



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

NOVEMBER 2016 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



November 6 When the Spirit Says Do

Rev. Maddie, Kate English

The hymnal supplement, *Singing the Journey*, contains songs for worship arranged according to the Six Sources of our Unitarian Universalist tradition. As Rev. Maddie begins her sometime theme of the Sources, we will introduce them through word and songs from the teal supplement.

First Sunday Plate to One Step a la Vez

November 12 Election Daze

Rev. James Ismael Ford, Mary Nelson

As we limp out of one of the worst presidential races in modern times, we take a breath. In that pause, we can reflect a little on how our liberal religious tradition meets the challenges of our day.

Our speaker the Reverend James Ishmael Ford served as a Unitarian Universalist minister for twenty-six years, twenty-five as a parish minister and one as an interim. He is the minister-emeritus of the First Unitarian Church of Providence, in Rhode Island, and is currently community minister affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach. James is the author of several books, the most recent, *If You're Lucky, Your Heart Will Break*.

November 20 For This We Are Thankful

Rev. Maddie, Pat English

In a partly multigenerational service, we share a cornbread communion with one another, expressing our gratefulness for our community of all ages and the opportunity to give thanks for all the gifts we are given and can give.

November 27 Stuff

Rev. Maddie, Allan Noel

As we go into this season of giving, we stop a moment to consider where all this “stuff” has come from. Do we need all the stuff we are surrounded with or do we need to clear our space to make way for new ways of living and being? We will light the first candle on our Advent Wreath.

CASP food offering

The mission of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula is
to practice inclusiveness, seek justice and foster spirituality.

Message from the Minister

We have come to the time of year when we reflect on what we are thankful for, our blessings, if you will. We try to find a heart of gratefulness in the midst of the busyness of the fall, with all the activities in our families, our church and all around us. This very American holiday asks us to think of what gifts we have been given, to my mind bringing a religious center to what is historically a secular holiday. Being thankful is a choice—a choice in seeing a glass that is half full rather than half empty sometimes. For each of us has a glass which holds both joys and sorrows, as we recognize in our congregation each Sunday morning when we have the chance to say them with each other and have them held in the container which is our community. It is important to name both your joys and sorrows to ourselves, as well as to share them together. Perhaps this month you might share one thing for which you are thankful.

We are grateful this season that we have enough to eat, most of us—that we have people to share the eating with, most of us, and that we have a safe place to live, most of us. And as we are grateful, we are aware that there are some in our community, our state and beyond who do not have enough to eat, who may be estranged from friends and family, who have lost loved ones, and who do not have a safe place to live. So as we prepare for our traditional Thanksgiving dinners this month and the season of holidays to come, we will give some thought to what we are thankful for and how we can reach out as an expression of our thankfulness for what we have been given and from the heart of our liberal faith. We consider, as in the traditional phrase, “Be thankful in all things, not for all things.” We can live from a center of thankfulness while addressing needs and injustices around us.

We will have a multigenerational service on November 20 where we will share a cornbread and cider communion, “For This We Are Thankful”. We will express our thankfulness for our community by opening our doors later that afternoon at 4:00 pm, for a Thanksgiving Interfaith Service sponsored by the Santa Paula Ministerial Association. I hope you will join in our community as we give thanks together. I wish for all of us a grateful heart that moves us to wholeness, as individuals and a community.

On the path of our faith,

Rev. Maddie

Message from the Board President

On Sunday October 23, the congregation voted to accept Reverend Dr. Betty Stapleford as the Affiliate Minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. As an Affiliate Minister, Betty will continue her ongoing work within Ventura County and bring back to our congregation information on activities of interest. We welcome Betty and her husband Tom to our congregation.

As we slide toward the end of the year, I ask that the committee chairs review their budget needs and be prepared to let your finance committee know. This year, Pat English, MaryBeth East and Luisa Haskell will be the budget trio.

Thank you to all who submitted your 2017 pledges and committed to the ongoing support and health of our church community. Looking forward to another dynamic year.

With gratitude during this month of thanksgiving,
MaryBeth East



News From Among Us

NOVEMBER 2016

- A group of us once more had a table at the Latino Town Hall Awards and we able to see our member Laura Phillips recognized for her role with the Friends of the Blanchard Library.
- Lynne Morrison is currently having rehab at Vista Cove after a hospital stay. Cards can be sent to her there at 250 March Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060. Visits are also appreciated.
- MaryBeth East's husband Denis Buckles is back home after a brief hospital stay. We hope he is back on the links as soon as possible.
- 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 21st of every month.

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Message from the RE Coordinator



This month the children have been learning about our UU Chalice. They got to make one out of fresh fruit and seemed to enjoy every last bite!



