

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



September 2014

## A Note from Bryan

Several weeks ago Edie and I had a wonderful theater weekend in San Francisco. We treat ourselves to one of those every so often and this one did not disappoint. We saw *Foodies*, and *Into the Woods*. We ate at Scala and at Fresh Crush. It was wonderful. But the best part was that after our adventure, we got to come home to Humboldt County.

We feel the same way about the Fellowship. We loved our time off. We went to Oregon to visit my brother, Jack, and his wife Nancy. With the help of our contractor, Jon Flikinger, we got a lot of work done on our cabin. We enjoyed the company of several sets of guests from the hot, dry San Joaquin Valley. But the best part of the whole summer is that we get to return to our work with you folks here at the Fellowship.

We and you have a number of exciting adventures ahead this year: Offering two services at 9 and 11 so we can serve more people. Re-energizing and re-vitalizing our cooperative Religious Education effort for our youth. Re-connecting with our re-organized Adult Library. Learning the new (and hopefully more focused and efficient) ways of mission based governance. Joining our Social Action efforts with other congregations involved in the true north PICO, grass roots justice efforts.

But the best thing about these

*continued on page three*

## Two services start September 14

**9:00 AM** – The service will be a little shorter. No choir most of the time. Child care but no Religious Education Classes. No story for all ages. A little quieter and more contemplative. After the sharing of joys and sorrows, and silent meditation, a member will share briefly thoughts, hopes or prayers. While sharing, the member will be invited to hold the “Wisdom Beads” that have been used by in the past.

**Wisdom Beads:** In the spirit of thoughtful, heart-centered sharing, a member of the congregation will hold the Wisdom Beads and share what is on her or his heart about the theme of the service, or concern and good wishes for people or conditions in the world. The sharing should be around two minutes long. Sign up to be a Wisdom Bead sharer. Worship Associates will have a clip board in the foyer.

**Coffee:** After first service, we hope to have coffee and tea for a time of conversation and connection. Sign Up to be a First Service Coffee Host on a clip board in the foyer.

**11:00 AM:** Service will be a little longer. It will include the choir and story for all ages. Religious Education for pre-school through junior high will occur. Coffee and tea provided by our Hospitality Committee.

*Bryan Jessup*  
for HUUF Worship Leaders

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## People

Welcome to new member **Octavia Stremple**.

Many, many bouquets to **Lisa LaBolle** for managing the Richard Stanewick book collection donated to the Fellowship. We are sorry she has paid dearly for her volunteer work with back pain. We hope she recovers enough to take on her new volunteer position as the Adult Librarian.

**Roxana Hand** will finally get to move into her Arcata apartment September 1. Congratulations, Roxana.

**Elva Banducci** welcomes visitors at her caregiver's home in Eureka on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Please call first to Raina at 445-1670 or Elva's message number at 826-7356.

Sadly, we memorialized the lives of two members this summer: **Edith Watson** and **Kinara Erickson**. Their families are in our hearts.

*Sylvia Shaw*

## Cyber café, anyone?

The Communications Committee would like to determine if there is sufficient interest to initiate what we're calling a Cyber Café. There would be help available for particular needs with Facebook, blogs, Twitter articles and smart phones. Participants would need to bring their own laptops or phones. So far our vision is possibly one Sunday a month at 12:30 p.m. Stephen Sottong has offered to be a mentor. If you like this idea and would be interested in being a participant or are able to be a mentor, please contact me at [mcauselhorst@gmail.com](mailto:mcauselhorst@gmail.com).

*Pat McCutcheon*

## Explore foundations of UU faith

Mondays at 7 p.m. **October 20** through December 15. Nine sessions beginning with the deep justice message of the Jewish prophets and ending with the clear-headed and strong commitment to human and ecological well-being reflected in our UU Principles. Come explore how "Love is our Spirit," how our Principles spell out what love requires of us, and how our tradition offers us a rich source of inspirational resources from all over the world. To sign up call the office at 822-3793.

*Bryan Jessup*

## Committee fair

Come one, come all, to the Committee Fair, on Sunday, **September 21**, after the first and second services. Sixteen committees are listed in our current *Directory*. This event will be sponsored by the Membership Committee. Now's the time to find out what our committees do and the part you can play in our shared ministry.

If your committee wants more members (is there one that doesn't?), participate in this fair. Even if your committee does not need new members, do participate so we know you exist. Create a booth or space to attract potential members; be witty, wacky, whatever. Use your imagination and creativity in the use of visuals.

Serving on a committee helps the Fellowship attain its aspirations and can be the beginning of new friendships for yourself.

