June 2nd
MANY MOUNTAINS, MANY FAITHS
Services at 9:15 and 11:00
Today we explore and celebrate the year in religious education, featuring insights of our middle school youth. These emerging leaders will reflect upon their experience of visiting and learning about neighboring faith traditions and communities. All are welcome for this celebratory service!

Service Leaders: The MUUGS group, Rev. Dara Olandt, Jen Freese, Veronica Jordan

Music by: Jen Freese, Youth Choir, Roger Corman

Share the Basket: Redwood Empire Food Bank

June 9th
THE LONG NOW
One Service and Children’s Religious Education at 9:15
Congregational Meeting at 11:00
There is a Clock, hundreds of feet tall, designed to tick for 10,000 years. Occasionally the bells of this Clock play a melody. The chimes never repeat a pattern for 10,000 years. The Clock is real. It is being built inside a mountain in western Texas. Now, what the heck is that all about?

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Richard Senghas, Rev. Dara Olandt

Music by: Sadie Sonntag & the UUCSR Choir, Roger Corman

Share the Basket: The Living Room

June 16th
FATHER’S DAY
Summer Services begin
One service only at 10:00!
Today, as we shift into our summer schedule of one service only at 10:00, Rev. Chris and Eric Fischer will reflect on their spiritual journeys as fathers, and as the sons of fathers.

Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Eric Fischer

Music by: Robin Rogers, Paul Gilger & musical UUs

Share the Basket: Graton Day Labor Center

June 23rd
THE HORSE THAT ALMOST GOT AWAY
Special Guest: Rev. Dr. Jeanne Foster

One service at 10:00
D. W. Winnicott wrote "we too often live in compliance, as though the world is something to be fitted in with, demanding adaptation. This attitude tells us to put our dreams on the back burner, but our dreams are part of creative living, making life worthwhile. This Sunday, we stand up for pulling our dreams through into reality, as a way of transcending a life dominated by compliance.

Rev. Dr. Jeanne Foster received a Master of Divinity degree from Starr King, and served as minister of the UU Fellowship in Modesto. She also holds a PhD from the Graduate Theological Union in Religion, Literature, and the Arts. She is Professor Emerita at Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, and a published poet. Her passions are ballroom dancing, Tuscany & in particular, ballroom dancing in Tuscany!

Service Leaders: Rev. Dr. Jeanne Foster, Cathy Read

Music by: Mary Chapot, Renee Valentino, Ben Trosper, Paul Gilger

Share the Basket: Breakfast for Our Neighbor

June 30th
THE GATHERING OF THE TRIBE
One service at 10:00
Rev. Chris and other UUCSR delegates and attendees will return from Spokane with updates and impressions from the annual General Assembly of the UUA, and reflect on the direction of our faith tradition. Rev. Chris promises to be cheery and optimistic. We’ll also have a New Member Ceremony!


Music by: Susan Panttaja, Roger Corman & some musical UUs

Share the Basket: Harvest for the Hungry
On April 27th, I had the good fortune to preside over the wedding of our dear fellow members Deborah Mason and Michele Murphy in a beautiful garden setting. The ceremony was transcendent, if I don't say so myself. The whole day radiated the great blessing that is love: the brides coming down the aisle together in their brightly colored flower tunics; the sweet music provided by Michele's son and Deborah's kids; the beaming smiles on the joyful, supportive and grateful attendees. It was so obvious that these two love each other, are good for each other, understand each other, enjoy each other, and belong together. It was surely one of my happiest days as a minister, and as a friend to these two wonderful women.

It still breaks my heart to think about all the gay couples who did not get to live openly or to sanctify their love in marriage, even as I'm still a little amazed that we achieved same-sex marriage in my lifetime. If I ever find myself feeling that things are bleak, I use the victory of same-sex couples to remember that sometimes we're closer to winning justice and moving forward than we know or think we are.

I honestly don't know how anyone could attend Deb & Michele's wedding and not understand why so many around here worked so hard to secure legal marriage equality, and why so many of us are so insistent about honoring the lives and experiences of LGBTQ people. These two strong women make each other even stronger by being together. We're all stronger because they're together. Love has some powerful algorithms; and its power grows exponentially. Love is all the more powerful for coming forth in so many different forms and expressions.

