

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A note from the minister

May 2016

The late UU poet Ric Masten wrote a great hymn called: “Let it Be a Dance.” One of the lines of that poem is, “Everybody turn and spin, let your body learn to bend and like a willow with the wind, let it be a dance.”

I think of that poem and that line now because change is so much with us and learning to dance with change is one of the major challenges in life.

In one congregation where I served, a father came to talk with me about helping his young son deal with the upset of moving to a new house. “He wants everything to stay just like it is,” the father said, “and I don’t blame him. I often feel the same way.”

So we talked about asking his son what he loved about their current house and what he could take with him. We talked about rooms and the yard. We talked about things and experiences. We talked about memories and relationships. We talked about animals and people and the feeling of being loved and held by family. We talked about snapshots and movies and the ongoing moments of now. We talked about the sadness of old things passing away and about the excitement of new things coming into being.

The father and I both agreed change is both challenging and amazing, and we are never in total control. Ric Masten said: “the Morning star comes out at night. Without the dark, there is no light. If nothing’s wrong then nothing’s right. So let it be a dance.”

Love and good thoughts to you all as we dance on,

Rev. Bryan Jessup



We’re mobile friendly

Do you access the internet through your phone or a tablet? Then you’ll be pleased to know the HUUF website is now mobile friendly. The pages have been adjusted so that they are readable on mobile devices as well as desktop and laptop computers. If you find a page that’s difficult to view on your mobile device, contact me and I’ll try to adjust it for better visibility.

Stephen Sottong

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Editor’s note

This edition is both especially short and colorful. I hope more people contribute next month, but, in the meantime, take a look at this month’s on the website to enjoy the full experience.

Stephen Sottong

People

We welcome our newest member **Emily Johnstone**.

Thank you to **Chip Sharpe, Sue Mossman** and others who are so wonderful to pass along news about members who have moved such as the following notes.

David Sloane, the son of **Betty and John Sloane**, who were long-time members of HUUF, and then moved to Grass Valley several years ago to be closer to family, emailed to say that Betty died in early March, and that John is in a skilled nursing facility, but they expect he will be able to return to assisted living in a week or two. David asked me to please let the Fellowship know because his parents loved being part of this Fellowship.

Dave says that John likes to talk on the phone though he has some dementia and may not remember everyone. His new cell phone is 530-277-5258.

John's new address at assisted living is:

150 Sutton Way, #112

Grass Valley, CA 95945

June Davis, in Honolulu, recently broke her leg and is temporarily on crutches.

Congratulations to **Stephen Sottong** for being awarded the Richard Cortez Day Advisor's Prize for the best work of fiction in the 2016 HSU Toyon. The story is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/ToyonFog>

Our thoughts are with member **Cathy Hanafi** as she recovers in San Francisco from successful heart surgery at UCSF.

Thank you to **Bryan Jessup** who reminded the Caring Circle to do thank-yous, including to ourselves.

Thank you to the many givers of wealth and time for those in and out of HUUF. Just to mention a few: **Chip Sharpe, Richard and Ginger Kossow, Awanna Kalal, Stephen Sottong, Margy Emerson**. Many more are to be celebrated next month.

Thank you to **Elisabeth Harrington** and a cast of many who created Music Sunday.

Sylvia Shaw

Board minutes

Your Board met on April 12 with a very full agenda of budget, ministerial contract process, governance review, draft personnel manual and Board member changes. It was confirmed there will be a significant surplus in the 2015-16 budget which the Board intends to use for personnel pay boosts and equity fund reserve paybacks. The Board supported an 8-step process for reviewing the ministerial contract and set a Congregational meeting on **May 22**, between services, to renew the ministerial contract. Governance review and the draft personnel manual were scheduled for upcoming Board meetings. Barbara Madaras announced she is leaving as the Board Vice President.

Sylvia Shaw

SAC April brunch

We are celebrating the diversity of salad this month. Vegetable salad, fruit salad, tofu salad, potato salad, tuna salad, and whatever other kinds of salad our wonderful HUUF cooks can dream up. There may even be some warm varieties of salad. And be sure to expect some scrumptious surprises. Come join us for enjoyable food and community, following the second service on Sunday, **May 15**. Please allow at least 10 – 15 minutes for food to be brought from kitchen and arranged on tables.

Recommended donation is \$5 per adult and \$1 per child. Proceeds from this brunch will go to Humboldt Domestic Violence Services, a non-profit agency serving those affected by and dedicated to the elimination of domestic violence.

Eve Anderson

Religious Education

May 1: Exploration Sunday

Preschool: We are UU

What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? What does it mean to you?

Kdg-3:

We will celebrate May Day by making paper flowers and May Day cones to put the flowers in and decorate for the Stewardship Celebration after service.

3-5:

This week we will add sand paper to our toolbox. What does sandpaper do? Why do we use it? How could it relate to how we interact with others? Come find out. We will begin to plan for our Milestone ceremony.

May 8: Friendship Sunday/Mother's Day

All Ages will gather together to play games and make cards for those who are important to us.

