



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

SEPTEMBER 2016 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



September 4 We Bring the Light

Rev. Maddie, Donna Hamer

The Flaming Chalice is a primary symbol of Unitarian Universalism. It was first used by the Unitarian Service Committee (now the UUSC) during World War II. Our religious education program will be following the Chalice Children curriculum. What can this shining of light mean for us? Our Choir will sing.

September 11 Wading into the New Church Year: Gathering of the Waters

Rev. Maddie, Pat English

We come back together, old friends and new, to begin again with our traditional sharing of water from our summer travels and close to home. Water is the most plentiful and the most necessary of our earth's resources, even in this year of drought. Let us share this precious substance and our thoughts for a new church year. Special unaccompanied Bach by violinist Christine Snipes.

September 18 Bringing Presence

Rev. Maddie, Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

Rev. Maddie's ministry called her to serve in the community for many years before she entered the Parish. She will reflect on bringing presence and our values beyond the walls of the congregation. She will consider what it would mean for us to have an Affiliate Community Minister.

September 25 "Why Donald Trump Is My Spiritual Teacher"

Rev. Arvid Straube, Mary Nelson

The great Rabbi Hillel said, "When no one around you is behaving like a human being, you must behave like a human being?" How can we do that in this crazy election year of 2016? We can grow spiritually if we look deeply at our reactions to people we despise.

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

“The goal is to live in such a way that our lives will prove worth dying for...The one thing that can't be taken from us, even by death, is the love we give away before we go.”

-Rev. Dr. Forrest Church

Seven years ago this month, the Reverend Doctor Forrest Church died of esophageal cancer. He lived far longer than the several months he was given to live when he was diagnosed. Church was the former senior minister and finally Minister of Public Theology at All Souls Church in New York City and a noted spokesperson for our Association. As he considered the end of his life, he wrote “Love and Death: My Journey through the Valley of the Shadow.” In this moving book he wrote: “Death is central to my definition of religion: religion is our human response to the dual reality of being alive and having to die. We are not the animal with advanced language or tools as much as we are the religious animal. Knowing that we must die, we question what life means. The answers we arrive at may not be religious answers, but the questions death forces us to ask are, at heart, religious questions. Where did I come from? Who am I? Where am I going? What is life's purpose? What does all this mean?”

At the end of his life, Forrest Church went back to the basic questions we all ask ourselves, the questions that send us to a faith community. These are the questions we ought to be answering here at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula week after week, lovingly, with each other. The community we have gathered here in this place is where we can live our lives according to the Principles we covenant to affirm, knowing that we will not be able to perfectly live up to our finest aspirations. Here we can learn to point ourselves outwardly towards social justice. Here we can forgive ourselves and each other. Here we can continue to learn together to the end of life, when it comes too soon, as it did to Church or even to advanced old age. Here we can give our love away to each other and to the community we are reaching out to in various ways this year, from the Meditation Practice Group to our concert series to our Winter Solstice Celebration this December and intentional press releases encouraging people to join us on Sunday mornings and other activities we can imagine together. How will you engage with our community? How do you want us to engage beyond our walls? What actions do you want to make to bring our love and justice seeking outward into our community and our world? What is our purpose?

Let us use this new church year to discover these together. You may wish to attend a session Engaging Our Tradition after coffee hour on September 11th. See the information elsewhere in this newsletter.

On the path of our faith,

Reverend Maddie

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Message from the Board President

President Message

The Board of Trustees had a successful offsite Retreat the end of July and we discussed our calendar for the upcoming church year. Of note are the annual Canvass scheduled for October and discussion on how we can continue our engagement with potential members and the community at large.

One significant activity will be the coordination with the Santa Paula Theater Center annual Ghost Walk. Our church will be a stop on the tour so the church will be in use the weekends of Oct 7, 14 and 21. This is a great opportunity to open our building up to the community and collaborate with another strong community partner.

As always, thank you to all of you who give so much of time, energy and financial support to our congregation and to each other.

Next Board meeting is Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 6:30. All are welcome.

