

June 2018 Redwood Reachout/UUFRC Newsletter

Woods Working: “Appreciation”

As the school year ends for summer, so do a lot of UU congregational activities. Though very few of us leave the halls of academia to work the fields of food stuff, this rhythm of agriculture is so deeply imbued in northern hemisphere human life that few of us question it. I suspect part of this rhythm is also the need to enjoy the riches of summer. I also imagine that the heat at the center of summer days contributes to the need to slow down. Whatever the cause, we take vacations, visit new places, and seek adventures abetted by the increase in sun and leisure time. Bless us all with rest and relaxation! And as the rush of days slows down, we pause to appreciate not only the beauty of nature, but also the people who have blessed the work of the winter and spring. You and I have been blessed with fine staff members who consistently care for the adults and children of the UU Fellowship of Redwood City. Tell them of your true appreciation. Let them know specifically that you notice what they do. If you don't notice what they do, try to stop and pay a little attention, so you can speak informed by your observations. In like manner, you and I have been blessed by lay leaders who put time, talent, and treasure into this congregation. Thank you to the Board which has shown deep concern for the life and health of this religious community. I also want to add the Transition Team, who have worked with me, above and beyond, to help the transition move forward with success. I want to add the Fair Witnesses who spent hours listening deeply to what you told them through the process of Appreciative Inquiry to offer the Vision/Mission/Covenant you approved by 77% at the Annual General Meeting. And, of course, all of the committees that keep the operations of this lively congregation moving forward. You bless yourselves and one another with your love – and I, for one, am grateful. Blessings of summer to all, Gretchen Woods, AIM

2018 Annual Meeting Voting Results and Next Year

Hello from the Board of Trustees,

The end of the Church year is almost upon us. We are going to finish the year with many successes and in good shape for the future. These include a balanced budget for the current 2017/18 fiscal year and a likely positive carryover for next year, newly elected leaders, a ratified budget for next year, and an updated Vision, Mission, and Covenant.

Results from the vote at our Fellowship Annual Meeting are as follows:

- 81 ballots were submitted (66 provided to members at the Annual Meeting and 15 absentee ballots provided before the Annual Meeting).
- The UUFRC has 162 members eligible to vote. The Bylaws require a quorum of 25% of eligible voters (40.5 Members) to be in attendance. So, a quorum was reached.
- The following votes we cast for candidates for the Board of Trustees (BoT)
 - Chris Stovall – 77 votes, 95%
 - Beth Harrison – 77 votes, 95%
 - David Vallergera – 76 votes, 94%

- Steve Webster – 2 write-in votes
- The following votes we cast for candidates for the Denominational Affairs (DA) Committee
 - Alex Stagner – 77 votes, 95%
 - Peter Hartzell – 75 votes, 93%
- The following votes we cast for the proposed Vision, Mission, and Covenant
 - For – 62 votes, 76%
 - Against – 11 votes, 14%
 - Abstain – 8 votes, 10%
- The following votes we cast for the proposed budget for the 2018/19 fiscal year
 - For – 74 votes, 92%
 - Against – 3 votes, 4%
 - Abstain – 3 votes, 4%

Ballots can be made available for recount upon request.

The BoT for next year will include Bob Holden, David Vallerga, David Zarubin, Steve Hill, Anna Dyer, and our two new BoT Members Beth Harrison and Chris Stovall . The BoT will choose its officers for next year during our July BoT meeting. Thank you again to our two departing BoT members Lisa Conrad and Marina Rose for their efforts and dedication to the UUFRC.

The elected members of the Denominational Affairs committee for next year include Susie Idzik, Ellie Kilpatrick, Debbie Mytels, and our two new members, Alex and Peter. Quickly turning our attention toward next year, the BoT is organizing two task teams. The first team will focus on the “One Big Project” for next year. The other is a Stewardship team that will think through and better coordinate our various fund-raising efforts. If you would like to participate in either one of these efforts (or both), please contact your favorite BoT member.

