



Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

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

uucspoffice@gmail.com website: uucsp.org

DECEMBER SERVICES, SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



DECEMBER THEME: Mystery

Every night a child is born is a holy night.

~ Sophia Lyon Fahs

Sunday, December 3 Face the Music and Dance

Chaplain Michael Eselun, MaryBeth East

Popular guest speaker, and UCLA oncology chaplain, Michael Eselun will explore the dance we do between acceptance and self-compassion. If we reach for acceptance of our circumstances as a pathway to inner peace, what part does self-compassion play?

Michael Eselun, serves as the oncology chaplain for the Simms/Mann-UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology. Two-time TED-X speaker, Michael speaks extensively to healthcare professionals, patient populations and faith communities across the country. He's also worked as an activist/educator addressing anti-LGBTQ bias in the larger community for over 30 years. Michael was recently inducted into the UCLA-Semel Institute Eudaimonia Society, in recognition of having lived a meaning-driven life. He has 4 volumes of CD's available for purchase—contact Michael through his website--
www.michaeleselun.com

First Sunday in Advent

First Sunday Plate to Interface Youth and Family Services

Sunday, December 10

Take a Breather

Rev. Maddie, Ken Stock

As we go into the busy Advent and holidays season, Rev. Maddie thinks about how spiritual practices are often called spiritual disciplines. First in a new series on Spiritual Practices for Unitarian Universalists.

Second Sunday in Advent; Hannukah (Day 3)

Talking Circle with Rev. Maddie after coffee hour

Tuesday, December 12 7 PM

GATHERING

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 December is Mystery. The music will be provided by church musician, Vincent Sorisio, piano with Maddie Sifantus, soprano.

Thursday, December 14 2 PM Blue Christmas Rev. Maddie and Caring Committee

For many of us, the holiday season can be a difficult time full of memories of what was and wondering about what might never be. We struggle while it seems like everyone around us appears to be reveling in the season, and that can feel isolating. Join us at UUCSP on Thursday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary for those who want an intimate and safe space to share ritual and our feelings about the grief we hold during this time of year: Blue Holidays. Whether your grief is more recent or a long-time companion, all are welcome.

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



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Sunday, December 17 It Came Upon a UU Christmas Rev. Maddie, Rev. Betty

What better way to celebrate the season than with more music! Fa-la-la-la-la !

Music Sunday. Guest musicians, Bonnie Catto, cello and Christine Snipes Mazor, violin. Our choir sings Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring by J. S. Bach, and other selections.

Taboo for All Ages

Third Sunday in Advent

Thursday, December 21 7 PM Winter Solstice/Yule Rev. Maddie

Cultures around the world mark the Winter Solstice and end-of-year holidays in different ways. We mark the longest night of the year with a Celebration of the Darkness and the Light with songs, stories and ritual. Wassail!

Sunday, December 24 10:30 AM Caroling Brunch Rev. Maddie

Bring something to share for brunch, hear the story of The Night Before Christmas and sing favorite Carols. We will light a chalice and enjoy each other's company of a casual gathering in the Parish Hall on Christmas Eve morning.

Sunday, December 24 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Rev. Maddie, Ellen Deeb

We gather on Christmas Eve for a traditional Christmas Eve service of readings, Carols, and special music. We will end with the traditional candlelit *Silent Night*.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 31 10:30 AM There's No Limit to What You Can Do

Constancia Leshin, Ruth Ricards

Dr. Seuss wrote, "You'll never get bored when you try something new,

There's no limit to what you can do." Constancia and Ruth bring inspiration for the New Year.



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

Message from the Minister

Greetings of this busy season which will be my last holiday season as your minister! The end of the year holidays have always been a special time for me. I look forward to sharing the music that only happens at this time of the year and I am especially excited that my sister Bonnie Catto will be visiting during the holidays and sharing her gifts on the cello at several services. See your Friday emails in December for more details. I hope that you join me at many of our events at the church when you are planning your December schedule. For instance, on Christmas Eve which falls on a Sunday we will be having a Caroling Potluck Brunch in the morning at our normal service time and then a Candlelight Christmas Eve at 5 :00 PM, which is a good time to bring family, friends, and neighbors. We continue to have both in person and online options, grateful for the technology and the tech team that keep us connected. As usual I have made a list of services and other happenings in our congregation and with the community which is posted in the Parish Hall and you can read about in this newsletter. Let me know if you are available to help with any of the various activities. And please come to all or some of our services and events to be part of our beloved community.

