

# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



September, 2023

To the beloved HUUF community

## Acknowledging what is

Carmen Spagnola is a Canadian clinical hypnotherapist and somatic trauma recovery practitioner. In her ever-growing body of work, she offers an ongoing course entitled “Collapse 101”: *“A class about grappling with the converging emergencies of large scale cooperation dilemmas, namely climate change, economic contraction, and social instability (among other things).”* Inside this work, she names some of the tools she believes will help all of us navigate this increasingly complex and tumultuous time. Among them:

**Awareness:** Like any process of recovery, we must begin from a place of bravely and simply acknowledging what is. The isolation, anxiety and grief many of us feel today are not singular, anomalous instances. Rather, we are experiencing, each in our own way, a sane and resonant response to the circumstances of our time. Though we each encounter this time differently (and folks from more marginalized backgrounds feel this more acutely - poor folks, people of color, neuro-divergent and folks living with disabilities get hit first and hardest when the systems designed to support unravel), we are not alone in this. What affects one, affects us all.

**Attachment and relationships:** Who is in our lifeboat with us? Beyond just who we can call for a cup of sugar or a ride to the doctor, who are we surrounding ourselves with that can help regulate our nervous systems, uplift and inspire us, or just listen when we need to be witnessed in our moment of jubilation or distress? As the world around us grows increasingly chaotic, it is the people seated next to us who will help us chart the way forward with courage and grace.

**Trauma work:** Or perhaps, to put it more simply: “Don’t take anything too personally.” Have you noticed folks seem more on edge these days, more quick to anger, blame, or fear? Or perhaps you witness in yourself a tendency to shut down or

See “Beloved,” next page

## Phishing alert!

### **Please beware email hoaxes**

Stay alert. Beware. Purchase malware detection for your devices. It’s an unfortunate reality, we live in a culture where phishing and hacking are common occurrences. Our best offense is to practice defense. Knowing how to recognize a budding scam is key, but it’s



not as easy as it used to be. No longer is it as simple as recognizing a bogus request from a prince in a foreign

land. Now hackers will more subtly mask their entry into your world by peppering their requests with familiar names.

We are not immune. These savvy techies take their phishing seriously and so must we. HUUF has a public website and although we have malware detection and firewalls to protect from attacks, we cannot prevent a scammer from grabbing a name like Rev. Emeritus Bryan or one of the Board members from our web information, creating a fake gmail account and reaching out with a request. Please don't fall for this!

See “Phishing,” page 3

## Notes from the garden

### **A loss, but for a good cause**

Several weeks ago, Scott Allen texted to say he needed to cut down the small native silk tassel tree at the west end of the CARE building. Though initially alarmed, I was happy to learn it was for a good cause: we now have a heat pump where the tree stood, reducing our greenhouse gas emissions for years to come. Most of the silk tassels planted in gardens are males, valued for their long, decorative tassels. Ours was female; though they produce much shorter tassel flowers, they develop into fruit valuable to wildlife. Luckily, the female silk tassel gifted us with several offspring in the vicinity, so we'll wait for the summer drought period to pass, and then transplant one of them to shape into a nice vegetative screen for the pump.

Our August grounds volunteers included a new member, Josh Charles. The dedicated regulars who were able to help included Lynne Abels, Katherine Almy, and Pat Carr. Bless them all for doing the tedious jobs of weeding (both with hand tools and torch), watering, and general schlepping!

Our next work party will be on Saturday, September 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We'll begin our fall tasks of planting and watering to take advantage of the last days of warm weather. This timing helps plants to spread their roots and become established so the fall rains can take over and continue watering. Please note the date and join us if you can.

*Valerie Gizinski*

### ***Beloved, from page 1***

withdraw when it all feels a bit too much? Fight, flight or fawn. We all have our hardwired ways of responding to intensity. To the unacknowledged (but very real) trauma of the past few years, and to the ongoing predicaments that continue to flow our way. Survival brain is a powerful force at work within us, making it hard to access the other regions of ourselves that offer new insights, possibilities, and shed new light. Which is perhaps why we need...