May 15: Exploration Sunday

We will group by classrooms to review our year and practice for our Milestone Ceremony.

May 22: Social Action Sunday

Our last time to cook together this year for the Night Shelter. Come have fun and help others.

May 29: Friendship Sunday

We will enjoy games outside and inside.



Teens:

May 1: Guest speaker. Teens and Intermediates meet together

May 8: No meeting.

May 15: Intermediates will meet during the service and teens from 12:30-1:30. We will be discussing the messages (subtle and not-so-subtle) in Disney films.

May 22: Intermediates will meet during the service and teens from 12:30-1:30. We will play some games, and spend time outside connecting with each other and the Earth. Hopefully we will be taking a trip down to Jacoby Creek, so come prepared.

May 29: No meeting. Happy Memorial Day

Parenting Together

Please join us for Parenting Together on Sunday, **May 15** from 1-3 p.m. in the Redwood Roots meeting room. Jamila Tharp will lead a discussion that will focus on the topic of inevitable rupture and the opportunities for repair with our child as a pathway to Peace of Mind Parenting and as a means for greater closeness with our child. Grab some lunch at the Social Action Committee potluck after the service and then come to the Redwood Roots meeting room by 1 p.m. If you have general questions contact me at alison.odowd@humboldt.edu. If you would like childcare during the meeting, please RSVP to our Childcare Coordinator Jen Mager at jen9510021@hotmail.com by May 8. This is our last parenting gathering until next fall. All are welcome.

Alison O'Dowd

Art and Aesthetics

The art exhibit for May is the "Annual Childrens' Show." The prompts given to the Children were, "What animal would you be?" and "Make a mask of the animal." There were a number of pictures of animals and of masks available for the children to examine. Thanks as always to the volunteers who assisted this creative process. The results as you will see are pretty amazing. I am still seeking a few artists with nicely framed art for June and July. And I am taking proposals for next cycle that begins in August. Cheryl Rau 826-7107

Sunday Services

May 1 – 9 and 11 a.m.

The Power and Light of May Day – Worship Associates

Renee Saucedo, a long-time community organizer and advocate, will share her perspective on the meaning of May Day and how immigrant communities have “reclaimed” International Workers Day. She will share some of the main challenges facing the Latino immigrant community, locally and nationally, and she will talk about how immigrant workers are building power and making changes. The congregation will also surround ourselves with flowers, reminding us of the warmer, brighter days to come.

May 8 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Mother’s Day – Worship Associates

No information was available at the deadline.

May 15 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Pentecost and Why It Might Matter – Rev. Bryan Jessup

Fifty days after the Hebrews escaped Egypt they received the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Fifty days after the Resurrection, Jesus’s follower’s received the “Spirit” at Pentecost. It was a spirit of love and care for all creation and it spoke in many tongues. What might the Christian myth of Pentecost have to teach us?

May 22 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Why Bother With Consensus? – Rev. Bryan Jessup

In this congregation’s by-laws and in its covenant, the congregation’s early members called on themselves to conduct their meetings, as much as possible, by consensus. These early members gave the congregation a way “out” if consensus was not possible, but their intent was clearly to build consensus as much as possible. But consensus requires a lot of work and maturity from everyone. Why do you suppose the early members thought working this way was worth the effort? And how can consensus work as the congregation grows?

May 29 – 9 and 11 a.m.

Lessons on Memorial Day – Rev. Bryan Jessup

We all die. On Memorial Day, though, we remember some of our dead more than others. Why? What kind of people does our society want us to remember? What kind of people actually stay with us in our thoughts? What might the people we remember tell us about how to live? In this service we will consider these things.



Carpooling and transportation to HUUF events

In an effort to raise consciousness about energy use and ensure that all our members and friends have rides to HUUF events your Caring Circle is:

- encouraging you to share rides and,
- encouraging you to call a member of the Caring Committee if you need a ride to an event - Debi Cooper 633-6355, Nancy Engel 839-5789, Roxana Hand 267-4667, Rev. Bryan Jessup 822-3793.



