

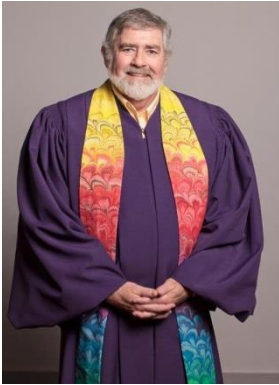


COMMUNITARIAN

Published Monthly

November 2014

Minister's Musings/Message:



I have been particularly aware of the shortening days in these last few weeks. We are moving into the darker, colder, and hopefully rainier part of the year. These reflections led me to think about the centers from which we draw warmth in the darker part of the year as

well as the darker moments in our lives. This month I will be offering a series of sermons on who we are as a congregation and what we gain from and give to this liberal religious community. Come join me on Sundays in November to reflect on the core values of our community.

November is also the time to exercise our civic responsibility by voting. Not perhaps as exciting a time as when there is a Presidential Election, but important nonetheless as we choose representatives at several levels of government and express our opinions on a number of issues. As we used to say in Chicago, vote early and often!

As I write this message, I am just back from a gathering of District colleagues which reminded me how much I appreciate being able to gather with, learn from, and share with my Unitarian Universalist Minister colleagues. I am always reminded of how good it is to be a UU Minister but also of the challenges that leadership in our movement presents. Thank you for supporting your local minister and UUism in the Pacific Central District and the UU Association!

Have a great November!

Rev. Bob

Sunday Services- 10:30 a.m.

Followed by coffee hour

11/2 *We Are: A CARING COMMUNITY:*
Caring for Each Other and Letting People Care for You!
Rev. Bob Klein (& Matthew Green)

11/9 *We Are: A VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY!*
Volunteering is good for Heart, Mind & Soul and the Church!
Rev. Bob Klein

11/16 *We Are: A WELCOMING COMMUNITY:*
Welcoming Newcomers and Remembering that We Are All Newcomers Some of the Time
Rev. Bob Klein

11/23 *We Are: A THANKFUL COMMUNITY!*
Showing our Gratitude!
Rev. Bob Klein

11/30 Guest Speaker (T-day Weekend)

Emerson Coffee House

Saturday November 8, 2014 Harmony Stockton - Student and Faculty Performances



Students in Harmony Stockton participate in two hours of music instruction with academic tutoring and regular public performance to help them develop life skills toward personal, academic, and social success. Come and enjoy a live performance by these remarkable young music students and their faculty. Learn more about Harmony Stockton at: <http://www.harmonystockton.org/>. Saturday, November 8, 2014, 7 pm. \$10 Adults / \$5 Students



UU Thursdays!

First Unitarian Universalist Church

We gather each week to share a simple meal prepared by volunteers and a brief worship experience before breaking into groups for 1-3 programs. In Coming weeks we hope to offer such programs as:

- Quiet Meditation Practices & Mindfulness**
- 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, Dance**
- Young Adult Programs/Groups**
- Dream Groups**

Typical Schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. Gather and share simple meal (not a potluck, volunteer cooks welcome)**
- 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**
- 8:00 p.m. End of Longer Classes*/Workshops/Groups**

Date	Dinner 6:00	Worship 6:30	Program 1 6:45- 7:30	Program 2 6:45- 7:30 BK	Program 3 6:45- 7:30
11/6			KNITTING		SINGING
11/13			KNITTING	UU History!	
11/20			KNITTING		SINGING
11/27	Happy	Thanks	Giving!	No	Meeting

Invitation to Share Wisdom, Learning, Skills and Fun at UU THURSDAYS

I would like to invite you to sign up to share something important to you during an upcoming Thursday evening program. Each week we will be gathering to share a simple meal at 6 p.m., a brief worship experience of 10-15 minutes, then breaking into 2-3 groups for study, meditation, or fun. If you have something that you would be willing to offer in one or more 45 minute sessions, please contact Rev. Bob

Some appropriate things to share: something artistic (painting, knitting, chalice-making, or...), especially for all ages; a way to make music or rhythm such as drumming or chanting; quiet meditation (or walking or...), leading a discussion of an important issue/concern; showing a video or slideshow to discuss, or anything creative or uplifting that could be done by a small group at the church. If you have an idea you are willing to share, please call Rev. Bob. Slots are open between now and the end of the year!

Also, volunteers are needed to help prepare a simple meal and lead brief worship time!

Call Rev. Bob to sign up or for more info!
uurevbobk@gmail.com cell: 209-684-6345



Religious Education News

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

You are needed! --to help with Sunday School in the coming months until we have a permanent RE for our children's program. Our children are super fun and you'll learn by teaching! You won't regret it! All the research shows that people are happier when they are giving to others.

There is a committee searching for a new DRE and though we do not have an RE chair Myriam Cottin-Rack is making calls to recruit volunteer teachers for specific Sundays. She very much needs your help if you have already been screened through our background check service. If you want childcare scheduled for a church event, please contact Myriam at myriam@cottin-rack.com

Congregational News & Updates

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, November 16th. 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.

The class includes lunch. In order for us to have enough lunch packages ready we ask that you please call or email Mary Bullard if you plan to attend.

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

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

We are keeping a list of people who are willing to provide transportation for members who are unable to drive. If you are able to provide rides to or from Sunday Services, UU Thursday evenings or other church events please call or email the church office letting us know your availability and the areas you could cover.

Giving a member a ride is a great way to get acquainted!

There is a small fund available to reimburse members for taxi fare when volunteers are not available.

[209-466-7743](tel:209-466-7743) (Office)

[209-466-6474](tel:209-466-6474) (Fax)

contact@stocktonuu.org

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The UU Church is establishing a Little Free Library. The UU book group will be collecting gently used books, both adult and children's books to supply the library.

