



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• October • Volume 54 • Issue 10 •

Sunday Services at 9:15am and 11:00am

October 3

LOVE HOLDS ANGER, TOO.

Service Leaders: William Van Doren
Rita Butterfield, Frances Corman,

We believe that love is the true foundation of social action, of right relationship, and of the Sacred. Yet we can so easily become angry about injustice and suffering, and the spirit of love seems absent from the world. The good news is that we can use our anger constructively while not letting it consume us or cloud our commitment to love.

October 10th

ON COMMON GROUND NORTH BAY UU REVIVAL ONE SERVICE ONLY - 10:30am

Join old friends and new as the Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Marin, and Lake County UU congregations come together as one congregation under the Glaser Center roof. A special invitation to all free-lance and lapsed UUs: Get on down here and catch the Spirit! Our shared love of, and dependence upon, the Sacred Earth will stir us in worship to a renewed commitment to our UU vision, and Oh, the music we'll hear and sing as we living in harmony with the planet must be the common ground of all people. After that we'll have lunch together. We're making the chili. Do you have a special recipe? Want to help cook? Contact Rev. Chris immediately.

October 17th

MEETING ACROSS THE AISLES

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Joe Como

The art of compromise is the key to living productively, hopefully and happily in our own individual lives, as surely as it is the key to peace negotiations and state budget-making. It's hard, though, particularly if we are strongly, even rightly, attached to certain principles. Two things are required, and they are spiritual disciplines: deep listening to others, and deep listening within. We'll hear stories of successful compromise, and we'll also take time to bid Ben Taylor farewell.

October 24th

Poetry as Prayer

Maureen Wallace, Service Leader
Erin Howseman, Worship Associate

*Then every man of every clime,
That prays in his distress,
Prays to the human form divine
Love Mercy Pity Peace*

...William Blake

Let us explore our connection with the divine, be it the "human form divine," or the tenuous thread of existence we call the interconnected web, the goddess, love, or maybe just goodness. We'll hear from many voices today, please bring yours to join us. *Maureen Wallace is a member of the congregation involved in Membership, a former Worship Associate, and closet poet.*

October 31st

SEEING MONSTERS

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Deborah Mason, Izzy Fischer, Rita Butterfield
The late service is all ages for full service. Feel free to come in costume, everyone!

Ah, fear. A constant companion for some, an occasional obstacle for others. Far too often, our fears imprison or enslave us, or drive us to see others as monsters. On this spookiest of days we'll learn how to face our fears squarely with the help of the Spirit of Love, not by casting them out, but with some very practical ways of inviting them in. Or at least giving them some candy. There will be also be a report of the Halloween festivities in Fabelia.

Our Story so Far



Before everything, only the dark pregnant mystery, the Tao, the hidden face of God, older than time, older than space. We can't even say "before" about it.

There was nothing we can know there except possibility. No matter. Then, in an incredible explosion of energy the Tao gave birth to the Universe. It didn't *fill* the Universe; it became the Universe. The unknowable gave birth to being and becoming. It gave birth to light. It gave birth to the Laws of Nature. The world was born. Everything that is made is made from what was made then. That is real.

First there was only fire and light, then helium and hydrogen, then stars, then explosions of stars, and new matter, and new stars, and then iron and carbon and other elements and It kept on spreading out (and occasionally getting gobbled up in black holes) and galaxies formed and slowly, oh so insanely, mind-bogglingly slowly, the long, endless, act of creation moved on, spreading star dust everywhere. In this neck of the woods, the dust gathered into our Sun, into our neighboring planets, and into the Earth, There were explosions and asteroid collisions. There were lots of volcanoes and the air was poison. Slowly, oh so insanely, mind-bogglingly slowly, the Earth moved and wobbled and cooled and sent the heavy stuff to the core, and the water to the surface, and continents were formed and reformed.

The Universe is of the nature to produce life whenever and however it can and so eventually it did here, too. Some of that star dust learned to replicate themselves and complexify themselves, and Life on Earth was off and running. First the bacteria, then the plants and, thanks to them, a much better atmosphere, and then sex and fish and critters of all kinds, all evolving, all learning, all remembering, all serving as the minds and hands and bodies of the universe, until finally a group of monkeys grew up a bit and for the first time (on Earth, at least) the Universe could say to itself, "I see you!!" What a day. And people began to realize that they had a part to play in creation, and they discovered they were free. Life evolved free beings because the Universe is free and relational being in its very nature. This is how love came to be known, and how God came to be named as Love.

