



THE FLAMING CHALICE

JANUARY SERVICE PREVIEWS

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM

WORSHIP THEME: **STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE**

INSIDE

Minister's Message 2

February Birthdays 2

Wheel of Life 2

Intern's Message 3

Board News 4

Jan. Bd. Meet. Synopsis 4

Religious Exploration 5

February Fun-Shops 5

Adult RE Courses 6

ElectionsCON 6

Values for SKUU Kids 6

SKUU and Fair-Trade 7

Special Extras 8

Ongoing Activities 9

How to Reach Us 10

February 6 Wrestling with History Sharon Wylie, intern minister

Some aspects of Unitarian Universalist history are well known and documented, but the experiences of African Americans within our faith tradition are just starting to be told. In honor of Black History Month, we will hear some of these lesser-told stories of our history and reflect on their meaning. (Return to the sanctuary at noon to talk about the sermon with Sharon.)

February 13 Love Shared, Love Multiplied

~Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris, Sharon Wylie, and Lane Campbell

Intergenerational Service. Monday, February 14th is the 2nd Annual "National Standing on the Side of Love Day," when the very heart of the Unitarian Universalist Standing on the Side of Love campaign comes to life. Our Sunday worship will re-imagine Valentine's Day and recognize those whose words and deeds exemplify the values of inclusion, diversity, community, and equality.

February 20 We Are One ~Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

In our faith and in our world we are faced with the difficult struggle of immigration that pulls our belief in hospitality front and center. We are called to stand on the side of love as one of our moral imperatives. What are the struggles and how might we act on our beliefs?

February 27 Practice Compassion ~Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

"If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion." The Dalai Lama lays it out clearly to make it easy for us. Then why is it so hard? Come, give compassion some practice.



Worship Committee Update

Bob Meyerson will continue to serve as Chairman of the Worship Committee, however, he will be taking a few months off as an active worship ASSOCIATE on Sunday mornings.



Winter Visions

KATIE'S BAY VIEW

As a born and bred Midwesterner, I feel not at all entitled to the joy of this sparkling spring weather, especially when I hear of my East Coast friends and family who have been making a regular spiritual practice out of shoveling snow and "driving while praying" along ice and snow covered roads. And yet some of my earliest memories of the Bay Area are early February days when visiting here in the mid-90s. I discovered that what I had known as spring happened here regularly in the middle of winter.

I just had one of those glorious days. My grown son and I together made an early morning pilgrimage to deliver a birthday gift to my ailing mother and took the long way home past my favorite cupcake bakery. We sat with our goodies on a bench facing a large fountain. We watched as a grandmother carefully guided her young preschooler as he toddled around the fountain's border. It brought me back to a time that seemed not so long ago when my own son was that toddler, to a time when my mother and I were able to have conversation, when my task was only to be that safe guide for the important exploration of concrete edges.

Now I am glad to be able to pay attention to those small delights in other's lives, to see new relationships forming with grandparents and small children and to be able to learn to construct a new kind of relationship with my own adult son who has returned home after a long time far away.

I look at what we are doing here in our community much in that same way. I feel privileged to be serving our church during this time of blossoming health, new relationships, expansion and learning. This coming month we'll be sprucing up our grounds, tidying up our offices, laying out our welcome as we prepare to dedicate our building in March. I think about those founders who have gone before us, and believe they would be happy to see our dedication to their mission. I feel glad that we have made it clear that we value the wisest elder and are dedicated to helping guide the youngest babe.

When I make my brief local pilgrimages, I feel gratitude for my home, for my family and for this religious community where I continue to grow my faith. I do miss those deep drifts of eastern snow, even the exhaustion of shoveling, but I'm now sensible enough to remember that beauty and growth are near me wherever I am, whatever the age of my children. I am glad to be on this pilgrimage with you.

In faith,

Katie

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 DICK ALBERT
- 8 ELLERY MEDILLA
- 8 ANDY HANSEN
- 13 BILL DESMIDT
- 16 LEE BERGER
- 19 MEREDITH SCHULER
- 19 ALISON CORSON
- 24 ERIC GABLE

WHEEL OF LIFE

~ Congrats to Amy Kinnear who just landed a new job.

~ Dick Albert and Carol Henrie's daughter Ashley is expecting her first child.

~ Condolences to Nancy Harrison on the death of her mother.

~ Speedy recovery to Terry Hunt after a heart scare.



Building Right Relationship

Intern-al Combustion

After my sermon for Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday, many of you spoke to me about how hard it is to feel love or even compassion for people who have hurt you (or people who are hurting the world, or both).

