



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• June 2012 • Volume 56 • Issue 6 •

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

June 3

FILLED WITH GOOD THINGS

Service Leaders: Tom Bozeman and Andrew Hidas

The subtitle of a book by Rita Nakashima Brock and UU theologian Rebecca Ann Parker states, "How Christianity Traded Love of This World for Crucifixion and Empire." As UUs living in a predominantly Christian society, what does it mean to be a people who believe in a world filled with good things, who affirm and promote the "inherent worth and dignity of every person" and respect "for the interdependent web of all existence?" As spring builds toward summer, we will celebrate both our heritage and the this-worldly grace in which we aspire to take part.

Presenter Tom Bozeman is a third-year seminarian at Starr King School for the Ministry. After years as an activist, he entered divinity school in the hopes of deepening his work. This autumn, he will be interning at First Parish Church in Duxbury, MA and First Parish Church in Kingston, MA.

June 10

BREAKFAST / CONGREGATIONAL MEETING / BRIDGING SERVICE

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Deborah Mason, Andy Levine, Susan Bartholome

The Youth Group and several UUusual Suspects offer music.

This is an unusual and special Sunday, so please read this carefully! An hour of fellowship featuring a continental breakfast thanks to the Advocates for Social Justice, begins at 8:00. Donations gratefully accepted. There is no early worship service. The Congregational Meeting will take place from 9:00 - 10:30. All members are expected to attend. Finally, our morning worship service at 11:00 features the Bridging Ceremony of our many senior youth, including several reflections, and will have amazing music.

June 17

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS! ONE SERVICE ONLY - 10:00am! LIKENESS TO GOD

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Linda Proulx, Bev Helfer-Grand Nancy and the Choir will offer music.

Today, as we celebrate Father's Day, we'll look at one of the fathers of our tradition. William Ellery Channing was one of the greatest Unitarian leaders of the 1800s, once called "the preacher to the nation," although his thought remains remarkably modern. His noble and gracious faith calls us to trust the goodness within us, and to know that it is divine, but also to recognize that we must unfold that goodness over a lifetime of growing. "Likeness to God" is one of his masterpieces, which we'll root ourselves in today.

June 24

ASSUAGING THE HUNGRY GHOSTS: HEALING THE MORAL INJURIES OF WAR

Service Leader: Caroline H. Knowles, Ph.D.

Worship Associate: Erin Howseman

Warriors return from today's wars to civilian life with profound disruption of their trust in themselves, their own integrity and their society—injuries that go beyond Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Healing begins with a community that can hear their stories and ultimately provides the means to forge swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks. Alan Proulx will reflect on his experience as a Viet Nam War veteran.

Dr. Carrie Knowles graduated from Starr King seminary in 2010 and is a candidate for Fellowship as a UU minister. She describes herself as a recovering psychologist and recovering attorney. Currently, as a member of the Board of the Interfaith Center in the Presidio, she organizes conferences to bring post-911 veterans together with clergy and community leaders around the issues of moral injury and the need for healing congregations.

Making Connections



"We dedicate our offering and ourselves to our mission and our ministry, by which we weave the fabric of loving community."

We say those words as we receive the offering each week as a useful reminder of why we come together, why we give money and time to the congregation, and what we are seeking to do with our lives. (I borrowed and adapted them from Jamie McReynolds, by the way.) Our mission, as you know, is to celebrate life, empower people, care for one another, and to help build a better world. Our ministry refers to all the ways we serve and fulfill that mission. In fact, the word minister means servant. Ministry is fundamentally about being of service to one another and to the wide world.

As the abundance of information within this UU Update makes clear, the fabric of loving community is not woven only on Sunday mornings, as important as that time together may be. Nor is loving community something that can simply be bought and paid for with a check, nor given only lip service. (Or lip ministry?) It takes action.

Weaving is a good strong action verb, and brings to my mind Dear Weaver of Our Lives Design from the hymnal. I believe in God the Verb, and weaving is good as any to describe the unfolding process of creation. Of course, this cloth is never finished. We're not wearing it, or stashing it away in the closet. The fabric of loving community is not a wedding dress, it's more like work overalls. Each of us is a strand in that fabric. The more tightly we weave ourselves together the stronger the cloth we create. Although a spool of fabric or thread may be of a lovely print or color, it finds its real usefulness and beauty only when it is sewn into a larger whole.

It must be noted, that as great as the blessings of being a part of loving community are, they do come with a bit of a cost. The price of love is grief. The strands of connection can hurt when they are strained and stretched or broken.

