



UUCSR

UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• June 2013 • Volume 57 • Issue 6 •

Sunday Services at 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.

June Worship Theme: Covenants

**June 2nd
On Aging**

*Service Leaders: Brian Plude, others.
Music by Nancy Hayashibara & the UUsuals.*

In the last of our series on the Stages of Life, Intern Minister Bryan Plude will speak on Aging. Bryan recently completed a popular class at UUCSR on Aging with Grace. It's an oft-stated truth that the teacher learns the most. He will share his insights into the universal issues, fears and joys, and what we can learn about our own aging process and the Great Mystery. Bryan also brings his experience of this past year as a hospital chaplain intern.

**June 16th
10:00 am**

Leading the Way in Sonoma County
*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell
Special Music: Vinny Capone, Nancy Hayashibara*

As Unitarian Universalists we see ourselves as bound together not only with one another, but with the people of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County as well. Today I'll explore how we can be a major force for good in the larger community. We will also welcome new members into our covenant today, so call the office ASAP if you want to join.

**SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE BEGINS TODAY!
ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:00 AM!**

**June 9th
A Chosen Faith**

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Susan Panttaja,
Deborah Mason
Special Music: B.B. & The Freeman*

Such a busy morning! First the Congregational Meeting, then a worship service featuring a Child Dedication and a Bridging Ceremony for our graduating seniors, along with a close look at the meaning of covenants (freely-entered binding agreements) in the UU tradition.

**Breakfast begins at 8:15
Congregational Meeting begins at 9:00.
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!!
Worship begins at 11:00.**

**June 23rd
Stepping on Love**

Service Leaders: Clovice A. Lewis, Jr., David Hope

Love can be inadvertently-or sometimes intentionally-thwarted by prejudice, hatred, or moral forces. How did a sermon originally intended to be about "how standing on the side of love leads to peace" end up here? While people stand on the side of love, they can also do what Lewis describes as "stepping on love." Today he explores how love is the currency of both justice and peace.

Clovice Lewis is a member and past president of Lake County UU Fellowship, and is an award-winning cello player.

**June 30th – 10:00 am
The Future of our Faith**

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Lucia Milburn
Special Music: Dylan Graham*

Freshly returned from General Assembly, Rev. Chris will discuss the current state of the Unitarian Universalist Association and his long-term dreams and goals for the future of our religious movement. He will be seeking new recruits for the project of building a global religion of peace, liberty and justice for all. I hope you are up for that!

**July 7th
The Hunger Games**
Service Leader: Scott Miller

Hong Kong



Greetings from 30,000 feet above sea level! As I begin writing this, I am on my way home from my amazing trip to Hong Kong. It was a wonderful adventure, and I thought I would share a few highlights with you.

First and foremost was the intense joy of watching my sister Barbra get married, on what turned out to be the only sunny and dry day of the whole week. She and her man Jethro opted for a civil ceremony at the local Marriage Registry, and it was, without question, the shortest wedding to which I've ever been. The official gave the briefest warnings about the solemnity of marriage, then the bride and groom called upon those present to witness that they are, in fact, taking the other person as their spouse, and – wham – they were married. My video of the entire ceremony is 4 minutes long!

Fortunately, that wasn't the end of the celebrations. After an hour of picture-taking, we all took a champagne-soaked harbor cruise and then had dinner at the Foreign Correspondent's Club. Unexpectedly, grief at my mother's absence overwhelmed me at dinner. I could so easily imagine how she would have been just beaming at Babs. After bawling for a while, though, I apparently made a quite acceptable speech, and all was well.

Conducting weddings is one of the true perks of ministry. I've done about 40 of them. No knowledge of divorce rates has ever kept me from yielding to feelings of limitless hope and joy while watching a new family and a new future being born. Every moment of our lives is filled with freedom and possibility, of course, but some moments really do transform our lives forever, if we pay attention to them and let them work their magic. I think the ritualistic aspect of religion is born of this awareness, and I found myself wondering how we might intensify our UU rites of passage to invite this transforming power into our lives even more. Of course, people complain if our services run more than an hour, so maybe we don't have the appetite or patience for such intensity.

Speaking of intensity, another highlight was just the city itself. Hong Kong is one of the most densely populated cities in the world. I have never seen anything like it, not even in New York City, which could hardly be accused of having "small-town charm." Buildings, most of them well above 20 stories (and some FAR higher), cover every square inch of usable land. The sky is forever out of view unless you are down near the harbor. There are almost no large public parks or plazas within the urban areas, although from the water you can see that steep green mountains loom behind the cityscape everywhere. There are advertisements on EVERYTHING. It was,

frankly, a little bizarre to me that people choose to live this way, but it was a good reminder of just how diverse and adaptable our species really is.

