



# NUUSLETTER

of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

October Theme: Grief

Sunday Service begins at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom online meeting app

## October 4 “Good Grief?”

Rev. Axel Gehrman & W.A. Bob Sadler

Grief is not an experience anyone would seek out intentionally. Suffering a loss is painful. If we could, we would surely do our best to avoid sorrow. However, grief is an inescapable part of life. Does this mean we must simply be resigned to this difficult reality? Or can we find some redeeming meaning in our grieving? Can we hope to find anything good in grief?

## October 11 “Rituals, Memories and Stories” Intern Susan Panttaja & W.A. Kathleen Craig

In the aftermath of loss, whether of a loved one, property, a job, or a dream, we humans seek comfort and meaning through performing rituals and by sharing memories and stories about times gone by. Through examining and sharing our memories, we may even be able to reframe the past in ways that bring about comfort, healing, forgiveness, and hope. This morning, we lift up rituals, memories, and stories that see us through grief to growth.

### Religious Exploration

is available via Zoom for children (pre K – 11) at 10 a.m. and for teens (12 – 18 ) at 12 p.m.

## October 18

“Knowing Me, Knowing You”  
(Shortened) Worship Service & Connections Fair  
Rev. Elaine Gehrman & W.A. Sue Ellen Stringer

One type of grief that many of us have experienced in the course of our lives is that of isolation and loneliness. A church community is a great place to help alleviate that grief, even in the midst of a pandemic. This morning we will briefly explore how we can often learn a lot about ourselves by interacting with others, and we will then hear from our many groups and committees about opportunities for interaction and involvement. (See page 10.) Don't miss it!

## October 25

“For Everything There is a Season”  
Rev. Axel Gehrman & W.A. Natalie Fryberger

We are living in extraordinary times. For many of us, the events of past weeks and months have been a rollercoaster ride of ever-changing, challenging experiences, shaking up our lives, and triggering a wide variety of deep thoughts and complicated feelings. When you are in the midst of difficult and demanding times, where do you find hope and joy?

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## Ministers' Message

Rev. Axel Gehrman

**Mindfulness, attentiveness, compassion and kindness** – if I had to pick four words to describe my religious values, or the touchstones of my personal credo, those are the ones I would choose. For me, these four words also serve as a nutshell encapsulation of our seven UU principles.

These four words describe an attitude I have long tried to cultivate – since well before the arrival of the pandemic that has upended our lives these past several months now. The current crisis hasn't diminished their importance in my mind, but only deepened it.

Every time I leave the house now, and see someone on the street, I am learning to be mindful of how many feet we are apart, to notice whether we are wearing masks, and when the smile on my face is hidden, to be more intentional in catching an eye, and saying a friendly word. (. . . striving to be mindful and kind)

Every time I pick up the phone now, or connect with folks via Zoom, I try to be extra attentive to whether we are speaking clearly and listening closely. I need to remind myself to slow down, to be patient, and allow for silence. This extra effort increases the odds that I can more fully understand others, and be fully understood. There is so much going on in our lives right now, so many pressing thoughts and feelings that long to be expressed. (. . . hoping to be attentive and compassionate)

Every time I catch the latest revelations in the news, so much of which is unsettling and upsetting, headlines that invariably drive up my blood pressure, or draw me down into rabbit holes of “doomscrolling,” I need to take a breath and remind myself that knee-jerk reactions seldom provide real solutions to complex problems. Many factors, many actions, over a long period of time have brought us to the place we find ourselves today. Meaningful change will take

time. And just as we are all affected by today's global events, we each can play a part – however small – in moving things in a better direction. Each, in our own way, can strive to support solutions, rather than perpetuate problems. (. . . all four words are helpful)

If you had to pick a few words to describe your religious values, or your personal credo, what would they be? (FYI – Rev. Elaine is leading a three-session course this month on “Creating Our Credo.” Read about it on page 4.) I think our church community is a fine place to figure these things out.

UUCMP can be a place of inspiration and support, for religious exploration or community service, for personal reflection or collective action. By clarifying our convictions, and deepening our commitments, we will be better able to put our cherished principles into practice, and make a real difference in the world.

What do you think?

See you in (virtual) church,

*Axel*

### THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

Welcoming all, we worship together with  
loving hearts and open minds,  
promoting peace, equality, and respect for  
the Earth. Questioning, reflecting,  
learning, leading . . . we change  
ourselves  
as we change the world.