Some of those conversations got me thinking about the idea of right relationship. The phrase “right relationship” comes from the 18th century Quaker John Woolman, who called on us to live in right relationship with all creation. Modern day Quakers Peter Brown and Geoffrey Garver tell us, “A thing is right when it preserves the integrity, resilience, and beauty of the commonwealth of life and wrong when it does otherwise.”

It seems to me that first and foremost, we need to be in right relationship with ourselves. We need to honor and preserve our own integrity, our own resilience, and our own beauty.

Sometimes the way to do that is to let someone know that they’ve hurt us. Because as hard as it might be to believe, sometimes they can’t know that they’ve hurt us until we tell them. And giving someone an opportunity to apologize—whether they take that opportunity or not—is a way to honor and preserve *their* integrity, resilience, and beauty.

Which is why apologizing when we’ve done wrong is another way to be in right relationship with ourselves. I think we know when we’ve done wrong, even when we may not be sure what we’re sorry for. It can be enough to know (and say) “I meant well, but what I did just then didn’t feel good to me.” We honor our own resilience when we acknowledge that sometimes we make mistakes.

And sometimes the only way to be in right relationship with ourselves is to leave a harmful relationship altogether. Those of you who have had to cut off contact with destructive family members know how difficult this decision can be. But we can’t preserve the integrity, resilience, and beauty of others at the expense of our own.

And what do we do with our anger? What do we do with the anger that comes from having our integrity threatened, our resilience diminished, our beauty ignored? What do we do with our anger at people who seem to have no interest in being in right relationship with us or with the commonwealth of life?

The Buddha tells us, “Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one getting burned.”

Our integrity is jeopardized when we let anger govern our actions. Our resilience is lessened. Even our beauty can be distorted by our anger.

To be in right relationship with ourselves, we must choose to let anger go.

Bright Blessings
Sharon

SKUU BOARD NEWS

By COLLEEN DINO, SKUU Board Member at Large

I became a member, and signed the membership book in April of 2007.

At that time we had two services, and I always attended the early service at 9:30am. The attendance at the early service was a small gathering and I got to know a limited group of the congregation very well. After service during coffee hour, I would meet the other ½ of the congregation coming in for the next service at 11:00am.

In September I became a Greeter and joined the Membership Committee. At first I did this because I wanted to get to know the other members of our church and found I really enjoy meeting the visitors that come through our doors each week.

In August of 2009, I found myself seated at my first Board of Trustees meeting, as a member at large. Just as I have grown and changed within our church, the physical building and body of our congregation began to change. Our new building was completed during my first year on the Board, and I am thankful to the previous Board Members who put in the many hours of hard work to make this project a reality. On the Sundays that I Greet, I am thrilled to see visitors return, and families happy to have their children involved in our RE classes.

One of my assignments as a Board Member is to organize the reception for our Building Dedication Day. This event will be held on Sunday, March 13th at 4pm. As I began planning for this special day, I thought back to when I first walked through the doors of Starr King. It is heart warming to see how the changes have brought us all closer in a truly welcoming community. We now hold one service that is full and diverse in many ways. When we sing, our voices are heard by the children & young adults participating in Religious Exploration in the new classrooms, just across the hall. The new kitchen allows us to share our hospitality through coffee hour and holiday meals with the community. We have new systems in place that assist the hearing impaired, and facilities that are equipped for all.

This new building was a vision of our long time members for many years. I hope you will join us in celebrating the completion of this project, and invite you to grow and participate in this thriving community.

Welcome to our House of Peace.

Colleen

Synopsis of Jan. Board Meeting

- ✘ Bob Brittan came to discuss upcoming joint Board and Committee on Ministry retreat scheduled for January 15.
 - ✘ The Board continued a discussion about a piano gift.
 - ✘ A report was delivered concerning the ongoing development of the new rental policy.
 - ✘ The Board passed a resolution supporting a second term for Linda Laskowski as a PCD representative on the UUA Board of Trustees.
 - ✘ The Board discussed the ongoing work on the Church website.
 - ✘ **Next meeting: February 3**
-



Religious Exploration

Educating Our Children About Black History

For a white child growing up in a predominantly white suburb, my parents were extremely progressive. We moved into a neighborhood with families of multiple races as our neighbors, we were involved in discussions around race both at Unitarian Universalist church and in our homes. But being raised in this context sheltered my views of the world, of how racism, privilege, and oppression were all forces still alive and well, affecting the wellbeing of those around me as well as myself.

