



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• October 2012 • Volume 56 • Issue 10 •

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

October 7th

Our Mission: Building a Better World

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Susan Bartholome
The Choir performs at 11:00.*

Just what does a "better" world mean? And how can we build it together? Well, one easy thing you can do is attend a UUCSR congregational meeting. And, by golly, there just happens to be one right before this worship service, the last in our series examining our Mission. **BREAKFAST AT 8:30. Congregational meeting at 9:00. One service only at 11:00.**

October 14th

FREE HOPE! The 5th Annual North Bay UU Revival.

*Service Leaders: Rev. Dr. William Schulz, preaching;
Rev. Chris Bell, Rev. Bonnie Dlott, Rev. Mary Foran, Rev. Dan Kane, Rev. Chip Wright, the UUsual Suspects, and the combined choirs of the North Bay UU congregations.*

ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:30

Held at the Petaluma Veterans Hall, 1094 Petaluma Boulevard South.

Children's program. Lunch available if you RSVP, ASAP!

Five UU congregations worshipping together! Rev. Bill Schulz, our former UUA president and current UU Service Committee president, will preach, and the music will rock. No matter what happens in the election three weeks later, we are going to keep on marching in hope, upward and onward forever. So, invite a friend or ten, and stick around for lunch. The collection will go to the UUSC and local food banks.

October 21

Teach Your Parents Well:

The Personal Work of Inclusive Community

*Service Leaders: Samantha Lynne Wilson,
Erin Howseman, David Hope*

Where are all the young people? Cultivating and embracing our next generation requires deep personal self-reflection as to the ways we were or were not encouraged to bring our own gifts and leadership to our community as young people. How were you supported as a young person? Remember, reflect and learn new ways for the important work of bringing the gifts of all people from the margin to the center.

Samantha Lynne Wilson, founder of Child Leader Project, is a second year seminarian at Claremont School of Theology. CLP is a youth-organizing non-profit engaging young adults in California, India and Mexico in reflection and action on social justice issues. Ms. Wilson also serves as a coordinator for UULMCA's Spiritual Activist Leadership Training which organizes California UU young adults.

October 28th

On Ministry

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Jamie McReynolds,
Linda Proulx*

An exploration of the meaning of ministry in our religious tradition - lay and ordained - will prepare us for the Ordination of Jamie McReynolds as a UU community minister later this very afternoon at 4:00pm. Prior to attending seminary, and going on to serve as a hospital and hospice chaplain, about-to-be-Rev. Jamie served this congregation in a variety of roles, including congregational president.

Free Hope



For many of us the image of a revival conjures up the image of a crowded tent full of simple folk waving their hands in the air and shouting while a sweaty, red-faced preacher whips them into a frenzy, first of fear, and then relief as they come to accept salvation. A revival is an ecstatic, emotional affair full of music and noise.

UUs on the other hand, have a reputation as a reasonable, intellectual, verbal people. An old joke says that given a choice between heaven and a discussion group *about* heaven, UUs will always choose the latter. By extension, I suppose, given a choice between an ecstatic, emotional experience or a discussion *about* such experiences, UUs would also choose the latter. After all, it's hard to stay skeptical when you are out of your head.

This intellectual bent is nothing new. Our strong leaning toward the head over the heart goes back to the early 1700s. From about 1730-1750, the so-called First Great Awakening took place in American religion, partly in response to the severity and intellectually demanding preaching of the Puritans. As embraced by Jonathan Edwards, George Whitfield, and others, this movement of open-air revivals meant to take religion out of the church (which had become a very exclusive affair among our Puritan ancestors) and into the people. Their preaching was meant to stir the emotions, not simply the thoughts, and to provoke a genuine feeling of grace in the listener. The Great Awakening was a wild success, and many thousands converted. Some religious historians such as Sydney Alhstrom (author of *An American Reformation: a Documentary History of Unitarian Christianity*, among other fine books) credit the Great Awakening with stirring democratic and populist urges among the people and helping to create the conditions of the American Revolution.

Many of the clergy of the established New England churches that later became Unitarian, were NOT fans of the Great Awakening. For preachers like Charles Chauncy and Jonathan Mayhew, religion wasn't something you got in a single day. Conversion wasn't a one-time epiphany that came in the midst of emotional fervor, it was a long process of study, discipline, piety, and self-critique. Salvation came through the gradual development of a moral, faithful character and was expressed in deeds of kindness and devotion. Oh, one might have a moment when divine grace became clear within, but that was the beginning of the life of the spirit, not the end. If you've ever thought that a violent criminal's death-bed conversion is a kind of cheating, you probably understand this point of view. What matters is how you live your life every day, not

some single moment of regret or shame or fear or ecstasy. This perspective of forever seeking self-improvement has also profoundly impacted the American character.