Being in Hong Kong also gave me an awareness of history that often escapes me in the United States, even if Hong Kong is a city that tends to gobble up its history. (There are almost no remaining buildings from the 19th century, for example.) In the USA, I tend to take my own situation for granted as a member of the dominant culture. When everything is designed and built by people like you, for people like you, it's easy to never ask, "Why are things like this?" I found it a very useful thing to be a stranger in a strange land, to be functionally illiterate (although many signs have English, too) and struggle to be understood and to find my way around. It was a good reminder of what it feels like to be on the outside. This is one of the reasons I'm so excited about our congregation joining the North Bay Organizing Project, which will give us many opportunities to engage with people who are different than we are. Diversity is a beautiful, challenging, soul-growing blessing, and I'm glad we're so open to embracing it.

Finally, there was Po Lin monastery on Lantau Island, home of the world's largest seated bronze outdoor Buddha. It's not even close to being the world's largest statue – that honor belongs to the Spring Temple Buddha in Henan, China – but it's awfully big all the same. Visible from miles around, it is a graceful statue that beautifully harmonizes human and natural creation (unlike Hong Kong itself) and is a stirring symbol of peace and enlightenment.

I know the Unitarian Universalist Association would never spend a bunch of money on a glorious temple or a huge statue, not when there are so many needy consultants on process and governance to hire. But if we did ever build something so grand, who or what would we choose to immortalize in this way? Who might we name as the greatest teacher, or what would we offer as the greatest symbol of our teaching? Channing? Emerson? Some weird figure representing Buddha, Jesus and Lao Tzu, all in one? Or some kind of Universal Person, representing each and every one of us? A globe? A coffee urn? That I have no answer to this question is somewhat troubling to me. What or whom would *you* choose?

In any event, I'm so glad to be headed back home to our fine little temple, and I look forward to seeing you all soon. Blessings all around!



Greetings from the Board President

Thanks to the generosity of our members and pledging friends and to the creativity and hard work of the Canvass Committee (Judy Taylor (chair), Peg Jennings-Shaw, Kirsten Olney, Sibyl Day, Mary Louise Jaffray, Linda Balabanian, and Rev. Chris Bell) this year's pledge drive was a tremendous success, and it appears we will be able to achieve all of our stated goals!

A significant benefit of UUCSR membership is the privilege of participating in our democratically run organization. Each year we have three Congregational Meetings at which we make important decisions on how we govern ourselves, allocate our funds, and promote programs that support our mission. Recently, the attendance at our Congregational Meetings has grown to well over 100 members. As a fitting finale to a very productive year, let's see if we can't increase that to at least 150!

On Sunday, June 9, at 9am, we will have our Spring Congregational Meeting, the last of the three such meetings for the fiscal year. In addition to approving a preliminary budget for FY 2013/14, the congregation will vote on several important issues such as whether to join the North Bay Organizing Project; whether to apply the Endowment Fund distribution toward launching us as a teaching congregation; and whether to commit to being a teaching congregation in future years. Also, the Board will be honoring a number of our members who have made extraordinary contributions of their talent and energy to our congregation.

Two outstanding Board members are retiring this year: Mary Louise Jaffray and Lois Nagle. Mary Louise's contributions are far too numerous to list. Let it suffice to say that her dedication and helpfulness are incomparable. Lois Nagle has always brought warmth and graciousness as well as concise observations to our meetings. Needless to say, they both will be missed.

Also retiring after serving for two years are Co-Treasurers, Art Rosenblum and Amy Young. Our Treasurers are expected to report to the Board and write a newsletter article each month as well as participate in Financial Stewardship, Endowment Committee and Congregational Meetings. Art has fulfilled these duties with aplomb, as evidenced by his newsletter articles that have made our finances not only relevant, but interesting and fun as well. Amy's health problems have kept her from fully participating in these activities, but we thank her for assisting Art in signing checks and look forward to her future contributions to the Financial Stewardship Team.

Finally, Cathie Wiese is retiring as Corporate Secretary after serving in that capacity for three years. In addition to signing documents and maintaining the Board binders, Cathie has written dozens of handwritten thank-you notes usually on note cards she designed and created herself!

Although I will be serving one more year as a Board member, June 30 marks my last day as President. It truly has been an honor to serve the congregation in this capacity and to work with so many dedicated and competent members. Many of you have given me encouragement and support during my two-year Presidency and that has been very gratifying. Thank you for giving me the privilege to serve as one of your leaders.

New UUCSR officers were elected at a special Board meeting in March and will begin July 1. We are very fortunate to be welcoming Jeanie Bates, as President, Linda Balabanian as Treasurer; and Sibyl Day as Corporate Secretary.