In wonder and gratitude,

MaryBeth East

Message from the RE Coordinator



It was wonderful to have so many children at our Teddy Bear Picnic! The weather was beautiful and the kids enjoyed sharing their lunch with their furry friends on a blanket in our gorgeous church garden. Pictured above is a tray full of “fortune cookie teddy bears”. Each teddy bear had a special word that was written on ribbon. Some of the words were: Reflection, Comfort, Love, Community, Wanderlust and Acceptance to name a few. It was fun hearing the congregation share the word that was on their teddy bear and how they related to the word. Reverend Maddie has some extra teddy bears in case you missed out. She plans on using the teddy bears when she makes pastoral care visits. I would like to thank all the kids and parents that helped create the special teddy bears for the August 14 service. I also want to thank Carol Hardison for donating all the fabric to make the bears.

4-ever learning,

Ruth Ricards

RE Coordinator

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Announcements

From the Committee on Congregational Life

Our Covenant of Right Relations was prepared by the Committee on Congregational Life under the direction of Reverend Kristen Rohm. The Committee studied elements of similar covenants adopted by other UU congregations and drafted a form they felt suited our congregation. Two congregational meetings were held to review the draft, and suggestions and wording from members were incorporated. The congregation reviewed and adopted the final Covenant of Right Relations at the church's annual meeting on January 26, 2014.

Our Covenant is a living document reflecting how we strive to communicate with one another within the church and outside in the larger community. The Committee on Congregational Life is responsible for reviewing and amending the Covenant with input from the congregation. The full text is available on the website.

At its retreat in August, the Board of Trustees discussed the Covenant and agreed upon the following amendments to the Covenant, which are in brackets and bold type below: -- Donna Hamer

COVENANT OF RIGHT RELATIONS

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

We promise to listen compassionately and speak with care.

Listen from the heart. Use "I" statements when expressing opinions or feelings. In conversation, refrain from blame and judgment. Listen more to understand than to reply. Leave space for others to speak/let your voice be heard [delete: (or as our Youth say), "Step Up/Step Back"]. Respect different points of view.

WORKING WITH CONFLICT

We promise to address conflicts directly, using openness and compassion.

Assume others have good intentions. Talk to the person directly. Stay engaged with each other through difficult conversations. Be curious about the other side of an issue. Agree to disagree and do so with openness and gentleness. Respect decisions made by the group.

SERVING OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

We promise to serve our church community with generosity and good humor.

*Attend worship and other church events. Say "yes" to service that nurtures you. Honor our commitments. Respect the right [add: **and responsibility**] to say "no". Encourage people to make choices that balance their needs with others' needs. Use humor when appropriate.*

HOSPITALITY AND WELCOMING

We promise to practice hospitality and acceptance, welcoming all who enter and encouraging diversity in our congregation.

Greet people warmly. Engage those who are different from us. Welcome newcomers into conversations. At Coffee Hour be intentionally inclusive. Treat others with respect and loving kindness.

FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION

We promise to acknowledge our shortcomings and be willing to forgive those of others.

Acknowledged our own and others' imperfections. Forgive ourselves and others. Lovingly call each other to account for behavior that is hurtful to others. Treat each other with openness, honesty and fairness.

APPRECIATION AND ENGAGEMENT

We promise to acknowledge the service of others and support each other in times of joy and need.

Honor all levels of service and financial support to the church. Help each other in time of crisis. Recognize each other's talents. Appreciate the efforts of others. Give positive feedback, comments and thoughts. Stay open to other points of view. Challenge ourselves and each other to grow.

The Committee on Congregational Life requests input and additional suggestions from the congregation so that an updated version of our Covenant can be presented to the congregation for review and approval. If you have any comments to make regarding the Covenant, please speak to one of the Committee members: Audrey Vincent, Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Donna Hamer, or Kate English.

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Announcements

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 and get to know you better.

