

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

OCTOBER 2019 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



OCTOBER THEME: Democracy

Our fifth principle commits us to the use of the democratic process in our congregations and society. This is one of the ideals of America, and yet it is under attack. Democracy is messy, but essential. The last 3 years have taught us that democracy is fragile. It requires the right to vote, free speech and assembly, a free press, and, among other things, bipartisanship.

October 6 The Land of the Free

Rev. Maddie, Jacqueline Schwab, Betty Stapleford

Naomi Klein writes "Democracy is not just the right to vote, it is the right to live in dignity." We reflect on our nation of immigrants and current issues in immigration through word and song.

*Tuesday, October 8 at 7 PM Gathering

Rev. Maddie

This is a reflective time in our busy week to hear some beautiful music, share some silence and hear spoken word on a theme, which this month is Autumn. The music will be provided by Larry Cossid and Tom Hackney.

October 13 20/20 Vision: Canvas Kick Off

Rev. Maddie, Pat English

20/20 is a term used to express the clarity or sharpness of vision measured at the distance of twenty feet. As we think about how we support our beloved community with our time, talent and treasure, what does our vision call us to do in 2020 and beyond.

October 20 Across the Water

Rev. Lora Young, Ken Stock

When despair grows in us for what our world may become, it is important to remember that we are better together than we are apart. This is the promise of our multi-faith tradition- that our common values matter and our common humanity trumps every barrier to peace. Join us in a service dedicated to the art of crossing divides- especially the ones that challenge us to be more.

Lora Young is a UU Community Minister serving as a Chaplain. She and her family live in Goleta.

October 27 Centering

Rev. Maddie, Kate English

Many in Unitarian Universalism have been working for many years on work and ministry in anti-oppression, anti-racism and multiculturalism. How do we center the voices of those who have been marginalized?

CASP Offering

BACK IN THE DAY—UUs of Our Past

Leslie Nichols

Message from the Minister

We talk a lot about Beloved Community in our congregation and in the larger world of Unitarian Universalism and in the even larger world of Interfaith relations. And we talk a lot about Democracy in our communities but also in our congregation where our Fifth Unitarian Universalist Principle is "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." In his 1940 novel, *You Can't Go Home Again* (published two years after his death), Thomas Wolfe wrote, "I believe that we are lost here in America, but I believe we shall be found.... I think the true discovery of America is before us. I think the true fulfillment of our spirit, of our people, of our mighty and immortal land, is yet to come. I think the true discovery of our own democracy is still before us." I think we are still discovering America, whatever that might be to each of us. The truth is that democracy is an ideal, as is beloved community, and neither is easy to achieve in any country. And, in fact, these two are interdependent. It is notable that all seven of our principles are a blueprint for achieving both, especially, "the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

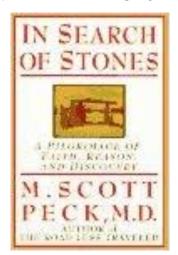
Our Touchstones theme for October is Democracy. Theodore Parker once said, "Democracy means not 'I am as good as you are' but 'you are as good as I am." Parker also famously said the arc of the universe bends toward justice. I believe that each one of us, in how we live and how we relate to each other and those least among us, can be the hands that bend the arc toward justice and that all of us are needed to create the democracy we wish to live in, both in our processes as a congregation and as part of the larger community. Each one of us has a part to play, however small. And at some times of our lives we may play a larger part and at other times we may play a smaller part. Each one of us needs to pay attention to whose voices we are listening to, whose voices are being heard. And if some voices are not being heard, especially those from marginalized identities, we need to center those voices. I will be thinking about this a lot more this fall, in a service on October 27 that I will share with Kate English and then in a workshop series (see elsewhere in this Newsletter).

Some of you may have heard me say that I don't call myself a "Social Justice Minister" but a Minister who does social justice. That means that there are many priorities I have as your minister and one of those priorities is Social Justice. So, I am centering that this month and we'll see where we go with it. There are so many efforts that are important, from Climate Justice to LGBTQ concerns to confronting white supremacy to understanding colonialism and so much more. But we can't spread ourselves too thin or burn ourselves out. We need to "breathe in peace and breath out love" as our hymn tells us. Perhaps then we can be *found* in America, in Santa Paula and in our very lives.

