

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



February 2019

A note from the minister

The Romans and the Celts regarded February as the start of spring. The name February comes from the Latin “februa” which means to clean or purify. Lupercalia is an ancient Roman holiday in which the city of Rome was both literally and ritually cleaned to rid the streets of garbage and evil spirits.

Brenda Peterson is a novelist and nature writer, and in her book, *Nature and Other Mothers*, she talks about purification and says: “When we clean up after ourselves, whether it’s a disorganized study or a disorganized life, we can begin to get a new perspective on ourselves, and perhaps we can even envision a way of being that is more centered and more conscious. When we clean up our homes, we take responsibility for ourselves, for the world around us and for everything that we love.

Some of us who are more intellectual and artistic sometimes really dislike chores and drudgery. But getting down on our knees to scour the floor still deserves our respect. In this gesture on bended knee, we humble ourselves but we can also often find that we connect more fully with our lives on this earth.”

Cleaning things up may seem kind of monotonous to us, but late 19th century Christian mystic Sister Therese of St. Lisieux said “I prefer the monotony of daily toil on earth to the ecstasy of heaven. What matters in life,” she wrote, “is not great deeds, but great love.” She then practiced her spirituality by attending to the daily needs of everyone and everything around her. She was loved for her caring and for doing ordinary tasks - like cleaning - with extraordinary love.

“Cleaning with extraordinary love.” I hope we might all do some of that this month and discover what gifts the practice might bring us.

Yours in the journey,

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Rapid Response Network Training

You are invited on Sunday, **February 17**, 1-3 p.m., as an ally and community member, to attend a training and discussion about building a Rapid Response Network in our Humboldt Region. The training is intended to provide witness, advocacy and accompaniment to our community members being targeted by ICE and law enforcement. Brenda Urueta, a True North trainer, will explain how this system works and will engage us in how to build such a network. The training follows the monthly 12:30 p.m. SAC brunch.

Ginger Kossow, Richard Kossow and Kate McClain

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Open Soul Matters Group

On Thursday, **February 14**, at 10 a.m. the Open Soul Matters Group will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room. Part of the "Starting Point" program to promote a deeper understanding of Unitarian Universalism, the session this month will focus on the issues and values that shaped the thought of early Unitarians and early Universalists. Call me with questions at 822-3793.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

People

Special thanks to **Tamara McFarland** for her work to support a currently unhoused family living in Humboldt after losing their residence in the Carr Fire. Please contact her to assist this family in crisis exacerbated by the federal shut-down.

Congratulations go to:

Annette Gurnee Hull, for marrying off her last kid on Solstice,

Betsy Anne's son, for surviving Leukemia and moving forward,

Carol and Steve Newman, on new grandchild, Jack Henry Bailey, who was born on November 29, 2018, to daughter Tara who started at HUUF when she was 2,

Jackie Wales, for her first place in the recent Fortuna Camera Show Best of 2018 monthly photo contest winners. Jackie took first place in the Electronic B (no manipulation allowed) category. Jackie's granddaughter, Sarah Hasiuk, received an honorable mention in the same category.

Thoughtful best wishes to:

Carol Newman, as she recovers from a hip replacement and is undergoing physical therapy,

Bill Hansell, who is recovering from pneumonia,

Long-time member **Dan Gurnee**, at home with hospice care. Cards to him, his wife Marilyn and daughter Annette Hull would be appreciated.

JoAnn Howell, recovering from a challenging systemic infection. Cards to her home address would be appreciated.

In memorium:

Bill Thompson died on December 21, as gracefully as he lived. Bill was a Korean war veteran, teacher and one of the founders of the local Veterans for Peace chapter. Jane Riggan would appreciate cards.

Stephen Sottong's mother died on January 3. Steve flew to Indiana to for the funeral.

Bob Hughes, husband of **Sally Williams**, died January 11 at Timber Ridge, McKinleyville, at age 88.

Mandy Bray's father died mid-January in Oregon.

Our long time member **Edie Wolterbeek** died on January 13. Cards can be sent her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Nick Lawrence at 1417 Velma, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.



