

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



March 2018

## A note from the minister

This Fellowship is a cooperative endeavor. It began 65 years ago as the vision of a group of people who wanted to center their lives and the lives of their children in wisdom and compassion, in appreciation of the human mind and in care for the human heart and for the planet. By giving generously of their time, their skills and their financial resources, the founders formed this Fellowship. They then passed it on to generations of others who have shared their values and determination. No one else owns this Fellowship or supports it. It is a living community that exists because members and friends are dedicated to it.

Every day and every moment this Fellowship continues to thrive and serve because its members and friends support it with their love, their time, their skills and their financial resources, just as the founders did.

Every year this community has a “Canvass” or “Annual Pledge Drive” in which we again commit to support our shared community. Every year we let our financial leaders know what our financial contributions are going to be for the coming year. We each give as generously as we can because this Fellowship is ours, and like our forebears we intend to keep it strong and pass it on.

This year our Canvass Sunday will be March 18, at the 9 and 11 services. Our celebratory Canvass Dinner will be on Saturday March 24, at 6 p.m. The Canvass itself will run until the end of May.

Our cost per member is approximately \$1500. We know that not everyone has the financial resources to contribute that much and we never want anyone to hesitate to join because of their financial situation. On the other hand, we know that many of our members and friends do have the capacity to contribute that much and more. We are so grateful that those who are able do contribute more.

So in the Canvass process this year, I thank you each for your love and commitment to each other and this Fellowship. I thank you for sharing your time, talent and treasure with generosity and joy. And I look forward to this Fellowship’s continued love and service for many years to come.

Yours in the journey,

*Rev. Bryan Jessup*



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## Sunday flowers coordinator

Anne Weiss is our new Sunday service flower coordinator. When you wish to grace our sanctuary and foyer with Sunday flowers please contact her to sign-up for dates at 840-0938 or [anwe.33@yahoo.com](mailto:anwe.33@yahoo.com).

*Kate McClain*

## People

Welcome and congratulations to new members **Susan Penn** and **Bob Billstrom**.

**Annette** and **Larry Hull** welcomed their fourth grandchild, Radley Havik Wanderlust Trent. His name means Red Meadow and Hawk, so he is “Traveling hawk from the red meadow.” Radley was born February 3, 2018, at 12:12 p.m. by emergency c-section. His stats were 6 lbs. 11 oz., 20 inches, and he has very long toes. Baby and mother are well and lovingly cared for by Radley’s daddy and big sister Paisley.

We welcome the arrival of Harrison Bennett, born Feb. 22 and weighing in at 8 lbs. Congratulations, **Elisabeth Harrington** and **Steven Kossow**.

**Sue Mossman** is being honored with the Soroptimist Ruby Award honoring women who have worked to improve the lives of women and girls through their professional and/or volunteer work.

**Felica Oldfather** is being honored by AAUW at the Women’s History Tea on Saturday, March 3 at Christ Episcopal Church in Eureka.

**Jeff Knapp** is recovering well from his February 7 left shoulder replacement surgery at Stanford Hospital, and is experiencing little pain. But for six weeks, no driving and his left arm is immobilized in a sling, producing fascinating challenges for a two-armed, left-handed person now using mostly only right arm and hand.

**Rochelle Frankel** has moved to the San Francisco Nursing Center - 5767 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112. The phone for the Center is 415-584-3294. Rochelle’s cell is 707-599-6761. She would enjoy cards.

**Berti Welty** invites all to her art opening Friday, March 9 during Arts Arcata from 6 to 9 p.m. at Stokes, Hamer, Kirk & Eads, LLP, 381 Bayside Road, Suite A in Arcata.

**Stephen Sottong** had a poem published in the February 22 edition of the North Coast Journal.

## Pledge Drive

*Sylvia Shaw*

“Sharing of the Green” is the theme of our 2018-19 Pledge Drive and Budget Development process. These two activities begin in March, proceeding in parallel through April and May, and end in June when the Congregation adopts its financial plan for the coming year. Everyone is involved. Everyone has a stake in the outcomes.

You will receive a Pledge Packet in March containing information about how giving and generosity translates into a vibrant HUUF community. Fill out and return the enclosed Pledge Form and you will have completed half of the process. An April newsletter article will explain the other half which involves participating in developing and reviewing the preliminary budget and eventually adopting the proposed budget.

