



NUUSLETTER

of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

October Theme: *Sacrifice*

Sunday Services begin at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

October 6
“The Altruistic Impulse”

Rev. Axel Gehrmann & Mary Kay Hamilton

If economists and evolutionary biologists are correct, human actions are largely guided by individuals’ self-interest and survival instincts. Various religious traditions offer an alternative perspective, which moves beyond dichotomies of selfishness/selflessness. At first blush it may seem paradoxical to claim, “The more you give, the more you gain.” What truths are contained in such counter-intuitive teachings?

October 13
“Making Sense of Sacred Sacrifice”
Rev. Elaine Gehrmann & Katie Hamilton

In the book of Genesis, the story of Abraham and Isaac is often either exalted or condemned; viewed as either proof of Abraham’s devotion to God, or proof of his horrible fatherhood qualifications. What sense might we make of this story and other supposedly sacred sacrifices?

October 20
“To Die For”

Rev. Axel Gehrmann & Sue Ellen Stringer

For some it’s a delicious ice-cream sundae. For others it’s the view of the ocean at Bixby Bridge. For me, it’s the perfect plate of pasta carbonara. That’s the light-hearted way we use the phrase “to die for.” But, of course, the term also points to deeper meanings. For certain cherished principles, or people, or passions, some of us are willing to sacrifice our very lives. Perhaps it would be equally accurate to say: these are the things we live for.

October 27
“Sacrifice—The Greater Good”
Sam Farr & Bob Sadler

In his controversial and seminal book, *The Selfish Gene*, Richard Dawkins described the human gene as having a drive for survival that is ruthlessly selfish, but he then pointed out that humans are not ruled by our genes. The fact that our genes prefer us to be selfish simply means that we need to be taught how, when and where to be selfless. Our culture is a tool for teaching us how to overcome our genetic preference and gain some balance. Our social, economic and political institutions generate ideas and experiences that reinforce the degrees to which we are selfless and selfish. What are those institutions teaching us today? What do we want them to teach us? In our discussion of sacrifice for the greater good, we will take an unvarnished look at where we are and where we want to go.

In This Issue . . .

Page	
2 Minister’s Column	
3 Stewardship Committee	11 Publication Deadlines
3 Scheduled Events	12 Life Enrichment
4 President’s Corner	12 Chalice Circles
5 Religious Exploration	12 Orientation Luncheon
6 Join Our Church	12 Mission Statement
6 Q & A on UUism	12 Affinity Groups
6 Grand Piano Progress	12 Super Flea Rummage Sale
7 Art News	13 Grapevine
8 Book Discussion	13 Pastoral Associates
8 First Friday Coffee	14 Services Auction
8 Friday Night at the Movies	15 Social Justice
9 Shared Plate Recipient	
10 Musical Offerings	See the calendar at
11 Men’s Breakfast	www.uucmp.org
11 Equal Exchange	
11 Women’s Discussion Group	
11 Worship Associates Needed	

**Religious Exploration
for Children and Youth**
is offered during the second service for kids,
preschool and older.
Quality nursery care is available at each service.



Ministers' Message

Rev. Axel Gehrman

Grow old along with me. The best is yet to come. You are the love of my life!

The other day I was hiking up a hill at Garland Ranch in Carmel Valley. It was a warm, sunny day, so I was working up quite a sweat as I slowly made my way up the trail. Near the top of the hill I was very ready for a break. Thank goodness there was a comfortable and welcoming bench right there, strategically placed along the path!



As I was enjoying a cool sip of water and a fine view across the valley, I noticed a plaque on the bench: "Dear Helen, Grow old along with me. The best is yet to come. You are the love of my life! – Chuck." The message gave me pause.

Now, I have no idea who Chuck and Helen are, but I was touched to imagine two life-long lovers enjoying this beautiful spot together. And to think that they chose to express their happiness and good fortune by building a bench here – not only for their own enjoyment, but for countless hikers like me, who would pass this way, ready for a rest, grateful for the chance to sit here and savor the view.

