



# NUUSLETTER

of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

Theme: Deep Listening

Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom online meeting app

**October 6**

**“The Sound of Our Soul”**

**Rev. Axel Gehrmann and Worship Associate  
Max Cajar**

Learning to be a good listener is a worthwhile endeavor. We are taught that it will benefit all our relationships, whether with friends and family, neighbors or strangers. However, in the course of our life journey, in order to find our own way, it is equally important that we learn to listen deeply to ourselves.

**October 13**

**“Listening by Heart”**

**Rev. Elaine Gehrmann and Worship Associate  
Lauren Keenan**

While we usually think that we listen with our ears, when we truly pay attention to someone else who is sharing with us, we are listening by heart. We will explore the importance of this kind of deep listening, and remind ourselves of our amazing ability to be that kind of support and encouragement to others.



## Religious Exploration

Children (pre K - 11) and teens (12-18) attend our worship service on Sundays and go to their respective Religious Exploration classes following the Story for All Ages.

**October 20**

**“Our Agreements and Disagreements”**

**Rev. Axel Gehrmann and Worship Associate Allysson  
McDonald**

We live in an increasingly pluralistic society, striving to embrace a diversity of cultures and convictions, lived experiences and competing interests. When we are unable to achieve consensus, we may often end the conversation saying, “let’s agree to disagree.” What if those words weren’t the end, but the beginning of our efforts?

**October 27**

**“Sit! Stay! Listen! Paw-portunities from Our Pets”**

**Worship Associates Max Cajar and Shannon  
Morrison**

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life, it is easy to find ourselves disconnected from the world around us. One of the beautiful benefits of caring for our pets is how they offer us the opportunity to slow down, be present, and practice deep listening.

Please bring a photo or small memento, of a beloved pet to display during our service - all items should be reclaimed after the service.

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## Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, October 12, at 8:30 a.m.**

The men's monthly breakfast is continuing, as hybrid. Our next meeting is Saturday, October 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Fireplace Room. People will bring in food of their choice to the in-person meeting. If you prefer, you can join us via Zoom from home at 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Meeting ID is: 975 5961 1965. Passcode: 408070  
On a phone (call 669-900- 9128)  
Or with a computer - simply click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97559611965>



The breakfast is open to all who identify as male or gender fluid. Our conversation is confidential. If you are joining us in person, please RSVP to Mike Lovell [lovellmike50@hotmail.com](mailto:lovellmike50@hotmail.com) so that we will have an idea of how much food to bring. If you have any dietary restrictions, please bring your own food.



## PUBLICATION DEADLINES

ANNOUNCEMENTS for SUNDAYS from the pulpit are due by 9 a.m. on Wednesdays.

ARTICLES for THE WEDNESDAY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER email are due by noon, on Tuesdays.  
MONTHLY NUUWSLETTER articles are due by the 16th of each month.

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Adult Community Choir** meets Thursdays, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.

**Board of Trustees** meets Wednesday, October 16, at 5:30 p.m.

**Buddhist Sangha** is every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in person in the Sanctuary. Zoom is available. See page 10.

**Environmental Justice** meets at noon, Sunday, October 13, in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.

**First Friday Game Night** is Friday, October 4, 6:30 p.m. in the Fireplace Room.

**I-HELP for Men** is Sunday, October 13, 5 p.m. Sign up on the Meal Train (page 12) or contact Rose Lovell or Steve Smaby if you can help.

**I-HELP for Women** is Sunday, October 27. For more information contact Mibs McCarthy.

**Membership Committee** meets Wednesday, October 23, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Men's Breakfast Group** meets Saturday, October 12, 8:30 a.m. in person and 9 a.m. via Zoom. See article at left.

