

# the Mountain Chalice



Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

April 2026

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**Our Sunday Services are at 9:00 AM Onsite ONLY, and 11:00 AM Onsite and Zoom and Kids' Connection.**

***If you've been exposed to Covid, RSV, the flu, or are just not feeling well, please attend online.***

**TO JOIN THE ZOOM SERVICE AT 11:00 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 11 for Kid-Centered Activities ...

### APRIL THEME: EMBRACING POSSIBILITY

**April 5**     **Rebirthing Expectation and Possibility**  
Rev. Kevin with Marlene Bottenfield,  
Worship Associate

*We begin our exploration of this month's theme "Embracing Possibility" with Easter Sunday, which traditionally honors sacrifice and rebirth to an energy more powerful than perceived before. Are we ready to rebirth something in our individual lives and in our community? Is Love our Savior?*

**April 12**     **Reflecting on Relating Across Differences**  
Tracy Pepper with Marlene Bottenfield,  
Worship Associate

*As UUCM is preparing to move into a new building and expand our circle, we are invited to consider the possibilities before us. Tracy Pepper will reflect on how growing communities deepens understanding across differences and strengthens connections. The service will also introduce the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), a tool that helps individuals and communities build greater cultural awareness and empathy.*

**April 19**     **Creating a Green Sanctuary**  
Rev. Kevin, Jax, Jim Bair,  
and Marlene Bottenfield, Worship Associate

*The UUCM Green Sanctuary Task Force invites all UUs to live the principle of thinking globally and acting locally. By caring for the Earth and addressing environmental and climate justice, we*

*commit to practical actions: recycling more, driving less, using less energy, less plastic, and sharing that experience with each other and with our community.*

**April 26**     **Honoring the Past and the New**  
UUCM Worship Team with Rev. Kevin and  
Marlene Bottenfield, Worship Associate

*We honor UUCM's transition this Sunday by remembering and celebrating the memories and milestones at 246 South Church Street. In the process, we honor the journey of those who continually create this community seeking a world of greater compassion, sustainability, and justice.*

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# Board of Trustees

Carol Richey, President,  
UUCM Board of Trustees  
[President@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:President@uugrassvalley.org)

While getting my morning dose of news, I learned about a decision-making process that Iran employs to fight the war against the U.S. It's referred to as the OODA loop, which stands for Observe, Orient, Decide, and Act. It was developed by US Air Force Colonel John Boyd in the early 1970s and is used in many situations requiring agility. I realized that this is very similar to the decision-making process we are going through to prepare the Squirrel Creek church for our occupancy during the first week of June and our first service on June 7.

The Facilities Preparation Committee (FPC) and its subcommittees have taken time to get to know as much as possible about the building, our resources (time, talent, and treasure), various vendors and advisors, and the time it takes to complete jobs. As we make our way through the many discoveries and possible choices, it has become a regular need to orient ourselves to new realities. Eight weeks before moving in, the list of decisions we have made is short. The need to continue cycling through the loop – observe, orient, decide has pushed us to the edge of the need to act now, with confidence that we are doing what's best for the congregation and acting as good stewards of the capital campaign funds many of you have donated.

You would think that hiring movers is straightforward but even that process had to go through a couple of loops. I could make a list of the many discoveries we made, and some of you may be interested. If so, join a team! The need for gathering information, soliciting input, advising, and making recommendations is in demand. We can always use more leaders. Of course, taking on tasks is important too. Vacuuming the carpets before getting them cleaned, repairing chairs, and finding burnt out lightbulbs are just a few of the many opportunities available for volunteers.

Of course, the building is usable the way it is now. The same tenant was there for 18 years and held services twice a week and made do with the status quo. Our services are different than theirs were so one of our top priorities is preparing the sanctuary so that people can see song lyrics and other video presentations, hear audio from speakers and musicians, and attend services on Zoom. The heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system works but is very old and inadequate for the large sanctuary. We don't have the funds to replace the entire system, so we plan to make changes in phases. As we use the building, we will decide how urgent this needs to be. These two items will use half our available funds.

We're also working on getting the building secured, painting and cleaning or replacing carpeting, replacing damaged light fixtures, purchasing tables and chairs for the social hall, coming into compliance with the regular testing of our well water, making the stage more accessible, getting a new street front sign and appropriate signs inside the building, and basic appliances for the kitchen. There are many more things on the list that will have to wait until the funds and other resources are available. Meantime, we are still looping our way through the priority list as new discoveries come into play.

