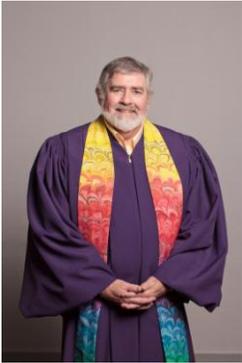




### Minister's Musings/Message:



Many, many thanks to all who helped with my wonderful Installation Celebration! Everything went beautifully and it was a great gathering to celebrate our shared ministry. I will long remember this touching time we shared! Thank You!

December has been my favorite month for as long as I can remember. With my birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Christmas on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and New Year's Eve to wrap things up, what's not to like! I have experienced cold and snowy Decembers in northern climes and warmer ones in SoCal and the midsouth. I am looking forward to seeing what December in Northern California will hold this year. Hopefully there will be some rain, and I wouldn't mind a few more cloudy days as a change from all the sunny ones!

We will celebrate a mostly traditional Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. (Tuesday 12/24) at the church this year. We will also celebrate several Winter Festivals of Light on the 15<sup>th</sup> and consider Christmas and Religious stories on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> of December and at a Forum after church on the 15<sup>th</sup>. We will have an all-church party after church on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Emerson Coffee House will Host DHX for a Christmas Performance on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Anyone need any more for the holidays? Hope to see you all at all or most of these!

The holidays can be a lonely time for those without family in the area, so please keep others in mind this holiday season! Travel safely if you will be on the roads! Good skiing and snowboarding to all those who will be doing that.

Happy Holidays! (yes, all of them!)  
Peace, Rev. Bob

<h3>Sunday Services - 10:30 am (Unless other wise noted)</h3>
-------------------------------------------------------------------

12/1 Thanks for Giving

12/8 Religious Stories, Legends and Myths (and the things we teach our children)

Rev. Bob Klein (follow-up discussion at after-church Forum 12/15)

12/15 A Celebration of Winter Festivals of Light  
Rev. Bob Klein

Followed by Forum on Religious Stories-see more info from DRE Lisa

12/22 A Unitarian Universalist View of Christmas  
Rev. Bob Klein

12/24 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
Rev. Bob Klein

12/29 Guest

<h3>Adult Classes led by Rev. Bob:</h3>
-----------------------------------------

New Evening Sessions of Adult Classes led by Rev. Bob:

**Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism** (based on Bishop Spong's book)

Daytime Sessions continuing Fridays Dec. 6 & 13, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

**NEW 2<sup>nd</sup> Section Weds. Evenings 6:30-8 p.m. Dec. 4, 11, and 18**

**Dreamwork Group**, looking at our Dreams—using Rev. Jeremy Taylor's method

Daytime Sessions Thursday December 5, 12, 19 1-3 p.m. Bring a Dream!

**New 2<sup>nd</sup> Section Friday Evenings 6-8 p.m. Dec. 6, 13, 20**(Recommended reading: one of Jeremy's books on Dreams--The Wisdom of Your Dreams is available on Kindle)

### Minister's Office Hours:

Rev. Bob will be keeping 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 new cell 209-684-6345 for appointments or emergencies**. Messages left at his home or on his cell will be checked at least daily. Feel free to e-mail [uurevbobk@gmail.com](mailto:uurevbobk@gmail.com)

### Treasures Report Oct. 2013

Treasurer's Report to the Congregation November 2013

We have received a generous special gift which allowed us to pay the property tax bills on the church's property, for which the Treasurer is particularly grateful. We are still running below the curve on pledges but there is money in the bank to meet the payroll. If we all turn out for the auction, buy and give the discount coupon books to friends and family for the holidays, use the S-Mart cards and bring in cans and bottles, the fund raising team will be on track to meet their goals. I urge you all to bring your pledges up to date by the end of the year (for the tax deduction and the benefit of the church). This will allow me to celebrate in the December report.

Dave Hall

### Social Justice News

#### Social Justice Collection Sunday, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions!

#### Social Justice Collection

Our November Social Justice Collection raised **\$215.00 in support of Animal Friends connection**. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions!

