



THE FLAMING CHALICE

MARCH SERVICE PREVIEWS

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 AM

WORSHIP THEME: LET THIS BE A HOUSE OF PEACE

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March 6 One Wild and Precious Life ~ Lane Campbell,
Sharon Wylie and members of the congregation

Intergenerational Worship

Members of the congregation, spanning various ages and stages of life, will address the question, posed by poet Mary Oliver, "What would you do with your one wild and precious life?" Come, discover their answers, and maybe rediscover your own.

March 13 The Work of the World ~Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

Around the nation, religious communities are changing in their ability to attract and retain members and friends. Mainline Christian denominations especially are shrinking, and Unitarian Universalism is only holding steady, but not growing. What must we do to be relevant and important to a changing world? How do we not only survive, but thrive?

March 13 4PM A House of Peace and Vision--Building Dedication

Come, join us in our celebration of building, of completing, the vision of the New Starr King UU Church. Gather before 4pm in the parking lot, so we can enter in together and praise in joy!

March 20 Celebration Sunday: Growing Dreams, Creating Vision ~ Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris & Sharon Wylie

Starr King Church has come a long way in the past 50 years. Could our founders have dreamt of all we've accomplished? As we prepare to pledge our financial stewardship for the coming year, let's contemplate what the next 50 years could bring. Intern minister, Sharon Wylie will preach the sermon today.

March 27 A Generation of Women ~Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

In the 1970s and 80s, the women of Unitarian Universalism, stood up to make a difference. They fought for language and equality and forever changed our faith.

Come, in this, Women's History month, and learn about these courageous religious women.

Starr King Building Dedication

Sun. Mar. 13 4:00pm



A House of Peace

KATIE'S BAY VIEW

A church offers two things, tradition and vision. It is a place that honors and upholds the habits of the past, a groundedness, a place of stability and comfort. At the same time, the congregation is the place of vision, of challenge, of prophetic wisdom and learning. These simultaneous responsibilities of carrying and inspiring is what makes this a place of meaning, a place of friendships, and a place that encourages growth, both spiritual and emotional.

So, we have arrived at the time of the celebration of our new building. We have become accustomed to the offices, kitchen, classrooms and fellowship area so much that we have almost forgotten that we used to slide open the coffee window at the back of the sanctuary for fellowship, that we used to open the front of the sanctuary to welcome people into the church, arriving first at the chancel before traveling to the rear of the room. I used to walk down the steps from the offices to come to worship. It's only been since August that we have experienced the beautiful new windows in the sanctuary, the creamy colored carpet, smooth walls and recessed lighting. It's been just one half year since we've had the joy of our crystal clear sound system, with aids for anyone needing a little assistance in listening.

On the 13th, we will be taking a collection to help pay for our sound system as we had agreed to do when we received the grant from the Chalice Lighters of the Pacific Central District. We will build and install a cabinet to hold this valuable equipment, and we hope, in the future, to even be able to purchase projection equipment for visual aids.

For this celebratory service of dedication, I feel grateful to welcome my dear friend and former minister of the church I attended in Denver, the Rev. Dr. Stephan Papa. Stephan now serves the Unitarian Universalist Association as a special assistant to the President for fundraising. He travels extensively, visiting congregations and reminding them of the importance of stewardship to the larger association. There will be a ribbon cutting, a bench dedication, community guests and a festive reception. I'm looking forward to our congratulatory event.

Let us celebrate the vision and challenge that led us to build this house of peace. Let us acknowledge and appreciate the tradition, the institution that has brought us this far. Let us seek to discover together what we are called to become.

In faith Katie

MARCH BIRTHDAYS			
1	Marian Babbidge	19	Greg Kuftin
4	Collin Carrell	22	Karen Cook
8	Bill Hitchings	22	Kelsie Kramer
10	Audrey LePell		Stone
10	Sierra Gray	26	Sherry Thomas
12	Rebecca Parr	26	Maya Para
12	Darryl Ray	28	Bryne Golec
13	Margarita Jacob	28	Susan Clark
16	Renee Ray	28	Brian Johnson
17	Ruth Kuftin	30	Ben Matthews

WHEEL OF LIFE

Regina Fassano's son Chris graduated from college. Congrats!