**Music Committee** meets Tuesday, October 22, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

**NUU'sletter deadline** for the November issue is Wednesday, October 16.

**Program Council** meets Tuesday, October 8, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom. Contact Mibs McCarthy [programcouncil@uucmp.org](mailto:programcouncil@uucmp.org)

**Social Justice** meets Sunday, October 6, at noon in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.

**Stewardship** meets Wednesday, October 2, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**T'ai Chi Chih** meets Tuesdays at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. See page 10.

**Youth Music** may be starting again. If you are interested, please send Jorge an email: [music@uucmp.org](mailto:music@uucmp.org)



## Ministers' Message

Rev. Axel Gehrman

I am still savoring the energy and excitement I experienced at our **Connections Fair** last month, which highlighted the many groups and committees active at UUCMP. That Sunday after the service tables were set up all around the Welcome Hall - fifteen stations staffed by volunteers and leaders offering information, answering questions, and providing opportunities for involvement. (You can find this year's Connections Fair brochure with group descriptions and contact information [here](#).)

The worship service that morning focused on the meaning of ministry, and Shared Ministry in particular. Shared Ministry is based on the idea that ministry is not merely a matter of things ordained clergy do, but rather "ministry is all that we do – together." (If you missed the service, you can still check it out [here](#).)

Shared Ministry, at its best, invites us to explore our gifts. Our gifts are more than particular talents or skills. Our gifts include our interests, our questions, our passions, our life experiences, our dreams, and more. We are each endowed with a unique assortment of gifts. One way to understand the purpose of UUCMP, is as a place that helps us discover and share our gifts. When we do so, "we will at once be personally transformed and we help transform the world."

At last month's Board meeting, we continued to explore the meaning of Shared Ministry. We reflected on the work of UU minister Renee Ruchotzke, who imagines Shared Ministry as a dance: it is an intentional way to move in the world. Your steps are deliberate and measured, in tune with others on the dance floor, allowing everyone to move together.

Ruchotzke adapted several tips for Dance Floor Etiquette as metaphors for congregation-

al life. I like this one: "**Always try to enter the floor from an area that will not interrupt the flow of the other dancers already on the floor.**" The ministry of a congregation is organic, holistic. As you make space for new programs and ministries, make sure they fit the mission and vision of your congregation."

Thinking about our respective and differing gifts, I also liked this: "**No parking on the dance floor.**"

If there is a ministry that you are not excited about but there is energy and flow among others, please move off the dance floor and learn to enjoy watching others flourish even when it's not your passion."

The last tip is perhaps my favorite: "**Do not stop dancing if you make a mistake.**" There are no mistakes in tango. If you get all tangled up you just tango on. The same is true of you . . . If you get all tangled up, you just forgive yourselves and one another and begin again in love."

I am deeply moved by the depth and breadth of ministry shared at UUCMP – countless acts of kindness carried out by the many helping hands, open minds, and caring hearts that are present among us!

My hope is that you are finding ever new ways to discover your gifts and share your unique ministry in the remarkable religious community. For in doing so, we will fulfill our mission and truly "change ourselves as we change the world."

See you in church,

Axel

# RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



## October!

Dear UUCMP Families,

Our theme for the month of October is *Deep Listening*. Our children will have the opportunity to practice listening and to experience being heard in our lessons this month. We will also note the changes of the season and prepare for the shortened days of mid-Autumn. October is an exciting month, and we have planned adventures and activities for our RE families and UUCMP community!

**Pumpkin Patch:** Let's head to Earthbound Farms for a pumpkin patch playdate after the service on October 6th.

**All-ages Pizza and Pumpkin Carving Party:** Tuesday, October 29th, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. hosted by the Committee on Family Ministry. You can BYOP (bring your own pumpkin!) or one can be provided by request. All carving materials will be available for use in our UUCMP kitchen.

You are also invited to attend our monthly **Committee on Family Ministry (CoFM) virtual meeting** on the second Tuesday of the month - October 8, 2024, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Please join to learn more about upcoming opportunities and to share your ideas for our RE programming.

**Activities & Events in October**  
Mark your calendars - you won't want to miss out on the fun!

\* **October 4** - First Friday Game Night!