This poem by Kim Ryan illustrates this tension.

The Fabric of Life
It is very stretchy.
We know that, even if
many details remain
sketchy. It is complexly
woven. That much too

has pretty well been proven. We are loath to continue our lessons which consist of slaps as sharp and dispersed as bee stings from a smashed nest when any strand snaps—hurts working far past the locus of rupture, attacking threads far beyond anything we would have said connects.

So there is risk, but without taking it, we will never know the beauty of the garment we might make together.

This weaving is done mostly done in small and simple ways. Everytime you welcome someone in the fellowship hour, or greet them with a handshake in worship, your thread and theirs become intertwined and the fabric of loving community is strengthened. The meals we share in Circle Dinners, the classes we attend together, the cards we send, the breakfasts we serve: each of these is a small act of sewing that helps fulfill our mission and ministry.

Now, as in real sewing, it does help to have a pattern to follow and the right tools, too. A good designer helps, and somebody who knows how to sew. That's why I'm so grateful for all of the volunteers who have been working all year to bring our strands together in better ways. Let me tell you about some of these efforts.

Our Membership Team has been working hard all year to lay out a clear and welcoming process of becoming a member. They've expanded the team of people who present Getting to Know UU and the New Member Recognition, and are creating new materials to explain the benefits and expectations of membership. They have done a great job with the Visitor's Table, too. Check in with them and find out how to help.

Meanwhile, another group of folks are looking for ways to expand and organize our Caring Team. We want to establish good procedures and practices to insure that none of our elders goes unvisited or fails to get to services, and that people in crisis receive not just pastoral care from me, but concrete things like

Cont. on page 15

Greetings from the Board

You won't want to miss our **Spring Congregational Meeting, Sunday June 10 at 9:00am**. Come a little early and enjoy a delicious continental breakfast (juice, fruit, muffins, coffee) between 8:00 - 8:45am provided by two of our TIE groups for a donation to benefit the UUCSR Saturday Breakfast Program. Members will be called to the Sanctuary at 8:45am and the meeting will begin promptly at 9:00am. From the survey we conducted in January, more of our members indicated they would prefer to attend congregational meetings at this earlier time. The meeting will adjourn promptly at 10:30am, to allow for a half-hour break to allow the Sanctuary to be set up for the 11am Sunday Service.

Prior to every congregational meeting, a packet containing the meeting agenda, financial reports, and documentation on all items to be voted upon is sent to the household of every member of the congregation so you have time to review and think about items on the agenda. Please review the materials in the packet and bring them with you to the congregational meeting.

This Spring Congregational Meeting will include votes on amendments to the UUCSR Bylaws, on amendments

to the Endowment Policy, and on nominations for the nominating committee. A *preliminary* budget for next year will be presented and two members who have provided extraordinary service to our congregation will be honored.

The *preliminary* budget that will be presented on June 10 will later be adjusted, after our books for this fiscal year have closed, to create a *final* budget to reflect, among other things, increased pledges, possible carry-over funds from the current year, and actual medical insurance costs which are only told to us in August by our insurance broker. This *final* budget will be presented for congregational approval at the Fall Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 7, 2012.

I regret that I will not be able to attend this congregational meeting, as Tom and I will be in Tanzania on a long-planned safari. The Board Vice-president, Mary Louise Jaffray, has graciously agreed to chair the meeting in my absence.

Laura Jean Hageman
Board President

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.

May 13

June 17

Treasurer's Report

I don't know about you but at our house we get about 3 or 4 requests in the mail (or by phone) every day from very worthy causes. Maureen and I would love to support them all - but we can't. So what do we do? We pick and choose, we prioritize. The same is true here at the UUCSR—too many things that need to be done, things we want for a better facility and community. We too prioritize. The Budget and FinStew committees look at all our requirements and determine what fits into our budget and sets priorities for those that fall outside our level of resources. The Board reviews this and makes a final determination of what can and can not be financed. This is a process of making hard choices but it has to be done and it is reflected in our preliminary budget and the final one you will see in the fall.

That being said, we UU's don't like NOT tackling a problem (improved hearing system for our Sanctuary for example) and we set out to do something about it, we "pass the hat"! This is a good cooperative approach to solving an immediate problem. BUT like all good things there are often unintended negative

consequences - consequences that impact upon the community as a whole. Firstly by going "outside" the budgetary process we ignore other, higher priority needs. At the same time we are competing for the same dollars which would go to meet all our needs.

