**FIGHTING & STRUGGLE**

**SUMMER SERVICES START JUNE 5th! ONE SERVICE ONLY! 10:00 am!**

### June 5
**JUST WARS?**

_Service Leaders:_ Rev. Chris Bell, Eric Fischer  
_Music by:_ Paul Gilger and some of the UUsual Suspects  
_Share the Basket:_ The Living Room

As we begin June, a month devoted to the consideration of fighting and struggle, we ask “When is fighting ok?” Not just fighting with words and ideas, even, but actually fighting. Like with fists or guns. St. Augustine’s theories of “just” wars will provide some guidance, or a foil, depending on how Rev. Chris interprets it. The Adrienne Swenson award is also presented today.

### June 12
**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

After the 10:00 AM Service

“Speak your mind even if your voice shakes.” Maggie Kuhn

### June 12
**CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION**

_Service Leaders:_ Susan Panttaja, Joe Mccarty, David Hope, Joe Gabaeff  
_Music by:_ Sadie Sonntag and the Choir  
_Share the Basket:_ Planned Parenthood So Co

As UUs, we strive for peace and understanding in our interactions, even in conflict. How far will we go “to meet injury with service and evil with good,” in the words of Unitarian pacifist John Haynes Holmes? Today we explore pacifism and nonviolence, and we hear from two members who chose to become conscientious objectors.

### June 19
**IT’S RAINING, MEN...**

_Service Leaders:_ Scott Miller, Eric Fischer  
_Music by:_ Robin Rogers and some of the UUsual Suspects  
_Share the Basket:_ North Bay Black Chamber of Commerce

At the last Men’s Retreat, the men of UUCSR sought to develop a vision of sustainable masculinity. What versions of ourselves could forcefully support the health of the people and of the world, and resist the siren call traps of masculinity, especially violence? Today men of UUCSR share insights from negotiating the challenges of inhabiting manhood in America and the world.

### July 3rd
**THE STATE OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM**

_Service Leaders:_ Rev. Chris Bell, Roger Corman  
_Music by:_ The UUsual Suspects  
_Share the Basket:_ NAACP Sonoma County

Fresh on the heels of the UUA General Assembly, Rev. Chris offers the highlights, review the theological conversations, leadership elections and social justice decisions that transpired there, and discuss the top issues that our denominational leaders are directing us towards now.
Another Fine Growth Experience
By Rev Chris Bell, UUCSR Minister

When I first arrived here at UUCSR almost 10 years ago, one of the first things I heard from long time colleagues in the Pacific Central District about my illustrious predecessor in the pulpit, Rev. Dan O’Neal, was his use of an expression that I have now made my own. When times were tough or weird, or things went awry for himself, a congregant, or the congregation as a whole, he would pronounce it an AFGE (pronounced “Aff-Ghee”). That stands for “Another F----- Growth Experience.” I’m sure the “F” stood for “Fun” or “Fulsome” or “Friendly.” He was a minister after all...

A little snarky humor strikes me as a very good approach to the strains and struggles of life. Since there is no avoiding change, nor conflict, all we really CAN do is try to make the best of it. I try to constantly ask, what do I have to learn here? How can I make meaning or opportunity from this experience? Where is God even in the midst of sorrow? As Fr. Richard Rohr, on of my favorite contemporary mystics has put it, “All great spirituality is about what we do with our pain.” Prayer, meditation, contemplation and worship aren’t about escaping from life.

Such practices are about dealing with life on the terms and conditions that life presents to us, which can, indeed, be rather painful at times.

That said, sometimes our AFGEs are fantastic.

I’m undergoing one now with my new love, Lisa, as we build a household together, and in a few weeks, I’ll undergo another when my son Aaron moves out of the house. He’s going to North Carolina to live with/near his mother for a few months before heading north to Oregon with a friend in the autumn.

And UUCSR is undergoing many Fantastic Growth Experiences even as I write.

Our Intern Minister Millie Phillips has completed her first year, and will be conducting her Clinical Pastoral Education hospital chaplaincy internship in Sacramento this summer.

With your generous support behind us, the Youth Group heads on its mission trip to New Orleans on June 12th.

We are discussing the possibility of assisting with a second rotating homeless shelter in the winter months in partnership with Catholic Charities.

We will soon conduct a pastoral care survey to guide us as we expand the volunteer and professional care of our members.