\* **October 6** - Visit a Pumpkin Patch after the service on Sunday, October 6th. Meet at Earthbound Farms at 1 p.m. to play and explore the beautiful farm. Eat lunch ahead of time or enjoy one of their menu items.



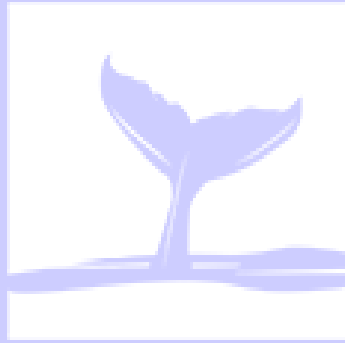
**October 8** - Committee on Family Ministry (CoFM) meeting 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. on Zoom

\* **October 27** - Membership Committee hosts a lunch for new members and visitors. (See page 17.) If you would like to attend and childcare is needed please let [Rose Lovell](#) know by October 23.

\* **October 29** - All Ages Pizza and Pumpkin Carving Party - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.



With warmth and gratitude,  
Shannon Morrison



# MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

It's time to sign up for the UUCMP Big Sur International Half Marathon (BSM) Volunteer Team. We've helped with the marathon and half-marathon for the past several years. We've had fun, increased our community's awareness of UUCMP, and earned some money. BSM has made grants from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for our help in distributing t-shirts to runners; for the last volunteer time, UUCMP received \$1,750. It's a fun and easy job and you don't have to get up early! We distribute t-shirts on Friday November 8, and Saturday November 9, at the Monterey Conference Center. Please sign up at the BSM Registration Link: <https://montereybay.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=87237> The password is UUCMP.

We need to have 12 more positions filled. Please contact Karen Judkins, 270-401-2605 or Carol Collin if you have questions.

## Book Discussion

Rev. Axel will continue to lead a 6-session discussion of the book *Whose Story Is This? - Old Conflicts, New Chapters* by the writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit.

As we head into this year's election season, our conversation will reflect on how our UU values and principles might provide us with the grounding and guidance we need to engage the pressing issues of our day. The book asks: "Who gets to shape the narrative of our times? The current moment is a battle royale over that foundational power, one in which women, people of color, non-straight people are telling other versions, and white people and men and particularly white men are trying to hang onto the old versions and their own centrality." The book asks what is emerging? And why does it matter?

### Whose Story Is This?

Old Conflicts,  
New Chapters

REBECCA SOLNIT  
Author of *Men Explain Things to Me*

Please consider joining us! We will be meeting on the first and third **Tuesdays, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Fireplace Room. Please contact Rev. Axel ([minister@uucmp.org](mailto:minister@uucmp.org)) to register, or if you have questions.

# Afternoon Jazz

## Shannon Warty and Bob Phillips

Saturday, October 12, 2:00 p.m.

to benefit the

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula

490 Aguajito Rd, Carmel – 831.624.7404

Tickets are available at Bookmark Music in Pacific Grove, at the door, or online at [uucmp.org](http://uucmp.org) (click "Donate" for a link to your PayPal account).

\$20, \$15 for seniors, military, and students, kids under 12 are free with a paying adult



We invite you to an afternoon of enchanting music with Shannon and Bob as they share their take on beloved jazz standards featured on their CD released at the end of 2022, *A Moment with Bob*. Shannon Warty, a native of the Monterey Peninsula now based in San Francisco, is deemed to have “the voice of an angel,” with a repertoire of many genres but holds a special love for singing jazz. Bob Phillips is a locally renowned jazz pianist whose talent, improvisation, and joy at the keys is a delight to witness. This concert is an experience not to be missed!

