



# The UU Update

OCTOBER 2017 • Volume 61 • Issue 10  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation Santa Rosa

TWO SUNDAY SERVICES 9:15 am & 11:00 am

## October

## HOSPITALITY

October 1

### ON BEING TRULY WELCOMING

ONE SERVICE at 9:15

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at 11:00

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Sharon McCarty, Dee Ray, Deb Mason Music by: Susan Panttaja & The UUsual Suspects, Roger Corman Share the Basket: Listening for a Change*

Hospitality. Hospital. Hostel. Hotel. They all share the same root, and they all refer to a place where strangers and guests are welcomed with kindness. A healthy congregation is a little like a hospital and a hostel. But being truly welcoming is no easy task; it takes courage and self-awareness and deep faith. Dee Ray will offer a guest reflection.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at 11:00

Please come to both and learn all the exciting things that are happening at UUCSR, and be part of our congregational traditional democratic process.

October 8

### HOSPITALITY TO OUR ENEMIES?!

*Service Leaders: Amy Carlson, Eric Fischer, Deb Mason Music by: Sadie Sonntag and the Choir, Roger Corman Share the Basket: Friends of the North Bay Regional Center*

Hospitality is an ancient spiritual practice which calls us to be welcoming not only to those we love and to strangers, but also to our enemies. A radical idea. What does it mean to be hospitable to our enemies, and who are our enemies? How can we shift our attitude from one of hostility to hospitality?

October 15

### THE SACRAMENT OF FOOD

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Joe Gabaeff, Deb Mason Music by: John Ray & The UUsual Suspects, Roger Corman Share the Basket: Vital Immigration Defense Advocacy and Services (VIDAS)*

"I love food. I could live on it for weeks." One of Rev. Chris's favorite jokes, but food is no joke. All beings share a need for it. For those who have it, it

is the source of strength and nourishment, and can provide immense pleasure. Indeed, eating itself is often treated as a religious sacrament. A vital part of hospitality, which makes the plight of the hungry and food-insecure even more tragic. How can we really share communion, and break bread with all who hunger?

October 22

### "TRIBALISM"

*Service Leaders: Rev. Dave Sammons, Izzy Fischer, Deb Mason Music by: Sadie Sonntag and the Choir, Paul Gilger Share the Basket: Breakfast for our Neighbors*

Trump-era politics is prying apart of the American public into tribes with different values, different goals and a belief that "our tribe" is the only legitimate one. Can we bridge this gap? Our UU Principles call us to break out of our own tribalism and find a way to be with others in a way that will be of good for all of us.

October 29

### ON SLYTHERIN

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Aphrodite Bellochio, Deb Mason Music by: Natalie Brundred & The UUsual Suspects, Roger Corman Share the Basket: The Raizes Collective*

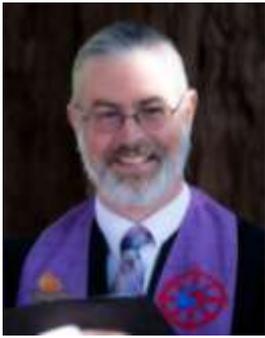
**We'll have some fun today considering the least loved of the Hogwarts Houses in the Harry Potter novels, which beautifully illustrates the old adage, "Keep your friends close, but your enemies closer."** A service about welcoming the shadow, in ourselves and others, and making room for everybody at the table. Where will the sorting hat place you?

November 5

### NIGHTINGALE

*Service Leaders: Rev. Chris Bell, Joe Gabaeff, Deb Mason Music by: Alan Bell & The UUsual Suspects, Roger Corman Share the Basket: The Living Room*

A poetic service using Judy Collins' song *Nightingale* and the story of Jacob and his wrestling match will help us consider the matter of having faith in things unseen and unheard.



### ***I'd like to share a story***

**that I've preached on in the past, and which I will surely reference again.** It was written by the well-known evangelical Christian pastor, Chuck Swindoll. The wisdom of this story transcends all faiths.

*On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur, there was once a crude little life-saving station. The building was just a hut, and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea and with no thought for themselves went out day and night tirelessly searching for the lost. Some of those who were saved, and various others in the surrounding area, wanted to become associated with the station and give of their time and money and effort for the support of its work. New boats were bought and new crews trained. The little lifesaving station grew.*

*Some members of the lifesaving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those saved from the sea. They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in the enlarged building. Now the lifesaving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they decorated it beautifully and furnished it exquisitely, because they used it as sort of a club.*

*Fewer members were now interested in going to sea on lifesaving missions, so they hired lifeboat crews to do this work. The lifesaving motif still prevailed in this club's decorations, and there was a miniature lifeboat in the room where the club initiations were held.*