February marks an opportunity in our calendar for education -as I believe all months and days of the year do- a time to educate ourselves about Black History. During Black History Month, parents with children in school will more than likely notice your kids are being taught a unit on Black History or participating in activities to celebrate this month. In my opinion, this is not the only month in which this history should be taught as Black History is United States History, and African History is bound to European History through the slave trade and colonialism. This month serves as a catalyst for beginning to educate ourselves about the rich history of African Americans and people of African descent all over the globe.

As a child growing up in a sheltered suburb, I remember times when my heart was touched by learning about the realities of the history of African Americans in this country. Through reading stories and watching movies, my small perspective on race and racism was expanded. In learning through these art forms, I was able to relate to these concepts in a much more personal way because my stories from my own lived experience tied into stories from different lived experiences. Stories and movies gave a name and a face to Black History, and I was grateful to have the opportunity to learn about such things at home as well as in school.

For Black History Month, I would like to suggest some movie and book titles for families. It would be a great exercise for families to read the books to one another or watch a movie and discuss how it made everyone feel and what they learned from the experience. For movies, I would recommend *Ruby Bridges*, *The Ernest Green Story*, *Akeelah and the Bee*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Sarafina!*, *Selma Lord Selma*, *The Color Purple*, and *Amistad*. For books, I would recommend reading Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela, Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine, In the Time of the Drums by Kim Siegelson, and Martin's Big Words by Doreen Rappaport. These books and movies and many more can be found at your local library. Enjoy!

*Amen, Blessings and Love,
Lane*

FEBRUARY FUNSHOPS

February 6	Jewish Dancing	Allison Prout	
February 13	All Ages Service		
February 20	Singing	Bill and Ruth DeSchmidt	Diana Dickerson
February 27	From a Leaf to a New Plant	Melody Appleton	Lea Casini

ADULT RE

Religious Education and Spiritual Growth For Adults at SKUU Church

STILL TIME TO REGISTER: contact Chris Selig (510-633-0628) or scottnchris@comcast.net

DEALING WITH GRIEF AND LOSS — 1 Session

All of us experience loss in our lives, and with it comes grief. This class will focus on dealing with loss and grief, and will help give tools for helping with others' grief.

Led by the Reverend Katie Kandarian-Morris

Saturday, February 27 12:15 pm to 2 pm Fellowship Hall, Starr King UU Church

Examining Whiteness – 6 Sessions

One of the ways that racism affects us is by shaping our identity. This is true for white people, not just people of color. This curriculum is designed to help Unitarian Universalists, particularly white people, interested in exploring the complex history of white identity.

Led by Sharon Wylie, Intern Minister, and Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5, 7-9pm,

Starr King Fellowship Hall.

Please email or call the church office during office hours for registration information.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ECONS?

If you are between the ages of 14 and 18, ElectionsCON is coming up February 18-20th.

Keep a look out for registration forms coming soon.

DO YOUR PART TO BRING UU VALUES TO OUR CHILDREN

Religious Exploration is looking for people to teach FUNShops from the month of April on into the summer. FUNShops are one-time activities for preschool and elementary-aged children based in Unitarian Universalist principles and values. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lane Campbell Director of Religious Exploration at dre@starrking.org.

SKUU SUPPORTS FAIR-TRADE

CLEAN WATER FOR THE BLANDON FAMILY



Benigna Blandon lives with her husband and seven children in a small, but nice house with brick walls, tile roof and a dirt floor.

She lives in the community of Cerro Colorado which is located on the highest hill in the municipality of El Sauce in Nicaragua. Water has

always been a challenge for the Blandon family.

“We used to carry water from a watering hole down below, then we had to carry it up a big hill. It took about two hours a day”, said Benigna. “We also didn’t have a latrine before Pura Vida and El Porvenir came.”



Benigna and her whole family now have their own latrine and clean running water at their home. “This is

like a dream come true for me, we never thought we would be able to have a nice latrine and our own clean water”, said Benigna.

UPDATE ON YOUR CHURCH BUILDING

Have you noticed the new carpets in the Fellowship Hall?

In continuing to work with our Green Sanctuary theme, these rugs are special. They are called "Mad Mats" and are made completely of recycled plastic. The soft tubular threads do not absorb dirt or stains of any kind. Debris and food stains are easily rinsed away with a garden hose. They resist mildew. All "Mad Mats" are produced under fair-trade standards. They do not work with factories that employ children or that produce environmentally harmful waste.

Enjoy!

SPECIAL EXTRAS

INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR NEW MEMBERS

If you're interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, please plan on attending our next informational meeting, Sunday, February 6. Meet in the sanctuary after worship for a 20 minute informational meeting led by Sharon Wylie, our intern minister.