Bill Thompson during the December caroling

Sylvia Shaw

The Reluctant Radical

HUUF's Climate Action Campaign will partner with the activist group 350/Humboldt to show the documentary *Reluctant Radical* on Sunday, February 3, 7 p.m. at The Sanctuary, 13th and J Streets in Arcata.

The film profiles Ken Ward, one of the Valve Turners who simultaneously shut down five tar sands pipelines in 2016. Ken says, "We need sides to be drawn. Either you're *for* burning fossil fuels and ending the world, or you're *against* it. Which is it?" As an added bonus we hope to video chat with Ken immediately after the film showing. Suggested donation is \$5 but no one will be turned away.

Pat Carr



RE

What is it that you most deeply trust? Many years ago, a teacher introduced to me a new way to frame the concept of faith. I had only contemplated blind faith, and fully rejected the notion of believing in something that was contrary to or beyond my lived experience. My teacher asked, what if faith was defined as *trusting in your own deepest lived experience*? That question offered transformative growth and healing. This month in RE, the youth will explore what it is they can trust. I'd like to invite each family to engage in practices that ask powerful questions and together discover ways of living into the answers.

“Live the questions now. Perhaps then, some day far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer.” Rainer Maria Rilke, 1903.

Family Practice:

Consider creating or adding a divination practice to your evening or morning family ritual. If you already have angel cards, a tarot deck, or animal spirit cards, you may draw from those. If not, you can create your own deck by simply writing inspiring words on a slip of paper or index card. The most important part of the practice is to learn how to clarify a meaningful question to contemplate, then open up to the wisdom that may come from drawing a card from your deck.

February Sunday Program Schedule:

K-2 OWL Class: continues in the Multipurpose room all month for those who signed up.

Preschool- K:

2/3: make sand candles for the Love Light Auction.

2/10: exploring the theme of friendship and trust, we will be talking about helping others.

2/17: exploring friendship and diversity of people.

1st-3rd grade:

2/3: Responding with Love: We will learn about how to return love in times of struggle and uncertainty and finish our copper suncatchers for the Auction.

2/10: Love Builds Trust: We will discuss what trust means and how it ties into our faith.

2/17: Love In Action: We will look at people throughout history who have put their love to work, and how we can too.

4th-8th grade: (We will meet in the teen room in February.)

2/3: Explore the long history and variety of divination practices including Tarot, Runes, and the I-Ching.

2/10: Introduction to Soul Collage® as a divination practice looking at the wisdom of spirit animals.

2/17: Create a second Soul Collage® card to begin a personalized deck.

2/24: All ages Service Sunday: Cook dinner for the night shelter.

Teen Group:

2/3: We will prepare to contribute to the March 3 service on Climate Change, as well as plan for the upcoming con.

2/17: Many teens will be at the YRUUP Conference on President's weekend. Teens who are here please join the 4-8th grade group as we explore Soul Collage® as a divination practice.

Youth Choristers:

Only one rehearsal this month on Saturday 2/9 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. with performances at 5:00 p.m. during the Love Light Auction, and the following Sunday 2/10 at the 11:00 service.



Sunday Services

Sunday, Feb. 3 – 9 and 11 a.m.

A Call for Revolution – Rev. Bryan Jessup

The Dalai Lama has written a book titled *A Call for Revolution*. In this book he speaks particularly to young people, and he urges them to join the effort to transform our human societies from violence and greed toward compassion and collaboration. He advocates for what he calls a Charter for Universal Responsibility. In this service, people will be challenged to consider how they can join the revolution. Bob Billstrom will supply special music.

Sunday, Feb. 10 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Announcing Our Place in the Family of Things – Amy Day

How can we honor, trust and live into the unique role we each carry inside the tapestry of life? Local HUUF parent, podcaster, writer and yogi Amy Day will examine the miraculous power of a humble, but deeply intentional life.

Sunday, Feb. 17 – 9 and 11 a.m.

