



# Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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



## NOVEMBER 2018 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM

More Than a Month of Sundays

### THEME: GRATITUDE

*Unitarian Universalist minister Ralph Helverson wrote, "We have religion when we have an abiding gratitude for all that we have received." Annie Dillard added, "How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives." Gratitude invites a spiritual practice in which daily we express our thanks to those around us and to life itself. It is through gratitude that our "thanksgiving is perpetual."*

#### November 4 The Wider Welcome: Welcoming Congregation Revisited

**Rev. Maddie with Worship Host Jerry Gray with Neil and Keith Coffman-Grey**

Many years ago, our congregation did the work and study to become a Welcoming Congregation. You can see our plaque we earned from the Unitarian Universalist Association, as you walk into the foyer of the Sanctuary. It is now time to renew our Welcoming Congregation status, addressing all the changes in the LGBTQ world. We will have a visit of the Aids Quilt.

***First Sunday Plate to the One Stop Shower Program at El Buen Pastor***

#### November 11 Building Bridges in the Midst of Turmoil; Reaching Out Across the Divide

**Rev. Melitta Haslund, Ruth Ricards**

In a world where taking a stand often connotes polarization and alienation from one another, we will explore living examples where bridges are built around--rather than walls.

Rev. Melitta L. Haslund is a life-long Unitarian Universalist, a UU Parish Minister who served our congregation from 1993 - 1999 and is currently an On-Call Hospital Chaplain and Adjunct Professor of World Religions at Santa Barbara City College. She served our congregation in the Nineties and are happy to welcome her back!

#### \*Tuesday, November 13 Gathering

**Kate English**

A weeknight Gathering with Sound, Silence and Word with let by Kate English and friends on the theme of Friendship.

#### November 18 Harvest is the Season to Be Grateful

**Rev. Maddie, Erik Halseth**

In a 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. Special Music. Our Choir "Bids You Welcome".

#### November 25 UUSC is more than Guest at Your Table

**Rev. Betty, Kate English**

Most Unitarian Universalists know we will probably hear about "Guest at Your Table" boxes in November and be asked to contribute to the UU Service Committee either in cash or by check. But we may not think very much about the things the UUSC does all year or the other ways we can support their work. On this Sunday we will broaden and deepen our awareness of this incredible UU organization. It is a story we can be proud of.

***CASP Offering***

#### December 2

**Rev. Anne Hines, MaryBeth East**

In this season of shorter days and longer nights, can we find comfort and even courage from these words from the Psalmist? How might they guide us in our struggles to find inner peace? How might they speak to us in these troubling times in our nation, and in our world?

Rev. Felton-Hines retired fully in 2016 after over 30 years of parish ministry, all within our Pacific Southwest district. Since retirement she's worked as a Regional Transitions Coach for our Pacific Western Region, and a "Good Officer" for the Pacific Southwest UU Minister's Association. She also spends time with her family; volunteers at Ten Thousand Villages — a non-profit fair-trade store in Pasadena; serves on the Board of her local ACLU; and enjoys learning and performing new piano music.

***First Sunday Plate to the One Stop Shower Program at El Buen Pastor***

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# Message from the Minister

Our theme for November is Gratitude. It's that time of year when many of us and the larger culture puts their minds to what they are thankful for, at least for the day called Thanksgiving. In recent years, lots of folks have talked about the benefits of a "Gratitude Practice" for the 364 other days of the year. Everyone can benefit from making an effort to practice gratitude every day. Elie Wiesel once said, "When a person doesn't have gratitude, something is missing in his or her humanity. A person can almost be defined by his or her attitude toward gratitude." We have so much to be grateful for, even amidst these often-trying times. I challenge you to think of three things you are grateful for each day.

I actually keep a little Gratitude Journal next to my Meditation Chair where I do my morning practice most days. Recently I wrote that I am thankful for the increasing collaboration and relationship with our congregation down the way in Ventura. I attended a wonderful meeting there in October about immigration issues to which their Social Action Coordinating Committee invited us. Many of their members attend Gathering, concerts and other events at our congregation. Rev. Dana Worsnop and I will be doing a pulpit exchange on December 9<sup>th</sup>, as I will lead the service there and she will come here. Our boards held a joint retreat in August. And all six congregations in our Cluster in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties will be participating in a February retreat to kick off a series called Beloved Conversations. Collaboration is something for which to be grateful!

