



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

MAY 2015 • Volume 59 • Issue 5

Sunday Services 9:15 am and 11:00 am

MAY 2015 SERVICES

THEME: **“LOADED WORDS v.2”**

May 3
OLD NICK

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Andy Levine, John Ray*
Music by: *Some UUsual Suspects* Basket shared with:
Habitat for Humanity, Sonoma County.

A service on evil and its source, through a consideration of its personification in the figure of the Devil. Don't be afraid.

May 10
GOD THE MOTHER?

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Susan Panttaja, Cathy Read, Sadie Sonntag* Music by: *The Choir* Basket shared with:
Alzheimer's Respite Center (Catholic Charities, SR)

Once nearly all of our Unitarian and Universalist ancestors viewed the sacred as a Father. Feminist theologians and pagan perspectives brought much needed balance. Now hymns to our Mother appear in the hymnal. Yet many people reasonably wonder if the image of God as a parent makes any sense at all. Rev. Chris thinks it does.

Interested in meaningful conversation about today's service topic? Join us in the Board Room right after service. Snacks!

May 17
A BRIDGE ACROSS THE GENERATIONS

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, David Hope, Robin Rogers*
Special Music by: *The UUsual Suspects* Basket shared with: *Crossing the Jordan*

Today we reflect on the “loaded” word *church*, and will call our community a *congregation* instead. We will look at many of the other names for spiritual community, and what they suggest about how to thrive together. A New Member Ceremony and a Bridging Ceremony will highlight the service. Oh, and the chancel will be filled with choir risers and chairs, so we will have “worship in the round” this day.

May 24
ON PROSELYTIZING

Service Leaders: *Jan Ogren (preaching), Susan Bartholome, Nancy Hargis, Sadie Sonntag* Special Music by: *The Choir*
Basket Given to: *The Saturday Breakfast*

How's that for a loaded word? It can mean trying to convert others (not always a bad thing, although sometimes annoying or even violent). It can also mean simply sharing your convictions out loud when appropriate. One of the easiest ways to have lots of friends at UUCSR is to invite your friends to join you here, so today we'll talk about why, when and how to share your faith with other people without seeming like a pushy jerk, and practice our 30-second speeches on “*What is Unitarian Universalism?*”

May 31
THE STRANGER /
ALBERT CAMUS AND THE CALL TO COURAGE

Service Leaders: *Andrew Hidas (preaching), Frances Corman, Ben Ford* Special Music by: *The Choir* Basket shared with: *Face-to-Face / Sonoma County AIDS Network*

We kick off next month's theme (Exemplars and Pioneers) one week early with a service on the life and thought of Albert Camus, noted French existentialist and atheist. Often characterized as dark and despairing, his life and work is in truth a call to full and passionate embrace of the world, in all its contradictions. For Camus, that embrace required clear-eyed appraisals of politics, culture and his own conscience, no matter where it led him. Courage was the foundation that helped him endure the inevitable blow-back. This morning, we will examine his life and work from that prism of courage, with an assist from Robert Lunceford's music trio *La Guinguette*, playing and singing some vintage French tunes.

JUNE 7 9:15 am
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Living our 5th Principle:
“The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation ...”

JUNE 7 11:00 am
PILLARS AND EXEMPLARS: CAROLYN WOLFE

Service Leader: *Calvin Simons*
Today we hear story of Carolyn Wolfe, early and amazing pillar of the Fellowship.

Welcome to The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa, CA

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

*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.



Nurture Your Spirit.

Help Heal Our World.

Quote of the Month:

“If there’s a place for tolerance in racial healing, perhaps it has to do with tolerating my own feelings of discomfort that arise when a person, of any color, expresses emotion not welcome in the culture of niceness. It also has to do with tolerating my own feelings of shame, humiliation, regret, anger, and fear so I can engage, not run. For me, tolerance is not about others, it’s about accepting my own uncomfortable emotions as I adjust to a changing view of myself as imperfect and vulnerable. As human.”

— Debby Irving, *Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race*

UUCSR’s Mission

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

*UUCSR Members
abide by this
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. Our Mission is celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another, and helping to build a better world.

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

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

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

Electronic submissions are due by 3rd Monday of month. Send to newsletter@uusantarosa.org received by Noon on Sunday prior to 3rd Monday 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-congregation events only as further the mission of the congregation and as space allows .

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





SERVING TRANSFORMATION ... OR NOT?

As a board member of the Pacific Central District of the UUA, I recently received a 10-year report on the membership numbers for the UU congregations here in Northern California (along with Reno and Hawaii).

There are 36 congregations in our district, down from 39 in 2005. Over the last decade, the total number of UUs in our district has decreased by 477 people to a measly total of 6306. By contrast, Glide Memorial in San Francisco has 12,000 members, and there are 400,000 Catholic people in the Archdiocese of San Francisco alone.

Only 11 PCD congregations show consistent growth at each of the 1-year, 5-year, and 10-year checkpoints. Thankfully, we are one of them.

In fact, over the last 10 years only the Walnut Creek congregation has grown more than we have. (They went from 402 to 495; we went from 255 to 341.) We are now the fifth largest congregation in the PCD. When we grow by five more members, we will be larger than the so-called flagship church in San Francisco. That is a remarkable fact. There are 837,000 people in San Francisco, and 171,000 in Santa Rosa.

One is forced to ask, why are there so few UUs out there?

The writings of the senior UUA staff in Boston suggest a number of possibilities. (See <http://www.uua.org/vision>) They propose that we are too confined to the congregational model, or we are not embracing online communities and the use of new technologies, or that we define "membership" too narrowly, or that we aren't speaking the language of the "Nones," that fast-growing minority of people who have no religious affiliation at all. Or maybe we don't protest enough, or haven't completely eradicated white privilege, or, perhaps worst of all, we don't have a sufficiently compelling "brand identity," which is why we got a new chalice logo two years ago, to replace the previous chalice logo that replaced the earlier chalice logo. I'm sure THAT will solve the problem.

