

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



To the beloved community

Stretching our love to include those we don't

Motivational speaker Jim Rohn popularized the idea that we are the “average” of the five people with whom we associate the most. What we can extrapolate from this notion is that if we want to change our lives, change the company we keep. Proximity breeds empathy. Our mirror neuron systems strike up and we begin to unconsciously assume behaviors, thought and speech patterns, and adopt some mannerisms of the folks who cross our paths on a regular basis. Similarly, the classic form of the Buddhist Metta (*Loving Kindness*) meditation invites us to visit five people inside the context of the practice.

We start with the self. Offering ourselves a whispered offering of peace, of safety, and of joy. “May I be happy. May I be well. May I be safe from harm.” We build up a groundswell of grace inside our own beings, put on the attitudinal oxygen mask before we venture out into the larger world to do the same.

Next we envision the face of “someone easy to love.” Often this takes the form of a child, or someone toward whom we have sentiments of goodwill and benevolence. “May you be happy. May you be well...”

In some traditions, we're invited to then move onto the visage of a teacher or mentor, someone who holds a place of honor and esteem in our hearts and lives. “May you be guided and protected. May you be enveloped in grace. May you be well...”

The circle continues to expand as we now envision the face of an acquaintance: maybe the guy you see at the checkout stand each week, the tall lady who delivers your mail, that plaintive neighbor down the road with the ornate brickwork by their door. “May you be happy. May you be well...”

And then we are invited to call to mind the face of someone with whom we are in conflict, someone who has brought difficulty into our world. And maybe we start small. Not difficult with a capital “D” (think: Trump or Netanyahu or that racist uncle from your childhood). But maybe begin with an accessible foe. Picture them. Breathe in their likeness and offer once more: “May you be happy. May you be well. May you be safe from harm...”

In an age largely governed and determined by algorithms, where the places we find ourselves (real or virtual) are well on their way to becoming homogenized echo chambers, how can we increase our spiritual “average”? Expand our reach so that our circle of compassion extends to include not just our immediate friends, but maybe even our adversaries, those we've managed to “other,” even the parts of ourselves we've managed to disavow.

If the path of self-improvement involves cherry picking our familiars, perhaps the path of community (and world) improvement asks us to get familiar with all that lies just beyond our comfortable and easy reach. Starting from the tender, vulnerable center, we're invited to create a mycelial web of

See “Beloved Community,” *back page*

April 2024

Women gather at HUUF

A few spaces still remain for the day-long retreat for women (and gender-fluid folks) at the Fellowship, **Saturday, April 13**, offered by Laura Phelan-Shahin and her longtime cohort Bobbie Spurlock. Participants can expect a day of ritual, deep dive discussions, expressive arts, snacks and fabulous company. Childcare is available. Requested donation is \$125, which includes lunch. See HUUF.org to find out more.

And if you desire a more immersive women's retreat experience, see the article on page 2 about HUUF's June 7-9 Women's Retreat.

Pledge Party coming soon

HUUF's annual pledge drive runs from April 1 to May 31, and to celebrate, we're organizing a party on **Saturday, May 18**. Bring family and friends to a picnic with music by Jasson Klingon-Smith's band and yummy food for purchase catered by chef Colleen Betts. Enjoy games for everyone and a Kid Zone for younger folks.

Pledge forms will be sent by mail with a letter from Board Co-Presidents Margy Emerson and Pat McCutcheon, along with an RSVP for the picnic. You can also pledge and RSVP to the party online at HUUF.org

More details about the picnic will be coming soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Women's Retreat along the Mattole, June 7-9

Join us for the rebirth of the HUUF Women's Retreat along the Mattole River June 7-9. Imagine a mix of stimulating workshops, fun crafts, inspiring worships, hikes, peaceful time relaxing by a peaceful river, and great fellowship. All female-identified individuals, ages 16 and up, are invited to the beautiful Mattole Retreat Center www.mattolecamp.com. In addition to cabins with bunk beds, spaces for tents and RVs are available for the same price. A swimming hole, volleyball court, and lots of shady trees will make for fun times and a large campfire area will be available for evening programs and campfire treats.