Members of the Advocates for Social Justice, and others are playing leadership roles in additional efforts to address homelessness, the Of One Soul interfaith movement, the North Bay Organizing Project, and other growing local justice organizations.

We are in the hiring process for new pianist as we bid farewell to the wonderful Tyler Johnson, who is moving to Florida at the end of May.

We are in the hiring process for a new bookkeeper to assist our beloved administrator Janis Brewster, thereby allowing her more hours to support the Board, the Glaser Center, the many congregational committees, and myself.

The Courtyard has been covered with sunshades and filled with furniture, essentially bringing UUCSR a whole additional room for events and meetings. I just think it’s looking gorgeous out there, and want to thank John Jaffray, Bud Willis, and the rest of our maintenance crew for their many rooftop hours, and Art Rosenblum for refusing to let go of the issue of noise in the Social Hall, which prompted these improvements in the first place.

We are enjoying major kitchen improvements. (Thanks, Gretchen and Jeremy! Thanks, Anonymous Donor!)

The Islamic Society is in the process of moving out of 545 Mendocino and into the building right next door, opening new possibilities for another long-term renter and/or new uses of that space.

A three-phase plan has been approved by the Board for the eventual renovation of the upstairs into new offices and classrooms.

And, perhaps most exciting and impactful of all, we are currently in negotiations with a professional progressive preschool which wants to rent the Religious Education wing. This will represent a major change in the use of the building and courtyard during the day. It will also bring many more families into our orbit. The project has been approved by an Ad Hoc Preschool Committee appointed by the Board, the Glaser Center Committee, the Religious Education Committee, and the Board itself. The preschool project also has the enthusiastic support of DRE Deborah Mason and myself. (Among other things, they will be teaching the children mindfulness, meditation and yoga. How cool is that?)

I will be hosting two congregational forums regarding the Preschool to answer questions and address concerns. One will be right after the 10:00 service on Sunday, June 5th, at 11:30. The other will be Tuesday, June 7th at 12:00pm, after the morning meditation group. We will also discuss it at the Congregational Meeting on June 12th.

Note that I said the 10:00 service on June 5th. That is the day we go to our summer schedule of one service only at 10:00, which lasts through September 4th. Spread the word.

Finally, I hope that you are undergoing AFGEs of your own in some positive way, stretching your mind or body or soul, and I hope that UUCSR is a contributing factor in that process. If there is anything I can do to help your growth and change, or just to share in its pain a little, I’m a phone call away.

Happy Summer!

Rev Chris
From Our President

“Hello, I must be going…”  G. Marx

I find this quote from my favorite philosopher appropriate for my final column as your Board President. I will “term out” as of June 30 after serving 4 years on the Board, the last as president. It has been an honor to serve this, my beloved community. Thank you all for your support.

Marilyn Beckerbauer and Pam Tennant also end their service on the Board as of June 30. Kudos and gratitude for their dedication and many contributions.

On July 1st we welcome Bill Haigwood, our incoming president. His experience with non-profits, and past and current involvement in putting our UU values into action, make him more than qualified to lead us into the future.

The Board will also be welcoming two new members, Natalie Brundred and Michael Randolph. I think the UUCSR is in great hands! See you in church!

Peace and love,

Susan Bartholome
President UUCSR Board of Trustees

Treasurer’s Report

Is it the season for planting? For allergies? For swimming? It’s Better—

- It’s Budget Time at the UUCSR!

At this June 12th Congregational Meeting we have the privilege of finalizing our Congregation’s budget for the upcoming year. Come and participate in your congregation’s annual transform-money-to-mission session.

The Budget Task Force, led with distinction by Terry Graham (with major assistance from Kirsten Olney), has worked tirelessly for the past five months on the process and the congregation will vote on the final budget at this Meeting on June 12.

Remember the preliminary budget presented at the February Congregational Meeting? It was based on a pledge goal of $477,000. Since then we have made adjustments to the budget that has decreased that pledge goal to about $467,000 (through changes in other revenue sources, not decreases in expenses).

We continue to receive new and adjusted (both increased and decreased) pledges, as we expected, because of our sustaining pledge process but have not quite reached that goal at the time I am writing this in early May. If we don’t reach that adjusted goal before the congregational meeting, some budget cuts may be suggested.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

There is still time to make an impact on our budget and our mission by increasing your pledge if you are able and so moved. As we all strive to attain a pledge between 5% and 10% of our incomes and then maintain it over the coming years, it is very possible that total pledges may keep up with our pledge goals.

