

# Beacon on the Hill December 2018

## From the Ministers

### “The War on Christmas”

Several years ago, a bona fide “war on Christmas” was waged on either side of New York’s Lincoln Tunnel. An organization called the American Atheists erected a billboard on one side with a picture of the nativity scene and a large caption that read “You know it’s a myth. This season, celebrate reason.”



In response, the Catholic League erected their own billboard on the other side of the tunnel that depicted the exact same nativity scene, but their caption read “You know it’s real. This season, celebrate Jesus.”

For reasons that mystify us, this seems to be the only kind of coverage Christmas gets this time of year. Only religious polar opposites seem to attract attention; people for whom theology is cut and dried; for whom every word is either true or it isn’t. And yet we think we do a disservice to the roots of our traditions if we are willing to consider their stories and truths only literally. Because stories can bear great truth even if we don’t believe they “really happened” in a factual way.

For both of us, the real “war” on winter holidays is that our nation and globe are mired in growing racism, greed, fascism, and inequality. This time of year, our hearts resonate deeply not with facts or creeds about Jesus or the Maccabees, but with the mysterious way hope is born and reborn into our communities, the miracle of victory against injustice and all odds, and the promise of the seed’s blossom even when the Earth around it is frozen like a stone. In these times, what else can we hope for?

However and whatever you celebrate this winter season, may wonder and mystery, warmth and cheer be yours.

In faith and hope,

Revs. Kristin and Christian

## **Worship Services in December**

**Sanctuary, 11 am on Sundays (note special days/times for Solstice and Christmas Eve)**

**Theme for December: Mystery**

**Sunday, December 2 – *Who Dun It?*** Rev.

Christian with Lee Maranto, Worship Associate. Join Christmas Eve Candlelight Service us as we explore our world through the lens of mystery novels. Is life a mystery to solve, are we called to be great detectives, and if so, then who dun it?

**Sunday, December 9 – *Maccabees, Menorahs, and the Mysteries of Hanukkah***, Rev. Kristin with Jim Gasperini, Worship Associate. This week in worship we will contemplate Hanukkah's mysteries and rededicate ourselves to being servants of light and goodness.

**Sunday, December 16 – *Expecting***, Rev. Christian with Cynthia Asprodites, Worship Associate. In this season of lights, of darkness, of mystery and joy, there is also the theme of waiting. Whether you're a child waiting for presents, a soon-to-be parent awaiting a birth or adoption, we share the experience of expectation.

**Friday, December 21 at 6 pm, *Winter Solstice Service***, Rev. Kristin. The Winter Solstice is a time to journey inward and reflect on the lessons, joys, and sorrows from the past year. It is also a time to celebrate the light and darkness that is in each of us. Join us for a time of readings, reflection,

songs, stillness, and ritual in honor of the Winter Solstice.

**Sunday, December 23 – *Stardust Blessings***, Rev. Kristin with Melissa Rosales, Worship Associate. Through story, song, and ritual, this service will celebrate the glory of the stars and the many blessings that night has to offer. This is a service for all ages!

### **Christmas Eve, December 24**

- 5 pm – ***Christmas Eve Family Service***, Rev. Kristin with Melissa Rosales, Worship Associate. In this shorter service geared toward children and families, we will hear the Christmas story, sing carols, pray, and light hand-held candles together. Everyone is invited to bring cookies to share after the service!
- 10 pm – ***Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols***, Rev. Christian with Jim Gasperini, Worship Associate. In this contemplative service of lessons and carols, our gifted choir will help us weave together sacred narration, modern poetry, prayer, traditional carols, special music, and candlelight for a refreshing take on what the Christmas story means for us today. All are invited to stay and enjoy the candlelight after the service has ended.

**Sunday, December 30 – *Becoming Great Souls***, Rev. Jay Atkinson with Jeanne Foster, Worship Associate. An essential element of spiritual growth is embracing and appreciating an ever-wider diversity of contrasting ideas, views, and possibilities. Process theologian Bernard Loomer called this quality “S-I-Z-E,” and it calls each of us to enlarge ourselves to find beauty and harmony in ever-expanding diversity. It also applies to the spiritual growth of congregations as a whole. What does it look like?

### **December Good Neighbor (sharing our offerings):**

The [East Bay Sanctuary Covenant](#) is dedicated to offering sanctuary, solidarity, support, community organizing assistance, advocacy, and legal

services to those escaping war, terror, political persecution, intolerance, exploitation, and other expressions of violence. The Covenant's asylum program, one of the largest in the country with a 97% grant approval rate, continues to successfully provide legal status to individuals fleeing persecution.

