

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



January 2017

A note from the minister

In a recent letter to ministers, UU president Rev. Peter Morales noted that we live in a time of historic cultural turmoil. Long-festering resentments are bursting out, posing immediate threats to the most marginalized in our society and presenting long-term danger to our natural environment.

Rev. Morales said he fears the new administration will unleash human rights abuses we haven't seen in a long time. He reminds us we are already seeing an increase in violent acts by people who see the election as validation for their discriminatory behavior. So religious institutions must prepare to serve in this time.

First, President Morales said, we must continue to provide sanctuary in the broadest sense of the term. We must continue offer safe places for reflection and healing. But we must also prepare to provide safe haven for immigrants, Muslims and others who will be at risk, and prepare to effectively resist the human rights violations that are bound to occur.

As always, President Morales said, the key will be for us to work together. Unitarian Universalists have done so in the past and as this new year begins, we will continue to do so.

Even though these somber reflections are not an ordinary New Year's greeting from a president of the UUA, I take heart in their courage and clarity. And I look forward to continuing to work with you as our congregation courageously continues to fulfill its purpose.

Yours in the journey,



Rev. Bryan Jessup

Support for the Arcata House Extreme Weather Shelter

In order for HUUF to continue to do its part in supporting the extreme weather shelter offered by Arcata House, we need three "champions" who will work to keep us connected to the program and informed about what our responsibilities are. Please contact me to if you'd like to volunteer as one of these "champions." email: minister@huuf.org.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

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Looking ahead



The Purpose-driven Congregation

At the heart of a healthy and effective congregation is its Mission or its Purpose in the world. A congregation's Purpose defines what it stands for and the reason for its existence.

To instill a passion for the congregation's Purpose, healthy congregations encourage frequent conversations about it. They help members understand how their various efforts contribute to serving and healing the world around them. As we enter this new year with all of the complexities in our country and in the world, having an energizing conversation about our Purpose might be very good for us.

So Saturday, January 28, from 9 a.m. until noon, with the support of our great HUUF Covenant and Aspiration, we will gather for a conversation about our Purpose, what ends we hope to achieve and what values we dedicate ourselves to serve. Email me to sign in for this conversation – minister@huuf.org.

Rev. Bryan Jessup



Melanie DeMoore Concert

In response to the despair throughout our community and nation, “Sending You Love: Connecting Hearts Through Song,” will be a concert led by world-renowned songwriter, composer, choral conductor and vocal activist Melanie DeMore. Three events will help promote healing through the universal language of music. Melanie, whose voice has been described as “Power Wrapped in Velvet,” will be performing at the 9 and 11 a.m. services on Sunday, April 2. In addition, she will be spreading her musical message of reconciliation and hope at a free concert for the greater community in the Kate Buchanan Room at Humboldt State University on Saturday, April 1, at 7 p.m.

Melanie DeMore has traveled the world and was a founding member of the Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir. But nothing is closer to her heart than bringing people together wherever she is to experience the healing power of music. Melanie's mission is to make sure you unlock the key to experiencing yourself in all your glory and return home with the very same excitement and passion for living that she herself has. When she comes your way, her energy will charge the very air you breathe like a meteor shower, so get ready to rise up!

Through generous donations from the Fellowship, HSU, and others, we have covered her transportation, lodging, the concert venue, and the HUUF performances. However, since we were disappointed not to receive a Humboldt Area Foundation grant, we are coming to you for contributions to cover the concert at HSU. We are asking for your help, in these times when we all need it most, to support this expanded effort in unifying and healing our community. Please contact Pat McCutcheon, 826-7107, or Jane Riggan, 502-4245 to contribute.



Religious Education

This month we will be changing our schedule in order to make food for our night shelter commitment for the next six months. Please make note of the changes. We will need six families to sign up to deliver food the third Tuesday of every month, January to June. If you are interested, please contact Tamara McFarland, our new Night Shelter Delivery Coordinator, at mcfarlanddesigns@gmail.com.

We were able to raise \$317.89 for our local family's holiday, thanks to the generous donations of many. Thank you especially to our children for returning their generosity boxes. We can work together to make a difference. We've let a family in our community know that we are thinking of them and that they are important to us.

Jan 1:

No RE or childcare available. Have a cozy day with family.

Jan 8: Awareness Sunday, All ages together
Social Action Cooking for Night Shelter

Jan 15 & Jan 22: Exploration Sunday, Classes by ages

We will continue our exploration of the Miracles curriculum through meditation, art, science experiments and movement.

Jan 29: All-Worship Sunday

We will make a joyful noise. What brings you joy? How can we bring joy to others? Come create in joy together, both in art and music. Sandy Lynn will lead us in song.

Jillian Mooney

Youth Group:

Jan 8:

We will meet during the service at 11 and discuss justice work and UUs.

Jan 27:

We will have movie night at the Fellowship from 7-9 p.m. Movie to be announced.

