



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• January 2013 • Volume 57 • Issue 1 •

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

JANUARY 6th

ANNUAL MILESTONES SERVICE

Service Leaders: *Bev Helfer-Grand, the Worship Associates, Bryan Plude*

UUusual and UnUUusual Suspects will play music!

A chance to reflect on the events of 2012 and to share the lessons, insights and changes we've experienced over the last 12 months. How have you grown in wisdom over the year? Be generous with your story and come and share with us today.

JANUARY 20th

I Am my Sister and Brother's Keeper.

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Susan Panttaja*

How much do we owe our neighbors? How much does society owe its members? Why is "entitled" a good word when it refers to Social Security, but bad when it refers to what teenagers allegedly believe about themselves. If natural selection is the only way forward, why shouldn't we eat the poor? (I jest.) A closer look at the moral foundation of fairness and equality.

JANUARY 12th

The Giving Tree

Service Leaders: *Rev. Chris Bell, Andy Levine, Bryan Plude*

Today we begin our series on generosity as a way of life by studying Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*, a perennial Children's bookstore favorite about boundless and selfless love and discovering what people really need to be happy. Or is it?

JANUARY 27th

The Giving Tree Redux

Service Leader: *Bryan Plude*

On January 12 we will hear Rev. Chris sermonize on the long favored children's story *The Giving Tree*. I have to confess that I read this story to each of my children, but never eagerly. Join me as I re-look at this tale as an allegory for the relationship between humankind and Mother Earth.

FEBRUARY 3rd

Howard Thurman and the Fellowship of All People

Service Leaders: *Bryan Plude, Frances Corman*

January's Theme: Generosity



Ministerial Musings



One of the “hot trends” in the worship-planning world across American Protestant denominations these days is the practice of having an overarching theme that unites multiple Sunday services, sometimes over a month or a season in duration. This may even involve regular changes to the aesthetic of the sanctuary/chapel/meeting-room, with new colors or images or shapes reinforcing the theme. Such an approach

gives the worship planners a chance to draw out different aspects of a topic, and let’s all of us who worship together sink a little more deeply into the ideas or insights or emotional connections that we have in that experience.

Without being explicit about it to you – until now – the Worship Associates and I have been (mostly) planning our worship this way since Ingathering.

You may recall that we began the year in September with four services on *Our Mission*, with one week each on celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another and helping to build a better world. Since it was the first experiment, I almost got afraid you would get sick of hearing me talk about it, until I remembered that those worlds express our very essence as a community, and might be actually be said every single day, or multiple times every day!

In October the theme was *Hope*, chosen because the Revival had a theme of *Free Hope*, and because of Jamie’s Ordination, which I found to be a hopeful event if ever there was one. The month was so busy for all of us, however, that theme didn’t really get developed beyond “I hope we all make it through October!”

In November we took the obvious route of *Gratitude*, and throughout December, as I hope you may have even noticed, the theme has been *Peace*.

I thank God for that happy convergence, for as I write this the terrible events of December 14th, in Newtown, Connecticut (pronounced *new-town* I’ve now learned), which occurred just a couple of days ago, are still so strongly in my mind. I feel blessed that we were able to be together on Sunday to talk about that horror and share our feelings of sadness, anger and grief. It has felt very good to be singing, and hearing, so many beautiful songs of peace in our congregation this last month.

Now we hope, and act, to make such events a thing of the past.

As usual, commentators are reaching for explanations. The impact of video games. Access to services for those with mental illness. The absence of spirituality (read: compulsory prayer or the 10 Commandments). The

availability of guns, and what types of guns are available. All of these are issues which demand a collective response, and to which you may be called to contribute. Thank goodness for rational responses to irrational crimes.

After the service on Sunday, one of my most beloved curmudgeons came forward to tell me, with tears on his cheeks, that he had heard one of the members of the Newtown community urge people to reach out in forgiveness to the family of the shooter, too, who were surely enduring anger, confusion, shock and sadness of their own upon discovering that one of their own could and would do such a thing. He was so moved that people were capable of such a thing. It *is* almost miraculous, isn’t it?

