



NUUSLETTER

of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

August Theme: Joy and Wonder

Sunday Services begin at 10:30 a.m.

August 4

“Sense of Wonder”

Mary Kay Hamilton & Robin Jensen

"Wonder" engages our senses, elicits curiosity and instills reverence. "Wondering" can also ignite distress and concern. Whatever we may experience or believe, we all have access to those moments that connect us to the wonder of existence and, even in dark times, the possibility for joy.

August 11

“Water Communion Service”

Revs. Elaine & Axel Gehrman & Corey Brunson

Join us for our annual multigenerational Water Communion Service, a celebration of our community. Please bring a small container of water from someplace sacred to you, which you can contribute to this worship service for all ages. The children and youth of our community are heading back to school this month, so we will also ‘bless the backpacks’ in recognition of this significant time in their lives.

August 18

“Of Wisdom and Wonder”

Rev. Axel Gehrman & Ann Johnson

Religious wisdom is often associated with the deep insight and understanding we may acquire in the course of a long life. We imagine the young are foolish, while our elders are wise. And yet spiritual teachings don’t necessarily agree. Some Buddhists seeking enlightenment strive to cultivate a beginner’s mind, and some followers of Jesus believe we must be like children to enter heaven. What can we learn from the distinct wisdom and wonder of the child?

This is **Bring a Friend Sunday**. We encourage you to take this week as an opportunity to invite a friend who might enjoy learning about our church to join us.

August 25

“The Wonder of the Natural World”

Ann Johnson & Ray Krise

Have you ever looked at something in nature - whether the Grand Canyon or the Monarch Sanctuary - and just felt that sublime sense of being both insignificant and ennobled? Part of something infinitely bigger than yourself? Join us as Worship Associates Ann Johnson and Ray Krise offer their perspectives on the natural wonders of Earth and beyond.

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Religious Exploration for Children and Youth

is offered during the service for kids, preschool and older.

Quality nursery care is available.



Ministers' Message

Rev. Axel
Gehrman

As some of you know, Elaine and I are fortunate to have recently bought a house in Seaside - a place to call our own - after having spent the better part of the past year renting. We celebrated July 4th (as well as the days before and after) heaving heavy cardboard boxes in and out of a small U-Haul truck, and spent the better part of the month getting organized in our new place at the corner of Lowell and Mingo.

Unpacking countless boxes, we reacquainted ourselves with our treasured possessions, some of which had been in storage. I especially enjoyed rediscovering half-forgotten books that will now find space in my new study.

One book in particular leapt out at me. It's called *Material World: A Global Family Portrait*. It was created by the photographer Peter Menzel, who presents photo-documentaries of families from thirty countries around the world, each of them carefully selected as "statistically average" for their nation. They are photographed in front of their homes, with all their worldly possessions carefully spread out around them. The U.S. family, for instance, is a mother and father, a daughter and son, in Pearland, Texas, whose entire household is set out in their front yard: furniture and appliances, television sets, framed family pictures, and three automobiles. There's a lot of stuff - in many ways very similar to the many things Elaine and I have been moving. Comparing these photos with those of families in Mongolia, Mexico or Mali, the differences are striking. As you might imagine, most families in the book own far less than we do.

Moving, I realize, isn't merely a physical and logistical challenge. Moving is also an exercise in mindfulness. As Elaine and I contemplate the appropriate place for every object we own, we weigh practical and aesthetic aspects. We ponder each

item's purpose and value, as well as its tangible or intangible meaning for us.

All of our material possessions, I realize, have both physical and spiritual dimensions. Each one tells a story of how and when it was acquired, linking us to memories of times past. And as we decide where to put it (or whether to pitch it) we are devising a life plan for months and years to come.

As we determine each item's appropriate place and purpose in our home, we are - little by little - defining our own place and purpose in the world, so that our lives' material and spiritual realities might reflect and reinforce each other.

Next month we, as a congregation, will have an opportunity to reflect on our past efforts as well as collective plans for the future. In early September, as part of our Strategic Plan, we will have a "Next Steps Weekend" (NSW) facilitated by congregational consultant Kay Crider. The NSW will examine the overall organizational and financial health of our church, and help us determine whether we are ready to move toward a capital campaign. Please watch for more information from our Board of Trustees and Capital Campaign Team, and see Don Reynolds' piece on page 6.