Ritual and ceremony, grief and death work: Vehicles that allow us to give voice to all that we're moving through, and process it in a healing and beautiful way.

Transformative justice work: We continue to show up for and fight for systems of accountability and right use of power. We keep looking for ways to get into "good trouble" rather than fall into the collective urge to shrug and let systems of empire continue to shape the world around us.

Re-connecting the natural and more than human world: On Sundays, we pause regularly to acknowledge we gather upon unceded, indigenous lands. One thing Native peoples knew that we seem to have forgotten is that we are innately bound and connected to the spot on Earth on which we dwell. The health of the "aina," or land, as our Hawaiian kin might say, is directly related to the health of the people. And so we spend time in nature, walking in the woods, on the sand. We turn off our devices and get outside. We garden. We tend. We campaign to keep our wild spaces open and available to all. And lastly...

See "*Beloved,*" page 11



## **A bittersweet note from HUUF's Choir Director**

Dear HUUF family,

I have had to make a very difficult choice. As the new school year approaches and our family prepares to send Harrison to kindergarten, I have been trying to reconcile the amount of time that the combination of full-time university teaching, professional performance activities and my work at HUUF will take to accomplish. The sad reality is that I can't do all of it simultaneously and still hope to do any of it well. Most importantly, I feel strongly that I need to be more available to my family right now.

Because of this, I have decided to step down as HUUF Choir Director. Please know that this was not an easy decision to make. I have been honored to serve as your choir director since 2008 (15 years!) and HUUF is very much a part of our family's life. I will miss the experience of making and sharing music with you all. Thank you for allowing me to lead you in song!

I want to take a moment to acknowledge our wonderful HUUF choir singers and thank them for their contributions of time, talent, positivity and humor. Music Sunday this past July was such a joyful and rewarding experience and it was made possible through their hard work and dedication. A special thank you also to pianist Bob Ebenstein who for the past two years has been sharing with us so generously his unique brand of heartfelt and accessible Gospel music. What a joyful experience it has been to sing with you, Bob!

Lastly, thank you all for being such a welcoming congregation. I have felt accepted and valued during my time at HUUF and am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this community of caring. During the many years that I have engaged in this work, I have experienced a true sense of beloved community and have made lifelong friends. I look forward to remaining a member of the HUUF congregation and participating in other aspects of Fellowship life.

Yours in mUUSIC

*Elisabeth Harrington*

*Amy Day writes:* You will be dearly missed, Elisabeth! Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with us for these many years. May your heart sing with joy on this next phase of your life journey!

HUUF leadership is developing a "Team on Music Ministry" to look creatively at the opportunity we have to sustain a rich and engaging musical program at HUUF. We will soon dive into evaluating the options. More to come.

## **Halloween Festival Planning Meeting on September 5**

Fall is upon us. And with it, all sorts of new, mystical and magical things to conjure. Join us to help plan this year's Halloween Festival, scheduled this year for Saturday, October 28, to be held as a community-wide event and fundraiser for our OWL (Our Whole Lives Human Sexuality curriculum) program.

We need help with skits, set-up, flyers, clean-up, cupcakes and booth activity ideas, oh my! [Join us on Tuesday, September 5 @ 7 pm via Zoom](#) to talk about what comes next for launching this magical and beloved event. Check the HUUF website calendar and the Weekly outgoing email for the link.

## ***Phishing, from page 1***

Check the email address. If it's unfamiliar, do not respond. Do not forward the email. If you're unsure, send a separate email query to the office. And NEVER give out passwords. If you are aware of a phishing attempt, report it immediately to your email and/or cell phone provider. Stay vigilant. It's unfortunate but this is bound to keep happening.

*Bridgette Garuti*

*HUUF poetry corner*

**The Lament of Job**

*by Colleen R Broderick*

There are questions.  
Deep primal questions.  
Born in the souls of tormented humankind.  
They whisper up from black caverns,  
when a lamb is circled by lions.

Why does unmerited suffering seek us out?

