

### Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

#### **AUGUST 2016 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM**



#### August 7 Seventh Principle

Rev. Maddie, Kate English

Rev. Maddie's sermon series on the Seven Principles concludes with a consideration of the Seventh Principle: "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part," or as our children say, "We respect the earth and all living things."

First Sunday Plate Forever Found

#### August 14 Sure of You: A Stuffed Animal Blessing Service Rev. Maddie, Donna Hamer

Once in a while we need to carry the spirit of the child with us to navigate the waters of life. Once in a while we need our children and grandchildren to show us the way to both find joy and be comforted. Do you have a stuffed animal or a doll who still speaks to you, who you can be sure of in the changing landscape of life? The children will be with us to share the classic story of the Velveteen Rabbit. The rest of the service will be an adult consideration of the theme. The service will be followed by a Teddy Bears Picnic in our Memorial Garden.

#### August 21 Holy Manners

Rev. Maddie, Pat English

We are seemingly surrounded by uncivil behavior in the world around us. How can the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism and our congregation's "Our Practices and Ideals" document act as guides and covenant in our church family?

#### August 28 My Least Favorite UU Joke

Rev. Anne Hines, Mary Nelson

There are a lot of very funny jokes about Unitarian Universalism, some of which Rev. Hines has even used in her Orientations for people new to our faith. But there is one that she never repeats. Come learn which one it is, and why she hopes we'll make it obsolete. Rev. Hines has recently ended her service as Interim Minister at the Conejo Valley UU Fellowship, and now intends to really retire (which she did officially in 2014, after over 30 years of ministry).

CASP food offering

### Message from the Minister

How are you doing with your summer plans? My vacation and study leave turned out to be less restful than anticipated, with a good amount of "go with the flow" involved—but I guess that is like life! Despite planning things down to the day, some shifts happened as a long time yearly Fourth of July gathering was canceled, along with some other things, and others were added. The highpoints included the two concerts, one with my accordion player Richard Conti at an assisted living facility I have been performing at for more than 15 years and a house concert with my band TVS (The Vocal Section). Other high points were two weddings, one at Wellesley College and one in Lexington on the Freedom Trail.

I am beginning research on Universalists in Maine, especially as concerns some of our founders. I preached at the Universalist church in Pittsfield, Maine and interviewed their minister and worship chair. I stayed with a colleague who serves the Universalist church in Waterville, Maine and lives in Winslow, which turns out to be where the Hardison family lived before they moved to Caribou. I spent a wonderful day in Rockland, Maine with three of our UU historians, the Reverends Peter Tufts Richardson, Andrea Greenwood and Mark Harris. Peter had just finished his 17th chapter of his upcoming book on the Universalists and Unitarians of Maine and copied the pages on Aroostock County where Caribou is located for me. Mark loaned me the book "The Maine Book On Universalism" which was published in 1953. Sitting in Peter's tree lined study, I realized that my interest in our founders and early Universalism will send me down a lengthy but interesting path over the next few years. I will hope to get to Caribou on another trip as it is at the very northern tip of Maine, pointing to the interior of New Brunswick. Peter did give me a picture of the church which you can see along with pictures of our congregations in Pittsfield and Waterville.

May the rest of your summer send you down unexpected and intriguing paths.

On the path of our faith, Reverend Maddie







### Message from the Board President

President Message

Short message this month as the board gathered at the end of July for its annual retreat. Next month, I'll share our discussions and goals for the upcoming church year.

Next Board meeting is Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 6:30. All are welcome.

In wonder and gratitude, MaryBeth East

### Message from the RE Coordinator



#### 2016-17 Religious Education Curriculum

This year will be following the UUA Tapestry of Faith, Chalice Children curriculum. The authors of the curriculum are Katy Covey and Pat Kahn and they claim the purpose of the program is to introduce the basic tenets of our UU faith to young children and their families. Those tenets are love, our covenantal community, our celebration of diversity, a personal sense of wonder and awe, and our hope and work for a better world. The curriculum is geared towards preschool children between the ages of 2-5 years. "In the preschool years, at about four or five years old, young children start to

realize that they and their loved ones will come to an end. As they become aware of realities such as death, suffering, violence, and evil, young ones also need the reassurance of love, joy, beauty, good, hope, and community. Helping children find that balance is a goal of the Chalice Children curriculum." If you are interested in more information about the program, please visit the UUA website at http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/chalicechildren.