We, all of us, have only so much money which we can give to support the UUCSR community and these resources should be applied in an orderly, prioritized manner for the benefit of the entire community. To me "Passing The Hat" is not the way to do our financial planning and operations. I don't support them and don't think those efforts are helpful in the long run.

Art Rosenblum Co Treasurer

(PS I am one of those who would be helped by improving the hearing assistance in the Sanctuary)

Happy spring to all,
Art Rosenblum Co-Treasurer

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes this Month

Date:	Grades K-2: <i>Wisdom Tales</i>	3-5: <i>Bibleodeon</i>	6-8: <i>Neighboring Faiths</i>
6/3/12	Children's Chapel	All ages worship together	Theme: The beauty of Nature
6/10/12	Intergenerational Service Bridging	<i>All children will attend</i>	<i>the 11:00 worship service</i>
6/17/12	10:00 am Summer Program Begins	<i>All ages worship and play together</i>	Theme- Creative expression: Collage
6//24/12	10:00am Summer Program	<i>All ages worship and play together</i>	Theme - Creative Expression: TBA

Child Care is provided in our Preschool Room every Sunday during the 10:00 service for children infancy through age 4 beginning 6/17 when our Summer schedule starts. Sr. High Youth Group meets every Thursday from 4 - 6. Youth Group Advisors are Rev. Chris Bell and Deborah Mason.

<p>NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, JUNE 17 , 2012 Newsletter@uusantarosa.org</p>	<p>E-mail Submissions Greatly Appreciated! Newsletter Assembly 10 a.m.—June 27, 2012</p>
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Religious Education for Children and Youth

The second principle of Unitarian Universalism calls us to affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations. How can we instill this moral obligation in our children?

Children need to learn that justice - fairness in the terms of young children - goes beyond who gets to choose tonight's TV show or how chores are assigned in the family. We need to provide them with a wider view of injustice in order for them to understand their place in making a better world. How we do this and what we expose our kids to depends on their developmental stage. Understanding that the way young children organize and understand their world is very different than how an older child synthesizes what he or she experiences helps us to know how and when to teach our children about the harder realities of life.

Teaching children to respect and celebrate the differences among people is a good starting point in teaching justice, equity and compassion. Beginning in early childhood, children can be taught to affirm and appreciate people who are different than them. This starts with the language we use and the environment we create in our homes. When families create a home culture where non-biased and non-stereotyped language is used children are better able to avoid making harmful assumptions about other people and they are less likely to internalize any negative assumptions that are made about them. With increased sensitivity to the harm caused by stereotyping children are better equipped to avoid teasing others and to stand up when they hear others making unkind slurs against another. There are so many beautiful movies for families which depict the struggles of people who face racism, sexism, heterosexism and ageism. Watching these movies as a

family can prompt discussions that will help children develop empathy and compassion. Avoiding movies and stories that promote stereotypes is important, but if teens bring in movies with questionable messages, use them as a spring board for discussion.

Parents who are involved in social justice movements or services for people in need model the importance of being involved. Some parents are concerned that exposing their children to the injustice of the world will be traumatic. Exposing our children to extreme poverty, suffering, addiction or mental illness can be troublesome. But it is important to understand that children will perceive these things as children not as adults. When children help out at the Saturday Breakfast they learn that no one should go hungry. When we show our kids pictures of the village RE is helping to support in Kenya, they realize that they can make a difference in someone's life. Volunteering at Family Fun Night shows children that some kids have struggles that they could not imagine, but their experience tells them that they can play a role in making it a little bit better.

The truth is that pain and suffering is a part of life. When children are exposed to some of it in settings where parents can help them to explore what they see and feel they will learn that they can be a part of the solution. If we remain silent they may assimilate the prejudicial ideas of others which may go unchallenged. Creating awareness and encouraging dialogue are the starting points, and knowing that we can all take part in making the world a more just, equitable and compassionate place will follow.

In faith,
Deborah

Library News

We have some brand new exciting books in the library - come check one out! They are:

- *Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants*
- *Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands*
- *Creative Aging: Rethinking Retirement and Non-Retirement in a Changing World*
- *They Take Our Jobs and 20 Other Myths About Immigration*
- *Do It Any Way: The New Generation of Activists*
- *Are We Born Racist? New Insights from Neuroscience and Positive Psychology*
- *Fist Stick Knife Gun: A Personal History of Violence*

- *Why We Can't Wait* by MLK
- *Trumpet of Conscience* by MLK
- *Sustainable Soul: Eco-Spiritual Reflections and Practices*
- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

All new books have New Book written in red on the label at the bottom of spine to help you identify them. When you return a book, remember to fill out a colored comment card (if there isn't already one) to put in the back of the book to help those browsing for a book to read.