Your thunderous voice roars.  
“Who has wrestled with God and come out  
unscathed?  
Both the wicked and the blameless, I have smote.  
Do not deceive yourself.”

“Stop frightening me with your terrors.  
Withdraw your hand from me, I plead.  
I cannot restrain the bitterness of my soul.”

“Your days on earth are but a shadow.  
So perishes the hope of the godless.  
The mirth of the wicked is brief.  
What they have toiled for, dissolves.”

Bereft, I utter, “Proverbs of ashes.  
Surely you have worn me out.  
My gall soaks the ground.”  
Volcanic ash covers my head.  
The Earth shakes  
Rain splatters lead pellets.  
“My eyes dwell on hostility.”

Is there any respite...  
No answers?

Only questions.

*Quoted text is from the Bible Book of Job/ Old  
Testament quoted out of context.*

**Board Report for August**

Our August 8 meeting began with a presentation by Rev. Tom Lewis on his involvement with the California Care Force and his history of volunteer dentistry as a form of ministry. Tom is requesting 20-30 volunteers from HUUF for a two-day event at Redwood Acres, supporting a free dentistry and eye care clinic, in August, 2024.

The Board discussed the recently vacated choir director position and is forming a hiring committee to seek either a new director or song leader. Various models of music during worship will be considered. We also discussed a revised HUUF email policy that you'll see in this newsletter. Margy Emerson reported that the air filtration system is functioning well and we have received additional funds that will cover a heat pump. Rebekah Paez reported that members' special interests from the volunteer surveys are being used to link them with committee activities. The Membership Committee is reaching out to members we haven't heard from in a while and conversations have been positive.

The Board will take two retreats this year with Leadership Team members and members of the Finance, Endowment, and Ministerial Relations committees. The August 27 half-day retreat will focus on budget issues and plans for increasing revenue as we go into this coming year. The full-day retreat on September 27 will include a discussion with the Ministerial Relations Committee on models for improved conflict resolution in the Fellowship. Many other topics for this day are being discussed.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled as an in-person meeting in the Sanctuary on September 12, 7:00 p.m.. The first 30 minutes of every meeting is reserved for HUUF members wishing to address the Board and Leadership Team.

*Chris Chapin*

## Sunday Services

**Sunday, September 3, 11:00 a.m.**

### **Labor Day Sing-along and Speaker -- Corazon Amada**

Corazon Amada will present a sing-along led by composer and singer Darryl Cherney. The program will also feature a surprise speaker! Come experience the joy of singing together about moving struggles and our shared humanity.

Singing can have healing power, and in singing together we can bond together.

**Sunday, September 10, 11:00 a.m.**

### **Gathering of the Waters -- Amy Day**

Ingathering, or water communion, is an end-of-the-summer tradition in many Unitarian Universalist congregations as we prepare for the beginning of the new fellowship year. Come one, come all – all ages are included in this multigenerational ritual honoring journeys of the mind, body, and heart.

Potluck to follow.

**Sunday, September 17, 11:00 a.m.**

### **The Welcome Table -- Corazon Amada and Amy Day**

Join us for a service designed to nourish body and soul. Together we'll craft an experience of welcome through song, ritual, and loving labor. A portion of our time together will go toward making food for those experiencing homelessness in our region, through our partnership with Arcata House. After that, we'll enjoy a small and spirit-filled meal together as we share stories of welcome and renewal.

**Sunday, September 24, 11:00 a.m.**

### **Mabon, the Autumnal Equinox Great Harvest Celebration -- Yemaya Kimmel and friends**

Rejoice, and embrace sharing in the plenty, as we begin the time in our year when light grows less, yet focused. This is a time to give thanks for the major harvest of the year, and to restore balance in our lives.

Feel free to bring something meaningful to you to place on the altar.

A festive potluck will follow, and if you have the means, a dish made with ingredients coming from our local area will greatly suit the spirit of the holiday.

