

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A note from the minister

April 2017

April is our annual pledge month so I want to share some thoughts about generosity. Canadian cognitive scientist Steven Pinker believes that as humans evolve, we become less violent and fearful and more compassionate and collaborative. He says: “We human beings do much more for our fellows than return favors and punish cheaters. We often perform generous acts without the slightest hope for payback ranging from leaving a tip in a restaurant we will never visit again to throwing ourselves on a live grenade to save our comrades. Heartfelt loyalty and generosity serve as guarantors of our promises to one another. They reduce our worry that others will default on us. The best way to convince one another that we are trustworthy and generous is to be trustworthy and generous.”

This Fellowship has grown and thrived for over 60 years because its members have been trustworthy and generous. Of course it provides a wonderful community for its members, but it also intentionally reaches out to serve more people and to benefit the whole community. It acts, in the community, as a place that nurtures trustworthiness and generosity in us all.

This year, as in the past, I am confident that during the pledge drive the members and friends of this Fellowship will contribute generously and with joy so that this Fellowship will continue to grow in its service to the world.

Edie and I are very happy to be with you in this process.

Yours in the journey,



Rev. Bryan Jessup

True North Encuentro #2

On Saturday, **March 25** from 2 to 5 p.m. at HUUF, the congregations from True North Organizing will gather again for a conversation and potluck dinner. The goal is to get to know one another and to come together around the social justice work they share in True North. The Rev. Michael Ray Matthews of PICO California will lead us through a conversation about “The Dominant Narrative” in our country and “The Counter Narrative” created by people working for social justice, as well as the ways we can create an “Interfaith Community of Resistance.” Bring a potluck dish to share. Child care will be available.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

Inside

Page 2:

People
Sanctuary forum
Retreat planning
Selma screening

Page 3:

Religious education
Ingathering name change

Page 4:

Sunday Services

Page 5:

Calendar

Page 6:

Meditation opportunity
Social Action brunch
High notes from choir

Page 7:

Auction fundraiser
Chaffee bequest (cont.)

Page 8:

Looking ahead



People

Please take time to welcome new members **Carilyn Goldammer** and **Kat Thornton**.

A shout-out to **Justin** and **Jeff Knapp** for a great slide show at Sunday service.

We hold positive recovery thoughts for **Roxana Hand** coming out of surgery. It is expected Roxana will be temporarily rehabilitating in Eureka by the time you receive this notice. Roxana welcomes, cards, visits and tasty, easily digested snacks. Contact the Caring Circle to contribute.

Diane Dickson has been laid low for weeks with a bronchial infection and is slowly regaining her strength.

Jane Riggan is recovering from hip surgery under the able care of **Bill Thompson**.

Marianne Pennekamp is being honored as Community Volunteer of the Year by the League of Women Voters at their State of the Community Luncheon, April 7.

Special thoughts to **JoAnne** and **Bill Huffman**, the **Munsee** family, **Mary Freedlund**, **Jenny Cranston** and others we do not see often these days, but hold in our hearts.

Sylvia Shaw

HUUF Forum on Sanctuary and Immigrant Support

Friday **April 7** at 6 p.m. at the Fellowship, the HUUF Social Action Committee is sponsoring a potluck dinner and conversation about congregational support of vulnerable immigrants and offering sanctuary to those who might need it. This conversation will start with a "listening session." Renee Saucedo from Centro del Pueblo will talk with us about the kind of support immigrants might need from us and we will have an opportunity to explore with her how we might meet some of those needs.

Rev. Bryan Jessup

All Fellowship Retreat planning

We'll start planning for our **August 4-6** all Fellowship Retreat on **April 2**, after the second service with a short meeting of all interested in helping to plan our weekend on the river. At that meeting we'll determine what is needed and who is willing to do what. We'll also decide when and where are the best times to have further meetings, and we just might throw around some ideas for a theme. Can't make the meeting? Call or email me at 476-0654 or bertijo@humboldt1.com and let me know your interest.

Want to come to the retreat? Reserve the date and look for reservation forms in future newsletters. Register early as it will fill up. Check out the location at www.mattolecamp.com.

Berti Welty



Selma screening

Join us to view the award winning film *Selma* at our watch party and help build the community of resistance that will carry us forward in the next four years. Here's why you should come: More than forty years after the Selma march, the voting rights Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights activists fought for and won are under attack from Republican governors across the country, and Trump is indicating that he wants to make things worse. At this critical moment, the progressive left has much to learn from the movements that paved the way for this one. That's why DFA (Democracy for America) members are gathering to build community and energize for the resistance by screening Ava DuVernay's 2015 film *Selma*. The event is Friday, **April 21** at 7 p.m. at HUUF.

