



# THE FLAMING CHALICE

FEBRUARY WORSHIP THEME:  
SIMPLE GIFTS

*INSIDE*

Minister's Message Pg. 2

Wheel of Life Pg. 2

President's Message Pg. 3

Interning Pg. 4

February Birthdays Pg. 4

Religious Exploration Pg. 5

RE Classes and Activities Pg. 6

New Member Bios Pg. 6

Introduction to Committees Pg.7

Ongoing Activities Pg. 8

How to Reach Us Pg. 9

## BOARD NOTES

A work group was formed to review the Bylaws and suggest necessary changes.

Andy Hansen is still looking into having the official name of the church changed in the state records.

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

February 2nd, BOT-COM Retreat

February 7th, Next BOT Meeting

March 3rd after service, Celebration Sunday/Canvass Kickoff

May 19th, Starr King Annual Congregational Meeting (Committee reports are due on April 19)

## FEBRUARY SERVICE PREVIEW

**Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM**

### Feb. 3 Grand Ideas and Simple Comforts

-Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

#### MULTI-GENERATIONAL WORSHIP

The Neo-Pagan celebration of Imbolc marks the mid-winter time where we clean up, organize, and take care of the business of winter so we can pay attention to the budding of spring re-birth. Although we may not have the cold of other climates, we may nonetheless find ourselves in the bleak mid-winter—come break out

### Feb. 10 What's Love Got to Do With It?

-Roy King, Jr., intern minister

As Unitarian Universalists, we are called to love as a core value for our justice in the world. But love is not simple and often bears fear and sadness and loss. How do we embrace love without fearing separation? We'll Stand on the Side of Love with a special plate for LGBTQ equality.

### Feb. 17 The Evolution of Humanity

-Rev. Bob Klein, pulpit guest

How is it we think about Darwin, Monkeys, Climbing Down, Growing Up, and Surviving into the Future? Come today and consider.

### Feb. 24 Celebration Sunday: The Amazing Race

-Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris

In this world that swirls around us at breakneck speed, we've got so much to be grateful for: this wonderful congregation that helps us make a life with deeper meaning, actually living out our values. Come, give yourself to this community of love and faith.



# Why I Do Church and Other Life-Affirming Choices

KATIE'S BAY VIEW

I'm in a small minority having been brought up Unitarian Universalist. As a child, my family attended a small growing fellowship. Later, as a young adult I was a very involved lay leader in a large congregation before attending seminary, answering my "call" to ministry. My joy in being involved in church included teaching and serving in religious education, being a member of the committee on ministry, serving as a member of the board of trustees as vice-president then president, and, for me most importantly, leading the annual stewardship campaign.

It might not seem like these would be the most meaningful things to leap into, that maybe I could have had more fun singing with the choir, or taking a class on mindfulness, or parenting, or even Unitarian Universalist history. I'm sure those things would have been worthwhile as additions to Sunday worship, and I would have found meaning had I made those choices. In fact, when my children were babies, I was a member of a church mom's group rotating our meetings off-site at each other's homes. We became close friends. But when I think of the effort I put in for the stewardship campaign, the canvass as we often call it, or more joyfully, "Celebration Sunday," I am reminded once again of how it was I came to be a minister.

When we are called upon to consider how we put monetary value on something that is more important than material things, like our families, our struggles, our joys and sorrows, the way we mark important events; when we are asked to give to something that is larger than us, that was here before we came but is so important that we want to make certain outlives us, we wake up that spirit in us that's connected to the larger hope of the world.

This congregation is a wonderful place to live out your most important values. It is a place to delve deeper into spiritual groundedness, whether that is through sharing your music or joining into church leadership. It's a place to grow your connection to community—a place where sharing your joys and sorrows matters, where it becomes a sacred event. At the end of this month, we'll consider again, how we demonstrate those values in this place, how we celebrate ourselves in this community, and why it is that we do church. I believe to consider this carefully can change your life.