As you have surely realized by now, I prefer something in the middle. I don't think we have to choose between our heads and our hearts. I think we should gratefully embrace both the intellectual and the emotive side of our tradition. We are Unitarians *and* Universalists. We learn from our minds *and* our intuition. Frankly, I've forgotten the subjects of most of the religion books I've read in my life, but I've never forgotten that night under the stars when the Mind of Creation was revealed to me, or what it feels like to be seen and loved by another person. That's the real source of faith for me.

For me, "revival" is a word just like "church" or "God" or "faith" that I refuse to let someone else define for me. I think that those who recognize that love and reason and goodness live in everybody should say what these words mean.

This year's Revival has the theme of *Free Hope*. We want to unleash the power of hope, and we want to give that hope to any who want it. If you are feeling down about the direction of the country or the way humanity is treating the planet, or wonder if people will ever get their act together, this is the service for you.

I believe that whether you approach it from the head or the heart, there is every reason to hope for humanity and our planet, and that if we don't proclaim and celebrate that hope we will never realize the dreams of peace, liberty and justice we long for. We will not make it happen unless we believe it *can* happen. So get yourself down to Petaluma on the 14th to hear the Rev. Bill Schulz preach, meet hundreds of other UUs, and have your heart stirred!

Snake-handling, as always, will be optional.

* * *

Another practice we have inherited from "the old days" is the way we ordain ministers. For us, it is not bishops or elders or other clergy who deem a woman or man fit for religious leadership and authority. It is the gathered body of a particular congregation. Thus, last year UUCSR voted to ordain our one-time fellow member, Jamie McReynolds, at 4:00 pm, on October 28th. Come see all the ancient practices: the Processional, the Laying On of Hands, the Charge to the Minister, and the Ordination Sermon (delivered by my friend Rev. Kathy Huff of the Oakland UU Church). It will be wicked fun, as they say in Boston, with a lovely reception afterward. I do so hope to see you there.

Greetings from the Board

Each year, toward the end of summer, the UUCSR board has a two-day retreat. A major purpose of this retreat is to define goals for the coming year. We were fortunate to have Rev. Chris once again facilitate our retreat. Before diving into its goal-setting work, Rev. Chris helped board members become grounded in the mission and vision of the congregation by reviewing the history of Unitarian Universalism and the UU Principles and Sources. After developing and committing to a board covenant, the focus turned toward board members' passions and perspectives. To give you a sense of the discussions that followed, here are responses to some of the questions that were posed:

WHAT ARE EACH OF YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

- Member Engagement
- Adult RE
- Spiritual Life
- Social Justice
- Environmental stewardship
- The Building

WHAT DOES OUR UUCSR COMMUNITY PROVIDE THAT IS IMPORTANT

- Love, shared values, food
- Shared worship
- Opportunity to grow and transform spiritually

Opportunity to serve

Opportunity to fulfill and actualize our full personhood, our human-ness

WHAT HAS THE BOARD LEARNED ABOUT ACHIEVING IT'S GOALS

Must delegate, ask people to participate

Must follow-up with volunteers

Must acquire/communicate information

Ministerial leadership is important

Need support of key leaders

The BOT is a catalyst for change

Need to prioritize

Need to have specific goals, clear parameters, measurable results

Eventually, board members divided themselves into three groups and worked on developing goals for the coming year. The resulting 2012/2013 goals will be presented to the congregation at the October 7th congregational meeting.

See you there!

Laura Jean Hageman
Board President

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

We provide loving childcare for children from infancy though age 4 in our preschool room.

Sr. High Youth Group meets every Thursday from 4-6pm. Deborah Mason, Rev Chris and Eric Fischer serve as Youth Advisers. Contact Deborah (debmasonuu@gmail.com) for more information.

Grades K-2 and 3-5 are using a curriculum called In Our Hands: A Peace and Social Justice Program
Middle School youth are working with a book called What Do You Stand For by Barbara Lewis

Here is the October Schedule:

Date	<i>All Ages Together</i>		
10/7	Children's Chapel	Theme: God is Forgiveness	
10/14	North Bay Revival	Children's Program for all ages	Theme: Hope!
	<i>Grades K-2 /Theme</i>	<i>Grades 3-5/Theme</i>	<i>Grades 6-8/Theme</i>
10/21	Listening, Talking, Sharing	Framework for Peace & Justice	Caring for self and others
10/28	Fair & Unfair Experiences	Affirming of Self	Choice and Accountability

The Joys of Awakening

Amma Thanisanti Bhikkuni began meditating over 30 years ago and was a Buddhist nun for 20 years in the Ajahn Chah tradition. In 2009 she returned to the US and founded Awakening Truth, an organization whose mission is to support a Bhikkuni training

monastery and a new interface between monastic and lay practitioners in the modern world.

