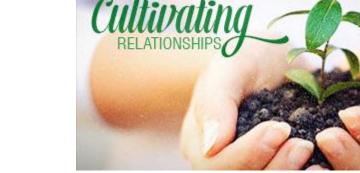


OCTOBER 2021 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM

OCTOBER THEME: Cultivating Relationship

Mark Morrison-Reed has said, "The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all. There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice. It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done. Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed."



October 3 Loss—Holding On and Letting Go

Moving together through these challenging times, we find ourselves confronted by loss in so many dimensions. What might be there for us? Do we hold on or let go? UCLA Oncology Chaplain and popular guest speaker, Michael Eselun will share reflections on these questions. **First Sunday Plate to Interface Youth and Family Services**

October 10 This Land is Whose Land?

We know that the land we live on in the Santa Clara River Valley is land occupied for thousands of years by the Chumash. How do we acknowledge that this day now called Indigenous Peoples' Day?

Tuesday, October 127PMGatheringRev. Maddie, Sahba Sizdahkhani, 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 Communion. The music will be provided by Iranian musician, Sahba Sizdahkhani. Original poetry by Atul Ranchod. Led by Rev. Maddie.

October 17 Our New UU in 2022

As we kick off our Canvas for 2021-2022, Rev. Maddie thinks about our Theme of Cultivating Relationship as we are newly hybrid, inside and outside our walls and how each of us can bring our gifts to this chosen relationship.



Michael Eselun with Rev. Maddie

Rev. Maddie with Jerry Gray

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

Doy Moddie with Jonny Chay

Rev. Maddie, Mary Nelson



October 24 Rooted Together

Rev. Liz Murphy with Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

The natural world is a beautiful teacher of the possibility of relationship surrounding us -- and the harmony possible in community. What truth and connection might we find just outside our back doors? How might we learn some powerful lessons from the buzzing bees and the sprouting leaves? This Sunday, we'll consider how we are "Rooted Together," examining how the spirit of life works within us and around us when we most need it. **UUs Back in the Day, Leslie Nichols**

Liz Murphy (she/her) is a chaplain resident at the VA Hospital of Loma Linda, CA. She was ordained to the Unitarian Universalist ministry in August by her internship congregation, Throop UU, in Pasadena, CA. Liz graduated from the Claremont School of Theology with a Master of Divinity in 2020. She previously worked as the Interfaith Programs Assistant at the University of Southern California Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, as well as a chaplain intern at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Originally from Pittsburgh, she lives in Los Angeles with her wife, Hilary.

October 31 Day of the Dead/Samhain



Rev. Maddie with Ruth Ricards

Our annual service that lifts up the many traditions of this time of the year: Dias de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, Samhain, All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Those who will attend in the sanctuary can share objects and photographs on our altar table. Those on Zoom and Facebook can send photographs to <u>minister@uucsp.org</u> for a slide show. Let us remember those gone from our lives this year and years past. Following the service there will be the dedication of the new roses in the Memorial Garden.

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

How wonderful it was to see familiar faces in the chairs in our Sanctuary this September! On our first Sunday back, we had 25 people in the Sanctuary including the Tech Team and Worship Team, 18 people on Zoom and 21 people engaged with it on Facebook where many watch after the fact. As we move into October, we are happy to welcome you back in our airy space where we have the doors and windows open. We are having a limited coffee hour afterwards at this point. Please be vaccinated, masked, and sit socially distanced if you are in the Sanctuary. Please do not attend in person if you are feeling ill. And we are continuing on Zoom and Facebook going forward and will be looking to post parts of our services on YouTube once we figure out how to do it!

As we go into the fall and COVID continues, remember that you can make the difference to our members and friends suffering from the negative effects of social isolation versus feeling connected and engaged in our community. Though the pandemic has kept many of us apart physically, our UU faith calls us to extend compassion, kindness, and support to those who are part of our community, those exploring our community and those beyond our walls. What will you do to reach out to our members and friends? How can we reach beyond our building to Main Street and beyond? Perhaps you would like to sit with Ken Stock and I outside the church on Cruise Night, October 1 and greet passersby, sing a note or two, or support Friendship Bridge by doing shopping at their Tipica Sale in our Memorial Garden (information elsewhere in this newsletter). Perhaps you would like to share a Time for All Ages during our Sunday service, a reading, or a piece of music. Perhaps you would like to decorate our Altar Table. Perhaps you have a workshop you would like to lead on Zoom, in our Memorial Garden or in our Parish Hall (masked etc.). Perhaps you would like to attend a meeting of our Mary A. Livermore Society or our Social Concerns Action Committee. As we look forward to this new church year, the upcoming canvas and beyond, how can you—how can we—step into Our New UU in 2022?