## **Personal Theology**

**Sundays, 9:30–10:45 am, Fireside Room**

**Dec 2: Rev. Dr. Jay Atkinson**, Minister Emeritus, UU Church of Studio City; writer and teacher; research scholar at Starr King; UUCB member. Forty years after Martin Luther opened the floodgates of Protestantism in 1517, our UU ancestors on the radical fringe of the Reformation were forming churches by 1558 in Poland and ten years later in Transylvania. Where do we stand 500 years later? Are we still on the radical edge? And what's left to do?

***“500 Years of Protestant Reformation: What's Left for UUs to Do?”***

**Dec: 9: James O'Hara**, educator, experienced dream worker and author of *In the Land of Shiva, A Memoir*. He studied with Jeremy Taylor in 1986, and subsequently co-facilitated many dream groups with Jeremy. Jim embraces the core of Jeremy's philosophy: the wisdom of our dreams is available to each one of us, not just to professionals in the field. ***“A Tribute to Jeremy Taylor by Jim O'Hara: The Multiple Meanings in Dreams.”***

**Dec. 16: Jeanne Foster**, professor emeritus at Saint Mary's College, poet, memoir writer, and translator, former minister, UUCB Worship Associate and choir member, and author of five books; the latest is *The Living Theatre*, a translation of selected poems by the Italian poet Bianca Tarozzi. It was nominated for the Northern California Book Critics Award for 2017.

***“Lessons from a Tuscan Grasshopper.”***

(No Personal Theology session on Dec. 23 or 30)

## **Humanist Connections**

**Sundays, 12:30 pm, check kiosk for location**

Format: A 10- to 15-minute presentation followed by moderated, timed discussion and a potluck at 2 pm (bring a dish to share or donate \$5). All are welcome!

Dec 2: **Name Dropping for Fun: Famous People You Have Met**, Diane Rusnak

Dec 9: **Gratitude**, Anne Fitzmaurice

Dec 16: **History of UUs, Famous UUs**, Lee Lawrence

Dec 23: **The Jesus Formula**, Albert Kueffner

Dec 30: **Supernatural Phenomena**, Ray Westergard, Ray Nelson and Stan Klein

## **Special Events in December**

- **Holiday Fair, Sundays, Dec. 2 and 9**, 10 am–2 pm. Includes silent auction and sale of jewelry, gifts, and other holiday-related goodies!
- **Messiah Sing-Along, Sunday, Dec. 16**, 6 pm (Holiday Fair sale will

continue and substantial snacks and drinks will be available for sale; doors open at 5 pm; \$15/\$10; no one turned away)

- **Winter Solstice Service, Friday, Dec. 21**, 6 pm
- **Christmas Eve – 2 services**, 5 pm and 10 pm
- **Fifth Sunday Potluck lunch**, Sun. Dec. 30
- **New Year's Eve Party, Monday, Dec. 31**, 7 pm (auction item)

## **Volunteer Help Needed in December**

Please consider volunteering as a holiday gift to our UUCB family and yourself. Here are some tasks that are good opportunities for those who are new, wanting to be more involved, looking for time-limited projects, and/or welcoming ways to make and deepen relationships.

**Holiday Fair:** Help wanted on Saturday, Dec. 1, 3–5 pm and 6:30-9 pm or Sundays, Dec. 2 and 9, 8:30–10 am or any time up to 3 pm. Can include setup, cashiering, cleanup. Or, if you like to bake holiday goodies but don't want a lot of them in the house, bring some in to be sold at the fair either Sunday. Contact Ann Harlow ([annharlow@pacbell.net](mailto:annharlow@pacbell.net), 510-559-3616) to donate or help.

**Tinsel Labyrinth:** We can only have our holiday labyrinth in the Social Hall this year from Sunday afternoon, Dec. 16, through Friday night, Dec. 21, but Jim Acock and Carol Carlisle are willing to oversee the setup if four or more volunteers agree to help on the 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 1 pm. Contact [carolisle@gmail.com](mailto:carolisle@gmail.com), 510-967-3672.

**Messiah Sing-Along:** Contact Ann Harlow (see above) to help set up and sell refreshments or merchandise starting at 5 pm on Dec. 16.