In some ways our church, UUCMP, is just like this bench: it is a labor of love built by dozens of Chucks and Helens - people who met here, and came to love this community of religious seekers, perpetually striving to change the world and themselves for the better. We, who are here today, benefit from those who came before us to build this place. Their love and devotion lives on in our midst.

In early September, many of you participated in the "Next Steps Weekend" facilitated by our consultant Kay Crider, and shared your thoughts – both hopeful and fearful - about the future of our congregation.

There was a lot of discussion about our latest strategic plan (approved in January 2019), and a proposed vision for a potential building project, "Phase IIIa," - a recently developed variation of our master plan adopted in 2003 - as well as several other possible scenarios. Many questions were pondered: Are there other building options? Will we be able to fill and support a larger space? Shouldn't we grow our membership first, and then build a bigger sanctuary?

Kay reviewed a wealth of historical and financial information, and reported that our congregation is in many respects remarkably healthy and vibrant. We are poised to embark on an exciting path! However, we have yet to reach broad agreement on exactly which path we want to take. Our future is as yet uncharted.

What we do know is that in past years several ambitious building projects were planned and successfully completed. We know that this congregation has steadily grown in size and spirit. We know our church has a lot to offer. And we know that if we all want to gather as one strong community in a single Sunday service with room for newcomers, we definitely need more space.

I encourage you to participate in upcoming conversations. Bring your questions, and share your hopes and dreams. If we contribute our energies and ideas, and join together as one, there is no doubt in my mind that for this beloved community **the best is yet to come!**

See you in church!

Axel



Stewardship Committee



Konny Murray, Fran Gaver, Harry Nagel, Lynne Powers, Carol Collin, Judy Lind

Stewardship is the responsible oversight of something worth caring for and protecting.

Our church, UUCMP, is obviously something worth caring for and protecting -- and supporting! *Supporting* means ensuring that funds are in place each year sufficient to carry out our church mission of peace, equality, and respect for the earth. Thus, all of our active members and friends are stewards of our church.

~~Many hands come together~~



to care for our community

Ensuring adequate funds is the charge given to the **Stewardship Committee**, which works continuously throughout the year to improve our generosity as a community. This requires keeping up with current thought on and best practices for fundraising and analyzing patterns of congregational giving. This information is used to plan events and to give presentations throughout the year, then to design and carry out an annual Operating Fund campaign.

Most importantly, the Stewardship Committee's job is to express appreciation! Members and friends need recognition and assurance that their gifts of time, talent, and money are significant and make a difference. And that's the most joyful part of what we do.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Anti-Racism Book Discussion Group Tuesday, October 1, 7 p.m. See page 12

Anti-Racism Film Group Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m. See page 12.

Board of Trustees meets Wednesday, October 18, 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 is on Sunday, October 20, 5 p.m. See page 12.

Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate are available on Sunday, October 20. See page 11.

Friday Night at the Movies is on October 11, 7 p.m. See page 8 for what's showing.

I-HELP for Men is Sunday, October 13, 5 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

I-HELP for Women is Sunday, October 27, 4 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

Justice Choir meets Tuesday, October 8, 7 p.m. See page 10.

Membership Committee meets Wednesday, October 23, 5:45 p.m. via ZOOM.

Men's Breakfast is Saturday, October 12 8 a.m. See page 11.

Music Committee meets Wednesday, October 2, 5:30 p.m. via ZOOM.

NUUsletter deadline for the November issue is Wednesday, October, 16.

Program Council is Tuesday, October 8, 12:30 p.m., at UUCMP or via Zoom. For Zoom information contact Lauren Keenan programcouncil@uucmp.org

Sing Along is Wednesday, October 9, 6 – 7 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. See page 10 for details.

Social Justice meets Sunday, October 6, 12:45 p.m. in the Fireplace Room.

Women's Discussion Group will meet on Thursdays, October 10 and 24, 2:00 p.m. See page 11 for details.