On the path of our faith, Rev. Maddie

Message from the Minister

WHAT THE PASTOR IS READING





How many of you have teetering piles of books that you have been meaning to read? Have you liked a book by a certain author and then stocked up on all of their books, from a library sale, Little Free Library, garage sale or Amazon? Have you ever found a most pleasant surprise when you get around to reading a certain book? I certainly have a number of teetering piles, but I do get around to them eventually. (I have teetering piles of sheet music too but that's another subject!) So it is that I got around to reading M. Scott Peck's book, *In Search of Stones: A Pilgrimage of Faith, Reason and Discovery.* Probably many of you have read his seminal work, *The Road Less Traveled* but this is a lesser known book from much later in his life. In it he talks about a three-week trip he took with his wife in Wales, England and Scotland to see the ancient megalithic stones. I resonated with his musings on his marriage, parenthood, money, art, romance, and his own shortcomings all the while discovering the ancient menhirs, dolmens and prehistoric stone circles in surprising places, remembering ones I knew in the middle of a rotary in Saint Nazaire, France. What is rock solid that has lasted since Neolithic times? Certainly, in this month of October with the upcoming Day of the Dead, we are aware that our time on this earth is but a moment. What book have you got around to reading?



Message from the Board of Trustees

A SPLINTER FROM THE BOARD

Your Board of Trustees has been busy over the last 2 months. Saturday the 14th of September, we attended the Intercultural Developmental Inventory (IDI) workshop with the Ventura Board of Trustees. To put it very simply the IDI is a way to see how inclusive a group actually is. If you want more information, please ask any Board Member.

This Board would also like you to know that there will be another opportunity for anyone who is interested to join the Beloved Conversation workshops. "Beloved Conversations recognizes how centuries of racially informed social, emotional, and spiritual practices wound every person, no matter their racial and/or ethnic identity. Nested in the healing and deep work of faith formation, the curriculum calls each participant to reckon with how both their personal and group experiences matter and, when less-than-desirable outcomes are named, how to live and act in a spirit of reconciliation that brings growth and spiritual healing" Meadville Lombard Theological School. You can contact Rev. Maddie, Pat English or Kate English with any questions you may have.

Alas, due to unexpected weather conditions, the termite tenting was yet again postponed. We are hoping to schedule sometime in October. Please refer to the weekly Friday Blast or Sunday Announcements for updated information.

Patricia English

Board Treasurer

2020 Vision: Honoring our Past, Living our Present, Envisioning our Future

October 13th is Canvass kick off Sunday and church potluck. This year the Canvass Committee is expanding our looking back to the past for inspiration to envisioning our future. It is through continued self-examination that individuals learn and change, and so too with organizations, which is why the work in progress to reexamine our mission statement is vital to our future. Consider the gifts this church and congregation have given you and envision the future your financial and volunteer support will help build.

Come join us for an inspirational service and eclectic lunch on Sunday the 13th.

Faith Formation

PLANNING FOR OUR CHILDREN

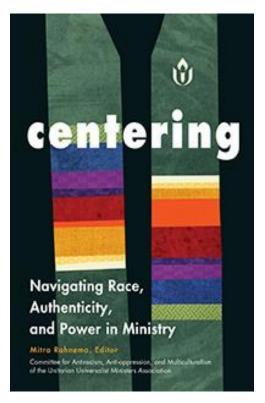
The experimentation with our faith formation/religious education for our children and youth continues. We need input from all our members and volunteers who are willing to lead or assist in leading a Sunday, several Sundays or a month of Sundays along with Yvette Sanchez. Rev. Maddie is helping provide structure of the Sundays that the children go downstairs. Here is the volunteer schedule for October as of the Newsletter Deadline:

October 6 Ruth Ricards

October 13 TBA
October 20 TBA

October 27 Ken Stock





The challenges, the call, and the opportunity of this moment in Unitarian Universalism and in the broader US American society are compelling. Unitarian Universalists must be prepared and willing to look inward, examining, exploring, and acting to dismantle white supremacy culture in our association, in our congregations and groups, and in ourselves. At the same time, we must be prepared and willing to look outward and act to lift up Unitarian Universalist values in the political and civic challenges of our time. Rev. Maddie will be leading a three part workshop this church year based on the former UUA Common Read book: Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry, edited by Mitra Rahnema (Skinner House, 2017), centers the stories, analysis, and insights of a number of Unitarian Universalist religious leaders of color as they explore how racial identity is made both visible and invisible in Unitarian Universalist communities. She has ordered several copies of the book which are available to borrow, or you can order your own from the UUA Bookstore. The three meetings will be on November 17, January 12, and February 16 after coffee hour in her office. She will be

kicking off her reflections on Centering in our service on October 27 with added reflections by Worship Host Kate English.

