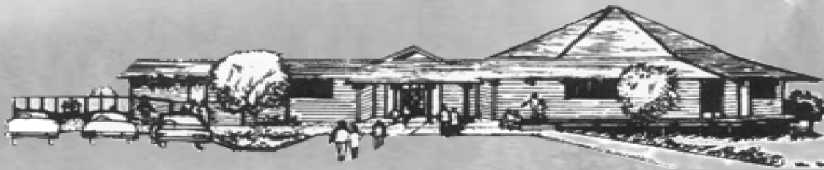


Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



October 2014

A Note from Bryan

This year the Board has chosen Dennis Campbell's book *Congregations as Learning Communities* as the foundation for our focus on the Fellowship as a place where we participate in life-long learning together. Copies of the book are available in the Fellowship Library which is the Minister's office.

To help us focus on the theme of life-long learning, I will give a series of sermons based on information from Campbell's book. But together, in a larger way, we hope bring ourselves to consciousness of ongoing learning at each stage of our lives.

Learning is always worthwhile. Often, however, it is not easy. It involves our ignorance interacting with new information. We often feel embarrassed about having our ignorance revealed, or we feel guilty for not having learned a particular lesson sooner.

We learn by trial and error and the world is sometimes very unkind about our errors. We often internalize that unkindness. This is where our Universalist theology is helpful. While some theologies focus on the "hell" our errors cause and even opine that it is eternal, Universalist theology urges us to focus on creating positive outcomes and to get up and try again. It says that love and harmony are like the sun. They are always there for us when we turn in

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Congregational meeting

Sunday, October 26

1:00 – 2:30

Two items of business will come before Fellowship members:

Election of a Nominating Committee to propose Governing Board and Endowment Committee nominees for election in May. This year's Nominating Committee has nominated the following to serve as next year's Nominating Committee: Barbara Barratt, Marianne Pennecamp and Jeff Knapp.

Explanation of Mission Based Governance:

Our Board of Trustees has always seen to the minutia of day-to-day Fellowship operations. We are now transforming ourselves into a Governing Board that devotes itself to policy study and decision and an overview of Fellowship activities and committees and how they function and interact to best translate our values, mission and ends into reality.

Day to day decisions and functions are being delegated to two Operational Teams:

1. Ministry and Program, and
2. Administration.

Each elected Board member is also on one of these teams and the Operational Teams also have four or five other congregational leaders. All

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People

A big welcome to new member **Anne Wadham**.

Healing energy for **Bonnie MacGregor** who had shoulder surgery on September 23 at Stanford.

Welcome home to **Barbara Barratt and Ann King** after their three-week trip to France.

Congratulations to **Dave Harris** for having his work *The Turtle* on display at the Old Town Art Gallery's new location on the west side of the gazebo/plaza.

Condolences to **Ed and Aiko Uyeki**. Ed's brother, Eugene, recently died.

Marianne Pennekamp is a great-grandparent again. She reports Adam is a laidback baby who is adored by 4½ year-old brother Micah.

Berti Welty's two salmon sculptures are permanently installed in the stream that flows through the Sequoia Park Zoo's new Watershed Heroes exhibit.

Pat McCutcheon and Cheryl Rau are happily hosting AFS student Annapaulo from Italy for this school year.

Mayer Segal is recovering from a recent hospital stay and would appreciate cards and visitors.

Steve Sottong spent a few hours in the emergency room and was diagnosed with gastroenteritis.

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

Debi Cooper will travel the Nile in November with her Shaman Healing group. We hope there is a HUUF presentation to come from that trip.

Sylvia Shaw

What is the Halloween festival?

Each year the Fellowship, with some help from others in the community, turn our buildings and grounds into a magic wonderland for an evening. While the event is geared towards young children, it is appropriate for all ages. Starting at 5 p.m. on **October 18**, groups of youngsters will arrive with their parents. Tickets are for assigned times.

They will decorate their goodie bag and be entertained while awaiting their assigned group's start time. Upon entering the foyer, they'll sit on the carpet while a storyteller reads to them. Then suddenly, the doors to the throne room will be opened and they will be greeted by the King and Queen of Halloween and treated to some courtly entertainment. After being reassured that nothing will scare or harm them, they follow their guiding light, who will step forward and gesture them to follow.