As you think of your end of the year giving, you may wish to give a special year's end donation in addition to your pledge to this church to support its historic building, its programs, and ministries. Each of us has our charities we support. For me our church is my number one organization, followed by the Golden Tones elder chorus I founded in 1988, various PBS and NPR stations, the UUA and the UUSC, nature organizations and locally De Colores Multicultural Arts whose annual Las Posadas leaves from our church on Saturday, December 16 at 4 PM and the Santa Clara Valley Hospice whose 30th annual Light Up a Life event I am participating in on Saturday, December 9.

As I write this, I am looking for Solstice Singers and readers to participate in our Winter Solstice which is Thursday, December 21 at 7 PM. We will also want some helpers and goodies for a casual Wassail Reception in the Parish Hall following. It'll be my last one with you. Let us fill it with joy and hilarity!

But, most of all, my hope is that you will find a measure of wonder, peace, and joy during this complicated season. And some space to look at the stars shining over our valley as well sharing events of our Spiritual Growth Center, including meditation. And if you want someone to chat with, know that I am available, both during my announced office hours and other times. Or come to our Blue Christmas service sponsored by our Caring Committee on Thursday, December 14 at 3 PM in the Sanctuary and share with others who may have difficulty with the holidays.

Welcome Yule! Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! And more....

On the path of our faith, Rev. Maddie Sifantus



Message from Board of Trustees

Hello members and friends!

Thank you to everyone who has turned in pledge cards. We appreciate your contributions. This is an important part of our budgeting process, and we are now looking forward to 2024.

2024 will bring many changes to our congregation. We will bid a very fond farewell to Rev Maddie Sifantus. Her dedication and energy will be sorely missed. After 10 years with Rev Maddie, the Board of Trustees is now responsible for ensuring that there is continuity of Ministry in place. And we have already begun the process. We met with Melissa James (who guided us through Committee-palooza in early 2023), and we are in contact with the UUA Transitions Team. They will be a great support to us as we move forward. In addition to providing handbooks and other guidance, they are already strongly advising us to consider contract ministry to replace Rev Maddie.

Contract ministries are often used by a congregation that is seeking less than full-time ministry, **that has fewer than 125 members (emphasis added)**, or that is uncertain that other types of ministries are a fit or financially sustainable long-term. The minister(s) is contracted for a specific period of time, usually a year, sometimes with a list of specific tasks like preaching and pastoral care. Contracts may be renewed and modified. Contract ministers are hired by the board. They may be called by the congregation, should a call be mutually desirable, after a couple of years.

So where are we at in the process of selecting and hiring a new Minister? The first step, as advised by the UUA, is to appoint a Search Committee. In our case, we recommend 5 members, including Board and other Committee representatives. Dates can be subject to change, but, please mark your calendars for a brief meeting to follow the church service on Sunday, January 14th, 2024. The meeting will provide more information on the search process (it's much less complicated than for a settled minister) and we'll discuss what we would like to see in the new ministry.



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

*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*

December 6 with Rev. Maddie in person
December 13 with Jim Cole online
December 20 with Rev. Maddie in person
December 27 with Jim Cole online

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6 PM

*For information call Rev. Maddie Sifantus, 805-525-4620 or minister@uucsp.org
For Zoom info, email office@uucsp.org ~Free Will Offering*



HOLIDAY TWILIGHT GATHERING



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 7:00 PM

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

Music of the Season

Led by Rev. Maddie Sifantus with poet, Atul Ranchod

Pianist, Vincent Sorisio

Free will offering (\$10-20 suggested)

People and Doings

NEWS FROM AMONG US December 2023

- Our thoughts continue to be with Mary Nelson who is adapting to living at Thousand Oaks Post-Acute. Cards may be sent to her there at 93 W Avenida De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 or you can call her cell phone. well as two members of UU Ventura.
- Rev. Betty is recovering well from her knee replacement, complete with purple markings on her knee! However, Tom was hospitalized with an infection but was improving as of this writing and finding his good humor.
- Rev. Maddie officiated at a House Blessing for Joe and Ruth Ricards' newly renovated Guest House. She also sang for Gary Baltzer's funeral on November 22.
- Please be aware that COVID is still around and take appropriate measures for your health. If you are sick, with COVID or something else, please quarantine yourself until you are no longer contagious.
- 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.



REV. MADDIE'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Maddie's Office Hours

Rev. Maddie's office hours are Tuesdays through Fridays. Her day off is Monday and will respond to Monday emails, phone calls or texts on Tuesday unless it is an emergency. Saturday is her study/sermon writing day. She would love to meet with you on office hour days to hear how you are doing, your ideas for our congregation and whatever is on your mind, especially at this time. 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.