Unfortunately, all around us we see evidence that our broken society is still afraid of gay people, of transgender people, of people of color, and of strong women. Witness all the abuse heaped on many of the women newly elected to political leadership in this country, or all the hoo-hah about the alleged problem of "electability" of a female candidate. We are so overdue for a woman as president, particularly with all the choice legislation coming out of the South (and, sadly, my home state of Ohio) right now. It seems to me like it's the men who have the problem of electability.

Fortunately, I know that history is not on the side of the bigots and sexists and their ilk. History is on the side of equality and pluralism and justice and acceptance and freedom. We can't take victory for granted, of course. We have to bring our commitment to the vision of a just world forward, with our words and our bodies. But I really do believe that eventually, as a species, we're going to look back on even these times as a kind of Dark Ages. In the meantime, we will continue to celebrate diversity and equality, doing our part in the long struggle. Even in progressive Sonoma County, it still matters a lot that we have a rainbow flag over the door and a "Black Lives Matter" banner in the window. Thanks for taking a public stand.

It also matters that we constantly attend to our own prejudices and assumptions and how these may manifest in unwelcoming behaviors, howsoever unintended. Let's all continue to take a critical look at ourselves, as we stretch ourselves to know and accept those who are different from us. Breaking away all the barriers to love and understanding is precisely the hard spiritual work to which Unitarian Universalism calls us. In these divisive times, this approach is needed more than ever.

And, hey, if you want to see how beautiful diversity is, just take a walk down the Narthex and look at the many smiling faces of UUCSR, thanks to the work of Leslie Norinsky and the Diversity Project.

On the personal side, June is going to bring a really big change for me. I am making a renewed effort to sell my 4-bedroom unit in Yulupa CoHousing. In order to paint and stage it properly, I will be moving out by May 31st. It is the end of an era. I'll stay with some good friends for a couple/few months while my house sells, and while the perfect new home manifests for me and my two perfect cats, Frye and Bender.

June will also bring a lot of travel. From June 1st – 5th, Lisa and I will be on a short pilgrimage with Dead & Company. After that, I'll be back for a couple weeks, and I will expect to see EVERYONE at the Congregational Meeting on June 9th at 11:00. From June 16th – 27th, I'll be off to UUMA Ministry Days, the UUA General Assembly and to enjoy a short visit with Father Matt in Portland. I'll be back to conduct Olive Horrell's memorial service on June 30. I will visit my children in North Carolina and Boulder from July 4th – 11th, and return to conduct Marley Fein's memorial on July 13th.

It is an ancient and healthy practice to take time for a Sabbath, so I ask all committees and working groups to take a break from meeting in July. I think it's wise for everyone to rest (except the worship associates and music coordinators, sorry) and to remember that it is we who set the pace around here. So get your work done now, so we can all take a deep breath in July. In August we'll pick it all up again and keep on building that better world of which we dream.

I hope you all have a lovely summer! See you soon.

Reverend Chris Bell
“Live in the sunshine, swim the sea, drink the wild air.”
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

When I was about 5 years old, my mother took me to meet a teacher of Transcendental Meditation (TM). I was given a “word”, or a “mantra”, that I used throughout my childhood. Transcendental Meditation originated in India, a form of meditation taught by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. It was very popular in the 60s and 70s, as you may recall!

At 5 years old, the practice of meditation started simply for me. I took 5 minutes of quiet each day, in which I recited this mantra or “word” while doing other tasks such as coloring or playing with my stuffed animals. It was a very accessible way to learn this form of meditation for me!

Later in life, as a pre-teen and teenager, I renewed my TM meditation practice and then began exploring other forms of meditation, including Theravada Buddhist meditation, Zen meditation, Jewish Meditation and Dynamic Mindfulness Meditation. These days, I find that meditation is important for my ability to be a mom, to be a minister, to be a friend, to… be a joyful human in this busy world!

When I take the opportunity to “power down” and become silent, I find the congestion of the world settle down within me, and bring me, often a sense of deeper peace. Out of this peace, I can often return to the world more rested, with more energy.