Amma Thanasanti will be speaking on The Joys of Awakening on Wednesday, October 17 at 7 P.M. at the UU Congregation.

November 4th

The Consumer Nation

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Frances Corman

Music by some UUsual Suspects

If you "consume media" of any kind, you will quickly discover the belief that your happiness, your safety, your freedom of choice, and your personal expression are to be fulfilled through the purchasing of things. We'll offer a competing point of view. Admission is free!

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012

Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail Submissions

Greatly Appreciated!

Newsletter Assembly

10 a.m.—October 24, 2012

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Do you know that some people do not think that Unitarian Universalism can be taught to children? It is true. I find this very puzzling. Is it that they think the principles that underlie our faith are so intellectually lofty that a child couldn't understand them? Do they think that because ours is a religion that does not offer simple answers to big questions that children will be baffled by the ambiguity of it all? I am not sure that I understand the reasoning behind this view, but I will take a stab at it.

Some people (not all) come to Unitarian Universalism after leaving another religious tradition. Usually they leave because their beliefs no longer fit with the doctrines and creeds of the religion they have left behind. In some cases the departure is a painful one, in some it is more a drifting away from the spiritual home of their family of origin, some leave their faith when they are children and become "unchurched" for a time until searching brings them to UU as adults, others may experience a change of faith as an adult and come to us looking for a safe place to explore what they have left behind and what they hope to find. Unitarian Universalism provides a community of "open minds, loving hearts and helping hands" to begin again on a spiritual journey. And that is a very good thing. However, there is a pitfall. It is easy for some spiritual refugees to experience Unitarian Universalism more in terms of what it is *not* than what it *is*. *Very simply*, I think that people who do not think Unitarian Universalism can be taught to children see the process UU faith development as as #1 rejecting the religion they have practiced, #2 figuring out that a new path is needed, then #3 seeking us out. Since it takes years of life experience to come to this place children would, therefore, not be able to get it.

The truth is, you don't have to reject something else to be a Unitarian Universalist. The big part that is missing in the process described is what Unitarian Universalism *is*. *Unitarian Universalism provides a powerful message of hope, love and faith in the divine beauty and power that sustains life. This message is not only understandable but crucial to children and adults alike. We begin teaching the Seven UU Principles in kindergarten, the language used is*

different than what you would hear from the pulpit, but the concepts are the same. Faith development is a process of coming to deeper and deeper understanding of what those principles mean and what it takes to integrate them into a way of being. It involves reaching beyond the self to discover the faith, hope, love and understanding that will guide the path of life. The path begins in childhood. The UU path gives children the respect and dignity that they are inherently due. This is something they can feel, it is something they can take with them, and it is something they can pass on. We teach them that everything is connected in a web of life and they know they are not alone, just as they know that they have a part to play in healing the web and making the world a better place. In RE we give our children experiences of cooperation with peers and service to others which is the groundwork for forming beloved community. Children understand what beloved community is and they need it as much as adults do, perhaps even more. Children in RE question and disagree which is a sacred part of the UU path. Ideas are formed and reexamined, and as individual development happens so does the unfolding of truly felt and lived values and beliefs.

The development of faith happens at all stages of life. I firmly believe that the principles and values of Unitarian Universalism are ones that can and should be taught to our children. I believe that a weekly infusion of hope, and lessons in learning to be a best person one can be is something children need as an antidote to the negative messages they are often faced with at school, on the playground and through the media.

As the new congregational year gets underway, I hope that families will make a commitment to providing their children with all that we have to offer here at UUCSR by bringing them to RE consistently and helping to build that beloved community in R.E.

In faith,
Deborah

UUCSR Annual Service Auction

**COMING SOON...UUCSR SERVICE AUCTION!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD AT 5:30 PM!**

Get ready to join the fun and excitement of UUCSR biggest social event of the year!

Mark your calendars, set your iPhones or just put a sticky note on your front door...you won't want to miss our Annual Auction Extravaganza! Our annual dinner and auction is the largest fundraiser of the year for UUCSR's general operating fund. YOU, our creative and generous members and friends, offer wonderful donations for our silent auction...dinners, yard work, theater tickets, theme parties, dog walking, hand crafted jewelry, trash hauling...the list has no boundaries!

