



## The Redwood Reachout: August 2018

To submit an article, please send the article in email to the newsletter@uufrc.org. To be included in the monthly printed newsletter, articles must be received at least one week before the end of the month.

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### Woods Working: Allowing Awe

Now, on the week of Lughnassadh (the cross quarter in the Wheel of the Year between the summer solstice and the autumn equinox), though I am back from vacation, I am holding on to the awe and wonder of this amazing and fragile planet, as I experience it all around me. I offer a few words as a reminder to pause from the rush of days and pay attention to your Source: whatever refills you for the autumn work to come.

**Allowing Awe** by G. Woods

Caught once again

by surprise,

gasping with wonder

at the scent of Jasmine in the night,

at the sight of soaring eagles rising

from impossibly tall trees,

at the sound of glaciers calving,

echoing against walls of fjords

at the caress of gentle rain,

while aware of drought,

at the textures of huskie fur

and redwood bark.

How is it possible to ignore the riches poured out for us

by our Mother Earth?

How we allow ourselves to ignore endless

thoughtless acts against the ongoing health of our planet

and ourselves?

Let bathe in beauty and wonder

and commit to return to wildness and wilderness

to collect the joy necessary to act for life and love.

Bright Blessings of Lughnassadh,

Yours for the Interim,

Gretchen Woods, AIM

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## Lab Girl on August 6

Our August book group on 8/6 will focus on *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. I loved this book about a girl who makes her way in the world of science. Join us at 7:30 in the back lounge.

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## Summary of the UUFRC Board Meeting, June 26, 2018

Attending:

Bob Holden, Rev. Gretchen Woods, David Vallerga, Anna Dyer, David Zarubin, and Lisa Conrad. Absent: Steve Hill and Marina Rose. Also attending were newly elected Board members: Chris Stovall and Beth Harrison. We were joined by the Committee on Ministries members: DeeDee Stovel, John Cooney, Lori Longo, Leslie Vallerga and Bill Welch

1. The Finance Committee Report indicates that there will be more carry over funds than were anticipated.
2. The Committee on Ministry attended to give a report about the status of the Committee and its proposed charter. Leslie Vallerga gave a history of the Committee and DeeDee Stovel answered board members' questions, indicating that the committee's focus was still in development. The Board asked for some revisions to the proposed charter and the Committee will bring a revised version back for a vote in July.
3. Tracy Morris was approved as Connections Chair.
4. The Board briefly discussed the urgent need for a Child Care Provider and will follow up with further discussion at the July meeting.
5. The Board expressed deep gratitude to Jorie Schultz for all her work as Chair of the Worship Committee.
6. The Board also discussed progress in our interim ministry so far and filled out our annual interim ministry evaluation to submit to the UUA.

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# Save the Date: Sep 3, Interfaith Prayers for Peace & Potluck Picnic

Prayers will be spoken, sung and chanted quietly as all of us respectfully participate in spirit. **All Ages, All Faiths, All People Welcome!** Members from our Six faith traditions ~ Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Jews and Baha'is ~ will share prayers for peace from our different traditions.



## Potluck Picnic will follow!

**Bring your favorite Food, music and games to share!**

**September 3, 2018**

**Prayers Begin at 11 a.m.**

**Twin Pines Park, Belmont**

**Behind City Hall**

**Sponsored by the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition**

The Peninsula Multifaith Coalition brings together our diverse faith communities to build bridges of understanding and respect. We stand together with humility to acknowledge our common values, learn from one another and serve our wider world.

For questions, contact UUFRC Interfaith chair, Cheri Hahne.

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# Sort Food to Help Feed the Hungry in San Mateo County

Our volunteer turnout at Saturday's Second Harvest Food Bank distribution at the Belmont Mosque (Yaseen Foundation) was a little slim. I'd like to ask you to consider putting August 25 on your calendars. This time of year is hard because of vacations, so we need reinforcements.