*Aiko Uyeki*



## New admin's bio

I was born Roxana Maria Taylor in Sunnyvale, CA, two years after my brother Alexander to a Peruvian mother and American father. I consider myself lucky to have been raised bilingual; my first words were in Spanish; English followed soon after.

When I was three, my parents relocated to Lima, Perú, where I attended preschool through first grades. We moved back to the California bay area when I was six; I lived in Cupertino until I graduated high school. In 1996, I moved to Arcata to pursue degrees in Spanish and Philosophy at HSU. Needless to say, I fell in love with Humboldt County and have lived here ever since.

While working in Arcata I met my husband Mike. Together we bought a house in Eureka, married and proudly produced our son, Diego.

Being a rather private person, my life revolves mostly around my family and close friends. I enjoy traveling and sharing the pleasure of good food as well as taking advantage of all beauty that Humboldt has to offer. My husband and I also spend a lot of time fixing and building our home; I like this more than he does!

*Roxanna Stengl*

## Note from Bryan, continued

adventures is that we will experience them with friends of long-standing and with newcomers with whom we hope to share the transformative power of our faith.

Edie and I look forward to seeing all of you again at the Gathering of the Waters on September 7.

Yours in the journey,

*Bryan Jessup*

## Gathering of the waters

What is this UU ritual? In fall, 1980, there was a gathering of UU women in Michigan. Each was asked to bring water from their locale to blend with the waters of all the other women at that conference. With great ceremony and flourish the salt water and fresh, the rain and the tears, were all combined in a large bowl symbolizing the coming-together in community of many who are unique, yet together are powerful and sustaining. Thus began a Unitarian Universalist annual fall ritual of a water communion, which is shared in many congregations.

On **September 7** at 10:30 a.m. you are invited to bring your water, either real or virtual, to blend with that of all the other persons and families that make up our Fellowship. Each of you will be asked to tell which state the water is from and how that place or experience renewed your spirit. Save your long sharing for during the potluck which follows the service.

All are welcome. Children are invited to either stay after the Story for all Ages or to go to childcare. This is a great time to introduce your neighbors and friends to the Fellowship.

*Roberta Welty*

## A Roof above and a floor below

The Fellowship sanctuary building has a new roof. A&I Roofing did the work at a cost of \$29,443. A flaw in the original construction caused significant rot in one of the beams holding up the roof over the Minister's Office. Replacement of this beam and associated roof decking added considerably to the cost. The board plans a special appeal for funds to replenish our building maintenance fund.

The sanctuary floor was refinished in August by Intercounty Flooring at a cost of \$3708. This is the first time the floor has been sanded down to bare wood and refinished since construction in 1994. Four coats of oil-based gloss polyurethane varnish were applied, giving the floor protection similar to that of a basketball court. I plan to have the floor screened and recoated every three years to maintain a high degree of protection for the flooring. You can help keep our new floor looking new:

- Bring no grit or sand into the Sanctuary. Wipe all grit from your shoes (or even removing them) before entering the Sanctuary.
- Use no tape of any kind on the floor. The final damage to the floor that necessitated this refinishing job occurred from taping down of items to the floor. When the tape was pulled up it pulled the varnish off down to the wood. Should you need to secure wires for safety, drape small carpets over them.
- Immediately clean up any liquid spills. Fluids will find their way thru minute cracks in the varnish and will cause the wood beneath to swell and stain. Should you need to mop something up, wet the mop and wring it nearly dry before cleaning the floor. Have someone follow you with cloth towels (available in the pantry) to immediately remove any moisture left behind.
- Do not slide furniture or the flower/chalice stands. Pick them up to move them.
- Report any missing chair tips or felt chair leg pads to the Building Steward and/or the Fellowship Administrator.

Your suggestions and actions are essential to keeping our Fellowship buildings and grounds maintained and beautiful. Take action to clean up or correct problems. Notify the Fellowship Administrator, building steward or me if you have suggestions or concerns. Contribute funds to the building maintenance funds or volunteer to help with maintenance: gardening, kitchen cleaning, window washing, dusting. You don't have to do it all, every little bit helps.

Thanks!

*Scott Allen*

## Thursday night Reflections

Weekly, 7 – 9 p.m. Some topics of conversation this summer have been: mentors; influential authors and inner guides; friendship; feeling overwhelmed; and meditation. Future topics will be: individual meanings of spirituality; grief and loss; sacred places; anger; and recognizing and honoring our life's purpose. This group is lay-led, although Bryan will present the topic anger. All are welcome; Reflections is an open, drop-in group. Contact me at 822-6508 or [margaretemerson@att.net](mailto:margaretemerson@att.net).