Laura Jean Hageman
Board President

Breakfast before the June 9th Congregational Meeting

As those of us who were fortunate enough to be at the May 19th service know, we gave the Adrienne Swenson Award to an inspiring young woman, Cynthia Anguiano, who graduated from Elsie Allen and is going to Sacramento State in the Fall. The Award is \$1,000 which our congregation raises from "Share the Offering" donations and meals before Congregational Meetings. Our coffers are now bare so please plan to purchase a wonderful breakfast on June 9th before the Meeting. Alan Bell and Tom Bond's TIE Group will

offer us a choice of a full breakfast to pastries and coffee. We're requesting a donation on a sliding scale from \$10 to \$1, depending on what sort of breakfast you choose! Please come hungry and generous so we can help a student next year make her/his educational dreams come true!



From the Intern Minister

Here it is, almost the end of May and almost the end of my first year of my two year internship at UUCSR. The time has gone quickly! But it does not feel like only yesterday that I began here. So much learning has taken place for me in the intervening months that, in some ways, that beginning feels like it is in my far distant past, rather than only eight months ago.

What has happened in that intervening time? I have preached eight times and participated in worship on most Sundays. These experiences have reinforced my deep love of “doing worship.” I have been privileged to meet with many of our elders in a series of discussions this spring on aging with grace. I have been able to meet with some of you for meals and discussion and have made pastoral visits—an often invisible part of doing parish ministry. I was able to meet with two non-church families who approached Rev. Chris for memorial services and was able to assist with planning and to perform this sacred rite for these families. I attended board meetings regularly and met with my Internship Committee monthly. I attended other committee meetings as I was able with my 1/2-time schedule. All of these experiences have reinforced my desire to enter parish ministry.

Rev. Chris and I met weekly for discussions regarding

my development as a minister and I met monthly with my Internship Committee. They are charged with guiding my formation. We have learned together. I look forward to strengthening and deepening my relationships with them and with you in the coming year. You have been gracious and kind in assuming the role of teaching congregation.

After I preach on June 2nd I will have the summer off from UUCSR as I take a little R&R, visit family in Ohio, and attend to other aspects of my requirements for ordination. I will be helping to lead a “Journeys of the Spirit” service trip for youth in my home church in Davis. Under the auspices of the nonprofit Amizade, we will be working with the Navajo Nation in northern Arizona for a week in June. My two daughters will accompany me on this trip. Much of July will be taken up with tackling the extensive required reading list for all prospective UU ministers. In late July I will take some time vacationing with my children and in August spend a week fly-fishing for salmon and steelhead with a friend.

I return to UUCSR in late August to attend the Board retreat. Soon thereafter I will be back at the church. I look forward to seeing you all again!

Sabbatical Committee Update

Last month we told you about our newly formed Sabbatical Committee and our plans for Reverend Chris’ Sabbatical which starts January 1, 2014 and runs through mid-July 2014.

Since last month, the committee has been interviewing the several UU ministers who have indicated interest in serving as our sabbatical minister or in some other, more limited, capacity during Rev. Chris’ absence. Our hope is that the sabbatical minister would preach one Sunday a month, work with the worship associates to plan worship, provide pastoral care and support for congregational life events, and provide supervision for Bryan Plude during the remainder of his internship.

Although we have not yet finished our discussions, we expect to have made our selection and submitted our choice to the Board for approval within the next few weeks. We are mindful of our congregation’s special culture, and believe we will have a good fit for the congregation by the end of this process. In the mean-

time, we have learned a lot about other ministerial resources that may be available during Rev. Chris’ sabbatical; we feel comfortable that our needs will be well covered.

Although we will have a sabbatical minister to help us during Rev. Chris’ absence, we expect this to be a time when we will have a special opportunity to minister to each other, grow closer and forge stronger bonds as a congregation. Although we will certainly miss Rev. Chris, this can be a great opportunity for many of us to step into new roles, accept new challenges and experience personal growth.

Please feel free to contact any of the committee members with questions and suggestions.

Sabbatical Committee:

Lucia Milburn (Chair), Linda Balabanian, Jeanie Bates, Chris Bell, Janis Brewster, John Chenoweth, Laura Jean Hageman, Deborah Mason, David Templeton, Gretchen Vap

Religious Education for Children and Youth

There are lots of changes in our schedule and important activities this month.

June 2nd will be the last day of our regular schedule with childcare at 9:15 and childcare & R.E. at 11:00 as usual.

On June 9th we have a congregational meeting at 9:00 and only one service at 11:00. We will provide childcare for both the congregational meeting and worship, and have religious education during the eleven o'clock hour.