Clearly, there are always going to be a few people around the edges of humanity who are capable of acts that leave the rest of us grasping our heads. That amazing head is part of the problem, maybe. How could there not be an occasional error in the wiring of the super-computer that is the human brain? This is a tough part of reality, as anyone who has served breakfast on Saturday can attest.

I asked one of our leaders who attended the recent *Hot Topic* presentation on homelessness what she took away from it, and she said it opened her compassion to see that there are just some people in the world who, because of upbringing, bad brain chemistry, trauma, addiction or all of the above, were just never going to be able to get themselves together. They are still our brothers and sisters. Even when we are angry beyond anger.

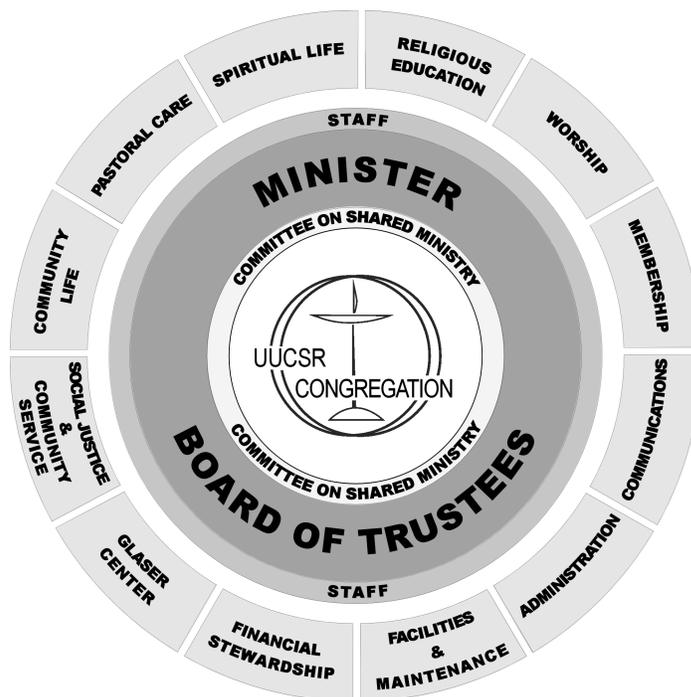
In January, when our theme is *Generosity*, we’ll consider how much we owe such folks, but you probably know my answer already. I’m a Unitarian Universalist. I believe we dignify all humanity by trying to treat all of us – the incompetent, the wounded, the cowardly, even the vile – humanely. That’s what our Mission and our Principles are all about, really, which remind us that we have to keep lifting up what is good and right and kind, again and again and again, even after the darkest of days.

We’ll keep doing that on Sundays, if you want to come down and check it out. The upcoming themes, by the way, are: the Sacred Masculine and Feminine (featuring the auction-winning Wonder Woman sermon), *Justice, Forgiveness, Stages of Life* (featuring our Coming-of-Age graduation and the sermon on near-death experiences) and who knows what after that? Remember – all things are subject to change, and you must be present to win.

May this 2012 end with peace for all of us. I wish you all a happy, healthy, prosperous 2013 filled with friends and fun and food.

Greetings from the Board

The first Annual Team Summit will be held on Saturday, January 19, 11am-3pm. It will be attended by invited representatives of each of the 12 UUCSR Governance Teams shown in the outer ring of the diagram below.



The Teams are clusters of committees or groups that have similar roles and related responsibilities in the life of our congregation. For example, the Buddhist Meditation and TIE groups belong to the Spiritual Life Team; the Choir, Worship Associates, Music, Flower and Audio Committees belong to the Worship Team, etc. A complete list of Teams and their constituents can be found in the phone directory.

The purpose of the Annual Team Summit is to facilitate coordination and communication between UUCSR's many committees and groups. The focus of this first Summit will be on:

- CLARIFYING FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- COORDINATING/CALENDARING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
- REQUESTING FUNDS
- SPECIFYING FACILITY AND SPACE NEEDS
- COMMUNICATING VIA WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER AND E-LISTS
- ENSURING SUCCESSION OF LEADERS
- RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

The goal of the Summit is to make the work of sustaining the life of our congregation both satisfying and joyful. If that is achieved, UUCSR will indeed be celebrating life, empowering people, caring for one another, and helping to build a better world.

Laura Jean Hageman
Board President

YO! One More Thing!