All Church Read

The 2016-2017 UUA Common Read is *The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement Is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear* by William J. Barber II with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

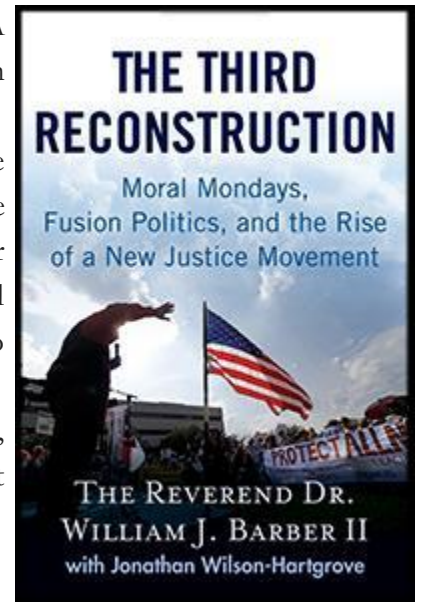
Unitarian Universalists were electrified at General Assembly 2016 by Rev. Barber's call for building and sustaining a movement for justice for all people. The UUA Common Read selection committee believes that this is a moment for Unitarian Universalists to answer that call.

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

Rev. Barber said recently during his speech at the Democratic National Convention, "Some issues are not left versus right, or liberal versus conservative, they are right versus wrong." Check out Rev. Barber's full speech from the DNC on YouTube.

Pre-order your paperback copy today.

We will be reading this book in an All Church Read sometime in 2017. Get a start on it now!



Cruise Night

Main Street, Santa Paula

First Friday of the month

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Spiritual Growth Center

NEW! SPIRITUAL GROWTH CENTER

We are naming some of the activities we already do and those we hope to do in the future the Spiritual Growth Center at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. It is an experiment at this point but will provide opportunities and programs to awaken and sustain love, compassion, service and personal transformation. Our goal is to help individuals discover how spiritual practice, learning, and community service can transform their lives and move the world toward peace and justice. Our minister, Rev. Maddie Sifantus, thanks her mentor, the Rev. Stephen Shick, for his inspiration in creating such a center.

Our programs are guided by the set of Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism and the Six Sources they draw from. One of the Principles affirms our intention to accept one another and encourage each other's spiritual growth.

The Spiritual Growth Center is possible through the generous support of the members and friends of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. We are a welcoming, joyful and inclusive community of all ages. We gather in love and compassion to create a healing presence for each other and the world in our pursuit of wisdom, spiritual growth, peace and justice.

T'ai Chi Chih

Developed by Justin Stone in 1974, the T'ai Chi Chih form is a series of 19 movements and one pose dedicated to circulating and balancing the Vital energy (Chi) that flows within us. All the movements are slow and gentle, making them accessible to anybody, regardless of age, weight or physical ability. Can even be performed while seated! T'ai Chi Chih-Joy thru Movement is a moving, meditative approach to increasing energy, reducing stress, improving balance and awareness, healing and growth. No special clothing or equipment. Not a martial art. No religious or cultural affiliations.

For more information or to sign up, call Pete Gregory at 219-671-4636, email him at psgreg24@gmail.com or learn more about the practice from the website www.taichichih.org

Beginner T'ai Chi Chih

4 Wednesdays, 9/7- 9/28

10-11 a.m. \$20 (minimum 6 students)

Seated T'ai Chi Chih

4 Wednesdays, 9/7- 9/28

11:15 - noon. \$15 (minimum 5 students)

Meditation Practice Group

Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall. Our meetings in September will be September 14 and 28 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.

Soaring Hearts Yoga

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend yoga in our Parish Hall led by Lisa Hammond on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 AM. There is a \$6 fee. Lisa keeps an email list to which you can be added after attending your first session. She has been leading yoga for us for about a year and several of our members and Rev. Maddie attend. Lisa Hammond can be reached at soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com.



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Spiritual Growth Center



“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 Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060 (805)-525-4647

Email uucspre@gmail.com

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 |
| • October 24 | A Body to Love |
| • October 31 | Know Your Triggers |
| • November 7 | The Four Pillars of Healthy Eating |
| • November 14 | How Much Food Do You Really Need? |
| • November 21 | Reconnecting with Your Food |
| • November 28 | Making Change Last |

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People and Doings

NEWS FROM AMONG US

- If you have any News From Among Us you would like to share with our community, please let Rev. Maddie know by the newsletter deadline which is the 21st of every month.
- We are thrilled to announce the birth of Yvon Ortega's third child—a girl! Lexy, who was born on her birthday, August 19th! Congratulations to the whole Sanchez family.
- We are glad that Dale Peace's procedure went well and he is recovering at home with the help of his caregiver team.
- Rev. Maddie officiated at the wedding of Laura and Bill Phillips' son Jake to Cassandra Silva at the Mountain View Golf Course on August 20th. Best wishes on the fairways and sand traps of life!
- Congratulations to Ruth Ricards who attended her oldest daughter's wedding celebration in Stillwater, Minnesota on August 20th. Jennifer married Steven Stockey at the justice of peace on December 31, 2014 and then decided to have a celebration for all to come and enjoy!