This work is both challenging and gratifying. Being part of a team focused on long-term mission fulfillment and membership growth at UUCM makes the experience especially rewarding. I encourage you to find a way to serve and help ensure the future success of our beloved community.

*In service,*

*- Carol*

## UUCM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026**

Carol Richey	<i>President</i>
Jeff Gold	<i>Vice President</i>
Gail Schulz	<i>Treasurer</i>
Lin Jovanovic	<i>Secretary</i>

**Members at Large:**

Charlene Dugan, Gwen Eymann, and Mark Grove

*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.*



## Words from the Worship Team

Cheryl Morris and Carol Nimick  
Worship Team Co-Leaders  
[Worship@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Worship@uugrassvalley.org)



The clock is ticking! So much energy at both Church Street and Squirrel Creek locations, and such a mix of emotions! An ending, a beginning, loss, change, sadness, excitement, it's all there. The Worship Team as individuals share in all of this, but as a team we are working to find the big picture. We see our role and contribution as focused on the spiritual aspects of the move. What is needed? How do we support and challenge and model? How do we create space and rituals to capture the experiences and feelings of this time we are all moving through?

We hope the Sunday services are meaningful and helpful. If you have ideas for what you want to see in these final weeks before the move, please let us know. We have noticed great participation in the various teams that are at work, and both newcomers and old timers are stepping up. We are your worship team, and we love hearing from you.

- Cheryl & Carol

## Monthly Evening Service

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE  
FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 TO 8:00 PM  
GENTLE MUSIC BEGINS AT 6:30 PM

This month's service: **Monday, March 2, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

It's a simple but moving service. We will sing hymns, join in meditation, and take part in a Joys and Sorrows ritual where all are welcome to share aloud with the group the joys and/or sorrows in their hearts that night.



## Upcoming Soul Matters Themes

April: Embracing Possibility  
May: Awakening Curiosity  
June: Flourishing Together



## The Minister

Rev. Kevin Tarsa  
UUCM Minister

## Where's Rev. Kevin?

There's a lot going on at UUCM! Rev. Kevin's column will return next month.

- Rev. Kevin

## MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS



Rev. Kevin's office hours are usually held  
Tuesday through Thursday afternoons.

Email [Admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Admin@uugrassvalley.org)  
or call the office at (530) 274-1675  
to schedule an appointment

## Stewardship Team



Who we can **BE**, what we can **DO**...

### Please Submit Your Pledges NOW!

During March, our team of visiting stewards conducted one-on-one visits with members and pledging friends. Whether you were the visitor or “visitee,” thank you for taking the time to talk about UUCM’s future.

If you have not yet submitted your pledges for the combined annual pledge drive and capital campaign, **please do so**. You can drop off your pledge form at the UUCM office or make your pledge [ONLINE](#).

Pledges are critical to our day-to-day functioning. Please help us plan for the coming year by submitting yours.

Regarding our capital campaign, many members and friends have made generous donations. Combined with the proceeds from the sale of South Church Street, these donations will allow us to move into the Squirrel Creek campus with little outstanding debt and enough money to cover basic repairs. We are hoping, however, to move beyond basic repairs to realizing some of the wonderful ideas shared during our recent Congregational Dinner. Let’s make it happen!

If you have any questions, contact one of the Stewardship Team co-chairs, Gail Schulz ([Stewardship@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Stewardship@uugrassvalley.org)) or Gail Johnson Vaughn ([GailJV@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:GailJV@uugrassvalley.org)).

– YOUR STEWARDSHIP 2026 TEAM



Our hard-working crew of teens who served at the Kick Off Dinner

## Membership



Laura Harter  
Chair, Membership Team  
[membership@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:membership@uugrassvalley.org)

Change is in the air! Our move to Squirrel Creek is exciting and full of possibilities, and it comes with loss and uncertainty, too. While some of us land firmly on one end or the other on this emotional spectrum, I suspect most of us bounce around.