I look forward to conversations in the weeks ahead, when we can share our respective experiences and insights, and together move toward the place and purpose we believe our church should have in the world.

See you in church!

Axel



We currently have four Chalice Circles (Covenant Groups or Small Group Ministries) providing a way to get to know others while exploring issues of UU importance in a comfortable setting. Contact Rev, Axel or Sharon Miller about joining an existing one or facilitating a new one---materials and mentoring available!

The **Social Justice Committee** will begin meeting again on the first Sunday in August (8/4), in the Fireplace room about 15 minutes after Sunday service ends. We look forward to discussing Social Justice projects we're planning over the next six months, and everyone is welcome to come and join in the discussion. (Light refreshments will be served.)



Life Enrichment Committee



Carol Meyer, Carol Greenstreet (chair), Bud Smith.

The Life Enrichment Committee provides classes, and events, and affinity groups for the congregation and the broader community. They welcome more committee members as well as ideas for new offerings.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Anti-Racism Book Discussion Group Potluck, Tuesday, August 6, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. See page 9.

Anti-Racism Film Group Potluck, Thursday, August 15, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. See page 9.

Board of Trustees meets Wednesday, August 21, at 5:30 p.m.

Buddhist Sangha is every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Community Choir meets Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Dances of Universal Peace will not be held in August. See page 12.

Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate are available on Sunday, August 18. See page 11.

Friday Night at the Movies is on August 9, 7 p.m. See page 8 for what's showing.

I-HELP for Men is Sunday, August 11, 5 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

I-HELP for Women is Sunday, August 25, 4 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

Justice Choir meets Tuesday, August 13, 7 p.m. See page 10.

Membership Committee meets Wednesday, August 28, 5:30 p.m. via ZOOM.

Men's Breakfast is Saturday, August 10, 8 a.m. See page 11.

Music Committee meets Monday, August 12, 5:30 p.m. via ZOOM.

NUUletter deadline for the September issue is Friday, August 16.

Program Council is Tuesday, August 6, 12:30 p.m., at UUCMP or via ZOOM. For ZOOM information contact Lauren Keenan programcouncil@uucmp.org

Sing Along is Wednesday, August 14, 6-7 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. See page 10 for details.

Social Justice meets Sunday, August 4, 11:45 a.m. in the Fireplace Room.

Women's Discussion Group will meet on Thursdays, August 8 and 22, at 2:00 p.m. See page 11 for details.

President's Corner — Page Galloway



Hello again, everyone. As we continue our efforts toward the growth and development of our faith community, I spent a little time going over my notes from the last couple of years of service

on the board, and my journals where I talk a bit about the discussions I have had with people, and I found a theme emerging.

I saw so much hope for the possible and so much worry about the means of getting there. It calls to mind something I have often told myself, friends, and family about my life.

Whenever I start a new project, a new venture, a new anything, I often find myself asking “Well, how hard can that be?” It probably seems a bit facetious on the surface. It may lead you, as it has led others, to wonder if I don’t just float through my life like a jellyfish, bouncing off of obstacles without plan, without direction. Nothing could be further from the truth. I ask myself that question as a form of empowerment.

I have heard it said that the thing that we fear most is not that we are powerless, but rather that we are powerful beyond measure. What stops us most often is the belief that we are helpless in the situation we are in . . . that it is just too challenging, too hard for us to surmount. So asking “How hard can that be?” is a way of challenging that unspoken assumption and empowering yourself. It isn’t a prescription for throwing oneself blindly into the void and hoping for the best, but rather an invitation to explore what is it that is holding you back. It was what I asked myself the first time I dove under a wave in the San Francisco Bay to train to swim the Escape from Alcatraz. I prepared for how hard it would be, it took me nearly a

year of work to be physically ready for the challenge and as long to be mentally ready for it. It was the question I asked myself before I applied to Santa Clara University to attend Law School. Sometimes in my efforts I have had to backtrack, reassess, adjust expectations, or change course in order to meet my goals. Asking myself, “Well, how hard can that be?” has been my way of opening the door to new endeavors and pulling myself up and forward. I found that when I asked myself, “How hard can that be?” I was able to plan better, prepare better, and in the words of Dory in *Finding Nemo*, to just keep swimming.