Last Sunday the children were told a story about the meaning behind the different parts of the chalice. The base of the chalice represents all the different kinds of people there are. The stem is for being kind and helpful. The bowl of the chalice is for smiles for everyone!

The candle that keeps us going is for truth, love and energy of action. The flame that burns is the flame of hope and goodness. After hearing the story, the children created their own chalice out of construction paper.



4-ever learning,
Ruth Ricards
RE Coordinator

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Spiritual Growth Center

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall. Our meetings in November will be November 9 and 23 at 6:00 PM. Looking ahead to December we will have one meeting on Wednesday, December 14. Enter through the front gate to the left of the main entrance and come in the side door. This group celebrates the diversity of Buddhist and other meditative orientations and welcomes participants from all contemplative traditions to attend. Rev. Maddie is a long-time meditator from the mindfulness or Vipassana tradition of Buddhism. 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.

SOARING HEARTS YOGA

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend yoga in our Parish Hall led by Lisa Hammond on Tuesdays, November 1, 15, 22 & 29 and Thursdays November 10 & 17, at 9:30 am. There is a \$6 fee. 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 a year and several of our members and Rev. Maddie attend. Lisa Hammond can be reached at soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com.



DROP IN SMALL GROUP

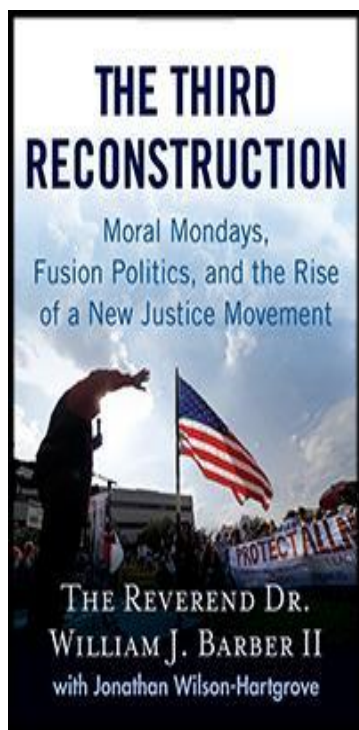
Rev. Maddie will be hosting a Drop-In Small Group in her office on Sunday, November 6 after coffee hour—about Noon. She will be doing these from time to time and will choose a different theme each meeting. Come and explore a topic of meaning as we hear one another's stories and experiences, and get to know a few others better. No need to sign up, just show up!

ALL CHURCH READ 2016 – 2017

The Common Read of the Unitarian Universalist Association this coming year is “*The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement*”, by The Rev. Dr. William Barber II and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove (Beacon, 2016). Unitarian Universalists were electrified at General Assembly 2016 by Rev. Barber's call for building and sustaining a movement for justice for all people. The Common Read selection committee believes that this is a moment for Unitarian Universalists to answer that call.

The Third Reconstruction offers helpful, practical guidance for engaging with justice movements born in response to local experiences of larger injustices. Drawing on the prophetic traditions of the Jewish and Christian scriptures, while making room for other sources of truth, the book challenges us to ground our justice work in moral dissent, even when there is no reasonable expectation of political success, and to do the hard work of coalition building in a society that is fractured and polarized.

We will have a discussion of the book in 2017 but you may like to purchase or borrow the book to begin reading now. There are two copies available to borrow on the bookcase in the Parish Hall or you may wish to purchase your own copy. A paperback edition is available for purchase at inSpirit: UU Book and Gift Shop, from Amazon or your favorite bookseller.



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People and Doings

OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Maddie is usually available in the office by appointment or pot luck drop in from Tuesday through Friday. Monday is her day off and Saturday is her study/sermon writing day. She will be out of town for the Ministerial Fellowship Committee and several days' vacation from November 28th through December 9th. 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, call her on her cell phone, 508-733-8860 or email her at 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 restrooms. If the front or back doors are locked, call her, and she will come let you in through the back gate off the alley.

COMMUNICATION

Rev. Maddie and Krystal have been working to improve our communications as a congregation. You are reminded that all mail goes in the mailboxes in the hallway next to the restrooms. Please check your mailbox regularly and do not store old mail there. We also remind you that there are signup clipboards on the table in the Parish Hall for Sunday flowers, Chalice Lighters, serving coffee hour, telling us your birthday, and the like. Please sign up!