To my mind, these are all what leadership guru Ron Heifetz calls "technical fixes." They are not at all wrong, per se. Of course we should have a great webpage and Facebook presence and make online community a reality, and yes, we should get the word out, and write letters to the editor and protest and so on. There is nothing wrong with a great logo with a great color scheme, or effective professional communications and advertisements. Those things might, in fact, get someone to visit the congregation. But none of them will ever compel them to stay, for they do not address the core issues of values and vision and vitality.

That takes an actual congregation, filled with actual people who are taking their spiritual lives seriously, and with actual leaders who are actually allowed to lead the group toward greater deeds of love and justice, and where the Spirit of Life and Love is deliberately sought, served and celebrated.

I find these phenomena shockingly absent throughout our denomination, at every level. It doesn't matter how well you advertise if the product can't back it up. I don't eat at McDonald's anymore, no matter how much they tell me "I'm lovin' it." Does this religion offer real spiritual growth and transformation or not?

Too often, if the numbers don't lie, the answer is "not," and one big reason is that we consistently make an idol out of ourselves as individuals, as communities, and as a tradition. We promote ourselves, instead of promoting a compelling vision of that which we serve: Love, the Web of Being, Mother Nature, Humanity, and the Great Big Verb/Thing.

The first thing listed in the PCD UU Minister's Association covenant is a pledge to "serve Unitarian Universalism." It bugs me every time I read it. I thought ministers were first and foremost supposed to serve our God (howsoever named and understood) and Her creation and creatures.

The primary requirement for service at the denominational level is having already served at a local and district level. I can't count how many elected officers of the UUA I've heard offer "I love Unitarian Universalism" as their primary qualification for the job.

I observe that all of the ends of the UUA relate to serving UUism itself. The Global End of the UUA is "a healthy Unitarian Universalist community that is alive with transforming power, moving our communities and the world toward more love, justice, and peace in a manner which assures institutional sustainability." Sounds great! But could I hear a little more about that transforming power? I'm trying to survive a divorce and single parenting, and I'm balancing a busy career with a strong spiritual urge and I need some guidance, strength and support.

Look, I know growth makes a lot of people nervous and so I want to be clear, again, that growth for its own sake is not a priority to me. Given the challenges of growth, one might fairly ask, aren't we big enough? Can't we keep things just the way they are?

No, I'm sorry, we can't, unless someone is willing to stand outside the door with a "Sorry – This Congregation is Full" sign. Actually, even if you are willing, we're not going to do that.

As with a plant, or a child, growth is a sign of health. If you keep acting so friendly and loving to people, they are going to hang around. If you offer moving worship that provides spiritual resources for daily living, folks return for more. When you are intentionally building a community centered in love, as you are, you can't help but make room for more people. If you actually visit one another, and call one another, and take each other food when you are sick, well, why would anyone ever leave?

I thank you for proving that this tradition of ours really can grow and thrive. I wouldn't be a UU without you.

Happy Earth Day, and Happy Mother's Day, too!

~ Rev. Chris Bell

Greetings from Our Board President

How is it possible that I am writing for the May newsletter already? This year seems to have flown by faster than most. I am very near the end of my service on the board and I find myself reflecting often on this remarkable experience I have had. I will write one more newsletter column after this one and will share some of those musings there. A preview: that old saying about not wanting to see how sausage is made doesn't apply here.

ACTIVITY FAIR

Today was our Activity Fair, brought to us by the Community Support and Communication Goal Group of the board. That's Susan Bartholome, Marge Wright and me. We did the inviting but you all made the party! And what a wonderful party it was. From Bertha Jean as everyone's favorite telephone operator, connecting and disconnecting folks on her "switchboard," to the music folks offering tutorials on the kazoo, clackers and other unnamed instruments, to displays of the magnificent range of work and fun offered within the community, not to mention a bunch of very yummy snacks, it was grand. Thank you all for participating. We have something very, very good here and it was clearly visible today. Part of that very, very good is our wonderful Sexton, Peter Wilson. We could not have had the lovely event we had today without his thoughtful assistance, helping to create an arrangement of tables and chairs that worked. Thank you, Peter.

NEXT YEAR'S BOARD

Last week the members of next year's board met to connect and select officers for the coming year. These

folks are: Susan Bartholome, Pam Tenant, Marilyn Beckerbauer, Marge Wright, Linda Stabler, Bill Haigwood, Sam Miller, Tom Bond, John Jaffray and Gretchen Vap. Next year's officers are: Susan Bartholome, President, Bill Haigwood, Vice President, Gretchen Vap, Corresponding Secretary and Linda Balabanian, Treasurer. They will soon be planning their board retreat that will be August 21-23. Looks like a great bunch to me. I think we are in for a good year.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JUNE 7

Our final Congregational Meeting of the year will be on June 7. Our year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30, as I am sure most of you know. We will have a budget to approve, members of the Nominating Committee to select, a bylaw addition to adopt, a proposal for allocating funds from the year's earnings of the Endowment Fund to consider, a slate of steering committee members and officers for Advocates for Social Justice to approve, reports from the board's goal groups, our appreciations of some of those who have gone above and beyond and more! PLUS THE SATISFACTION OF PUTTING OUR DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES INTO ACTION. We will follow the same timeline as we did in February: 9:15, Worship, 10:45, Congregational Meeting. You will receive your packets in plenty of time to consider your positions on the voting items. You can count on reminders via all the known routes prior to the meeting.

FINALLY, FROM THICH NHAT HANH:

Every moment, every glance, every thought, and every word can be infused with love.

~ Jeanie Bates, President, UUCSR Board of Trustees

Mark Your Calendars...

UUCSR Annual Auction

November 7, 2015



Meet The Minister

Once a month after the 11 A.M. Sunday Service, visitors and guests are invited to a brief informal meeting with Minister Rev. Chris Bell and a few lay leaders.

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

Questions not only welcomed but encouraged!

Next Meeting: May 17

Treasurer's Report

Our Financial Condition in Three Quarter Time...

