



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

JULY 2015 • Volume 59 • Issue 7

**Summer Service Schedule June 14—Sept. 6
ONE-SERVICE SUNDAYS at 10:00 am**

JULY 2015 SERVICES

July 5

10:00 am

HOW FREE AND FOR WHAT?

Service Leaders: *Rev. Jay Atkinson, Andy Levine, Cathy Reid, John Ray* **Music by:** *The UUsual Suspects*

Basket shared with: Veterans for Peace Chapter 71, So Co

On this July 4th weekend celebrating our national declaration of freedom 239 years ago, how well and honorably have we used that freedom? What remains of the moral integrity that underlay the vision of Madison, Jefferson and Hamilton? What are we free from, and what are we free for? A sermon in search of our nation's soul.

Rev Jay Atkinson retired in June 2011 from 32 years of full time service in Unitarian Universalist parish ministry. Most recently, 12 years in Studio City, and before that, 13 years in Davis, California.

July 12

10:00 am

THE STATE OF THE DENOMINATION

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Susan Panttaja, Robert Howseman* **Music by:** *The UUsual Suspects*

Basket shared with: Catholic Charities Immigration Services.

Today we will hear the good news and fresh ideas that Rev. Chris and our delegates have learned at the UUA General Assembly in Portland, Oregon. We will consider where our national and international leaders are steering us, and what our place might be as a congregation, and as individuals, in our broader movement. We'll sing a few of the rousing old hymns, too!

July 19

10:00 am

HLGBTQQI, huh? NEW VIEWS OF SEXUALITY

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Veronica Jordan, John Ray, Roger Corman* **Music by:** *The UUsual Suspects* **Basket shared with:** Verity (Rape crisis, prevention & trauma center)

This winning Service Auction service will examine contemporary understandings of gender and sexuality, particularly among younger people, and affirm our stand for the equality of all expressions of human love and human being. Bring a friend!

July 26

10:00 am

LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

Service Leaders: *James Hilgendorf, Author, Speaker, Filmmaker (preaching), David Hope* **Music by:** *The UUsual Suspects* **Basket shared with:** Breakfast for our neighbors

Who are we? What is our core identity? People who've had near death experiences and returned to tell about it, tell of encountering a compassionate, brilliant white light. What is that light? Insights from science and physics, Leo Tolstoy, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, Kenneth Bing and the Lotus Sutra.

August 2

10:00 am

BRING IN THE HARVEST

The feast of Lammass, a pagan harvest holiday, prompts consideration of abundance and scarcity in our lives and world.

Service Leaders: *Satya Tabachnick, Starr King Seminarian; Sharon McCarty, John Ray* **Music** TBA

Basket shared with: Redwood Empire Food Bank

Welcome to The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa



THE CIVIL WAR IS NOT OVER

From Rev Chris Bell

Juneteenth is a big holiday in many parts of the country, honoring that day in 1865 when Gen. Gordon Granger landed at Galveston, Texas to announce the end of the Civil War. He also read the Emancipation Proclamation, which, it is worth

noting, had been penned by Abraham Lincoln a full two and half years prior. No one had bothered to read it to the enslaved before then.

This week, 150 years later, on Juneteenth, the city of Charleston, most of the nation, many of you, and I myself were grieving over the shooting deaths of 9 innocent people at Emmanuel A.M.E. church.

There is a special horror reserved for killing during a worship service or at a sacred site. I really cannot imagine what madness – whether chemical or ideological or both – can drive a person to such a state. What is it like to be that blinded by hate?

If we are not to succumb to bitter resolution or apathy, it takes a special effort to dig deeply within to find faith and hope in such a dark hour. That is why I was so grateful to gather with a bunch of you and a bunch of folks from other churches and temples and synagogues for an interfaith prayer service at Community Baptist Church in Santa Rosa on Saturday. I know that prayer may strike some as just empty words at such a time, or that it may seem too little too late, but I find that nothing can inspire me like coming together at such a time to declare, out loud and loudly, that we will not yield to hatred and division, and that we are ready to continue the struggle for the America that should be, but is not yet to be found.

