



# Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

**APRIL 2020 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM**

## **MESSAGE FROM REV. MADDIE**



I am writing you at this challenging time for us all to wish you safety and sanity as we all attempt to navigate this unprecedented situation. When I was growing up, my father often talked about the influenza epidemic that he lived through as a child. It always seemed very scary to me but very far away. We need for each of us, to take care of ourselves as best we can, and to watch out for each other in our beloved community of members, friends and our community partners. It feels very scary and I believe we need to both stay informed about the measures we need to take to preserve our health and those around us and monitor how much media we are taking in which can ramp up our anxiety. This is a time for you to follow a spiritual practice if you have one or take one up if you don't. I am a firm believer in Mindfulness Meditation as a way to keep our equanimity in rough waters. Yoga and other movement practices help us stay with our breath and in touch with our bodies. Learn how to use social media, watch movies you have been meaning to watch, and learn how to use Zoom in the hopes that we will get it up and running for Sunday services and for meetings. Reading books that inspire you or even just distract you is a way to use the hours we now have. Go for a walk around your neighborhood and wave (from at least six feet away) to your neighbors, known or unknown. Sit in your backyard, your patio or your front steps and listen to the birds and look about this beautiful valley we call home.

My friend and colleague the Rev. David Pettee is currently going through serious cancer treatment. He said in a communication to us colleagues on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee this week, "As I was sitting in my electric chair yesterday, I felt less like an outsider with a serious illness, mindful that the whole world now has a new opportunity to take stock of their mortality. To quote the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "We all came in on different ships, but we are all in the same boat now." David goes on to say that it will take all of us working together to respond to the challenges before us.

For now, Sunday morning worship will be online as best we can manage it. We are all on a learning curve. We live-streamed our service on March 20 on Facebook and will likely do it again this Sunday until we have Zoom technology up and operational. I will be live streaming our Meditation Group from my house at 6 PM on Wednesdays on our church Facebook page. It will be a mixture of guided meditation, silence and simple chant. We are putting together an old-fashioned phone chain as a way to reach people quickly in the case of an emergency or just have people check in on each other. For now, we have no idea when we will be back to "normal". Our first priority is to stay safe and look out for each other. I will largely be working from home much of this time but both Krystal and I will be in the office some days. Please email me at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org) or call me at 508-733-8860, my cell phone, if you just want to talk. You can also leave a message on my private office line, 805-525-4620. Know that you are not alone.

On the path of our faith,  
Rev. Maddie Sifantus

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to practice inclusiveness, seek justice and foster spirituality.



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## HOW WE MOVE FORWARD

We don't know what tomorrow, let alone next week or next month will bring. But we will work to stay connected. For now, the church building is not open and we will begin by continuing to live-stream on Facebook until we can get and learn Zoom technology. Sunday morning services begin online at 10:30 AM with the Prelude starting a couple of minutes beforehand. Please email Joys and Concerns to Rev. Maddie at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org) who will read them and light candles. At the Offertory you can click on the Donation link on our website, [www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org). We will be looking into technology for you to text your donation. Be aware that online events may change and we pray we will be back in our building as soon as we are able. Another time to remember that nothing is more constant than change, including sermon topics, worship leaders and other planning. Be safe.

### March 22 A Different Time

Rev. Maddie with Atul Ranchod

A special service as we experiment in online worship and consider this time we are in, still looking for hope and life to call us on, even in the middle of anxiety and fear. Rev. Maddie, Church Musician Vincent Sorisio and Atul Ranchod will be in the Sanctuary, livestreaming via Facebook on the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula page.

### March 29 Humility and Forgiveness

Pat English with MaryBeth East

Does forgiveness require humility? Pat English says "yes"; let's hear why.

UU's Back in the Day Lucy Stone

Leslie Nichols

### April 5 The Power of Poetry

Rev. Maddie with Atul Ranchod

April is poetry month as declared by the Academy of American Poets. What is the power of poetry to nurture our wholeness? How can it bring hope and meaning?

First Sunday "plate" to the Friends of the Santa Clara River

### April 12 Easter/Eostre

Rev. Maddie with Erik Halseth

Easter has come around again with the coming of spring and the new life blooming around us.

### Tuesday, April 14 Gathering

Rev. Maddie with Cara Tower, Atul Ranchod

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 the Divine. The music will be provided by Singer-Songwriter Cara Tower. Poetry by Atul Ranchod.