These loving monkeys developed agriculture and writing and religion and music and money and various empires rose and fell and tribes moved here and there, and there were times of war and times of peace, and struggles for justice, and scientific discoveries and mystical visions and just enough learning and remembering to keep hope alive, and through many toils and snares eventually some 320 or so of them ended up in a place called Sonoma County, trying to love the world and each other with all

their hearts and minds at a place called UUCSR.

Can you believe it? All that, leading up to little old us.

The *Tao Te Ching* teaches that Creation is for the sake of Creation, for the pure joy of being and knowing, wherever it may lead. And the story of the Universe is our story, fully. The purpose and meaning of our life is the same as the Universe's itself. It is to live, to grow, and to create. It is to relate, to experience, and to love. We can literally help evolve the Universe, expand God's consciousness, if you will, by seeking the most life-giving, creative, healing, hopeful lives together. We are, of course, completely free to ignore that project too! We help write the story no matter what we choose. But for as long as we are alive, we're free to write our part within our circumstances.

13 billion years into our story, and no ending in sight, and plenty of power to keep it going, too. There is still a huge iron sun hiding in the center of the earth, you know. I might say there is still the fire of a sun hiding in you, too. Are you ready to claim your birthright of freedom? Are you ready to burn with love? Are you ready to trust the Universe, and to share in its creation? I pray it may be so, but I know we'll have to wait and see. Not even God knows what happens next.

I think she is pulling for a happy ending, though. I certainly am!

As many of you know, a particular chapter in the UUCSR story is coming to a close. This month we will bid farewell to Ben Taylor, who has served us well as Music Director and as conductor of the Choir. These last four years have been a time of growth in the diversity of our musical offerings and the quality of their presentation, and Ben has been an important part of that. I know the choir has benefited greatly from his coaching and his strong voice. I wish him every blessing, and hope we'll see him here often with the Santa Rosa Symphony's youth orchestras.

The musical direction, choir leadership and accompanist roles have been consolidated into a new combined position that will be filled by our long-time keyboard player Nancy Hayashibara. The new role of the Music Director has been crafted to allow Nancy additional hours for rehearsal, recruitment and the cultivation of new musicians, in addition to anchoring our Sunday services at the piano. Please support her and welcome her into her new leadership role, and get yourself down to choir rehearsal on Thursday evenings.

And I'll see you on a Sunday soon, I hope.

Blessings, Rev. Chris

Narratives of Joy

We were composing an obituary for my brother last week after his too-early death from a dreadful neurological condition. And questions emerged, as they always do: What shall we include in these precious few hundred words? What will we have to leave out? How to capsule a life in 600 (or even 6,000) words? It's a peculiar biographical challenge, given the space limitations, the variety of perspectives and needs of different family members, and the fact that great fresh grief underscores every halting keystroke. But one of the guidelines I stumbled upon in thinking about this, most likely because a longer view seems to have descended upon me as I creep nearer to my own end—is not to be concerned exclusively with readers who will come across this homage to my brother's beautiful life next week, next month, or even next century.

As I watched Pete's only grandchild Neal trundling along pushing toy cars and occasionally pointing quizzically at his Gramps whose life was slowly ebbing in his bed, right there in the room where he'd slept with his wife over the course of four decades and would finally die, I fast forwarded to the day when Neal will be watching over his own children, and then, if he's lucky, his grandchildren. And so on. Five, six generations hence, what will Neal's heirs know of my brother, or any of the countless other forebears whose efforts, sacrifices and decisions both bad and good did so much to bequeath them the life they will be living?

This obituary we're writing will tell the rudiments of Pete's story, the bare outlines of one soul's journey through this blink of a life. It won't include delicious strands that perhaps will continue to be conveyed through the oral tradition of family lore—such as the tale that at 18, he and a buddy bought an ancient but functional Renault Dauphine for \$50, and having nothing much else pressing on an idle summer's day, decided to make a convertible out of it with a couple of nice sharp hacksaws. Trouble being, the car's electrical wiring was routed, whoops, right through the top. Uh-oh—the car was still ancient, but functional no more. Our parents, God rest their now departed souls, laughed right along with us. And family and friends are still laughing today.

A minister friend of mine has delved deeply into the role of narrative in shaping not only our theologies, but the very warp and woof of our lives. What is the story we are involved in? he asks. Who are the characters?