Pastoral Coverage

Rev. Maddie will be taking some of the remainder of her vacation and study leave from Friday, November 24 through Tuesday, December 5 as well as December 25 through January 3, 2024. If you have a pastoral need during that time, please be in touch with Krystal in the office at 805-525-4647 or office@uucsp.org or congregation president Kate English whose contact information is in your Directory.



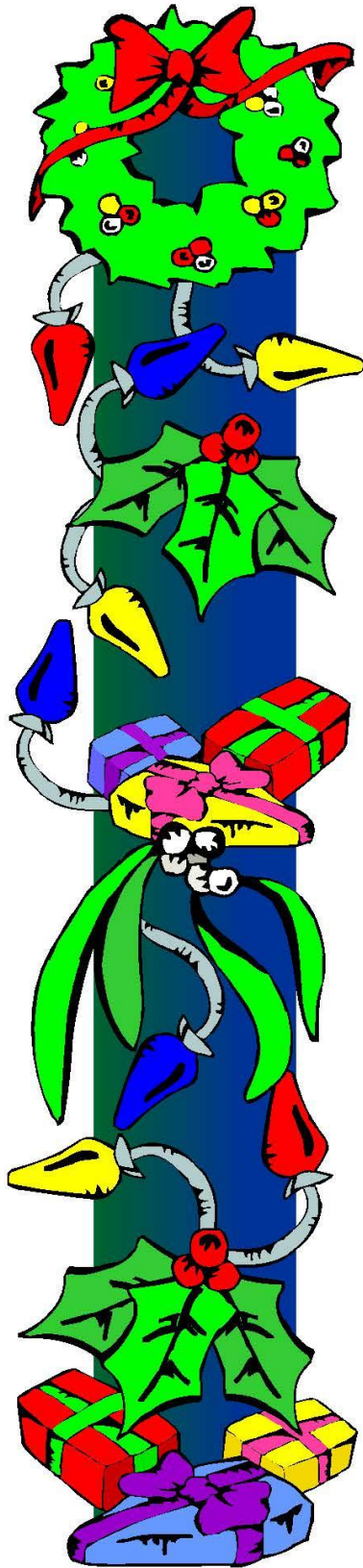
2023 4th QUARTER 1st SUNDAY OFFERING December 3



At Interface we believe that everyone should have the opportunity to be safe, stay healthy, and thrive. Since 1973, Interface has provided responsive and life-changing support for children, teens, individuals, and families through our diverse service portfolio utilizing 30+ evidence-based practices to support those who are struggling with domestic violence, human trafficking, homelessness, incarceration, child abuse, mental health concerns, and trauma-related challenges. Our prevention and intervention programs equip children,

teens, and adults to identify, intervene, and disrupt harmful behaviors and prevent them from happening in the future. Each year, hundreds of thousands of callers across 38 counties (nearly 1/3 of all Californians!) are connected to the resources and assistance they need during times of crisis through Interface's 211 Call Center, the leader in service delivery statewide.

As we look to the future during our 50th anniversary year, we are committed to embracing our role as a community leader and innovator in social services, building bridges in our community to expand our responsiveness and collaboration, continuing to provide best-in-class services, and centering equity in all that we do.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2023

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

www.uucsp.org ~ www.facebook.com/uucsp

Sunday, December 3 at 10:30 AM

"Face the Music and Dance"

Chaplain Michael Eselun with MaryBeth East
~ First Sunday in Advent

Saturday, December 9 at 5:30 PM

"Light Up a Life" for Santa Clara Valley Hospice
Santa Paula community tree
Corner of 8th and Maine

Sunday, December 10 at 10:30 AM

"Take a Breather"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with Ken Stock
~ Second Sunday in Advent

Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM

"Holiday Gathering" with Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Atul Ranchod
Vincent Sorisio, piano

Thursday, December 14 at 2:00 PM

"Blue Christmas"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Caring Committee

Saturday, December 16 at 4:00 PM

Las Posadas starts from our Sanctuary
Invocation by Rev. Maddie Sifantus
DeColores Multicultural Folk Arts

Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 AM

"It Came Upon a UU Christmas"

Music Sunday with Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford
~ Third Sunday in Advent

Thursday, December 21 at 7:00 PM

"Winter Solstice"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus and Solstice Singers

Sunday, December 24 at 10:30 AM

"Potluck Caroling Brunch"

