



Beacon on the Hill

The monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Vol. 78 #3 March 2019

The mission of this church is to create loving community; inspire spiritual growth; and encourage lives of integrity, joy, and service.

From the Co-Ministers

An important part of our role as co-ministers is to encourage the congregation to stay focused on our shared mission and to consider the “big picture.” So, we are thrilled with the good work that’s been done among us here in the past month, particularly in the area of our finances.

On Feb. 9, more than 40 of UUCB’s lay leaders met in the church’s first-ever Budget Summit. We had a great discussion about our current budget, discussed the important changes needed for next year that have been proposed by the Coordinating Team and Committee on Financial Oversight, and the options we have to begin addressing the accumulated deficit. While we didn’t achieve absolute agreement about our budget priorities (who would ever expect UUs to totally agree about anything!), we did get a good sense of the spectrum of opinions. Most importantly, a large cross section of people deeply involved in this congregation talked to one another and got a good sense of what each other thinks.

We are also grateful to all those who participated in and led the February congregational meeting. Thanks especially to Jack Duggan, David Roberts, and Linda Laskowski’s presentations, we learned together about the history of the church’s finances, how the deficit came to be, and invested the Board with our trust and gratitude for their work to lead the congregation through the challenges and opportunities ahead of us.

We hope you will join us in holding the Coordinating Team in your intentions, prayers, or good thoughts as they work to integrate feedback from many of you and align next year’s budget with our congregation’s values and purpose. It will be a better document because of the input received from so many of you. We are more together, we can do more together, and we are glad that we are part of that together here, with and among you.

In faith,

Revs. Christian and Kristin

Special Events in March

Sat. Mar. 2 – *Beethoven!* Joint UU choirs (ours and UUSF) and Kensington Symphony Orchestra perform fundraising concert, 7:30 pm (see Music Matters)

Sun. Mar. 3 – Stewardship Kick-off Luncheon (free) in the Social Hall after the service

Sun. Mar. 17 – Multicultural Fair: The Im/migration Experience, 12:15–2 pm. A FREE family event for our UUCB community. Celebrate our rich multicultural heritage! Delicious food! Art activities! Learn more about immigration to and migration within the US! Catch the spirit with dancing and music by Alex Taite, Mahal and Evelie Delfino Sâles Posch! More info, htinsleyjones@yahoo.com.

Sun. Mar. 24 – Ritual Turning In of Pledges (or “I already pledged” cards) in Worship Service.

Worship Services in March

Sanctuary, 11am on Sundays

Theme for March: **Journey**

Sunday, March 3 – *Partners on the Journey*, Rev. Christian Schmidt preaching, Cynthia Asprodites, Worship Associate. The journey of life brings us seasons of both joy and sorrow. Join us this Sunday as we give thanks for this faith community of partners on life's journey.

Sunday, March 10 – *The Journey of the Body*, Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt preaching, Sarah Ward, Worship Associate. Our bodies, imperfect as they may be, are precious because they carry us through our lives. This week in worship we consider what our faith has to teach us about the preciousness of all bodies.

Sunday, March 17 – *Im/Migration*, Jeanne Foster, Worship Associate. Im/Migration is a collaboration of the People of Color Caucus, Social Justice and Music in celebrating our rich heritages. With stories and music, we look at movements to and within the US. You can hear portions of "The Immigrant Experience," a new cantata by UU composer John Kramer, that will include a solo from guest singer Alex Taite. Members of UUCB will share their personal journeys of immigration and migration. This is part of the UUCB Multicultural Fair that continues after service with dance, food and activities, including mapping your family's journey, and music by Mahal Ethnofusion Ensemble.

Sunday, March 24 – *Don't Stop Believing!* Rev. Kristin preaching, Melissa Rosales, Worship Associate. Though our country and economy are broken and divided, we still believe in the power of our shared mission to nurture our spirits and help heal our world. Join us this Sunday to celebrate all of the good this congregation does and make your pledge to sustain our work to grow into a future that needs the transforming love we've received as part of this community.

Sunday, March 31 – *Journey's End*, Rev. Christian preaching, Bob Adams, Worship Associate. It's one of those big questions: What, if anything, happens to us when our journey ends, that is, when we die? Unitarian Universalists have a lot of different thoughts about this, and historically have had deep discussion and arguments about it, too. What are we to do with this in today's world?