**Christmas Eve:** We need 12 or more people to help the 10 pm Christmas Eve service and candle-lighting ritual run smoothly by performing the following tasks: 1) welcome people at the door, 2) find seats for stragglers and latecomers, 3) collect the offering, and/or 4) monitor the candle-lighting

process. You'll be in the Sanctuary and able to enjoy the service, as well. To volunteer or for further information, please contact the evenings' head ushers, Barbara and Patrick Cullinane, at (510) 420-0415.

## **From Our Director of Family Ministry**

### **Merrin Clough**

For many of us December can feel like one of the fullest months of the year. In part because it's jam-packed with winter holidays. As Unitarian Universalists these holidays are rich and varied: Hanukkah, Advent, Christmas, Las Posadas, Yule, New Years. Nowadays many families share blended heritages and faith backgrounds, and so this time of year often fills with a mix of traditions and festivities. Our hearts, our schedules, our homes make space for loved ones and treasured celebrations. Yet in the middle of it all sometimes there are also feelings of loss or longing for those who have died, friends or family who are far, or traditions that have changed meaning for us. December is full in so many ways.

All the presents and parties, family and food, traditions and rituals are simply a lot for our hearts to hold. As the holiday season approaches, I watch families become busier, tempers become shorter, budgets stretch, and the ministry needs of our community grow. As we live into this season, I am reminded that families and houses of worship are the epicenters of holiday activities. They are where we go to share the love and faith that define this season. Year after year I see a perplexing magic at work here at church. Look closely and you too will discover that when we are in loving community, what is over-full can be transformed into an overflowing of love, of tenderness, of generosity, of joy.

So, in the busy days before us I encourage you to stand in the center of the loving communities that shape your life. Lean into the love, tenderness,

generosity, and joy that define this season and let those over-full moments be transformed. Surely that is how we kindle the divine spark in this holy time.

### **Sweet and soulful ways to celebrate the holidays:**

Middle and high school youth and advisors are invited to the **Youth Group Holiday Party with the Ministers** on Friday, December 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

Our monthly **Parents Night Out** is Saturday, December 8. This simple yet enriching program offers parents a time to gather for a brief reflection together before heading off for an evening on their own. Free childcare is provided from 4:30 to 8:00 pm.

On December 23 join us for an **All Ages worship service** called Stardust Blessings. Through story, song, and ritual we will celebrate the glory of the stars and the many blessings that night has to offer. Our Young Worship Leaders will shine bright in this service with elementary children and teens co-leading worship with Rev. Kristin and Worship Associate Melissa Rosales.

The **Christmas Eve Candlelight service** at 5:00 p.m. for families will be beautiful and joyous. Please bring cookies and treats to share with our guests from the wider community!

Note, there are no religious education classes on **December 30**. There will be activities in childcare for older children. Families are also welcome to worship together in the sanctuary.

In the New Year, join us for our annual **Burning of Grudges** service on January 6. Children and youth are invited to attend this All Ages service. Our Young Worship Leaders will co-lead this service with Rev. Kristin and Christian and the Worship Associate.

## **President's Column**



## Jack Duggan

One of the things I like about the holidays, these weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, is that nearly everything takes a step back, is put aside for the moment, and gives in to the holidays. Events other than those serving the season aren't planned, campaigns are put off until the new year, projects aren't launched. There is of course a bad side to this—the suspension can be in favor of frenzied shopping, an overbooked social calendar and desperate efforts to make sure all traditions are observed properly, one more effort for the perfect holiday.

At UUCB we will not be solving any of our difficult problems this season. We will have fewer planning meetings, less competition for our time and effort, though I suspect the discussion of what part candles will play in the Christmas Eve service will be discussed from every angle with passion. Choir rehearsals will be intense.

If there is a core meaning to the winter holidays it is family and community, a drawing together, embracing and basking in the love, warmth and support of those we love. We share our gifts.

As Unitarian Universalists, family and community have a special and particular meaning; we are a community without a creed. We don't have a requirement of belief, we welcome everyone; all races, genders, social class, economic standing, beliefs, nationality, education, however we might be defined as separate. We are a universalist community. Just as the Universalists evangelized in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, that we are not all going to hell, we can evangelize that we can create a church community in a diverse world.

This is the time of year when our numbers will swell with returning family and outsiders to be welcomed inside. I don't think seeking new members so we can have more people pledging is a solution to our problems, but I do think seeking to enlarge and share our community beyond our historic family is our mission. Striving to make everyone welcome, reaching out and sharing our gifts is what will preserve us as a community and grow us a family.