At the end of our third quarter, the news about our finances is positive. We are still a little ahead in pledge revenue and still a little behind in our expenditures, a **good combination. We're doing well on Glaser Center rentals and even Sunday Basket is over budget. We've paid our full dues to the UUA and Pacific Central District each quarter and expect to in our last quarter also even though we made cuts in our budget at the beginning of the year. Thanks to all of you for your generosity and care for our wonderful community.**

Pay your Pledge with Appreciated Stock

Some of you with investments may have some seriously appreciated stock in your portfolios since the stock market has been so strong in recent years. You may want to consider donating appreciated stock in order to avoid paying tax on the increase in value. You can take the deduction for the full value of the stock but will not have to pay tax on the difference between the full value and the cost of the stock. Please discuss with your financial advisor if you are interested. If you would like to donate stock as a pledge payment or donation, please let our administrator Janis Brewster know.

With a Little Help from Our Friends...

Ten percent of our pledging families and individuals are pledging friends. Our pledging friends are often just as generous with their time, talent and treasure as our members. Pledging friends are often just as committed to our mission as members. Our pledging friends are integral supporters of and participants in our community

and we would not be where we are, or who we are as a community, without them.

Many of us choose to support financially those organizations that share our values and do the work that we consider important in our community and the world. Visitors and friends of our congregation can help support us by becoming pledging friends. And while a pledging friend cannot vote in a congregational meeting or serve on the Board and a few of our committees, they enjoy most of the privileges of membership. As I write this, we have welcomed eight **new pledging friends during this year's pledge drive!!**

So what is a pledging friend and how do you become a pledging friend, you ask???

A pledging friend supports the vision and mission of the congregation by making and fulfilling a financial commitment to the congregation. Many of our visitors may have received a pledge card in the mail recently. If you feel moved to support our congregation financially, please consider filling out the pledge card and sending **or bringing it in. If you haven't received a pledge card and would like to pledge, please let me know, talk to someone at the Welcome Table or use the nifty on-line pledge card on our website.**

*"What is a
pledging friend,
you ask???"*

~ Linda Balabanian, Treasurer

Thanks to All Who Did Throw in the Towels!

In mid-April TIE Group D happily delivered a small mountain of towels and soaps to the Family Support Center, Catholic Charities' shelter for homeless families with children. Before the group even left the shelter, program participants were taking towels off to their rooms. The staff assured us that the need for towels was great, and that our contributions made a difference. It brought us great joy to present these gifts from our generous congregation. With deep appreciation, we thank all who contributed to this project. The helping hands and loving hearts were made visible once again.

Automate Your



Pledge Payment!

ADVOCATES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (A4SJ)

A4SJ Meets on the 2nd Wednesday, at 12 noon. Interested in what we do? Visit us in the teen room on May 13! Stop by our table Sundays to buy Delicious Peace Coffee, grown by cooperatives of Muslim, Christian, and Jewish farmers in Uganda and Mexico (regular, decaf, whole beans or ground) or to borrow Social-Justice themed CDs.

HOT TOPIC HOT TOPIC HOT TOPIC

ELDER ABUSE AND PROTECTION

MAY 17, 12:45-2:15 in the Board Room

A light lunch will be available for a donation

Advocates for Social Justice are pleased to present this Hot Topic, sure to be of value to all attending. We are especially pleased to have Tara Underly, LCSW, as our presenter.

Tara has worked with the Human Services Adult and Aging Division for 20 years and with APS (Adult Protective Services) for 8 years, currently in the role of Community Liaison for APS. She will present an overview of the problem

of Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse and neglect, will explain what defines Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse and neglect, and what happens with an investigation with APS (Adult Protective Services) or Ombudsman.

Additionally, she will discuss measures people can take to avoid being a victim of fraud/scams, and the most common scams/frauds. As always there will be time for questions, discussion, sharing of experiences. This is a subject that touches all of us in some way as we, friends and family members age. We will come away with information that will equip us to help this vulnerable population.

~ Jeanie Bates

Share the Collection

As we continue to share our collection every week, we learn more and more of the non-profits which bless our community. We support the Saturday Breakfast each month, and this month there are four others. Thank-you notes we receive are posted on the bulletin board in the outer office.

May 3 – Habitat for Humanity. This 501c3 organization we are supporting was suggested by Andrew Hidas. Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to improving lives by building modest, affordable homes in partnership with our communities and people in need. Habitat’s vision is for every person in Sonoma County to have a simple, decent place to live. (And in case you didn’t know, they also accept donations (and buyers) for ReStore – a home improvement outlet selling new and used surplus goods).

May 10 – **The Alzheimer’s Respite Center.** Managed by Catholic Charities, The Alzheimer’s Respite Center, was suggested by Sharon McCarthy. This is an adult day care program with socialization, music, stimulating activities, high client-to-caregiver ratio, respite and support groups for caretakers, and is called the “gold Standard” of dementia day programs.

May 17 – Crossing the Jordan, suggested by Bev Ludwig, is a long-term residential program, specifically for women and mothers, equipping them with recovery education, life skills, leadership training, executive level management opportunities, vehicles and permanent housing assistance. The aim is to help those seeking to completely transform

their lives. It involves a 12 month program, a 6 month aftercare program, and The Bridge, a transitional program for men.

May 24 – The Saturday Breakfast Program, which we initiated, staff, and fund, with the aid of grants when we can get them. This program provides a nutritious meal to our hungry neighbors every single Saturday morning. It’s a delicious meal too! (*Interested in helping? See member John Ray, the new chairperson*)

May 31 – Face to Face Sonoma County Aids Network, suggested by Cassandra Lista, is a non-profit whose mission is ending HIV in Sonoma County and supporting the health and well-being of those living with HIV/AIDS. They provide supportive services including housing assistance, benefits counseling, information, referrals, and transportation, as well as outreach, education and HIV policy advocacy.

Our support of these wonderful programs is an important part of our Mission to Celebrate Life, Empower People, Care For One Another and Help to Build a Better World.