With hope for the future and appreciation of efforts given,

Robert Holden

President – UUFRC Board of Trustees

June Services:

Teacher Appreciation

June 3, 2018 - 10:30am [Derby Davidson](#), [Rev. Gretchen Woods](#)

What do teachers mean to you? Which teachers changed your life? How did they do that? We rarely pay attention to the value of our teachers. Let’s take a few minutes this Sunday to explore and connect with the meaning of teachers. Share the Plate Sunday for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. Worship Associate: Jorie Schulz

Flower Communion

June 10, 2018 - 10:30am [Rev. Gretchen Woods](#)

The Flower Communion is an annual, multigenerational Unitarian Universalist ritual observed in the spring. Founded by the Rev. Norbert Capek who brought Unitarianism to Czechoslovakia before WW II, celebrates beauty, spring, and being in community. Please bring a flower from your garden, and join in community for this special service. Worship Associates: Jorie Schulz and Kathy Warne.

Daddies, Fathers and Men Who Parent

June 17, 2018 - 10:30am [Rev. Gretchen Woods](#)

Daddies, Fathers and Men Who Parent: Father's Day offers and opportunity to honor those men who have blessed our lives. Let's go deeper in our understanding. Worship Associate: Solveig Zarubin

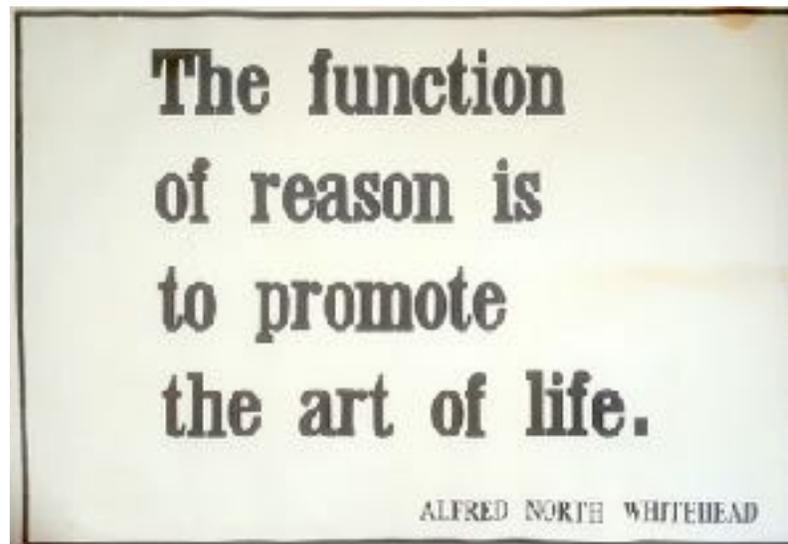
UUA General Assembly Sunday Service

June 24, 2018 - 10:30am [Jorie Schulz](#)

Thanks to UUFRC technology, you will be able to attend the Sunday service for the General Assembly. Come a little early to gather at the church for this amazing experience. Worship Associate: Chris Stovall

The June Wayside Pulpit

Every month, member Bev Morgan updates the saying displayed in the announcements case facing Brewster Ave. Here is June's quote, for your contemplation.



Announcing the 2018 UUFRC Annual Silent Auction- Saturday, October 20, 2018

And this year, we have a very special theme- **“1969”**. The year when- man lands on the moon, the Summer of Love (Woodstock), The Beatles record their final album together- Abbey Road, Golda Meir becomes Prime Minister of Israel, The Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) is established, Average annual income is \$8,550.00, Average cost for a new house is \$15,550.00, gas is \$.35/gallon. The world changed in “1969”. A perfect theme for the UUFRC 2018 Annual Auction.

So, add the date, **October 20, 2018, and the time, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**, to your calendar for UUFRC’s premier “fun-raising” event of the year—the 2018 Silent Auction! And remember... it takes a village to make the Auction a success! So start planning what you will donate, how you can volunteer and most importantly....**WHAT YOU WILL WEAR!**



**More information to come! Jennifer Bahr-Davison & Jessica Roybal
Auction Co-Chairs**



Sneak Peek! The Learning Journey Schedule, 2018-19

Check out what's planned for the Learning Journey next year!

