



# The Redwood Reachout

The monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City.

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Hello from the Board of Trustees:

The big focus for the Board of Trustees (BoT) in May is our Annual General Meeting on Sunday, May 20 in the Sanctuary after services from 12:00 – 1:00.

We will be voting on several issues:

- The proposed Vision, Mission, and Covenant
- Our proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year (July 2018 to June 2019)
- Two new BoT members
- Two new Denominational Affairs Members
- “Share the Plate” recipients for the upcoming year

Please plan to attend. We, at a minimum, need to satisfy our Bylaw-stated quorum requirement of twenty-five percent of all eligible voting Members in attendance. More importantly, we need to have as many voting Members in attendance as possible to live up to our 5th UU Principle of “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.” Childcare will be provided. Accompanying meeting materials will be mailed out on May 3. Please plan to attend.

Our annual Pledge Drive wrapped up in April. Thank you to Chris Stovall and Jo Mutch for their terrific efforts as our Pledge Drive Co-chair-people this year. We surpassed our pledge totals from last year. Hooray!

We, however, are still a bit short of the income needed to accommodate the rising costs of operating in the San Francisco Bay Area. As of mid-April, we have about a \$13,000 gap between expected revenues and expected costs, and a couple dozen members that have not yet pledged.

Please note that our Bylaws state that a condition for Membership in the UUFRC includes “making an annual contribution of record to the financial support of the Fellowship.” Ones’ recommended pledged amount is based on what one is able to pay and the honor system. If you have a financial hardship and have not pledged, please just coordinate with Rev. Gretchen, and all will be as needed. If you have not pledged and are not in financial hardship, please remember that we as an organization are challenged financially, and a pledge of any size helps keep our doors open and programs running.

To help bridge our financial gap next year, we are looking for a few volunteers who can help

with two goals. One goal is to increase our facilities rental income. The other goal is to find about fifteen net new Members. If you have any experience renting space or with outreach and membership drives, please contact one of the Members of the BoT or Cindy Johnson.

We are also looking for a few individuals to drive forward the “One Big Project” concept for next year. If that topic interests you, please contact one of the Member of the BoT.

With hope for the future and appreciation of efforts given,

**Robert Holden**

President – UUFRC Board of Trustees

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### **May Musings from your Connections Coordinator**

What does being a member of this Unitarian Universalist Fellowship mean? If you’ve become a member, what is it that made you decide to join? This is a deeply personal decision, one that requires thought and intention; it’s a different journey for each person.

I joined UUFRC in 2003, after attending for more than two years. I needed time to explore, feel safe, and believe that I had gifts to contribute to this new faith. Becoming a member was a big deal to me. So big that when I was ready to join, I wanted to do it publicly by signing the Membership Book in front of the congregation. My signature in that book was an acknowledgment of the importance of this faith and place in my life: *I am a Unitarian Universalist and UUFRC is my beloved home.*

My commitment to this faith and congregation continues to deepen. I would go so far as to compare it to a marriage. It’s a relationship that I am committed to through thick and thin, good times and difficult times. Relationships take work, which is not always easy, but what I receive in return is well worth it. I am *always* learning and growing with you in endless ways and possibilities, as long as I stay open and committed.

We have members in this congregation who joined less than a year ago, all the way up to those who joined more than 40 years ago and are still active in the Fellowship. In celebration of those who have been with us for 25 years or more, please extend a hand of thanks and gratitude to: our longest time member Fran Keller (46 years), as well as Barbara Rosenaur (42 years), Jonelle Preisser (34), Geri and Bill Kennedy and Frank Montoro (30), Carolyn Chaney (28), Linda Fung (27) and David and Leslie Vallerga (26 years). This is truly commitment through thick and thin!

We will be holding an Ingathering of New Members ceremony during the service on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have thought about becoming a member of UUFRC, I invite you to come and talk with me. I would love to hear your thoughts about membership, your hopes and dreams for being a part of this community and faith, and any questions you may have. —Cindy

## **Annual Meeting Sunday May 20th at Noon**

We will be holding our Annual Meeting on May 20th from 12:00 noon to 1:00.