For the next hour they will go to various three-minute skits scattered around the garden [yes - there is a rain plan]. At each skit they will receive a craft item, most of which have been hand-made by Fellowship members. Many skits have a moral message such as 'respect the planet,' 'each person is important,' or 'be friendly.' Some are just plain fun. The last skit is a song blessing where they will receive bookmarks with blessing words like love, peace, joy, etc.

At the end everyone receives a home-baked cupcake and apple juice. There will be a campfire around which they can linger for a bit.

Obviously it is a lot of work. The reward is the look of wonder on young faces and the camaraderie of being part of a magical team. It is a great way to get to know other Fellowship members and friends. If you've never come - come. If you want to be a part, check out the options available. There are lots of behind-the-scenes roles. You do not have to act to be a part.

Berti Welty

Art at HUUF

Eve Anderson will display her work in the Fellowship Sanctuary Gallery during October. Eve's photo art has two genres: the first is landscape photos executed digitally and in traditional presentation and format. Eve's second form is digital collages. For these she gathers images from various sources.

Hear ye! Hear ye! The HUUF Gallery will feature the Third Annual Membership Show from November 2 through the end of December. So all you recognized artists, get out some new works for us to enjoy. And we would love to draw more artists out of the closet to display their work.

Cheryl Rau

Administrative update

If you have not already not already noticed or heard, we finally have a new copier. After much time and consideration it was decided not only to replace but also to upgrade our existing copy machine. Our new copier not only allows us to print in color, it also comes with a maintenance agreement providing ongoing support as we discover and learn to utilize the full potential of our product.

Roxanna Stengl

Note from Bryan, continued

their direction and we eventually will figure out what that direction is.

As our young people focus on learning this year, they will use our UU Principles (kid's version) as a guide. Those "kid's principles" begin this way: 1) Each person is important. 2) Be kind in all you do. As we adults learn our way along I think those Principles are important for us to remember too – both in the way we treat other people and in the way we treat ourselves.

Yours on the learning journey,

Bryan Jessup

Congregational meeting, con't.

Fellowship committees are assigned to one or the other team and a principal task of the teams is to see to the health, adequate numbers and smooth running of the committees and that our shared values, mission and ends are guiding lights for all Fellowship activity.

We have studied this model for a year, but have just started living with the experiment in late August. So far, we are pleased with the smoothness and flexibility this governance experiment is yielding.

We are working with tentative wordings of the values, mission and ends we strive to serve in this Fellowship. We are nearly ready to ask you, the membership, to consider making the tentative official.

Bring questions and observations concerning governance transformation to the meeting. We will try to move further toward clarity in what we are trying to accomplish.

*Richard Kossow and
Jana Kirk-Levine,
Co-presidents*

HUUF participation in Pride parade



Bryan Jessup, Margy Emerson, Sue Mossman, Jeff Thomas, Cynthia Chason



Jan Rowen, Bryan Jessup, Jeff Thomas

See more Pride pictures (in color!) on our Facebook page,
www.facebook.com/humboldtufellowship

New chairs for the Fellowship?

The Building Use Committee met recently to look at various samples of new chairs to replace our current fold-up chairs that seemingly everyone has an opinion about. Part of replacing the sanctuary chairs is spurred on by two anonymous fellowship members' \$5,000 donations for replacing chairs (\$10,000 together). BU is also considering whether we keep the existing chairs or try and sell them hopefully for enough per chair (\$20 at least) that we can use the income to help defray the cost of the new chairs. However, new chairs can be expensive. Part of the issue is that replacing all the chairs would mean buying 150 at one time. Roxana previewed three chairs (see examples below) that ranged in price from \$30/chair for a standard steel framed stackable, cushioned chair with virtually no options as to color of fabric and frame color to a better quality slightly larger steel framed chair for \$123 to an esthetically pleasing but expensive wood frame chair that can stack four high but costs \$213. The cheaper chairs come in minimum orders of 100. Also, the more expensive chairs have slightly larger seats at 19 ½ inches by 19 ½ inches. Cheaper chairs tend to be 18 ½ by 18 ½ inches. Esthetics is important, not just to the look of the sanctuary during services but also to people who want to rent out the building for weddings, etc. Please email me or phone me with your ideas at gblomstrom@sbcglobal.net or 839-9017. The source of these sample chairs is www.churchchairs4less.com.

Greg Blomstrom



High notes from the choir

With the return of fall the HUUF choir is once again in full “sing!” Watch for us at the 11:00 a.m. services on **October 2 and 26**. We welcome new member Ruth Broderick, and welcome back Nur Pratama. It is wonderful to have so many fine singers to create music together. As our numbers grow, so does our repertoire of musical possibilities.