Spiritual Growth Center

GATHERING*



*DEFINITION OF GATHERING

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

OCTOBER 8, 2019 at 7:00 PM LARRY COSSID & TOM HACKNEY

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

Led by Maddie Sifantus with Larry Cossid and Tom Hackney of Studio C

Original poetry by Atul Ranchod

Free will offering for the Gathering musicians

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula, 740 E Main Street, Santa Paula

Spiritual Growth Center

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

Our Meditation Practice Group takes place every Wednesdays at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Group leadership is shared by Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Jim Cole. 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.

October 2 with Rev. Maddie
October 9 with Jim Cole
October 16 NO MEDITATION
October 23 with Jim Cole
October 30 with Rev. Maddie

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6 PM

Free Will Offering

For information call Rev. Maddie Sifantus, 805-525-4620 or msifantus@uuma.org.



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 has been practicing yoga for approximately 6 years, teaching for 5 years, and has been blessed to have been leading yoga here in our Parish Hall since early Summer 2015. Several of our members and Rev. Maddie attend. She teaches a gentle style yoga and her classes are appropriate for all levels. In addition to a variety of trainings she has taken over the years, in December 2018 she completed her 200 Hour Yoga Teacher Training Certification under the loving guidance of Ventura based Pixie Kastrup of Sacred Living Yoga. Lisa Hammond can be reached at 831-801-2276 or soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com If you'd like to receive Lisa's weekly email, please feel free to email or text her your contact information.

TAI CHI CHIH

Please join us on Fridays. We practice with concentration, quieting the mind, letting go, relaxing, and moving in slow motion. The benefits are spiritual, emotional and physical, and include tranquility, a sense of wellbeing, better coordination, balance and a general increase in energy. All ages are welcome!



Tish Jaramillo leads the T'ai Chi Chih sessions on Friday's at 10 AM with Intermediate sessions and 11:15 AM with Beginner sessions. Tish Jaramillo can be reached at tishi1@hotmail.com.

NEWS FROM AMONG US - October 2019

- Our thoughts are with Jan Shepherd in the death of her sister Bette.
- 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.

REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Maddie is usually available in the office by appointment or potluck drop in from Tuesday through Friday. Rev. Maddie's office is located in the "addition" across from the rest rooms at the back of our building. 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. 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.

BECOMING A SAFER CONGREGATION

Our new Safe Congregation Team has begun meeting to look at a number of our policies and the safety of our building and practices. Rev. Maddie, Erik Halseth, Karen Harris representing the board, Pat English on fiduciary safety, Krystal Johnson from the staff and our friend Sharon Kufeldt continue to meet and will be moving forward in looking at the possibility of exterior cameras and policies regarding its data, as well as planning for a fire and disaster drill and more. In July we had a visit from Tony Salas and the Ventura County Fire folks who toured our building and grounds



and gave us some meaningful suggestions as well as discussed what a tactical plan might be should it ever be needed. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you have interest in this effort or concerns. Please stay tuned for updates in the coming months. Our next two meetings are Wednesdays, October 2 and November 6 at Noon in Rev. Maddie's Office. The Safe Congregation Team reports and is advisory to the Board.

EMAIL SCAM ALERT

As you may have heard or read, there are many scams these days involving technology, websites and the like. The UUA tells us that a number of congregations have been hit with an email scam this year. It involves making a fake Gmail account in the minister's name, and then sending a request for gift cards allegedly from that minister to the congregation's directory. Apparently when you send the gift card it gets cashed by the scammer. Recently someone sent out emails to some of our members using a false email address that looks a lot like Rev. Maddie's address. Make sure, if you have any question, that you check that any email is coming from her correct addresses which are minister@uucsp.org and misitantus@uuma.org. She no longer uses her gmail address for church business. She would never communicate directly with members and would never ask for gift cards or any other kind of surprise donation through email. It is a good practice that you make sure that all emails you receive are from the correct address of the person you are expecting. These crooks do similar things with other organizations, including fake social security and medical addresses.

CRUISE & SING NIGHT

OCT 4, 2019 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM



SEE THE CLASSIC CARS!

LAST CHANCE OF 2019!

TOUR HISTORIC

CHURCH!

JOIN IN RISING UP SINGING!