## **Children and Families Religious Education**

### **\*Mamas of Teens & Tweens!**

Join us for a brief [Idea Gathering meetup](#) where we'll talk about ways to creatively engage our teen and tween-age youth in the life of the Fellowship. Evening youth group? Youth choir? Ongoing service project? Organized multi-faith/religious traditions field trips? Theater troupe? No idea is too big or small, off-the-wall or mundane.

This is a time in our kids' lives where they're actively self-differentiating and finding ways to be themselves and with one another in the world, and also a time when it can be hard to get them to be a part of

*See "Religious Education," next page*

## **Religious Education, from page 5**

HUUF. Let's gather and share inspirations on how to re-knit our youth into the tapestry, help them to continue to champion the values we want to see flourish, and nurture their relationships in the months to come.

[Tuesday, September 6 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom.](#) Check the HUUF website calendar and the Weekly email for the link.

**Sundays at 11:00 a.m.** - Our wonderful RE staff continue to provide meaningful engagement in the form of games, crafts, songs, sharing time, stories and outdoor play to our youth, grades Pre-K through five, during Sunday services. Nursery Care is also available for our babies and toddlers. Please see this month's service descriptions for more details.

This month we'll explore the topic of "Welcome" as part of our ongoing learning through the Soul Matters curriculum.

### **Sunday, September 10: "Gathering of the Waters"**

Ingathering, or Water Communion, is an end-of-the-summer tradition in many Unitarian Universalist congregations in preparation for the beginning of the new fellowship year. Come one, come all – all ages are included in this multigenerational ritual honoring journeys of the mind, body, and heart. Potluck to follow.

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Led by Corazon Amada and Amy Day.

## **Fellowship engagement activities**

### **Soul Matters begins again on Wednesday, August 30, 6:00 p.m.**

Join us in-person for this All Ages Ingathering experience to learn about Soul Matters Circles here at the Fellowship. Whether you're a seasoned "circler" or you're new to this space and wanting one more way to connect on a heart-and-soul level, we welcome you.

Bring a small dish or drink to share and come ready to experience and learn more about this powerful small group ministry that exists inside the rich tapestry of life here at the Fellowship. Childcare is available. Please email Jessa at [re@huuf.org](mailto:re@huuf.org) and let us know your needs.

We'll hear from members of long-established groups about their experiences with this rich curriculum as well as be invited into new ways to engage this important work.

### **Art Matters/Soul Matters - A space of Creativity and Healing**

Join Amy Day and Bridgette Garuti one Wednesday each month beginning on September 27 for a unique small group experience. We will bring a creative twist to the exploration of the monthly Soul Matters themes by offering the opportunity to engage in mindful writing prompts and art journaling.

No art experience necessary to participate. A \$5 materials fee helps cover the cost of supplies, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

## Show yoUU care with a card

Card writers will again gather twice monthly, **Wednesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., beginning September 13**. All needed materials will be provided. Contact Amy Day for more information or just show up. Share in the ministry of card writing by sending a note to a Fellowship friend or member. Send encouragement, love and support to those who may feel isolated. Your words make a difference.

## Volunteers to continue hybrid Sunday services, training available

Thank you to our great team of volunteers who have stepped forth to get trained on how to set up and facilitate Sunday hybrid services. While some technology is needed to make this happen, in the end it's our wonderful people who make the magic possible. If you would like to join us and get trained to host Zoom services starting again in September, contact Amy at [comm@huuf.org](mailto:comm@huuf.org) or join us in person, in the Sanctuary, **Tuesday, August 29 at 11:00 a.m.**



## Help HUUF clean Redwood Park, September 23

Coastal Cleanup Day is one of the largest cleanup events of the year. The Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC) is Humboldt County's Coastal Cleanup Coordinator and each year inspires hundreds of volunteers to pick up thousands of pounds of trash around our community.