Volunteers scour the city and countryside to gather fabulous donations from local business to add to the offerings. So, consider what you might be able to donate this year to the fun! Look for our table display in the Social Hall for donation forms and a list of many ideas. Fill out a form for your donation and return it to the Auction Table or to the UU Office. Ask your favorite

places of business if they might want to donate (tax deductible) a gift certificate or two. Watching the bids go up on your donations gets the blood pumping in the ol' veins!

For the evening or our Auction Extravaganza we invite you to arrive in festive finery...this is a first class establishment! Fine dining awaits you with added room to accommodate our ever-growing popularity. Entertainment will be sure to delight the senses. Childcare and "kid food" will be provided. Silent auction bidding will take place as you enjoy hors d'oeuvres and dinner.

Following the silent auction, during dessert, we cap off the evening with our live auction starring those masters of auction mischief sure to keep you laughing as they do their best to lighten your pocketbook for this worthy cause...UUCSR (US!), Keep an eye out for our table which will be set up in the Social Hall in October. Look for the Top Hat and Tales guy dancing in a sea of star spangled purple! Any question? Call Kitty Wells at 953-0620, Nancy Freeman at 537-1897, or Mindy Graham at 850-249-7160.

Committee on Shared Ministry

Your Committee on Shared Ministry at UUCSR wears many different hats! The Committee on Shared Ministry is charged with monitoring the general health of the congregation, supporting the minister in his various roles, and providing conflict resolution when needed. As part of this charge, we try to elicit feedback from the congregation in a variety of ways. For example, remember those comments you wrote on your pledge card during the canvass last Spring? Each year the COSM reviews the pledge card comments in an effort to "read" how things are going at UUCSR, and to try to address any pressing concerns. This year we first contacted those respondents who had concerns that needed immediate attention and had put contact information on their cards. We then developed a "spread sheet" (thank you, computer wizard John Chenoweth) with which to organize and evaluate all the comments, most of which were made anonymously. We also took

note of those who indicated they would like to volunteer in various capacities, and got that information to the appropriate contact person(s). Finally, we disseminated the comment spreadsheet to various committee heads and others in the congregation who can most benefit from the feedback. If you have an interest in seeing this document, please let me or any other member of COSM know, and we'll make it available to you.

The committee members are Rev. Chris Bell, John Chenoweth, Bill Foshee, Mary Lill Lee, Andy Levine, Cathy Read (chair), and Mary Wagner. Please contact any of us if you have a concern about congregational life you'd like to talk about. One way to find us is to look for the lavender nametags during services or coffee hour!

In peace and community,
Cathy Read

Tao Te Ching

"In eighty-one brief chapters, Lao-tzu's Tao Te Ching, or Book of the Way, provides advice that imparts balance and perspective, a serene and generous spirit, and teaches us how to work for the good with the effortless skill that comes from being in accord with the Tao - the basic principle of the universe." That is from the book jacket of one edition of The Tao. Our study group

reads a chapter aloud, from various translations, and then discusses what it means and how it applies to our lives. It is a rich and lively hour.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9:00-10:00 in the board room. Everyone is welcome.

Contact Mary Wagner, 523-1366.

Music Notes

The annual North Bay UU Revival will be held on October 14 in Petaluma, and our choir will be joining choirs from Lake County, Napa, Marin, and Petaluma for an inspirational songfest. The combined choirs will sing "No Complaints Whatsoever," by Jan Garrett and J.D. Martin, which has been described as "secular progressive gospel music." Also featured will be our own Billie Sue Fischer singing another rousing gospel song, "This Morning When I Rose," for the offertory, with our choir accompanying her as backup singers. Of course, there will be many opportunities for congregational singing with our fellow UUs from the other congregations as well, so

plan to come and enjoy an uplifting musical morning!

Other musical highlights this month will include: (1) On October 7 at 11 and October 21 at 9:15, the choir will sing a beautiful piece, "Lay Down Your Arms" ("Lo Yisa Goy"), which is a prayer for peace. Zoe Wilson will join the choir to play a lovely flute obbligato. So that provides an opportunity for you to hear this selection no matter which service you prefer to attend! (2) The choir is also looking forward to singing for Jamie McReynolds' Ordination Service on October 28.

Submitted by Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

Jamie McReynolds Ordination

Look in this newsletter for your invitation to the ordination of Jamie McReynolds. It will be an exciting day, beginning with Rev. Chris Bell and Jamie preaching together at the morning service. Many guests have been invited from across the country to honor our congregation's transformation of Mr. McReynolds into the Rev. McReynolds. The actual ceremony will be at 4 PM, Sunday, October 28, followed by a reception. Please join our celebration by calling the UUCSR office, 568-5381, or sending an email to McReynoldsOrdination@uusantarosa.org by October 14. Thank you for also letting us know if you will need child care that afternoon. Your response will greatly help our planning.

