



Newsletter

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

June 2018

THE FLAMING CHALICE

Sunday Worship, 10:30am

**Church Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
9:30am – 2:30pm**

22577 Bayview Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541
510-581-2060
www.starrking.org

Parish Minister

Rev. María Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa
minister@starrking.org

Office Administrator

Kelli Abatangelo
office@starrking.org

Church President

Will Fitch
president@starrking.org

Director of Religious Exploration

Allison Prout
dre@starrking.org
DRE Office Hours:
Wednesday and Thursday,
10:30am – 2:30pm

Newsletter

newsletter@starrking.org

June Theme: Beloved Community/Home

June 3: RE Sunday *Dir. Of R.E. Alison Prout Leads*

June 10: Animal Blessing *Rev. Maria Cristina leads.*

On Sunday, June 10 we will hold our service outdoors for a special ceremony to bless our animal companions. This ceremony is conducted in remembrance of Saint Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures, whom he considered our brothers and sisters. We invite you to bring your animal companions and to please keep them on a leash or in their carriers. If your animal companion would not be happy attending the service, or if they are with us only in spirit, we invite you to bring their photographs so they can also receive a blessing.



June 17: Journeys from the Heart. *Worship Committee.*

The Worship Committee presents a lay led service, as members tell of important journeys in their lives; from far off locations, to the inner secrets of the heart.

June 24: It's a Family Affair *Bob Meyerson leads.*

Bob will explore the various meanings of the word "Family." Is it defined by genealogy, blood or by words such as 'marriage,' 'in laws,' 'adoption' or something else. What is an 'extended family?'

Rev. Maria Cristina and Allison Prout will begin their summer session on June 17. The office will still be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 2:30pm. Please continue to send announcements, calendar requests to office@starrking.org



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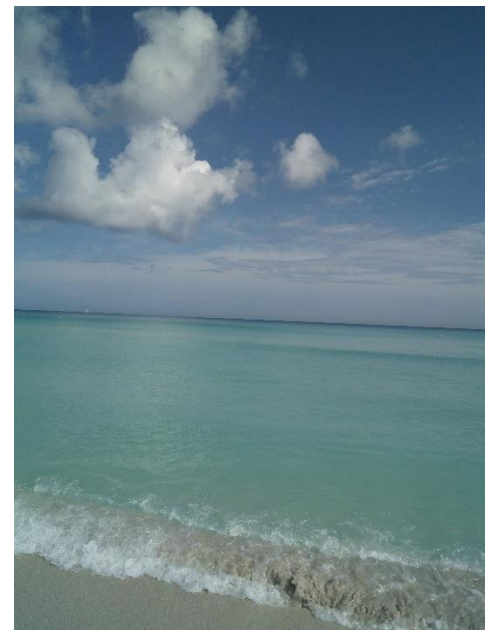


Welcome to our New Friends

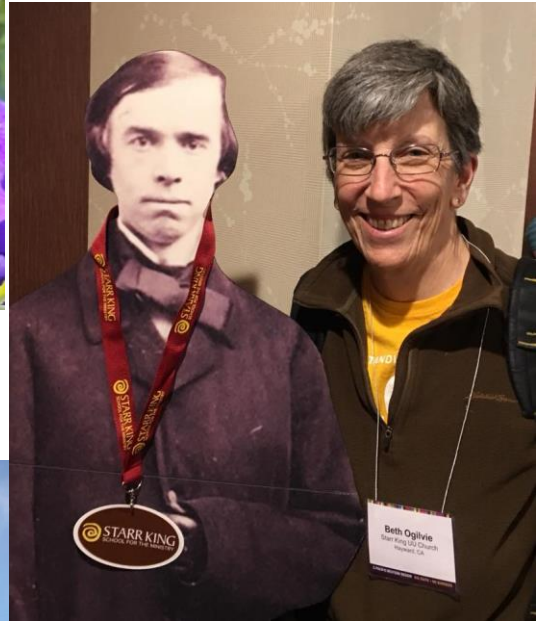
Hello again and warm welcomes from our beloved community! If you visited us recently: please know that we would be so happy to see you again.

Our congregation's regular Sunday worship is informal, friendly, and eclectic: sometimes quiet, sometimes loud, but always musical – we do like to sing. There's almost always laughing and applause, but sometimes there are tears. We welcome people of all abilities, ages, races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, and creeds. We welcome you!

