



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

MAY 2016 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



MAY 1

Rev. Maddie & Mary Nelson, "Beltane: The Merry Month of May"

Wear your spring finest including a head wreath if you have one (or flowers in your hair, on your lapel or in your mind) and join our celebration of Beltane (May Day), complete with a May Pole and coffee hour in our Memorial Rose Garden.

First Sunday Plate to CAUSE

MAY 8

Rev. Maddie & Donna Hamer, "A Mother's Love"

Reflections on Mother's Day - on being a mother, birth mothers and those who may have mothered us.

MAY 15

Rev. Ken Collier & Kate English, "Revelation is Not Sealed"

We usually think that truth comes through reason, science, mathematics, that sort of thing. But suppose, just suppose, there is another source of truth. Suppose truth can also be revealed. Then what? As one of our hymns has it, "Revelation is not sealed."

MAY 22

Rev. Maddie Sifantus & Allen Noel, "Liberty Clause: Fifth Principle"

Rev. Maddie's sermon series on the Seven Principles continues with Principle Five: the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

MAY 29

Rev. Maddie Sifantus & Pat English, "There is a Time"

On this Memorial Day weekend, we reflect on those we have lost and the issues that all may face at the end of life.

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

As I am writing this in April, I am visiting my brother Harris' lovely home in La Quinta, California where the thermometer outside the room where I sit with my laptop reads 100 degrees! At this time last year, I was spending my first spring in Southern California. I remarked that since I came from the Northeast, my experience was of the marked difference between the cold and snowy winter months with the explosion of color and feel of the warm sun on your skin that spring brings there. I wondered if I would ever notice spring coming to Santa Paula...and this year I certainly did! There were trees I can see from my house which lost their leaves, my rosebushes and those in our Memorial Garden at the church were severely cut back, my heat came on in my house a number of days, and my warm jacket made its way out of the back of my closet. Now the flowers are in full, riotous display, and we have already had some very warm days. Spring is here and with it Cinco de Mayo which we will mark with our Santa Paula Concert Series' of Chucumite, with John Robles and friends. I hope you will attend and that some of you will volunteer to help greet concert goers, take tickets, and help Ruth Ricards with the reception. It is wonderful to welcome the community into our lovely sanctuary and make some money for our historic building and to upgrade our sound system at the same time. Another sign of spring is Beltane, otherwise known as May Day. We will mark that Sunday morning with another earth-based service, ending with a May Pole and Coffee Hour outdoors. Again, please let Ruth and I know if you can help with the festivities. May ends with Memorial Day and I will be doing a special service inspired by "For Everything There is a Season".

A fragment of a poem by e. e. cummings inspires me as we move into May:

spring is like a perhaps
Hand in a window
(carefully to
and fro moving New and
Old things, while
people stare carefully
moving a perhaps
fraction of flower here placing
an inch of air there) and
without breaking anything.

On the path of our faith, Reverend Maddie Sifantus

Message from the Board President

Spring is a great time to look forward and plan new projects. The Board requested and received two proposals for a project to rebuild the wayside pulpit and install lighting in the front of the church. The proposals will be available for you to review and a meeting planned to gather input and feedback from the congregation. Funding was put into the 2016 to “seed” this project with the understanding that additional funds will need to be raised. There are options to do the work in phases and modify the selected proposal to meet our needs and budget. A meeting will be scheduled soon to review the proposals.

Since 1891, our church has been officially called “First Universalist Parish of Santa Paula” according to the State of California. It’s time to correct the name on file with the state to coincide with the name on our bank accounts. On May 22, we will hold a congregational meeting to vote on the name change. Please be there for this historic event.

Please consider helping out on a Sunday morning by offering to be a greeter, usher or chalice lighter. For activities requiring a bit more planning, sign up for coffee hour or provide flowers for the altar. Thank you to all who work behind the scenes to make our church a welcoming, vibrant place.

Next Board meeting is Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6:30. All are welcome.

In wonder and gratitude,
MaryBeth East

News from Among Us

- ❖ We were happy to hear that our friend Janice Kreider did not need to leave the KOA Campground early, and we will be happy when she returns in the fall from her summer sojourn. We are sad to hear of the death of her great grandson at one month old in Japan.
- ❖ Our thoughts are with Pat English after her breast cancer surgery and are glad that it went well.
- ❖ Rev. Maddie sat on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee at the UUA in April, giving fellowship to a number of new ministers and presenting the Odyssey of her path to ministry and in ministry. She presented two workshops later in the month to seminarians at the Pacific Southwest District’s In Care Retreat at Camp de Benneville Pines. She participated in the Saturday morning worship at the PSWD’s District Assembly.
- ❖ Rev. Maddie thanks whoever left her a black beaver stuffed puppet in her mail box. She would love to thank whoever in person.

