

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



## To the Beloved HUUF Community

### **Your membership here is a verb**

On paper, our Fellowship community is comprised of roughly 130 or so members. These are folks who at one point or another felt a stirring in their heart and made a formal commitment to belong to this place. Maybe they read our covenant. Maybe they filled out a pledge form, or signed up to take a new member class or joined a committee, or all of the above. Hopefully, they sat in conversation with a trusted spiritual companion and talked about the covenantal nature of our faith tradition. One which asks, not that you profess a particular creed, but rather that you show up to participate in the work such commitment calls us to. We gather not merely as individuals who have found a place to belong, but as people answering a deeper call—one that extends beyond personal comfort into the sacred work of mutual flourishing. When we ask, as Quaker Douglas Steere suggests, not just *Who am I?* but rather *Whose am I?* we move from self-absorption to relationship, from isolation to interdependence. This question transforms our presence here from casual attendance to sacred accountability. We are not here for ourselves alone, but for those whose lives are inextricably bound to ours, visible and invisible, known and unknown.

Membership inside a faith community transcends any single identity or role. It is the life-giving, ongoing decision that calls us to show up to the messy, beautiful work of building beloved community. This is not membership as mere affiliation, but covenant as living commitment—a promise to bring our time, our energy, our unique gifts, and our collective wisdom to the work of healing and strengthening our world. Each of us carries within us the capacity to caretake in the deepest sense: to nurture new possibilities, to protect what is vulnerable, and to guide one another toward greater wholeness.

This commitment calls us beyond the easy comfort of familiarity into the challenging grace of authentic relationship. It asks that we see our one-time membership statement not as a one-and-done, singular transaction, but as a living practice—that we walk forward with greater awareness, greater humility, and *See “Beloved Community,” next page*

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work*

## **Congregational meeting, Sunday, June 28**

HUUF asks that you attend a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 28, immediately following the service, to consider two members recruited by the Nominating Committee to join the Board of Trustees: David Sinn, nominated to serve as a trustee, and Dot Campbell, nominated to serve as Vice President. (See short bios of both in this issue on page 4.) The proposed budget for the upcoming year will also be presented and considered for consensus approval by the congregation.

The members of the Nominating Committee (Pat McCutcheon, Tom Lewis, and Rouhallah Aghaseleh) have also agreed to stay on for another year pending the congregation's approval at a future meeting in October. We thank them for their willingness to continue the vital work they do in recruiting board members for HUUF.

Child care will be provided.  
*Greg Blomstrom, Co-President*

## July 31-August 2

### **Plan to attend the All Fellowship Retreat**

All are invited to come to our annual retreat, though at this time details are being ironed out. Our retreats have always been a wonderful way to get to know and interact with other HUUF members, with crafts, campfires with S'Mores, skits and many other activities. Registration forms will be available at HUUF and on the web starting this month. We hope you will join us!

Also, we are seeking three volunteers to help tie things together and provide support during the retreat—consider whether you might fit this role? Thank you.

## **HUUF is now hiring for RE and childcare needs**

Are you someone who enjoys working with children and youth in a warm, inclusive community? If so, the Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to consider joining our Religious Exploration team.

HUUF is seeking people to serve in a variety of roles, including as **Childcare Assistant**, **Teacher** and a **Teen Teacher's Assistant** to work with youth. If you're interested, let us know at [connect@huuf.org](mailto:connect@huuf.org)

### **Schedule:**

Sundays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

1–3 classroom days per month with availability for events and monthly meetings.

### **Childcare Assistant Role:**

In this role, you'll help create a space where children and families feel welcome. You'll engage kids through creative, age-appropriate activities, support Sunday programming, and assist during special events—all while working closely with our Religious Exploration Program Coordinator.

### **Childcare Assistant Responsibilities:**

- Create an open, warm, and welcoming UU-values focused environment for children and families
- Actively engage with children through a variety of activities
- Support Sunday programming and occasional special events
- Work under the supervision of the Religious Exploration Coordinator

### **Teacher Role:**

As a Teacher, you'll collaborate with our Religious Exploration Committee (including staff and dedicated parent volunteers) to plan and lead meaningful, engaging curricula for youth programming. This is a wonderful opportunity to help shape young minds in a supportive, community-driven setting.

We are seeking a **Teacher** and a **Teen Teacher's Assistant** to help nurture and support youth in a caring, values-centered environment.

### **Teacher Responsibilities:**

- Collaborate with the Religious Exploration Committee (staff and parent/caregiver volunteers)
- Plan and implement curricula for youth programs
- Work under the supervision of the Religious Exploration Coordinator

### **Qualifications:**

- Experience in Early Childhood Education (ECE) is encouraged but not required
- Fingerprinting and background check required

### **When you'll be with us:**

Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., one to three Sundays per month. We also hope you'll be available for occasional special events and a monthly team meeting.

### **What we're looking for:**

Experience in Early Childhood Education is a plus, but not required—what matters most is your enthusiasm, reliability, and care for young people. All applicants will be required to complete fingerprinting and a background check. If you're looking for a fulfilling way to connect, contribute, and make a positive impact in the lives of children and families, we would love to hear from you!

