

Minister's Musings/ Message



I am just back from General Assembly in Portland, which was one of our better annual meetings of Unitarian Universalists. One of the high points for me was preserving the Commission on Appraisal as an independent body to assess our movement. There was a proposal to make it an advisory committee of the board, which would have taken away much of its independence.

There were some powerful worship experiences including at the Service of Living Tradition when new, retiring, and deceased ministers are recognized. There were workshops and business sessions, and all the things that usually occur in this largest annual meeting of UUs, this year numbering about 4500. Many songs were sung, readings shared, sermons preached, and offerings taken! I will share more about GA in upcoming sermons!

I will be traveling some this summer, so may be briefly out of touch. Among other things, I am looking forward to greeting a new grandson sometime near his birth expected July 25th! I will regularly check messages on my cell phone.

I hope your travels and other summer experiences will be wonderful!

Peace!
Rev. Bob

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

7/5 One Nation Under Whose God? Patriotic Thoughts from a Red, White, & Blue Native Born American? Rev. Bob Klein

7/12 Guess What Happened at General Assembly? Rev. Bob Klein

7/19 IPOD Sunday Guest Speaker

7/26 Where I Came From Guest Speaker

Save the Date: August 12! Summer "Wrap-Up"!

Returning for its third year is our Box Supper Fundraiser. Helping 1st UU "wrap up" summer, local restaurateur Steve DeParsia will prepare a boxful of goodies: of course a delicious wrap (choose from turkey, ham, or veggie), his special pasta salad loaded with extras—even a veggie stick, a sprig of grapes, and a homemade cookie. We're adding an ice-cold beverage to go (choose from iced tea, diet and regular sodas, or water).

For \$15, you can picnic on your patio, in the park while listening to the Wednesday night

concert, or in Jackson Hall on checkered table-cloths with church friends.

Tell neighbors, co-workers, friends to mark their calendars, too. Tickets will be available after church every Sunday in July and the first two in August.

"Wrap up" summer deliciously while raising money for 1st UU!

Questions? Call Leslie Washington (957-8433) or Cindy Milford (477-5984).



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New 1st UU Church Men's Group- We have started a new Men's Group, which includes time to talk with other men about Being a Man, and other issues, as well as activities depending on the interest of those interested. We usually will meet on Wednesdays 7-8:30 p.m. but the July meeting will be on Thursday July 9th!

Please contact Rev. Bob if you are interested!

Newcomers Class

If you would simply like to know more about our church and how we differ from traditional protestant congregations, or if you are contemplating membership, then I invite you to attend an informational class following the service on Sunday, July 12th. Immediately after coffee hour, those interested will enjoy a lunch in our conference room and informational presentations starting at noon. We promise to have you out by 3 P.M., at the very latest. If you require child care, let me know.

Rev. Bob will help with the history of the denomination through the centuries and you'll learn more about our church in particular, including our historic organ. A great opportunity to ask questions.

All are welcome.

Note: Because the class includes lunch and we also must have enough packets ready, we ask that you please call or email to me if you plan to attend. It is obviously important that we know how many to expect.

Hope to see you there.

In fellowship,

Mary Bullard, Membership Chairperson
209-477-8745
marybee2@gmail.com

Dream Group, looking at our Dreams—using Rev. Jeremy Taylor's method based on Carl Jung's understanding of Dreams. When 5 or more people express interest I will start a new group! (Recommended reading: **The Wisdom of Your Dreams** by Jeremy Taylor: paper/kindle) Contact Rev. Bob for more info if interested.

Covenant Groups: We have re-started Covenant Groups! These groups usually gather in a member's home or at the church once a month for an extended check-in and a topical discussion. Each group of 5-10 persons drafts a covenant of commitment and behavior to be revisited whenever a new member joins including the commitment to keep sacred what is shared and to support members of the group. These are not therapy groups but they often become important opportunities for members of the congregation to get to know each other in deeper ways. New groups are meeting Monday and Wednesday evenings once a month. If this sounds interesting to you, please let Rev. Bob or the office know!

Religious Education News– RE and the 1UUCS would like to give a special thanks to the Cottin-Rack family for their support during our Earth day Intergenerational Service! The RE program cannot survive without the participation and support of our families.

Volunteers and Training:

If anyone is interested in volunteering please contact the DRE Rosalie Saucedo in person, by email or by filling out one of the RE Volunteer Interest cards in the entrance of the sanctuary. We need volunteers that are willing to commit to helping out in the cottage once a month. We will be holding a volunteer training session in August. Thank you for your patience as we further develop our youth RE program.

Find us on Youtube, Facebook and Bigtent!

DRE email: religious_ed@stocktonuu.org



Book Group: Will meet the last Wed of the month. For more information contact Herman Washington at lhwash@comcast.net.