For more information about visiting us again, please enjoy [exploring our website](#) or [get in touch](#) with any questions you might have.



May 2018 Member Photos



Try Something New: Ongoing Activities

Choir Practice	Meets every Sunday from 9 – 10:15am in the Social 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@starrking.org for more information.
SKIT Improv Troupe	Second Thursday of the month, 7:30pm. Open to all.
Yoga for the People	Mondays at 6pm in the Sanctuary. Taught by Guadalupe Perez Middleton.

Board Report, May 2018

With our annual congregational meeting another church year has come full circle. Seems like a funny time of the year to be closing the books but it is also a time of new beginnings. Many thanks to those on the board and other volunteers who are leaving, staying and newly christened. For those who have given many hours and thoughtful service to the community we honor your efforts. The meeting was a chance for all of us to cast our votes for the new board, nominating committee members, and the budget for the coming year. One of the most unheralded groups is our budget committee; for those of us whose eyes glaze over when the columns of numbers get longer and longer we thank you and hope that you never abandon us. We gave our staff a raise that follows the UUA guidelines, but as anyone who pays rent or a mortgage knows this is a drop in the bucket. We live in one of the most desirable places on this planet and the prices reflect it. The availability of affordable housing has become the hot button issue for social justice as communities become gentrified and those who aren't already stakeholders are faced with longer commutes or forced to move away from the area. The board is considering using a portion of the church property as a manse or parsonage for our minister. This is in the preliminary stage of evaluation; it is an effort to look at our ability to make our church affordable for our minister as the costs of living here continue to rise. We are looking at all aspects of this as it is a big decision; our goal is to make our community sustainable into the foreseeable future while not destroying this link to the natural environment we enjoy.

We were reminded this month of the fragile nature of our existence by the loss of one of our dearest members. The service for Bob Stortz was a chance to say goodbye to one of the pillars of our community. Bob was a good friend to all who knew him. I enjoyed our "shop talks." We would talk about his time listening in on Russian broadcasts in Germany during the '50s and his early spy satellite work during the '60s. Bob started with the slide rule and bridged the gap in the digital revolution of punch cards, core memory, and mainframes, up to the miniaturized computers we have today. He was one of the technical wizards who was often in the shadows but whose work brought us to where we are today. But Bob wasn't defined by his career; he was a great guy with a great sense of humor and values that made him stalwart of our community. We will miss you Bob; you were one of a kind.

Looking out the window there is drizzle today, and the threat of rain tomorrow, yet summer is upon us. Some of our members are already on trips and the kids are either out of school or soon will be. The board wishes you all a great summer and hopes to see you at church in between your vacation adventures.



From the Minister

The Poor People's Campaign



The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival is uniting tens of thousands of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation, and the nation's distorted morality. Rev. William Barber, who co-chairs the campaign with the Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, a pastor from New York City, hopes to sign up 1,000 people in 25 states and D.C. for a season of civil disobedience. Protesters will stage sit-ins at state capitols and in the U.S. Congress under a "moral agenda" encompassing a host of issues, from LGBTQ and voting rights to immigration reform and access to healthcare. "Some issues are not about left and right, Republican and Democrat – they're about our deepest moral values," says Barber. "And we believe that you have to have a campaign, a movement, that seeks to reshape the moral narrative."

On Monday, May 20, Starr King UU Church members traveled to Sacramento to participate in the Poor People's Campaign rally on the grounds of the Capitol building in Sacramento. It was an inspiring event with many charismatic speakers. I was grateful that the event began with a blessing and honor song from a collective of Native American people, followed by a powerful and beautifully diverse line-up of speakers who identified as Muslim, Chicanx, Latinx, Transgender, Two Spirit, Immigrant, and Black, among others.

At 4 pm we entered the Capitol building singing at the top of our lungs "We Shall Not Be Moved!" demanding to speak with Gov. Jerry Brown and present the following demands: A sweeping overhaul of our nation's voting rights laws, and policies to address poverty, ecological devastation and war economy.