Message from the RE Coordinator

The RE children had fun hunting for Easter eggs...



Here are some pictures of the RE kids playing with the new toys that were donated to the RE program by Jason Johnson.

*4-ever learning,
Ruth Ricards
RE Coordinator*

People and Doings

First Sunday Plate Recipient for Second Quarter

Our First Sunday offerings the second quarter of 2016 will benefit CAUSE, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy which now has an office in Santa Paula. CAUSE's two big projects this year are 1) to get out the vote and 2) the Farm Worker Bill of Rights, a campaign using the powers of local governments to curb the labor abuses like wage theft experienced by far too many workers in the fields.

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, May 22

Immediately following the church service on May 22, the Board of Trustees will hold a congregational meeting to officially change the name of our church from the First Universalist Parish of Santa Paula to the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. This action will correct the name listed on the original incorporation papers filed with the state and the current name on bank accounts and by which we are known. Please address questions to any Board member. The proposed motion states: The First Article of Incorporation of said corporation be amended from "First Universalist Parish of Santa Paula" to "Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula."

Membership

Please make an appointment with Rev. Maddie Sifantus if you are ready to sign the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula membership book and call this community your spiritual home. Rev. Maddie will be happy to talk to you about the path to membership, what membership means and get to know you better.

Why I Do This Job...

Some of you may wonder why I give up most of my Sundays to go downstairs to be with the children. I must admit at times I do feel left out of what is going on upstairs and I am hoping in the future that the sermons will be recorded to hear at another time. But until then, I feel committed to our UU children. Why? Well, beside the fact that they are brilliant and blow me away with their imaginary thoughts, lately I have noticed some interactions between the adult church members and our kids. There was the morning when a little one waved goodbye to Steve (Lattimore) and I couldn't help but notice Steve's eyes light up as he smiled back. On another Sunday, a child said, "There goes my surprise buddy, Leslie (Nichols)". Obviously, the surprise buddy program was a memorable time for her. Last Sunday, a little one blew a kiss goodbye to Margaret (Wilson). How precious! Then there was the time when I was driving through The Oaks and there was Allan (Atmore) in front of his house talking to one of our UU families. Allan always makes time to greet our children. Of course, I need to let you know that my heart sings when the little ones run into church and prefer to sit next to me rather than their parents! Oh yeah, and when they want to sit on my lap for Time for All Ages. I get my "grandmother fix" every Sunday. So the next time you see one of our cherished UU children during coffee hour, please take a moment to acknowledge them. Believe me, we receive much more from them than they do from us. Just saying.

Submitted by Ruth Ricards, RE Coordinator & Member

Cruise Night

Santa Paula Cruise Nights have started up once again on the first Friday of each month through October. Ken Stock and Rev. Maddie sit at a table in front of the church greeting passersby, talking about our congregation and having literature available. Ken gives tours of our historic building and allows folks to ring the bell! We have tickets available for sale for our concert series. We usually are there from about 5 PM until sundown. Come by and say hello...or come by and sit a spell at the table.

Child Dedications

Unitarian Universalists believe that every child brings new life and hope into the world. We set aside a special time, either as part of a Sunday morning service or a time when only the family gathers, to do a Ceremony of Dedication. We take this time to celebrate the life of the child and the blessing he or she is upon our world and in our community. Our Flower Communion Service on Sunday, June 5th might be a good all church occasion to dedicate a child. If you are interested in having your child dedicated, please speak to Rev. Maddie. Every night a child is born is a holy night--a time for singing, a time for wondering, a time for worshipping. (Sophia Lyon Fahs)

People and Doings

Odyssey with The Minister

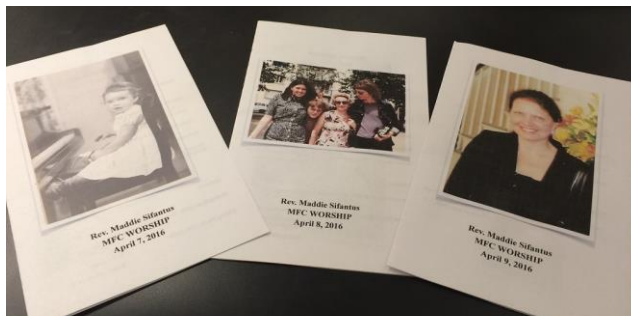
Since the announcement of Rev. Maddie's Odyssey never made the March newsletter, she is willing to repeat it this summer. Please let her know if you are interested and she will schedule it in June, late July or August. Here is the original announcement: Rev. Maddie serves on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. This is the group that credentials our ministers and deals with issues of our professional ministry, from seminarians/Candidates through the Renewal Process and the whole arc of ministry.

