

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A note from the minister

March 2017

My note this month is a little different than usual. It's a small glossary of terms related to ministry in Unitarian Universalism and I write about these terms because as we continue to support our own Jamila Tharp in her growing ministry with us, they are pertinent. So in Unitarian Universalism:

A parish minister is a minister that serves a congregation. A *community minister* is a minister who serves out in the world as a chaplain, counselor or social justice organizer. An *affiliated minister* is a community minister who has the blessing of a board and/or congregation for their work in the world and whose work helps extend the ministry and name of the congregation. An *ordained minister* is a minister who, by the power vested only in congregations, has been given the title of "minister." A *called minister* is a minister who has been called to serve a congregation by a decision made by the congregation. A *contract minister* is a minister who has been hired to serve a congregation by the Board. A *minister in fellowship* is a minister who has met and passed the requirements of the official UUA Fellowship Committee.

I am a contract minister with the Humboldt UU Fellowship. I am hired (and rehired I hope) in a year-to-year covenant with the Board. I am a minister in fellowship with the UUA. (I was granted final fellowship in 1988.) I am an ordained minister. I was ordained by the UU Society of Wilmington, Delaware, in 1985.

Now, this may all seem kind of complicated (and it is) but the reassuring part is that in our association, there is a great deal of thought, preparation, quality control and clear delineation regarding ministry. For ministers and for congregations the thoughtfulness of our congregations and our association offer a great deal of stability and comfort. I am very grateful.

Yours in the journey,

Rev. Bryan Jessup



"Trapped" the Movie

Sunday **March 12** at 4 p.m., Planned Parenthood Clergy, Rev. Jessup and SAC will show "Trapped," a film about women without access to reproductive health care. Come see this important film.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

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Living color

Did you know the newsletter is actually in color? Check it out online to see.

Stephen Sottong

People

Please take time to welcome all five of our new members: **Saroj Gilbert, Marla West, Ann Compton, Diane Dickson** and **Maggie Madden**.

More congratulations to **Veronica Galliani's** daughter, **Charlotte Olsen**, who has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from Rutgers University to pursue her Ph.D. in Astrophysics this fall. She will be apartment hunting this summer while working at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center near Baltimore.

For those who missed it on Facebook, **Ilene** and **Dave Harris** had the top of one of their redwood trees come down on their garage. Fortunately, neither human nor furry pet was inside at the time. Dave rigged up tarps inside, so the rain coming through will run off onto the gravel driveway.

Wishing all those struggling with health and stress challenges the strength to find more sunshine.

Sylvia Shaw

Jamila Tharp as an Affiliated Minister with HUUF

At its February meeting our HUUF Board gave Jamila Tharp its gratitude and support for becoming a community minister in affiliation with our congregation. At our congregational meeting on **March 12**, the Board, Jamila and I will explain what her community ministry and her affiliation means. We will also answer questions. But here is an outline:

Jamila, a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry, our UU seminary in Berkeley, has earned "preliminary fellowship" with the UUA. She is already involved in ministry in our wider community in several ways. She serves as an Imam (prayer leader) for Muslims for Progressive Values. She is the founder of Community Vision Healing that offers healing support to all people but especially to families with children, and she works for PARITY, an organization that seeks to overcome barriers for sexual minorities in religious settings.

In order to keep moving toward final fellowship (and because it will benefit both her and our congregation) Jamila needs the support of a congregation with which she can affiliate. Since she is already a member of our congregation and will continue to volunteer for us in many ways including her work with our "Soul Matters" groups, her support of Sunday services and her technical help with our new database – it makes sense for her to have HUUF be the supportive congregation with which she affiliates.

Jamila's affiliation with HUUF will not mean financial support. It will mean spiritual support from the minister and from the members for her work in the world. Her affiliation will not mean that she will be "in line" to be the parish minister when I finish my work with you. Jamila's plan is to continue to develop as a community minister within our faith, and, as she often says, she hopes to keep "adding value" to our Fellowship and to Unitarian Universalism as a community minister for a long, long time.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Congregational meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on **March 12**, following the second service. The two items requiring consensus from the membership will be to receive the nominating committee's nominations for board of trustees members and for the one open position on the endowment committee, and to approve ordaining Jamila Tharp as a UU minister in October 2017.