So, you may ask, what’s the point? The point is that when we started our new endeavors toward developing and growing our faith community, there was a lot of concern and question about it. I wanted to let you know that the question I have always posed myself when taking on new endeavors or challenges is about planning and making wise choices so that at the end of the work we can say “that went well.” We are in the process of developing a subcommittee to get firmer hold on what the physical structure might be which will give us a firmer picture of what is possible in terms of cost and will help us in working with the fundraising consultant. Like warming up before diving under that first wave, preparation is key to our endeavors as we work together on these goals.

When we prepare well, plan well, and work together we will find, I think, that the answer to the question “How hard could that be?” will be “About what we expected.”

Meanwhile, just keep swimming, and remember we are all more powerful and stronger than we know.

All the best,

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RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



In the summer of 2002, one of the ministers at the UU church I was attending cornered me after a book discussion group and told me that she thought I would be a great addition to a small team of adults planning and implementing a “Coming of Age” program for our congregation’s 9th graders.

I had just two questions: What’s Coming of Age? and Why me?

That conversation from nearly 20 years ago is remembered because it led to some of the richest, deepest experiences of my adult life. That sounds hyperbolic, I know, but it’s true. I loved being part of that program. For three years I spent almost every Sunday morning with groups of intelligent, funny, creative high school freshmen as they learned about Unitarian Universalism and pondered their personal beliefs. I supervised them on UU heritage trips at the end of the school year and teared-up when those trips ended; that’s how much fun I had being with those teens! I learned alongside them and developed friendships with co-teachers and some of the kids’ parents -- all fabulous people and very worth getting to know. That positive experience led to my participation in other programs and other churches, including serving now as the director of religious exploration at UUCMP.

That is the beauty of volunteering to be with children and youth on Sunday mornings. You gain at least as much as you give. Being an R.E. volunteer gives you the time and opportunity to deepen your understanding of Unitarian Universalism. It urges you to ponder the big questions and your own answers



right alongside the kids. What you get out of it depends on what you put into it, but the opportunities RE creates to make real connections are plentiful.

And this church needs you, now! We are striving to offer rich, meaningful religious exploration experiences every week for kids in pre-school through high school. We have wonderful curricula to work with, beautiful spaces to meet in, and eager children and youth ready to learn, explore, question, and debate important ideas. What we lack is enough loving, engaged adults to guide our kids on their explorations.

The recent census of congregants showed that many -- if not most -- of you wish to increase the participation of young families in our community. That will remain only a wish, however, if we don’t have enough people willing to step up and form relationships with those families, if we don’t have volunteers for each age group, if we aren’t willing to share ourselves with the next generation of seekers.

Growing a church requires work. Growing young Unitarian Universalists requires focus. Growing your own connection to this faith and this church requires time and commitment. Please consider doing your part for all three on Sunday mornings this coming church year.

— Corey Brunson
Director of Religious Exploration



Capital Campaign Team (CCT) Update



I hope this update finds UUCMP members in a deep, cozy, summer rut of comfort. Our family has been very busy but has one more break before school begins (and I cannot wait to fall asleep on a warm beach in Costa Rica!).

UUCMP's Capital Campaign Team (CCT) (Konny Murray, Judy Lind, Jon Czarnecki, Steve Johnson, Axel and I) have met as best we can three times in three months since May. We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this work is welcome to join us. I joined UUCMP in 2014 so I am new to the long-term construction project, and I have learned a lot!

UUCMP has worked toward completing its master construction plan, including a large new sanctuary since the congregation approved the plan in 2003 -- 16 years ago. The current CCT has worked hard to locate and collect project history, because without that, we cannot "stand on the shoulders" of these past efforts. We have dug through files, board meeting minutes, and old personal folders looking for important clues.

We have met with and interviewed several past members of the Capital and Building Committee teams to understand how things have evolved. We have met with architect-builder Safwat Malek, who created the design for our complete project and has overseen all construction so far, to learn how he feels about our process moving forward. Safwat is excited and remains committed to our project.

After our first CCT meeting, we reached out to the UU Southwest District to get a recommendation on a reliable UU-vetted consultant. *Stewardship 4 UUs* is that consulting team. It turns out that this is the same consultant team that helped guide the last UUCMP feasibility study. Although the previous consultant Aggie Sweeny has retired, her friend and neighbor Kay Crider is stepping up to

help us explore our current fiscal and emotional capacities for the big task of conducting a new capital campaign. They already have discussed our previous work.