HUUF Events – May 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Foyer Celebration 9 & 11 am Services 12:30 Teen Group 1 pm OWL 6:30 pm Private Event	2 7 pm Sources of Our UU Faith	3 6:30 pm Private Event	4 10:30 am Private Event 1:30 pm Crafts Group * 7 pm Choir	5 7 pm Financial Peace 7 pm Thursday Reflections	6 9 am Private Event	7 9 am Worship Leaders Mtg. 1 pm Garden Work Party
8 Mothers Day 9 & 11 am Services 6 pm Movie Night 1 pm SAC Mtg.	9 7 pm Sources of Our UU Faith	10 5:30 pm Board Mtg.	11 10:30 am Private Event 10:30 pm Ministerial Relations 7 pm Choir	12 7 pm Financial Peace 7 pm Thursday Reflections	13 9 am Private Event	14 8:30 am Men's Group 5:30 Private Event
15 9 & 11 am Services 12:30 SAC Brunch 12:30 Teen Group 1 pm Parenting Together * 6:30 pm Private Event	16 10:30 am Membership Committee Mtg. 7 pm Sources of Our UU Faith	17 6:30 pm Private Event	18 10:30 am Private Event 10:30 pm Ministerial Relations 7 pm Choir 7 pm Private Event	19 7 pm Financial Peace 7 pm Thursday Reflections	20 9 am Private Event	21 9 am Private Event 1 pm Garden work Party
22 9 & 11 am Services 10:10 am Congregational Mtg. 12:30 pm Aging w/ Grace 12:45 RE Cmte. Mtg.	23 7 pm Sources of Our UU Faith	24 Earth Day 10:15 am Caring Circle 7-9 pm Earth Day Eco Gathering	25 10:30 Private Event 10:30 pm Ministerial Relations 7 pm Choir	26 7 pm Financial Peace 7 pm Thursday Reflections	27 9 am Private Event	28 8:30 am Men's Group 9-5 Fellowship Work Day
29 9 & 11 am Services *1 pm OWL	30 Memorial Day 7 pm Sources of Our UU Faith	31 5:30 pm Op. Team Mtgs.				* not at HUUF



The Ingathering Ceremony

HUUF epic movie nights

Epic movie nights is in the process of revamping for the summer, and I would like to hear from you. If you never came to a movie night, was it because of the day and/or time? Since there hasn't been a big turnout of community members to these events, is there a day and time that would be better? Please contact Debi Cooper with your input.

Debi Cooper



UU Canoe

Our Coleman Expedition 146 canoe, 15 feet long, comfortable with three passengers but can carry four safely, is now residing in Manila. To borrow this canoe, with its two paddles, contact Rev Bryan Jessup. Bring suitable personal flotation devices and a way to safely transport the canoe.

For more information, you may also contact chipsharpe@sbcglobal.net

Deadline info

Deadline for the **June** issue of the newsletter is Friday, **May 20**, 5:00 p.m. Send your committee reports and articles to newsletter@huuf.org. Acceptable file formats are .doc, .docx, .rtf and text **only**. Late submissions will not be accepted. Crisp, clear graphics should be sent as a separate file, not embedded in your article.

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.

Member bio

I was the only child of a New England liberal, union-supporting family with family ties to Connecticut back to the 1700's. I grew up in Florida and feel there is a balance in one's perspective that can be gained from connections to the East and West coasts. I came to Humboldt County in 1978. I was drawn to this area by the rural, southern Humboldt, back-to-the-land lifestyle. But, alas, the reality of working and supporting myself brought me to Eureka and I pursued a career in social services. My passion for work in social justice led me to twenty years with Food for People/ Food Bank. I met my life companion and future wife, Bonnie MacGregor, through the state-wide California food bank network. She joined me here in 1988. Our desire to be part of a spiritual community brought us to HUUF in 1998. I was drawn to this congregation initially by the welcoming philosophy towards the LGBTQ community and the social justice focus of UU's. Currently, I'm happy to offer my interest, experience and skills with budgets and finances by serving as your Treasurer.

Cynthia Chason



New member bio

I moved to Humboldt County after living in Birmingham, Michigan for the first forty years of my life. When my brother graduated from HSU, I visited and fell in love with the environment and the people. Before I moved to Humboldt County, I had never heard of Unitarian Universalism. I simply had the good fortune of moving next door to Thea and Jim Gast. The first time I came to HUUF with Thea was to hear Rabbi Naomi Steinberg's stories. The next time was to enjoy Karen Harris's blessed Earth Day service. I became a member right away, not only because of the diversity of services that I came to cherish, but also because everyone was so friendly and welcoming. That was over six years ago. Now, the Fellowship has come to mean even more to me. Aside from my brother and his friends, every single person I know in this county, I met because of the Fellowship. You are my blessed, beloved community and I am so very grateful to you all.

Debi Cooper





Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Minister: Rev. Bryan Jessup

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

822-3793 minister@huuf.org

Director of Religious Education: Jillian Mooney

Board of Trustees:

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Newsletter Editor Stephen Sottong

newsletter@huuf.org

Calendar Editor Roxana Stengl

CLASSIFIED ADS

Debi Cooper is offering free Reiki healing sessions to the HUUF community. Please call for more info at 633-6365

Help Wanted

I need someone for hand-weeding in my Eureka flower garden. The pay is \$15 an hour. Awanna Kalal 442-4530 or awanna@aol.com

Congregational meeting

May 22 at 10:10 a.m. at the Fellowship. The purpose of the meeting is to pass the 2016-17 budget and affirm the Board's 2016-17 contract with the minister.

Campaign completion celebration

Come one, come all to the Sunday, **May 1** Fellowship celebration party of our annual campaign completion. The Fellowship will be decked out with an assortment of blooms and we ask that you bring flowers to share. We'll gather after both services for cake, ice cream and good times. Lets watch our beloved community bloom and grow.

Debi Cooper