*In living faith Katie*



**Sending healing thoughts to Roy Dickerson as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.**

**Congrats to Lavon Hodges upon her retirement.**

**Congrats to Bill Schwab--he turned 75!**

**Healing thoughts to John Gruver while he recovers from shoulder surgery**

**Joy to Doug Sprague and Natalie Forrest's daughter-in-law, Meghan for her published book The Little Book of Heartbreak, recommended by Oprah.**

**More healing thoughts to Joyce VanScyoc as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.**

# President's Message

By Andy Hansen—SKUU President Board



February greetings! This is the month of groundhogs, sweethearts and leap years. It also brings President's Day, which honors the birthdays of two U.S. Presidents critical to our national political development, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Their actions are highly instructive about getting along as a community of individuals. Washington, after having successfully prosecuted the Revolutionary War, was approached by his army and told they would support him taking the crown as King George I of the United States of America. Washington said, in effect, "Have you guys been paying any attention *at all*?" He told them that taking autocratic power would betray the principles for which the revolution had been fought; he showed them that America's democratic experiment is a sacred vision, requiring steadfastness.

Lincoln, presiding 70 years later, is known these days for his ability to draw differing opinions together and taking counsel from them. He showed that even sharp differences of opinion can be used, and indeed are *useful*, in democratic governance. Of course, this is a gross simplification of Lincoln's times and actions, when *some* differing opinions were aggressively trumped by force. It is significant, however, as noted in Doris Goodwin's excellent work *Team of Rivals*, that Lincoln achieved very difficult political goals by bringing alternative views and sometimes disputatious people together, showing them their common cause.



Thus for me, February is a month ringing with democratic ideals that we as Unitarian Universalists admire, aspire to and celebrate. The power of leaders is to be used in service of democratic ends, and civil disparities of opinion create a stronger and more effective group.

We strive to employ these principles at Starr King. Our leaders tend to serve with humility and a sense of fiduciary obligation. We choose to be governed in our relations by a Covenant that says we will address conflicts personally, directly and respectfully, seeking the assistance of church leadership when difficulties persist or relations lose their respectful quality.

But lest we be smug, we must also acknowledge the pervasive disenfranchisement of non-whites and women in the midst of our "democratic" history. It is "the elephant in the room" that challenges our idealized view of democratic institutions and leaders. Black History Month, observed in February, is a great reminder to reflect on who has been *and perhaps is still* disenfranchised in our midst. Let us humbly acknowledge our lingering vestiges of homophobia, racism, sexism or other *-isms*.

**Look inward. Reach outward. Take responsibility for the health of our community. And LOVE, LOVE, LOVE.**

**Warmly,**





# INTERNING *By Roy King* 4

## Around the Town and at the Movies

One thing we Unitarian Universalists love to do is to view controversial films. I recently saw the movie, *Zero Dark Thirty*. Kathryn Bigelow, the first female director to win the Academy Award, directed the film. On the surface, it was about a CIA analyst who doggedly pursued all leads in the search for Osama bin Laden. Her colleagues continually were astonished and rebuffed her on account of her “female” atypical behavior. She was strong willed, interpersonally aggressive and single-minded. The film concluded with a reenactment of the actual killing of Osama Bin Laden. Many critics extolled the movie for its amazing cinematography and the stellar acting. But the film raised much social and political criticism; from the left with the judgment that Bigelow supports torture in the pursuit of extracting information and from the right which had accused the White House of manipulating it as propaganda to cast the president in a heroic light to win votes in the last election.

But Unitarian Universalists tend to see life through a kaleidoscope, a continually shifting and complex pattern of encounters and events that admit a gamut of perspectives, all united by our commitment to love and respect and interdependency. For *Zero Dark Thirty*, our values invite us to look beyond the horrific torture scenes, the behind the scenes political machinations, and the inhuman depiction of the assassination of Bin Laden to the moral injury of the protagonists, the trauma to their innate sense of conscience that CIA analysts, agents and special op soldiers experience. No one is happy in the film, just momentarily relieved and just as momentarily aware of one’s own inhumanity.

Bigelow has crafted a remarkable film, one that does not shy away from the despair of ambiguity. She is not asking us to emulate the actions of the characters, but to be conscious of their torn values and the consequences of revenge and retribution on the health of their souls.

### Peace, Roy

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

3	DICK ALBERT	19	MEREDITH SCHULER
4	KELLI ABATANGELO	19	ALISON CORSON
8	ELLERY MEDILLA	20	LEA CASINI
8	ANDY HANSEN	21	NANCY HARRISON
13	BILL DESMIDT	24	ERIC GABLE
16	LEE BERGER		



# RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

5

By Darcy Baxter Dir. of Family Ministry

We are right smack-dab in the middle of “30 Days of Love.” Back in 2009, the Unitarian Universalist Association launched the Standing on Side of Love Campaign “to harness love's power to stop oppression.” In 2010, Standing on the Side of Love began re-imagining Valentine's Day as a social justice holiday, which evolved into a month long spiritual journey between Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Valentine's Day.