Rev. Maddie Sifantus

Christmas Eve, December 24 at 5:00 PM

Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols
Candlelit Silent Night

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with readers, special music
~ Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 31, 2023 at 10:30 AM

"There's No Limit to What You Can Do"

Constancia Leshin with Ruth Ricards

With best wishes for a healthy and happy 2024

People and Doings

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

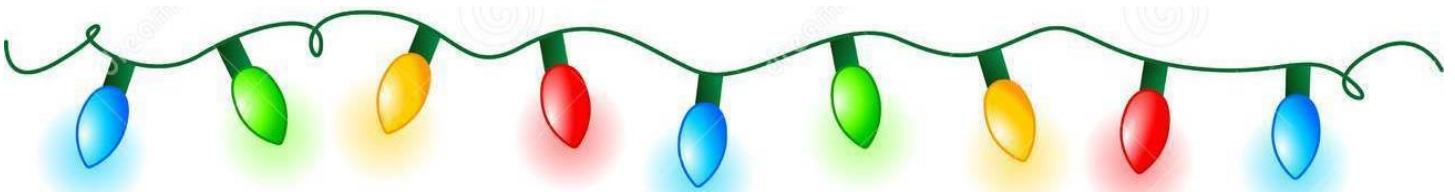


Our final film of the year is also the first in our series featuring the incomparable Lon Chaney, an oversight that really should have been corrected sooner. The "Man of a Thousand Faces" was one of the most bankable film stars of the silent era, and for good reason. In "Laugh, Clown, Laugh" made in 1928, the last full year of silents, Chaney plays kindly Tito, a circus clown who adopts a foundling girl. As she grows into womanhood (Loretta Young, at age 14), a love triangle ensues that can only end badly. The tragic clown storyline inspired very broadly by the opera *Pagliacci* is pure melodrama, but Chaney's genius for expression turns it into something transcendent and unforgettable. All in all, this film is perhaps the best introduction to Chaney's work, especially compared to his earlier output, which leaned heavily on the shocking and bizarre. His powerful, understated performance here shows the silent medium and Chaney at their very best. Sadly, the film is not quite complete — one reel is missing from all existing prints. The loss has little impact on the story continuity. And who knows? Some day the lost footage might be located, and one of Lon Chaney's last performances made whole again. In the meantime we can be satisfied with watching what remains of a film by the greatest of all silent actors. (1:13)

SANTA PAULA CINEMA SOCIETY

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8, 2023

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



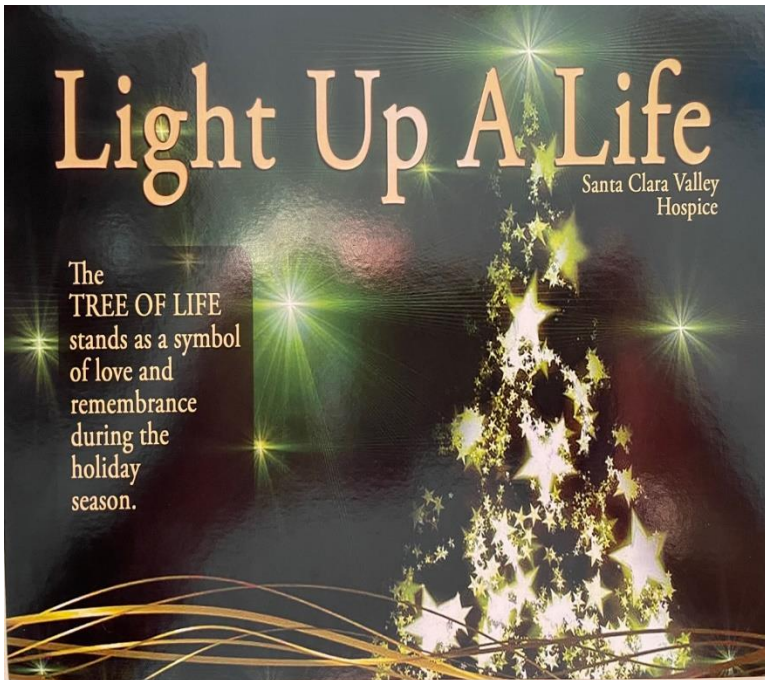
RECITAL BY GENO PALILLA'S
PIANO STUDENTS

Saturday, December 9 at 3:30 PM

In the Sanctuary ~ All Invited ~ Free



People and Doings



**TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY ~
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023
5:30 PM**

CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND 8TH STREET

Join Rev. Maddie in supporting the Santa Clara Valley Hospice's 30th Annual "Light Up a Life" which raises funds to support this important program which serves the residents of Santa Paula, Fillmore, Saticoy and Piru. Your gift of \$10 per name will illuminate a bulb on the Santa Paula Tree which will shine throughout the Holiday Season. The names of honored friends and loved ones in Santa Paula and Fillmore will be read at the Tree Lighting Ceremony in which Rev. Maddie is a speaker. For more information visit <https://santaclaravalleyhospice.org/> or call 805-525-1333.