What are its main themes? Whom do we conceive as our audience? And more pointedly, what is the narrative we want to leave for our children, our grandchildren, and those who might come across it centuries hence? What do we want guiding our decisions and actions that will add up to something coherent and valuable and yes, human, for those who come long after us? (*We came, we saw, we flourished, and yes, we occasionally screwed up...*)

We are fortunate to have two founders of this congregation—Floss Wheeler and John Durr—still with us. Their profound gesture of faith in laying in the rudiments of an intentional religious community 56 years ago reverberates today in the footsteps of children padding through the religious education wing, in every chalice lighting, every ringing of the bell to open a Board or Council meeting. All the other founding members are gone now, and someday, the same fate will befall every current member and visitor and passerby at 547 Mendocino. The fact of this universal mortality, no exceptions, no one commuted for good behavior, serves as a goad, it seems to me, to live out our faith and contribute to this community in an ever more urgent and purposeful way, doing what we can, in gestures both large and small, to feed this congregation's soul, to expand its reach and ensure its flourishing after we're gone.

Ask most any human being who has been a parent about their greatest legacy, and the answer will most always come back that it is their children. This theme of generativity (notice the word "gene" leading it off) is programmed into our very being; it is not for nothing that all of life involves near-constant mingling and dropping and protecting of seeds and eggs and the other constituent elements of future life. But in the institutional context of UUCSR, it is our privilege to go beyond mere biology, to the reality that we are all the parents and co-creators of a story that will unfold on behalf of generations yet unknown. Let us thus steep all our actions in the love and joy and intention that will of themselves create a narrative thread to make our heirs proud.

*—Andrew Hidas
President, Board of Trustees*

Treasurer's Report

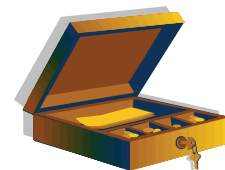
The Financial Stewardship Committee has already begun planning for the 2011 Canvass. The goal is to complete the pledge drive earlier in the year so as to have the results of the pledge drive available to the Board as it prepares a budget for approval at the June Congregational Meeting.

Because it is important that restricted funds not be used to pay normal operating expenses, it is necessary to establish a cash reserve specifically for operating expenses. In part such a reserve is necessary to address cash-flow problems that arise from the monthly fluctuations in operating income and expenses. Some fluctuations occur because historically pledge income is larger at the end of the calendar year and smaller in

the summer. Also, some expenses are paid annually, semi-annually, or quarterly, causing monthly fluctuations in expenses.

The Accounting Committee is investigating how much of an operating cash reserve should be maintained given the fact that we now have a healthy fund for unplanned, unpredictable, non-budgeted emergencies. The Accounting Committee will seek professional advice on this matter from financial advisors at the Pacific Central District and the UUA.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Jean Hageman, Co-Treasurer



Endowment Committee Update

Your Endowment Committee members have been having an important conversation, asking ourselves: what is it for? What's the purpose of the endowment fund, and how do we believe it should or shouldn't be used? We hope we are starting to answer this question, but want to find out whether the conclusions the committee is reaching are the same conclusions that most of the congregation will reach. Don't be surprised if we find some way to ask your opinion in the next couple of months.

Examples of possible Fund purposes:

- The Endowment Fund should assure our future by demonstrating our financial strength to financial institutions and guaranteeing loans.

- The Endowment Fund should contribute substantially to current operating expenses.
- The Endowment Fund should fund a special project or item each year.
- The Endowment Fund should accrue for special needs or projects.
- The Endowment Fund should only be a vehicle for people to donate through their wills.
- The Endowment Fund should only be used for assets (e.g., building improvements, but not building maintenance).

Hillevi Wyman

Annual Pacific Central District Men's Retreat

Friday-Sunday, October 15-17, 2010

How long has it been since you last got together with a group of men and talked about what's really important to you? For many years now, UU men of the Pacific Central District have gathered on the third weekend in October and have played, explored, meditated, sung, made new friends and learned from one another. This year's retreat will focus on three issues:

Making friendships, deepening friendships
Coping with retirement and semi-retirement

Men's perspective on taking charge of our personal health

Come join UU men for a weekend of fun, kinship, workshops and more!

Location: [Westminster Retreat Center](#), Alamo (near Walnut Creek). Cost: \$225 (accommodation, meals, materials)

-- Limited scholarships are available.

How to register: www.pcd-uua.org/2010mensretreat.pdf

Contact: Gordon Smith pcdmensretreat@gmail.com or call 408-393-6182.