### April 19 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth

Rev. Maddie with Jerry Gray

Premiere of John Biggs video and music. Our choir sings.

### April 26 One Nation, Under Goddess

Ruth Ricards with Pat English

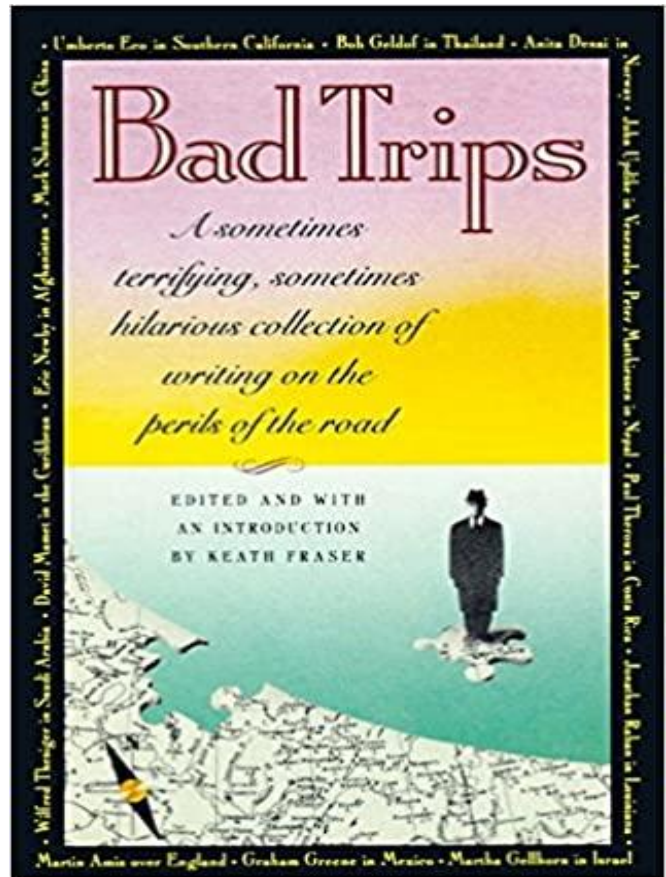
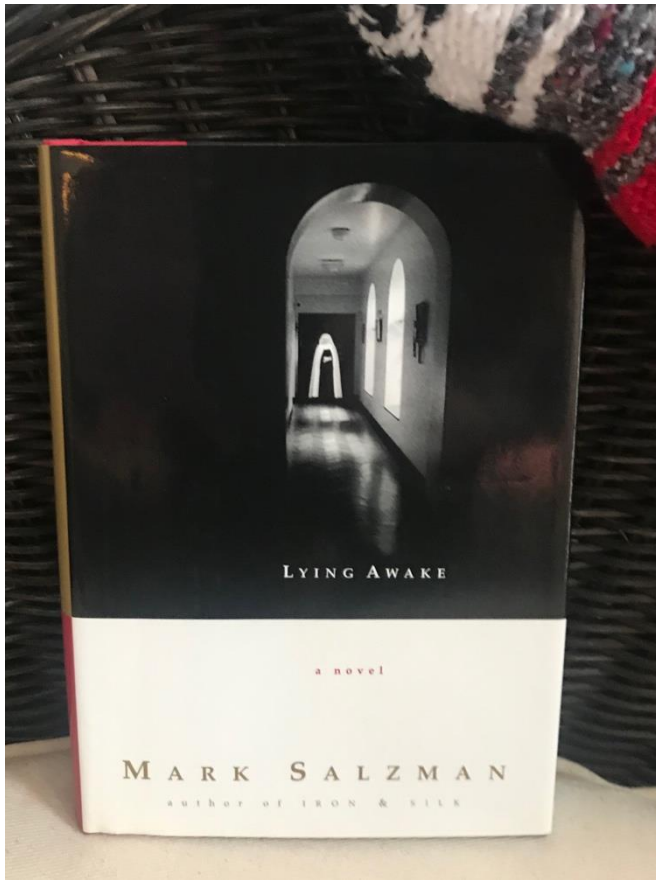
Ruth will share her story about living in a society where she feels it is more acceptable to refer to a masculine spiritual energy rather than a feminine one. She will explain how she finds strength and love from her inner Goddess to help her cope with her external suffering.

**Food Offering for One Step a la Vez** - there is a basket in the Parish Hall to accept donations any time of the month.