Happy reading!
Barrie Noe

Getting to Know UU

Sat. June 16, 2012 9-12 noon here at UUCSR

Rev. Chris Bell will present information on Unitarian Universalists and our congregation in particular.

There will be plenty of time for questions. This is a 3-hour workshop, not a drop-in session. This is one step

towards becoming a member or just getting to know one another. Beverages & morning food will be provided. Sign up at the Visitors Table, or contact Betty Miller, organizer, millerbetty@comcast.net 539-3654. Childcare provided, indicate ages.

One Earth, Different People

If you are interested in joining a close group of UU's who will be exploring creative ways toward a world that truly honors all of our seven principles, please consider signing up for our six session journey of transformational learning, *One Earth, Different People*. Beginning Saturday, August 18, and ending November 11, these six sessions will be guided by Stephanie Puentes, an experienced diversity consultant and a Board member at Community Action Partnership. Stephanie previously joined us for our Hot Topic in February, helping us understand our individual social location within the larger community. Sponsored by the UUCSR Diversity Task Force and

the Advocates for Social Justice, the series will aim to encourage participants to know themselves and each other more deeply, to develop self introspection, and to seek a deeper understanding of self as we strive for a more just and equitable world.

We will address issues of privilege in many areas, including race, class, age, gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation.

Watch for more information in the July newsletter and please call Carol Kraemer 838-3736 or Jeanie Bates 824-0530 if you are interested in joining us! Space is limited!

All Congregation Family Retreat—Register NOW!

All Congregation Family Retreat July 13,14,15 - Register NOW!

Summer is almost here and the planning for this year's all-congregation, family retreat is almost complete. If you would like to join us, relaxing under the redwoods at a private retreat center, near Jack London State Park, look for the registration form in this newsletter.

Another way to sign up is to look for the Family Retreat table after the services, starting June 10. Friendly members of the retreat planning committee will be available to answer your questions. Our activities

this year include many choices. There are workshops on Laughter, Travel Stories, the Second Half of Life, and Tie Dye. As always there will be all kinds of music and a raffle and Talent Show on Saturday night. The swimming pool will be available for both early morning lap swimmers and for afternoon water play. Softball and hiking are available for the energetic, while those inclined to just relax can do puzzles, crafts, card and board games, or chat on the deck that overlooks the meadow. Sunday morning is always special with an outdoor service, planned by participants. Please call Barrie Noe, 823-5018, or Leslie Norinsky, 373-7944, for more information.

2012 UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage

The next UU Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage is scheduled for October 6-13, 2012, and registration is now open. This unique bus trip is much more than a Civil Rights history tour through Alabama and Mississippi. We will be visiting historic sites and meeting veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, and but will also be spending time together and with guests exploring what racism, white privilege, and barriers to equality look like today in Southern towns we visit--- and in our own hometowns.

Beyond experiencing first-hand the civil rights legacy, our goal is to develop commitment, vision and mechanisms within our group to work on issues of

race, injustice and inequality that still bedevil our congregations and our society. The Living Legacy Pilgrimage is hosted and organized by the Reverend Gordon Gibson and Judy Gibson; the Reverend Hope Johnson; the Reverend James Hobart; Janice Marie Johnson; Annette Marquis; and Donna Sequeira, and co-sponsored by the Southeast District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

For more information and to register, please visit www.uulivinglegacy.org. Don't miss your chance to be on the bus! Register early - costs are discounted for those who register before May 15th.

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. At times the presence of another caring person or persons to walk beside us, facilitate discussion, and lend perspective and ideas can be immensely helpful when trying to resolve a conflict or misunderstanding. This is support that your Committee on Shared Ministry stands ready to provide should the need arise. We would like to

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.

The current members of the Committee on Shared Ministry are Rev. Chris Bell, John Chenoweth, Bill Foshee, Mary Lill Lee, Andy Levine, 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!