I also wrote that I was grateful to have been called to serve this small but mighty congregation in 2015. I am nearing the end of my fourth year with you and looking ahead to the fifth beginning in January. And I am grateful for my family living only a little over an hour away, rather than across the country. And I could go on....

What are you grateful for? A project named Raising Grateful Children has four points that are good for all of us to consider:

- ♦ What we **NOTICE** in our lives for which we can be grateful.
- ♦ How we **THINK** about why we have been given those things.
- ♦ How we **FEEL** about the things we have been given.
- ♦ What we **DO** to express appreciation in turn.

As we go through November I know I will be thankful for the visit of the AIDS quilts on November 4, the return of Rev. Melitta Haslund who grew up in this church to lead worship on November 11, sharing a cornbread communion together on November 18, our Affiliate Minister for Social Justice letting us know about all the activities of the UUSC beyond the Guest at Your Table boxes which we will be passing out this month, our concert by John Reed Torres on November 10, Rise Up Singing, ongoing meditation, yoga and other events in our Spiritual Growth Center and plans for the fourth Winter Solstice since I arrived. And I could go on...

What are YOU grateful for?

On the path of our faith,

Reverend Maddie

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# Message from the Canvass Committee

## 2019 Canvass Update

On Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 25 folks attended the morning service and stayed for a delicious pot luck. Thanks to all who attended and thanks to all who responded to the canvass letter.

To date, 16 pledges have been received totaling \$32,570 including \$2890 that are eligible for the MNL Capital Fund matching grant funds. Our 2019 pledge goal is \$77,000 and we are at 46% of that goal.

If you need an accounting of your 2018 pledge payments and total pledge amount, please contact Krystal Johnson, the church administrator.

Please submit all pledge cards by November 10. Thanks again for your support and engagement in our church community.

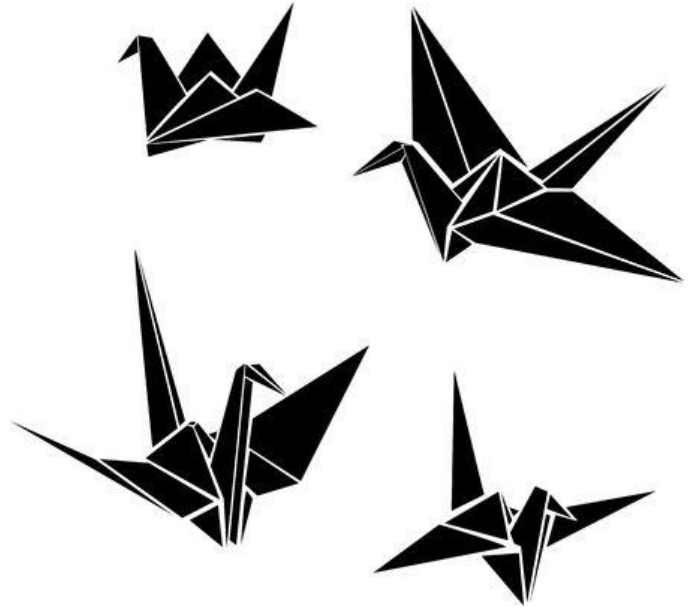
MaryBeth East and Patricia English



# Message from the RE Coordinator

“When A Woman Feels Alone” by May Sarton, a UU poet

‘When a woman feels alone, when the room  
is full of daemons,” the Nootka tribe  
Tells us, ‘The Old Woman will be there.”  
She has come to me over three thousand miles  
And what does she have to tell me, troubled  
“by phantoms in the night”?  
Is she really here?  
What is the saving word from so deep in the past?  
From as deep as the ancient root of the redwood,  
From as deep as the primal bed of the ocean,  
From as deep as a woman’s heart sprung open  
Again, through a hard birth or a hard death?  
Here under the shock of love, I am open  
To you, Primal spirit, one with rock and wave,  
One with survivors of flood and fire,  
Who have rebuilt their homes a million times,  
Who have lost their children and borne them again.  
The words I hear are strength, laughter, endurance.  
Old Woman I meet you deep inside myself.  
There in the rootbed of fertility,  
World without end, as the legend tells it.  
Under the words you are my silence.



