

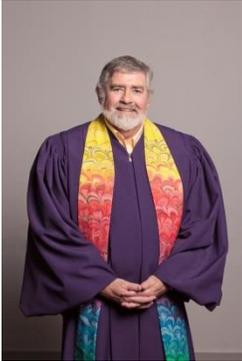


FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON
COMMUNITARIAN

Published Monthly

March 2014

Minister's Musings/Message:



Time is Marching on and the church year is disappearing! It seems like we just started, but already it is coming up on a year since we began the courtship in this dance we do between Ministers and Congregations! It has been a year of many changes for me and for the congregation!

Fortunately, as a settled Minister, there is no end-time in sight for our relationship (other than the possibility I may someday retire a decade or more down the road), so we can each continue settling in and getting used to each other. We each bring our uniqueness and eccentricities to this Unitarian Universalist movement, which makes this such a fascinating place to meet people. We are creative and interesting, and sometimes a bit strange, but we are each different and yet we share similar values expressed in our Unitarian Universalist Principles.

During this spring month of March, you will have the opportunity to meet some creative and energetic women and men who have made a difference! Then later in the month we will attend to some of the needs of the congregation, with a meeting about some By-Laws changes and the start of the Pledge Drive for the coming Fiscal Year. Like most congregations, we are almost entirely dependent on the pledges of our members and friends to support the work of this congregation. I hope that you will be generous in your support and show what this congregation really means to you!

Enjoy the days lengthening and getting warmer!
Have a great March!

Peace,
Rev. Bob

**Sunday Services - 10:30 am
(Unless otherwise noted)**

3/2 Women's Herstory Sunday! Anneka Sonstroem will share her award-winning speech while Cindy Milford and Pat Davis, and friends will share some more herstory!

3/9 Unitarian Universalist Saints! Rev. Bob Klein

3/16 Lives of Saints! Rev. Bob Klein, Pat Davis, Jan Vernor-Howard, and others

3/23 Commitment! Rev. Bob Klein and the Vernal Equinox by Dave Hall

3/30 The Problem with Religious Fundamentalisms
Rev. Bob Klein

Minister's Office Hours:

Rev. Bob keeps walk-in hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10-12 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Please call to be sure that he is in and available as occasional meetings, hospital visits, and other appointments may need to be scheduled during these times. Rev. Bob is also available by appointment at other times. Please call his home 209-227-7591 if he is not at the church, or **call his cell 209-684-6345 for appointments or emergencies**. Messages left on his cell will be checked at least daily. Feel free to e-mail uurevbobk@gmail.com

Adult Classes led by Rev. Bob:

Starting March 13th-14th New Adult Class led by Rev. Bob:

Dream Groups, looking at our Dreams—using Rev. Jeremy Taylor’s method.

Daytime Group Thursdays March 13 & 27 1-3 p.m.

Evening Group Fridays March 7 & 21 6-8 p.m.

*We have room for a few more members in each group. Please contact me if you would like to join one of the groups, which function supportively and agree to keep anonymous all that is shared. If you come, **Bring a Dream!***

(Recommended reading: **The Wisdom of Your Dreams** by Jeremy Taylor)

The Battle for God: a History of

Fundamentalism by Karen Armstrong Please *let me know if you are interested and which time(s) work for you! I would like to try just one section if possible.*

Daytime Sessions Fridays 3/14, 3/21, 3/28

10:30 a.m.-noon.

Evening Sessions Thursdays 3/13, 3/20, 3/27

7-8:30 p.m.

Upcoming Study Possibilities: *Let me know which interest you!*

Unitarian Universalist History & Theology

Looking at our Shadows: Zweig & Wolfe’s, *Romancing the Shadow*

A Healthier Society (David Korten’s *Great Turning*)

Blessing, Spirituality, and Panentheism (Matthew Fox’s *Creation Spirituality*)

Personal Patterns/Archetypes: *The Hero Within*, by Carol Pearson

Treasures Report

Treasurer’s Report to the Church – February 2014

A review of our financial reports shows that our situation is not improving. Pledge income to the end of January is \$73,675 and it should be \$78,400, this is about 94%. Net ordinary income is minus only \$2,557 because expenses are, so far, lower than expected and a large plate donation has helped a lot. Fundraising is at 56% of the annual goal and the forecast for the rest of the year is not encouraging. We had a delightful dinner and movie on Feb. 13. Thanks for attending and thanks to the wonderful ladies of this church for their work.