Jamie McReynolds was a strong leader in the UUCSR's journey from a small country fellowship to a larger, urban congregation. During a career in business, while raising two daughters, and throughout other major life changes, Jamie sought ways to serve his community and

to find a spiritual home. Serving as a peer crisis counselor, on a suicide hotline, as a member of several United Way funding panels, and in two agencies providing services to low-income and homeless persons combined with his many responsibilities as a UUCSR volunteer to satisfy some of that yearning. By the time he was 50, he knew that the UUCSR was his spiritual and religious home. Seeking his Master of Divinity degree from Starr King School for the Ministry became the next natural step in his quest to "be the change" he wanted to see in the world. He graduated from Starr King in 2009 and received preliminary fellowship from the Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association this year. Only our congregation, however, has the authority to fully qualify Jamie as a UU minister through ordination. Please join us in this solemn and joyful recognition of Jamie's hard work and great hopes for embodying the UU values of our congregation.

UUCSR Writers

The next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4-6 pm, Monday, Oct 1 at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave. Santa Rosa.

Regular monthly meetings are held once a month on the first Monday of the month. We do not meet in July and September.

Whatever your creative endeavor: fiction, non fiction, memoir, poetry, essay, etc., our focus is to provide and atmosphere where serious writers improve and hone their writing skills. The UUCSR Writers is open to the novice, the more experienced, and the published author. Membership at UUCSR is not required.

The Sonoma County Poetry Slam meets 7 pm, on the first Thursday of the month, beginning Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 3, Feb 7, Mar 7, Apr 4, with Grand Slam on May 2 at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa. Slam - Emcee: Tom J. Mariani, UUCSR Writers Poet Laureate 2010-2012 or Guest Former Slam Winners. Poetry Slam Information contact: Tom J. Mariani, southforkboots@gmail.com.

The Great Courses on DVD, Eight Mondays, 3:30 - 6 pm, Sept 10, 17, 24, Oct 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 12 meets at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa.

"Building Great Sentences: Exploring the Writer's Craft". This course of 24 lectures on DVD is for the serious writer. Dr. Brooks Landon, Ph.D. has taught a sentence-focused prose-style course for more than 30 years at The University of Iowa, where he is Professor of English, Collegiate fellow and Director of the General Education Literature Program. At 3:30 pm DVD presentation of three 1/2 hour lectures by Dr. Books Landon.

Group discussion begins at 5:10 pm, after the three 1/2 hour lectures. Your advanced registration is requested. Free, No Charge. You can still join us. To Register contact: Georgette at: ggdeb@sonic.net.

We usually do not charge admission to the UUCSR Writers events. And, if your budget permits, do look for our "UUCSR Writers Donation Bucket". Any amount of loose change or paper currency is appreciated.

Thursday Morning Coffee at Whole Foods in Coddingtown, Santa Rosa 10 am-12 noon. Buy the beverage/food of your choice. We meet once a week with other Writers for lighthearted conversation and talk about who's doing what in our literary community.

Take Care,
Georgette G. deBlois, ggdeb@sonic.net

Evening Book Club

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, October 11th from 7 to 9 p.m. We meet in the RE wing of 547 Mendocino.

The book for October is *Blood, Bones, and Butter* by

Gabrielle Hamilton. The November selection is *The Marriage Plot* by Jeffrey Eugenides.

We welcome newcomers and visitors.

Linda Lampson

Congregational Meeting—October 7th!

OUR MISSION: HELPING TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD

Congregational Meeting at 9:00

Worship at 11:00

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris, Susan Bartholome

UUCSR Congregational Meetings are more helpful in building a better world than any other thing in the universe, but only those who attend both the meeting and the worship service will find out why.

Advocates for Social Justice

Share the Offering: On Sundays October 12th and 26th half the collection will go to our Saturday Breakfast Program. As you know, the need is great and your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Every Saturday someone mentions how good the food is and how welcomed they feel. Please help sustain this wonderful project ~ we're mostly doing it on our own! Thank you!

Hot Topics—September 30th

September 30th, 2012 at 12:20 to 2 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa-Glaser Center in the RE Common Room.

Election Issues with Alice Richardson of the League of Women Voters. Ms. Richardson will go thru the pros and cons of the ballot measures and answer questions. This program is being held early so that people will have the information by the time their Absentee Ballots arrive.

If possible, bring your sample ballots. Definitely bring your questions!