The June 9th worship service will include two important rites of passage. We will celebrate, through ritual, two distinctly significant stages of life. The child dedication ceremony for Emmett Jack Rossing falls on his first birthday, and gives us the opportunity as a faith community to pledge our support and nurture in his spiritual life. It will be a special moment in time where we will covenant with his parents to bring him up in loving community with the shared values and principles of Unitarian Universalism. The bridging ceremony for Aaron Bell-Butterfield and Travis Freeman will honor their transition from the high school experience into young adulthood. Aaron and Travis are both lifelong UUs, they have been raised by parents deeply dedicated to our congregation

and to our faith. They have attended R.E. as children, learned life lessons through *Our Whole Lives* and completed the Coming of Age program in their early adolescence. Now they are entering a new, exciting and challenging phase of life. One of the most important things we can do for our youth is to support them into adulthood, to keep them connected to Unitarian Universalism, and continue to minister to them as they become adults. In our culture it is rare for children and youth to be honored in this way. I hope that everyone will join us in this celebration of life.

Beginning June 13 our summer schedule will begin. We will have worship, religious education and childcare at 10:00. I have planned summer sessions for all ages (grades K-8) together. The children will gather every Sunday for Children's Chapel where they will participate in the lighting of the chalice, the sharing of joys & sorrows and hear a story. There will be plenty of time each week for crafts, games and play. Realizing that family plans and vacations take some out of the routine over the summer months, R.E. will be simple and fun. I promise!

In faith,
Deborah

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

On June 2 we will provide loving childcare for children from infancy through age 4 in our preschool room during both the 9:15 and the 11:00 services. Fiona Mackenzie, Shawna Hoxsie and Maddie Elizondo are our child care providers.

On June 9 we will have only one service and RE and childcare for our little ones will be at 11:00. **We will provide childcare for the Congregational Meeting at 9am**

June 13 we will commence our summer schedule with one service and RE/childcare at 10:00am.

Sr. High Youth Group meets every Thursday from 4-6pm. Deborah Mason, Rev Chris and Eric Fischer serve as Youth Advisors. Contact Deborah (debmasonuu@gmail.com) for more information. Grades K-8 will gather together for Children's Chapel according to the time schedule above.

June 2013 R.E. Children's Chapel Schedule:

06/02/13	Theme: 6th Principle - We believe in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world
06/09/13	Theme - Finding the Beauty Within
06/16/13	Theme - Radical Hospitality
06/23/13	Theme - Using our Gifts for Good
06/30/13	Theme - What is Real?

Gay Pride Parade and Festival

On **Sunday, June 2nd**, join our UUCSR contingent in this important annual event to demonstrate our commitment to Equality.

Contact Susan Dickey to find out about car-pooling to Guerneville, 525-1740 or susanlf.dickey@gmail.com.

Women Together Movie Night

On **Saturday, June 15th at 5 pm in the Board Room**, all UUCSR women and their friends are invited to watch an amazing movie, **“Makers: Women Who Make America.”** This PBS documentary tells the remarkable story of the most sweeping revolution in U.S. History as women have asserted their rights to a full and fair share of political power, economic opportunity, and personal autonomy. It’s a revolution that has unfolded, mostly peacefully, in public and private, in courts and Congress, in boardrooms and bedrooms, changing not only what the world expects from women but also what women expect from themselves. **“Makers”** brings the story to life with priceless archival treasures and poignant, often funny, interviews with those who led the fight, those who opposed it, and those first generations

to benefit from its success. Trailblazing women like Hilary Rodham Clinton, Ellen DeGeneres and Oprah Winfrey share their memories as do countless women who challenged the status quo in industries from coal mining to medicine. **“Makers”** captures with music, humor, and the voices of those women who lived through these turbulent times the dizzying joy, aching frustration, and ultimate triumph of a movement that turned America upside-down.

This is a long film so at the half-way point we’ll take a break to stretch and eat a bag-supper which you should bring. We will provide wine, soft drinks and coffee. For more information or if you have questions, contact Linda Harlow, 526-3528 or linda37@sonic.net.

Breath—Mobility—Balance

On Sunday, **June 16th** from 9:30 to 10:45 am, sustain these vital functions. It’s fun and easy, Monica Anderson will again help us learn how to and no special clothing is necessary.

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, in the coming year (September to May).
June 13th at 6:00 p.m. at Linda Lampson's home.

This is a finger food potluck. Bring a snack to share. Also bring recommendations for us to read

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2013

Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail Submissions

Greatly Appreciated!

Newsletter Assembly

10 a.m.— June 26, 2013

All Congregation Retreat



Get Ready for our ALL CONGREGATION RETREAT

Friday, August 9th through
Sunday, August 11th, 2013!