Navarra Carr



ACLU Opportunity

Opportunity beckons right here in Humboldt County for actively helping promote our UU values and working to preserve the hard-won rights and privileges of all Americans in this time of change and possible turbulence. The local branch of the ACLU is planning to expand to meet the challenges ahead and is recruiting new members, especially for its Board of Directors. If you are an ACLU member or are interested in becoming a member and would like to serve on the Board, please contact Peter Martin by phone at 268-0445 or by email at peter@petermartinlaw.com.

Jean Munsee

Beatles potluck and sing-a-long

Friday, January 6, there will be a potluck at 6 p.m. followed by a Beatle's sing-a-long. Bring a Beatles-inspired dish to share, and raise your voices in song. All are welcome. Elisabeth Harrington will help with the music. Children are welcome to stay for the whole evening. If you need childcare, please call Berti Welty to make arrangements. As always, assistance with set-up and clean-up would be greatly appreciated.

Elisabeth Harrington



“End-of-life Issues” group

If you need a safe, comfortable place to talk with good people about death and dying, this discussion group might just be the place. Topics will be chosen by the participants, so your concerns and thoughts about death might well be addressed. The group will start Monday January 23, at 2 p.m. at the Fellowship, and will continue for six Mondays after that. I'll facilitate the discussion. The sessions will last about two hours. Tea and cookies will be involved. Email me to sign up; minister@huuf.org

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Confronting The unfathomable

Our comfortable world full of possibility and hope has been shattered. We stand baffled, grieving and in pain at the atrocities inflicted on the Syrian people, the slaughter by ISIS militants and the ravaging civil wars in Africa. Now, for incomprehensible reasons, our country has elected a man determined to erase eight years of progress toward equal rights for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, improved access to healthcare, and regulation of carbon emissions, to mention only a few items on his agenda.

We instinctively want to find a hate-free zone where our spirits can have some respite, a place to feel safe and connected, not ostracized, and be loved for who we are. HUUF is that safe place. We've managed to blend our diverse spiritual paths with principles we all embrace and manifest in the world. We are a Fellowship with a covenant of love, existing to create peace and freedom, with service as the tool bringing these goals into the world. It's a shelter many do not have.

This is a home that needs stewards whose loving hearts and hands keep the lights on. On a practical level, we support newsletters, religious education for our beloved children, choir, groundskeepers, education and spiritual guidance from our minister, to name only a few aspects of our family.

It's time to look closely at our values and what is needed in our HUUF family to buttress our spiritual home against those who would desecrate it. Our spring campaign offers an opportunity to support our values and our family in a time when we are confronted by so many challenges. Let the conversation begin.

Ruth Broderick, The Stewardship Education Committee

Spring Service Auction

Save Saturday, April 29, from 3 to 6 p.m. for our fantastic Spring Auction Gala.

For auction donors - and this potentially means all of us - think about what you'd like to donate, such as special dinner parties, certificates for baked goodies, perhaps a weekend at your vacation cabin, etc. For prior donors, please consider a repeat. Details on how to tell us about your donation will be coming out soon.

For auction bidders (hopefully all of us), save your pennies, as there will be delicious food and drink on the day and great deals awaiting your bid.

For auction same-day volunteers (past, present and please, we need some new volunteers, too), we ask that you get involved now, as there will be a short special training coming up soon on our new online auction system that promises fast and efficient check-outs, and more. Please contact me ASAP at cbhanafi@yahoo.com or 616-7924, and thank you.



Cathy Hanafi

Auction assistance

Calling any HUUF members or friends who know about buying and selling on sites such as eBay, Craigslist, and Etsy. We need someone to help and advise us with sales of member-donated items and collectibles to add funds to our spring auction totals (and beyond). You could volunteer to do this as a service to HUUF, and/or we could negotiate a percent of sales. Lets talk! Please contact me at 616-7924 or cbhanafi@yahoo.com.

Catherine Briggs Hanafi



High Notes from the Choir

We had a wonderful time caroling on Saturday, December 17. We visited several of our long-time members and friends in their homes, and also shared music at both Timber Ridge care facilities. A good time was had by all.

Choir will resume regular post-holidays rehearsal on Wednesday, January 11 at 7 p.m. All interested persons are welcome.

Elisabeth Harrington

Guest at Your Table



Now is the time to add up and bring in your Guest-at-Your-Table donations for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Your gift must be turned in by Sunday, January 8, or hand-delivered to me (599-6009) by January 10. Please write a check in the amount of your contributions (rounded up, please) to "UUSC." I'm also willing to redeem your collected coins at the Credit Union.

We can be proud of our strong and broad support for UUSC in past years. In previous years, individual gifts have ranged from \$10 to \$1,000.

Our goal is to have every member of our Fellowship join or renew membership in UUSC. Contributions of \$125 or more are matched by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, New York. Contributions of \$40 or more qualify for UUSC membership (\$75 for dual memberships, \$20 for seniors, \$10 for youth).

You may leave your donations in a box in the foyer or hand them directly to me.

If you mail your donations directly to UUSC — Guest at Your Table, PO Box 808, Newark, NJ 07101-0808 — please write our HUUF congregation code (2111) on the memo line of your check. Also, let me know the amount of your direct-mailed contribution, so that I can include your gift in our HUUF tally.