WINTER SOLSTICE

Rev. Maddie and Donna Nelson, music specialist from the Santa Paula Schools, have been busy planning our Winter Solstice 2016 which will be at our church on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 pm. The centerpiece this year will be a Mummer's Play, "The Jester's Test." Karl Krause is playing the part of the King and Donna Hamer the Queen. We will be needing singers, actors, musicians and other volunteers for this Celebration which will be our gift to the Santa Paula community. The main speaking and solo parts are already rehearsing Wednesday evenings at 7:15 pm in the Parish Hall. On Wednesday, November 2, Rev. Maddie will conduct a rehearsal for the choral music for the Solstice. There will be more choral only rehearsals before the Solstice day as well as children's rehearsals. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you wish to be involved. And Save the Date to attend the Solstice!

CHOIR

Calling all singers. The adult choir has started singing at least once a month during the Sunday morning service. In November, we will sing Sunday morning November 20th and then join in a combined choir at the Thanksgiving Interfaith Service which is that same afternoon at 4:00 PM. We will rehearse on TUESDAY, November 15 at 7:00 PM and then again the morning of the service at 9:30 AM. In addition, there will be a rehearsal of the songs we are preparing for the Winter Solstice on Wednesday, November 9th. Both rehearsals will be directed by Rev. Maddie and accompanied by Vincent Sorisio. Please be in touch with Rev. Maddie with any questions.

THE MARY A'S

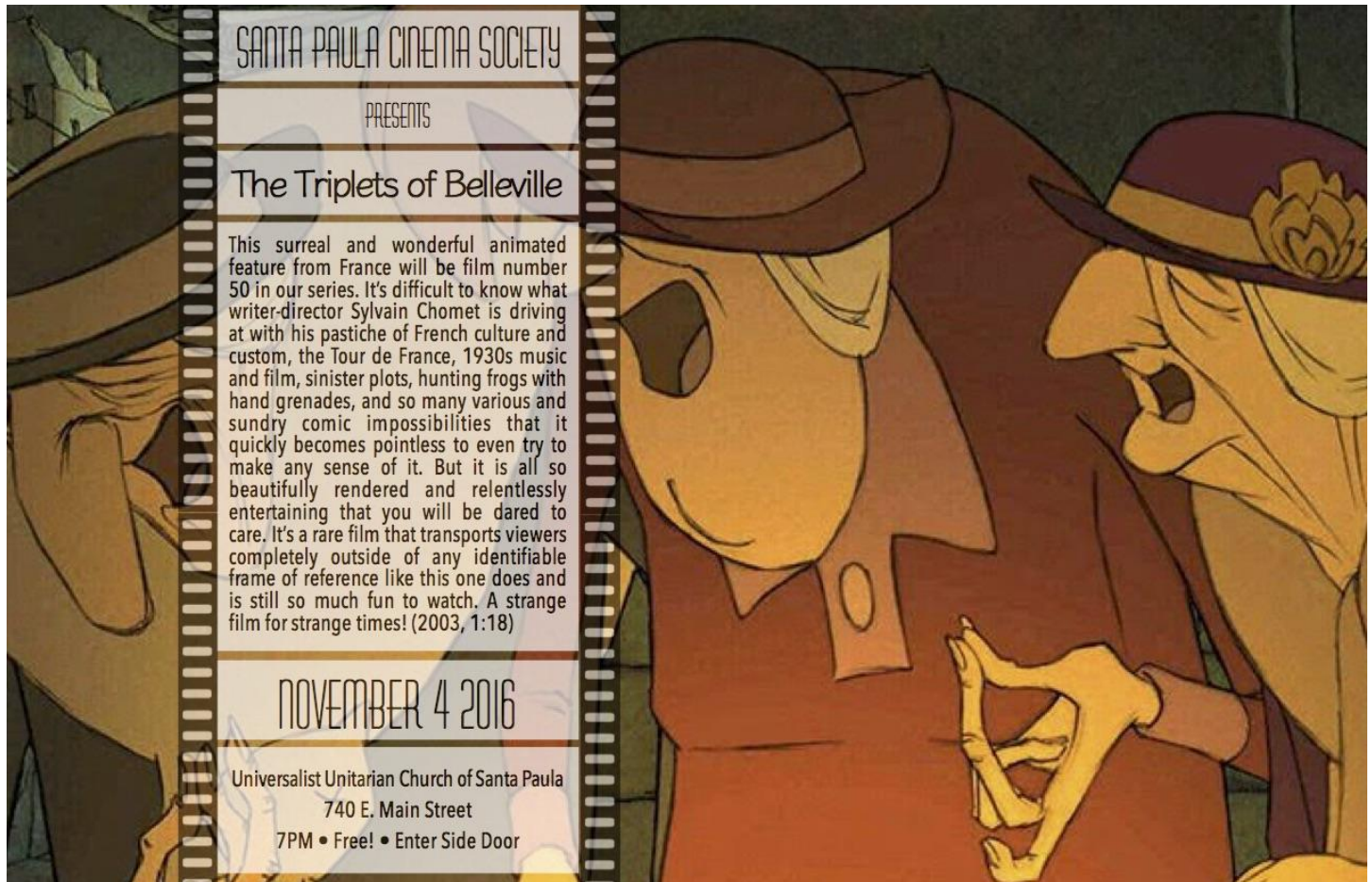
The November meeting of The Mary A's will meet a week earlier than our usual date. On Thursday, November 17, at 11:30 am, the Mary A. Livermore Society will meet at Café Flight 126. All women of the church and friends welcome.

SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

On Friday, November 18, at 12:00 noon, the Social Concerns Action Committee will meet in the Parish Hall. Brown bag lunch.

People and Doings

CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT



SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY
PRESENTS
The Triplets of Belleville

This surreal and wonderful animated feature from France will be film number 50 in our series. It's difficult to know what writer-director Sylvain Chomet is driving at with his pastiche of French culture and custom, the Tour de France, 1930s music and film, sinister plots, hunting frogs with hand grenades, and so many various and sundry comic impossibilities that it quickly becomes pointless to even try to make any sense of it. But it is all so beautifully rendered and relentlessly entertaining that you will be dared to care. It's a rare film that transports viewers completely outside of any identifiable frame of reference like this one does and is still so much fun to watch. A strange film for strange times! (2003, 1:18)

NOVEMBER 4 2016

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

DINNER AND A MOVIE

On Friday, November 18, the Social Concerns Action Committee will show the film *What would Jesus Buy?* Presented by Morgan Spurlock (*Super-Size This*) We see the subway preacher, Rev. Billy, with his Stop Shopping Gospel Choir begin a cross-country mission tour to save Christmas from the Shopocalypse (the end of humankind from consumerism, over-consumption and the fires of eternal debt.). The film touches on Black Friday, sweatshops, big box culture, the child who has everything and more. Potluck: 5:45 pm, Documentary: 7:00 pm, discussion afterwards.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGi21YQFjMM>

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People and Doings

SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS
SINCOPA STRING QUARTET
Dvorak Meets Shostakovich



Dmitry Shostakovich, String Quartet No.3
Antonin Dvorak, String Quartet No.12, Op. 96

Saturday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m.
Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula
740 E. Main Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060
805-525-4647 – www.uucsp.org

Donation \$20.00 Children 12 & Under \$10.00
Free for Children 5 and Under

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

Santa Paula Concert Series presents *Dvořák Meets* *Shostakovich*

Our Concert Series presents a classical concert, *Dvořák Meets Shostakovich* on Saturday, November 5 at 7:00 PM. This performance presents the String Quartet No. 3 of Dmitry Shostakovich and the String Quartet No. 12, Op.96 of Antonin Dvořák.

The Sincopa String Quartet was established in 2015, and had its debut concert in May 2016 in Ojai, California. The members of the quartet come from different countries, and each of them brings influences from different cultures. Now all living in the L.A. area, they have come together because they share the same passion for chamber music. Violinist Ashot was a member of the prestigious Vardanyan Quartet in Armenia. Violinist Luis-Gustavo Mascero Alberto hails from Brazil and had studied and performed both classical and jazz performance. Violist Jennifer Wu has performed from Carnegie Hall to Walt Disney Hall, as well as internationally. Cellist Wonsun Keem has been a member of the Gyung-gi Philharmonic and Bach Solisten Seoul Ensemble. All four members freelance throughout Southern California.

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. Credit cards, checks and cash are accepted at the door. Children 12 and under are \$10; children 5 and under are free. Please let Rev. Maddie or Ruth Ricards know in advance if you will need childcare so that we will have it available. Proceeds benefit the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula Building and Historical Fund. UUCSP is a registered Ventura County Historical Landmark.

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COMMUNITY
INTERFAITH
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE

GIVING THANKS for Family

November 20, 2016
at 4:00 pm

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula
740 E. Main Street • Santa Paula

Freewill Offering will go to Interface Children and Family Services
Combined choir from local churches
Reception following service

Sponsored by Santa Paula Ministerial Association
For more information contact:
Rev. Maddie Sifantus at (805)525-4620

People and Doings

FIRST SUNDAY PLATE RECIPIENT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER

One Step a la Vez is an after school drop-in and resource center for teens. The mission of the OSALV program is to serve the communities of Santa Clara Valley by providing a safe environment for 13-19-year old's and preparing informed, empowered youth who are equipped with the tools to lead, cultivate cultural awareness, bridge the gaps of inequality and advocate for fair, just and healthy individuals and community. Our program has three main components: -ONE STEP DROP IN CENTER - homework assistance, a computer lab, cultural field trips, college application assistance, career planning, mentoring and resource referrals for youth and their families. -CIRCLE OF CARE - a collaborative of service providers to offer programs at our center such as a weekly Spanish Speaking Domestic Violence Support Group, Mental Health First Aid Classes, Stress & Wellness classes and more. -JUVENILE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE we work with youth in custody to set goals and attain them when they are released.