Everyone is welcome, but please remember that you must be a member to vote at the meeting. Bob Holden, the Board President, will be addressing what the UUFRC By-Laws require for membership in his column in this newsletter. Do think about whether you need to update your membership.

The meeting agenda will include voting on new Denominational Affairs representatives, the Vision/Mission/Covenant statements, and approving the 2018- 2019 Budget.

If you need an Absentee Ballot, please contact Malia in our Office at (650) 365-6913 or send her an email at office@uufrc.org

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## **May's "Share the Plate" Recipient: Insight-Out**

During the worship service on **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**, our collective offering will go to **Insight-Out**, a Bay Area non-profit organization that seeks to transform the prison system—and those living inside of it—“from the inside out.” Advocating for a criminal justice system that focuses on effective rehabilitation rather than punishment, Insight-Out offers inmate rehabilitation programs that address the root causes of violent behavior, helping incarcerated men gain the skills they need to become peacemakers in their own communities. For over twenty years, Insight-Out has helped violent offenders at San Quentin State Prison “leave prison before they get out” through its signature program, Guiding Rage Into Power (GRIP). The GRIP program teaches inmates how to transform their violent behavior using mindfulness and emotional intelligence. Participants learn how to heal the pain that drives violence and how to respond to difficulty without lashing out.

Our Universalist faith rejects the idea that anyone is beyond healing, beyond salvation; it insists on the radically inclusive and transformative power of love. Through our May Share the Plate collection, we have the opportunity to help shift our society away from punishment and toward healing and rehabilitation. It's hard to think of a clearer way to demonstrate our Universalist values than this! So I hope you will join me in giving as generously as possible to support the work of Insight-Out on May 6<sup>th</sup>. And I encourage you to visit [www.insight-out.org](http://www.insight-out.org) and watch the moving video on the homepage so you can see and hear

from GRIP participants themselves. I promise you will be glad you did. —Tovis Page

## CALLING ALL MUSICAL PEEPS!

Summer is coming, and Sunday services at UUFRC are a bit less structured. If you have wanted to perform at UUFRC on a Sunday, a summer service is a great time to do it. Details about the summer Sunday worship schedule will be available in May.

Look at your summer calendar (July 1 to Sept 2) and see what Sunday works for you. Then contact Beverly Morgan ([bevie.lou@gmail.com](mailto:bevie.lou@gmail.com)) for more information.

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## Woods Working: The Merry Month of May

Where did the first half of this year go? Into a lot of interesting shared activities since the Winter Holiday season ended: Cottage Meetings using Appreciative Inquiry to explore the things you love about the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City. The Fair Witnesses reported what you shared in two Town Halls, and are preparing a final draft for an up/down vote at the Annual Meeting on May 20.

The class in UU Historiography allowed us to consider major intellectual and spiritual themes of UU history. The Grief Group examined deeper information about navigating the grief process, while acknowledging that the process is not simple. The new Learning Journey (Adult RE Program) provided many spiritual and personal growth opportunities – with more to come through the rest of the year.

May crept up on us to help us complete the academic year and prepare for the summer hiatus – though that hiatus is less than a full stop. The list of Worship services is exciting. May begins auspiciously with a Board meeting on May 1 when plans will be made for the Annual Meeting on May 20.

Please remember that you must be a member to vote at that meeting. Bob Holden, the Board President, will be addressing what the UUFRC By-Laws require for membership in his column in this newsletter. Do think about whether you need to update your membership.

May offers a riot of flowers, birds, and earthly wonders to lift our spirits. So let's give in to the joyous opportunities to celebrate our Mother Earth and this Fellowship. Let us enjoy this month!