It was also so powerful for me to be gathered with you all in our own Sanctuary on Sunday morning, to proclaim by our presence our willingness to face our own fears, to defy the gunman, to take a stand for unity and for the future, and to accept our part in the long struggle to fulfill the true promise of America.

The Civil War is not over. My drive through the South during my sabbatical illuminated this for me a year ago, and this week's events make it clearer than ever. You can find countless authors, academics and activists who observe that we have never really addressed the wound of slavery, the failure of Reconstruction, the tenacity of white

privilege.

America, particularly white America, needs to say to ourselves, to black and brown people and the whole world in a formal way, "We are very sorry for slavery and institutional racism. And here's how we're going to make it right." In my imagination, 10 or 20 or 50 years from now, we must hold a national healing ritual of the highest order. The whole country has to be gathered (virtually, at least) for three or ten days of national holiday, with fasting and services and parades and, ideally, genuine reparations.

Unfortunately, I don't think that such reconciliation can ever truly be achieved unless it comes from the South itself. White leaders in the South must come to understand why the flying of the Confederate flag is wrong, must understand for themselves why having statue after statue of Civil War generals down the main avenue of town might sting African-Americans and their allies. If we can understand why a Native American reservation might not put up statues of U.S. generals and soldiers, or why German cities refuse to regale the "heroes" of the Nazi era, even though they fought valiantly for the lost cause, then we can understand why certain symbols must change here in the U.S., too. And not just the symbols, but the realities to which they speak.

This April in *The Atlantic*, writer David Blight wrote an article entitled, "The Civil War Isn't Over," which I highly commend to you, and from which I quote:

"It is easy to proclaim all souls equal in the sight of God," wrote James Baldwin in 1956 as the Civil Rights Movement took hold in America; "it is hard to make men equal on earth in the sight of men." Philosophically and theologically, claims of human equality are as old as the hills. But the real struggles for genuine equality of natural rights, of equality before law, and of equality of opportunity are much more recent in historical time. And such a profound—sacred and legal—quest as equality is not a destination, a place over the horizon, but a long, grinding process of human striving. In short, equality is a process of historical change. It forever tacks against the trade winds of individualism, self-interest, material accumulation, and widely varying notions of the idea of 'liberty' from which it draws momentum."

So we are on a quest and in a struggle that is not complete. One can only hope that this brutal and heartless attack will be yet another straw on the camel's back that

[continued on next page]

Our Vision: To live as fully as possible our Unitarian Universalist Principles, and to nurture a liberal religious community in Sonoma County.

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Greetings from Our Board President

From the Desk of Susan Bartholome

I am both honored and humbled as I take on the duties of President of the Board of Trustees. A high bar has been set by my predecessors Laura Jean Hageman and Jeanie Bates. That said, I am excited as I contemplate serving with our newly configured Board consisting of continuing board members, Pam Tenant, Marilyn Beckerbauer, Marge Wright and Linda Stabler and newly elected board members John Jaffray; Gretchen Vap, our new Corresponding Secretary; Sam Miller, Tom Bond and Bill Haigwood, the new Vice President.

What a great group of wise and creative folks who bring their respective talents and experience to serve our congregation. Of course, Rev. Chris; Millie Phillips, our intern minister; and Treasurer, Linda Balabanian are valued members of the team. Joe Como and Alan Proulx have termed out from the Board and can rest on their well earned laurels.

As our church (and fiscal) year begins July 1, I find myself appreciating Rev. Chris's recommendation that we take a month off from church meetings. Let's give it a rest in July. August will be here soon enough and the UUCSR committees, groups and your Board of Trustees will be off and running to keep our vision alive and work toward our mission of celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another and helping to build a better world. Amen.

