



# UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• September 2014 • Volume 58 • Issue 9 •

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

## Theme: Our Shared Ministry

September 7

### INGATHERING!

#### WATER COMMUNION

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris, Scott Miller

Music: The Choir, Sadie Sonntag, Richard Riccardi

We celebrate the end of summer, and the beginning of the new "church year" with our annual Ingathering Services. (Note that we return to TWO SERVICES TODAY.) In a year of terrible drought under the growing shadow of climate change, we will acknowledge our dependence upon Mother Nature by celebrating the Water Communion as the central ritual. Please bring a small container of water from your home, your travels, or your sacred spot, if you are able. And, yeah, we're gonna pray for rain. We might even dance for it..."

September 21, 2014

### OUR MINISTRY

Guest Presenter: Clovice A. Lewis, Jr.,

Worship Associate: Susan Bartholome

Clovice Lewis will reflect on the topic of ministry as an obligation to positively affect the world through individual, personal action. He views ministry as a distillation of the "Golden Rule". He argues that a personal, one-on-one connection with people is just as powerful as the one-to-many model of ministry.

Clovice Lewis is a member and past President of the Unitarian Universalist Community in Lake County. He is a professional composer and cellist, a former professor of computer music at UCSB, a private pilot and an inventor.

September 14

### SPOKES ON A WHEEL

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris, Andy Levine

Music: Nancy Hayashibara, Natalie Brundred,  
The UUsual Suspects

Ministry takes many forms: preaching and leading worship, spiritual practices, pastoral care, administration, public witness and activism, direct service, religious education, and much more. In our congregation we see ministry as a collective undertaking for which we are all responsible, and in which we all have our place, however grand or humble. The congregation is like a wheel that depends upon many spokes. There is a place for EVERYONE to help us celebrate life, empower people, care for one another, and build a better world.

September 28

### CALL AND CALLING

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris, Susan Panttaja

Music: The Choir, Sadie Sonntag, Richard Riccardi

"Many are called, but few are chosen," says the Bible. It might also have said, "many are called, but few choose to respond." Rev. Chris will discuss his experience of being called to the ministry, as well as the tragic and unnecessary anti-clericalism that often infects our UU tradition. We must be clear, a sense of calling is NOT restricted to ministers; neither are one's calling and one's job necessarily the same thing. We are called whenever our deep gladness meets the world's deep need, as Frederick Buechner put it. What are the deep needs of the world? What is your deep gladness?

October 5

Guest Preacher: Leslie Boyes, Starr King School for the Ministry

Rev. Chris will lead worship at the Men's Retreat.

## Facing the Bad News



Let's be honest. The news over the last month or so has just been terrible.

The nation of Israel and its Palestinian "neighbors" are at each other throats again, with frustrations flowing over into a stream of rockets from Hamas that, so far, has done little damage to Israel. Instead, it is Gaza that is being pulverized in retaliation. Cease-fires have not held. UN buildings and schools have been targeted and destroyed. Hundreds of people, including a horrifying number of children, have died.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, ISIS and its allies have brought jihad to the fore again, with massacres and atrocities so compelling that even the war-weary must accept that something must be done. As I write further US air strikes are being planned. Both Iraq and Syria may soon fall into total chaos.

Meanwhile, the ancient, unresolved, racial injustice of our own nation has spilled over into rioting in Ferguson, MO, and protests in many other places, as the African-American community and its allies say "No more!" to an epidemic of shootings of unarmed young black men, our nation's abandoned children. The militarization of the police has been laid bare, which, when coupled with the revelations about the extent of our government's spying on its own citizens, has left many stunned and fearful for the future. Our own county is no stranger to these issues, as the death of Andy Lopez made plain. Our Sheriff's department has an armored car, too.

On the border, thousands of children have trekked across the desert, often alone, seeking a better life and shelter from the violence and injustice in their Central American homelands. What horrors, I wonder, are necessary for a mother to send her child on a lonely, deadly quest like that, thinking it better than any option of staying at home? Compassionate viewers have been shocked by images of anti-immigrant protests and vitriolic speech that recalls the worst of the resistance to Civil Rights.