Sustaining Pledges – Remember Your Pledge Repeats Unless You Change It

Every once in a while someone asks when the pledge drive will be. I think, “never, I hope.” And remind them that we now use a “sustaining pledge” process where our pledge remains the same from year to year until we change it.

Most of us understand and accept that our budget will not remain static, rather it will likely increase every year. We have some exciting goals for future years and as we have managed to find ways to save money here and there, those savings don’t completely offset the costs related to achieving those goals. An assistant minister, building renovations to provide for our increased usage and more programs to increase our outreach in the community and provide opportunities for spiritual growth are just some of our hopes and dreams for the near future.

Do you have a monthly pledge?

Your pledge to UUCSR remains in place unless you change it. Your pledge to UUCSR remains in place unless you change it. Have you considered RAISING it? It will continue to be the same monthly unless you decide to increase or decrease it, regardless of new fiscal years or congregational needs. Weekly, quarterly and annual pledges work the same way. One of the easiest ways you can manage your pledge is to set up an automatic payment from your bank account or credit card. Just go to our website and click on the green “Donate Now” button to set it up.

Thanks to all of you who are already on board!

Linda Balabanian, Treasurer

Remember—Sunday, June 12 Congregational Meeting

Jesus’ standard of generosity is not the world’s standard. ‘Just give a cup of cold water in my name,’ he instructs. So little and so simple as to be scarcely noticed! Like the widow’s mite it is nevertheless a high standard. It demands that we live in awareness of the thirst all around us.

Margaret Guenther
Share the Offering

UUCSR shares our Sunday offerings with local non-profits which serve greater Sonoma Co., incl. our Saturday Breakfast For Our Neighbors. Giving is arranged by A4SJ from congregate's

June 5: The Living Room
welcomes homeless and at-risk women and their children into a warm and safe environment during the day. Open Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 1 PM, caring staff offer a lifeline during a time of crisis. At their new campus, on the corner of Cleveland Avenue and Carrillo Street, they are able to serve more mothers and children.

June 12: Planned Parenthood Sonoma County/North Bay is our local branch of Planned Parenthood, America's most trusted provider of reproductive health care, offering high-quality, affordable medical care to men, women and teens.

June 19: Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow, a nonprofit program of the North Bay Black Chamber of Commerce which is specifically designed to provide funds for youth programs, mentoring, and scholarships for African American high school and college students.

June 26: Saturday Breakfast For Our Neighbors is our own Saturday Breakfast program for our needy neighbors, supported primarily by the generosity and volunteer efforts of our congregation.

Hot Topic:

NORTH BAY
BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Presenter Nancy Rogers
June 19 at 11:45 am
in the Board Room

The Black Chamber supports local businesses and potential business owners in developing alliances to promote and support their businesses, particularly black owned. The Chamber sponsors the Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow program which was launched in 2006 and is specifically designed to provide support to local youth programs, mentoring and scholarships for high school and college students. Recipients of grants have been Youth Business Week, Rites of Passage, Sonoma County YMCA, Roseland University Prep Charter School, Camp Fame, Fence at the top and scholarships given to African American high school and college students. This financial support is accomplished through an annual fundraiser.

Please note change of time to 11:45 due to summer-schedule — after the one 10:AM service. Snacks for a donation will be available. We meet in the Board Room.

MEMORY LOSS AND THE BRAIN
Sunday, June 26, 2016
11:30 AM in the Sanctuary

A repeat presentation of The Advocates for Social Justice April 10 Hot Topic!

Presenter Dr. Allan Bernstein, M.D. is a neurologist with decades of experience teaching, conducting research and treating patients. Dr. Bernstein's innovative approaches and drug trials have led to new treatments than can arrest further damage in Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other memory disorders.

Currently focused on Alzheimer's disease in his research, Dr. Bernstein reports that "...the newer diagnostic tools and the newer medicines in trial have created an opportunity to finally see progress in slowing, possible stopping and maybe even reversing the devastation of this illness."

Dr. Bernstein will include a discussion of how to keep our brains healthy and how to recognize when something is starting to go wrong. "The earlier we can spot the 'first slip' the more likely some of our newer treatments will be effective."

We will be in the Sanctuary so there will be space for all. We had an overwhelming response to this presentation in April and are so pleased to be able to offer it again. We will begin following the one service at 10 AM, at 11:30. There will be no light lunch offered.

