



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

uucspoffice@gmail.com website: uucsp.org

FEBRUARY 2022 SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



THEME: Widening the Circle

Edwin Markham wrote: "He drew a circle that shut me out- Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win; We drew a circle and took him in!"

February 6

Imbolc

Rev. Maddie, Ken Stock

Our first Earth Based service of 2022, the day of midwinter. Installation of our New Board along with recognition of our outgoing Board members from 2021. Special guest speaker, Lorenzo "Lencho" Moraza, from De Colores Multicultural Arts, recipient of First Sunday Plate.

Tuesday, February 8

Gathering

Rev. Maddie, Barry Cooper

This is a reflective time in our busy week to hear some inspiring music, share some silence and hear spoken word on a theme. The music will be provided by guitarist Barry Cooper. Poetry by Atul Ranchod.

February 13

Side With Love Sunday

Rev. Maddie

Stay tuned in your Friday email for details on the 2022 Side With Love Sunday with Rev. Maddie and the Tech Team in the Sanctuary and video segments of the service provided by the Side With Love from the UUA and their Thirty Days of Love Campaign. In person and online.

February 20

Go Out Into the Highways

Rev. Maddie, MaryBeth East

John Murray famously said, "Go out into the highways and byways of America...give the people something of your new vision." Rev. Maddie continues her occasional series on our Universalist history along with our February theme of Widening the Circle.

Our choir sings

February 27

Living in the Ambiguity

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Ruth Ricards

In these recent days when we have once more been hit by a new COVID 19 variant and the usual defenses have proven to be less effective than we hoped, how can we cope? In some ways, we may even feel more stress and anxiety now than when the vaccines were first developed and administered. There is, of course, no panacea for this situation, but maybe there are some things we can do to allay our worst fears. Join us this Sunday as we explore some possibilities through a UU lens.

UUs of Our Past Leslie Nichols

Join Zoom Meeting: PLEASE MUTE YOUR MICROPHONE

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/731217775>

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775

Zoom 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

February 2022

From our minister:

I like to remind you that I am available to chat anytime, even or maybe even especially, in these continuing pandemic times. You don't have to have any reason other than wanting to talk but here is a list of reasons to call that I have shared before that is adapted from an essay by the Rev. Dr. Peter Lee Scott.

- When you haven't met me yet, but would like to.
- When you have problems you'd like to discuss, concerning your children, your job, your marriage, or anything else where a sympathetic ear might be of help.
- When you're going in the hospital or know someone else in the congregation who is.
- When someone close to you has died or is critically ill.
- When you're planning to be married, or wish you could be.
- When you have a child to be dedicated.
- When you're pregnant but wish you weren't.
- When you, or a friend or neighbor would like more information about the Unitarian Universalist faith.
- When you're considering joining the congregation.
- When you'd like to show me what a good cook you are!
- When you have suggestions to make about programs for our congregation.
- When you have suggestions for a sermon.
- When you'd like help with committee work or with other congregational activities.
- When there are community issues you'd like to discuss or would like me to be involved with.
- When you're mad at me.
- When you appreciate something I've said or done.
- When you'd like to talk religion with me.
- When you'd like to talk parenting with me - as a parent, or as a child.
- When you've had good news and want to share it.
- When you've had bad news.
- When you're feeling overwhelmed.
- When you want to tell me your history with the congregation.
- When you want to spend more time with the children.
- When you've heard a great joke and want to share it.
- When you want to show me your favorite spot in Santa Paula or Ventura County.

Whatever is on your mind, I am open.

On the path of our faith,

Reverend Maddie

Message from the Board of Trustees

Please welcome new Board Member President, Kate English



Dear Beloved UU Members & Friends,

I am so pleased to have joined the Board for the next term and to be able to serve as your Board President for 2022! It has been one very long year since the loss of my mom, our beloved Patricia, who served on the Board for so many years, and this feels like a really fitting way to honor her legacy of service to our spiritual home. When I introduced my mom to UUCSP, she had been firmly planted in a "no organized religion for me, thank you" viewpoint. After just one Sunday though, she stuck like glue, and I think it was just a few short months later that she was serving as Board president.

Having run a for profit corporation and a non-profit organization, I recognize the huge importance of what it means to hold the financial well being of an organization and to provide support for the leadership of that organization. I am also glad to be serving on the Board at a time when the church is visioning and considering its role in the larger community and its responsibility towards racial justice issues.

I revisited our church's covenant of right relations in thinking about how to best serve as your Board president. I was reminded just how powerful these promises we all agreed upon are. I wanted to reiterate those promises here to you all:

- I promise to listen compassionately and speak with care.
- I promise to address conflicts directly, using openness and compassion.
- I promise to serve our church community with generosity and good humor.
- I promise to practice hospitality and acceptance, welcoming all who enter and encouraging diversity in our congregation.
- I promise to acknowledge our shortcomings and be willing to forgive those of others.
- I promise to acknowledge the service of others and support each other in times of joy and need.