Love. Oppression. Justice. These are big ideas. But they are also small ideas. In the lesson plans we use for our religious exploration classes, I often provide the adult language of our Principles and Sources and the child language. So allow me...

*Adult Example of Love:* soothing your crying child and making sure they get to bed on time and eat their vegetables.

*Child Example of Love:* The big hug my parents give me when I fell and bruised my knee and the extra cookies they let me have after dinner!

*Adult Example of Oppression:* exhausted parents doing the best they can despite a culture that does not offer nearly enough support to so many families.

*Child Example of Oppression:* my big sister got picked to light the chalice AND flip the book pages during story time (this is completely hypothetical....)

*Adult Example of Justice:* Affordable healthcare, good public education, and quality, affordable childcare.

*Child Example of Justice:* when I get picked to light the chalice AND flip the book pages during story time.

I think when we boil all this talk of love, oppression, and justice down, what we are really talking about is what we humans need to feel safe. To have a sense of security in our life. As I said from the pulpit on January 13, we UUs need holy trust among one another before we can engage on any kind of spiritual journey.

You know how I knew SKUUC was a community in which I could feel safe in? A community in which I could really offer my gifts? SKUUC passed what Dave Barry calls “The Waiter” rule: if someone is nice to you but rude to the waiter, they are not a nice person. (This is particularly evident if you are the waiter.) But a humble, consistent kindness that I observe over time—this is what allows me to begin to trust and deepen a relationship, to unfold into a spiritual journey. What do you and your family need in order to feel this kind of security? What will allow you to unfold into a spiritual journey where you can explore love, oppression, and justice?

**Blessings,**  
**Darcy, D.F.M.**

# CHILDREN'S RE HAPPENINGS FOR JANUARY <sup>6</sup>

DATE	ACTIVITY
FEB. 3	MULTI GENERATIONAL WORSHIP
FEB. 10	VALENTINE'S DAY: LOVE AND JUSTICE!
FEB. 17	DIFFERENT COLORS OF BEAUTY: MAKING SELF PORTRAITS
FEB. 24	GENDER JUSTICE: "GIRL" TOYS AND "BOY" TOYS

## Infants and Toddlers Care in Fellowship Hall

## STARR KING WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

### Jennifer Koney & Ray Oducayen



#### Jennifer Koney

Jennifer currently works for Hayward Area Recreation and Park District as a Recreation Supervisor over the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, Sulphur Creek Nature Center, the Douglas Morrison Theatre, Adult Special Interest classes and is also known as "Pickleweed" - the Supervisor over Camps Tenderfoot, Potowatomi and Vida Nueva. Originally a Michigander, Jennifer attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and SFSU for her degrees in art. Jennifer is an abstract painter working in mixed media acrylics. She and Ray have been married 7 years and have 3 adult children between them: Thomas, Frances, and Andrew. They both love baseball – a lot.

#### Ray Oducayen

Ray was born in Honolulu Hawaii then moved to California at the age of 12. Attended Oakland public schools and enrolled into University of California, Berkeley. Ray accepted a position with the City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation where he worked for 36 years. Ray is currently retired from the City of Oakland and is working part time with the Hayward Area Parks and Recreation Department. Ray enjoys golf, playing the guitar, cooking and taking care of Mira, a German shepherd. Ray is married to Jennifer Koney and enjoys singing with her.

---

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## FESCO NEWS

By Donnie Rett

Thanks to all who gave to the December special plate offering for FESCO. The income was more than \$800.00 Thanks also to those who brought in useful goods (bedding, craft supplies) from the Shelter's wish list. We have a generous congregation!



## NEXT UP FOR THINGS FESCO

THE SPRING'S ANNUAL **SHELTER SHUFFLE**

SAVE THE DATE **MAY 18**

DETAILS AS THEY DEVELOP.

---

# COFFEE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Here's your chance to meet more people, and serve your church at the same time.

**VOLUNTEER TO SERVE  
COFFEE AFTER THE SERVICE!**

Signups are on the Community table  
in the Fellowship Hall



---

# The Hospitality and Membership Committee

---

Our committee members usually are the first people you see when coming to church Sunday mornings. We're there by the door to greet you with a smile, a hug or a handshake; assist you; and give you an order of service. We're glad you're here.