Joanna Welch

Religious Education

April 2 & 23: Exploration Sundays

Preschool-2:

We will explore the miracle of sound as well as further investigating miracles in nature.

3-5:

We will explore the miracles of what can happen when we are caring and accepting of all people.

Intermediate:

We will explore the miracles of water and how it is universally needed by all and finding ways to make it accessible to all. We will discuss the unresolved issues at Flint, Michigan; North Dakota; and the proposed natural gas pipeline in the Klamath Mountains. We will talk about understanding all sides of the arguments.

April 9: All Worship, all ages together

Easter is traditionally a time for renewal and rebirth. As UUs, what does that mean for us? How do other religions celebrate this time? We will decorate eggs to hunt for next week.

April 16: Easter Egg Hunt

All ages together will hunt eggs. Hope for sun; otherwise, we will hunt inside. Bring eggs to share if you like. Oldest children will hide (with prizes for helping), younger will hunt.

April 30: Multi-generational Service

All ages together to share our year in RE. Stay in the service with your family. Childcare for younger children will be available. Stay after for Sundaes Sunday. Bring an ice cream topping of your choice. RE will provide ice cream.

Please take the opportunity to sign up for Arcata Shelter delivery of food for RE. We need folks to deliver the food the children have made to the emergency shelter on the third Tuesday of every month. The sign-up sheet is on the RE table in the foyer or you can contact Sonya at glasserkey@yahoo.com.

Speaking of the RE table... we used to have a lovely collection of toys that were carefully selected, donated and shared with children during the service time to help them through the long period of trying to sit quietly. Many of these items have gone missing. If you might have forgotten and taken one home or would just like to help replenish our collection, please see or email me at jillianjuju@gmail.com. Or you can bring some things in to contribute. It's especially nice for new children, who may not be comfortable here. Please contribute if you can, we really need more items. Also, if your child uses the toys, please remind them to return them to the baskets on their way out to class. Thank you for keeping this great idea and support for our children going.

Jillian Mooney

Youth Group Schedule for April

April 9: In honor of Earth Day, at the 11:00 service we will be discussing the seventh UU principle and the interconnected web of existence, especially as it relates to spring time and Easter.

April 21: movie night at HUUF. We will meet at 6:30 to enjoy a movie together. Movie is TBD.

April 23: special guest Pat Carr will lead a discussion during the 11:00 service about climate change, Earth Day, and the integration of our UU principles into the environmental movement.

Navarra Carr

Ingathering name change

Many years ago, the word "ingathering" was commonly used by Unitarian Universalists across the country to mean a ceremony to welcome new members. The Membership Committee has decided to change the name of our local event to honor all new members from the previous year to something more meaningful: New Member Welcome. Our ceremony will be **June 4**.

Awanna Kalal

Sunday Services

Sunday, April 2 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Tightening the Weave of Community: Lead With Love – Melanie DeMoore

Singer, songwriter, composer, conductor and vocal activist Melanie DeMore uses the power of song as an agent of social and political change. She believes in the power of voices raised together, and we will do just that to heal our hearts and spirits in these troubled times. For as she says, “A song can hold you up when there seems no ground beneath you.”

DeMore is one of the most outstanding vocal artists of today helping to preserve African American folk tradition. A sought-after presenter, conductor and soloist, she is adjunct faculty at the California Institute for Integral Studies, Master Teaching Artist for CalPerformances at Berkeley and a featured presenter for SpeakOut! the Institute for Social and Cultural Change.

Sunday, April 9 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Disability as a Deep Desire and Spiritual Strength — Alex Bland

Unitarian Universalist moral principles call us to affirm and promote “the inherent worth and dignity of every person.” As this is true of all faith communities, the neurodiversity movement within the disability community reminds us that the uniqueness seen in every human brain is more like an ecosystem that should be nurtured and where many plants may sprout, than a piece of hardware in mortal danger of malfunction. As UUs, how can we counter oppression rooted in the ways we have been taught to encounter disability?

Sunday, April 16 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Resurrections We Have Known – Rev. Bryan Jessup

On this Easter Sunday, we will think about birth, death and the cycles of nature. We will look at the archetype of resurrection in human thought and ask what it might mean for us today.