If you're interested, let us know at [connect@huuf.org](mailto:connect@huuf.org).

## **Beloved Community, *continued from page one***

greater love for all our relations. When we bring our whole selves to this community—our wounds and our wisdom, our doubts and our dreams—we create the space where mutual flourishing becomes not just an ideal, but a reality made manifest in our shared ministry to one another and to the world.

What does it mean to *belong* here? It means answering the call to be present, to be engaged, to be accountable. It means recognizing that our collective flourishing depends on each of us bringing our full selves—the parts that have been cared for by this community and the parts that now nurture it in return. This is the promise we make to one another: not just to attend, but to tend; not just to belong, but to belong with such fervent commitment that our lives become intertwined in the beautiful, difficult, holy work of building the beloved community we long to be.

Yours in grace and gratitude,

*Amy Day, Lay Minister*

## Sunday Services

**Sunday, June 7, 11:00 a.m.**

***Dances of Universal Peace, with Berti Welty and guest speaker Latif Burdick***

The Dances for Universal Peace had their beginning in the late 1960s. This service will begin with their origin story and carry that through to the present time, followed by several dances, as the practice is experiential in nature. Congregants will be invited to participate. This will be accompanied by live music.

Latif Burdick is a leader of the local group which meets at our Fellowship on the first Sunday of each month. Latif has been working since 1978 with Dances of Universal Peace and related practices from the Universal Sufi tradition. He leads dances and plays guitar with dance leaders and retreat programs across the country and will be joined by his beloved wife, Pegeen, who also has been leading the dances for many years.



**Sunday, June 14, 11:00 a.m.**

***"Hallowed be Thy Name..." with Amy Day***

Many of us are familiar with "The Lord's Prayer," said to be translated first from Aramaic, then to Greek, to Latin, and finally into English. But what if we were to retrace our steps? Strip away the

voices of empire and restore this text to its essence—to read it through the lens of liberation. Weaving a rich and diverse tapestry of influences and ideas, we'll untie the knots of toxic masculinity and release generational trauma in the spirit of the original language. We'll honor Juneteenth's call to justice as we embody the prayer's original expansive vision of wholeness, where healing our wounds and dismantling oppression become inseparable acts of spiritual resistance and co-creation. Together, we'll create space for revelation, finding in these ancient words the power to transform ourselves and our world.

**Sunday, June 21, 11:00 a.m.**

***UUA General Assembly Sunday Morning Worship***

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), where participants gather to worship, witness, learn, and connect. Sunday morning worship is the heart of GA, drawing our entire community together in shared spirit. Through music, preaching, and ritual, we will ground ourselves in our UU faith and be renewed for the work of justice, compassion, and community in the world. Join us in our Sanctuary, along with UU's from across the country, to view this live-streamed service. Afterwards we will open space for shared joys and sorrows and a final blessing and reflection.

**Sunday, June 28, 11:00 a.m.**

***"It Takes a Garden" with Amy Day***

Join us as we celebrate the vibrant ecosystem of our beloved community—from the rich soil of our shared past to the blooming talents, buzzing energy, and diverse people that make our Fellowship thrive. This potluck-brunch service will feature stories of sacred service and leadership, as together we plant seeds for our future while nourishing both body and spirit. Please bring a simple breakfast dish to share and a flower to add to our flower ceremony, honoring every gift as it contributes to our collective growth.

## **Your pledge to support HUUF is needed — ASAP**

At our May 17 Sunday service Montana Caouette made a persuasive call to recruit members to join the Board in crafting our upcoming year's budget. Thankfully, we got six more members to help us dive into the task of planning the upcoming year's budget.

But at once it became apparent we still need more help. The fact is, a lot of HUUF members still haven't sent in their annual pledge forms. Without knowing what our annual pledge income will be, we can't budget for the most important single part of our Fellowship's daily functioning: our staff. Staff salaries and benefits comprise 60% of our budget. Chip Sharpe noted at that meeting that, given our Iran war tax, he wanted to offer cost of living adjustments to the staff, but without members sending in their pledge forms we can't do that because we have no idea what our income will be.

So please, send in your pledge.

*Greg Blomstrom, Co-President*



## ***Members stepping forward to help lead HUUF***

### **Bio of Dot Campbell, candidate for HUUF Vice President**

I was born and raised in San Francisco to my half-Assyrian, half-Irish first generation American parents. I arrived in Humboldt County in 1984 with my partner and four kids and birthed my son here. I have nine grandchildren and one great grandchild. I completed my college degree in 1999 first at CR and then at Cal Poly with a degree in Mass Communication. I worked for the North Coast Clinics Network and helped enroll mothers and children in insurance programs, increasing enrollment by 35%. Since 2004, I have been self-employed as a Caregiver/Coordinator and began teaching and supporting caregivers last year utilizing the Fellowship as my home base. I started Caregivers Humboldt, bringing in others to share the wealth and grow our local Independent Caregivers Network. Activities I do often: play with my eight year old grandson who lives around the corner, garden, swim, do tai chi, help my neighbors to know and trust each other and grow disaster preparedness and awareness. I will be in the river soon, dance, mentor, camp, travel to hot springs, sufi dance, and now participate as your representative on the HUUF Board. I am deeply grateful and honored to serve.