*Margy Emerson*

# Religious Education



**September 7:** Gathering of the Waters. Come to the service for all ages. Bring some real or pretend water to share your travels and summer experiences. Stay for the potluck following the service to catch up with our Fellowship family.

**September 14:** New time 11 a.m. Curriculum Sunday. We will go to our classes to meet our teachers, reconnect with old friends and meet new classmates. Bring something that you would like to share with your class that you have found or made that is special to you.

**September 21:** All Worship. All ages will meet in the CARE building with Therese FitzMaurice and Jennifer Mager for all worship and mindfulness together. Teachers will be attending a conference.

**September 28:** Social Action Sunday. A traditional favorite! We will glean at Redwood Roots Farm, our organic neighbor. We will pick for Food for People and picnic at the farm for snack. We always need adults to help on this fun walking field trip.

Welcome back to another exciting year in our newly named Religious Education Cooperative. Many thanks to all who contributed their input at our retreat when we examined our mission and agreed on our name change and restructuring. For those who volunteered to take on a new role, I will contact you to support you in that process. We need two more folks to work with Judy Rishel to revitalize our UU Passport program to help connect children with other adults in our congregation; if you are interested, see Judy or Jillian. Allison Bronkall will be asking for snack volunteers soon; she will be our new snack coordinator. Raquel Lee is our new Social Action support for RE, she will coordinate the RE Night Shelter cooking and delivery. It's not too late to participate.

Trisha Sanders is returning as our preschool teacher and will continue their exploration of virtues. Virginia Chatfield joins Judy Rishel. Together they will continue exploring our UU principles. We welcome Berti Welty as our 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who will teach the ever-favorite holidays and holy days. Sandy Lynn and Therese FitzMaurice will share teaching in the Intermediate room.

Family Fiesta Night is in the planning. Keep a look out in the green sheet and for your postcards and emails.

*Jillian Mooney, Director of RE*



## Memorial garden

Traditionally, churches incorporated a cemetery on their grounds. The land around HUUF has a water table too high for that purpose, so about a year after moving into the current location, a group began considering a Memorial Garden to commemorate deceased members. In 1997, Martha Ruhe presented a design to the congregation for approval. That design became the guide for the planting and development west of the main building. A donation in memory of Florence Chafey financed the start of the project. In the next three years, water and electrical lines were installed underground and over 200 trees and bushes were planted in the area. The deer have been a constant problem for the new trees, but many have grown. They have not only beautified the landscape, but also have changed it. The north-west corner, which was originally a wetland meadow has become firm ground thanks to the trees.

A path was built around the Wisconsin mound (a part of the septic system) to access the memorial stones on which the names of deceased members are engraved. The original path was made with weed-stop covered with gravel. The weeds quickly found their way through and the path disappeared. Last year, thanks to a memorial donation by the Wagner family, the first section of the path was paved. It is hoped in future years that the remaining section of the path will be paved to provide a comfortable, accessible way for members to enjoy the garden.

The first stone was found in Laytonville and added in 2009. Bob Goodman brought the stone to the Fellowship and did the cement and stonework beneath it. The second

stone came from Yuba City in 2013. Willard Foote added the benches near the stones and Barbara Barratt bought the other two.

Many trees have been donated in memory of individuals and some cremains have been scattered in the garden.

Although there is now a service which mows the lawns, most of the work of creating and maintaining the garden has been done by individuals: Karen Underwood, Irith Shalmony, Barbara Madaras, Jack Phipps, Cynthia Chason, Ginger and Richard Kossow, Bert Taylor, Beverly Allen and many others. But key to the entire project has been Barbara Barratt, who is now retiring as the Chair of the Memorial Garden Committee. Without her constant work and attention for nearly 18 years, the Memorial Garden would not have happened. Our thanks and appreciation go out to Barbara.

To keep the garden going, the committee needs new members and individuals willing to participate in the work of maintaining and improving it. Please contact the Board if you can help.

*Stephen Sottong*



## Member bio

I have lived many lives and experienced different lifestyles in different countries. I feel the richer for it. My roots are in China where my family lived for 40 years. We left during the revolution and went to Manila. While in elementary school there some of my friends lived in Spanish-style mansions and some lived in nipa huts (small thatched-roof dwellings on stilts). I learned the Mandarin and Ning Po dialects of Chinese as well as Tagalog and Italian. Unfortunately I can no longer speak any of those languages, but I can order two beers and say thank you in Chinese. I once spent a couple of months in a villa on the Mediterranean with four other children, a cook and a maid while my parents toured Europe. They dropped by now and then to check on us, but for the most part we were parent-free.