## Peace Crane Update

Currently, the congregation has nearly 100 peace cranes made. In class, we are discussing how to string them in an artistic manner. More to follow as we get closer to our goal of 1,000 cranes...

## Upcoming RE Youth Classes

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

--Maya Angelou

This month, we are learning some new songs for our upcoming multi-generational Thanksgiving service. We are discussing both how the topic of the day relates to the art create and to our lives.



## Message from the RE Coordinator

Help us bring in the holiday spirit on Friday, November 30th as we come together to decorate our Christmas tree and the church sanctuary!

Often, I didn't put up a tree at all once becoming an adult, says Sushila. Then I had a family of my own and its importance became clear. Decorating for the holidays brings a flood of nostalgia and anticipation for a beautiful time of year, carrying our light together into the darker months. Join us to share in the family spirit of this lovely tradition.

We will decorate, sing and share refreshments. Come to help, to sing or just to enjoy the atmosphere.



Hosted by Sushila Wood and Erik Halseth.

# SINGING MEDITATION



**NOVEMBER 1, 2018 at 7:00 PM**

Singing Meditation is a contemplative hour which combines song/chant with short periods of silence. Songs will be eclectic and come from a number of spiritual paths including Unitarian Universalist, Taize, earth based, and world sources. Join in this spiritual practice led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. Suitable for beginners as well as experienced singers and/or meditators. Open to all.

Free will offering

Our last Singing Meditation of 2018 at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula will be on Thursday, November 1 at 7 PM in the Parish Hall, located at 740 E Main Street. Enter at the front left side gate and go up the stairs into the Parish Hall. Singing Meditation is a contemplative hour which combines sound with short periods of silence. This is not about performance for an audience but rather the blending of voices in simple song and chant interspersed with silence. Songs will be eclectic and come from a number of spiritual paths including Unitarian Universalist, Taize, earth based, and world sources. Join in this spiritual practice which is suitable for beginners as well as experienced singers and/or meditators or those who simply wish to listen. This group is open to all.



# Spiritual Growth Center



## GATHERING\*

### \*DEFINITION OF GATHERING

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

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

**7:00 PM**

You are invited to our Gathering for sound, silence  
and word as the sun goes down.

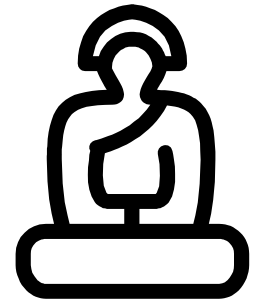
Led by Loni Kate English and friends

Free will offering for the Gathering musicians      Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa

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## MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall. We meet on Wednesdays at 6 PM. In November Rev. Maddie will lead on November 7 and Jim Cole will lead on November 28. There will be no Meditation on November 21 as it is the night before Thanksgiving. 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 on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620 or email [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org).



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## 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).

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## TAI CHI CHIH

On Friday mornings, we continue to offer T'ai Chi Chih, - Joy thru Movement, with Instructor Pete Gregory. Intermediate class 10:00 – 11:00 am and Beginner session 11:15 am – 12:15 pm. Often called a moving meditation, the movements are accessible to anybody, regardless of age weight or physical ability. 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).



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# People and Doings

## NEWS FROM AMONG US November 2018

- We have heard from our friend Janice Kreider who should be back with us at the beginning of November. They have begun their drive down the coast from Washington.
- Mary Nelson is at home and would love visits or phone calls from her Santa Paula friends. Her cell phone is 805-769-7752. She lives at 2052 Norma Street, Oxnard.
- Steve Lattimore is home from Rehab and walking with a cane. We hope to see him in church soon.
- Please let our administrator Krystal Johnson or Rev. Maddie know if you want to be added to our Birthday List.
- 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.

## OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL COVERAGE

Rev. Maddie will be taking her last days off of 2018 after our November Concert series concert, leaving on November 11 and returning in time for Rise Up Singing on November 16. Then at the end of the month she flies back to Boston on November 23 to preach a sermon at an Ordination at First Parish in Concord (MA) on November 25 and then sit on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Winter meeting, returning December 3. Rev. Betty will be providing pastoral coverage while she is gone. On normal days, she will be usually available in the office by appointment or pot luck drop in from Tuesday through Friday. 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, call her on her cell phone, 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.

## 4th QUARTER FIRST SUNDAY PLATE OFFERING

Our 4th Quarter First Sunday Offering recipient will be the One Stop Shower Program for the homeless, at El Buen Pastor Methodist Church, which is held in the parking lot of the church every Friday morning. In addition to the monetary offering that we collect the first Sunday of October, November and December, we are collecting donations of men's underwear and socks. There is a basket in the Parish Hall for the collection of these donations.

## LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

The Last Sunday of each month we collect canned goods, rice and beans and other non-perishable food for 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.

## REFLECTIONS

*It is always good to give thanks! All that we have is a gift from life: our food, our relationships, our shelter from the cold. And when we give thanks, it is always good to be mindful of all people, and notice those who are suffering and do what we can to ease suffering and change its causes. Today we give thanks, and we explore suffering. We must always do both together, so that our hearts are strong for the journey. ~ Myke Johnson*

All invited! What are you grateful for? We gather about once a month after coffee hour to share thoughts on the day's service, the monthly theme which this month is Gratitude, as well as ideas, information, concerns for our community and the world. Our next Reflections will be in Rev. Maddie's office on Sunday, November 18th as coffee hour winds down, a little after Noon.

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# People and Doings

## SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

presents

### THE WRONG MAN

Imagine a man who, mistaken for someone else, is accused of a string of armed robberies, and the more the innocent man cooperates with the police, the more guilty he appears. Alfred Hitchcock didn't need to fully imagine such a nightmare scenario, the story he tells in this film is true, as he explains in the film's unusual prologue. The result is equal parts film noir and documentary, but it is also a Hitchcock film in the sense that it deals with individuals who are drawn unwillingly into situations beyond their control or understanding. This particular source of terror is a theme Hitchcock revisited often in his films, but rarely with such directness. Of all Hitchcock's films, this one qualifies as possibly the least "hitchcockian" in tone and style, and the matter-of-fact presentation put off audiences and critics in 1956, who'd grown to expect stylish thrillers laced with black humor. But the film's reputation has grown to where today this departure can be considered prime Hitchcock. With Henry Fonda, Vera Miles, Anthony Quayle, and a number of interesting walk-ons. (1:45)

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

NOVEMBER 9, 2018



## THE MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

The Mary A's will meet Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Debbie Stone, facilitator for the Santa Clara Valley Hospice, will inform about her bimonthly grief support meetings "UNDERSTANDING THE JOURNEY." Sooner or later we all will personally benefit from her training and knowledge, as well as understanding how we can be of assistance to those we know and love as they navigate their own personal journey. Debbie also conducts classes at Ojai.

Note: this meeting is being held one week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

## WINTER SOLSTICE 2018: CHUCUMITE!

The group Chucumite is now confirmed for this year's Winter Solstice! Chucumite is a quartet of musicians who play 'son jarocho', the folk music of the southern portion of the Mexican state of Veracruz, on the Gulf coast of Mexico: John Robles, Robert Perales, David Salais, and Sean Hutchinson. We most recently heard Chucumite this year when they did a benefit for our vandalized stained-glass window. The Winter Solstice Celebration will be held on Friday, December 21 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary of the church. Let Rev. Maddie know if you want to join the singers, readers or work with her on the planning team. Please call or leave a message for Rev. Maddie at her private line at [805-525-4620](tel:805-525-4620) or email her at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org)