President's Corner — Page Galloway



“Why are you here?”

Recently, just in advance of the “next steps weekend” the board and the ministers met with Kay Crider to discuss a number of things. One of the questions she asked us and which I found really pivotal was, “Why is this place special to you?” and, “What keeps you coming back?” In short: Why are you here? I thought I would share a little of my response to that, and my thoughts about it as I continue to come back to this question as we look ahead.

To talk about that, I need to tell you what brought me here in the first place. I moved to this community about five years ago in order to be closer to my work. I realized that if I wanted to feel at home in this area I needed to build community for myself. So, I figured a good place to start was to attend church locally. This perhaps seems like an odd choice for me, since I do not believe in a god that the late Terry Pratchett would describe as “an anthropomorphic personification.” It may be more accurate to say that I do believe in universal soul, for want of a better phrase, and the value of transcendent experience. So, finding a church that insulted neither my intelligence nor my integrity was something of a challenge. You see, I realized some time ago that despite my beliefs, or lack thereof, I had been missing a communal spiritual life. I was actively looking for a place that would fit my need for community and connection while being in keeping with my own integrity and nurturing spirituality. What I found was the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula.

What I found here is a place where I was welcomed warmly by the members of the congregation, even though I was a stranger. What I found is a place where my questions and thoughts had place, relevance, and acceptance as part of a spiritual journey, whether I espoused a belief in a deity or not. I found a place where it felt like coming home. It surprised me and it moved me. It's why I came back again, and again, and again. I like to describe going to services as attending my weekly class on being a good human . . . with singing. What brought me here was a quest to find community, and what brought me back was the sense that I had found that community, and that this community accepted me as I am, and that we are all of us here to support one another in developing our best and fullest selves, and to share in a communal spiritual life. It's why this place is special to me. Not just the four walls (okay, six walls) and a roof, but the sense of connection and community that I share with you.

One of the words used to describe that feeling is *sanctuary*: A place that is a shelter, a harbor, an oasis. It is a place where we find security and a holy place where we find refuge in each other.

So I challenge you all to ask yourselves these questions:

Why is this place special to you?
What keeps you coming back?

I also put forward the challenge of sharing your answers with others, not just within this faith community, but with anyone who is looking for a sense of community in our disconnected world.

Share your stories. They are more powerful than you know.

All the best,

Page

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



Arthur

Years ago, I read a book called *The Complete Idiot's Guide: Spirituality for Teens*. Despite the fairly horrible title, it was a surprisingly good book, full of ideas to help teens connect with their personal sense of awe. My UU friend Jana -- as a volunteer -- created a whole curriculum for a teen group based on it, even though it was written by a Christian minister with a Christian audience in mind. Much like times when I have visited certain churches and found that the message was universal if I just got past some of the language, this book had meaningful, practical ideas for developing a spiritual practice of many types.

One of the recommendations I remember was to walk around with a camera as an exercise in mindfulness. Similarly, earlier this year, Rev. Elaine asked us to try a novel spiritual practice by finding something each day to photograph that connected to daily words she suggested. As a result, there is a day in February that is memorialized on my phone by red flowers outside my front door, a red tile roof a block over, and my son in a red coat because I was paying attention that day for all things red. There is something about challenges like this that I love as they cause me to see things in new ways and, maybe, with greater insight.

Two decades after reading that *Idiot's Guide*, I still think of this camera practice fairly often. While doing anything in a daily, systematic way doesn't come naturally to me, I do take a lot of pictures. Although some people find themselves distracted by the act of snapping a picture, I find it helps me stay connected to whatever is happening at that moment.

Last month, Sharon Sadler and the membership committee organized a Saturday night potluck. Children and elders and families and singles shared some fabulous food and conversation. Jon Czarnecki couldn't stay to eat, but brought his hot dish of mac & cheese anyway. Edmund Pendleton and Kate Egerton volunteered to hang out in the nursery with little Arthur and Leo so that their parents could enjoy some adult conversation. Rosemary Milburn came with a focus on organizing and labeling all the food by type and ingredients -- having hard-won experience in this particular task from last year's potluck. It took a lot of people with a lot of willingness to share to make a simple potluck successful.