#### Consider Volunteering in RE this School Year

The RE school year begins on August 14th so we will be asking for the congregation to help assist the teachers downstairs in RE. Please us out this year. It gives you a chance to get to know the children learn what we are teaching to our children and youth.



volunteers from consider helping better and to



#### Welcome Lana Moore to the RE Team!

Yvon will be on maternity leave beginning August 1. We are not sure when she will be returning to work but she hopes sooner than later. To keep our RE program functioning, we have hired Lana Moore to assist in RE during Yvon's absence. Lana has been a substitute teacher at the Ventura Montessori School and recently received her Montessori Elementary Diploma. She brings a lot of experience and enthusiasm with her so, the next time you see Lana, please welcome her aboard!

4-ever learning, Ruth Ricards RE Coordinator

News	From	Among	$\mathbf{U}\mathbf{s}$
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**	☐ 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.
*	Our thoughts are with Luisa Haskell and her two sons in the loss of Don after a long struggle
	with MS. His services were held at the Sacred Heart Church in Ventura on July 6.
*	Our thoughts are with Sushilla Wood in the loss of her grandmother. It can be difficult to lose
	someone when halfway across the world.
*	We are excited to share Ruth Ricards joy as she prepares for her daughter's wedding

#### First Sunday Plate Recipient for Third Quarter

Our 3rd Quarter recipient for 1st Sunday plate collection is Forever Found: "By awakening our communities to the cries of sexually trafficked and oppressed children, inspiring people everywhere to DO SOMETHING, and strategically enabling the rescue of more and more children globally Forever Found is seeing lives restored!" Through focusing on awareness, prevention and rescue, Forever Found aims to not only rescue thousands of children from modern day slavery, but address the underlying causes of child trafficking. You can find more information at http://www.foreverfound.org

#### **Meditation Practice Group**

Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall. Our meetings in August will be August 3, 17 and 31 at 6:00 PM. 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.

#### Winter Solstice 2016 Planning Group

Please join Rev. Maddie and Donna Nelson on Wednesday, August 3 at 7 PM in the Parish Hall to begin planning for Winter Solstice 2016 which will be on Wednesday, December 21 at 7 PM in our Sanctuary. This year's version will likely be based around a sort of a Mummer's play in the style of the Middle Ages and will include music and Madrigals. We are looking at adapting "The Jester's Test" by Paul Brandvik. We will need speaking parts, singers and musicians and are hoping to draw folks from other congregations, the schools and the community. Please join us for the fun!

#### Hindsight, Humor and Hope 2

The second HHH group continues and is now closed to new participants. Our next meeting is Thursday, August 18 from Noon to 2 PM. Please remember to bring your lunch and your art kit. Continue to work on your life map at home; you will be bringing it back to Workshop 6 on October 20th. If you want to meet with Rev. Maddie privately about issues that may have been raised for you in the HHH series, please be in touch with her to schedule a meeting. The three remaining workshops are:

Workshop 4, August 18: Creating New Visions – Building on Experience Workshop 5, September 15: Making Friends with Mortality Workshop 6, October 20: Hindsight, Humor, and Hope

#### **Concert Planning Committee**

All those interested in working on our Santa Paula Concert Series will meet with Rev. Maddie and committee members on Thursday, August 25 at 7 PM. We have presented 7 concerts in a little over a year and have 4 more in the works. We need many hands to help the series raise funds for our historic building and the sound and lights needed to present these concerts. Help with production, marketing, budgeting, planning the receptions and more. Let's keep bringing new people in our doors and present quality art and music to Santa Paula and beyond

#### The Mary A's

The Mary A. Livermore Society is the oldest, continuously meeting women's group in Ventura County. Established in the 1890's, the Mary A's support causes that include end-of-life issues, reproductive rights, and other women's issues in the spirit of Mary A. Livermore who worked for women's education as well as abolition and temperance. There are currently 11 active members.