Robin Williams, widely seen as a kind and loving man, killed himself, reminding us of the silence and stigma that often surround mental illness and prevent its adequate treatment. Many a person in this congregation has been touched by depression, by Parkinson's, by suicide, and Mr. Williams' death opened those wounds anew.

And now a 6.0 earthquake, reminding us of just how precarious life on a fault line really is.

It's enough to drag down the most optimistic soul. How can a person not feel sorrow, outrage, fear, helplessness, even hopelessness? It can seem like everything is going to hell.

I'll confess, I don't really know how or when to speak about these matters that seem so out of my control. I wonder, for example, what good would it do to preach a sermon on Israel and Palestine? On what expertise or

experience could I possibly rely? Yes, I could proclaim that both sides must learn to sacrifice things they cherish, recognize their shared humanity, educate their children differently, and accept that there should be no theocracies in the world (even Jewish ones) but whom would such statements serve?

All I can do is share how I face bad news.

First, I place my faith in Nature, the World Mind, the Tao, and Humanity as a whole, and I try to take the very long view. I remember that this is not the only time there has been such bad news. The world has actually been in worse shape, many, many times before (I'm thinking about WWI lately), but the human project has never been permanently derailed. Love and hope have never been fully vanquished, and enlightenment remains realizable by one and all, then and now. The world has always been going to hell, but it's also always been going to heaven too. The process of becoming inherently involves struggle and suffering, as the Buddha so eloquently noted. Our species is only in its early childhood really, and I have never seen a baby grow up to adulthood without some serious pain along the way. Each day I remember that MOST people live peacefully and cooperatively, and that each morning the life-giving Sun gives us another chance.

A friend here at Yulupa described humanity as being ill right now. As with illness, simply praying and waiting for things to get better is not enough. In fact, it can be deadly. God has no hands but ours, we say. So, secondly, I recommit to doing whatever can be done, right here.

We can support understanding between Islam, Judaism and Christianity here in Sonoma County. We can send money to peace-making groups. We can support the new 21-member Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force, and we can get to know law enforcement and their perspectives and struggles. We can support the North Bay Organizing Project, which has already been working with the County Board of Supervisors and many social agencies to open our community to the displaced children on the border. There are 30 beds empty in the Valley of the Moon; we could help fill them. We could financially or physically support families that adopt such a child. We can reach out to those with mental illness more, and acknowledge that we all face it at one time or another. We can call our elected representatives about all of these issues. I'm sure you can think of many other things, too.

And, each Sunday and every other day, we can keep preaching a gospel of love, diversity, inclusion and interdependence, as we continue the long journey of growing up and getting well together. Every one who can see the horizon of the better future must keep their eyes upon it. I pray for such courage and faith for each of us.

## Greetings from the Board President

I write this before the first board meeting of this year and before the board retreat...ah, well, such is the way the calendar works. So the news from the board itself will be a bit skimpy this month. Your 2014-2015 board looks promising in the lead up to the years work...lots of enthusiasm and sharing of ideas.

**Our Welcome Back, Rev. Chris on August 10** felt just right....complete with reflection, ceremony, cake, coffee and slide show! Some of us missed the slide show and are waiting for the promised second showing....Chris?

**Our new web page** is expected to be up and running by October 12, our fall Congregational Meeting date. I have attended several meetings to discuss content possibilities and a bit about how the web page will work and though I have come late to the magic of communication via media, I am amazed and excited by the possibilities this technology offers us. An enormous thank you to all on the Communications Team who have worked to create this and to teach all of us how it can be used.

