



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

740 E. Main Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060 (805) 525-4647

uucspoffice@gmail.com website: uucsp.org

DECEMBER 2020 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



DECEMBER THEME Kindness

Ian MacLaren wrote, "Be kind; everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." Kindness is considered a virtue, a moral obligation, the currency of compassion, an act of solidarity, radical hospitality, communion, a lifeline, a balm in Gilead, and much more. Human civilization would not long survive without it. In fact, it is kindness that civilizes us and those with whom we interact.

Sunday, December 6

What Matters?

Michael Eselun, Pat English

Moving together through these challenging times, we find ourselves, perhaps on a daily basis, reassessing our priorities. UCLA Oncology Chaplain and popular guest speaker, Michael Eselun will share reflections on the question, "What Matters?"

Second Sunday of Advent

First Sunday Plate to Interface Children and Family Services

Tuesday, December 8 at 7 PM

Holiday Twilight Gathering

Rev. Maddie, Geno Palilla and Christine Snipes Mazor

This is a reflective time in our busy week to hear some inspiring music, share some silence and hear spoken word. Music for the season. Led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. The music will be provided by Geno Palilla, piano, Christine Snipes Mazor, violin and Maddie, soprano, with poet Atul Ranchod.

Sunday, December 13

The Path of Kindness

Rev. Maddie, Karen Harris

Our Touchstones theme for December is kindness. How can we cultivate kindness in ourselves, the world around us and during this holiday season?

Third Sunday of Advent



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



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Wednesday, December 16 at 6 PM

Holiday Vespers

Channel Islands UU Cluster

Join Rev. Maddie and ministers from several of our congregations for a reflective time as we collaborate together in this holiday season. Stay tuned for instructions in Friday eblasts.

Thursday, December 17 at 3 PM Blue Christmas Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Caring Committee

When the Holidays Hurt: Many people have difficulties during the holiday season for a variety of reasons. This pandemic year may bring more sadness than most. Join Rev. Maddie and members of our Caring Committee online for a reflective hour of readings and reflection.

Sunday, December 20

Winter Solstice

Rev. Maddie, Readers

Cultures around the world mark the Winter Solstice and end-of-year holidays in different ways.

We mark this year's pandemic solstice with readings, chants and honoring of the four directions marking the longest night of the year.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Thursday, December 24 at 4:30 PM

Christmas Eve

Rev. Maddie, Readers

We are hoping that our traditional Christmas Eve Service will take place socially distanced in the Memorial Garden and on Zoom and Facebook. Stay tuned for instructions in Friday eblasts. We will end with Silent Night sung by a soloist and lit candles which you will take home with you.

Sunday, December 27

Kitty the Dog's Kind-nest

Nic Filzen, Kate English

Come enjoy an original allegory about a young dog's hospitality, warmth, and kindness, in the midst of a "bleak mid-winter." Illustrated by Nic Filzen's stepdaughter, Noelle Hinton. Bring the kids for this one! Nic is newly Fellowshiped for UU ministry. He and his family live in Santa Barbara where he is the former Intern for the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara. He will be ordained in March.

UU's of Our Past

Leslie Nichols



HOW WE GATHER

As we stay Safe at Home, we continue to work to stay connected through Zoom and Facebook as well as our Phone Tree. The church building remains closed to all but staff. Sunday morning services begin on Zoom and Facebook Live at 10:30 AM and coffee hour breakout follows on Zoom. Please email Joys and Concerns to Rev. Maddie at minister@uucsp.org who will read them, or you can put them in the CHAT function on Zoom during the service. Please mail your donation to the church at UUCSP, 740 E Main Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060 or you can set up online pay with your bank. If neither of those works for you, use the link on the homepage of our website: www.uucsp.org. Gathering is supported by a Free Will Offering. Donations can be given the same way as Sunday mornings.

Join Zoom Meeting: PLEASE MUTE YOUR MICROPHONE

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7312177775>

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Password: uucsp93060

To phone: +1 253 215 8782 Phone password: 529593

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

Message from the Minister

Here we arrive at the holiday season which will be unlike any that we can remember, whether in our homes, in our communities and here at UUCSP. In my neighborhood, Christmas decorations started to go up on some houses not long after Halloween. I love to imagine what Christmas was like in the early days of this Universalist congregation and before. Our Unitarian forebears were from Puritan stock and didn't celebrate Christmas at all until about 1830 when Charles Follen brought the tradition of the Christmas tree to America. Universalists, though, were another story.