Children's and Youth Religious Education (RE)

The number one religious educators for children and youth are their parents. It is through modeling, conversation, stories, and family choices that children and youth learn the values and principles that guide our lives. There are many ways that parents can teach the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism in daily life. When children experience their parents as people who listen to others and treat them kindly they understand a little more about the inherent worth and dignity of every person. When parents make environmentally conscious decisions about what they spend their money on, children learn that this is a way to respect the interdependent web of all existence. When parents tell their children stories about people working to create social change, they learn that the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice begins with the actions of individuals.

Articulating values and principles is often an easier task for Unitarian Universalist parents than is specifying their beliefs. Without dogma and creed driving our spiritual lives, it is often easier to articulate what we don't believe than what we do believe. I think this is a problem. Without the ability to articulate faithful belief we run the risk of appearing to be the "anti-religion" or the "religion-where-you-can-believe-anything". Neither of these characterizes Unitarian Universalism or the folks who practice it. We are a people who hold a variety of beliefs, ours is a theology which supports diverse views *and* within this context we are indeed a people of faith.

Many young adults who have grown up in UU religious education programs leave the denomination because they have not been given a clear enough vision of the gifts of the Unitarian Universalist faith. They comment that they have learned more about other religions

than they have about their own, more about what they don't believe than what they do. I have heard some parents say that they want their children to grow up to "choose" (a religion, a belief system) after going through UU religious education. This is not my aim as Director of Religious Education. My hope is that our children will grow up to be proud and active Unitarian Universalists. Faith development is a big part of the program. Without a doubt I want children to grow up to be curious and open to an unfolding of belief and understanding. In a living tradition such as ours we embrace the process of growing and changing. UUs can even find direction from our comfort with ambiguity. (To some this would be a contradiction in terms, but not to us!) I want our children's unfolding process to come from many sources of wisdom and from the deep faith of those UUs who came before us. But my aim is to teach children that there is strong belief here and now in Unitarian Universalism and that within our diversity, there is commonality. I want them to know that hope lies in the faith that we live in a world where the power of love is always present.

This month Rev. Chris and I will be teaching an adult religious education class exclusively for parents of children in RE. It is called *Articulating Your UU Faith*. This will be a great opportunity for parents to clarify and practice the sometimes difficult task of describing their faith. It will also be an opportunity for you to articulate your faith to other parents and to those who teach your children here at UUCSR. We hope you will join us on October 13, 20, 27, November 3, and 10 from 7:00 to 8:30. Please contact Deborah at the church or by email to sign up. Childcare will be provided.

In faith,
Deborah

Buddhist & Taoist Scripture Study Group

We will begin with the oldest discourses attributed to the Buddha himself, including the Metta Sutta and the Dhammapada. We will take a brief look at some key Mahayana Sutras, spend some time with Lao Tzu, and (time permitting) touch on the literature of Zen. Please purchase a copy of *In the Buddha's Words*, by Bhikkhu Bodhi; Order it now. It will provide the basis for the first 6 to 10 weeks of the class.

All are welcome. Led by Rev. Chris Bell.

Tuesdays 8:00am / Thursdays 5:00pm

October 12 /14

October 26 / 28

November 9 / 11

The Committee on Shared Ministry

Check out the new Committee on Shared Ministry display board in the Social Hall. There are pictures of the members, Chair Cathy Read, Rev. Chris Bell, Roger Corman, Nancy Hargis, Andy Levine, Elizabeth Marrs and Mary Wagner.

Here are the most important functions of the Committee on Shared Ministry

- (1) to aid the minister in carrying on the effective ministry by being by being available for counsel;
- (2) to keep the minister advised of conditions within the congregation as they affect relationships between ministers and members, with the main thrust on strengthening and improving relationships

(3) to continually interpret to the congregation the nature and scope of the work of the minister, including clarification of role expectations and realistic priorities for ministers and members;

(4) to consult with the minister and submit an annual compensation recommendation to the Board of Trustees or the personnel committee;

(5) to work with the minister on his or her continuing education program, sabbatical planning, or other professional development and to advocate such plans to the Board of Trustees and the congregation.

Please feel free to contact anyone of us with concerns or questions.

In fellowship, Andy Levine

Advocates for Social Justice

Hot Topics

Election time is coming and there are important Ballot Initiatives to vote on: legalizing marijuana; congressional redistricting; global warming to name a few.

On Sunday, October 3rd, two members of the League of Women Voters will give us the pros and cons and answer our questions. We will meet in the Board Room from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. Bring your sample ballot if you've received one. A light lunch will be available for a (generous, if possible) donation.

