



THE FLAMING CHALICE

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP THEME:
COME, COME, WHOEVER YOU ARE

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Have you signed up yet?



There are only 2 more chances this fall to meet in a small group with our interim minister. These informal meetings are designed to provide an opportunity to explore SKUUC's present strengths and challenges, surface issues of concern, look ahead to the future of the congregation, and get to know one another better. Each member and friend is urged to attend one of these meetings. Sign-up sheets are on the back table. Don't be left out have your thoughts and opinions heard and discussed in one of these groups

OCTOBER SERVICE PREVIEWS

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

October 5 Re-Weaving the Web

Rev. Joy Atkinson

The Seventh principle of our Association calls upon to affirm the "interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." As a species, we have been responsible for tearing at the strands of the delicate web of life that sustains us on our planet, through such phenomena as global warming, extinction of species, oil spills, ozone depletion. What can we do to repair some of the damage?

October 12 A Path With Heart: Our Unitarian Universalist Journeys

Rev. Joy Atkinson

On this Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day, the service will explore the journey to discover a new world—the world of Unitarian Universalism and the many paths our forebears and we ourselves have taken to get here.

October 19, the three phases of the moon: maiden, mother and crone. service

come join us this morning for a worship lead service exploring the three phases of the moon: Maiden, mother, and crone (new, full, waning) as they tell us their stories.

October 26 Halloween/All Souls/ El Dia De Los Muertos Service

Sympathy For the Devil

Rev. Joy Atkinson

We Unitarian Universalists have long rejected the idea of hell and a literal devil figure, but what might the "devil" in human experience symbolize? The sermon will explore aspects of good and evil in human experience. We will also observe the Day of the Dead traditions of Central and South America with an altar, to which you are invited to bring pictures of loved ones who have died. Children (and adults) are invited to come to the service in costume if you like.

As of this writing, it has been one month since I began as your interim minister. Much has happened in the past month, and I am enjoying getting to know you and participating in some of the many activities that make Starr King Church such an active and busy congregation.

During the Start-Up workshop on August 16th, it was mentioned that this relatively small congregation has 28 different “committees” functioning! Later, the statement was clarified: there are 28 different groups, some of them committees and some interest groups, like the meditation group, elder group, book club, drum circle, etc. In the context in which this abundance was mentioned, there was some lamentation over the fact that these groups all need leadership, that current leaders may be spread a bit thin and that it is sometimes difficult to find leaders to take on additional projects or to bring new members into leadership positions. All of that is true, and these leadership challenges occur in most active congregations. Overextended leaders and leadership burnout should not be ignored, and training opportunities for new leaders would be a good idea—more about that later.

At the workshop, when the number of groups/committees was mentioned as a “problem” because of the leadership issue, District Executive Josh-Searle-White and I flashed each other a look, and we both said almost simultaneously that this “problem” can also be looked at as a sign of health!. The fact that so many groups and committees are operational indicates that people here value this congregation and are willing to work to see that its operations flow smoothly and that it offers its members many different opportunities to learn and grow, to act for social justice, to participate and to have fun together. Lots of activity, even with its attendant problems, is a sure sign of a living church. Here are some other such signs, from an old reading I have kept as a reminder that some church problems are, paradoxically, a sign of vitality. How many of them would you say apply to SKUUC?

Living churches always have a parking problem;

Dying churches have plenty of parking.

Living churches are constantly changing their methods;

Dying churches don't have to.

Living churches have lots of noisy kids;

Dying churches are as quiet as a tomb.

Living churches' expenses always exceed their income;

Dying churches take in more than they ever dream of spending.

Living churches are constantly improving and planning for the future;

Dying churches worship the past.

Living churches grow so fast you don't know people's names;

In Dying churches you've known everyone's name for years.

Living churches support community work heavily;

Dying churches keep it all at home.

Living churches dream great dreams of beloved community;

Dying churches relive nightmares.

Living churches have the fresh wind of love blowing;

Dying churches are stale with bickering.

Living churches don't have "can't" in their vocabulary;

Dying churches have nothing but.

--

Anonymous

(cont. pg. 3)



Words of Joy (cont.)

by Joy Atkinson 3
Interim Minister

By the way, don't forget to sign up for one of the "Cottage Meetings" I am facilitating this Fall, where we can interact and become better acquainted, explore more of the congregation's strengths and challenges, and create a vision of its future. Note that I have added two more dates. Call the office to sign up, or add your name to one of the clipboards on the table after Sunday services.

Cottage Meetings with the Interim Minister:

Friday, September 26, 10 AM to 12 PM
Saturday, September 27 10 AM to 12 PM
Tuesday, October 7 7 PM to 9 PM
Saturday October 11 10 AM to 12 PM
Sunday October 12 1:20 PM to 3:30 PM
Wednesday October 22 7 PM to 9 PM
Saturday October 25 1 PM to 3 PM

See you at church.
Joy



Join us for SKUU'S 60th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, Nov. 16

The celebration will begin with the service, following with a sit-down luncheon and short program. There will be many displays, photos and the like. Tracing our 60 years of existence.

Please sign up for the luncheon on the back table.

It is being catered so we need a count ahead.

Also, if you are so inclined we are accepting donations for the meal. You can donate in the box on the back table.



Your SKUU Board - Oct. 2014

By Colleen Dino -
Board President

As I sit and write my column to the congregation, I am aware of how quickly time has passed since hiring and welcoming our new minister. It also dawns on me that each article since the beginning of summer has been filled with preparing. I'm here to report that we are now in the working stage; working through the issues that come with transition, but also the celebration of starting new.