Please bear in mind that some dates may need to be changed closer to class times, but we're hoping to keep on this schedule, so "pencil in" a class on your Google calendar and plan to join us. The latest class news will always be posted on the [Learning Journey classes page](#) as it

comes available.

Learning Journey Program Q & A

Q. What is the "Voices of UUFRC" program?

A. The Voices of UUFRC is an exciting expansion of our spiritual writing offerings, capped off by a Wine and Cheese evening on May 18, featuring readings of selections written in the Voices Classes and the Writing Groups. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the classes, but some are limited on space due to the nature of the work, so register early! Class registration will open over the summer.

Q. I'm seriously busy. Which is the best all-around class to take, if I have very limited time?

A. Gosh, they're all great; Go with the one that interests you the most! If you're looking for *one* class that will add cockles to your UU muscles —

Come to Gretchen and Ellie's "[Living the Interdependent Web: UU Principles](#)" [classes on Saturday mornings!](#) It's ok if you can only make some of the classes. Put the dates you *can* come on your calendar, and we'll see you there!

Q. Why are there so many classes all of a sudden? It's like a Central Valley wildflower bloom around here.

A. Glad you asked! How long do you have?...

1. It's a great chance to connect with other members and friends in our community. When we learn together, it brings us together.
2. We are so lucky to have a developing group of committed and talented facilitators. (Join us! We'll show you the ropes. We're nice and fun, too.) Learn more about the [UUFRC Learning Journey](#).
 1. They're interesting, enriching, meaningful, and fun (um, except maybe Grief Group, but that's very healing).
3. When each of us chose to be Unitarian Universalist, we gained the *freedom* from having a required creed, prayers or rituals. Yet with that freedom, is the understanding and commitment that UUs have the *responsibility* of continuing

learning about what they believe to be true. A big part of being UU is about reflecting and figuring out your own personal belief system, spiritual journey and/or world view – even atheists. Honor your true commitment to the **3rd and 4th Principles**, which *all* UUs agree to follow. Classes are an easy and fun way to get in your UU “Continuing Education” requirements! (Of course, there are not really any earned credits – but come to enough classes, and you’ll earn a Masters in personal growth!)

4. Improve your skills, your knowledge, and the messaging you want to communicate in areas of justice, community and/or family. Learn how to be the change you wish to see. Practice skills you need to find focus, to recharge and rejuvenate. Classes and workshops help you improve and recharge, which in turn lets you help others.

Learning Journey Program: 2018-19 Overview

LJ Classes & Events 2018-19	Scheduled Dates/ Time	Facilitators	# of Sessions
TRACK: Voices of UUFRC: Stories of Faith & Justice			
Parables for Modern Times	4 Sat 10-12. Jun 30, Jul 7, 14, 21	Ellie Kilpatrick	4
Finding Your Spiritual Voice	6 Sat 10am-12:30pm. Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11, & Jun 8	Kate Hand	6
Spiritual Autobiography	Jan/Feb TBD	Beth Harrison	4
Spiritual Autobiography Groups Potluck	early Feb? TBD	Beth Harrison (& Tanya)	1
Poems of Resistance	Oct/Nov OR late Feb/ March TBD	Lee Rossi	3
The Voices of UUFRC Program Night: An evening of storytelling & readings in sanctuary	5/18/2019	Tanya	1

TRACK: UU Identity & UUFRC Transition

UU Principles: Living the Interdependent Web	8 Sat 10-12. Sep 15, 21, 29, Oct 6, 13, 27, Nov 3, 17	Gretchen & Ellie	8
Language of Emotions	4 Mon 7-9pm. Jan 7, 14, 21, 28	Gretchen	4
Covenant of Right Relations Workshop	end of January TBD	Gretchen	1 day
The Grief Group	5 Tues 7-9pm. Feb 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 5	Gretchen	5
How to Facilitate Difficult Conversations	One Sun/month after service, Mar, Apr, May. Dates TBD	Gretchen	3
Owning Your Religious Past	5 Sat 10-12. Mar 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 13	Ellie & Gretchen	5

