

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



April 2021

## Introducing Rev. Peter Farriday

We are delighted to announce that the Rev. Peter Farriday (he/him/his) will join HUUF as our new minister, starting in August of this year. Peter earned his UU Master of Divinity degree from Chicago's Meadville Lombard Theological School in 2014, which included interning at Neighborhood UU Church in Pasadena. He then served as minister of the Unitarian Universalists of Santa Clarita Valley (an LA suburb) from 2014-19. Peter also holds an M.A. in Culture and Creation Spirituality (where he studied under and later worked for well-known spiritual theologian Rev. Dr. Matthew Fox), an M.A. in Broadcast Communications, and a B.A. in Political Science.

Prior to ministry Peter worked primarily in broadcast media for Paramount Television and Discovery Networks, developing, supervising, and writing programs.

Rev. Farriday is an active member of the UU Ministers Association, has taken part in numerous denominational activities, and is certified as an Our Whole Lives (OWL) Facilitator for grades K-1 and 4-5. Peter has two children—and, though divorced, a very amicable relationship with their mother. His daughter Ava is a junior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and his son Declan will begin college this fall, likely at a UC campus. Some of Peter's favorite personal activities include getting outdoors to hike, bike, or toss a Frisbee on the beach. He also plays tennis with Declan, and before COVID often joined avid ice skater Ava on the rink. And they all love to travel.

They also love music. Peter's late parents both worked at least partly as musicians—his dad the choir director and mom the accompanist and organist of his childhood Lutheran church in Minneapolis. Peter sang throughout his youth, and enjoys classical as well as a wide range of other music.

Rev. Farriday says he is delighted to be named our next minister, and eager to embark on a joyful journey of shared growth, discovery, and service with HUUF and the wider community.

We are equally pleased to have him, and confident that you will be too.

*David Marshak for the HUUF Board of Trustees*

## Budget Development Heads-Up

All Committee Chairs and Cost Center Managers should be on the lookout for a late-March email from the Finance Committee regarding the submission of budget requests for the 2021-22 budget. The Finance Committee is scheduled to submit a first draft to the Board for their April meeting.

*Dave Harris*

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## Board update

Our Board of Trustees – Berti Welty, David Marshak, Sally Williams, Rebecca Paez, Peter Gillis, Kate McClain, Debi Cooper, and Chris West – has met on Zoom every month since August of last year. Board meetings are in the evening on the second Tuesday of each month. HUUF members may sit in at Board meetings.

We have closely monitored our finances, given the uncertainties of this pandemic year. We are grateful to all of you who have fulfilled your pledges, and we can inform you that as of March, our income slightly exceeds our expenses. Of course we need the continued fulfillment of pledges so we can finish this year without a deficit.

The Board has carefully reviewed initial plans for the new playscape and the sidewalk project and provided conceptual approval for both projects. We have also approved replacement of leaking skylights.

Given the absence of a minister and the limitations on use of our building as a result of Covid, Board members have also worked closely with our wonderful staff members both to provide appropriate policy guidance and to offer support and appreciation.

In anticipation of a return to embodied life by the fall, the Board in February engaged Amy Day to serve as HUUF's Director of Religious Education in 2021-22. We are delighted that Amy will be with us in this role.

*David Marshak, Co-President*

## Birth of a logo

I was delighted to have my logo design chosen by Fellowship members. It was a fun project: Create a logo for our particular Fellowship expressing the sentiments nurture, embody, and empower. A logo – any art – has to speak for itself, but I thought people might be interested in how this image materialized. It started with a pencil drawing, and through its many iterations, I felt as if I were an observer watching it take shape on its own.

The hands signify nurturing. They decided to connect themselves at the bottom of the circle, evoking human arms in a full embrace of the chalice.

The idea of a chalice with a tree for a base floated up from a distant memory of my life as a potter. About 40 years ago, while living in Illinois, I made goblets with a thrown top (the cup) and a handbuilt pedestal fashioned from a hunk of clay that I twisted and pulled into a tree shape with roots wide enough to provide stability. A chalice growing out of a tree seemed like the perfect symbol for our Fellowship in the redwoods. At first the roots were separate from the outer circle, but I watched them gradually stretch out and wrap themselves around the “arms,” confirming the intimate relationship between humans and nature.

