



Newsletter

***Starr King Unitarian-
Universalist Church of
Hayward, California***

June 2017

THE FLAMING CHALICE

**Church Office Hours: Tues, Wed, & Thur;
9:30 am to 2:30 pm**

22577 Bayview Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541
Office Manager: Kelli Abatangelo
office@starrking.org
Website: www.starrking.org
510-581-2060

Newsletter: newsletter@starrking.org

Parish Minister:
Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa
minister@starrking.org

Church President: Diana Dickerson
president@starrking.org
Home phone: 510-786-2922

Director of Religious Exploration:
Allison Prout
dre@starrking.org
DRE Office Hours: Wed, Thurs; 10 am to 2 pm

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am June Service Preview

June 4. Flower Communion. Rev. Maria Cristina

This year marks the 95th Anniversary of the Flower Communion tradition. To commemorate this anniversary, the Prague Unitarian Church has invited UU congregations around the world to join in the celebration on Sunday, June 4.

The Flower Communion was first celebrated in Prague on June 4, 1923 by Norbert Čapek, who was also the founder of the Unitarian Church in Czechoslovakia. He saw the need to unite the diverse congregants of his church, from varying Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish backgrounds, through honoring the universal beauty of nature. His wife, Rev. Maja Čapek, brought the ritual to the United States in 1940.

Join us and bring a flower to share!

June 11. RE Sunday. Rev. Maria Cristina

Join us as we celebrate the many accomplishments of our Religious Explorations Program and express our gratitude for the staff and all the volunteers who made this year's RE a success.

June 18: "Honoring Volunteers." Rev. Maria Cristina

Year-end wrap up with volunteer appreciation. There will be an ice cream social following the service.

June 25: "Developing Empathy." Worship Committee Member Lorie Miller



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Wheel of Life

- Our hearts go out to Roy and Dianna Dickerson on the passing of Roy's Dad.
- Healing thoughts for Betsy Dye as she goes through treatment for a recurring condition.
- Our supportive thoughts to Stephanie Smith as her Mother deals with a heart problem.
- Positive and healing thoughts to Georgia Gruver as she was recently diagnosed, and is going through treatment, for Multiple Myeloma.
- We are happy to Report that Dick Albert is improving after suffering two strokes.

June Birthdays



Date	Name
1-Jun	Robin Fink
5-Jun	Rene G. Castle
9-Jun	Amy Kinnear
11-Jun	Colleen Dino
16-Jun	Jens Dill
18-Jun	Diane Meyerson
24-Jun	David Baker
24-Jun	Keith Lewis



Father's Day

From the Minister, Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa



I never met my father. The only three photographs I have of him remained hidden in a box for over thirty years. They were hidden away just like my anger and disappointment for his abandonment. While my aunts, his sisters, never failed to remember me and would send me beautiful cards for my birthday, Christmas, and Easter, he never tried to contact me. I was angry that he never helped my mother financially and that he never contributed to my education. Growing up I tried to ignore Father's Day and was proud to declare that my mother was both my mother and father. But I was also resentful that he had chosen to be absent, that he refused to be a father, my father. When I was 12 I was told that he had died. I didn't

know how I was supposed to feel. I felt guilty for not being able to cry. The truth was that I didn't feel any different. The only evidence I had of having a father were three old photographs.

Until 2008, those photographs remained unframed. My father was a Marine and until I learned about soldiers and moral injury, I never once thought about what might have happened to my father. How does a dashing young officer full of life, end up dead before the age of 40? How long did his sense of pride and patriotism last before he began to crumble spiritually? Did he feel guilt or shame? Was it difficult for him to separate reality from nightmares? Was he forced by circumstances to renounce fatherhood to avoid directing his rage at his loved ones?

In 2008, while in seminary, I took a transformative course entitled "The Deep." It was about the ocean and the religious dimensions of our relationship to the sea. The readings and class discussions had a tremendous impact on me. For the first time, I thought about my father with compassion and felt a sense of profound spiritual connection to him as one of my ancestors. It was time for forgiveness. It was time for me to recognize, acknowledge, and honor my father. It was time to change the story that demonized him and labeled him as bad. I needed to practice our First UU Principle and honor his inherent worth and dignity. It was time for me to practice the unconditional love that I preached from the pulpit, for my own father.



For my final class project I built an altar in honor of my father. I framed the picture that shows him in full uniform. As I arranged seaglass, seashells, candles, flowers, and my own baby shoes around him, I felt a deep sense of calm, a deep peace, and the warmth of compassion embracing my heart. I understood that in forgiving him, I was freeing myself from resentment, bitterness, and all those feelings that justified my own anger. I still wished that he would have made an effort to contact me and helped my mother so she didn't have such a hard life. In opening my heart to forgiveness, I opened a path to healing. This father's day I will dust off my father's photograph and place beside it a bowl of his favorite candies, a picture of me when I was a baby, and tons of green and blue seaglass: a powerful reminder that time and the constant movement of the ocean are able to smooth out the most jagged edges of our souls.

Rev. Maria Cristina



Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church (SKUUC) Board Chair's Report; June 2017



Dear Friends, There will be no President's Message this month, as Roy's dad died on April 30. We are loaded up with things to go through and the busiest thing is that most of it is all in Peachland, BC. It is a lovely place, but it doesn't seem that way right now. I will submit my last column with Will Fitch, our incoming President, for the July Chalice. [Diana Dickerson](#)

RE Reflections for June 2017

By Allison Prout



The church year is coming to an end and we have so much to be grateful for. We have two new nursery age children thanks to our updated nursery program. We visited a Sikh Gurdwara and Sunnyslope Farm (Thank you Darryl & Renee Ray). We learned about coding and drones in our technology workshops. We had fun learning, playing, worshiping and celebrating together. Of course, none of this would be possible without the help of many volunteers. I would like to thank the following for their contributions to our RE program this year. We are your biggest fans!