The Board of Trustees will be gathering in August for our annual retreat during which we will work to determine this year's UUCSR priorities and create our goals for the coming year. Your feedback from the Visioning Project and input regarding Rev. Chris's Ministerial Covenant will provide us with valuable information that helps inform our retreat process. Please do share your thoughts with the Board about Chris's covenant at the "Talk to a Board Member" table or by phone or Email.

Your Board is here for you!

Love and blessings,

Susan Bartholome

President UUCSR Board of Trustees

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS

Susan Bartholome, President
 Bill Haigwood, Vice President
 Gretchen Vap, Corporate Secretary
 Linda Balabanian, Treasurer
 Recording Secretary TBA

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Marilyn Beckerbauer	Linda Stabler
Tom Bond	Pam Tennant
John Jaffray	Marge Wright
Sam Miller	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

The Civil War is Not Over *[continued from previous page]*

will, someday, finally bring institutional and personal racism to its knees. It really does seem like we are at a watershed moment, in facing these issues. The *Black Lives Matter* movement has revealed the conditions that communities of color endure from many police departments.

President Obama finally seemed genuinely angry, as he demanded that Americans recognize that this sort of widespread mass violence is not common in other "advanced" nations. Writers are decrying the difference in language and imagery used for white crimes and terrorist acts and others. Perhaps the veil of racism can be lifted,

after all.

We still have to win the Civil War. My faith and my prayer is that we will do this with words and feelings and images instead of bullets and rope. There is no other way.

So, here at UUCSR, we're going to hang a *Black Lives Matter* banner in the window, along with our *Standing on the Side of Love* banner (if we can find it.) We're going to continue to celebrate diversity as a holy gift. We're going to proclaim equality for all and celebrate life, and no one – no one – is going to stop us.

God bless you all
Rev Chris Bell

Treasurer's Report

Ten Month Financial Update – Congregational Meeting Recap

If you attended the congregational meeting last month you heard that we are doing quite well financially and that our pledge revenue is over budget. This is true – the pledges received to date this fiscal year have exceeded our expectations and that is great news. Here is the rest of the good news:

- Sunday Basket Revenue over budget
- Fundraising revenue over budget
- Glaser Center Net Income over budget
- Total expenses are under budget
- We have paid our full dues to UUA and PCD for this entire fiscal year

Other News on the Financial Front:

We have paid off \$89K in Member Notes since we paid off the bank mortgage in February 2013. Additionally, \$10K in Member Notes have been forgiven by a very generous member. 26 members currently hold Member Notes. There is a balance of \$369,000 in Member Notes outstanding. At our projected rate, all notes should be paid off in about 9 years. Sharing the Basket every Sunday has been positive for us financially while allowing us to expand our generosity in our community.

Our Last Pledge Drive

We attained our goal! Pledges were "sustaining" – they will renew each year until changed. Pledge cards will be available: on Sundays, in the

office and on-line

If you haven't already, please set up an automatic payment from your checking account or credit card on our website.

It's quick and easy and allows you to control your giving while helping maintain an even cash flow for UUCSR

Go to <http://uusantarosa.org/>

Just click on the green "Donate Now" button and fill in the blanks

NEW UUCSR Philanthropy Team

Introducing the successor of the Canvass/Pledge Drive Committee

Team is currently developing a year-round stewardship program

Works to connect our ministries, principles and generosity

Share inspiring vision worthy of our generosity

Communicate opportunities for generosity throughout our community and outside

Remember...

"Giving is an act of generosity. Giving is sowing a seed. The seed will produce a great harvest of fruits." — Lailah Gifty Akita

Linda Balabanian, Treasurer



Share the Basket - May Report

Each week our practice is to split our offering basket contributions. Our social action committee, Advocates for Social Justice, selects a program to receive this special donation from our Congregation.

