

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



June 2019

A note from the minister

What a joy it has been to serve as your minister for the last six years. Edie and I have loved being here and we will always treasure our time with you. What's up for all of us now is transition and then the ongoing journey. Edie and I are busy about the business of putting our beloved little cabin in Manila on the market, getting our retirement accounts in order, finding new housing in Oregon and saying goodbye. Along the way we will go to the UU General Assembly in Spokane, Washington. At that time I will walk across the stage as a retiring minister. That will be a poignant moment for me. Thirty-five years ago in Columbus, Ohio, I walked across the stage as a new minister just heading into the field. The time has gone by very quickly because Edie and I have both loved what our labors have been.

We look forward to this last month with you all. In my last service with you on June 30, we will do a ritual of goodbye. I will try to contain my tears but beware; you know that I tend to leak around the eyes. On Sunday July 7, after the 10 a.m. service we will have a roaring good party and then... Edie and I will head off into the wilds of Oregon. You will stay here and continue the story of this great congregation with a new minister.

Wow! Your search committee did well. I am so glad that the Rev. Anthony Mtuaswa Johnson and his wife Lydia are coming your way. They are true gems. You and they are going to have a great time. Edie and I will be quietly watching from afar, cheering you on and sending you love and good energy. May love, good energy and our ongoing UU urge to heal our own hearts and the world around us be with us each and all.

Yours in the ever-evolving story,

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Bryan's Retirement Party

After six years of trying to herd the many 'cats' in our congregation, our beloved minister is retiring. Come on July 7 at 11:30 a.m. and give Bryan and Edie a big informal send-off. Details about the All-Fellowship Pizza Potluck and retirement party will be in the next newsletter.

Berti Welty

New Member Welcome

On Sunday, June 9, we will welcome six new members into the Fellowship at our 10 a.m. service. Make sure not to miss this important celebration for our congregation.

Rev. Bryan Jessup, for the Membership Committee

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Summer is coming!

The next issue of the newsletter is the summer edition that cover both the months of July and August. Please have articles for both months ready by Thursday, June 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Steve Sottong

People

Thank you!

To **Bryan** and **Edie Jessup** for sharing 5 years of their lives with the Fellowship, Humboldt activist politicians and, oh so many individuals, of whom they may not even be aware.

To the members of the Ministerial Search Committee: **Greg Blomstrom, Bonnie MacGregor, Danielle Stubblefield, Wendy Rowan, and Cathy Hanafi** for their long hours of meetings; designing, gathering, and analyzing the data from a congregational survey; reading applications; interviewing applicants and finally contracting a minister. Thank you for your diligence to be sure the selection process was fair, equitable, and inclusive; and finding the best fit possible between our congregation and a new minister.

To the 2018-2019 Board of Trustees: **Greg Blomstrom, Berti Welty, Cathy Hanafi, Peter Gillis, Kate McClain, Alison O'Dowd, Pat McCutcheon, Sandy Lynn and Rebekah Paez** for their countless hours and mindful consideration of the puzzle pieces involved in the policy and direction of the Fellowship.

To Administrator **Bridgette Garuti**, who has kept everyone operating effectively, while being an impressive artist and caterer.

To Director of Religious Education **Therese FitzMaurice** and the extensive support crew who have created a rich RE community.

To **Anna Gaines** and her choristers, and to **Elisabeth Harrington** and her choir for joyful music.

To OWL facilitators **Debbie Harrison and Shawn Nichols**; you are very special.

To the Auction Committee, other fundraisers, Halloween Festival and Endowment Committee, who have used their talents and resources to supplement our annual budget and community service.

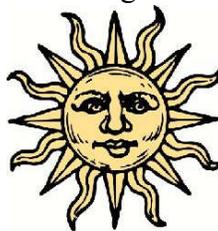
To **Valerie Gizinski** and the merry band of grounds workers, who have achieved major improvements in our landscape over the last year.

To our newsletter, website and Facebook editors who have kept us connected.

To the Membership Committee for hosting Sunday mornings, new member information sessions and celebrations.

To the diverse community who have contributed to the expansion of earthbased spiritual offerings, through CUUPS and seasonal celebrations.

To all HUUF friends not mentioned by name, but appreciated for the thoughtfulness, energy, spiritual seeking and social justice efforts that have led HUUF through the last year.