My favorite picture from that night, though, doesn't tell that story. It shows two-year-old

Arthur looking curiously at a kitchen cupboard, surrounded by busy people of all ages. His mom is scooping food, Gene is cleaning up from her extensive salad-making efforts, Bill is delivering said salad, Sophie,



Sammy, and others are making their dinner choices. I experienced at least a moment of mindfulness by noticing Arthur, and Arthur is experiencing church and community. He is part of the action and, as he grows up with many of these simple experiences, will understand, at his core, the value of church and community.

The congregation is the curriculum.

— Corey Brunson
Director of Religious Exploration

Join Our Church!

Our church seeks to be a caring community and a welcoming place. We strive to deepen our religious lives and support the spiritual growth of all who join together here, working to build a better world beginning with ourselves.



If you find you are in sympathy with our principles and you are at least 16 years of age, then we invite you to sign our membership book.

There is no one single, right path to membership. But here are a few options: participate in worship and other events; and consider attending one of the two-session orientations that are offered two or three times a year. Above all, familiarize yourself with our congregation.

Then fill out a membership form, which you can find at our Welcome Table in the lobby or in the church office. The form asks for your contact information and provides some information about UUCMP's purpose. After you return the completed form to the church office, you will be contacted by one of the ministers, or someone from our Membership Committee, to set up a time for you to receive additional information about the church, share your thoughts about church involvement, and sign the Book.

Joining the church entitles you to vote at congregational meetings, at which we adopt budgets, elect officers, and direct the course of church programming. Above and beyond that, membership is a personal and public expression of your support of this religious community, the ideals it stands for, and the work it does.

Please join us!

- Revs. Elaine & Axel Gehrman

Questions and Answers on UUism

Would you like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and this church? Please join our informal Q&A session, designed to answer your questions, whatever they may be.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, October 6, at 12:30 p.m. following the second worship service, in the Conference Room. Please speak with Revs. Axel or Elaine for more information.



More Grand Piano Progress!

Our beloved grand piano should soon be completely refurbished and will be back with us in late November. Here are a couple more pictures of the beautiful new strings that have been installed.



ART NEWS

Finding Reverence

October 23 through December 8

Mark Overgaard

Reverence is a feeling of deep respect, with a tinge of awe. Growing up, I was marinated in reverence. Now it's a primary theme of my image making and the overall focus of this exhibit.

I was born in Thailand of missionary parents and had the majority of my education through college in Christian institutions. I didn't embrace Christian doctrine, but the reverence moved me deeply.



Returning to India sixty years after my first visits as a child, I found scenes of deep Hindu reverence, despite and within the hubbub generated by its 1.3 billion people. The reverence in these scenes is matched by the handmade printing process I chose for them: the platinotype, a nineteenth century method in which the image is formed by fine platinum metal particles embedded in the paper. I trust you find beauty and empathy with the people in these images and are touched by your shared humanity.

Another theme of this exhibit is reverence for our fragile natural world, with a focus on the earth's polar regions, both north and south. These areas include vast expanses of awe-inspiring beauty, with towering snow-clad mountains and glaciers, as well as intricate ice sculptures and exquisite, hardy wildlife. I hope you find awe in these scenes and a commitment to support the conservation of these places, their wild inhabitants.