BLUE CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 14, 2022

2:00 PM

Rev. Maddie Sifantus with Caring Committee

Unaccompanied cello, Bonnie Catto

In person in the Sanctuary in person and on Zoom
Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

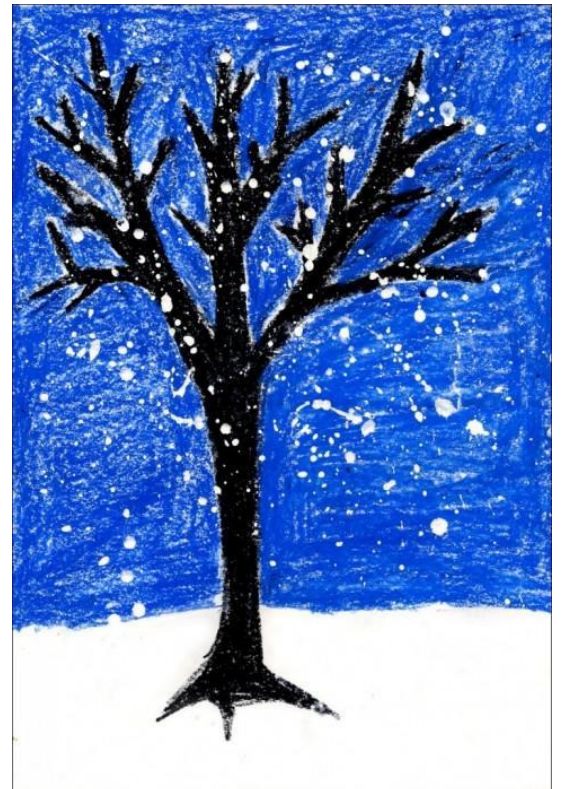
Join Zoom Meeting

<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

Offering to UUCSP, 740 E Main St, Santa Paula, CA 93060

Image by Gayle Ansel



People and Doings

MUSIC NOTES

There are many benefits of singing in a choir, from physical, to keeping mental acuity, socialization, and the joy of making music with other people and for our congregation. 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. *There will be no Vocal Workshops in November or December.*

Here is the schedule, subject to change for the rest of 2023 and through June 2024:

December 14	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
December 17	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	MUSIC SUNDAY!
		Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring J. S. Bach	
		A Midnight Clear Sears, Willis with Mac Huff	
		Grown Up Christmas List David Foster and Linda Thompson Jenner	
		Arr. Greg Gilpin	
December 21	7:00 PM	Winter Solstice 2023	
		Here We Come A-Wassailing	
		Sun Turning	
		The Gloucester Wassail	
		The Boar's Head Carol	
January 25	5:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
January 28	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	
		<i>The Path We Walk Upon Catherine Dalton</i>	
		<i>We Bid You Welcome Richard Gilbert, Wally Kleucker</i>	
February 15	5:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
February 18	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	
		<i>Beloved, Let Us Love One Another Arthur Foote, Jason Shelton</i>	
March 28	5:00 PM	Rehearsal	
March 31	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	EASTER
		<i>Halle Halle Halle Hal Hopson, arr.</i>	
April 11	5:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
April 14	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	
		<i>The World is Full of Poetry from Earth Songs</i>	
		<i>Words, James Gates Percival, Music, David L. Brunner</i>	
May 9	5:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
May 12	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	MOTHERS DAY
		<i>Still, Still With Thee Fred Gramann</i>	
		<i>The Gift of Love, Hal Hopson</i>	
June 6	5:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	
June 9	9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal for 10:30 AM Service	FLOWER SUNDAY
		<i>Let There Be Music, Gordon Young or We are the Music, Carl Strommen</i>	
		<i>Life Calls Us On Jason Shelton</i>	



People and Doings

De Colores & Poder Popular Presents *Las Posadas A Community Affair*

Saturday, December 16, 2023

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Celebration • Entertainment • Refreshments



Please Join De Colores Multicultural Folk Arts and Poder Popular as we come together and celebrate a traditional Las Posadas – a social justice community event. The procession will be led by Mariachi Inlakech.