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# Message from the Minister

## WHAT THE PASTOR IS READING



One of the things we can enjoy doing during this time when we are quarantined in our homes is read. I am constantly reading for sermons but love to read all manner of things from mysteries to collections of poetry to memoirs to cookbooks. I have more books on my shelves than I will probably ever have time to read! I always read something fun when I get to the end of the day, propped up in bed with some pillows. Currently I am reading two books that have been in my shelves for years, the first one since it came out in 1991: *Bad Trips* edited by Keath Fraser. The entries in this collection take us to the farthest extremes of travel with tales of danger, disorientation and bemused discomfort; it combines reportage, fiction and poetry representing some of the best-known writers of our time. You might get a special kick out of Umberto Eco's description of a tacky hotel some of you may know in Southern California! The second is completely different but by an author also included in *Bad Trips*, Marc Salzman. The book, which you can see in the picture on my meditation chair is a novel, *Lying Awake*. It is a very spare novel, yet a very luminous little book. The story is set in modern day Los Angeles and chronicles the life of a Carmelite Nun who has recently experienced ecstasies which are unexplained until it is discovered that her "migraines" (which precede the light) are in fact the result of a condition known as "temporal-lobe epilepsy." She has become a copious poet and writer, even publishing a book that has benefitted her Convent. I won't give away the story, but it draws you in. What are you reading?

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# Message from the Minister

## Some Helpful Coronavirus Precautions

by James Robb, MD FCAP

(FCAP: Fellow of the College of American Pathologists)

Note: The authenticity of this information was verified by Snopes.com

Shared by High Country Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Dillon, CO

Regarding the Coronavirus, here are some practical suggestions from a pathologist and molecular virologist Dr. James Robb, who believes that it will probably be widespread in the U.S. by mid-March/April

Subject: What I am doing for the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

Dear Colleagues,

As some of you may recall, when I was a professor of pathology at the University of California San Diego, I was one of the first molecular virologists in the world to work on coronaviruses (the 1970s). I was the first to demonstrate the number of genes the virus contained. Since then, I have kept up with the coronavirus field and its multiple clinical transfers into the human population (e.g., SARS, MERS), from different animal sources.

The current projections for its expansion in the US are only probable, due to continued insufficient worldwide data, but it is most likely to be widespread in the US by mid to late March and April.

Here is what I have done and the precautions that I take and will take. These are the same precautions I currently use during our influenza seasons, except for the mask and gloves.

- 1) NO HANDSHAKING! Use a fist bump, slight bow, elbow bump, etc.
- 2) Use ONLY your knuckle to touch light switches, elevator buttons, etc. Lift the gasoline dispenser with a paper towel or use a disposable glove.
- 3) Open doors with your closed fist or hip—do not grasp the handle with your hand, unless there is no other way to open the door. Especially important on bathroom and post office/commercial doors.
- 4) Use disinfectant wipes at the stores when they are available, including wiping the handle and child seat in grocery carts.
- 5) Wash your hands with soap for 10-20 seconds and/or use a greater than 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer whenever you return home from ANY activity that involves locations where other people have been.
- 6) Keep a bottle of sanitizer available at each of your home's entrances. AND in your car for use after getting gas or touching other contaminated objects when you can't immediately wash your hands.
- 7) If possible, cough or sneeze into a disposable tissue and discard. Use your elbow only if you have to. The clothing on your elbow will contain infectious virus that can be passed on for up to a week or more!

**continued**

## Message from the Minister

### **What I have stocked in preparation for the pandemic spread to the US:**

A) Latex or nitrile latex disposable gloves for use when going shopping, using the gasoline pump, and all other outside activity when you come in contact with contaminated areas.

Note: This virus is spread in large droplets by coughing and sneezing. This means that the air will not infect you! BUT all the surfaces where these droplets land are infectious for about a week on average—everything that is associated with infected people will be contaminated and potentially infectious. The virus is on surfaces and you will not be infected unless your unprotected face is directly coughed or sneezed upon. This virus only has cell receptors for lung cells (it only infects your lungs) The only way for the virus to infect you is through your nose or mouth via your hands or an infected cough or sneeze onto or into your nose or mouth.

B) Learn not to touch your nose and/or mouth (We touch our nose/mouth 90X/day without knowing it!). This is the only way this virus can infect you—it is lung-specific. If you use a mask—a mask will not prevent the virus in a direct sneeze from getting into your nose or mouth—it is only to keep you from touching your nose or mouth.