A light lunch will be available for a donation. Open to the Public, NO FEE

Free Parking on the Street, There is a charge for parking in the Garage.

Women Together—Elder Tales

Every year we are happy to present the opportunity to get to know one of our Elders. Often we meet these people in their later years and love and appreciate them for who they are now ~ but how did they get this way?

On Saturday, October 27th from 2 to 4 pm come to the Lunch Box/Teen Room to hear Yvonne Hammerquist tell her story. Please bring finger food to share.

Exercises to Improve Breath and Posture

Monica Anderson, the founder of Tone, a Yoga, Pilates and Dance studio, will offer an introduction, explanation, and demonstration of ways to improve these important aspects of health. Last Spring at one of our UUCAN House Meetings that focused on issues that are troubling us, many people brought up difficulties with mobility and Monica has agreed to give us this introduction.

If enough people are interested, she will run a longer monthly class thereafter. We will meet between the services, 10:15 to 1, on Sunday, October 28th. As a grateful client of Tone, I can tell you that it changed my life! Hope you can make it!

Linda Harlow

Meet the Minister

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

Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged!

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

October 21

November 18

Art from the Heart-Holly Near, Eve Ensler...& Ed Wood?

Over the next couple of months, the Glaser Center will be showcasing the work of musicians, artists and performers whose lives demonstrate what happens when the desire to express one's most overpowering emotions is blended with the desire to make the world a better place. You will have noticed the paintings in our foyer: evocative works by artist-actress-director mollie boice (not a typo; that's how she spells her name), paintings that truly come from her heart. A number of them were, in fact, inspired by a movie: the striking independent film 'Beasts of the Southern Wild,' featuring a powerful six-year-old protagonist called Hushpuppy. Something about that film touched mollie deeply, and as an artist, her gut response was . . . to make some art. So she spent the next couple of months painting scenes and characters from that film, striving to bring to the surface some of the roiling emotions stirred by the film.

The work of mollie boice will be on display until mid November.

That urge to express the inexpressible is at the heart of the hearts, and every artist can point to a different spark that once flamed up in their lives, inspiring the desire to do something, say something, sing something, or make something. On her new CD, 'Peace Becomes You,' the legendary singer-songwriter Holly Near (appearing here Sunday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.) includes a track titled 'Because of a Song.' In the sweetly moving tune, Holly describes how the shape of her life was set early, the first time a song on the radio moved her enough to want to become a singer as well. And imagine what the world would be like had Holly Near chosen another path. For one thing, we'd have one song fewer in our UU hymnal (look closely; she's in there!), but we'd also be deprived of one of the most passionate, brave and honest artist to have emerged from the 1960's folk music movement.

Who knows, perhaps someone who comes to this October's concert will be similarly inspired to take up a guitar and let her or his voice ring out.

For actress Eve Ensler, the inspiration was a story.

The Tony-award winning playwright and performer behind 'The Vagina Monologues' heard the story of a woman whose relationship with her own body was not a close one. As she pondered that woman's tale, she began to wonder how many other women had surprising stories to tell about their own bodies, their emotions, their fears, their lives. She began

to ask them, and from those interviews sprang 'The Vagina Monologues,' an alternately funny and furious, surprising and lovely series of short tales, all about, well . . . it should be pretty obvious what its all about.

But what Eve Ensler did with this boldly beautiful, 15-year-old play is anything but obvious. In November, director Hector Correa (some of you might remember him as the artistic director of Rohnert Park's Pacific Alliance Stage Company), brings his three-actress production of 'The Vagina Monologues' to the Glaser, Saturday and Sunday, November 10 and 11, at 7:30 p.m. This production is touring the Bay Area, and just sold out its entire Berkeley run more than three weeks before it opened.

This is the perfect show to come to as a group. Make it a party, and come see what happens when the right person hears the right story at the right time—and knows what to do with it.

Which leads us to Ed Wood and 'Plan 9 from Outer Space.'

Ed Wood was a filmmaker known for being the worst filmmaker in history, a claim that might not be true (there are plenty who were worse), but still gets to the point that Ed Wood's movies were, ahem, a little bit on the rough side. A huge fan of science fiction and horror, Wood fell in love with movies as a boy, and never gave up his dream of becoming a filmmaker. You may have seen his story in Tim Burton's Oscar-winning film 'Ed Wood,' in which Wood was played by Johnny Depp. What is charming about his films is the obvious love he put into every terrible frame, a love that obviously extended to the wacky band of friends who became his regular troupe of performers.