It's always on a Saturday from 7:15am to 9:30am.(If you can't come for those hours, come for what you can). And it's local: 621 Masonic Way, Belmont, CA 94002.



This is different than protesting or writing letters (not better, but different). I think a lot of these families are immigrants, and most have children. I promise that this direct action and support will increase your motivation to share and help.

You don't need any experience, just a willingness to go with the flow and adapt to what needs to be done. There is always a core group of UU's to help you get comfortable. Kids 12 and over are welcome.

Thanks, John Anning

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# Upcoming Services

**August 5, 2018 - 10:30am**

**Come to My Garden: Finding the Sacred Inside**

**Kai Marks**

**For many, gardens are a place of promise and refuge. For others, they are a symbol of paradise and rebirth. Join us as we explore how to tend the garden of our interior—and ultimately, how to come home to the best part of ourselves at ... read more.**

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**August 12, 2018 - 10:30am**

**Are We Secretly Trinitarian? (Hint: it's not what you think)**

**Eleanor Kilpatrick**

**Join Ellie as she explores UU history and what our theology can learn from our past. How do we balance our intellect, our passion, and our action in today's world while honoring our freedom of belief? Worship Associate: Sarah Skovlund**

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August 19, 2018 - 10:30am

Stump the Minister

Rev. Gretchen Woods

Stump the Minister? What question do you have for Rev. Gretchen Woods? Submitted questions will be addressed. Worship Associate: Jorie Schulz

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August 26, 2018 - 10:30am

In Our Own Words — The Sanctuary of Nature

John Anning

Have you ever said “Nature is my church”? It doesn’t mean nature is our only church, but it means many of us find a certain spiritual sustenance far from cities, people, and human institutions. Worship Associate: Kate Hand This service will feature 8-10 short vignettes on the topic

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# Upcoming Events

July 29, 2018 - August 4, 2018

[Connections Committee](#)

Wednesday, 08/01/2018, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Block Room

Alex Stagner

[Happy Trails Hiking Club](#)

Saturday, 08/04/2018, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Carpool from UUFRC

Led by Kaye Bonney

[Hike La Honda Creek August 4](#)

Saturday, 08/04/2018, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Offsite/Other: Location listed in description

Third time is a charm: On Saturday, August 4, we’re hiking at La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.

# August 5, 2018 - August 11, 2018

## Worship Service

**Sunday, 08/05/2018, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary + Social Hall (including Front Lounge)**  
**+ Kitchen**

## Welcome Circle

**Sunday, 08/05/2018, 11:45 am - 12:15 pm**  
**Game Room**

Newcomers are invited to join us for our monthly “Welcome Circle” after the service. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about our Fellowship and faith, and to...

## Social Action Committee

**Sunday, 08/05/2018, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

The Social Action Committee usually meets the 1st Sunday of the month in the Back Lounge. Please check the calendar to confirm as there are occasional exceptions. If you have...

## Book Group

**Monday, 08/06/2018, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

The Book Discussion Group meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 for a lively talk about their reading. Books are chosen by member consensus – both fiction and...

## Worship Committee

**Wednesday, 08/08/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

Assist in preparing and delivering the Sunday services. Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month usually.

### Fools of the Round Table

**Thursday, 08/09/2018, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Front Lounge**

Fools Mission is a consciousness-raising ministry of supportive companionship and hope. Fools Mission deliberately builds solidarity, friendship, and community among people from all walks of life, including all levels of...

### Learning Journey Committee

**Thursday, 08/09/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

All are welcome! Help plan and offer classes, workshops, and forums on topics that support adult faith exploration & development. Usually meets 2nd Thursday of the month. Please check calendar to confirm, as exceptions occur.

## August 12, 2018 - August 18, 2018

### Worship Service

**Sunday, 08/12/2018, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary + Social Hall (including Front Lounge)**  
**+ Kitchen**

### Spiritual Autobiography Writing Group (Zarubin)

**Monday, 08/13/2018, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Front Lounge**

Contact for this group: David Zarubin. If you are interested in joining a spiritual writing group, contact Beth Harrison for an open chair.