The board has approved the first phase of this work (exploration), but not the second (the actual campaign). Exploring our capacity and willingness to conduct this campaign will be completed, before we buy into Phase 2 of the feasibility study. Phase 1, the **Next Steps Weekend (NSW)** is paid for and will occur the weekend of September 6 - 8. A series of committee and individual interviews will occur with a summary meeting towards the end of consultant Kay Crider's visit to our church. Anticipated costs for the feasibility study about a major fund-raising campaign are well within the board's budget of under \$10,000.

At its last meeting and by email vote, the board also approved establishing a Building Options Team (BOT). Ken Turgen (an architect who was very involved in previous UUCMP projects) and Kent Weinstein (board member) will join CCT Team members Judy Lind, Steve Johnson, and Rev. Elaine to work with Safwat to review past plans and establish a list of potential buildable options for our next steps forward.

Safwat considers the full build-out of our master plan would be very expensive in today's competitive development market, around \$8 million. Thus, the BOT will lay out possible options for partial projects, with estimated costs for completion of each.

As we remain positive, think creatively, and act flexibly, UUCMP's opportunities will expand. What can we do now? How will we grow? These are questions for the **Next Steps Weekend (NSW)**.

If you are ever in San Juan Bautista on a weekday, please stop by City Hall and say hello. I am always happy to give any UUS a tour!

– Don Reynolds, SJB City Manager.

ART NEWS

Three Women Artists

July 31 to September 30

Bobbie Belvel loves to paint in oils although her primary focus has been as a pastellist. She received an art degree from UC Santa Cruz, and is a signature member of the Pastel Society of the West Coast.

She says of her work: "Art has always been my calling . . . "The medium of pastel fascinates me, with its rich colors and the tactile experience I get from it . . . I pursue plein air and studio oil painting with a new passion. Plein air painting involves the moment, the time and the living air around which the painting is created. Studio painting provides the time to make decisions and create on a larger scale, without chasing the light."

More of her work can be seen at bobbiebelvel.com



Sibyl Johnson is a fourth generation Californian who spent summers exploring the mountains and beaches around Monterey Bay and in the Sierras. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in education and fine art, and with a master's degree spent thirty years as a teacher. Her goal to paint full time was finally realized when she retired and returned to live in her family's original Carmel cottage (with a new studio).



She says, "Nature and movement inspire me. Like other artists who paint from life, I am concerned with light as it falls on objects. Shadows however are more interesting to me for they hold mystery and richer color."

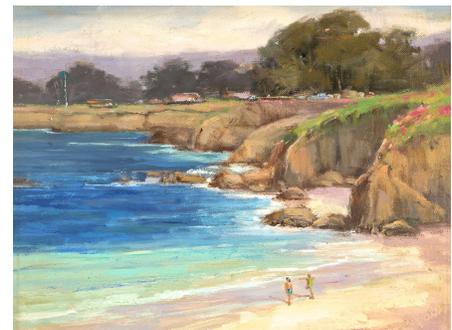
Sibyl, along with Bobbie and Cindy, are members of the California Art Club and the Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association (MBPAPA).

Her work can also be seen at sibyljohnson.com and at the Carmel Valley Art Association.

Cindy Wilbur, a graduate of the University of the Pacific, has loved art as far back as she can remember. She started out painting mostly portraits and figures, but after having a home on the central coast, her love of painting the landscape began, as well as her love of painting outdoors.

She says of her work, "My work is most known for its impressionistic or "painterly" style, favoring serene, pictorial landscapes. I prefer to suggest, rather than render, simplifying large shapes of color and value, leaving the details to the viewer. My goal is to convey my feelings through my heart and brush in hopes that the viewer will gain the same sense of spirit that inspired me."

Cindy's work can be seen at cindywilbur.com, Nancy Dodds Gallery, and at Ed Montgomery Fine Art.



The Comments Book is now in the Welcome Hall just outside the sanctuary doors.

-Peggy Olsen

BIG SUR CAMP OUT! REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!



Registration forms and payments are due on or before Sunday, August 25.

This is a very popular event, well-attended every year. It's wonderful community building and a great way to get to know your UUCMP family. Come and join us. Day visitors are welcome.

Questions? contact Kerry Sissem at kerrysissem@earthlink.net

MARK THE DATE:

This year's UUCMP's Annual Big Sur Campout is Labor Day weekend, Friday, August 30th - Monday, September 2nd.