It means three times a year and each time one of its members is chosen to present their "Odyssey". This time it was Rev. Maddie's turn.

An Odyssey comes from the original Odyssey written by Homer but in this case means:

- 1: a long wandering or voyage usually marked by many changes of fortune
- 2: an intellectual or spiritual wandering or quest

Expect to see pictures from her lifetime and hear music from her teens through her recording and performing career. Time and day to be announced.



Hindsight, Humor and Hope - HHH

The first "HHH" group which is asking "Who, me, an elder?" is nearing its final two sessions but the good news is a second group will be starting on Thursday, May 19 at noon and will meet monthly for the full six sessions into the fall! Please let Rev. Maddie know if you want to join this second group. The next meeting of Group One will be Tuesday, May 3 from 11 AM to 1 PM. Please bring a brown bag lunch. You may want to review your existing Five Wishes document, if you have one. Copies of the document will be available for a donation of \$1 to \$5 (sliding scale) to defray costs. The remaining workshops for the first group cover the following: May 3 Workshop 5: Making Friends with Mortality & June 7 Workshop 6: Hindsight, Humor, and Hope

Meditation Practice Group

Our Meditation Group is led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus in the Parish Hall. We will be meeting in May on Wednesdays, May 4 and 18 at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. 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 on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620.

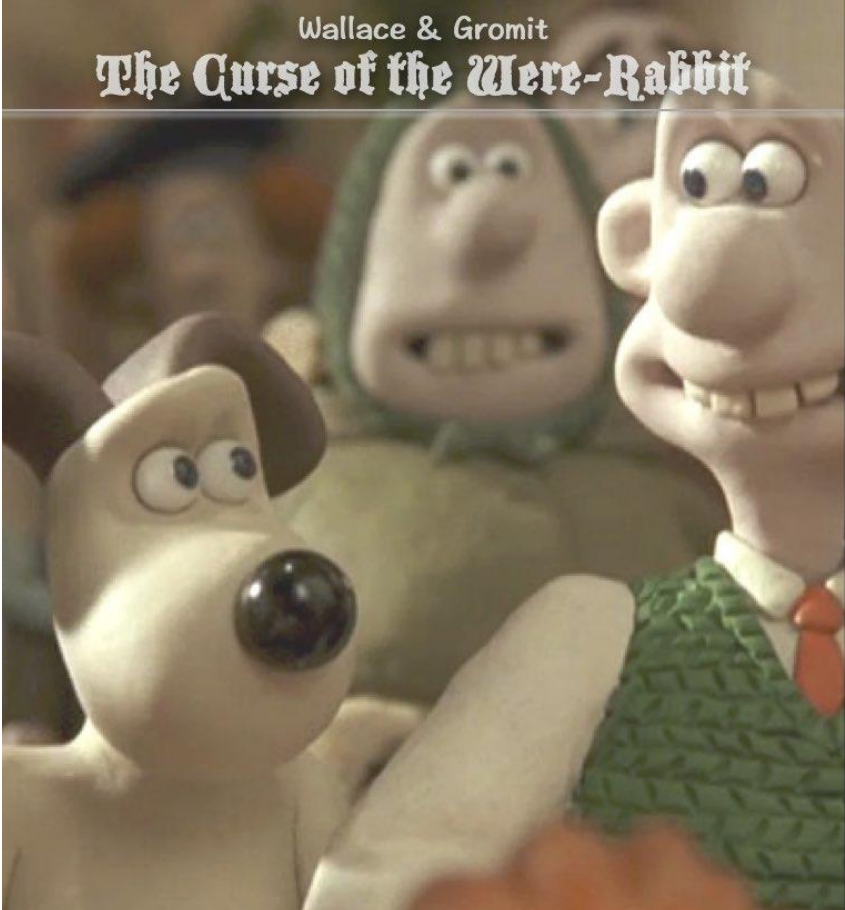
What Is Chucumite?