Sylvia Shaw

Celebrate Midsummer

Come celebrate Litha, the exuberance of Midsummer on Saturday, June 22, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on the HUUF patio. The heart of the ceremony will be the creation of a summer solstice mandala by all the participants, children and adults. The general outline of the mandala will be laid out on the patio, with the fire pit in the center. Each person will choose three things from a trove of natural items and place them wherever their intuition directs them. Together we'll generate a spontaneous group mandala. Tina Dawson and I will provide natural artifacts that will make up the mandala, and you could help by bringing flowers, leaves, cones, stones, and anything else you think would grace the mandala, especially, but not exclusively, items in warm Midsummer colors like yellow, red, and orange. You can retrieve any items after the circle is open. Our mandala is, after all, a symbol of ephemerality, the constant turning of the wheel of the year.

As usual, wear festive clothing but prepare for being outside, and bring sacred items for the altar such as drums and rattles; also bring finger food for afterward. Childcare will be provided.

Looking forward to joining with you in another powerful ritual to honor and harmonize with Mother Earth. For more information, call me at 822-6508.

Margy Emerson

Religious Education

“Beauty disciplines our hearts to joy like riverbanks nudging the current ever closer to the sea.”

-Priscilla Stuckey, from June Soul Matters Packet

The summer season calls many of us to revel in the beauty of the land around us. Whether time at the river, beach or in the forest, families benefit greatly from the opportunity to be together outdoors. To discipline our hearts to the joy of beauty, we will close our RE year with an all-ages Flower Communion on June 2. During the summer months, we offer childcare during the 10 a.m. service in the CARE building where children can play and build relationships with each other and our wonderful care providers. Our curriculum offering will begin again in mid-September when we switch back to two services.

Family Practice:

As you spend time outdoors this season, practice noticing beauty together. Invite your family members to gather leaves, blooms, cones, sticks and create a nature mandala in your backyard, at the beach, in the forest, or even on the plaza. What different materials do you discover in different places?

June Sunday Program Schedule:

4/2: All ages Flower Communion. The RE youth will share highlights of their year and participate in a flower communion. Everyone is invited to bring a flower. Please come at 9:45 to check in with the teachers. Youth are encouraged to sit with their classes.

4/9: Summer childcare begins and continues through mid-September.

Youth Choristers will resume in the fall. Stay tuned for details.

7-8th grade OWL Class:

Debbie Harrison and Shawn Nichols with the assistance of Sandy Lynn will once again be offering a 7-8th grade OWL class during the 2019-20 school year. The class will meet on Mondays after school from mid-September through mid-May, with some sizeable breaks. Check out the OWL page on the website for more details and to register. Space is limited to 12 students.

RE positions available

We are seeking two teachers for the RE program, eight hours per month, the first three Sundays. Compensation is \$15 per hour. Volunteers are encouraged and welcomed to apply. A volunteer teacher would be equivalent to a \$1250 pledge!

Childcare Worker positions are also available. Hours vary, at \$11-\$13 per hour. Send a letter of interest to Therese at t_keslin@hotmail.com or call her at 498-3564 to discuss further details. We hope to interview in mid-June.

Practicing Healing Dialogue

Practicing Healing Dialogue is a workshop for being seen and heard. Couples, individuals (partnered and single), curious adults from all walks of life are invited to join Yaj, Relationship Coach since 2001, for a learning gathering about Conscious Communication: what it is, what it isn't, and how to do it. You will receive background, handouts, demonstrations and facilitated practice of real skills. This workshop is free, open to the public, and designed for anyone who desires a higher level of skill in connecting with others and themselves. It will be offered Fridays, May 31 and June 7, from 6-9 p.m. For details, call Yaj: (845) 641-8843, and visit www.heartmindpartners.com.

Meditation group

Ancient Forest Sangha meditation group will be gathering from 6:00-7:30 on Fridays, June 14, and June 28. On June 14 we are pleased to be led by Heidi Bourne, a local Insight Meditation teacher of the Spirit Rock group of teachers. All are welcome.