C) (oops - maybe too late) Stock up now with hand sanitizers and latex/nitrile gloves (get the appropriate sizes for your family). The hand sanitizers must be alcohol-based and greater than 60% alcohol to be effective.

D) Stock up now with zinc lozenges. These lozenges have been proven to be effective in block-ing coronavirus (and most other viruses) from multiplying in your throat and nasopharynx. Use as directed several times each day when you begin to feel ANY "cold-like" symptoms begin-ning. It is best to lie down and let the lozenge dissolve in the back of your throat and nasophar-ynx. Cold-EeZe lozenges is one brand available, but there are other brands available.

I, as many others do, hope that this pandemic will be reasonably contained, BUT I personally do not think it will be. Humans have never seen this snake-associated virus before and have no internal defense against it. Tremendous worldwide efforts are being made to understand the molecular and clinical virology of this virus. Unbelievable molecular knowledge about the ge-nomics, structure, and virulence of this virus has already been achieved. BUT, there will be NO drugs or vaccines available this year to protect us or limit the infection within us. Only sympto-matic support is available. I hope these personal thoughts will be helpful during this potentially catastrophic pandemic.

**You are welcome to share this email.**

Good luck to all of us!

Jim

Unfortunately, there is a lot of fake information being shared. Like the one that Moher Jones debunked as follows:  
<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2020/03/theres-a-facebook-coronavirus-post-going-viral-claiming-to-be-from-stanford-dont-believe-it/>

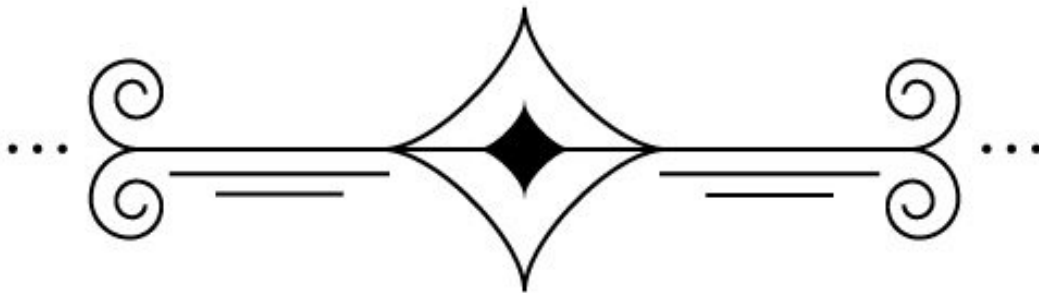
# Message from the Board of Trustees

This UUCSP Newsletter is published once a month. This newsletter cannot be your primary source of information about church activities and board decisions. It seems like the world is changing not just monthly but weekly and even daily. Information written for this newsletter may no longer be valid by the time you read this or refer to it throughout the month of April.

It is time to dust off your computer skills and start reading your emails. You might learn how to open an attachment if you do not already. It also makes sense to be able to download data and also to cut and paste data from one source onto your computer's hard drive for reference later. Do we need a class in technology for spiritual centers?

What would happen if you were asked to sign into an online account that was going to stream a video of our Sunday sermon? What would you do if you were asked to participate in an online discussion that involved several church members talking into their computer or cell phone while looking at little heads talking about church business on the screen?

Get ready. The world is changing, and the church is going to change along with it.



## FACEBOOK PAGE

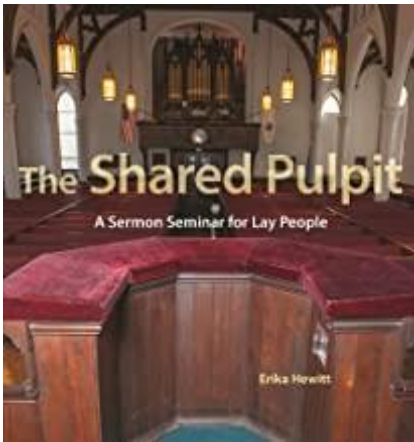
During the current crisis, Facebook can be one of the best ways to stay connected to the church. You might like to join Facebook to stay in touch during this time; you can always leave it later. Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) to sign up and then search for the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula. Rev. Maddie posts every day. In addition, we livestreamed the service on March 15 and will be doing more going forward, including the Meditation Group at 6 PM Wednesday evenings. Love it or hate it, social media is where a lot of communication happens these days. At its best, social media helps people share and access ideas, news, events and information. It also can serve as a vital means of connection for people and organizations. Social Media works best when folks “share” content so that we are not the best kept secret in Santa Paula! If you are on Facebook, “Like” us!