I love the line from Octavia Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*, “All that you touch, you Change. All that you change, changes you. The only lasting truth is change.” Some of us resist change, while others embrace it. Fortunately, we are making room to imagine new possibilities, to help, as well as grieve. I hope you can find comfort in the following:

- There is a grief group forming about the move – see Ruth Edwards for details.
- There are many ways to help pack, clean, unpack, paint, or work in the yard – busy hands and fun mingling go together. There are also solo projects to choose from. See Laurie Bell for more info.
- I hope you receive **The Bridge eNewsletter** for updates about the move.
- Many “business as usual” activities continue – check out the eChalice and website.
- There is one more **Starting Point** to be scheduled for April – see Ruth Edwards or sign up online. <https://www.uugrassvalley.org/starting-point/> It may be two sessions instead of five.

### KITCHEN AND HOSPITALITY UPDATE

Our Kitchen Tour on March 13 was a good time. Lots of enthusiasm and practical suggestions for both short-term and long-term planning.

#### Our discussion boiled down to five areas:

- Moving Prep and Planning for Squirrel Creek
- Moving Prep at UUCM
- Unpacking
- Revamping and Restoring Our Food Service
- Research of Commissary/Commercial Kitchen Certification

Stay tuned for dates to roll up your sleeves to help make our new Kitchen and Social Hall inviting and ready to go. Or reach out to Laura at [hospitality@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:hospitality@uugrassvalley.org) for more info.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Laura

**MEMBERSHIP TEAM:** Laura Harter, Chair,  
Jim Bair, Laurie Bell, Ruth Edwards, and Susan Merrill



## A &A Team

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



## Parish Care

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

## Our Current Exhibit features Jeff Gold

Our final exhibition in the Church Street building will be one of our more unusual. Jeff Gold will be showing his architectural drawings from over the years, many of them from places you might recognize. Please plan to stop by, take in his display and ask any questions that may arise. I, for one, am really looking forward to this last frontier.



### Jeff Gold, ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBIT MARCH - MAY, 2026

Jeff had a detailed biography of his architectural journey in last month's Mt Chalice, which you can find on our UUCM website.

## Nominating Committee

Your UUCM Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for two Board of Trustee positions: Treasurer and Member-at-Large, as well as three Nominating Committee members.

Elections will take place at our annual Community Business Meeting at a to-be-determined date, sometime between June and September. Candidates for Treasurer need not hold a business degree, nor be a financial wizard. A willingness and ability to learn software with support from helpful tutorials is necessary, and a love of logic, math, and numbers is certainly a plus. Our current treasurer, Gail Schulz, has generously offered to serve as a hands-on mentor for the future treasurer. This is a great chance to learn the ropes from a well-seasoned, highly experienced board member who has thoroughly enjoyed her time serving in that role.

Current and former UUCM Board members often describe their time on the board as dynamic, fun, collegial, meaningful work in service to our UUCM community. This is an opportunity for growth and learning and to give back to our community in an especially appreciated way. Thanks for considering it!

Complete job descriptions can be found [HERE](#). Please indicate interest or ask for further information by contacting the Nominating Committee: [nomcom@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:nomcom@uugrassvalley.org)

## WE ALL NEED EXTRA CARE SOMETIMES ON OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE.

UUCM Parish Care 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 volunteers also send cards of caring and celebration, make friendly phone calls and visits, and assist 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 supporting this work interests you, please fill out this brief [Parish Care Volunteer Survey](#) to identify tasks you would be willing to do on occasion. The Parish Care coordinator 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)

## 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 companionship presence from one of our team members might be helpful to you.

#### LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEMBERS:

George Dunstan, Gwen Eymann, Carol Grant, Sue Gregory, and Corrie Silva, or you can email the whole team: [LayPastoralCare@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:LayPastoralCare@uugrassvalley.org)

### Embracing Possibility

A Special Feature by Jennifer Dewey

There was every chance I'd get the best girl-piglet ever since the pig I'd been promised was going to be the offspring of my father's famous sow, she who produced twenty-two piglets or more with each stunning delivery.

The sow's name was Gwendolyn, after King Arthur's wife, she who betrayed him by running off with Sir Lancelot. Turns out our Gwendolyn had the same tendency to run off with the best looking and most arrogant boar of all the pigs in the pigpens.