Sunday, March 18, is “Canvass Sunday.” You can expect to experience the spirit of our pledge drive in a familiar but fresh format. Saturday, March 24 is our “Canvass Dinner” celebration. This fun-filled and communal evening is always memorable. This year’s theme draws inspiration from St. Patrick. You will receive a call inviting you to the dinner, where you’ll enjoy a great Irish meal and have another chance to fill out and return your Pledge Form.

If you haven’t already filled out and returned your Pledge Form you will be able to ask questions and interact with someone from the Canvass Committee during April and May. We plan to close out the canvass effort May 31, making our final pledge total available to the Finance Committee so they can present a balanced proposed budget to the Board in June.

*David Harris*

## Fundraising Committee

The organizational meeting of the newly revised Fund(Fun)raising Committee will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7. The purpose of this committee is to: coordinate the Fellowship’s fundraising events, brainstorm and vet fundraising ideas, and to identify and be supportive to persons willing to lead fundraising efforts. Several members have been recruited for this crucial committee and there is room for you. Contact me at 476-0654 or bertijo@humboldt1.com.

*Berti Welty*



## Religious Education

In February, we focused on tools that allow us to persevere through difficult challenges. I invite you to pause, as you read this, inhale deeply and imagine in great detail a moment of beauty you have experienced. Notice how this brief practice affects your body. Share this with someone you love.

In March, we will explore the essential question, “What is your balance for?” In doing so, we will reaffirm the intentions we uncovered in January and consider what balance will support living into those intentions.

### Family Practice:

Family Sabbath: In the Soul Matters small group packet, there are several links to explore the intent behind the practice of sabbath, or incorporating a “day of rest.” Consider scheduling a block of time, even a few hours can be powerful, for your whole family to “rest” together. The current Soul Matter’s packet is posted in the CARE building on the first bulletin board when you walk in. Feel free to ask for a copy.

### All Ages, First Saturday Events:

**March 3:** Hike or bike down Newton B. Drury Parkway in Redwood National Park with your Fellowship friends. Meet at the south entrance at 1:00 or if you’d like to caravan or carpool meet at 11:45 at the Fellowship. Caitlin Bair has offered to coordinate carpooling; contact her at 496-3191.

**April 7:** Caribbean Dance Party 6-9:00 p.m. at the Fellowship. Thomas and Cadence’s group, The Blue Dragon Youth Steel Band, will open the show. Members of Samba de Alegria will keep the party swinging for a second set. Some light snacks and drinks will be provided. If you’d like, bring finger food to share. Invite your music loving friends.

### Former RE teachers and volunteers focus group

On March 18 after the 11:00 service, I invite former RE teachers and volunteers to participate in a focus group discussion as part of the formal evaluation of the RE Cooperative. Our goal is to identify challenges and strengths of the program as well as opportunities for the future. Please let me know if you can make it, at [t\\_keslin@hotmail.com](mailto:t_keslin@hotmail.com) or 498-3564. Thank you.



*Therese FitzMaurice*

## RE Calendar: Exploring Balance

### March 4

**Pre-2:** We will explore balance through group yoga.

**3-8:** We will explore balance through yoga and movement.

**March 11** All Worship drum and song circle with Yemaya and Mike Kimmel.

**Teen group:** will plan a church visit and evening worship.

### March 18

**Pre-2:** We will learn about balance found in ecosystems.

**3-8:** Explore balance in the cycles of nature outdoors, weather permitting.

**March 25:** Social Action, all ages cook for the night shelter.

**Teen Group:** Work on Coming of Age curriculum.

## Canvass slide show

Do you have some photos of Fellowship activities? Are they old and new, color and black and white? We would love for you to share them for the Canvass slide show.

Please either email your photos to Dave Woody at [dave.woody3@gmail.com](mailto:dave.woody3@gmail.com), or drop them by the Fellowship office. Dave is going to put together a great Canvass slide show and he needs our help.



*Bryan Jessup*

## Endowment Fund Committee Report

The Endowment Fund Committee currently consists of Ann King, Cathy Hanafi, and Howard Stauffer, Chairperson. The two goals of the committee this past year have been: 1) to conduct a fund raising campaign to raise additional endowment funds to exceed \$100,000 in value so that, 2) grants can be awarded annually for improvements to the Fellowship.