## President's Corner — Jon Czarnecki



“THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and

thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheaply, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated.” So wrote that proto-UUan, Thomas Paine. We live amidst the Confucian curse, interesting times filled with apparently insurmountable problems.

I regularly read in critical articles of the futility of individual action, because the challenges we face are so monumental that small individual acts are simply . . . quaint. They may make us feel good but do next to nothing to resolve these global challenges. Think of the little Dutch boy with his finger in the dike, and the dike is subject to a thirty-foot storm surge.

Those are words of the defeated, the fatalists, the cynics, the summer soldiers. Paine would have had no use for these people. *Because we act individually does not mean we act alone.* Pool our individual works together and we create a masterpiece. If all of us stick our fingers in the dike then we will weather the storm. I know this because I have been a member of the defeated and cynical, and I have also been a card-carrying member of the finger-in-the-dike brigade. I like the latter much more than the former.

People, we have an epic election in front of us. It's never too early or too late to get involved in our democratic process. We are blessed with

many avenues for political participation. For sure, vote. Also, encourage everyone you know – physically and digitally – to vote. Then, contact your local political organization and ask how you can help. If you have the time, ask the county electoral agency if they need help. And if you have the resources, by all means contribute to those brave souls who put their privacy on the line to run for office and who represent your views.

To encourage your participation, like the old union organizers of times gone by, I have put together some hopefully inspirational lyrics to a classic folk song for you to sing to yourself as you fill out your ballot. I like to imagine Shawn Kraut of our beloved community picking away at his guitar or, better yet, a banjo on this song.

The tune is “Bring 'Em Home” by Pete Seeger. No copyrights acknowledged; sing and share as far and wide as you safely can.

Bring The Vote  
(Apologies to Pete Seeger and Bruce Springsteen)

If you love your Uncle Sam  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
Get on your feet and give a damn  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

Place your ballot against tyranny  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
And save our Democracy  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

It will hurt some politicians, I know  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
Who don't want us to know  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

They'll suppress our votes, you see  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
With the blood of you and me  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

President's Corner continued

We'll lose no more brave lives  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
For a gleam in the tyrant's eyes  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

The people will cheer; and they will shout  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
As we will *all* turn out  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

The church bells will ring, you'll see  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
As we save our democracy  
Bring the vote, bring the vote.

So if you love your Uncle Sam  
Bring the vote, bring the vote  
Get on your feet and give a damn  
Bring the vote, bring the vote

Get out and vote. Power To All The People!  
Jon

### Learning Enrichment Opportunity "Creating Our Credos"

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., October 14,  
October 28, and November 11

This three-session class will provide an opportunity to consider our personal theologies, beliefs, and values. Through reading, reflection and writing, we will work on crafting our individual credo statements. Participants will be invited and encouraged (though not required) to share their credos during the November 15 Sunday worship service.

For questions or more information, speak with Rev. Elaine.



### PUBLICATION DEADLINES

ANNOUNCEMENTS for SUNDAYS in the Order of Service or Welcome and Announcements from the pulpit are due by 9 a.m. on Wednesdays. ARTICLES for THE WEEKLY NEWS email are due by noon, Tuesdays.

### SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Anti-Racism Book and Film Discussion Group** Tuesday, October 8, 7 p.m. via Zoom. See page 11.

**Board of Trustees** meets Wednesday, October 21, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Buddhist Sangha** is every Wednesday at 7 p.m. via Zoom. See page 11.

**Community Choir** meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

**Dances of Universal Peace** will not meet in October.

**Equal Exchange** will not be available in October.

**Friday Night at the Movies** will not meet in October.

**I-HELP for Men and I-HELP for Women** will be supported for now by financial donations to UUCMP, as the I-HELP directors want all food prepared in certified kitchens. We will still continue to provide monthly meals. If you can help, please consider sending a check to the church or clicking the DONATE button on the UUCMP website and indicating that the donation is for I-HELP.

**Membership Committee** meets Wednesday, October 28, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Men's Breakfast** will not meet in October.

**Music Committee** meets Wednesday, October 7, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**NUUletter deadline** for the November issue is Friday, October 16.

**Program Council** is Tuesday, October 6, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. For Zoom information contact Lauren Keenan [programcouncil@uucmp.org](mailto:programcouncil@uucmp.org)

**Sing Along** will meet on Wednesday, October 14, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Social Justice** meets Sunday, October 4, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**Stewardship** meets Wednesday, October 7, 1:30 p.m., via Zoom.