Jeanie Bates, for A4SJ
**North Bay Organizing Project**

**UUCSR’s community organizing partner, NBOP, offers abundant opportunities for individuals to make real differences in our communities, in ways that supports our UU values.**

**News and Events!**

The North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP) attained a huge victory on May 3rd when the Santa Rosa City Council approved a rent stabilization and just cause eviction ordinance. NBOP has been working on this issue for nearly two years, meeting with Council Members, holding public forums, hearing the tragic stories of renters in our community and making those stories known to people in power. The policy has been sent to city staff to iron out some of the details.

The ordinance will restrict annual rent increases to 3% in units that are eligible for rent control under state law and will exempt houses, duplexes and owner-occupied triplexes. That amounts to over 10,000 rental units in Santa Rosa. It will also require just cause for evictions of renters in all rental units and houses in the city.

While we celebrate this victory, we know that those who oppose it are planning to put forth a ballot measure in November to overturn it. And so, the work continues....

**Upcoming Events:**

**June 9 UU NBOP Core Team Meeting 2-3 PM UUCSR Board Room**

Want the latest information about task forces on Education, Affordable Housing, Transportation, and Integrated Voter Engagement? An Update is always available at this meeting.

Interested in knowing more about our congregation’s engagement with NBOP? Attend our monthly meeting—we would love to have you!

Is an afternoon meeting not good for you, but you are interested? Please contact Carol Kraemer, Sibyl Day, or Deborah Mason for more information.

**July 16 Noche Sabrosa**

NBOP member organizations gather for dinner, dancing, and FUN!

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**ALL UU SUMMER CAMP!**

*(Sept 2–4, 2016)*

Be sure to block off September 2, 3 & 4 for the 2016 All UU Summer Camp!

This Retreat is available to everyone in the Congregation – parents, kids, teens, adults, singles and grandparents. You don’t want to miss the loads of fun, with campfire songs, swimming in the Enchanted Hills pool, workshops, relaxation, and amazing entertainment with the annual UU “Variety” show. Enchanted Hills is on the border of Sonoma & Napa, about 45 minutes from the Safeway on Calistoga.

Lighthouse for the Blind runs the facility, so it is very handicapped-friendly. The majority of the cabins and the lodge are very comfortable with real mattresses and indoor bathrooms. However, the camp does offer very rustic cabins for a lower price. So check your calendar! The Retreat will be a really fun weekend for all, with games and entertainment for the whole family. Let’s make memories that will last a lifetime!

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**Evening Book Group**

**JUNE 9, 6:30 PM**

547 Mendocino in the RE wing.

The June meeting is a finger-food potluck, and members bring book recommendations for the coming year.

This meeting begins early, at 6:30 to allow time to eat before the discussion.

The book group meets September to June, taking off July and August. Members take turns leading the book discussion and providing light snacks.

Normal meeting time is 7 to 9 p.m.

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**Faith and Fitness**

**Saturday, June 11**

Early Bird Outing to Shollenberger Park

1900 S. McDowell Petaluma!

9am start from the free parking lot through the gates.

Flat, easy 2.2 mile loop with birds, views. Bring binoculars, dogs welcome, can be windy, possible stop for hot drinks after.

Sign up with Gretchen P.!

Carpool from Santa Rosa to be arranged.

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**Drawing Wednesdays!**

**Open drawing 1-3 pm Green Room**

Judy Hutchinson facilitates a group from beginners to experienced artists.

Bring your paper & pencils for some meaningful fun!

Instructional books, masters’ drawings, ideas, encouragement—all available.

Call Judy for more info.

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**Gentle Reminder From UUCSR Library Committee:**

**Books are due back after 30 days**

Return them any Sunday or to the office Mon—Fri, 10am-2pm.

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UU Update is a monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa, California. E-submissions preferred. Send to the newsletter email at uusantarosa.org. Due by the Mon. after 3rd Sundays of the month. Paper submissions must be received in the Newsletter mail slot in the office workroom at UUCSR 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. All submissions should have Topic and Month in email subject line. Articles 200-400 words. Ads and Announcements 20-150 words. 707-568-5381, ext. 106, for info. Non-congregational announcements only as furthers the congregation’s mission and as space allows.
**Religious Education for Children & Youth**
Director of Religious Education, Deborah Mason

**Summertime! So many simple pleasures just waiting...**

We hear children's refrain, “there’s nothing to do,” or “I’m bored.” We all know there is plenty to do! It just takes some imagination and motivation to find the thing that will bring us to life in the quiet moments of summer.

