



# Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

740 E. Main Street  
Santa Paula, CA 93060  
(805) 525-4647  
uucspoffice@gmail.com  
Website: uucsp.org

## OCTOBER 2017 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



### Theme: Hospitality

#### October 1 Open the Doors!

Rev. Maddie, Pat English

Our theme for this month is Hospitality. What does it mean for us to be hospitable? When we say "all are welcome", do we really mean "all"? How do each of us feel welcome and cared for? What does the spiritual practice of hospitality look like here in our faith home? Come let us consider together

*First Sunday Plate to CASP*

#### \*Tuesday, October 3 at 7 PM Gathering

Rev. Maddie

A weeknight Gathering with Sound, Silence and Word with Rev. Maddie, guest poet Atul Ranchod and musicians Geno Palilla, piano and Christine Snipes, violin, on the theme of Autumn.

#### October 8 Watching our "Ps" and "Qs": What the Buddha Taught About Right Speech

Rev. Arvid Straube, MaryBeth East

Harsh speech is everywhere. Do we even know anymore how to use our speech to foster peace, understanding, and goodwill? The Buddha has clear teaching on this.

#### October 15 Stewardship Sunday

Rev. Maddie, Kate English

It's that time of year again when we think of the financial stewardship of our congregation. Rev. Maddie considers what generosity means in our lives and the life of our faith Spaceship (see elsewhere in this newsletter for more).

#### October 22 A Meditation on Spirituality after Religions: Or, Mark Twain's Large Dream

Rev. James Ishmael Ford, Mary Nelson

Our visiting minister James Ford thinks that Mark Twain points to what "spiritual but not religious" could actually be. Come and see if you agree.

#### October 29 Day of the Dead

Rev. Maddie, TBA

Dia de los Muertos is a day to remember friends and loved ones who have passed from among us. We will mark the Day of the Dead with special music, words, and a sermon. Bring an object or picture of someone you have lost to share on our altar.

Choir: To Everything There is a Season

*CASP food offering*

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# Message from the Minister

I write this on the day of the Fall Equinox. I am getting used to California autumns, all the while treasuring the memories of those colorful fall days in Massachusetts. One of the potent perfumes of my childhood was the smell of the piles of leaves that my sister and I would run and jump in. I have a clear picture of my father leaning on his rake watching us with a big smile on his face. And I remember the almost intoxicating smell of burning those leaves in the back yard or at the edge of the road where we lived at the time in Wellesley Hills. Of course, we don't burn piles of leaves anymore. Things change. Another memory is that of carving pumpkins—nothing fancy, just a crooked jack-o-lantern lopsided grin. I remember the sticky, slinky feel of the inside of the pumpkin, plunging my hand in up the elbows to scrape out the insides. Another scent of autumn was the smell of roasting the pumpkin seeds in the oven and their crunchy, salty taste. Nowadays you can buy special pumpkin carving knives and craft works of art from pumpkins suitable for Martha Stewart. And pumpkins come in more than the iconic orange color. Things change. The cycle of life moves on. What do *you* remember?

Not so long ago I had dinner with a long-time friend who is about to celebrate his seventy-seventh birthday. We surprised him early with a birthday cake, and he remarked that he didn't understand how he was turning seventy-seven since he had never been seventy-six. It seemed like just last year was his big 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party! Each of us is in the cycle of life that keeps moving on, from birth to youth to adult to elder, just as our Earth moves through its cycles of death to rebirth. And as we get older, it seems to move faster and faster. It is all the natural cycle of changes, of movement, of dark to light and back to dark again. Ancient cultures celebrated these changes, as do those among us who draw on “the spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature” of our Sixth Source in the UU Principles and Purposes.