Quite often I have the experience of being in awe of an articulated point of view and/or proposed action that I bump into around UUCSR. Today, what has touched me deeply is the effort to respond to the needs of the

shelterless in our county as manifested by the work of the **Homeless Services Action Group**. I sat in on a meeting today, following worship, and, hours later, reflecting on what I had experienced, felt deep appreciation for these generous folks. They will be working to research and develop some interventions that we will all hear about as they take shape. I am convinced that this small group will make a difference. In the face of a complex, huge challenge, these folks step into it. I was taken to one of my favorite exhortations to activism:

*I am only one.*

*But still I am one.*

*I cannot do everything.*

*But still I can do something.*

*And because I cannot do everything*

*I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*

Edward Everett Hale

And so it goes here at UUCSR: so much good work being done, so much cause for celebration.

May the last few weeks of your summer be sweet,

Jeanie Bates

President, UUCSR Board of Trustees

## Meet the Minister

These are brief, informal meetings held once a month after the 10 A.M. Sunday Service ( in August) and following the 11 A.M. Service beginning in September.

They provide an opportunity for visitors and guests to meet with our minister Rev. Chris Bell who has just returned from a six month sabbatical.

Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged! Bring your coffee or tea and meet us in the Green Room, located at the opposite end of the hall from the social area.

**September 21**



## North Bay Organizing Project

The North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP) is working to get out the vote in Roseland this election season. We have a new campaign called *Make Your Neighborhood Count* whose aim is to engage people in the Roseland neighborhood in addressing issues that effect their community through the ballot box and through community action. The Roseland precincts have the lowest average turnout of registered voters on any given election day in Santa Rosa. People in poorer neighborhoods, people who rent rather than own their homes, and people of color are often marginalized in the voting process. Get out the vote efforts are usually focused on the more affluent, adding to the disenfranchisement of the poor. The goal of Make Your Neighborhood Count is to increase voter turnout in the Roseland precincts by 5% in November and to encourage ongoing civic engagement.

The campaign has been holding house meetings at homes in Roseland, to begin discussions about the issues facing the community. We will be holding

Candidate Forums in September and October. And we are walking the precincts to encourage voting. *Here is how UUCSR can help.* Several of NBOP's member institutions have taken on a precinct walk to get out the vote. **UUCSR's precinct walk is scheduled on Wednesday, September 10. We will meet at 1422 McMinn Ave., Santa Rosa at 5:30 for a training then to go door to door.** Each UUCSR walker will be paired with a Spanish speaker from one of NBOP's institutions. The campaign will provide talking point scripts, hand-outs and voter information to volunteers. This precinct walk is a little different than the usual campaign because we are not promoting any ballot measure or candidate. Our aim it to simply begin a dialogue with resident voters to hear what the concerns of the neighborhood are and to encourage them to become involved in the political process through voting.

**Please contact Deborah Mason at [REDACTED] to sign up for the precinct walk.**

### Make Your Neighborhood Count Actions

*Please plan to attend*

**Wednesday, September 10, 5:30-7:00 UUCSR Roseland Precinct Walk  
meet at 1422 McMinn Ave., Santa Rosa**

**Sunday, September 14, 2:00 – 4:00 City Council Candidate Forum  
Community Baptist Church, 1620 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa**

**Sunday, October 5, 2:30 – 4:30 NBOP Public Meeting  
Santa Rosa High School Auditorium**

**Monday, October 13 7:00 – 8:30  
Santa Rosa City School Board Candidate Forum at UUCSR**

## Religious Education for Children and Youth

The Youth Group Service Trip to Taos, NM was amazing! Our youth, Claire Olney, Ian Millspaugh, Alex Billings, Eddie Young, Caroline Rogers, Chloe Farison, Rachel Wheless, Aaron Dabney, Zoey Wilson and youth group grad Izzy Fischer worked really hard on the Habitat for Humanity house. When they started the week the house had no roof. The rain and sun poured right through. When they finished their work on Friday, the roof was completed. The group (and the Habitat staff) felt a true sense of pride at being able to complete the roof in only a few days. The work and encouragement of Eric Fischer & Rev. Chris were invaluable to the process. The youth group learned a

lot about poverty, service and hard work on this trip. They came together as a cohesive unit and learned how the power of collective energy can make a difference. We have many stories to tell you and you will hear about the trip in a couple of upcoming worship services. Izzy Fischer's film documenting the work and the experience will also be part of an upcoming service, so stay tuned for announcements. The youth group and advisors want to thank any and all who helped support the trip through donations and coming to fund raisers. We couldn't have provided this life changing experience for our youth without the generous support of the congregation.

## Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

The Sr. High Youth Group meets every Thursday from 4-6pm. Deborah Mason and Rev. Chris serve as Youth Advisors. Contact Deborah [REDACTED] for more information.

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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays children meet in grade groups, as described below.

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

9/7/14	<b>Multi-generational Service – Children and Adults worship together - New Congregational Year In Gathering</b>
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### Grades K-2 Grades 3-5 Grades 6-8 (MUUGs)

9/14	<i>Wisdom Stories:</i> Getting to know each other and making a covenant	<i>Bibleodeon:</i> Session 1. Introduction and covenanting.	Neighboring Faiths: Group Building and Covenanting
9/21	<i>Wisdom Stories:</i> The Everything Seed by Carole Martignacco	<i>Bibleodeon:</i> Session 2. Introducing the Bible	Neighboring Faiths: What is Religious?
9/28	<i>Wisdom Stories:</i> The Birdman by Veronika M Charles	<i>Bibleodeon:</i> Session 3. In the Beginning	Neighboring Faiths: What Faiths Do We Want To Learn About?

**R. E. Family Pot Luck**

*Lets start out the new year with a party!*

Families with children of all ages are welcome, with a special invitation to new and visiting families.

**Saturday, September 13, 2014 from 4:30 to 7:00**

**In the RE Wing & Courtyard**

RE will provide BBQ burgers, veggie burgers and hot dogs

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and drinks for your family.

**RSVP to Deborah at [debmasonuu@gmail.com](mailto:debmasonuu@gmail.com) or on Sunday morning**

## Treasurer's Report

By popular request, this month I'm devoting this space to an explanation of the eScrip program and how we can all use the program to help generate funds for UUCSR with only a small effort and no additional cost on our part. What is eScrip?? Merchants, including many on-line merchants, will make contributions to UUCSR based on a percentage of the purchases you make from them. Starting this month, there will be a table in the narthex on Sundays where you can learn all about it, find out about participating merchants and get help signing up to use eScrip from a group of friendly volunteers.

I have been signed up for eScrip for years but my purchases have not been bringing in much in donations – just a few dollars a year. Since the eScrip folks indicate that an organization of our size with members who actively use eScrip should expect to receive tens of thousands of dollars a year, I decided I was going to try to understand why we were not coming anywhere close.

So I talked to several of you, took a deep dive into the eScrip website and here is what I found out ...

Some local merchants have special requirements for eScrip. For example, at Safeway, you must swipe your Safeway Club Card (not use your phone number look-up), you must pay with cash or debit card rather than credit card and you must reregister your card on the eScrip website annually to receive eScrip credit. At Oliver's you must sign up at the store for eScrip using their store eScrip card and it is necessary to reregister it at the customer service desk annually. Other local stores, Molsberry and Petaluma Markets have similar restrictions. The percentage contribution from these merchants depends on your monthly expenditures in the store, between 2% and 5%.

There are a few local restaurants, Sazon, Pepe's, Spengler's, The Villa and about 10 others, which participate in eScrip (2.5% of the total spent plus another

2.5% if you provide an online review). There are also some other merchants, Big O Tires and some travel companies that participate.

In order to receive eScrip from any of these merchants it is necessary to register the specific store cards mentioned and for those without specific cards, you must register the credit cards you will use at the stores and restaurants. This is the method by which your purchases are tracked and eScrip calculated.

There are also *hundreds* of on-line merchants in the eScrip program! Many of them are stores you may visit physically but eScrip contributions are only available from their on-line stores. Kohl's, PetSmart, JCPenney and Target are a few. Others are on-line merchants only, such as Amazon and Priceline. The eScrip contributions from most of these on-line merchants are between 2.4% to over 5%. For example, I just purchased my monthly dog food from one of these on-line merchants (rather than their physical store) and we will receive 5.4% of the total.

