

gWelcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

If you would like more information about this liberal religious congregation, pick up our pamphlets on the literature kiosk in the foyer, check the UUFRC Facebook page (facebook.com/uufrc), visit our website RedwoodCityUU.org for news and events, or request a call from our Minister.

UUFRC Mission Statement

We are a welcoming and inclusive community of individuals of all ages who seek spiritual meaning, empower personal growth, build connections with our neighbors, act for justice, and inspire others to join us.

Our Principles in Brief

This congregation is part of the larger Unitarian Universalist Association. Together, we covenant to affirm and promote Seven Principles:

- One. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Two. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Three. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth;
- Four. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- Five. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process;
- Six. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Seven. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Staff and Board Contact Information

Minister: the Rev. Dr. Gretchen Woods, AIM: revdocgwoods@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Derby Davidson: dreuufrc@yahoo.com, 650-888-6067

Connections Coordinator: Jen Gill: connecting@uufrc.org

Music Director: Dawn Reyen: musicdirector@uufrc.org

Office: Jan Johnson and Beverly Morgan: office@uufrc.org, 650-365-6913

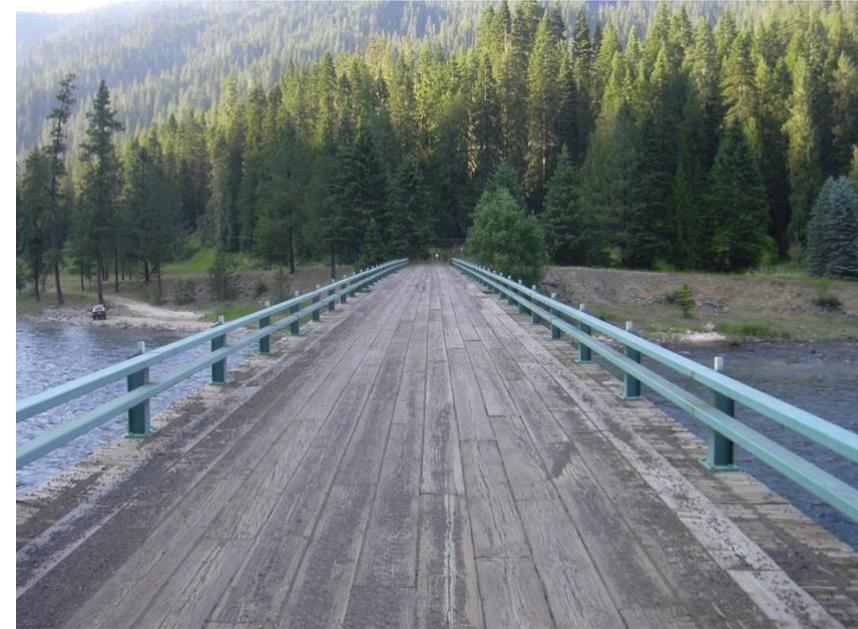
Board of Trustees: Suzanne Griffin Beth Harrison, David Stoutamire, Chris Stovall, David Vallerga, Steven Webster. President, Steve Hill: board@uufrc.org, 650-508-7941

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

2124 Brewster Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94062

“Bridging Ceremony/Mother’s Day”

May 10, 2020



“Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes. Don't resist them; that only creates sorrow. Let reality be reality. Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.”

— [Lao Tzu](#)

Worship Leaders: Derby Davidson & Gretchen Woods

Worship Associate: Chris DeCardy

Pianists: Larry Chinn & Dawn Reyen

Please silence all electronic devices and join us in this moment.

“Bridging Ceremony/Mother’s Day”

Sunday, May 10, 2020

Gathering of the Community

WELCOME MUSIC: Larry Chinn

SLIDE SHOW: Erika Pretell

INGATHERING MUSIC: #188 “Come, Come, Whoever You Are”

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chris DeCardy

WELCOME: Chris DeCardy

Stating Intent

LIGHTING THE CHALICE: Derby Davidson

OPENING SONG: “This Little Light of Mine” led by Dawn Reyen

Time for All Ages

BRIDGING CEREMONY:

INTRODUCTION: Derby Davidson

SLIDE SHOW: Eduardo Pretell

REFLECTIONS: Reign Miller, Caitlin Webster, Isaiah Hand,

Skye Caldwell, Sophia Krakov, Nathan George, and Abigail Holden
(not speaking)

Deepening

CALL TO WORSHIP: “The Lanyard” by Billy Collins, read by Jen Gill

MUSICAL INTERLUDE: “My Grandma's Hands” by Bill Withers
sung by Tom Morgan

HOMILY: “Mother’s Advice” Gretchen Woods

Returning to Community: The Work of the People”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: “Go Lifted Up” by Mortimer B. Barron
sung by Thomas Atwood

SHARING OF JOYS AND SORROWS: Chris DeCardy

MEDITATION: Chris DeCardy

Integration and Release

CLOSING SONG: “What a Wonderful World,” by Bob Thiele
and George David Weiss, led by Beverly Morgan.

CLOSING WORDS: by Gretchen Woods

EXTINGUISHING THE FLAME: “*We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.*” — Elizabeth Sëlle Jones

POSTLUDE: Larry Chinn

VISITORS are always welcome to participate in all UUFRC events and activities. If you are a first-time visitor, please let the offering basket pass you by. For more information about this liberal religious congregation, please request a call from our Connections Coordinator, learn more at RedwoodCityUU.org, pick up some pamphlets in the foyer, or ask a friendly person near you. We’re always glad to help.

Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you soon.

The Lanyard

By [Billy Collins](#)

The other day I was ricocheting slowly
off the blue walls of this room,
moving as if underwater from typewriter to piano,
from bookshelf to an envelope lying on the floor,
when I found myself in the L section of the dictionary
where my eyes fell upon the word lanyard.

No cookie nibbled by a French novelist
could send one into the past more suddenly—
a past where I sat at a workbench at a camp
by a deep Adirondack lake
learning how to braid long thin plastic strips
into a lanyard, a gift for my mother.

I had never seen anyone use a lanyard
or wear one, if that's what you did with them,
but that did not keep me from crossing
strand over strand again and again
until I had made a boxy
red and white lanyard for my mother.

She gave me life and milk from her breasts,
and I gave her a lanyard.
She nursed me in many a sick room,
lifted spoons of medicine to my lips,
laid cold face-cloths on my forehead,
and then led me out into the airy light

and taught me to walk and swim,
and I, in turn, presented her with a lanyard.
Here are thousands of meals, she said,
and here is clothing and a good education.
And here is your lanyard, I replied,
which I made with a little help from a counselor.

Here is a breathing body and a beating heart,
strong legs, bones and teeth,
and two clear eyes to read the world, she whispered,
and here, I said, is the lanyard I made at camp.
And here, I wish to say to her now,
is a smaller gift—not the worn truth

that you can never repay your mother,
but the rueful admission that when she took
the two-tone lanyard from my hand,
I was as sure as a boy could be
that this useless, worthless thing I wove
out of boredom would be enough to make us even.