Good Neighbor for March (sharing our offerings):

YEAH! (Youth Engagement Advocacy Housing, yeahberkeley.org) supports young adults who are currently homeless. They provide shelter, food, basic necessities, counseling, individual support, and linkages to resources. Your offering today will help YEAH in their work to support youth in gaining housing and opportunities for meaningful community involvement.

Personal Theology

Sundays, 9:30–10:45 am, Fireside Room

March 3: Dr. Beverly Allen, Prof. Emerita at Syracuse University, visiting professor at Stanford. ***Marija Gimbutas' Archaeology of the Sacred Feminine.***

March 10: Rev. Kristin Schmidt, one of our Senior Co-Ministers, will share her reflections on the place where theology and real life meet. ***What Really Matters.***

March 17: Dr. Judith Berling, an Episcopalian-Confucian-Daoist, dean and professor emerita of Chinese and comparative religions at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. ***Learning to "Unsettle" Myself: A Spiritual Journey.***

March 24: Phil Cousineau is a long-time collaborator with the late Dr. Huston Smith. Phil is a freelance writer, documentary filmmaker, and author of over 35 books, including *The Hero's Journey: The Life and Work of Joseph Campbell*. He has over 20 documentary film credits and since 2009 has been host of *Global Spirit* on PBS and Link TV and a guest host on *New Dimensions Radio*. In 1999, he and his film partner, Gary Rhine, organized a group of ten Native American leaders to accompany Dr. Huston Smith to the Parliament of World Religions in South Africa. His presentation will discuss the impassioned conversations and profound dialogues from the parliament, and will include film clips from their award-winning documentary, as well as other insights gathered from his decades of work with Huston Smith, including Huston's distinctions between religion and spirituality, personal and collective theology, and his ultimately triumphant philosophy of living our lives in a spirit of rejoicing. ***A Seat at the Table: Struggling for American Indian Religious Freedom.***

March 31: Rev. Dr. Chris Schriener is Minister Emeritus of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Fremont and a retired psychotherapist. He is the author of six books, including *Bridging the God Gap: Finding Common Ground Among Believers, Atheists and Agnostics*. ***The Mystery of Consciousness.***

Humanist Connections

Sundays, 12:30 pm, check kiosk for location

Mar. 3: Toxic Masculinity – Dennis Monthei

Mar. 10: A Couple of Lessons for the 21st Century (Harari) – Harold Ogren

Mar. 17: Planet of Slums: The Bottom Billion – Marcia Bates

Mar. 24: The Green New Deal – Sandy Nixon

Mar. 31: Charter Schools – Susan Singh

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!

Family Ministry

Zackrie Vinczen

As of February 11th, I have started as the Acting Director of Family Ministry here at UUCB. This change has got me thinking a lot about the theme of transition and what all the recent changes mean for UUCB. It seems there's a steady flow of shifting circumstances working to shape what's next. Many of us have witnessed these changes and expressed anxiety or even fear. I know I've had moments where some of these emotions have seeped into my being, but not all these feelings and emotions have been negative. There's also feelings of hope and possibility – possibility that together we will harness this transition to deepen the relevance of Family Ministry here at UUCB.

What this future looks like, is not my job to say. That's your work. This is your program. Sure, I'll be here for a while helping to shepherd the process and keep things running, but ultimately the decision about what comes next rests with all of you. Your engagement will shape the future of Family Ministry. It is completely within your collective power to transform this program into something new and amazing – something with deeper relevance to our children, youth, and families. To do this, though, to play a part in harnessing the possibility of this transition, we must lean into the change – working together to take risks and try new things. Yes, this means there may be some discomfort. And yes, it means things will be different, but I believe this community can overcome any challenges that present themselves – thriving as you move into the future.

But what does any of this mean in the short term? Well, for now it means the rest of our program year will continue to run as planned. We will still have Sunday RE and other regularly scheduled Family Ministry events. Childcare will still be available on Sundays and for special events ... it also means that we will engage in a lot of the same planning processes to set event dates and recruit volunteers for next year. In short, I don't anticipate a lot changing during my time at UUCB. As I said, changing things isn't really my job.

So, who's doing the work if it's not me?

Some of the work of determining what the next chapter will look like is already underway. The Renew, Revise, and Refresh team (R^3) has begun assessing our program strengths in conjunction with other models of ministry. Their hope is to spend the next months thinking about the future of Family Ministry before putting forth recommendations. We hope to share more with you about this process in next month's Beacon.

Beyond the work of the R^3 team, I'd encourage all of you to play your part. As I've already said, there is going to be some discomfort, but with your help and participation I truly believe we can navigate this discomfort together – transforming it into a positive and formative experience.