Special thanks to Jorie Schulz and all who made the Earth Day Fair into a hive of creative activity. You Bless us all! Yours for the Interim,  
Gretchen Woods, AIM

## May Book Discussion Group

Our book discussion group will meet Monday, May 7 at 7:30 in the back lounge, and our book, *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd, is on the Book Club shelves at Keppler's with a 20% discount. The story follows the life of Sarah Grimke, a southern "belle" and her personal slave, Handful, as they come of age and each finds a sense of self and purpose. A lovely read!

For June 4 we've chosen a classic by Ursula LeGuin, in her honor upon her death: *The Left Hand of Darkness*. July and August books will be: *White Houses* by Amy Bloom and *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. Always (or almost always) the first Monday of the month at 7:30. Everyone is welcome! –Carolyn Chaney

## General Assembly 2018

General Assembly is in Kansas City, MO, June 20-24. If you are interested in going or if you are already made plans to go and you are interested in being a delegate for UUFRC, please contact the Denominational Affairs committee. You can find more info about registering and rates at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>.

If traveling to Kansas City, MO isn't in your plans, consider attending from the convenience of your computer as a "Off-Site" delegate or attendee. It's a great way to experience GA from where ever you are!

UUFRC has some funds to assist financially for delegates to GA. Please let us know if you are interested in being a Delegate by MAY 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions about GA or what it means to be a delegate, please feel free to reach out.

Thanks, Susie Idzik for Denominational Affairs Committee [susie@thisspiritedlife.com](mailto:susie@thisspiritedlife.com)

## Cinco de Mayo Hike and BBQ

Saturday, May 5, we'll join former members, Bob and Sandy Simoni, at their house in Hayward for a five-mile hike in Garin Park followed by a barbecue lunch on their back deck. The hike will start at 10:00am from 28137 Riggs Court in Hayward and go down the Ziele Creek trail to Garin Barn. Then we'll loop around Jordan Pond and return via the Vista Peak Loop Trail for lunch at about 12:30pm. Bob and Sandy will provide some home-made pork and fennel sausage to grill so please bring a side or other item to grill plus the beverage of your choice.

The wildflowers are spectacular right now so we hope there will still be plenty in three weeks. Meet at UU Fellowship in Redwood City at 9:00am to form carpools.

Kaye Bonney

**Class Announcement: Earthwalking**

**4 Saturdays – May 19 & 26, June 2 & 9 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

Sponsored by The Learning Journey Sessions will include:

- Nature as Teacher: Putting Aside the Critical Mind
- Into The Silence: Defining Sacred Space
- Connecting to the Web of Life and Spirit of Place
- The Art and Science of Becoming: Mind Expansion Technique

Classes are taught by Richard Bey and will start at UUFRC and end at the park. Please bring your own lunch. There is a suggested donation of \$10 to \$25 for each session. No one turned away for lack of funds. 25% of donations will go to the Fellowship.

**REGISTER NOW!! Registration is required and space is limited for this series.** Please note: Because of limited class space, form submission does not indicate you are registered. Richard Bey will call you to confirm space is still available and that you are enrolled.

To indicate interest, fill out the form at: <https://tinyurl.com/y7k9j9r8>

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**UUFRC Rummage Sale: May 12**

Sorting and Pricing: **May 6 through May 11**

Friday Preview Sale **5 pm – 7:30 pm May 11**

Rummage Sale **Saturday 8:30 am – 3 pm May 12**

First day to bring donations to church: **Sunday April 29**

We really need your help sorting and pricing during the week of May 6 to May 11. We'll help you and it's actually kind of fun. See the sign up Board or talk to Sara Morgan, Kaye Bonney, Carol Cross, Geri Kennedy, or Cyndi Williamson. This is our biggest recycle/reuse event of the year! Don't miss it, our prices are reasonable and the goods are fantastic! Here is a list of what we take for donations, and what we don't:

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Appliances that work                         | Craft supplies                    |
| Art work                                     | Electronics                       |
| Backpacks in good condition                  | Furniture                         |
| Bicycles                                     | Holiday decorations               |
| Books, hardback and paperback                | Home decor                        |
| DVDs and CDs (commercial only, not homemade) | Jewelry                           |
| Children's clothing                          | Kitchenware                       |
| Children's toys and games                    | Lamps                             |
| Coats for all ages                           | Linens                            |
| Craft supplies                               | Office supplies in good condition |
|  | Pet supplies                      |

Scarves, belts, hats  
Sporting equipment  
Shoes for all ages  
Strollers  
Stuffed animals (clean)  
Tools

**Not accepted: exercise equipment, large appliances, encyclopedias, magazines, anything that doesn't work!**

Once you have donated an item to the Rummage Sale, it can not be returned to you! We make every effort to sell everything and make the most money possible for UUFRC.