*About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boatloads of cold, wet, and half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick, and some of them had black skin and some had yellow skin. The beautiful new club was in chaos. So the property committee immediately had a shower house built outside the club where victims of shipwreck could be cleaned up before coming inside.*

*At the next meeting, there was a split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to **stop the club's lifesaving activities, since they were unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal social life of the club.** Some members insisted upon lifesaving as their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a lifesaving station. But they were finally voted down and told that if they wanted to save the lives of all the various kinds of people who were shipwrecked in those waters, they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast. They did.*

*As the years went by, the new station experi-*

*enced the same changes that had occurred in the old. It evolved into a club, and yet another lifesaving station was founded. History continued to repeat itself, and if you visit that seacoast today you will find a number of exclusive clubs along the shore. Shipwrecks are frequent in those waters, but most of the people drown.*

To be sure, there are different ways to interpret this parable. I'm sure some of Pastor Swindoll's listeners would think of the drowning souls as simply those who haven't found Jesus yet. But Jesus himself would surely take a different approach. He is, after all, the one who insisted that if we want to know God in our hearts we must feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoners, and attend to the widows and the orphans.

We did a thought experiment in the UUCSR Board meeting last Thursday. I asked the members to imagine that Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray (the new president of the UUA) had called me and said, "Rev. Chris, I have a job for your congregation. I'm giving you a \$1 million grant and a full-time staff person, but you must use it to minister to the most needy citizens of Sonoma County."

Without exception, Board members said that the un-housed people living under the overpass and around the periphery of the Glaser Center would be the target of our generosity. My challenge to us, and to me, is "What's stopping us?" Because we may not have \$1 million or an additional staff person (yet), but we have will and heart and hands.

Of course, we want our clubhouse to look nice. Of course, we want to offer each other camaraderie and fun. I am totally in favor of regular building improvements. I am grateful for the money provided for my professional expenses and the many other benefits you extend me and the staff. I want great music, and outreach to the colleges, and grief groups, and circle dinners and all the rest.

But I must occasionally ask myself, which do I think would be better in Jesus's eyes – an RE class on UU History, or finding ways to get hurting souls off the street? Homelessness is a massive problem and I don't have all (or any) of the answers. I am simply asking for your help in continually pushing the boundaries of our Mission beyond the walls of the Glaser Center. If we want to be truly worthy of the names Unitarian and Universalist, we have to remember that "Caring for One Another" can't just mean people who have signed the book, or show up regularly, or can pretend to have their act together.

**I don't ever want us to lose sight of the pure and unambiguous work that the Great Big Thing/ Verb is calling us to: the actual changing of lives, starting with the most vulnerable. If this congregation is transforming us, then let's return the favor.**

Let's get into the boats, folks. Let's save some lives.

***Reverend Chris Bell***

## The President's Column

### UUCSR News Goodie Bag

*Our Fall Congregational Meeting is October 1<sup>st</sup>!* After our time to worship and then connect with new and old friends, we gather to exercise our UU principles as owners of our congregation. We've got some good stuff to talk about: electing a new board member; our vision of a fully-utilized upstairs; letting you know the board's goals for this year. We also have several items to vote on, so make your voice count by being there and voting.

**We have a fabulous Musician's Showcase on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.** Paul Gilger and Mary Chapot have done an amazing job of putting the show together and making sure it's a success. It's a fundraiser for UUCSR, so come, bring a friend or three, and enjoy a wonderful evening of great music performed by some of our best.

**As I've settled in to being your President, I've come to see how crucial having an Assistant Minister and a Communications Coordinator are to our future - Our minister is running at 120% capacity. And as Scotty once said, "The engines, they canna take any more!" An Assistant Minister is a win for us - we are the ones who will benefit from both Chris and this person having the time they need to take care of us and what we're up to. Our community wins, too! Because as a congregation, we have big visions and big ideas. An Assistant Minister will give us the wherewithal to accomplish them.**

**A Communications Coordinator will present our face to the larger community, from an always-updated, ever-changing website, to social media, to "marketing" us and the great things we do to Sonoma County. Marketing is not a bad word! It's how you find out about the things that you're interested in. We want to attract younger people to our values and commitment? We want to grow our Religious Education program? We need to tell them about us and what we're up to in the ways and**

places they go, and that's online and through social media.

### **We're starting our hiring**

*process to replace our beloved Deborah.* I am so sad to see her go, but I'm also excited to see the new directions our next Director of Religious Education will take our RE program and our children. This is a sad ending of an era, but it can also be an electrifying beginning of a new one!

**If you can read between my lines, you'll see that a lot of what I'm talking about will take money.** I've been thinking a lot lately about PBS pledge drives. The point they keep making goes along the lines of "Do you value this station and what it provides for you? If you do, please support it - at whatever level works for you." I think we're in the same boat.