Thanks to generous donations from several members of the Fellowship and the Chaffee Fund, the value of our Endowment Fund has increased to \$113,259 as of January 1, 2018. The Endowment Fund mandate for the committee specifies that, once the fund exceeds \$100,000, up to 4% can be withdrawn from the fund per annum, from earned income, for the appropriate benefit of the fellowship. Hence  $4\% \times \$113,259 = \$4530$  was available for funding grant applications in 2018.

The committee hence accepted grant applications this January for the improvement of the Fellowship. Five applications were submitted from Fellowship agencies for the following amounts:

- 1 Door replacement, by Building Committee: \$1,000,
- 2 Parking lot lights, by Building Committee: \$1,080,
- 3 Web site development, by Board: \$250-\$500, with \$250 per month maintenance fee,
- 4 Development of Children's Playscape, by Religious Education Committee: \$2,000, and,
- 5 Registration and Travel Scholarships for UU Conference, by Board:  $2 \times \$300 = \$600$ .



After much deliberation the committee decided the following:

- 1 All the applications were worthwhile for the improvement of the Fellowship.
- 2 The committee, however, could not fund the \$250 per month maintenance fees requested for the web site development since the Endowment Fund mandate specifies that Endowment Funds should not be used for on-going annual operating costs.
- 3 The total remaining amount of funds requested by the applications was \$5,180.
- 4 Two private donations totaling \$650 were pledged, on a one-time-only basis, to supplement that available in Endowment Funds to fully fund all the applications.
- 5 Therefore, the committee decided by consensus to fund all of the applications.

To conclude, the committee commends Ann King for her two, three-year terms of service to the committee. She will step down from the committee after this spring's congregational meeting in March when her replacement on the committee will be elected.

*Recorded by Howard Stauffer*

## Spring Congregational Meeting

Consistent with the Bylaws, we will have a Congregational Meeting On March 11, at 12:30 after the second service. Normally at this meeting we would hear from the Nominating Committee Regarding their suggestions for replacements of outgoing Board of Trustees (BOT) members. However, due to illness, surgery and other factors the Nominating Committee was not able to come up with a slate of proposed replacements for the Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President positions in time for our required spring Congregational Meeting. The Nominating Committee is able to to nominate Cynthi Chason to take the place of the nearly irreplaceable Ann King for the Endowment Committee (thank you Ann and Cynthi). With no current slate of nominees to consider for the current BOT, we considered delaying the Spring meeting. However we ultimately decided that we would consider the one actual item and then open the agenda to hear from members as to issues you might have that have not been discussed at one of our monthly "Board Member is In" listening sessions. We promise to keep the meeting short to honor everyone's busy lives.

*Greg Blomstrom, Co-president*



## Spring Work Party

It's time to "turn out for your tribe" at our Annual Spring Work Party on Saturday, March 17. This time we are looking for painters and those willing to take charge of painting teams. If we get volunteer painters, we can really make a difference. Also, a call to carpenters. Scott Allen is coordinating the building projects, inside and outside, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Valerie Gizinski is organizing the outside grounds projects from 12-3:00 p.m. Come for an hour, half a day or full day. All sizes, shapes, ages, abilities and families are encouraged to participate. If you can't do strenuous work, perhaps you can bring some healthy snacks to fortify others. Everyone's time and talents are valuable contributions to our community. Please let Scott and Valerie know you will be there as soon as possible so that they can plan the projects, tools and equipment needed.

**Building Projects** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Scott Allen, [raindog371@gmail.com](mailto:raindog371@gmail.com), 616-5598 cell, 825-7019 home.

**Inside:** Wash windows, convert fluorescent lighting to LED, scrub and paint kitchen walls, touch up painting in Sanctuary and CARE Building.

**Outside:** relocate parking bumpers, rebuild kitchen yard gate, replace top cap of kitchen yard fence, replace seating on patio ramp walls, fill potholes.

**Grounds Projects** 12-3:00 p.m. Valerie Gizinski, [polkaqueen@gmail.com](mailto:polkaqueen@gmail.com), 825-7446.

Clean and apply wood preservative to benches; wax metal benches; plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers; place cardboard and mulch around tree and shrub plantings, and on beds where needed; weed all beds, remove large weeds from meadows; limb up trees along walkways; deadhead and prune where needed; apply deer repellent where damage is seen; water recent plantings if needed.

