



The Flaming Chalice

THEOLOGICALLY DIVERSE • RADICALLY INCLUSIVE • JUSTICE CENTERED

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church | January 2020 Newsletter



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Thursday**

9:30am – 2:30pm

To meet with the minister
for pastoral care or to discuss
congregation life, please call the
church office for an appointment.

22577 Bayview Avenue

Hayward, CA 94541

510-581-2060

starrking.org

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Parish Minister

Rev. Maria Cristina

Vlassidis Burgoa

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Church President

Jennifer Koney

president@starrking.org

Director of Religious Exploration

Allison Prout

dre@starrking.org

DRE Office Hours:

Tuesday–Thursday,

11:30am–2:30pm

Newsletter

newsletter@starrking.org

Sunday Worship, 10:30am

January is Family Ministry Month



JANUARY 5

Day of the Epiphany/Three Kings Day

We'll reflect on the meaning of the Epiphany and those unexpected "Aha!" moments that might change the course of our spiritual journeys. With impending change, come both fear and child-like wonder. Let us ponder the magical experience of following your star!



JANUARY 12

Parenting as a Spiritual Practice

We often think about meditation, religious rituals, or pilgrimages as spiritual practices. Yet the journey of parenting also offers us opportunities to grow spiritually as we embrace change every day.



JANUARY 19

Martin Luther King

As we celebrate Martin Luther King Day, we are mindful of how his message continues to inspire us and guide the new generations. Multigenerational service.



JANUARY 26

Family Spirit

The family is a living evolving entity. There are no two families alike. Each have their own "fingerprint" creating family credos unique to their spiritual needs.

– Lorie Miller

WHAT'S INSIDE

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December Highlights



December 22nd Sunday Service

Christmas Eve Evening Service

From the Minister

**Excerpt from “The Work of Christmas” composed
by Howard Thurman, African-American
theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.**

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

RE Reflections

We Hold Hope Close By Theresa I. Soto

In this community, we hold hope close. We don't always know what comes next, but that cannot dissuade us. We don't always know just what to do, but that will not mean that we are lost in the wilderness. We rely on the certainty beneath, the foundation of our values and ethics. We are the people who return to love like a North Star and to the truth that we are greater together than we are alone. Our hope does not live in some glimmer of an indistinct future. Rather, we know the way to the world of which we dream, and by covenant and the movement forward of one right action and the next, we know that one day we will arrive at home.



Oliver playing a song at Parent's Night Out



For the Winter's Solstice, Soren is bringing in the light into his dark winter home

Adult Religious Exploration

Born to UUism – New to UUism – These Sessions are for You
January 19th and February 9th – 12:15 pm to 2 pm - Sanctuary

These sessions will be led by our own Rev. Dr. María Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa and will focus on our faith's origins, its theology, origins of worship, and the balancing of the body and mind. We will explore those who have been prophetic and those of the modern era. Attention will be given as well to the *New UU History*, cultural diversity, *Black Free Thinkers*, *Worship that Works*, and *Theological Diversity*. Each session will be highly interactive with readings, videos, singing, UUA website resources, and time for reflection and sharing. Please join us!

The Adult Religious Exploration Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 11am to 12 noon. Please join us and make your ideas known to anyone on the Committee: Nancy Bonner-Benson, Diane Meyerson, Kathryn Lamar, Ethel-May Shaw, Shelia McClellan, The Rev. Dr. María Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa, and Mileva Saulo Lewis.



Jim Lewis Ordination

February 2nd – Mount Diablo UU Church

My ordination is happening on February 2, only about a month away. And what I want to tell you is this:

Thank you. Thank you for your trust in me. Thank you for seeing that I have ministry to do in the world. Thank you for having faith in my gifts.

Unitarian Universalists of Petaluma, you journeyed with me through my time in seminary and I journeyed with you as your DRE. I had the joy of growing with you and your families. You helped me learn about what it meant to be in professional leadership with a congregation. There was excitement and egg hunts, lots of soup and lots of plays, old pink carpeting and sturdy attic learning space.

Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, you welcomed me as your intern. We grew together through worship, both joyfully and holding each other in sadness. We found peace in vespers and our practices. With you, I learned the many facets of the life of a beloved spiritual community. There was singing

and praying, circles of community and listening, deep holding and deep celebration.

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church, we have traveled together into the next steps of my ministry. You are the first church I have gotten to be a member of in the Bay Area. We have made friends and had adventures. We have worshipped together and realized together new understandings about the world around us. There has been mysteries and delicious food, songs carried from person to person and door to door, and hope for positive change.

And now, I have the opportunity to be ordained into Unitarian Universalist ministry by these three congregations. I invite you to be part of this event. Each minister only gets ordained once. You and your congregational communities have encouraged me through my ministry to this point. Help me celebrate this work, this effort, this calling to be launched! I hope to see you there!

– Jim Lewis



Mount Diablo
Unitarian Universalist Church
February 2, 2020
5:00 PM,
Reception to Follow

To Contribute or to Volunteer Visit
<https://mduucuupskuu.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>

Mount Diablo • Petaluma • Starr King

Ongoing Activities

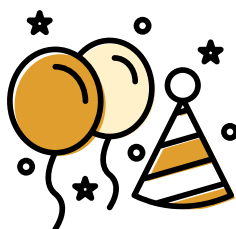
Book Group+: Mistakes and Miracles	Meets every 1st and 3rd Monday at 7:15pm in the sanctuary.
Choir Practice	Meets every Sunday from 9–10:15am in the Fellowship Hall
Church Bookstore	Open on the third Sunday of the month, after the service
Drum Circle	First Friday of the month, 7–9pm, in the Sanctuary. For adults and mature kids.
Evening Meditation	Every Wednesday, 7:30–8:45pm. Open to all.
Elderberries	Third Wednesday of the month, at noon. For self-identified elders. Bring your lunch.
Small Group Ministry	Contact sgm@starring.org for more information.
Board Meeting	First Thursday of the month, 7–9pm in Fellowship Hall. Open to all.
Adult RE	Second Tuesday of the Month from 11–12 noon in Conference Room.



Starr King Church Calendar

January 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				* 10:00 am RE Council	* 7:00 pm Drumming Circle	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
* 10:30 am Worship Service	* 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA * 7:15 pm BookGroup+: Mistakes&Miracles		* 12:00 pm SGM afternoons * 3:00 pm Pastoral Care Committee * 7:15 pm SGM Evenings			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
* 10:30 am Worship Service	* 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
* 10:30 am Worship Service * 12:00 pm Church Bookstore Open * 12:15 pm Peace & Justice Action Team	* 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA * 7:15 pm BookGroup+: Mistakes&Miracles		* 7:15 pm SGM Evenings			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
* 10:30 am Worship Service	* 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA					

Calendar developed and supported by [Kieran O'Shea](#)



January Birthdays

JANUARY 5
Sherman Lewis

JANUARY 7
Roy Dickerson
Steve Blake

JANUARY 11
Walt Korus

JANUARY 16
Ethel-May Shaw

JANUARY 16
Mary Swain
Beverly Powell

JANUARY 17
Sandy Simoni

JANUARY 18
Sophiana Carrell

JANUARY 19
Allison Prout

JANUARY 20
Emily Watkins

JANUARY 24
Mileva Saulo-Lewis

JANUARY 25
Debbie Frederick

JANUARY 30
Ben Matthews