



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON
COMMUNITARIAN

Published Monthly

July 2014

Minister's Musings/Message:



Some church years by June I feel depressed, discouraged, demoralized, exhausted, and generally burnt out! This year, I feel pretty good—tired but still pretty well energized by the enthusiasm of our first year together. We have met or exceeded pledge goals (always a wonderful thing), thank you

very much! We have had a very pleasant Annual Meeting (only one or two complaints about not having anything to fight over), electing new leaders and passing a balanced budget! (Again, thank you!) We have lots of good things to look back upon and even more good things to come in the future!

As I write, I am looking forward to a road trip cross country to General Assembly, with some visiting along the way and the chance to pick up a few things in Little Rock on the way back (may include a cat). I like road trips and I enjoy driving my car, which gets about 30 mpg on the road, which though not a Prius is not bad for a small SUV (at least for the first 210,000 miles). I will be picking up Jane (my Ex and colleague) in Missouri to go to GA and visit family, but she will fly back.

I am looking forward to some quiet time and some books on CD (mostly spy thrillers and murder mysteries), and I will be back to preach on July 13th.

I hope you all have interesting plans for the summer, and I hope to see you when we are both in town! Stay safe!

Peace,

Rev. Bob

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

July 6 Guest

July 13 UU Principles I: Justice!

Rev. Bob Klein

July 20 UU Principles II: Compassion!

Rev. Bob Klein

July 27 UU Principles III: Community!

Rev. Bob Klein

Adult Classes led by Rev. Bob:

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Looking at our Shadows: based on Connie Zweig & Steve Wolf's book, *Romancing the Shadow: Illuminating the Dark Side of the Soul*
We will meet Thursday July 17th 6-7:30 p.m. as a final wrap-up, all interested welcome

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

Unitarian Universalist History & Theology (based on David Bumbaugh, Earl Morse Wilbur, and John Buehrens' books on UU History)

Blessing, Spirituality, and Panentheism (Matthew Fox's Creation Spirituality, based on his book *Original Blessing*, and other writings)

Dream Group, looking at our Dreams—using Rev. Jeremy Taylor's method. (Recommended reading: **The Wisdom of Your Dreams** by Jeremy Taylor)
 Contact Rev. Bob for more info if interested.

Please forward to anyone you think might be interested!

Minister's Office Hours:

Rev. Bob generally keeps walk-in hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10-12 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Especially during the summer, 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 will be gone for General Assembly June 20th-July 10th. 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

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report to the Church I am happy to report that as the end of the fiscal year approaches we are in pretty good shape financially. Baring major problems we will end the year with a nice surplus which will remain in our checking account as protection against cash flow issues. The final reports will appear on the board in Jackson Hall around July 13.

I want to thank Sara Milnes for her great work chairing the Finance Committee and being the Assistant Treasurer, she is the master of budgets. I also want to thank Jessica Saul (J&S Bookkeeping) for her weekly visit to the church computer to keep the checks flowing and books up to date. Nicole Ybarra and Judy Andrews handle the weekly bank deposits and internal recordkeeping. I also thank all who contributed to the church, helped with fundraising, and all who helped keep expenses down all year long. We received several large gifts over the year that purchased a new computer, software and Wifi systems.

We also have many folks who work hard on their own time to keep the church beautiful, clean and functional. Thank you all.

Respectfully submitted

Dave Hall

Religious Education News

Children's Summer Program

We are asking volunteers to share their interests in science, art, and other hobbies with the kids this summer. Contact Lisa with a date or two in mind.

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July 6 Singing (and maybe gardening)

July 13 Zuni animal fetishes and modeling animals in clay

July 20 Park Day (weather permitting)--Arrive on time or meet us at the park near Smart (one block north of the church on Pacific)

July 27 Bees or Bubbles (TBA)

Teens

Contact Lisa to find out about teen events planned for July.

Upcoming events: nerd ball game in Jackson Hall and boating the Delta.

Best place to leave messages:

religious_ed@stocktonuu.org

547-1020 (home phone/landline)

During office hours you can reach her directly via her cell phone 242-1821.

Congregational News & Updates

WATER COMMUNION Sunday SEPT 7th

Remember as you travel: Collect Water and send in Digital Images!

The Water Communion/In-Gathering Service celebrates our coming back together in the Fall after traveling in many directions during the summer. To celebrate this, we bring back water (you can also pour some symbolically if not able to bring back any) to mingle together as we tell our stories of our summer journeys. We will also be putting together a slide show of digital images from travels and favorite waters to enhance the service. Hopefully we will have a pot-luck lunch that day as well!

Book Group Meeting July 23, 7:00 pm



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

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. If this sounds interesting to you, please let Rev. Bob or the office know and we will soon be scheduling an introductory session possibly with a pot-luck on September 7th!

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

Calling on all members (not just parents)

In the summer we ask church members who don't normally participate in RE to donate one Sunday working with Lisa to plan a simple activity related to your personal hobbies or interests. Share what you know about nature, photography, birdwatching, science, or a sport. The focus is on fun and community. Contact Lisa Jones, DRE 547-1020 (home phone) with a date of availability in mind.

Social Justice News

There's lots happening in our UU Social Justice and Community Outreach effort ...

- On June 17th we hosted a forum provided by the **California March for Democracy** which focused on promoting campaign funding disclosure.
- In June, our Social Justice Sunday offering supported **Puentes** (<http://puentes-americas.org>) and in July we'll be giving to the **Stockton Shelter for the Homeless**. Thanks for your generous support to our vital community agencies.
- Our ongoing **Habitat for Humanity** crew is continuing with their good work. Contact Art Cofod (art@cofod.net) to join in!
- Watch for an upcoming screening of the documentary film "**Thirsty for Justice: The Struggle for the Human Right to Water**". We'll be partnering with the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water and other local community organizations in providing this screening in July.
- **Stockton Pride Festival - August 23rd** in Oak Grove Park. We'll have an informational table there. Please contact Jeri Bigbee (jeribigbee@gmail.com) if you'd like to help out. Thanks for all your good work!

Social Justice Collection recipient for Sunday, July 20, 2014 is Stockton Shelter for the Homeless.

The Mission of the STOCKTON SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS is to provide opportunities for the Homeless people to become self-supporting participants in the community by providing for shelter and other basic needs.

AUGUST 17, 2014 PRIDE CENTER- The mission of the San Joaquin Pride Center is to serve the diverse LGBTQQIA community in San Joaquin County and the surrounding areas by creating a safe and welcoming space, by providing resources that enrich body, mind and spirit, and by educating the public in tolerance and respect for all people within the LGBTQQIA community.

Social Justice Collection

Our June Social Justice Collection raised **\$146.00 for PUENTES**. 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.

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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