SAVE THE DATE. APRIL 6th, 2013 from 4:00 – 6:00pm.

Come to the All-Community Celebration presented by the Annual Pledge Drive.

We'll have a family-friendly party with snacks and drinks.

We'll share a program celebrating our community's history and it's dreams for the future, with inspiring speakers and music.

And we'll gather all of our commitments of financial support for 2013-14

(i.e., pledge cards) from our members and pledging friends

in ONE SINGLE DAY, and have fun doing it.

I strongly hope you will be there!

From the Intern Minister

I will soon be entering my 5th month of internship here at the UU Congregation of Santa Rosa. It seems hard to believe. So much has been accomplished in these months, and by so many people, to create this opportunity which began with a meeting with Reverend Chris at GA last June. I am especially grateful to Rev. Chris for seizing the opportunity for an intern, and for Laura Jean and the Board who took on the heavy lifting of what that entailed on such short notice.

My initial months of being your first intern in many years have been occupied with the many details and processes of new beginnings. There has been a Learning Service Agreement and a Contract to write, application for a stipend grant from the UUA (approved!), setting up a work space, a phone line and an email account, getting added to the web page (still in process and in my court). These have been ably handled by Rev Chris, Janis Brewster, Laura Jean Hageman, the Board, my Internship Committee and others too numerous to mention. We have finally reached the point where more of my time will be spent doing the internship ministry I imagined rather than the internship ministry of New Beginning. I know that the groundwork laid by us this fall will smooth the way for your future interns who will follow in my footsteps.

Aside from working through administrative details, I have had the opportunity to meet many of you, at least briefly, between and after services. Some of you I have been blessed to meet for longer periods in

smaller settings. I look forward to more of that in the coming months. I have been able to commit a name to a face for about 80 of you, and continue to work on that aspect of my ministry. Nametags are helpful! Please don't be offended if I can't pull up your name in the moment, something I can have difficulty with even with people I know well.

My internship committee will guide and mentor me during my two years at UUCSR. Convened by Rev Chris and Nancy Hargis, the committee comprises the following persons who have graciously agreed to serve: J.D. Thompson, chair, Barrie Noe, Raymond Sigrist, John Jaffray, Andrew Hidas and Nancy Hargis. We meet monthly to discuss my experiences here at UUCSR and my growing edges in ministry. I am finding that they are a wise bunch and I appreciate our developing relationship.

At the time this goes into print I will be preparing my 2nd sermon. You warmly received my first sermon on Veterans Day and for that I am grateful. I look forward with eagerness to the remaining 18 months I will spend with you. I am feeling very welcomed. Thank you for taking the step of becoming a teaching congregation. You have much to offer me.

Bryan Plude, Intern Minister

Religious Education for Children and Youth

Our children will continue to study peace and justice this year in Religious Education classes. I cannot think of a better subject for them to explore in these difficult times when violence seems to pervade the culture. Some parents are able to shield their children from media glorification of conflict and combat, but as children grow older they enter the world of social media, video gaming, t.v. and movies that are outside the scope of parental approval. Then, in spite of the best efforts of parents, children become exposed to a depiction of the world that is very cruel.

The UUCSR R.E. program provides another view. A view that is much more realistic and true: even though there is war and violence in our streets, there is also peace. The vast majority of people in the world live their lives according to principles and values that promote cooperation and care. Unitarian Universalist reli-

gious education provides children and youth with a voice that proclaims the world is full of love, and that living a life that promotes peace and justice is a profound virtue. RE supports parents by echoing their faith in the power love and peace through a supportive learning environment within a community of UU kids.

In this faith community we provide children an antidote to the discord they sometimes experience in school and through media. We offer a safe place to explore what they see around them and provide a loving network of peers and adults who seek the way of peace. I know there are many families who would welcome an invitation to be part of such a community. I invite you to spread the word.

In faith,



Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

We provide loving childcare for children from infancy through age 4 in our preschool room. Rachel Alexander and Fiona Mackenzie are our child care providers.