In addition, there will be three informational items for the membership to consider: 1) a report on the Chaffee bequest; 2) a report on having Jamilla Tharp affiliate with HUUF as a community minister at no cost to the Fellowship; and 3) input from the members concerning changes to the bylaws for the names and duties of the officers of the Board of Trustees and to expand the Board of Trustees to explicitly include two members from HUUF's Religious Education community. Childcare will be provided. The meeting will last no longer than one hour.

Greg Blomstrom

Religious Education

It's so wonderful to have new families in our Religious Education Cooperative. Some of you have signed the pink form to register for RE and I encourage everyone to fill one out. It helps us communicate last minute program changes or share with you what your children are doing by being on the family email list. There are all sorts of things to take home or peruse at the RE table in the foyer as well as forms and sign-ups for volunteer opportunities.

Our children have been exploring different mediums to create miracles and to see them. Some have used photography, some are more messy. We recently discovered that our paint is not washable and we have ordered replacements. We also have smocks available. We often explore the grounds around us, looking for small miracles in mud and grass. We search for tinier miracles, which can get messy. Please keep this in mind when dressing for Sunday. If you have extra boots that your child has outgrown, we would love donations to keep on hand if needed.

March 5 & 19: Exploration Sundays, Classes by ages

Preschool - 2:

This month we will explore the miracles of nature and music. Some environmental explorations can be done inside. Come dressed to explore, experiment and make music.

3-5 :

We will explore family, culture, identity and prejudice through discussion and projects.

Intermediate:

We will explore our individual attributes along with other UUs who've made significant social and scientific advances in our history. We will start diving into science realms as the weather clears.

March 12: Awareness Sunday

Please be aware it's Daylight Savings Time... Spring ahead one hour.

All ages will continue cooking for the Arcata Shelter. Families, please sign up to deliver food. We need folks to help. We've decided to make this a regular Sunday event, as it allows us to cook fresher food for the homeless and get it there without using everybody's freezers and filling ours to capacity.

March 26: Art Sunday, All ages together

Cheryl Rau, one of our resident artists, hosts an annual favorite, Art Sunday. She helps us create something for our art show this spring. We need at least 3-4 volunteers to make this all happen. Please let Jillian know if you are available for this fun Sunday.

Jillian Mooney

YOUTH

March 12: The youth group will meet during the service to discuss the Ides of March, looking at our fifth principle: using the democratic process and democracies to discuss prophecies and fate.

March 24: Movie night at HUUF. Meet at 6:30 at the Fellowship to watch a movie and join us for a discussion afterwards. Movie is yet to be determined.

Navarra Carr

Pledge dinner cancelled

Last month in the February newsletter the Stewardship Education Committee (SEC) announced we would be having a dinner at the Bayside Grange to kick off the pledge drive. After some soul-searching, our small committee of four decided we could not muster enough volunteers to cook and serve the dinner. In addition, the dinner would be expensive. In the interest of conserving funds that could be used by our Board of Trustees to fund other priorities, we have decided to cancel the dinner event.

The Stewardship Education Committee

Nominating Committee's Recommendations

The Nominating Committee identifies Board candidates for three officer positions and one trustee position as well as a member of the Endowment Fund Committee. Officer positions include Co-President, Vice President and Treasurer.

Greg Blomstrom has generously offered to continue on as Co-President for a two-year term. Greg's leadership will provide timely continuity for the Board, given the work the Board has been engaged in. Greg has been a member of the Fellowship with his wife, Debby, since 2001. He has been in a leadership role within our community since 2007, and is skilled in conducting meetings. Greg is a forester and co-owner of a consulting forestry business focused on "sustainable" forestry. He has a reverence for nature and enjoys the company of many people in the Fellowship who share his values.

Berti Welty is currently serving as Vice President and is recommended to continue in that role for a two-year term. Berti's is a familiar presence, consistently accepting responsibilities to ensure the Fellowship thrives. She has been an active member of the Program and Worship Committee, taken on special projects for the Fellowship, and has exhibited her art here. She and her partner, Jo, often help with a range of events and activities, especially ensuring that all who come here feel welcome, including planning retreats, planning and installing the landscaping for the Care building, co-chairing the Halloween festival for 3 years, ministerial search, Ministerial relations, and teaching RE. She remains active with Worship Leaders, Soul Matters, Beloved Community and various ad-hoc committees in addition to her board duties..