Speaking of repertoire, I want to thank the members of HUUF for sending me to the annual Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network conference once again. This year it was held in beautiful San Diego. Every year I return from the conference with a wealth of songs and ideas for the coming year, and this year was especially rich with congregational songs and UU principle-inspired anthems. The choir sang two of these in September, and we look forward to sharing more with you the coming months.

Regular choir rehearsals take place Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:45 p.m. As always, new members are welcome at any time; and you do not need prior choir experience to join. Also, you are welcome to contact me via email at any time with questions or concerns regarding the choir.

Here's to another year of music together!

Elisabeth Harrington

Member bios

Alison O'Dowd is thrilled to be a new member of HUUF. She was raised UU and attended the First Unitarian Church of Oakland growing up. Alison was very active in YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) from ages 12 to 22 in the Pacific Central District and at the national level she worked at the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) Youth Office for a year in 1997. Despite being so involved in UUism as a youth, she hasn't been active in a UU congregation since her early 20's.

Alison moved to Arcata in 2008 to be a professor in the Environmental Science program at Humboldt State University. She teaches courses in Ecological Restoration and recently helped found the HSU River Institute. Alison's research is focused on aquatic systems of the north coast.

Alison has twin daughters Jasmine and Cassidy (age 3½) and is married to Michael O'Dowd. When she isn't busy playing with her daughters, Alison loves to play ultimate frisbee and go for runs in the forest or along the beach with her dog RJ. She admits that she hasn't met too many people at HUUF yet, so if you see her around please come introduce yourself.

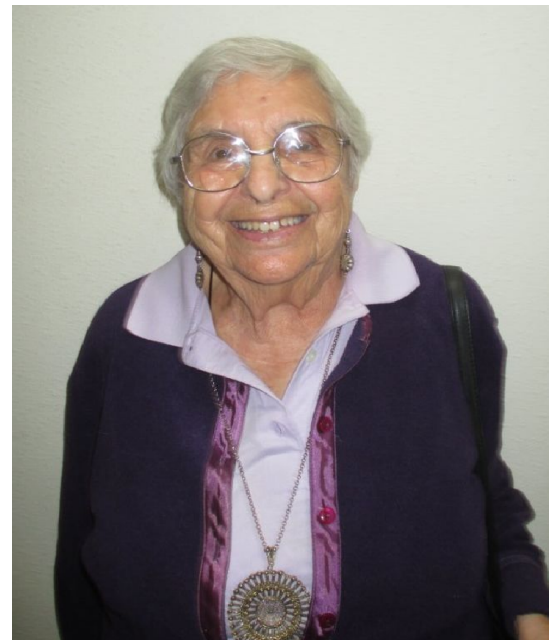
Marianne Pennekamp: I was born in Germany (1924) into a middle class German Jewish family. Hitler came to power when I was nine. We emigrated to France. Our refugee status in France was extremely precarious for my parents. My brother and I, however, went to good schools and made good friends. There were many acts of bureaucratic persecutions, but equally many acts of quiet, sometimes anonymous kindness.

After many adventures, we reached New York in 1941, when I was 17. Work, college, falling in love, marriage, motherhood and citizenship all happened by 1945. Starting at Hunter College, with interest in History/ Geography and Anthropology, I transferred to UC Berkeley and earned a BA in 1945 and Master's Degree in Social Work in 1952. I started my social work career in 1953, spending 25 years as School Social Worker/Guidance Consultant in the Oakland Public Schools. The value and skills of collaboration and partnerships were at the core of my work and led to two co-authored books. I obtained my Ph.D. in 1975. Between 1975 and 1982, I split my time between lecturing at UCB and my work at OPS.

Throughout, school vacations allowed for rich times with the family-shared values. A deep shock hit us in 1963 when our daughter, age 18, was killed in a freak automobile accident. It almost destroyed my husband and me; but we had a son, age 11, to raise and so we persisted. Our son received his BA from HSU in 1974. We moved to Humboldt County in 1982 after he married and they had their first child, our first grandchild. The rest is local history. I am now the great grandmother of one, with another imminent birth. I am the "Oma" of many extended family grandchildren. I am wrapped in love—giving and getting. As a volunteer, I can share much of what I learned elsewhere at various local community tables. I became a friend of HUUF around 1985, and a member when I realized how completely our Aspirations define who I am. I am no longer a refugee. Thanks, family, community and HUUF.