Congratulations to the winner of the "Yvon's Baby Guess Jackpot"! Yvon's had a baby girl and she weighed 6 pounds 14 oz. The winner was one of our RE children and she guessed 6 pounds 12 oz. For safety reasons we are not allowed to list the name of our RE children on the website but, if you want to know who won the jackpot, just check with our minister and I am sure she will be happy to let you know. The total jackpot was \$106 and it will be split evenly between Yvon and the winner!

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>

Pastoral Coverage

Rev. Maddie serves our Unitarian Universalist Association by sitting on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC), which is the group that credentials our ministers and deals with Fellowship Issues. She will be leaving on the redeye on Sunday, September 18th to fly to Boston for this meeting, returning September 25 but going directly from the airport to a UU Ministers Retreat. She will be back in Santa Paula in time to lead Meditation on September 28th. The Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford will be providing pastoral coverage. Should an emergency arise during that time, please leave a message on the church office phone, 805-525-4647. Should it be between our Administrator's days in the office, please call congregation president MaryBeth East at 805-341-8809. At other times, Rev. Maddie is generally reachable in an emergency on her cell phone (508-733-8860) or you can leave a private message on her church line: 805-525-4620.

UU Santa Paula Choir

Now that what we have been calling the "Ad Hoc" choir has been singing for a year, it is decided that it is now THE CHOIR. We will be singing occasionally, probably monthly. When we rehearse it will be either Thursday evening at 7:00 PM or before worship on Sundays at 9:30 AM...or both. We will be rehearsing with Vincent on Thursday, September 1 at 7 PM and before the service on the Sunday. We will also be singing a simple anthem on Sunday, September 11 with Geno Palilla accompanying. We will meet at 9:45 AM that day to prepare a choral version of Peace Like a River. Singers from the community are welcome to join us. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you are planning to participate so that she has enough music for everyone.

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People and Doings

Labor Day Harvest:

People from diverse faith traditions, including Muslims, Christians and Jews, and their friends will join together to harvest fresh vegetables for Food Share on Labor Day 2016 at the Abundant Table Farm in Camarillo. After the morning harvest we will celebrate together with a farm fresh picnic on the farm! Our intention is to join together as neighbors to create positive relationships in our community through service, generosity and appreciation of our shared earth and its bounty, as well as those who labor throughout the food system. Monday, September 5, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (PDT) at The Abundant Table Farm - at McGrath Family Farms, 1012 W. Ventura Blvd., Camarillo, CA. The event is free. Please register at labordayharvest.eventbrite.com. For more information, please contact The Rev. Julie Morris juliehmorris@yahoo.com 805-312-1978

Winter Solstice Auditions

Rev. Maddie and Santa Paula music educator Donna Nelson are collaborating to produce a Winter Solstice Celebration for the community which will be held on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall of the church. The centerpiece of the Celebration will be an adaption of the play "The Jester's Test" by Paul Brandvik along with Madrigals, Carols, Fanfares and general hilarity to bring mirth to the shortest day of the year. Auditions for actors and singers will be held on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 PM at the church. Interested singers will sing a song of their choice; choral singers will be taught "The Boar's Head" refrain. Also needed will be child singers, musicians, especially trumpet players, dancers, and folks to help with props and costumes. For more information or to make an audition appointment, call Rev. Maddie at 805-525-4620 or email her at msifantus@uuma.org or Donna Nelson at 805-933-1446 or msdonnalou@gmail.com.

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 11 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

Please join Rev. Maddie, Judy Triem and others after our service and coffee hour on Sunday, September 11th for 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 come if you have been around the place for a while or if it is your first day in the door.