Joyce Kinnear asks for our thoughts for her sister in Afghanistan.

Silvia Brandon Perez and Jim Forsyth have a new grandson, Dax Kim

Our loving thoughts and support go out to Rev. Katie and her family as they give comfort to Katie's mother.



Why We Sing Together

Intern-al Combustion

The second week of February, the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association gathered for a week in Pacific Grove for the Excellence in Ministry Institute. This event is the first of what will hopefully be an ongoing series of continuing education opportunities for Unitarian Universalist ministers. Katie and I were both fortunate to be able to attend.

For my week by the ocean, I chose to attend the “Building A Vocal Community” seminar led by Ysaye Barnwell. Dr. Barnwell is a Unitarian Universalist and one of the members of Sweet Honey in the Rock, the Grammy award-winning African American female a cappella ensemble. She is the author of two of the songs in our *Singing the Journey* hymnal: *Breaths* and *We Are*. Music is a critical part of meaningful worship, and I was thrilled to be able to study with Dr. Barnwell.

Here’s what it was like: we didn’t use a hymnal. We didn’t use sheet music at all. We didn’t even use words projected onto a screen. We stood in a circle so we could see each other. We listened to Dr. Barnwell as she would sing an opening line, her invitation for us to join her. And then we responded, keeping our eyes on her and on each other, keeping our ears open to hear each other. We didn’t try to all sound the same. And we didn’t try to sound perfect, creating some idealized version of each song. We weren’t a choir. We were a community.

It was a powerful experience.

José Antonio Abreu is a Venezuelan musician, activist, and educator. He observes, “An orchestra is a community where the essential and exclusive feature is that it is the only community that comes together with the fundamental objective of agreeing with itself. Therefore the person who plays in an orchestra begins to live the experience of agreement.”

That experience of agreement is undoubtedly part of the power and joy of singing together.

Abreu goes on: “And what does the experience of agreement mean? Team practice, the practice of the group that recognizes itself as interdependent, where everyone is responsible for others and the others are responsible for oneself.”

It seems to me, then, that singing together is an affirmation of two of our Unitarian Universalist principles: the inherent worth and dignity of every person—for each voice has its part to sing—as well as the interdependent web of all existence, the recognition that each voice depends on the others.

No wonder singing is such a significant part of our worship life.

My email address is internminister@starrking.org.

Bright Blessings
Sharon





SKUU BOARD NEWS

By Darryl Ray SKUU Board President

"Ministry is the act of serving. Shared ministry is what "we" do to serve our congregation and the broader community, individually and together" – definition of shared ministry developed at the January 2009 Board Retreat.

This past January, we had a joint retreat between the Board of Trustees and the Committee on Ministry (COM). To my knowledge, this was the first time these two groups have done this together.

Before the retreat day, we all were assigned some reading in "Churchworks", a great book on church governance by Anne Odin Heller. That day we had a productive time discussing our roles in the church within the context of shared ministry.

One important outcome from the meeting was a better understanding between the Board and the COM. I think that it is safe to say that most of us have had little formal training in church leadership and what we have received has been through the "on the job training" method. As a result, there are a lot of gaps in our knowledge about what different groups do within the church. The discussion that day helped clarify both the Board's and the Committee on Ministry's functions and responsibilities. Let me share some of that knowledge with you.

The Board of Trustees is made up of elected members who together constitute the executive body of the church. It is this group's responsibility to consider and make decisions involving congregational vision, mission, and policy. In addition, the Board is entrusted by the congregation to make financial and legal decisions for the church. This means that the President, Vice President, Treasurer and the rest of the Board have a fiduciary duty to keep the church legally and financially safe by making the best decisions they can. This can be a heavy responsibility and one the Board takes seriously.

While I think that most members of the congregation have some idea about the Board's duties, many members know less about the activities of the Committee on Ministry. This committee is different from any other committee in the church. First, unlike most other standing committees, the members of the COM are jointly appointed by the Board and the Minister. The COM does not answer to the Board, but is responsible with the Board and the Minister for supporting, monitoring and assessing the health of our church-wide ministry. The COM meets monthly with the minister to discuss issues which impact our congregation's spiritual health. This kind of work requires deep honesty and candor among the members of the committee, and for this reason the meetings are usually confidential. That being said, members of the congregation may bring issues of concern to the COM for discussion, advice and facilitation.