*When we stopped having annual pledge drives several years ago, we took on a vision of all the members pledging 5-10% of their income to UUCSR each year.* Now, being good Unitarians, we never specified what that 5-10% is of. Your gross income? Your net? Your disposable income (some of us have HUGE student loans, for instance)? **It's up to you. You get to say.** When my income was higher, I gave more. When my income went down, I gave less. But it's always been 5%, no matter what my income is. And when my income goes back up, one of the first things I'll do is figure out my 5% and raise my pledge. It's just what I do now. And it feels good - like I'm doing my part, in a way that works for me, and **owning my congregation and everything it's up to.**

*Please join me in this grand experiment in generosity. Let's create a bountiful, joyous, deeply moving, deeply connected future together.*

**We have big work to do. Let's get to it!**

*Natalie Brundred, Board President*



## What Your Board Was Up To In September

At our September board meeting, we made sure **we're all set up for the upcoming Congregational Meeting**, finalizing the agenda and speakers.

We also committed to a goal of hiring an Assistant Minister and a Communications Coordinator. (My secret agenda is that we are in the process of hiring both those staff positions by the end of next June!)

The board supported the Religious Education Steering Committee's recommendation that we hire a part-time interim RE Director (DRE) for approximately six months after Deborah retires, and then recruit a full-

time permanent DRE to start next summer. This will greatly expand the pool of applicants.

We welcome your input on how to make our congregation even better. A board member holding a "Talk to a Board Member" sign on a pole (easy to spot!) will be in the Social Hall on Sundays. Many UU minds working together are so much better than a few for generating great ideas and solving problems!

Also, you are always welcome to attend board meetings. They're always at 6:30 on the third Thursday of the month in the Board Room. October's meeting will be on the 19<sup>th</sup>. I'd love to see you there!

*Natalie Brundred, Board President*

## TREASURER'S MONTHLY LEDGER

We begin a New FISCAL Year with the **completion of the women's restroom counters.** Thanks to the Endowment Committee and the **Board's recommendation on this much needed improvement.** One more thing to check off our **bucket list. August financials aren't complete, but here's July's.**

Operations posted a net surplus of \$660 for the month of July. The first few months of the new fiscal year are always a bumpy ride, so to get that close to budget is good. Total sources of income were \$36,600, versus a target of \$41,100 with most of the difference in less pledges reported this month. Expenses for the month were \$36,000, versus a budget of \$42,400. The lower amount of expenses offset income, so we netted a positive for July.

Glaser Center is right on target for the month of July taking in \$4,800 in revenue. The only difference of expenses was an increase of insurance. **We generally don't match most expenses to the budget** when paid, but apportion over the year, so this increase for expenses for July is normal. Net income for the month was \$2,200, versus a budget of \$2,800, or \$600 under budget.

Corrections to Year-End: Oops, my bad — we had some changes to year-end. Net income from Operations was \$22,700, not \$19,000. Net Income from Glaser was \$23,700 not \$25,800. Most of the difference was due to accounting for the pro-rata share of overhead expenses to Glaser Center.

*Fiscally Yours,  
Michael Randolph  
Treasurer*

### COSM- Committee on Shared Ministry

The Committee on Shared Ministry is charged with ensuring the health of the congregation by supporting the minister, encouraging communication and providing conflict resolution when needed. COSM also participates in the yearly evaluation of the minister.

Lucia Millburn is our current chair. The other current members are Alan Bell, Bob Anderson, Kitty Wells, Susan Bartholome, Frances Corman and Rev. Chris. We all can be approached at any time

regarding COSM business.

When we participate in conflict resolution we strive to mediate from a neutral position and in strict confidentiality even when the conflict may **involve the minister, staff or visitors. We've had a good measure of success over the years and we feel blessed to have offered this service. We've also been pleased that Rev. Chris feels he has benefitted from our efforts and our occasional constructive criticism. Feel free to contact any of us in the future.**

*This article was inadvertently cut off last month—here it is in its entirety. Apologies from the Editor.*

### Caring Connection Committee

Part of our UUCSR mission is taking care of each other. We help fellow members who are recovering from surgery, may be in the hospital, need meals, transportation or would like a phone call to stay connected with our community. Are you interested in volunteering? Do you love to cook? Love to talk on the phone? Like to drive? Make deliveries? Think about how much time you are able to give to

this great cause of caring for each other.

Please stop by the Caring Connections table on Sunday to sign a card. Let us know how you would like to volunteer. Also talk to us if you have any ideas, questions, or concerns. You could also call Gail Alford at 843-4466 to make arrangements to volunteer or let us know of a member that has a need for a caring connection. (Please ask at the office for telephone list of members that would like calls) Thank You—Ellen O'Hare

### Musical Notes

*The main musical event this month is the fabulous Musicians Showcase Saturday, October 14* presented by our Music Coordinators, member musicians and friends. This once-a-year extravaganza promises to be an eclectic evening of music and talent, which will include jazz, rock, show tunes, sacred music, and pieces composed by UU members.