We have not yet had to draw funds from our investments, some of which is in the budget, but we probably will need more than the budget called for. The second half of the property tax bills are due next month.

We have begun the budget process for the next fiscal year and the Finance committee has submitted a budget to the board. The board discussed it at length and made several important decisions. There will be a congregational meeting on March 23rd for a discussion of this draft budget. We will learn what is needed during the pledge drive to make this a viable church. You will see what it takes, beside good people, to keep a church functioning and inviting.

Please keep using your S-Mart cards, they have provided much needed extra income.

Respectfully submitted

Dave Hall

Religious Education News

Let UUs eat cake! Don't miss the return of the traditional

Intergenerational Birthday Party

Right after church, Sunday, March 30

An opportunity to try many different kinds of cake (share a favorite family cake) and meet people who share your birthday month.

Games for kids and adults.

Cake bakers/buyers needed: E-mail Lisa (or call the church) by March 27th, to let her know you will be bringing a cake to serve 8 or more, drop off on long table in Jackson Hall. religious_ed@stocktonuu.org

Register

Parents of Teens and Children please fill out the registration form if you have never registered your kids online: <http://stocktonuu.org/welcome-to-the-religious-education-sunday-school-program/>

Parents/Grandparents

Please help determine future curriculum. Please fill out the online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/F3HYFJ9>

K-6 Program for March

3rd-7th grade: March 2 & April 13

Age 4-Third grade: March 9 & 23



Nature and Faith

This curriculum will focus on our 7th principle via ecology and the wonder of nature through stories, outdoor art, science and perhaps a nature walk. We'll prepare for Earth Day at Victory Park. Classes may also include relevant information about science, Buddhism, Our UU leaders, Pagan religions and First People's beliefs and stories.

Please attend all three days (including the intergenerational Earth Day Service; parents who can also help out with the Earth Day festival should contact Lisa)

Earth Day at Victory Park-April 6 (we are likely to host an event for kids after church if not during)

Earth Day Service April 27—all ages should attend.

Two SPECIAL EVENTS –NOT TO BE MISSED

- INTERGENERATIONAL Birthday Party—see general announcements!
- TAKE APART PARTY w/Larry for 3rd-8th grade kids during the service on March 16 (learn about a famous UU and explore how machines work)

Youth-Meet with Rev. Bob for regular discussion and possible talent show plan.

March 9

March 23

April 13—baking day

Lisa's office hours will be by appointment until the church internet service is repaired, but you can often catch her at the church around 11:30 on Wednesday.

547-1020 (home)

religious_ed@stocktonuu.org

Emerson Coffee House Collective



ROY ZIMMERMAN CONNECTS THE BLUE DOTS

Zimmerman is a satirical songwriter in the Tom Lehrer/Phil Ochs tradition. He tours almost constantly, taking his funny songs about fracking, creationism, marijuana laws, government shutdown, same-sex marriage, guns, taxes and abstinence across the country, often playing in some of the least Progressive places in America for the most Progressive people there - the "Blue Dots" he calls them.

"I get accused of preaching to the converted," he says, "but I don't think of it that way. I think of it as entertaining the troops."

The world is full of funny songs, but Zimmerman's hilarious, rhyme-intensive originals are also incisive calls to action, smart, savvy and undeniable. The "Blue Dot Tour" is ninety minutes of these songs - funny songs like "The Faucet's on Fire!" and "I Want a Marriage Like They Had In the Bible," heartfelt songs like "Hope, Struggle and Change" and "I Approve This Message."

Zimmerman's "Blue Dot Tour" First UU Church of Stockton Saturday, March 8 at 7 pm Admission is \$18 or pay what you can, \$10 for students.