Don't ask me how the top of the tree morphed into lotus leaves – it just happened. But it makes sense that an allusion to Eastern thought and practices would emerge from someone who has spent 40 years steeped in T'ai Chi and Taoism. Taoism is one of our spiritual sources, and I was happy to see the East/West connection represented.

I wanted the flame to be a real conflagration, signifying our empowerment – something urgently needed right now to push back against the evil that I sense in rising dominator/white supremacist/fascist elements in our society.

As for colors, the arms and hands needed to be green (living growth, and again our solidarity with the environment). The tree is dark brown, rooted in the earth. The white lotus leaves evoke the clarity and the purity of purpose that come from contemplation. The bowl is blue (a yin image of life-giving water). The flame of course is yellow, orange, and red (a yang image of assertiveness, power, illumination, and inspiration).

The process of creating the logo had the quality of a dream that I experienced and interpreted after the fact.

*Margaret Emerson*



## Endowment Grant awards

The Endowment Committee put out a request for submissions for grant applications in January 2021. This year the committee has funded three requests totaling \$3,135 from various HUUF members. Here is a list of the projects that will receive funding:

New locks and rekeying of the HUUF Building and Offices. Amount requested \$734.68. Rekeying will enhance the security of our physical resources in the HUUF building. This request will promote the safety and security of those who use our building.

Replacement of the failing Skylight in the HUUF sanctuary building. Amount requested \$1,400. The skylight will provide natural lighting to the interior space and replace an existing skylight which may soon have leakage problems.

Scholarships for the June 2021 Virtual UUA General Assembly. Amount requested \$1,000. This amount will cover 5 full scholarships for General Assembly. Attendance has the benefits of nurturing our members and helping them to embody our values as Fellowship members. The goal is to empower members to become active agents of change and to inspire more involvement in our Fellowship and our community.

The Endowment/Special Funds Committee welcomes your comments and feedback. The committee members include Cynthia Chason, Katherine Almy and Hart Mendenhall.

## Endowment Committee recognizes Howard Stauffer

Abundant thanks are due to Howard Stauffer for his many years of hard work on the Endowment Committee. His leadership was a guiding force in keeping us focused on our work with this committee. Howard's participation was important to the goal of growing our funds and caring out the important role of stewards for HUUF's Endowment Funds. During Howard's tenure the Fellowship increased the Endowment Fund to over \$100,000 thereby allowing annual grants for facility improvements and educational growth of our congregation. Our current General Endowment fund is \$127,500. Good luck to Howard in his future volunteer endeavors.

## It's time to celebrate

We have all experienced so much this past year. Remember to appreciate your adaptability, your strength, and your capacity for hope. And while you're at it, give a celebratory shout out to our bookkeeper Katherine Almy and to our administrator Bridgette Garuti. These two tended to HUUF's Paycheck Protection Program loan application from start to finish, ensuring the entire staff would continue to be paid in full and that our Fellowship would remain in its firm, financial foundation, despite a global pandemic. Officially, as of March 2021, HUUF's first draw PPP loan was forgiven and paid in full by the US Small Business Association. HUUF will not be participating in a second draw PPP loan because our Fellowship members have continued to finance the Fellowship so effectively this year. We thank all of you for this dedication, and we also thank the staff at Coast Central Credit Union. Remember to shop local.

*On behalf of the BOT, Your grateful Treasurer, Rebekah Paez*



## Sunday Services

### Sunday, April 4 – 11 a.m. – Long-term racial justice – The Rev. Tom Lewis

Martin Luther King Jr. warned that “the long arc of the moral universe bends toward justice” but it is not easy. However, he did not predict it would be this long. The end of Jim Crow lynchings, burnings and intimidations slowly disappeared with the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, resulting in landmark legislation and historical Supreme Court decisions.

Racial justice seemed on a path to realization, until last year with the vicious homicide of George Floyd seen by millions. Justice has been slowed, if not stopped, along the “long arc” in King’s metaphor. In our country, expression of systemic white racial hatred has led to centuries of violence toward African Americans. Yet, just maybe, with the Black Lives Matter movement, it appears something has awakened in white people to demand changes be made in police training, educational opportunities, housing policies and many other public programs that discriminate against African Americans. However there is one important step that is still needed to build solid, sustainable racial justice in America. What is that missing piece? Join the UUFC Zoom show on Sunday to find out.