In order to receive eScrip contributions from the on-line merchants it is necessary to access them on-line through the eScrip website. The eScrip website has a link to its "On-line Mall" and from there links are available to all the participating on-line merchants. If you are an on-line shopper, I suggest that you register on the eScrip website and then bookmark the eScrip website as a favorite on your computer and access it before you shop on-line.

Using the eScrip program is a great way for you to help fund our mission and vision without spending any additional dollars of your own. With a small effort, you can help us to gain contributions from those merchants you support. Please look for your friendly eScrip volunteers after the service on Sundays or go to the eScrip website - [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) - to register and get started.

Linda Balabanian, Treasurer

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2014**  
**[Newsletter@uusantarosa.org](mailto:Newsletter@uusantarosa.org)**

**E-mail Submissions**  
**Greatly Appreciated!**  
**Newsletter Assembly**  
**10 a.m.— September 26, 2014**

## Music Notes

For our Ingathering services on September 7, our choir will be returning to start its new season following their summer vacation during most of July and all of August. For both services, we will be singing "Woyaya," which was written by Ghanaian drummer Sol Amarifio. It is also the title song of a 1971 album by Oisibisa, a musical group of Ghanaian and Caribbean musicians. The song was frequently heard in work camps throughout central West Africa in the 1970s and 1980s. The arrangement the choir will be singing is by Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock. Her arrangement is in our newer UU hymnal, "Singing the Journey," and it is frequently used in UU rites of passage ceremonies.

As we begin our new choir season, we would like to invite any new UUCSR members, as well as any other singers who are attending our services, to join us. We will begin our regular rehearsals on Thursday, September 4, from 7-8:30 pm in the Sanctuary. If you are interested in joining the choir, please feel free to either come to that rehearsal or any other one whenever you are available. If you have any questions about singing

with the choir, please feel free to contact our Choir Director, Sadie Sonntag, at: [choir@uusantarosa.org](mailto:choir@uusantarosa.org). You may also speak with her or any choir member following a service when the choir is singing.

We will miss hearing our wonderful pianist, Richard Riccardi, play for the services on September 14. However, I am sure everyone will be delighted to know that Nancy Hayashibara will be returning to play as our guest pianist. Then, on September 21, Richard will return to play for the usual parts of those services, as well as to accompany our guest musician. We will once again be privileged to have Clovice Lewis both lead our services and play cello. Clovice is a member and past president of the Lake County UU Fellowship and an award-winning cello player.

Finally, on September 28, the choir will sing a very familiar, beautiful, and inspirational song entitled "You Raise Me Up" by Josh Groban, which will include a solo by Eric Skagerberg.

Submitted by Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

## From the Music Associates

Welcome Music Associates!

In the past few years, as our UUCSR congregation has grown, the quantity and variety of music presented in Sunday services has increased. We are fortunate to have dozens of talented musicians and singers who participate in services.

Beginning in September, every Sunday service will have a music leader. When the choir performs, that will be choir director Sadie Sonntag. The other 2-3 Sundays a month, it will be a Music Associate. The Music Associate participates in service planning with the minister and Worship Associate.

The Music Associates have been meeting throughout the summer to structure the program. They are committed to supporting the following goals:

### **Sunday service music should:**

- Support and enhance the UUCSR message(s) and ministry
- Ensure a quality musical experience for the congregation
- Provide a way for talented individuals within the congregation to play a role in the services

### **The Music Associates are:**

- Robert Howseman (co-chair)
- Roger Corman (co-chair)
- Eric Skagerberg
- Ben Ford
- Natalie Brundred
- Claire Beery
- Susan Panttaja

We expect this group may grow somewhat as the program evolves, and the group will change regularly as people step down and others are invited.

### **How can you participate?**

Soon, we will be announcing musician meetings. We want the musicians in our congregation to meet with us and discuss ideas for music or volunteer to play and sing at services.