## **Music Matters**

### **Bryan Baker**

It's time for the Messiah sing-along! On December 16 at 6 pm we will gather in our hundreds to sing this evergreen masterpiece. The orchestra, the soloists, and the audience re-awakening Handel's glorious music. There will be some surprises in the solos this year, and everyone will get to sing a couple of them. This is not only a fundraiser for UUCB, but also a great way to get in the holiday spirit. Hallelujah!

There will be some wonderful music in services, too, of course. Music of mystery by a deeply spiritual composer, Morten Lauridsen, first Sunday. His "O Magnum Mysterium" is extraordinarily beautiful. On the 9th, we will celebrate Hanukkah with both festive and gentle pieces.

The French horn will ring out on December 16 in music for choir, piano and French horn titled "You Are the Music." The poem is by Amy Lowell and the music by Dan Forrest, and it is passionate and uplifting. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the music will be entirely secular and winter focused, and will include a jazz version of the famous Ukrainian tune "The Carol of the Bells."

Christmas Eve at 5 o'clock will feature the youth and children's choir singing with the adults in a piece full of hope and aspiration titled "The Bells of Peace." And at the 10 o'clock service there will be a variety of famous and beautiful, intriguing and delicate music, as well as beloved carols for all to

sing.

Yours in harmony,

Bryan

## **Thoughts from Community Ministry**

### **Rev. Jane Ramsey**

Mystery and the holidays.....

Mystery hints there is something we don't know... Holidays are to celebrate what is good.

and we don't always know

If there is something good to celebrate sometimes we do know there is not....

The dark is mysterious

and now is the dark time...

we struggle to light up the dark days and nights,

yet the mystery exists beyond our limited attempts to provide light.

Every time we learn something new

we find out more that we don't know.

We discover distant galaxies, the truly awesome universe beyond.

And we cannot seem to figure out how to effectively end human on human

violence That still remains a mystery to be solved

Maybe beyond our feeble knowledge that exists within the circle of a flashlight, there is a mystery to be solved,

even the mystery of the self destructive human nature

And once again

I will entertain

the notion of hope

in the midst of darkness...

This is the gift of the season.

## **Coordinating Team Notes**

### **Deborah Schmidt, Coordinating Team Convener**

The CT has been focused on improving facilities coverage.

Both school tenants, Pine Crest and the Good Earth, will now be providing their own custodial services, which will free our facilities coordinator, Warren Smith, for much-needed maintenance and repair projects and also allow him to cover the Sunday morning verger position.

Alisa Gould Sugden will be interim facilities supervisor. She is now the first stop for questions and communications re custodial support and coordination. We are supporting her to keep her work load in balance by outsourcing some of the human resources responsibilities. Once we have a business administrator in place, facilities supervision may be reassigned.

We are hiring an event host to provide facilities support for community rentals as well as all-church events.

In addition, to reduce custodial time for opening and closing, we will be installing combination locks on three exterior doors. We are working with Alisa to develop a “trusted user” system, giving permission and responsibility to designated internal and external users to open, set up, break down and then exit on their own, following a security checklist.

Recognizing the impact that all of this transition has had on all of us, we are very grateful for your patience and for your willingness to step up and be part of the solution!

*The Coordinating Team currently meets on first and third Thursdays from 10 am to noon. If you're interested in attending, please contact the CT Convener to verify meeting time and place. Questions for the CT? Email [CT@uucb.org](mailto:CT@uucb.org).*

## **Social Justice News**

### **GRIP**

As in the past, UUCB is having our annual Winter Warmth for GRIP clothing drive in December. Please go through your closets, or buy new items, to help clothe the GRIP (Greater Richmond Interfaith Program) residents for the cold and wet winter months, and bring your items to church during the first three Sundays in December. All sorts of clothing, including new packaged underwear, are acceptable, as well as sheets, blankets and towels. A large purple basket to collect your items will be located next to the front doors in the atrium. Thank you. —Ray Westergard

### **Literature, Film and Drama Contingent**

The unsinkable Betty Reid Soskin delighted a full Fireside Room with aplomb, as she read from her wonderful memoir, *Sign My Name to Freedom*, and regaled us with stories from her 97—and counting!—years of existence. She will be featured in the December issue of *Glamour* magazine, alongside other notable women.