Hindsight, Humor and Hope—HHH 2

Our second "HHH" group which is now closed continues to ask "Who, me, an elder?" The next meeting will be Thursday, September 15 from Noon to 2:00 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 cover the following:

September 15	Workshop 5: Making Friends with Mortality
October 20	Workshop 6: Hindsight, Humor, and Hope

CASP - Last Sunday of Each Month

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

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People and Doings

Classic Movie Night

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY
PRESENTS

Our Hospitality

Young Willie McKay (Buster Keaton) returns from the city to his birthplace to claim an inheritance only to discover the blood feud between his family and the rival Canfields remains in full swing. A love interest (Buster's then-wife Natalie Talmadge) complicates matters even further. The unlikely comic situation finds him able to survive only if he continues to enjoy the questionable "hospitality" of the Canfield home. Keaton's fondness for 19th century rural themes, locomotives, and spectacular self-performed stunts, combine to make this film prime Keaton as well as one of the top comedy features of the silent era. (1923, 1:15) With a short, TBA.

SEPTEMBER 9 2016

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



Dinner and a Movie

The Social Concerns Action Committee presents *El Poeta*, the story of the renowned Mexican poet Javier Sicilia, who ignited mass protests and an ongoing movement for peace after the death of his 24-year-old son Juan Francisco - collateral damage in the Mexican drug war that has left 60,000+ dead since 2006 - the majority civilians. *El Poeta* draws on the philosophical, artistic and spiritual dimensions of Sicilia and his movement. The film is deeply personal, poetic and at times hopeful. Friday September 23, Potluck – 5:45pm, Movie – 7:00pm

Special sticker awards for all who remember to be green, and bring your own place setting to the potluck.

POINT ME TO THE PARKWAY

A Santa Clara River Conference

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016
Santa Paula Community Center, 530 W. Main

DISCOVER THE PARKWAY
Program: 8am - Noon
Optional Lunch* & Tour: Noon - 3pm

Open to the Public
\$5 Donation at the Door
*Lunch Fee Extra
RSVP: SantaClaraRiverGateway@gmail.com



...PAST
...PRESENT
...FUTURE

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People and Doings

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: The Mary A's

SAT. OCT. 22, 1130AM, Flight 126 Café, Mary A's will meet so women working during the week can join us. We will meet on the 4th SAT of the month QUARTERLY for this purpose. Our Oct. program will feature plans for restoring the Santa Clara River. All women of the church invited.

Come to PineCon – The Game Convention in the mountains!

Love games? Love good company? Want to enjoy a weekend away in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains? PineCon – The game convention in the woods is for you! Come join fellow Unitarian-Universalist gamers at Camp De Benneville Pines the weekend of October 21 – 23. We'll have table top games of all kinds and role playing games for every player. Pricing ranges \$85 - \$155 and includes all meals for the weekend, 5 organized game slots, lodging in shared bunkrooms, Archery, Hot Tub and Canoes. Sign up now and bring your favorite Board Games, Role Playing Games and Card Games! For more info, check us out on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/Pineconconvention/
Or Online: <https://pineconsite.wordpress.com>
Or Drop us a line at: pinecon.reg@gmail.com

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.

Women's Convocation—Save The Dates!

Are You Ready to Take a Stand on Issues that Concern Women Like You?

Good news: the early bird rate for the Third International Women's Convocation (February 16-19, 2017, Monterey Peninsula, CA) has been extended one last time. You can still save \$100 on registration – but only through September 30th! The Convocation will bring together U*U women from around the world to connect, share, celebrate, and empower in the beautiful, inspirational setting of Asilomar, "a refuge by the sea." An additional \$50 discount is available for UU ministers. Young adults aged 18-40 can register at a special rate of \$490, covering accommodation and all meals in addition to the reduced registration fee. Are you interested in offering a workshop at the Convocation? If so, please submit a proposal. Visit IntlWomensConvo.org for all details.