### **August and September Services**

Eric Skagerberg was the Music Associate for the Aug. 3 service and will be doing the Aug. 31 service. In September, Natalie Brundred is Music Associate for Sept. 14, and Claire Beery will have the honor on Sept. 21.

Submitted by Roger Corman, Music Associate co-chair

## Adult Religious Education

**Write and Connect:** Free Sample Creative Writing and Practice Workshop – Sunday, September 7, 12:00-2:00 pm.

If you've been curious about how to develop a deep writing practice and tap into your authentic creative voice, come to this free sample of Write and Connect, a creative writing and practice workshop that will be offered weekly beginning October 6<sup>th</sup>. The workshop is

designed for everyone – women, men, novices, aspiring and advanced writers. Instructor, Patty Somlo, has been writing and publishing articles, short fiction and essays for nearly 35 years. No enrollment is necessary for the September 7 sample workshop. Enrollment for the workshop to begin in October will begin on September 7 and continue after that at the Sunday A.R.E. (Adult RE) table. Or call Kathy Norman [REDACTED]

## Women Together

On **Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** from noon to 2:00p.m., we will have a pot-luck lunch at the Congregation to celebrate the new church year, and have fun being together.

We particularly invite new(er) women as this is a good way to meet people and get feeling connected. Please bring a lunch dish to share. If you have any questions or concerns, contact [REDACTED]

**Save the date: Saturday, November 15**, for our 1-day Retreat, 10 am to 3 pm, at Friends House. This is an opportunity for those who missed our retreat in May to have fun and get to know one another on a deeper level than we can have in our busy (and noisy) Social Hall. More information will follow but we wanted to be sure you don't make other plans!

Submitted by Linda Harlow/Women Together

## Circle Dinners Re-forming in October!

### SIGN UPS AUGUST 17 & 24, SEPTEMBER 7 & 14

Contact: Lynn Riepenhoff [REDACTED] or Kitty Wells at bewells@sonic.net.

**WHAT are Circle Dinners???** Circle Dinners are informal social gatherings over a pot-luck meal. They are opportunities to enjoy getting to know folks you might never have met otherwise. As participants, we have had some wonderful times visiting other members' homes (large and small---it doesn't matter!) and always look forward to great food and conversation.

**HOW do they work???** Members and Friends interested in membership of UUCSR let the Circle Dinner organizers know they want to be on the list. We then take all the names and shuffle them into groups of 7 or 8 (singles and couples) which becomes a "Circle Dinner Group" for the 4 months of the Circle Dinner period.

**WHEN?** In the October Newsletter we will post the Fall Circle Dinner Lists. The groups then contact each other and decide on a date, time and place to gather and who will bring what. The rest takes care of itself! Before the fun is over, the group decides the who, what, where and when for the next month's gathering. You don't need dinner service for 8, a family sized dining room, linen napkins, or even a room with a view! All you need is an enjoyment of meeting new friends, connecting with old friends, and the love of a good meal and conversation. Some groups meet for lunch and some even decide to meet at a restaurant.

**WHERE?** We are taking sign ups in **THE SOCIAL HALL**. Look for the sign up table. We will need your name and phone number to post on the list so that your Circle can connect!

Participants already in the Circle Dinner program will continue unless they let us know otherwise.

## UUCSR Writers—A Stimulating Environment

### Writers of all Genres

Date: Monday, September 8th. Time: 2 - 4 pm. The UUCSR Writers regular monthly meeting: Writer presentations of a work in progress. Novelists, Poets, Memoirs, screenwriters, whatever your chosen work, come and share your written words with us. Glaser

Center, 547 Mendocino Ave.

PLEASE E-MAIL GEORGETTE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

Georgette G. deBlois. [ggdeb@sonic.net](mailto:ggdeb@sonic.net)  
<http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>.