*Music for the Sunday services will swirl around ideas inspired by "Hospitality". We start off with music by the UUsual Suspects on October*

1st which will include "A Place At the Table" by New Zealand hymn writer Shirley Erena Murray. On the 8th, the UU Choir will enchant and move us with "Locus Iste", a piece that evokes the sacredness of "this place" composed in 1869 and based on the **biblical story of Jacob's ladder. The UUsual Suspects are back on the 15th, followed on the 22nd, the weekend of the Men's Retreat, by the Choir women. The rare 5th Sunday will feature the Beatles' "We Can Work It Out" by more of the UUsual Suspects.**

*Finally, watch, or listen to, this space for news about the newly forming UU Orchestra!*

# Religious Education for Children & Youth

Director of Religious Education, Deborah Mason

*Do you remember the first time you walked into a UU congregation?*

**I do. I felt awkward. I didn't really know what to expect, nor did I know if the experience would be a fit for me.** Walking into a worship service, when I had never considered myself a person who would go to church was more than a little unnerving. Having been *unchurched for decades, I just didn't know* what I was getting into. I walked in a tad bit defended, and I left pretty immediately after the service was over. But the message (oh, the message!) was what I had been waiting for all my life! So, I came back. And I came back again, and again.

*Rev. Chris often acknowledges the courage of our first time visitors for stepping into this unknown territory of Unitarian Universalism.* In a county where people generally stay away from church in droves, becoming part of a religious community like ours is indeed a subversive act.

*Welcoming the stranger is a sacred value in Unitarian Universalism.* Our principles call us to be inclusive, and the future of our movement calls us to

make those who enter our doors for the first time feel like they have found a home. I think our congregation does a pretty good job of welcoming newcomers. And we can always improve.

*Remember the first time you came:* how it felt, who reached out to greet you, and how you became connected here. And then pay it forward. Honor the people who reached out to you when you were new by reaching out to a newcomer next week. Then do it again the following week.

My first UU church in Ventura was a very welcoming community, but it took time and more experience for me to feel truly included. My early conversations during the social hour led me to ways I could be involved and my involvement in service and on committees gave me a place to really become a part of the congregation. The people I met the first year gave me the encouragement I needed to keep coming back.

*Who will you include in your circle this coming week?*

*In Faith, Deborah*

OCTOBER	K-1: WISDOM STORIES	2-4: SIGNS OF OUR FAITH	5-7: SING TO THE POWER
10/1	<b>CHILDREN'S CHAPEL (All Ages)</b> Theme: All Are Welcome - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Principle ~ Be kind in all you do		
10/8	<i>Zen Ties</i> by Jon Muth	Seeking Knowledge First Emblem: <i>The way I act is a sign of the faith that is inside me</i>	The Power of Growth
10/15	<i>The Big Orange Splot</i> by Daniel Manus Pinkwater	We Revere Life	The Power of Place
10/22	<i>The Invisible Boy</i> by Trudy Ludwig	Signs of Caring	The Power of Stillness
10/29	Holiday Session: <i>Día De Los Muertos</i> Children may wear Halloween Costumes today		

Here's What's Happening In RE Classes this Month:  
9:15 every Sunday: Children grades K-7 begin in the sanctuary for a story for all ages, then go to RE classes.

Childcare for babies, toddlers and preschoolers will be provided by Sophie Johnson and Emily Payne.

The Youth Group (grades 8 to 12) is held every Thursday from 4 to 6pm. Deborah Mason, Danny Millspaugh and Rev. Chris serve as Youth Advisors.

Contact Deborah Mason for more information.

# Adult Religious Education

Guided by UU Principles, Rooted in Sources of Unitarian Universalism, and the Vision and Mission of Our Congregation, the Adult RE Team strengthens community and facilitates spiritual growth by offering

classes, activities, programs, training of facilitators and coordination of other UUCSR activities. Members of the ARE Committee: Rev. Chris Bell, Nadene Carroll, Phil Harriman, Sarita Hazen, Helga Lemke (Chair), and John Speck.

## Behind Controversial Movies Human Sexuality

Movies and Talks with Bill Stayton

Wednesdays, October 4– November 8  
6:30–9:30 pm

Movies can treat a sensitive topic through story telling. In this series, movies featuring untold stories in the field of human sexuality will be presented on 6 Wednesdays by Bill Stayton, a favorite lecturer at UUCSR.

We will be watching "The Einstein of Sex," "Kinsey," "For a Lost Soldier," "The Sessions," "Loving and Cheating," and "Revelations."