Cynthia Chason has served as Treasurer for the past three years and is recommended to continue on in that role for a one-year term. She gained expertise in budget and fiscal oversight from past work experience as director of Food for People and as an administrative analyst with the Humboldt County Environmental Health Program. She wants to start planning now to help the new Treasurer. Cynthia understands how our important missions, including social justice and religious education, are enhanced by the Fellowship's financial stability.

Given the demographics of our Fellowship, and the goal of making the Fellowship a welcoming community, especially for families and younger adults—it was strongly desired that the open Trustee position be filled with a representative for that population. Given these people are often very busy juggling work and family lives—it was suggested to select two Co-Trustees to share the position. This is allowed by our Bylaws. Sandy Lynn is recommended for a Co-Trustee position for a two-year term. Sandy joined the Fellowship in 2001. Her twins were six years old at the time and she raised them within the community of the Fellowship. Sandy has taught in the RE program, been very active with the UU teen conferences and has served as an adult advisor for the teen conferences for the past four years. Sandy says, "Serving on the Board will be a wonderful way for me to give back to the community that has served me and my family all these years." The name of the second Co-Trustee candidate and information about them will be emailed to the membership prior to the March Congregational meeting.

Sue Lee Mossman's term on the Endowment Fund Committee has expired. Cathy Briggs Hanafi is recommended to fill this vacancy for a three-year term. Cathy is originally from Madison, Wisconsin. She has worked in international and public health. She has been a UU since the mid-nineties when she lived in Massachusetts. She understands the Fellowship's financial health is fundamental for a steadfast and growing presence here in Humboldt. Related experience includes service on a foundation board of trustees that had responsibility over two endowment funds, one of which she helped to initiate in memory of her father.

This slate of candidates will be presented at the HUUF Congregational meeting on **March 12**. All members are encouraged to attend.



Wendy Rowan for the Nominating Committee

March SAC Brunch is 'going green'

Not just because St. Pat's Day is celebrated this month, but also because we support healthy environmental and ecological farming practices, this **March 19** SAC Brunch will be delightfully green. We will serve green appetizers, entrées, side dishes, and desserts. Food will be as locally produced and as organic as possible. Suggested donation is \$5 per adult, \$1 per child. Donations from this brunch will go to Food for People.



Eve Anderson

The Joy of Seva

Selfless service, or “Seva” in Sanskrit, is a service which is performed without any expectation of result or award for performing it. Such services can be performed to benefit other human beings or society (Wikipedia). We are looking for someone to perform such a service for HUUF. A wonderful meditation pergola has been constructed for our use in the Memorial Garden, by our minister, Bryan Jessup. It is a somewhat hidden and private place where one can sit quietly, undisturbed, and meditate or chat with a friend.

The pergola sits under some spruce trees, so needles are often blown or tracked in and need to be swept away. We would like to find two or more people who would be willing to sweep out the pergola once a week and do any other small task needed to keep it clean and welcoming. If you are interested in performing this simple seva, please contact me at vwchatfield@gmail.com or 810-845-9686.

Virginia Chatfield



Art and Aesthetics

Helen Vatcher's show will continue through March. On Sunday, **March 26**, I'll be in the children's Religious Education to present the Spring art day. And the Children and Youth Art Show will be displayed during April and May.

WANTED a few people for the Aesthetics Committee. Please contact me at 826-7107.

Cheryl Rau

Parent Orientation for Our Whole Lives (OWL) for Middle School

Starting in the fall, we are again offering sexual education based on UU principles for grades 7-8. This is a 27-session program designed to impart positive values about sexuality and human relationships.

There will be a parent orientation and introduction Friday, **March 31**, at 6:30 p.m. We encourage you to bring your teens. Parental attendance at orientation is mandatory in order to understand the program and for the facilitators and HUUF to obtain required permission from parents for their teens to participate.

Childcare will be provided and we will be providing an ice cream sundae dessert at 6:30.

Priority for enrollment will be given to HUUF youth. However the program is open to community members, We encourage you to bring friends whom you think may be interested in OWL. For more information, contact Kim Moor at kjmoor2@gmail.com or 268-9662.