April 23 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Standing Rock and Other Stories – David Feral

In this service we will honor the spiritual and ecological work done by the indigenous people of the Dakotas and their many supporters at Standing Rock. From their struggle we are reminded that “Water is Life.” We are reminded that we human beings did not create the web of life, but are just a small part of it. We are reminded that we have a great responsibility to live simply so that many other life forms and we ourselves can simply live.

Sunday, April 30 – 9 and 11 a.m.

R.E. Sunday – Jillian Mooney and the R.E. Crew

The theme for our Religious Education program this year has been “All of the Miracles of Life that Surround Us.” In this Sunday service we will hear from our children and youth and their teachers. We will share some of their wonder and a great deal of our gratitude for them and the work they do together. We will honor our teachers and volunteers and all who help create the program, including our director of Religious Education, Jillian Mooney, who is retiring at the end of this year.

HUUF Events - April 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 8:30 am Private Event 9:30 am Worship Leaders 10:00 pm Private Event 1 pm Garden Work Party
2 RE Committee Mtg. 9 & 11 am Service 12:30 SAC Cmte. Mtg. 6:30 Private event	3 8:30 am Private Event 2 pm End of Life Issues	4 6:30 Private Event	5 10:30 am Private Event 7 pm Choir	6 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	7 9:00 am Private Event 6 pm Immigration Support Pot Luck	8 7:00 pm Private Event
9 9 & 11 am Service 10:15 Board Coffee	10 8:30 am Private Event 2 pm End of Life Issues	11 5:30 pm Board Mtg	12 10:30 am Private Event 10:30 am MRC 7 pm Choir	13 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	14 9:00 am Private Event	15 8:30 am Private Event 1 pm Garden Work Party 7 pm Syrian Refugees
16 Easter Sunday 9 & 11 am Services 12:30 SAC Brunch 6:30 Private event	17 8:30 am Private Event 10:30 Membership Mtg. 2 pm End of Life Issues	18 6:30 Private Event	19 10:30 MRC 7 pm Private Event 7 pm Choir	20 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	21 9:00 am Private Event 7 pm "Selma" Watch Party	22
23 9 & 11 am Services 12:30 Growing Old Gracefully	24 8:30 am Private Event 2 pm End of Life Issues	25	26 10:30 am Private Event 10:30 MRC 7 pm Choir	27 7 pm Thursday Reflections 7 pm Financial Peace	28 9:00 am Private Event 1 pm Service Auction Set-up	29 3 pm HUUF Service Auction
30 9 & 11 am Services						

Meditation opportunity

Ancient Forest Sangha, a meditation group in the Plum Village tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, meets every Friday at North Star Yoga Center, in Eureka, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Several Fellowship members participate. We welcome more to practice with us in sitting and walking meditation, readings from Thay's teachings and Dharma sharing amongst ourselves. We hold a quarterly Day of Mindfulness with a visiting teacher and a social potluck when a fifth Friday occurs.

The Yoga Center is across from Coast Central, at 2701 Harrison. For more information, Call Valerie 825-7446, or Richard or Ginger Kossow 826-1227.

April SAC brunch

This month's SAC brunch will be **April 16**, shortly following the second service. This Springtime Brunch will feature a variety of scrumptious entrées, salads, and desserts, blossoming with flavor. Beware: There may even be some chocolate Easter eggs.

Please allow time to get food onto the tables before queuing up. Suggested donation is \$5 per adult and \$1 per child. Proceeds support the Rape Crisis Team of Humboldt. Their services to the community include 24-hour crisis counseling, follow-up support, and accompaniment through reporting process and court proceedings. They also focus on prevention.

Eve Anderson

High Notes from the HUUF Choir

It's that time of year again: Spring is upon us and so is the annual HUUF Choir Music Day Service. On Sunday, **May 7** (for the ninth year), we will celebrate the power of music to heal, inspire and connect us in fellowship. The HUUF Choir will host both the 9 and 11 a.m. services, and be joined by several special guest musicians, including Bob Billstrom and our new choir accompanist, Rachel Samet. Ruth Broderick will facilitate (thanks Ruth). We'll sing some of our recent favorites and introduce new pieces too. There'll be something for everyone. This service will be appropriate for all ages.

If you'd like to be part of the choir for this special annual event, please attend weekly rehearsals beginning on Wednesday, **March 29** from 7:00-8:45 p.m. You do not need to read music to sing with the choir, and no prior choral experience is required.