Richard & Ginger Kossow



Sunday Services

Sunday, June 2 – 10 a.m. – The Flower Communion

This Religious Education program will honor the end of the year with an intergenerational flower communion. Everyone is invited to bring a flower for our communal altar. During the service, all four R.E. groups will share highlights of their spiritual exploration. Senior Zoe Moore will present her Coming of Age Credo as we support her transition into adulthood. After blessing the flowers, congregants will be invited to select a new flower to take home as a symbol of our interconnected community.

Families are asked to bring their children in at 9:45 a.m. to check-in with their teachers. After the service everyone is invited to an all-Fellowship potluck lunch and our annual “Sunday Sundaes.”

Sunday, June 9 – 10 a.m. – Wholeness from a Humanist Perspective – Rev. Bryan Jessup & Ruth Davis

The humanist approach to religion that undergirds so much of Unitarian Universalism will be examined by the Rev. Bryan Jessup and HUUF member Ruth Davis. The UU way of faith is grounded in science and ethics. It invites people to develop fully as human beings by practicing mindfulness and by committing themselves to love and justice. Some UUs use “God” language but many do not. Whether they do or don’t, UUs know that they are responsible for working toward their own wholeness and for working toward a more just and sustainable world.

Sunday, June 16 – 10 a.m. – Fathers Talk about Faith – Rev. Bryan Jessup

In this service, several fathers from the congregation will work with Rev. Jessup to talk about their own faith journeys and how they talk (or talked) about faith with their children. Faith is often something bigger than organized religion. It is often an open and courageous approach to living that welcomes beauty and does not try to escape the difficult parts. Ralph Waldo Emerson said that how we behave speaks so loudly no one can ever really hear what we’re saying. In this service fathers will talk about how their behavior (for good or ill) has conveyed their true faith to the people who depend on them.

Sunday, June 23 – 10 a.m. – Transition Looks and Feels Like This – Lama Choyang (Allison Rader)

Change is the ground of our experience, from monumental climate change to the intimate loss of loved ones and the truth that each of us will draw our last breath. Lama Choyang (Allison Rader) will talk about change, the unknown, trust, transformation, and a commitment to presence as we live into the uncertainties of life in these bodies and in our precious world.

Lama Choyang is a 30-year teacher in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. She spent almost all of the last five years working as a chaplain with Hospice of Humboldt and resigned recently to spend several months in retreat. She is on the edge of a new moment in her life, looking forward to weaving spiritual support and end-of-life care with meditation teachings, retreats and programs. She is open to the arising of not-yet-known opportunities to serve and to learn.

Sunday, June 30 – 10 a.m. – So Long, It’s Been Good to Know You – Rev. Bryan Jessup

This will be the final service for Rev. Jessup as minister of the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. In his remarks he will outline why it has “been good to know” the people in the congregation, what strengths he sees in them as they continue their journey as a spiritual community, what he hopes for them in the future, and some of the many things he and his wife Edie will always treasure about their time in Humboldt County.

Looking Ahead

Options for getting involved

HUUF Events

May

Sunday May 26 – Change to summer schedule – one service at 10 a.m.

Tu	May 28	6:30-8 p.m.	Fellowship Council
Th	May 30	6 p.m.	'There is a Joy to be Found Here' – writing workshop
Fr	May 31	6 p.m.	Practicing Healing Dialogue
Fr, Sa	May 31 & Jun1	Fr p.m., Sa all day	HUUF Board retreat – off site

June

Sa	June 1	6-9 p.m.	Coven of the Bay Gaias
Su	June 2	10 a.m.	Annual Retreat Planning meeting
Su	June 2	11:30 a.m.	Social Action meeting
Su	June 2	11:45 a.m.	RE Committee Meeting
Su	June 2	11:45 a.m.	Board Car Wash
Fr	June 7	6 p.m.	Practicing Healing Dialogue
Sa	June 8	9 a.m.	Worship Leaders Meeting
Sa	June 8	10 a.m.-3 p.m.	Parent/Caregiver Retreat
Su	June 9	11:30 a.m.	Climate Action Campaign
Tu	June 11	11 a.m.	Membership meeting
Tu	June 11	5:30 p.m.	HUUF Board of Trustees' meeting
Fr	June 14	6-7:30 p.m.	Ancient Forest Sangha
Sa	June 15	10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	"Living Into the Change" Workshop
Su	June 16	11:30 a.m.	Congregational Meeting
Sa	June 22	2-4 p.m.	Midsummer Celebration
Fr	June 28	6-7:30 p.m.	Ancient Forest Sangha
Sa	June 29	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Barn Sale for HUUF