### Knitting and Crocheting Circle

**Wednesday, 08/15/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Minister's Office**

Join us for an evening of good company and conversation as we make Love Wraps for congregants in need of support. All skill levels welcome! We are happy to teach...

### PCD MUUGs Retreat at UU Santa Rosa

**Friday, 08/17/2018 - 08/19/2018, 7:00 pm - 12:00 pm**  
**Offsite/Other: Location listed in description**

MUUGs Retreats are created for 7th and 8th grade UUs across the PCD; 6th graders and 9th graders who have not bridged to YRUUP are also welcome. Using workshops, worship, touch...

## August 19, 2018 - August 25, 2018

### Worship Service

**Sunday, 08/19/2018, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary + Social Hall (including Front Lounge)**  
**+ Kitchen**

### Finance Committee

**Monday, 08/20/2018, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

The Finance Committee meets the 3rd Monday of every month in the Back Lounge. Do not move without consulting with Jennifer Bahr-Davidson

/Finance Committee  
Chair, jbahrdaidson@gmail.com

### Youth & Family Committee

**Monday, 08/20/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Front Lounge**

The Youth & Family Committee oversees programming for children and youth and works to connect them to our community. All are welcome. Meets Third Monday of the month, 7pm. Please check calendar...

### Fossil Free Mid-Peninsula

**Wednesday, 08/22/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary**

Sea level rise, raging wildfires (in JUNE?!) droughts and floods ~ what's to be done? We're working at the local level to curb the worst of climate change with a...

### Transition Team Meeting

**Wednesday, 08/22/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Back Lounge**

This is the committee meeting with Rev. Gretchen to help her guide the interim ministry and eventually to help with the Transition to our settled minister.

### Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, 08/23/2018, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary**

Main Rehearsal starts at 7:15pm, Setup is 6pm. No experience is needed ~ just enthusiasm and a

willingness to learn. Meets Mid-Aug -- Mid-Jun. Contact: Dawn Reyen for any choir questions.

**Rapid Response Team (Fools Mission)**

**Thursday, 08/23/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Front Lounge**

The Rapid Response Team, through Fools Mission, is coordinating with Faith in Action and other groups to organize rapid response networks of 40 or more people in each zip code...

**Fools of the Round Table Breakfast Meeting**

**Saturday, 08/25/2018, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Social Hall (including Front Lounge) + Kitchen**

Fools Mission is a consciousness-raising ministry of supportive companionship and hope. Fools Mission deliberately builds solidarity, friendship, and community among people from all walks of life, including all levels of...

**Connections Committee Retreat**

**Saturday, 08/25/2018, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Offsite/Other: Location listed in description**

Contact Cindy Johnson

**August 26, 2018 - September 1, 2018**

**Worship Service**

**Sunday, 08/26/2018, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Sanctuary + Social Hall (including Front Lounge)  
+ Kitchen**

**Theatre of the Oppressed workshop**

**Sunday, 08/26/2018, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary + Kitchen**

All UUFRC members and friends are invited to attend this workshop sponsored by Fools Mission and led by Jiwon Chung, who teaches Theatre of the Oppressed (TO) at Starr King...

**Parent/Child Orientation, OWL, Grades 5-6**

**Sunday, 08/26/2018, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm**  
**Social Hall (including Front Lounge) + Back Lounge**

All participants and at least one of their parents are required to attend this parent/child orientation. Children will play some icebreaker games, create a group covenant, and an activity intended to...

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Tuesday, 08/28/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Front Lounge**

BOT /Robert HoldenDo Not Move this on the calendar

**Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, 08/30/2018, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
**Sanctuary**

Main Rehearsal starts at 7:15pm, Setup is 6pm. No experience is needed ~ just enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Meets Mid-Aug -- Mid-Jun. Contact: Dawn Reyen for any choir questions.