Contact: [shannon.e.warto@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.e.warto@gmail.com)

## President's Corner



--Warren Finch

For this month, I thought I'd share with you one of my favorite quotations:

“The world is violent and mercurial--it will have its way with you. We are saved only by love--love for each other and the love that we pour into the art we feel compelled to share: being a parent; being a writer; being a painter; being a friend. We live in a perpetually burning building, and what we must save from it, all the time, is love.” Tennessee Williams

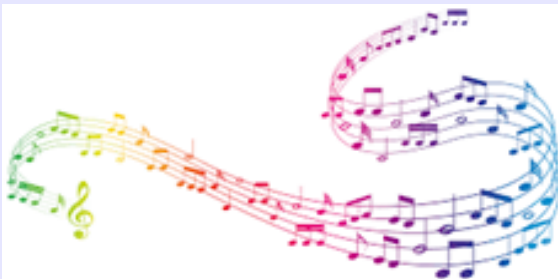
## Musical Offerings



The Adult Community Choir continues to grow and meet **every Thursday from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. in the Sanctuary**. This choir is open to everyone, members and non-members alike, to explore singing together. No prior experience is needed. Send me an email or just stop by! We are currently preparing for two services per month.

Choir rehearsals have begun and we will be singing in services for October 13 & October 27

Do you **play an instrument**, sing, and would



like to find a group where you can practice your skills in a safe environment? We would like to start Jam Sessions up again!! If you have any interest, please reach out to [music@uucmp.org](mailto:music@uucmp.org)

The **Music Committee** meets every 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. via Zoom - if you would like to be on the Music Committee, please reach out to our Music Director, Jorge Torrez: [music@uucmp.org](mailto:music@uucmp.org)

If you have any other ways you wish to contribute to the music department, please feel free to contact me via email! We would love your involvement in this fun program. Also, if you would like to be added to the choir email blast (you will receive information on all rehearsals and upcoming singing events), please email our Music Director, Jorge Torrez [music@uucmp.org](mailto:music@uucmp.org)

Celebrating the life of  
**BILL  
RAGSDALE-  
CRONIN**

Join us as we gather to celebrate the life of our beloved Bill, a man whose warmth, kindness, and joy enriched all our lives. Bill was an extraordinary husband, father, colleague, and friend.

Please bring a feather, a note or some small memento to put in a treasure chest that Susan will bury near their cabin at Bass Lake.

Sat, 10/19 | 3-5 PM

Unitarian Universalist Church  
490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel

Contact JT Mason  
jtigerm@comcast.net







## October Shared Plate Recipient *I-HELP*

### What is I-HELP?

We're the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program—operated by Outreach Unlimited, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization in the Monterey Bay, California area. We help people out every day of the year.

We've been in continuous operation for the past 32 years.

Our three main purposes are to:

- offer homeless men and women short-term lodging and evening meals on a nightly basis during their stay in the program
- provide tailored advice and support in finding a job or going forward in other areas of their life
- help each participant develop and maintain a positive outlook and living pattern that fosters personal autonomy and growth

I-HELP is run by a volunteer board of directors and small part-time staff, with the indispensable collaboration of over 60 Monterey-area churches and other faith communities and service organizations that provide overnight accommodation, warm meals, and person-to-

person support. Our participants sleep on mats in a shared space. We provided the equivalent of 8013 bed nights in 2023.

### FUNDING

Our administrative costs are only 2% of our total [budget](#) with the all the money received going to directly to the program.

1. Transportation cost to host locations, showers, and laundry:

- driver reimbursement
- gasoline
- maintenance of aging vans

2. Part-time staff who:

- stay with participants 24x7
- help participants plan and move forward with finding a job, housing, or other goals



Please donate generously to this worthy organization.

## Join Our Church!

Even in these post pandemic times - *especially* in these times - 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 resonate with our principles and you are at least 16 years of age, then we invite you to sign our membership 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.

If you are interested in becoming an “official” member of UUCMP, contact the ministers. ([minister@uucmp.org](mailto:minister@uucmp.org))

Please join us!

## Life Enrichment Programs Affinity Groups

Some groups meet both face-to-face and via Zoom in October.