Our next concert in our Santa Paula Concert series will help us all celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a festive 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. The concert will be Saturday, May 7 at 7 PM in our sanctuary. Chucumite is comprised of John Robles, who plays 'arpa jarocho', or Veracruz folk harp; Robert Perales, who plays 'jarana jarocho'; Sean Hutchinson, who plays 'leona', a large, 4 stringed instrument plucked with a plectrum of cowhorn; and David Salais, who plays 'requinto jarocho', a smaller 4 string instrument, also plucked with a plectrum. Robles and Perales have been performing together for over twenty years, and are described by folklorist and son jarocho scholar Rafael Figueroa Hernandez as "exponents of son jarocho for many years, who as good creative musicians belong to the jarocho tradition but whose music, at the same time, has been influenced by that which is happening around it". Hutchinson joined the group in 2009, and Salais in 2015. Chucumite's self titled CD was released in 2009 and rapidly found a warm reception among lovers of world music, and it has sold in many countries all around the globe. *cont. next page*

People and Doings

Admission is \$20 donation at the door, from the church office during office hours, at coffee hour on May 1, at Cruise Night or by PayPal on the church's website: 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 and to build up the infrastructure such as the PA and lights. UUCSP is a registered Ventura County Historical Landmark. For more information, call 805-525-4647 or email uucspoffice@gmail.com.

Classic Movie Night



Wallace & Gromit
The Curse of the Were-Rabbit

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY
PRESENTS

Who can save the townsfolk from the ravages of pesky vegetable-eating beasts, including one *too horrible* to imagine? In director Nick Park's world, none but the titled clever pooch and his completely daft master. This mash-up film is part horror flick send-up, part religious and social satire, and all snaggleteeth, weird hair, shameless puns, cheese, and so much more inventive nonsense. As every great family film should be, this one is a mix of action gags broad enough to delight the kiddies, and some just for adults. It's all rendered in flawless stop-motion animation and voiced by Helena Bonham Carter, Ralph Fiennes, and Peter Sallis, among others—all of whom are gloriously in on the joke. Just as we will be after watching this beautifully crafted and hugely entertaining funny-bone feast (2005; 1:25). With a short, TBA.

MAY 13 2016

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

People and Doings

<p>REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS</p>	<p>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. 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 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.</p>
<p>CHRISTINE'S OFFICE HOURS</p>	<p>Please note that Christine has changed her office hours to Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you need to reach her outside of those hours, email her at uucspoffice@gmail.com or leave a message at 805 525-4647.</p>
<p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>Please submit your June newsletter items to Christine at uucspoffice@gmail.com by Saturday, <u>May 21</u>.</p>
<p>FIRST SUNDAY PLATE Sunday, May 1</p>	<p>Our first quarter First Sunday plate offerings will benefit CAUSE.</p>
<p>HINDSIGHT, HUMOR, AND HOPE GROUP 1 Tuesday, May 3, 11:00 am</p>	<p>Workshop will be held in the Parish Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch.</p>
<p>MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP Wednesday, May 4, 6:00 pm</p>	<p>All are invited to a meditation practice group in the Parish Hall led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. 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). For more information, leave a message on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620.</p>
<p>RE COMMITTEE MEETING Friday, May 6, 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Committee will meet in Minister's office.</p>
<p>CRUISE NIGHT Friday, May 6, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Rev. Maddie and Ken Stock will be in attendance at a table in front of the church, having brochures about our church and Unitarian Universalism. Drop by or spend some time with Maddie and Ken between 5-7 PM.</p>
<p>SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS: JOHN ROBLES & CHUCUMITE Saturday, May 7, 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Join us as Santa Paula native John Robles and his ensemble, Chucumite, present a concert of exciting folk music of Veracruz, Mexico, performed on traditional folk instruments. Donation \$20, children 12 & under \$10, free for children under 5. Proceeds benefit the UUCSP Building and Historical Fund. See pages 10 for more information.</p>
<p>HYMN SING Sunday, May 8, 10:10 am</p>	<p>Our next Hymn Sing will be before the service on May 8 at 10:10 AM. It is a good time to learn some less familiar hymns and songs. All are invited. Rev. Maddie will take requests by the Wednesday before. What is your favorite UU hymn? The prelude will start at its usual time just before 10:30 AM.</p>
<p>WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Sunday, May 8, 12:00 pm</p>	<p>Committee will meet in Minister's office.</p>
<p>CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT Friday, May 13, 7:00 pm</p>	<p>The Santa Paula Cinema Society presents <i>Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit</i>. Admission is free. Bring your own snacks.</p>
<p>CARING COMMITTEE Wednesday, May 18, 2:00 pm</p>	<p>Committee will meet in Minister's office.</p>