# Faith Formation

## PLANNING FOR OUR CHILDREN

While there is no in person worship, the church is closed for all activities other than in the office. There will be no activities for children on March 20 or 29th. Assuming we are back at church in April, the Sunday Adult Volunteer schedule is as follows, noting we need volunteers on April 12 and 26:

April 5	Ruth Ricards
April 12	?
April 19	Multigenerational: Earth day
April 26	?



## SERMON WRITING WORKSHOP SERIES WITH REV. MADDIE

Four people are taking the workshop The Shared Pulpit with Rev. Maddie. It had gotten off to a great start but is now on hiatus until the members are comfortable gathering in our building again.



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# GATHERING\*



## \*DEFINITION OF GATHERING

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

**APRIL 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

You are invited to our Gathering for sound, silence and word.

Led by Maddie Sifantus with Atul Ranchod

Special Guest, Singer Songwriter Cara Tower

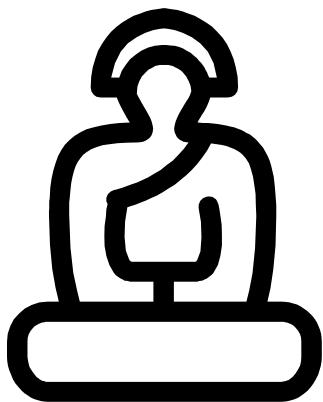
Free will offering for the Gathering musicians

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.

*We will be moving online to Facebook livestream while we bunker down.*

*Like the FB page: Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula*

## MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

### UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

#### PARISH HALL

**April 1 with Rev. Maddie**

**April 8 with Jim Cole**

**April 15 with Rev. Maddie**

**April 22 with Jim Cole**

**April 29 with Rev. Maddie**



## SOARING HEARTS YOGA

Yoga sessions have been cancelled until further notice.

Lisa Hammond can be reached at 831-801- 2276 or [soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com)



## TAI CHI CHIH

T'aiChiChih sessions have been cancelled until further notice.

Tish Jaramillo can be reached at [tish1@hotmail.com](mailto:tish1@hotmail.com).

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# People and Doings

## NEWS FROM AMONG US – April 2020

- First and foremost, Rev. Maddie, Krystal, the Board and all in leadership positions send our love and care out to our beloved community. We need to take care of our members, friends and community partners at this time. And each one of us need to make the best decisions to take care of ourselves.
- We are glad we were able to Celebrate the Life of Jean McGregor before most things have shut down. Some of our members were able to attend, there was a message from Rev. Carolyn Price, reflections from Ariel Alexander and Judith Beay and Jean's family. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you would like her to mail you a copy of the Bulletin with its insert of Jean's hilarious Doggerel.
- The Memorial Mass and Celebration of Life of Xavier Montes planned for March 20<sup>th</sup> has been postponed until a later date.
- Ken Stock's brother in law, Tom Reynolds, died on March 3. We are glad that Ken and Annie were able to visit him in Phoenix last month.
- Kerstie Lewis was scheduled to have neck/spinal surgery to address damage caused by an automobile accident last August. It has now been postponed twice and the next date of April 2 is in jeopardy due to the current situation.
- Dale Peace has been moved from Community Memorial Hospital to Coastal View in Ventura. If you want to send a card, the address is 4904 Telegraph Ave., Ventura, CA 93003. There are no visitors allowed at this time.
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

## REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS

During the "shelter in place" period, Rev. Maddie will be available by phone or email if you need to talk. Email her at [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org), leave a message on the Minister's church office phone (805-525-4620) or call her cell phone at 508-733-8860. If you get voice mail, leave a clear message and phone number and she will get back to you. Once we can go back into the church building, she will be happy to meet with you in her office.

## BECOMING A SAFER CONGREGATION

Your Safe Congregation Team continues to meet to look at a number of our policies and the safety of our building and practices. Your Safe Congregation Team is Rev. Maddie, Erik Halseth, Ken Stock, Karen Harris representing the board, Pat English on fiduciary safety, Krystal Johnson from the staff and our friend Sharon Kufeldt. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you have interest in this effort or concerns. Our next meeting is April 1 at Noon in Rev. Maddie's Office or on Zoom if we are still sheltering in place. The Safe Congregation Team reports and is advisory to the Board.