**Men’s Breakfast Group** meets second Saturdays 8:30 a.m. in person at church and at 9 a.m. via Zoom. Contact: Mike Lovell. See page 3.

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

**T'ai Chi Chih** meets every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



### 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.

### We Know You Have Stories to Tell!

The Worship Associates at UUCMP bring a variety of experiences and perspectives to our weekly services!

If you think it might be fun to help plan and participate in worship services, please talk to one of our ministers about joining our team. Enthusiasm is required, experience is not.



Virginia Lips Lyon was born to Esther and George Lips in Spokane, Washington, on January 16, 1925. She grew up with her older sister, Helene, and her brother, Donald. Eleven years later, the family welcomed little Philip, and Virginia instantly took on the role of a second mother. She adored her baby brother and remained close to

him for the rest of her life. Her parents had moved west from Buffalo, New York, seeking independence. Her father worked diligently as a CPA, while her mother balanced being a homemaker with bookkeeping.

Before Virginia started school, the family relocated to Fresno, California, where her father found a job with a trucking company and later worked for the Catholic diocese. Virginia's independent spirit showed early on. Though she began her education at a Catholic school, one day she walked herself to the local public school and enrolled on her own. Her mother, surprised but understanding of Virginia's determination, allowed her to stay there until high school, after which she returned to a Catholic school.

Virginia's talents were many. She had a natural gift for numbers and logic, which likely made her a standout in math, but her skills didn't end there. She was an extraordinary seamstress and excelled in baking, knitting, crocheting, and all kinds of needlework. Christmas was her favorite time to bake, and each year she lovingly crafted fruitcakes and special cookies to give as gifts. For Halloween, she made candied apples, taffy, fudge, and Rice Krispie treats for the neighborhood children. She found joy in gathering with friends, playing cards, and sharing laughter over games. A lifelong reader, Virginia also had a soft spot for PBS, which she watched faithfully for years.

She met her first husband, Donald, during World War II at a USO event in Fresno. Only 18, Virginia surprised her mother once again when she took a train to New York to marry him. They lived in New York and Boston, where her first child, Adrienne, was born in 1945. Expecting her second child, Virginia returned to Fresno to stay with her parents, and shortly after, her second child was born in 1946. Soon after, she moved to Carmel, where her parents had purchased adjacent homes. For years, they lived side by side, offering love and support to each other until her parents moved back to Fresno. Her brother Philip remained in Carmel to finish school, living close to his beloved sister.

Virginia worked at the Bank of Carmel, where she met her second husband, Don Lyon. They married in 1952 and shared 48 wonderful years together. Don and Virginia lived a life filled with love, friendship, and adventure. They traveled widely, always curious to explore the world together.

She was an ever-present force in her children's lives, volunteering for PTA, guiding scouts, teaching Sunday school, and encouraging family camping trips. She opened her heart and home to all sorts of pets—dogs, cats, fish, birds, and other critters—instilling in her children a love for animals. Virginia had a special gift for connecting with people, often "adopting" those who needed a bit of extra love and care. She made everyone feel welcome, and her generosity knew no bounds.

A woman of faith, Virginia was actively involved in several churches throughout her life. She found community and purpose at the Church of the Wayfarer, the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, and ultimately, the UUCMP. After Don's passing in 2000, Virginia continued to embrace life with grace and strength. She traveled with friends and family, took up classes, engaged in church activities, and nurtured her garden. Her beloved dog, Silky, and cat, Tiger, were her faithful companions. She treasured time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, passing on her love and wisdom to the next generations.

Even as she grew older, Virginia remained fiercely independent. She stayed active and involved until the very end, when her caregivers lovingly stepped in. Throughout her life, she reached out to everyone she met, eager to make a connection and share her kindness. She loved all of life's creatures and had a deep compassion for those around her. Though she held strong opinions, especially about politics, she always led with an open heart.