Mary Rice had been raised in the Baptist faith and attended the Methodist church when she was teaching in Duxbury, Massachusetts until one Christmas when her life was changed forever. In her biography, *A Strong-Minded Woman: The Life of Mary A. Livermore*, Wendy Hamand West tells the story that she had been raised to disdain Christmas merriment to be unseemly. Perhaps feeling lonely, on Christmas Night 1844 she went out for a walk and was drawn by the music that emanated from Universalist church as she passed by. An usher invited her to enter, and she did. "The preacher," she later recalled, "was a young man, not more than twenty-five years old, blonde in complexion, with a good voice and a simple, earnest, prepossessing manner." She introduced herself to him after the service and the rest is history. Although Mary Rice had long believed that the Universalist Church was "outside the pale of Christian organizations," under Daniel Livermore's tutelage she began to rethink her views and learned the history and theology of the Universalist denomination. So it was that the music coming out of the church at Christmas pulled her in and transformed her life, from a new religion to a husband to her becoming the "queen of the platform".

Who knows what transformation each of us can find in this holiday season if we open to what new may break in? Perhaps this "different time" is just what we have needed to find new ways of being and ways to bring light and love to our hurting world.

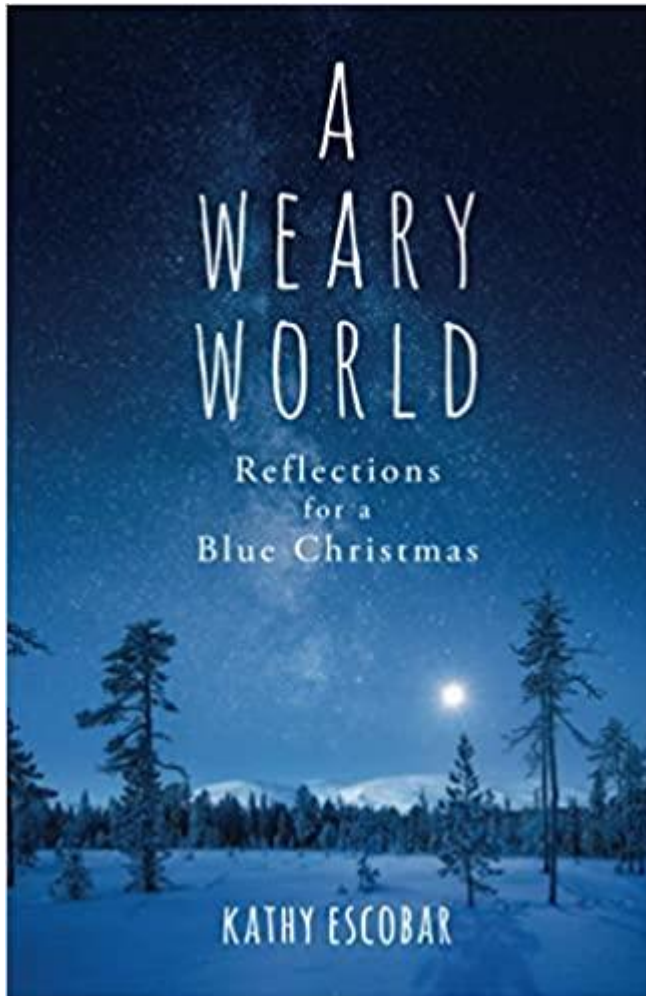
On the path of our faith,

Rev. Maddie Sifantus



Message from the Minister

WHAT THE PASTOR IS READING



A lot of what I read is to inform my sermons and other theological thinking as your minister. Before I came to Santa Paula, most years I hosted what was called a Blue Christmas service. I will be doing a version of it in collaboration with our Caring Committee on Thursday, December 17 at 3 PM. The book I am currently reading, *The Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas* by Kathy Escobar, came out in 2020 and seems especially topical as many of us are having difficulty with the isolation of these last months, illnesses and deaths among our family and friends, economic challenges and more. But this time of year, can be difficult for many for many reasons. I will be using this book to reflect during the four weeks of Advent, that time of waiting leading up to Christmas Day. I have long used Advent as a time to reflect on my life, what my intentions might be for the new year that begins at the end of those four weeks and the holidays, and making meaning of the year past. And 2020 was a doozie! Are you feeling weary? Are you ready for a season of bright lights? Is there a path to hope? What are *you* reading?



Messages from the Board of Trustees

It is not too soon to be thinking and planning for the Annual Meeting we will be holding on Zoom in January. Get some practice with Zoom by attending church services every Sunday you can on Zoom. Instead of hymns we'll be sharing documents on the screen to help run the meeting. One of your committee reports might just be projected so start getting ready.