Debby Harrison

Sunday Services

March 5 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Contemplation as a Spiritual Practice – Rev. Bryan Jessup

Contemplation has been defined as considering something with deep attention or as regarding something steadily. It has also been defined as thinking about the spiritual meaning of things and working to be aware of the presence of mystery and wonder, even in the ordinary moments of life. Some of the great contemplative poets and writers are Christian, like Thomas Merton. Others are more nature-based, like Ralph Waldo Emerson. In this service we will explore what contemplation – or thinking about the spiritual meaning of ordinary things – might do in our lives.

March 12 – 9 and 11 a.m.

The Oral Tradition of Story Telling in Sufism – Pir Issa Chishti

Storytelling and conversation have an important role in the spiritual practice of Sufism. Join us as we explore the way these forms of oral tradition bring the message of radical inclusivity and openness of heart to all manifestations of the Divine.

Pir Issa Chishti is the son and successor of the late Pir Dr. Ibrahim Baba Chishti (Prof. Ibrahim Farajaje) in the Ajmeri Chishti Sufi lineage. He is currently pursuing his academic studies in the Bay Area. The Chishti path he represents is grounded in the teachings and life of Hazrati Moinuddin Chishti, Khawaja Gharib Nawaz, the Friend of the Poor and Marginalized.

March 19 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Creating Safe Places for Vulnerable Sharing and Growth – Rev. Bryan Jessup

In UU congregations across the country, and in other congregations as well, people come together to share what is truly in their hearts. Yet deep sharing is a tender and vulnerable business that requires people to take responsibility for themselves individually and create supportive structures and ground rules collectively. Safe places do not happen by accident and require careful maintenance. Still, creating safe places is worth the effort because in those spaces our hearts truly become one.

This is also Canvass Sunday.

Sunday March 26 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Transformational Personal Stories – Berti Welty

Join us as members and friends of the congregation share true, personal stories about an incident or awareness that was transformative in their lives. Be it a sudden insight or a shift in perspective, congregants are encouraged to search their memories for pivotal points in their lives. It takes courage to share personal snippets of one's life, and it can be very rewarding in feeling close to others and “being seen” for who you truly are. Anyone wishing to share a 3 to 5-minute story is asked to contact Berti Welty to participate. She can be reached at 476-0654.

HUUF Events - March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Choir	2 10 am Conscious Parenting 6:30 pm Conscious Parenting 7 pm Thursday Reflections	3 9:00 am Private Event	4 8:30 am Private Event 9:30 am Worship Leaders 12:30 pm Private Event 1 pm Garden Work Party
5 RE Committee Mtg. 9 & 11 am Service 12:30 SAC Cmte. Mtg. 6:30 Private event	6 8:30 am Private Event	7 10 am Writer's Group 1 pm Bridge Lessons 6:30 Private Event	8 10:30 MRC 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Choir	9 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	10 9:00 am Private Event	11
12 Daylight Savings Time 9 & 11 am Service 10:15 Board Coffee 12:30 Congrgational Mtg. 4 pm <i>Trapped</i> Movie	13 8:30 am Private Event	14 10 am Writer's Group 1 pm Bridge Lessons 5:30 pm Board Mtg	15 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Private Event 7 pm Choir	16 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	17 9:00 am Private Event	18 8:30 am Private Event 10 am Make Your Mtg. Great 1 pm Garden Work Party
19 SAC Brunch 9 & 11 am Services 6:30 Private event	20 8:30 am Private Event 10:30 Membership Mtg.	21 10 am Writer's Group 1 pm Bridge Lessons 6:30 Private Event	22 10:30 MRC 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Choir	23 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	24 9:00 am Private Event	25
26 9 & 11 am Services 12:30 Growing Old Gracefully	27 8:30 am Private Event	28 10 am Writer's Group 1 pm Bridge Lessons	29 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Choir	30 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	31 9:00 am Private Event 6:30 OWL Orientation & Ice Cream Social	

TESTIMONIAL

Delivered Sunday, February 5, 2017

The election knocked me off balance. I reached out for a wider perspective, a wider base to steady myself. I knew from reading Merlin Stone's *When God Was a Woman* a few decades ago that humans hadn't always lived this way—in an unrestrained patriarchy, of which Trump is the natural end-product. In a conversation a couple months ago, Bonnie MacGregor mentioned Riane Eisler's *The Chalice and the Blade*. I must have mentioned it subsequently while talking with Tom Torma. Tom gave me a book called *The Chalice and the Blade in Chinese Culture*, a response by a group of Chinese scholars to Eisler's book. At a single glance I could see it would be very important to me. And that I had to read Eisler's book first.