Mark Overgaard lives in Scotts Valley, California. After a productive career in technology, Mark focuses his retirement energy on image making, emphasizing cultural portraits and wildlife naturescapes. He is a member of the Center for Photographic Art (CPA) in Carmel, the Image Makers of Monterey, the Community of Digital Artists in Scotts Valley, and the North American Nature Photographers Association. His work has been shown in multiple solo exhibits in Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties, as well as in group exhibits at CPA and (with multiple awards in recent years) at PhotoCentral in Hayward.

mark@movergaard.com www.remarkableimagery.net

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

-Peggy Olsen

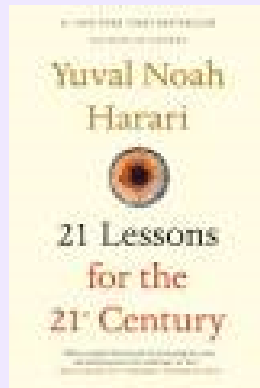
Book Discussion on *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*

Dates: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10/1, 10/15,
11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Fireplace Room

Are nations and religions still relevant? Why is liberal democracy in crisis? How do we deal with the epidemic of fake news? What should we teach our children?



Bestselling author Yuval Noah Harari's *21 Lessons for the 21st Century* is a probing investigation into today's most urgent issues as we move into the uncharted territory of the future. An excerpt about the book: "As technology advances faster than our

understanding of it, hacking becomes a tactic of war, and the world feels more polarized than ever, Harari addresses the challenge of navigating life in the face of constant and disorienting change and raises important questions we need to ask ourselves in order to survive."

Rev. Axel will continue leading the discussion of *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*, exploring how Harari's ideas and insights are relevant for our lives. Sessions will provide opportunities for large and small group discussion, as well as individual writing and reflection.

Please contact Rev. Axel (minister@uucmp.org) if you have questions or plan to attend.

Suggested donation: \$5.00 per session

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE WITH THE MINISTERS

Friday, October 4, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m

Would you enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, and the opportunity to chat with the ministers, as well as a few other members and friends of UUCMP? If so, be sure to join our First Friday Coffee. Revs. Elaine and Axel will host a gathering for members and friends in the Canterbury Room of Canterbury Woods, 651 Sinex Avenue, Pacific Grove. Whether you are a resident there, or live elsewhere, please join us for a hot beverage and friendly conversation.



FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 7:00 P.M.
~ THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL~

This 2012 British comedy/drama, directed by John Madden, is full of charm and amusement. Several British retirees (Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Bill Nighy, Tom Wilkinson) decide to outsource their retirement to exotic -- and less expensive -- India. Lured by advertisements for the newly restored Marigold Hotel and imagining a life of leisure in lush surroundings, they arrive and find that the Marigold is actually a shell of its former self. Though their new home is not quite what they had imagined, the retirees find that life and love can begin again when they let go of their pasts. "Every character shines in his or her own different way and you believe in each of them." Critical acclaim for Judy Dench and Maggie Smith.

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!



October Shared Plate Recipient National Alliance on Mental Illness Monterey NAMI

The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Monterey County, *NAMI Monterey County*, is a grass-roots nonprofit designed to support family members and others who have loved ones suffering from a mental illness. They offer programs for families and consumers, advocate on behalf of those with mental illnesses, and hold a variety of educational workshops and programs throughout Monterey County. They are affiliated with NAMI California and NAMI National.

Mental illnesses are brain disorders that are biologically based medical problems. Untreated, they can cause severe disturbances in thinking, feeling and relating. This results in substantially diminished capacity for dealing with the ordinary demands of life. Mental illness can affect persons of any age and occur in any family. They are not caused by bad parenting and are not evidence of weakness of character.

Mission

NAMI Monterey County offers hope and reduction of stigma associated with mental illness through education, advocacy, service access, and support for families and their loved ones living with a mental illness. To this end, the agency seeks to enhance the quality and fulfillment of their lives through wellness and recovery. They are dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with mental illness and their families through support, education, and advocacy.

What NAMI does

NAMI relies on gifts and contributions to support their important work.

Education. NAMI provides education for individ-

uals living with mental illness their families and the community. It is important to dispel stigma and ignorance regarding mental illness. Education and information are vital tools to living with a mental illness. The education programs ensure that families, individuals, and educators get the support and information they need.

Advocacy. NAMI Monterey County believes in advocacy for legislation and benefits for those living with mental illness. They use their voice within the state and federal system to support and improve the quality of life for those who are mentally ill.