On another topic I suggest you start researching the roots of Universalism. Our Unitarian Universalist denomination just celebrated the 250th anniversary of Universalism so attention is being paid to our roots. Digging into our Universalist archives here in Santa Paula has stimulated me to join a group on Zoom that talks about Universalism. It is called the Universalist Heritage Network. Most of the discussion is about what is going on to the east of us but I have a feeling that we can make Santa Paula famous due to our archives and roots in Universalism going back to the 1890s and before.

One piece of essential research came to me in the mail. I order used books a lot and Amazon is my LAST RESORT. I want to buy from independent booksellers whenever possible so I do my searching on a site called ABEBOOKS.com My recent purchase was a gently used paperback titled *The Larger Faith* by Charles A. Howe. It is "A Short History of American Universalism". It is condensed from a more extensive history that took up two volumes. I'll donate it to the church library after I finish it, but you might want your own.

Let's all grow our faith through the study of Universalism and a little Unitarianism while we're at it.



Messages from the Board of Trustees

Zooming into January's Annual Meeting

Depending on placement in the newsletter, you may have read John Nichols' request to practice your Zoom-ing in preparation for the upcoming Annual Meeting. That meeting will be held after the regular church service on January 31, 2021 (exact time will be determined soon). We'll have retired one President by then, and our own Board President will be completing his term with our first ever online Annual Meeting, so we'll have lots of new and exciting endings and beginnings for the new year.

A few nuts and bolts, because that's what I do: The advent of online meetings requires us to change almost everything associated with them. For our committee chairs and anyone else who usually has an annual report included in our 'packet' – your due date is being set earlier: we're talking **the first week of January!** Board members, our minister, our associate minister... we are ALL being given this notice. Our VERY hard-working Office Administrator will need time to assemble everything and get it sent out to everyone well in advance of January 31.

The expectation this year is to send meeting packets via email. If you absolutely cannot receive them this way, please contact the church office as soon as possible to let us know. If they have to be mailed postally, there is more time, expense and worry involved but we do want everyone to know that they will be accommodated.

We are hoping to have all Annual Meeting information to members at least a week or ten days in advance. This will give everyone time to familiarize themselves with the reports, charts, nominations, and all that goes into the meeting. We will have technical support available, naturally, but are hoping to 'corral the cats' and not have the meeting get too chaotic. Questions and concerns will, of course, be welcomed, but in an online setting, again, things work differently. We will have folks monitoring the Zoom (I still think it ought to be Zuum) screens for raised hands, waving, etc. This reminds me to remind everyone that we will need to actually see you on screen to verify quorum, and to see when questions are requested. So, if you haven't been setting your camera on, here's that Hollywood screentest moment you've been waiting for.

We know this is a lot of information, and it's two months early, but we want to ensure that everyone has time to process how this will work and have no (bad) surprises. Our minister, Maddie, told the Board at our monthly meeting that from what she has seen of other churches in the area, we are well-positioned and technologically more advanced than most. That edge will help us, but we need everyone's help, too. If questions arise at any time, please contact a Board member or the office.

Enjoy the holidays! See you in church.



GATHERING*



**TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 8
7:00 PM**

***DEFINITION OF GATHERING**

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



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

Led by Maddie Sifantus with Atul Ranchod, poet,
also musicians Geno Palilla, piano and Christine Snipes Mazor, violin.

On Zoom, exported to Facebook.com/uucsp

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7312177775>

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775

+1 253 215 8782 (to call in by phone)

Password uucsp93060

Free will offering to UUCSP, with Gathering in memo line
740 E Main St, Santa Paula, CA 93060

Spiritual Growth Center

SPIRITUAL GROWTH CENTER



During this time of Social Distancing and our building being closed, we encourage you to find ways to continue your spiritual practices at home. Rev. Maddie leads Meditation on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM, livestreaming from our Facebook page. We are experimenting with socially distanced yoga in our rose garden with no access to the building. Be in touch with Lisa Hammond for more information. Our Spiritual Growth Center provides opportunities and programs to awaken and sustain love, compassion, service and personal transformation in line with the Mission of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula: Practice Inclusiveness, Seek Justice and Foster Spirituality. 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 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. Would you like to offer an activity on Zoom during this time.