Alison O'Dowd



Marianne Pennekamp

Some adult spiritual resources available at HUUF

The Fellowship Library – Located in the Minister's office, the Library is open every Sunday and at other times, too, if you call 822-3793 and ask.

Thursday Reflections – A time for gentle, supportive questioning and answering together with meditation, inspirational readings and music too. Every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the CARE building. Email Margy Emerson for information – margaretemerson@att.net

Sunday Services – 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Always thoughtful words, heartfelt sharing of joys and sorrows, quiet meditation and beautiful music.

Choir Rehearsal – Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Main Hall. For thousands of years we human beings have known that singing in community soothes our souls and creates a beautiful sound for us to share with others. Email Elisabeth Harrington for information elisabethharrington@yahoo.com.

The Women's Group - Open to all women, this group happens every third Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Main Hall. Email Berti Welty for information, bertijo@humboldt1.com

Saturday Morning Men's Group – has an opening in the fall. Watch the newsletter for an announcement.

Foundations of our UU Faith – Starting Monday, October 20, at 7 p.m. in the Main Hall. Eight sessions examining how the love, justice and wisdom at the core of our faith presented itself and evolved over several thousand years. Call the office to sign up: 822-3793

Aging with Grace – The fourth Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. after Sunday service. Bring a brave, open heart and something to eat. Email Sylvia Shaw for information sls500@yahoo.com

Sufi Practice – Universal Dances for Peace – First and Third Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Hall. Though this resource is not an official HUUF activity, it is open to us and to all who are interested in dancing and chanting as a way to move themselves toward harmony and peace. (\$5 donation requested) Email Scott Sattler for information – scott.sattler@gmail.com

Crafts Group – First Wednesdays 1:30 p.m. at Bev Allen's house. For thousands of years women have found working together, using their hands for creativity and their voices for communication has been healing and sustaining. Email gaballen@suddenlink.net

A Talk with the Minister – Need a listening ear? Call the Rev. Bryan Jessup at 822-3793 to set up an appointment.

Learning to Listen Deeply – November 8 and 15. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Main Hall. Local counselor, Sheri Graham-Whitt will lead us in two workshops to help us hear our own deep hearts and listen to the deep hearts of others with courage and compassion. Call 822-3793 to sign up.



Halloween festival work parties

All are invited to come help at the following times and places. While it would be nice to know if you are coming, if you can just drop in, please do so.

Paint backdrops: Care building, Friday, **October 3**, 3 to 5 p.m.

Construct props: Care building, Friday, **October 10**, 3 to 5 p.m.

Craft project and workshop at Berti & Jo's home, salad lunch: Saturday, **October 11**, starting at 9:30. We will make miniature horseshoes from 1/8" thick aluminum armature wire. We'll be snipping, bending and smashing wire. If we can get 3 or more assembly lines going, we'll have 300 made in no time. After we are done, we'll have a green salad lunch potluck, Berti will provide the greens, you bring your favorite salad topping. Call 476-0654 for directions and to let Berti know if you are coming. If you just decide to drop-in, that is fine too.

Roberta Welty



Board report

The Governing Board consists of your elected board members and meets on the first Tuesday of the month, 5:30 at HUUF. They are charged with overseeing policy. Each member of the Governing Board sits on either the Administration Team or the Ministry/Program Team along with several congregants. These teams discuss nitty-gritty and recommend policy bumped up from committees. It all represents a giant pyramid.

At the September 2 Board meeting we sadly accepted a resignation from vice president Brad Meiners. Though the Board has the authority to replace members it chose to ask the new Nominating Committee to accept the task.

That new Nominating Committee will be elected at the October 26 Congregational Meeting. The agenda will also include updates on the new governance process.

Changing the Treasurer to Cynthia Chason brought about discussion of the checkbook procedures. The Board requested the Finance Committee recommend protocol and procedure for the future. Their recommendations were accepted at an emergency Governing Board meeting on September 20.

Unanimous approval was given to the proposed ministerial package of 60% time for the next ten months.

The September 20 emergency meeting also approved a resolution to close our PAX account and transfer close to \$45,000 into the Umpqua Bank account.

“Systems Thinking” is the Board’s learning component this Fall. Individual communication styles were discussed as a tool to increase the effectiveness of our practices.