The Mary A's have consistently supported through direct donations to the following organizations:

**RAIN** Transitional Housing

Community Assistance of Santa Paula (CASP)

Spirit of Santa Paula

Tri-County PPH

FINCA (Women's International Bank/project finance)

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

Marjorie Newlin Leaming Capital Fund

Meetings are currently held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11:30 am at Flight 126 Cafe in Santa Paula. Under discussion is changing the meeting date to a Saturday to accommodate working women.

Membership dues are presently insufficient to continue funding direct donations to all of these charities. To increase funding for selected charities, the Mary A's are offering two classes of membership, as follows:

Member \$30 - for those who attend the meetings and support the group's mission.

Friend \$20 \_\_\_\_\$30 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_Other amount (specify amount) \$\_\_\_\_ and above - for those who wish to support the Mary A. Livermore Society's mission but are unable to attend the meetings. Please consider joining the Mary A's to support its charitable work in the larger community. Dues and contributions are tax deductible under IRS 501(c)(3).

The Mary A's also welcome your legacy support by designating Mary A. Livermore Society as a beneficiary in your estate plan, as Marjorie Learning, Gerri Gray, and others have done.

#### Go Solar- Go Green

The Ojai Valley Green Coalition in collaboration with Santa Barbara based Community Environmental Council, launched Solarize 126 on August 1, a three-month long group-purchasing program designed to make it easier and more affordable for Santa Clara River Valley homeowners to add solar electricity to their homes. In the month when Rev. Maddie is talking about the Seventh Principle, having more information about solar is of interest. To learn more about solar, come to an introductory workshop in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, August 30 from 6-7:30 PM. You may also visit Solarize126.org or call the Coalition at (805) 669-8445.

#### Dinner and a Movie

The Social Concerns Action Committee presents *The Age of Aluminum*, an award winning film by Bert Ehgartner. It "puts us on notice. The evidence is alarming, yet the film's approach is an even-keeled, determined story line."—Film Threat. Special sticker awards for all who remember to be green, and bring your own place setting to the potluck.



#### Bring Your Stuffed Animal or Lovey Object

Children and adults of all ages are encouraged to bring a special stuffed animal to our Sunday Service on August 14th. Do you still have your special teddy from childhood or have you bought one or been given one as an adult? There will be a time in the service for you to say a couple of words about what your teddy (or your child's) has meant to you.

#### Teddy Bear Picnic! Sunday, August 14, 2016

Pack a picnic lunch and grab your teddy bear (or other stuffed animal) and blanket and join us in the church's courtyard for a Teddy Bear Picnic immediately following the Sunday service. We will have some folding chairs available for those in need.



#### Classic Movie Night



# SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

PRESENTS

This "Slither" is not that movie about snakes! The title is apropos of nothing, which pretty much describes the entire thing. James Caan plays a dim-bulb ex-con who inadvertently gets himself involved in a hunt for a pile of filched cash, and finds himself in league with world's flakiest stickup artist (Sally Kellerman) and a small-time con man (Peter Boyle). Most of what happens next makes very little sense, but it's a lot of fun to watch. Hardly anyone saw this film when it was released in 1973, but it deserves to be remembered as one of the more underrated comedies of the decade. Not because it's deep (far from it), but because this '70s take on the screwball comedies of earlier decades was made to be so unapologetically silly during a period when filmmakers were earnestly in pursuit of realism and relevancy. The snappy direction is by Howard Zieff, who made his name shooting funny TV commercials. It shows, but in a good way. A worthy summer diversion. (1:37)

### AUGUST 12 2016

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



### "Mindful Eating" – 12-Week Workshop

Based on the book, "The Mindful Diet, How to Transform Your Relationship with Food for Lasting Weight Loss and Vibrant Health" by Ruth Quillian Wolever, Ph.D., and Beth Reardon, M.S., R.D., L.D.N.