Sometimes, when I open my eyes after meditation, the colors and shapes and forms I see appear a bit sharper to my opened eyes. It’s as if, by going inwards even for a small amount of time, when I open my eyes my “lens” on the world around me gets “dusted off” and I can see a bit better once again. (Truth be told, sometimes I do fall asleep in meditation, too! But, hey, that’s ok, right?!) Earlier this year, I had an opportunity to teach meditation at Mills College, incorporating trauma-informed sensibilities into this meditation teaching. And, each Sunday here at UUCSR in worship, we spend about 5 minutes of collective silence in meditation, prayer or reflection. These times of being in collective silence are among my most favorite times each week. I value allowing each person time in this busy world to slow down, and the simple, ancient power of companioning each other into stillness.

This month, the theme in our worship is transcendence. When I was a child doing TM practice, I recall being taught not to imagine that “transcendence” was a goal. The process was not to “try” to reach “enlightenment” or some “grander state” of being. As a kid, I remember loving this emphasis on not trying and just being. Sometimes, in meditation, I would become aware of the birds singing or the hum of the air, and everything would for a moment seem to be connected and united in a way that I could feel. (It was really cool!) The best part was that it seemed to happen just by me listening, and not trying to do anything other than be!

As a kid, I wouldn’t have called this glimpsing “transcendence”, per se. Yet, I felt in these times a glimpse of something beautiful and deep and great that felt magical.

As an adult, sometimes it still happens for me. For example, when I “show up” for meditation and then actually “give up” on “trying” to accomplish or “get” anywhere or “attain” anything, and just sink into the glorious nature of silence and being. As an adult, I relish this quality in meditation as a time to be, breathe, and surrender to whatever unfolds without trying to convince, coerce or cajole the self into being something other or different.

I wonder what you think of transcendence.

Whether it is in a piece of music that startles me into viscerally remembering how vast and breathtaking the world is, or an unexpectedly sweet moment watching a sunset at the beach with my family (in which time seems to curiously collapse and we are present to an abundance of joy) or when I feel a moment or two of the limitless connection of all life in this mysterious cosmos — transcendence is an evocative word. To me, it conjures that mystic, etheric, visceral, limitless sense of what is larger than us as individuals and connects us in this extraordinary universe.

This June, I hope you get some moments to rest, and to simply be a being-in-this-world... and perhaps be surprised by a taste of some shiny, glimmering, glimpse of transcendence... that just might move you and leave you breathless.

Warmly & with care,

Rev. Dara Olandt
Assistant Minister
President’s Column

June is the last month of our congregational year, and it’s the last month of my second year as your President. (Don’t worry, unless next year’s board wants something otherwise, I’m planning on being President next year!) All this means that, for me, June is a time for reflection. Looking back over the past year/two years, and ahead to next year/the longer-term future.

I have to tell you, I’m so proud of who we are as a community and a congregation! We are visionary, committed, loving, values-driven…and fun! We really do celebrate life and living. We really do empower each other and all people. We really do care for one another, and we really are in action to build a better world. WE WALK OUR TALK. I can’t even think of how many communities I’ve been a part of who don’t. It’s tremendously affirming and reassuring to know that we do.

In this last year, we’ve completed our staffing transitions. We have the perfect people in place to support our growth into the future. Dara is taking our congregation in new and exciting directions and expanding our reach out into an underserved community. Jen continues to amaze me with all her ideas and plans. Dawn is settling in so well that I can hardly believe she’s only been here 3½ months. She is taking the reins fully in hand and is already making good changes. Laura is a gift from the bookkeeping gods! She is so accurate, so vigilant, and so welcoming of other’s input. Peter continues to shine as our Sexton, we have great new childcare providers in RE, and what can (or do I) need to say about our minister? The Bohemian truly has gotten it right – we have the best minister around!

A year ago, we took the courageous step of voting in a budget that planned for growth, and hired Dara as our Assistant Minister. And then we raised the funds to pay for it! We said we needed to raise $60,000 (for Dara’s salary AND other things), and busily got to work. So many of us stepped forward and raised our pledges. You know how Chris says over the offering every Sunday “You are a generous people”? Well, we really are! Unfortunately, we had several of our large pledgers leave us, so it’s been a tight year financially. But that has led to some truly innovative, visionary ideas that (if approved at June’s Congregational Meeting) will end up leaving us in a really strong position to face our future!