Sign-up sheets, registration forms, release forms, directions, and all pertinent information can be found on the church bulletin board.



Mission accomplished!

Thanks to the generous support of many of our members and friends we have raised more than \$21,000 for the refurbishment of our 100-year old Steinway piano, enough to get the job done. The piano is currently being worked on in the Bay Area and is expected to return to us sometime in September. After a month or so of settling back in at UUCMP, we will start planning a piano recital and reception for the contributors. As always, thanks for all you do.



FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 7:00 P.M.
~ THE PAST~

This 2013 French-Italian-Iranian drama was written and directed by Asghar Farhadi. Beautifully written, sensitively directed, and powerfully acted, it's the story of an Iranian man, separated from his wife, who returns to Paris to attend their divorce hearing. Re-establishing relationships with his stepchildren, he finds himself embroiled in the turmoil of his wife's new relationship and the deteriorating relationship of his wife and her eldest daughter, who is concealing a shattering secret. It was nominated for the Palme d'Or and won best actress at Cannes.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. It's free. Family and friends are welcome. Refreshments available for a small fee. See you at the movies!



Peace of Mind DOG RESCUE

Helping Senior Dogs and Senior People

2009 **CELEBRATING 10 YEARS** 2019

August Shared Plate Recipient *Peace of Mind Dog Rescue*

Peace of Mind Dog Rescue's Inception

by Carie Broecker

In 2009, a woman named Alice was dying. Her friend, Carie Broecker was taking care of her dog, Savvy. Carie took Savvy to the hospice facility to visit Alice, who was very concerned about what was going to happen to Savvy. In that moment, Carie told Alice not to worry. She would make sure Savvy found a new home.

After the visit, the whole concept for Peace of Mind Dog Rescue (POMDR) came to Carie in a flash—the name and the mission. POMDR would take in dogs from people who were dying, from senior citizens who were going into care facilities or were unable to care for their dogs at home any more, and from people who had passed away.

Carie immediately called Monica Rua. The two friends had been doing rescue work together for 12 years. Carie told Monica her idea for POMDR, and Monica loved it, but added that they should also take in senior dogs from animal shelters. Carie agreed to the two-part mission wholeheartedly.

Monica and Carie founded POMDR in October 2009. After Alice's passing, Savvy was the third dog we put up for adoption.



Monica Rua and Carie Broecker

Now in its tenth year, POMDR has five paid staff, five passionate board members, over 800 outstanding

volunteers, and the support of the community. They have been able to change the fate of over 1,800 dogs and have also been able to help 800 senior citizens and low-income pet guardians keep their pets with them through their Helping Paw Program. This is accomplished by providing financial assistance, volunteer dog-walkers, and temporary foster care to pet guardians who may otherwise have to surrender them for rehoming.

For more information about POMDR, visit www.peaceofminddogrescue.org.

Thank you for your generous donations!

Anti-Racism Book and Movie Selection for the Upcoming Year Potlucks!

Please join *Whites for Racial Equity* and the Unitarian Universalist Church for **two potluck gatherings** to select next year's books and movies for our ongoing monthly discussions. We'll meet on **Tuesday, August 6**, from 6-8:30 p.m. to select **books** and on Thursday, **August 15**, from 6-8:30 p.m. to select **movies**. Please bring your nominations and a dish to share!

Questions? Speak to Rev. Elaine or JT Mason.



Musical Offerings

Come, come, whoever you are

T: nach Mevlana Rumi (1207-1273)

M: Lynn Adair Ungar

1. G D G C 2. G D G C
Come, come, who - e - ver you are, wan - derer, wor - shiper, lo - ver of lea - ving.

3. G D G C 4. G D G C
Ours is no ca - ra - van of de - spair. Come, yet again come.

In wandering and worshipping this summer, I bring back a renewed feeling of appreciation and excitement toward our music programming and our church. Last month we enjoyed the incredible Bach Festival musicians. This month we return to our regular rehearsals.

Our Adult Community Choir will resume our season with a sight-read fest on **August 1st and regular rehearsals begin on August 8th**. This choir is open to everyone, members and nonmembers alike, to explore singing together. As an ensemble, we prepare special music for two Sunday services per month and a special Music Sunday in December.

