- Minister's Message Pg. 2
- Wheel of Life Pg. 2
- September Birthdays Pg. 2
- President's Message Pg. 3
- Interning Pg. 4
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- Religious Exploration Pg. 5
- RE Classes and Activities Pg. 5
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How to Reach Us Pg. 11

BOARD NOTES

Financial Presentation requested at Congregational meeting is being planned Cottage Restoration Update

presented

Further discussion is needed on the following items:

New stairs are needed outside the Fellowship Hall that lead to the cottages.

The subject of a memorial garden has been brought to Andy's attention by several members.

Future policy is needed on

distribution of cremains, and discussion with members on what their vision is for a memorial garden. SEPTEMBER SERVICE PREVIEWS Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

SEPT. 2 WE ARE THE 99%!

EPTEMBER WORSHIP

ong of the Soul"

Bob Britton, pulpit guest

THE FLAM

Join us Sunday September 2 for our 10th annual Labor Day Sunday Service. We will be celebrating the life of Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers' struggle to obtain a livable wage and safe working conditions for the people who put fruits and vegetables on our tables. Come share poetry and song while we reflect on the fight of working people everywhere to obtain from the 1% a small sliver of the capital produced by their toils.

Special plate today goes to the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice.

SEPT. 9 Song of the Soul: Water Communion -Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris, Darcy Baxter, Roy King, Jr. and congregation

MULTIGENERATIONAL WORSHIP

Bring a small sample of water today from your journeys. We'll mingle our waters "as cold water to a thirsty soul." We'll imagine the songs of our souls.

SEPT. 16 The New Jim Crow

Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

The Jim Crow laws may be a thing of the past, but we've got something just as potent to replace them. Can we stand in solidarity with the incarcerated and former prisoners?. We'll have copies of Michelle Alexander's book by the same name on sale for our community read.

SEPT. 23 Every Day is A Winding Road Kandarian-Morris

-Rev. Katie

At SKUUC we acknowledge the Jewish High Holy days with their worthy traditions and reminder to do spiritual housecleaning. Taking stock of one's soul, returning, and

repairing benefit the self and the world.

SEPT. 30 Notes from a Spiritual Eclectic

Roy King, Jr., intern minister In this era of specialization across many domains, including the religious, being an eclectic has acquired some negative connotations. How might we come to terms with our multiple spiritual identities?



If the world is, as the poet said, a 'vale of soul-making,' then perhaps the soul is a vale of world-making. Soul: the blue fire: the fire-roots: the roots of the gods: the gods of the hidden forces: the forces behind the world: the world of soul. – writer Phil Cousineau

KATIE'S BAY VIEW

2

I have a wise colleague who nonetheless wondered aloud on his facebook page (the purpose of facebook as I see it is existential angst-ing) why he decided to preach on souls when he didn't believe in them as things that live in bodies like

some sort of parasites. He had resolved not to annoy people—at least while the church was doing its congregational survey.

But I'm not going to worry about literal or religious definitions, and instead consider religious language in more poetic terms, or in any other ways it may be helpful for us. A. Powell Davies, who ministered in the first half of the 20th century, believed that "life is just a chance to grow a soul," that the most important human calling was the cultivation and development of character and action. "There is no greater mystery than our own mystery." I believe that we do this best by sharing it in religious community.

And so we come together again, even if our September return is only symbolic in our now yearround church, we come again to grow a soul. For our worship themes, we'll have a different "soul song" every month, offering a diversity of voices, healing the soul with music, and connecting the arts and worship.

If you're anything like me, you might have been fortunate to have had some time off, but this has not been an easy, breezy summer. We face difficult world problems, real political battles with an upcoming election, way too much deadly gun violence, and struggling health or loss of loved ones dear to us. I continue to find strength in growing my spiritual life, in growing my soul. I find that choosing to continue to face the world and to stay engaged makes the most sense. It keeps me loving and soul-filled.