As you move through this beautiful month which points us toward the darkness with cooler nights, may you think about the cycle of your life and who contributed to it. On Sunday, October 29 we will be constructing our traditional Day of the Dead altar with pictures of your loved ones, those more recently lost but also your ancestors who have made you who you are. Bring also an item which is important to you—your grandfather's watch, your mother's ring, a card from someone you loved or whatever. Or you may wish to attend our Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> Gathering which will have the theme “Autumn”. Geno Palilla, Christine Snipes, and Atul Ranchod will once more join me for beautiful words, music and silence. **Let us celebrate the cycle of light to dark to light.**

On the path of our faith,  
Reverend Maddie

# Message from the Board of Trustees

As the Hitchhiker's Guide to Galaxy likes to say: DON'T PANIC

Get ready to blast off with your church on the Stewardship Spaceship. Lift Off is Sunday, October 15th! Your Board of Trustees will be preparing a special Coffee Hour repast to shore us up for the epic journey of our Annual Church Canvass & Pledge Drive for our 2018 fiscal year. Getting excited? We are! We UU's put the fun in funding. [insert winky face]

We hope all of our members and friends will make an extra effort to be present that Sunday so that we can have the thrusters at maximum right at the get go. We want our canvass to help our church live long and prosper. Please help us take our community and individual UU journeys into hyper-drive.

\*Space suits encouraged but not required.

## Message from RE Coordinator

### Kids' Place

“Start working on your child’s mind. Start building your child’s character. Raise your child as a human being, instead of raising boys and girls. Raise human beings with the religion of love in their hearts. Raise human beings with the language of compassion on their lips. Raise human beings with the color of joy on their face. Raise human beings with the force of bravery in their nerves. And these brave conscientious souls with the flames of compassion in their hearts shall one day change the course of human history.”

— Abhijit Naskar, *The Bengal Tigress: A Treatise on Gender Equality*

### Famous UUs in History

According to the Rev. James Ishmael Ford, the Rev. Thomas Starr King may have been the “first” Unitarian Universalist.

‘In the middle of the nineteenth century a Universalist minister Thomas Starr King called to the Unitarian pulpit in San Francisco was asked how he saw the two denominations. Arguably the first Unitarian Universalist, he replied dryly the Universalists believed God too good to damn humanity, while the Unitarians felt they were too good to be damned. In this little joke we can see these two styles. The Universalists focused on the matters of heart with the slogan “love over creed,” while the Unitarians focused on ethics and the good life with the slogan “salvation by character.”’

### Upcoming RE Youth Classes

“It is a happy talent to know how to play.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

A mix of new stories and discussions about the story from Time for All Ages are on the agenda for this month in the youth RE program. We will be discussing how the Islamic faith was formed with a story about Muhammed, and also talking about why we have a chalice as a symbol of our faith tradition.

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# GATHERING



## **\*DEFINITION OF GATHERING**

an assembly or meeting, especially a social or festive one or one held for a specific purpose.

## **OCTOBER 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM**

You are invited to our Gathering for sound, silence and word as the sun goes down. Music will be provided by Geno Palilla, piano, Christine Snipes, violin and Maddie Sifantus, soprano and will include short selections of Vivaldi, Bach, and Brahms.

Poet Atul Ranchod will read from his new book "Top of the Water."

Free will offering for the musicians.

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula, 740 E Main Street, Santa Paula

# Spiritual Growth Center

## MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

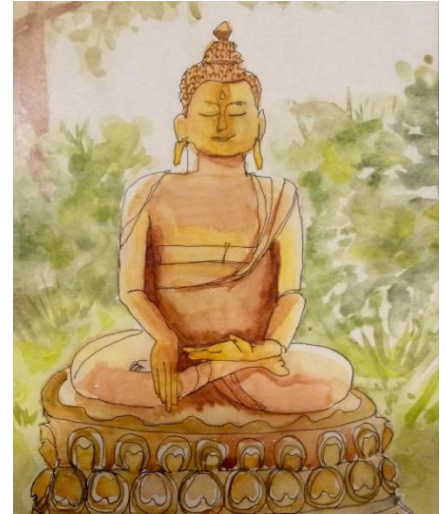
Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall and is led by Maddie Sifantus. The group meets on Wednesdays at 6 PM.

October 4 and 18

November 1 and 15

December 13 and 27

Enter through the front gate to the left of the main entrance and come in the side door. Allow about an hour and bring your meditation cushion, if you have one, or you can sit in a chair. The group is open to everyone; there is a free will offering (\$5 suggested but all invited regardless of funds). The meeting will begin with a reading and short discussion, with a guided meditation leading us into a time of silence. There is power in meditating together. We would love to have you join us. For more information, leave a message. For more information, leave a message on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620 or email [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org).