Our purpose is to ensure a welcoming, hospitable and inviting environment for all. The committee members strive to assist people to enter and take part in the life of the church community and to become members when they are ready.

The committee's name was changed at the congregation's last annual meeting from Membership Committee to Hospitality and Membership Committee to reflect our updated mission: "The purpose of the Hospitality and Membership Committee is to ensure a welcoming, hospitable, and inviting environment for all. It develops the means (or methods) by which people enter and participate in the life of the community and to membership as one is ready."

While we certainly assist those interested in becoming members, our focus is on inclusively welcoming everyone who enters our doors. "Hospitality" is an invitation into community for newcomers and longtime members alike.

We are constantly learning how to be more welcoming and are working to create a community where people of all cultural identities see themselves reflected and affirmed.

We are always looking for new greeters. Being a greeter is a good way to get to know your fellow congregants. We're flexible; you can volunteer as often as your schedule allows. If interested, please contact Dirk Dino in person or by email at [membership@starring.org](mailto:membership@starring.org).

---



# ON GOING FUN AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**BOOK CLUB** The book group will meet Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 7 PM, at the Murdach's. The February book is "*Work Song*" by Ivan Doig All are welcome. Please let Jo know so she knows for how many to plan.

**CHURCH BOOKSTORE** The bookstore is open every 3rd. Sunday after the service

**DRUM CIRCLE** Meets the 1st. Friday 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 ELDERBERRIES** Meets every 3rd Wednesday 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, February 16, at 7:00 P.M. At Stuart Fink's Home. "Pitch Perfect" (2012) A well received musical comedy starring Anna Kendrick And Brittany Snow. Competition among collegiate A Cappella groups (Rated Pg-13). Come, Enjoy! Let Stuart know if you are coming and please bring a movie snack to share.

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

**HOSPITALITY & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** Meets on the third Sunday of each month after 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 All are welcome to join us to explore community and spirituality, discussion and shared silence.

**SKIFFLE** Meets 1st. Wednesday of the month 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 the 2nd. Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M.

---

# HOW TO REACH US

## Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church

22577 Bayview Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94541

Church Office: 510.581.2060

[office@starrking.org](mailto:office@starrking.org)

Parish Minister: Kathryn Kandarian-Morris

[minister@starrking.org](mailto:minister@starrking.org)

Cell Phone: 510.861.2914

Church President: Andy Hansen

[president@starrking.org](mailto:president@starrking.org)

Home phone: 510.301-6938

Church Website: <http://www.starrking.org>

Webmaster: Beth Ogilvie: [webmaster@starrking.org](mailto:webmaster@starrking.org)

Newsletter Editor: [newslettereditor@starrking.org](mailto:newslettereditor@starrking.org)

---

**Church Office Hours**  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
9:00 AM-2:00 PM

---

10

## Church Leadership

### Board of Trustees

President: Andy Hansen  
Vice President: Colleen Dino  
Secretary: Nancy Harrison  
Treasurer: Frank Satterwhite  
At Large: Frank Burton

Lea Casini  
Georgia Gruver  
Glen Jacob  
Wendy Robertson  
Mary Swain

Office Manager: Kelli Abatangelo  
Minister: Rev. Katie Kandarian-Morris  
Intern Minister: Dr. Roy King, Jr.  
Dir. of Family Ministry: Darcy Baxter

---

## Positions

Adult Religious Education – Jennifer Koney

Anti-Racist Multicultural Alliance - Regina  
Fassano

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, Beth Ogilvie, Henry Wagner

Communications Comm. – Melody Appleton

FESCO reps.– Donnie Rett, Jennifer Koney

Finance Committee— Keith Lewis

Fundraising Committee– Karen Cook

Green Sanctuary Committee– Colleen Saia

Grounds Care– Walt Korus

Hospitality/Membership – Dirk Dino

Interior – Sherry Thomas

Nominating Committee – Rebecca Parr

Pastoral Care Committee– Karen Cook

R.E. Council – Diana Dickerson

Social – Joyce Kinnear

Social Justice Committee– Frank Burton

South Hayward Parish Bd. Reps.– Terry  
Owen, Georgia Gruver

Sunday Coffee – Roy Dickerson

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](mailto:newslettereditor@starrking.org)

---