*Dot Campbell*

### **Bio of David Sinn, candidate for HUUF Board**

I was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois, home of Richard Pryor and Caterpillar trucks. I was the youngest of three, and I was raised in a pretty strict religion while growing up (Apostolic). My parents switched churches twice before I left home—but the basic idea was that I grew up with a lot of conflicting information about mystery, spirituality, God/Goddess, love, etc. Since my youth I have sought out a higher power—which I now believe (in line with Active Hope) can't be found—it can only be revealed through our actions. My wife Holli and I have been searching for community since we've been together, and in 2022 we found HUUF. It was the first "church" or fellowship that we had been to that we both agreed could work for us. Plus, our kids *LOVED* RE.

I'm very thankful for HUUF. Our experience here is something we could have only dreamt about. In that spirit, I was asked to serve on our Board, and after a bit of prayer and consideration, I accepted. I'm not sure what I'm getting myself into but I want to find a way to give back to our community and I hope this opportunity will allow me to do so.

*David Sinn*



### Come boost HUUF's choir

## **Choir director offers donation-based vocal coaching**

We're thrilled to announce that HUUF's new Choir Director, Kay Raplenovich, is generously volunteering her time this summer to elevate our burgeoning choir. Join Kay for weekly donation-based group singing and vocal training sessions. Come as you are, pay what you can, and drop in whenever you can make it. With decades of vocal performance and coaching experience, Kay offers a rare opportunity for in-depth training at an accessible price, and for a great cause.

Sessions will take place on **Wednesdays from 6:45-8:15 p.m.** at the Fellowship. For more information, contact Kay directly at [kaysraplenovich@gmail.com](mailto:kaysraplenovich@gmail.com).

### Concert at HUUF

## **Ruby Ruth George performs Saturday, June 13, 7:00 p.m.**

Get ready to hear some beautiful music this spring and summer! The Fellowship continues our concert series, where we'll partner with incredible local musicians each month to fill our beloved spiritual home with joy, creativity, and community spirit. These all-ages gatherings promise to be uplifting events where we can connect through the universal language of music while supporting our faith home.

So we hope you'll mark your calendars to hear Ruby Ruth George, who brings powerful vocals, intricate guitar work, and songs that blend storytelling with emotional depth to our stage. With a background rich in contemporary folk and Americana traditions, Ruby's music ranges from soulful ballads to upbeat tunes that will get your feet tapping, creating an engaging and memorable experience.

Tickets will be \$25 per person.

*Want to be part of the magic behind the scenes?* We'd love your help. Volunteer opportunities include setting up before the show, selling goodies and refreshments, or helping with cleanup after the event. Best of all, volunteers receive free entry to the concert. It's a wonderful way to support our Fellowship while enjoying some incredible live music.

Spread the word far and wide, invite your friends and neighbors, and join us for these magical musical experiences. Together, let's create wonderful memories and bring beautiful music into our community this season.

For more information or to volunteer, email [office@huuf.org](mailto:office@huuf.org) or call (707) 822-3793, or check the website for more details. We can't wait to see you there.

## **Goodbye, Sonja Roseth: longtime HUUF member and volunteer**

Please join us to celebrate the life of longtime HUUF member, past member of the Board, and volunteer Sonja Roseth on Sunday, June 14, at 2:00 p.m. at HUUF.

Please RSVP to [prairieviolinist@gmail.com](mailto:prairieviolinist@gmail.com), and feel free to ask any questions. We hope you can join us for this very special occasion to honor Sonja.

Thank you,

*Joli, John, Eric and Tanja*





## Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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email: [office@huuf.org](mailto:office@huuf.org)

Office hours from 12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m., Tuesday —  
Friday, or by appointment

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email: [minister@huuf.org](mailto:minister@huuf.org)

**Administrator:** Rebekah Paez,

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### June 20 deadline for July/August HUUF Newsletter

The next newsletter will cover both the months of July and August. Think about what news you need to get out to readers during the months of eating watermelon and going to the swimming hole, or what you need to post to prepare for fall events. Classified ads, benefitting HUUF at the bargain rate of a dime per word, will be timely for two months. Please send your written contributions and classified ads for the July/August newsletter to [newsletter@huuf.org](mailto:newsletter@huuf.org) by 5:00 p.m., Saturday, June 20. Thanks!

### Classified Ads

Stationary Exercise Bike, cost: \$25 donation to HUUF. Contact Cena Marino or the HUUF Office at [office@huuf.org](mailto:office@huuf.org) or (707) 822-3793.

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Beloved Fellowship members, my car died on Sunday in the parking lot of the Fellowship. I went in, presented for Mother's Day, came out and called a tow truck. I seek a well maintained vehicle with low miles on it. I can pay around \$5,000 and I understand I am asking for a miracle. But I believe in miracles. Please give me a call if you can join me in manifesting my next car. Thanks so very much.

*Dot Campbell*

(707) 668-5177 or (707) 498-8981

*Dottess@humboldt1.com*