We eventually came to the US where I attended school in the San Francisco Bay area. When I graduated in 1960, I had about nine years of classroom education. Travel, the Communist Revolution, the Korean War, polio epidemics and my own health challenges all caused interruptions. I learned to love reading at a very young age so I was able to learn a lot on my own.

My (now ex-) husband and I raised our two children in Berkeley in the 1960s and 1970s. We were a typical Berkeley family – we drove Volkswagens, got our groceries at the Co-op and our healthcare at Kaiser. We built a house, doing most of the labor ourselves. We raised our own vegetables, and I sewed a lot of our clothing.

After the marriage broke up, I became a Registered Nurse. I went on to get undergraduate and graduate degrees and wound up teaching management in a hospital. I married a wonderful man and 30 years ago we moved to Humboldt County. We both loved the Humboldt lifestyle. My husband, Richard Daniels, died three years ago; and I miss him very much. I keep busy with sewing, quilting, scrapbooking and researching family history. Although I am semi-retired, I still teach health care topics and personal finance; I also work as a legal nurse consultant. I have four grandchildren and a cat. I am glad to be a part of this Fellowship.

*Margot Julian*

A lot of people think "a lot" is one word. A lot of people are mistaken.	<b>Apostrophe's</b> are not used for plurals.	Don't <del>x</del> overuse <del>x</del> commas.
You and <b>I</b> are learning grammar. Grammar matters to you and <b>me</b> .	<b>it's = it is</b> <b>it's ≠ possessive</b>	You are not <b>literally</b> bored to death by this statement. Just <b>figuratively</b> .
You <b>pore</b> over your books. You <b>pour</b> milk over cereal.	Quotation marks do not add <b>"emphasis."</b>	<b>They're</b> reading <b>their</b> books over <b>there</b> .
The right word is better <b>than</b> the wrong word. <b>than</b>	<b>You're</b> good at grammar if <b>your</b> grammar is good.	<b>GEEKDAD</b> Jonathan H. Liu Senior Editor <a href="http://www.geekdad.com">http://www.geekdad.com</a> <a href="mailto:jonathan@geekdad.com">jonathan@geekdad.com</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/jonathanhliu">jonathanhliu</a>

## Jesus in his own language

Monday, **September 22**, potluck at 6 p.m. Bring a salad or main dish to share. The program will be presented by Ellen Bush, a student of Aramaic and of noted liberal theologian Matthew Fox. Ellen will talk with us about the power, flexibility and poetry of Jesus' teachings in Aramaic. And she'll lead us in some Aramaic chant with accompanying movement and dance. She is a very dynamic and inspirational speaker, so come.

*Bryan Jessup*

## Last call for writers

The **September 1** deadline for submissions to the Fellowship's anthology is only days away, but we are still eager for your work. Memoirs, poems, essays and short stories (2,000 word limit) are all welcome. Entries so far suggest an anthology you would be proud to be part of. Send your creations to me at [mcauselhorst@gmail.com](mailto:mcauselhorst@gmail.com).

*Pat McCutcheon*

## Ingathering potluck

On Sunday, **September 7**, after our Gathering of the Waters service, we will have a celebratory ingathering potluck. Please come. Bring your ready to serve dishes and put them in the kitchen before service. We have refrigerator space but no cooking or prep space - so ready-to-serve is the word. After service make sure your dish is set out on the service tables - which will be in the Main Hall (so we can go down both sides.) Tables for eating will be available in the Main Hall and outside on the patio. We will start the serving with a blessing. Then children (with parental help) and elders (with help if they need it) will be first in line. Make sure to lend a hand in set up and to stay to help with clean up if you can. And welcome back to another great HUUF year!

*Bryan Jessup*

### CLASSIFIED ADS

#### T'AI CHI WITH MARGY

**EMERSON** at 1049 C Samoa Blvd., Arcata (K St. & Samoa). 13-week term starts Sept. 15. New! Chen style (knowledge of another style required), T'ai Chi for Back Pain and Arthritis, Traditional Long Form Wu Style, and the 42 Combined Forms (all four major styles). Daytime and evening classes. Begin as late as the third week. Visit a class with no obligation to pay or enroll. For details: 822-6508 or [www.margaretemerson.com](http://www.margaretemerson.com).

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Wanted for my garden: spoiled straw/hay, grass clippings, manure, leaves, wood shavings, compost. Please contact Joanna Welch if you have any of the above [jlasken22@gmail.com](mailto:jlasken22@gmail.com).