There will be collection and distribution boxes inside and outside the church.

There is box is located in Jackson Hall for donations.

COVENANT GROUPS:

These groups 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!

Book Group Meetings

November 26, 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

Adult Classes led by Rev. Klein

Fall 2014 Adult* Classes/Workshops led by Rev.

Bob: Upcoming Possibilities:

Let me know which interest you and/or suggest others!

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)

Escalating Inequality, the new Congregational Study Action Issue passed by the 2014 General Assembly to be considered over the next 4 years and leading toward a new Statement of Conscience. Study materials will soon be available.

The World's Religions (updated) and Our UU Living Tradition. A new look at the updated version of Huston Smith's classic, and the way the religions of the world have influenced Unitarian Universalism.

Reading the Bible Again for the First Time. (book by Marcus Borg). A look at Christian beliefs based in different readings of scripture.

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

DAWN HOUSE

Alliance News

Thank you to church members and friends who save hotel toiletries as well as purchase items for our ongoing project for the women and children who stay at DAWN House. DAWN House is the women's shelter sponsored by the Women's Center of San Joaquin County. Needed items include toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, lotion, etc. Reminder that only *unused* items should be donated. Dee Heszler is the Alliance member now serving and packaging your donated items for the Center.

Social Justice

Here's all the news from your Social Justice/Community Outreach committee ..

- Many thanks to Jessica Glynn and Rosemary Atkinson who coordinated discussion of the upcoming Election at our UU Thursdays in October.
- Don't miss your chance to order a **First UU Church** "Promoting Social Justice in the Greater Community" t-shirt! We'll be taking orders after church on Sundays in November or contact Jeri Bigbee (jeribigbee@gmail.com, 931-6871). The cost is \$15.00 per shirt.
- **The Habitat for Humanity** UU crew has been hard at work on a state-of-the-art home in south Stockton. More helpers are needed, so if you'd like to join the crew, they will be working on **Saturday, November 15th**. Contact Dick Abood (rabood@pacific.edu, 931-6871) for more information.
- In December we plan to participate in the Peaceful **Holiday Fair**, sponsored by the Peace and Justice Network on December 3-4 at Central Methodist Church. If you'd like to help us sell craft items and fair trade coffee and chocolate, please contact Jeri Bigbee (jeribigbee@gmail.com, 931-6871).

Keep up the good work!

Our October Social Justice Collection raised \$112.00 for The ALS Foundation. 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.

Social Justice Collection recipient for Sunday, November 23rd, 2014 is UUSC.

Their current focuses are Workers' Rights and Compassionate Consumption; The Human Right to Water worldwide, and A Just and Sustainable Recovery on Haiti.

Thank You in Advance!

Treasurer's Report

I am happy to report that income continues to be stable at 99.4% of pledges. Thank you all for your faithfulness. Expenses are well below budget, partly due to no RE director and other expenses that will be due but are not paid yet. Our net worth is almost \$20,000 more than last year due to lower mortgage liability and having some net income last year. Your finance committee (thank you Sara) and board are keeping track carefully.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dave Hall

Art Exhibition

Church friends and members-Please don't miss this top notch national art show at the Horton Gallery, Delta College --up thru Nov. 6th. It can be viewed on-line also. The messages are profound, the art work superb. If I were still painting, this is the group I'd belong to!
Mary Lois Thompson

Art and Social Change
October 9 – November 6, 2014

Exhibition Juror ~ Jen Delos Reyes Assistant Professor, Portland State University, Oregon Art and Social Practice MFA Program Founder and Director of Open Engagement

Web Site:
<http://www.deltacollege.edu/div/finearts/dept/dca/gallery/exhibit2/index.html>

The LH Horton Jr Gallery is located on the ground floor of the Shima Center at the northern end of San Joaquin Delta College campus (see directions below). Recommended parking is available in the Shima lot for a nominal fee of \$2. The Gallery is handicapped accessible and tours are welcome. Please call ahead to arrange Gallery Talks and address special needs. Gallery exhibitions and opening receptions are free and open to the public.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Imperial San Joaquin Delta Empire is looking for food donations for Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Last year we put together 4 food baskets for families in need in our community. This year we would like to help 6 families. Nichole Ybarra will provide the Turkeys. Below is a list of needed items. If you can help with anything please contact Nichole at 400-8931 or in the Church Office. There will be a drop box in Jackson Hall for donations along with an updated list as donation's come in. We will be delivering baskets Tuesday Nov. 25....*Thank you in advance!*

FOOD BASKET ITEMS NEEDED:

- 12 cans of turkey gravy
- 6 boxes of instant potatoes
- 6 bags of fresh carrots
- 6 bags of fresh celery
- 4 bag of fresh onions
- 6 bags of stuffing mix
- 12 cans of corn
- 12cans of peas
- 12 cans of green beans
- 6 packages of mini marshmallows
- 6 boxes of hot chocolate
- 6 can of cranberry sauce
- 6 cans of mixed nuts
- 6 apple pie
- 6 pumpkin pie
- 6 packages of cookies
- 6 package of dinner rolls (not the refrigerated kind)
- 6 cans of whipped cream
- 6 gallon apple juice
- 6 turkey baking foil tray
- 6 boxes of foil
- 6 gallons of milk
- 6 sets of Holiday theme paper goods (Napkins, table cloths and paper plates or place mats) six people to a set.

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. 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 or for emergencies during non-office hours.

Home: 209-227-7591
Cell: 209-684-6345
eMail: uurevbobk@gmail.com

General Office Hours

Office HoursMon. – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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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