On Being a Sanctuary – the Rev. Bryan Jessup

Last year, members of the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship voted to become a Sanctuary Congregation which supports immigrants in danger of exploitation, abuse and deportation. In this service, the congregation will look at what it has done so far to offer sanctuary and will look at what it might do in the future.

Brenda Urueta, of True North Organizing, will offer a Rapid Response Training following the 11 a.m. service.

Sunday, Feb. 24 – 9 and 11 a.m.

To Bear Witness – Maureen Lawlor

When we bear witness to someone else's story, we have the privilege and opportunity to take a little piece of the burden that person carries and hold it for them. Sometimes what is being shared is a boulder that the teller is struggling to carry. Each time someone tells us their story, and we listen deeply to their truth without judgment, it is as though that teller is giving us a little pebble chipped off that boulder. The more someone is able to share their story, the more they are able to decrease the power it has over them and lessen its burden.

How can we as individuals truly bear witness to each other, in our daily lives and in our own congregation? How can we as a congregation truly bear witness to the world? Maureen Lawlor, a HUUF member, chairperson of the Social Action Committee, and volunteer coordinator for the Breast and GYN Health Project, will explore bearing witness together.

Looking Ahead

Options for Getting involved

HUUF Events –

January

Fr	Jan. 25	6–7:30 p.m.	Ancient Forest Sangha
Sa	Jan. 26	9 a.m.–noon	Pancake Breakfast for Humboldt Pride

February

Sa	Feb. 2	9–11 a.m.	Worship Leader's meeting
Sa	Feb. 2	2–4 p.m.	F. Suzanne Moore's Memorial Service
Sa	Feb. 2	5–6 p.m.	CUUPS Imbolc Community Ritual "Brigid's Fire"
Su	Feb. 3	12:30 p.m.	Social Action meeting
Su	Feb. 3	12:45 p.m.	RE Committee Meeting
Fr	Feb. 8	all day	Auction set-up
Fr	Feb. 8	6–7:30 p.m.	Ancient Forest Sangha
Sa	Feb. 9	4 p.m.	Youth Choristers Practice–performance to follow.
Sa	Feb. 9	3–7 p.m.	Fellowship Service Auction
Su	Feb. 10	12:30 p.m.	Newcomer Orientation
Su	Feb. 10	12:30 p.m.	Ad-Hoc committee on Climate Change
Tu	Feb. 12	11 a.m.	Membership meeting
Tu	Feb. 12	5:30 p.m.	HUUF Board of Trustee's meeting
Th	Feb. 14	10 a.m.	Open Soul Matters Group
Sa	Feb. 16	10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Grounds Work Party
Sa	Feb. 16	7–9 p.m.	Teen Worship or Movie Night
Su	Feb. 17	12:30 p.m.	Social Action Brunch
Su	Feb. 17	1:30–2:30 p.m.	Rapid Response Training
Tu	Feb. 19	7–8 p.m.	Contact Ministry
Fr	Feb. 21	6–7:30 p.m.	Ancient Forest Sangha
Sa	Feb. 23	1–4 p.m.	Justice on Earth Workshop
Su	Feb. 24	1:30–2:30	Rapid response training on bearing witness.
Tu	Feb. 26	6:30–8 p.m.	Fellowship Council

March

Sa	Mar. 2	9–11 a.m.	Worship Leader's meeting
Su	Mar. 3	12:30 p.m.	Social Action meeting
Su	Mar. 3	12:45 p.m.	RE Committee Meeting
Su	Mar. 10	12:30 p.m.	Congregational meeting

Weekly

Weekly Wed.	7–9 p.m.	Choir practice
Weekly Thurs.	7–9 p.m.	Reflections–open discussion group in CARE building
Weekly Sunday	10 a.m.	Youth Choristers: Practice weeks 1,2 & 3, Perform 3 rd Sun. @ 11 a.m.
Weekly Sunday	9 & 11 a.m.	Sunday Worship Service

Out of Area

Fr–Su	Feb 15–18, 2019	Weekend Teen YRUUP Con [Elections] @ TBA
We–Su	June 19–23, 2019	General Assembly of the UUA in Spokane Washington