**Women's Discussion Group** meets October 8 and October 22, 2 p.m. via Zoom. See page 11.



## A Message from the Intern

2020 just keeps on giving, doesn't it? The early start to the fire season has added another layer of fear and uncertainty to the many concerns that have piled on since last winter. My heart goes out to those who had to leave home due to the threat of fire or horrible air quality, and also to those who waited to hear from loved ones in or near evacuation areas.

I hope you have found hope and inspiration, as I have, in the ways the UUCMP community cares for one another. During my first month as your intern

minister, I have gotten to see that caring in action, in the ways you connect with each other through phone calls, chalice circles (small



group ministry), and other online meetings and gatherings. It seems that, no matter what is on the agenda, most group meetings start with a check in, to hear each other's concerns and share each other's burdens. This lovely tradition ensures that each person is heard and welcomed into the circle of care.

If you are feeling isolated or worn down as this year wears on, I hope you will reach out to someone here. Get connected through the ministers, staff, and committee contacts, or through

the social time following the worship service each week. This would be a good time to consider joining a chalice circle, like the new one starting on October 12. We need one another, and we are here for one another!

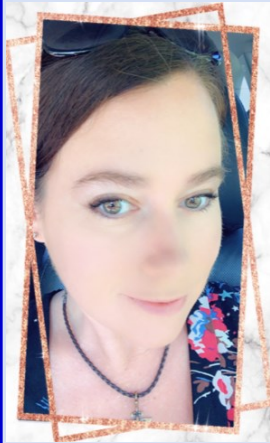
I have also found hope and inspiration in the organizing and discussion groups I have attended with many of you. These groups build connections between UUCMP and the larger community to work for social justice. They provide ways for us to live out our principles, as we care for others beyond our walls. I look forward to supporting these efforts.



On a hike last week, I was reminded that everything in nature has an impact on its environment, just by its presence. That is true for us humans, too. We all have something to offer each other, something the world needs. Let us continue to use our presence – and our resources – to care for one another and our planet.

Yours in faith,  
Susan

## RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



### Good grief!

I was thinking the other day about how we are starting to sound a bit like the parents and teacher in the Charlie

Brown cartoons. Our masks muffle our voices as we try so diligently to speak clearly. I imagine those among us that need hearing aids feel it even more, while they struggle to hear what is being said. There really is no other option to it for now, we all need to wear our masks when we are close to one another. We do it to protect each other, it's just common decency.

But . . . Good grief!

2020 has been a bit of a bummer! From the virus to the fires, from police brutality to the riots, from remote learning to Zoom meetings to whatever is currently happening in politics . . . now there's a news article saying that there could be possible life on Venus. I'll believe that when I see it though.



Good grief!

How do we deal with these stresses in our lives? What can we do to help to balance out the grief these events are causing in order to sleep at night? Self-care is so important right now, even more than it usually is! There are so many ways you can practice self-care, it just depends on what feels right to you. But practice it we must! Our children depend on us to be strong. If the world outside our doors

is burning, with a pandemic raging, inside our doors can and should be a cocoon of comfort for ourselves and especially for our children.

Let us find our calm to weather out this storm of a year. There are lots of ways; here are just a few:

- Yoga
- Meditation
- Reading a good book
- Talking with a friend
- Chocolate
- Gardening
- Cooking
- Exercise
- Simply avoiding the news app and Facebook for a few days.
- Creating art in whatever fashion you desire.

Or, as Charlie Brown's teacher once said: "Whah wha wha wah waaaah!"

Find your own special way of self-care, and relax into the thought that we are all together in this. We have your back. You are not alone! Let's put out the fires, rebuild the houses, elect a sane person, and create art and smiles and comfort! Let's make the world what we want it to be. I'll leave you now with a poem from the awesome Shel Silverstein:

### Put Something In by Shel Silverstein

Draw a crazy picture,  
Write a nutty poem,  
Sing a mumble-grumble song,  
Whistle through your comb.  
Do a loony-goony dance  
'Cross the kitchen floor,  
Put something silly in the world  
That ain't been there before,

Erin Forstein

Director of Religious Exploration



For several months many of us have sheltered in place, fearful to leave home, wiping down everything, and washing our hands constantly. Imagine the fear when you cannot shelter in your own home, or take a hot shower and put on clean clothes, or even wash your hands. For homeless women, there is no place to call home.