This year, HUUF is serving as a Site Coordinator, hosting a cleanup at Redwood Park, Saturday, September 23. Check your HUUF Weekly email or the NEC website for more details. *Amy Day*

## Climate Action Campaign

### Can hydrogen energy help stop climate change? Come find out

Join us on Monday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. for a CAC sponsored presentation, *The Future of Hydrogen in Humboldt County and Beyond* at the Fellowship by Dr. Peter Lehman, founder of the Schatz Energy Research Center at Cal Poly Humboldt. Among the issues he will discuss are plans for the introduction of zero-emission hydrogen buses and fueling infrastructure in Eureka, and the role of hydrogen technology in greening our transportation sector in the U.S. given the modes of hydrogen production that are in use. The event is free of charge, and light refreshments will be provided.

Mark your October calendars to attend our CAC October 15 meeting on Zoom at 1:00 p.m. (the regularly scheduled meeting date is changed because of Bryan and Edie Jessup's visit on October 8). Gregory Stevens, the Northern CA Director of the [California Interfaith Power & Light](http://CaliforniaInterfaithPower&Light.org), will do a 30 minute guest presentation on California's Clean Vehicle Rebate Program. See <https://cleanvehiclerebate.org/en> More information to come in the October newsletter.

Please visit our third Sunday climate action table after the service on September 17. Tentative actions: copies of Wendy Ring's biomass petition will be available for signatures (requesting Redwood Coast Energy Authority to cancel its contract with Humboldt Sawmill Company for dirty biomass energy); and we invite everyone to contribute Burma-shave style poems for climate action signs at rallies.

To close, here are thoughts from our last CAC meeting: Grateful to still be here, and grateful to be alive, we choose hope. We choose to rise above what scares us, and we are grateful we have one another for support. *Sue Lee Mossman (co-chair)*

## Announcing two proposed HUUF policies

In June, 2000, a *Policy on Policies* was adopted by HUUF's Board. It gives the specific steps to follow when the Board is considering adopting a new policy. To honor transparency and the inclusivity of members' voices, the policy procedure states that after BoT's review, but prior to adoption of a new policy, "The policy shall be announced in the next copy of the Fellowship Newsletter."

Please take the time to read the two policies being considered for adoption, the *Policy on Committees* and the *Policy on Fellowship Emails/Email Etiquette*. Direct questions or comments to Board Co-Presidents Pat McCutcheon: [mcrauselhorst@gmail.com](mailto:mcrauselhorst@gmail.com) or Margy Emerson: [margaretemerson@att.net](mailto:margaretemerson@att.net).

We are a member driven community. You are valued!

These policies will either be approved or rejected at the next Board meeting.

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### Proposed Policy on Committees

Committees are a necessary component of the Fellowship's approach to shared ministry and lay-led congregational life.

A committee's goal is to move democratically by consensus on issues concerning this Fellowship within each committee structure; to work as a team to achieve goals by employing HUUF's stated values and its purpose by valuing a balance of opinions; by deep listening and by acting in covenant with one another.

Committees are responsible for submitting a budget request to the finance team in a timely manner prior to each fiscal year so that the finance team might build a healthful and informed budget. Throughout the fiscal year, it is each committee's duty to track their budget and make fiscally responsible decisions accordingly.

*Please take the time to read the two policies being considered for adoption*

The healthful functionality of a committee is greatly enhanced when there are a minimum of three members. As a Fellowship, we have an obligation to create systems that can outlast a single individual's knowledge. To rely on the heroic efforts of one or two to carry the load of the many is unsustainable. Although the commitment and effort is greatly appreciated, there is a need to plan for backup within all systems.

For any committees that are operating with fewer than three members, until such time that the committee gains the additional members needed to meet the rule of three, either by means of new volunteers or by restructuring/merging with another like/appropriate committee, the Ministerial Team, a Board Liaison or a combination of the two, shall become temporary supporting members of that committee. The "stand-in members" will offer diversity, guidance and balance. They will support as needed and must be included in, or informed of, the committee's decision making processes.

\*The Ministerial Team as committee members is meant to be a temporary fix to the committee structure that will aid in the health of HUUF systems moving forward.

*Continued on next page*



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## **Proposed Policy on Congregational Emails and Email Etiquette**

Congregation-wide emails are a necessary mode of informing members and friends of important and pertinent Fellowship information.