Procession Waypoints Are:

Universalist Unitarian Church • 740 E. Main Street

Odd Fellows (Clock Tower) • 868 E. Main Street

Poder Popular/El Pueblo del Centro • 113 N. Mill Street

Glen Tavern Inn • 134 N. Mill Street

Our last stop for the night will be at **Dave's Xmas Trees** at 10th Street and Railroad Avenue. Where there will be a nativity scene, music, and refreshments. For information and reservations, call Vanessa at (805) 616-8272.



UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA



Las Posadas - A Social Justice Community Event

Saturday, December 16, 2023

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Procession will begin at Universalist Unitarian Church with an invocation by Rev. Maddie Sifantus. Procession waypoints are: Odd Fellows (Clock Tower) 868.E. Main St.; Poder Popular/El Pueblo del Centro, 113 N. Mill St.; Glen Tavern Inn 134 N. Mill St. Our last stop of the night will be at Dave's Christmas Trees on 10th St. and Railroad Ave, where there will be a nativity scene, music, refreshments, and piñatas. For information and reservations please call De Colores at (805) 616.8272.

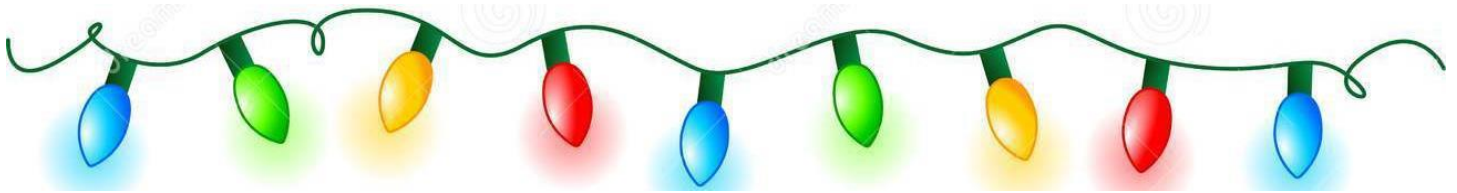
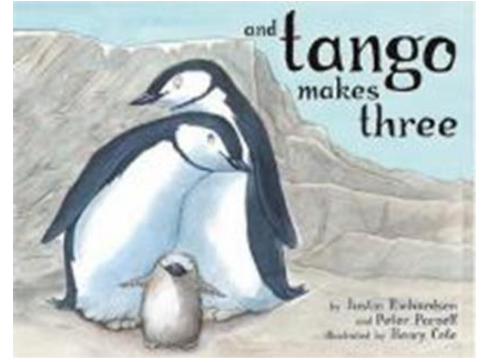
People and Doings



TABOO for All Ages (AKA Time for All Ages)

Once a month during Time for All Ages, we will share a children's picture book that has been challenged or banned. We call this special, once a month story time,

On Sunday, December 17, 2023, we will share "And Tango Makes Three" by Justin Richardson. One of the most challenged books in the U.S., this true story about two male penguins and their foster chick at New York Central Park Zoo has also been removed from libraries in the U.K. and Singapore. In 2006, it was removed from libraries in the Calgary Catholic School District, A.B. due to homosexual themes. It has also been challenged for promoting a political viewpoint, being "anti-family" and "promoting the gay agenda."



JOIN US FOR A WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

7:00 PM

Directed by Maddie Sifantus
~ Solstice Singers

Jollity! Hilarity!
Bring light to the dark!
FREE!

STAY AFTER TO SHARE WASSAIL!

UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH
OF SANTA PAULA
740 E. Main Street
805-525-4647 ~ office@uucsp.org



