



# THE BULLETIN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, California  
Transforming Ourselves, Each Other and the World

505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94306 [www.uucpa.org](http://www.uucpa.org); October 16, 2016

## The living tradition we share draws from many sources:

Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces that create and uphold life; Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love; Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life; Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves; Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.

## Sunday Mornings October 23

**9:00 am Forum..... Fireside Room**

### The Second Amendment Issue

Discussion led by Jim Basiji.

The Forum is a drop-in public discussion – everyone welcomed.

**9:30 and 11:00 am Service..... Main Hall**

### Growing Our Vocabulary

Can we find a place for the word god in our congregation? Will growing our vocabulary open other ways for us to grow?

Worship Leader: Edie Keating

Worship Associate: Dick Duda

Music: Tyler Kochel, jazz trumpet

## October 30

**9:00 am Forum..... Fireside Room**

### Discussion of current local, national, and international interest.

Selection of forum discussion topics for December.

The Forum is a drop-in public discussion – everyone welcomed.

**9:30 and 11:00 am Service..... Main Hall**

### The Gaudy Curtain: Celebrating Life And Death:

### Dia de Los Muertos Service

Death and life are interwoven. Could this be the key to conscious living? You are invited to bring pictures of those you love who have gone on before, for our Dia de los Muertos altar.

Worship Leader: Rev. Mary McKinnon Ganz

Worship Associate: Susan Owiciki

Music: Cascada de Flores

## Today

“Non-Traditional Family Traditions For UU Families” 12:30 to 2 pm,  
Fireside Room. See page 5.

“By Your Side Singers” 12:30 pm in Room 4-5. See page 8.

Sunday morning childcare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers will be available from 9 am to 12:15 pm in Rooms 7 & 8 and 2 & 3.

## About Amy's Sabbatical

Amy Zucker Morgenstern, UUCPA's senior minister, is on sabbatical until January 2, 2016.

Pastoral emergencies will be handled by Rev. Mary Ganz, our sabbatical minister. Call 650-494-0541 x25, and your phone call will be forwarded to Mary.

The sabbatical pamphlet, with complete information about Amy's sabbatical, is available in the Main Lobby. If you have any questions about Rev. Amy's sabbatical, please contact a member of the sabbatical committee: Castor Fu, Edie Keating or Wynne Furth.

## South Bay Sanctuary Covenant (SBSC) Brings Our Partners From Voices On The Border

Roddy Hughes and José Acosta from El Salvador will tell about inspiring "Youth Leadership Training for Strengthening Communities."

**Join us Sunday, October 23, 4pm.**

Delicious Salvadoran dinner, crafts and fellowship with others  
St. Elizabeth Seton School

1095 Channing Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Suggested donation includes dinner: \$20 adult and \$5 student. (No one turned away for lack of funds.) Please RSVP to (650) 494-8340.

SBSC Delegation to El Salvador is February 17 to 26, 2017.

Delegation Orientation is on Saturday, October 22, 3 to 5 pm  
with Roddy Hughes, José Acosta, and Arlene Schaupp.

Phone 650 494-8340 for details.

## The UUCPA Auction Is Saturday, November 19, From 5:30 To 9 pm

Yes, we know it seems early to start thinking about it, but start by planning to be there — ***the biggest and best UUCPA party of the year, and it's all free!***

Delicious food, wine, live jazz, a raffle for a weekend at Wynne and Don's wonderful house on the coast near Point Reyes, hundreds of items to bid on in a Silent Auction, a dozen or so special items in a Live Auction run by our very own auctioneer, Sven Thesen – how could you miss it? Of course, it takes many of us helping out to make it work, so —

Think about what you can offer, either by yourself, with friends, or as part of an organized group (e.g., Choir, Covenant Group, Committee, Board of Trustees). Write it up and send it to [Auction@uucpa.org](mailto:Auction@uucpa.org).

If you have a favorite restaurant or place of business that you have a connection to, let Pat know ([pat\\_t@uucpa.org](mailto:pat_t@uucpa.org)) and she'll give you a letter requesting a donation from them.