- These past few months the board has been considering the request to add an additional flag or flags at the entrance to our property on Sundays along with the Pride flag. This request has been thoughtfully deliberated and discussed for 3 consecutive meetings. Our board members did additional work outside of our meetings to discuss the topic with our members; taking notice of our neighboring churches; and speaking to other leaders in the UU community. At our September meeting it was decided that we would not add an additional flag at this time.
- The board appointed a personnel committee in July to review and update the language on our employee contracts and job descriptions. Updating these documents has been helpful in the transition. The committee worked directly with Reverend Joy who is responsible for supervising our staff. The members of the committee are; Nancy Harrison, Diane Meyerson, and Sherry Thomas. The board thanks these members for their dedication to this project.
- Starr King turns 60 this year. Plans are being made for a celebration to take place in mid-November.
- The office space continues to take shape as we assess the office furniture and equipment for Reverend Joy. The board has allocated funds for furnishings that are needed to make her space more ergonomically correct. The warmth of her office changes weekly as I see more of Joy's personal items and her style appear on the walls; it's nice to see her settling in; creating a welcoming space to be with us, if only for a short time.

I invite members of the congregation to join members of the board and committee leaders to the PCD-UUA Leadership Development Day at UU Church of Berkeley. This will be on Saturday, Oct 25, from 9:00am – 4:00pm. Registration deadline is October 12. Well the beginning of the church year always starts fast and furious, with the church calendar filled with so many activities. I look forward to the cottage meetings with our minister and hope that you are too. This is an excellent opportunity for us to share our stories with

*Warm regards,
Colleen Dino*

A decorative border of pumpkins with faces surrounds the text. The pumpkins are arranged in a rectangular frame, with one row at the top, one at the bottom, and two vertical columns on the left and right sides.

RE UPCOMING PLANS

BY DAVID MIDDLETON

There is a lot going on in Religious Exploration at Starr King. We enjoyed a fantastic RE kickoff BBQ party at Lake Chabot that included fun games for all ages and ended with a patio boat ride around the lake. Thanks to all who participated and help make this event a success. We are kicking off our curriculum year on Oct. 12 and will continue with exciting lessons and activities for our youth in the upcoming weeks and months. Our newly hired DRE, Rennie Tomley, will be leading the youth lessons for October, beginning on Oct.12. Rennie served as the DRE at the UU church in Livermore. She is a retired special education teacher who worked for many years in Hayward Unified School District. She is passionate about working with young people and is thrilled to be a part of Starr King. Those interested in teaching or assisting with our youth are invited to attend a workshop after the service on Oct.26 from 12-1 pm

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

THE ANNUAL TRIP TO ASHLAND IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

THE SLIGHTLY TENTATIVE ASHLAND SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY MARCH 27 - EVENING PERFORMANCE - "FINGERSMITH"

SATURDAY MARCH 28 - MATINEE - "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING"

SATURDAY MARCH 28 - EVENING - "LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT"

SUNDAY MARCH 29 - MORNING DISCUSSION.

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DETAILS WHICH WILL FOLLOW SOON

THE ASHLAND TRIP IS ALWAYS A HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

COME JOIN US FOR A FUN, WEEKEND WITH OTHERS OF THE CONGREGATION.

GET TO KNOW MORE OF OUR MEMBERS, RELAX, AND ENJOY A "MINI VACATION WITH FRIENDS"

WHEEL OF LIFE

Please send healing thoughts to both **John and Georgia Gruver** as they deal with various health issues.

Walt's sister, Sandra, died. Please send thoughts and prayers to **Walt and Lavon**.

Rejoice with **Bob and Diane Meyerson** as they celebrate 30 years of marriage.



ON GOING FUN AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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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 Sat. Oct. 18, 2014 At 7:00 P.M. "Captain America: the Winter Soldier" (2014) well written action-fantasy about a super hero facing danger ; starring Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson and Robert Redford (rated pg-13). 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 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 the 4th. Thursday of the month from 7 to 9 PM. If you're considering coming for the first time best to give Bob Meyerson a call at 510 581 2037.

Improv. group meets in the Sanctuary on the 2nd. Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M.

SKIT

Meets every Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15 am before the service. For information, please contact Jo Murdach

STARR KING CHOIR

jo71murdach@yahoo.com

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: Rev. Joy Atkinson

minister@starrking.org

Cell Phone:

Church President: Colleen Dino

president@starrking.org

Home phone: 510. 213.3499

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

Webmaster: Beth Ogilvie: webmaster@starrking.org

Newsletter Editor: newslettereditor@starrking.org

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

Church Leadership

Board of Trustees

President:	Colleen Dino
Vice President:	Diana Dickerson
Secretary:	Frank Burton
Treasurer	Marilyn Moser
At Large	Wayne Bennion Lea Casini Betsy Dye Stuart Fink Heidi Green Kirk Klausmeyer
Office Manager	Kelli Abatangelo
Interim Minister	Rev. Joy Atkinson
DRE	Rennie Tomley,

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 – Diana Dickerson

Communications Comm. – Melody Appleton

FESCO Rep.– 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

Justice Alliance—Frank Burton

Nominating Committee – Rebecca Parr

Pastoral Care Committee– Karen Cook

R.E. Council – David Middleton

Social – Joyce Kinnear

Social Justice Committee– Mary Swain

South Hayward Parish Bd. Rep.– Terry Owen

Sunday Coffee – Roy Dickerson

Usher Coordinator—Lavon Hodges

Worship Committee – Lu Middleton

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