Facilitator: Ruth Ricards, Registered Dietitian

Monday evenings from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Workshop location: Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

740 East Main StreetSanta Paula, CA 93060 (805)-525-4647

Email <u>uucspre@gmail.com</u>

Suggested free will offering: \$10 for entire workshop series

In this series of classes, we will learn to listen to our inner compass, practice setting realistic goals, build a mindful toolkit, and create a healthy relationship with food and our body. There will be shared discussion, activities, as well as guided meditations. Oh, and there will be homework!

Class schedule (subject to change):

• September 12	Why We Overeat
• September 19	What's on Your Plate?
• September 26	Getting Off the Roller Coaster
• October 3	The Practice of Change
• October 10	The Goldilocks Principle
• October 17	The Pleasure Principle
<ul> <li>October 24</li> </ul>	A Body to Love
<ul> <li>October 31</li> </ul>	Know Your Triggers
• November 7	The Four Pillars of Healthy Eating
<ul> <li>November 14</li> </ul>	How Much Food Do You Really Need?
<ul> <li>November 21</li> </ul>	Reconnecting with Your Food
<ul> <li>November 28</li> </ul>	Making Change Last

#### Save Your Water

We hope that you bring back a small amount of water from your summer travels. Please bring it to our In-Gathering Water Communion service which is September 10 at 10:30 AM. The water can be from whatever source is meaningful to you. Please prepare a few words (write them down ahead of time) describing your connection to the water or the source. The combined water from our shared sources will be used in part to water some of our thirsty roses here in our Memorial Garden and sterilized for use in any future Baby Dedications.

#### Engaging Our Tradition: New UU for New UUs and others

Looking ahead, after our service and coffee hour on Sunday, September 11th, Rev. Maddie will host an hour and a half introduction to engaging Unitarian Universalism and the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. Hear about our history as a congregation and how it fits into the larger movement of Unitarian Universalism. Bring your questions about how we do things around here. Who makes decisions? What about Social Justice? Who is the Caring Committee or the Committee on Congregational Life? Inquiring minds want to know. Please join Rev. Maddie and others, even if you have been around the place for a while or if it is your first day in the door.

#### Save The Date: LA Mural Tour

Join the Social Concerns Action Committee and our friend Vanessa Acosta for a tour of Los Angeles Murals, Artists' Studios, taste eclectic cultural foods on Saturday, October 15, 2016! Take a short ride on the Gold line, lunch at Home Girl Cafe "where you will be served with an attitude" and wonderful food prepared by female ex-gang members who have turned their lives around through Fr. Gregory Boyle's work with East Los Angeles gang members, i.e. Home Boy Industries. Visit Artists in their studios, view Murals painted by well-known Los Angeles muralists, where you will also have an opportunity to buy some art. Cost: \$65 pp, includes roundtrip transportation, lunch and snacks. For more information, please contact, Vanessa Acosta, Founding Director of Cultural Arts Tours & Workshops Promoting Peace, Culture & Education at 805.616.8272 (Cell) or talk to Audrey Vincent and Margaret Wilson from the committee.

#### Save The Date: Five Wishes Workshop

There will be a special 2-hour workshop about the Five Wishes end-of-life planning document on Sunday, October 23 from Noon to 2 PM open to those who attended either Hindsight, Humor and Hope group, and anyone interested going into greater depth on this document including members of the larger community. For more information, be contact Rev. Maddie at her private church line 805-525-4620 or email her at msifantus@uuma.org.