Cathy Read

UUCSR ALL-CONGREGATION RETREAT

*Under the redwoods at
Camp Valley of the Moon
July 13 - 15, 2012*



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

Registration is from June 10th - July 1st

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

See Registration form in this Newsletter >>>



For information contact:

Barrie Noe at 823-5018 or Leslie Norinsky at 373-7944

Advocates for Social Justice

Breakfast for Breakfast

Before and/or after the Congregational Meeting on June 3rd, enjoy coffee and goodies brought to you by the Advocates for Social Justice. Your donation will support our Saturday Breakfast Program. Thanks!

Share the Offering

On Sunday, **June 10th**, half the collection will go to **The Living Room**, our across the street neighbor that is the only daytime drop-in center for homeless women and their children. UUCSR is part of their "Circle of Support" and their services are crucial for helping women from 15 to 65 get back on their feet and create healthy, productive, satisfying lives for themselves and their children. Thank you!

On Sunday, **June 24th**, half the collection will go to our **Saturday Breakfast Program**. We are serving between 180 and 220 men, women and children each week and government grant money is evaporating. Your generosity is widely known and greatly appreciated!

Gay Pride Celebration

On **Sunday, June 3rd**, join this annual parade and rally in Guerneville. We hope to have a table there as we have in the past so if you'd like to participate, please contact Rev. Chris.

Hot Topic—Sunday, June 3rd

Hot Topic - Sunday, June 3rd, 12:30 to 3 pm **SLAVERY? TODAY?**

Yes! (These days it's called "Human Trafficking".) There are at least *27 million people* enslaved today. While a majority are in North and West Africa, Asia, and India, there are slaves right here in California and around the nation. Speaking about this will be: Sgt. Brad Connors, Santa Rosa Police Department, Rosario Dowling, CASE (Californians Against Sexual Exploitation) Regional Director - Northern California, Marie DeSantis, Women's Justice Center
To prepare for this discussion, (yes, there's homework!) please watch these two video clips:

- Top Ten Facts about Slavery (2:37 minutes)
<https://www.freetheslaves.net/SSLPage.aspx?pid=348>
- Slavery 101 (12:21 minutes)
<https://freetheslaves.net/SSLPage.aspx?pid=657>

We will watch a film about Maria, a young woman enslaved here in California. There will be time for questions and discussion. Refreshments will be available for a donation.

Denominational Affairs Corner

Well, another great year for District Assembly. Friday got off to a great start with Rev Robert Latham showing us the right way for the toilet paper to hang on the roller. Then, the banner parade and opening ceremonies. Saturday opened with Rev Peter Morales (UUA President) exhorting us to reach out of our comfort zone to be more welcoming. Then there were workshops throughout the day. I went to one discussing how religious language can be used to recognize evil. There was standing room only Sermon, Rev Chris?

If this peaks your interest, check out the pcd website: www.pcd-uua.org Next year, District Assembly will be in San Jose, and the format is changing: the districts are being reorganized into regions. Stay tuned for more developments. And don't forget: the annual conference, General Assembly (GA) is coming up in June 21-26 in Arizona. Immigration will on the forefront of the programs. For more information, go to www.uua.org/ga Mary Wolfe, Denominational Affairs Chair mwolfe@sonic.net or 544-3134.

Music Notes

The choir will end its season this month with a couple of offerings: the first, on June 10, will be "Fly Away," for the Bridging Ceremony at the 11 am service (one service only that day). The second, on June 17, Father's Day (also one service at 10 am), you are in for a delightful surprise with a very special piece by our former Music Director and composer, Doug Bowes! Choir music will resume in September, but never fear, we will have plenty of excellent music over the Summer from many of our very talented

musicians. Beginning on June 10, we will hear from Cathy Read, who will sing "May I Suggest" by Sue Werner. Then on June 24, Brendan and Robert Howseman will perform "Ashokan Farewell" and other popular tunes from various wars in honor of our veterans. In July, we will hear from the UUsual Suspects, perhaps some Celtic music, as well as other soloists and groups.

Submitted by Jenny Harriman,
Music Committee Chair

TIE Groups Finish the Year with a Flourish!!

Our TIE groups have ended for this October to May season. At the outset each year these groups promise conversations on topics that allow for deep sharing, the opportunity to listen attentively and to be heard, and the possibility of real connection with folks. Once again this year those promises have been fulfilled. It has been a very successful TIE year. .

One aspect of the TIE group experience is the opportunity to work as a group to develop and implement a project of service to the congregation. The projects this year were greatly appreciated and met needs in a number of areas of congregational work. What follows is a list of projects and the groups that offered them.

Tuesday, 10-noon group, facilitated by Dorris Lee and Lee Chase: collected and contributed money to support our Saturday Breakfast.