CASP - LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

We collect canned goods, rice and beans for CASP, Community Assistance of Santa Paula, a non-profit food pantry located in a back building of the First United Methodist Church. Santa Paulans of limited means are served by CASP on Mondays before noon. We are pleased to add to CASP's pantry.

AT THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH: ECHOES OF CHILDREN IN OUR HEARTS

Our members are invited to attend a special service at the First Christian Church on Sunday, November 13 at 2:00 PM. As we approach the upcoming holiday season, Hands Across Santa Paula would like to honor all those who have lost children from accidents, illness, miscarriage, military, homicide, or missing children never returned. There is no pain like the loss of a child. This will be a Celebration of Life for parents and families who have lost children and to share memories that hold joy. There will be Guest Speakers, a Sing Along of happy children's songs with Donna Nelson and Dave Ackerman, as well as a Wishing Tree and Candle Lighting. You may bring a small photo of your child or a wish to place on the Wishing tree. They will also furnish paper & hangers for the tree. Bob Allen of KADYTV.com will be filming. This event is co-hosted with Rev. Jenny Crosswhite and B. Sammi Frady of Hands Across Santa Paula Remembering The Spirit of Kindness. There will be light refreshments afterward. To RSVP call Sammi at 805-525-7646.

**Third International Women's Convocation
Asilomar Conference Grounds, Monterey Peninsula, CA, USA
February 16-19, 2017**



Women's Convocation—Save The Dates!

Take advantage of Presidents' Day weekend to engage with UU women from around the world at the **Third International Women's Convocation, Asilomar Conference Center, CA, February 16-19, 2017**. Connect, share, grow, celebrate, and empower in the unspoiled surroundings of this tranquil retreat. Registration is \$350. Bring one, two (or ten!) friends from your church and you qualify for a group discount of \$50 off each! An additional \$50 discount is available for UU ministers. Young adults aged 18-40 can register at a special all-inclusive package rate. If you are interested in offering a workshop, please fill out our workshop request form online. Visit IntlWomensConvo.org for all details.

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Schedule of Events



November 2016

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 Yoga 9:30am	2 Solstice Rehearsal 7:00pm	3 No Yoga One Billion Rising Meeting 6:00pm	4 Classic Movie Night 7:00pm	5 Sincopa Concert 7:00pm
6 Worship 10:30am Drop-In Small Group 12:00pm First Sunday Plate – Forever Found	7 Mindful Eating Workshop 6:30pm	8 Polling Place No Yoga	9 Meditation 6:00pm Solstice Rehearsal 7:15pm	10 Yoga 9:30am	11 Veterans Day	12
13 Worship 10:30am	14 Mindful Eating Workshop 6:30pm	15 Yoga 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm	16 Staff Mtg. 10:30am Caring Com. Mtg. 2:00pm Solstice Rehearsal 7:00pm	17 Yoga 9:30am Mary A's Mtg. 11:30am RE Com. Mtg. 4:00pm Board Mtg. 6:30pm	18 Social Concerns Mtg. 12:00pm Dinner and a Movie 5:45pm & 7:00pm	19
20 Choir Rehearsal. 9:30M Worship 10:30am Worship Comm. 12:00pm Thanksgiving Interfaith Service 4:00pm	21 Newsletter Deadline Mindful Eating Workshop 6:30pm	22 Yoga 9:30am	23 Meditation 6:00pm	24 No Yoga	25	26 Solstice Players in Christmas Parade 10:00am
27 Worship 10:30am CASP food offering	28 Mindful Eating Workshop 6:30pm	29 Yoga 9:30am	30 Solstice Rehearsal 7:00pm			

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COMMUNITY INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Giving Thanks for Family

November 20, 2016 at 4:00 PM

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

740 E Main Street, Santa Paula

Freewill Offering will go to Interface Children and Family Services

Combined choir from local churches

Reception following service

Sponsored by the Santa Paula Ministerial Association

For more information contact:

Rev. Maddie Sifantus at [805-525-4620](tel:805-525-4620)

Dated Material
Time Value

Universalist Unitarian Church
740 East Main Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060