Rev. Tom Lewis is a UU minister ordained by his home congregation – HUUF. He returned in 2020 to live near family, and is his gladly renewing old friendships and becoming active in HUUF, as well as continuing his social action engagements in the U.S. and abroad.

### Sunday, April 11 – 11 a.m. – Holding hands with The Muse: How music heals and fortifies us for these times – Lea Morris

Lea Morris is a singer, songwriter, parent, teacher and perpetual student, as well as the creator of a rich array of songs meant to uplift, educate, unify and inspire those of us who are called to do the work that is needed in this world. Come ready to experience a creative and interactive, multigenerational and musical service designed to reconnect us to each other and to the common heart of life we all share.

### Sunday, April 18 – 11 a.m. – The Gift of Service – David Marshak, HUUF co-president

This worship service will acknowledge and honor those who have kept HUUF alive over the past year as we have endured the limitations and exclusions of Covid 19: our wonderful staff and our volunteer leaders. The gathering will also consider the meaning of service for us as individuals and members of this Unitarian Universalist community.

### Sunday, April 25 – 11 a.m. – It Takes Practice – The Rev. Matt Meyer

Our favorite songs, whoever the artists or whatever the style, were created in a strange alchemy of study and inspiration, of strict practice and letting go. Spiritual practice is a similar combination of dedication, muscle memory, and perhaps a little divine inspiration. Join Rev. Matt Meyer for a musical exploration of learning to risk, building the muscle memory of courage, and the spiritual practice of relationship when things around us are changing fast.

Matt is a musician and worship leader who has led hundreds of services for UU congregations across the country. He has a degree in hand drumming and serves as Director of Community Life for Sanctuary Boston.





## Climate Action Campaign news

HUUF is runner up in the Sacred Grounds Steward category in the Interfaith Power and Light's 2021 Cool Congregation Challenge. Congratulations to all of us who over the years have put our hearts and UU based values into stewarding our HUUF campus relative to native landscaping and organic gardens; creating and fostering wildlife habitats; promoting water conservation; recycling and composting; and the many energy saving initiatives for all our buildings such as the solar panels, the EV charger, the switch to LED light bulbs, low flush toilets, auto light switches, the Wisconsin mound, and the many others too numerous to mention here. Interfaith Power and Light ([www.interfaithpowerandlight.org](http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org)) has over 22,000 member congregations across the country. Based in Oakland, it supports affiliates and individuals across the country in faith-based climate action. Although HUUF is a rural and relatively small congregation, we are a mighty congregation.

HUUF is to be featured as the spring "Congregational Highlight" by the California Interfaith Power and Light (CIPL) the spring for our climate action work. HUUF is a member CIPL, a network of almost 700 congregations of all faiths committed to addressing climate change as a moral issue. To receive the CIPL newsletter, sign up at [tinyurl.com/3sb629vv](http://tinyurl.com/3sb629vv).

CAC is co-sponsoring a zoom discussion on "How Will We Charge our Electric Vehicles?" on Monday, April 5, at 7 p.m. with 350 Humboldt and three researchers who currently work on EV charger access and equity issues in California. See Pat Carr's article in this newsletter for more details and registration information.

Thanks to Scarlett Trippsmith for adding updated info about CAC activities on the HUUF website.

Recent letters from CAC and HUUF members to the Humboldt County Association of Governments helped influence the Board's decision to incorporate ambitious greenhouse gas and vehicle miles traveled reduction targets into the upcoming Regional Transportation Plan update, and to reorganize the plan around the issues of climate, safety and equity.

CAC endorsed letters from the local Committee for Single Payer for All to Rep. Jared Huffman and Assemblyman Mike Wood, chair of the Health Committee, to request a meeting to identify their position and seek their support for single payer legislation. Climate change impacts all of us, especially marginalized populations, and our healthcare costs.

CAC has added our organizational endorsement to a petition to President Biden to take steps to reduce single use plastic and plastic production that would not require an act of Congress. For more information and to sign as an individual, see [www.plasticfreepresident.org/#join](http://www.plasticfreepresident.org/#join).