Please feel free to reach out to me any time, 805-207-5013.

Your fellow church member and Board President, Kate English

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*Please welcome new Board Member at large,*

*Donna Hamer*

*And thank you returning Board Members*

*Karen Harris, Jerry Gray, and Ann Hewitt*

# GATHERING\*



**\*DEFINITION OF GATHERING**

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

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

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula  
740 E Main Street

You are invited to our Gathering for sound, silence and word.  
Led by Maddie Sifantus with Atul Ranchod  
Special Guest, Barry Cooper

In person, or on Zoom or [www.facebook.com/uucsp](https://www.facebook.com/uucsp)  
For Zoom link or more information call 805-525-4647

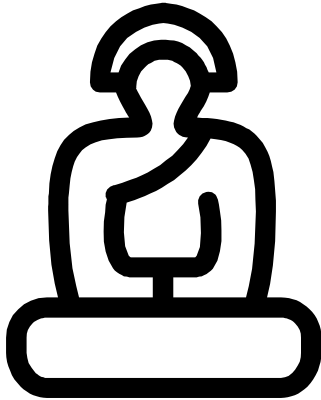
# Spiritual Growth Center

*In person in the Parish Hall and on Zoom and FB on Rev. Maddie's Wednesdays*

*On Zoom and Facebook on Jim Cole's Wednesdays*

*Call church office for the Zoom address and password*

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



## **MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP**

**UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA**

**IN PERSON or ZOOM and Facebook**

**February 2 with Jim Cole**

**February 9 with Rev. Maddie**

**February 16 with Jim Cole**

**February 23 with Rev. Maddie**

***EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6 PM***

*For information call Rev. Maddie Sifantus, 805-525-4620 or [msifantus@uuma.org](mailto:msifantus@uuma.org).*

*Free Will Offering.*

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## **SOARING HEARTS 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 [soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com](mailto:soaringheartsyoga@gmail.com) for more information.



# People and Doings

## **REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS**

### **Rev. Maddie's Office Hours**

During this time of the Pandemic, Rev. Maddie is available by appointment in her office, masked, 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 [minister@uucsp.org](mailto:minister@uucsp.org)

### **Pastoral Coverage**

Rev. Maddie will be taking Study Leave from January 30 through February 4 to attend the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association Institute. She will be driving distance from Santa Paula. If there is a pastoral emergency, please email her at [minister@uucsp.org](mailto:minister@uucsp.org) or let Krystal Johnson know in the office at 805-525-4647 or [office@uucsp.org](mailto:office@uucsp.org).

## **NEWS FROM AMONG US - February 2022**

- We have had news of a number of our members and friends having brushes with COVID-19. Some are recovering, have recovered, or are quarantining.
- During these continuing times of pandemic, take care of yourself. Reach out to our Caring Committee or Rev. Maddie if you want to talk or send news to our congregation.
- Celebrating is one thing we can do to cheer ourselves up during these times. We say Happy Birthday to Amiya Wood (February 2), Rev. Betty (February 4), Evelyn Wood (February 10), and Karen Harris (February 13.) And we say Happy Anniversary to Spence and Millie Mitchell.
- 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.

## **SIP AND CHECK IN WITH REV. MADDIE**

SIP AND CHECK IN

LED BY SHARON KUFELDT ON FEBRUARY 1

LED BY REV. MADDIE ON FEBRUARY 15

TUESDAYS AT 4 PM ON ZOOM

### **WHAT IS SIP AND CHECK IN, YOU MIGHT ASK?**

It is a chance to check in with a small group of members and friends. After a few minutes of casual chat as people arrive, the facilitator (Sharon or Rev. Maddie) will light a chalice with a reading and then invite people to take turns checking in about what's going on for them. If there is still time left after the individual check-in's, the group will chat about topics of shared interest to them all or the monthly theme, which is February is Widening the Circle. We aim to be inclusive of everyone present who wished to talk or ask questions.

**Join Zoom Meeting** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7312177775>

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775

Password: uucsp93060



# People and Doings

## 2022 1st QUARTER 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OFFERING

**February 6, March 6**

### **DECOLORES MULTICULTURAL FOLK ARTS**



The newly formed De Colores Multicultural Folk Arts Inc. is an artist-centered, nonprofit corporation that continues the legacy of Xavier "Big X" Montes & his vision of a world of racial & economic equality, by inspiring youth, artists, culture makers & culture bearers through the arts espousing his philosophy of peace & social justice. We recently participated in their Los Posadas event which began at our church.