Share the Basket

As you know, we now have two opportunities a month to contribute to the good works in our community! On October 9th, half of the collection will go to support our Saturday Breakfast. We continue to have around 200 appreciative guests each week so please be as generous as you can. One half of the collection on October 23rd will contribute to the cost of sending representatives to a 5 day training in Phoenix for our congregation's North Bay Sponsoring Committee leaders. The UUA will match funds contributed by the Congregation, so please support some of our activists in learning the skills and gaining the knowledge to make our community organizing powerful and effective!

KBBF 89.1 FM - CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

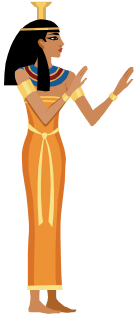
There is a fine opportunity to connect the English and Spanish speaking communities in Santa Rosa, and across eleven counties in Northern California that compose KBBF's

broadcast area. There is news of great progress in restoring all the legal requirements for compliance with public radio broadcasting regulations, following years of difficulties in the management of our historic Station KBBF FM 89.1 , the very first bi-lingual public radio station in the USA. Board Meetings are now held regularly, with timely and accurate minutes, open time for public input, and accountability in all financial matters. Programs are beginning to meet the original mission of this station - to provide education along with relevant and meaningful local and international news and cultural programs to serve the needs of our diverse communities. Recently Democracy Now has been added, and soon a program about RECURSE, a well tested mediation service will be presented in Spanish by Attorney Christian Fierro. Information about Diabetes and Domestic Violence has been aired, along with continuing music and cultural programs. These are only a few examples of the current new beginnings.

It is great to report progress but KBBF also needs our support in this crucial time. As with all new and young things, this endeavor needs people to join as members, making the commitment of caring and financial support (\$20 per year per individual and other categories). This is a rich resource for building cross-cultural ties in our community so join if you can! For additional information about the station and how to become a member, please call the KBBF office: 707-545-8833.



Goddesses, Poets, Comics and Septuagenarians



Notes on art from David Templeton, Glaser Center Artistic Director.

Who goes there? Hankering, gross, mystical, nude: What is a man anyhow? What am I?

What are you? All I mark as my own you shall offset it with your own, Else it were time lost listening to me.

In Walt Whitman's towering poem 'Song of Myself,' the great American poet accomplished a truly amazing feat, composing a work that uses the word 'I' hundreds of times, without ever giving the notion that Whitman was writing about Whitman. His 'I' was really 'us,' and this Fall, the UUCSR's Arts & Culture ministry will be demonstrating how in the Arts, every 'I' is a 'You,' a 'We,' an 'Us.' The arts are, as Whitman and countless others have proven, truly universal. Over the next couple of months, we've scheduled a truly exciting line-up of offerings that include a soaring performance of Walt Whitman's 'Song of Myself,' and also dips into issues of gender, spirituality, aging, and that most transforming of traits: humor. This group of performances, more than any season of shows we've created before, solidifies the goals of our Arts & Culture Ministry—to deepen our own collective experience of being alive by allowing artists to take us into new corners of the human experience.

Oh My Goddess — Friday and Saturday, October 15 & 16, 8:00 p.m. In this acclaimed one-woman-show, actress Sherry Glaser portrays two characters: a Hispanic waiter who happens to be a channel for a very special entity: Ma, "God's better half," the great Earth Mother, who has a few strong opinions about how humans have been behaving. It's a funny and moving examination of what it means to be "spiritual." Tickets (now on sale in the office or after Sunday Services) are \$15 for seniors and students, and \$20 for everyone else.

Gross, Mystical — Friday, October 29, 7:30 p.m. With its title taken from a line in Walt Whitman's aforementioned 'Song of Myself' (quoted above), this solo-

performance piece by the amazing actor Eliot Fintushel brings Whitman's words to life with riveting intensity. Far more than a simple recitation of lines, this soaring bit of theater takes words written 150 years ago and makes them seem as fresh and current as if they were being written on the spot. Affordably priced at \$5 - \$15 dollars (sliding scale).

Alzheimers, Alzheimers, Cha Cha Cha! — Friday November 5, 7:30 p.m. Lynn Ruth Miller, the Globe-trotting 76-year-old comic whose shows routinely win awards at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, once again turns her wit (and satirical song-writing skills) to the subject of aging, making wise-and-witty fun of everything from bodies to brains, even finding humor in disease, hospitals, funerals, and death. This show was given five stars last month in San Francisco, and will be sure to delight and enlighten us. After all, as Lynn Ruth says, "Everyone gets old sometime—or knows someone whose doing it right now!" Tickets \$5-\$15 sliding scale.