After each film Bill will lead a discussion focused on hearing each other's different viewpoints and gaining a better understanding of the subject. 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, and 11/8.

*Donation suggested.*

## The Evolution of Unitarian Universalism Conflict and Creativity

Talks By Reverend Chris Bell

Wednesdays, October 25 – November  
7:00 pm –8:30 pm

Rev. Chris Bell presents a four part series on The Evolution of Unitarian Universalism: Conflict and Creativity. Come to any or all!

The story of Unitarian Universalism is a dramatic one, originating in the earliest age of Christianity. Our ranks include some of the great heretics of the Reformation and the innovators of the Enlightenment, Protestant pioneers in America, Transcendentalists, Humanists, and today's free thinkers and justice warriors.

We have been in a perpetual revolution against dogmatic and restrictive religion, and, ironically, against ourselves, since the movement began. Come find your place in the epic of the Living Tradition! Taught by Rev. Chris Bell

October 25	The Christian Heretics	0 - 1700
November 1	The New England Religion	1750 – 1850
November 8	Transcendentalism, Humanism, and Merger	1850 – 1961
November 15	The Modern Era	1961– Now

*Submitted by Helga Lemke*

## SPIRIT MOVES

BODY MOVES

October 4 & 18

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

1:00 pm–2:30 pm

Led by Bertha Jean S.

**Women's movement group in**

Room 545. No charge.

For details contact Bertha Jean S.

## Osher Lifelong Learning

September 22 - October 27

Fridays 9:30-11:30 AM

OLLI is a unique learning community for adults age 50 years old or better. OLLI offers the very best continuing education with no tests and no grades. Distinguished SSU faculty and other Bay Area educators enjoy sharing their expertise with OLLI students, whose life experience and intelligence enrich the exchange of ideas.

OLLI à la CARTE at the Glaser Center  
Collecting Marine Creatures Oct. 6  
Greensleeves & Amazing Grace Oct.13  
Big Time Athletics in Modern US Oct.20  
POTUS #45 Oct. 27

*\$25/class - See class list and descriptions in the September's newsletter*

<http://web.sonoma.edu/exed/olli/>

## Evening Book Group

Thursday, October 11

7 –9 pm, RE Wing

The Evening Book Group meets on 2nd Thursdays. This month we meet on October 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. at 547 Mendocino. We meet in the RE wing.

The October Selection is:  
*Strangers in their Own Land*  
by Arlie Russell Hochschild

*Visitors and newcomers are welcome!*

The November Selection is:  
*The Grapes of Wrath*  
By John Steinbeck

Questions?  
Contact Linda Lampson

A4SJ

## 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.

## Share the Offering

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

October 1: Listening for a Change promotes understanding and acceptance of human diversity through education, oral history, and the arts. Programs in schools, communities, businesses and nonprofits bring community together through story, and are designed to dispel "otherness".

October 8: Friends of North Bay Regional Center (NBRC) provides critical supplemental services to clients of NBRC, who are developmentally disabled people, including those with mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and autism.

October 15: Vital Immigration Defense Advocacy and Services (VI DAS) provides low-cost immigration law services, advocacy and community education.

October 22: Breakfast For Our Neighbors is our own Saturday Breakfast, which provides nutritious meals in a friendly atmosphere for our needy neighbors. It is supported by the volunteer efforts and financial generosity of our members and others.

October 29: The Raizes Collective, based in Santa Rosa exists to empower and mobilize community through the arts, culture and environmental education. The collective offers artists and teachers of color the resources of space, programming, events, shows and activities to affect social and political change.

November 5: 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.



## HOT TOPIC

*Friends of North Bay Regional Center*  
Sunday October 8  
After 11:00 am Service

Friends of North Bay Regional Center supports and serves families with children who have special needs, including autism, intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy or epilepsy, and who are associated with North Bay Regional Center.

Friends of NB meet families request for special items not otherwise funded by NBRC, such as special recreational activities, communication devices; and rental assistance and support for utilities for young adults who are striving to be independent.

This extra help is often pivotal in meeting people's needs to sustain independence, "fit in" and have fun just like anybody else!

Our speaker will be Suzette Soviero, Volunteer Manager

*Submitted by Micheline Justman, MA*

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE/CLIMATE CHANGE FILM SERIES  
Brought to you by the Advocates for Social Justice Film Project

### RACHEL CARSON'S SILENT SPRING

A PBS/American Experience *Directed by Michelle Ferrari*  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017

12: 45 (following the 11 AM service) in the Board Room

A4SJ Film Project presents, as the 2nd movie in its Environmental Series, "RACHEL CARSON'S SILENT SPRING", a documentary that details the life and work of the author of the book that changed our consciousness about the chemical contamination of our environment and its deadly effect on all living things.