So how fortunate are we to have this spiritual community that nudges us into this growth. We are becoming. We are becoming more. More intergenerational, more diverse, more willing to transform ourselves and give to the world.

So we may be living ordinary lives, but we are growing them. And, hey, you know, we've got soul!

	SEPTEMBE	r Bir	THDAYS
6	Daniel Hitchings	14	Kirk Smith
9	Rythe Hultman-DeSmidt	15	Terri Owen
9	Linda Miyoshi	20	Carey Sanchez Para
9	Jody Distler-Dill	28	Allison Fink
1	Marilyn Mosher	29	Parker Bugosh



Sending thoughts of health and healing to Jo Murdach and her twisted knee.

Congratulations to Jens Dill for getting a new job.

Frank Satterwhite and Sherry Thomas are celebrating 30 years of wedded bliss. Yahoo!



By Andy Hansen—SKUU Board President

Greetings! Many of you will have had the opportunity by now to greet and welcome two special people to our congregational life: Ministerial Intern Roy King and Director of Religious Exploration Darcy Baxter. They both took up the reins of their new roles in mid-August. They come with splendid talents and we are delighted that they're joining our Starr King family. If you *haven't* met Roy or Darcy, please seek them out for a conversation, offer your support and make them feel at home!



I want to use this month's column to offer an appreciation of our dear Starr King UU Church community member Meg Jurich, who died recently. For those privileged to know Meg at Starr King, it is a loss which still feels immediate. Yet it is also a very special opportunity to witness how being in community with others who share a loss is a comfort and balm. I am glad to be among you. I am glad we are together.

Meg once told me that she and Mark came to Starr King many years ago so daughter Amanda could participate in our religious exploration program.

How fortunate for us that they did! In the years afterward, Meg gave back so much to Starr King. She served on the Board of Trustees and went on to be Vice-President and President, during a time when our extensive building renovation was being planned and executed, and she served on the committee overseeing the project with great dedication. She felt it incumbent upon her, in her role as a Trustee, to contemplate and understand the nature(s) of good leadership, because she took being a leader seriously.

Meg was an important part of bringing Shared Ministry concepts to the "front burner" of our congregational life and awareness. She dug deep to understand the role of the Board of Trustees in church governance. Her ethical vision enabled her to lead transparently and collaboratively; to defer in some cases and defend prerogatives in others; and to dialogue honestly. Meg brought this same seriousness to her work on the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO) Board, as a representative of our congregation. She truly was a faithful servant of our community -- aware, responsible and always supplying wisdom and perspective.

Meg also had a very reliable sense of humor, real curiosity about other people and was a warm and caring friend. Like many here, I feel that she is gone too soon and it is a great disappointment to lose her. Like many here, I also feel enriched by having known and worked and worshiped with her. This is a gift I will always treasure, which has not been taken away. Our hearts are with Mark, Amanda, son-in-law Ben and granddaughter Eliza, as well as Meg's many saddened friends.

In faith,





Cycles govern our lives: day and night; the seasons; closeness and distance in relationships and, in the context of our congregational lives, the liturgical or worship year. But cycles, as we experience them, are not just circles, but recurrently begin with moments of newness. That is the beauty, as I see it, of Jewish tradition of linking of Rosh Hashanah (New Year) with Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the faithful seek repentance for their breaking bonds of love and connection with others and with the "Holy One". It is interesting that the Hebrew word for repentance, *teshuvah*, literally means "return", a return to the source of divine blessing and sustenance. I think that the deep metaphor of returning elevates us to focus on actively participating in our communal spiritual lives rather than sinking us into the despondency of passively focusing on our selves and how we have let others down. A fresh returning is a profound spiritual practice, one that both helps us explore the realm of novel spiritual experience, while, at the same time, returning to the safe familiarity of our community and our image of the divine.