# People and Doings

## CHOIR

**NOTE: The schedules of the choir and everything else at the church may change during the next month due to the shelter in place order Listen to a lot of music to raise your spirits!**

The choir sings 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. Thursday and Sunday 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](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org). Thursday rehearsals are 90 minutes. Sunday rehearsals are 45 minutes. Please try to be prompt and bring your chair to the choir space before 4:00 PM. We will not rehearse in July and August.

### CHOIR SCHEDULE

April 16	4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
April 19	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Earth Day Service Multigenerational</i>
The World is Full of Poetry from <i>Earth Songs</i> , James Gates Percival, David L. Brunner			
May 14	4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
May 17	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	
Prayer for Peace		David Haas	
June 11	4:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
June 14	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	
Let There Be Music, Gordon Young			



## CARING COMMITTEE

Lay ministers play a vital role in our congregation, extending the reach of our professional minister. Due to the current pandemic crisis, our April meeting and Five Wishes Workshop is cancelled. We will reschedule Five Wishes until later this year. On Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> the Caring Committee will sponsor a workshop on the End of Life planning document Five Wishes. On Friday, May 22 at noon we will have a visit from hospice chaplain Corinne Carson. Our final meeting of this church year will be Thursday, June 18. If you would like a call from the minister, a member of the Caring Committee or are interested in serving as a lay minister, ask Rev. Maddie or Committee Chair Karen Harris.



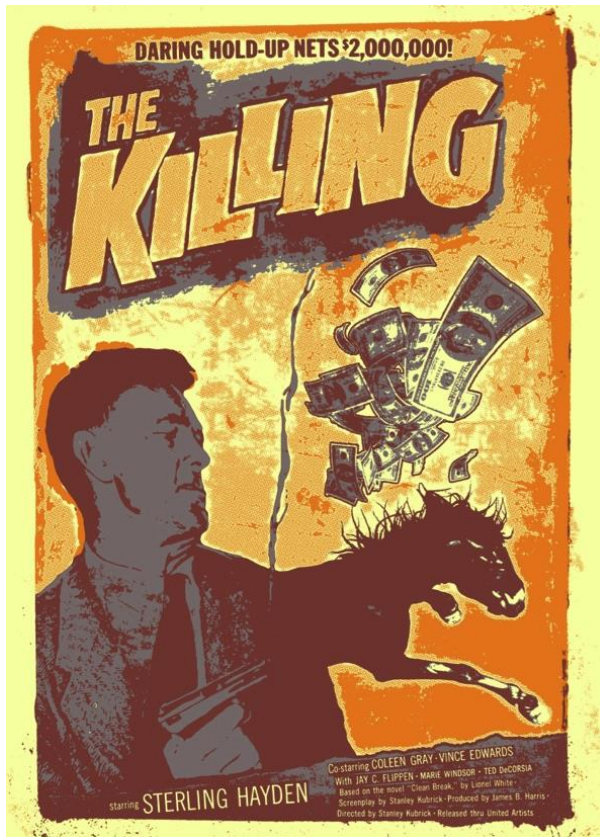
### PHONE TREE

Rev. Maddie, Krystal and the Caring Committee are creating an old-fashioned Phone Tree (East Coaster Maddie calls it a phone chain). This will be used to help check on our folks or to get information out rapidly by telephone. We may also create a Group Text group. We do not have cell phones for everyone and know that not all of our members and friends use them. The most up to date information comes on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UUCSP/>

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# People and Doings

## SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY



Stanley Kubrick was not yet 30 years old when he made the noir heist flick *THE KILLING* in 1956, but it was already his third feature film for United Artists. The first two were low-budget pulps and so this film is regarded as Kubrick's first mature work. Based on a novel by Lionel White, it tells the story of a criminal conspiracy to rob a racetrack of \$2 million. As in all stories of this type, it is never in doubt that the caper will go terribly wrong at some point, the telling is in how, and in fleshing out the dark, desperate characters who try to pull it off. Although *THE KILLING* bombed at the box office, film critics noticed it, and the film's acceptance in those circles and a growing cult following helped secure Kubrick's reputation as a cinema auteur. This pattern of rejection and acceptance of his work was a hallmark of Kubrick shape-shifting filmmaking career. Starring Sterling Hayden, Colleen Gray, Ted de Corsia, and noir staple character actors Elisha Cook Jr. and Marie Windsor. It also features a small part for Joe Sawyer, an actor with a direct connection to Santa Paula!

