



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

uucspoffice@gmail.com website: uucsp.org

JUNE SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



JUNE THEME: Delight

Whether success or failure: the truth of a life really has little to do with its quality. The quality of life is in proportion, always, to the capacity for delight. The capacity for delight is the gift of paying attention. ~May Sarton

June 4 Tis a Gift To Be Simple Rev. Maddie, Ken Stock

As we go into the summer months, how can we simplify our lives to make space to live them! What if simplicity is our delight?

First Sunday Plate to Poder Popular for farmworker relief

June 11 Flower Communion Rev. Maddie, Atul Ranchod

Our Annual Flower Communion, which this year we are marking 100th Anniversary of when Norma Capek celebrated the first Flower Communion in Prague in 1923. We will also have our new member recognition. Bring a flower or two to share and take home a flower.

Our choir sings

June 13 GATHERING Rev. Maddie

This is a reflective time in our busy week to hear some inspiring music, share some silence and hear spoken word on a theme which in June is *Delight*. The music will be provided by Jerry Cruz and Serena Moreno

June 18 Celebrations, Seasons and Markings Rev. Maddie, Rev. Betty

As we head into the summer months, we think of the Summer Solstice, the arc of the seasons, Pride Month and Juneteenth and why we might mark these events together.

June 25 UUA General Assembly UUA GA, MaryBeth East

We share portions of the UUA's General Assembly's Sunday service recorded earlier in the day along with our Worship Host MaryBeth East

UUs of Our Past Leslie Nichols

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 731 217 7775 Password uucsp93060

1+ 669 900 9128 to call in by phone

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

Dear members and friends,

We are moving into the summer months when some of us hope to slow down and fill our days with more space and/or different activities. I will be heading off towards the end of the month to Ministry Days which this year is in Pittsburgh, followed by the beginning of the UUA General Assembly. I will then switch to attending it virtually so that I can make my way to Nantucket for my nephew Mark MacNeill's wedding and a reunion with my siblings for the first time since before COVID. After that I will spend a few days on Cape Cod with an old friend before I unexpectedly will be returning to Santa Paula for five days in order to officiate at Jan Shepherd's Celebration of Life on July 8. Stay tuned for those details in the July newsletter.

This is the time of year when I begin planning next year's sermon topics and events like our monthly Gatherings, Day of the Dead, and Winter Solstice. Though a few topics get added and others deleted over time, I usually have most of the year's sermon topics decided by the end of August, always knowing that things may change. In my mind the "sermon year" begins in September and my process of planning begins now. I keep in mind the monthly themes that we use from Soul Matters, as well as holidays and holy days such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and the 8 Sabbats of Earth Based, pagan traditions. But as I move through the second half of my ninth year serving Santa Paula, I am wondering if there is something special or a different idea you would like to hear addressed. I may not be able to create sermons or services for all your requests, but I would like to know what you want to hear. Please speak to me in person, send me a brief note or email me at minister@uucsp.org.

Meanwhile, enjoy this month of Sundays, the 100th anniversary of the Flower Communion, our New Member Recognition, and celebrate the renewal of our Welcoming Congregation status in Pride Month. And stop and smell the roses!

On the path of our faith, Reverend Maddie Sifantus

Spiritual Growth Center

SPIRITUAL GROWTH CENTER

Rev. Maddie created the Spiritual Growth Center at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula when she arrived in January 2015. We host a Meditation Practice Group, the Silent Pause, on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM alternating between in person with Rev. Maddie and online with Jim Cole. We are adding occasional Sound Baths and other activities. The Spiritual Growth Center is meant to include our adult religious education offerings and spiritual practices, providing opportunities and programs to awaken and sustain love, compassion, service, and personal transformation. 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. Please let Rev. Maddie know what activities interest you and if you know of any local teachers who may wish to provide a one time or series that fits with our UU values. minister@uucsp.org



SOARING HEARTS YOGA

Soaring Hearts Yoga meets in 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 for more information.

MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA



*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

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6 PM

June 7 with Jim Cole online

June 14 with Rev. Maddie in person

June 21 with Jim Cole online

June 28 with Brenna Book in person

For information call Rev. Maddie Sifantus, 805-525-4620 or minister@uucsp.org

Free Will Offering.