Eisler describes a Neolithic culture that lasted from about 10,000 BCE to about 3,500 BCE. It was what she calls a “partnership” culture—a society in which the sexes are linked instead of ranked, a very equalitarian society with an emphasis on mutual dependence and sharing. These prehistoric cultures harvested wild and domestic crops and kept domesticated animals; they had highly developed arts and crafts and decorated their clothing. They did not make weapons. The blade—the patriarchal tribes—gradually invaded and subsumed the matrilineal cultures. That's where we've been for the last 5,500 years—in what Eisler calls the “dominator” culture, in which men dominate women and other men. (I'm tempted to think the human species peaked in the Neolithic Age and it's been all downhill from there.)

Thanks to Tom Torma's giving me the book *The Chalice and the Blade in Chinese Culture*, I learned that not only did similar partnership cultures thrive in China in the Neolithic Age, but in the remote and not-easily-accessible mountainous regions of China, small clans still exist that are goddess-worshipping and follow the partnership model.

I think this Fellowship is also a remnant and a renewer of the partnership culture in which the female principle, embodied in both women and men, takes the lead and the male principle acts *in the service of* all those qualities we associate most closely with females—nurturing, sharing, inclusivity, and community building. In other words, yang, the male principle, acts *in the service of* yin, the female principle. The Women's March is the perfect example—born in outrage, it upheld love. This Fellowship will join with and add our strength to the upwelling of the women's movement that naturally embraces all the other movements for human rights, human dignity, human responsibility, and for peace. This revolution, this return to the female principle, is necessary for the survival of our species and our planet as we know it.

It's through the Fellowship that I've connected with people like Bonnie and Tom. The books they recommended helped restore my balance—they've shifted my thinking and my inner state for the better and have shed light on my writing. The Fellowship is, for me, a thinking, feeling, learning community that I cherish. In the days ahead we'll all be informing and supporting each other as we work for a renewed partnership culture.



Margaret Emerson

Ordination in the UUA

Unitarian Universalist ordination is open to all people who have met the requirements of our Ministerial Fellowship Committee. We welcome people with multiple faith paths. Our ministers undergo a great deal of training before being ordained. The road to Unitarian Universalist ministry includes at least a Bachelor's degree and a Masters of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary. It includes a ministerial internship with a congregation, clinical pastoral training, many interviews, and final approval from the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. The Ministerial Fellowship Committee officially approves (fellowships) ministers for Unitarian Universalist ordination, but it is only individual UU congregations that can ordain ministers.

The Humboldt UU Fellowship has ordained two ministers in the last several decades: the Rev. Joy Atkinson and the Rev. Tom Lewis. At our congregational meeting on **March 12** (after second service) we will have the opportunity to commit to the ordination of Jamila Tharp, whose ceremony of ordination is scheduled for **October 7**.

For a small Fellowship, the HUUF has produced and continues to produce some wonderful ministers for the association. It is work of which we can be very proud.

Bryan Jessup

Financial Peace University

Financial stress leads to spiritual impoverishment and tears families apart. We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University will help you create that plan. It's not magic; it's common sense and telling your money where to go instead of wondering where it went. You tailor your plan to your family. You work your plan in a supportive group.

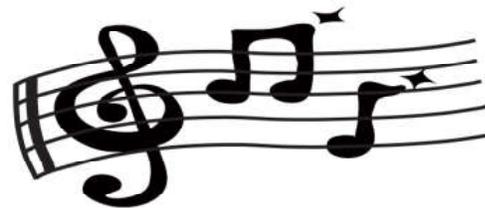
Nine sessions cover these topics: Super Saving, Relating with Money, Cash Flow Planning, Dumping Debt, Buyer Beware, The Role of Insurance, Retirement and College Planning, Real Estate and Mortgages, and The Great Misunderstanding. The course is taught on video by Dave Ramsey, and I facilitate. The \$93 fee for an individual or a couple includes the book "The Complete Guide to Money" audio CDs of all lessons, a wallet, a workbook, access to online resources and other tools. Most people find that they save more than \$93 during the first month when they start using this plan.

Classes meet on Thursdays, **March 23** to **May 25**, from 7-9 p.m. at the Fellowship. A preview and registration session will be held Thursday, **March 16**, at 7 p.m. For more information, contact me at margoteka@aol.com or 499-1474 (except from March 2-13, during that time, contact Ruth Broderick at 296-1167).