Durable Medical Equipment

Do you have a walker or a bath bench or the like sitting in a closet that you could lend to someone? If so, you know how expensive these items can be.

SKUU is starting a list of durable medical equipment members can lend to other members. If you have something to lend, please tell Beth Ogilvie (510-581-3782, beth@betho.us). If you have a temporary need coming up, contact Beth or send a message through any member of the Pastoral Committee.

VALENTINE SUNDAY

We will hold a dessert pot luck on Sunday, Feb 13th after service. Please feel free to bring your favorite dessert, or chocolate treat to share.

ON GOING FUN AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

EVENING MEDITATION meets every Wednesday from 7- 8pm. Come practice meditation and reap its benefits.

SKIFFLE meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (Feb. 9 & 23) from 7 to 9 PM..If you're considering coming for the first time, best to give a call to Bob Meyerson at 510 581 2037.

MORNING DISCOVERY meets in the library from 10 to 11:15 A.M. on first and third Wednesdays (Feb. 2 & 16) All are welcome to join us to explore community and spirituality, discussion and shared silence.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE meets on the third Sunday of each month (Feb. 20), after the service from 12:00 P.M.

BOOK CLUB The book group will meet Thursday, February 10, at the home of Marge Schwab to discuss the book *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. All are welcome. Please let Marge know if you are planning to attend.

The March book is *Incontinent on the Continent* by Jane Christmas.

JUUST SOCIAL CHANGE meets on the second Sunday (Feb. 13) after the service, at 11:45 AM. All are welcome

SKIT Improv. group meets in the Sanctuary on 2nd. and 4th. Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. (Feb. 10 & 24)

NO ROOM FOR RACISM vigils are held every third Friday (Feb. 18) from 4 to 5 P.M. at the intersection of Jackson-Mission-Foothill. An opportunity to stand for your values! Sponsored by South Hayward Parish.

SKARF: (Starr King Against Racism Forever) is made up of a group of people who wish to address the issue of racism. SKARF meets the 4th. Wednesday (Feb. 23) of each month at 7 PM in the church sanctuary. Everyone is welcome.

CHURCH BOOKSTORE is open every 3rd. Sunday (Feb.20) after the service

FILM GROUP Will meet on Saturday, February 26, 2011 At 7:00 P.M. at the home of Stuart Fink. "Something The Lord Made" (2004) Biographical Drama Starring Alan Rickman, Mos Def And Kyra Sedwick: Breakthrough In Heart Surgery And Confrontation With Racism (Not Rated).
Let Stuart know if you are coming and please bring a movie snack to share.

HOW TO REACH US

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church

22577 Bayview Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541
Church Office: 510/581.2060
office@starrking.org
Parish Minister: Kathryn Kandarian-Morris
minister@starrking.org
Home phone:
510/537.6565
Church President: Darryl Ray
510/206-9457
president@starrking.org
Church Website: <http://www.starrking.org>
Crystal Carroll, webmaster

Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00am-1:00pm

Church Leadership

Board of Trustees

President: Darryl Ray
Vice President: Andy Hansen
Secretary: Nancy Harrison
Treasurer: Frank Satterwhite
At Large: Roy Dickerson
Colleen Dino
Donnie Rett
Georgia Gruver
Terry Hunt
Mary Swain
Office Manager Kelli Abatangelo
Minister Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris
Religious Education Dir. Lane Campbell
Intern Minister Sharon Wylie

Church Organization — Committee Chairs

How to Reach Your Chalice Editor

Deadline:
2nd Sunday of the month.
Please put all Contributions
in writing.
Post to:
Georgia Gruver
2932 Tribune Ave.
Hayward, CA 94542-1639
Email to:
editor@starrking.org

Adult Religious Education	Chris Selig
Bookstore	Evelyn Cormier
Buildings	Dick Albert
Endowment/Memorial Fund	Bill Schwab
FESCO	Nancy Harrison
Grounds	Carol Henrie, Walt Korus
Interior	Lavon Hodges
Kitchen Manager	Sherry Thomas
Membership	Diane Meyerson
Committee on Ministry	Kirk Smith—convenor
Nominating	Doug Sprague—convenor
Pastoral Care	Karen Cook – convenor
Pledge Secretary	Marilyn Mosher
R.E. Council	Russ Menk—convenor
Social	Robin Fink
Social Justice	Evelyn Cormier
South Hayward Parish	Jim Forsyth
Sunday Coffee	Lavon Hodges
Volunteer Coordinator	Karen Cook
Worship	Bob Meyerson