Stop by the Auction Table on the patio (coming soon) and sign up to help organize, decorate, cook, or help at the auction itself. Thanks – it will be a terrific party for us all! —*Pat Thomas, Lisa Helmonds*

## Brown Bag Book Discussion Group



The November BBB selection is *Notorious RBG: the Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* (Non Fiction) by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik.

(The authors)...“write powerfully about the progression of Ginsburg’s legal career. In particular, they make vivid the development of her trademark arguments ... In her fierce honesty, resolute realness, and, yes, innate sense of style (those collars!), Ginsburg emerges as a cultural icon worthy of her own fan-base.”(The Boston Globe) “What a wonderful book: The annotated dissents! The knockout photos! Why she likes to write through the night! The litany of big cases she won as a lawyer, and how she picked them! How she made Bill Clinton cry!...(It) is a laugh-out-loud joy to read.” (Rachel Maddow). Please join us November 1 at noon in the Fireside Room to discuss this enjoyable, informative book.

## Parent Journey

Parent Journey is a drop-in discussion group for parents. We meet once a month to learn new things, trade ideas, and provide supportive listening. Facilitators rotate. If you have a topic you’d like to bring to the group, come to a meeting and let us know. Here is what we have planned in the coming months. All meetings are at 11am in Room 9. Join us!

November 20: Brooke Bishara will lead a discussion on judgment – how how it affects parenting, both within and outside of our church culture.

December 11: Linda Henigin leads a discussion on family scheduling and commitments. Do our priorities line up with our calendars?

January 8, 2017 : Megan Watson leads a discussion on family organization. Come prepared to swap your best tricks for keeping the ship afloat on stormy seas!

## Fair Trade Chocolate Candy For Halloween On Sale Sundays In October

Milk and dark chocolate minis will be available at a table on the patio between services and after the late service. Prices are \$12 for a half-pound bag (50 pieces)and \$20 for a one-pound bag (100 pieces).

## Caring Network

MERRIAM said it was her third wedding anniversary and communication was difficult between them. She hopes we hold them in our hearts. EDITH EDDY has 10 friends in various difficulties and she hopes for the best for all. PAT HARRIOT heard St. Matthews’ Passion and recommends it strongly. CLARK was trying to sell his 1998 Honda, but someone stole the tires and he had to pay to have it taken away. DIANE MEIER thanked the choir for all they did to help her during and after her stay in the hospital. Her brother Bruce stayed with her for a week and returned to Florida where he was not hurt by the hurricane..

## Help Yourself While Helping A Wonderful Worker

**Central American workers are eager to help you!**

- ▶childcare ▶eldercare ▶gardening ▶cleaning
- ▶professional painting ▶roof repair ▶gutter cleaning
- ▶personal assistance ▶Spanish lessons ▶moving ▶carpentry

### **SBSC Job Hotline Workers Include:**

**Ana:** Prepares beautiful and delicious food for you and your party.

Pays bills, does bookkeeping, and shops for you.

Makes travel reservations, provides transportation to airport, doctor, etc.

Schedules & oversees repairs, house sitting, and can assist in many other ways:

**Ruperto:** Performs carpentry, window washing, professional house painting inside or out, does roof repair including, gutter installation/repair.

**Guillermo:** A Spanish Teacher everyone enjoys:

Martha: “Guillermo is a wonderful teacher because he believes in me and challenges me, while making language a living experience, not a chore. He is not afraid to discuss controversial topics, and I have learned so much about Latin culture from his broad-minded perspective.”

Lilanthi: “Our son had trouble in his Spanish class. Guillermo’s private tutoring was very helpful. At year’s end our son won an award for excellence in Spanish.”

Call the SBSC Hotline Coordinator, Arlene Schaupp, (650) 494-8340.