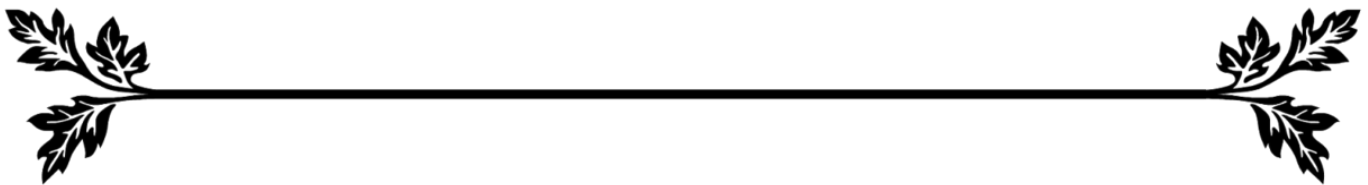
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# People and Doings

## THE SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

**MEETING** The Social Concerns Action Committee will meet Wednesday, November 14, 6:30 pm. This is our last monthly meeting for 2018. No film this month nor in December. Time to enjoy the holidays.

**ONE STOP SHOWER PROGRAM** for the homeless, at El Buen Pastor Methodist Church We are still collecting donations of men's underwear and socks. There is a basket in the Parish Hall for the collection of these donations.



## Get your Guest at Your Table box November 18



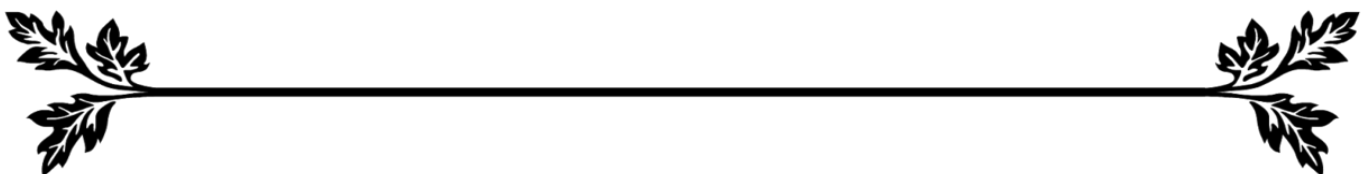
We will pass out the 2018 boxes during the service on November 18. Family members put change or bills in the box at mealtimes or other times. We will collect the boxes on Sunday, January 13 during the service. You can also write a check to the UUSC in lieu of putting money in the boxes. Checks made out the UUSC can be put with your offering in the plate on a Sunday or sent to the church to be collected together. Envelopes will be available in the Parish Hall or you can supply your own.

## What is Guest at Your Table?

Guest at Your Table is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about key human rights issues. Since UUSC works in over 25 countries, with over 75 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals involved in and who benefit from the work that our members make possible. The program is an opportunity to celebrate grassroots partnership, support human rights, and learn about just four of these individuals – the "guests" in Guest at Your Table.

## 2018-2019 Theme: Justice Across Borders

From the Northern Triangle of Central America, to deserts of Mexico and Arizona, to detention centers in the United States, the road away from danger is paved with injustices. Partnering with grassroots allies along the Central American migration trail, UUSC addresses root causes, supports migrants in transit, and protects the right to seek asylum. Join with UUSC for Guest at Your Table to learn more about UUSC's and our nation's involvement in Central America – historically and presently – and our courageous Migrant Justice partners.



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# People and Doings

## CARING COMMITTEE

We all need extra care sometimes. The Caring Committee of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula offers compassionate listening and support of congregants in times of special need as well as programming covering a variety of life issues. They are sponsoring a presentation by the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, “Living Within Your Means” on Wednesday, November 7 at 10:00 AM. The next regular meeting of the committee is Thursday, January 17 at 12:15 PM in Rev. Maddie’s office. Our new Caring Committee Chair is Karen Harris.