Newcomer Orientation Part 2

On Sunday, **February 10**, after the 11 a.m. service, we will offer the second part of our HUUF Newcomer Orientation, in the Multi-Purpose room. A light lunch will be served. We will discuss the history of the Humboldt UU Fellowship and its Covenant, what membership means and how to become involved in Fellowship life. Childcare will be available. Call me with questions at 822-3793.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Seeking caring volunteers

The HUUF Caring Circle is using a survey to identify members and friends who are willing to help. Please pick up a survey at the Greeters table if interested. As our Aspiration so aptly states “service is our prayer.” Needs include meals, errands, transportation, etc. Surveys will be available beginning in February and can be returned to a labeled box in the foyer.

Nancy Engel

Volunteer of the month

This month the Caring Circle would like to recognize the long term dedication of Scott Allen. Scott tirelessly troubleshoots, repairs, maintains, and plans for the future of our campus. Thanks Scott from all of us.

Nancy Engel

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 10¢ per word. Send your check to the HUUF office and the text of your ad to newsletter@huuf.org (email only).

Forum on gun violence

On Monday, **February 11**, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., at the Arcata United Methodist Church on 11th Street, the Humboldt Interfaith Fellowship, along with students from the North Coast Preparatory Academy, will present a forum on gun violence. This forum is being held on the one year anniversary of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Along with a vigil and featured speaker, there will be several breakout groups for discussion.

Rev. Bryan Jessup



Writer's group

I would like to start a writers group for writers of prose, fiction or non-fiction, where we can share and aid each other in our endeavors. Contact: Sylvia De Rooy. 707-269-0206, offtheforest@att.net

Deadline info

Deadline for the **March 2019** issue of the newsletter is Wednesday, **February 20** at 5 p.m. Send committee reports and articles to newsletter@huuf.org (email only).

While many file formats are acceptable, .doc, .docx, .rtf and text are preferred, and .pdf and .pages cannot be used. Late submissions are not accepted without prior approval.

Full guidelines are available at:

<http://huuf.org/upcoming-events/newsletter-2/newsletter-guidelines/>

Stephen Sottong, editor



True North training on community organizing

On Sunday, **February 3** from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Temple Beth El, on Hodgson and T in Eureka, Jim Keddy of the national “Faith in Action” effort will present an outline of faithbased organizing and how it works. People from True North congregations all around Humboldt Bay are encouraged to attend. An enchilada dinner will follow.

Rev. Bryan Jessup



HUUF Climate Action Campaign news

The Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Change has a new name, and now will be known as the Climate Action Campaign (CAC). Following the **March 3** Sunday service, the CAC will hold a mini Climate Action for the Earth Fair featuring info and demos from the Redwood Coast Energy Authority, the Native Plant Society, CAC members, and more.

Sue Mossman

Climate Action Big Think and Challenge



The Climate Action Campaign (CAC) announces for this spring an all-congregational intergenerational Climate Action Big Think and Challenge (BTC). We invite the leaders, facilitators and participants in the children's RE, Soul Matters, Thursday Night Reflections, Seasonal Observance Rituals and Events, CUUPs, Justice on Earth Workshops, and Sunday services to join in the discourse on the interrelationships between climate justice and social justice when opportunities arise within the normal pursuit of these ongoing programs.

We would like to see and hear what climate change actions you are doing as individuals, as part of this congregation, and as part of our larger community. We invite all to share their relationship with or feelings about climate change and climate change actions through visual, written, or performance art.

Another option of the BTC is for HUUF members and friends to choose to make three new changes in their lifestyles for one week, and then share what they did through writing, art, music or through a skit.

The CAC plans a May exhibit and presentation of your submissions open to the Fellowship and community as an educational, awareness-raising, and motivational event. As climate change affects us all, and as we're all working together in our attempts to mitigate its effects, the CAC will seed the BTC efforts with \$200 from The Company of Voices holiday concert donation to be shared equally among everyone who has a submission for this event.

