



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; February 11, 2018

Look to this day! For it is life, the very life of life. In its brief course lie all the verities and realities of your existence: the bliss of growth, the glory of action, the splendor of beauty. For yesterday is but a dream, and tomorrow is only a vision; but today, well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope. Look well, therefore, to this day..
—*Singing the Living Tradition* (#419), Beacon Press

February 18

9:00 am Forum..... Fireside Room
Cannabis DUI?

Discussion led by Sarah Doxiadis.

9:30 and 11:00 am ServiceMain Hall
Humor: If You Come To A Fork In The Road, Take It!

Yogi Berra's comment strikes us as funny. Something happens in your head when you hear it that derails your mind and you laugh. Today we will enjoy humor, both musical and spoken, and explore how this derailing of our mind can make us more creative (and be a lot of fun besides ...) Several choir members will provide special music to liven up the morning, and the choir will visit the animal world for your enjoyment.

Worship Leader: Steve Johnson

Music: Veronika Agranov Dafoe, piano

February 25

9:00 am Forum..... Fireside Room
Discussion of current local, national, and international interest

Selection of Forum Discussion Topics for April

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

9:30 and 11:00 am ServiceMain Hall
Time -Turner Times

We live in a time of maximum efficiency. Machines, electronics, travel options, and advanced communications knock hours, even days, off the time many activities used to take. Why, then, do we feel busier than ever? And is there anything we can do about it?

Worship Leader: Rev. Amy Zucker Morgenstern

Music: Martin Manley, jazz piano

Today

“Othering And Belonging” 1 to 3 pm in Room 4-5. See page 4.

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.

PCD Women's Retreat March 8-11

The annual PCD Women's Retreat is coming up on March 8 to 11, 2018. All self-identified women are welcome to join us for a calming respite from our busy lives. Usually held at a retreat center near Napa that was severely damaged in October by the wildfires, this year we will be meeting at the Anubhuti Center in Novato. We were very lucky to find a place that could accommodate a group of our size and our preferred dates at a reasonable price. Anubhuti is a contemplative retreat center run by Brahma Kumaris, the largest spiritual organization in the world led by women. It is housed in a group of historic buildings that were fully renovated by the sisters seven years-ago, and sits on top of a hill, surrounded by 1,600 acres of protected open space, water and a wildlife preserve, with spectacular views of the Bay, Pacheco Pond, Novato creek, and the rolling hills of Marin County. Anubhuti usually holds meditation retreats at the center, but once a month rents the space to outside groups. Our retreat offers something for everyone: delicious meals; workshops for mind, body, and spirit; conversations with new and old friends; time for quiet contemplation; and a boutique, silent auction, and book swap. To learn more about the PCD Women and Religion organization and to register for our retreat, please visit our website at <http://womenandreligionpcd.org>. If you have any questions, feel free to ask regular attendees Sally Ahnger, Fran Perry, or Barbara Schonborn. We hope to see you there. Invite a friend!

Bass Lake Camp Get-Away 2018

Registration is now open. Join your friends at a beautiful mountain camp with its own private beach from Thursday, August 16, to 00Sunday, August 19. The long weekend will feature swimming and boating, horseback rides, hiking and relaxing and is open to UUCPA members, other UU members and their friends. Meals and rustic cabins are provided and there are no meetings or chores. Space is limited in 2018 to 20 cabins so **register before February 28** to reserve your cabin and get your early bird discount.

To register or to get more information email basslakeuucpa@gmail.com or call or text Greg Crider (the office has the number.)

Bookstore Inventory Reduction Sale

The Church Bookstore will have an inventory reduction sale on February 18 and 25. All donated books will be "two for the price of one"; a single book will be half off. Because we did not have the Yard Sale in August, we have continued to build up inventory. We have many quality books. After the sale, the collection will be weeded (especially fiction) to make room for a better viewing experience. Unsold books will go to the Friends of the Library.

Caring Network

FLORENCE HAAS is very proud of her son who on 2/28 will be honored in San Jose for his neighborhood work. JANE CHRONIS is another proud mother whose daughter is to be married in San Francisco soon. EDITH and JEB EDDY attended a memorial service for fellow Swarthmore graduate who was a poet. RICHARD CASSEL said wife PHYLLIS spent the week in the hospital receiving radiation. She is now home. FRED ZEISE has been adopted by a cat. BETH NORD was told by her doc that her hip replacement now allows her to garden, swim, bike and do the half-lotus if only she could. She is very happy. BILL HILTON lit a candle for DAN POWER who died on 2/1. His celebration of life service will be announced at a later date. BILL also lit a candle for those who face war and violence and for our commitment to make a more peaceful world.