On Friday, October 19, we celebrate the power of art to grab hold of us and not let us go. A dozen of the best local actors will be gathering on stage to perform a live staged reading of Wood's magnum opus: 'Plan 9 from Outer Space.' The reading features a script adapted by me to give a sense of the singular experience of watching an Ed Wood film. It's funny, outrageous, unbelievable, and thoroughly entertaining.

We hope will join us in honoring the artists who, one way or another, give so much of their hearts to inspire and delight and change us. And please share these experiences with your friends and loved ones.

David Templeton,
Glaser Center Manager and Artistic Director



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa,

cordially invites you to attend

the Ordination to the Ministry of

Jamie McReynolds

Sunday, October 28, 2012,

at 4:00 p.m.

at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation

547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, California

Reception to follow in the Social Hall

...

If attending, please reply by October 14

McReynoldsOrdination@uusantarosa.org

or (707) 568-5381

Holly Near in Concert

Sunday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.

Plan 9 from Outer Space

**A live staged reading of the outrageous original script by Ed Wood
October 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Halloween Hafla

Sunday, October 27, 7:00 p.m.

The Vagina Monologues

**By Eve Ensler • Presented by Independent Cabaret Productions
November 10, 7:30 p.m. and November 11, 3:00 p.m.**

California Redwood Chorale

**An American Rainbow: Music & Lyrics of North America
Sunday, November 18, 3:00 p.m.**

CIRCUS ACTS

**A play by Merlyn Sell • Presented by Actors Basement
November 23 - December 2**

New Horizons Band

Saturday, December 1, 3:00 p.m.

Twisted Christmas Live no. 10

**Christmas with a twist: the annual literary/comedy/variety show
Saturday, December 15, 7:30 p.m.**

Supporting UUCSR is as easy as buying a loaf of bread

**(or a pizza, a gallon of milk, some new shoes, an upgraded computer,
a faster bicycle or a trip to Spain)**

When you sign up with eScrip, every time you use your ATM or Credit Card at one of the following local stores or restaurants, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation receives a percentage of your purchase—at no additional cost to you!

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Kabuki (Petaluma)
La Azteca (Petaluma)
Maguires Pub (Petaluma)
Round Table Pizza (Rohnert Park, Petaluma, Sebastopol)
Sweet Spot Pub (Santa Rosa)
Black Bear Diner (Sonoma)
The Garden Vegetarian Cuisine (Santa Rosa)
The Villa Restaurant (Santa Rosa)
Cork's (Forestville)
Barking Dog Roasters (Sonoma)
Gramma's Pizza (Sonoma)

MISCELLANEOUS

Big O Tires (Rohnert Park)
Carnival Cruises
Disney Cruises
Princess Cruises
American Airlines

MARKETS

Fircrest Market (Sebastopol)
Glen Ellen Village Market (Glen Ellen)
Oliver's Market (Cotati, Santa Rosa)
Petaluma Market (Petaluma)
Sonoma Market (Sonoma)

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If you haven't signed up for Scrip yet, **call Janis (568-5381 X106) or David (568-5381 X103)**. If it's been a while since you first signed up your Safeway card, or may have changed accounts, call us to see if you need to renew. If you are only using Scrip through Safeway, talk to us about signing up your ATM and Credit Cards so every time you use them, the UUCSR benefits. It's safe and secure, and is a super-easy way to support your congregation (and the businesses which support their communities).

**UUCSR Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2012 - Board Room**

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Board President Laura Jean Hageman.

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

Members Not Present: John Farison

Non-Members Present: Linda Balabanian (Financial Stewardship), Chris Bell (Minister), Sibyl Day (Acting Recording Secretary), Art Rosenblum (Co-Treasurer), Rose Saint John, and Amy Young (Co-Treasurer),

Opening Words: Rev. Chris

Agenda Review: No changes

Minutes: Approved

One-on-One Sharing

Open Mic: Rose Saint John voiced concern about changes to the Mortgage Paydown Note Policy. Rev. Chris updated the board regarding the October 15th Revival at the Petaluma Veterans' Building. The Petaluma congregation is to handle all of the logistics. Bill Schultz is confirmed as giving the sermon.

Welcome New Board Members: Lois Bell and Susan Bartholome

Treasurers' Report, End-of-year Financials: The increase of \$19,975 in budgeted expenses was matched by increases in revenue and expense savings. The final FY 2011/2012 net income of Operations and Glaser Center combined was +\$4,500, which included the \$5,100 contribution from the endowment fund. The FY 2010/2011 surplus fund of \$16,300 was not used.

Final 2012/2013 Budget Recommendations: By applying this surplus fund to the FY 2012/2013 budget most of the major cuts (to dues, savings and A4SJ funds) that were necessary to balance the *preliminary* (June) FY 2012/2013 budget were restored in the proposed *final* (October) budget.