Monday, 3-5 PM group, facilitated by Kitty and Brian Wells: provided food and service for the lunch before the February Congregational Meeting.

Wednesday, 10-noon group, facilitated by Yvonne Hammerquist and Ed Pine: provided food and service for the lunch before the February Congregational Meeting.

Tuesday, 1-3 PM group, facilitated by Alan Bell and Judy Hutchinson: participated in Getting to Know UU by providing food and welcoming newcomers.

Thursday, 6:30-8:30 PM group, facilitated by Margi Nagy and Carol Kraemer: baked cookies for coffee hour.

Thursday, 10-noon group, facilitated by Marge Wright and Victoria Dreifuss: will provide food and service for the breakfast before the June Congregational Meeting.

Thursday, 7-9 PM group, facilitated by Deb Carter-Hope and Bev Helfer-Grand: will provide food and service for the breakfast before the June Congregational Meeting.

A grand year by all measures. We hope to have a TIE group to offer for the summer and will let you know as soon as it is firmed up. Please feel free to contact any of the members of the steering committee with questions.

Marge Wright,(chair), Michele Murphy, Dorris Lee, Carol Kraemer, Diana Breslich,
Carolyn McLeese

4th Annual Men's Retreat

Mark your calendar for the 4th Annual UUCSR Men's Retreat. It will be held again at St. Dorothy's Rest in Camp Meeker, the weekend of August 24, 25 & 26. This is open to all members and friends of UUCSR.

If you have questions please contact the retreat committee, Andy Levine, Eric Fischer, Scott Miller, Ethan Foote, Sam Miller, Art Rosenblum, Peter Wilson.
In fellowship, Andy Levine

SUMMERTIME HAPPENINGS

UUCSR presents
RISK
Dance Company
SPACE IMAGINED
"When I dance, even the stars are within reach"
 A mesmerizing dance concert by Sonoma County's RISK Dance Company.
 Friday, June 1
 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, June 2
 7:00 p.m.



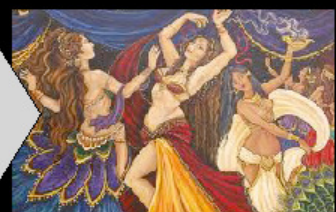
Actor's Basement presents
 Jean-Paul Sartre's
NO EXIT
 Directed by Adam Palafox
"Hell is Other People"
 Friday, June 15
 Saturday, June 16
 Friday, June 22
 Saturday, June 23
 All shows 8:00 p.m.
 All seats \$10

UUCSR presents
KITKA
 The renowned vocal ensemble
 In Concert
Exquisite harmonies from Eastern Europe and Beyond
 Sunday, June 17
 4:00 p.m.
 \$20 advance, \$25 at door



Music for Your Ears presents
MUSIC MAN
 Sonoma County's most energetic young singers
 Fri. & Sat. July 27 & 28
 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday, July 29
 3:00 p.m.

Coming this Fall to the Glaser Center
 Saturday, August 4
 Actors' Basement presents
24-Hour Theater Competition
 September 12 - 23
Santa Rosa International Film Festival
 Saturday, October 27
Halloween Hafla Bellydancing Extravaganza
 Saturday, November 3
UUCSR Service Auction



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, June 14 for a potluck.

We will select books for the next year, September 2012 through May 2013. Bring your suggestions for books you'd like to read and discuss with the group.

The meeting will be at Paula Hammett's house. If you are new and would like directions, please contact Paula. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. You may also bring books that you are ready to give away and we'll have a book exchange.

Submitted by Linda Lampson

We're Moving Forward

Our three years of affiliation with the North Bay Sponsoring Committee have brought many benefits to our congregation. We have been represented in NBSC by some of our members on a committee called the "UU Conversation and Action Network" (UUCAN).

Everyone on that committee agrees that the training events provided to the many UUCSR members who attended them taught us useful aspects of leadership in our church and in the larger community. The House Meetings were well-attended and enormously useful in connecting us with each other and with members of other affiliated congregations in this area. The consistent use of substantive one-on-one dialog accomplished many of the relationship-building experiences characteristic of community organizing.

Now NBSC's involvement in this area has been reduced, and UUCAN decided to withdraw from the shrinking organization.

The events, activities and training were so well-supported by the majority of our congregation that the members of UUCAN have unanimously determined that we should continue some of the tracks we've developed. "House Meetings," for example, were very popular and productive; gatherings based on that model will be unveiled next fall.