When kids are used to the passive stimulation of television or mesmerizing action of video games, it can be hard for them to come up with something to do on their own. You parents and grandparents can help.

Before you say “Turn off the computer” take some time with your children to make a list of things that they enjoy doing. Then help them to make things happen.

**Here is my 2016 list of summer activity possibilities:**

- **Do they love art?** Take them to get art supplies so they are on hand and easy to access all summer. You can find an endless source of easy arts and crafts projects by googling "easy crafts for kids'.

- **Do they love camping?** Pitch a tent or sleep under the stars in the backyard. Campout at home! Let the kids cook dinner. This could be a disaster or this could become a tradition!

- **Read to a Dog.** Sonoma County library has a program where children come to the library and read to a dog. Learn more about it at https://sonomalibrary.org/kids/books-reading/read-to-a-dog

- **Free summertime concerts abound**—pack a picnic and enjoy music outdoors.

- **Catch a local baseball game.** Did you know that we have a professional baseball team nearby? Check out the Sonoma Stompers! Season begins June 7. Tickets are as low as $10 for kids aged under 10 and $15 for adults.

- **Water play is always a hit.** Run through the sprinklers, help wash the car, make water balloons, transform plastic water bottles into water guns. The Russian River & Spring Lake offer wonderful days of sun and water.

- **And, oh yes! Come to Sunday School – we have lots of fun each week.**

There are endless ways kids and families can have fun together. These moments when children are young are so precious - I hope you will take the time, and find the energy to help your kids make the most of summer and do the things you all love.

In Faith, Deborah

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**KEEPING IT “SIMPLE AND FUN” THIS SUMMER!**

**Summer Program for K-5**

June 5 – Sept 4, Sundays 10:00 am

**Grades K-5 each Summer Sunday**—children begin in the worship service for a Story for All Ages, lead the Children’s Affirmation, then go to the RE wing for a brief children’s worship. Games, art and song follow! We offer organized outdoor games, and a music session or arts & crafts project led by some of the congregation’s great musicians, or fantastic artists.

Childcare for babies, toddlers and preschoolers provided every Sunday morning during the summer at 10:00am by Fiona Mackenzie and Shawna Hoxsie.

**Middle School Youth (MUUGs)** are on summer hiatus, June 14 to August 16. There is a Pacific Central District Middle School Summer Camp July 6–11 at the Mendocino Woodlands.

Details about the camp: MUUGs website [http://www.pcdmuugs.org](http://www.pcdmuugs.org) or from Deborah Mason.

**The Sr. High Youth Group** is also on hiatus from mid June until August 16. However, there may be some meetings of the youth group over the summer for community service. Contact Deborah Mason for info. Deborah Mason and Rev. Chris serve as Youth Advisers.
Starting June 28—New Class

New $$$ Class
Daily Money Management
June 28—August 6
Tuesdays 7-8:30 pm

Starting June we offer a Daily Money Management class designed to help you develop daily money management skills.

The series will be offered on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and runs for 6 weeks beginning June 28. Enrollment is limited to 12 attendees. Donations suggested and, if needed, child care may be provided.

(We hope that you can sign up soon so that we can accurately predict whether or not child care will be needed.)

Mary Chapot, UU member, and holder of a Master of Science degree in Accountancy, presents this series. Some of the topics she covers include: understanding net worth, setting goals, building a budget, creating a financial plan and completing the process. The overall purpose if to learn how to track personal income and expenses and master control of your money.

Sign up at the Adult RE table.
Donation suggested.
Need Childcare? Please signup in advance!

Looking Ahead to August...

Robert McNally Presents
Poet Mary Oliver
August 27
(time?)

Robert McNally presents an all-day workshop on poet Mary Oliver. It seems, sometimes, that Mary Oliver could be considered the Poet Laureate of UUCSR. Our previous offering on Oliver’s poetry was very well attended and we expect this one to be the same.

The Key Card Access System is Here!

The key card access system for our building and Courtyard is installed!

Apply to Janis Brewster, our Administrator, or her designated assistant, to obtain a key fob, if you have a demonstrated need for access to the building and grounds when the building is locked.

In June we expect to re-key the exterior doors so only staff will have access by key in case of power outages. At that time access to the building and grounds by all others will be only by key fob.