I truly think we are blessed. Ideas, options and actions keep happening that “break” in our favor. I’m reminded of that children’s book “That’s Good! That’s Bad!”, where things that look good on the surface turn out to be bad – but things that look bad in the moment turn out to be good! And I think that’s us.

A large part of that, I think, comes from your heart, your soul, your caring and your living your values – from everything that you bring to this community and congregation. As a recipient of your love, commitment, caring and generosity, I thank you from the bottom of my heart – and I hope I give the same back to you!

Here’s to a future that’s bright, that’s full of surprises, that’s not easy, but that IS worthwhile. I’m so excited to be journeying into it together with you!

Much love,

-Natalie Brundred,
President, Board of Trustees

What Your Board Is Up To
- March 2019

The Board unanimously voted to approve the budget you will be asked to pass at June’s Congregational Meeting. This budget is predicated on using Endowment Fund money to pay off all our member mortgage notes – in effect, to pay off the mortgage, so we would own our building outright. This puts us into a VERY strong position for our future.

We also set up everything for our Congregational Meeting on June 9th, from approving the agenda to determining who will be counting members as they come in for our quorum count.

Are you involved in a volunteer activity here? If not, the Board wants to encourage you to do so! We have a few paid staff, but we rely on volunteers to carry out our mission. We have more than 200 volunteer jobs! There are several key jobs that will need to be filled in the coming months. You’ll hear more about this at the Congregational Meeting, and regularly thereafter.

Did you know we have a Glaser Center page on Facebook? Dawn Silveira, our Administrative Manager, has been posting events we host there. Please “like” our page. We’re letting the community know that it’s a great venue for all kinds of events – and you might find something you want to go to!

-Natalie Brundred,
President, Board of Trustees
Spotlight on Youth Group: 9th-12th Grade

Jen Freese, Director of Religious Education

RE Summer Makerspace begins June 9
during the 9:15 am service and
continues during the single summer
services (10:00 am) through September

Maker Movement and Makerspaces
You may have heard of the Maker movement in the past ten years - a wave of thinking that combines creativity, DIY, technology, shop, hobbyists, art, design and craft into one amazing trend that is easier to grasp if you can see it in action. Maker faires, makerspaces, maker classrooms and Make culture celebrates the inventor in all. While many people could weigh in about who started this movement, most can agree that it is a positive way of thinking about creativity that is accessible to everyone.

Why a Makerspace in Religious Education?
Unitarian Universalism is a tradition of problem-solvers and doers. Our activist background fits wonderfully with a Makerspace, as design thinking itself begins with empathy – empathizing about a problem that a person or people might have, and then trying to think of something that could help that problem.

We also raise our children and youth in the UU tradition to speak up and let their voices be heard. Makerspaces are all about active learning, accessibility, and inclusivity. They are a child-centered space for children to actively learn about the Principles of Unitarian Universalism.

The Seven Principles Challenges
We are using our Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles as a structure for the Makerspace this summer. There will be specific challenges, like this one for our 7th Principle (Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part): Create a game that teaches people about conservation. There will also be open-ended challenges for kids who enjoy more freedom, like create a piece of art that represents the 1st Principle (honoring the inherent worth and dignity of all people).

Adults as Guides, not Teachers
Children and youth are encouraged to be the main creators of their designs. Adults will be present as guides, sometimes leading an optional small group for those who would like some extra inspiration, but mostly asking questions, observing, giving constructive feedback and suggesting peer cooperation. This gives children and youth the space to be the experts in their projects – active producers, not passive consumers, of UU ideas.

Flexible Framework
Summer is a time when many families travel, kids are away at camp, and schedules change. Because of this, numbers fluctuate greatly in RE during the summer months. Children and youth still need a place to come together as a community, but the last thing most want in the summer is something that feels like school! Our RE Makerspace is a place for children and youth to drop in on one Sunday or multiple Sundays, work on a piece of art that they finish in 30 minutes or an invention that takes the entire summer. Participants are welcome to work independently or with a partner. All school-age children and youth are welcome to participate, including teens, who can take the role of guides, documentarians, or makers themselves.