## A Gynecologist Considers Women’s Reproductive Rights, Choice, And Reproductive Justice

**Sunday, October 23, 12:30 to 2 pm; Fireside Room**

**Contact is Judy Lookabill ([judy\\_l@uucpa.org](mailto:judy_l@uucpa.org))**

**Presenter is Paula Hillard, MD; Registration is not required**

In this session, Dr. Hillard will describe her journey to becoming an obstetrician/gynecologist. In the late 1960s and early 70s, she was motivated by the political themes of feminism and reproductive choice. She has been an activist for women’s reproductive rights within the community of physicians, and notes she is still learning how to be an activist in a broader community. She has been motivated by the truths she hears from her patients, including issues of violence against intimate partners, reproductive coercion, concerns of lesbian, bisexual, and trans women, which are all compounded by inequalities in our healthcare system. She reports that she continues to learn about reproductive justice for women of color. She has been an advocate for girls and young women in her teaching of pediatric and adolescent gynecology. While her focus and practice have been among women in the US, all of these issues are magnified for women around the world, particularly poor women. In her work as a faculty member at the Stanford University School of Medicine, she teaches students to trust women. She invites you to [continued]

explore some of these issues with her, bringing your questions, interests, and passions, to consider what we can do to change the world for our daughters, sons and for our grandchildren.

Paula Hillard is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Stanford University School of Medicine, where she teaches, practices clinical medicine, writes, edits, does clinical research, mentors, attends committee meetings, and professes. In addition to being a specialist in women's health, she subspecializes in pediatric and adolescent gynecology. She is active as a consultant to a number of professional and governmental agencies, including the CDC, FDA, and NIH. She is the author of two textbooks, as well as multiple articles, chapters, and other writing for lay and professional audiences.

## **Non-Traditional Family Traditions For UU Families**

**Sunday, October 16; 12:30 to 2 pm; Fireside Room**

**Contact is Mag Cumbow ([margret\\_c@uucpa.org](mailto:margret_c@uucpa.org))**

**Presenters are Kay Brown, Mag Cumbow, Wynne Furth, Dan Harper, and Judy Lookabill**

**Facilitator is Dan Harper; Registration is not required**

What do you do when your family combines different ethnic and/or religious traditions? What do you do if you're a Unitarian Universalist family who is rethinking traditional religious traditions? How do you deal with vegetarians at Thanksgiving? Our panel members have faced these questions, and would like to share how we have developed new traditions, or adapted old traditions in our families.

There will be time to ask questions, and for participants to share some of their UU family traditions.

## **Our Community's Most Vulnerable Children**

**Sunday, October 30; 12:30 to 2 pm; Fireside Room**

**Contact is Kay Brown ([kay\\_b@uucpa.org](mailto:kay_b@uucpa.org)); Presenter is Karen Scussel**  
**Registration is not required.**

The American Medical Association states, "A more vulnerable group does not exist than children removed from the custody of their parents and placed in foster care." Here in Silicon Valley, in our own backyard, there are over 1600 children who have been removed from the care of their parents due to having experienced abuse and neglect. The San Jose Mercury News has published several series on the issues faced by these vulnerable children. Join us in a conversation about the challenges and successes experienced by this often overlooked population.

Karen Scussel is the Executive Director of Child Advocates of Silicon Valley. She has personally advocated for 15 foster children and supported hundreds more in their struggles to break the cycle of poverty and abuse. Prior to her work at Child Advocates, Karen worked for 27 years at Hewlett Packard Company and Agilent Technologies.

## **From your Associate Minister of Religious Education**

— Rev. Dan Harper

On Saturday, October 1, UUCPA hosted a day-long religious education conference for Unitarian Universalist congregations in northern California. About 80 people were on our campus — Sunday school teachers, youth advisors, and paid staff — to hear Dr. Mark A. Hicks, professor of religious education at Meadville Lombard Theological School, one of our two Unitarian Universalist theological schools. Dr. Hicks showed us both how teaching can be a spiritual practice, and how race and ethnicity can inform religious education.

The next day, Dr. Hicks preached at UUCPA. Afterwards six of us from UUCPA took Dr. Hicks out to lunch. Those seven people sitting at the table had more than a quarter-century of graduate study in education between them, and several decades of actual experience as educators. As you'd expect, the wide-ranging conversation focused on education.