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### **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 as well as issues related to COVID 19 safety. The next meeting of the committee is **Wednesday, February 9 at 10:00 AM** in Rev. Maddie's office. The Safe Congregation Team reports and is advisory to the Board.

### **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, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM on Zoom.**

# People and Doings

## SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

### RE-SCHEDULED! **Bullets over BROADWAY**

This glorious sendup of gangsters and the Great White Way set in Prohibition-era New York City is one of Woody Allen's most hilarious and wickedly satirical films. It also happens to feature one of the finest of his ensemble casts, including John Cusack, Diane Wiest (Academy Award), Jack Warden, Jennifer Tilly, Chazz Palminteri, Mary Louise Parker, Rob Reiner, Tracey Ullman, Jim Broadbent, and Edie Falco, and one of the most memorable tag lines in the history of film. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll duck for cover! But whatever you do, please don't... (1994, 1:39)

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY  
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2022

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



## MUSIC NOTES

Our next choir rehearsal will be Thursday, February 17 at 4 PM in the Sanctuary. We will be singing at the Worship Service on Sunday, February 20. The choir usually sings once a month for a Sunday Service. All are welcome to join our choir, including our young singers who are able to read music and singers who only attend church when the choir sings. Rehearsals are directed by Rev. Maddie and accompanied by Vincent Sorisio. Please be in touch with Rev. Maddie with any questions at [minister@uucsp.org](mailto:minister@uucsp.org) or 805-525-4620. All invited to sing!

Here is our schedule through June, subject to change! The choir will not sing in July and August.

|                        |                       |                        |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| February 17            | 4:00 PM               | Choir Rehearsal        |
| February 20            | 9:45 AM               | Choir Rehearsal        |
| The Gift of Love       |                       | arr. Hal Hopson (2-pt) |
| March 17               | 4:00 PM               | Choir Rehearsal        |
| March 20               | 9:45 AM               | Choir Rehearsal        |
| The Path You Walk Upon |                       | Catherine Dalton       |
| April 17               | Easter 9:30 AM        | Choir rehearsal        |
| Flying Free            |                       | Don Besig              |
| No Thursday rehearsal  |                       |                        |
| May 12                 | 4:00 PM               | Choir rehearsal        |
| May 15                 | 9:30 AM               | Choir rehearsal        |
| TBA                    |                       |                        |
| June 9                 | Flower Sunday 4:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal        |
| June 12                | 9:30 AM               | Choir Rehearsal        |
| TBA                    |                       |                        |



# People and Doings

## SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, February 16, 4:00 pm** Social Concerns Action Committee will meet on zoom.



### **SOCIAL CONCERNS LIBRARY**

The Social Concerns Action Committee and Walking Each Other Home have a small lending library in the Parish Hall. You are welcome to borrow a book and bring it back when you are done. Current titles include *Witnessing Whiteness* by Shelly Tochluk, *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates and many of the UUA's Common Reads including *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Cortiz.

## MARY A. LIVERMORE SOCIETY

Mary A's February Program

Xavier Montes, "Big X" was committed to giving back to our community, particularly to young people, through the wonders and creativity of art and music. He created "De Colores" in 1994 to honor the late labor leader Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. To continue his legacy, "De Colores" is now an artist centered, non-profit corporation. Vanessa Acosta, with her passion for the organization, will be our featured speaker for our **Thursday, February 24th** program. Please join us on zoom at **11:30 AM** !

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

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

## CARING COMMITTEE

Lay ministers play a vital role in our congregation, extending the reach of our professional minister and our Affiliate Community Minister. Would you like to help keep in touch with our members and friends? Would you like to discuss issues of care in our congregation with some loving folks? Let Rev. Maddie or Caring Committee chair, Karen Harris, know of your interest. The next meeting of the Caring Committee will be on **Thursday, February 24 at 3 PM** on Zoom.

## PHONE TREE

Our phone tree is used to help check on our folks or to get information out rapidly by telephone. We could use one or two new people willing to make occasional phone calls. Please let Rev. Maddie know if you are interested and willing. 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](mailto:uucspoffice@gmail.com).

THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street  
Santa Paula, CA 93060

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[www.uucsp.org](http://www.uucsp.org)

[www.facebook.com/uucsp](https://www.facebook.com/uucsp)



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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:

Kate English, President,

Karen Harris, Vice-President

Ann Hewitt, Secretary,

Jerry Gray, Treasurer

Donna Hamer, Member at Large

Tech Support Team:

Evan Holt   Monika Murillo

Mitch Stone

**March newsletter deadline February 15**



*Dated Material*  
*Time Value*

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of Santa Paula  
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