The Operations Team

Give A Book, Get A Book
Starting Sunday May 15

The Monday evening TIE Group B has organized a Give A Book, Get A Book program.

Is your children’s book shelf overloaded with books you no longer read? Leave the books on the designated bookshelf in the RE wing!

Looking for another good kid-read? Take a book that someone else has donated!
UUCSR Supports its Intern!
By Millie Phillips, M.I. (Ministerial Intern)

Hello everyone. By the time you read this, I'll be in Sacramento doing my summer chaplaincy internship. I look forward to returning to UUCSR right after Labor Day for the 2nd half of my internship with you.

Thank you, everyone, for making the 1st half of my internship so valuable and rewarding. I'm very glad this is a 2-year internship. How could anyone learn enough in 1 year? Even if worked 40+ hours per week, rather than the 20+ I do, it still takes real time to learn new skills and habits, but especially to know people on more-than-a-superficial level.

In my second year, my focus will be more on getting deeper into ministry as the spiritual practice of listening, drawing out, caring for, inspiring, and valuing others, and less on practical skills, as important as they are. My chaplaincy training this summer couldn't be coming at a better time.

Congregants support interns through direct feedback.
When I come back in the fall, please call, email, or set up a time to meet with me one-on-one if you have any concerns. While I'm deeply grateful that I haven't gotten a lot of negative feedback thus far, I do want suggestions for how I can improve.

Many of us find it fairly easy to offer praise directly. It is much harder to deliver less-than-positive feedback. Sometimes I find out through that mysterious message system called the "grapevine," that someone wasn't exactly thrilled about something I said or did, or, more likely, failed to say or do. It's more helpful to me to hear that directly from the source.

Feedback that is very specific, such as "when I came to you, I wanted you to say X and instead you did Y," is very helpful. Comments such as "I don't think you were listening or caring" don't tell me what I did to give that impression. If I know, I can correct it. If not, I might work diligently in the wrong direction to correct it! Since we all have different emotional needs, triggers, and personality types, what may seem obvious to one person may not be obvious at all to another.

That being said, you all have been incredibly helpful and supportive. You are a great teaching congregation! What a blessing to be an intern here.

Have a wonderful summer!!!
Millie Phillips, Intern Minister
UU’s have GAY PRIDE!

Sunday June 5th
Our congregation annually participates in the Sonoma County June Gay Pride Parade!

We have our own VW convertible for you who need a RIDE.

The rest of us will walk the five blocks in style, strutting our celebratory UU sartorial profiles! Stay tuned for times to meet & and march in the parade rank and file!

Contact Becky Montgomery

UUCSR has Wonderful Ways to Set Your Community Life Ablaze!

Take a visual tour through the Sunday Visitors Table’s current Group brochures! see all the lovely opportunities to connect with “fellow travelers.”

Share The Basket

APRIL RECIPIENTS

Each week we split our offering basket contributions. Our Advocates for Social Justice committee selects a program to receive this special donation from our Congregation.

Parkinsons Support Grp $766.29
Santa Rosa Quilt Guild $538.27
Research Inst. Of So. Co. West $297.51
Medical Foundation $479.69
Saturday Breakfast $479.69

Thanks for your generous support!

GA 2016

Not too late to be a Delegate!
You still can go to Ohio!

Non-delegates welcome too, at the UUA Annual General Assembly June 22 to 26 in Columbus, Ohio

Want to see how UU’s make things happen at the national level?

Do you find yourself thirsting to be more involved in democratic evolution?

Ever wanted to sip from the overflowing cup of opportunities to learn, celebrate & connect-up, with other UUs at our magnificent annual General Assembly (GA) meet-up?

Registration fees for GA: $405 for full-conference. Scholarships avail. for delegates

GA 2016
Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect
June 22 to 26 2016 Columbus Ohio
www.uua.org/ga
“If you think money can’t buy happiness, you’re not spending it right.” So says Michael Norton, Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School, in summing up his research and presentation, “How to Buy Happiness.”

He observes that spending money on other people has a much bigger return than spending money on yourself. His conclusion that “if you think that money cannot buy happiness, you’re not spending it the right way,” has been getting growing attention from folks who want to know how pro-social spending can benefit them, their work and their communities.

“Stop thinking about ‘buying this product instead of that product’ for yourself, and instead consider how to give to someone else,” he advises people. Ask yourself, “What can I do to benefit other people?”

Norton’s research demonstrates that buying for others actually does make people happier, while buying for one’s self has little effect on one’s attitude toward life.