The Brown Bag Book Group's March Selection

The BBB selection for March is *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story* (Non Fiction) by Dianne Ackerman.

(This book is) "a true story in which the keepers of the Warsaw Zoo saved hundreds of people from Nazi hands. After their zoo was bombed, Polish zookeepers Jan and Antonina Zabinski managed to save over three hundred people from the Nazis by hiding refugees in the empty animal cages. With animal names for these 'guests,' and human names for the animals, it's no wonder that the zoo's code name became 'The House Under a Crazy Star.' Best-selling naturalist and acclaimed storyteller Diane Ackerman combines extensive research and an exuberant writing style to re-create this fascinating, true-life story sharing Antonina's life as 'the zookeeper's wife,' while examining the disturbing obsessions at the core of Nazism." (Amazon) "She captures with breathtaking precision and discernment our kinship with animals, the barbarity of war, Antonina's unbounded kindness ... , Jan's daring work with the Polish Underground, and (the) audacity of the the Zabinskis' mission of mercy ... (She) illuminates profound connection between humankind and nature, and celebrates life's beauty, mystery and tenacity." (Booklist) Please join us on Tuesday, March 6, at noon in the Fireside Room to discuss this illuminating and uplifting book.

The book selection for April is *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead (Fiction).

Treasure Sale Report

Thanks to the help of many hands, the Treasure Sale made \$879 to benefit social action programs. Thank you to those who made it possible: donors of quality goods, Dora Fishman, Erin Fishman, Marilyn Stoddard, Donna Aronson, Barbara Symons, Ediie Keating, Jonelle Preisser (Edie's friend from the Redwood City church), Edith Drewek, Chris Anderson, Jeff Cashdollar, and Debra Heinz.

Otherring And Belonging

Sunday, February 11, 1 to 3 pm in Room 4-5

Presenter is Mr. Barb Greve (barb_g@uucpa.org)

Contact is Beth Sherman (beth_s@uucpa.org)

Registration is not required.

One of this year's UUA Common Reads, *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry* (edited by Mitra Rahnema), offers us help with the inner work of today's Unitarian Universalism. Using one essay from the book we will practice acting from our UU values by centering the experiences of religious professionals of color.

The Role Of Meditation In The Lives Of UUCPA Members And Friends

Sunday, March 4, 12:30 to 2 pm, Fireside Room

Facilitator is Marilyn Austin; Contact marilyn_a@uucpa.org

Registration is not required.

Meditation plays an important part in the lives of quite a few UUCPA members and friends. Some of us who do not practice meditation wonder "what they get out of it." The answer is not the same for each of them, even if their meditation practices are similar. A panel of five UUCPA folks will explain why they meditate and will answer questions about it from the audience.

Pacific Western Region Assembly April Meeting

The four districts of the UUA's Pacific Western Region (PWR) will gather April 27-29 in Portland, Oregon for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Speakers include civil rights activist, the Rev. Dr. William Barber; Washington Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights; and the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, newly elected UUA president. See the PWR website (www.uua.org/pwr) for full details.

Amy's Availability Week Of February 20

Amy has been called to jury duty beginning on Tuesday, February 20. She will schedule the week as usual, but cannot be certain of her availability each day until 5 pm the previous afternoon. Please don't hesitate to make an appointment – most likely she will be able to keep it – but do stay alert for a cancellation call from the office. Thank you!

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*

Elder Journey

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

Green Sanctuary

We are a Green Sanctuary Congregation and continue our active push toward being truly Green in our energy consumption. The committee meets on the second Sunday of each month at 11 am in Room 9. Newcomers and drop-ins are welcome.



The Bulletin

February 18 and March 4 are the next two deadlines for submitting items you want to see in *the Bulletin*. Send items to Debra Heinz, Office Administrative Assistant, via newsletter@uucpa.org.

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

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*On sabbatical leave until 3/1/18. During his leave, Religious Educator is Mr. Barb Greve.