Virginia lived a full and beautiful life, rich with love, friendship, and joy. She touched the lives of everyone she met, leaving behind a legacy of warmth, generosity, and an indomitable spirit. Those who knew her would say that if anyone could have lived forever, it would have been Virginia. Her love for life was boundless, and she will be forever cherished.

-- Diana Thomas, Virginia's daughter

## Men's I-HELP for October 13th, 2024

On October 13th UUCMP will host and provide meals for Men's I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program.) We are planning for about 20 guests.

We need your help to provide the donations of food for the meals. We can also use your help with setting up, preparing food and greeting the men. Please sign up on this link:



### [Men's I-HELP MEAL TRAIN](#)

You can sign into Meal Train with your Google account or Facebook; you do not have to create a new account unless you want to do so.

Food donations may be left in the church kitchen after the morning worship service on Sunday. PLEASE LABEL all food with Men's I-HELP. Food may also be brought to the church after 3:00 p.m., but no later than 4:00 p.m. on that Sunday. Please use this Meal Train link to sign up by the Saturday before 5 p.m. so we know where we stand for donations, since our goal is to have all items donated.

If you just want to tell us what you are bringing, contact Rose and she will sign you up.

### [Men's I-HELP MEAL TRAIN](#)

If you would rather contribute monetarily to support this important mission of our church, please mark your check donation in the memo line for Men's I-HELP Meals.

### [Donate financially](#)

If you have difficulty using the Meal Train program, please let Rose Lovell know:

[lovellfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:lovellfamily5@gmail.com)

Thank you for supporting this important mission of our church!

Rose Lovell 214-228-6665

## UUCMP Grief Support Circle

Throughout our lives we are each confronted with a variety of losses, and along with them come experiences of grief. Last month nine of us launched a new Grief Support Circle. Sharing our respective stories, thoughts, and feelings in a small, supportive group of UU members and friends is both helpful and healing. We plan to continue meeting at the church every two weeks for an hour or so around the lunch hour. If you are interested in being a part of this group, or if you have questions, please contact Sharon Miller at [bmclane@redshift.com](mailto:bmclane@redshift.com)



## Art News



### Retrospective Amanda Menefee

September 1, 2024 – November 15, 2024

Amanda has lived most of her days in Northern California, enjoying 4-H, riding and showing horses, and the beckoning outdoors with favorite animals, friends, and family. Initially aimed at becoming a veterinarian, her goal morphed into Medical Illustration and then to teaching high school mathematics. “Math is everywhere!” she often said, though her classes included some artistic direction via at least MC Escher (creating Escher-type drawings), Fibonacci Sequence (artichokes, ferns, pineapples, pinecones, zebra stripes), and Fractals (patterns+). It was only following a horseback riding accident (2001) that she retired from teaching and started practicing more art.

A favorite activity continues to be plein air painting with her father and first art teacher, watercolorist Randy Wilson. She took all the art classes he taught at Butte College near Oroville. She also studied under Wayne Thiebaud at UC Davis, Ken Morrow at CSU Chico, and now with Romanoos Mattonen through the Pacific Grove Art Center.

Amanda says, “I specialize in pastels – both soft oil pastels and I focus on landscapes, most often of places where I’ve travelled. Since I’ve recently been creating murals, I’m enjoying working with acrylics. I am motivated by the desire to be the best “me” I can be, so I continue to study and attack those challenges and new techniques I encounter. I enjoy using pastels because the colors are so brilliant, no brush or solvent is needed, and paintings maintain their intensity without fading. In my life as in my art, variety is key. I enjoy drawing and painting portraits, animals, still life and landscapes, and often work on multiple paintings at once. “Only boring people get bored,” my dad always said. I like to keep things interesting. I’ve been creating art for 57 years, I enjoy playing tennis and pickleball, running, and currently live on the Monterey Peninsula with my sweetie, Ken, our Golden Retriever puppy and our two Manx cats. I hope you enjoy what you see!”