Sylvia Shaw

Halloween festival dates and times

As soon as possible			sign-ups
October 3rd	Fri	3-5 p.m.	Meet in Care building to paint backdrops and look at costumes
October 5	Sun	12:30	Look at costumes
October 10	Fri	3 p.m.	Meet in Care building to construct props & sets
October 10	Fri	5-7	Skit rehearsal
October 11	Sat	9 a.m.	Craft work party and lunch at Berti’s; see article on page 6
October 17	Fri	afternoon	String lights and set up canopies
			Decorate building, set up throne room.
October 18		Festival Time	
		10 a.m. - 2:45	Drop off cupcakes and juice
			Final set construction and decoration
			Actors in costume ready to do walk-through by 2:45 p.m.
		3 p.m.	Meet in Throne room for walk through of all skits
		4 p.m.	Pizza served to participants
		5 p.m.	First group of attendees start through
		8 p.m.	Last group starts through
		8:30 p.m.	Clean-up starts. As last group goes through, we start putting things away

Aging with Grace

Our group’s name and format is still unsettled, but we seek ways to bolster the support systems of our elders. We welcome your input and attendance.

Two gatherings this summer discussed concerns about health care options, especially within Humboldt County. We questioned experienced congregants about how to change the picture and were disappointed in the lack of good answers. Aside from taking responsibility for our own maximum health, many of us are unsure of how to access quality health care.

Perhaps some form of group support for health care can emerge from the summer sessions? Can there be a network within the Congregation of men’s and women’s groups, dream groups, Caring Circle, etc., that can create support around health issues? What about a Congregational Nursing program like the Ashland, OR, fellowship, rvuuf.org/health-ministries? Can we do it with other faith communities?

Other elder issues that need support are open for discussion. Going forward elders will meet on the fourth Sunday after the second service in the main room. The October meeting will be replaced by a Congregational Meeting called by the Board.

Sylvia Shaw

Books that transformed my life

Recommended by	Title, Author
Beverly Allen	<i>The Warmth of Other Suns</i> , Isabel Wilkerson
Susan Allen	<i>A Pattern Language</i> , Ishikawa, Alexander and Silverstein
Susan Allen	<i>The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down</i> , Anne Fadiman
Scott Allen	<i>The Silent Sky</i> , Allan W. Eckert
Scott Allen	<i>Wild Season</i> , Allan W. Eckert
Andy Anderson	<i>People Tools</i> , Ian C. Fox
Greg Blomstrom	<i>My First Summer in the Sierra</i> , John Muir
Greg Blomstrom	<i>Up and Down California</i> , Josiah Brewer
Mandy Bray	<i>Inspiration Sandwich</i> , Sark
Mandy Bray	17¢ notebooks - to write your own inspirations!
Pat Carr	<i>The Trolley Problem, or Would You Throw the Fat Guy Off the Bridge?</i> Thomas Cathcart
Kate Chmielewski	Dune trilogy, Frank Herbert
Paul Chmielewski	<i>The Buddha and the Borderline</i> , Kiera Van Gelder
Debi Cooper	<i>The Life You Were Born To Live: A Guide To Finding Your Life Purpose</i> , Dan Millman
Veronica Galiani	<i>Why Can't I Get Better?</i> Richard Horowitz
Valerie Gizinski	<i>A Distant Mirror</i> , Barbara Tuchman
Ilene Harris	<i>Valley of the Dolls</i> , Jacqueline Suzanne
Ilene Harris	<i>Where The Red Fern Grows</i> , Wilson Rawls
Debby Harrison	<i>When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough: The Search For A Life That Matters</i> , Harold Kushner
Bryan Jessup	<i>Catcher in the Rye</i> , J.D. Salinger
Ann King	<i>Memories, Dreams and Reflections</i> , Carl Jung
Richard Kossow	<i>Quiet: The Power of Introverts</i> , Susan Cain
Pat McCutcheon	<i>The Goldfinch</i> , Donna Tartt
Joanne McGeary	<i>The Faraway Nearby</i> , Rebecca Solnit
Shay McKay	<i>The Journey</i> , Mary Oliver
Marianne Pennekamp	<i>The Altruistic Personality</i> , Samuel P. Oliner
Marianne Pennekamp	<i>From the North Pole to the South Pole</i> .
Jan Rowan	<i>The Family of Man</i> , Edward Steichen, Carl Sandburg
Steve Sottong	<i>Passover Plot</i> , Hugh Schonfield
Joy Thomas	<i>The Life of the Bee</i> , Maurice Maeterlinck
Aiko Uyeki	<i>The Sun</i> (monthly journal), edited by Sy Safrensky
Ed Uyeki	<i>Uncomfortable With Uncertainty</i> , Pema Chodron
Helen Vatcher	<i>Ozma of Oz</i> , Frank Baum
Joanna Welch	<i>Wish You Happy Forever: What China's Orphans Taught Me About Moving Mountains</i> . Jenny Bowen

