

# Beacon on the Hill June 2018

## From the Ministers

Dear UUCB members and friends,

This has been a very busy year of programs and ministry for our congregation.

But we also know that play, rest, and renewal are just as important as work, service, and justice.



Our worship theme for the month of June is blessing, and we can think of no greater blessing this time of year than the chance to slow down and take a break. As the school year winds down and we ease into summer, we hope you will take time to rest and tend to your heart and spirit. Whether you're making a trip somewhere far away or planning more of a "stay-cation" we hope this season will give you a chance to relax, to remember what it's like to feel bored, to connect with things that you perhaps don't have time for at other times of the year.

We will be doing the same! After our trip to Kansas City for the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly, we will be heading up to Idaho for a couple of weeks to visit family. We will be away from June 15-27 for General Assembly and then again July 1-25 for our vacation. As usual, please contact the Pastoral Associates Committee at [pastoralcare@uucb.org](mailto:pastoralcare@uucb.org) with non-urgent pastoral care needs. The Reverends Sue Magidson and Jane Ramsey will be tending to emergency pastoral needs while we are away. If you call the church office someone there will make sure they receive your message.

Summer blessings!

Kristin and Christian

# Sunday Worship Services in June

Sanctuary, 11 am

## Theme for June: Blessing

**June 3 – *The Blessing of Growth and Learning***, Rev. Amanda Weatherspoon, with Cami Fuller, Worship Associate. Join us this Sunday as we say “thank you” to all of our Family Ministry volunteers and the Rev. Amanda Weatherspoon preaches her last sermon as our Intern Minister.

**June 10 – *The Blessing in Leaving***, Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt, Worship Associate TBA. This week in worship we will lean into the power and blessing in saying goodbye well as we bid farewell to several people. This is Intern Minister Rev. Amanda Weatherspoon’s final Sunday among us; we will send the Jay family forth with our blessings as they prepare to move to the Twin Cities for Kathryn’s ministerial internship; and Lindsay Lam will share about her experience growing in faith as she prepares to go off to college.

**June 17 – *Legacy of Love***, Alex Haider-Winnett, Seminarian, with Jim Gasperini, Worship Associate. As members of a faith community, we inherit the work and dreams of those who came before us. What are we called to do for those who will come behind us?

**June 24 – *Offspring of Skywoman, Children of Eve***, Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd, Worship Associate TBA. Drawing from Robin Wall Kimmerer’s experience as a botanist and member of the Potawatami Nation, this story/sermon will look at the joining of generations and the origin stories we tell about the earth and all its creatures.

**June Good Neighbor** (sharing our offerings): [East Bay Center for the Blind](#) is a non-profit organization that provides services and social activities to a diverse group of people in our community who have low to no vision. Our support of the East Bay Center for the Blind is especially important because

many of their clients are not assisted by other agencies.

## **Summer Forum: Towards a Just World**

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

**June 3 – *Gun Violence*.** An open-ended discussion ... background checks, repeal of the second amendment, school safety. Led by Warren Zittel, Joann and Jeff Marshall, Charlie Hewitt, Lindsay Lam.

**June 10 – *Occupella*.** Original and familiar political songs led by Hali Hammer.

**June 17 – *Toby Blome*.** Active in Code Pink International Women's movement. Her special focus is drones and their growing development.

**June 24 – *Human Trafficking*.** Arlene Hipp works in a non-profit organization coordinated with the Alameda District Attorney.

## **Humanist Connections**

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

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!

**June 3: *Is Marriage Obsolete?* Kathy Rai**

**June 10: *The Crimes of God*, Ray Nelson**

**June 17: *Darwinian Aesthetics*, Don Anderson**

**June 24: *The Humanism of Harari*, Lee Lawrence**

# Special Events in June

**Saturday, June 2, 7–9 pm – Hearts and Hands Across the Sea dessert social** (see Partner Church News below)

**Sunday, June 3 is Lost and Found Sunday** – Please check the Lost and Found tables in the Social Hall for items you or your children may have left behind this year. (And if you are missing serving dishes you've brought to potlucks, please check the lower cabinet just inside the kitchen door.)