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM

Sit with Rev. Maddie or Jim Cole on Zoom or Facebook livestream

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7312177775>

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Passcode: uucsp93060

www.facebook.com/uucsp

December 2 Jim Cole

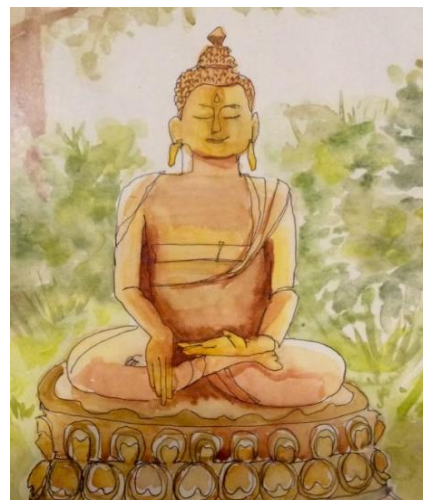
December 9 Jim Cole

December 16 Holiday Vespers

December 23 Rev. Maddie

December 30 Rev. Maddie

Leadership schedule subject to change



SOARING HEARTS YOGA



Soaring Hearts Yoga invites you to join them in their shady outdoor space on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 AM. Bring your own mats and props. No access to the building. Please contact Lisa Hammond at 831-801-2276 or soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com for more information.

People and Doings

NEW: Meet the Members!

While we're unable to meet face-to-face in worship and coffee hour, and via committee meetings and events, we thought it would be nice to keep and deepen connections up by providing a member profile each newsletter, starting with the members of your Board of Trustees. Whether you are getting to know someone for the first time, or getting to know something new about them, we hope "Meet the Members" will help to get and keep us connected despite the need for social distancing. For more information, please contact Rev. Maddie at minister@uucsp.org or Krystal Johnson at uucspoffice@gmail.com



Member Profile: Jyl Atmore

Board of Trustees Member at Large

Age: 82

Contact Information: Please consult your UUCSP Directory for Jyl's address in the Oaks, email address and telephone number.

Occupation: Jyl met Allan Atmore when they were both attending the University of California at Berkeley. When they moved to Santa Paula, Jyl was a young bride and her husband Allan was a farmer in the city he was raised. For many years, she was a housewife and a mother, as most women were in those days. After their three children graduated from college, she went back to college and earned a professional degree in interior design from the UCLA extension at UC Santa Barbara. After that she worked as a self-employed interior designer, doing mainly residential work. She was intimately involved in the design of the addition at our church.

What is your faith of origin?

Jyl's mother and grandmother were Christian Scientists, attending where she lived in Long Beach where Jyl attended Sunday School wondering why her father and brothers didn't have to go! When the family moved to the desert in Indio, Jyl attended the Methodist youth group with friends. When she arrived at college, her sorority sisters went to church, so she went Christian Science once but still found it to be, "Too much religion telling you what to do."

How did find out about Unitarian-Universalism and UUCSP?

Once Jyl moved to Santa Paula, she got involved in UUCSP because there was "No pressure." It was 1961, the year of the merger of the Universalists with the Unitarians into the UUA. She found the members to be very nice people. They didn't tell her what to believe. She especially remembers that Mary Louise Hardison, Logan's mother, was especially warm and welcoming. She found out later looking in the church archives that both sets of Allan's grandparents were signed members. Jyl has stayed a member all these years, despite times when she was busy with her children, school, and work. She always came back!

What do you find/ hope to find here?

What it is—a wonderful, caring community. It is my extended family.

If you could have dinner with any religious/spiritual leader, past or present, who would you choose and why?

The Reverend Berkeley Blake was the interim minister of UUCSP in the early 60s and my introduction to Unitarian Universalism. His daughter and son-in-law lived in Santa Barbara and he lived with them and then moved to Santa Paula when then minister Rev. Fred LeShane left to start the UU Church in Ventura and UUCSP was in need of an interim. Jyl remembers Rev. Blake as a wonderful, warm, old gentleman who was the last minister to live in the Parsonage which was on 7th Street. He loved nature and did a lot of sermons about Walden Pond and Thoreau. He loved to visit his parishioners and would just show up at their door! One thing he did that she especially appreciated was when son Tom needed surgery at 5 weeks old. Rev. Blake waited with them at the Foster Hospital in Ventura the whole time the baby was in surgery. She has never forgotten his ministry.

People and Doings

WON'T YOU BE OUR MEMBER

Are you an *official member* of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula or thinking of becoming one? As we approach our Annual Meeting which will be January 31, 2021 on Zoom, it is a good time to think about what our congregation means to you. Becoming a member allows you to vote on the budget and all-important decisions we make.

Becoming a member of UUCSP is an individual decision, so some people in a family may be members while others are not. While only members can vote on church matters, both members and non-members alike are welcome to attend services and other church activities, volunteer, and contribute financially to our congregation. Like many other UU churches, we have dedicated friends who have been active in our congregation, perhaps for years, but have never signed the membership book. Is this your time?