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

Grades K-2 and 3-5 are using a curriculum called In Our Hands: A Peace and Social Justice Program

Middle School youth are working with a book called What Do You Stand For by Barbara Lewis

January 2013 Class Schedule:

01/06/13	Children's Chapel	Theme: God is Compassion	<i>All Ages Together</i>
01/13/13	Grades K-2 : Appreciation of Nature	Grades 3-5: Creative Conflict Resolution Part One	Grades 6-8: Learning the UU 7 Principles
01/20/13	Grades K-2: Feelings about Nature	Grades 3-5: Creative Conflict Resolution Part Two	Grades 6-8: Affirming and Promoting the 7 Principles
01/27/13	Grades K-2: The Web of Interdependence	Grades 3-5 Making Peace and Building Justice - Two Stories	Grades 6-8: Stories of UU Justice Makers

UUCSR Spring Circle Dinners

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

If, for some reason, you are not contacted by the folks at the top of your "circle" group by the middle of January, please call them. If they don't respond or another problem arises, please contact Lynn Riepenhoff at 525-8424 or Kitty Wells at 952-0620. We'll do our best!

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

DAY GROUPS:

Joan Thatcher 544-9130
 Bob and Phyllis Clement 823-0925
 John Durr jdurrsr@aol.com 823-5992
 Dick and Antonia Rodrigues 836-0757

Pat Warner 539-4572
 Freda Tomlin 576-6611
 Kitty Bownass and Cliff Christensen 282-9233
 Betty and Sid Gordon 545-0560

Melinda Napier 523-3448
 Katie Trieller 827-3897
 Judy Schwalbin 523-4470
 Cassandra Lista 584-4293
 Kathryn Learned 595-3950
 Jo Katon 953-6446

Ann Chambers 823-6902
 Lois Bell 568-5113
 Susan Williamson susanrabbit@comcast.com 785-9725
 Diana and Dave Bower 542-2457
 Donnah Judah 280-9888

EVENING GROUPS:

Linda & Alan Bell 546-6988
 Maureen Rumford & Art Rosenblum 539-5104
 Gail Alford 843-4466
 Patricia Chavez 894-3891
 Skipper and John Taylor 521-1041

Debbie and David Hope 536-9390
 Carol Weisker 776-4856
 Reen Kennedy-Williams 799-2639
 Shayna and Joel Billings 526-0504
 Michelle LaVoie & Terry Eggleston 538-2838

Janice & Olga Lee Mayberry 539-5319
 Roger and Luida DeBeers 816-2659
 Jim and Mary Wolfe 544-1344
 Nancy Fitzpatrick 539-7753

Robyn and Andrew Hidas 544-6012
 Leonard and Lynn Riepenhoff 525-8424
 Jen and Ralph Murray 837-0267
 Marilyn Holmes 526-6175
 Micheline Justman 569-2072/546-4035

Bev Helfer-Grand 595-1398
 Jolie Andritzakis 837-0937
 Nathan and Susan Miron 833-4689
 Kate Lee and Robert Lee 287-8297
 Betz and Sam Miller 539-3654

Cathie Wiese & R. Lunceford 829-36
 Russ Powell 324-3122
 Natalie Brundred 478-2146
 Carolyn Mcleese and Charles Rettke 875-3542
 JoAnn Robson 823-5122
 Marge Wright 887-7752

Kitty and Brian Wells 953-0620
 Diana Thomas & Bruce Gustin 953-2780
 Cathy Read & Victor Cummings 527-8635
 Gretchen and Gene Vap 568-3290

Alan and Linda Proulx 538-7446
 Mark Meierding & Linda Lampson 585-1206
 Phyllis Metalis 481-4689/843-5107
 Joann Cleckner 778-1448

Gretchen Paridis 763-1910
 Irene Martin 544-3198
 Judy Withee & Steve Sweaney 538-3404
 Bruce and Judy Taylor 217-3325

Kathleen Willett & Bob Graff 544-5670
 Sara Jones 527-6257
 Marianne Sonntag 573-8463
 Patty Somlo and Richard Fung 595-1613
 Diane Harris & Richard Cleverly 545-6333

Robin and Elizabeth Marrs 528-6939
 Linda Reck 769-1080
 Joan Peterson 829-8577
 Kendra & Ryan Rossings 695-3994/776-7440

Circle Dinner Substitute List

Chris Bell & Rita Butterfield	849-8770	Helga Lemke	707-235-0965
Marley Fein	575-8946	Karen Lillard	575-1255
Laura Jean Hageman & Tom Bond	539-3694	Kathy Norman	523-2787
Brian and Nancy Hargis	571-1987/571-7846	Louise and Ollie Ostlund	578-8619
Linda Harlow	526-3528	Eric Peterson	578-7665
Phil and Jenny Harriman	707-206-0488	Calvin and Susan Simons	527-7191
Mary Louise & John Jaffray	538-4668	Stacy Sincheff	528-6603
Mary Lil Lee	338-2358	Shirley Williams	537-9790

The 2013 UUCSR Photo Directory will not be complete without YOU!