RE Council Members –

- David Middleton – Chairperson
- Lea Casini – teacher, summer funshop advisor
- Xiomara Tapia- teacher
- Donnie Rett- nursery
- Roy Dickerson – techshop advisor

Nursery Assistants –

- Lorie Miller – nursery advisor
- Diane Meyerson
- Natalie Forrest
- Zelma Nunez- Borja

Tech Assistants –

- Torsten Fink
- Henry Wagner
- Kirk Klausmeyer



Group Hug with our new minister!

It's Summer Funshop Time! Do you have a talent that you would like to share with the children of our congregation? Summer Funshops are a great way to get involved with the kids in a limited fashion. You choose your subject and a partner and wow the kids with music, dance, food, crafts, drama, technology or whatever else you love to do. Signup board is in Fellowship Hall. Just choose a date and your all set. Have a wonderful summer!!

Allison Prout

Adult Religious Education Update

Adult Education – Summer Sessions

- June 3, 2017, 10 am to 12 Noon: Making the Most of your Health Care Provider Visit; Mileva Saulo Lewis, EdD, RN, Professor Emerita, Samuel Merritt University
- June 24, 2017, 10 am to 12 Noon: Aging in the 21st Century - Myths and Realities, Jennifer Winters, PhD, GNP, RN Nurse Gerontologist, Faculty, California State University East Bay.

Adult Education – Fall

Last spring, in our survey, in addition to wanting to know more about other religious traditions, the Congregation wanted a deeper understanding of “UUism”. Karen Cook provided us with a resource on the UUA Website entitled, “The New UU,” which will serve as the foundation for a series of six sessions:

- September 17 Theology and Worship
- October 15 Where Do We Come From? Unitarian Universalist Roots
- November 19 How We Grow in Faith – Philosophy of Religious Education
- December 17 Social Justice Philosophy and Practice
- January 21 How are Decisions Made? Governance and Philosophy
- February 18 Membership

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the Conference. Please join us.

Diane Meyerson, Kathryn LaMar, Shelia McClellan, Ethel May Shaw, Mileva Saulo Lewis



Special Plate on June 4: There will be a special plate collection on Sunday, June 4 to benefit the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO). Please plan to give generously.

Announcements

Raise Money for Starr King by Registering for eScrip and shopping locally.

We get 3% of your total purchases at grocery stores like Lucky, Food Maxx and Save Mart, as well as many local restaurants, such as Black Angus on Hesperian and Ghazni (the Afghani restaurant near A St and 2nd Street in Hayward). To create an account at <http://www.escrip.com>, choose "Starr King Unitarian Church" as the non-profit to receive benefits, and enter the phone number(s) you have linked with your Lucky Rewards account.

If you don't have a Lucky Rewards account, create it here: <https://www.luckysupermarkets.com/rewards/my-rewards#Account>. Then anytime you use that phone number when you make your purchase at Lucky, Starr King will get credit.

Service Auction Information by Glen Jacob

Save the Date for Saturday, June 10; the annual Starr King service auction is scheduled starting at 5 pm.

We have many great goods and services lined up for this wonderful fundraising event, but we can still use more! The sign up sheets in the fellowship hall are sometimes being picked up to be input into our master list, so either sign up or email Colleen Dino with your goods and/or services.

We also need sign-ups to bring dishes for the pot luck. Main dishes, salads, breads, deserts, etc. If you don't sign up, but still want to bring something, that's OK. We are just that wild and crazy!

If you are available to help out with set-up, clean-up, being an auctioneer, etc, please contact Glen Jacob (capspriff@sbcglobal.net) or Colleen Dino (cdino@croark.com).

The end of this event will mark the end of my one year stint as fundraising chair. It has been fun and rewarding, I hope this year of fundraising will prove to be one of the most successful ever!

Hope to see everyone on Saturday, June 10 at 5 pm for this important event! We are looking forward to all of the wonderful and unique goods and services that will be auctioned off at this important event!

Glen Jacob



Church Calendar for June 2017

For details about these activities, go to www.starrking.org/calendar, and hover your cursor over an event.

June 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 * 7 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	2 * 7 pm Drumming Circle	3 * 10 am Protect Health Care Rights
4 * 9 am Choir Rehearsal * 10:30 am Worship Service	5	6 * 10:30 am Safety Committee	7 * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	8 * 7:30 pm SKIT	9	10 * 5 pm Service Auction
11 * 9 am Choir Rehearsals * 10:30 am Worship Service * 12:15 pm Peace and Justice Action Team	12	13 * 11 am Adult RE * 7 pm ARMCA	14 * 12 noon Staff Meeting * 3 pm Pastoral Care Committee * 7 pm ARMCA * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	15 * 7 pm Worship Committee	16	17 * 6 pm Game Night
18 * 9 am Choir Rehearsals * 10:30 am Worship Service * 12 noon Church Bookstore Open	19	20 * 10:30 am Safety Committee	21 * 1 pm Elders' Meeting * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	22	23	24 * 10 am Aging: Myths and Realities
25 * 9 am Choir Rehearsals * 10:30 am Worship Service	26	27	28 * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	29	30	

Starr King UU Church Ongoing Activities	
Activity	Event Schedule
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. Open to all adults and mature children.
Evening Meditation	Meets every Wednesday, from 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Open to all.
Starr King Elderberries	Meets on the third Wednesday at noon. Bring your lunch. Open to all self-identified elders.
Small Group Ministry	For more info please contact Diane Meyerson or Bob Britton. (Contact sgm@starrking.org for more information).
SKIT (Starr King Improv Troupe)	Meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm. Open to all.