Gathering for Women - Monterey has remained open during the entire pandemic with a skeleton staff and volunteers providing services. Due to the Food Bank's new focus on households in need instead of service organizations like ours, we partnered with local restaurants to ensure nutritious takeout meals for our guests. In turn, restaurants were able to keep their workers employed.



GFW lobby

Each weekday 20-30 guests arrive for takeout meals, access to showers, clean clothes, soap, masks, hand sanitizers, and other necessities from our clothes closet. They receive case management to help them find employment and housing opportunities, and access to mental health counseling through our partner, Interim. All of these services help them stay safe and healthy, and decrease the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission within the homeless community. In addition, we have worked with other homeless service providers to find temporary shelter

options for fifteen of our most vulnerable guests.

With our partner Community Human Services, we broke ground on Casa de Noche Buena, the Peninsula's first 90-day shelter with wrap-around services for homeless women and children. The shelter is scheduled to open toward the end of the year.

**Homelessness can happen to anyone** – especially during this pandemic and economic downturn. We expect to see our numbers increase in the months ahead as the toll of unemployment, economic uncertainty, and COVID require more women to seek help. However, homelessness does not have to equal hopelessness.

Staci M. Alziebler-Perkins  
Executive Director



GFW clothes closet

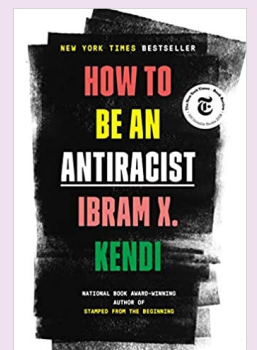
Please give generously to this worthy organization.

### Book Discussion on How to Be a Unitarian Universalist in 2020

Dates: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (September 15 - December 15)  
Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom

We are living in extraordinary times. The current pandemic, a heightened awareness of racial and economic disparities, and an increasingly polarized political climate provide an abundance of social and personal challenges. What kind of religious response can Unitarian Universalism provide? Please join Rev. Axel as we continue the book discussion of the current New York Times bestseller *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi, grappling with these important questions.

The discussion continues through December 15. Please contact Rev. Axel ([minister@uucmp.org](mailto:minister@uucmp.org)) if you have questions, need help with Zoom, or plan to attend.





# Grapevine



**Mez Benton**, a longtime member of UUCMP, died of a stroke on August 10. She was 95. She was a visionary educator, an activist for social change and women's equality. Mez's work in coalition with social organizations such as the League of Woman Voters and the American Association of University Women earned repeated recognition.

Born Mezola Sandermark, in Olsson, Nebraska, on September 29, 1924, Mez said her ideals formed during her small-town family life. This vision centered the individual within concentric circles of responsibility to home, community, state, country, and world. Mez' first marriage to Lester Aagren produced daughter Trudy Ann, her only child. Her second marriage in 1966 to school psychologist Edward A. Benton ended with his death in 2004. In 2012, Mez married retired school principal Harry Bruce Bradley. The death of Trudy in October 2017, followed by that of Bruce a year later were double heartbreaks for Mez.

Mez earned her BA and MA in education at San Jose State College. She retired in 1979 as elementary school principal after 23 years with the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District. Mez joined the League of Women Voters Monterey Peninsula (LWVMP) in 1980 and served as president 1983-1984. She joined the American Association of University Women Monterey Peninsula (AAUWMP) in 1973 and served as public policy director for many years.

Believing a budget is a moral document whose priorities should be examined, Mez thought when the cold war ended it was time to put people first. She spearheaded a series of town hall meetings in 1990-1992 with then Congressman and Chair of the House Budget Committee, Leon Panetta, to redirect federal spending from arms toward domestic needs and to reduce the federal deficit. She then put together a nationwide Federal Budget Network of 140 League units tasked with lobbying relevant Congressional and Senate committee members. Their efforts contributed to a reduction of federal deficit spending. In 1995 the network was permanently established in the national League, chaired by Mez Benton. She also played a leading role in reopening two abandoned child care centers on Fort Ord and the Presidio of Monterey.

Mez was deeply impressed by Senator Bernie Sanders' plan for free 4-year college. She felt that community colleges at minimum should be tuition-free. In 1993 Mez led the way in establishing the Sylvia Panetta Scholarship Fund at Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) to help promising students of diverse backgrounds complete lower division work at MPC. Mez served as the Fund's administrative director for many years.