REV. MADDIE'S 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. 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.		
KRYSTAL'S NEW OFFICE HOURS	Krystal's new office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 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.		
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	Please submit your September newsletter items to Krystal at uucspoffice@gmail.com by August 21.		
MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP Wednesday's August 3, 17, &31 6:00 pm	Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall. Our meetings in August will be August 3, 17 and 31 at 6:00 PM. 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. For more information, leave a message on Reverend Maddie's private line at the church: 805-525-4620 or email msifantus@uuma.org.		
WINTER SOLSTICE PLANNING GROUP Wednesday August 3 7 pm	Please join Rev. Maddie and Donna Nelson on Wednesday, August 3 at 7 PM in the Parish Hall to begin planning for Winter Solstice 2016 which will be on Wednesday, December 21 at 7 PM in our Sanctuary. This year's version will likely be based around a sort of a Mummer's play in the style of the Middle Ages and will include music and Madrigals. We are looking at adapting "The Jester's Test" by Paul Brandvik. We will need speaking parts, singers and musicians and are hoping to draw folks from other congregations, the schools and the community. Please join us for the fun!		
RE COMMITTEE MEETING Friday August 5 11:30 am	RE Committee Meeting Committee will meet in the Minister's office.		
CRUISE NIGHT Friday, August 5, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	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.		
FIRST SUNDAY PLATE Sunday, August 7	Our third quarter First Sunday plate offerings will benefit Forever Found.		
CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT Friday August 12 7:00 pm	The Santa Paula Cinema Society presents <i>Slither</i> . Admission is free. Bring your own snacks.		
TEDDY BEAR PICNIC Sunday August 14	Grab your teddy bear (or other stuffed animal), lunch, picnic blanket, and folding chair and join us in the Church's Courtyard for a Teddy Bear Picnic immediately following the Sunday service.		
STAFF MEETING Wednesday, August17 10:45 am	Staff will meet in Minister's office.		
CARING COMMITTEE Wednesday, August 17, 2:00 pm	Committee will meet in Minister's office.		

HINDSIGHT, HUMOR, AND HOPE GROUP 2 Thursday August 18 12:00 pm	Workshop will be held in the Parish Hall. Please remember to bring your lunch and your art kit.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Thursday August 18 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.
SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING Friday August 19 12:00 pm	Social Concerns Action Committee will meet. Vanessa Acosta will present the itinerary for the L.A. Murals tour Oct 15. Brown bag lunch.
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Sunday August 21 12:00 pm	Committee will meet in Minister's office.
MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY Thursday August 25 11:30 am	The Mary A. Livermore Society will meet at Flight 126 Café. All women of the church invited.
CONCERT SERIES COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday August 25 7:00 pm	The Santa Paula Concert Series Committee will meet Thursday August 25 at 7:00 pm in the Minister's office.
DINNER AND A MOVIE Friday, August 26 Potluck: 5:45 pm Documentary: 7:00 pm	The Social Concerns Action Committee presents The Age of Aluminum, an award winning film by Bert Ehgartner. It "puts us on notice. The evidence is alarming, yet the film's approach is an even-keeled, determined story line."—Film Threat. Special sticker awards for all who remember to be green, and bring your own place setting to the potluck.
CASP FOOD DRIVE Sunday, August 28	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.
GO SOLAR, GO GREEN Tuesday August 30 6:00 pm	To learn more about solar, come to an introductory workshop by the Ojai Valley Green Coalition in collaboration with Santa Barbara based Community Environmental Council, in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, August 30 from 6-7:30 PM. You may also visit visit Solarize126.org or call the Coalition at (805) 669-8445
SAVE THE DATE New UU for New UU's Sunday September 11 After coffee hour	Looking ahead, after our service and coffee hour on Sunday, September 11th, Rev. Maddie will host an hour and a half introduction to engaging Unitarian Universalism and the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. Please join Rev. Maddie and others, even if you have been around the place for a while or if it is your first day in the door.
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August 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Meditation Grp 6pm Winter Solstice Mtg7pm	4	5 RE Com. Mtg. 11:30am Cruise Night 5-7pm	6
7 First Sunday Plate, Forever Found	8	9	10	11	12 Classic Movie Night, 7 pm	13
14 Teddy Bear Picnic	15	16	17 Staff Mtg 10:45am Caring Com Mtg 2pm Meditation Grp 6pm	18 HHH Grp2 12pm Board Mtg 6:30pm	Social Concerns Mtg 12pm	20
21 Worship Com Mtg 12pm	22	23	24	25 Mary A's 11:30am Concert Com Mtg7pm	26 Dinner & a Movie Potluck 5:45pm Movie 7pm	27
28 CASP Food Drive	29	Go Solar Go Green Workshop 6pm	31 Meditation Grp 6pm			

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> 740 Eat Main Street Santa Paula, CA 93060

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