May Recipients:

Alzheimers Respite Center	\$484.86
Crossing the Jordan	\$419.30
Face to Face	\$459.58
Habitat for Humanity	\$442.28
Saturday Breakfast	\$515.52

~Thank you for your very generous support~

Meet The Minister

Once a month after the 10:00 A.M. Sunday Service, visitors and guests are invited to a brief informal meeting with Minister Rev. Chris Bell and a few lay leaders. (note summer hours)

Bring your coffee or tea and join us in the Green Room at the opposite end of the hall from the social area.

Questions are not welcomed but encouraged!

Next Meeting:

July 19

ADVOCATES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (A4SJ)



Come find out what we do!

New Meeting Time!
2nd Mondays
7 pm

A4SJ has moved its meeting time to the Second Monday of the Month at 7 pm in the Green Room to accommodate members who have day jobs and would like to attend. Our next meeting is on Monday, August 10 (no meeting in July).

Check out our table on Sundays, where we have information about our activities.

Share the Collection

Each week the Congregation shares our Sunday Offering with a local non-profit that serves our greater community in Sonoma County, including our Saturday Breakfast For Our Neighbors. The schedule of giving is arranged by A4SJ several months in advance, after receiving suggestions from members of the Congregation.

Please leave your request for a future recipient on a form at the A4SJ table on Sundays.

July 5 Veterans For Peace of Sonoma County

The local chapter of the national organization the need for resources to be directed toward restoring the lives of veterans when they return home, and toward helping people at home and abroad.

July 12 Catholic Charities Immigration Services

The local organization helps people with legal that exposes the true costs of war and military issues related to their immigration status, spending, in terms of lives lost and ruined, and including undocumented young people who arrived as children.

July 19 Verity – Rape Crisis and Intervention

Verity works to prevent sexual violence through educational forums, and provide support to survivors. It operates Santa Rosa's only Rape Crisis Hot Line.

July 26 Saturday Breakfast For Our Neighbors

Our own breakfast program which provides a great breakfast for homeless and needy folks in a friendly environment. Your contribution helps buy the food and supplies that make this program possible.

HOT TOPIC HOT TOPIC HOT TOPIC

No Hot Topic in July

August Hot Topic Preview "Friends Outside"

Sunday, August 9, 11:45 am *(Note summer hour)*

An innovative non-profit dedicated to breaking the cycle of crime, violence and delinquency.

Speaker: Kate Jenkins, M.A., Executive Director

School Supplies Needed For Children of Farm Workers

The Diversity Working Group (an Advocates for Social Justice subcommittee) partners with The Food Empowerment Project community group to provide children of farm workers with new school supplies!



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UUCSR will be hosting a collection barrel for 2 weeks: July 13 - July 25.

Needed items will be listed at the Advocate's table, and posted on our bulletin boards.

Contact Jan Prater.

Help these kids feel more prepared and ready for school!

Religious Education for Children and Youth

"Summer time and the livin' is easy....." Such a beautiful musical depiction of the slow and peaceful pace of our annual break from the regular routine. Kids are off school, they go to day camps, they hang out at home, and they have activities with friends and family that take them outside. It is a time of renewal for children and youth. It's an important time of respite from the pressures of the school year. It is also a time when children miss the regular interaction with their school buddies. So parents have to be creative about providing a balance between scheduled activities and down time.

My hope is that coming to Religious Education on Sundays will provide a bit of that scheduled time that

kids need, and an opportunity to deepen friendships with kids of the congregation. I have intentionally kept the program fun and simple this summer. No curriculum, no lesson plans, just a simple morning worship celebrating life, followed by an activity that will build friendships, and encourage creativity. There will be arts and crafts, active outdoor games, singing together and if it is real hot, indoor games.

We will get to the structured lessons in late August. But for this summer we will make the livin' easy.