*Scott Allen*



## Kitchen scrubbing

Strong bodies are needed to help scrub HUUF kitchen ceiling and sky light on the afternoon of Sunday, March 11 in preparation for painting later in the week. Extension poles and scrubbers will be supplied, we just need the strong shoulders to work them. Please contact me at [sls500@yahoo.com](mailto:sls500@yahoo.com) or 599-1563.

*Sylvia Shaw*

## Vernal Equinox celebration

The HUUF tradition of celebrating the seasons of Nature and the turning of the "Wheel of the Year" continues this month with a circle and ritual at the Fellowship to observe the Spring Equinox, also called the Vernal Equinox, and known in the practices of neo-Paganism as Ostara. We will cast a circle and summon the elemental energies, and all will be invited to join in singing, chanting, drumming, and raising energy together to welcome the coming of Spring. The UU Soul Matters theme for March is "Balance," so we will also consider the question of what may be out of balance in our lives, what we strive to hold on to or let go of (and whether these might be the same thing), and share our thoughts in the circle if we so desire.

Bring personal items to decorate the altar and finger foods to share after the ritual, and be prepared for an outdoor or indoor circle as the fickle weather of Spring may dictate. On Tuesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m., the Maiden of the Dawn requests the honor of your presence in celebration of her rising. Welcome, and Blessed Be.

Dave Troxel



## Our Whole Lives information meeting

We will have an information meeting for the fall Our Whole Lives (OWL) classes on Saturday, May 5, time to be announced. The 4th-6th class will be offered in 10 sessions from October-November at a cost of \$125. A 10th-12th grade class will be offered beginning Fall of 2018 for 12 sessions also with a fee of \$125. A K-1 class will be offered in eight sessions January to March at a cost of \$100. A parent information meeting will be held in the fall of 2018. Some Scholarships will be available for each class.

Our newly formed OWL committee is working to ensure the sustainability of our program. We are grateful that Olympia McCutchan and Emily West have agreed to be trained as facilitators in the K-1/ 4-6 curriculum. Thank you to our committee members Therese Fitzmaurice, Debby Harrison, Shawn Nichols, Allison Bronkall, Olympia McCutchan, and Emily West.

The 7th/8th grade class will return in fall 2019. If you have questions, please contact me at [kjmoor2@gmail.com](mailto:kjmoor2@gmail.com) or 441-1484.

*Kim Moor, OWL Coordinator*

## Deadline info

Deadline for the **April 2018** issue of the newsletter is Tuesday, **March 20** at 5 p.m. Send committee reports and articles to [newsletter@huuf.org](mailto: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/?page=Guidelines.html>

*Stephen Sottong, editor*

### 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](mailto:newsletter@huuf.org) (email only).

## Our Whole Life facilitator training

For the past 4 years, HUUF has been offering classes in human sexuality to our youth. Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a curriculum developed jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ. It offers sessions to ages five through high school and beyond to young adults, adults and seniors. We have not offered the adult curricula yet.

Facilitators are trained members of our community. We need more facilitators and welcome persons of any gender, sexual orientation or identity to join us. Sessions for the youngest age group, kindergarten through first grade, run 8 weeks and the fourth through sixth grades session is 10 weeks. The most extensive curriculum is targeted at middle school age, which has 25 sessions and we offer it over the course of a school year. Facilitators have the privilege to see youth grow, with greater understanding, into their maturing minds and bodies.

OWL is very rewarding to be involved in. We offer a unique opportunity to expose people to a healthy, informed attitude to this fundamental part of our humanity. We help youth embrace the transitions in their physical and emotional lives and encourage communication among them and with their families.

Facilitator training is paid for by HUUF and provided by UUA and UCC. It is usually over the course of a weekend. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please call Kim Moor at 268-8662.

*Allison Bronkall*



## HUUF Summer Retreat planning meeting

On Sunday, March 11 at 10 a.m. join us between services for a brief organizational meeting for our annual Summer retreat. Our retreat will again be held at the Mattole Camp and Retreat Center the weekend of August 3-5. Anyone interested in planning this event should attend. We want your ideas and energy. For more information, contact me at 476-0654 or [bertijo@humboldt1.com](mailto:bertijo@humboldt1.com).