### Social Justice News

The First UU Church Social Justice/Community Outreach effort is on the move! Currently we're focusing on coordinating activities in three areas:

- Ongoing engagement with specific community agencies, such as our crew that works with Habitat for Humanity (see article below). For more information, contact Art Cofod (401-3991).
- Monthly social justice Sunday offerings for community organizations. This month we're focusing on Adopt-a-Family with the Women's Center. Next month we'll be supporting the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). For more information, contact Lauri McKindley (477-3542).
- Participation in community events, such as the Earth Day Festival (April) and Pride Festival (August). We'll be coordinating a social justice event on the MLK National Day of Service (**January 20, 2014**), so mark your calendars! For more information contact Jeri Bigbee (931-6871).

To increase our visibility, we've also developed First UU Church t-shirts (see ordering information below). We encourage all church members and friends to wear their t-shirts when we participate in social justice activities in the community, thereby spreading the good word about our church!

Our group is growing ... Mikayla Meyling recently joined us and will be helping coordinate our communications and publicity. Mikayla will work with Nicole to make sure that we get the word out about our social justice efforts through the newsletter, FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram, and the press. Dick Abood has also joined us as our photographer. We welcome any church members/friends to join us! If you have questions or suggestions contact Art, Lauri or Jeri.

## Religious Education News

### What's New in Religious Education for Children and Youth Opportunities and Events

Newsletter column for December . . .

RE is hosting a Church-Wide Holiday Party December 22 There will be caroling and a violin performance by Patrick Day, potluck lunch, and a holiday craft activity.

All parents and congregants are asked to attend a forum December 15 to discuss what stories we should be passing down to our children and sharing with our community. We may do this in two parts, the first focusing on the insights of those studying the Bible in Adult Ed:

Religious Stories, Legends, and Myths  
With Rev. Bob Klein and Dr. Lisa Jones (Acting Director of Religious Education)

After-church Forum: 12:15 December 15, There will be some brief RE announcements for parents and teachers on the 15th.

Rev. Klein will hold a sermon on this topic Dec. 8.

We Make a Difference when there are Typhoons  
Our youth and the pumpkin purchasers generated over \$165 for Unicef this Halloween. That amount could purchase more than 20,000 water safety pills that will be used in places like the Philipines for typhoon recovery. A big thank you to the Cottin-Rack family and Jan Vernor-Howard for purchasing the pumpkins.

Two charities we hope you'll prioritize this holiday season:

- The church! Our RE program is being partly funded by projected fundraising. Please make an extra donation to the church to help us meet our goal and consider participating in the main fundraisers planned.

- This is the season for **Guest at Your Table**. We'll be giving you a container to set an extra place at the table for family members and guests to donate to the UU Service Committee. We'll collect your donations the first Sunday in January.

What makes our UU Association special is that we support a group that doesn't just do charity, but also works to change the systems and power relations that lead to injustice, inequality, and environmental problems in the U.S. and around the world. Tell your friends and relatives that this is a cause they can support, knowing that we are not a missionary group pushing loyalty to UUism, but a group dedicated to service with no strings attached.

Questions? Contact Acting Director of Religious Education, Lisa Jones at 547-1020 (home/landline) [orlisawritesagain@gmail.com](mailto:orlisawritesagain@gmail.com). Office hours Thursday 11-1



## Congregational News & Updates

### Photo Directory

As you probably remember, we had photos taken for a new church directory. A draft of the text will be available for proofreading on Sundays during December. Please stop in Jackson Hall and check your listing for accuracy.

### Front Doors of the Church are Newly Painted



You may have noticed that the finish on the front doors to the Church were peeling and looked unsightly. And now they are newly painted and

pristine.

Janet Bonner is the kind person who took the initiative to contact a painter and get the project done. AND Janet paid for the work.

Many many thanks to Janet. Our Church now presents a renewed face to the street and all who walk by, drive by and enter here.

### Book Group Meeting



The Book Club will have its annual Christmas pot luck December 13. Members will share a favorite poem.

**January 2014:** Proof of Heaven:

A Neurosurgeons Journey by Eben Alexander.  
Facilitated by Pat Davis

**February 2014:** 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](mailto:lhwash@comcast.net)

Thanks, Herman

## Emerson Coffee House Collective



Get on board the Delta Harmony Xpress!

The delightful Delta Harmony Xpress, under the direction of Curtis Mannah, will return to us,

this time at the Emerson Coffeehouse on Saturday, December 14. Please join them for a festive evening of a *cappella* holiday music, both traditional and contemporary. Under the direction of Curtis Mannah, DHX is Stockton’s chapter of Sweet Adelines International.