The PHOTOGRAPHERS will be at the Glaser Center, January 7th -12th 2013.
That's ONE WEEK ONLY!

The number of directories that will be available is based on the number of members that are photographed. **100% participation ensures a directory for everyone.**

SCHEDULING can be done...

Between the services on Sunday, look for our table in the narthex

On-line through our website: <http://uusantarosa.org/>

Look for this button at the bottom of the homepage >>>>>>>>>



Over the phone by calling Joy Lonnes 528-2632 or AnnaLisa Wiley: 291-0991

Reserve your appointment time today by going to the church's website and sign up online. Each family that comes in for photography and portrait viewing at the church will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 color portrait. You will be able to view and select your portraits electronically from a variety of poses. Additional Lifetouch portraits will be available for purchase. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour.

Questions or special concerns? Contact AnnaLisa at (707) 291-0991 or email her at annalisa.wiley@gmail.com

<p>NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013 Newsletter@uusantarosa.org</p>	<p>E-mail Submissions Greatly Appreciated! Newsletter Assembly 10 a.m.—January 30, 2013</p>
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Know Your Bylaws

"Know Your Bylaws!" Congregational Forum January 6, 2013

Have you ever wondered how a liberal religious community is able to come to an agreement about anything? The UUCSR Bylaws are the basic document, developed by the congregation, that describes how we make decisions in this congregation and who has the ultimate authority to get things done. On January 6, Sunday, after the 11 AM service, in the Board Room,

interested people (members or otherwise) are invited to join the Bylaws Committee for a Forum regarding proposed revisions to those Bylaws. The current Bylaws are always available online at uusantarosa.org. Copies of the proposed revisions will be available after January 1. Please contact Ellen Skagerberg, Carol Kraemer, Cathie Wiese, or Mary Louise Jaffray, if you have questions or concerns.

Committee on Shared Ministry

This committee exists to facilitate the smooth running of UUCSR. We oversee the general health of the congregation, support the minister, and provide conflict resolution. We are currently working on the annual review of the minister.

Our meetings are confidential. We welcome input from members about their concerns and about what is going well. Please feel free to contact any of us. Cathy Read (chair), John Chenowith, Bill Foshee, Judy Hutchinson, Mary Lil Lee, Mary Wagner

New Spiritual Opportunity

An ongoing weekly inquiry inspired by the "Tibetan Book of Living and Dying" (Sogyal Rinpoche) will occur Thursdays 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., beginning January 10. Classical Tibetan reflections and practices

regarding death and dying may be a resource that we can use in facing death (ours and others) without fear, denial, and distraction.

Raymond Sigrist and Rose Saint John

Women Together

"Readings from the Heart"

Save the date: Saturday, February 9th from 2 to 4

All UU women and any friends are invited to an afternoon of sharing poems or short prose pieces that

you've either written or that have touched you when you read them. More details in February's Newsletter but mark your calendar today!

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday, January 10th from 7 to 9 p.m. at 547 Mendocino. We meet in the RE wing. The January selection is *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern. Visitors and newcomers

are welcome. The selection for February is *The Barbarian Nurseries* by Hector Tobar.

Linda Lampson

Breath, Balance and Mobility

Save the Date—Sunday, January 20th!

Monica Anderson, founder of Tone Dance, Yoga and Pilates Studio, will offer a monthly session focusing on breathing, stability and mobility.

Starting on January 20th, 2013, from 9:30 am to 10:45 am and continuing on the 3rd Sunday of each month, Monica will meet with us in the Board Room for this fun and valuable work

Climate Change Lobby Training

Are you feeling helpless about Climate Change? Don't feel helpless any longer! You can do something: We are scheduled for our Climate Change Lobby training session with Mark Reynolds on January 19th in the UU Board Room. The training will be from 1PM to 4 PM. The training is open to the public.