TWILIGHT GATHERING*



*DEFINITION OF GATHERING

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

JUNE 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM

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

With Maddie Sifantus, Jerry Cruz and Sabrina Moreno, musicians

~ *Free will offering* ~

In person and 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

People and Doings

NEWS FROM AMONG US JUNE 2023

- The theme for this month is BABIES, BABIES, BABIES!
- Donna Hamer has let us know of the birth of her grandson, August Harrison Moore! Congratulations to the whole family!
- Karen and Ray Harris are the proud grandparents of their first grandchild—a boy, as yet unnamed as we go to press.
- Ruth and Joe Ricards are also proud grandparents of their first grandchild, Luca.
- If you have a joy, concern, or milestone you wish to share, you can announce it in person on Sundays, or send it to Rev. Maddie by Noon on Friday and she will get it to the appropriate Worship Host to include in the service. If you are on Zoom, you can write it in the CHAT.
- 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.

OUR ALTAR TABLE

HELP PUT FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

Choose a Sunday to remember someone, like Rev. Maddie remember her mother and grandmothers on Mother's Day, celebrate a birth, acknowledge an anniversary or achievement, champion a cause or anything that gives you joy or sorrow. There is a signup sheet on a clipboard on the information table in the Parish Hall. Be in touch with Rev. Maddie or Ruth Ricards, Worship Chair, with any questions.

COFFEE HOUR

It is sometimes joked that Coffee Hour is the Unitarian Universalist sacrament. Whether or not that is true, we certainly do enjoy our coffee hour at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula, especially now that we are back from the pandemic! Each week a different person, family or friend has the opportunity to host our coffee hour. Please consider hosting a coffee hour, signing up on the clipboard on the Parish Hall. Note that you don't have to provide anything fancy because it is the hospitality and chance for conversation with each other that is the main point of coffee hour. Making sure the coffee is going and bringing some sweets and/or savory prefab offerings is fine! And you are also in charge of cleanup or finding volunteers to do so. Bon Appetit!

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 works 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 minister@uucsp.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 at the back of the church, near the restrooms. If the front or back doors are locked, call her, and she will come and let you in through the back gate off the alley behind the church, off 8th Street. Note that during the time Rev. Maddie is away in June, Rev. Betty will be providing emergency pastoral coverage, between June 19th and July 1. Please be in touch with the office at 805-525-4647 or congregation president Kate English with any issues.

People and Doings

CRUISE NIGHT

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 5:00 to DUSK

SEE THE CLASSIC CARS!

GREET REV MADDIE AND KEN STOCK

TOUR HISTORIC CHURCH!

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

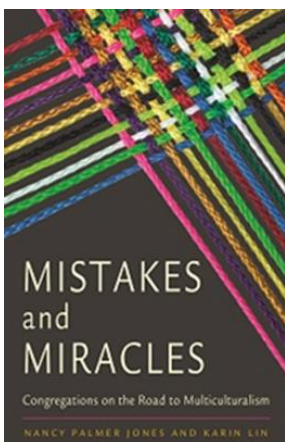


2023 2nd QUARTER 1st SUNDAY OFFERING June 4

The atmospheric rivers have deeply affected our local farms and farmworkers in Ventura County. If our farmworkers are unable to harvest strawberries and other crops, then they are unable to earn income to buy food and clothing.

The Social Concerns Action Committee has decided to give the 1st Sunday Plate to **"Poder Popular"**. This organization serves many of our local farmworkers who will benefit from our generosity.

ALL CHURCH READ: MISTAKES AND MIRACLES JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT SESSION SUNDAY, JUNE 4 AFTER COFFEE HOUR BRING A BAG LUNCH!