*Sue Lee Mossman*

## Where will we charge our electric cars?

HUUF's Climate Action Campaign will cosponsor a discussion by 350 Humboldt on ZOOM, "Electric cars could help save the world! But where will you charge them?" on Monday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m.

With cars and trucks pumping CO<sub>2</sub> into a warming atmosphere, California Gov. Gavin Newsom recently signed an Executive Order requiring that only Zero-Emission Vehicles will be sold in the state by 2035. While other technologies may qualify, only Electric Vehicles (EVs) are widely available now. With upfront costs declining and their range steadily increasing, EVs are quickly becoming competitive with gas-powered cars.

But where will EV buyers find a charge? And will public chargers be available to all, or limited to wealthy areas? EV researchers Chih-Wei Hsu, Anh Bui, and Derek Ichien will discuss the gap in access to public chargers in California and detail charger access in Humboldt County. They'll also present examples from across the nation of how charger access can be maximized, and propose what might work for Humboldt.

All three presenters are alumni of Humboldt State University and currently work on EV charger access and equitability issues in California. Visit 350 Humboldt's Facebook page, or go to: <https://tinyurl.com/EV-350Humboldt> to register for the free presentation.

The presentation is also cosponsored by EPIC, CRTP, 11<sup>th</sup> Hour, the Sierra Club's North Group, Cooperation Humboldt, and Temple Beth-El.

*Pat Carr*

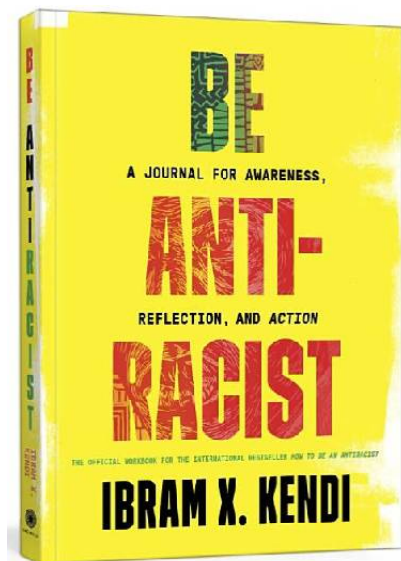
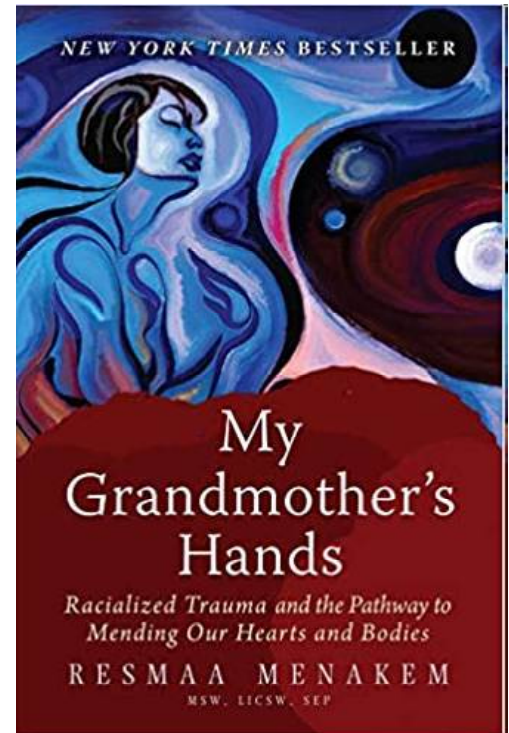
## Book recommendations

The February 25 Nonviolence Cafe focused on the lasting effects and treatment of historical, cultural, generational, and personal trauma. Some of the recommended books from that meeting may intrigue you.