Make and Play: A Space for the Little Ones
Children age three to five, or those who simply need a more supported, play-based space, will have the opportunity to join our Make and Play Space in Room 2 this summer. We will have a variety of building-centered and optional, adult-led craft opportunities available. Childcare for infants and toddlers will also still be available with Claire Jacobs, our nursery care provider.
New and donated books were added to the Social Hall library in the last year. Books that were not circulating were weeded out. Barrie Noe continues to catalog Reverend Chris's book collection. DVD's, supplied by the Advocates for Social Justice are now cataloged and available for checkout from, the Social Hall library during and between services. Elizabeth Olsen has started a children’s/parenting book collection. The books are listed on the Lending Libraries database (along with the Social Hall library books and Reverend Chris’s books) and are available for checkout in the RE Wing.

Blessings, Barrie Noe

Library Report 2018/2019

The A4SJ Film Project presents our Care in Community Film Series:
NOTE: reminder of our final film. Your May newsletter contains the full article about this film.

UNNATURAL CAUSES...is inequality making us sick?
A 4-part series

Part 1: In Sickness and In Wealth
Produced by Christine Herbes-Sommers, Llewellyn M. Smith
SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019
Following the 11 AM service in the Board Room

Our final film of this year’s series, "In Sickness and in Wealth", illuminates the role of social determinants of health in creating health inequalities/health disparities in the United States. This documentary, which first aired on PBS in 2008, examines the links between health and illness and underlying patterns of class and racial inequities.

From the description of this episode: "The lives of a CEO, a lab supervisor, a janitor and an unemployed mother illustrate how class shapes opportunities for good health. Those on the top have the most access to power, resources and opportunity — and thus the best health. Those on the bottom are faced with more stressors — unpaid bills, jobs that don’t pay enough, unsafe living conditions, exposure to environmental hazards, lack of control over work and schedule, worries over children — and the fewest resources available to help them cope."

The role of chronic stress in the development of illness is explored as this film leads us to conclude that if we, as a nation, want to change our health outcomes we are called to focus not on more pills but on more equitable social policies. An important film, well documented.

Discussion, as always, follows viewing of this 56 minute film. Please bring whatever you wish to eat. We will offer a snack, not lunch.

— Elaine, Cassandra, Mary Louise, Carol D., Dorris, Jeanie

Share the Offering

UUCSR shares Sunday offerings with local non-profits that serve greater So. Co., incl. our Saturday Breakfast.

June 2: Redwood Empire Food Bank with a wide range of programs, provides food for needy children and seniors, supplies hundreds of local agencies, including our own Saturday Breakfast.

June 9: The Living Room located on Cleveland Avenue near College, welcomes homeless and at-risk women and children into a warm and safe environment during the day. Caring staff offer lifelines during times of crisis.

June 16: Graton Day Labor Center: “Centro Laboral de Graton” is a worker-led day labor center that organizes with domestic workers and day laborers in west Sonoma County, California for the advancement of their rights and dignity as workers, as immigrants, and as members of the broader community.

June 23: Breakfast For Our Neighbors is our own Saturday Breakfast program which provides a nutritious breakfast for our neighbors in need. The program is supported by our financial contributions and many volunteers.

June 30: Harvest For The Hungry is an all-volunteer organization that delivers organically grown produce each week to several local hunger programs. The food is grown on 1-1/4 acres owned by Christ Church United Methodist.

July 7: Martin Luther King, Jr. “A Day On, NOT a Day Off” Fund provides resources for the activities at Community Baptist Church on MLK Day in January.

ADVOCATES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
We meet 2nd Mondays, 10 am—12 pm, at UUCSR - Join us! We welcome your participation! Contact Linda Harlow or visit our table Sundays in the Social Hall.
EcoDesk at UUCSR

“...98% of the news about climate change is negative...”
“With action comes hope”

Guided by UU’s 7th principle, and committed to actively participate in the transitions needed to live our lives in balance with the needs and resources of our planet, we are launching EcoDesk at UUCSR.

EcoDesk is:
◊ Interactive: come to the table, learn, do and take something home.
◊ Active: learn about weekly doable actions. Take home a hand-out with suggested actions, bring back a short note of your achievements.
◊ Monthly theme: a different theme will be displayed each month, with information, inspiration and calculation at the end of each month of our collective impact.
◊ Take-home craft activity for kids and the young at heart.