Pat Carr and Sue Lee Mossman for the CAC

Guest at Your Table report



In addition to the funds raised for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee by our Religious Education children's sales of handmade ornaments, 21 Guest-at-Your-Table donations from our Fellowship this past holiday season ranged from \$10 to \$900 and totaled \$3,026 (including four gifts mailed directly to UUSC).

Heartfelt thanks for the generosity of these thirty contributors and their families: Caitlin Bair & David Larsson; Barbara Barratt; Ruth Davis; Thea Gast; Ilene & Dave Harris; Debra Harrison & Greg Blomstrom; Edie & Bryan Jessup; Kathy Layton; David & Beverly Morgan Lewis; David Marshak; Kate McClain; Sue & Archie Mossman; Ursula Osborne; Marianne Pennekamp; Jan Rowan; Sylvia Shaw; Celestine Armenta & Chip Sharpe; JoAnn & Carl Thomas; Steve Wallace; Berti Welty & Jo Weisgerber; and the ever-faithful Ann Onheemus.

Escape the cold

Want to see San Diego from **March 2-7**? First Unitarian Universalists of San Diego is offering a guided tour. San Diego has so much to offer: beautiful beaches, hip urban areas, a world-famous zoo, inspiring universities, and a park filled with fascinating museums. And most of one day is left open for you to tell us where you want to go. Please go to www.firstuusandiego.org/sdvisit to see the details of this exclusive and all-inclusive tour. Funds raised will be used to support a number of social justice projects near the border.

Berti Welty

New website and committee chairs

The new and improved HUUF website is up, running and looking quite professional, if we do say so ourselves. The Web Committee is dedicated to keeping up the good work, but we need your collective input to ensure that your committee's "face" on the site is getting the proper presence. If you have pictures, events, documents, links or any other information, this is your reminder that they can easily become part of our HUUF website. Ultimately it is your responsibility to monitor the information to keep it current and relevant. Don't be shy. Let's all use this wonderful tool to put our best face forward to the HUUF community as well as the community at large. Committee chairs can call or email me in the office to get your additions onto the site at 822-3793 or office@huuf.org

Bridgette Garuti HUUF Administrator



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 506
Bayside, CA 95524

24 Fellowship Way (off Jacoby Creek Road)
(707) 822-3793 www.huuf.org
e-mail: office@huuf.org
Administrator: Bridgette Garuti
Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Minister: Rev. Bryan Jessup
Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
822-3793 minister@huuf.org
Director of Religious Education: Therese FitzMaurice
498-3564 t_keslin@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Stephen Sottong
newsletter@huuf.org

Board of Trustees:

Co-Presidents	Greg Blomstrom Berti Welty
Vice-President	Cathy Hanafi
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Service Auction

Come have FUN at our FUNdraiser on **February 9**, starting at 3 p.m. There will be finger foods and beverages, a performance by HUUF Kids Choir, as well as music by Dave Troxel. There'll be a silent auction and a live auction, including items from Suzanne Moore's estate.

The HUUF Service Auction store will again be in the back of the sanctuary. Our Love Light Store will have a variety of things to buy for your instant gratification. There will be a kid's table and plenty of items for adults to peruse and decide they can't live without it.

Ilene Harris

CUUPS Imbolc "Brigid's Fire"

Merry Meet! The Humboldt community is invited to join the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans for a ritual celebration of Imbolc on February 2, the ancient Celtic sacred day of cleansing and renewal in anticipation of the coming of spring. The evening will begin at 4:30 p.m. with a Simple Feast of finger foods and socializing with friends old and new. We'll begin gathering to enter the sanctuary at 5:15 for the ritual circle to commence at 5:30. Candles will be lit to dispel the darkness of winter, the Goddess Brigid will be welcomed to bless our plans for the coming year, and the traditional Imbolc cakes and milk (dairy and otherwise) will be shared. Weather permitting, the evening will conclude with an outdoor bonfire and drumming circle. Bring simple snacks, drums, and something to decorate the altars. Dress as the spirit of the season moves you, and come together with us in beloved community while we turn the Wheel of the Year one notch closer to spring.

Dave Troxel