So look for announcements of new and overhauled activities after the summer is over. We've developed a foundation of skills, and are aware of a selection of ways to use them.

We look forward to moving in some new directions! Stay tuned.....

Submitted by Dorris Lee

Women's Group

Looking for a women's group? We began meeting last fall and are now looking for a few additional members. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the

month at UUCSR. Interested? Contact Dianne Vidmar at dvidmar2004@yahoo.com

Caring Connections

Caring Connections.... we are here to connect you to the first principle... to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person - especially those within our own congregation. Our goal is to provide a confidential ministry of hope and caring so that no member of our congregation need be alone. Need a ride to services or a medical appointment? Need a friendly visit or call?

Need a break from care giving? If you or someone you know is in need - or if you would like to volunteer your services, please contact Bev Helfer-Grand at 707-595-1398. We are your helping hands. See us at the Caring Connections table in the narthex after the June 3rd services.

UUCSR Writers

Next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4–6 pm, Monday, June 4, at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

Next Poetry Grand Slam—Friday, June 15th at 7 pm. Video Droid "Haven Café", 1901 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa.

Thursday Mornings at the "Haven Cafe" 10 am
Meet once a week for coffee and conversation.
Information—Georgette G. deBlois, GGDEB@aol.com,
<http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>

Help up sponsor the Poetry Slams

The UUCSR Writers sponsors the Poetry Slams. Your financial support accounts for 1-00% of the funds needed to provide the prizes at each Slam. Any amount donated shall be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your contribution.

Please make your **Tax Deductible** check payable to: UUCSR. Please write "UUCSR Writers" on the memo line. Mail to UUCSR, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Kitka Returns to the Glaser Center

It's been four years since the sensational, award-winning, eight-woman choral ensemble Kitka performed at the Glaser Center. I am excited and proud that in June, they will be returning to the venue they have called "one of the best, acoustically and otherwise, we've ever performed in.' Singing mostly a cappella, Kitka draws its inspiration from the gorgeous melodies, harmonies and languages of Eastern Europe.

No ordinary vocal ensemble, this description-defying ensemble takes a capella performance to a bold new level. Not only are the singers of Kitka beautiful, singing in breathtaking costumes that give a new name to the phrase 'in living color,' the chorus performs meticulously crafted harmonies that have to be heard to be believed. Some fans have claimed to see visions and expanded consciousness during Kitka concerts. Most people merely recognize the remarkable talent of truly accomplished artists.

Named after the Bulgarian word for "bouquet," Kitka formed 33 years ago, and since then, with a

gradually evolving ensemble of stellar singers, has worked tirelessly to build new audiences for music rooted in Balkan and Slavic women's vocal traditions.

Kitka, through touring the world, recording, and appearing in the occasional PBS television special, has expanded the boundaries of folk song as a living and evolving expressive art form. Based in Oakland, Kitka works tirelessly, presenting vocal workshops, pursuing creative collaborations with other world artists, and commissioning original works from some of the best choral composers of the day.

We hope you will take advantage of Kitka's return, inviting friends and family for a truly memorable afternoon of beautiful music.

Kitka performs at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, June 17. Tickets are \$20 in advance, and \$25 at the door, available after services, in the office, at The Last Record Store, and online at brownpapertickets.com.

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa
19, April 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board President Laura Jean Hageman.

Members Present 2011/12 Board: Jeanie Bates, Ann Chambers, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray (Vice President), Lois Nagle, Alan Proulx, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Peter Wilson, Craig Work

Members Not Present: None

Non-Members Present: Chris Bell (Minister, ex officio Board member), Eric Fischer, Izzy Fischer, Terry Graham (Recording Secretary), Carol Kraemer, Deborah Mason (Director RE), Art Rosenblum (Co-Treasurer), Rose Saint John, Ellen Skagerberg, Amy Young (Co-Treasurer)

Youth Group Proposal: Representing the Youth Group, Izzy Fischer proposed that that Group present a gift to the congregation in the form of a handcrafted mosaic "chalice" in the courtyard. Eric Fischer, congregant and tile contractor, will provide professional guidance in the construction of the tiled concrete board to be placed upon the courtyard wall. Deborah Mason explained that the next step of the process is to consult with the Aesthetics Committee.

Opening Words by Rev. Chris

Agenda Review: Amendment of the Endowment Policy shall be presented by Art

Minutes approved as submitted.

Cathie accepted the role of meeting timekeeper.