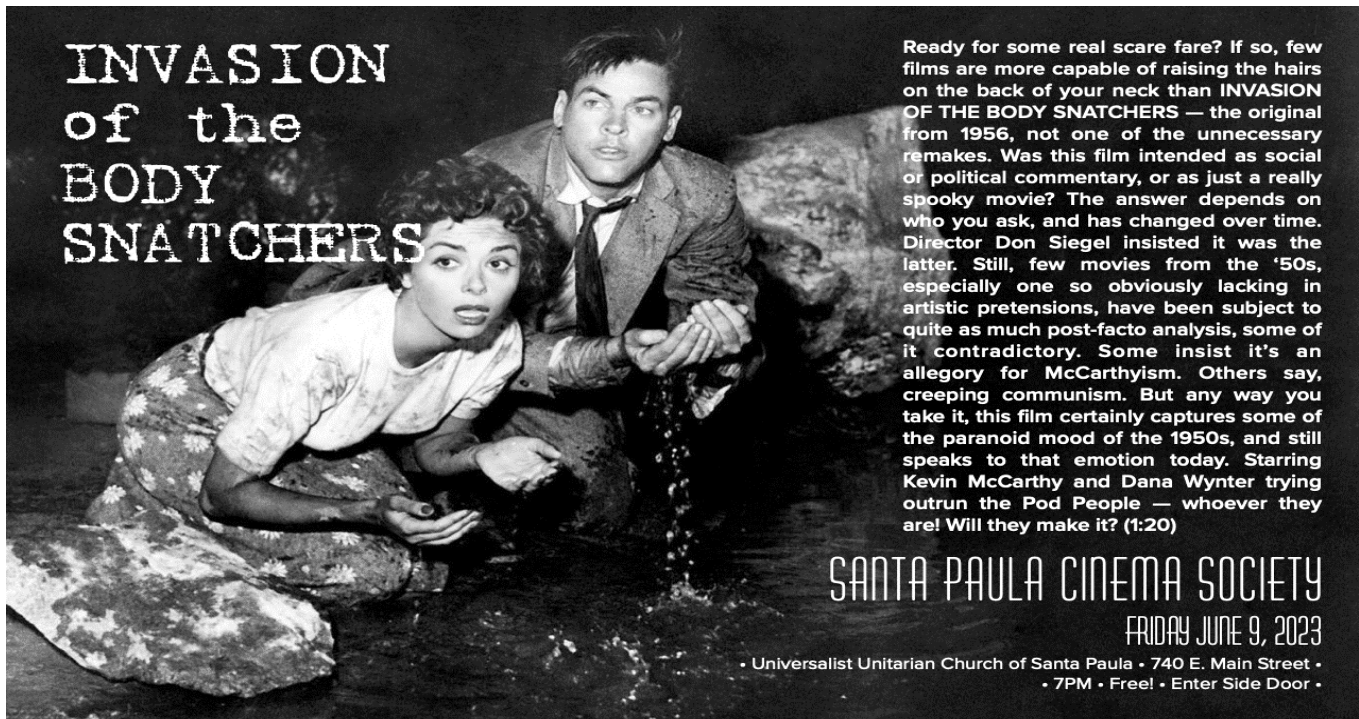


Every year we participate in the UUA's Common Read which we call the All Church Read. The 2022–2023 UU Common Read is *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* by Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin, published by Skinner House Books. Our first discussion was held on March 26 facilitated by Rev. Maddie with the theme of *Every Congregation Has a Story*. The second was held on April 30, facilitated by Rev. Betty, with the title of *Let's Talk About Power*. The third discussion, *History and Hope*, facilitated by Rev. Maddie will be at noon on Sunday, June 4, one week later than originally planned due to Memorial Day weekend. Another session, *Strategy and What's Next*, will be scheduled later.

The authors of this book, Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin—a white minister and a lay person of color—explored five UU congregations' journeys toward Beloved Community. In *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* (Skinner House Books, 2019), they shared the joy, disappointment, and growth these congregations found. The book is available from the UUA Bookstore at <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Mistakes-and-Miracles-P18521.aspx>

People and Doings

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY



Ready for some real scare fare? If so, few films are more capable of raising the hairs on the back of your neck than **INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS** — the original from 1956, not one of the unnecessary remakes. Was this film intended as social or political commentary, or as just a really spooky movie? The answer depends on who you ask, and has changed over time. Director Don Siegel insisted it was the latter. Still, few movies from the '50s, especially one so obviously lacking in artistic pretensions, have been subject to quite as much post-facto analysis, some of it contradictory. Some insist it's an allegory for McCarthyism. Others say, creeping communism. But any way you take it, this film certainly captures some of the paranoid mood of the 1950s, and still speaks to that emotion today. Starring Kevin McCarthy and Dana Wynter trying outrun the Pod People — whoever they are! Will they make it? (1:20)