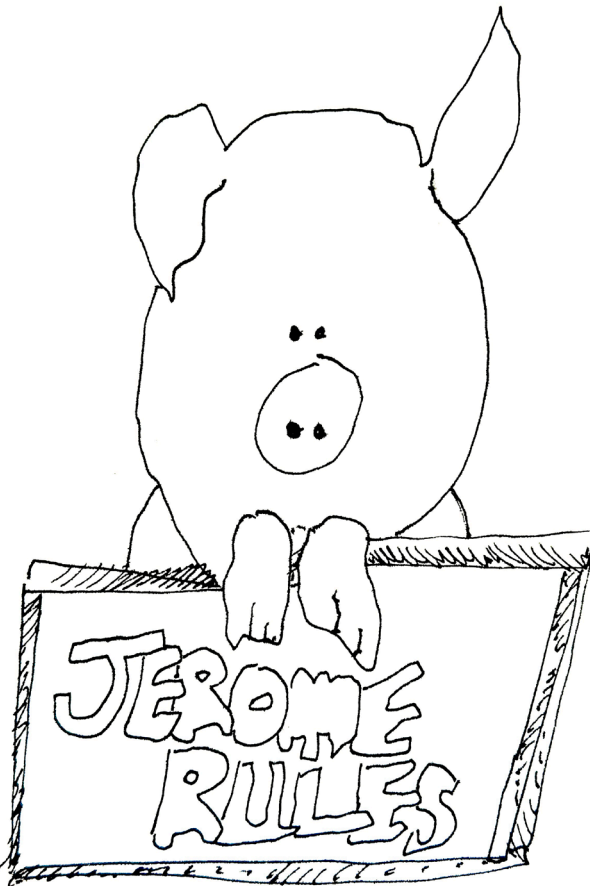
I wanted a girl. Boars are hard to raise. Scary. Bill, the wrangler, told me he was in charge of which piglet I got. He wanted the best for me. He knew my 4-H project depended on it.

Gwendolyn's newest litter arrived at 2:00 AM on a warm summer night. Bill knocked on my screen door, and I raced down to the pens in my pajamas. Gwendolyn was never a pig to disappoint.

By the time I got to Gwendolyn's pen she'd already dropped fifteen piglets. The tiny, pale-pink bodies lay curled in straw, slits for eyes, wriggly tails like discarded pieces of rubber bands.

The babies kept coming until there was a total of twenty-one. Bill inspected each newborn, turning it in his hands like a precious diamond. He was a man of few words, and in this much-anticipated moment he said nothing. I held my breath. Waiting was torture. Finally, Bill handed me a piglet and he said "This is the right one for you. He's perfect. He's strong for a runt."

A runt? I couldn't believe my ears. Plus, this tiny morsel of pig was a boy, destined to grow into a boar. Even after neutering boars have disagreeable temperaments.



Bill was my best friend, my pal. Questioning him about the runt was a thing I would never do.

Bill's final words when I took the ten-inch-long rag-swaddled infant in my hands were, "He'll do well by you, and you by him. I feel it in my bones."

At sunrise with the runt in my lap sucking on a baby bottle, I searched the Encyclopedia for names.

I read about a monk named St. Jerome who sat at his writing desk and a lion walked up and every monk in the room ran out. The lion had a thorn in his paw and Jerome got it out. After that the lion never left the monk's side.

As it happened my Jerome (I quickly dropped the saint-word) grew into a pig

with compassion and strength of character. He was thoughtful. He never chased after kittens or newborn puppies. He had a sense of humor, a passion for life, and a graceful way of trotting.

What was a disappointment to begin with, a clutch in my throat walking the runt up to my room, became a blessing. Now I look back and realize I embraced the possibility my runt would grow into a pig everyone would be proud to know, including me. And I was right.

## Green Sanctuary Task Force Launches

By Jim Bair and Jax Peigare, Task Force Members  
[GreenSanctuary@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:GreenSanctuary@uugrassvalley.org)

### WHAT DOES GREEN SANCTUARY MEAN TO UUCM IN 2026?

*Climate change is the hole in the bucket of every other issue we want to fix: hunger, poverty, health and more. If we don't patch the hole, we can't fix anything.*

– Katherine Hayhoe

UUCM's unanimously approved task force is not about history. We had an inspiring time when we were a Green Sanctuary years ago as many UUs remember, but times have changed -- and so has our program.

The UUCM Green Sanctuary Program involves all UUs in "thinking globally and acting locally." That means while caring for the Earth and addressing environmental and climate justice issues, we are going to recycle more, drive less, use less electricity, learn more and share that knowledge with others, partner with our local groups, and become a community center for others who want to act locally. Justice will be served by polluting less, fundamental to all peoples of the world who will suffer because of rising temperatures and extreme weather.