## SOARING HEARTS YOGA



Members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend yoga in our Parish Hall on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 9:30 am – 10:30 am. with Yoga instructor, Lisa Hammond. Class fee is \$6 - \$8 per session. Lisa keeps an email list to which you can be added after attending your first session. She has been leading yoga for us for about two years and several of our members and Rev. Maddie attend. Lisa Hammond can be reached at [soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com).

## T'AI CHI CHIH

T'AI CHI CHIH On Friday mornings we continue to offer T'ai Chi Chih, - Joy thru Movement, with Instructor Pete Gregory. Often called a moving meditation, the movements are accessible to anybody, regardless of age weight or physical ability. No special clothing or equipment needed. Come and learn how to play with the Chi. For more information or to sign up, email Pete at [psgreg24@gmail.com](mailto:psgreg24@gmail.com). Learn more at [www.taichichih.org](http://www.taichichih.org).

## All Church Read 2017-18

### DARING DEMOCRACY

Our first All Church Read of 2018 will be *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want*. The authors Frances Moore Lappe and Adam Eichen are shown in this photo with the president of the UUA, the Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray after a recent book signing in which they shared some of the stories and messages of their book including: "In this moment of extreme threat, we come to see that the opposite of evil is no longer goodness. It is courage. Goodness without action isn't good enough." Start reading now in preparation for our discussion on Sunday, January 28 after Coffee Hour (or about 12:15 PM) in Rev. Maddie's Office. Four copies are available to circulate and will be located on top of the bookcase in the Parish Hall.



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# People and Doings

## NEWS FROM AMONG US OCTOBER 2017

- Carol Hardison has had more surgery on her eyes. She and Logan are spending time in Redlands. We will look forward to them being among us before too long

- Rev. Maddie's friend and colleague, the UU historian Peter Tufts Richardson, has recently published his book *Universalists & Unitarians of Maine*. There is a whole section on Aroostook County where the founders of our church moved from. It is in the minister's office, if you would like to take a look at it



- If you have any News from Among Us you would like to share with our community, please let Rev. Maddie know by the newsletter deadline which is the 21<sup>st</sup> of every month.

### Rev. Maddie's Office Hours

Rev. Maddie is usually available in the office by appointment or pot luck drop in from Tuesday through Friday. Rev. Maddie's office is located in the "new wing" across from the rest rooms at the back of our building. Monday is Rev. Maddie's day off and Saturday is her study/sermon writing day. Some days she is working from home but can get to the office in five minutes, if something comes up. The best way to plan a time to meet with her is to call and leave a message on her private line at the church, [805-525-4620](tel:805-525-4620), call her on her cell phone, [508-733-8860](tel:508-733-8860) or email her at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org). She is happy to meet you in her office, at your home or place of work, or at a local restaurant for a cup of tea or coffee (she will buy her own!). The minister's office is in the back of the church, near the rest rooms. If the front or back doors are locked, call her, and she will come let you in through the back gate off the alley.

### FIRST SUNDAY PLATE OFFERING and LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

For the 4th Quarter of 2017, our First Sunday Plate and Last Sunday of each month food collection will be the same recipient, CASP: Community Assistance Santa Paula. CASP, a non-profit organization, provides a Food Pantry to serve the disadvantaged of Santa Paula. Being a community charity, CASP's Food Pantry program is largely dependent on the generosity of its citizens.

- The First Sunday Plate offering for October, November and December will be a monetary donation.
- The Last Sunday of these months we collect canned goods, rice and beans and other non-perishable food.

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# People and Doings

## GATHERING

Please join Rev. Maddie for our monthly Gathering of sound, silence and word on Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 PM. Our experiment of an alternate weeknight form of worship will feature music, poetry or prose, and guided meditation. October's Gathering's theme is Autumn. The music will be provided by Geno Palilla, piano, Christine Snipes, violin and Maddie Sifantus, soprano. October's poetry will be by Atul Ranchod. A free will offering will be taken to compensate visiting musicians. All invited.