July

Sa	July 6	9-11 a.m.	Worship Leaders Meeting
Su	July 7	11:30 a.m.	Bryan's Retirement Pizza Potluck
Sa	July 13	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Moore Estate & Art Sale

Weekly:

Wed.	7-9 p.m.	Choir practice
Thurs.	7-9 p.m.	Reflections – open discussion group in CARE building
Sun.	10 a.m.	Sunday Worship Service – summer schedule

Future and/or Out of Area:

We-Su	June 19-23	General Assembly of the UUA in Spokane Washington
Fr-Su	Aug. 2-4	HUUF All Fellowship Retreat at Mattole Camp & Retreat Center
Sa	Oct. 26	Halloween Festival
Sa	Sept 21	Intercultural Development workshop
Su	Sept 22	Volunteer Fair

Volunteer of the month

This month the Caring Circle would like to recognize Sue Lee Mossman for her many contributions to enriching the congregational life of the Fellowship. During our annual retreat, we greatly benefit from Sue's kitchen organizational skills and cooking. Recently Sue, Archie, and several other climate advocates, formed the Climate Action Committee to engage and energize the Fellowship on the issues of climate change. Sue also brings her talents to the wider community by volunteering with The Breast and GYN Health Project. In addition to participating in many other activities, we thank her for her friendship and commend her efforts as a tireless and passionate doer.

Nancy Engel

Living Into the Change

Join us for this workshop for the whole Fellowship on Saturday, June 15, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. The Rev. Bryan Jessup, members of the Ministerial Search Team and the Worship Leaders will offer a workshop in which we address how we might embrace the changes our congregation is going through. One goal for this workshop is to help us become aware of the dynamics of going through significant change as a spiritual community and of the anxiety and conflict that inevitably comes with change.

A further goal is to help us increase our skills and abilities to embrace change and work collaboratively so we shape the change in positive directions that support ongoing healing, transformation and growth for each of us, for our congregation, and for the world around us.

The morning session focuses on viewing a sermon by the Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd who spoke at the "Service of the Living Tradition" at the UUA General Assembly in 2016. The gist of her sermon is that as we live with one another in congregations going through change, conflict inevitably happens and it often feels like sandpaper. However, committing to one another, to our common purpose and to staying with the process is the very essence of the UU spiritual practice of living our values with honesty and kindness. Doing so will actually help make us stronger as individuals and a community.

After lunch, the afternoon session focuses on our Covenant, what it means to us and what it requires of us. The session will also include information about "self-differentiation" as a process that helps us deal with change as individuals and helps us create healthy groups.

We will have time for small group discussion and singing together. Childcare will be provided.

Lower your carbon footprint

Would you like to lower your carbon footprint and help our HUUF community? We have members who would love to attend our services but are unable to drive. Their absence is not only their personal loss, but it is also a loss for our congregational family. The Caring Circle is looking for "transportation buddies" who are willing to commit to giving someone a ride to and from services on a regular (weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly) basis. We truly need you to "care and share." Please contact Nancy Engel at 839-5789 if you can help.



Little Free Pantry

Thank you to all the generous HUUF donators to our Little Free Pantry. Every week the donations are growing with a wide variety of protein, fruits, vegetables and carbs. Also personal care items are especially appreciated. Your generosity is helping in ways we will never fully know. Gratitude all around.

Carol Newman

Deadline info

Deadline for the **July/August** issue of the newsletter is Thursday, **June 20** at 5 p.m. Send committee reports, announcements and articles related to HUUF to newsletter@huuf.org (email only).

While many file formats are acceptable, but .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

Climate Action Campaign recognitions and opportunities

On Sunday, May 19, the Climate Action Campaign recognized 50 Fellowship youth and adults who submitted art and writings to the CAC's Big Think and Challenge initiative. Their works are currently on exhibit through the month of June. We thank the participants for their creative and thoughtful expressions on climate change, and on actions we can take to reduce our impact on it. All participants shared a \$200 award made possible by a donation from a concert by A Company of Voices.