Child naming/welcoming ceremony

What: A UU Child Naming and Welcoming ceremony (often called a Child Dedication) when parents, grandparents and godparents to dedicate themselves to the care and nurturing of that young life – body, mind and spirit.

When: **December 14** at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. Sign up for the service you will attend.

Where: At the Humboldt UU Fellowship

Who: This ceremony is for all infants and children who have not ever officially been named and welcomed. Grandparents and godparents are welcome but optional. Single parents, same gender parents, relatives raising children are welcome.

Sign up: To take part in this ceremony email the Rev. Bryan Jessup at minister@huuf.org.

For more information: Call the Rev. Bryan Jessup at 707 822 3793.

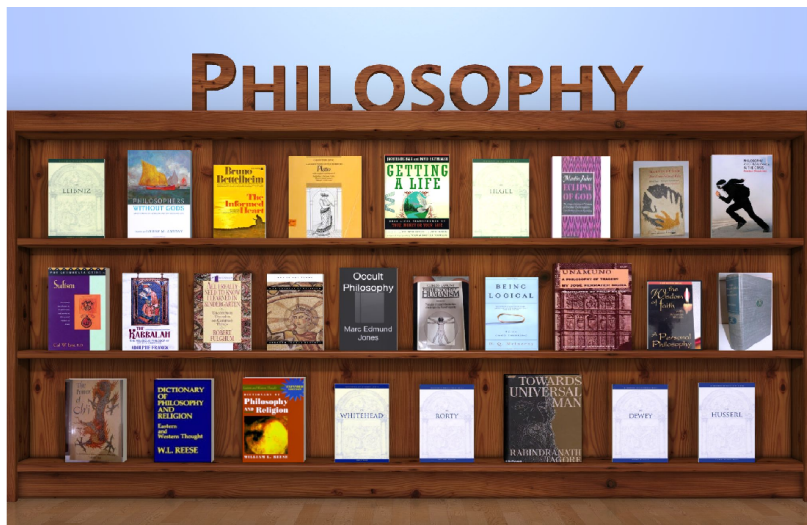
Harvest brunch

The SAC brunch will follow the second morning service on **October 19**. This will be a harvest brunch, in celebration of the new season, and will emphasize local organically grown produce as much as possible. We expect to see fresh garden cool-weather salads, a harvest soups, local breads, autumn veggies and stews. Amongst desserts we may find a home-baked pie or cobbler.

Please allow ten or 15 minutes for dishes to get to the table so everyone can be easily served.

Suggested donations: \$5 per adult and \$1 per child. Proceeds will go to support the 211 Community Information and Referral Line.

Eve Anderson



Look in the library!

Our HUUF library expanded this summer to include hundreds of books from Phyllis and Richard Stanewick — books on Christianity; eastern thought and religion; social justice and government; women's studies; parenting; relationships and sexuality; the connections of science and religion — nearly 1,000 books for you, so please barge into Bryan's office and have a look.

In addition to what's on the shelves, a new digital library will allow access to the catalog from our huuf.org website as well as our Facebook page. In other words, you can browse from home. You are welcome to email me at LLaBoLLe@gmail.com and request a search to determine what we have in your interest area.

In turn, *you* can help the library. The most important is to return any books you have borrowed and read. It is also important that you don't place the returned books on the shelves. In order to keep our digital library up-to-date, any returned book must be added to the database. Just leave returned books in the designated place. Once a book is logged in, a stamp will be placed on the front cover indicating its proper location on the shelves.

Another helpful thing would be to help stamp the Stanewick books with the donation stamp. Each book has a tiny post-it note sticking out of the top, so they are easy to find. If you find yourself in Bryan's office having a chat, you could perhaps stamp one shelf of books.

Some of the Stanewick books seem likely to attract the attention of collectors. These are stored in the administration office, with plans to sell them on Ebay. If you are an Ebay expert who would like to assist in this task, please contact me.