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY
FRIDAY JUNE 9, 2023
• Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula • 740 E. Main Street •
• 7PM • Free! • Enter Side Door •

MUSIC NOTES

There is nothing like learning music and singing with other people! We have one more Sunday before we take a break for the summer. As we end our choir year, we thank choir librarian Ruth Ricards and our church musician Vincent Sorisio. The choir sings once a month for a Sunday Service and occasionally for special events like our Winter Solstice. Most of the choir are not great readers; we will work with you to help you be successful, and we choose music for the level of difficulty our singers are capable of. All are welcome to join our choir, including our young singers who are able to read music, those just learning to read music (or wanting to) and singers who only attend church when the choir sings. Rehearsals are directed by Rev. Maddie and accompanied by Vincent Sorisio and take place in the Sanctuary. Please be in touch with Rev. Maddie with any questions at minister@uucsp.org or 805-525-4620. Here is the upcoming schedule (music selections subject to change):

Thursday, June 8 at 4 PM	Rehearsal
Sunday, June 11 at 9:30 PM	Rehearsal
Justice Choir Songbook: When We Are Singing (43) [with congregation]	
You are Loving, You Are Loved	David Burrows (2-pt)
Bring a Flower	Amanda Udis-Kessler
***** Happy Summer *****	
September 7	4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
September 10	9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service
Down in the River to Pray	arr. Shelden Curry
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGPJWclWpkp	

NEW! VOCAL WORKSHOP ONCE A MONTH WITH REV. MADDIE!
NO WORKSHOPS IN JUNE AND JULY
WORK ON VOCAL SKILLS, READING MUSIC AND MORE
ALL INVITED ~ CHOIR AND FRIENDS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 FROM NOON TO 1:00 PM

People and Doings

“WON’T YOU BE OUR MEMBER?”

This year is the 100th anniversary of the first Flower Communion celebrated by Norbert Capek and we plan to mark it on **Sunday, June 11** with special music, stories and more. If you have been thinking of becoming an official member of our beloved congregation, this would be a good time to talk with Rev. Maddie and sign the membership book as we hope to have our New Member Recognition that day as well.

FLOWER COMMUNION



This spring marks the 100th Anniversary of the Unitarian Universalist Flower Ritual created by Norbert Capek. Unique to our faith tradition, it was born in post-World War I Europe as a worshipful occasion that not only celebrates nature but reminds us of courage in the face of oppression. Please remember to bring a flower on Sunday, June 11 to share in our traditional annual Flower Communion. It can be a flower from your garden or from a store. We will collect all the flowers together in vases and you will go home with a different flower than the one you came with.

SIP AND CHECK IN WITH REV. MADDIE

TUESDAYS AT 4 PM ON ZOOM

June 13 with Rev. Maddie

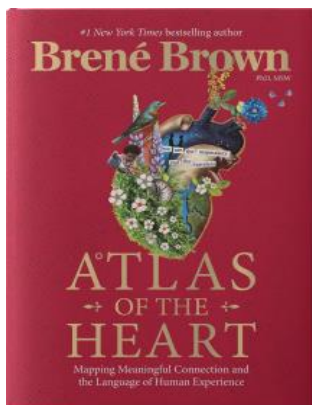
June 27 with Sharon Kufeldt



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, we light a chalice with a reading and then invite people to take turns checking in about what's going on for them, answering the question, "How is it with your spirit today?" 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 in June is Delight. We aim to be inclusive of everyone present who wishes to talk or ask questions.