Mark your calendars and plan ahead for the event of the summer. We are very excited to announce that this year's All Congregation Summer Retreat will be held at beautiful and nearby (1/2 hour drive from Santa Rosa) Westminster Woods Retreat Center. Registration for this weekend full of fun and fellowship for all ages will begin Sunday, June 30th, in the Social Hall after service and end on Sunday, July 21st. You won't want to miss out! Opportunities for adventure and relaxation abound this year.

Enjoy the lovely shaded canopy of redwoods and the unspoiled creek running through our camp. Join in the Saturday Softball Game, a game of Frisbee Golf, or take a hike into the forest. Walk the creek side labyrinth or join the kids at the amazing adventure playground. Challenge yourself and Rev. Chris with the Ropes Course....YES! A Ropes Course will be offered (it will be an extra charge, but, hey! How often do you get to try death defying feats of daring do with complete assurance of your own personal safety?) Get your talent together for our annual Talent Spectacular on Saturday night in our spacious meeting room. Comfortable, clean cabins...yes! Good food...yes! Quiet spaces...yes! Kid's crafts...yes! Teen cabin and fun...yes! Campfire...yes! Sunday Service under the redwoods...yes!

Questions...call Leslie Norinsky at 373-7944 or Carol Kraemer at 838-3738.

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY
TO START THINKING ABOUT OUR NEXT SERVICE AUCTION
ON NOVEMBER 2, 2013.

A NEW SERMON TOPIC PERHAPS!

SET ASIDE THE DATE NOW!!!

Meet the Minister

These are brief, informal meetings held once a month following the 11 a.m. Sunday Service as indicated below. They provide an opportunity for visitors and guests to meet with our minister, Rev. Chris Bell, and one or two lay leaders.

Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged!

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

June 16

July 21

Glaser Center Events

Friday, May 31, 7:30 pm
Documentary Film with filmmaker

Gen Silent

The generation that fought to come out of the closet
... is now going back in to survive

Free

Saturday, June 1, 7:30 pm
Singer-Songwriter Showcase

Ken Risling & Sherry Lea Jones

Admission \$15

Sunday, June 2, 7:00 pm
Matsuri! Japanese Arts Festival

Noh Master Manjiro Tatsumi

Admission \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door

Saturday, June 8, 8:00 pm, Sunday, June 9, 3:00 pm

Dress rehearsal preview, Friday, June 7, 7:30 pm

Santa Rosa Symphonic Chorus

Beethoven & Brahms

Admission \$15

Friday, July 19, 8:00 pm
Singer-songwriter showcase

Roy Zimmerman

'wake up call'

Admission \$15

Hot Topics

Mapping the Final Journey: Planning the last phase of life for ourselves and others.

Our discussion facilitator will be Nancy Proctor, R.N., Hospice Services of St. Joseph Health System. We will come together with openness, compassion and humor to discuss the facts of (later) life and the important documents that we need to guide our healthcare team and loved ones to

follow our wishes and desires, if we should become seriously ill.

We will begin our Hot Topic at 11:45 and end at 1:15 because of our summer service schedule of 1 service at 10 AM. As usual, a light lunch will be available for a donation.

Advocates for Social Justice

SHARE THE OFFERING

On Sunday, **June 9th**, half the collection will go to **The Living Room**, the only day-time drop-in Center for women and children in Santa Rosa. School will be out and many children have nowhere to be and nothing to do. The Living Room provides constructive activities for them as well as help for their mothers in getting their lives back on track. We are part of The Living Room's Circle of Support so please be as generous as you can to help

these families overcome their problems and get back on their feet. Thank you!

On Sunday, **June 23rd**, half the collection will again go to our **Saturday Breakfast Program**. We are still serving over 800 people per month at the cost of about \$3 each. Our community counts on us to provide this service and your on-going support is much appreciated!

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Committee on Shared Ministry

What is the Committee on Shared Ministry? What do they do?

The mission of the Committee on Shared Ministry is to oversee the general health of the congregation, support our minister, and provide conflict resolution when needed. We aim to encourage healthy communication, and to address issues and concerns in a safe and respectful manner. The COSM is also charged with coordinating the minister's yearly evaluation, and other tasks. We encourage you to approach us with any other ideas about how we may be of service to the congregation! Look for the lavender nametags to find one of us between or after services.

for at least two years, and shown strong commitment to the well-being of the UUCSR community. Members of the COSM are asked to serve for three years, with an option to "recommit" to another one to three years at the end of the initial term.

The current members of the Committee on Shared Ministry are Rev. Chris Bell, John Chenoweth, Bill Foshee, Judy Hutchinson, Mary Lill Lee, Lucia Milburn, Cathy Read and Mary Wagner. We meet at least once a month, and meetings are always confidential. Please contact any one on the committee with your concerns, questions and comments. Your input is vital to the health and well being of our congregation!