TRACK: Community & Connections

Evensong for Families Night	Sat, Oct 13; 5-7pm	Derby & Tanya	1
Women's Circle: Whirling Rainbows Lodge (open to self-id female)	2nd Tues of month; 7-9pm; Sep-May	Tanya & TBD	8

TRACK: Personal & Spiritual Growth, UU Identity

Spirituality Class: Rotating topics	3rd Thurs of month; 7-9pm; Sep-May (No Dec)	TBD	8
Midweek Meditations emails	Sent every Wednesday morning to subscribers	Tanya	52
LGBTQIA+ event planned	Date TBD	Sarah	

Check the Upcoming Classes page next year for a few additional offerings in the works!

Book Group on Monday June 4

Join us for a lively discussion of Ursula Leguin's novel, *The Left Hand of Darkness*, on Monday, June 4 from 7:30-9 pm. Although I am not personally a Sci-Fi fan, my book club friends tell me that I cannot miss this classic, which we are reading to honor Leguin in this year of her death. The novel tells of a lone human emissary to Winter, an alien world whose inhabitants can choose -and change – their gender.

Our summer books are:

July 2 *White Houses* by Amy Bloom

August 6 *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren

Share our Sunday offering on June 3 with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte

If you think this administration has quietly declared war on women, you are paying attention. The White House is now considering a domestic gag rule that would force Planned Parenthood and other reproductive health providers to low-income patients to either stop discussing abortions with their patients or stop receiving Title X money. Let's get behind Planned Parenthood on Sunday June 3 with a generous donation via Share the Plate. Let's wear our pink hats that day, in solidarity with PP.

Uprooting Racism with Paul Kivel



The poster features a photograph of Paul Kivel speaking into a microphone. The text on the poster includes:

- UPROOTING RACISM: A CONVERSATION WITH PAUL KIVEL**
- Monday, June 3 2:00-4:30**
- Free Workshop & Book Signing
- Donations encouraged in support of The Real Community Coalition
- All are welcome!
- THE REAL COMMUNITY COALITION 118 CALDWELL ST. BEDFORD CT
- THE CHARACTER FOR AMERICA 100 W. CALDWELL ST. BEDFORD CT

How can white people work for racial justice? Demanded and answered by this organizer for racial, economic & gender justice, Paul Kivel is exploring the main tenets of this question at the heart of his pioneering book, *Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Move On Racial Issues and Move On!* In this interactive forum, Paul will be answering his long-pondered question: *How can white people, in churches, institutions, schools and other settings, practice truth and advance beyond their white identity and self-interest?* Free, with donations encouraged in support of The Real Community Coalition, a grassroots group organizing against gentrification and capitalism in 118 W. Caldwell Street.

Please join us for an important conversation about Racism on Sunday, June 3, from 2-4:30 pm. In this interactive forum, Paul Kivel will explore the question: How can white people work for racial justice? Expect stories, practical tools and advice to deepen solidarity and allied action with people of color. The event is free, but donations will be accepted for *The Real Community Coalition*, a grassroots group working in Belle Haven and East Palo Alto.

Save the Date! Fellowship Picnic on June 10

Please save this date for our all Fellowship Picnic at Stafford Park. We'll celebrate the ending of the church year and everything we've accomplished after the service on June 10th. All are invited and the more people we have, the merrier it will be! Watch for more details soon.

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) for more information.



Summer Sunday Volunteers Needed!

Summer Sunday programming for children will be available! If you are interested in helping out, making your own plan or following another already done, see **Jessica Roybal**.

Thanks to all of you who have helped out with the Newsletter over the past 2+ years that I've been the Editor, especially Leila Parrott and Malia Fineasi. I've moved to San Francisco but still have the same email/telephone number. I'll be thinking of you! Sara Morgan