As I have entered more deeply into this practice, I have indeed found more happiness in my life.

Members of UUCSR give in many ways that benefit others in our interwoven communities. Science is showing what many of already intuitively know — as we give support, love, and joy through our funding and spending on our congregational programs, so we each receive that same support, love, and joy for ourselves.

Donations and pledges that benefit a wealth of programs, classes, and spiritual experiences, “both within and beyond our walls,” and which we regard as part of our spiritual practice of generosity, spread in ripples to other areas of our lives.

The Philanthropy Team works to make this practice of generosity much more convenient for you at UUCSR.

E-Giving tools automate your contributions to our mission: celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another, and building a better world. You can donate electronically via the UUCSR Website. You can review your donation records and change the size of your donations online in your UUCSR Web Account. On the go? Manage your account safely through your smart phone.

Didn’t bring your cash or checkbook to church? Contribute your bit to the Sunday basket by text from your phone!

As this April/May budgeting period draws to a close, see if your happiness grows by increasing your recurring pledge payments. Figured out how to use these electronic tools? Help a friend donate this way and increase your digital karma! Expansion of our ministry is made possible by growth of funding, even if it is done more easily than in the “good old days.”

*https://www.ted.com/talks/michael_norton_how_to_buy_happiness?language=en
For the June 5th 10 am service, the special music will be "The Impossible Dream" performed by: Joshua Bluegreen-Cripps, Trumpet; Robert Howseman, Guitar; and Paul Gilger, Piano. It is the most popular song from the 1965 Broadway musical “Man of La Mancha.”

On the June 12th service, the choir sings “Dona Nobis Pacem” (Grant Us Peace), which version was composed by John Mass in 2009.

Robin Rogers will be singing and playing a special song, "Heaven Sent," for the service on June 19. Here a few of the lyrics: “I wanna be the one who you believe in your heart is sent from heaven. And there's a piece of me who leaves when you're gone because you're sent from heaven.”

Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

LOUIS GASPAR, WINNER OF 2016 ADRIENNE SWENSON AWARD
A $1,000 scholarship in honor of Adrienne Swenson, long-time UUCSR member and widely-hailed community social justice activist, is given annually to a high school senior who plans to pursue higher education and has been a serious, committed activist in our community.

The Advocates for Social Justice announces with delight that Louis Gaspar is the 2016 winner of the Adrienne Swenson Award! Louis Gaspar, Elsie Allen High School graduating senior, has been a leader in California Youth Connection (CYC) since his freshman year.

CYC, youth-led organization, develops leaders who empower each other and their communities to transform the foster care system through legislative and policy change. Louis was instrumental in the successful effort to create and pass Assembly Bill 12 which extends foster care to young people beyond the age of 18. There are copies of Louis’ essay at the Advocates table for those who would like to know more about him.

At Sunday, June 5th service, we will present Louis with a handsome certificate (made by Frances Corman) and a check for $1,000, plus our congratulations and best wishes for what looks to be a bright future! We hope you will all be there to honor Louis and wish him well as he embarks on an exciting, new future!

Linda Harlow, Chair of A4SJ

Highlights of Rev Chris’s Summer Schedule
(for those of you who missed the focus list)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 3—4</td>
<td>UUA Pacific Central District Board Retreat at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville</td>
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<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>June 5th! Summer services begin. One service only at 10:00 am. Rev Chris preaching.</td>
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<td>Jun 8—12</td>
<td>Rev Chris in Ohio, On Vacation.</td>
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<td>Jun 12</td>
<td>Congregational Meeting, 11:15</td>
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<td>Jun 12—18</td>
<td>Rev Chris co-leading the Youth Group Service Trip to New Orleans, with Deb Mason.</td>
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<td>Jun 19—27</td>
<td>UUMA Ministry Days, UUA General Assembly, UUA Appointments Committee Mtg.</td>
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<td>Jun 28—Jul 15</td>
<td>Rev Chris around for three weeks, and preaching the first two Sundays in July.</td>
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<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>Rev Chris back to work! Preaching twice in August. (And celebrating 10 years of ministry together!)</td>
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<td>Aug 19—21</td>
<td>UUCSR Board Retreat.</td>
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<td>Aug 2—4</td>
<td>UUCSR Family Camp.</td>
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<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Ingathering, with a return to two services, and the annual kickoff of the Children’s Religious Education program year.</td>
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