An Italian, A Greek, and a Scotsman Walk Into a Bar — Sunday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. Sometimes you just need to laugh, and no subject is off the table during this night of comedy, featuring celebrated comic Dan St. Paul (The Bob & Tom Show), who made a name for himself ten years ago with his now legendary First Baseball Game Ever Made routine, in which characters from the Bible play hardball ("Jesus gives Peter the sign, but Peter denies it, so now Jesus is heading up to give Peter a sermon . . . on the mound!"). Joining Dan will be Comedy Central's Costaki Economopoulos, and master impressionist Mike Macrae, a regular on the David Letterman Show. All seats \$15.

All of these shows are intended to be enjoyed in groups—so call up some friends and fellow congregants, and make a date for dinner and a show. We hope that, by joining us for a night of performance and theater, you will continue to adopt the arts as part of your own spiritual practice this fall, as these remarkable performers show us the universal truths of their own very personal journeys.

Circle Dinner Groups for Fall 2010

Welcome to our Fall Circle Dinner Groups! If your name is in bold at the top of a dinner group, please contact the others in your "circle" to arrange for your first gathering. You get to decide on the time and place with your group. Also you get to decide who brings what (ie: appetizer, salad, main dish, dessert, beverages/bread)! Please try to contact everyone within two weeks so no one feels forgotten!! As part of your after dessert conversation, don't forget to decide where and when you all will meet for the next month's gathering.

If, for some reason, you are not contacted by

the folks at the top of the "circle" group or another problem arises, please contact Cathie Wiese at 829-3634 or cathie@sonic.net or Shirley Williams at 537-9790 as we have volunteered to be the Grand Masters and Concierges of this fine organization. We can fix it...or at least try to!

****If you cannot make a dinner, have to cancel, or (as the host) need to fill in an empty seat or two, please consider calling someone from the "Substitute List". They will be glad to hear from you. Enjoy your time together in food, fellowship, and fun!**

(Daytime Group request)

Carolyn McLeese & Charles Rettke 875-3542

Suzette Metz & Patricia Chavez 894-3891

Jewell and Don Ford 874-3616

Judy Schwalben 523-4470

Phyllis Nesbitt 542-5754

Rick and Marilyn Beckerbauer 542-1779

Debbie and David Hope 337-3046

Len and Marianne Holt 527-6797

Phyllis and Bob Clement 823-0925

Ann Chambers 823-6902

Claire Beery 823-4351

Jeanie Bates 824-0530

Mary and Jim Wolfe 544-3134

Maureen Wallace and Eric 578-7665

JoAnn Robson 823-5122

Michael Randolph & Judith Redding 585-1118

Frances and Roger Corman 528-3321

Judy Withee & Steve Sweaney 538-3404

Linda and John McGinity 537-1662

Melora McArdle 546-0455

Kathy Norman 523-2787

Cristin Talley 620-0556

Linda Reck 769-1080

Stacy Sincheff 528-6603

Elizabeth Olson 573-0543

Sandy Cook 588-9235

Tomas Phillips 235-2200

Linda Marie Stubblebine 585-2212

Cathie Wiese & Robert Lunceford 829-3634

Amy Young 546-3016

Sybil Hunt 293-9980

Pam Tennant 823-1845

Betty and Sid Gordon 545-0560

Mary Gardner 585-8007

Janet and Loch Grant 538-3937

Cal and Susan Simons 527-7191

Judy Meyer 824-0388

Betty and Sam Miller 539-3654

Dorothea Proctor 546-2913

Linda Lampson 585-1206

Dorris Lee 836-1576

Pat Warner 539-4572

Art Rosenblum & Maureen Rumford 539-5104

Nancy Fitzpatrick 539-7753

Bonnie Daines & Bob Boone 537-7247

Shirley Williams 537-9790

David and Diana Bower 785-9725

Laurie Taylor & Tim Everett 799-7128

Gail Alford 843-4466

Kit Taylor 546-2035

Carol Weisker 776-4856

Judy and Bruce Taylor 794-9743

Nancy and Brian Hargis 571-1987

Ralph and Jen Murray 837-0267

Lynn and Leonard Riepenhoff 525-8424

Marge Wright 887-7752

Kitty and Brian Wells 953-0620

Elizabeth and Robin Marrs 528-6939

Jill Hager 566-8847

Dan Nuebel 280-9888

Ed Pine 528-8447

Lee Chase 538-8329

Elsa Torres & Orlando Roala 776-2746

Tom Bond & Laura Jean Hageman 539-3694

Millie Tripp 523-2351

Nathan and Susan Miron 833-4683

Circle Dinner Fall 2010—Substitute List

SUBSTITUTE LIST:

Mary and Wells Wagner	523-1366	Helga Lemke	579-2629
Mike and Joan Reid	431-8757	Barry and Marian Quirk	525-1943
Chris Bell & Rita Butterfield	528-2714	Olive Horrall	545-5065
Karen Lillard	575-1255	Louise and Ollie Ostlund	578-8619
Linda Harlow	526-3528	Mary Louise & John Jaffrey	538-4668
Phil and Jenny Harriman	206-0488	Barbara and Jules Glaser	538-4870
Marley Fein	575-8946	Antonia & Dick Rodriguez	836-0757

Women Together

One-day Retreat on Saturday, October 23rd 10 am-4 pm at UUCSR.

Don't miss this opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones! This is a particularly good opportunity for folks who didn't make it to our week-end Retreat at St. Dorothy's Rest! Our theme will be "Home". In addition to small group activities there will be time for games, or a walk around the historic Saint Rose area of our city led by Millie Tripp, or a workshop on Wicca, a name for ancient, female-centered spirituality (from which the word wisdom is derived!), led by Joy Lonnes.

Please bring a dish to share for our pot-luck lunch. For questions or more information, contact Linda Harlow at 526-3528 or lmh1937@sbcglobal.net.

2011 Weekend Retreat

Mark your 2011 calendars - the date for our weekend at St. Dorothy's Rest next

Spring will be Friday, April 29th through Sunday, May 1st. We hope this will avoid graduations, weddings, Spring break, family vacations!



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, Oct. 14 at 7:00 pm at 547 Mendocino. Our selection this month is *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy.

The November selection is *The Madonna of Leningrad* by Deborah Dean.

Newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

Linda Lampson

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2010
Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail submissions
Greatly Appreciated!
Newsletter Assembly Oct. 27, 2010

Wanted! Church Custodian-Sexton

The UUCSR Sexton is responsible for maintaining our beautiful building and grounds as part-time caretaker and is responsible for:

- understanding the operations of most if not all building equipment such as air conditioner, skylights, dish washer, etc.
- general janitorial duties such as empty trash, wet mop floors, vacuum carpets, wash windows and replenish restroom supplies;
- security of building including opening and locking the building;
- handling emergency and safety issues as they arise;
- overall setup and breakdown for services on Sundays and as needed during the week, possibly in the evening

This is a 25-hour position paying \$12/hour with benefits.

The hours are flexible, Sunday through Wednesday, mainly day shift with possible evenings and holidays. Must be able to lift 50 pounds, have valid drivers license and submit to background check and fingerprinting. References required. The ideal candidate will be reliable, personable, able to interact well with others, and self-directing.

Apply by sending a resume to administrator@uusantarosa.org, or call 568-5381 to request an application.

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, age and medical condition, disability, marital status or sexual orientation. The UUCSR will provide reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees with disabilities when requested.



UUCSR Writers

The next regular monthly meeting will be on Monday, October 4, 2010 from 4 - 6 pm in the "Green Room" at 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401, 707-568-5381 Information: UUCSR Writers, Georgette G. deBlois, GGdeB@aol.com. <http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>.

"One day, I'd like to write a novel." November is National Novel Writing Month. FREE! Join the Write-Ins! every Monday in November from 6 - 8 pm in the "Board Room" at UUCSR, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, CA. 95401.

This November, the UUCSR Writers are taking part in National Novel Writing Month. It is our Fall Community Outreach project open to the General Public, free of charge. It's a hands-on writing adventure where everyday people all around the world bash out a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. No judges, no entry fees, no pressure. Just a walloping deadline, and a supportive, over-caffeinated community to help you reach your book-writing goals.

Chris Baty is the founder of National Novel Writing Month. Read his book, NO PLOT? NO PROBLEM! A Low-Stress, High-Velocity Guide to Writing a Novel in 30 Days. Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 2004. For more Information visit NaNoWriMo.org.

Dates - All meetings are from 6 - 8 pm

Introduction and Guidelines Meeting - Monday, Oct. 25

Write-Ins! - Mondays, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Contact Person: Georgette G. deBlois, GGdeB@aol.com

"TaP" Thursdays at Peet's

The UUCSR Writers meet once a week for Peet's coffee and conversation in Copperfield's located in Montgomery Village at the corner of Montgomery Drive and Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa. Parking is Free. Come, join us on Thursday mornings at 10 am. Buy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate, add a pastry and enjoy the pleasure of chatting with writers about writing. We have no set agenda. Also, be sure to save some time to browse the books at Copperfield's.