If you have any questions about something you'd like to donate, please contact Sara Morgan  
Call or text @ (650) 364-0376

## **Class Announcement:      At Play in the Akashic Field, May 19**

**Saturday, May 19, 2018. 3:00-5:30pm Back Lounge**

Family Constellations are an experiential method to surface the sub-conscious barriers to what we want. They utilize people to represent family members, ancestors, countries, illnesses, etc.

They then seek to smooth disturbances in a family field, in order to allow for more of the experience we do want. This is done by movements such as saying what is, bowing to the past, and leaning on older members of our family system (represented by participants). Moving through grief is common.

No training is needed to participate. Representatives naturally draw information from the invisible knowing field variously called the Akashic Record, the Zero Point Field, and the Morphic field.

Come experience this mysterious and heart-felt work with Alisa DePalma, new friend at UUFRC, and trained facilitator in Family Constellations.

This no-cost event is open to adults 18 years and older. We will focus on one family system, with smaller movements for all participants.

**REGISTRATION OPEN: [tinyurl.com/y8yqn9kx](http://tinyurl.com/y8yqn9kx)**

*Registration is required for this class. Registration closes Monday, May 14. Please request childcare at least one week in advance of the date needed. Questions? Curious about receiving the Constellation for this event? Contact Alisa at [Alisa.DePalma@gmail.com](mailto:Alisa.DePalma@gmail.com).*

## Upcoming Services

### **A Masterpiece in Two Octaves:**

**The Unexpected Advantages of Challenge** May 6, 2018 - 10:30am **Rev. Ben Meyers**

'Life is imperfect and challenging... But it is precisely these challenges that invite us into a fullness of life not available to those who can afford to be 'conflict averse'. With the task of building Beloved Community out of the chaos, divisiveness and strife of daily life, we will spend some time with the 'blessings of imperfection' and the unexpected advantages of challenge.'

As part of our "Pulpit and Loft exchange" with the UUSM, Rev. Ben will be joined by the UUSM Adult Choir, Joel Chapman, Director of Music, and Paul Zawilski, accompanist, who will embellish and inspire the service with original compositions and arrangements by Mr. Chapman. Worship Associate: Eleanor Kilpatrick

**Mother's Day for Peace** May 13, 2018 - 10:30am **Rev. Gretchen Woods**

Join us for an interesting sermon on Mother's Day. Worship Associate: Sarah Skovlund  
Music, poetry, silence, and generosity are woven together during the worship hour, giving expression to the vibrancy of this "living tradition" while inviting personal connection with eternal truths.

**Community as Jigsaw Puzzle** May 20, 2018 - 10:30am **Rev. Gretchen Woods**

Join us for an interesting sermon on our community. Worship Associate: Kate Hand  
Music, poetry, silence, and generosity are woven together during the worship hour, giving expression to the vibrancy of this "living tradition" while inviting personal connection with eternal truths.

**We Remember Them** May 27, 2018 - 10:30am **Rev. Gretchen Woods**

Join us for an interesting sermon on Memorial Day and to acknowledge those who have made a difference in our lives. Worship Associate: Joanne McMahan  
Music, poetry, silence, and generosity are woven together during the worship hour, giving expression to the vibrancy of this "living tradition" while inviting personal connection with eternal truths.