Margot Julian

Melanie DeMore Is Coming

"We've got to put one foot in front of the other, and lead with love!"



These uplifting lyrics led thousands of us forward on January 21, beginning the Eureka Women's March. Melanie DeMore wrote that song after Trump's election, and now she is coming to the Fellowship to lead us with her musical message of healing on Sunday, **April 2**, at both services.

In response to the increasing despair being experienced throughout our community and nation, the Fellowship is sponsoring a free community concert, with support from Coast Central Credit Union and Humboldt State University. This will bring world-renowned song-writer, composer, choral conductor and vocal activist Melanie DeMore to an even wider audience. Her unique message of reconciliation and hope will be presented Saturday, **April 1**, at 7 p.m. in the Kate Buchanan Room at HSU.

Pat McCutcheon

Any small deed

The Grounds Committee members are asking the HUUF congregation to pitch in for HUUF workdays. We need volunteers of all ages and sizes. Only have the energy for 15 minutes of weeding? We'll take it. Waiting for a ride home? Have some time after service to hose down some plants? Even the smallest task is helpful. We work every first and third Saturday. Please contact Virginia Chatfield for more information.

Debi Cooper

March 5 collection

The **March 5** Sunday service collection will be donated to Thomas Joseph II. You may remember the Sunday Service last year that Thomas and several Hoopa youth provided for us. Since then, Thomas went to North Dakota for six months to support the Standing Rock efforts to protect sacred land and waters from the oil pipeline installation. He coordinated youth visits for the protest.

After enduring the harsh conditions at Standing Rock he returned to Hoopa to discover that his family home had been ransacked and every possession he owned had been stolen. Thomas Joseph II needs our help. Please give generously during our March 5 Sunday service. If you won't be attending the service please donate through the Go Fund Me site: <https://www.gofundme.com/support-thomas-water-warrior>.

Kate McClain

Chaffee bequest – what’s it all about?

Florence Chaffee moved here in 1990. She became deeply involved in the Fellowship, especially with women’s spirituality and women’s activities. She served on many HUUF committees, the Board, and especially the Aesthetics Committee, which was a guiding force as HUUF bought the land, then built our current spiritual home. Florence had an artistic flare; she and Marilyn Walker commissioned the chalice we use every Sunday.

In chatting with her friends and her husband, Merick, she discussed what she envisioned as possible uses for money that she planned to leave to the Fellowship. She wanted her bequest to be used for things needed to beautify the building and grounds, and for women’s activities. She did not want money spent on augmenting the budget or paying the mortgage, which she said the entire Fellowship assumed and should pay.

On April 4, 1994, Florence was killed in an accident. Her husband, Merick, came here to settle his wife’s affairs, supported by many of Florence’s friends on the Aesthetics Committee. During the clearing, sorting, and selling of her belongings, Merick experienced the sense of community Florence had found at HUUF. He and Marilyn Walker discussed how to make Florence’s wishes a reality, even though Florence had not written a will. Merick donated all of the proceeds from selling his wife’s possessions to the Fellowship. Her personal assets were equally split between the Fellowship and a grandchild’s education.

During the next two years Merick generously supported the Aesthetics Committee, which had been Florence’s passion. The Chaffee Capital Fund was established. Monies were spent to establish the Memorial Garden, among other important aesthetic considerations.

Over the years, moneys have been borrowed from this fund for things that were not part of the original intent of that bequest – always with the good intention of repaying the fund. Facing a financial crisis in 2014, and the Fellowship depleted all reserve funds.

Following Merick’s death in 2014, the Fellowship received a check for \$58,700 as the final distribution of the Chaffee estate. The bequest was unexpected, and everyone thought our financial woes had been solved. Ideas about whether this windfall should be spent or saved were debated. The Board wisely sequestered the funds in an investment account, deciding to make no decision until the current financial crisis was resolved and a thorough evaluation could be conducted.

Berti Welty

Smooth rolling

The Grounds Committee members have exciting news for the coming spring. Thanks to Florence Chaffee and the Board, HUUF has the resources to complete the memorial garden walkway. Every precaution will be taken for the Weott land we share. Several path improvements will also be added to the monument areas, including room for a wheelchair to maneuver. We have a new shed coming and have plans on the horizon for a playground addition.