We UUs also have our liturgical rhythms beginning in September with our water ceremony. The act of bringing water together collected with intention from everyone in a particular congregation stands out as a rich symbol of our identity as Unitarian-Universalists. I am thrilled that I am joining you at Starr King UU Church as your intern minister, a couple of weeks before this keynote service. For me, the timing of this entry also couples newness with return. I am commencing a new vocational life and identity shifting away from my job over the past thirty years as a psychiatrist and a professor, but returning to an active vision of the spiritual life that I have yearned for since a child.

As a half-time intern, I will be sharing two years with you and, thus, two cycles of water communion. I am eager to learn about you and from you during my first year and to come back, for the second cycle, with a deeper understanding of the Starr King UU community.

eSCRIP NEWS

Starr King Unitarian Church has made \$296.61 from the 10% Goes Back to

Schools program!

Congratulations and Thanks to everyone who has participated so far.

The program continues until September

11, so be sure to look for the logo and buy the participating products at your local Safeway. 10% of your purchase price will be given to Starr King. How much easier could contributing be?



Peace, Ro

"WAY COOL"

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION Darcy Baxter, RE Directo

Playing hide-and-go seek in the church basement. Exploring the creek bed barefoot! Reading stories to the younger children. Lighting the chalice. Wearing fancy dresses while having a picnic in the church kitchen with my best friend. Pancake breakfasts with my church mentor. Meeting an out gay man for the first time.

These are some of my most memorable moments growing up in Unitarian Universalist religious education and they provide me with the deep spiritual roots I bring to you as SKUU's new religious educator. What is most meaningful about my religious education experiences was the profound sense of safety, trust, wonder, and respect that pervaded them. Children and adults alike learn through relationships and experiences, much more than through the explicit information we give them. UU values seeped into my bones because I was surrounded by adults that respected and loved children, fueled my sense of awe and wonder, and created a world for me that was radically safe. In short, church was a true sanctuary.

As a minister, part of my ministry is devoted to reproductive and family justice activism. Sadly, in many gatherings and meetings, I am often the only religious leader. Why is it that I see no division between spirituality, religious practice, and our bodies? No division between how we understand what many call God and how we raise our children? Because I was raised in a safe, healthy, and loving UU community. Because of what YOU taught me—by the way you held my hand walking through that creek and the conversations I had with you over pancakes.

Over the next two years, we will have the opportunity to continue SKUUC's ongoing work to create a multigenerational, spiritual home for children, youth, and adults. In our busy, often overscheduled lives, I am excited to work with you all in creating experience of sanctuary, exploration, and wonder for our children and youth. I am excited to help our children discover and learn UU values, to let those values seep deep into their bones and beings.

Thank you for welcoming me into your religious community! May our time together be full of caring relationship, rich meaning, and fabulous fun!

CHI	LDREN'S RE HAPPENINGS FOR SEPTEMBER			
Infants and Toddlers Care in Fellowship Hall				
DATE	ACTIVITY			
SEPT. 2	GAME DAY WITH ROY AND DIANA DICKERSON			
SEPT. 9	INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY			
SEPT. 16	BEGIN "WAY COOL" CURRICULUM			
SEPT. 23	CONTINUE "WAY COOL" CURRICULUM			
SEPT. 30	Continue "Way Cool" Curriculum			

Do You Know Where We Are Going?

6

Do you know where we've been and how we got here?

Are you proud of what Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church represents? Are you proud to represent Starr King UU Church?

Do you know the Mission of Starr King Church and what our long term goals are? We want to know! The Committee on Ministry (COM) needs your help in 'Assessing Our

Congregation.'

As part of our commission to foster the Shared Ministry of this Church, the COM is developing a multi-phase implementation of the Congregational Self-Assessment processes developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Shared Ministry is the understanding that all of us are responsible to one another and that all we do in community is ministry. It is inherent to the covenant we make to one another, and extends beyond the responsibilities of the ordained clergy.

¹Here in this more expansive view of the assessment of ministry, we want to answer the questions:

- How well are we "walking together" to serve the mission of this congregation?
- How do we contribute to the health of this congregation and the larger Unitarian Universalist community?
- What can we do better?
- How can we improve and grow (spiritually, numerically, and/or financially)?