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula, 740 E Main Street, Santa Paula

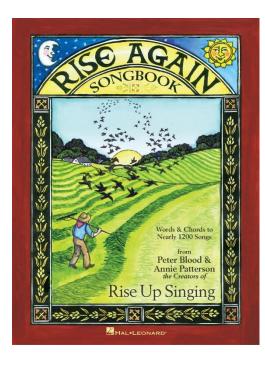
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CARING COMMITTEE

Lay ministers play a vital role in our congregation, extending the reach of our professional minister. The next regular meeting of the committee is Thursday, October 17 at 12:15 PM in Rev. Maddie's office. Each meeting addresses some area pertinent to how we companion our congregation members and friends. We minister to others in need today, knowing full well that we may need ministering tomorrow. If you would like a call or a visit from a member of the Caring Committee, ask Rev. Maddie or Committee Chair Karen Harris.

CHOIR: SING!

Due to a change in the Worship Schedule, our annual Day of the Dead Service will be one week later, on November 3 with the choir singing *To Everything There is a Season* by Ed Harris. We will rehearse on Thursday, October 24 from 4-5:30 PM and again on the morning of the service, November 3 at 9:30 AM. We are experimenting with some new music as well as some of the repertoire we have learned over the last several years. We generally sing once a month for the Sunday Service. 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. Please be in touch with Rev. Maddie with any questions at msifantus@uuma.org. All invited to sing!



RISE UP SINGING RETURNS UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA PARISH HALL ~ 740 E MAIN STREET FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 7:00PM

BRING RISE UP SINGING AND/OR
RISE AGAIN BOOKS IF YOU HAVE THEM
ALL INSTRUMENTS WELCOME!
COMMUNITY SINGING!
FREE WILL OFFERING (\$5 recommended)
LED BY MADDIE SIFANTUS ~ ALL AGES

THE SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

MEETING – The Social Concerns Action Committee will meet at 3:00 pm -- NOTE EARLIER TIME -- on Wednesday, October 9, 2019. Planning for Guest at Your Table holiday giving, review of 2019 activities, and planning for 2020. This will be our last meeting of 2019.

DOCUMENTARY Tuesday, October 22 Potluck: 5:30 Documentary 6:30 *Keiko, The Untold Story of the Star of Free Willy*, four years in the making, this compelling documentary by filmmaker Theresa Demarest presents never before seen footage of Keiko in the wild, along with exclusive accounts of his day-to-day existence by Keiko's last two caretakers, Collin Baird and Thorbjorg Valdis Kristjansdottir. The film provides insight into the unique culture of orcas, and what the impact of being taken from his pod had on Keiko's survival instincts.

EXPAND-YOUR-MIND will meet to screen and discuss the highly acclaimed documentary, "The American Factory," at the home of Nuri Ronaghy and Alan Shorb at **2:00PM**, **Saturday**, **October 19**. In this film a Chinese billionaire, Mr. Fuyao, invests millions in starting a factory in Dayton, Ohio. We see high expectations, culture clash, UAW organizing, boardroom planning and even moments of Mr. Fuyao questioning the worthiness of his life work.

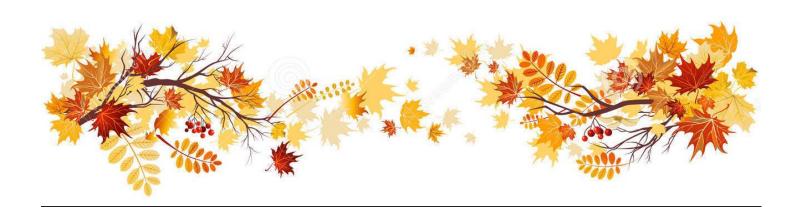
Bring your favorite snacks. (Notice date change from Sunday to Saturday)

MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

The Mary A. Livermore Society will hold their QUARTERLY meeting **Saturday, October 26** at Cafe 126, 11:30 AM. Audrey Vincent will share her life story.

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.



4TH QUARTER FIRST SUNDAY PLATE OFFERING

October 6, November 3, December 1

Established in 1973, Interface Children & Family Services is the region's most comprehensive nonprofit social services agency providing direct, responsive, wraparound services to address the complex needs of client and community.

As a critical safety net for children and families, Interface provides 24 distinct programs across six major program areas including mental health and trauma treatment, domestic violence and child abuse prevention, youth crisis intervention, human trafficking, reentry



services and 2-1-1 information and referral in 19 counties.

Today, Interface serves over 42,000 local individuals annually, assists 150,000 callers through the 2-1-1 helpline across the state!

Join us in caring for what matters most in our community: thriving children and healthy families.

We are excited to introduce our Neighborhood for Learning site in Santa Paula located at 217 N. Tenth St. Santa Paula CA, 93060

Our office hours are from 8:00am-4:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We offer parent and child together classes for children ages 0-3 Years old.