Who serves on the Committee on Shared Ministry?
The COSM is a committee comprised of five to seven members, plus the minister. Members must have been a voting member of the congregation

Cathy Read
Chair, COSM

UUCSR Writers

The UUCSR Writers requests the pleasure of your company at one or all of our monthly meetings. Please see date, time, and place of gathering in the "Schedule" below.

N.B. Conflict in dates? No problem. Writers, Screenwriters, etc. are welcome to present a "work in progress" at Poets meetings and Poets at Writers, Screenwriters meetings. The Film meeting is for anyone who likes to watch movies. First, we show a DVD full feature film on TV. Then, we have a group discussion about it.

Schedule

Writers, Screenwriters • meet on the First Monday of the month from 4 -6 pm. Free

June 3, July 1, Aug 5, Oct 7, Nov 4.

No Meetings in Sept, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

4 - 6 pm, "Work in Progress" Presentations.

Note: Please see "Agreements" in our Brochure.

Poets • meet on the Second Monday of the month from 4 -6 pm. Free

June 10, July 8, Aug 12, Sep 9, Oct 14.

No Meetings in Nov, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa..

4 - 4:25 pm, "A Poet's Style" Group Discussion.

4:30 - 6 pm, "Poetry Readings" Read a poem you've written or one from a favorite author. Time may vary depending on number of Readings.

Film • meet on the Third Monday of the month from 3 -6 pm. Free

June 17, July 15, Aug 19, Sep 16, and Oct 21.

No meetings in Nov, Dec and Jan.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

3 - 5 pm, "Afternoon at the Movies" Watch a full feature DVD movie.

5 - 6 pm, "Group Discussion"

Authors/Film Titles/Collections may include: Agatha Christie, Jane Austen, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott

Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*, *Masterpiece Classics*, *Criterion Collection*, *Acorn Media*, *Cartoons*, etc.

Thursday Morning Coffee, 10 am - 12 noon • at Whole Foods in Coddington, Santa Rosa. Buy the beverage/food of your choice. We meet once a week for lighthearted conversation about who's doing what in our literary community. Table is not reserved. Look for us. Parking is free.

Join our UUCSR Writers E-mail list. Always In Progress...

Information: UUCSR Writers • Glaser Center •

707-568-5381 Unitarian Universalist Congregation • 547

Mendocino Ave • Santa Rosa <http://www.uusantarosa.org>

Georgette G. deBlois • ggdeb@sonic.net

Tom J. Mariani • southforkboots@gmail.com

UUCSR Writers • A Stimulating Environment

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa 18 April 2013

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting: (Rev Chris)

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Susan Bartholome, Jeanie Bates (Vice President), Lois Bell, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray, Lois Nagle, Alan Proulx, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Peter Wilson

Non-Members Present: Rev Chris Bell, Bryan Plude (Intern Minister), Art Rosenblum (Treasurer), Jan Prater (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Review: Additions to the Agenda - Planning for Future Interns, and next Board Meeting dates to be May 9 and/or May 16

Minutes from March Meeting: Approved with the following corrections: In report from Infrastructure, change "Sept Meeting" to "Fall Meeting." In Within/Without report, change May 26th to March 24th. Correct typo from "Nortbay" to "Northbay" Organizing Project. Correct that Board member Lois Nagle was present.

Open Mic: (Rev Chris) We have a new District Executive, Joshua Searle White. He has written a couple of children's books, and will be coming to the upcoming Regional Meeting. Also, Bryan shared some tragic news from the Davis Congregation: a lovely elderly couple, founding members, were found murdered in their home. A Service for them was held in Davis last night. [The Board all signed a sympathy card to send.]

Treasurer's Report: (Art Rosenblum) We are in the red \$4,627 which is "less than we expected to be in the red." We are going to have a change in our accounting structure - which Linda Balabanian will explain in the near future. Alan Proulx would be interested to know where we are month to month as compared to the same months last year.

Canvass: Update on Pledge Received (Mary Louise) We still have some "mop-up" calls to make. We have a rough working number of \$388,000. (Rev Chris) We anticipate going over \$400,000 - we use a little lower number for the Budget planning process. Hopefully by the end of the month we'll have a firm number.

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Cont.

Evaluations of Pledge Gala: Lois Bell said she really enjoyed the event and thanks everyone. Joe thought having the food at the committee tables might have been distracting. Cathie thought the RE area might have been too far away - maybe signs would help. Mary Louise thought it might be good to publish the program ahead of time. Jeanie thought it was kind of fun but a lot of work for those who brought food and staffed tables, would like to be assured that it was worth it. Rev Chris thought it was a successful Canvass but maybe not so successful as a community fair - maybe should be done separately. Cathie likes the group pledge concept instead of one-on-one. Art thought the one-on-one important but not necessary every year. The Canvass Committee will be meeting on May 1st to evaluate.