## CRUISE NIGHT

The last Santa Paula Cruise Night of 2017 is Friday, October 6. You are invited to help Rev. Maddie and Ken Stock host Cruise Night when we talk about our congregation, our events and take people on tours of our Historic Church. We have begun collecting for CASP at Cruise Night so bring a non-perishable food when you drop by. We have a table under a pop up tent in front of the church, greeting passersby, talking about our congregation and having literature available. We are usually there from about 5 PM until sundown. Come help host or just drop by and sit a spell.

## CARING COMMITTEE

Do you want to learn how to be a better listener? This fall we are kicking off Lay Ministry Training to better serve our members and supplement the ministry of Rev. Maddie, our professional pastoral care provider. This training facilitated by Rev. Maddie will take place at the regular monthly meetings of the committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 19. Meetings are at 12:15 PM and last about an hour and a half. Let Rev. Maddie know if you are interested in joining with the Caring Committee members Barbara Beach, Penny McManus, Delicia Niami, and Jan Shepherd.

## THE MARY A LIVERMORE SOCIETY

Thurs. Oct. 26, 11:30 am: Mary A's lunch and birthday celebration for Jean Goodell, member, at Judith Beay's home; \$7.00 donation for the scrumptious salad prepared by Judith, plus dessert. Please RSVP 647-4338 so we know to set a place for you.

## DAY OF THE DEAD ALTAR



Building a Dia de los Muertos altar is an important part of celebrating Mexico's most famous holiday, Day of the Dead. Traditionally, families will build altars in their homes during the weeks leading up to November 1st, as a way to celebrate and remember loved ones who have passed to the other side. Many Unitarian Universalist congregations build Day of the Dead altars as we will be doing for our service on Sunday, October 29, as a way of honoring Mexican traditions and encouraging cross-cultural understanding, especially noting the community in which we live. Please bring something to put on the altar when you come to church on Sunday honoring an ancestor, friend or pet who has died.



**“Zodiac Zunday”** Once a month during coffee hour we will be honoring those who celebrate the astrological sign of that month. As we know, astrology is a pseudo-science often linked to superstition. We are hoping for this to be a fun time to connect with others while enjoying some delicious food. .

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# People and Doings

## CHOIR

All are welcome to join our choir, including our young singers who are able to read music. Rehearsals will be directed by Rev. Maddie and accompanied by Vincent Sorisio. All rehearsals will cover the music for that Sunday and will include learning music for future monthly Sunday mornings. Individual rehearsals with Rev. Maddie can be arranged as time allows. Please be in touch with Rev. Maddie with any questions. All invited to sing!

October 26	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
October 29	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service
		<i>Day of the Dead</i>
		Choir: To Everything There is a Season
November 9	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
November 12	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service
		<i>Political Correctness</i>
		Choir: Blowin' in the Wind/America Bob Dylan, arr. Len Thomas
December 14	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
December 17	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service
		<i>Following Yonder Star Multigenerational Service</i>
		Choir: Holiday music TBA
December 21	7:00 PM	Winter Solstice
		Choir: Music and rehearsal times TBA

the  
SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY  
presents

## Don't Be Afraid of the Noir!



### MURDER MY SWEET

Dick Powell, Claire Trevor and Anne Shirley are featured in this 1944 Noir from RKO based on the Raymond Chandler novel "Farewell My Lovely." Directed by Edward Dmytryk.

OCTOBER 13 2017



### THE NARROW MARGIN

This effective minimalist RKO Noir from 1952 features Charles McGraw, Marie Windsor and Jacqueline White. Energetic direction by B-picture master Richard Fleischer.

NOVEMBER 10 2017



### DOUBLE INDEMNITY

Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck and Edward G. Robinson star in this 1944 Noir gem. Billy Wilder directed a screenplay cowritten with Raymond Chandler. A new HD restoration will be screened.