We will have many scheduled activities, but if you just want to kick back and enjoy doing nothing, that is fine too.

All meals are included. We will be doing our own cooking and everyone will be asked to pitch in to help with chores.

Cost: \$155. Come a day early for an unstructured day for an additional \$50. There may be some partial scholarships available. Must pay 50 % of cost upon requesting scholarship.

Deadlines: Request for scholarship deadline is **May 19**. Registration deadline is **June 1**. Don't miss the fun!

You may mail your registration form and deposit to Joanna Welch, 2945 Lowell St., Eureka, CA 95501 or return it to the registration table in the foyer. Online registration is also possible — see HUUF.org for more details.

Berti Welty



Climate Action Campaign

RCEA's biomass at the forefront

As Earth Day nears, we are reminded that we face three overlapping challenges: pandemic-related social programs are ending, racial injustice is on the increase, and the climate crisis is worsening.

Bouquets of spring blooms for everyone who has worked so hard on the local biomass issue: to local activist Dr. Wendy Ring, and to CAC co-chair Ann Kilby, who led the informative service on March 3. The same goes to all who attended or sent comments to Redwood Coast Energy Authority's (RCEA) recent meeting on biomass energy. At least 12 attended from HUUF and spoke against RCEA's inclusion of biomass energy in its portfolio. We want RCEA to cancel its contract with Humboldt Sawmill Company because of numerous air quality violations. RCEA's community advisory committee split on recommending cancellation to the utility's board of directors.

More information on this campaign's next steps will soon be posted on the Humboldt Coalition for Clean Energy website humboldtcleanenergy.org. CAC is one of 16 member groups of this coalition. For an online educational webinar on biomass, presented by Dr. Wendy Ring, see <https://tinyurl.com/humboldtbiomass>.

You can also read Dr. Ring's Biomass Fact Sheet "Biomass Power: Not Cool, Not Clean, Not Just" at <https://tinyurl.com/42v2sfck>. In addition to continuing efforts to eliminate local biomass energy, CAC members continue to seek an effective cap and trade program in California, as well as passage of S.B. 252. This bill would require that CalPERS (California Public Employees Retirement System) and CalSTRS (California State Teachers Retirement System) divest from fossil fuels.

Among the actions we can take in this month of Earth Day is joining California Interfaith Power and Light (CIPL) and pledging to vote with the climate in mind. We can sign the CIPL pledge at <https://action.interfaithpowerandlight.org/fcaw24votepledge>

Thanks to all as we care for one another to protect our planet's climate and life support systems and the health of our children and future generations.

Sue Lee Mossman, chair, Climate Action Campaign

Sunday Services

Sunday, April 7, 11:00 a.m.

The Many Faces of Shared Ministry – Margy Emerson

In October 2022, the HUUF congregation embarked on an innovative form of ministry. Two lay women were installed as a Shared Ministry Team. Amy Day and Bridgette Garuti had already proven their talents and dedication over years of serving the Fellowship. Their collaborative, non-hierarchical approach extends beyond themselves—it invites all HUUF members and friends to enter into the camaraderie and work of shared ministry.

In small groups, using our deep listening guidelines, we'll examine what “minister” and “ministry” mean to each of us. These questions are offered as possible springboards for conversation: When you hear the word “minister,” what image immediately comes to mind? Are you participating in or even facilitating a small-group ministry at HUUF (a committee or discussion group)? Do you welcome being in an environment of shared ministry on all levels?

Sunday, April 14, 11:00 a.m.

Reflections on the Journey of Shared Ministry

A mere 18 months ago, our congregation embarked upon a new path forward. Installing a female-led, Shared Ministry Team: with Bridgette Garuti as Director of Congregational Operations and Amy Day to serve as Director of Spiritual Life. Where has this path led us to date? What have we learned? Where have we grown? What new connections, opportunities and challenges have arisen as we strive to embody and grow this collaborative form of leadership? Join us as we trace the steps we've taken thus far, and look hopefully and joyfully to the ones we've yet to blaze.