Extra May Board Meeting: (Laura Jean) May 9 is tentatively scheduled for an extra Board meeting depending on pledge drive results for the Budget. Laura Jean will let Board members know around the first of May; otherwise the next meeting will be May 16th. [LJ did let the members know that the extra meeting would not be necessary.]

Authorization to Sign Grant Application for the Saturday

Breakfast: (Laura Jean) We started getting the grants 5 or 6 years ago; Mary Louise (with help) has been doing it for the last 2 or 3. We have a request to authorize Mary Louise to be able to sign the grant application - for convenience sake. Moved to approve (Joe), 2nd (Jeanie) - motion passed.

Sabbatical Planning: (Laura Jean) The committee met and Rev Chris presented names of three people to be considered for Sabbatical ministers. However, one candidate has since removed himself and another is not available the whole time. There is still time to look at more candidates - possibly more than one person to cover the various roles. Bryan must be supervised by the person and so he hopes to feel comfortable with them. Jeanie stated that articles will begin to appear in the newsletter on this topic on a regular basis.

Intern Planning: (Laura Jean) If we want to be eligible for a grant for a new intern [after Bryan] we need to apply by this coming Nov. Laura Jean distributed a printed timeline for this process. She already brought this to the Financial Stewardship's meeting and it looked like we would need an additional \$5,000 for 2014/15 for each year of a 2 yr part time internship. Fine Stew said that we could manage this financially if it's something we want to do. Rev Chris supports the idea of having another intern. Bryan says there is a need for teaching churches in the Bay Area. Jeanie asked, "Do we need to bring this to the Congregation?" Mary Louise is concerned about making an ongoing commitment in terms of the Budget. Alan and Joe would like to have this item on the Agenda for the next Congregational Meeting. Alan moved that the Board recommend that we continue to be a Teaching Congregation in the years 2014/2015, 2nd (Joe), motion approved with one abstention.

Board Retreat Planning: (Jeanie) We need to create a subcommittee for further planning of the Board Retreat - Alan, Rev Chris, Susan, Laura Jean and Jeanie volunteered. Rev Chris would like not to be the Facilitator this time. Jeanie suggests one item to revisit is the Goal Groups.

Report from Infrastructure Goal Group: (John) Working on bid for HP 1 or 2. Also a bid for HP in RE. Service costs will increase about 10% with HP 1 and 2 included. Also, he met with Jan Hess and her husband John A. who is a Civil Engineer and Architect. John A. discovered an issue which is that two exits are required. They will meet with the Fire Department to discuss this further. Also, "breakers" was not listed on the Infrastructure Spreadsheet. The breaker system is being studied; we need to expedite these expenditures. At next meeting we need to decide what amount we will be asking for at the Congregational Meeting.

Communications Team Expansion: (Peter Wilson) Peter along with John Chenoweth, friend Scott and new member Sean, a software developer, are redesigning the website. We have a new server in place. The changes will allow individual committees to update their areas on the website.

Lessons from Committee Fair: (Laura Jean) She wanted the Teams concept presented to the Congregation at the Fair. Still looking for more ways of making our structure visible, and to draw people in.

Report from Community Within and Without Goal Group: (Jeanie) The new name for the Volunteer Task Force is the "Congregation Outreach Team." They met April 14th and are off and running. They have created an interview to use with members, also a database, and a list of programs. Gretchen Vap and Phyllis Clement are co-chairs. They have a change of goals from "looking for volunteers" to "involving members." Board members Jeanie and Cathie are stepping away but Alan and Lois Nagle will continue on the committee.

Report from Spiritual Life Goal Group: (Lois Bell) The Adult RE committee has met and will continue to meet twice a month for the time being. They have a lot of enthusiasm and good ideas! Susan would like a meeting of the original Spiritual Life Goal Group: Peter, Joe, Rev Chris and Susan.

Final Reflections and Appreciations: Jeanie would like to appreciate her Goal Group - great working with you and we got the job done! Lois Nagle thanks to Jan for taking notes. Rev Chris appreciates Daniel Reid in particular and everyone - David Templeton and Aphrodite - who helped make the Service without the power. Laura Jean loved the lighting in the women's restroom.

Rev Chris reports that we need to restrict access to our outside plugs to discourage homeless camping there. He said it's also okay to turn people away from private meetings if necessary.