Our ability to show this film on our regular date depends on whether it is prudent to gather in small public groups at that time. Rescheduling will be announced if required as we get closer to the date.

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY  
FRIDAY APRIL 10, 2020

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



## RISE UP SINGING

UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA PARISH HALL

740 E MAIN STREET

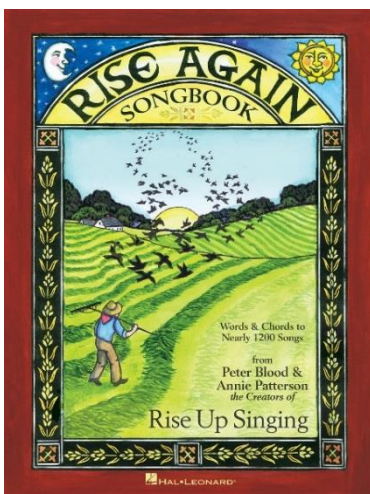
FRIDAY, APRIL 17 AT 7:00 PM

LED BY MADDIE SIFANTUS ~ ALL AGES

BRING RISE UP SINGING AND/OR RISE AGAIN BOOKS IF YOU  
HAVE THEM

ALL INSTRUMENTS WELCOME! COMMUNITY SINGING!

FREE WILL OFFERING (\$5 recommended)



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# People and Doings

## MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

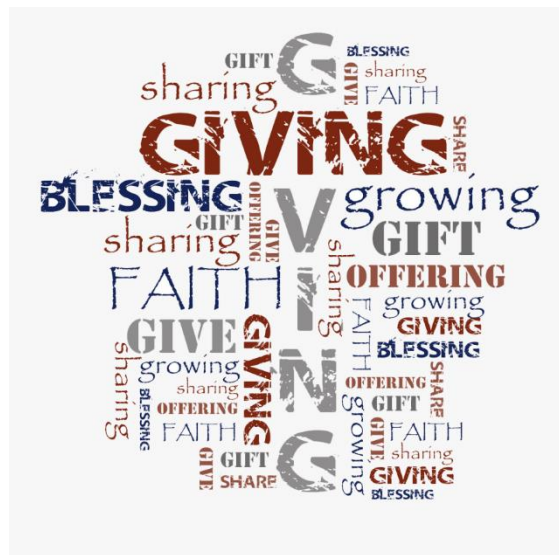
Thursday, April 23, The Mary A. Livermore Society will meet somehow.

## THE SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

**MEETING** – Wednesday, April 8, 3:00 pm: Social Concerns Action Committee will meet. Location to be announced.

**DOCUMENTARY** cancelled for this month

**EXPAND-YOUR-MIND** cancelled for this month



## LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH OFFERING ONE STEP A LA VEZ

Our church has a long history of donating food as a tangible expression of our generosity toward the deep need in our community. One Step A La Vez is so grateful to begin receiving the monthly UUCSP non-perishable food collection on the last Sunday of each month. The food will be used for meals for the teens served by our program from Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. Whatever we are unable to use for the youth, will be distributed in our twice monthly **community food pantry** to hungry families (First and second Wednesdays). We welcome ALL non-perishable food items but some very helpful items that the teens will always go through include, peanut butter, jam, breakfast cereal, canned tuna or chicken, jars of pasta sauce, canned pineapple, boxes of macaroni and cheese or cup o' noodles, granola bars, popcorn, and dry pasta. Shelf stable basics like cooking oil, flour, spices and condiments also help!

We can also always use things like tampons, pads, shampoo conditioner, bodywash, deodorant, toothbrushes, laundry soap for our free **toiletries closet** that is accessed by our staff when a youth needs something they do not have at home.

Kind regards, Kate English, Executive Director [www.onestepalavez.org](http://www.onestepalavez.org)

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### 1ST QUARTER FIRST SUNDAY PLATE OFFERING



FRIENDS OF  
THE SANTA CLARA RIVER

For 26 years, Friends of the Santa Clara River (FSCR) has been the voice of protection and conservation of the 82 mile Santa Clara River from its headwaters to the sea. FSCR is currently the steward of the donated keystone property, Hedrick Range Nature Area (HRNA).