Sibyl Day provided a memo to the board which recommended renewing the medical, dental and vision plans for the employees that have those plans. Ten per cent increases in all the policies was provided in the budget. Actual increases were: 8.19% for medical; 1.99% for dental; 0% for vision. The new premium amounts for ADD and LTD have not yet been received. Nancy Hayashibara is tracking her hours in order to provide "actuals." Upon motion made by Cathie Wiese, seconded by Joe Como, the board unanimously approved the final budget for FY 2012/2013.

Financial Stewardship Report:

Emergency Fund Policy Revisions: Upon motion made by Jeannie Bates, seconded by Mary Louise Jaffray, and unanimously approved, the board adopted the recommendations of Financial Stewardship to correct a missed revision and clarify “accounting purposes” in the E-fund policy. Upon motion made by Alan Proulx, seconded by Cathie Wiese, and unanimously approved, the board voted to approve participation in the Global Allocation 25/75 Portfolio.

Member Mortgage Pay-Down Policy: Upon motion made by Joe Como, seconded by Peter Wilson, and unanimously approved, the board approved the new Member Mortgage Pay-Down Policy (see attached Policy for Issuance and Management of UUCSR Mortgage Pay-Down Promissory Notes). **Action:** Joe Como will write a letter to Rose Saint John suggesting that she present to Financial Stewardship written details of the inconsistencies in the prior policy and the newly adopted policy.

Facility Use Agreement with Occupy Spokes Council through Jan 31, 2013: David Templeton, Cassandra Lista, Linda Balabanian, and Laura Jean Hageman met and proposed a facility use agreement with the Occupy Spokes Council through January 31, 2013. An amendment to that agreement encouraged them to seek donations to UUCSR.

Liability insurance review: Lois Bell reported that premiums are \$6,600 per year, \$1 million limit per occurrence, and \$3 million maximum payout per year. The annual deductible is \$3,500. Renters provide their own insurance. People using the building at no charge are usually a higher risk. We might consider a policy that there is no further use, after one incident; have a named representative of the sponsor; waiver signed by the leader; adding on an addendum to the facility use agreement.

Ministerial Intern: Bryan Plude, a member of the Davis UU congregation, is seeking a 2-year part-time ministerial internship. There needs to be an Intern Committee to interview the candidate and give feedback during the internship. **Action:** Jeannie Bates, Peter Wilson, Cathy Read, Rev. Chris, and Laura Jean will nominate members to the Intern Committee by the time of the Labor Day board retreat.

Board Goals for 2012/2013: These will be developed at the Labor Day board retreat.

Volunteer Recognition: Terry Graham will be recognized. And board members are to provide other suggestions for volunteer recognition during the Labor Day retreat.

Distribution of 2011/2012 Annual Report: Hopefully the annual report will be distributed at the October 7th congregational meeting.

Board Retreat Planning: The retreat is at Laura Jean’s home and goes from 3:00-8:30 p.m. on Friday August 31, and continues on Saturday September 1 from 9:00-5:00 p.m.

Final Issues: David Templeton is negotiating with the Santa Rosa International Film Festival regarding payment.

Closing Words: Mary Louise Jaffray

Adjournment: 9:43 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, Sept 20, 6:30pm, light dinner at 6:00 p.m. by Joe Como; sharing topic by Peter Wilson; closing words by John Farison.



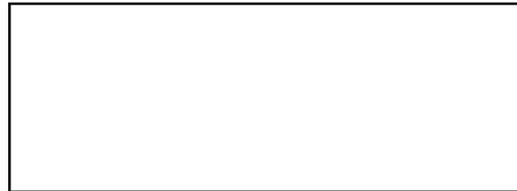
Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

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October 2012

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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: Laura Jean Hageman,
President@uusantarosa.org

Vice President: Jeanie Bates
Vice President@uusantarosa.org

Co-Treasurers: Art Rosenblum & Amy Young
Treasurer@uusantarosa.org

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Board Members:

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Lois Bell

Joe Como

John Farison

Mary Louise Jaffray

Lois Nagle

Alan Proulx

Peter Wilson

Recording Secretary

Jan Prater

Order of Service Announcements:

Send submissions to Announcements@uusantarosa.org

Editor: Janis Brewster

Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

UU Update Newsletter:

Send submissions to Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

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

Editor: Janis Brewster

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

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

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: Nancy Hayashibara, Ext. 112, musicdirector@uusantarosa.org

Glaser Center Director: David Templeton, ext.103, glasermanager@uusantarosa.org

Sexton: Phil Butterfield

**Sunday Religious
Education Staff**