One important outcome from our joint Board/COM retreat was a better understanding between the two groups on how we can work together to assess our church's health. Our COM is in a unique position to know what is and is not working within our congregation, and they have agreed to share their assessments with the Board at least annually. Their feedback should help the Board do a better job of serving the needs of the congregation on all levels.

So, stay tuned. This is a new beginning. Future columns will discuss how the Board, COM, clergy, staff and the congregation, can work together to strengthen our ministry within and outside of our church.



Religious Exploration

Walking in the Garden of Religious Exploration

As the sun shines brightly across our Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church campus, I am reminded of the growth we have been going through both inside and outside the building. After the heavy rains of February, this month will bring exciting changes to our landscape and we are making space for trees to stretch branches, for new leaves to unfurl, for flowers to bloom.

This spring, the Religious Exploration Council and I are making plans for changes in the coming year. We are beginning to explore what it would look like to divide our FUNShops into two groups, one for early elementary and preschool-aged children and one for elementary-aged children who can read. For the younger group, we will keep the FUN Shop model and for the older kids, we are looking at curriculum that would support their spiritual growth and exploration. I look forward to keeping parents, guardians, and members informed of the curriculum we decide on.

Last month, I received the good news that the Pacific Central District will be going forward with a Coming of Age Program in the upcoming year. For those of us who aren't familiar with this program, it is designed to teach high school and middle school youth about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist and what it means to become a member of the church. This year, the youth have been learning about multiple faith traditions and have been visiting different places of worship. It has been exciting to think about how their current programming will support taking a look at one's own faith and learning about the history of our tradition.

For both of these new programs, we will need as much congregational support as possible. The Coming of Age Program requires regular teachers as well as mentors willing to meet with the youth about 4-5 times throughout the year. We will also need a group of about four adults to staff the new curriculum-based class for the older elementary kids.

Coming from this past month's worship theme of "Standing on the Side of Love", I am confident that the expansive love of this congregation is big enough to hold these programs and support our youngest church-goers. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to get involved or if you have any questions at dre@starrking.org. Let us continue to tend the garden which we have already planted. May we till the soil this spring, to make our grounds ready for new growth.

Amen, Blessings and Love, **Lane**
MARCH FUNSHOPS

MARCH 6	All Ages Service		
MARCH 13	Poetry and Blessings	Sharon Wylie	Mary Kiesling
MARCH 20	Singing	Sylvia Brandon-Perez	Diane Meyerson
MARCH 27	Baking	Alison Prout	Diane Meyerson

ADULT RE

Religious Education and Spiritual Growth For Adults at SKUU Church

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

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.

STORYTELLING AT HOME AND AT CHURCH

Starr King UU Church will be offering a storytelling workshop on April 3rd at 12noon called "Storytelling at Home and at Church." We will be learning about telling stories during the worship service as well as sharing resources for story time in our homes. If you have ever been interested in telling the "Story for All Ages" or if you would like to develop your skills as a story teller, please join us. Our time will be fun and educational. All are welcome! To sign up, please contact Lane Campbell, Director of Religious Exploration at dre@starrking.org

District Assembly

Newark Fremont Hilton Hotel

Weekend Topic:

May 13-15, 2011

The Transient and the Permanent

Special Guest Speakers

Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed
and Rev. Dr. William Shulz

Watch the [PCD web site](#) for more information - registration opens soon!



FESCO NEWS

by Nancy Harrison:
SKUU Representative to FESCO Board

Family Emergency Shelter Coalition Receives Top Food and Shelter Award 2010 FESCO Honored as the Only Recipient in the East Bay

Hayward, CA – January 24, 2011 – The Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO) today announced that it has been named a 2010 Food and Shelter Award recipient for the second consecutive year. FESCO is one of only 76 nonprofits nationwide to receive the award sponsored by GreatNonprofits.org, which began the award to raise awareness of highly-rated nonprofits.

FESCO's mission is to help homeless families move to self sufficiency. Services include mental health counseling, money management classes, and cooking classes, to name a few. The program is designed to help clients become stable and self reliant. Two-thirds of FESCO residents are children; 46% of these children are five years old or younger. Still, on any given night there are over 1,000 homeless children in Alameda County.

