlights the relationship  
between the author and her mother.  
The author sensitively weaves the  
progression of her mother's dementia  
into the storyline as well as an  
insightful and humorous story about  
the community pool members. The  
repetitive language structure enhances  
this endearing book.

Presenter: Judith Gropp



**Sunday July 9, *The Song of the Cell***  
by Siddhartha Mukherjee, 2022, 496 pg

In this highly reviewed book, Mukherjee,  
a Pulitzer Prize winner, tells the story of  
how scientists discovered cells, began  
to understand them, and are now  
using them to create new humans. He  
seduces you with writing so vivid, lucid,  
and suspenseful that complex science  
becomes thrilling.

Presenter Joel Houtman

.....

Our book group is always open! Join us to delve into any book  
that piques your interest as often as you wish. We meet for an  
hour or so. You are welcome to bring your lunch; several of us  
meet in the Channing room prior to the meeting to eat ours  
together, or you may eat during our discussion.

### ZOOM LINK:

<https://zoom.us/j/9271118322?pwd=c2w5M0VoMEdvKzVLQkIFUzJ3S2Zndz09>

Meeting ID: 927 1111 8322

Passcode: 472984

# June 2023 Calendar of Events at UUCM

For the most current version of the UUCM Monthly Calendar, please click this link: <https://www.uugrassvalley.org/calendar/>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<b>10:30</b> The Goat in the Pick-up Truck – Reverend Onnie <b>10:45</b> Kids' Connection <b>12:00</b> Drop-In Support Group		<b>8:30</b> Tuesday Walking Group	<b>8:30</b> Men's Group  <b>6:30</b> Adult Choir  <b>7:00</b> FY 23-24 Budget Meeting #2	<b>8:00</b> Thursday Walking Group  <b>7:00</b> Singing Meditation	<b>4:15</b> UUCM Strings Ensemble	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>10:30</b> I've Got That Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart! <b>10:45</b> Kids' Connection <b>12:00</b> Drop-In Support Group <b>1:00</b> Youth DnD  <b>1:00</b> Annual Community Business Meeting	<b>4:00</b> Stop the Mine Task Force	<b>8:00</b> Tuesday Walking Group  <b>4:00</b> Parish Care Team Meeting	<b>8:30</b> Men's Group  <b>10:30</b> Humanism Discussion Group <b>6:30</b> Adult Choir	<b>8:00</b> Thursday Walking Group  <b>9:30</b> Men's Circle of Trust <b>10:30</b> Writers' Group <b>2:00</b> Finance Committee Meeting <b>6:00</b> Worship Team Meeting	<b>4:15</b> UUCM Strings Ensemble	<b>3:00</b> Spirituality Sharing Circle
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>10:30</b> Love is the Door. Chanting is the Key. <b>10:45</b> Kids' Connection <b>12:00</b> Drop-In Support Group <b>12:30</b> Book Group	<b>6:00</b> Women's Circle	<b>8:00</b> Tuesday Walking Group  <b>6:00</b> Bending the Arc Taskforce	<b>8:30</b> Men's Group  <b>4:30</b> Ministry Council Meeting <b>6:30</b> Adult Choir	<b>8:00</b> Thursday Walking Group	<b>4:15</b> UUCM Strings Ensemble	<b>9:00</b> Building and Grounds Workday
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>10:30</b> A Needle in the Haystack of Light: The spiritual practice of joy and delight <b>10:45</b> Kids' Connection <b>12:00</b> Drop-In Support Group		<b>8:00</b> Tuesday Walking Group  <b>5:15</b> Nisenan Project Team Meeting	<b>8:30</b> Men's Group  <b>1:30</b> Board of Trustees Meeting <b>5:00</b> Justice Team Meeting <b>6:30</b> Adult Choir	<b>8:00</b> Thursday Walking Group  <b>10:30</b> Writers' Group	<b>4:15</b> UUCM Strings Ensemble	
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
<b>10:30</b> A Tapestry of Delight <b>10:45</b> Kids' Connection <b>12:00</b> Drop-In Support Group		<b>8:00</b> Tuesday Walking Group	<b>8:30</b> Men's Group  <b>6:30</b> Adult Choir	<b>8:00</b> Thursday Walking Group	<b>4:15</b> UUCM Strings Ensemble	





## Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

Telephone: (530) 274-1675

Website: [uugrassvalley.org](http://uugrassvalley.org)

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

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

*(Our Administrative Assistant is available by phone or email until 5:00 PM, M-F)*

**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](mailto:minister@uugrassvalley.org)

### UUCM STAFF MEMBERS

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Siobhan Boylan,  
*Administrative Assistant*

Toby Thomas-Rose, *Music Director*

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**Mountain Chalice Newsletter submissions are due by the 20th of the month prior to publishing.**

*Submit by filling out the online announcement form on our website, or here:*

**[Article Submission Form](#)**

**VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS:** Kathryn Young, Design/Layout, Lesley Champlin, Editing/Proofreading