North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP)

NBOP is a multi-ethnic, multi-issue, member led organization that is helping to build political power in Sonoma County. It is made up of 19 members groups, including faith-based congregations, unions and other nonprofits. UUCAN is the UU Conversation and Action Network. We are the group w/in the congregation that interfaces with NBOP, and facilitates internal organizing efforts, such as house meetings. More members welcome! UUCAN's monthly meeting times TBA (call office).

NBOP's March 8th Issues Assembly resulted in the selection of three task force areas: Education, Transportation, and Housing. Housing was a new task force. UUCSR members are welcome to participate in the task forces! Here are some details....

The Education Justice Task Force, instrumental in getting a pilot program for restorative school discipline (an alternative to suspensions and expulsions) in schools in the Santa Rosa City School District, now focuses on making Ethnic Studies required for high school graduation; and on monitoring implementation of district-wide restorative discipline program.

The Transportation Task Force got approval for a one-year pilot project, so 40,000 Sonoma County college students ride free on Sonoma County Transit in 2015. They are working to extend this program to include all students, since "yellow buses" no longer exist for students to get to school.

The Affordable Housing Task Force is in the information-gathering and power-assessment stage. Many allies have been found. Tenants Together, a statewide advocacy group, has offered assistance in drafting **ordinances for rent control. "Know Your Rights" sessions will take place in May and June (details to follow).** Urban Habitat will inform members about policies and places where **tenants' rights campaigns are taking place.** Public Advocates has lawyers willing to push and defend rent control ordinances as well meet with public officials to offer sound legal positions. NBOP also meets with local elected officials to develop relationships and find allies.

Deborah Mason and Sibyl Day attended a 2-day Advanced Leadership Training about Race and Power on April 17 and 18th. NBOP, and other Gamaliel affiliate organizations from Oakland, Sacramento and San Diego, participated in this training.

TASK FORCE MEETING SCHEDULE

Education Task Force
Monday, May 11, 6:00-7:30 pm
UCC Church, 2000 Humboldt Street
Santa Rosa

Transportation Task Force
Wednesday, May 6, 5:30 pm
UU Congregation, 547 Mendocino Ave
Santa Rosa

Affordable Housing Task Force
Monday, May 4, 6:00-7:30 pm
UCC Church, 2000 Humboldt Street
Santa Rosa.

And Save the Date for a very fun event!
3rd Annual Noche Sabrosa" Dance Party
Saturday, July 18th 5:00 - 10:00 pm
Community Church of Sebastopol
1000 Gravenstein Hwy N, Sebastopol.
Ind. tickets \$30-70 / \$500 table of 10

A LIVING WAGE! Last Fall we voted to support the County Living Wage Ordinance. Advocates for Social Justice has a petition advocating the Living Wage Proposal for employees and contractors of Sonoma County Government, that you can sign Sundays at their table, right next to the sanctuary.

No one who works full time should live below the poverty line! Sonoma County Government should not pay poverty wages to its employees or the home health care workers who work under contract for us through our County Government.

This is a health care issue—we need home health care workers, and they should be paid a wage that allows them to live in the county.

Studies of the effects of implementation of similar proposals show a boost to the economy, and savings on social programs. County Government is moving toward adopting a 15% reserve / rainy day fund. The state average is 10%. The thinking is that because 5% more must be set aside, there is no money for a living wage for county employees and contractors. Let's balance the amount of reserve with the County's responsibility to pay a living wage and stay with a 10% reserve, using the other 5% to finance the living wage!

Contact your County Supervisor. Urge her/him to vote for the Living Wage Ordinance when it comes to the Board in late May or June.

Donate to Saturday Breakfast!

Our Saturday Breakfast feeds 200-250 people in need each and every Saturday morning. Dedicated volunteers rise before the sun to create a warm and nourishing meal and others spend a good portion of their Saturday morning cleaning up, leaving the building spotless for the rest of us.

During the week volunteers do the shopping, pick up food donations and prepare supplies. This is truly a labor of love and generosity, a simple kindness to our hungry neighbors which is far from simple in execution.

While the labor is mainly performed by volunteers and we receive some food donations, there are hard costs associated with the Breakfast of which you may not be aware. *The Breakfast is in need of funds.*

Each month Share the Basket provides some of the funding. In the past we have applied for and received some grants but those sources have now dried up. The majority of the funding for the Saturday Breakfast comes from donations from individuals.

Please consider making a donation to our Saturday Breakfast of any amount. You may do so by check (write "Saturday Breakfast" in the memo) or on-line at www.uusantarosa.org (Click on the "Donate Now" button).

If you know others who may want to donate to our Saturday Breakfast, please pass along this information.



Religious Education for Children and Youth

The Month of May promises to be a full and active one!

Parents will have a night out together on Saturday, May 10. Parents' night out is designed for RE parents to have an evening together without the kids. Bring the children to UUCSR for free childcare at 5pm then join other parents for dinner at one of the local downtown restaurants. It is a great way to deepen community!

May 17 marks the bridging of two graduating seniors in the youth group. Ian Millspaugh and Becca Bohler will be honored and blessed by the congregation as they move on to the next chapter of their lives in the 11:00 service. I hope everyone will attend this celebration of these two wonderful young people!

In response to the call for more multi-generational activities, there will be an all congregation potluck on May 31st after the 11:00 service. Planning is underway to make this an event where our elders and our young families can get to know one another better. Stay tuned for announcements in the order of service.

Family Circle Dinners will begin this month and continue through August. Circle dinners are monthly potlucks with a small group of UUCSR families. Each **"circle" is comprised of parents and children, and the same group meets together for each month's event. We anticipate having 3 or 4 "circles"** The date and time of the dinners are scheduled by mutual agreement of the families in each "circle". **Though sign ups took place last month, there may still be space for additional families.** If you are interested contact me at debmasonuu@gmail.com

And finally, mark your calendars for Getting To Know RE on Sunday June 7 from 11:15 to 12:30 (after the 10:00 service.) This is designed for parents and non-parents-of-RE-kids to learn more about the RE program. I know that many people hesitate to volunteer to teach in RE because they don't know what to expect. This program takes you through a typical RE session and gives lots of information about the RE program. If you are considering volunteering or if you just want to be better informed about the program, please join the RE Committee for Getting To Know RE.