### CARING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE FOR 2018-2019

|                                                                                                                                   |                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, November 7                                                                                                             | 10:00 AM “Living Within Your Means”         |
| Sponsored by the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, the Ventura County Credit Union and the UUCSP Caring Committee, Parish Hall |                                             |
| Thursday, January 17                                                                                                              | 12:15 PM Committee meeting, Maddie’s Office |
| Thursday, February 21                                                                                                             | 12:15 PM Committee meeting, Maddie’s Office |
| Wednesday, February 27                                                                                                            | 10:00 AM “Free Legal Information Workshop”  |
| Sponsored by the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, Grey Law and the UUCSP Caring Committee, Parish Hall                        |                                             |
| Thursday, March 21                                                                                                                | 12:15 PM Committee meeting, Maddie’s Office |
| Thursday, April 18                                                                                                                | 12:15 PM Committee meeting, Maddie’s Office |
| Thursday, May 16                                                                                                                  | 12:15 PM Committee meeting, Maddie’s Office |



## COUNTY OF VENTURA Area Agency on Aging

### VCAAA and VCCU Bring Financial Workshop to Santa Paula’s Universalist Unitarian Church

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging and the Ventura County Credit Union will be offering Living Within Your Means, a financial workshop for older adults, at Santa Paula’s Universalist Unitarian Church on November 7 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. The workshop is offered in English and Spanish and is free and open to the public.

Designed to provide valuable financial information to individuals 60 and older, Living Within Your Means gives participants access to financial planning and budgeting resources. With a special focus on individuals on a fixed income, Living Within Your Means provides a full presentation from a VCCU financial specialist as well as one of the VCAAA’s Information and Assistance specialists. All participants will receive a workbook and will have the opportunity to ask individual questions.

For more information call (805) 477-7306. The Santa Paula Universalist Unitarian Church is located at 740 East Main St.

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# People and Doings

## The Wider Welcome

Our congregation kicked off its Welcoming Congregation program in 2001, chaired by Jerry Grey, which resulted in the earning of our Welcoming Congregation status by the UUA. The intention was to renew our status. The time has now come! Many Welcoming Congregations in the UUA confess to not having updated or reviewed their LGBTQ+ programs and outreach since the 1990s. As such, the UUA unveiled the Welcoming Congregations renewal program in 2015. The goal was, “To honor your original pledge, it’s essential that new people in the congregation understand your congregation’s commitment to this work and that people who were originally involved in the program and learn about the current needs and concerns of LGBTQ+ people.” Over the past three years, they have renewed 18 of our 800 Welcoming Congregations. It is now time for us to revisit the Welcoming Congregation and achieve Renewal Status. Please let Rev. Maddie or Jerry Grey know if you would like to be part of the planning.

## What is the Welcoming Congregations Five Pillars of Welcome Renewal program?

In 2018, we wish to be bolder with our Welcome. Transgender Unitarian Universalists are still struggling to find community in UU congregations. Bisexual UUs suffer from invisibility while asexual, intersex, and polyamorous communities are wrestling with a progressive faith that does not privilege their truth. These and the many more social ills that plague our LGBTQ+ and TGQNB communities are calling us into a deeper commitment to ensure that our Unitarian Universalist congregations are living into the Welcome that we boldly proclaim. As such, the UUA is unveiling The Five Pillars of Welcome Renewal, which are:

1. **Become a Welcoming Congregation**

We already are!

2. **Welcoming Worship Services**

We do that as part of our normal worship life and our service on November 4<sup>th</sup> with the visit of the AIDS quilt and short reflections by Rev. Maddie and Neil and Keith Coffman-Gray.

3. **Welcoming Days of Observance**

The third Pillar of Welcome Renewal is an annual recognition and celebration of the Welcoming Days of Observance. These days and seasons are important to LGBTQ+ / TGQNB communities because they bring visibility and affirmation after generations of invisibility and erasure. These days remind all that “All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.”