#### Member of:

Pacific Grove Art Center      Coastal Arts League      Central Coast Art Assn Artists of Rivertown

#### Shows:

Wild Goose	Venture Gallery	Studio Silzer	Silver Dollar Fair
Shale Cyn Winery	Reflections Gallery	Pebble Beach	Pacific Grove Art Center
Mug Shots	Monterey County Fair	Meals on Wheels	Butte County Fair
Brushstrokes	Brass Tap	Coastal Arts League	Avery Gallery
Asilomar Conf Center and more locations			

#### Contact info:

[amandamenefee.com](http://amandamenefee.com)

[ajmenefee03@yahoo.com](mailto:ajmenefee03@yahoo.com)

[@amandamenefeeart](https://www.instagram.com/amandamenefeeart)

831.229.0334

## THE 2024 UUCMP SERVICE AUCTION -- FABULOUS FICTION!



WE WILL START THE BIDDING at ... Noon on Sunday, October 20, for the one-week Online (“Silent”) Auction, and at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, for the Live Auction evening in the church sanctuary.

The Auction team is compiling the catalog of tantalizing items from our generous donors – offerings of food! Game nights! Guided hikes! Unique clothing and jewelry! Dinner parties! Gardening help! And lots more - did we mention Food?

You will be able to check out the complete selection starting on Sunday, October 13, in the online Auction Catalog – see the website <https://auctria.events/UUCMP2024>

Plan to have some fun during the Live Auction evening on October 26 (and yes, you can attend remotely over Zoom!). Besides irrepressible UUCMP conviviality and a literary trivia contest, we will have a “Who Am I?” game, where you will display clues about your favorite fictional character, and see who else has read that book. Who do YOU want to be? Game info to follow!

Feeling puzzled about this whole Auction thing? Want to participate without using a computer? Please talk to Lauren Keenan or Steve Johnson (email: [ServiceAuction@uucmp.org](mailto:ServiceAuction@uucmp.org)) or see the “How To” guides available on our information site, <https://uucmp.org/service-auction-2024>

## Environmental Justice

### Environmental Justice: PODCASTS!

The UUCMP Environmental Justice Committee encourages you to check out any and/or all of these podcasts addressing our pressing climate justice issues:

#### Blue Marble

Hosted by our own Charlotte Bear, learning how to put our hope into action for the planet and for each other. (Search Blue Marble with Rev Char Bear for the archive of current and past podcasts)  
[www.blogtalkradio/csnp](http://www.blogtalkradio/csnp)

#### Climate Cast

MPR News meteorologist Paul Huttner with the latest research on our changing climate.  
<https://www.npr.org/podcasts/414685982/climate-cast>

#### Climate Justice Y'All

Dedicated to lifting up and centering the climate and environmental justice movement in the South.  
<https://climatejusticeyall.com>

#### Climate Now

Interviews with researchers and other experts on climate science, economics, policy, clean energy and negative emissions technologies.  
<https://climatenow.com/podcast/>

#### Climate One

Climate One from The Commonwealth Club offers a weekly podcast exploring topics including economics, energy, food, resilience, technology, transportation and water.  
<https://www.climateone.org/listen-watch/podcasts>

#### Living on Earth

Public Radio's Environmental News Magazine on PRI  
<https://www.loe.org>

#### Outrage and Optimism

Co-hosted by Christiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac who oversaw the landmark Paris Agreement on climate change, and CDP founder, Paul Dickinson.  
<https://www.outrageandoptimism.org>

#### Poetry and Planet

Podcast featuring contemporary poetry focusing on nature and the environment; produced by EarthTalk.  
<https://earthtalk.org/poetry-and-planet/>

#### Reversing Climate Change

An in-depth look at people, organizations and concepts coming together to go beyond carbon reduction to make CO2 removal from Earth's atmosphere a reality.  
<https://nori.com/podcasts/reversing-climate-change>