People and Doings

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP Wednesday, May 18, 6:00 pm	All are invited to a meditation practice group in the Parish Hall led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. 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). For more information, leave a message on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620.
HINDSIGHT, HUMOR, AND HOPE GROUP 2 Tuesday, May 19, 12:00 pm	The first workshop for Group 2 will be held in the Parish Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Thursday, May 19, 6:30 pm	All members of the congregation are welcome to attend. Contact Board President MaryBeth East at 805-341-8809 if you have any questions.
STAFF MEETING Friday, May 20, 10:00 am	Staff will meet in Minister's office.
SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING Friday, May 20, 12:00 pm	Committee will meet in the Parish Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch, tea provided.
ARTS & CRAFTS: SCRAPBOOKING Saturday, May 21, 10:00 am	Scrapbook for beginners: We will do two pages for an album, the size will be 12 inches x 12 inches. Please bring 6 pictures, it can be more if you want, it doesn't matter if they are big or small, preferable with a similar theme. It could be friends, family or pets. The plan is to do a page layout with frames for the photos and stickers. For example, if you would like to bring a ticket for a concert you attended and pictures from the event. Anything that is special to you. Our host teacher for the class and scrapbooking wiz, Gemma (pronounced Hemma), will bring variety of 12x12 color pages, frames, stickers, markers, everything to make a couple of cute pages to save your pictures in scrapbook format. She will be bringing an album to show examples of the ones that she has done. Please RSVP to Delicia. As always, any donations are appreciated but not necessary. All donations will go to Gemma for teaching this class.
CAMP WANNAGO Saturday, May 21, 6:00 pm	Mark your calendars for May 21 at 6 pm to attend Camp Wannago! The evening will be filled with fun, food, crafts, campfire songs and s'mores! Our goal is to raise \$420 to send Yvette to junior high summer camp at Camp de Benneville Pines. We hope you join us. For more information, please contact Ruth Ricards, RE Coordinator at uucspre@gmail.com.
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, May 22, After Services	Immediately following the church service, the Board of Trustees will hold a congregational meeting to officially change the name of our church from the First Universalist Parish of Santa Paula to the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula.
MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY Thursday, May 26, 11:30 am	Mary A's will meet at our new location, Flight 126 Café.
DINNER & A MOVIE Friday, May 27 Potluck: 5:45 pm (new time) Film: 7:00 pm	<i>How Big Oil Conquered the World</i> , produced and researched by James Corbett and the team at Corbetteport.com, tells the story of the influence of oil in modern society from farm to pharmaceutical, diesel truck to dinner plate, pipeline to plastic product and foundations to education. Corbett weaves a story of how oil shaped the modern world. The oil-igarchy may be on the verge of monopolizing life itself. Discussion follows. (<i>Be green; bring your place setting to potluck like we did in the olden days.</i>)
CASP FOOD DRIVE Sunday, May 29	The children will collect the non-perishable food items for CASP during the service. Please bring your food items with you into the sanctuary for collection.

SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES

PRESENTS

JOHN ROBLES

&

CHUCUMITE



Join Us as Santa Paula Native John Robles and His Ensemble, Chucumite, present a Concert of Exciting Folk Music of Veracruz, Mexico, Performed on Traditional Folk Instruments!

Saturday, May 7th 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

May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 First Sunday Plate	2	3 HHH Grp 1 11 am	4 Meditation Practice Group, 6 pm	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 RE Comm., 4 pm Cruise Night, 5-7pm	7 Chucumite Concert, 7pm
8 Hymn Sing 10:10am Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13 Classic Movie Night, 7 pm	14
15	16	17	18 Caring Comm., 2:00 pm Meditation Practice Group, 6 pm	19 HHH Grp 2, 12pm Board Meeting 6:30 pm	20 Staff Mtg, 10:00 am SCAC, 12pm	21 Arts & Crafts, 10am Camp Wannago, 6pm <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>
22 Congregational Meeting, 12pm	23	24	25	26 Mary A's 11:30 am	27 Dinner & a Movie, Potluck 5:45 pm Film 7 pm	28
29 CASP	30 Memorial Day	31	27	28	29	30

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 740 East Main Street
 Santa Paula, CA 93060

Dated Material
Time Value