In addition, we are actively seeking individuals who play instruments and would like to participate in Music Day. All ages and skill levels are welcome. If you are interested, please contact me directly at elisabethharrington@yahoo.com

Until then, keep singing,

Elisabeth Harrington

Deadline info

Deadline for the **May** issue of the newsletter is Thursday, **April 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).



HUUF Spring Auction fundraiser

Our 'Spring Gala: An Elegant Afternoon' takes place on Saturday, **April 29** at 3:00 p.m. Donations from the congregation and friends will be accepted throughout April, so fill out a donation form located in the sanctuary lobby.

There will be a lovely array of items to bid on, delightful appetizers, tea and crumpets, local wine and beer and very special entertainment featuring Nancy Briggs, jazz pianist from Sonoma. In addition to the Services Auction, there will be a crafts and a plant sale at the 'garden party' booth.

This is one of HUUF's biggest and most fun fundraisers. See the auction items as they come in on the Green Board in the Fellowship lobby.

Questions? Contact me at cbhanafi@yahoo.com



Cathy Hanafi

Chaffee bequest story (continued from February)

In the fall of 2016 the HUUF Board of Trustees charged Berti Welty to convene an Ad-hoc committee to further evaluate the best uses of the \$58,700 Chaffee Bequest. Each of the committee members researched specific areas, and met to evaluate and make recommendations. They were: Dave Harris (HUUF finance and best practices), Margot Jullian (stewardship), Catherine Hanafi (endowment), Jeff Knapp (history of Chaffee Fund and legal matters), and Berti Welty (enhancing connections). Input from the congregation was solicited via the newsletter and conversations. Persons involved in the original Chaffee bequest were also interviewed.

The initial decision was whether the 2014 bequest was to be treated as separate from, or a continuation of the original bequest. Factors the committee considered in making their recommendations included:

- The wishes of Merick Chaffee, both stated and implied, and the known passions and interests of Florence Chaffee. Specifically: Use for something that's needed but we can't afford. Do not use for normal budget items or the mortgage. Florence's interests were aesthetics, memorial garden, and the community she found here at HUUF, especially the women's community.
- The current and future needs of the Fellowship
- The possible effect on future planned giving, endowment, and pledges by honoring wishes in tangible ways
- Best financial practices for congregations
- Written records indicating what decisions had been made in the past about Chaffee bequests.

At the December board meeting the following decisions were made:

- 1 The bequest shall be considered as the final distribution of the original Chaffee bequest and falls under the same guidelines.
- 2 The idea of giving some money to another cause would not be honoring the donor's bequest that the monies go to HUUF.
- 3 In keeping with the previously approved use of Chaffee funds, up to \$10,000 is allocated for the completion of the handicapped accessible walks in the Memorial Garden.
- 4 No moneys from the bequest shall go to operating budget or to pay debt as per the original intent.
- 5 Notification that the donation came with 'no restrictions' may be legally but not ethically correct.
- 6 Do not use any of the final bequest to repay what was 'borrowed' from the Chaffee Fund.
- 7 Acknowledge that the original intent included references to women's activities, aesthetic beautifying of the Fellowship and to nourishing connections that Florence received from her participation in the Fellowship. No monies have yet been spent on either women's activities or enhancing connections.
- 8 That an article about Florence Chaffee, including a picture if possible, and all the things that her bequest has done for the Fellowship, be prepared for the newsletter.
- 9 A significant amount of the bequest shall go to the endowment fund.

To be continued.

Berti Welty



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Looking ahead

- Sat Mar 25, 2-5 p.m. True North Encuentro # 2 Potluck with Rev Michael Ray Matthews on Building an Interfaith Community of Resistance
- Sat April 1 Melanie DeMore free concert at Kate Buchanan room, HSU
- Sun April 2 Melanie DeMore at HUUF for 9 and 11 services
- Fri April 7 All congregational potluck on becoming a Sanctuary Congregation
- Fri April 21, 7 p.m. *Selma* screening
- Sat April 29, 3 p.m. HUUF Service Auction
- F-Su May 5&6 PCD Assembly at Mt Diablo UU in Walnut Creek
UUA Presidential candidates Forum
- F,Sat June 9&10 HUUF Board Retreat
- Sun June 11 Possible Congregational Meeting to consider budget
- Th-Su Jun 21-25 UUA General Assembly at New Orleans, LA
- Fr-Su Aug 4-6 HUUF retreat at Mattole Camp and Retreat Center

APRIL 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6