Mez coordinated with many organizations across the community to develop consensus and vision for re-use of the former Fort Ord site. Retraining for those whose jobs would disappear at base closing was a vital re-use objective. Mez co-chaired the Education Advisory Group of the Fort Ord Reuse Community Task Force organized by Congressman Panetta in 1990. The Opportunity Center, the California State University of Monterey Bay and the University of California Monterey Bay Education, Science, and Technology Center on the former Ft. Ord site resulted from this effort. In 2008 Mez Benton was instrumental in saving Gateway Center of Monterey County in Pacific Grove from bankruptcy when a change in California regulations would have ended state funding.

The California Legislature Assembly recognized her in March 2010 for contributions in Public Policy to the AAUWMP. The United Nations Association of Monterey Bay and Friends of Pearl Ross awarded her the Pearl Ross Feminist Activist Award in 1999. For her work for Gateway Center, in March 2002 she received Special United States Congressional Recognition as well as recognition by the California State Senate, and was named Outstanding Woman of the Year by the Commission on the Status of Women of Monterey County.

Confined to her home during the Covid-19 pandemic, Mez created a chronology of American women's struggle for equal rights, walked one to two miles, and performed her counter top pushups every day because—no surprise to those who knew her—Mez was a fighter to the end. Mez lost most of her eyesight during her last years, but her vision remains undimmed. She is survived by Lisa Santos, daughter of Trudy, and five stepchildren.

*Grapevine is one project of the Caring Network, a group whose mission is to increase and strengthen the sense of community at UUCMP. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance or has something to share, please contact the steering committee at [caringnetwork@uucmp.org](mailto:caringnetwork@uucmp.org)*



# Musical Offerings

Come join us for some fun virtual music this fall. Whether you want to explore your voice, share some music, or play a musical instrument with us, there is something for everyone of all ages.



Our Adult Community Choir is open to everyone, members and nonmembers alike, to explore singing together. As an ensemble, we prepare special music for various Sunday services per month. This month we are jumping back into rehearsals after our summer break. We meet **every Thursday from 7-9 p.m.** This month we will be meeting via **Zoom** for rehearsals. No experience nor commitment necessary! We look forward to Zooming with you.

Our Children's Choir is also open to all children. While it is geared toward children in 1st-8th grades, all are welcome. We meet every Sunday from 12-12:30 p.m. in the music Zoom room.



Finally, if you are looking to just join other voices in a cacophonous karaoke style sing-along, then you are in for a treat. Sing Along with Shawn will be available in a fun, interactive manner via Zoom and YouTube. We

will meet on **Wednesday, October 14, from 5:30-7:00 p. m.**



All music meetings will convene via this Zoom link:

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/8287611715>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,8287611715# or +13462487799,8287611715#  
Or Telephone: Dial: +1 669 900 6833 (US Toll)  
**Meeting ID:** 828 761 1715  
Password: music (case sensitive)

Unfortunately our other ensembles will be on hold until we can resume in person. However, if you like to sing or play an instrument and are willing to try some technological experiments, I am open to hearing from you.

Finally, if you have other ways you wish to contribute to the music here at UUCMP, just let me know! [music@uucmp.org](mailto:music@uucmp.org)

— Camille Hatton





Being part of a Chalice Circle is a great way to:

- ◆ **Get to know** other members and friends of the church better
- ◆ **Develop** supportive relationships in an accepting and nurturing atmosphere
- ◆ **Explore** the “big questions” of life’s meaning and purpose with people you trust
- ◆ **Deepen** your understanding of our Unitarian Universalist values

- ◆ **Discover** and use your gifts in service to our church and the wider community

### Meeting via Zoom

This year, the vast majority of our church meetings are being conducted “virtually” via Zoom. Likewise, our Chalice Circles will be meeting via your computer or phone line. Please contact Rev. Axel if you have any questions or concerns about getting connected!

### What are Chalice Circles?

Chalice Circles consist of 6-10 people who meet at least once a month for about two hours to explore meaningful topics together. A typical meeting begins with opening words and a check-in, followed by sharing and discussion on a specific topic. The meeting concludes with a check-out and closing words.

The format of the meetings helps participants set aside daily distractions, reflect on their lives and beliefs, and make meaningful connections with one another.

Chalice Circles provide an opportunity for members and friends of the church to develop deeper connections and wider service within our community through small-group conversation. Similar groups have been called Covenant Groups or simply small group ministry.