Join our climate mobilization: support, encourage and (re)-awaken our deep relatedness through expanding our ability for respectful, yet inspired living with and on our Beloved Earth. EcoDesk will be set up twice a month in the R.E. wing and twice a month at the entrance to the sanctuary.

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How Can An Atheist Also Be A Pagan?
by Mark Green

CUUPS, coming from the liberal beliefs of UU, is a group that embraces many traditions. One of them is Atheopaganism. How can an atheist identify as a pagan? Let me explain how. I’ve been a Pagan since 1987, and an atheist since I was born.

Pagans revere the natural world. We find Sacred the fabric of life on Earth: the beauty and the poetry of it, the fierceness and the grace. The magic of sun on soil, on leaf. None of which requires belief in gods, nor anything supernatural. The particular path that I follow is called Atheopaganism.

Atheopaganism, like UUism, is socially progressive, environmentally minded, and inclusive. We are an activist path and seek to build community with those of like mind. That is why I have recently joined the Santa Rosa CUUPSs (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) group.

Atheopagans follow a path that recognizes Four Sacred Pillars: Life, Truth, Beauty, and Love. We follow 13 Principles (which share much in common with UU tenets). We celebrate an annual cycle of eight holidays on the solstices and equinoxes and the midpoints between as the “Wheel of the Year,” and observe rituals to enrich our lives when we feel the need or are observing some rite of passage, such as birth, death, marriage or arrival in adulthood.

We don’t need belief in gods to do any of those things. The Sacred Cosmos revealed by science and the power of ritual as revealed by psychological research are plenty for us. Our rituals are not worship, but rather are to celebrate, grow, and heal.

For me, it’s a deep and meaningful path, rooted in the wonders of verifiable reality, honoring the Sacred, practicing observances and rituals in company with community. You can learn more about it at http://atheopaganism.org. Or come join us at one of our CUUPS meetings.
NORTH BAY ORGANIZING PROJECT (NBOP) NEWS

ISSUES ASSEMBLY ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2PM TO 4PM HERE, AT UUCSR
AN INVITATION TO SUPPORT OUR COUNTY ORGANIZING PROJECT
AND LEARN ABOUT THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST 2 YEARS

Somehow, recently, we have not effectively conveyed to our community the importance of this organization as advocates for a range of social justice issues within our city, county, and state realms. As I am sure you all know, we are a member organization, one of a number of faith communities, unions, non-profits. North Bay Organizing Project organizers and volunteers represent our expressed concerns in direct contact with our decision makers whether city, county or state.

The North Bay Organizing Project selects three general areas of focus every 2 years, these areas become the task forces within which the majority of the work of advocacy takes place. For the past 2 years the task forces have been:

- Housing Task Force
- The Rights of Nature/Environmental Justice Task Force
- Immigrant Defense

On June 2, at the Issues Assembly, we will hear of the impressive work of these task forces and respond to a request to continue their work. Whether or not you intend to step up and join with NBOP in any of the task forces you will surely want to be a part of endorsing the work and celebrating the successes. This is an organization that is committed to the values that we express in our mission: Celebrating life, Empowering people, Caring for one another, Helping to build a better world. This is a natural fit for us, the community of UUCSR. We look forward to a big turnout on June 2, 2 PM, here, at UUCSR. There will be food, music, and a bunch of good folks, please do join us. I am happy to answer any questions you may have as you consider this invitation.

Please feel free to call or email me, Jeanie Bates

A Reflection from your Stewardship Team

In 1997, Ted Turner pledged $1 billion to the UN to defray unmet American obligations. He was rightly praised for this, but he said, "It's only nine months' earnings. I'm no poorer and the world is much better off." After the fire at Notre Dame, France's wealthiest families pledged over €700 million toward rebuilding it. While this was generous, again, they can afford it. Like Ted Turner, they're no poorer, but that doesn't lessen the value of restoring a cultural icon.

This spring, three black churches were burned in Louisiana. The journalist Yashar Ali called attention to the tragedy and within days over $2 million was raised to help their congregations rebuild. Americans from all 50 states were moved to help churches most contributors had never seen. Five dollars from some of those contributors no doubt meant they had to give up something else. As Jesus said of the widow's mite, they gave not out of their wealth, but out of what they needed to live on.