**Saturday, June 9, 11 am–12 noon** – UUCB is the host for the West County Detention Facility Vigil to Support Detained Immigrants and their families (see Social Justice News below)

**Saturday, June 16, 10 am–4 pm** – Workshop, *The Wisdom Within: Opening to the Guidance of Your Soul* with Rev. Cat Cox (see below)

**Saturday, June 23, 1–5pm** – *Healing Justice* documentary film and discussion (see Social Justice News below)

## **The Wisdom Within: Opening to Your Soul Guidance**

**Saturday, June 16, 10 am–4 pm, Fireside Room**

This all-day workshop presented by the Rev. Cat Cox is a follow-up to her recent talk at Personal Theology, “A Weird Woman Getting Weirder.” Come play with combining dream images, art-as-exploration, journaling, visualization and energy work as ways of accessing the wisdom of Spirit/Source Energy/Divine that is bubbling up in your soul life now and offering you unique guidance for this time in your life.

Fee: \$65 UUCB members, \$75 non-members; lunch is included. Minimum 10 participants, maximum 30. Register via email to [wisdom@uucb.org](mailto:wisdom@uucb.org) or call (510) 655-1444 and register with coordinator, Lonnie Moseley.

# **Family Ministry**

**Merrin Clough, Director of Family Ministry**

## **A Call for Volunteers**

Hi, I'm Alejandra. I'm 16 and I've been coming to UUCB for 10 years. This Church is important to me because I think it can be a place where we can come to learn more about ourselves and each other. It is a place where I have made many friends and helped the people in our community with events like the food drive. Being a part of this community has helped me realize how much potential we have to create positive changes in the world around us. With things like RE classes, I have been able to learn from my friends and the RE teachers what being a UU is all about. I have learned a lot from my RE teachers and I hope they have learned from us, the youth.

You don't have to have teaching experience to be an RE teacher. You just need to love the youth and want to be a part of their church experience. We would appreciate it very much if you would volunteer to be an RE teacher and if you are interested in teaching RE in the fall, please contact Merrin Clough ([merrin@uucb.org](mailto:merrin@uucb.org)). Thank you!

## **Summer Religious Education**

During June and August the children and youth will explore the church. We will meet some of the people who make UUCB a loving and principled spiritual community. Each Sunday leaders from different areas of the church will offer a session for the young people. We'll connect with some groups in the church that the children don't often meet like pastoral care, membership, social justice, and of course the well-loved snack table! With each session we'll get a sense of how these different groups contribute to the life of the church. We'll also make a gift for each ministry area we get to know. This is a multi-age class is for young people 5 to 15 years old. Childcare will be

available for younger children in the nursery. Older youth are also welcome to join us, or attend worship. The class will meet during the 11 am worship service in the Family Ministry office.

During the month of July all of the young people will meet in the nursery space. We'll have UU focused art activities for the older children to do. Everyone will be welcome to explore and play in the lovely garden and play areas.

## **Rethinking Youth Ministry**

In early May we had a Youth Visioning Overnight. A small core of youth leaders and advisors came together to reimagine the direction of our youth programs for middle and high schoolers. We asked what we might do to make our youth ministry more fun and meaningful.

The group drafted a vision statement that we'll soon unveil, after honing the language. We also made suggestions for special events, some changes to Sunday morning youth groups, and group norms that we need to cultivate to improve our youth ministry. Over the last month we've gathered input on these ideas from a broader group of youth and advisors.

Over the summer the Youth Adult Team will create a calendar of events for the upcoming church year. The advisor team soon will begin working more closely together to cultivate those group norms to strengthen and deepen our programs. Our hope is to make a fresh start in September that will reinvigorate our youth community and provide more of what they need to navigate our wild and wonderful world.

## **President's Column**

### **Jack Duggan**

I believe we should sell the Freestone property and the Board has made a motion to be considered by all church members at the Congregational

Meeting on October 21. It's not an easy decision. We all know the people involved in Freestone are among the longest and most respected members of our community. It's not easy to say no to them. We appreciate what they have done for the last forty years; we appreciate what Freestone has meant to them and the congregation in the past; but it may not be part of our future.

Jack Duggan, Board of  
Trustees President

In the past it was wonderful, a retreat, where members could get away from it all and share nature and fellowship, not a formal retreat center but a place to get away. Freestone was never a money maker but was a benefit of belonging to the church. The property was bought with money from the Freestone Committee and the church. It's never been self-supporting through rental fees. The building itself was built and maintained with money from the sale of one of the four parcels and volunteer labor from the Freestone Committee.