For our meeting on December 2nd, we'll have some fun with Mark Twain's *Pudd'nhead Wilson: Those Extraordinary Twins*. From the publisher: "Two men switched at birth discover the truth about their heritage and neither will ever be the same. A story about fate and racism, this was Twain's late important novel." From Mark Twain: "There is no character, howsoever good and fine, but it can be destroyed by ridicule, howsoever poor and witless." We have a Twain aficionado, Jonathan Olivier, who will guide our discussion on December 2nd! His wife, Lee, joined the LFDC on the day we all enjoyed Betty Reid Soskin.

## **Immigration Justice**

UUCB participated in the West County Detention Facility Community Fund through direct donations and a Sunday bake sale. So far, \$229,000 has been used to:

- Bond out 40 people with an average bond of \$10,000
- Make 22 direct support grants to struggling families with loved ones who are not eligible for bond.
- Purchase 21 flights and bus trips so that people can be reunited with their families upon release or brought home to the Bay Area if they were transferred from WCDF.

## **Upcoming Event**

Arts & Crafts Fair to Benefit Immigrant Communities

When: Thursday, November 29th, 3:30-6:30 pm & Saturday December 8th,

6:30-9 pm

Where: Kehilla Community Synagogue, 1300 Grand Ave., Piedmont

## **From the Stewardship Team**

### **Challenging Times for UUCB – Living Forward**

We are living in challenging times. As the Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt said on a recent Sunday, we are challenged to live into a new world while honoring our past, to pause and reflect on where we are and where we want to go.

In this journey, we are no caravan of despair. We commit to heal the people, heal the land and continue to hope and look to a positive future together. In this journey, we are not alone. We have each other and a church we love.

Critical to these efforts are the resources and staff to support our journey. Our Stewardship Campaign each year allows us to express our gratitude for UUCB and all that it means to each of us as we strive to create loving community, inspire spiritual growth, and encourage lives of integrity, joy, and service.

The Board has appointed this year's Stewardship Committee. Lynne Cahoon and Patrick Cullinane are the Co-Chairs, working together with Mac Lingo, Jo Maxon, Bob Moore, Ira Nelken, Helen Toy, and the Rev. Christian Schmidt.

We encourage you to begin to think about UUCB's role in your life. How would your life be different without UUCB as a sanctuary for spiritual renewal and sustenance, a foundation of values for your life and your actions, a community united to help heal each other and the world? Your generosity assures our continued health and future and service to you and the broader world.

Feel free to share your suggestions about the Campaign by contacting Patrick ([pbc117@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pbc117@sbcglobal.net), 510-420-0415) or Lynne ([jlcahoon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlcahoon@sbcglobal.net), 510- 526-5638).

# Beacon Interviews UUCB's Endowment Funds

**Beacon (B):** *Tell us a bit about yourself.*

**Endowment Funds (EF):** Collectively we are “eternal flames” and “piggy banks.” The eternal flames among us are the endowment that support the church in perpetuity with investment earnings, while those piggy banks among us hold funds that donors have said can be spent – with congregational approval.

**B:** *How do you earn a living?*

**EF:** Unless called into service by UUCB, we live and work at the UUA with funds from other congregations. We invest in ethically responsible Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) funds, which last year netted us more than \$174,000 – an 8.7% rate of return.

**B:** *How are you feeling about 2018?*

**EF:** Great! We had 16 additional members tell us UUCB is in their will, and 22 members sign up for UUA's bequest-driven *Wake Now Our Vision* – making us in line to receive up to \$164,000 in the next two years from these matching funds.

**B:** *What else happened this year?*

**EF:** Our head piggy bank had a big year; the congregation authorized up to \$758,000 earned on its investments for repairs – such as to the Safir Room.

**B:** *And the eternal flames? Those funds invested in perpetuity?*

**EF:** They are happy to see more congregant bequests, which they hope will join them rather than get put in the piggy banks. But they are also a little nervous. They tend to like hanging out in fairly safe places with steady upward growth. Don't get me wrong, they don't mind cautiously spending



what they earn, but recent market volatility makes their flames flicker.

*B: What are your hopes for next year?*

**EF:** Full piggy banks and glowing eternal flames!

## **Fifth Sunday Church-Wide Potluck**

Plan to stay for lunch after the service on **December 30**, bring a dish or beverage to share, and get acquainted with some of our newest members! We've been creating a tradition of potluck lunches whenever there is a fifth Sunday, and generally having a welcome ceremony for new members during the service that day.

## **From the Nominating Committee**

The nominating committee is pleased to announce the following slate running for the Board of Trustees.

Beth Pollard (new)

Maryann Simpson (continuing)

Logan Stump-Vernon (continuing)

The election will be at the February 10 congregational meeting, and there will be a candidate forum January 27.