Open Mic: Rose Saint John distributed a handout reminding the Board of constraints regarding potential changes to the Emergency Fund investment opportunities. Rose's comments were in response to a newsletter article. There is currently no proposal from FinStew or any recommendation before the Board.

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report: Art observed that Operating financials are going well. The Audit Team concluded that there are sufficient funds to meet obligations through the summer when cash flow normally wanes.

Art distributed "UUCSR Rentals & Events" quarterly (Jan-Mar) report from David Templeton. Rentals are running slightly ahead of this period last year and consistent with that of the previous four years.

The preliminary financial report handouts indicated a Jul '11-Mar '12 P&L Net Income of zero for Operations, \$14K for Restricted & Endowment and \$11K for Glaser Center. The Jul '11-Mar '12 Budget vs. Actual report indicated a Net Income of \$38K for Operations and <\$9K> for the Glaser Center.

Amendment of Endowment Policy: Art discussed a handout addressing the Endowment Committee's requested action to introduce changes to the Endowment Policy. The recommendation is to revise Section C, "Distribution of Income" to replace the Board recommendation to the Congregation regarding annual distributions to a 5-step process including Board and Endowment Committee consultation prior to a Board resolution to the congregation as well as adding provisions for repayment from Operations to the Fund. The recommendation was tabled for consideration in May.

Saturday Breakfast Fund: Laura Jean noted that the Saturday Breakfast is costing approximately \$550/month in excess of funding. This item requires attention in the upcoming 2012/13 budgeting process.

Report on Bylaws Revision for the June Congregational Meeting: Ellen Skagerberg and Carol Kraemer presented a 13 April 2012 letter from the Bylaws Task Force to the Board and proposed changes to the Bylaws. Numerous suggested changes emanated from the Board members. A May 20 forum will further refine the changes.

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Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Continued

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Review of A4SJ Charter Revision: A 7 April 2012 charter revision was presented and discussed. A number of suggested changes and clarifications were requested. Not resolved were the approval requirements for the charter. Investigation is required to determine if Board and/or Congregational approval is required.

Preparation for Budget Discussions at May Board Meeting: Laura Jean distributed (1) canvasser's talking points regarding the Budget for the 2012/13 Fund drive, (2) the draft budget, (2) draft budget comparison with 2011/12, (3) unfunded budget items and (4) a draft budget. These handouts will play into next month's budgeting activities.

Goal Group Progress Reports:

Spiritual Life

Steering Committee meeting was conducted. A survey inquiring into congregational wants may be forthcoming.

Community Group

A task force will be investigating congregants' needs

as a function of individual involvement and stages of membership within the congregation.

Infrastructure Group

A new team is being formed to concentrate on the web site. Chris is establishing a pastoral care team to address specific needs. John is working on an initiative to upgrade the sound system to assist the hearing impaired.

Appreciations were expressed for Alan and the pledge drive committee, Amy for her perseverance and Laura Jean for her efforts to bring clarity to the budgeting process.

Closing words provided by John with a piece from Lori Chapman.

Two Board meetings in May to complete the budget exercises prior to the summer congregational meeting, May 3 and May 17.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terry Graham

Making Connections Cont.

Cont. from page 2

rides, food and respite care. These folks will be setting up a table in the Narthex starting on June 3, and I urge you to swing by to find out how you can aid in this ministry, or receive its benefits.

Throughout this year, a By-Laws committee has been making sure our governing documents are useful and clear, and we'll vote on some of their work at the next congregational meeting. Since January, an Adult RE Task Force has been looking for new ways to meet the spiritual needs of the congregation. The Worship Associates meet regularly to choose topics and coordinate the music and words that make for a transformative service. Deborah and her many volunteers instruct our young. The Advocates for Social Justice bring us Hot

Topics and represent us in social justice work in the broad community. Along the way, the Board provides direction and goals for all of us. It really is a team effort, this endless weaving. Like a big ol' happy textile mill.

Wrong image, perhaps?

The point is, we're all doing this work together, and everybody matters in the midst of it. Every act of kindness, each act of worship and service and planning and stewardship, all go together to improve this fabric of loving community. Truly, we reap what we sew.

Sorry. Couldn't resist.

I'd better finish before I pun again. I'll see you here at the fabric store soon, I trust. And thank you so much, all of you, for lending your hands to our mission and ministry.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa
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June 2012

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Craig Work

Recording Secretary
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Order of Service Announcements:

Send submissions to Announcements@uusantarosa.org

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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**Sunday Religious
Education Staff**