**"I used to believe that much of Nature was forever beyond the tampering reach of man. He might level the forest and dam the streams, but the clouds, the rain, the wind, and the oceans were God's." But then my eyes and my mind were open to the truth as it now appears to be and that was the book I began to write – about the power man now had to change the world and my hope that, as he takes on this new role, man does so with humility rather than arrogance."** (Carson, 1958)

The movie briefly recounts Carson's life, centers on a gripping account of the writing of her revolutionary book, the furor it created from the chemical industry that profits from chemical contamination, and the monumental changes her work produced in American and other societies worldwide. The once-shy Rachel Carson became a fearless fighter and national figure with her defense of *Silent Spring*, advocating for the right of the citizen to be secure in his/her own home against the intrusion of poisons applied by other persons, what she called a basic human right. This exceptional film leaves the viewer with a profound appreciation of Rachel Carson, rightly recognized around the world as the mother of the modern environmental movement. Jimmy Carter, awarding Rachel Carson the Presidential Medal of Honor said, "Always concerned, always eloquent, she created a tide of environmental consciousness that must not ebb."

Discussion follows the film. Please bring whatever you wish to eat. We will offer a snack, not lunch.

*A4SJ Film Project Team: Elaine Wellin, Cassandra Lista, Mary Louise Jaffray, Carol Daeley, Dorris Lee, Jeanie Bates*

*North Bay Organizing Project*

**NBOP Issues Assembly**

October 15, 3 pm at Glaser Center

Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> 3pm is the Issues Assembly at the Glaser Center where we will vote on the three issues NBOP will work on during the next two years. Please come and vote, have your voice heard, help to make a difference in our community.

On September 11<sup>th</sup> there was a threshing meeting where all of the organizations within NBOP shared their findings from their listening circles. After listing all of the issues that concerned our communities, the five issues that are the most concerning are housing, homelessness, immigration, education, transportation/ environment. Yes, the issues are very broad. After the vote on October 15<sup>th</sup> very specific tasks regarding the three issues will be discussed and chosen by the people that show up to do the work. If you are passionate about an issue and you want to make an impact please get involved.

Thank you to all who participated in our listening circles on August 27<sup>th</sup> here at UUCSR. The summary of the responses from our listening circles in order of most responses to least responses are: Housing, homelessness, immigration, community policing, transit, mental health, education (institutionalized racism), disability rights, affordable healthcare, (each of the following were mentioned once) alienation of youth, district elections, economic inequality, global warming, trauma informed care in schools, cyclical nature of crime in families, truth in politics.

Interested in getting involved? Have questions please contact Deborah Mason, Sibyl Day, Carol Kraemer, Sara Jones or Ellen O'Hare. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

***CUUP's Planning***

***Samhain/Day of the Dead Mashup***

October 29 at the Sunday Services  
Come to the Slytherin Sunday Service on October 29th! Seems appropriate to Celebrate Samhain and Day of the Dead with Slytherin, don't you think? Still in the planning stage with Rev Chris. Stay tuned to see how it all melds together. It's a service you won't want to miss. Blessed Be!

**DESK ANGELS WANTED!**

*Are you becoming too isolated?  
Come join our desk angels team!*

**The primary task is answering the telephone. It's a "piece of cake and gluten-free!" Opening now for two Thursdays afternoon shifts 1-4, and 3 Friday morning shifts 9:30-1:00.**

*(Subs helpful and welcome too)*

A joyful time is guaranteed!  
Contact Bertha Jean S. or the UUCSR office

**OLD AGE IS  
NOT FOR SISSIES**

2nd and 4th Mondays at 10:30 am

October 9 & 23

10:30 a.m. in UUCSR Board Room

Old Age is Not for Sissies is a group for congregants 80 and over.

Are you one of us? Meet in the Board Room 10:30 a.m. every second and fourth Monday morning. Coffee service starts at 10:00 a.m.

Secret Handshake not required, but a plus.  
Need transportation?

Please call well ahead of meeting date.

**Questions? Call:**

Phyllis Clement  
Dorris Lee  
Shirley White

**Share-The-Basket**

*We split our Weekly offering contributions.*  
Our social action committee, Advocates for Social Justice selects a program to receive a special donation from our Congregation.

**AUGUST RECIPIENTS**

Clean River Alliance	\$384.63
NAMI	\$408.87
<b>Women's Recovery Center</b>	\$393.22
Breakfast for our Neighbors	\$1070.55

*Thanks for Your Generosity!*

**Special Deadlines for UU UPDATE**

*Please Mark Your Calendars*

December Issue Submissions due no later than Nov. 13

January issue Submissions due no later than Dec. 11

UUCSR Monthly  
Work Saturday  
October 7  
9 am—Noon

Our Work Day this month will be on the traditional first Saturday, Oct 7.  
*Please come and help keep the building and grounds spiffy!*

*UUCSR Men's Retreat October 20—22!*

Wonderful, quiet, invigorating, fun, and connecting—the Annual **Men's Retreat is being held at St. Dorothy's Rest in Camp Meeker** from October 20 to 22. Interested men can sign up after services each Sunday through October 20.