Debi Cooper

Deadline info

Deadline for the **April** issue of the newsletter is Monday, **March 20**, 5 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).



Call for Service Auction donations

Now is the time to decide on what you can donate for our Service Auction. Look over the insert included in this newsletter for more information, as well as a useful list of popular services. Please fill out the donation form on the back of the insert, and return it to the 'Garden Basket' in the foyer, or mail it in to the HUUF office. The deadline to have your item included in the auction catalog is **March 31**. On **April 29** from 3-6 p.m. you can join the fun at our Spring Auction Gala. The heart of our auction is you and the service you decide to offer.

Thank you from the Auction Committee, Cathy, Sherry, JoAnn, Bert, Nancy, Cynthia, Judy, Aiko, and Edie.

Cathy Hanafi

Designing and Leading effective meetings

On Saturday, **March 18** from 10 a.m. until Noon, Terry Uyeki will share the 'art and craft' of designing meeting agendas and facilitating meetings that enable groups to do their best work, reach meeting objectives, and engage interested members in meaningful discussions, while making decisions and getting work done. Terry has had more than 25 years of experience in designing and facilitating collaborative work in small and large stakeholder groups.

Young artists and poets for peace

A reminder that submissions to the Redwood Coast Peace Poetry and Art Project will be accepted through **March 18**. If you have friends among high school students who might be interested in participating, please encourage them. English and art teachers have received announcements about the project, but questions can also be directed to the coordinator, Maggie Shaffer, shafferpost@yahoo.com. Home-schooled students are also warmly invited to submit their work.

We are pleased and proud that our project is sponsored by the HUUF Social Action Committee, along with Veterans for Peace Chapter 56, Buddhist Peace Fellowship, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. The Celebration for the poets and artists will be held in Fellowship Hall, at 3p.m. on **May 21**, and copies of the Peace Poetry Anthology will be available for sale and for autographing at that time.

Maggie Shaffer

Evolving governance

The Board is working at building leadership skills. Next year we will have one of our co-presidents be considered the President Emeritus, one considered the President, and the Vice President be considered as the "President in training."

Working this way, our HUUF Board leadership will be a three-year cycle. A person will start as VP, move to being President, and end as President Emeritus. We think this will provide both mutual support and stability for those in the leadership cycle.

For this coming year 2017-18, I will be the Co-President in the "Emeritus" slot and Greg Blomstrom will be in the "President" slot. Berti Welty will occupy the Vice President position.

This pattern will provide a new way to think about our Co-presidents and VP and, we believe, will strengthen our Board.

Kate McClain

CLASSIFIED ADS

T'AI CHI WITH MARGY EMERSON The upcoming spring term will conclude Margy's 28 years of teaching T'ai Chi sequences. At 1049 C Samoa Blvd., Arcata (K St. & Samoa). The 10-week term starts March 28. New Students can enroll in Traditional Long Form Wu Style and/or T'ai Chi Sources, which includes posture, breathing, qigong, Silk Reeling, meditation, and the Tao Te Ching. Daytime and evening classes. Begin as late as the third week. Visit a class with no obligation to pay or enroll. For details: www.margaretemerson.com or 822-6508.

LINDA VINSON is offering her services for **HOUSE/PET SITTING**. Available after April 1.

Contact Linda at linvinson@yahoo.com or 808-987-7323.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

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Director of Religious Education: Jillian Mooney

Board of Trustees:

Co-Presidents Greg Blomstrom

Kate McClain

Vice-President Berti Welty

Secretary Katherine Almy

Trustees Joanna Welch

Pat McCutcheon

Treasurer Cynthia Chason

Newsletter Editor Stephen Sottong

newsletter@huuf.org

Calendar Editor Roxana Stengl

Looking ahead

Sun	Mar. 12, 12:30 p.m.	HUUF Congregational meeting
Sat	April 1	Melanie DeMore free concert at Kate Buchanan room, HSU
Sun	April 2	Melanie DeMore at HUUF for both services
Sat	April 29	HUUF Service Auction
F-Su	May 5-7	PCD Assembly at Mt. Diablo UU, Walnut Creek UUA Presidential candidates Forum
F-Sat	June 9-10	HUUF Board Retreat
Wed-Su	Jun 21-25	UUA General Assembly at New Orleans, LA
Fr-Su	Aug 4-6	HUUF retreat at Mattole Camp and Retreat Center