As representatives of this Fellowship, it is important to strive for clear, concise, kind, gentle, and thoughtful communication with one another.

Emails sent out to the entire congregation shall be limited to the extent possible. This will be achieved by consolidating important information into a singular, informational newsletter to be emailed weekly. Additional emails sent to the congregation separately from the “Weekly” newsletter will be the exception, not the norm. Any email sent separately should be done solely for the purpose of informing the congregation of last minute changes, sharing extraordinary information, or emailing curriculum packets such as Soul Matters.

The Director of Congregational Operations (DCO) manages the list of email “subscribers,” i.e., members, friends, or visitors who request to be included on our email list.

All information to be included in the “Weekly” newsletter is subject to the approval of the DCO. Reasonable editing choices or cuts are at the discretion of the DCO. Requests for separate emails to be sent to the entire congregation must be approved by the DCO.

Personal or private messages will not be sent to the list of subscribers.

Disruptive or offensive message requests will be denied.

Email communications sent to any or all members of this congregation should reflect our aspiration and honor our covenant.

### **Membership report**

We are hosting Trivia: A Fellowship Fundraiser on Friday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. for \$10/person and with a 50/50 jackpot. (Half to the winning team or person, half to HUUF) We will be selling drinks and maybe food, but we need more volunteers to sell food. There will be childcare and this event is open to the public.

The other thing I need to get out is about OWL: We will be starting sessions for middle school kids and would appreciate donations of snacks and any referrals for people or local organizations that might be interested in supporting the program by getting people trained as facilitators.

Last thing is a big thank you to everyone who donated items, helped spread the word and run the yard sale. The sale hasn't happened as of this writing, but it will by the time the newsletter is out. So right now we are visualizing all the items sold and nothing left behind, and that each treasure finds a new home.

*Bek Paez*

## Exciting future fundraising opportunity, volunteer hosts needed

Maya Kaup, who grew up as part of the Fellowship family, has presented us a creative way to connect with other UU's while raising funds for HUUF.

Maya is the owner of [WhaleCoast Alaska](https://whalecoastak.org/), <https://whalecoastak.org/>, a small business running fundraising tours for Unitarian Universalist congregations. She would

like to expand her venture to offer tours through northern California and southern Oregon, potentially bringing the first tour group to Humboldt in late May, 2025. HUUF could earn \$13,000 to \$15,000, but we need committed hosts to make this work.

HUUF volunteer hosts would provide accommodations for up to 30 tour guests, a dinner or two, and lead an afternoon of activities. This means we need 15 host homes. If you are interested in being a host for three nights during the planned tour, please contact the HUUF office as soon as possible. Maya will be in the area in December and can provide more specifics at that time, but right now we need to see if there is enough host housing to make this work.

*Bridgette Garuti*

## New engravings on Memorial Garden stones

Come walk the beautiful garden path and remember our beloved friends who have passed. The most recent names added are: Thea Gast, Ina Lipman Harris, Terry Jay Kaup, David Acton Lewis, Kurt Stein Newman, Ursula Osborne, Clyde Osborne, Marianne Pennekamp, John H. Sloane, and Marilyn H. Walker.

*Bridgette Garuti*

## Another opportunity to hear poetry

If you missed the July reading at the Fellowship, or if you enjoyed it, here's another opportunity. Join local poet and HUUF member Pat McCutcheon on Friday, September 22, 6:00 p.m. at Northtown Books on H St. in Arcata, as she reads a curated selection of poems from her newly published book, *Through the Labyrinth*. Books are for sale at Northtown Books, and will be available for signing after the reading.



## Making the switch to greener banking

Want to do something about climate change?

If so, Bill McKibben suggests, follow the money. At the June 16 service, Julie Neander and I presented information on how to move your money from banks funding climate change - Chase, Citibank, Bank of America and Wells Fargo - to institutions supporting clean energy and uplifting communities. I don't have a bank account with any of the worst culprits, but I do with US Bank, which has invested \$26.6 billion between 2016 and 2020 in fossil fuels. If you search for a better bank by looking at their websites, they all look great. But dig a little deeper and you can find out what they invest in.