Please let me know if there is anything I can assist with or provide additional information.

In Service,

Zackrie Vinczen, M. Div.

Acting Director of Family Ministry

President's Corner

Maryann Simpson

I am honored to be the President of your Board of Trustees. Thank you.

We are in a time of challenge, but I am encouraged by the excellent work and the comprehensive explanations of our congregation's finances given by Rev. Kristin at the Budget Summit and by David Roberts and Linda Laskowski at our recent congregational meeting.

I am counting on all members of the congregation to be engaged in finding solutions to our challenges in consideration of our mission. For the purpose of obtaining congregational input, a board member will be present at a "Board Listening" table before and after one Sunday service a month. In addition, I will hold "office hours" at my home in El Cerrito the first, second, and third Tuesday from 3 to 5 pm. You can call me or come by for a conversation. For those of you for whom this time frame does not work, reach out to me and we will find a time to talk.

Beyond conversation and the sharing of ideas, we need your time and talent. Let us all work to thrive in these challenging times. I believe deeply that this country needs our values and commitment to social justice.

Let's worship together and leave renewed and refreshed to be our best selves for those we love and for our community, country and world.

Editor's note: In addition to the regular Board of Trustees meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (guests welcome), there will be a series of financial education meetings for the Board and interested guests on fourth Wednesdays, 7 pm, in order to get a better handle on UUCB finances.

Future Fundraising

Ann Harlow

Is there anyone out there who knows how to use Filemaker Pro databases and has an interest in raising money for UUCB? We are all set up with a database that makes it relatively easy to put on a silent auction, including with donations from outside businesses and nonprofits. I've chaired or co-chaired about fifteen of them, raising thousands of dollars each time, and would like to pass the mantle along to someone new. I will train and assist! These events can be great fun and community builders, as well as supporting UUCB in a substantial way. Please contact me (annharlow@pacbell.net, 510-559-3616) if you'd be willing to explore this.

Do you like to help with rummage sales? Joe Jackson has offered to chair a team that would plan something along these lines: "a junque collection and antiques sale, a yard sale technique for making charity money. My son's scout troop made good money for their camp scholarships using this business plan, in two or three weekend sales per year. It's junque, is donated, and the unsold is hauled to dump. I can volunteer brains and time, and with some brawn volunteered by others we can try to make UUCB some money." Please contact Joe (joe.jackson.two@gmail.com) if interested.

Coordinating Team Notes

Deborah Schmidt, Coordinating Team Convener

I know that I am speaking for all the CT members when I express my profound gratitude to those who participated in the February 19th Budget Summit. We invited all UUCB leaders, including the Board and Program Council, asking PC reps to extend the invitation to their constituents. We counted forty-two attendees. We were also joined via video conferencing by UUA staffers Jonipher Kwong and James Kubal-Komoto.

Reverend Christian led us in an icebreaker designed to illustrate the diversity of our backgrounds and views. Reverend Kristin facilitated the meeting elegantly, providing the background needed to understand UUCB's financial position and the budget process, and then leading us through small-group exercises designed to elicit priorities for funding and cuts.

Kristin provided helpful handouts including "Mission and Ends," "Financial Challenges and Areas of Growth," "Understanding UUCB's Budget," and "UUCB Projects and Costs." Lenore Ralston kindly took draft notes, which I edited. These documents will be available in the CT portion of uucb.org/about-us/church-documents.

It was not that hard for us to brainstorm ideas for cuts. It was even easier to generate ways to spend. Predictably, what was hard was to agree on particular solutions. But the summit met its goal, which was to educate, inform and include more of us in this process and to increase understanding of the difficult decisions faced by UUCB leadership. Beyond that, and here lies the reason for my gratitude, it created in us the sense of pooling our love and creativity as we face these challenges together.

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.

A Special Message

At the recent budget summit, we shared with you the most accurate estimate we had in hand for the accumulated deficit. Unfortunately, those figures are now being revised upward. We are honor-bound to share this news with you, especially in the spirit of transparency and shared commitment arising from both the summit and the congregational meeting. We will communicate the actual figures as soon as they can be confirmed.

Needless to say, we have all been sickened by this news and have collectively done a lot of soul-searching and have lost a lot of sleep ever since the gravity of the deficit first became apparent. We hope you can believe that, all along, our decisions have been made with the best of intentions, with the best information we had at hand. We sincerely wish we had taken steps to understand our situation better and thus to make better-informed decisions.