UUCM is already planning to invest in high efficiency heating and air conditioning (HVAC) for Squirrel Creek, and, as soon as we can, more insulation, better windows, and solar electricity!

Imagine that we plan to recycle and compost waste using county facilities, but we can also recycle plastics that are currently not accepted by Waste Management. How? An everyday plastic called polyethylene that stretches and is usually clear (e.g. shrink wrap) is currently being collected by Nevada City Rotary and friends, deposited at SaveMart, and picked up by Trex, Inc. who makes it into decking and other products. By working with Rotary, we will not only complete a task force objective but help the greater community: the program has been very popular with local residents.

We will be able to imagine other environmentally friendly improvements though an "energy audit" by experts who have already volunteered, SERi (Sierra Energy Reimagined).

Coming soon to a "church near you" (UU) is a public community meeting with leading experts sharing how to be green. We will share our experiences and promote the value of being green. Hopefully, you'll find us at a booth for the Nevada City Earth Day Celebration, partnering with other organizations. Last but not least, the Green Sanctuary Task Force will interact with Nevada County management

especially by participating in their new Resiliency programs and coordinating with the City of Grass Valley on their programs such as biomass.

In the spirit of our commitment to the Seventh Principle of Unitarian Universalism ("Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part,"),

- ☪ We recognize that humans are connected to all life and the Earth itself.
- ☪ This principle is the spiritual foundation of the Green Sanctuary Program, motivating environmental stewardship and climate justice work.

To quote an international leader,

*"The one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere."*

—Greta Thunberg



## Share the Plate

UUCM's February *Share the Plate* partner, [FREED Center for Independent Living](#) will receive \$1,314, thanks to the generosity of UUCM members, friends, and visitors. These weekly donations add up! Thank you.

As of this writing, we are finishing up collections for our March partner, [Nevada County Citizens for Choice](#).



Our April Share the Plate partner is [Nevada County Immigration Rights Network](#). This organization supports the rights and well-being of all community members, particularly

immigrants targeted for detention and deportation. They stand in solidarity with our vulnerable neighbors and offer help, resources, and protection as they are able.

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

## Justice Activities



**Voted Best Nonprofit in Nevada County in 2024!**

IFM still needs volunteer food sorters, checkers, and distribution drivers. If you are interested, contact Victoria at IFM for more information.

### UUCM WORK GROUP

The UUCM Work Group for IFM meets every second Tuesday of the month from 2:00 - 4:00 PM at IFM. If you would like to be a part of this fun and worthwhile project, please contact Paul Elias at: [justice@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:justice@uugrassvalley.org).

### IFM RECYCLING PROGRAM COLLECTION

*Last Saturday of Each Month from 9:00 AM to Noon*  
**NEXT DONATION DAY: Saturday, April 25, 2026**

Peace Lutheran Church Parking Lot  
828 West Main St., Grass Valley

- 1 CRV Aluminum, Glass and Plastic, Clean and Sorted
- 2 Plastics #1, #2, #5 (check triangle, sort separately)
- 3 Paper/plastic grocery bags and cardboard egg cartons



## Hospitality House Donations

*Our continued generous support of Hospitality House is greatly appreciated by the guests and staff!*

### Currently, Needed Items Are:

- Men's Casual Pants
- Twin-Size Fitted Sheets, new pillows and pillow cases
- Towels and Blankets
- NEW Unopened Toiletries - Shampoo, Conditioner, Razors, Soap – *Travel size ideal.*

**The most current update on their needs:** <https://hhshelter.org/>

Please leave donations in the designated bin in UUCM's Ballou Room (small room behind the kitchen.)

*Thank you for your generosity, Laurie Bell*

## Community Connections

### WEEKLY @ UUCM

[Subscribe to the weekly e-Chalice](#) for Zoom links and phone numbers. If you need links, please contact our Office Administrator at [Admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Admin@uugrassvalley.org).

**SUNDAY SERVICES - 9:00 AM - IN PERSON ONLY, AND 11:00 AM VIA ZOOM OR IN PERSON**

### Make Connections at UUCM

Please contact the organizers if you are interested in joining!