I am always available to talk with you about your hopes and dreams for this beloved community as well as how you are dealing with the stresses of this "different time", even as we hope for normalcy.

On the path of our faith,

Reverend Maddie

Message from the Board of Trustees

What a wonderful "official" opening for the new church year with our UU Message being sent out and received in person, on Facebook, and via Zoom on Sept. 12. The sharing of the waters that were blended further illustrates how we come together from many places to do important work through our beloved UUCSP. And as is often true, doing good work takes a bit of money. Coming up this month-October-we kick off our yearly CANVASS CAMPAIGN where we are asked to think about how we can share financially with this wonderful institution that promotes a liberal religious voice to our community. Oct. 22 is a special Sunday devoted to this goal. Do take some time in your next weeks to think about what you might be able to contribute. Be assured that our Treasurer, Finance Committee, and Board of Trustees are careful stewards of what you might give, and our mission is to do good work for us and the world beyond.

Leslie Nichols, Board President

2022 Canvass Is Coming

October is the time of year we at UUCSP conduct our annual church canvass. This year's theme is "**Our New UU in 2022**". I think we can all agree that life is not the same since March of 2020, and we all are doing things differently in both our personal lives and in our church activities. For almost 19 months we did not meet in person as a congregation but continued our Sunday services through Zoom and Facebook. Committee work and Board meetings were held via Zoom and if you had in-person work to be done in the church building, masks were worn and social distance maintained. New ways were found to continue our service rituals such as a drive-by flower exchange for Flower Communion Sunday and home deliveries of candles for the Christmas service and blessed water for the Gathering of the Waters Sunday. We also had to find new ways to give money to the church since the Sunday plate could not be passed as a reminder.

We don't know what church life will look like in 2022 as the pandemic continues., but we do know that the financial needs of the congregation continue to be challenging and thus your financial support continues to be vital. The Canvass Committee is asking you to do two things. First, check to see if you are up to date on your 2021 pledge and second, think of what our UU church can be in 2022 to support you, our community and further the UU message beyond our walls.

The 2022 pledge cards will be mailed mid-October so please take time now to think of your 2022 pledge amount so you'll be ready to recommit to the ongoing support of our church.

Thank you for your continued emotional and financial support and we look forward to our "new UU in 2022".

Canvass Committee MaryBeth East Jerry Gray Luisa Haskell Rev. Maddie Sifantus

Spiritual Growth Center

GATHERING*



***DEFINITION OF GATHERING**

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12 7:00 PM

You are invited to our Gathering for sound, silence and word as the sun goes down. Rev. Maddie Sifantus with Santur player Sahba Sizdahkhani and poet Atul Ranchod

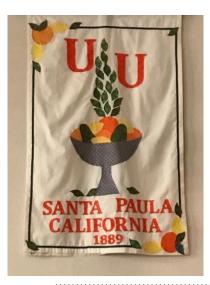
MASKED AND SOCIALLY DISTANCED AT 740 E MAIN STREET, SANTA PAULA ~OR~

On Zoom, exported to Facebook.com/uucsp

Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7312177775 Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Password uucsp93060 +1 253 215 8782 (to call in by phone) ~ phone password 529593

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

Spiritual Growth Center



SPIRITUAL GROWTH CENTER

As we begin to open up after the pandemic, we encourage you to find ways to continue your spiritual practices at home, join yoga which is once more in the Parish Hall or join Rev. Maddie or Jim Cole leading Meditation on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM on Zoom or livestreaming from our Facebook page. Yoga is led by Lisa Hammond. Be in touch with her for more information. Our Spirit 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, as we become hybrid or in our Parish Hall? Let Rev. Maddie know.