Service Access. Their mission is to provide up-to-date information for anyone wanting to learn about mental illness. NAMI works closely with other local resources to provide assistance to those in need.

Listening. The toll-free NAMI helpline (800-950-6264) allows representatives to respond personally to many requests each year, providing free information and support, a much needed lifeline for many.

Support. NAMI Monterey County provides many classes and support groups for family members and their loved ones. These classes and support groups provide a safe place for family members to get the encouragement they need and to know that they are not alone.

Thank you for your generous donations!

Musical Offerings

Hi, Everyone! Happy Fall. When I think of fall, I think of its sounds- crackling leaves under foot, wind whistling, chestnuts roasting . . . you get the idea.



Our Adult Community 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. This month we will share the beautiful choral works *De Profundis* and *Omnia Sol* with the congregation. We meet **every Thursday from 7-9 p.m. in the sanctuary.**



Our Children's Choir will focus on notes and pitch this month. In addition, we will start new songs to perform in November and December. 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. We meet **every Sunday after the first service until 11 a.m. in the RE wing.**



Our UU justice-focused choir meets **every 2nd Tuesday each month, this month on Tuesday, October 8th, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.** We will sing a variety of old and new social justice songs to support the wider community. We have recently started this group and are already receiving invitations to join demonstrations! The songs are easy to learn, memorize, and love forever. For



more information, please contact either Rev. Elaine or me.

If you want to have fun with folk songs and popular tunes, come check out our Monthly Sing Along with Shawn Kraut! We meet **every 2nd Wednesday each month from 6-7 p.m. in the Fireplace Room.** This month we will meet on **October 9th.** 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 again! We have a couple of participants, but we are in need of a drummer, bassist, and more vocalists in order to start the group. Contact either Shawn or me for more information.

Finally, if you have other ways you wish to contribute to the music here at UUCMP, just let me know. Music lifts the heart and soul and provides a tapestry behind the seasons of the year, and of life.

— Camille Hatton



Men's Breakfast Group

Saturday, October 12,
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 October 10th, Mez Benton will lead a discussion of "The Importance of Community."

On October 24th, Sharon Miller will lead a discussion of "White Supremacy and Women."

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

— Nancy Baker Jacobs, Facilitator

EQUAL EXCHANGE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE OCTOBER 20th



Fair trade, organic coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil will be available for purchase between the services on **October 20th**. 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

The Fall Life Enrichment booklets have been published. Check out all the great groups and activities.

Contact Carol Greenstreet, who is the LE Committee Chair.



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!

Orientation Luncheon

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and about UUCMP? Come to the orientation luncheon Sunday, November 3, after the second service from 12:30 to 2 p.m. RSVP to Sharon Sadler. Questions? Ask Rev. Axel or Rev. Elaine.



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. in the Fireplace Room

Anti-Racism Film Group Third Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. in the Fireplace Room

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

Friday Night at the Movies is second Fridays, 7 p.m. All are welcome.
Contact: John Freeman

Dances of Universal Peace
Third Sundays, 5-7 p.m. in the sanctuary
Contact: Barbara Bullock-Wilson

Super Flea Family Market



The UUCMP Super Flea rummage sale will be Friday and Saturday, April 17- 18, 2020, with setup Tuesday through Thursday, April 13-16. Start setting aside your best items. For more information, please contact Mibs McCarthy.



Grapevine



Gathering for Women · Monterey

Providing homeless women with supportive resources and a caring community

For several years UUCMP was the site for weekly lunches every Tuesday for homeless women, sponsored by *Gathering for Women Monterey*. They now have remodeled their facility and can host meals there, giving breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday. Women can also take a shower at the facility.

Their guests have many other needs besides showers and meals. Some live on the street, and some in their cars. *Gathering for Woman* accepts donations of real goods on the first Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at their facility at 147 El Dorado Street in Monterey.