Sunday, April 21, 11:00 a.m.

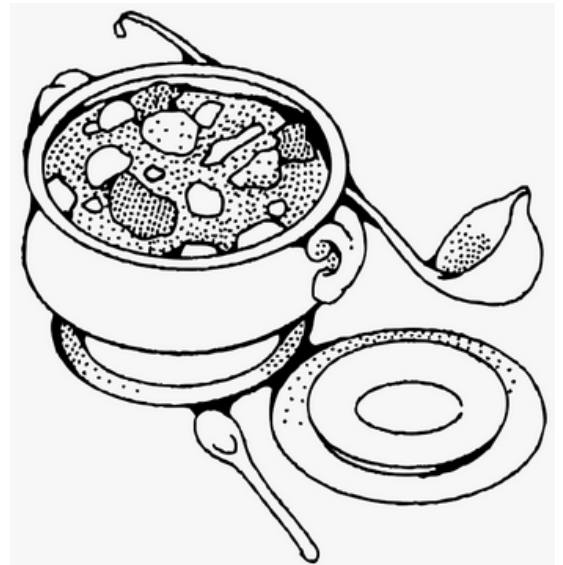
Alleviating Stress. – Berti Welty

While a little stress motivates us to accomplish things, we all know the pitfalls of too much stress in our lives. Few of us are so calm and centered that stress does not affect us in significant ways. While touching on the causes and effects of stress, the focus of this service will be the various ways that members of this congregation have found to alleviate stress. There will be a chance to practice a few of these.

Sunday, April 28, 11:00 a.m.

Stone Soup Sunday

Join us for this multigenerational celebration of community and all the gifts we each bring to the collective. In partnership with Arcata House, we will use a portion of our time to prepare meals for those experiencing homelessness in our region. We will send them off with a burbling and delicious pot of “stone soup” made from the ingredients that we bring forth. Bring an offering of chopped vegetables – from your own garden, farm-share, or your neighborhood produce section – to contribute to this sacred and communal feast. We will share stories and songs and sit down to break bread together. Let service be our prayer.



A voice from 50 of HUUF's 70 years

Why I support HUUF

I arrived in Arcata in 1973 with few skills and almost no money. But I knew what I wanted: a place to live; a job; and a UU congregation. Using the Yellow Pages, I found HUUF on my second day. The other two took somewhat longer.

From age 17 to 25 I'd been a member of the Greensboro Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, where I learned how central to my spiritual and political life was a body of fellow seekers and loving activists.

Here at HUUF, I was welcomed by a host of engaging and dedicated UUs, several of whom became lifelong friends and mentors. Wanting to fully participate in Fellowship life, I happily agreed to an annual pledge. I thought \$120 was pretty grand, as well as manageable. I figured I could come up with \$10 each month.

A year or more passed before I learned that my *UU World* subscription and my Association membership was costing HUUF more than I was contributing. That reality shook my hippie economics. I still believed "the universe will provide," but I saw that I needed to step up and do my part.

*Most important, this called for an assessment
of what HUUF meant to me*

To determine an appropriate amount, I looked at the question from various angles: What was the per capita cost if each member bore an equal share? What percentage would I tithe from my income? How much more than my "fair share" could I successfully pledge? And most important, this called for an assessment of what this Fellowship meant to me: A sanctuary for individual seekers, those exploring alternative ways of seeing or being and those who have felt at odds with conventional beliefs or practices.

A place to gather for quiet reflection and lively interchanges. An opportunity to sing. A center from which can arise brave expressions of conscientious support for life as it ought to be. A family that can minister with patience, understanding, and forgiveness while challenging us to be of greater service to our ideals. A village that nurtures and welcomes children as they grow into their natural selves. A beacon for surrounding communities, beckoning them to join in pursuit of peace and justice. A birthing place for new ideas and fresh services to the larger community.

HUUF members have been central to creating durable and essential services, such as the:

Humboldt Senior Resource Center,
Funeral Consumers Alliance of Humboldt,
Humboldt Mediation Services.