July 29: **Tortilla Curtain** which was rescheduled from April. Presenter is Pat Davis and or Rosemary Atkinson

August 26: **An Unsuitable Job for a Woman** by P.D. James. Presenter is Leslie Washington

September 30: **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time** by Mark Haddon.
Presenters: Claire Trujillo and Jill Duthie

October 28: **The New Jim Crow** by Michelle Alexander. B Presenter Pat Davis

November 18 (3rd Wed to avoid night before Thanksgiving)
West With the Night by Beryl Markham presented by Barbara Kelley

December Potluck Date to be decided. We will each read a poem we would like to share.

January 27, 2016: **Everything I Never Told You** by Celeste Ng. Presenter is Carol Clark

February 24, 2016: **The Faraway Nearby** by Rebecca Solnit. Presenter is Sara Milnes

March 30, 2016: **The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry: A Novel** by Gabrielle Zevin. Presenter is Darrell Burns

Social Justice/ Community Outreach

When contacting Jeri Bigbee for information please use her cell phone only.

Social Justice Collection

Our June Social Justice Collection raised \$ 216.75 for The San Joaquin County Pride Center. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions! If you have any suggestions for Social Justice Collection Recipient please contact Nichole Ybarra or Rev. Bob Klein.

Social Justice Collection recipient for Sunday, July 19, 2015 is TBD

The Alliance

Vacation Days? Please remember to save your motel/hotel shampoos, lotions and other items given away in your accommodations. Currently our donations are going to The Haven of Peace. Selected items must be unopened.

New tables for church use have recently been purchased by The Alliance.

Our annual Fall Raffle (\$250, gift card for use at Lincoln Center) will be held the month of October. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, October 4. The winner's name will be drawn after church on Sunday, November 1. Tickets are \$5,00 each and will be available only during the four October Sundays.

The Haven of Peace Collection- We are back in business gathering your travel collected soaps, shampoos and lotions. Women and children staying at *The Haven of Peace* were pleased to receive a donation delivered recently by Dee Hessler, Alliance member. Also needed are unopened toothpaste and brushes, women's personal needs, baby diapers (all sizes), as well as any of the unopened items listed above. The Haven has been a long time shelter for women needing temporary assistance in our community.

Providing personal items is a small service we can do for families in need.

Welcome New Members



UU THURSDAYS! at First Unitarian Universalist Church

We are continuing to develop and grow this program and are always looking for people to share additional program choices (ideas below) in a low pressure supportive setting! We will start up again September 17th. We are looking for volunteers to lead classes such as:

Dry-land gardening, rain-barrels, and drought preparedness, Organic Gardening and Healthy Cooking, Canoeing & Kayaking, Hiking & Camping, Quiet Meditation Practices & Mindfulness Travelogues, Tai Chi, Yoga, Social Justice Programs, Adult Classes on UUism, Religion, and other topics of interest, Parenting Speakers/Discussion/support groups, Family Spiritual Activities with kids, Knitting, Painting, Dancing, Singing, Drumming, Jamming, Young Adult Programs/Groups, Youth Programs/Groups. Dream Groups, Mandalas, Games for Children & Youth (all ages)

Typical Schedule:

6:00 p.m. Gather and share simple meal (not a potluck but volunteer cooks welcome to sign up)

6:30 p.m. Share Brief Worship Experience (led by Rev. Bob and/or volunteers)

6:45 p.m. Enjoy one of the Activities offered

7:30 p.m. End of Early/Family Programs



Church Annual Meeting June 14

Annual Church Congregation Meeting

The Annual Church Congregational Meeting was a success. We needed a quorum of 44 church members, and 58 people came. Many who wanted to come were out of town or had other commitments, such as visiting relatives. The support of the church by our Congregational Members and the many new people coming to our services is a wonderful thing to see.

The Congregational Meeting approved and appointed the people nominated by the Nominating Committee.

- Fred Dillemath and David Carpenter are joining the Board of Trustees.
- Art Cofod will continue on the Endowment Committee.
- Jeri Bigbee, Christy Dillemath, and Jan Vernor-Howard are on the 2016 Nominating Committee

Not only thanks to these volunteers, but also thanks to everyone who volunteers on the many other church committees and in church activities. We seem to be a busy place.

The Congregational Meeting approved the annual budget proposed by the Board of Trustees. I think everyone received a copy of the budget, but we will send a copy out again along with the June 30 closing financial statement of the church when that closing report is completed.

Sale of the church owned property at 439 Bristol was a lengthy discussion with varying opinions about whether and how to proceed with the sale. The final vote was 45 to approve the sale and 9 opposed. The Board of Trustees, at the latest Board meeting, then authorized Lela Nelson Realty to represent the church in the sale of the property. If you have any questions about the process and progress on the sale, please feel free to call Dwane Milnes at 209-956-2868

Minister's Office Hours

During the summer, Rev. Bob does not keep regular office hours, so call or text to check when he is available 209-684-6345.

During the main church year, Rev. Bob generally 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, trips, 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

General Office Hours

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

The Mission of our church
Is to nurture individual spiritual/ethical growth,
to be inclusive of all people,
and to be an active voice of conscience
in the greater community.

Minister

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