If you fall into that “friend” (active non-member) category, you might want to consider becoming a member now. If you have never gotten around to signing the book, but want to become an official member, it’s easy—simply arrange to meet socially distanced with Rev. Maddie to talk about the meaning of membership and to sign the membership book. To vote at our upcoming Annual Meeting, please talk to Rev. Maddie about the path to membership by January 15. We look forward to deepening our connections with you.

The conditions for membership, according to our bylaws, are these: “This society shall welcome as members any person who is in sympathy with the purpose and program of this church, has signed the membership book subject to acceptance by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees or the members present at any legal meeting of the congregation. Membership is open to all persons 13 years of age or older without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, physical or mental challenges, sexual orientation, or gender identification. Members are expected to make an identifiable financial or service contribution.



NEWS FROM AMONG US December 2020

- Our joy is to welcome our new member Barbara Holliday who began attending at the end of last year. She signed the Membership Book on November 6, 2020. Her contact information is jupiter8@charter.net and 805-420-9225, 138 S Mill Street #113, Santa Paula, CA 93060. We included her in our most recent Directory.
- Our congratulations to Peter Krause and his wife Monse who were recently married in front of their new home on McKeveatt Heights!
- Donna Hamer is settling in to her new home near her son and family in Washington State. She has the same telephone number. You may wish to update her address in your Directory: 6189 N Beulah Drive, Ferndale, WA 98248. She has the same email address and telephone number.
- Our thoughts are with Margaret Broughton and her family as she enters into Hospice.
- Jan Shepherd is progressing well with her physical therapy at home and is ready to hear from her church friends.
- Our prayers are with our member Pat English who is continuing to go through some significant medical tests.
- 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 15th of every month.

People and Doings

REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS

During this time of the Pandemic, Rev. Maddie is available by appointment on Zoom or on a telephone appointment. She is also available to meet with you socially distanced in the Memorial Garden at church, in your garden or in her courtyard at her home. Monday is Rev. Maddie's day off and Saturday is her study/sermon writing day. 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 or minister@uucsp.org

PASTORAL COVERAGE

Rev. Maddie will be taking Study Leave from November 28 through December 6 to serve at the Winter Meeting of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Although she will be in Santa Paula due to the pandemic with all the Meeting on Zoom, our Administrator, Krystal Johnson or our congregation president, John Nichols, will contact Rev. Betty Stapleford in the case of a pastoral emergency who is covering for her while she is serving our UUA.



SIP AND CHECK-IN WITH REV. MADDIE

TUESDAYS DECEMBER 15 AND 22

AT 4 PM ON ZOOM

Grab your favorite beverage and join Rev. Maddie on Zoom.

We will light a chalice, have a reading,
and check in with each other.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7312177775> Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Password: uucsp93060



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, including thoughts about our reentry once it will be safe to do so. We are informed by our insurance company, Church Mutual, and the Pacific Western Region of the UUA. We could use a new member of two in these important COVID-19 times when we need to keep apprised of the latest information. Team member Erik Halseth needed to move on to concentrate on his seminary education and path to ministry and Pat English is currently having health challenges. Can you bring your gifts to our community? We are looking for a new thought partner or two to the Team which is Rev. Maddie, Ken Stock, Karen Harris representing the board, Pat English on fiduciary safety, Krystal Johnson from the staff and our friend Sharon Kufeldt from UU Ventura when she is able to attend. The next meeting is **December 9 at Noon** on Zoom. Please let Rev. Maddie or Krystal know if you are interested. The Safe Congregation Team reports and is advisory to the Board.



MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

. The Mary A. Livermore Society will meet **Thursday December 17, 11:30 AM** on zoom. It's the last month of 2020, and that means time to select the charities and nonprofit organizations the Mary A's will financially support with our membership dollars.

People and Doings

CARING COMMITTEE PRESENTS BLUE CHRISTMAS



Instead of the monthly Caring Committee meeting, they are presenting a service and time of sharing, Blue Christmas, on Thursday, December 17 at 3 PM. There will be readings, simple song, time to light candles of remembrance and distance for those no longer with us or who we can't see in this time of Pandemic. All are invited. Usual Zoom Meeting Room and Password. Should you wish to be a reader, please be in touch with Rev. Maddie. Image by Gayle Ansel.

PHONE TREE

We created a phone tree in March as the Safe at Home period began. This is used to help check on our folks or to get information out rapidly by telephone. If you do not think you are on the Tree and want to be, please let Rev. Maddie or Krystal Johnson know at uucspoffice@gmail.com.