²The first phase of our assessment is to ask YOU to complete a simple survey about your perceptions of how well our church is fulfilling its various obligations and how important these items are to you. This survey will be distributed beginning on September 15th, when everyone is back from their summer vacations. The results will be tabulated and weighed against our stated Mission and Long Term Goals.

In the second phase the COM, together with the Minister and the Board, will re-evaluate the ¹"Health" of our congregation in light of the survey responses. They will determine where communications may be improved, where perceived roles and responsibilities need to be clarified or fulfilled, and where policies need to be developed or better defined. This phase is expected to be undertaken in the last quarter of this year, potentially culminating at the annual spring Leadership Retreat. The results and determinations will be published to the congregation.

³ Phase three of our Congregational Self-Assessment has 5 parts which include selecting/ identifying a leadership team, doing a congregational profile, using the suggested congregational self-assessment tool (in-depth survey), coming up with recommendations for action, and finally, looking at our Congregation's relationship to the Community. We are researching how best to implement this comprehensive assessment, but expect that it will take the better part of a year (2013) to conduct interviews, distribute questionnaires & surveys, gather & tabulate the data, and, finally, to interpret and report the results.

Although this will be a long process, it does provide for regular feedback and opportunities for improvement/development. We believe this will make us a more assured & tightly bonded community. We hope you agree and look forward to your assistance.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process or want more information, please contact us – the members of the Committee on Ministry: Bob Britton, Doris Dunbar-Haskell, Keith Lewis, Diana Dickerson, Dirk Dino.

¹Assessing Our Leadership, June 2001, Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association et. al.

²<u>The Annual Congregational Evaluation</u> in the <u>Congregational Self-Assessment Packet</u>, June 2001, Fulfilling the Promise Committee of the UUA

³The <u>Comprehensive Congregational Assessment</u> in the <u>Congregational Self-Assessment</u> <u>Packet</u>, June 2001, Fulfilling the Promise Committee of the UUA

JUSTICE ALLIANCE INFORMATIONAL MEETING ⁷ OCT. 28 12:30

League of Women Voters Recommendations California State Propositions

On October 28, at 12:30, the Justice Alliance Committee will present a Pro and Con program on the ballot measures outlined below. If you vote absentee you can bring your ballot and mark it as you decide on each issue.

PROP 30 Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act

Proposition 30 begins to move California toward financial stability and adequate funding for all the services we want from our government; we can't continue to cut vital public services like schools and public safety. This measure will provide some much needed income from a temporary increase in income tax rates for the wealthy and a modest temporary sales tax increase. The plan is a part of a balanced approach to eliminating our deficit that includes \$16 billion in cuts and \$8.5 billion in new revenue this year. Proposition 30 also guarantees a stable source of funding for counties to pay for their new public safety responsibilities such as housing, low-level prisoners and providing substance abuse treatment.

PROP 31 Government Performances and Accountability Act

Proposition 31 is based on good intentions and has some pieces that, taken alone, the League could support. However, Prop 31 has several significant flaws. There are questions about whether or not the provisions allow local governments to suspend state environmental requirements. What is clear is that there will be significant legal uncertainty, and years of litigation. In addition, the measure prescribes the specific manner of state and local government budgeting and puts this process into the state constitution. Prop 31 has other questionable provisions, such as establishing a significant shift of power over appropriations to the governor at times of fiscal emergency.

PROP 32 Special Exemptions Act

This measure is not the campaign finance reform measure its proponents say it is. Proposition 32 promises "political reform" but is really designed by special interests to, help themselves and harm their opponents. It looks like a campaign finance reform measure but unfairly targets one set of large campaign donors while giving other donors unlimited power. Its ban on payroll deductions for political giving will affect unions but not corporations, and even the restriction it places on contributions to candidates by corporations is full of loophole exemptions. It does not fix the problem of money in politics; Super PACs and independent expenditure committees will continue to spend without limitation. (CONT. ON PAGE 8)

NO

NO

YES

League of Women Voters Recommendations

California State Propositions (Cont.)