Questions? Contact Michael Larsen or Bob Anderson for more information.

DRAWING GROUP  
Wednesday 1-3

Join us every Wednesday from 1 to 3 in the Board Room for meaningful fun. Learn that you can draw, even if you thought you couldn't. Bring a sketch pad, pencil and eraser.  
*Open to all!*

*UUCSR Women Together Presents:*  
Our Fall "Elder Tale" Presentation  
Saturday, October 22nd, at 1pm

We continue our tradition of inviting one of our own amazing women to share a bit of her life story. Gather with us in the Youth Room to enjoy photos and anecdotes presented by Carolyn McLeese highlighting her interesting, active, and somewhat rule-bending (imagine that!) life.

We know she brought TIE to our UUCSR, but surprising stories lie beneath her gracious demeanor! Carolyn will begin her tale at 1:00 pm in the UUCSR Youth Room.

All (men, too) are welcome...no birth certificate required. Please bring finger food to share and a beverage if you'd like. We will have coffee, tea and water, of course.

Faith And Fitness  
Saturday, October 21  
10:15 am-1:00 pm-ish  
Foothill Regional Park, Windsor

Easy to moderate hike, nice fall colors and views, 2-3 miles depending on route, dogs okay, bring water, snacks/lunch. Meet to carpool at 9:30 am or at the park at 10:15 am.

Email sign up! Contact Gretchen P.  
*Plan to come along!*

WT Autumnal One-Day Retreat  
Saturday, October 28th, 10 am—2:30 pm

Enjoy an interesting and fun day at our 1-day Retreat at Friends House, 684 Benicia Drive, Santa Rosa, from 10 am to 2:30 pm.

We'll have small group discussions in the morning and a pot-luck lunch followed by games or whatever we'd like. This Retreat is specially suited to people who find Saint Dorothy's hard to navigate, women who can't get away for a whole weekend, and members who just would like to get to know others in a smaller, more relaxed setting than the Social Hall after services! Questions? Contact Linda H.

*Speed Diversity Dialog*  
October 15, 12:30 pm—2:00 pm  
In Sanctuary at UUCSR

*A new approach to our collective commitment to diversity.*

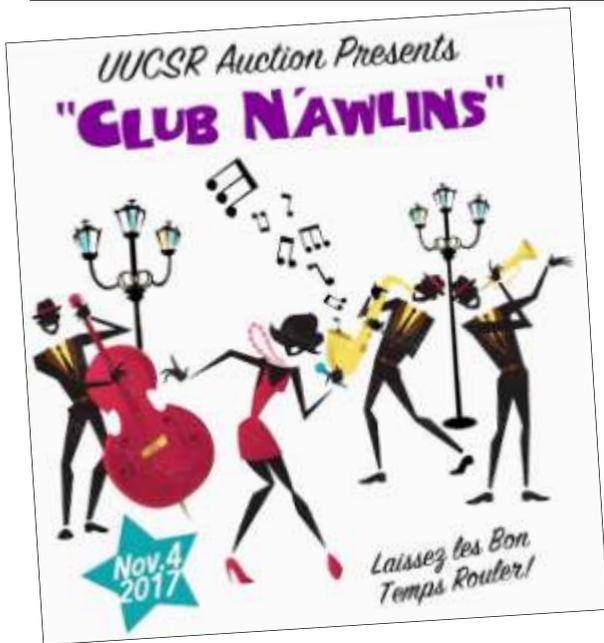
Speed Diversity Dialogue [SDD], designed and facilitated by Dr. Elisa Velasquez, Director of Diversity and Inclusive Excellence at Sonoma State University, is an exciting and unique opportunity to expand our understanding of the widest range of diversity issues facing us today.

Dr. Velasquez will lead us in exploring "The Big 8" in a highly interactive, multicultural competency program. SDD has proven success in breaking down social barriers and increasing empathy among participants, and in providing a safe space to learn more about this pressing issue for UUs here and nationally.

Here's what some of the hundreds of participants have said: *"Speed Diversity Dialog is interesting, eye-opening, fun, very useful, rewarding, enjoyable, helpful, thought provoking, valuable, enlightening, and awesome. All in all, an amazing experience."*

*Refreshments in 545 before the event. Offered by the Diversity Project of A4J. See Insert in this Newsletter.*





**“CLUB N’AWLINS”**  
Annual Auction Gala  
Saturday, Nov. 4th!

Attend *YOUR* Auction Party!

Donate *NOW* to Our Auction Party!