Finally, the check-out system has been pared down to simply recording in the library binder your name, the title of the book(s) you are borrowing, and the date on which you borrow them. Nobody will bother you with due dates. But this will allow someone who is searching for a particular book, and not finding it, to see who has it. That person may call you to ask when you plan to return it.

It has been lots of fun expanding the library, but we hope to keep expanding. At some point we may have to move Bryan's office into a pup tent in the yard. Or we could consider other spaces for the books. Our congregation would really benefit from a reading room of sorts; and if you have any ideas for fundraisers, please share them.

Lisa LaBolle, Librarian

Sunday morning time together

Once again it is time for transitions in the time we spend together on Sunday mornings. Due to increasing attendance and the desire to be responsive to the needs of the Fellowship, we have reinstated two services on Sunday mornings. The first service will be shorter than the second, and we expect this could become a more contemplative service; but we will have to see how it evolves. The second service will coordinate with the children's religious education program to support the participation of families with children.

We offered two services on Sunday mornings for many years, so this is not new for us. We are very much interested in feedback as we implement this change to enable our services to be meaningful for everyone. So please do let us know what you think.

Wendy Rowan for
the Program & Worship Committee

The Fun in fundraising

On May 23, 2015, HUUF will sponsor a night at the theater, musical theater, to be precise.

Northcoast Repertory is producing *Spring Awakening, a Rock Opera*; and we are buying out the house and selling tickets. Making a profit will be low-key and fun. If you are interested in helping out with this exciting (ad)venture, please email or call me (ileneharris@gmail.com, 725-9043 or 267-0438). I am good at delegating and would also love to hear your ideas and suggestions. Selling tickets? Food? A raffle? Boutique? I can promise that there will be no meetings!

Ilene Harris

True North/PICO report

HUUF has several congregants participating in the regional organization, True North, of the PICO National Network (People Improving Communities through Organizing). Our Social Action Committee has adopted True North as one of its projects for the year, and the Board is informally supporting True North as a social justice outreach arm.

What is it and why are we involved?

True North is being established in Humboldt, Del Norte and tribal lands. It is sponsored by the Humboldt Area Foundation and funded by the California Endowment. The PICO model often uses faith communities as contact points because they already have communication and leadership structures. They are also using cultural networks and other values-based community groups to contact everyday people.

In the Arcata/Eureka area the current participants include faith communities from several traditions and a Latin cultural group. We meet regularly to update each other on outreach activities.

The purpose of all these contacts is to listen to where the pain is in the communities and what the appetite is for change. Following the fall months of a "Listening Campaign" True North plans to choose a regional platform and strategy to bring about people power change launched at a Founding Convention.

HUUF is involved because we believe it will give us a broader reach in social justice work. We would appreciate each of you taking the time to share your concerns about community pains with Bonnie McGregor, Joanna Welch, Eve Anderson or me. Even better, you can join us in listening to others.

Sylvia Shaw

New approach to administration

An Administration Team has been formed to provide oversight to approximately half of the Fellowship's activity, including the work of thirteen of our committees. Until now the Board of Trustees has tried to see to the details of all aspects of Fellowship life and has had difficulty keeping up. There has never been much time or energy for broad policy discussion and a longer view of our mission to ourselves and the community.

We are now experimenting with delegating much of this day to day oversight to a team composed of the Fellowship Administrator, one co-president, two other Board members and five congregational leaders experienced in various important aspects of Fellowship work. You will hear elsewhere about the Ministry/Program Team, the other half of our oversight experiment.

Administration Team members are: Roxana Stengl, Richard Kossov, Cynthia Chason, Sylvia Shaw, Dave Harris, Awanna Kalal, Pat McCutchen, JoAnn Thomas and Chip Sharpe.

The team meets at 5:30 on the fourth Tuesday of each month to see to the health of effective functioning of our thirteen committees. Do they have willing and able leadership? Do they have enough people? Are they directing their efforts to furthering the values, mission and ends of the congregation? Do they have a clear understanding of their mandate and priorities? What resources are needed to facilitate their work? How do their efforts relate to activities of other committees? Generally what can we do to be helpful and supportive?

The Administration Team's committees: Aesthetics, Building Health and Maintenance, Building

Use, Communications, Finance, Fundraisers, Grounds (including Memorial Garden), Hospitality-Kitchen, Membership Records, Personnel, Planned Giving and Stewardship (canvass).

The Team will regularly report to the Board as to how operations are going and seek decisions on matters requiring Board action.