In order to get prepared to get the most out of that training, please take a little time to listen to the introductory call, which happens every Wednesday at 5 PM. Some of you have already listened to it, and some have not. If

you have listened, you may want to get on the call again. Mark gives a lot of info in that short 45 minutes, really more than one can absorb in that time. It is suggested to listen to the call several times to get the most benefit. Remember to dial in 5 minutes early to introduce yourself and say where you are from. 1-866-642-1665 access code 400 699#. Remember to put Jan 19 at 1PM on your calendar right away so as not to discover a scheduling conflict later on!

Hot Topics

Hot Topic - Move to Amend

"I'll believe that corporations are people when one of them is executed in Texas!"

If you have a similar view about the decision in the *Citizens United* case, decided last year by our Supreme Court, you'll be eager to learn what the group "Move to Amend" is doing to rectify this situation.

On **Sunday, January 13th at 12:30**, come to the RE Common Room to hear David Cobb, 2004 Green Party Presidential candidate and member of the Move to Amend Executive Committee, explain their plan and learn what we can do to help. A light lunch will be available for a donation.

Advocates for Social Justice

Share the Offering

Thanks to your continued generosity and some special gifts, our Saturday Breakfast Program can be sustained with only one shared offering per month. Therefore, we can now give to other organizations in our community that you, our members, suggest. Please write down your suggestions and give them to the person staffing our table which is next to the door to the Sanctuary.

This month we have chosen the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration** as the recipient of half the

collection on **Sunday, January 13th**. We want to be strong allies with the African American community in Sonoma County so when the purple bag comes to you, please show our solidarity with this group of neighbors.

On **Sunday, January 27th**, half the collection will again go to sustain our **Saturday Breakfast Program**. Last year, we served approximately 10,000 delicious, nutritious and deeply appreciated meals. And it doesn't look like the demand is going down – so please continue your amazing generosity!

Meet the Minister

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

Questions are not only welcomed, but encouraged!

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

January 20

February 17

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT CHURCH FINANCES

You can contact the following:

Treasurers: Art Rosenblum or Amy Young

Financial Stewardship Committee: Linda Balabanian, Jan Hess,
Mary Louise Jaffray, Kirsten Olney,

Administrator: Janis Brewster

UUCSR Writers

2013 New Direction

Four areas of concentration

1. *Writers*
2. *Poets*
3. *Film*
4. *Special Events*

“Regular monthly meetings are held from 4-6 pm” at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa. Details about our new direction--changes--to be announced in the February 2013 Newsletter Update.

Writers - Next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4-6 pm, Monday, **February 4.**

Poets - Next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4-6 pm, Monday, **February 11.**

N.B. UUCSR Writers Poetry Slams have been canceled. Our Steering Committee will announce a new monthly program for Poetry in the next Newsletter.

Film - Next Regular Monthly Meeting is from 4-6 pm, Monday, **February 18.**

Special Event - “Big Read” from 1-3 pm, Saturday,

March 9. David Templeton on stage interviewing Tom J. Mariani, Margo van Veen--our two UUCSR Writers Poet Laureates--and Guests on the subject of Emily Dickinson and Poetry.

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

Information

Georgette G. deBlois, ggdeb@sonic.net • Tom J. Mariani, southforkboots@gmail.com

UUCSR Writers, Glaser Center at Unitarian Universalist Congregation

547 Mendocino Ave • 707-568-5381 •
www.uucsrwriters.com

think about it...

Writing and Publishing

by Georgette G. deBlois



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa 15, November 2012

Chalice Lighting and Opening Words: Rev Chris Bell

Meeting Called to Order: 6:35 by board president Laura Jean Hageman

Members Present: Susan Bartholome, Jeanie Bates (vice president), Lois Bell, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (president), Mary Louise Jaffray, Lois Nagle, Alan Proulx, Peter Wilson, Cathie Wiese (secretary.)