When: Saturday, December 14, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Jackson Hall, UU Church of Stockton, 2728 Pacific Ave.

\$10 admission; \$5 for students



### GROW WITH U- What’s next

FIRST UU CHURCH T-SHIRTS - LAST DAY TO ORDER!

Today is the last day to order your First Unitarian Universalist Church of Stockton t-shirt! Members of the social justice/community outreach committee will be taking orders in Jackson Hall after the service. By wearing our shirts when we do good work in the community, we'll spread the word about our church!

### Not your usual COUPON BOOKS \$12

“I saved \$8 with my first coupon!” Dave Hall



Dozens of items not just fast foods. \$6 of every book stays with the church. The books are Good to Dec. 2014. Great gifts. Check them out, sell to friends. Available most Sundays in Jackson Hall.

## UU Alliance News

### Raffle

The Alliance October raffle earned \$750. with the winner Lois Hulsey, an Alliance and church member, already enjoying her shopping trip to Lincoln Center.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket or more to support the Alliance and their gifts to the Church.

Profits from this year's raffle will go toward recovering the two sofas and the rocker in the Fireside room. The sofas have served for many years and have reached the worn and faded look. They are used every Sunday and in between with group meetings and scheduled events. The Alliance has no other fund raising events planned for this year. We will look forward to our raffle again in October, 2014.

### Christmas Celebration

The Alliance will have their annual Christmas tree trimming and lunch (provided by Saigon Restaurant) on Wednesday, December 11. A brief business meeting will begin at 10:30 with Christmas Music at 11:00.

Lunch will be \$12.00 and reservations are required. Please call Doray Johnson, 473-0838 or Coralita Rathaus, 477-5770.

Thank you Syd and Mary Lois Thompson and Joan Briscoe who see that the tree is up and ready to decorate each year (and taken down before New Year's day). This has been an annual service for many years.

### Kitchen Cleaning

The new kitchen cleaning schedule will be out the end of August.

Please remember to check your month and find a sub if necessary.

We appreciate all of you who signed up to take a month at cleaning, laundering towels and checking the kitchen for spills; watching for outdated items in the refrigerator and straightening the shelf above the sink. \*\* A special thank you to those who use the kitchen and leave it like their own.

First UU is participating in the Women's Center-Youth & Family Services' 2013 Holiday Adopt-S-Family Program. We were partnered with family #20, which consists of mom 39, and 3 boys 16, 14, and 11. I have include items they are in need of. We ask that you please clearly label each package with #20 and bring gifts to the Church unwrapped. There is a box in Jackson Hall or you can drop it off in the office no latter than Dec 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mom's Wish List

Pots & Pans

Towels any color

Queen sheets any color

Top- Med

Pants-11

Shoe-7

Hair spray, soap, shampoo, conditioner

Please no Cosmetics or Thermals

Son 16

Jeans- dark blue & Black Size 40x28

Slacks- White or Black size 40x28

T-Shirt- Black size 2x

Dress Shirt- Black

Shoes- 13

Axe shampoo and monkey gel

Full Sheets- full any color

Socks- size 9

Son 14

Jeans- Dk Blue and Black size 33x30

Slacks- Black size 33x30

T-shirt- white and black size M

Dress Shirt- Black

Shoes- 9

Socks- size 13

Axe shampoo and conditioner

Full size sheets and blanket any color

Son 11

Top- size M

Pant-size 30x27

Shoe- 8

Favorite color- Red

Interest- 49ers

Pajamas

Tennis shoes

Jacket

Axe shampoo and body wash

Twin sheets any color

Soccer ball

## 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

Rev. Robert Klein .....466-7743

E-Mail.....[minister@stocktonuu.org](mailto:minister@stocktonuu.org)

### Director of Religious Education

Lisa Jones.....466-7743

E-Mail..... [religious\\_ed@stocktonuu.org](mailto:religious_ed@stocktonuu.org)

### Music Director

Amelia Roberts.....466-7743

E-Mail.....[music@stocktonuu.org](mailto:music@stocktonuu.org)

### Administrator

Nichole Ybarra.....466-7743

E-Mail.....[office@stocktonuu.org](mailto:office@stocktonuu.org)

### Board of Trustees' President

Dwane Milnes ..... 467-0224

E-Mail ..... [president@stocktonuu.org](mailto:president@stocktonuu.org)

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Office Hours.....Mon. - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.