**CAROLING BRUNCH
DECEMBER 24, 2023
10:30 AM**

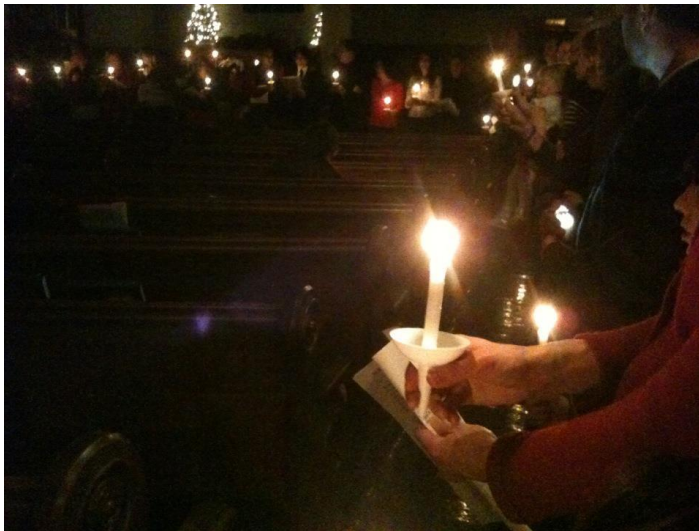
Rev. Maddie Sifantus

BRING A BRUNCH ITEM TO SHARE

In person in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall
and on Zoom

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

Offering to UUCSP ~ 740 E Main St, Santa Paula, CA 93060



**CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2023
5:00 PM**

Rev. Maddie Sifantus, Readers, and
Soloists

In person in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall
and on Zoom

Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula

OFFERING TO THE MINISTERIAL DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