## Upcoming Events

### **April 29, 2018 - May 5, 2018**

Men's Group: Tuesday, 05/01/2018, 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm  
Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, 05/01/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Connections Committee Wednesday, 05/02/2018, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Pledge DeBrief , Wednesday, 05/02/2018, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Choir Rehearsal, Thursdays, 7:15 pm - 9:00 pm  
Cinco de Mayo Hike and Barbecue, Saturday, 05/05/2018, 9:00 - 2:00 pm

### **May 6, 2018 - May 12, 2018**

Rummage Sale set up/sort Sunday May 6 at 12 noon—goes all week all day  
Youth Group Sunday, 05/06/2018, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Welcome Circle Sunday, 05/06/2018, 11:45 am - 12:15 pm  
MUUGs Meeting Sunday, 05/06/2018, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Social Action Committee Sunday, 05/06/2018, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Theatre of the Oppressed Workshop Sunday, 05/06/2018, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
OWL (gr.7-9) Sunday, 05/06/2018, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Book Group Monday, 05/07/2018, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Worship Committee Wednesday, 05/09/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Youth Group, Saturday, 05/12/2018

### **May 13, 2018 - May 19, 2018**

Peninsula Multifaith Coalition (PMC) Mtg Monday, 05/14/2018, 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm  
Mens Group Tuesday, 05/15/2018, 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm  
Spirit CON (not at UUFRC) Friday, 05/18/2018 - 05/20/2018, 7:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Earthwalking: Learning Journey, Saturday, 05/19/2018, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
At Play in the Akashic Field, Learning Journey, Saturday, 05/19/2018, 2:30 pm - 6:00 pm

### **May 20, 2018 - May 26, 2018**

Annual Meeting, Sunday, 05/20/2018, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Election for Share the Plate Recipients, Sunday, 05/20/2018, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Annual End-of-the-Year Family BBQ & Potluck, Sunday, 05/20/2018, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
OWL (gr.7-9) Sunday, 05/20/2018, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Finance Committee Monday, 05/21/2018, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Youth & Family Committee,  
Monday, 05/21/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, 05/22/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Fossil Free Mid-Peninsula Wednesday, 05/23/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Transition Team Meeting Wednesday, 05/23/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Rapid Response Team (Fools Mission) Thursday, 05/24/2018, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Fools of the Round Table Breakfast Meeting Saturday, 05/26/2018, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Earthwalking: Learning Journey Saturday, 05/26/2018, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Multi-age Activity: Stafford Park Play & Clean-up Sunday, 05/27/2018, 10:30 - 11:30 am

To add a subscription to our UUFRC email group, send any message to:

[uufrc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:uufrc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

For helpful info about the group (no subscription needed), send any message to: [uufrc-help@yahoogroups.com](mailto:uufrc-help@yahoogroups.com)  
Subscribers can post to the group by sending your message to [uufrc@yahoogroups.com](mailto:uufrc@yahoogroups.com)

## **UUFRC**

**Interim Minister: Reverend Dr. Gretchen Woods**

**Administrator: Malia Fineasi ([office@uufrc.org](mailto:office@uufrc.org); (650) 365-6913)**

**Director of Religious Education: Derby Davidson ([dreuufrc@yahoo.com](mailto:dreuufrc@yahoo.com); 888-6067)**

**Music Director: Dawn Reyen ([dawnreyen@yahoo.com](mailto:dawnreyen@yahoo.com))**

**Pianist: Larry Chinn ([Larry\\_chinn@yahoo.com](mailto:Larry_chinn@yahoo.com))**

**Connections Coordinator: Cindy Johnson**

**([connecting@uufrc.org](mailto:connecting@uufrc.org); 364-4995)**

**Bookkeeper: Kim Rosenmiller ([rosenmillerkim@yahoo.com](mailto:rosenmillerkim@yahoo.com))**

**Minister Emerita: the Reverend Julia H. Fankuchen ([julia.older54@gmail.com](mailto:julia.older54@gmail.com))**

## **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City**

**2124 Brewster Avenue**

**Redwood City, CA 94062**

**Light the  
Journey**



**May**

**2018**