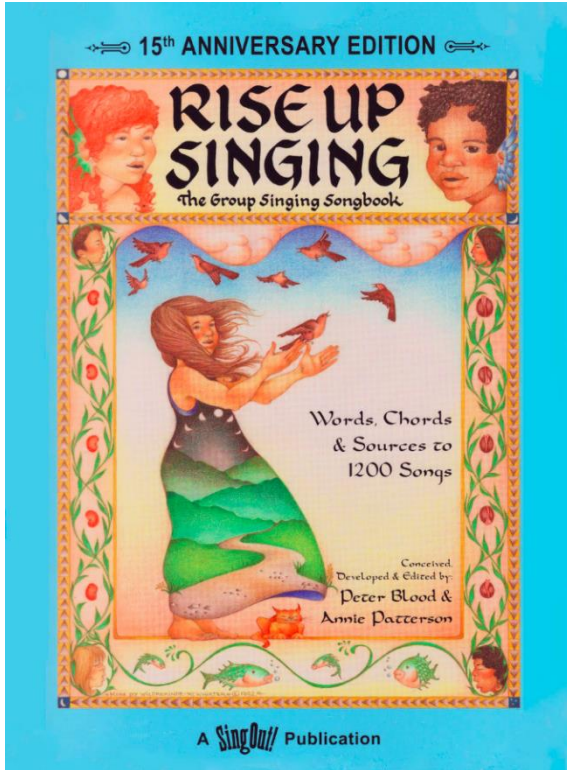
4. **Welcoming Congregation Module**

The fourth Pillar of Welcome Renewal is an annual opportunity for your congregation to experience a Welcoming Congregation Module. A WC module is a UUA approved seminar / webinar. Each year the UUA LGBTQ program office will offer at least one Welcoming Webinar engaging LGBTQ+ / TGQNB issues and topics. Welcoming Congregations may register for a webinar or may chose to sponsor a local seminar for its local congregation and community.

5. **Support a Welcoming Project**

The fifth Pillar of Welcome Renewal is Support a Welcoming Project. Welcoming Congregations are congregations that give generously of our gifts and resources. To remain current, WCs may donate a sizable donation to a local and national organization, campaign, or project that uplifts the dignity of LGBTQ+/TGQNB communities.

## People and Doings



JOIN US IN SINGING  
~ ALL AGES  
UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA  
PARISH HALL  
740 E MAIN STREET  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16  
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 AND DONNA NELSON

**CHOIR: SING!**

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

|             |         |                                      |               |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| November 15 | 4:30 PM | Choir Rehearsal                      |               |
| November 18 | 9:30 AM | Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service |               |
|             |         | We Bid You Welcome                   |               |
|             |         | Life Calls Us On                     | Jason Shelton |
| December 13 | 7:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal                      |               |
| December 16 | 9:30 AM | Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service |               |
|             |         | A Midnight Clear                     | Arr. Mac Huff |
| December 21 | 7:00 PM | Winter Solstice                      |               |
|             | TBA     |                                      |               |

# SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES

PRESENTS

## A RAGTIME RENDEZVOUS

John Reed-Torres, Pianist



Join Us for an Evening of Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Ragtime Piano Music by Scott Joplin & His Contemporaries, as well as Contemporary Ragtime by John Reed-Torres. Silent Film Shorts will be Featured.

**Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 Concert Fund.**

**UUCSP is a Registered Ventura County Historical Landmark**



# People and Doings



**The Santa Paula Concert Series** will present ragtime pianist John Reed Torres on Saturday, November 10th at 7:00 PM at the historic Universalist Unitarian Church, a Ventura Historical County landmark, located at 740 East Main Street, Santa Paula. It is handicapped accessible through the side gate.

Mr. John Reed-Torres is an Afro-Mexican-American, self-taught, against-the-grain pianist and composer from South Central Los Angeles. Reed-Torres is a rarity indeed who has become a nationally recognized pianist and composer of Ragtime.

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). Children 12 and under are \$10; children 5 and under are free. Proceeds benefit the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula Building and Historical Fund. For more information, call 805-525-4647 or email [uucspoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uucspoffice@gmail.com). A reception with the artist will follow.

**John Reed-Torres** is a Los Angeles native. The first time John recalls hearing Ragtime was during school recess in fourth grade when he heard an ice cream truck creeping along playing Scott Joplin's 'The Entertainer.' Right then and there the ragtime bug bit him and sparked his love for antiquity, ranging from architecture to automobiles.\

Shortly after that, John began to teach himself piano and continued throughout his middle school and high school days. working up performances of Scott Joplin rags and classical pieces. In 2009, John began studies at Pasadena City College and the Neighborhood Music School in Boyle Heights, where he was finally able to begin formal piano lessons through the generosity of scholarship donors. He has since performed at various venues around Los Angeles, including the Old Town Music Hall, where under founder Bill Field, John also serves as head projectionist and pre-show performer. In addition to West Coast, John has performed at the Blind Boone Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival, Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival, Orange County Ragtime Festival, Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival, Oakhurst Ragtime Festival, the Rose Leaf Club, the Jonathan Club, and the Los Angeles Country Club.