PROP 34 SAFE California' Act

The SAFE California Act will replace the death penalty in California with a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Convicted killers will stay in prison for the rest of their lives, eliminating the possibility of executing an innocent person in California. This will save over \$100 million every year because the court and incarceration costs are so much higher for prisoners at risk for a death penalty. \$100 million of these savings will be allocated over the next four years to pay for increased investigation of unsolved rape and murder 'cases. Convicted killers will be required to work and pay restitution into a victims' compensation fund.

PROP 40 Referendum on Redistricting

We strongly urge a "YES" vote on this referendum on the state Senate maps drawn by the independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The question Oil a referendum is not intuitive; it asks if you want to retain the new law, or in this case, the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. So vote YES to affirm the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission, YES-in support of the Commission, YES-to validate the open, transparent process, YES-to retain fair districts.

PROP 38 Tax for Education and ,Early Childhood Programs NEUTRAL

We are neutral on Our Children, Our Future; the measure supported by the California State PTA and activist Mally Munger. It provides significant funding for education and early childhood programs. In addition, for the first four years, this measure provides money to help the other underfunded government services. However, in the longer term, it earmarks essentially all the new money for education and early childhood programs. These programs definitely deserve to be adequately funded, but so do all of the government programs we support, from mental health programs to the court system to childcare.

PROP 39 Tax Treatment for Multistate Businesses

This measure will close a tax loophole for multistate businesses, generating revenues of about \$1 billion per year—a good thing. However, it earmarks about. half the new revenue for the first five years, so that portion can only be used for energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. We are neutral on this proposition because we believe new revenue for the state should be available for all of the programs funded by state revenue—schools law enforcement, health care, jobs programs, the judiciary system.

The League has not studied the following measures, and so has no recommendation on Proposition 33 (Auto Insurance Rates), Proposition 35 (Human Trafficking), Proposition 36 (Three Strikes Reform), and Proposition 37 (Genetically Engineered Foods).

YES

YES

NEUTRAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 2, 2012 Thursday, September 6, 2012, 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept 9, 2012 Sunday, Sept 23, 2012 October 27th & 28th, 2012

Labor Day Service p.m. Next BOT Meeting Back-to-Church BBQ BOT and COM will work jointly to provide coffee hour Fall Dinner Theater



The following is an interview between Glen Jacob, and Sammy McWammy of the daily Blab. August 2012

SM: Please tell us about the new fall play.

GJ: :Glad to. It's called "Five Years" and it's about the world suffering from a series of major disasters, and we discover that all of mankind will be dead within five years.

SM: Sounds scary!

GJ: :Actually it's a musical comedy.

SM: Tell us more.

GJ: I don't want to spoil too much, But it takes place in the future, It involves the president and a couple of surprising characters that may or may not be able to alter the course of events and save the world.

And one of these characters may or may not be extraterrestrial.

It has a small cast, and uses only a single set, but it addresses some large concepts such as life and death and economic equality. But hopefully it does so with some humor and fun.

Renee Rey has volunteered to lead the cooking crew, so there is sure to be a wonderful meal as well!

Plus there will be music!

SM: I'm interested! When can we see it?

GJ: The show times are: Saturday October 27 at 6:30 PM and Sunday October 28 at 2:30 PM.



This is a great event! Sign-up at the back table in the Fellowship Hall

Each person brings a dish to someone's home, and all share a dinner with a group of fun conversationalists!

We are always looking for new members and friends to attend, so that we can all get to know each other, so don't be shy about signing up!

There is always a family-friendly dinner, and we always make sure that there is something to eat for every type of diet. See Joyce Kinnear if you have any questions."