A **new** Chalice Circle is being formed. Susan’s Group will meet on second Mondays 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. via Zoom. Contacts for this group are Sharon Miller and Susan Panttaja.

### Join a Chalice Circle

If you would like to join one of the Chalice Circles, [sign up here](#), or contact the ministers, Revs. Axel or Elaine, at <[minister@uucmp.org](mailto:minister@uucmp.org)>

## Don't Miss the 2020 UUCMP Connections Fair!

On Sunday, October 18, following a shortened worship service, our 20 UUCMP committees and covenant groups have a surprise for you!



They want to help you find ways to deepen your involvement at UUCMP, meet new people, and use your gifts meaningfully. Ever wonder what our church groups and committees do and how you might participate? Even during the pandemic, there is so much going on behind the scene . . . and you can be part of it.

On October 18, our program committees and other church groups will be making short, snappy presentations after the service. You can find out what’s happening at UUCMP and how you can get involved and be more connected. Bring your questions, insights and suggestions to share!

## WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

We welcome all women to our twice monthly meetings—the second and fourth Thursdays from 2-3:30 p.m. Because of the current shelter-in-place restrictions, we're meeting via Zoom. We plan to hold the following discussions in October:

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, Sharon Miller will lead our discussion of "Dream Vacation." Where would you go, why and what would you do and see on a DREAM VACATION, where cost, COVID-19 and physical limitations were magically waved away? Inspire us about that big world out there from the comfort of your Zoom device.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Maureen Brinkerhoff will lead our discussion of "Coping with Stress."

Watch for the emailed notices for these events. They will contain the Zoom link and passcode.

—Nancy Baker Jacobs, Facilitator

## Life Enrichment Programs Affinity Groups:

**No groups will meet face-to-face in October. Some will meet via Zoom.**

**Anti-Racism Book and Film Discussion Group**  
First Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. via Zoom

### **Men's Group Breakfast**

Will not meet in October.

Contact: Marsh Pitman

### **Women's Discussion Group**

Second and fourth Thursdays, 2 – 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact: Nancy Baker Jacobs. See article to the left.

**Buddhist Sangha** will continue via Zoom on Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Contact: Rev. Dennis Hamilton

**Friday Night at the Movies** will not meet in October. Contact: John Freeman for any questions.

### **Dances of Universal Peace**

Will not meet in October. Contact: Barbara Bullock-Wilson if you have any questions.

## Susan Panttaja, Intern Minister, would like to get to know you!

In other times, we'd have more face to face ways to meet Susan and for Susan to meet us, coffee hour together after Sunday service, or gathering for a picnic as some of us did with Amy Carlson, our prior Intern Minister. But, now we rely on Zoom to give us the opportunity to be together. If you'd like to gather on Zoom with Susan in a small group setting, please send her an e-mail at [intern@uucmp.org](mailto:intern@uucmp.org). We hope you will reach out.



Thank you! Susan Hocevar, chair, Intern Committee AND Susan Panttaja, Intern Minister.

## WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WORSHIP ASSOCIATES

We need talented, dedicated UUs who want to contribute to the quality of our worship services. Worship Associates support all Sunday services and sometimes provide leadership at those services as well. If you think you'd like to try your hand at this vital part of church life, please contact the ministers.

**COPA Candidates' Accountability Forum**  
**County Supervisor Races**  
**Monterey District 4 & Santa Cruz District 1**  
**Sunday, October 4th at 4 PM**

**Pre-Register via Zoom**

**COPA, 95 Alta Vista Ave, Watsonville, CA 95076 •**  
**(831) 728-3210 • [www.copaiaf.org](http://www.copaiaf.org) • @COPA\_IAF**



**Testing, Tracing and Supported Isolation**



**Workforce Development**



**Candidates**

**Monterey County District 4:**  
**Wendy Root Askew &**  
**Steve McShane**

**Santa Cruz County District 1:**  
**Manu Koenig & John Leopold**



Click on the following link to read the new [COPA newsletter](#)

[Potential Sister Organization in the Central Valley](#)



**COPA Calendar of Events**

COPA County Supervisor Candidates' Accountability Forum	Sun, Oct 4, 4-5:30 PM
Election Day	Tue, Nov 3
You may register to vote in person in CA at the polls	Tue, Nov 3
Absentee (mail in ballots) must be postmarked by	Tue, Nov 3

[Where and How To Vote](#)

It's not too late to complete [your 2020 Census](#)

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