Chip Sharpe

'Tea and Talk' with the Nominating Committee

On January 15 the Nominating Committee will meet with those interested in leadership within the life of the Fellowship. We'll gather in the preschool room after the service, allowing time for those wishing to purchase brunch from the Social Action Committee.

The Nominating Committee is charged with presenting a slate of candidates for Trustee vacancies at the March Congregational meeting. 'Tea and Talk' will provide an opportunity to review the duties and roles of Trustees for the Fellowship, discuss the value of engaging with leadership in our community, answer questions and reflect upon leadership styles.

Wendy Rowan



Deadline info

Deadline for the **February** issue of the newsletter is Friday, **January 20**, 5:00 p.m. Send your 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 will not be accepted without prior approval.

Stephen Sottong, editor

Becoming a member

If you are ready to become a member of HUUF, please talk to a greeter and we will schedule a time during the week for you to sign the Membership Book. There is a pamphlet available in the lobby which explains some of the details of becoming a member. We'd love to have you join us when you're ready.

Awanna Kalal

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).



Kudos Corner

There are many among us who routinely do things that make the Fellowship a better place, whether it's being on the Program and Worship committee, preparing coffee on Sundays, singing in the choir, or the myriad other tasks it takes that make HUUF such a wonderful community to belong to. However, there are some who are so generous with their time and talent that I want to thank them personally in this newsletter – you know who you are, yet two that the Board wants to recognize as standout volunteers are Chip Sharpe and Virginia Chatfield.

Chip Sharpe is a long-time member and activist in Veterans for Peace, as well as a member of HUUF and as mediator. You might not know it, but Chip is also the person who recycles all of our bottles, cans, cardboard, compost and other materials, and is heavily involved (as is Scott) in building maintenance, all of which makes HUUF such a green and inviting place. Chip has been the UU Guest at Your Table's biggest proponent, organizing that program and collecting the money for 15 years. Chip has been a strong advocate for social justice work, working most recently on the Standing Rock protest, but also doing stellar work for the Pride Festival. Chip has been doing this work for 20 or more years and it's high time that we thank him. So, Chip, thank you so much for all that you do. Your work and energy help make HUUF a great place.

Virginia Chatfield is the committee chair and often times sole member of the grounds committee – and doesn't the HUUF property look much better lately? Virginia organizes work parties (sometimes she's the only one who shows up) that prune trees, pull weeds and berries, trim the shrubs and plan for and execute big projects like the memorial garden walkway. Under Virginia's guidance, we removed the unsightly fences around the trees, pruned the alders so there are more expansive views, cleaned the flower beds in front of RE and spiffed up the place so that it looks welcoming and inviting. Thank you, Virginia, for helping make HUUF what it is.

Greg Blomstrom, Co-President

Dining In style While Doing Good

On Monday, February 13, Folie Douce will host a fundraiser for HUUF. For \$50 each, you and your sweetie (or anyone of your friends and associates) can get a four-course *prix fixe* dinner. All profits for the evening go to the Fellowship. Last year we made \$1,000, and everyone had a wonderful time. It's a really warm, old-home-week feeling to go into a restaurant full of friends, which makes for a perfect outing for an early Valentine's Day treat. Treating friends, employees, or neighbors is a great way to spread the joy around, and benefit the Fellowship at the same time.

Our trusty childcare workers will provide childcare at the Fellowship in the early evening.

The date for this delightful fundraiser is fast approaching. Call the restaurant directly (822-1042) to make your reservation. Note: price does not include many beverages or gratuity. Folie Douce is in the Northtown area of Arcata, at 1551 G Street.

Kate McClain, Terry Uyeki, Berti Welty



Council of Committees

Tuesday, January 17, at 5:30 p.m. you are invited to take the opportunity to network with other committees and learn about leadership. While this is especially geared towards committee chairs, all are welcome. Come with your questions, come with your ideas. Further information will be emailed prior to the meeting. Estimated time is 90 minutes.

Berti Welty, Vice-president, Bryan Jessup, minister



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Looking Ahead

Sun. Jan 1, 11 a.m.

Fri. Jan 6, 6 p.m.

Tues. Jan 17, 5:30 p.m.

Jan 21 or 22

Mon. Jan 23, 2 p.m.

Sat. Jan 28, 9-noon

Mon. Feb 13, 5-9 p.m.

Th-Su Feb 16-19

Sun. Mar 12, 12:30 p.m.

Sat. April 29

Sat. Mar 25

F-Su May 5-6

Th-Su Jun 21-25

Fr-Su August 4-6

Single service only

Potluck & Beatles Sing-a-long

Council of Committees – Leadership

Owl Orientation [K-1] Therese F

'End of Life' Issues class starts

Congregational workshop on Values, Purpose(Mission), & Ends

Folie Deuce Fundraiser dinner

UU International Women's Convocation at Asilomar

HUUF Congregational meeting

HUUF Service Auction

Pledge Drive dinner

PCD Assembly at Mt Diablo UU IN Walnut Creek

UUA Presidential 'candidates Forum

UUA General Assembly @ New Orleans, LA

HUUF retreat at Mattole Camp and Retreat Center