Preschool - 3rd Grade Participants who created an upcycled art piece:

Mosiah Derso, Lalibella Derso, Jack Miller, Orion Teraoka, Amaya Teraoka, Cadence FitzMaurice, Sam West, Theo Bair, Emilia Prim, Julian Prim, Galena Gobel, Amber Klingon-Smith, Evan Klingon-Smith, Alma Constant-Libertad, Liam Ruddock, Logan Rudock, Brielle Henry, Eliza Henry, Cara West, Callie McKnight, Bony McKnight, Alea, Ava, Violet, Micha, Harmonie, Josh, and 2 unsigned works.

Poem Submissions:

Cameron Gaines and Will Gaines

4th-8th grade Photographers:

Twilight Miracle, Alex Hasting-Tharp, Chris Hasting-Tharp, Shanti Kimmel, Ayla Kimmel, Thomas FitzMaurice, Nathan Levers, Inga Seaquist, Darby Bronkall.

Contributors to the Upcycled Plastic Turtle Mosaic:

Most of the photographers listed above, plus: North Sanders and Laelia Maynor.

Adult Contributors:

Eve Anderson, Bridgette Garuti, Pat McCutcheon, Cheryl Peterson Rau, Judy Rishell, Bert Taylor, Helen Vatcher, and Joanna Welch.



We will continue to have the letter-writing table throughout the summer on fourth Sundays. Write and tell your legislators you want them to support the Green New Deal, or your position on other key legislative issues that affect our climate. We will have postcards, paper, envelopes and stamps available, thanks also to the donation from A Company of Voices.

This summer we will show the documentary, "From Paris to Pittsburgh." Climate change is a moral problem, not a technological one, as evidenced by the success stories profiled in this film. Our Seventh UU Principle compels us to inform and lead our communities to act and heal the climate. We hope to also have a representative from the City of Arcata or the County to tell us about progress on developing a local climate action plan.

Sue Lee Mossman

Choir High Notes

This month the Choir hosted the 11th annual Music Day on Sunday, May 5. We worked hard to prepare quite a few songs (17 total), including several to be sung with the congregation. It always feels so good to share heartfelt music together. Thanks to all who participated: HUUF Singers-Archie, John, Steven, Richard, Linda, Bert, Fry, Anne Marie, Georgia, Nan, Ruth, Karlyn, Joanna, Eve and Rachel, and special guests Dave, Bob, Maggie and Helen. (Debby and Ginger, we missed you, and we know you were with us in spirit.)

We were so happy to see longtime HUUF choir member Thea Gast recovered enough to attend the 11 a.m. service. We also had lots of fun performing numbers with the children's choir, the Choristers, during the second service.

Normally, we'd be winding up the year toward the end of May. This year though, we'll rehearse through the month of June and give Bryan and Edie a fun musical send-off on June 30.

We'll take a break after that, and resume in September, with rehearsals beginning in late August. Stay tuned for information about a daylong choir mini-retreat in July (probably a Saturday) to work on basic singing skills and read through music for next year.

As always, new singers are welcome at any time and do not need prior choral experience to participate. Come on out and make a joyful noise.

In mUUSIC,

Elisabeth



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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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).

Debi Cooper is looking for a new home for beloved cat friend Oliver. Oliver is 10 years old. He's neutered, micro chipped and declawed in the front. He is a wonderful, affectionate animal with a gentle disposition, and wouldn't hurt a fly. Unfortunately due to another male cat in the home, Oliver is marking. Debi is hoping to find a loving home for Oliver where he would be the only pet. Please call 248-227-2124 for inquiries.



HUUF Annual Retreat

From August 2-4 we will again enjoy a summer extravaganza at the Camp Mattole. There are cabins with indoor plumbing or you can stay in your tent or RV. There's a great lodge with a wonderful kitchen. We'll have sports, skits, swimming in the river, crafts, music, worship and campfires, or you can just sit under a tree with a good book.

The registration form will soon be on the website, in the foyer chalice box and at the retreat table. Some partial scholarships will be available. Scholarship requests are due by July 7. Registration deadline is July 21. Our new minister Anthony Mtuwasa Johnson and his wife Lydia plan to attend. Get your registration in before the camp fills up.

A retreat-planning meeting is set for June 2 at 10 a.m. If you have ideas and want to help, come to the meeting or call me at 476-0654.



Berti Welty