And now, after forty years, the Freestone building is in need of repair. We can argue endlessly what repairs are needed and how much they should cost, but the money isn't there. This year in the congregation we have had to face our financial situation harder than we ever have before.

The Congregation voted to use funds from the Board Designated Endowment earnings to make needed repairs to the Kensington church property. In the last congregational meeting the members approved a budget that made substantial and painful cuts to staff. The operating budget is balanced but there is no surplus. We still haven't solved the problem of how we raise the \$250,000 annual budget required to maintain the property.

For a long time Freestone served its function but in the last few years the need for repair and maintenance has become critical. The forty-year-old geodesic dome has not aged well. At a minimum the repairs will cost \$50,000 and probably much more. That's \$50,000 we don't have. In another 10, 20, 30 years another substantial investment will be needed. Freestone has never made money and there's no reason to think it will in the future. Is it possible?

Sure, anything is possible with enough effort and money. But is it likely? No.

In the coming discussion we will look at selling parcels to raise money for repairs. The two parcels in question do not seem to be suitable for development. The only bid was by our neighbor and they withdrew that offer. We are now in a water dispute with that neighbor over their violation of our easement and that has gone on for over a year with legal costs to defend the integrity of our property.

The mission and the ends we worked on as a congregation did not make a retreat center or Freestone a priority. As hard as it is to face it, Freestone is no longer an integral part of the UUCB community and its mission. At one time it was an important community builder, an activity that brought people together. However the interest in a getaway in Sonoma County has waned, notwithstanding the valiant efforts of the Freestone Committee to promote it.

We have five months before the vote. Let's explore the possibilities and the reality. But let's be realistic about our resources and how we use them. Since I've been a member of the Board we have considered and discussed Freestone at great length. The conclusion of the Board at our May meeting was to call the vote. We need to decide whether to put the money into Freestone to make it usable or to sell it and move on. The Board of Trustees recommends to the Congregation that we sell Freestone.

## **Schweitzer Awardees: Stephanie Ann Blythe, Beth Pollard**

The Albert Schweitzer Award is presented annually for outstanding service to the church to one or more individuals who have been members of UUCB for fifteen years or more. We hope to start a new tradition of including the award speeches from the May congregational meeting in the June Beacon.

**Presentation to Stephanie Ann Blythe by Anne Greenwood**



I remember Stephanie Ann when she first came to UUCB, joining as a member in July of 2001. She seemed somewhat reserved and shy, not really sure what to expect when I stopped her at the door as she was leaving one Sunday and thanked her for sharing her journey.

Since then she has taken full advantage of the many opportunities our church has for exploration, learning and leading. It has been my pleasure to be with her on some of those explorations and leadership activities.

My favorite association has been her interest in our Partner Church in Transylvania. We have been on three overseas pilgrimages together, singing down in the salt caves, in our village and in the Black Church in Brassov in front of an amazing pipe organ. We shivered in the coldest July one year and sweltered during another July, when the hotel had no air conditioning and the temperature was over 100 degrees in Budapest. Through it all Stephanie Ann takes advantage of all that is offered, does not complain (even when such is warranted) and makes the best of whatever comes her way. Did you know she also takes 3D photos using two cameras, is a beer aficionado, plays cribbage, and loves trains, taking many rail trips across and around this continent?

When it comes to working on the Partner Church committee she has been faithful, hardworking, imaginative, and more than generous with her time and treasure, especially supporting our Village Education Fund. She makes dessert bars to die for, and authentic Hungarian goulash with a recipe garnered from experiencing the making of it over an open fire in the hills above Homoródújfalú, our partner church. Over her many years on the committee she has moved from member to co-chair to very able chair. She has received the Steward of Partnership award, given by the UUA's Partner Church council. She is adept at using the internet to our advantage as we search for Hungarian recipes – we will be serving Cold Cherry Soup at our June 2nd dessert social event. Everyone is invited!

And serving on this committee is just one of her many activities – she has ably served as a delegate to the UUA General Assembly seven times (including this coming June). She belongs to the Mist Tree Moon Circle, has sung with the “Early Birds” at our previous 9 o’clock services, ushered us into the services and is a regular preparer of the slides for the 11 o’clock service.

As a member of the LBGTQ community she has played a very important role in speaking to middle and high school participants in OWL, the sexuality course that is offered in Bay Area UU churches. In her words “the scariest thing you can do as a UU.”