- *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies* by Resmaa Menakem
- *The Body Keeps the Score* by Bessel van der Kolk, M.D.
- *Little Book of Trauma Healing: When Violence Strikes And Community Security Is Threatened* by Carolyn Yoder
- *Trauma Stewardship: An Everyday Guide to Caring for Self While Caring for Others* by Laura van Dernoot Lipsky
- *The Politics of Trauma* by Staci K. Haines
- *Healing Collective Trauma* by Thomas Hübl
- *Decolonizing Trauma Work: Indigenous Stories and Strategies* by Renee Linklater

If you are interested in recordings of this or previous Nonviolence Cafe sessions (one hour, typically) or if you would like to register (no charge) for the next Nonviolence Cafe, please visit Nonviolent Peaceforce at [https://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/component/pages\\_np/freeform/cafe](https://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/component/pages_np/freeform/cafe)

Chip Sharpe



## Be Anti-Racist

Ibram Kendi writes, “The heartbeat of antiracism is confession. It is self-reflection. It is realizing that there is no such thing as ‘not- racist,’ no such thing as race neutrality... No one becomes a racist or an antiracist. These are not fixed categories. We can be racist one moment and antiracist the next. What we say about the races, what we do about inequity determines what – not who – we are in each moment.”

We will engage through conversation with several of the exercises in Kendi’s workbook, *Be Anti-Racist: A Journal for Awareness, Reflection, and Action*. April 7, 21, and May 5 from 7:00-8:45 p.m. You will find the Zoom link for our meetings in HUUF’s Weekly email and in the HUUF website calendar. You may want to purchase the book, and you are just as welcome to participate without the book.

David Marshak

## Birding our Grounds

Your intrepid bird watchers are planning another bird walk around the HUUF grounds this month, on Friday, April 9, at 8:30 a.m. We'd be happy to have you lend your ears and eyes to the cause of documenting the birds that call HUUF home, for at least some of the year. We can't guarantee sunny weather, but we guarantee there will be an assortment of sights and sounds that will gladden your heart. Bring binoculars, a mask and dress for wet, soggy and uneven ground. We are observing Covid restrictions and limiting our group to six people. Email me at [polkaqueen@gmail.com](mailto:polkaqueen@gmail.com), if you are interested.

*Valerie Gizinski*

## Birdwatching In Copper Canyon

Little did we know  
What we didn't know  
That what they say is true  
Our time is short  
Everything ends  
What is it?  
Beak size, tail shape, eye stripe, song?  
You were the better spotter  
I, the auxiliary  
A partnership that worked  
Unfathomable to some  
Loose, taut, tangled, frayed, but never severed  
A bond like twisted sinew  
Little did we know  
What we didn't know  
That what they say is true  
Everything changes  
Everything ends



*Pat McCutcheon*

## People

Congratulations to **Libbi Miller**, HSU Professor of Education, whose article “Exploring critical reflection in a virtual learning community in teacher education” was published in the journal *Reflective Practice: International and Multidisciplinary Perspectives*.



# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Co-Presidents Berti Welty

David Marshak

Vice-President Sally Williams

Secretary Peter Gillis

Trustees Kate McClain, Chris West,

Debi Cooper

Treasurer Rebekah Paez

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 10¢ per word. Send your check to the HUUF office and email the text of your ad to [newsletter@huuf.org](mailto:newsletter@huuf.org).

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Rainbow water filter vacuum with attachments to use for rug/floor washing. Great for allergies; no bags to dispose of. Cost to you is a cash donation of any size you deem appropriate to HUUF. Call Cena at 616-3906 to see.

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Searching for a quieter place to live: a HUUF Friend, a nonsmoking woman with good rental references and stable income, would appreciate leads for finding a tiny house, cottage, extra unit, or apartment. She has training/experience in sustainable farming and in personal caregiving if that would be useful. Please contact me if you have ideas for rental possibilities anywhere in the Humboldt Bay Area. Thank you, Cathy Hanafi, [cbhanafi@yahoo.com](mailto:cbhanafi@yahoo.com) (or my phone number in the directory).

## Deadline information

Deadline for the **May** issue of the newsletter is Tuesday, **April 20** at 5 p.m. Send committee reports, announcements and articles related to HUUF (email only) to [newsletter@huuf.org](mailto:newsletter@huuf.org).

Many file formats are acceptable, but .doc, .docx, .rtf and text are preferred, and .pdf and .pages cannot be used. Late submissions are not accepted without prior approval. Full guidelines at:

<https://tinyurl.com/HUUFNewsGuide>

*Stephen Sottong, editor*