Classes are offered in both English and Spanish. For enrollment information please contact our main line at (805) 340-9608.

Additional Services include developmental checkups, Resource and Referral Support, and Early Childhood education instructions.

SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES presents

JACQUELINE SCHWAB

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 7:00 PM

"I LIFT MY LAMP"
VINTAGE SONGS AND DANCES of IMMIGRANT AMERICA



Jacqueline Schwab

jacqueline@jacquelineschwab.com www.jacquelineschwab.com

This program celebrates America's immigrants, their vibrant spirit of community music-making, and their multicultural contributions to our heritage. Jacqueline performs music from Scotland, Ireland, Poland, France, Eastern Europe, the African American community, Cuba, Brazil and Argentina, along with Tin Pan Alley tunes, American anthems and more. Schwab's distinctive playing infuses the soundtracks of Ken Burns' Grammy-winning Civil War, Baseball, Lewis and Clark, Mark Twain, The War, and The National Parks, among others.

Ticket reservations

https://uucsp.org/events/601/santa-paula-concert-series-presents-jacqueline-schwab/ \$20 for adults ~ \$10 children 12 and under ~ Under 5, free Office 805-525-4647

The Santa Paula Concert Series proceeds benefit the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula Building and Historical Fund. The church was founded in 1889 and the building erected in 1891. UUCSP is a registered Ventura County Landmark.

SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES: UPCOMING EVENTS



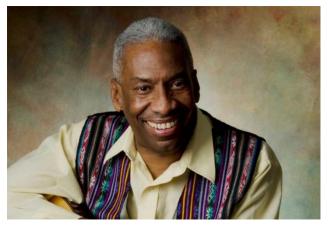
HIROYA TSUKAMOTO SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 4:00 PM

We bring back enchanting guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto who visited us in 2017, bringing his magical, fluid style. Hiroya is a guitarist and composer originally from Kyoto, Japan. In 2000, he received a scholarship to Berklee College of Music in Boston and came to the US. Since then, he has been performing internationally.

THOUSAND OAKS CHINESE FOLK ENSEMBLE SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020 7:00 PM

The ensemble performs a variety of repertoire which bridges Eastern and Western Music, strengthening the cultural and educational exchange in Ventura County and Southern California. There will be reduced ticket prices of \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under for this concert.





REGGIE HARRIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020 4:00 PM

A songwriter of great depth and passion, Reggie Harris writes from a personal sense of mission that merges a world wise point of view with a singularly hopeful stance that life, though often challenging, is filled with possibility and hope. His songs reveal thoughts about life and love and some of the deep aspects of the human experience and cover topics from his own personal journey to world issues and history.

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Calendar of Events



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Yoga Casita	12PM Safe Congregation	Yoga Casita	10&11:15am T'aiChiChih	Santa Paula Concert Series
			6pm Meditation		5PM Cruise Night & Sing	7PM Jacqueline Schwab
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1030am Worship		Yoga Casita	3pm SCAC mtg	930am Yoga	10&11:15am T'aiChiChih	
		7Pm Gathering	6pm Meditation	5PM Caring Comm		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1030am Worship	ChurchClosed	Termite	Tenting	930am Yoga	10&11:15am T'aiChiChih	2PM Expand Your Mind
Canvass Kick- off & Potluck		6:30PM Worship Potluck @ Maddie's			7PmRise Up Singing	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1030am Worship	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	930am Yoga 530/630pm SCAC dinner& aMovie	6pm Meditation	930am Yoga 4-530PM Choir Reh	10&11:15am T'aiChiChih	1130am MaryA's
27	28	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN		
1030AM Worship		930am Yoga	6pm Meditation	930am Yoga		
UUof our Past			2.1041441011			
CASP						

THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street Santa Paula, CA 93060 Office: 805-525-4647 uucspoffice@gmail.com www.uucsp.org



Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am

Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Minister, Choir Director Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Affiliate Minister Krystal Johnson, Office Administrator Vincent Sorisio, Church Musician Albie Alamillo, Custodian Board of Trustees:

> John Nichols, President, Karen Harris, Vice-President Jerry Gray, Secretary, Pat English, Treasurer Jyl Atmore, Member at Large

Newsletter deadline October 21

SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES 2019 ~ SAVE THE DATES ~

JACQUELINE SCHWAB

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:00 PM



Schwab incontrol incontrol



HIROYA TSUKAMOTO

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

4:00 PM

Dated Material outoV smiT

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