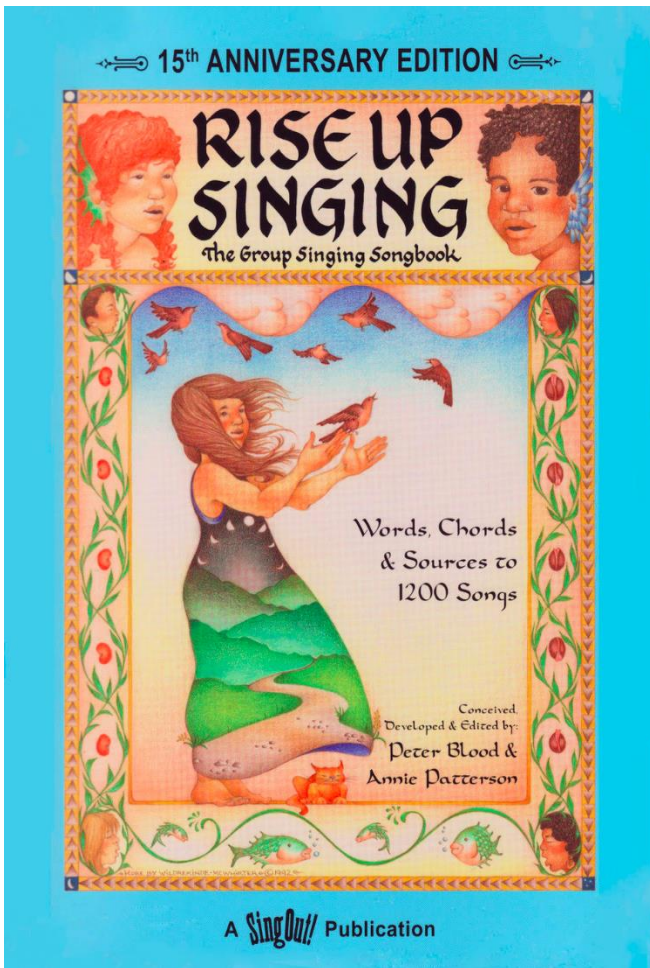
DECEMBER 8 2017

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula • 740 E. Main Street • 7PM • Free! • Enter Side Door

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# People and Doings



JOIN US IN SINGING  
~ ALL AGES  
UNIVERSALIST  
UNITARIAN CHURCH  
OF SANTA PAULA  
PARISH HALL  
740 E MAIN STREET  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT  
7:00 PM

BRING RISE UP SINGING AND/OR RISE AGAIN BOOKS IF YOU HAVE THEM

ALL INSTRUMENTS WELCOME! COMMUNITY SINGING!

FREE WILL OFFERING

LED BY MADDIE SIFANTUS, DONNA NELSON AND FRIENDS

All are invited to come to the first “Rise Up Singing” evening on Friday night, October 20th, at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Parish Hall. Singers and instrumentalists of all ages are welcome to this informal and spirited evening of shared music making. Bring a copy of *Rise Up Singing* or *Rise Again*, if you have one. Some copies will be available. Join the fun as Maddie Sifantus, Donna Nelson and others lead us as we begin our experiment in communal singing on the third Friday of the month. Do you have a ukulele, mandolin or fiddle in your closet? Have you had a hankering to sing *Clementine*? Join us and invite your friends who love to sing! It is anticipated that Rise Up Singing will be held the third Fridays of the month, with the next one scheduled for November 17 at 7:0 PM. For more information, call Maddie at [805-525-4620](tel:805-525-4620) or email her at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org).

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SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES  
PRESENTS

*Hiroya Tsukamoto  
... Solo*



Guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto takes us on an innovative, impressionistic journey filled with earthy, organic soundscapes that impart a mood of peace and tranquility.

*"Hiroya Tsukamoto plays with fluid mastery, pristine tone, and great warmth."*  
-Celine Keating (author / Acoustic Guitar Magazine / minor7th)

**Saturday, October 28th at 7:00 p.m.**

**Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula  
740 E. Main Street, Santa Paula, CA 930600**

**Donation \$20.00 at the door - Artist Reception to Follow**

**Proceeds benefit the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula Building & Historical Fund. UUCSP is a Registered Ventura County Historical Landmark**



# People and Doings

## Santa Paula Concert Series Presents Hiroyo Tsukamoto



Our next concert presents guitarist Hiroyo Tsukamoto on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 7:00 PM. Hiroyo Tsukamoto takes us on an innovative, impressionistic journey filled with earthy, organic soundscapes that impart a mood of peace and tranquility.