But now we are WOKE. We have turned around and are invested in improved financial management, education and transparency. This current year's budget was a step in the right direction, and we are committed to creating a balanced or surplus budget for the coming fiscal year. The next step was the creation of the Committee for Financial Oversight, composed of members of the congregation with financial and management expertise, to help us determine the causes of the deficit, how to avoid such a situation in the future, and the best financial path forward. Other positive steps include: the hiring of Monte Meyers and his firm, Shining Star Consulting, for their financial expertise; the recent Budget Summit; the informational sessions incorporated into the February congregational meeting; and the monthly fiduciary meetings now added to the board calendar.

In these times of turmoil and challenge, a progressive, soul-feeding community like ours is more essential than ever. We maintain our faith in the future of this church. We humbly ask you to keep faith in us and with us as we move forward together.

Yours in covenant and in spirit,

Deborah Schmidt, Hilary Lorraine, Dave Roberts, and Revs. Christian and Kristin Schmidt, Coordinating Team

Maryann Simpson, 2018-19 Vice President/2019-20 President

Mary Muehlbach, Treasurer

Community Ministers

Rev. Cat Cox, UUCB Affiliated Community Minister

Claiming Your Community Lay Ministry

Religious community is about growing into the people we have the capacity to be and taking our gifts into the world. Community ministry is the movement within Unitarian Universalism that expands the ways both UU clergy and UU lay leaders can do this.

Have you ever considered identifying as a UU lay minister yourself? I thought not.

Since 2015, the UUA has given official recognition to lay ministry within Unitarian Universalism.

The UU Society for Community Ministries welcomes into membership both community ministry clergy, such as myself, and also those lay leaders who, by virtue of their committed service within and/or beyond the walls of their congregation, identify as part of the shared ministry of this faith.

You don't have to wait to claim the title if you see yourself as a lay minister. Where do you give service that upholds our UU values, within or beyond the congregation? How are you promoting, not only by your work but also by your modeling, living our core principles?

Ask yourself: What is my part in the shared ministry of this faith? Would identifying as a lay minister strengthen your clarity, confidence and impact? Curious to learn more? Check out UUSCM, uuscm.org, to learn more – or contact me, revcat@revcat.net.

Support Your Church: Stewardship Campaign Launches

The time has come. The time is now. Our stewardship campaign launches Sunday, March 3. Now is the time for each of us to complete our pledge form as generously as possible and contribute our treasure to ensure that UUCB can continue to provide sanctuary, sustenance and service.

Because we live in challenging times for our church, our country and our world, it is even more critical that we assess the best we can do financially to ensure that UUCB can provide:

Sanctuary from a world seemingly so out of sync with our UU principles, especially respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. A place where we find solace, comfort and the energy for renewal of our humanity, our joy in the world.

Sustenance for the times we are in stress, in need of spiritual support, a kind word, a helping hand.

Service when we respond to our sixth UU principle to use our energy and talents to make UUCB and other communities places of peace, liberty, and justice.

There is value in the time and talent many of us give voluntarily to the church. And, as we learned at the recent congregational meeting, how critical our financial contributions are and how, if we do not manage our finances appropriately and live within our means, we can put at risk the presence and value of UUCB.

It will take commitment from all of us to live into that future for which we hope. This year, we challenge each of us to show our commitment by showing up, by living our values, and by making a pledge to support the life of this community. Your support, with both your finances and your time, makes all of this possible. So how can you do this? Say “yes” to maintaining or increasing your financial commitment to UUCB in the coming year. Join us for lunch on Kickoff Sunday, March 3, and help launch this year’s campaign by turning in your pledge early for the 2019-2020 year.

There is nothing free at UUCB.

Everything has a cost in staff time, facility maintenance, and utilities. Pledges – our gratitude commitments – to UUCB account for around 50% of the annual budget. The median annual pledge, i.e., one half below and one half above, is about \$1,400 per pledge unit or \$4/day. With an annual budget of around \$1 million, consider the following cost per time period to operate UUCB:

\$2,700 per day

\$19,000 per week or

\$83,000 per month

With our generosity, we can help ensure the future of our congregation as a sustainable, powerful and responsible spiritual force in our lives and the lives of those in our surrounding communities. Join us on March 3 to launch the campaign and add your generosity to support UUCB’s value in providing sanctuary, sustenance, and service.