Did you know -- we're on TWITTER as uuSantaRosa.

Email tweetable news or links to Ellen Skagerberg.

UUCSR Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes August 19, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Andrew Hidas.

Members present: Bob Barrows, Ann Chambers, Bonnie Daines, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman, Phyllis Heagney, Andrew Hidas, Mary Louise Jaffray, Lois Nagle, Cathie Wiese, Craig Work.

Non-members Present: Chris Bell (Minister), Terry Graham (Recording Secretary)

Opening Words: Chris Bell, commentary and reading of Kahlil Ghibran's "On Passion and Reason"

Minutes of 12 August 2010 meeting approved as submitted.

90-Second Check-In: Whatever our age, we are all on borrowed time. What do you still have left to do? And how, if at all, is it informed by your faith?

Open Mic: Mary Louise mentioned that the website Board member list is outdated and will require attention.

Transitioning to Double Worship Services: Double worship services to begin 12 September. Early service 9:15-10:30, later service 11:00-12:15. Coffee times 10:15-11 and 12-12:30. The early coffee time expected to overlap attendees from both services. A number of logistical issues require resolution, including greeters and music. Music demands will be greater with accordant greater commitments required of pianist, choir and band. Budget shortfalls may occur—options are being considered. The newsletter will indicate the music planned for each service.

Religious education planned for later service only. Child care for early service may be required. Laura Jean will ensure that personnel committee is involved with the changes. As attendance parity is achieved at both services, programming expected to become increasingly balanced.

Participants of the earlier service will be encouraged to sit near the front if start-up attendance is lesser. The "Activities Fair" between services planned for 12 September is expected to help mix the attendees of each service.

The impact of two full services is expected to be

greatest amongst the current early service attendees, with loss of the "small group" aspect. TIE group membership will thus be encouraged.

Board members are requested to sample both services, to help identify and remedy unanticipated difficulties.

Board Retreat/Planning Meeting: Last year's agenda was distributed. Per Bonnie's suggestion, improvements upon last year's meeting might include more one-on-one discussions to more efficiently get the new members involved. Andrew suggested that more time could be directed toward establishing goals. Chris saw some difficulty in trading off time allocations toward leadership, situational analyses and goal setting. **ACTION:** Chris, Andrew and the facilitator will meet in the coming week to incorporate these considerations and finalize the retreat agenda.

Food preparation logistics: Logistics to be determined between the members via e-mail.

Visioning/Open Discussion Time: Mary Louise expressed concern about the "commercial" aspect of a recent service with a guest speaker. General Board agreement resulted in John querying as to the existence of guidelines for speakers. Chris stated that guidelines do exist but that they don't adequately address this type of issue. Bob added that the process and guidelines are also not adequate for determining promotional table criteria. **ACTION:** Chris will work with the Worship Associates to determine better guidelines/policy for both guest speakers and table allocation.

Actionable Items:

- Board to actively engage in smoothing the transition to double services
- Chris, Andrew and the facilitator will further define and finalize the Board retreat agenda.
- Food logistics for the Board retreat are to be determined between the members via e-mail.
- Chris will work with the Worship Associates to determine better guidelines/policy for both guest speakers and table allocation.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Santa Rosa, CA
Permit #298

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



October 2010

Please Recycle

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

Mailing Address: 547Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Telephone: 707-568-5381
Email: office@uusantarosa.org Fax: 707-568-5387 Website: http://www.uusantarosa.org

Board of Trustees

President: Andrew Hidas, President@uusantarosa.org
Vice President: Mary Louise Jaffray
VicePresident@uusantarosa.org
Co-Treasurers: Bonnie Daines and Laura Jean Hageman
Treasurer@uusantarosa.org **Secretary:** Cathie Wiese

Board Members: **Recording Secretary**
Bob Barrows Terry Graham
Ann Chambers
John Farison
Laura Jean Hageman
Phyllis Heagney
Lois Nagle
Cathie Wiese
Craig Work

Order of Service Announcements:

Send submissions to Orderofservice@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.

Staff

Minister Rev. Chris Bell, Ext. 108, Minister@uusantarosa.org
Director, Religious Education: Deborah Mason, Ext. 131 DLRE@uusantarosa.org
Administrator: Janis Brewster, Ext. 106, Administrator@uusantarosa.org
Music Director: Ben Taylor, Ext. 112, musicdirector@uusantarosa.org
Glaser Center Director: David Templeton, x103, glasermanager@uusantarosa.org
Sexton: TBD

Sunday Religious Education Staff

Jeremy Cummings