Also, any certified member of one year may choose to run by written petition signed by at least two percent of the certified membership of the Church (eight members) and delivered to the Vice President of the Board seven Sundays prior to the election, i.e. December 23.

## **Partner Church Committee**

**Stephanie Ann Blythe, Reporter**

Boldog Karácsonyt! That's Merry Christmas in Hungarian. But Christmas

comes early in Transylvania because gift giving happens on Saint Nicholas Day. The Feast of Saint Nicholas falls on December 6 in many parts of Europe when we're just getting started with our holiday preparations. The Partner Church Committee will have a supercard for you to sign on December 2 that we will send to Homoródújfalú. Make no mistake; these supercards are appreciated by the villagers and put up on the wall in the church community building.

On December 5 the children put their shoes on the windowsill. In the morning the good children find gifts and coins in their shoes. The bad ones get a stick! The real Nicholas was an early Christian bishop who was present at the Council of Nicaea. Legend tells us of a poor farmer who could not provide dowries for his three daughters. If they could not marry they would be sold into slavery. The three had left their boots, wet from working in the fields, to dry by the fireplace. Nicholas is said to have thrown three bags of gold through the window and they landed in the daughter's boots. Saint Nicholas brought three murdered boys back to life and saved sailors in peril. He may be known as the patron saint of children and mariners, yet there is a long list of trades and professions that pay homage to him. Nicholas was exiled and imprisoned by the Roman emperor Diocletian.

So that's a glimpse into the origins of a holiday tradition of our Transylvanian brethren. Your Partner Church Committee wishes all of you a very Boldog Karácsonyt!

## **Lawrence Lecture 2018**

After a hiatus of several years, the Lawrence Lecture Series was revived on Friday, November 9. Nearly 400 people filled the sanctuary to make a joyful noise and rock the house with accomplished composer, vocalist and instrumentalist Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell (formally with the a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in The Rock).

After a delightful opening performance by Voices of Reason—young singers and musicians from Richmond’s East Bay Center for The Performing Arts—Barnwell soon had the audience on its feet for two hours of singing and swaying in rounds to songs from the African-American tradition. She is the composer of several songs in UUCB’s hymnbook, such as “We Are.” She also has an honorary doctorate from Starr King School for the Ministry.

A proponent of cultural activism, Barnwell works to bring her audience back into the experience of music as message and unifier. She believes: We are in so many ways the same, that if we could just push the other stuff aside and let the essence come through, we would understand. We all have intention, feeling and purpose. Music heals, educates, agitates.

***Happy Holidays from Your Friends at UUCB!***

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley  
Covenant of Right Relations**

- We covenant to build a religious community guided by love and sustained by respectful relationships.
- Believing that building healthy relationships is a spiritual practice, we aim to listen appreciatively, speak with care, express gratitude, honor our differences, and assume good intentions.
- We endeavor to communicate directly, honestly, and compassionately, particularly when we are in conflict.
- When we hurt one another, we will try to forgive, make amends, and reconnect in a spirit of love.
- In celebration of the common purpose that unites us, we will do our best to abide by this covenant.

**MEMBERSHIP** in this Unitarian Universalist congregation is open to all who see this church as their religious home and the principles for which the church stands as their own. People who wish to join participate in a

“pathways to membership” session, sign the membership book, and commit to supporting this church through participation and financially. To become a member, please contact our Membership Co-Chairs, Lonnie Moseley or Paul Hudson ([membership@uucb.org](mailto:membership@uucb.org)), or speak with one of the co-ministers.

**NEWSLETTER ITEM SUBMISSIONS:** Submit announcements and articles by email to [beacon@uucb.org](mailto:beacon@uucb.org). Due to limited space, we do not publish announcements for events occurring outside the church community. **The deadline for submissions** is the 15th of the month. **Questions?** Please email [beacon@uucb.org](mailto:beacon@uucb.org).

**WEB SITE:** <http://uucb.org>

### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS:**

**To subscribe to the email version of this newsletter** or “The Week Ahead at UUCB,” email [administrator@uucb.org](mailto:administrator@uucb.org). You can also find both newsletters at the [uucb.org](http://uucb.org) website under “News.”

### **UUCB general discussion list:**

[http://groups.google.com/group/uucb\\_discuss/about](http://groups.google.com/group/uucb_discuss/about)

**Email list for families:** Email [family.ministry@uucb.org](mailto:family.ministry@uucb.org)