**Mary A. Livermore Society &
Social Concerns Action Committee
will not meet in December.**



Universalist Unitarian Church
of Santa Paula
Spiritual Growth Center

**Sound Bath &
Tipica Sale to Benefit
Friendship Bridge**

**January 27, 2024
1:00-2:30 p.m.**

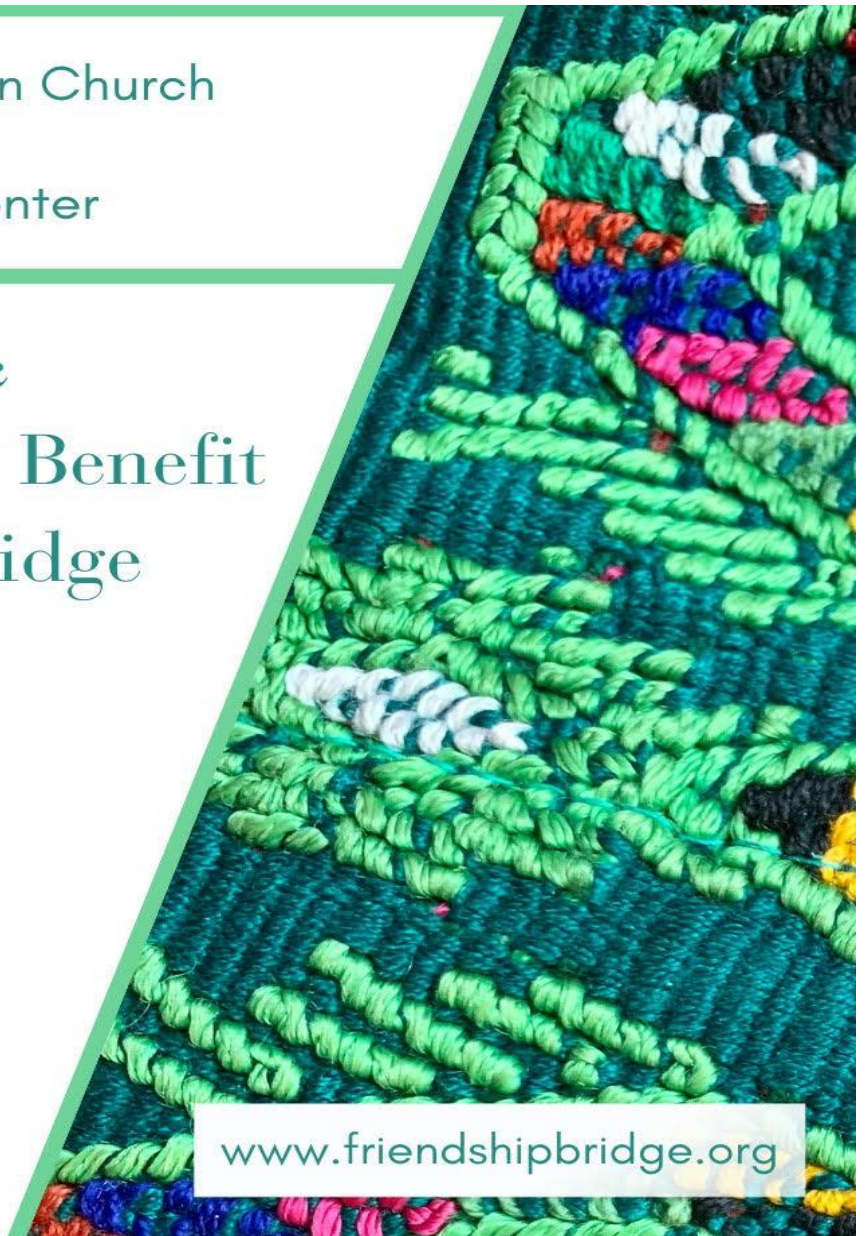
740 E Main Street
Santa Paula, CA

✉ office@uucsp.org

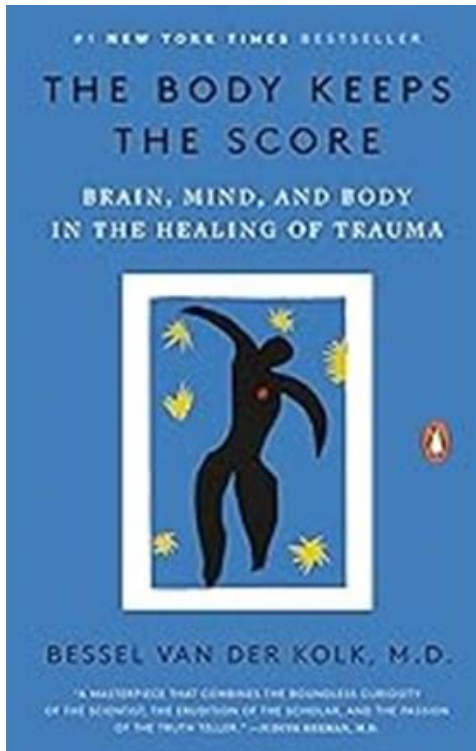
🌐 www.uucsp.org

\$30 suggested donation

www.friendshipbridge.org



People and Doings



NEW CARING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION GROUP IN JANUARY

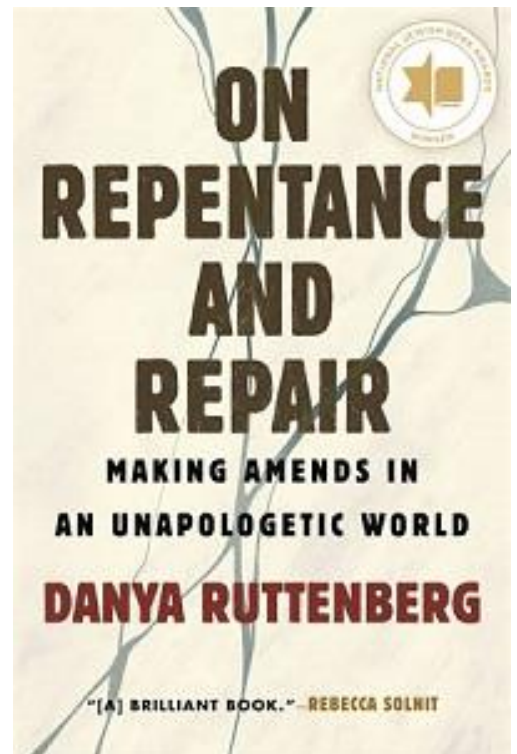
You may wish to start reading this foundational book by Dr. Bessel van der Kolk in preparation for our new discussion group open to all which will start on Thursday, **January 11 at 3:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. This book was chosen by the group who read *Atlas of the Heart* and met for 8 months to discuss it. This #1 New York Times Bestseller is billed as essential reading for anyone interested in understanding and treating traumatic stress and the scope of its impact on society. Be in touch with Rev. Maddie or Karen Harris, Caring Committee Chair, with any questions.



2023-2024

COMMON READ/ALL CHURCH READ:

The next Common Read was announced by the UUA at General Assembly. It is *On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World* by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg (Beacon Press, 2022). This Common Read offers a glimpse into one of our faith's foundational sources, Judaism. Readers explore our own call to be accountable in these modern times as we follow Rabbi Ruttenberg into a framework for making amends offered by the 12th century Jewish physician and scholar, Maimonides. *On Repentance and Repair* invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and really make a difference in our personal, community, and national relationships. We will likely start discussing it after church and coffee hour on **Sunday, February 9** in my office.



People and Doings

ANNUAL MEETING



Annual meeting will be held via Zoom on January 28, 2024. Any bylaw changes need to be completed and approved by Board before December 15, so that they can appear in the January newsletter. Committee reports are due to Krystal by January 5.



UUSC

GAYT boxes are due Tuesday, January 9



*We wish you
Happy Holidays
and a
Wonderful New Year*



THE UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN
CHURCH OF SANTA PAULA

740 East Main Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060

Office: 805-525-4647

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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**

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

Universalist Unitarian Church
of Santa Paula
740 East Main Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060