## Faith and Fitness

**FAITH AND FITNESS** September hike on Saturday Sept., 20<sup>th</sup>. Cool off, fog or shine, at the Sonoma coast on the Kortum Trail. Mostly flat with easy footing, sunset rocks with mystery mastodon rubbing spots, a labyrinth, a great view spot at peaked hill and an optional hike on down to blind beach. Total hike about 4 miles total out and back. Meet in Santa

Rosa (Safeway at Fourth and Farmers near the Redwood Credit Union) at 9:30 am or at Shell Beach on Highway one between Bodega Bay and Jenner at 10:30 am. Bring lunches and water, layers for wind fog or sun. Please contact Gretchen at 889-3007 or [fitness@uusantarosa.org](mailto:fitness@uusantarosa.org) with questions and to let us know you are planning to come.

## Evening Book Group

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

The September selection is *Life After Like*, by Kate Atkinson.

Visitors and newcomers are welcome. In October we are reading *The Boys in the Boat*, by Daniel James Brown.

If you have questions, please contact Linda Lampson.

## Annual Service Auction Extravaganza!!!

Get ready to join the fun and excitement of UUCSR's biggest social event of the year! Mark your calendars, set your iPhones or just put a sticky note on your refrigerator...you won't want to miss our Annual Service 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 businesses 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. Our Auction boards will be up mid-

September. Watching the bids go up on your donations gets the blood pumping in the ol' veins!

For the evening of 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 a 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 beginning in September. Look for the Top Hat and Tails guy dancing in a sea of star spangled purple! Any questions? Call Kitty Wells at [REDACTED]

## Fault Line by Robert Walsh

*Did you ever think there might be a fault line  
passing underneath your living room:  
A place in which your life is lived in meeting  
and in separating, wondering  
and telling, unaware that just beneath  
you is the unseen seam of great plates  
that strain through time? And that your life,  
already spilling over the brim, could be invaded,  
sent off in a new direction, turned  
aside by forces you were warned about  
but not prepared for? Shelves could be spilled  
out,  
the level floor set at an angle in  
some seconds' shaking. You would have to take  
your losses, do whatever must be done  
next.*

*When the great plates slip  
and the earth shivers and the flaw is seen  
to lie in what you trusted most, look not  
to more solidity, to weighty slabs  
of concrete poured or strength of cantilevered  
beam to save the fractured order. Trust  
more the tensile strands of love that bend  
and stretch to hold you in the web of life  
that's often torn but always healing. There's  
your strength. The shifting plates, the restive  
earth,  
your room, your precious life, they all proceed  
from love, the ground on which we walk together.*

*Robert R. Walsh, "Fault Line," from Noisy Stones:  
A Meditation Manual, Skinner House Books,  
1992.*

# Events at the Glaser Center

## SHOWCASE CONCERT SERIES

Saturday, August 30  
7:30 p.m.

**Gabe & Mimi Pirard**  
French Gypsy Folk plus  
**Cascada De Flores**  
Music of Mexico and the Caribbean



All seats \$15; \$18 at the door

Saturday, September 5  
7:00 p.m.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY PRESENTS  
**STAND UP 2 CANCER**  
Viewing Party



Saturday, Sept. 6, 8 pm  
The Safe Harbor presents  
**Women in Jazz**  
An evening with  
**Destiny Muhammad**  
and special guest **Yolandra Rhodes**  
All Seats \$10



Saturday, September 27  
7:30 p.m.

**Lorin Rowan**  
plus  
**Allyson Paige & Jesse Brewster**  
All seats \$15  
\$18 at the door



Saturday, October 25  
7:30 p.m.

**Craig Corona**  
performs  
the songs of  
**John Denver**  
All seats \$15  
\$18 at the door

Tickets available at the Last Record Store and online at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)  
**547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa**      **707-568-5381**



**Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa**  
547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401-5241

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September 2014

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**Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa**

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**Order of Service Announcements:**

Send submissions to Announcements@uusantarosa.org  
**Editor:** Janis Brewster  
**Deadline:** Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

**UU Update Newsletter:**

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

**Editor:** Janis Brewster

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

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

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