I want us to guarantee that HUUF will continue to be here for future seekers and love bearers. I'm determined to make up for my measly pledge amount of fifty years ago and I also include this Fellowship in my will.

Thank you for joining me in loving this place.

Chip Sharpe

Pastoral/community care workshop with Karen Harris and Gage Bock

Join us Sunday April 21, 1:30-5:30 p.m. for "Listening with the Heart," aimed at equipping participants with the skills, confidence (and a certificate of completion!) and practice they need to offer grounded and compassionate care to those in crisis. As we continue to move through these times, it becomes imperative that we build the skills needed for not just individual, but also collective care and resilience. Participants will learn the basic skills of active listening, asking powerful questions, recognizing the impacts of trauma, and how to resource ourselves so that we can better serve the beloved community. Suggested donation is \$65, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Please see HUUF.org or contact Amy (comm@huuf.org) for more information.

Membership 101 on April 14

HUUF's Membership Committee invites you to a Membership 101 class on Sunday, April 14, after the service. All are invited: visitor, friend, recent member or long-time member. We will share stories and expectations, build relationships and community. In addition to learning about Unitarian Universalism and our Humboldt Fellowship, this class provides an opportunity for long-time members to engage in "re-membership," like a renewing of vows. With the newness of Spring and the constant change, now is the best time to lean into the promise of community and centering of values. Please join us with a sack lunch and come ready for deep listening and sharing in a small group. Childcare will be provided.

Rebekah Paez

The many sources of Unitarian Universalism, from the February 8 program

I've often thought that the listed Unitarian Universalist sources for inspiration and guidance are best illustrated by sharing perspectives with real, live people, whose world view may be different than my own. Within our congregation there are people from many spiritual paths, or none. In putting together the service on February 18 I wanted those varying voices to be heard.

In addition to those who spoke and whose words you will see below, there are many other perspectives here at HUUF. I feel blessed to be around this diversity. While chatting, washing dishes, pulling weeds, or planning Sunday services, I am exposed to ideas and concepts not simply found in books, but that come alive in individuals.

Roberta Welty

As a practicing Catholic and Unitarian Universalist member, I sometimes feel like the anchovies on our Fellowship's figurative pizza with the works: definitely an acquired taste and not for everyone. Although my participation in the Catholic Church has waxed and waned over the years, lately I feel I can use all the spiritual help I can get. Because the UU principles resonate more closely with my sociopolitical views, I benefit by being exposed to and acting upon what they represent. The intertwining of these two faith traditions enables me to wrestle with the transcendental versus scientific nature of being.

Upon entering the doors of the Fellowship for the first few times, I felt as John Denver sings in the song *Rocky Mountain High*, "Coming home to a place he'd never been before..." I love the church of my childhood and am grateful for the strength it provides in times of need. Now I feel doubly blessed to find and belong to a religious home that more comfortably and closely reflects my adult values.

Michael Caouette

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A few weeks ago Berti approached me and asked, "What is your theology?" I reflexively said, "Nature-Based Spirituality." Someone nearby overheard our conversation and queried, "Isn't that just Pagan or Wiccan?" I thought for a moment and blurted "Well, not really—I don't do covens, I'm more of a solitary pagan."

Later, while walking it came to me that if Pagan spirituality celebrates sacred time — the rotation of the seasons and temporal transitions in Nature, my personal theology is about sacred space: places where the Spirit of Nature emerges and fills us with love.

It has always been that way for me. I grew up in a dysfunctional, nature-abhorring home. My parents never went outside. In the home they entertained and played bridge, and set strict schedules of meals, catching the school bus, and bedtime. I thwarted their rules by spending much of the day in the woods outside. Once, when my mom rang the brass triangle signaling dinner, I picked up a garter snake and brought it home. My mom fainted from fear.

As a teen I spent endless hours lying under an oak tree next to a stream, imagining meeting like-minded souls. Jumping ahead to seminary in Berkeley, I discovered an affinity for Nature Spirituality and sought solace in the creeks and redwoods that dot the Bay Area hills. Special places indeed; locations and pilgrimages that Japanese psychologists call "Forest Bathing." There is even a term in ecopsychology that describes such yearning experience: topophilia, from *topos* meaning place and *philia* meaning love.