I know my life is so much richer having worked and played with you. We are so thankful and grateful to you for your many years of engagement with and service to this church.

### **More About Stephanie Ann from Kay Fairwell:**

Stephanie Ann is the perfect example of still waters running deep. On the surface, she often seems quiet and introspective. But there is so much strength underneath that calm demeanor.

Anne has shared some of Stephanie Ann’s accomplishments here at UUCB, but there are so many more. And you wouldn’t hear about them from Stephanie Ann, so let me list them. Stephanie Ann served on the Board of Trustees from 2008 to 2014, and was Board President from 2011 to 2013, during a particularly challenging time, when she served with grace and dignity.

She has served on many committees and task forces, including the Intern Ministry Committee, the Welcoming Congregation Committee, the Budget Task Force, the Audit Committee, the Safe Congregation Team, and the UUCB liaison to the Pacific Central District Welcoming Congregation initiative. She also helped write the UUCB Safety Manual. In addition, through all this, she found time to be a chalice circle leader.

And lest you think that Stephanie Ann always just worked behind the scenes, she gave birth to the baby Buddha on the chancel steps for a winter solstice service.

But my best, most intimate, and most rewarding experience with Stephanie Ann was when we served together on the Ministerial Search Committee, which resulted in the calling of our Reverends Kristin and Christian Schmidt.

One of Stephanie Ann's most important duties on the committee was communicating with you, the congregation, on our work and progress. As you might imagine, this was not always an easy task. She was constantly trying to balance transparency with confidentiality. We had an obligation to be transparent in what we were doing and to keep you informed. At the same time, we had the obligation to maintain confidentiality when it came to the identity of ministers with whom we had any contact.

And then there was the time when we had to let you know that, at the end of the initial search process, we did not have a candidate for you.

Through all this, Stephanie Ann's clear head helped us navigate this delicate communication process.

I have served on many committees. But what I have often said, and it is still true to this day, is that the Search Committee was the most efficient, productive, cooperative, thoughtful, and joyous committee I have ever been on. Stephanie Ann played a major part in that being so.

Stephanie Ann, thank you, thank you, thank you.

**Presentation to Beth Pollard by Barbara Cullinane**

I am so pleased and honored this morning to present our UUCB Schweitzer Award to “very well deserving” Beth Pollard.

Since first joining UUCB in 1989, Beth has “generously shared her time and talents.”

She was a Capital Campaign Co-Chair and member of the Finance, Endowment, and Stewardship Committees. Beth has been a member of Evensong and Chalice Circles.

Beth’s most major time and talent commitments were as a member of the Coordinating Team, for which she also facilitated their retreat, and most recently as member of two Ministerial Selection Committees, the first for interim minister Greg Ward and then for our settled ministers Kristin and Christian Schmidt.

I have known Beth for more than 21 years through our Evensong group and as a close personal friend. However, as I have never been a peer in any of these other groups, I asked her for \*names of persons with whom she had worked, to tell me more about personal qualities and aspects of her participation they felt would qualify her for this award. And tell me, they did.

One colleague described Beth as “authentic, frank, compassionate, and so caring ... an all-around wonderful woman!” Another enthused, “Beth is an unexpected and delicious surprise. Smart? Funny? An original! “

They described many personal qualities she brings to her commitments: “warmth, humor, openness, intelligence, competence, common sense, honesty and integrity, and responsibility.” “Beth has a way about her that puts you at ease and makes you want to do your best!”

And they spoke to her generosity in not only sharing her time and treasure, but even her home, where she hosted many search committee and potential

candidate gatherings.

With personal experience from working with Beth on one or more of her major activities, her colleagues noted: Her “biweekly attendance at the CT meetings was a joy.” Beth “was organized and prepares thoroughly,” “incredibly dependable and diligent about following through on tasks she took on.” “When Beth says yes to a task, she performs miracles.” As a secretary, her peer noted Beth “writes the best minutes, bar none,” “synthesizing what is happening as a meeting goes along.”

What especially impressed her peers are the ways they experienced Beth’s participation in group discussions: “She sees the big picture.” “She is open-minded and non-judgmental.” “She had a way of asking questions that were probing, but more importantly, unbiased.”

“She didn’t foreclose on any one opinion, but asked questions in an effort to gain information, I think, to be able to better discern and to crystallize for herself what she thought.”