California Highway Patrol officers began arresting protesters around 8:45 pm for refusing to disperse. Our own Rene Castle was among those arrested and spent the night in jail. Last Monday he had attended a special training on civil disobedience and was well prepared for his eventual arrest. We remained with him previous to his arrest, providing support and encouragement (and protein bars). We are grateful for his commitment to this movement and to social justice. Today (Tuesday, May 22) he was released and is on his way back to Hayward. Other Starr King UU Church members who support the Poor People's Campaign and who were in Sacramento: Frank Burton, Mary Shields, Mary Lou Schuller, Beth Ogilvie, Will Fitch, and Doris Wolf.

I continue to be inspired by lay leaders and UU Ministers who are showing up and becoming part of this vital and necessary growing national movement. Last week my colleague Rev. Josh Pawelek was arrested and shared with us these powerful words:

"Most people cannot risk arrest. I am in a very fortunate position in life. And since I am generally supported in my professional life -- both by the people I serve as minister and by my colleagues and denominational structure -- and since I am a straight, white, very privileged man -- I feel a certain obligation to take this risk on behalf of those who can't... I don't do this only on behalf of those who can't. I do it for myself too. Economic inequality impacts the communities that hold me, and thus impacts me. Racism impacts the communities that hold me, and thus impacts me. Environmental degradation impacts the communities that hold me, and thus impacts me. The distorted moral narrative in the U.S. impacts the communities that hold me, and thus impacts me. Interdependent web, yes? So, this is also for me and my family. I've got huge self-interest here. As Jesus makes abundantly clear, love of neighbor is modeled on love of self."

Beloveds, let us keep voicing our resistance and hope through our participation in the Poor People's Campaign. UUA President, Susan Frederick-Gray, is actively involved in the PPC and inspires us with her words:

"As people of faith and moral conscience, we must raise our voices and call on our elected officials to work for the good of everyone, not just the rich and privileged. I am proud to stand with the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. Together, we will hold our leaders accountable as we create a nation – and a world – that is more just, more welcoming, more sustainable for all."

Amen!



RE Reflections

SUMMER TRANSITIONS

As the end of the church year draws near, Reverend Maria Cristina and I are preparing for our leave. I am off from June 15 to August 15. Rev. Maria Cristina will be out in July for vacation and part of August for study leave. The new church year will begin on September 9, 2018, when Rev. Maria Cristina officially returns to the pulpit.

The church will remain open during the summer, and lay led services will be held every Sunday. We offer a more relaxed approach to childcare in the summer when staff is on holiday and many families travel. Volunteers will lead summer fun activities on a drop-in basis and Lorie Miller will lead nursery story time two weeks in July and August. If there are no volunteers available on a given Sunday, children are always welcome to stay in the chapel with their parents and we can arrange a quiet play area. For questions contact Lea Casini or Lorie Miller.

Have a happy, healthy, safe summer! Allison Prout

Thank you to all of the community members who helped with Religious Education this year. There are many to be grateful for, including those who lead workshops, worked in the nursery, led music & song, led stories, and worked tirelessly on the RE Council. We couldn't have done it without you!!

Thank You!!



“Hamilton” at the Church

Hamilton at Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church of Hayward on May 20 included amazing performances by Cara Prout, Sara Raymond-Wagner, Jim Lewis, and powerful sermons by Bob Simoni and David Middleton. Thank you! You all rock!



Announcements

Congregational Discussion on Church Security Sunday, June 3

Following Sunday Services on June 3 at 12 noon your Safety Committee will be hosting a discussion on developing emergency procedures in the event of a "Hostile Intruder". We open this discussion to the entire congregation to help us develop a written emergency plan to be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval. Look for an article in the May Chalice on the topic. Please join us on June 3. Questions? See Bob Britton.

The 2018 General Assembly is June 20 to 24 in Kansas City, MS

GA Theme: "All Are Called," General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend. Registration and Housing Open March 1GA Registration and the GA Housing Reservation System open at 9am CST. at www.uua.org/ga/travel

Service of the Living Tradition, Thursday, June 21, 5 to 6:30pm.

Come to church the evening of June 21 to watch the Service of the Living Tradition live-streamed from General Assembly in Kansas City. This moving service honors all our ministers, and specifically recognizes those in transition. Rev. Maria Cristina will be honored for achieving Final Fellowship, and Rev. Sofia Betancourt is preaching. Rev. Sofia is a professor at Starr King School for the Ministry and served as one of the UUA Interim Co-Presidents last year. Please join us in the sanctuary to watch the service together and celebrate our minister!

Pacific Western Region Justice Journey: Roots, Reflections and Relationships - An Environmental Justice Journey.