The most interesting point for me was that we all agreed that educating for democracy has been neglected in our country for at least fifty years. Young people have to be taught how to participate effectively in the democratic process, and if we do not teach them this skill, our democracy will suffer. Indeed, if you're looking for a reason why we have had so many mediocre candidates in the current presidential election cycle, you need look no farther than the widespread neglect of educating for democracy.

As Unitarian Universalists, we affirm the importance of the democratic process. We help young people learn key skills that are associated with democracy: learning how to express their opinions and listen to others; learning how to speak in public; learning basic leadership skills. When they reach high school age, we encourage teens to get involved in UUCPA by signing the membership book and voting in congregational meetings; by becoming worship associates (public speaking); by joining committees (leadership skills). UUCPA fosters learning through adult mentoring, and learning by doing.

These may not be skills that will help pass a standardized test, pad a resume, or gain admittance to an Ivy League college. But if our democracy is to survive, these are critical skills for young people to learn. And a democratically-run, intergenerational community like UUCPA is the best place to learn how to do democracy.

This is one of the key reasons why you should bring your children and teens to UUCPA: so they can be part of a democratically-run organization that welcomes their participation. —*See you soon*

### **Sunday school calendar**

Sun., Oct. 23:

9:30 a.m.: Sunday school

10:30 Fourth Sunday brunch

Sun., Oct. 30:

9:30 a.m.: Sunday school

10:30 a.m.: Halloween Parade

### **Youth calendar**

Sun., Oct. 23:

6:30 p.m.: SHYG

Sun., Oct. 30:

6:30 p.m.: SHYG

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## Navigators

Navigators, our bias-free scouting group, meets twice a month. Contact Ed Vail to be put on the email list.

### OWL for gr. K-1 and gr. 4-6

We will offer both the gr. K-1 and the gr. 4-6 units of the OWL comprehensive sexuality education program in early 2017. For full information about the OWL program, please visit: <https://uucpa-cyre.org/owl-program/>.

**There will be a mandatory parent meeting on Sun., Nov. 6, at 11:00 am in Room 4/5.** The other dates of the courses are listed below.

This program is open to the community, as well as to UUCPA families. Feel free to invite your friends! However, please be sure to tell those families that are not currently enrolled in UUCPA's Sunday school that both parents MUST attend the parent meeting.

### Schedule for both levels, gr. K-1 and gr. 4-6:

Details of the schedule may change, so be sure to attend the parent meeting. To be included on OWL mailngs, send email to [owl@uucpa.org](mailto:owl@uucpa.org).

Sun., Jan. 8, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 22, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 29, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Feb. 5, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Feb. 12, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Feb. 26, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Mar. 5, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Mar. 12, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Mar. 19, 11:00 a.m.

Sun., Mar. 26, 11:00 a.m.

### OWL for gr. 7-9

We will offer the gr. 7-9 unit of the OWL comprehensive sexuality education program in early 2017. For full information about the OWL program, please visit: <https://uucpa-cyre.org/owl-program/>.

**There will be a mandatory parent meeting on Sun., Dec. 4, at 6:30 pm.** The other dates of the courses are listed below.

This program is open to the community, as well as to UUCPA families. Feel free to invite your friends! However, please be sure to tell those families that are not currently enrolled in UUCPA's Sunday school that both parents MUST attend the parent meeting.

Details of the schedule may change, so be sure to attend the parent meeting. To be included on OWL mailngs, send email to [owl@uucpa.org](mailto:owl@uucpa.org).

### Schedule for OWL gr. 7-9:

Sun., Jan. 22, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 29, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 5, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 12, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 19, no meeting

Sun., Feb. 26, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 5, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 12, no meeting

Sun., Mar. 19, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 26, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., April 2, no meeting

Sun., April 9, no meeting

Sun., April 16, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., April 23, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., April 30, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., May 7, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun., May 14, no meeting

Sun., May 21, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

### Halloween Parade on Oct. 30

All kids are invited to wear their Halloween costume on Sunday, October 30! At 10:30 am, after Sunday school is over, we'll have our [continued]



annual Halloween parade. The middle school teens will serve as judges and give out an award to every costume; in the past, these somewhat silly awards have been for "Most Robotic," "Greenest" (as in the color green), etc. Each award certificate comes with a small bag of candy.