Questions like “How do you see this?” and “I’d be curious to understand how you came to that” “encourage better collaboration” and “free up others to speak from their perspectives without concern for being on the ‘right side’ of an issue.” “Beth’s comments made me think more deeply about something I had initially had a knee-jerk reaction to. “

They conclude, “Beth can make a contentious situation a productive and accepting one.” “When Beth gives her opinion, you know it is well thought out and comes from love.”

In sum, they and I couldn’t agree more with Beth Pollard receiving this Albert Schweitzer Award. We agree, “Beth is such a gift to our congregation!!!!”

# Coordinating Team Notes

## Deborah Schmidt, Coordinating Team Convener

We are grateful to those who were able to attend our congregational meeting and who did the soul-searching work of reviewing, questioning, and passing our budget. We celebrate your pledges, which make our mission possible. One of the givens of this budget is a restructuring of staffing, which creates increased reliance upon volunteers.

I want to thank the volunteers who have already stepped up to help on Sunday mornings. Facilities volunteers include Paul Farrell, Kathy Guarneri, Paul Hudson, Randall Hudson, Don Klose, Sherman Lam, Mac Lingo, Bob Moore, Daniel Schmidt, Dave Wemmer, and Lucinda Young. Thanks to Marin Fischer, the building is open by 8:30! Coffee volunteers include Marin Fisher, Ann Harlow and Barbara Hilbourn.

We are still looking for more volunteers. If being a facilities floater would make you happy, please email me (contact info below). If you'd like to help with coffee, contact [Lisa Maynard](#).

Some of these needs will be met when we hire a new facilities coordinator, but some jobs will remain in the hands of volunteers. This is a positive change; this work brings us closer to each other and enhances our understanding of what it takes to support this loving community.

*The Coordinating Team meets on first and third Thursdays from 10 am to 12 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).*

## **Are you a Sunday coffee drinker?**

**Do you like to eat snacks at church?**

**Please read on...**

Sunday Hospitality (food, drink, and the related cleanup) has become an all-volunteer effort!

Yes, we used to have church facilities staff responsible for making our Sunday coffee/tea service happen. But in the days of yore (not really that long ago), church members hosted the hot beverages. We can do it again, and participating in such efforts is a worthy step on our path towards greater sustainability.

Lately, several people have stepped up to get those hot beverages going, and volunteers have also followed up by washing cups later in the day.

Our Sunday refreshments have been presented by volunteers for years; these days the church budget provides the food, while members continue to do the preparation, serving, and cleanup.

Scheduling jobs like these in advance really helps to spread the work out among more people—it's another one of those opportunities to nurture a community that works together. And some of the jobs take less than an hour at a time!

So, would you like to join the Beverage Brigade, or the Nosh Network? Are you a Canny Cleaner or a Dishwashing Dervish? If you get involved in this community effort, you too can think up silly names for this work.

Please contact [Lisa Maynard](#) to put your name on the list of Venerable Volunteers! (Having your name on the list means you will get a group email message from time to time, asking you to consider signing up for a specific job on a specific day.)

## **Program Council News**

## **Gail Simpson, Program Council Convener**

**ALL-CHURCH EVENTS:** On May 11, 25 lay leaders met with Rev. Christian and Lissa Roos Parker to map out our 2018-2019 church calendar. The following week, the Program Council discussed which of our calendar's activities to feature as "All-Church" events. But what could "All-Church" event mean? Here are some of our thoughts:

- We would designate three or four activities per year – approximately one per quarter – chosen to encourage broad participation by members and friends, as well as to appeal to newcomers and neighbors.
- This set would be a "UUCB Sampler" chosen to represent the values UUCB would like to be known for. (If a newcomer attended only these events, he/she would learn something about what was most important to us!!)
- For these events, we would support the participation of all members through the provision of enabling services such as carpools and childcare, as necessary.
- We would broadly advertise these events throughout the year, both internally AND externally, starting with the Solano Stroll.

Some initial ideas for All-Church events include:

**SOCIAL JUSTICE:** Vigil at the West County Detention Center hosted by UUCB

**NEIGHBORS and COMMUNITY:** Solano Stroll and Parade

**FAMILY:** Reverse Sunday All-Church Picnic and Field Day with Neighbors

**CELEBRATION:** Easter Morning Breakfast, Worship and Easter Egg Hunt

What do you think? What ideas do you have for All-Church events? Which ones would you like to help with? We are waiting to hear from you. Please



contact your Program Council Rep or me.