Your Stewardship Committee thanks you in advance for sharing your thoughts and for your support of our Beacon on the Hill. Lynne Cahoon, Co-Chair, Patrick Cullinane, Co-Chair, Mac Lingo, Jo Maxon, Bob Moore, Ira Nelken, Rev. Christian Schmidt, and Helen Toy.

Social Justice Council

Hanna Trumbull from Youth Spirit Art Works (our good neighbor recipient for June) spoke at the February potluck meeting of the Social Justice Council and gave a very informative talk about the mission and goals of the program: to provide job training with a stipend along with food and social services for youths 16-25. She reported youth are a very underserved population in the East Bay (1700 homeless youth and only 36 beds).

Their tiny houses pilot project hopes to have a community campus with 14 trailer-based tiny houses and a community center with food, bathing and meeting facilities by August. All rules and operations will be determined by the youth. A former Habitat for Humanity coordinator will be assisting them in the building of the houses and YSA will be looking for volunteers to assist in construction.

Right now, YSA is looking for community support, to encourage participation and assistance from existing organizations such as Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB), and fundraising and volunteering on working committees.

YSA will be visiting UUCB on June 2 and bringing one of their tiny houses.

The LFDC's February M \acute{e} lange inadvertently honored two celebratory events: Black History Month was the theme and the roster containing a trio of UUCB dyads added Valentine's Day to the mix! Lonnie Moseley and Cordell Sloan told of the hidden messages in Negro spirituals; Sheldon Jones stood in for his wife, Helen Tinsley-Jones, to discuss their daughter, Nicole's, amazing Underground Railroad quilt; and, although he played guitar and sang for the Negro spirituals piece, Ralph Nelson was on the bill with Julie Rogers, who deconstructed the construct of race and whiteness in America. Aw-www!

March is Women's History Month; the book for discussion, to be led by Nan Yarbrough, is *History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier*, by Deborah Lipstadt.

UUCB Social Justice Sponsored Projects

Each year the UUCB Social Justice Council receives applications for Sponsored Projects: The SJC supports the project both in people power and budget-wise. At the April meeting the projects are presented along with budgets and then voted on. Those that are approved are then presented to the congregation at the May meeting. A sponsored project receives congregational support in the form of resources, such as worship time, funding, engagement, etc.

It's time to start thinking and planning for the UUCB sponsored projects in social justice for the 2019–20 church year. Our current projects are Confronting Oppression and Opposing Human Trafficking. This year's sponsored projects have held several very successful events.

To apply for sponsorship of your project, you need to gather a group of members who commit to devoting time and energy to the project, and you must complete an application for submission to the Social Justice Council. To receive an application, email Sheldon Jones, sejones1950@gmail.com. Completed applications must be submitted by March 31, 2019. If you have any questions or would like some coaching on the process, please contact Sheldon Jones or Beth Jerde, bjerde55@hotmail.com.

Music Matters

Bryan Baker, Director of Music

We celebrate Beethoven this month, with his gentle, beautiful and uplifting Mass in C major. While the music has plenty of brilliance, it mostly focuses on lyrical loveliness. Our home choir is joined by the UU choir from San Francisco as we sing with the Kensington Symphony Orchestra. The March 2nd concert begins at 7:30 pm, and there is also delightful music by Mozart on the program. This is a significant fundraiser for the church's general fund, so I hope you will come out and enjoy the music.

In April, it's the more intimate program that also features Beethoven, his famous Pathétique Sonata. The "Bryan Baker and Friends" program returns, with music by Debussy, Schubert, and Chopin and four wonderful singers: Michèle Voillequé, Meghan Dibble, Paul Robles, and Phil Buonadonna. Saturday night, April 6, and this is another fundraiser for the UUCB general fund. Please come support your church.

Yours in harmony,

Bryan

Partner Church Committee

Stephanie Ann Blythe

"Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

"If we were to explore the possibilities of having you visit us, what time of year would work best for you for a week or more?"

The first quote is from *Alice in Wonderland*. The second quote comes from Anne Greenwood while exchanging email greetings with Reverend Gyerö Attila in Homoródújfalú. After nearly thirty years of partnership, things have languished. Yours truly, the Partner Church Committee chairperson, hasn't even called a meeting for several months. And now Anne suggests we explore the possibilities!

Attila has received our Christmas greetings supercard with his church's Women's Committee. They are delighted, and Attila assures us that our partnership is still strong. All right, that's a good starting point. Now, how many of you remember the visit by Reverend Ilkei Arpad and his wife Judit some twenty years ago? If we've done it before, we can do it again. It is not an impossible thing! (And Attila speaks English, so no translators needed!) AND the Partner Church Council has grants to help bring people over here. Let's have an international exchange!!