### WALKING GROUP

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, OFF-SITE - MEET AT 8:00 AM**  
Email [Walking@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Walking@uugrassvalley.org)

We meet on **Tuesdays** at the Wolf Creek Trail/Northstar Mining Museum parking area, and on **Thursdays** at 418 Chapel, Grass Valley. Be sure to ask our Office Administrator Siobhan ([Admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Admin@uugrassvalley.org)) to include you on our walking group mailing list so you can hear about last minute changes.

### MEN'S GROUP

**WEDNESDAYS FROM 8:30 - 10:30 AM AT UUCM**  
Men gather to enjoy each other's company.  
Contact for the group: [Men@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Men@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**  
**AT UUCM**

**Our next meeting is Monday, April 13 at 6:00 PM.**

This month's Women's group will start off with our usual delicious potluck, after which we will go around the table and share a book we love. Give a brief description and why you loved it. If you have a copy you are ready to give away, bring it! If you don't have a book to suggest, just come to hang out with some great women and get some new ideas. At the end of the evening, we each should have a nice list of books and authors to try next time we're looking for a great read.

Join the Women's Group email list by emailing a request to our Office Administrator at: [Admin@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Admin@uugrassvalley.org).

# Community Connections



## HUMANISM DISCUSSION GROUP

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:45 AM

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 1 at 10:45 AM at UUCM. We will continue with the 10-session UU Humanism Discussion Series.

### SESSION 3 – ETHICS, COVENANT, AND MORAL LIFE

Purpose: To examine how UUs and humanists ground ethics without divine command.

#### SUGGESTED READINGS:

1. The Liberal Pulpit – [Covenant Not Creed](#)
2. American Humanist Association – [Living Humanist Values: The Ten Commitments](#)
3. Wikipedia – [Secular / Humanist Ethics](#)

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does covenant function as a moral framework?
2. What happens when UU values come into conflict?
3. Is empathy sufficient as a moral guide?
4. How do congregations practice accountability without dogma?

Our UUCM Humanism Discussion Group is a gathering for both those who identify as humanists and those who are interested in learning about this philosophy.

Our group's purpose is to connect and intellectually explore the issues that touch our daily lives through Humanism's values and principles. Humanism emphasizes ethical living, critical thinking, and social justice while aiming to inspire compassionate action and mutual understanding.

Topics for group discussion are chosen by participants, and optional readings on the topics are made available prior to the meeting. When health precautions allow, we meet in person at UUCM. If you would like to take part via Zoom, request the link by emailing [Humanism@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:Humanism@uugrassvalley.org).

(Please view the [UUCM website calendar](#) for the most up-to-date meeting info.)



INVITATION TO OUR  
NEW UUCM GROUP!

## TRANSITION DISCUSSION AND GRIEF GROUP

SECOND & FOURTH SATURDAYS, 3:00-4:30 PM AT UUCM

The first meeting will be held April 11.

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

Have you had feelings about UUCM moving to the new campus on Squirrel Creek? Perhaps you are sad about leaving UUCM's current location. Perhaps you have some fears about adjusting to the new campus. Perhaps you are afraid of the increased costs.

UUCM is offering this safe, friendly group just for the purpose of exploring these feelings. The group will also explore ways to maintain the supportive atmosphere of the old UUCM at the new campus, and it is open to members, friends, and guests. Please come with your feelings and ideas.

The group will meet twice a month on the second and fourth Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:30 PM at UUCM's Church Street location. If you have questions, contact Ruth Edwards at [TransitionDiscussionGroup@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:TransitionDiscussionGroup@uugrassvalley.org)



## ARTS & CRAFTS CIRCLE

SECOND & FOURTH FRIDAYS,  
1:00 - 3:00 PM

AT UUCM - ALCOTT ROOM

[arts-n-crafts@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:arts-n-crafts@uugrassvalley.org)

Come and meet with other UUs on **Friday, April 10 and 24 at 1:00 PM** to work on your own art or craft form! Enjoy each other's company while working on independent projects. No teacher or facilitator.



## BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK PARTY

THIRD SATURDAYS, 8:30 - 11:30 AM

AT UUCM

RSVP TO: [B&G@uugrassvalley.org](mailto:B&G@uugrassvalley.org)

Meet people while doing fun and interesting things. Newcomers are always welcome.

# Community Connections

## UUCM Member Book Launch

### Ruth Ghio: "Still Looking...," "Looking After...," and "Looking Within..."

BOOK LAUNCH – SATURDAY MAY 2, 2:00 PM  
AT UUCM

Those of you who know our dear Ruth Ghio know that among her many eclectic accomplishments, she is an author. One of Ruth's dreams has always been to complete a memoir of her long and varied life.