In the Santa Clara River Valley, FSCR actively restores the riparian (streamside) environment at HRNA. Volunteers come monthly to the 220-acre site to remove invasive plants, plant native vegetation, and work in the native plant nursery. After many years, the restoration has been a huge success as endangered bird species have returned in increasing numbers. Larger land mammals, such as mountain lion and coyote, are known to be present signifying the entire ecosystem is healthy.

Not far upstream FSCR is helping to manage a visitor area known as the Sespe Cienega Trail (at the road into the Fillmore Fish Hatchery). The site is newly open to the public and contains 1/2 acre interpretive native plant trail. Visitors are able to take a brochure available at the site kiosk and walk through finding numbered markers and reading about important species. Volunteer days to maintain the current trail are held approximately every other month. A significant expansion of the Sespe Cienega site is planned over the next few years with other conservation partners.

Thanks to State funding FSCR takes school classes -- over 1,500 students learning about the river on-site. Immersion in nature is the best way to impart lasting knowledge and lifelong stewardship of our environment. Before the grant funding expires, **FSCR would like to establish a Santa Clara River Scholar Fund to continue offering this program. The fund would cover program expenses, such as outdoor leaders and supplies, as well as administrative costs (insurance and clerical). Trips within walking distance of a River location would be offered to schools in the Santa Clara River valley especially that have worked with FSCR such as Santa Paula HS, Briggs School and Fillmore Middle School.**

Please visit the Sespe Cienega Trail and come out for a volunteer day! Join the FSCR mailing list to get an occasional announcement for upcoming events at [fscr.org](http://fscr.org).

## People and Doings

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
A MYSTERY DINNER FUNDRAISER...**



**Saturday, May 30, 2020 at 6:00 pm**  
**The Grand Gatsby AKA UU Church of Santa Paula**  
**740 East Main Street, Santa Paula CA 93060**  
**Donation: \$50/person**  
**For more info contact: Ruth Ricards** [rgricards@gmail.com](mailto:rgricards@gmail.com)

It's the height of Prohibition in 1920s Chicago, and there's a mob war brewing between the South Side Gangsters and the Northern Chicago Mob Outfit. The two ruthless crime leaders Hal Sapone and Beanie O'Dannon have finally reached an agreement on bootlegging practices in Chicago and have decided to pull together resources to undergo a collaborative effort with criminal endeavors. On the surface, this strategy seems similar to bailing out a sinking ship with tin cups, nevertheless. Recently, gangsters from the north and south have been spotted together at various speakeasies throughout Chicago, but the tension in the air is always thick enough to be cut with a knife. However, this newfound relationship between the opposing mob bosses has served, thus far, to inhibit gratuitous bloodshed as in the past. Part of the success of this truce is that both crime bosses have found new dames, thereby intertwining more mutual relationships between the two factions. The two gangs have set an official date to meet at Hal Sapone's Grand Gatsby Speakeasy to resolve all remaining differences. Will these two underground organizations resolve their disputes, or will a massive melee erupt, rekindling the fatal flames between them? This is where your story begins.

Go to the link below to view the Mystery Dinner Trailer...

**[1920's Grand Gatsby Trailer](#)**

Or copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/LaMUKufVTzM>

All art is the property of and was provided by MyMysteryParty.com ©

**SANTA PAULA CONCERT SERIES:**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, May 16 7:00 PM**

**A CALL 2 PEACE**



*Federico Ramos, DJ Werd, Sonía Kazarova, Eduardo Del Signore, Scarlet Rivera, Ron Wagner*

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

**For ticket reservations: [www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org)**

**805-525-4647 ~ [uucspoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uucspoffice@gmail.com)**



## **SpiritRest Silent Retreat**

**July 26–31, 2020**

**Rancho Palos Verdes, CA**

**A facilitated five-day silent retreat for  
Unitarian Universalists and other spiritual seekers.**

**[www.spiritrestretreat.com](http://www.spiritrestretreat.com)**

THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street  
Santa Paula, CA 93060  
Office: 805-525-4647  
[uucspoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uucspoffice@gmail.com)  
[www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org)



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Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am

Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Minister, Choir Director

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Affiliate Minister

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

**May newsletter deadline April 15**

When this is over,  
may we never again take for  
granted  
A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves at the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
A crowded theater  
Friday night out  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The school rush each morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
Each deep breath  
A boring Tuesday  
Life itself.

When this ends, may we find  
that we have become  
more like people  
we wanted to be  
we were called to be  
and may we stay that way –  
better for each other  
because of the worst.

*Dated Material  
Time Value*

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