Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

Interdependence and Reciprocity

August 30, 2026

One of the important values of Unitarian Universalism is Interdependence, which assumes reciprocity - a natural urge for people to respond well to a kind action. How does our religion guide us when we experience reciprocity is lacking?

Led by: **Rev. Brian Ferguson & Jeanne De Shazo**

Music by: **Dawn Reyen & Larry Chinn**

Please silence all electronic devices during worship

Gathering of Our Community

PRELUDE: Larry Chinn, piano

WELCOME: Jeanne De Shazo

LIGHTING THE CHALICE:

SONG: #1010 "We Give Thanks"
Written by contemporary Canadian UU minister and singer Wendy Luella Perkins. This song encourages us to be grateful for the time and gifts we have in our life.

Connecting within Our Community

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Liz Davis

STORY: Rev. Brian Ferguson

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: Jeanne De Shazo
To donate online please use this link:
uufrc.org/community/giving.

"With a Little Help from My Friends"
John Lennon & Paul McCartney wrote this specifically for Ringo Starr's first vocal. The rest of the band stood around the microphone for moral support while he sang.
Performed by Larry Chinn

JOYS AND CONCERNS: Rev. Brian Ferguson

Deepening

PRAYER: Rev. Brian Ferguson

SONG: #194 "Faith Is a Forest"
Words by the Late Contemporary UU Music Director Shelley Jackson Denham and encourages us to commit to our beliefs with action as we engage "this tender day". Music is a Chinese folk melody that depicts the beauty of the jasmine flower.

REFLECTION: Jeanne De Shazo

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Summer Side of Life"
Written by the late contemporary Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot. This song contrasts the bright innocence of youth with the harsh reality of the Vietnam war. Quentin reflects: "I think this song is about existential grief. War just makes the song even more heartbreaking."
Performed by Quentin Lewis & Larry Chinn

SERMON: Rev. Brian Ferguson

Returning to Life in Service

SONG: #1064 "Blue Boat Home"
This song was written by contemporary Unitarian Universalist singer-songwriter Peter Mayer who put the lyrics to the Welsh tune Hyfrodol. The song captures the awe, wonder and beauty of living in our "wide universe".

EXTINGUISH CHALICE: Jeanne De Shazo

CLOSING WORDS: Jeanne De Shazo

POSTLUDE: Larry Chinn, piano

Visitors: *Visitors* are welcome to participate in UUFRC activities. For more information, email Jen Gill our Connections Coordinator (**connecting@uufrc.org)** or learn more at: **uufrc.org/connection/visiting-us/**

Hear Assistance Devices: are available at the back of our sanctuary for all who would benefit.

Announcements

- Today, Jen Gill is offering the Becoming a Member class after the service at noon in the Classroom. It's a great way to discover and discuss our UU identity. No need to RSVP, just show up!
- The Social Action Committee will meet in the Back Lounge at noon September 6.
- Peninsula Multifaith Coalition's annual Peace Day will be on Labor Day, Monday, September 7 at 10am at Twin Pines Park in Belmont. Contact Barbie Laderman-Jones, barbie.ladermanjones@gmail.com
- The Fall Cleanup Day is from 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday, Oct. 17. The first shift is 9 am to noon, and the second shift is 1 to 4 pm. Donuts and coffee are served at 9 am, and lunch is served at noon.
- Save the Date! The UUFRC all-ages retreat is Friday November 6 to Sunday November 8. Registration starts after Labor Day; subsidies available. Contact Anna Dyer, Amy Shaw or Sarah Skovlund.

About UUFRC: Our vision is to be a community of spiritual growth, compassion, and justice. 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.

Statement of Unitarian Universalist Values

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Generosity We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Transformation We adapt to the changing world.

Equity We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love and compassion.

Interdependence We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it.

Justice We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Pluralism We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

Center of Interest: In the spirit of inclusivity, the Center of Interest for the summer is a rainbow garden of flowers created by participants in an earlier Action Sunday workshop.

Thank you hybrid service support team!

A huge and heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone working on and off screen today!

Tech Team: Nathan Kibre, Rob Davis & Kaye Bonney

Greeters: Jen Gill, Graham, Eliana & Eden Abra

Refreshments: Maureen Murphy, Dee Dee Stovel & Cindy Bickerstaff

Worship Slides: Gigi Casey

To Contact Staff or Board:

Minister: Rev. Brian Ferguson
minister@uufrc.org

Music Director: Dawn Reyen
musicdirector@uufrc.org

Children's RE: Maeve Knoth
families@uufrc.org

Program Assistant: Coreen Cousins
program-assistant@uufrc.org

Office: Gigi Casey & Crystal Valdez-Chandra
office@uufrc.org, 650-365-6913

Bookkeeper: Alex Stagner
bookkeeper@uufrc.org

Connections Coordinator: Jen Gil
connecting@uufc.org

Board of Trustees: Elisa Neipp, Liz Davis, David George, Dick Edminster, Kent Smith, Josh Moore, Jill Ohline & David Stoutamire **board@uufrc.org**

Sunday Offering

You can donate to support our programs!

PayPal Zelle

Thank you for joining us. Please stay after the service for social time in the community room or online.