One resource is Mighty Deposits (<https://mightydeposits.com>), which analyzes public data so you can see what any U.S. bank or credit union invests in.

*If you look at  
bank websites they all  
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what they invest*

They don't have much information on fossil fuels so you'll have to call the institution and ask directly. But they do tell you how much money is invested in communities for housing and small business, for example, versus "securities, derivatives" and the like (don't ask me what derivatives are!).

There are also certifications banking institutions can obtain to demonstrate their commitment to uplifting communities. Both Community Development Financial Institutions, or CDFIs, and community development credit unions, or CDCUs, are banks and credit unions that focus on serving people in low-income communities that have historically been locked out of the financial system. Nerd Wallet [www.nerdwallet.com/article/banking/what-is-community-development-financial-institution-cdfi](http://www.nerdwallet.com/article/banking/what-is-community-development-financial-institution-cdfi) has a state-by-state listing for these. At present the only CDCU in our area is in southern Humboldt, Vocolity Community Credit Union. However, I understand from a board member of Coast Central Credit Union that they are pursuing CDFI certification. But whatever bank or credit union you choose, before you move, be sure to ask a few penetrating questions first, so they know the public wants to ensure that the profit they make from our money is not made at our expense and the expense of everyone who comes after us. And when you say goodbye to your fossil fuel funding bank, let them know why you are doing so.

*Valerie Gizinski*

## **Beloved, from page 2**

Creativity and play: We know that beauty and delight will forge a fundamental part of our lifeboat moving forward. The revolution will not be televised, but it will be photographed, poeticized, sung, fingerpainted, danced, sculpted and woven into being. Beauty is a part of the nourishment we need.

These ideas greatly populate our thinking as we move into the year ahead. As we look to ways to nourish and rebloom this tiny corner of the Beloved Community, we are called to tend. As you look into the pages of this missive and peruse what's being offered below, know this: these are not frothy, recreational diversions, designed to keep us distracted or busy while the world around us burns. Rather, they are born of deep thought and from a place of heart and spirit-led generosity. They bespeak our desire to build a lifeboat, a place of joy and connection and meaning; a tiny island inside the storm. Let us gather once more, beloveds. Let us see this space take form.

Yours in grace and gratitude, your shared ministry team,  
*Amy Day and Bridgette Garuti*



# Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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Ann Kilby

## Letter to the editor

### *My Little Pony*

I suggest that the links for this essay (see below) that were published in the current HUUF Weekly be republished in a future *Newsletter* and/or *Weekly* as an invitation to those in our congregation who would like to engage in exploration, discussion, and/or resistance to fascist assumptions and practices in any or all of their arenas of operation.

I almost skipped over this post, drawn into reading it only because I had no idea what “*My Little Pony*” is or how it could be connected to fascism. There’s much herein to stimulate thought and rich discussion.

*Chip Sharpe*

<https://uuma.org/berry-street-essay/2023-berry-street-essay-the-reverend-cecilia-kingman/>

## Editor’s note

Yesterday I learned that August 27, 1993, was the day our Fellowship moved into the building and grounds that we all know, at 24 Fellowship Way.

It’s been 30 years! To celebrate this anniversary, I invite you to join me in raising a toast to the people who had the skills and confidence to take the steps needed to accomplish that move — raising money, buying the land, building the Sanctuary, and keeping faith with each other, no matter how hard the interpersonal challenges got — so that we continue to have a beautiful Fellowship building and grounds.

And if you’re in the mood for another toast, let’s celebrate the people who have continued through the years since to keep HUUF going, and still do so.

*Pat Carr*

## Classified ad

Organic low sugar jam, raspberry, blueberry, apache blackberry, red haven peach preserves. blueberry/peach, blackberry/peach. Contact [jfvelch22@gmail.com](mailto:jfvelch22@gmail.com). \$7 each or four for \$25.