On Saturday May 2 at 2:00 PM, we will have a gathering here at the church to honor the completion of this project and the fulfillment of her dream!

You are warmly invited to join us for this book launch celebrating the publication of the three final volumes of Ruth's intriguing and often poignant life adventures. In Book Two, we follow her life from high school through college. Book Three carries us from her marriage in Oakland, California, all the way to family, children, a teaching career and to her years at Chico State where she worked to garner her first Master of Arts degree in Education. Book Four offers the life-spanning works of Ruth Ghio the poet and is filled with classic Ghio depth, grit, humor, and unflinching observations.

Please join us for this afternoon of reading and happy celebration of Ruth and her multifaceted life.



Please join us  
for the launch & readings from  
Volumes Two, Three & Four of Ruth Ghio's Memoirs  
Saturday, May 2, 2-4:30 pm  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Mountains  
In the Sanctuary  
Grass Valley, California

Ruth Ghio's Sequels to *Looking for Love in the Sears Catalog*

- Vol. 2 Still Looking...
- Vol. 3 Looking After...
- Vol. 4 Looking Within... (poetry)

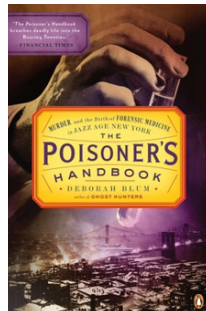
## UUCM Book Group

THE FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30 PM  
IN THE CHANNING ROOM AT UUCM

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

Our book group reads a variety of fiction and non-fiction books. Join us for any or all of these discussions. We have changed our meeting time to the *fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM* in the Channing Room.

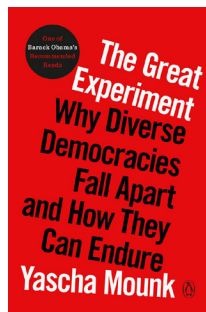
### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND BOOKS FOR DISCUSSION:



**April 28**

"The Poisoners Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York"  
by Debra Blum

The birth of forensic toxicology by a Pulitzer Prize winning science writer. 336 pp.  
Ruth E. facilitates.



**May 26**

"The Great Experiment: Why Diverse Democracies Fall Apart and How They Can Endure"  
by Yascha Mounk

A non-fiction book on one of Barack Obama's summer reading lists about the challenges of creating stable, diverse, and fair democracies. 368 pp.  
Tony R. facilitates.

UUCM Book Group on our website:

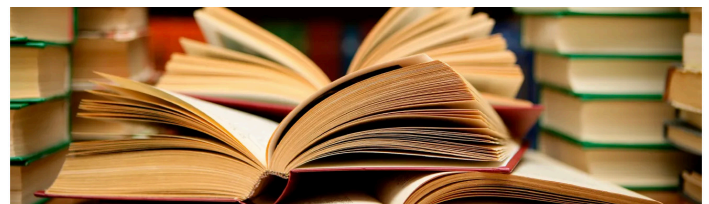
[UPCOMING BOOKS](#)

[Tuesday Book Group Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 927 1111 8322

Passcode: 472984

*Please give at least one week's notice  
if you plan to attend by Zoom so we can have  
the equipment set up.*



## Remembering the Good Times at 246 South Church Street

By Cheryl Spaulding, Family Ministry Team Member

This month, instead of a full article, I simply want to share with you some recent photos. These photos will become some of our forever memories of the good times we have had upstairs on Sunday mornings at 246 South Church Street.

*-Cheryl*





## Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains

246 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

Telephone: (530) 274-1675

Website: [uugrassvalley.org](https://www.uugrassvalley.org)



**MOST UPDATED VERSION OF THE UUCM CALENDAR:**

<https://www.uugrassvalley.org/calendar/>



**Sunday Services are held at 9 AM onsite only  
and at 11:00 AM onsite and via Zoom.**

***Kids' Connection is offered at the 11:00 AM service only.***

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

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 TO 5:00 PM

*(Our Office Administrator is available remotely on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.)*

**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

Reverend Kevin Tarsa, *Minister*

Siobhan Boylan, *Office Administrator*

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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 and Patricia Wolfe, Editing/Proofreading*