Adults are also invited to dress in costume, though adults do not get certificates (though if you have a really good costume you might get some candy).

### **Kick-Off meeting October 16**

## **By Your Side Singers, UUCPA's New Pastoral Care Choir, Starts Rehearsing On October 19**

The By Your Side Singers rehearse on the first and third Wednesday of each month, from 7:30 to 9 pm in Room 9. Our first rehearsal is Oct. 19!

The By Your Side Singers, in small groups, will visit and provide a graceful musical presence for any church member or friend who seeks comfort and strength during times of illness or transition. The choir is led by two UUCPA members: the Rev. Melissa Thomson, who is UUCPA's newest affiliated Community Minister and a hospital chaplain, and Matthew Rosin.

To learn more, email [singtocare@uucpa.org](mailto:singtocare@uucpa.org) or join Melissa and Matt for an informational **kick-off meeting on Sunday, Oct. 16, at 12:30 pm in Room 4-5**. We'll be thrilled to share more about the choir's mission, our practice, and how to get involved as a singer.

## **Sacred Texts And The Environmental Crisis**

**Sunday, August 14, September 11, October 9,  
November 13, and December 11  
12:30 pm; Room A**

**Contact is Rev. Dan Harper ([danharper@uucpa.org](mailto:danharper@uucpa.org))**

**Facilitators are Dan Harper and Jeneen Namaar**

**Registration is not required**

According to Prof. Mary Evelyn Tucker of Yale, an organizer of the renowned Forum on Religion and Ecology, the global environmental crisis "is not only the result of economic, political, and social factors. It is also a moral and spiritual crisis which ... will require broader philosophical and religious understandings of ourselves as creatures of nature, embedded in life cycles and dependent on ecosystems."

In this book discussion group, we'll read sacred texts from the world's major religions to find spiritual and philosophical insight into the ongoing global environmental crisis. In the first sessions, we'll start out by discussing some sacred texts from the Hebrew Bible and the Christian scriptures, including the "dominion mandate" in Genesis. From there, we'll decide which sacred texts we'd like to read together.



## Thespians

The Thespians get together to sight-read plays. All UU members, friends, and guests are welcome.

Second Monday: 7 to 10 pm in Room 9

Third Friday: 1:30 to 4:30 pm in Room A

Fourth Tuesday: 7 to 10 pm in Room 9 — *Samuel Thomas Morgan*

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## Elder Journey

We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in Room 6 from 1:30 to 3 pm.

Second Tuesday we focus on telling our personal stories, read our favorite poems, or discuss our favorite books. Fourth Tuesday generally features a visit by one of our ministers and a topic of their choosing.

—*Armand Schwartz*

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## The Bulletin

October 23 and November 6 are the next two deadlines to submit items you want to see in *the Bulletin*. Send items to Debra Heinz, Office Administrative Assistant, via [newsletter@uucpa.org](mailto:newsletter@uucpa.org) (preferred), or drop off a hard-copy in *the Bulletin* mailbox in the church office.

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## Church Office

505 East Charleston Rd, Palo Alto, California 94306

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 am to 2:30 pm; Sunday, 9 am to 1 pm

650-494-0541, FAX: 650-494-8190

**Email:** [uucpa@uucpa.org](mailto:uucpa@uucpa.org); **Web site:** <http://www.uucpa.org>.

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/uucpa>;

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/uucpa>

**UUCPA Blog:** <http://uucpa.tumblr.com/>

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto  
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\*Rev. Amy is on sabbatical until January 2, 2017. She returns to the pulpit January 8, 2017. In her absence, Rev. Mary McKinnon Ganz will serve half-time from July 1 to December 31.