Our congregation depends on the generosity of those of us who are financially comfortable and those of us who aren't. In a world of need, we struggle with priorities. Few of us are as generous as Peter Tabichi, the Kenyan Franciscan Brother who gives 80% of his salary to his impoverished students and their families. That's why we call people like him saints. Most of us have to find our spot somewhere between Turner and Tabichi. What is your spot?

With gratitude, Carol Daeley
Tolay Lake Regional Park calls us in June to open grasslands with trails leading to sweeping views, as well as the seasonal lake for which it is named. Lots of history, both agricultural and Native American. Meet Saturday June 22 at 9:30 at 4th and Farmers near the Redwood Credit Union Office in Santa Rosa to carpool or at the main parking area off Lakeville Highway at 5869 Cannon Lane at 10:15. Bring water, snacks or lunch, picnic tables at trail heads. Dogs are allowed on leash. I hope you’ll join us in exploring this newer park in the Southern end of Sonoma County. For more information and to sign up contact Gretchen P.

This is our annual potluck. Bring a snack or beverage to share. Also bring recommendations of books for us to read in the coming year (September to May). We do not meet in July and August. The group will select the books for the following year based on suggestions presented at the June meeting. Members alternate presenting the books to the group. We read across all genres and make sure books are widely available, i.e. published in paperback by the time of the meeting and available through our library system. Please contact Linda Lampson with questions.

It is the tradition of our Congregation for non-essential committees to "go dark" in July. If your committee doesn't need to meet, this is the time to observe a coordinated "vacation" period. This July break gives our most active members a month off to rest and refresh.

(Each committee decides if they need to meet in July, or if they can safely take the break.)

Enchanted Hills Camp, Napa September 6-8, 2019 Ever wanted to have a water fight with your minister? If you answered Yes! then don't miss this opportunity at the All UU Summer Camp at Enchanted Hills. Come join a wonderful group of UUs and their friends from our beloved UUCSR congregation. Listen to some great jammin' music, and drink wine under the redwoods with old and new friends. We'll have our annual "Variety Show" (no talent required), puzzles, games, workshops, a great pool, nice sleeping quarters, and really good food. It's handicapped friendly. Childcare is available during certain times of the day. Enchanted Hills is a wonderful place, run by Lighthouse for the Blind, an easy beautiful drive 45 minutes from Highway 12 and Calistoga road, on the border of Napa and Sonoma counties. If you've never been before, come make some new friends! Introvert accessible!

Prices: Upper Camp: Adult $195; Teen/Tweens (11-17 years old) $165; Student (5-10 years old) $115; Children under 5 are free!
Lower Camp (which is now much closer—right by the pool and playground): Adult $160; Teen/Tweens $145; Student $90, Children under 5 are free!

Stay tuned for more info!

Women Together

Our final activity for this church year will be to learn about the women buried in the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery who have played important roles in our history. Bill Montgomery, a well known local historian and member of UUCSR, will be our guide. We will gather at noon on Sunday, June 23rd at the corner of Monroe and Franklin Streets, across from the Bridges Preschool. For more information contact me Linda or Bill.
CURRENT AND UPCOMING ADULT RE:” RELIGIOUS EDUCATION” CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Adult RE is guided by UU Principles and rooted in Unitarian Universalism sources, and our Congregation’s mission and vision. The Adult RE Team strengthens community and facilitates spiritual growth by offering classes, activities, and programs. Members of the ARE Committee: Nadine Carroll, Carol Daeley, Helga Lemke, Phil Harriman, Sarita Hazen, John Speck, Clare Whitfield and Rev. Chris Bell.

West County Theology Classes:

Chris Bell will teach a UU history class in Sebastopol.
Part Two: 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm.

GMOs, How Scary? Humanism

This August, Phil Harriman will give a talk describing the techniques to make genetically modified organisms and some of the uses to which they can be put. In addition he will describe a new law that requires (under certain conditions) the labeling of GMO products. Date and time TBA.

Chris Bell will lead a class on humanism which stresses the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasizes common human needs, and seeks solely rational ways of solving human problems. Wednesdays: 10/23, 10/30 11/13 and 11/20 6:30-8:30pm.