John has written ten rags and has collaborated on compositions with fellow Ragtime friends Michael Chisholm, Vincent Johnson, and Reginald Robinson John aspires to become a professional musician-composer-educator, and history teacher. Being of a diverse ethnic heritage, John believes music is a universal language, a link that connects us all. He wants to teach the history of ragtime to his generation and those that follow so everyone will recognize ragtime's important place in the development of culture and music.



## Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

*sponsored by the Santa Paula Ministerial Association*

**Monday, November 19, 2018**

*give thanks*

**6pm - Potluck • 7pm - Service**

**El Buen Pastor United Methodist Church  
1029 E Santa Paula Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060**

Freewill offering will go to benefit the shower program for the homeless at El Buen Pastor United Methodist Church.

For more information contact Rev. Lupita: [pitaalonso@outlook.com](mailto:pitaalonso@outlook.com) or 805.525.7268

## Calendar of Events

# NOVEMBER

| SUNDAY                                                                 | MONDAY                                           | TUESDAY                                                 | WEDNESDAY                       | THURSDAY                                                                                    | FRIDAY                                                                     | SATURDAY                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                        |                                                  |                                                         |                                 | <b>1</b><br>930am Yoga<br><br>7pm Singing Meditation                                        | <b>2</b><br>10&11:15am<br>T'aiChiChih                                      | <b>3</b>                                                |
| <b>4</b><br>1030AM Worship<br><br>1st Sunday Plate                     | <b>5</b>                                         | <b>6</b><br>Polling Place in the Parish Hall<br>NO Yoga | <b>7</b><br><br>6PM Meditation  | <b>8</b><br>930am Yoga                                                                      | <b>9</b><br>10&11:15am<br>T'aiChiChih<br><br>7PM Classic Movie Night       | <b>10</b><br>7 PM SP Concert Series<br>John Reed-Torres |
| <b>11</b><br>1030AM Worship                                            | <b>12</b>                                        | <b>13</b><br>NO Yoga<br><br>7PM Gathering               | <b>14</b><br><br>630PM SCAC mtg | <b>15</b><br>NO Yoga<br>1130am MaryA's<br><br>4:30pm Choir Rehearsal<br><br>630pm Board mtg | <b>16</b><br>10&11:15am<br>T'aiChiChih<br><br>7PM RiseUp Singing           | <b>17</b>                                               |
| <b>18</b><br>930am Choir Reh<br><br>1030AM Worship<br>12PM Reflections | <b>19</b><br>7PM Thanksgiving Interfaith Service | <b>20</b><br>NO Yoga                                    | <b>21</b>                       | <b>22</b><br>NO Yoga<br><br>Thanksgiving                                                    | <b>23</b><br>10&11:15am<br>T'aiChiChih                                     | <b>24</b>                                               |
| <b>25</b><br>1030AM Worship                                            | <b>26</b>                                        | <b>27</b><br>NO Yoga                                    | <b>28</b><br><br>6pm Meditation | <b>29</b><br>930am Yoga                                                                     | <b>30</b><br>10&11:15am<br>T'aiChiChih<br><br>6PM Holiday Decorating Party |                                                         |

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



THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street

Santa Paula, CA 93060

Office: 805-525-4647

[uucspoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uucspoffice@gmail.com)

[www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org)



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Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am

Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Minister, Choir Director

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Affiliate Minister

Erik Halseth, Religious Education Coordinator

Krystal Johnson, Office Administrator

Vincent Sorisio, Church Musician

Albie Alamillo, Custodian

Board of Trustees:

John Nichols

Kate English

Jerry Gray

Patricia English

Luisa Haskell



Newsletter deadline Wednesday, November 21

*Dated Material  
Time Value*

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