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM

Sit with Rev. Maddie or Jim Cole on Zoom or Facebook livestream Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7312177775</u> Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Passcode: uucsp93060 <u>www.facebook.com/uuscp</u> Leadership schedule subject to change



Image: Lynn Holbein

October 6	
October 13	
October 20	
October 27	

Rev. Maddie Jim Cole Rev. Maddie

Jim Cole



SOARING HEART'S YOGA

Soaring Hearts Yoga has returned to the Parish Hall. Join them on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 AM. Bring your own mats and props. Please contact Lisa Hammond at 831-801-2276 or <u>soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com</u> for more information.

REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Maddie would love to catch up with you, whether or not you have anything "big" to talk about it! She 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 on Zoom, 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.

NEWS FROM AMONG US - October 2021

- On September 19th Rev. Maddie officiated at the wedding of our members Judy Triem and Mitch Stone at their home. Congratulations!
- Our thoughts are with the family and many friends of Ari Larsen who died in her sleep last week. She will leave a large hole in the Fillmore and Santa Paula communities.
- Rev. Maddie has redone the Phone Tree as two Phone Captains stepped off and two new ones stepped on. We thank Judith Beay and Penny McManus for their service during the last year and a half of pandemic and welcome Ariel Alexander and Leslie Nichols who will fill their shoes. The Tree has been tweaked so you may have a new Captain. The purpose of the Tree has been to keep our congregation connected during the time of COVID as well as have a means to reach our members and friends quickly in an emergency such as an earthquake or a fire.
- Our thoughts are with Ariel Alexander in the recent death of her longtime friend Joseph Golding.
- We have many members and friends recovering from various surgeries, accidents and illnesses. We wish Barbara Beach, Jan Shepherd, Nuri Ronaghy, Allan Shorb and Constancia Leshin well as they are all on the road to recovery.
- Our thoughts continue to be with Michael Wood in his recovery from a stroke this summer. There is a Go Fund Me at https://gofund.me/033dca57 should you be able to help financially. Michael is home with his family Sushila, Amiya, Evelyn and Byron.
- Rev. Maddie brings greetings from your former minister, Rev. Carolyn Price, who she met for lunch when Carolyn visited her daughter in Ojai recently.
- If you have any News from Among Us you would like to share with our community, please let Rev. Maddie or Rev. Betty know by the newsletter deadline which is the 15th of every month.

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

SPCS will not be showing a film this month. Stay tuned for the November film.

2021 4th QUARTER 1st SUNDAY OFFERING

October3 Nov

November 7

December 5



Interface Children & Family Services: Serving Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru

In 2020, Interface provided direct services to nearly 100 adults, teens and children who live in and around Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. We also provided critical information and referral services to over 3,000 community members via 211 Information & Assistance. These calls ranged from housing assistance and shelter needs to food insecurity and unemployment assistance, as well as the

ABOUT INTERFACE

Interface is Ventura County's leading nonprofit social services agency, providing free, proven, and responsive services to address the complex physical and emotional needs of 59,000 local clients every year. Its 30 programs utilize evidence-based practices to serve children, teens, adults and families who are typically lowincome and struggling with poverty, domestic violence, human trafficking, homelessness, incarceration, child abuse, neglect and abandonment. Interface also connects callers to a vast network of health and human services in 40 counties through its 211 Information & Assistance program.

most current information about COVID testing and vaccination availability.

The Interface team has worked hard to create innovative program and service delivery methods to ensure our community retains access to crucial mental health treatment as well as domestic violence & human trafficking intervention and family support services and education.

Mental Health & Trauma Treatment

Interface served 58 children, teens and adults residing in Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru with free, high-quality, culturally inclusive mental health services, including: individual and family therapy, specific trauma therapy including child abuse treatment, preventative parenting education, and intensive family preservation services (Homebuilders).

Runaway & Homeless Youth

Interface served 16 adolescents and transition-aged youth in Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru with our Housing Support Services which includes our emergency and transitional shelter, street outreach, counseling, family mediation and more. Interface continues to operate the only shelter for runaway and homeless teens in Ventura County.

Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Prevention

During the 2019/2020 academic year, Interface served 12 Santa Paula, Fillmore and/or Piru individuals and families who were fleeing domestic violence with crisis response, emergency shelter, and/or counseling, case management and supportive services. Interface presented the My Body Belongs to Me (MBBTM) child abuse prevention education program in Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. MBBTM served 917 children, parents, and educators from these cities. Sites we served included:

- Bob Borrego Child Care Center (CDR), Santa Paula
- Santa Paula Child Care Center (CDR), Santa Paula
- San Cayetano Elementary School, Fillmore
- Fillmore Child Care Center (CDR), Fillmore
- Piru Elementary School, Piru

Interface also presented Teen Dating Violence Prevention program, a universal healthy-relationships education program, to 131 teens in Santa Paula. Sites included:

- Santa Paula High School
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Church-Youth Group

211 Information & Assistance

211 Ventura County responded to 3,130 calls from residents of Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. Of these, 224 callers identified as homeless and 188 indicated they were at imminent risk of becoming homeless within 14 days. Housing was the top category of need, followed by mental health and addictions and income support.

LAST 2021 CRUISE NIGHT!



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1 5:00 to 7:00 PM SEE THE CLASSIC CARS! LAST CHANCE OF 2021! **TOUR HISTORIC CHURCH!** SING A SONG! **BUY GIFTS FROM FRIENDSHP BRIDGE!**

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

T

October 1st Friendship Bridge "Tipica" Sale!

Who?.....Friendship Bridge is a "Microcredit Plus" organization that provides over 32,000 underserved, indigenous Guatemalan ladies access to loans, monthly educational trainings, and health care services. The goal is to empower women to create better lives for themselves, their families. communities. their and



What?.....An outdoor "tipica" sale featuring new and beautifully designed textiles and handicrafts made with care by talented Friendship Bridge artisan clients in Guatemala.

When?.....Cruise Night, Friday, October 1, 2021 Sale will run from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Where?.....Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula 740 E. Main St., Santa Paula, California

......Events like this generate income for the artisan clients Why?..... of Friendship Bridge, which empowers them to sustain themselves and their families. The global outbreak of COVID-19 has impacted these ladies deeply; their livelihoods depend heavily on tourism and people like you who buy their beautiful products. Your purchase goes a long way in helping these women and their families recover from the economic hardships brought on by the pandemic.



Cruise Night, so plan on walking to the church while taking in the sights and sounds of the festivities. You will find us set up in the Memorial Rose Garden. Credit cards, checks, and cash accepted.

For More Info....Email office@uucsp.org or call (805)525-4647. We hope to see you on October 1st!

> All proceeds go directly to Friendship Bridge. www.friendshipbridge.org





SIP AND CHECK IN WITH REV. MADDIE



TUESDAYS OCTOBER 12 and 26 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

COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

According to the Bylaws of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula, the Committee on Congregational Life's primary mission to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the congregation's ministry (ordained, staff and laity). The COCL is not a committee of the Board, but a committee of the congregation in special relationship to the Board. It consists of three members serving staggered terms of two years each, with no member serving more than three consecutive terms. Current members are Judy Triem, Ken Stock and the Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford. Members are encouraged to let Rev. Maddie or one of the members of the committee know if there are any issues of the ministries of the congregation of which they should be aware. The next meeting of the COCL will be **Thursday, October 14th at 4:00 PM on Zoom.**



Congregational Conversation: October 14th 6pm-8pm Should UUCSP Adopt the 8th Principle?

Walking Each Other Home, UUCSPs monthly antiracism discussion group, is hosting another congregational conversation in person at the sanctuary on to discuss whether UUCSP should adopt the 8th principle. Kate English will facilitate the dialogue. We encourage all to participate.

The 8th Principle is a grassroots movement that began in 2013 and now many UU congregations have adopted it. For more information about the 8th principle go to: https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/background

The 8th principle:

"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."

Walking Each Other Home would also like to invite you to participate in this congregational survey regarding the 8th principle. <u>https://bit.ly/UUCSP8th</u> Should there be sufficient support for adopting the 8th principle, we will request formal adoption through a board and congregational voting process in accordance with the church bylaws.

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 our plan for reentry as we look towards the fall. The next meeting of the committee is September 15 at 10AM on Zoom. The Safe Congregation Team reports and is advisory to the Board.

CHOIR: NOW LET US SING!