#### Stories for Earth

This podcast focuses on stories that can help people develop emotional resilience to the climate crisis.  
<https://storiesforearth.com/category/episodes/>

#### Threshold

A Peabody Award-winning podcast that tells captivating stories about people and the planet. Each season is a deep dive into one pressing environmental story, explored through the intersections of science, politics, culture and environmental justice.  
<https://www.thresholdpodcast.org>

#### Yale Climate Connections

An online news service providing daily radio broadcasts and original online reporting, commentary and analysis on the issue of climate change.  
<https://yaleclimateconnections.org>

## Vegetarian Recipe

### Red Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with Spinach

- based on a recipe in [DinnerWithJulie.com](http://DinnerWithJulie.com)

This is a relatively new favorite of mine, but became a staple over the last few years. This makes 4 generous servings with rice.

#### Ingredients:

1 or 2 Tbsp. canola or olive oil, for cooking  
1 onion, finely chopped  
1 fresh jalapeño, seeded and finely chopped (optional)  
1 Tbsp. grated fresh ginger  
3 garlic cloves, crushed  
2 tsp. curry paste or curry powder - I have only tried it with curry powder  
1 tsp. ground cumin (or more, to taste)  
1 tsp. turmeric powder  
1/2 tsp. salt or more to taste  
1 medium dark-fleshed sweet potato, peeled and cut into 1/2" cubes  
1/2 cup dry red lentils - this doesn't seem like much, but it works out  
1 14 oz. (398 mL) can coconut milk (I prefer LIGHT coconut milk)  
1 cup water or vegetable broth  
a big handful of baby spinach leaves



**1** In a large, heavy skillet (I use a soup pot), heat a drizzle of oil over medium-high heat. Sauté the onion for about 5 minutes, then add the jalapeño, ginger, garlic, curry paste, cumin, turmeric and salt. Cook for a few more minutes.

**2** Stir in the sweet potato, lentils, coconut milk and water; bring to a simmer, then cover, turn the heat down to medium-low and cook for about 20 minutes, until the potatoes are tender.

**3** Uncover and tear in the spinach; stir, return the lid and cook for another minute or two, just until the spinach wilts. Serve immediately, over rice. We like to serve it with some plain yogurt and toasted naan on the side!

-- Allysson McDonald



## Photo directory coming -- Please update your Breeze info

Last year we began using Breeze to manage our church member data -- if you have not yet logged into Breeze, please do so soon, and please upload a photo, so that we can create an updated photo directory soon! All the information you need to access Breeze you should be able to find on our website here <https://uucmp.org/breeze-database/>

Or you can e-mail a photo to be included to [office@uucmp.org](mailto:office@uucmp.org)

Questions, contact [office@uucmp.org](mailto:office@uucmp.org)



## A Soulful Concert for Cello and Piano Save the date!



Cellist Janneka Hoogland and UU pianist Lucy Faridany would like to take you on a musical journey celebrating the instrument described as closest to the human voice. Please join us in this exploration of classical music to soothe the soul.

The concert will be at UUCMP on Saturday, November 2, at 3 p.m.



## New Member and Visitor Orientation and Light Lunch October 27th, 12 - 2 p.m.

Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism in general and in hearing more about UUCMP? Then please join us for an orientation on Sunday, October 27th, from 12:00 to 2 p.m., after the worship service. A light lunch will be available, followed by an interactive session led by Rev. Axel. RSVP to Rose Lovell at [membership@uucmp.org](mailto:membership@uucmp.org) and please let us know if you need childcare by October 23rd.

Questions? Ask Rev. Axel or Rev. Elaine.



Unitarian Universalist Church  
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The office is open for limited hours:  
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October 2024

**About UUCMP Publications**

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

Please send submissions for WEEKLY NEWS, the weekly announcements, to [office@uucmp.org](mailto:office@uucmp.org) by Tuesday noon.

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

If you have any questions, call the office, 624-7404, or e-mail us at [office@uucmp.org](mailto:office@uucmp.org)