Closing Words: (Alan)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Submitted by Jan Prater

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June 2013

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Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

Mailing Address: 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Telephone: 707-568-5381

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Editor: Janis Brewster

Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

UU Update Newsletter:

Send submissions to Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

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

Editor: Janis Brewster

Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All electronic deadlines are noon Monday.

Please place any hard copy submissions in the Newsletter mail slot in the office by noon Sunday.

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Sexton: Phil Butterfield

**Sunday Religious
Education Staff**

UUCSR ALL-CONGREGATION RETREAT

*Under the redwoods at
Westminster Woods
August 9 - 11, 2013*



Join your
UU extended family
for a weekend of
fun and relaxation

Registration is from June 30th - July 21st

Visit the "Retreat" table in the Social Hall on these Sundays

See Registration form in this Newsletter >>>



For information contact:
Carol Kramer (838-3736) or Leslie Norinsky (373-7944)

ALL CONGREGATION RETREAT

REGISTRATION FORM

August 9 - 11, 2013

The Retreat is open to UUCSR Members, Pledging Friends, and their Guests

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email Address	
Phone # (Day)	(Eve)
EMERGENCY CONTACT	(Phn #)
INSURANCE COMPANY	
Ins Policy #	Ins Co Phn #:

ATTENDEES

Name	Age (if under 18)

- 1) UUCSR Status (please circle one): Member / Pledging Friend / Guest*
 (*If Guest, please enter members' name: _____)
- 2) Anticipated arrival time (3pm Friday at the earliest) _____
- 3) Please circle which you prefer: Meat (# of people _____) Vegetarian (# of people _____)
- NOTE: Other food diets are not provided for, although there will be several vegetarian options. However, vegetarian main dishes are only guaranteed if you select it here.**

PHOTO RELEASE & CONSENT: I consent to photography of myself and every person listed on this form, documenting my/our participation in camp life; I authorize uncompensated use and reproduction of these photos and I release all rights & privileges, including financial and editorial, to said photos. If any photos are used, I understand that no names will be included. X

If agreed,
please sign
<<<<

Category	# of people	Price per person	Total
Adults (18 or older):		\$180	
Teenagers (12 - 17 yrs):		\$150	
Students (6 - 11 yrs):		\$110	
Children (3 - 5 yrs):		\$50	
Toddlers (0 - 2 yrs):		--	--
		<i>Donation to Retreat Fund:</i>	
		Grand Total:	

Final payment due by 7/21/13 PAID: CK # _____ \$ _____

**** YOUR CHECK RESERVES YOUR SPACE! ****

REFUND POLICY: If notified by July 21, a full refund will be given
 If notified by July 26, a 50% refund will be given
 NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 26

REGISTRATION CUT-OFF: July 21

If you have any questions regarding mobility/accessibility, please contact the Camp Director: Tonie Quigley 707-874-2426 ext 624

ALL CONGREGATION RETREAT

REGISTRATION FORM

**** SATURDAY AUGUST 10, 2013 - DAY USE ONLY ****

The Retreat is open to UUCSR Members, Pledging Friends, and their Guests

Name			
Address			
City, State, Zip			
Email Address			
Phone # (Day)		(Eve)	
EMERGENCY CONTACT	(Phn #)		
INSURANCE COMPANY:			
Ins Policy #	Ins Co Phn #:		

ATTENDEES	
Name	Age (if under 18)

- 1) UUCSR Status (please circle one): Member / Pledging Friend / Guest*
*(*If Guest, please enter members' name: _____)*
- 2) Please circle which you prefer: Meat (# of people _____) Vegetarian (# of people _____)
NOTE: Other food diets are not provided for, although there will be several vegetarian options. However, vegetarian main dishes are only guaranteed if you select it here.
- 3) **SATURDAY HOURS:** 7:30 am - 11:30 pm *(Includes Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)*
(Note: One cost covers any and all participation)

PHOTO RELEASE & CONSENT: I consent to photography of myself and every person listed on this form, documenting my/our participation in camp life; I authorize uncompensated use and reproduction of these photos and I release all rights & privileges, including financial and editorial, to said photos. If any photos are used, I understand that no names will be included.

If agreed, please sign <<<<

** DAY USE ONLY **			
Category	# of people	Price per person	Total
Adults (18 or older):		\$70	
Teens (12-17):		\$50	
Students (6-11 yrs):		\$40	
Children (3/5 yrs):		\$20	
Toddlers (0-2 yrs):		--	
		<i>Donation to Retreat Fund:</i>	
		Grand Total:	
Final payment due by 7/21/13 PAID: CK # _____ \$ _____ ** YOUR CHECK RESERVES YOUR SPACE! **			

REFUND POLICY: If notified by July 21, a full refund will be given
 If notified by July 26, a 50% refund will be given
 NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 26

REGISTRATION CUT-OFF: July 21

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