See Insert for Party & Donation Info

**Volunteers For Auction Night Still Needed!**

Our wonderful Dee Ray still needs *You!* to fill the following slots for our November 4 Auction Night Gala:

- 3** Bid Sheet Monitors and Cashier Helpers *during auction gala, Nov 4, 6:15 – 8:15 pm.*
- 2** Cashiers/Check-Out People *at the end of auction gala, Nov 4, 7:15 – 8:45 pm.*
- 1** Auction Table Helper *Sundays through Oct !!!*

★ **THE UUCSR COMMUNITY RAFFLE**  
*Drawing on 2017 November 4* ★

2 Tickets \$6.00 ★  
4 Tickets \$10.00  
10 Tickets \$20.00

★ **Sell Raffle Tickets! Buy Raffle Tickets!**

The Raffle runs from October 8 through to the November 4 drawing at the UUCSR Annual Auction Party.

*The Community Raffle always brings a fair chunk of change for our beloved community’s work. Nancy Fitzpatrick needs our help to make this year’s Raffle a success! Call her to sell or buy tickets.*

★ Below are types of Raffle Prizes from last year! We expect to have similar this year.

- \$100 certificate to La Gare French Restaurant
- 2 tickets to Sixth Street Playhouse, Santa Rosa
- 2 tickets to the Santa Rosa Symphony at the Green Music Center, value \$126
- \$50 certificate to Flavor at Old Courthouse Square
- 2 tickets to the Luther Burbank Center for the Performing Arts — \$60 value per ticket
- \$50 certificate to Flavor at Old Courthouse Square
- \$50 certificate to Sweet T’s Restaurant & Bar**
- \$50 certificate to Jhanthong Banbua (Thai) on Mendocino

- ★ Gift certificate, breakfast or lunch for 2 to Dierk’s Parkside Cafe (2 winners!)
- \$25 certificate to Oliver’s Market**
- 2 tickets to Sebastopol Ballet’s Nutcracker at Analy Theater
- \$40 gift certificate to Jeffrey’s Hillside Café**
- \$20 gift certificate to Ting Hau Restaurant
- \$50 gift certificate to Gaia’s Garden, Santa Rosa**
- \$30 gift certificate to Tudor Rose English Tea Room
- \$25 gift certificate to Hank’s Creekside Restaurant**
- \$25 gift certificate to La Vera Pizza
- \$25 gift certificate to Pacific Market
- 2 tickets to SRJC 2015/2016 Theatre Arts Season
- 2 tickets to SRJC Summer Repertory Theatre



From Your Stewardship Team



## What's all this fuss about Tidying 5%?!

Um, excuse me, Letitia, that's *"tithing"* not *"tidying"*. *Tithing* is a both an ancient practice spoken of in the Old Testament, and is rooted in the modern egalitarian notion that one's amount of giving should be relative to one's income. UUCSR members are encouraged to follow the UUA Stewardship Guidelines in giving a percentage of income, and you can see there is flexibility to adjust for the each of our unique situations.

Our leadership asks us all to *work toward* giving 5%: first, take some time to determine your current pledging level, then reflect on the value the congregation holds for you, and decide how to best contribute your time, your talents *and* your treasure to reflect that value. In the Visioning Process in **2015, we created ambitious goals for UUCSR's future, and achieving them will require more from all of us.** This quote from Rev. Shelley Page holds a good message for us at UUCSR too:

*"We need a place to practice being our best selves, for if we can tackle misunderstandings among us and learn the ways of love even better, we can take these vital skills out into a hurting world to create justice and peace. ... We need a place where the young and those well-seasoned by life can enrich and teach each other instead of the siloed existences of our schools and senior living centers....That place is right here, right now. That place is your beloved congregation."*

- by Rev. Shelley Page from *A Stewardship Sermon* preached on March 13, 2016 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Ogden, Ogden, Utah

Together we have made UUCSR such a place. Your financial generosity will further enrich our congregational life and strengthen our impact in the community.

From the UUA Stewardship Guidelines:

1. Determine your monthly income or resource level. \$\_\_\_\_\_ ADD to your income level any unusual or periodic income, such as inheritances, business income, anticipated investment income, etc.
  2. SUBTRACT any unusual expenses, such as large medical expenses, care of a parent, or a large financial expense, etc.
- Result: \$\_\_\_\_\_ This is your Adjusted Monthly Income.

Each of us will have our own unique circumstances to consider in making this calculation. The flexibility to include meaningful and unusual exceptions in your financial life (income and expenses) is what makes the Guide fair and useful. This is a tool for you to use in the spirit of the Congregationalist tradition; we are individually and collectively responsible for resourcing our movement and our congregations. This is an honor system; only you know your circumstances.

<http://www.uua.org/finance/apf/contribution-guide>