- In faith, Deborah

Monthly Happenings in RE

The Senior High Youth Group meets every Thursday, 4-6 pm. Deborah Mason and Rev. Chris serve as Youth Advisers. For info contact Deborah | debmasonuu@gmail.com

Sunday Morning RE classes meet during the 11:00 service. Children grades K-8 begin in the sanctuary and are

excused to their classes after a story and the recitation of the children's affirmation.

First Sunday of the month is Children's Chapel with all ages together. On the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays children meet in grade groups, as described below.

Childcare for babies, toddlers & preschoolers provided by Fiona Mackenzie and Shawna Hoxsie.

	<u>Grades K-2</u>	<u>Grades 3-5</u>	<u>Grades 6-8 (MUUGs)</u>
5/3/15	A gift for Mother <i>In anticipation of Mother's Day next week</i>		
5/10/15	Wisdom Stories <i>Five Minutes Peace</i> by Jill Murphy	Bibleodeon The Bible Today	Neighboring Faiths <i>Unitarian Universalism</i>
5/17/15	Wisdom Stories <i>P.J. Funny Bunny Camps Out</i> by Marilyn Sadler	Bibleodeon <i>Celebration -</i> <i>What we learned about the Bible</i>	Neighboring Faiths Participate in Worship
5/24/15	Wisdom Stories <i>The Day the Crayons Quit</i> by Drew Daywalt	Field Trip Details to Be Announced	Neighboring Faiths What it means to be part of a faith community
5/31/15	Arts Sunday	Arts Sunday	Arts Sunday

Dancing a Jig in RE

Or did you want to know a little more about Deborah Mason?

By Susan Dickey

In 2007 I received a phone call from Reverend Chris Bell, asking me to be on a hiring committee for a new youth Director of Religious Education. **Prior to his call, I had just made a decision that I would say "NO!" to any more requests to be on another UUCSR committee.** But it is SO hard to say no to Chris. At the time, our son was 13 and our daughter was 4 and **UU religious education was very important to us, so I said "YES!"**

Many people applied for the job. The first 4 applicants were okay, but none knew anything beyond the basics of Unitarian Universalism. And then Deborah walked in.

Deborah Mason's love of children was very apparent, she was a very active UU in Ventura for 25 years (including serving as membership chair, worship committee chair, Board member twice, and RE teacher), AND she had the 7 Principles memorized! After the interview was over, I got up on the table and danced a jig because I knew we had found the perfect person to teach UU religious education to our children!

When Deborah started at UUCSR, there were 16 families and 22 children. Today, six years later, we have tripled our RE class size, with 39 families and 67 children registered! There was no senior high youth group when she started, now it is thriving! Deborah is a youth advisor for PCD YRUU conferences, she teaches Junior High OWL (Our Whole Lives sexuality education program), and she serves on the PCD Middle school UU Gatherings (MUUGS) Ministry. Deborah developed a class called the Art of UU Parenting, which provides support to parents as they raise their children with UU values and principles. Deborah also provides pastoral care for families when they are in crisis. Of the UUCSR children and her job, Deborah says, **"I love the children I serve. Sundays are the best days of my week because I get to be with them and to have the experience of knowing them well and teaching them to be loving and kind people in the world."**

UUCSR is blessed to have Deborah Mason as our youth Director of Religious Education. We will be very fortunate if we can have her working full time with the children and their families at UUCSR.

[Ed.— The congregation will vote at the Congregational Meeting in June 2015 on whether to increase Deborah Mason's position as Director of Religious Education from 3/4 time to full time.]

CUUPS Beltane Celebration Sunday May 3 Maypole Dancing!

Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) invites you to join us in the courtyard Sunday May 3rd 12:30 pm for our 2nd Beltane Celebration

Green Men masks and May Queen Hair Wreaths for all who wish!

Celebration is geared towards children but adults with love of Spring in their hearts very welcome too. We will dance the May Pole, and plant seeds in pots to celebrate fertility, and take them home.

(Event will be @ 1/2 hr long in deference to attention spans of some of our participants.)

Multi-Generational

Work Day

Saturday, June 6, 2014

9am—noon

Please come help at the next congregational workday

and bring the kids!

Jobs for kids of most ages including replenishing the play yard mulch cleaning & organizing toys in classrooms, gardening, odd jobs around the building.

There's lots to do for adults as well!

We need your help— let's work together!

Pizza Served at Noon!



All-Congregation UU Summer Camp! ~ Aug 14-16, 2015 at the Enchanted Hills Camp in Napa

Summer is just around the corner and I bet your calendar is already starting to fill up! So be sure to block off August 14, 15, and 16th for the 2015 All UU Summer Camp. This Retreat is available to everyone in the Congregation – **parents, kids, teens, adults, singles and grandparents.** You don't want to miss the loads of fun, with campfire songs, swimming in the Enchanted Hills pool, workshops, relaxation, and amazing entertainment with the annual UU talent show.

The majority of the cabins and the lodge are very comfortable with real mattresses and indoor bathrooms. However, the camp does offer very rustic (Gualala-like) cabins for a lower price.

Mark your calendar! The Retreat will be a peaceful, serene weekend amidst the redwoods, but filled with rousing excitement, games and entertainment for the whole family with memories that will last a lifetime! Your participation will make this the best Retreat ever!