Tsukamoto is a guitarist and composer originally from Kyoto, Japan. In 2000, he received a scholarship to Berklee College of Music in Boston and came to the United States. Since then, he has been performing internationally including several appearances with his group at the Blue Note in New York City and released six albums as a leader. He has also performed and appeared on major television shows internationally such as NHK (Japanese National Television) and EBS in Korea. His website is [www.hiroyatsukamoto.com](http://www.hiroyatsukamoto.com). For those of you on Facebook, please share our event with your “friends.”

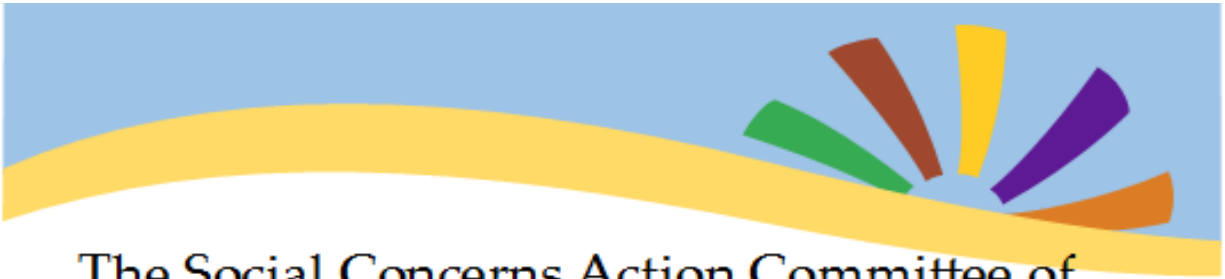
Admission is \$20 donation at the door, from the church office during office hours, or by PayPal on the church’s website: [www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org). Credit cards, checks and cash are accepted at the door. Children 12 and under are \$10; children 5 and under are free. Seating is first come, first served. Proceeds benefit the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula Building and Historical Fund and improve our sound and lights for the series and all our activities.

You Tube Links:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oaPLbxCHOFU>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDkAwYvxFc>

*“A scathingly brilliant and entertaining songwriter.”* – Dalis Allen, Kerrville (TX) Folk Festival.

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The Social Concerns Action Committee of  
Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula  
presents

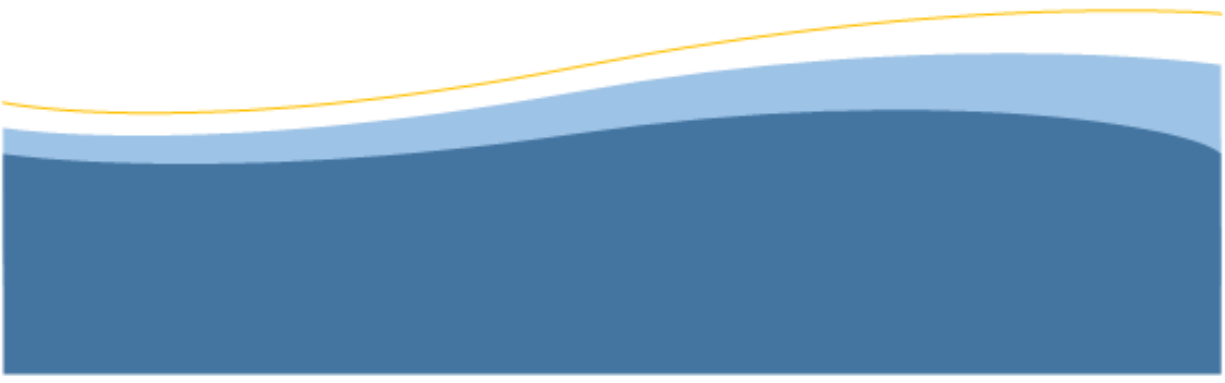
## Underwater Dreams

\* Friday, October 27,  
Potluck 5:45 PM Movie: 7:00 PM

"Underwater Dreams," is a documentary written and directed by award winning, Mary Mazzio. Four undocumented students from a Title I Arizona high school compete, with the guidance of their two science teachers, against MIT in a NASA sponsored underwater robotics competition and win. This documentary depicts not only the events, but the aftermath, the legacy to their high school and how their lives changed.