CHOIR

WANTED! SINGERS WILLING TO SING SOLO DURING THIS TIME OF COVID

As you know, Rev. Maddie leads the hymn singing on the Sundays when she is leading the service. We would love to have a singer who would be willing to sing from the Sanctuary on those Sundays when she is not in attendance. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you are interested and she can tell you about the COVID protocols. While we cannot gather at this time, you are encouraged to find ways to sing or listen to music until the choir can gather and the days when we can open the doors to Rise Up Singers. At this point the reality is that it may be as far off as Spring 2021 or even later. Meanwhile, keep listening to music online, drag out your old records, CDs or tapes, keep singing in your house or your front steps, and supporting your favorite musicians and singers as you can.

4th QUARTER FIRST SUNDAY PLATE OFFERING

DECEMBER 6



Again, this year for this last quarter we will support Interface Children & Family Services, thereby providing many needed services for our fellow Santa Paula residents now during this pandemic. Thanks to our tax-deductible year-end gifts this time last year at year, Interface provided direct services to 1,378 adults, teens, and children who live in and around Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. Interface also provided critical information and referral services to 1,005 community members via 211 Information & Assistance.

By calling 211 (or texting their zip code to 898211), people are able to access help right when they need it right there in their homes, thanks to remote access. Be it assistance for problems relating to domestic violence, mental health issues, child abuse prevention, or trauma treatment, help is forthcoming. No more re-arranging schedules to comply with difficult appointment times; no more transporting the children along for lack of childcare. Such accessibility sustained critical services like mental health counseling sessions for our valley residents, especially during the pandemic, hopefully bringing about greater health, sustainability, and wellbeing to our corner of the County.

We are fortunate in having easy access to Interface's many services. Let's help Santa Paulans and Santa Clara River Valley residents get the professional counseling services they need. Let's support Interface!

People and Doings

SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

8TH PRINCIPLE PROJECT

BIG WORK JOIN US BIG WORK JOIN US BIG WORK JOIN US

The Social Concerns Action Committee will meet **December 9, 4:00 pm**, to deepen the discussion on the proposed UUA 8th Principle which addresses our need and commitment to dismantle racism. The police killings of George Floyd and many others, raised the consciousness of many of the faith community. Specifically, in our national UU movement, action has been taken in the form of a draft proposal to add another Principle in response to the moment we are living in. The proposed 8th Principle is as follows"

"We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."

Logan Hardison, a member of the Social Concerns Action Committee offers these comments on the 8th Principle:

The seven UU Principles have formed the belief structure for individual and congregational life for thirty years. Recent cases of police brutality to black and brown people and the disparate number of covid deaths among minorities now deemed "essential workers" paid minimum wage, if that, have brought into focus the glaring lack of social justice in these United States. Since the civil rights work and law changes of the 1960's now over fifty years ago, we have not moved on an upward path of civil rights and justice for all.

Our seven principles call on us to be "nice" people. We can harbor ill for no one yet leave the work for social justice in neutral. "The problem is not here." "We did not do it." "We aren't discriminating in our daily lives." Yet the systems of exclusion, disenfranchisement and unequal treatment continue visibly and invisibly.

The proposed 8th Principle calls on us to confront unjust systems and outcomes in accountable ways, and to recognize our positive actions to build equitable systems in government, organizations and communities. If not now, when is the time for UUCSP to review, discuss and consider the 8th Principle for our church community to shift our principles of belief as good people from neutral into "working to build a diverse multicultural beloved community??

Join us for this BIG WORK December 9 at 4:00!



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2020

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

www.uucsp.org

Sunday, November 29 at 10:30 AM

"Sermons Are Funny Things"

Erik Halseth with Ken Stock

~ *First Sunday in Advent*

First Sunday Plate to Interface

Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 AM

"What Matters"

Michael Eselun with Mary Nelson

~Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 6 at 1:30 PM

Community Carol Sing: East/West

Rev. Maddie, Santa Claus and the First Parish in Wayland

Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 PM

Holiday Gathering with Rev. Maddie Sifantus

Christine Snipes Mazor, violin and Geno Palilla, piano

Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 AM

"The Path of Kindness"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with Karen Harris

~Third Sunday in Advent

Wednesday, December 16 at 6:00 PM

Holiday Vespers

UUCSP, Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

Live Oak of Goleta

Thursday, December 17 at 3:00 PM

"Blue Christmas"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Caring Committee

Sunday, December 20 at 10:30 AM

"Winter Solstice"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with readers