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa
19 March 2015

Members Present —Jeanie Bates (President), Marilyn Beckerbauer, Joe Como, Alan Proulx, Linda Stabler, Pamela Tennant

Members Not Present —Susan Bartholome (Vice President), Marge Wright

Quorum – Minimum six member quorum requirement met

Non-Members Present — Linda Balabanian (Treasurer), Reverend Chris Bell, Sibyl Day (Corporate Secretary), Terry Graham (Recording Secretary), John Jaffray

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Board of Trustees (BOT) President, Jeanie Bates

Opening Words & Chalice Lighting — Reading by Reverend Chris: A selection from Psalm 24 from The Book of Psalms

Timekeeper Volunteer – Sibyl Day

Agenda Review — Eliminate from the 8:15 slot, “Request from Dungarvin...” and replace with “The Building Next Door”

Open Mic — (1) John Jaffrey distributed the minutes of the 3 March 2015 Operations Team meeting and an associated draft “Sunday Morning Hospitality Policy” dealing with the availability of beverages & snacks and disruptive behavior during the Sunday social hall activities. BOT members offered several suggestions. The intention is that BOT approve a policy at the April meeting. (2) John reminded the group about the “Thirsty for Justice” film and panel discussion scheduled for Sunday. (3) Jeanie proposed that Maureen Rumford be designated a UUA General Assembly (GA) delegate at the June 2015 assembly in Portland, Oregon. Motion to approve Maureen as a delegate by Joe, 2nd by Alan, passed unanimously, 6-0-0. (4) Reverend Chris informed the group that David Hope’s purse was recovered and that 2 accused individuals have been arrested. The contents were not recovered. Joe suggested that increased signage be posted reminding Sunday social hour participants to be mindful of their personal belongings.

Treasurer’s Report — Linda Balabanian, Treasurer – The year-to-date July – February (8 months) financial report:

Pledge Revenue through February is slightly ahead of budget, with the over-budget amount diminishing.

Sunday Basket is \$2.6K over budget; the same amount ahead since December. The over-budget amount built-up in the 1st 6-months has remained constant since the weekly share-the-basket policy has been in effect. Donations are on budget; an improvement over earlier months.

Glaser Center (GC) rental revenue was \$3.8K over budget for February and \$2K over budget for the 8-months.

Booked rentals for March and April are \$3K over budget for that 2-month period.

Expenses—Total expenses are \$6K under budget but primarily due to timing. Many of the over/under budget expense items are primarily due to late/early timing. For this reason, the \$6K overstates the under budget condition. There are no areas of concern.

Net income is \$23K, \$37K over budget.

Cash is adequate for normal operations.

E-scrip revenue is under budget but starting to pick up. There is a 3 to 4 month lag between transactions and receipts. The effects of the earlier promotion of e-scrip are just beginning to be realized.

Proposed Fundraiser — *The Heart Soul of Baseball* with speaker, Marty Lurie is being rescheduled from April to August/September. Mary Wolfe has requested \$500 for speaker fee \$300-\$500 of additional expenses. The reschedule is to provide time for preparation: promotion materials, support personnel recruitment and ticket sales implementation.

BOT Approval of Fundraisers — Linda B. questioned whether BOT should approve all fundraisers. Fundraisers are now vetted through the GC Committee and the Financial Stewardship Team (FinStew). BOT members decided that approval will not be required.

Fundraising Committee — FinStew proposes formation of a FinStew subcommittee to provide guidance & oversight for those who are championing fundraisers.

Financial Stewardship Team is recruiting members for next fiscal year. There will be at least one member retiring. Linda requested candidate suggestions and recruitment assistance from BOT.

Endowment Distribution — Endowment Committee has no meeting scheduled prior to the June congregational meeting. BOT will have to make its proposal to the Committee at a special meeting.

Glaser Center (GC) Report — In addition to the financials from Linda B, Joe reported that actions have been taken to provide front door monitoring for weekends & to clarify that renters must obtain their own alcohol licenses.

Goal Groups — Facilities/Infrastructure — Pam Tennant deferred to the Visioning Group session to discuss facilities/infrastructure. **Vision Project** — Reverend Chris provided 2 handouts; (1) the notes from the Visioning Goal Group presentation on 15 March 2015 and (2) a draft Vision Statement which generally captures the specifics which have been generated from the survey, neighborhood meeting and the 15 March presentation. The Vision Committee will take the lead in defining plan specifics. **Community Support & Communication** — Arrangements being made for the All Congregation Activities Fair, 19 April. Jeanie is part of a task force to produce a "How-to-Guide", a compilation of internal organizational responsibilities. Deborah Mason is planning a number of intergenerational activities, including a Parents' Night Out and a weekday fellowship evening. Alan volunteered to represent BOT on a newly formed RE parent group to generate intergenerational programs.

Minister's Report — The February 15 – March 17, 2015 minister's report was briefly reviewed. The report chronicles Reverend Chris' activities during that period. Reverend Chris had approximately 10 separate meetings with potentially new members, offered pastoral visits, continued instructing Scripture Studies, attended a number of internal meetings, including Committee on Shared Ministry, BOT, Last Pledge Drive, Worship Associates, Caring Team, Human Resources, Youth Group, and the Visioning Team. There were Holy Week services. We hired the new pianist, Tyler Johnson. Reverend Chris worked with CityZen, the County Supervisors re the Living Wage ordinance, UU Pacific Coast District board, UUA Congregational Life staff, UUA Appointments committee, and the Malibu Study Group.

BOT May Meeting — Meeting is moved from 21 May to 14 May to accommodate the FY15/16 budget process.

Building Next Door — Jan Hess and Rose St. John are forming an exploratory group to investigate potential use/acquisition of the building next door, south. Marilyn, Joe and Pam volunteered to join that group.

Membership Team Change — Sybil Hunt, Membership Team Chair has resigned because she feels that that team doesn't need a chair.

Next BOT Meeting — The 16 April meeting will include next year's new members. A pre-meeting at 5:30 p.m. will include all of next year's board, for the purpose of electing FY15/16 officers.

Final reflections, questions, appreciations — Alan: appreciates everyone who administered & participated in the visioning process; Pam: delighted that the fiscal health of the GC has turned around & thank you to the GC Committee; Chris: Thank you Sadie & the choir for being UUCSR ambassadors, performing at Spring Lake Village, an Episcopal senior community; John: thank you for the music at the Nomadic Shelter at UUCSR; Chris: appreciate Jeanie who contributes so much to the congregation.