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Classified ads are 10¢ a word. Send your check to the HUUF office and the text of your ad to [joythomas3828@gmail.com](mailto:joythomas3828@gmail.com).

## SA offering helps Eureka Fair Wage initiative

Several months ago our Social Action offering went to support the Eureka Fair Wages campaign that was trying to get a measure on the November ballot to set the fair wage in Eureka at \$12 per hour.

The Eureka Fair Wages effort succeeded in that important effort. Measure R, on the ballot for residents of Eureka, will ask citizens if they want their city to set the fair wage at \$12. The Fair Wage folks are truly grateful to the Social Action Committee and to members of the congregation for their encouragement and support.

*Bryan Jessup*

## Board report

The newly-elected governing Board met on August 19 to learn and organize their roles in the new governance environment.

They were reminded that they act on behalf of the membership as an informed voice and agent to the members and listen carefully to the congregation as it defines itself.

As an example of that responsibility the Board has chosen to move the governing Board open meetings to the first Tuesday evening of each month going forward to allow board members to participate in the Arcata-Eureka PICO/True North monthly meetings on the second Tuesday.

We welcome your visiting the next Board meeting on **September 2**, Main Room, 5:30 p.m.

*Sylvia Shaw*

## OWL for 7th/8th graders

Are you interested in a positive sexual education experience for a 7th or 8th grader in your life? Our Fellowship will present the Our Whole Lives (OWL) curriculum for this age group beginning Sunday, **September 28**, and continuing two Sunday afternoons a month from 1-3 p.m. There will also be two overnight retreats at Fellowship.

OWL provides accurate, age-appropriate information in the areas of human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior and health, society and culture.

A mandatory parent orientation meeting will be held Sunday, **September 14**, from 1-4 p.m. This program is open to friends and family members of attendees of the Fellowship. If you know of someone who might be interested, please pass on this info.

For more information visit [www.uua.org/re/owl](http://www.uua.org/re/owl) or contact me at [kjmoor2@gmail.com](mailto:kjmoor2@gmail.com) or 268-8662.

*Kim Moor*



## Mediator training

There is still space in Humboldt Mediation Services' annual community mediator training to be held at HUUF **September 29 - October 11**. And there is one more tuition-free slot available to a Fellowship member (in exchange for use of the CARE Building). Contact me immediately if you are interested.

Pre-registration is essential. Three discounts are available: 1) Senior or Student; 2) Promising to volunteer with HMS; and 3) registration by September 2. Register at [humboldtmediationservices.org/page-1510167](http://humboldtmediationservices.org/page-1510167) or by calling either me at 599-6009 or HMS 445-2505.

Community Mediator Training: A two-week, 34-hour course designed to prepare participants to mediate disputes as part of a three-person panel. Includes techniques for case development, facilitating effective discussion, dealing with strong emotion, building trust & creating workable agreements.

Valuable both for those who would like to mediate with HMS and for those who would like to build their conflict resolution skills.

Weekday evenings: September 29, October 1, 2, 6, 8 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturdays: October 4 and 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Chip Sharpe*

## Deadline info

Deadline for the October issue of the newsletter is Saturday, **September 20**, 5:00 p.m. Please send your committee reports and articles to me at [joythomas3828@gmail.com](mailto:joythomas3828@gmail.com). Neither PDF files nor late submissions are accepted. Please send crisp, clear graphics as a separate file, not embedded in your article.

*Joy Thomas, editor*



# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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## Board of Directors:

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## In the HUUF gallery

In September the gallery will display the photography of Betty Warek-Fowler. She is a member of both the Redwood Art Association and Old Town Art Gallery. Her beautiful photography is matched by her energy and enthusiasm about promoting art in Humboldt County.

October's show will feature the photography of Eve Anderson. The annual membership show will be in November/December, so get your work ready by the first week in November.

*Cheryl Rau*

## Northern California UUs get-together to share stories from their lives

From Saturday, **October 4**, 2 p.m. through the Sunday, October 5, service, UUs from Lake County, Chico, Redding, Humboldt and Santa Rosa will meet at the UU building in Kelseyville at the Lake County UU Fellowship. This is an opportunity to share stories from their lives and see how telling stories can help UUs develop a sense of spiritual depth and connection.

Visiting UUs can be housed with home hospitality; a small number of rooms in a local inn are available. The cost for the workshop itself is \$25.

Contact PCD Executive Director, Josh Searle-White at [jsearlewhite@uua.org](mailto:jsearlewhite@uua.org) for more information and to register.