Non-Members Present: Amy Young, (co-treasurer), Bryan Plude (intern minister), Jan Prater (recording secretary), and Betz Miller

Agenda and Minutes: Minutes approved with the following changes: 1) Under Members Present, change Jeanie Bates to vice president. 2) Under Financial Stewardship...cross out 2nd "the Glaser Center Committee." 3) Under "Spiritual Life" cross out "the craft projects be."

One-on-One Sharing

Open Mic: Betz Miller deeply appreciative of recognition as a valuable volunteer at last Congregational meeting. Also, as a scheduler for Greeters and Ushers she suggested that a member of the board be a greeter/usher once a month as has been done in the past.

Treasurer's Report: Art Rosenblum not present; Mary Louise gave a brief report. She said it appears on the report that we made money on the Revival but that is only because some bills had not been paid yet - final total will show a negative \$1250 which is what we're expecting to get from our Chalice Lighter's Grant, thus we will ultimately come out even. Also, thanks to the Revival, the UU Service Committee received \$4,696 and the Redwood Food Bank received \$522.

UUA Internship Stipend Grant Application: Unanimous Board and Financial Stewardship Team approval of the application prepared by J.D. Thompson, Intern Committee Chair, Board members Joe Como Laura Jean Hageman, and Carol Kraemer, chair of Diversity Task Force. If awarded, the grant will provide \$3825, or half of the Intern's stipend during his second year. Re: a plan for achieving self-sufficiency, it was suggested that we rename the existing "Sabbatical Fund" the "Sabbatical/Intern Fund" and designate it for both a future Intern as well as a future Sabbatical. Cathie Wiese asked for a copy of the application and Laura Jean said she would e-mail a completed application to all the board members. Bryan very thankful for all this.

PCD Seminar: Jeanie and Laura Jean went to a Forum on Leadership in Berkeley called "Governance and Ministry" led by Rev Nancy Bowen of CO. They agreed it was worthwhile and thought provoking. One idea was to provide individual Board members with specific training such as how to read financial reports. Also, a flyer re: a program to be held Aug 2013 at the Russell Lockwood Leadership School was shared; Bryan mentioned that he has previous experience writing grant applications for this program.

Timing of Board Retreat (Added Agenda item): The Board Retreat has been held on Labor Day weekend for the past several years which can be a scheduling challenge. Rev Chris suggested the possibility of 2 nights, maybe toward the end of July, perhaps someplace other than a member's home. All members should think about this and it will be on the Agenda for next month's meeting.

Reports from Board Goal-Group Conveners:

Spiritual Life (Susan): Haven't met yet...Worship Associates are trying to involve children in services more. Scripture Study with Rev Chris is now on-going. Adult R.E. team not yet formed.

Community Within and Without (Alan): Revisiting Volunteer Coordinator concept with list of what volunteer needs there are - but instead create a task force for current members and new members. Re: North Bay Organizing Project (NBOP), the people who worked hard on the North Bay Sponsoring Committee (NBSC) effort will be invited to attend some workshops to check it out NBOP before committing to join it. Membership in NBOP would be \$600-1500 per year. Petaluma congregation has joined already. UU-CAN has been discussing this - anyone is invited to their next meeting 12/6 at 2:30. Ultimate goal is to make a report on NBOP at the Feb. Congregational Meeting.

Infrastructure (John): Four goals - 1)Long term facilities maintenance 2)Developing guidelines for our UU teams 3) Rules for funds 4)Review Building Security

John provided board members with beautifully prepared UUCSR Facilities Assessment packets for their review. He noted that HVAC is the single most expensive item in running our facility. John is still studying best option for HVAC replacement in rental unit. Susan asked where we are in terms of our energy efficiency in general; John responded that there is more we could do to improve the "building envelope" and the question is - does it pay?

Plans for Follow-up "Pow Wow": (Name now changed to "UUCSR Team Summit.") We need to do a review of the Councils system. Tentative meeting Sat. Jan. 19, 11-3. Should include Board, Team Leaders, plus committee reps. which could be about 30 people. Laura Jean will develop a tentative agenda.

Change of Dec. Board Meeting Date: Confirmed change from 12/20 (too close to the holidays) to 12/13.

Final Appreciations: Laura Jean, John Farison, Goal Groups, Service Auction Volunteers, Mary Louise, Peter Wilson.

Closing Words: Joe Como

Adjournment: 8:35 p.m.

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