Please wish us well and ask any of the team members for additional information or clarification. Each of us is happy to accept suggestions and comments about matters within the purview of the Team. Please seek us out to make your concerns known.

Richard Kossov

Deadline info

Deadline for the November issue of the newsletter is Monday, **October 20**, 5:00 p.m. Send your committee reports and articles to me at joythomas3828@gmail.com. Neither PDF files nor late submissions are accepted. Crisp, clear graphics should be sent as a separate file, not embedded in your article.

Joy Thomas, editor

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are 10¢ a word. Send your check to the HUUF office and the text of your ad to joythomas3828@gmail.com.

Ministry and Program Team

The job of the Ministry and Program Teams is to support and help coordinate the work of the Fellowship's various committees that create the programs and provide the ministry that helps our Fellowship meet its ends.

Our ends, in general terms, are: 1) To help us each more and more embody the love and justice called for by our UU Principles. 2) To help us work together to create, warm, supportive, welcoming community. 3) To help us (in our own lives and in the world around us) shape the world toward peace, justice and sustainability.

Fellowship committees that report to the Ministry and Program Team include: Worship Leaders, Adult RE, Youth RE, Caring Circle, Social Action, Community Building Activities, Membership, Music, Leadership, the Fellowship Library, Denominational Affairs and Volunteer Development.

The co-chairs of the Ministry and Program Team are HUUF Co-president: Jana Kirk Levine and the Rev. Bryan Jessup.

Members of the Team are: Joanna Welch (Social Justice), Jillian Mooney (DRE), Berti Welty (Community Building Activities), Bonnie MacGregor (Worship Leaders).

Feel free to contact either of the chairs or any of the Ministry and Program Team members with gratitude you have for ministry and programs offered and with ideas you have for ministry and programs you would like to have us offer. Human, financial, time and physical resources permitting, the Team plans to be very responsive to good ideas.

The Ministry and Program Team meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Fellowship. Our meetings are open, and you are welcome to attend. Members and friends just like you make up the Ministry and Program Team and freely give their time and effort on behalf of all of us.

Bryan Jessup



I Happened To Be Standing

by Mary Oliver

I don't know where prayers go,
or what they do.
Do cats pray, while they sleep
half-asleep in the sun?
Does the opossum pray as it
crosses the street?
The sunflowers? The old black oak
growing older every year?
I know I can walk through the world,
along the shore or under the
trees.
with my mind filled with things
or little importance, in full
self-attendance. A condition I can't
really
call being alive.
Is a prayer of gift, or a petition,
or does it matter?
The sunflowers blaze, maybe
that's their way.
Maybe the cats are sound asleep.
Maybe not.

While I was thinking this I happened to be standing just outside my door, with my notebook open, which is the way I begin every morning. Then a wren in the privet begins to sing. He is positively drenched in enthusiasm, I don't know why. And yet, why not? I wouldn't persuade you from whatever you believe or whatever you don't. That's your business. But I thought, of the wren's singing, what could this be if it isn't a prayer? So I just listened, my pen in the air.



Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 506

Bayside, CA 95524

24 Fellowship Way (off Jacoby Creek Road)

(707) 822-3793

www.huuf.org

e-mail: office@huuf.org

Administrator: Roxana Stengl

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 Directors:

Co-Presidents Richard Kossow

Jana Kirk-Levine

Vice-President Brad Meiners

Secretary Sylvia Shaw

Trustees Cynthia Chason

Treasurer Joanna Welch

Newsletter Editor Joy Thomas

Calendar Editor Roxana Stengl

Halloween festival

Let the magic begin! It is almost time for that HUUF annual Halloween miracle. How do we, a small UU fellowship, manage to pull off a major community event, year after year? Almost everyone senses the magic and pitches in to make it happen. Whether you act in a skit, build a prop, be a guiding light, set-up canopies, bake cupcakes, talk it up to your friends or simply come to the event, your participation is important.

Donation of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

- Empty 1 gallon milk jugs - the translucent plastic ones for luminaries
- White gauzy material to replenish the guiding lights costume box
- Light-colored old flat sheets on which to paint backdrops

Note the date: The festival is earlier than usual.

Check the sign-up boards on Sundays for how you can participate and/or you can contact either Sandy Lynn or Berti Welty.

Sandy Lynn sandy5527@sbcglobal.net 442-8979

Berti Welty bertijo@humboldt1.com 476-0654

