



THE FLAMING CHALICE

Sunday Service Previews

February 1st 2015

The Footprints of Gossip

Rev. Joy Atkinson

Gossip is such a delicious temptation, but it can be so destructive! Might it also have a positive function? If so, how does it sometimes turn into a destructive force? The sermon will explore the phenomena of rumor and gossip in human experience, their effect on communities (including religious communities) and how we can become effective "gossip busters."

February 8th Evolution Sunday

All That Has Given Us Birth

Rev. Joy Atkinson

Amazingly, there are still those who question the scientific theory of evolution on religious grounds. But to many modern scientists and theologians alike, science and religion are not enemies. Many religious organizations set aside a weekend day in February annually to celebrate the contributions of Charles Darwin, born 205 years ago on February 12th, as an answer to those who continue to denounce the theory of evolution. The sermon will explore the interface of the scientific and religious world-views.

February 15th, 2015

Failure Is Impossible!

Rev. Joy Atkinson

Today is the 195th birthday of Susan B. Anthony. The sermon will explore and honor the life and contributions of this famous Quaker/Unitarian suffragist and abolitionist. She may even make an appearance!

February 22nd 2015

Toward a Culture of Peace

Jim Scott, Guest Musician and Speaker

Jim presents songs and reflections on peace and non-violence as a spiritual value, suggesting that UUs could adopt an "Eighth Principle" of the non-violent resolution of conflict. Beyond the interpersonal behavior, Jim suggests three points: that we work to gain a greater perspective on our privilege, look into the healing of our own wounds, and reclaim our creative voices to bring about a healing of the world.

Guest speaker/musician Jim Scott played for years with the Paul Winter Consort and has made a number of recordings of his own music. Jim has a long UU history, having several songs in both Singing the Living Tradition and the new Singing the Journey hymnbooks. He was co-chair of the UU Ministry for the Earth and helped create the Green Sanctuary Program.



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Words of Joy

by Joy Atkinson
Interim Minister

On the Martin Luther King holiday, many of us from SKUUC, adults and children, gathered with other people from the Hayward community and from other faith traditions to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's life and legacy. As we marched, one of the signs our group carried proclaimed "Black Lives Matter." Since this phrase has become popular, particularly as part of the recent protests of police killings of unarmed black men, some people have raised an objection about using that phrase instead of "All Lives Matter."

Why not use the more inclusive phrase?

While it is true, and is in fact one of our UU principles, that all lives indeed DO matter, at this moment in history, when African American youth are 4.5 times more likely to be killed by police than any other racial group, and in the aftermath of the recent well-publicized deaths of black men at the hands of police who were then exonerated by grand juries, stating specifically that BLACK lives matter is a way of standing for true equality and against the racism that still infects our culture and de-values the lives of African Americans. When one of our UU churches displayed the words Black Lives Matter on its marquee, my colleague, Rev. Dan Schatz, received a letter objecting to the phrase. You can read Rev. Schatz' articulate response online at: <http://www.uua.org/worship/words/readings/299717.shtml>

We marched peacefully, on this Martin Luther King holiday, mindful of the power of love to change the world, and in honor of the great Civil Rights leader, who once proclaimed: "I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."

Turning now to this new month, which contains Valentine's Day, a day devoted to love in its many forms, I offer a quote from African American writer James Baldwin, about love and change.

For nothing is fixed, forever and forever and forever, it is not fixed; the earth is always shifting. The light I always changing, the sea does not cease to grind down rock.

Generations do not cease to be born, and we are responsible to them because we are the only witnesses they have.

The sea rises, the light falls, lovers cling to each other, and children cling to us. The moment we break faith with one another, the sea engulfs us and the light goes out.

So here's to the joyous, complex and many-faceted human experience we call love. May we celebrate love in all of its forms, and rejoice that, increasingly, people who were once excluded from the sacred bond of matrimony can now legally marry.

May love bloom forth abundantly in your life!

I give the last word to the late, great singer/guitarist/songwriter Jimi Hendrix:

*When the power of love overcomes
the love of power, the world will
know peace.*

Joy

Religious Exploration

DRE
Rennis Tomley

February Theme: Love

Children's Religious Exploration will have the theme "Love Connects Us." This is from the UUA Tapestry of Faith and geared for 5th grade children, but the lessons and activities are adapted for all ages, Kindergarten through 6th grades.

Love Connects Us celebrates important ways Unitarian Universalists live our faith in covenanted community. Moved by love and gathered in spirit, we embrace our responsibility toward one another and the world at large. We encourage one another's search for truth and meaning. We strive to be active in peace-making and other efforts to improve our world.



February Lessons

- ⇒ 2/1/2015: One Person Makes a Difference. We will act out the book "One" and then make a "I Made a Difference" mural.
- ⇒ 2/8/2015: Love is the Spirit of This Church. We will hear the story "Mish Mash Heart" and then create our own unique hearts from a huge variety of materials. We will share special Valentine cookies.
- ⇒ 2/15/2015: Wisdom to Know the Difference: We will play a game "What Would You Do?" and then experience a guided meditation.
- ⇒ 2/22/2015: Our Heritage Calling. We will hear a story about a woman who wouldn't give up. Then we will play an obstacle game.