In addition, our children's choir will resume on **August 4th**. In August, we will focus on basic rhythms, meters, and pattern identification. In addition, we will prepare a special song for October. Our children's choir is designed for children grades K-5; however, I am flexible if a child wants to participate and is not in that age range. Our children explore a variety of simple musical concepts, vocal techniques, and engagement with service music.

If you want to have fun with folk songs and popular tunes, come check out our Monthly Sing Along with Shawn Kraut! We are scheduled to meet **every 2nd Wednesday each month from 6 -7 p.m. in the Fireside**



Room. This month, we will meet on **August 14th**. This group is open to anyone with any instrument to play or sing along. You can bring music or use the music other people bring. Shawn also helps guitar and ukulele players develop their skills at any level. This group does not perform in services.

If you want to join Shawn in bringing this kind of music to the service, he is starting the WhUU are UU band back up in the fall. We have a couple of participants, but are in need of a drummer, bassist, and more vocalists in order to start the group. Contact either myself or Shawn for more information.

Our new UU justice focused choir will meet on **Tuesday, August 13, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary**. We will sing a variety of old and new social justice songs to support the wider community. The songs are easy to learn, memorize, and love forever. For more information, please contact either myself or Rev. Elaine. We hope to see you there!



Finally, if you have other ways you wish to contribute to the music here at UUCMP, just let me know. Come, truly, whoever you are. You are welcome to caravan with us, be you wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving, or any other being.

— Camille Hatton



Men's Breakfast Group

Saturday, August 10
8:00 a.m.



All men are invited to the monthly Men's Breakfast Group. Please let Marsh Pitman (marshpitman@gmail.com) know if you will attend so we can plan for enough food. Come as early as 7:30 a.m. if you want to help.

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.

On August 8th, Jane Bell will offer health care tips and lead our discussion of "Self Health."

On August 22nd, longtime UUCMP member and Monterey County District 4 Supervisor Jane Parker will tell us about her recent trip to Georgia and lead a discussion of "Sunday School Lessons from Jimmy Carter."

Please join us from **2-3:30 p.m.** in the Fireplace Room.

—Nancy Baker Jacobs, Facilitator

EQUAL EXCHANGE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AUGUST 18



Fair trade, organic coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil will be available for purchase after the **August 18th** service. Support sustainable farmer coops and UUCMP at the same time! Cash and checks accepted.

Contact: Janet Shing



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 speak to the ministers.

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.

Life Enrichment

New classes and events for the Fall term will begin soon. If you have ideas or suggestions for new classes for groups or the fall term, or if you have a class or activity you would like to lead, please contact the LE committee.

Carol Greenstreet is LE Committee Chair.

Buddhist Sangha - The Eightfold Path

All are welcome to attend our Buddhist Sangha, Wednesdays 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The Sangha is a support group for the ongoing exploration and practice of the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path, the essential teachings of Buddhism. Each week we meet to meditate and to hear a recorded dharma talk by respected teachers like Jack Kornfield, Thich Nhat Hahn, the Dalai Lama, Tara Brach, Pema Chodron and others from various Buddhist traditions. We have a brief check-in to share how our "practice" is going, how our lives may be changed through study, meditation and daily practice. If you know nothing about Buddhism, there is still plenty to unlearn on your way to an unburdened life.



— Namaste, Rev. Dennis Hamilton

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.

Life Enrichment Programs Affinity Groups:

Anti-Racism Book Group

First Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. See page 9.

Anti-Racism Film Group

Third Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. See page 9.

Men's Group Breakfast

Second Saturdays, 8 a.m.

Contact: Marsh Pitman

Women's Discussion Group

Second and fourth Thursdays, 2 –3:30 p.m. Contact: Nancy Baker Jacobs

T'ai Chi Chih Wednesdays

5:30-6:30 p.m.

Contact: Ruth Smith or Jim Eagle

Sangha continues on Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Contact Rev. Dennis Hamilton. See article to the right.

Friday Night at the Movies

is second Fridays, 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Contact: John Freeman

Dances of Universal Peace

No dances in August.

Contact: Barbara Bullock-Wilson

UUCMP Census Results

Thanks to all 129 of you who completed the recent UUCMP census. You may find the results on the church web site, <https://uucmp.org/> by clicking on 'UUCMP Census Results' on the home page.