Deborah Mason
RE Director

RE summer program for grades K-5 at 10:00am

Summer programming will continue through August 16

This summer we are keeping it simple and fun. Each Sunday children grades K-5 will begin in the worship service for a Story for All Ages, and after leading the Children's Affirmation, they will go to the RE wing for a brief children's worship. Then it will be time for games, art and song. Each week we will offer organized outdoor games and either a music session led by some of the congregation's great musicians or an arts & crafts project led by a couple of the fantastic artists in our midst.

Childcare for babies, toddlers and preschoolers will be provided every morning during the summer at 10:00am by Fiona Mackenzie and Shawna Hoxsie.

Middle School Youth (MUUGs) will be on hiatus for the summer, from June 14 to August 16. There will be a Pacific Central District Middle School Summer Camp July 6-11 at the Mendocino Woodlands. Details about the camp can be found at the MUUGs website <http://www.pcdmuugs.org> or from Deborah Mason

The Sr. High Youth Group will also be on hiatus from mid June until August 16. However, there may be some meetings of the youth group over the summer for community service. Contact for more information. Deborah Mason and Rev. Chris serve as Youth Advisors.

UUCSR COVENANT

We pledge to seek unity in our diversity, to welcome and respect divergent opinions and beliefs, to listen to one another with open hearts and minds, to acknowledge our shortcomings and be quick to forgive them in others, and to keep our focus on our Mission.

UUCSR MISSION

*Celebrate Life
Empower People
Care For One Another
Help Build a Better World*



*Automate your
Pledge Payment!*

Free yourself from check-writing.!

Intimidated by the sign-up process?
Confidential volunteers available to help—call the UUCSR office.

North Bay Organizing Project

NBOP will be very busy in July = many fun opportunities to join in the work

*The North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP) is the interfaith/non-partisan political power organization that UUCSR is helping to build in Sonoma County. UUCAN is the UU Conversation and Action Network. We are the group within the congregation that interfaces with NBOP and facilitates internal organizing efforts such as house meetings. **We are always eager for more members**; we meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 2:00pm. Talk to Carol Kraemer, Deborah Mason, Ellen O'Hare, Rose St John, Sara Jones, Sibyl Day or Rev. Chris to learn more.*

An important element in how NBOP works:

In addition to the big events NBOP plans, they also quickly organize people to attend local governmental meetings (sometimes the time isn't known until the last minute) to speak about important issues and to contribute to a big group presence without speaking. Making elected officials aware of our ideas and our large membership is a huge way to contribute to change. If you can be available with short notice, please talk to one of the UUCAN members to get on an email list so that you can be notified when you are needed. Contact Davin directly at davin_cardenas@yahoo.com.

June highlights:

Two very important government meetings were attended by several UUs on June 8th. The Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to approve a "living wage" of \$15 an hour to employees of the County and of for-profits that have contracts with the county. The big disappointment of this victory is that the In-Home Supportive Services workers who make \$11.65 an hour were not included in that group because of a confusing technicality about who is considered their bosses.

The City Council met the same afternoon. Rev Chris, Deborah Mason and other NBOP members spoke in favor of Councilwoman Julie Combs' proposal which would impose a 45-day moratorium on rent increases of more than 3 percent. Even though the moratorium did not pass, it received a majority of votes. This offers some hope in the near future, especially if the moratorium is put forward again as a normal agenda item which could happen on the 7th or 14th of July.

Upcoming events and meetings:

- Wednesday, 7/01/15: Members of NBOP Clergy Team are set to meet with Sup. Shirlee Zane. The meeting is open to others; if you are interested, contact Davin for time.
- Monday, 7/06/15: NBOP Affordable Housing Task Force meeting at 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the NBOP Office, First Congregational United Church of Christ — 2000 Humboldt Street, Santa Rosa
- Wednesday, 7/08/15: NBOP Transit Task Force - Transit Riders United meeting at 5:30 pm at the Glaser Center.
- Thursday, 7/09/15: Community Dinner at 6 pm. We will have a big potluck at the corner of Stony Point and Giffen with speakers and conversations about affordable housing and renter's rights. Bring friends and neighbors and if you know any homeless people, their input and participation are needed too.
- Monday, 7/13/15: NBOP Education Justice Task Force meeting at 6:15-7:45 pm at the Glaser Center.
- Saturday 7/18/15: Noche Sabrosa! Dance Party and Dinner Celebration: 5:00-10:00 pm at Community Church of Sebastopol at 1000 Gravenstein Hwy. North (Hwy. 116) Individual Tickets are \$30 - \$70 (sliding scale) See flyer in this newsletter. You can buy tickets from UUCAN members. This is NBOP's big annual fundraiser and has an incredible reputation for being delicious and lots of fun!

Wednesday, 7/29/15: March of Tenants and Workers starts at 5:30pm at the Roseland Plaza. The goal of the march is to bring awareness of the need of affordable, safe housing in Sonoma County. There will be speakers from organizations in Sonoma County as we march to different locations in Santa Rosa, maybe having visibility at the Wednesday Night Market. Let's do what we are famous for doing—have a huge UU group join the march!

It's Time to Register for the...

ALL UU Summer Camp Retreat!

August 14-16 at the Enchanted Hills Camp in Napa

(See the full-page registration form in this Newsletter)

Oh gee, can't you almost feel it? That crisp morning air when you walk out your cabin door. Can't you almost smell it? That earthy, redwood scent as you hike through the duff on one of the many trails at Enchanted Hills. Chill at a workshop, get your groove on at the campfire sing along, work on your backstroke in the pool, participate in our Amazing Talent Show, or just sit back and enjoy. Don't miss it!

Deadline for Registration is August 2. From July 12 to August 2, a table will be set up on Sundays during coffee hour, after the 10:00 service, for sign-ups. You may fill this form out and bring it to any of these services or else mail it to the UUCSR office. Or visit the Retreat table on any of these Sundays to sign up.



ALL UU Summer Camp Retreat!

News from the queer front

GAY PRIDE PARADE AND UUCSR

Sunday morning June 7, members of UUCSR marched in the Sonoma County Gay Pride Parade with hundreds of others.

Andy brought our huge banner and Susan's rainbow flags. The Collins family did a tremendous job of decorating Bill's VW convertible with small multi-colored pennants. It was topped off by a large yellow flower pin wheel on the antenna. Regina and Izzy, who carried a huge rainbow umbrella that Andy had brought, rode up on the top of the back seat in the position of royalty.

We all wore Hawaiian outfits and I handed out flower head bands, leis, and Mardi Gras beads.

There were about fifteen of us and we were gorgeous! We sang and danced to music from neighboring units 'til the parade started.

Our fellow parade participants were cheerful and friendly. The civil war re-enactors in front of us had a cannon into whose muzzle I believe Robin placed a rainbow flag.

When I went to retrieve it at the end of the parade, a re-enactor told me they were grateful for Robin's generosity because their flowers didn't fit!

I had so much fun; let's do this again next year!

Becky Montgomery

Save the Date:

WOMEN TOGETHER

End-of-Summer Garden Party

Saturday, August 29th

From 12 to 3, we are having our end-of-summer garden party and pot-luck lunch at Linda Balabanian's lovely home and garden.

Look for details in August Newsletter

"Hungry people cannot be good at learning or producing anything, except perhaps violence." - Pearl Bailey

Saturday Breakfast needs funds!

- ◆ Feeds 200-250 people each Saturday
- ◆ Food donations cover only a portion of the food costs.
- ◆ Grocery costs range from \$800 to \$1100 a month.
- ◆ Many Dedicated volunteers.
- ◆ Each month Share the Basket provides only some of the funding.
- ◆ Majority of the funding for the Saturday Breakfast comes from individual donations.

Donate Now

Please make an ear-marked donation of any amount.