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People and Doings

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. See elsewhere in this newsletter for Pastoral Coverage when she will be out of town for the Ministerial Fellowship Committee from September 19-27. 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 OFFICE HOURS	Krystal's 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 September <u>21</u> .
UU SANTA PAULA CHOIR Thursday September 1, 7:00 pm Sunday September 11, 9:45 am	We will be rehearsing with Vincent on Thursday, September 1 at 7 PM and before the service on the Sunday. We will also be singing a simple anthem on Sunday, September 11 with Geno Palilla accompanying. We will meet at 9:45 AM that day to prepare a choral version of Peace Like a River. Singers from the community are welcome to join us. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you are planning to participate so that she has enough music for everyone.
CRUISE NIGHT Friday, September 2, 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, September 4	Our third quarter First Sunday plate offerings will benefit Forever Found.
LABOR DAY HARVEST Monday September 5 9:00am – 1:00 pm	The Abundant Table Farm - at McGrath Family Farms, 1012 W. Ventura Blvd., Camarillo, CA. The event is free. Please register at labordayharvest.eventbrite.com . For more information, please contact The Rev. Julie Morris juliehmorris@yahoo.com 805-312-1978. Please see article in this newsletter for more details.
WINTER SOLSTICE AUDITIONS Wednesday September 7 7:30 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!
CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT Friday September 9 7:00 pm	The Santa Paula Cinema Society presents <i>Our Hospitality</i> . Admission is free. Bring your own snacks.
CARING COMMITTEE Wednesday-September 14 2:00 pm	Committee will meet in Minister's office.
MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP Wednesday's September 14 & 28 6:00 pm	Our Meditation Practice Group takes place in our Parish Hall Our meetings in September will be September 14 and 28 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 .

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

People and Doings

HINDSIGHT, HUMOR, AND HOPE GROUP 2 Thursday September 15 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 September 15 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 September 16 12:00 pm	Social Concerns Action Committee will meet in the Parish Hall. Brown bag lunch.
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING Sunday September 18 12:00 pm	Committee will meet in Minister's office.
MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY Thursday September 22 11:30 am	The Mary A's will meet Thursday, Sept. 22, 11:30, at the home of Judith Beay in Saticoy. We will celebrate Doris Vernon's 92nd birthday. Lunch will be make-your-own-salad. Judith will supply ingredients. \$10. per person.
DINNER AND A MOVIE Friday, September 23 Potluck: 5:45 pm Documentary: 7:00 pm	The Social Concerns Action Committee presents <i>El Poeta</i> , the story of the renowned Mexican poet Javier Sicilia, who ignited mass protests and an ongoing movement for peace after the death of his 24-year-old son Juan Francisco - collateral damage in the Mexican drug war that has left 60,000+ dead since 2006 - the majority civilians. <i>El Poeta</i> draws on the philosophical, artistic and spiritual dimensions of Sicilia and his movement. The film is deeply personal, poetic and at times hopeful. Special sticker awards for all who remember to be green, and bring your own place setting to the potluck.
CASP FOOD DRIVE Sunday, September 25	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.
RE COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday September 29 3:30 pm	Committee will meet in Minister's office.
SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 15, 2016 Los Angeles Murals	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. 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 Sunday October 23 12:00 pm	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, contact Rev. Maddie at her private church line 805-525-4620 or email her at msifantus@uuma.org.

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September 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 UUSP Choir 7 pm	2 Cruise Night 5-7pm	3
4 First Sunday Plate,Forever Found UUSP Choir 9:30am	5	6 Yoga 9:30 am	7 T'aiChiChih 10 & 11:15am Wnter Solstice Auditions 7:30pm	8 Yoga 9:30am	9 Classic Movie Night, 7 pm	10
11 UUSP Choir 9:30am	12 Mindful Eating 6:30pm	13 Yoga 9:30am	14 TaiChiChih 10 & 11:15am Caring Com 2pm Meditation 6pm	15 Yoga 9:30am HHH Grp2 12pm Board Mtg 6:30pm	16 Social Concerns Mtg 12pm	17
18 Worship Com Mtg 12pm	19 Mindful Eating 6:30pm	20 Yoga 9:30am	21 TaiChiChih 10 & 11:15am	22 Yoga 9:30am Mary A's 11:30am	23 Dinner & a Movie Potluck 5:45pm Movie 7pm	24
25 CASP Food Drive	26 Mindful Eating 6:30pm	27 Yoga 9:30am	28 TaiChiChih 10 & 11:15am Meditation 6pm	29 Yoga 9:30am	30	

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

Dated Material
Time Value