Now I better understand the theological richness of our Fellowship: from the Pagan sacred rotation of time, to the ecological love of sacred space. We embrace both in our loving community.

Roy King

* * * * *

When I became a parent I knew I wanted my children to have a spiritual education that took the best of my Catholic training of 12 years. The essence of Catholicism that mattered to me was a life centered in justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love. We had relocated to Humboldt when our two children were very small. We came to the Fellowship in search of a community, and very quickly I found my tribe.

During that time in the middle of a dark night when I couldn't stop my mind from churning, I read the book *Touching Peace*, by Thich Nhat Hanh. It was just what I needed to help quiet my mind.

But a busy life kept me from developing a regular practice until I saw a notice in the *HUUF Newsletter* saying that longtime members Richard and Ginger Kossow were forming a meditation group. We've been going strong ever since, and meet here at the Fellowship weekly.

As Unitarian Universalists, we are encouraged to embrace and practice forms of spirituality that resonate with our hearts and minds. For me, that is both Buddhism and Unitarian Universalism, where I find a deep peace by reflecting in meditation, and in giving service working for justice and the environment.

Valerie Gizinski

See "Sources," next page

Day of Mindfulness coming May 4

The Ancient Forest Sangha is offering the community a spring Day of Mindfulness at HUUF on Saturday, May 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Join us for a day of mindful meditation, relaxation, and deep listening led by Dharma Teacher Alexa Singer-Telles. Our theme will be the diamond couplet Spacious Mind, Inclusive Heart, chosen by the Plum Village Community to inspire and nurture our mindfulness practice throughout the year. Suggested donation for the event is \$35; attendees are asked to bring a vegetarian sack lunch.

The Ancient Forest Sangha is a mindfulness meditation group in the Vietnamese Buddhist tradition of Zen teacher Thich Nhat Hanh. We meet from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. on the second, third, and fourth Thursdays of the month in the sanctuary at HUUF. On the first Thursdays we enjoy the teachings of Alexa from the comfort of our homes, via Zoom. Potlucks are usually held on the occasional fifth Thursday. To find out more about weekly gatherings or to register for the Day of Mindfulness, please visit our website: <https://ancientforestsangha.org>. Or call me, at (707) 825-7446. If you are new to meditation, our website has a wealth of helpful information, including readings and links to books and videos.

Valerie Gizinski

Sources, continued from page 5

Although not truly Pagan (coming from ancient western European ways), I am honored to participate in CUUPS, and I find room to connect with billions of people embracing various Earth-based ways around the world. I also swim in other streams, both Nature-based and several forms of Buddhist focus.

I was brought up as a seeker, my parents having explained that we could expect to realize some valuable ideas, but not to find a truthful dogma. We found some ideas and inspirations by attuning to the natural world. Others came to us through new family members marrying in: Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese. Still others we found individually by reflection and study, and through encountering new friends and groups. In all these aspects my path has been similar to many other people's: no two alike, yet we can all commune well, having shared the experiences of seeking, attuning, and receiving.

The specific value I experience in Earth-based practices is about relating constructively to the huge problems and severe desperations in this world. In Earth-based practices, we constantly invoke and thank for ongoing support to align ourselves with energies and send creative love. Practicing so, we take heart.

Ann Kilby

All I can do is use my reasoning abilities to try and understand the world. My basic beliefs are in nature and humanism. Compassion for human suffering is my starting point. There is so much suffering in the world, I can't believe there is a merciful, all-powerful God. In my college years I studied biology and the scientific view of life made more sense to me than religious explanations. I thought that if there were a merciful, all-powerful God, how could a baby be stillborn? This totally innocent human being has done nothing wrong but received no mercy from the universe. The scientific explanation of a medical problem made more sense. Also, the fact that there are so many gods, points to a cultural construction rather than universal truth.

My ultimate is nature and I think science is best at explaining natural phenomena. I don't believe in ghosts or anything supernatural, like heaven or hell. I sincerely hope no one is offended by these atheistic ideas. Let me end by saying there is no one prescribed "atheism." There are probably as many different views of atheism as there are atheists. I am very grateful to Unitarians for acceptance of non-believers.