The UUCB calendar says the Transylvanian Partner Church Committee is meeting on Thursday, March 28, at 3:30 pm in the Fireside Room. (We may be back in the Safir Room by then.) BE THERE! If it's not a convenient time, let us know what date or time works better. Like everything else we do at UUCB, Partner Church is something that asks for a little time, talent, and treasure. A little bit of each can go a long way. Our friends in Homoródújfalú appreciate every little bit.

Want to believe some impossible things with us? Contact Stephanie Ann Blythe at steph62850@yahoo.com or Anne Greenwood at annegt1@sbcglobal.net and share your dreams for our partnership.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Larry Nagel

We have four items to report from your Buildings & Grounds Committee:

We will be holding a work party to perform upkeep and maintenance of the building and grounds on Saturday, March 2. Come for breakfast at 8:30 am, start work at 9 am, and stay as long as you can, but no longer than noon. No tools or special skills required, just a desire to help maintain our magnificent facilities. The work party will be rain or shine, although we only work outside if the sun is shining.

The Safir Room is finished and passed final inspection on February 19. Congregants can now begin using the room for meetings, weddings, and parties. We are planning on having the next Board of Trustees meeting on March 6 in the Safir Room.

Contra Costa County has declined our permit to remove 63 dead or dying Monterey pine trees from the grounds and is instead allowing us to cut down only 25 trees. We are appealing the decision and the hearing for the appeal has been set for March 13.

The Endowment Fund Repair projects for painting and sealing the exterior of the building and for replacing the atrium skylights remain on hold pending action from the Board and a possible vote at the next Congregational meeting.

If any of these projects fits your interests and your skills, we would love to have you on our team. Please contact Larry Nagel at (510) 558-0842 or lwn@att.net. Or, just drop in at the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting, which is the first Thursday of every month at 4 pm in the Fireside Room.

Be in on the Planning for Summer Forum

Each summer Sunday at 9:30 am, June through August, speakers on Social Action from the community and within UUCB share their thoughts and actions. If you would be interested in helping to plan the 2019 Forum, please contact dorothyherzberg@gmail.com.

A Few Thank You's

- To Beth Jerde and the Social Justice Council for putting on the February 23rd Soul Line-Dance Potluck Party, which attracted an enthusiastic crowd, diverse in ethnicity, age and body type.
- To Bryan Baker and our other wonderful musicians for Love Songs and Chocolate (February 16-17) and a whole series of other musical fundraisers.
- To Kay McArthur for helping with the Beacon for nearly three years, and to Kathleen Baumgardner for taking over as assistant editor.
- To Jim Gasperini for creating illustrated brochures to promote weddings and other rentals.
- To Gerry Keenan for her dynamic leadership and artistic touch with Sunday hospitality, and to all the other volunteers who help with our bountiful snack table.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

1 Lawson Road

Kensington, CA 94707-1015

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), or speak with one of the co-ministers.

NEWSLETTER ITEM SUBMISSIONS: Submit announcements and articles by email to 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. (Beacon editor is Ann Harlow.)

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. You can also find both newsletters at the uucb.org website under “News.”

UUCB general discussion list:

http://groups.google.com/group/uucb_discuss/about

Email list for families: Email family.ministry@uucb.org

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Coordinating Team

Deborah Schmidt (Convener and Board liaison)
Hilary Lorraine (Program Council liaison)
David Roberts (Co-Chair, Committee on Financial Oversight)
Rev. Christian Schmidt
Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt

Program Council

Gail Simpson (Convener and Music/Arts)
Suzette Anderson-Duggan and Alice Lemieux (Family Ministry)
Victoria Bowen (Membership)
Jim Gasperini and Melissa Rosales (Worship)
Ann Harlow (Communications)
Beth Jerde (Social Justice)
Lonnie Moseley (Adult Religious Exploration)
Larry Nagel (Buildings and Grounds)

Staff (partial list)

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Director of Music: Bryan Baker (ext. 309, bryan.baker@uucb.org)
Rental Manager & Scheduling Coordinator: Lissa Roos Parker (ext. 312, lissamarda@uucb.org)
Office Administrator & Facilities Coordinator: Alisa Gould Sugden (ext. 306, administrator@uucb.org)
Maintenance Coordinator & Sunday Verger: Warren Smith (ext. 308, facilities@uucb.org)