Write a check to UUCSR with *Saturday Breakfast* in the memo line,

**Cultural Diversity Education at SRJC
New LGBT Arts & Literature Course**

English 36—Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual & Transgender Arts & Literature—a 3-unit course covering key works by LGBT writers in context.
Reg. begins 6/15. Class meets M/W 11-12:30, begins 8/17.

Open to members of the community—reg. with SRJC.
Contact abogomolny@santarosa.edu for more info.

Adult Religious Education
Looking Ahead

**CULTIVATING A PATH
TO JOY IN YOUR LIFE**

Times and Dates TBA

A six-week course intended to awaken joy through introducing a curriculum of principles and practices designed to foster well-being, happiness and ease. Every week themes such as mindfulness, gratitude and intention are explored in a format that includes lecture, small group discussion and short inspiring videos.

More information to follow

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group is on vacation for July and August!

Meetings will begin again on September 10th and continue on the 2nd Thursday of each month 7 to 9 p.m.
We have selected the books for the 2015-2016 year

- September:** *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr
- October:** *River of Doubt* by Candice Millard
- November:** *Euphoria* by Lily King
- December:** *Finding Noun* by Zoe Ferraris
- January:** *The Age of Miracles* by Kathleen Thompson Walker
- February:** *Water Ghosts* by Shawna Yang Ryan
- March:** *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson
- April:** *A Guide for the Perplexed* by Dara Horn
- May:** *The Care & Management of Lies* by Jacqueline Winspear
- June:** Potluck to select books for next year

*Please join us if any of the following selections are of interest to you
We welcome all new members as well as visitors*

On-Going

The Long Strange Trip Video Series

on the history of Unitarian Universalism is available to rent.
Take home and view at your leisure.
Contact Kathy Norman to arrange disc pick-up.

GTKUU

(Getting to Know Unitarian Universalism)

***** SPECIAL DATE AND TIME *****

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 1:30pm to 4:30pm

Are you UU-curious - or perhaps even walking the path to membership?

The next *Getting to Know UU* class is on Sunday, JULY 12, 1:30-4:30pm.

Whether you are new to UU or a long time member, this class offers rich history and a chance to meet new friends.
Learn Unitarian Universalist history, discover the roots of UUSCR (our congregation) and explore the sacred in theory and practice.

There has been some confusion about the day and time. The class is usually on a Saturday morning. Rev. Chris is holding this one on a Sunday for the people who are unable to attend Saturdays.

Sign up at the Visitor/Welcome table any time before the class date or contact Michele Murphy.

This class is open to everyone and is required for UUCSR membership.

Events



2 Full Moon Healing And Drumming Circles

Hosted by CUUPS, the Covenant of UU Pagans



July 2nd and July 31st

7 pm in the UUCSR Courtyard



Hear Ye!

The Moon is Full on July 2nd and again on July 31st and CUUPS (pagans) will celebrate in the courtyard here at UU beginning @ 7 pm sharp.

You are invited to participate or stand back and observe.

Please bring something of the Earth; a pebble rock or stone; perhaps a leaf, or flower or fawn. We will chant "this love will carry, this love will carry me, I know this love will carry me," acknowledge and call in the several directions...create a healing circle and venerate the Full-Moon.

Then close the circle, HOWL AT THE MOON, and DRUM until 9 pm.



7th Annual

UUCSR Men's Retreat

October 9,10 & 11
Mark your calendars!

We will gather again at Saint Dorothy's Rest in Camp Meeker.
More information to follow. Questions? Contact Andy Levine.

UU Update is a monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa, California.

Send electronic submissions by the Monday after the 3rd Sunday of month: newsletter@uusantarosa.org Paper submission must be received by Noon on 3rd Sunday in the Newsletter mail slot in the office workroom at UUCSR 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.