Doug Carroll



Trillium Falls Loop Day Hike

TEEN SERVICE APRIL 14

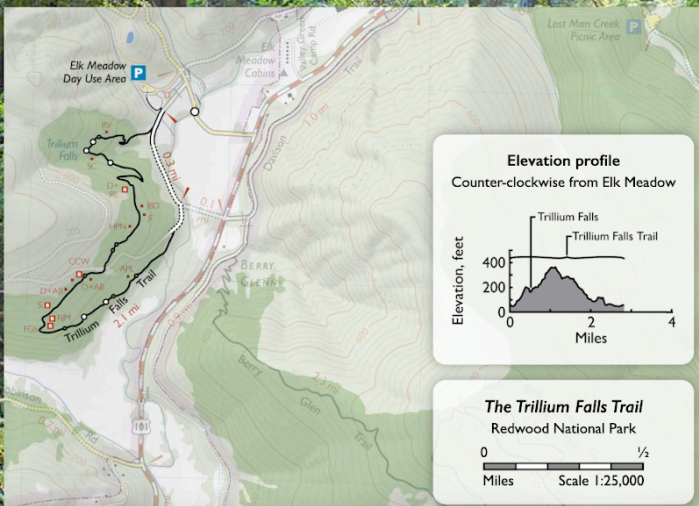
A full hiking day on April 14th for teens and family. I'll be leading a hike on a 3-mile loop around Trillium Falls. It is a moderate hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft and offers a beautiful view of the redwood forest, a small waterfall, and an elk viewing station. Please RSVP so I can set up rides and get all the information together. Thank you!

PLEASE BRING

- water bottle
 - good hiking shoes
 - packed lunch
 - sun or rain protection
- (depending on the weather)

ITINERARY

- 11:00 Meet at HUUF, pick-up
- 11-11:50 Drive to the trailhead:
258 Davidson Rd, Orick, CA 95555
- 11:50-2:00 Trillium Falls Loop and
stop for lunch at viewing platform
- 2:00-3:30 Drive back to HUUF,
family pick-up



RSVP

TEXT OR
CALL AT
619 337 5117

Bellamy Devine is offering a wonderful, immersive experience for our Teens and Tweens (and their families) this month, but RSVPs are required. Take a look and let us know if you can join the hike.

Notes from the HUUF Board

Our Board meeting on Tuesday, March 12, was attended by Pat McCutcheon, Margy Emerson, Jason Teraoka, Chris Chapin, and Director of Spiritual Life Amy Day.

Pat McCutcheon edited a sample letter from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in support of a ceasefire in Gaza, putting her personal touch on it so it could be submitted to news outlets in our area. It will be appearing shortly, and Chris Chapin hopes to read it during the public announcement time on KMUD radio.

As of this writing the Board is preparing for the March 24 Congregational Meeting, at which we will discuss converting to all-gender restrooms and elect the new slate of Board members. Also planned for discussion at the Congregational Meeting is HUUF's support for a ceasefire in the Middle East. We seek to reach a consensus on this issue.

Our fundraising effort on the UUA platform Faithify, <https://www.faithify.org/campaign/312/care-force-free-dental-clinic> is

now up and running. On it, we hope to raise \$10,000 in support of Rev. Tom Lewis' California Careforce free vision and dental clinic. So far we have raised \$3,569, with 43 days yet to go. Please save some time on July 12-13, between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., to help with this humanitarian project, a great chance to put our UU principles into action.

Our next Board meeting will be on April 9, 7:00 p.m., in person in the HUUF Sanctuary. The first 30 minutes are provided for members to share their ideas and concerns with the Board.

Chris Chapin, Board Secretary



Art at the Fellowship

The Sanctuary walls are adorned with flowers. A delightful way to welcome spring. Come take a look at the new gallery collection of mixed media paintings entitled "Spring Flowers" by artist (and RE Teacher) Debborah Kallish. A graduate of Humboldt State University with a major in Art, Debbi has lived and painted in Trinidad for over 30 years. Her works are for sale.