Grapevine



Dorothy Jean Rutowski, who went by Jean, was a member of UUCMP. Jean died on February 11, 2019. She was born on October 29, 1923 in Hollywood, California. Jean met the love of her life, Edward Rutowski, at North Hollywood High School. She and Ed graduated with top honors and then went to [UCLA](#). Jean earned a teaching credential and bachelor's degree in home economics. Jean and Edward married at age 21 during WWII right before he deployed to the Philippines. During his service, he wrote daily letters which she saved and later transcribed.

After living in North Hollywood and then relocating for four years to Tulsa, Oklahoma for Ed's work, they settled in Pacific Palisades, California, where Jean lived until she was 83. They had four children – Kenny, Ron, Mary Anne and Patricia – but, in Tulsa, Kenny died of leukemia at age 11 in 1957.

Jean and Ed were very active in the UU Church of Santa Monica, running the Adult Program Committee. After earning a master's degree in education 1970's, Jean taught home economics, child development and bachelor arts at St. Monica and St. Bernard High Schools in Santa Monica. After Ed died in 1998, Jean eventually relocated to Pacific Grove to be near her daughters, Patricia and Mary Anne. She loved Pacific Grove and was active at UUCMP, a book group, and exercise classes at the Sally Griffin Center. She moved into The Park Lane after she broke her hip at 89.

Jean often said that she lived a good, rich life, married a wonderful man, and raised children she dearly loved. Her bright eyes, positive outlook, love of life and all it has to offer, and loving care of her family will be greatly missed by many. There is a celebration of life service for Jean at El Carmelo Cemetery, Pacific Grove on Saturday, August 17, at 2 p.m. with a reception to follow at PG Golf Links.

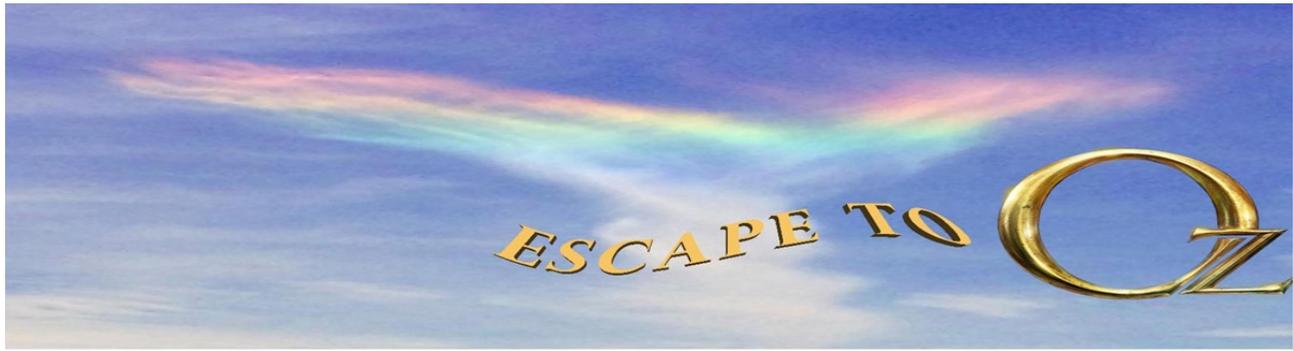
Please park at the golf club parking lot if possible. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Pat Rutowski at 649-6419 so that they know how much food to provide for the reception.

Jean Mansfield had surgery for uterine cancer on June 26. The surgeon felt that they got out all the cancer, and she is now recovering at home, maintaining her usual cheerful and optimistic attitude. She will undergo chemotherapy treatments and have other medical appointments in the coming weeks. We are all delighted in how well she is doing. Those who wish to help Jean by providing rides to medical appointments and/or bringing meals can contact Carol Collin or caringnetwork@uucmp.org.

Laura and Harry Nagel's daughter Erica Nagel will be marrying Zac Judkins (no relation to Karen Judkins) on Saturday, August 10th. Laura and Harry will gain a son-in-law and two grandchildren, Iona, age 7, and Emmett, age 10. Congratulations to the happy family!

Karen Judkins and Steve Wade's daughter Galayna is marrying the love of her life Nick Christison on August 3 in Bloomington, Illinois. The couple will then return to Gunma Prefecture, Japan, where Galayna is teaching English to Japanese students in grades 1 through 6 as part of the JET (Japanese Exchange and Teaching) program. Congratulations to Galayna and Nick!