Discussion follows

740 East Main Street Santa Paula 805-525-4647



**THE SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE**  
will meet Friday, Oct. 27, 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall for their monthly meeting.



# Calendar of Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 1030am Worship 1215Worship Comm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 930 Yoga  7pm Gathering	<b>4</b> 6pm Meditation  7pmOne BillionRising	<b>5</b> 930 Yoga	<b>6</b> 10:00 T'aiChiChih  5pm Cruise Night	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 1030am Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 930 Yoga	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 930 Yoga	<b>13</b> NO T'aiChiChih  7pmClassic Movie Night	<b>14</b> 10am-4pm Board Development in Goleta
<b>15</b> 1030am Worship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 930 Yoga	<b>18</b> 6pm Meditation	<b>19</b> 930 Yoga 1215pm Caring Comm 630pm Board Mtg	<b>20</b> 10:00 T'aiChiChih  1215Caring Comm  7pmRiseUp Singing	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 1030am Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 930 Yoga	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 930 Yoga  1130am MaryA's  7pm Choir Reh	<b>27</b> 10:00 T'aiChiChih  Dinner&aMovie 545pm & 7pm	<b>28</b> Hiroyo Tsukamoto Concert 7pm
<b>29</b> 930am Choir Reh  1030am Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 930 Yoga				

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CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

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Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Minister, Choir Director

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Affiliate Minister

Erik Halseth, Religious Education Coordinator

Vincent Sorisio, Church Musician

Albie Alamillo, Custodian

Krystal Johnson, Office Administrator

Board of Trustees:

MaryBeth East

John Nichols

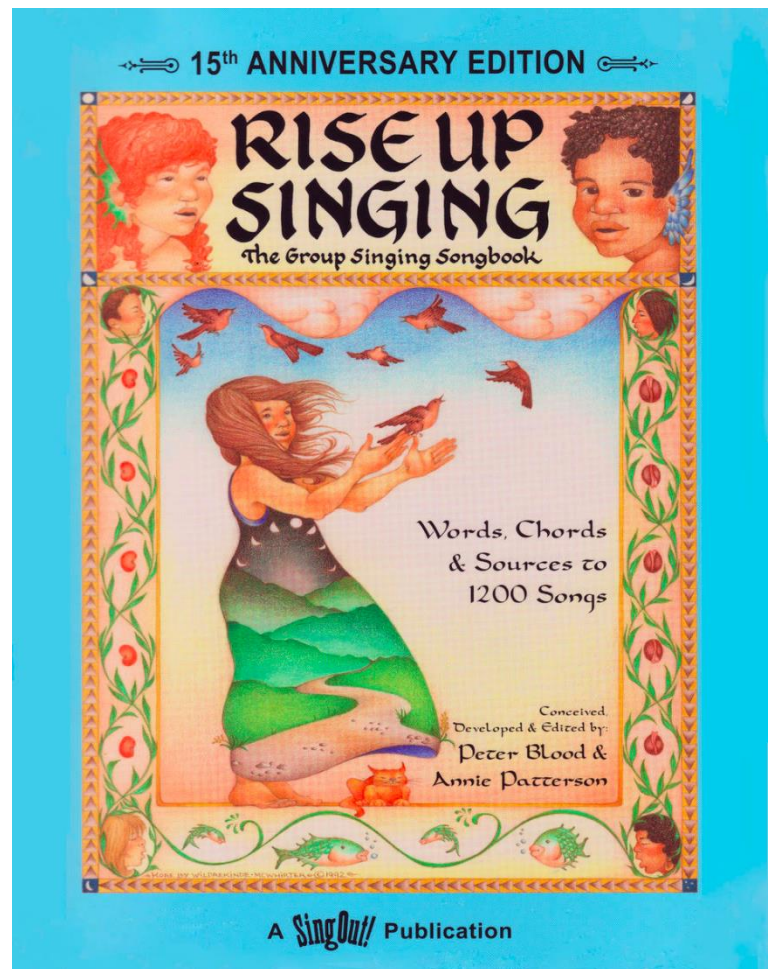
Patricia English

Luisa Haskell

Kate English

Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am

Next newsletter deadline: October 21



*Dated Material*  
*Time Value*

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of Santa Paula  
740 East Main Street  
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