As we slowly come back into in person worship in the Sanctuary, we are holding off on official choir for now, but you are invited to sing, masked, at the front of the Sanctuary with Rev. Maddie, as Rev. Betty has been doing to sing the hymns. As things progress, we may add a rehearsal near the end of October. Stay tuned! And

let Rev. Maddie know if you are interested. We are open to all singers, whether or not they are members of our congregation. We usually sing at one Sunday a month. Please join us! For any questions, please be in touch with Rev. Maddie at 805-525-4620 or email her at <u>minister@uucsp.org</u>.

SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

Social Concerns Action will meet on zoom Wednesday, October 20, at 4:00 pm:

MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

The Mary A. Livermore Society will meet Thursday, October 28 at 11:30 AM on ZOOM. The November meeting will be in person at Flight 126 Café.

CARING COMMITTEE

Lay ministers play a vital role in our congregation, extending the reach of our professional minister and our Affiliate Community Minister. This past year the Caring Committee considered the Reverend Barbara Meyers book, *Held*, during its regular meetings along with our normal discussions. We are now considering how to use what we learned Beyond the Walls of our congregation as well as within the walls. We could use some new members of this committee. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you wish to participate. We will meet in person on October 28th at 3 PM. Stay tuned for the location!

PHONE TREE

Our phone tree is used to help check on our folks or to get information out rapidly by telephone. If you don't think you are on the Tree and want to be, please let Rev. Maddie or Krystal Johnson know at uucspoffice@gmail.com.

RISE UP SINGING TO RETURN





Dear Friends in the Pacific Southwest District (PSWD),

Thank you if you attended our last PSWD special business meeting on August 21. We hope you will attend our next special business meeting on Saturday, October 2, from 10am-12pm and invite others.

We will vote on merging the district with the Pacific Western Region (PWR). The PSWD is one of four districts in the PWR. It is expected that all districts will merge with the PWR, completing the process of regionalization that the UUA announced in 2009.

There will be a time for questions regarding the merger and what will come next. In a step towards wholeness and inclusion, we encourage questions to be emailed to our Board before Tuesday, September 28th so that we can do our best to receive and answer all questions, not only those asked during the question section of our meeting. Many common questions and answers are available at: <u>News | Pacific Southwest District (pswduua.org)</u>.

Our presentation will include highlights of the past 60 years of the PSWD. We are asking for contributors to our program, particularly from youth and young adults in your communities. Please let us know if you are interested in participating.

We can not do the important work of living into Big Faith, No Borders without all of us.

Register here: <u>PSWDVirtualMeetingOctober2021</u> Certify your delegates here: <u>PSWDDelegateCertificationOct2021</u>

In faith & service, PSWD Board of Trustees pswd@pswduua.org





Saturday, Oct. 2 10 AM - 4 PM

1029 E. Santa Paula St. Santa Paula, Ca 93060

- Local Food Vendors
- Music
- COVID-Safe Activities for Kids
- Community Resources
- Workshops from local **Community Organizations**
- Swap Meet Justice
- Immigration Attorney Ask questions about your case!

promotorasxjusticia@gmail.com

Apply for citizenship

PROTECT OUR FAMILIES FROM **IMMIGRATION FRAUD**

Many undocumented families fall victims to immigration fraud by people who are not Immigration Attorneys.

Join us in Empowering and Advocating for our Immigrant families by attending our community event intended to support families with community resources from local Community Organizers and Organizations.



PROMOTORAS POR JUSTICIA MIGRATORIA

El Buen Pastor w Office of Vanessa Frank UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

Dated Material Time Value

> **of Santa Paula** 740 East Main Street Santa Paula, CA 93060

November newsletter deadline October 15

Jerry Gray, Treasurer Jyl Atmore, Member at Large Tech Support Team: Evan Holt Monika Murillo Mitch Stone

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: Leslie Nichols, President, Karen Harris, Vice-President Ann Hewitt, Secretary, Jerry Gray, Treasurer Jyl Atmore, Member at Large

Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 am





THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

CHURCH OF SANTA 740 East Main Street Santa Paula, CA 93060 Office: 805-525-4647 office@uucsp.org

www.facebook.com/uucsp

www.uucsp.org