Caring Network would like to include this very worthy organization and its guests as part of our outreach. If you want to be of help, you can drop

off donations at the site at the designated time or bring them to the Caring Network table on Sundays, and we will deliver them. Donated goods may include clean, gently worn or new clothing such as denims, sweaters, jackets and rainwear, sensible and sturdy shoes, sizes 7-10, new underwear and socks, towels, hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, sunblock, lip balm, small sized packets of tissues, and wipes. Also needed are sleeping bags, backpacks, and tents. When we work together to be of help, we can make a great difference in people's lives. Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.

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

Pastoral Associates Team: Reaching Out

I haven't had an illness for over a year. My doctor says not to worry. Everybody gets sick eventually, and I will too. I take comfort, not in the fact that I seem healthy, but in knowing I belong to a caring church community that will be there for me when I do get sick. All of us need a caring community in which to thrive. And that is why we have the Caring Network (thank you Carol Collin) and the Pastoral Associates Team.



Our Pastoral Associates Team has been calling through the membership list. If you have not been called yet, expect a friendly call soon. If we missed you, and you would like to chat,

please call one of us. If you are in need or know someone who needs a call, please let us know. The Pastoral Associates Team meets regularly for training and to review the list of members who have special needs. We also visit hospitals and other care facilities as needed. Our visits and conversations are always confidential and discreet.

On our team at present are Meredith Harrill, Karen Judkins, Jean Mansfield, Darold Skerritt, me, Rev. Dennis Hamilton, and our leader, Rev. Axel Gehrman. And whether you know it or not, you are also a part of the Caring Network. We all will need some care eventually. And we each can offer our services to comfort those in need.

Good health and peace to you all,
Rev. Dennis

SERVICES AUCTION 2019 SATURDAY, OCT 19TH ESCAPE TO OZ

CALLING ALL LIONS, TIGERS AND BEARS . . . FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



Enjoy Auntie Em's delicious home cooking . . . a complimentary meal with appetizers and dessert. Wine and beer also available for a donation.

BRING A FRIEND!

Sing along to the musical soundtrack: "Over the Rainbow," "We're Off to See the Wizard," "Ding Dong the Witch Is Dead," "Follow the Yellow Brick Road."

Come dressed as your favorite Wizard of Oz character.

Register online at uucmp.org. Fun and festivities begin at 5:30 PM.

Programming for children and youth ages four through 14. Childcare for infants and toddlers.



SOCIAL  **JUSTICE**

COPA Leaders' Retreat



Saturday, October 12, 2019
Registration: 9:30 am
Retreat: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Mission San Juan Bautista, 406 2nd St.

Join COPA leaders from across the region to deepen relationships, receive training and strategize for the work to come.

Need childcare or translation? Questions? Call (831) 728-3210

Please RSVP at the following link:
https://www.copaiaf.org/leaders_retreat_oct2019
or call (831) 728-3210 or email copa.iaf1@gmail.com

*Participants must RSVP in order to receive the retreat materials in advance.

Retiro de Líderes de COPA

sábado, 12 de octubre, 2019
Inscripción: 9:30 am
Retiro: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Misión San Juan Bautista, 406 2nd St.



Únase a los líderes de COPA de toda la región para profundizar las relaciones, recibir capacitación y estrategias para el trabajo por venir.

¿Necesita cuidado de niños o traducción? ¿Preguntas? Llame al (831) 728-3210

Confirme su asistencia en el siguiente enlace:
https://www.copaiaf.org/leaders_retreat_oct2019 o llame al
(831) 728-3210 o envíe un correo electrónico a copa.iaf1@gmail.com

*Los participantes deben confirmar su asistencia para recibir los materiales del retiro por adelantado.

**Unitarian Universalist Church
of the Monterey Peninsula
490 Aguajito Road
Carmel, CA 93923**

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
or call for an appointment. Closed Friday.

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Return Service Requested



OCTOBER 2019

About UUCMP Publications

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

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

If you have any questions, call the office, 624-7404, or