## **Social Justice Council News**

**Sheldon Jones, Reporter**

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

Professor James L. Taylor took the LFDC to school on May 6th. Some comments from attendees: “He was a gift ... exciting ... visionary ... humble ... authentic; wow!” “I enjoyed Dr. Taylor’s talk, especially the descriptions of people that made them human, fallible, and yet still the heroes and heroines we admire. He also gave us something to think about with his focus on individuals and not large programs.” “I enjoyed the little-known facts he discussed, like that MLK Sr. & Jr. changed their names from ‘Michael King’ to ‘Martin Luther,’ to honor the theologian they admired. And that Rosa Parks was not the shy little lady who got tired one day, but a true activist all along.” We’ll have him back, for sure!

### **Save the Date!!**

**June 9**, 11 am–12 noon (Only this time on 2nd Saturday) — **West County Detention Facility Vigil** to Support Detained Immigrants and their families with UUCB hosting. 5555 Giant Hwy, Richmond. Carpool from UUCB at 10:15 am. For info, contact Sheldon Jones, [sejones1950@gmail.com](mailto:sejones1950@gmail.com).

**June 23**, 1–5pm **Healing Justice** – Documentary and discussion facilitated by Amikaeyla Proudfoot Gaston (Cracking the Codes), UUCB Social Hall. Explore Criminal Justice Reform, School to Prison Pipeline and Restorative Justice. Open to all. \$10 suggested donation. Register at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). For more info email [hj\\_uucb@yahoo.com](mailto:hj_uucb@yahoo.com).

**June 28**, 6–8 pm – **Pastors for Peace Cuban Caravan Send-Off**, Atrium: Spend the evening learning about ELAM, the Latin America School of Medicine; hear from John Waller representing IFCO; and updates

regarding Cuba.

**August 4, 8 pm – Roy Zimmerman in Concert** at UUCB – Funny songs about peace and justice. Help us publicize this to the wider community.

## **Announcements!!**

Support Scholars' Fund by participating in "Congrats to Grads." See Lonnie Moseley to contribute to the fund and come to SJC July meeting for the celebration/presentation to graduating UUCBers.

**Good Neighbor Nominations** Coming this Fall for the Next Year. On-line form is available

## **Partner Church Committee News**

### **Stephanie Ann Blythe, Reporter**

Looking for an evening of Fun, Food, and Farewell? Look no further than Saturday, June 2, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Fireside Room for a dessert social with conversation and presentations on Transylvania and Unitarians. We are calling it Hearts and Hands Across the Sea. We will wish Rev. Emese Bodor a fond farewell to UUCB as she concludes her year as the Balázs Scholar at Starr King School for the Ministry. Our past intern minister, Zackrie Vinczen, will talk about his experience as the 2017 Balázs Exchange Scholar. RSVP to Anne or Stephanie Ann or just show up. The more the merrier!

As always, this will be a fundraiser for the Village Education Fund. Your donations provide scholarships to the young people of Homoródújfalú who wish to continue their education at the high school and university level. Emese teaches and is a chaplain at the Unitarian high school in Kolozsvár. Generally, our students attend high schools closer to the village, but she is teaching people with the same hopes and dreams. Please give generously when we ask.

We also want to give a shout out to all of you who extended hospitality to Emese during the past year, whether it's been lunch or dinner, the UC Art Museum, kayaking on Tomales Bay, etc. Word has it that Sonya Sukalski is taking her on a backpacking trip!

To RSVP for June 2 or ask all your questions about Transylvania, contact [Stephanie Ann Blythe](#) or [Anne Greenwood](#) for all the details.

## **Preview of July Summer Forum Speaker Dates**

(see Summer Forum above for June dates)

9:30–10:45 am, Sundays:

July 1 **Political Poetry and More.** (surprise guest)

July 8 **Professor David Hartsough**, author of **Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist.** Hidden strands of violence.

July 15 **Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles**, “recovering psychologist and recovering attorney” and UU minister. What’s happening with our veterans?

July 22 **Judith Tannenbaum**, author, activist and teacher. Teaching poetry at San Quentin and in schools and communities.

July 29 **Tamara Shiloh**, author. Teaching black and women’s history all year long through engaging books.

### **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)

**Social Justice email list:** Email [sejones1950@gmail.com](mailto:sejones1950@gmail.com)