Closing Words — Marilyn read a selection from Rumi, "Guest House"

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted — Terry Graham

Spring! Adult Religious Ed. at UUCSR

ADULT SEXUALITY

May 7-June 4
Thursdays, 7 pm
(no class May 21)

Presented by Professor Bill Stayton, M.Div., ThD, PhD
Beginning in May, this four-session holistic view of sexuality helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills and understand the spiritual, emotional and social aspects of adult sexuality. Session 1 will cover...What do we know and want to know about sexuality?...Challenges to traditional views of sexual behavior...Sexual value systems and...How is this course relevant to me as an adult at UUCSR?

(Check out the ARE table on Sundays for the full agenda.)

Professor Stayton served on the human sexuality faculty at the University of Pennsylvania for 28 years. He has over 70 publications and has received numerous awards.

Besides being a licensed psychologist,
Dr. Stayton is an ordained clergy person.

We will request a donation from those attending.

WOMEN IN HISTORY

Mondays, 3-4:30 pm
April 6—May 11

Melinda Napier, "history nerd" and lecturer at Finley Center, teaches a 6 part series that began on April 6th, on influential women in history.

The series will end on May 11th when we will hear of religious leaders such as Mother Theresa. Join us to learn more about these interesting women!

\$2 suggested per lecture

UUCSR Board Room

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.

(Netflix, eat your heart out)

We have room for 3-4 more people— no need to pre-register or commit long-term. Just drop by and see what you think! New writers welcome!

WRITE AND CONNECT

Led by Author Patty Somlo

Mondays, 10 a.m.—Noon (On-going)

*Have you been wanting to try your hand at writing?
Looking for inspiration to revive a writing practice?*

Author and Instructor, Patty Somlo, provides prompts, readings and feedback
- the group provides laughs, encouragement and support.

UUCSR Board Room
\$10 donation requested per week

"Meeting with others ... adds to the enjoyment and freedom of finally writing without the inner critic." - Jan Hess

"I'm inspired to begin writing the family stories I want to pass down to my children and grandchildren." - Marge Wright

"The exercises each week keep me motivated and inspired to continue writing." - Brook Montagna

"I like that the group is small enough to be compassionate, yet big enough to have some fun." - Roslyn Ball

Questions, call Kathy Norman, or stop at the Adult Religious Education table on Sundays.

Saturday June 6th 8pm
AN EVENING OF HEALING MUSIC
with Sheridan Gold and Friends

Special Fundraiser Concert for UUCSR in the Sanctuary
Sheridan Gold is an exceptionally talented musician. When she plays her flutes and drums it's magical, especially in a place with great acoustics like our sanctuary. If you heard her play on April 26 for the Sunday services you will know. A friend of Jan Ogren, she has graciously agreed to do a fundraiser for UUCSR on June 6th and has asked other performers to join her.

SO MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Invite your friends! Bring the family! Come for inspiration, for healing, for joy. It will be a magical evening with music. Sheridan will be playing Native American flutes, Moyo drum and African drums. Jan Ogren will be telling the story of "The First Medicine Circle" with Sheridan playing a different instrument to represent each animal to make the story come really alive!
Plus other wonderful musicians, dancers and performers.

The concert is a fund raiser for UUCSR. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Buy tickets before or after services or contact Jan Ogren for tickets and to help sell tickets. They are also available through the Last Record Store and Brown Paper Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1434170>

PLEASE HELP - we need help selling tickets on Sundays, putting up flyers and selling tickets to the larger community.

Call Jan Ogren to get involved..

Gay Pride Parade in Guerneville
Equality Everywhere Celebration
 Sunday June 7, 11– 12 pm

Take part in the Sonoma County Gay Pride Parade in traditional UUCSR marching/riding style!

Our contingent will wear tropical-themed attire.

The parade is about 8 blocks long and takes place in Guerneville. A '79 VW convertible also will be participating for those who are not up to the walk and prefer to be members of our royal court. If you will be riding in the royal coach, be sure to wear royal accessories—tiaras, scepters, fairy wings, whatever makes you feel royal!

Want more details, like where & when to gather, or to be updated as the time draws near?

Email me your email or call me ~ Becky Montgomery

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.

GOD AS PARENT?

How do we use this concept?

Interested in meaningful conversation about the May 10 Service's topic?

Join us in the Board Room immediately following service.

One of our TIE groups is hosting this alternate coffee hr experience.

Coffee and snacks provided!

Evening Book Group
Thursday, April 9th from 7 to 9 p.m

The Evening Book Group meets on Thursday, May 14th from 7 to 9 p.m. at 547 Mendocino. We meet in the RE wing.

May's selection:

The Bone People by Keri Hulme

Visitors & newcomers are very welcome! Questions? Ask Linda Lampson.

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. For more info call Judy Hutchinson .

Wanted: Bridge Players

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

Our bridge group is comprised of 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.

For information contact coordinator Marilyn Beckerbauer.





Music Notes

We have been delighted to hear Tyler Johnson play many beautiful improvised pieces as well as a few jazz pieces so far. On Sunday, May 3, Tyler will play several special classical pieces: "Prelude in E Minor" by Chopin, "Adagio for Strings" by Barber, and "Pavane pour une infant défunte" (Pavane for a Dead Princess) by Ravel.

For the May 10 services (Mother's Day), the choir will sing "O Magnum Mysterium." This was originally a Gregorian chant that has later been reworked by many well-known composers, beginning with those in the Renaissance and going all the way to contemporary ones. Morton Lauridsen composed the one you will hear the choir sing. A translation of the lyrics is:

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Special Music for the services on May 17 is a piece by Tina Mailia, "Silent Awakening," which will be provided by Robin Rogers. Here are some of the lyrics:

We are only a dream of a dream. This world is not what it seems. We are the wind that carries the seas.

And for those who feed their souls, hearts, and left-and-right brains with music...

We are the roots of the banyan tree. We are love offered on the wing that stretches across eternity. We are recording life's symphony. We are the silent awakening.