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



Services Auction 2019
Saturday, October 19 . . . Mark Your Calendars!
Fun for the whole family!
Complimentary dinner!

(Wine and beer also available for a donation.)



The Services Auction is the church's largest fundraiser each year, and it's also a fun time to be together. No need to spend a lot of money . . . just come and join in the fun. If you have a piece of art or jewelry to be auctioned off, if you want to share a meal with congregants that is great. But of course, it's not necessary to donate anything at all to attend, though diverse auction offerings really make a difference if we are to have a successful fundraising event.

Please be thinking of what you might offer, such as hosting an Alice in Wonderland Tea Party, or maybe find your favorite trees and pair them up with your favorite poems and then put them together for an afternoon adventure? Let's go horseback riding or play bocce ball! Offer your tips on gardening, or picnic en plein air. Let your imagination run free! Tell others what you need and maybe that will prompt the service you're looking for.

Please go to the first page of our website to register for the event and to donate items for the auction.

We hope you will join us! Please get in touch if you can help out this year and be on the Auction team. Email us at: serviceauction@uucmp.org Services Auction Team: Lauren Keenan, Laura Nagel, Kerry Sisseem, and Tara Martz-Tillman. If you'd like to get involved in some exciting decorations and design work, we would love your help! If you'd like to join our kitchen crew, help with technology for either the Silent or Live Auction, any assistance is appreciated. Please contact us at serviceauction@uucmp.org



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Can anyone be of help?

The Immigration Task Force of Monterey County, our UUCMP Shared Plate recipient in July, was asked to help find a low-cost or free housing situation in Hayward or Oakland for Rihana Fernanda, a transgender asylum seeker from Nicaragua. The time would run from August 4 until she is eligible to work and pay her own rent. This would run from 90 days to 1 year.

If anyone has solid, viable leads on a Hayward or Oakland resident who could help, please contact Arlene Nehring (arlene@edenucc.com), pastor of Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward, as soon as possible.

Immediate Needs:

- Hospitable housing in the Bay Area, i.e., use of a guest room with kitchen and bathroom privileges, a room in a group house with a kitchen and bathroom privileges, or use of a mother-in-law unit would be ideal. The host(s) need not be fluent Spanish speakers, but they do need to be LGBT-friendly and comfortable with the lifestyle of a 22-year old. Close proximity to public transportation would be very helpful!

- Cash and/or in-kind help with food, clothing, telephone, and transportation.

- Healthcare: Eden Church provided accompaniment for enrollment in health care benefits in Santa Clara County and Alameda County. They also provided navigation services to the TRIUMPH Program (Transgender clinic) at La Clinica in the Fruitvale neighborhood of Oakland. Enrollment in Santa Clara County was a necessary part of her application to New Haven, Inc. Enrollment in Alameda County benefits was necessary for her to have access to the Transgender clinic.

- Legal Aid: Eden Church arranged meetings for

Rihana with the LGBT Asylum Project on July 8, 2019, and Centro Legal on July 17, 2019. Both are willing to consider taking her case if the court venue is transferred from Tucson to SF. TransQueer Pueblo will accompany her if she has to appear in Tucson.

- Court accompaniment: If the court venue is changed to SF, we can explore a “pack the court” campaign for her Master Hearing.

- Cultural navigation support: Eden Church and Ministerio Latinx can train trainers.

Many thanks for whatever you can do.

More about Rihana:

https://www.ucc.org/news_ucc_network_helps_nicaraguan_to_freedom_06262019?fbclid=IwAR0XRJxq2Lv3J_3SEEtXWTrUsK9ALu0hh7LlqHdUX5wwrXyiSTWl85LKrZA#.XRqqf0XqjCw.facebook

The Immigration Task Force will be tabling at the West End celebration in Sand City on August 24 & 25. Everyone is invited to join in the fun and stop by their table to say hello.



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Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
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Return Service Requested



AUGUST 2019

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Please send NUUsletter submissions as an email attachment by the 16th to newsletter@uucmp.org, and indicate UUCMP NUUSLETTER in the subject line.

Please send submissions for WEEKLY NEWS to office@uucmp.org by Tuesday noon.

Submissions for the Announcement and Order of Service are due by 9 a.m. Wednesdays to admin@uucmp.org.

Check the WEEKLY NEWS and website for news throughout the month.

If you have any questions, call the office, 831-624-7404, or e-mail us at office@uucmp.org