February Birthdays

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

CIRCLE SUPPER

Saturday, March 21

If you are interested in spending more time with a small group of church members to get to know people better, the circle supper is for you. A potluck supper will be held at the home of a volunteer host on **Saturday, March 21** at around 6 or so in the evening (depending on when the hosts schedules your particular dinner). Each person will bring a dish to share in group dinners of around 8 people. Please sign up with your name, email address, number of attendees, willingness to host, whether you would like to be at a family friendly dinner and with any dietary restrictions on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Room. Please sign up no later than **Sunday, March 8**, as dinners will be scheduled at that time. Contact Joyce Kinnear at joycekinnear@hotmail.com with any questions. Looking forward to seeing you!

WHEEL OF LIFE

- Happy 75th birthday to Sherwin Lewis.
- We continue to send our warmest wishes to Diana Dickerson after her fall.
- Congratulations to Bill and Marge Schwab on the celebration of their 40th anniversary.
- Happy anniversary to Vern and Jackie

**The Women of Unitarian Universalist Association Pacific Central
District invite you to**

**The Women and Religion Annual Women's Re-
treat.**

Generations of Women



How are we the same?
How are we different?

Feb 27 - March 1, 2015

with Thursday arrivals coming on the 26th.

On going since 1977 this is the 38th Annual Gathering
Enchanted Hills Camp in the hills above Napa, California

The weekend includes two nights lodging 7 meals, workshops for mind, body and Spirit, conversations with new and old friends, rituals, a boutique, silent auction, book swap and, for the adventurous, a ropes course! There is also an option for early arrival on Thursday evening which would include breakfast Friday (additional fee) or Saturday only with all three meals, but no overnight stay (for a reduced fee).

*This year's optional book group discussion: **Amy Tan's, "Joy Luck Club"***

Join a wonderful group of women for a time away from the everyday world, with beautiful surroundings and delicious meals in a nurturing community.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Church Bookstore

Open on the THIRD SUNDAY of the month, after the service

Drum Circle

Meets on the FIRST FRIDAY of the month, from 7 to 9 PM, in the Sanctuary. Come enjoy a fun, but spiritual, evening. Open to all adults and mature children accompanied by an adult.

Evening Meditation

Meets EVERY WEDNESDAY of the month, from 7 to 8 PM. Come practice meditation and reap its benefits. Open to all.

Starr King Elderberries

Meets on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of the month, at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch. Come enjoy learning about and discussing topics of particular interest to YOU! Open to all self-identified elders.

Justice Alliance

Meets on the SECOND SUNDAY of the month following the service, at 12:00 noon, in the Conference Room. Open to all.

Hospitality and Membership Committee

Meets on the THIRD SUNDAY of the month, following the service, at 12:00 noon.

Morning Discovery

Meets on the FIRST and THIRD WEDNESDAYS of the month, from 10:00 to 11:15 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. Join us to explore community, discuss spirituality, and share silence. Open to all.

SKIT (Starr King Improv Troupe)

Meets on the SECOND THURSDAY of the month, at 7:30 PM. Open to all.

Starr King Choir

Rehearsals are set as needed. For information, contact Jo Murdach at 510-581-6794 or <jo71murdach@yahoo.com>.

Starr King Unitarian
Universalist Church

22577 Bayview Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541

Phone: 510-521-2060
Email: office@starrking.org
Hours: M,W,Th 9:30 AM to
2:30 PM



A Welcoming Community

Church Leaders

Parish Minister (Interim):

Rev. Joy Atkinson
<minister@starrking.org>

President: Colleen Dino
<president@starrking.org>

Home phone: 510-213-3499

Director of Religious Exploration:
Rennie Tomley
<dreskuu@gmail.com>

Office Manager: Kelli Abatangelo
<office@starrking.org>

Board of Trustees

President: Colleen Dino
Vice President: Diana Dickerson
Secretary: Frank Burton
Treasurer: Marilyn Moser

Members at Large:

Wayne Bennion
Lea Casini
Betsy Dye
Stuart Fink
Heidi Green
Kirk Klausmeyer

Committee Leaders

Adult Religious Education: Vacant	Grounds Care: Walt Korus	Usher Coordinator: Lavon Hodges
Multicultural Alliance: Regina Fassano	Hospitality/Membership: Dirk Dino	Worship Committee: Lu Middleton
Buildings: Bobby Robinson	Interior: Sherry Thomas	
Chalice Editors: Kathryn LaMar; Allison Prout	Justice Alliance: Frank Burton	
Church Website: Beth Ogilvie	Nominating Committee: Rebecca Parr	
Committee Council: Diana Dickerson	Pastoral Care: Karen Cook	
Communications: Melody Appleton	Religious Education: David Middleton	
FESCO Representative: Vacant	Social: Joyce Kinnear	
Finance Committee: Keith Lewis	Social Justice: Mary Swain	
Fundraising: Karen Cook	South Hayward Parish Rep: Terry Owen	
Green Sanctuary: Colleen Saia	Sunday Coffee: Roy Dickerson	



Love is the Fabric of
Community