ON GOING FUN AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

BOOK CLUB The book group will gather at Marge Schwab's on Thursday, September 13, 7 PM, to discuss the book <u>Started Early, Took My Dog</u> by Kate Atkinson. She is a mystery writer so mystery readers take note. Please let Marge know if you plan to attend. The October book is <u>The Last Report on the Miracle at Little No Horse</u> by Louise Erdrich

CHURCH BOOKSTORE The bookstore is open every 3rd. Sunday (Sept. 16) after the service

DRUM CIRCLE Meets the 1st. Friday (Sept. 7) from 7-9 PM. Come enjoy a fun and spiritual evening

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

STARR KING ELDERS Meets every 3rd Wednesday (Sept. 19) at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch and enjoy learning about and discussing topics of particular interest to our elder (self-identified) members

FILM GROUP The Film group will meet on Saturday, September 29, 2012 At 7:00 P.M. At Stuart Fink's Home. "The Big Bus" (1976) Starring Stockard Channing And Joseph Bologna and an all star supporting cast (Rated Pg) Disaster movie spoof about the world's first nuclear powered bus. (Rated G). Come, Enjoy! Let Stuart know if you are coming and please bring a movie snack to share.

JUSTICE ALLIANCE Meets on the second Sunday (Sept. 9) after the service, at 12:00 PM in the conference room. All are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE Meets on the third Sunday of each month (Aug. 19), <u>after</u> the service at 12:00 P.M.

MORNING DISCOVERY Meets in the fellowship hall from 10 to 11:15 A.M. on first and third Wednesdays (Sept. 5 & 19). All are welcome to join us to explore community and spirituality, discussion and shared silence.

NO ROOM FOR RACISM Vigils are held every third Friday (Sept. 21) 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.

STARR KING PARENTS To join this active, informative and fun group, contact Sara Raymond at <u>seraymond@gmail.com</u>

SKIFFLE Meets 1st. Wednesday of the month (Sept. 5) 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.

SKIT Improv. group meets in the Sanctuary on 2nd. and 4th. Thursdays (Sept. 13 & 27)

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: Andy Hansen president@starrking.org. Home phone: 510/301-6938

Church Website:<u>http//www.starrking.org</u> Webmaster Beth Ogilvie: <u>webmaster@starrking.org</u> Newsletter Editor: newslettereditor@starrking.org Church Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Church Leadership

Board of Trustees President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer At Large

Office Manager

Intern Minister

Minister

Andy Hansen nt: Colleen Dino Nancy Harrison Frank Satterwhite Frank Burton Lea Casini Georgia Gruver Glen Jacob Wendy Robertson Mary Swain ger Kelli Abatangelo Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris ter Roy King

Religious Education Dir. Darcy Baker

Committee Chairs

Adult Religious Education – Chris Selig Anti-racist Multicultural Alliance-Beth Ogilvie Buildings – Bobby Robinson Chalice Editor – Georgia Gruver Church Website – Beth Ogilvie Committee Council – Colleen Dino Committee on Ministry-Bob Britton, Doris Haskell, Dirk Dino, Diana Dickerson, Keith Lewis Communications Comm. – Melody Appleton FESCO – Donnie Rett, Jennifer Koney Finance — Keith Lewis Fundraising – Karen Cook Green Sanctuary – Stephanie Smith Grounds – Carol Henrie, Walt Korus Hospitality/Membership – Dirk Dino Interior – Sherry Thomas Kitchen Manager – Sherry Thomas Nominating Committee – Rebecca Parr Pastoral Care – Karen Cook R.E. Council – Diana Dickerson Social – Joyce Kinnear Social Justice – Mary Swain South Hayward Parish – Jim Forsyth, Sunday Coffee – Roy Dickerson Ushers – Susan Blanc Volunteer Coordinator – Karen Cook Worship Committee – Chris Selig

Publishing Deadline:

2nd Sunday of the Month Prior to Publication Please put all contributions in writing & keep articles under 500 words. Post to: Georgia Gruver 2932 Tribune Ave. Hayward, CA 94542 Email to: newslettereditor@starrking.org