~Fourth Sunday in Advent

Christmas Eve, December 24 at 5:00 PM

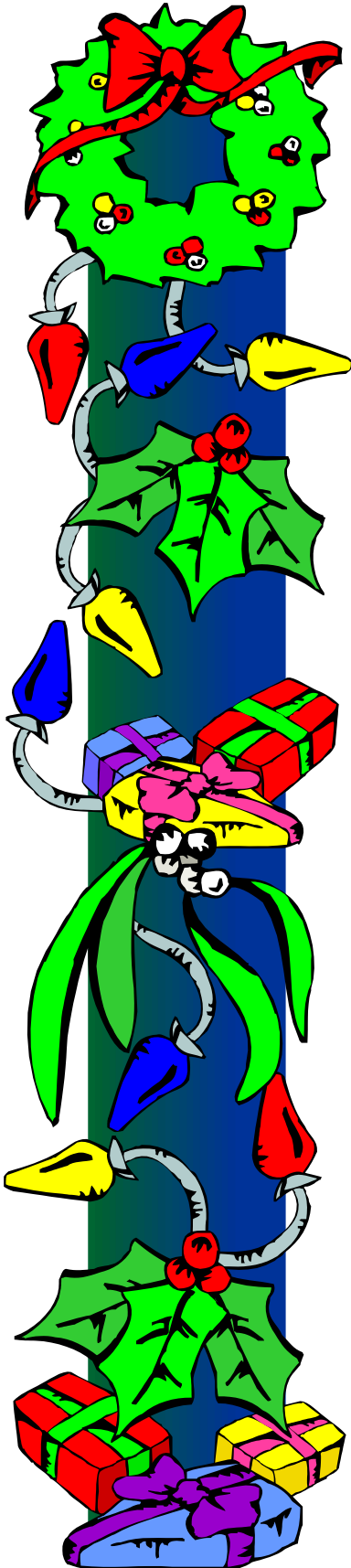
Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with readers

Sunday, December 27 at 10:30 AM

"Kitty the Dog's Kind-Nest"

Nicholas "Nic" Filzen with Kate English



People and Doings



EAST MEETS WEST COMMUNITY CAROL SING ONLINE!

JOIN UUCSP WITH FIRST PARISH IN WAYLAND

OLD FASHIONED CAROL SING LED BY REV. MADDIE

PIANO BY VINCENT SORISIO

SANTA CLAUS

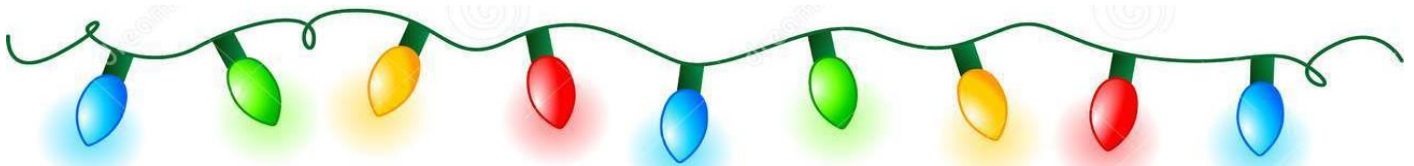
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT 1:30 PM PT

Open to the community...WORLDWIDE!

Invite your family and friends!

To join in, please register online at

www.uuwayland.org/2020-carol-sing



SANTA CLARA VALLEY HOSPICE EVENTS

Rev. Maddie will be taking part in the

27th Annual "Light Up a Life" Event.

See the flyer at right and Friday blasts for more information about the two virtual events which will be held on Facebook Live at

www.facebook.com/SantaClaraValleyHospice

Santa Paula Thursday, December 17
5:30 pm

Fillmore Friday, December 18
5:30 pm

Santa Clara Valley Hospice Presents

27th Annual "Light Up A Life" Event

SANTA CLARA VALLEY HOSPICE TREE LIGHTING

Every year for the past 27 years, we have celebrated the holiday season by remembering friends and loved ones whom have passed. We also honor special persons and groups that impact our lives. We gather around the Santa Paula Tree and the Fillmore Tree and in incredibly special ceremonies we light them up in celebration.

Your gift of \$10 or more will illuminate a bulb on the Santa Clara Valley Hospice Trees in Santa Paula and/or the Fillmore. Both trees will shine throughout the Holiday Season. Names received of honored friends and loved ones will be read at one or both Tree Lighting Ceremonies of your choosing, and will be published in the Santa Paula Times Newspaper.

The Tree Lighting Ceremonies and program will begin as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Tree Lighting Ceremonies will be virtual events and held VIA Facebook @HospiceSantaPaula | |
| Fillmore | Santa Paula |
| 5:30 p.m, Friday December 18, 2020 | 5:30 p.m, Thursday December 17, 2020 |

ABOUT SANTA CLARA VALLEY HOSPICE

SCV Hospice started in 1980 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community volunteer organization. A medical lending program, serving persons with life-limiting illness, providing medical equipment & supplies, medical transportation, assistance with respite care, caregiver training, grief support, and referrals. All proceeds are giving back to our community to serve our communities of the Santa Clara River Valley in Santa Paula, Fillmore, Saticoy, Somis and Piru. Our non-profit organization relies on your support!