Book Group Meeting



March 26, 2014: We will continue our discussion of The Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela. Facilitated by Anne Struck

New members or "drop-ins" are always welcome. If interested in joining us contact Herman Washington at 209-957-8433 or lhwash@comcast.net

Thanks, Herman

DIRECTORY UPDATE: OOPS!

For those of you who have been anxiously awaiting a new picture directory, we send apologies. For those who would just like to have any directory, we have news! We have given up on the hope of a LifeTouch directory due to the staff time and effort involved and the cost of buying enough directories for the church (only 40% of the congregation bought pictures so we would need to buy directories at \$5 each to cover the rest of the congregation). Instead we have decided to put out a non-picture directory as soon as possible (one more opportunity for corrections will be out this week) and to put together our own picture directory as soon as we can (volunteers with directory or photo-editing skills requested). Please check your listings and also send in digitally or bring in a photo of yourself and/or your family for us to scan as soon as possible. Thanks for your understanding!

Robert E. Green Memorial Scholarship

If you know a High School Senior in San Joaquin County that is looking for Scholarships, First UU Church is offering the Robert E. Green Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.00. Applications are available in Jackson Hall. Application deadline is March 1, 2014 if you have questions please contact Nichole at 209-466-7743 or office@stocktonuu.org.

Chair Plaques

Chair plaques in the sanctuary can be ordered at any time - a visible way to honor a loved one, best friend or someone who inspired you. With two recent requests, we will place an order on March 17, and these will be dedicated on a Sunday thereafter. If interested, just send a \$150 check for each to the office and specify what you would like on the plaque.

Do you like to sing?

The choir is accepting new members! If you love to sing, or have always wanted to try out performing, here's your chance. The church choir is open to anyone who would like to sing with us. We rehearse at 9am on Sunday mornings before the service. We usually rehearse and sing 3 Sundays each month. Contact Amelia Roberts, Music Director, at AmeliasRoberts@gmail.com (don't miss the middle initial "i") for more information.

Alliance News

The Alliance is planning their April 9 meeting featuring a special video program beginning at 10:30 am.

The video traces the Women's movement through the years beginning in the Sixties to the present time.

It is an excellent program and takes about an hour. Discussion and a box lunch from Bodine's will

be served after the video. There will not a business meeting.

Reservations will be required for the box lunch, cost estimate is \$13,00.

Mark calendars for the Annual Potluck Salad Luncheon and Program Planning meeting Wednesday, June 11 at Janet Bonner's home beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Social Justice News

Social Justice Collection Sunday, March 16, 2014.

Social Justice Collection

Our February Social Justice Collection raised **\$179.00 for the Emergency Food Bank of Stockton**. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions! If you have any suggestions for Social Justice Collection Recipient please contact Lauri McKindley or Rev. Bob Klein.

March: American Red Cross

April: Peace & Justice Network

May: Woman's Center of San Joaquin County

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The First UU Church Social Justice/Community Outreach effort is fired up! After our successful MLK National Day of Service work day at the Boggs Track Community Farm (thanks to all!), we're now planning our next outreach effort at the Earth Day Festival on April 6, 2014. For more information, contact Jeri Bigbee (931-6871). In addition, our dedicated Habitat for Humanity crew met on February 22nd and provided volunteer labor on a Habitat worksite. If you'd like to join the crew, contact Art Cofod (art@cofod.net).

Donations Needed

Please donate unusable electric hardware and machinery by March 8th. The elementary age kids will learn from a safety supervised "take apart party." E-mail or call Lisa with a description of your item. She will let you know if we still need the item and how to drop off.

547-1020

or religious_ed@stocktonuu.org

Valentine's Dinner & Move Fundraiser



Purpose

(Article III, By-Laws of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Stockton)

We, the members of this congregation, shall foster Unitarian Universalist principles. We encourage each individual to determine his or her own creed and standard of theological belief. Toward those purposes, we are committed to creating a loving religious community through worship, study, service and fellowship while honoring diversity and respecting the inherent worth and dignity of each individual. We shall strive to render enlightened service to the various communities of which we are a part. We respect the interdependent web of all living things.

Minister

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