GreatNonprofits.org publishes ratings and reviews of nonprofits nationwide. Reviews and ratings are given by volunteers and clients—those most affected by the organizations—creating an unbiased resource for potential volunteers and donors. The site does not remove negative reviews. Users can rate more than 1.2 million nonprofits at GreatNonprofits.org.

“This award is very gratifying because it's based on the experiences of the formerly homeless families we have served as well as the volunteers whose efforts make our work possible,” said FESCO executive director Cate Steane. “Greatnonprofits.org and this award help raise awareness about our work, which is important now more than ever as government funding for safety net services dries up making it critical that we add monthly donors.”

For a small committee in a fairly small **JUUST SOCIAL CHANGE** congregation JUUST Social Change has been involved one way or another in active participation in a wide variety of social change issues over the years. My personal involvement began before I actually was a member of Starr King Church. In the 1960's there were a lot of societal challenges going on. It seemed that at most every meeting or march there were people from Starr King, at that time a fellowship, right on the front lines. That is what brought me to this congregation that walked the talk so to speak. Over the years we have been involved in local organizations like South Hayward Parish and FESCO with other churches. On the broader front we worked with East Bay Sanctuary Covenant to help provide amnesty for Salvadoran refugees threatened by death squads in their own country.

For a number of years we have worked directly and indirectly on health care reform and we are strongly committed to the single payer concept for California. As California goes so may go the nation. Civil rights and gay rights have long been a passion. Currently immigration and the plight of undocumented workers is something our committee hopes to be able to seek solutions for. We also are aware of the need for help for Haiti after its devastating earthquake.

The seven principles are pretty much our guiding philosophy as we pursue the myriad social needs that confront our community, our nation, and our world. One advertisement says no job too big or too small. Some jobs are too big to tackle alone but with all your good will we'll make a dent.

Join the committee if you are so inclined. We usually meet the second Sunday after the service.

Evelyn Cormier, Convener

COMMITTEE CORNER

SKUU GREEN SANCTUARY

Hayward Community Gardens + Starr King UU Church



Starr King UU Church in Hayward, CA partnered with Hayward Community Gardens to help low income immigrant families use plots to grow their food in a variety of ways.



Rene Ray teaching composting workshop

One of the first ways that they got involved with Hayward Community Gardens was Renee & Darryl Ray, Starr King members, taught a composting workshop on April 25, 2009 for the community gardens. At the workshop they were able to give out water timers and 20 Biostack composting bins due to a donation from the City and StopWaste.org. Interpreters were there for the Spanish speaking community. Starr King also got donations of 150 tomato plants from a local organic farmer. Sandy Frost, a Hayward Community Garden board member and volunteer helped to organize the workshop as well as supplying a wonderful local food spread. Because the workshop was so successful, it was offered again in May and August of 2009.

Starr King participated in two volunteer workdays in 2010. The first workday they helped to measure each of the 200+ plots to help determine what each member should pay for their plots. The second work day, strong workers helped to build big compost piles. With manure donations, clipped leaves and branches from their property and bales of straw, workers built three compost piles. The compost has helped to enrich soil, save water and improve crops.

Then, Starr King member Terry Hunt was commissioned by the City of Hayward to make a series of seven park benches depicting the diversity and history of Hayward. Because of Starr King's commitment to Hayward Community Gardens, he specifically made one in their name. The benches serve a meaningful reminder of how important this community garden is. They will be spread throughout Hayward, and, with the Hayward Community Garden bench included, will make the community more aware of the gardens.

NEW POLICY ON ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Announcements will appear weekly in the order of service. To be included, announcements must be received in the church office by the Wednesday before the Sunday they are to appear. All announcements will be subject to editing for space considerations as determined by the church staff.
2. Sunday morning announcements will be brief written announcements of church sponsored events given to the church president or other presider prior to the service. These may be read during the announcement period before the service at the discretion of the presider.
3. Announcements of events in the larger community (not directly related to Starr King Church) should be:
 - A. Sent to the editor of the Flaming Chalice by the second Sunday of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue.
 - Or –
 - B. Posted on the community bulletin board or on one of the tables in the Fellowship Hall.