All submissions should have **Topic and Month** in email subject line. Articles 200-600 words. Ads and Announcements 20-90 words. Email newsletter@uusantarosa.org or call 707-568-5381, ext. 106, for more information.

Announcements for non-congregational events only as furthers the mission of the congregation and as space allows.

Volunteer Newsletter Assembly: 10 a.m. – 4th Wednesdays.

Faith and Fitness Annual July 11 Potluck!

Come one, come all to our annual potluck picnic at Spring Lake Saturday **July 11, 4:30 pm!** A gathering of outdoor lovers, hikers, or not. New location: Shady Oaks picnic area at the Violetti Road entrance. To sign up and help plan burgers & menu: call Gretchen at 889-3007, or fitness@uusantarosa.org.

July 25th - another new trail: Taylor Mountain, new entrance off Petaluma Hill Road. Lt to moderate, < 4 miles. We meet at new entrance. Park pass or parking fee req. Carpool if desired from Santa Rosa (Let us know.) For info or to sign up, email fitness@uusantarosa.org or call Gretchen Paradis.

Drawing Wednesdays!

Every Wednesday an open drawing group 1-3 in the Green Room.

All are welcome from beginners to experienced artists. We learn from each other and encourage each other. Bring your paper and pencils for some meaningful fun. Instructional books, Masters' drawings, ideas all available.

Call Judy Hutchinson for info

Wanted: Bridge Players

1st Thursday, 3rd Saturday and 4th Tuesday, 7 - 10 p.m.

Our bridge group has friendly people at varied skill levels, but basic knowledge of the bidding system and some experience is needed.

You can play once, twice or all three times. Players take turns serving as host for the evening. The host telephones the players in advance to ascertain availability and provides light refreshments on the evening of play.

Contact Marilyn Beckerbauer for info.



Music Notes

Although the choir is on vacation until September, you will still be able to hear some of our choir members sing with other musicians for the services in July and August. Beginning on Sunday, July 5, John Ray will be singing with Robin Rogers and some other musicians a special piece titled "I Am a Patriot" by Jackson Browne. Here are some of the lyrics:

"I am a patriot. and I love my country because my country is all I know. I want to be with my family, the people who understand me. I've got nowhere else to go. And the river opens for the righteous someday."

On Sunday, July 12, Robert Howseman will be providing two special songs: "Five Smooth Stones," a UU 'rewrite' of the Leonard Cohen song "Hallelujah," which Ben Ford and Roger Corman will sing and play with him. The second song will be "Great Big Thing," which was written by Robert a few years ago. Playing and singing with Robert for that song will be a large group of other musicians -- Susan Panttaja, Ted Dutcher, Brendan Howseman, Al Liner, Tom Rough, Claire Beery, and Eric Skagerberg.

Two of our Music Associates are still involved in scheduling music for the last two services this month, and because they are musicians, they may be participating as well: John Ray for Sunday, July 19, and Roger Corman for Sunday, July 26.

Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

UUCSR Board of Trustees: Approved June Minutes

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Congregational Office
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Mark Your Calendars!

UUCSR Annual Auction

November 7, 2015

Nurture Your Spirit. Help Heal Our World.



Our Unitarian Universalist Principles

- ◆ *The inherent worth and dignity of every person;*
- ◆ *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;*
- ◆ *Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth;*
- ◆ *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;*
- ◆ *The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large;*
- ◆ *The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;*
- ◆ *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

BLACK LIVES MATTER

We are a Welcoming Congregation:

We are committed to being a diverse congregation, fully inclusive of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

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Editor: Janis Brewster
Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

UU Update Newsletter:

Send submissions to Newsletter@uusantarosa.org
Editor: Susan Williamson **Proofreader:** Andrew Laird

Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All electronic deadlines are noon Monday. Please place hard copy submissions in Newsletter mail slot in the office by noon Sunday.

Newsletter by E-mail is available! To sign up, send your name & e-mail address to Administrator@uusantarosa.org

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