For Name submissions please contact us:

Make checks payable to - Santa Clara Valley Hospice, The Home Support Group, Inc.
Donations can be mailed to - PO BOX 365, Santa Paula, Ca 93061
Phone: 805-525-1333
Email: SantaClaraValleyHospice@gmail.com
Website: www.SantaClaraValleyHospice.org
Follow us on Facebook: @HospiceSantaPaula

People and Doings



CHRISTMAS EVE 2020

Thursday, December 24 at 4:30 pm

On Zoom and Facebook Live

And, if we're lucky~

Socially distanced and masked in

the Memorial Garden

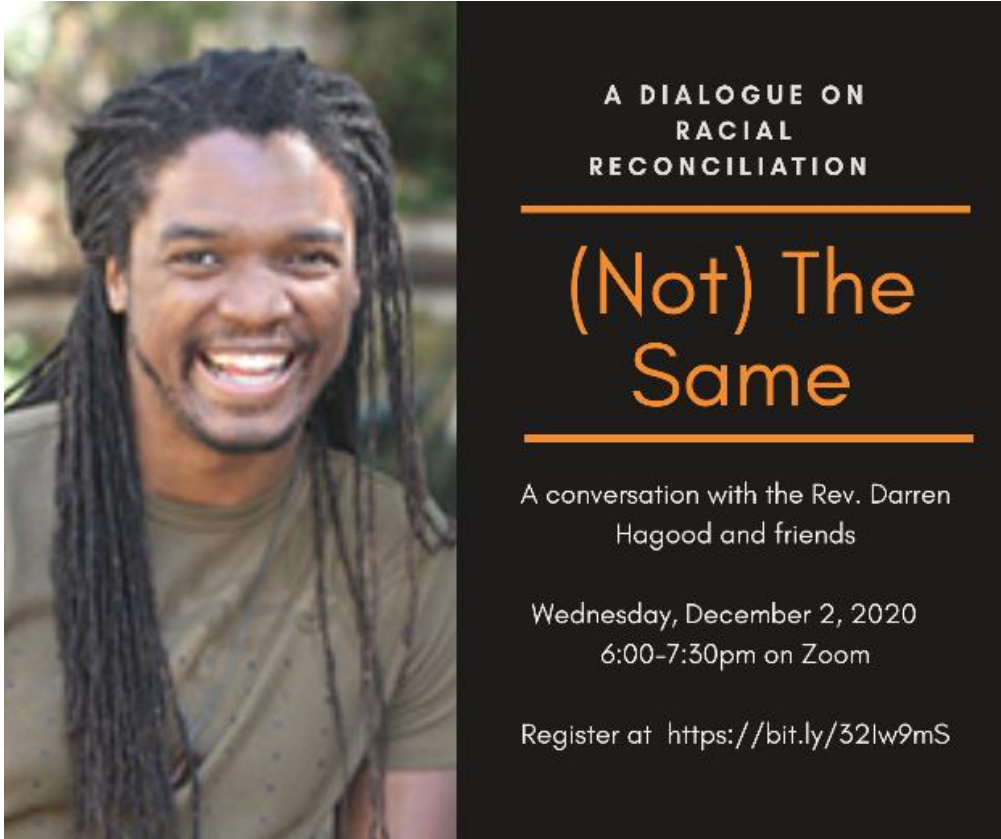
Rev. Maddie and Readers

Stay tuned for more news in

Friday blasts in December



People and Doings



The plan for the evening:

- We'll screen the [music video "The Same"](#) by Christian Rap Artist Theo Blue aka the Rev. Darren Hagood
- A panel will discuss the video and the issues it raises about racism in the U.S.
- Attendees will then break out into small groups to dialogue.

Register [here](#) or at link below to participate in this one-and-a-half hour program.

People of faith and good will are ready to embrace this unprecedented moment in our nation's history. Our ultimate goal is meaningful systemic change that redresses the centuries-long inequities.

Let's get started!

Looking forward to seeing you, and with blessings for the work ahead,

Your CLUE-VC Board

Rev. Betty, Alissa, Tim, Nan and Moderator for the evening, The Rev. Melissa Campbell-Langdell

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/not-the-same-a-dialogue-on-racial-reconciliation-tickets-129167969875>

THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

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JANUARY newsletter deadline DECEMBER 15

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

Tech Support Team:

Erik Halseth
Michael Gonzalez Mitch Stone
Evan Holt Monika Murillo



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Time Value

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