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven Music and Meaning in the Movies

This series examines pre-Judeo Christian cultures that may have worshiped the female as divine. The concepts of equality and reverence for the female in a religious setting are eye-opening to many participants. Saturdays: 9/21 through 2/15, 2-4 pm.

Presented by Alan Bell, this is a 6-week series on the influence of music in movies will take place in the fall. Dates and times TBA

Committee on Shared Ministry

We are COSM, the Committee on Shared Ministry. The current committee consists of Bob Anderson (chair), Alan Bell, Susan Bartholome, Deb Carter-Hope, Frances Corman, Kitty Wells and of course, Rev. Chris. We are charged with ensuring the health of the congregation by encouraging communication within the congregation, providing conflict resolution when needed, as well as supporting the minister. This committee also participates in the yearly evaluation of the minister that we have completed and submitted to the Board of Trustees in February. We are here for both the minister and YOU, the congregation. So, talk with us! All communications with COSM are confidential.
We have financial data through March, as staff, Fine-Com and the Board have completed the Final Budget to be presented to the Congregation on June 9. The bookkeeper can now concentrate on current finances over the next several months.

For the first nine months of the Fiscal Year ending in March, we are showing a loss from combined Operations and Glaser Center of approximately $8,200, which is close to our budget projections. If we include transfers from Sunday Donations for the Saturday breakfast extra cleaning, the loss is about $4,200. YTD Operations are down ($25,600) and Glaser Center is showing a gain of $17,400. We have three months to go before ending the year. Pledge Income and fundraising are well below budget. On the expense side, we well below target budget, which is a good thing.

We presented two Financial Forums in May, reviewing next year budgets, which went well with many Congregates asking good questions. Our main proposal for next year is to payoff the Member Notes (aka Mortgage) from the Endowment Fund saving the Congregation $47,000 per year over the next 5 years and avoiding over $17,000 in interest payments. This will allow us to depend upon future sources of income from mainly pledges and Glaser Center income. This should relieve dependency upon fundraising for the near future. This certainly doesn’t allow us to spend freely, as we will continue to watch our finances closely; however, we might just have an opportunity to steer fundraising proceeds to projects unrelated to operations. Wouldn’t that be nice?

Hoping to see you all at our Congregational Meeting slated for June 9

Fiscally yours, Michael Randolph, Treasurer

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**Musical Notes**

The choir will be taking the summer off (have a nice vacation, Sadie!), and the last piece on June 9 will be—appropriately enough—"The Gift of Music" by John Rutter. Here are some of the lyrics:

If you could have any gift, any treasure, taste any pleasure, then what would it be?
Search the wide world high and low for an answer, over the mountains and down to the sea.
Would you wish for youth and beauty, or wealth to make a show?
Or power and position, and strength?
Oh no: for your youth it will vanish and beauty will fade,
and your wealth and position are all just a passing parade.
May your soul have the gift of music....

And it goes on from there. All the members of the choir are grateful to be able to present this gift to the congregation and are looking forward to returning in the Fall.

In the meantime, the Music Coordinators will be picking up the slack with a variety of ensembles through June, July and August. It’s the gift that keeps on being given.

Respectfully submitted, Alan Bell

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**SHARE-THE-BASKET**

Following are the FEB 2019 Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andy Lopez Film</td>
<td>$913.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIDAS</td>
<td>$754.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter Health Cancer Support Group</td>
<td>$558.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian River Alliance Workforce Housing</td>
<td>$1,561.01 (100% of basket)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Breakfast</td>
<td>$179.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAY 2019

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Love is the doctrine of this church, The quest of truth is its sacrament, Service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace, To seek knowledge in freedom, To serve human need, To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine.

Thus do we covenant with each other and with All Creation.

Arr. by L. Griswold Williams

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UU Update Editor: Rob Carlisle. UUCSR Monthly Newsletter Deadline: By noon on the Monday following the 3rd Sunday, for the following month. Send to newsletter@uusantarosa.org. Include topic and month in subject line. Order-of Service Announcements (OOS). Send submissions to announcements@uusantarosa.org OOS Deadline: Noon on the Wednesday prior to Sunday Service.