Calling all Fellowship artists!

Sharpen your pencils. Get out your canvas and paint. The aesthetics committee will be hosting HUUF's annual All Fellowship Art Show in May. All members and friends are welcome to submit one or two entries. Children are encouraged to submit their work too! All submissions must be framed and ready to hang. If you plan to enter a submission or have any questions, email the HUUF office (office@huuf.org) or Cheryl Rau (cpetersonrau@gmail.com). Plan to drop off your art submissions April 22, 23 or 24 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. or on April 28 after Sunday service. With each entry please include your name, the artwork title, medium used and pricing, if for sale.

Redwood Pride at the Fellowship

The Pancake Agenda is back. Redwood Pride will hold their Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser once again on April 28 from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Advance tickets \$15. Serving bacon, eggs, coffee, sausage and LOTS of pancakes!.. Gluten free and vegetarian options available. For more information see redwoodpride@inkpeople.org

Take some time to show you care

The Caring Circle has put together a survey to gain understanding of current needs within HUUF. If you have things you'd like to share (or things that you could use), take a moment to fill out the form included here:

HUUF Caring Circle Survey

Please fill out this form if you are looking for or can offer help/support/connection to fellow HUUF members and friends. The Caring Circle Committee will review our Congregation's needs/offerings and work together to connect people for mutual support.

What are you needing and/or able to offer?

- Pick up prepaid items and deliver. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____
- Donate (and/or deliver) food or supplies. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____
- Walk or feed my pet. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____
- Chat/check in once a week via text, phone, zoom or email. Offer _____
Need _____ Both _____
- Visit and maybe play a board game. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____
- Small physical labor around my house or property. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____
- A ride to Sunday services. Donate (and/or deliver) food or supplies. Offer _____ Need _____
Both _____
from Eureka _____ Arcata _____ McKinleyville _____ Other _____
- Help with child care. Offer _____ Need _____ Both _____

Other, or details you'd like to share:

Contact information

Name(s): _____

Please provide an email, phone number or Facebook URL where neighbors/HUUF can reach you:

Location Please share your general location to help people who live close to each other connect:

Do you consent to this information being shared in a roster? Yes ___ No ___

Please place the completed form in the Caring Circle box in the foyer. This form is also available online on the HUUF's website. You may also mail this form to HUUF at p.o. box 506 Bayside, CA 95524

Thank you for your input, if you have a more immediate need we recommend you call the office at 707-822-3793.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 506
Bayside, CA 95524

24 Fellowship Way, Bayside (off Jacoby Creek Rd.)

(707) 822-3793 <https://huuf.org>

email: office@huuf.org

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Monday-Wednesday, noon-4:00, appointments preferred;
Thursday by email only, at: office@huuf.org

Director of Spiritual Life: Amy Day
on campus Tuesday and Thursday, email:
comm@huuf.org

Membership Director: Rebekah Paez, on campus
Tuesdays 10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m., Monday/Friday by
appointment; email: connect@huuf.org

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Letter to Newsletter readers

I want to thank all of the HUUF members and friends who sent Debby and me condolence cards regarding my sister Gale's recent untimely death while snorkeling. Probably most of you never met Gale, she was 18 months my junior, sang in three choirs, was in two book groups and traveled the world over with her husband Greg (it's a small world – Debby's brother is also Greg).

Gale was active in several environmental groups, her local library, local Planned Parenthood chapter and just a great sister and sister-in-law. We're going to miss her immensely. Although Greg and Gale were not the least bit religious, Gale's Celebration of Life is fittingly, from my point of view, going to take place in April at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation building in Olympia Washington, where they lived. Again, thank you all.

Greg Blomstrom

Beloved Community, continued from page 1

love and care; to remember, in thought and action, that we belong to one another. Mary Oliver's call to remember our place "in the family of things" becomes a call to action, to creation. Slowly, a new and better world takes form.

Yours in grace and gratitude, your shared ministry team,

Amy Day and Bridgette Garuti