SPECIAL EXTRAS MADE ANY PLANS FOR SUMMER YET?

How about leading a FunShop?

We are looking for adults with a special skill or ability to help make the Summer RE Program ***FUN and ENRICHING*** for all

To Sign-up See the RE Director, Lane Campbell, or email her at

dre@starrking.org. **You Won't Be Disappointed**

Balázs Transylvanian Tea on April 2

The **Balázs Scholars Program** at Starr King School for the Ministry invites you and your friends to our Spring Transylvanian Tea, a fund raiser, on Saturday, April 2 at 3:30pm at Starr King School, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley. The suggested donation is \$25.

Featured guests will be the 2010-2011 Balázs Scholar and minister in Sovata and Csokfalva, Transylvania, **Rev. Levente Lázár** and **Rev. Dr. Dorsey Blake**, Dean of the Faculty and Visiting Professor of Spirituality and Prophetic Justice at Starr King School and pastor of the San Francisco Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples, an interfaith, interracial, intercultural community of seekers dedicated to personal empowerment and social transformation. They will speak on "Prophetic Voices."

Each year the Balázs Scholars Program brings a young Transylvanian minister (and family) to study at Starr King School and the Graduate Theological Union, and to preach at Unitarian Universalist churches throughout the Bay Area and the country. It provides If you would like to help sustain this program please make a check to Starr King School with Balázs on the notation line, and send it to Starr King School, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94709.

RSVP to Arliss Ungar at Balazs@ungar.us or 925-283-3288

Synopsis of Jan. Board Meeting

- ✧ **Joint Board and Committee on Ministry Retreat:** Andy Hansen recommended continued efforts to clarify the respective roles of the Committee on Ministry and the Board with respect to shared ministry.
- ✧ **New Sign Status:** Roy Dickerson reported the new lights are on order
- ✧ **New website/Communications:** The new website should be up and running soon. A new Communication Committee with responsibility for coordinating the website, Chalice and Starr King Facebook page was unanimously approved
- ✧ **Logo:** A new logo is currently being created for approval by the board.
- ✧ **Proposed By-Law Changes from the Committee on Ministry:** Several ideas were discussed which would possibly help make the COM more accessible and better understood by the congregation.
- ✧ **Next meeting: March 3 at 7:00 pm**

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 (March 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 (March 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 (March 20), after the service from 12:00 P.M.

BOOK CLUB The book group will meet Thursday, March 10, 7 PM, at the home of Terry Hunt, (510-582-4603) to discuss *Incontinent on the Continent* by Jane Christmas. The April book is *That Old Cape Magic* by Richard Russo. Please notify the host if you are planning to attend. It makes arrangements easier. All are welcome.

JUUST SOCIAL CHANGE meets on the second Sunday (March 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. (March 10 & 24)

NO ROOM FOR RACISM vigils are held every third Friday (March 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 (March 23) of each month at 7 PM in the church sanctuary. Everyone is welcome.

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

FILM GROUP Will meet on Saturday, March 26, 2011 At 7:00 P.M. at the home of Stuart Fink. "Red" (2010) Action Comedy Starring Bruce Willis, Helen Mirren And Morgan Freeman: Title stands for "Retired Extremely Dangerous." As a former CIA agent rounds up other retired operatives to meet a threat (Rated Pg-13). 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

Bookstore

Buildings

Endowment/Memorial Fund

FESCO

Green Sanctuary

Grounds

Interior

Kitchen Manager

Membership

Committee on Ministry

Nominating

Pastoral Care

Pledge Secretary

R.E. Council

Social

Social Justice

South Hayward Parish

Sunday Coffee

Volunteer Coordinator

Worship

Chris Selig

Evelyn Cormier

Dick Albert

Bill Schwab

Nancy Harrison

Stephanie Smith

Carol Henrie, Walt Korus

Lavon Hodges

Sherry Thomas

Diane Meyerson

Kirk Smith—convenor

Doug Sprague—convenor

Karen Cook – convenor

Marilyn Mosher

Russ Menk—convenor

Colleen Dino

Evelyn Cormier

Jim Forsyth

Lavon Hodges

Karen Cook

Bob Meyerson