CARING COMMITTEE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

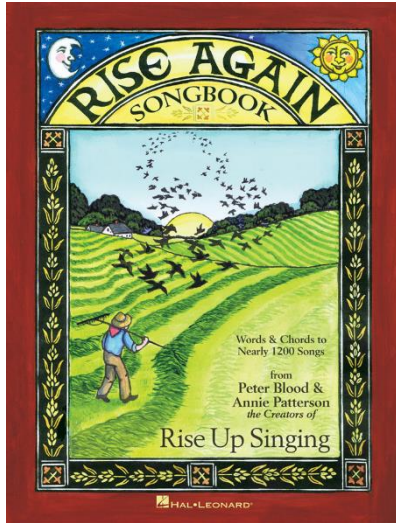


Our Caring Committee continues to present a book discussion group based on Brené Brown's most recent book, *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience*, facilitated by Rev. Maddie.

The ten participants will meet on **Thursday, June 15 3:00-4:30 PM** in the Parish Hall to discuss the next two chapters: Places We Go With Others and Places We Go When We Fall Short. This group is closed at ten participants and will meet once a month through October, taking off July.

People and Doings

RISE UP SINGING



FRIDAY, JUNE 16 AT 7:00 PM

UU CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

PARISH HALL ~ 740 E MAIN STREET

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

ALL INSTRUMENTS WELCOME! COMMUNITY SINGING!

FREE WILL OFFERING (\$5 recommended)

LED BY MADDIE SIFANTUS ~ ALL AGES

SOCIAL CONCERNS ACTION COMMITTEE

June 2023

The monthly meeting of the UUCSP Social Concerns Action Committee provides opportunities for spiritual and personal growth through meaningful action that has an impact on the world outside our congregation. We focus on social action and discuss social justice issues of importance to all of us. Our "First Sunday Plate" program provides direct support to organizations serving those in need, most recently to Poder Popular!.

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 21st, at 3:00pm, on ZOOM**. Our program will focus on several relevant issues and actions. Please join us!

Mary A. Livermore Society

June, 2023

Picnic in the Garden & Chat with a Restaurateur

The June meeting of the Mary A's will be held in the beautiful backyard of Judy Triem and Mitch Stone on the 4th **Thursday of June, the 22nd, at 11:30 a.m.** Our program will feature noted chef and former restaurateur, Pamela Fuller! Everyone is invited to attend! Please pack a picnic lunch. Dessert and drinks provided! It's going to be a delightful time!



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY: FAITHFULLY BECOMING

Join UUA attendees **June 21-25** online or in person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. General Assembly 2023 will be a multi-platform event with registration options for in-person and/or virtual participation. In-person registration includes access to events scheduled to take place in Pittsburgh, as well as everything available to virtual registrants. Full virtual registration includes access to the GA app, as well as on-demand programming, live webinars, and live-streamed events.

We are at a threshold moment for our faith and will choose the next path in our journey, consider new articulations of Article II (including our Principles and Purpose), and elect a new president to lead our association as the term of the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray ends. These are decisions that will shape who we are and how we respond to and grow through these times. These changes offer us possibilities for becoming more connected, courageous, inclusive, generous, and continuing our ongoing journey of becoming Beloved Community.

Registration is open. Volunteer opportunities and financial support are available at www.uua.org/ga/registration. UUCSP is allowed two voting delegates in addition to Rev. Maddie and Rev. Betty. This year congregation president Kate English will be attending in person and Margaret Wilson, co-chair of our Social Concerns Action Committee, will be attending virtually as our delegates. All are encouraged to be part of the excitement of growing our faith.

THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060

Office: 805-525-4647

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www.uucsp.org

www.facebook.com/uucsp



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,

Ken Stock, Vice-President

Ann Hewitt, Secretary,

Jerry Gray, Treasurer

Mitch Stone, Member at Large

Tech Support Team:

Monika Murillo Giselle Larios Mitch Stone

HOW TO CONNECT WITH UUCSP

**JOIN US SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM IN PERSON,
ON ZOOM OR ON FACEBOOK**

Read our newsletter which you can find at

<https://uucsp.org/newsletter/>

Contact our office if you want to be added to our
Friday email and our monthly newsletter email or
want to have a nametag for in person events.

Visit our website to see more about UUCSP and see

what's new at www.uucsp.org

Join our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/uucsp

Dated Material
Time Value

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740 East Main Street
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