A week long immersion experience focusing on Environmental Sustainability through service, learning, and through a meditation practice. The event will be Saturday night, July 14 to Sunday afternoon, July 22, 2018 at Throop UU Church (300 S. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA). Cost is \$550.00 per person for 8 days. All meals, lodging at the church, local transportation. (Air and ground Transportation to the Throop Church is not included.)

To register: <https://register.pwruua.org/event-registrations/pwr-mission-trip/> or contact: Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead at katiecovey@gmail.com. For more information visit <https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/calendar/pswd/rore2-pwr-justices-journey?month=2018-07>

Raise Money for Starr King; Register for eScrip and Shop Locally

In 2017 we earned \$205 with nine participants just doing their ordinary shopping at participating locations. If only half of our members signed up we could earn \$2,500! That's as much as the budget for several different committees. We get 3% of your total purchases at: Lucky, Food Maxx, Save Mart, Black Angus (15800 Hesperian Boulevard, San Lorenzo), and Ghanzi Afghan Kabobs (1235 A Street, Hayward).

To create an account at 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: 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.

Get Involved! Creative Committee Projects

We are looking for help with upcoming projects: photography, cooking circles, social media, public relations, computer support, and more! Training provided. Or let us know if you have another talent to lend! Contact Emily Waltkins at newsletter@gmail.com

Interested in Woodminster's Oklahoma on Sunday, July 8 at 8 pm?

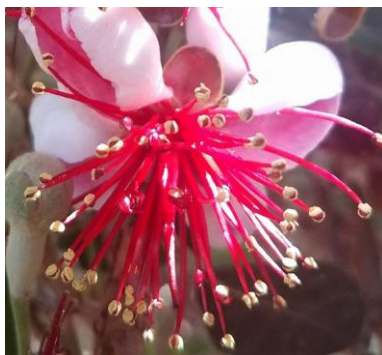
Also "In the Heights" is September 2 at 7 pm at Woodminster in Oakland. The versus Giants game is Friday, July 20. Contact Mary Lou Schuler at 510-610-8170 or email at mlwschuler@gmail.com

June Birthdays

June 1	Robin Fink		June 18	Diane Meyerson
June 5	Rene Castle		June 24	David Baker
June 9	Amy Kinnear		June 24	Keith Lewis
June 11	Colleen Dino		June 26	Drake Otermat
June 16	Jens Dill			

Wheel of Life

- Kelsi Kramer Stone graduated with her Master's Degree in Education.
- Amy Kinnear received her permanent resident visa from Panama (following her parents, Joyce & Scott, who received their visas last year).
- We remember Bob Stortz and his life as a beloved partner to Karen, parent to his children, member of the congregation and friend to many.



South Hayward Parish News



SOUTH HAYWARD PARISH ACHIEVED \$10,000 MATCHING GRANT --THANK YOU !!!!

We have met our \$10,000 matching requirement and have received the grant. We could not have done it without the loving support of everyone at Starr King UU Church. This is remarkable memorial to Betty's legacy. Your generosity will help SHP keep making your values real in the community. Thanks again!

Starr King Church Calendar

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

June 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 * 10:30 am Worship Service * 12 noon Developing Church Security	4 * 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA	5 * 7 pm Eden Interfaith Council	6 * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	7 * 7 pm Board of Trustee's	8	9 * 8:00 am Private Rental
10 * 10:30 am Worship Service * 12:15 pm Peace and Justice Team	11 * 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA * 7 pm White Racial Literacy Group	12 * 11 am Adult RE	13 * 12 noon SGM Daytime * 3 pm Pastoral Care Committee * 7:15 pm SGM Evenings * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	14 * 7:30 pm SKIT	15	16 * 6:30 pm Game Night
17 * 10:30 am Worship Service * 12 noon Communications Committee * 12:noon Church Bookstore Open	18 * 6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA	19	20 * 12 noon Elders Meeting * 7 pm RE Council * 7:30 pm Evening Meditation	21 * 5 pm Service of Living Tradition * 7 pm Worship Committee	22	23
4 * <u>10:30 am Worship Service</u>	25 * <u>6:30 pm Rainbow Group LGBT NA</u>	26 * <u>1 pm Executive Committee</u>	27 * <u>12 noon SGM Daytime</u> * <u>7:30 pm Evening Meditation</u>	28	29	30