*Berti Welty*



## Fossil-Free Power Available to Humboldt Residents

Do you want to reduce your contribution to climate change but aren't sure how? One of the best ways is get fossil fuels out of your electricity. A new program of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) enables us to do just that. RCEA provides fossil-free electricity for, on average, a small charge above the standard rate, boosting your bill about the same as buying an espresso drink once a month. Fossil-free electricity emits fewer greenhouse gases that warm our atmosphere and cause climate change.

If you live in Humboldt County you're probably already an RCEA customer. A recent state law enables cities and counties to form local utilities that source their own electricity. RCEA is jointly directed by our County and most local municipalities, and its standard power supply is lower in both cost and fossil fuel content than PG&E's. PG&E lines carry it to our homes.

To enroll in RCEA's fossil-free "RE-Power+" plan, call the agency at 269-1700 or visit their website at [redwoodenergy.org](http://redwoodenergy.org). You'll need your PG&E account number, found on your utility bill.

*Pat Carr, SAC Environment Subcommittee*

## Kitchen concerns

I am writing this in honor of Awanna Kalal, the silent saint of our Fellowship for many years. Awanna would be here almost daily doing so much behind the scenes that most of us were unaware of, including the kitchen laundry. In my world of the Fellowship kitchen, the laundry has become an issue. I cannot keep up with the laundry alone when there are large events that use tablecloths and napkins. Tablecloths and napkins need to be laundered immediately after each event and recently they have instead been placed in the laundry bag and left. When I've gotten to them they're still damp, folded up and starting to mildew. This adds a *lot* of time to the process as I unfold and put each one in the machine.

Also, sometimes tablecloths are left in the pantry on a shelf and not replaced in their well-marked boxes. We have a long-standing system here that works when people cooperate. We purchased storage boxes and marked them "Round," "Oblong" and "Square" for easy retrieval. If you're involved in an event, take responsibility for tidying up afterwards.

Because of the excessive work involved, I've made the decision not to have cloth napkins available and to return to using paper. I realize this may not be the best thing ecologically, but cannot keep up with the work involved in maintaining cloth napkins. If someone is willing to step forward and be responsible for napkins when they are used at social events, please talk with me. Until then, it's back to paper.

*Jan Rowen*

## Poor People's Campaign

We traveled to Sacramento on January 27 with Tina Sampay and Jill Larrabee to attend the Northern California Poor People's Campaign organizing event. We returned with great excitement and renewal of spirit to help with this effort. Rallies and demonstrations will take place at the State capital from now until June 21 with major actions starting on May 13. Our hope is to gather people from Humboldt to carpool to some of these rallies. Brothers and sisters in Sacramento will arrange hospitality for travelers.

But right now we urge you to add your name at [poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://poorpeoplescampaign.org) to the host of UU's, led by our new denominational president, Susan Frederick-Gray, in solidarity with the hundreds of faith communities, unions and groups resisting oppression of all kinds. The 2018 Poor People's Campaign continues the movement started by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the time of his assassination 50 years ago. The 1968 Campaign meant to bring together all possible justice-making groups to march on Washington to expose and defeat the three great evils dominating American society: Poverty, Racism, Militarism. To these we have since learned to add a fourth: Environmental Degradation.

Please visit the campaign website or contact us at [richardk@humboldt1.com](mailto:richardk@humboldt1.com), [gingerk@humboldt1.com](mailto:gingerk@humboldt1.com) or 407-5076, 407-5078 for a hard copy signature. Let us know if you can help organize.

*Richard Kossow, Ginger Kossow*



# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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## Health Care for All forum

Sunday, March 18, at 1:30 after SAC Brunch, we will have a special presentation in the Main Hall by Ross Connors-Keith and other Humboldt organizers to discuss Senate Bill 562 which would provide a single-payer, universal health care system in California. The bill has been stuck in an Assembly committee ever since it was passed by the Senate. Our educated advocacy is needed to help this bill move along.

*Bryan Jessup*

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Linda Vinson is offering her Conscious Care for your home and pets while you are away. Contact Linda at [linvinson@yahoo.com](mailto:linvinson@yahoo.com) or 808-987-7323.

Potential Fortuna Caregivers - I am assisting a friend in Portland in finding daytime caregivers for a 60 year old female family member living in Fortuna. Pay will be \$20/hour. Please email [sls500@yahoo.com](mailto:sls500@yahoo.com) or call 599-1563 if interested.  
Sylvia Shaw