On May 24, the choir will sing a piece by Handel composed for "Alexander's Feast," which is an ode to music set to a libretto by Newburgh Hamilton, which he adapted from John Dryden's "Alexander's Feast, or the Power of Music" (1697). Dryden wrote this to celebrate Saint Cecilia's Day. The title of this piece is "Your Voices Tune." The lyrics are:

Your voices tune, and raise them high, till th'echo from the vaulted sky the blest Cecilia's name. Music to Heav'n and her we owe, the greatest blessing that's below. Sound loudly then her fame. Let's imitate her notes above, and may this evening ever prove sacred to harmony and love.

There will be some more Special Music for the last services this month on May 31. Robert Lunceford will play French accordion music about the French philosopher Camus.

~ Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

Occidental Community Choir
Andrew DelMonte, Director
Spring Concerts, 2015

Riding the Waves

Saturday, May 2 8pm	Occidental Center for the Arts	Adults - \$15 Kids 12 and under - Free Tickets available at the door, OccidentalChoir.org or BrownPaperTickets.com Advance tickets recommended Concerts sell out.
Sunday, May 3 3pm	Sebastopol Center for the Arts	
Friday, May 8 8pm	Occidental Center for the Arts	Adults - \$15 • Kids 12 and under – Free Tickets available at the door or at OccidentalChoir.org Advance tickets recommended. Concerts sell out.
Saturday, May 9 8pm	Occidental Center for the Arts	
Sunday, May 10 3pm	Glaser Center, Santa Rosa	

OCCIDENTAL COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Occidental Community Choir presents "Riding the Waves" an eclectic concert of lyrical, heartfelt songs that will take you on a journey from the silly to the sublime. We must all ride out our personal storms. The human heart has the capacity to bear great joy, sorrow and longing.

In keeping with their tradition of encouraging and presenting original works, most of the concert's songs are written by choir members. The musical journey continues through spirituals and gospel to songs sung in Spanish, Italian and Bulgarian. Several familiar classics, such as Cole Porter's standard "Anything Goes" and the Beatles' "Can't Buy Me Love" round out the program and will be presented with delightful and unexpected arrangements.

"What we create musically is magical, and comes not only from hard work, but from our sense of community," says long time choir singer Diane Masura. Whether one is a fan of folk, world, classical, or choral music, the Occidental Community Choir's spring concert offers something for everyone. This Sonoma county treasure is not to be missed! Kick off the the summer music season with some "Music From Home."

Sunday, May 10 3pm Glaser Center, Santa Rosa
Adults - \$15 • Kids 12 and under – Free
Tickets available at the door or at OccidentalChoir.org
Advance tickets recommended. Concerts sell out.

SLAVYANKA CHORUS

"This Upcoming concert of sacred music in Santa Rosa will perhaps be of interest to your parishioners. The music of the Russian Orthodox church is little known outside of Russia, but it is a thousand year old tradition of sacred music with an austere and sublime beauty all its own, and the music we will perform is rarely sung outside Russia. There will also be some music from Russia's lively folk tradition."

~ Paul Andrews

President, Slavyanka Chorus

Slavyanka Chorus 2015 Spring Concert Series
"Russian Spirit, Russian Land"
 Ancient church chants, Cossack tunes, lively village songs and more
 Slavyanka Men's Choir and Slavyanka Women Singers
 Irina Shachneva, Artistic Director

Friday, May 1st 7:30 PM Christ Episcopal Church 70 Santa Rosa Avenue Sausalito	Saturday, May 2nd 3:00 PM First Presbyterian Church 1140 Cowper Street Palo Alto	Sunday, May 3rd 3:00 PM Glaser Center 547 Mendocino Avenue Santa Rosa
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TICKETS:
 \$20 General \$18 Student/Senior Children under 12 free
 Ticket and more information at www.slavyanka.org
www.brownpapertickets.com

CONTACT:
 Paul Andrews 510-795-7956
paulandrews@earthlink.net

Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project presents:

11th Annual Queer Women of Color Film Festival

June 12, 13, 14 2015

Festival Focus: Justice Heals

A constellation of 39 stellar films that radiates our tenacity as queer and trans people of color, and a Community Conversation **"Film & the Nation-State"** that ruptures the trauma and violence that often eclipses our lives. It world premieres films created throughout California from our QWOCMAP Film & Freedom Academy, and films from queer women of color, gender nonconforming and transgender people of color filmmakers around the world—screened at **59 Cook St, San Francisco**.

UUBIQUITARY

Where are other UU's? What are we UU'p to?

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation

of Petaluma's mission:

"Live your sacred • Transform through love •

Act with courage"

Our Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petaluma has a wonderful part-time minister Reverend Mary Foran, who designs and leads the worship service two Sundays per month. We also have a hard-working and creative Worship Committee which draws from the breadth of religious/spiritual and virtue-based traditions honored by the UU Creed to unite the congregation in a sacred and socially active way. Beside Thursday night Men's group and Monday night Women's group, regulars are active in The North Bay Organizing Project and the UU Assembly, two Petaluma UU music groups - "The Undogmatics," and the choral group "Larking About".

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petaluma meets every Sunday at 10:30 am at the Petaluma Women's Club, 518 B.St., Petaluma, California . Our website is www.uupetaluma.org.

BRYAN PLUDE GRADUATES FROM STARR KING SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY

May 14, 7:30 pm at the
 First Unitarian Church of Oakland

An open letter to UUCSR from Bryan
 Greetings to all My Friends at UUCSR,

I hope you all in the UUCSR congregation are well. I am busy here as I move toward two graduations, my own from Starr King School for Ministry, and my daughter's, from high school.

I will be graduating from Starr King School on May 14th. Commencement begins at 7:30 in the sanctuary of First Unitarian Church of Oakland, 685 14th Street. I would love to have some of you celebrate with me!

Thinking well of you all. Thank you for the two years we had together while I served as your intern.

Blessings,
 Bryan





Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401-5241

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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

Editor: Susan Williamson

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.

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